

# Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 3

DECEMBER 2025

KISLEV/TEVET 5786

## In This Issue:

- Social Action pg. 5
- Meet Our New Members pg. 6-7
- Guess Who's Coming To Shabbas? pg. 11

BETH  
ABRAHAM  
SYNAGOGUE



## HANUKKAH

### MYSTERY DINNER THEATER WHERE IS THE SHAMASH?

DECEMBER 14TH AT 5:30PM

ENJOY A CHICKEN DINNER WITH LATKE BAR & SUFGANIYOT BAR

MEMBERS: \$15 ADULT, \$5 CHILDREN 3-10,  
\$36 FAMILY MAX

NON-MEMBERS: \$20/\$5/\$50

RSVP BY 12/4

Child Care and special activities for Children!  
Bring your own menorah & candles for the first night.

We are collecting NEW socks for school aged children, to  
support Shoes 4 The Shoeless.

PRESENTED BY: MAYHEM & MYSTERY INTERACTIVE THEATER



This program is made possible with the support of the  
Esther & DeNeal Feldman Jewish Experience Fund

RSVP TODAY







## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: SARAH MABE

Terry Lieberman-Smith

When Sarah Mabe moved to Dayton in 2018, she wasn't just looking for a synagogue, she was looking for connection. A Midwestern native and Miami University grad, Sarah had been involved with Reform Jewish life and participated in Chabad's Young Jewish Professionals program. Upon arriving in the Dayton area, she found herself participating in community events without feeling drawn to any specific congregation.



Celeste, Sarah, Chris

That changed when she met Beth Abraham Synagogue (BAS) member Stephen Levinson through work. He invited her to an art talk at the synagogue, held in tandem with the annual Purim Shpiel. The experience was transformative. Sarah recalls the congregation greeted her with warmth and genuine interest as members approached her, engaged her in conversation, and made her feel immediately at ease. The atmosphere felt familiar, joyful, and welcoming.

One of the reasons Sarah chose to make BAS her spiritual home was the inclusive embrace of interfaith families, so that her husband would also feel welcomed to participate in activities. That openness, paired with the musical richness of our services, resonated deeply. Today, Sarah sings with the Dayton Jewish Chorale under the direction of Cantor Raizen, adding her voice to the vibrant tapestry of our community.

Sarah's connection to BAS grew even stronger after the birth of her daughter, Celeste. When Celeste spent three weeks in the NICU, the community responded with care and compassion. Celeste's naming ceremony was thoughtfully created to honor both tradition and inclusivity by welcoming family and friends of all backgrounds to share in the moment.

These days, Sarah's mother and grandmother often join her for Shabbat services. Before long, Celeste will be old enough to sit beside them, a beautiful picture of four generations sharing prayer, song, and a sense of belonging.

Sarah finds joy in the Rhythm 'N' Ruach gatherings, outdoor music events, and of course, the Purim Shpiel that first brought her through our doors. She also gives back through service, volunteering each year at the Jewish Cultural Festival and serving on the BAS Communications Committee, helping us tell our story with clarity and heart. She is looking forward to participating in the PJ Library programs with her daughter.

Sarah's journey reminds us that belonging often begins with a single invitation, and grows through shared experiences, welcoming arms, and the music of community.

For more information about the Dayton Jewish Chorale please contact:  
cantor@bethabrahamdayton.org

For more information about the PJ Library please contact: Kelder@jfgd.net

## BETH ABRAHAM



### GIVING SOCIETIES

#### { CHAI SOCIETY }

MIKE FREED  
STEVEN & LINDA HORENSTEIN  
DAVID & SUSAN JOFFE  
TERRY & MARLENE PINSKY  
ALLAN\* & BRENDA RINZLER  
LEE & PATTI SCHEAR  
NORM & MARY RITA WEISSMAN

#### { RABBI'S MINYAN }

LARRY & CINDY BURICK  
BRUCE & DEBBIE FELDMAN  
BEN & STEPHANIE GOODSTEIN  
MARC KATZ\* & JULIE LISS-KATZ  
EDWARD & MARCIA KRESS  
MICHAEL & ELLEN LEFFAK  
DONALD & CAROLE MARGER  
EUGENE & DORIS SCHEAR (z"l)  
ANDREW & PAMELA SCHWARTZ  
JUDITH WOLL & RON BERNARD  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

#### { CANTOR'S CHOIR }

ADAM & TARA FEINER  
RAV AUBREY GLAZER &  
ELYSSA WORTZMAN  
MICHAEL & MARCIA\* JAFFE  
IRVIN & GAYLE MOSCOWITZ

#### { PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE }

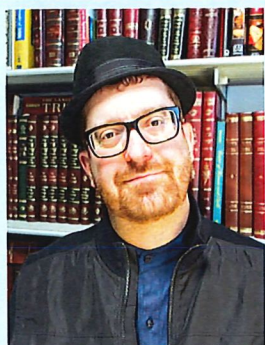
BETH ADELMAN  
MATT & ELAINE ARNOVITZ  
DOUGLAS & BONNIE DEUTSCH  
BILL & MELINDA DONER  
DOUGLAS & BETHANY EINSTEIN  
GARY & IRENE FISHBEIN  
LYNN FOSTER  
JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN  
RENAME FRYDMAN  
STANLEY & SUSAN KATZ  
NORM & KAY LEWIS  
SCOTT & ANN LIBERMAN  
DAVID & JOAN MARCUS  
EDWARD & AVA GALPERN MENDELSON  
ALAN & MYRNIE MOSCOWITZ  
ANDI SCHER RABINER  
WALTER RICE & BONNIE BEAMAN RICE  
JEFF & CONNIE ROBERTS  
REX & LOUISE TINCHER  
DOUG & THEDA WAGNER  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

\*OF BLESSED MEMORY



## Alighting the Gift and Gust of Hanukkah: A Story to Retell and Ritualize at Home Through the Generations

Rav Aubrey Glazer



Hanukkah is a holiday of light, but it is also a holiday of story-telling. Each candle we kindle is accompanied by memory, song, and narrative. In 1808, the Ukrainian Hasidic master Reb Nachman of Bratslav told his disciples a short but luminous tale known as "The Hanukkah Guest." It is a story of a mysterious visitor, a wondrous journey, and the discovery that divine light can be found even in the simplest home.

Parents and grandparents can make this story a centerpiece of Hanukkah evenings, turning it into a ritual that deepens the holiday for children and adults alike. Below you'll find a retelling of the story, guidance for ritualizing it at home, and even a short script so children can act it out by candlelight.

### Retelling the Story

Here is the story in simple, family-friendly language:

*On the first night of Hanukkah, a simple Jew sat alone in his modest home, watching the candles flicker. Suddenly, there was a knock at the door. A guest appeared - but not an ordinary guest. This visitor seemed to shine with a strange light.*

*The guest invited the man to come with him. Before he knew it, the man was lifted into the air, flying across the world. They landed in a hidden valley filled with wonders: trees that glowed, vessels made of Hebrew letters, fruits that sparkled with wisdom.*

*The guest showed him that the world is woven from God's words, that every letter and every vessel carries light. The man felt awe and joy, as though he had glimpsed the secret heart of creation.*

*Then, just as suddenly, he was back in his home. The Hanukkah candles still flickered on the table. But he was no longer the same. He had seen hidden light, and now he knew that even in his simple home, the divine presence was near.*

### Ritualizing the Story at Home

The power of Reb Nachman's tale is not only in hearing it once, but in weaving it into the rhythm of Hanukkah. Here are some ways to ritualize it:

- **Tell it by candlelight.** After lighting the menorah, dim the other lights and tell the story in your own words. The flickering flames will make the tale feel alive.
- **Make it participatory.** Invite children to act out the story. One can be the guest, another the householder, others the glowing trees or Hebrew letters.

- **Create a "hidden valley."** During the day, prepare Hebrew letters cut from paper or blocks. When you tell the story, bring them out as the magical vessels.
- **Connect to blessings.** After the story, ask each person to share one "hidden light" they saw that day - a kindness, a moment of beauty, a small miracle.

### A Simple Script for Family Play

Here is a short script you can use at home. It is written for children and adults to perform together, right after candle lighting.

**Characters:** Narrator, Householder, Guest, Trees/Letters (any number of children).

**Narrator:** Long ago, on Hanukkah night, a simple Jew sat in his home, watching the candles flicker.

**Householder:** (sits by candles, sighs) How quiet it is tonight. (Knock at the door.)

**Guest:** (enters, with a scarf or shawl to look mysterious) Shalom, friend. Will you come with me?

**Householder:** Who are you?

**Guest:** A guest of Hanukkah. Take my hand.

**Narrator:** Suddenly, the householder was lifted into the air. Together they flew across the world until they landed in a hidden valley.

**Trees/Letters:** (children hold up paper letters or wave arms like glowing trees) Welcome! We are the letters and trees of light.

**Guest:** Look - the world is woven of God's words. Every letter shines. Every vessel carries light.

**Householder:** (in awe) I never knew such beauty existed.

**Narrator:** And then, just as suddenly, he was back in his home. The Hanukkah candles still flickered.

**Householder:** (looking at candles) Now I see - even here, in my small home, the divine presence is near.

**Guest:** (bows, exits) Remember this light.

**Narrator:** And so, each Hanukkah, we too remember: the guest may come, the light may shine, and our homes can be filled with wonder.



### Take-aways:

Reb Nachman believed stories could awaken the soul. *The Hanukkah Guest* shows that the extraordinary can visit the ordinary, that light can be found in the simplest home. By retelling it each year, parents and grandparents give children a living connection to Jewish imagination and faith. Ritualizing the story strengthens family bonds. Children remember the warmth of sitting together, the thrill of acting out the tale, the glow of candles. Grandparents can add their own memories of Hanukkah, weaving family history into the story's fabric. Over time, the tale becomes part of the household's own tradition - a guest who returns each year.

Don't be fooled - Reb Nachman's story is not just about a magical guest; it's about learning to see the extraordinary in the ordinary. By retelling, dramatizing, and then discussing the story, families create a ritual that trains children - and adults - to notice hidden light in their own lives. That is the essence of Hanukkah: to kindle awareness, to override the twilight, and to carry divine presence into our homes and our marketplaces.

### APPENDIX:

**Short discussion guide** with questions following the play:

#### Discussion Guide: Talking About *The Hanukkah Guest*

After your family has acted out the story, gather around the menorah and invite everyone - children and adults - to share. These questions are simple enough for kids, but open-ended enough for deeper reflection:

##### 1. The Knock at the Door

- In the story, the guest arrives unexpectedly.
- Ask: "What does it feel like when someone surprises us with kindness? Have you ever had a 'guest' moment like that?"

##### 2. The Flight and the Valley

- The householder is lifted into a hidden valley of glowing letters and trees.
- Ask: "If you could fly anywhere with the Hanukkah Guest, where would you want to go? What would you hope to see?"

##### 3. The Letters of Light

- The guest shows that the world is made of God's words.
- Ask: "What words or songs make you feel strong or full of light? Can we share one together now?"

##### 4. The Return Home

- The man comes back to his simple house, but now he sees it differently.
- Ask: "What's something in our own home that feels ordinary but could be seen as special if we look again?"

##### 5. Our Own Hidden Lights

- Ask everyone: "What hidden light did you notice today - in yourself, in someone else, or in the world around you?"

### How to Ritualize the Discussion

- **Make it a nightly practice.** Each night of Hanukkah, after the play or story, choose one question to ask. Rotate so everyone gets to answer.
- **Keep a "Hidden Light Journal."** Write down the answers each night. By the end of Hanukkah, you'll have a family record of blessings and insights.
- **Link to the candles.** After the discussion, look at the menorah and say together: "These lights remind us that hidden light is always near."

### PrayerLab Shabbat



Are you curious about the choreography of prayer and ritual life in the synagogue services? Join us on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> for the next installment of our interactive prayer lab service that will continue to explore key sections of the Amidah prayer. Bring your questions and curiosities.

**Saturday, December 13th**  
@ 9:30 am



## In the Beth Abraham Family

### **Thanks to the following Kiddush Sponsors:**

**November 1** - Walter & Bonnie Beaman Rice and Larry & Cindy Burick in honor of our 90+ Congregants  
**November 8** - Dorian Borbonus & Myrna Gabbe in honor of Lucien's Bar Mitzvah  
**November 15** - Judy Schwartzman and Mike Jaffe in honor of their birthdays  
**November 22**- Dena Briskin in memory of her husband Larry Briskin  
**November 29**- Felice Shane in memory of her mother Arlene Furst

### **Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in December**

#### **December Birthdays**

1 Carol Nathanson  
 3 Bob Thum  
 3 Joe Beringer  
 4 Margaret Maimon  
 4 Meryl Hattenbach  
 6 Claire Berks  
 6 Marla Merdinger  
 9 Steven Rothstein  
 12 Douglas Deutsch  
 14 Dena Briskin  
 15 Shirley Fisher  
 16 Michael Freed  
 16 Gary Pavlofsky  
 17 Harriet Massimini  
 20 Sylvia Blum  
 21 Bonnie Parish  
 22 Sara Shuster  
 23 Eddie Katz  
 24 Allan Spetter  
 25 Andi Scher Rabiner  
 25 George Barnett

27 Mark Gordon  
 29 Ken Blum  
 30 Susan Schear  
 30 Brittany Sussman  
 30 Marlene Pinsky  
 31 Diane Rubin Williams

#### **December Anniversaries**

10 Marshall & Donna Weiss  
 17 George & Ruth Barnett  
 17 David & Lynn Goldenberg  
 22 David & Sara Shuster  
 26 Dale & Sharon Schiff

\*\* If your birthday or anniversary is not listed above, please call the office so we can put it in the database

#### **WE RECORD WITH GREAT SORROW THE PASSING OF:**

Mary Gallagher, mother of Tobi Urzi

## **Social Action**

### **Tobi Urzi**

First, a big thank you to everyone on the panel and in attendance for our LGBTQIA+ discussion. It was an amazing experience for everyone. The conversation sparked a desire for a more in depth discussion from a Jewish perspective at a brunch to be held on February 1st.

Our 90+ Shabbat was warm and well received with Bonnie Beaman Rice and her committee ensuring our honorees were welcomed and appreciated. How special it was to hear memories and stories from those in attendance and read the stories in the booklet handed out to everyone.

Our next social action project is a sock drive in December for Shoes 4 the Shoeless, collecting NEW socks for school-aged children. A display will be set up in the lobby. You can drop-off socks to the office during regular business hours or shop online to have them delivered for you using this QR code.

Our plan for the holidays this year is to support the JFS in-person Mitzvah Mission on Tuesday, **Dec. 23rd** from 10-3 at the CJCE. They will be making warm hats and scarves, no-sew rag dolls and sack lunches. For additional information and to register, go to [jewishdayton.org](http://jewishdayton.org).





## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Interviews by Meryl Hattenbach, Sandra Kallenberg, Cheryl Lewis and Wendy Lipp

We'll be honoring all those who have joined Beth Abraham this year at our annual **New Member Shabbat on Saturday, December 6th**. Please join us for this meaningful service as we welcome them to our Beth Abraham community. Kiddush lunch following.



**Sharon Gitman** was born in Dayton and has resided here her entire life, working in public service for 33 years. Most of those years were spent working in human resources -14 years at Public Health Dayton Montgomery County and 11 years at RTA. She initially became interested in Beth Abraham as she knows several members here. Also a member of Temple Israel, Sharon enjoys her friendships here and likes the sense of community. Attending this year's Purim program was a hit for her and her great grandson, who loved the bounce house and other games. Sharon has twin daughters, eight grandchildren and one great grandson.

**Jon, Isadora, Carina (5) and Mikaela (2.5) Kravitz** moved to Dayton in 2023 from Alaska when John was stationed at WPAFB. They didn't join a congregation right away because they first wanted to explore the synagogues in Dayton. As Carina started to ask questions about her Judaism and reached an age where she could attend religious school, the Kravitz's decided to join Beth Abraham because it just felt right. Rav Aubrey's High Holiday sermons also really hit home for them. They live close enough to Beth Abraham that they can walk to shul when they want. Jon and Isadora met at an event at the JCC in San Antonio where they were married by a Chabad rabbi. Shortly after, Jon was relocated to Albuquerque where they lived until 2020. Six weeks after their first daughter, Carina, was born, they bought a teardrop camper, loaded up the dog, and drove up to Alaska! Isadora slept in the camper with Carina, while Jon slept in a tent as they camped their way to their new home up north during the Covid shutdown. The Kravitz's lived in Alaska until 2023 when Jon was relocated to Dayton. Living in Ohio, they are closer to their families, and it's been really great for raising their children. Jon has eight years left in his Air Force service and another two years in Dayton.



**Sarah and Chris Mabe** are highlighted in our member spotlight this month on page 2. You can read their story there.

**Shelah and Saundra Mendelson** were traveling and will be added in the January Bulletin.



**Kyle and Samantha Perkins** moved to Dayton in 2018 from Tampa, FL for IT work opportunities for Kyle, wanting to experience the seasons, a lower cost of living, and less traffic. Their daughter, Emelia, is in second grade at Hillel Academy, and their son, Alaric, attends preschool. While looking at synagogues in the area, they joined Beth Abraham because they loved the more traditional services, had developed a good relationship with Rav Aubrey, and already knew a few members here. The Perkins particularly remember a Sukkot holiday celebration at BA where they immediately felt at home. Everyone reached out to them, especially Elaine, who always approached them at programs and services, and made them feel engaged. The Perkins path toward Judaism was somewhat different than others. Kyle had noticed rising antisemitism and conspiracy theories about Judaism. His interest grew as he researched Judaism and learned more. Their conversion was official last year, and they have been active members ever since.

**Gary Rosenbaum** grew up in the Clayton area of Dayton and went to Northmont schools. His grandparents and parents were longtime members of Beth Abraham and he has wonderful memories of his bar mitzvah on Salem Ave. with Rabbi Jack Reimer. Although he grew up and spent most of his life in Dayton, Gary's family moved around to many cities, and he currently resides in Boca Raton, FL where he has been for the last 25 years. He returns to Dayton frequently to visit close friends. Gary decided to join Beth Abraham as he wants to be buried in our cemetery with his parents and sister. When first visiting Sugar Camp, he was thrilled to see the beautiful stained glass windows were incorporated into our current building which brought back many memories.





**Marc Smith and Terry Lieberman-Smith** have been together 36 years having met through a singles Jewish dating group in Dayton. While Marc grew up at Beth Abraham and was a civilian at WPAFB, Terry is from New York, worked in the corporate world and has been a beekeeper for over 20 years. They are now retired and decided to join Beth Abraham as a way of participating in the community, meeting people, and giving back. Their calendars are very full as they volunteer at the JCC as well as getting involved at BA. Marc has participated in Men's Club while Terry regularly cooks in the kitchen, is on the Sisterhood board, Communications Committee, and writes the Member Spotlight for the Bulletin.

**Nancy Sorkin**, who is originally from Pittsburgh, spent many years living in West Lafayette, Indiana where her husband was a professor at Purdue University. Nancy worked as an English teacher and then as a school librarian. She also spent time living in Australia and England when her husband had sabbaticals there. They then moved to Gainesville, Florida where Nancy became a technical editor in the Engineering Department at the University of Florida. From Gainesville they moved to St. Augustine. In May of this year Nancy moved to Dayton from sunny, warm Florida to be near her daughter, Susan Toher, granddaughter, Sarah Mabe, and great granddaughter, Celeste, who also recently settled here. Nancy's first experience at Beth Abraham Synagogue was to attend the service for the baby naming of her great-granddaughter. She was impressed by Rav Glazer and the warm and inviting feeling of the congregation. Although Nancy had always belonged to a reform congregation in the past, she feels very comfortable being part of the Beth Abraham family.



**Susan and Marty Toher** recently moved to Dayton from Bloomington, Illinois, to be near their daughter, Sarah, son-in-law, Chris, and granddaughter, Celeste. They also have two adult sons, one in Seattle and the other in Austin. Susan and Marty met while serving in the Navy. Marty retired after 20 years, and Susan moved into corporate America after five years of service; she has been at Caterpillar for many years now. Between the Navy and Caterpillar, they have moved around quite a bit – from Virginia to Indiana, the United Kingdom (three years in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and four years in the northeast of England) to Illinois. Susan continues to work for Caterpillar part-time and remotely here in Dayton, so that she and Marty can take care of Celeste, their granddaughter, two days a week. Susan and Marty and their children enjoyed membership in synagogues and temples in all the places they lived, and they have found Beth Abraham to be a wonderful and welcoming community. Susan's mom, Nancy Sorkin, also recently relocated to Dayton – the draw of the great-granddaughter was too great to resist!

**Tobi Urzi**, raised in Cincinnati, Ohio, has a deep connection to Judaism, influenced by his mother's work at an Orthodox community center. He discovered Beth Abraham and began studying with Rav Aubrey. He found his spiritual home, or what he calls his "tribe," within conservative Judaism. This branch of Judaism resonated with him due to its solid foundation in tradition, balanced with a willingness to embrace new ideas. Actively volunteering, Tobi participates in Kiddush prep, co-chairs the Social Action Committee, co-chairs the Programming Committee, and is a member of the Men's Club. He values the opportunity to contribute and believes that volunteering enhances skills while fostering community bonds. He values the importance of allowing individuals to express their true selves. A passionate Disney fan, Tobi has been with his husband, Russ, for 16 years. Together, they love spending time with their French bulldog and Shih Tzu and love cooking Italian dishes.



**Taylor Zennie** grew up in Clayton and graduated from Northmont High School in 2017. She is the youngest of four children and all her family still reside in the area. She is engaged to be married to her fiancé, Hunter, in the fall of 2027. Taylor became involved with Beth Abraham when she began conversion lessons with Rav Aubrey which she described as a wonderful and meaningful experience. Sinclair Community College is not only where she is a student taking English Literature classes, but it is also her place of work. Taylor is an administrative assistant with the Tutoring and Learning Center. She shared that she loves how welcoming Beth Abraham has been to her since she has joined.

### **Mazel Tov & Congratulations**



**Rabbi Barksy**, on the birth of his grandson, Caleb Wishnow, on October 27th to parents Leah & Gary Wishnow in New York City.





# IN THE BETH ABRAHAM FAMILY

## We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

### Bert Appel Fund

#### **In Memory Of**

**Stanley Chesley**, by Joel & Angela Frydman & Family

#### **In Honor Of**

**Larry & Marilyn Klaben**, on the birth of Yarden Oz

Avrahami, by Joel & Angela Frydman

**Sara Klaben & Amit Avrahami**, on the birth of Yarden Oz

Avrahami, by Joel & Angela Frydman

### Cantor Raizen's Education Fund

#### **In Honor Of**

**Penney Fraim**, on her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, by, Andrea Raizen

### Cemetery Fund

#### **In Memory Of**

**Doris Hulman**, by Jan Goldman, Sonia Hulman, & Bruce Hulman

**Jule Hulman**, by Jan Goldman, Sonia Hulman, & Bruce Hulman

### General Fund

#### **In Memory Of**

**Jack & Phyllis Ross**, by Michele Sudow, Helaine Razovsky, Jay Ross, & Families

**Marcia Russakow**, by Karen & Sanford Wolfe

**Linda Shapiro**, by Marvin & Linda Roden

**Claire & Oscar Soifer**, by The Soifer Family

**Felix Weil**, by Loren Weil & Linda Weil Foster, Leslie Stein Buerki

**Sandy Zipperstein**, by Renate Frydman

#### **In Honor Of**

**Elaine Arnovitz**, for her warmth and hospitality, by Alex & Rachel Green

**Penney Fraim**, on her birthday, by Stanley & Connie Blum

**Bernard Rabinowitz**, by Gary Holstine

**Julie Liss-Katz**, by Bernie Rabinowitz

#### **Speedy Recovery**

**Bill Doner**, by Helene Gordon

**Sue Ducker**, by Marvin & Linda Roden

### Joel Horenstein Fund

#### **In Memory Of**

**Larry Briskin**, by Dena Briskin

**Michael Fishbein**, by Mary Ann Oppenheimer

**Mary Gallagher**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

**Henry Guggenheimer**, by Dena Briskin

**Alan Steinharter**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

**Felix Weil**, by Dena Briskin, Linda & Steve Horenstein

**Sandy Zipperstein**, by Samuel Rosengarten

#### **Speedy Recovery**

**Dr. Steven Blumhof**, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

**Chaya Vidal**, by Samuel Rosengarten

### Kiddush Kitty

#### **In Memory Of**

**George Foreman**, by Norm & Kay Lewis

**Joseph Frankowitz**, by Adele Krug

### Rav Glazer's Discretionary Fund

#### **In Memory Of**

**Mary Gallagher**, by Wendy Lipp

**Sandy Zipperstein**, by Dr. Franklin & Renee Rubin Handel & Family

**Lena Gaffin**, by Michael & Harriet Massimini

### Rick Pinsky Memorial Fund

#### **In Memory Of**

**Felix Weil**, by Beth Abraham Men's Club

**Ben Bader**, by Donald & Carole Marger

**Ida Goodman**, by Donald & Carole Marger

### Ritual Fund

#### **In Memory Of**

**Robert E. Bernstein**, by Carol Bernstein

**Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Budnick**, by Susan & Joseph Topek

**Rebecca Center**, Patty & Steven Wyke

**Sally Wasserman Cruz**, by Carol Nathanson

**Bertha Cunix**, by Nadine & John Merker

**Charles Feldman**, by Bari & Steve Blumhof

**Hal Feldman**, by Bari & Steve Blumhof

**Manuel J. Freeman**, by Bella Freeman

**William Haegel**, by Ava & Jules Sherman

**Marc Katz**, by Samuel Rosengarten

**Glenna & Harry Krokoff**, by Susan & Joseph Topek

**Jerry Krochmal**, by The Krochmal Family

**George Lewis**, by Franklin Lewis

**Katherine Miller**, by Jaime Miller

**Marian Plotnick**, by David Plotnick & Family

**Russell & Betty Remick**, by Susan & Joseph Topek

**Standford "Shep" Rosen**, by Lori Rosen Rubin

**Dr. Irving Stein & Ruthe Stein**, by Lynn & David Goldenberg

**Bertha Sender**, by Sharon & Bob Burick & Family

**Albert & Barbara Solkov**, by Lauren & David Maio

**Albert Kravitz & Jack Tilson**, by Myron Stayman

**Herbert Tomchin**, by Carol & Susan Chudde

**Blanche Wyke**, by Steven & Patty Wyke

### Social Action Fund

#### **In Memory Of**

**Mary Gallagher**, by Judy Woll

#### **In Honor Of**

**Lana & Jonah Dorf**, on their B'nai Mitzvah, by Helene Gordon



## Yahrzeits

*This list represents yahrzeits for this month as listed in Beth Abraham's database. If we have missed a name, please call the Synagogue office at (937) 293-9520 and let us know so we can update our records.*

### ***This December (Kislev - Tevet) we remember:***

#### **KISLEV**

Jodi Lynn Abrahamson  
Adrienne Lisa Abrams  
Nathan Aides  
Carmen Appel  
Jack Arnovitz  
Julius Arnovitz  
Tala Arnovitz  
Meyer Aronson  
Shirley Berman  
Rose Bernstein  
Mary Bessel  
Blanche Block  
Frieda Blum  
Thomas Blum  
Sarah Budnick  
Mason Center  
Robert Chernick  
David Cohen  
Albert Cohen  
Sylvia Cooper  
Abe Coplan  
Rose Dinkin  
Paul Dorf  
Charles R. Dorfman  
Danny Duberstein  
Morris Dumtschin  
Ben Eckman  
Karl Ehrlich  
DeNeal Feldman  
Ruth Fiddler  
Leo Fox  
Bessie Frank  
Molly Frankowitz  
Mardelle Friedberg  
Rebecca Friedman  
Harry Friedman  
Philip Froikin  
Robert O. Furth  
Helen Gams  
David Garber  
Tillye Garlikov  
Harry Gilfer  
Max Goffin  
Lena Goffin  
Sophie Goldflies  
Jean Goldstein  
Annette Goodman  
Herman Greenfield  
Phillip Gressel  
Mat Grinker  
Dr. Morris Groban  
Rose Halberstein  
Ben Hochhauser  
Michael Horenstein  
Herbert Jacobson  
Jeanette Jaffe  
Theda Jarvis

Bertha Kahn  
Harry Kahn  
Zelique Katz  
Alan Konowitch  
Ralph Kopelove  
Isador Kowalsky  
Murray Krueger  
Teresa Krummel  
Fanny Kizner Kuhr  
Jesse Kuperman  
Ethel Kutash  
Leon Lapidus  
Roy Lapidus  
Daniel Lee Lehrner  
Loretta Leven  
Carol Levitan  
Sadie Levy  
Sol Levy  
David Liberman  
Florence Lichtman  
Howard Liss  
Rose Litt  
Stanley Mandell  
Tzemach Mann  
Sarah Riveh Mann  
Eerie Maybruck  
Sarah Mendelson  
David Michaels  
Rhoda Miller  
Joseph Miller  
Ida Milstein  
Ellin Oppenheimer  
Bella Paster  
Vernon Pavlofsky  
Gizella Pavlovsky  
Ida Petler  
Leatrice Phillips  
Lee Pollack  
Aaron Moshe Pollak  
Goldie Rabinowitz  
Nadine Robins  
LaRae Roden  
Ruben Rosen  
Rev. Simon Rosenblum  
Irma Rosengarten  
Fanny Rosengarten  
Ellen Rosengarten  
Ada Rosenthal  
Ronald Ross  
Shlomo Rossow  
Helen Rothberg  
Harry Rubin  
Rhoda Ryan  
Irene Sachs  
Harold Samler  
Chaye Rachel Scharff  
Else Scheuer  
Frances Schneider

Louis Schneiderman  
Beatrice Schoenfeld  
Dorothy Schottenstein  
Maryan Schriber  
Evelyn Schultz  
Sarah Schwartz  
Elaine Sebel  
Esther Segall  
Dora Shane  
William Sharp  
Rebecca Shokler  
Joseph Shutly  
Claire Soifer  
Tatyana Soyfer  
Anna Stahl  
Dr. Irving Stein  
Ruthe Stein  
Goldie Lea Stein  
Louis Tannebaum  
Mabel Tannen  
Jennie Tilson  
Rose Weinstein  
Jacob Weinstein  
Edward Aaron  
Weinstein  
Frieda Cohen Weisbrod  
Margaet Elaine Weller  
Gladys Weltman  
Louis Werner  
Jane Wilks  
Sam Wilks  
Harriet Winner  
Edna Zakem  
Raymond Zappin  
Mary Zappin  
Hannah Zappin  
Jacob Zukerman  
Max Zwelling

#### **TEVET**

Joseph Adelman  
Victor Appelblatt  
Joe Berger  
Sylvia Blazar  
Hyman Frank Blum  
Naomi Brant  
Rachel Burick  
Mason Center  
Morris Cherny  
Ada Cohen  
Sam Cohen  
Joe Cunix  
Anne Dlott  
Isaac Droz  
Beatrice DuBro  
Julius Eisenstein  
Rudolf Ellenbogen  
Sam Engilman

Bessie Faust  
Frieda Feerer  
Esther Feldman  
Mary Felman  
Mark S. Foster  
Rose Frank  
Jacob Friedman  
Abraham Froikin  
Alan Froug  
Rosalyn P. Greene  
Etta Greenhouse  
Libbie Gurevitz  
Haini Hammerman  
Frances Horenstein  
Myer Horowitz  
Julius Jacobson  
Fannie Jacobson  
Gertrude Jaffe  
Beverly Jenefsky  
Theodore Kahn  
Milton Kantor  
Carolyn Katz  
Toby Katz  
Ella Kling  
Marvin Kobel  
Mary Koff  
Jacob S. Kopell  
Dr. Leo Koretsky  
Rose Kozen  
Anna Kuttner  
Eda Lederman  
Rudolph Lehman  
Morris Levin  
Allen Levin  
Bert Lieberman  
Freda Matusoff  
Isadore Metz  
Hannah Miller  
Albert Miller  
Michael Miller  
Mary Miner  
Pearl Mitnik  
Irving Neiman

Kathryn Ostrov  
Ethel Pope  
Isador Press  
Carole Rabinowitz  
Ruth Fay Rafner  
Fannie Razovskiy  
Sophie Reingold  
Harry Rice  
Arthur Rosenbaum  
William Rosenberg  
Evelyn Ross  
Sondra Ross  
Jacob Rubin  
Reesa B. Schachter  
Toby Schuman  
Erica Schwab  
Morris Seman  
Sid Shane  
Shlomo Eliezer Shapiro  
Simon Sherer  
Abe Solomon  
James Stefin  
Yvette Stein  
Bertha Stern  
Joseph Stoler  
Morris Stone  
Meyer Sugarman  
Carrie Sussman  
Barry Tannebaum  
Benjamin Tannen  
Bella Tannenwald  
Ludwig Weil  
Edward L. Weisbrod  
Edward Weiss  
Isaac Weiss  
Ryka Winter  
Alan D. Yaross  
Kanee Zappin  
Jean Zeifman  
Harry H. Zimmerman  
Rose Zwelling

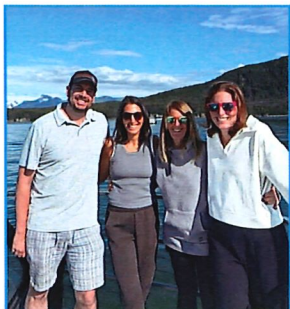


**Men's Club Rick Pinsky Brunch Series**



## NOW HEAR THIS

Julie Liss-Katz, Beth Abraham President



In Judaism, there is an annual rhythm of time, cycling through the holidays and festivals that repeat each year. There are sabbatical years and Jubilees, giving time a certain link to the notion of freedom.

Unknowingly, I must be very learned, because in the

Talmud (Pesachim 6b), the rabbis teach, "there is no early or late in the Torah." Time is fluid, bending, wiggly. If I had just used this argument throughout my life, it would have saved a lot of arguments.

It's interesting how we talk about time. Often, we talk about it as though it were money. We save it. We spend it. We waste it. But unlike money, no savings account accrues interest in hours. Time, however, is one of the few things everyone possess equally. Still, for something so constant, time manages to

confound us endlessly. We never feel we have enough of it, yet we allow it to slip away so easily.

Therefore, the challenge becomes how to use our time wisely and to appreciate and prioritize what truly matters.

As we enter 2026, it's a perfect moment to consider how you will spend your precious resource of time. Many people make New Year's resolutions to get healthier or more organized. What if this year, your resolution was about giving time to one another and to our community? Volunteering for the synagogue is a meaningful way to use your time well. Every hour given, helping with a program, visiting a homebound member, serving on a committee, cooking, or preparing a mailing, strengthens our synagogue.

Your time is a gift we will always cherish. If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity, please contact the staff in the office.

## Light

Dr. Elyssa Wortzman

It's getting darker and the sun is on vacation and I am feeling the need for light.

What do we do when the light we receive from the outside disappears for a while?

We all need to learn how to generate a light from within. That light might be the joy/*simcha* that comes from connecting with God. In Psalm 118:24, we learn that every moment is one to celebrate and be happy: *Zeh hayom osah adonai; nageelah v'neesmecha*. [The word *simcha* in Hebrew means joy and happiness.]

So, if today is the day to be joyous, we must find moments to celebrate in everything we do. You can find joy through gratitude, through careful attention to beauty, to mindfulness of even the small good things in life. And you can find something to celebrate.

At MAASEH, students studied texts on joy by Hasidic master Ba'al Shem Tov, who suffered from depression and therefore understood the urgent need to cultivate joy intentionally. They made *simcha* posters to hang in their rooms or on their bathroom mirrors to remind them each morning and evening that there is always something to celebrate or laugh about. By activating these experiences, they can keep the light within

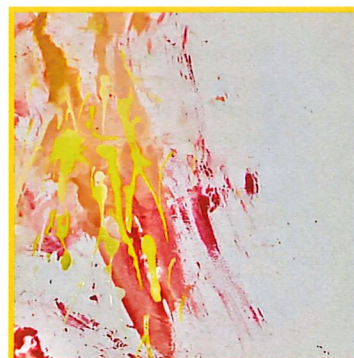
shining bright.

Hanukkah is fast approaching and we will find both a reason to celebrate and new lights. Until then, let's encourage our children, grandchildren and ourselves to celebrate each moment by choosing to be grateful for what we have - by choosing to see the good in ourselves and in others. By choosing to see the wonder in all that is before us.

*Zeh hayom osah adonai; nageelah v'neesmecha.*

Today is the day to be happy.

Today is the day to celebrate life.





## MEN'S CLUB NEWS

*Irwin Dumtschin*

Congratulations to Ted Cooper on becoming our new vice president. We look forward to his experience and input.

### **Rick Pinsky Sunday Brunch Speaker Series:**

There are no scheduled brunches in December, but we will pick up again in 2026. Men's Club would like to thank Ron and Mindi Wynne and their chickens for contributing the eggs for the brunches. A special thank you as well to the kitchen crew: Linda Brotkin, Alan Chesen, Mike Kimmel, Tobi Urzi, and Ron Wynne who help prepare the food each brunch.

**Annual Men's Club Raffle Event:** We are in the process of planning this annual major fundraiser. The raffle drawings will take place during our annual Deli-Dinner and Movie program scheduled to be held on Sunday evening, March 22nd. We are currently looking for retail merchandise or professional services as a raffle prize. Contact Irwin Dumtschin if you have something to donate.

**Men's Club Monthly Meeting:** Our monthly meetings are held on the third Monday at 7:30 PM on Zoom with our next meeting scheduled for December 15th. All members are welcome to attend and help with program planning and volunteer opportunities. Look for the Zoom link in the News & Notes that week.

Men's Club wishes everyone a happy and joyous Hanukkah, and many happy latkes!

## SISTERHOOD NEWS

*Irene Fishbein*

Join us for the Cultural Arts & Book Series program at Beth Abraham on **Dec. 7th** at 2:00PM, co-sponsored by Beth Abraham Sisterhood. Enjoy a taste of Ethiopia with delicious recipes from Beejhy Barthany's cookbook entitled *Gursha* prepared by members of Sisterhood. Beejhy is the founding owner of Tsion Café, an Ethiopian and Israeli vegetarian restaurant in the Sugar Hill neighborhood of Harlem, NY. The cost is \$10. Please register through [jewishdayton.org](http://jewishdayton.org).

The MAHJshuganahs will only meet one time this month on Thursday Dec. 11th from 1:00-4:00PM due to the office being closed on Dec. 25. RSVP to Theda Wagner.

Hanukkah begins on the evening of Sunday, December 14th. Connie Roberts has the Gift Shop stocked with everything you need. Give her a call - she's always happy to help.

Join us for our next Sisterhood meeting on Thursday, Dec, 11 at 10:00AM on Zoom. You'll find the link in News & Notes that Monday.



## GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SHABBAS? - WHY NOT YOU?

Please join in for this fun Shabbat dinner at member's homes, on **Friday, January 23rd**. Enjoy meeting other Beth Abraham members while having Shabbat dinner together.

You can choose whether you want to be a guest or a host.

Remember, there are only two expectations for our hosts:

1. to provide a pareve or dairy dinner; and,
2. to recite the brachot for the candle lighting, the wine, and the challah.

As always, we need many more guests than hosts to make the program successful, so don't be shy...Be our guest! Links to sign up will be in our weekly News & Notes email.

**Please sign up no later than January 9th.**





**Rabbi**  
**President**  
**President Elect**  
**VP Administration**  
**VP Fundraising**  
**VP Programming**  
**VP Religious Affairs**  
**Treasurer**  
**Secretary**  
**Men's Club President**  
**Sisterhood President**  
**Chevre Kadisha President**  
**Rabbi Emeritus**  
**Cantor Emeritus**  
**Cantor Emerita**

**Aubrey L. Glazer, PhD.**  
**Julie Liss-Katz**  
**Bonnie Beaman Rice**  
**Melinda Doner**  
**Ben Goodstein**  
**Irene Fishbein**  
**Alan Chesen**  
**Doug Wagner**  
**Janice Krochmal**  
**Irwin Dumtschin**  
**Irene Fishbein**  
**Ted Cooper**  
**Samuel B. Press, D.D. (z"l)**  
**Jerome B. Kopmar, D. Mus.**  
**Andrea Raizen**

### Bulletin Staff

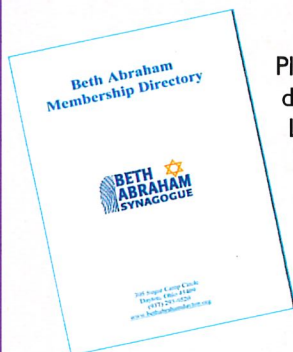
**Editor** Elaine Arnovitz  
**Layout, Design & Proofreading**  
 Sandra Kallenberg  
**Photography**  
 Irwin Dumtschin  
**Staff Writers**  
 Elaine Arnovitz  
 Irwin Dumtschin  
 Irene Fishbein  
 Rav Aubrey Glazer  
 Terry Lieberman-Smith  
 Julie Liss-Katz  
 Tobi Urzi  
 Elyssa Wortzman

The printing of this publication is funded by private donations.

### LIVESTREAM LINK

The link for all livestreamed services through StreamSpot is:  
<https://venue.streamspot.com/72a802ed>

### DIRECTORY TIME!



Please check your listing in last year's directory and make sure it is correct. Let us know if you have changes by **December 10th** - we'll be getting set to roll out the latest edition of the Beth Abraham Directory in January, and we want to make sure we have your correct information. Just give the office a call or send us an email!

**Friday,**  
**December 12**  
**5:30 - 6:15 pm**



Join Cantor Raizen to usher in Shabbat with songs, prayers, instruments, movement, dance, yoga and more.

### Times for Shabbat Candle Lighting & Services

Online service links can be found at  
[www.bethabrahamdayton.org](http://www.bethabrahamdayton.org),  
 Facebook, or in your weekly News & Notes email

#### Friday, December 5

Candle Lighting 5:54 pm

#### Saturday, December 6

Morning Service 9:30 am  
 Havdalah 5:56 pm

#### Friday, December 12

Candle Lighting 4:55 pm

#### Saturday, December 13

Morning Service 9:30 am  
 Havdalah 5:57 pm

#### Friday, December 19

Candle Lighting 4:57 pm

#### Saturday, December 20

Morning Service 9:30 am  
 Havdalah 6:00 pm

#### Friday, December 26

Candle Lighting 5:01 pm

#### Saturday, December 27

Morning Service 9:30 am  
 Havdalah 6:01 pm