

BETH OHR NEWSLETTER

Vol. 61 Issue 1

January 2017

Tevet/Shevat 5777

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New Year's Eve Around the World

While the Times Square ball drop on New Year's Eve is undeniably iconic, more parties and different traditions take place in other time zones. Here's a look at how countries around the world will mark the start of 2017:

1. **Israel** New Years Eve in Israel is not a national holiday because the country celebrates the Jewish new year, Rosh Hashana which falls in September/October time. The spread of Western culture into Israel has brought with it the celebration of New Years so depending on where you are in the country determines on how much is going on. This spread has not been warmly received by everyone, which accounts for why, in Jerusalem, for instance, there is little celebration, but, if you know where to look, there are some great events.
2. **Brazil** If you want to ward off evil spirits, wear all-white clothes on New Year's Eve. Other Brazilian traditions include jumping over seven ocean waves (one for each day of the week) and throwing flowers into the sea.: Eating a spoonful of lentils at midnight and putting money at the bottom of your shoe is supposed to bring you prosperity for the next 12 months. But if you're more daring, you can spend the night at a graveyard and ring in the new year with your deceased loved ones.
3. **China** China did invent fireworks, so did you really expect the Chinese to go without a dazzling pyrotechnic display? It's also customary to dress in red and to give children allowance money in red envelopes. But like many other Asian countries, the Chinese celebrate the lunar year as well — so double the fun.
4. **Cuba** If you've been bitten by the travel bug, Cubans recommend that you circle your house with a suitcase when the clock strikes at midnight — it's meant to bring you traveling opportunities in the new year. For general good luck, try sweeping the house or throwing water out the window.
5. **Denmark** How do Danes show love for their friends and neighbors? By smashing plates and glasses against their houses. For extra good luck, it's customary to stand on top of a chair and leap off at midnight.

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

Sun Jan 1	Sunday Morning Service Followed by Men's Club Breakfast	9:00AM
Tues Jan 3	Rabbi's Jewish Practices and Customs Class	7:30PM
Wed Jan 4	Spanish Class	11:00AM
	Sisterhood Membership Meeting	7:30PM
Thurs Jan 5	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
Fri Jan 6	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat Jan 7	Sisterhood Shabbat Morning Service	9:30AM
Sun Jan 8	Sunday Morning (Fast Day)	9:00AM
Tues Jan 10	Rabbi's Book Discussion Class	11:00AM
	Talmud Class	7:30PM
Wed Jan 11	Spanish Class	11:00AM
Thurs Jan 12	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
Fri Jan 13	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat Jan 14	Shabbat Morning Services	9:30AM
Sun Jan 15	Sunday Morning Service followed by Men's Club Breakfast and Inauguration Day program	9:00AM 10:15AM
Tues Jan 17	Rabbi's Jewish Practices and Customs Class	7:30PM
Wed Jan 18	Spanish Class	11:00AM
	Sisterhood Board Meeting	7:30PM
Thur Jan 19	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
Fri Jan. 20	Friday Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat Jan 21	Shabbat Morning Service	9:30AM
Sun Jan. 22	Sunday Morning Service followed by Men's Club & Daytimers Breakfast	9:00AM 10:15AM
Tues Jan 24	Rabbi's Book Discussion	11:00AM
	Talmud Class	7:30PM
Wed Jan 25	Spanish Class	11:00AM
Thurs Jan 26	Talmud Class	9:30AM
	Hebrew Class	11:00AM
	Temple Executive Board	7:00PM
	Temple Board	8:00PM
Fri Jan 27	Fri Evening Service	7:30PM
Sat Jan 28	Sat Morning Service	9:30AM
Sun Jan 29	Sun Morning Service Followed by Men's Club Breakfast	9:00AM
Tues Jan 31	Rabbi's Jewish Practices and Customs Class	7:30PM

Rabbi's Message
"A Very Personal Request"



Here is a thought that I wanted to share with our congregation taken from the preface of the prayer book by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks:

“In the morning service for Shabbat and weekdays, the Amidah, (the standing prayer) is said in two different ways. First it is said silently by the members of the congregation praying as individuals. Next it is repeated publicly out loud by the Leader. The reason for these two prayer formats has to do with the reenactment of the two modes of spirituality from which prayer derives. The silent Amidah recalls the intensely personal prayers of the patriarchs and the prophets. The public Repetition represents the daily sacrifices offered by the priests in the Temple on behalf of all the Israelites. Thus the prayers weave priestly and prophetic, individual and collective voices into a sonata of great depth and resonance.”

Rabbi Sacks emphasizes that the notion of Jewish spirituality is a longstanding tradition based upon a combination of spontaneity and structure. It is also based upon a combination of the public and the private, the collective and the individual. This is why the concept of the Minyan (an assembly of ten Jewish adults) remains such a vital component of traditional Judaism.

The next three months always present a challenge for our congregation. While it is rare that we not have a Minyan for services, it is imperative that we maintain this quorum each weekend, Friday evening, Shabbat morning and Sunday morning. We remain a vibrant congregation but our vibrancy can be hampered if we can't fulfill the requirement for our members to say Kaddish.

While individual prayer is always an option, only communal prayer fulfills the objectives for those in mourning or wishing to remember a loved one's Yahrzeit. Therefore I make the following personal request. Even if you do not consider yourself a “shulgoer,” make a special effort to attend at least two additional services during the next three months to make certain we always have a minyan. Do something for somebody else. I promise you that it will make you feel more committed and dedicated as a Jew and a member of our synagogue family.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Joel S Mishkin

Presidents Message



On Saturday December 17 we all woke up to find a slushy snow outside our houses. Thank you to the 11 members who travelled out in the bad weather to help Greg Perlman celebrate the 12 year anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah. Jeff Perlman and his son Greg set a great example for us as they each chant their Bar Mitzvah Haftorahs on successive weeks in December, and the Perlman family sponsors Kiddush both weeks.

I want to recognize two of our congregants who were recently honored for their volunteer work. Chuck Rogol received the Syd Lustgarten Mensch Award at the Men's Club brunch on Sunday December 18. Chuck serves many roles at our Synagogue including Ritual chairman, Gabbi, service leader, High Holiday Shofar blower, and he helps prepare Men's Club breakfasts. He has been synagogue President at Anshe Emeth in South River and at Beth Ohr in Old Bridge. We thank the Schact Foundation for perpetuating the Syd Lustgarten Mensch Award, and appreciate the words of wisdom spoken by Mitch Lustgarten about his father's devotion to Congregation Beth Ohr.

Mazel Tov to Helene Grynberg, who was recognized for her programming and fund raising efforts for Hadassah at their Southern New Jersey Region Myrtle Wreath luncheon.

Rabbi Mishkin participated in the Holiday Tree and Menorah Lighting at the Old Bridge Civic Center on Monday December 5. We must do a better job of publicizing this event to our congregants as only a handful of members attended.

Our education programs continue in December and January which include the Rabbi's Book Discussion Group, his Jewish Customs and Practices, and his Talmud classes. Hebrew class led by Linda Benish, and Spanish class taught by Terri Polovsky are also scheduled. The schedule is in the newsletter and can be found on the Beth Ohr website on Facebook.

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 a life cycle event at our Synagogue, we do rent space out to non-members.

We had a very high percentage of membership that donated to my Yiskor appeal on Yom Kippur. Todah Rabah!!

Harriet and I along with our children and grandson wish you all a Happy New Year.

Shalom

Continued from page 1)

6. **Ecuador** Well, this is certainly a way to begin the new year on a cathartic note: Ecuadorians enjoy burning effigies of politicians (and other people they don't like) at midnight. It's meant to get rid of the negative energy of the past year. (Variations of this take place in Panama, Paraguay, and Colombia.) If political demonstrations aren't your thing, you can also hide money around the house to bring you prosperity in the new year. Finders, keepers, I guess?
7. **Germany** Tea leaves are for posers. If you really want to know how your future looks in the new year, you can go the German (and Austrian) way – melt some lead in a spoon, throw it in cold water, and interpret the shape. But a truly bizarre tradition is the Germans' fascination with an obscure British TV sketch called "Dinner for One." Though the program is virtually unknown in England, the 18-minute, black-and-white show is a favorite of the Germans on New Year's Eve, and has won a Guinness world record for most repeated TV show of all time.
8. **Greece** In Greece, new year's carols are common, and children often sing them to receive money from family and neighbors. When the countdown begins, families turn off the lights so that they can start the new year with fresh eyes. Another important tradition is eating Vasilópita, a cake with a coin or another small object hidden inside. Whoever receives the slice with the coin gets good luck for the next year.
9. **Japan** For Buddhists, the zodiac calendar is important. Many people celebrate that year's animal (2014 is the year of the horse) and visit temples, where the bells chime 108 times. It's also important to clean the house and to resolve conflicts from the past year, so that you can start the new year with a clean slate.
10. **The Netherlands** Every year, the Dutch participate in carbide shooting, which is a fancy term for blowing up milk cans. (It's dangerous and prohibited in many cities, but that hasn't stopped many adventurous teenagers from partaking in this tradition.) For those who are less inclined to amateur explosive devices, the New Year's Dive is an opportunity for thousands of swimmers to half-nakedly brave the freezing waters of the North Sea.
11. **The Philippines** A fashion statement is always a good way to start the new year on the right note. Filipinos enjoy wearing polka dots on New Year's Eve, while carrying coins in their pockets. Round objects signify prosperity, so many families eat and display round fruits such as oranges and grapefruits.
12. **Russia** How far are you willing to go to make a wish come true? Would you write down your wish on a piece of paper, burn it, put the ashes in a glass of champagne, and drink it down? If not, you're clearly not as hardcore as the Russians. Other traditions include a New Year's tree, and a Santa-like figure named Ded Moroz (Grandfather Frost), who distributes gifts to children with his granddaughter, Snegurochka (Snow Maiden).
13. **Scotland** Some people just want to get wasted on New Year's Eve — the Scots want to bring presents to their friends and neighbors. If you are "the first foot" to enter a person's house, you have to come bearing gifts, which are usually small tokens, such as bread and whiskey. Bonfires and large fireballs are also common traditions. Of course, we also have to thank the Scots for that great New Year's Eve staple, "Auld Lang Syne." Poet Robert Burns' song is played around the world on this day, even in non-Anglophone countries.
14. **South Africa:** Watch out, pedestrians! In Johannesburg, it's common to throw old furniture and appliances, like TVs and radios, out the window
15. **Spain** In Spain — and in many other Spanish-speaking countries — it's common to eat 12 grapes at midnight, to bring good luck for each month of the new year. Sounds easy, right? Except you have to eat one grape each time the bell tolls.

News from the Beth Ohr Family

Welcome

- We would like to give a warm welcome to our newest members, Lawrence and Deborah Weintraub.

Thank You

- Thank you to Jeff and Rysie Perlman for sponsoring the Kiddush in honor of the Bar Mitzvah Anniversary of Jeff on December 10th and Greg on December 17th and Mazel tov to both of them for chanting their Haftorahs on the respective dates.

- Thank you to the Sisterhood members who came early to help set-up the Israeli breakfast for the Israel Trip Picture Program on Sunday, December 4th. And, “thank you, thank you very much” as Elvis would say: to Marion Falkowitz for her expertise and help, especially for her perseverance with clean-up following the breakfast; to Ed Mendlowitz for bringing his computer and projector, which made showing the pictures possible; and to Lana Cohen for her help with everything for the breakfast. “Next year in Jerusalem”. A special thank you to all those who presented their pictures and thoughts about their trip to Israel. Yasher Koach to Harvey Cohen for orchestrating the event.

- Phyllis Greenberg thanks the congregation for all their concern, cards and good well wishes to her husband, Harry Greenberg, who had heart surgery on November 29th and then to a rehab facility for almost three weeks. He’s home now and gaining his strength back every day. Phyllis also wants to thank Ira Donenfeld, Ann Branfman, Edna Yourman, Ashna Pincus, Meryl Finkelstein for covering in the office while away. In addition she also wants to thank the Daytimers for their Chanukah gift card to Macy’s as well as the Chanukah gift card to Macy’s from the Board of Trustees. She cannot wait to go shopping.

- Thank you to Sara Ullman for her donation made to the synagogue for an Aliyah.

- Susan Cannata thanks Rabbi Mishkin for his help and understanding during such a difficult time. She also wants to thank all those that sent their condolences. She wants to especially thank Terri Polovsky saying that “it meant a lot to see her”.

Condolences:

- Our sincerest condolences to Susan Cannata and family on the loss of Ted Cannata.



ADULT ED NEWS

Are You Interested.....

In an Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class?

Did you never have the opportunity to study to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah? Would you like to learn some of what you missed growing up without a chance to attend Hebrew School? Would you like to go back to study in depth some of those things you didn't pay attention to in Hebrew School? Rabbi Mishkin would be glad to start a class if you are considering the idea of becoming a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, studying some basic Judaism, and taking part in a Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony

In a Basic Hebrew Class?

Would you like to take a "crash" course so you will read Hebrew in **6 weeks!!!!** If so, I would be glad to start another crash course on Thursday mornings at 10 or 12. Please contact me if you can't read at all, or once knew and forgot how. No tests, no homework (well, maybe a little practicing) and lots of fun. Then you could even join us for the reading and discussion group at 11 a.m., if you like. We discuss all kinds of things: the meanings of the prayers we read, the traditions that we sometimes don't understand, and why we do what we do at services.

In learning how to chant a Haftarah? Or how to chant a Torah portion?

You can learn the "trope" (the musical notes) for either a Haftarah or a Torah portion. Once you learn the notes, you can read any Haftarah or chant any Torah portion. A "good" voice is not a requirement,

For any of these, contact Linda Benish at 609-426-8727
Or Phyllis in the office at 732-257-1523



Adult Education

Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

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

DONATED BY:

Nelson S. Silver

Ann Branfman

Ruth, David & Brian Risman

Susan Cannata

Bernie and Ashna Pincus

Linda, Ira, Rachel and Emily Shapiro

Joseph and Caroline Klein

Marilyn Gilbarg

Finkelstein Family

Clifford Shulman

Sid and Eileen Birnbaum

Marty Israel

Barbara & Melvin Feder

Paula Yourman & Family

Finkelstein Family

Steven & Sara Ullman

Hilde Schottlander

Saul & Elinor Nadler

The Aroyo Family (to Heidi Rogol Memorial Fund)

Linda Garfinkel

Sy Golden family

Terrie Polovsky (to Stuart Polovsky Fund)

Clifford Shulman

Sheila Reinstein

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Morris Silver

Lillian Kossler

Tessie Davis - beloved mother
and grandmother

Ruth Masher

Charles Pincus

Bertram Shapiro

Irma N. Klein

Stephen Gilbarg

Our dear uncle Haim Grayewsky

Leonard Finkelstein and Joseph Gray

Sylvia Shulman

David Obsatz

Ida Birnbaum

Ralph Israel

Albert Berman—Beloved father &
Grandfather

David Litwak

Connie Litwak

Gerald Litwak

Henry Nathanson

Lillian Ullman

Isaac Caleinar

Esther Ruth Nadler

Beatrice Woods and Rita Aroyo

Barry Fass

Erich Hollander and Milly Golden

Morris Erlich

Jacob Shulman

Benny and Lillie Winter

BETH OHR CEMETERY

Congregation Beth Ohr owns and operates a cemetery which is located on Ernton Road in Sayreville. The cemetery is a non-profit entity using existing funds and fundraising 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.



January Yahrzeits

The actual date that the Yahrzeit 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 January. One should recite the Mourner's Kaddish at services the evening before as well as the day of the Yahrzeit. 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 Yahrzeit date which are represented by the dates in the columns which are in bold print.

<u>Jan 6/7</u>		<u>Jan 20/21</u>	
Peggy Clark	1/7	Solomon Kaminsky	1/21
Joseph Fusfeld	1/7	Lillian Persky	1/21
Arthur Meyers	1/7	Martha Prussack	1/21
Yetta Silverstein	1/7	Phyllis Nightingale	1/22
Charles Albertson	1/8	Samuel Glazier	1/23
Otto Elkan	1/8	Mary Karmin	1/23
Isadore Feinman	1/8	Rose Rothstein	1/24
Leo Greenstein	1/8	Bessie Davis	1/26
Miriam Lieberman		Jonathan Frank	1/26
1/8		Mollie Schneider	1/26
Dora Geller	1/9	Isidore Sibelmen	1/26
Milly Golden	1/9	Meyer Fusfeld	1/27
Fannie Sass	1/9	Joseph Gray	1/27
Anna Wishnia	1/9	Leonard Pulchin	1/27
Samuel Branner	1/10	Irving Steuer	1/27
Gussie Goldberg	1/10	Gerald Wasserman	1/27
Mindy Nightingale	1/10		
Abraham Block	1/11	<u>Jan 27/28</u>	
Sharon Gallo	1/11	Benjamin Feldheim	1/28
Esther Moss	1/11	Irwin Kaminsky	1/28
Lillian Sofan	1/11	Ignatie Kardos	1/28
Tessie Davis	1/12	Bronia Shindelman	1/28
Eleanor Schneider	1/12	Iris Sweig	1/28
Miriam Waxenberg	1/12	George Dragunoff	1/29
Sidney Bienenfeld	1/13	Bahckmal Kikorov	1/29
Paul Kaminsky	1/13	Sylvia Rauch	1/29
Rose Rosenblum	1/13	George Skupp	1/29
		Bette Kushner	1/30
<u>Jan 13/14</u>		Aaron Narol	1/30
Morty Gallin	1/14	Fannie Seidner	1/30
William Greenspan	1/14	Benny Feld	1/31
Lillian Simkin	1/14	Henry Kanter	1/31
Esther Solomon	1/14	Barbara Lipp	1/31
Vera Nussenbaum	1/15	Florence Noah	1/31
Beckie Tischler	1/15	Melvin Bondy	2/1
Morris Akronowitz	1/16	Leo Fuchs	2/1
Sonia Feinman	1/16	Samuel Gold	2/1
Erich Hollander	1/16	Betty Karp	2/1
Yetta Kaminsky	1/16	Edward Nightingale	2/1
Robert Lionheart	1/16	Robert Sheffler	2/1
Manny Friedman	1/17	Gussie Zaret	2/1
Howard Pfeffer	1/17	Sol Borenstein	2/2
Sadie Rankowitz	1/17	Sara Feinman	2/2
Jacob Shulman	1/17	Elaine Gallin	2/2
Lillian Warshofsky	1/17	Jennie Kornreich	2/2
Mary Blitzstein	1/18	Jerry Newman	2/2
Floyd Shumer	1/18	Helmut Fuerth	2/3
Miriam Goldstein	1/19	Elaine Leibowitz	2/3
Ida Rubrum	1/19	Herman Rosenfeld	2/3
Leonard Finkelstein	1/20	Ephraim Ruchelman	2/3
Morris Radvinoviez	1/20	Harold Shapiro	2/3
Sam Schnitzer	1/20		
Florence Trechak	1/20		

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.

Donations to the following funds have been made during the month of November and December:

Stuart Polovsky Memorial Fund

Terrie Polovsky

Heidi Rogol Memorial Fund

Dorrie and David Aberson
Liz and Michael Aroyo
Barbara and Charles Brooks
Judith and Richard Insinga
Barbara and Barry Kamish
Reeva and Gary Lynes
Arlene and Joel Reznick
Beverly and Max Rubinstein
Andrea and Steven Sahl
Carol and Howard Shapiro
Leigh and Walter Winter



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

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.

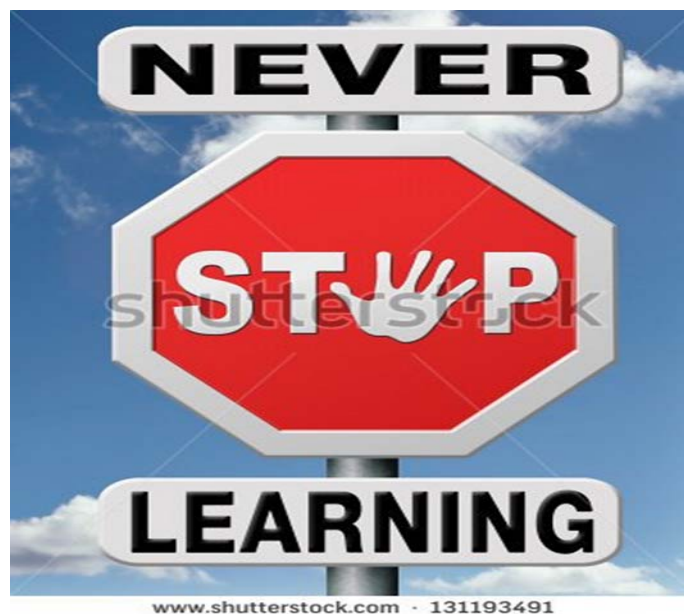
WRITE DOWN THESE DATES!:

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

Adult Education Highlights (continued from page 12)

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



Tenth of Tevet (Fast Day) Sunday, January 8th, 2017

Tenth of Tevet (Hebrew: עשרה בטבת, *Asarah BeTevet*), the tenth day of the Hebrew month of Tevet, is a fast day in Judaism. It is one of the minor fasts observed from before dawn to nightfall. The fasting commemorates the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylonia—an event that began on that date and ultimately culminated in the destruction of Solomon's Temple (the First Temple) and the conquest of the Kingdom of Judah (today central Israel).

The day has no relationship to Chanukka, but it happens to follow that festival by a week. Whether the 10th of Tevet falls 7 or 8 days after Chanukka depends on whether the preceding Hebrew month of **Kislev** has 29 or 30 days in the relevant year.

In accordance with the general rules of minor fasts as set forth in the Shulchan Aruch, and in contrast to Tisha B'Av, there are no additional physical constraints beyond fasting (such as the prohibitions against bathing or of wearing leather shoes). Because it is a minor fast day, Halacha exempts from fasting those who are ill, even if their illnesses are not life-threatening, and pregnant and nursing women who find fasting difficult.¹ The Mishnah Berurah notes that it is still commendable to observe all the restrictions of Tisha B'Av on the minor fast days (except the restriction of wearing leather shoes). Even so, one should not refrain from bathing in preparation for Shabbat when the Tenth of Tevet falls out on a Friday.

The Chief Rabbinate of Israel chose to observe the Tenth of Tevet as a "general kaddish day" (*yom hakaddish ha'klalli*) to allow the relatives of victims of the Holocaust, and whose yahrtzeits (anniversaries of their deaths) is unknown, to observe the traditional yahrtzeit practices for the deceased, including lighting a memorial candle, learning mishnayot and reciting the kaddish. According to the policy of the Chief Rabbinate in Israel, the memorial prayer is also recited in synagogues, after the reading of the Torah at the morning services. To some religious Jews, this day is preferable as a remembrance day to Yom HaShoah, since the latter occurs in the month of Nisan, in which mourning is traditionally prohibited.

(From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)



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.

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

Happy Hanukkah and New Year from the Men's Club



B.O.M.C. Triple 8 Club
Shul, Schmooze and Schmeat
Every Sunday

Happy Hanukkah and New Year from the Men's Club!

Photo taken Sunday December 25, 2016. Everyone is holding a Hanukkah candle.

Sunday morning is a good time to be at Beth Ohr. Shul, Schmooze and Schmeat!

Men's Club Program of Events (partial listing)

Jan 1, 2017 – Celebrate New Year's Day with a Special Surprise Breakfast AND Champagne

Jan 8—Minyan but no breakfast because of Fast Day—the 10th of Tevet.

Jan 15—Special Pre-Inauguration Day program: The two presidents that were each sworn in four times, the Inauguration Day fight between the incoming and outgoing presidents who never spoke again to each other and ten other interesting inaugural stories - presented by Ed Mendlowitz.

Jan 22, 2017—Daytimers / Men's Club joint program with Marty Schneit—A trip through the Lower East Side

Feb 5 - FJMC World Wide Wrap

Mar 5 - Sisterhood / Men's Club Joint program

Mar 19 – Ed Mendlowitz 37th Annual Financial Program—12 Ways to Better Manage Your Finances

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!***

MEN'S CLUB Page 2.



Men's Club photos

More T-Shirts: Oy Vey another great Marty Israel T-Shirt, Paul Singer and Ken Deitz. Also Shown is Rabbi Mishkin laining Torah with past Temple President Mark Atzbi who had an Aliyah on Hanukkah Sunday when we read from the Torah. 2nd row: Mark Sadek delivering the bagels to Ivan Gelb and Harvey Cohen who set up the breakfast. David Honig lifting Torah with Hagba Aliyah and Ken Deitz carrying the Torah. Next, on Gift Book Sunday Dec 18 where everyone that attended the Minyan received a free hard cover Jewish book. This year *The Jewish Fact Finder* was distributed. Ed is in the last photo handing out one of the 40 books he distributed that morning. 3rd row: NY Post front page showing a traffic jam and in the middle was a Mensch Lumber truck. This is an appropriate photo for this newsletter with pictures of the Men's Club Mensch Award.

CHUCK ROGOL

RECEIVES 3RD ANNUAL

MEN'S CLUB SYDNEY LUSTGARTEN MENSCH AWARD



Chuck Rogol received the 3rd Annual Sydney Lustgarten Mensch Award. On Dec 18, 2016

Shown in top row: Chuck holding the award certificate; Three generations of Rogol family—Mark, Chuck, Alyssa and Lysa. Mitch Lustgarten at the program relating some remarks about his father. Ed Mendlowitz presenting award to Chuck.

2nd row: Granddaughter Alyssa admiring the certificate, some of the large attendance group; Roberta and Ralph Karpel at the breakfast after his hospital stay and recovery. Great seeing him.

3rd row: Sisterhood president Liz Aroyo (on right) and Michael, Ilene and Barry Gray, and Paul Singer at the breakfast. The Pincus / Clark family at the Minyan before the Award's program.

The Award was endowed by the Lawrence Schacht Foundation, Milton Heumann, trustee. Milt is in the middle photo on 2nd row wearing the blue shirt.

PHOTOS FROM BETH OHR ISRAEL TRIP



Joint Sisterhood / Men's Club Program

Dec 4 program presented by the Beth Ohr members that went to Israel with Rabbi Mishkin

Photos shown were by Lana and Harvey Cohen, Ryselle and Jeff Perlman & Alice and David Honig.
Top—City signs—Israel is really at the crossroads linking the East and West; The Beth Ohr group performing a volunteer project; A scene from the program at Beth Ohr.
2nd row: Some of Israel's brave soldiers. Some are posing with tourists.
3rd row: Our group at a Western Wall tunnel entrance, and a view of Tel Aviv from Jaffa—a modern day miracle.

PHOTO GALLERY



Photo descriptions

Top row: Lee Hyman accepting award plaque for Sisterhood's contribution to Torah Fund Garden State Region Dinner; next is a photo from a vacation trip 15 year's ago with Sharon and Elliot Yaro, Ronnie and Ed Mendlowitz and Linda and Allen Skupp.

2nd row: Lee Aroyo with Brandon Marshall from NY Jets. Brandon is holding a football in front of Lee's Giants shirt. Next is Ira Todd Albaum being interviewed for Charlotte, NC television about his Scarlett Plus Size Boutique; Next is Rabbi Mishkin leading a Beth Ohr group at the Old Bridge Civic Center Hanukkah candle lighting. 3rd row: Two photos from the Daytimers' Hanukkah party.

A lot is happening at Beth Ohr and with Beth Ohr people.

A Thank You to Beth Ohr from

Laurie Hernandez

Olympic Gold Medalist and Old Bridge Resident

Laurie's response to the congratulatory letter Phil Rabinowitz sent her.



Joint Daytimers / Men's Club program with

Marty Schneit

Sunday Jan 22, 2017 following the Minyan

THE LOWER EAST SIDE - AN ILLUSTRATED LECTURE

From the comfort of our plush chairs, take a trip to the Lower East Side and visit Schimmel's Knishes, Katz's Deli, Ansche Chesed, The Daily Forward, and Rabbi Eisenberg, one of the few remaining Torah scribes remaining in the Lower East Side. Listen to a number of stories and tidbits about some of the great people who lived there - Irving Berlin, Eddie Cantor, and George Burns. Marty Schneit, a licensed New York City Tour Guide, will take us on a wonderful adventure back in time. *No Charge and No RSVP. Minyan at 9:00, Bagel breakfast at 10:00, Program at 10:15.* Shown below is Marty Schneit with Beth Ohr President Phil Rabinowitz the last time he was at Beth Ohr and a photo of Marty with his favorite food.



Book of Exodus

On Shabbos January 21, 2017 we began reading the Book of Exodus from the Torah. Following is a “Cliff Notes” explanation of the parshas with each name of the 11 parshas described. You can find out more by reading the parsha in your Chumash or by coming to Shabbos services. If you do not have a Chumash and would like one – for Free – come to any Sunday Minyan and ask Ed, Harvey or Chuck for a Hertz Chumash.

Shemoth - Names. The parsha starts with the names of the eleven children of Jacob’s families that came to Egypt with Jacob.

Va-ayra - I have revealed Myself. This reminds Moses that He did not forget the covenant, and is ready for the redemption from Egypt. The redemption is to lead to a spiritual freedom.

Bo - Come [Go]. Go to Pharaoh.

Beshallach, Shabbos Shirah -- sent away – let them go. Pharaoh more likely sent the Israelites away rather than letting them go. Letting them go could infer that they wanted to go, but not everyone wanted to leave and based on the way they acted after they left, it appears to be the case for many of them.

Yithro - Name of a non Jew. Yithro or Jethro was considered the most learned of the non Jews who worshipped and studied every known idol. When he abandoned idol worship for G-d it was an informed and honored decision.

Mishpatim - Laws. Many laws in this reading – 53.

Terumah - Contributions. Each person had a direct involvement in the construction of the Temple because of their contributions.

Tetzaveh - Command: The commandment of Ner Tamid – keeping the lamp lit. Israel is to be a light of the nations.

Ki Thissa - When you take [a head count]. A census.

Vayyakhel - Assembled. Moses assembled the people immediately after his descent from Mt. Sinai on the 11th of Tishri (the day after the Day of Atonement) to build the Sanctuary.

Pekudey - The accounts or reckoning. Moses orders an accounting – an audit.

Beth Ohr 60th Anniversary Celebration

Mark your calendars—June 4, 2017

Committee being organized. If you want to be on the committee, contact Ed Mendlowitz, 732 890-3344 or emcpa1@aol.com

Sisterhood Presidium President

Shalom,

First I want to say how enjoyable it was to attend the joint Sisterhood/Men's Club brunch program of our members discussing their trip to Israel in May and sharing their pictures. I want to thank Marion Falkowitz for all of her hard work as well as Harvey Cohen, Ashna Pincus and Ed Mendlowitz, in addition to all of the people who helped clean up at the end. I also want to say how much fun our December 7th Penny auction was and to thank our auctioneer Elizabeth Goldin who does a wonderful job every year. Thanks to the ladies who brought such lovely items to auction and an extra thank you to those who put out the wonderful snacks. Many of us went home with some nice items and Sisterhood appreciates everyone's generosity.

Sisterhood has several upcoming activities; December 21st we have a Board Meeting, January 4th is our General Membership Meeting when Marilyn Karlstein will be doing our annual Book Review of Orphan #8 by Kim van Alkemade. I am finding it very riveting and therefore I am flying through it quickly. It will make for a great discussion. **January 7th is our annual Sisterhood Shabbat so please take a part in either English or Hebrew, and contact Robert Fachler. January 18th is a Board Meeting.**

On behalf of Sisterhood, myself and my family, I wish everyone a Happy Chanukah and a Happy and Healthy Secular New Year.

Liz Aroyo
Presidium Member

Sisterhood

SISTERHOOD OF CONGREGATION BETH OHR
ANNUAL DUES STATEMENT
2016 - 2017



TEMPLE MEMBERS \$30

NON-TEMPLE MEMBERS \$39

DONOR CREDIT OF \$5 WILL BE AWARDED TO MEMBERS WHO PAY THEIR DUES ON OR BEFORE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2017.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT REJOINED SISTERHOOD BY JANUARY 31, 2017 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: 12/13/16

		Carry					Carry		
Name		Amount	Over		Name	Amount	Over		
Appel	Wilma	\$ 58.00			Finkelstein	Meryl	\$ 58.00	0.5	
Aroyo	Elizabeth	\$ 400.50	7.0		Fox	Helene	\$ 14.00		
Atzbi	Monica	\$ 462.00	39.5						
					Garfinkel	Linda	\$ 139.50	5.0	
Benish	Linda	\$ 77.50	5.0		Gasior	Ellen			
Bernstein	Roberta	\$ 59.00	6.0		Gilbarg	Marilyn	\$ 13.00		
Birnbaum	Eileen	\$ 77.50			Golden	Elizabeth	\$ 185.25	7.0	
Boshak	Rochelle				Goldenberg	Susan	\$ 20.00	1.0	
Branfman	Ann	\$ 137.50	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	\$ 55.00			Kamenitz	Marilyn	\$ 50.25		
					Karlstein	Marilyn	\$ 808.00		
Fachler	Roberta	\$ 159.00	0.5		Karpel	Roberta	\$ 115.00	2.0	
Falkowitz	Marion	\$ 35.25			Kaufman	Maxine	\$ 95.00	11.0	
Feder	Barbara	\$ 114.75			Klein	Caroline	\$ 20.00		
Feld	Harriet	\$ 82.50	0.5		Krieger	Karen			
Feurier	Darlene								

			Carry	
Name		Amount	Over	
Laddin	Anne	\$5.00		
Lazarowitz	Andrea	\$65.00	7.0	
Levenstein	Glenda	\$60.00		
Levine	Helen	\$6.25		
Mason	Lisa	\$75.50		
Mendlowitz	Ronnie	\$162.00	11.0	
Nadler	Elinor	\$20.00		
Perlman	Ryselle	\$38.50		
Pincus	Ashna	\$127.50	2.5	
Polovsky	Terrie	\$131.75	4.0	
Prussack	Zellie	\$45.00	1.5	
Rabinowitz	Harriet	\$239.00	18.5	
Reinstein	Sheila	\$25.00		
Risman	Ruth	\$51.00	1.0	
Rogol	Lysa	\$71.75		
Rosenzweig	Ronnie	\$16.00		
Gray	Ilene	\$121.50	4.5	
			43.0	

			Carry	
Name		Amount	Over	
Schlissel	Lenore		1.0	
Schlussfeld	Mindy	\$5.00		
Schneider	Barbara	\$145.00	6.0	
Schottlander	Hilde	\$129.00	12.0	
Shafran	Dorothy	\$169.00	6.5	
Seltzer	Karen			
Seidner	Lois			
Silberstein	Joyce	\$38.00	5.5	
Silver	Arlene	\$73.50		
Silverman	Sharen	\$214.50	8.5	
Simon	Mala	\$122.50	2.5	
Simon	Marjorie	\$150.25		
Skupp	Linda	\$248.75	11.5	
Sommers	Arlene	\$5.00		
Spiegel	Estee	\$119.00	0.5	
Trechak	Marcia	\$253.00	6.5	
Ward	Phyllis	\$5.00		
Weiss	Harriet	\$132.00	1.5	
Wittlin	Renee	\$5.00		
Yourman	Edna	\$51.50		
Yourman	Paula	\$162.00	0.5	
Zeller	Kay	\$5.00		
Zussman	Virginia	\$36.00		

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Announcements

The deadline for the next newsletter will be
Noon, Monday, January 16, 2017

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:

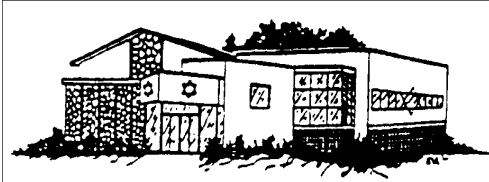
Office Phone # 732-257-7031

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 January



Jan 6	4:28
Jan 13	4:36
Jan 20	4:44
Jan 27	4:52