



CONNECTION

Beth Chaim is a Reform congregation whose mission is to provide an environment for the learning of Torah; to satisfy the religious, cultural, educational, and social needs of the local Jewish community; and to present an understanding of Jewish values to the community-at-large.

(609) 799-9401 / www.bethchaim.org

Sh'vat-Adar 5783 / January-February 2023

Rabbi Adena Blum
President: Michael Schwartz
Director of Lifelong Education: Anne Berman-Waldorf, RJE
Early Childhood Education: Robin Resnick

January and February at Beth Chaim

Rabbi Adena Blum

RabbiBlum@bethchaim.org

For all your life cycle needs, our clergy team is ready to assist you. Please call the temple office at (609) 799-9401, and if you are experiencing a pastoral emergency, dial extension 9. We are here for you in your times of joy and challenge.

Perspective on Presidents' Day

דִּינָה דְּמַלְכוּתָהּ דִּינָה *“Dina d’ Malkhuta dina—the law of the land is the law”*

This principle found throughout Jewish law is reflective of our people’s tumultuous history. From the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem in 70 CE until the declaration of the modern State of Israel in 1948, Jews were guests in the home of other nations. Before the modern era, we were limited in our ability to control our own destiny, which often included protecting ourselves. At best, we were tolerated and allowed to mind our own business; at worst, we were violently oppressed and reminded of our marginal place within the host society. In both contexts, we had to abide by the law of the land because our very survival depended on it.

Our story took a turn for the better when the first Jews settled in what would become the United States of America. With the establishment of this new nation, American Jews were given a unique opportunity to live in a land that protected religious freedom. Judaism has been able to flourish in the US in ways that were not possible in many other places around the globe. That is why ours is tied with Israel for the largest Jewish community in the world.

This does not mean that we are immune from Antisemitism here in America, which we know is all too alive and well even in 2023. However, this Presidents’ Day I am reminded of the freedoms we Jews enjoy here that are not shared by all our coreligionists in other countries:

- The right to participate in the democratic election of our leaders.
- The safe and peaceful transition of power.

The legal protection against our discrimination—the law of the land gives us the right to practice Judaism without fear of persecution.

It is a blessing to live in America, even when we disagree with our elected officials, who, like the characters in our sacred texts, are imperfect human beings just like the rest of us. This Presidents’ Day I am filled with gratitude for those who built this great nation and who toil for its sake today. We have more work to do to make this a more perfect union, but I am inspired to roll up my sleeves and get to it. And my being Jewish does not discount me from participating fully in this process. There are Jews at all levels of government in America, a privilege that should not go unnoticed.

What’s Inside

- Rabbi1-2
- Lifelong Education.....4
- President.....6-7
- Israel Affairs.....7
- BCTY.....9
- DEI Statement.....10-11
- B’Mitzvah at CBC.....12
- Cantor Search.....12
- Office Administrator.....13
- Library Recharge.....14
- Finance Committee...16-17
- Thank You to our Generous Donors.....18-19
- Meet the Staff Team.....20
- Good & Welfare.....23
- Temple Directory.....24

For up-to-date calendar information, visit www.bethchaim.org

In honor of Presidents' Day this year, I offer up these words of prayer by Alden Solovy, Jewish poet and liturgist.

For Government

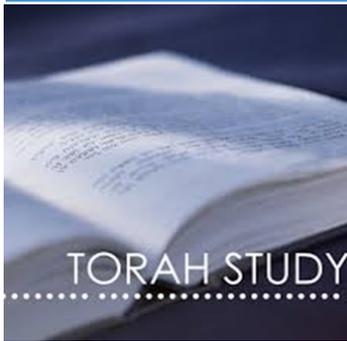
יקום פרקן מן שמיא
Yikum purkan min shemaiya
Let deliverance arise from heaven
Bringing justice and enlightenment
To the nations of the earth
And to the leaders of the United States,

חנא וחסדא ורחמי
Chineh v'chesdeh v'rachamai
Bringing grace, love and compassion
To the halls of power,
The seats of government,
The capitals of our world.

יהי רצון מלפניך
Y'hi ratzon milfanecha
May it be Your will
To grant the heads of State
A new vision

For safety and prosperity,
Friendship and cooperation,
So that all may know
The fullness of Your blessings,
In a world of generosity and kindness,
Tranquility and peace.

הנותן תשועה וממשלה לנסיאים
Hanotein t'shuah umemshalah l'nosi'im
May You who gives redemption and governance
to presidents,
Reward us with political leaders
With true vision and deep understanding
Of Your instructions to rebuild
And renew the earth,
So that economic, legal,
Social and environmental justice
May bear fruit
For generations to come.



Join us every Saturday morning at
8:45am for bagels and Torah study.

The morning concludes with
Mourners' Kaddish at 9:45am.

All are welcome. Texts are provided.
Check the temple website for location.



Swimming in a Sea of Talmud A Sunday morning Adult Education class

January 22
January 29
February 12
February 26

All classes are in person and on Zoom, from 9:30-
10:30am. Bagels are served to those in the room!

Jewish Calendar Corner

Asara B'Tevet

Asara B'Tevet commemorates the beginning of Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylonia's siege on Jerusalem. This siege led to the capture of Jerusalem and the destruction of the first Temple in 586 BCE. This is a minor fast day. For those who choose to fast, the fast begins at sunrise and ends at sunset. This year Asara B'Tevet falls on January 3.

Tu BiSh'vat

Tu BiSh'vat means the "15th of Shevat," which is Judaism's Arbor Day. This holiday celebrates the birthday of the trees so you do not have to remember on what day you planted each tree. This holiday typically falls in January and February, which is winter for us here in New Jersey, but in Israel it marks the beginning of spring. This year Tu BiSh'vat falls on February 6.

Simchas (Joyous Occasions)

Mazal tov to Stacy and Harvey Mitgang on the Hebrew naming of their granddaughters Sophia and Noa.

Mazal tov to our B'Mitzvah and their families: Hana Rochkind and Daniel Estulin.

Mazal tov to our Kindergarten students and their families on the occasion of their consecration on October 16.

Mazal tov to Melissa Wasserman for all her efforts to make the JFCS Wheels for Meals event a great success.

Mazal tov to Kim Wishnow-Per who was honored as a Woman of Distinction by the Greater Princeton Chapter of Hadassah for her longstanding commitment and dedication to the organization.

Mazal tov to David Steinberg who was awarded the prestigious Maison G. deNavarre Medal Award by the Society of Cosmetic Chemists.

We were delighted to honor Joe and Sandy Pucciatti and the Choir on October 29. Thank you for decades of beautiful music!



The evening featured an Italian buffet, presentation of gifts, and musical performances.



"We Fit Together" Puzzle Challenge and Pizza

Join us before Rock Shabbat for dinner and a friendly competition!

Teams will race to complete a puzzle - first to finish wins bragging rights and a prize!

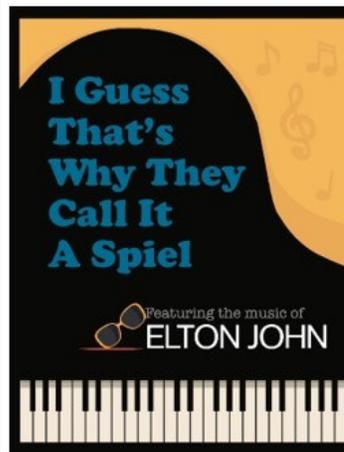
Friday, February 3rd, 6-7:15pm
Beth Chaim Social Hall

Cost and registration information coming soon!

To pre-register or for questions, please email dboyle711@gmail.com



Sponsored by the Multifaith Committee



Purim Shpiel CASTING CALL

Sunday, January 8, 2023 @ 11:30am

ACTORS, SINGERS, DANCERS & MUSICIANS needed! All ages welcome!

Join us Sunday, January 8th at 11:30am in the Sanctuary to start rehearsing for our Purim Shpiel.

Rehearsals will continue on Sundays at 11:30am on days Religious School is open.

**PURIM SHPIEL/MEGILLAH READING
Monday, March 6, 2023**

*We cannot walk alone. And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead.
We cannot turn back.* —MLK Jr I Have a Dream Speech, August 28, 1963

“I have a dream.” Those words, spoken by the Reverend Dr Martin Luther King, propel us, inspire and motivate us, energize and strengthen us. His voice, so distinctive that each of us can hear it in our minds, recall his intensity and remember both what he said and how he said it.

I have a dream – a quote referring to the familiar biblical story when Jacob, another dreamer, had his famous vision of the ladder going to heaven. Jacob, who stopped for the night, using rocks for a pillow, woke up and exclaimed, “How awesome is this place” and names it Beth-El, the House of God. How could Jacob sleep on the ground, using rocks for a pillow and dream about God’s majesty? How do you sleep on a rock pillow and wake up shouting, “How awesome is this place?”

“I have a dream,” the words echoing across our nation’s capitol. “I have a dream,” the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr asserted. After sleeping in a filthy jail cell in Selma, Alabama, with images of bloodthirsty attack dogs in his eyes, the sting of water cannons still burning his body and the pernicious words of a despicable racist governor and sadistic sheriff echoing in his ears...Dr. King woke up and asserted with unshakeable faith: “I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: ‘We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.’” How do you dream that after witnessing racism and hate?

How do you go to sleep in “a state sweltering with the heat of injustice” and wake up believing that someday our nation “will judge us not by the color of our skin but by the content of our character?”

How do you sleep in the most vile of circumstances and wake up convinced that soon “every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together?” How do you sleep on a rock and exclaim with unshakeable conviction: “How awesome is this place, God is here?”

The truth is that the power of right and great dreams is never dependent on where you rest your head. Where you rest your head is never as important as where you place your heart.

The dreams that touch our hearts move our souls to action. The dreams that touch our hearts mobilize our spirit by the strength of their moral correctness and truth. The dreams that touch our hearts unite us, binding us together in common cause, compelling us to climb out on the shaky and dangerous ledge of uncertain consequence, moving us to heights thought unreachable and unattainable. That’s the power of the dream that inspires our celebration of the life of the Reverend Dr Martin Luther King Jr.

It is sobering to acknowledge that even though Dr King is dead, his dream is still in process. It is sobering to acknowledge that all too often it falls on others to make real what we have dreamt. Sometimes all we get to do is provide inspiration and motivation.

Think about Moses. Can you imagine his disappointment in not being allowed to enter Canaan? Surely, Moses must have said to God: “Are You kidding me—I schlepped them out of Egypt, I don’t get to go into Canaan?” But, as we know, fulfillment of the dream fell to Joshua and the Israelite leaders of the next generation.

Here lies the lesson; Moses not entering the Promised Land in no way diminished the magnitude of his work. Sometimes others nurture the dreams we birth. Our sages teach: “You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it.” And so we remember. And so we honor. And so we dream.



Anne with our 7-10th grade Religious School Students



I Guess That's Why They
Call it a Shpiel
Crocodile Rock at the
Beth Chaim Purim Carnival!



Sunday, March 5, 2023
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Food, Fun & Games

Esther & Mordechai

Advance Ticket Packages Available

Visit BethChaimMensClub.org for tickets.

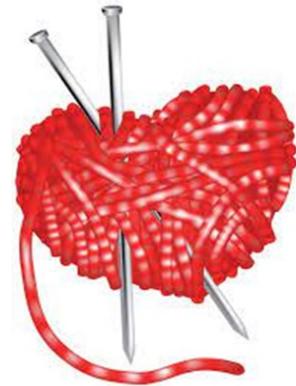


Religious School CLOSED

Sunday, January 1, 2023

Sunday, January 15, 2023

Sunday, February 19, 2023



FAMILY MOVIE MATINEE



February 26, 2023

12:15 – 3pm

\$5 per person

All ages are invited to join us for lunch and a family friendly movie! Mark your calendar and watch your in-box for more details.

Chai Tea & Knitting for a Cause

Sunday, January 29, 2023

1pm – 4pm

Join us for hot beverages and sweet treats as we knit to keep others warm! We'll be making hats, scarves and baby toys. Patterns and yarn provided. Please bring size 7 or 8 knitting needles.

Co-Sponsored by Tikkun Olam and Sisterhood.

Questions? Contact Anne Berman-Waldorf at educator@bethchaim.org, 609-799-9401 extension 103 or

Helene Molter at Helene.molter@gmail.com.

Please go to <https://tinyurl.com/55bb88ns> to register.

Beth Chaim's Greatest Strength

As part of our search for a new cantor, the American Conference of Cantors required us to submit a lengthy application. Our submission ran 31 pages, and a number of the questions required serious thought, discussion, writing and rewriting. One of those questions asked us to detail Beth Chaim's strengths.

Our response began: **"Our Congregation's greatest strength is its people."** We went on to highlight our "talented and collegial group of staff and teachers." Also mentioned were our board members and many other dedicated congregants who volunteer and support the Congregation in so many ways.

All of these groups — staff, teachers and volunteers — deserve our gratitude and recognition for their many contributions to Congregation Beth Chaim. But I'd like to start the New Year by thanking and recognizing our staff and teachers. Their dedication is immense, and every day they go out of their way to make Beth Chaim the very special place it is.

Preschool. We have the only Jewish Preschool in Mercer County. Our Preschool teachers teach our youngest students many things, but what makes our Preschool program special is our teachers' constant emphasis on the importance of gratitude, empathy, kindness and compassion. Our Preschool teachers are:

Ronit Ahdout	2's Teacher (Butterfly Class)
Amy Vena	2's Teacher (Butterfly Class)
Denise Brandon	3's Teacher (Busy Bees)
Linda McEvenie	3's Teacher (Busy Bees)
Judy Swirsky	4's Teacher (Dragonfly Class)
Nancy Durie	4's Teacher (Dragonfly Class)
Wendy Landow	Kindergarten Teacher (Shining Stars)

Religious School. Our Religious School teachers serve as Jewish role models for our students. They share with their students a love of Jewish living and learning. They also share with their students the questions they ask themselves and how they too are continually learning new things about Judaism. Our Religious School teachers are:

Robin Smolarz	Bagels and Blocks
Amy Vena	Kindergarten
Ronit Ahdout	1st Grade
Marje Nubile	2nd Grade
Lori Schwartz	3rd Grade
Hadas Rosenthal	4th Grade
Dina Levine	5th Grade
Sonia Arusy	6th Grade
Janet Blau	Music

(continued at the top of the next page)

Our congregants participated in numerous charitable events recently. We are so proud to see Beth Chaim represented at the following events.



The Beth Chaim bikers at the JFCS Wheels for Meals Bike-a-thon (left);
Bike drive for The Boys and Girls Clubs of Mercer County (right).

Building Staff. Our Building Staff does a wonderful job of keeping our building in shape and running smoothly, from overseeing maintenance to setting up rooms for events and everything in-between. Seidy treats our building like it's her own home, making sure it's a welcoming and hospitable space. All that from a staff of two:

Seidy Arauz	Facility Director
Soc Prospero	Maintenance Staff

Administrative Staff. Our administrative team is a principal point of contact for many of our members. They answer the phones, open the doors, monitor security, answer most of your questions and mine, and do a myriad of other tasks necessary to run a synagogue and school. New reporting lines, new responsibilities and the guidance of our Senior Staff have made our administrative team work together better than ever as they have become more efficient and better able to respond to our members' needs. Here they are:

Wendy Levenkron	Bookkeeper
Sheryl Brown	Office Administrator
Darra Lipper	Membership Engagement Coordinator
Robin Resnick	Assistant Director, Early Childhood Educator
Sara Abelson	Youth Engagement Coordinator
Amy Vena	Evening Receptionist
Sharee Salles	Sunday Receptionist

Senior Staff. Allow me to introduce the two people who (for most of us) need no introduction. Each of them has many jobs. To name a few, Rabbi Blum is our spiritual and ritual leader, teacher, counselor and supervisor. Anne's role far transcends her title. Among other things, she is Rabbi's sacred partner in managing the life of our synagogue and acts as our senior administrator.

Rabbi Adena Blum	Senior Rabbi
Anne Berman-Waldorf, RJE	Director of Lifelong Education

One Hebrew expression for showing gratitude is Hakarat Ha-Tov ("recognizing the good"). I hope you'll join me and the rest of our Board of Trustees in thanking our staff and teachers for all the good they do for our Beth Chaim community.

A happy and healthy New Year to all!

Israel Affairs Task Force

Shrine of the Book Opens by Pat Clarfield



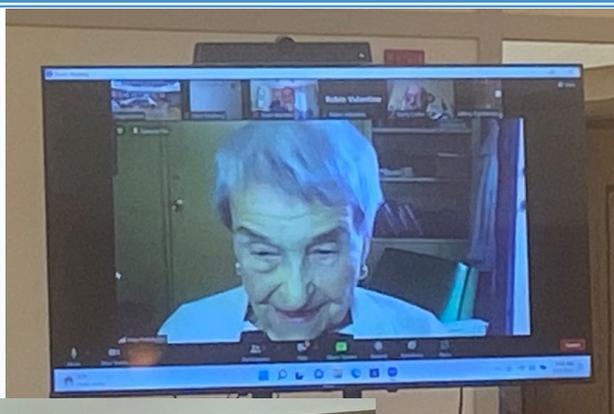
The Shrine of the Book, part of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, was opened in 1965. It was built to house seven Dead Sea Scrolls which were found in 1947 in the Qumran caves.

The building itself is the work of Jewish American architects Armand Bartos and Frederick Kiesler, and its features have historical and biblical significance. The white domed roof represents the lids of the jars that held the scrolls. The corridor leading into the Shrine of the Book is meant to symbolize the Qumran cave layout. The location of the building, next to many official institutions of the State of Israel—the Knesset, key government offices, and the Jewish National and University Library—is noteworthy, considering the degree of importance accorded the ancient texts.

The oldest of the Qumran manuscripts dates back to the third century B.C.E. The Dead Sea Scrolls are considered a keystone of archaeology with great historical, religious, and linguistic significance.

The official ownership of the Dead Sea Scrolls continues to be disputed by Jordan, Israel and Palestine. The debate stems from conflicts over borders, religious authorities, state recognition, military actions, etc. And there also exist sophisticated forgeries that have been uncovered at various institutions over the years. But four of the scrolls housed in the museum were purchased secretly on behalf of the State of Israel by Israeli archaeologist and army General Yigal Yadin, who was responding to a 1954 advertisement in the Wall Street Journal about their availability. (Source, CIE)

The Men's Club was delighted to welcome Holocaust survivor Irma Pretsfelder as a guest speaker on November 6. Our 4th and 5th grade religious school students also attended this important event.



The following is excerpted from Mrs. Pretsfelder's talk:

On the 8th of November 1938, the day before Kristallnacht, better known as “the Night of Broken Glass”, as we were playing in the school yard, one of the children found a big bottle filled with some sort of liquid. Our teacher was suspicious and called the police who totally ignored the call. We think now that the police knew exactly what was going to happen the next day. The next morning, I started out for school in Marburg as usual, when I got there I found our beautiful synagogue in flames. The fire department did not try to put out the fire in the synagogue and was there only to protect the nearby houses which were occupied by non-Jews. I became hysterical and ran to the home of nearby friends. When I got to my friend's house, I found the police were taking all of the Jewish men into custody. I left in panic and horror and took the next train home. I needed to be with my parents who were at that time totally unaware of the fact that during the night 30,000 Jewish men had been arrested and taken to various concentration camps, and almost all synagogues in Germany and Austria had been burned to the ground. Only those synagogues which were situated too close to another building were spared from fire but totally destroyed from within. Jewish businesses and private homes were ransacked and severely damaged.

As the war progressed, Holocaust survivors in England were required to come before tribunals and it was decided that some were considered enemy aliens of England. These “enemy aliens” were sent to an internment camp on the Isle of Man, which is off the West Coast of England. Unfortunately, this was the fate of my parents. I was living in Kent, so I was not sent to the Isle of Man with my parents. On the Isle of Man as enemy aliens, my parents' lives were very restricted. Eventually, because of my father's poor health, he was released from the internment camp, returning to the farm, and then my mother's release came some time later.

Buchenwald concentration camp had broken my father's heart and his body, and he died at the age of 54. My grandmother on my mother's side, my aunts and uncles and little cousin, Irene, were all murdered in the camps.

To read Mrs. Pretsfelder's speech in full, please go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3h7w7ufz>

For a video recording of Mrs. Pretsfelder made in 2015, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yw6dzh49>

BCTY



Thank you to everyone who donated clothing to the BCTY clothing drive! For more information about BCTY (Beth Chaim Temple Youth), please contact our Youth Coordinator, Sara Abelson, at morahsara23@gmail.com.

Sisterhood



SILK SCARF PAINTING

Paint a silk scarf for Tu B'Shvat (holiday dedicated to trees)! Enjoy a fun evening creating an original one-of-a-kind silk scarf with paints and easy-to-learn techniques. You will be able to wear it with your favorite clothes or gift it to a special person in your life!

Note: Attendees should wear old clothes or a smock that can be ruined with paint.

Questions: Holly
singereland@gmail.com
RSVP by 1/25/23

**Wednesday,
February 8, 2023
6:30-8:30pm**

Beth Chaim Social Hall

Sisterhood members:
\$40.00
Non-members: \$50.00

Capacity limited to 20, registration with payment (non-refundable) on first-come-first served basis.



Movin' & Groovin Yoga for Stress Reduction

This Movin' & Groovin class focuses on relieving and reducing the everyday stress that so many of us encounter. Using gentle to moderate yoga, breathing techniques and meditation, this class is for beginners and experienced Yoga students. Nourish your mind, body and soul, compliments of Beth Chaim Sisterhood in collaboration with Nefesh and inMotion Fitness & Wellness.

All attendees must sign inMotion's required waiver.

Questions: Holly (609)240-4631

RSVP by 1/8/23

**Sunday,
January 15, 2023**

11:15 am
70-minute length
Optional casual brunch nearby,
following class

inMotion Studio
20 Emmons Drive, Suite F-50, Princeton,
NJ 08540
(near Rt. 1 South between Market
Fair/Whole Foods)

Sisterhood members: No charge
Others: \$10

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Statement

This past summer, Congregation Beth Chaim adopted a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Statement. Our welcome statement (found on the front page of our website) says that we are inclusive and “...are a friendly and compassionate community that opens the doors of our home to all,” but we did not have a clear, written statement for what that means. The DEI statement aims to remedy that.

The statement seeks to highlight the diversity that exists in humanity, in Judaism and in our congregation and says—unconditionally—that all are welcome and everyone is equal under the eyes of God. Sadly, throughout humanity's history, through the present day, everyone is not treated equally. There are historical and structural causes for this, many of them often justified by narrow-minded interpretations and attributions of religious texts. This is why I am filled with pride every Shabbat when the concepts of love, peace and togetherness for all people are elevated, and I particularly appreciate the Shabbats where we purposely lift the voices of people who have historically been suppressed, ostracized, or have had even worse happen.

Preserving diversity, equity and inclusion is an ongoing effort and I encourage you to contribute. What can the Congregation as an institution do to be more inclusive and welcoming? What can we as committee members do differently? What can we as individual congregants do better? We welcome any ideas and suggestions—please email me at vpcommunity@bethchaim.org.

I wish you the very best in all the winter holidays that you may celebrate.

Jonathan Rochkind, VP Community, Congregation Beth Chaim.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion statement adopted July 26, 2022



צדק צדק תרדף (Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof) “Justice, justice, you shall pursue” (Deuteronomy 16:20)

Congregation Beth Chaim's doors are wide open to all. We are dedicated to maintaining an inclusive spiritual, religious, intellectual and social home based on Reform Jewish values and practices. We welcome, respect, support and value all members of our community.

We are Jews by birth and Jews by choice, multifaith households, people deciding whether to become Jewish, white Jews and Jews of color, and people with varying degrees of Jewish learning and experience. We are two-parent and single-parent families, couples and individuals of all ages, and families formed by adoption and by birth. We are multiracial families, individuals and couples of all sexual orientations and gender identities, people of varied education and socioeconomic backgrounds and levels, people with learning differences and people with disabilities.

We believe that: Every person is created in God's image and has equal value and dignity. Our community is enriched by diversity in all its forms. We benefit individually and as a community when we recognize that every person's identity is a complex mix and no one is defined by a single story. Our congregation must continue to welcome all who wish to join us.

We support opportunities for all members of our diverse community to participate in our worship, learning and social activities; contribute to our Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) efforts; and join our congregational leadership.

Our continued commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging requires active learning, reflection and tolerance. Personal and institutional transformations are required as we continue to learn how racial, social, and economic injustice remains prevalent in and outside of Jewish life.



Yad LaKashish–Lifeline for the Old

Our mission is to give Jerusalem’s needy elderly a sense of purpose, self-worth and connection to mainstream society through creative work opportunities, essential support services and a warm community environment.

On November 16th, we were blessed to visit with representatives from Yad LaKashish–Lifeline for the Old. Our 7th–10th grade Religious School students joined our congregants at a presentation detailing the vital services that Yad LaKashish provides to the elderly in Israel, and the beautiful Judaica displayed was available for purchase. For more information visit www.lifeline.org.il.



- *250 needy elderly artisans work in the workshops 5 days a week.
- *65% are Holocaust survivors.
- *100% are low income.
- *The average age of the artisans is 80 years old.
- *Artisans receive a comprehensive social welfare package to improve their quality of life.

Community Kristallnacht Remembrance

On November 9, Beth Chaim hosted a community Kristallnacht Remembrance service. The evening included a Service of Remembrance led by Rabbi Blum, an address by Dr. Alexandra Herzog of the American Jewish Committee, and featured music by the West Windsor-Plainsboro High School North Concert Choir, Ken Carter, Director, and the Nonet String Ensemble, Colin Oettle, Director.



The Golden Rule
Principles & Embodiment in Painting by Norman Rockwell

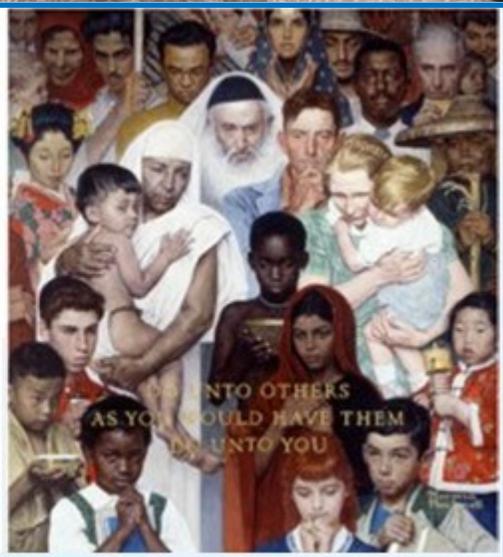
Come Join Us! - Open to All

Friday, February 10, 2023
6:30 PM Pre-Neg and Discussion
Hummus, Dips & Beverages
7:30 PM Shabbat Service with Choir
Followed by Oneg



Congregation Beth Chaim is a welcoming, inclusive congregation





B'Mitzvah at Beth Chaim

Hana Rochkind

February 4, 2023

Parents: Jonathan and Chiaki Rochkind
Grandparents Vicki and Steve Rochkind

Beth Chaim is special to me because it helped me understand different things that I was wondering about before I came here in second grade. It is also important to me because I now know much more about my family's history. I love that at Beth Chaim you can choose what you want to learn and want to better understand. Also, it is a good part of my "social side" because I have met so many new friends there.



Daniel Estulin

February 11, 2023

Parents: Donna and Boris Estulin
Brother: David

Beth Chaim was the first school I went to. I have been coming here since I was in first grade. It's a very special place where I learned the importance of keeping Jewish traditions alive.

Cantor Search Committee

On behalf of the Cantor Search Committee, we are pleased to provide this update to the Congregation on our work over the past several months. In mid-November, we submitted an application to the American Conference of Cantors so that we might begin to receive resumes from prospective candidates affiliated with the ACC.

Since then, we have been conducting interviews and hope to be able to make a recommendation to the Board in the coming months. We are very hopeful that the right match will be there for us, but of course there are no guarantees. While we wish to be as transparent as we can in this process, please recognize that applicants' confidentiality concerns constrain just how much we are able to share publicly.

In conversations and at the two Town Halls we have received many helpful comments and thoughtful suggestions, as well as insightful questions. Perhaps the most numerous of these have centered on the role of our new cantor in the Congregation and the qualities of the ideal person. The Committee has given a great deal of thought to these matters and we addressed them in our application to the ACC.

Our Cantor will be a clergy partner with Rabbi Blum, working closely with her and Anne Berman-Waldorf and our Board, as well as staff and volunteers. We are looking for someone interested in creating inspirational worship experiences, exciting educational opportunities, compassionate pastoral care and meaningful B'Mitzvah and other lifecycle events.

The three most important qualities we seek in our new Cantor are: (1) a love for the Reform Jewish musical tradition and ability to transmit that passion to the Congregation through song; (2) a dynamic individual who can work with all Congregational stakeholders and can help guide the community, especially in times of need; and (3) an engaging personality for congregants of all ages.

As we said in our ACC application, we dream that our new Cantor will:

- inspire a love of Jewish music, culture, liturgy and Torah among congregants of all ages;
- enjoy playing a variety of musical styles and leading the Congregation through song; and
- find a home at Beth Chaim as a valued and respected leader of the community.

Each member of the Committee is deeply appreciative of the trust you have placed in us. Please do not hesitate to let us know of your questions, concerns or ideas. You may reach Don at donald.leibowitz@gmail.com.

Don Leibowitz, Cantor Search Committee Chair, and Michele Kaish, Cantor Search Committee Vice Chair

L'Dor Vador...From Generation to Generation

On August 20, 2022, Rabbi Blum had the honor of officiating a Hebrew naming ceremony for Sophia Ryan and Noa Paige, daughters of sisters Samantha Rosencranc and Morgan Solomon and granddaughters of our congregants Stacy and Harvey Mitgang.



Growing up in West Windsor, Beth Chaim has always been a huge part of our life. Morgan and I attended Hebrew school, became bat mitzvahs, and were confirmed. Even as we moved away, we continued to attend high holiday services whenever visiting our parents. It made perfect sense for us to jointly celebrate our daughters' Hebrew naming ceremony at our home away from home. We loved connecting with Rabbi Blum and personalizing our simcha with friends and family. We were flooded with emotions standing at the bima and watching our daughters formally entering the tribe as they received their Hebrew names. It was truly a 360 moment and we are so grateful for this community and support system. ~Samantha Rosencranc

Office Administrator

Sheryl Brown

reception@bethchaim.org

I am so excited to write my first article for the bulletin as your new Office Administrator! A large part of my responsibilities include communications. To that end, I'd like to make the congregation aware of some updates to how we are communicating with our congregants.

Our first, and most frequent method of communication is via email.

The weekly blasts are sent on Tuesdays. These emails include a list of events happening in the next 2 weeks, Zoom links and passwords, as well as this week's Torah and Haftarah portions and yahrtzeit list. Event flyers are included for events happening or with RSVP deadlines occurring within the next 2 weeks, usually in date order. Beth Chaim events are given priority over events hosted by outside organizations.

Mondays are designated for our auxiliaries—Men's Club and Sisterhood—to send their own email blasts.

Wednesdays and Thursdays are reserved for emails dedicated to raising publicity for Beth Chaim events such as guest speakers, fundraisers, and holiday and special events, as well as special messages from Rabbi Blum, the Temple President, or the Board of Trustees. This includes our new programming blasts. Programming blasts include all upcoming events regardless of date or host, with events listed in date order.

The Shabbat and weekend blasts are sent on Fridays and are devoted to Shabbat and weekend events.

These emails contain a large amount of information; we urge you to read them all the way to the end. You don't want to miss our events! Please note that Beth Chaim events will remain our publicity priority.

Our printed bulletin is mailed to member homes every 2 months. We use this print communication as a way for you to learn about who are members are; it includes columns by Rabbi Blum, Director of Lifelong Education Anne Berman-Waldorf, President Michael Schwartz, and various other committee chairs and congregants on a rotating basis. It also includes information on upcoming events, simchas (joyous occasions), and Good & Welfare contributions. It includes lots of pictures (my favorite part)! We are moving away from including the calendar because the deadline is so far away (a month before the bulletin is printed and mailed) and there are often changes. Please always check the website often for the most up to date calendar information—we are always adding new things! The deadline to submit items for our March-April bulletin is February 1; please submit articles and photos to me at reception@bethchaim.org.

We have recently added texts to our communication methods. Texts will be used on a limited basis for reasons such as building closures, internet and phone outage notifications, and important Religious School reminders and updates.

All of us at Beth Chaim, as well as our committees and task forces, are working hard to provide meaningful programming for all. We hope you take the time to read through all our communications so that you don't miss a thing. I look forward to seeing you at an event soon!

Library Recharge

This is it. This is the Shabbat you're finally going to curl up with a glass of Chablis and tackle Rabbi Joseph Telushkin's *Jewish Literacy*. No excuses.

Let's see...you thought there was a copy lying somewhere around the house, but no go. How about the Mercer County Library System? One copy, but it's checked out. The Princeton Public Library? No luck. Desperate times call for desperate measures—borrow an e-book. Fire up the Libby app and...not available there either. What to do?

Did you know Beth Chaim has a library? A library? Yes, a library of hundreds of volumes—primarily on Jewish life, thinking, Torah, Talmud, Tefillah, practices, customs, and holidays, and works of literature by Jewish authors. So why not give Beth Chaim a call? Well, you could, but unfortunately nobody at Beth Chaim knows exactly what titles we have or how many we have. And even if we knew we had a copy of *Jewish Literacy*, no one could tell you exactly where on the shelves you could find it. Much of the Beth Chaim library was previously assigned to subject-matter categories, but none of it is cataloged. And even if you courageously decided to take a crack at plunging in and searching the stacks yourself, in many cases you'd have to work through books sitting on the shelves in double rows. You'd have to heft a raft of books just to be able to eyeball everything that's there.

The Beth Chaim library has been neglected for some time. It's ready for a re-boot.

Just in the nick of time, before the batteries run all the way down, Congregation members Ruth Quiles and Gary Johnson have volunteered to spearhead the *Beth Chaim Library Re-Charge*.

Ruth is a Beth Chaim b-mitzvah, second generation, life-long congregant and mother of two, who just happens to be a professional librarian, ready to bring her expertise and experience to bear on powering up our library to effectively serve the current and future needs of Beth Chaim's members, rabbis, and professional staff.

Gary is a recently-joined Beth Chaim member, retired "recovering" attorney, and amateur bibliophile. After a long career doing public-sector labor law, he's ready to take up the less demanding tasks of cleaning up the shelves and navigating the Elazar classification system for libraries of Judaica.

First up: *weed*. To prepare the library to grow into an up-to-date service that effectively supports all of Beth Chaim's activities, from worship and Torah-study, to social justice initiatives and Bagels and Blocks, we need to send a lot of volumes that have nothing to do with who we are to new homes or a recycled hereafter.

Next up: *seed*. To position the library to grow in alignment with Beth Chaim's mission, we need to identify, tag, locate, and shelve every book we have and build a digital catalog, which for the first time will enable members and staff to computer-search in-house or on-line for that pesky volume that the public library system just doesn't carry.

To do that, Ruth and Gary are looking for a few good women and men, or more, to join them in the effort to re-energize the library. There's no fixed time commitment and you don't need a degree in library science, or astrophysics for that matter, just a willingness to pitch in to revitalize the shelves and to help imagine all the possibilities, working with like-minded congregants who envision a library that fires on all cylinders as an integral part of the Beth Chaim experience.

If you would like to volunteer to work on the Re-Charge team or if you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to Ruth and Gary at library@bethchaim.com.

And some Shabbat soon, we'll all be able to confidently say: Bring on Telushkin!...and that glass of Chablis.

Ruth Quiles and Gary Johnson



Book Sale and Swap
to benefit the Beth Chaim Library
February 26, 8:45am—12:30pm
in the Main Lobby





Beth Chaim Preschool and Kindergarten registration is still open, and we are having an amazing school year!

Our school provides a warm and nurturing environment with an emphasis on creating independent children. Classes are offered 5 days a week and the days/hours are flexible. We are open from 7:00am-5:00pm. Our certified teachers have over 10 years teaching experience and provide age-appropriate activities that will enrich your child socially and academically. For a glimpse into our preschool, please check us out on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/BethChaimPreSchool/>

Classes are filling up but there is still space available. Please use the link below for additional school information and to enroll your child. <https://www.bethchaim.org/pre-school>

For additional information, please email Robin Resnick at earlychildhood@bethchaim.org



Beth Chaim Preschool is Hatching Chickens!

Join us for a *Baby Shower*

(co-sponsored with Tikkun Olam)

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 5-6pm

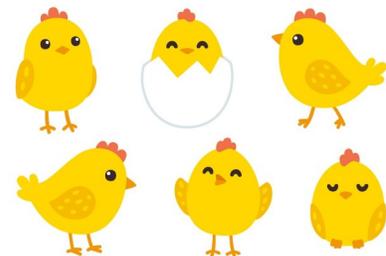
Beth Chaim Library



Please come and enjoy light hors d'oeuvres

And our newly hatched chicks –
they will be here until Friday morning.

No gifts for us BUT please expand our joy
by bringing baby items
(diapers, non-alcohol wipes, ointment, formula,
clothing, bottles – and other baby supplies)
to donate to Womenspace, the shelter for
battered women and children



Mazal tov to our Kindergarten students and their families on the occasion of their consecration on October 16. We can't wait to accompany you on your Jewish educational journey!

As we enter the second half of our fiscal year, it's time to start thinking about Beth Chaim's budget for FY24, which begins July 1, 2023. The idea of producing a budget may not seem exciting – are budget meetings where fun goes to die? – but our budget is tremendously consequential for our congregation. When you think about it, budgets reflect mission, priorities and values.

Our budget outlines how we plan to spend the congregation's money. To be sure, there are expenses like building costs, mortgage and security that don't directly reflect the many reasons we join together as the Beth Chaim community. But beyond those expenses we allocate our funds according to our mission, priorities and values. Things like Jewish education, worship, caring and community.

The Budget Process

The budget process begins in January, well before the next fiscal year begins in July. Members of Senior Staff (Rabbi Blum and Anne Berman-Waldorf) and various committees provide cost estimates for their respective programs and responsibilities, which become the building blocks of the budget. These estimates typically include the cost of goods and services provided by vendors, the cost of supplies and equipment (including technology) and consider necessary staffing requirements. Salaries and related staff costs make up approximately 80% of our total budget.

After the expense recommendations are received, the Treasurer will set up 3 or 4 Finance Committee meetings beginning in February. At these meetings, which are open to congregants, the team will review the budget recommendations. In addition, the Finance Committee will start to analyze the Congregation's demographics and past pledge and fundraising results to estimate the next year's income. The Finance Committee will also consider tuition rates for religious school and preschool, as well as expected rental and other sources of income.

The goal of the process is to arrive at a balanced budget for the next fiscal year. After rolling up the various components, the Finance Committee may revisit budget requests with Senior Staff and committees to see if adjustments can be made to help balance the budget. Once the Finance Committee arrives at a balanced budget, it is presented to the Board of Trustees for approval, usually toward the end of March. The budget is then presented for approval by our members at our Annual Congregational Meeting, which is generally held at the end of April.

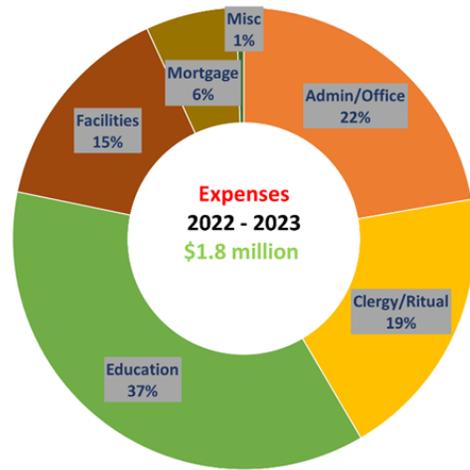
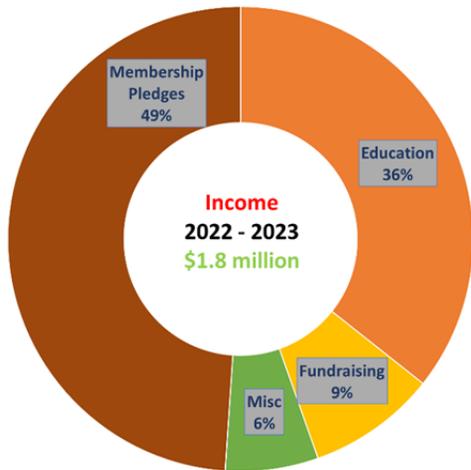
“Reforecasting” the Budget

The Finance Committee and Board of Trustees monitor the budget on a monthly basis, comparing actual or projected income and expense against the budgeted numbers and reviewing cash flow. For many reasons, including unexpected events, expenses or income, the budget may fall out of balance. Generally starting after the High Holy Days, the Treasurer develops, together with the Finance Committee, a “reforecast” of the budget to reflect these changes. As the fiscal year develops, subsequent reforecasts are considered by the Treasurer and Finance Committee. Reforecasts are presented to the Board of Trustees, which decides how to address significant differences between the budget and reforecasts.

Another Perspective on the Budget

Budgets are designed for financial management and not to explain how mission, priorities and values are funded. As just one example, our budget has an expense line for “Adult Education” that is much less than 1% of our total budgeted expenses and a fraction of the resources we devote to adult education. What's missing from the adult education picture is the time spent by our Senior Staff in preparing for and teaching adult education classes. To get a better overall sense of where our money goes, we've created the following pie charts that take into account allocated salary expense based on estimates of how our Senior Staff spends their time.

The pie charts on page 17 are based on the original budget for FY23 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023), which was approved by the Congregation on May 1, 2022. Since that time a number of changes have occurred, resulting in a net projected deficit for FY23. These events have included a lower average Hineini pledge than anticipated; lower preschool and rental revenue and higher High Holy Day costs resulting from a slower recovery from the pandemic than expected; higher building-related expenses than projected; and, partially offsetting those amounts, lower personnel costs, higher fundraising and receipt expenses than projected; and, partially offsetting those amounts, lower personnel costs, higher fundraising and receipt of a Life & Legacy bequest. As we move into the second half of our fiscal year, we'll have a better idea of our progress on the budget, and the Finance Committee and Board of Trustees will consider how to address any budget shortfall.



Congregants who are interested in learning more or participating in Finance Committee meetings are welcome to join us.

Scott Rubin, Treasurer

Corey Safran, Vice President, Development and Financial Affairs

Michael Schwartz, President

Our congregants participated in numerous charitable events recently. We are so proud to see Beth Chaim represented at the following events.



Beth Chaim congregants contributed approximately 50 pairs of new sneakers for HomeFront's back-to-school drive, organized by the Tikkun Olam Committee.



Beth Chaim staff member Sheryl Brown and Board VP Corey Safran and their sons Ryan and Jack participated in the Princeton Tunnels to Towers 5K.

**Thank you to all of
our generous Giving
Tuesday Donors!
(as of December 1)**

**GIVING
TUESDAY**

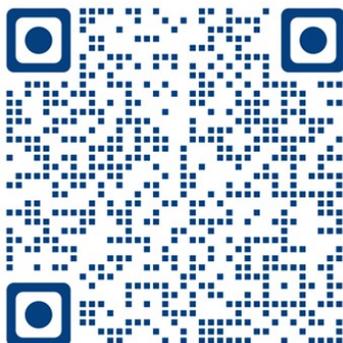
Gaby and Peter Altman
 Scott and Leah Babitz
 Barry and Eva Barbarasch
 Ruth Becker
 Eric and Maria Bergel
 Andrew and Gwen Bleckner
 Camille Bloomberg
 Alan Blowstein and Lynn Koblin
 Rabbi Adena and Sean Blum
 Iris Blumberg
 Aaron and Melissa Bogad
 Jeffrey and Diane Boyarsky
 Ann Brandt
 Stuart and Wendy Breiterman
 Leslie Brodsky
 Barbara Brown
 Marshall and Ellen Calman
 Amy Chanson
 Raymond Chaykin and Renee Simpson
 Patricia and Steven Clarfield
 Bradley and Laura Cohn
 Patricia and Stephen Coplin
 Barry and Joan Cutler
 Joan and Richard Druckman
 Daniel and Rhona Ethé
 William and Linda Feldstein
 David Fenster
 Judith and Matthew Ferszt
 Leslie and J. Gary Fox
 Les and Joann Friedeman
 Steven and Nancy Gartenberg
 Marvin Gittelman

Melissa Gomez and Christopher
 Hodge
 Anne Gordon and David Watson
 Audra and Andrew Guttentag
 Kenneth Herts
 Gary and Shara Hofing
 Barbara Horn
 Mark and Ilene Janofsky
 Lisa and Lawrence Jasper
 Gary Johnson
 Harvey and Michele Kaish
 Mark and Amy Kance
 Dan Kanoff and Elizabeth Chang
 Jeremy and Stacey Kierman
 Marissa and Mark Kingsnorth
 Jonathan Kolb and Julie Martin-Kolb
 Ari and Susan Kolker
 Steven and Amy Kravetz
 Cheryl Kurer
 Marc and Wendy Landow
 Charles Lavine and Barbara Berkman
 Donald Leibowitz and Karen Brodsky
 David and Hope Linton
 Elissa and Jonathan Makarowitz
 Andrea and Richard Mandell
 Adam and Amy Mandelbaum
 Allan and Barbara Marcus
 Jay Merves
 Luke Militch
 Adam and Rona Millinger
 Josh and Cynthia Millinger
 Dana and Adam Naddelman

Stacy Nemeroff
 Vivian and William Newmark
 Tamara Opila and Timothy Schwartz
 Max and Jaimie Orland
 Andrew and Peri Orlando
 Stephen and Caryl Parker
 David Pennock
 Robert and Lois Popkin
 Adam and Vijaya Redlich
 Jonathan and Chiaki Rochkind
 Arthur and Maida Rosengarten
 Ira and Sarah Rubin
 Scott Rubin
 Jessica and David Rubinstein
 Corey and Robyn Safran
 Victor and Rowena Safronov
 Barbara Sarfaty
 Max Schatzow and Mary Stevens
 Patricia Schneider
 Jane and Ken Schuster
 Arthur and Belle Schwartz
 Michael and Ellen Schwartz
 Mindy and Michael Shedler
 Eric and Lisa Sheffield
 Donna and Philip Sher
 Arnold and Ellen Sherman
 Gerald and Nancy Siegel
 Janet Eve Silverstein
 Henry and Myra Slatoff
 Scott and Danielle Stein
 Judi and Brad Strober
 Larry and Debra Trink
 Josh Waldorf and Anne Berman-
 Waldorf, RJE
 Barry and Melissa Wasserman
 Ilene West Borrus and Dan Borrus
 Charlie and Faith Wight
 Alex and Linda Zislin

To make a your end-of-year gift, please
 scan the QR code below or go to:

<https://www.bethchaim.org/givingtues>



**This New Year, plant
 seeds for a brighter
 future**

Your legacy gift of any size can
 benefit Congregation Beth Chaim
 or any beloved Jewish institution

**LIFE &
 LEGACY**
 Assuring JEWISH TOMORROWS
A program of the HAROLD GREENSPON FOUNDATION

For more information,
CBCLegacy@bethchaim.org

Thank you to everyone who made a High Holy Day Pledge!

Jody and Ed Adler
 Gaby and Peter Altman
 Robert and Paula Bacall
 Leonard and Meryl Baum
 Elana Berlinger
 Susan Bershad
 Andrew and Carol Ann Blank
 Lee and Rebecca Blankstein
 Barbara Blayne
 Marc and Andrea Bloom
 Rabbi Adena and Sean Blum
 Bruce Blum
 Iris Blumberg
 Jerry and Helene Bond
 Debra and Brian Bornstein
 Helen and Leonard Ciangiulli
 Barry and Joan Cutler
 Martin and Barbara Demsky
 Stanley and Arlene Dorfman
 Joan and Richard Druckman
 William and Linda Feldstein
 Steve Ferst and Tammy Esau-Ferst
 Roberta Fineman
 Leslie and J. Gary Fox
 Les and Joann Friedeman
 George Gati and Leona Brenner-Gati
 Gerard and Robin Genna
 Susan Gleeksmann
 Marvin and Martha Goldstein
 Anne Gordon and David Watson
 Robert and Linda Gordon
 Jeffrey and Christine Grabell
 Eva Greenbaum

Jack Greenberg and Laura Nash
 Leonard and Eileen Greenberg
 Richard and Beatrice Grossberg
 Audra and Andrew Guttentag
 Arlene Harris
 Beni and Lois Hayon
 Stuart and Zvia Herrmann
 Barbara and Kent Hochberg
 Gary and Shara Hofing
 Dale Hosfield
 Jewish Federation of PMB
 Michael Katz and Sandra Kurinsky
 Michael and Mary Ellen Kessler
 Roger and Pat Klein
 Steven and Deborah Kropf
 Jill Kross
 Mitchell and Lori Langsner
 Charles Lavine and Barbara Berkman
 Donald Leibowitz and Karen Brodsky
 David and Hope Linton
 Mindy and Rich Lipman
 Jeffrey and Donna Litwin
 Judy Lovitch
 Allan and Barbara Marcus
 Jeffrey and Lois Miller
 Linda and Bob Morris
 Arlene Munkacsi
 Sandra and Gerald Muroff
 Leslie Nagler
 Vivian and William Newmark
 Brad and Jean Nitzberg
 Robert and Wendy Panzer
 Stephen and Caryl Parker
 Ruth Payne
 Elissa Pearlman
 Steven Per and Kim Wishnow-Per
 Susan and Jose Quiles
 Barbara Rachbuch

Mark and Donna Rittner
 Marc and Shari Robbins
 Beverly Roberts
 Ian and Stacey Rohin
 Arthur Rosenberg and Cheryl Wexler
 Arthur and Maida Rosengarten
 Ira and Sarah Rubin
 Scott Rubin
 Jessica and David Rubinstein
 Robert Sacco and Randi Kronthal-Sacco
 Danielle Sadock
 Corey and Robyn Safran
 Victor and Rowena Safronov
 Barbara Sarfaty
 Deborah Sarfaty
 Max Schatzow and Mary Stevens
 Allen and Roberta Schectel
 Emily and Herbert Schuman
 Michael and Ellen Schwartz
 Scott and Susan Schwartz
 Mindy and Michael Shedler
 Adria Sherman
 Toby Shor
 Holly Singer-Eland and Richard Eland
 Ronnie and Drew Staffenberg
 Phyllis and Irwin Stoolmacher
 Marcia Tureck
 Robin and Daniel Valentine
 Norman Weintraub
 Ilene West Borrus and Dan Borrus
 Ellen and Mahendra Wijesinghe
 Mark and Flo Wininger
 Rhonda and John Wydra
 Michael and Donna Zeller
 Ronnie and Ronina Zimmer
 Alex and Linda Zislin

The Tikkun Olam Committee extends a huge thank you to many congregants who donated requested items to the annual 2022 JFCS Thanksgiving drive program, resulting in a total of 18 grocery bags and 20 ShopRite gift cards.



Pictured: Fran Lichtenstein and her son Matt with Beth Englezos, JFCS's Manager of Hunger Prevention.



Meet Our Staff Team

Each newsletter, we will introduce you to a different Beth Chaim team member. This month, meet Seidy Arauz, as interviewed by Mark Perkiss.

Seidy Arauz **Facilities Manager**

Seidy has worked at Congregation Beth Chaim for 17 years. She is responsible for making sure all of the building operations are seamless and in good repair. She oversees everything from the heating and air conditioning systems to putting out the challah and sweets for the oneg shabbat after Erev Shabbat services on Friday nights.

Q. What do you like most about working at Beth Chaim?

A. I love all my coworkers and the bonds I have with each one of them.

Q. Where did you grow up?

A. I grew up in Costa Rica in a very small town in the south of the country near the border with Panama. I visit when I can. It's my favorite vacation spot. My daughter and I were there in July.

Q. Tell us about your daughter.

A. Catherine is 21 and a senior at Rider University where she is majoring in psychology.

Q. What do you like to do in your free time?

A. I love to go on different adventures with my daughter. I love the beach and the gym. I like to watch movies. My favorite is *Titanic*.

Q. What is something that most Beth Chaim congregants don't know about you?

A. Not many Beth Chaim members know that I have my own small spa business.



Condolences

The Board of Trustees of Congregation Beth Chaim wishes to extend their sincerest condolences to the families of the following individuals upon their passing:

*Peter David Schwarz, father of Suzy Quiles,
grandfather of Ruth Quiles*

Corinne Greene, mother of Andrew Greene

Melvin Bacall, father of Robert Bacall

Lillian Crisafi, mother of Cynthia Goldner

Jeremy Edwards, husband of Andrea, cousin of Rabbi Blum

Sheree Harden

*Linda Rubinstein, daughter of Lisa Rubinstein,
sister of Mollie Rubinstein*

Good & Welfare

Many thanks to those who donated funds to remember of Harriet Greenblatt. We were able to purchase a Memorial Plaque and four prayer books and make a donation to our choir.

Thanks to the generosity of our congregants, Beth Chaim donated and delivered 21 pies to local refugees from Ukraine and Afghanistan. Over 15 families were able to enjoy a treat for their first Thanksgiving in the USA.

Building Fund

*Mazal Tov to the Janofsky Family on Stacey's engagement to David
Karen Brodsky and Don Leibowitz*

Caring Fund

*In memory of Melvin Bacall
Patti Wold*

Chai Fund

*Mazel tov to Dale and Larry Lessne in honor of Allison and Antoine's marriage
Marcy & Jeff Mandel*

Debra Greenberg Fund

*Elana Berlinger
In honor of Len Greenberg blowing the shofar
Joan & Richard Druckman
Len & Eileen Greenberg
In memory of Ellen Rosenbloom
Joan & Richard Druckman
Len & Eileen Greenberg
In memory of Michael Oksenhorn
Len & Eileen Greenberg*

Landscaping Fund

Elana Berlinger

Large Public Menorah

*Frank Orbach
Fran Mascia-Lees & Francis Lees
Elana Berlinger
Lynn Koblin
Sherry Barsky
Anne Gutmann*

Prayer Book Fund

*In memory of Irwin November
Gerald & Nancy Siegel
With love and many good wishes to Don Liebowitz on his milestone birthday
Lynn Setzman
In honor of Joseph and Sandra Pucciatti
Carol Bucca*

Religious School Fund

Elana Berlinger

Senior Rabbi Discretionary Fund

*Elana Berlinger
In memory of Arthur Rubinstein
Jeff Pretsfelder
In loving memory of Jean Langer
Carol and Bill Langer
Mazel tov to Liz and Justin Hughes on Michael's B'Mitzvah
Judy & Chip Loeb
Thank you Rabbi Blum for officiating the beautiful naming ceremony of our granddaughter,
Audrey Margaret.
Steven and Stephanie Abelson*

Special Education Fund

*In memory of Nancy Antonelli's mother, Marie
Arlene Munkacsi*

Stoller Fund

*In honor of Emmett Lipman's B'Mitzvah
Mindy and Michael Shedler*

Tikkun Olam

*In memory of Bertha Robbins and Morris Balbresky
Richard & Myrna Robbins*

Yahrzeit Fund

*In memory of Natalie Moskovitz
Joan & Richard Druckman
In memory of Sidney Smiler
Marcy & Jeff Mandel
In memory of Abraham "Al" Rubin
The Camarda & Wasserman Families
In memory of Al Rubin, father of Stacy Kierman
Joyce Rothchild
In memory of Mel Blayne
Barbara, Caren, Michael, and Mason
In memory of Arie Greenbaum
Evan Greenbaum
In memory of Michael's mother Laurel Shedler
Mindy & Michael Shedler
In memory of Herman Brown
Cecelia Weisenberg*

**Shop with Amazon and
Support Congregation Beth Chaim**



When you shop at smile.amazon.com and designate Congregation Beth Chaim as your charity of choice, Amazon donates a percentage of your purchase amount to CBC.

Congregation Beth Chaim

2022-23 Temple Directory

To reach our Temple Office, Religious School, or Preschool, please call.....(609) 799-9401

Senior Rabbi:
Adena Blum.....(609) 799-9401 ext. 101
RabbiBlum@BethChaim.org

Director of Lifelong Education:
Anne Berman-Waldorf, RJE.....(609) 799-9401 ext. 102
Educator@BethChaim.org

Assistant Director of Early Childhood Education:
Robin Resnick.....(609) 799-9401 ext. 104
EarlyChildhood@BethChaim.org

Bookkeeper:
Wendy Levenkron.....(609) 799-9401 ext. 106
WLevenkron@BethChaim.org

Membership Engagement Coordinator:
Darra Lipper.....(609) 799-9401 ext. 107
DLipper@BethChaim.org

Office Administrator:
Sheryl Brown.....(609) 799-9401 ext. 115
Reception@BethChaim.org

President: Michael Schwartz.....(609) 577-3766
President@BethChaim.org

VP Membership & Community (*Kehillah*):
Jon Rochkind.....(609) 955-4291
VPCommunity@BethChaim.org

VP House & Ritual (*Makom*): Dan Valentine.....(609) 847-0181

VP Lifelong Education (*Chinuch*):
Drew Staffenberg.....(215) 694-8400
VPEd@BethChaim.org

VP Development & Financial Affairs (*Kesef*):
Corey Safran.....(646) 652-9019
VPFinance@BethChaim.org

Treasurer: Scott Rubin.....(732) 239-1988
Treasurer@BethChaim.org

Board Secretary: Larry Jasper.....(609) 903-1651
BoardSec@BethChaim.org

Past President: Rhonda Wydra.....(917) 623-5462

Sisterhood President: Mindy Lipman.....(732) 407-8507

Men's Club President: Todd Wachtel.....(609) 933-5662

Trustees

Camille Bloomberg.....(609) 947-4416

Dana Boyle.....(609) 954-9577

Judith Ferszt.....(609) 865-4310

Liz Hughes.....(609) 577-5326

Yimi Kierman.....(609) 610-1397

Marshall Kizner.....(856) 285-6216

Vivian Newmark.....(908) 500-5261

Adria Sherman.....(609) 462-5863

Ronnie Staffenberg.....(609) 731-9378

Committees

BCTY: Sara Abelson.....morahsara23@gmail.com

Caring/Kesher:
Hagit Sten.....(609) 876-6809
Lori Watson.....(609) 290-5867
BCKesherCare@gmail.com

Choir Director: Joe Pucciatti.....(609) 888-1446

Finance: Scott Rubin.....(732) 239-1988

Fundraising: Corey Safran.....(646) 652-9019

Gift Shop:
Fran Lichtenstein.....(609) 240-7001
GiftShop@BethChaim.org

Good & Welfare: Barbara Gilbert.....(609) 448-6835

House and Security: Dan Valentine.....(609) 847-0181

Interim Cantor Search Committee:
Dan Valentine.....(609) 847-0181

Israel Affairs Task Force: Hagit Sten.....(609) 876-6809

Life & Legacy: Don Leibowitz.....(609) 799-7265
CBCLegacy@BethChaim.org

Lifelong Learning: Drew Staffenberg.....(215) 694-8400

Marketing:
Zvia Herrmann.....(646) 342-7802
Shelley Miller.....(609) 213-6944

Membership:
Yimi Kierman.....(609) 610-1397
Adria Sherman.....(609) 462-5863

Multifaith:
Liz Hughes.....(609) 577-5326
MultifaithBC@gmail.com

Nefesh:
Cheryl Wexler.....(609) 731-4664
Betsy le.....(609) 731-4553
Laura Nash Greenberg.....(609) 923-3291

Nominating Committee: Rhonda Wydra.....(917) 623-5462

Personnel Committee:
Larry Jasper.....(609) 903-1651

Racial Justice Task Force:
Richard Eland.....(609) 947-3790
Lori Watson.....(609) 290-5867
BethChaimRJ@gmail.com

Religious Practices:
Judith Ferszt.....(609) 865-4310
Vivian Newmark.....(908) 500-5261

Settled Cantor Search Committee:
Don Leibowitz, Chair.....(609) 799-7265
Michele Kaish, Vice Chair.....(609) 731-2008

Tikkun Olam:
Holly Singer-Eland.....(609) 240-4361
Becky Marks.....(646) 352-1853
TikkunOlam@BethChaim.org

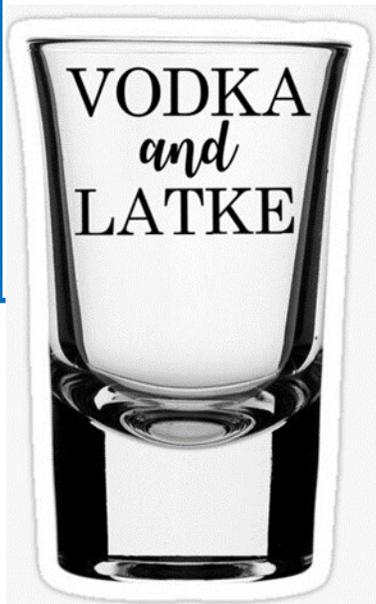
Young Adult Outreach: Judi Strober.....(609) 936-8699

Congregation Beth Chaim

329 Village Road East

Princeton Jct., New Jersey 08550

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Princeton, NJ 08540
Permit No. 329



Vodka and Latkes is Back!

Saturday, January 7, 2023

7pm

\$10 per person

- ◇ Latkes, Pizza, wings, veggies and dip – lots to eat!
- ◇ Appetizers & desserts
- ◇ BYO Vodka (mixers, soft drinks & coffee provided)
- ◇ LIVE music with Dr. Barry Wasserman
- ◇ Go to <https://www.bethchaim.org/event/vodka-and-latkes.html> to register!

