

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Lesson From a Co-op

In his sermon on Erev Rosh Hashanah, Rabbi Schultz described a lesson he learned from a food co-op in Brooklyn and spoke of his hope to make B'nai Israel “a bright light amidst all the divisiveness and partisanship that beleaguers our country right now.” Page 3.

Signs of Faith

In her Rosh Hashanah address to the congregation, Shari Nerreau, our president, talked about the signs in her kitchen and how they relate to our synagogue in a time of transition. Page 5.

Gift of Light Returns

Once again, the very successful Gift of Light campaign will give congregants a chance to wish friends a Happy Chanukah while benefiting the synagogue. Page 4.

A New Place to Play

After much planning, and with a bit of good luck, the first phase of Bonim’s new playground has been completed, and children are already enjoying it. Page 6.

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RABBI SCHULTZ TO BE INSTALLED



There may be a touch of déjà vu when Rabbi Evan Schultz is installed as our new Senior Rabbi on Friday, November 15.

The guest speaker will be Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman, who came to B'nai Israel in May to give a talk as part of the events to honor Rabbi James Prosnit on his retirement.

But this is more than a coincidence. Rabbi Hoffman, who has been a leading thinker in the Reform movement for more than 40 years, has been a mentor to both Rabbi Prosnit and Rabbi Schultz.

“He was probably the most influential rabbi for me in rabbinical school,” Rabbi Schultz said, “and he’s been a guide on my spiritual journey.”

Jill Elbaum co-chair of the installation celebration, said, “So many of us want to wish Rabbi Schultz well at the official onset of his tenure, but it can be a long evening.”

To that end, it will be a three-part event. At 6:00 there will be a family-friendly dinner, followed by the Shabbat service and installation at 7:30. It will end with a dessert oneg and song fest.

“We hope all members of our community will join us for some, or all of the festivities,” added Marcy Shinbaum, co-chair of the celebration.

In addition, a short Fun Run and Ice Cream Social is planned for Sunday afternoon. Register for your bib and make reservations for Shabbat dinner (\$25

SHARING OUR JOY...

Linda and Joel Bernstein, in celebration of the engagement of daughter, Jillian, to Dan Warren.

Sharon and Scott Harris, in celebration of the birth of granddaughter, Sadie Quinn Harris, daughter of Danny and Blake Harris.

Ellen Hyde Phillips, in celebration of Ellen becoming President of the Woman's Auxiliary at the JSS.

Marcie and David Slepian, in celebration of daughter Susannah's marriage to Mohamed Adel.

SINCERE SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the bereaved families of:

Marilyn Shook, wife of Robert Shook

Lois Campbell, mother of Janet Rosen

Howard Bindelglass, father of David Bindelglass

Allan Aaron, husband of Harriet Aaron

Morton Robert Ruden, father of Jeffrey Ruden

Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens

WELCOME! WELCOME!

A warm welcome to our newest members. We look forward to their participation in our many programs and hope their affiliation will not only enrich their lives, but that of our congregation.

Samantha Patrignelli, Abby, Lily and Max

Warwick Avenue, Fairfield

David Krulewitz, Maverock, Hudson & Sawyer

Middlebrook Drive, Fairfield

BULLETIN BOARD

Game Night



Join Women of B'nai Israel on November 6 from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. for an evening of canasta, mah jong and socializing. It's a night for everyone, whether you know how to play the games or not. If you haven't joined us in the past, it's been a phenomenal success. There will be tables for players with experience, and tables for those who want to learn the games! If you just want to socialize, that's OK too! Snacks and beverages will be provided by the Women of B'nai Israel! Please look for the sign-up sheet in Hashavua. Any questions, please contact Carol Lubin at crlubz@gmail.com.

Helping the Brave

Please join us for the November Mitzvah Morning on Sunday, November 10, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Once again, we'll be serving breakfast at Homes for the Brave, which provides housing, vocational and life-skills training to homeless veterans. They greatly appreciate our coming to make a hot meal, but even more so, they appreciate our active engagement with them and the opportunity to tell their stories. This is a great mitzvah for families and kids, and the 8th grade Religious School class will be involved as well. We'll meet at Homes for the Brave at 655 Park Avenue in Bridgeport at 9:30 for coffee and bagels. It has a private parking lot. Volunteers are limited to 15 (due to the size of the

kitchen), so please sign up through Hashavua or the Temple website.

Toys for Angels

Please help us by donating unwrapped toys for Al's Angels and volunteering with gift wrapping on the December Mitzvah Morning, Sunday, December 8 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Al's Angels provides support to children and families battling cancer, rare blood diseases, natural disasters, and severe financial hardship." Now through December 16, we are asking for donations of unwrapped toys. Donation boxes are in the Temple lobby or you can order directly through our [Amazon](#)

 [Wish List](#) and they can ship directly to the temple. At the gift-wrapping session, we will learn more about the mission of Al's Angels from its founder, Al DiGuido. Contact Nicole Bush at nfbush@gmail.com with any questions.

Film Screening

B'nai Israel's CONECT Core Team will screen the film "Stranger Fruit" on Nov. 17 at 2 p.m. as a continuation of the series "Two Books, Two Movies: Discussions on Racism in America." The film looks at what really happened on August 9, 2014, in Ferguson, Missouri, when a police officer killed 18-year-old Michael Brown. We will be joined for this discussion by Dan Edinberg, son of B'nai Israel members Mark and Barbara Edinberg, who composed the music for this documentary. For questions or to RSVP, contact Jeff Schwartz at jeff.schwartz2991@gmail.com or Emily Lehrman at emilylehrman@gmail.com.



FROM THE RABBI'S DESK/RABBI EVAN SCHULTZ

THE POWER OF WE

This is adapted from Rabbi Schultz's Erev Rosh Hashanah sermon.

One of the greatest lessons I ever learned about community came back in 2004 in Park Slope, Brooklyn — the home of kombucha, bike lanes, and her central institution, the Park Slope Food Coop.

This tiny little supermarket, wedged in between apartment buildings on Union Street, was not just any ordinary store. To have the opportunity to shop her aisles for local organic produce and milk produced from only the happiest cows in the Northeast, one had to become fully a part of her unique culture, by volunteering for monthly shifts, perhaps stocking the shelves or working the checkout register.

Additionally, to become a member of the co-op, one had to attend an orientation to learn about the co-op culture — about volunteering for shifts — and you had to take a tour of the store. And there was even a primer on how co-op members are required to talk to one another.

I recall sitting in the second-floor meeting room of that aged brick building in Brooklyn, when our orientation leader said to us, “If we are out of a product,

when you approach the person working his or her shift to inquire if there's more in the back, you shouldn't say, ‘Do **you** have more of this gluten-free dairy-free nut-free vegan cereal in the back,’ but rather you should say, ‘Do **we** have more of this gluten-free dairy-free nut-free vegan cereal in the back.’”

I have to admit at first I rolled my eyes a bit — who cares how we speak to each other. You, we, what's the difference? I'm just trying to do my grocery shopping and get home.

And then the first time I was looking for a product at the co-op I tried saying it. “Do we have this in stock? Do you know when we are getting in the next shipment of that?” The simple adjustment in language prompted an extraordinary shift in how I thought about the person standing across from me. “You” is distant, stranger, cold, disassociated. “We” is communal, interconnected, commonality, we share something together.

The power of the collective, the power of We.

Years later, now, as I humbly assume this new role as your Senior Rabbi of B'nai

Israel, I have never forgotten the power of this simple notion — How a small shift in our language and our thinking can have such a powerful impact on our institutions and our communities, our country and right here at B'nai Israel — imagining what we might be able to build and create together in this new year 5780.

My hope for us at B'nai Israel in this new year is to deepen our power of We. To see B'nai Israel as a co-op, a collective, a bright light amidst all the divisiveness and partisanship that beleaguers our country right now.

The power of We is to see ourselves as both partners with God and one another, seeking to both elevate the lives of our B'nai Israel community and the world around us. It is deepening the relationships and bonds that so many of us hold dear in our B'nai Israel community, and commitment to fostering and creating new relationships in this New Year.

The power of We is offering a listening ear, an open hand, a compassionate heart to those in need in our synagogue community. It is seeing each person in our community as sacred, as a we, rather than as a you. Let us harness our collective abilities and look ahead to this New Year, imagining as one what we can do and create together.

Shanah Tovah!

My hope is to see B'nai Israel as a collective, a bright light amidst all the divisiveness and partisanship that beleaguers our country right now.

LEARN WITH MERKAZ

Anniversary celebrations are joyous and often include a carefully chosen gift. Well, Merkaz is celebrating its 40th anniversary, but instead of getting a gift we are giving our community a gift to thank you for 40 years of support.

We have carefully chosen a selection of Merkaz classes for the adults in our

community to sample in a six-week mini semester on Tuesday nights, beginning on October 29th at Merkaz at B'nai Israel. Each class will run 45 minutes.

The subjects include Kabbalah; the Jewish Twilight Zone; Israeli Folk Dance; Yoga and Jewish meditation; **Mah Jong; and Bioethics.**

These sampler classes will offer a taste of Merkaz while providing a unique learning opportunity. Space is limited, so reserve a spot quickly by going to this website: <https://jewishphilanthropyct.salsalabs.org/merkazadultinstitute>

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIGHT

Share the warmth of Chanukah this year with your fellow congregants by taking part in this year's gift of Light fundraiser. It will be a gift for yourself, the Temple and our community.

The holiday begins on Monday, December 23, but now is the time to send beautifully packaged Chanukah candles to your family and friends at B'nai Israel.

This annual initiative goes well beyond providing candles and raising funds for our temple. It helps expand and strengthen our community.

Each recipient will receive a single box



of candles with personalized messages from every sender. Each box is hand-packaged and hand-delivered by a special team of Chanukah helpers.

Orders are due by Monday, December 1. Our online system makes placing an order fun and easy. Just click on the personalized link you receive via email this month. You also can join our team to help wrap candles on Thursday, November 21 and/or deliver the candles on Sunday, December 15.

For more information, please contact Marcia Cohen at mcohen@cbibpt.org or call the Temple office at (203) 336-1858. With your help, we can make this year's Gift of Light more successful than ever!

NEW PRAYER SPACE IS DEDICATED

On September 27, the congregation dedicated the new Rabbi James Prosnit Outdoor Prayer and Community Space in honor of Rabbi Prosnit.



Rabbi James Prosnit with Amy Rich, who co-chaired the project with Bernie Jacobs, and Craig Kopfmann of Green Acres Landscape & Design, who designed the new space.

SIGNS OF CHANGING TIMES

Following is the address our president, Shari Nerreau, gave on Rosh Hashanah:

It's nice to be here together again. This time last year as I was starting my term as President, I shared with you the story of how B'nai Israel became my family's Jewish home. That was an easy topic.

Now, as I begin my second year, there is so much that I can speak about that condensing it to a reasonable snore-free, non-eye-glazing-over length wasn't quite that simple.

So, as I attempted to put my thoughts to words recently, I was sitting in my kitchen searching for clarity, inspiration or some kind of "sign," I looked up and noticed that hanging on my kitchen walls are a variety of actual signs. One reads SIMPLIFY and one is titled Family Rules and lists things like Be Kind, Share, Laugh. There is also one above a doorway that Reads M is for Mom and not Maid. (That one I should probably move to a more obvious spot.)

And then there is another one that I wrote years ago on a piece of crinkled loose-leaf paper. I was inspired by a book by James E. Ryan about Life's Essential Questions that we should stop to ask others. They are:

1. Wait, What? 2. Can't we at least? and
3. What can I do to help?

I hung it to remind me and my family to

1. Take time to listen and try to understand
2. Take action and try to make progress when possible, and
3. Always offer help when you can. I always try to keep these in mind.

So signs became the "thing.".... There are those that we can read like the new one that hangs here outside above our entrance that I hope you all notice that says, "Welcome to B'nai Israel." It is there to remind us of the warm and inviting culture that we strive to create.

And then there are others that aren't literal signs but just as important for us to recognize.



For example, in a sign of these changing times, here at B'nai Israel and in the broader Jewish world, there is transition. Rabbi Schultz has become our new Senior Rabbi, we have welcomed Rabbi Marion to our community and we will say farewell to Cantor Blum as she retires in June after 26 years of dedicated service.

And like virtually every synagogue in North America, we face real challenges: changing demographics, a decrease in synagogue affiliation by Jews of all ages, and increasing difficulty in meeting budgetary needs. People question the expense of being a congregant and the answer is simply that it costs a lot to run a synagogue – our Rabbis, Cantor, lights, heat and staff, to name a few, need to be here for us 365 days a year and that requires our reciprocal meaningful financial support year after year.

These and other challenges can't be ignored, but I have seen over the last year positive signs of the special and strong community that we are. I am inspired by our wonderful clergy and committed temple leadership. I've been moved by so many incredible people that make our B'nai Israel community what it is. And that community includes all of you....

I see signs of L'dor V'dor from generation to generation in Sarah Fridman's story. She told me about her experience coming to B'nai Israel. Sarah grew up on Long Island and went to Temple

Beth El, a Reform synagogue that she loved. She said that she has so many wonderful memories from her childhood and when she first came here, she knew that this was the same kind of place. She (and her husband Abe) wants to give her three young children the same Jewish experience that she enjoyed. Sarah has become an active volunteer and lay leader for us at the synagogue.

I see signs of generosity of spirit when I think of Barbara Solomon. After her husband, Derek, died suddenly, she established The Yakani Caring Fund a special purpose fund meant to help others who might find themselves in need of emergency financial support during challenging times. And by the way, Yakani is not Hebrew, it is Zulu from Barbara's native South Africa and means "to build up." Her hope is that people will take advantage of it if needed, by contacting the Rabbis.

I see signs of quiet commitment from Brian Barlaam. Each week following a B'nai Mitzvah for the last 23 years, Brian has been picking up the pulpit flowers on Monday mornings and delivering them to the Jewish Home so that they can be enjoyed by the residents there for the rest of the week. I should mention that Brian is the non-Jewish member of his Jewish family and like so many others in our interfaith community, a gift that we deeply value and appreciate.

As life has it, with all of our planning and progress, the unexpected still occurs. There was no way of ever imagining that so much of our conversation over the last year would center around safety, security and emergency preparedness. To be sure, a very sad sign of the times. And yet here I too, saw a sign of our strength as a community.

Dan Kasov was asked to chair the Security and Safety Task Force and he stepped up to help on this initiative working alongside other congregants, staff, clergy, the Jewish Federation and

Continued on P. 16



BONIM BUZZ/ALEXA COHEN, EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

A NEW PLAYGROUND TAKES SHAPE

Back in 2015, with the development of the new Congregation B'nai Israel logo, the early childhood program had an opportunity to update our name. The old names, the "Nursery School" and then "Early Childhood Center," just seemed BORING and not special enough for a place where joyful Jewish learning happened each day. We settled on Bonim (Hebrew for builders) Preschool.

In the last four years we have built so much community and now we are building in the more literal sense. We are starting to build our new playground. The Parent Committee has been fundraising through events, gift fairs, donations and bake sales over the last few years, and this summer we finally had enough money in the Playground Fund to start our playground project. Of course, we need much more money to move to the next phase of the project, which includes tearing up the existing surfacing and equipment to make room for a more natural/eco-friendly playground for our children.

In the early spring after two very successful events ("All in for spring" and the Book Luncheon) we decided that we could finally purchase the Outlast Blocks and shed we had wanted. Perhaps you saw the poster we displayed in the Education Center lobby, showing children building with these FABULOUS blocks.

Our next challenge was the surfacing for our precious blocks. The perfect space for them was on the grassy area directly outside the rear door that leads to the playground. The only problem is that that area was dubbed "the mud pit" due to its uncanny capability to turn from beautiful green grass to muddy slop after just one rain storm.

We researched many solutions and all



were too costly. We thought we would have to wait a bit longer before beginning this project. Then Bernie Jacobs and Amy Rich came into the picture.

I am sure everyone knows Bernie and Amy from their recent fame as the project leaders of the Rabbi James Prosnit Outdoor Prayer and Community Space. They told us that there would likely be leftover paving stones from the patio and if Bonim wanted to use them, we could have them. Hooray! Problem solved. We only had to pay for the labor to install the stones and then the space would be ready for the new building blocks.

On a hot day in August, the pavers were installed and the Outlast Blocks were on their way from Pennsylvania. The day the blocks arrived the children were so excited to watch the BIG boxes that contained all the blocks, wheelbarrows

**The day the blocks arrived
the children were so
excited to watch the boxes
unloaded from the truck.**

and shed unloaded from the truck. A group of Bonim kids then feverishly opened the boxes and began to assemble great masterpieces. So what is so special about these blocks?

Outlast Blocks are designed to encourage creative play and child-centered discovery. There are so many skills that are used and strengthened from their play. Math, Science, and Social Skills. Construction and Engineering, Kinesthetic and Language Skills, to name a few. Plus, unlike other wooden blocks, they can get wet and be used in sand and water play. Outlast blocks are designed to let children take the lead in determining how to use them.

We are so grateful for this new addition and look forward to creating our new playground in the future. To learn more about making donations to the Playground Fund, please contact Alexa Cohen acohen@cbibpt.org.

Thank you!



FROM THE EDUCATION CENTER/IRA J. WISE

IT TAKES A KEHILLAH!

Most of November this year is during the Hebrew month of *Cheshvan*. The rabbis called it *mar Cheshvan* – meaning “bitter” *Cheshvan* because there were no festivals in that month. Then we came to America and thanks to President Lincoln, we celebrate Thanksgiving! Not so bitter anymore. We get the three F’s – Football, Food and Family. Most importantly, we take time for gratitude. We give thanks for all of the good things in our lives.

Sadly, some of us have a little less to be grateful for than others. While the economy has vastly improved since 2008 (please no debates on who gets the credit, just enjoy it), we still have members of our congregational community who are jobless or living paycheck to paycheck.

The temple makes every effort to meet members where they are financially, but sometimes that is not enough. Ten years ago, some members of our congregation stepped up, above and beyond their annual contribution and any of our regular campaigns, and contributed more than \$9,000 to cover the cost of Religious School tuition for members in financial

We invite you to again share your gratitude and help us raise nearly \$5,000 that will be needed for the Scholarship fund this year.

distress. We spent every dime. Every year since, we have reached out to a small number of people to replenish the Religious School Scholarship Fund. We have a similar need-based Scholarship Fund for our Bonim Preschool.

We have two other funds that also help our young people engage in extraordinary learning opportunities. The Marsha and Bob Gillette Judaic Enrichment Fund helps our students attend our URJ summer camps as well as NFTY Israel programs. And the Religious School Enrichment Fund allows us to make a large number of enhancements to our program, including digital devices, professional growth and opportunities like our Journey for Justice and ADL programs.

An African proverb says that it takes a village to raise a child. *Kehillah* (community) is not just the name we are

testing to replace “Religious School.” *Kehillah* is what we are. We the adult members of B’nai Israel are a *Kehillah Kedoshah* – a sacred community. We invite you to again share your gratitude and help us raise nearly \$5,000 that will be needed for the Scholarship fund this year. If you prefer, we also need significant funds to enable our other educational funds (the Gillette, Prosnit, Bonim and Religious School Enrichment) to fulfill their function.

As you give thanks this month, please consider giving us and those members in need another reason to give thanks as well.

L’shalom,

Ira J. Wise, D.J.R.E
Director of Education

RABBI SCHULTZ FROM PAGE 1

per adult, \$10 for children under 10) by emailing Chris at Chris@cbibpt.org

Our two emeritus rabbis, Rabbi Prosnit and Rabbi Arnold Sher, will be attending the installation. And two of Rabbi Schultz’s rabbinical school classmates will be leading the service – Rabbi Sara Luria of Beloved, a spiritual community in Brooklyn, and Rabbi Jen Gubitz of Temple Israel of Boston.

Although Rabbi Schultz has been at B’nai

Israel for seven years as our Assistant Rabbi, he said being Senior Rabbi is “definitely different.”

For one thing, he said, “I worry more.”

“As much as Rabbi Prosnit taught me,” he said, “there has been a lot I didn’t expect.” But he added that “people have been unbelievably supportive and collaborative.”

Where does he go when he needs advice?

He said he often turns to Rabbi Prosnit and Shari Nerreau, the synagogue president. However, he also relies on a Facebook group that includes 1,600 reform rabbis who are always willing to weigh in on a problem he is facing that they may have dealt with in the past.

His major goal?

“I want this to feel like home for people,” he said, “to provide a sense of comfort and belonging.”



ADULT JEWISH LEARNING AT CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL



Adult Round Table Thursdays, November 7 and December 5 at 12:30 p.m.



Ilene Goby facilitates a discussion about current events for anyone who wants to go beyond the headlines. Join us the first Thursday of

every month, and bring a sandwich, your opinion and an open mind.

Rosh Chodesh Thursday, November 14, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Join with women from across the B'nai Israel community each month for conversation, laughter and learning as we celebrate the start of each new moon and soak in the wisdom of our female ancestors. Women of all ages are welcome. Our gatherings will be held at Congregation B'nai Israel from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. unless otherwise announced. Questions? Contact Rabbi Sarah Marion at smarion@cbibpt.org. Future meetings will be 12/19, 1/23, 2/13, 3/12, 4/16, 5/14 and 6/25.

Torah Study Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Natt Family Library

Rabbi Ben Bag Bag said “Turn it (the Torah) over and over, for everything is in it.” Each week we read from the Torah. Each year at Simchat Torah we start over from the beginning. Each time we revisit a portion, we learn something new. Some of us have been learning together for decades. Some of us joined recently. All of us are teaching and learning from one another! Join us!

**Fearless Females in the Bible! Twenty
Minutes of Torah**
Sundays, November 24 at 9:35 – 9:55
a.m. in the Natt Family Library
Bite-sized Torah returns this month. Join

Rabbi Schultz or Rabbi Marion for a brief but meaty Jewish conversation! This year we will explore some of the women central to the *TaNaKh* (Hebrew Bible). Drop in this month as Rabbi Marion explores the first Jewish woman, Sarah! We will meet 12/8, 1/5, 2/23, 3/8 and 4/5.



A Perspective on the Jewish Voice (Lifelong Learning) Fridays, Noon - 1:00 p.m., November 1, 8, 15 and 22 in the Natt Family Library



Join with Rabbi Schultz for a fascinating look into the Rabbinic perspective on the Jewish voice. What is the implication of making a vow or an oath? When is it OK to gossip about another person? When are we supposed to speak up and when should we stay quiet? Why do Jews love kibitzing so much? (Not sure we'll answer that one...) All ages and learning backgrounds encouraged to join!

The Poetry of Yehudah Amichai (Midrasha) Mondays, November 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Widely beloved as Israel's greatest contemporary poet, Yehuda Amichai touches the soul through his evocative yet universally resonant musings that drift from the sacred to the mundane and everywhere in between. From war to love, from his parents to his children, from loving the Jews and despairing for the Jews, from shopping for groceries in Jerusalem to the politics of Jerusalem,

from sex to God and then back again – Amichai's poetry will take you on a journey that is as distant as it is personal. Join with Rabbi Marion for this four-part series as we dive into the English translations of a selection of Amichai's greatest writings, discovering, as we go, our own stories and our own journeys carefully positioned between the lines.

Becoming a Soulful Jewish Parent - Zoom Class

Weeknight TBD after bedtime
Advance sign-up required, see below

Join with Rabbi Schultz and Rabbi Marion for this six-part course designed to give parents an opportunity to pause and reflect on the busyness of family life through a Jewish lens. The course will be taught online over Zoom, so you can put your kids to bed and take the class on your couch (no babysitter required). The class is limited to 8 sets of parents with kids living in the house (For two-parent households the course is designed for you to both participate) and we ask you to commit as best you can to all six sessions. We will determine a schedule once everyone signs up. To sign up, please email Rabbi Schultz, eschultz@cbibpt.org.

Scholars/Musicians in Residence: Or and Feliza Zohar Wednesday, November 13 Noon and 7:00 p.m.

Many of you enjoyed the visit last year from Rabbi Or and Feliza Zohar. They are returning from Israel to Bridgeport as our scholars and musicians in residence. On Wednesday, Nov. 13, they will run two adult programs:

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Current Israeli Issues from the
Perspective of an Israeli Reform Rabbi
7:00 p.m.
Library concert in the Natt Family
Library.

NOVEMBER DONATIONS

(Please note that only contributions of \$10.00 or more will be acknowledged with a card and *Bulletin* listing.)

Rabbi Schultz Discretionary Fund
Bonnie Alterman, in memory of Craig Granville.

Henry and Marilyn Banach, in memory of Shirley Banach and Robert Cohn.

Ellie and Mark Blasbalg, in loving memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

The Dizney and Masch Family, in memory of Elliot Masch.

The Gordon Family, in honor of Eleanor Gordon's Bat Mitzvah; in appreciation of Rabbi Schultz.

Susan Greenberg and Andy Greenberg, in honor of Laurel and Hank Greenberg on celebrating 60 joyful years of marriage.

William Greenspan, a donation.

Ruth and Eric Gross, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

The Kauders Family, in memory of Dr. James Kauders, and with appreciation to Rabbi Schultz.

Alice and George Kelly, in memory of mother, Ruth Zimroth.

Anne and Mark Kirsch, in memory of Victor Kirsch.

Aleksey and Raisa Ledvich, in memory of grandfather, Rahmiel Ledvich; in memory of grandfather, Max Dovolsky; in memory of mother, Emilia Ledvich; in memory of grandmother, Adel Dovolskaya; in memory of grandmother, Sara Goldenfarb; in memory of uncle, Yuri Sotnik.

Ted and Debbie Portnay, Mazel Tov to Rabbi Evan Schultz on becoming our Senior Rabbi.

Dan and Laurie Schopick, in memory of Sonya Schopick, and with appreciation to Rabbi Schultz.

Richard and Gloria Sheiman, in memory of Ron Sheiman, father of Laura Sheiman; get well wishes for Barbara Liberman; in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Ben Zuckerman, son of Claudia and Louis Zuckerman.

Norman Solomon, in memory of father, Louis Solomon.

Jon Sonneborn, in loving memory of mother, Babette Sonneborn.

Bob, Sue and Carleigh Sussman, in loving memory of mother and grandmother, Marge Fiedler.

Rabbi Marion Discretionary Fund
Alexa and David Cohen, in honor of Rabbi Sarah Marion's Installation.

Bob and Helen Natt, in honor of the Installation of Rabbi Sarah Marion.

Liz and Mark Nigrosh, in honor of Rabbi Marion joining B'nai Israel.

Ellen Hyde Phillips, in memory of James Kauders, husband of Barbara Kauders.

Ted and Debbie Portnay, Mazel Tov to Rabbi Sarah Marion on her first year as our Assistant Rabbi.

Rabbi Prosnit Discretionary Fund
Dan and Laurie Schopick, in memory of Sonya Schopick, and in appreciation of Rabbi Prosnit.

Rabbi James Prosnit Legacy Fund
Geoffrey Gladstein and Susan Brody, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

Shirley Jacob Lantz, Joel, Michael and Sam & Family, in loving memory of Rabbi Jacob Lantz; in honor of Rabbi James Prosnit.

Marilyn S. Weinstein, in memory of father, Harold Strogoff.

Sheila and Burton Yaffie & Family, in loving memory of father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Arthur H. Yaffie; in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

Music Fund

Miriam Caston, for Piper Conner and Olivia Conner, full speed ahead.

The Gordon Family, in honor of Eleanor Gordon's Bat Mitzvah; in appreciation of Cantor Blum.

William Greenspan, a donation.

Paula and Bob Herzlinger, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

Milton Jacoby, in honor of George and Chris Markley, on the B'nai Mitzvah of Mia Markley; in memory of Dr. James Kauders, husband of Barbara Kauders.

Helen and Charles Likens, in memory of David Carasso, husband of Colette Carasso.

George and Chris Markley, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

Serena and Arnie Sher, in memory of James Kauders, husband of Barbara Kauders.

Enhancement Fund

Wendy and Jeffrey Bender, in memory of Mortimer Aaron.

Carla Haba, in memory of Barbara Perlman.

Sharon and Howard Rich, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

Jodi Feld Webber, in memory of parents, Lois and Benjamin Feld.

Sylvia Prosnit Adult Education Fund

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Gail and Peter Weinstein, in memory of Betty Landes, mother of Linda Barlaam; Mazel tov to Vivian and Harvey Sherwood on grandson, Brandon's Bar Mitzvah; Mazel tov to Leslie and Stephen on their granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah.

Rabbi Martin Library Fund

Carol Barsky, in memory of Marge Fiedler, mother of Sue Sussman.

Dale and Jerry Demner, in memory of Sidney Slive; in memory of Annie Weinstein, aunt of Dale Demner.

Bob, Sue and Carleigh Sussman, Maris and Harvey, in memory of Nate Barsky, husband of Carol Barsky.

Religious School Scholarship Fund

Bob, Sue and Carleigh Sussman, in honor of the birth of Sadie Quinn Harris.

Religious School Enrichment Fund

Marilyn and Hank Banach, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

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Elaine Appellof, in memory of Harris Shapiro.
Estelle Baer, best wishes to Barbara Liberman for a speedy recovery.
Renée and Rick Beitman, in honor of Dale Barcham's special birthday.
Bari S. Dworken, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.
Beryl Kaufman, wishing Barbara Liberman a speedy recovery.

Ilse Levi, in memory of beloved husband, Peter Levi.
Serena and Arnie Sher, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Mia Paige, granddaughter of Chris and George Markley; in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.
Marcie and David Slepian, in honor of daughter Susannah marrying Mohamed Adel.
Bob, Sue and Carleigh Sussman, in memory of Bob Zeisler, husband of Judy Zeisler.
Karen and Peter Tolk, in memory of Robert Zeisler, husband of Judy Zeisler.
Jim Abraham Education Fund for Jewish Leadership
Barbara Abraham, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Sierra Rossman, granddaughter of Randy Dorfman; in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Mia Paige

Markley, granddaughter of Chris and George Markley; in memory of Jim Kauders, husband of Barbara, father of Debbie, Jill and Ellen; in appreciation of Serena and Arnie Sher.
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BIFTY Greenwald Scholarship Fund

Lee V. Bakunin, in honor of Rosh Hashanah tickets arranged by Sylvia Neigher.

Brian Mendell Memorial Fund

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Kelly and Glen Reznikoff, in memory of Robin, sister of Mike Lightman.



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Congregation B'nai Israel, founded in 1858, seeks to be a vibrant Reform synagogue dedicated to the perpetuation of Jewish life and values within the framework of contemporary American Judaism. We are a gateway to Judaism for all. The Congregation B'nai Israel Bulletin publishes monthly 11 times a year (except July). To submit an article, announcement or ad to the Bulletin, please contact Editor Jack Kadden at jkadden@cbibpt.org. Submissions are due by the first day of the month preceding the publication month. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for length or style.



Rabbi Sarah Marion and her daughter, Michaela, at the Tashlich service.

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BIFTY!

Thank you for contributing to our Yom Kippur Food Drive!

Join BIFTY for our November Programs! We meet in the BIFTY Lounge on Thursdays from 7:15-8:45pm.

Our November Programs are:

November 14: Play a variety of games with BIFTY at game night!

November 21: Join the Emissaries for a fantastic program!

November 28: No BIFTY- Happy Thanksgiving!

Adam Giglietti and Nate Lipset are two sophomores on the BIFTY board. Read why they enjoy BIFTY!

What has been your favorite program so far?

AG: BIFTY Olympics!

NL: Wacky Hat Night, which turned into Scattegories!

What are you looking forward to?

AG: Alumni Night -- join us on December 19 to relive your time at BIFTY!

NL: Ice Skating!

If BIFTY were a Thanksgiving food, what would they be?

AG: Stuffing because it has a little bit of everything.

NL: Mashed potatoes because they are good for you like BIFTY!



BIFTY had a great time at Wacky Hat Night!

SHABBAT SERVICE SCHEDULE

(Fridays at 6:00 p.m. where indicated, preceded by an Oneg Shabbat at 5:30 p.m.)

Friday, November 1

6:00 p.m. Service
Torah Portion – Noach,
Gen. 6:9-11:32
Haftarah – Isaiah 54:1-55:5

11:00 a.m. B’nai Mitzvah of
Charles Jones, son of
Bradford and Beth
Jones, and Dylan
Sherman, son of Brett
and Kimberly Sherman

Sara, Gen. 23:1-25:18
Haftarah – I Kings 1:1-31

Saturday, November 2

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study
9:30 a.m. Havurah for Families
with Young Children
11:00 a.m. B’nai Mitzvah of Campbell
Liotta, daughter of
Joseph and Liza Liotta,
and Benjamin Selter,
son of Jared and Amy
Selter

Friday, November 15

7:30 p.m. Service – Please note
special time
Installation of Rabbi
Evan Schultz with
special guest speaker,
Larry Hoffman (see pg.
1 for details)
Torah Portion – Vayera,
Gen. 18:1-22:24
Haftarah – II Kings
4:1-37

Saturday, November 23

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study
9:30 a.m. Havurah for Families
with Young Children
11:00 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Seth
Goldstein, son of
Jerome and Lorin
Goldstein

Friday, November 29

6:00 p.m. Service
Torah Portion – Toldoth,
Gen. 25:19-28:9
Haftarah – Malachi
1:1-31

Friday, November 8

6:00 p.m. Service
Torah Portion – Lech-
Lecha, Gen. 12:1-17:27
Haftarah – Isaiah 40:27-41:16

Saturday, November 16

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study
11:00 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of
Alexander Renzulli,
son of Scott and Laurie
Renzulli

Saturday, November 30

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study
11:00 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Brayden
Begian, son of Jamie
and Marcy Begian

Saturday, November 9

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study
9:30 a.m. Havurah for Families
with Young Children

Friday, November 22

6:00 p.m. Service
Torah Portion – Chaye



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CHANGING TIMES FROM PAGE 5

law enforcement officials to ensure that we feel safe and secure in our temple home. We are mindful that this is a priority that needs to be balanced with being a warm and welcoming sacred space.

As I said last year, I believe that we are all looking for the sense of belonging, engaged in something larger than ourselves. In these divisive and scary times, I think these words are truer than ever and I can say for sure that the more people you meet, the more you engage in all that goes on here, the more that you give of yourself, the more you will get out of being part of the B'nai Israel community.

There are opportunities for you to connect through volunteering, learning, worshipping, socializing, helping to repair the world through Tikkun Olam and now even on Facebook. Every Thursday at 9:30 you can join the

I believe that we are all looking for the sense of belonging, engaged in something larger than ourselves.

conversation with Rabbi Schultz and Rabbi Marion on Facebook Live or watch it later in the day at your convenience.

We are working to create new and meaningful ways for you to connect to the synagogue and welcome your thoughts and input. We try to let you know everything that is happening here in a variety of ways.

I hope that you read the weekly Hashavua email and the monthly bulletin, visit our website and interact on social media.

We gather here on these Days of Awe because our Jewish traditions are important to us and community is a cornerstone of our faith.

Sustaining B'nai Israel now and for the future is critical and up to us. Please make our synagogue a priority in your

philanthropic giving. You can do this in ways like, but not limited to, increasing your annual contribution to the next level if you are able, being as generous as possible to the High Holy Day appeal, and participating in our wonderful Chanukah fundraiser, the Gift of Light.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve this special community and I am always open to your thoughts and ideas on how together we can make the B'nai Israel family even stronger. My wish for us all this Rosh Hashanah is that we remember to stop and take a moment to see the signs all around that remind us to look into our hearts, discover a new sense of possibility, a new belief in the gifts we have to share, and a renewed commitment to our community and to each other.

Shanah Tovah!