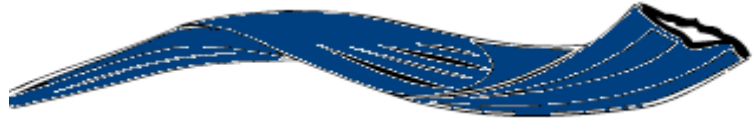


SHOFAR



Monthly Newsletter of the Monterey Peninsula Jewish Community

www.carmelbethisrael.org



Havdalah on the Beach August 13

Do you enjoy singing folk songs with Cantor Alisa Fineman? Is anything better than sitting around a campfire, enjoying s'mores as you watch the sun setting into the ocean? If this sounds like a great way to end your Sabbath then join us on **Saturday evening August 13**. Look for Rabbi Greenbaum on the beach below 13th who will bring a propane fire pit and fixings for s'mores. Prepare yourself for a relaxing Havdalah on Carmel Beach. We begin at **7:00 p.m.** but you can come early and enjoy a picnic dinner before our Havdalah service. Bring warm clothes, beach toys, a blanket or beach chairs, and musical instruments. This is a great event for the entire family and even the family dog!



Have You Registered for Our Innovative Hesed Academy?

Rabbi Greenbaum and Cantor Alisa look forward to welcoming you and your family to Hesed Academy beginning on September 11. The calendar, curriculum information, registration forms, and scholarship applications are all available on our website, CarmelBethIsrael.Org or [here](#). Remember, there is an early-bird discount for those who register before August 11.

See you in September!




Jewish Food Festival 2022 a drive-thru event Sunday, August 28

We are less than a month away from this year's drive-thru Jewish Food Festival, and preparations are well underway. I wonder if the founders knew what they were starting back in 1988. From what I hear, the first Jewish Food Fair was 3 tables in the upper parking lot. Who would have thought that more than 30 years later we would be back to our roots in the upper parking lot, with our first drive thru event?

Some updates for Jewish Food Festival 2022:

- Pre-order online at [JFF Order](#) or find the JFF Button on our website, CarmelBethIsrael.org. The pre-order deadline is **August 22**. Products are limited and this will guarantee that you get all the delicious foods that you want.

Continued on page 6



CBI Annual Meeting
To be held in person and on Zoom
Sunday, August 21, at 5:00 PM

Join us at **5:00 PM on Sunday evening, August 21** as our congregation joins together in person and on Zoom for our annual meeting. Please see complete information beginning on page 12 and join us on August 21.



From the Rabbi's Desk...

"God has given. God has taken away. Blessed be the name of God." This quote from Job 1:21 reminds me that I am not always in control. While I like to think that I

am handling everything, every now and then, things just happen. Despite lots of preparation and planning, events occur far beyond our control.

We have all heard those recent stories or even experienced ourselves the challenges with traveling, especially flying. We are packed, have our tickets, and passports or whatever travel documents are needed, and then find ourselves stranded because of a cancelled flight. The excuses offered include weather related problems, lack of pilot and staff availability, and my personal favorite, equipment issues. All of a sudden the carefully planned dream vacation becomes a nightmare.

A long time ago I learned as a boy scout to always be prepared. But how do you prepare for a health crisis? Who plans for a car accident? Who plans in advance for a canceled flight? It is impossible to be prepared for every possible challenge that might come along. For me, this is a lesson in humility. I am not in charge and in control of everything. That yarmulke on my head serves to remind me that God is above. While I might like to think that I am running the show, that is arrogant and foolish. I am simply a miniscule part of God's wondrous creation. In the span of time, my presence is a blink of the eye. As children we might think the world revolves around us; as adults we hopefully know better.

Our tradition teaches us to accept God's creation as it unfolds before us. That means we need to learn to take the bumps in the road as part of our existence. Fighting those challenges, resisting life's realities will only cause us inner turmoil. Just a couple days ago I was caught in the small traffic jam heading south on Highway 1 near Carmel High School. Because of the weekend traffic, the ride was going to take an extra few minutes. Sitting in my car with the fan lightly

blowing fresh air and enjoying the song on the radio, everything was great. But the driver in the car next to me apparently missed the memo about traffic. For some reason he decided that by getting right up on the bumper of the car in front of him and honking his horn, somehow, miraculously, all the cars would suddenly start moving. Maybe he had an important meeting waiting for him or someone at home who needed his assistance, but trying to change the reality of a short traffic tie up seemed silly. No amount of honking or tailgating was going to get him to his next location any faster. He had forgotten that simple lesson about not stressing over things we cannot change.

At those moments, when I feel I'm losing control, I push myself to focus on God. I ask myself, what would God have me do right now? How can I serve God at this moment? What blessings are all around me, that I might be missing because of my frustration? How often do we get upset over what I like to call 'first world' issues? Is waiting a few extra hours or even another day, so that we can fly across the country or halfway around the world really a big deal? How many people will never travel outside of their village, or get on an airplane their entire lives?

For the person honking in the car next to me, please count your blessings. You have a car. You are dressed nicely. My guess is that you have a job and plenty to eat. You have hot and cold water coming out of your faucets. It is a beautiful day on the Monterey Peninsula. Please remember all that God has given you. God gives far more than God takes away. Blessed be the name of God.

Amen.





From our President *Dan Nussbaum, President Board of Trustees*

Welcome back to Alisa from her exemplary training at Pardes Institute in Israel. As she has said, she is feeling beyond inspired and incredibly grateful for this learning opportunity. Be sure to greet her upon her return, and then start a conversation about her experiences.

An important part of her study is “Makhloket (Disagreement) Matters”, with an emphasis on the observation that debate is a good thing when it is done in the search of truth, and with the goal to “use Jewish...wisdom to...engage more constructively with opinions that differ from our own.....”. (There is more, but that is another reason why it is important to engage with Alisa to get the fuller picture)

As an application of Alisa’s program, we might ask the following reasonable question: Is Torah relevant; can it provide insights to modern circumstances? For example, does the Torah shed light on the question “Should we care about the public behavior of public officials?; does their public behavior make any difference to the life of the larger community?”

The Torah sections of Balak and Pinchas address this issue, with an astounding story. Here’s the background:

A plague had broken out among the people of Israel, because we had sinned with the daughters of Midian (2 guesses as to the meaning of this euphemism), in addition to which we had taken to worshipping the idol Peor (that’s clear enough). Compounding these trespasses, and publicly flouting the sin, one of our princes (which really means a senior leader of one of the twelve tribes), named Zimri, takes Cozbi, his Midianite paramour, into his tent, right in front of Moses and the people. Zimri is flaunting his illicit relationship for the leaders and public to see, so we might think “if this situation isn’t arrested, then the risk is that the bad behavior will spread, will be seen as normal”. You can then imagine the general Israelite population following suit, using the Zimri Defense, with the reasoning “well Zimri did it; why can’t we?”

Does any of this resonate to our modern ears? What should the society do if anything?

To my amazement, the text has Pinchas, acting as judge, jury, and executioner, killing Zimri and Cozbi. Yes, the plague ends, but a natural question arises “is that how the Torah wants us to right wrongs?”. Do we want to just rely on some zealot, who “knows” the right answer, and who just “does the right thing”?

We might expect that the Torah will follow up Pinchas’ deeds by upbraiding him for his having taken the law into his own hands. Pinchas’ deed evokes many associations -- courage (he killed a prince, a generally risky proposition), decisiveness and religious passion are several that come to mind -- but peace and due process are absent.

Astoundingly, the Torah (actually, G-d) praises Pinchas for his deed, for his “zealotry for G-d”, and Pinchas is rewarded by a promise that the Priesthood will remain within his family!

So, what’s to prevent everyone today from taking the law into their his or her own hands, and then pleading the Pinchas Defense (G-d came to me; and He will reward me like He did Pinchas.)? That sounds like a recipe for chaos in any society.

So what is the lesson the Torah is imparting in this case? Well, that’s a subject for another day and for observing Cantor Alisa’s words about how to listen and argue “for the sake of heaven”. There are answers to this seeming conundrum, but what is surely true is that the situation the Torah describes here resonates to our modern ears. In other words, the Torah addresses relevant tissues.

Our Annual Congregation Meeting is scheduled for August 21st, at 5PM. We hold this meeting only once per year, and it is important for as many of us as possible attend, so that we can take care of issues like elections for the coming year. We will do this in a hybrid mode, so you will have to sign up in advance. Questions should be addressed to the CBI office, 831.624.2015. However, you choose to attend, please do attend.

May all our efforts to improve security and return to normal interpersonal activities bring us peace

Dan
Nussbaum
(C) (831) 324-3228



Cantor Alisa at Jaffe Gate

From Cantor Alisa

Dear CBI Family,

I have only one more week in Jerusalem, and there is still so much more to explore. I walk home from class each evening and it feels like an outdoor music festival here. All kinds of people and so much diversity—Jews, Muslims, Jewish and Christian Orthodox and more—and everyone is out walking to take in the cooler air and enjoy the many parks and walkways, juice stands, cafes and live music. Strange that in a country where wars break out periodically, it is safe to walk the streets at night. Though there is the occasional terrorist attack, there are no drive by shootings. And though tensions are real and the country faces what feels like insurmountable conflict, the people know how to live a simple but quality every-day life. It is amazing to be Jewish in a Jewish country, but diversity is part of the magic and enchantment of this place too.

I am engaged in inspiring and meaningful studies at Pardes Institute. There is so much I am taking in. My program focuses specifically on a curriculum called “Makhloket Matters.” Our Sages are in conversation in the Mishnah and Talmud about when debate is a good thing. They refer to this topic as “makhloket l’sheim hashamayim”—arguing for the sake of heaven, debating in the name of the highest good. They explore how and what it means to be in relationship with those we disagree. Their wisdom teaches us that we too can find the courage and strive to productively engage with whom we disagree.

Most of us agree that civil discourse has become less civil. Arguing is essential to great ideas and productive leadership. We all live in this world together, but we don’t know how to disagree constructively over critical questions, and this poses a serious threat to society. The goal of “Makhloket Matters” is to use Jewish texts and wisdom to expand our ability to listen better and increase our motivation to understand and engage more constructively with opinions that differ than our own, including when to meet our adversaries and when to refuse.

I hope to bring a layer of this curriculum to our Aleynu program so our teens can taste and appreciate this grassroots group of early Rabbis whose thoughtful conversations are timeless and whose wisdom can help guide us today. Through their timeless discussions, I hope to explore how we might improve and model personal relationships and civil discourse. We are being shown how these texts can also help our teens navigate emotional and social challenges, and build skills necessary to help manage inner and external conflict.

I am feeling beyond inspired and incredibly grateful to our Rabbi and CBI Board for this amazing opportunity.

Looking forward to all that awaits at home, Shabbat Shalom from Y’rushalayim, Cantor Alisa



CBI Interest-Free Loan

Because of the generosity of an anonymous donor, CBI continues to offer interest-free loans up to \$500 for CBI members. So far, only a handful of people have borrowed these funds. Please contact our Administrative Assistant Abby King or Rabbi Greenbaum at 831-624-2015 and ask for the simple one-page loan application. Loans will be made for both personal and professional needs. All requests will be kept confidential. Our congregation is here to support those in need during these challenging financial times.



CBI Fun at the Theater

Save **August 6 at 2:00 PM** when we will enjoy a modern version of Macbeth at the performing arts center at Carmel High School. CBI member Justine Stock is the managing director of this show and is giving us a discount. All CBI members are directed to purchase the senior discount ticket regardless of your age. To order tickets go to their website at: [MACBETH TICKETS](#) Please let the CBI office know that you are joining us for this modern interpretation of this Shakespearian classic. This show is not appropriate for those under 12.



Lunch with the Rabbi

Join Rabbi Greenbaum this month on **Wednesday, August 10 at noon** at Baja Cantina located about a mile east of CBI when he leads the lunch with the rabbi discussion. This month he will lead a discussion on

“How Idolatry Threatens All of Us.” What are some examples of modern idols that separate us from a path of spirituality? Do we worship God or power? Is our focus on success blinding us to our Jewish traditions? Is gun ownership a form of idolatry? Come prepared to question and offer your thoughts. Call the CBI office at 624-2015 to RSVP. We will order off their regular menu so expect lunch to cost approximately \$15-\$20.

**Please Note Our
New CBI Office Hours**
Tuesday – Friday
9 AM – 5 PM
and by appointment

BEST YEARS

Best Years Pre-JFF Volunteer Day

Most Best Years gatherings find us enjoying a meal together or going to a special site or learning with an interesting guest speaker. This month we are asking Best Years members to volunteer to do some work supporting our annual Jewish Food Festival. Join us on Saturday afternoon, **August 27 at 1:00** to package cookies and chopped liver and matzoh balls! All Best Years volunteers will be rewarded with a variety of delicious snack foods and desserts and maybe even a bagel sandwich! Join the throngs of people who make our Jewish Food Festival a huge success. To RSVP to join our JFF Saturday afternoon volunteer group, call the CBI office at 624-2015. Also, let us know if you need a ride to and from the synagogue.

CBI Book Club



Dear Jewish Book Clubbers,

IMPORTANT: You must be fully vaccinated and boosted against Covid-19 in order to attend Book Club.

Here are our next two dates and book selections:

August 9, 1:30 PM, home of Suellen Rubin. Book: **THE MAGICIAN** by Colm Toibín

September 13, 1:30 PM, home to be determined.
Book: **THE EMPATHY DIARIES** by Sherry Turkle

Our warmest thank-you to Suellen for her continuing hospitality in hosting Book Club. Please RSVP to Suellen (suellenrubin@hotmail.com / 915-4107). Call for directions or if you need to cancel.

Be well, Karen

**Please update your contacts with Rabbi's
new email address.**

RabbiG@CarmelBethIsrael.org



Please Join Us on Shabbat Evening, August 12th as We Approach Our High Holy Day Season

We stand at the threshold of another high holy day season. How might we enter this time?

This month there are three days, road signs along a path. Tisha B'Av (August 7), a day of destruction: fire, ash, and loss. A day when the lives we imagined are suspended in mid-air, when we live deep within our own human lapses. And Tu b'Av, (August 12), a day filled with the possibility of overflowing love. And Shabbat Nachamu (August 13), a day when we hold on to the promise of consolation, a day when we can once again hear the sweet song of our lives. All three days occur within a one-week period.

And even though we know that each of these days is unique, a separate calendar entry, a separate beginning and ending, each with its own story, might we consider the three as stages within an ongoing revelation, a progressive unfolding? One becomes part of the next. In this way, we know that love emerges from within loss.

Or might we see these three as always within us at the same time, a constant unfolding. What if there are no beginnings or endings? Can we see that we are always broken, fire and ash, and we are always deeply loved, held, and consoled? All of this, always. It is always Tisha b'Av, always Tu b'Av, and always Shabbat Nachamu. And so, what is our work, where is our place in these threshold moments? To live deeply, consecrate the ash and loss of our lives, and in the same moment lift up and let ascend the possibility of love and consolation.

Let's begin this exploration together on Friday evening August 12th at our Shabbat service. Cantor Alisa and I have the honor of co-guiding this service with you at the center, opening a space to give voice to our own journeys. Please join us.

Rabbi Jeff Schulman



Jewish Food Festival

Continued from page 1

- Plan to pick up your orders at CBI on Sunday, **August 28, between 10 AM and 3 PM.**
- You will drive from booth to booth while your order is filled by friendly volunteers. You never have to leave your car.
- Once your order is complete, you can head home with The Best Jewish Food the Monterey Peninsula has to offer. Enjoy!

The Jewish Food Festival is a major fund-raiser that is crucial to maintaining the financial health of the synagogue and its ability to provide support and services throughout the year. Be a part of this great event. [Volunteer](#), [become a sponsor](#), and [place your order](#) for this delicious food

Whether you are a volunteer, baker, sponsor, or customer, thank you to everyone who participates to make this event such an amazing day!

*Malina Breaux
JFF Chair*

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Congregation Beth Israel

5716 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA

831-624-2015

HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Rabbi Bruce D. Greenbaum and Cantor Alisa Fineman

SELICHOT

(Preparing yourself for the Holy Days)

Saturday, September 17th

7:00 p.m. 2 Study Sessions

9:00 p.m. Service

ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday, September 25th

7:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 26th

10:00 a.m. Morning Service

12:30 a.m. Family/Children's Service
(outdoors only)

4:00 p.m. Tashlich on Carmel Beach
below 13th

Tuesday, September 27th

10:30 a.m. Second Day Service

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, October 2

4:00 p.m. Memorial Service at
Mission Memorial Park,
1915 Ord Grove Avenue, Seaside

YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, October 4th

7:00 p.m. Kol Nidre Service

Wednesday, October 5th

10:00 a.m. Morning Service

12:30 p.m. Family/Children's Service
(outdoors only)

1:30 p.m. Holy Day Discussions

Led by Beryl Levinger and David Sabih

3:00 p.m. Afternoon Service

*4:45 p.m. Yizkor Service

*5:30 p.m. Closing Neilah Service

*6:30 p.m. Break-the-Fast

CBI will provide challah and a variety
of beverages

***Times are approximate on Yom
Kippur afternoon**

SUKKAH BUILDING

Sunday, October 9th

Sukkah Building
During Religious School Morning

SIMCHAT TORAH SERVICE

Sunday, October 16th

11:00-12:30

No Tickets Required

Masks are recommended for all, and required if you are not fully
vaccinated; or you can join us online.



Meet Marv Silverman

Hello...My name is Marv Silverman. Rabbi Bruce has asked me to write a few words regarding my background and my connection to Congregation Beth Israel.

I was born many years ago in Cleveland Ohio, graduated from the School of Hotel Administration at Cornell University and spent several years in the hotel business in Miami Beach. I then moved to Los Angeles, served 10 years as National Sales Manager of an importing company and then, at age 37 entered Loyola Law School in LA.

After graduating and passing the Bar Exam, I spent 11 years as Executive VP and In-House Counsel for a large (17 offices, 900 sales agents) real estate brokerage firm headquartered in Beverly Hills. During that period I became a director of the California Association of Realtors and President of the Beverly Hills Board of Realtors.

My next and last working experience consisted of 18 years as an expert witness in real-estate litigation, during which time I testified in scores of trials and depositions throughout the state of California. There's nothing so rewarding as working for yourself!

I moved to Carmel 26 years ago, built my house there and have been a most happy resident of that lovely village ever since.

And, during those 26 years I have been a most happy member of Congregation Beth Israel. I arrived here in

March of 1996, and my first CBI experience was just a few weeks later at that year's CBI Passover Seder, then held at Rancho Canada. I knew absolutely no one in the area, but was lucky to be seated at a table with some CBI members who were very friendly and welcoming. I knew I had found my spiritual home.

I have been told that there are about 2500 Jewish residents of the Monterey Peninsula....and CBI provides the main opportunity for our Jewish brethren to worship and educate our families about Jewish customs and history. Especially since there seems to be a resurgence of anti-Semitism in our country, I think it is vital that CBI be supported by all of us so that we and our children and extended families can carry on traditions that have strengthened and solidified Jews for thousands of years.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming Food Festival!

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Jewish Food Festival 2022

The Jewish Food Festival has been the signature event for Congregation Beth Israel. No other event or set of events has done more to open the temple to the citizens of Monterey County – Jews and non-Jews alike.

The Jewish Food Festival is also a major fund-raiser that is crucial to maintaining the financial health of the synagogue and its ability to provide support and services throughout the year.

Who would have thought that 2022 would still bring a level of uncertainty to the Food Festival? With the months of planning that are involved in creating the event, the Food Festival Planning Committee has made the hard decision to have a “drive thru” Festival again this year. We hope that as in the past, you will continue to support this amazing event, even in its new form.

Sponsor Benefits	Gourmet \$5000 +	Connoisseur \$2500 +	Foodie \$1000 +	Epicure \$500 +	Chef \$300 +	Sous Chef \$150 +
Booth Sponsorship	*	*				
Logo with Link on JFF Web Page	*	*				
Personalized Sponsor Sign at JFF	*	*	*			
Recognition on Festival Facebook	*	*	*			
Recognition on JFF Web Page	*	*	*	*		
Recognition on Festival Brochure	*	*	*	*	*	*

Email foodfestival.cbi@gmail.com or Call Malina 831.601.5791 or Abra 831.601.5773 with questions.

I wish to become a sponsor of the 2022 Jewish Food Festival at the level indicated below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Gourmet	<input type="checkbox"/> Epicure
<input type="checkbox"/> Connoisseur	<input type="checkbox"/> Chef
<input type="checkbox"/> Foodie	<input type="checkbox"/> Sous Chef

Business/organization for website link: _____

Print Name (Individual or Company)

Signature

Please make your check payable to: Congregation Beth Israel and return with this completed form to Congregation Beth Israel, 5716 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923. Or **call the temple office (831-624-2015)** if you wish to pay by credit card.

NOTE: Congregation Beth Israel is a 501.c.3. Your sponsorship may be deductible for tax purposes. Check with your accountant.

Jewish Food Festival
Congregation Beth Israel
5716 Carmel Valley Road,
Carmel, CA 93923
831.624.2015



Never been part of our Food Festival? Please consider volunteering for our 2022 event.

- You'll contribute to community good will, and you will get to be with some of our wonderful CBI members, along with a super crew of helpers from the Defense Language Institute.
- Enthusiasm is building. The event will be Sunday, August 28, 2022 – and you can help keep up the excitement and good spirit. Some of the preparations happen on the preceding days.
- Volunteer positions still need to be filled for a number of tasks.
- There are a few slots that can be done as half-day activities on Sunday, August 28. These would be 9 am to (about) noon *or* (about) noon to 3 pm. Please ask if these would work for you.

Task	When	Description
Kitchen	Thursday, August 25, 10 am to 4 pm	Various food preps.
Kitchen	Friday, August 26, 10 am to 4 pm	Various food preps.
Booth setup	Friday, August 26, 9 am to 3 pm	This task involves heavy lifting.
Friday Packaging	Friday, August 26, 9 am to 3 pm	Package cookies, chopped liver, matzo ball, cheesecake, blintzes, knishes. This is a sitting job.
Saturday Packaging	Saturday, August 27, 1 pm to 4 pm	Package cookies, chopped liver, matzo ball, cheesecake, blintzes, knishes. This is a sitting job.
Pre-Orders	Saturday, August 27, 3 pm to 5 pm	Fill orders for CBI members to pick up Saturday from 4 pm to 5 pm
Traffic management	Sunday, August 28, 9 am to 3 pm	Direct visitors' cars. Adults only, please.
Greeters / order takers	Sunday, August 28, 9 am to 3 pm	Meet people at top of driveway, pass out menus and information sheets.
Kitchen / Deli	Sunday, August 28, 9 am to 3 pm	Varied cooking tasks.
Deli booth	Sunday, August 28, 9 am to 3 pm	Bring deli sandwiches to visitors' cars.
Dairy booth (including drinks)	Sunday, August 28, 9 am to 3 pm	Bring dairy items to visitors' cars.
Latkes prep on rear parking field	Sunday, August 28, 9 am to 3 pm	Prepare latkes on rear parking field. This is serious cooking.
Latkes booth on front parking lot	Sunday, August 28, 9 am to 3 pm	Bring latkes to visitors' cars.
Booth teardown, cleanup social hall, kitchen	Sunday, August 28, 3 pm to 6 pm	Clean social hall and kitchen.

- We will also need the services of one or two clerically-organized persons to check in volunteers and direct them to their tasks.
- Just drop a quick note to FoodFestival.CBI@gmail.com or to GarySimonMonterey@gmail.com.

Good luck to you, to the whole CBI community, and to our many food-loving visitors!



2022 *Drive-Thru* Jewish Food Festival Order Form

Order deadline - August 22th, 2022

- Pre-order early to assure you can get all the Jewish Food you need. There is a limited supply, and we expect to sell out.
- On August 28, 2022, between 10AM and 3PM, come to Congregation Beth Israel at 5716 Carmel Valley Rd, Carmel to pick up your order.
- You will drive from booth to booth while your order is filled by friendly volunteers. You never have to leave your car.
- Once your order is complete, you can head home with The Best Jewish Food the Monterey Peninsula has to offer. Enjoy!

Bakery Booth	qty	price	total
Rugalach (Baker's Dozen)		\$ 16.50	
Cookie Sampler (Baker's Dozen)		\$ 15.95	
Rye Bread (sliced 1.5 lb loaf)		\$ 9.25	
Challah Traditional		\$ 8.75	
Latke Booth	qty	price	total
Latke (3)		\$ 7.50	
Deli Booth	qty	price	total
Pastrami Sandwich		\$ 15.95	
Corned Beef Sandwich		\$ 15.95	
Chopped Liver (3 oz)		\$ 5.95	
<i>Pre-order only:</i>			
Pastrami by the pound		\$ 21.50	
Corned Beef by the pound		\$ 21.50	

Dairy Booth	qty	price	total
Kugel (12 oz)		\$ 7.45	
Knish (1)		\$ 6.45	
Cheesecake (slice)		\$ 3.95	
Matzah Balls (3)		\$ 3.95	
Dr. Brown's			
Black Cherry		\$ 1.75	
Black Cherry - Diet		\$ 1.75	
Cel-Ray		\$ 1.75	
Cream Soda		\$ 1.75	
Cream Soda - Diet		\$ 1.75	
Shopping Bag: Free with \$75 purchase		\$ 3.00	
Cookbook: Free with \$100 purchase		\$ 10.00	
TOTAL		\$	

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

EMAIL _____ I've enclosed a check for \$ _____

Please place your order online at our website, carmelbethisrael.org or mail this form with your check to Congregation Beth Israel, 5716 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel CA 93923



CBI Annual Meeting

To be held in person and on Zoom
Sunday, August 21, at 5:00 PM

It's that time of year again. Each year we must elect a new Board of Trustees, present the budget to the Congregation, and handle various other miscellaneous affairs that are necessary to the continued smooth operation of our beloved CBI. This year's meeting will take place on **Sunday, the 21st of August at 5:00 pm.**

This year, we will meet both in person and on Zoom for our annual congregation meeting. Agenda items include a review of our annual budget and election of our new Board of Trustees. We will hear the "State of the Synagogue" reports by the Rabbi and leaders of our Congregation, and honor some of our dedicated volunteers. We hope you will join us.

The meeting is open to all members in good standing (those who have submitted a 2022-23 pledge) and we ask that you register in advance. To attend in person please contact the CBI office at shalomcbi@aol.com or 831-624-2015.

To attend on Zoom please register via this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqd-2trjktEtDS8kKeu8oeO8IXTQUfHniA>

After registering on Zoom, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. On August 9, all attendees will receive the Annual Meeting materials via email.

Your in-person presence will be rewarded with delicious beverages and tasty desserts after the meeting. Again, please RSVP in advance by calling the office at 624-2015 or click the link to register to participate on Zoom.

As a reminder, we need representatives of at least 10% of our total membership to have a quorum and conduct our business. **Remember, to be eligible to vote we must receive your 2022-23 pledge no later than August 18.**

Copies of the 2022/2023 budget, that will be formally presented at the meeting, are available for review upon request to CBI staff. The slate of Board of Trustees candidates is included on the next page.

The agenda for the meeting will be as follows:

Congregational Annual Meeting - Agenda

Sunday 21 August 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Welcome | Dan Nussbaum |
| 2. Invocation | Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum |
| 3. Additions to the Agenda | Dan Nussbaum |
| 4. Review of 2021 Annual Meeting minutes | Marshal Blatt |
| 5. Financial Presentation | Malina Breaux |
| 6. Election of Board of Trustees | Dan Nussbaum |
| 7. Honoring our CBI Volunteers of the Year | Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum |
| 8. State of Congregation Beth Israel Report | Dan Nussbaum |
| 9. Rabbi's Report | Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum |
| 10. Old and/or New Business | Dan Nussbaum |
| 11. Vision for CBI | Outgoing and Newly Elected Presidents |
| 12. Adjourn | |

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2022-23

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Malina Breaux |
| Immediate Past President | Dan Nussbaum |
| Vice President | Beryl Levinger |
| Secretary | Marshal Blatt |
| Treasurer | Jill Firestone |
| Adult Education | Bobbie Ehrenpreis |
| Fundraising | Steve Goldberg |
| Membership | Megan Felthoven |
| Social Action/Civic Engagement | Arlene Krebs |
| Youth Activities | Sam Helfont |
| At Large | Lois Epel |
| | Ilana Entin |
| | Bob Fenton |
| | Jillian Heisman |

Thank you again for your continued support of CBI . We look forward to seeing you on the 21st!



You Can Help I-HELP

The Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program is celebrating its 30th year of consistently providing — and never missing a night!— shelter and meals in its two programs—one for men and another for women.

Over two dozen houses of worship, located on the Peninsula and Carmel Valley, provide a safe place for these unsheltered men and women to spend the night. The congregations and or various people and organizations, such as Rotary Clubs and Social Groups, prepare a hot dinner and to-go packaged breakfast and lunches. Since Gathering Place for Women was established a few years ago, the women go there for their breakfast and lunch meals.

An outfitted MST Van transports the men and women each evening. They arrive with mats, sleeping bags and their personal items. Sometimes the men number between 20-25; most often the women number about 10. I-HELP reports that it usually takes 3-5 years to help an unsheltered person find more permanent housing and “to get back on their feet” so to speak.

I-HELP’s success is measured in the hundreds of individuals it has assisted over the years and the consistent support offered by congregations such as CBI. Rabbi Bruce, by the way, was among the original leaders to help form this worthy nonprofit. I-HELP is an advocate for these individuals, referring them to organizations that can provide services for them, such as the Salvation Army, which offers case management, the Office of Employment and Training, and Catholic Charities.

To celebrate its 30th year, I-HELP is organizing its “Pasta with the Pastors” and Everyone is Invited! Members of our Social Action Team are planning to attend. Won’t you please consider joining us for a sit-down or take-out meal?

“Pasta with the Pastors”

Thursday August 25th 5:30PM - 7:30PM

Moose Lodge 555 Canyon del Rey Blvd. Monterey
(Stone Creek Shopping Plaza next to Tarpy’s)

Tickets \$30

Complete Dinner -- Pasta, Salad & Dessert

Testimonials by Clients

Reminiscences of I-HELP History

Choral Music by Robin McKee Williams

Multiple Gift Certificates and Merchandise Drawing

Reserve your place, space is limited.

Reservations available

online: www.ihelpmontereybay.org

Please contact me for additional information.

Arlene Krebs, Social Action Trustee

<arlenekrebs123@gmail.com>



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Sandra Kohn	2
Victor Feuerstein	3
Gordon Freedman	3
Astrid Holberg	3
Judd Franklin	4
Bruce Neben	5
Herbert Stern	7
Mindy Western	10
Beth Helfont	11
Leonid Modorsky	13
Victor Krimsley	14
Yvonne Ascher	15
Jonathan Silberman	16
Jill Sleeper	17
Galena Bordetsky	18
Selina Glater	19
Ben Kaatz	21
Stephen Ryter	21
Gerrick Bergsm	22
Barbara Lipman	23
Stanley Mellin	23
Steven Prager	25
Sylvia Krimsley	26
Robert Kohn	29
Marlene Maier	30

Gordon & Amanda Freedman	1
Andrea & Noel Carr	4
Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum	4
Ronald & Darcie Kroll	4
David & Laurie Benjamin	6
Robert & Raya Hoskinson	7
Ilana & Ari Entin	8
Larry Solow & Sharon Neumann-Solow	11
Michael & Debora Waxer	11
Judd & Tybe Franklin	13
Marsha & Brian Kelly	27
Jim Gumberg & Nina Patane	31
Carlos Ramirez & Lisa R. Kroopf	31
Ellie Sorkin & Deborah Stewart	31

Thinking about honoring a
loved one or a special occasion?

Consider a plaque at CBI

A leaf on the Tree of Life \$180

A Yahrzeit Plaque in our sanctuary \$360





Congregation Beth Israel

Av ~ Elul 5782

August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5  Traditions 6:00 PM Family Shabbat Services Outdoors In person & 	6 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study in person and on 
7 5:00 PM I-Help Men	8	9	10  12:00 PM Lunch with the Rabbi	11	12 6:00 PM Special Erev Shabbat Services with Cantor Alisa & Rabbi Jeff Schulman in person and on 	13 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study in person and on  7:00 PM Havdalah on Carmel Beach
14	15	16 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meets	17	18	19 6:00 PM Outdoors Erev Shabbat Services with Cantor Alisa & Rabbi Greenbaum in person and on 	20 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study in person and on 
21 1:00 PM CBI Religious School Teachers Mtg. 5:00 PM CBI Annual Meeting in person and on 	22	23	24	25	26 6:00 PM Outdoors Erev Shabbat Service Anniversary Blessings, in person and on 	27 10:30 AM Morning Torah Study in person and on  Best Year's Helpers for JFF 12:00 PM
28 10:00 AM 	29 5:00 PM I Help Women at CBI	30 7:00 PM CBI Board of Trustees Meets	31	1 September	2 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services with Birthday Blessings Lead by Rabbi Greenbaum and Cantor Alisa in person and on 	3 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study in person and on 

TODAH RABBAH!

Thank you to those who have recently given generously to
Congregation Beth Israel

UJC Donations

Michael & Debora Waxer: in honor of brave olim,
Nachum, Shira Neshamah & Benjamin

Cantorial Discretionary Fund

Seth & Naomi Pollack: in memory of Rachel
Sammet

College Scholarship

Michael & Constance Kean: In Memory of Lester
Tockerman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Barry R. Harrow
Ida Holber: in loving memory of her husband

CJFF Sponsor

Jim Gumberg & Nina Patane

JFF Donations

Rosemary Lande: in memory of Lester Tockerman
Rosemary Lande: in memory of Bari Toliver
Bill Pardue & Barbara Mitchell
Susan Simon: JFF Donation
Martin & Karen Wiskoff: in memory of Lester
Tockerman

JFF Sponsorships

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Monica Browning – Over the Moon Realty
Victor & Rena Feuerstein
Alisa Fineman & Kimball Hurd
Ellyn Gelson
Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum
Richard & Margaret Harrit
Michael & Constance Kean
Kenneth & Shelley Kroopf
Rosemary Lande
Lewis A. & Sandra Leader
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Clark Miller & Cara Lieb
Steven J. & Ann B. Packer
Steven & Jennifer Prager - Central Coast Allergy &
Asthma

Jim & Natalie Sammet
Mr. Marvin Silverman
Andrew Sisolak

General Donations

Dr. Alex & Galena Bordetsky: Ukraine Concert
Nancy Callahan: in honor of Robert Taylor
Fletcher III
David & Bobbie Ehrenpreis: in honor of Bee
Epstein-Shepherd's birthday
Lisa Levinger: In honor of Sam and Beryl
Levinger's 55th wedding Anniversary
Ellyn Gelson: in honor of July Birthdays and
anniversaries
Robert & Raya Hoskinson: in memory of Lester
Tockerman

HHD Donation

Seth & Naomi Pollack: in memory of Lester
Tockerman

Thank you to our Oneg Hosts for the Month of July

July 1st **Susan Simon** – In loving memory of her
husband Joel Aronowitz

Vic & Rena Feuerstein – In loving memory of Ren's
mother Cecil Spatz Goldhamer

July 8th **Abra Teitler** – In loving memory of her father
Albert Teitler

July 15th **CBI Board of Trustees** – In gratitude of our
CBI Members

July 29th **Ida Holber** – In loving memory of her
husband and father to her children and grandfather to
their grandchildren

Please consider hosting an Oneg. You may host in
honor or memory of someone special to you are in
gratitude or honor of a special occasion or life cycle
event. It's easy, it's fun and very much appreciated.

Call the CBI office to schedule your Oneg at 831-624-
2015. Or call Lois Epel at 831-625-3137.

Current August Dates available to host – August 19th
and 26th. Current September Dates available to host -
September 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th



Torah Connections:

Vol. 171 August 2022, 5782

By Michael L. Waxer

The Serpent

One of the most perplexing stories in the Torah, that actually transcends to other religions, is the story in Genesis about the snake, or serpent, that tempts Eve. Some refer to this as 'original sin', and it is believed by many that this story has fundamental repercussions to this very day.

"Now the serpent (*nachash*) was cunning (*arum*) beyond any beast of the field that HaShem God had made; he said to the woman, Is it so that God said: You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?" (Genesis [Beresheet] 2:1)

There are two amazing things to note in this verse. The word '*arum*', translated as **cunning**, was used in the prior verse, in fact the verse just before this one, where the plural of this word, *arum*, is translated as **naked**,

"They were, both of them, naked (*arumim*), the man and his wife, but they were not ashamed." (Genesis [Beresheet] 1:25)

It may seem impossible to reconcile how the concept of 'naked' can have the same meaning as 'cunning', since we think of being naked as '*being revealed*'. Our Sages teach us that this word, being used in these two adjacent verses, was used to teach us about the **nature of evil**. If one thinks of **good and evil** as a spectrum, evil takes hold by being one level *below* wherever a person is. Metaphorically, the serpent pretended to be innocent, as were the man and woman, but was just one shade 'darker'.

When we think about it, this does match how many of us perceive this world. How did the Nazis convince good Germans to be able to murder their neighbors? It was one argument at a time, or one set of 'facts' at a time. But there aren't many steps between being good, and finding you are now in the midst of evil. You may not even be able to discern at what point you crossed over. That is how subtle most evil is, one small step at a time.

The other amazing term in this critical verse is the word for serpent, or snake, which is '*nachash*'. You may be surprised to learn that this word may also mean '**occult forces**' or '**divinations**',

"Bilaam realized that HaShem desired to bless Israel' he therefore did not seek out occult forces (*nechashim*) as he had done before, but he set his face to the wilderness" (Numbers [Bamidbar] 24:1)

Now, recall the Israelites being enslaved in Egypt, and the Pharaoh coming up with the plan to murder all the newborn Israelite boys. Our Sages tell us that Bilaam was one of three advisors of Pharaoh, and actually the one who suggested to Pharaoh the idea of murdering the Israelites. They also tell us that he derived his typical powers from these dark occult forces. We are told that the two angels who were '*fallen*', condemned by HaShem to the Earth, Aza and Azazel, were sought out by those who wanted to channel these occult forces. One of these people was Bilaam.

If one were to dive into understanding this in more detail, one would learn that these two fallen angels were what was called in the Torah as '*nephilim*', (fallen ones), and who had children with human women, those offspring are called the '*ananim*' (giants). There are several references to both of these terms in the Torah, but beyond this discussion.

So we now know the term for serpent, *nachash*, also means '**occult forces**'. *Nachash* is a term used throughout the Torah, and, like many words in Torah, has these two different, although related, meanings.

Judaism incorporates the idea of **angels**, with specific tasks that might be of tremendous benefit to individuals, communities, and perhaps countries. Similarly, Judaism has the idea of what we might call '**fallen angels**', or **demons**. **One huge difference is that these negative occult forces have no real power of their own... however they, like parasites, can suck the 'light' out of living beings. Their only power is in what they can take, so to speak: They have no independent power.**

By analogy we can think of goodness like the sun, radiating light and energy. The demons would be like the light of the moon... it actually has no independent light. It can only be seen by what is reflected off it by the sun. This is partially what is meant by the 'free will' of people. We each can access the 'light', the spiritual goodness. Yet, we are constantly tempted by demonic forces which try to rob us of our light, of our '**holy sparks**'.

The Torah is filled with so many different stories that try to give us a **clear singular message**: We need to avoid the demonic forces, which is generally not committing any of the 365 'negative' commandments, such as not to murder. But that is not enough. We must also do some good, partake in the 248 'positive' commandments. **These help to spread the holy sparks, and are the key to our spiritual development and reconnection with HaShem.**

This Torah Connection recognizes 'Spiritual Technology' by Rabbi Avraham Sutton, but is the sole responsibility of the author and specifically does NOT necessarily reflect those of the Board of Trustees of CBI, CBI, its membership, Reform Judaism, or Judaism. Please send any comments to the author at: mlwaxer@sbcglobal.net.

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Chartered in 1954 as the Jewish Community of the Monterey Peninsula, Congregation Beth Israel today serves the spiritual, educational, and social needs of Jews on the Peninsula. We derive programming and administrative strength from our affiliation with the Union for Reform Judaism and offer traditional programming to meet the needs of most Jews on the Monterey Peninsula. The Congregation sponsors weekly worship services on Shabbat evening and Shabbat morning; observances of all holidays and festivals; and formal educational programs from toddler through adult. We operate our own school on weekend mornings and midweek afternoons, and we also maintain a Judaic library.

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Alisa Fineman – *Cantor &
Asst Director of Education*
Julie Chase- *Executive Director*
Abby King- *Administrative Assistant/Facility Use Coordinator*

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Parshiot

August 6, Devarim

T: Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22

H: Isaiah 1:1-27

August 13, Va'etchanan

T: Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11

H: Isaiah 40:1-26

August 20, Ekev

T: Deuteronomy

7:12-11:25

H: Isaiah 49:14-51:3

August 27, Re'eh

T: Deuteronomy

11:26-16:17

H: Isaiah 54:11-55:5