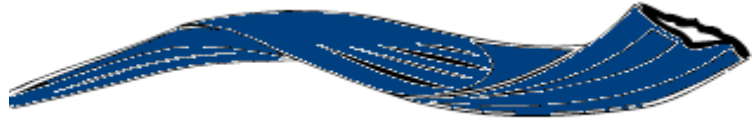


# SHOFAR



Monthly Newsletter of the Monterey Peninsula Jewish Community  
[www.carmelbethisrael.org](http://www.carmelbethisrael.org)

## HIGH HOLY DAYS



We are already gearing up for our 5781 High Holiday Season. As you will see, there are many dynamic plans that will enrich our Holy Days. We are excited to share that Cantorial Student Elizabeth Baseman will join Cantorial Soloist Suzanne Guinane and Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum in leading our High Holiday services this year. While all the services must be held online, still there will be opportunities for participation from our community family. Please let Rabbi Greenbaum know if you are willing to join our Shofar blowing troop that will share the sound of the Shofar with our members in various places around the Monterey Peninsula during the month preceding Rosh HaShanah.

Starting on Selichot evening and running through Yom Kippur day, CBI member Beryl Levinger will lead four value-based discussions entitled “Who was that Masked Jew?” Participants will be asked to pre-register for these zoom sessions.

This year Rosh HaShanah begins with our evening Zoom service on **Friday September 18 at 7:00 pm**. The next morning, **Saturday, September 19**, we start with a children’s zoom service at 9:30 am followed by our morning service at 10:30 am. That afternoon in place of our Tashlich on the beach gathering we will join at

4:00 pm on Zoom for our second discussion entitled “Who was that Masked Jew,” led by Beryl Levinger. Second day Rosh HaShanah services are on Sunday, **September 20th**, starting at 10:30 am. Members of Temple Beth El of Salinas will join us for our Zoom services. Cantor Margaret Bruner will assist in leading those services with our clergy team

**Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>**, in the midst of the Ten Days of Teshuvah Beryl Levinger will lead the third session of “Who was that Masked Jew” starting at 7:00 PM.

Kol Nidre services begin Sunday evening, **September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**. Our main morning Yom Kippur service begins **Monday at 10:00 am** followed by our Children’s service at 12:30 pm. Starting at 1:30 Beryl will lead the final discussion on “Who was that Masked Jew?” The afternoon service begins at 3:00 pm, the Yizkor service at approximately 4:45 pm and a closing service beginning at approximately 5:30 pm. **NO TICKETS are needed** for our Holy Day Zoom services. Military personnel, other guests, and those under 21 years of age are all welcome. Of course, CBI gladly accepts donations to help defray holy day costs which this year included upgrading our zoom technology with a new camera and zoom tech assistant.

We wish everyone L’Shanah Tovah, Happy New Year.





## From the Rabbi's Desk...

I truly wish I could answer the questions you have been asking about when CBI will again be open to our members. This covid-19 shut down has been a challenge for all of us. We have seen some churches open and then be forced to close. Some of the Orthodox Jewish communities back east continued to gather rather than closing their doors and many of their members were infected and some lost their lives to the corona virus. Some have tried holding services in their parking lots. But access to bathrooms and practicing social distancing is challenging even with outdoor gatherings.

Recently the questions have been what will we do for the High Holy Days and religious school this fall? While our board of trustees will certainly consider issues of safety, security, health, and welfare to decide when to open our doors, as our Jewish home we will also be guided by our Jewish values. The Secure Community Network created a "back to business" outline for Jewish institutions that suggested important lessons from our Jewish traditions that should also guide us at this time.

1. Pikuah Nefesh (safeguarding life). The idea of sustaining lives supersedes most of our mitzvot. We are taught if we save one life it is as if we have saved the entire world.
2. Sakanat Nefashot (endangering life). No one should be placed in a position where they may place their own lives or those of their families or loved ones in danger. What might be best for a few of our members could threaten others. We have to think of our ushers, teachers, and all our staff.
3. Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Bazeh (We are responsible for one another). We have an obligation to look out for one another regardless of circumstances, status or perception. We must always care for our most fragile members .

4. Gimilut Hesed (acts of loving kindness). With many people feeling anxious, lonely, distanced or at risk, we must be guided in our actions while considering everyone's needs. At times we must put their needs before our own, even if this means remaining apart when we crave to be together.

Obviously, there is no simple answer to the question, when will we reopen our doors? New information comes out daily about risk factors and the spread of the virus. My fear is this virus will remain a threat until all of us practice self-restraint by self-isolating, carefully social distancing when required to go out, wearing masks, and practicing this until it is safe for everyone.

Thankfully, we have modern technology that while not perfect, allows us to interact on zoom, on the phone, through Facebook and a variety of social media tools. Later in this Shofar you will find an article how I will strive to make our Zoom services, better in some ways, than our in-person services. In the meantime, I pray we all remain safe and healthy.



## The Dilemma Supporting Black Lives Matter

In last month's "From the Rabbi's Desk" article I wrote about supporting the Black Lives Matter movement. While I still want to underscore the need to end inequality and discrimination in our country today, it is also important to recognize a problem found with the foundation of the Black Lives Matter movement. We should also be aware that there exists both the 'Black Lives Matter' (BLM) group and the 'Movement for Black Lives' (MBL). Both are fighting for social justice but one is laced with its own racism.

Two of the founding bodies of BLM are the New Black Panther Party and the Nation of Islam. Both of these parties are anti-Semitic. Alan Dershowitz recently wrote in an article, "It is a real tragedy that Black Lives Matter — which has done so much good in raising awareness of police abuses — has now moved away from its central mission and has declared war against the nation state of the Jewish people. In a recently issued "platform," more than 60 groups that form the core of the Black Lives Matter movement went out of their way to single out one foreign nation (Israel) to accuse of genocide and apartheid. To be sure, Black Lives Matter is not a monolithic organization. It is a movement comprising numerous groups. Many of its supporters have no idea what the platform says. They cannot be faulted for supporting the movement or its basic mission. But the platform is the closest thing to a formal declaration of principles by Black Lives Matter. The genocide paragraph may well have been injected by radicals who are not representative of the mainstream. But now that it has officially been published, all decent supporters of Black Lives Matter — and there are many — must demand its removal. Singling Israel out and falsely accusing it of "genocide" can be explained in no other way than blatant hatred of Jews and their state."

I agree with Dershowitz. Black Lives Matter must rescind the portions of the platform that falsely accuse Israel of genocide and apartheid. If it does not, it risks ending in the dustbin of history, along with other discredited bigoted groups. It would be sad if the good work done by Black Lives Matter were now to be sidetracked by the mendacious and irrelevant accusation of "genocide" and "apartheid" against one foreign democracy — Israel.

**Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum**



## Enriching our Shabbat

Zoom services are not the same as being together in person. Your rabbi is a person who likes a hand shake or a hug, I miss gathering in the sanctuary and social hall. But there are some advantages to our Zoom services. You don't have to get dressed or run out of the house after a hurried Shabbat dinner to make services. You don't even have to get dressed up. In recent weeks we have had approximately twice the people who used to attend services join us on line for our Sabbath zoom evening. Let's take our zoom Sabbath gatherings to another level of joy and celebration.

**August 7<sup>th</sup>** will be our Kiddish Shabbat when we welcome Suzanne Guinane as our Cantorial Soloist. Make sure you have your favorite wine or grape juice ready for the 7:30 services. Sipping wine or juice throughout this service is encouraged! Sabbath is a time to celebrate. How better to enjoy the service than with your favorite beverage at your side. That's not allowed in the sanctuary but it's welcome for that zoom Shabbat.

**August 14<sup>th</sup>** will be our dress up Shabbat. When I say dress up, I mean "up," just the upper half of your body. Wear your favorite shirts or blouses. Ties, jackets, vests and scarves are all optional. Pajama bottoms or cut offs work from the waist down. Just remember that there are times when we stand for parts of the service!

**August 21** will be our family Shabbat. Invite family to join you for this service. Family members do not have to live in our homes or even in our community to join us for services online. Invite children, grandchildren, grandparents, cousins, aunts, and uncles and let's all be together this Shabbat.

**August 28** we are calling "Finding God Shabbat". During the service we will invite all participants to share in their chats where they saw/experienced God moments during the past week.

As we continue to join together each Shabbat on zoom, let's find more ways where we can celebrate together. All suggestions are welcome!



## CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 AT 5:00 PM

We hope you will join us for our Zoom Annual Meeting

When: August 16, 2020 04:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

For all members in good standing, this is your opportunity to vote for the 2020-21 Board of Trustees and hear about CBI updates, plans, finances, and honor our Volunteers of the Year.

**Advance registration for this meeting is required. Click here to register:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZctd-uhpj4oG9AsEPDsASKcrtDqAfKo4kxq>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting and on August 14, you will receive the Annual Meeting materials.

Remember, to be eligible to vote we must receive your 2020-21 pledge no later than August 13.



**Carmel Jewish Film Festival**

**Presents the Virtual Film**

**Shoelaces with Filmmaker Q & A**

Shoelaces is the heartwarming story of a complicated relationship between a special needs adult son who wants to donate a kidney to his aging, ailing father who abandoned him as a child because of his disabilities. Through the film's portrayal of a relationship full of love, rejection and co-dependency, it manages to shed some light and question the importance of human life, human connection and if life is even possible without it either one of them.

You can view this film at your convenience between **Tuesday, August 4 through Friday, August 7**. The link will be sent to you after purchasing a ticket. CJFF 2020 Sponsors may use their previously reserved tickets or unused free tickets. Details are on the CJFF website [www.carmeljff.org](http://www.carmeljff.org).

Filmmaker Jacob Goldwasser will join us from Israel for a Q & A on **August 9 at 10:00 AM**. The Q & A is included with your ticket. Thank you for supporting our virtual film events until we can all be together again.



### **Lunch with the Rabbi**

Join Rabbi Greenbaum and our new Cantorial Soloist/Educator Suzanne Guinane this month on **Thursday, August 13 at noon** online as they lead a virtual gathering together. What is

Suzanne's background? What are her favorite songs (Jewish and other). Does she have any exciting ideas for our next school year? Together let's get to know Suzanne and welcome her to our CBI family. Enjoy your lunch that you prepared for yourself. No RSVP is needed. Just look for the link to this meeting which will be in the CBI Weekly eblast. Click on the link and join our zoom discussion.





## Meet our Cantorial Soloist / Educator

We are so happy to welcome Suzanne Guinane to CBI. This month Suzanne joins our staff as both our Director of Education

and our Cantorial Soloist. During this time when we are not meeting in person, you can get to know Suzanne by joining us on line for our Sabbath Services every Friday night at 7:30. Suzanne also invites our religious school families to meet with her on zoom on Tuesday, August 11 at 3:00 in the afternoon. Then on Wednesday evening, August 12 at 7:00 PM Suzanne will meet with those who want to speak with her about plans for our music program at CBI. Thoughts about a choir? Want to know more about Suzanne's music background? Look for the links in our CBI eblasts and get to know our newest CBI family member.



## Coffee or Tea with Rabbi G.

We will continue a morning visit on **August 5 and 19**, two Wednesday mornings at **10:00 AM**. Join Rabbi Greenbaum with your

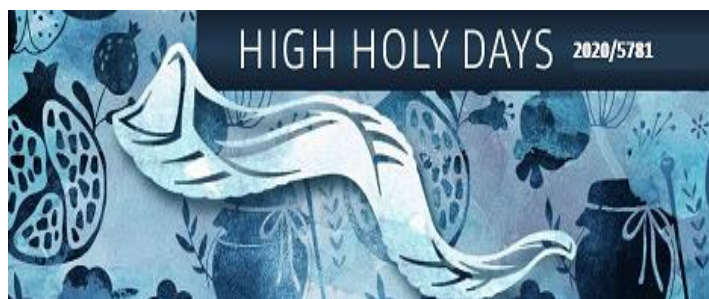
favorite breakfast beverage for a short visit and check in with others as well. Together we will relax and visit and share our thoughts. No need to dress up or even wear shoes! Pets and kids are expected in the background. What a nice way to visit and get support as we continue to shelter in place. On August 5 you are invited to share memories from when you first moved to the Monterey Peninsula. What were the challenges and the best moments when you first arrived? On August 19 we will share goals we have for the next 6 months. What do we hope to do/accomplish/experience before the start of 2021? Let's relax together and enjoy each other's ideas.



## CBI's Back Yard

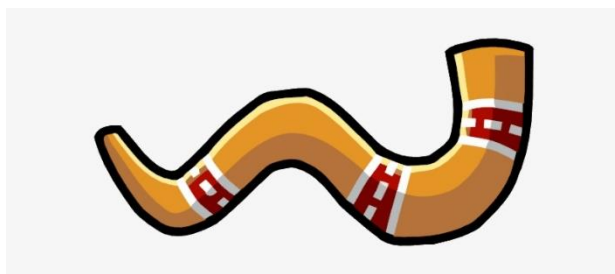
You're invited! Call up your Chavurah, or a couple of friends and plan a picnic. Many groups have discovered that setting up chairs in a

large circle (safe distancing) on our blacktop below our building is a great place to visit. There are already some tables and chairs just waiting for you. Some have brought lunches or wine and snacks to enjoy while supporting each other. Our lower lot is pet friendly (leashes suggested) and open every day. Call the rabbi if you want him to stop in for a short visit as well. He'll even help lead a discussion if you want. You are welcome to take advantage of this prime meeting space that allows for safe distancing while still socializing. Please watch your children, be safe, and congregate at your own risk.



## Shofar Blowers Needed

Calling all who like to sound the Shofar. We are looking to create a shofar blowing cadre that might sound the shofar around our community at announced locations and times leading up to our holy day of Rosh HaShanah. This will be done during the month of Elul, most likely in the first two weeks of September. If you are interested in performing this Mitzvah, please contact the rabbi at 624-2015



## Who Was That “Masked Jew”

Join CBI member Beryl Levinger for a four-part study series during the Holy Day season. We are taught that “to save one life is to save the world.” What does that mean in the midst of a pandemic? Each 90-minute session will explore an ethical dilemma associated with mask use and social distancing. Drawing on traditional and contemporary Jewish sources (Torah, Talmud, and rabbinic literature) as well as secular news reporting, we’ll try to develop Jewishly informed answers to such questions as: Am I obligated to wear a mask? If so, what kind of mask must I wear? What, if anything, should I say to someone who’s not wearing a mask? How might rabbinic discussions about lovingkindness, smoking, earning a livelihood, and community be used to guide practices related to mask use and social distancing? All sessions will include a brief introduction to a specific ethical dilemma along with an overview of selected texts. Participants will then enter into chavruta (small discussion groups held in Zoom breakout rooms) where they will engage in guided learning. Finally, participants will reconvene for sharing, debating, and personal meaning-making. Sessions will be accessible to **all** levels of prior Jewish learning.

Please look in future CBI eblasts for registration information for the four sessions that will be held on Selichot evening, **September 12 at 7:00 PM**, Rosh HaShanah afternoon **September 19 at 4:00 PM**, **Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 PM**, and Yom Kippur afternoon, **September 28 beginning at 1:30 PM**.



## RJ ON THE GO

### Interactive Jewish Experiences for Everyone in Your Family

ReformJudaism.org is launching a platform to host interactive, meaningful and fun experiences that are easily accessible on the go or at home. RJ on the Go invites you to own your Jewish journey by choosing experiences that speak to you, on a schedule that works for your life. **Sign up** (<https://onthego.reformjudaism.org/s/login/SignUp>) now to join the community.

RJ on the Go is your virtual home for interactive, meaningful, and joyous Jewish experiences. Explore your Judaism through science, art, text, and more from the comfort of your own home, and build your Jewish community as you go.

## TRIVIA NIGHT

### Trivia Night #3

Jump on Zoom Thursday, **August 6 at 7:00 PM** and come play three exciting rounds of Jew"ish" trivia! Famous Jewish tv/movie/Broadway actors, Jewish food, and more- you'll be surprised at how much you know (or don't know but learn)!

All ages welcome. You will need a computer, smartphone or tablet to use as your remote control for submitting answers if you want to compete.

**amazon.com**  
Smile

A simple way to support our synagogue and it doesn't cost a thing!

- In your internet browser enter **amazonsmile.com**
- Select CBI as your selected recipient
- Every purchase you make sends dollars to CBI

**2020/5781**

## **HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**Rabbi Bruce D. Greenbaum and Cantorial Soloists**

**Suzanne Guinane and Elizabeth Baseman**



### **SLICHOT**

**Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 p.m. Zoom Study Session with  
Beryl Levinger "Who was that  
Masked Jew?"

9:45 p.m. Zoom Service

### **ROSH HASHANAH**

**Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 p.m. Erev Rosh Hashanah Zoom  
Service

**Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 a.m. Children's Zoom Service

10:30 a.m. Morning Zoom Service

4:00 p.m. Zoom Study Session with  
Beryl Levinger "Who was that  
Masked Jew – part 2"

**Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

10:30 a.m. Second Day Zoom Service  
with our friends from Temple Beth El

### **Holy Day Study Session**

**Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

1:30 p.m. Zoom Study with Beryl  
Levinger "Who was that Masked  
Jew – part 3"

### **YOM KIPPUR**

**Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 p.m. Kol Nidre Service

**Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 a.m. Morning Zoom Service

12:30 p.m. Children's Zoom Service

1:30 p.m. Holy Day Discussion "Who  
was that Masked Jew – part 4"

3:00 p.m. Afternoon Zoom Service

\*4:45 p.m. Yizkor Zoom Service

\*5:30 p.m. Closing Neilah Zoom  
Service

*Please enjoy your break the fast parties  
safely at home.*

### **SUKKAH ZOOM PARTY**

Wednesday, September 30

4:00 p.m. Zoom Sukkah celebration  
Rabbi Greenbaum

### **SIMCHAH TORAH SERVICE**

**Sunday, October 11 at 10:30** (Zoom  
Service)

CBI will lend copies of "Mishkan Hanefesh: Machzor for the Days of Awe" to our families. Please see the enclosed High Holy Day Pamphlet for details. " Copies can also be purchased directly from the CCAR Press for \$44.00 for both books; one each for Rosh HaShanah and for Yom Kippur ([https://www.ccarpress.org/shopping\\_product\\_detail.asp?pid=50288](https://www.ccarpress.org/shopping_product_detail.asp?pid=50288))



# Congregation Beth Israel

## August 2020

### Tamuz ~ Elul 5780

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Services/, Studies, and Meetings will be scheduled through Zoom, accessible online or by phone. until such time as we have the clearance to resume physical gatherings.					31  <b>Traditions</b> 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services with Anniversary Blessings via Zoom	1 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study Via Zoom
2	3	4	5 10:00 AM Coffee & Tea with Rabbi G	6  7:00 PM Trivia Night #3	8 7:30 PM Erev Zoom Shabbat Services via Zoom	7 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah study Via Zoom
9  7:30 PM CJFF Zoom Program	10	11 6:30 PM Executive Committee meets Via Zoom	12	13 12:00 PM ZOOM Lunch with Rabbi Greenbaum & Cantorial Soloist Suzanne Guinane	15  7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Services with Temple Beth El via Zoom	14 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study
16  5:00 CBI Annual Meeting via Zoom	17	18	19 10:00 AM Coffee & Tea with Rabbi G	20	22 7:30 PM Erev Zoom Shabbat Services	21 10:30 AM Shabbat Torah Study Via Zoom
23	24	25 7:15 PM CBI Board of Trustees Meet via Zoom	26	27	28 7:30 PM Erev Zoom Shabbat Services With Anniversary Blessings	28  10:30 AM Shabbat Zoom Morning Shabbat Service when Nico Vitiello Becomes a Bar Mitzvah





### **UJC Donations**

David Sabih & Anna Swartley in honor of Arielle Di Portoo

David Sabih & Anna Swartley in honor of Todd & Veena Waldman

David Sabih & Anna Swartley in honor of Rabbi Greenbaum to AJJDC

### **General Endowment**

Laura Arnow in honor of Sam & Beryl Levinger

### **Building & Grounds Restricted Fund**

Scott & Shel Lyons in honor of incoming President Dan Nussbaum

### **Safety & Security Fund**

David & Laurie Benjamin

### **Cantorial Restricted Fund**

Michael & Debora Waxer in honor of Benjamin Waxer's Aliyah to Ashkelon, Israel

### **College Scholarship Fund**

Scott & Shel Lyons in honor of Cantor Alisa Fineman

### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Barry R. Harrow

Scott & Shel Lyons in honor of Rabbi Bruce Greenbaum

Suellen S. Rubin in memory of Rose Rubin

Suellen S. Rubin in memory of Tegan Cloud Speiser

Diana Rosenthal in honor of Alisa Fineman & Louise Riddell-Kaufman

### **Carmel Jewish Film Festival**

Scott & Shel Lyons in support of CJFF virtual film festival

### **General Donations**

Steven Ratsky

Optique with gratitude to Ellyn Gelson

Ellyn Gelson in honor of birthdays & anniversaries for the month of July

Ellyn Gelson in memory of Ada Kaplan & Saul H. Kaplan MD

Melvin F. & Susan N. Gorelick in memory of Sarah Frons

Kevin Kaufman

Victor & Sylvia Krimsley in loving memory of Sam Weiner, Jr. Sylvia's Father

Lewis A. & Sandra Leader

Scott & Shel Lyons in honor of Laura & Matthew's wedding

Scott & Shel Lyons in honor of Ruth's 8th grade promotion

Scott & Shel Lyons in honor of the 2020 B'nai Mitzvah Class

Gary & Judy Simon in memory of Irene Lefkowitz at the time of her yahrtzeit

Ellie Sorkin & Deborah Stewart

Joel & Bonni Weinstein in memory of Gerson Weinstein

Martin & Karen Wiskoff in memory of Tegan Speiser

### **Social Action**

Victor & Rena Feuerstein to CBI's Women's IHelp dinner

Rosemary Lande to CBI's Womens IHelp dinner

Scott & Shel Lyons in honor of President Cara Lieb

Daniel & Beverly Nussbaum to CBI's Women's IHelp dinner

Suellen S. Rubin in honor of Susan Schwartz's grandnephew Emet

David Sabih & Anna Swartley in honor of Dr. Tom Bradley

David Sabih & Anna Swartley in honor of Rabbi Greenbaum

Susan Schwartz in memory of Tegan Speiser, beloved daughter of Imogene and the late Stan Speiser

### **Religious School Donations**

Scott & Shel Lyons in honor of Education Director Louise Riddell-Kaufman

Dr. Carlos D. Ramirez & Dr. Lisa R. Kroopf

Susan Schwartz in memory of her parents, Esther and Seymour Schwartz

## We Thank Our Members Who Have Made Their 2020-21 Pledges During the Past Month

Ken & Debby Baseman  
Dennis & Gail Bates  
Lew Bauman & Jennifer Stone  
Robert & Michelle Beitscher  
Alan & Barbara Bienenfeld  
Robert & Jenifer Block  
Lynne Kaplan Boyd  
Malina Breaux  
Barry & Randi Brookstein  
Andrea Carter  
Maureen Chodosh  
Amanda Curtis  
Michael Dicus & Catherine Winter  
David & Barbara Ehrenpreis  
Gordon & Amanda Freedman  
Eugene & Arina Ganeles  
Ellyn Gelson  
Hugo N. & Lorraine Gerstl  
Steven & Robin Goldberg  
Melvin F. & Susan N. Gorelick  
Glen Grossman & Marce Humphrey-Grossman  
Steven River Gurtin  
Nick & Aline Harris  
Richard & Margaret Harrit  
Jillian Heisman  
Beth Helfont  
Samuel & Tally Helfont  
Marva Hoffman & Tom Shannon  
Stephen & Ida Holber  
Barbara Holland  
Norman & Diana B. Jacobson  
Brynie Kaplan-Dau & Daniel Dau  
Marsha Kelly  
David & Ila Kleinman  
Arlene Krebs  
Kenneth & Shelley Kroopf  
Leonard Laub & Yvonne Ascher  
Laela Leavy  
Samuel & Beryl Levinger  
Barbara Lipman  
Scott & Shel Lyons  
Gadi & Marlene Maier

Tobi & Michael Marcus  
Michael Marshall & Kristen Nicholls- Marshall  
Clark Miller & Cara Lieb  
Robert Moskowitz & Jeannette Stern  
Bruce Neben & Susan Krome Neben  
Steven & Barbara Neil  
Michael & Susan Newton  
Jay & Ruthie Pack  
Bill Pardue & Barbara Mitchell  
Karen Paull  
Susan & Platt Platt  
Diana Rosenthal  
Corrina Joan Rucka  
Barry & Nancy Rund  
David Sabih & Anna Swartley  
Charlotte Salomon and R S Fetherston  
Ellen Saxby  
Susan Schwartz  
Charles & Louise Seibel  
Sarita Chavez Silverman  
Susan Simon  
Andrew Sisolak  
Linda Sweet  
Abra Teitler  
Bari Tolliver  
George & Lily Waissbluth  
Robert & Paige Weisskirch  
Martin & Karen Wiskoff  
Martin R. Wolf





## Summer Continues, SIP Continues

As we continue with Shelter-in-Place mandates, we persevere, and we continue doing what we are able—Tikkum Olam. There are many nonprofits assisting with the ongoing needs for food security, safety for our residents, assistance for seniors, and activities for children and youth. Check out the activities and ways to assist for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County <<http://bgcmc.org>>, the Rice Plus Project <<http://riceplusproject.org>> and the Village Project <http://villageprojectinc.org> to name just a few.

### I-HELP\_UPDATES!

Thanks to members of our CBI community who have generously contributed funds towards our monthly I-HELP commitments for the men and women who continue to be sheltered at two local churches. There are 13 men sheltering at a Monterey Church and on July 5<sup>th</sup>, they enjoyed a pasta dinner provided by Allegro Pizzeria. We also provided breakfast and lunch foods.

I-HELP reports that the men are keeping busy by helping with the Church's upkeep by gardening, cleaning and painting rooms. They are also reading, watching DVDs, taking online classes, and doing crossword puzzles---just as we all are.

Jennifer Stone and the Que Syrah Havurah are providing the August 2<sup>nd</sup> Men's Dinner, and next day breakfast and lunch. Dinner will be a Mexican meal

catered by a local restaurant—a great way to support our local businesses.

Susan Schwartz generously provided the Women's Dinner on June 29<sup>th</sup>, which she purchased from California Pizza Kitchen. Currently, there are 5 women in the group. Gathering for Women is providing breakfast and lunch, and access to showers for the women.

The August Women's I-HELP is being spearhead by our partner, The Lambourne Institute for Life Mastery, which, over the past two years, has worked hand-in-hand with CBI, and has provided funds, gifts and meals for the women.

I-HELP's annual fundraiser "**Pasta with the Pastors**", will be a virtual event on Thursday, August 20, from 6:00-7:00pm. Many good ideas, including an online auction and entertainment. You can join the event online or watch it over our local Access Monterey Peninsula/AMP channel 24 on cable TV. You can learn about the event at: <https://www.ihelpmontereybay.org/>

Loaves, Fishes & Computers: From SIP on March 17<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup>, LFC has distributed 1,400 computers to low-income families and individuals. 90% are for families with children who require computers for distance learning; 10% are for those seeking employment opportunities. If you have equipment to donate that is no older than 6 years, please do contact me to arrange a pick up.

Take care and stay safe!

Arlene Krebs  
Social Action Trustee  
<[arlenekrebs123@gmail.com](mailto:arlenekrebs123@gmail.com)>





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sandra Kohn	2	Elias Pelc	14
Victor Feuerstein	3	Yvonne Ascher	15
Gordon Freedman	3	Rick Levin	16
Astrid Holberg	3	Jill Sleeper	17
Bruce Neben	5	Galena Bordetsky	18
Herbert Stern	7	Selina Glater	19
Bari Tolliver	8	Ben Kaatz	21
Miriam Lyons	9	Stephen L. Ryter	21
Aaron Rosenblatt	9	Gerrick Bergsma	22
Stanley Weiss	9	Debra Crawford-Annis	22
Lisa Adeline Kohn	10	Barbara Lipman	23
Mindy Western	10	Sylvia Krimsley	26
Beth Helfont	11	Ryan Dicus	28
Leonid Modorsky	13	Robert Kohn	29
Victor Krimsley	14	Marlene Maier	30

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Gordon & Amanda Freedman	1
Andrea & Noel Carr	4
Rabbi Bruce & Susan Greenbaum	4
Ronald & Darcie Kroll	4
Alan & Barbara Bienenfeld	5
David & Laurie Benjamin	6
Robert & Raya Hoskinson	7
Ilana & Ari Entin	8
Larry Solow & Sharon Neumann-Solow	11
Michael & Debora Waxer	11
Nick & Aline Harris	15
Marsha & Brian Kelly	27
Jim Gumberg & Nina Patane	31
Carlos Ramirez & Lisa Kroopf	31
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## Family News

We mourn the deaths of  
Tegan Speiser, beloved daughter of  
Imogene and the late Stan Speiser

Ronald Martin Stock, beloved father  
of Justine Geisler

Adeline Kohn, beloved mother of  
Robert Kohn

May their memories be a blessing to  
us all.





# CBI Religious School

Suzanne Guinane, our new Director of Education and Cantorial Soloist invites our religious school families to meet with her on zoom on Tuesday, August 11 at 3:00 in the afternoon. Zoom links will be sent around closer to the meeting. This is a great opportunity to meet Suzanne and begin a dialogue about transforming our Religious School experience.

**Religious School registration is now available online.** All payments will go directly through the CBI office. Checks can be mailed to 5716 Carmel Valley Rd, Carmel 93923. Please call the CBI office at 624-2015 if paying by credit card. Online subscribers click here:

[Returning Student Re-enrollment](#)

[New Student Registration form](#)

The early bird discount, of \$35 per child, is available to all who register before August 1 and late fees are charged after August 31.

Let us know if you have any difficulty with the system by calling the office at 624-2015.

We look forward to learning with you and your child again in the fall.



## Jewish Family Ideas August 2020

The URJ has rounded up some Jewishly inspired crafts, recipes, activities, videos, and

other ideas to keep you and your family occupied during days spent at home – all while learning about and embracing Judaism together.

### ❖ Have an at-home dance party to Jewish music.

In Reform Jewish tradition, music is not only an element of worship and holiday observance, but also a way to bring Jewish values and concepts to life in a visceral way. We sing songs after a good meal, in services at synagogue, with friends at Jewish summer camp, and in classrooms at religious school. Check out ["Songs for an Enjoyable Shabbat with Your Family,"](#) a playlist of some of the Shabbat

songs popular at camps, schools, and early childhood centers.

### ❖ Bring home a bit of Jewish summer camp.

Thinking fondly about time spent outdoors with friends while you are practicing 'social distancing'? Pay homage to Jewish summer camp with activities that come directly from Reform Jewish summer camps! Use this time to [make your favorite camp food](#) or, with close adult supervision, try [three fun science experiments](#) from URJ 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy. If you're willing to get a little messy, you can even learn how to [master the art of tie-dye](#) with this how-to from URJ Crane Lake Camp.

### ❖ Go on a field trip without ever leaving home.

Many popular museums, historical sites, and other typical tourist hotspots offer [virtual experiences that you can access online](#). You can "visit" the San Diego Zoo, the Louvre, and Yellowstone National Park right from your couch! [The Facebook group "Virtual Israel"](#) offers remote experiences with accredited Israeli tour guides who can guide take you to an Israeli national park, walk you through the streets of Israel, or do a learning session on Israel – all from afar.

### ❖ Get cookin'.

Jewish cooking expert Tina Wasserman writes, "Cooking with a young child creates lasting memories for both of you, and opens the door to conversations that will reverberate for years." (Read more in ["Connecting Kids with Their Jewish Culinary History."](#)) Choose a favorite family recipe to make together, or [browse our many Jewish recipes](#) to find something new; you may want to start with ["21 Jewish Recipes That Use Ingredients You Have at Home."](#) You can also try your hand at [baking challah](#) together. Kids will love [braiding the strands](#)!

### ❖ Crafts, crafts, and more crafts.

Look, we get it: While spending a lot of time together at home, it's understandable for families to get a bit of cabin fever. If you're just looking for ways to entertain your kids, check out crafts designed for far-off Jewish holidays. They're fun any time of year! For example, Tu BiShvat has passed, but you can still [make recycled paper](#), and it doesn't have to be Rosh HaShanah to have fun with [apple printing](#). Engage your children [in building a Jewish scene with Lego](#). This [pressed flower platter](#) for Shavuot is pretty all year long, and these [decorative paper lanterns](#) can hang in your kids' bedrooms instead of in your sukkah.



## **Torah Connections:**

**Vol. 147 August 2020, 5780**

**Michael Waxer**

### **There is a Solution**

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.... We are living through an amazing time in history. On the one hand we have the most physical comfort of any time in recorded human history, and we are living longer than recent generations. On the other hand, we seem close to annihilating ourselves, whether it was the Cold War (nuclear apocalypse) in the last generation, environmental apocalypse in this generation, or will be the growing hatreds in the next generation.

The deep divisions of various groups within cultures seems to be growing, such as religious versus secular Muslims, liberals or conservatives in the West, or religious versus more secular Jews, both here and in Israel. This division, *from the inside*, can break a culture apart, or could even lead to the end of a nation or an empire. This type of internal division, however, is not a new thing.

In the Torah we see an example of this type of division in the parsha of Korach:

***"They stood before Moses with men from the Children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the assembly, those summoned for meeting, men of renown. They gathered together against Moses and Aaron..."***  
(Numbers [Bamidbar] 16:2-3)

But we have many examples in our own era and in the recent past.

In the years before Israel was re-established as a nation, there was a growing rift between the religious Jews and the (mostly) secular Zionists. The Zionists were building up the area, working the land, preparing for Statehood almost by force of will. Although there were many exceptions, the religious Jews generally were resistant to the re-establishment of the State in this manner. The basic philosophy was that HaShem (God) would provide when HaShem is ready. The Zionists wanted to take matters into their own hands.

Fortunately for Israel there was a very insightful Rabbi, **Rav Kook**, who fundamentally brought these two 'factions' together. He suggested that the religious Jews need to also seize the opportunity, and to join the Zionists in being able to envision the modern State of Israel. In Judaism there are generally believed to be **5 levels of soul**. The first two levels, the nefesh and the ruach, are both connected more to our physical forms, while the next three are tied more to our spiritual forms. What Rav Kook did, was amazing....

He suggested that the nefesh of the Zionists was actually more developed than in the religious Jews, while the ruach of the religious Jews was more developed than the Zionists. In other words, ***they each had a strength and a weakness***. Separate, they were incomplete, and could be broken. **But combined, the nefesh and the ruach both got strengthened by the two factions working together.**

This is the key. We can allow our divisions to tear us apart. Or, we can realize that we need to join with our 'counterparts' to make a whole, or to make a better whole. The modern term, *synergy*, includes the same concept, that 1+1 is actually greater than 2... meaning that certain combinations can exceed the calculated output of each part.

Today, as there is growing tension that can rip us apart, we should remember this great wisdom from Rav Kook. We are here on a spiritual journey. One of the secrets of our journey is that we need to figure out how to get along with differences that seem overwhelming. There is great strength to be found in these differences, but it has an equal ability to destroy us. This is part of free will... **do we build, together, or do we let our egos get too big and we decide we just can't live with 'the other side'.**

Rav Kook (1865-1935) has inspired many schools of study in Israel, a uniting philosophy that honors both the 'orthodox' and the 'secular' Jews. He understood that the Jewish people are unbreakable when they are able to see that they each have an important role in spiritual development. By recognizing their respective strengths and weaknesses, he was able to enlighten the people that there is a way forward, together. Our differences do not need to tear us apart.

We should ask ourselves if we can apply this approach to not only the Jewish people and Israel, but can we apply this philosophy to what is happening in America today. Those on the right and left cannot seem to even have civil discourse today. Yet, the core values of each group may not be so different. Perhaps we should be ashamed of ourselves for allowing these deep divisions to even occur. After all, God (HaShem) tells us:

***"... do not stray to the right or to the left."*** (Deuteronomy [Devarim] 5:29 (portion)).

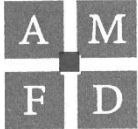
*This Torah Connection was inspired by the book 'The Spiritual Revolution of Rav Kook' by Rabbi Ari Ze'ev Schwartz, but is the sole responsibility of the author and specifically does NOT necessarily reflect those of the Board of Trustees of CBI, CBI, its membership, Reform Judaism, or Judaism. Please send any comments to the author at: [mlwaxer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mlwaxer@sbcglobal.net).*

DANIEL S. ROBBINS, Ph.D.  
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

26384 CARMEL RANCHO LANE, SUITE 203E  
CARMEL, CALIFORNIA 93923

(831) 626-6600

CAL. LIC. PSY6557



Ronald A. Kroll, D.D.S.  
Darcie M. Kroll, D.D.S.

Alta Mesa Family Dentistry

Telephone: (831) 649-4200 ■ Fax: (831) 649-4201  
335 El Dorado, Suite 1 ■ Monterey, California 93940  
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ANGELICA BLATT

BROKER ASSOCIATE

CalBRE 01248430

m: 831.206.8070

[AngelicaBlatt@gmail.com](mailto:AngelicaBlatt@gmail.com)

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**Congregation Beth Israel**  
**5716 Carmel Valley Road**  
**Carmel, CA 93923**  
**(831) 624-2015**

**E-mail:** [shalomcbi@aol.com](mailto:shalomcbi@aol.com)  
**Website:** [www.carmelbethisrael.org](http://www.carmelbethisrael.org)

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.

#### **Senior Staff**

Bruce Greenbaum - *Rabbi, D.D.*  
Suzanne Guinane – *Cantorial Soloist &*  
*Director of Education*

Julie Chase- *Administrator*  
Abby King- *Administrative Assistant/Facility Use*  
*Coordinator*  
Ruby Cohan-*Bookkeeper*

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## **Parshiot**

**August 1, Va'etchanan**

**T: Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11**

**H: Isaiah 40:1-26**

**August 8, Ekev**

**T: Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25**

**H: Isaiah 49:14-51:3**

**August 15, Re'eh**

**T: Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17**

**H: Isaiah 54:11-55:5**

**August 22, Shoftim**

**T: Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9**

**H: Isaiah 51:12-52:12**

**August 29, Ki Tetze**

**T: Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19**

**H: Isaiah 54:1-10**