

Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

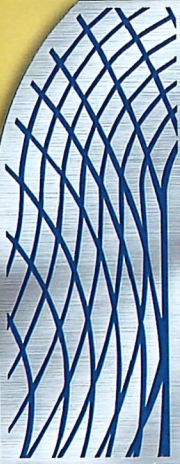
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BETH
ABRAHAM
SYNAGOGUE



Tikkun Leil Shavuot



Let There Be Letters

A Night of Shavuot Learning on Revelation and the Art of Creation

Join us for a Tikkun that treats the world as a living text. We'll wander through the generative alphabet of Seder Yetzirah, experiment with creative practices, and open ourselves to the quiet, surprising ways revelation still arrives.

Thursday, May 21

6:00 - 8:00 pm

**Learning Sessions with
Rav Aubrey & Dr. Elyssa Wortzman**

Dairy Dinner & Dessert

Sugar Camp Campus

Call or email the office to RSVP by May 18



**For those who participated in the Omer
Challenge, join us at Graeter's at 5pm.**





SPOTLIGHT: THE KIDDUSH CREW

Terry Lieberman-Smith

This month's Spotlight highlights a special family, the diverse, steadfast Beth Abraham kitchen volunteers; the shoppers, captain cooks, mashgichim, and the many kitchen helpers, who provide the weekly delicious Kiddush meal for those who attend Saturday services. While the volunteers vary weekly, their commitment is the "proof in the pudding."

If you have ever walked into our social hall on a Saturday morning and felt the warmth of community rising right alongside the aroma of a home-cooked meal, you have already experienced the *bissel tam* of our Friday Morning Kiddush Crew. Each Friday morning, for about two hours, this dedicated group gathers in the kitchen to prepare the meal that brings us together on Shabbat. Week after week, this group of volunteers of all ages turns simple ingredients into something much more meaningful: a warm welcome, a community connection and the shared joy of being together.

For many, the kitchen has been a doorway into community.

"Working in the kitchen after arriving in Ohio was a way for me to connect with congregants. After several weeks, a bond of familiarity forms between those with whom you work... it's actually fun with the Kiddush Crew!" — Theda Wagner

That sense of ease and belonging is echoed time after time. Judy Woll shared how preparing Kiddush lunches opened up new relationships: working side-by-side gave her the chance to meet members she had not known before, all in a relaxed, culinary-creative setting. It is a reminder that the kitchen is not just a workspace, it is a place where friendships rise.

Others describe volunteering as an opportunity to give back while gaining something unexpected in return. Linda Horenstein put it beautifully, "it is a way to support the synagogue, meet newcomers, pick up new kitchen skills, and enjoy the simple pleasure of seeing congregants gather happily around the table each week."

Louise Tincher highlighted the teamwork that makes the whole operation run smoothly. "Recipes, ingredients, and tools are often laid out ahead of time, and everyone jumps in to get the job done quickly." In between chopping and stirring, volunteers catch up on each other's lives.

"Everyone works together, we laugh, we swap tips, and I go home with new friends and new recipes." — Louise Tincher

Some volunteers bring a spirit of service that strengthens the entire crew. Linda Katz shared how she looks for the gaps on the sign-up sheet and she fills in where needed, whether as shopper, head cook, or extra pair of hands. She loves giving new volunteers the "fun jobs," like assembling desserts and or ice-cream-sandwich desserts, and watching people discover talents they did not know they had.

And then there are volunteers like Courtney, our youngest volunteer at 13 years old, who simply love to cook and love making others happy. For her, the warmth of the people and the joy of preparing desserts that bring smiles to others are reason enough to keep coming back.

For longtime volunteers, the Kiddush Crew has been a thread woven through decades of synagogue life.

"Volunteering has provided camaraderie and strong friendships throughout the years. The meal creates a social bond after services." — Marlene Pinsky

(Continued on pg. 4)

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

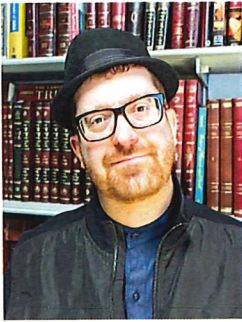
PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

BETH ADELMAN
MATT & ELAINE ARNOVITZ
DOUGLAS & BONNIE DEUTSCH
BILL & MELINDA DONER
DOUGLAS & BETHANY EINSTEIN
GARY & IRENE FISHBEIN
LYNN FOSTER
JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN
RENATE FRYDMAN
STANLEY & SUSAN KATZ
NORM & KAY LEWIS
SCOTT & ANN LIBERMAN
DAVID & JOAN MARCUS
EDWARD & AVA GALPERN MENDELSON
ALAN & MYRNI 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

Mystery of Why Milk Matters: On Shavuot's Obsessions with Blintzes, Ice Cream, and the Awakened Eye

Rav Aubrey Glazer



Why is it that every year as Shavuot rolls around, Jews everywhere begin the annual migration toward dairy with the determination of salmon swimming upstream—only with more cheesecake and fewer bear?!? Why the blintzes, the cheesecakes, the kugels, the milkshakes, and—here in our corner of Ohio—the solemn, holy procession to Graeter's, where revelation arrives in the form of a scoop that melts faster than Moses

could carve a tablet.

The classical explanations are plentiful. Some say that when the Israelites received the Torah, they discovered their cookware was suddenly unfit for kosher use, so dairy was the only thing they could prepare without violating half the commandments before lunch. Others point to the verse comparing Torah to milk and honey, a kind of spiritual protein shake. Still others note that the numerical value of the Hebrew word *chalav*—milk—is forty, the number of days Moses spent on Sinai.

All of these are fine answers, respectable enough to pass the rabbinic equivalent of a county fair inspection. But they miss the deeper, more mischievous truth: dairy on Shavuot is not about milk at all. It is about awakening what the Zohar calls *Eina d'Pekikha* - "the open eye," the inner seeing that notices holiness hiding in plain sight. Or, to put it in Twain's language, it's the difference between looking and truly seeing, between glancing at the world and realizing it's been winking back at you the whole time.

Milk, after all, is the first food a human being receives. It is the taste of being welcomed into the world without needing to earn a thing. To eat dairy on Shavuot is to return, briefly, to that primal truth: you matter simply because you exist. Revelation, the holiday whispers, is not a thunderbolt of information but a reminder that your life is not an accident. You are wanted here. You are part of the story.

This is why the custom endures with such affection. A blintz is not just a blintz; it is a small, edible sermon. A scoop of ice cream is not just dessert; it is a reminder that joy is a legitimate spiritual practice. Before we stand at Sinai trembling with awe, before we

wrestle with commandments and meaning, Shavuot insists that we first taste sweetness. Only then can we receive Torah not as a burden, but as nourishment.

And this is where "the awakened eye" (*eina d'pekikha*)—comes in. It is not a mystical superpower. It is the simple, stubborn ability to notice that your life is threaded with significance. It is the capacity to see that holiness is not hiding in the clouds but sitting right there in your bowl of vanilla bean. When we savor something sweet on Shavuot, we practice paying attention. We practice receiving. We practice remembering that the world is not indifferent to us.

In a culture that measures worth by productivity, Shavuot offers a counter-proposal: revelation begins when you stop trying to earn your place and start noticing that you already have one. The dairy ritual is a spiritual speed bump, slowing us down long enough to remember that we are not machines, but beings capable of delight.

And perhaps this is the deepest meaning of the custom. Milk is relational. It exists because one being cares for another. To taste dairy on Shavuot is to remember that revelation is relational too. We receive Torah not as isolated individuals but as a people, bound together by the radical claim that every life is worthy of care.

So this year, as Shavuot arrives, let the dairy do its quiet work. Let the blintz remind you that your life is ripening toward meaning. Let the cheesecake whisper that joy is a form of wisdom. And when we meet at Graeter's, cones in hand, let the sweetness awaken your *Eina d'Pekikha* - your inner seeing that knows, without needing to be persuaded, that your presence in this world matters.

Three Challenges for the Days Ahead:

1. *Savor something slowly*—practice noticing the goodness already present in your life.
2. *Offer one act of gentle care*—revelation is relational, so let someone feel seen.
3. *Name one way your life matters*—not to justify yourself, but to awaken your own open eye and share an insight from this way of seeing with others.



PrayerLab Shabbat & Shinshinim Visit

Shinshinim will join Rav Aubrey for a prayerlab on prayers for Israel.
Bring your questions and curiosities.

Saturday, May 9 @ 9:30 am

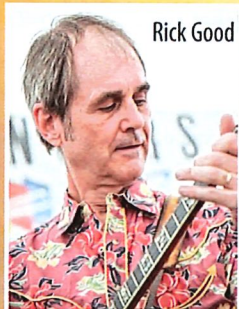
BETH ABRAHAM ANNUAL MEETING

Please join us for our Annual Meeting on **Wednesday, May 13th, at 6 PM, at the Dayton Art Institute, 456 Belmonte Park N. 45405.**

We will elect new Board of Directors, review our past year, and provide an update on our rebuilding efforts. If you're able, please join us for an in-person minyan at 5:30.

Light refreshments will be served following the meeting.

Once again, thank you to our community partners for opening their doors and facilities to us during our renovations.



Rick Good

Mirpeset Kabbalat Sahabbat (Porchfest Shabbat)

A special sing-a-long 'hootenanny' featuring
Ohio legendary Americana musician

Rick Good

Friday, June 5, 7:15 PM

Outdoors on Beth Abraham's patio. A dessert Oneg Shabbat follows. RSVP by calling or emailing the office.



(continued from pg. 2)

Her words capture something essential: Kiddush, from planning to completion, is not just a meal. It is a moment of togetherness that strengthens us as a community through both fun and difficult times.

Taken together, these voices paint a clear picture: the Kiddush Crew is one of the beating hearts of Beth Abraham. It nourishes us by providing us not only with food, but with friendship, laughter, learning, and the simple joy of doing something meaningful together.

"I honestly volunteer to see the happiness in the faces of those who eat. My heart fills up knowing that the kitchen put together the meal. Putting energy and love each week into feeding the bigger family."- Tobi Urzi

Personally, I believe in the concept of "food is love," and while I may not attend Saturday services, I enjoy working with other volunteers to show my support and feelings through the food we create each week.

As we continue to rebuild after the water damage, consider joining in as a volunteer. Whether you are a seasoned cook, a curious beginner, or someone who simply enjoys being part of a team, there is a place for you in the kitchen. You might come for the chopping and stirring, but you will stay for the people.

If you would like to get involved, we would love to welcome you to the crew. Please contact Sandra at the Beth Abraham Synagogue office to be included on the email sign-up list.

NOW HEAR THIS

Julie Liss-Katz, Beth Abraham Synagogue President



May arrives carrying with it a sense of warmth and gratitude – we made it through another winter! But at its heart is a moment to honor the person who nurtured and

guided us, our mothers.

Growing up, I always thought I had the prettiest, most talented, and supportive mother. She modeled in fashion shows, made a commercial for Maxwell House Electra Perk coffee, directed me into my chosen profession, and was beloved by my friends. My mom's family was close, and my love of family comes from all the time we spent together. One of my greatest sadnesses is that she never had the gift of time to become a grandmother. She would have loved that role.

Mother's Day is deeply rooted in the Torah, where some of our earliest and most enduring leaders are mothers.

The courage of our biblical mothers helped shape the destiny of our people. We can think of Yocheved, who, in a moment of unimaginable fear and hope, placed her infant son Moses into the Nile, trusting in a future she could not yet see. Her bravery and that of Miriam who watched over him reminds us that being a mother often requires both letting go and holding on – at the same time.

We also can look at Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah, each navigating complex family dynamics and uncertainty, yet playing a vital role in building our Jewish future. They teach us that love and persistence are daily choices.

This month, let's honor all the mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who nurture our lives not only in words, but by carrying forward their legacies of compassion and faith.

Wishing you all a meaningful Mother's Day.



THE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

SAM Barry, Larry Burick, Marilyn Klaben

Productive synagogue committees don't just happen. Rather, they are filled with congregants who are collaborative, inclusive and engaging.

To demonstrate and practice how this happens, the Leadership Development Committee has developed an interactive workshop, titled "**ENCOURAGING ENGAGEMENT: BUILDING COMMUNITY.**" Through hands-on activities, workshop participants will learn to channel collaborative roles and shared expectations that make meetings more productive, engaging, and personally satisfying where everyone feels they are heard, understood and appreciated.

All congregants are invited to participate - whether you are already a committee chair, member, or are simply interested in becoming more involved.

Workshop details:

Date: Sunday, May 17, 2026

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 noon.

Location: Third Floor, Beth Abraham Synagogue

Please contact the synagogue at **937-293-9520** or email **BAS@bethabrahamdayton.org** by May 14 to reserve your spot.

This workshop will be instructive, energizing, and fun! We truly hope you'll join us.

In the Beth Abraham Family

Thanks to the following Kiddush Sponsors:

April 4 - Rachel, Brandon & Daniel Kinard in honor of their Beth Abraham Family

April 11 - Felice Shane in memory of her husband Michael Shane

April 18 - A friend of Beth Abraham

April 25 - Andi Scher Rabiner in memory of Craig Rabiner

Congratulations to those Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in May

May Birthdays

1	Ellen Leffak		
2	Edward Sperber		
2	Sandra Mendelson		
3	N'Diris SAM Barry	24	Elaine Rothstein
4	Irwin Dumtschin	24	Debra Rosichan
4	Janel Pequignot	26	Rex Tincher
5	Terry Pinsky	27	Ralph Williams
6	Elyssa Wortzman	27	Judy Chesen
6	Judith Kelman	27	Walter Rice
6	Marcia Kress	27	Julie Liss-Katz
7	Stanley Katz	28	Cindy Smith
8	JoAnn Chambers	30	David Marcus
9	Sarah Moore Leventhal	30	Alex Green
10	Isadora Kravitz	31	Janine Thomas
10	Myrnie Moscovitz	31	Zerla Stayman
11	Ervin Pavlofsky		
11	Jeff Lubow		
12	Norm Weissman		
13	Bill Cohen		
15	Larry Burick		
17	Myron Stayman		
18	Gary Goodman		
18	Linda Roden		
21	Samantha Perkins		
21	Jay Kaplan		
22	Evelyn Fritz		
23	Lisa Pavlofsky		
23	Jeff Gordon		
23	Pam Schwartz		

May Anniversaries

5	Jack & Maryann Bernstein
8	Bob & Janice Kohn
16	Jeff & Connie Roberts
21	Bruce & Rita Mendelson
26	Andy & Pam Schwartz
27	Sam Dorf & Masha Kisel
27	Ken & Janice Krochmal
27	Philip & Janis Sussman
31	Bill Winner & Diana Poole

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



JWV Honoring our Veterans

Alex Pearl, Vice Commander

On **Sunday, May 3**, at 10:00 am members of Jewish War Veterans Post 587 will be honoring Beth Abraham's veterans by placing flags on their graves and taps will be played. Members are invited to participate. Reach out to Tobi Urzi at SocialAction@bethabrahamdayton.org if you would like to participate or for additional information.

This event will take place rain or shine.

We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

Bert Appel Fund

In Memory Of

Philip Sureck, by Melinda & Bill Doner

Building Fund

In Memory Of

Leslie Rogoff, by Jeffrey Cohen

Cemetery Fund

In Memory Of

Abraham Fleischman, by Abe Merdinger

Leo Merdinger, by Abe Merdinger

Mary Merdinger, by Abe Merdinger

Elfrieda Ritter, by Susan & Nathaniel Ritter

Wendy Ritter, by Susan & Nathaniel Ritter

General Fund

In Memory Of

Elaine & Lewis Froikin, by Susan Brownstone

Eugene Goldflies, by David, Steve & Jeff Plotnick

Lottie Katz, by Harriet Katz

Philip Sureck, by Louise Tincher

In Honor Of

Irene & Gary Fishbein for your gracious hospitality at Seder, by Louise Tincher

Hindy Gruber for your gracious hospitality at Seder, by Louise Tincher

Linda & Allan Katz on the birth of Micah Max Katz, by Neil Katz & Karin Hirschkatz

Judy Woll & Ron Bernard on your 50th wedding anniversary, by Neil Katz & Karin Hirschkatz

Dr. Elyssa Wortzman, by Jim Nathanson

Gerald Wilks Fund

In Memory Of

Richard Hauser, by Howard & Sue Ducker

Joel Horenstein Fund

In Memory Of

Bill Fenberg, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

Philip Sureck, by Dena Briskin, Alan & Judy Chesen, Linda & Steve Horenstein

Kiddush Kitty

In Memory Of

Carol Callas, by Norm & Kay Lewis

Gerald A. Greene, by Garry & Mindy Greene

Charles Tanis, by Adele Krug

In Honor Of

Elaine Arnovitz, for her service to the synagogue, by Sarah Moore Leventhal

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Memory Of

Philip Sureck, by Judy Woll

Speedy Recovery

Beth Adelman, by Steve & Bari Blumhof

Rick Pinsky Fund

In Memory Of

Martin Goodman, by Carole & Donald Marger

Philip Sureck, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky, Carole & Donald Marger

Speedy Recovery

Lisa Blum, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

Ernestine Levine, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

Ritual Fund

In Memory Of

Evelyn Adelman, by Beth Adelman

Eleanor Bergsman, by Mark Bergsman

August Blumhof, by Bari & Steve Blumhof

Barry Dorfman, by Charlotte & Tim Johnson

Ruth Dorfman, by Charlotte & Tim Johnson

Sarah Droz, by Myron Stayman

Betty Feldman, by Bari & Steve Blumhof

Max Gaffin, by Michael Massimini

Curt Goodman, by Myron Stayman

Seena Stayman Goodman, by Myron Stayman

Pauline Hellreich, by Hindy Gruber

Jacqueline Sonia Green Lapidus, by Susan & Stanley Katz

Saul Nathanson, by Carol Nathanson, Claire Nathanson

Arthur Pollack, by Jody Pollack Blazar & Family

Pamela Pollack, by Jody Pollack Blazar & Family

Shirley Pollack, by Jody Pollack Blazar & Family

Aaron Harold Rosner, by Elena Rosner & Family

Ludwig Schwab, by Sharon Schwab

Joseph J. Shuchat, by Francine Shuchat Shaw & Marc Shaw

Faye Sobol, by Todd & Jody Sobol

Dina Stayman, by Myron Stayman

Max Stern, by Beth Adelman

In Honor Of

Jim Nathanson on his new home, by Mike Jaffe & Judy Schwartzman

Social Action Fund

In Memory of

Philip Sureck, by Beverly Louis

In Honor Of

Cindy Burick on her birthday, by Beverly Louis

YAHREZEITS

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 May (Iyyar - Sivan) we remember:

IYYAR

Lillian Abramovitz
Beatrice Aftergood
Sara L. Arnovitz
Margarethe Baer
Meyer Barnett
Stanley Barnett
Helena Benjamin
Idah Bernstein
Alan Bishow
Morton Block
Sara A.R. Brotkin
Marvin Brown
Jacob Budnick
Pamela Sue Chaet
Evelyn Chudde
Max Cohen
Sanford Cohen
Irene Cooper
David Duberstein
Benyamin Eisenstein
Cissy Ellison
Herman (Curly) I
Ellison
William H. Ellison
Ruth Erkes
Sally Farnbacher
Carl Fasano
Thelma Feldman
Max Feldman
Claudia Feuer
Sylvia Foreman
Jack Fox
Estelle Freed
Ben Friedman
Linda Furman
Charles Galpern
Joseph Garber
Sol N. Gault
Marian Glatteman
Lillian Grinker
Julius Guggenheimer
Margarethe Guggen-
heimer Baer
Annabelle Haegel
Stanley Hillelson
Shiloh Reese
Jacobson
Eli Ryan Jacobson
David Jenevsky

Max Jenevsky
Melba Kahn
Robert Kahn
Yehuda Kahn
Harriett Kaplan
Mair David Katz
Beyla Komsky
Norman Kramer
Samuel Labovitch
Jeanette Lapidus
Harry Leventhal
Hazel Levine
Seymour Levine
Barnet Lubens
Dorothy Magilvy
Sam Mann
Wolfe Marcus
Mary Merdinger
Emma Miller
David Miller
Arthur David Mink
Mollie Muchnick
Max Myers
Jennie Myers
Sarah Naiman
Fannie Neiman
Anna Odell
Meyer Paster
Breindl Perlmutter
Sarah Pitkowsky
Arthur Pollack
Pamela Marcia
Pollack
Esther Pollak
Dr. Abe J. Pretekin
Jacob Rauchman
David Remick
Samuel Resler
Jennie Rich
Kenneth Rittner
Joseph Robbins
Arthur Roberts
Max Rockoff
Joy Rosen
Shirley Rosenberg
Barbara Rothschild
J. Kerry Rothstein
Mary Rubinett
Minnie Rudin
Harlan Saeks

Lillian Scharoff
Doris Schear
Edith Esther
Schneidman
Phillip Schwartz
Yetta Schwartz
Isaac Segall
Bette Sherman
William Shirer
Myra Sklaroff
Dora Sloboff
Marilyn Smith
Rosalie Spatz
Morris Speert
Rubin Speigel
Sadie Tanis
Celia Tinianow
Larry Tomchin
Beatrice Tucker
Rose Weber
Louis Weinhaus
Arthur Lester
Weinreich
Hyman L. Wilks
Irving Winner
Homer Wyke
Leonard Zakem
Eva Zeifman

SIVAN

Samuel Abrahamson
Ida Adelson
Emanuel Adler
Joel Alter
Jennie G. Arnovitz
Bertha Beloff
Abraham Beyer
Jack Irvin Blaustein
Davida Block
Morris Blum
Inge Blumhof
Abraham Bodenstein
Mona Briskin
Esther Brotkin
Esther S. Chernick
Minnie Chodos
Eta Devora Chodos
Dora Cohen
Minnie Cunix
Ida Davis

Else Eichel
Ida Ellman
Claire Feinhor
Morris Felman
Nettie Felman
Philip Fisher
Miriam Fraim
Myron Freed
Norman Friedman
Rose Friedman
Aaron Froug
Sylvia Froug
Donald Gable
Max Gaffin
Marcia Garber
Lenore Ginsberg
Louis Goldsmith
Irven Goodman
Helen Gordon
Stanley Greenberg
Anne Greenberg
Sheila Groban
Norman Harlan
David Jacobs
Irene H. Jacobson
Edith Jacobson
Mary Ruth Jacobus
Joseph Jenevsky
Dr. Gerhard Joseph
Rubin Karlsberg
Rollana Kiseleva
Ed Klaben
Meyer Kling
Gordon Neil Kuhr
Evelyn Leibovich
Hy Lev
William Levin
Louis Lieberman
Mary Liebowitz
Rose Liff
Sally Litvak
Sylvia Lyon
Sumner Lyon
Benjamin Mandel
Joseph Henry Miller
Ethel Ann Mink
Nellie Moskowitz
Joseph Muchnick
Florence Nathanson
Frieda Nemkovsky

Ben Newhouse
Abe Nisenholz
Anne Oscherwitz
Esther Oscherwitz
David Pope
David Pritzker
Ester Ribak
Sadie B. Rich
Sonia Richman
Saul Rosenblum
Jacqueline Elyse
Routman
Bessie Sacolick
Anna Sadow
Dorothea Rebec
Saeks
Morris E. Saeks
Leo Salzberg
Morris Samuels
Roslyn Schear
Sylvia Schear
Philip Schneider
Henry Schneiderman
Paul Schreiber
Hyman Schriber
Helmut Schwab
Ethel Schwartz
Debra Lapedes
Schwartz
Pauline Scott
Harold Shane
Paula Sherman
Henry Slone
Henyta Spialter
Gertrude Stermer
Peggy Stoler
Philip H. Stoolman
Isidore Tannenbaum
Adele Tilson
Elias Vandersluis
Robert Weinman
Anna Weisman
Freida Williams
Harold Wilson
Carl Wiseman
Andrea N. Wolfe
Misha Woll
M. A. Zeff
Louis Zeifman

Keeping You Informed

The synagogue is abuzz with workers making progress in our rebuilding, and each week brings visible signs of renewal and forward movement.

- We recently received the permit for our fire panel with installation taking a couple weeks to accomplish
- Much of the floor underlayment has been installed on the second floor, including the sanctuary, lobby, and chapel.
- In the office area, kitchen and mechanical room, new insulation and drywall have been installed and painting has begun.
- We are coordinating repair and upgrades for both our passenger and service elevators.
- All the wiring for the audio equipment has been installed in the social hall and first floor lobby area and the equipment should be forthcoming.

Each day brings us closer to the time we will once again gather in our building. Further updates will be provided at our Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 13th at 6:00 pm at the DAI.

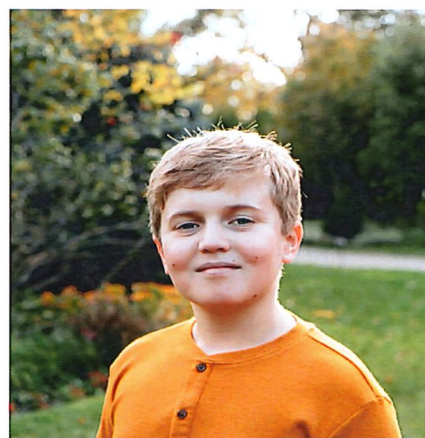


MAZEL TOV!

Jackson Noah Berry, son of John and Michele Berry, will be called to the Torah on Saturday, May 16, 2026 for his Bar Mitzvah. This Beth Abraham Shabbat service will be hosted at Temple Israel.

Jackson is a dedicated baseball player, who is currently enjoying his 6th season at Patterson Park. Jackson, who is a seventh grader at Oakwood Junior High School, also loves playing pickle ball, chess, and video games. An avid reader, he especially likes science fiction and fantasy. One of his favorite series is "Wings of Fire."

Jackson is a big fan of traveling - he likes visiting New York City, Siesta Key, Charleston, and National Parks like Glacier and the Great Smokies. He loves all dogs and especially his pups - Rosie and Berkeley.



Volunteer Mulching is *Bal Tashchit* at Cox Arboretum

Dr. Elyssa Wortzman

Bal tashchit literally means "do not destroy" and refers to the biblical prohibition against destroying or wasting something that can be re-used. The initial biblical context of this commandment refers to the needless destruction of fruit-bearing trees. The rabbis of subsequent generations extended this principle to include other kinds of senseless waste, like lamp oil. *Stewardship of the Earth*. At the beginning of the book of Genesis, the Torah suggests that it is **humanity's job to preserve and protect the earth**. Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch, a 19th-century German-Jewish rabbinic leader argues that *bal tashchit* – the prohibition against destroying useful things - includes an ethical responsibility to take care of the earth's resources. In Deuteronomy 20:19 this principle is seen in action regarding war-time destruction: If we are besieging a city, it is prohibited to destroy its trees. MAASEH recently volunteered for the morning at Cox Arboretum mulching around trees. We learned that mulch is made from a byproduct of the lumber industry – tree bark – that may otherwise have been destroyed. The tree is surrounded by 1-2 inches of mulch to help it retain moisture and grow.



Students discussed modern applications for *bal tashchit* and what individual responsibility we have for applying this value to our lives. Students came up with individual plans, beyond recycling, to "not waste" electricity, food and water in their homes. They recognized that even though they may not be able to solve an entire drought (of water or power), the wisdom of our ancestors, *Pirkei Avot* requires us to do our part: "*Lo alecha hamlacha ligmor, v'lo atah ben chorin l'hivatel mimena*; It is not incumbent upon you to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it."

One of the highlights of our volunteerism was experiencing prayer outside. We began our mulching with becoming aware of the beautiful life growing around us by saying the blessing for small beautiful things in nature (*shekacha lo b'olamo*), noting that, like Heschel prayed with his feet as he marched in the Civil Rights marches, we would be "praying with our hands." After the mulching, we gathered together, placing our hands on the earth we had just worked and recited Psalm 148 (adapted from Robert Alter):

Hallelujah.

Praise God from the heavens,

Praise God on the heights...

Praise God, sun and moon, praise God,
all you stars of light.

...

Praise God from the earth, sea monsters and
all you deeps.

Fire and hail, snow and smoke, storm wind
that performs God's command,

The mountains and all the hills, fruit trees and
all the cedars,

Wild beasts and the cattle, crawling things and
winged birds,

Kings of earth and all the nations, princes and
all leaders of earth,

Young men and women and elders.

Praise God the Creator,

Hallelujah.

In this Psalm, nature is praising God. So, when we concluded our day with some weeding, we asked ourselves what the trees, flowers and grasses might sound like if they praised their Creator.



MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Irwin Dumtschin

YOM HASHOAH YELLOW CANDLE PROGRAM: Men's Club thanks all our volunteers, both from Men's Club and Sisterhood, who delivered FJMC Yom HaShoah yellow candles to our local congregants ensuring they received their candles in time to observe this important day. I would especially like to thank Alan Chesen, Irene Fishbein, Marc Smith and Terry Lieberman-Smith for their work in coordinating the bagging and sorting the candles for delivery, and Melinda and Bill Doner for opening their home for us to use for getting the candles ready for distribution.

All those who have contributed to honor or memorialize loved ones during this Yom HaShoah yellow candle campaign will be recognized in next month's Bulletin. We thank and appreciate everyone for their support. The contributions Men's Club receives are used towards funding area Holocaust programs.

MEN'S CLUB MONTHLY BOARD MEETING: Please join us for our next Men's Club meeting on **Monday, May 18th** at 7:30 PM. Look for the Zoom link in News & Notes.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Irene Fishbein

MAHJshuganahs will not meet in May.

There will not be a Sisterhood Meeting in May.

The Gift Shop is closed until the repairs are made to Beth Abraham.

Watch News & Notes for updates.

Second Seder

Even though we could not use our home space, that didn't stop our Beth Abraham family from continuing our tradition of celebrating the 2nd Passover Seder together.

This year it looked a little different, yet familiar.

We celebrated in the style of Guess Who's Coming To Shabbas reimagined as Matzah Match.

Many thanks to our host families: Alan & Judy Chesen, Gary & Irene Fishbein, and Beverly Louis & Rabbi Barsky, for their beautiful Seders. They were hosts to a total of 12 guests who were treated to good food, company, songs, and of course the retelling of the story of Pesach.



Phillip Fishbein, Louis Tincher, Doug Deutsch, Bonnie Deutsch, Gary Fishbein, Irene Fishbein, Wendy Lipp, Shana Fishbein.



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Friday, May 8th 5:30 - 6:15 pm

HOSTED AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Rhythm 'N' Ruach went on the road again on April 10th. We thank Heather Davis for opening her home to the group. The evening concluded with an

impromptu pizza party!



Thanks to Isadora Kravitz, Heather Davis, & Cantor Raizen for their support in making Rhythm 'N' Ruach happen.

Times for Shabbat Candle Lighting & Services

Online service links can be found at
www.bethabrahamdayton.org,
 Facebook, or in your weekly News & Notes email

Friday, May 1		Saturday, May 16		Saturday, May 23	
Candle Lighting	8:13 pm	Morning Service	9:30 am	Shavuot II	
		Havdalah	9:32 pm	Morning Service	9:30 am
Saturday, May 2		Thursday, May 21		Yizkor	11:00 am (approx.)
Morning Service	9:30 am	Erev Shavuot		Havdalah	9:39 pm
Havdalah	9:16 pm	Evening Service	6:00 pm	Friday, May 29	
Friday, May 8		Candle Lighting	8:32 pm	Candle Lighting	8:39 pm
Candle Lighting	8:20 pm	Friday, May 22		Saturday, May 30	
Saturday, May 9		Shavuot I		Morning Service	9:30 am
Morning Service	9:30 am	Morning Service	9:30 am	Havdalah	9:45 pm
Havdalah	9:24 pm	Candle Lighting	8:33 pm		
Friday, May 15					
Candle Lighting	8:27pm				