

TEMPLE TOPICS

ADAR/NISAN 5782

MARCH/APRIL 2022



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Rabbi Ilana's Message

The Willingness to Not Be Perfect

Many years ago, when I was new at being a rabbi, a very kind man who was married to a strong Israeli woman wanted to make a trade with me: he would teach me to play the guitar in exchange for my teaching him Hebrew. Sure! Why not?

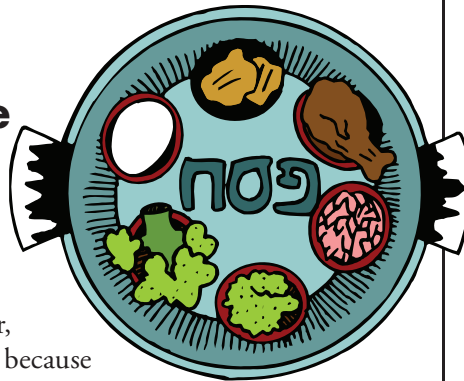
full article on page 3

President's Message

A Second Passover

God acknowledges we are human. Sometimes we are sick. Sometimes we are late. Sometimes we don't show up. But God tells us we can have a do-over, a make-up date. God breaks the rules, because we asked, and waits for us until we are ready.

full article on page 2



Director of Education

"Who is wise? He who learns from every person."

Woven into every aspect of BHSS's life is learning. Indeed, our mission statement ends with "...we are dedicated to the never-ending process of Jewish learning." There are so many opportunities to learn at BHSS that are NOT part of our religious school.

full article on page 4



B'NAI MITZVAH

Matthew Schlosser	March 5
Theodora Leibman	March 12
Jillian Bruckner	March 19
Daniel Cohen	April 23
Dara Kotz	April 30
Jason Weintraub	April 30

THINGS TO DO:

more info on back cover and throughout

- Torah Study with Rabbi Ilana
- Tot Shabbat
- Shabbat Sh'happy
- Sisterhood Virtual Cooking Class
- Purim Shpiel – West Side Shpiel
- Purim Carnival
- Challah Bake
- Torah Stories
- BHSS Staytreat
- Shabbat Service with guest Singer/
Songwriter Michelle Citrin
- Sisterhood Miriam Seder
- Second night Community Seder
- Passover Yizkor Service
- Yom HaShoah



President's Message

Jen Cole

A Second Passover

In March 2020, Matt and I hosted the second of what was intended to be a biennial gathering, “*Shushan Shenanigans*,” a fun-filled evening of food, festivities (including the ever popular, *The Not-So-Newish and Slightly-More-Jewish Newlywed Game*) and our BHSS friends, all of whom generously donated to support the synagogue at the Sisterhood Goods and Services auction in exchange for their invitation.

I recall some quiet chatter about coronavirus, perhaps accompanied by a bit of reluctance to physically embrace one another, but the event was minimally impacted and whatever anxiety there was seemed to melt away by the second *Vash-tini* (It is, after all a Purim-themed event!).

Fast forward eight days, the world essentially shut down for what was anticipated to be a two week quarantine (a/k/a “a three hour tour”).

A month or so later, we were still deep in isolation. Already tiring of puzzles, paint-by-numbers (still not completed), time off from work (telemedicine had not fully launched), and envying (then eventually becoming annoyed by) all the Facebook posts about sourdough starters, I began writing. I was lamenting the fact that my favorite holiday, Passover, was not shaping up to be the festival to which we were typically accustomed, as it was difficult to imagine joyfully celebrating freedom while confined to one’s home. A Google search led me to a Talmudic story I had never encountered about a Second Passover. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this semi-holiday, I hope you will find its significance, in particular the backstory of how it came to be, abundant with themes relevant to contemporary life.

In Numbers 6:6-12 we find the Israelites preparing to celebrate the anniversary of their exodus from Egypt, the eve of Passover. We learn, however, that some people were ineligible to participate in the feast due to contamination or being unable to get there because of distant journeys. The excluded parties, understandably feeling deprived of the opportunity to partake in the mitzvah, approach

Moses and Aaron with the dilemma, and Moses in turn brings the issue directly to God. God replies that anyone who is unable to attend, “*whether among you now or in future generations*,” shall instead partake of the offering at a later date, exactly one month later. This postponed gathering is known as Pesach Sheini.

God essentially *changes the law* and does so upon the urging of the people (impure people at that). God sends a message to the ancient Israelites *and* all of us today, that despite our status, despite our current state, we are afforded a second chance. God acknowledges we are human. Sometimes we are sick. Sometimes we are late. Sometimes we don’t show up. But God tells us we can have a do-over, a make-up date. God breaks the rules, because we asked, and waits for us until we are ready.

When I write these articles, I am always cognizant that several weeks will pass before my words reach readers’ eyes. I hope that by the time this edition of *Temple Topics* arrives to your mailbox, BHSS is back in person, or has plans to be. I know that many of you are eager, as I am, to be back in our building. Zoom fatigue is a real thing. The fact that we are able to utilize technology to worship, learn and gather virtually is an incredible blessing, however it is not the same as sharing the same physical space. We have had to make difficult decisions to pivot and return to virtual mode for January and February, given concerns about the recent surge in cases. To be clear, when Matt and I hosted our Purim party back in March 2020 we were not being reckless, as the dangers of COVID-19 had yet to be revealed. But as we enter 2022, we *know better* and are obligated to *do better*. I want to thank our Safety & Security Committee for their time, efforts and advisements as we continue to navigate this modern-day plague and for helping us to do the best we can to keep our community healthy.

I think there is much to be learned from teachings of *Pesach Sheini*. Here are a few of my takeaways. I invite you to reach out and share your own thoughts and interpretations.

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The Willingness to Not Be Perfect

Rabbi's Reflections

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman



We will celebrate Purim on Wednesday evening, March 16. Purim is a time of disguises, when we pretend to be something we are not for an evening. We do this to reflect on three aspects of the holiday: (1) to align ourselves with Esther's hidden Jewishness, (2) to confuse our identities like the confused protagonist and antagonist while in our festive state, and (3) to remember God's hidden hand in yet another story of Jewish redemption. Yet the true joy of a disguise only emerges when we experience the reveal. It's not impressive for someone to pretend to be someone else unless you know who they really are.

Many years ago, when I was new at being a rabbi, a very kind man who was married to a strong Israeli woman wanted to make a trade with me: he would teach me to play the guitar in exchange for my teaching him Hebrew. Sure! Why not? Well, I could certainly hold up my end of the bargain when it came to the Hebrew, but when I brought Sylvia (my guitar) to his house, it was just too hard. I held the neck wrong; I couldn't get used to the pattern of strumming, the mere attempt at tuning would flummox me. Eventually, I reasoned that there were only so many things I could be bad at for any given time. I was already climbing a mountain of learning how to be a congregational rabbi; I couldn't also pick up an unnecessary hobby at the same time.

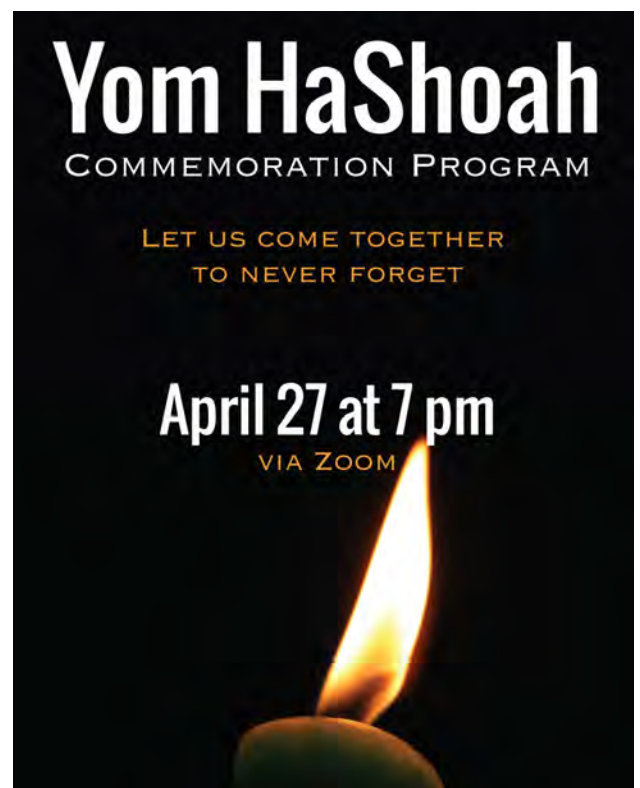
I have come back to the guitar many times in my life and have managed to learn my chords. Tuning and strumming are still pretty rough. I have always prioritized learning other skills. It is with the humility of someone who recognizes her own limitations that I look with *kavod*, honor, at the four women who will become *B'not Mitzvah* on April 9, 2022. Back in 2019, before Covid, **Shana Brown, Cindy Buchalter, Mona Sussman, and Lynne Feldman** made the commitment to work together to achieve this milestone. They recognized a missing piece of their Jewish lives and set out to engage with Hebrew and Torah in a new way.

Again and again, these women have impressed me. They have risen above discomfort, inconvenience, and personal obstacles to persevere. Beyond that, they were willing to be bad at more than one thing for an extended amount of time to draw nearer to their Judaism. Over the years, they have grown as individuals and as a cohort. It has been my honor to work with them and to deepen my relationship with these wonderful women.

I think back to my time learning guitar. What if I had felt more comfortable feeling inadequate?

Would I have been able to learn more and thereby succeed more? Often, when people are worried or scared, instead of sharing those pure emotions, we experience them through defense mechanisms like jokes, distancing, blame assignment, or—as in my own case—giving up.

One of the beauties of true community is a gift we give to each other, permission to be imperfect. When we spend a lot of time with people, we are sometimes given the gift of unvarnished insecurity. As adolescents, we learn that there are people who will take advantage of our inabilities and insecurities. As adults, we may be fortunate enough to build families, friendships, and communities where we are comfortable enough to show our limitations, finally allowing ourselves to progress. So often, we think we are alone in our inabilities and limitations—what if, instead, we recognized them as the *petach*, the opening, to more?





From The Educator

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh

Who is wise?

Who is wise?

He who learns from every person.

— Ben Zoma, Pirkei Avot 4:1

Before I wrote this piece, I read our president, Jen Cole's article. If you have not yet done that, please stop here and go back to page 2 and get ready to learn. A second Passover? Who knew?

Woven into every aspect of BHSS's life is learning. Indeed, our mission statement ends with "...we are dedicated to the never-ending process of Jewish learning." There are so many opportunities to learn at BHSS that are NOT part of our religious school.

You'll learn more about Purim and Passover just by reading this issue of *Temple Topics*. Come to a Torah Study session on Sunday morning; it's conveniently timed after you've relaxed with your bagel and coffee. Join in on the new Torah Stories each month – engaging in a different take on Torah. You learn by meeting new people at Friday night services, by hearing a

new tune for *Mi Chamocha* and perhaps discovering a new Jewish composer you like. If you have tots, come with them to Tot Shabbat and learn a new story or simple song; come with older children to Shabbat Sh'happy for a gentle introduction to some elements of a Shabbat morning service. Over the coming months you'll learn by listening to the Purim story, or Zooming in to the Second Seder, or at a Library Committee program, or a Sisterhood or Brotherhood event. You'll learn how you can help make this world a kinder place with the Michelle Mitzvah Group or the Social Action Committee. You'll learn from our professionals as well as lay leaders, and you'll learn from each other.

An extraordinary opportunity for "learning from every person" arrives on Friday and Saturday, April 1 and 2, in the form of the BHSS StayTreat. The chugs (learning sessions) are led by volunteers who share their talents and passions with us. There will be time for crafting, time for movement, time for singing, time for prayer – something for everyone.

Come and learn with us!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

continued from p 2

* Just as God tells Moses that the pascal offering can wait for those excluded to be healthy and less distant, BHSS can wait. We must commit to pick up where we left off, as soon as we can do so more safely. We WILL have our challah bake. We WILL gather in our beloved sanctuary again. Our choir WILL sing together as one. We WILL be able to draw at least a little nearer as we pray the *Mishebeirach*. We WILL be able to visit each other's homes for Shiva instead of a Zoom link. There WILL be another Sisterhood Goods & Services Auction so that we can plan a third opportunity for Shushan Shenanigans... all in good time.

* When we do "re-open," not all of us will be ready. And that is okay. Just as God waited for the Israelites, please know that we WILL wait for you. When you are ready, our community will embrace you with open arms (or, if you prefer, a fist bump or a physically distanced wave).

* Just as the excluded Israelites requested some leniency, we should *ask* for understanding when needed. Just as God offered a do-over for those who asked, we should

allow for second chances. We have said repeatedly that the synagogue remains open. We promised that we would still be there for you. Our clergy, staff and lay leaders have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic to keep our community strong, but I am sure there were missed opportunities. It is challenging to keep tabs on everyone and everything amidst a pandemic. Things get lost in translation with emails, texts and Zoom calls. We don't have the built-in opportunities for schmoozing at Onegs or the catching up with a lingering conversation in the parking lot to help us connect. This does not mean we are less devoted to building and maintaining those relationships.

When the time comes that we can reconvene, we should be there for each other. Let us not bemoan but instead rejoice, timbrels in hand, knowing that although these past couple of years were less than what we might have imagined, they were nonetheless enough. *Dayeinu*.

Wishing you and your families a Purim filled with shenanigans and a *zissen Pesach*!

Friday night April 1 – Saturday night April 2

Rain or Shine

Enjoyed by Singles,
Couples, Families -
all ages and interests

STAY-TREAT 2022

#ThisIsUsBHSS

Ages 13 and up: \$36
Ages 3 to 12: \$18
Children under 3 free!

- **Chugs** (learning sessions) you know and love, plus new ones!
- **Prayer, music, art, study, games...**and more.
- **Camp-Style Friday night service-in-the-round and Song Session!**
- Retreat Shabbat services count toward Bar/Bat Mitzvah attendance requirements

Need-based, confidential assistance with retreat fees
is available – contact Rabbi Ilana privately
(rabbischwartzman@gmail.com)

For more information, contact Lisa Lamster
at lisalams@optonline.net

Are you an expert in something interesting or fun?

Volunteer to run a chug - share your talents and
enhance the experience for everyone!
Contact Jill Pearlman at jillpearlman1@gmail.com

Name(s)_____

Number of Adults_____ No. of Youth (3-12)_____ No. of Children_____

Ages of Youth/Children_____

Email address_____ Cell: _____

Credit Card Type_____ Name on Card:_____

Credit Card Number_____ Exp:_____

Please fill out and give to Iris in the BHSS office by 3/15/22

**BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM
2021-2022**

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Birthdays



March

*Colby Berkowicz
Julian Brandman
Sophia Corsaro
Hailey Dworkin
Samantha Eisenberg
Allie Goldstein
Jak Henry Goldberg Kaplan
Lucas Kramer
Myles Lasman
Mason Lederman*

April

*Juliet Bedrin
Asher Bell
Sam Berry
Caleb Burshteyn
Jonah Cohen
Jacob Franklin
Ilana Reese Gilbert
Hanna Hirschorn
Lila Hirschorn
Olyvia Kaufman
Andrew Kotz
Bryce Ruggiero
Paige Slackman
Parker Slivka
Dylan Slater
Tyler Strauss
Jason Weintraub*

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



Matthew Schlosser
March 5, 2022

Lives in Suffern, New York.
Mother, Julia Kaplun, Father,
Jonathan Schlosser
is a 7th grader at B.O.C.E.S.
His interests include hiking and biking.
“I am excited to stand on the bimah.”



Daniel Cohen – April 23, 2022

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New Jersey.
Mother, Sharon, Father, Jeff, Brother,
Jonah, 10is a 7th grader
at Cavallini Middle School
His interests include video games, hanging
out with friends, and basketball. “I want to become
better at sports. I feel happy and excited about my
upcoming Bar Mitzvah. I am looking forward
to celebrating with my family and friends.”



Theodora Leibman –
March 12, 2022

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.
Mother, Tara, Father, Marc, Sister, Maddy,
17 is a 7th grader at Woodcliff
Middle School Her interests include
competitive cheerleading and skiing. “I would like
to do something maybe in the field of engineering.
I’m excited to show my family how much I’ve
learned. I am organizing food donations and
assembling meal packages for people who need it.”



Dara Kotz – April 30, 2022

Lives in Upper Saddle River, New
Jersey. Mother, Donna, Father, Adam,
Brother, Andrew, 10.....is a 7th
grader at Cavallini Middle School.....
Her interests include soccer, spending time
with friends and family and exercising. “I want
to be a dancer. I am excited to celebrate this
milestone in my life with my family and friends
by my side. I have been spending time with the
Curvy Girls Organization and helping to mentor
younger members with scoliosis. I will also be
donating books about scoliosis to local libraries
so others can learn more about this condition.”



Jillian Bruckner – March 19, 2022

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother,
Elisa, Father, Marc, Sister, Sami, 17
..... is a 7th grader at Ramapo
Ridge Middle School Her
interests include gymnastics, math, drawing,
and spending time with family and friends. “I would
like to be a Kindergarten teacher. I am grateful to
be a part of this Jewish community and to become a
Bat Mitzvah. For my community service, I decided
to become a gymnastics teacher in training at
Flippers. I want to work with kids when I’m older,
and I feel this would help prepare me. I help the kids
with gymnastics and to feel good about themselves.”



Jason Weintraub – April 30, 2022

Lives in Mahwah, New Jersey. Mother,
Leslie, Father, David, Sister, Abby, 14,
..... is a 7th grader at Ramapo
Ridge Middle School His
interests include spending time with family
and friends, summer camp, and playing sports.
“I would like to become a sports broadcaster. I
am very excited to spend this special day with
my family and friends. I am volunteering for
the Mahwah All Stars, a program designed
for special needs children and adults.”

March Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	
		4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	P'kudei 10 am Matthew Schlosser
6	7	8	9	10	11	1
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm PJ Remote Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec Comm. Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir		7:30 pm Tefilot	Vayikra 10 am Theodora Leibman
13	14	15	16	17	18	1
9 am 6th trad & FS 10:30 am Purim Carnival TBA 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 7:00 pm Purim Shpiel via Zoom		7:30 pm Tefilot	Tzav 10 am Jillian Bruckne
20	21	22	23	24	25	2
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Music Comm. Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Torah Stories via Zoom		7:30 pm Tefilot	Sh'mini
27	28	29	30	31		
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm BHSS/JCO Challah Bake			

April Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY ¹	SATURDAY ²
					7:30 pm Staytreat Tefilot featuring Michelle Citrin! Youth Group Leads Service	Tazria BHSS Staytreat
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm PJ Remote Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5	4 pm Remote Class 7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Torah Stories via Zoom		5 pm Tot Shabbat 7:30 pm Tefilot	M'tzora 10 am Adult B'not Mitzvah Shana Brown Cindy Buchalter Lynne Feldman Mona Sussman
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No School	No School	No School 7:30 pm Exec Comm. Mtg. 7:30 pm MMG Mtg.	No School 7:30 pm Adult Choir		No Service First Seder	Pesach 10 am Passover Shabbat Sh'Happy 5:30 pm Community 2nd Seder via Zoom
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
No School	No School	No School 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	No School 7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm GVP via Zoom		Office Closed 10 am Passover Yizkor Service 7:30 pm Tefilot	Acharei Mot I 10 am Daniel Cohen
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9 am 6th trad & FS 11:30 am Torah Study	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Music Comm. Mtg.	4 pm Remote Class 7 pm Yom HaShoah Program		7:30 pm Tefilot	Acharei Mot II 10 am Dara Kotz & Jason Weintraub

Four Mitzvot of Purim

There are four basic mitzvot established by the Mishnah, the first Rabbinic law code, based on the text of the Book of Esther. Following the salvation of the Jews, Mordecai decreed the everlasting observance of the holiday, and Esther confirmed his ordinance:

Esther 9:29-31

^{9:29} Then Queen Esther daughter of Abihail wrote a second letter of Purim for the purpose of confirming with full authority the aforementioned one of Mordecai the Jew. ³⁰ Dispatches were sent to all the Jews in the hundred and twenty-seven provinces of the realm of Ahashuerus with an ordinance of “equity and honesty.” ³¹ These days of Purim shall be observed at their proper time, as Mordecai the Jew—and now Queen Esther—has obligated them to do, and just as they have assumed for themselves and their descendants the obligation of the fasts with their lamentations. [I.e., the Jews are to celebrate this festive holiday in addition to their commemorations of national tragedies.]

1. Reading the Megillah (*Mikra Megillah*)

And Esther’s ordinance validating these observances of Purim was recorded in a scroll (Esther 9:32).

Each year, we retell the story of Purim, found in the Megillah (which is the same as the biblical book of Esther). As this story is one of overturned fortunes and unexpected endings, our recitation of the story is often humorous, honoring the festivity of the holiday.



2. Festive meal (*Se’udat Purim*)

They were to observe [these days of Purim] as days of feasting and merrymaking... (9:22).

Purim is a time for feasting and making a day of gladness. Purim is a time for special foods such as *hamantashen* (cookies filled with poppy seeds or jam) and *kreplach* (dumplings).

3. Sending gifts to friends (*Mishloach Manot*)



...for sending gifts to one another... (9:22)

On Purim, Jews across the kingdom of Persia celebrated their freedom, and they continue to share in that joy every year. Sending gifts to friends, often baskets of food and treats, is a practice intended to increase everyone’s joy, both the sender and the receiver.

4. Sending presents to the poor (*Matanot L’evyonim*)

...and [sending] presents to the poor (9:22).

The festivities of Purim are not reserved only for those who can afford them. Giving money or other gifts to those who are in need allows the spirit of the holiday to spread to every corner of the community.

TRADITION AND CULTURE

Purim *March 17*

Purim is a joyous Jewish festival commemorating the survival of the Jews who, in the 5th century BCE, were marked for death by their Persian rulers. The story is related in the biblical Book of Esther.

Purim celebrates the victory over Haman, who had planned to destroy all the Jews in Persia. It was under King Ahasuerus that his advisor Haman plots the exterminations. But Queen Esther and her cousin Mordechai saved the Jews from destruction. Purim has become a festival that is a thankful and joyous affirmation of Jewish survival.

In Israel, children and adults wear costumes everywhere for at least a week. On the streets, in restaurants, at school. Wearing costumes for Purim originated at the end of the 15th century in Italy. It was introduced to Middle Eastern countries during the 19th century.

The story of Esther is read from the Megillah. This began in the early Medieval times and was to be read in any language that the audience understood. Haman's name is said 54 times and each time his name is spoken, the audience is to make noise to blot out his name. This is traced to French and German rabbis in the 13th century.

Eating and drinking is encouraged to "where you cannot distinguish between good (Mordechai) and evil (Haman)."

FOOD TO EAT

1 - **Hamantaschen**-representing the 3 corners of Haman's favorite hat. Supposedly taking a bite out of the cookie is in defiance of bowing down to Haman and preventing him from carrying out his evil plan. Haman had required everyone to bow down to him. Mordechai refused because he was Jewish. Haman then wanted him dead along with the Jews of Persia. The king had not known that his Queen, Esther, was Jewish. She had to tell him in order to have him help to save the Jews. The king had Haman hung from the gallows that Haman originally built to hang Mordechai. Haman's 10 sons were also hung. They had been killed in battle against the Jews.

2 - **Nuts, Seeds, Legumes and Green Vegetables**- Esther had no kosher food in the palace, so this is what she ate.

3 - **Kreplach**- Ashkenazi Jews ate "Kreplach", a dumpling filled with meat, which represents the "hidden" God. Often associated with Purim.

Purim and the Song of Songs are the only Hebrew scriptures that do not contain a single reference to God, who seems to have been "hiding behind the scenes".

In the 3rd century CE, Rabbi Joshua ben Levi began the custom of reading the Megillah on the eve of Purim. He obliged that women should attend the reading because it was Queen Esther who made the miraculous deliverance and because women were also threatened by Haman's decree.

In the 5th century CE, there became a custom to burn an effigy of Haman on Purim. While it was prohibited in some countries, it continued in Iran and in remote Kurdistan communities thru the 1950s.

PURIM SPIEL is a comic dramatization to convey the saga of the Purim story. This began in the 18th century in Eastern Europe. Purim plays had evolved into broad ranging satires with music and dance. Today Purim Spiels are anything related to Jews and Judaism that brings comic relief and cheer to the audience.

Purim is more of a national holiday, rather than a religious holiday. Recently the prayer "*Al Hanissim*" (for the Miracle) has been added to the Amidah and in Grace after meals, during Purim. During morning services on Purim, the Torah is read. The reading is from Exodus 17:8-6. It describes Joshua's victory over the people of Amalek with the sword. Amalek was said to have been related to Haman, thus this choice of reading. The day after Purim (the 15th of Adar) is known as Shushan Purim. This is the day when the Jews of Shushan, the capital of Persia, celebrated their triumph. However, while the Jews were saved from annihilation plotted by Haman, they still remained subject to Ahasuerus. Thus, the redemption represented by Purim was not complete.

Greetings for Purim:

Chag Purim Sameach (Hebrew)

Freilichin Purim (Yiddish)

Purim Allegre (Ladino)

Passover begins this year with the first seder on **April 15**.

Many families will also celebrate a second seder on Tuesday night, April 16. Join your friends at BHSS for a congregational second seder! Information is located in this issue of Temple Topics. RSVP is a must!

via Zoom!

The Four Questions (or, 1 question and 4 answers!)

מָה נִשְׁתַּנָּה הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל הַלַּיְלוֹת?

Mah nish'tana halailah hazeh mikol haleilot?
Why is this night different from all other nights?

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין חֶמֶץ וּמֶצֶה. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלוּ מֶצֶה:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin chameitz umatzah. Halailah hazeh kulo matzah:
On all other nights we eat leavened products or matzah. On this night all of it, matzah.

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין שְׂאֵר יֵרָקוֹת. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מָרֹר:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin sh'ar y'rakot halailah hazeh maror:
On all other nights we eat all vegetables. On this night bitter herbs.

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אֵין אָנוּ מִטְבִּילִין אֶפִּילוֹ פֶּעַם אַחַת. הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְעָמִים:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu mat'beeleen afilu pa-am echat. Halailah hazeh sh'tei f'amim:
On all other nights, we don't dip our food even once. On this night we dip twice.

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין בֵּין יוֹשְׁבִין וּבֵין מְסֻבִּין.

הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלָנוּ מְסֻבִּין:

Sheb'chol haleilot anu och'lin bein yosh'vin uvein m'subin. Halailah hazeh culanu m'subin.
On all other nights we eat sitting or reclining. On this night we all recline.



TRADITION AND CULTURE

Passover *Friday, April 15 -* *Saturday, April 23*

Passover (Pesach) is a major Jewish holiday, which celebrates the exodus of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. It occurs on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Nissan.

Passover has been celebrated since at least 5th century BCE (May 4, 1451 BCE). The Israelites exited slavery in the 1200's BCE. Pesach means to 'pass over'. The meal, known as the seder, retells the story of Exodus and God's liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. It is a celebration of freedom through God's divine intervention and deliverance. Hag Hamatzeh (Feast of Unleavened Bread) and Yom Ha Bikkurim (or First Fruits) are mentioned in Leviticus 23 as separate feasts. Today, Jews observe all 3 feasts as part of the eight-day Passover celebration.



THE STORY OF PASSOVER

Joseph, the favored son of Jacob was sold into slavery in Egypt. Joseph was put in a high position, second in command to the Pharaoh. Joseph moved his whole family to Egypt. This was 1706 BCE. 215 years later, the Jewish population had grown to two million people. The new Pharaoh, who had no memory of what good Joseph had done for Egypt, was afraid of the power the Israelites would have. So, he forced them into slavery, oppressing them with harsh labor and brutal treatment.

God had a plan to rescue the Israelites through Moses. When Moses was born, the Pharaoh had ordered that all Hebrew

males should die. To save his life, Moses was hidden in a basket and placed in the Nile River. The Pharaoh's daughter found the baby and adopted him. Later, Moses fled to Midian after killing an Egyptian, whom he had witnessed brutally beating a Hebrew slave.

God appears to Moses (in the burning bush) and tells him to talk to Pharaoh to "bring forth my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt".

Moses finally obeys God. He and his older brother, Aaron (a prophet/High Priest) appear before Pharaoh and demands that he "let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness".

The Pharaoh refused, and eventually God sends a series of plagues. In the midst of each plague, the Pharaoh promises to let the children of Israel go, but retracts after the plague has ended. With the final plague, God promised to strike dead every first-born son in Egypt at midnight on the 15th day of the month of Nissan. God told Moses to have each Hebrew family slaughter a lamb and put some blood on their doors. This way the Hebrews would be spared.

The Pharaoh ordered the Israelites to be set free and allowed their passage out of Egypt. As Moses was leading his people out of Egypt, the Pharaoh changed his mind and had his army chase the Hebrews. The Israelites made it through to safety, and the Pharaoh's army drowned.

Here's what was happening in the world at that time:

- Egypt is the undisputed power
- The King of Athens is present and is part of Greek Mythology (Cecrops)
- Mayan civilization develops in Belize
- The 1st ruler of the Shang Dynasty begins ruling (1600 BCE)
- Beginnings of Persia takes place
- Ancient Chinese art of Astronomy is recorded
- Lyrical poetry among Greeks begins, accompanied by other stringed instruments or a lyre

There is no evidence or mention of Moses in Egypt or in the Sinai

BROTHERHOOD

Greetings!

Brotherhood has been on a temporary hiatus for January and February. It has been difficult being remote from our congregation, remote from our friends. We miss the monthly dinners, and Raps over breakfast. Brotherhood offered a Zoom-in movie in January, but let's be frank with each other...aren't we all a bit "Zoomed-out?"

It is our hope that by the time this *Temple Topics* is published that we can return to in-person meals and meetings and discussions. The best we can hope for is that whatever happens, we remain unified and supportive of each other. Brotherhood has been, and always will be a safe space to support, exchange ideas and thoughts and remain unified within our community.

This being said, Brotherhood needs your help and support. BHSS Brotherhood always was here to be supportive of each other, of every other committee within the congregation, and of our community. We always put out good programming,

but much like everyone else, we've put all on hold because of circumstances beyond our control.

Perhaps the best way to help us is to participate in our monthly meetings, even if they're virtual, and to join us at our board meetings to help us plan future events. Soon enough we will be able to meet again, break bread and enjoy each other's company in person.

Whatever is happening around us, BHSS Brotherhood is here to help us get through it all...TOGETHER!

Please watch for upcoming events – Boulders game, Men's Seder, Brotherhood Shabbat and so much more! Feel free to reach out to us at President@bhssbrotherhood.org to get on our email list.

L'Shalom!

Legion of Past Presidents

SISTERHOOD

"Having a sister is like having a best friend that you can't get rid of. You know whatever you do, they'll still be there."

Omicron? Winter cold? Nothing can keep our Sisterhood away, and we've been as busy as ever over this long season. (Yes, January DID last 234 days!)

On Sunday, February 6, we showed off our creative talents and learned a lot about paper cutting. A virtual crowd of twenty or so enjoyed hearing about the history and tradition of this art form, and learning to make beautiful white doves to decorate our homes! It was fun to learn a new skill, and it's always a blast being together, even if it is on a screen.

Our next virtual event will be March 10, when we zoom with Flavor Labs for a cooking demonstration. Learn along with your sisters while we all make a delicious treat. Cost is

\$20 per person. RSVP by March 6 to Lisa Lamster at lisalams@optonline.net. Venmo or Zelle your payment, or send checks to the synagogue office. When you RSVP, you will receive a list of the ingredients to have on hand for the class. Your payment is your event ticket. See you there!

Mark your calendars now for our traditional Miriam Seder, led by Rabbi Ilana on April 7. Join your sisters to celebrate the heroic women who shaped our history and traditions. BYOT (Bring Your Own Timbrel!)

As spring comes, we hope to bring back in-person and outdoor events, including a wine tasting, and our annual Installation dinner. Other ideas are in progress so keep an eye on your weekly e-mails for more information.

Sisterhood is a treasure—come find your pot of gold with us.

Lisa Estrin & Beth Wiesner, Co-Presidents

FROM THE SIFRYAH

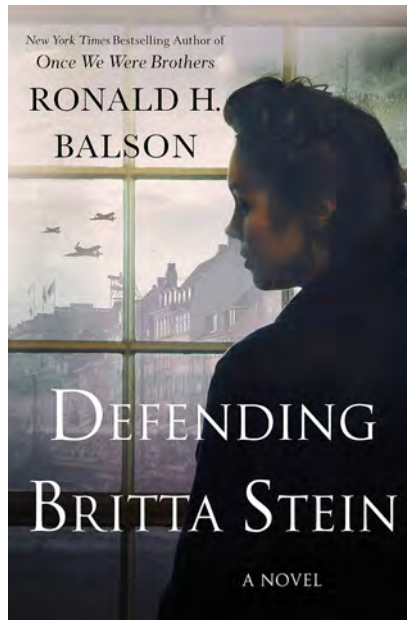
Book recommendation by Sheryl Ives from the Library Committee:

***Defending Britta Stein*, by Ronald Balson, is a story of bravery, betrayal and redemption.**

Chicago, 2018: Ole Henryks, a popular restaurateur, is set to be honored by the Danish/American Association for his many civic and charitable contributions. Frequently appearing on local TV, he is well known for his actions in Nazi-occupied Denmark during World War II—most consider him a hero.

Britta Stein, however, does not. The 92-year-old Chicago woman levels public accusations against Henryks by spray-painting “Coward,” “Traitor,” “Collaborator,” and “War Criminal” on the walls of his restaurant. Mrs. Stein is ultimately taken into custody and charged with criminal defacement of property. She also becomes the target of a bitter lawsuit filed by Henryks and his son, accusing her of defamation and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

Attorney Catherine Lockhart, though hesitant at first, agrees to take up Mrs. Stein’s defense. With the help of her investigator husband, Liam Taggart, Lockhart must reach back into wartime Denmark and locate evidence that proves Mrs. Stein’s innocence. *Defending Britta Stein* is critically-acclaimed author Ronald H. Balson’s thrilling take on a modern-day courtroom drama, and a masterful rendition of Denmark’s wartime heroics.



“This book was definitely a page turner and deals with an issue that some people might not have known much about. I did know about the role of the Danish people in saving the Danish Jews but I was still riveted and stayed up late reading the book.”

-Sheryl Ives

NOTES FROM MUSIC

Hello everyone!

As I write this article, we are in the middle of a nor'easter. BHSS functions are again all on Zoom and livestream and planning in-person programming is anyone's guess.

And yet the Music Committee continues to meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Why, you may ask? Because we are dedicated to our mission – to bring musical programming to our congregation, to support the choir, to donate funds to Israel. There is no time frame in which to accomplish that mission. And if we have fun and enjoy each other's company while accomplishing that along the way, then all the better. Even if it's via Zoom!

Our latest topics of conversation are Music's involvement in the temple-wide Gun Violence Prevention initiative, when the choir can safely begin practicing in person again, and what will be our first live program this season. Are you interested in joining the conversation? Do you have an opinion? Email me at niberger@aol.com and I will send you the invitation link.

Musically yours,
Nora Berger

BHSS YOUTH GROUPS

Shalom everyone! Hope you've been staying healthy and warm.

Purim Plans?

- **Sunday, March 13:** there WILL be a **Purim Carnival** - stay tuned for more info as to whether it will be virtual or in-person.

We're hoping you will join either way!
Check your email/BHSSTY social media for updates

- Be a part of Purim's West Side Shpiel on **Wednesday, March 16!** Or just gather your friends and watch to celebrate the holiday and BOOOOOO Haman!



Recently, we wrapped up our Together in a Box sessions. Take a moment to read some of the testimonials from our awesome participants!

The Better Together program was an amazing thing that I was able to do. We [each] got a buddy, mine was Marilyn, and we were able to talk about life, play games, and really get to know each other. I learned a lot about senior citizens' lives, and really how friendly and great people they can be. I learned about myself that it feels great to branch out and meet new people that live totally different lives than I do. I loved being able to talk with my Buddy every month and I would totally do it again. I will try to keep in touch with my buddy in the future.

Justin Diamond

I enjoyed meeting my partner, Sasha. It was great to hear about her jobs over the years, friends, and life in general. It was a good experience and I'd like to do it again. It also made me realize how difficult it must be to navigate modern technology after being raised in a completely different time. I was glad to meet her and help her with technology. I also realized how lonely it must be as you get older, and I was glad I was able to meet her, and form a connection with her.

Laila Graham-Bialer

I would totally do this all over again! It was so much fun to play games with the seniors for about an hour and just be with people. This program was about bringing the younger generation and the older generation of the Jewish community together to learn and connect with each other. I will try to keep in touch with my partner, and others who were in this program. It was extremely interesting to learn things about the older generation that I did not think possible at the time. In all, Better Together In A Box truly brought people together again.

Sam Koppelman

WHAT IS BETTER TOGETHER IN A BOX?

Better Together in a Box is a grant program that facilitates intergenerational activities between teenagers and seniors. Our participants in grades 6-12 are taking part in leadership discussions, health and wellness sessions, Jewish food and culture experiences, and building relationships with local residents from the Promenade at Chestnut Ridge. It's been a wonderful community service experience thus far!

As always, if you have any event ideas or just want to chat, you can reach us at bhssyouth@gmail.com.

Hope we get the chance to see you soon!
Samantha and Rebeca

MICHELLE MITZVAH GROUP

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING/BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE MICHELLE MITZVAH GROUP SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE – BOTH AT HOME WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION AND IN THE GREATER COMMUNITY

One of the main objectives of the Michelle Mitzvah Group is to teach our children the meaning of the word “mitzvah” and encourage them to join our efforts to carry out various mitzvot throughout the year. From blood drives to food drives to helping out at the Oasis Women’s Shelter (see list below), our group provides assistance to many in a myriad of ways.

Two years ago, we were honored to endow a scholarship at Ramapo College in memory of one of our congregants – the **MMG Scholarship Endowment in Memory of Jase Barrack**. Most of you know Jase’s mom, Lisa, who worked tirelessly in the synagogue office for many years, and many of you knew Jase, a vibrant young man who tragically passed away while in college.

The scholarship at Ramapo College is for students with a minor in Human Rights and Genocide Studies and is administered in its entirety by the College. We were delighted to establish this scholarship to help those students in need realize their educational dreams as they are clearly interested in working to make the world a better place.

If you would like to know more about the scholarship fund, please contact Steve Simon, president of the MMG, for more information. Steve can be reached at steveoum@verizon.net or via call/text at 201 788-6755.

We would appreciate any support for and involvement in MMG that you can provide. It is up to us to teach our children so that they can carry on our efforts to make the world better, stronger and kinder.

MMG Accomplishments:

- Blood drives
- Gift of Life registries which have resulted in 4 matches
- Collections of personal care items for active troops
- Donating cookies for Troops
- Annual Christmas Party for children at the Wanaque Convalescent Center
- Playing baseball with children at Blythedale Children’s Hospital
- High Holiday and year-round food drives for the Center for Food Action
- Supporting Nechama – Jewish Answer to Disaster – helping out after Hurricane Sandy in Hoboken and Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico
- Providing meals to the Christ Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen
- Supporting various work streams at Oasis
- Providing scholarship to help underprivilege students to attend college
- The MMG Scholarship Endowment in Memory of Jase Barrack

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 call and 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

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

with thanks

- Ron & Sherri Nahum, Helene Yagoda

Life Fund

in memory of our cousin, Joel Sankel - Sheryl & Joel Ives

in memory of Mandel Stein - Joel Goldfarb

to Pearl and Bob Meyers, in memory of Howard Meyers
- Leslie & Howie Kirzner
- Gail & Daryl Spencer

in memory of Gertrude Klein, Silvia
Mandel and Noah Mandel - Rich & Arlene Mandel

to Marilyn Taylor, in honor of her 80th birthday
- Gail & Daryl Spencer

in memory of Ariela Wichler's parents - Ariela Wichler

in memory of Janice Kaplan - Alison & Norman Axelrod

in memory of Naomi Friedman - the Lipkin family

to the Spencer family, in honor of the marriage
of Eddie Spencer to Sara Mereby - Lynn & Michael Zall

in memory of Marilyn Solomon - Pearl & Bob Meyers

to Gail Spencer in memory of her
dear friend, Rosalie Kaufman - Lisa Lamster

to Sheila Nathanson in memory of her
dear friend, Rosalie Kaufman - Lisa Lamster

in memory of Joel Papilpsky - Joel Goldfarb

in memory of Beatrice Mendolwitz - Linda Gottlieb

in memory of Kurt Daniel and Claire Novak
- Laurie & Marc Daniel

Michelle Mitzvah Fund

with thanks

- Lisa Barrack

Join Rabbi Ilana for
Torah Study

via Zoom

- 11:30 am on Sundays
- Beginners welcome
- No Hebrew reading necessary
- Learn about the Torah portion of the week
- Relaxed atmosphere

BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM & THE JCO OF NORTHERN BERGEN COUNTY PRESENT

Challah Bake 2022!

NEW DATE

Wednesday, March 30
Doors open at 6:30 - Event begins promptly at 7pm

\$36 per person
includes all ingredients for your custom challah

- If you previously signed up for the January 26 date, your spot is still secure
- If you signed up for the January 26 date and cannot attend, please call the temple office at 201-512-1983

If you want to sign up, limited space is still available!

Something fun for everyone -
families- friends-
mothers-daughters-fathers-sons!
All are welcome

SOCIAL ACTION

We're well into 2022, and let's all pray for a year full of good health, unity, and new beginnings. Keep a close eye on us as we continue to engage in social justice outreach both within and outside our synagogue community.

On Tuesday evening, January 4, at 7:30 p.m., we were honored to have as our kick-off program a talk about Alyssa's Law in New York State, moderated by Larry Palant. Our keynote speaker, New York State Senator Elijah Reichlin-Melnick, who represents Rockland and part of Westchester Counties, spoke about his ongoing state-wide advocacy effort to pass Alyssa's Law, which would place alarm/panic buttons in every public school to prevent unforeseen gun violence. Over 40 participants attended this informative and uplifting program which was a follow-up to BHSS Social Action's massive postcard writing campaign last December to vital New York State legislative stakeholders. Senator Melnick is a true rising political star, and we are actively continuing to work closely with his office to spread our campaign to BOCES and public school district offices in Rockland and Westchester Counties.

Next, we are planning a book talk series centered around the recently released *The Social Justice Torah Commentary*, edited by Rabbi Barry Block. We hope to have some surprise guest speaker/chapter writers come speak to us virtually in the near future so STAY TUNED!

We will continue to work closely with BHSS's Gun Violence Prevention Task Force on its Sandy Hook Promise initiative and more, as well as with the Michelle Mitzvah Group and other synagogue committees, to continue to "pay it forward".

We would love for more of you to join our ranks with any new ideas and input you have, so please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us. Our meetings are held via Zoom (for now at least) the last Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. May we all continue to go from strength to strength!

Sincere regards,

Jonathan Theodore: theodore.central@gmail.com

Lisa Estrin: lbestrin@aol.com

Lisa Glick: lisarglick@gmail.com

Main email: bhsssocialaction@gmail.com

Oasis Garden

This spring we will be teaching the women and children of Oasis: A Haven for Women and Children, how to plant a vegetable garden. They will learn how to prepare, grow and harvest a garden and then join in the bounty at the Oasis kitchen and dining room.

If you would like to participate in this initiative, there are three ways to help:

- Join us at Oasis in Paterson throughout the season to help with the garden. Schedule to follow.
- Teach a lesson at Oasis on gardening and then using the crops they grow in their meals
- Donations are being accepted for plants, seeds and supplies. Your donation of \$18.00 will help the garden grow as well as reach our goal of purchasing a storage unit for Oasis.

Contact Ritch Yanowitz at ritchyano@gmail.com or 917 213 7300 for more information

For more information on Oasis go to oasisnj.org.



Are your kids past the Tot Shabbat age? Come join us at a

**Passover-themed
FAMILY SHABBAT SH'HAPPY!**

Saturday, April 16 - 10 am

For families with kids age 6-10...

Rabbi Ilana and Director of Education Rebecca McVeigh will lead a service filled with music, joy... and of course a celebration of Shabbat!

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING זכרונם לברכה ☆

March Yahrzeits

MORRIS ABNER	HENRY GREENBERG	PINCHAS LIPSON	TOIBA VIGAYA
SHELBY ALTER	ESSIE GREENZWEIG	SOL LIRTZMAN	SHERMAN
NORMA ATLAS	STEWART GROSSMAN	MARTHA MAIER	FRANCES SIEGEL
MICHAEL BEGLEITER	DINA HEIBLUM	DAVID MARX	LOUIS SIEGEL
SIMON BORNSTEIN	THELMA HERSHMAN	RITA NURNBERG	SUSAN STERN
MAUREEN BOYLE	ROY ISRAEL	IRWIN ORSHALICK	RHODA STOLLER
MYRON BUCHALTER	ROY W. KAMM	ARNOLD PELLER	SYDNEY STOLLER
FLORA CASSUTO	HELEN KASSOVER	HARRIET POPOWITZ	NICK SUSA
BETTY COYNE	SRUL KATSMAN	MARTIN POPOWITZ	EDWARD TAPP
SHARON DANTZIG	EDITH KAUFMAN	ANNA PREMSELAAR	MARIA TITCOMB
SHOSHANA DAVIS	DORA KOHN	LEAH REINSTEIN	FANNY TREPPER
ALFRED EREKI	SEYMOUR KRICHMAR	MELVYN ROMOFF	MARTIN TREPPER
SHEILA LEVITT ESTRIN	PEARL LACHER	BERNARD ROSENBERG	SALLY VICTOR
PAUL FISHER	SEYMOUR LANDAU	SOL SCHER	FLORA
HARRY FRIEDMAN	SHAYE LANDAU	SOL SCHLOSSER	VOGEL-LIRTZMAN
RONA FRIEDMAN	JULIETTE LESSEN	DIANE SCHORR	LAURIE WEINBERG
ROSE FRIEDMAN	FRANK LEVENE	IRA SCHULMAN	MIRIAM WEINBERG
MITCH GOLDMAN	RUTH LEVINE	ANN SEIDNER	ANDREW FRANK
AVA GILLIAN GOTTLIEB	BEATRICE LEVITT	HAROLD SENZEL	WINNING
			SARAH WUNSCH

Adult B'nai Mitzvah

Did you not have the opportunity to publicly celebrate your coming of age as a young Jewish adult?

Or perhaps you were the teen for whom Bar or Bat Mitzvah did not have the meaning or impact you wish it had.

If this sounds like you, join our next Adult B'nai Mitzvah cohort. Together, you will learn to read Hebrew, study Torah, and learn to lead the congregation in prayer.

To sign up or for more information, call the BHSS front office.

April Yahrzeits

NATALIE ADLMAN	BENJAMIN ISKOWITZ	JOSEPH OPPENHEIM
IBN ART	ISADORE ISRAEL	THELMA OVENTHAL
LEON AUERBACH	ROBERT KARASIK	MARION PLOTT
IRVING BECKER	LEONID KISSIN	JOY POLLACK
LORETTA BECKER	HELEN KLAPPER	PHYLLIS POLLACK
ANNA BERKOWITZ	GERTRUDE KLEIN	SHLOMO POUSTY
BARNET BERNSTEIN	JOSH KRUTER	NATHAN ROCKER
SHERWOOD BOFFORD	HELEN KUNEGO	LIBBY SCHLOSSER
RICHARD BOYLE	ELAINE LANDAU	BETTY SCHOTT
ISRAEL CHARNE	ARLENE LAVINSKY	JOSEPH SCHWARTZ
GREG DUCHARME	DAVID LEITNER	IRENE SHOOPS
ELLIE ELLIS	FRANCES LEVENE	JACOB SIEGEL
JESSE ELLMAN	SHIRLEY LEVINE	IAN SILVER, MD
WILLIAM FRANKLIN	BENJAMIN LEVITT	ALEX SILVERMAN
MARTIN FRIEDMAN	HENRY LICHTER	CELIA SIMON
MORTON FUCHS	VIVIEN LICHTER	RICHARD SITOMER
IRVING GLICK	ERIC LIEBMANN	SANDRA SLAVIN
JACOB GROSKIN	JUAN HANS LOWENSTEIN	ESTELLE SLUCKER
HYMAN GRUBMAN	EVELYN MARCUS	JOSEPH SLUCKER
WALTER HARTWICH	ISIDORE MOSER	IRVING TOONKEL
JOHN J. HAYES	MARILYN MOSER	PAUL WEINBERG
PHILIP HEIBLUM	STANLEY MOSER	ELYSE WEISSER
ALFRED HERTZ	BARBARA MOSS	HELLA WEXLER
NORMA HITTMAN	BEATRICE LERNER MOSS	FRIEDA YAGODA
JACK HOMNICK	VIDA MYLSON	DAVID YORK
MICHAEL HOZER	MARY NEWHOUSE	DANIEL REED YOUNG

Candlelighting times:



3/4/22 – P'kudei 5:33 pm
 3/11/22 – Vayikra 5:41 pm
 3/18/22 – Tzav 6:48 pm
 3/25/22 – Sh'mini 6:56 pm

4/1/22 – Tazria 7:03 pm
 4/8/22 – M'tzora 7:11 pm
 4/15/22 – Pesach 7:18 pm
 4/22/22 – Acharei Mot I 7:25 pm
 4/29/22 – Acharei Mot II 7:33 pm



SISTERHOOD'S MIRIAM SEDER

Why Is This Night Different From All Other Seder Nights?

At all other Seders, we hear the stories of our forefathers, but the voices of our mothers are silent.
This night they will be heard!

THURSDAY APRIL 7 at 6:30 PM



Via Zoom
Led by Rabbi Ilana
Details to follow

Torah Stories

Wednesday, March 2 at 7:30pm via Zoom
The Pagan Origins of Purim

Marduk, name of one of the chief gods of Babylonia. Ishtar, name of a Mesopotamian goddess. They sound remarkably like Mordechai and Esther. Coincidence?



Wednesday, April 6 at 7:30 pm via Zoom
Overlapping Traditions

For Jews, Passover is a memorial of the deliverance of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage. But does Passover have any connection with Christianity 1500 years later? Please join us and our guest speaker Reverend Ned Wight to discuss this fascinating topic.



Reverend Wight retired in August 2019 from his position as Interim Senior Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Shelter Rock in Manhasset, New York. He holds degrees from Harvard Divinity School, Boston University and Stanford University.

Tot Shabbat!

Friday, April 8 at 5 p.m.

For children ages birth-kindergarten and their families.
Masks required for all attending.

Do a craft, hear a story, sing songs...
everything you love about Tot Shabbat!

Rabbi Ilana and Director of Education Rebecca McVeigh
look forward to celebrating Shabbat with you and your tots!



LET MY PEOPLE ZOOM!



Join us for the third annual (and hopefully final!) virtual Second Night Seder.

**Saturday, April 16 –
5:30 pm via Zoom**

Further details to follow

ONE OF THE GREAT ENTERTAINMENTS
IN THE HISTORY OF
BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM



**SOMETHING'S COMING....
Via Zoom!**



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Good & Welfare

from and for the congregation

Condolences to:

Norman Rein on the death of his mother, Florence Rein

Judy Teich on the death of her ex-husband, David Teich

Bilha Berkowitz on the death of her sister-in-law, Arlene Amster

Bob & Pearl Meyers on the death of their son, Howard Michael Meyers

Barry Romoff on the death of his sister, Susan Garcia

Marc Strauss on the death of his father, William D. Strauss

Carole Goodman on the death of her brother-in-law, Marvin Goodman

Seth Kaufman on the death of his aunt, Sharon Guzy-Levine

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

Ed Vogel
Stu Turner

Welcome New Members:

Karen & Norman Rein and family, Ramsey, NJ

Erin & Justin Ginsberg and family,
Upper Saddle River, NJ

Special Mazal Tov to:

Our adult B'noti Mitzvah:

Shana Brown
Cindy Buchalter
Lynne Feldman
Mona Sussman

A BIG
thank you


Each week lunches are delivered to Rockland and Bergen County Hospital ICU and Emergency room staff. Just a small way to say a big THANK YOU for the tireless work they do! This program is completely funded by a generous donor.

We ASK YOU to tell us.... what acts of kindness have you done?

How have you changed someone's life?

Help us make the world a better place.



Participating in adult choir is a great way to connect with fellow congregants as well as your own spirituality. You don't need to have any musical background, just a will to learn... and sing!

We are looking for new voices to join choir. Our rehearsals are every Wednesday from 7:30-9 pm.

If interested, please contact Michelle (former choir member!) at the temple office.



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Worship Schedule

ALL SERVICES WILL BE INDOORS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED

Friday, March 4	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services <i>Birthdays in March will be celebrated</i>
Saturday, March 5	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Schlosser
Friday, March 11	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Saturday, March 12	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Theodora Leibman
Wednesday, March 16	7:00 pm	Purim Shpiel via Zoom – West Side Shpiel
Friday, March 18	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Saturday, March 19	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Jillian Bruckner
Friday, March 25	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, April 1	7:30 pm	StayTreat Shabbat Evening Services - with guest Michelle Citrin <i>Birthdays in April will be celebrated</i>
Friday, April 8	5:00 pm	Tot Shabbat
	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Saturday, April 9	10:00 am	Adult B'nai Mitzvah Shana Brown, Cindy Buchalter, Lynne Feldman, and Mona Sussman
Friday, April 15	No Shabbat Evening Service – First night of Passover	
Saturday, April 16	10:00 am	Passover Shabbat Sh'Happy
	5:30 pm	Second Night Community Seder via Zoom
Friday, April 22	10:00 am	Passover Yizkor Service via Zoom
Wednesday, April 27	7:00 pm	Yom Hashoah commemoration
Friday, April 29	7:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Saturday, April 30	10:00 am	B'nai Mitzvah of Dara Kotz and Jason Weintraub

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

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman
Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

Sessions of School:

Sundays: March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 24

Mondays: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 25

Tuesdays: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 26

Wednesday: March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, April 6, 27

Office Closed:

April 22



To do in March and April

- *Join Rabbi Ilana for Torah Study on Sundays, March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3, 24 at 11:30 am via Zoom*
- *Create a winning dish with Sisterhood's virtual cooking class on Thursday, March 10 at 7:00 pm via Zoom*
- *Save the date for the BHSS Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 13*
- *Make some noise at "West Side Shpiel" - the Purim Shpiel is on Wednesday, March 16 at 7:00 pm via Zoom*
- *Make your own challah at the BHSS/JCO Challah Bake on Wednesday, March 30*
- doors open at 6:30pm, event begins promptly at 7:00pm at BHSS
- *Delve deep into the Torah with Torah Stories Wednesdays, March 23 and April 6 at 7:30 pm via Zoom*
- *No retreat? No problem! Spend a spiritual and fun-filled weekend at the BHSS Staytreat on Friday and Saturday, April 1 and 2 at BHSS*
- *Sing along with guest singer/songwriter Michelle Citrin at Shabbat services led by Youth Group on Friday, April 1 at 7:30 pm at BHSS*
- *Celebrate Shabbat with the little ones at Tot Shabbat on Friday, April 8 at 5:00 pm at BHSS*
- *Break Matzah with Sisterhood at the Sisterhood Miriam Seder on Thursday, April 7 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.*
- *Spread the joy at Passover Shabbat Sh'Happy for students age 6-10 on Saturday, April 16 at 10 am at BHSS*
- *Spend second night Seder with your BHSS family at the Community Seder on Saturday, April 16 at 5:30 pm via Zoom*
- *Passover Yizkor Service will be Friday, April 22 at 10:00 am via Zoom*
- *Honor those we remember on Yom Hashoah on Wednesday, April 27 at 7:00 pm*