

# 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)

CAPITAL PRIDE CELEBRATION



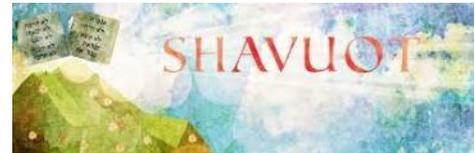
## Capital Pride Week starts June 5th after a Two Year Hiatus

Come join us for what will be an undoubtedly wonderful few weeks of activities. This year's theme will be "ReUnited." Come to one or all, you will not regret it. Read our weekly electronic newsletter, "This Week and Beyond," or our website for updates and details. The list of events include:

- Wednesday, June 1st- Big Queer Jewish Happy Hour - 5:30-9:00 pm at Pitchers
- Friday, June 10th - start off Pride Shabbat with an in-person reception at the EDCJCC starting at 6:30 pm
- Friday, June 10th - Pride Shabbat at Bet Mishpachah - 8:00 pm Service at the EDCJCC with partner members participation, followed by an *Oneg* Shabbat.
- Saturday, June 11th - Mishpacha Meet-Up: Young-Families Pre-Pride Get Together - 2:00 pm
- Saturday, June 11th - Pride Parade - March with GLOE and Jewish Community—meet up at 3:30 pm
- Sunday, June 12th- Bagel Brunch with GLOE and GatherDC - 12:00 pm
- Sunday, June 12th - Pride Festival - 12:00-7:00 pm

\*Bet Mishpachah will have a booth, as in previous years. We are asking for volunteers to take an hour shift on that day. Come out and meet other like-minded people. Tell them about our fabulous congregation! Please contact [executivedirector@betmish.org](mailto:executivedirector@betmish.org) to sign up or learn more.

- Tuesday June 14th - Night OUT at the Nationals - 7:05 pm



## Shavuot service with Hill Havurah

Join us for a mutli-faceted celebration of *Shavuot* for all ages on Sunday, June 5th, starting at 10:30 am, at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation (212 E. Capitol St., NE). The morning will begin with some food and schmoozing, and then there will be a dramatic reading/ retelling of the book of Ruth, which is read on this holiday. This will be followed by a discussion on the theme of "Torah Families," exploring how "traditional" families don't really exist in the Torah and learning more about how many Torah families actually did look. For example, Ruth and Naomi supporting one another after their husbands had died, Abraham, Sarah, Hagar, Isaac, and Ishmael, etc. The main point is that the traditional family as we tend to think of it is not actually what most families in our scripture look like. To register, please go to: <https://www.hillhavurah.org/form/Shavuot--6/5/22-at-10:30.html>

- Wednesday, June 15th - Interfaith Virtual Service with All Souls—5:00 pm
- Thursday, June 16th - Hunger Action Program to Support Casa Ruby - 6:30-8:30 pm

To register for any of these events, go to: <https://www.edcjcc.org/community/gloe/pride-2022/>

## The High Holy Days are Coming! The High Holy Days are Coming!

*Rosh Ha-Shana* begins Sunday evening,  
September 25th.

Watch for some preliminary plans in the next issue of *Mishpachah Members' Monthly*!  
Want to be part of the planning? Ideas on how we can improve this year? Our committee has already begun to meet but we can use your input. Send us an email at [HHD@betmish.org](mailto:HHD@betmish.org).

## Shavuot—For LGBTQIQ People

Our people came out of Egypt a mixed multitude,  
the spray of dividing waters sparkling diamonds all around them.

We stood together at Sinai, all of us—future, present, past—  
Amid the rumble of thunder and the crack of bright lightning  
to enter into a covenant with the One who loves us,  
in whose shining image we are all created, over and over again.

We have wandered bleak landscapes, built flimsy tents of skin  
and then houses of stone.  
We have planted orchards and vineyards, seen two Temples rise  
and then go down in the surging flames, forcing us into exile.  
We have loved and lost, grieved and danced,  
transgressed and celebrated.  
Hidden, suffered, thrived.

And we gather here this day, in the community of our people,  
a mixed multitude, and we sing out:  
Hear O Israel, we stand together, all of us,  
descendants of the single first human created on the sixth day,  
and of our myriad parents down through the generations,  
too numerous to name.  
We stand together, link arms, and pray.

Blessed are you, G-d of the universe, who sanctifies us  
with the commandment to love ourselves and one another—  
in all our varied ways—and blesses us with a diamond-bright radiance  
that still ripples out from Your first spoken words of creation.

**Maggid Andrew Ramer**  
*Shavat Va Yinafash*, page 430

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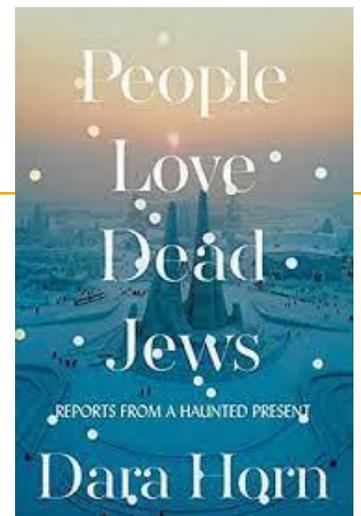
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## Book Group News

The Bet Mishpachah Book Group will gather virtually on Sunday, June 12th at 4:00 p.m. to discuss "People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present," by acclaimed novelist, essayist and lecturer Dara Horn. A startling and profound exploration of how Jewish history is exploited to comfort the living, the book was the 2021 winner of the National Jewish Book Award for Contemporary Jewish Life and Practice, finalist for the 2021 Kirkus Prize in Nonfiction, and a New York Times Notable Book of the Year.

Often asked by major publications to write on subjects related to Jewish culture—and increasingly in response to a recent wave of deadly antisemitic attacks—Dr. Horn was troubled to realize that all of these assignments asked her to write about dead Jews, never about living ones. She challenges us to confront the reasons why there might be so much fascination with Jewish deaths, and so little respect for Jewish lives unfolding in the present. The book is available in hard and soft cover, audiobook and Kindle.

Contact [bookgroup@betmish.org](mailto:bookgroup@betmish.org) for the Zoom link that goes out before the meeting.





## Shavuot: A Marginal Holiday and the Book of Ruth

by Rabbi Joshua Lesser

*Shavuot* is one of the least celebrated major Jewish holidays; however, *Shavuot* should be one of the most popular amongst queer folk. In thinking about the “forgotten step-sister” of Jewish holidays, I think there are several unfortunate reasons that most American Jews would vote it “least likely to succeed” in the Jewish Yearbook. First, its timing tends to ruin Memorial Day plans or take a back seat to the first summer vacation plans of the season. Also, the rituals associated with *Shavuot* are not nearly as sexy as those of its fairer sisters of the *Shalosh Regalim* (the 3 Pilgrimage Festivals). There are no huts to build, no family *seders* with bowls of *Bubbe’s* matzo ball soup, and no endless glasses of wine. Instead, we get an all night study session, which doesn’t sit well with most Jews past college age, and a dairy meal – not very enticing in this age of lactose intolerance. These alone make it difficult for *Shavuot* to achieve its potential. But on top of all that, the themes of this sacred day itself seem to be more esoteric and more difficult to grasp than its two more popular sisters: *Sukkot* and *Pesach*.

On *Sukkot*, we experience the theme of vulnerability in the natural world, something people can actually feel as they sit in the *sukka* and for which we are primed for so quickly after our High Holy Days. Even more powerfully, *Pesach’s* themes of liberation, challenging oppression and freedom are easy for most American Jews to grasp since they are also core American values. *Shavuot* is far more complex since it celebrates both the gift of Torah to the Jewish people and G-d’s revelation to us. So many of us have a complex relationship to the Torah and it is not always clear that this relationship is cause for a joyous celebration. We are not alone with this question. We find in *Midrash* that one of the ways our sages imagined G-d giving the Jewish people Torah is by holding Mt. Sinai over our heads threatening to drop it if we do not accept the gift. Similarly, in Torah herself, revelation is described as a scary scene with lightning that could be heard and thunder that could be seen and finally an urgent request from us to Moses saying, “Enough, we cannot receive anymore, you receive it for us.” On a more concrete note, as Jews of varying beliefs, we do not all view the Revelation of Torah at Mount Sinai as an actual occurrence, leaving many of us to question what exactly are we celebrating. Some of us believe in G-d’s continuing revelation today and others believe G-d’s face is hidden from us, if there is a G-d at all. For the average Jew, these questions go straight to the heart of one’s faith.

But with all of *Shavuot’s* complexity and challenges, it has one major plus. And it is this benefit that I believe honors the core of what I would call queer/feminist values. On *Shavuot* we read my favorite book of the entire *Tanakh*: the Book of Ruth. When I encounter Ruth and its placement on *Shavuot*, I ask the question: What does this book have to teach us about the spiritual nature of *Shavuot*? Traditionally, the reason given for the reading of this book is that it takes place during the barley/wheat harvest, which is one of the agricultural reasons for the observance of *Shavuot*, along with the gift of the first fruits. Is this all?

There are some interesting contrasts and parallels between the story of Naomi and Ruth and the revelation of Torah to the Jewish people. The two stories begin so differently. In the recounting of the Revelation, the entire community has recently celebrated its freedom and liberation from Egypt and are preparing for the giving of the Torah on the heights of Mt. Sinai. In the book of Ruth, literary devices are employed to imply despair and the absence of community. A famine forces Naomi to flee Canaan, her homeland, with her husband and sons. Ultimately, she finds herself in the valleys of Moab, a widow and the witness to the death of both of her sons. Her status is as low as it possibly could be in her society and time. The text ever so bluntly plays games with her name, whereas Naomi means “pleasant,” she requests to be called *Marah*, “bitter” because G-d’s hand is against her. Thus we begin with the inverse of the setting found in G-d’s grand revelation of Torah.

What queer person cannot relate to Naomi’s fate at one time or another? Feeling lonely, without family, without support and without a clear picture of the future – surely many of us remember a time like that. If we are lucky like Naomi, that reality changes. When she encourages her daughters-in-law to return to a more certain future with security and promise one daughter-in-law, Ruth, stays and pledges an oath of fidelity inextricably binding her life to Naomi’s forever, giving us one of the Torah’s most poignant examples of a family of choice. Her pledge is so complete that some people question if there was more than a mother-daughter bond, but rather that of a life partner. Indeed, many people, lesbians and straight folk alike, use Ruth’s pledge as part of their life-long commitment to each other. The text does not answer what their relationship is, but the question itself is important and allows us to wonder. To me, the even more powerful message is that through this pledge, the future changes, a future that will eventually lead to the messianic age.

This transformation is the most queer part of the text. It is this pledge of mutuality and shared destiny in the face of the unknown that enables what is clearly a path of despair and hopelessness to be transformed so powerfully that it produces the seed of the messianic line. Through a series of events, some even say through G-d’s hand, Ruth meets Boaz, a kinsman of Naomi. He admires her dedication to Naomi and offers them support and comfort. Eventually, Boaz decides to join their family of choice from which an offspring emerges beginning the Davidic messianic line. Here we see that G-d can be powerfully known and experienced through a relationship. If that is not a revelation as profound as Torah, I do not know what is. It is often through selfless giving that G-d is known as powerfully as if the earth was shaking and thundering. Even more revealing for queer folks is that this relationship occurred in the margins. The central elements of this story take place in Moab, a questionable place at the time, and in the fields – a place of danger and transition. The central players are likewise marginal: widows, older people and strangers. And yet, here in the margins, G-dliness manifests. Ruth is a testament to everyone that G-d’s presence resides in those places society shuns or pities.

This is the challenge. How do we celebrate that? What kinds of rituals recognize the margins and G-d’s presence within them? And when we cannot always find G-d in the Books of our Ancestors, Ruth teaches us we can celebrate it in the eyes and gestures of the ones we love. Isn’t that worth celebrating?

## President's Message

By Mitchell Haymes

How is Bet Mishpachah doing? I'd say getting back to normal and then some. G-d willing that COVID remains manageable (*ptui, ptui, ptui*), we will be completely back to normal in the near future, at which point the "then some" will really begin to stand out.

Services are back at the EDCJCC and the live-streaming that was necessary when the pandemic arrived will continue to be available. We are focused on making our virtual services as accessible and uplifting as we can. Our services on Zoom have been bringing in more people online on Friday nights and far-flung members across the country have been able to join us. We are developing our social media presence and hope, one day soon, to appeal to non-members both within and outside our area.

We are again offering *Onegs* and *Kiddush* lunches and putting into place a system of sponsorship that will ensure our provisions are appetizing and conducive to conversation. In addition, our system will facilitate sponsorship. In the meantime, if you want to celebrate something or honor someone and share the feeling with others in one of the best ways available, please contact our Executive Director, Joshua Maxey, at [executivedirector@betmish.org](mailto:executivedirector@betmish.org) or our Administrator, Liat Novek, at [administrator@betmish.org](mailto:administrator@betmish.org), to sponsor an *Onegs* or *Kiddush* lunch.

Our High Holy Day observance plans are underway and details will be publicized as we get closer to the events. Bet Mishpachah is reaching out for the good of the community as well. Take a look at our weekly email, "This Week and Beyond," and you will see a growing number of events that we are co-sponsoring. And, after two years, Pride is back. Bet Mishpachah will celebrate with our Pride Shabbat on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, and will also have a booth at the Festival. Since June is here, we will get the specifics to you shortly.

Finally, and this will be my refrain for the remainder of my term, please volunteer as Bet Mishpachah is a joint project. Join a committee and if you don't know which one, we'll match you up with something compatible. If you're not the committee type, but have a project in mind to improve anything, or bring us out to the community, please bring it to our attention. As I said in my first message, the more of you who are involved, the less effort each one has to put in but the stronger we will all yet be together. Whatever your talent or skill set – we can use you!

## Bet Mishpachah Committee Highlights

By Joel Wind

Every month we present two committees. The descriptions are brief and to the point and indicate how to contact the committee chair. This month we present the Membership and Nominating Committees.



### Membership

The focus of the Membership Committee is on new member recruitment and retention of existing members. This is done with an active outreach to the general community, with communication, and with an evaluation of the current membership trend. The committee develops membership policies and practices. If you are interested in working on the Membership Committee, please contact Deb Hyman at [membershipdirector@betmish.org](mailto:membershipdirector@betmish.org).

### Nominating Committee

Each fall, the Board of Directors select three people to work together on the Nominating Committee. The committee's job is to seek volunteers to fill the board positions becoming vacant at the next annual meeting. Some board terms are for one year and some are two years, and there are always a number of positions that need to be filled. If you would like to serve on the Nominating Committee or on the Board of Directors, please email Mitchell Haymes at [president@betmish.org](mailto:president@betmish.org).



Next month we present the Religious Affairs and Shabbat *Oneg & Kiddush* Luncheon Committees.

# Thank you for your generosity

## March and April Donations

We appreciate the generosity of our members and friends, and recognize them for their support.

### Operating Fund

Mindy Gasthalter, in memory of Grace Garelick

Mindy Gasthalter, in memory of Ruth Kramer

Davi LaBarre, in memory of Ruth Kramer

Bruce Horowitz, in honor of the Board's gift to President

Brian Parks, in honor of the Board's gift to President Charles Stewart

JonRobert Johnson

Keith Cohen, in memory of his brother, Martin

Keith Cohen, in memory of his mother

Nathaniel Deutsch, in honor of Rabbi Rachel

Ackerman and Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin's new baby

Nathaniel Deutsch, in honor of Jocelyn Kaplan's milestone birthday

David Fox & Robert Margrave, in memory of Ruth Kramer

Dena Lebowitz, in memory of her mother

Diane Liff & Georgia Korn, in memory of their mothers, Edna Korn and Sylvia Liff

Diane Liff & Georgia Korn, in memory of Ruth Kramer

Rachel Wolkowitz, in memory of Ruth Kramer and Grace Garelick

### Richard Krampf Social Action Fund

Eva Freund and Elke Martin, in memory of Grace Garelick

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Mindy Gasthalter, in honor of the birth of the Rabbi's daughter

### Mark Goldfarb Memorial Fund

Devra Floyd

### Ritual Objects Fund

Joseph Pomper, in memory of his maternal grandfather, David

Joseph Pomper, in memory of his mother, Judith Pomper

## Membership Renewal begins this month

Membership renewal season has arrived! Time to look to the future as we reflect on the past year. The COVID pandemic may have separated us from our friends and family but Bet Mishpachah helped bring us closer together through the marvels of Zoom and the vitality of our religious services and educational programs. We remain connected virtually in prayer, and now are able to join each other in person, again.

One of the greatest benefits of membership is belonging to our diverse and welcoming Bet Mishpachah family. You'll continue to be a part of the only LGBTQ+ synagogue in Washington, D.C., with access to our Friday night and Saturday morning services. You will continue to receive at no additional cost tickets to the High Holy Days, either in-person or virtually. Our educational programs and full range of activities will grow your mind as well as your spirit.

Your renewal is critical in ensuring our future and helping us create a legacy for many generations to come. In just one year since the Board's approval of the Strategic Plan, we have taken a few giant action steps toward reaching our Goals: developed robust service leader training, continued virtual access to religious services via Zoom, thus making available our services for members near and far, hired our first Executive Director, revamped our web site and bolstered our social media exposure, and most importantly, ramped up our presence in the metropolitan area by partnering with other Jewish organization as we strive to fortify our goal as the 'Go To LGBTQ+ synagogue.

*Toda Raba,*

*Deborah Hyman  
Membership Director*



# Celebrate!

## Welcome to our new Members:

Beth Weisman  
Ariel Robinson

## Thank you to our May Service Leaders

Friday, May 6: Allan Armus  
Friday, May 13: Louis Blank and Robyn Helzner  
Saturday, May 14: Scott Reiter and  
Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin  
Friday, May 20: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin and  
James Radack  
Friday, May 27: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin and  
Vinny Prell  
Saturday, May 28: Ruth Potts and Alex Carter

## June Birthdays

Cookie Backelman  
Kasey Bigsby  
Jutta Brettschneider  
Philip Budashewitz  
Gordon Cohen  
James Fortinsky  
David Fox  
Sarajane Garten  
Hazel Groman  
Michael Hoffman  
Maxine Klane  
Deborah Kramer  
Mark L  
Morris Levitt  
Diane Liff  
James Nathan  
Rod Ross  
Alicia Saffer  
Joanna Scherer  
Elyse Wander  
Carol Wayman  
Steven Weinberg  
Joel Wind  
Noah Wofsy  
Beth Weisman

## Thank You to Our June Service Leaders

Friday, June 3: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin  
Friday, June 10: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin  
Saturday, June 11: Rabbi Jake Singer-Beilin  
Friday, June 17: Paula Morris  
Friday, June 24: Louis Blank and Rachel Wolkowitz  
Saturday, June 25: Marc Bernstein and Jeff Burka



Last month's Shabbaton luncheon was generously sponsored by the Joel and Murray Woldman Oneg Fund in memory of Joel Woldman's *yartzeit*.

## Onegs and Kiddushes Have Returned!

Bet Mishpachah Leadership has determined that we may partake once again in food and socializing following Friday and Saturday Shabbat. We understand that some members are very eager to return to communal eating and drinking, while other members are not. The Board felt that some eating and drinking upon the conclusion of services strikes an appropriate balance. Bet Mishpachah will continue to monitor the COVID status for our area and adjust our policies as necessary.

If you would like to sponsor an *Erev Shabbat Oneg* or Shabbat Morning *Kiddush* Lunch, please use the link below. If you have a date beyond the sign up window, please contact our administrator. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094BAFAC28A3FC1-erev>

We love to share celebrations, milestones, *yartzeits* or other life cycle events with our community. Your name and sponsorship will be announced at Shabbat services.

## June Anniversaries

Jeffrey Burka and Marc Bernstein  
Hank Londner and Keith Pickerel  
Howard Menaker and Patrick Gossett  
Rabbi Robert and Loretta Saks  
Howard Stark and Rene Rodriguez  
Marisa Uchin and Molly Kelly

## Member Yartzeits

### **Announced Friday and Saturday, May 27 & 28 (Yartzeits observed May 27 – June 2; 26 Iyar – 3 Sivan)**

Jerry Moore, Friend of Catherine Tarabochia	May 27
Paul Neff, Uncle of Larry Neff	May 27
Albert Jaco, Grandfather of Thomas Sachs	May 28
David Sikowitz, Grandfather of Judith Retchin	May 29
Alex Armus, Father of Allan Armus	May 29 (28 Iyar)
Sigmund & Gisella Redlich, Maternal Grandparents of Bruce Horowitz	May 29 (28 Iyar)
Henrietta Isom, Grandmother of LySandra Brady	May 30
Namon Johnson, Sr., Father of LySandra Brady	May 30
Max Youngman, Grandfather of Joel Wind	May 30 (29 Iyar)
David Cobden, Step-Grandfather of Jeffrey Berns	May 31 (1 Sivan)
Frank Gasthalter, Uncle of Mindy Gasthalter	June 1
Murray Jaco, Uncle of Thomas Sachs	June 1
Gisele Munzer, Mother of Al Munzer	June 1 (2 Sivan)
Magnus Hirshfeld, Historical Figure	June 2

### **Announced Friday, June 3 (Yartzeits observed June 3 - 9; 4 – 10 Sivan)**

Edward S. Levy, Sr., Grandfather of Ellen Levy	June 3
Mary Ann Cohen, Aunt of Larry Neff	June 4
Jay Gilbertson, Friend of Catherine Tarabochia	June 4
Joel McBee, Father of Reginald McBee	June 4
Selma Reid, Aunt of Devra Floyd	June 4
Jerald Weinstein, Cousin of Mindy Gasthalter	June 4
Polly Less, Mother of Martin Less	June 4 (5 Sivan)
Marjorie Weber, Mother of Denise Leish	June 5
Celeste Hanline Cohan, Mother of Joanna Scherer	June 5
Harry Karron, Grandfather of David Fox	June 6 (7 Sivan)
Abraham Stern, Grandfather of Alvin Stern	June 6 (7 Sivan)
Feiga Stern, Grandmother of Alvin Stern	June 6 (7 Sivan)
Jan Berelson Dickstein, Mother of Joel Berelson	June 8
Clara Sachs, Grandmother of Tom Sachs	June 8
Leo Stern, Uncle of Larry Neff	June 8
Bill McCreight, Friend of Ruth Potts	June 8

### **Announced Friday and Saturday, June 10 & 11 (Yartzeits observed June 10 - 16; 11 - 17 Sivan)**

Bernard Leish, Father of Denise Leish	June 10 (11 Sivan)
Sedonia Cohn Sneider, Grandmother of Fran Sneider	June 11
Fred Burka, Grandfather of Jeffrey Burka	June 11 (12 Sivan)
Alfred Lehman, Cousin of Michael Hoffman	June 12
Jimmy Cockerham, Friend of Charles Stewart	June 12
Brian Meringoff, Cousin of Larry Neff	June 12
Leonard Sneider, Father of Fran Sneider	June 12
Murray Backelman, Father of Cookie Backelman	June 13
Alexander Cohen, Uncle of Larry Neff	June 13
Herta Snaider, Aunt of Warren Snaider	June 14 (15 Sivan)
Paul Caine, Grandfather of Rachel Wolkowitz	June 15 (16 Sivan)
Roberta Clair Hyman, Sister of Deb Hyman	June 16
Samuel Groman, Father of Hazel Groman	June 16 (17 Sivan)
Morris Milgram, Father of Betty Milgram	June 16 (17 Sivan)

**Member Yartzeits—continued****Announced Friday, June 17 (*Yartzeits* observed June 17 - 23; 18 - 24 Sivan)**

Kato Samuels, Cousin of Howard Stark	June 17
Hyman Lev, Uncle of Larry Neff	June 18
Elizabeth Weissman, Grandmother of Jeffrey Kahn	June 18
Norma Jean Yost, Mother-in-law of Louis Blank and Mother of Dan Yost	June 18
Elise Hanline Cheslock, Aunt of Joanna Scherer	June 19
Phil Rosenbloom, Grandfather of Jeffrey Burka	June 19 (20 Sivan)
George Cross, Father of Belinda Cross	June 20
Morris Hyman, Paternal Grandfather of Deb Hyman	June 20
Fred Kalapinsky, Uncle of Alan Carb	June 20
Salvatore "Ben" Zinnanti, Uncle of Alex Carter	June 20
Sylvia Deutsch, Mother of Nathaniel Deutsch	June 21
Marc Rubenstein, Cousin of Roger Schechter	June 21
Anna Smelo, Grandmother of Betty Milgram	June 21 (22 Sivan)
Nettie Wofsy, Mother of Noah Wofsy	June 21 (22 Sivan)
Hazel F. Boland, Close Friend of Devra Floyd	June 22
Edgar Halpern, Uncle of Roger Schechter	June 22
Eva S. Baer, Grandmother of Ellen Levy	June 23
John Willig, Friend of Larry Neff	June 23
Samuel Masia, Grandfather of Martin Robinson	June 23

**Announced Friday & Saturday, June 24 & 25 (*Yartzeits* observed June 24 - 30; 25 Sivan – 1 Tamuz)**

Alex Lebowitz, Brother of Dena Lebowitz	June 24
Albert Saks, Father of Robert Saks	June 24
Doiv Ber Barlas, Father of Judy Barlas	June 25
Ruth Barlas, Mother of Judy Barlas	June 26
Marta Kusic, Friend of Reginald McBee	June 26
Hannah Lippert, Great Aunt of Deb Hyman	June 26
Anita Morris, Mother of Paula Morris and Ronni Karambelas	June 26 (27 Sivan)
Marilyn Snaider, Sister of Warren Snaider	June 26 (27 Sivan)
Genia Gloger, Grandmother of Erica Gloger	June 27
Charles Lewis, Father of Barbara Lewis	June 27
James Ramsay, Brother in Law of Barbara BradyGoldberg	June 27
Gertrude Armus, Mother of Allan Armus	June 27 (28 Sivan)
Arvin Cohen, Uncle of Marc Bernstein	June 27 (28 Sivan)
Sarah Elman, Grandmother of Diane Liff	June 27 (28 Sivan)
Chad Allen, Cousin of Larry Neff	June 28
Leon Deutsch, Father of Nathaniel Deutsch	June 28
Ruth Verdin, Aunt of Catherine Tarabochia	June 28
Samuel Gasthalter, Grandfather of Mindy Gasthalter	June 29
Ursula Petersen, Friend of Elke Martin	June 29
Harry Reiter, Grandfather of Scott Reiter	June 29
Rachell Eisenberg, Mother of Ruth Eisenberg	June 29 (1 Tamuz)
Ruth Freidman, Grandmother of Louis Blank	June 30

### Shabbat Services

Bet Mishpachah will continue to stream *Shabbat* services virtually by Zoom, as well as meet in person in the Kay Community Hall of the EDCJCC. 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 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). Our regular Friday night *Oneg* and Saturday *Kiddush* has resumed. If you would like to be a sponsor, please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094BAFAC28A3FC1-erev>.

**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 — Whitney Babash  
 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 newsletter**, 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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Jewish Community Relations Council representative: Stuart Sotsky

Director of Congregational Affairs: Bruce Horowitz ..... congregationalaffairsdirector@betmish.org  
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