

## TEMPLE



## TOPICS

IYAR/SIVAN/TAMMUZ/AV/ELUL 5780

MAY/JUNE 2020

**Rabbi Ilana's Message***Counting Blessings*

I hope that each of you has a similar list of those who keep you uplifted... With that in mind, there are two themes for this Temple Topics...Cantor Perper and gratitude. As you might suspect, these really are two themes that go hand in hand.

*full article on page 3*

**Cantor's Corner***Cantors Farewell - Final Installment*

It's official, Faith and I are moving to Milwaukee's Congregation Shalom in Fox Point, Wisconsin. It is a warm and welcoming Reform community, the kind to which we have grown accustomed. I'll hold only good memories of our time together with you. You have all taught me about how to be a better cantor and leader and teacher.

*full article on page 5*

**President's Message***Gratitude, Appreciation, Looking Forward*

Our tradition teaches us to have faith and face our future with optimism even when we are struggling and so we plan. We plan for Cantor Josh's arrival and to celebrate our congregation's 50th anniversary. We plan for the summer and the high holidays - we plan for all of the wonderful programming that allows us to build relationships - in person.

*full article on page 2*

**Educator's Message***My Favorite Things*

I know that we will again be in school in person, eventually. And I know that I will have a chance to hug our seniors, even if it has to wait until their first break. And although I know that gratitude for good health is at the top of our lists right now, I am going to miss these things.

*full article on page 4*

**B'NAI MITZVAH**

- May 9 Alana Bendayan (postponed to August 8)
- May 16 Gabrielle Heffernan (postponed to August 30)
- May 23 Zachary Braunstein (postponed to August 28)
- May 30 Judd Klein (postponed to August 9)
- June 6 Ella Selfon (postponed to September 13)
- June 6 Jacob Toomey (postponed to August 1)
- June 13 Chase Moskowitz (postponed to August 29)
- June 20 Ethan Levine

**THINGS TO DO:**

*more info on back cover and throughout*

- Torah Study
- Tot Shabbat
- Healing Service
- Grandparent Shabbat
- Brotherhood weekly check-in
- Sisterhood Shabbat
- Annual Congregational Meeting
- Shavuot Service
- Cantor Farewell Service
- Brotherhood Shabbat

**SUMMER WORSHIP CALENDAR**

Friday, July 3 & August 2, 6:30pm  
All other Friday services in July and August, 7:30pm

Saturday morning services on  
July 11 & August 15, 10am



## President's Message

Judy Teich

***“Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement... get up in the morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted. Everything is phenomenal; everything is incredible; never treat life casually. To be spiritual is to be amazed.”***

—Abraham Joshua Heschel

Thanking God in the morning as I rise has never been more important to me. It is one of the few things that I do to keep myself grounded and in the moment during these unprecedented times. The world has been upended, but for now, I will continue to focus on the good things in my life.

By necessity, many of you are finding your way back to expressing gratitude. For others, it might be the first time. It takes a lot of focused attention to become aware of how much we have to be grateful for. No matter what, I think many have found a new appreciation for the positive effect that gratitude has on our mental health, especially during these crazy times.

*“In positive psychology research, gratitude is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness. Gratitude helps people feel more positive emotions, relish good experiences, improve their health, deal with adversity, and build strong relationships.”*

—Harvard Health Publishing

Jewish prayer is an ongoing practice in gratitude. As Jews we get to choose how to start our day. While some work out, some meditate, and some read the paper, Jewish tradition offers its own ritual to prepare for the day. *Modeh ani*, I thank You, is recited immediately upon waking up in the morning. The prayer expresses gratitude for the return of our consciousness after a night of sleep to help us remember that while the world is in flux, there is one enduring spirit that moves through it. We make gratitude our first expression of the morning as we set out into the day ahead.

I am grateful for our Beth Haverim Shir Shalom community, our clergy and staff, our lay leaders and technology! Our building may be closed but our community is open. BHSS is committed even more urgently to deepening our connection

## Gratitude, Appreciation, Looking Forward

to each other and to Judaism's traditions that uplift, inspire and heal. We don't often link technology and spirituality in the same phrase, but it is our expanded use of live streaming, teleconferencing, Zoom, Facebook and our voices on the phone that enable us to continue to be here for all. I am thankful for our swift migration from meeting in person to a digitally-mediated community which demonstrates our vitality and collaboration led by Rabbi Ilana, Cantor Perper, Rebecca McVeigh and teachers, and by Iris and Michelle.

I am grateful to all of our congregants for their connection, commitment and support to our community and for going with the flow during these ever-changing times. Covid-19 has been a learning curve for all of us.

As we say goodbye to Cantor Perper and his years of dedication, I am grateful for his smile and his always-ready sense of humor. Thank you for leading us in song, teaching our children and holding our hands in our hours of need. Thank you Cantor Perper and health and happiness to you and Faith as you go on your way.

I continue to practice gratitude all through the day. And... as I sit at my kitchen table, looking out the window, writing my *Temple Topics* article, I am thankful that I have a home, that I can work from home and that my family is healthy as of now. I am grateful for the beauty outside my window - the blue jays, robins and cardinals chirping with song.

Our tradition teaches us to have faith and face our future with optimism even when we are struggling and so we plan. We plan for Cantor Josh's arrival and to celebrate our congregation's 50th anniversary. We plan for the summer and the high holidays - we plan for all of the wonderful programming that allows us to build relationships - in person. We plan for a time when we can be together again, when we can “draw near to each other” during the *Mi Shebeirach*.

No one knows what tomorrow will look like but when we emerge from isolation we will recover, rejoice, and rebuild our lives together.

May we be stronger than ever.

## Counting Blessings

# Rabbi's Reflections

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman



One of my favorite songs by Irving Berlin (nice Jewish boy who wrote popular tunes) croons, “When you have worries and you can’t sleep, just count your blessings instead of sheep. And you’ll fall asleep counting your blessings.” I don’t think there’s better advice for when we experience a world rife with uncertainty.

I know that I am constantly aware of how grateful to have this time with my husband and daughter, two people who are easy to love. Additionally, I cannot thank the BHSS community enough—from the employees to the volunteers to the students—you give me support and purpose. I hope that each of you has a similar list of those who keep you uplifted.

With that in mind, there are two themes for this *Temple Topics*...Cantor Perper and gratitude. As you might suspect, these really are two themes that go hand in hand.

Things that the BHSS community will be eternally grateful to Cantor Perper for:

- Cantor Perper has taught and prepared students, inspiring their Jewish identities and encouraging their religious accomplishments.
- He has had a firm hand and a kind heart.
- He has contributed his creativity and passion.
- He has upheld high standards of community participation, reminding all of us to behave at the highest levels of integrity and kindness.
- His amazing voice and phenomenal playing of guitar and piano—leading this community in song and prayer for over a decade.
- His humor.
- His pastoral presence in times of joy and times of need.
- He has brought us closer to Judaism and to the Divine.
- He has been the voice-whisperer, bringing forward the song in all of us.
- He has shared our bima with grace with clergy, singers, community leaders, and speakers.
- He has made Torah accessible, chanted it beautifully, taught trope, and recruited *ba’alei koreh* (readers of Torah).

As of my writing this, it is unclear whether we will all be able to convene in person to celebrate Cantor Perper and his commitment to BHSS on June 12. Clearly there is much to celebrate. I hope that we will be able to join together, but if we cannot—we all want the cantor to know how much we love and appreciate him. Our prayers that he goes from strength to strength. May you find as much success and love in the future as you have found here.

My continued gratitude is for Cantor Perper’s support in my early years here at BHSS, showing me the ropes, and setting the stage for our community’s continued sacred purpose.







## From the Educator's Office

Rebecca McVeigh

## My Favorite Things

In one of my earliest *Temple Topics* articles, I wrote a parody to the tune of "My Favorite Things" that listed freshly-sharpened pencils, new crayons, classrooms ready for students, teachers ready for students, brand-new textbooks, etc. It was a hint of my obsession with school/office supplies, as well as a way to show how excited I was to start this grand adventure of leading our educational programming.

With this school year ending in such an odd fashion, we won't have a chance for our celebratory pizza or bagels, our pre-summer teacher hugging, our silly but emotional celebration of the seniors with all of Kadimah surrounding them...these, have become more of my favorite things. I know that we will again be in school in person, eventually. And I know that I will have a chance to hug our seniors, even if it has to wait until their first break. And although I know that gratitude for good health is at the top of our lists right now, I am going to miss these things.

Something else we usually do is to honor our teachers at a special Shabbat service in May or June, which we will do via Zoom. Despite another lost opportunity to hug the ones I love, I am profoundly grateful to them for not only being entirely awesome up until mid-March, but becoming super-powered technologically since then. Please "come" to the service on **May 8** and show by your presence that you appreciate them, too.

Last issue, I included some of what my relationship with Cantor Perper has meant to me, and I hope to properly thank Cantor Perper in June, along with the rest of the congregation. So, as I end my first *Temple Topics*, not as educator, but as DISTANCE Educator, I'd like to share some of my favorite things about Cantor Perper:

Phone calls and visits and singing and teaching  
Music so joyful and many folks reaching  
Comfort and warmth that his hug always brings  
These are a few of my favorite things

Guitar, piano, and chanting of torah  
Maybe a little bit dancing the hora  
Purim shpiels clever about Persian kings  
These are a few of my favorite things.

Smiling good humor that goes on forever  
Helping our children and giving up never  
Teaching together from fall into spring  
These are a few of my favorite things

When I'm troubled, when I'm worried,  
when I'm feeling stressed  
I know that I'm lucky to have such a friend  
And that I am very blessed!

- Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh, Director of Education





*Benjamin Feldman  
Leah Feldman  
Sabine Kieres  
Hunter Ehrlich  
Ethan Fleischmann  
Emily Cole  
Gabrielle Heffernan  
Jordyn Hurwitz  
Alice Viesel  
Talia Viesel  
Elan Berin  
Matthew Altman  
McKenna Furst  
Dylan Kaplan  
Carly Gottlieb  
Adam Lenchner  
Judd Klein*



## Cantor's Corner

*Final Edition*

*David Perper*



It's official, Faith and I are moving to Milwaukee's Congregation Shalom in Fox Point, Wisconsin, a warm and welcoming Reform community, the kind to which we have grown accustomed. I'll hold only good memories of our time together with you. You have all taught me about how to be a better cantor and leader and teacher.

To our lay leaders, I thank you all for your devotion and energy and time. To my rabbis -Mosbacher, Diamond, and Schwartzman, I offer my appreciation for all you have done for this very special *k'hillah k'doshah*, this sacred community. Thank you for our holy partnerships. To Joan Cohen, Lisa Barrack and Michelle Sherry, your time and energy, caring and warmth, not to mention, the everlasting willingness and readiness to do and help and plan and enact, your wisdom and insight and perspective often informed how I did my work and how I could more effectively give our members the very best spiritual and musical gifts.

Rebecca McVeigh has been always been a highly valued friend and colleague. Rebecca is a master educator for all ages; whether it is in person or leading us virtually, she shows all of us the way. Whenever I go to her with, or in search of, an idea or moment of inspiration, she's ready with 3 of them. Rebecca, thank you. For Iris, my sister in service:) You are a blend of professionalism, friendship, and caring. Your full embrace of this community is felt in each interaction with all those who encounter you.

*And what about that choir!* I'm immensely joyous whenever I think about the choir. There have been so many moments of great musical and spiritual achievement, not to mention the leaps we all made to better the ensemble and ourselves. The feelings we all share with each other are very strong, with deep roots. So... *join the choir!*

In conclusion I say, this is a very challenging time. But with the team here at BHSS, along with your next cantor, I am hopeful that this community, as well as Faith and my next Jewish home and community, will thrive and grow once again, together, hugging with much joy and less tears.

Thank you, each of you, our precious members, staff and leaders of BHSS. *Todah rabah*, Thank you very much.

B'Shalom, in peace and health,  
David

## 2019/2020 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Youth Group, Jason Ritchin, Co President	201-230-1931	jasonritchin@gmail.com

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## Candlelighting times:



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May 1, Acharei Mot/K'doshim 7:36 pm  
 May 8, Emor 7:43 pm  
 May 15, B'har/B'chukotai 7:50 pm  
 May 22, B'midbar 7:57 pm  
 May 29, Shavuot 8:03 pm  
 June 5, Naso 8:08 pm  
 June 12, B'ha-alot'cha 8:12 pm  
 June 19, Sh'lach L'cha 8:14 pm  
 June 26, Korach 8:15 pm

July 3, Chukat/Balak 8:14 pm  
 July 10, Pinchas 8:11 pm  
 July 17, Matot/Masei 8:07 pm  
 July 24, D'varim 8:02 pm  
 July 31, Va'et'chanan 7:55 pm  
 August 7, Eikev 7:46 pm  
 August 14, Re'eh 7:37 pm  
 August 21, Shof'tim 7:27 pm  
 August 28, Ki Teitzei 7:16 pm



*Dylan Zalensky*

*Rebecca Nanus*

*Julia Sendroff*

*Jacob Toomey*

*Maya Fox*

*Eric Sica*

*Samantha Geller*

*Theodore Silverman*

*Allison Levy*

*Eliana Silver*

*Ethan Levine*

*Carter Weeks*

*Zachary Lapinson*

*Lilah Wainland*

*Amanda Davis*

*Jordan Weeks*

*Hailey Abel*

*Matthew Levin*

*Dylan Hurwitz*

*Madison Torrente*

*Evan Harris Aarons*

*Corey Begleiter*

*Eric Levinsohn*

*Isabelle Jachts*

*Ella Selfon*



## A NOTE FROM YOUR OFFICERS...

*BHSS will be there for you...*

Dear Friends:

As we continue our collective journey through these difficult times, we want each and every BHSS member to know that the congregation is here to provide meaningful emotional, spiritual and financial support. Never has our sacred community been of greater importance to our members, their loved ones, and their friends, and we commit to being there for you now and in the future.

In tight financial times, some of you may wonder if you can afford to continue your membership. The Executive Committee (our Officers) and our full Board of Trustees are 100% dedicated to ensure that every family continues to receive the full benefits of membership in our community, whether that be educating your children, receiving pastoral care, celebrating a simcha, or dealing with the loss of a loved one or dear friend.

With that context, the Board of Trustees has approved our budget for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, and we will not raise any membership dues or fees for the coming year. We have tightened up on all discretionary expenses, and are leveraging the strength of our Endowment to support important family and youth programming. Our budget anticipates that some of you will need assistance with your dues this coming year, and we are prepared to confidentially address your needs. ***In short, BHSS will be there for you.***

To ensure the fiscal integrity of our congregation, we are seeking grants and government support as available. But far and away, our financial integrity relies on the ability of those members who can afford to give a little extra to do so. About twenty years ago, we formalized the means for those who can pay extra dues to do so via our Sustaining Membership program. This program enables our members to provide support to our congregation at three levels: *B'racha* (Blessing); *Simcha* (Joy); and *Tzedek* (Righteousness), with associated donations of \$250, \$360 and \$500 respectively. This program has been successful for many years, with over two dozen members contributing over \$10,000 in aggregate each of the past several years. This year we ***must*** increase participation in Sustaining Membership several fold to support those who cannot pay their dues in full. To demonstrate the leadership needed at this point in time, each Officer of the congregation (listed below) has committed to a Sustaining Membership level for this coming year. We need many of you to follow their example. (And to follow the example of Evelyn and Jim McGilloway, long-time BHSS members now residing in London, who have already contributed at the *Tzedek* level!).

You can make your commitment when the formal dues package is mailed on June 1, 2020, but a call now to Iris to make your Sustaining Dues contribution will build the momentum we need; indeed, the officers below have now made their contributions, and this campaign is off and running.

For transparency purposes, as we are all members of this same sacred community, we have already begun responding to those having difficulty staying current on their dues during this fourth quarter of our fiscal year. We are applying the same principles, ethics and morals that we have for years in supporting our members who are going through a difficult time financially. While we historically asked those who might need a dues accommodation to come to us in July when dues notices are sent out, this year we are asking those with a potential need for the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 to come to Iris during the month of May; we can then ensure we are able to provide the needed support on a timely basis. Again, this process is confidential, has been in place for decades, and is here for those who need our support.

In closing, BHSS remains steadfast in our commitment to each and every member. Rabbi Ilana and Cantor Perper have been doing an extraordinary job in communicating with and supporting our community. Rebecca and her teachers have quickly employed new technologies to continue to educate our children and prepare them for their B'nai Mitzvot. And we are excited to have Cantor Finkel joining us this summer, as he will continue to carry the torch that Cantor Perper has so ably carried for many years. There are times when a community needs to come together and look out for one another. Please help us ensure that BHSS continues to thrive to serve our critical role in our collective lives. If you need our help, in any way, reach out. And if you can support our financial strength so we can serve all of our members, please step up as well.

May we all be safe, healthy and move forward together.

Your officers,

Judy Teich  
Jennifer Cole  
Deborah Klein  
Linda Schwartz  
Gary Buchalter

Mitchell Miller  
Aldine Rostolder  
Harvey Weinberg

# May Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday 1	Saturday 2
					6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service Grandparents' Shabbat	Acharei Mot/ K'doshim 8:15 am Torah Study
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
FS & 6th 12 pm K/1/2 Event 7 pm Healing Svce.	School K-3 Kadimah	School 4/5 7:30 pm Ritual Mtg.	10 am Hebrew 101		7:30 pm Tefilot Teacher Appreciation	Emor 8:15 am Torah Study Alana Bendaayan (moved to 8/8)
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
FS & 6th	School K-3 Kadimah	School 4/5 7:30 pm Exec. Comm 7:30 pm MMG	10 am Hebrew 101		5:00 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Tefilot Sisterhood Shabbat	B'har/B'chukotai 8:15 am Torah Study Gabrielle Heffernan (moved to 8/30)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
FS & 6th	School K-3 Kadimah	School 4/5 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	10 am Hebrew 101 7:30 pm Congregational Mtg. 8 pm Healing Svce.		7:30 pm Tefilot	B'midbar 8:15 am Torah Study Zachary Braunstein (moved to 8/28)
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Office Closed	7:30 pm Music Comm. Mtg.	10 am Hebrew 101	7 pm Shavuot with Cantor Beth Schafer!	9 am Shavuot Yizkor 7:30 pm Tefilot	Naso I 8:15 am Torah Study Judd Klein (moved to 8/9)
31						
7 pm Healing Svce.						



# June Calendar

Sunday	Monday 1	Tuesday 2	Wednesday 3	Thursday 4	Friday 5	Saturday 6
		7:30 pm Ritual Comm. Mtg.			6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Naso II 8:15 am Torah Study 6 pm BHSSTY Ella Selfon (moved to 9/13) Jacob Toomey (moved to 8/1)
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11 am Menschmakers Event TBA 6 pm JYG Event TBA Ashley Ehrlich Bat Mitzvah		7:30 pm Exec. Comm. Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG			7:30 pm Tefilot Cantor's Farewell Svce	B'ha-a-lot'cha 8:15 am Torah Study Chase Moskowitz (moved to 8/29)
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		7:30 pm Board Mtg.	7 pm Healing Svce.		5 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Tefilot Brotherhood Shabbat Board Installation	Sh'lach L'cha 8:15 am Torah Study Ethan Levine End of Year BHSSTY Event TBA
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		7:30 pm Music Comm. Mtg.			7:30 pm Tefilot	Naso I 8:15 am Torah Study
28	29	30				

7 pm  
Healing Svce.



# ...will be called to the Torah...



PLEASE NOTE: Due to the Covid-19 health crisis, our May/June B'nai Mitzvot dates have been rescheduled. You will note that we have made the month of August 2020 available to the families that were not able to celebrate on their original dates.



***Alana Bendayan – May 9, 2020  
(postponed to August 8)***

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Ida, Father, David, Brother, Jared, ..... is an 8th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... Her interests include reading, dancing, listening to music, playing the guitar, and participating in Girl Scouts of Hudson Valley and Youth Against Cancer. "I would like to become a lawyer and fight for fairness and justice. I am really excited to share this special day with my loved ones. For my community service project, I helped senior citizens in a senior center and raised funds for my local food pantry."

***Gabrielle Heffernan – May 16, 2020  
(postponed to August 30)***

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Laura, Father, Matthew, Brother, Josh, 11 ..... is a 7th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School ..... Her interests include volleyball and lacrosse. "I am volunteering at Southern Paws Dog Rescue."



***Zachary Braunstein – May 23, 2020  
(postponed to August 28, 2020)***

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Mother, Brooke, Father, Jay, Sister, Avery, 10 ..... is a 7th grader at Cavallini Middle School ..... His interests include baseball and basketball. "When I am older, I'd like to work in finance. I am very excited for this opportunity and I know that this is a day that I will never forget. It is a very special occasion that is not just for me, but for my family and friends. I collected gently used sports equipment and donated it to the Straight and Narrow Community Center. I also helped out special needs children playing soccer and baseball."



***Judd Klein – May 30, 2020  
(postponed to August 9, 2020)***

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Jan, Father, Graham ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... His interests include baseball, fishing, bike riding, and video games. "I want to attend college at either the University of Wisconsin or Clemson University. I feel very honored to have achieved my bar mitzvah studies. I'm working with a non-profit, Leveling the Playing Field. I am collecting used sports equipment for underprivileged children who do not have the resources or means to purchase their own equipment."

# ...will be called to the Torah...



**Ella Selfon – June 6, 2020**

**(postponed to September 13)**

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Laurie, Father, Marc, Brother, Zachary, 15 ..... is a 7th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School ..... Her interests include gymnastics and volleyball. “I have a strong passion about our environment and hope to one day have a job protecting it. I feel lucky to be able to celebrate my bat mitzvah like generations before me have. For my community service project, I am raising money to donate to Greenpeace and participating in various beach and river clean-ups.”



**Chase Moskowitz – June 13, 2020**

**(postponed to August 29, 2020)**

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Marcy, Father, Andrew ..... is a 7th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School ..... His interests include baseball, video games, sneakers, and basketball. “I want to continue to learn every day more about baseball statistics and its history as I enjoy reading and learning more about this sport. I also strive to continue to grow as a player and as a person, to fulfill my own personal goals and make those around me proud to watch me. I am thankful to become a bar mitzvah because my family has helped me go through this process and teach me more than I thought I could ever learn about my heritage. I feel proud to be Jewish in the world we live in today and to represent my grandparents and great-grandparents. For my community service project, I am collecting new and used sports equipment for the organization called Leveling the Playing Field, which provides sports equipment to children who would not be able to afford it, and not be able to play sports.”



**Jacob Toomey – June 6, 2020**

**(postponed to August 1, 2020)**

Lives in Allendale, New Jersey. Mother, Elyssa, Father, Michael, Brother, Eli, 15 ..... is a 7th grader at Brookside Middle School ..... His interests include skiing, National Ninja League, cross country running, food/baking/cooking, reading, and STEM. “I am interested in entrepreneurship. I am very excited for this auspicious day in which I will become an adult in the eyes of Judaism as a bar mitzvah and will see all of my friends and family together in celebration. I will volunteer for the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference and help to perform trail maintenance. Ramapo has always been a joyful place for my whole family where we can relax and enjoy the beauty of nature.”



**Ethan Levine – June 20, 2020**

Lives in Allendale, New Jersey. Mother, Daniela, Father, Ken, Brother, Noah, 18, Sister, Isabella, 15 ..... is a 7th grader at Brookside School ..... His interests include baseball and video games. “I want to be an entrepreneur. I am excited to share this big day with my family and friends.”





# Ritual Committee

Some people might say I'm a gratitude junkie. For years, I have started and ended each day by writing my thoughts in my gratitude journal, and it has shifted me in powerful ways. Not surprisingly, I have had to dig deep to access gratitude since COVID19 hit the US. The ability to shift easily from fear and resentment to gratitude is like a muscle...it requires consistent practice before it becomes automatic. Let's just say I'm still practicing...

As I write these words in early April, I pray that this pandemic will be behind us by the time you are reading them. Sadly, I fear that this will not be the case. These are challenging days. Each of us is dealing with a unique set of circumstances that none of us ever could have imagined. Some of us have had to reschedule important lifecycle events, like my daughter's wedding or your child's b'nai mitzvah. Some of us are facing the challenge of supporting aging parents or sick loved ones from a distance. Some of us are mourning losses without the physical comfort of family and friends gathering together in our moment of need. And some have lost their jobs.

At this time, we need community more than ever. As we adapt and find ways to connect and be together as a sacred BHSS community, I am profoundly grateful for the technology that allows us to do so in meaningful ways. Zoom, Facebook Live, Facetime, live stream and other platforms provide important ways for us to pray, comfort, catch up, laugh and sing together when being in our physical building is not an option.

As some of you may know, after more than two decades as an active member and lay leader of BHSS, I am winding down my time here. I have moved to Montclair, and will join my partner Susan's synagogue, Ner Tamid, this summer. Our current reality is certainly NOT what I envisioned when I was thinking about my final months with all of you. I'm sure it's not what any of YOU were envisioning either, as our community prepares to honor and bid farewell to our beloved Cantor Perper and welcome Cantor Josh Finkel to the BHSS family.

And yet, through it all, my heart is filled with gratitude.

I'm grateful that I got to attend the BHSS Retreat one more time this year...it was a blast! As a long-time choir member, I am especially grateful for every moment of song, spirituality, meaning and laughter that I have been blessed to share with our beloved Cantor Perper and the entire BHSS adult choir. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve as co-chair of the Ritual Committee alongside three amazing leaders...Judy, Michelle and Nancy. I am delighted to announce that Amy Littman will be stepping up to co-chair the Ritual Committee with Nancy as of July 1, and I can't wait to hear about the positive impact that they will surely have!

I am deeply grateful that I had the privilege to work together with a number of dedicated congregational leaders and our amazing staff as we took on the sacred responsibility of searching for and ultimately hiring both Rabbi Mosbacher and Rabbi Ilana. How blessed our community has been and continues to be!

Growing up at BHSS had a huge impact on who my kids grew up to be, and for that, I am also profoundly grateful. Watching Jamie share our Jewish traditions with my grandson Jordan is one of the greatest joys of my life. After serving as youth group director and teacher at BHSS, Liza is now the Assistant Director of Childhood Engagement and Learning at Temple Sinai in Washington DC, committed to inspiring the next generation of Reform Jewish youth...and to say I'm kvelling would be an understatement! Adam and his gorgeous bride-to-be, Rachel, love to share Shabbat dinners with their friends and celebrate holidays with our entire extended family...and that simply fills my heart with joy.

At the core of all this gratitude is BHSS...a place that will always be home to me...and that I look forward to visiting often, to be with all of you...my community.

Wishing you all health, happiness and peace.

Debbie

# Sisterhood News

*"The measure of human character is our reaction to dark times. No one can sidestep Darkness. It is the throne upon which light sits. If a soul has not known sadness and struggle, there is no chance of overcoming, no cherishing the dawn."*

-David Wolpe

It cannot be denied; we are all going through dark days and nights. For many of us, this time is very hard, and we are struggling to remember that there will be dawn. But it will come, and we will do what we must to remain safe, and to protect our friends and loved ones as best we can.

Sisterhood, as with many organizations, has turned to technology to help us battle our isolation and loneliness. While we can't be together physically, our sisters have regularly met on Zoom. On April 2, we held a virtual cocktail party. Sitting in our own homes with our beverages of choice in hand, we commiserated, but more importantly, we communicated. Talking about how each of us is doing through this time, we remembered that there is much to laugh about, and much to be thankful for.

With all the binge-watching, have you seen "Unorthodox" on Netflix? The show is based on the book authored by a local woman who left the Satmar Hasidic community. The four-hour long television series (four one-hour episodes) is compelling. If you have the ability to do so, watch it. On April 16, we held a movie discussion about "Unorthodox" over Zoom. Watch your email for similar gatherings in the near future.

We haven't given up yet on the idea of having our Sisterhood Shabbat this spring, or our Installation Dinner, but of course, these items are up in the air as we go through the pandemic. Nor have we forgotten about our social justice issues. Please follow your emails for more information.

But since there is no date on which we know we will be able to gather together; Sisterhood wants to take this opportunity to express our deep gratitude and appreciation to Cantor Perper. Cantor brings smiles wherever he goes, and has been a friend to the BHSS sisterhood throughout his time with us. His willingness to contribute to our endeavors is famous: he

could never offer enough slots for private singing lessons at our Goods and Services Auction; he made a point of helping us with Sisterhood Shabbat. He's been at our Chanukah potluck dinners. As everyone at BHSS knows, if it's fun, Cantor will be there, and it will be more fun because he is.

Cantor Perper will always be a part of us here at BHSS, and we ask, for him and Faith, that "you be blessed as you go on your way." You will certainly be missed.

Finally, we ask each of our sisters, and every member of BHSS, to remember those people in your family, neighborhood, synagogue community and your social circles. Not everyone is able to participate in our virtual events, and for those people, this is a very lonely time. Please find a moment to reach out to someone like that, just for a minute or two, to tell them hello, and let them know they're not forgotten.

Hoping to see you all – in person - soon,

Mona Sussman and Linda Vogel



# Michelle Mitzvah Group

Shalom,

It is the end of March as I type this, and normally, we all would be preparing for Passover, to spend time with family and friends. Baseball would be in full swing (pun intended), parks would be blooming with flowers and people enjoying the fresh air, farmers' markets would be filled with bread, produce, and other delectable goodies, and Beth Haverim Shir Shalom would be bursting with energy and excitement.

But as I write this, these are not normal times. While all of us are home and most businesses are closed, the work at Michelle Mitzvah is still needed. Here are a few ways to help out during these most difficult times.

- **Oasis:** They are still open, serving the community. While all educational and vocational support is temporarily suspended, they are still providing "the most basic human needs of the community." They continue to provide "grab and go" meals at lunchtime and distribute emergency food packages, baby formula and baby food, diapers, and wipes to the community from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Our very own Ilyse Smith is collecting non-perishable food (canned goods, pasta, PB&J, etc.) to donate. Please contact her at 201-775-7273 to schedule a drop-off. Also, Oasis is in need of monetary donations & gift cards. You can donate by clicking on their website, <https://oasisnj.org/>

- **Center for Food Action:** Similar to Oasis, they are still serving the community and in need of monetary and gift card donations. If you would like to make a donation, please go to their website at <https://cfan.org/>.

- **Vitalent (formerly Community Blood Center):** Due to the pandemic, there is a great need for blood donors - blood, platelets, plasma - all of it. There are two local centers, Paramus and Montvale. The website for them is <https://vitalant.org/Home.aspx> and you can schedule an appointment.

- **Suffern Soup Kitchen:** The soup kitchen is open and we are continuing to serve meals. As you are reading this, I am coordinating the schedule for July through December. If you and your family would like to be scheduled, please contact Steven Simon, at [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net) or at 201 788-6755 for any questions and concerns.

Finally, I'm reminded of the words of Fred Rogers - *"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'"*

Nurses, doctors, first responders, medical personnel, truck drivers, police and fire officials -- they are all helping out the community. As well, everyone involved with Michelle Mitzvah Group is helping in some capacity.

For all of the work you do, I want to simply offer a few kind words -- THANK YOU! AND THANK YOU FOR HELPING OTHERS! We are all better for your kindness and for your efforts.

Stay safe!

*B'Shalom*

- Steven Simon, Michelle Mitzvah Chair

Cell: 201 788-6755

Email: [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net)

MMG NEWS:

## *MMG Scholarship Endowment in Memory of Jase Barrack*

The Michelle Mitzvah Group was established over 30 years ago as a living memorial to honor one of the children of the BHSS temple community. Its mission is to benefit children, both within our congregation and in the greater community. Through our social action initiatives, we pledge to seek out those in need of physical, emotional, or educational assistance and provide them with help to fulfill their goals and, in so doing, we hope to teach the children in our congregation the meaning of the word "mitzvah."

To that end, the Group has recently established the **Michelle Mitzvah Group Scholarship Endowment in Memory of Jase Barrack** at Ramapo College. Jase, a 21-year-old member of our BHSS community and son of our beloved Lisa Barrack, passed away last May. This scholarship is set up in his honor to help students interested in human rights fund their education so they can make the world a better place.

Scholarship recipients will be selected by the conveners of the History and International Studies majors in consultation with the Director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies as well as the Office of Financial Aid.



# *Good & Welfare* from & for the congregation

## *Condolences*

to the **Theodore Family** on the death of their dear friend, Shoshana Davis  
to the **Punim family** on the death of Aaron's grandmother, Ruth Punim  
to the **Wichler family** on the death of Gail's mother, Marilyn Moser and father, Stanley Moser  
to the **Saiff family** on the death of Eddie and Robby's sister-in-law, Vivien Lichter  
to **Vida Mylson and family** on the death of Vida's mother Vida Amanda Maria Mylson

## *Mazal Tov*

Special Mazal Tov to our 10-12 grade students who participated in the Religious Action Center, L'Taken weekend in Washington, DC. With Special thanks to the Endowment Committee of BHSS for continued support of this program. **Melissa Orlick, Scott Fleischmann, Logan Buchalter, Luke Savoy, Heather Romoff, Max Pavon, Jonathan Moskowitz, Elizabeth Taub, Jason Ritchin, Ruth Schechtman**

Mazal Tov to our Kadimah Graduates:

**Josh Brown, Logan Buchalter, Scott Fleischmann, Melissa Orlick, Ruth Schechtman**

Mazal Tov to all our **BHSS High School & College Graduates!**

## *Thank You*

Thank you to **BHSS Youth Group** for a successful Purim Carnival and to the Brotherhood for their support of selling refreshments that afternoon!

Thank you to **Inserra Shoprite of Ramsey** for donating all of the delicious hamantaschen that were served at the Purim Celebration!

Thank you to **Meri Senchak** for creating beautiful bimah baskets for us throughout the year!

## *R'fuah Sh'leimah*

(For a full and speed recovery)

**Jane and Eric Koch**

**Jonathan Heitmann**

**Gail Spencer**

...and all those who are battling  
illness from Covid-19



## Brotherhood

Hello, Brothers in the 'hood and hello to our community at large! How are you doing? We do mean that. Times are very tough...we are all fighting a war against an invisible enemy, and nobody is immune to the effects...and everyone knows someone or has someone close to them who has or had this virus, who have recovered, who have not. For those on the front lines – our doctors, nurses, medical professionals, EMT's...and our delivery professionals, our drivers, our volunteers helping feed the public and making sure everyone is safe and sound...and our military professionals who are keeping the peace...thank you for your service.

So, all of our events are currently canceled or postponed...but replaced with a weekly Zoom check-in on Thursdays, generally (except the second night of Passover) just to give brothers...and anyone who wants to jump on... an opportunity to check in and see how everyone is doing. Write us for the Zoom links – email addresses below.

During these challenging days, BHSS Brotherhood is here to support the synagogue, the community at large and each other to help us through to the other side. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the BHSS Brotherhood, or the synagogue office as we stand alongside the community (at least six feet apart).

May we all pray for healing of the body, mind and spirit for ourselves, our loved ones, our friends and our people. Continue to stay strong.

Thank you...and L'Shalom...

BHSS Brotherhood

Legion of Past Presidents

280 Ramapo Valley Road

Mahwah, NJ 07430

Facebook: BHSS Brotherhood Facebook

Google Calendar: BHSS Brotherhood Calendar

(201) 512-1983 - BHSS Office

(845) 596-6680 - Ian Coyne

(845) 269-1773 - Erb Cooper

(201) 615-7088 - Allan Schott

(917) 531-0043 - Jonathan Theodore

## Caring Committee

The Caring Committee has been hard at work tending to our congregants' needs. We wish to thank all those who contribute to this committee whether you donate your time or your culinary talents. The recipients of your efforts and generosity are always so grateful.

And speaking of gratitude, we would like to thank Candy Kassover, who is stepping down after many years as co-chair of the committee. She is always at the ready with a phone call, a hot meal or a friendly note and a smile just when we need her the most. Thank you, Candy, for all your years of work on this committee, and all you do for us.

We are also grateful to our new Caring Committee co-chair, Audrey Flynn, who has hit the ground running in the midst of Covid-19. Welcome Audrey, and thank you for volunteering for this role.

As this health crisis continues to affect our community, the Caring Committee is making sure our members are taken care of. Especially now, we are ALL needed, and encourage you to volunteer...cook a meal, drive members to appointments and/or synagogue functions, call to follow up on our more vulnerable members, or attend shiva services.

If you need the services of the Caring Committee or if you wish to join or volunteer, please contact Audrey Flynn ([ablandau@aol.com](mailto:ablandau@aol.com)) or Laura Miller ([mlctsmiller@verizon.net](mailto:mlctsmiller@verizon.net))



## Education Committee

Happy Spring from the Education Committee! I am writing this from my kitchen table on day 7 of homeschool-palooza while my 6th grader plots points on a graph and my 3rd grader makes a poster about blizzards...using glitter...inside. Yikes! But desperate times call for desperate measures, even if that means that I'll be finding tiny pieces of shiny plastic in my kitchen for months to come. Perhaps that's actually a good thing. Maybe we need to find something shiny each day to remind us that life will go back to normal eventually and that we can enjoy this time with our families...even if it isn't how we would have chosen to get that extra quality time.

One of the things we have missed most during this time of social distancing has been face-to-face, in-person conversation. And our kids have missed it too. Which is why I was so thankful for them to have virtual religious school this week. Our school district in Ho-Ho-Kus has done an amazing job with distance learning, but there hasn't been an opportunity for the kids to be on the computer and to actually see their classmates. While I know religious school isn't always something your children are ACHING to go to, it was incredible to see the kids all interacting on Zoom during their first sessions. Now, by the time you're reading this, these Zoom sessions will, hopefully, be a distant memory, along with social distancing, quarantining, and COVID-19, but, for now, as a parent with kids in the religious school, this little bit of face-to-face communication was amazing. It reminds us how vital our BHSS community is, not just for adults, but also for our kids. Religious school teaches them about Judaism and it also connects our students in an immeasurable way.

As we continue through the rest of this school year, please remember to look for the glitter. Find those little things that make your day a little more sparkly. Whether it's reading a chapter of a book with your 3rd grader at 2:00 in the afternoon when you typically wouldn't have been together, doing burpees and jumping jacks with your middle schooler for her "Family Fun Workout" for P.E., or seeing your children's faces on Zoom while they reconnect with their religious school friends. When COVID-19 is a strange "remember when..." we will still find sparkles of glitter to shine up our regularly-scheduled lives.

Stay well, happy Spring, and may the rest of 2020 be easy for us all!

-Lauren Einhorn, Education Committee Chair

## From the Sifriyah

### *In Gratitude...*

*"I am grateful this is not 1918 and that we have our health, good foods, and the internet. Reading, cleaning, good movies, art work, walking, talking/FaceTiming family and friends keep me centered. Most grateful for BHSS who has our backs. Love XO!"*

-Sheila Groskin

*"I can well remember the moment I heard the call to be grateful. How inappropriate, I thought. We were feeling poorly. Stu had been diagnosed with pneumonia.*

*And then, as many folks, especially temple members, neighbors, and family bombarded us with get well wishes and even practical advice, I began to rethink the word gratitude. How wonderful to receive cupcakes on a homebound birthday, how wonderful to be nourished on homemade soup, how wonderful to be reminded to take it easy. How wonderful to experience the strong and caring leadership of BHSS. How wonderful to have Iris as our office captain. I could go on and on.*

*Although still worried about Stu, I now feel a determination to move forward, and when the new Normal settles in, to help others who may be struggling. Hopefully, I will be a better version of my previous self."*

-Ruth Turner

*"I am so grateful to my temple friends. I feel it's an extended family for me. I feel love and support from many. I will miss Cantor Perper terribly and wish him well in the future. He is a wonderful cantor and human being. Best wishes and health to all."*

-Lynn Zall



# Contributions

## *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

in memory of my father, Jesse Ellman

- Linda Schwartz & family

with many thanks for your kindness and help getting our family through this difficult time.

- the Theodore family

with thanks and appreciation

- Leslie Sapienza

## *Cantor's Discretionary Fund:*

with thanks for everything, we will miss you!

- Roni & Andrew Silver

## *Life Fund*

in commemoration of the yahrzeits of Ben Moss and Irving Pesin

- Phil Moss

in memory of Gertrude Silver, with thanks

- the Nudelman family

in memory of Joseph Schwartz

- David Schwartz

to Kathy and Howard Zukof, in honor of your new grandson, Mazel Tov

- Sheila & Larry Groskin

in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Betty Schott

- Sheri & Allan Schott

to Sheila and Larry Groskin, in honor of the bat mitzvah of their granddaughter Noa

- the Library Ladies

to Marilyn and Ira Bernstein - Mazel Tov on the birth of your new granddaughter

- the Library Ladies

to Sue-Ellen Johnson, in honor of the bat mitzvah of your granddaughter

- the Library Ladies

to Lynn and Michael Zall - Mazel Tov on your 50th wedding anniversary

- the Library Ladies

to our BHSS family, with thanks and in memory of our fathers, grandfathers and their wives for Bernard Maindenberg and Norman Schlissel

- Janet, Andy, Carleigh, Zach Schlissel

- Lynne Schlissel

- Lenore Schlissel

in commemoration of Essie Greenzweig's yahrzeit

- Marilyn & Irwin Haberman

in commemoration of Mandel Stein's Yahrzeit

- Joel Goldfarb

in commemoration of Noel Lamster's Yahrzeit

- Lisa Lamster

in memory of my cousin Enid Marcus

- Joel Goldfarb

in memory of Terri Coffel

- Lisa Lamster

in loving memory of our Jase

- The Barrack Family

## *Brick Fund*

to Chaim Morgan, in memory of Norman Morgan

- Jane Simon

## *Prayer Book Dedication*

in memory of Seymour Oventhal

- Joanne Oventhal

to Judy Teich and Lois Teich, in honor of your marriage – Mazel Tov

- Estelle Fisher

to Jesse Coffel and family, in loving memory of Terri Coffel

- Lisa Lamster & family

to the Silver family, in memory of Gertrude Silver

- the Selfon family

in commemoration of Nathan Rocker's yahrzeit

- Lynne Feldman

## *Michelle Mitzvah Group*

with gratitude for establishing the MMG Scholarship Endowment in Jase's memory

- The Barrack Family

Join us Friday, June 12  
to celebrate and say farewell to our beloved  
*Cantor David Perper*

This memorable service is not to be missed,  
and we want you to be a part of it! \*

*Why?* Because we ♥ our Cantor!



\*If we are still social distancing at this date, look  
for details on how to attend this service virtually.

## *May Yahrzeits*

CINDY ALLMAN	DAVID GOLDMAN	FRANK NATHANSON	SIMON SEIDNER
JERROLD ARONS	NATALIE GORDON	KATE NEUMANN	DOROTHY SELIGMAN
STANLEY AXELROD	FRANCES GROSSMAN	SCOTT NEWHOUSE	DAVID JOSEPH SIEGEL
RUTH BAUM	NATHAN GURIAN	HELEN OSHEROWITZ	THEODORE SIEGEL
MOLLIE BLACKMAN	JESSE HERSHMAN	NORMA PALANT	HYMAN SMITH
PHILIP BRENNER	ERWIN HITTMAN	MITCHELL PARISER	JOAN SPEER
RAFAEL CHMIELEWSKI	MAURICE SONNY ISRAEL	RICHARD PAVOLVEC	STANLEY SPELLMAN
RUCHIA LENA	LORE KAHN	PHOEBE PEISTER	SOPHIE SQUIRES
CHMIELEWSKI	STEVEN KOMINSKY	HELEN RIFKIN	MARION STANSFIELD
JOSEPH CLIFF	SIMA KRIEGL	STEPHEN RIPPS	DAVID STEINMAN
HARRY COHEN	SEYMOUR KULICK	FRANCES ROSE	JANE STEINSNYDER
JUDITH BERNSTEIN	BLANCHE LAMBERT	JOSEPH ROTHENBUCHER	RABBI MILTON WEINBERG
COHEN	BETTY LANDIS	JOHN ROTHMAN	IRVING WEISS
ALICE COLE	MARILYN LASS	MAZAL RUDACH	AARON WHITMAN
FLORENCE DAVID	PAUL LEVITT	HERBERT SAKOW	GITTY WIDMAN
ISABELLA LEAH	JEANETTE LICHTER	FANNY SAPSOVIC	GILBERT WUNSCH
DEBETHENCOURT	MITCHELL LICHTMAN	MIRYAM SAPSOVIC	SEYMOUR YANOWITZ
GREGORY DUCHARME	BERTHA LIPSKER	SAMUEL "LANE" SAYLES	ROSE ZAHM
ARTHUR FASSLER	JOAN LITTMAN	CARLYN SCHER	LEO ZUCKER
BENJAMIN FINN	JUDY MAY	JANICE SCHWARTZ	MAX ZUKOF

## *June Yahrzeits*

RUTH ABNER	IRVING FITTERMAN	RONALD LANDAU	JULIUS SHMARUK
JOSE AMARAL	SADIE GETTLEMAN	SAUL LESSEN	RUTH SILVERMAN
SUSAN ARKAWY	RHEA GOLDFARB	MELVIN LISK	ELIAS SILVERSTEIN
BARBARA BERDON	HARRIET GORDON	ALLEN MAY	PHILIP SIMON
PEARL BERGER	RAY GROSSMAN	STEVEN MERMELSTEIN	RALPH SUESKIND
ESTHER CITRIN	THOMAS GROSSMAN	ALLEN NUDELMAN	BARBARA THAILER
VICTOR COHEN	SOL HEILBRAUN	SAUL OKON	ROBERT THEODORE
ESTHER COLE	ABE HOCHMAN	DAVID ROBBINS	KATHERINE TOWELL
BLANCHE CRAMER	EDNA HOMNICK	ANNE ROBINOVITZ	MORRIS TREPPER
LARRY ELKINS	HOWARD ISRAEL	EDITH ROTH	BARNEY VICTOR
CHARLES FEIN	JANICE KAMM	EDWARD ROTH	HAROLD WEINBERG
JOANNE FEINBAUM	ROMOLA KAPLAN	MORRIS ROTH	HELENE WEINBERG
HAROLD FELDMAN	WALTER KAUFMAN	JEANETTE SAIFF	WILLIAM WEINBERG
DONALD FEUCHTBAUM	ROBERT KOPELMAN	FRAYDA FAY LEVY SEIF	HERBERT WEISSMAN
DOROTHY FINN	NATHAN LANDAU	ALEKSANDER SHLAHET	CHARLES WISEMAN
ANDREW FISHER			

## *July Yahrzeits*

SHIRLEY ANESETTI	SAMUEL GREENE	MILLIE MARKS	WERNER SCHOTT
BRIAN BANDREMER	BENJAMIN ISRAEL	TOM MCVEIGH	SYLVIA SCHWARTZMAN
ABRAHAM BERKOWITZ	JEFF JAFFE	HARRY MEYERS	BLANCHE SEIDNER
DAVID BERMAN	MENDE JAFFE	IDA MEYERS	ESTHER SENZEL
JILL BERNSTEIN	NATALIE JAFFE	MAX MILLER	IRA SIEGEL
LOUIS BERNSTEIN	JEROME JOHNSON	JAMES MINTY	MARTHA SILVERMAN
SIDNEY BLUMENFELD	DANA KANTOR	FRED MOSER	MILDRED SITOMER
FERN BRUCKNER	ADA KOHLREITER	GEORGE MOSS	LOIS STARTZ
ANDREW COHEN	MORRIS KOHLREITER	MILTON NOVOK	MILTON STARTZ
BARRY COHEN	SANDRA KOPELMAN	GEORGE ORLICK	ARTHUR STERNBERG
RITA COHEN	MARILYN KRICHMAR	BEN RICE	SHARON SUSS
CHARLES COLE	PHILIP LACHER	CHARLES ROMANO	VERNON TAYLOR
LEATRICE ERLMAN	HAROLD LANDAU	DOROTHY ROW	DAVID TEIC HMAN
SEYMOUR FRIEDMAN	NATHAN LEBRON	CHARLES SANKEL	ROBERT TOWELL
IRIS GLUCOFT	ALAN LEFKOWITZ	RALPH SCHECHTMAN	PAUL WEISKOP
PHILIP GORDON	REBA LEVY	JOHN SCHIAVO	FRED WICHLER
MILTON GRALLA	MARIE LIPSON	STANLEY SCHICK	RAMZA WORM
BARBARA GREENBLATT			

## *August Yahrzeits*

JERALD AFIR-HEFFLER	ERIC FIELDS	LEE JOHNSON	BRAD PERLSTEIN
MEYER ALPERT	SOL FISHKIN	WILLIAM KAPLAN	ETHEL PESIN
SYDNEY ALTMAN	FREDERICK FLISSER	BENJAMIN KASSOVER	EUGENE REINSTEIN
RUTH ANSIN	IRVING FRANK	JULIA KLEIN	SONDRA RITCHIN
SAUNDRA ARONS	ETHEL FREEMAN	LIZ KOLMAN	BETTY SANKEL
DAVID ATLAS	HARRY FREEMAN	KEN KRESCH	GEORGE SAULT
EDWARD BARBACH	EVAN GARBUS	NATHAN LAMBERT	RUTH SCHOENFELD
BEN BENDALIN	MAC GELFENBEIN	MICHAEL LIPSKER	FRANCES SPIELBERG
GLORIA BERENS	RYNA GERBER	RALPH LITTMAN	LOREN TEDROW
STEPHEN BERENS	IRV GOODMAN	CLARA LYNN	FRANK THEODORE
ARON BERGRYN	MICHAEL SCOTT GORDON	DAVID MANZON	THOMAS TOWELL
JACKLYN BOFFORD	INGA GRANT VERSTANDIG	MILDRED McDONALD	OTTO TUTEUR
EDWARD BRICKMAN	MYRON GREENZWEIG	MARK MENDELSON	HAROLD WEINSTEIN
HARRY BYALICK	JULIAN HAUSER	BARBARA MOSKOWITZ	MORRIS WEISBERGER
DAVID COHEN	ROSLYN HESS	SEYMOUR MUNY	STANLEY WELLS
VICTOR COOPER	IDA HIEGER	HANS NEUMANN	SOL WEXLER
ELLEN ESTRIN	PHYLLIS HYMOWITZ	INGE OELBAUM	SADIE WIDMAN
CHRISTOPHER FIELDS	SUSAN IVES	ROBERT OELBAUM	





## July Birthdays

Zachary Flanz  
Linda Lenchner  
Abbie Torrente  
Benjamin Dworkin  
Spencer Greene  
Alexis Harris  
Simon Newhouse  
Allison LaCorte  
Chase Moskowitz  
Dylan Strauss  
Nolan Irizarry  
Michael Weinstein  
Charlie Reissman  
Dylan Moskowitz  
Addyson Wachtel



## August Birthdays

Emma Somberg  
Hannah Cohen  
Sydney Kaplan  
Sydney Flanz  
Emily Nanus  
Hudson Smith  
Elle Berin  
Lyla Berry  
Mason Defrino  
Drew Tetefsky  
Zoe Viezel  
Aidan Defrino  
Brooke Reissman  
Jason Lieberman  
Arden Barron

# Tot Shabbat

Join us for stories, singing, and snacks with our clergy and educator and a taste of Shabbat with your little ones!

Parents, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles with children ages birth to 5 (siblings welcome too.)  
**Fridays from 5 to 5:30 p.m.** (see dates below)

**May 15**  
**June 19**

Please RSVP to the temple office,  
201-512-1983



## Music Committee

Hello everyone!

At this difficult time of social-distancing and mandated isolation, I hope you can find a bright spot of community within BHSS. With our religious school via Zoom, Friday Night and Healing services on Zoom and livestream, and our wonderful clergy and staff just a phone call away, we are here together.

One of the highlights of my time at BHSS is that I got to work with Cantor Perper. He has been an inspiration, a teacher, and a leader. I have watched him comfort the bereaved, laugh with toddlers touching his guitar, and hold a congregation together who thought they couldn't survive without their longtime rabbi. On a personal note, my

daughter was the first bat mitzvah he taught at BHSS. She now teaches Family School with him. How many **Coffeehouse Cantors** have we held? How many different Israeli charities have we supported? How many **BHSS Got Talent** shows have we put on? How many outstanding cantors have graced our sanctuary with their talent? How do we say thank you? How do **We Love Our Cantor**?

As always, I would like to invite you to our meetings on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Attendance to all the meetings is not a requirement, and neither is musical talent. Come see what we are about. All are welcome! Do you have suggestions for what you would like to see? I'd love to hear from you!

Musically yours,  
Nora Berger

# Refer a Friend or Family Program

Help us grow our community and share all that BHSS has to offer by referring a friend or family to join our synagogue. Here's how:



## How it works:

- For each family/friend referral, the referring member will receive a \$360 dues credit.
- In order to refer a family, please contact the office with the friend/family you are referring.
- If the family joins within 6 months of referral, you are eligible for the credit.
- Credit will be issued in the form of a check which will be distributed during the month of December of the current year.

## FAQs:

*What if multiple members refer the same friend/family?*

If this occurs, the credit may be split between a maximum of two referring families.

*What if I don't want the dues credit for the referral?*

We ask that you accept the credit and then donate it back to the synagogue to an area that is meaningful to you.

*Can I refer someone who has previously attended synagogue events?*

Yes! However, the spirit of the program is for new introductions.

If the prospective member is already a part of our formal weekly mailing list, this will not be considered an introduction.

## GIFT CARDS

Meeting friends at Panera? Sipping Starbucks? Do you shop at ShopRite, Stop & Shop, Acme or Fairway? Support BHSS with this easy, ongoing fundraiser by buying gift cards to use at these and dozens of other stores and restaurants!

**They also make wonderful gifts for teachers, coaches, birthdays, anniversaries and any holiday!**

Please contact Lisa Lamster at (lislams@optonline.net) or 201-760-1935 with any questions or to order cards today!





Join us as acclaimed Jewish musician

## **Cantor Beth Schafer**

helps us celebrate  
Erev Shavuot with  
a concert on  
Thursday, May 28 at 7 PM

The Zoom link will be sent as we get closer to the date, but mark your calendar and bring the family!

Beth Schafer has performing contemporary Jewish music for over 2 decades. Her songs are spiritual and anthemic, liturgical and modern commentary. Whether as a featured performer at national gatherings or leading an intimate service, Beth helps people find the Jewish soundtrack to their lives. She produced the URJ show 100 Years of Women in Reform Judaism and was the co-founder of Harmony in Unison, an online virtual stage bringing live Jewish music to its 14,000+ members. Beth is a sought-after guitarist and recording artist with 7 studio albums and multiple commissions to her credit. In 2015 she became the Bunzl Family Cantorial Chair of Temple Sinai in Atlanta, GA.

## **Community Garden**

Our Community Garden is off to a soggy start! The seeds planted a couple of weeks ago are just poking up, and hopefully with some sunshine they will grow!

The BHSS Community Garden is located on the grounds of our Synagogue, with raised beds surrounded by a fence that keeps most of the animals out!

We are looking for a handful of helpers to spread some mulch in between beds. The Town of Mahwah has generously donated a truckload. Please let me know if you or your teenager could help. We will coordinate with social distancing in mind.

Our garden volunteer group has changed, and we have room for a few more gardeners. If you would like to work a raised

bed this season, please let me know. Generally, we plant and tend the garden on an individual basis depending on a person's free time. Our produce is donated to several area food banks. We had great success last year, donating over 100 pounds of produce!

Please let me know if you are available to help spread mulch, and/or if you would like to discuss taking on a bed for the upcoming season.

See you soon! Six feet away, of course!!!

Thank you.

Jill Blum  
Riley0404@gmail.com, 201 960 1300

*Contribution Opportunities at Beth Haverim Shir Shalom*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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*Brick Fund* (Minimum donation \$ 5.00 for each) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

In honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*Life Fund* (Minimum donation \$18.00 for each) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

In honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*Tree of Life* (Minimum donation \$100.00 per leaf) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

*Sustaining Membership* (Minimum donation \$250.00) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Building Fund* (voluntary) .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Robbie Kriser Fund* .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Rabbi Discretionary Fund* .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Cantor Discretionary Fund* .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Educator Discretionary Fund* .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Barbara Weiss Scholarship Fund* .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Michelle Mitzvah Group* .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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*Other/Special* - Please contact us to discuss further opportunities

\_\_\_ Kehilah Campaign \_\_\_ Yahrzeit Tablet \_\_\_ Eternal Lights

\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ "Wish List" of Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment

---

*Payment Information:*

Check No: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card: \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ American Express

Credit Card Info: \_\_\_\_\_ exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

---

Please send this form along with check or payment info to:

Beth Haverim Shir Shalom – 280 Ramapo Valley Road · Mahwah, NJ 07430





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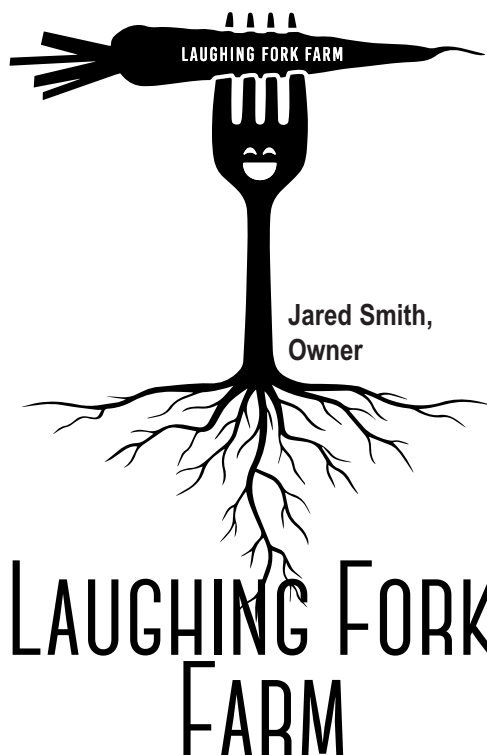
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## WHAT IS CSA?

CSA is community supported agriculture.

**Farmers** earn important early-season capital and have a guaranteed market for their produce.

**Consumers** enjoy overall lower food costs, field-fresh produce and greater access to high-demand fruits and vegetables.

### HOW IT WORKS:

Every week members receive a box of produce always containing at least the weekly value of what is paid, but often much more during the peak of the season! The cost for the 25-week season is \$675 (\$27/wk). The produce per week is generally enough for a family (2-4) to make a few meals.

### HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER:

Please visit us at [laughingforkfarm.com](http://laughingforkfarm.com) to learn more about the farm and sign up for the 2020 season.

**We offer full season and half season shares.**

**PICKUP WILL BE AT BHSS.**

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## Adult B'nai Mitzvah - Spring 2021

For more information on becoming  
Adult B'nai Mitzvah, please contact the  
synagogue office, 201-512-1983.



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# *Worship Schedule*

Friday, May 1	6:30 pm	Thank Goodness It's Shabbat! – Grandparent Shabbat Birthdays in May will be celebrated
Saturday, May 2		No Shabbat Morning service
Friday, May 8	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service - Teacher Appreciation Shabbat
Saturday, May 9		No Shabbat Morning service
Friday, May 15	5:00 pm	Tot Shabbat
	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service – Sisterhood Shabbat
Saturday, May 16		No Shabbat Morning service
Friday, May 22	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, May 23		No Shabbat Morning Service
Thursday, May 28	7:00 pm	Shavuot concert with Jewish composer and musician Cantor Beth Schafer
Friday, May 29	9:00 am	Shavuot Yizkor Service
	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, May 30		No Shabbat Morning Service
Friday, June 5	6:30 pm	Thank Goodness It's Shabbat! Birthdays in June & July will be celebrated
Saturday, June 6		No Shabbat Morning Service
Friday, June 12	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service – Cantor Perper's Farewell Service
Saturday, June 13		No Shabbat Morning Service
Friday, June 19	5:00 pm	Tot Shabbat
	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service – Brotherhood Shabbat
Saturday, June 20	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Levine
Friday, June 26	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, June 27		No Shabbat Morning service



# Worship Schedule

Friday, July 3	6:30 pm	Shabbat evening service
Saturday, July 4		No Shabbat Morning service
Friday, July 10	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, July 11	10:00am	Shabbat Morning service
Friday, July 17	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, July 18		No Shabbat Morning service
Friday, July 24	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, July 25		No Shabbat Morning Service
Friday, July 31	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
		Oneg Shabbat Hosts: The Toomey family
Saturday, August 1	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Toomey
Friday, August 7	6:30 pm	Shabbat evening service
		Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Bendayan and Klein families
Saturday, August 8	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Alana Bendayan
Sunday, August 9	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Judd Klein
Friday, August 14	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, August 15	10:00am	Shabbat Morning service
Friday, August 21	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, August 22		No Shabbat Morning service
Friday, August 28	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Braunstein
	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
		Oneg Shabbat Hosts: the Braunstein, Moskowitz and Heffernan families
Saturday, August 29	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Chase Moskowitz
Sunday, August 30	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Gabrielle Heffernan

**BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM**  
**280 RAMAPO VALLEY ROAD**  
**MAHWAH, NJ 07430**

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman  
Cantor David Perper  
Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

**Sessions of School:**

Sundays: May 3, 10, 17  
Mondays: May 4, 11, 18  
Tuesdays: May 5, 12, 19

**Office Closed:**

Monday, May 25  
Friday, May 29

## To do in May and June



at press time, all of these events are via Zoom

- *Torah Study Shabbat mornings, Saturdays at 8:15 am*
- *Thank Goodness It's Shabbat! Fridays, May 1 & June 5, at 6:30 pm -  
May & June birthdays will be celebrated*
- *Grandparents Shabbat - May 1 at 6:30 pm*
- *Tot Shabbat Fridays, May 15 & June 19, at 5:00 pm*
- *Healing Services, May 3, 31 and June 17, 28, at 7:00 pm, and May 20 at 8 pm*
- *Sisterhood Shabbat - May 15 at 7:30 pm*
- *Annual Congregation Meeting, May 20, at 7:30 pm*
- *Shavuot Services, with concert featuring Cantor Beth Schafer - May 28, at 7:00 pm*
- *Cantor Farewell Service, June 12, at 7:30 pm*
- *Brotherhood Shabbat, June 19, at 7:30 pm*