



Brotherhood Synagogue בית

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Volume XLIV Number VI

Adar I / Adar II 5784 March 2024

Follow-Up to My Letter on Israel's War in Gaza

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

Since sending my letter "On the Morality of Israel's War in Gaza" to the congregation a couple of weeks ago, I received email responses from congregants on my position. Most thanked me for my thoughts and drew strength from my words. Some pushed back, particularly on the high death toll on Palestinian civilians and also on the untrustworthiness of the Netanyahu government.

Both Netanyahu and his coalition partners have never been to my liking. I have spoken out about them before the war, and they have been just as maddening and divisive since the war began. Netanyahu's approval rating among Israelis is dismally low. To what extent he is responsible for the security lapses that allowed the October 7 attacks to occur will be investigated. However, I do not believe that any Israeli leader or government would be prosecuting this war much differently.

Regarding the death, destruction, and casualties among the Gazan population, I greatly lamented that in my letter. One cannot look upon all of that suffering and not be horrified. Yet, I would argue, the ultimate responsibility for the carnage falls upon Hamas who use innocent Palestinians as human shields and refuse to surrender either the hostages or themselves.

I know what is being said on the front pages of newspapers, on social media, on college campuses, in the International Court of Justice and on the streets of Manhattan. I see the tide of world opinion against Israel: naming Israel as the aggressor, ignoring the plight of the captives, denouncing Israel's war on Hamas as unjust, calling for Palestine to be freed and Israel to be eliminated, and threatening Jews around the world behind the flag of Palestinian self-determination.

Nevertheless, I stand by Israel's campaign to root out Hamas, free the captives, and secure Israel's future. To me, it fits the textbook definition of a war of obligation. The actions of Iran and its proxies in Gaza, in the north of Israel, and in Yemen, make clear that it is the destruction of Israel, not the liberation of the Palestinians, that is their goal.

I know there are those who are not convinced by my arguments. There are Jews and non-Jews whose views, whose sympathies, whose histories differ from mine. People questioning who is really to blame, past and present, for the conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians? People wondering at what cost of Palestinian life, or for that matter, Israeli life, should this war be prosecuted? People asking if calls for a cease fire need necessarily be understood as a betrayal of the cause?

These are questions being asked by congregants, their children, and grandchildren, by good Jews throughout the community. Products of this synagogue and like-minded synagogues—many of whom now staff and will staff, now fund and will fund the next Jewish generation. How do we stand with those members of our Jewish community who stand for something else?

We should judge each person with a generosity of spirit, knowing that while we may disagree, even vehemently so, the others' views need not reflect evil, ill-will, or self-hate. They believe what they believe because they believe it to be so. The goal of a secure, democratic, and Jewish state can be attained not through any one way.

There are questions that can and should be debated: To topple Hamas or secure the release of the hostages? At what price should Israel fight

Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 6:30 PM

70th Anniversary Speaker: Phil Rothman

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 9:30 AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 5:30 PM

Bar Mitzvah of Eli Korpus

FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 6:30 PM

Followed by dinner and speakers:

Walter Ruby & Sabeeha Rehman

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 9:30 AM

Bar Mitzvah of Brandon Laighold

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 5:30 PM

Bar Mitzvah of Desi Beatus

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 6:30 PM

Guest Violinist: Jake Shulman-Ment

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 6:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 9:30 AM

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 6:30 PM

Purim Services and Megillah Reading

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 6:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 9:30 AM

Or join Brotherhood Shabbat services from your computer, tablet or phone:

Zoom meeting ID: 225 253 5818

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/2252535818>

Password: 1818

Using your phone, call 646-558-8656 and enter the Meeting ID 225-253-5818

In Celebration of Brotherhood's 70th Anniversary

Speaker at Services Series: Phil Rothman

Friday, March 1, 6:30 pm




Join us at Shabbat services on Friday, March 1 when Phil Rothman shares his early years and experiences at Brotherhood Synagogue, including the expansion of the Hebrew School and the development of iconic Brotherhood programs such as our Homeless Shelter and Tikvah Program. We hope you will join us to hear these and other Phil tales!

April 5 | **Bob Wolf** on standing on the non-member Line for High Holiday Services.

May 3 | **Sara Rothman** on growing up at Brotherhood starting with Shabbat Corner.

this war? Can one support Israel's right to self-determination and still object to its government? These questions are not betrayals. These questions are being debated by Israelis—Israelis, who, unlike almost all of us, are sending their children into harm's way not knowing if and when they will return.

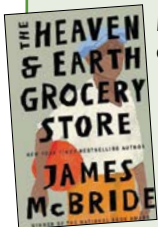
I want to invite everyone to a Shabbat afternoon program when I will lead a discussion of the situation in Israel and Gaza: Saturday, March 9 at 1:00 pm at the synagogue.

Those in our community who hold views different to ours are not our enemies. We make room for each other; we engage in each other's views. We ask good questions, and we listen to each other's answers. We support one other during this challenging time. 

[Like us on Facebook](#) 

Brotherhood Book Club

Thursday, March 28, 7:00 pm



Marcia Teviovitz will lead a discussion of *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride.

Please contact Gail Pierris abend@nyc.rr.com if you have any questions.

Shabbat Club

Saturday, March 23, 12:30 pm

Topic: The Brotherhood Committee on the Refugee and Immigration Crisis (BCRIC): Past, Present, and Future Responses to Migrants in NYC

Barbara Stern will present a short overview of the work of BCRIC from 2018 to the present. Using the current migrant situation as a foundation, she will describe current work of BCRIC and lead a discussion of possible new projects. Everyone who has participated in BCRIC activities, has an interest in participating, or has ideas for new ways to support migrants is welcome to join the conversation. The meeting will be held in the 2nd floor reception room and refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

Contact [Deborah Newman](mailto:Deborah.Newman@nyc.rr.com) with ideas for future meetings.

The Jewish Lower East Side

Mondays, April 1, 8, 15 at 7:00 pm on Zoom

with Dr. Sharon Keller

In 1654, a small group of Portuguese Jews landed in what was then The New Netherlands, and they settled an area that was to become the Lower East Side. Some 250 years later, the Lower East Side was arguably the most densely populated area in the world; jam-packed with immigrants, mostly Jewish, from Eastern Europe. Join us as we look at more than 100 years of life on the Lower East Side. We will discuss what brought the immigrants to this small area of New York City, how they lived, the food they ate, the arts and culture they created, and also the ways that people used to escape from the filth, the noise, the heat, the crowds and just everyday life.

[Register here](#)



The Brotherhood Committee on the Refugee and Immigration Crisis | BCRIC UPDATE

At our Refugee Shabbat service in February, Ruth Messinger inspired us to take action to support migrants in New York City. The Synagogue Coalition for the Refugee and Immigration Crisis (SCRIC), of which Brotherhood is an active member, has put together a comprehensive list of organizations that offer a wide range of volunteer opportunities, as well as advocacy efforts. [Please take a look at this list](#) and see if there is anything that you can imagine yourself doing, either one time or on a regular basis.

It is also possible for small groups of Brotherhood congregants to volunteer together. There is already interest in volunteering to assist migrants complete applications for asylum, Temporary Protective Status (TPS), and right to work. If you would like to join a group of volunteers to do this or another volunteer activity, please contact Barbara Stern at blee50@verizon.net.

To learn more about the current migrant situation in NYC, BCRIC's history of supporting migrants, and future plans, please join us at Shabbat Club on March 23. 🌿

Life Goes On

Life Goes On is a group for those of us who have lost a spouse or life partner and want to experience the beauty, joy, and opportunity that New York life offers surrounded by supportive friends who understand and share in the loss.

We have enjoyed some wonderful programs already this year! Our January tour of the Chloe exhibit at the Jewish Museum was particularly interesting because our tour guide was a huge fan of Chloe—thank you Brenda Pace for arranging it. Our February event is happening at the end of the month, after this article was due. Thanks to Gaby Kende we're touring the Museum at Hebrew Union College after enjoying lunch together. Thank you Paula Yeghiayan and Brenda Pace for helping us complete the arrangements.

On **Wednesday, March 13 at 2 pm**, our group will have the extraordinary opportunity to visit the Archives of New York City's Public Design Commission! All construction and art that is erected on public land in our city has to be examined and approved by the Public

Design Commission. We will be guided through some of the extraordinary public art and architecture projects of New York City by its senior archivist. **Our group is limited to 15 people, please contact Agnes right away if you would like to join us.** Lunch together will precede the tour, details to be sent to participants.

On **Friday, April 19 at 10:15 am** we have a very special treat coming—our favorite and funniest Central Park docent, Steve Cohen, will take us on another walking tour of the Park where in Steve's words, "we enjoy nature's paradise right in the middle of Manhattan Island." We are meeting in front of the NY Historical Society, at Central Park West and West 77th. With Steve's guidance, we'll walk through the Ramble, a beautiful 36 acre woodland and bird sanctuary, with some new rustic surprises awaiting us; cross at Bow Bridge into Cherry Hill, and on to Strawberry Fields! Lunch will follow, arrangements to be sent to the participants. **Please let Agnes know if you are planning to join us.**

On **Wednesday, May 15 at noon** LGO members will tour Gracie Mansion—thank you, Ruth Grossman, for organizing this outing! We are limited to 30 attendees, at the cost of \$10 voluntary donation per person. Further details to follow as we get closer to the date.

LGO's next book club meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, March 28 at 6:45 pm**. We will be discussing *The Bee Sting* by Paul Murray. Professor Margaret Birns will lead the discussion as usual, and the cost remains \$20 per person. **Please know that you must advise Agnes in advance if you plan to participate**—we can not reserve Professor Birns' time without a sufficient number of participants.

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of *Life Goes On*, please come to our meetings—we would be happy to see you! If you have any questions, please call Agnes Marton at 917-519-4427 or e-mail her at 1agnesmarton@gmail.com or call Roberta in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750, email rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org. 🌿



PLAY MAH JONGG!!

Brotherhood's Beginners Mah Jongg Class Returns!

Wednesdays March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3 and 10
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

[Register here](#)

COST \$90 | 12 PER CLASS MAXIMUM

Our EVENING class is FILLED. Please [email Roberta](#) for a spot on the waitlist.

MAH JONGG GAME NIGHTS

Wednesdays, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Cost per session: \$11

payable **IN CASH AT THE DOOR** | All levels welcome!**

To join a game, please email Janet: jheller711@gmail.com

SHABBATON @ BROTHERHOOD

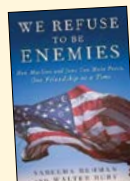
Dinner and Speakers | Friday, March 8

An conversation with

Sabeeha Rehman and Walter Ruby

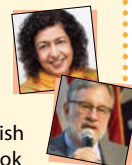
We Refuse To Be Enemies:

How Muslims and Jews Can Make Peace,
One Friendship at a Time



Concerned with the rise of intolerance and bigotry in our country, Rehman and Ruby have spent decades doing interfaith work and nurturing cooperation among the Muslim and Jewish communities. They have learned that through face-to-face encounters people of all backgrounds can come to know the Other as a fellow human being and turn her or him into a trusted friend. In their co-authored book, *We Refuse to Be Enemies* (Arcade, April 20, 2021), they share their vision for reconciliation, offering concrete principles for building an alliance in support of religious freedom and human rights. Since October 7, their joint message is even more urgent.

Sabeeha Rehman is an interfaith speaker, blogger, and writer who has also authored a memoir, *Threading My Prayer Rug: One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim*. **Walter Ruby** is a journalist and former Director of the Foundation for Ethnic Understanding's Muslim-Jewish relations. You can learn more about the speakers and their book in their recent feature in the [Jewish Standard](#).



Members: \$45 | Nonmembers: \$50 | Children: \$25

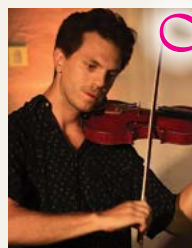
6:30 pm: Shabbat Services with Rabbi Alder and Cantor Yager

7:30 pm: Congregational Dinner for members and friends

8:30 pm: Speakers - **Sabeeha Rehman and Walter Ruby**

9:15 pm: Oneg Shabbat Stay for dessert, coffee, and conversation.

Dinner RSVP by March 5



Musical Shabbat Service

Friday, March 15, 6:30 pm

Join us for a musical Shabbat service featuring violinist Jake Shulman-Ment. A prominent klezmer and Eastern European folk musician, Jake will be accompanying our Friday night service with his unique musical style. All are welcome to attend this exciting musical Shabbat experience! Read more about Jake at www.jakeshulmanment.com.



Second Annual Kosher Wine Tasting for Young Professionals (ages 21-40)

Sunday, March 17, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Join your peers at Brotherhood on Sunday, March 17 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm when certified Sommelier, [Abby of SommNights](#), will be offering another round of tastings and discussion of four specially curated Kosher wines!

Our congregants, Leah Deordio and Haley Schattner, organized this event specifically designed for other congregants and friends in this age group.

Come and partake of our delicious selection of wines, nosh on paired light snacks, socialize with old friends and make some new ones! Once sampled, Abby will share where the wines might be purchased in time to enjoy, serve, or bring as a gift to a Passover seder this year.

If you would like to join with Leah and Haley in organizing more such events in future, please [email Roberta](#) in the synagogue office and she will connect you.

Please stay tuned for news of our next event!

Space is limited so please register early!

Cost: \$30 per person

[Click here to register](#)

Celebrate Purim with Brotherhood!!

On **Saturday, March 23 at 5:00 pm**, there will be a **Purim Experience** for children age 6 and under in the Community Room with puppets, music, movement and more!

The **Purim shpiel and reading of the Megillah** will be held in the Sanctuary on **Saturday, March 23 beginning at 6:30 pm**.

Services for the morning of Purim will be held on **Sunday, March 24 at 8:00 am** with a reading of the Megillah.

Our **annual Children's Purim Carnival** takes place on **Sunday, March 24 from 11:00 am–1:00 pm** beginning with a mini-Megillah reading in the Sanctuary and continuing with games, food, and prizes.

*Come one, come all, come in costume.
Everyone's a winner!*

Hamentaschen and refreshments follow these events.

HAPPY PURIM CHAG PURIM SAMEACH!

Happenings in Our Kehilah

B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

Sharon Korpus and Amy Braskaw-Korpus on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Eli Korpus**. Eli, a student at Collegiate, will celebrate his simcha with his older brother, **Ari**.

Saaron Laighold and Rosanne Olken on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Brandon Laighold**. Brandon, a student at Simon Baruch Middle School, will celebrate his simcha with his younger sister, **Molly**; and to Brandon's grandparents, **Melvin and Ethel Olken**.

David and Jessica Beatus on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Desi Beatus**.

Births, Mazal Tov to:

Rachel Israel and Kurt Enger on the birth of their daughter, **Klara Meira Enger**; and to older siblings, **Charlotte, Solomon, Miriam and Abigail**.

Linda and Danny Kaleko on the birth of grandchildren **Ayla Blue Jayasakera**, born to **Elizabeth and Thilina Jayasakera**, and **Jackson Miles Kaleko**, born to **Sarah Kaleko and Randy Krings**.

Gail and Floyd Tupper on the birth of a granddaughter, **Maisie Sloane Tupper**, born to **Stacy and Dustin Tupper**; and to older brother, **Henry**.

Condolences to:

Lenny Gold on the passing of his mother, **Belle Gold**.

Gail Schupak on the passing of her sister, **Carin Miller**.

Richard Levy on the passing of his mother, **Sylvia Levy**.

Danny Sussman on the passing of his mother, **Ruth Sussman**.

Haley Erem on the passing of her grandmother, **Anne Greenspoon**.

Donna Milrod on the passing of her father, **Burton Milrod**.

Helen Feuer on the passing of her mother, **Liane Feuer**.

Alan Friedman on the passing of his mother, **Helen R. Friedman**.

President's Post by Seth Hulkower



Brotherhood Synagogue is in a class of its own with our [Tikvah program](#) in providing educational opportunities for children with special needs. We are the only congregation in New York, and possibly the country, that provides such a program.

Nearly thirty years ago Tikvah began with a question. Hebrew School Director Barbara Simon had a few children who weren't able to be successful in class despite the excellent teachers of the Hebrew School, so she asked Phil Rothman, Executive Director, if he had any ideas on how to help these children. Phil is an educator at heart, and he reached out to a few members of our congregation for advice and assistance.

He spoke with Myra Hushansky, a special education teacher, and Janet Heller, a New York City middle school principal. They were able to start a program thanks to an anonymous donor and Myra began working with the children sent to her by Phil and Barbara. They also worked to advertise so children throughout New York City could have a place to learn, even if their families were not congregants of Brotherhood. The mission has always been to look for the best way to meet each child's individual needs. This mission has led to a few key principles and protocols:

- The students receive personal attention, either one-on-one with a teacher or in small groups of students with similar learning styles.
- There is a strong focus on visual learning, rather than traditional teaching which relies on verbal lecturing.
- Tikvah places a strong emphasis on Torah, Jewish history both historical and modern, Jewish art and music, the Hebrew language, and prayer study.
- Parents receive a weekly email, explaining what had been taught in that week's lesson.

Children attending Tikvah must have been evaluated and deemed in need of a special learning environment.

For many of these students and families, a B'nai Mitzvah seems out of reach. While the students being called to the Torah for an

Aliyah isn't the sole focus of Tikvah, many have celebrated this important Jewish milestone, to the delight of their families. Tikvah serves between eighteen and twenty-four students per year, and students have grown up in the program, some spending more than ten years learning under Myra and the teachers of Tikvah. After nearly thirty years, over two hundred students have benefited from this unique learning environment.

If one speaks to Tikvah parents, it's clear how much this program means to them. One student told their grandmother that they couldn't read English, but they can read Hebrew. One parent joined two different synagogues in Brooklyn, hoping to find a place where her son would be supported despite his unique learning needs, before being forced to pull him out halfway through the school year. He found a home at Tikvah and the Brotherhood Synagogue.

Today we don't advertise Tikvah. Families find us, via word of mouth or on a listserv for families with special needs children. However they find us, Myra figures out how to teach them.

And one more word about Myra. Myra also teaches special education and supervises teachers in classrooms in the Early Childhood Education program at Hunter College and she's as popular with her college students as with her Tikvah students. Here's a sample of a comment on [ratemyprofessors.com](#): "*Myra is seriously an amazing teacher. Take her, take her, take her! You won't regret it. Before this class I was interested in learning more about Special Ed., but now I want to go back for a Special Ed. certification.*"

We're extremely fortunate to have Myra on our staff and leading this unique program. We don't require families to join Brotherhood, though we welcome all Tikvah families to make Brotherhood their home, and many have become members over the years. We do not charge tuition, and we continue to rely on the generosity of our members and outside donations to cover the costs. While I'm glad to say Tikvah continues to be well funded, we welcome any donations that will allow us to help more students.

Warmly, Seth Hulkower
president@brotherhoodsynagogue.org

Hadassah Meeting

Tuesday, March 26, 1:00 pm

The East Midtown Chapter of Hadassah will have its first comeback meeting since pre-pandemic on Tuesday, March 26 at 1:00 pm. **The meeting will be held at Brotherhood Synagogue** in the 2nd Floor Reception Room. Please join us for coffee, tea, and cookies. Call Naomi at 516-978-0044 for additional information.

The Chesed* Committee WANTS YOU TO KNOW

If you are feeling isolated because of health issues or the weather or COVID just got you out of the habit of being with people, there are so many ways you can get connected at Brotherhood. Zoom into an adult ed class, the Tuesday minyan, or Shabbat services; stop by Brotherhood to learn to knit or play mah jongg and find a new, fun challenge; speak to our social worker, Rabbi Miriam Herscher, if you need a good listener or advice on supportive resources; or support with your time and donations Brotherhood's social justice initiatives on behalf of Israel, refugees, and others. And if you would like to attend an event at Brotherhood but are cautious about walking alone, contact chesed@brotherhoodsynagogue.org or call the Synagogue office, 212-674-5750.

**The Chesed Committee provides help and compassion to Brotherhood members in times of need.

Healing Hearts for Israel: My Recent Trip

with Rabbi Miriam Herscher

Wednesday, March 13, 7:00 pm

Come hear about Israel now—how they are hurting; who is doing what; what is the mood; can they heal?

Brotherhood's social worker, Rabbi Miriam Herscher, has recently returned from a solidarity mission to Israel and is eager to share her learning, experiences, and feelings.

Come to hear, to learn, to feel, to heal.



RSVP HERE

On-The-Ground with American Independent Journalists

A Post-October 7 Conversation with Nancy Rommelmann and Mike Pesca



Thursday, March 21, 7:00 pm at Brotherhood

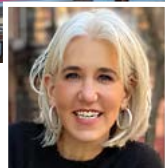
The Anti-Semitism Task Force (ASTF) and the Israel Committee are pleased to welcome Nancy Rommelmann and Mike Pesca for a discussion about their recent trips to Israel.

Nancy Rommelmann is an author and journalist whose work appears in *Reason*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Free Press*, *Real Clear Investigations* and other publications. She cohosts the podcast *Smoke 'Em If You Got 'Em* and writes the Substack *Make More Pie*. Her most recent book is *To the Bridge, a True Story of Motherhood and Murder*.

Mike Pesca, is host of *"The Gist,"* the longest running daily news podcast in history, consistently ranked in Apple's Top 20 Daily News charts. During his 10 years as a correspondent for NPR, *Mike* has guest hosted *All Things Considered* and the news quiz *Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me*. His work has been featured on *This American Life*, *Radiolab*, and *Planet Money*. He has frequently appeared on MSNBC, CNN, and The PBS Newshour, and written for *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *GQ*, *Slate*, and *Baseball Prospectus*.

RSVP HERE

Let's be clear: Hamas
is your problem too.
jewbelong.org



Speaker at Services

Archie Gottesman,
Co-Founder, [JewBelong.org](https://www.jewbelong.org)

Joyful Judaism and Anti-semitism Awareness

Friday, March 22, 6:30 pm at Services

Please join us at Shabbat Services on Friday, March 22 when we will welcome Archie Gottesman, co-founder of JewBelong.org as our guest speaker. JewBelong is a groundbreaking organization and web-based platform originally focused on rebranding Judaism to make it more relevant and welcoming for all. Since May of 2021, JewBelong has also been raising awareness about the evils of antisemitism through billboard and digital campaigns. Their bright pink billboards have been in over 27 states and focus on plain language to convey to the 98% of Americans who are not Jewish that they should be paying attention.

Voice of Strength

An Evening with Israeli Commando Noy Leyb

Tuesday, April 2, 7:00 pm

Please join us to welcome Noy Leyb as he shares his first-hand accounts from the battlefield in Gaza to combatting antisemitism on social media.

Noy's tireless Israel advocacy has taken him to universities across America as well as the halls of the European Union.

Born in Canada, Noy made the life-altering decision to move to Israel and join the IDF at age 18. After completing his service, he continued annual reserve training while earning a BA from IDC Herzliya and an MBA from University of Michigan.

On October 7, Noy was living in NYC as co-founder of a startup. He dropped everything to join his elite commando unit on the frontline, where his battlefield extended to social media, offering viewers a raw glimpse into the realities of war and the spirit of resilience.

Learn more about Noy [here](https://www.instagram.com/noyleyb) and join his 20K+ followers on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/noyleyb).

Join us at Brotherhood on April 2 for this very special visit.



RSVP HERE

SAVE THE DATE

Brotherhood Film Series Thursday, April 4, 7:00 pm

Don't miss the Brotherhood Film Series screening of *Dead Sea Guardians* (2021) a film about the mission of saving the Dead Sea, shared by Israel, Jordan and the West Bank amidst the suffocating politics of the region.



Being of Service and Bearing Witness by Tracie Basch

On the morning of October 7, I remember Sam, saying "Mom, you need a hug." I looked at him strangely, and he said, "There was an attack." Life changed. I needed to go to Israel. A few days later I told Mark, who, with the wisdom of 19 years of marriage replied, "tell me what you're going to do, and we can talk." Within weeks, Young Judea organized an Israel trip. Details were light—circumstances change constantly during war. The "what" didn't matter. Being there did.

Upon landing, the stress that permeated my body and soul since October 7 disappeared. I truly felt safe (experiencing a Red Alert didn't change that). My introduction to the current Israel began in the airport. There was a large 'Bring Them Home' banner with dog tags of all sizes hanging. The way to immigration is lined with posters of hostages. Not the usual greeting, but a foreshadowing of the week ahead. A week Being of Service and Bearing Witness.

Being of Service

Two grassroots organizations, Achim Laneshek and Eran's Angels field requests for items—food, clothing, diapers, formula, books—from displaced families. They receive no government funding. There's something about packing items for a two-month-old that has known nothing but a hotel room that just breaks you.

For two days we were agricultural workers in the Hefer Valley's Moshav Achituv, responsible for growing 80% of Israel's cucumbers. Most workers are either serving or are Thai who returned home. We removed leaves so the cucumbers got nutrients and picked cucumbers. Helping the farmers and feeding a nation torn by war was one of the most impactful and meaningful things I have ever done. Knowing the work that it took to convert this malaria infested swamp-land into lush and fertile farms and that my hands in the dirt followed those that came before me, connected me to Israel as never before. I could have picked cucumbers for days.

Bearing Witness

There isn't anyone in Israel who hasn't been personally impacted by October 7. We were honored to meet some who not only shared their experiences but want the world to hear what happened. Here are some of their stories.

Noam, a 45-year-old single father of three survived Nova. He described the festival's atmosphere as being "like a heart above us." People were happy, free, alive. Until 6:30 am. There was disbelief because this was "not the place where people were going to butcher you." He rescued 15 people that day.

We met Gili Adar's parents at her grave. Just 24 when she was murdered at Nova. By all accounts, she wasn't just a ray of light—she was the sun itself.

Adele Raemer shared not only her survival story on Kibbutz Nirim, but that of her son-in-law and grandchildren also living there. The kibbutz is now relocated to Be'er Sheva and interestingly for a collective community, nobody discusses whether they will return. For the record, she will.

Timor is an Ashkelon police officer living in Sderot. He usually works a desk, but he answered the call that morning and, knew that his job was to delay the terrorists from entering Ashkelon. Shot in the arm, he applied a tourniquet and continued his mission, saving an untold number of lives. He has already undergone three surgeries.

Ramo Salmn El-Hazayil, a Bedouin police officer, took a security job at Nova. When leaving home that morning, something made him take a third magazine. Armed with just a 9mm and two magazines (he gave the third away), he single-handedly rescued over 200 teenagers—driving back and forth along the road to a greenhouse.

Regardless of the experience and the person, there are consistent themes—nobody discussed politics, but ALL feel betrayed and let down by the government; all are heroes but don't think that—they believe they did what needed to be done and what anyone would have done; they admit to still being IN trauma, in fact the entire country is IN trauma; the main goal is to bring the hostages home—everything else is secondary; it's hard to envision a tomorrow, when today is October 7 the XXX (fill in for today), but there's confidence that tomorrow WILL COME.

The People

A lot can be said of Israelis. I liken them to a sabra fruit—hard and prickly on the outside, but once you crack that outer skin, it is soft

and sweet. The shell is there out of necessity. How else can over 130,000 people be displaced from their homes, moved into hotels and yet still smile and laugh?

The hotels are full with displaced people. Refugees in their own country. The common areas are gathering places. The lobby bar—where kids do homework. The corridor—home to a knitting circle. It is noisy and boisterous. As life should be.

At Aroma Café, a mile from Gaza, we met soldiers eating. They kept refusing our offer to buy lunch—because what about the others? Only when assured that the others were taken care of, could we pay. Gaza is a stone's throw away, and these soldiers thanked us and told us we were brave for coming, that our presence gave them strength to complete the mission. They kept asking how things were in the US. Chayalim are a breed unto themselves.

There are images forever seared in my brain. The soldier in Har Herzl at her boyfriend's grave meticulously cleaning it, kissing the headstone, laying a rose, unable to leave. The man sitting between the graves of two brothers, born years apart, both dying October 7. The group from Women Wage Peace who come to Hostage Square to keep attention on the hostages. The orthodox woman in Machne Yehuda in a feminine long flowing skirt and blouse, on her back a machine gun.

This is just the surface—reach out and I'll happily share. But, please, if you can, go to Israel. Our presence gives strength to the soldiers and the people. [Am Yisrael Chai.](#)



Eran's Angels Collection

Thanks to all our very generous congregants who purchased items from our Eran's Angels Amazon Wishlist to donate/transport to soldiers in Israel.

We sent 10 duffels filled to the brim with badly needed items over the course of two weeks! Stay tuned for future Israel collection updates.

Pictured: **Harper Spero** and member **Andrea Stempel** packing up our duffels.

Volunteers arriving in Israel and collecting bags to be transported to Eran's Angels.



Volunteer for Project Cicero

Sunday, March 10, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm



The Social Action Committee is organizing a group to volunteer with Project Cicero to help sort and distribute books on Sunday, March 10. **Minimum age for volunteers is 6th grade—sorry no younger children allowed.** Please [REGISTER HERE](#) if you would like to volunteer as part of the Brotherhood group from 10-11 am, 11am-12 pm or for the full two hours. Volunteering takes place at 601 West 26 Street (the Starrett-Lehigh Building between 11th and 12th Avenues).



Donate To City Harvest's 2024 Passover Food Drive! Passover Food Collection | March 18- April 12

Thirty percent of Jewish households in NYC are currently living near or below the poverty line. The Social Action Committee is partnering with City Harvest to help feed our neighbors in need during Passover. Donated items require at least one of the certifications shown below, in addition to a kosher for Passover designation. Chometz items require one certification.

Most needed kosher foods are self-stable and as follows:

- Tuna
- Salmon
- Sardines
- Oils
- Gefilte Fish
- Matzoh
- Peanut Butter
- Grape Juice



March 2-8

Sophie Ader[^], Charles A. Akins[^], Phyllis Auliano, Lauretta Berkman, Elliott Berman, Mania Bernstein[^], Marjorie Bobker, Lillian Cohen, Hannah Cohen^{*}, Isa Corinaldi, Robert Dubin^{*}, Rose Dymm^{*}, Augusta Fassler^{*}, Joseph S. Feldman[^], Sherwin Finsie[^], Isidore Flame[^], Richard Globus, Morris Gluckman^{*}, Miles Godin, Bebe Goldenberg, Samuel Marshall Goldin[^], Barnett Goldstein^{*}, George Goldstein[^], Shirley Goodman, Evelyn Greenberg, Belle Gruber[^], Aaron Joseph Hill, Karen Jeffreys[^], Samuel Kupferwaser, Sara Laderhandler[^], Ida Lederer, Herman Lutwak, Anni Lutwak, Sylvia Marke[^], Gerard Marx, Miriam Miller, Paul "Buddy" Miller, Dr. I. Franklin Miller[^], Jeffrey Newman, George Novom[^], Zecharia Ofri, Phillip Palmer, Fae Pearl^{*}, Meyer Pearl^{*}, Harry Pollak[^], Howard Rapaport[^], Fay Rothman^{*}, Ida Rothstein[^], Eliezer Schulwolf^{*}, Nathan Schutz, Blanche Lorraine Seinfeld[^], Hyman Shafer^{*}, Irving Sherinsky, Charles Shustak, David Siepser^{*}, Roberta Silver, Jean Silverman[^], Israel Stern, Jerome Stutzel[^], Anna Sunkin[^], Judith Vernikoff, Abraham Weinman, Emanuel Weissler[^], Louis Weprin, Jennifer Winicki[^], Fay Wolfson^{*}

March 9-15

Rachel Blitz, Natalie Brickman[^], Tillie Cohen, Louis Elson, Abraham Franklin, Alice Giddins[^], Rose Gingold, Meyer Glazer, Susan Greene[^], Adele Joseph^{*}, Bernard Kitover, Eva Klein[^], Claire Kramer, Peter LaMann, Myrna Lee[^], Dorothy Lese^{*}, Bertha Levy[^], Morris Lichter, Nellie Lipton[^], Pearl B. Merkelson[^], Louis Moskowit^{*}, Max Naftalis^{*}, Harvey Nelson, Rachel Novom[^], Seymour Offerman[^], Rose Perlstein[^], Claire G. Rich[^], Howard I. Rich[^], Nathan Riff, Abraham Rothstein[^], Martin Saportas, Edith Schechter^{*}, Adele Schneider,

YAHREZEITS

[^]Garden of Remembrance ^{*}Book of Remembrance

Charles Schotland[^], Sol Seiger^{*}, Rose Wade Settle[^], Aharon Silberstein, Florence Solomon[^], Helga Weber, Rifke Weingast^{*}, Lillan Wernick

March 16-22

Fannie Abraham[^], Charles Barron[^], Sylvia Bluestone, Arnold Boriss, Samuel Charters, Ms. June Chusid, Jenia Distenfeld, Frieda Eisenstadt[^], Lawrence Fischman, Maurice Irving Fishman, Doris Friedman, Lois Greene[^], Al E. Greene[^], Herman Chaim Jacobs[^], Barry Lighold, George Lester[^], Joseph Mald^{*}, Sarah Davis, Mandell Hazzan, David Mann[^], Joseph Meresman[^], Gussie Offerman[^], Ira Ostrow, Joseph Rizzman^{*}, Erwin Isaac Rossman^{*}, Irving Schaffel^{*}, Jacob Schindel[^], Louis Sobel, Sally Sorrell, Tillie Sweet[^], Samuel Topper[^], Abraham Versh^{*}, Martin J. Warmbrand[^], Gail Weinstein, Herbert Yassky

March 23-29

Ann Abeles, Mary K. Abrams, Gerald Altus, David S. Behrens, Joseph "Jerry" Chizner^{*}, Bernard Derris, Betty Estersohn, Richard Feldman, Rose Gilman, Morton Goldman, George Greenfield, Victoria Jacobs[^], Regina Kestenbaum[^], Karen Kupper, Jeanette Lesser[^], Max Mandell, Blasina Marte, Chuck Messner, Marjorie Polikoff, Claire Pollak[^], Martin Rosen, Michael Rosenstock, Rita Rosenthal, Neva Sacco, Charles Schonhaut[^], Sigmund Schutz[^], Bertha Seeman[^], Charles Segal, Mr. Rolan Shnayder, Florence Shustak, Harry Solomon[^], Harold Spahn[^], Dr. Gustave Steinberg[^], Emanuel Wallach^{*}, Henry Weisburg^{*}, Jack Wildstein, Matilda Dursht Wolf[^]



Volunteer with BCRIC and the Interfaith Committee to Prepare Hygiene Kits for NYC Refugee Families

Sunday, March 31, 11:00 am at Brotherhood

The Interfaith Committee and the Brotherhood Committee on the Refugee and Immigration Crisis (BCRIC) are organizing a volunteer event to benefit newly arrived refugee families whose children attend school in District 1. We are seeking 20 volunteers to assemble hygiene kits at Brotherhood Synagogue which will later be distributed to refugee families.

If you'd like to join our group of volunteers to assemble kits, please [REGISTER HERE](#).



This event is made possible by a generous gift from Henry Schein Cares Foundation.

March 30-April 5

Dr. Julius Leonard Abrams, Frances Allen, Linda D. Baron, Leah Bernstein, Ethel Brill, Eden Casriel, Deleah Eisenberg, George Farkas[^], William Friedman^{*}, Irving Friedman[^], Judith S. Gaines, Iakov Gleizer[^], Sara Anna Goldfarb[^], Bertha Gomby[^], Catherine Hern, Martin Hoff, Sheldon Joblin, Ishaiv Kleiman, Louis Krumbein, Patricia Learner[^], Regina Handel Leslie, Scott Levy, Phillip Lipman, Irving Morse, Lotte Noymer[^], Florence Parker, Raphael Rich, Susan Rockwell, Henry Ross[^], Freddy Rovello, Carl-Olof Sandberg, Bernard Schwam, David M. Schwartz[^], William Bill Secunda[^], Nathan Shapiro, Hyman Starr[^], Jack Weinman[^]

The Brotherhood Synagogue

28 Gramercy Park South, New York, N.Y. 10003
Phone: (212) 674-5750 | Fax: (212) 505-6707
www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org



RABBI DANIEL ALDER
CANTOR ISAAC YAGER

RABBI IRVING J. BLOCK[^] D.D.: Founding Rabbi

SETH HULKOWER: President

ALISHA GOODMAN:
Executive Director

PHILLIP ROTHMAN:
Executive Director Emeritus

Congregation founded in 1954
Historic Landmark Building
erected in 1859





SAVE THE DATE

**BROTHERHOOD SCHOOLS
ANNUAL BENEFIT**

Thursday, April 11

**JOIN US TO CELEBRATE
70 YEARS OF
BROTHERHOOD**



Buy Tickets Here

Shabbat Shalom



Friday Family Shabbat
March 1 • April 12 • May 17
at 5:30pm age appropriate family services
for students K-6 grade

**BROTHERHOOD
SYNAGOGUE
PURIM
CARNIVAL**

SUNDAY MARCH 24th
JOIN US FOR FOOD, GAMES, AND PRIZES!
11:00 MINI MEGILLAH READING
FOLLOWED BY A FUN AND FANTASTIC
CARNIVAL UNTIL 1:00
COME IN COSTUME AND CELEBRATE WITH US!



\$20 family ticket

Hebrew School News: Important Hebrew School Upcoming Events

by Tess Neider, Hebrew School Principal



PURIM CARNIVAL: It's not every year we get to celebrate Purim on Purim. This year our Carnival will be filled with new games, crafts, and so much more! Save the Date to join us on **March 24**. Wacky costumes are a must, and it wouldn't be Purim at Brotherhood without hotdogs so be ready for a tasty treat as well. There is fun for the whole family. We begin the morning with a Shpiel in the Sanctuary and then head downstairs for the Carnival. Our older students create games and run the booths that our younger students love to play. It is a great way to spend a Sunday together and for your students to win some prizes too!



FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES & SCHOOL WIDE DINNER: We can all agree on the importance of community, and nothing brings our community together quite like Shabbat. Once a month we host a special Shabbat Service for families followed by grade level dinners. We know many of our school families have multiple students in different grades and it can sometimes be

difficult to attend events for each separate class. We cannot wait to host our first School Wide Shabbat Dinner on **April 5**. All grades and families are invited to join us for our biggest dinner to date. It is going to be a night to remember!

THE HEBREW SCHOOL MUSICAL: The Community Room is alive with the SOUND OF MUSIC. We are thrilled to once again be bringing The Sound of Music to the Brotherhood Synagogue stage! Rehearsals are underway for the Hebrew School Musical and this year's show is going to be like no other we have had before. We are excited to have Maia Karo and Daniel Meron leading our students once again this year and are happy to welcome Caryn Roman and Tatyana Kalko to the Musical Team. It is a dream come true to have such a wonderful group of educators and artists working with our students and we are so lucky to have their help to bring this show to life. Since last year's musical the size of our cast has nearly doubled, and we cannot wait to include once again a K-2 Chorus in the show as well. We hope you will join us **May 15 and 16** for a show that is not to be missed.

Take out an ad in our



Rehearsals are underway for our Hebrew School musical, *The Sound of Music* and we once again will be publishing our outstanding Playbill!

The money raised from Playbill advertisements will help support the Hebrew School Musical. You can place an ad to honor your children, your friends, to thank a teacher, to commemorate a mitzvah, or to advertise a business. All ads are in full color.

Ads are available in three sizes:
1/3 Page - \$54 (4.5" wide x 2.4" deep)
1/2 Page - \$90 (4.5" wide x 3.675" deep)
Full Page - \$180 (4.5" wide x 7.5" deep)

Create your graphic in one of those three sizes and save it as a high resolution (300 dpi ((dots per inch)) jpeg. Please send your completed ad to [Tess Neider](mailto:Tess.Neider@brotherhoodschools.org).

Ads will be accepted through April 19!

Payment can be made either online or by check. If you would like to pay online, please [visit here](#) and select Hebrew School Play (Donation) from the dropdown. If you would prefer to pay by check please write Hebrew School Play Ad in memo.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

— The Sound of Music Team

Looking for a listing of upcoming Orange County Jewish Community Scholar Program classes?

Please visit occsp.net/current-online-events/ for a full list of courses being offered this month and to register.

Sponsor an Oneg or Kiddush! Many of our members choose to support the synagogue by sponsoring a Friday night Oneg or Saturday afternoon Kiddush. It's a lovely way to support the community as you celebrate a special occasion such as a birthday or an anniversary, or honor a departed loved one. If you are interested in sponsoring an upcoming Oneg or Kiddush, please reach out to our Office Administrator and Events Coordinator Toby Borzekowski either [via email](#) or phone at 212-674-5750.



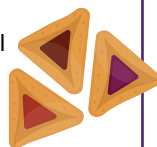
Hamentaschen Baking Class for Kids!

Sunday, March 17 at 11:00 am

Led by member... children will... hamantaschen. The... their aprons!

\$... [RSVP here](#)

CANCELLED



SAVE THE DATE

The Second Annual Evelyn and Cantor Herman Diamond z"l Memorial Concert

Sunday, April 7 at 4:00 pm

This cabaret style concert featuring Cantor Yager and other musical guests will take place in the synagogue's Community Room. Refreshments will be served during the performance. There is a suggested donation of \$20 per person. Hope to see you there!

Nursery School Thoughts: Brotherhood Nursery School Sunset

by Jon Lightman

Over a decade ago, when we had our first child, I was dead set against Jewish education. In fact, my wife wrote articles about my reluctance to consider it. When I was growing up in the UK, Jewish schools were generally not well-regarded and my own experience with "Sunday School" was almost entirely negative. Now, as our third child is only a few months away from graduating from Brotherhood Synagogue Nursery School, I find myself on the board of the synagogue with my other two kids at the Hebrew School and the oldest getting ready for her bat mitzvah in November. So, what happened?

Going back to 2013 when we were looking for preschools for Zelda, new to NYC and living in Chelsea, one piece of advice that resonated with us was to pick a school within walking distance. We evaluated all the options (with the kind of diligence exclusively reserved for first time parents)

and while walking in Gramercy happened to see a line of strollers outside Brotherhood. It was absolutely on the fringes of our evaluation radius, but something made us explore a bit further.

We were immediately drawn to the community's "Hamish" vibe and the preschool's child-centered ethos. We participated in tot shabbats and other community events and managed to land a hard-to-get spot in the Yellow Room.

Almost every year since then we have had a child at BSNS. Each year has brought new friendships, new experiences and, of course, a challah or two every Friday. So now as Zelda practices her tropes every night—well, most nights—alright, some nights—has my view of Jewish education changed? Somewhat. Has the nursery school been a "gateway drug" to a Jewish community I now couldn't imagine myself without? Definitely. 🌈

♪ Cantor's Notes ♪

by Cantor Isaac Yager

There are many exciting musical experiences taking place at Brotherhood in the coming months. On Friday, March 15 klezmer violinist Jake Shulman-Ment will be musically accompanying our Shabbat service. FYI, Jake and I went to high school together. I remember even back then Jake's steadfast commitment to his instrument. I'm truly looking forward to this unique collaboration. We are also continuing our concert series with the second annual Evelyn and Cantor Herman Diamond z"l Memorial Concert. In an effort to shake things up (and have an excuse to eat during a performance), this concert will be performed cabaret style in the Community Room featuring refreshments, special guest artists, and will include the musical stylings of Cantors Frank Sinatra and Tom Jones. And finally, given the enormously positive response, we will be adding several more Musical Friday Night Family Shabbat services with Daphna Mor, Saskia Lane, and the entire Shabbat band. It has been wonderful to collaborate with this group of talented musicians, I am thrilled for more opportunities to share this musical partnership with the Brotherhood community. See you all there! 🌈



Union BBYO @ Brotherhood for teens 8-12

BBYO is the leading pluralistic Jewish teen movement in North America offering a place for teens to grow as individuals and be part of something larger than themselves. A full array of activities—social, community service, and leadership development—are part of BBYO, all with teens in charge! Brotherhood is home to our downtown chapter, Union BBYO, that meets for programming every other Thursday from 6:30 pm – 8 pm.

Upcoming Programs

- **Ranger Game Kickoff:** Saturday, March 9
- **Family Feud & Fries @ Brotherhood** Thursday, March 14
- **Mini Golf @ Pier 25:** Thursday, April 11

- **Passover Picnic:** Sunday, April 21
- **J-Serve:** Sunday, May 5
- **Little League "Challenger" Program** Saturday, May 11
- **Avocadolympics @ Brotherhood** Thursday, May 23
- **Elections @ Brotherhood** Thursday, May 30 OR June 6

Interested? Follow [@UnionBBYO](#) on Instagram for live calendar updates, reach out to Lily Pace, Chapter President, at lilynp07@gmail.com, or Associate Regional Director, Aliya Cohen, at agottehrercohen@bbyo.org for more info!

Family



for Young Children*

Please join us to welcome Shabbat together with stories and song!

Friday, March 1 & 22
5:30-6:00 pm

with Daphna & Saskia
in the Community Room
at Brotherhood

* For children 5 and under.
Older sibs welcome!

Brotherhood Synagogue



Adar I / Adar II
March 2024

☆ Shabbat Corner: 10 am | Aleph Bet Club: 11 am | Junior Congregation: 10 am

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25 9 am: Tikvah	26 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Songs of the Soul	27 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Conversational Hebrew Level 2 7 pm: Brotherhood Book Club	28 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Mah Jongg Game Night	29 9:30 am: Pretoddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 11:30 am: Babies 12:30 pm: Lunch & Learn 3:10 pm: Thursday Corner 4:20 pm: Thursday Corner	1 5:30 pm: Candles 2 pm: Tikvah 4 pm: Knitting Circle 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat for Children 5 & under 6:30 pm: 3rd & 4th Grade Shabbat Dinner 6:30 pm: Services Speaker: Phil Rothman	2 ☆ 9:30 am: Services 5:30 pm: Services Bar Mitzvah of Eli Korpus
PROJECT CICERO		BOOK FAIR				KITISA
3 9 am: Tikvah 12 pm: Knitting Circle	4 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Songs of the Soul	5 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Conversational Hebrew Level 2	6 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Conversion Class 6:30 pm: Mah Jongg Class & Game Night	7 9:30 am: Pretoddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 11:30 am: Babies 12:30 pm: Lunch & Learn 3:10 pm: Thursday Corner 4:20 pm: Thursday Corner	8 5:38 pm: Candles 2 pm: Tikvah 4 pm: Knitting Circle 6:30 pm: Services 7:30 pm: Shabbaton Dinner- Speakers Walter Ruby & Sabeeha Rehman	9 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Brandon Laighold 1pm: Discussion on Israel 5:30 pm: Bar Mitzvah of Desi Beatus 7 pm: BBYO
10 9 am: Minyan 9 am: Tikvah 10 am: Project Cicero Volunteer Event 4 pm: Kfar Azza: Stories of Survival	11 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Songs of the Soul	12 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Conversational Hebrew Level 2	13 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 2 pm: Life Goes On 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Conversion Class 6:30 pm: Mah Jongg Class & Game Night 7 pm: Healing Hearts for Israel	14 9:30 am: Pretoddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 11:30 am: Babies 12:30 pm: Lunch & Learn 3:10 pm: Thursday Corner 4:20 pm: Thursday Corner 6:30 pm: BBYO	15 6:46 pm: Candles 4 pm: Knitting Circle 6:30 pm: Special Musical Shabbat with Jake Shulman-Ment	16 ☆ 9:30 am: Services
ROSH CHODESH	ROSH CHODESH					PEKUDEI
17 9 am: Tikvah 4 pm: Wine Tasting	18 4 pm: Hebrew School 7 pm: Songs of the Soul	19 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Conversational Hebrew Level 2 7 pm: Board Meeting	20 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 6:30 pm: Conversion Class 6:30 pm: Mah Jongg Class & Game Night	21 12:30 pm: Lunch & Learn 7 pm: Mike Pesca and Nancy Rommelmann	22 6:53 pm: Candles 2 pm: Tikvah 4 pm: Knitting Circle 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat for Children 5 & under 6:30 pm: Services Speaker: Archie Gottesman, co-founder, JewBelong.org	23 9:30 am: Services 12:30 pm: Shabbat Club 5 pm: Purim Experience for Children 6:30 pm: Purim Shpiel & Megillah Reading
	CITY & HARVEST PASSOVER FOOD DRIVE					EREV PURIM VAYIKRA
24 8 am: Purim Services & Megillah Reading 9 am: Tikvah 11 am: Children's Purim Carnival	25 4 pm: Hebrew School	26 9:30 am: Toddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 1 pm: Hadassah Meeting 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Conversational Hebrew Level 2	27 10 am: Mah Jongg Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: Mah Jongg Class & Game Night	28 9:30 am: Pretoddlers 10:30 am: Toddlers 11:30 am: Babies 12:30 pm: Lunch & Learn 3:10 pm: Thursday Corner 4:20 pm: Thursday Corner 6:45 pm: Life Goes On Book Club 7 pm: Brotherhood Book Club	29 7:00 pm: Candles 2 pm: Tikvah 4 pm: Knitting Circle 6:30 pm: Services	30 9:30 am: Services
PURIM						
31 11 am: Hygiene Kit Packing	CITY & HARVEST PASSOVER FOOD DRIVE					SHEMINI

Synagogue to Host Passover Seder

On the first night of Pesach, Monday, April 22, we will again host our annual Seder at the synagogue, led by Rabbi Alder and Cantor Yager. Services will begin at 6:30 pm with the Seder following at 7:00 pm. We will once again be serving our full course Seder dinner buffet style; however, we will offer table service to those who need assistance. The cost is \$90 for adult members, \$60 for children (ages 5-12), and \$110 for adult guests of our members.

Please, if possible, reserve online (<https://brotherhoodsynagogue.shulcloud.com/form/passover-seder-2024>)—it helps the office staff keep track of reservations. Seating is especially limited and priority will be given to our members based on order of received registrations.



Shabbat Table

We are launching a program to match up people who would like to share a Shabbat evening dinner together. This is a great way to celebrate Shabbat and get to know more people in the congregation. Let's build bonds

between us by sharing a meal and breaking challah together. Our first Shabbat Table evenings will take place on Friday, March 22 and Friday, March 29. We have a number of members who have graciously volunteered to host in various neighborhoods. Now we are looking for guests to [register using this form](#) to communicate preferences/restrictions. If you have any questions, please contact Daniel Marcus (damarcus99@gmail.com), Rabbi Alder, or Roberta Kahn.

Brotherhood Synagogue's
**70th Anniversary
Torah Project**

*"God has put these words in
my mouth. I wrote them
with ink in a book."*

– Book of Jeremiah



*"Turn the Torah, and turn it again,
for all things are in it."*

– Ethics of the Sages

"The Torah Illuminates."

— Book of Proverbs

Throughout our history, the Jewish people have been known as *Ahm HaSefer* — the People of the Book. That book is the Torah, the ancient scrolls that records our stories, laws, and customs, and defines the very core of Jewish life.

The Torah's last command, the 613th Mitzvah, requires that every Jew participate in the writing of a Torah scroll. Fulfilling this ultimate commandment ensures that we will pass on our sacred traditions to future generations.

To celebrate Brotherhood Synagogue's 70th anniversary, we have commissioned the writing of a new Sefer Torah. This Sefer Torah project allows Brotherhood's members and our extended community a way to celebrate this milestone in the life of our congregation, as well as to participate in a mitzvah of unequal importance.



*"So now, write this song for yourselves,
and teach it to the children of Israel."*

– Book of Deuteronomy

Our new Torah is being written in Israel's ancient community of B'nei Brak under the supervision of renowned scribe Rabbi Zerach Greenfield. Zerach will visit Brotherhood Synagogue over the course of the year to introduce the project and provide progress reports.

The writing of a Sefer Torah is a mystical event. The scribe, or *sofer*, uses the same tools that have been used for centuries: the highest-grade parchment, ink created from carbon, gallnuts, and honey. Each letter (and there are 304,805 of them) is painstakingly written with the use of a quill pen and style of calligraphy known in Hebrew as the "exalted script." The scribe must have a printed copy of the Torah before him and must pronounce each word when writing to keep his mind from wandering and to prevent errors in spelling. These exacting standards ensure that the Torah produced is both accurate and sacred.



Rabbi Daniel Alder with Zoey Abramson preparing for her Bat Mitzvah.

Participate in the Mitzvah

Every congregant has the opportunity to endow the writing of our Torah. Whether we choose to endow a letter, a word, a parasha or an entire book, our participation will further the work of the Brotherhood Synagogue. There may be parasha (Bar/Bat Mitzvah), passage or name that has special meaning to you. All contributors will have their names inscribed in the Sefer Torah Project album and will receive a certificate confirming their endowment.

Endowment Opportunities

Sefer (Book):	\$10,000+
Parasha (Torah Portion):	\$5,000
Special Passage:	\$2,500
Maftir Aliya:	\$1,000
Aliyah:	\$500
Pasuk (Verse):	\$360
Shem (Specific Name):	\$180
Milah (Word):	\$100
Letter	\$54
Letter (for 13-21 years of age):	\$36
Letter (for children under 13):	\$18

Endowment Selection _____

Sponsored by _____
(as you would like your name to appear on the certificate)

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Please note any special sections of the Torah that you wish to include in your sponsorship:

Name		Phone

Address		

City	State	Zip

Please make checks payable to Brotherhood Synagogue or [pay online](#).

Funds raised for the Torah Project will be used towards the purchase of the Torah and all of its adornments, the repair of our existing Torahs and events associated with this project. Excess funds raised will be spent on other Brotherhood projects and needs as directed by the Board of Trustees.