

BETH OHR NEWSLETTER

Vol. 60 Issue 12

December 2016

Kislev/Tivet 5777

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Synagogue Office: 732-257-1523

Happy Chanukah



According to tradition as recorded in the Talmud, at the time of the rededication, there was very little oil left that had not been defiled by the Greeks. Oil was needed for the menorah (candelabrum) in the Temple, which was supposed to burn throughout the night every night. There was only enough oil to burn for one day, yet miraculously, it burned for eight days, the time needed to prepare a fresh supply of oil for the menorah. An eight day festival was declared to commemorate this miracle. Note that the holiday commemorates the miracle of the oil, not the military victory: Jews do not glorify war.

Traditions *Our rabbis taught the rule of Chanukkah: ... on the first day one [candle] is lit and thereafter they are progressively increased ... [because] we increase in sanctity but do not reduce.* -Shabbat 21b, Babylonian Talmud Chanukah

The candles are arranged in a candelabrum called a menorah (or sometimes called a chanukkiah) that holds nine candles: one for each night, plus a shammas (servant) at a different height. On the first night, one candle is placed at the far right. The shammas candle is lit and three berakhot (blessings) are recited: l'hadlik neur (a general prayer over candles), she-asah nisim (a prayer thanking G-d for performing miracles for our ancestors at this time), and she-hekhanu (a general prayer thanking G-d for allowing us to reach this time of year). After reciting the blessings, the first candle is then lit using the shammas candle, and the shammas candle is placed in its holder. Candles can be lit any time after dark but before midnight. The candles are normally allowed to burn out on their own after a minimum of 1/2 hour, but if necessary they can be blown out at any time after that 1/2¹ (Continued on page 9).

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

All Friday evening services begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise stated, Saturday morning Shabbat services begin at 9:30 a.m., Sunday morning minyan begins at 9:00 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thur Dec 1	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
Fri Dec 2	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat Dec 3	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30AM
	Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Petosa	
Sun Dec 4	Sunday Morning Service Followed by Men's Club and Sisterhood Joint Brunch	9:00AM
Tues Dec 6	Rabbi's Jewish Practices and Customs Class	7:30PM
Wed Dec 7	Spanish Class	11:00AM
	Sisterhood Membership Meeting/Penny Auction	7:30PM
Thurs Dec 8	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
Fri Dec 9	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat Dec 10	Shabbat Morning Service	9:30AM
Sun Dec 11	Sunday Morning Service followed by Men's Club Breakfast	9:00AM
	Grandparents Circle—Congregation Beth Mordecai Perth Amboy, NJ	TBD
Tues Dec 13	Rabbi's Book Discussion Class	11:00AM
	Talmud Class	7:30PM
Wed Dec 14	Spanish Class	11:00AM
Thurs Dec 15	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
	Temple Exec Board Meeting	7:30PM
	Temple Board Meeting	8:00PM
Fri Dec 16	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat Dec 17	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30AM
Sun Dec 18	Sunday Morning Service followed by Men's Club Breakfast	9:00AM
Tues Dec 20	Rabbi's Jewish Practices and Customs Class	7:30PM
Wed Dec 21	Spanish Class	11:00AM
	Daytimers Chanukah Celebration	1:00PM
	Sisterhood Board Meeting	7:30PM
Thur Dec 22	Talmud Class	9:30AM
Fri Dec. 23	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat Dec 24	Shabbat Morning Service	9:30AM
	Erev Chanukah	
Sun Dec. 25	Sunday Morning Service followed by Men's Club Breakfast First Day Chanukah	9:00AM
Tues Dec 27	Rabbi's Book Discussion	11:00AM
	Talmud Class	7:30PM
Wed Dec 28	Spanish Class	11:00AM
Thurs Dec 29	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
Fri Dec 30	Fri Evening Service	7:30PM ²
Sat Dec 31	Sat Morning Service	9:30AM

Rabbi Mishkin's Message



“Learning a Lesson in Life from Abraham”

The rabbis of the Talmud believed that there was more than one way to interpret the Torah. There was the process of understanding the *peshat*, that is, the clear meaning of the words. A second perhaps more interesting way was through the process of *derash* that would reveal a more interpretative and homiletic explanation. A good example of this can be found in a recent Torah portion.

In a remarkable scene in the Torah portion Vayerah. Abraham is sitting at the entrance of his tent and God appears to him. The Torah states, “The Lord appeared to him by the terebinths of Mamre; he was sitting at the entrance of the tent as the day grew hot. Looking up, he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them, and bowing to the ground, he said, “My lords, if I have found favor in your eyes, do not leave your servant. Let a little water be brought; bathe your feet and recline under the tree.”

This appears to be the (*peshat*,) the clear meaning of the text. However our sages chose to translate the text through the use of *derash*. This produced a radically different meaning to the text. They noticed that if the Hebrew word for ‘my lords,’ (*Adonai*) is translated not as ‘my lords,’ but as “God” since (*Adonai* is one of God’s names,) then the text says something else altogether.

It would read: “The Lord appeared to Abraham by the terebinths of Mamre; looking up, he saw three men standing near him. On seeing them, he hurried from his tent door to meet them and bowed down. (Now turning to God) Abraham said, “Adonai, My God, if I have found favor in Your eyes, do not leave your servant.” In other words, “Adonai, please wait until I have shown hospitality to these men.” Then Abraham turned to the men and said, “Let a little water be brought; bathe your feet and recline under the tree.”

This is a most daring interpretation of the text that provides us with a fundamental Jewish principle cited in the Talmud. “Greater is the mitzvah of hospitality than receiving the Divine Presence.” What that means is that, faced with a choice between attending to God and offering hospitality to human beings, Abraham astonishingly chose the latter. Our sages taught that God acceded to Abraham’s request and patiently waited while Abraham brought the visitors food and drink, before engaging him in the conversation regarding the fate of Sodom. Believe it or not, when there was a conflict between the expectations of God and the needs of human beings, the text teaches that Abraham attended to human needs first. Our sages understood how important it was for human beings to reach out to each other and that extending hospitality to one’s neighbor is the same as showing reverence for God.

Presidents Message



Now that the High Holidays are behind us, I am very thankful to Allen Skupp, Ira Donenfeld and Phyllis Greenberg for handling all the preparations to make this year's holidays run so smoothly.

I have been very busy this November celebrating a number of family simchas. My one nephew had his Bar Mitzvah, and I participated by reading two Torah Aliyot. Another nephew was married, and Harriet and I were honored to read 3 of the 7 blessings during the wedding. I hope you all enjoyed time with your families during Thanksgiving!

As a reminder, the Beth Ohr family needs your participation at the many events planned by the Board. Our mission is to preserve Jewish identity in the community, further Jewish education, provide religious, cultural, and social opportunities to our members, while reaching out to the greater community, both Jewish and non-Jewish. Our goal is to maintain a Jewish continuity through the generations.

We had a successful Scholar-in-Residence weekend with Rabbi Gordon Yaffe on November 4 and 5, where we all experienced transformative religious services. I played Jewish geography with Rabbi Yaffe and discovered that he was on a Bnai Brith Youth trip to Israel with my sister in 1975. We hosted the Global Day of Jewish Learning on Sunday November 20 at the East Brunswick Library with more than 100 attendees.

Help us succeed in our mission by attending these upcoming special events. The Sisterhood and Men's Club joint program will be on Sunday December 4 at 10:15 AM as congregants who travelled on the synagogue trip to Israel will be sharing their experiences with us during Brunch. The Menorah lighting will be held on Monday December 5 at 6:30 PM outside the Old Bridge Township Municipal Building.

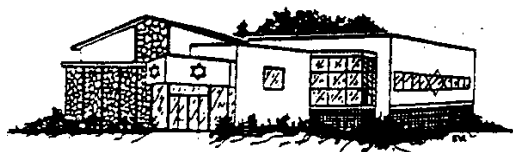
As winter approaches I urge congregants to participate in our Friday night, Shabbat morning, and Sunday morning services. A number of our members will be in Florida for the winter. Come pray with your Beth Ohr family where you are welcomed with open arms, spiritually-lifted, and well-fed.

I also suggest that you sponsor a Kiddush on Shabbat morning to honor a special birthday, wedding anniversary, Bar/Bat Mitzvah anniversary, or Yahrzeit. Think about purchasing a leaf for our Tree of Life (a bargain at \$118) to recognize a special life cycle event in your family. If any members are interested in renting our social hall or our large room downstairs for a celebration, please contact the Synagogue office. If you have friends looking for a venue to hold life cycle event at our Synagogue (Bris, baby naming, wedding) or for a party, we do rent space out to non-members.

Thank you to all congregants for donating in response to my Yizkor Appeal on Yom Kippur. Harriet and I along with our children and grandson wish you all a Happy Chanukah!

Shalom

Phil



Congregation Beth Ohr

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(732) 257-1523 FAX (732) 257-1025

CONGREGATIONBETHOHR@GMAIL.COM

RABBI JOEL MISHKIN

PHILIP RABINOWITZ, PRESIDENT

November 4, 2016

Dear Laurie:

As the president of Congregation Beth Ohr in Old Bridge, and on behalf of our members, we would like to congratulate you on your great achievements at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio. We are all so very proud of you.

You exemplified excellence as you earned the gold medal in women's overall team gymnastics and the silver medal in the balance beam event. You are now a hero of the United State of America, New Jersey and Old Bridge. We know you had to have the discipline, dedication and determination to become an Olympic medalist, and you are a great role model for young women as stated by Lt Gov. Kim Guadagno in a recognition ceremony held in Old Bridge.

Thank you and **Mazel Tov** on your well-earned Olympic medals.

Very truly yours,

Philip Rabinowitz
President
Congregation

אור זרע לצדיק ולישרי לב שמחה - Light is sown for the righteous, joy for the honorable

Daytimers News

DAYTIMERS NEWS

THURSDAY DECEMBER 22nd

CHANUKAH/PAID UP LUNCHEON 12:30 pm

Our annual meeting will be followed by our paid up deli luncheon. There will be a Chanukah sing along, gift card Bingo and gift raffles. It is not necessary to bring a gift. The luncheon cost for non-members is \$14.00. Dues will be collected and are as follows:

Temple Members:

Singles - \$21.00

Couples - \$36.00

Non-Temple Members:

Singles - \$30.00

Couples - \$45.00

RSVP by Friday, December 16th

(Ira at 732-679-2652 or

Linda at 609-642-8182)



Chanukah Traditions (continued from page 1)

hour. On Shabbat, Chanukkah candles are normally lit before the Shabbat candles, but may be lit any time before candlelighting time (18 minutes before sunset). Candles cannot be blown out on Shabbat (it's a violation of the Sabbath rule against igniting or extinguishing a flame). Because the Chanukkah candles must remain burning until a minimum of 1/2 hour after dark (about 90 minutes total burning time on Shabbat), some Chanukkah candles won't get the job done. On one of the earlier nights, you might want to make sure your candles last long enough. If they don't, you might want to use something else for Chanukkah on Shabbat, such as tea lights or even Shabbat candles. Each night, another candle is added from right to left (like the Hebrew language)

Candles are lit from left to right (because you pay honor to the newer thing first). On the eighth night, all nine candles (the 8 Chanukkah candles and the shammas) are lit. . On nights after the first, only the first two blessings are recited; the third blessing, she-hekhanu is only recited on the first night of holidays.

Why the shammas candle? The Chanukkah candles are for pleasure only; we are not allowed to use them for any productive purpose. We keep an extra one around (the shammas), so that if we need to do something useful with a candle, we don't accidentally use the Chanukkah candles. The shammas candle is at a different height so that it is easily identified as the shammas.

It is traditional to eat fried foods on Chanukkah because of the significance of oil to the holiday. Among Ashkenazic Jews, this usually includes latkes (pronounced "lot-kuhs" or "lot-keys" depending on where your grandmother comes from.

It is extremely unusual for Jews to give Chanukkah gifts to anyone other than their own young children. However every family makes their own tradition. The only traditional gift of the holiday is "gelt," small amounts of money.

Another tradition of the holiday is playing dreidel, a gambling game played with a square top. Most people play for matchsticks, pennies, M&Ms or chocolate coins. The traditional explanation of this game is that during the time of Antiochus' oppression, those who wanted to study Torah (an illegal activity) would conceal their activity by playing gambling games with a top (a common and legal

activity). There are some variations in the way people play the game, but the way I learned it, everyone puts in one coin. A person spins the dreidel. If it lands on Nun, nothing happens; on Gimel (or, as we called it as kids, "gimme!"), you get the whole pot; on Hei, you get half of the pot; and on Shin, you put one in. When the pot is empty, everybody puts one in. Keep playing until one person has everything. Then redivide it, because nobody likes a poor winner. (Written by Tracey ⁷ Rich from My Jewish Learning.com).

Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

We honor the memories of our loved ones whose Yahrzeits were observed during the month of **October, November, December**. We acknowledge the following for their contributions to the Yahrzeit Memorial Fund:

DONATED BY:

Paula Yourman & Family
Robert & Ellie Honig

Shirley Klionsky
The Aroyo Family

Tim & Roz O'Brien

Lawrence Zeltzer
Ronnie & Ed Mendlowitz

Elias Engber
Doris Schulsinger

Marilyn Kamenitz
Suzanne Edwards

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Shirley Litwak
Berha Ruchelman
Belle Honig
David Rankowitz
Eva Blumenthal
Lewis Woods
Alexander & Blanche Linz,
William & Dorothy O'Brien,
Lazer & Lena Koch
Maurice Zeltzer
Arthur Mendlowitz
Irving Weisgold
Eva Engber
Irving Schulsinger
Sadie Wishnick
Molly Sackaroff
Murray Rubrum

BETH OHR CEMETERY

Congregation Beth Ohr owns and operates a cemetery which is located on Ernston Road in Sayreville. The cemetery is a non-profit entity using existing funds and fund-raising as its source of operating revenues. Membership in Beth Ohr entitles our congregants to the individual plot only, all other costs such as funeral, plot opening, memorial tablet costs, etc., are borne by the family of the deceased. Please call Phyllis Greenberg in the office at 732-257-15 23 for further details



December Jahrzeits

The actual date that the Jahrzeit is observed is to the right of the name. It is customary to light a memorial candle on the eve of this date and to give tzedakah in memory of the deceased. One should recite the Mourner's Kaddish at services the evening before as well as the day of the Jahrzeit. Please call Phyllis in the Synagogue office at 732-257-1523, if you need information about the schedule of worship. The name of your departed will be read at the Friday evening and Shabbat morning services, the week before the Jahrzeit date which are represented by the dates in the columns which are in bold print.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Dec 2/3</u></p> <p>Bernard Cimring 12/3 Bernard Mann 12/3 Irma Helen Klein 12/4 Jillian Prada 12/4 Barbara Sibelman 12/4 Lillian Gerenstein 12/5 Clara Lieber 12/5 Arlene Roemer 12/5 Lydia Edwards 12/6 Stephen Gilbarg 12/6 Henry Sommers 12/6 Sadie Goldenberg 12/7 David Litwak 12/7 Bertram Shapiro 12/7 Lillian Shapiro 12/7 Sandor Ulman 12/7 Carrie Weiss 12/7 Jennie Bienenfeld 12/8 Sheldon Weinstein 12/8 Beatrice Woods 12/8</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Dec 9/10</u></p> <p>Max Reiser 12/10 Howard Boshak 12/11 Isaac Caleinar 12/11 Hesie Fusfeld 12/11 David Obsatz 12/11 Ben Rosenblum 12/11 Lillian Ullman 12/11 Judith Abramson 12/12 Samuel Finkelstein 12/12 Rebecca Barbara Singer 12/12 Harry Spinner 12/12 Sol Liebowitz 12/13 Meyer Levine 12/13 Henry Nathanson 12/13 Charles Pincus 12/13 Helene Albertson 12/14 Ralph Israel 12/14 Murray Rubrum 12/14 Lila Ash 12/15 Sylvia Cartmell 12/15 Bess Handler 12/15 Constance Litwak 12/15 Yetta Lustgarten 12/15 Frances Moskowicz 12/15 Nathan Albaum 12/16 Gussie Wasserman 12/16</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Dec 16/17</u></p> <p>Rita Aroyo 12/17 Albert Berman 12/17 Charles Winter 12/17 Howard Rice 12/18 Jules Cohen 12/19 Gerald Litwak 12/19 June Rhoda Block 12/20 Marilyn Brown 12/20 Philip Fireman 12/20 Ron Samuel 12/20 Bertha Weissman 12/20 Boris Wodakow 12/20 Jacob Birnbaum 12/21 Mary Garcia 12/21 Betty Lionheart 12/21 Bertha Ravnitzky 12/21 Joel Rockaway 12/21 Rose Podol 12/22 Beckie Ehrenworth 12/23</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Dec 23/24</u></p> <p>Morris Silver 12/24 David Abstender 12/25 Morris Erlish 12/25 Benny Praport 12/25 Leonard Apploff 12/26 Howard Gray 12/26 Bertha Ullmann 12/26 Joyce Ellen Weiss 12/26 Leibe Bernstein 12/27 Alec Goldberg 12/27 Ruth Masher 12/27 Mary Berkowitz 12/28 Ralph Betesh 12/28 Sylvia Hochheiser 12/28 Esther Ruth Nadler 12/28 Pauline Stern 12/28 Herman Waxenberg 12/28 Gertrude Bier 12/29 Sylvia Hochheiser 12/29 Murray Rosencranz 12/29 June Bienstock 12/30 Jules Burns 12/30 Sam Morris 12/30 Sidney Segal 12/30 Sylvia Shulman 12/30 Milton Shumer 12/30</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Dec 30/31</u></p> <p>Nathan Ehrenworth 12/31 Charles Friedman 12/31 Haim Grayewsky 12/31 Donald Lipp 12/31 George Weiss 12/31 Betty Appel 1.1 Fred Kanig 1/1 Ralph Wishnia 1/1 Thelma Baron 1/2 Eva Blumenthal 1/2 Paul Epstein 1/2 Emil Goldstein 1/2 Rosalie Albaum 1/3 Tenney Egers 1/3 Paul Kalefsky 1/3 Libby Krutoy 1/3 Aaron Persky 1/3 Irving Gordon 1/4 Leon Ayre Odzer 1/4 Philip Wolpert 1/4 Alfred Feld 1/5 Louis Moss 1/5 Naomi Strassberg 1/5 Katie Waldman 1/5 Hyman Wexlin 1/5 William Zarfes 1/4 Ray Cimring 1/6 Sam Heimlich 1/6 Benjamin Noah 1/6 Sally Posner 1/6</p>
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CONGREGATION BETH OHR MEMORIAL FUNDS

The following is a listing of the Memorial Funds that you may make tax-deductible contributions to:

- David Benish Memorial Fund*
- Stephen Edwards Memorial Youth Fund*
- Elaine Leibowitz Memorial Fund*
- Beautification Fund*
- Herman & Frieda Lipp Memorial Fund*
- Mindy Nightingale Memorial Fund*
- Stuart Polovsky Memorial Fund*
- Herb Reinstein Memorial Fund*
- Heidi Rogol Memorial Fund*

***When donating to these funds, please make your checks out to **CONGREGATION BETH OHR** and write in the fund in the memo portion of the check.

LARGE PRINT SIDDURIM

The synagogue owns four large print Siddurim. If anyone needs one at services, please see Ira Donenfeld, Phil Rabinowitz or Larry Fachler.



ANNUAL CLOTHING DRIVE

**PLEASE BRING IN YOUR UNWANTED
COATS, HATS, AND GLOVES
AND DROP THEM OFF IN THE BIN
THAT WILL BE SET UP IN THE LOBBY.**

**YOUR DONATIONS
WILL KEEP FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN WARM
THROUGHOUT THE WINTER MONTHS.**

**IF YOU HAVE CLOTHING TO BE PICKED UP,
PLEASE CALL IRA DONENFELD
[\(732-679-2652\)](tel:732-679-2652).**

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR KIND
DONATIONS**

P.O. Box 206
Old Bridge, New Jersey 08857

For your convenience, we have included this **Yahrzeit Memorial Plaque Form**. If you would like to order a plaque, please fill out and return this form with a check in the amount of \$300 to the Synagogue office. If you have any questions about Hebrew names and/or dates, please call Phyllis at the office at 732-257-1523.

(Print Name in Hebrew Here)

(Print Name in English Here)

(Date in English)

(Date in Hebrew)

PLEDGE

I hereby authorize you to supply and maintain permanently on your Memorial Tablet, a name plate *in memory of*

NAME IN FULL _____

for which I agree to pay \$300.00. It is mutually agreed that each year, on the Yahrzeit of the departed, and, on other appropriate occasions in accordance with Jewish Custom a Memorial Prayer will also be said.

Signed by

Date _____

Tree of Life
to honor or memorialize a loved one
Leaf - \$118.00

News from the Beth Ohr Family

- Roberta Karpel and Lisa Mason thank the following people for their help with the Sisterhood Paid-up:
Committee Members Edna Yourman, Paula Yourman and Ann Branfman.
In addition, Barbara Schneider, Cheryl Cadel and Marilyn Karlstein who volunteered to help with setting up and/or cleaning up the day of the event.
- Harvey Cohen would like to thank David Honig, Herb Goldenberg, Phil Rabinowitz and Chuck Rogol for “deconstructing” and safely storing the Sukkah roof covering and fabric walls of our new Sukkah. “Next year in . . . the Beth Ohr Sukkah”, G_d willing.
- The Rogol family would like to thank all those who put in much effort to plan and run a successful Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat. We also encourage those who came to look forward to next year's program.
- Thank you to the Rogol family for co-sponsoring the Scholar in Residence weekend along with our synagogue.
- We sincerely thank the following members and friends for purchasing the new Etz Chaim Chumash:

Philip and Harriet Rabinowitz	In Memory of Rae Schoor
Alexa Hope Rogol	In Memory of Heidi Rogol
Paula Yourman and Family	In Memory of Ronald Shapiro and Marc Shapiro
- We also thank the following members and friends for donating to the Sisterhood in September and October:

Elizabeth Aroyo
Lee Hyman
- Barbara and Melvin Feder want to thank everyone for their well wishes on the occasion of Lauren and Hosea's engagement.
- Monica & Mark Atzbi announce the marriage of their son Michael to Erin Murphy on 11/5.
- Amy & Anthony Petosa announce the Bar Mitzvah of their son Ryan on 12/3.
- Lisa Mason wants to wish Mazel Tov to Emily Mason on her college graduation.
- Thank you to Sisterhood and Men's Club for their generous donation to the Succah Fund.
- Thank you to Ann Branfman, Ashna Pincus and Edna Yourman for helping in the office.



PROGRAM NOTES

I would like to start off by thanking the committee who helped prepare for Rabbi Jaffe's visit. These include Roberta Fachler, Ashna Pincus, Linda Benish, and Paula Yourman. I also want to give a big thank you to Marty Israel who planned the menus and did all the food shopping. Finally, as many of you know, my husband took ill just before the event and, without the leadership and help of Edna Yourman, the Shabbat dinner and Saturday Kiddush could not have been the delightful success that I heard it was.

The joint meeting of Men's Club and Sisterhood will be held December 4th. Our Israeli travelers will be telling us about their trip and showing pictures of the wonderful things they saw. Also in December, the Grandparents Circle will have a Chanukah party on Sunday, December 11th at Congregation Beth Mordecai in Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

Looking at the future, the Torathon will be held April 30, 2017. Linda Benish is starting to work on this and needs help so please volunteer to help us make this year's program even better than last year's. In addition, in order to keep our Shul going, we need to hold a fundraiser in the Spring. As Phil mentioned during his Yom Kippur speech we had a very successful fundraiser last year and ended the year ONLY \$2 thousand short of expenses. We need another successful fundraiser this year to keep our Shul going. To be successful, it takes a committee, so please call me and volunteer so we can get started planning a great program.

Roberta Karpel

Chanukah Candle Blessings

First blessing:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֲדֹנָי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר חֲנֻכָּה

Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech ha-olam a-sher ki-de-sha-nu be-mitz-vo-tav ve-tzi-va-nu le-had-lik ner Cha-nu-kah.

Blessed are You, Lord our G^od, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah light.

Second blessing:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֲדֹנָי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזְמַן הַזֶּה

Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech Ha-olam she-a-sa ni-sim la-avo-te-nu ba-ya-mim ha-hem bi-zman ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Lord our G^od, King of the universe, who performed miracles for our forefathers in those days, at this time.

Third blessing, recited only on the first night (or the first time lighting this Chanukah):

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֲדֹנָי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם שֶׁהֵחֵינּוּ וְקִיָּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזְמַן הַזֶּה

Ba-ruch A-tah Ado-nai E-lo-he-nu Me-lech Ha-olam she-heche-ya-nu ve-ki-yi-ma-nu ve-higi-a-nu liz-man ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Lord our G^od, King of the universe, who has granted us life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this occasion.

Adult Education Highlights

Adult Education classes continue to flourish at Beth Ohr and we invite you to choose as many classes as you would like to attend.

Rabbi Mishkin's classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings. His morning and evening class schedule can be found in our monthly newsletters, in e-mails, in our weekly Shabbat booklets that are available in the synagogue sanctuary, and on the Sisterhood calendar.

His every-other-Tuesday evening classes of **Practices and Customs 2.0** continue as the class learns about the theology and philosophy of the various movements in Judaism while studying prayer books from each denomination. On alternate weeks, Rabbi Mishkin leads his study of Talmud, "**Swim in the Sea of the Talmud.**" This class is also offered on Thursday mornings at 9:30. The Rabbi's book discussion class, reviewing the book Not in G-d's Name, continues every other Tuesday morning.

The **Conversational Spanish class** is led by Terrie Polovsky, who assures me that anyone can join at any time. The class is held every Wednesday morning at 11:00 a.m.

The **Hebrew Reading class** will also continue. If you read Hebrew but would like to become more fluent, or if you would like to come practice reading while we discuss some of the prayers, come to our class on Thursday mornings at 11AM.

Beginning Hebrew Crash Course – Are you interested in learning Hebrew reading from the very beginning? If so, I would be glad to start another crash course on Thursday mornings at 10. Please contact me if you can't read at all, or once knew and forgot how. Then you could even stay for the practice and discussion group, if you like.

OR, how about learning to sing a Haftarah? We can start a class on Thursdays where you learn the blessings, and the trope, (musical notes) and then learn to sing a Haftarah at a Shabbat service.

(Continued on page 13)

Adult Education Highlights (continued from page 12)

WRITE DOWN THESE DATES!:

DECEMBER 4 after morning services – Go on a **Virtual Israel Experience** by sharing a Sunday Brunch with the group that traveled to Israel last May. Hear about their adventures, see pictures of the amazing sites they visited, and maybe you, too, will be inspired to visit Eretz Yisrael.

APRIL 30 – TORATHON! – We listened to your suggestions and moved it to **AFTER** Passover so all our snowbirds will be home again, and the program will run for four hours so everyone has the opportunity to attend more classes. More to come.

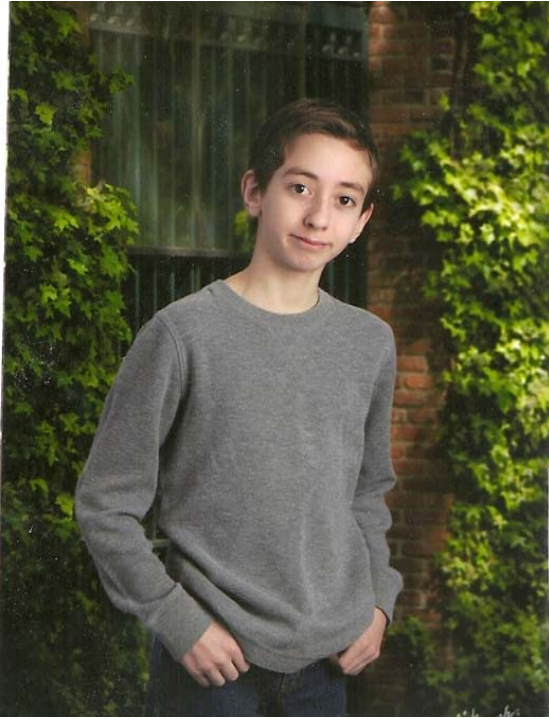
Thank you to all who worked on the Global Day of Jewish Learning. To the people who shopped and set up coffee and cake, to the East Brunswick Library for providing the space and helping hands to set up the room, to the Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey for their generous grant, and to the four wonderful Rabbis who made the event interesting, educational, and totally enjoyable for the more than 100 people who attended, thank you for making this such a special day. A special thank you to Roberta Karpel and Rabbi Mishkin for putting it all together.

Linda Benish



Mazel Tov Ryan Petosa

Bar Mitzvah December 3, 2016



My name is Ryan Petosa. I go to school at Manalapan-Englishtown Regional School, MEMS for short. I am in grade 8 and going into high school next year. My favorite subject is science and I like to study the periodic table. My two favorite sports are soccer and track. I am the youngest of 4 children. My older siblings' names are Matt, Nicole, and Jackie. My brother Matt just graduated college, my sister Nicole is in college, and my other sister Jackie is in high school. I am excited about becoming a bar mitzvah and very

grateful to the Rabbi and Phil Rabinowitz for helping me study.

Joint Sisterhood / Men's Club Program Sunday December 4

**Following the Minyan and bagels+ breakfast.
Program will start at 10:15. Minyan starts at 9:00.**

Take a **Virtual Israel Experience** with the group that traveled to Israel last May. Hear about their adventures, see pictures of the amazing sites they visited, and maybe you, too, will be inspired to visit Eretz Yisrael.

No charge and no RSVP.



MEN'S CLUB *Minyan Every Sunday. Come and also enjoy a bagel and the camaraderie.*



Top Row: **Ken Deitz** sits comfortably at a Sunday Minyan wearing one of his over one hundred Tee Shirts. Next is **Allen Skupp** with a Giants tee Shirt. At the end are three Minyan regulars that just had their last breakfast before leaving for Florida for the Winter—we will see **Margie and Stu Simon and Herb Goldenberg** the end of April. On the next row is **Bernie Selden** at his last Minyan before he leaves for Florida. He told us how he has walked twice around the Earth during the last 35 years—he is a great walker and that is a good reason he is fit and trim. His mind is pretty sharp too and we will miss his jokes. **Sunday morning is a good time to be at Beth Ohr. Shul, Schmooze and Schmeat!**

Men's Club Program of Events (partial listing)

- Dec 4—Sisterhood/Men's Club Joint program: Members on Israel trip will show photos and talk about it
- Dec 11—Annual Syd Lustgarten Mensch Award will be presented
- Dec 18 – Gift Book Sunday—Everyone attending the Minyan will receive a free book
- Jan 15, 2017—Daytimers / Men's Club joint program
- Feb 5 - FJMC World Wide Wrap
- Mar 5 - Sisterhood / Men's Club Joint program
- Mar 19 – Ed Mendlowitz 37th Annual Financial Program
- May 18 - Men's Club BBQ and Election—Thursday
- Jun 11 - Men's Club Installation following Minyan

Come 3 extra times in next year and join in the fun!

Save a Life. Improve a Life. Arrange to become an Organ Donor!

Ed Mendlowitz, Men's Club President, emcpa1@aol.com tel 732 890-3344

If you don't usually attend, try coming once in a while and see what we have to offer. It ain't what you think it is!

PHOTO GALLERY 1



Top 2 rows are photos from the Global Day of Jewish Learning hosted by Beth Ohr in partnership with the Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey held at East Brunswick Public Library.

Shown are Rabbi Joshua Finkelstein of EB Jewish Center, Rabbi Joel Mishkin of Beth Ohr, Rabbi Eric Eisenkramer of Bnai Shalom and Rabbi Efrayim Unterman of Young Israel. Next is Rabbi Mishkin addressing the audience. Then a photo of some of the 125+ attendees and sign in front of Beth Ohr announcing this program and three others.

3rd row : Ronnie and Ed Mendlowitz in Colosseum in Rome and Ronnie in Venice on their great Italy vacation in October.

PHOTO GALLERY 2



Top row: **Roberta and Eugene Bernstein** and their family. **Monica and Mark Atzbi** ran into **Marilyn and Steve Silverberg** and recorded it with a photo for the newsletter. They all look great!

2nd row: A 15+ year ago photo of **Linda and Allen Skupp**, **Arlene and Mitch Lustgarten**, **Harriet and Phil Rabinowitz** & **Ronnie and Ed Mendlowitz**. Next is a bunch of Men's Club guys in Atlantic City—**Andy Mendlowitz**, **Bob Zussman**, **Bob Weiss**, **Ken Kaufman**, **Dan Grynberg** and **Ed Mendlowitz**.

3rd Row: Ken Deitz and the Nittany Lion. Helene Grynberg being honored by Hadassah at the Southern NJ Region Myrtle Wreath luncheon . She was honored for here programming and fundraising work as outstanding life member from her chapter. Shown are Helene and, in back row, Dan and children Amy Hope and Michael.

Sisterhood Presidium President

Sisterhood has been busy as always. Our Paid-Up on December 2nd was wonderful thanks to our chairpersons Roberta Karpel and Lisa Mason and all of their committee members. I also want to congratulate our Torah Fund Benefactor this year, the very deserving Maxine Kaufman.

Our next upcoming general membership meeting is on December 7th and we will have our annual Chanukah Penny Auction where everyone is asked to bring a wrapped new item valued between \$5.00 and \$10.00. It is always a lot of fun when you open the gift you won in a bidding war to see what you got. Please try to join us that evening.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving holiday.

Liz Aroyo

Presidium Member

Sisterhood

SISTERHOOD OF CONGREGATION BETH OHR
ANNUAL DUES STATEMENT
2015 - 2016



TEMPLE MEMBERS \$30

NON-TEMPLE MEMBERS \$39

DONOR CREDIT OF \$5 WILL BE AWARDED TO MEMBERS WHO PAY THEIR DUES ON OR BEFORE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2015.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT REJOINED SISTERHOOD BY DECEMBER 31, 2015 FORFEIT ALL PREVIOUSLY ACCUMULATED DONOR CREDIT.

PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK TO:

MARJORIE SIMON
22 TUSCARORA CIRCLE
OLD BRIDGE, NEW JER- SEY 08857

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS AND YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. WE WOULD LIKE TO UPDATE OUR SISTERHOOD LIST. IF YOU HAVE A WINTER ADDRESS, PLEASE INCLUDE THAT AS WELL.

SAVE THE DATE

TORAH FUND BENEFACTOR'S LUNCHEON

Sunday, April 23, 2017 12:30 p.m.

Honoring: MAXINE KAUFMAN



Date: 11/13/16

		Carry					Carry		
Name		Amount	Over		Name	Amount	Over		
Appel	Wilma	\$48.00			Finkelstein	Meryl	\$ 58.00	0.5	
Aroyo	Elizabeth	\$ 381.75	7.0		Fox	Helene	\$ 14.00		
Atzbi	Monica	\$ 412.00	39.5						
					Garfinkel	Linda	\$ 105.50	5.0	
Benish	Linda	\$ 77.50	5.0		Gasior	Ellen			
Bernstein	Roberta	\$ 59.00	6.0		Gilbarg	Marilyn	\$ 13.00		
Birnbaum	Eileen	\$ 37.50			Golden	Elizabeth	\$ 185.25	7.0	
Boshak	Rochelle				Goldenberg	Susan	\$ 20.00	1.0	
Branfman	Ann	\$ 132.50	1.0		Greenstein	Barbara	\$ 14.00		
					Grynberg	Helene	\$ 120.00	8.5	
Cadel	Cheryl	\$ 28.00			Gurman	Ruth	\$ 15.00	3.5	
Cannata	Susan								
Clark	Lisa				Hillman	Pearl		4.5	
Cohen	Harriet	\$ 72.00			Honig	Alice			
					Honig	Eloise	\$ 28.00		
DeRosa	Rebecca				Hyman	Lee	\$ 216.00	0.5	
Donenfeld	Lee	\$ 34.00	1.0						
					Kagan	Sylvia	\$ 66.00		
Edwards	Sue	\$ 45.00			Kamenitz	Marilyn	\$ 49.00		
					Karlstein	Marilyn	\$ 808.00		
Fachler	Roberta	\$ 137.00	0.5		Karpel	Roberta	\$ 112.50	2.0	
Falkowitz	Marion	\$ 25.25			Kaufman	Maxine	\$ 90.00	11.0	
Feder	Barbara	\$114.75			Klein	Caroline	\$ 20.00		
Feld	Harriet	\$ 62.50	0.5		Krieger	Karen			
Feurier	Darlene								

[L-Z Liz Aroyo](#)

11/10/201

Date: 6

			Carry	
Name		Amount	Over	
Laddin	Anne			
Lazarowitz	Andrea	\$60.00	7.0	
Levenstein	Glenda	\$55.00		
Levine	Helen	\$1.25		
Mason	Lisa	\$63.00		
Mendlowitz	Ronnie	\$142.00	11.0	
Nadler	Elinor	\$15.00		
Perlman	Ryselle	\$31.00		
Pincus	Ashna	\$115.00	2.5	
Polovsky	Terrie	\$126.75	4.0	
Prussack	Zellie	\$45.00	1.5	
Rabinowitz	Harriet	\$194.00	18.5	
Reinstein	Sheila	\$20.00		
Risman	Ruth	\$46.00	1.0	
Rogol	Lysa	\$65.50		
Rosenzweig	Ronnie	\$11.00		
Gray	Ilene	\$105.25	4.5	
			43.0	

			Carry	
Name		Amount	Over	
Schlissel	Lenore		1.0	
Schlussfeld	Mindy			
Schneider	Barbara	\$140.00	6.0	
Schottlander	Hilde	\$109.60	12.0	
Shafran	Dorothy	\$144.00	6.5	
Seltzer	Karen			
Seidner	Lois			
Silberstein	Joyce	\$33.00	5.5	
Silver	Arlene	\$68.50		
Silverman	Sharen	\$189.50	8.5	
Simon	Mala	\$87.50	2.5	
Simon	Marjorie	\$137.75		
Skupp	Linda	\$221.25	11.5	
Sommers	Arlene			
Spiegel	Estee	\$89.00	0.5	
Trechak	Marcia	\$248.00	6.5	
Ward	Phyllis			
Weiss	Harriet	\$124.00	1.5	
Yourman	Edna	\$46.50		
Yourman	Paula	\$152.00	0.5	
Zeidner	Lois			
Zussman	Virginia	\$31.00		

MAH JONGG CARDS



**Please send your checks made payable to:
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Please include your name, address,
& size of cards you want**

Small cards \$8.00

Large cards \$9.00

Deadline for orders is January 17, 2017

**Please send checks to
Maxine Kaufman
118 Willet Way
West Deptford, New Jersey 08086**

Any questions, please call Maxine at [\(856\) 848-3113](tel:856-848-3113)

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908-415-8367 Cell

deitzfreeholdcpa@gmail.com



Announcements

The deadline for the next newsletter will be

Noon, Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Please send all of your thank you, articles
and announcements via e-mail to:

congregationbethohr@gmail.com

or call

Phyllis in the Synagogue office at 732-257-1523

“Ritually Speaking”

If you are interested in sponsoring a Kiddush to celebrate a simcha, commemorate the Yahrzeit of a loved one, or “just because”, contact Phyllis in the office at 732-257-1523.

Sisterhood is selling

Kohl’s Cares for Kids Gift Cards. You may purchase these cards as gifts or to pay your bill in the store so you can continue to use your charge card and get your discounts.

For more information and to purchase cards, please call Monica Atzbi at 732-390-5890. When ordering Kohl’s please use a separate check—not to be combined with scrip checks.

Rabbi Mishkin’s Contact Numbers

If you need to reach Rabbi Mishkin, please use any of the following phone numbers:

Office Phone # 732-257-7031

Home phone #732-967-6710 after hours for emergencies

e-mail address: rabbijoelmishkin@gmail.com

+

Rabbi Mishkin will be available for counseling by appointment.



Congregation Beth Ohr
P.O. Box 206
Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times For December



Dec 2	4:13
Dec 9	4:13
Dec 16	4:14
Dec 23	4:17
Dec 30	4:22