The Bulletin

November/December 2020

Bringing Light into The Darkness Celebrate the 8 Days of Chanukah with CBI

From Sisterhood Shabbat and a Parking Lot Community Lighting, to Musical Programs and Festivities with BBRS & Nursery School, this Chanukah there is something for everyone, in person, outdoors, and online. (More information to follow in December)

Date	Program	Format
Friday, Dec., 11, am	CBI Preschool Hanukah Celebration Morning	at CBI
Friday, Dec., 11, . 5:30 pm	Sisterhood Shabbat Service	Zoom only from home
Saturday, Dec. 12, 9:30 am	Sisterhood Shabbat/ Shabbat Chanukah	Zoom only from home
Sunday, Dec. 13, 11:30 am	BBRS with parents: Drive through candle lighting	at CBI Parking Lot
Sunday evening, Dec. 13, 8:00 pm	Ma'ariv, light 4 Candles with community	Zoom only
Monday morning, Dec. 14, 7:30 am	Shacharit Minyan with full Hallel	Zoom only
Monday Dec. 14, 12 Noon	Musical Chanukah Program	Zoom only
Monday evening, Dec. 14, 7:45 pm	"Drive-In" Chanukah, light 5 Candles	CBI Parking lot & Zoom
Tuesday, Dec. 15, 6:00 pm	BBRS joined by entire CBI community for Candle lighting (6th nite) celebration	Zoom only
Tuesday, Dec. 15, 8:00 pm	Ma'ariv, light 6 Candles with community	Zoom only
Wednesday, Dec. 16, 8:00 pm	Ma'ariv, light 7 Candles with community	Zoom only
Thurs, Dec. 17, 7:30am	Shacharit minyan with full Hallel	Zoom only
Thursday, Dec. 17 6:00-6:30 pm	Young Family/Tot Chanukah Sing Along & Candle lighting	Zoom only
Thurs, Dec. 17 8:00 pm	Ma'ariv, light 8 Candles with community	Zoom only

November-December Service Times, Candle Lighting

Additional Shabbat Programs:

<u>Friday, November 6</u> 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:29 pm – Light Candles

Saturday, November 7 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:16 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after Special Event: Mincha Bat Mitzvah of Abigail Goldberg

Friday, November 13 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:22 pm – Light Candles

Saturday, November 14 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:10 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after

Friday, November 20 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:17 pm – Light Candles

Saturday, November 21 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:05 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after

Friday, November 27 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:13 pm – Light Candles

<u>Saturday, November 28</u> 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:02 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after Special Event: Bat Mitzvah of Alyssa Benbassat

Friday, December 4 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:11 pm – Light Candles

Saturday, December 5 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:01 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after Special Event: Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Reiter

Friday, December 11 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:11 pm – Light Candles

<u>Saturday, December 12</u> 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:02 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after

Light is Perceived Only Out of Darkness

By Rabbi Ari Isenberg



Imagine this scenario: It's the eve of Shabbat during the week of Hanukkah. Suppose you only have enough money to purchase either wine for *kiddush* or candles for the *Hanukkiah*. Which one do you prioritize? Jewish law is clear on the matter. Lighting the Hanukkah candles takes precedence. Maimonides takes this one step further, ruling that one should even sell one's own possessions in order to buy the materials needed for kindling the *Hanukkiah*.

Commentators assert that the mitzvah to publicize the miracle is of utmost importance. We proudly display the candles as a sign - a banner - of the presence of our God who brought salvation to our ancestors and to us, throughout the generations.

Perhaps there's a second reason. Think about what happens when you sit outside at a campground and light a bonfire or when you light the fireplace at home. Instantly, a crowd gathers together by the fire. Even weekly, when Shabbat candles are lit or the Havdalah candle is ignited, loved ones join together, warmed spiritually by the sacred flames.

Light draws people in. In a way, it has a magnetic quality. Just as this holiday commemorates the rededication of our ancient Temple, we use our contemporary Hanukkiot to rededicate ourselves to our current sacred spaces - our households, synagogues, and community centers. We are charged with renewing our commitment to our family, friends, colleagues, neighbors, and community members.

We are equally challenged to take note of individuals whose absence is felt. Especially in these dark and cold months, made even more difficult whilst combatting the pandemic, some of us might be experiencing acute loneliness, anxiety, and sadness. Some among us are struggling with ageing, illness, divorce, loss, and other matters. We who carry the light must bring it into their homes, into their hearts, into their worlds.

The Rabbinic Sage Kedushat Levi asserts that the essence of the mitzvah on Hanukkah is in the ignition of the sacred fire. Just as we kindle the physical flame, we must ignite the flames in our souls that call on us to be the light unto those who are struggling.

If darkness eclipses the light in your life these days, do not hesitate to reach out to us at CBI and to our Hesed volunteers. Help, love, and support are here for you.

If you have ignited your inner flame just as you've ignited the Hanukkiah, your task this season is to bring that light into as many dark places as possible. Seek out those who need some light, and serve as God's agent.

Great miracles do happen here. May the hand of God guide your healing light; and, out of the darkness, may it be perceived by all.

Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukkah, and have a safe, healthy winter.

To contact Rabbi Isenberg,

email him at <u>rabbi@cbi-nj.org</u>



The Power of Gratitude

One does not have to dig deep these days (or search too extensively on Google!) to find multiple suggestions of ways to help manage/reduce stress. Amongst the well-researched suggestions is the practice of gratitude. Some of the wide range of benefits that come with the practice of being grateful, even in the midst of adversity, as documented



in scientific studies, include promoting physical health (lowering blood pressure, strengthening immune system), enhancing sleep, increased contentment and improved moods, and a reduction in anxiety and depression.

This November, as the consequences of a world-wide pandemic continue to plague all of us, the way we will celebrate the American Thanksgiving holiday will not resemble how we've done it in the past. Just as with so many milestone events and even daily routines that have been altered and look very different during this period of the coronavirus, we can hopefully find the silver linings in the way we adapt our Thanksgiving observances this year and remain focused on all that we have to be thankful for.

While I have always enjoyed celebrating the Thanksgiving holiday with my family and friends, and eating the delicious foods which my mother so lovingly prepared (and now having others and myself use her recipes!), I recognize that reaping the benefits of practicing an "attitude of gratitude" requires more than one day of Thanksgiving! Long before any scientific research was done on this subject, our Jewish tradition has recognized the power of gratitude!

November-December Service Times, Candle Lighting

<u>Friday, December 18</u> 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:13 pm – Light Candles

<u>Saturday, December 19</u> 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:04 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after

Friday, December 25 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:17 pm – Light Candles

<u>Saturday, December 26</u> 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:08 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after

Friday, January 1 5:30 pm – Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat 4:22 pm – Light Candles

Saturday, January 2 9:30 am – Shabbat Morning Gathering 5:13 pm – Shabbat concludes at or after

Jewish liturgy is full of opportunities to express our thanks to God. The first words we say when waking in the morning, *Modeh Ani Lefanecha*, express gratitude to God for returning our souls to our bodies. Before we eat something, we recite blessings that praise God for creating the various types of food – fruit of the tree, fruit of the vine, all types of sustenance, etc. After eating, we recite Birkat HaMazon, additional blessings thanking God for the food.

The third section of the Amidah prayer, which is said 3 times daily, starts with a blessing called Hoda'ah, which literally means thanks. In fact, there are two different texts of this prayer, beginning with the same words, *Modim anachnu lach*, one recited when we say the Amidah silently and the other is said by the congregation during the reader's repetition of the Amidah (based on a discussion in the Talmud, Sotah 40a). Regarding this tradition, Rabbi Elijah Spira (1660–1712) in his work *Eliyahu Rabbah*, explains that when it comes to saying thank you, we cannot delegate this away to someone else to do it on our behalf. Thanks has to come directly from us. A line in the Modim prayer, which I find to be one of the most powerful and meaningful concepts in our liturgy, reminds us to acknowledge God for the miracles which God performs for us daily (in addition to the miracles of the extraordinary events).

There are many other ways in which we give thanks. On various holidays, we recite Hallel, a collection of Psalms of praise, including the refrain Hodu LaShem ki tov, ki l'olam chasdo ("Give thanks to God because God is good, because God's mercy lasts forever"). When one is saved from a dangerous situation, he or she might recite Birkat HaGomeil, which thanks God for salvation.

In the Torah, we also learn about the mitzvah of *bikurim* (Deuteronomy 26:1-12). The purpose of this mitzvah, which was performed at the time of the harvest on Shavuot, was to express gratitude. During the Temple Era, every farmer was commanded to bring to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem the first fruits which ripened in his orchard. There he would recite a passage thanking God for the land and its bountiful harvest, and the fruits were given to the Kohanim (priests). After the destruction of the Temple, this practice could no longer be performed. Yet finding new meaning in this ancient custom has given me a deeper perspective on the practice of gratitude. The difference between *bikurim* and all the other ways we thank God is that *bikurim* involves more than just words -- it requires an action, a commitment. *Bikurim* implies that our thankfulness to God cannot only be in the realm of emotions, thoughts, or even speech, but must also move us to action. My prayer this holiday is that we recognize the daily miracles in our lives and let them inspire us to praise God, show gratitude **and** move us to action.

I am grateful to be part of this wonderful community and I look forward to all of us continuing to work together doing Tikkun Olam, in seeking justice and equality, and helping others in need.

I wish all of you an enjoyable and meaningful Thanksgiving holiday.

To contact Cantor Wallach, email her at cbicantor@cbi-nj.org

Lorna Wallach

President's Message

By Mariela Markelis Dybner



Looking back over the last month, I hope that the holidays have been a meaningful opportunity for peaceful self-reflection amidst the tumult that surrounds us. During my Rosh Hashanah speech (which can be found on the CBI website), I spoke about the obligation of the people of Israel to care for one another, of the

communal duty "*Kol yisrael arevim zeh bazeh.*" I remarked on how easy it is to feel alone and adrift and asked you to take the time to consider the needs of each other and to reach out to loved ones, neighbors, fellow congregants and all those impacted by the chaos of this past year.

I am proud to have had the privilege of leading CBI at a time when we have done so much to care for each other. Our clergy and staff have learned to employ technology at an unprecedented rate in order to continue our services and programs. We have provided information about accessing financial and other supports from the state and federal government and Jewish community resources. Our Board of Trustees and clergy have called members, delivered High Holiday toolkits and reached out in new, creative ways. Of course, we know that the current situation remains difficult and understand that many are still hurting. Please let us know if you or another congregant need our help or are looking for ways to connect with the CBI community. Also, as people are moving into Millburn, Short Hills, Maplewood and our greater area, please remember to let us know if new neighbors may be interested in hearing about everything that CBI has to offer--Paula Touger and Stacey Thompson, our Membership chairs, would be happy to welcome them!

We are in the process of concluding our High Holiday Appeal for the year. My deepest gratitude to all those who contributed and to those who are still planning their gifts. If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please let this be a reminder to you to make a pledge via our website or contact the office about your annual support. A special thank you to our High Holiday Appeal committee for making solicitation calls and especially to Henry Bloom and Dan Richter for once again chairing our biggest fundraiser of the year. CBI would not be able to achieve what we do without the important work of our volunteers and the funds donated by so many generous congregants.

As always in November, we honor our veterans and we gather as Americans to give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy. We also have the opportunity to exercise our right to vote, one which we should never take for granted nor fail to recognize the sacrifices made in order to secure it.

Mariela Markelis Dybner

To contact Mariela Markelis Dybner, email her at president@cbi-nj.org

March–October 2020 Yahrzeit Donors

Dr. Herbert Sabin Sandra Sabin Sydell Weiner Freida Ostrowsky Joseph Tenenbaum Nancy Tenenbaum Harriet Farber Klein David Ehrlich Jeffrey Striling David Jacobs Inez Ehrenkranz Sandra Panzer Leslie McCafferty Hank Kaplowitz Lisa Jacobs **Richard Maslow** Isobel Kahn Gary Dubro Lenore May Roberta Balsam Scott & Sheryl Horowitz

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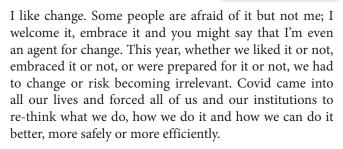
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Beineynu

By Harvey Brenner, Executive Director

It is written in *Talmud*, *Rosh Hashana*, "Who changes his place changes his luck!"

The recently concluded High Holy Days gave all of us a chance to reflect and to prepare to/for change.



Without change, the *"law of diminishing returns"* {adding more of one factor while holding all others constant (*"ceteris paribus"*) will at some point yield lower per-unit returns} takes hold and the results are less than hoped for. Substantively, however, making "no change at all" means that no meaningful progress or improvement can or will occur. When I was in the sales and marketing arena, we used to say that if you're not moving forward, you're actually moving backwards! With Rabbi Isenberg's arrival, we had and have the opportunity to review what we've done, keep what is meaningful and change/improve that which we deem to need a 'refresher'.

Over the next few months, you may or notice changes to the building (hoping to improve the experience, comfort and safety of all who enter and visit); changes to methodologies and philosophies as we move towards a more inclusive *'kehillah kedoshah'* (a holy Jewish community); changes and enhancements to the electronic and digital way in which we share information, communicate internally and externally with our members and prospective members, worship and celebrate together with the secular community.

We will be experimenting and challenging ourselves to try new and different approaches to solve age old synagogue problems. Few aspects of shul life will be exempted from inspection, discussion and review. After careful consideration, we may implement new strategies and utilize new technologies to improve the product we deliver. Yes, I said 'product' because a positive membership experience (religiously, spiritually, educationally, socially and communally) is the 'product' you deserve and we aim to deliver. In many cases, no changes will be made since "*it isn't broke so we don't have to fix it!*"

I often say that it is very easy to say "no"; it takes no talent and anybody can say that. The challenge in my position is to say "yes" and to figure out ways to satisfy our ~400 membership units, each with individual wants and needs, and to do it all within the framework of the rules, regulations and by-laws of our synagogue's constitution and in keeping with our long-established *minhag*.

Please join us on this exciting, meaningful, frightening, unsettling, positive and vibrant journey of change. You won't be sorry, I promise you. As Thanksgiving fast approaches, let us take a moment to appreciate all that we have, all that we've learned and how much we've changed over these past few months and look forward to how much more we can learn and do together in the next few.

L'hitraot & Happy Thanksgiving!

Harvey M. Brenner, FSA, FTA

To contact Harvey Brenner, email him at hbrenner@cbi-nj.org



RADIO IN ISRAEL AND ITS ROLE IN THE FORMATION OF A NATIONAL IDENTITY.



Radio shaped the way Israelis responded to crisis, sadness, joy and marked sacred time. Tuesday, November 17th 7PM

> Zoom link and further information to follow. RSVP for this interactive program to: wendy.kaplowitz@verizon.net

B'NAI MITZVAH



Alexandra Kotlarz October 24, 2020 (PM)

Alexandra (Alex) is an eighth grader at Millburn Middle School. She is thrilled to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah with the CBI community as well as close friends and family.

Alex possesses a deep love of learning, and a zest for life. She has the most upbeat personality. Alex can always be found with a smile on her face, and her wickedly sharp sense of humor is extraordinary.

Over the past year Alex has spent her time as a very active participant in the middle school's peer leader Core 7 and Core 8 program. Outside of school she enjoys playing both soccer and softball. Alex loves to read and can often be found with multiple books on her nightstand. She has especially enjoyed being afforded the extra time with her dog, Cisco as a result of the pandemic.

Alex is excited to be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah with her parents, Sara and Michael Kotlarz, sister, Mollie and grandparents, Naomi and Gerry Eisenberger. Alex thanks everyone that helped her prepare for this special day, most especially Cantor Wallach, Rabbi Isenberg, and Rabbi Bayar.



Spencer Jasinover October 31, 2020

Spencer is an 8th grader at Millburn Middle School and has been a part of Congregation B'nai Israel since pre-school. He is very excited to be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah here at CBI. He enjoys being active playing baseball, tennis, volleyball, and biking. He is also involved in Millburn Middle School Players productions of "13" The Musical and The Addams Family.

Spencer's Mitzvah project has him rallying the local community in support of one of CBI's own heroes and a Millburn High School graduate. He is a 1st Lieutenant in the US Army leading a team of 18 Paratroopers stationed abroad in the Middle East. Recognizing that it is difficult to be far from home, Spencer wanted this serviceman to remember he is not alone and that we appreciate everything that service men and women do for us. Spencer coordinated with his family and friends to create individual packages that are being shipped to his squad.

Spencer would like to thank his parents Caryn and Larry, sister Halie, along with his grandparents and other family members and friends who are here today and those who are also joining us remotely. A special thank you goes out to Cantor Wallach, Rabbi Isenberg, Paula Touger and Rabbi Bayar for all their help in preparing for this very special day. We couldn't do it without you.



Abigail Goldberg November 7, 2020 (PM)

Abigail is a seventh grader at Millburn Middle School. She stays busy by attending dance class, participating in after school activities, and hanging out with her friends. Abigail is a lover of all things theater. She loves to perform, has seen countless amounts of on and off Broadway shows, and can always be counted on to belt out a show tune. She has attended Pinemere Camp for three summers and cherishes the friendships made there.

Abigail was only six months old when she first joined the CBI Community by having her baby naming at a Havdallah service. She is looking forward to celebrating her Bat Mitzvah on the same bimah, although this time she will be awake for it!

Sharing in this simcha are Abigail's parents, Lisa and Adam, and her younger sister, Eloise. She would like to thank Rabbi Isenberg for all of his kindness, support, and warmth. A special thanks to Cantor Wallach for making Abigail's Bat Mitzvah preparations such an enjoyable experience through her positivity,

encouragement, and endless support.



Alyssa Benbassat November 28, 2020

Alyssa Benbassat is a 7th grader at Millburn Middle School. She loves to cook, hang out with her friends, and to play sports. Some of her favorite sports to play are basketball, field hockey, softball, tennis and golf. However, her true passion is hanging out with her adorable Cockapoo, Stella. One of the perks of attending virtual school for these last few months is that Stella often spends the day with Alyssa in her room "attending" school with her. For the previous 4 summers, she has attended Camp Taconic in Massachusetts, where she is very lucky to have made so many good friends.

Sharing in this simcha are Alyssa's parents, Alexis and David Benbassat, her brother Justin, and numerous friends and family from New Jersey, New York, California, and other places in between who will be with her virtually, even though they can't be there in person. A very special thanks to Cantor Wallach and Rabbi Isenberg for helping Alyssa to prepare for her Bat Mitzvah.



Samantha Reiter December 5, 2020

Sammy is an 8th grade student at Millburn Middle school and a spring 2020 graduate of BBRS. She is a multi-sport athlete, dividing her time between travel ice hockey, travel soccer and club lacrosse.

In addition to her love of sports, Sammy is an avid baker. She loves spending her summers at Cedar Lake Camp.

Sammy shares this special day with her parents, Amy and Josh, sister Rachel and her grandparents. She thanks Rabbi Isenberg, Cantor Wallach and Paula Touger for helping her get her ready for this simcha.

DCL's Drash

By Rabbi Julie Schwarzwald, Director of Congregational Learning

"Let your house be a meeting house for sages, seek ever to be covered with the dust of their feet, and seek ever to drink thirstily their words." —Pirkei Avot 1:4 (Lev Shalem 2018 edition)



"Let your home be a meeting-place for sages" was emblazoned on the masks we

sent to everyone who registered for the NewCAJE conference this past summer. A truly fitting sentiment as we gathered online for an amazing month of learning and engaging. Now we are into autumn and resuming our regularly-scheduled CBI programming, while still dealing with the limitations imposed by the ongoing pandemic. In the *Lev Shalem Pirkei Avot* edition, Tamar Elad-Applebaum offers this interpretation:

A home is a filter for everything that exists outside its perimeter. It protects a person and serves as a shelter for one's loves, preferences, and choices. Within it, the person whose home it is sifts through life, drawing inside that with which one hopes to inspire growth and leaving outside whatever one prefers to live without.

This has become so apparent as the world has completely opened to us technologically at the same time that families are making clear decisions about what is acceptable or desirable to them. Our educational programming is designed to meet the needs of all to the very best of our ability. If you are seeking something that is not currently offered, please be in touch!

LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong learning classes will all take place online via Zoom for the fall. Our autumn adult education schedule resumed with Monday Morning Modules and Thursdays with the Rabbi. Our first module is "The Story of the State of Israel Through Its Music" with Len Hausman. Next will be Music with Cantor Wallach, focusing on weekly themes and concluding with a special Hanukah Singalong at noon on December 14. We will pick up again with Jewish Art in January. Rabbi Isenberg will continue the Thursdays with the Rabbi morning classes with the JTS program, "The Ethical Life: Jewish Values in an Age of Choice." Each week features a different topic focus, and it is not necessary to attend every week.

Talmud Class with Rabbi Akiba Lubow continues on Monday evenings, with openings for anyone interested in beginning a study of Talmud, or deepening their existing knowledge. Journeyer's Minyan returned in October - and monthly thereafter - as a Sunday brunch learning and discussion opportunity. Chanting Circle with Len Hausman is also back monthly on Sundays.

In addition to these ongoing programs, we are looking forward to bringing in some weeknight evening programs as the days get shorter and colder. Look for information about an Israeli wine tasting series and several single-topic speakers joining us via Zoom.

TEENS

CBI Teens had several opportunities in August and September to meet and learn with Rabbi Isenberg on a variety of topics, both online and in-person. Formal teen education began at the end of October for both of our programs. Tichon meets monthly on Tuesday evenings, exploring a different topic each time with Rabbi Isenberg. Better Together Intergenerational Program for teens and seniors meets monthly on Sunday afternoons, run by Moreh Mike. Teens are choosing one or both programs, along with working as Madrichim in BBRS.

BBRS

After a month of engaging holiday programs in a mix of inperson and online activities, BBRS began our formal program on Sunday, October 18. A fortunate consequence of being a smaller program this year is that we can provide truly individual instruction to our students and give families options for how they are most comfortable with learning this year. We have brought in all-new curricula this year. For the Judaics curriculum, students will explore La-Bri'ut: To Our Health and Wellness, a new program created by the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland and being used by schools across the country. Learning is anchored in Jewish texts and tales of our past, offering rich understandings of Jewish values that build resiliency and guide personal and communal health and wellness, through the modules sukkat shalom (a shelter of peace), ometz lev (inner strength), g'vurah (courage), k'hillah (community), and *hesed* (loving kindness, tying into hope). The curriculum is uniquely formatted to be used for in person and online learning, enabling BBRS to offer both options to our families. While many K-7 students are in person on Sunday mornings, several families have opted for fully online education.

The Hebrew/Prayer curriculum is also new to BBRS. It is a program from JLearnHub of Hebrew Step-By-Step decoding and Beit Midrash Prayer Guide packets. Students have individual Hebrew lessons each week online with teachers who will be able to customize the learning to each student's previous knowledge and learning needs. Families were able to choose the days and times that fit their schedules.

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Sisterhood's Message

By Jennifer Glick and Sharon Richman, Sisterhood Co-Presidents



Jennifer Glick & Sharon Richman

It feels different and it looks different, but our Sisterhood year has started! And what has stayed the same is the enthusiasm and participation of our members and our wonderful Board. Our annual Kickoff Event (and combined installation) brought us all to tears through laughter (literally) and proved that laughter really is the best medicine in troubled times. Thanks so much to the many members who tuned into this event and special thanks to Lisa Ehrlich for her work on the invitation, to Helen Klein for her thoughtful *D'var Torah*, and to Gila Isenberg for spending time with us and giving everyone a chance to get to know her a little better. We are thrilled to have Gila and Rabbi Isenberg here with us at CBI and look forward to getting to know them both better. And, finally, a hearty thanks to the notorious KT (Karen Tucker).

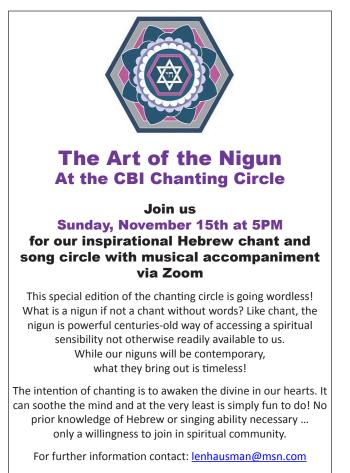
Meanwhile, your newly installed Board has been busily working on programs that will hopefully bring us together and let us learn, celebrate and even cope. Please note that these programs will all be virtual until further notice. By this time, we will have held our first Bookends of the year with Sara Sherman and reviewed and analyzed The Book Of V, feeling a little smarter after as always happens when Sara is the moderator. We will also have enjoyed a program on Five Keys to Naturally Boosting Your Immunity.

Looking ahead, we continue to enjoy our monthly Knit and Knosh - it's not just about the crafts techniques, it is also a chance to enjoy a virtual get together with fellow members. National trends show that crafting participation is going through the roof now. So this may be the time to learn how to knit or up your game. *Hygge* anyone? The next Knit and Knosh will be held on November 24th at 7:00. A zoom link will be sent out prior to that date. Any questions, please contact Marion at <u>marionmohl@aol.com</u> or 908-273-8157. Ann may be reached at <u>annspector@msn.com</u> or 973-868-0329.

We are really looking forward to our November 17th Rosh Chodesh with Rabbi Isenberg. Don't miss this opportunity to spend some time with our new Rabbi. Also, in exciting news, Chaya Cohen and Miriam Linver brainstormed with Rabbi Isenberg and Cantor Wallach and are planning our first ever virtual Sisterhood Shabbat. No worries about bad weather or prohibitions against in-person events. For those of you who have tuned in to CBI's zoom services, you will have hopefully noticed that they are spiritual, joyous and filled with community feeling. More information will come in the near future telling you the date and how you can participate.

Finally, do you have an idea for an event that you think Sisterhood members would enjoy? Just let us know and we can help make it happen. Jennifer is at <u>glickcorwin@msn.com</u> and Sharon can be reached at <u>sjschmerz@gmail.com</u>.

Jennifer Glick and Sharon Richman Sisterhood Co-Presidents



Our 10th Year!

In the Community November 2020

Mazel Tov to:

Frances and Mark Dmisewicki on the birth of their granddaughter, Emma Brooke Lieberman.

Susan & Lawrence Stern on the birth of their new grandson, Corey Simcha Riback.

Carrie Masia and Todd Warner on Jacob becoming a *Bayt Mitzvah!* Ruth, Dan, Jonah and Raffi Dovdavany on Jonah reading Torah at GOA's 5th grade virtual service yesterday.

Emily & David Wank on the Bayt Mitzvah of son, Max Wank.

Marion and Murray Mohl on their 56th wedding anniversary.

Chaya and Ira Cohen on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Lara Moehlman on her marriage to Aaron Priluck.

Helene and Steve Moehlman, grandfather Gary Dubro and brother Jesse Moehlman on Lara & Aaron's marriage.

Sara Sherman on her retirement after 20 years as a high school teacher.

Each graduating student from our CBI community in the class of 2020:

College (and Graduate School), High School, Middle School, Elementary School and even Pre - K.

Susan & Scott Kashan on the engagement of their son Jeremy to Cristina Castelo.

Andrea and David Hirschfeld on the marriage of their daughter, Leah, to Maimon Rose.

Susan and Michael Jurist on the engagement of their daughter, Julia, to Jeffrey Mazer (a cousin of Jennifer Glick!).

Ann & Mitchell Brown (and parents Hayley Brown & Marlon Grossman) on the birth of twins,

Sanders Rafael and Duke Reuben.

Pam & Richard Chassen on the birth of their two grandchildren, Nechama (to parents Elanah & Bryant Oberg) and Brooks Nolan (to parents Rachel & Stephen Chassen).

Donald and Miriam Salerno-Abraham on the Bnai Mitzvah of their children Maya & Evan.

Faith & Harvey Brenner on the birth of their grandson, Landon Cooper Brenner, to parents Janelle and Joshua Brenner (and big sister Averi Brenner).

Lenette and Lawrence Talpins on the bat mitzvah of their daughter, Hannah.

Rachel and Eric Manne on the Bnai Mitzvah of their twins, Ilana and Jared.

Tina Burk on the *auf ruf* of her daughter Joelle Zegas and fiancee Andrew Bryk.

Renee and Kopel Burk on the *auf ruf* of their granddaughter Joelle Zegas and fiancee Andrew. Joelle is also the granddaughter of former congregants Harriet and Norman Zegas (*z"l*).

Meryl Stone and Michael Cohen on the marriage of their son Benjamin to Rachel Abramowitz.

Matthew Cohen on the marriage of his brother Benjamin to Rachel Abramowitz.

Roz and Jed Buck on the marriage this weekend of their daughter, Melanie, to Keith Sherman.

Debbie and Ron Arons on the marriage of their niece, Melanie Buck, to Keith Sherman.

Sara and Michael Kotlarz on daughter Alexandra becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Caryn and Lawrence Jasinover on son Spencer becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

Lisa and Adam Goldberg on daughter Abigail becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Alexis and David Benbassat on daughter Alyssa becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Amy and Joshua Reiter on daughter Samantha becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Condolences to:

Marcy Brooks, on the passing of her husband Dr. Harvey Brooks (z'').

Sandra Phillips-Frasier (maintenance department) on the loss of her brother.

Mitchell Silverman on the death of his father, Alvin Silverman (*z"l*) Pascale Reidenberg and Family on the passing of Joel Reidenberg (*z"l*).

Tracie Feldman on the passing of her father, Ted Gordon (*z"l*). Deborah Liner on the passing of her sister, Linda Sue Liner (*z"l*). Ron Fox on the passing of his mother, Sydell Fox (*z"l*).

Roberta Radin on the death of her mother, Phyllis Rackoff (z"l).

Leslie Sanders (Barry Dashefsky) on the death of her mother, Dolores Sanders (z"l).

David Black (Arlene Rogachefsky) on the death of his father, Lawrence Black (*z"l*).

Steven Lax on the death of his brother, David Lax (z"l).

Elynne Margulis Zucker (Charles Zucker) on the death of her father, Irving Margulis (*z"l*).

Meryl Stone on the loss of her Brother-in-law, Harvey Kaminker (z'').

Wendy Kaplowitz on the death of her mother, Tessie Schpiro (z''). Longtime teacher, Lisa Fraenkel, on the death of her father, Jerome Minster (z'').

Alison Grann (David Gutstein) on the death of her father, Victor Grann (*z"l*).

Boaz Kimelman (Jill) on the death of his father, Avraham Kimelman (z''l).

Refuah Shleima to:

Henry Bloom, Judy Fredman and Rabbi Akiba Lubow

Welcome (and Welcome Back) to:

Lisa & Steve Friedman Linda & David Sotnick

DCL's Drash

continued from page /

On Tuesday afternoons, the whole school joins online to share a tefillah experience along with Rabbi Isenberg and Cantor Wallach and meet with their entire grade together to check in and maintain connection. We are delighted to welcome back our returning teachers, *Morah* Ilana Tenenbaum, *Morah* Miriam Segal, *Morah* Lisa Fraenkel, and *Moreh* Mike Greenstein - and to welcome two new teachers to our faculty, *Morah* Samantha Ivins and *Morah* Hana LaRock.

CBIP

I had big shoes to fill as preschool director, and I am blessed with an amazing team of staff and lay leaders to help. We opened with 12 students, 5 in our two-year-old class and 7 in our mixed three-and-four-year-old class. The families who chose to attend are quite cautious and so pleased with the small size of our program. It has been challenging to keep up with the constantly changing state guidelines and move as much of our daily program outside as possible, yet our incredible teachers have adapted and embraced the challenges every day. As a result, our students have added days and extended hours to their schedules. Once the guidelines from the state-eased a bit, we were able to welcome Rabbi Isenberg and Cantor Wallach to join us for distanced-but-together programming in the sukkah and Shabbat in the sanctuary once again. Our new SmartBoards have made it possible to bring in yoga, dancing, and other movement programs; especially wonderful on inclement weather days. Our returning teachers have the program (and me!) well in hand - Ilana Tenenbaum, Meg Schneider, Lauren Yellin, and Gerri Vicks - and I could not do it without Mila Naiman, also functioning as Assistant Director.

Another change this year has been the placement of Susan Kashan as the administrative assistant to the DCL. This means she works with me on all of the areas under my portfolio, and I am so grateful for how she has embraced each new area and task that comes her way. You would not believe the things we could put on our resumes!

As we move through autumn and approach winter, may our homes continue to serve as shelters of peace, allowing us to bring in learning to inspire growth at all ages and stages.

Kol tuv, all the best,

Rabbi Julie 973-262-3717

CBI Adult Forum

with JCC of Central New Jersey

To contact Rabbi Julie, email her at <u>RabbiJulie@cbi-nj.org</u>



Adult Forum "Lunch & Learn" Congregation B'nai Israel

November 2020

Shalom Adult Forum members and friends,

I hope this message finds you safe and well. It seems like yesterday that we welcomed in 5781, made our way through the election, and now Thanksgiving is upon us. It is not yet feasible for us to hold our get-together speakers, movies, and lunches. I look forward to seeing you again as soon as restrictions are lifted and it becomes prudent for us to meet.

The temple is offering many virtual options for those of you with Zoom capabilities. You can check the calendar by going to the temple web site.

In closing, here are some tips to make Thanksgiving a little easier during this pandemic. Psychologists have found that gratitude really makes people happier, so try to focus on those things for which you are grateful. Do something pleasurable like reading a good book, calling a friend or if possible, taking a walk. This Thanksgiving I'll be thinking of how grateful I am for the privilege of knowing you.

With hope that we can get together again soon and best wishes for your well- being.

Fondly,

Lois

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If you wish to send a tribute please call the main office at 973-379-3811 ext.111 or email: dcoscia@cbi-nj.org.

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Risa Wasserman - In memory of your husband Evan Wasserman Leslie and Barry Dashefsky Carrie Massia & Todd Warner - Mazal Tov on Jacob's Bar Mitzvah The CBI Board of Trustees Dr. Martin & Andrea Levine & family - In memory of Phyllis Levine Phil & Betsy Darivoff Tracie Feldman - In memory of Ted Gordon Paula & David Touger The Feldman Family - In memory of Ted Gordon Wendy & Hank Kaplowitz Pascale Reidenberg - In memory of Joel Reidenberg The Wenik family Pascale Reidenberg - In memory of Joel Reidenberg Paula & David Touger Tracie Feldman - In memory of Ted Gordon Steven & Helene Moehlman Pascale Reidenberg - In memory of Joel Reidenberg Steven & Helene Moehlman Arthur & Penny Klein - Mazal Tov on the birth of your granddaughter Paula & David Touger Andrea Good - Refuah Shlema Paula & David Touger Martin & Andrea Levine - In memory of Phyllis Levine Paula & David Touger Marcy Brooks - In memory of Harvey Brooks Paula & David Touger Larry & Ivy Samuels - In memory of Jacqueline Samuels Paula & David Touger FloEllen & Richard Maslow - in honor of your 50th wedding anniversary Paula & David Touger Mitchell Silverman - In memory of Alvin Silverman Paula & David Touger Roberta Radin - In memory of Phyllis Rackoff Paula & David Touger The Fox family - In memory of Sydell Fox Roz & Jed Buck Debbie Liner - In memory of Linda Sue Liner Risa Wasserman Debbie Liner - In memory of Linda Sue Liner Steven & Helene Moehlman Debbie Liner - In memory of Linda Sue Liner Barbara & Steve Brown Debbie Marcus & family - In memory of Rabbi Jonathan Brown Steve & Lilli Finkler Deborah Marcus - In memory of Rabbi Jonathan Brown Steven Kandler Deborah and Alex Marcus - In memory of Rabbi Jonathan Brown Merna Most Debbie Marcus - In memory of Rabbi Jonathan Brown Richter Family Bill & Linda Glasofer - In honor of your grandson's Bar Mitzvah Richard & Flo Ellen Maslow

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Hayley Brown & Marlon Grossman - On the birth of your new babies The Giladi Family Steve Lax - In memory of David Lax The Lakin Family David & Andrea Hirschfeld - In honor of Leah's marriage to Maimon Paul & Harriet Klein Diana Bensoul - In honor of her retirement Anonymous Cantor Wallach - Thank you for helping him find his lost cat Kenii Fuiita Ellyne Zucker - In memory of your father Irving Margulis Anonymous Ellyne Zucker - In memory of your father Irving Margulis Amy & Larry Dantus Ellyne Zucker & family - In memory of your father Irving Margulis Samantha Lakin & Ben Sacks Eric & Rachel Manne - In honor of Ilana & Jared's B'nai Mitzvah Anonymous Wendy & Hank Kaplowitz - In memory of your mother, Tessie Schpiro The Dantus Family Wendy Kaplowitz - In memory of Tessie Schpiro Beth Giladi Wendy Kaplowitz - In memory of Tessie Schpiro Gloria Segel Cantor Wallach - In appreciation of your effort's for our grandchildren's Bnai Mitzvah Dr. & Mrs. Stuart Abraham Cantor Wallach - Thank you for your support for our grandchildren Ilana & Jared Steven & Frances Manne Wendy Kaplowitz - In memory of Terrie Schpiro Ellen Shulman & Jay Perler Wendy Kaplowitz - In memory of Terrie Schpiro Sharon & Mark Richman Alison Grann & David Gutstein - In memory of your father and father-in-law, Victor Grann Paula & David Touger Alison Grann & David Gutstein - In memory of your father and father-in-law, Victor Grann The Ettinger-Bloom family Wendy Kaplowitz - In memory of your mother, Tessie Schpiro Michael & Nancy Weinstein Boaz & Jill Kimelman - In memory of your father, Abraham Kimelman Rachel & Alan Astalos Boaz Kimelman - In memory of your father, Avraham Kimelman The Ettinger-Bloom family Risa Wasserman and Family - In memory of Evan Wasserman Michael Cohen and Meryl Stone Joel Reidenberg - In memory of your father, Marcus Reidenberg Anonymous Gift Joel Reidenberg - In memory of your father, Marcus Reidenberg Risa Wasserman Dr. Shari Ripp - In memory of your father, Irwin Fine Howard Kessler Sydell Weiner - In memory of your sister, Miriam Cheddy Nancy and Michael Weinstein Cantor Wallach - Jacob's Tefillin Wrap Carrie and Todd Warner

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Rabbi Julie Schwarzwald - Thank you.

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- Sara Sherman Welcome to the Club
 - Anonymous
- Rabbi Resnick Thank you.
 - Anonymous
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We are...

• Rooted in Conservative traditional Jewish values, Torah, our connections to each other, our community, spirituality and Israel • Committed to creating a place where everyone feels comfortable and engaged, and is encouraged to participate • An inclusive, family-friendly, multi-generational, egalitarian congregation that pursues lifelong fulfillment through education, observance and social action • Present and supportive of one another whether celebrating life's joys or sharing its sorrows • Distinguished by passionate professional and lay leadership.

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