



CONNECTION

Beth Chaim is a Reform Jewish congregation whose mission is to provide an environment for the learning of Torah; to satisfy the religious, cultural, educational and social needs of the local Jewish community; and to present an understanding of Jewish values to the community-at-large.

(609) 799-9401 / www.bethchaim.org

Elul 5781 – Tishrei 5782 / September – October 2021

Rabbi Adena Blum

Cantor Stuart Binder

Rabbi Emeritus: Eric B. Wisnia

President: Rhonda Wydra

Executive Director:
Mira Berzofsky

Director of Lifelong Education:
Anne Berman-Waldorf, RJE

Early Childhood Education:
Robin Resnick

Reopening Task Force

reopening@bethchaim.org

One Beth Chaim: In-Person or Online

As a Task Force, we have learned a lot of lessons since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. When I look back on my notes from our early meetings, I am amazed to see how straightforward we thought this process would be. Based on the recommendations of the URJ, we worked out a "Roadmap" with objective criteria about when we could allow more and more events to come back into Congregation Beth Chaim – and this process has absolutely worked. We thought we had reached the last stages of the "Roadmap" with the "masked or vaxed" policy for indoor services and activities. However, what we have learned is that no journey is entirely straightforward, and every once in a while, you have to go off the map.

To paraphrase an old Yiddish phrase that my grandmother loved, "People plan, and Covid laughs." Our sole priority as a Task Force is to help make policies to provide a safe community at Congregation Beth Chaim. The numbers in Mercer County are again on the rise. In fact, they are high enough that it would have justified closing the building again under our prior criteria from just months ago. What has changed is the amount of people that are vaccinated, and Covid has now been described by State and Federal officials as a "pandemic of the unvaccinated." As such, we believe that it would be unfair to take a step backward and to only provide online services and activities.

Accordingly, Congregation Beth Chaim is now compiling a Vaccination List. We ask that you complete the online form or contact the Temple office, at your convenience, and provide proof that you were vaccinated. Only Congregants that have provided proof that they were vaccinated, in advance, will be allowed for indoor services for the High Holy Days. We are also requiring that masks be worn for all services, regardless of vaccination status. The Board of Beth Chaim and Senior Staff truly believe that asking for vaccination status, at this point, is in accordance with *Pikuach Nefesh*, the principle in Jewish law that the preservation of human life overrides virtually any other religious rule. When the life of a specific person is in danger, almost any negative commandment of the Torah becomes inapplicable. We believe that compiling a Vaccination List will help keep everyone safe.

To offer an in-person option to those who are not vaccinated and/or want a lower-risk experience, we are offering outdoor services in a tent on our campus. If you are unvaccinated, for any reason, we ask that you join us for our outdoor or online programming. Our Clergy have really become masters of providing compelling and engaging programming online. Whether you are joining us virtually or in-person, we are all one Beth Chaim family. While our "Roadmap" has added some detours that we never planned, it is our sincere hope that our journey through Covid-19 is nearing the end, and next year we can all be together in person.

Todd Wachtel, Reopening Task Force Chair

High Holy Day Events are Subject to Change

An email went out on August 10 to all members who have completed the renewal process with a Service Selection Form. Choose between Online (via Zoom and YouTube), Outdoor or Indoor options. If you did not receive the form or need help, please call the office.

In case of pastoral emergency, please call (609) 799-9401, ext. 9 so our clergy team may assist you.

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Rabbi Adena Blum

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Slichah!

One of the Hebrew words that I have used the most when visiting Israel has been סליחה *slichah*, which usually is translated as “excuse me.” In both languages, the expression is used in similar ways: sometimes in a sincerely sorry tone after we have made a mistake that we regret, and sometimes in a more aggressive tone when we want someone to get out of our way. I find it fascinating that one little word can convey so much meaning depending on the context. Also, because it is such a commonly used word in modern Israeli Hebrew, it is easy to forget what a significant role *slichah* plays in Jewish tradition, especially at this time of year.

The original meaning of *slichah* is “forgiveness.” We use this word as a response to bumping into someone, for example, because we are asking that our misstep be forgiven. We hope that our blunder will be excused or pardoned. The same is true of the High Holy Day season that begins in Elul, the final month of the year, and concludes with Simchat Torah, twenty-two¹ days into the new year. Now we are immersed in the period dedicated to *slichah*, the asking of forgiveness. First, we must reach out to the people we have harmed to request *slichah*, and only afterward can we approach God for *slichah*. But again, tone and context matter.

Anyone who spends time with children (and other humans for that matter) knows that there are all different kinds of apologies. Some are perfunctory, some are clearly coerced, some seem sincere but are secretly not, and some have the ability to rebuild relationships. The great medieval sage Moses Maimonides warned that it is insufficient merely to ask for forgiveness. Instead, what is desired is an act of reconciliation.² So just saying the words is not enough. We must mean what we say, and our behavior must match what we say.

As Rosh Hashanah imminently approaches, join me in reflecting on the power of *slichah*. Think about the moments this past year that you stepped on someone’s toes or hurt someone’s feelings or lost someone’s trust. Ponder how you want to respond, in both words and deeds. As difficult as it is to revisit old wounds, the most important thing you can do is try. If a relationship is important to you, reach out. Channel the original meaning of *slichah*. Then join your community in prayer over the High Holy Days, ready to bring your *slichah* to God.

¹ or twenty-three days depending on which Jewish calendar you follow

² Mishneh Torah, Laws of Repentance 2:9

Cantor Stuart Binder

cantor@bethchaim.org

Turn It and Turn It

When I was a student, back in the days when books were physical objects you had to schlep around, my roommate and I would occasionally try swapping books that we had enjoyed. I particularly remember having just read *Enemy Mine* (which was subsequently made into a mediocre movie) and really enjoying it. Not that it was great literature or anything like that, but I remember it as having been a really good story told in an engaging manner.

Days later, my roommate returned the book to me and told me he’d tried the first chapter and didn’t like it. I didn’t argue at the time. After all, why read a book if it’s not your cup of tea? But thinking back, I probably should have pushed back, at least a little. Why? Because the first chapter is not the book. If you love the characters right from page one, where is there room for growth? In the case of this particular book, the main character is introduced in the first chapter as someone who is only capable of narrow-minded thinking. And you need to know that to appreciate the slow arc of growth and redemption that takes place between that first chapter and the last. If you put the book down after chapter one, you miss the entire story!

Years later, it occurs to me that our approach to Torah can be much the same. How many of us have actually read it? How many of us have put it down because we found the first chapter silly or incomprehensible? How many were turned off by something we encountered later in the book, and put it down for good? Yet there’s a reason this book – the number one bestseller in all of human history – has been read and studied for thousands of years. I can’t tell you what’s so great about it, because that is different for every person. I can only assure you that there’s an incredible amount of depth to it, and that it’s worth your attention.

The holiday of Simchat Torah serves to remind us that learning never ends. And that it’s never too late to start – my grandmother joined a Torah study group when she was in her 80s. For many years, we have been gathering at Beth Chaim on Saturday mornings to study Torah (and to enjoy bagels and coffee together as well). As we celebrate the gift of Torah this year on Simchat Torah, give some thought to joining our Torah Study group on Saturday mornings. It’s a really good investment. As Rabbi Ben Bag-Bag famously said, “Turn it and turn it, because everything is in it.”

From Human Doing to Human Being

Yom Kippur is the Jewish version of sitting under a tree and asking, "Why are we here?" It's a time when we are asked to do *Cheshbon HaNefesh* – to take an accounting of our soul. We are challenged to reevaluate our lives in light of what really matters: our ultimate values, our relationships and our limitations. We are asked to direct the words of our prayers not upward but inward.

It is a peculiar – and uniquely Jewish – choice to start each year this way. In our secular lives, New Year's Eve is a time for parties, New Year's Day is a time of hangovers and January 2nd – we are back to work. But on the Jewish calendar, the year begins with a 10-day period of contemplation and preparation, with asking ourselves hard questions and making plans NOT for what we want to DO in the year ahead, but focusing on who we want to BE. Yom Kippur gives us a chance to pause the fast pace of our lives, to step back from the business of daily living and consider the bigger picture. Most days, we spend our time running from one obligation to the next, from one achievement to the next; Yom Kippur is our time to just be, to reflect, to evaluate and to appreciate. Yom Kippur tilts the continuum between chasing achievement and seeking meaning; the day demands that we step back from the busyness of life and focus on refilling our soul.

Our Torah presents us with two creation stories, each presenting its own description of human beings. In the first, Adam is created as a striver and a doer, the pinnacle of all creation. This is the version that says we were created *B'tzelim Elohim*, in the image of God – and, as such, we are also creators and achievers. But the Adam of the second creation story is very different. He is a gardener and a caretaker; this Adam is portrayed as understanding the living world into which he has been placed.

This one story, these two versions, present the two sides of our human nature – the achiever and the contemplator; the ruler of the world and the appreciator of the world; the human doing and the human being.

And we need both of these sides. As achievers and creators, we challenge and explore, we push ourselves to envision a better future and work toward it. And our contemplative side puts it all in perspective, searching for meaning, appreciating the here and now. Yom Kippur pushes us to develop the skill of being in the moment, with ourselves; the holy day with its awesome liturgy, the Torah scrolls dressed in white, the special tunes, all of this is the backdrop to set up the space to make it conducive to do the hard work designed to make us people of integrity living lives of meaning and spiritual purpose. Yom Kippur is the day the

world stops – there are no obligations to attend to; there are no achievements to be made. There are only ourselves and the work we have to do.

And beyond this one day, this can be a larger model for our lives – a practice of taking time out to be in the here and now. A regular time set aside to offer gratitude for what we have, not what we want. A model for checking in with ourselves to ask, "is this how I want to be?" Ultimately, the goal of this day – and really the goal of every day – is to live a life driven by our own values, a life that we are proud of and that reflects our deepest sense of self. Yom Kippur is the pause in the rushing river of life. It is the moment in which we stop to consider our actions and our choices and ask if they are in line with our core values.

May this Day of Atonement – this day of awe and dread, this day of aching and opportunity, this time for dreams and renewal, may these hours of prayer and contemplation be the catalyst that spur us toward greater self-awareness, toward greater thankfulness, toward a greater commitment to make the world the best it can be.

Ken yehi ratzon. May this be God's will.

WE'RE BACK IN BETH CHAIM! SUNDAY MORNINGS IN THE SYNAGOGUE!



Bagels and Blocks – 6th Grade Opening Day of Religious School Sunday, September 19, 2021 9:00am - Noon

We are so excited to welcome everyone back.

Watch your (e)mail for specifics on new drop-off and pick-up procedures and remember that Religious School is a MASKED environment for all students, teachers and *toranim* (classroom assistants).

Executive Director

director@bethchaim.org

President

president@bethchaim.org

Of Joy and Vulnerability

Sukkot is a harvest festival filled with joy after the seriousness of Rosh Hashanah (New Year) and Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). The holiday contains ideas of reaching out beyond our own four walls to be in community. It also reminds us that we really are vulnerable to life's changing seasons, even if we sometimes like to hide. Sukkot is my favorite Jewish holiday.

I can feel the crisp autumn air starting to penetrate my house in the wee hours of the morning. The change of seasons is palpable. I feel the internal change as well. The carefree days of summer are over, time to look to fortifying, creating for the coming months. Yet my tradition tells me it's time to come out of my shell. Shed the illusion of protection I have in my sturdy house and instead, sit in vulnerability in my Sukkah--a flimsy, temporary structure with no roof. From that vulnerability, we welcome in guests, even perfect strangers, turning nobody away.

We're all on this journey called life together. With our money and possessions, we may convince ourselves that we are protected; but the truth is that life is a short, fragile, temporary experience. As we welcome others to walk the journey with us, perhaps we can lighten the load of each other's burdens and enrich each other's short time here on Earth.

This is "Z'man Simchateynu," the season of our joy!

We hope to see you at our brief outdoor Erev Sukkot Service on Monday, September 20 at 7pm. You are invited to visit the Beth Chaim sukkah, we just ask that you contact the office ahead to be sure that it is available.

Mira Berzofsky, Executive Director

Simchas (Joyous Occasions)



*Mazal tov to Judy and Richard Meyer
on the marriage of their daughter
Tova to Dr. Andrew Siegel on May 29.*

*Mazal tov to Elise and Steven Olgin
on the marriage of their daughter
Alexandra to Andrew Lane on July 30.*



*Mazal tov to Jill and Rob Lehner
on the marriage of their son Dan
to Madeline Kaye on September 4.*

*Mazel Tov to Holly and Neal Feder
on the birth of their granddaughter,
Brooke Amelia Feder on July 7.*



Dear Congregation Beth Chaim

Just as we savor the final weeks of summer, the High Holy Days are upon us. I hope you will join us to reflect on this past year and welcome the new one. The upcoming year will be filled with many educational, spiritual and social activities, especially as Congregation Beth Chaim celebrates its 50th anniversary. All of our Temple committees will participate in this yearlong celebration some way, and I urge you to do the same!

This past spring, we began to gather in-person at Beth Chaim, while also maintaining an option to continue to participate in events virtually for those who feel more comfortable keeping a distance. I am proud of the work done by the Beth Chaim Reopening Task Force, which has had to navigate through uncertain times with no playbook. As always, the safety of our congregants came first.

Our congregation enters this new year on stronger financial footing. For the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2021, we exceeded our fundraising goals. We are working to secure Beth Chaim's future for the next generation, and I thank you for your willingness to give to your community. As you may recall, the pandemic disrupted our revenues, and Beth Chaim's lay leaders applied for and received a federal PPP loan in order to keep our employees on the payroll. I am happy to report the federal government has accepted our application for PPP loan forgiveness. We will not have to pay anything back.

As we look to the future, we continue to think about new ways to approach membership commitment and dues. The Reimaging Dues Task Force is exploring other membership models for our congregation, and we will keep you updated on the progress of that.

The clergy, staff, lay leaders and volunteers continue their hard work to make sure Beth Chaim is a special place. I encourage you to submit your membership renewal form if you haven't done so already, and THANK YOU for your continued support of Beth Chaim.

Wishing you a happy and healthy new year!

L'shalom,
Rhonda Wydra

L'Shanah Tovah - לשנה טובה

I hope you enjoyed the summer and found some opportunities to reconnect with friends, family members, and other congregants in person, especially at Shabbat services. Jewish life is all about journeys, community, connections and togetherness. We are thankfully on our way back to some semblance of "normal".

As I write this High Holy day message in July, we are midway through the summer and the current Torah portion is Mattot-Mas`ei. This parsha is the last portion in Bamidbar (Numbers), and it shares the 40-year journey (*masa*) the Israelites took from Egypt to the borders outside of the promised land, Israel.

It details, in depth, the places at which the people stopped and camped, as well as the significant events that occurred along the way. In many ways, the Torah served as the Facebook of its time, painting the pictures and expressing the feelings of the journey of the Israelites.

I thought this parsha was so appropriate as we began, this summer, to retell and celebrate our Beth Chaim journey of 50 years. In doing so, we will appreciate where we have been, discover what we have learned and how we have grown, and imagine what our vibrant and thriving Congregation Beth Chaim of tomorrow will be. This parsha also reminds that we are continuing our

collective story, one which is built on generations past and strengthened for generations to come. Together we will:

REFLECT -- CELEBRATE -- IMAGINE

As you read this newsletter and learn about all the exciting programs and educational opportunities, please also think about how you can provide financial support. We all know by now that our membership, school fees and external income only account for approximately 85% of our operating budget. Our staff is doing all they can to minimize expenses and maximize external income.

We depend on the generous support of our members to achieve our budget goals. Please support our fundraising efforts to the best of your ability.

Become a **Sustaining Member** and join Marshall Kizner, Chair, in making our community accessible to all, regardless of ability to pay. This year, each new dollar pledged, above last year's donation, will be matched dollar for dollar by a challenge grant. Help ensure that our doors are always open to all regardless of their financial situation.

Join Marci Resnick, Chair, and donate to the **High Holy Day Campaign**. Watch for more information with your High Holy Day information.

Thank you to all who have donated to this year's Sustaining Membership campaign as of July 29, 2021:

<i>Anonymous (1)</i>	<i>Kristine and Jeffrey Grabell</i>	<i>Leticia and Steven Nadler</i>
<i>Tobi and Martin Arias</i>	<i>Laura Nash and Jack Greenberg</i>	<i>Les Nagler</i>
<i>Leah and Scott Babitz</i>	<i>Barbara and Kent Hochberg</i>	<i>Lauren and Rony Nazarian</i>
<i>Eileen and Mark Balaban</i>	<i>Elizabeth and Darma le</i>	<i>Jaimie and Max Orland</i>
<i>Sherry Barsky</i>	<i>Ilene and Mark Janofsky</i>	<i>Eileen and Harold Panzer</i>
<i>Meryl and Leonard Baum</i>	<i>Rosalie Vaz Kadis and Kenneth Kadis</i>	<i>Caryl and Stephen Parker</i>
<i>Maria and Eric Bergel</i>	<i>Michele and Harvey Kaish</i>	<i>David Pennock</i>
<i>Nadine and Mark Berkowsky</i>	<i>Kelly and Marshall Kizner</i>	<i>Kim Wishnow-Per and Steven Per</i>
<i>Elana Berlinger</i>	<i>Julie Martin-Kolb and Jonathan Kolb</i>	<i>Michele and Kenneth Pogrob</i>
<i>Diane and Jeffrey Boyarsky</i>	<i>Susan and Eric Kutell</i>	<i>Jenna and Scott Raps</i>
<i>Ann Brandt</i>	<i>Fran Lehrfeld</i>	<i>Marsha and Julius Richter</i>
<i>Ellen and Marshall Calman</i>	<i>Karen Brodsky and Donald Leibowitz</i>	<i>Cheryl Wexler and Arthur Rosenberg</i>
<i>Patricia Clarfield</i>	<i>Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish</i>	<i>Mindy and Michael Shedler</i>
<i>Arlene and Stanley Dorfman</i>	<i>Community Foundation of</i>	<i>Lisa and Eric Sheffield</i>
<i>Joan and Richard Druckman</i>	<i>Greater Mercer</i>	<i>Adria Sherman</i>
<i>Holli and Matthew Elias</i>	<i>Donna and Jeffrey Litwin</i>	<i>Ellen and Arnold Sherman</i>
<i>Shari and Robert Friedeman</i>	<i>Sandra Byer-Lubin and Hank Lubin</i>	<i>Nancy and Gerald Siegel</i>
<i>Rachel Weinstein and Bruce Frohlich</i>	<i>Andrea and Richard Mandel</i>	<i>Ronnie and Drew Staffenberg</i>
<i>Paula Schlinger and James Gerhardt</i>	<i>Shelley and Howard Miller</i>	<i>Suzanne Lind and Adam Sucov</i>
<i>Esther Goldstein</i>	<i>Stacy and Harvey Mitgang</i>	<i>Robin and Daniel Valentine</i>
<i>Helene and Paul Gottlieb</i>	<i>Helene and Bryan Molter</i>	<i>Rhonda and John Wydra</i>

Financial Assistance

I would like to introduce myself. I am Camille Bloomberg and serve on your Board of Trustees of Congregation Beth Chaim (CBC). I have the privilege of holding the office of Financial Secretary for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The Financial Secretary is responsible for coordinating financial assistance to those congregants who need it. Our congregation's values have always included the premise that, "No one shall be turned away due to financial challenges." However, it is also critical to understand that the congregation requires us to be fiscally responsible. How to balance these two is part of my role!

Let me explain the process for obtaining financial assistance. We will do everything possible to avoid having a congregant feel embarrassed, ashamed, or judged. All the information we collect is CONFIDENTIAL! The Financial Secretary, the Executive Director and Bookkeeper are the only people who are aware of the recipients. The applicant may ask for the Clergy or the Director of Lifelong Learning to be involved. Like most organizations that receive requests for financial assistance, we have a process and require some documentation of the applicant's financial situation. This permits the process to be equitable for all of our members.

This is CBC's process:

An application can be downloaded from our web page at bethchaim.org/financeassist or one can fill out the document on the site, or it can be obtained from the bookkeeper or Executive Director. The most important part of the application is for the applicant to express the need for financial assistance. Everyone is a valuable part of our community, and financial challenges will NEVER preclude one from being part of our CBC community!

I am told that in the past, this process has been uncomfortable for some congregants. As one who has been an assistance recipient myself, I am making it my goal to make this procedure as comfortable as possible. We will take all applications seriously, and I promise to work with each applicant to make this process fair to you, and to the entire congregation. I only ask that you work with me and fill out the required paperwork in a timely fashion. Please email the form to me at finsec@bethchaim.org or call me at (609) 947-4416. Feel free to call me with any questions or specific concerns about the process.

May the year 5782 bring you renewed faith and comfort from the Beth Chaim community.

Camille Bloomberg
Financial Secretary

Re-Imagining Beth Chaim Education - We Want Your Voice and Your Vision

This year, Congregation Beth Chaim celebrates its 50th Anniversary. Our community has changed a great deal – we no longer are the "Little Shul on the Prairie" surrounded by the farms of the Wild West, West Windsor. Our local community has grown exponentially. While we are deeply rooted in our tradition, and stand on the shoulders of giants, we now have a wonderful moment in time to reflect on our Education policies at Beth Chaim, and to work toward developing a new vision what it means to engage our students and families as life-long Jewish learners. We are asking you to join us to help reimagine what education at Beth Chaim could be in the future.

In January 2020, I met with the Nominating Committee of the Board to discuss becoming Vice President of Education. At that time, one of my main objectives was to make sure that we had a significant amount of programming online to help increase the engagement of our families and students. Little did I know how quickly this was going to be an absolute necessity. Since March 2020, we have provided thousands of hours of online learning, and our teachers and staff have done a marvelous job in pivoting to a virtual space. Now as we enter the 2021-2022 school year, it is time to take what we learned, and figure out how it all comes together in the future.

It is time we evaluate what it means to be a learner at Beth Chaim, and how our Congregation can encourage and empower you and your children to "choose your own adventure" while being part of a larger group. The time has come to reevaluate religious education, family education, youth engagement, and life-long learning. We are in the business of "building better Jews" and now is the time to retool the factory, update the supply chain, and to build even better than we did before.

As such, I am proud to announce that on Tuesday, September 28 at 8:00pm we will meet (on Zoom) to begin the process of "Re-Imagining Beth Chaim Education", and we would like you to join us. I'd like us to be "person-on-the-moon" ambitious as we begin this collaborative process. No voice will be unheard. No idea will be ignored. Anything and everything is up-for-grabs. This is "Chanukah in September" for anyone and everyone who enjoys creative policy making that will impact the lives of the Congregation.

For 50 years, Beth Chaim has been the leader for Reform Jewish Education in Mercer County. We truly believe that a modern Congregation adapts and changes to meet the needs of the community, and we cannot wait to begin this work with you.

Todd Wachtel, VP Education (*Chinuch*)

High Holy Day Security

It has been two years since congregations have celebrated the High Holy Days in person, and in that time anti-Semitism has risen to an all-time high. Several local events have also caused many area congregations to be concerned for the safety and security of their congregations. Congregation Beth Chaim is no different, as we were the first temple in our area to form a Security Committee. We are actively preparing to make sure our time together during the High Holy Days will be meaningful, welcoming, and safe. The committee has created a set of protocols which were approved by the Board and senior staff to help mitigate some of the risk. Many who attended HHD services in 2019 will be familiar with the protocols listed below.

1. **Doors for all services will be open 30 minutes before services are to begin.** Please do not come earlier expecting to be let in. We do not want crowds forming outside of the building and we are confident from prior experience that once the doors open and people arrive, we will efficiently get everyone safely inside, as long as everyone follows the protocols.
2. **The parking lot is reserved for those with disabilities only.** All others are directed to park in the Grover Middle School and the Village School parking lots. A shuttle bus is available from both locations. Please do not park at the Board of Education parking lot.
3. **The carpool lane is closed to traffic.** A map detailing the traffic pattern will be sent with your tickets.
4. **Entrance to the building is permitted only through the main lobby.** Upon arrival, please approach the front door forming a distanced line along the sidewalk.
5. **Tickets contain an individual's name and are not transferable.**
6. **All persons over 18 must show an official ID card matching the name on the ticket.** Please have your ID and ticket out for validation as you approach the entrance.
7. If you forget your ticket, go to the will call tent across from the lobby doors.
8. No packages or back packs are allowed.
9. **Food donations on Yom Kippur are to be dropped off at the truck in the parking lot.**
10. **Exit through Rotunda door.**
11. **Beth Chaim is a non-smoking non-vaping campus.**

We are looking forward to greeting you as we gather during this sacred time of year. In the interim, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our staff or the security committee.

Wishing you and your family a sweet year filled with health and joy.

L'shalom,
Steve Ferst
Chair, Security Committee

** Security plans are evolving along with High Holy Day plans. Watch our website, bethchaim.org/hhd, for updated plans.*

The Membership Committee, The Board of Directors, our Clergy and Senior Staff wish to thank all of those members who have made their commitment to Congregation Beth Chaim by filling out your engagement forms for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. We hope that each and every one of you will find the next year (our 50th) one of meaning and fulfillment. We hope that you will join us at one, two or even or all of the incredible event that will focus on our Past, our Present and the Future of Congregation Beth Chaim.

*May this year be one of Health, Happiness and Togetherness for all of you.
Dan, Jenna, Griffin and I wish you all a Shana Tova!*

Robin Valentine, Vice President of Community

Call the office for help renewing your membership.

50th Anniversary

Our 50th!

Congregation Beth Chaim was founded in 1971, so this year marks our "Golden Anniversary". We are so fortunate to belong to a thriving Jewish community, and we want to do all we can to ensure that our synagogue will be here for at least 50 more years. We want to be sure that your children and their children will find our doors open and be able to participate in Jewish life-cycle events, as you have.

We have been asked to co-chair this (at least) year-long celebration, and we are beyond excited! We have settled on a theme:

**REFLECT on the Past, CELEBRATE the Present,
and IMAGINE the Future**

Barbara Gilbert and Linda Feldstein will be chairing the activities focusing on the "Past"; Robin Valentine and Lisa Jasper will be chairing the "Present" activities, and Jeff Goldis has offered to chair the "Future" activities. As of this writing, a hunt is on for a co-chair for Jeff - Interested? Contact one of us.

Our activities began officially on July 1, 2021 and will continue until January 2023. Events and activities will be held throughout this time. One of the events planned will be the CBC Block Party in the spring. There are already some items from our past in the display case across from the library. There will be activities that will be social, spiritual, educational, and just plain fun. Some will be geared to families with children, and some may be "adults only". There is a major social event being targeted for the spring of 2022. Not everything will interest everyone, but we sincerely hope that every member of our community will help us to celebrate. Please read all of the email announcements and updates, go to our home webpage (bethchaim.org), check the Facebook page, and read the CBC Connection (formerly known as the Bulletin) so you don't miss anything!

We are looking forward to meeting everyone at least one event, service, or learning opportunity. Please introduce yourself if we have not yet met. Contact us, any time, with questions, concerns, suggestions, etc.

Camille Bloomberg
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Ronnie Staffenberg
rstaffenberg@gmail.com

Sisterhood

sisterhood@bethchaim.org

Shana Tovah

"Shana Tovah" goes the saying. We mean it as, "Happy New Year", but the Hebrew actually translates as a good year. Looking back, we have had a good year if you read between the lines. The year 5781 allowed us the opportunity to exercise strength, patience and perseverance. We supported one another and Beth Chaim, and we learned to make the most of what we had. We understood that we should not take our health or our loved ones for granted, and we worked together to keep our community safe. These are good things.

What does the year 5782 have in store for us? We share in the hope that it will be a good year. Employees returning to the office, students returning to classrooms, mitzvahs being celebrated in person, and smiles being shared. Much is still unknown, and we can't assume everything will be great, but we have proven that we have the resilience to face whatever comes, and we will be there for one another no matter what the year brings.

We can work together to keep the lessons learned from 5781 while shedding residual fear and anxiety. We can embrace the new and make the best of whatever comes our way in 5782. Nobody can predict the ups and downs of the coming year, but what we make of it is up to us. Let's make it a good year. Shana Tovah!

Kesher-Caring Task Force

Masked or unmasked our hands are free.

Please reach out - we would love to lend a hand.

- Contact the temple office if you need a ride, a meal, shopping or some tech assistance in order to participate in on-line worship or programming.
- Volunteer to help others.
Please contact:
Lori Watson (609-290-5867)
or Hagit Sten (609-876-6809) or
BCKesherCare@gmail.com
if you would like to help.



Thank you.

RJTF Welcomes New Co-Chairs

One year ago, Congregation Beth Chaim launched a Racial Justice Task Force to lead our community's education, reflection, and action around racial justice. Under the leadership of founding chair Carly Rothman Siditsky, the Task Force created at Beth Chaim a supportive environment for learning about America's legacy of racial injustice. Together, we reflected on issues of inclusion and equity within our diverse Jewish community, and we explored what Judaism teaches us about our sacred duty to work toward justice.

This year, the Task Force will continue its work under the leadership of incoming co-chairs Jon Rochkind and Lori Watson. We welcome all who are interested to join the Task Force in the work ahead. From the inequities exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis to the impact of the Black Lives Matter movement, we will discuss current trends and events through the lens of Jewish teaching, and in keeping with the 50th Anniversary's focus on the past, present, future. Together, as a Task Force and as members of a sacred community, we will strive toward the goal of the U.S. Framers -- to create a more perfect union -- and toward the central work of our faith -- Tikkun Olam, to repair the world.

We hope to see you at Racial Justice-sponsored activities, including **tie-dye** with a special 50th Anniversary shirt in the future. Just as there is beauty and diversity of colors in tie-dye, so there is beauty in the diversity of our Jewish community. Be your colorful self and enjoy other fun, cultural and educational activities. Visit our webpage, bethchaim.org/racialjustice to learn more about the Task Force, how to get involved, find updated events, resources, and recipes from across the global Jewish community.

Shalom,
Carly Rothman Siditsky, Jon Rochkind, and Lori Watson

Making the World a Better Place One Mitzvah at a Time

We were super-busy this summer supporting two annual HomeFront programs: Summer Camp lunches and the Back-to-School Drive. Our family-style Tuesday hot lunches were extremely popular with both campers and staff who expressed enormous gratitude and appreciation to all Beth Chaim congregants who generously participated in cooking, shopping, meal preparation and delivery. Many thanks to Judi Strober for offering her house, storing, reheating and much more in the absence of access to Beth Chaim's kitchen. This year's Back to School Drive, which focused on new sneakers for boys and girls, was a big success, much appreciated!

What's on our fall 2021 schedule? We are resuming various annual Tikkun Olam programs:

- Wednesday dinners for HomeFront's tutoring program, beginning late September
- Thanksgiving food drive for Jewish Family Children's Services (JFCS)
- LIGHTS program at Chanukah for JFCS

The Tikkun Olam committee meets monthly on Sunday mornings.

Stay tuned for specific dates, collection items, drop-off details and more. Our programs generally incorporate an online sign-up process and blasts to our mailing list via signupgenius.com.

We are always looking for new members and new ideas for the Tikkun Olam committee. To find out more about what we do, how to get involved and join our mailing list, please reach out to Holly Singer, Committee Chair at singereland@gmail.com.

Religious School Begins!

Sharpen your pencil and grab a new notebook – Religious School is BACK in session!



Classes for Bagels and Blocks – 6th grade

begin on **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 at 9:00am.**

Mid-week sessions begin on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021.**

4th – 6th grades at 4:30pm ON ZOOM

7th – 10th grade at 6:30pm-8:30pm IN PERSON AT BETH CHAIM

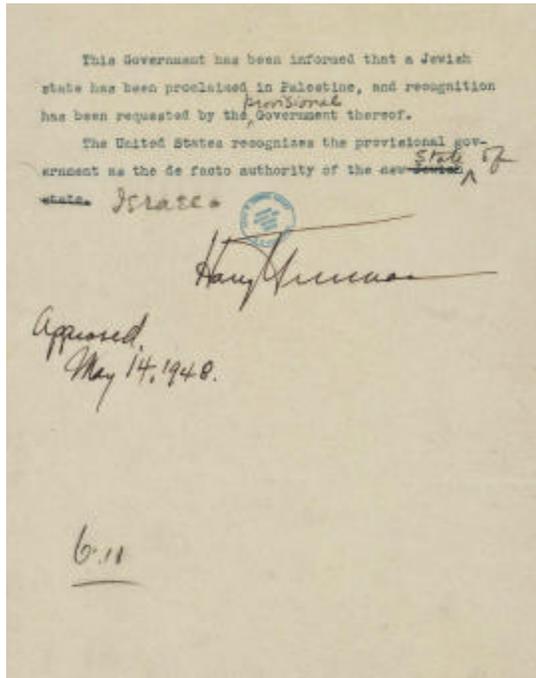
Watch your email for more details!

What to call it?

On May 14, 1948, David Ben-Gurion declared the establishment of the Jewish state. The climax of his statement was this sentence: "We hereby declare the establishment of a Jewish state in Eretz Israel, to be known as the State of Israel." (Some reports say Ben-Gurion pounded the podium to emphasize the statement.)

Until that moment, very few people knew what the new state, to be established by UN declaration, would be called. In various drafts of the declaration, the space was left blank. When the diplomats of the Jewish Agency in Washington went to secure a promise of recognition for the emerging state, even those diplomats couldn't say what the name would be.

Clark Clifford, US President Truman's legal advisor, later recalled: "The letter extending recognition that was prepared for Harry Truman on May 14, was typed as follows: "The United States recognizes the provisional government as the de facto authority of the new Jewish state." "Jewish state" was crossed out and "State of Israel" was inserted.



But what were some of the other names that were considered for our infant state?

Many people thought that the state would be called Judea (Yehuda in Hebrew). The problem was that Judea is a historical name that described the land area around Jerusalem; initially it seemed unlikely that that land would be included in the new Jewish state. According to the UN plan, virtually all of the traditional geographic area of Judea was supposed to

be either internationalized—Jerusalem and its environs—or part the Arab state. Calling a state Judea that didn't actually include Judea might have seemed strange. Even if the state did come to include a chunk of Judea, it might include other areas as well—the Negev, Samaria, Jaffa—so the name would be limiting. And what would its citizens be called? Yehudim? How would that feel to the estimated half million Arabs who would become citizens of the new state?

"Zion" was also suggested. The Tanakh mentions Zion 152 times. But Zion is the name of a hill overlooking the Old City of Jerusalem. Again, calling the state by a name that described only a small part of the country did not seem to make sense. And that hill was not certain to be part of the new Jewish state either.

Furthermore, what would the citizen of such a state be called? If she would be called a Zionist, that could create confusion between a people who identified as Zionist and living in the Diaspora, and an actual citizen of the new state. And of course, Arab citizens of the new land might be uncomfortable calling themselves Zionists.

The word Ivri was considered. Modern or Israeli Hebrew is called Ivrit. Throughout history Jews were often referred to as "Hebrews". Presumably, a citizen of such a state would have been called an Ivri, a Hebrew. The biblical term Ivri also means "to traverse" or "to cross over", and some members of the cabinet were said to be reluctant to adopt the name for a newly forming country when considered in that context.

"Eretz Israel," is the Biblical name for Palestine. Under the British mandate it had been in the official name of the country. Jews under the mandate did sometimes call themselves Eretz Yisraelim. But the UN had called for a partition of the land. (Our declaration of statehood takes care not to refer to the plan as a partition plan.) Calling the state Eretz Israel might have sounded like an overt claim to all of mandatory Palestine. So it was ruled out also.

The story has it that it was Ben-Gurion who first suggested "Israel."

The proposal was received coolly at first. But there were only 48 hours left for deliberations, and much urgent work to be done, so the matter was put to a vote. According to the meeting notes of May 12, (opposing and abstaining votes weren't recorded), seven of the ten cabinet-in-waiting members present voted to call our new homeland "Israel."

Source material by Martin Kramer, Shalem College, Jerusalem

B'nei Mitzvah Family Class – Group 1
Saturday mornings, 9:00-10:15am
(followed by Shabbat service, when scheduled)

October 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2021
November 13 and 20, 2021

Families should join us in the LIBRARY at 9:00am.
Please bring a 3-ring binder and a pencil each week.



Mazel Tov to Our Upcoming B'nei Mitvah

Lilly Mizrachi

Parents: Jodi and Arik Mizrachi
Brother: David Mizrachi
Relatives at Beth Chaim:
Seasonwein-Burns Family,
Sheffield Family and
Bizenov Family



Being Jewish brings together family and friends. My family gets together for Chanukah and Passover; we celebrate the traditions and make Jewish memories. Judaism gives me something to believe in and brings out the best in me.

B'nei Mitzvah: October 2, 2021

Zachary Maxwell Blatt

Parents: Kimberly and Joshua Blatt

Sibling: Alec

Beth Chaim is special because it allows me to express myself freely to people that I know will listen; people who I can trust.

B'nei Mitzvah: October 16, 2021



Benjamin Boyarsky

Parents: Scott and Karen Boyarsky

Sibling: Drew

Grandparents: Jeff and Diane Boyarsky

B'nei Mitzvah: October 23, 2021



Jessica Arden Schneck

Parents: Joy and Joel Schneck
Sibling: Carson

Being Jewish is important to me because it forms a special bond and unites us from all over the world.

B'nei Mitzvah: October 10, 2021



Mason Blayne

Parent: Caren Blayne

Grandparent: Barbara Blayne

Beth Chaim is special to me because my family has been members for years. My mom and my uncle both had their bat/bar mitzvahs on the same bimah as I will. I also know that my poppy Mel, who I never met, loved to being part of Beth Chaim.

B'nei Mitzvah: October 31, 2021



SEPTEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 • 7:30pm Shabbat Service	4 • 8:45am Torah Study
5	6 Erev Rosh Hashanah • 8:00pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service with Choir	7 Rosh Hashanah • 9:00am Early Service • 11:15am Late Service with Choir • 2:00pm Pre-Reader Family Service 3:00pm Tashlich at Mercer County Park Marina	8 Rosh Hashanah (Day 2) • 10:00am Rosh Hashanah Second Day Service • 7:00pm Membership Committee	9	10 • 7:30pm Shabbat Shuvah Healing Service hosted by Nefesh	11 • 8:45am Torah Study
12	13 • 1:00pm Sisterhood Mah Jong	14 • 7:30pm Executive Committee • 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15 Erev Yom Kippur • 7:30pm Erev Yom Kippur Service with Choir	16 Yom Kippur • 9:00am Early Service • 11:15am Late Service with Choir • 2:00pm Pre-reader Family Service • 2:00pm Study Sessions • 3:30pm Yizkor Service • 4:30pm Mincha/Afternoon Service • 6:00pm Ne'ilah Service, Shofar Blowing & Havdalah	17 • 7:30pm Shabbat Service	18 • 8:45am Torah Study
19  • 9:00am Religious School • 9:30am Adult Education: Swimming in a Sea of Talmud	20 Erev Sukkot • 1:00pm Sisterhood Mah Jong • 7:00pm Erev Sukkot	21 Sukkot (Day 1) • 7:00pm Finance Committee • 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22 Sukkot (Day 2) • 4:30pm Tikkun Olam HomeFront Dinners • 7:00pm Sisterhood Board Meeting • 8:00pm Reimaging Dues Task Force	23 Sukkot (Day 3) • 11:00am Nosh and Knowledge	24 Sukkot (Day 4) • 7:30pm Shabbat Service	25 Sukkot (Day 5) • 8:45am Torah Study
26  Sukkot (Day 6) • 9:00am Religious School • 9:30am Adult Education: Swimming in a Sea of Talmud • 10:30am Board Meeting	27 Sukkot (Day 7) Erev Simchat Torah • 1:00pm Sisterhood Mah Jong	28 Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah • 8:30am Yizkor	29	30		

Please check our Temple website's calendar (www.bethchaim.org) for the latest service times, meeting schedules, events, classes, etc.

OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 • 7:30pm Shabbat Service	2 • 8:45am Torah Study • 10:30am B'nei Mitzvah: Lilly Mizrachi
3 • 8:00am JFCS Wheels for Meals, bike ride to fight hunger	4 • 1:00pm Sisterhood Mah Jong	5 • 7:30pm Intro to Judaism • 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	6  • 4:30pm 4th - 6th Zoom school • 6:30pm 7th - 10th Religious School	7	8 • 7:30pm Shabbat Service	9 • 8:45am Torah Study • 9:00am BM Family Class - Grp 1 • 10:30am B'nei Mitzvah: Jessica Schneck
10  • 9:00am Religious School • 9:30am Adult Education: Swimming in a Sea of Talmud • 11:00am Tikkun Olam Committee	11 • 1:00pm Sisterhood Mah Jong	12 • 7:30pm Intro to Judaism • 7:30pm Executive Committee • 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	13  • 4:30pm 4th - 6th Zoom school • 6:30pm 7th - 10th Religious School • 7:00pm Security Committee	14 • 7:00pm IAC	15 • 6:00pm Tot Shabbat • 7:30pm Shabbat Service	16 • 8:45am Torah Study • 9:00am BM Family Class - Grp 1 • 10:30am B'nei Mitzvah: Zachary Blatt
17  • 9:00am Religious School • 9:30am Adult Education: Swimming in a Sea of Talmud • 1:00pm Nefesh - Craftwork Chavurah	18 • 1:00pm Sisterhood Mah Jong	19 • 7:00pm Finance Committee • 7:00pm Nefesh committee meeting • 7:30pm Intro to Judaism • 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	20  • 4:30pm 4th - 6th Zoom School • 6:30pm 7th - 10th Religious School • 7:00pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	21 • 8:00pm Reimagining Dues Task Force	22 • 7:30pm Shabbat Service	23 • 8:45am Torah Study • 9:00am BM Family Class - Grp 1 • 10:30am B'nei Mitzvah: Benjamin Boyarsky
24  • 9:00am Religious School • Board Retreat	25 • 1:00pm Sisterhood Mah Jong	26 • 7:30pm Intro to Judaism • 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	27  • 4:30pm Tikkun Olam HomeFront Dinners • 4:30pm 4th - 6th Zoom School • 6:30pm 7th - 10th Religious School	28 • 11:00am Nosh & Knowledge	29 • 7:30pm Shabbat Service	30 • 8:45am Torah Study • 9:00am BM Family Class - Grp 1 • 10:30am B'nei Mitzvah: Mason Blayne
31  • 9:00am Religious School • 9:30am Adult Education: Swimming in a Sea of Talmud						

High Holy Day Events are Subject to Change

High Holy Day plans are constantly evolving due to changing Covid protocols.
Our goal is for all services to be in-person either indoor or outdoor
and include virtual options.

Please check our website for current information.

bethchaim.org/hhd



High Holy Days Schedule*

2021 / 5782



Saturday, August 28

8:45pm - Community S'lichot Service
at Beth Chaim in the Sanctuary *

Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 6

8:00pm - Erev Rosh Hashanah Service -
Outside

Tuesday, September 7

9:00am - Rosh Hashanah Service - Outside
11:15am - Rosh Hashanah Service with the
Choir in the Sanctuary *
2:00pm - Pre-Reader Family Service - Outside
3:00pm - Tashlich at Mercer County
Park Marina

Wednesday, September 8

10:00am - Rosh Hashanah Second Day
Service - Outside



Friday, September 10

7:30pm - Shabbat Shuvah Healing Service
hosted by Nefesh - Outside

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, September 15

7:30pm - Erev Yom Kippur Service
with Choir in the Sanctuary *

Thursday, September 16

9:00am - Yom Kippur Service - Outside
11:15am - Yom Kippur Service with Choir
in the Sanctuary *
2:00pm - Yom Kippur Study Session
2:00pm - Pre-Reader Family Service - Outside
3:30pm - Yizkor Service - Inside * and Outside
4:30pm - Mincha/Afternoon Service *
(approx.)
6:00pm - Ne'ilah Service followed by
(approx.) Shofar Blowing & Havdalah *

*** Services held in the Sanctuary will also be on Zoom live-streamed.
Attendees to any indoor event MUST be vaccinated.**



The Board of Rabbis of Princeton Mercer Bucks with the support of The Jewish Federation of Princeton Mercer Bucks Invites you to join us in ushering in the High Holy Days at



Saturday, August 28, 2021
8:45pm

- Havdalah
- Viewing of the film "Violins of Hope: Strings of the Holocaust" followed by Q&A

A documentary featuring Israeli violinmaker Amnon Weinstein and his efforts to restore violins recovered from the Holocaust. Some were played by Jewish prisoners in concentration camps; others belonged to the Klezmer musical culture, which was all but destroyed by the Nazis.



- S'lichot Service

Free and Open to the Community

High Holy Days for Families and Children Happy New Year!



Join us for these special High Holy Day programs geared for the needs of families and young children.

Rosh Hashanah Family Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 2:00pm

Join us for a Pre-Reader service filled with singing, dancing, stories and Rosh HaShanah *ruach* (spirit!) featuring Cantor Binder and Rabbi Blum. Hear the shofar and leave with a sweet treat to begin the year.

Those who attend in person must be masked (except for children under two).

Yom Kippur Family Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 2:00pm

Bring your youngest to share in the messages of Yom Kippur with Rabbi Blum and Cantor Binder. This interactive service will teach the themes of "sorry" and "forgiveness" through age-appropriate liturgy and stories.

Those who attend in person must be masked (except for children under two).

Out of care and concern for the health and safety of our congregants and staff, Beth Chaim will not be offering babysitting during the High Holy Days this year.



Congregation Beth Chaim Community Tashlich

Service of Forgiveness

Rosh Hashanah 5782
Tuesday, September 7 at 3:00pm
Mercer County Park Marina
Follow signs for Boathouse

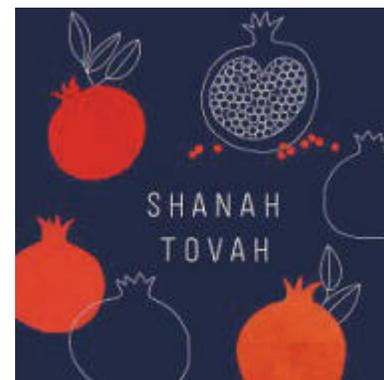
Tashlich, which means "to cast," is a ritual practice of both Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jews that customarily takes place on the afternoon of Rosh HaShanah. Gathered along the shores of a natural body of water such as a stream, river, lake, or ocean, Jews cast small pieces of bread (or more environmentally sound objects like birdseed) into the water, symbolizing their sins of the past year.

The liturgy for Tashlich varies from community to community, but generally includes verses from the Prophet Micah.

The ritual of Tashlich on the afternoon of Rosh HaShanah offers us another opportunity during the High Holy Day season to take stock of ourselves and our behaviors. By "casting away" the negative deeds and missteps of the past year, we can focus instead on ways to improve ourselves in the year ahead.

Join us as we cast away our sins and remember our actions, right our wrongs, and refocus ourselves for the New Year. Birdseed will be provided.

"Who is a God like, You, forgiving iniquity and pardoning the transgression of the remnant of Your people? You do not maintain anger forever, but You delight in loving-kindness. You will again have compassion upon us, subduing our sins, casting all our sins into the depths of the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and enduring love to Abraham, as You promised our fathers from days of old." Micah 7:18-20



Second Day Rosh Hashanah Wednesday, September 8, 2021 10:00am

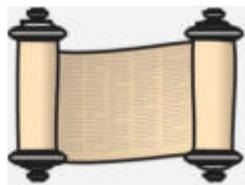
Please join us for an interactive Rosh Hashanah service followed by an outdoor luncheon (weather permitting). Donation of \$10 per person suggested for lunch AND reservations required.

Please email educator@bethchaim.org to indicate your attendance plans.

A Shabbat of Healing

Friday, September 10, 2021
7:30pm

Shabbat Shuvah, the Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, is dedicated to the themes of repentance and healing. Please join us as we observe this special Shabbat with readings, songs and meditations. This service is presented in partnership with the **Nefesh Committee** in its mission to nourish body, mind and soul.



Torah Readers Wanted for Simchat Torah

Monday, September 27, 2021
7:00pm

All are invited to chant a line from Torah as we celebrate the end – and begin again – our annual Torah reading cycle. All congregants are invited to chant a line from the portion they read on becoming B'nei Mitzvah OR to just choose a verse from their favorite text.

Please contact Anne Berman-Waldorf (educator@bethchaim.org) to be part of this joyous celebration. (NOTE – Simchat Torah will be outdoors, weather permitting)



Celebrate Sukkot at Beth Chaim

Monday, September 20, 2021
7:00pm

Beginning five days after Yom Kippur, Sukkot is named after the booths (sukkot, in Hebrew) in which Jews are supposed to dwell during this week-long celebration. According to rabbinic tradition, these flimsy sukkot represent the huts in which the Israelites dwelt during their 40 years wandering in the desert after escaping from slavery in Egypt.

Join us outdoors, in our Sukkah, as we celebrate this harvest holiday with songs of praise. We will shake the lulav and etrog and send everyone home with a holiday treat.

The evening will conclude by 8:30 pm.

Simchat Torah Celebration

Monday, September 27, 2021
7:00pm

Beth Chaim Parking Lot



Join us for an outdoor celebration of Torah, with music and dancing as we celebrate the end – and begin again – the annual Torah reading cycle.

Portions from Torah will be chanted by our B'nei Mitzvah students – and any others who would like to participate (*please reach out to Anne Berman-Waldorf, educator@bethchaim.org if you are interested in chanting a verse from Torah*).

The evening will be a celebration of Torah and the way we live Torah.



Congregation Beth Chaim Book of Remembrance 5782



As is our tradition, the Temple will publish a Book of Remembrances for those congregants and members of the community who wish to honor the memory of their friends and relatives.*

In addition to the standard listing of names option, we are offering you the opportunity to purchase either a half-page or full-page remembrance. All you need to do is provide the names of those you wish to honor and we will design the page for you.

** All names submitted for inclusion in the Book of Remembrance will also be scrolled on the display screens in the Sanctuary during Yizkor Service.*

Check One (all pages will be in black & white):

Check here if you would like to use the same listing as last year.

	Member Price	Non-Member Price
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Page (up to 30 names)	\$ 218.00 – Member	\$ 290.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Half Page (up to 15 names)	\$ 118.00 – Member	\$ 190.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Names	\$ 10.00 (per name)	\$ 18.00 (per name)

Please send the names you wish to remember along with the appropriate payment no later than August 31 to Congregation Beth Chaim, Attn: Memorial Book

Enclosed is a check payable to Congregation Beth Chaim in the amount of \$_____

You may also make your submission online at tinyurl.com/4vt2xmc3.



*Simchat Torah/
Shemini Atzeret
Yizkor Service*

*Tuesday, September 28
8:30am*

Join us for this memorial service in our Sanctuary. This service is open to the community. All participants must wear masks regardless of vaccination status.



*You Say Tomato, I Say Tomahto
How Our Language Shapes
Our Viewpoint*

An Hour of Israel Conversation

Sponsored by the Israel Affairs Task Force

**Sunday, September 19, 2021
10:30am – 11:30am**

Join Hagit Sten for an hour focusing on how the language we use when talking about Israel both shapes and shares our viewpoints. Explore the historical and political context of the words we use.

For more information, or to register, email educator@bethchaim.org or call Anne Berman-Waldorf at 609-799-9401.

“Do not say, ‘When I will be available I will study [Torah],’ lest you never become available.”

-Rabbi Hillel, Pirkei Avot 2:4



Swimming in a Sea of Talmud

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed
9:30am – 10:30am, IN PERSON**

Class begins on September 19, 2021

Join Rabbi Blum, Cantor Binder and Anne Berman-Waldorf Sunday mornings (when Religious School is in session) at 9:30am and delve into the Talmud, a central text of Rabbinic Judaism. The Talmud contains the teachings and opinions of the rabbis on a variety of subjects, including *Halakha* (law), Jewish ethics, philosophy, customs, history, lore and other topics. It is the basis for the Code of Jewish Law. This class will study selections from the Talmud and other rabbinic sources with a focus on understanding what the texts meant to our ancestors and how they continue to guide our lives today.

**Nosh &
Knowledge**

Great Jewish Debates

An Hour of Study and Conversation

*All programs will take place at Beth Chaim,
beginning at 11:00am.*

Thursday, September 23
Bartering with God

Thursday, October 28
Leadership and Holiness

Argumentation and debate are the lifeblood of Jewish tradition. Abraham, the first Jew, challenged the decision to destroy the innocent along with the guilty in Sodom. Jacob successfully wrestled with a “Divine Being” and earned a new name. Moses, like the ancestors before him, frequently argued on behalf of the people and the sages of the rabbinic period recorded their debates as they wrote the Talmud. Today, Jews continue to call on the wisdom of their ancestors to wrestle with the social and political issues of our times.

Join Rabbi Adena Blum, Cantor Stuart Binder and Anne Berman-Waldorf, RJE, for an hour of “Great Jewish Debates.” Each month, we will examine a different discussion in history and apply it to life today.

Young Adult Outreach

College students, grad students – all 20/30 year olds -
Beth Chaim wants to stay in touch with YOU!

Please fill out send the contact information below to
office@bethchaim.org.

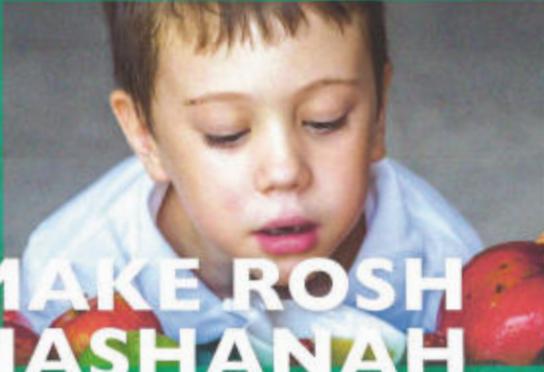
Name: _____

COMPLETE mailing address: _____

Email address: _____

Cell phone number: _____





MAKE ROSH HASHANAH SWEETER

Magnify your impact on the Jewish future. Start 5782 by becoming one of Beth Chaim's Life and Legacy donors.

As part of our 50th anniversary celebration, make a commitment to our congregation's vibrant future.

For more information, please contact Karen Brodsky, Jerry Kalstein, Don Leibowitz or Jeff Miller at cbclegacy@bethchaim.org.



LIFE & LEGACY® HONOR ROLL

Ensuring Congregation Beth Chaim's Vibrant Tomorrow - TODAY

Thank you to all our Beth Chaim Members who have made a Legacy commitment.

Anonymous (6)	Jonathan Kolb and Julie Martin-Kolb
Sherry Barsky	Leslie Nagler
Elana Berlinger	Stephen and Caryl Parker
Cantor Stuart Binder	Scott and Jeri Schaefer
Camille Bloomberg	Adria Sherman
Diane and Jeffrey Boyarsky	Paula and Charles Small
Paul Eland z"l	Robin and Dan Valentine
Leslie and Gary Fox	Anne Berman-Waldorf and Joshua Waldorf
Sharon Hoffman-Manning	David and Diane Weinstein
Mark and Ilene Janofsky	Rabbi Eric Wisnia
Joyce and Jerry Kalstein	Phyllis and Michael Zieky
Donald S. Leibowitz and Karen Brodsky	Add your name here*
Michael Manning	

* Creating your own Jewish legacy empowers you to further the work of your heart, and to enjoy the peace of mind that it brings. By making a LIFE & LEGACY Promise to Congregation Beth Chaim, you will:

- **Perpetuate** the Jewish traditions and values you cherish.
- **Preserve** the programs and institutions that support Jewish life in our Greater Mercer area and around the world.
- **Plan** for your family's philanthropic interests and enjoy tax advantages.

Through your Promise, you will be remembered and your work and Jewish values will continue beyond your lifetime.

For more information contact: Don Leibowitz, Karen Brodsky, Jerry Kalstein or Jeff Miller at cbclegacy@bethchaim.org

Life & Legacy® is a national program sponsored by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation to promote after-lifetime giving to build endowments that will provide financial stability to our Congregation and Jewish organizations throughout North America.

Ensuring Congregation Beth Chaim's Vibrant Future

Thank you to our Beth Chaim Members and contributors to the

Secure the Legacy & Secure the Future campaigns

Secure the Legacy (2016-20)

Dr. Jerry Bagel	Sara and Devin Friedlander
Eileen and Mark Balaban	Shara and Gary Hofing
Nadine and Mark Berkowsky	Karen and Robert Leef
Elana Berlinger	Sandra Byer-Lubin and Hank Lubin
Camille Bloomberg	Lois and Jeffrey Miller
Cindy and Bill Bright	Adria Sherman
Holly Singer-Eland and Richard Eland	Denise and Allan Weber
Tammy Esau-Ferst and Steve Ferst	Gayle and Barry Weisberg
Leslie and J. Gary Fox	Rhonda and John Wydra
	Janet and Irving Zatz

The Goal of the Secure the Legacy campaign was to raise charitable donations for the Congregation's Endowment Fund. Thanks to the above members over \$100,000 was added to the fund.

Secure the Future (2020-2023)

Karen Brodsky and Don Leibowitz	Rhonda and John Wydra
Cecelia and Norman Goldschmidt	Diane and Michael Schwartz
Lisa and Larry Jasper	Ronnie and Drew Staffenberg
Joyce and Jerold Kalstein	Robin and Dan Valentine
Kelly and Marshall Kizner	Adria Sherman
Michele and Kenneth Pogrob	David Sadock Charitable Trust
	Add your name here

Secure Beth Chaim's Future Campaign was inaugurated in the fall of 2020 to create additional financial security for our congregation's operating budget by asking members to make 3-year donation commitments. This will permit the congregation to undertake longer range financial planning. The above members have each made 3-year commitments. To date, we have raised about half of our million-dollar goal. We hope we will reach and surpass this goal during our 50th anniversary year.

For more information, please contact: Don Leibowitz, Karen Brodsky or Drew Staffenberg

Good & Welfare

The Board and Trustees of Congregation Beth Chaim wish to extend their sincerest condolences to the families of the following individuals upon their passing:

*Arlene Mulry Pearl
Stan Wiernik, husband of Bridget Wiernik*

BCTY Fund

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Patricia & Roger Klein
Liz Dickerman & Rick Arons
Karen Brodsky & Don Leibowitz

In memory of Seymour Wexler

Judy Wexler

Building Fund

Congratulations to the Feder Family on the birth of their granddaughter, Brooke

Karen Brodsky & Don Leibowitz

In memory of David Wisnia

Adria Sherman

In memory of Arlene Mulry-Pearl

Karen Brodsky & Don Leibowitz

In memory of my aunt, Eileen Applebaum

Karen Brodsky & Don Leibowitz

In loving memory of Eileen Applebaum

Lynn & Mike Setzman

Cantor Discretionary Fund

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Leslie Brodsky
Barbara Gilbert
Barbara, Michael, Caren & Mason Blayne
Les Nagler
Donna & Michael Zeller

In memory of Arlene Mulry-Pearl

Sara-Ann & Richard Hopp

Caring Committee

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Phyllis & Irwin Stoolmacher

In memory of Arlene Mulry

Adrienne & Jerry Sava

In memory of Michael Cambon

Jean & Brad Nitzberg

In memory of Seymour Wexler

Judy Wexler

Camp Harlam Scholarship Fund

Thank you, Cantor Binder, for performing at our daughter, Morgan's wedding ceremony

Stacy & Harvey Mitgang

Chai Fund

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Esther Goldstein
Pat Clarfield
Jean & Brad Nitzberg

Choir Fund

In memory Cantor David Wisnia

Carol Bucca
Jill Kross
Susan & Eric Kutell
Judy & Richard Meyer
Susan & Gerald Gumpert
Ann Brandt

College Outreach

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Ellen & Mahendra Wijesinghe
Mary Ellen & Michael Kessler
Dale Hosfield

Debra Greenberg Fund

In memory of David Greenberg

Eileen & Len Greenberg

In memory of Arlene Mulry-Pearl

Eileen & Len Greenberg
Amy & Bill Smith

In memory of David Wisnia

Eileen & Len Greenberg
Amy & Bill Smith

In memory of Robert Gurgold

Eileen & Len Greenberg

Gilbert Fund

In memory of Robert Gurgold

Doug Gilbert
Barbara Gilbert

In memory of Eric Schissel

Barbara Gilbert

In memory of Rhoda Bloom

Barbara Gilbert

In memory of Arlene Mulry-Pearl

Doug Gilbert
Barbara Gilbert
Barbara Blayne

In memory of Beatrice Lederman

Barbara Gilbert
Doug Gilbert
Jen Gilbert-Kaufmann, Rob, Rachel & Alyssa Kaufmann

Landscaping Fund

In honor of the marriage of our daughter, Tova, to Dr. Andrew Siegel

Judith & Richard Meyer

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Evelyn & Irwin Behren

Library Fund

Wishing Marci Resnick much success with her new venture, In Motion Fitness & Wellness

Love, Mom & Dad

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Evelyn & Irwin Behren

In memory of Robert Gurgold

Evelyn & Irwin Behren

In memory of Eric Schissel

Evelyn & Irwin Behren

Religious School

In memory of David Wisnia

Anne Gordon

In memory of Marion Berman

Jean & Brad Nitzberg

Ritual Fund*In memory of Cantor Wisnia*

Mindy & Michael Shedler

Senior Rabbi Discretionary Fund*With gratitude for Rabbi Blum's tactful guidance and supportive teaching*

Lorenzo Moreno

In honor of Joseph Depaulo's baby naming

Michelle Ranello & Joseph Depaulo

Lisa & Charles Ranello

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

The Naddelman Family

Peter & Gaby Altman and Family

Beverly Roberts

Janet & Rick Gross

Steve Coplin

Wendy & Andy Lipka

Donna & Phil Sher

Ilene & Lew Cashman

In memory of Elliott Rafkin

Shelli Rafkin and Family

In memory of Ed Bershad

Naomi & Carl Freedman

In memory of my grandfather, Max Siegel

Gerald & Nancy Siegel

Sisterhood-Stoller Scholarship Fund*Congratulations on Samuel Parker's engagement*

Ellen Chajson, Mark Perkiss & Evan Perkiss

In memory of Cantor Wisnia

Stoller/Schrager families

Special Education*Wishing a speedy recovery to Margie Estrin*

Arlene Munkacsi

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Lisa, Mollie and Linda Rubinstein

Arlene Munkacsi

Barbara Sarfaty

In memory of Arlene Mulry-Pearl

Barbara Sarfaty

Yahrzeit Fund*In memory of Lawrence I. Miller*

Shelley & Howie Miller

Tikkun Olam*In memory of Cantor David Wisnia*

Naomi Godfrey

Miriam & Jim Robin

Linda & Bill Feldstein

Marcia Tureck

In memory of Samuel Robbins, Malcolm Robbins, Lois Lardieri and Tillie Balbresky

Myrna & Richard Robbins

In memory of Arlene Mulry-Pearl

Linda & Bill Feldstein

Prayer Book Purchase*In honor of Charlie Wachtel's Confirmation*

Marcey & Jeffrey Mandell

In memory of Rabbi Eric Wisnia's beloved father, David Wisnia

Linda and Art Meisel

In memory of Cantor David Wisnia

Janet Silverstein

In memory of Arlene Mulry-Pearl and Richard Pearl (2 books)

Elana Berlinger

GOOD & WELFARE

You can recognize any occasion, be it joyful or sad, for someone you care about.
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All donations are welcome. Acknowledgement cards and listings in the bulletin will accompany donations at the minimum amount or greater.

Make your donations **ON-LINE** with a credit card or electronic check...
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Or contact Barbara Gilbert at 448-6835 / bobbig6835@gmail.com

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1. No calls after 9pm, please! No calls during Shabbat, Friday evening and all day Saturday.
2. Good & Welfare is run by volunteers - please be understanding about human errors.
3. Please be sure to have complete information about your donation, including a full address.
4. The cards will be sent upon receipt of check.
5. Multiple donations do not require multiple checks - You may include additional information on a separate sheet of paper.

THANK YOU!

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