

# Mishpachah Members' Monthly

The Newsletter of Bet Mishpachah, Founded in  
1975 by Members of the Washington, DC,  
Gay & Lesbian Community  
[www.betmish.org](http://www.betmish.org)

## Rabbi's Message

By Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin

There is a famous story that we tell about a sage named Honi, the Circlemaker. It comes from the Babylonian Talmud - *Ta'anit* 23a, and many communities include this story around their *Tu B'Sh'vat* festivities. *Tu B'Sh'vat* is the holiday that celebrates the trees, all that they give us, and the larger natural world. As the story goes, Honi sees a man planting a carob tree along the road. He asks the planter, "after how many years will it bear fruit?" and the man replies "70 years." Honi is astonished that the man would plant a tree, the fruit of which he will not benefit from in his lifetime. The man answers as follows: "I found the world full of carob trees. Just as my ancestors planted for me, I too am planting for my descendants." Honi miraculously falls asleep for seventy years, and wakes up to find the grandchild of the man who planted the sapling harvesting the carob from the now mature tree. It is a lovely story about caring for the environment and looking ahead to the future. If we end the story there, it is a story of environmental stewardship that is all-too-relevant these days, and there is good reason why we relate this story on the holiday of *Tu B'Sh'vat*. It is such an important story, that I chose to write about it in last year's January issue of Mishpachah Matters!

However, that's not where the story ends in the Talmud. The story takes a turn if we keep reading. Honi goes to his former home and asks whether his son is still alive. Honi learns that his son has died, but his grandson is still alive. Honi reveals his identity to his family members, but they do not believe him. Honi then travels to the study hall, where the other sages refer to Honi and his ability to resolve any difficulty that people found in the text, or with one another. Again, Honi reveals his true identity, but the sages in the study hall do not believe him either. Finally, a bereft Honi prays for mercy and he dies. The story ends by explaining the meaning of the folk saying, "*havruta o mituta* - either friendship or death."

When we keep reading the story to the end, does the moral of stewardship fall away? Does the lovely



story about caring for the environment take a back seat to the stated moral - either friendship or death? I'd like to present the possibility that the message remains the same, if a bit more broad. This story points out just how essential caring relationships are in our lives. In order to form and and keep those strong bonds, we must tend and maintain them, just as we must do for the natural world if it is to remain intact in the future. A tree requires thoughtful planting, clean water, and sustenance in order to bear fruit long into the future. Our relationships similarly require tending, regular maintenance, care, and thought in order to continue and flourish. Without trees, clean water and clean air, our world as we know it will be difficult to inhabit - we are already seeing the disastrous effects of neglecting our natural world.

Without caring relationships, we may not see the value in life, just like Honi. Friendship, this text teaches us, is as essential to our well-being as the physical benefits that we receive from trees. During this *Tu B'Sh'vat* holiday, let us commit ourselves both to being good stewards of the environment and of the relationships that are most dear to us. Only with each of these things can we look ahead to a bright future.

## New Position Announced



Bet Mishpachah is seeking to hire an Executive Director. The position is half-time, with flexible hours and a blend of re-

mote work and in-person attendance at meetings and events after Covid restrictions are lifted. The selectee will work closely with the Rabbi, Board, staff, and a committed cadre of volunteers in the areas of management and administration, event logistics, liaison with the Edlavitch DCJCC and outside groups, program development, communications, development, and fundraising. Salary is \$50-60,000 depending on experience, qualifications and negotiated benefits. The application deadline is January 18, 2022. For the full job description and vacancy announcement, please go to our website.

## Installation Shabbat

Please join us on **Friday, January 28, 2022** for Installation Shabbat during *Erev* Shabbat services, when we thank the outgoing board and welcome the incoming board. As is our tradition, the Past Presidents will be sponsoring the virtual *oneg*. Join us in person at the EDCJCC or virtually, but either way, let's show the outgoing board that we are thankful for their service, dedication and hard work, and welcome the new board as they plan to take the helm starting on February 1, 2022.

## New Member Shabbat— Friday, January 21, 2022 8:00 pm in-person or via Zoom

Join us as Bet Mishpachah lays out the welcome mat for our newest members. Help them feel like part of the family. Whatever their reasons for choosing our congregation, whether to enhance their Jewish traditions and education, participate in our programs and committees, or make new friendships, Bet Mishpachah is committed to fostering a welcoming atmosphere. We may not be able to deliver home-baked challahs to their door, but we can share our smiles and thank our newest members for joining. And to you, our wonderful new members: Please, don't be shy getting to know us and allowing us to come to know you. The Zoom meeting link will be in the weekly electronic newsletter, "This Week and Beyond."



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## Keshet Rising: Happy Hour Gathering

### Keshet Rising: A Gathering of Queer Jews from Gen X to Gen Z Happy Hour Gathering

Join us for a *nosh* before *Erev* Shabbat services and *Mizmor* Shabbat with Robyn Helzner on **Friday, January 14th** at 6:45 pm. We will meet at Trio, 1537 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20036 and then walk together to the EDCJCC to start Shabbat together at 8:00 pm. Questions? Please contact [yp@betmish.org](mailto:yp@betmish.org)

## Thinking of membership at Bet Mishpachah?

Membership is an opportunity to develop friendships, learn, become involved in your heritage, and support the only LGBTQ synagogue in the Washington, DC area. To join Bet Mishpachah is easy; just visit [www.betmish.org](http://www.betmish.org) today.

Questions, e-mail

[membershipdirector@betmish.org](mailto:membershipdirector@betmish.org)

## A D'rash from the Past - Parashat Beshalach by Louis Blank, January 29, 2021

Have you ever had something in your life.

- Where you truly believed in an idea or concept
- And when you finally let it go
  - ◆ Either voluntarily or involuntarily
  - ◆ You realized that there's another way to look at it

This week's parsha: *Beshalach* translates to "When he let go"

This reminds me of a quote from a book by Edith Eger, --- The Choice and she says

- ◆ How easily the life we did not live
- ◆ Becomes the only life we prize

Letting go really resonates with me.

- ◇ When Dan and I moved a few months ago, we had to let go of a lot.
  - ◇ Personal possessions
  - ◇ The security of knowing where everything is
  - ◇ And you trade it for the adventure of the unknown

The adventure of the unknown. That's this week's parsha.



The Israelites leave Egypt. And we're lead by -- *Moshe Rabbeinu*.

Which translates to *Moshe* Our Teacher.

- Interestingly enough, this is the 16<sup>th</sup> *parsha*. - And the number 16 denotes someone who seeks wisdom to teach – like our *Rabbeinu*.

And he teaches us a lot

- About ourselves, our expectations, and who we are as a people

The *parsha* says that:

- \* Pharaoh changed his mind. And he sent his troops after us.
- \* When the people saw the army coming they complained to Moses.
  - You brought us out here to die!!!
  - We would have been better off if we would have stayed in *Mitzrayim* as slaves. At least we would have lived.
    - There's that quote again:
    - How easily the life we did not live.
    - Becomes the only life we prize.
- Everyone got as far as the Sea.
  - Sometimes it's referred to as the Red Sea – named after the color of the mountains.
  - Other times it's referred to as the Reed Sea – after the many reeds in the sea
  - In any event, it split.
- The Israelites crossed over, the sea closed, and Pharaoh's army drowned. Every last one of them.

Safe, we're home free! Not really, we're in the desert.

- People start to complain that there's nothing to drink.
  - Makes sense to me!
- Moses gets frustrated and strikes a rock with his rod and water comes out of the rock. Problem solved, for now.
- The people complained they had nothing to eat.

One way to look at it is that the people complained a lot.

Another way to look at it is that we were on an adventure.

- Everything was unknown. And it was probably really scary.
  - You're a slave and you don't have to think about anything. Someone always tells you what's next.
  - Then you're in the middle of nowhere ... wandering to ... who knows where?

So you may be forced to shift or let go of your slave mentality. And think in a different way to solve the challenges of life.

- *Hashem* sent *manna*. And the people were told to gather it according to their need.
  - ◇ No one was supposed to hoard it, because it wouldn't last until the next day.
  - ◇ The concept of not hoarding makes total intellectual sense to me.

*Continued on page 4*

## Rabbi Jake's Winter & Spring Classes

What do the “Shabbat morning service,” “G-d’s pronouns,” “making *Midrash*,” and “mythical creatures” all have in common? They are all great topics for Rabbi Jake’s winter and spring classes. Join us for one or all of them.



### The Shabbat Morning Service Deconstructed—Saturday, January 8, 2022, at 12:00 pm

**following the morning service.** (In-person at the EDCJCC and streaming.) Shabbat morning, what are we trying to accomplish, and how does our liturgy help us achieve these goals? We will also examine the highlight of the Shabbat morning service - the drama and ritual surrounding the Torah reading.

### Does G-d Have Pronouns? A Three-Part Workshop Together with Hill Havurah

Join Bet Mishpachah and Hill Havurah for an exploration of prayer, gender, and why it matters. We'll start with a Havdalah in person where we'll get to know each other and explore our relationship to prayer experiences - good, bad, and in between. We'll continue with two virtual text studies; one exploring each of our communities' *machzorim* and the values and hopes that went into their creation, and another looking more broadly at how we navigate the gendered language of prayer - featuring inclusive liturgist Brin Solomon!

**Session 1: Saturday, January 29, 2022, from 6:00-7:15 pm.** At Hill Havurah's space in the Shalom Room at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation, 212 East Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC. (In-person and streaming.)

**Session 2: Wednesday, February 2, 2022, from 7:30-9:00 pm.** (Via Zoom.)

**Session 3: Wednesday, February 9, 2022, from 7:30-9:00 pm.** (Via Zoom.)

**Making *Midrash* - Saturday, March 12, 2022, at 12:00 pm following the morning service.** (In-person at the EDCJCC and streaming.) The Torah doesn't tell us everything we want to know about the stories and characters within it, and so,

Jewish scholars tell stories about stories in the Torah. Throughout the centuries, they have filled in the gaps by utilizing the hints from the text as well as their imaginations. This is *Midrash*. We'll look at the process of creating *midrashic* literature, and even try our hands at it!

**Mythical Creatures in Jewish Text and Tradition - Wednesday April 6, 2022, at 7:30 pm.** (Via Zoom.)

We continue our exploration of Jewish texts from throughout history that speak of supernatural beings and their influences on Jewish ritual and life. In the fall, we discovered the depth of our traditions surrounding angels and Satan and demons. This spring, we look at mythical creatures that appear in the

*TaNaKH* as well as rabbinic texts, such as the Leviathan, *Nefilim* (giants from the book of Genesis), Behemoth, and the Golem. What do discussions about these beings teach us about our people and our day-to-day lives?

The Zoom invitations will appear closer to their dates in the weekly “This Week and Beyond”, on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/betmish](http://www.facebook.com/betmish), and our website [www.betmish.org](http://www.betmish.org). Classes are always free for members of Bet Mishpachah. There is a suggested donation of \$10 for nonmembers which may be made on our website.

## A Drash from the Past — Continued from page 3

But sometimes people hoard out of fear. – Let’s say there’s a pandemic, and you’re afraid there won’t be much food in the store. What if we don’t have enough later.

Sometimes it’s out of habit.

Other times you’re not paying attention and before you know it, you have 27 containers of \_\_\_\_ fill in the blank.

The parsha goes on to say that then

- The people of Amalek attacked us.

G-d told Moses that if he would raise his hands, the Israelites would prevail. If he would lower his hands, the people of Amalek would prevail. Aaron and Hur put stones under Moses hands to keep them up.

The Israelites won and we were told to obliterate the remembrance of the people of Amalek.

\*Interestingly enough, to erase a memory some people feel that you need to record it.

\*Otherwise, history repeats itself.

So there’s a lot of concepts going on in the parsha.

In my mind, Moses is letting go of his fear.

- He really doesn’t want to be a leader, but he doesn’t have much of a choice.

The Israelites are letting go of their slave mentality.

- Because there isn’t someone standing over them telling them what to do.

Sometimes letting go is trusting that things will be okay in the end

- And if it’s not okay, at this very moment, it’s probably not the end of the story

It could be

- Trusting in G-d
- Having faith that things will work out

This means that you might not be holding onto things that are familiar

- And what does that look like? Letting go can be
- Voluntary or Involuntary

Which means that

- Instead of things happening TO you
- They could be happening FOR you

No matter what we do or don’t let go of

Coulda, woulda, shoulda

- How easily the life we did not live.
- Sometimes becomes the only life we prize.

## Bet Mishpachah Committee Highlights

By Joel Wind



In our ongoing column on synagogue committees, this month we present Art and Design, and Archives. If you have a specific interest in either of these, or something else, please let us know and we will link you with the correct person. It's up to you how much your involvement will be, but your ideas are always welcome!

### Art and Design

The Art and Design Committee was formed many years ago originally under the guidance of Jeff Kaye and currently chaired by Joel Wind. The committee was responsible for selecting the firm or individual that designed and fabricated our Torah Scroll Arks, and the firm that created the mantles that adorn both of our Torah Scrolls. This responsibility included overseeing the process from start to finish. The committee is currently engaged in replacing the doorknobs of the Ark that were broken. If you have any

questions about the Art and Design Committee, contact Joel Wind at [archive@betmish.org](mailto:archive@betmish.org).

### Archives

The Archives for Bet Mishpachah is the repository of all records that have been accumulated by the Board, members and interested parties. It collects and preserves minutes of Board of Directors meetings; copies of newsletters; flyers, programs, awards; contracts; by-laws; conferences; and many more items. The archives, currently under the direction of Joel Wind, is slated to be transferred to the Lillian and Albert Small Capital Jewish Museum where it will be digitized and available to Bet Mishpachah. If you have any questions about the Archives, contact Joel Wind at [archive@betmish.org](mailto:archive@betmish.org).



## Embodying Tikun Olam: Julius Rosenwald (1862-1932)

By Rod Ross

Born in Springfield, Illinois, to German-Jewish immigrants, Julius Rosenwald transformed Sears, Roebuck and Company into a highly successful catalog mail-order house — the Amazon of its day. With his subsequent wealth Rosenwald, an active member of Chicago's Sinai Congregation led by Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, funded not only Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry and fellowships for African American authors, artists and intellectuals, but through matching-fund grants was instrumental in the building YMCA's for Blacks as well schools for African American children in the rural South.

The Illinois State Society of Washington, DC's unofficial January 2009 Illinois Inaugural Gala, in its Hall of Heroes, featured forty posters honoring men and women with Illinois connections — two Native American males, two Black males, three Black females, eight White females and twenty-three White males. One was for Rosenwald.

While I had long appreciated Rosenwald's contributions to American life, my friend Dorothy A. Canter, PhD, first heard of him only in 2015 when both of us (unknown at the time to one another) attended a showing of Aviva Kempner's film *Rosenwald: A Remarkable Story of a Jewish Partnership with African American Communities*. Being an activist by nature, Canter came up with the idea for the creation of a national park commemorating Rosenwald's accomplishments.

A week before Donald Trump left office, he signed into law a measure directing the National Park Service to investigate the idea of establishing a park honoring Rosenwald. In Canter's mind's eye, not only would there be a park in Chicago but there would be affiliate locations in extant "Rosenwald Schools" around the nation. At this stage, Canter is actively seeking congregations, historical societies and the like willing to go on record in support of the project. Happily, at its October meeting, the Bet Mishpachah Board joined 6th and I Historic Synagogue, Adas Israel, the American Library Association, the Illinois State Society and others in endorsing the creation of a Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools National Historical Site.

In President Mindy Gasthalter's October 24, 2021, email to Canter, Gasthalter observed:

*Julius Rosenwald, through his philanthropic endeavors, — in providing matching funds for the building of schools in the South, in helping to pay teacher salaries, and in setting up fellowships — helped ensure that African Americans could fulfill their potential at a time when racist "separate but equal" was the law of the land and underfunded schools attended by African Americans. His initiatives and financial support helped close the institutionalized education gap and offer students a chance for success they would have been denied. He truly embodied and "lived" the Jewish concept of "Tikun Olam." The proposed National Historical Site will recognize and pay tribute to what he accomplished and how he touched the lives of countless African Americans.*

# Thank you for your generosity

## Ritual Objects Fund

Joe Pomper, in memory of his parents, Dr. Seymour and Judith Pomper

## Richard Krampf Social Action Fund

Eva Freund and Elke Martin, in memory of Frederick Sachs

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Tom Sachs, in memory of Frederick Sachs  
Davi LaBarre, In memory of Herschel, Gene and Edward

## Mark Goldfarb Memorial Fund

Devra Floyd  
Rod Ross, in memory of Edward Ross, M.D.

## Operating Fund

Charles Stewart  
Mindy Gasthalter, in memory of Frederick Sachs  
Mindy Gasthalter, in memory of Alan Ziskin  
Diane Liff and Georgia Korn, in memory of Frederick Sachs  
Diane Liff and Georgia Korn, in memory of Ben Liff  
Batya Hyman and Belinda Cross  
Joel Berelson, in honor of Leti Gomez's recent retirement  
Rod Ross, in celebration of the birth of Lily Alice Hoffman  
Rod Ross, in appreciation for the respective contributions of Deb Hyman and Paula Morris  
Sarajane Garten and Catherine Tarabochia, in memory of Fanny Garten  
Sarajane Garten and Catherine Tarabochia, in memory of Candida Tarabochia  
Sarajane Garten and Catherine Tarabochia, in honor of current and past board members  
Sarajane Garten and Catherine Tarabochia, in memory of Ruth Bear Isaacs  
Paula Morris and Deb Hyman, in honor of Larry Neff's 70th birthday milestone  
Jonathan Edelman  
Kasey Bigsby and Evan Zukerman  
Barry Friedman, in memory of his four uncles who passed away this year

## Non-Members:

The Sosland Foundation, in honor of Jonathan Edelman  
Marla Scheinman, in honor of Rod Ross, for his volunteering this past year  
Beth Shalom Temple, in honor of Vinny Prell and Rachel Wolkowitz

## Bet Mishpachah's Ark

Bet Mishpachah's Ark (donated by Stuart Sotsky) with our rainbow-hued Torah mantles (donated by Michael Strom) with the quotation: "And when the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my Covenant" (*B'reishit/Genesis 14b—15a*). Our *Ner Tamid* (perpetual light) in the shape of a burning bush on top of the Ark, was created by artist Rebecca Kamen.



## Celebrate Tu Bi Sh'vat



This year, the holiday of *Tu Bi Sh'vat* occurs on Monday, January 17th. Known as the original Earth Day, *Tu Bi Sh'vat* is not mentioned in the Bible, but there are many references to preserving trees. Thus, it is also known as "The Birthday of the Trees." Join us as we celebrate our earth on an urban hike that day. Details will be in the weekly electronic newsletter.

## Amazon Smile

Bet Mishpachah is enrolled in Amazon Smile. You can shop and have .5% of what you buy come to your favorite synagogue. Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you know – but now a part of your purchase price is donated to Bet Mishpachah.

To enroll, visit Amazon Smile. Enter your user name and password as you would normally do. At the next screen, "Start Picking Your Charity," enter Bet Mishpachah, hit "select," click "Yes, I understand that I must always start at smile.amazon.com to support Bet Mishpachah," so START SHOPPING and support Bet Mishpachah with every purchase.



# Celebrate!

### Welcome Back:

Betty Milgram

### January Birthdays

Barbara Becker  
Steve Frank  
Ronni Karambelas  
Eryca Kasse

### January Anniversaries

David M Hollis and Mark David Agrast  
Davi LaBarre and Janet Szabo  
Edward Comer and Alex Oporto  
Gena Schoen and Rik Edwards

### Thank You to Our December Service Leaders

Friday, December 3: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin  
Friday, December 10: Louis Blank and  
Rabbi Ben Shalva  
Saturday, December 11: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin and  
Viny Prell  
Friday, December 17: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin and  
Allan Armus  
Friday, December 24: Paula Morris  
Friday, December 31: Jeff Burka and Marc Bernstein



### Thank you to our January Service Leaders

Friday, January 7: Allan Armus  
Saturday, January 8: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin  
Friday, January 14: Al Munzer and Robyn Helzner  
Friday, January 21: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin  
Saturday, January 22: TBD  
Friday, January 28: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin



### Although we are not eating at services, consider sponsoring an *Oneg Shabbat* or *Kiddush*

Even though we are just starting to see one another again, and many of us are still at home, occasions still occur in our lives so why not sponsor a virtual *Oneg Shabbat* or *Kiddush* now in honor of a *simcha*, or in memory of a loved one, or just because. Consider making a donation of *Chai* (\$18) or more to the Joel and Murray Woldman *Oneg Shabbat* and *Kiddush* Fund for the very same reasons, so that when we are finally able to celebrate being together, there are funds available to support our *Oneg Shabbats* and *Kiddush* lunches. Your sponsorship will be announced at services.

Want to sponsor? We have dates available into 2022. Just sign up with [administrator@betmish.org](mailto:administrator@betmish.org). Kindly donate via the link at: <http://www.betmish.org/donate> or mail a check to **Bet Mishpachah, , P.O. Box 1410, Washington, DC, 20013**



**We extend our sincerest sympathy to our members who have experienced recent losses:**

Alan Ziskin, father of Craig Ziskin  
 Marc Lawrence Gale, former member of BetMishpachah

**Member Yartzeits****Announced Friday, December 31 (Yartzeits observed December 31 – January 6; 27 Tevet - 4 Sh'vat)**

Shirley Esquith, Friend of Morris Umansky	December 31
Lillian M. Woldman, Mother of Murray Woldman	December 31 (Tevet 27)
Alan Roberts, Founding Member of Bet Mishpachah	January 1
Marcia Peltzman, Mother of Maxine Klane	January 1 (Tevet 28)
Lynn Foster, Sister of Alex Ford	January 2
Morris Friedman, Father of Barry Friedman	January 2 (Tevet 29)
Elinor Carlton, Mother of Patricia Carlton	January 3
Marty Lisberger, Friend of Ruth Potts	January 4
Rose Kushner, Grandmother of Eytan Apelberg	January 4 (Sh'vat 2)
Alyssa Kasse, Sister of Eryca Kasse	January 4 (Sh'vat 2)
Max Kaplan, Grandfather of Jocelyn Kaplan	January 5
Robert Breeze, Partner of Charles Stewart	January 5

**Announced Friday & Saturday, January 7 & 8 (Yartzeits observed January 7 - 13; 5 - 11 Sh'vat)**

Darlene Iva Wood, Friend of Devra Floyd	January 7
Charles "Chuck" Fortinsky, Father of James Fortinsky	January 7
Euclid Tarabochia, Grandfather of Catherine Tarabochia	January 7
Paul Lev, Uncle of Larry Neff	January 8
Harold Garten, Father of Sarajane Garten	January 9
Jerry Davis, Friend of Larry Neff and member of Bet Mishpachah	January 9
William Most, Uncle of Morris Umansky	January 9
Morrie Green, Uncle of Tom Sachs	January 9
Joe Vostrizansky, Father of David Vos	January 11
George Nancollas, Grandfather of Rachel Nancollas	January 11
Selma Sandofsky, Sister of Sandor Bernstein	January 11 (Sh'vat 9)
Anne Ross, Mother of Rodney Ross	January 11 (Sh'vat 9)
Alexander Robert Forbes, Uncle of Michael Hoffman	January 13
Bernard Carb, Grandfather of Alan Carb	January 13
Miriam Kenner, Friend of Alex Carter	January 13
Fred Barron, Friend of Ruth Potts	January 13 (Sh'vat 11)
Ruth Hochberg, Grandmother of Marlene Cohen	January 14 (Sh'vat 12)

**Announced Friday, January 14 (Yartzeits observed January 14 -20; 12 - 18 Sh'vat)**

Jamel Brown, Cousin of LySandra BradyGoldberg	January 14
Asaya Most, Cousin of Morris Umansky	January 15
Albert M. Potts, Uncle of Ruth Potts	January 16 (Sh'vat 14)
Harvey Wander, Father of Elyse Wander	January 16 (Sh'vat 14)
Scott Greenfield, Cousin of Eryca Kasse	January 17 (Sh'vat 15)
Louis Elman, Grandfather of Diane Liff	January 18
Fannie Bluma Becker Most, Grandmother of Morris Umansky	January 19
Eva and Leah Munzer, Sisters of Al Munzer	January 19 (Sh'vat 17)

**Member Yartzeits—continued**

Mordecai Barlas, Grandfather of Judy Barlas	January 20
Norman Wofsy, Father of Noah Wofsy	January 20
Sydney Kaplan, Father of Daniel Kaplan	January 20 (Sh'vat 18)

**Announced Friday & Saturday, January 21 & 22 (Yartzeits observed January 21 - 27; 19 -25 Sh'vat)**

Lisa Beth Greenstone, Cousin of Louis Blank	January 21
Christopher Meyer, Friend of Alex Carter	January 22
Hortense Lash, "like a Mother" of Devra Floyd	January 22
Anke Eggers, Wonderful Friend of Eva Freund and Elke Martin	January 22
Constance Green, Aunt of Tom Sachs	January 22
Stefina Vostrizansky, Mother of David Vos	January 22
Philip Silber, Brother of Susan Silber	January 22
Marian Sotsky, Aunt of Stuart Sotsky	January 22 (Sh'vat 20)
Anne F. Kohn, Mother of Margy Kohn	January 23
Louis Zinnershine, Uncle of Scott Reiter	January 23
Steven Allen, Cousin of Larry Neff	January 23
Joseph Budaszewitz, Father of Phil Budaszewitz	January 23 (Sh'vat 21)
Rose Gordon, Aunt of Warren Snaider	January 23 (Sh'vat 21)
Cynthia Gasthalter, Aunt of Mindy Gasthalter	January 24
Esther Chiprut Kahn, Aunt of Beverly Nissenbaum	January 24 (Sh'vat 22)
Sarah Friedman, Grandmother of Barry Friedman	January 25
Mabel Hatcher, Mother of Theodore Xakellis	January 25
Henry Leish, Grandfather of Denise Leish	January 26
Amelia Wilkinson, Mother and Mother-in-law of Barbara Becker and Jutta Brettschneider	January 26
Eleanor Frishman, Mother of Bruce Frishman	January 26
Alex Woldman, Grandfather of Murray Woldman	January 26 (Sh'vat 25)
Geoffrey Ford, Father of Alex Ford	January 27
Leon Goldberg, Father of Barbara Goldberg	January 28 (Sh'vat 27)
Goldie Levine Sycowski, Aunt of Florene Bernstein	January 28 (Sh'vat 27)

**Announced Friday, January 28 (Yartzeits observed January 28 – February 3; 26 Sh'vat – 2 Adar I)**

Katrina Wobschall, Grandmother of Rachel Nancollas	January 29
Milton Carb, Father of Alan Carb	January 29 (Shevat 27)
Rose Bresnick Lev, Aunt of Larry Neff	January 30
Stanley Lehman, Uncle of Michael Hoffman	January 30 (Sh'vat 28)
Robert Cole, Friend of Joel Berelson	February 1
Alois F. Baer, Grandfather of Ellen Levy	February 2
Lenard Mears, Jr., Member of Bet Mishpachah	February 2
David Fortinsky, Mother of James Fortinsky	February 3

### Shabbat Services

As we return to in-person services, we are limiting the number of attendees. Bet Mishpachah will continue to stream *Shabbat* services virtually by Zoom. Please check our website for details. The Zoom meeting number will be in our weekly electronic newsletter, “This Week and Beyond.”

Bet Mishpachah holds *Shabbat* services every **Friday at 8:00 pm**, followed by a virtual *Oneg Shabbat* social hour, **and on the second and fourth Saturday of every month at 10:00 am**. Saturday morning services include a short Torah reading, a lively Torah discussion (in lieu of a sermon) and a virtual *Kiddush* lunch.

**Sign Language interpretation** for Shabbat services is available by sending an email request to [sign@betmish.org](mailto:sign@betmish.org) with a minimum of two weeks notice.

**Any changes to our regular Shabbat service schedule** (e.g., due to inclement weather) will be posted on our website ([www.betmish.org](http://www.betmish.org)) and will be included in our weekly email broadcast

**To Schedule a Bet Mishpachah Event**, email the date, and number of expected attendees to [administrator@betmish.org](mailto:administrator@betmish.org)

### Bet Mishpachah's Affiliations

Bet Mishpachah is a member of the:

- \* World Congress of GLBT Jews: *Keshet Ga'avah*
- \* Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington
- \* Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington
- \* Network of Independent Jewish Communities and *Havurot*

### Mishpachah Members' Monthly Newsletter Staff

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 Secretary — Erica Gloger  
 Communications Chair — Mike Goldstein

### Donations

To donate to our congregation, please mail your check to Bet Mishpachah, P.O. Box 1410, Washington, D.C. 20013 or donate via PayPal from the “Donations” page on our web site, [www.betmish.org](http://www.betmish.org)

### Bet Mishpachah Newsletter

Our newsletter, *Mishpachah Members' Monthly*, is published monthly by Bet Mishpachah, P.O. Box 1410, Washington, D.C., 20013. The newsletter is sent to members and posted on our website. Articles, columns and content should be submitted by the 10th of the month prior to publication. Email them to [administrator@betmish.org](mailto:administrator@betmish.org)

### Weekly Email Broadcast

The congregation also distributes a weekly email blast, “This Week and Beyond,” which contains late-breaking congregational news about upcoming programs, as well as other Jewish and/or LGBTQ news of partner organizations. **To receive our weekly email broadcasts**, send an email to [administrator@betmish.org](mailto:administrator@betmish.org)

### Congregational Website

Be sure to check out our website at [www.betmish.org](http://www.betmish.org) with information about our congregation's current and upcoming programs, our rabbi, and our history, as well as links to other websites of interest.

**Reprints.** Information in any of our publications may be reprinted without permission, but acknowledgment of the source is required.

**Communications Policy.** For questions about our editorial or advertising policies, send an email to [secretary@betmish.org](mailto:secretary@betmish.org)

### Membership

**To join our Bet Mishpachah family and become a member**, email [MembershipDirector@betmish.org](mailto:MembershipDirector@betmish.org)

Reduced membership is available for students, young people, new members, and those who live outside the DC metro area.

### Address, Phone, and Email Updates

Send your name and old and new information to [membershipdirector@betmish.org](mailto:membershipdirector@betmish.org)

### *Bikur Cholim* — We Care About You

Become a partner in the *mitzva* of *Bikur Cholim* — visiting the sick — by advising our *Bikur Cholim* Committee, rabbi, or president when you or a relative is hospitalized. We can stay informed ONLY if we receive the information. Please email us at [BikurCholim@betmish.org](mailto:BikurCholim@betmish.org).

### Death Notices, Bereavement Services

If you are in need of bereavement services or to announce a death in your family, email [bereavement@betmish.org](mailto:bereavement@betmish.org).

**DIRECTORY****RABBIS**

Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin ..... rabbi@betmish.org  
 Rabbi Bob Saks, *Emeritus* ..... rabbibobs@aol.com

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