Schedule of Services and Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. Jan. 27</td>
<td>8:15 pm</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat Service - speaker Judge Thomas Walther, Germany's last Nazi hunter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Jan. 28</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Bat Mitzvah of Emily Gluckman, daughter of Liz Goldstein and Gary Gluckman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Feb. 11</td>
<td>(offsite)</td>
<td>Bat Mitzvah of Simone Monger, daughter of Odette Soriano and John Monger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri. Mar. 3</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat &amp; Potluck Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. March 4</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Bat Mitzvah of Simone Duffy, daughter of Jill Presser and John Duffy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri. Mar. 31</td>
<td>8:15 pm</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. April 1</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Moss, son of Madeleine Greenwald and Eric Moss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Apr. 8</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Bat Mitzvah of Maya Edwards, daughter of Evy Shore and Michael Edwards</td>
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All congregants are welcome to attend Shabbat morning services when there is a Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

Mazal Tov on Recent Simchas

- Ron Philipp and Mirah Kirshner on Amlie’s Bat Mitzvah
- Emily Rayson and Michael Sherman on Jonathan’s Bar Mitzvah
- Naomi Wise and Peter St. Laurent on Rebekah’s Bat Mitzvah
- Doron Meinhard & Lori Waserman on Noa’s Bat Mitzvah
- Melissa Reiter and Matt Zuk on their wedding
- Jason Smith and Kim Doron on Adam’s Bar Mitzvah
- Jodi and Andrew Tanenbaum on Ben’s Bar Mitzvah
- Derk Sigel and Shannon O’hearn on Henry’s Bar Mitzvah

מazel טוב!
Habonim Building Update – January 2017

After the very busy High Holiday season and year end donations, we have continued to work hard on putting all of the pieces together for our new building.

**Fundraising**

Over the past couple of months we have had many Habonim families make a donation to the new building, and I am pleased to say that 75% of Habonim members have now responded to the campaign. We remain committed to reaching 100% by the end of the campaign. THANK YOU so much to all who have made their contribution.

Just prior to High Holidays we had raised $6.6 million and today I am delighted to report that we are over $8 million after a late December push. This is a remarkable accomplishment in a relatively short period of time, and one that we can take great pride in.

With anticipated costs of $9.5 million, every dollar raised from this point on is increasingly important as it reduces any mortgage we might need to take on to complete our new building.

**Paying Donations Prior to Year End**

We have recently sent out individual ‘invoice’ reminders of donation amounts.

If you haven’t yet made your payment, please go to the Habonim website at congregationhabonim.org and log into your account using your email. If you are unable to access, please email the office u (office1@congregationhabonim.org) and we will send you a login link.

From there you will be able to submit a payment to your personal account using your Visa or Mastercard.

If you prefer, you can mail a cheque to the Habonim office payable to “Congregation Habonim of Toronto”, and mail the cheque to “Congregation Habonim, 5 Glen Park Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M6B 4J2.

If you would like to donate using stocks, please contact Robin Zionce-Garber at 416-782-7125 or office1@congregationhabonim.org.

**Construction and Timing**

While we have made important progress on parking issues and with our neighbours, there remain some steps required before we receive our Building Permit from the City. We are working hard to make quicker progress, but delays with the City have put our timeline back a little.

Our current target is to begin construction by August 2017 with the new Building completed in the Spring of 2019. It is still possible that these times could move, but this is our current target.

To see the current plans for the project, you can find them on our website. There is a link from the homepage.

If you have any questions, suggestions or would like to make a donation, please don’t hesitate to contact me at tedr@tridelta.ca.

With appreciation,

**Ted Rechtshaffen**

President, Habonim
The Board of Directors on behalf of Congregation Habonim would like to thank Rhoda Sion for the many years she spent sending out Habonim cards when donations were made. Volunteers like Rhoda play a big part in making Habonim tick. Until another volunteer steps forward, the office will be assuming Rhoda’s role.

Thank you Rhoda

Three decades of members!

Ursula Leinung 96, daughter of one of the Founder’s, Jack (jakub) Ader, outside of Habonim on the last Yom Kippur service in the old building with friend Helen Eidlitz (80) (long time member) and daughter Vivian Shapiro (70) (member since 5 or 6 years old).

Mazel tov to Ben Tanenbaum, son of Jodi and Andrew Tanenbaum, who celebrated his bar mitzvah on November 12th.
Habonim Choir Performs at Holocaust Education Week Program

The Congregation Habonim Choir and the March of the Living Student Choir, conducted by Cantor Aviva Rajsky and accompanied by Tom Bellman and Eldan Cohen, performed at St. Ansgar Lutheran Church on November 5th. The program, called Passing the Torch of Holocaust Memory: Songs from the March of the Living, was for Holocaust Education Week.

Watch the entire event here [https://goo.gl/Sr70bd](https://goo.gl/Sr70bd)

The response was very favourable:

Dear St. Ansgar Lutheran Church,

With heartfelt appreciation, I want to extend Shalom and credit to you for hosting the March of the Living choir, arranged by Habonim Cantor Aviva and Habonim religious leader Eli Rubenstein. Your church’s welcome, hospitality, and grace are tangible...Although maybe a few cars of people had already slipped away by 8:30, 125 at that time were still being blessed in your sanctuary through songs and testimonies relayed by Eli.

The music was uplifting, and people were surely moved in hearing Eli’s stories, including “The Slice of Bread that Saved the World;” Amek Adler’s healing with Shema Yisrael; and particularly, in being in the presence of eyewitness survivor, Nate Leipciger.

As Nate said, “song and music are integral,” even in places near where “every single nation expelled Jews.” Truly, hate is overcome by love. As the Chasidic rabbi said, we know who loves God by the love shown to their fellow human.

May this be the message that overcomes. May it emerge and also grow from our congregations--from generation to generation.

Lily Kim

Holocaust Education Week Co-Chair
Several Habonim members who are part of the Midtown Syrian Refugee Sponsorship Group were thrilled to welcome their Syrian family who arrived fittingly on Thanksgiving weekend. Ahmad who goes by Jan, Khadije, and their children Fatima and Ali are now busy adjusting to life in Toronto. The family is sweet, petite, and very patient considering all that has been thrown at them. The children started primary school a week after arrival and the parents are now taking English lessons. Seemingly simple tasks are a challenge because the family speaks only a few words in English and no one in the Midtown Group speaks Arabic. Undeterred, group members have been taking them on errands and outings with either the group’s stalwart translator Valentina or Google Translate. Everyone has learned that a smile speaks volumes.

Baby Naming of Sophie Bea

Julie Herczeg and Stephen Shedletzky celebrate the baby naming of their daughter Sophie Bea (Tzofi Aliza in Hebrew), grandchild of Susan Liebel and Gabor Herczeg.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service on Friday, January 27th featuring Germany’s last Nazi hunter Judge Thomas Walther

January 27, 2017 is international Holocaust Remembrance Day. On that evening, Congregation Habonim will be privileged to host at our Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Judge Thomas Walther, often described as “Germany’s last Nazi hunter”. The 73-year-old retired German judge has interviewed many Auschwitz survivors around the world - including Toronto - who were witness to Nazi crimes. The survivors served as co-plaintiffs in the trial of Oskar Groening, “bookkeeper” of Auschwitz, a former SS sergeant who sorted and counted monies stolen from the murdered Jews in Auschwitz.

See: https://goo.gl/3oyAH1 and https://goo.gl/G8GtO6
Over the years, Congregation Habonim has hosted a number of events co-sponsored by the Polish Consulate, including one with the late Władysław Bartoszewski, Poland’s Foreign Minister and Righteous Among the Nations, Sigmund Rolat, Philanthropist, Survivor and a Founder of the Polin Museum, and earlier this year an evening marking the opening of the new Museum in Markowa, Poland, honouring Polish Righteous Among the Nations. In November, we again co-sponsored an event with the Consulate. Confronting the Demon, Dispelling the Demon, featured moving presentations by Eliane Labendz and Katka Reszke, both of Polish origin, who shared their respective journeys regarding their discovery of their Jewish identity.

This was my first time speaking officially at an event where I was able to tell a bit of my parents’ story of survival. I have often organized events for others but it is different when it is your own family’s story. It was an honour and an emotional undertaking and I am very grateful to Congregation Habonim and to the Polish Consulate General for giving Katka and me the opportunity to present. It is amazing how different yet how linked our respective histories are.

Many Holocaust survivors died before they were able to tell their own sagas. Some did not want to dwell on the horrors that they endured, while others did want their stories told, but unfortunately died before the Steven Spielberg’s Shoah Foundation and other organizations started to enable survivors to ensure that their stories are not forgotten. This was the case with my parents who passed away before they could be interviewed; however, they left me a legacy of stories, documents photographs and objects that survived the Shoah -- although I would trade those in anytime to have my family survive.

I think it is important for members of the Second Generation who are familiar with accounts of their parents’ Holocaust history to continue the dialogue and to honour their parents memory when their parents are no longer able to do so -- so the evening at Habonim was such a special one. It was only a tiny bit of the story that I hope to tell again in more details and the photos that I showed were only a fraction of the things that I found and am still discovering. It was so heartwarming to see so many people present, many of whom I did not know -- who came to hear Katka and me on the US election night -- yes we "trumped" the odds! Thank you so much.

Eliane Labendz
Author Rona Arato, pictured with her granddaughter Samantha Hill, spoke at Congregation Habonim on November 6th for Holocaust Education Week about her children’s book *The Ship to Nowhere - On Board the Exodus.*

### 2017 MEMBERSHIP FEES

**Good news! Membership fees for 2017 are remaining the same as last year.**

- **$1,050.00 - Family Membership**  
  - consists of a maximum of two adult partners and any children in the household under 26 years of age

- **$525.00 - Single Membership**  
  - consists of one adult in household (30 years of age or over)

- **$250.00 - Young Adult Membership**  
  - consists of each member of a household 26 to 29 years of age

**Invoices for 2017 membership will be sent out in the next few weeks.**
Yahrzeit reminders are now being sent out. To receive your reminder please update your family Yahrzeits by logging onto your account on our website. If you would like any assistance please contact Robin in the office at 416-782-7125 or office1@congregationhabonim.org

Honour the memory of your loved one with memorial plaque or a leaf on our Eitz Chaim Tree

- Oval Shaped leaf 4”x 2 ½” $180 donation
- Brass Plaque 9”x 2” $360 donation.

Please contact the office for more information.

In Memoriam:
Mourning those who passed away in the last year:

- Ari Firestone
- Maxine Drevnig
- Allan Schaffran
- Rebbetzin Gitel Rosensweig
- Lauren Rachlin
- Stanley Flomen
- Andrea Gabor
- Rosa Cook
- Tamara Ashley Levine
- Elsa Allen
- Valerie Good
- Jean London
- Faye Wayne
- Roszi Wittman
- Evy Carnat
- Shirley Zuckerbrot
- Marjorie Rosenfield
- Deena Freeman
- Phil Wynn
- Maurice Kaufman
- Rose Wolfe

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Information and contributions to THE BULLETIN.
Contact: Paula Schipper, pf schipper@gmail.com

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR MORE INFORMATION
www.congregationhabonim.org

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
www.jewishheritageschool.org

To SEND TRIBUTE & CONDOLENCE CARDS
and to MAKE A DONATION:
Contact the Habonim Office as set out below.

Are you MOVING, CHANGING your ADDRESS,
PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL?
Call the Habonim office:
Tel: 416-782-7125 or
Email: office1@congregationhabonim.org

President
Ted Rechtshaffen, 416-322-0749

Habonim Office
Robin Zionce-Garber - General Manager
office: 416-782-7125
Email: office1@congregationhabonim.org

Religious Leader
Eli Rubenstein, 416-398-2615
Email: elir@bell.net

Cantors
Cantor: Aviva Rajsky
Contact: avivar@rogers.com
Associate Cantor: Kim Doron
Contact: kimdoron@rogers.com

Jewish Heritage School Principal
Yodfat Snir Mandil
Contact: yodfat_snir@hotmail.com