



## **TOPICS**

**CHESHVAN/KISLEV/TEVET 5783** 

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022** 

#### Rabbi Ilana's Message

Publicizing the Miracle

The idea is for the menorah to shine in a place where the miracle can be publicized. My family always prioritized avoiding setting fire to the drapes over lighting the *chanukiah* (Hanukkah menorah) in the window, but we publicized in other ways.

full article on page 3

#### President's Message

Seasons and Carousels

A few weeks ago, as we began what will be our last year of Family School (sigh), I had a full circle kind of moment. In 2010, I met a congregant in the buffet line at a Kiddush luncheon. I spotted a lady holding her infant in her arms and approached her, offering to hold her beautiful daughter so that she could sit comfortably and enjoy her plate of food.

full article on page 2

#### **Director of Education**

"Getting an inch of snow is like winning 10 cents in the lottery." - Bill Watterson

The public schools that our students go to have varied policies about snow days off from school, especially now that they are all more experienced with remote instruction, with some giving a traditional snow day and some not.

full article on page 5

#### **B'NAI MITZVAH**

November 5 Jane Grossman
November 5 Reid Grossman
November 12 Gavin Shecter
November 19 Avery Braunstein
December 2 Hailey Berwitz
December 2 Madison Dworkin
December 10 Sophie Smith

#### THINGS TO DO:

more info on back cover and throughout

- Tot Shabbat
- Torah Stories
- Kristallnacht Commemoration
- Sisterhood Goods & Services Auction
- Menschmakers Movie Day
- Youth Group Midnight Run
- Pre-Hanukkah Shabbat Service and concert with Noah Aronson
- Shabbat Hanukkah
- D.A.R.E. Holiday Toy Drive
- Community Hanukkah Menorah Lighting

Happy



nukka



#### President's Message

Seasons and Carousels

Jen Cole

"And the seasons, they go round and round and the painted ponies go up and down, we're captive on the carousel of time..."

- Joni Mitchell

Phew! As I finish this article, we have made it through the busy Hebrew month of Tishrei and have arrived at Cheshvan, better known within Jewish professional circles as the "month without holidays," but I am still basking in the glow of High Holidays. I want to take this opportunity to once again thank everyone who worked to make all of our services, learning sessions and gatherings so meaningful: Rabbi Ilana, student Cantor Molly May, our accompanist Garah Landis, our choir, our lay leader speakers, Rebecca McVeigh (who organized and, if needed, prepared those who were brave enough to take on Hebrew honors), and our professional staff, Iris Greenberg, Michelle Sherry and Roberto Lara. Especially during the High Holidays, it truly takes a village and I am proud and honored (and exhausted) to be a part of this one.

I am also still thinking about carousels. In my Rosh Hashanah remarks I relayed a story about how my daughter and I encountered a beautifully painted carousel horse that was embellished with what were undeniably stars of David. It prompted me to ponder the question: What does it mean to look Jewish? I concluded that it is more about actions than appearances, more about *doing* than looking.

Being a member of a synagogue is one way of *doing* Jewish, but unlike previous generations, many modern families who identify as Jewish are making a conscious choice not to belong to a synagogue. While one certainly does not need to be a card-carrying member of a brick-and-mortar building, or even Jewish, to be a *mensch*, I would argue that being a part of a synagogue community makes it far easier to *do* Jewish and to do it well.

Being a part of a community is a concept deeply embedded in Judaism. While we are of course welcome to pray anytime and anywhere, using any words we choose, but some prayers can only be said when a *minyan* of ten people is present. We also need a *minyan* to recite the seven wedding blessings and to say the *kaddish*, among other prayers. Judaism tells us that connection with others is important, if not imperative, when we worship, celebrate, and mourn.

Our family joined BHSS about 16 years ago, primarily seeking a religious education for our children that we felt ill-equipped to provide. Little did we realize that we would find so much more than we were looking for, like Family School, to learn alongside our children. In the process we met other families as well as teachers who would come to be an integral part of our lives - celebrating many special occasions and milestones with us, and comforting us in times of profound loss.

A few weeks ago, as we began what will be our last year of Family School (sigh), I had a full circle kind of moment. In 2010, I met a congregant in the buffet line at a Kiddush luncheon. I spotted a lady holding her infant in her arms and approached her, offering to hold her beautiful daughter so that she could sit comfortably and enjoy her plate of food. In reality, my selfish motive to hold a baby far outweighed any service I was providing! We introduced ourselves and she handed over the baby. (Perhaps the fact that I was pregnant myself, excitedly awaiting the birth of a daughter in six months, convinced her that I was a pretty safe bet as a babysitter!). Fast forward to a few Sundays ago in Family School - our families sat together, as we often do as we, and our girls, have become friends, and Brooke and Emily received their siddurim to begin to prepare for their upcoming B'not Mitzvah, once so far away and now, nearly here.

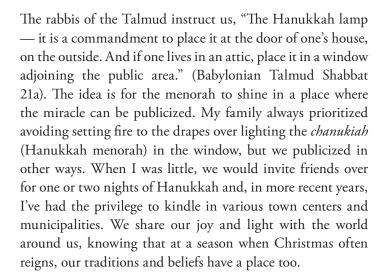
This kind of moment in the "carousel of time" does not happen without a sacred community.

As we transition from fall to winter, from the holiday-less month of Cheshvan to another kind of holiday season, I hope you find all of the love, miracles and light that your family, friends, and your community at BHSS has to offer, and that you find time to *do* Jewish.

#### Publicizing the Miracle

#### Rabbi's Reflections

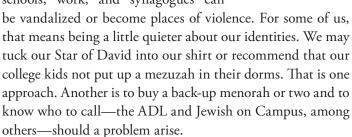
#### Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman



My parents always stressed fire safety and—though my husband still expresses concerns over too many candles all at once—I also stress that safety. For many Jews, that pragmatism extends even further. In fact, on the same page of Talmud, our sages taught, "In times of danger, one places [the menorah] on their table, and it is sufficient." They give us permission to keep our celebration internal. We still light candles, but we don't have to draw attention to our practice. What, then, are "times of danger?" The phrase is commonly interpreted to refer to times when lighting Hanukkah candles is prohibited by society or government.

Thankfully that's not the world we live in. But we do live

in a time when many Jews worry about antisemitism. Jews are targeted for online hate. and our homes, schools, work, and synagogues can



We must consider when and how to best share our miracle, not just the miracle of Hanukkah, but that we thrive and believe and celebrate even now! Our identities are a miracle. We can be proactive, engaging our friends, neighbors, and politicians—Jewish or not. We can be allies to one another and form cross-cultural and cross-religious alliances. We can challenge antisemitic statements when we hear them and confront them through social media.

Whether you choose to light your menorah in your window, behind closed drapes, or even at all; now is a time to make some conscious choices about how and where we express our Judaism.

May your Hanukkah menorah and your love of Judaism shine brightly, however you choose to display them.

#### HANUKKAH HAPPENINGS

#### Tuesday, December 20 at 5:15 pm

Join your congregational family as we officially light the beautiful *Chanukiah* (Hanukkah menorah) that graces our front circle. We will gather with Rabbi Ilana, and our fourth and fifth grade students to celebrate with song and some hot cocoa and jelly donuts!



#### Friday, December 23 at 7:00 pm



Join us for Shabbat Hanukkah and let's celebrate the Festival of Lights together! Bring your *Chanukiyah*, and we will once again light up the sanctuary! After, there will be a sweet Hanukkah treat to enjoy.

#### **BETH HAVERIM SHIR SHALOM 2022-2023**

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Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman 201-512-1983 rabbischwartzman@gmail.com

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Vice President, Lauren Theodore	917-767-8973	laurenstheodore@gmail.com
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#### December

Sophie Smith
Lillian Ikin
Morgan Koppleman
Nathan Kramer
Benjamin Marder
Rose McVeigh
Jake Schlosser

## "Getting an inch of snow is like winning 10 cents in the lottery." – Bill Watterson

#### From The Educator

Rebecca Bernstein McVeigh





The public schools that our students go to have varied policies about snow days off from school, especially now that they are all more experienced with remote instruction, with some giving a traditional snow day and some not.

The BHSS Education Committee decided last year that we will be using the same system we have always used to decide if there will not be religious school on any given day due to weather: if the town of Mahwah has a snow day off from school, then we will also have a snow day off.

If the safety of having school in person is in question for a prolonged period of time due to hazardous weather and there is a danger of missing more than one session for any given grade, we may run school remotely so the students do not miss more than one session's worth of instruction. The timing and mode of private Hebrew tutoring should be arranged between parent and instructor if the building is closed due to weather.

As soon as this decision is made, there will be a message on the religious school's phone (menu option 6), a notice on the BHSS Facebook pages as well as in the private BHSS Parents Facebook page, a notice will be on the front page of the website, and an email message will be sent to the email address we have on file for you, as well as a Remind.com message to those signed up. We will do our best to notify you as soon as we make a decision in the event of a school closing due to weather.



## ATTENTION: SCHEDULE CHANGE!



Starting November – we're going to **change service start times.** 

1st Friday in the month – 6:30 pm Family Service

All other Fridays – 7:00 pm

First Family Service at 6:30 pm is Friday, November 4.

## מחייוב

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

Jane Grossman – November 5, 2022

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey.
Mother, Allison, Father, Matthew,
Brothers, Drew, 19, Ryan, 17, Reid,
12 ....... is a 7th grader at Woodcliff
Middle School ....... Her interests dance,
art, and hanging with friends. "I would like to
be a designer when I grow up. I can't wait for
my special day. I collected and donated dance
costumes for those who are less fortunate."

Reid Grossman – November 5, 2022

Gavin Lee Shecter – November 12, 2022

> Avery Braunstein – November 19, 2022

> Hailey Berwitz – December 3, 2022

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



Madison Dworkin – December 3, 2022

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Lauren, Father, Jason, Sister, Hailey, 10, Brother, Benjamin, 5 ......is a 7th grader at Woodcliff

Middle School ............. Her interests include soccer, basketball, softball, and hanging with friends. "I am really looking forward to celebrating this special occasion with my family and friends. I know hard work pays off. I am collecting new and used sneakers and cleats for children in need. I love sports and I love sneakers, so I am looking to help others in this way."

Sophie Smith – December 10, 2022

Lives in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey. Mother, Abby, Father, Zach, Brother, Hudson, 4, Sister, Emily, 10 1/2

............. is a 7th grader at Woodcliff Middle School ................ Her interests include gymnastics, art (drawing), and shopping. "I want to continue to work hard in school to get good grades and go to a good college. I'm excited about this accomplishment because I have been working hard, and I can't wait to celebrate with my family and friends. I am going to collect donations of food and money for Family Promise, which is an organization that helps families that are struggling to make ends meet."

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.

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2022** 

PJ remote Kadimah 9:00-10:30 a.m. 4:15-5:45 p.m. 6:45-7:45 pm

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
			1
November	6	7*	8 No School
2022	13 No School	14	15
	20	21 No School	22 No School
	27 No School	28	29
	4	5*	6
December	11	12	13
2022	18	19	20
	25 No School	26 No School	27 No School

### **November Calendar**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
		4:15 pm grades 4 & 5	7:30 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm Torah Stories via Zoom		6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Lech L'cha 10 am Jane and Reid Grossman
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm PJ Remote Kadimah	No School 7:30 pm Exec Comm 7:30 pm MMG	7 pm Kristallnacht Program		7 pm Tefilot	Vayeira 10 am Gavin Shecter
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
No School	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		5 pm Tot Shabbat 7 pm Tefilot	Chayei Sarah 10 am Avery Braunstein
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9 am 6th trad & FS	No School	No School 7:30 pm Music Comm mtg		Office Closed	Office Closed 7 pm Tefilot	Toldot
27	28	29	30			
No School	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5	7:30 pm Adult Choir			

#### **December Calendar**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
					6:30 pm Tefilot Family Service	Vayeitzei 10 am Hailey Berwitz and Madison Dworkin
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9 am 6th trad & FS	4:15 pm grades K 1 2 3 6:45 pm PJ Remote Kadimah	4:15 pm grades 4 & 5	7:30 pm Adult Choir		7 pm Tefilot	Vayishlach 10 am Sophie Smith 6:30 pm Sis'hood Goods & Services
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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 Exec Comm mtg 7:30 pm MMG mtg	7:30 pm Adult Choir		5 pm Tot Shabbat 7 pm Tefilot with Noah Aronson!	Vayeishev
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 5:15 pm Community Menorah Lighting 7:30 pm Board Mtg.	7:30 pm Adult Choir		7 pm Tefilot Shabbat Hanukkah	Mikeitz
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
No School	Office Closed No School	No School 7:30 pm Music Comm Mtg.	7:30 pm Adult Choir		7 pm Tefilot	Vayigash



# Sisterhood presents Goods and Services Auction

Free! Fun! Door prizes! Something for everyone!

A few items that will be up for bidding...

Tickets to sporting events

Theater Tickets

Tropical Anguilla vacation

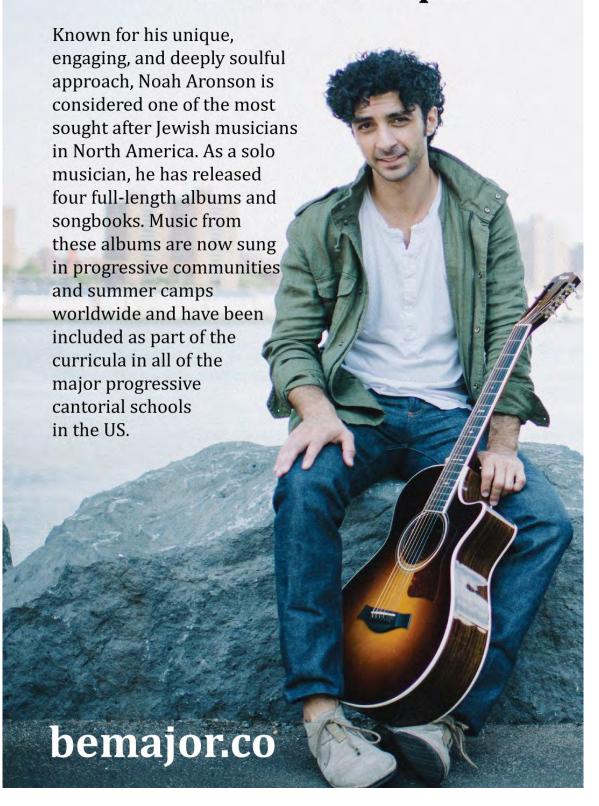
Dinners

Pool parties

and much, much more!

For more information please contact Lisa Lamster at 201-230-1936 or lisalams@optonline.net

## NOAH ARONSON will be joining us for Pre-Hanukkah Shabbat and a mini concert on December 16 at 7 pm



#### Good & Welfare

#### from and for the congregation

#### Condolences to:

Jane Young on the death of her sister, Leslee Feinsod

Steven Weiss on the death of his stepfather, Sanford Schey

Randy Sherry on the death of his mother, Ann Sherry

Marcia Andrade on the death of her mother, Elaine Spieler

Jackie Bugni on the death of her husband, Scott Bugni

Stacy Slater on the death of her cousin, Sarah Nicole Katz

Marc Daniel on the death of his brother-in-law

Lawrence Greenberg

#### R'fuah Sh'leimah

(For a full and speedy recovery)

Ed Vogel
Stu Turner
Beth Dubiel
Bernice Medici



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.

#### Welcome New Members:

Jared & Amanda Strasser and family, Mahwah, NJ

Dennis & Karen Morris and family, Ramsey, NJ

Brian & Marci Meyers and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Jason & Jen Kaplan and family, Mahwah, NJ

Evan & Elyse Burrows and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Stuart & Elisa Strow and family, Mahwah, NJ

Brian & Jessica Nielsen and family,

Upper Saddle River, NJ

Howard & Anne Weiner and family, Oakland, NJ

Field & Lauren Brussel and family, Upper Saddle River, NJ

Adam & Carrie Kipnis and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Jason & Rachel McKenna and family, Oakland, NJ

Steve & Marlene Portnoy, Tuxedo Park, NY

Howard & Jamie Rosenkrantz and family,

Upper Saddle River, NJ

Michael & Pamela McNulty and family, Oakland, NJ
Mark & Elissa Kingsley and family, Mahwah, NJ
Hal Keshner, Suffern, NY
David & Lori Verbel and family, Allendale, NJ
Sean & Susan Levin and family, Montvale, NJ
Devon & Jaime Stein and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ

Josh & Elyssa Sabloff and family, Woodcliff Lake, NJ



#### **BROTHERHOOD**

L'Shanah Tovah from BHSS Brotherhood!

We at the Brotherhood would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support of our Brotherhood.

Each year the Brotherhood would get together to assemble the *sukkah*. We would battle snakes and other creepy-crawlies as we took the old wooden pieces and worn-out *schach* (roofing) from beneath the Youth Lounge...and then enjoy *Sukkot*. Then, we'd meet again to dismantle the *sukkah* and return it to the dank darkness of the cellar beneath the Youth Lounge from whence it came.

This year, something new! Many thanks to the amazing team at BHSS for purchasing a BRAND-NEW *SUKKAH*! Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to assemble the *sukkah*. We then held the first Pizza in the Hut in about 3 years! What a nice night, nice weather, and great turnout!

BHSS Brotherhood enjoys a long history with BHSS, holding fun events, supporting other groups in the synagogue as

well as being a safe place where people can come to support one another. Please keep an eye out for our emails, weekly newsletter for our upcoming events, gatherings, or requests for help.

Those who are new to BHSS, come check us out. Come to one event, one dinner, one breakfast, or one volunteer opportunity. For members not so new, come see who we are, and how we have grown!

Now, more than ever it is so important for us to stick together as a community. Looking forward to exciting things to come!

L'Shalom

President@bhssbrotherhood.org bhssbrotherhood@gmail.com

Sincerely,

The Legion of Past Presidents

#### **SISTERHOOD**

What happens once the fall holidays are done and it's not time for Hannukah yet? You focus on Sisterhood, of course! We hope you made it to Sisterhood's Havdalah and wine tasting on October 1, 2022. Thirty people learned about women winemakers, from Madame Cliquot (yes, of Veuve Cliquot fame) to the most famous woman winemaker of all, Lucy Ricardo! :-) We sipped and munched and caught up with one another. It was a great evening for all.

You should already be hearing about the Sisterhood Kindness Chain, and we really hope you'll be part of it this year. It's quickly becoming a BHSS Sisterhood tradition. You will receive the name of a sister, to whom you will gift a "kindness". And someone will get your name to do the same for you! It's a great way to meet a new friend, renew your friendship with someone you haven't seen in a while, and to think creatively about what you can do to make your sister happy. It's a moment of "zen" amidst all the seasonal madness—and we can't recommend it enough.

But wait—there's more! This year brings the return of the Great Sisterhood Good and Services Auction! Yes, December 10, 2022 will be an evening you will never forget! Join your BHSS friends, and bring your friends from home to bid on

vacations, dinners, lessons, treasures and treats. Listen to our emcees as they spend the evening making sure we're having fun, and supporting Sisterhood, in our efforts to continue serving the BHSS family. Proceeds from the Goods & Services Auction support Sisterhood in providing gifts to B'nai Mitzvah children, camperships and many other behindthe-scenes endeavors. We can't do it without you, and you don't want to miss the fun evening!

There's more on tap, but for now, we hope you'll mark these dates on your calendars. If you would like to help with gathering donations for our auction, or with running the evening, please reach out to us. The more hands on deck, the merrier!

Remember that 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.

"Helping one another is part of the religion of sisterhood." -Louisa May Alcott

Beth Wiesner and Lisa Estrin

#### **BHSS YOUTH GROUPS**

#### Hello everyone!

We had a blast seeing you at our September and October Events! It was so good to see you back at religious school and some of the high holiday services! If you have not filled out your membership forms yet we encourage you to do so. Just go to the Youth Group page on the temple website and fill out the form.

### We are so excited to share our 2022-2023 BHSSTY Board with you!

Co-Presidents – Leah Wolf and Annabel Theodore Religious & Cultural Vice President: Brian Ritchin Programming Vice President: Hannah Altman Communications Vice President: Cora Einhorn Membership Vice President: Matt Altman

Treasurer: Danielle Kissin



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

#### Menschmakers Grades 3-6

Movie Day November 20 from 11-12:30 pm

Sky Zone January TBD

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

Purim Carnival March 5th 10:30-12:30 pm

Escape The Room May 7, 12-2 pm

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.

#### BHSSTY Grades 7-12

Midnight Run November TBD

Goods and Services Auction Runners & Shul-In December 10

Sky Zone January TBD

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

Purim Carnival SET UP March 4, 5-7 pm and 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

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The BHSS Education Committee and religious school staff welcome this year's new students!

Alexandra Barbach Mason Brussel Eli Burrows Ava Diamond Jordan Erde Levi Forman Reid Forman Jacob Franklin Hannah Ginsberg Jack Goldman Maya Goldman Joey Goldstein Gracie Gordon Jordanna Harris Liam Ikin Leah Joho Sydney Kaplan Sabine Kieres Samuel Kingsley Harrison Kipnis Ryder Krieg Jonah Leong Benjamin Marder Andrew McKenna

Kaitlin McNulty Rose McVeigh Levi Meyers Mason Morris Dylan Nielsen Hunter Nitzberg Stella Nitzberg **Hudson Pulver** Zach Rein Ryan Root Harrison Rosa Josh Rosa Jonah Rose Levi Rose Brooke Rosenkrantz Harper Rozenblat Violet Rozenblat Alexa Rubin Emma Sabloff Benjamin Spungin Reagan Stein Dylan Strow Joelle Strow lada Verbel



## MICHELLE MITZVAH GROUP

Shalom. The final Shofar blast has sounded, the gates have closed, concluding another High Holiday season. Every year, around this time, people express to me the desire to help out and do more for the community. There is no better time than the present and there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer with the Michelle Mitzvah Group.

Every year we run a food drive during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services to benefit the Center for Food Action. One would think that the amount of food collected would be able to last throughout the year, but, sadly, that is not the case. There continues to be a need for food donations.

As the temperature decreases, the need increases. How can you help? Anytime you visit the synagogue, please drop off food at the main entrances. Specifically, there is a high demand for:

- Supermarket Gift Cards
- Canned Meat (tuna, chicken, etc.)
- Canned Hearty Soups
- Canned Vegetables
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Tomato Sauce
- Toothpaste, Toothbrush & Dental Floss
- Cold Cereal (low sugar) and Oatmeal
- Powdered Milk and/or Boxed Milk, such as Parmalat
- Canned Fruits
- Instant Potatoes
- 100% Juice
- Baby Formula & Diapers sizes 4, 5 & 6
- Bar or Bottled Soap
- Canned Dog Food & Canned Cat Food

In addition to supporting the Center for Food Action, there are opportunities to support the Suffern Soup Kitchen as well. Every Sunday, meals are served at the Christ Episcopal Church from 11:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Volunteers prepare all meals and serve them take-out style to the guests. For over 30 years we have helped support this endeavor to allow the members of the church to enjoy their day of rest.

Remember our continued efforts to help support Oasis: A Haven for Women & Children. They are always in need of tutors and volunteers in the child care rooms. Drivers are also needed for food drop offs, and to shuttle deliveries from BJs and Fresh Market.

If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Steven Simon via email, steveoum@verizon.net or via cell at 201-788-6755. We will work together to find a mitzvah to do.

#### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

thank you for the beautiful holiday services

- Phil Moss

in memory of Charles Austin, my sweetheart for so many years

- Barbara Kravitz

in memory of Myron Greenzweig

- Marilyn & Irwin Haberman

to Cindy Buchalter, in memory of her

father, Harvey Greenberg - Leslie Sapienza

- Alison & Norman Axelrod

- Lynn & Michael Zall

#### Educator's Discretionary Fund

in honor of Maya's Bat Mitzvah, with thanks

- Erica & Josh Fox

to Muriel Handwerger, in memory of Stanley - Joel Goldfarb

in memory of Lloyd Goldfarb - Joel Goldfarb

in memory of Gertrude Jeanette - Sandi Jeanette

#### Life Fund

to Randy Sherry, in memory of his mother, Ann Sherry

- Lynn & Michael Zall - Marci & Harvey Weinberg

in memory of Eliot Lee Meyers - Susan Meyers

to Tom Lindsay and family

- Mary Geisenheimer & family, and the Morris Family

to Susan Dworkin, in memory of Louis Kirstein

- Joel Goldfarb

to Jackie Bugni and family, in memory of Scott Bugni

- Lisa, Sammi, Josh & Jessica Lamster

to Stephanie Duren, in memory of Paul Biersuck

- Lisa Lamster

- Joel Goldfarb

in memory of Linda Goldfarb - Joel Goldfarb

in memory of Adele Axelrod - Alison & Norman Axelrod

in memory of Richard Silverman - Judy & John Neumann

in memory of Annelise Schott - Sheri & Allan Schott

in memory of Miles Alter - Roberta Alter

#### Michelle Mitzvah Fund

in memory of Harvey Greenberg & Carol Sutherland
- Bilha Berhowitz

with thanks and appreciation to the Michelle Mitzvah Group
- Phil Moss

#### Center for Food Action

Given by their families in honor of the following simchas:

the Bat Mitzvah of **Brooke Reissman** the Bat Mitzvah of **Alexis Harris** the B'nei Mitzvah of **Jane and Reid Grossman** the Bat Mitzvah of **Avery Braunstein** 

#### Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge

Donated by their families in honor of the following simchas:

the Bat Mitzvah of **Brooke Reissman** the Bat Mitzvah of **Jaden Bugni** the Bar Mitzvah of **Sam Roth** the Bat Mitzvah of **Avery Braunstein** 

### Sustaining Membership

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

#### B'RACHA IS A BLESSING

#### ALLISON & JOSH BERWITZ Shelley & Gary Bettman Karen & George Charne Laurie & Marc Daniel STACY & MICHAEL DAVIS Sue-Ellen Johnson Renee & Gary Garbus Mona & Jeff Lefkowitz LEN KAPLAN SHERYL & JOEL IVES Donna & Adam Kotz Laura & Mitchell Miller Fran & Jeff Rowbottom Roni & Andrew Silver Lauren & Jonathan Theodore GAIL & RANAN WICHLER

#### **SIMCHA** IS A JOY

## Elyse Victor Berman & Joe Berman Sheila & Larry Groskin Andy Schecter & Shari Slavin



#### **TZEDEK MEANS RIGHTEOUSNESS**

SANDRA & BILL ARLINGTON

Alison & Norman Axelrod
Dara & Christine Diamond
Alexia & Elliott Feldman
Sam Reiner
Deborah & Jeff Klein
Phil Moss
Jann & Marc Reissman
Marci & Harvey Weinberg
Vida Mylson & Eric Weiner

#### SOCIAL ACTION

Recent tumultuous events in our families, communities, nation, and world-wide have put a spotlight on the importance of cherishing life, as well as becoming strong SOCIAL JUSTICE PIONEERS. As Jews by birth or choice, it is incumbent on us to maintain our sacred traditions, be proud of our ancestral heritage, uphold the democratic principles of the United States and Israel, fight anti-Semitism and remember the cry" NEVER AGAIN", continue to advocate for domestic and international civil rights, and help the sick and downtrodden.

Therefore, as the New Year 5783 begins, BHSS Social Action is calling on the congregation and other synagogue committees to help us organize and implement our upcoming initiatives. Look for our emails and meeting/programming announcements in the weekly Wednesday BHSS newsletter.

Please attend our monthly meetings held on the last Tuesday evening each month. Join our mailing list by emailing your contact information to bhsssocialaction@gmail.com. We welcome new members with open arms!

#### L'shanah Tovah Tikateivu to everyone!

BHSS Social Action Committee: bhsssocialaction@gmail.com

Lisa B. Estrin, Co-Chairperson, lbestrin@aol.com Jonathan A. Theodore, Co-Chairperson,

theodore.central@gmail.com Lisa Glick, Vice Chairperson, lisarglick@gmail.com

#### November Yahrzeits

DOROTHY ADLMAN
MANUEL ANSIN
CORINNE BAUM
MAX BEHAR
SAMUEL BERGER
MATTIE BIALER
BENJAMIN BLUMENFELD
LILLIAN FLIGIEL BROWN
BEATRICE BURGHARDT
JENNIE COHEN
SELMA ELTERMAN
EDITH FRANK
BURTON FREEMAN
CLAIRE FRIEDMAN
DAVID GOLDFARB

SHIRLEY GRALLA
ALBERTA GREENBERG
EUGENE GREENBLATT
SYLVIA GREENE
DAVID HABERMAN
SYLVIA HABERMAN
ELAINE HAGER
BESSIE HIEGER
LAWRENCE ISRAEL
HENRY KOLB
RENEE KUPCHIN
IRVING KURSMAN
LILLIAN KURTIN
RENEE KUSHER

PNINA LANDAU
ROSE LEFKOWITZ
LINDA LENCHNER
ISIDORE LEVINE
ROSLYN MILLMAN
MIRIAM NAHUM
NORMAN NOVAK
SADIE NOVOCK
ESTHER OPPENHEIM
VI PEARLMAN
SALLY RABINOVICH
SOFIA REVICH
ROSALYN ROOT
HARRY SHAMES

SAMUEL SCHECHTER
PAUL SHERMAN
HOWARD SHMARUK
ERIC STEINMAN
LON STEINMAN
DIANE STROW
RAE SUESKIND
ERNA TUTEUR
INDA VAYSBURD
MAX VOGEL
HOWARD WEINBERG
SARAH YERUSHALMI
SARA ZINN
MOLLIE ZUKOF

## BHSS Holiday D.A.R.E. Toy Drive

Each year, BHSS helps the Suffern Police Department's **D.A.R.E. Program** with its toy drive. Suffern D.A.R.E aids families in Orange County, NY, Newark, NJ and New York City in addition to its primary mission of helping local families in Rockland County, NY and Bergen County, NJ. Suffern D.A.R.E, along with local social workers, municipalities and organizations identify local families in need. This year Suffern D.A.R.E needs our help again. Yes, we need to help these families as they are our neighbors and we, as a community are obligated to assist them because we know we need to help people in need and teach our children the meaning of *tzedakah*.

We hope each BHSS family pledges to participate this year in the BHSS Holiday D.A.R.E. Toy Drive. All a family needs to do is donate ONE unwrapped new toy for a child in need. If every family donates, we can continue to provide Suffern D.A.R.E. with the ability to expand its reach to our surrounding communities and help heal the world.



It is easy to participate. **Beginning in November**, You can drop the new unwrapped gift at the synagogue when you come for services, school, or any of our programs. There will be bins to put the gifts in by the religious school entrance. Remember, you can always check with Michelle or Iris Please note that the last drop-off date at the synagogue will be **Sunday**, **December 18**.

#### MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING ברונם לברכה אברונם לברכה

#### December Yahrzeits

Alfred Baum Marvin Bendalin LILLIAN BERMAN **ELAINE CRAMER** BERNSTEIN HOWARD BETTMAN Adam Bialer STEWART BIALER Donna Blumental GREG BRABEC WILLIAM BRENDER JULIUS BRESSLER BARBARA CASSELL MARVIN COMISKY JOE COYNE GERALD DAVID SONIA DEMSKY **EVELYN EBBIN** BEATRICE FARBER ABRAHAM FINKELSTEIN

Marilyn Friedman Naomi Friedman **EMANUEL GARBUS** BETTY GELFAND SHELDON GOLDSTEIN HARRY GORDON ELAINE HALL ALLAN HEFFLER MAE HEILBRAUN HERMAN HERSHMAN LOTHAR KAHN BARUCH KAPELUSHNIK RITA KERN JERZY KIERES Ann Kirshner ELSIE KLEIN MILTON KLEIN BETTY KURSMAN **JEROME KURSMAN** 

DAVID LEVINSON HERBERT LEVY ALEJANDRO LLIBRE JODI LYONS OSCAR MAIER MURRAY MARKS MADELINE MATLOWSKY SARAH MATLOWSKY NATHAN MAYERS BEATRICE MENDELOWITZ LOUIS MILLER DAVID MULFORD MICHAEL NANUS JOAN RUTH NITZBERG CLAIRE NOVAK Ilya Peckerman AARON PREMSELAAR CARL RICHARDSON FAYE RICHARDSON

LEAH ROCKER SEYMOUR SAIFF MORITZ SCHOTT STUART SIMON HARVEY STEDMAN SAUL STEDMAN LOUIS STIGLITZ SYLVIA SVETCOV FLORENCE TURNER **EDITH UNGER** SARAH VERBEL Annette Gordon Waldbaum JEROME WEINBERG **ELEANOR WEINER** MILTON WEINER ROSE WEINSTEIN AL YAGODA WARREN YOUNG SARAH ZALL

#### **NOTES FROM MUSIC**

#### Hello everyone!

We hope you are enjoying celebrating services back in person in our beautiful sanctuary. The feeling of sharing community and song on Friday night at BHSS after a long work week to me is exactly what the definition of the Fourth commandment means – "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy".

This year we will celebrate Hanukkah from December 18 - 26. Look for details on Shabbat Hanukkah. It is the most beautiful service of the year! Every family called up to light their own *chanukiyah*. The sanctuary lit with all that candlelight throughout the service, the choir singing all the traditional songs, young and old retelling the story. It doesn't get any better than this!

If you would like to help in the planning events, we would love to have you join the committee. We meet monthly via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. 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



NOVEMBER 2 - 7:30PM VIA ZOOM

"SHERLOCK COHEN"
CULTURAL DETECTIVE: JEWISH

As the old joke goes, "Two Jews, three opinions!" There may be more movements and ideas within Judaism than actual Jews in existence!

In this session, intercultural specialists Ruth Mastron and Vivian Deutsch use research, experience, and humor to teach participants to be "cultural detectives", examining differences that may divide Jews, such as national origin, religious belief and practice, and more.

Participants will learn concepts and tools that help to "solve the mystery" of Jewish misunderstandings by using shared Jewish values to bridge differences.

A specialist in European and American cultures, Ruth Mastron co-authored "Cultural Detective: Jewish Culture", while Vivian Deutch brings her decades of global cultural work in a Fortune 50 corporation helping Israelis and Americans effectively leverage their cultural differences.

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, December 7 – 7:30pm – via Zoom "The December Dilemma"

KRISTALMIACHT GBSERVANCE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

BHSS JOINS FORCES WITH RAMAPO COLLEGE FOR A MOVING COMMEMORATION OF KRISTALLNACHT ...THE NIGHT OF BROKEN GLASS.



DR. JACOB LABENDZ, DIRECTOR OF THE GROSS CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES AND HIS STUDENTS SHARE THEIR CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS WITH THE CONGREGATION, WHICH MAP AND

NARRATE THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUAL SURVIVORS WHO WITNESSED THE DEVASTATION OF KRISTALLNACHT. THE MAPPING PROJECTS ARE BASED PRIMARILY UPON VIDEO TESTIMONIES RECORDED WITH LOCAL SURVIVORS BY THE GROSS CENTER FOR HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES FOR THE FORTUNOFF ARCHIVE AT YALE UNIVERSITY.



## Tot Shabbat!

Fridays, November 18 and December 16 at  $5\,\mathrm{p.m.}$ 

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!



## 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.

#### Prelude to "Getting Involved"

#### Eric Einhorn

Many things attracted me and my family to become members of BHSS fifteen years ago. The clergy and welcoming community were, of course, among the main reasons, as was the fantastic religious school for my children. On a more personal level, though, music is what drew me closer to the heart of the congregation. Hearing Cantor Perper sing during my first BHSS Shabbat service solidified in my mind that this was the place for me. When Cantor discovered I was a classically-trained singer (after we "talked shop" for a while) he introduced me to the broader musical community of BHSS. I came to learn about the robust activities of the Music Committee, including the recent purchase of a grand piano for the sanctuary - a very telling commitment to the musical life of the congregation. I performed in two concerts that Cantor Perper programmed, and for two High Holiday seasons, I was a member of the BHSS adult choir, which gave me first-hand experience with the impact of music in our community.

As a busy young professional with a hectic schedule and two little children at home, I enjoyed being a member of the BHSS community, but never saw myself as someone who would "get involved." When I thought about the many committees and activities that the temple offered, I couldn't quite find the right fit or the free time. What I hadn't realized is that the community had already helped me find my path to greater involvement through a side door, through something that both lived within and transcended my Jewish identity - music. Without even truly realizing it, I was now "more involved" in temple life.

In more recent years, I have had the honor of lending my musical experience to the Cantorial Search and, later, the Transition Committees. When I joined BHSS fifteen years ago, I never could have imagined being directly involved in a clergy transition, let alone bringing my musical skills to bear in the process. Even though my service on those committees has finished and my schedule currently doesn't allow me to sing in the choir, I can still feel the deep connections that I formed through music at BHSS every time I hear the piano at services, or when Rabbi Ilana sings, or I worship next to any number of people I had the pleasure of meeting through any of my service to BHSS.

Becoming a more involved member of our community doesn't require you to be a Talmudic scholar, a social justice warrior, an expert in institutional governance, or to commit every free moment you have. Becoming more involved can be as personal as you want it to be - and for whatever duration. Countless opportunities abound for any of us to deepen our relationship to our congregation. Don't know where to begin? Try by starting with something that already brings you joy outside of the synagogue, whether it's something like baking, playing mah jongg, meeting new people, or singing. Bring that joy and that passion to Rabbi Ilana or Iris or a committee member and I can guarantee that they will help you find a unique and personal path to becoming more deeply connected to our sacred community. Before long, and maybe without even knowing it, you'll realize just how easy and meaningful "getting involved" can be.

#### **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).

#### HANUKKAH MENORAH LIGHTING HINTS:

The first day of Hanukkah is on December 19; therefore the first candle is lit the evening before (December 18) Candles are placed in the *chanukiyah* (Hanukkah menorah) from right to left (the first night, place one candle all the way to the right, then add on from there each succeeding night.) Light candles from left to right (light the newest candle first, after you have lit the *shamash*, or service candle.)

#### **First Blessing:**

בָּרודְּ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם אַשֵּׁר קִדְשַׁנוּ בִּמִצִּוֹתַיו וְצַוַנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֵׁל חֵנְכַּה.

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

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

#### **Second Blessing:**

בָּרודְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לַאֲבוֹתִינוּ בַּיָמִים הָהֵם בַּ זְמַן הַזֶּה.

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

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

Third Blessing (recited first night only)

בָּרודְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם שָהַחֵינוּ וְקִיּמֵנוּ וְהָגִּיעֵנוּ לַזְמֵן הַזָּה.

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

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



#### TRADITION AND CULTURE

At Hanukkah we bring a little more light into the world, lighting our menorahs and remembering the little oil container that could. We also often take the opportunity to celebrate the people who bring more light into our lives through their presence by giving presents...but sometimes it's hard to come up with the right gift to remind people how they light up our lives. If you need a little gift inspiration for those people on your holiday shopping list this year, check out these "best gift ever received" comments from some fellow BHSS members to help make your shopping a little easier.

"My best Hanukkah present was my Kindle last year because I can read any time I want. It's a good way to relax, and I can get any book I want. My favorite book so far has been any book by Rick Riordan or Spy School." - Jacob Franklin

"My best Hanukkah present is when my family gives me massage or spa gift certificates because all I really ever want is the chance to unwind which I rarely get to do!" - Cheryl Franklin

"One of my favorite Hanukkah gifts that I received last year was from my Sisterhood Kindness Chain exchange. I received a beautiful wood charcuterie board that I use often and a really nice candle!" - Michelle Gilbert

"My first real bike in pink with pink and white tassels at the end. I think I was nine. My parents had a big pink bow on it for me and surprised me with it by keeping it in our garage. I had thought it was the coolest and most beautiful bike! I totally loved that bike and had it for many years." - Karina Herrman

Gift giving isn't the only way to celebrate the holiday or to let our friends and family know they are loved, but if we're going to embrace the chance to share and brighten with presents, now we have some good ideas of what to give!





#### Candlelighting times:

November 5, 2022 Lech L'cha 5:30 pm November 12, 2022 Vayeira 4:23 pm November 19, 2022 Chayei Sarah 4:17 pm November 26, 2022 Tol'dot 4:13 pm December 2, 2022 Vayetzei 4:10 pm December 9, 2022 Vayishlach 4:10 pm December 16, 2022 Vayeishev 4:11 pm December 23, 2022 Miketz 4:14 pm December 30, 2022 Vayigash 4:19 pm



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#### Worship Schedule

#### WORSHIP SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Friday, November 4	6:30 pm	Shabbat Family Services
Saturday, November 5	10:00 am	Birthdays in November will be celebrated B'nai Mitzvah of Jane and Reid Grossman
Friday, November 11	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Saturday, November 12	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Gavin Shecter
Friday, November 18	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Tot Shabbat Shabbat Evening Services
Saturday, November 19	10:00 am	Bat Mitzvah of Avery Braunstein
Friday, November 25	7:00 pm	Shabbat Evening Services
Friday, December 2	6:30 pm	Shabbat Family Services
		Birthdays in December will be celebrated
Saturday, December 3	10:00 am	B'not Mitzvah of Hailey Berwitz and Lauren Dworkin
Friday, December 9 Saturday, December 10	7:00 pm 10:00 am	Shabbat Evening Services Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Smith
Friday, December 16	5:00 pm <b>7:00 pm</b>	Tot Shabbat  Pre-Hanukkah Shabbat – with special guest Noah Aronson
Friday, December 23 Friday, December 30	<b>7:00 pm</b> 7:00 pm	Shabbat Hanukkah Shabbat Evening Services
Tiday, December 30	, oo piii	onabbat Lyching octytees



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

Rabbi Ilana Schwartzman Rebecca McVeigh, Director of Education

#### **Sessions of School:**

Sundays: November 6, 20, December 4, 11, 18 Mondays: November 7, 14, 28, December 5, 12, 19 Tuesdays: November 1, 15, 29, December 6, 13, 20

#### Office closed:

November 24, 25 December 26



- Bring the little ones to Tot Shabbat for ages birth to 5 and their families -November 18 and December 16 at 5:00 pm
- Learn something new about the Torah with Torah Stories via Zoom at 7:30 pm -November 2 - "Cultural Detectives" and December 7 - "The December Dilemma"
- Commemorate Kristallnacht with BHSS and a moving presentation by Ramapo College's Gross Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies Wednesday, November 9, 7:00 pm at BHSS
- Pick up some great items at the Sisterhood Goods & Services Auction Saturday, December 10 at 6:30 pm
- Join in the fun of Menschmakers Movie Day Sunday, November 20 at 11:00 am
- Make a difference with Youth Group's Midnight Run in November (date TBD)
- Share the joy of Hanukkah at the BHSS Community Menorah Lighting Tuesday, December 20 at 5:15 pm
- Don't miss a special pre-Hanukkah Shabbat with guest musician Noah Aronson - Friday, December 16 at 7:00 pm
- Bring your Hanukkah menorah to light up the sanctuary for Shabbat Hanukkah -Friday, December 23 at 7:00 pm
- Help make the holidays brighter for those in need by donating to the D.A.R.E. Holiday Toy Drive