



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

Adar-Iyar 5783 / March-April 2023

March and April at Beth Chaim

Rabbi Adena Blum

RabbiBlum@bethchaim.org

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

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.

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The Power of the Passover Story

The Exodus from Egypt is a critical moment in the Jewish People's story. We reference it every time we pray together, as it makes appearances in the Friday night Kiddush, Mi Chamocha, and other pieces in our prayerbook. We tell the story every winter during the annual Torah reading cycle and then again at the Passover Seder table each spring. I remember watching "The Ten Commandments" starring Charlton Heston as a child in Religious School, year in and year out, always anxiously awaiting the moment that the sea would split and the Children of Israel would finally reach freedom. When I became a bat mitzvah, my date happened to fall on the Shabbat when we read the Song of the Sea, the powerful poem of gratitude that the Israelites sang after this miraculous moment. For all these reasons and more, I was drawn to the painting you may have seen in my office, which depicts not only the passage of our ancestors through the walls of water, but also it includes every Hebrew word in the book of Exodus as the scaffolding for the imagery (utilizing a Jewish artform called microcalligraphy). Whether we hear the Exodus from Egypt as historical account or sacred myth, it pulls at our heart strings.

Many of us find hope that we could go from debased slaves in Egypt to a powerful people with purpose. Many of us find comfort in the care that the biblical God took to redeem us and uphold God's promises to our forebears. Many of us find connection with other groups of hardworking and underappreciated folk whose adversity is familiar to us. Whatever feelings this story evokes for you, the fact that we have been telling it for thousands of years demonstrates its enduring meaning. The Exodus from Egypt is integral to the rich tapestry of Jewish ritual and tradition, without which the Judaism of today would be unrecognizable.

This Passover, when you sit down at the Seder table with family and friends, I invite you to take a moment to revel in this vital tale that has kept us going even in the darkest moments of our history. How might you tell the Exodus from Egypt in a way that makes the story come alive? How can you see yourself as having gone out from Mitzrayim, the Hebrew name for Egypt that means "narrow place"? What emotions do you notice bubbling up for you as the story unfolds? What has changed for you since last reciting this story? And how can you inspire all those around the table to continue telling the story so that it will be told for countless generations to come?

In Jewish time, the past, present, and future often meld together. Each period speaks to the others, and out of this dialogue emerges a dynamic conversation in which all of us are invited to participate. This notion is summed up beautifully by a reading in our prayerbook by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, who experienced his own personal exodus when he escaped Nazi Europe: "We are a people in whom the past endures, in whom the present is inconceivable without moments gone by. The Exodus lasted a moment, a moment enduring forever. What happened once upon a time happens all the time."

Wishing you a *zissen Pesach*—a sweet festival of freedom and reflection!

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

Purim - A Reminder that WE are Obligated to Make Our World Better

And so, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month—that is, the month of Adar—when the king’s command and decree were to be executed, the very day on which the enemies of the Jews had expected to get them in their power, the opposite happened, and the Jews got their enemies in their power.... Mordecai recorded these events. And he sent dispatches to all the Jews throughout the provinces of King Ahasuerus, near and far, charging them to observe the fourteenth and fifteenth days of Adar, every year— the same days on which the Jews enjoyed relief from their foes and the same month which had been transformed for them from one of grief and mourning to one of festive joy. (Esther 9:1...20-22)

Purim is a festival of opposites. We use laughter to cover pain. We make merry even as we recount a tale full of fear and anxiety. Each year, when we read the Megillah and retell the story, we enter a theater of good and evil, mourning and celebration, comedy and tragedy, true identity and disguise, a threat to life and, at the exact moment when all could be lost, Esther finds the courage to use her voice and her power to give our ancestors an ultimate victory of live over death.

Unfortunately, while rooted in history, this story is one far too familiar to our people. The Babylonian Exile, the Crusades, the Spanish Inquisition, pogroms in Eastern Europe and the Holocaust, all were times when our people felt lost and abandoned. All were times when we were saved not by Divine Intervention, but by the courage of the few who risked their lives to defy hatred and bigotry.

In reality, we live in a world of opposites. In all corners of the earth, we are surrounded by a landscape of violence and peace, hatred and love, wealth and poverty, abundance and hunger, equality and disparity.

We are reminded by the Purim story that opposite forces must come face-to-face with one another in order to effect change.

If Vashti had not challenged Ahasuerus, the cycle of abuse would have continued.

If Mordechai had not pushed against Haman, the Jewish people would not have found freedom.

If Esther had not used her power for good, the decree against her people would have remained fixed.

And if we stand apart from misfortune and do nothing to counter the injustice taking place around us, we will continue to live in a world that is polarized and unjust. By confronting prejudice, we transform the world from one of suffering and loss to one of wholeness and celebration. By confronting inequality, we transform the world from one of poverty and hunger to one of fulfillment and plenty. By confronting war, we transform the world from one of violence and oppression to one of peace and freedom.

Like the actors in the Purim story, let us confront injustice and act to change a tomorrow of grief and mourning to one of festive joy.

So Many Haggadot – How Do I Choose?

Friday, March 31, 7pm

Join us in the Beth Chaim Library to see the many different Haggadot and learn which would enhance your family’s seder.



Simchas (Joyous Occasions)

Mazal tov to Adria Sherman, whose artwork was featured in the Members’ Musings: Process & Practice Exhibition at Grounds for Sculpture.

Mazal tov to Fran and David Lichtenstein on the marriage of their daughter Jenna to Mike on October 28. Wishing them another mazal tov on the birth of their grandchild Isabelle Shay on January 6. New parents Allie and Mike Morgan are thrilled and tired.

Mazal tov to Mark Wilson and Robyn Slatnick on the birth of Mark’s grandchild Riley Mae Wilson on January 30.

Mazal tov to Sara Abelson on her engagement to Matt Myers.

Mazal tov to our recent B’Mitzvah and their families: Reed Payne-Smith, Max Barone, Cece Schoenberg, Zoey Alboum, Taylor Schwarz, and Haley Shapiro.

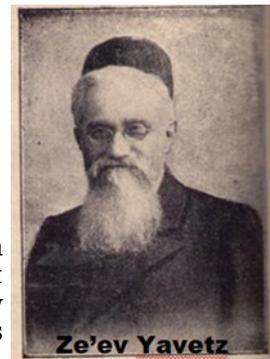
Mazal tov to Dr. Barry Wasserman, who was featured on CBS News for donating his time and expertise at the Will’s Eye Hospital Give Kids Sight Day.

Israel Affairs Task Force

A Teacher Started It. . .

By Pat Clarfield

The custom of planting trees in Israel on Tu B'Shevat began on February 5, 1890, when Ze'ev Yavetz, a Polish-born educator who settled in Zichron Ya'akov, takes his students out into the fields to plant trees. As Yavetz said in 1891, "For the love of the saplings...the school must make a festival of the day that was set aside from ancient times in Israel as the New Year of the Trees." In 1908, the custom was formally adopted by the country's teachers unions and by Keren Kayemet (Jewish National Fund).



Planting trees, an action both practical and symbolic in our teachings and traditions, emphasizes the responsibility for each Jewish generation to cultivate resources for the next, so it feels fitting that the activity originated with a teacher.

The Talmud recognizes Tu B'Shevat as one of the four "New Years" to be celebrated by the Jewish People. But why do we celebrate the birthday of the trees in the month of Sh'vat, essentially mid-winter for the Northern Hemisphere? It would seem that the spring, when the trees blossom and bloom, would be a much more appropriate time. But we know that it takes about four months of rain in Israel to saturate the soil and be available for planting and growth. The rainy season in Israel begins just after Rosh Hashanah. And though the trees we see on Tu B'Shevat are leafless, we understand they are not lifeless. The deep winter is when they start to wake up. The sap begins to flow from deep in the underground roots, and preparations are made for the blooming that we will see in a few months' time. We can't see what is happening, but we celebrate what we know will occur.



Happy Birthday Israel: A Day of Celebration

Sunday, April 23rd; 10am – 1pm

All are invited to celebrate Israel at this morning of fun and learning. There will be cooking, dancing, singing, crafts, learning, laughter and cake!



The New Israeli Government Sunday, March 12, 10:30am In Person and on Zoom

The New Israeli Government's "Constitutional Law Reforms": Why now? What do they mean, and what will happen next?

Join us for this important discussion.

Sponsored by the Israel Affairs Task Force

We Have Many Things to Celebrate

March and April are months of celebration in our Jewish calendar. Purim celebrates how the Jews of an ancient Persian empire were saved from destruction at the hands of Haman, and Passover celebrates the exodus of Jewish slaves from Egypt and the start of their 40-year journey to the land of Israel.

Grounded in 2,500 and 3,000 years of Jewish history respectively, Purim and Passover are forward-looking in the way we celebrate them. Both holidays engage the entire family, but children play special roles. This is the very essence of *l'dor va'dor* – from generation to generation – handing our traditions and values down to our children to ensure the future of the Jewish people.

Purim is a spirited holiday, celebrated with costumes, parties, carnivals and Purim shpiels. Children are encouraged to drown out Haman's name as the Book of Esther is read aloud in synagogue. Passover seders are more orderly (*seder* itself means "order"), but children also have a special role there. Tradition assigns the "*Fier Kashas*," or Four Questions, to the youngest person at the table, and it's the children who run off during the seder to find the *Afikomen* and hold it for ransom. The two holidays feel very different, but both commemorate the past with an eye to our future.

In recent months, Beth Chaim's lay and professional leadership have also been looking toward the future and working for the benefit of our congregation:

Cantor Search. Choosing a new cantor for our congregation is one of the highest priorities of our Board of Trustees. As I write these words, our Cantor Search Committee has completed more than 20 interviews with 15 candidates, three of whom so far have been brought to Beth Chaim for day-and-a-half visits. We are still looking (and listening) for the cantor who will best fill the many roles that cantors must play – from ritual to education to pastoral care – and who exhibits the top qualities that your survey responses identified as important. I hope by the time you read this, at the beginning of March, we will have found that person.

Membership and Belonging. Our new Hineini membership model has grown our congregation significantly. Since our fiscal year began last July, we have added almost 90 new households! Many of those households have leaned into our community, attending services and adult education classes, enrolling their children in our Pre-School and Religious School, and volunteering their time and energy.

Our goal at Beth Chaim is to allow all of our members, new and old, to truly feel that this is their community and that they are seen, valued and respected here. To that end, following up on my address to the congregation on Rosh Hashanah, our Board of Trustees and Senior Staff held a retreat in January to explore and begin work on developing a Culture of Belonging at Beth Chaim. We are now sorting through the many ideas that came out of the Board Retreat, and in the coming months we will start implementing the best of them. This is not something that will happen overnight, but we are committed to building the culture and relationships that will strengthen our community.

Sustaining our Hineini Model. Despite the success of our Hineini program in expanding the Beth Chaim community and making it accessible to all, our Hineini pledges fell short of our budget target this year. While we are able to cover that shortfall from reserves and our endowment, we need to do better in our next fiscal year, which begins on July 1.

From our research and conversations with other synagogues prior to implementing the Hineini program, we learned many important things, including: that congregations maintaining similar programs for at least three years typically saw an improvement in the second year; that congregations with similar models fine-tuned their programs in their early years and beyond; and that good communication with the congregation is essential to success. Following that advice, in January I appointed a Hineini Task Force to look at ways we might improve our results. The Task Force will be looking at opportunities such as changes to the Hineini program itself, better communicating about the program and better coordination with our other fundraising efforts.

We have seen many positive changes at Beth Chaim, our future is bright, and we have a lot to celebrate. For me, top of the list is how much life and joy has returned to our House of Life as the pandemic has begun to recede and so many new members have joined us. Please drop by this March and April for our Purim Carnival and Purim Shpiel, Friday night Shabbat services with our Choir or our expanded Rock Shabbat Band, the many learning opportunities offered, or affinity group gatherings off-campus. It's all on our website calendar and in our weekly email blasts.

I wish one and all a joyous Purim and a happy Passover.

L'Shalom
Michael

Affinity Groups at Beth Chaim

By Adria Sherman

Would you like to actively pursue one of your personal interests with a group of like-minded members of Beth Chaim? Since last spring, the Membership Committee has been building several *Affinity Groups* of members who share similar passions for many different activities. We would like to increase the number and variety of groups as well as add participants to the ongoing groups. Currently Yimi Kierman (yimi97@yahoo.com) is leading a *Biking Group*, Judy Loeb (judeekins1@aol.com) is leading a *Crafting Group*, and I (adriasherma1@gmail.com) am leading an *Art Appreciation Group* as well as a *Hiking Group* (looking for someone to take on the hiking leader role). Barbara Petzko (petzko@aol.com) would like to form a *Vegan Lifestyle Group*, and Israel Raphaelli (iraphaelli@ogdir.com; 609-635-1122) would like to start a *Chess Club*. Participation in the activities of these groups has led to lots of fun, new and strengthened friendships, and exposure to new resources and venues in our area. Please join us in these and other adventures! Reach out to the group leaders for more information about ongoing groups and to Yimi or Adria (emails listed above) about forming a new group.



Ever thought about becoming a VEGAN?
Or maybe you already are.

Join our newly founded affinity group for fun,
food, & information rooted in a healthy &
earth/animal friendly lifestyle.

The first meeting hosted by a member will include
a home cooked dinner.

(Numbers limited, date to be determined)

Interested? Contact Barbara Petzko at
Petzko@aol.com.



Beth Chaim Judaica Shop Passover Sale 2023

Sunday, March 5 and March 19
9:00am - 12:30pm

Come on in and shop for all of your Passover needs.
We have a beautiful selection of Seder plates and children's
items as well as lovely gifts for everyone on your list!

The Judaica Gift Shop also offers a wide variety of traditional
as well as the most up-to-date designs on holiday accessories,
gift items, jewelry, talitot, and more.

Visit bethchaim.org/cbcjudaicashop or
facebook.com/CongregationBethChaimJudaicaShop/
to see a preview of some of the items for sale.

Please contact Fran Lichtenstein,
Gift Shop Trustee, at
giftshop@bethchaim.org for shopping information.

Shabbat at Beth Chaim

Friday March 3 at 7:30pm

we celebrate a special Scout Rock Shabbat service celebrating March birthdays and anniversaries and all of our scouts.

The evening will include a preneg and photo (for all of our scouts and their parents only).



Friday March 31 at 7:30 pm

we will honor and celebrate our Beth Chaim volunteers during a special volunteer Shabbat service. Join us as we say thank you.

Friday, April 7 at 7:30 pm we will celebrate April birthdays and anniversaries at our Rock Shabbat service.



Join us on **Friday, April 21 at 6:30 pm** as we honor our newest Chai and Double Chai club members (congregants who have been members for 18 or 36 years). We will begin the evening with a celebratory wine and cheese preneg, followed by Shabbat services at 7:30. Our newest Chai Club members will receive a special blessing during the service.

Please note that there will be no oneg served.
We encourage all of our congregants to join us at the preneg.



Shabbat Traditions Around the World: A Cooking Class for Adults Sunday, April 23, 10:30am - noon

Join us in the Beth Chaim kitchen as we learn about traditional Shabbat dishes from around the world and how to prepare them.

There is no cost to attend, but we appreciate your RSVP:
www.bethchaim.org/event/cooking.html

BCTY

Put your detective hats on and join BCTY for an Escape Room challenge! Saturday March 4th at 12pm. 7th-12th graders are welcome to join. Email Sara Abelson (morahsara23@gmail.com) to reserve your spot! Drop off location is the Amazing Escape Room, 3490 US Highway 1 North, Suite 15a, Princeton, NJ 08540.

A suggested donation of \$30 per attendant is greatly appreciated, however not necessary to participate.



Office Administrator

Sheryl Brown

reception@bethchaim.org

Beth Chaim's role in the larger community

I have always felt that it is important for synagogues to help make the communities they serve a better place, not just on behalf of their congregants, but on behalf of everyone in the community. I am so proud to know that Beth Chaim embraces this sentiment, and people in the community, even those who are not members and are not Jewish, know who we are. As an example, recently at my son's wrestling practice, I heard a parent recommend our preschool to another parent. Neither are Jewish, but they both appreciate that we provide this important service to the community.

Since becoming a full-time employee at Beth Chaim, I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to represent Beth Chaim at the WHAM Interfaith Thanksgiving luncheon, hosted by The Muslim Center of Greater Princeton. I spent an afternoon learning about—and from—people of different faiths. The folks at The Muslim Center welcomed me with open arms, both those who remembered me from previous visits, as well as those I met for the first time. I had extensive discussions with Fida Ayoubi, the Coordinator of Volunteers & Donations for Interfaith RISE, on the successes they have experienced as well as the challenges they face in helping new refugees settle here in NJ. I learned more about the free medical clinic at the Muslim Center. I also participated in a round table discussion with Rabbi Blum, Imam Safwan Eid, West Windsor Police Chief Robert Garofalo, Cranbury Mayor Barbara Rogers, Dr. Cheri Kurer, and others on how we have all learned from people of other faiths, and how we can use these lessons in our daily lives.

On December 29, while Beth Chaim was closed for the holidays, the Mercer County Rapid Response Task Force held a training exercise in our building. Officers from every law enforcement agency in Mercer County and Plainsboro spent over 7 hours in our building training for active shooter emergencies. I will admit that I unexpectedly teared up as I watched officers in full tactical gear suiting up in our building and training in our hallways and classrooms. It was emotional because it was surreal seeing this happen in our building—but at the same time, I went to the ark and prayed that training and preparedness would be the only reason that officers in full tactical gear would ever need to be in our building. When we think of community service, hosting police training is likely not the first thing that comes to mind, but by giving these officers—many of whom were training with the task force for the first time—a safe place to hone their skills, we have truly provided a service not just to Beth Chaim, but to the entire Mercer County community.

When a West Windsor family was displaced by a fire, we sent out an email blast asking for donations. Within 6 hours we had filled one of the large bins in the lobby, and within 24 hours the donations filled my SUV. When the Kosher Food Pantry was in desperate need of cereal, I saw our congregants show up with boxes of cereal within hours, and we far exceeded our goal. I am so incredibly proud of our congregation for answering the call, not just once, but every time.

I grew up in a small, Conservative synagogue on Long Island. Religious School—or “Hebrew School”, as we called it—concentrated on being Jewish through ritual. We learned Hebrew. We learned the Shabbat prayers. We learned about the Holocaust. But the one thing we didn't do was go out and be a part of the greater community. I find it so gratifying to be a part of Beth Chaim and to see all of the wonderful ways in which our congregants are working hard to make the world a better place.



Amplifying the Voices of the Women of Passover

An interactive program including singing, stories and eating

Sunday, April 2nd, 10:30am

All are invited to share in this pre-Passover experience focusing on the fewer-told stories of the five women of the Exodus. Sing, dance and add your voice to this ancient tale. There will be Passover foods to taste and Passover recipes to share.

Talmud Class at Beth Chaim

By Richard A. Nocks, Esq.

Of the seemingly countless programs, events, presentations, shows, guest discourses and religious services offered by Beth Chaim, one recurring Sunday morning adult education class has gathered such a following that it fills the room with participants every week. The Talmud studies class is an eye-opening, enjoyable, and oftentimes surprising round-table discussion that brings needed insight to how Judaism is structured.

The Talmud is the body of Jewish ceremonial and civil law and legend comprising the Mishna and the Gemara. There are actually two versions of the Talmud: the Babylonian Talmud and the earlier Palestinian or Jerusalem Talmud. Thus, it is a collection of writings that covers the full gamut of Jewish law and tradition, compiled and edited between the 3rd and the 6th centuries. Written in Hebrew (and redacted by Rabbi Yehuda the Prince in the years following the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem) and Aramaic, it records the teachings and discussions of the great academies of the Holy Land and Babylonia. With 2,711 pages and countless commentaries, it is a lifetime of learning, and as most things that are Jewish, it raises more questions than answers.

Some of us are familiar only with the Torah. However, without the Talmud, the Torah would have little bearing on Judaism's general direction, which is why some would argue it is actually the more important of the two in modern life. The Torah refers to the Five Books of Moses, while the Talmud contained rabbinic commentaries, traditions and laws inherent in the Torah's infinite wisdom. Both are integral to Jewish life and understanding and provide different concentrations of study. Some think of the Talmud as the "oral Torah," or as an "owner's manual" or "companion guide" for the Torah.

The Sunday morning classes are led by Rabbi Blum, Anne Berman-Waldorf or a guest, and never disappoints. The class follows the Socratic method of learning, where we usually start off with written handouts on the specific topic we are about to explore and then dives into an open discussion where everyone is encouraged to offer their perspectives, opinions and evaluations. The topics are endless and cover topics such as agricultural laws, Shabbat laws and holidays, marriage and divorce, ethics and criminal and civil law, laws about the sacrifices and dietary laws, and the laws of ritual purity.

I grew up in a Conservative shul, where (to my recollection) the focus was only on the Torah. While there was certainly mention of the Talmud as the "oral Torah" mentioned above, there was no specific adult education and nothing in the children's Hebrew school. This is why Beth Chaim's Talmud study class is so very important to me and seemingly to my classmates – it fills in gaps in my knowledge and brings to light ideas I heard only in passing while growing up. Also, the Socratic methodology of conducting the class means that everyone in attendance who has something to add can add it, and of course there are no wrong answers to anything.

I would encourage all folks who hold the same inquiries and interest to attend. As it is, the room gets filled up quickly, which is a testament to the way the class is led. I am never disappointed and walk away still thinking of the topics and how truly brilliant Judaism is.

Join us while we Swim in a Sea of Talmud A Sunday morning Adult Education class

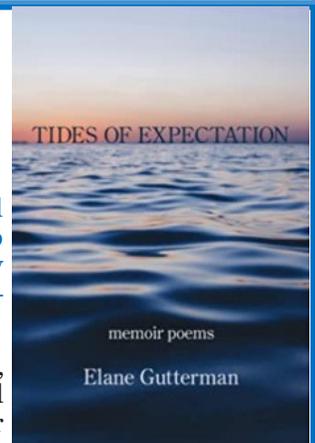
March 12 March 19
March 26 April 23

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

An Exploration of Contemporary Jewish-Themed Poems followed by a Poetry Reading Thursday, April 13; 7pm – 8:15 multi access

Elane Gutterman will share poems addressing diverse themes of contemporary Jewish life and describe how the poets layer Jewish content through imagery, vocal expressions, references to rituals and texts. Following discussion of these poems, Elane will read from her recently published book, *Tides of Expectation* (Kelsay Books, 2022). All the poems will be accessible – curated for those who love rye bread, wry stories and the gymnastics of language.

Elane Gutterman's recent poems have been published in *Kelsey Review*, *The New Verse News*, *The Ekphrastic Review*, *Shot Glass Journal* and *U.S. 1 Summer Fiction*. She has been nominated three times for a Pushcart Prize. *Tides of Expectation* is her first book of poetry. She and her husband have been congregants of Beth Chaim for twenty-five years.



Did you know that many of the foods for Purim are symbolic of body parts? The most well-known food eaten during Purim is hamantaschen, shaped like Haman's triangular ears and hat. Eyes?

Cannoli Hamantaschen Recipe for Purim

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/the-nosher/cannoli-hamantaschen/>

Cannoli Filling:

¼ cup ricotta cheese
4 oz. cream cheese, softened
¼ cup confectioners' sugar
½ tsp cinnamon
½ cup mini chocolate chips



Hamantaschen Dough:

1 stick (4 ounces or 1/2 cup) unsalted butter or margarine, room temperature
3 oz. cream cheese, softened
½ cup sugar
½ cup milk
1 tsp vanilla
3 cups flour
½ tsp salt
1 egg white beaten with 1 tablespoon water, for sealing the hamantaschen
½ cup chocolate chips, for drizzling
confectioners' sugar, for dusting

Make the cannoli filling: In the bowl of a mixer, beat all ingredients except the chocolate chips till light and fluffy. Fold in the chocolate chips and refrigerate, covered, till needed. Then, make the dough: Beat the butter, cream cheese and sugar till light and fluffy; scrape down the sides. Add the milk and vanilla and beat till incorporated. Scrape down the sides. Add the flour and salt and beat again. Divide the dough into two pieces and place each between two sheets of parchment paper or plastic wrap. Roll each to a ¼" thickness, stack the doughs on a baking sheet and refrigerate for at least one hour (or up to three days). Pre-heat oven to 375. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. Working with one dough at a time, place on your prepared baking sheet and cut out circles using a drinking glass or cookie cutter (I used a 2 1/2" cutter). Gather trimmings, re-roll and cut. Brush the edges of the circles with a bit of the beaten egg white and place ½ teaspoon of cannoli filling in the center. Fold the dough into a triangle shape and pinch the corners and edges firmly together. Brush the dough with some more of the egg white. Bake hamantaschen till golden brown, about 15 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack to cool completely. When cooled, place on two baking sheets lined with parchment paper. Last, melt the ½ cup of chocolate chips in the top half of a double boiler set over barely simmering water. Cool slightly and transfer to a disposable pastry or ziploc bag. Snip a small opening in the corner and drizzle the chocolate over the hamantaschen. Refrigerate till set. Dust with confectioners' sugar just before serving.

Hard boiled eggs represent Haman's eyes in Moroccan Purim bread (Boyoja Ungola Di Purim). Hair is easily represented by pasta in a Bulgarian dish, Caveos di Aman, which translates to Haman's Hair. More shapely representations are the long, sweet challah loaves which look like ropes Haman wanted to use to hang Mordechai (Russian Kulich). Poppy seeds are commonly found as a hamantaschen filling. A recipe for Weekend Brunch Poppy Seed Rolls, which include dates, coconut & almonds, can be found along with others in Beth Chaim's World Map for Recipes, some of which could have been eaten by Queen Esther herself. Still others are from countries around the world.

One of the most symbolic foods served during the Passover Seder, charoset, has many different permutations around the world. The word charoset (or haroset) comes from the Hebrew word *cheres*, meaning "clay." This is what our foodie congregant, Barb Marcus, has to say: "Passover is by far my favorite Jewish holiday. Some of my fondest memories of the holiday include preparing charoset (traditional Ashkenazi style) with my dad. Fast forward to about 18 years ago...my charoset making began to go worldwide. I had come across a recipe for Turkish charoset and made that along with the traditional eastern European variety. The Turkish charoset was a big hit...so I decided to make it again the following year, along with the Eastern European and an Italian version. That year I also presented some historical info about the Jews of Turkey and Italy (then and now). After devouring the 3 different types of charoset, I asked our 20 guests to vote on which charoset was their favorite...Turkey won out, and the traditional European got the least votes! I have since accumulated way over 50 charoset recipes. And so, what has evolved is the Marcus family seder complete with 4 types of charoset (each from a different country), a bit of Jewish history and cultural 'factoids' for each of those countries (I haven't made the Eastern European type for years), along with, a Haggadah that Allan and I created, Passover jokes, song parodies, puzzles, and in recent years, YouTube Passover videos. It's quite a production. But it's a labor of love." Barb also added this tidbit: "Never discard uneaten charoset...it can be frozen for a later date; it's wonderful on chicken, in yogurt, on pancakes, or just as an appy with crackers."

INDIAN STYLE CHAROSET OR JAROSETH – Jamie Geller

INGREDIENTS:

2 ripe mangos, cut into medium dice
¼ cup dark raisins
¼ cup pitted dates
¼ cup slivered almonds
¼ cup sugar
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
Pinch of kosher salt



PREPARATION

1. Pulse mangos, raisins, dates, almonds, sugar, vinegar, and salt in a food processor until they are a paste. Alternatively, you can chop the ingredients very finely with a sharp knife.
2. The charoset can be made 3 days before serving and can be stored, covered, in the refrigerator.

UGANDA: TZIPORAH SIZOMU'S HAROSET

(Note: peanuts are legumes and there are some Jews who do not eat them during Passover. They can be replaced with cashews.)

INGREDIENTS:

4 cups roasted peanuts
3 apples, chopped fine
2 bananas, chopped into small pieces
1/2 cup honey
1/2 cup sweet wine



DIRECTIONS

Grind the peanuts in a blender and place them in a medium-sized bowl. Rural Ugandans use a mortar and pestle. They don't have blenders as very few have electricity. Mix with the chopped apples and bananas. Add the wine and stir. Add the honey and mix everything together. (If it isn't thick enough, add more peanuts).

Jewish Calendar Corner

Ta'anit Esther

Ta'anit Esther, or the Fast of Esther, is a minor fast day from dawn until dusk on Purim eve, commemorating the three-day fast observed by Queen Esther and the Jewish people in the story of Purim. This year Ta'anit Esther falls on March 6.

Purim

Purim is the festival of "lots." On this joyful holiday it is a mitzvah to hear the reading of *Megillat Esther*, the Scroll of Esther. Many communities will tell the story in a funny play called a schpiel and hold a carnival with costumes and games. On Purim, we give *Mishloach Manot*, gifts of food and drink to our family and friends, and *Matanot L'Evyonim*, gifts to the poor. This year Purim at Beth Chaim begins with our reinvented Purim Party on Sunday, March 5 and continues with an Elton John themed shpiel on Monday, March 6 at 7pm.

Shushan Purim

Purim is celebrated on this day in walled cities and in Jerusalem. According to the Megillah, the Jews in King Ahasuerus' provinces fought their enemies on the thirteenth day of Adar and rested on the 14th day. The Jews in the walled city of Shushan fought on the thirteenth and fourteenth days and rested on the fifteenth day. For this reason, Jews who live in walled cities (or cities that were walled in the days of Joshua) celebrate Purim on the fifteenth day of Adar, which falls on March 8 this year.

Ta'anit Bechorot

Traditionally, first-born males fast on this day leading up to the first Seder. Ta'anit Bechorot recognizes that the first-born children of the Israelites were saved when the first-born children of the Egyptians were killed in the tenth plague. This year Ta'anit Bechorot falls on April 5.

Pesach

Pesach, or Passover, is one of the three pilgrimage festivals mandated by the Torah. It is commonly celebrated in the home with a festive meal called a Seder, which means "order." This year the first Seder is Wednesday night, April 5.

Omer

During the seven weeks from the second night of Pesach until Shavuot, we count the Omer. In ancient times, the *omer* represented the first sheaf of the harvest that God instructed the Israelites to bring to the priest (Leviticus 23). The Israelites were then to count fifty days between the bringing of the *omer* and the bringing of a second offering of new grain. The *omer* also helps us to make a connection between Pesach, when we were liberated from bondage, and Shavuot, when we received the Torah.

In early Rabbinic times, the *omer* took on additional significance as a period of mourning: our tradition teaches that twelve thousand of Rabbi Akiva's disciples died between Pesach and Shavuot. Our Rabbis taught that these disciples of Rabbi Akiva were afflicted by a deadly plague because they did not respect one another; historians ascribe their deaths to the Hadrianic persecutions following the Bar Kochba revolt. Some engage in some mourning practices either throughout the Omer or until Lag BaOmer: these include refraining from haircuts, scheduling weddings, and holding celebrations with live music and dancing.

We count the Omer each night after dark with a blessing. One who forgets to count at night may count in the morning; the counting in the morning is traditionally done without a blessing. The Omer is counted during the evening prayer service before Aleinu and can be found in our prayerbook *Mishkan T'filah* on page 570. This year we start counting the Omer on the evening of April 6.

Yom HaShoah

The 27th of Nisan was designated by the Israeli Knesset (Parliament) as Yom HaShoah, a day to remember those who perished in the Holocaust and to honor those who fought in resistance movements. This year Yom HaShoah falls on April 18.

Yom HaZikaron

On Yom HaZikaron, we remember those soldiers who died in defense of Israel, as well as those who died in terrorist attacks. This year Yom HaZikaron falls on April 25.

Yom HaAtzmaut

Yom HaAtzmaut is a celebration of Israel's Independence, often replete with parades, barbecues, and fireworks around the country. This year Yom HaAtzmaut falls on April 26.

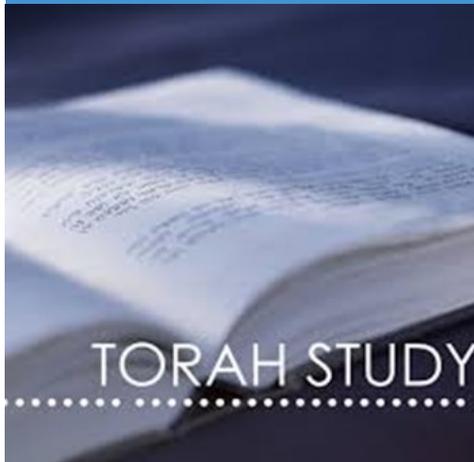
Torah Study at Beth Chaim

By Allen Bloom

The Saturday morning Torah study is one of the most rewarding activities at the temple. The purpose of the weekly meeting is to study the week's Torah portion. Every Simchat Torah we start all over again. For the years that I have been going there is so much discussion that we have never come close to completing the weekly portion. We are fortunate to have Rabbi Blum, Anne Berman-Waldorf or other clergy lead the meeting.

There are new insights and interpretations gained about what is in the Torah and what the Torah is about. For example, we see the character, strengths and weakness of our male and female patriarchs, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, Miriam, and others. Besides getting a better understanding of our religion, we learn some history, geography, psychology, sociology, and theology. The Torah remains vibrant and relevant. Those who attend have diverse backgrounds, interests and experiences. Everyone has their own viewpoint and the discussion adds greatly to our understanding. The leader provides knowledge and guidance and introduces the views of the great, historic Jewish interpreters of the Torah along with more modern views. As a result, we get a wonderful melding that leads to greater understanding.

The meetings are never stodgy, filled with warmth and laughter. I have been fortunate to make new friends. The end result is that we learn a lot and enjoy doing it. Of course, there is food; bagels, coffee, etc. I invite you to join us each Saturday morning at 8:45 to 9:45.



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.

Passover Dates to Note:

The temple office will be closed April 5, 6, 7, and 12 in observance of Passover.

The temple will open at 7:00 pm on Friday, April 7 for Shabbat services.

Torah study on April 8 will be on Zoom only. There is NO in-person option.

Passover Yizkor will be observed on April 12 at 8:30 am. Breakfast will follow at the conclusion of the service.

Tikkun Olam

By Holly Singer, tikkunolam@bethchaim.org

Tikkun Olam: *Healing the World and Spreading Kindness - One Mitzvah at a Time*

What have we been doing and what are we planning? The Tikkun Olam committee is busy year-round organizing various mitzvot in conjunction with community organizations. We are extremely grateful for the growing support of congregants in our programs as highlighted at bethchaim.org/tikkunolam.

Since the beginning of 2023, we have continued to partner with local organizations, organizing programs focused on helping to address food insecurity as well as the demand for diapers and related supplies. We partner with HomeFront to provide a monthly dinner for their tutoring group at Lawrence Community Center, always trying to supply more than just one meal since there are students facing severe food insecurity and they are very appreciative! Our longstanding partnership with Jewish Family and Children's Service (JFCS) includes collection of requested items for various holidays, including since January the Passover food drive. Our annual February diaper drive for Womanspace is always a big success, thanks to many generous religious school parents and congregants.

We plan to continue these longstanding Tikkun Olam programs and organize others to meet specific needs around our community including refugee assistance. In addition, we will be raising awareness for the various organizations needing our help and the range of mitzvah opportunities available. Stay tuned for specific dates and details.

Our committee meets monthly on Sunday mornings and organizes programs year-round. New members and fresh ideas are welcome! How can you participate? Contact tikkunolam@bethchaim.org to receive Tikkun Olam program notices and receive our online sign-up forms.

B'Mitzvah at Beth Chaim

Reed Payne-Smith

March 4, 2023

Parents: Melissa Payne-Smith and Ian W. Smith
Brother: Benjamin

Being Jewish is important to me because I like connecting with other people in the Jewish community. I look forward to becoming an adult member of the community and continuing to participate in activities at Beth Chaim. I also enjoy celebrating Jewish holidays with my family.



Max Barone

March 11, 2023

Parents: Jill Morganstern and Stephen Barone
Being Jewish is important to me because I like to learn about my ancestors.

Cece Schoenberg

March 18, 2023

Parents: Zvia and Gregg Schoenberg

Being Jewish is important to me for lots of reasons. The main reason is I can learn about my family and culture through Judaism. I am so grateful that Jewish learning is part of my life, and I will continue learning about it throughout my life. Beth Chaim is so special because when I joined as a new student in 7th grade, Anne, the students, and Rabbi Blum created a very welcoming and warm atmosphere. Everyone made me feel a part of this Jewish community.



Zoey Alboum

April 15, 2023

Parents: Stacy and Scott Alboum
Siblings: Alexa, Sammy, and Teddy
Grandparents: Phyllis and Joel Schulman

Beth Chaim is special because I have made lifelong friends and memories here. I attended preschool and religious school. It is where I learned a lot about Judaism and have connected to my Jewish peers. My mom also had her Bat Mitzvah on the same bima and it is special because it is being passed from generation to generation.

Taylor Schwarz

April 22, 2023

Parents: Lorin and Elan Schwarz
Brother: Brandon

Beth Chaim is important to me because I went to preschool there and it feels like my second home. I have kept the same friends that I met in preschool and now we are going through the B'nei mitzvah process together. I know they will be my friends for life. Beth Chaim has also connected me to my Jewish roots. I enjoy going to Rock Shabbat, celebrating holidays and doing mitzvah projects with my Jewish Community.



Haley Shapiro

April 29, 2023

Parents: Michelle and Marc Shapiro

Brother: Justin

Beth Chaim is special to me because...I have been coming to Beth Chaim since Mommy and Me classes when I was a baby. I also went to Pre-School here and Summer Camp. Beth Chaim has helped me feel connected to Judaism. Some of my favorite memories are the Purim Carnivals, helping out with the younger Religious School kids, singing together in the Sanctuary, and spending time with good friends. I also enjoyed learning about Jewish History from all of my past teachers. Thank you to Rabbi Blum, Anne, and Cantor Carla for preparing me for this special time in my life.



L'Dor Vador...From Generation to Generation

By Dorie Marcus Agarwal

Wow! There I was again standing on the bima at Beth Chaim as my younger daughter, Dylan Agarwal, became Bat Mitzvah on December 22, 2022. Sadly, due to the pandemic, my older daughter Kesley became Bar Mitzvah in our dining room at home zoomed in through Beth Chaim. The beauty and holiness of this ritual is that I, too, as well as my older sister both became Bat Mitzvahs on this very same bima many years ago. Two generations of young women both me, my sister as well as my two daughters have had the privilege and honor of being imbued with the sacred trust of our Jewish heritage. The importance of this education, effort, participation, and actualization of this rite of passage for our family was not lost on me. There was a warm eeriness about being there, at that exact spot, in different roles from one capacity to another, as it has been done over thousands of years we are told. My family is a miniscule microcosm of that bond and responsibility that we as Jews hold and live by. Our rituals are beautiful and rich and of course enduring. Beth Chaim has been our house for as long as I can remember. My parents were original members when services were held in the theater at West Windsor Plainsboro high school. When my family returned to the area, my husband and I chose to belong, as I had years before, as a place for community and worship of our Jewish faith in our interfaith family. My heart is full and I feel so lucky to have been a part of Beth Chaim for all these years.



Religious School CLOSED

Wednesday, April 5

Sunday, April 9

Wednesday, April 12

Sunday, April 16



BOOK SALE

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

9:00AM - 1:00PM

BETH CHAIM LOBBY

Proceeds go toward purchasing books
for the Beth Chaim Library

A Celebration of Our Community Beth Chaim's Annual Meeting Sunday, April 30th, 9:30am

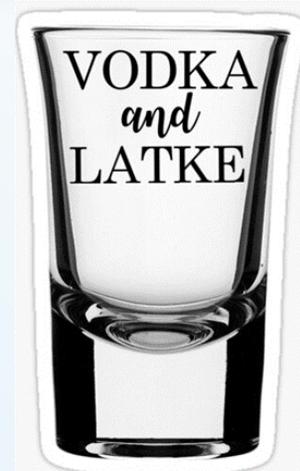
Join us for bagels, coffee, conversation.
Celebrate our community.
Engage in the business of the
congregation.



Membership Committee

By Yimi Kierman

Vodka and Latkes was back and better than ever. After a 2 year hiatus due to COVID, Beth Chaim had an amazing Latke and Vodka reunion with over 100 people in attendance, shmoozing, eating, and catching up with good friends. Barry Wasserman was rocking out and everyone was feasting on pizza, latkes, and the delicious desserts and drinks! Vodka and Latkes has always been a great opportunity for old friends to reconnect and new members of our community to meet up, relax and enjoy a fun night out. This was a great way for us to kick off 2023 and the start of a great year of events and fun times!



Adult Chai Bowlers Night

Brought to you by the Beth Chaim Membership Committee

Who: Beth Chaim Singles, Couples, and Friends
All levels welcome! Bumpers available.

What: Can you “spare” 2 hours for bowling, pizza, and fun, fun, fun!

Interested in mixing and mingling? We will assign you to a team where you can kibitz with your new bowling buddies. Haven't bowled since before scoring was automated? Come out, “have a ball” and see what you've been missing!

Fabulous prizes will be awarded for categories that have absolutely nothing to do with your skill level!

Where: Hamilton Lanes
1200 Kuser Road, Hamilton Township, 08619

When: Saturday, April 1st, 7:00–9:00PM

RSVP: \$20 per person (*shoes can be rented on site for an additional \$5.35*) Reserve your spot here:

<https://www.bethchaim.org/event/adult-chai-bowlers.html>



Questions? Email Judy Loeb at judeekins1@aol.com



And Megillah Reading
Monday, March 6, 7pm
Featuring the music of Elton John
AND STARRING:

As Vashti:
Brianna Watson
Rachel Levitt
Mia Kizner

As Esther:
Eliana Winters
Moxie Shashoua
Phoebe Boyle
Katelyn Wisnia
Eliza Goldis
Victoria Borrus
Lila Nocks

As Haman:
Josh Waldorf
Matthew Levitt
Michael Comings

As Mordechai
Ri Safronov
Alaina Leib

As King Ahasuarus
Marshall Kizner
Charlotte Sher
Nathan Hoffman
Austin Shapiro
Harrison Shapiro
Ethan Borrus

As Zeresh:
Bryn Guttentag

***Ministers,
Henchmen &
Guards***
Michael Shashoua
William Hughes
Jonah Blum
Brooklyn Guttentag
Avery Wasserman
Giuliana Goldis
Ellie Schuster
Lilly Schatzow
Eleanor Kahn

Directed by
Luke Militch

Cheer for Vashti and Esther!
Boo Haman!
Sing along with all the cast and
Join us for Hamantashen at the end!

SAVE THE DATE - Mark Your Calendars!

ART AUCTION

Congregation Beth Chaim
Saturday Evening
May 6, 2023



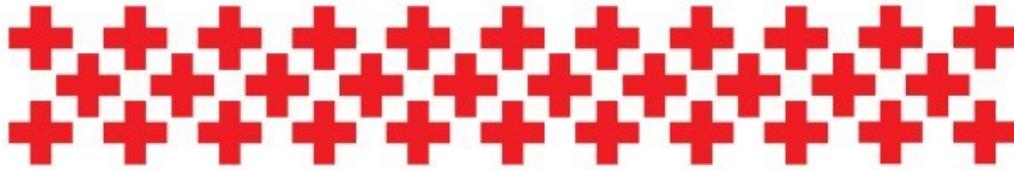
7:00 Preview Art, Food, & drinks
8:00 Firm Start Live Auction
50/50 & Silent Auction all night

For more information contact:
Camille Bloomberg 609 947-4416
Ronnie Staffenberg 609 731-9378

More Details to Follow

American Red Cross

Give blood. Help save lives.



Blood Drive Congregation Beth Chaim

Social Hall
329 Village Road East
West Windsor, NJ 08550

Sunday, April 23, 2023
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

For an appointment:

Please contact: Cliff Hochberg - 609-712-1381

or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: congbethchaim to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to
Rapid[™]scan!



Download the Blood Donor App today. Get your digital donor card, schedule your next appointment, track your lifetime donations, view your blood pressure, and follow your donation on its way to a hospital.



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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[14] - Order ID: 1468318 - Item ID: 6871561 - Qty: 1 of 1 - 02201882 - APLOS Rev0418 - A923-23068

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



For more information,
CBClegacy@bethchaim.org



Kesher-Caring Task Force

'Inner gratification when doing a mitzvah is overrated' -



Help a fellow congregant, and then do it again. We will provide you with a PGM (Personalized Gratification Measurement) to facilitate reaching your own level of feeling good.

- Contact the temple office if you need a ride, a meal, shopping or some tech assistance in order to participate in on-line worship or programming.
- Volunteer to help others. Please contact Lori Watson (609-290-5867) or Hagit Sten (609-876-6809) or BCKesherCare@gmail.com if you would like to help. Thank you.

Summer Camp 2023

The Enchanted Forest



Let your light shine in the ENCHANTED FOREST

Join us on a magical summer journey through the Enchanted Beth Chaim Forest as we encounter fairies, furry friends, and mystical creatures. Each week a new adventure awaits! Stories, Music, Arts and Crafts, Science, Water Play and More!

11 Weeks of Fun, Learning & Adventure

June 5 – August 18, 2023

For more information and to register please contact Robin at earlychildhood@bethchaim.org

Congregation Beth Chaim



Meet Our Staff Team

Meet Robin Resnick, as interviewed by Mark Perkiss.

Robin Resnick Assistant Director, Early Childhood Education



Robin has worked at Beth Chaim for 10 years. She is in charge of the Pre-School and Kindergarten at Beth Chaim. She oversees the teaching staff and works closely with the students and their family members. She has been in her current position for seven years and was a Pre-School teacher prior to becoming director.

Q. What made you decide to work at Beth Chaim?

A. I'm from Maryland and we moved here about 20 years ago. I had a three-year-old daughter at the time, and I didn't know anything about Beth Chaim. When my second daughter turned two, I was looking for a preschool and people mentioned Beth Chaim. We enrolled her and I loved the school so much. The teachers were amazing. A few years later, I became a substitute teacher at the school; eventually there was an opening for a teacher for three-year-olds and I was hired. Then the opening came up to be the director and it melded my teaching experience with my prior business experience.

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

A. I love the staff, the children and school families. Everybody is amazing. The environment is so caring and welcoming. I don't see myself anywhere else.

Q. Tell us about your family.

A. I have three daughters. Lucy is 23. She graduated from the University of Delaware and is now in the nursing program at Thomas Jefferson University. Molly is 15 and a sophomore in high school and Abby is 14 and a high school freshman.

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

A. I like to work out and bird watch. I have a lot of feeders in the yard, and we get woodpeckers and lots of other types of birds. That's until my cat gets out and chases them.

Q. What is your favorite vacation spot?

A. It used to be Ocean City, Md, since I grew up in Maryland, but now it's Rehoboth Beach in Delaware.

Q. What is one thing Beth Chaim congregants don't know about you?

A. I wanted to be a professional ballet dancer, but I couldn't because I had hip problems. Then I wanted to be an actress and I auditioned for the North Carolina School of the Arts in front of (actress and dancer) Debbie Allen. It was a terrific experience, but I didn't get accepted there.

Thank you to all of our generous Giving Tuesday/End-of-Year Donors! (Donations received after December 1, 2022)

Dana and Corey Boyle
Ann Brandt
Barbara Gilbert
Norman and Cecelia Goldschmidt
Jill and Gregg Jaclin

Michael and Mary Ellen Kessler
Steven and Deborah Kropf
Jill Kross
Eric Kutell
Bruce and Robin Levinson

Beverly Roberts
Emily & Herbert Schuman
Adria Sherman
Paul and Amy Silverstein
Gabriel and Robin Smolarz

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:

<i>Paul Gottlieb, husband of Helene Gottlieb</i>	<i>Isamu Kataoka, father of Chiaki Rochkind</i>
<i>Norman Weintraub, our Congregant</i>	<i>Sondra Zegas, mother of Mindy Shedler</i>
<i>Benjamin Weinstein, father of Fran Levitt</i>	<i>Barbara Schirmer, mother of Alison Lockman</i>

Good & Welfare

Thank you to Norm and Cecelia Goldschmidt for their donation of a Breville Espresso Coffee maker.

Building Fund

Mazal tov to Camille Bloomberg on the marriage of Alyssa and Mat

Karen Brodsky and Don Leibowitz

Mazal tov to Gayle and Barry Weisberg on Noam's B'Mitzvah

Karen Brodsky & Don Leibowitz

In memory of Sondra Zegas, mother of Mindy Shedler

Karen Brodsky & Don Leibowitz

Good & Welfare

Building Fund

In honor of Hana Rochkind's B'Mitzvah
Karen Brodsky & Don Liebowitz

Caring Fund

In memory of Sondra Zegas, mother of Mindy Shedler
Michael & Beth Lichtman
Mark A. Pollak

Debra Greenberg Fund

In memory of John Schneider
Len & Eileen Greenberg
In memory of Jonathan Brown
Len & Eileen Greenberg

Gilbert Fund

In memory of Arthur Lederman
Barbara Gilbert
Doug Gilbert
Jen Gilbert-Kaufmann, Rob, Rachel, and Alyssa Kaufmann
In honor of Alyssa Bloomberg's marriage to Mat
Barbara Gilbert
In memory of Edythe Sherman, mother of Jill Goldstein
Barbara Gilbert
In memory of Evelyn Kaplan
Barbara Gilbert

Senior Rabbi Discretionary Fund

Thank you for your guidance during this difficult time
The Family of Norman Weintraub
In loving memory of Marjorie Eisenberg
Ken & Michael Eisenberg
With gratitude for Rabbi Blum for her kindness to our family after the death of our nephew Leo Scott Trepper
Jim Smith & Bernice Gottlieb-Smith
In memory of Benjamin E. "Benny" Berman, uncle of Gerry Siegel
Nancy and Gerry Siegel
In memory of Edythe Sherman, mother of Jill Goldstein
Maida & Art Rosengarten
In memory of Sondra Zegas, mother of Mindy Shedler
Janet & Michael Meltzer
Carolyn & Michael Occulto
Marlene & Stuart Schooler
Lori & Mitchell Langsner
Tina & Alan Balaban
Bryan Balaban
In memory of Elaine H. Siegel, mother of Gerry Siegel
Nancy & Gerald Siegel
In loving memory of Evan Rafkin
Shelli, Mark, Stacy, Lisa, Emma, & Alexandra Rafkin

Sisterhood Fund

In memory of Melvin Bacall
Joan & Richard Druckman
In memory of Sondra Zegas
Donna & Phil Sher

Sisterhood Stoller Scholarship Fund

In memory of Melvin Bacall
Joan & Richard Druckman
In memory of Sondra Zegas
Cindy & Bill Bright
In memory of Leon Altfeld
Cindy & Bill Bright

Tikkun Olam

In memory of Samuel Robbins
Richard & Myrna Robbins
In memory of Sondra Zegas, mother of Mindy Shedler
Linda & Bill Feldstein
Helen Shriver

Yahrzeit Fund

In memory of my brother Albert Gitelson
Barbara Blayne
In memory of Albert Shedler
Mindy & Michael Shedler
In memory of Benjamin Hayon
Beni & Lois Hayon
In memory of Bernice Dvorkin
Lisa Rubinstein
In memory of Jacqueline Zlotkin
Alan and Dee Carlton
In memory of Paul Gottlieb
Lois Riskin
In memory of Marvin Mandel
Marcy & Jeff Mandel
In memory of Bert Friedeman
Joann & Les Friedeman
In memory of Jonathan Brown
Denise Valdes
In memory of Irving Kantrowitz, father of Paula Bacall, grandfather of Adam and Zach Bacall and father in law of Robert Bacall
Robert and Paula Bacall
In memory of our niece Kimberly Brodsky
Kent and Barbara Hochberg
In memory of my mother Ina Roistacher
Joan Blitman
In memory of my husband Leon Blitman
Joan Blitman
In loving memory of my parents, Linda and Stanley Trott, who are missed every single day.
Susan and Steve Bizenov
In memory of Julius Weisenberg
Cecelia Weisenberg

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

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Anne Berman-Waldorf, RJE.....(609) 799-9401 ext. 102
Educator@BethChaim.org

Assistant Director, Early Childhood Education:
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WLevenkron@BethChaim.org

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DLipper@BethChaim.org

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Reception@BethChaim.org

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President@BethChaim.org

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VPCommunity@BethChaim.org

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VPHouseRitual@BethChaim.org

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VPEd@BethChaim.org

VP Development & Financial Affairs (*Kesef*):
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VPFinance@BethChaim.org

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Treasurer@BethChaim.org

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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

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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

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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

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GiftShop@BethChaim.org

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Life & Legacy: Don Leibowitz.....(609) 799-7265
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Lifelong Learning: Drew Staffenberg.....(215) 694-8400

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Shelley Miller.....(609) 213-6944

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

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MultifaithBC@gmail.com

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Betsy le.....(609) 731-4553
Laura Nash Greenberg.....(609) 923-3291

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Personnel Committee:
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Lori Watson.....(609) 290-5867
BethChaimRJ@gmail.com

Religious Practices:
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Vivian Newmark.....(908) 500-5261

Settled Cantor Search Committee:
Don Leibowitz, Chair.....(609) 799-7265
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Tikkun Olam:
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I Guess That's Why They Call it a Shpiel
Crocodile Rock at the
Beth Chaim Purim Carnival



Sunday, March 5, 2023

10:00am—12:30pm

Food, Fun, and Games

Esther and Mordechai

Advance Ticket Packages Available at

www.bethchaim.org/event/purim-palooza.html



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