

the RECORDER

EAST BRUNSWICK



JEWISH CENTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

ELUL - TISHREI VOLUME # 135



SHABBAT SERVICES

Services are currently being held in-person and on Zoom at the following times. To join the stream GO TO DROP DOWN MENU - LINKS TO SERVICES AND MINYANIM.

Friday Evenings

6:00 p.m. 9/8 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 9/15 9/22 6:00 p.m. 9/29 6:00 p.m.

Saturday Mornings 9:30 a.m.

SEPTEMBER 2 Ki Tavo

SEPTEMBER 9 Nitzavim-Vayeilech

SEPTEMBER 16 Rosh Hashana 5784

SEPTEMBER 23 Ha'Azinu

SEPTEMBER 30 Sukkot I

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Men's Club Contact Howard Jacobs

Youth Commission Rhonda Gold

Membership Committee Ken Gerson & Taryn Webber

Chairperson, Special Circumstances Marilyn Friedes

Social Action Hollie Cerame

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Director of The Center for Early Learning Lynda Perel

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Board of Education Chair Jamie Wasserman

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UPCOMING DATES

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2023.

WE WILL BE HAVING A SPECIAL KIDDUSH HONORING CANTOR

LARRY AS HE BECOMES OUR RABBI AND SPIRITUAL LEADER

FOR LINKS TO SERVICES, EVENTS AND PROGRAMS, PLEASE GO TO OUR WEBPAGE AT WWW.EBJC.ORG. THE DROPDOWN MENU FOR

If you have problems at EBJC that are not getting adequately resolved, please call Ellen Botwin at (732) 257-7070

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE NOTE:

ONLY checks made out to EBJC go to Kesef, PO Box 418, Montvale, NJ 07645.

When sending a check to Kesef, please remember to write the check to EBJC and not Kesef!

Sisterhood, Men's Club, Mitzvah Corps, all discretionary funds, 613 event, Pavilion donations all go to 511 Ryders Lane. When sending any form with a payment, those should be mailed to 511 Ryders Lane as well.

FOR THE UPCOMING MONTH:

TROUBLE PAYING DUES

If you are experiencing difficulty paying your dues or if you'd like to pay on a specific schedule, please call Ellen at 732-257-7070 x5. We are always here for you and are happy to help in any way we can.

SHABBAT SERVICES

Shabbat services are in-person (also offered via Zoom). Friday evening service times can be found on the cover of the Recorder as well as on the EBJC website calendar, and Saturday morning services are at 9:30 a.m. The link to join can be found on our website at ebjc.org/online-events



The office is currently staffed Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and on Fridays from 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

BIKUR CHOLIM

Bikur Cholim would like to reach out to our congregation during this difficult time. If you would like a friendly call or know someone who might need a friendly call from a member of the Bikur Cholim committee, please contact Madeline Frances at (732) 254-2783 or email madelinef18@gmail.com

HAZAK

September 21, 6pm - Our first Hazak gathering for the year. Our official opening act, Carla Virola, will again entertain us with her wonderful energy and voice!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Ever on the search for interesting programming, please note the following programs for this month: On September 7, we have Creative Cooking for Rosh Hashanah. On September 9th, we have a special catered Kiddush after morning services welcoming Rabbi Larry. That same evening we have our Selichot program and service.

Most of our programs are free to our community. If you can, a donation in any amount is always appreciated so that we may continue to bring you these programs and events. Details and descriptions for all programs will be in Tidbits and on the EBJC website homepage.



THE CONGREGATION CONGRATULATES:

Iris and Jon Wininger of the birth of their grandson, Riley Samuel
Linda Korman Spiegel and Phil Spiegel on the birth of their granddaughter, Millie Emma
Thelma Zalewitz on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Millie Emma
Hildy & Jeffrey Zonis on the Aufruf of their son, Rafi

THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO:

Laura Brandspiegel and family on the loss of her father, Morris Kornsgold

To my wonderful EBJC family - Staff and Congregation:

There really are no words I know to thank you sufficiently for all the honor and kindness shown me on my 100th birthday. Besides singing to me during Shabbat Services, and sending me a magnificent floral arrangement, the cards, telephone calls, donations and expressions of affection and respect have meant more to me than I can say.

Thanking you all from the bottom of my heart,

Inge gross





2023/5784 HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

SELICHOT		SUKKOT	
Saturday, September 9		Friday, September 29	
Program at EBJC	8:30 pm	Erev Sukkot	
Followed by Selichot prayers	8.30 pm	Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:25 pm
Tollowed by Schellot prayers			
		Saturday, September 30	
DOCU HACHANAU		1st Day Sukkot	
ROSH HASHANAH		Shacharit	9:30 am
Friday, September 15		Mincha/Study/Ma'ariv	6:15 pm
Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:45 pm		
5-115115		Sunday, October 1	
Saturday, September 16		2nd Day Sukkot	
Shacharit	8:30 am	Shacharit	9:30 am
Family Service – Preschool, Gan-Bet (K-2nd)		Sukkah Hop/Picnic following services	
Family Service – Gimel – Zayin (3rd-7th)	9:45 am	Mincha/Study/Ma'ariv	6:15 pm
Mincha, Study, and Ma'ariv at EBJC	6:45 pm	Havdalah	7:23 pm
Sunday, September 17			
Shacharit	8:30 am	CUENAINI ATTERET	
Family Services-Preschool, Gan-Bet (K-2nd)	9:45 am	SHEMINI ATZERET	
Family Service - Gimel - Zayin (3rd-7th)	9:45 am	Friday, October 6	70.00.5 V. R. T.
Mincha/Tashlich at Civic Center Pond		Sukkot VII/Hoshana Rabbah	7:00 am
(includes special Shofar Blowing)	5:00 pm	Mincha/Ma'ariv	6:10 pm
Ma'ariv at EBJC	7:45 pm	1290 1. 250 1. 120	
		Saturday, October 7	
		Shemini Atzeret	12.02
YOM KIPPUR		Shacharit	9:30 am
		그는 것으로 가게 하면 맛이 어떻게 하면 하는 것이다. 그렇게 살아가 살 때가 얼마나 하는데 뭐 하는데 하다면 하다.	11:00 am
Sunday, September 24 Mincha	C-00	Recitation of the full Kohelet following Kid	
	6:00 pm	Mincha	6:15 pm
Kol Nidrei/Ma'ariv	6:15 pm	Quiz 'n Candy	6:30 pm
		Scrolla Rolla/Ma'ariv/Hakafot	7:15 pm
Monday, September 25	0.00		
Shacharit	9:00 am		
Family Service – Preschool, Gan-Bet (K-2nd)		SIMCHAT TORAH	
Family Service – Gimel – Zayin (3rd-7th)	9:45 am	Sunday, October 8	
	.12 noon	Shacharit	9:30 am
Mincha	5:10 pm	with Hakafot and dancing	
Ne'ilah and Ma'ariv immediately following N		Mincha/Study/Ma'ariv	6:15 pm
Shofar blast ends fast	7:35 pm		P



YIZKOR BOOK LISTING

FAMILY NAME		
NAME OF LOVED ONE		
Please check yes if we should keep your	listing the same as it was last yea	r. YES
Submission Deadline is: Septembe	er 11th	
Email completed form to: ebjcmitzvah	corps@comcast.net	
Please make check payable to the EBJC N	Mitzvah Corps	
SEND CHECK TO EBJC MITZVAH CORPS	C/O MARTY GENEE 39 SULLIVA	N WAY EAST BRUNSWICK, NJ 08816
NAME		
EMAIL ADDRESS		
TELEPHONE #		
CHECK AMOUNT ¢		

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LULAV AND ETROG ORDER FORM



The mitzvah of Lulav and Etrog is ancient and revered. It is incumbent upon every Jew to possess their own set in order to enjoy the full measure of joy of the holiday. In order to help in the fulfillment of the Mitzvah, the EBJC Mitzvah Corps will once again take orders for complete sets.

The cost will be \$60.00 per set.

To order:

Please email this form to ebjcmitzvahcorps@comcast.net by Wednesday, September 20th, 2023

Make check payable to EBJC Mitzvah Corps Send check to: Marty Genee, 39 Sullivan Way, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Pick Up Instructions Will Be Provided By Email

INA/MC	
PHONE	
Email	
# OF SETS ORDERED	@ \$60.00 EACH =

NIAME



DATES for 2023 - 2024

SEPTEMBER 21 – DINNER – 6:00 p.m. **CARLA VIROLA IS OUR OPENING ACT!**

OCTOBER 12 – LUNCHEON Larry Wolfert - Borscht Belt Comedians

NOVEMBER 16 – LUNCHEON

DECEMBER 14 – LUNCHEON – CHANUKAH

JANUARY 18 – LUNCHEON

FEBURARY 18 – SUNDAY BRUNCH Jon Kenrick returns with his musings and bio of Jack Benny

MARCH 14 – LUNCHEON

APRIL 18 - LUNCHEON

MAY 23 – LUNCHEON

JUNE 20 – DINNER – 6:00 p.m.

PUT THE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!





WE ARE THRILLED TO OFFER THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS Mark your Calendars!

"What Jews Think" Speaker Series (All programs Thursday evenings @ 8:30 PM ET)

- November 2 Dr. Yaniv Feller (Wesleyan University), "Does Judaism Have Dogmas?"
- January 4 Dr. Eitan Fishbane (Jewish Theological Seminary), "Ideas of God in Jewish Mysticism"
- February 8 Dr. Eugene Sheppard (Brandeis University), "Theodor Herzl's Political Zionism in an Age of Empire, Nationalism, and the Problem of Anti-Semitism"
- February 29 Rabbi Haim Rechnitzer (Hebrew Union College), "What is Judaism? The Dispute Between Martin Buber and Franz Rosenzweig"
- March 14 Dr. Michah Gottlieb (New York University), "A Rabbinic Debate about Slavery on the Eve of the Civil War"
- April 11 Dr. Andrea Dara Cooper (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), "Jewish Philosophy and Feminism"
- May 9 Dr. Shira Billet (Jewish Theological Seminary), "How Jewish Philosophers Think about Troubling Traditions"
- Date TBA Dr. Susanna Heschel (Dartmouth College), "The Teachings and Legacy of Dr. Abraham Joshua Heschel" (This program will probably be in late May/early June)

"Jewish Virtual Travel" Series (All programs Sundays at 1:00 PM ET)

November 19 – Abel Hernandez Eskenazi, Jewish Cuba

December 17 – Evan Kapros, **Jewish Greece**

January 7 – Louise Szczerb, **Jewish Egypt**

January 28 – Ron Gomes Casseres, Jewish Curacao

February 25 – Gloria Ribeiro, **Jewish Portugal**

March 10 – Alan Niku, **Jewish Iran**

These are some of the many programs we will be offering through our Partnership in Jewish Programming which began at the start of the pandemic. Your continued support of these programs both by attending and by your donations have helped us to continue and maintain a high level of programming. Thank you all so much.

RABBINIC MUSINGS



Most of us have learned the quote by the great sage, Hillel, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?" If you have never heard this quote before, NOW is the time to read it, learn from it, and follow its teaching.

Whom else should I be con about besides myself? Whom else should I be con about besides m

As you receive your Recorder this month, you are aware that we are only a couple of weeks away from our High Holy days. So what? It is the same thing year after year. We are told to come to services, to pour our hearts out to Gd, and to give money to the Shul. We sit quietly when the Rabbi speaks and when the Cantor chants. Then come back the next day and the following week to do it all over again.

If that were really the essence behind all of it, we may as well pack it up and close the doors. I will not say it is easy to come to the true meaning of it all. For each of us, it is going to be different. That is what sets us apart from each other while also making us connect with each other.

Each time we do something familiar, we also have an opportunity to enhance it and make it better, sometimes more interesting, more challenging, more provocative, more enticing, and more connecting. That is real Judaism. It is not supposed to be the same day in and day out.

Although, it may feel that way at times, and truthfully there are days or services that I find myself daydreaming since my connection gets lost, kind of like my internet service. But when I push the reset button, I get a new charge and find new ways to say the words, look at the room around me, perhaps even find a new image in the art of the ark that I did not see before.

The questions to ask are why, for whom, for what, for when? Why should this be important for me? Whom else should I be concerned about besides myself? What new meaning can I find to make a new connection? If this is important, then how do I help convince others to jump in and swim with me?

In this new year of 5784, let us take Hillel to heart. "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?" Help jump start something new. Get involved in a social program. Take a class and reinvigorate your mind. Come to a service at least once a month to not only invigorate your soul, but by doing so, help another person do the same.

I like to say, be a part of something and not apart from something. We can count the people who enter the building, but what I would rather be doing is counting on the people in my community.

On behalf of my entire family, I wish you and yours a Shana Tova Tikatevu V'tehatemu...may you all be blessed with a wonderful new year and inscribed in the book of life for many years to come.

~ Rabbi Larry I. Brandspiegel

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Over the past 4 years, perhaps just before Covid entered and changed our lives. I made the decision to "test" friendships. Now this may seem crazy, but I realized over several years, that there were some friendships that were being kept alive because I was the one doing it. I called. I Initiated contact. I set up lunch dates. Time after time. I began to wonder what would happen if I just didn't call. Why weren't these people, who I've known for years, call me? It's not like they wouldn't take my call when I did call. It's not like they "ghosted" me. It's just that they never made the effort. I've actually had several friends tell me that they don't call me because I'm always so busy and they never know when it's a good time to call. Really? It seems to me, that if they called at a bad time, I would tell them so and inform them that I'd call back. So...lame excuse. Is it me? Nah...I'm great (insert smiley, winky face here).

So, I made the decision to stop calling and see what happens. I'm very blessed to have a nice circle of friends who actually do call me. They make the effort, because friendship and connection works both ways. A one-sided relationship just doesn't work. It's doomed to fail. I realized that I was putting pressure on myself to keep those

connections going. It's actually been quite freeing and although it is sad, sometimes relationships end.

Speaking of connections working both ways (see what I'm doing here?), let's talk about the Synagogue connection. The EBJC connection. Whenever I am talking to a new or prospective member, one of the things I say (rather repetitively) is that an effort has to be made to connect. Again, this works both ways. As a Synagogue, we have to connect. We have to reach out through our board, our membership committees, through our clergy, our services, and our programming. We have to make that effort. We need to bring our families, our community together spiritually and socially. Do we do this? Well, we sure do try. Are we always 100% successful? Probably not. That would actually be amazing and almost a miracle because we're people and we make mistakes.

Like I said, it works both ways. So, when a family joins, the most important thing to do is start connecting. If they don't do that, they're doomed to fail (and by fail, I mean leave the synagogue). So how does a member (either seasoned or new) connect? Here are some suggestions:

- Come to services, even if you're not religious. You get to see people and schmooze over kiddush. Clergy gets to know you as a "regular" as well – added plus!
- Come to a program Men's Club, Sisterhood, EBJC, Hazak – you choose! You'd be amazed at how many people attend and the friendships you can strike up!
- Volunteer One of the best ways to meet people and form friendships! The upside is that you help the synagogue because

- we just don't have the staff for all of the work that needs to be done and we're very appreciative!
- Be Involved this pretty much covers everything. If you drop your child off to Kesher, and never enter the building for anything else, you're losing out. You're losing out on the possible connections. You're losing out on involvement. You're losing out on friendships...and the Synagogue eventually loses you after your last child becomes a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, because you never took the time to connect.

This past month (August), we've welcomed three new families to EBJC. I've said to them as I say to you...take the time to connect. Come into the building. We can reach out only so far, but without effort on your part, we will both fail. We will fail in our efforts to get you involved, and you will fail in what could possibly be one of the most positive experiences of your life.

To everyone, I wish you a happy, healthy new year.

May you be well,

Ellen

FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



When I start to think about the approach of the High Holidays, I always think about the annual "ritual" that we performed with our children at the start of September. We drove down Cranbury Road to the Himich Farm, where we picked apples right from the trees.

Some of those apples were cut and served with honey at the start of our Rosh Hashanah dinner, while most of the others were loaded into apple pies that we served for dessert. The farm closed many years ago, but I still smile when I pass the entrance.

A new year gives us all another chance to bond with family, friends, and community. It is a time for prayer, thought, and reflection. But prayer without action is just words. As the old saying goes "talk is cheap." If we are going to build our community, and sustain our community, we need participation. The synagogue does not run on "automatic." Programs don't magically appear. Things only get done if we have people willing to

lend a hand. We have committees and positions that need to be filled.

I realize, as I write this, that I was, for many years, one of the people who sat back and let the others do all the heavy lifting. I had plenty of reasons not to get involved. But I finally decided to step up, and I can honestly say, that I am glad I did. I have gotten to work with a lot of terrific people, all of them committed to our synagogue and community. Why don't you join us?

It is a New Year, with a New Rabbi, and new programs on the way. Be part of the New. Get involved. Together we will build an even greater EBJC.

On behalf of myself, my copresident Jack Goldberg, and our families, we wish you all a Shana Tovah!

Steve Wohl
EBJC Co-president

SISTERHOOD



As we bid farewell to summer and usher in the High Holidays, we look forward to a fun-filled and productive year ahead.

Our annual Membership campaign is currently underway. This year's Paid-Up Membership event is scheduled for Thursday evening, October 12. We look forward to mingling with old friends and experiencing the joy of making new acquaintances.

Don't be left out—renew your membership now or join Sisterhood for the first time! The rewards are abundant, and the cost is still only \$36. We hope every woman in our congregation finds a compelling reason to join Sisterhood. As we all favor our own paths toward Jewish connection, Sisterhood offers something for everyone. Join us whether your interest is ritual, education, or the warmth of friendship with your fellow congregants.

This Past Month—

On Tuesday, August 8, Sisterhood sponsored a fun outdoor "Games Day" at the home of Anne Kroll. We sincerely thank Anne for her hospitality, and we are grateful to everyone who donated jewelry to a very successful sale.



On Thursday, August 31, our Sisterhood Quarterly Book Club discussed the historical novel The Thread Collectors, a poignant Civil War story about the special bond that formed between two couples—one African American/one Jewish--against the tragic backdrop of our divided nation.

On the Horizon—

Start the fall Holiday season off right with new recipes to enhance your festive dinners and wow your guests. On Thursday, September 7, join us on Zoom at 7:30 pm as Yvette Schlussel presents "Creative Cooking for Rosh Hashanah".

On Sunday, September 10, Sisterhood will be upholding its tradition of polishing the silver that adorns the Torahs before the High Holidays. Thank sincere thanks to those congregants you to Men's Club for helping us move these sacred objects.

On Sunday, October 22, Sisterhood is featuring a special Book and Author event that you won't want to miss. Schmooze and booze with continental breakfast starting at 9 am. At 10 am, EBJC's own Shirley Russak Wachtel will share her latest novel, A Castle in Brooklyn, a heartwarming story with Holocaust roots that will touch anyone who has dreamed of a better life.

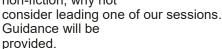


Judging by Shirley's previous works, we know this book will be terrific! All synagogue members are warmly invited to participate.

Jenna Blu

Our next Sisterhood Book Club selection is The Lost Family by Jenna Blum. This novel explores the impact of the Holocaust on a family struggling to rise above the horrors of the past. Late fall date to be announced.

We're grateful to those who have emailed me (Sara Ullman at sarajull366@gmail.com) with suggestions for future books. If you loved a book with a Jewish theme, fiction or non-fiction, why not



Our annual Torah Fund campaign is off to a great start. As always, we hope you will support the education of Conservative Judaism's future leaders by donating. This year's theme is Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh, "All the people of Israel are responsible for one another." Brand new pins to arrive soon!

PURCHASING SCRIP IS AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT SISTERHOOD! We currently have gift cards on hand to Shoprite and Acme. We extend our who regularly purchase these gift cards. Contact Cheryl Decker at 732-257-7070.

The new Women's League calendar diaries for 5784 ARE NOW AVAILABLE at \$12 each in the office. Filled with many bonus features, such as special prayers, the calendar diary makes a terrific novel hostess gift to bring to New Year celebrations.

Check out our Sisterhood Judaica Shop for all your needs—tallisim, kiddush cups, mezuzot, religious jewelry, head coverings....the list goes on and on. If you have something special in mind, we can probably order it for you. Contact Cindy Rollman at cinpepper1@aol.com.

From our families to yours, extending a heartfelt SHANAH TOVA to our beloved Sisterhood members and esteemed fellow congregants. May the New Year bring good health, peace, and fulfillment to all.

Warm regards, Sara Ullman, Immediate Sisterhood Past President

MEN'S CLUB



Shalom:

EBJC's Men Club is looking forward to an active 5784 as we start with Erev Rosh Hashanah on September 15 and Yom Kippur and Sukkot shortly thereafter.

Information on all Men's Club upcoming activities can be found at https://ebjc.org/mens-club. Please go there for current information about upcoming events. For information on our open board meetings, please go to the EBJC calendar; all interested are welcome.

During the holiday season there are a long list of Men's Club activities including helping Sisterhood polish the Torah silver adornments and ushering. Please help support our activities any way you can. We can especially use assistance with ushers during services; we can be contacted at mensclub@ebjc.org to volunteer.

One of our most important activities is our annual L'shana Tova basket program. If you have not yet responded, please do so immediately. The last day for receipt of paper orders is August 30, and the last day for online orders is September 3. MC can use help packing (September 7 at 8:30 pm in the Kroll Ballroom) and delivering (September 10). Please submit your order at https://www.ebjc.org/ Ishanatova. Contact Howard Jacobs (howard jacobs@ebjc.net) with questions. Everyone who supports this vital MC program is much appreciated.

MC is hosting a Burgers and Brews in the Booth Sukkah dinner on Thursday, October 5 at 6:30 pm with additional food options. Everyone is welcome to attend. We are inviting as complimentary MC guests male CEL and Kesher parents that come together, so bring a friend or make a new one and you eat for free. Please go to ebjc.org/ brews-in-the-booth for more details. This is always one of our most popular events of the year.



On Sunday, October 1 at 1:30 pm MC and Kesher will be sponsoring a family Sukkah Hop. All are welcome to attend. We will begin and end at EBJC, but are requesting volunteers to host at their sukkah for approximately 15 minutes during the event. All required of a host is letting the group visit your sukkah and offering your guests light refreshments. Hosts always enjoy sharing their sukkah with our young visitors. Please respond to mensclub@ebjc.net if you can host or have questions.



We have our next hike scheduled for October 15 at 2 pm. Please look out for more details at ebjc.org/hike.

MC jointly sponsors a regular weekly open pickleball session at 350 Dunham's Corner Rd., twice a week at 11 am on Tuesday and Thursday.

On January 7 we will have our Man of the Year and Youth of the Year dinner. We can't wait to see who will get these well-deserved honors this year.

We are always interested in new and innovative ideas for activities for our membership. We are especially interested in sponsoring events of interest to members with children. Please let us know if you have any ideas for events such as wine or beer making, sporting events, bowling, movies, outings of all types, Jewish-oriented activities and the like. We would very much like to hear your ideas and make them a reality.

Men's Club looks forward to seeing you at our upcoming activities. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to get involved.

Marty Hoffman, Arthur Fliegelman, Howard Jacobs and Neil Kosher mensclub@ebjc.net

KESHER AND YOUTH GROUPS







Shalom, EBJC family!

My name is Justin Hirsch, and I am excited to be starting as the interim Education Director for the upcoming school year. Some of you may know me from the two years (2020-2022) that I taught the Kitah Zayin class, so I am honored to be back in a leadership position that will help me to help you grow our excellent program. Before I share some of my goals, allow me to tell you a little about my background. I have been tutoring and then teaching in Hebrew Schools in NJ and NY since 1998. I have a BA in English & Psychology, with minors in Judaic Studies and Education, an MS in Adolescent Education, a certificate to teach Students with Disabilities, and an MA in Urban Education-Administration. Lastly, I am halfway through with a School Leadership certificate. I currently serve as the Technology Coordinator at Central High School in Newark, where I previously taught English to 10th-12th graders.

With my background in both Hebrew School and public school education, I am looking forward to working with you and our teachers to build a curriculum focused on Hebrew reading to prepare for tefillah and Torah/ Haftarah leading, Torah study, Jewish cultures/values, holidays, and our connection to Israel. For grades 6 and 7, we will include a study of the Holocaust, as well as some insight into how we can embrace our Judaism while combating bigotry. With Rabbi Larry, we have begun looking into some field trips and experiential learning opportunities. In addition to the curriculum, I plan to grow our students' relationship with Jewish life through regular communication with our parents and families.

Always remember that no matter how strong a school is, our students' Jewish connection is so much a part of what they can share at home. As we work together this year, please encourage Hebrew practice, Torah discussion, and family memories around the table (or in front of the TV!) so that the work we do in school is reflected in the love we share at home.

I am away August 23-28 and November 5-12, but otherwise, I am available to answer your questions any time outside of Shabbat and Yom Tov.

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~Justin

CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING





It's time for another wonderful school year to begin! We are so excited to see what the 2023-2024 school year has in store for us. This year, Morah Lynda, Morah Abbie and Morah Dominique will be teaching our Gozalim class (2 year olds). Morah Stefani and Morah Margie will be teaching the Parparim class (3 year olds). And finally, Morah Jodi and Morah Michele will be teaching our Tziporim class (4 year olds).

Thanks to a grant we were awarded by the state of New Jersey in the previous school year, we have been able to slowly but surely make some much needed updates in our school. Last year we got a brand new Jack-and-Jill bathroom in between two of our classrooms. No more leaving the classroom to change diapers and wash our hands! More changes are coming our way, such as upgrading our indoor play gym, so stay tuned! We can't wait to share these changes with you all.

September is always a super busy time at CEL! Not long after our school year begins will we learn all about the many Jewish holidays that take place in the coming weeks. Dipping apples in honey and making decorations for our sukkah are some of the exciting traditions we are eager to share with our new friends. We wish all of our CEL families and friends a happy, healthy, and sweet new year!

ADULT EDUCATION & ACTIVITIES

EBJC offers a full range of adult courses designed for all interests and at various days and times. If you want to learn something that is not currently offered, let us know!

AVAILABLE CLASSES

PARSHAT HASHAVUAH CLASS (ZOOM)

Fridays | 11 a.m. (on Summer hiatus)
Join us for this Friday morning class at 11 a.m.
where we study the weekly parshah prior to
Shabbat. Reflecting on the Chumash and ancient
and modern commentaries, we discuss the roots of
our ancient culture and the timeless values of the
Jewish people.

GENESIS SCIENCE CLASS WITH DR. JUDAH LANDA

Mondays | 8:30 p.m. via Zoom.

This class combines a rigorous textual analysis of the biblical verses with knowledge from external sources, including history, science, linguistics and archeology. We meet every Monday evening at 8:30 pm for about one hour (virtually on TEAMS these days, perhaps will go hybrid again). After more than 15 years of continuous study, having started at the beginning of the Book of Genesis and completed the entire Pentateuch, the Books of Joshua, Judges and I Samuel, we are currently (November 2022) making our way thru **II Samuel** (King David).

TALMUD CLASS WITH DR. JUDAH LANDA

Wednesdays | 8:30 p.m. Via Zoom
This class brings to life the voices, discussions and debates of our sages as they formulated Jewish Law based on the traditions and foundational texts received from ancient times. We meet every Wednesday evening at 8:30 pm for about one hour (virtually on TEAMS these days, perhaps will go hybrid again). Currently we are studying tractate *Megillah* via the Artscroll English translation and commentary.

LUNCH AND LEARN (ZOOM)

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. Classes are temporarily on-hold.

MONROE LUNCH AND LEARN

Thursdays | 12 p.m.

Once a month we meet with Cantor Larry in the homes of various congregants. These sessions have been very interesting and well attended. Please call Howard Jacobs at 732-402-2273 or at howardjacobs@ebjc.org for details on upcoming dates, to get on our Monroe mailing list, with questions and to reserve your spot.

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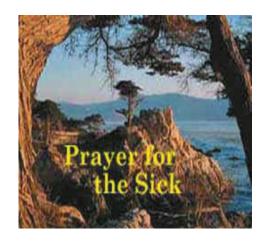
Starting again in September

HAZAK

September 21, 6 p.m.

Our first Hazak gathering for the year. Our official opening act, Carla Virola, will again entertain us with her wonderful energy and voice!

HEBREW READING CLASS AND MAH JONG ARE CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



HevraTehillim - a "Psalm Fellowship"

Join us for a healing prayer circle for EBJC members, as we recite from the Book of Psalms in English and Hebrew. We gather each week to chant psalms together to pray for the sick and ask for their healing. All are welcome to join the Zoom meeting on Tuesday evenings from 8:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Please send in the name of the person you will be praying for to: selectivemedia@comcast.net, where a list will be kept.

Emails are sent out each Monday with the Zoom meeting information.

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- Havdalah and Selichot Program begin at 8:30pm

SEPTEMBER 15-17 and 24-25

Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur services. Traditional and Egalitarian.

OCTOBER 6

Dinner in the Sukkah - our BIGGEST and BEST one yet

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RABBI/CANTOR DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

(Please note: Rabbi Larry will be handling both the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund and the Cantor's Discretionary Fund. All donations are gladly accepted to either fund and greatly appreciated).

Janice & Jerry Saferstein in honor of Inge Gross' 100th birthday

Brenda & Steven Albert in honor of Cantor Larry receiving smicha and in honor of Inge Gross' 100th birthday

Carol & Judah Landa in memory of Liz Salston's mother, Rosalie Marks

GENERAL DONATIONS

Tiby Lapkin in appreciation of Rabbi Jeff Pivo

Renee Weissman in honor of Rabbi Pivo

Sara & Steven Ullman in honor of Inge Gross's 100th birthday Barbara & Dov Pollak in honor of Thelma Zalewitz's great-granddaughter, Millie Emma, in honor of Iris and Jon Wininger's grandson, Riley Samuel, in honor of Inge Gross and in honor of Lory Pelofsky's great-granddaughter, Goni Shai

Cindi & Howard Jacobs In honor of the Ken and Helene Gerson on the marriage of their daughter, Jackie, to Sam

Marla & Martin Genee wishing a Happy 100th Birthday to Inge Gross

Carol & Judah Landa wishing Mazel Tov to Iris and Jon Wininger on the birth of their grandson!

Carol & Judah Landa wishing Mazel Tov to Thelma Zalewitz on the birth of another great grandchild!

Renee Weissman wishing Mazel Tov to Rabbi Larry upon receiving his Smicha

Barbara & Howard Sorkin in honor of Thelma Zalewitz and Linda Korman and Phil Spiegel's greatgranddaughter's/ granddaughter's birth

Debby & Seymour Feldman in memory of Bernard Pincus

Fran & Joel Shafer in memory of Rosalie Marks

Arlene & Stanley Ferman in memory of Rosalie Marks

Cindi & Howard Jacobs in honor of Liz and Bob Salston on the birth of their granddaughter, Isabella

Cindi & Howard Jacobs in memory of Rosalie Marks

Cindi & Howard Jacobs in memory of Sheila Friedman

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Gwen & David Botwinick in memory of Bernard Botwinick

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