



BARNERT

The Magazine

The Fall Issue

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BARNERT

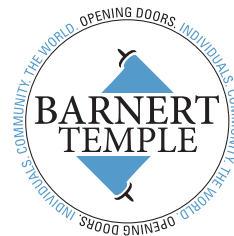
The Magazine

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Cover design by Rebecca Rund

Please recycle this magazine.



Vision and Mission Statement The Barnert Temple Congregation B'nai Jeshurun Franklin Lakes, NJ

Welcome to the Barnert Temple.
This is our Vision and Mission.
We present these ideals as a declaration of
our purpose, to guide our priorities
and decisions, and to measure
the progress of our work together.

Our Vision

We are a welcoming Reform Jewish community,
connected by the realization that we are
part of something larger than ourselves,
continually striving to excel at opening doors
for ethical and spiritual growth.

Our Mission

The mission of the Barnert Temple
is to be a sacred community, a *kehillah kedoshah*,
committed to offering Reform Jewish experiences
that are relevant, accessible and meaningful,
wherein people of all ages and backgrounds
are appreciated and valued, engaged and inspired.

Our Core Values

The people of the Barnert Temple are guided
by these core values:

- Mutual respect for one another, *Derech Eretz*
- A partnership of members, leaders, staff and clergy, *Brit Shleimut*
- Love of the Jewish people and the State of Israel, *Klal Yisrael*
- Repair of our world, *Tikkun Olam*
- Questioning and seeking insight, *Rodef Chochmah*

A Message From Rabbi Rachel Steiner

Fall-ing gently into a new year



It's hard to believe we are here again — summer is over, school has started, the High Holidays are days away. How did another year go by so quickly? Did we use our time thoughtfully, productively? Did we learn new skills, take risks, grow? How did we make the world more whole, more just?

It is particularly at these times of transition and beginnings that I feel so lucky to be grounded in our Jewish tradition. The High Holidays come at just the right time each year. (Or just the wrong time, depending on who you ask — always too early or too late!) Just as we are about to move quickly and quietly from one year to the next, our tradition comes in, *shofars* blasting, to slow us down and give us tools to process where we've been and prepare for where we'd like to go.

Soon we will be together in our sacred gathering places at Barnert. The music will be wonderful, with melodies both familiar and new. This mix of old and new will also be true of the words in our *machzor*, the High Holy Day prayer book. There will be moments of personal and deep connection with what is happening in our services and others where your wandering mind leads you into the depths of your soul. These experiences are important; I look forward to sharing all of them. As we prepare to welcome 5780, I'd like to offer four specific, and I hope accessible, themes to shape the end of one year and the beginning of the next.

Preparation – the month of Elul

The holiday cycle we currently observe is a combination of what we received in the *Torah* and what was filled in over the thousands of years our tradition has evolved. The wisdom within is deep and strong. So it's not a surprise that we are given time, a full month, to prepare for the new year. This month is called *Elul*. During these days we are meant to take time to reflect on all that has gone well in the year that is ending, to face the challenges with which we still struggle, and to begin to set some realistic and impactful goals for the year to come. We tend to focus easily on how we have faltered; we are often quick to see the mistakes we have made at work or in relationships with those we love. If this is true for you, too, spend some time here and use this awareness to grow and move forward. How can you chart a new path in the year to come?

And don't forget about the successes of the past year. For many of us, these are harder to name. How have you been a supportive partner or parent or friend? How have you accepted help from those who surround you?

What have you learned that has opened up doors? What opportunities did you take, even when the unknown felt unsteady? Take time in these days of preparation not only to identify how we wish to change in the year to come, but also to ground yourself in what is already so good, so sturdy. These strong foundations are essential.

Believe in new possibilities: Rosh Hashanah

Rosh Hashanah reminds us that as the new year begins, the possibilities are endless. We have the ability to create wholeness in word and in deed. We root ourselves in a tradition that encourages questions and respectful dissent. And when we see all that is broken in the world around us, we are empowered to find our voices and put our skills to good use.

On this day we celebrate the creation of the world — the creation of creation — the creation of possibility. How will your preparation for these Days of Awe prepare you to be open to possibility?

Repair is possible – with intentional work in the days in between

After welcoming the new year we are reminded, immediately, of the work needed to nurture our relationships, to ensure we are living intentionally. The days in between *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* offer us time to repair relationships with people around us. The liturgy of these Days of Awe is clear that our open hearts in synagogue only repair what may be broken in our personal relationship with God. (Note: if this sentence is mysterious or off-putting or confusing, come talk with me. I'd love to explore this idea with you more fully!) The work of interpersonal forgiveness, of turning and returning, must happen before we take our seats on *Yom Kippur*. Whose forgiveness do you seek in these days? Whose do you hope to receive, and how can you make this happen? Use these days thoughtfully and the Day of Atonement that follows will take on new significance.

Uncertainties and open gates: Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur is meant to be an opportunity to come face to face with our mortality. The symbols (an empty ark), the attention to what our bodies need to thrive (fasting or changing the way we consume), the music, the words, the remembrances. We encounter language that challenges us and reminds us that, sometimes even in spite of the best planning, death comes too soon or life takes unexpected turns for good or bad.

Yom Kippur, as a condensed peek into Jewish practice and ritual, also offers us tools to take with us into the new year: steps for reconciliation, the push to think big about our impact on the world, the way we might be changed by exploring new ideas and powerful music in

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A Message From the President

Why come home to Barnert?



What do you think about when you think of fall? I think about the changing beauty and colors of nature, the excitement of children getting new school supplies and the requisite front door first-day-of-school photos, gratitude for the cooler breezes, and that it is less humid and not icy weather yet, and just new beginnings. For you sports enthusiasts and fraternity and sorority brothers and sisters,

you too may embrace the new season with “homecoming” events and reunions.

Barnert 2019, too, is a reason to celebrate new beginnings. We have a newly revised Constitution, which provides for an updated and more creative approach to governance that will engage and empower more congregants in our congregational work. We also have a new senior leadership team, and I am thrilled to call Rabbi Steiner, Sara

Losch and Joan Lipkowitz my newest sacred partners — clearly the “wind beneath my wings.”

On a personal note, I grew up in a Conservative temple and honestly never felt connected. I attended and participated in High Holiday and occasional *yahrzeit* services. As an only child who lost my parents when I had just become a new mom, I knew I needed to find my anchor. When I walked in the door of Barnert on one *Shabbat* evening back in 1998, I can honestly say that I was pleasantly surprised at encountering experiences quite different from my childhood. Barnert had wonderful, moving music; children on the *bima*; active congregant worship; and such a warm welcome.

So here I am, 20 years later, never believing that I would be the leader of this amazing community. Here is to new beginnings for both you and me and to making each and every one of you “come home to Barnert.”

I cannot wait to greet you, listen to you, and work and collaborate with you.

With love and affection,
Elizabeth

A Message From Sara Losch

B'ruchim haBa'im – Welcome! Beginnings, endings, and opportunities



Shalom. Welcome to our sacred community, our *kehillah kedoshah*. We are thrilled you are with us. Whether you have been at Barnert for years or have just set down roots, we are excited to join you, support you, and guide you on your Jewish journey.

I am Sara Losch, the Director of Lifelong Learning. (You'll hear our children, and even some adults, call me by

my full name as though it was one long name: Saralosch!)

I have a long title but a wonderful and simple job: I get to design, lead, or participate in whatever is happening at Barnert, or even outside of our walls, that is educational (hint: everything is educational!). My Barnert roots are 30 years deep. During this time, I have been blessed to receive preschool hugs all day on the weekdays, and to have my mind stretched by our elementary school and high school students on Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the Jewish Journey Project Barnert Temple (we call it JJP for short). I also lead our monthly Women's Study class, *Rosh Chodesh*, at my home in Wyckoff (we call it *Rosh Chodesh*

in the Cabin and new members are SO welcome), and study in *Torah* and *Talmud* classes.

Spend time here doing just about anything and you'll meet my partners, the people who will have a hand in helping you to find meaning and joy in Judaism (or help you pay a bill or find out where to donate your no-longer-needed clothing). Every person who works at Barnert does so with a profound commitment to our families' needs, however different they are. You are our priority. We have programs for our youngest babies in Friday *Shabbat* classes to our high school seniors. Our college kids come back for special *Shabbats* and they stay in touch with Rabbi Steiner, our teachers and me. It's not unusual for us to hear from older students seeking guidance from trusted mentors. They are ours and we are theirs. Forever.

If at any time you have an idea you'd like to share, I'd love to hear from you. A number of courses we teach or events we offer our families came from other members. We are very collaborative. I'll tell your children the same thing. Our kids are awfully bright and creative. I love to hear from them.

You'll hear us say again when you are here: Welcome Home! Now, let's get learning and doing Jewish!

Sara Losch

Come Home to Barnert and Learn with Your Community!

Barnert Temple 5780 Adult Education



Learning with Rabbi Steiner: Preparing Ourselves for the High Holidays.

**Sunday, September 15,
at 9:30 am.**

Whether this is your first High Holidays at Barnert, or you can't remember how long you've been coming, this class is for you. We will study main themes of the holidays, explore some key texts from our liturgy, and discuss questions to feed your own spiritual preparation for these Days of Awe. This session is designed so that each of us will have a more textured and impactful start to 5780.

Ongoing Adult Education Classes



Torah Study. Rabbi Rachel Steiner. Saturday, October 19, at 9:30 am.

Have questions about navigating the world around us? Looking for an anchoring place to learn and grow?

Torah is our primary guide, the source we return to again and again for questions and answers. So, this class is for everyone! If you're new to *Torah*, great! We will learn together. If you've been studying forever, great! There's always more to learn — together! Join Rabbi Steiner at 9:30 am for breakfast and study. Our ancient text continues to guide us in contemporary issues. And we need your voice, your questions, your insights. Hope to see you there!



Rosh Chodesh. Sara Losch, Director of Lifelong Learning. Saturdays, September 7; October 26, at 9:30 am.

Experience the rituals and spirituality of *Rosh Chodesh*, which marks the beginning of the new month. A monthly Barnert experience just for women, when we celebrate and learn together, sharing joy, wisdom and camaraderie. *Rosh Chodesh* takes place most months at Sara Losch's Wyckoff home in "the cabin." We take turns bringing breakfast.



Shabbat Yoga. Rachel Dewan. Saturdays, dates TBD, 9:30 am.

In *Shabbat Yoga* the physical and the spiritual meet in exhilaration. Every level of experience is welcome. Wear comfortable clothes and bring your own mat.



Talmud Study. Rabbi Joel Soffin. Thursdays, Dates TBD, 7:30 pm.

Join our modern-day discussion of the *Talmud*. Learn how to shop, talk, and think Jewishly. Look behind the scenes at the lives of ancient rabbis and learn from their triumphs and missteps. Most of all, enter the historic Jewish conversation and discover your own Jewish soul. Be prepared to think differently as you engage in the world. As with our *Torah Study* classes, no prior study or knowledge is necessary. Check the calendar for dates.

Rabbi Steiner *(From page 3)*

community, the possibility that *always* exists for return to community and sacred relationship with God. But these tools only help us if we incorporate them into our regular practice: offerings of gratitude, time spent building relationships of significance, the gifts that come to others and to us when we really invest in justice and wholeness for more people.

We can't be certain of what awaits us in 5780. We

can make the best of the tools we have before us, even if this means first figuring out where they are and learning how to use them. I look forward to spending these holy days with you in our assembled and fullest gatherings of *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. And then, especially then, to continuing the journey through this new year, together. As we sprint ahead into fall, may we find that the fall into 5780 here at Barnert is loving and gentle.

Shabbat and Holiday Worship with Rabbi Steiner

Shabbat services are reflective yet joyous — a true renewal of the spirit. You may come in tired, but you'll walk away renewed and revived. It's a promise! All ages are welcome, and dress is nice/casual. And we have the best *Oneg Shabbat* desserts! On the first Friday of each month, the 7 pm service is followed by a potluck supper. Our High Holiday services are thoughtful and joyful, with a focus for every age.

Friday, September 6
7 pm Service
8 pm Potluck supper

Saturday, September 7
9:30 am *Rosh Chodesh*

Friday, September 13
7:30 pm Service

Saturday, September 14
10:30 am Service, *Bat Mitzvah* of Hannah Nussbaum

Friday, September 20
7:30 pm Service

Saturday, September 21
10 am Service, *Bar Mitzvah* of Benjamin Good
7 pm *Selichot*

Friday, September 27
7:30 pm Service

Saturday, September 28
10:30 am Service, *Bat Mitzvah* of Gabrielle Becker

Sunday, September 29
7:45 pm *Erev Rosh Hashanah*
Evening service

Monday, September 30
9 am Young Family service
10:15 am *Torah* Tots and *Kavanah* Kids
10:30 am Morning service and Junior Congregation
12:30 pm Community *Kiddush*
Picnic following Services
2:30 pm *Tashlich* Ceremony

Tuesday, October 1
10 am Morning service and *Torah* Study, informal

Friday, October 4
7 pm Service
8 pm Potluck supper

Tuesday, October 8
7:45 pm *Kol Nidre*

Wednesday, October 9
9 am Young Family service
10:15 am *Torah* Tots and *Kavanah* Kids
10:30 am Morning service and Junior Congregation

1:45 pm Adult Study session
3 pm Afternoon Service of Renewal
4:15 pm *Yizkor* Service
5:30 pm *Neilah*, Closing Service, Break-Fast

Friday, October 11
7:30 pm Service

Sunday, October 13
5:30 pm *Sukkot* BBQ

Friday, October 18
4:30 pm JJP *Shabbat* Intensive
6:15 pm Service

Saturday, October 19
9:30 am *Torah* Study

Sunday, October 20
6 pm *Yizkor*
6:30 pm *Simchat Torah*
Celebration and Consecration

Friday, October 25
7:30 pm Service

Saturday, October 26
9:30 am *Rosh Chodesh*
10 am Service, *Bat Mitzvah* of Madison Wishnew

We Welcome These New Friends!

Alicia, Adam, and Ari Epstein, residing in Wayne
Elizabeth, Matthew, Ethan, and Rose Estersohn, residing in Fair Lawn
Audrey Halpern, Daniel, Jacob, and Ava Rivelis, residing in Glen Rock
Carly Fink-Kamens, Seth, Jake, and Morgan Kamens, residing in Franklin Lakes
Jessica, Benjamin, and Kai Kiraly, residing in Secaucus
Lisa, Greg, Katherine, and Benjamin Lappen, residing in Glen Rock
Ruth Liebesman, residing in Fair Lawn
Christina, Greg, Asher, and Aaron Menken, residing in Wyckoff
Luna, Daniel, Eva, and Michael Newton, residing in Glen Rock
Eric and Sam Nissenbaum, residing in Glen Rock
Jordan and Matthew Rotker, residing in Glen Rock
Kimberly, Dan, Tal, and Ben Salomon, residing in Ridgewood
Joanne Siegel, residing in Fair Lawn
Mandy, Eric, Olivia, and Amelia Steinberg, residing in Ridgewood
Hillary, Christopher, Christopher, and Hadley Yegen, residing in Glen Rock

Dear Barnert Friends:

I wish to thank all my friends at Barnert for the donations made in memory of my husband, Dr. Sam Cassell, and the sincere caring shown to me and my family during this difficult time. The response to Sam's passing has been truly overwhelming, shown by the very large attendance at the funeral, the many visitors during *shiva*, and all the beautiful letters and cards sent to me describing what Sam meant to you and your concerns for me.

Barnert has always represented the epitome of a caring community and the outpouring of your love only further displays the success Barnert has achieved in nurturing the values we so dearly own.

Carol Cassell

What in the World is the Leadership Council?

Perhaps you've heard the buzz about the LC. You may wonder if the LC is a new app, or better yet, a new delicious menu item. Well, the LC — Leadership Council — is neither; but nonetheless, it's an integral part of Barnert's newly adopted governance model. The Leadership Council (LC) is an entrepreneurial structure that promotes increased congregational engagement in committee work and helps build a leadership "pipeline." The LC will work in tandem with the Board of Trustees to provide all aspects of lay leadership. The newly formed LC, chaired by the executive vice-president, offers a forum for Committee and Task Force chairs, appointed by the president, as well as elected auxiliary presidents to exchange best practice for committee organization, communications, and problem-solution across our myriad committees. The LC is charged with day-to-day operations, management authority of areas within the scope of their committee charters, and the execution of in-budget plans.

LC representatives meet regularly with the rabbi, the president and executive vice-president to share current committee work, challenges and plans, and to remain apprised of Board initiatives. Each committee has one representative on the Council. Co-chairs may alternate meeting attendance.

At the initial LC meeting, we will formulate goals for 2019–2020. We are excited to have this new opportunity to address common issues, resolve challenges collaboratively, and strengthen our leadership skills while increasing the role of committees in managing daily congregational life.

We hope that this new leadership structure encourages you to become involved in rewarding committee work. There is so much to be done, and surely you can find your niche. Now is the time to contribute your talents to one of our many committees! If you have questions about a committee or wish to join it, please contact the leaders listed below.

Committee / Auxiliary / Task Force	Name	Email	Phone
Archives	Edelman, Rich	edelmanr@optonline.net	(973) 389-3536
BarTY Parent Youth Chair	Sauer, Jennifer	jenniferlowsauer@gmail.com	(917) 417-0675
BT Preschool Parents Association, Co-Chair	Levine, Alyson	alywaxman@gmail.com	(917) 566-0360
BT Preschool Parents Association, Co-Chair	Norwalk, Allison	alinorwalk@gmail.com	(201) 280-9181
Chair, Leadership Council (EVP)	Lipkowitz, Joan	joan.lipkowitz@gmail.com	(201) 788-5922
Communications Task Force	Schulties, Rachel	rschulties@gmail.com	(201) 803-6889
Finance (Treasurer)	Kagan, Jeff	kagancpa@aol.com	(201) 264-3090
Governance Transition Task Force	Solomon, Craig	solomon.cs@gmail.com	(917) 207-6170
Legal and HR, Co-Chair	Kagan, Julie	kaganhr@aol.com	(201) 264-9151
Legal and HR, Co-Chair	Wild, Jeff	jwild@lowenstein.com	(973) 517-8015
Lifelong Learning, Chair	Adler, Emily	emilysadler2@gmail.com	(646) 283-6138
Lifelong Learning, Director	Losch, Sara	saralosch@barnerttemple.org	(201) 848-1027
Membership, Co-Chair	Frankl, Dawn	dawnfrankl@aol.com	(917) 697-1447
Membership, Co-Chair	La Forgia, Beth	elaforgia13@gmail.com	(201) 755-1870
Men's Club, President	Males, Bob	bobmales@aol.com	(917) 543-1049
Office Restructure Task Force	Himeles, Pam	pamhimeles@gmail.com	(201) 403-4536
Operations, Chair	Schack, Barton	blschack@gmail.com	(201) 655-0716
Philanthropy/Campaign Task Force, Co-Chair	Krauss, Lauren	lauren.galluccio@gmail.com	(973) 722-6496
Philanthropy/Campaign Task Force, Co-Chair	Lieber, Alan	alan.lieber@atlantichhealth.org	(201) 638-1055
President	Resnick, Elizabeth	elrbarnert@gmail.com	(201) 788-0804
Rabbi	Steiner, Rachel	rabbisteiner@barnerttemple.org	
Renaissance	Cowlan, Joan	jrcpiglets@yahoo.com	(201) 927-4476
Ritual, Co-Chair	Hecht, Kathy	khecht131@gmail.com	(201) 259-6856
Ritual, Co-Chair	Kaplan, Diane	diane.l.kaplan@gmail.com	(973) 809-8526
Sisterhood, President	Esserman-Schack, Susan	susanes720@gmail.com	(201) 218-5206
Social Action, Co-Chair	Holland, Rebecca	rholland1129@gmail.com	(201) 563-4729
Social Action, Co-Chair	Klein, Sue	sueklein0319@gmail.com	(973) 420-5787
Social Action, Co-Chair	Meyer, Donna	meymail121@gmail.com	(201) 681-7044

Communications Task Force

by Rachel Schulties



I am so excited to be joining the temple Leadership Council and chairing the newly founded Communications Task Force. The goal of this group is to define better processes for temple-wide communication, something I am truly passionate about. This would include email, postal, phone and social

media outreach related to all facets of the temple (preschool, religious, social, etc.). "The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place."

During the coming weeks, we will be conducting a congregation-wide survey. Your opinions are important to us and we hope you will use this survey as a chance to express those opinions.

We will use the survey results for three purposes:

- To identify how members are consuming information today and how they wish to consume similar information in the future
- To understand general sentiment around current communications' practices
- To fix problems that exist in the current communications' methods

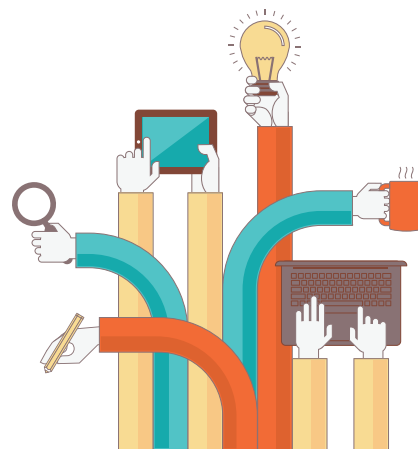
The survey will be distributed to you via email, as part of the weekly eNewsletter, and through all social media platforms. All responses will remain strictly anonymous. We will not be able to trace individual responses back

to you. The Leadership Council will only see anonymous data, so please be thoughtful, honest and candid when you complete the survey.

Once the data has been analyzed and a formal strategy has been established, we will hold a town-hall meeting to share results and next steps with the full congregation.

The survey results will be acted upon. Policies that need changing will be changed. Leaders who lack skills will be coached. Leaders who create excellence will be recognized. The amount of communication, and the way in which it will be communicated, will improve. Barnert will be stronger because of this work and because of you. We would like to get 100% participation in order to ensure that each and every member's voice is heard. When you receive the survey request, please give it your prompt attention.

Thank you for devoting your time and providing candid input. If you have any interest in being a part of this task force or future committee please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at rschulties@gmail.com.



BarTY

by Jessie Losch

It's beyond zip-lining. It's something other than staying up all night at shul-ins. It's even more than Midnight Run and L'Taken. BarTY is seeing the children you met as preschoolers take leadership positions as high schoolers. It's watching new students move from the edges of the room to take center stage, exchanging hugs and smiles and those hand-clasp-back-slaps that somehow only teens can pull off. BarTY is combining socialization and social action, trying not to let pizza drip onto letters and speeches, making plans to change the world over ice cream and sprinkles.



BarTY is, for me, sitting back and supporting our teens, our extraordinary Barnert teens, to find their feet, raise their voices and lead us as they have always done. In the past, our teens have given us a blueprint to talk about gun-violence prevention; they have brought us a vision for immigration reform and climate change; they have come to us with ideas about the future they want to shape, and the world they want to see. I believe in them, and it's my privilege and my honor to do nothing more than order the pizza and help them make that future possible.

Social Action

by Rebecca Holland

Food & Shelter

Jodi Fader

This coming school year I am so happy to have Carli Silvers joining me on Food & Shelter. This year we plan to continue our ongoing work with CUMAC but also work more closely with the Center Food Action. We will be getting a group together to work at their Thanksgiving Assembly and Distribution event the Thursday and Friday before Thanksgiving. We will be packing ingredients for their clients to make their own Thanksgiving meal. Listed below are events we held last year that I am hoping to continue this year.

November: Coat drive for CUMAC

December: Holiday-packing event at CUMAC

February 14: Valentine's Day trip to CUMAC

February:

Souper Bowl collection for CUMAC

March: Smile Packs at Purim Carnival for CFA

May: Earth Day gardening event; Mother's Day collection of diapers, baby food, and wipes for CUMAC

June: SWIM

TAYKA -

Bathing suit, goggles, and swim shirt donations

July 23: Grocery-packing and thrift-store event

SOCIAL ACTION

Join us. Be present. Be involved. Serve others.

Helping Refugees

Over the last several months, Barnert has hosted several events to Welcome the Stranger. No matter individual policy, as Jews we support the humane treatment of women, men, and children. Going forward, we will partner with Barnert-supported charities and organizations in the continued effort to help the needy. If you are interested in joining this effort, please contact Rebecca Holland, rholland1129@gmail.com.

WHAT CAN I DO?

That's the question we at Barnert Social Action ask — and answer — every day. Working with clergy, leadership, and congregants, we look for ways for our community to serve the broader community. This year Barnert will continue to support refugees, make meals for the hungry, and donate our time, clothing, and other goods to our neighbors in Paterson. It's what we call "The Social Action Squad" — no matter how much time you have, you can make a difference. See below for a calendar of events.

We also will continue to support and strengthen our ongoing relationships with interfaith and intercultural friends in the area, and participate in joint events (like our wonderful potluck suppers!).

New to Social Action this year is our Advocacy and Action initiative, where we are looking to broadening our reach outside of our synagogue and community to effect change. This effort is being led by Sue Klein, who will be sending out more information and invitations throughout the coming year.



Packing groceries at CUMAC.



Veronica and her family, whom Barnert was honored to welcome with the organization Welcome Home, New Jersey.

(Continued on next page)

Social Action *(From previous page)*

OUR PARTNERS

We have deepened our relationships with these several organizations, and we strive to support them every month:

CUMAC

What They Do: This Paterson-based organization provides food, clothing and support for a community in need.

What You Can Do: Volunteer to sort and pack groceries for their Marketplace; organize items for the thrift shop. Contact temple member Jodi Fader at jodifader@gmail.com to discuss other ways you can make a difference.

ST PAUL'S MEN'S SHELTER

What They Do: This Paterson non-profit provides emergency shelter, clothing, and food to as many as 50 homeless men at a time, and helps their clients to find housing, employment, and health and rehabilitation services.

What You Can Do: For over 20 years, on the fourth Tuesday night of each month, Barnert members have cooked and served a hot meal to homeless men at the shelter. Contribute either a portion of the meal — for example, meatloaf, starch, salad, or dessert — transport or serve meals to residents. (This is a great family activity or Bar/Bat Mitzvah project. Temple member Judy Halle sends out an email each month looking for cooks and servers.

You just sign up when you can. Get on the monthly list by signing up with judith.sharon62@gmail.com.)

CENTER FOR FOOD ACTION (CFA)

What They Do:

CFA works to end homelessness and hunger in our neighborhoods. It provides 4,600 emergency food packets each month.

What You Can Do: Sign up with temple member Jodi Fader at jodifader@gmail.com to see what she has planned next.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

What They Do: Build energy-efficient, affordable homes for qualified low-income first-time home buyers in Paterson. (See recent photos from the August 28 build.)

What You Can Do: Sign up with temple member Rich Edelman at edelmanr@optonline.net for more information.

CARING COMMUNITY

Right here at home at Barnert, you can support Barnert community members during their time of loss, sickness or adversity by making a meal, driving, or other temporary assistance. Sign up for the Caring Community list to receive emails when help is needed. Contact chairs Patti Bieth at pattib18@verizon.net, Debby Birrer at dabirrer@aol.com, or Aviva Sanders at avivasanders@gmail.com.

UPCOMING SOCIAL ACTION SQUAD EVENTS

Sept. 8: First day of JJP. Stop by Social Action Information Table in lobby.

Sept. 8–October 15: High Holiday Food Drive. Fill a bag with non-perishable items.

Sept. 15: Social Action Information Brunch. Hear stories, tell stories, and bring your ideas. RSVP to Donna Meyer at meymail121@gmail.com.

Tues., Sept. 24, Tues., Oct. 22, Tues., Nov. 26: St. Paul's Shelter Meal. Volunteer opportunities run from cooking at your convenience to one-hour activities between 4 pm and 7 pm.

Nov. 1–22: Thanksgiving Food Drive. Pick up an extra item or two when you shop and drop them in the temple atrium bin.

Nov. 21, 22: Sign up CFA Pack Up for Thanksgiving. Contact temple member Jodi Fader at jodifader@gmail.com.

Oct. 16 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am: Volunteer to sort and pack groceries for CUMAC.

November/December: Holiday Gift Drive. Provide a wish-list gift for a child (watch for sign-ups).

December/January: Coat Drive. Drop off gently worn or new coats for children and adults (look for announcements and start collecting now).

2020: Save the Date

Feb. 2: Jewelry Swap (donations to benefit Center for

Hope and Safety).

Mar. 20: HIAS Shabbat; 6:30 pm service.

Mar. 22: Blood Drive/Organ Donor Sign-Up.

Ongoing: Collection bins in the temple atrium — for CUMAC and CFA: food, diapers, clothing; for Center for Hope and Safety: toiletries (always needed! Sample sizes best!).

(Center for Hope and Safety assists women and children who are victims of domestic violence by providing emergency and transitional housing, emotional support, and a full array of social services.)

To suggest an event or activity, go here:

<https://forms.gle/muoydzgjk9x8Ptbw5>.

Or just get in touch with Donna Meyer (meymail121@gmail.com) or Rebecca Holland (rholland1129@gmail.com).



Why I Volunteer

An interview with Mia Lowy, conducted by Rebecca Holland

The Social Action Committee caught up with our very own Mia Lowy the other day, after finding out that she's been spending her summer before college volunteering at CUMAC. We had lots of questions!

SAC: How did you hear about the opportunity to volunteer at CUMAC?

Mia: Well, I knew that Barnert did lots of work with CUMAC, but also, Rose Bates [CUMAC Director of Community Engagement] was a good friend of my mom's [Rikki Lowy], and she told me they needed volunteers for the summer. I showed up the first day, and they just threw me into it. I loved it!

SAC: What are you responsible for?

Mia: Well, everything! Most important is helping clients choose groceries. After registering with CUMAC, they get weekly and monthly cards that entitle them to fresh produce (as much as they want), dry food (including cereal, beans, canned goods), and meats. Sometimes I'm a "runner," which means I run to the warehouse to bring back foods to the marketplace to stock up. I also help out with office work.

SAC: What do you like about your volunteer work there?

Mia: Everyone is a family. At first, I was intimidated, but soon they were all calling me "Pippi Longstocking" and "Orphan Annie," and I became friendly with both the staff and the clients, many of whom are regulars, and I've enjoyed getting to know them and their families. One day, Trader Joe's had an extra birthday sheet cake, and we loved passing pieces around to everyone.

SAC: Tell us about the clients at CUMAC.

Mia: What's great about CUMAC is that we don't just give out food, we talk to people, we make them feel visible and wanted. When they are able to make choices, it gives them control over their lives. And they know that CUMAC is not just there to feed them — we are there to help them make their lives get better, through help with their resumes, job training, and finding housing.

Their program is called "Pathways to Work," which is just that, a way forward.

SAC: What is one thing we might not know about the clients at CUMAC?

Mia: Our clients are more independent than one might think. For instance, one of our clients is a professor and a single dad of four children. During the school year, he is

able to provide for his kids, but during the summer, he needs extra help, so he comes to CUMAC.

SAC: If you had one mantra, that you think about every day, what would it be?

Mia: A smile really goes a long way. One day, it was super hot, and the line outside was long, so I just jumped in and started handing out

cold water to everyone with a big smile. It made everyone else smile and it made the wait a lot easier.

SAC: So, what started you off on the path to social action?

Mia: Sara Losch and the spirit of *tikkun olam* and *gemilut chasadim* that I grew up with at Barnert. One day, after specializing in social action in college and gaining even more experience, I'd love to go back to CUMAC and do more to help. It's like my dad says: "If you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life."

SAC: What do you say to your fellow congregants at Barnert?

Mia: Anything you can do is enough. Even a few bags of groceries. We would love

more volunteers!

Check out the tapestry that Mia made for the CUMAC marketplace! She says, "If anyone has any questions, please get in touch!" mlowy@conncoll.edu
Good luck, Mia, at Connecticut College!



Barnert Temple Membership Relations Committee

by Dawn Frankl and Beth La Forgia

We are very excited to announce that we have become the co-chairs of the Barnert Temple Membership Relations Committee.

One of our most rewarding jobs is to reach out to prospective new members. If you know of anyone who is seeking a temple community, we would love to arrange a tour with Rabbi Steiner and Sara Losch or answer any questions they may have.

The other part of our job is that we would like to know how all of our current members are doing. We would love to hear from you to learn what you love about our community, what initiatives you might like to share with



us, and what areas you think we can improve on.

Just consider us the Barnert Temple email suggestion box.

Both Beth and I have been part of Barnert Temple for a total of over 30 years. Beth is a third-generation member of Barnert Temple and grew up here. Her children are eight and five years old. I am an empty-nester, with children ages 28 and 25.

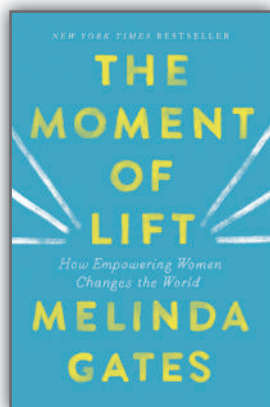
Looking forward to hearing from you!

Dawn Frankl, Dawnfrankl@aol.com

Beth La Forgia, elaforgia13@gmail.com

Book Club

Our small and informal literary club has been thriving for many years now but we are always seeking new ideas for our meetings as well as the fresh ideas of new members.



We've planned afternoon sessions as well as evening soirées. We limit our talks to about two hours. We all enjoy meeting in one another's homes, with light refreshments, and get right down to our task of sharing our ideas on each book. There is no leader, and every comment is welcomed. You do not need that PhD in English to share your ideas with us. You just need that love of reading. We welcome all those interested.

We try to include fiction as well as non-fiction, sprinkled with a classic or two. We always seem to have a good idea of the most timely and important books and topics. Sometimes our discussions lead us to current movies, and it's all stimulating.

Here are some of the past book titles we have enjoyed:

- Gary Shteyngart's *Lake Success*, about a successful but neurotic Jewish 30-something whose life comes crashing down on him;
- *Pachinko*, by Min Jin Lee, a saga of a Korean woman who marries and is living in Japan in the early part of the

20th century. The family struggles and misadventures, war, and suicide are overwhelming;

- *There, There*, by Tommy Orange, which introduced us to the struggles of Native Americans in San Francisco;
- *An Odyssey: A Father, a Son, and an Epic*, by Daniel Mendelsohn, about family relationships on Long Island and a healing tour with father and son.

Our latest book is *The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World*, by Melinda Gates. This is a handbook for anyone working as a professional or as a volunteer with impoverished people. Melinda is so capable!

Our fall and winter schedule will be ready in a few weeks, so if you'd like to join us one afternoon or evening, give me a call at 201-891-2509 (home), or e mail me at bherman@dt.com and I'll send you the schedule. A few books on our list are: *A Woman is No Man*, by Etaf Rum, which is about three generations of Palestinian women looking for a better life for themselves in Brooklyn; and *A Land of Permanent Goodbyes*, by Atia Abawi, which is about a Syrian family whose home was bombed out and they moved in with extended family. According to one of our members, "it will break your heart."

Make your next book amazing! Try out the Barnert Book Club. You will be warmly welcomed. So keep reading!

Benita Herman

Another successful Mid-Summer Fun Night at Barnert brought out Barnert members and prospective members of all ages for a night of food, fun and frivolity. Stay tuned for more opportunities to come together in the community.



March-July 2019 Donations

Barnert Community Support Fund

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(Continued on next page)

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Jennifer Share

Debra and Peter Till

Bernstein family

Ina Bruskin
Kurt Till
Carol Wild

In Honor Of

Emily's *Bat Mitzvah*
Love and gratitude to
Barnert Temple, and the
many friends who have
become family

Sophia's *Bat Mitzvah*
Mia's *Bat Mitzvah*
Jacob's *Bar Mitzvah*
Krystal's *Bat Mitzvah*
Eden's *Bat Mitzvah*
Morgan's *Bat Mitzvah*
Aly's *Bat Mitzvah*

In Honor of

Aly's *Bat Mitzvah*

In Honor of

Elizabeth Resnick
becoming president
Elizabeth Resnick's
new role as president of
Barnert Temple

In Memory of

Jack Birnberg
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Sarah Allinson
Ina Bruskin
Kurt Till

In Honor of

Emily's *Bat Mitzvah*

Susan Esserman-Schack and
Barton Schack
Barbara and Alan Esserman
Zlotowitz, Greenberg,
Feinberg, and
Smolinsky families

Lynn and Arthur Kaplan
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Sophia's *Bat Mitzvah*

Shirley Zlotowitz's
90th birthday
Mia's *Bat Mitzvah*
Their *Aufruf*
Jacob's *Bar Mitzvah*
Krystal's *Bat Mitzvah*
Eden's *Bat Mitzvah*
Shirley Zlotowitz's
90th birthday
Morgan's *Bat Mitzvah*
Aly's *Bat Mitzvah*

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In Honor of

Daniel's Bar Mitzvah
Lexi's baby-naming
Daniel Cohen's Bar Mitzvah
Jacob's Bar Mitzvah
Marty Kron

Layla's baby-naming
2019 Confirmation Class
Rabbi Steiner
Shirley Zlotowitz

In Memory of

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Sadie Kates
Richard Kiel
David Epstein
Sylvia Lauber
Irwin Lauber
Karen Kiel Goodenough
Devra Frelander
Joseph Walukiewicz

In Honor of

Shirley Zlotowitz's
90th birthday

In Memory of

Robert Puritz
Devra Frelander
Murray Elman

Benjamin Holland
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Leon Kessler
Berdie Stave
Harry Mandel
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Judith Zeiger
Samuel Nashel
Sophie Puritz
Alexander Puritz
Bessie Dorfman

In Honor of

Sam Halpert Rodis'
High School Graduation
Happy Father's Day,
Craig Solomon
(Continued on next page)

March-July 2019 Donations (From previous page)

Tree of Life

Helaine Ledany

Lisa Smith, Jerry and Anya Gips,
and Steven Greenberg

In Honor of

Daniel Negev Cohen's
Bar Mitzvah

Skylar Moon Greenberg's
Confirmation

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Barnert Magazine Announces New Feature

The Barnert Magazine would like to know what you think. If you want to start a conversation, seek clarification about past articles, wish to comment about temple events, have an idea that you want to share with the congregation, or would like specific themes or subjects profiled on these pages, then our new space, **Letters to the Editors**, is the place for you.

Beginning next issue, any member who wishes to submit material to the magazine is not only welcomed but encouraged to do so. If accepted, your submission will be read by the entire temple congregation and addressed by our leadership. Consider **Letters to the Editors** a new way to communicate with Barnert members and leaders!

Submissions for the November/December issue of the magazine are due by October 10. Please email your articles or pieces to jorge26.2@optonline.net. If you are submitting a text-only document, please make sure it has been created in Word, Text Edit, or any other word-processing application except Publisher. If you wish to keep a specific format or style (bullets, indents, italics, etc.), please send the article along with a PDF, so that we can best match the style you want to keep.

Looking for a Mitzvah Project?

Why not adopt the temple library for a year?

It's the perfect project! It provides a needed service to your community, develops organizational skills, will allow for some creative independence and is totally flexible.

So, what do we need in the library — you ask?

Straightening, organizing, and checking in books. You could also help curate books to help build/strengthen specific sections such as YA or adult fiction.

Contact Diane Kaplan (diane.l.kaplan@gmail.com or 973-962-0486) to volunteer or with any questions.



Barnert Temple September 2019

August 6, 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day Office Closed	3	4	5	6 9 am Preschool Orientation	7 9:30 am <i>Rosh Chodesh</i> (off-site)
8 JJP 1 st Sunday Class - LEV class 11:30 am Meeting for B/M in September – December 2020	9 First Day Preschool	10 7:30 pm BeTA Tai Chi	11	12	7 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Service and Potluck Supper	13
15 <i>Fiddler On The Roof</i> (NYC) 9:30 am Learning with Rabbi Steiner: Preparing Ourselves For the High Holidays" (Open House) 11 am Social Action	16	7:30 pm BeTA Tai Chi 7:30 pm Board of Trustees	17 First Tuesday JJP 7 th - 10 th Grade HUC Orientation	18 First Wednesday JJP	7:30 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Service	19 Septemberfest 10:30 am Hannah Nussbaum <i>Bat Mitzvah</i>
22 9 am Men's Club 11 am <i>Challah</i> Bake	23 7 th - 10 th Graders to HUC Soup Kitchen	24 No 7 th - 10 th Grade Men's Shelter 7:30 pm BeTA Tai Chi 7:30 pm Leadership Council	25	7 pm Preschool Back To School Night	26	27 10 am Benjamin Good <i>Bar Mitzvah</i> SELICHOT
29 No JJP	30 Rosh Hashanah No Preschool Office Closed 9 am Young Family Service 10:15 am Torah Tots and Kavanah Kids 10:30 am Morning Service and Junior Congregation 12:30 pm Community Kiddush/Picnic Following Services 2:30 pm <i>Tashlich</i> (Indian Trail Club, Franklin Lakes)				7:30 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Service with Musical Trio	28 10:30 am Gabrielle Becker <i>Bat Mitzvah</i>
7:45p Evening Service Erev Rosh Hashanah						

Calendar events are subject to change. Please be sure to check our on-line calendar or call us

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> Office Closed No JJP No Preschool 10 am Morning Service and <i>Torah</i> Study, Informal	2 No JJP	3	4	5
6 9 am Men's Club 9 am Sisterhood	7	8 No JJP 12:30 pm Preschool Closes 1 pm Office Closes	9 <i>Yom Kippur</i> No Preschool No JJP Office Closed 9 am Young Family Service 10:15 am <i>Torah</i> Tots and <i>Kavanah</i> Kids 10:30 am Morning Service and Junior Congregation 1:45 pm Adult Study Session 3 pm Afternoon Service of Renewal 4:15 pm <i>Yizkor</i> 5:30 pm <i>Neilah</i> , Closing Service, Break Fast	10	11 7 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Service and Potluck Supper	12
13 Men's Club Put Up Sukkah 5:30 pm <i>Sukkot</i> BBQ	14 <i>SUKKOT</i> Columbus Day No Preschool Office Closed	15 <i>SUKKOT</i> 7:45 pm Kol Nidre Service <i>EREV YOM KIPPUR</i>	16 <i>SUKKOT</i>	17 <i>SUKKOT</i>	18 <i>SUKKOT</i> 4:30 pm JJP <i>Shabbat</i> Intensive 6:15 pm <i>Shabbat</i> Service and Open House	19 <i>SUKKOT</i> Pumpkins & Poppas 9:30 am <i>Torah</i> Study
20 <i>EREV SUKKOT</i>	7 pm First Post-Confirmation	7:30 pm BeTA Tai Chi 7:30 pm Leadership Council	23	24	25	26 9:30 am <i>Rosh Chodesh</i> (off-site) 10 am <i>Madison Wishnew</i> <i>Bat Mitzvah</i>
20 6 pm <i>Yizkor</i> 6:30 pm <i>Simchat Torah</i> Celebration and Consecration of new Jewish Journey Project students	21 <i>Simchat Torah and</i> <i>Sh'mini Atzeret</i> No Preschool Office Closed	20 Men's Shelter 7:30 pm BeTA Tai Chi	23	24	25	26
27 9 am Board of Trustees/Leadership Council Retreat	28	29 7:30 pm BeTA Tai Chi	30	31		

Calendar events are subject to change. Please be sure to check our on-line calendar or call us

Congregation B'nai Jeshurun

Nathan Barnert Memorial Temple
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Sara Losch, Director of Lifelong Learning (201) 848-1027
saralosch@barnerttemple.org

Preschool and Religious School Office (201) 848-1027
schooloffice@barnerttemple.org

Mt. Nebo Cemetery (973) 373-0144
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BARNERT^{The Magazine}

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DESIGN/PRODUCTION Jorge Losch

RABBI Rachel Steiner

DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING Sara Losch

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