



LONG TERM MEMBER BRUNCH



The event was on Sunday, 2/18, to honor our Congregation Beth Yam members of 10 years or more. The brunch was well attended.

Members had a chance to catch up and see friends they may not have seen recently.

Many of our founding members were in attendance and recognized for all they did to get our beloved temple started!

They were really thrilled to see our synagogue active and thriving!



TEMPLE TIDINGS

MARCH 2024

Adar I—Adar II 5784

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|
|  | | | | | 1 Candle Lighting 6:03 PM 6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service | 2 Parashat Ki Tisa |
| 3 8:30 AM Sanctuary & Social Halls Reserved | 4 10 AM Ritual Committee-Zoom 12 PM Men's Club Meeting & Lunch 3 PM Golf Committee Meeting 4:30 PM Executive Committee-Zoom 7 PM Mary Green Choral rehearsal | 5 | 6 9 AM Social Hall reserved 4 PM Staff Meeting-Zoom 5:15 PM Social Hall reserved 6:30 PM Dine Around | 7 | 8 Candle Lighting 6:08 PM 6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat | 9 Parashat Vayakhei Mevarchim Chodesh Adar II Shabbat Shekalim 10 AM Bar Mitzvah |
| 10 8:30 AM Sanctuary & Social Halls Reserved | 11 3 PM Golf Committee Meeting 4:30 PM Board Meeting 7 PM Mary Green Choral rehearsal | 12 | 13 9 AM Social Hall reserved 10 AM Communication Meeting-JRC 3 PM Endowment Trustees-Zoom 4 PM Staff Meeting-Zoom 5:15 PM Social Hall reserved | 14 10:30 AM Sisterhood Board Meeting-JRC | 15 Candle Lighting 7:13 PM Tidings deadline for articles or photos 9:30 AM CPR Class-Social Hall 6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service | 16 Parashat Pekudei |
| 17 8:30 AM Sanctuary & Social Halls Reserved 11:30 AM Kindlers of the Flame | 18 3 PM Golf Committee Meeting 7 PM Mary Green Choral rehearsal | 19 10 AM SAC Meeting 4 PM Membership Committee-Zoom | 20 9 AM Social Hall reserved 4 PM Staff Meeting-Zoom 5:15 PM Social Hall reserved | 21 Ta'anit Esther Fast ends 8:05 PM | 22 Candle Lighting 7:18 PM 6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service HHI 6:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service Bluffton | 23 Parashat Vayikra Erev Purim Shabbat Zachor 10 AM Torah Study |
| 24 Purim 8:30 AM Sanctuary & Social Halls Reserved 6 PM Purim Megillah Reading Service | 15 Shushan Purim 3 PM Golf Committee Meeting 7 PM Mary Green Choral rehearsal | 26 | 27 9 AM Social Hall reserved 3 PM Men's Club Board Meeting 4 PM Staff Meeting-Zoom 5:15 PM Social Hall reserved | 28 | 29 Candle Lighting 7:23 PM 7:30 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service | 30 Parashat Tzav Shabbat Parah |
| Sunday, 31 8:30 AM Sanctuary & Social Halls Reserved | | | | | | |

Rabbi's Message



I was driving home and the cell phone rang and it was Linda with our grandchildren Wesley and Sofi. Wesley asked me; "Grandpa, how old was Haman?" "Oye veh," I exclaimed to myself. I wasn't sure of the answer. First I said, "Old as the hills, Wesley." That didn't seem to work. He didn't get that metaphor. I tried, "He was really old." And Wesley quipped, "Like you Grandpa?" I suppose so", I sighed.

Then he asked, "How did Haman die?" I said, "Well

Wesley, they hung him from a rope in center of the city of Shushan." Before I could finish the sentence Linda interjected. "You mean Grandpa, they took him away so he wouldn't bother the Jews anymore." I waited a moment and exclaimed, "Oh yes, they must have taken him away."

There were other questions this inquisitive five year old posed to me about Purim. And I like the fact that he was asking questions and that his imagination was sparked even by the evil Haman. He then started asking me how old was Mordechai, Vashti and Esther were as well as King Achashverous at time of the famous Purim story.

What is important here is that imagination and the desire to know more about our heritage is percolating inside him. Whether we are five or seventy-five the idea is that feeling these biblical characters from Sarah and Abraham to Esther and the rest of the characters in the Purim story are part of our collective Jewish identity. They are part of who we are as a people. They saved us, counseled us and some even tried to destroy us. But somewhere deep down inside us despite following our everyday activities when these holidays come like

Purim is this month we can imagine that we were there or that we are inside that story too. Is it any different than if we were visiting a museum and gazing at a painting? Who were these people in the painting? What were they like? Or if we visited an ancient archaeological site and examined the artifacts wondering who used these utensils? The idea is that the imagination is what propels us to dig deeper into the history and memory and thereby into its meaning for us.

I did a little checking into the Book of Esther and nowhere is there a date assigned for Haman's age at the time of his death. But I came up with a theory. Since the book of Esther says that they hung Haman on gallows that were seventy-five feet high, I created my own midrash with rabbinic imagination that Haman was seventy five years old as well when they hung him. I supposed I will have to wait until he gets a little bit older before I tell him about the gallows part of the story but at least I am ready.

I encourage grandparents to tell these stories of our past to our grandchildren. Grandparents play such an important role in helping to develop a child's imagination. There are many opportunities to teach the youngest generation to imagine and to think about the community of Jewish identity that they belong to in their minds and hearts. If we do it now these images will stay with them the rest of their lives. Meh Dor l'Dor from one generation to the next.

I truly hope you will join us all on Sunday, March 24, for our lunch and Purim service. You know what they say in Jewish circles? 'Feed them and they will come.' So come over to the temple for a good Megillah shpiel that will make us all laugh, reading the Megillah, dress up in costume and eat hamantaschen afterwards. Sounds good doesn't it!

Hag Purim Sameah! A happy Purim celebration.

Rabbi Brad L. Bloom MSW DD. ☆





Message from the President—Joel N. Greene

Co-Creating our World

One thing we know about the world God created and gave us: this world is imperfect. Over the centuries, Jewish scholars have tried to reconcile the idea: How could a perfect God create such an imperfect world?

Nachmanides, the great 13th-century Rabbi, wrote, “The existence of suffering and evil is a problem for anyone who believes that God is good (benevolent), all powerful (omnipotent), and all-knowing (omniscient.)” The Book of Job asks why do some righteous people suffer? Ultimately, it suggests that it is fruitless for humans to try and figure out why God causes some righteous people to suffer.

We can also look at the imperfection of the world by acknowledging its “incompleteness.” This view, for example, is expressed, in the Mishkan T’Filah prayer book, as follows:

“I am a Jew because for Israel,
the world is not completed.
we are completing it.

I am a Jew because for Israel,
humanity is not created.
We are creating it.”

These are also important expressions about our role as co-creators, and how our actions (and free will) ultimately help shape our world.

Perhaps the world at one point was perfect, however, we are no longer in the Garden of Eden. Given the state of the world in which we find ourselves, perhaps that is why the concept of Tikkun Olam exists in Judaism. Tikkun Olam sees a world that is imperfect and in disarray. More importantly, Jews have an inherent obligation to try and heal this world and make it a better place. Without doubt, God is asking a lot of us.

No doubt, Moses thought so, too. As he was standing in front of the burning bush on Mt. Sinai, Moses asked God two questions. First, he asked, “Who are you?” to obtain God’s name. Moses then asked a second, surprising question, “Who am I”? This second question is crucial for all of us. According to Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, Moses is asking, “Why am I being chosen? What capabilities and skills do I possess that would enable me to tackle the tasks you are asking me to do?”

Jewish scholars have suggested that Tikkun Olam is “an expression of divine providence,” meaning that God’s influence is present and operating in our lives. In effect, God is challenging us with a specific obligation or “task that only we can fulfill.” How do we accomplish this?

It’s important to remember God created the world by using the power of words. Similarly, we have the power to create our environments and communities by

motivating or changing others, often by using the power of words and ideas. By doing so, we effectively become co-creators with God.

Rabbi Sacks gives us a specific example of how we can be co-creators with God by using the power of words: A school in the UK was floundering. Its enrollment had dropped from 1,000 students to fewer than 500. Test scores were abysmal, and unless something changed, the school would have to close. It became clear to Rabbi Sacks that the school had developed a negative organizational culture which caused the problems they were having.

In speaking to the school’s headmistress, Rabbi Sacks suggested that the school would need to live by one word. In this case, he suggested the word, “celebrate.” Although the headmistress was skeptical, Rabbi Sacks told her to find something to celebrate: “If a single student has done better this week than last week, celebrate. If someone has a birthday, celebrate. If it’s Tuesday, celebrate!”

According to Rabbi Sacks, the school experienced an amazing turnaround, growing to over 1,000 students within one year. The power of living the one word, “celebrate,” resulted in its remarkable renewal. The headmistress was made a dame of the British Empire for her contributions to education, thus changing the school and her life.

Like what Rabbi Sacks has suggested, perhaps we too can benefit from the power of “living one word.” For Congregation Beth Yam, I suggest the word we should live by is “praise,” a word that reminds us to appreciate the work that others are doing in the synagogue. This is a synagogue where our success depends on how well we work together. Therefore, let us remember to praise each individual for what they do, including their accomplishments, their efforts, their talents, and their contributions.

Living one word is not an easy task. It means being alert to opportunities to show praise and appreciation for what others are trying to accomplish. By utilizing the power of one word, “praise”, we can recognize when others are doing their very best. By accentuating the positive, our esprit-de-corps – feelings of fellowship, pride and loyalty as members of Beth Yam—becomes positive too. If we do this often enough, I believe too that our synagogue will flourish, and that we will help create positive future outcomes by becoming co-creators with God. ☆

MEMBERSHIP



Membership Committee— Robin Katz , Pat Levitt, David Perlman, Co-chairs

Welcome to our newest members:
Tal Gur & Elie Nadger and their
children. honorable Megan Tallmer

Thank you to our February Shabbat Service Greeters:

Warren Zelman, Pat & Cary Levitt, Carol Walters,
Rita Suntup.

Please reach out to Pat or Robin if you would like
to have the honor of being a greeter before a service.

Events:

The Long-Term Member Brunch was held on
February 18. We had close to 100 members join in
the festivities as we celebrated those who have been
members for 10 + years. The mimosa bar was a hit
with Bonnie and Jon Bloom serving as our bartenders.
A big thank you to all who attended and those who
volunteered their time to make this event happen.

Upcoming Events:

- Tuesday, April 23: Congregational Sedar
- Friday, April 26: Passover Bake-off Oneg
(with prizes)
- **The Daffodil Project:** Our daffodils are blooming!
We participated in the worldwide Living Holocaust
Memorial by planting daffodils in remembrance of
the 1.5 million children who perished in the
Holocaust. Look for an article about our project with
the Religious School in the Yom HaShoah Island
Packet Supplement in April. ☆



Ritual Committee—Janet Kelley, Chair



One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Jewish

The Ritual Committee is excited that this year our Purim
celebration will be geared for the young and not-so-young
alike. Purim falls on Sunday, March 24, this year. We will start
with a congregational lunch at 11:00 AM followed by the service.
There will be Purim spiels with groggers, singing and music.

Following the service, there will be a dessert reception with
Hamantaschen. Our theme this year is Dr. Suess (although no Green Eggs and
Ham at the synagogue please). So don't be one of the Sneetches and stay at home.
Be a Fox in Socks and Hop on Pop to get to Meeting Street (not Mulberry Street).
The Cat in the Hat Comes Back and so should you! Look for more details in upcoming
weekly emails. Oh, the Places You'll Go to celebrate Purim! ☆



The Guardian Society/Benefactors of the Beth Yam Endowment Fund—David Katz, Chair



For many of us, there is a compelling need to make a difference in the world in which we live. Your gift to the Congregation Beth Yam Endowment Fund can do just that.

Endowed funds differ from other funds in that the total amount of the gift is invested. Only income earned is available to spend either in the year earned or in the future. Donations (gifts) to the Endowment can only be spent in very restricted circumstances. In this respect, a donation to the endowment is a perpetual gift that keeps on giving.

We want to invite you to become a member of the Beth Yam Guardian Society or to become a Benefactor of the Endowment. The Guardian Society members and Benefactors represent generous and forward-thinking donors who support our synagogue's long-term success. It's easy to do.

To become a member of the Endowment Fund's Guardian Society:

- Include Beth Yam in your Legacy documents or,
- Donate \$2,500 to the Endowment Fund or,
- Donate \$1,000 with an additional pledge of \$1,500 to be paid over the next five years.

To become a Benefactor of the Endowment Fund:

- Make a monetary donation of any value to the Endowment Fund.
- Each fiscal year, donating benefactors will be identified in the Tidings.
- When your cumulative donations reach \$2,500 you are automatically included in the Guardian Society.

The following Congregants are the current Trustees of the Endowment Committee:

David Katz, Chairperson

Judy Bluestone
Doug Luba
Jeff Shapiro
Jim Titus

The following Congregants are the current Advisors to the Endowment Committee:

John Box
Ted David
Jane Joseph
Richard Rothbard

Please contact any of us with questions or assistance in how to donate to the Congregation Beth Yam Endowment Fund. ☆

Fundraising Committee—Gene Meyers, Chair

Congregants: Our May On-Line Auction is Congregation Beth Yam's biggest fundraising event. There are three ways you can help reach our goal.

- **BE A SPONSOR!** Approximately half of our last goal was reached when members and businesses purchased sponsorships. [Click here](#) for the auction form link.
- **SELL AN ITEM OR SERVICE!** [Click here](#) for the auction form that can be used to submit an item or service for the auction. Contribute an item yourself or visit a business and ask for a contribution.
- **BID!** Tell your family, friends, neighbors and people you know around the world of this fantastic opportunity. [Click here](#) for the auction form. Use them yourself or share them with others. We're here to help, only a phone call or email away.

Remember, the auction will be a success because of you!

Thank you, ☆

Ted David
On-Line Auction Chair

Gene Meyers
Fundraising Committee Chair





Sisterhood— Helen Hauer, President

Sisterhood and You— By Ellen Jenner

Hello Sisters:

Your Sisterhood is working hard to bring you a special spring. We are still basking in the glow of our fashion show, which was not only a success but so much fun, seeing one another after the winter season.

Coming up are several Sisterhood sponsored events. On March 14 the book group will meet at Palmetto Dunes to discuss *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel. No registration is needed, but please let Rita Suntup know so she can let the site know how many to expect. The following week, on March 27, we will be visiting the Mighty Eighth Museum in Pooler, GA. This excursion is limited to 20 participants. Please RSVP via website www.bethyam.org or contact Debbie Lucca with any questions. The tour is a \$22, includes admission, tour and lunch. We will meet at Beth Yam to carpool at 11:00 AM.

Our big spring event is the Women's Seder scheduled for Thursday, April 4, at 11:00 AM. Cost is \$20 and includes a complete lunch. The updated Hagaddah pays tribute to modern female heroes as well as biblical ones. Registration is required. Just click on the advertisements in this issue, on pg 12-13, or on *Tuesdays@2* and you will be taken to the website where you can pay. Feel free to bring a guest at the same \$20 price. If you can help with food contributions: parsley, charoset, or desserts, please contact Ellyn Levin. We will once again have the pleasure of music from David Kimbell and Rachel Pepin at this event. ☆



Mens Club—Jeff Shapiro

On behalf of the Congregation Beth Yam Men's Club Board of Directors I'd like to invite you to join the Congregation Beth Yam Men's Club. Our membership currently stands at 88 and we are looking forward to expanding our membership with your participation.

For those of you unfamiliar with our Men's Club, we are an affiliate organization of Congregation Beth Yam. Club membership is open to all adult male members of Congregation Beth Yam. We meet monthly for lunch, generally at a restaurant on or off the Island. We also plan various events and outings throughout the year for our members to enjoy, including a monthly "Dine Around" and an annual Beth Yam Golf Tournament.

The February Men's Club lunch was at Fat Baby's Pizza on the south side of the Island on February 5, 2024. We had 26 hungry members join for lunch, camaraderie, and conversation. Watch *Tuesdays@2* for the next date and location.

The "Dine Around" for men and women of Beth Yam was held at Okko Japanese Sushi and Hibachi in the Port Royal Plaza on February 7, 2024. Joining us were 38 members for an exciting evening of great food, interesting stories, and meeting some of our newest members.

The Men's Club Board of Directors is currently busy planning the events and activities for the 2024 spring and fall seasons, which will involve the "waterways" around our Island.

We are here to provide a fun and rewarding experience for our members and the goodwill of the Beth Yam community at large.

For new members of Congregation Beth Yam, your first year's \$36 dues are waived, so please come join us. Contact me at mensclub@bethyam.org and I will add your name to our Men's Club Roster

All the best,
Jeff ☆



ATTENTION CONGREGATION BETH YAM MEMBERS.....

Have you checked out our new website yet?

You'll find lots of good information about all our services and exciting events! We are in the process of making all event registrations and RSVPs available to logged in members through slides on the home page and calendar links.

Log in today!

Just go to www.bethyam.org and tap LOGIN in the upper right corner of the home page. Next, tap FORGOT PASSWORD and enter the email address for your Beth Yam account on the next screen. Press EMAIL PASSWORD button and check your email for the link to choose your password.

Or contact Diane Butcaris for personal assistance in logging in and getting a password. It takes less than 2 minutes!



A Passion for Fashion Show—

By Sally Vosk, Chair

On February 1, 2024, Beth Yam Sisterhood held their Passion for Fashion show. We had a wonderful turnout of over 40 Sisterhood members and guests. We have the best bakers at Beth Yam. All the desserts were delicious.

Fashions were provided by Aiden Lane and modeled by our own Sisterhood members. We would like to thank Randy Alhanti, Linda Levy, Nadyne Ulicny, Sheryl Menacker and Lorna Bonner for modeling. They did a wonderful job and looked lovely in all the clothes.

Thank you to those ladies who helped us set up and clean up. You are very much appreciated.

A special shout out to Aiden Lane, Denise, Susan, and Christine. You ladies were so easy and professional to work with. All members who attended received a 20% discount from Aiden Lane. Sisterhood looks forward to seeing all of you at our Women's Seder on April 4, 2024.

We are also looking for new board members. We have several positions that will be opening. Please contact Sally Vosk or Sheila Margeson for information.

If you have any suggestions or ideas for events that you would like to see happen, please let us know. ☆



Safety and Security Committee— Walt Margeson, Chair

The committee received a FEMA Non-Profit Security Grant for 2023-24.

It will allow us to upgrade security in and around the synagogue. Specifically, we will be covering all windows with a special, shatter-proof film, up-grading security cameras and related technical devices and improve our outdoor lighting. This endeavor will take many months as complying with federal and state rules and regulations takes time.

We applied for this grant in 2023. We were fortunate to receive it as many other synagogues and Jewish organization applied also. Once implemented, we will all benefit from the improvements. ☆



BETH YAM

Our Life.

Our Spirit.

Our Community.

MAZEL TOV!

moments



Mazel Tov to David Roth for his hard work so far his school year. A straight-A honor student, David recently had success at the South Carolina state Junior Beta Club convention, taking 4th place in the Spelling Bee which gives him the opportunity to compete at the National Convention. He took first place in the environmental category of his school's science fair and will advance for the second year to the Sea Islands Regional Science Fair competition. With his busy 7th grade schedule, he still finds time for Debate Club, Scouts, Bar Mitzvah prep, and chilling out with his friends. Mazel Tov David!

The photo was from his first debate where he was one of just three middle schoolers to place against high schoolers in the tournament. ☆



Mazel Tov Moments—Sheila Margeson

Mazel Tov Moments. If you have a special event to share with your Beth Yam family, please send a short story and picture if available to: Sheila Margeson by the 15th of the month. ☆



Dear Congregation Beth Yam,

I cannot begin to express my deep gratitude to everyone who attended the service for Howard! Thank you all for your cards, donations, food and for the respect and love that were evident all around the room. I will never forget all the kindness that was shown to a man who worked tirelessly and passionately for the temple and loved every minute of the challenges that he managed to face. So please accept my thanks to all who knew and loved him as a solver of problems, a man of truth and, a man worth calling "friend".

Sheri Farbstein ☆



Friends of Beth Yam—Judy Bluestone & Jack Resnick, Co-chairs

Happy 2024 to our Beth Yam Friends and “Friends to Be”. We have been gratified by the generous response of our donors to date, and we thank you so much. At the same time, we are waiting to hear from those of you who have given to our past campaigns and those who have never given. Please...as you plan your donations for the new year, don't forget to give generously to Friends of Beth Yam.

We know how many worthy causes have made their cases for support through well-funded campaigns this season of giving. Please remember that the impact of your gift to Friends is immediate and local. Congregation Beth Yam is the voice of the Jewish community in Hilton Head and beyond, and your home for spiritual and Jewish civic activities.

Thank you in advance for your support and may you have a year of joy, good health and blessings for you and your family. ✧



SHABBAT SHALOM

MARCH SERVICES...

| | | |
|----------------------|---|----------|
| ★ Friday, March 1 | Kabbalat Shabbat Service | 6:00 PM |
| ★ Saturday, March 2 | Bar Mitzvah Service | 10:00 AM |
| ★ Friday, March 8 | Kabbalat Shabbat Service | 6:00 PM |
| ★ Thursday, March 9 | Bar Mitzvah Service | 10:00 AM |
| ★ Friday, March 15 | Kabbalat Shabbat Service | 6:00 PM |
| ★ Friday, March 22 | Kabbalat Shabbat Service—HHI | 6:00 PM |
| ★ Friday, March 22 | Kabbalat Shabbat Service—Bluffton | 6:30 PM |
| ★ Saturday, March 23 | Torah Study— Vayikra Ritual vs Ethics: What makes religion effective in a world of the increasing unaffiliated? | 10:00 AM |
| ★ Sunday, March 24 | Purim Megillah Reading Service | 6:00 PM |
| ★ Friday, March 29 | Shabbat Service | 7:30 PM |



Mark Your
Calendars!



**Attention
Pickle-Ball Lovers**

Weekly Group Play for Men & Women!
Thursday's, 1:00 – 2:30 PM Palmetto Dunes
To reserve a spot contact Bonnie Bloom!

SAVE THE DATE

March 24

Congregation Beth Yam
Purim Service.
A celebration of
Generations and Faith,
followed by a luncheon.
Details coming soon!

See Tuesdays @ 2
for details

Calling all
Congregation
Beth Yam Members!
We are looking for candidates
to serve on our Board of
Directors for the upcoming
year, which will start in June 2024.
If you have a vision for the future,
while keeping our past sacred,
please contact the Nominations
Chair, Stuart Gaynes,
stu.gaynes@gmail.com
or (913) 526-5687



BETH YAM

Our Life.
Our Spirit.
Our Community.

Sisterhood Members...

Join us on March 27 for an important glimpse of history

Buffet Lunch

Salad, Rolls, Chicken,
Green Beans, Potatoes,
Beverages & Dessert



Lunch and Tour

We will meet at Congregation Beth
Yam at 11:00 AM and carpool to
Pooler, GA.s

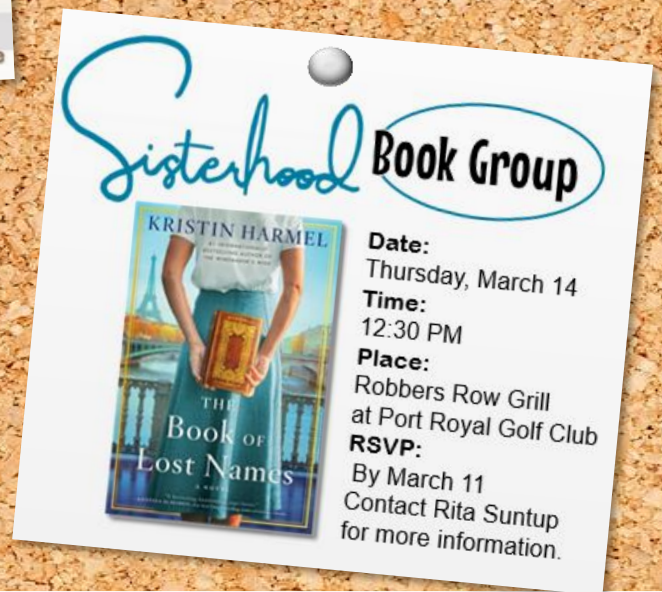
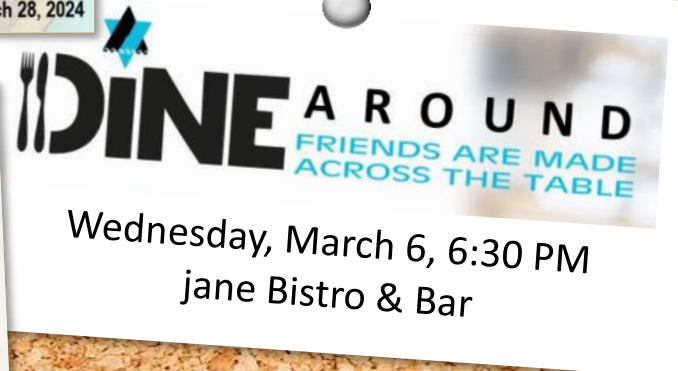
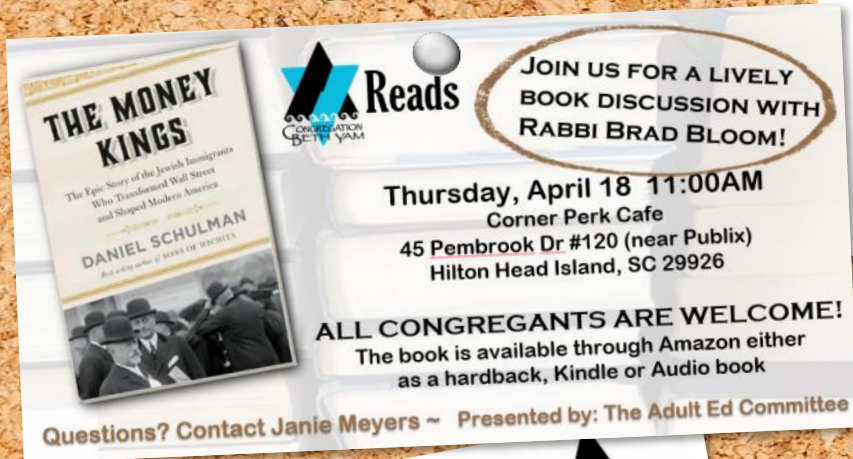
Guided Tour

2 Hours
Cost: \$22 – includes:
Tour, Lunch, Tips & Taxes



RSVP by March 13 via website www.bethyam.org
Contact Debbie Lucca with any questions.
Limited of 20 members

Sisterhood



Congregation Beth Yam
4501 Meeting Street
Hilton Head Island
South Carolina
29926

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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4501 Meeting Street
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926
(843) 689-2178
fax (843) 681-5531
info@bethyam.org

Editorial Staff
Ellyn Armistead
Diane Butcaris
Michele Johnson
Sheila Margeson

Deadline for submitting materials
is the 15th of the month preceding
publication date. The Editor
reserves the right to select and
edit materials which are
submitted.

Please submit articles to
Sheila Margeson by email at
tidings@bethyam.org
or USB flash drive by the
15th of each month.

streamspot® To view active or recent live-stream videos of services go to
[Congregation Beth Yam | StreamSpot](https://venue.streamspot.com/c3408706)
(<https://venue.streamspot.com/c3408706>)

Be Sure to Follow Us!



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Please follow our members-only
Facebook group, Beth Yam Connect
to keep up with CBY events

2023/2024 Board of Directors



OFFICERS

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
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