

TEMPLE



TOPICS

CHESHVAN/KISLEV/TEVET 5781

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020

Rabbi Ilana's Message

A Different Immune Response

It is typical of Judaism to focus on light in the darkness (think Chanukah) and to consider life when the world is barren (Tu B'shvat). I believe that's the "culture" built into our faith tradition - the components meant to protect us from the harshness of winter.
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Shir Chadash with Cantor Josh

My Favorite American Holiday

...Our Chanukah, our personal memories of and associations with Chanukah, are unlikely to be too deeply rooted in the story of the Maccabees, or the story of the oil lasting longer than expected thousands of years ago. In light of Chanukah's tremendous cultural importance to us, those roots are a bit flimsy, aren't they?
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President's Message

Staying Connected and Giving Back

...They spoke passionately about our community and their personal BHSS experiences and history. We heard about how we are a sacred community. We were encouraged to give until it helps (remember to donate to the High Holy Day appeal). We were reminded of the importance of continuing our connection to keep Beth Haverim Shir Shalom and Reform Judaism thriving for us and for generations to come....
full article on page 2

Educator's Message

We Are ALL Jewish Educators

...the current challenges of hybrid and remote learning, working from home, trying to fit everything into a day with too few hours, the stresses of protecting loved ones and still maintaining some semblance of normalcy, please know that you continue to be Jewish educators, and that especially in this age of COVID-19, I am so thankful you are doing it...
full article on page 4

B'NAI MITZVAH

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December 12	Benjamin Grossman
December 12	Jenna Bofford

THINGS TO DO:

more info on back cover and throughout

Torah Study

BHSS Mitzvah Run, Walk, Stroll

Singin' Shabbat with Cantor Josh

"Cocktails" and Havdalah

Tot Shabbat

Eternal Lights

Social Action Racial Injustice panel discussion

Sisterhood Chanukah
Kindness Chain

Social Action "Little White Lie" screening and discussion

Shabbat Chanukah



President's Message

Judy Teich

We made it through the High Holiday season! I hope you had a meaningful and peaceful experience.

Thank you to Rabbi Ilana and Cantor Josh for being our spiritual guides through your words and your song. Thank you to Iris, Rebecca and Michelle for taking care of all the logistics along with BHSS's incredible Ritual Committee. We learned so much from our collective High Holiday experience.

Thank you to our inspirational lay leaders - Beth Haverim Shir Shalom ambassadors Amy Littman, Rebeca Berger, Ron Mandler, Harvey Weinberg and Jen Cole. They spoke passionately about our community and their personal BHSS experiences and history. We heard about how we are a sacred community. We were encouraged to give until it helps (remember to donate to the High Holy Day appeal). We were reminded of the importance of continuing our connection to keep Beth Haverim Shir Shalom and Reform Judaism thriving for us and for generations to come.

As we move into the quieter Jewish month of Cheshvan let's stay engaged and continue building new and lasting relationships along the way.

There are always ways to stay connected by participating in and/or supporting our community programming!

For starters, check out the BHSS Mitzvah Run, Walk or Stroll, on November 1 (if you are reading this before November 1, there is still time to sign up to walk/run or sponsor someone!) This event is the brainchild of Harvey Weinberg and Ranan Wichler in lieu of the NY Marathon. It is a wonderful opportunity to give back to emergency services in Bergen and Rockland County while building a connection with the community we live in. Thank you to all who accepted Harvey's invitation and assisted in the preparation and logistics. And, of course... Thank you to all the sponsors.

On November 12 at 8 pm, BHSS will hold its biggest annual fundraiser, Eternal Lights, a celebration of giving now in its 21st year! This year Eternal Lights is going virtual. You provide the dinner and Eternal Lights will provide dessert and wine. This important fundraiser helps to assist families in financial need so they may continue to be connected to

*Staying Connected
and Giving Back*

BHSS, provides programs to all our congregants, and provides education resources to our youngest members. So, give until it helps! Thank you to Deborah Klein for being the driving force behind Eternal Lights and to committee members Dara Diamond and Vida Mylson for your shared commitment.

As we move on towards Chanukah and the secular New Year and the days become cooler and daylight shortens - I hope that you, your family and your friends find warmth by being together however you can, and that you find your own personal light within to shine as brightly as your family's Chanukah menorah!

L'shalom,
Judy Teich

Cantor's Transition Committee

Our committee's mission is to give the entire congregation an opportunity to connect with Cantor Josh as he begins his tenure at BHSS. One of our first events was an outdoor concert back in July. It was a truly magical evening of music making and such a great opportunity to become more acquainted with the voice that will lead us in prayer for years to come. Since joining us in July, Cantor Josh has also been participating in meetings with each committee to get familiar with BHSS life. We have been holding several weeks of Meet-and-Greet sessions with Cantor Josh over Zoom. If you haven't already participated, watch your inbox for an invitation. Every family will be included!

We hope you agree that, even though High Holiday services were virtual this year, Cantor Josh's voice inspired you, as it did us. Be on the lookout for even more opportunities to connect with our cantor. We are continuing to explore all of the ways we can come together, both in person and virtually. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please don't hesitate to email us at niberger@aol.com or e_einhorn@yahoo.com. We look forward to working with the entire congregation in this exciting time of clergy transition.

Nora Berger and Eric Einhorn
Committee Chairs

A Different Immune Response

Rabbi's Reflections

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman



My sincerest thanks to everyone who contributed to the High Holidays. If you planned, read, spoke, chanted, numbered, delivered, sang, recorded, presented, taught, watched, or wished—you were integral to everything that made this an exceptional season. I am not exaggerating when I say that over a thousand hours went into Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. This holiday season will stay with us for years to come.

Moving forward, we will continue to do all the things that BHSS always does: we will support one another as friends and community members, we will learn together, and we will pray together. At a transition seminar in 2019, the Union of Reform Judaism's Vice President of Strengthening Congregations, Amy Asin, taught that the "culture of a congregation is its immune response." In that context it meant BHSS protects itself from hard situations through our values and our standard way of behaving. This year, the idea has a completely different application—our culture keeps us safe from the ravages of COVID 19. The way we treat each other, care about each other, and relate to each other means that our congregation will be stronger than the difficulties presented by this year. We can rely on the work we have done in years past to keep us strong and united now.

In this issue of *Temple Topics*, we look towards November and December. These are two months defined by secular and religious holidays of warmth and light. It is typical of Judaism to focus on light in the darkness (think Chanukah) and to consider life when the world is barren (Tu B'shvat). I believe that's the "culture" built into our faith tradition - the components meant to protect us from the harshness of winter. Our history, imagination, and action push us towards comfort and hope.

My hope is that you will combine the best of Jewish culture and BHSS culture, that you will reach out to those from within our community and those outside of it to spread a little light and hope in whatever way you can. For some people this will be the literal lights of a *chanukiah*, candle or electric; for

others, this will be the brightness of a smile over FaceTime, Zoom, Skype, or another platform; for still others, the light may manifest in bright ideas, ways to make the world a little better. Join others from the BHSS community for the Sisterhood Kindness Chain, share your Chanukah menorah via Zoom at the Chanukah service, and add your efforts to the Social Action Committee or The Michelle Mitzvah Group. There is no shortage of ways to connect and to shine!

I know that sometimes the world around us feels hopeless right now, but each of us can commit to being a *shamash*, the candle that kindles more light. If we spread light to someone else, then they—in turn—can spread it further. Our culture can spread from one person to another until our immune response of kindness and light reflects on the world around us.

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) or Laura Miller (mlctsmiller@verizon.net).



From the Educator

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh

We Are ALL
Jewish Educators

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁהַחַיְנוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעְנוּ לַזְמַן הַזֶּה

Baruch atah, Adonai Eloheinu, Melech haolam, shehecheyanu, v'kiy'manu, v'higiyanu laz'man hazeh.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.

I am so blessed to have been sustained and brought to this past July, when I began my 18th year of serving our congregation in a professional capacity. However, I have been a Jewish educator for much longer than that, and so have you. If you have ever explained to someone why your family lights a Chanukah menorah...

If you have ever explained to someone why there is/was not a Christmas tree in your home, or why you have a Christmas tree AND a Chanukah menorah...

If you have ever driven (or logged on) a child to Jewish religious school...

If you have ever sung "I Have a Little Dreidel" or "Let My People Go" in school or with your children, grandchildren, or someone else's children or grandchildren...

If you have ever had a conversation with another person about anything to do with treating others the way you would want to be treated...

If you have ever done any of these things, and many more, you too are a Jewish educator. Whether you consciously seek to educate your children or others, or just go about your daily life sharing a bit about yourself and your beliefs and traditions, you are educating.

And, despite the current challenges of hybrid and remote learning, working from home, trying to fit everything into a day with too few hours, the stresses of protecting loved ones and still maintaining some semblance of normalcy, please know that you continue to be Jewish educators, and that especially in this age of COVID-19 I am so thankful you are doing it - not just by getting your children "to" religious school, but by the way you treat others, and yourselves.

My friend and teacher Rabbi Josh Fixler reminded us to find something to be grateful for each day, and as I write I am profoundly grateful for the trust BHSS has put in me. As we approach the uniquely American holiday of Thanksgiving, the *Shehecheyanu* prayer reminds us that we have reached not just this season, but this moment, and to express gratitude. This year I hope that your Thanksgiving tables, in person or Zoomed, are full of loved ones and that maybe the thing we are most grateful for – is each other.

Notes from Music

Hello everyone!

I hope the music of this year's High Holiday services inspired you and fulfilled you as you prayed together with your congregation separated only by physical distance. We are one congregation there for each other always. Thank you to Rabbi Ilana, Cantor Josh, our synagogue staff, and to all the participants who reminded us how special we are as one.

Now we look forward to our next holiday. On **Friday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m.** we celebrate **Shabbat Chanukah**. On this night we celebrate one of God's miracles. Aren't we due for one just about now? Let's light our *chanukiyot* (plural for *chanukiyah*, the Hebrew name for your Chanukah menorah) together and remember and sing all of our favorite songs!

As always, I would like to invite you to our meetings on the last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. We are meeting via Zoom so if you would like to see what we are all about, email me at niberger@aol.com and I will send you the invitation link. All are welcome!

Musically yours,
Nora Berger

Shir Chadash (a New Song)

with Cantor Josh



My Favorite American Holiday

When people ask me what my favorite American holiday is, my answer has always been “Thanksgiving,” but I think it may now be “Chanukah.”

A strange response, I know! Chanukah is, after all, NOT an American holiday, but a Jewish one. For well over two millennia, Jews throughout the world have, on some of the darkest nights of the year, filled their homes with light and recalled the bravery of the Maccabees in asserting their right to Jewish self-governance and self-determination. Through Chanukah, we have recalled this story through each year and each empire, into our modern world, keeping hope alive and celebrating the price we willingly pay in each generation to be Jews. America has only been around for a few hundred years, so why my strange assertion?

Like all cultural observances, Chanukah transforms radically as a result of how-- and when, and where-- it is encountered. Though Chanukah was originally quite focused on the martial victories of Ancient Israel I mentioned before, the focus shifted after the disastrous Bar Kochba revolt against the Roman Empire some generations later. When hope for self-determination could not be a bright flame, but hibernated as an ember, our focus shifted towards the miracles associated with the holiday-- a safer metaphor for the perseverance of Jewish ways through hostile chapters of history.



So why do I call Chanukah an American holiday? We don't always own up to it, but the focus of Chanukah has shifted, once again, in response to our vantage in modern America. Let's be very honest with ourselves: *Our* Chanukah, our personal memories of and associations with Chanukah, are unlikely to be too deeply rooted in the story of the Maccabees, or the story of the oil lasting longer than expected thousands of years ago. In light of Chanukah's tremendous cultural importance to us, those roots are a bit flimsy, aren't they? Yet we are more likely to celebrate Chanukah, as American Jews, than just about any other holiday. So, what is it about this religiously minor holiday that makes it such a big deal?

At least in part, it's Chanukah's proximity to Christmas! Today's American Chanukah, which has become the Chanukah of the world for many, is something of a deal that we make with our children - a competitive answer to the great appeal of Christmas. The gifts, by the way, are a fairly new practice, one originating here in America alongside Christmas' evolution into a gift-intensive holiday. I think most of us are aware that on some level our Chanukah is something of a response to Christmas., and there can be some sense of shame or embarrassment there. But I don't think that needs to be the case. I think it's wonderful.

Here's why: *what that means* is that on Chanukah the thing we are really celebrating is *being Jews*, here and now. Despite the many threats we've endured as well as the many incentives to stray, by many miracles we endure, and burn bright.

Here we realize Chanukah's truest, deepest, and sweetest miracle. We are Jews.

Wishing you all a wonderful Chanukah, and if you celebrate it with friends or family, a sweet Christmas as well!

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November Birthdays

Zachary Asher Aarons

Alexandra Barbach

Remi Begleiter

Jacob Berin

Hailey Berwitz

Jenna Bofford

Avery Braunstein

Sophia Finkel

Jane Grossman

Reid Grossman

Jordana Harris

Dylan Hyman

Danielle Kissin

Rachel Kissin

Leila Kotz

Elle Lieberman

Eliana Panoff

Alex Popowitz

Alex Roberts

Benjamin Shamosh

Alexander Somberg

Michelle Waldbaum

Candlelighting times:

November 6, Vayeira 4:28 pm

November 13, Chayei Sarah 4:21 pm

November 20, Tol'dot 4:16 pm

November 27, Vayeitzei 4:12 pm

December 4, Vayishlach 4:11 pm

December 11, Vayeishev 4:11 pm

December 18, Miketz 4:13 pm

December 25, 2020 Vayigash 4:16 pm



Please join us for a special celebration of giving

Eternal Lights 2020

With your help our Eternal Lights will burn brightly no matter where we are.

The proceeds from this night of giving assist families in need to be a part of our Jewish community, provide programs to all our congregants, and educational resources to our youngest members. This is what Eternal Lights has done for the past 21 years and will continue to do eternally.

*It is our temple's largest fundraiser.
Please share with us our Passion, and our Commitment to our
Jewish Community with our first virtual Eternal Lights.*

*In these uncertain times we need to rely on the generosity of all who attended
in the past, all who gave from their hearts, and those who will join our
incredible team of caring and giving.*

*For many Beth Haverim Shir Shalom is our Jewish roots,
another place we call home. Please join us.*

Thursday, November 12, 2020

8:00pm

For a unique and inspiring evening.

*Enjoy your main course in your home and we will provide dessert and wine.
Eternal Lights has never been about a dinner, but about the generosity,
and commitment within our sacred community.*

*We hope to see you via zoom but whether you join us virtually, in spirit, or in
thoughts our Eternal Lights will continue to shine for all of us and our community.
We hope you and your families stay safe and healthy.*

*Chairperson: Deborah Klein
Committee: Dara Diamond and Vida Mylson*

November Calendar

Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 4	Thursday 5	Friday 6	Saturday 7
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 9:00 am Mitzvah Run, Walk, Stroll 11:30 am Prayer Group Class	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm	No School	7 pm Torah Study 8 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Singin' Shabbat with Cantor Josh	Vayeira 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
No School	No School	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Exec Comm Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG Mtg	7 pm Torah Study 8 pm Adult Choir	8 pm Eternal Lights	5 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Tefilot	Chayei Sarah 10 am Ethan Schwartz
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 11:30 am Prayer Group Class	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 pm Torah Study 7 pm Social Action Panel 8 pm Adult Choir	7:30 pm Sis'hood LinkedIn Webinar	7:30 pm Tefilot	Toldot 10 am James Hyman 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 11:30 am Prayer Group Class	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm	No School 7:30 pm Music Comm.	7 pm Torah Study 8 pm Adult Choir	Office Closed	7:30 pm Tefilot	Vayeitzei
29	30					
No School	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm					

December Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday 1	Wednesday 2	Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5
		4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Ritual Comm Mtg.	7 pm Torah Study 8 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Family Service	Vayishlach 10 am Eliana Panoff 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS noon Sis'hood Kindness Chain	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Exec Comm Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG Mtg	7pm Torah Study 7 pm Social Action Documentary 8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Shabbat Chanukah	Vayeishev 10 am Jenna Bofford & Benjamin Grossman
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 2 pm JYG Chanukah	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 pm Torah Study 8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Mikeitz 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS	No School	No School 7:30 pm Music Comm.	7 pm Torah Study 8 pm Adult Choir		Office Closed 7:30 pm Tefilot	Vayigash
27	28	29	30	31		
No School	No School	No School	7 pm Torah Study 8 pm Adult Choir			

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



Ethan Schwartz – November 14, 2020

Lives in Montebello, New York. Mother, Penny, Father, Jonathan is an 8th grader at Suffern Middle School His interests include volunteering at the Hi Tor animal shelter, tennis, sleepaway camp, and spending time with friends and family. "I would love to have a career in finance. Although I cannot celebrate with my family and friends the way I had hoped, I am still very excited to reach this important milestone. I have been the youth ambassador at Hi Tor animal shelter for the last four years. For my community service project, I continued helping the animals by collecting supplies that were needed."



James Hyman – November 21, 2020

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Maggie, Father, Danny, Sister, Sarah, 15, Brother, Dylan, 8 is an 8th grader at Suffern Middle School His interests include family, golf, swimming, and travel. "I want to make a positive difference in other people's lives. I'm a little nervous but excited. I am thankful for my family and BHSS for helping me prepare. I am putting together walking and bike riding teams to raise money for Make-A-Wish to help fund wishes for children with life-threatening medical conditions like my sister had."



Eliana Panoff – December 5, 2020

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Carrie, Father, Marc, Brothers, Sam, 18, and Andrew, 16 is an 8th grader at Suffern Middle School Her interests include singing, acting, and tennis. "I am excited to become a Bat Mitzvah and I am really proud of my mitzvah project, which is to raise money to plant trees in Israel in honor of what would have been the bat mitzvah of my dear friend Ava Gottlieb, who passed away after a courageous battle with cancer when we were in fifth grade."



Jenna Bofford – December 12, 2020

Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother, Lauren, Father, Brad, Sister, Breanna, 14 is a 7th grader at Ramapo Ridge Middle School Her interests include many aspects of art – painting, drawing, etc. "I would like to do something creative and meaningful. It is disappointing to have my bat mitzvah during the pandemic, yet I am grateful to have it and share this experience with my family. My dad and I continue to volunteer regularly at the Bergen County Horse Rescue, a neighbor of BHSS. Our family sponsors our very own horse, Koda. As part of my mitzvah project, I made artistic nameplates for the horses' stalls, as well as some portraits of the horses."



Benjamin Grossman – December 12, 2020

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Karen, Father, Scott, Brother, Tyler, 10 is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School His interests include hockey, drums, and robotics. "I hope to build a robot that can mimic human emotion. I am very excited to be able to have my bar mitzvah this year even in the current COVID world. My service project has two parts due to COVID restrictions. I am volunteering as a youth hockey coach for 5- to 8-year olds. I love to teach them my skills and watch them smile when they succeed. The second part is a continuation of a community service project I have participated in for the past five years. I help collect toys for the Suffern toy drive. This way kids less fortunate than me can have a special holiday season."

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:

B'RACHA IS A BLESSING

SIMCHA IS A JOY

TZEDEK MEANS
RIGHTEOUSNESS

B'racha

ANONYMOUS
SYDELLE & DAVID AARONS
BILHA BERKOWITZ
GARY & MICHELLE BETTMAN
ELENA & ALAN BLANKMAN
GARY & CINDY BUCHALTER
JEN & MATT COLE
LISA ESTRIN
SUSIE & JONATHAN FEIN
LEN & MERYLE KAPLAN
LISA LAMSTER
REBECCA & ROD McVEIGH
JUDY & JOHN NEUMANN
LESLIE SAPIENZA
JULIA & JONATHAN SCHLOSSER
LINDA & DAVID SCHWARTZ
DAVID SCHWARTZ
RONI & ANDY SILVER
STACY & FARRELL SLATER
JONATHAN & LAUREN
THEODORE
JEWELL & STANLEY WALDBAUM
GAIL & RANAN WICHLER
ALLISON & JOSH BERWITZ
JUDY TEICH & LOIS SCHWARTZ
LINDA & ED VOGEL
LORRAINE & MARC ORLICK
RENEE & GARY GARBUS
JILL & BILL PEARLMAN

Simcha

IRA & MARILYN BERNSTEIN
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FRAN & JEFF ROWBOTTOM
ANDY SCHECHTER &
SHARI SLAVIN
MICHELLE & RANDY SHERRY
RUTH & STU TURNER
MELISSA & JAY PELLER

Tzedek

ALISON & NORMAN AXELROD
SANDY & BILL ARLINGTON
ELYSE VICTOR -BERMAN &
JOE BERMAN
MELISSA & ERB COOPER
DARA & CHRISTINE DIAMOND
SHEILA & LARRY GROSKIN
NADIEGE & STEVEN HITTMAN
SUE-ELLEN JOHNSON
CANDY & MIKE KASSOVER
NANCY & AL LEVENE
DEBORAH & JEFF KLEIN
ARLENE & RICH MANDEL
JENNIFER & RON MANDLER
EVELYN & JIM MCGILLOWAY
LAURA & MITCHELL MILLER
PHIL MOSS
LEONA WAYSER &
MARTIN GORDON
GAYLE & STEVEN WEISS
MARCI & HARVEY WEINBERG



Ritual Committee

At Passover we ask: How is this night different than all other nights? Today we ask: How is this year different than all other years? Some things are different, but many are the same. We may have celebrated the High Holidays in ways we wouldn't have even imagined last year but we still heard the beautiful voices of our cantor, rabbi and choir and saw recent b'nai mitzvah chanting Torah.

We also learned to Zoom and live stream, and participated in a drive-through *Tashlich* experience and sent long distance hugs to friends and family.

This is a year of extreme gratitude for all those who made our services so special. All these changes increased the workload for so many people. Let me start with our clergy. Rabbi Ilana and Cantor Josh had to reimagine services with guidelines changing by the week. They certainly didn't learn this at HUC (Hebrew Union College.) To the Ritual Committee - this dedicated team works year-round to support our clergy. Planning for this year's holidays started just like any other, but got turned upside down when state guidelines changed the way we would be gathering. Honors changed. Phones and emails were made - and made again.

An extra shout out to everyone who took the extra step to get their recordings done - from their living rooms, dining rooms, the sanctuary and even from college dorm rooms (way to go Logan!) We had last minute subs step up when we needed them - thanks Aidan.

Our staff fielded hundreds of calls confirming arrangements, changing honors and reassuring the BHSS community that we're still here for you. Thank you to Iris and Michelle for unending patience, constant smiles and a lot of extra hours.

Thank you to the Board of Trustees, who helped deliver *machzorim* so we could participate in services from home or spend time enjoying the beautiful readings.

We have even started to incorporate Havdalah into home celebrations on Saturday night. It's been a great way to spend time with friends, reflect on the week and to incorporate a new (old?) tradition into our practices. If you haven't joined Havdalah services yet, there's still time. It is now scheduled for every other week (check weekly email for schedule). All you need is access to Zoom, a Havdalah candle, wine or juice and spices. Perhaps add a new heirloom to your family and get a Havdalah set- this would make a lovely Chanukah gift for the family.

Speaking of Chanukah, I plan to start a new ritual at my home this year with the display of an outdoor menorah. This is a practice that is very common in Israel and I think this is the year to start a new tradition that will light up my home and connect me to the community, even if it is long distance. Maybe you'd like to do this as well.

This year has brought us many changes and new opportunities. We're here to help you connect with your BHSS community.

Nancy Levene, Co-Chair Ritual Committee

Candle Lighting Times

Dec. 10: First candle

Dec. 11: Second candle

Light before Shabbat candles at 4:11 pm

Dec. 12: Third candle

Light after Shabbat at 5:16 pm



Sisterhood News

It's fall, y'all.... we may still be sticking close to home, but the colors on the trees and the crisp air tell us that time is *zooming* along—and so is Sisterhood! We hope you've been able to share in some of our kickoff events. On August 20, everyone had a great time learning about Rosh Chodesh Elul, while we braided our *challot* together. Facebook had some very tasty evidence of how successful we were. Thanks to Stacey and Rebecca for leading us!

In September, Sisterhood and BHSSTY teamed up for a virtual scavenger hunt, joining in teams to look for “found” items in our own neighborhoods. It was a blast! October brought a lesson in our nation's history of racial injustice, and a lively discussion of themes common to all people. We're eager to continue that talk, and find ways to contribute what we can to the fight.

But we're not done yet! November 19 brings a Zoom webinar on using LinkedIn. Lisa Hennings, a career strategist and leadership development coach, will teach us how to create our profiles, and how to optimize them for networking and career advancement. RSVP to lbestrin@aol.com by November 13.

And this December, we'll repeat one of our most popular programs to date: the Sisterhood Kindness Chain, which will allow us to both give and receive a kindness from another Sister. Bake a cake, knit a scarf, share an inspiring book.... your participation will make the holidays brighter for all of us, and it's not too late!

Sign up by emailing to staceycoy@aol.com

We're going to miss some of our annual Chanukah traditions this year, but together we're doing our best to meet regularly - exchange ideas, advance our progress personally, congregationally and globally, and keep the bonds of Sisterhood strong.

All we're missing is YOU. If you haven't joined Sisterhood yet, please reach out to Lauren Theodore (laurenstheodore@gmail.com) or Janet Javer (lopper5@aol.com) for more information.

Hope to “see” all of you soon!
Mona Sussman and Linda Vogel

SISTERHOOD OF BHSS CHANUKAH KINDNESS CHAIN

Send an Encouraging Email Share a Love Card Share Your Favorite Recipe
Write a Positive Comment on a Website or Blog Bake Someone A Cake
Surfnet Bring Someone A Souvenir Gift an Inspirational Book
Put a Surprise in a Mailbox



The Sisterhood Kindness Chain is back by popular demand!

On Sunday, December 6th

we ask that you pay it forward to one of our members.

Email staceycoy@aol.com to participate.

Once you decide to give you will also receive! We will send you detailed instructions including the name and address of the person you will be linked to. Sign up by November 25th so we can get you started on whose holiday you will make brighter!

SISTERHOOD OF BHSS PRESENTS

ZOOM WEBINAR

CREATING YOUR LINKED IN PROFILE

LEARN THE BASICS ABOUT LINKED IN: WHAT LINKED IN IS, HOW TO SET UP AND OPTIMIZE YOUR PROFILE, WHY LINKED IN IS SUCH A POWERFUL ONLINE NETWORKING TOOL

Linked in

Presented by:



LISA HENNING
CAREER STRATEGIST AND
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
COACH

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19TH

7:30PM - 9:00PM



RSVP by 11/13 TO LISA ESTRIN TO
RECEIVE ZOOM LINK
lbestrin@aol.com



Michelle Mitzvah Group

A Simple “Thank You”

Imagine for a moment, you are a pillar of the community. Everyone turns to you for guidance and wisdom- in good times and bad. And in bad times, everyone turns to you for strength, wisdom, maybe financial guidance and support.

Over the last six months, as a pillar of the community, more and more people are turning to you for assistance. They have health issues. They can't afford important medications. Their parents and/or children get sick, which only exacerbates any troubles in the family dynamic and the growing mental health crisis. People lose their jobs and now they struggle to put food on the table.

What do you do? You start organizing care packages to help families put food on the table. You pay for the prescription of those who can't afford it. You reach out to help someone get a job. To quote Jon Bon Jovi, you do what you can.

As the struggles continue, month after month, you start to feel the exhaustion of the constant stress. You, yourself, need some solace, some relief, some.... *something* to help you through so you can continue.

On your day off, you go out to lunch with your family. Remember the guy who lost his job? You helped him and his family by providing those care packages. He sees you and comes over to simply say, “Thank you. I lost my job and I didn't know how I was going to put food on the table and you helped me out. You are truly an angel. I can't thank you enough.”

And now, you are overwhelmed with love and appreciation. All the hard work is making a difference and strengthens your commitment to service. It rekindles your passion and renews your faith. And all it took was a simple “Thank You.”

I want to send my deep appreciation and thank you to everyone who donated to the Food Drop-Off during Yom Kippur. A special Thank you to Kathy Liebmman, Jill Blum, Audrey Flynn, and the Lieberman family (Barry, Milana, Jason, and Elle) for assisting in the collection and distribution

to the local charities. We donated the food to Oasis, Center for Food Action, and Christ Episcopal Church in Suffern.

Thank you to all for your continued support in helping our neighbors in need.

If you would like to help out & get involved, please contact Steven Simon - call, text or email via 201 788-6755 or steveoum@verizon.net.



**Racial Injustice
Panel Discussion**

When: November 18 from 7:30 - 9 pm
Place: Zoom (the comfort of your own home!)

Moderator: Lynne Feldman, Esq.

Panel:

Venus Engram
Event Organizer of the BLM rally in Suffern, NY

Carolina Curbelo, Esq
Immigration Attorney, Ridgewood, NJ

Cheryl Rosario
Director of Jewish Women's
Foundation of NJ, Whippany, NJ,
Racial Injustice Webinar

Joshua Nelson
“The Prince of Kosher Gospel”,
Sharey Tefilo-Israel, South Orange, NJ

Good & Welfare from & for the congregation

Condolences to:

Tiffany Cohen on the death of her mother, Debbie Moses
Kathryn Bareket on the death of her mother, Esther Bayla Small
Marc Selfon on the death of his uncle, Thad Schreiber
Inna Berin on the death of her stepfather, Solomon Revich
Bernice Medici on the death of her daughter, Laura Medici Fleming

Mazal Tov

to **Jill and Bill Pearlman** on the birth of their granddaughter, Emily Paige
to **Sheryl and Ira Rappaport** on the marriage of their son Shawn to Kristen
to **George and Karen Charne** on the marriage of their son Jason to Julia De Piazza

Welcome New Members

Steven and Laurie Slackman and family – Montvale, NJ
Alan Schluskel – Mahwah, NJ
Simon Knott & Erica Fields and family – Upper Saddle River, NJ
Adam & Cassandra Jimenez-Schulman – Brooklyn, NY
Rob & Jena Tell and family – Woodcliff Lake, NJ
Brett & Karina Herrman and family – Wyckoff, NJ
Michael & Gail Mandler – Woodcliff Lake, NJ
Wayne Kaplan & Steven Goldberg and family – Suffern, NY
Mike & Debra Finkel – Creve Coeur, Missouri

R'fuah Sh'leimah

(For a full and speed recovery)

Lisa Lamster

Thank You:

Kyle Dubiel for all his help
during the High Holiday season



December Birthdays

Jillian Bruckner

Benjamin Chais

Jakob Finkel

Benjamin Grossman

Morgan Koppelman

Benjamin Marder

Jake Schlosser

Sophie Smith



Brotherhood

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in the 'Hood!

Yes...2020 is an unusual year. We are having all our events and meetings via Zoom, we are limiting meeting for services – granted, outdoor services once a month is genuinely nice...I think this is something we should continue. I do miss the regular crowding into the sanctuary on a Friday night, on Sukkot, on the High Holidays...and followed by an Oneg...but this year? It was not all that bad. Thanks to Iris and Michelle and the team of volunteers who delivered High Holiday prayer books to every family in the congregation. It made the live stream that much more enjoyable!

We are sure you noticed a few more traditions that were postponed – building and taking down the sukkah, Pizza in the Hut, Simchat Torah live with un-scrolled Torah...and of course, our monthly Brotherhood dinners at a restaurant or brew pub. We are sure you noticed that our monthly meetings are now on Zoom. We had one meeting where everyone ordered their own Chinese food and ate virtually...together!

The main takeaway from all of this is that we have proven, amidst this pandemic and major challenges, illnesses, and personal loss, is that we have been, are, and always will be a community...a House of Friends, a Song of Peace! Sure...we miss communing in person with friends and family, but in many ways, and with videoconferencing, we have been not only maintaining our community but we have been able to expand our community by inviting friends from near and far to join us via Zoom. As Jews, we are no strangers to

challenges...and even under the worst circumstances, we survived as a community.

So, this is what Brotherhood is doing to keep the community going.

Brotherhood will be working with the Youth Group, Social Action, and Michele Mitzvah on our annual clothing drive (details to follow). This year, we are collecting for the Midnight Run, to get clothing and supplies to people living on the streets.

Brotherhood is also developing a campaign to address and combat antisemitism. Keep an eye out for invitations to join our letter/email writing campaign (to follow).

Join us for our monthly meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of every month (unless it falls on a holiday). Please email president@bhssbrotherhood.org or email bhssbrotherhood@gmail.com to get on our mailing list. All our meetings are open forum, and a safe place to share thoughts, ideas, feelings, concepts...or just to commune with friends.

Let us continue the momentum. Looking forward to what the future will bring!

L'Shalom

The Legion of Past Presidents (and one Treasurer for life), Jonathan, Erb, Ian, Allan, and Rod

Shabbat Chanukah

Join us for services on
Friday, December 11
at 7:30pm.

Let's bring in the Light of
Chanukah together via
Zoom, even if we are
physically apart.

Details to follow...get your
menorahs ready!



From the *Sifriyah*

Herman Wouk, Anne Frank, Shel Silverstein, Arthur Miller, J.D. Salinger, Anita Diamant, and Sholem Aleichem... Who are they and what do they have in common? It's an easy question. As you all probably surmise, they are Jewish authors who have written some of the best works ever, works which are as relevant today as when they were first written. Their writings bring to life memorable characters, important teachings, and fascinating stories that take us sometimes to a new and sometimes struggling culture. In all the writings, the Jewish context is center stage.

We Library Ladies are avid readers, often selecting books with Jewish themes penned by Jewish authors. We realize we are not alone in this endeavor and share this interest with many congregants and clergy here at BHSS. Not surprisingly, while a fan of many different genre, **Rabbi Ilana** wishes to share her love, connections, and challenges in reading the poems of Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai:

Yehuda Amichai, renowned Israeli poet, was born in Germany in 1924 and died in Israel in 2000. I came to his poetry shortly before his death. He tends to return to themes of mortality, sex, and questioning God--over and over again--he addresses these building blocks of his life.

As with many good poets, one of the reasons I appreciate Amichai is because he is unflinching. Unlike Instagram

posters or Facebook posers, he not only shares the highlights of his life, but he invites us in to realms many of us would not open for others...selfishness, pride, and doubt. He spreads the spectrum of his life wide for us to share, allowing us to judge or relate.

If you are interested in reading Amichai's poetry, you do not have to know Hebrew. He and others have translated much of his poetry into English. A good starting place is with the book *Open Closed Open*. If, before you commit to a full book, you would like a taste of his work, I highly recommend the poem *The Man Sitting Next to the Roman Arch* about what we value and our sense of perspective.

For quite some time my father and I would set aside an hour a week to read through *Selected Poetry of Yehuda Amichai*. While the content might be a little controversial for some father/daughter readers, we had a great time working through the works and words, considering the references to Tanakh, and figuring out how various lines might read differently in the English and Hebrew.

Happy reading!

Please let Rabbi Ilana know you are tempted to step out of your comfort zone and try a little Amichai. And if you have a favorite author, let us know at *Sifriyah*.

Tot Shabbat

Story, Song and Shabbat, all in just the right amount of time!



Join us for stories and singing 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 at 5:00pm via Zoom.

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

Dates:
November 13
December 11

Contributions

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

with thanks and appreciation and in honor of
Ella becoming a Bat Mitzvah - *Laurie & Marc Selfon*

in appreciation - *Sanda & Alan Kessler*

Cantor's Discretionary Fund:

with thanks and appreciation and in honor of
Ella becoming a Bat Mitzvah - *Laurie & Marc Selfon*

Educator's Discretionary Fund

with thanks and appreciation and in honor of
Ella becoming a Bat Mitzvah - *Laurie & Marc Selfon*

Life Fund

in memory of my daughter Amy Lynn Berger - *Sandy Berger*

in memory of Judy's father, Richard Silverman
- *Judy & Jon Neumann*

in memory of sister Renee Kupchin and fathers David
Haberman and Myron Greenzweig
- *Marilyn & Irwin Haberman*

from Lisa Lamster, with appreciation - *Deborah & Jeff Klein*

to Marcia and Harvey Grape, in memory of your sister
Hilda Weiner - *the Selfon family*

to Ellyse and Larry Selfon, in memory of Thad Schriebman
- *Marc & Laurie Selfon*

in memory of Harry Shames - *Martin & Deborah Shames*

in memory of aunt Audrey Golden - *Marc & Laurie Daniel*

in memory of Anneliese Schott - *Allan & Sheri Schott*

in memory of dear friend Terri Coffel and
cousin Enid Marcus - *Lisa Lamster*

in memory of Esther Moss - *Phil Moss*

to Kathy Bareket and family, in memory of her dear mother
- *Sheila & Larry Groskin*

in honor of our wonderful congregation, wishing everyone a
New Year filled with peace, health and happiness.
- *Sheila & Larry Groskin*

to Bena Weil and family, in memory of her
dear husband Steven Weil - *the "Elijah Cup's Guys"*

to Stan and Ellen Weiner- Mazel Tov on the occasion of
their grandson Benjamin's Bar Mitzvah
- *Richard & Lesley Lefkowitz*

in memory of dear wife Linda Goldfarb - *Joel Goldfarb*

Michelle Mitzvah Group

for all the good works MMG does throughout the year!
- *Phil Moss*

Center for Food Action

donated by their families in honor of the following simchas:

Bar Mitzvah of Justin Silver
Bat Mitzvah of Abbie Torrente
Bat Mitzvah of Addyson Wachtel
Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Braunstein
Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Levine
Bat Mitzvah of Alana Bendayan
Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Toomey

Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge

donated by their families in honor of the following simchas:

Bat Mitzvah of Abby Weintraub
Bat Mitzvah of Wade Mendel
Bat Mitzvah of Ella Selfon
Bar Mitzvah of Judd Klein

Social Action

Shalom, Haverim!

We welcome Lisa Estrin on board as co-chair of our BHSS Social Action Committee and continue to thank Lisa Glick who remains as Vice President of BHSS Social Action Committee.

In our first two months of Social Action, we rolled up our sleeves and this is what happened so far:

1. Our group started several voter registration campaigns:
 - a. Adopt a state
 - b. Post cards and calls
 - c. Applications for New Yorkers to request absentee ballots
2. Our group joined with the Library Committee to form a subcommittee to select movies, documentaries and books to read on social action as well as create a panel discussion on Social Injustice.
3. Our group joined with the Brotherhood and the Youth Groups to collect clothing for the Midnight Run – look out for the box in the lobby, and instructions on how and what to donate!
4. Our group aligned with Michelle Mitzvah and Oasis to collect clothing, food and school supplies.

There is still more work that needs to be done. Please join us for one of our monthly zoom meetings, and see how you can get involved!

**Remember,
November 3 is
Election Day.**



Upcoming Dates

Monthly zoom meetings – Fourth Tuesday of every month, 7:15 PM. Email BHSSSocialaction@gmail.com to get onto the email list

November 18 at 7:30 PM –
Panel discussion about Racial Injustice –
Zoom info to follow

December 9 at 7:00 PM
Documentary and Discussion –
“Little White Lie” by Lacey Schwartz

Documentary Discussion:

LITTLE WHITE LIE

by Lacey Schwartz

DATE: December 9 via Zoom - details to follow
TIME: 7pm to view the documentary
8:15pm for the discussion

"Filmmaker Lacey Schwartz thinks her dark skin and hair are from a Sicilian ancestor. When she uncovers the lie that haunted her parents' marriage, she begins a journey to reconcile her past as she embraces her African-American heritage."

An incredible story and journey!! Can be seen on Amazon Prime or, please join us as we view this documentary together before the discussion.



November Yahrzeits

DOROTHY ADLMAN	SYLVIA HABERMAN	ALEJANDRO LLIBRE	HARRY SHAMES
MANUEL ANSIN	ALLAN HEFFLER	JODI LYONS	PAUL SHERMAN
CORINNE BAUM	BESSIE HIEGER	MURRAY MARKS	HOWARD SHMARUK
MATTIE BIALER	MAE HEILBRAUN	NORMAN NOVACK	NORMAN SILVER
DONNA BLUMENTHAL	HERMAN HERSHMAN	SADIE NOVACK	STUART SIMON
JENNIE COHEN	HARRY KADISH	ESTHER OPPENHEIM	SIDNEY SLOVES
MARVIN COMISKY	ELSIE KLEIN	VI PEARLMAN	LON STEINMAN
SELMA ELTERMAN	HENRY KOLB	AARON PREMSLAAR	RAE SUESKIND
BURTON FREEMAN	RENEE KUPCHIN	SALLY RABINOVICH	ERNA TUTEUR
DAVID GOLDFARB	BETTY KURSMAN	SOFIA RERICH	INDA VAYSBURD
SHIRLEY GRALLA	IRVING KURSMAN	SEYMOUR SAIFF	MAX VOGEL
ALBERTA GREENBERG	JEROME KURSMAN	LINDA SAVOY	HOWARD WEINBERG
EUGENE GREENBLATT	RENEE KUSHER	SAMUEL SCHECHTER	ELEANOR WEINER
SYLVIA GREENE	ROSE LEFKOWITZ	HAROLD SCHINDLER	SARAH YERUSHALMI
DAVID HABERMAN	ISIDORE LEVINE	MORITZ SCHOTT	SARA ZINN
			MOLLIE ZUKOF

BHSS Youth Groups

Hello there! We hope your 5781 and school years have gotten off to a wonderful start. It's been great seeing so many of your faces at Religious School and at our events!

Speaking of which... we had a great kickoff event with our Virtual Scavenger Hunt in partnership with Sisterhood. We had over 40 people participate and it was lots of fun! Then in October, we hosted a Fall Fest for our junior and senior youth groups. We tie-dyed masks and socks, indulged in yummy fall treats, and enjoyed some socially distant outdoor time together before the weather gets too cold.

WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

On November 1, join us for the BHSS Mitzvah Run, Walk or Stroll. All sponsors' proceeds will be split up among Valley Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, and the emergency services of Mahwah and Suffern. If you're between the ages of 2-102, you can participate. Check out the weekly synagogue newsletters for more information. ALL ARE WELCOME!



In December, we'll be getting into the holiday spirit with our **virtual** Meet n' Greet with Cantor Josh! Each group will have the chance to chat with him, ask any burning questions and take part in a Chanukah sing-along. No musical experience required, just kick back, grab a dreidel and a menorah -- it's gonna be lit!

Hope we get the chance to see you soon! If you would like to become a member of a youth group, have any ideas for events, or just want to chat, reach us at bhssyouth@gmail.com.

December Yahrzeits

LEAH ADLMAN
NORMAN ARKAWY
DONNA BARRACK
ALFRED BAUM
MARVIN BENDALIN
LILLIAN BERMAN
ELAINE CRAMER
BERNSTEIN
HOWARD BETTMAN
ADAM BIALER
STEWART BIALER
JULIUS BRESSLER
BARBARA CASSELL
LEON COHEN
JOE COYNE
KURT DANIEL
GERALD DAVID
GERALD DEFOREST
CROUCH
SONIA DEMSKY
SOPHIE EISENSTEIN
BEATRICE FARBER

JULIA FIHRER
ABRAHAM FINKELSTEIN
ALAN FLON
MILTON FLON
WALTER FONDILLER
MARILYN FRIEDMAN
EMANUEL GARBUS
SCOTT GOLDBERG
SHELDON GOLDSTEIN
ESTHER
GOODMAN-ZASLOW
FLORENCE GORDON
HARRY GORDON
ANNETTE GORDON
WALDBAUM
FRED GROSSMAN
AARON HALL
ELAINE HALL
SHIRLEY JACOBS
LOTHAR KAHN
BILL KALMAN
JERZY KIERES

ANN KIRSHNER
MILTON KLEIN
HOWARD LEIBOWITZ
DAVID LEVINSON
HOWARD LEVITT
HERBERT LEVY
DODY MAGAZINER
OSCAR MAIER
ENID MARCUS
NORMAN MATLOWSKY
SARAH MATLOWSKY
NATHAN MAYERS
BEATRICE MENDELOWITZ
LOUIS MILLER
MARK MOSKOWITZ
MICHAEL NANUS
CLAIRE NOVAK
HILDA OPELL
AMALIA PAVLOVEC
ILYA PECKERMAN
CARL RICHARDSON
FAYE RICHARDSON

LEO RIVKIND
LEAH ROCKER
DONALD SCHWARTZ
ARIEL SORIANO
SUSAN SHERB STERNFELS
SAUL STEDMAN
ALLEN STEIN
LOUIS STIGLITZ
ANITA GAIL SUESKIND
SYLVIA SVETCOV
FLORENCE TURNER
REBA WEBER
SOL WEBER
JEROME WEINBERG
MILTON WEINER
ROSE WEINSTEIN
ROBERT WEISS
SONDRA WELLS
AL YAGODA
JANE YANOWITZ
SARAH ZALL

Feed the hungry, feed the soul

Instead of fill the truck
we filled the foyer!

Thanks to everyone who
participated in the Yom Kippur
Food Drop Off and Drive Up!



CHANUKAH MENORAH LIGHTING HINTS:

The first day of Chanukah is on December 11; therefore the first candle is lit the evening before (December 10.) Candles are placed in the *chanukiah* (Chanukah menorah) from right to left (the first night, place one candle all the way to the right, then add on from there each succeeding night.) Light candles from left to right (light the newest candle first, after you have lit the *shamash*, or service candle.)

First Blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, asher kidshanu bimitzvotav v'tzivanu
l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.

Blessed are you, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who has sanctified us with
commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Chanukah.

Second Blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבֹּתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, she'asa nissim la'avoteinu bayamim
haheim ba-z'man hazeh.

Blessed are you, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who performed wondrous deeds for our
ancestors, in those days at this time of year.

Third Blessing (recited first night only)

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
שֶׁהַחַיָּנוּ וְקִיָּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam, shehecheyanu v'kiyemanu v'higiyanu
la-z'man hazeh.

Blessed are you, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and
for enabling us to reach this season of joy.



BHSS Golf Outing



A spirited group of nearly 50 players gathered at Spook Rock Golf Course on September 2 to play a round of golf with the proceeds benefiting BHSS. The weather forecast for the day called for steady rain tapering off by mid-morning. It turned out the rain never stopped, but neither did the enthusiasm of everyone there!

The scramble format, *playing the best ball until the ball is holed on the green*, was a fun way to experience a round of golf with less pressure than individual play. Players of all skill levels enjoyed the challenges of the course and the companionship and encouragement of their teammates.

The event was open to BHSS members and non-members, friends and family - and while it was great to see the “masked” faces of returning players there were many new “masked” faces to meet; and we are pleased that women golfers comprised nearly half the field.

Following the round, contest prizes were awarded for Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Best Team Score - and the results were impressive. Raffle drawings included a 50/50 pool shared with BHSS and a round of golf for four at Centennial Golf Club, courtesy of TrueNorth Financial Solutions in recognition of BHSS president Judy Teich.

In addition to enjoying a tasty lunch mid-way through the round, the players and volunteers celebrated the day’s success over Haagen-Dazs ice cream, Carousel cupcakes and beautiful cookies lovingly handmade by Jennifer Cole.

Why a golf outing? It was one of the few communal outdoor activities that could be safely enjoyed during the Covid19 pandemic; and...

- “[it] is the closest game to the game we call life; you get bad breaks from good shots; good breaks from bad shots – but you have to play the ball where it lies.” Bobby Jones and,

- “There are two things you can do with your head down, **Golf and Pray.**” Lee Trevino

...so, a golf outing was the perfect choice and a financial success.

Many thanks to volunteers Jennifer Cole, Nancy Levene, Jill Pearlman, Zac Pearlman and Marilyn Taylor for ensuring the day went so smoothly. A heartfelt “Thank You” for the generosity of all the sponsors who were acknowledged on signage created by BHSS member Adam Koppelman, SpeedPro Imaging Services.

If you play golf or are considering taking up the sport, please keep this event in mind for next year. Any questions about how to get started in the sport or if you are looking for new people to play with, please consider reaching out to renee.garbus@gmail.com



Renee Garbus and Harvey Weinberg
Event Co-Chairs



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BHSS Chanukah D.A.R.E. Toy Drive

BHSS annually helps the Suffern Police Department's D.A.R.E. Program with its toy drive. Suffern D.A.R.E. aids to families in Orange County, NY, Newark, NJ and New York City in addition to its primary mission of helping local families in Rockland County, NY and Bergen County, NJ. Suffern D.A.R.E., along with local social workers, municipalities and organizations identify local families in need or who are dealing with a tragic event. This year, COVID-19 has affected many in our community and Suffern D.A.R.E. needs our help again. Yes, we need to help these families as they are our neighbors and we, as a community, are obligated to assist them. The High Holy Days may seem to have a while ago, especially as we were not all together, but we must remember we have to help people in need and we teach our children the meaning of *tzedakah*.



Toy Drive this year. All a family needs to do is donate ONE unwrapped new toy for a child in need. If every family donates, we can continue to provide Suffern D.A.R.E. with the ability to expand its reach to our surrounding communities and help heal the world. Please embrace the obligation to provide at least one unwrapped new

gift and in doing so, each of us will continue to teach the meaning of *tzedakah* to the next generation. Drop off the unwrapped gift at the synagogue during November and December. There will be bins to put the gifts in by religious school entrance or just check with Michelle or Iris. If you can't get the gift to the synagogue, no problem, email Barry Romoff (bromoff@gmail.com) and we will be glad to pick it up from you. Please note that the **last drop-off date** at the synagogue will be **Sunday, December 13, 2020**. Thank you.

We are requesting that each synagogue family pledge to participate in the BHSS Chanukah D.A.R.E.

Thanks,
Barry Romoff, 845-641-8167



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!

Worship Schedule

ALL LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Friday, November 6	6:30 pm	Singin' Shabbat with Cantor Josh - in the sanctuary <i>Birthdays in November will be celebrated</i>
Saturday, November 7		No Shabbat morning service
Friday, November 13	5:00 pm	Tot Shabbat - via Zoom
	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service - via Zoom
Saturday, November 14	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Schwartz
Friday, November 20	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service - via Zoom
Saturday, November 21	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of James Hyman
Friday, November 27	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service - via Zoom
Saturday, November 28		No Shabbat morning service
Friday, December 4	6:30 pm	Shabbat Family Service - <i>Thank Goodness It's Shabbat!</i> - in the sanctuary <i>Birthdays in December will be celebrated</i>
Saturday, December 5	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Eliana Panoff
Friday, December 11	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service – <i>celebrating Chanukah</i> - via Zoom
Saturday, December 12	10:00 am	B'nai Mitzvah of Benjamin Grossman and Jenna Bofford
Friday, December 18	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service - via Zoom
Saturday, December 19		No Shabbat morning service
Friday, December 25	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service - via Zoom
Saturday, December 26		No Shabbat morning service



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: November 1, 15, 22
December 6, 13, 20
Mondays: November 2, 16, 23, 30
December 7, 14
Tuesdays: November 10, 17
December 1, 8, 15

Office Closed:

Thursday, November 26
Friday, December 25

To do in November and December



Please note dates, times and ways to attend are subject to change

- *Get on your feet with BHSS Mitzvah Run, Walk, Stroll - Sunday, November 1 - start time 9:00 am - at BHSS*
- *Singin' Shabbat! - Friday, November 6 and Thank Goodness It's Shabbat! - December 4 - both at 6:30 pm - in person and via live stream*
- *Schmooze with "Cocktails" and Havdalah - Saturdays, November 17, 21, December 5, 19 - 7:00 pm - via Zoom*
- *Support the community at the Eternal Lights Dinner - Thursday, November 12 - 8:00 pm - via Zoom*
- *Bring the kids to Tot Shabbat - Friday, November 13 and Friday, December 11 at 5:00pm - via Zoom*
- *Get involved at the Social Action Racial Injustice panel discussion - Wed., Nov. 18 at 7:00 pm - via Zoom*
- *Connect to the Sisterhood LinkedIn Zoom Webinar - Thursday, November 19 at 7:30 pm*
- *Join the Sisterhood Kindness Chain - Monday, December 6*
- *Light the Menorah at Shabbat Chanukah celebration - Friday, December 11 - at 7:30 pm - via Zoom*
- *Enjoy a Little Night Music with Cantor Josh on Facebook Live - November 1, 15, 29, December 13, 27 - at 8:00 pm*