

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Chanukah Suggestions

Rabbi Schultz offers some “easy ways to deepen even further the ritual of lighting the Chanukah menorah,” including dedicating each candle to someone and donating to a different charity each night of the holiday. Page 3.

Scenes From Shabbat

Shabbat About Town was a big hit with participants. See some photos from people’s homes on Page 4.

Books to Savor

Books make great Chanukah gifts, and Rabbi Marion provides a list of some of her favorites, including a couple for small children like “The Purim Superhero” and “Baxter, the Pig Who Wanted to be Kosher.” Page 5.

Up in the Sky

Children in Bonim had a chance recently to learn about the science of clouds. Page 5.

Lessons in Respect

Ira Wise describes a three-tiered program at our religious school to teach children about anti-Semitism. Page 7.

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BRIAN BARLAAM: MITZVAH HERO

For more than two decades, Brian Barlaam has been doing something nice for people he barely knows.

Each week, he picks up the flowers that decorate the bimah for bar and bat mitzvahs and takes them to the Jewish Home up the road on Park Avenue.

And he does it, even though he is Roman Catholic and attends church weekly.

Brian is B’nai Israel’s Mitzvah Hero this year, and he will be honored on Sunday, December 15, at the annual TzedakahFest from 3 to 6 p.m. at B’nai Israel. The event is sponsored by the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy.

It is an honor he accepted reluctantly. “There are a lot of people who do a lot more than I do.” He added that when our president, Shari Nerreau, mentioned his efforts in her annual address on Rosh Hashanah, “I turned beet red.”

Brian, a school psychologist, and his wife, Linda, have been members of B’nai Israel for about 23 years.

“I wanted to give back, so I joined the Caring Committee,” he said. But as a Catholic, he felt limited in what he could do, noting, “I didn’t

feel comfortable going to the hospital to pray with people.”

Cantor Sheri Blum was always looking for someone to take the flowers to the Jewish Home. “So I said I’ll just do the flowers,” he recalled, and he hasn’t stopped since.

“I come on Saturday afternoon, once the service is over, and take them directly to the Jewish Home. It takes about a half hour.”

He said his wife has volunteered on many committees, heading the committee that sends gift items to college students.

The congregation’s previous Mitzvah Heroes were Bob Sussman and Sherry Portnoy.



Brian Barlaam

LATKES! DREIDELS! UGLY SWEATERS



We hope you and your family will join us to celebrate Chanukah on Friday, December 20. Our annual Chanukah celebration will feature a festive service with the Junior Choir, a catered dinner, games, crafts, and more!

This year we invite people to wear their “ugly Chanukah sweaters” for even

more fun!

The evening will begin at 5:30 with the oneg, pre-service snacks and crafts for the little ones; the service will start at 6:00, with dinner to follow.

To register, please go to our website and click on “Shabbat registrations,” or email chris@cbibpt.org, by Friday, December 13. The cost is \$18 for adults, and \$8 for children 12 and under.

SHARING OUR JOY...

Janet Rosen, in celebration of the marriage of son, Matthew Rosen, to Danielle.

Elizabeth Walden, on receiving the Women in Cable Telecommunications - New England Chapter's 2019 Evening of Excellence Emerging Leader Award.

Sheryl and George Santiago, in celebration of daughter Arielle's engagement to Lindsay Albright.

Mindy and Jeff Siegel, in celebration of daughter Rebecca's engagement to Alex Bacon.

Paul and Patricia Buchbinder, in celebration of the marriage of son, Daniel Buchbinder, to Alicia Kelman.

SINCERE SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the bereaved families of:

Robert Caston, husband of Miriam Caston

Muriel Mann, mother of Luise Mann

Sylvia Weitzer

Nicole Najmowicz, daughter of Colette Carasso

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DRIVE!

Do you have any musical instruments that you are not using any more —

Instruments that you or your children used to play?

Cantor Sheri Blum is partnering with a group that is providing free musical instruments to students in the Bridgeport Public Schools. A music store has agreed to fix them at no charge so they are in perfect working order. The schools do not provide instruments, and many students cannot afford to buy or rent them.

If you have a musical instrument (no pianos or organs please), please drop them off for Cantor Blum. Printed music for the instruments is also welcome!

BULLETIN BOARD

Challah Bake



Want to learn how to bake challahs and do a mitzvah for B'nai Israel? Join with our congregant Ronnie Dubrowin for the Great B'nai Israel Challah Bake on Sunday, December 8, from 9 a.m. to noon to learn how to bake delicious challahs and help prepare challahs that we will freeze and use at community events in the coming months. No previous experience required! Limited to 12 people. RSVP to Ronnie Dubrowin - ronmidwife@gmail.com

Chanukah Show

Join us as the entire Bonim Preschool comes together in celebration of Chanukah with a show and dinner on December 19 at 5:30 p.m.

The children are excited to share their songs with you. After the show, we will eat latkes, jelly donuts, and potluck style dinner.

Six Months In

Join with Rabbi Evan Schultz on January 16 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Natt Family Library for an open space conversation. "It will be six months since I began as your new Senior Rabbi," he said, "and I'd love an opportunity to check in with all of you. Have positives to share? Things on your mind of ways we can be even better as a community? Feel like we don't know each other well yet?" Open to everyone at B'nai Israel who wants to chat.

Al's Angels Toy Drive

Please help us by donating unwrapped toys for Al's Angels and volunteering with gift wrapping on the December Mitzvah Morning, Sunday, December 8, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Now through December 8, we are seeking unwrapped toys. Donation boxes are in the Temple lobby. You can order through our Amazon Wish List or shop locally at HobbyTown, 847 Post Road in Fairfield. At the gift-wrapping session, we will learn more about the mission of Al's Angels from its founder, Al DiGuido. Contact Nicole Bush at nfbush@gmail.com with questions.

Honoring Cantor Blum

Mark your calendars for Friday, June 12, when we'll honor Cantor Sheri Blum on her retirement from B'nai Israel after 26 years of dedicated service. Plans are being made for a very special celebratory Shabbat service and dinner. Details will be shared in the coming months.

Shabbat Shirah



On Friday, February 7 at 6:00 p.m., we will celebrate the Sabbath of Song and honor Mark Edinberg for all his musical contributions to B'nai Israel over the last 25 years. Radio Klez, our Klezmer Band, will perform along with the Adult Choir and Cantor Sheri Blum.

Drivers Needed!

Drives are needed on Sunday, December 15 to deliver candles for Gift of Light. Pick up your route and candles at the temple from 9:30 – noon. Contact Shari Greenblatt at Sgreenblatt9@gmail.com to sign up!



FROM THE RABBI'S DESK/RABBI EVAN SCHULTZ

EIGHT NIGHTS, EIGHT DIFFERENT LIGHTS

It is December and the Hebrew month of Kislev, which means that Chanukah is in the air! Many of us love this holiday season, when we get to eat fried potatoes and jelly donuts, spin the dreidel, and of course light the *chanukiyah* menorah each night during the festival of Chanukah.

Lighting the menorah is one of the most commonly observed Jewish rituals among American Jews. The symbolism of the menorah is quite meaningful for many – the notion of adding more light to the world during the darkest time of year. The lights recall for many of us the victory of the few over the many, and the great miracles which we witnessed, not only during the period of the Maccabees but too in our everyday lives.

I want to offer just a few ideas of easy ways to deepen even further the ritual of lighting the Chanukah menorah. We have tried a few of these in our home and some I have been wanting to try – so maybe this is the year. If you have special ways you light the menorah during the festival of Chanukah, I'd also love to hear about them! You can always email me at eschultz@cbibpt.org.

Dedicate each light to someone – In Judaism it's always powerful to dedicate a ritual or sacred moment in honor of someone special who has died or who is living. Recently one of our long time Torah study regulars shared with us that he was moving to Florida. At his recent final Torah study session, we dedicated our study to him, and he was quite touched. As you light the candles each night you can dedicate the lighting to someone – as a way of recalling the memory of a loved one, or in honor of friends or guests visiting your home that night, or perhaps even dedicated to a historical figure that has had some kind of impact on you.

Donate each night to a different charity – This is one ritual I'd love to begin in our family. Choose a different charity that you'd like to donate to each night. I recently learned about this idea when Robert Bank, president of American Jewish World Service, sent out an email on Chanukah encouraging us to donate as part of our Chanukah celebration. "With each act of *tzedakah* — giving for justice — you illuminate the world as well. And just like the menorah, that light grows



stronger when our whole community joins together," he wrote.

For families with young kids: Choose a night to donate presents to kids in need – We started doing this in our family a few years ago. Each child chooses one night to offer their present to a local charity. We take them to the toy store or Target and let them pick out a toy that we'll then donate. It has always been a meaningful activity for our family and a nice way for the kids to recognize that there are families and children in need right here in our community.

Hope these ideas help to elevate your Chanukah celebration! Happy Chanukah!

NEW LOOK FOR THE GIFT SHOP

With Chanukah around the corner (the first candle is lit on December 22), please drop by our recently renovated gift shop and check out our new look and new merchandise.

We also have a new face; Karen Sanger, at left in the photo, has joined Sylvia Neigher in the shop. Come see us on Sunday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Special holiday boutiques will be held on December 8 and 15th. Peace Love Light and Our Woven Community pop up shops will be here.



BIG TURNOUT FOR SHABBAT ABOUT TOWN

More than 100 people attended dinners at the homes of 11 host families for the third annual Shabbat About Town on November 1. It was such a hit that there's talk of doing it twice a year in the future, in the spring and the fall.



Special thanks to Anne Lampert and Michael Jacobson, Laura Sydney-Pulton and Ted Pulton, Lori and Dan Underberger, Randi Cohen and Jeremy Wise, Laurie and Dean Gaugler, Larry Levine and Alison Bonds, Kelle and Jeff Ruden, Marcia Cohen and Mark Hotchkiss, Susan and Rich Walden, Barbara and Mark Edinberg, and Naomi and Carl Erwich for hosting and opening their homes to approximately 100 community members!



Young and Generous

Maxwell Borofsky, 7, raised \$98 for the Yom Kippur food drive by creating a spider stamp for Halloween and using it on cards that he sold. He did the shopping himself.



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY/RABBI SARAH R. MARION

THE GIFT OF A GOOD READ

Once again, the days are turning darker and colder, and, for some, the respite of winter vacation is only a few weeks away. There is perhaps nothing better on a cold winter day than a fireplace, a good book, and a cup of coffee nearby. And in my family, when it comes to Chanukah presents, books are always a reliable go-to. And so in honor of Chanukah and the cold days ahead — days that will, hopefully, provide some time for respite and relaxation — below are a few of my favorite reads, all with a Jewish twist, with the hope that these titles will provide some insight or inspiration to you, or to someone else, in the coming months:

The Immoralists

By Chloe Benjamin

Everything changes when four teenage siblings, on a lark, ask a fortuneteller to reveal the dates of their deaths. From then on, one piece of possibly spurious information conspires with character and circumstance to warp the siblings' choices as they grow into adulthood. Along the way are intriguing questions about the value of longevity and whether we are victims, or perpetrators, of our own fates.

- Sarah Harrison Smith, *Amazon Book Review*

A Guide for the Perplexed

By Dara Horn

Software prodigy Josie Ashkenazi has invented an application that records everything its users do. When an Egyptian library invites her to visit as a consultant, her jealous sister Judith persuades her to go. But in Egypt's post revolutionary chaos, Josie is abducted — leaving Judith free to take over Josie's life at home, including her husband and daughter, while Josie's talent for preserving memories becomes a surprising test of her empathy and her only means of escape. A century earlier, another traveler arrives in Egypt: Solomon Schechter, a Cambridge professor hunting for a medieval archive

hidden in a Cairo synagogue. Both he and Josie are haunted by the work of the medieval philosopher Moses Maimonides, a doctor and rationalist who sought to reconcile faith and science, destiny and free will. But what Schechter finds, as he tracks down the remnants of a thousand-year-old community's once-vibrant life, will reveal the power and perils of what Josie's ingenious work brings into being: a world where nothing is ever forgotten. An engrossing adventure that intertwines stories from Genesis, medieval philosophy, and the digital frontier.

- *Amazon Book Review*

Nurture the Wow: Finding Spirituality in the Frustration, Boredom, Tears, Poop, Desperation, Wonder and Radical Amazement of Parenting

By Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg

Rooted in Judaism but incorporating a wide-range of religious and literary traditions, *Nurture the Wow* asks, Can ancient ideas about relationships, drudgery, pain, devotion, and purpose help make the hard parts of a parent's job easier and the magical stuff even more so? Ruttenberg shows how parenting can be considered a spiritual practice—and how seeing it that way can lead to transformation. This is a *parenthood* book, not a *parenting* book; it shows how the experiences we have as parents can change us for the better. Enlightening, uplifting, and laugh-out-loud funny, *Nurture the Wow* reveals how parenthood—in all its crazy-making, rage-inducing, awe and joy-filled moments—can actually be the path to living fully, authentically, and soulfully. - *Amazon Book Review*

And for the littlest readers in your life... I am reveling in the wide variety of children's books these days that challenge gender stereotypes and depict broader notions of the roles that men and women

can play at home and in society. Below are a few of our favorites in the Marion household:

The Purim Superhero

By Elizabeth Kushner

Nate loves aliens and he really wants to wear an alien costume for Purim, but his friends are all dressing as superheroes and he wants to fit in. What will he do? With the help of his two dads he makes a surprising decision.

-*Amazon Book Review*

Baxter, the Pig who Wanted to be Kosher

By Laurel Snyder

While waiting for the bus, a man tells Baxter the pig about the joys of Shabbat dinner. But before Baxter can find out how he, too, can join in the fun, the man has boarded the bus. Soon after, Baxter learns that he certainly cannot be a part of Shabbat dinner because he's not Kosher. So begins one pig's misguided quest to become Kosher. Will Baxter succeed or will his dreams of taking part in Shabbat dinner remain unfulfilled? Readers will cheer as a series of misunderstandings leads to a warm message of welcome and community.

-*Amazon Book Review*

*Also: features a female rabbi! ☺

And, finally, though this last one is not outwardly "Jewish," its message certainly is:

Love, Z

By Jessie Sima

When a small robot named Z discovers a message in a bottle signed "Love, Beatrice," they decide to find out what "love" means. Unable to get an answer from the other robots, they leave to embark on an adventure that will lead them to Beatrice — and back home again, where love was hiding all along.

-*Amazon Book Review*



BONIM BUZZ/ALEXA COHEN, EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

STREAM IN BONIM

The children at Bonim have been so busy in our STREAM Lab. Each class enjoys a weekly visit to the Lab with Mrs. Adele Josovitz for some fun and learning.

Recently we talked about sunflowers, seed distribution, pollination, pinecones, the formation of different types of clouds and the changing color of leaves.

CLOUDS

Often as we look into the sky, clouds drift by in many shapes, sizes and shades of gray, pink and purple. By asking open-ended questions the students used multiple modalities to help them learn about and answer questions about clouds.

Some of the open-ended questions the students were presented included:

- How are clouds formed?
- What are clouds made of?

Why do clouds seem to float?
How do clouds move in the sky?

Students had the opportunity to learn about clouds through the following modalities:

SCIENCE:

The students did two types of science experiments that showed how clouds were formed why rain came from clouds.

TECHNOLOGY:

The students used various techniques and materials for an art project about clouds.

READING:

Each student received the book *Clouds* by Kira Freed to share with their families at home.

ENGINEERING:

Students used materials in the STREAM room to build and create.



From left, Hayley Siegfried, Caleb James and Samantha Patrignelli.

ART:

The students created four types of clouds, using various techniques and materials.

MATH:

The students sequentially re-created the Water Cycle using the motion of their hands, arms and bodies.

Each topic was presented using multiple modalities which provided diverse experiences. This helped improve student engagement and enabled the children to learn by using different skills.

The expectation is to give students exposure to different areas of science using STREAM as the basis for their learning.

While the students may not always remember the specific names and definitions used in the lessons, this may be the first step in learning about specific scientific areas.



Looking at clouds and asking how they are formed and what they are made of?



FROM THE EDUCATION CENTER/IRA J. WISE

LEARNING TO STAND UP FOR OURSELVES

A snapshot from last year: A Kitah Daled (4th grade) student came up to me and one of our teachers, Susan Walden, while waiting outside to be picked up after class. She told us that in school the other day, she and her friends were talking about their favorite foods and she had said hers was matzah ball soup. One of the other kids asked, “Are you Jewish?” She answered that she was. “Then I can’t be friends with you anymore. Jews are bad people,” came the reply.

Our student then told us: “I told him that he was wrong. That you cannot decide someone is bad because of their religion or where their family came from. I also told him he was being rude and mean.

A fourth grader’s response to Anti-Semitism: “I told him that he was wrong.”

Then I told my teacher and my principal. Thank you for helping me know how to do that!”

The Sunday before she told us that story, she and her parents had joined the rest of the Kitah Daled families in a workshop called Julia’s Star run by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). She and her parents will take part in additional workshops in Kitah Vav (6th) and Kitah Chet (8th). This year, all three programs took place in the last month.

I am proud to say that we did not begin having these programs in response to any one particular traumatic event. Three years ago, Susan came to me suggesting we offer an ADL program to Kitah Chet. She had just signed on as a facilitator of these programs. She was so impressed by what ADL offers, she felt it vital we bring them in. The response of parents and students was overwhelming. The most repeated critique was “I wish I had something like this when I was younger.” And now we offer a three-tiered program, revisiting some issues and deepening understanding of others. Most importantly, our students and their parents are learning skills to help them face down prejudice and anti-Semitism in real time.

Susan is now the coordinator of these programs for the ADL in Connecticut, in addition to continuing to teach Kitah Hey and serving as a Vice President of B’nai Israel. She has recruited several of our teens who are paired with adult facilitators to run these workshops. Four of our own took part in leading Julia’s star this year.

I am grateful that we are able to fund this program and that the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy allocates funds to help us fit it into our budget. These are critical skills for our students.

L’shalom,

Ira J. Wise, D.J.R.E.

Director of Education



l to r: Jillian Appel, Samantha Renzulli, Susan Walden, Nathan Ayotte and Brooke Berry



ADULT JEWISH LEARNING AT CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL



Adult Round Table

Thursdays, December 5 and January 2 at 12:30 p.m.

Ilene Goby facilitates a discussion about current events for anyone who wants to go beyond the headlines.

Join us the first Thursday of every month, and bring a sandwich, your opinion and an open mind.



Rosh Chodesh

Thursday, December 19, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.



Join with women from across the B'nai Israel community each month for conversation, laughter

and learning as we celebrate the start of each new moon and soak in the wisdom of our female ancestors. Women of all ages are welcome. Our gatherings will be held at Congregation B'nai Israel from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. unless otherwise announced. Questions? Contact Rabbi Sarah Marion at smarion@cbibpt.org. Future meetings will be 1/23, 2/13, 3/12, 4/16, 5/14 and 6/25.

Torah Study

Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Natt Family Library

Rabbi Ben Bag-Bag said, "Turn it (the Torah) over and over, for everything is in it." Each week we read from the Torah. Each year at Simchat Torah we start over from the beginning. Each time we revisit a portion, we learn something new. Some of us have been learning together for decades. Some of us joined recently. All of us are teaching and learning from one another! Join us!

Fearless Females in the Bible! Twenty Minutes of Torah

Sundays, December 8 at 9:35 – 9:55 a.m. in the Natt Family Library

Bite-sized Torah returns this month. Join Rabbi Schultz or Rabbi Marion for a brief but meaty Jewish conversation! This year we will explore some of the women central to the TaNaKh (Hebrew Bible). Drop in! This month as Rabbi Schultz will help us learn about Hagar, the mother of Abraham's first born son (what?!). Upcoming sessions will be 1/5, 2/23, 3/8 and 4/5.



Security in Israel – The IDF and Israelis

Lifelong Learning: Fridays, December 6, 13 and 20

Note: December 6 and 20 will meet at noon. December 13 will meet at 2:00 p.m.



Here in America, we only see the Israel Defense Force (IDF) as depicted by the media. We only see the part of the story that the presenters want to share. Join our Young Israeli Emissaries, Hoshen, Noya, Ido and Ella for a first-hand exploration. They live in Israel and will all be serving in the IDF next year. They will teach us about the values behind the IDF, help us wrestle with issues that make us uncomfortable and hopefully give us a chance to speak with soldiers currently serving or who have recently completed their service.

BIFTY!

Join BIFTY for our December Programs! We meet in the BIFTY Lounge on Thursdays from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. It is never too late to start!

Our December events are:

December 12: Ice Skating at Westport Rink at Longshore. More details to come!

December 19: Celebrate an early Chanukah with BIFTY!

*There will be no BIFTY December 26. Enjoy your winter break!

Follow us on Instagram at "cbi.bifty" Questions? Email advisor Marisa Underberger at munderberger@cbibpt.org



BIFTY had a great time at our annual sleepover!

DECEMBER DONATIONS

(We greatly appreciate all donations to our special purpose funds.)

Rabbi Schultz Discretionary Fund

Joel and Linda Bernstein, in memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens.

Marilyn Bissell, with thanks to Rabbi Schultz; in memory of Betty Grayson.

Marie Dominique Boyce, in memory of father, Gilbert Dominique Antoine.

Eric and Lisa Broder, wishing Rabbi Schultz a Happy Birthday and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Barbara and Mark Edinberg, in honor of Rabbi Schultz' Installation.

Eintracht Sick Benefit Assoc., in appreciation of the memorial service at Eintracht Cemetery.

Michael and Kim Feinstein, in memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens.

Stacy and Rob Giglietti, in memory of Bernard Lipin, stepfather of Stacy Giglietti.

Laurel and Hank Greenberg, in loving memory of brother, Dr. Lloyd H. Silverman, and parents, Barney and Ida Greenburgh.

Lynette Helman, in appreciation to Rabbi Schultz for my father's unveiling ceremony.

Gloria Katz, in memory of Bob Caston, husband of Mariam Caston.

Annette Schwarz Kaye and Richard Kaye, in memory of Ronald Sheiman, father of Laura Sheiman.

Richard and Joanne Krantz, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick.

Anthony and Rozanne Lancia, in memory of Moe Cohen, father of Rozanne Lancia.

Beth Lazar, in loving memory of Esther Epstein.

Jeff and Jackie Madwed, in memory of Howard Bindelglass, father of David Bindelglass.

Luise Mann, in honor of Rabbi Schultz becoming Senior Rabbi and for his Installation.

Luise Mann, Eileen Dobensky and Families, in memory of Muriel Mann, and with appreciation to Rabbi Schultz for his kindness, compassion and support.

Ellen Hyde Phillips, in honor of Rabbi Evan Schultz.

The Polansky Family, in appreciation to Rabbi Schultz for a wonderful service in memory of Steve Polansky.

Beth and Randy Reich, in memory of Muriel Mann, mother of Luise Mann.

Nancy and Jonathan Rosenthal, in memory of Myrna Doris, aunt of Margo and Jack Abrams.

Matthew and Brook Viens, in appreciation to Rabbi Schultz for being the best wedding officiant.

Esther and Howard Weiner, in honor of Rabbi Schultz on his first New Year service as Senior Rabbi, and best wishes to Rabbi Schultz, Jenny and their adorable boys.

The Zeisler Family, in sincere appreciation of Rabbi Sher, Rabbi Schultz, Rabbi Prosnit and Richard Walden for their comforting presence during our shiva.

Fredric Zinn, in memory of father, Hank Silverman.

Rabbi Marion Discretionary Fund

Carol Barsky, in honor of Rabbi Sarah Marion's Installation.

Marilyn Bissell, in memory of Marjorie Latz.

Mark and Barbara Edinberg, in honor of Rabbi Sarah Marion's Installation; in appreciation of Rabbi Marion.

Jack and Sandy Germain, in memory of Allan Aaron, husband of Harriet Aaron; in memory of Joseph Lieber.

Beth Lazar, in loving memory of aunt, Lea Lazar.

Luise Mann, welcome to Rabbi Marion and Mazel tov on your installation.

Luise Mann, Eileen Dobensky and Families, in memory of Muriel Mann, and with appreciation to Rabbi Marion for her kindness, compassion and support.

Ellen Hyde Phillips, in honor of Rabbi Sarah Marion.

Nancy and Jonathan Rosenthal, in memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens.

Rabbi James Prosnit Legacy Fund

Stacey and Duane Berlin, in memory of Joe Lieber.

Bonnie and Len Blum, in honor of Rabbi Prosnit's outstanding guidance.

Paul and Patricia Buchbinder, in honor of the marriage of son, Daniel Buchbinder, to Alicia Kelman.

Rita and Gail Donnelly, in memory of Nate Barsky, husband of Carol Barsky.

Stacy and Rob Giglietti, in memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens.

Lindsay and Adam Gottfried, in appreciation for a warm and wonderful wedding ceremony.

Luise Mann, Eileen Dobensky and Families, in memory of Muriel Mann, and with appreciation to Rabbi Prosnit for his kindness, compassion and support.

Ken and Rita Weinstein, in memory of Morton Robert Ruden, father of Jeffrey Ruden.

Music Fund

Barbara Abraham, in memory of Sonya Schopick, mother of Dan Schopick; in memory of Lois Campbell, mother of Janet Rosen; in appreciation of the musical contributions of Liz Nigrosh, Anne Kirsch and Beth Palmer to our High Holy Day Services.

Mark and Barbara Edinberg, in memory of Lois Campbell, mother of Janet Rosen; in honor of Janet Rosen, on the marriage of son, Matthew Rosen to Danielle.

Luise Mann, Eileen Dobensky and Families, in memory of Muriel Mann, and with appreciation to Cantor Blum for her kindness, compassion and support.

Nancy, Jonathan, Geoffrey and Alex Rosenthal, in memory of Howard Bindelglass, father of David Bindelglass.

Enhancement Fund

Susan and Stanley Baron, with thanks for allowing us to attend a beautiful Yizkor Service.

Lori and Ken Berger, in memory of Muriel Mann, beloved mother of Luise Mann; in memory of Richard Sacks, beloved father of Debbie Viens.

Harvey Casher, a donation.

Elaine and Juda Chetrit, in memory of Muriel Mann, mother of Luise Mann.

Linda and Jordan Joseph, in appreciation of High Holiday Services.

Stanley and Judith Lessler, in memory of David Lessler and Adrienne Lessler Krassner.

Melissa and Perry Molinoff, in memory of Barry Berkowitz.

Lawrence A. Sax, in memory of Muriel Mann, mother of Luise Mann.

The Slade Family, in appreciation of the Beach Service on Rosh Hashanah.

Sylvia Prosnit Adult Education Fund

Luise Mann, Eileen Dobensky and Families, with heartfelt gratitude to Glenn Rich and Mark Hotchkiss for care, kindness and attention to our mother, Muriel Mann.

Barbara Solomon, in memory of beloved father, Michael Kramer.

Nursery School Enrichment Fund

Alexa and David Cohen, in memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens.

Nursery School Scholarship Fund

Gail and Peter Weinstein, in memory of Howard Bindelglass, father of David

DECEMBER DONATIONS

(We greatly appreciate all donations to our special purpose funds.)

Bindelglass; congratulations to Sharon and Jay Alpert, on granddaughter Bari's marriage to Matt; best wishes to Steve Wolfson on his special birthday; congratulations to Joel and Cheryl Siegel on their 50th wedding anniversary; in memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens; congratulations to Beth and Randy Reich, on the birth of granddaughter, Zoe; congratulations to Bonnie and Peter Stein, on the birth of granddaughter, Zoe; congratulations to Sherry and Fred Weiner on their granddaughters Bat Mitzvah's; congratulations to Sheryl and Art Feurestein on Bram's Bar Mitzvah; condolences to Barry Meyers on the death of his sister.

Rabbi Martin Library Fund

Carol Barsky, in memory of brother, Donald Quint.

Religious School Scholarship Fund

Eric and Lisa Broder, wishing Ira Wise a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Beth Lazar, a donation.

The Silberman/Weisman Family, in

memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens.

Religious School Enrichment Fund

Alison Bonds and Larry Levine, in honor of the Wise and Walden families.

Rabbi Arnold Sher Social Action Fund

Donations in honor of Dale Barcham's special birthday were made by:

Charise DeLuca

Randy Dorfman and Richard Post

Susan Rona Kasson

George and Sheryl Santiago

Suzie and Artie Weissman

Barbara Abraham, in memory of Muriel Mann, mother of Luise Mann.

Dale and Stew Barcham, in memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens.

Michael and Judy Green Blumenthal, in memory of Muriel Mann, mother of Luise Mann; in memory of Richard Sacks, father of Debbie Viens.

Barbara and Rob Liberman, in memory

of Anne and Ed Nowitz, parents of Barbara Liberman; in memory of Gary and Ulla Nowitz, brother and sister-in-law of Barbara Liberman.

Jeffrey Orell and Barbara Green, in memory of Bernard Green.

Beth and Randy Reich, wishing Barbara Liberman a speedy recovery.

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Jim Abraham Education Fund for Jewish Leadership

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Congregation B'nai Israel, founded in 1858, seeks to be a vibrant Reform synagogue dedicated to the perpetuation of Jewish life and values within the framework of contemporary American Judaism. We are a gateway to Judaism for all. The Congregation B'nai Israel Bulletin publishes monthly 11 times a year (except July). To submit an article, announcement or ad to the Bulletin, please contact Editor Jack Kadden at jkadden@cbibpt.org. Submissions are due by the first day of the month preceding the publication month. We reserve the right to edit all submissions for length or style.

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(Fridays at 6:00 p.m. where indicated, preceded by an Oneg Shabbat at 5:30 p.m.)

Friday, December 6

6:00 p.m. Service
Torah Portion –
Vayetzei, Gen. 28:10-
32:3
Haftarah – Hosea 12:13-
14:10

Saturday, December 7

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study
11:00 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Lindsay
Oberhand, daughter
of Mark and Heather
Oberhand

Friday, December 13

6:00 p.m. Service
Portion – Vayishlach,
Gen. 32:4-36:43
Haftarah – Hosea 11:7-
12:12

Saturday, December 14

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study
9:30 a.m. Havurah for Families
with Young Children –
Chanukah Celebration
with special guest Alexa
Cohen

Friday, December 20

6:00 p.m. Service - followed by
a Chanukah Family
Dinner (see Page 1)
Torah Portion –
Vayeshev, Gen. 37:1-
40:23
Haftarah – Amos 2:6-
3:8

Saturday, December 21

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study

Friday, December 27

6:00 p.m. Service
Torah Portion – Miketz,
Gen. 41:1-44:17
Haftarah – Zechariah
4:1-7

Saturday, December 28

8:00 a.m. Service
9:00 a.m. Brotherhood Breakfast
9:30 a.m. Torah Study