



# WORLD WIDE WRAP



CONNECTING JEWS ACROSS GENERATIONS  
Sunday, February 12th at 9:00am

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## BETH SHOLOM B'NAI ISRAEL

400 Middle Turnpike East, Manchester, CT 06040  
(860) 643-9563 [www.myshul.org](http://www.myshul.org)

### Clergy

**Rabbi:** Randall J. Konigsburg  
[rabbenu@myshul.org](mailto:rabbenu@myshul.org)

**Rabbi Emeritus:** Richard J. Plavin

### Staff

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### BSBI Board of Directors

**President:** Russ Benblatt

**Co-Vice Presidents of Finance:** Alan & Hope Igdalsky

**Co-Vice Presidents of Membership:** Judy Meyer / Ilene O'Neil

**Co-Vice Presidents of Ritual:** Maury Luxemburg / Paul Rubin

**Co-Vice Presidents of Education:** Rebecca Rumbo / Bea Brodie

**Vice President of Administration:** Ron Abrahams

**Vice President of Buildings & Grounds:** Ed Reilly

**Recording Secretary:** Steven Wollins

**Immediate Past Co-Presidents:** Dawn & Jack Steigelfest

**Sisterhood Representative:** Brina Abrahams

**Brotherhood Representative:** Dave Alter

**Board of Trustees Representative:** Gordon Brodie

**Member At Large:** Jay Bigman

**Member At Large:** Liza Mandel

**Member At Large:** Spin Zucker

**Chair, Personnel:** Mike Turk

**Co-Chairs, Social Action:** Deb Carlson / Susan Mendelsohn

**Chair, Adult Programming:** Gayle Block

**Legal Counsel:** Bruce Beck

### Services

**Monday - Thursday:** 7:00 PM

**Friday:** 6:00 PM

**Saturday:** 10:00 AM

All service times are as listed above unless otherwise noted in the calendar. The entire community is welcome to attend our services.

AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF  
CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

Call the Rabbi!

Rabbi Konigsburg visits the local hospitals on a regular basis. An important part of his duties is to bring comfort and healing to those who are sick. Due to privacy laws, the hospitals can't tell him if one of our members has been admitted. He could be just down the hall, but if he doesn't know someone is there, he will not know to make a visit.

Please call the Rabbi if you or someone you know is in the hospital so a timely visit can be made: 860-643-9563



Find us on  
**Facebook**

[facebook.com/myshul](https://facebook.com/myshul)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Shabbat, February 4 (Shevat 13)**  
7:00pm Sisterhood Film Night

**Monday, February 6: Tu B'Shvat (Shevat 15)**  
7:30pm Wisdom in Winter

**Tuesday, February 7 (Shevat 16)**  
12:00pm Lunch & Learn  
7:30pm BSBI Academy

**Shabbat, February 11 (Shevat 20)**  
10:00am Brotherhood Shabbat

**Sunday, February 12 (Shevat 21)**  
9:00am World Wide Wrap  
9:00am Morning Minyan  
9:30am Brotherhood Breakfast & Speaker

**Monday, February 13 (Shevat 22)**  
7:30pm Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Club

**Tuesday, February 14 (Shevat 23)**  
12:00pm Lunch & Learn  
1:30pm Knit & Kvetch  
7:30pm BSBI Academy

**Wednesday, February 15 (Shevat 24)**  
7:30pm BOD Board Meeting

**Tuesday, February 21: Rosh Chodesh Adar (Shevat 30)**  
12:00pm Lunch & Learn  
7:30pm BSBI Academy

**Shabbat, February 25 (Adar 4)**  
10:00am Junior Congregation

**Sunday, February 26 (Adar 5)**  
10:00am Sisterhood Adventure Walk

**Tuesday, February 28 (Adar 7)**  
12:00pm Lunch & Learn  
7:30pm Sisterhood Board Meeting

### Condolences to:

his children, Stacey (John) Poutre, Bonnie (Paul) Stokosa, and to his entire family on the loss of Robert Reuben

her children, Stuart (Jenny) Rabinowitz, Ruth Gordon, Jerry (Nancy Pawlowski) Rabinowitz, and to her entire family on the loss of Miriam Rabinowitz.

her sisters Susan Stoppelman and Janet (Charles) Hollander, her spouse Jack Baskies, son Jeffrey (Nancy) Baskies, and to her entire family on the loss of Bethann Baskies



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## Faith, Hope and Prayer

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After my high school graduation, when I went off to college, I began to realize that nothing in my life was going to be the same. The friends that I thought would be in my life forever moved on to other colleges and other cities. Decisions that I thought I had made about my future were suddenly up in the air as I tried to focus on what was really important in my life. For the first time, I really had no idea where my future would take me.

As I approach my retirement, I find I am in a similar situation. Many of my friends have retired and moved to other locations, or are still traveling around the country. Decisions that have guided my life for over 40 years are suddenly up in the air again. Once again, I have no idea where the future will be taking me.

It is, therefore, with a measure of both sadness and excitement, that my time has come to retire from the active rabbinate. This year will mark 40 years since my ordination in 1983. I have voted to let women be rabbis. I have seen the publication of three siddurim by our movement, each one better than the one before. My rabbinical school has had four chancellors and built two libraries. Today they only house a collection of rare books; the library is stored away and most of the volumes are available in digital format. I watched as cantors moved from old world music to modern music, to instrumental music, to spiritual music. I have watched the world move away from religion, not realizing that we all need religion far more than we think.

I have also watched my old textbooks go out of date. Rituals change to respond to changes in society. In 1983 we did not have prayers for same-sex marriages, for infertile couples, or invocations for Pride Day events. I have watched my younger colleagues, who are digital natives, do things in their congregations that I never thought possible. The rabbis who mentored me retired long ago. The rabbis who are my closest colleagues are retiring. Rabbinical Schools are adjusting their curricula to speak to a new generation of rabbinical students.

I consider myself far ahead of my colleagues who just could not adjust to computers and the internet. My own children, rabbis themselves, are amazed that I have kept up with the world over the last 40 years. They have taught me to speak in gender-neutral terms, to not make assumptions about the lifestyle of the people I meet, and how to avoid microaggression in my speech. I am always looking to improve my rabbinic skills. It was never about me. It was always how I could serve the Jewish people and to serve God the best way I know how.

Now I am back to where I started over 40 years ago: not sure what the future holds. Not sure about what my life will look like in the near future. Now I have grandchildren to play with. Places to visit that I have long wished to see. Maybe to mentor a younger colleague as once I was mentored. God knows what the future is all about and, as always, I leave myself in God's hands.

This July I will begin the last year of my contract with BSBI. We will have one more chance to circle through the Jewish year together. It will then be time for another rabbi to pick up and carry our congregation forward. We have lots of time, over the next year and a half, to share some last special moments. And we still have lots of work to do together. I am looking forward for this last year together and waiting to learn what the year beyond will hold.

Rabbi Randall J. Konigsburg



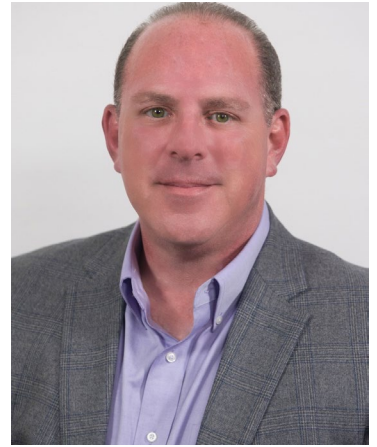
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## Words from the President

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I write to you all with a mix of emotions this month. If you've read the Rabbi's article, or saw the email we sent recently, then you already know that Rabbi Konigsburg will be retiring in 2024.

When my family and I first moved to Connecticut and joined the congregation here at BSBI, it was shortly before Rabbi Plavin announced his retirement. Soon after, we began the search that would ultimately bring Rabbi Konigsburg to us all. One of the things that I truly enjoyed about the search was how inclusive it was. From the open conversations at the shul, to the smaller, more intimate gatherings around the community, we were all a part of it.



While we don't have the details of how the search will progress yet, I can promise you one thing ... you will all be an integral part of the process, to the extent you wish.

Now on a personal note — I want to thank you, Rabbi K., for the last seven years of spiritual leadership, partnership, and friendship. You've been there for us in good times and bad, you've led us through a pandemic and back again, and even though your time with us has been short, we'll all remember you fondly.

As G-d blessed our ancestors on their journeys, so may you be blessed as you embark on the journey of your retirement. May you find rest and challenge, quiet and adventure. May you be sustained by the achievements of your work life and inspired by the possibilities of what lies ahead. May you allow yourself to experience silence and rest, and may you open yourself to the new music that may emerge from that silence.

Retire from work, but not from life. Now go play with your grandchildren!

Russ Benblatt  
President  
Beth Sholom B'nai Israel

## Welcome, New Members!

This month we have 2 new Members, Sidney & Carol Goldstein. Whenever you meet them, please introduce yourself and give them a warm welcome!

Judy Meyer and Ilene O'Neil  
Co-VPs of Membership

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## Community Events

### Rabbi Richard Plavin Library David Alter, Librarian

Beth Sholom B'nai Israel features an extensive collection of children's and teen's books. The collection is divided into 3 categories: JE, J and YA. The classifications are defined as follows: **JE** are Juvenile Easy Readers, and are mostly picture books, with usually a few lines of print. They're read-aloud books that a parent would read to a child. **J** books are for younger children, but books that they can probably read themselves. **YA** are Young Adult books. They're generally chapter books, often about subjects that are more appropriate for grades 5 and up.



#### Several new books have been added to our collection:

*Goodnight Sh'ma* – JE 262 JUL – A little boy says the Sh'ma before he goes to bed.

*Pinky Bloom and the Case of the Silent Shofar* – YA F PRE – Penina “Pinky” Bloom is starting a pet-sitting business, which means she has even more cases than usual on her plate: a missing pet, a suspicious pet shop employee, and her dad's strangely silent shofar.

*When Lightnin' Struck* – YA F ROS – In Odessa, Texas, in 1927, eleven-year-old James is dealing with his family's streak of misfortunes, battling a school bully, and searching for his purpose in life when a family secret changes everything.

*The Topsy-Turvy Bus* – JE F PAN – Join a busload of kids on the Topsy-Turvy Bus as it travels around the country teaching communities the importance of taking care of the Earth

*Hannah G. Solomon Dared to Make a Difference* – YA 323 LIN – When Hannah G. Solomon looked around Chicago, the city where she was born, she saw unfairness all around her. When she grew up, she founded the National Council of Jewish Women—the first organization to unite Jewish women around the country—and fought to make life better for others

*A Queen to the Rescue* – YA B CHU – This picture book biography tells the story of Henrietta Szold, founder of the charity Hadassah. Disturbed by the prejudice and lack of opportunities she saw Jewish immigrants endure in the late 19th century, she opened a night school to teach English. In 1912 she founded Hadassah to provide Palestinian children of all faiths with much-needed food, health care, and education. Inspired by the Jewish story of Esther, she worked tirelessly to rescue Jewish children from Germany and the Soviet Union, saving over 11,000 children and finding them safe homes. Henrietta's story provides a model for social justice and how to work for it, no matter the obstacles.

*The Stars will be my Nightlight* – JE 243 HAL – When a boy and his mother spend the night in the sukkah and it begins to rain, she gently reassures her son that the sukkah will protect them just as it did their ancestors when they left Egypt.

*Mrs. Noah's Doves* – J F YOL – Mrs. Noah nurses injured birds and brings them on board the ark when the heavy rains come, saving a special mission for the doves.

### Update Your Contact Information!

- Have a new cell number or gave up your landline?
- Want to be added to our email list to get our bi-weekly announcements, sad news notifications and other important information related to the congregation?
- Think you signed up to get emails but haven't received any?
- Planning on moving or getting a new email address?
- Have a child who has gone off to college and would like to keep up to date with life at BSBI?
- Please contact the office directly regarding ANY changes or issues by or by sending an email to [admin@myshul.org](mailto:admin@myshul.org).

*REMEMBER: We cannot reach you if our records are not up to date!*

### Siddurim Recall

As we continue to have more of our services in person, we need to “recall” the daily and Shabbat siddurim that people borrowed during the peak of our health emergency. **As most of the siddurim that everyone borrowed have dedications attached to them, we are asking that they be returned to the synagogue.** If you should want to purchase a siddur for your personal use, feel free to contact the rabbi, who can help you with this purchase. When you return your siddurim, please let the office know, so we can keep our lists accurate of who still retains siddurim. Thank you for your efforts in this matter.



The Ritual Committee

Beth Sholom B'nai Israel 5



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## Community Events

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### **Jazz Festival 2022- Thank You**



The 2022 Manchester CT Jazz Festival was a resounding success! The music was phenomenal, the audience excited! The attendees included a large number of members from BSBI and many others from the general public. Financially, the festival was successful, producing a net profit of \$9,200.00 from sponsorships, donations and tickets sales.

I wish to thank my committee and all who volunteered to help on the night of the festival. High praise to Russ Benblatt for his efforts in developing our free-standing web site, [manchesterctjazzfest.com](http://manchesterctjazzfest.com). This gained us many advantages that we lacked in the past and that are now in place for future festivals. This event would not have been possible without the support of our office staff, Judy and Allison Sawtelle.

Many thanks to Glenn and Tiffany Blumenstein for printing the play bills, and to our bakers Brina Abrahams and Maxine Lerman for their delicious home-made chocolate chip cookies. Lastly, thanks to our Artistic Director, Alex Nakhimovsky, on whom we rely on for his guidance in acquiring quality performers and working through the maze of details necessary to present the festival in the best manner possible. The jazz committee has already met and is in the process of planning our next festival on Saturday evening, December 2, 2023. So, **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

Ken Wichman  
Festival Producer

### **RELAX OR MEET IN OUR NEW LOUNGE**

Over the past few months, Room 1 in the school wing has been transformed into a comfortable lounge area. This is a place for school parents to wait for their children, individuals to sit comfortably, and for small groups to meet. In the next few weeks, additional renovations will be made to make the area even more inviting. We hope that members will utilize this new space that is a welcome addition to the building.



### **Jewry Duty at BSBI**

With the end of the health emergency status, we have reinstated the requirement of having an in-person daily evening minyan. There will still be the option to participate with the minyan via our ZOOM link, but we will need ten people in the chapel to meet the physical requirement of a minyan (those involved via ZOOM will not be able to be counted in "the ten").

If you have not already, please sign up to attend one evening a month to help us reach the necessary ten people to support those within our community who are saying Kaddish. Feel free to offer to attend more than once a month if you can; your effort and presence will always be appreciated.



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# Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School Update

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## RLWRS Students Take the Stage

This year's Latkes and Lights program, which celebrated the first night of Hanukkah, was a great success, with more than 70 people in attendance. Not only were the latkes and cookies delicious (hearty thanks to our latke makers and cookie bakers), but the entertainment, provided by the religious school students, was the highlight of the evening. The children sang the blessings outside as the menorah was lit, and then joined together on-stage for a medley of Hanukkah tunes, accompanied by Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz on guitar. That was followed by a delightful rap, "Judy Maccabee," composed by one of the students, which encouraged the audience to join in. To say that everyone was "kvelling" would be an understatement. Our gratitude to Rabbi Alan and his students for a delightful evening.

Thanks to the efforts of the synagogue Programming Committee, Room 1 has been repurposed into a comfortable lounge. It is the perfect spot to wait for children in the religious school, have a small meeting, or simply have a space to work or sit and chat with others.

Photography: Harold Bernstein



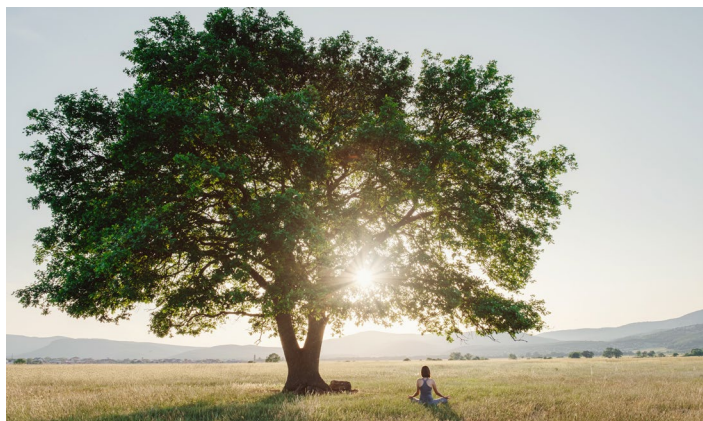
## A Teaching Moment from Rabbi Alan: New Year for the Trees

Judaism provides another New Year celebration: Tu BiShvat, the new year for trees. It has ancient origins, though at first rabbinic writing paid it little attention.

The Mishnah speaks of a new year for trees in the Hebrew month of Shvat—a date setting the beginning of the year's agricultural cycle. However, Tu BiShvat did not remain simply an agricultural anniversary. It came to be regarded as the day of Divine judgment on trees, when the fate of the trees was decided in heaven. Would they flourish and grow? Would they wither and shrink? Would they suffer from adverse weather and harmful insects, or would they stand up to all dangers? The language seems to echo the U-Netaneh Tokef passage of the High Holy Day liturgy.

In Judaism, trees were treated with great respect and even honor. Human life was likened to a tree. The Torah was called a Tree of Life (Etz Chaim). It was forbidden to dwell in a place where there were no trees. There was a custom to plant a cedar sapling when a boy was born, and a cypress on the birth of a girl: the cedar symbolized height and strength, the cypress tenderness and fragrance. As the children grew, they carefully tended their trees; and it was their own trees which were eventually used for their marriage canopy.

In the Diaspora, Tu BiShvat is celebrated as a tribute to the Holy Land. The day has become a feast-day for eating fruit, especially the types of fruit known in Israel. In Jewish mysticism, eating fruit on this day is a means of atoning for Adam's sin of eating the forbidden fruit. Everywhere, even in wintry northern regions such as New England, Tu BiShvat recalls the beloved homeland and symbolizes faith in the tree-like stability and indestructibility of the people of Israel.



For modern Israel, Tu BiShvat has become an ecological holiday, recognizing not only the beauty and dignity of trees, but their practical value in turning back the wilderness and bringing about the day when people shall say, "This land that was desolate has become like the Garden of Eden!"

We will be celebrating Tu BiShvat in our school on Thursday, February 2, as we will be learning about the value of trees and gifts of Israeli treats. On this day of celebration, it will be spring in Israel, and a reminder that spring will soon return to us as well.

Rabbi Alan  
Education Director





## Celebration Dates



### Happy Birthday to:

Debra Carlson 2/1	Donna Caplin 2/17
Rennette Resnick 2/2	Joel Lang 2/17
Alan Feir 2/3	David Riedel 2/17
Herbert Koenig 2/3	Ira Fink 2/17
Manuel Lerman 2/5	Susan Mendelsohn 2/17
Ted Lloyd 2/6	Thomas Mastronarde 2/18
Jay Bigman 2/6	Anne Herman 2/20
Miriam Schwartz 2/7	Kristen Hauer 2/21
Maxine Lerman 2/9	Barbara Bayer 2/22
Edward Reilly 2/9	Michelle Konigsburg 2/23
Neil Ellis 2/10	Trudy Singer 2/24
Wendy Videll 2/12	Elijah Blumenstein 2/25
Andrea Tardif 2/13	Robert Caplin 2/26
Lisa Plavin 2/16	Barry Haight 2/28

### Happy Anniversary to:

Harvey & Elaine Kahaner 2/2
Cara Taback & Alexander Feinstein 2/8
Lorin Pasternak & Scott Brennan 2/17
Drs. Peter & Emily Buch 2/17



Have a simcha you want to share with the congregation? Make sure to notify Allison at [programming@myshul.org](mailto:programming@myshul.org) so she can include it in the bulletin!



If we have overlooked a special date please contact us at: 860-643-9563 ext. 100 so that we may celebrate it in the future.



## What's Ahead for Sisterhood

**Saturday, February 4**

7:00pm: Sisterhood Film Night

**Monday, February 13**

7:30pm: Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Group

**Tuesday, February 14**

1:30 pm: Knit and Kvetch

**Sunday, February 26**

10:00 am: Adventure Walk

**Tuesday, February 28**

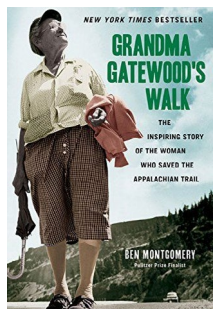
7:30 pm Sisterhood Zoom Board Meeting

### Share an Oneg

The pulpit flowers on January 21, Sisterhood Shabbat, were sponsored by Sisterhood.

Call or email me if you would like to enhance your Simcha with pulpit flowers.

Mimi Kalman, Pulpit Flower Chair,  
mimrk524@gmail.com, 860-649-3890



### Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Club

Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 13th at 7:45pm on Zoom. If you want to catch up with other members you can log on at 7:30pm.

This month we will be reading *Grandma Gatewood's Walk; The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail* by Ben Montgomery. The Mary Cheney Research librarian will be ordering the book and holding copies of the books for the BSBI Book Group.

The zoom link will be posted closer to the meeting date.

Maxine Lerman and Becky Murray

### Adventure Walk

This month we will be walking on February 26th. Meet us in the BSBI parking lot at 10:00 am; we'll decide on which trail we'll explore and off we will go.

I hope more folks will join on future walks. And per usual, we will walk weather permitting!

Margie Partney

## Pesach Project Kicking off for an Eighth Year!

Last year, with your generous support, the Pesach Project netted an incredible \$10,193!! This initiative allows you to greet your fellow synagogue members with wishes for a sweet and joyous holiday. We will be asking you to continue this tradition, and later this month will be soliciting your participation online and via the mail. The details will be explained both in an email and in a letter to you.

On your behalf, we were able to fulfill the Passover mandate to feed the hungry in our midst. We were able to donate funds to Mazon and Leket. The remaining money went to our Sisterhood to further all the good work they do for our congregation.

Mazon is the Jewish Response to Hunger, a national nonprofit that works to end hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds. Mazon, which means food in Hebrew, employs advocacy and education to raise awareness about the prevalence of hunger. Mazon also gives grants to anti-hunger organizations working on behalf of hungry people throughout America and Israel, including our own local food banks.

Leket is the largest food bank in Israel. It sources, collects and redistributes fresh quality perishables from farms, hotels, military bases and catering halls. Leket works with 195 nonprofits to provide nutritious food to over 175,000 Israelis weekly.

Our contributions to these anti-hunger organizations at Pesach fulfill the commandment of Maot Hittim, literally wheat money, which demands that we attend to the needs of the hungry at this time of our celebration of freedom. In the words of the Haggadah, "Let all who are hungry come and eat." This is especially important this year as various world events including COVID, inflation, and the war in Ukraine have had a devastating economic impact on many people worldwide. The donation DEADLINE is **March 29, 2023** so that we can get the greeting sent to everyone before the start of Pesach.

Thank you in advance for your participation!

Sincerely,  
Becky Murray, Chair

### Knit & Kvetch

This month our meeting date is Tuesday, February 14, at 1:30 pm at BSBI; you can also work on projects at home. We are always in need of hats, mittens, scarves and afghans. If you are rusty in knitting or crocheting, we can help you with a refresher course.

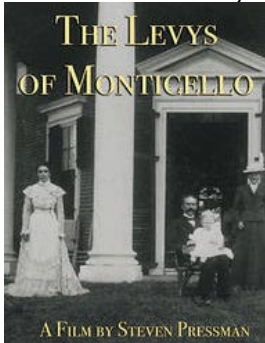
We can always use 100% acrylic yarns or monetary donations. If you wish to make a donation to the group, write out the check to BSBI Sisterhood and write Knit & Kvetch on the memo line. We also have access to yarn that you can use for your projects.

If you have any questions, you can email me at Irannefink@gmail.com or call me at 860-649-6551.

Anne Fink

### Sisterhood Film Night: *The Levys of Monticello*.

Saturday, February 4th at 7:00 pm



The film we will be showing is *The Levys of Monticello*. It tells the little-known story of the family and descendants of Lieutenant Uriah Phillip Levy, who purchased and very carefully preserved Monticello for nearly a century, longer than Jefferson or his descendants. By the time Jefferson died in 1826, he left a pile of debt, forcing his

heirs to sell the home and all its furnishings. If not for the Levy's, we would not be able to visit this lovely piece of American history. The film won the Building Bridges Jury Prize at the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival 2022.

We also have a short film of the director, Steven Pressman, being interviewed. We will hear about why this story was so important to him, and why he decided to tell it. We will show this film afterwards if you would like to see it. Come and watch with us!

Susan Margolis, Programing Chair

### Sisterhood Gift Shop, Your Source for all Your Simchot

Why not check out your BSBI Sisterhood Gift Shop and plan ahead for your gift-giving occasions? We have gifts galore for all ages and occasions. In honor of Tu B'Shvat, check out our tree-shaped jewelry!

If you don't see what you need, we'll be happy to order it for you.

Please call Harriet Beede or Brenda Lerner and we'll be happy to meet you at a time that is convenient for you.

Harriet Beede, hmbeede@gmail.com, 860-305-8711  
Brenda Lerner, brenler@cox.net, 860-643-9700

### Torah Fund Cards

Get well to Joyce Peck from Lynn and Jack Cohen and Sandy Levy.

Mazel tov to Loren Reichlin in honor of his 73rd birthday from Judy and Harold Meyer.

To order cards for all occasions, contact Lynn Cohen, our Torah Fund Card Chairperson, at 860-298-0457 or cohenlynn334@gmail.com.

### Yoga On Your Own

Yoga with "The Queen of Pandemic Yoga" Adriene (Mishlar)! So named by the NY Times, and she was featured on the TV program Live With Kelly and Ryan. So now you not only have Margie's recommendation, but also the Times and Kelly and Ryan!

What: Yoga (no cost to you)

When: Anytime

Where: In your home

Why: A 10-40 minute session can help with anxiety, calming, feeling rejuvenated

How: Access YouTube on your Computer, iPad or Phone (you can also download the YouTube app to your phone\*)

Search "Yoga" or "Yoga with Adriene" (I recommend that instructor)

There will be a multitude of videos to choose from: Yoga for Stress Relief, Wake up Yoga, Flexibility, Yoga for Kids

Have fun and relax!

\*if you have a SMART TV, Google Chromecast can be used to display the YouTube Video from your phone to TV.

Margie Partney





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## Brotherhood Corner

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### **A Word From BSBI Brotherhood President Glenn Hauer**

**Brotherhood Weekend**  
Brotherhood Shabbat  
Saturday, February 11th at 10:00am

**World Wide Wrap**  
Sunday, February 12th at 9:00am

Hello BSBI family!

January was a great month for the Brotherhood. We had a fantastic speaker, Professor Jeremy Pressman, at our meeting on January 8th. He educated us on the newly elected government and political environment in Israel. Remember, even if we disagree with the current politics in Israel, she still needs our support. Donate to charities of your choice, but don't write off Israel.

February will not have a featured speaker. Instead, we will be having the Brotherhood weekend. On Saturday February 11, 2023 will be the Brotherhood Shabbat with a luncheon to follow services. Please contact Maury Luxemburg if you are interested participating in the service. Sunday, February 12, 2023 will be the World Wide Wrap (WWW). WWW is an opportunity for anyone curious how to wrap Tefillin to come and learn from the Brotherhood members. We will be having a joint activity with the Hebrew School, so they too can learn about wrapping Tefillin. After services, we will have an enhanced breakfast. I encourage all who wish to participate, male or female, to join us. The coolest part of this event is that brotherhoods all over the world, members of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, will be participating in the WWW on the same day. Let me know if you have any questions. It's a lot of fun, and we have a great breakfast.

Remember, International Convention will take place June 29-July 2, just six months away. If you would like to attend, please talk to Phil Margolis (CT Valley Regional President) or me, and we will be happy to tell you about expectations of the event and options for attendance. There are regional and chapter subsidies available. I hope to see many of you there.

All the best,  
Glenn Hauer  
President BSBI Brotherhood



On January 8th, the BSBI Brotherhood held their annual Breakfast & Speaker. Professor Jeremy Pressman from UConn spoke about international relations, protest, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and Middle East politics.

Pressman received his PhD in political science from MIT and previously worked at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Photographer: Harold Bernstein



If you are interested in learning more about our BSBI Brotherhood, reach out to Glenn Hauer at 860.930.1275 or Spin Zucker at 860.502.7725.

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## Leave a Jewish Legacy

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The BSBI Endowment Board of Trustees has periodically published Bulletin articles about Legacy Giving and our collective obligations to sustain, nurture and grow current programs and institutions for ourselves and for future generations.

As we move from 2022 to 2023 in the secular calendar, the BSBI Endowment Board of Trustees would like to thank our prior, present and potential donors and supporters. Prior Bulletin articles have discussed our collaboration with the Jewish Community Foundation. This collaboration allows us to offer charitable annuities and charitable remainder trusts as other options for our donors. The Jewish Community Foundation can also provide continuity of philanthropy to support Jewish causes in the future. Our working relationship with the Jewish Community Foundation had never been better and will continue to strengthen as we moved forward together.

The New Year is an opportune time to review some of the ways you can give to the BSBI Endowment. It is also a good time to be certain that your Will reflects your wishes and values with regards to the disposition of your assets at the time of death. A bequest to the BSBI Endowment can be made in your Will either as a specific dollar amount or as a percentage of assets. The BSBI Endowment may be the beneficiary of an existing paid up life insurance policy. Alternatively, a new life insurance policy can be purchased with the BSBI Endowment named as the beneficiary. Under certain circumstances the premiums for such a policy may be deductible to the extent provided by law. Loved ones can be memorialized with gifts to the Endowment.

In the past we have reviewed the use of QCDs [Qualified Charitable Distributions] from IRAs, Keogh, 403B or 401K plans if the owner of the assets is over 70½ years of age. It is also possible to leave IRA assets to the Endowment at the time of death regardless of age. The residual of an estate can also be bequeathed to the Endowment.

During the last calendar year the BSBI Endowment had provided periodic educational opportunities about charitable giving and how you can help us sustain the institutions and programs that have helped enrich Jewish life East of the River.

The tax regulations are complex and in constant flux. If you are considering leaving a legacy or retirement assets to the Endowment Foundation of BSBI please reach out to Jeff Wasser [jeffreywasser@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeffreywasser@sbcglobal.net) or Roy Filkoff [royfilkoff@altmanandco.com](mailto:royfilkoff@altmanandco.com) or [BSBIEndowment@myshul.org](mailto:BSBIEndowment@myshul.org).

Sincerely,  
Jeff Wasser, MD  
President of the BSBI Endowment



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## Leave a Jewish Legacy

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### IRA Assets and Qualified Charitable Distributions

BSBI would like to encourage charitable donations, to help our congregants optimize their charitable giving and to reach their charitable goals. On behalf of the Endowment Board of Trustees I would like to review some of the benefits of gifting Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) to the Endowment. The QCDs may also be used to pay Synagogue dues as well as contribute to the Hineni Society.

### Donation of "Qualified Charitable Distributions" (QCD)

In legislation at year end 2016, Congress made permanent qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from individual retirement accounts.

### What are QCDs?

A QCD permits direct transfers to a qualified charity (or charities) totaling up to \$100,000 annually of tax-deferred IRA savings. QCDs offer advantages over taking a taxable IRA distribution and then contributing the proceeds of that distribution to a charity. That's because taxable IRA distributions must be included in adjusted gross income. Importantly, QCDs automatically satisfy required minimum distributions (RMDs) for the year when the QCD is made. That's a real advantage for a charitably minded IRA owner who doesn't depend on some or all of the RMD for living expenses.

### What are important things to know about QCDs?

Only individuals who've attained age 70 ½ or older on the date of distribution may make QCDs. The charitable organization must be an organization that qualifies for a charitable income tax deduction of an individual. The Beth Sholom B'nai Israel Synagogue and the BSBI Endowment qualify as such organizations. The BSBI Endowment and Synagogue will be required to provide the same contribution acknowledgement to the owner of the IRA required claiming a charitable tax deduction. Failure to obtain the acknowledgement will quash the QCD. QCDs may be made from any IRA or individual retirement annuity, but not from a simplified employee pension, a simple retirement account, or an inherited IRA. Among other benefits, the use of QCDs for charity may reduce taxable income, reduce state and federal tax, reduce taxation of social security, reduce supplemental IRMMA payments to Medicare parts B and D. Individuals and couples with low as well as high incomes may benefit by contributing QCDs to charity.

### Examples of using QCDs for charitable giving

There are several attractive options for the use of QCDs for charitable giving. For example one can use the QCD to pay Synagogue dues and contribute to Hineni. Another example of optimizing the use of QCD is to establish a perpetual endowment fund. By making a QCD donation to the Endowment of BSBI, the donor may create a \$25,000 endowment for BSBI. This endowment may be given over the course of a number of years to reach the level necessary to provide perpetual support of a \$1000 to Hineni. By adding to the donation annually the donor could reach a \$45,000 over a number of years. This amount would support a perpetual Hineni donation at the \$1800 per year level. Details of further possibilities and arrangements for payment can be obtained from the Endowment members or via email noted below. Since the use of QCDs for charitable giving can have specific tax advantages the donor should consult their tax advisor prior to making a QCD contribution. Some plans require significant lead time to process the paper work, so advanced planning may be necessary.

For further information, contact a member of the Endowment Committee. You may reach out to the BSBI Endowment at [BSBIEndowment@myshul.org](mailto:BSBIEndowment@myshul.org) or directly to Roy Filkoff or Jeff Wasser. Remember to discuss this and all other tax matters with your tax advisor before taking any action.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Wasser, MD  
President of the BSBI Endowment

Will this be the year to leave YOUR Jewish legacy?



***Do you have a will?***

***Have you considered a bequest to BSBI?***

Join those members of our Jewish community who have come together to build endowments and legacies to secure a bright Jewish future for BSBI.



For more information, please email:  
[BSBIEndowment@myshul.org](mailto:BSBIEndowment@myshul.org)

## Endowment Foundation

Scholarships	Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School	Adult Education	Community	General Endowment Fund	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Time is Now, The Need is Great!</b></p> <p>Endowments are an opportunity for each of us to provide for our synagogue on a continuous basis by creating a permanent tribute to our values and principles. Our synagogue is here for you as you experience life's greatest joys and greatest challenges.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Endowment Foundation</i></p> <p><small>*These funds can also be used in Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School</small></p>
Gloria Byk Fund	Bayer/Davison Fund	Sylvia A. Cheikin Fund	Berkman Family Fund	Israel and Lillian Abramovitz Fund	
Ann and Emanuel Hirth Fund	David Sherman Foster Fund	Clare-Kramer Fund	Klemens-Wiener Fund	Sheldon and Doris Adler Fund	
Maxine & Efrem Jaffe Fund	Hochberg Family Fund	Ruth and Sidney Cohen Fund	Gordon Barshay Lassow and Jay Joshua Lassow Fund	Louis and Sadye Apter Family Fund	
Seymour B. Kaplan Fund	Jacobs Family Fund	Jack Goldberg Fund*	Esther Margulies Lessner and George C. Lessner Fund	Clare and Herbert Bernstein Fund	
Sonia and Max Karp and Anita Karp Treston Fund	Rose Jaffe Fund	F. Ruth and S. I. Kummer Fund	Jerome and Louise Nathan Fund	Raymond Bernstein Fund	
Joseph Kopman Fund	Katz-Robbins Fund	Fay and Benjamin Levy and Max Mandel Fund*	Ella and Herman Playin Fund	Nathan Chesler Fund	
Anne and Leon Kramer Fund	Ruth Podrove Melton Fund	Aida S. Nesselroth Educational Enhancement Fund*	Plepler Family Fund	A. Elmer Diskan Fund	
Max Lundy Fund	Barney, Jean, Rachel, and Sarah Moses Education Fund	Saul and Carol Nesselroth Fund for Israel Advocacy	Jay E. Rubinow Fund	Ruben Fialkoff Fund	
Laurie Margolis Fund	Gertrude and Abraham Podrove Fund	George and Lillian Sandals Fund	Rita and David Schmerler Fund	Morris and Ann Firestone Fund	
Cantor Israel and Irene Tabatsky Fund	Podrove - Resnick Fund	Ruth and Jack Sandals Fund	Leonard Seader Fund	Rhoda Goldstein Fund	
Marsha and Samuel Yules Fund	Martin L. Rubin Fund	Rabbi Jeshaja and Hilde Schnitzer Fund	Shapiro Family Fund	Edith Gottlieb Fund	
Pauline and Isadore Zackin Fund	Nat N. and Gertrude Sturm Schwedel Fund	Saul and Rebecca Silverstein Fund	Eileen & Fred Stern Family Fund	Leo and Shirley Juran Fund	
Diane and Jeffrey Wasser Ramah Scholarship Fund	Berdine Spector Stoltz Fund	Weil-Braunsberg Fund*	Blanche and Robert Stone Fund	Kahaner Family Fund	
		Elliott and Eveleen Zimmerman Library Fund	Continuity Fund	Ethel and Nathan Kasowitz Fund	
			Program Enhancement	Marcus Family and Bula Family Fund	
			Beth Sholom B'nai Israel Operating Fund	Irving and Ethel Mehlman Rose Fund	
Religious	Youth	Maintenance/Capital Improvements	Memorial Park		
Max and Sally Glaiber and Joseph and Gertrude Snider Fund	Anna Brita Chilberg Fund	Bayer-Marlow Fund	Temple Beth Sholom Memorial Park Fund	Irma and Merwin Meridy Fund	
Howard Gold Fund	Nellie Katz Cohen Fund	Elaine and Leo Charendoff Fund	Congregation B'nai Israel Memorial Park Fund	Rita Oshinsky Fund	
Bernard and May Kahn and Eli and Rose Lerman Fund	Murray H. and Celia D. Novins Fund	David S. and Norma C. Garber Fund		Phair Family Fund	
Rubinow-Schwolsky Fund		Miriam Barshay Lassow and Herman Lassow Fund		Reichlin Family Fund	
Rebecca Ann and Herman Seidman Fund		Capital Improvement Fund		Pauline and Nathan Rubin Fund	
Irene and Henry Springer Fund				Israel and Shirley Snyder Family Fund	
Diane and Barry Weinbaum Fund				Gloria and Robert Weiss Fund	
Rabbi Leon Wind Fund				Edythe and Abraham Zubrow Fund	
Irene and Abraham Zimmerman Fund				Max Zucker Fund	

For information about establishing an Endowment Fund or leaving a bequest,  
contact Dr. Jeffrey Wasser [BSBIEndowment@myshul.org](mailto:BSBIEndowment@myshul.org) or Rabbi Konigsburg 860-643-9563 x101.



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## Contributions from Thoughtful People

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### **APTER FAMILY FUND - LOUIS & SADYE APTER FUND**

In memory of Susan Apter from Albert & Kristen Shapiro  
In memory of Susan Apter from Arnold & Ruth Zackin  
In memory of Susan Apter from Dallas Jewish Community Foundation  
In memory of Susan Apter from Edward & Barbara Gruber  
In memory of Sue Apter, with love and sympathy, Elise & Carl Drake  
In memory of Susan Apter from Joan & Alan Klinger  
In memory of Susan Apter from Karen Blanchard  
In memory of Sue Apter from Rowena & Dave Galerston  
In memory of Sue Apter from Susie Schwartz  
In memory of Susan Apter. May her memory be a blessing from Teri Bayer and Bruce Putterman

### **BERDINE SPECTOR STOLTZ FUND**

In loving memory of Sarah Wyman on the occasion of her *yahrzeit* from Myrna Spector

### **BERKMAN FAMILY FUND**

In appreciation for helping with the Shabbat Kiddush from BSBI Sisterhood

### **EDITH GOTTLIEB FUND**

In loving memory of Joseph Gottlieb from Lori Gottlieb

### **GENERAL FUND**

In loving memory of Rhoda Grossman, our dear friend from Barbara & Bill Bayer  
In memory of Philip & Dorothy Menchel from Arnold Menchel  
In memory of Stacy Poutre's father, Robert Reuben, from Carl & Cruz Mandell  
In memory of Hisza Neuhaus & Ester Neuhaus from Drs. David & Ellen Neuhaus  
In memory of Rhoda Grossman, with love and condolences to Avi, Todd, and Jordan from Elaine, Harvey, and all the family  
In memory of Susan Apter from Eric & Bonnie Schneider  
In memory of Susan Apter; In memory of Leonard Rivlin; In memory of Robert Reuben from Gordon & Beatrice Brodie  
In memory of Pearl Grad and Milton Leon from Howard & Linda Grad  
In memory of Rhoda Grossman from Pearl Podrove & Richard Resnick  
In memory of my father, Jack Weg; In memory of Robert Reuben, beloved father of Stacey Poutre, from Ms. Marilyn Starr  
In memory of Judy and Alan Krupp from Peter Krupp, Karen Cheyney, Susan Krupp, and Larry Krupp  
In memory of Edward Schwartz from Sidney & Miriam Schwartz  
*Yahrzeit* of Rose and Murry Pass from Anne Pass  
*Yahrzeit* of Stan Rimler from Barry & Merle Rimler  
*Yahrzeit* of Steven Ross from Blanche Ross  
*Yahrzeit* of Vivian Meyer and Max Miner from Harold & Judy Meyer  
*Yahrzeit* of Raymond Bernstein from Harold Bernstein  
*Yahrzeit* of Yetta Osher from Joan Cushman  
*Yahrzeit* of Steven Ross from Laurie Ross  
*Yahrzeit* of Bernard Scheer from Lillian Scheer

*Yahrzeit* of Julius Friedman from Matthew & Randi Friedman

*Yahrzeit* of Milly Malkin from Neil Malkin

### **GLAIBER + SNIDER FAMILY FUND**

*Yahrzeit* of Henry Snider from Mrs. Rebecca Snider Miller

### **HOCHBERG FAMILY FUND**

In memory of Milton Leon from Mary Leon

### **JOE DAVIS FUND**

*Yahrzeit* of my dear mother, Anna Garber from Mrs. Audrey Davis

### **LEONARD SEADER FUND**

Happy Hanukkah! Love, Mike and Laurie from Mike Seader

### **LIBRARY FUND**

In memory of Stacy Poutre's father, Robert Reuben from Herb & Ellie Flink

### **NICHUM AVAYLIM FUND**

In memory of all my Loved Ones from Mimi Kalman  
In memory of Robert Reuben, Stacey Poutre's father from Susan Stoppelman

### **RABBI EMERITUS' DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In memory of Isaac and Beatrice B. Snyder from Michael D. Snyder

### **RABBI LEON WIND RELIGIOUS SCHOOL-SPECIAL FUND FOR EDUCATION**

*Yahrzeit* of Harry and Mollie Kovensky from Neil & Florence Kovensky

### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In appreciation of Rabbi Konigsburg's kindness over the years from Howard & Linda Grad  
In honor of Rabbi and Michelle Konigsburg, for the opportunity to join them and the congregation for Shabbat Services from Toby Klein  
In memory of Robert Reuben, with my deepest sympathy on the loss of your father, Stacy Poutre; Thank you Rabbi and Michelle for everything you do! With love, from Renee Shifrin  
*Yahrzeit* of Arnold Bogatz from Judy Bogatz

### **RITA & DAVID SCHMERLER FUND**

In appreciation of Lea's Torah Trope class for new readers of Torah from Harold & Judy Meyer

### **RUBEN FIALKOFF FUND**

Mazel tov on your son's engagement from Eveleen Zimmerman

### **SHABBAT LUNCHEON FUND**

Get well Herb Flink; In memory of Stacy Poutre's father Robert Reuben; *Yahrzeit* of Abraham Cohen from Elly & Steve Cohen  
*Yahrzeit* of Joseph Brandes from Philip & Susan Margolis

### **SOCIAL ACTION FUND**

Get well to Joan Baron with prayers for a quick and complete recovery from Susan Stoppelman

## February 2023 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> (10 Shevat) 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>2</b> (11 Shevat) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>3</b> (12 Shevat) 4:50pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Friday Night Services  Sunset: 5:08pm	<b>4</b> (13 Shevat) 10:00am Shabbat Services 5:54pm Havdalah 7:00pm Sisterhood Film Night  Sunset: 5:09pm
<b>5</b> (14 Shevat) 9:00am Hebrew school K-7	<b>6</b> (15 Shevat) <b>Tu B'Shvat</b> 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv 7:30pm Wisdom in Winter	<b>7</b> (16 Shevat) 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv 7:30pm BSBI Academy	<b>8</b> (17 Shevat) 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>9</b> (18 Shevat) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>10</b> (19 Shevat) 4:59pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Friday Night Services  Sunset: 5:17pm	<b>11</b> (20 Shevat) 10:00am Brotherhood Shabbat 6:03pm Havdalah  Sunset: 5:18pm
<b>12</b> (21 Shevat) 9:00am World Wide Wrap 9:00am Morning Minyan 9:00am Hebrew school K-7 9:30am Brotherhood Breakfast & Speaker	<b>13</b> (22 Shevat) 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv 7:30pm Sisterhood/ Hadassah Book Club	<b>14</b> (23 Shevat) 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 1:30pm Knit & Kvetch 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv 7:30pm BSBI Academy	<b>15</b> (24 Shevat) 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv 7:30pm BOD Board Meeting	<b>16</b> (25 Shevat) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>17</b> (26 Shevat) 5:08pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Friday Night Services  Sunset: 5:26pm	<b>18</b> (27 Shevat) <b>Shabbat</b> <b>Mevarchim</b> <b>Parshat Shekalim</b> 10:00am Shabbat Services 6:12pm Havdalah  Sunset: 5:27pm
<b>19</b> (28 Shevat)	<b>20</b> (29 Shevat) Presidents' Day 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>21</b> (30 Shevat) <b>Rosh Chodesh</b> <b>Adar</b> 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv 7:30pm BSBI Academy	<b>22</b> (1 Adar) <b>Rosh Chodesh</b> <b>Adar</b> 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>23</b> (2 Adar) 4:30pm Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>24</b> (3 Adar) 5:16pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Friday Night Services  Sunset: 5:34pm	<b>25</b> (4 Adar) 10:00am Shabbat Services 10:00am Junior Congregation 6:20pm Havdalah  Sunset: 5:35pm
<b>26</b> (5 Adar) 9:00am Hebrew school K-7 10:00am Sisterhood Adventure Walk	<b>27</b> (6 Adar) 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv	<b>28</b> (7 Adar) 12:00pm Lunch & Learn 7:00pm Mincha/ Maariv 7:30pm Sisterhood Board Meeting				

Please note that the *Chai Lights* calendar dates are as of the date of publishing. Any schedule changes after this time will be posted on the online calendar at [myshul.org](http://myshul.org) and included in the weekly announcements.



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Please send all articles to : [Programming@myshul.org](mailto:Programming@myshul.org)

Save the Date:



Shabbat Across America  
March 3rd at 6:00pm



Community Seder  
April 6th at 7:15pm  
More information to come!