TEMPLE



TOPICS

ELUL 5782//TISHREI/CHESHVAN 5783

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022

Rabbi Ilana's Message

Hello, Old Friends...

When we approach these days with sincerity, they help to hold a mirror up to our lives. And yet, these holidays are not actually external entities. They are an essential annual feature of a faith tradition that understands vital components to living our best lives...

full article on page 3

President's Message

What I Did Over My Summer Vacation

People said I would fall in love with Israel. They promised I would somehow create deep bonds of friendship with my fellow travelers (even though I had only met them briefly prior to the trip). They told me I would love the excitement of the *shuk* and feel overwhelmed as I prayed at the Western Wall and placed my tiny origami prayers into its crevices.

full article on page 2

Director of Education

Their Words, My Thoughts

..."I want my son to feel connected to his community." Another said, "so my daughter has a safe space where she is embraced, accepted, and encouraged to be her authentic self." A third said they want their child to "understand what it means to be a mensch (a good person) and how to help make the world a better place."

full article on page 5

B'NAI MITZVAH

Alexis Harris September 17
Sam Roth September 17
Jaden Bugni October 8
Brooke Reissman October 15
Eli Wunder October 29

THINGS TO DO:

more info on back cover and throughout

- Torah Stories
- Tot Shabbat
- Mini Maccabiah Games
 All Sorts of Sports
- Youth Group Outdoors event
- Book and (no) Bagel
- Selichot
- Rosh Hashanah Services
- Sisterhood Wine Tasting
- Yom Kippur Services
- Sukkot Festival Service
- Simchat Torah Festival/
 Consecration and Yizkor Services
- Eternal Lights Dinner

lovah!







President's Message len Cole

What I Did Over My Summer Vacation

Circa 1982, my elementary school friend and neighbor, Brett Mandel, traveled to Israel after becoming Bar Mitzvah and was kind enough to bring me a souvenir. It was a Coca-Cola

cup with Hebrew writing, filled with a handful or so of dirt from Masada. I knew little about Israel but listened to him as he told me about his trip. Later I placed the cup on the windowsill behind my bed, where it made its home, nestled between a couple of Smurf collectibles. I thought to myself, "someday I will go there too," but in all honestly, it seemed like little more than a pipe dream. We were not a wealthy family, and traveling to exotic places like Israel seemed far out of the realm of possibility. Plus, for many reasons, perhaps most clear to me the fact that I was an adopted child who was constantly told, "you don't look Jewish!" (and as such, assumed I must not be), I did not really consider Israel a homeland to which I was entitled.

As an adult, my once shaky Jewish identity solidified, in large part through my experiences, learning, community and leadership at BHSS.

When a congregational trip was planned in 2010, I considered visiting Israel but soon after giving my deposit found out that I was expecting. While Matt was supportive of my desire to travel, leaving him with a newborn and our three sons did not seem like the right timing and, truth be told, not even Israel could have torn me away from my sweet Emily back then. (Now that she is a pre-teen, the separation was a tad easier to tolerate, for both of us!).

Years later, when Rabbi Ilana promoted a BHSS tour of Israel in 2019, I got excited browsing the brochures and thought my time had finally come, until the COVID-19 pandemic derailed our plans.

Then at the end of March I received an email regarding a free trip, co-sponsored by Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey (JFNNJ) and an organization called Momentum, (formerly JWRP, the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project). The journey advertised was tailored to women who had never been to Israel, who still had a young child living at home (and thanks to Emily, in a full circle moment, I did!) And who were interested in deepening their connection to Judaism. I applied, was interviewed the following week, and was notified shortly thereafter and invited to purchase my plane ticket and pack my bags.

People said I would fall in love with Israel. They promised I would somehow create deep bonds of friendship with my

fellow travelers (even though I had only met them briefly prior to the trip). They told me I would love the excitement of the *shuk* and feel overwhelmed as I prayed at the Western Wall and placed my tiny origami prayers into its crevices. They said I would experience the joy of Shabbat in a way that simply cannot be created elsewhere, and that I would absolutely and immediately, feel *at home*.

I know it sounds cliche, but I did all that and so much more.

I visited the Ethiopian Heritage Center in Tel Aviv, and met Ashagar Araro (aka #BlackJewishMagic) and listened in amazement to the stories of how her family walked across the Sudan, her mother giving birth to her along the way, to return home and make *aliyah*. Her ancestors, completely isolated for two thousand years, persecuted repeatedly for their beliefs and practices, held steadfast to their Jewish identity. I finally understood from Ashagar that there is no such thing as "looking Jewish."

I was brought to tears at *Yad Vashem*, The World Holocaust Remembrance Center, and again I stood by Hanna Senesh's grave at Mount Herzl, recalling her beautiful poetry: *My God, My God, May these never end, The sand and the sea, the rustle of the waters, the lighting of the heavens, the prayer of man...*

From the "Orthodox" women (one of whom repeatedly told me they do not really prefer that term) who served as trip leaders, I came to realize that Jewish women need not observe in the same ways to be counted as Jewish, that what we needed was unity, not uniformity to be strengthened as a people.

I discovered much more about the wonderful work JFNNJ does in the United States and in Nahariya, Federation's sister city on the northern coast of Israel, and throughout the Jewish global community.

I witnessed what it looks like to care for the elderly with the utmost dignity and compassion while visiting *Yad LaKashish*, Lifeline for the Old, a center for senior artisans in Jerusalem, offering a sense of purpose and belonging.

I was mesmerized by the beautiful blue hues of the mystic city of Tzfat.

I learned that camels can be a bit overzealous, and that the Dead Sea can be healing, but at the same time burn a little (IYKYK).

I learned that the singular form of *s'lichot*, our service of asking for forgiveness before Rosh Hashanah, is *s'lichah*, and gets used by Israelis as the default for our things like "sorry,"

Hello, Old Friends...

Rabbi's Reflections

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman

Sometimes it feels like the High Holidays are old friends. We've known each other forever. They know the most honest, authentic parts of us. They are the kind of friends who—even when you don't see them for a year—remember all our triggers, all our faults, all our stressors...and they want to help. They're always cheering for us, giving us the feedback and space we need to grow.

When we approach these days with sincerity, they help to hold a mirror up to our lives. And yet, these holidays are not actually external entities. They are an essential annual feature of a faith tradition that understands vital components to living our best lives:

Community:

A few years ago, there was a trend of people spending Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur alone, in the forest or at the beach. These well-intentioned people wanted to be alone with themselves and their understanding of the Divine. They didn't want to deal with the issues that inevitably arise when other people are around: the kvetching, the compromise, the crowding, and the misunderstanding. It's a lovely idea, but it doesn't work because we don't live our lives in solitude. Judaism and these sacred days require us to take account of ourselves while in relationship. Solitude in prayer and self-consideration is like trying to understand physics in a vacuum—it makes the math easier, but it no longer reflects the reality of the life we live. Praying alone also removes all the benefits of community: the potential for connection, the models of grace, and interpersonal support.

Context

Sometimes it seems strange to pray the same prayers year after

year. We can only hear and process what we are ready to hear and process. Sometimes we have to be primed by our lives and what's happening in the world. Each of us understands life



in a unique way, through experience and eyes that are only fully our own. Yet this collection of prayers, readings, and melodies traverse boundaries of time, place, and diversity so that hopefully each of us can find meaning and depth in our practices. We sift through tradition and music, each of us able to capture the elements that resonate most strongly and the components that most speak to our lives. Isn't it amazing that this—all of this—was created for us generally, but touches each of us specifically?

Conscience:

It only works if we let it. If we come into these holidays closed, waiting for the world and words to bend for us, we will leave dissatisfied. If instead, we approach with humility, open to atonement and forgiveness, welcoming new interpretations and possibilities, then there really is a chance for change and improvement. I love these holidays because I believe in them. Not some God-king on a throne or a gate opening for prayer, but that each of us can change for the better by walking down this path.

I know that the last few years have challenged us and changed us in unexpected ways. But there are some constants. At this time of year, Judaism and BHSS lay the framework for us to consider who we are and embrace all we want to be.

Welcome back, old friend.

President's Message continued from p2

"pardon me" or "please" (as in, sorry I stepped on your foot, or pardon me, could you repeat that, or please, you go first.)

I learned that when you are wanting to devour as much of a country as you possibly can in a week, sleep can be difficult to come by.

I learned that hummus tastes even better in the Holy Land, but that it is much easier to get a hot nonfat latte here in New Jersey.

I ate. I prayed. I loved. I learned. I cried. I laughed. Sometimes I laughed until I cried.

I returned inspired.

I am grateful to Momentum and JFNNJ for providing me with this amazing opportunity. I am also thankful to BHSS, my first real Jewish home, for accepting me with open arms and helping me to deepen my connection with Judaism and with community.

Thank you for allowing me to share my experiences.

Let me take this opportunity to welcome all of our new members. It is my hope that you will find, as I and so many others at BHSS have, that belonging to our congregational family will far exceed whatever expectations of synagogue membership you hold. I am eager to meet all of you.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and joy-filled new year to all! Shanah Tovah!

BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM 2022-2023

C	Ĺ	E	R	G	Y

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Leah Joho
Jordyn Kaufman
Caleb Levine
Jessica Levinson
Sam Roth
Joseph Shecter

October

Harper Bedrin Jaden Bugni Colt Crawford Brooke Einhorn Joey Goldstein Brinkley Marder Skylie Prizel Benjamin Root Harper Rozenblat Violet Rozenblat Mackenzie Steinberg-Rodriguez Miles Swerdloff Jordan Weiner Owen Weiner Sydney Weiner Eli Wunder

Their Words, My Thoughts

From The Educator

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh

On August 1, the day our *Temple Topics* articles are due, a blog post came out at reformjudaism.org (the website for the Union for Reform Judaism, the umbrella organization for Reform congregations), written by Rabbi Stacy Rigler and Marisa Kaiser, the president of the Association for Reform Jewish Educators. As I read, it became clear to me that they wrote everything that I would want to say... so, here it is:

"Clinging to the Blessings of Jewish Education

At the end of the Talmudic book of Yevamot (121a), Rabban Gamliel tells a story of a shattered boat that he sees in the distance. He knows it contains a great Torah scholar and he grieves for the loss. Later, he sees the scholar alive and Rabban Gamliel, asks, "how did you survive?" The scholar says, "I took hold of the boat, and I rode the waves."

For the past two years, it has felt like much of what we have valued was sinking and all we could do was watch and grieve. But if we really look back, we realize that there is so much we've learned. Like the scholar who took hold of the boat, we had our previous experiences, our learnings, our sense of community, and we rode the waves. Just like the Torah scholars of old, Torah was a source of light when darkness fell.

Jewish educators are having daily conversations with families about their hopes and desires for their children's Jewish education and the value of synagogue membership. When we ask parents why they want their children to have a Jewish education, the answers bring us hope!

The answers are not "to become b'nei mitzvah" or "because I had to go." One parent responded with "I want my son to feel connected to his community." Another said, "so my daughter has a safe space where she is embraced, accepted, and encouraged to be her authentic self." A third said they want their child to "understand what it means to be a mensch (a good person) and how to help make the world a better place."

During the months of lockdown, each of us was able to stop and reflect on what we do and why we do it. For many families, raising Jewish children with the ability to be connected physically and spiritually with other Jewish children was transformed from something they "had to do" to something they longed to do. This past year, we saw the joy of having

a place where we could celebrate holidays, learn about our tradition, and mark life's most sacred moments. As many Jewish communities come



back to sacred spaces and learning programs, we know that there is hope in our broken world. Our religious tradition provides the framework to ask big questions and lift up momentous occasions. We saw what life looked like, and we understood the gift we have inherited.

The stresses of living in a pandemic sometimes cloud the joy and gratitude we feel. Too often in recent years the stress felt by families and communities around logistics and protocols has led to tensions, negative reactions, and challenging behavior. The demands on our educational leaders for creativity, flexibility, and compassion have increased exponentially, all while trying to care for themselves, their families, and their communities.

We, as Jews, are lucky - at the start of each year we are called by the sound of the shofar to awaken.

This year we have a chance to awaken and ask:

- 1. What about Judaism and Jewish learning feels especially meaningful at this moment?
- 2. How can I share what I value about Judaism with someone starting a new year of Jewish learning? How can I remind them of the gifts of our tradition?
- 3. Who do I know who is involved in Jewish education, and how can I thank them for the work they are doing to help nurture our children?

As we begin to turn towards another school year filled with Jewish learning and living, let's recommit to focusing on why we have chosen to belong to communities that invest in educating our children, why we have made the sacrifices of time and money to engage in Jewish education, and celebrate our ability to live and learn as an ever-evolving Jewish community."

On behalf of our entire school staff and my family, I wish you a happy, healthy, and sweet New Year.

Rebecca

スカッドス

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

Alexis Harris – September 17, 2022

Lives in Saddle River, New Jersey.

Mother, Robyn, Father, Marc, Sister,

Jordanna, 9is an 8th grader
at Cavallini Middle School

Her interests include theater, cheer, and running. I would like to become a veterinarian. I'm very excited to be considered a grown up! I would like to continue in singing and acting and I look forward to more shows. I feel a little nervous but also super excited. For my community service project I am donating old toys and books to an underprivileged school in Yonkers, NY."

Sam Roth – September 17, 2022

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Cheryl, Father, Andy, Sister, Marissa, 16 is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School

His interests include baseball, running, hiking, movies, animals, cooking, and spending time with family and friends. "I strive to attend a good college with the hopes of becoming an architect. I am very excited to celebrate this special and meaningful day with my family and friends. For my community service project, I raised and collected funds and supplies that will be donated to a local animal shelter. This is special to me because of my love for all animals."

Jaden Bugni - October 8, 2022

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.

Mother, Jackie, Father, Scott, Brother,
Jake, 15 is a 7th grader at
Woodcliff Middle School

Her interests include dance and spending time with family and friends. "I would like to be an interior designer. It feels special and meaningful to be part of a tradition that has been going on for so many generations. For my community service I am donating necessary items to displaced Ukrainian children."

Brooke Reissman - October 15, 2022

Eli Wunder - October 29, 2022

Lives in Ridgewood, New Jersey.
Mother, Larisa Shlahet, Father, Rob,
Brothers, Jonah, 18, Leo, 16
is a 7th grader at Benjamin Franklin

SAVE THE DATE

Eternal Lights 2022 Valley Rock Inn October 20

We have a maximum capacity at the venue so please respond quickly if you'd like to join your fellow congregants and friends in celebrating our Jewish community.

September Calendar

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
					6:30 pm Tefilot	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Office Closed		7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Torah Stories via Zoom		5 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30 pm Tefilot	Ki Teitzei
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9 am 6th trad & FS 11 am Menschmakers 1 pm Youth Group	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec Comm mtg 7:30 pm MMG mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	Ki Tavo 10 am Alexis Harris & Sam Roth 7 pm Selichot
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	N'tzavim
25	26	27	28	29	30	
No School Erev Rosh HaShanah	Office Closed No School Rosh HaShanah	Office Closed No School Rosh HaShanah Day 2 7:30 pm Music Comm mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir		6:30 pm Tefilot	

October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						Vayeilech Sisterhood Wine Tasting 6:30 pm
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm PJ Remote Kadimah	4 No School Kol Nidre	5 Yom Kippur Office Closed	6	5 pm Tot Shabbat 6:30 pm Tefilot	Ha-azinu 10 am Jaden Bugni
9 am 6th trad & FS 7 pm Erev Sukkot service	Office Closed No School 10 am Sukkot Festival Service	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Exec Comm mtg 7:30 pm MMG mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir	13	6:30 pm Tefilot	Sukkot VI 10 am Brooke Reissman
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
No School 7 pm Simchat Torah & Consecration	10 am Yizkor Office Closed No School	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir	6 pm Eternal Lights Dinner	6:30 pm Tefilot	22 B'reisheet
No School 7 pm Simchat Torah	10 am Yizkor Office Closed No School	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir	6 pm Eternal Lights		B'reisheet
No School 7 pm Simchat Torah & Consecration	10 am Yizkor Office Closed No School	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir	6 pm Eternal Lights Dinner	6:30 pm Tefilot	B'reisheet
No School 7 pm Simchat Torah & Consecration 23 9 am 6th trad & FS 10:30 am Youth Group Soup Kitchen 1 pm Book & (no)	10 am Yizkor Office Closed No School 24 4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7:30 pm Board mtg 25 4:15 pm grades 4 & 5 7 pm Drumming Class 7:30 pm Music Comm mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir 26 7:30 pm	6 pm Eternal Lights Dinner	6:30 pm Tefilot	B'reisheet 29 Noach 10 am

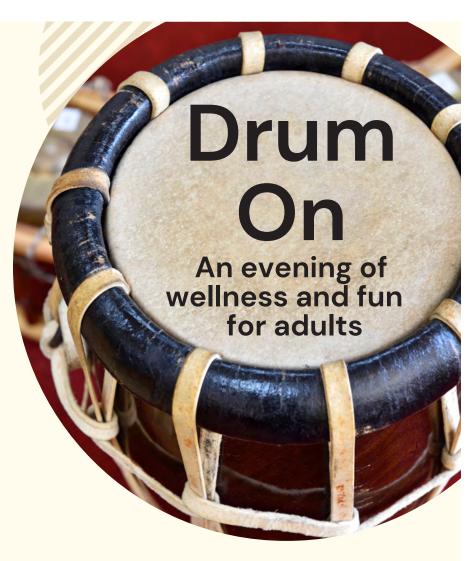
Keep Calm And...

Tuesday, October 25 7pm-8:15pm

> w/ Cindy Kresch & Guy Darienzo

Beth Haverim Shir Shalom 280 Ramapo Valley Road, Mahwah, NJ





Group drumming has been scientifically shown to boost the immune system, decrease stress, increase focus, foster a positive mood, and create a feeling of connection with others.

Think you have no rhythm? Not so...

We all have an internal beat. You will surprise yourself with how much rhythm you have.

No musical experience is necessary. It's just fun!

Don't have a drum? No worries!

Drums & other percussion instruments will be available to share. Or find things in your house. Grab a book, a bowl, a box of pasta, or some spoons! Everything works!

HEALTHRHYTHMS is a research-based group protocol using percussion instruments of all shapes and sizes as tools for communication, personal expression, and healing of the mind, body, and spirit.

Cindy Kresch is a trained HealthRhythms Facilitator and the owner of A Hum Music, LLC.

Guy Darienzo is a percussionist with over 30 years of teaching, rhythm, and drumming experience.

TRADITION AND CULTURE

As we join together during this High Holiday season, we will each walk away with a moment, a prayer, or even a feeling that impacted us and our whole being. Holidays past stay with us, and become sweet memories for present and future celebrations.

Here, congregants share some of their most memorable moments from past High Holidays.

Susan Reinstein: I have so many memories, but the best is attending the services with our son, daughter-in-law, and our grandchildren who became b'nei mitzvah at BHSS. So many memories from almost 50 years!

Harris Reinstein: I enjoyed teaching children to sound the Shofar.

Lisa Glick: My best memories are when our children, Michelle and Charles Glick, participated as shofar blowers during High Holiday services. They managed to last the longest in stamina as blowers, and both Kenny and I would beam with pride. We also enjoyed bringing Anita Glick to High Holiday services and see her smile as the choir sang or when I did my Yom Kippur Torah reading.

Marilyn Haberman: Irwin and I always enjoyed hosting family and friends for the High Holidays. A special memory was inviting guests to our home following Rosh Hashanah evening services. We alternated years with dear friends, one year here, next year there. We shared special sweet desserts to usher in a New Year. This tradition continued for many years. Shanah Tovah 5783

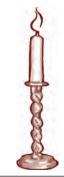
Lisa Lamster: All the services are special, but seeing congregants chanting Torah surrounded by their families is special to me.

Marilyn Taylor: I loved singing with the choir, and looking out over the congregation.

The Tradition and Culture Committee wishes all a Happy and Healthy New Year. May we all be inscribed in the Book of Life.

Marin Greene and Ritch Yanowitz, Co-Chairs





Candlelighting times:

September 2 - Shof'tim 7:09 pm

September 9 - Ki Teitzei 6:57 pm

September 16 - Ki Tavo 6:45 pm

September 23 - N'tzavim 6:33 pm

September 30 - Vayeilech 6:21 pm

October 7 - Ha'azinu 6:10 pm

October 14 - Sukkot VI 5:59 pm

October 21 - B'reisheet 5:48 pm

October 28 - Noach 5:39 pm



Good & Welfare

from and for the congregation

Condolences to:

Cindy Buchalter on the death of her father, Harvey Greenberg

Lisa Estrin on the death of her aunt, Ruth Solomon

Ronni Seif on the death of her sister, Jodi Joseph Asiag

Christine Diamond on the death of her sister, Nicole Fahringer

Nora Berger on the death of her uncle, Efraim Wainer

Stephen Hittman on the death of his mother, Doris R. Susa

Charles Burghardt on the death of his wife, Barbara Burghardt

Eric Byne on the death of his mother, Irene Byne

Allan Schott on the death of his brother, Mark Schott

Alan Schlussel on the death of his mother, Annabel Schlussel

Elliott Feldman on the death of his mother, Sheila Raphael Feldman

Mazel Tov to:

Rich and Arlene Mandel on the birth of their granddaughter, Mary Norah Mandel

Judy Teich on the birth of her grandchild, Dylan Axel Teich born to Jonathan and Alexa Teich

Carole Goodman on the birth of her great grandchild, Elliott James Marcantonio born to Ari Rebecca and Alec Marcantonio

R'fuah Sh'leimah

(For a full and speedy recovery)

Ed Vogel

Stu Turner

Beth Dubiel

Allan Schott

Welcome New Members:

Joyce Keshner, Suffern, NY

Jason & Holly Rubin and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Marc & Arielle Rosa and family, Montvale, NJ

Bill & Lauren Ikin and family, Allendale, NJ

Peter Baker & Wendy Koshner and family, Montvale, NJ

Francine Joy Allen, Ramsey, NJ

Jodi Hink and family, Sloatsburg, NY

Brian & Jessica Nitzberg and family, Ramsey, NJ

Jackie Lowenfels, Suffern, NY

Dustin & Blair Gordon and family, Upper Saddle River, NJ



High Holiday Services 5783

RABBI ILANA SCHWARTZMAN

STUDENT CANTOR MOLLY MAY

> SELICHOT

Saturday, September 17 Service of Forgiveness **TBD**

ROSH HASHANAH ~~

7:30 pm Sunday, September 25 **Erev Rosh Hashanah**

Monday, September 26 Rosh Hashanah Day 1

> Shacharit, Early Morning Service 8:15-10:45 am ** Shacharit, Mid-Morning Service 11:45-1:45 pm **

Family Services outdoors 2:45 pm Tashlich at Darlington Park 3:45 pm

Tuesday, September 27 Rosh Hashanah Day 2 9:15 am

>> YOM KIPPUR >>>

Tuesday, October 4 Kol Nidre 7:30pm

Wednesday, October 5 Yom Kippur

> Shacharit, Early Morning Service 8:15-10:45 am ** Shacharit, Mid-Morning Service 11:45-1:45 pm **

**CHECK YOUR HIGH HOLIDAY Healing Service 2:30 pm Family Service outdoors 2:30 pm TICKETS! Yizkor 3:45 pm White = early morning Mincha (afternoon service) 4:30 pm Green = mid-morning

Neilah (closing service) 6:15 pm

Study sessions to run from 2:00 – 3:30 PM

> SUKKOT

Sunday, October 9 Sukkot Festival Service Monday 7:00 pm Monday, October 10 Sukkot Morning Service 10:00 am

SIMCHAT TORAH

Sunday, October 16 Simchat Torah/Consecration Service 7:00 pm Monday, October 17 Simchat Torah Yizkor Service 10:00 am

BROTHERHOOD

How was your summer? Hope all is well. Here are a few highlights of what Brotherhood has been up to.

In June, we had our first ever Brotherhood/Social Action Shabbat. Why was this so special? Mostly because Brotherhood and Social Action collaborated on many projects this year, and the best way to celebrate this collaboration was to have a combined Shabbat celebration!

Some of what we collaborated on included support and advocacy to get Alyssa's Law passed in the New York Senate, support and tables at Mahwah Pride Day and at Tuxedo Day; traveling to Washington DC to stand up for reproductive rights and defend our Jewish religious rights, and supporting our youth group.

We also had another successful suite at the New York Boulders! That night was supposed to be Harry Styles Fireworks, but because the weather was a bit overcast, they canceled the fireworks. Those of us who stayed to the end of the game received free vouchers for another game.

Over the summer, BHSS Brotherhood collected and donated more than three hundred pounds of assorted clothing. We thank our synagogue community for their generosity! Boxes will still be in the lobby of the religious school as we continue to collect clothing in good condition, and as the colder months are approaching, we are collecting coats, jackets, sweaters, warm pants, shoes and gloves.

At the end of August, we met at Plan B in Suffern for drinks and food. Brotherhood usually meets for a dinner on the third Thursday of every month (unless there is a holiday or another major synagogue Event), and on the third Sunday of every month for a breakfast called Brotherhood Raps.

We may call upon you all to help build the sukkah (and take it down)! As we are getting out more, and congregating more, please keep an eye on your emails and the weekly synagogue newsletter for upcoming events...and if you would like to join our mailing list, please email your contact information to president@bhssbrotherhood.org, or reach out to the League of Past Presidents:

(201) 512-1983 - BHSS Office

(845) 596-6680 - Ian Coyne

(845) 269-1773 - Erb Cooper

(201) 615-7088 - Allan Schott

(917) 531-0043 - Jonathan Theodore

L'Shalom!

Tot Shabbat!

Fridays, September 9 and October 7 at 5 p.m.

For children ages birth-kindergarten and their families.

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!



FROM THE SIFRYAH

A note from The Library Committee:

The Library Committee is breaking tradition. Instead of recommending a fabulous book to you, we want to make you aware of what has become a book crisis in our country.

BOOK BANNING

"Where they burn books, they will, in the end, burn human beings too." Heinrich Heine

Why are books banned or challenged? Who challenges books that might lead them to be banned? These challenges might be initiated by parents, school boards, political/religious groups, elected officials, teachers, librarians or students.

A challenged book is investigated further, then it may be kept or removed. When a book is banned, it means it is not available to be read--it will no longer be on the shelves of libraries, schools and/or bookstores.

Books being targeted for challenges or banning focus on sexual orientation, gender identity, race and racism, religion and politics. The American Library Association (ALA) is very critical of book bans.

Some of the books that are now banned in different areas of the country include:

- Maus by Art Spiegelman
- *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison
- New Kid by Jerry Craft
- The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
- Anne Frank: Diary of a young girl by Anne Frank
- Catch 22 by Joseph Heller
- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
- The Kite Runner by Khalid Hosseini
- Lord of the Flies by William Golding
- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
- To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

"...banning books was the purist and yet elementary kind of censorship designed to appease adults rather than educate children." Toni Morrison

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2022

Monday Kadimah Sunday Monday Tuesday grades 7-12 Family School & K, 1, 2 & traditional 4th & 5th 6:45-8:15 p.m. except * traditional 6th traditional 3rd 4:15-5:45 p.m. PJ remote Kadimah 9:00-10:30 a.m. 4:15-5:45 p.m. 6:45-7:45 pm

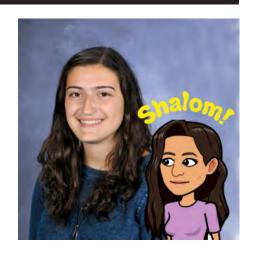
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
September	11	12	13
2022	18	19	20
	25 No School	26 No School	27 No School
October	2	3*	4 No School
2022	9	10 No School	11
	16 No School	17 No School	18
	23	24	25
	30	31 No School	
<u> </u>	_	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

BHSS YOUTH GROUPS

Hello everyone and welcome back!

We hope you had a fun-filled, safe and happy summer and are ready for a new school year and Youth Group events! We can't wait to see you all again, reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Speaking of which, pick up a youth group membership form at BHSS or use the simple Google form at https://tinyurl.com/BHSSYouth

To kick off the year, everyone is invited to our Welcome Back Bash on Sunday, September 11 where we'll be welcoming new members, catching up on our summers and hanging out all together at BHSS.



We would love to have you join us at one of our upcoming events! Below is our planned calendar for this year's events. If there is something else you would like to do, please let us know!

Menschmakers Grades 3-6

Welcome Back Bash

September 11 from 11-12:30pm

Movie Night

November TBD

Sky Zone

January TBD

BINGO @ Promenade at Chestnut Ridge* February 5 11-12:30 pm

Purim Carnival

March 5 10:30-12:30 pm

Escape The Room

May 7 12-2 pm

* counts as community service

We have open positions on our board and would love for you to join! If you are interested in holding a leadership position, please reach out to us at bhssyouth@gmail.com!

BHSSTY Grades 7-12

Welcome Back Bash

September 11 from 1-2:30pm

Soup Kitchen Volunteering *

October 23 from 10:30-12:30 pm

Midnight Run*

November TBD

Goods and Services Auction Runners & Shul-Inn *

December 10

Sky Zone

January TBD

BINGO @ Promenade at Chestnut Ridge * February 5 11-12:30 pm

Purim Carnival *

SET UP March 4 5-7 pm March 5 10:30-12:30 pm

Escape The Room

April 23 12-2 pm

Creative Service *

May 19 7:30 pm

Elections End of Year

June TBD

Hope we get the chance to see you soon! If you have any ideas for events or just want to chat, you can reach us at bhssyouth@ gmail.com. Follow us on instagram @bhsstyinsta.

We are excited for the year to come and wish you all a healthy and happy new year!

Sam Spencer, Director of Informal Youth Programming

MICHELLE MITZVAH GROUP

Is it September already? Where did the summer go? It feels like it was just yesterday (or June) when I arrived in Denver to surprise my longtime BHSS friend, Darren Reinstein.

With the new Jewish year and fall season upon us, I want to take a moment and say a heartfelt THANK YOU and YASHER KOACH to Jill Blum and the gardening committee for all of their hard work. The vegetables grown in the garden are donated to local food banks and soup kitchens. In fact, without our donations to the Suffern Soup Kitchen at Christ Episcopal Church from our garden, they would not have any vegetables.

Speaking of the Suffern Soup Kitchen, we are always looking for volunteers to provide meals on Sundays. There are still some open dates and opportunities to help our neighbors in need. Currently, we are serving 20 meals on Sunday, from 11:30 am – 12 pm. You can access the calendar online at https://tinyurl.com/BHSSGarden. If you need any assistance in entering your information, reach out to Steve Simon at steveoum@verizon.net.

As the High Holidays are quickly approaching, please do not forget to bring your tickets and donated food to the synagogue to help support our annual Center for Food Action Food Drive. The items needed most are:

- Supermarket Gift Cards
- Canned Meat & Fish
- Canned Pastas, Stews, Chilis and Hearty Soups
- Canned Tomatoes and Vegetables
- Pasta, White and Brown Rice, Dried Beans
- Cold Cereal, Oatmeal, Pancake Mix
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Shelf Stable Milk Baby Formula,
- Diapers (Size 4, 5, 6)
- Toilet Paper and Paper Towels
- Low Sodium and Low Sugar Foods
- Cleaning products & Laundry Detergent
- Toothpaste, Shampoo & Body Wash
- Coffee

The Michelle Mitzvah Group meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm. The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 13 at 7:30 pm. The Zoom link is https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7217094850?pwd=MTJ600p3WGcxQnBVUU9Wa01hUDdqZz09

Meeting ID: 721 709 4850 Passcode: 802473

If you have any questions, please reach out to Steven Simon at 201 788-6755 or via email at steveoum@verizon.net.

Shana Tova to you and your families and May you all be inscribed in the book of life!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Welcome and Welcome Back

As you read this, we are putting the final touches on plans for BHSS Religious School 2022-2023. Our director of education Rebecca McVeigh, along with the entire school staff, is getting your children's classrooms ready to start another year of learning. Roberto is moving tables and chairs, Rebecca's assistant Laura Miller is ordering books and school supplies, and craft projects are being assembled. Our teachers have met numerous times over the summer to figure out just the right balance of how to engage the students, including music and movement!

We are looking forward to greeting lots of new students, and working to make sure that everyone feels welcome and fully a part of our community, right from the start.

Our committee is ready to welcome new members, too! The Education Committee consists of a group of volunteers who work in concert with the education director and rabbi to maintain the standards set forth in our mission statement:

The mission of our school is to graduate young adults who have the tools they need to form their own Jewish identity. Our aim is to enable families to pass their own traditions "from generation to generation" and help them build strong bonds within their community and with the world, both Jewish and secular. We hope our students will feel comfortable in their Judaism wherever they go in their lives – and above all, to be "mensches," good people. In addition, they will have the experience of belonging to a Jewish community that will support them as they grow into their Jewish adulthood.

When needed, we set/adjust policy regarding school requirements relating to *b'nei mitzvah* eligibility. Our meeting schedule is not a set one; we meet as necessary to resolve issues brought to it by the rabbi, the director of education, or a religious school parent. Join us!

Lauren Einhorn, Education Committee Chair Laureneinhorn16@gmail.com



Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

with gratitude - the Lipkin & Friedman families

with thanks and in honor of Mara Rae's baby naming
- Brittany & Aaron Punim

with thanks - Ronni Seif

with gratitude - the Israel family

in honor of Carter's Bar Mitzvah, with appreciation
- Dana Weeks & family

with deepest gratitude and in memory of Barbara Burghardt

- Charles Burghardt and Heather Horowitz

with appreciation - the Hyman family

with appreciation and in memory of Irene Byne

- Ann & Eric Byne

in memory of Lillian Brown - Shana & Steve Brown

with thanks, in honor of Quinn's Baby Naming
-the D'Arminio & McVeigh families

with appreciation and in memory of Annabel Schlussel
- Alan Schlussel

in commemoration of the first yahrzeit of Meryle Kaplan
- Len Kaplan

in memory of Sheila Raphael Feldman, with gratitude
- Kay Magilavy, the Feldman family

Educator's Discretionary Fund

in honor of Maya's Bat Mitzvah, with thanks

- Erica & Josh Fox

Life Fund

in memory of Julian Hauser and Fred Flisser

- Robin Ackerman

in memory of William Kaplan - Alison Axelrod

to Bruce Mactas and family - in memory of his father
- Marci & Harvey Weinberg

in memory of Hans Neumann - Judy & Jon Neumann

in memory of Lee Johnson - Sue-Ellen Johnson

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

in memory of Efraim Weiner - Nora & Harold Berger

in honor of our new granddaughter Mary Norah Mandel - Arlene & Rich Mandel

in memory of my loving father, Mende Jaffe - Irma Becker

in memory of Barbara Burghardt

- Sisterhood of Beth Haverim Shir Shalom

- Sheri & Allan Schott

- Lori & Ritch Yanowitz

- Lisa Glick

- Robby & Eddie Saiff

- Leslie & Howie Kirzner

- Michael Stempa

to Lucy Hoffman, in memory of Paul Hoffman - Lisa Lamster

in memory of Ruth Silverman - Judy & John Neumann

in memory of Esther Senzel, Jerome Johnson

- Sue-Ellen Johnson

in memory of Morris Roth - Sandi Jeanette

to the Anesetti family, in memory of Kevin Anesetti

- Leslie & Howie Kirzner

- Lisa Lamster

to Allan and Sheri Schott, in memory of Mark Schott

- Leslie & Howie Kirzner

Contributions

in commemoration of all my yahrzeits

- Carole Goodman

in honor of our Confirmands, Noah Brown,

Hannah Hayes, and Annabel Theodore - Lisa Lamster

to Vera Davis, in memory of Tom Harris - Joel Goldfarb

in memory of Joel Berkowitz - Bilha Berkowitz

to Alan Schlussel, in memory of his

mother, Annabel Schlussel - Roberta & Joel Wolinksy

in memory of Simon Kasper - Cynthia Seidman

in memory of Frank Nathanson - Sheila Nathanson

in memory of his brother Mark Schott - Sheri & Allan Schott

in memory of Rhea Goldfarb and Barry Wilensky

- Joel Goldfarb

in memory of Edith Roth - Sandra Jeanette

in honor of Shana Brown becoming a Bat Mitzvah

- Louise Fligel

to Alan Schlussel, in memory of Anabel Schlussel

- Lori Taylor

in loving memory of Jase Aaron Barrack

- Lisa Barrack & family

to the Feldman Family, in memory

of Sheila Raphael Feldman - Marci & Harvey Weinberg

- Lisa Lamster

in honor of the Adult B'not Mitzvah ladies - Mazal Tov!

- Lisa Lamster

- Gail Spencer

in honor of Iris Greenberg, for always being there!

- Lisa Lamster

in memory of Rose Zahm - Pearl & Bob Meyers

to the Kotz family - in honor of Dara

becoming a Bat Mitzvah - the Weintraub family

to the Weintraub family, in honor of Jason's Bar Mitzvah

- the Kotz family

in memory of Thelma Oventhal - Joanne Oventhal

in memory of Gertrude Klein - Arlene & Rich Mandel

to the Arum Family, in honor of Ella Arum - the Habermans

to Roberta Alter, in memory of Miles Alter - Sherry Levitt - Ruth Turner

to Mona Sussman, in honor of her becoming a Bat Mitzvah
- Janet & Ron Javer

Michelle Mitzvah Fund

in honor of Lisa Glick

Center for Food Action

Given by their families in honor of the following simchas:

Dylan Strauss becoming a Bar Mitzvah **Maya Fox** becoming a Bat Mitzvah **Elan Berin** becoming a Bar Mitzvah **Allison LaCorte** becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge

Given by their families in honor of the following simchas:

Sam Roth becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Carter Weeks becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Allie Levy becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Elan Berin becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Danielle Kissin becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Jewish Family Services of Rockland

Given by their families in honor of the following simchas:

Carter Weeks becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Allie Levy becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Dylan Strauss becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Maya Fox becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Charlie Reissman becoming a Bat Mitzvah

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING ברונם לברכה אברונם לברכה

September Yahrzeits

HELEN ALLMAN
SYDNEY ALTMAN
RUTH ANSIN
IRVING ARFIN
EDITH BLUMENTHAL
MARION COHEN
BUDDY COLEMAN
SIDNEY DEMSKY
CAROL DUBIN
JOYCE EISENBERG
BURT ERLMAN
MONA FINKELSTEIN
DOUGLAS FREEMAN
HARVEY GELFENBEIN
LLOYD GOLDFARB

MUTTEL GORDON MORTON GREENE MYRON GREENZWEIG **IDA HIEGER** ABE HYMOWITZ BENJAMIN JACOBS GERTRUDE JEANETTE WILLIAM KAPLAN ROBERT KASSOVER LIZ KOLMAN FANNIE KURSMAN NATHAN KUSHER DINA LEITNER DONALD LEOPOLD JOSEPH LETCHER JULIUS LEVINE

RALPH LITTMAN **ESTHER LONOW** DOROTHY LORANGER MAGGIE MCVEIGH VIVIAN MITTLEMAN SEYMOUR MUNEY **IONAS PALANT** EUGENE REINSTEIN URI RUDACH ETHEL SALTZMAN GEORGE SAULT **RUTH SCHOENFELD** LILLIAN SEILER IRWIN SELMAN MARION SILVER ESTHER BAYLA SMALL

PAULINE SMITH
DAVE STIGLITZ
REBECCA STONE
LOREN TEDROW
JEAN TRIEBITZ
CELIA TURNER
JACK TURNER
ESTELLE WEINBERG
DAVID WEINER
RUTH WEISKOP
BERTHA WEISSER
SADIE WIDMAN
MARCIA WITT
ZEVIK YOLES
CHARLES YOUNG



Participating in adult choir is a great way to connect with fellow congregants as well as your own sprituality. 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.

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.

If you are interested in getting involved, there are many ways to volunteer, whether it be cooking a meal, donating restaurant gift cards, or making a phone call to a congregant in need. 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).

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING ברונם לברכה אברונם לברכה

October Yahrzeits

IRVING ANOLIK FLORENCE ARFIN FLORENCE ASHKANAZY LAWRENCE ATLAS DOROTHY AUERBACH ADELE AXELROD JOEL BECKER BELLE BEDELL PHILLIP BLACKMAN GUSSIE BLUMENFELD DAVID BLUMENTHAL Pnina Bornstein CECILE BYALICK LEWIS BYNE **ABSALOM CASSUTO** MARGOT CHARNE MARK COHEN **AARON HARRY CRAMER** FRANCES DUCHARME ISOBEL EPSTEIN BERNICE FISHKIN MILDRED FONDILLER

CHARLOTTE FREDERICKS MOLLIE GARBUS **RUTH GELFENBEIN** RALPH GILBERT **AUDREY GOLDEN** LINDA GOLDFARB Morris Goodman BILL GREEN NINA GREENBERG BARRY GREENE Sylvia Barish Groskin FANNIE GRUBMAN FRANCINE HELLERMAN SARAH ISKOWITZ BERTHA ISRAEL GRETA ISRAEL RICHARD JANSEN Lea Kapelushnik SAMUEL KAPLAN SEYMOUR KIRZNER ALBERT KLEIN ISRAEL SAMUEL KRIEGEL

BENJAMIN LASS Dalia Leibowitz HARVEY LENCHNER HATTIE LEVY IRVING LICHTENFELD BEN LUCKOM Paul Mandel THERESA MCFADDEN LAURA MEDICI FLEMING CEIL MOSER **ESTHER MOSS** MYRON NEWMAN **BOB NISENBAUM** HERMAN OSHEROWITZ BENJAMIN PEARLMAN IRVING POSNER **IDA RAPPAPORT** SOLOMON REVICH **IACOB ROBINOVITZ** Joseph Rossant MARTIN ROTH Lillian Sault

PHIL SCHOENFELD Anneliese Schott Jess Shirvan HARRIET SHRENSEL HERB SIEGEL RICHARD SILVERMAN **JULIA SIMON** JACK SPIELER JACK SPRUNG SOPHIE STIGLITZ Dora Theodore WALTER TITCOMB WILLIAM WALDBAUM ROSA WEINBERG CHARLES WEISKOP JOSEPH WENIG **JULIUS WICHLER** ABRAHAM WIESNER HELEN WISNEWSKI PINYA YANTYFOVICH Daniel Zahm MILT ZAHM



The High Holidays will be here before we know it. The Tradition & Culture Committee is asking for congregants to assist as greeters for each of the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. It is a wonderful way to meet members and to greet friends. If you'd like to volunteer for a shift (usually in hour intervals), contact Ritch Yanowitz or the temple office.

SISTERHOOD

Welcome to a new year at BHSS. As this is written, the weather's still hot and steamy, but there's no mistaking the college-packing, school-supply buying, High Holiday-preparing time of year we are in. We're happy to be entering another Sisterhood season, and there's a whole lot on our agendas!

Over the summer, we planned, for sure, but we also gathered together. Were you at the Mah Jongg pool party? Did you join us for Girls' Night at Shannon Rose? Have you met someone new at a Sisterhood event, or renewed your friendships with women you hadn't seen for a while?

If you haven't, you're missing a lot. This fall season kicks off with Havdalah and wine tasting, focusing on women winemakers. It will be Saturday evening, October 1 in the Ulam. We're opening this event to all BHSS members and friends. Cost is \$25 per person, plus a contribution of juice or bottled water for the Center for Food Action. Watch for your flyers and reserve soon—space is limited!

November brings the return of the Sisterhood Kindness Chain. If you haven't participated in the past, you NEED to be a part of what's becoming a BHSS Sisterhood tradition. Make a new friend by presenting her with a "kindness"— a book, a plant, something great to eat or drink, almost anything. And someone out there will be preparing a kindness for you! You don't want to miss this.

We're thrilled to tell you that this December will bring the return of our Goods and Services Auction. If you've been to these before, you already know how much fun we have gathering together, bidding on the many treasures and treats, and listening to our entertaining emcees! If you haven't, we look forward to seeing you there soon.

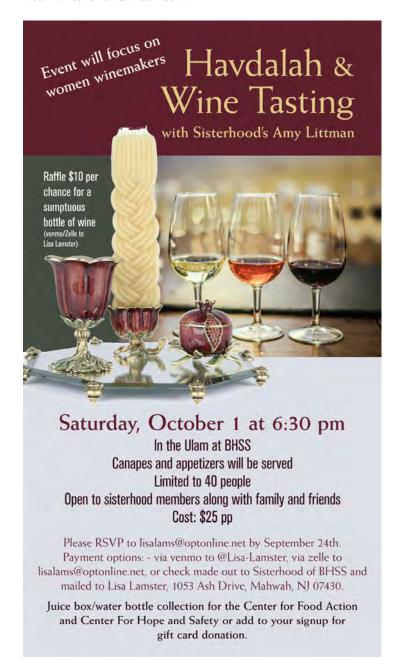
There's more on tap for spring, so be sure to watch your weekly emails for Sisterhood events. But Sisterhood is more than just a party ("just"?). Sisterhood works to promote women's experiences, address the needs of women in the area and

enhance the welfare of the entire BHSS community. We make sure that each event has a social action segment.

Sisterhood meets by Zoom on the second Monday of each month, and you are welcome to join us with your ideas and enthusiasm. We grow and prosper—together.

"There is strength in sisterhood."

Beth Wiesner and Lisa Estrin



Meet the Member Congregational stories

Each month a congregant writes about how they became involved at Beth Haverim Shir Shalom. We hope you enjoy learning about your fellow members' individual stories.

Robin Cassell



Six Degrees of Iris!

Our family, Barry, Robin, Sarah (17) and Jonathan (14), are celebrating almost ten years with BHSS. My husband, Barry, encouraged our transition from a conservative congregation to a reform one where we received a warm welcome from Iris in the office. Before we officially joined, we learned of an upcoming first-time family retreat that was going to take place during Martin Luther King Day weekend. What a great way to meet BHSS members even before becoming official members ourselves! I took my daughter, a 2nd grader at the time, and drove to Camp Harlam, where the retreat was taking place. There were over one hundred members who attended the event. We experienced an extremely warm and welcoming community even without being members.

As a result of this welcome from Iris and the synagogue staff, our family left our conservative congregation and became members. Once we were officially members, we focused on our second home and began enjoying and supporting numerous events. Some of our fondest memories are as follows:

Family School – having Hebrew school meeting on a Sunday was ideal for us because we both worked. We joined Family School and attended together with Sarah every Sunday morning. Of course, there was always a stop at Dunkin' Donuts for hot chocolate on the way. We even had an opportunity to renew our wedding vows during a Family School ceremony that was officiated by Rabbi Mosbacher and Cantor Perper. How lucky was I to have my five-year-old son walk me down the aisle! The entire family school attended the wedding and we brought back our original topper for the wedding cake! One Sunday, Barry portrayed Moses on the top of the synagogue's roof as he delivered the Ten Commandments to the waiting Family School families in the courtyard down below. Family School truly engaged our family and left us with great Hebrew school memories.

The People versus Jacob and Rebecca – In the first of its kind, the synagogue hosted a mock trial in which Jacob and Rebecca were charged with stealing Isaac's blessing from Esau and conspiracy to commit theft. The trial was overseen by a judge and had twelve jury members deliver the verdict. Barry represented the people and was hoping for his first mock trial conviction. The jury, which included our daughter Sarah, did not see it this way and delivered an acquittal on all charges. This ended Barry's mock trial career.

Eternal Lights Dinner – we particularly enjoy attending this important fundraiser which takes place every fall. The money raised from this event goes directly to the synagogue and

ultimately supports programs serving BHSS members and their families. We hope to attend this dinner for many years to come and were delighted to see it gaining in popularity each year.

Holiday learning sessions – given by our fellow congregants, we always find engaging topics that are discussed during Yom Kippur. The discussions are always lively and despite being hungry, people seem to be in good spirits.

Bat and Bar Mitzvah Celebrations – our family was able to enjoy a Bat Mitzvah celebration before the pandemic and a Bar Mitzvah celebration during the pandemic. With or without plexiglass on the bimah both services were extremely memorable. During a vacation in Ireland, we attended a Friday night service at a Dublin synagogue that was trying to start a children's library. On the night we attended we noticed that they were not off to a great start as there were very few Jewish books for children, and the handful that were there were not in good shape. For our daughter Sarah's Bat Mitzvah project, she sought donations of new and slightly used books from the congregation. As always, our fellow BHSS members were very generous, and Sarah received over one hundred books which she then shipped to the synagogue in Dublin. A few weeks later we received a thank you note informing us that the children's library in Dublin was now complete! Our son Jonathan got to become a Bar Mitzvah during the pandemic. Despite the situation, family and friends still came out to attend the service. The synagogue staff made it run smoothly during those unsettling times. And yes, despite the pandemic we still had an amazing celebration of this important milestone in our son's life.

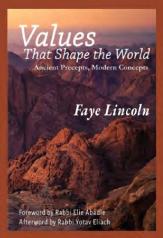
Special holiday celebrations – we are thrilled that BHSS conducts a special service on the second night of Passover. We know that all our members always have someone to celebrate this joyous holiday with. Hopefully, the in-person second night seder will make a return next year! In addition, the Miriam seder with mothers and daughters carrying on the tradition is another special memory.

So why do we continue as members even though our youngest, our son, has become a Bar Mitzvah? We think it is a privilege and an obligation as Jews living in America to be part of and contribute to a larger Jewish community. How can you become six degrees of Iris? You can be as active as you would like, and you are always assured that a warm welcome will be waiting for you at BHSS all year round. Please come join us in one of the many activities that our congregation has to offer. YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU DID!!!



Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 pm via Zoom

VALUES THAT SHAPE THE WORLD



In today's changing world, a paradigm shift in values is needed to guide society in the right direction of the greater good. This discussion with author Faye Lincoln will encourage a search through our ancient biblical scriptures and history for the necessary societal

values of the future.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Faye Lincoln has worked in high-level public policy and government relations for three decades. Over time, she developed a deep interest in the history and geopolitics of the Middle East and Europe. She has focused on the effects of converging religious, political, and economic structures of society and culture. Lincoln is a writer who views Biblical history through the lens of her second-generation Holocaust experience.



SOCIAL ACTION

We hope everyone enjoyed their Summer 2022 break. As cooler weather sets in, BHSS Social Action is just warming up!

Here are a few recent highlights of what has been accomplished so far this spring and summer:

- 1) A few BHSS Social Action members and Rabbi Ilana, along with other N.J. synagogues and advocacy groups, got on a bus to Washington D.C., to protest the U.S. Supreme Court's disavowal of Roe vs. Wade and to fight for our religious and reproductive rights.
- 2) We have been part of a newly-formed congregational committee which has been helping a Ukrainian mother named Julia and her son, Sasha adapt to their new lives in Suffern, New York after their difficult journey as wartime refugees to the United States. It has been an "all hands on deck" effort which has been very rewarding. Keep looking for updates about their lives and needs in the weekly emails and eloquent congregational letters sent by Harvey Weinberg and Jen Cole.
- 3) There were successful turnouts at the June 2022 Mahwah, New Jersey and Sloatsburg, New York Pride Day town-wide events and we greatly appreciate all the volunteer organizers and participants.
- 4) BHSS committee and congregational members graciously volunteered and "adopted" beds in our beautiful synagogue garden. Their time and hard work is resulting in a bountiful harvest whose produce was delivered to the Suffern and Sloatsburg food banks. Volunteers will be needed to help Jill Blum and the rest of her team of volunteers tend to and harvest both the summer and fall fruits and vegetables. Please email Jill at riley0404@gmail.com to help. THE MORE THE MERRIER!

Our upcoming "opening season" events include a postcard writing campaign to GET OUT THE MIDTERMS VOTE so candidates who support a woman's right to choose and sensible gun violence prevention legislation are elected at both the state and local levels. We also are planning an online forum

to hear from rabbis who have written chapters in a recently released social justice book. So, STAY TUNED! Check your weekly emails for further updates and please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions/new ideas. We welcome EVERYONE to attend our Zoom meetings held on the final Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 p.m. beginning in October.

L'shanah Tovah, a sweet and healthy New Year to everyone.

Jonathan Theodore: theodore.central@gmail.com

Lisa Estrin: lbestrin@aol.com Lisa Glick: lisarglick@gmail.com

Committee email address: bhsssocialaction@gmail.com



During the High Holidays, BHSS will have a collection area for The Center for Food Action inside and outside the temple entrance.

We ask for your continued assistance in helping to alleviate hunger in our community.

Canned fruits, vegetables and soups, cereals, pasta, paper products and other food staples are always in need.

Please donate and bring a bag of food with you during the High Holidays.





Our Community Garden was a great success this year! We grew tomatoes, peppers, squash, cucumbers, celery, corn, and cantaloupe. Our donations were harvested and brought to area food banks and soup kitchens, where these donations were sometimes the only source of fresh produce.

Our efforts were slightly hampered by hot, dry weather, rogue wild morning glories, and weeds, however, our hearty band of volunteers kept working!

Thanks go out to Kathy Zukof, Harold Berger, Carrie Ritchin, Danielle Shecter, and Ruth Turner. Roberto, our building caretaker, helped tremendously by delivering mulch to constrain the weeds, and redesigning the sprinkler system for better coverage. Thanks so much to Iris Greenberg, who helps with all of the communication and funding. Ron Javer and Jonathan Theodore also helped by spreading over thirty bags of mulch this spring, helping keep the weeds down.

If you would like to volunteer next season, please contact the BHHS office.

Jill Blum





NOTES FROM MUSIC

Hello everyone!

The Music Committee would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year!

Our choir has been rehearsing all summer, under the direction of Jane Koch, in preparation for the High Holidays. We are welcoming Student Cantor Molly May to join Rabbi Ilana on the *bimah*. Together with all of you, this year's services will surely be inspiring and meaningful.

Throughout the year, we hope to present various programs. Keep an eye out for announcements in *Temple Topics* and weekly temple emails for announcements for upcoming events.

If you would like to help in the planning, we would love to have you join the committee. I am available any time to chat if you have an idea about programming or a question. Email me at niberger@aol.com and I will send you the invitation link.

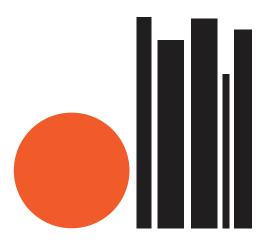
Our choir is rehearsing in person! Here is your chance to join in the fun. They are always looking for new members. No previous experience or knowledge of Hebrew is required. Contact Michelle at the synagogue office for details.

Musically yours, Nora Berger

BERGEN BOOK STUDIO

Books, art, and other necessities

Art Kieres would like to invite you to come to our new bookstore opening October 1, 2022 Only 19 minutes from BHSS!

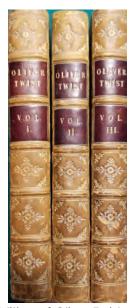


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Worship Schedule

WORSHIP SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Friday, September 2	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service Birthdays in September will be celebrated
Friday, September 9	5:00 pm	Tot Shabbat
inady, copecinion y	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Friday, September 16	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, September 17	10:00 am	B'nai Mitzvah of Alexis Harris and Sam Roth
Saturday, September 17	7:00 pm	Selichot Services
Friday, September 23	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Sunday, September 25	7:30 pm	Erev Rosh Hashanah Service
Monday, September 26		Rosh Hashanah Services – 1st day
		Please refer to High Holiday tickets for service schedule throughout the day
Tuesday, September 27	9:15 am	Rosh Hashanah Service – 2nd day
Friday, September 30	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Tuesday, October 4	7:30 pm	Kol Nidre Service
Wednesday, October 5		Yom Kippur Services
		Please refer to High Holiday tickets for service schedule throughout the day
Friday, October 7	5:00 pm	Tot Shabbat
	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
		Birthdays in October will be celebrated
Saturday, October 8	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Jaden Bugni
Sunday, October 9	7:00 pm	Sukkot Festival Service
Monday, October 10	10:00 am	Sukkot Morning Service
Friday, October 14	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, October 15	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Brooke Reissman
Sunday, October 16	7:00 pm	Simchat Torah/Consecration Service
Monday, October 17	10:00 am	Simchat Torah Festival/ Yizkor Service
Friday, October 21	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Friday, October 28	6:30 pm	Shabbat Evening Service
Saturday, October 29	10:00 am	B'nai Mitzvah of Eli Wunder

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

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

Sessions of School:

Sundays: September 11, 18, October 2, 9, 23, 30 Mondays: September 12, 19, October 3, 24 Tuesdays: September 13, 20, October 11, 18, 25

Office closed:

September 5 September 26, 27 October 5 October 1010 October 17



- Join Torah Stories and discuss "Values That Shape the World" with author Faye Lincoln on Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 pm via Zoom
- Bring the little ones to Tot Shabbat on Fridays, September 9 and October 7 at 5:00 pm at BHSS
- Play All Sorts of Sports (ages 2-3) at the Mini Maccabiah Games Sundays, September 11, 18, 25 and October 2, 9, 16 9:30-10:30 am at BHSS
- Youth group will kick off the fall season with outdoor events for Menschmakers and Youth Group - Sunday, September 11 starting at 11:00 am at BHSS
- Schmooze with the Library Committee's Book and (no) Bagel on Sunday, October 23 at 1:00 pm location TBD
- Start the High Holidays with BHSS at Selichot Services Saturday, September 17 time TBD
- Celebrate the New Year on Rosh Hashanah September 25-27
 please refer to High Holiday tickets for service schedule throughout
- Raise a glass at the Sisterhood Wine Tasting on October 1 at 6:30 pm in the Ulam
- Worship on Yom Kippur October 4-5 please refer to High Holiday tickets for services throughout
- Share in the joy of Sukkot Festival Service on Sunday, October 9 at 7:00 pm, Morning Service on Monday, October 10 at 10:00 am
- Welcome our new students at Simchat Torah/Consecration service Sunday, October 16 at 7:00 pm
- Simchat Torah Yizkor Service Monday, October 17 at 10:00 am location TBD
- Enjoy a night out with BHSS at the Eternal Lights Dinner Thursday, October 20 at 6:00 pm at Valley Rock Inn