

# TEMPLE TOPICS

TEVET/SHEVAT/ADAR 5781

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

## Rabbi Ilana's Message

### Acts of Kindness

There is the hopefully singular moment in history of the the pandemic that inspired us to venture to each and every home. There is the tradition of Hanukkah and the endurance of Jews and Judaism to celebrate. There is the creativity of the Membership Committee and those who work at BHSS. And there is the unparelled generosity of our donor.  
*full article on page 3*

## Shir Chadash with Cantor Josh

### "Purim After Dark"

When we celebrate this Purim, we are commanded to get drunk at synagogue, to parody and pretend even at the expense of the sacredness of our services, and to read the only part of the Hebrew Bible that does not mention God even once - in which court intrigue and potential genocide are tied up with farcical misunderstandings.  
*full article on page 5*

## President's Message

### "We'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne."

*Chesed*, the practice of loving kindness or caring for someone else, means giving oneself fully, with love and compassion. The concept of kindness is not new to Judaism, as it appears in the Torah more than 190 times. *Gemilut chasadim*, loving kindness, is one of the three pillars of Judaism.  
*full article on page 2*

## Director of Education

### Getting Through

Perhaps winter, with its tendency to foster isolation in the best of times, has done it – pushed me over the edge and turned my rose-colored glasses a little darker, but with a new year on the horizon it's time to get past that and consider: what helps me get through? What can I count on and what can I stay positive about?  
*full article on page 4*

## B'NAI MITZVAH

January 23 Shyia Prizel  
February 6 Felix Schindler

## THINGS TO DO:

*more info on back cover and throughout*

Torah Study

"Cocktails" and Havdalah

A Little Night Music with Cantor Josh

Community-wide book discussion  
with Dr. Adam Jarrett, author,  
"In the Time of Covid"

Shabbat Shirah

Menschmakers Game Show

Say Yes to the Dress with BHSS

Installation Service for Cantor Josh Finkel

Purim Shpiel – "A Very Brady Purim"







# President's Message

Judy Teich

*"Acts of kindness never die. They linger in the memory, giving life to other acts in return."*

-Sir Rabbi Jonathan Sacks z"l

Together, we begin a new year...2021. The pandemic is not behind us, yet I have hope. I have hope for the light at the end of the tunnel. Together we will get through the next several months of darkness. Remember the writing of Leonard Cohen z"l, "There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in."

Thank goodness for our community! Our community has provided so much light during this time of darkness. We have done so through *chesed*. *Chesed*, the practice of loving kindness or caring for someone else, means giving oneself fully, with love and compassion. The concept of kindness is not new to Judaism, as it appears in the Torah more than 190 times. *Gemilut chasadim*, loving kindness, is one of the three pillars of Judaism. Our BHSS community is flush with "acts of loving kindness": a phone call to check in, a Zoom shiva, a freshly baked challah magically appearing on a friend's doorstep for Shabbat, yummy cookies delivered to a neighbor, a hot meal prepared for a sick congregant in need of a little support.

And let's not forget the Hanukkah Gift Bags delivered to every BHSS family and Sisterhood's Hanukkah kindness chain. And then there are the acts of kindness outside our walls: participation in Suffern D.A.R.E Holiday Toy Drive, collecting coats for the homeless, donating to the Center for Food Action, and more.

The world may be in flux, but BHSS has a lot to celebrate. Our congregation is turning 50! From humble beginnings to a thriving community, we continue to grow and we want to celebrate our past, our present and our future. **SAVE THE DATE of Sunday, June 6.** Details will follow. But before that, mark your calendars for **Friday, February 19** as we celebrate Cantor Josh's installation as a part of our Shabbat evening service.

I leave you with this story written by Rabbi Arthur Waskow.

*We'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne*

"Blessings for the new year, flowering from the seed of a joyful memory: On a New Year's Eve in the mid-1980s, Reb Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, as the clock ticked midnight, blew on the shofar the melody of Auld Lang Syne: *"We'll take a cup of kindness yet, for auld lang syne."*

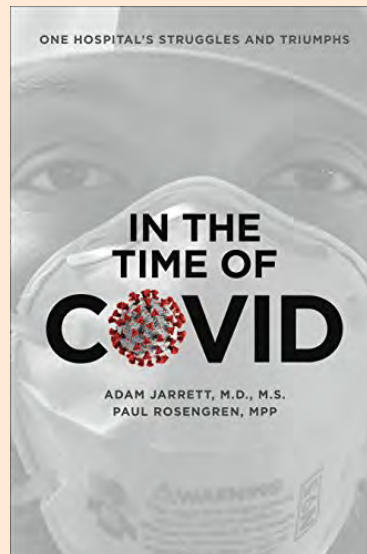
May we all be blessed to take that cup of kindness, not only for old times long since, but also for our futures yet to come; and just as Reb Zalman wove together in humor and depth the strands of two different traditions, may we all be blessed to weave together at the edges of our varied communities and traditions and of our interior identities the threads of connection, the fringes of sharing, so that without dissolving our differences we can bring our varied selves, the inner and the outer, into an affirmation of the One.

*Shalom, salaam, pax, paz, peace!* – Rabbi Arthur Waskow

Be well! Stay safe my friends,

Judy

The North Jersey Board of Rabbis presents  
**Dr. Adam Jarrett, Chief Medical Officer**  
**at Holy Name Medical Center** for a  
community-wide Zoom discussion of his book.



It is a look at the pandemic from the front lines, and the latest efforts to end the virus.

**Saturday,  
January 16,  
7:30 pm**

Registration info to follow.





Over Hanukkah, due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, many of us from the BHSS clergy, staff, and Membership Committee were given the great privilege to deliver Hanukkah gifts to each household in our congregation. Speaking on behalf of my daughter and myself, it was such great fun to make the deliveries and have the chance to chat with people.

There are a few extraordinary pieces of this occasion. There is the hopefully singular moment in history of the pandemic that inspired us to venture to each and every home. There is the tradition of Hanukkah and the endurance of Jews and Judaism to celebrate. There is the creativity of the Membership Committee and those who work at BHSS. And there is the unparalleled generosity of our donor. No one of these things happens in isolation, and—except for the virus and outbreak—they are individual, contributing miracles that lead to a heightened sense of joy and community.

One significant consideration is that, short of the original miracle of Hanukkah, each of these marvels is made by people we know and love. The ideas, the deliveries, the sense of community, the Jewish continuity...each one of us holds these fragments of amazement within our lives. Then, when one astonishing mensch says, “Make it happen” with incomparable generosity, we experience a *nes gadol*, a great miracle.

Some individuals have the means to go big, but everyone has the ability to make something special happen. This year we will celebrate Purim on the evening of Thursday, February 25. Purim has four *mitzvot* associated with it: (1) hearing the *megillah* read, (2) participating in a festival meal, (3) *mishloach manot* or giving gifts to friends, and (4) *matanot la'evyonim* or giving gift to those in need. As we learned through both the congregational Hanukkah gifts and the Sisterhood Kindness Chain, and the D.A.R.E. toy drive, the giving of gifts to friends and to those in need is a way of making connections and reminding people that they are not alone. When we perform these *mitzvot* we connect to our own generosity and ability to spread joy, we inspire others, and we assure recipients that they are seen and have reason to hope.

In every morning's recitation of *Nissim b'chol Yom* or Prayers for Daily Miracles, we acknowledge the blessings of opening the eyes of the blind and giving strength to the weary. When we open our eyes to other's needs, we are enacting that blessing. When we acknowledge them through our gifts, we bestow upon them the blessing of alleviating at least a little of their weariness. Whether the gifts we give are big or small, it is the act of giving—and the act of seeing—that is the miracle.

May our eyes be opened to all that we are capable of. May we spread blessing and miracles through each and every act of kindness.







# From The Educator

*Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh*

*Getting Through*

For a couple of days last week, I helped our granddaughter with her preschool, which was temporarily remote. The teacher starts each session with familiar questions – what day of the week is it, what is the date, and what is the weather? In addition, she mentions the season and has been calling it winter. I know that it is not (as of the day I am writing, anyway) officially winter until December 21, but it certainly FEELS like winter, and has felt, at least metaphorically, like winter for months. Only the actual weather has changed, but the cold and dark and gray and wet of this season has intensified the malaise and uncertainty that I, along with many of you, have felt for some time.

Up until now I have been intently counting my blessings; my family and I are healthy and have food on the table. Our “pod” of family includes Andrew, his wife Jackie, and granddaughters Rose and Quinn as well as Ari’s girlfriend Liz. We have good internet and modern tech to help us communicate with the outside world reliably. I have taught myself to make challah, a goal I have had for years, and our entire household has been available to eat dinner together nearly every night, a rarity pre-pandemic.

Perhaps winter, with its tendency to foster isolation in the best of times, has done it – pushed me over the edge and turned my rose-colored glasses a little darker, but with a new year on the horizon it’s time to get past that and consider: What helps me get through? What can I count on and what can I stay positive about?

The answer is not a what, it’s a who. And the who is YOU. You, our parents; you, our teachers and students; you, my fellow congregants; and you, Rabbi Ilana, Cantor Josh, Iris, Michelle; you are getting me through. When I log into Zoom to start a session of school, I am excited to see everyone. It makes even a dark day brighter. I am so proud of our teachers

and the work they put into making remote learning engaging. They are truly rock stars.

Through school sessions, private tutoring, normal-but-not interactions on a daily basis, and yes, even meetings, it is energizing to work and study together. And even though business is definitely not “as usual” the usual things are being accomplished, albeit differently. B’nai mitzvah are being celebrated, Rabbi Ilana and Cantor Josh are working to prepare them, the teachers and I are planning activities, and thanks to the teamwork coordinated by Iris and Michelle, we are well-informed and connecting.

As you will read elsewhere in this issue, BHSS has applied for and received a grant as a part of the Scientists & Synagogues program, to run educational sessions in different forms over the course of the coming year. There are many reasons to get excited about this; of course, education is a big part of it, but for me personally, our topic “The Science of Tsuris” addresses the very real impact of isolation on our physical well-being. I hope to find ways to help deal with these issues not just for our present situation but as strategies I can apply long-term to keep myself healthy and balanced. I hope you will stay tuned and attend some of the programming, if not all, to see what it can do for you!

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**FEBRUARY 19**  
**7:30 pm**  
**Join us for Cantor Josh's**  
**Installation Service**





There is a moment, in a movie or comic, when the main character stumbles upon two look-alikes fighting and needs to figure out which is real, and do away with the imposter. But what if they're both real, in their own way? I think this is the case with the holiday of Purim and also with its underlying narrative, *Megillat* Esther, the Scroll of Esther: we have two different, equally legitimate versions of the holiday and story, and on a subconscious level, we often feel we need to choose which we are going to let into our communities and homes. I think that it may be possible to “do both,” but first, we have to articulate what they are.

I think everyone's fairly familiar with “Carnival Purim”: the fun Purim, in which we (and especially our youngest children) parade in costumes, play games, and share the story of brave Esther (“yay!”) and wicked Haman (“boo!”). Good and evil are clearly delineated, and the story of Esther is whittled down to its essential elements so that we can celebrate freedom and bravery. I adore this Purim, and this story of Esther, and think it is invaluable to every Jewish community.

But there's another Purim, “Purim After Dark,” which offers a more nuanced moral picture of the world, which leaves no worldly power unscathed by satire. When we celebrate this Purim, we are commanded to get drunk at synagogue, to parody and pretend even at the expense of the sacredness of our services, and to read the only part of the Hebrew Bible that does not mention God even once – in which court intrigue and potential genocide are tied up with farcical misunderstandings.

The farcical and “adult” nature of the scroll of Esther shows up most clearly in episodes that play on expectations related to the gender roles of the time, in much the same way a

Monty Python sketch might. In the first “Act,” King Ahashveros, who rules over most of the known world, whines that his wife refuses his drunken summons. So Ahashveros asks his advisors what to do. Their answer? “If our wives hear that even the summons of the king can be ignored, then wives everywhere, even our own, could start ignoring our summonses – the whole empire would descend into chaos! She has to go!”

And consider Esther's final victory – when Ahashveros leaves Esther's dinner party to retrieve guards to arrest Haman, the villain prostrates himself before her, begging for his life. When the King returns, he believes Haman is trying to take liberties with Esther – making Haman doubly done-for and leading to his execution by impalement.

Recognizing the text as a farce relieves our discomfort with the final act, in which the population activated by Haman, ready to murder and plunder the Jews, are instead murdered and plundered themselves, a reversal out of Benny Hill or Scooby Doo.

The farce that comforts us is rendered substantive by its satire. The Book of Esther reminds us that people in power are often easily swayed, like Ahashveros, or corrupt, like Haman. However, if we are clever, like Mordechai, and brave, like Esther, then it is possible to tip the scale towards justice. In the scroll of Esther, justice and safety are assured not by God but by will – by the cynical and brave individuals willing to enter the hallways of power, despite its dangers and its pomp and intrigue, who are ultimately able to save the day. A Happy Purim to you all!



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## Candlelighting times:

January 1-1 Vay'chi 4:22 pm  
 January 8- Sh'mot 4:28 pm  
 January 15- Va'era 4:36 pm  
 January 22- Bo 4:44 pm  
 January 29- B'shallach 4:53 pm

February 5- Yitro 5:01 pm  
 February 12- Mish'patim 5:10 pm  
 February 19- T'rumah 5:19 pm  
 February 26- T'zaveh 5:27 pm



## January Birthdays

*Margalit Brandman*

*Madison Dworkin*

*Hailey Feldman*

*Emily Smith*

*Abby Fein*

*Joshua Heffernan*

*Noa Kaufman*

*Samone Kaufman*

*Samuel Koppelman*

*Samantha Kotz*

*Shyia Prizel*

*Jeffrey Waldbaum*

## February Birthdays

*Harry Barron*

*Samuel Cohen*

*Charlotte Geller*

*Tyler Grossman*

*Dara Kotz*

*Cody Levine*

*Sean Levinson*

*Jaye Evelyn Mendel*

*Reid Sendroff*





# *- Eternal Lights -*

## *Our celebration of Giving - Raising over \$19,500*

Our first virtual Eternal Lights was a tremendous success. Along with an amazing committee of Dara Diamond and Vida Mylson who offered their ideas, input and time, we were all able to share a fun, inspiring event, with song, laughter, warmth and tradition while raising \$19,500 after expenses.

I am so humbled to be a part of the incredible group of supporters who in these uncertain times gave from their hearts.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all our benefactors! It is because of your generosity we are able to assist families in need so they can be a part of our Jewish community.

It is because of your kindness we are able to provide programs to all of our congregants, and educational resources to our youngest members.

This is what Eternal Lights has done for the past 21 years, and we will continue to do so.

A special thanks goes to Iris for her “no task is too big” attitude, her feedback, time and dedication. And to Rebecca McVeigh for her creativity and computer savvy used to build our word cloud.

Everyone who supported Eternal Lights, those who joined on Zoom, those who shared our champagne toast and dessert, proved what the real meaning of Eternal Lights is all about: Generosity, Camaraderie, and Commitment of our sacred community.

Thank you again for all you do, we are Eternally grateful!!

Below you'll see the word cloud, created by our supporters describing Beth Haverim Shir Shalom and our Eternal Lights.

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and safe New Year!

Deborah Klein  
Eternal Lights Chairperson

## *Eternal Lights Benefactors:*

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### FRIENDS OF ETERNAL LIGHTS:

LESLIE SAPIENZA  
DOROTHY & MICHAEL COHEN  
LYNN & MICHAEL ZALL





# January Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					6:30 pm Tefilot	Vay'chi 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No School	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Ritual Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Sh'mot
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 8 pm Cantor Josh Facebook Live	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. Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Va'eira 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
No School	No School	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Bo 10 am Shyia Prizel
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 1 pm YG 3-5 3 pm YG event 8 pm Cantor Josh Facebook	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. Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot Shabbat Shirah	B'shallach 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
31						
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS						



# February Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	2nd - 4 pm K/1 - 4:30 pm 3rd 5 pm Kadimah 7 pm	4th - 4 pm 5th - 5:15 pm 7:30 pm Ritual Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	Yitro 10 am Felix Schindler
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 8 pm Cantor Josh Facebook Live	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. Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG	7 pm Say Yes to the Dress with BHSS		7:30 pm Tefilot	Mishpatim 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
No School	No School	No School 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot Cantor Josh Installation Service	T'rumah
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS 8 pm Cantor Josh Facebook Live	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. Mtg.	8 pm Adult Choir	7 pm Purim Shpiel	7:30 pm Tefilot	T'tzaveh 7 pm Havdalah via Zoom
28						
9 am Torah Study 9 am 6th trad 10:15 am FS						



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



## ***Shyia Prizel – January 23, 2021***

Lives in Suffern, New York. Parents, Chayna & Adam Zalensky, Peter and Jennifer Prizel, Sisters, Skyli, 10, and Dylan, 4, Ella, 1 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... Her interests include tennis, crocheting, reading, and music. “I want to be a medical researcher and specifically study the pancreas to find a cure for diabetes. I am so excited that all of my hard work will finally be shared with my family and friends. For my Mitzvah Project I chose to sew stuffed elephants for children who were newly diagnosed with diabetes. I chose elephants because they symbolize peace, they care for their young, and their trunks mean good luck. I had them shipped to the Juvenile Diabetes Association where they will be handed out to children. This brings me happiness because I am able to help children with a disease I feel passionate about curing.”



## ***Felix Schindler – February 6, 2021***

Lives in Suffern, New York. Mother, Jenifer, Father, Scott, Brother, Warren, 16, Sister, Hazel, 15 ..... is a 7th grader at Suffern Middle School ..... His interests include skateboarding and soccer. “I would like to travel and meet people from all over the world. I’m excited for my Bar Mitzvah to share this occasion with my family and friends, whether they are there in person or virtually. My dad and I cleaned up trash around my community in parks, train stations, and along the waterfront.”



## ***Something New at BHSS!***

We are excited to announce that Beth Haverim Shir Shalom applied for and received a grant from Scientists & Synagogues, a grass-roots program that provides Jews opportunities to explore the most interesting and pressing questions surrounding Judaism and science. Scientists & Synagogues is an initiative started by Sinai & Synapses, an organization whose goal is to bridge the gap between the religious and scientific worlds, offering people a worldview that is both scientifically grounded and spiritually uplifting.

A group of scientists at BHSS, representing diverse backgrounds, professions and perspectives, along with Rabbi Ilana, Cantor Josh and Rebecca McVeigh, are in the process of arranging for various programs, learning experiences and special events wherein we will examine how our Jewish beliefs, texts and practices can be explored with a scientific lens.

Given the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, our

committee arrived upon “The Science of Tsuris” as our general theme. More specifically, we intend to dive into the Polyvagal Theory and how Judaism responds to our biological imperative to connect. In other words, we are going to take a closer look at the science of stress and how our faith communities can help us cope more adaptively.

During this unprecedented time, many of us are feeling isolated as we are separated from our communities. Our hope is to use this grant opportunity to address the challenges we are facing and implement relief measures based firmly in science and religion. We know that exploring the relationship between science and Judaism will spark lively debate and discussion, and ultimately will allow us to embrace our faith and science, and most importantly each other, more wholeheartedly.

Special thanks to Lori Yanowitz for spearheading the grant application, my fellow scientists (Jeff and Mona Lefkowitz, Eddie and Robbie Saiff, Randy Sherry, Pam Straining, Dana Weeks) and our clergy and staff for collaborating with us on this new endeavor.

Stay tuned for more information about programs, guest speakers and other opportunities!

Jen Cole



# RITUAL COMMITTEE

The BHSS Ritual Committee works in partnership with clergy, staff, and fellow congregants to develop new programs and policies that address the evolving needs of our congregation and provides logistical support for all ritual activities.

## TU B'SHVAT

January 27 & 28, 2021

Tu B'Shvat is a holiday occurring on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Shevat. It is also called Rosh HaShanah La'Ilanot, literally 'New Year of the Trees'. In contemporary Israel, the day is celebrated as an ecological awareness day, and trees are planted in celebration. Celebrations may also include a seder to celebrate the environment by drinking wine (or grape juice) and eating fruits.

### WHITE AND RED GRAPE JUICE OR WINE (ENOUGH FOR FOUR SMALL GLASSES PER PERSON)

A Tu B'Shvat seder, full of imagery and symbolism, is often divided into four sections that represent the four seasons. As with the Passover seder, the Tu B'Shvat seder evolved to include four cups of wine or grape juice, but in varying shades of red, which represent the seasons: white for the bleak time of winter, white with a bit of red to represent the earth's awakening in early spring, red with a bit of white representing the blossoming of late spring, and dark red to represent the fullness of all the growing plants and vegetation along with the heat of summer.

### TASTINGS OF THREE CATEGORIES OF FRUITS OR NUTS

1. Those with an inedible outer covering and edible inside: melons, nuts, pomegranates, coconuts, citrus, bananas, etc.
2. Those with an edible outside but inedible pit inside: dates, olives, plums, peaches, apples, avocados, nectarines, pears, etc.
3. Those that are entirely edible: berries, figs, grapes, etc.

These categories are said to represent different seasons and/or ways of being in the world, often following kabbalistic categories.

Perhaps your family can start a new tradition by enjoying a Tu B'Shvat seder in your home.

## PURIM

February 25 & 26, 2021

Chag Purim Sameach

Purim is a holiday which commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from Haman in the ancient Persian Empire, a story recorded in the Biblical Book of Esther (Megillat Esther). On Purim we emphasize the importance of friendship and community and even though we may be physically separated, we can still find ways to stay connected.

There are three traditional ways to celebrate Purim:

1. We read the *M'Gillat Esther* and learn the story of Esther, King Ashasuerus and Haman (watch your temple emails for details).
2. We give gifts of food to friend- *mishloach manot* can be a creative way to reach out and to show your creativity. A basket, bag or box should contain at least two different ready-to-eat food and beverage. Hamantashchen, a triangle shaped pastry, is a traditional treat and is said to represent the triangular hat worn by Haman.
3. *Matanot l'evyomin* is giving gifts to the poor. This can also translate as participating in social justice. There are so many worthy causes, select one that is meaningful to your family.

Are you interested in learning more about the holiday or congregational rituals? The Ritual Committee is open to everyone in the congregation - no previous experience required. You don't need to be a Torah scholar; you just need to be interested. We meet the first Tuesday of the month, currently via Zoom.

Nancy Levene  
Amy Littman  
Ritual Co-chairs



# BROTHERHOOD

Happy Secular New Year!

So, with 2020 safely behind us, we suppose that all our troubles are magically far away and over...

Yes, we know that the change of the calendar does not stop Covid-19, financial challenges, or solve the social problems we are all experiencing and facing. What doesn't change, however is all the work Brotherhood does and has been doing.

During Covid-19, Brotherhood had been holding regular monthly Zoom meetings – sometimes over a beer or drink of choice, and others over Chinese food or cuisine of choice. Brotherhood joined with Social Action and Youth for our winter clothing drive – collecting coats and clothing which will be donated to the Midnight Run, as well as some other organizations. Brotherhood joined with BHSS to co-sponsor a walk/run fundraiser where the synagogue raised \$9,400 for first responders, split four ways – Village of Mahwah, Village of Suffern, Valley Hospital, and Good Samaritan Hospital.

Brotherhood continues to be a resource and support for all groups and all members of our congregation as well as an outlet for our members and friends to connect and come

together to fight antisemitism, to address racial and social injustice, and to lend a hand to our community.

In lieu of our annual Chanukah party, Brotherhood shared a movie via Zoom and invited people to bring their candy and popcorn to watch "Hold That Ghost," Abbott and Costello, 1941!

We know that the community misses our regular events – Rockland Boulders' suite, bike rides, Chanukah Party, comedy night – we even did not build the sukkah this year... or take it down...or have Pizza in the Hut...but you know? That will all come back. What is important is to remember that Brotherhood is still here; we are strong and we are always inviting anyone and everyone to join us for our virtual events...

Looking forward to seeing you soon, and soon enough in person...at a safe distance!

L'Shalom!

The Legion of Past Presidents

# SISTERHOOD

Happy secular New Year! Raise your hand if you were happy to say goodbye to 2020! Oh, the old year had its bright spots here and there, but it was mostly one we'd all like to forget. But that means there's so much to look forward to this year. Vaccines, longer days, warmer weather (it's got to come sometime) and yes, Sisterhood!

This past fall, we enjoyed an informative and well-attended seminar on using LinkedIn. The platform was new to some of us, but even the veterans learned some new tips and got to expand our social media networks. Thanks to everyone who put it together, and everyone who zoomed in for the night.

Rough year or not, Sisterhood closed out 2020 in a wonderful way.... our second Kindness Chain of the year! Did you know that more than 55 of our sisters participated in a secret ('til delivery) exchange of food, drink, crafts and other goodies? The best part is when we delivered our kindnesses, we got to spend time with our SKR (Sisterhood Kindness Recipient), socially-distanced, of course. We made new friends and renewed friendships with those we haven't seen "live" in months. Moments like that were what got us through 2020!

It may still be the dark of winter, but Sisterhood has its eye on spring. The holidays come early this year, and while we'll still be remote, we won't let another year pass without our signature **Miriam Seder**, scheduled for **March 18**. Watch for details in your weekly emails, and plan to join the women of BHSS for a meaningful and joyful celebration of our foremothers and ourselves.

There's more in the works, and you'll be hearing about our plans soon. But there's always room for another event, another social interest drive, another new thing to learn. Please bring us your fresh ideas and we'll work on making them happen.

Sisters help make the hard times easier and the easy times more fun. If you haven't joined our Sisterhood, it's not too late. 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



# MICHELLE MITZVAH GROUP

As December soon turns to January, it is always a good time to look back on the past year and look forward to the upcoming year. Let's be honest - the year of 2020 does not lend itself for any fond review. I don't think many people would sign up to relive the past nine months. But, there is one highlight from 2020 that is worth reflecting on.

Just as the pandemic and spring lockdowns were upon us, the Michelle Mitzvah Group finalized the creation of the **Michelle Mitzvah Group Scholarship Endowment in Memory of Jase Barrack** at Ramapo College. Jase, a 21-year-old member of our BHSS community and son of our beloved Lisa Barrack, passed away two years ago. This scholarship is set up in his honor to help students interested in human rights fund their education so they can make the world a better place.

Creating a scholarship provides an enduring legacy to both the memories of Jase & Michelle Appelbaum, who passed away more than 35 years ago from leukemia. It was after her death that the Michelle Mitzvah Group was established. May their memories be for a blessing.

The Michelle Mitzvah Group continues to serve the community at large, as we always have. Here are just some of

the ways we help our neighbors in need, and some of the links to the agencies we support:

- Volunteer at the Suffern Soup Kitchen to help prepare meals
- Help mentor young women at OASIS – A Haven for Women and Children - [www.oasisnj.org](http://www.oasisnj.org)
- Pickup & deliver food donations
- Donating food to the Center for Food Action - [www.cfanj.org](http://www.cfanj.org)
- Emmanuel Cancer Foundation [www.emmanuelcancer.org](http://www.emmanuelcancer.org)

We meet the second Tuesday of every month, at 7:30 p.m. If you have any questions, or would like to get involved, please contact Steven Simon at 201 788-6755 or via email at [steveoum@verizon.net](mailto:steveoum@verizon.net).

Stay safe. Be Kind. Wear a mask.

B'Shalom

Steven Simon, Chair, Michelle Mitzvah Group

# SOCIAL ACTION

We hope you had a nice and HEALTHY Thanksgiving and a Happy Hanukkah. Even during COVID, the Social Action team is doing great work!! First of all, we had our Racial Injustice Panel on November 18. Lynne Feldman was fantastic as the moderator of this event. Our panelists were wonderful: Venus Engram, who organized the BLM rally in Suffern; Carolina Curbelo, Esq, an immigration attorney; Cheryl Rosario, the Director of Jewish Women's Foundation; Joshua Nelson, the "Prince of Kosher Gospel" and Syed Ali, the Iman from Masjid Dural Ehsan in Suffern. Each panelist brought us a diverse and unique point of view from their personal and professional lives. The evening program ended with a You Tube of Joshua Nelson performing. (Thanks to Larry Palant, our resident techie!!)

Our next program was on December 9, which, jointly with the Library Committee, presented a documentary called "Little White Lie" about a Jewish woman who was raised to believe that her "olive" complexion was from a Sicilian grandfather, even though she was really bi-racial due to her mother's affair with an African American man. Following the documentary, we held a lively, open forum discussion.

Social Action continued their support of the Brotherhood and BHSS Youth Groups' joint winter clothing drive to support Midnight Run, the Episcopal Church of Suffern (Soup Kitchen), and Jersey Cares. December 5, our committee joined with BHSS to support an outdoor movie and coat drive hosted by Beth Rishon, supporting Jersey Cares.

The Social Action team remains committed to bringing to our community diverse and different programs that foster learning, staying actively engaged, and working together!! Please look out for our upcoming events and opportunities as they develop.

L'Shalom!

Lisa Estrin, Co-chair

Jonathan Theodore, Co-chair

Lisa Glick, Vice Chair



# HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL

MAXINE & HOWARD ABNER

SARAH & DAVID ADELSON

ROBERT & MILES ALTER

JEN & BRIAN ALTMAN

PATTI & BOB ANESETTI

ARLINGTON SANDY & BILL

JUDY & MARK ARONSON

ALLAN BECKER

IRMA BECKER

NORA & HAROLD BERGER

JOE & ELYSE BERMAN

IRA & MARILYN BERNSTEIN

JOSH & ALLISON BERWITZ

JACOB BERWIZ

GARY & MICHELLE BETTMAN

ROBERT BLAU

JILL BLUM

SHARON BOBROFF

ROBIN & BARRY CASSELL

LIZ & RICK COHEN

SETH & DORIE COHEN

JEN & MATT COLE

STACEY & IAN COYNE

LISA ESTRIN

ALEXIA & ELLIOTT FELDMAN

RENEE & GARY GARBUS

MICHELLE & ADAM GILBERT

KENNY & LISA GLICK

SUSAN & JEFF GOLDSTEIN

MERI GREENBERG

MARIN & DARYL GREENE

MARC & ROBYN HARRIS

BARBARA HEITMAN & FAMILY

STEVE & NADIGE HITTMAN

HEATHER HOROWITZ

SHERYL & JOEL IVES

SUE-ELLEN JOHNSON

DANNY & NANCY KAHN

LEN & MERYLE KAPLAN

CANDY & MIKE KASSOVER

JULIE & ADAM KAUFMAN

RENEE & DAVID KAUFMAN

DEBORAH & JEFF KLEIN

DONNA & ADAM KOTZ

MONA & JEFF LEFKOWITZ

TARA & MARC LEIBMAN

NANCY & AL LEVENE

PAM MAUPIN

MAT & DORI MENDEL

EVELYN & JIM MCGILLOWAY

ROD & REBECCA McVEIGH

MADDY & SHANE MELZER

MITCH & LAURA MILLER

HELEN MILSTEIN

NAOMI MOON

MARLA & BRIAN MUNI

SCOTT & SUSAN NACHINSON

MARCY & JEREMY NANUS

JUDY & JOHN NEUMANN

BILL & JILL PEARLMAN

KIM & BILL PRESSMAN

SAM REINER

JANN & MARC REISSMAN

CARRIE & MARC RITCHIN

ETHEL ROSEN & STUART KIRSHNER

ANDREW & DEBRA ROSS

ALDINE & JEFF ROSTOLDER

FRAN & JEFF ROWBOTTOM

ANDY & SHARI SLAVIN SCHECHTER

ALLAN SCHLUSSEL

PETER & PHYLLIS SCHMAUS

ALLAN & SHERI SCHOTT

DAVID SCHWARTZ

LINDA & DAVID SCHWARTZ

ZIVA & JOEL SCHWARTZMAN

STEVEN SELMAN

DEB & MARTIN SHAMES

RANDY & MICHELLE SHERRY

STEVEN SIMON

FLOYD & ILYSE SMITH

JUDY TEICH & LOIS SCHWARTZ

JONATHAN & LAUREN THEODORE

JILL & CHRIS TORRENTE

BARRON WALL

LEONA WAYSER & MARTIN GORDON

MARCI & HARVEY WEINBERG

ERIC & VIDA WEINER

GERRY & LYNN WESTON

HELENE YAGODA

KATHRYN & HOWARD ZUKOF



*Friday, January 29, 7:30 pm*

*Shabbat Shirah*  
Sabbath in Song

*Join Cantor Josh and our awesome all-volunteer adult choir for a service of beautiful singing and spirit! Zoom info to follow.*



# Yizkor – In Loving Memory of...

William & Janice Kaplan, Adele & Stanley Axelrod <i>- Alison &amp; Norman Axelrod</i>	Corinne Baum <i>- Kathy &amp; Peter Liebmann</i>
Jase Aaron Barrack <i>- Lisa Barrack</i>	Our parents <i>- Rhoda &amp; Marty Lonow</i>
Joel Berkowitz <i>- Bilha Berkowitz</i>	Roslyn & Harold Millman <i>- Lori &amp; Lance Millman</i>
Sherwood Bofford, Jacklyn Bofford, Frances Eichler, Sam Eichler <i>- Brad Bofford</i>	Barbara Moss, Esther Moss, George Moss, Ethel Pesin, Irving Pesin, Bea Moss, Sarah Blacher, Victor Levy <i>- Phil Moss</i>
Herman & Florence Ashkanazy, Beatrice Burghardt <i>- Barbara &amp; Charles Burghardt</i>	Thelma & Seymour Oventhal <i>- Joanne Oventhal</i>
Margot Charne, Israel Charne <i>- Karen &amp; George Charne</i>	Brad Perlstein, Marilyn Krichmar, Seymour Krichmar <i>- Lori Perlstein</i>
All our dear loved ones <i>- Laurie &amp; Marc Daniel</i>	Sylvia Svetcov, Celia Simon <i>- Sheryl &amp; Ira Rappaport</i>
Abe & Clara Eisen, Stephen Bloom, Ralph Henig <i>- Don Eisen</i>	Leah & Eugene Reinstein, Estelle & Jacob Weinberg <i>- Susan &amp; Harris Reinstein</i>
Harold Landau <i>- Audrey &amp; Stephen Flynn</i>	Ann Seidner <i>- Barry Seidner</i>
Linda Goldfarb, Lloyd Goldfarb, Enid Goldfarb <i>- Joel Goldfarb</i>	Allen Nudelman, Gertrude Silver, Edna Polin <i>- Roni &amp; Andrew Silver</i>
Ava Gottlieb <i>- Dara &amp; Brandon Gottlieb</i>	Charles Romano, Vernon Taylor, Leon & Dorothy Auerbach, Ramza Worm, Susanne Buckler, Ruth Buckler, David Weiner <i>- Marilyn Taylor</i>
Juliette Port Lesson, Saul Lesson, Jack Groskin, Sylvia Groskin <i>- Sheila &amp; Larry Groskin</i>	Brian Brandremer, Sally & Bill Eisenstein, Rita & Israel Tenenbaum <i>- Paula &amp; Mel Tenenbaum</i>
All our dear family members we have lost <i>- Marilyn &amp; Irwin Haberman</i>	Anne Rabinovitz, Jacob Rabinovitz, Jacob Turner, Celia Turner, Marilyn Friedman, Alyssa Alhadeff <i>- Ruth &amp; Stu Turner</i>
Howard Israel <i>- Laurie Sher Israel</i>	Israel & Sima Kriegel, William & Annette Waldbaum <i>- Jewell &amp; Stanley Waldbaum</i>
Edith & Morris Roth, Gertrude & Paul Jeanette <i>- Sandi &amp; Bob Jeanette</i>	Marilyn & Stanley Moser <i>- Gail &amp; Ranan Wichler</i>
Norman Kahn <i>- Lisa &amp; Brian Kahn</i>	Jane Yanowitz <i>- Lori &amp; Ritch Yanowitz</i>
Leonid Kissin <i>- Irina &amp; Yair Kissin</i>	Jeremy Zall <i>- Lynn &amp; Michael Zall</i>
Linda Goldfarb, Terri Coffel, Noel Lamster <i>- Lisa Lamster</i>	
Harvey & Linda Lenchner <i>- Veronica &amp; Daniel Lenchner</i>	



## BHSS YOUTH GROUPS

Happy New Year! Many of us are likely glad to have 2020 behind us and have high hopes for 2021 - we hear that!

That said, we also understand we'll need to stay remote for a little while longer. But there will be no fewer chances for you to get involved with the Youth Group and hang out and stay in touch with your Jewish friends!

We'll be hosting events throughout the winter including a Movie Night, Jackbox games competition, and maybe even a virtual cooking class! Continue to look out for communication from us via email, social media and in the BHSS weekly announcements.

As always, our ears are wide open if you have a great idea for



a future event! You can reach us at [bhssyouth@gmail.com](mailto:bhssyouth@gmail.com).

Hope we get the chance to see you soon!

Wishing you a happy, healthy and prosperous new year,

Rebeca and Sam



## NOTES FROM MUSIC

Hello everyone!

Happy New Year to you and your family! It's time to put 2020 behind us and look forward to new opportunities to spend with BHSS friends. Here is what the Music Committee is offering in the coming months:

**Shabbat Shirah** is celebrated at the service on **January 29, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.** The choir has been working with Cantor Josh to perform, record, and adapt so that our services continue to be as joyful and song-filled as ever! Traditionally this is the service when BHSS has honored our all-volunteer choir for their continued efforts. Let's do so again!

Our other winter program is **Movie Night**. Look for details in **February** coming to you in the BHSS weekly email. It will be a Zoom program so we can all share the movie from the comfort of our living rooms and kibbitz on the side. Bring your own popcorn!

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](mailto:niberger@aol.com) and I will send you the invitation link. All are welcome!

*Musically yours,*  
Nora Berger



## FROM THE SIFRIYAH

*As all great scientists have said and as all children know, it is above all by the imagination that we achieve perception, and compassion, and hope.* —Ursula K. Le Guin

In the previous edition of *Temple Topics*, Rabbi Ilana wrote about her favorite poet, Yehuda Amichai. In this edition of *Temple Topics*, Cantor Josh will share his love, admiration and affinity for the fiction writer, Ursula K. Le Guin, an American author of 21 novels, 11 volumes of short stories, 4 collections of essays, 12 children's books, and 6 volumes of poetry.

### From Cantor Josh...

You may be aware that I'm a huge fan of science fiction. I love fiction that explores what the future might look like for humanity. Fiction set in alternate futures reveals new aspects of our nature and can explore possibilities in our growth and change in response to the unforeseen. One of my very favorite science fiction novelists is Ursula K. Le Guin, who changed science fiction drastically in the 70s with her books in which different human cultures encounter one another. In this way, Le Guin is able to explore the roots of our ideas surrounding war, gender, government, and the burning questions of sociology and anthropology. Even more impressively, I find that all her books very thoughtfully explore how law and culture shape the human soul, and vice versa – which is incredibly Jewishly relevant and is, in my opinion, one of the primary endeavors of the Torah.

Le Guin's contributions to science fiction and literature in general were particularly vital as up until her groundbreaking work in the 70's, the genre was generally distinguished by a fetishization of technology and the military-- but her background as a woman, a Taoist and as the child of famous anthropologists gave her a different perspective, one which led to her being crowned the reigning queen of a new subgenre, "soft sci-fi," a designation she disliked quite a bit.

My favorites by her in this area of her work are "*The Dispossessed*," "*The Left Hand of Darkness*" and "*The Lathe of Heaven*." The first two both take place in her "*Hainish Universe*," in which an extremely ancient race of Humans known as the Hainish encounter different cultures of the universe in an observational way to gain understanding towards engagement in trade and mutual support. In "*The Left Hand of Darkness*," a Hainish explorer learns about a wintry planet on the verge of discovering large-scale war, where individuals shift between genders at different points in their life cycles. It's an incredible and

deeply spiritual book. In "*The Dispossessed*," a theoretical physicist whose work has transformative implications to technology is invited to be the first visitor from his social-anarchist moon colony to the aristocratic planet they circle in over two-hundred years.

Le Guin is also an incredible author of novels aimed at young adults. Her "*Wizard of Earthsea*" series inspired me tremendously as a kid, and her translation of one of the most important books of wisdom ever written, the "*Tao Te Ching*," also had an incredible impact on me and led to my lifelong interest in the literature and wisdom of China. If you haven't had an opportunity to explore Le Guin's work, I encourage you to give it a chance!

It is clear that Cantor Josh's favorite author, through fantasy, is also a creator of worlds where social justice, war, and the environment are concerns. As we all get to know our cantor better, we realize these are also his concerns and perhaps his stimulus for gravitating to this genre of science fiction. Thank you, Cantor Josh, for sharing and inspiring us to become Ursula K. Le Guin fans. And, of course, we would love to hear from our congregants. Please consider penning a short piece introducing your favorite author. It's a good way to connect to others.

## 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).



# ∞ Contributions ∞

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## *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

in memory of Naomi Freidman, with thanks for your support and guidance  
- *the Lipkin family*

in honor of Eliana's Bat Mitzvah, with thanks and appreciation  
- *the Panoff family*

in memory of Max Behar, with thanks and appreciation  
- *Adam & Jill Behar*

with thanks and appreciation and in honor of our granddaughter's baby naming  
- *Lance & Lori Millman*

with thanks to BHSS for all the kindness and innovation shown during the pandemic  
- *Irma Becker*

with thanks and appreciation  
- *Alan & Sanda Kessler*

with thanks and in honor of Ethan Schwartz  
- *Penny & Jonathan Schwartz*

with thanks and in honor of Justin Silver  
- *Roni & Andrew Silver*

with thanks and in honor of Emily Levin  
- *Liz & Jeff Levin*

with thanks and appreciation  
- *Ranan & Gail Wichler*

## *Cantor's Discretionary Fund:*

in honor of Eliana's Bat Mitzvah, with thanks and appreciation  
- *the Panoff family*

with thanks and in honor of Ethan Schwartz  
- *Penny & Jonathan Schwartz*

with thanks and in honor of Justin Silver  
- *Roni & Andrew Silver*

with thanks and in honor of Emily Levin  
- *Liz & Jeff Levin*

with thanks and appreciation  
- *Ranan & Gail Wichler*

in memory of Laura Flemming Medici, with deepest sympathy  
- *the BHSS choir*

with thanks

- *Drew & Sheryl Franklin*

## *Educator's Discretionary Fund*

with thanks and in honor of Ethan Schwartz  
- *Penny & Jonathan Schwartz*

with thanks and in honor of Justin Silver  
- *Roni & Andrew Silver*

with thanks and in honor of Emily Levin  
- *Liz & Jeff Levin*

## *Life Fund*

in loving memory of the yahrzeits of Al Yagoda, Sarah Matlowsky, Norman Matlowsky and Madeline Matlowsky  
- *Helene Yagoda*

in commemoration of the yahrzeits of Claire Novack, mother of Laurie Daniel, Kurt Daniel, father of Marc Daniel and father of Laurie, Norman Novack  
- *Laurie & Marc Daniel*

in commemoration of the yahrzeits of David Goldfarb and Enid Marcus  
- *Joel Goldfarb*

in honor of the October 10, 2020 wedding of Shawn Tedrow to Kristin Strickland  
- *Sheryl & Ira Rappaport*

with thanks for all the good work done at BHSS  
- *Pam Maupin*

in memory of mother and grandmother Leah Rucker  
- *Lynne Feldman & Erica Fields*

in memory of Jerome Weinberg  
- *Marci & Harvey Weinberg*

in memory of Sylvia Haberman  
- *Irwin & Marilyn Haberman*

## *Michelle Mitzvah Group*

with thanks for all the good works you do!  
- *Gail & Ranan Wichler*



# Contributions

## *Ramapo-Bergen Animal Refuge*

*Donated in by their families in honor of the following simchas:*

Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Schwartz  
Bar Mitzvah of James Hyman  
Bat Mitzvah of Avery Roberts

## *Center for Food Action in Mahwah*

*Donated in by their families in honor of the following simchas:*

Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Bofford  
Bar Mitzvah of Ben Grossman

## *Jewish Family Services in Rockland*

*Donated in by their families in honor of the following simchas:*

Bat Mitzvah of Eliana Panoff  
Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Schwartz  
Bat Mitzvah of Avery Roberts

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING זכרונם לברכה 

## *January Yahrzeits*

ELLEN ABRAMS	BERDIE GELFENBEIN	MURRAY MILLER	SYDNEY L. SEILER
HERMAN ACKERMAN	WILLIAM GOLDSTEIN	HAROLD MILLMAN	BEA SHERMAN
NORMAN ARKAWY	ELY GORDON	MYRA MINTY	JAN SIMON
LENA BENDALIN	NATHAN HIEGER	NANCY MORGAN	MILTON SITOMER
ESTHER BERNSTEIN	SHARYN HOFFMAN	MILTON NACHINSON	MARILYN SOLOMON
CLAIRE BRENDER	JACOB ISRAEL	PAUL PLOTT	EDWARD SPENCER
RONALD BRENNER	PHOEBE JAFFE	BENJAMIN RABIN	TODD SPENCER
VINCENT BRUNHARD	RONALD JOHNSON	RUTH RIVKIND	EVA STEDMAN
SUSANNE BUCKLER	SYLVIA KADISH	DAVID SALTZMAN	JUDITH STEINMAN
FREDEL COHEN	GERALD KLEIN	SELMA SCHECHTER	LOUIS STERNBERG
FR. GEORGE COYNE	SYLVIA LACHER	RONA SCHICK	SUMNER VICTOR
MARGARITA COYNE	DR. THEODORE LEIBMAN	LOUIS SCHLUSSEL	EDDIE WACHTEL
KURT DANIEL	ABRAHAM LEVY	BEVERLY SCHWARTZ	JACOB WEINBERG
ESTHER DANTO	SOPHIE LIVINGSTON	DAVID SCHWARTZ	LILLIAN WEINER
RUTH DOBLIN	BERNARD MAIDENBERG	ROSE SCHWARTZ	RUTH WHITMAN
WILLIAM EISENSTEIN	JEROME MAIDENBERG	RABBI SYLVAN	NATHAN WIDMAN
THEODORE EPSTEIN	SYLVIA MANDEL	SCHWARTZMAN	KARL WILDMAN
ROBERT ESTRIN	CELIA MEYERS	RUTH FRIEDMAN	ROBERT WITT
LINDA FEUCHTBAUM	JAY MEYERS	SEAGER	JEREMY ZALL
LAWRENCE FLON			



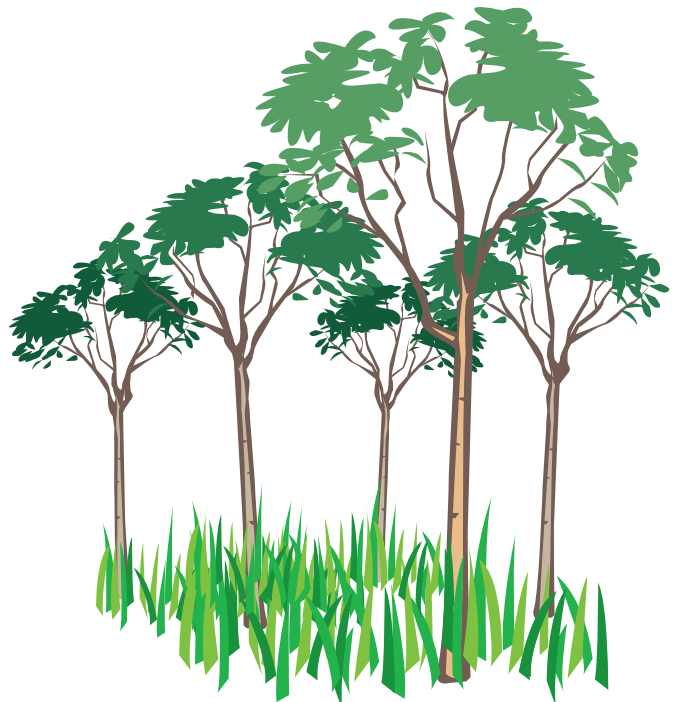
## February Yahrzeits

ALYSSA ALHADEFF	MITCH GOLDMAN	THELMA LEVITT	HARRY SAULT
LEIZER ALPERSTEIN	HENRY GREENBERG	MIRIAM LICHTENFELD	SOL SCHER
SHELBY ALTER	STEWART GROSSMAN	PINCHAS LIPSON	DIANE SCHORR
ROBERT ANESETTI, SR.	ANNA HEFFLER	JEANE LISK	ANN SEIDNER
HERMAN ASHKANAZY	MAX HEFFLER	MARTHA MAIER	ARTHUR SHERRY
NORMA ATLAS	IRA HIEGER	NOAH MANDEL	GERTRUDE SILVER
IRENE BERNSTEIN	ROY ISRAEL	DINA MARX	IRVING SILVER
SAMUEL BORNSTEIN	PAUL JEANETTE	GEORGE MENDELSON	MARGO SIMMONS
MAUREEN BOYLE	NORMAN KAHN	GLORIA MENDELSON	JULIUS SLAVIN
FLORENCE BRESSLER	JANICE KAPLAN	NORMAN MOSKOWITZ	SIDNEY SOLOMON
ALICE BRICKMAN	HELEN KASSOVER	DOROTHY NACHINSON	MANDEL STEIN
MYRON BUCHALTER	EDITH KAUFMAN	IRWIN ORSHALICK	SUSAN STERN
TERRI COFFEL	GLORIA KIRSHNER	JARDENA PAVLOVEC	NICK SUSA
HOWARD COLE	SEYMOUR KRICHMAR	ARNOLD PELLER	ANDREA GREEN SWAN
BETTY COYNE	NOEL LAMSTER	ANNA PREMELAAR	EDWARD TAPP
GRACE FINKEL	MILDRED LANDAU	TOBY PUTTERMAN	MARLA TITCOMB
BEVERLY FITTERMAN	SEYMOUR LANDAU	MERRIE RABIN	LAURIE WEINBERG
CELIA FORMAN	SHAYE LANDAU	LEAH REINSTEIN	MARTA WICHLER
HARRY FRIEDMAN	JULIETTE LESSEN	MELVYN ROMOFF	JACOB WIDMAN
ROSE FRIEDMAN	FRANK LEVENE	BERNARD ROSENBERG	BETTY WILDMAN
LEA GLITMAN-ALOKALAI	RUTH LEVINE	SAMUEL ROTH	HARRY ZALL
ALVIN GOLDBERG	BERT LEVITT	JOEL SANKEL	LEONARD ZINN

## Tu B'Shvat: The New Year for Trees

Tu B'Shvat, the 15th of Shvat, is the day that marks the beginning of the "New Year for Trees." This is the season in which the earliest-blooming trees in the land of Israel merge from their winter sleep and begin a new fruit-bearing cycle.

On Tu B'Shvat we eat fruit, particularly from the kinds that are singled out by the Torah in its praise of the bounty: grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates. Bokser- carob- is also a popular holiday treat. This day is also known as "Arbor Day" and is celebrated by school-children in Israel who plant trees.





# *Good & Welfare* from and for the congregation

---

## *Condolences to:*

**Steven Brown** on the death of his mother, Lillian Fligiel Brown

**Adam Behar** on the death of his father, Max Behar

**Barbara Heitmann** on the death of her aunt, Evelyn Ebbin

**Melissa Cooper** on the death of her cousin, Ellen Liebowitz

**Stacey Lipkin** on the death of her mother, Naomi Friedman

*R'fuah Sh'leimah*  
(For a full and speed recovery)

**Lisa Lamster**

## *Mazal Tov to:*

**Jill Blum** on the birth of her grandson, Nolan Hulbrock

## *Thank You:*

BHSS was thrilled to deliver some Hanukkah joy to over 325 families this year thanks to an amazingly generous anonymous donor.

Our immense gratitude goes to these special helpers:

**Lori Yanowitz**  
**Lauren Theodore**  
**Jonathan Theodore**  
**Annabel Theodore**  
**Renee Garbus**  
**Nora Berger**

and our Board of Trustees and Membership Committee





# SAY *Yes* to the DRESS with BHSS!

On Wednesday,  
February 10, 7 - 8pm

SAVE  
THE DATE!

A behind-the-scenes  
look into Kleinfeld

**Spend some time  
with Dorothy Silver,  
Director of Sales &  
Merchandising and  
other surprise  
guests.**

Hear about the history of  
the famed store , how the  
TV show got started and  
how styles have changed  
over the years.

See some of the hottest  
styles- *modeled virtually!*

**Reserve your space and  
reserve your raffle ticket  
for a chance to win \$500  
to be used in Kleinfeld's  
accessory boutique.**

More info to come...





♪ Here's the story,  
of a Queen named Esther... ♪

That's right...

## It's a Very Brady Purim!

Thursday, February 25 – 7:00 Pm

Details to Follow...







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# Tot Shabbat



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

Tot Shabbat is taking a  
break for the winter, but  
will be back in the Spring!

Stay tuned for  
further details...

## 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  
(lialams@optonline.net) or 201-  
760-1935 with any questions  
or to order cards today!





# Worship Schedule

ALL SERVICES ARE VIA ZOOM BUT SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Friday, January 1	6:30 pm	Family Services <i><b>Birthdays in January will be celebrated</b></i>
Friday, January 8	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, January 15	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, January 22	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Saturday, January 23	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Shyia Prizel
Friday, January 29	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services – Shabbat Shirah
Friday, February 5	6:30 pm	Family Services <i><b>Birthdays in February will be celebrated</b></i>
Saturday, February 6	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Felix Schindler
Friday, February 12	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, February 19	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services – <b>Cantor Josh Installation Service</b>
Thursday, February 25	7:00	Purim Shpiel ~ Reading of the Megillah
Friday, February 26	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services





**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: January 10, 24, 31  
February 7, 21, 28  
Mondays: January 4, 11, 25  
February 1, 8, 22  
Tuesdays: January 5, 12, 19, 26  
February 2, 9, 23

**Office Closed:**

Friday, January 1  
Monday, February 15



## To do in January and February

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

- *Torah Study Sundays, January 10, 24, 31 & February 7, 21, 28 at 9:00 am*
- *“Cocktails” and Havdalah, Saturdays, January 2, 16, 30 & February 13, 27 at 7:00 pm*
- *Family Services Fridays, January 4 & February 5, 6:30 pm*
- *Zoom into book talk with Dr. Adam Jarrett, author of “In the Time of Covid,” Saturday, January 16 at 7:30 pm*
- *Sing along with Rabbi and Cantor at Shabbat Shirah, Friday, January 29 at 7:30 pm*
- *Go behind the scenes with Say Yes to the Dress with BHSS, Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 pm*
- *Celebrate Cantor Josh at his installation service, Friday, February 19 at 7:30 pm*
- *Join the fun of Purim Shpiel: “A Very Brady Purim”, Thursday, February 25 at 7:00pm*