

## TEMPLE



## TOPICS

ELUL 5780//TISHREI/CHESHVAN 5781

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

## Rabbi Ilana's Message

### *Creating a Mikdash Me'at or Home Sanctuary*

BHSS's High Holiday services will by and large be online due to the constraint the Coronavirus has put on all of us—that means the environment in which you participate will be up to you. When you want to experience the holy and awesome, especially in your own home, some preparation may be needed.

*full article on page 3*

## Shir Chadash with Cantor Josh

### *Healing the World in an Age of Exhaustion*

The Torah asks us, I believe, to try to shape the world towards a balance of mercy and justice, towards a time of peace when all have what they will need, and war and exploitation become a thing of the past. It's a lot that we ask of ourselves, as Jews - and it often seems that each question we ask leads us only to further questions.

*full article on page 5*

## President's Message

"I get knocked down, but I get up again..." -Chumbawamba

The good news is that our community is resilient and we are adapting and transforming. The need for resilience in Judaism is ancient. Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner said "Judaism's great strength is its ability to innovate and survive,"

*full article on page 2*

## Educator's Message

### *Modeling for Our Children*

As they travel through this process at BHSS, from early Jewish education through, hopefully, high school, you, their families, are also passing along sometimes unspoken but important big ideas about being Jewish – preservation of customs, culture, family history, and other concepts that make their children know that "being Jewish is so important."

*full article on page 4*

## B'NAI MITZVAH

September 5	Addyson Wachtel
September 12	Abbie Torrente
September 13	Ella Selfon
October 3	Emily Levin
October 10	Abby Weintraub
October 11	Ashley Ehrlich
October 17	Wade Mendel
October 17	Justin Silver
October 31	Avery Roberts



## THINGS TO DO:

*more info on back cover and throughout*

Torah Study

BHSS Golf Outing

Sisterhood/Youth Group

Scavenger Hunt

Cocktails & Havdalah

High Holiday Services –  
*check inside for Rosh Hashanah  
and Yom Kippur service  
schedules*

Simchat Torah

Sukkot



# President's Message

Judy Teich

*I Get Knocked Down  
and I Get Up Again*

*"I get knocked down, but I get up again  
You are never gonna keep me down"*

- Chumbawamba

Throughout Jewish history there have been forces that have tried to knock us down, yet we get up again. We get up again every day and start the day anew. We get up again after Shabbat and start the week anew. We get up again at Rosh Hashanah and start the year anew. Perhaps each time we are recreating just a little - ourselves, our family, our community and our world.

This year has been really hard and challenging for so many of us, myself included. The good news is that our community is resilient and we are adapting and transforming. The need for resilience in Judaism is ancient. Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner said "Judaism's great strength is its ability to innovate and survive."

As I prepare myself for the High Holidays, I have been focusing on the major themes of renewal, reflection and new beginnings. Now is the time to consider possibilities for change, improvement, and happiness that we can create for ourselves as human beings and for our community at BHSS.

Covid 19 is a disruptor and is causing paradigm shifts around the world for families, business and yes, synagogues. This pandemic is forcing us to reimagine how we shape and maintain our community. We must think outside the box, for we can no longer do things "the way we always have".

The challenge for leadership will be to reflect on the year 5780, especially the last six months, and determine what BHSS has done well, what we should improve, what should we keep and what we should let go!

Here are some of the ways we have adapted .... innovative online religious school, virtual shabbat, Cocktails & Havdalah, outdoor Shabbat, and the delivery of *machzorim* (high holiday prayerbooks) to all of our members. We created our first BHSS video and we are focusing on increasing our social media presence. We enjoyed virtual bingo and a golf fundraiser.

We are always striving to improve communication with our congregation and continue to build relationships with one another.

Thank you to Rabbi Ilana and Cantor Josh. Thank you to Rebecca McVeigh. Thank you to Iris Greenberg, Michelle Sherry and Roberto. Thank you to all the BHSS lay leaders. Our community depends on you.

Thank you to all of our partners - you, our BHSS families - for your patience and understanding and your willingness to do what it takes to build and enrich a thriving community!

From my family to yours,

*L'shanah tovah tikatevu ve tichatemu.*

May you be inscribed and sealed (in the book of life) for a good year.



## Where?

- LS Live Stream
- IP In Person at BHSS
- ZM Via Zoom

## High Holiday Services 5781 with BHSS

### Rosh Hashanah

<b>September 18</b>	<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah</b>	7:30 pm	<b>LS</b>
<b>September 19</b>	<b>Rosh Hashanah - Day 1</b>	9:15 am	<b>LS</b>
	Family Services	1:00-1:45 pm	<b>LS</b>
	Tashlich	2:00-2:30 pm	<b>IP</b>
<b>September 20</b>	<b>Rosh Hashanah - Day 2</b>	9:15 am	<b>LS</b>

### Yom Kippur

<b>September 27</b>	<b>Kol Nidre</b>	7:30pm	<b>LS</b>
<b>September 28</b>	<b>Yom Kippur</b>		
	Morning Service	9:15 am	<b>LS</b>
	Food drop off & drive up at BHSS	12:00-1:30 pm	<b>IP</b>
	<i>Feed the hungry, feed the soul</i>		
	Healing Service	1:00-1:45 pm	<b>ZM</b>
	Family Services	2:00-2:45 pm	<b>LS</b>
	Study Sessions	2:00-3:30 pm	<b>ZM</b>
	Yizkor (in person for those who have had a loss within their immediate family this year)	3:30-4:15 pm	<b>LS</b>
	Mincha (afternoon service)	4:30 pm	<b>LS</b>
	Neilah	6:15 pm	<b>LS</b>

## Creating a Mikdash Me'at or Home Sanctuary

# Rabbi's Reflections

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman



The Ritual Committee, the front office, Rebecca McVeigh, Cantor Josh, and I have been hard at work to ensure that this season is one that is powerful and meaningful this year. BHSS's High Holiday services will by and large be online due to the constraint the Coronavirus has put on all of us—that means the environment in which you participate will be up to you. When you want to experience the holy and awesome, especially in your own home, some preparation may be needed. I wanted to share with you some considerations so that you can fully experience these holidays.

### Sharing

Do you want to watch alone or with your family?  
Have you made your expectations clear?  
Do you want to watch with someone on the phone with you?  
Have you discussed it with them?  
Do you have something for the kids? Coloring pages?  
Crafts? Food?

### Focus

Have you prepared ahead a little so that you can pray free from worry about work or household tasks?  
Have you moved distractions from your prayer space?  
Are you familiar with the schedule so that you can be fully present during the services?  
Have you turned off notifications from your phone or electronic devices?

### Sight

What screen will you watch from?  
Is it big enough to allow you the detail you want?  
What visuals would you like in the room with you?  
Do you want to bring in family Judaica?  
Do you want to print out some specific inspiration for these High Holidays?  
Would you rather have a mostly cleared space?  
Would it be comforting to have family photos with you?

### Smell

Would you like the smell of something freshly baked in your home?  
Is there a candle, diffuser, or incense scent that inspires you for this new year?  
Do you want fresh flowers in the room with you?

### Touch/Feel

You will have a *machzor* or High Holiday prayer book from your community here at BHSS in your hands... is there anything else you'd like to have at hand or in your hands?  
Where will you sit?  
Will the couch make you sleep or a specific chair be uncomfortable for a long spell?  
Do you have a *tallit* you'd like to wear?  
A *kippah*?  
Will you wear special holiday attire?

### Taste

What food or drink will make this time feel special for you?

### Sound

Do you want the BHSS live-stream hooked up to a sound system?  
Have you made sure to silence your other electronic devices (and asked your family to do the same)?

I know that this year is very different from what any of us has done in the past, but hopefully, this experience will refresh our commitment to the holidays, to Judaism, and to our community...and next year we will return to the BHSS sanctuary a little more aware of how much we appreciate about being together.

*L'Shanah Tova Tikateivu!*

לְשָׁנָה טוֹבָה תִּכְתֵּיבוּ

May you be inscribed for a good year!



## From the Educator

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh

*Modeling for Our Children*

"...choosing to remain active in your synagogue, day school, religious school or camp community models for our children that when a family experiences a difficult time, we choose to hold one another's hands ... This is a beautiful opportunity to teach our children why being Jewish is so important."

-excerpted from *The Jewish Journal*, July 27, 2020

When students become *b'nei mitzvah* at Beth Haverim Shir Shalom, the first people who congratulate them are members of the congregation. This is because they are now responsible members of the Jewish community – to be counted in a *minyan*, to wear a *tallit* for services – signs that after they become *b'nei mitzvah*, they are Jewish adults. Now, anyone who has met or raised a child to the age of thirteen knows they are not adults. But the occasion is nonetheless a significant milestone along the path of their Jewish education and eventually, to true adulthood.

As they travel through this process at BHSS, from early Jewish education through, hopefully, high school, you, their families, are also passing along sometimes unspoken but important big ideas about being Jewish – preservation of customs, culture,

family history, and other concepts that make their children know that "being Jewish is so important."

This idea of choosing to hold one another's hands in difficult times is not new. Indeed, the congregation has a tradition of holding hands during the *Mi Shebeirach* prayer for healing. We reach, literally, across the aisles to connect our rows. While we pray with our words, we try to send physical strength through our hands to our fellow members who may be in need of healing, or who have loved ones with that need.

The Torah tells us, right after the *Sh'ma*, arguably one of the most important passages in our sacred texts, to "teach them to your children" and that is exactly what needs to happen now. Our entire school staff is holding out their hands, waiting to welcome your children and your family into another year of Jewish learning, with you, their parents, as our partners. Now we ask you to model for them that when we experience difficult times, we stand together as a community, reach towards each other, and hold on.

With wishes for a healthy and happy new year from me, Rod, Ari, Alex, Andrew, Jackie, Rose, and Quinn.





# ***Shir Chadash (a New Song)***

## ***Healing the World in an Age of Exhaustion***

***with Cantor Josh***



Growing up, I'd often imagine myself in the circumstances of people in the stories I read. I was especially interested in historical biography from moments in history that challenged people to dig deep and show what they were made of. I often asked myself how I would behave if I lived in Germany during the rise of the Third Reich, or on the Oregon Trail as my family braved the dangers of the way west to come to a new land. These imaginings certainly enriched my mind and my character, and may have done much to prepare me for life's challenges; but at the same time, I understood even then that nobody ever knows with certainty how they will respond to a circumstance until they actually live it.

But now we find ourselves in what feels to me like one of those stories from history. One day, schoolchildren will look back at our circumstances and ask themselves what they would have done in our shoes. And maddeningly, as we see our country convulse around us on our televisions and our tablets, our "real world" shrinks to the boundaries of our own home because of the quarantine. When national circumstances call upon us to think most broadly, we must, for our own survival and for those closest to us, focus on the next meal, the next phone call, the next Zoom meeting, on getting by and getting through in our own limited worlds, or alternatively pouring ourselves into our jobs if we are deemed "essential personnel." I myself am privileged to have a workplace to go to each day to keep me grounded in the outside world, to be challenged to grow and to meet so many of my social and emotional needs, but I am well aware that many others are not as fortunate - and so I feel greatly privileged to have as my work doing what I can to build community through social media, through phone calls, and through the limits in which we can safely gather.

Moving into this New Year, I ask myself - as we all must ask ourselves - what shape will it take, and do I really have a part in shaping it from my own bubble or group of bubbles? And for better or worse, I tend to only feel myself empowered to shape it solely through my own very personal interactions with others. The Torah asks us, I believe, to try to shape the world towards a balance of mercy and justice, towards a time of peace when all have what they will need, and war and exploitation become a thing of the past. It's a lot that we ask of ourselves, as Jews - and it often seems that each question we ask leads us only to further questions. So I have to remind

myself, as Rabbi Tarfon teaches in the *Pirkei Avot*, that "you are not required to finish your work, yet neither are you free to desist from it."

Here's what I do know, in my wiser moments. Each of us are ourselves, a world, a whole universe, as reflected by the Talmud: "Whoever destroys a soul, it is considered as if he destroyed an entire world... and whoever saves a life... it is considered as if he saved an entire world" (Sanhedrin 37a).

And so what I can do to shape the world is to listen and witness those who we meet, and those who touch our hearts. Each of you has touched my heart, and I try to truly listen, to see you, and to witness you. Doing that, in my better moments, I am unable to treat you with disrespect, I can respond in gratitude to you, a person and a world before me. If I am truly seeing another, then my tongue and actions are guarded against doing harm to that person. For the world to get better, we certainly must always have stories, histories and collective memories, but when we see another person, we must not see the stories we carry with us, but rather we must see a world. And I think this is the first step towards redemption, for us as individuals and for the greater world of which we are a part.

This year, the year 5781, may we see each other, and see in each other the image of God - even if we see them through the stories dictated by others, through the screens that both connect us to and divide us from the wider world. Let our time of isolation serve as a reminder of how precious the faces of others are, and remind us not to squander the miracle of an encounter with another person, not with the stories we tell ourselves about that person. If we are able to do that, then as we pray near the conclusion of our services through the *Aleinu*, then the time will not be distant when the brokenness of our world will be repaired. The meaning of the word *Aleinu*, by the way, is: It is upon *us*; it is our responsibility.

Thank you for the incredible trust you have placed in me to be your Cantor, to stand with Rabbi Ilana in guiding this community, in standing with you through the trials and changes in your life. My family and I are thrilled to be a part of this incredible and sweet community. I see you! Be well! God bless, and may your New Year be sweet. And when it is not, may you be patient, and strong, and have the wisdom to reach out.

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*Sam Roth*

*Henry Weiner*

*Abby Weintraub*

## Candlelighting times:

September 4, Ki Tavo 7:06 pm

September 11, N'tzavim/Vayeilech 6:54 pm

September 18, Rosh Hashanah 6:42 pm

September 25, Ha-azinu 6:30 pm

October 2, Sukkot 6:18 pm

October 9, Sh'mini Atzeret 6:07 pm

October 16, B'reisheet 5:56 pm

October 23, Noach 5:46 pm

October 30, Lech L'cha 5:36 pm



# SUSTAINING MEMBERS

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE FAMILIES WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT  
BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM BY PARTICIPATING IN ONE OF  
THE BELOW LEVELS OF SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP:



*Charlotte Barbach*

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*Brooke Einhorn*

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*B'RACHA IS A BLESSING*

## *B'racha*

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FRAN & JEFF ROWBOTTOM

ANDY SCHECHTER

& SHARI SLAVIN

MICHELLE & RANDY SHERRY

RUTH & STU TURNER

*TZEDEK MEANS  
RIGHTEOUSNESS*

## *Tzedek*

ALISON & NORMAN AXELROD

SANDY & BILL ARLINGTON

ELYSE VICTOR -BERMAN  
& JOE BERMAN

MELISSA & ERB COOPER

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DEBORAH & JEFF KLEIN

ARLENE & RICH MANDEL

JENNIFER & RON MANDLER

EVELYN & JIM MCGILLOWAY

LAURA & MITCHELL MILLER

PHIL MOSS

ROBBY & EDDIE SAIFF

GAYLE & STEVEN WEISS

MARCI & HARVEY WEINBERG

*“Alone we can do so little;  
Together we can do so much.”*

*-Helen Keller*

# September Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday 1	Wednesday 2	Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5
		7:30 pm Ritual	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Ki Tavo 10 am Addyson Wachtel 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Office Closed	7:30 pm Exec Comm 7:30 pm MMG	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	N'tzavim/ Vayelech 10 am Abbie Torrente 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10 am Ella Selfon 2 pm Sis'hood Event		7:30 pm Board Mtg.	7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm via Livestream Erev Rosh Hashanah	Rosh Hashanah check your HHD cards or TT for schedule
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
2nd day Rosh Hashanah 9:15 am via Livestream		7:30 pm Music Comm.	7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Ha-azinu 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
27	28	29	30			
Kol Nidre 7:30 pm via Livestream	Office Closed Yom Kippur check your HHD cards or TT for schedule		7:30 pm Adult Choir			



# October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
					6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service Erev Sukkot	Sukkot 10 am Emily Levin 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 12:30 pm Parking Lot Jam w/Cantor Josh	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm	7:30 pm Adult Choir	7:30 pm Sis'hood Social Justice Event	7:30 pm Tefilot Erev Simchat Torah via Zoom	Sh'mini Atzeret 10 am Abby Weintraub
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
No School 9 am Simchat Torah Yizkor 1 pm Ashley Ehrlich	No School	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Exec Comm 7:30 pm MMG	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	B'reisheet 10 am Justin Silver & Wade Mendel 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Noach 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Music Comm.	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	Lech L'cha 10 am Avery Roberts 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom

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



### **Addyson Wachtel – September 5, 2020**

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Kacey, Father, Matthew, Brother, Noah, 14 ..... is an 8th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School ..... Her interests include writing, drawing, music, and cheer. “I want to be a profiler or a writer. I feel it has been a challenge getting ready for my bat mitzvah because we have been in quarantine, but I am looking forward to this accomplishment. I’m holding a book drive to collect and donate books to underprivileged children.”



### **Emily Levin – October 3, 2020**

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Liz, Father, Jeffrey, Brother, Matthew, 10 ..... is an 8th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... Her interests include being active, going to sleep away camp, and hanging out with friends. “I want to be a surgeon. I am excited to become a bat mitzvah!”



### **Abbie Torrente – September 12, 2020**

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Jill, Father, Chris, Brother, Jack, 15, Sister, Madison, 10 ..... is an 8th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... Her interests include traveling, acting, and spending time with family and friends. “I would like to become an actress. I am excited to experience this important and memorable occasion with my family and friends. When the pandemic passes and the world allows, I look forward to working with my local acting studio to coordinate a fundraiser for children with disabilities.”



### **Abby Weintraub – October 10, 2020**

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Leslie, Father, David, brother, Jason, 11 ..... is an 8th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School ..... Her interests include spending time with family and friends, summer camp, and dance. “When I grow up, I would like to be a psychologist. I am very excited to spend this special day with the people I love the most. I am volunteering for Mahwah All Stars, a program designed for special needs children.”



### **Ella Selfon – September 13, 2020**

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Laurie, Father, Marc, Brother, Zachary, 15 ..... is an 8th 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 cleanups.”



### **Ashley Ehrlich – October 11, 2020**

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Erika, Father, Bryan, Brother, Hunter, 11 ..... is an 8th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ..... Her interests include hanging out with friends and family, and exercising with friends. “I would like to become an interior designer. I have participated in giving back to others through Project NEST and collecting art supplies for children in need to participate in art classes in New York City.”

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



### **Justin Silver – October 17, 2020**

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Roni, Father, Andrew, Brother, Billy, 15, Sister, Eliana, 8 ..... is an 8th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... His interests include basketball and golf. "I'd like to be a lawyer. I feel excited because I will be trusted to do more things. I volunteer for the Vincent Crotty Foundation, helping set up and clean up fundraising events. I also volunteer at the local basketball clinics, working with kindergarteners, first, and second graders."



### **Wade Mendel – October 17, 2020**

Lives in Ramsey, New Jersey. Mother, Dori, Father, Mat, Sister, Jaye, 10 ..... is a 7th grader at Smith Middle School ..... His interests include acting, singing, cooking, playing the saxophone, and video games. "When I get older, I would like to do something in the creative field, like acting or video gaming. I feel grateful that my family and friends will be able to see me become a bar mitzvah. I will be raising funds and supplies for the Montville Animal Shelter. This is special to me because we adopted our cat from there and I would like to give back."



### **Avery Roberts – October 31, 2020**

Lives in New City, New York. Mother, Mindy, Father, John, Brother, Alex, 9 ..... is a 7th grader at Felix Festa Middle School ..... Her interests include dance, art, singing, cooking/baking, technology/social media. "I want to be an advocate and to influence and help people in many ways. I feel excited and nervous at the same time but I know I will do great! I raised awareness and funds for a financial assistance program supporting rare disease families during the COVID-19 pandemic."

## Cantor's Transition Committee

Our congregation has done a great job welcoming Cantor Josh and his family to BHSS! From a welcome caravan lining our driveway to home-cooked Shabbat dinners, to a car tour of Mahwah to Zoom meetings with various groups, and now live Shabbat services, each encounter fosters another chance for connection.

Our July outdoor concert was a huge success! Cantor Josh, Jane Koch, Brian Muni, Rick Cohen and Hank Bordowitz put on a fantastic show with a wide range of music from David Bowie to Leonard Cohen to Wilco and a traditional Yiddish song - something for everyone! The ice cream truck

started off the night, Havdalah ended a beautiful summer evening. But the real treat was seeing everyone, masked, but in person!

Look for more opportunities coming your way to meet with Cantor Josh. We are here to make that possible. Please contact us if you would like more information.

We wish you and yours a Happy and Healthy New Year!

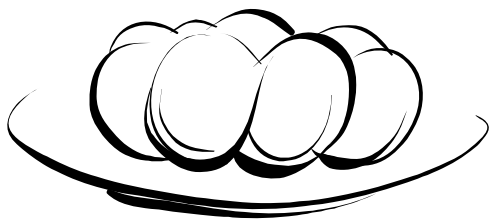
Nora Berger and Eric Einhorn  
Committee Chairs

## Shanah Tovah

*Shanah Tovah.* One of my favorite High Holy Days rituals is serving as an usher to greet congregants and guests as they arrive for services. I get to see everyone and catch up before services start. My husband thinks I volunteer just so I can talk in the lobby. While I won't have the opportunity to greet you in person, I will still be sending you wishes for a sweet new year, but now they will be online.

Even though services will look different this year, at the core we will still have all the beautiful rituals you have come to love at BHSS. The Ritual Committee has been working closely with Rabbi Ilana and Cantor Josh to create meaningful services and using technology to bring us together. You will see a combination of practices we've been doing for years and new approaches to ancient rituals.

We are proud to continue a tradition of lay Torah and haftarah chanters. You will hear the hard work put in by our students and adults throughout the year to learn their parsha. How will you make the holidays special? I plan to wear my "holiday" clothes to services, I'll make my famous brisket (well, it's actually my friend Susan's recipe) and I'll bake round challah. This year the holidays will be different but they will be special.



**Looking for a fun way to learn?  
Check out [www.BimBam.com](http://www.BimBam.com)**

BimBam uses digital storytelling to spark connections to Judaism for learners of all ages. Categories include Kids & Family, Judaism 101, and Torah & Texts

## Round Challah

It is customary on Rosh Hashanah to make the blessing over round loaves, symbolizing the circle of life and the revolving seasons. And because we hope that the coming year will be a sweet one, the bread is customarily sweetened with raisins and drizzled honey

Before partaking of the meal, one recites *Hamotzi*, the blessing over bread. The text of the *Hamotzi* on Rosh Hashanah is exactly the same as the text on Shabbat:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם הַמּוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן  
הָאָרֶץ

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who has brought forth bread from the earth.

*Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, hamotzi lechem min ha'aretz.*

Many people have taken up baking during their time at home this year. Maybe this is the year you start a new tradition with your family for the holidays and bake homemade challah. There are many good sources for recipes if you don't have a treasured family recipe. Be sure to sweeten your challah by adding raisins and dipping in honey.

Here's just a few websites I use to find Jewish recipes:  
Joy of Kosher  
Tori Avery  
What Jew Wanna Eat  
Food Network/Girl Meets Farm and My name is Yeh  
Check out YouTube to watch braiding and shaping techniques.

In addition to baking challah this year, perhaps you can learn how to make other family favorites. Do you know the secrets to Grandma's brisket or why Aunt Pearl's kugel is so creamy? This is the year to try a classic or add new recipes to your family celebration.



# Sisterhood News

Ok, who wants their money back on 2020? Between the heat and the long, long “Groundhog Days,” everyone’s been on her last nerve. Sisterhood felt it too, and in June, we took matters into our own hands. Sisterhood’s Kindness Chain was a “novel” idea (isn’t it great to see that word NOT connected to coronavirus?) created by some of the Sisters. It let us do good for others, while we did good for ourselves, too. Everyone who wanted to participate contributed \$5 to a donation for the Center for Food Action. Shortly afterwards, you received a name—your Sisterhood Kindness Recipient! On the weekend of June 27-28, at your assigned time, you gave your SKR a gift. Some sent food, some sent wine, some sent flowers—but everyone got a socially-distant chance to brighten someone else’s day. The CFA got a healthy donation. And wow, was that something that felt GOOD!

We’ve been busy this summer, too, planning for this new (and hopefully better) year. We hope you took the opportunity to celebrate the New Year with friends and family by supporting our Honey Sale. The proceeds from the sale help us to be able to support the congregation in the ways you’ve come to count on, be it kiddush cups or camperships.

Did you attend our kickoff event on August 20, a virtual challah-baking lesson, led by Stacey Coyne? While our *challot* were busy rising and baking, we learned about Rosh Chodesh Elul from our Educator-in-Chief, Rebecca McVeigh. Informative and delicious—what could be better than that?

Later this fall, we will join with BHSSTY for a virtual scavenger hunt! Teams will compete to see who can find the most items in their own homes or neighborhoods. Watch your emails and the BHSS Bulletin Board for more info.

October will bring a Zoom discussion on racial justice and our responsibilities as Jewish women to do *tikkun olam*, (repairing the world.) Led by Amy Littman, the evening promises to be spirited and eye-opening. More information will follow by email and the weekly bulletin.

Other events are in the works, as we see how the gathering rules develop, but know that in the meantime, Sisterhood continues to support our members and our community in ways large and small.

Do you have a great idea? We’d love to hear about it. Your first step is to join Sisterhood when you renew your BHSS membership this fall.

Remember: A strong woman stands up for herself. A stronger woman stands up for everybody else!

Mona Sussman & Linda Vogel



## Where?

- LS Live Stream
- IP In Person at BHSS
- ZM Via Zoom

## High Holiday Services 5781 with BHSS

### Rosh Hashanah

<b>September 18</b>	<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah</b>	7:30 pm	<b>LS</b>
<b>September 19</b>	<b>Rosh Hashanah - Day 1</b>	9:15 am	<b>LS</b>
	Family Services	1:00-1:45 pm	<b>LS</b>
	Tashlich	2:00-2:30 pm	<b>IP</b>
<b>September 20</b>	<b>Rosh Hashanah - Day 2</b>	9:15 am	<b>LS</b>

### Yom Kippur

<b>September 27</b>	<b>Kol Nidre</b>	7:30pm	<b>LS</b>
<b>September 28</b>	<b>Yom Kippur</b>		
	Morning Service	9:15 am	<b>LS</b>
	Food drop off & drive up at BHSS	12:00-1:30 pm	<b>IP</b>
	<i>Feed the hungry, feed the soul</i>		
	Healing Service	1:00-1:45 pm	<b>ZM</b>
	Family Services	2:00-2:45 pm	<b>LS</b>
	Study Sessions	2:00-3:30 pm	<b>ZM</b>
	Yizkor (in person for those who have had a loss within their immediate family this year)	3:30-4:15 pm	<b>LS</b>
	Mincha (afternoon service)	4:30 pm	<b>LS</b>
	Neilah	6:15 pm	<b>LS</b>

## Michelle Mitzvah Group

*"Man plans, God laughs."* We have all heard this Yiddish proverb. While I am working from home, and watching CMT Music, one video, *Catch* by Brett Young, fades to black with this saying. Today, while living through this pandemic, no matter what we plan, everything is predicated with a disclaimer, "conditions permitting." Regardless of conditions, Michelle Mitzvah Group continues to persevere and help out the community. And if adjustments need to be made, well, we'll make them.

Here are some quick updates regarding a few of our initiatives. First, due to virtual High Holidays, the **Center for Food Action** van will not be at the synagogue. According to their website, and upon calling their number, CFA is currently not accepting food donations. They are currently asking for monetary donations and you can donate via <https://www.cfanj.org/>.

**Oasis, A Haven for Women & Children**, continues to provide much needed assistance, with limited resources. Pre-pandemic, hot meals were served inside. It still amazes me how they are able to serve about 200 lunches a day for less than \$1 a meal. Now, it's "grab-n-go." In addition, they continue to provide food bags and baby items to families in need. As the school year approaches, they have 64 children registered for their "After-School Academy," and are moving forward with onsite and virtual ESL classes. With all the work

they do, they continue to need volunteers, please contact them via <https://oasisnj.org/volunteer>

**The Suffern Soup Kitchen** is always looking for volunteers to support our neighbors in need. Every Sunday, meals are provided at the Christ Episcopal Church to help their feeding ministry. Early on, during Covid-19, the demand increased, and we responded by increasing the meals provided, to meet demand. As some of the restrictions have eased, the demand and the number of meals have returned to previous levels, and so we have adjusted accordingly. Now, we need your help to fill out the schedule and provide the meals. Please contact Steven Simon for any questions.

As school starts, in person or most likely, virtual, and the High Holiday season is upon us, regardless of conditions, I will leave you with two Tim McGraw songs that provide everyday advice, and failure to comply, well, means a lot to atone for. The first song, *"I Called Mama."* The second, *"(Always be) Humble & Kind."*

Shanah Tovah!

Steven Simon  
Michelle Mitzvah Chair  
Cell: 201 788-6755,  
Email: [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net)

## Education Committee

Happy Fall from the Education Committee! While things may not look the same this fall in terms of religious school, regular school, services, or, well, life, we would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back!

We understand things are different, and different is sometimes uncomfortable, weird, and even frightening. But, on behalf of the Education Committee and the amazing staff of our religious school, I want to assure you that we are committed to making sure that ALL the BHSS students have a meaningful and enriching Jewish experience this year.

As I'm sure you've seen, religious school will look a little different this fall and winter ... as will all of our lives.

However, we are all very excited to see what incredible learning opportunities the teachers and Mrs. McVeigh have planned for our children.

As always, please reach out to me or any of the Education Committee members with any questions or concerns you have. We are all in this together, taking it day by day, and we are happy to help with any issues that may arise.

*L'shanah Tovah* and welcome back!

Sincerely,  
Lauren Einhorn, Chair, Education Committee

## *Good & Welfare* from & for the congregation

### *Condolences to:*

**Howard Kirzner** on the death of his mother, Sarah “Sue” Kirzner

**Corey Mitnick** on the death of his father, Donald Mitnick

*R’fuah Sh’leimah*

(For a full and speed recovery)

**Helene Yagoda**

### *Mazal Tov*

to **Rod and Rebecca McVeigh** on the birth of their granddaughter, Quinn

### *Welcome New Members*

**Adam and Julie Kaufman** – Ridgewood, NJ

**Helene Yagoda** – Mahwah, NJ

**Brian and Jennifer Waldbaum and family** – Upper Saddle River, NJ

**Randy and Carly Levine and family** – Woodcliff Lake, NJ

**Noel and Allison Hirsch and family** – Airmont, NY

**Tom and Beth Ruggiero and family** – Airmont, NY



A warm BHSS  
“Welcome to the Family”  
to **Cantor Josh, his wife,  
Emily Barth and children  
Sophia and Jakob!**

# Brotherhood

L'Shanah Tovah!

This year presents many difficulties and challenges, but also some unique opportunities.

These days, it is more important than ever to connect any way you can with your community. BHSS Brotherhood offers regular Zoom meetings (and soon enough, in person) as a welcoming, safe and fun environment to spend time with friends, exchange ideas, or just to express yourself in a non-judgmental environment.

There are a lot of things that Brotherhood normally does that will have to be canceled or postponed or just look much different for safety's sake...Monthly dinners and raps, building of the sukkah, Pizza in the Hut, annual Chanukah party...don't know what 2021 will bring...perhaps no Men's seder, or baseball game at the Rockland Boulders...

Nevertheless, we will continue to be creative and to find new ways to connect.

As ever, BHSS Brotherhood is here...making the world just a little better, one mitzvah at a time.

We usually meet via Zoom on the third Thursday of every month...come join us, get onto our e-mail list, like us on Facebook...come check us out.

May this New Year bring us joy, peace, and a little bit more clarity.

L'Shalom!

Sincerely,

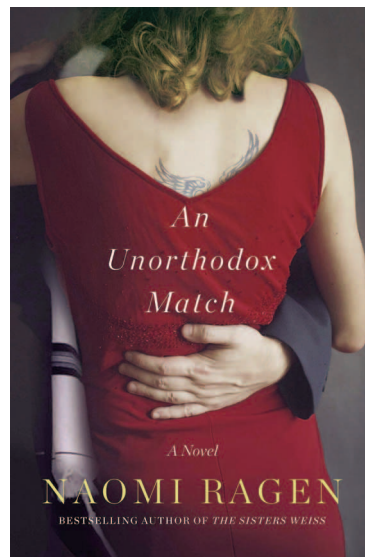
Jonathan, Erb, Ian, Allan and Rod –  
Legion of Past Presidents (and one Treasurer)

# From the *Sifriyah*

We've all become familiar with this terminology: wash your hands, stay 6 feet apart, wear your mask, etc. And we Library Ladies have taken these words to heart. But we have all added a second approach, one that strengthens us as a group. We meet through Zoom for lively chatting and even some library business. See below. This gives us a break from ordinary in-house activities. We hope you also have been well and safe and even visited with others via Zoom.

We have happily shared our favorites with congregants in the synagogue weekly announcements. Just to remind you of these gems, please note selections from our **BHSS Best Ever List**.

*A Place for Us* (Mirza), *The Things We Do for Love* (Hannah), *Friends and Strangers* (Sullivan), *The Third Daughter* (Carner), *Where the Crawdads Sing* (Owens), *Lucky Boy* (Shanthi), *American Dirt* (Cummins), *The New Husband* (Palmer), *An Unorthodox Match* (Ragen), *Lady In the Lake* (Lippman), *A Long Petal of the Sea* (Allende), and *The Red Address Book* (Lundberg).



Please let us know if you have read any of these books. And if you wish to add to our Best Ever List, please contact the office. Hopefully, this is an offer you cannot refuse.

In light of the Black Lives Matter movement, several of our Library Ladies have viewed webinars on Jews of Color. Interestingly enough, a recent study estimated that there are between 12-15%

of American Jews who are Jews of Color. These statistics suggest that this number is likely to increase in the future. We need more than ever to think of ourselves as a diverse population. Just a thought...as we pursue Jewish literature.

Stay safe and stay well.



# BHSS Youth Groups



Hello! If we haven't met yet, we are Rebeca Berger and Samantha Spencer and we are your new Co-Directors of Informal Youth Programming. We are both BHSS alumni—we both became Bat Mitzvah here, graduated from Kadimah and were past youth group presidents. We also are now both teachers in BHSS' religious school. You can read more about us here: [bethhaverim.org/youth-groups/](http://bethhaverim.org/youth-groups/)

Sam is serving as the lead advisor for our senior youth group (grades 9-12), Rebeca is spearheading the junior youth group (grades 6-8), and together we are facilitating programming for the Menschmakers (grades 3 – 5).

Now enough about us...on to you! We're working hard with our youth group boards, enthusiastic members and parents to plan another year of fun, with both a combination of virtual and (hopefully) in-person events. We are kicking the year off with our Virtual Scavenger Hunt in partnership with Sisterhood! It is great to see all three of our youth groups come together for an afternoon of schmoozing and scavenging.

There are so many different avenues we can use to connect, and we are doing our best to keep our typical cadence of monthly events for our junior and senior youth groups, and bimonthly events for our Menschmakers. Especially during these troubling times, we understand and value the importance of a Jewish community, and it's important for our youth to know they have this outlet too.

At this time, we'd like to introduce you to your 2020-21 BHSSTY Board:

Co-Presidents – Tai Weiss and Jason Ritchin

Social Action Vice President: Max Pavon

Religious & Cultural Vice Presidents:

Brian Ritchin & Jacob Graham-Bialer

Membership Vice President: Leah Wolf

Treasurer: Luke Savoy

Secretary: Tyler Grobman

Special Events Coordinators:

Robin Falkow and Heather Romoff

We would love to have you join us at one of our upcoming events! Look out for emails, social media posts, and website updates for more information about what's coming up and how you can get involved. Speaking of which, become a member of the youth group here: [bethhaverim.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/YGForm2021FILL.pdf](http://bethhaverim.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/YGForm2021FILL.pdf)

Hope we get the chance to see you soon! If you have any ideas for events or just want to chat, you can reach us at [bhssyouth@gmail.com](mailto:bhssyouth@gmail.com).

Thanks to all for welcoming us into our new roles! We are excited for the year to come and wish you all a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Rebeca and Sam

# Contributions

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

in memory of Stanley and Marilyn Moser

- Lori & Ritch Yanowitz  
- Michelle & Randy Sherry  
- Ariela Wichler

in memory of Sylvia Kadish

- Sharon Berman

with thanks for your time

- Linda Gottlieb

in memory of Fred Wichler

- Ariela Wichler

with love and appreciation

- Brittany & Aaron Punim

with thanks and in memory of Sue Kirzner

- Leslie & Howard Kirzner

in memory of Ruth Silverman

- Judy & John Neumann

with much appreciation and thanks, and in memory of  
our parents Marilyn and Stanley Moser

- Gail & Ranan Wichler, Niles & Jennifer Moser,  
Elena & Janet

in memory of Otto Tuteur

- Sheri & Allan Schott

in memory of William Kaplan

- Alison & Norman Axelrod

in memory of Saul Lessen

- Sheila & Larry Groskin

in memory of Stanley and Marilyn Moser

- The Wichler Family  
- Ilyse & Floyd Smith  
- Lisa Lamster  
- Judy Teich & Lois Schwartz  
- Barbara & Charles Burghardt  
- Laurie & Marc Daniel  
- Shari Slavin & Andy Schechter  
- Jill & Bill Pearlman  
- Marci & Harvey Weinberg  
- Candy & Mike Kassover  
- Alison & Norman Axelrod  
- Ruth & Stu Turner  
- Jen & Matt Cole  
- Lisa & Ken Glick  
- Leslie & Howard Kirzner  
- Deborah, Brice, Scott, & Sherri Gunther  
- Dede & Rick Levine

## Cantor's Discretionary Fund:

Welcome Cantor Josh!

- Lisa Barrack

with thanks for everything the BHSS has done  
during the health crisis

- Robby & Eddie Saiff

in memory of William Reitzfeld

- Joel Goldfarb

## Educator's Discretionary Fund

to Rebecca and Rod McVeigh, mazel tov on the  
arrival of Quinn Kaylee

- Lisa Barrack

to Bambi and Paul Epstein, with love and thanks  
for all the support and help!

- Irma Becker

to Corey Mitnick and family, in memory of  
Donald Mitnick

- Leslie & Howie Kirzner  
- Jane Simon  
- Candy & Mike Kassover

in memory of Joel Becker

- Irma Becker

in honor of Allison Mandel's engagement

- Arlene & Rich Mandel

## Life Fund

in memory of Katherine Towell and Robert Towell

- Lisa Barrack

in memory of Gertrude Klein and Noah Mandel

- Arlene & Rich Mandel

# Contributions

to Arlene and Rich Mandel, in honor of Allison's marriage to Ken Dunphy - *Linda & Ed Vogel*

to Nancy and Al Levene, Mazel Tov on David's marriage - *Candy & Mike Kassover*  
- *Lisa Barrack*

in memory of Joseph Cliff and William Weinberg - *Joyce & Stephen Weinberg*

in memory of Leslie Creamer - *Joel Goldfarb*

in memory of Leonid Kissin - *Irina & Yair Kissin*

to Bonnie Caul, with thanks for your help - *Lisa Lamster*

to Cantor Perper, with much love and wishes for lots of luck in your new home! - *Lisa Barrack*

in commemoration of the yahrzeits of Rose Zahm and Harry Meyers - *Pearl & Bob Meyers*

in memory of Charles and Betty Sankel - *Sheryl & Joel Ives*

in memory of Harriet Gordon and Werner Schott - *Sheri & Allan Schott*

to Leslie and Howard Kirzner, in memory of Sue Kirzner - *Gail Wichler & Ranan Wichler*  
- *Marci & Harvey Weinberg*  
- *Sheri & Allan Schott*  
- *Candy & Mike Kassover*  
- *Barbara Lacher & Anton Vlahovic*  
- *Mona & Jeff Lefkowitz*

in memory of Romola Kaplan - *Meryle & Len Kaplan*

in memory of Rhea Goldfarb - *Joel Goldfarb*

in memory of Lee Johnson, Jerome Johnson and Esther Senzel - *Sue-Ellen Johnson*

to Lisa Lamster, with love and appreciation - *Janice Smith*

in memory of Ethel Pesin - *Phil Moss*

in memory of Brian Brandremer - *Paula & Mel Tenenbaum*

to Lori Bregman and Wendy Iodice, in memory of their father Jeff Amsel - *Barbara & Charles Burghardt*

in honor of Harvey Weinberg's birthday - *Paula & Hank Harmon*

in memory of Margot Charne - *Karen & George Charne*

In memory of Edith and Morris Roth - *Sandra & Bob Jeanette*

in memory of our dear beloved Jase Barrack - *Joyce & Herb Barrack*

in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Jonathan Theodore's grandparents - *Lauren, Jonathan, & Annabel Theodore*

## Michelle Mitzvah Group

in honor of the College graduation of Steven Chakonis, Michael Lipson, and Conor Monchek - *Lisa Barrack*

to Stacey and Ian Coyne, in honor of their kindness - *Kathy & Howard Zukof*



## September Yahrzeits

HELEN ALLMAN	BURT ERLMAN	NATHAN KUSHER	ETHEL SALTZMAN
CAROLINE ALPERT	MONA FINKELSTEIN	SANFORD LASK	LILLIAN K. SEILER
FLORENCE ARFIN	MILDRED FONDILLER	DINA LEITNER	IRWIN SELMAN
IRVING ARFIN	DOUGLAS FREEMAN	DONALD LEOPOLD	HARRIET SHRENSEL
JOEL BECKER	MOLLIE GARBUS	JOSEPH LETCHER	MARION SILVER
JACK BERENS	HARVEY GELFENBEIN	JULIUS LEVINE	RICHARD SILVERMAN
PHILLIP BLACKMAN	LINDA GOLDFARB	IRVING LICHTENFELD	PAULINE SMITH
GUSSIE BLUMENFELD	LLOYD GOLDFARB	ESTHER LONOW	REBECCA STONE
EDITH BLUMENTHAL	MUTTLE GORDON	DOROTHY LORANGER	JEAN TRIEBITZ
JOSEPH CHERTOFF	BARRY GREENE	PAUL MANDEL	CELIA TURNER
MARION COHEN	MORTON GREENE	MAGGIE McVEIGH	JACK TURNER
MARK COHEN	SYLVIA BARISH GROSCHIN	MILTON MILLER	ESTELE WEINBERG
BUDDY COLEMAN	ABE HYMOWITZ	VIVIAN MITTLEMAN	BENJAMIN WEINER
AARON HARRY CRAMER	BENJAMIN JACOBS	ESTHER MOSS	RUTH WEISKOP
SIDNEY DEMSKY	GERTRUDE JEANETTE	JONAS PALANT	MARCIA WITT
FRANCES DUCHARME	HOWARD KAPLAN	CYNTHIA PETERLIN	PINYA YANTYFOVICH
JOYCE EISENBERG	ROBERT KASSOVER	NANCY PIVAR	CHARLES YOUNG
FRANTISEK LEOPOLD	FRANCES KATZ	JACOB ROBINOVITZ	DANIEL ZAHM
EISENGER	FANNIE KURSMAN	URI RUDACH	

## Community Garden

It was a hot and dry summer after a cold and wet spring. Our spring harvest was impacted by the cold weather; however, we did get a late spring crop of peas and kale. The summer harvest includes zucchini, tomatoes, cukes, beans, okra, kale, Swiss chard, and green peppers. Our volunteers brought their crops to area food banks and soup kitchens and were received gratefully. The vegetables brought to the soup kitchen in Suffern were the only produce they got!

Thank you to Ruth, Rebecca, Kathy, Harold and Jonathan for your hard work.

Next year we hope to add mulch to control weeds, fix the sprinkler heads, and replace the timer that controls the water supply. Donations welcome!

Our fall garden will be planted in the next week, as summer seems to have flown. Kale, chard, and other cold weather

plants will be harvested around the New Year.

If you have a desire to join our group, please let me know.

Jill Blum





## October Yahrzeits

STEVEN ABEL	AUDREY GOLDEN	LINDA LENCHNER	HERB SIEGEL
FLORENCE ASHKANAZY	MORRIS GOODMAN	HATTIE LEVY	ISIDOR ROBERT SIEGEL
LWRENCE ATLAS	MAX GRANAT	THERESA MCFADDEN	SELMA KLEINER SIEGEL
DOROTHY AUERBACH	BILL GREEN	ROSLYN MILLMAN	JULIA SIMON
ADELE AXELROD	CINDY BUCHALTER	CEIL MOSER	JACK SPRUNG
SANDY BERNSTEIN	FANNIE GRUBMAN	BARBARA MOSKOWITZ	MORTON STEIN
BENJAMIN BLUMENFELD	FRANCINE HELLERMAN	BOB NISENBAUM	ERIC STEINMAN
DAVID BLUMENTHAL	SARAH ISKOWITZ	HERMAN OSHEROWITZ	DORA THEODORE
PNINA BORNSTEIN	BERTHA IESRAEL	BENJAMIN PEARLMAN	WALTER TITCOMB
BEATRICE BURGHARDT	GRETA ISRAEL	IRVING POSNER	WILLIAM WALDBAUM
CECILE BYALICK	RICHARD JANSEN	IDA RAPPAPORT	STEVEN WEIN
LEWIS BYNE	SAMUEL KAPLAN	AL ROSENBLATT	ROSA WEINBERG
MARGOT CHARNE	SEYMOUR KIRZNER	JOSEPH ROSSANT	CHARLES WEISKOP
ALLEN EISENSTEIN	ALBERT KLEIN	MARTIN ROTH	JOSEPH WENIG
ISOBEL EPSTEIN	LEOPOLD KLEIN	LILLIAN SAULT	JULIUS WICHLER
BERNICE FISHKIN	ISRAEL SAMUEL KRIEDEL	PHIL SCHOENFELD	ABRAHAM WIESNER
EDITH FRANK	BENJAMIN LASS	ANNELIESE SCHOTT	MILT ZAHM
CHARLOTTE FREDERICKS	DALIA LEIBOWITZ	JESS SHIRVAN	SARA ZINN
RALPH GILBERT	HARVEY LENCHNER	DOROTHY SICHELMAN	

## Notes from Music

Hello everyone!

Happy and healthy New Year to you and your family from mine and the Music Committee! This year the Music Committee will be working closely with Cantor Josh to develop programs that showcase his extensive musical repertoire. Of course, we also must take into account the ever-changing landscape of Covid-19. Cantor Josh is already doing Facebook Live segments every other Sunday night. We had a wonderful outdoor, socially distant, concert with Cantor Josh, Jane Koch, Brian Muni, Rick Cohen and Hank Bordowitz in July. So, look out for other formats and venues to enjoy the musical experience. Do you have suggestions for what you would like to see or hear? I would love to hear from you at [niberger@aol.com](mailto:niberger@aol.com).

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; neither is musical talent. Come see what we are about. All are welcome!

Musically yours,  
Nora Berger

## 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 very grateful.

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 - whether it be cooking a meal, donating restaurant gift cards, or calling to follow up on our more vulnerable members. You would be surprised at how much you get back from devoting a little time to a simple phone call to check in on someone who is not feeling well or who is simply lonely.

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)).

# Tot Shabbat



Get ready to  
welcome  
Cantor Josh to  
TOT SHABBAT  
this fall!

Watch your  
BHSS emails  
for more  
information.

## Social Action

*L'Shanah Tovah!* May we have a sweet and blessed New Year, and a meaningful fast. Every year, it is important to reflect on the year past...and years past...and atone for negative behavior, actions and inactions, and deeds and misdeeds. None of us are perfect because humans are fallible.

It seems a bit different this year...however.

This year – 2020 – it seems as though everything has come to a head. August 18, 2020 represents 100 years since the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, granting women the right to vote in the United States. It wasn't until only 55 years ago, 1965, when women of color achieved the right to vote through the Civil Rights Act.

We are BHSS Social Action, and we are here to make a difference. BHSS Social Action, right now is looking at two different things...**VOTER REGISTRATION** and **SOCIAL INJUSTICE**...100 years after the Women's Suffrage amendment, and a mere 55 years after the Civil Rights act in a country that is 244 years old, it is important for us to recognize that the freedom to vote is what makes us American.

BHSS Social Action is working on putting together programming to welcome the entire congregation to come check us out. We offer panel discussions, collaboration with library committee for select books and movies and speakers, collaboration with BHSS Youth, BHSS Brotherhood, BHSS Sisterhood, Michelle Mitzvah, and all other groups within the congregation to come, make a difference, share your feelings, thoughts and opinions in a safe and respectful environment.

These are unprecedented times. BHSS Social Action is presenting opportunities to grow, learn and take the initiative to really make a difference in our community, our congregation and our lives.

We learn about ourselves, learn about others in a safe and welcoming environment. Come and embrace Tikkun Olam; let us heal the world together!

Meetings are held on or about the last Tuesday of every month with additional meetings and events as necessary.

Thank you all!

Sincerely,  
Jonathan Theodore and Lisa Estrin, Co-Chairs

# 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!



# BHSS Religious School FAQs

*FAQs specific to either K-6 or Kadimah can be found after item #8*

## **What is the schedule of my child's classes?**

Please see the end of these FAQs for that information.

### ***1. Why did you make a decision to go completely remote so much earlier than the public schools made their plans?***

With the health and well-being of our students, your families, your extended families, and our teachers in mind, we knew that we would not be able to return to the building in a fashion that would promote community among all the children in a particular grade, for the fall season. You have enough uncertainty in your life right now; we were ready to give you the certainty of Jewish online learning.

### ***2. Why is school starting so late? Does it have anything to do with the virus?***

The school calendar was established and voted on by the Education Committee over a month before the quarantine started, taking the High Holidays into consideration. Because Memorial Day is "late" this year we have extra time in May. The total number of sessions of school is the same as this past year.

### ***3. My kid(s) are already doing so much online, I want to give them a break!***

We know how challenging online learning is. We also wish we could give students a break from screen time. Given what's going on in the world today, it becomes even more important that your child(ren) have the opportunity for Jewish community, consideration of big ideas, and a boost to their Jewish identities. This is the time to make sure your student(s) have the support of their teachers and BHSS.

### ***4. I'm worried my child will be bored. How can you keep them engaged?***

As is our goal when we are in the building, we will include different modalities to present content, ranging from videos to games to having students stand up and participate in a short "scavenger hunt" to find something relevant to the topic, to giving each child the opportunity to teach (share

their knowledge or experiences with their classmates) to using our breakout room capability for small group discussion. This past spring we only scratched the surface of ideas that are available.

### ***5. With all the uncertainty in my child's life, I worry that they are not being able to make connections with other children in the current atmosphere. How will you address this?***

We start and end every session with "how are you?" and each child has a chance to share. In addition, there will be time for our students to engage with each other in an informal atmosphere.

### ***6. What if my child has a disability that limits how much they can really absorb with remote learning?***

Please, by all means, get in touch with our Director of Education Rebecca McVeigh to discuss how we can supplement your child's remote learning with private or semi-private brief, socially distanced, sessions in our building.

### ***7. What will happen in January?***

We'd like to give you an answer, but we do not know. We will continue to assess the safety and efficacy of different options. When we know the best course of action, we will communicate quickly and clearly with you.

### ***8. Does this mean there will be no group school programming in the building at all from October through December?***

We are looking at the possibility of a grade-level *t'filah* for you to attend with your child, for one example. (All programming would be for the child and an adult.) Please let Rebecca McVeigh know if this is something you would be interested in.



## FAQs Specific to K-6

### **I worry about Hebrew, in particular. How can my child's teacher listen to them practice in the short time they are in remote learning?**

As we did to great success this past spring, each Hebrew teacher will be scheduling 10-minute PRIVATE sessions with your child to listen to them and to assist them individually. Families have found this valuable as nobody needs to wait their turn to read in class. Up until now, that has been done via FaceTime or Zoom or by phone, but if your child needs in-person Hebrew assistance, we will find a way to make that happen. The Hebrew portion of class time in weekly remote learning will be devoted to introducing new material and review.

### **Will I need to print all of my child's study materials, like I did this past spring?**

You will be able to pick up (contact-free) tote bags customized for each grade that include textbooks and other learning materials that your child will need for school through December, including something fun for Chanukah. Also included will be (for the younger children especially) a set of crayons and a glue bottle or glue stick, depending on what the teachers are planning.

### **What if I don't have time to really help my child with complicated projects, or to monitor them when they're in class?**

Any craft we include will be able to be done by the child alone. Once they log in to class, our teachers are responsible for them and will handle questions and provide technical support to the extent that they are able.

### **The students used to have *t'filah*, and music. What will happen to those?**

As you may know, singing is particularly difficult to teach/lead remotely. BUT Cantor Josh will be offering a *t'filah* (prayer service) every other week, as a part of class time, that will include music so that the students will be able to pray and sing along. (All the words they need will be on the screen.) He will also do some simple music sessions with the younger students. You can look forward to hearing your child(ren) praying and singing with their screen.

### **How will attendance be handled?**

School Assistant Laura Miller will be at each session for grades 3 through 7 at the start of class to take attendance, and the teachers will confirm with her after class. In addition to the weekly and daily reminders of class login information, we will continue to alert you as quickly as we can if your child is not in class (and you have not told us ahead of time) so that they can still log in. For private Hebrew sessions, although

attendance will not be taken, understand that your child's progress depends on regular check-ins and that our teachers do everything they can to schedule sessions that work for you, so please be mindful of their time as well.

## FAQs Specific to Kadimah

### **How will Kadimah work online?**

We will break the hour-long sessions into four sections: core learning, peer socialization, electives, and *t'filah* with Cantor Josh and Rabbi Ilana. We will keep things clear and concise while maintaining depth of learning and we plan for both best uses of screens (like virtual tours and distance interviews) and some time away from the screen (like alef-bet yoga).

### **What's happening with Confirmation?**

When it is safe to celebrate our Confirmands in the building with their friends and family there, we will celebrate their continued commitment to Jewish learning! One thought is that it may be closer to the "traditional" time of Confirmation, around Shavuot in the spring, but, as with a lot right now, we don't have specific timing just yet.

### **What's happening with the RAC trip?**

The Religious Action Center has made the decision not to hold in-person *L'Taken* programming for this season. However, they are building what looks like some great virtual programming that we will participate in.

### **What if I have questions about school tuition?**

Please contact Iris Greenberg, our executive director, to discuss this.

## Timing by Grade – via Zoom

**Family School** – 10:15 a.m. Sundays (1 hour)

**Traditional 6th grade** – 9:00 a.m. Sundays (1 hour)

**K/1** – 4:30 p.m. Mondays (30 minutes)

**2** – 4:00 p.m. Mondays (45 minutes)

**Traditional 3rd grade** – 5:00 p.m. Mondays (45 mins)

**Traditional 4th grade** – 4:00 p.m. Tuesdays (1 hour)

**Traditional 5th grade** – 5:15 p.m. Tuesdays (1 hour)

**Kadimah (grades 7-12)** – 7:00 p.m. Mondays (1 hour)

# High Holy Day *Machzorim*

## *in your homes and in our hearts*

Friends,

With the High Holidays fast approaching and as we prepare for mostly virtual services, we wanted to help each of you, our BHSS families, to create a sanctuary of your own in which to pray. Toward that effort BHSS was pleased to deliver a set of *machzorim*, High Holiday prayerbooks, for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to each home for use, with care, during the holidays.

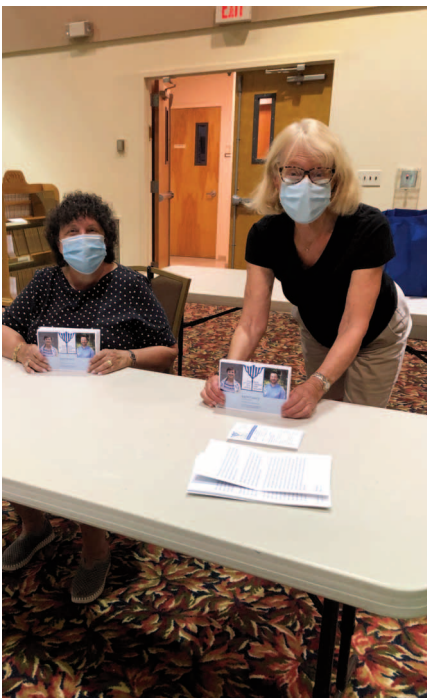
During the month of August, members of the Library Committee and the Membership Committee set out on this important and meaningful endeavor. All prayer books were gathered and the assembly line began! Once all the *machzorim* were ready to be delivered, we called upon our Board of Trustees and Membership Committee, as well as a few extra willing drivers and we were off.... door to door deliveries of these sacred objects.

*We could not be prouder of this project!*

We wish you and your families continued good health, and look forward to being together virtually to share in these history-making holidays.

A very special thanks to the following for their time:

Lisa Lamster  
Jane Simon  
Lynn Zall  
Sheila Groskin  
Ellen Weiner  
Sue-Ellen Johnson  
Sheryl Ives  
Ruth Turner  
Lauren Theodore  
Annabel Theodore  
Sherry Levitt  
Art Kieres







RSVP by 10-1 to receive Zoom Link-  
[lisabestrin@gmail.com](mailto:lisabestrin@gmail.com)

## BHSS SISTERHOOD

October 8, 2020

7:30pm - 9:00pm via Zoom

Back by popular demand we welcome  
 sisterhood member and prominent  
 attorney

**Amy Littman**

To discuss timely issues of

# Racial Injustice



CAN YOU FIND A BROADWAY PLAYBILL? A COIN FROM 2002?

Join us on Zoom

Sunday September 13th

2:00 - 4:00pm

Meet your team on zoom, discover the checklist and search for the items. You can participate from inside or outside your house! Prizes to follow!

2:00-2:30 Meet Your Team

2:40-3:45 Photograph Your Items

3:45-4:00 Share and Shmooze

**RSVP by August 30th**  
 to [bhssyouth@gmail.com](mailto:bhssyouth@gmail.com)

Sisterhood



Youth Group



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**Contribution Opportunities at Beth Haverim Shir Shalom**

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(for above groups)

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

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

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

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

\_\_\_\_ Yahrzeit Tablet \_\_\_\_ "Wish List" of Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment

**Payment Information:**

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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

# Worship Schedule

Friday, September 4	6:30 pm	Indoor Shabbat Evening family service <i>Thank Goodness It's Shabbat! Birthdays in September will be celebrated</i>
Saturday, September 5	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Addyson Wachtel
Friday, September 11	7:30 pm	Outdoor Shabbat Evening service
Saturday, September 12	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Abbie Torrente
Sunday, September 13	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Ella Selfon
<b>Friday, September 18</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah service</b>
<b>Saturday, September 19</b>	<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>Rosh Hashanah services</b> <i>Please refer to High Holiday schedule for service times</i>
<b>Sunday, September 20</b>	<b>9:15 am</b>	<b>2nd day Rosh Hashanah service</b>
Friday, September 25	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening service
<b>Sunday, September 27</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>Kol Nidre service</b>
<b>Monday, September 28</b>		<b>Yom Kippur Services</b> <i>Please refer to High Holiday schedule for service times</i>
Friday, October 2	6:30 pm	Outdoor Shabbat & Erev Sukkot Service <i>Birthdays in October will be celebrated</i>
Saturday, October 3	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Emily Levin – <i>including Sukkot Festival additions</i>
Friday, October 9	7:30 pm	Zoom Shabbat Evening service – <i>with Erev Simchat Torah additions</i>
Saturday, October 10	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Abby Weintraub – <i>including Simchat Torah Festival additions</i>
Sunday, October 11	9:00 am	Zoom Simchat Torah Yizkor Service
	1:00 pm	Bat Mitzvah of Ashley Ehrlich
Friday, October 16	6:30 pm	Outdoor Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, October 17	10:00 am	B'nai Mitzvah of Justin Silver and Wade Mendel
Friday, October 23	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Friday, October 24		No Saturday Morning Service
Friday, October 30	6:30 pm	Outdoor Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, October 31	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Avery Roberts

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

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman  
Cantor Josh Finkel  
Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

**Sessions of School:**

Sundays: October 4, 18, 25  
Mondays: October 5, 19, 26  
Tuesdays: October 6, 13, 20, 27

**Office Closed:**

Monday, September 7  
Monday, September 28

## To do in September and October



- *BHSS Golf Outing - Wednesday, September 2 - 9:00 am*
- *Thank Goodness It's Shabbat! - Friday, September 4 - 6:30 pm*
- *Sisterhood/Youth Group Virtual Scavenger Hunt - Sunday, September 13 - 2:00-4:00 pm*
- *Schmooze and Havdalah via Zoom - Saturdays at 7:00 pm*
- *Rosh Hashanah Services - September 18 - 20 - check schedule for times of services*
- *Yom Kippur Services - Kol Nidre, September 27*

*Services throughout September 28 - check schedule for times of services*

- *Outdoor Sukkot Shabbat Service - Friday, October 2 - 6:30 pm*
- *Sisterhood Racial Injustice Event with Amy Littman - Thursday, October 8 - 7:30 pm*
- *Zoom Simchat Torah - Friday, October 9 - 7:30 pm*