

Hadashot

The Newsletter of Congregation B'nai Shalom

CHESHVAN-TEVET 5782

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Inside This Issue

The Rabbi's Studypages 1, 2
Directory page 2
President's Pen page 3
Hazzan's Hai Notes page 4
Educationpages 5-8
Congregation Newspages 9-15
Bat Mitzvahs page 16
Tikun Olampage 17
Women of
B'nai Shalom page 18
Men's Club page 19
Contra Costa Midrashapage 20
Tzedakah pages 21-23
Schedule of Servicesback page

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Walnut Creek, CA 94596
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bshalom.org



Welcome to Congregation B'nai Shalom, a Conservative synagogue offering a warm, supportive, dynamic community joined together by prayer, learning and celebration!

THE RABBI'S STUDY

by Rabbi Daniel Stein

In many of my adult education classes, we return to a reoccurring challenge in Jewish historiography: the absence of written material to document the history of the Jewish people. If, for instance, the Mishna—one of the important early works of Jewish law—was finished in the second century, what are we to learn from the fact that the oldest complete manuscript of the Mishna is much more recent? The so-called Kaufmann manuscript is only about 1000 years old. Why are there no more ancient documents? Were they ever produced? Were they destroyed in an act of anti-Jewish violence? Are they stowed away, miscataloged, in a European library or languishing in the archive of the Vatican? The answer, sadly, is we do not know: such speculation leads down the path to what John Locke called *argumentum ad ignoratum*: we cannot draw conclusions from what we do not know.

Yet the absence of such historical material has compelled modern Jews to value, perhaps even irrationally, what we've been able to retain from our

past. It is this drive that sent historian and rabbi Solomon Schechter to Cairo in order to acquire the Genizah of the Ben Ezra Synagogue—a literal trash heap—on behalf of Cambridge University. Schechter even coins his own German-Hebrew word for the dust that covered after the days he spent pouring over ancient manuscripts: *genizah-schmutz*.

Given this Jewish mania for collecting, it was surprising to learn this month of a rare object of Judaica being auctioned at Sotheby's: The Luzzatto High Holiday Machzor from the 13th or 14th centuries is one of the most important early Ashkenazi prayer books. It is notable not only for its age, but also for its liturgical and artistic significance. It displays, at once, the intellect, creative abilities, religious piety, and financial prosperity of at least a portion of the Ashkenazi community in the Middle Ages.



(continued on page 2)

Directory

Hadashot is published bi-monthly by Congregation
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Preschool Director.....	Marla Medwin
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Evan Nakisher	

THE RABBI'S STUDY

(continued from page 1)

How, then, did such a book come onto the open market? It belongs, today, to the *Alliance Israélite Universelle*—the once prominent Jewish organization that promoted universal Jewish education in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Today, though, like many Jewish organizations, the Alliance has fallen on hard times. The sale of the Machzor could generate much needed revenue for the organization—perhaps as much as \$5 million—which would fund its archives through the decade.

While an extreme example, the Machzor's story also presents one of the most pressing questions of Jewish history: how do we preserve our past and protect our future? Is it through the preservation of physical objects, like books and manuscripts? These items tell the story of our past—yet in a digital age, do we need the objects themselves? What are the ethics of selling such an object—what does it mean to move an object whose value may be, albeit temporarily, priceless into the market? What does it mean to place a price on the Jewish past? Yet, if the sale of this book can support communal organizations, perhaps it is the *only* right thing to do—after all, what does Judaism mean without Jews?

Ultimately, we may say, there is no right answer to these questions. Yet, they are ones Jewish communities large and small face very day. Even as the Luzzato Machzor is slated to appear at Sotheby's, a synagogue in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania was preparing to sell its silver-plated samovars and early 20th Polish chairs. In perhaps less dramatic ways, synagogues and JCCs often have to decide whether to fund maintenance projects or invest in programming; seldom can they do everything well. I do not pretend to know which choice is right.

By the time this article appears, the Luzzato Mahzor will likely have been sold. Many hope that it will end up in the National Library of the State of Israel. If it does, its' arrival will be the product of a government who has decided to invest not only in the physical safety of the Jewish people, but also in the security of its history.



President's Pen

by Michael Bloom

Haverim,

Now that the High Holy Days for 5781-82 are behind us, we have time to relax and reflect. Personally, I am very pleased that Hazzan Bernstein and Rabbi Stein have been able to craft services and celebrations that last through Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, and Bruce Locke for maintaining the Good Ship Minyan on a steady course.

It's been at least a decade since I felt so "complete" – with these two important celebrations that complement Sukkot and that together provide a gradual teshuvah to the conduct of our daily lives. Of course, COVID concerns are still with us, and there appear to be few prospects of those concerns vanishing completely before Chanukkah. Zoom is an inadequate substitute for face-to-face meeting, for hugging people, and for shaking hands. Nevertheless, we will get through it.

The results of the hard work of our staff and congregants amidst these obstacles and uncertainties must make us all proud. Here are a couple of examples of which you may not be aware:

- In the last 6 weeks, our Gan B'nai Shalom preschool went through a difficult period. We felt that it was important -- for the safety of students, siblings, parents, and staff -- to tighten our policy on COVID vaccination as a requirement for matriculation. We lost seven students in five families that chose not to comply; their spaces were quickly filled by other families and children. When those "new" families came on board (including one of the five that returned), the fact that we had standards and were willing to enforce them was an additional "plus" on top of our curriculum and socialization. Now, the GBS program is expected to be "at capacity" very soon.
- Our community is a very giving environment. We have a large contingent of members who participate in various programs such as Tikun Olam team – led by Margie Goldware and Margalit Ir. These ladies lead the

team in finding programs that harmonize with our ethical preferences, ensuring that the relationships are on the up-and-up, and coordinating our volunteers as they provide all manner of services and resources for those less fortunate.

These include cooking and serving at a local soup kitchen, collecting warm coats for winter, collecting appropriate clothing for job interviews, and one that really touched my heart: collecting non-perishable foodstuffs for the Contra Costa Food Bank. I was recently at B'nai Shalom for an afternoon on which the Food Bank's truck came by for its pickup, and I was so pleased to see the items overflowing the collection barrels, as shown in this photo.



- I also want to mention the Ezra Committee. This team is usually a silent symphony, operating out of the limelight, and completing a very important role for our schools and families. Taking a page from the foundation laid by Hon. Martin Rothenberg z"l, who performed this task for decades, the team matches up families of preschool and religious school children with funds that we receive from the San Francisco Federation, from various philanthropic Foundations, and from B'nai Shalom's own fund-raising activities (see Elaine Manno or Marla Medwin for the details). These funds are distributed to the families as financial aid (not scholarships) to enable more children to attend our school programs.
- I could go on and on about our wonderful congregants and all the projects, in so many different domains, that they formulate and implement.

Before I conclude, I must bring to your attention some needs that B'nai Shalom has right now. These needs are all important to our daily operations, so they are now being filled-in by temporary or remote workers or by several folks collaborating on one job.

- At the top of the list is our pursuit of a successor to Alyssa Faulkenberg as our Executive Director. Alyssa has moved, with her family, to Houston, Texas, to accompany husband Mark on a great new job. Alyssa is continuing to serve CBS "remotely," but of course that is not expected to be a forever situation. We have a search team actively looking to fill this role (and Alyssa is helping that team, too). If you have ideas or potential candidates, please contact Alyssa, or Vice President Steve Goodman (who is heading the team), or directly to me.
- The next big role on the list is to find a successor to Jim Liston as our Treasurer, i.e., the CFO of B'nai Shalom. Stan Goldman, a member of the Board and of the Finance Committee, has agreed to fill-in through the end of December; this will enable us, inter alia, to get started on cost center budgets for FY23, which must be done by the end of FY22. You will find a more-elaborate Job Description (Advertisement) elsewhere in today's Hadashot. Again, if you are interested in this assignment, contact me or Vice President Earl Agron, Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- The final items on this list are two Directorships, i.e., members of the Board of Directors, succeeding individuals who are dropping off the Board to focus on other activities. As noted, if you are interested in one of these assignments, contact me or Earl Agron, Chair of the Nominating Committee.

Thanks for your time and attention. I will highlight more activities in the next issue of The President's Pen. Remember, you can always reach me through Debbie Stephens in the office to set up a Bloom on Zoom private call any Monday from 11am to 1pm.

B'Shalom,
Michael Bloom
President and Chair of the Board



Hazzan's Hai Notes

by Hazzan Sandy Bernstein

Life is all about perspective.

Growing up and living most of my life in the Los Angeles area, when people from the east coast would say they missed the seasons, my answer was always, seasons schmeasons, who needs them when we have the best season year round? When we lived in the south bay of LA, it was pretty much 75 degrees year round. In the winter, it would dip down to about 45 degrees at which temperature, everyone would be wearing boots and winter coats with layers beneath. Those who were from the east coast would, of course, laugh at us all. Then, I found myself living in the Philadelphia suburbs.

Our first winter there, we had snow storm after snow storm with temperatures as low as 15 degrees below freezing with the windchill factor. I had to learn how to live with the snow and ice with help from my new found friends in the area. Of course, the first thing I did when we arrived there that summer, was take a trip to the NorthFace store to buy myself a proper winter coat, hat, gloves and snow boots. Turns out you can get cute snow boots, not just the big bulky ones that I knew from our winter trips to Big Bear growing up.

That first winter in Philly was the worst winter they had seen in about 50 years, so we figured that once we made it through that, we could handle any winter Philly would throw at us. Prior to that winter, I had heard, from a song, that snow can glisten, but I never had been able to even imagine what that actually looked like until I saw it in real life. It's true that snow can actually glisten and it's so beautiful as are the icicles that form on the eaves of the house and it turns out that the frost on the windows, when you look at it closely is made up of the most beautiful snowflake patterns imaginable. The downside however, is getting that frost off of the windshield of your car when you are in a rush to drive the kids to school in the morning. Even worse, is when there is a four inch layer of snow to get off the car before even getting to the ice that is stuck on the windshield. Living on the east coast with no garage changed my perspective.

Back in LA, we always had an attached garage and I always felt that was a necessity. I never realized how spoiled I was. Most everyone there had an attached garage. In Philly though, hardly anyone had an attached garage and most had no garage at all in the area where one would think it's actually necessary. Having one would have meant, no snow and ice to scrape each morning, but alas, living through it, I

learned that life with no garage is perfectly livable, albeit not necessarily desirable, even under harsh winter conditions.

Jewish tradition encourages us to ask questions and to look at things from different perspectives. We have thousands of pages of rabbinical texts in the Talmud, where various well-known and well-regarded rabbis share and argue their perspective on any given issue of Halacha (Jewish law). Let's follow in this tradition and always be open to various perspectives on the issues that come up in our lives. Although we often get stuck thinking that it's "our way or the highway," there may actually be another way. Someone we come across may enlighten us by sharing another perspective, or perhaps our own lives might take us in a direction that can open our eyes to another perspective. Let's remember to be open to other ways of looking at things and remember that others may have a different way of doing something that although we may not be comfortable with, it just may be as good or even better than how we've always done that. If we all work toward this, we can make an even stronger community for ourselves and enrich our lives even more!

Give Your Child a Meaningful Education Where

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IS JUST THE BEGINNING!

K-8TH GRADE



“CCJDS is a truly unique K-8 school which not only offers excellent academics, but also nurtures the whole child in a diverse, loving and supportive Jewish community. My children love their school and as parents, we do too!”
— Steve C.



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The Contra Costa Jewish 
DAY SCHOOL
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CONTACT US OR VISIT US ONLINE!
925-284-8288 • admissions@ccjds.org

Religious School by Elaine Manno



We have had a terrific start to the school year! Classrooms are busy having fun and learning! We celebrated our Kindergarten students and the start of their Jewish education during our September 24th Family Shabbat. We are also excited to announce that five new students and their families have joined our school and community this year. It is so wonderful watching our community grow and expand.

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped to make our first fundraiser of the year a success. We raised \$155 which will directly impact our ability to provide vibrant programs for our students. We look forward to hosting another shredding fundraiser next fall. Stay tuned for more details and start saving your papers to be shredded.

I am incredibly fortunate this year to be a member of Cohort 12 of The Matan Institute for Education and Youth Directors. In October I participated in my first two days of learning and brought new information back to our classrooms, implementing new practices immediately! This opportunity is giving me more tools and support to ensure that our school and programs are inclusive of all of our students and their learning needs. I hope we can go beyond the classroom with what I learn, as it will not just benefit our kids, but our entire community, providing for all of our members. I look forward to giving an update in the coming months.

Family Programming & Outreach



We had a great kickoff event with Yedidut! (Friendship) in October. Geared towards all preschool aged children (0-5 years old) and their parents, this art-centric program provides fun and interactive activities as well as time to be social and make new friends. PJ Library also joins us for story time. This is open to all Jewish families with young children in the greater Jewish community. We can't wait for our second installment on November 7th. RSVP today! Becca Teutle and I have been



hard at work to spruce up our Chavurah program. We are excited to host our first event, an adult-only mixer, on Saturday, November 6th. Bring your favorite drink to share and we'll bring the nosh. Come with an open mind and be ready for some fun! Please RSVP and tell us more about you.

Enjoy these great, upcoming events:

- Interested in joining a Chavurah!! Join us on November 6th for an adult-only evening to get to know others in the community and find the new members of your extended family! RSVP required.
- Family Shabbat Service with 6th and 7th grades leading the community on Friday, November 12th. RSVP required.
- Join us for our 3rd annual Community Menorah Lighting in Martinez on Sunday, December 5th, 5-6pm. There will be music, singing, fun and, of course, sufganiyot!
- Family Shabbat Service with 4th and 5th grades leading the community on Friday, December 10th. RSVP required.

Always check the online calendar for additional details and other events.

Please reach out to me with any questions about any of our programs. Got an idea? I'd love to hear it and see how we can make it happen.

CBS Religious School
and Tikun Olam Present

WINTER COAT DRIVE

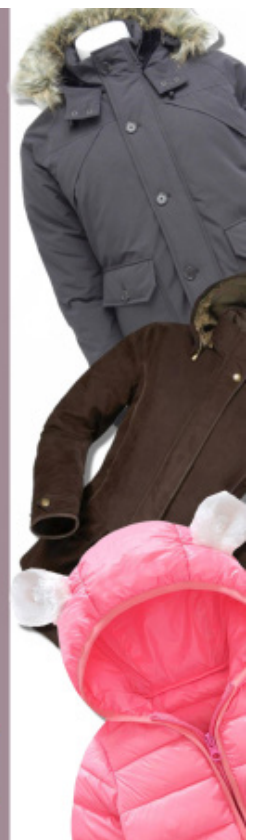
October 17 - November 19

Drop off your clean, gently used coats in the bin outside of the Religious School Office during Daytime Hours 8AM-6PM

Reach out to Elaine at emanno@bshalom.org with any questions



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Preschool by Marla Medwin

Looking back at the beginning of the school year, we see the amazing staff I have at Gan B'nai Shalom Preschool. They are truly a blessing. The love and hard work they put out each and everyday is so incredible. No matter what is happening they smile, encourage, and project so much positive energy to all the families and children.

A big thank you to everyone of them:

- **Karin and Jordana** in our Ones Room
- **Dee and Meg** in our Twos Room
- **Shani and Lissy** in our Transition Room
- **Mel and Shaena** in our Threes Room
- **Aiko and Hootokshee** in our Pre-K Room
- **Melissa** who floats between all the classes
- **Lydia** who is our right hand office assistant
- **Jasmine** who is our student intern, is here on Fridays and works with our Three-year-old class. Jasmine is getting her BA in early childhood education. She has been a great asset to our school.
- **Mr. Eric** for his talented music and leading Shabbat each week
- **Hazzan Bernstein and Rabbi Stein** for all the support within the preschool!
- **Gaston Bernstein** has been a great addition to Shabbat playing his drums.
- I would also like to thank **Kathy** for all her hard work with the billing and financial matters and **Debbie** for all her support within the preschool.

Thank you for allowing us to teach and help mold your most precious gifts.

To all the staff and parents, I say THANK YOU!

Our school was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the State of California to help due to COVID. This is amazing recognition for our school.

There will be many more programs, such as winter session (and enrichment program while school is closed for winter break) and celebrations in the Preschool.

Enjoy some pictures of the children from the classrooms during the holiday fun!



Youth Group by Genevieve Kaplan



In October, we had a wonderful time at Putter's Putt Putt, kicking off our Youth Group, and getting set for an amazing year. We played 21 holes of mini-golf, had a delicious treat, and discussed our future events.

Our next event will be bowling at Clayton Valley Bowl on November 14. In addition to the event, we will be collecting unopened jars of peanut butter to donate to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano so be sure to bring any you may have by November 14th.

As a reminder, the B'nai Shalom Youth Group events are open to all Jewish 3rd-7th graders; meaning that B'nai Shalom affiliation is not required. We are currently looking into potentially affiliating with USY or BBYO for our 7th graders, so stay tuned for more details to come. We are looking forward to seeing you all again next month!

**B'NAI SHALOM YOUTH GROUP
INVITES 3RD-7TH GRADERS TO**

Walnut Creek on Ice!

DECEMBER 12th 2021

3rd-7th graders...save the date!
More details to come as the date gets closer!

Email Genevieve@bshalom.org with any questions.

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**B'NAI SHALOM YOUTH GROUP
INVITES 3RD-7TH GRADERS TO:**

\$15 CASH

BOWLING

Scan the QR Code To RSVP

NOVEMBER 14TH • CLAYTON VALLEY BOWL • 1:30-3:30PM

EMAIL GENEVIEVE@BSHALOM.ORG WITH ANY QUESTIONS

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B'NAI SHALOM YOUTH GROUP 2021-2022 EVENTS

Open to All Jewish Kids in Grades 3-7 (CBS Affiliation Not Necessary)

	Oct 10	Feb 13	
	Nov 14	March 20	
	Dec 12	April 10	
	Jan 23	May 15	

***All dates and events are subject to change
Please contact genevieve@bshalom.org with any questions**

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Adult School

by David Marshak



Zoom Courses are Available

This Jewish year we have two organizations with interesting Jewish Zoom classes which are free to Congregation B'nai Shalom members. All you have to do is register for them.

The first is from the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

The Congregation Bnai Shalom Men's Club has paid for these. They welcome donations for their education programs.

Series #2: Ethics

Tuesdays, November 2, 9, 16, 23
1 PM ET / 10 AM PT

Series #3: The Roots of Conservative Judaism

Tuesdays, December 7, 14, 21
8 PM ET / 5 PM PT

Here is the link and password for Scholar Stream sponsored by the CBS Men's Club. It is free to ALL Congregation B'nai Shalom members (men and women, not just CBS Men's Club Members). You should not have to pay when logging on.

REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/civCRM/event/register?id=1401&reset=1>

WHEN YOU REGISTER, THE PAGE HAS A PLACE TO ENTER THE DISCOUNT CODE (BELOW) UNDER EVENT FEES

Coupon Code: CongBnaiShalom21

The second is from the New Lehrhaus.
They are free to anyone.

Avi Rose & Fouizia Palyal Azizi: Welcoming the Stranger

Wednesday, November 3
7:00-8:30 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcoming-the-stranger-with-avi-rose-and-fouizia-palyal-azizi-tickets-187966261147>

Dawn Kepler: Two Traditions, One Home

Wednesday, November 17
7:00-8:30 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/two-traditions-one-home-with-dawn-kepler-tickets-184262031697>

Adina Polen: Inspired by Light, Driven by Fire: Hanukkah Arts Workshop:

Adults & Kids 10+
Wednesday, December 1
7:00-8:30 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/inspired-by-light-driven-by-fire-hanukkah-arts-workshop-tickets-184308550837>

Bruce Haynes & Bruce Phillips: Jews of Color - Inside and Out: Lessons from the New "Jews of Color Study."

Wednesday, December 8
7:00-8:30 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jews-of-color-inside-and-out-tickets-184312011187>

Tova Birnbaum: How Long Does It Take to Make a Change? Ten Years from Israel's Tent Protest to the "Change Government"

Wednesday, December 15
7:00 -8:30 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ten-years-from-israels-tent-protest-to-the-change-government-tickets-184381970437>

Rachel Gross: Food Fights: Authority and Authenticity in American Jewish Food

Sunday, 10/24 (at "We're the Jews" - see "Cosponsored Courses")
Mondays, December 6, 13
7:00-8:00 PM
In partnership with KlezCalifornia
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/food-fights-authority-and-authenticity-in-american-jewish-food-tickets-184267417807>

Robert Alter and Ron Hendel: The Bible Now: Literature and History in the Hebrew Bible 1

Mondays, November 1, 8, 15, 22
7:00-8:30 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-bible-now-literature-and-history-in-the-hebrew-bible-tickets-185197178747>

David Biale and Rachel Biale: Torah from the Bedroom: Sexuality in Jewish Tradition

Tuesdays, November 2, 16, 30, December 14
7:00-8:15 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/torah-from-the-bedroom-sexuality-in-jewish-tradition-tickets-185955918157>

Rivka Amado: Cultural Memory: Ladino Music and Poetry

Mondays, November 8, 15, 22
4:00-5:00 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/x/cultural-memory-ladino-music-and-poetry-with-rivka-amado-tickets-186254220387>

Steve Zipperstein, Revisiting Philip Roth: Still Crazy After All These Years?

Tuesdays, November 9, December 7
7:00-8:00 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/revisiting-philip-roth-still-crazy-after-all-these-years-tickets-186258021757>

Judy Shanks: Mussar: The Art of Menschmaking

Thursdays, November 11, 18, December 2
7:00-8:00 PM
<https://www.eventbrite.com/x/mussar-the-art-of-menschmaking-with-rabbi-judy-shanks-tickets-186261271477>

If you have problems registering for the classes by Rivka Amado and Judy Shanks, use Google Chrome and click on Event Details.

Congregation News

Family Shabbat Service & Dinner featuring the 6th/7th Grade Class

NOV **12** 2021

Service begins at 6:00 PM

Scan the QR Code to RSVP



Please join us as our 6th and 7th grade students lead the community during Family Shabbat service. Service and dinner will be held outside.

Please give us 24 hours notice if you intend to cancel to give another person a spot, otherwise you will be charged.

\$15

Adults (13 years+)

\$10

Children (6-12)

FREE

Children 5 and Under

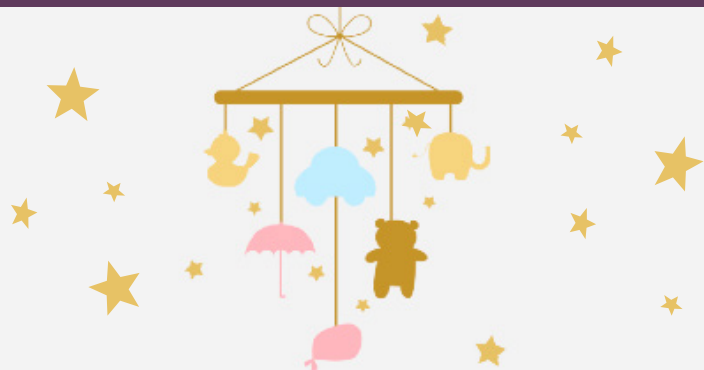


B'nai Shalom
Religious School
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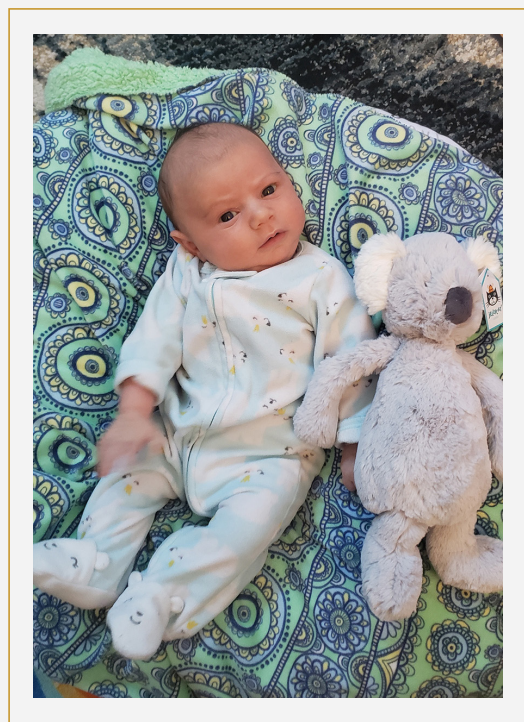


Congregation
B'nai Shalom

Congregation News



*We share in
the celebration of
a beautiful new life*



Miles Jack Langberg

was born on September 13, 2021 to Aaron and Haley Langberg. His big sister Sierra Rose Langberg attends Gan B'nai Shalom Preschool.



Gan B'nai Shalom

Ages 2 through Pre-kindergarten
Monday-Friday: 9am-1pm
Extended day options: 7:30am-6pm



- A nurturing, experienced staff
- Play-based, hands-on learning
- A rich Jewish experience
- Small classes
- Family and community programming

Find us at bshalom.org in Lifelong Learning and on Facebook at
GAN B'NAI SHALOM PRESCHOOL
Contact us at 925-934-9446 ext 104 or psdirector@bshalom.org

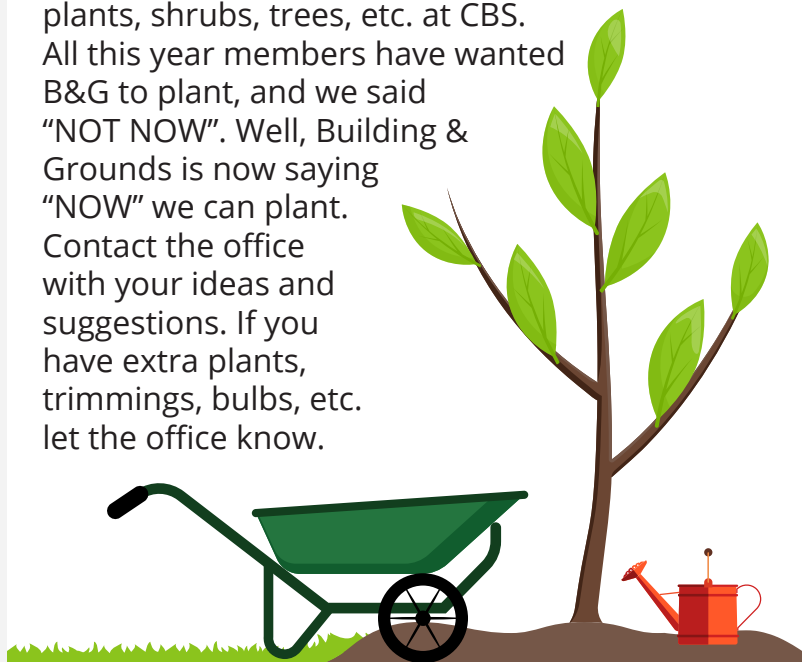
Planting is NOW!!!

by Mike Korenstein

It's fall, cooler days and nights, shorter daylight time. We prayed for rain. What does all this mean? Time to pick apples, and grapes. It's going to start raining. It's time for planting fall crops, plants, shrubs, trees, etc. at CBS.

All this year members have wanted B&G to plant, and we said "NOT NOW". Well, Building & Grounds is now saying "NOW" we can plant.

Contact the office with your ideas and suggestions. If you have extra plants, trimmings, bulbs, etc. let the office know.



Shop the Judaica Shop For HANUKKAH



In the CBS conference room on the following dates

Sun., Nov. 14, 9am-1pm

Mon., Nov. 15, through Thu., Nov. 18 9am-5pm

Fri., Nov. 19, 9am-3pm

Sun., Nov. 21, 9am-1pm

Mon., Nov. 22 through Wed., Nov. 24 9am-5pm



Lots of fun things.....Hanukiyot, candles, dreidels, games, puzzles, socks, gelt (nut free), hostess gifts, etc., etc.



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BRIONES, 94553

SHARON BRUSMAN
MANAGING FUNERAL DIRECTOR
(925)962-3636
(FDR #4186)

[HTTPS://WWW.SINAICHAPEL.ORG](https://www.sinaichapel.org)

New internet-based phone system at CBS



CBS is happy to announce that we have moved to a new internet-based phone system beginning October 15th. The new cloud-based Mitel system will allow staff to be able to answer calls more efficiently. Many thanks to office manager Debbie Stephens and Executive Director Alyssa Faulkenberg for their efforts in creating a seamless transition.

BOARD AT HOME?

Join the CBS Board or a committee at CBS!

Not meeting other people?

Meet others by getting involved at CBS.

Feeling left behind because of ZOOM?

Some committees are starting to have LIVE meetings. You can see, feel, and smell others. Sorry restrictions apply. Sit down, see only please.

Can't drink coffee during the day?

OK, some meetings have booze!

Not sure which committee to join?

Join several and see which are right for you.

Email Alyssa for recommendations and contacts.

Still have energy and time?

Join the Building & Grounds crew. Contact Mike Korenstein via the office.

Happy, healthy, and get out new year!

Cheers,

Mike Korenstein

Congregation News

B'Yachad Committee

B'Yachad continues to reach out to the members of our synagogue and beyond. We send out cards to those who have been in the hospital or have had significant simchas. We have provided fruit platters to those who are having a minyan. Our volunteers make calls to people in need and offer rides to medical appointments. We also welcome any donations in order to continue our work. B'Yachad continues to reach out to the members of our synagogue and beyond.

Air Quality at CBS

CBS has just started testing the air quality around our campus using a PurpleAir (particle) monitor, and a CO₂ monitor. This is being done as a precautionary measure only. Thank to all donors who contributed funds for buying the monitors.

If there is a fire in California and you want to know in real time the air quality at CBS, look us up on [PurpleAir.com](https://purpleair.com)



Hello, Friends

We are at a bit of a crossroads on the CBS Board of Directors. Our previous CFO (actual title was “Treasurer”) has fulfilled a 2-year obligation and has now withdrawn from the Board as of September 30. I have spoken to several candidates but have not yet found the right “fit.”

Here is an opportunity to get in on the leadership of the Synagogue, participate in forming strategic policies, and help many of your fellow congregants to achieve their goals, whether that is in fundraising, programs for our children, throwing big, big parties (!!), or establishing yourself in a regional, national, or international leadership role (yes, there are folks who really want to do that!).

Here are the key points of the assignment. Details are available from the Nominating Committee or from me, directly.

- Coordinate the accounting/bookkeeping process, most of which currently runs smoothly
- Report to the Board and Executive Committee on a monthly basis
- Supervise the implementation of a new database and software system (all modules are complete except the finance section, which was intentionally deferred to the current FY)
- Supervise a team of about eight Congregants who constitute the “Finance Committee”
- Committee memberships: Finance Committee (Chair), Long Range Planning (Endowment) Committee, Executive Committee (Treasurer/CFO), Board of Directors
- QuickBooks experience would be useful, but not required

If this sounds interesting to you, I'd like to chat briefly by phone, or I could meet you at your home or at shul. We will also set up time to talk with the Nominating Committee. Let me know your preferences. Email to president@bshalom.org or call 510-918-8818.

Thank you!

Michael E. Bloom

Family Shabbat & Dinner and 4th/5th Grade Class Service

Services begin at 6:00pm
Adults (13 years+): \$15
Children (6-12 years): \$10
Children 5 and Under: Free

December 10th, 2021

Please join us as our 4th and 5th graders help to lead our community for Family Shabbat! Dinner to follow.

Please give us 24 hours notice if you intend to cancel to give another person a spot, otherwise you will be charged.



Scan the QR
Code to RSVP



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**STACIE
WILKERSON**
Graphic Designer

custom logos • marketing / promo materials • signage
event graphics • packaging • photo retouching

email: staciebeth@gmail.com
cell: (510) 938 - 0968
web: www.coroflot.com/staciebeth

Congregation News

**JOIN CONG. B'NAI SHALOM, UOT & EBIJFF
NOV. & DEC. MUST-SEE VIRTUAL EVENTS!
Check us out at underonetent.org**



This November: WE ARE THE JEWS...A Celebration of Jewish Diversity

- Tuesday, November 2, 2:00 PM: *The Abayudaya* of Uganda with Rabbi Laurie Matzkin
- Sunday, November 7, 7:00 PM: *Singing Sephardic, A Concert of Ladino Music* with vocalist Noa Levy
- Sunday, November 14, 7:00 PM: Using *The Women's Balcony* as his starting point, Fred Rosenbaum explores the different streams of Orthodoxy in Israel...from the Modern to Satmar and everything in-between. The film will stream Nov. 11 through Nov. 14.

For a list of all co-sponsors and to register for each event: underonetent.org.

November 9, 10 & 11: Streaming of the Film *Inside Hana's Suitcase*

The East Bay Holocaust Education Center & the EBIJFF present this student-friendly docudrama, which shows how students in Japan connected to the story of a young Czech girl who was deported during WWII to Auschwitz. Admission is free for students. Register at eastbayjewishfilm.org.

Thursday, November 4, 2:00 PM: Author Event on *Mahjong*

Annelise Heinz, an asst. professor of history at the University of Oregon, will show the impact of this Chinese game on Jewish American culture. Admission is free. Register at underonetent.org.

Monday, November 8, 2:00 PM: Author Event on *Yeshiva Days*

This book is Cornell professor Jonathan Boyarin's uniquely personal account of the year he spent as both student and observer at Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem. It's a poignant chronicle of a side of Jewish life that outsiders rarely see. Admission is free. Register at underonetent.org.

Tuesday, December 7, 7:00 PM: *The Jewish Philip Roth in Cinema*

Throughout his literary works, author Philip Roth inserted his Jewish background growing up in Depression-era NJ. Using movie clips, film historian Eric Goldman will explore the autobiographical nature of such films as *Goodbye, Columbus*, *Portnoy's Complaint*, *The Human Stain*, *Indignation* and *The Plot Against America*. Register at eastbayjewishfilm.org or underonetent.org.

Thursday, December 9, 2:00 PM: Author Event with Steven Nadler

Steven Nadler (shown above in middle photo) will reveal what happens *When Bad Thinking Happens to Good People*...and how philosophy can save us from ourselves. Admission is free. Register at underonetent.org.

**Check Out More Events at underonetent.org
Under One Tent is a program of the Contra Costa JCC**



WE ARE THE JEWS

October 14 - November 21, 2021

We Are the Jews is a multi-part, multi-week celebration of the vibrant diversity of world Jewry. Join us as we journey thru history and across the planet to explore who we are with lectures and cultural events on contemporary society, history, music, food. Our topics include:

- The Jews of China
- Meeting the Jews of India
- Moroccan Jewish Culture, Ritual and History
- The Abayudaya of Uganda
- The New Jew: Israeli vs. America
- Deli and Jewish Revival
- Orthodox Streams in Israel
- Successful Parenting Strategies for Biracial Jewish Kids

To learn more and to register, visit
<https://www.underonetent.org/we-are-the-jews>

Sponsored by the Contra Costa JCC in partnership with EBIJFF, Cong. Beth Emek, Cong. B'nai Shalom, Cong. B'nai Tikvah, Diablo Valley Hadassah and New Lehrhaus.

Chavurah Adult Mixer



Have any interest in joining a Chavurah?*

Join us on Saturday, November 6th, at 6:30PM. We'll start with Havdallah and then enjoy a night of cocktails, games, food, & icebreakers to get to know one another.

Scan the QR Code to RSVP!



Bring your favorite drink to share, we'll provide the nosh, and meet us at the Social Hall patio!



*Chavurah: a small group of like-minded Jews who assemble for holidays, sharing communal experiences, or Jewish learning.

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Congregation B'nai Shalom & Main Street Martinez presents

HANUKKAH

Festival of Lights

Join us on the last night of Hanukkah to light our community menorah with friends and family.
Free and Open to All!



DECEMBER 5TH 5PM-6PM

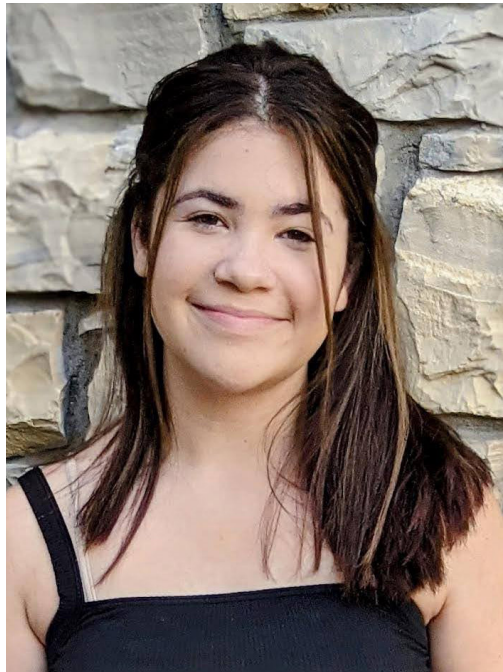
MUSIC • SUFGANIYOT • FUN

700 Main Street, Martinez

Main Street Plaza



Bat Mitzvahs



Maya Josephine Lewis

Maya Josephine Lewis is excited to celebrate her Bat Mitzvah with family, friends and the B'nai Shalom community on December 18. Maya is a 7th grader at Charlotte Wood Middle School in Danville where she enjoys studying science and working on the yearbook, but mostly hanging out with friends. Maya also enjoys singing, dancing, playing ukulele, and has built up an impressive resume in children's theater, including Shrek, Addams Family, Freaky Friday and Bye Bye Birdie. Maya has a younger sister (Ava, 9) and a younger brother (Michael, 4) a cat (Becca, 17) and a dog (Bailey, 1). Her parents (Sharon and Akiva) are incredibly proud of all the hard work Maya is putting into the preparation for her Bat Mitzvah while also excelling at school and forming strong friendships. Our family joined B'nai Shalom last summer after moving to Danville from San Jose. We are honored to celebrate our simcha with such a warm and welcoming community. Maya's Bat Mitzvah parsha is Vayechi which tells the story of the passing of Jacob and Joseph. This portion is meaningful to Maya because she is named for her maternal great-grandfather (Joseph). Maya also shares the portion with her father and her uncle, Shalom, who each had Vayechi for their Bar Mitzvahs.



Halia Rose Miller

Halia Rose Miller will be celebrating her Bat Mitzvah with family, friends and the B'nai Shalom community on November 13th. A 7th grader at Pleasant Hill Middle School, Halia enjoys drawing, reading, and listening to music. Prior to Covid, she enjoyed performing in children and community theater productions. Since the age of four, she's acted in 21 different musicals. Halia lives in Pleasant Hill with her parents (Meidad and Beth), younger sister (Alana) and her cat (Timmy Dapper). She enjoys spending time with her friends and family, especially her baby cousin (Lucy). She wishes to thank her religious school teachers, Hebrew tutor Noa Bar, Rabbi Stein, and Hazzan Bernstein for helping her prepare for this wonderful occasion. Halia is recognizing the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah by selling her artwork and using the money to support Yad Sarah, an organization which supports the needs of Israeli first responders.

Making a Difference in our Communities

The Chagim are now behind us, and we look forward to a more normal time this Winter and into Spring. Tikun Olam is working on your behalf to create new programs and provide better service and relationships with our existing programs and partners. It is only because of your generous hearts that we can provide to our community at large and make a difference in their lives. Yashar Koach, B'nai Shalom. So, here is what we accomplished these past two months.

The Food Bank - Another very successful Yom Kippur Food Bank Drive which resulted in more than \$1,200 in cash and at least 5 bins full of food. The Food Bank is a year-round fundraiser, so please don't just wait for a special request. Just contact Kathy in the office to offer your donation and/or drop some non-expired cans and dried food in the bins. The need continues to grow in our community.



Welcome the Stranger - Jewish Family Services has assigned an Afghan family of four so we can help them integrate into our community and country. The "A" family consists of a husband who worked as a security guard at the US Embassy in Kabul. He, his wife and two toddlers were evacuated as Kabul fell. Because of your generous donations, Tikun Olam has been able to provide funds to get this family started. Thank you so much for your generosity. A special thank you to the Women of B'nai Shalom who also took up an additional collection. Now this family will be able to purchase winter clothes, blankets, and clothes for the children. To help this family, we have a team of eleven volunteers waiting to assist. If you wish to join us, please contact Margalit Ir or Margie Goldware.



One Warm Coat Drive - October 17th - November 19th
Tikun Olam and Religious School will be sponsoring a Warm Coat Drive this year. A collection bin will be out in front of the Religious School office and accepting donations of clean, gently used coats beginning Sunday, October 17th through Friday November 19th. We will be reaching out to local organizations and making deliveries of the coats to those in need. Contact Elaine Manno with any questions.



Adopt-a-Family - JoAnn Knell is leading this effort on behalf of CBS. She will work with Shalom Bayit to identify a family so we can shower them with Chanukah gifts to make this holiday just a bit more joyous. Chanukah is early this year, and we want to ensure we can provide some light to a family in need. Please be on the lookout for a flyer and open your hearts to help brighten a family during this holiday season. Your donations should be earmarked Adopt-A-Family. If you have any questions, please contact JoAnn directly.



Monument Crisis Center - Did you know that the Crisis Center has a photo of being presented with a check from B'nai Shalom members to help them purchase food items for people in need during the Covid crises? In addition, we have donated to their school backpack program during which they purchased all the supplies young students needed to begin school in the fall. They are very grateful for the generosity shown by our congregation members. Although we have shown compassion in supporting the programs to feed the hungry, there continues to be a need for items such as toiletries. Anything you can provide, soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand cream, etc., will be distributed to families and is greatly appreciated. Place your items in the plastic bin in the Synagogue Lobby near the bathrooms marked Crisis Center toiletries. Thank you for your continued support, Sue Lefelstein, Program Lead.



Loaves and Fishes - Three volunteers from CBS have been going to Loaves and Fishes twice a month on Thursdays. Contact Anne Cahn if you wish to volunteer and help with our efforts to prepare and feed the hungry. The site Manager is appreciative of our regular help.



Shelter Inc. - At this time, some of the clients of Shelter Inc., and their children are not vaccinated, so hands-on help in cooking and serving food is not safe. Hence, our option is to order food for delivery. These parents and their children need to eat, so please feel free to donate any amount of money to help Shelter, Inc. offset these costs. Donations should be earmarked "Shelter, Inc."



B'Yachad - B'Yachad is geared toward bringing comfort and kindness to synagogue members. We provide supportive notes to congregants during difficult times. We also acknowledge those who let us know if they have had significant simchas. We bring comfort to congregants who have suffered a loss by sending fruit platters to those who are having a minyan for a close relative who has passed. Our volunteers make calls to people in need or who would just like to chat with someone. We now offer rides to medical appointments. Please let the office know if there is anyone in the congregation who might benefit from the services our committee provides. We welcome any donations to continue our work.



On behalf of the entire Tikun Olam Committee, Margie and I would like to thank B'nai Shalom for their continuous kind and generous contributions throughout the year which allows us to do all this work and help make a significant difference in peoples' lives. Toda Raba!

Women of B'nai Shalom

by Sue Lefelstein, Women of B'nai Shalom Co-President

The Jewish new year has just begun and Women of B'nai Shalom (WBS) is back! We started the year with our get-together in the Sukkah. We had a wonderful turnout of women from ages nine to ninety. How wonderful it was to be able to sit together once again and just chat. Anne led us in some interesting games and we got to know more about each other than we ever imagined we would. We chatted, we ate, we learned about the Conservative Movement's Torah Fund (which we support) and although Karla Smith could not be there, we thanked her for all of her efforts on behalf of Torah Fund over the past few years. We are amazing women and we do amazing things for each other.



WBS has a great many programs scheduled for the rest of the year. We have:

Dames who Dine, Rosh Chodesh programs each month, monthly games night, co-chairing with the Men's Club a speaker program on end of life planning, monthly book review club, and many other programs to be announced. Our Judaica Shop is open and restocked. Please call Julie Solomon to make an appointment to visit and see what's new. Have you looked in the showcase located in the Synagogue Lobby? Have you seen the magnificent Menora (Chanukia) and mezuzot that are newly arrived? Stop by and visit our showcases.

If you have a program you would like to suggest please contact one of our three Co-Presidents: Sandy Eliaser, Anne Nicolson or myself, Sue Lefelstein.



Men's Club

by Jon Medwin

Now that we have successfully experienced the three week period from Rosh HaShanah through Simchat Torah, it is time to look forward to the rest of the year. The Men's Club has started offering more programs in-person as a way to return to some sense of normalcy. Obviously, when we do offer in-person events, it is done in conjunction with the Opening Committee and advice from medical experts.

There are two initiatives that I want to share with you that we will be rolling out this year. The first is to roll out a younger men's program. It will be under the umbrella of the CBS Men's Club, but events and activities will be planned, organized, and attended by men in the 20's-40's age demographic. Events may not necessarily be only attended by men. There may be opportunities for events with spouses, and even with families. Some events that are being considered include ax throwing, indoor go-cart racing, bike rides, and really whatever programming resonates with this very important demographic group. Parenthetically, the Sukkah was built (and taken down) largely (but not only) by men in their 20's, 30's and 40's. We even had one teen participating. If you are interested in planning or working on these type of events, or just have ideas for programs that you believe would resonate with men in this age range, please feel free to reach out to me.

The other initiative that we are looking to explore is to offer more of our events such as Lunch & Learns and Dinner & Discussions on a gratis basis, but encouraging donations, while also seeking larger sponsors for these type of events to help make it financially viable and to ensure that no one is turned away from any of our events due to financial challenges. If you are able to sponsor or co-sponsor an event, please feel free to reach out to me or Bob Levine. Some opportunities for sponsorships besides individual Lunch & Learns and Dinner & Discussions include the Chanukah Latke Party and Dinner on Friday, December 3rd,

the Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Program (to help defray the costs of supplies and postage), and the CBS Men's Club Annual Community Seder to be held on Friday, April 15, 2022. The CBS Men's Club continues to offer Scholar Stream through the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) for free to ALL synagogue members. Please check the weekly synagogue blasts for further information. We are also thinking about a Tikun Olam project in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity that also may be an opportunity for a sponsorship component.

You will see the upcoming list of programming at the end of this article. I do want to highlight one event, the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (FJMC) International Shabbaton at American Jewish University in Los Angeles, Thursday, March 31st through Sunday, April 3rd 2022. There will be subsidies available, and by registering now for just \$100, you are entered into a drawing that will pay for the food and lodging for this weekend at AJU. The deposit is fully refundable through the end of January, 2022, so there is absolutely no risk. Please join me for a weekend of fun, comradery, and a taste of what goes on at the FJMC Biennial Convention, the next one to be held in the summer of 2023 at a location still to be determined. For more information and to register, please go to FJMC 2022 Shabbaton & Retreat - Registration - Evenium.net If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. It would be wonderful to have a nice representation of Congregation B'nai Shalom men participating in this Shabbaton, and to be able to network with other FJMC members both through other clubs within our Western Region, and throughout other regions across the United States, Canada, and beyond.

Finally, another initiative that is being considered is to commemorate Kristallnacht in a similar way that we commemorate Yom HaShoah through the distribution of FJMC Yellow Yom HaShoah Candles. This is particularly important as there are fewer and fewer survivors remaining to tell their stories first hand. We will need to rely on their children and grandchildren to do that, but also need

Events

Thursday, November 18 Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Daniel Stein

11:45 am - 1:30 pm
Buttercup Diner, Walnut Creek
Reservations through Bob Levine
justiceguy@aol.com
No charge to Men's Club members
and one guest (*donations
appreciated*)
Non members - donation of \$36
or more admits one and qualifies
for admission to all Men's Club
sponsored events 2021-2022

Friday, December 3 Hanukkah Latke Party *Details to be announced*

Thursday, December 9 Lunch and Learn with Gaston Bernstein

"Mr. Hazzan"
11:45 am - 1:30 pm
Buttercup Diner, Walnut Creek
Reservations through Bob Levine
justiceguy@aol.com
No charge to Men's Club members
and one guest (*donations
appreciated*)
Non members - donation of \$36
or more admits one and qualifies
for admission to all Men's Club
sponsored events 2021-2022

to make sure that we never forget. One way is to be proactive and commemorate Kristallnacht in a similar way that we commemorate Yom HaShoah. We are planning to begin this in 2022.

Please see the calendar of upcoming CBS Men's Club events above. As always, if you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Contra Costa Midrasha



by Devra C. Aarons

Happy Fall! This month I am especially proud to share insight with you into Better Together, our elder-teen intergenerational program. Both populations come from a mix of our partner synagogues, Reutlinger, and CCJDS. (In fact, about one-third this year's participants half are from Congregation B'nai Shalom.) This program, now in its fifth year, helps alleviate feelings of isolation for both groups and builds strong connections - creating better generational understanding and building empathy muscles. Elder members Thelma Bronet and Sheldon Schwartz say of the program, "...it showed me my essence doesn't age and there are no wrinkles on my soul!" To learn more about this program, or to watch a video of teens and elders sharing their thoughts about it, visit: <https://www.ccmidrasha.com/byachad-5782>.

This year at CCM we walk a tightrope - working to accomplish a big balancing act. Our teens (and all of us, really) are re-emerging into a world of uncertainty. During this time our teens have gained new skills and understanding of the world. Alongside it some of our teens are working to gain new footing and balance. To support our teens, CCM aims to focus our efforts this year on reconstructing a connected and supportive community that enables healing and resiliency. Please invite any teens you know to join us in this journey.

To that end, we continue to push open doors and windows - offering even more ways our teen's communities can connect with each other, within their Jewish soul and their larger Jewish teen community. Here are some opportunities coming up in November and December. Please take out your calendars and start making plans:

- **Our annual Veteran's Day of Service (on November 11th)** is a chance for all our teens to give back to our larger community, learning about tikkun olam with their hands and feet!
- **Our Winter Retreat happens December 3-5th** Join with teens from all over the East Bay for a weekend celebrating Havdalah, new friends and the New Year. Information or RSVP at <https://www.ccmidrasha.com/midrasha-retreats>



- **CCM's Annual Gala** is set with a "Roaring 20s" theme on Feb. 26, 2022 at Blackhawk Country Club. Come back to this amazing party!
- **Mifgash returns this summer of 2022!** Mark your calendars to welcome 36 Israeli teens into our community July 29 - August 7, 2022!

Did you know that CCM is not only a Wednesday night program, but also offers monthly Sunday workshops, retreat weekends, Spring Break trips, a Veteran's Day of Service and an Israel exchange program? CCM is growing! Let the teens in your life know about Midrasha and our myriad of programs. Schedule a time to talk with our Director, Devra Aarons at devra.aarons@ccmidrasha.com or check out our website at ccmidrasha.com. There's something for every teen!

Tzedakah

The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Legacy Gifts

We are deeply grateful to the following congregants who have shown their love for our community and their desire to ensure that it continues to thrive and grow in the future through a legacy gift. We will always remember these special members with love and appreciation.

- Sam Borcover z"l
- Bob Golden z"l
- Jack Kamzan z"l
- Reva and Martin Rothenberg z"l
- Leah Yaffee z"l

Including Congregation B'nai Shalom in your estate planning is a meaningful way to plant a seed and create a lasting legacy that will benefit our synagogue family for years to come. It can also be an effective way to realize tax savings for your estate, while at the same time helping our community and fulfilling the Jewish obligation to give tzedakah.

For information about leaving a lasting legacy to Congregation B'nai Shalom, please contact **Craig Judson at 925-323-5041 or cljnw@aol.com**.

B'nai Shalom Patrons

We are grateful for the generosity and commitment of our Patron Members. Through their financial support we are able to maintain and expand our excellent programming. A heartfelt Todah Rabah, thank you, to all of our Patron Members, listed below:

Life Members

Lynda & Allan Chasnoff
Nancy & Jerold Kaplan
Eve & Bernie Notas
Jill Robinson & Jim Kronrod

Patron Members

Anne & Joel (z"l) Cahn	Elise & Norman Lustig
Alice & Stephen Goodman	David Marshak
Jill & Craig Judson	Deanne Meyer
Tammy & Elliot Kallen	Anne Nicolson
Leonard Karp	Gina & Morris (z"l) Rosnow
Channah & Lawrence Katz	Debbie & Leonard Roudman
Anita & Mike Korenstein	Andra Strauss
Anne (z"l) & Sy Lapporte	

For more information on becoming a Patron Member, please contact the Office.

Donors

Building & Grounds

Lynda & Allan Chasnoff In honor of becoming grandparents.
Steven Rosenberg In memory of my mother & father, Marilyn & Milton Rosenberg.
Steven Rosenberg In memory of my sister, Elaine Rice.
Steven Rosenberg In memory of my wife, Priscilla Rosenberg.
Susan & Earl Agron In honor of Mike and Anita Korenstein's many years of volunteering.
Susan & Earl Agron Thank you, Steve Goodman for your years of volunteer contributions to B'nai Shalom.
Susan & Earl Agron In honor of Jim and Julie Solomon.
Anita & Mike Korenstein Donation.
Dennis Danziger & Ronnie Thierman...Landscape Donation.

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Dennis Danziger & Ronnie Thierman...Donation.
Karla & Neil Smith Welcome Hazzan Bernstein.
Dennis Danziger & Ronnie Thierman...Donation.
Susan & Ron Stoltz In memory of Susan's mother, Dorothy Leff.
Susan & Earl Agron Welcome to Hazzan Sandy & Gaston Bernstein and Family.
Margie & Stu Goldware With gratitude for the music and spirit Hazzan Bernstein brought to CBS High Holiday Services.
Elyse Eisner Donation.
Eve & Bernie Notas Thank you Hazzan Bernstein for a beautiful and meaningful High Holy Days Services.

Ezra Fund

Shelly Ress-Weinstein Always missing my favorite sister, Arlene.

Gan B'nai Shalom Preschool Fund

Susan & Earl Agron Mazel Tov to Nina Drucker & Grant Miller on the birth of Ruben Hal Miller.
Susan & Earl Agron Thanking Amy Romem for lending a helping hand.
Susan & Earl Agron In honor of Becca and Felipe Teutle for all of their volunteer contributions to CBS.
Channah & Larry Katz In memory of Albert & Fernanda Uomini.
Randi & Ari Kestler Donation.

Garrop/Brenner Memorial Fund

Barbara Garrop In loving memory of Larry Garrop.

(continued on page 22)

Tzedakah

The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

General Fund

Bernice Rudley In memory of my husband, Wilfred.
Hope Rubin-Egan In beloved memory of my "Poppy"
David Rubin.
Mira Sinick..... "Adult Education Donation in
memory of my mom, Lily Jacob,
who always enjoyed Nitzhia
Shaked's Torah Plus class".
Seymour Lapporte In loving memory of my father,
David Nathan Lapporte.
Beverly Posner In honor of the 80th birthday of
Dr. Joel White.
Sue Jaffe "Adult Education Donation in
memory of my mom, Lily Jacob,
who always enjoyed Nitzhia
Shaked's Torah Plus class and a
special thanks to Toby and Bill
Gottfried for all they do".
Sue Jaffe Adult Education Donation with
gratitude to Teri Cooper for the
wonderful Gentle Yoda Classes.
Gitty & David Altman Thank you for all the condolence
cards and notes for my brother,
David Beroukhim.
Shelly Ress-Weinstein..... Adult Education Donation - Missing
Elvin Ress, incredible dad and zayde.
Gitty & David Altman In memory of Gitty's uncle,
Zackria Nazarian.
Muriel Kahsen In appreciation of the High Holy
Day Gift Bag.
Stephanie & Tomas Murphy.... Thank you for the High Holy Day
Gift Bag.
Lisa & Tim Plattner..... In recognition of Mensch of the Year.
Lisa & Tim Plattner..... In recognition of the Bride & Groom
of the Torah.
Gitty & David Altman Donation.
V. Adler Donation.
Alice & Steve Goodman..... "In appreciation of the following
volunteers: Amy Romem,
Cheryl Lefelstein, Jenn Stripe,
Becca Teutle, Debra Weiss-Ishai,
Haley Langberg, Michael Fischer,
and Nina Drucker".
Diane Wolf Thanking Craig Judson for his
support and dedication to my case
and to justice!
Joseph Hobesh In appreciation of the High Holy
Day Gift Bag.
Alice & Steve Goodman..... In memory of Bill Gotfried. Alice &
I sincerely mourn his loss.
Harriet Lapkin..... My sincere condolences on the
passing of Bill Gottfried.
Mira & Ralph Sinick "In honor of all that Zaki Jacob gives
to the community, to his family, and
for his genuine way of chanting
prayers and Torah".
Eve & Bernie Notas In memory of Bill Gottfried.
David Altman Yahrzeit Donations.

Roy Kaplan Adult Education Donation in
memory of Bill Gottfried.
Lynn & Lou Glenn May Neil Gordon's brother's,
Armand, life be a blessing to us all.
Gitty Altman..... In memory of my aunt,
Sarah Ahtazad.

Hazzan Marc Dinkin Scholarship Fund

Bruce Locke & Nancy Sway Locke...In memory of Bruce's mother,
Shirley Locke.
Susan & Rick Gordon..... In loving memory of Abe Gordon.
Andra Strauss In loving memory of my father,
Herman Lazorow.
Raisa Shimberg-Risman In memory of my mother-in-law,
Nekhama Risman.

Ir-Landman Medical Support

Naim Yashar In memory of my brother,
Mayer Yashar.

Kiddush Program

Adele & Arnold Brooks "Wishing Joel White a special Happy
Birthday with many future years of
health and enjoyment".
Yardena Brooks..... In memory of Irv Brooks.
Susan & Earl Agron In memory of our mother,
Shirley Gelber. May her memory
be a blessing.
Andra Strauss In memory of Bill Gottfried.
JoAnn & Greg Knell..... May Bill Gottfried's memory be a
blessing.

Library Fund

Paula & Stephen Breitbart In memory of Neil Gordon's
brother, Armand.
Lynn & Lou Glenn Our prayers and love go out to
Toby Gottfried and family.

Licht Memorial Open Air Worship Center

Beverly Licht In memory of my daughter,
Sheryl Licht Gomaa.
Beverly Licht In loving memory of my beloved
husband, Carlton Licht.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Deborah & David Shahvar In beloved memory of Deborah's
mother, Bernice Greenberg.
Tammy & Elliot Kallen..... In loving memory of
Stephanie Williams.
Susan & Joel White..... In memory of Gitty Altman's
brother, David Beroukhim.
Karla & Neil Smith..... In memory of Leo Sterenberg.
Sandra Sternberg..... In memory of Dorothy Sternberg.
Elena Portnova Thank you Rabbi Stein for all your
help.
Rachel Landes In memory of my father, Rabbi
Mayer Goldberg.

Susan & Joel White “In honor of Rabbi Stein, Tim Plattner, and the volunteers and staff who have done such a wonderful job keeping CBS vibrant and functional through the continuing Covid crisis”.

The Needel Family Donation.

Judy & David Miller..... Thank you Suzy and Nathan Lutz for being wonderful friends.

Naim Yashar Thanking Rabbi Stein for all he does!

Helen & Rodney Sweet..... In memory of Anita Hobesh.

Nancy Sway-Locke & Bruce Locke...In loving memory of Dorothy Sway, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother.

Susan & Earl Agron In honor of Rabbi Daniel and Dena Stein.

Jeffrey Lerner Donation.

Daniel Bethlahmy & Suzanne Becker...In blessed memory of Anita Hobesh.

Seymour Lapporte In loving memory of my mother, Riva Lapporte.

Karla & Neil Smith..... In memory of Molly Zamore.

Natan Litinskiy..... In memory of my father, Pavel Litinskiy & High Holys Day Services.

David Molstad Donation.

Ellen & Bill Adler Thanking Rabbi Stein for his thoughtful sermons.

Seymour Lapporte In memory of Bill Gottfried.

Rachel Landes In loving memory of my daughter, Carmela.

Renee & Richard Slarve In honor of Esther Slarve.

Eve & Bernie Notas Thank you Rabbi Stein for a beautiful and meaningful High Holy Days Services.

Neil & Karla Smith..... In memory of our beloved congregant Dr. William Gottfried.

Ritual Fund

Muriel Kahsen In appreciation of my High Holy Days Honor.

Tikun Olam Fund

Judy & Bob Wilkenfeld In memory of Bob’s brother, Stephen.

JoAnn & Greg Knell..... Back to School Donation wishing Joel White a happy birthday and may he live to 120.

Muriel Dash Back to School Donation in memory of my sister-in-law, Helen Dash Leone.

Bill & Toby Gotfried..... Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation.

Sid Landman & Margalit Ir Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation.

Gitty & David Altman Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation.

Michael Fischer..... Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation.

Susan & Joel White..... Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation.

Bruce Locke & Nancy Sway Locke...Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation.

Anne Flato Food Bank Donation in memory of my beloved mother, Beatrice Horowitz.

Shelly Ress-Weinstein..... Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation.

Susan & Lawrence Grossman...Surfside Disaster Relief.

Susan & Earl Agron Food Bank Donation in honor of Sarah Vital’s volunteer contributions to B’nai Shalom.

Susan & Earl Agron “Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation thanking Dr. Debra Weiss-Ishai for contributing her efforts and expertise”.

Susan & Earl Agron “Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation thanking Tim Plattner for his tireless energy devoted to B’nai Shalom”.

Muriel Kahsen Food Bank Donation.

Michael Fischer..... In memory of my grandmother, Lily Maslow.

Harriet Lapkin..... B’Yachad donation in loving memory of my father, Charles Blank.

Susan & Earl Agron Welcome the Stranger - Afghan Refugee Program Donation in honor of Margie & Stu Goldware.

Joseph Hobesh Food Bank Donation in memory of Anita Hobesh.

Leslie & Bill Rupley..... Donation.

Lois Piade In memory of Bill Gottfried, a mensch.

Muriel Dash In memory of Bill Gottfried.

Torah Endowment Fund

Eva Vogel..... In loving memory of my brother, Michael.

Susan & Earl Agron In honor of Evan Spinrod’s years of serving as Rosh Gabbai.

Tree of Life Memorial Security Fund

Susan & Earl Agron In honor of Susan and Howard Geifman.

Susan & Earl Agron Thanking Dr. Ron Wasserman for the sage advice he provides to B’nai Shalom.

Susan & Earl Agron Good luck to Alyssa & Mark Faulkenberg in their relocation to the Lone Star State.

Susan & Earl Agron Thank you, David Eliaser for your valuable volunteer contributions to B’nai Shalom.

Susan & Earl Agron In honor of Sandy & David Eliaser’s contributions to Congregation B’nai Shalom.

Susan & Earl Agron Thanking Jim Liston for his efforts as Treasurer of Congregation B’nai Shalom.

Susan & Earl Agron “Our sincere condolences on Bill Gottfried’s passing. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him.”

Congregation
B'nai Shalom



74 Eckley Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Minyan (online and in-person)

Please join us for minyan on Monday and Thursday mornings, held at 7:45am unless there is a holiday or special service indicated below. Please see our on-line calendar at bshalom.org for dates/times for all religious services.

Virtual Candle Lighting and Kabbalat Shabbat Service

In-person and Online Candle Lighting and Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Fridays 6:30pm.

RSVP required for all in-person events. To make a reservation please email the office at dstephens@bshalom.org

Shabbat Shacharit Service

In-person and online
Saturdays at 9:30am
Kiddush lunch following services

Preschool Shabbat

Fridays 9:30am in sanctuary when
Preschool in session.

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

For information on all streaming events, please email the office at dstephens@bshalom.org

Friday, November 12

Family Shabbat / 6th & 7th grade Services and Dinner6:00 pm

Saturday, November 13

Bat Mitzvah of Halia Borsuk-Miller9:30 am

Friday, December 3

Musical Shabbat Services with the San Francisco Yiddish Combo and followed by Men's Club Latke Dinner6:15 pm

Sunday, December 5

Community Wide Hanukkah Celebration in Downtown Martinez.....5:00pm

Friday, December 10

Family Shabbat / 4th & 5th grade Services and Dinner6:00 pm

Saturday, December 18

Bat Mitzvah of Maya Lewis9:30 am