

Congregation ETZ CHAIM

Volume 5, Issue 1

January 2018 Tevet - Shevat 5778

*Congregation Etz Chaim's Mission Statement is:
Passionate and participatory,
our supportive Jewish
community engages each
individual in a life-long Jewish
journey. We embrace diverse
experiences that span both
traditional and contemporary
ideas while learning and
pursuing spiritual growth.*

Executive Committee:

Terry Brodof
Russ Rosen
Aaron Schechtman
Stephany Schechtman
Steve Segerman

Staff:

Hank Lerer, Executive Director
Chava Vidal, Program Director

Men's Club:

Aaron Schechtman, President

Sisterhood:

Sandy Baden & Laura Maxwell
Co-Directors

Ritual Co-Chairs:

Barry Joffe & Barbara Taggart-Milberg



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Message from your President – Terry



Happy 2018!

Wasn't December a busy month? Chanukah is starting this evening, as I write this. I am expecting both of my children to be home tonight to light the menorah, enjoy latkes, play a game or two of dreidel, and fill the evening hours with warmth.

As busy as the end of November and December have been, I am looking forward to a less hectic schedule.

I just browsed through the end of December and the January synagogue calendars. All hopes are dashed. On December 24th I see there is an open cast call for the Purim Schpiel. I definitely want to be there. If you have never acted, never danced or never performed in front of an audience, you will be in good company with most of our cast members! That's what makes our Purim Shpiel so entertaining. It is full of laughter and silliness- which is twofold during our practices. I know as you read this you might be thinking, "I'd like to try it, I'm a little nervous about participating and oh well, I missed it because practices have already started". I guarantee that you can catch up. You can use a script for a while because no one memorizes anything until at least week 3 or 4... sometimes it's the week of dress rehearsal. Don't tell Chava!

As you read this, you may notice that on January 6th, there is a special Shabbat honoring our Board Members. Our board installation Shabbat is the opportunity to recognize the members of the first board of Etz Chaim. My hope is that our congregation will spend Shabbat morning with our board honoring the women and men who give so much of themselves for the success of our synagogue. Your presence is a nice way to show your appreciation. I was recently asked if our board meetings are open to the congregation. The answer is YES. We typically meet in the evening of the second Wednesday of each month. I thought I might take a moment to acknowledge the new board and to give you a quick overview of the members that comprise the board of directors. The members include some returning committee members. Those members are Howard Saal, Lynne Haber, and Barry Joffe. Lynne is chairperson for our Education Committee and Barry is one of the Co-Chairs of our Ritual Committee. These members were on the Joint Steering Committee and elected to remain on the board so that the Board of Directors had a tier of directors that were familiar with the business items being addressed. This allowed us to maintain a degree of fluidity as we went from a Steering Committee to a Board of Directors.

Continued on the next page...

Continued from the front page...

The incoming tier of directors include Brian Wolfe, Bob Friedenber, Israela Ginsberg, Marianne Nidich, Marty Ruben, Jeff Gabbour and Mark Rogoff. These congregants are bringing in with them new ideas and are looking at the shul business agenda with fresh eyes.

The officers serving on the Board of Directors include Aaron Schechtman, who is serving as our Vice President as well as our Men's Club President, Russ Rosen is our treasurer and fundraising Chairperson, Stephany Schechtman is serving as our Sisterhood representative, and Steve Segerman, has agreed to once again serve as our Immediate Past President. If you have an interest in serving on the board, we are currently looking to fill the position of secretary. Please contact me, Terry Brodof if you have an interest.

Although our board members are designated as members of different tiers, the tiers are merely indicative of the time each board member will serve. All of our board members are dedicated synagogue volunteers.

I left out two very important members of the board- our incredible staff Hank and Chava. Although they do not vote, their input is invaluable. I want to extend a huge thank you to our Board of Directors. If you would like more information about the board, feel free to ask any of the officers, our staff or directors.

I told you I was looking forward to my children arriving for Chanukah. My daughter Lauren just walked in. It's time to make sufganiyot!

Once again Happy 2018. As you page through the rest of the bulletin you will see the many activities that are going on. Our shul is a place of never ending activities, that include a range of interests - educational, family and holiday programs, as well as special interest committees and services throughout each week. From the list of events I recently viewed, 2018 promises to be a fantastic year. Come join in! There is a place in this welcoming community for everyone.

Terry Brodof

Breakfast Learning

First Friday at:



Join Hank & Chava
for Breakfast and Learning
We're Outside the Building
& Outside the Box

The First Friday of Each Month
at the Scrambler Marie's
4006 Hauck Rd. Sharonville, OH 45241
(Across from Gabes on Rt 42)

Next Class
Friday, January 5 – 10am
RSVPs are appreciated



Ritual Matters

Ritual Committee members: Co-Chairs: Barry Joffe & Barbara Taggart-Milberg; Members: Alex Cohen, Emmy Friedenbergl, Lynne Haber, Candy Kwiatek, Hank Lerer, Steve Segerman, Chava Vidal, Robyn Wolfe

Speaking for all on the RITCOM, we hope that everyone had wonderful Chanukah and Holiday celebrations and we wish you all the best in the secular New Year 2018! May it be a good year for us all – if the year ending in 18 (Chai for life) means anything, that's a good start.

At the RITCOM's December meeting, it was decided to update our criteria for passing out honors at Shabbat morning services and now we want to update you on these. We love to give out Shabbat honors on Saturday mornings and we hope you love to receive them. We have always wanted to honor someone for these reasons: birthday, anniversary, yahrzeit, guest, new birth or other special occasion in the family, recovery from illness or just a request to have an honor. We have now added an additional criterion- when someone is about to leave or comes back from a lengthy trip. But in return we ask you for a favor please. We ask that you be responsible for telling one of us when you are leaving town or have returned and we in turn are responsible for communicating this to whomever is giving out honors that morning. And if you come back from a long trip overseas or recover from an illness, we'll also invite you to bench Gornel.

Under the leadership of Lynne Haber, we offered our first Healing Service last November, with the promise of another perhaps in the spring. Attendance was more than a minyan strong and it was nice to share our feelings with one another. As was mentioned in the last Ritual Matters, we all need some healing in our lives and our hope is that attendees find solace and comfort from this type of service.

New Board installation is happening during Shabbat services on Saturday, January 6th. Come on out and support and cheer on these dedicated officers of our shul. Mazal Tov to all who serve!

January 27 is Shabbat Shira, about as special a Shabbat as there is. Listen to the beautiful melody of the shirat hayam which will be sung during the Torah service – the song of celebration that Moses, Miriam and the people Israel sang after he successfully crossing of the Sea of Reeds and the defeat of the Egyptian army by the hand of G-d. It is also another Choir Shabbat, where our choir will take the upper hand and participate throughout the service.

You've all heard about our upcoming retreat weekend at Houston Woods February 9-11. If you have signed up to attend, kol hakavod! It's really a fun time, as those who attended last year can attest, and from a ritual standpoint we want to involve each and every one of you in the services offered that weekend. Since we're taking the show on the road that weekend, please note that there will be NO services held in Cincinnati that weekend.

Although Purim is still about 2 months away (Erev Purim is Wednesday evening, February 28, 2018) Megillah readers need to be lined up. We're always on the lookout for people to read. We'll admit that one needs to be proficient at both Hebrew and the special Megillah Trope but for those of you who are, and who are not already slated to read, we sure would love to hear from you – there's a chapter saved just for you.

Barbara and Barry





Membership Matters

You – our membership – matter!

Introducing – Paul & Tsila Evers

Paul and Tsila Evers have recently joined Congregation Etz Chaim as associate members. Paul and Tsila are longtime residents of Cincinnati, though neither was raised here. For many years they have been members of Temple Shalom but having friends at the former Ohav Shalom they often attended services and events here as well. In recent years their son, Michael has become more observant and his joining CEC was the impetus that triggered their becoming members of CEC while maintaining their membership in Temple Shalom.

Both Paul and Tsila grew up in highly observant Orthodox families. Paul was raised in Boston by immigrant parents. Among his fondest memories are those of an aunt who would visit on the holidays and made jellied carp, which Paul describes as “much much better” than gefilte fish.” She was also a terrific baker and made a bobka that Paul remembers to this day. Tsila was raised in Israel and her grandmother was very religious and as a consequence, Tsila’s family kept kosher. It was not until she went to college in Jerusalem that she become somewhat more secular. Growing up, Tsila remembers that the High Holidays and Passover were extremely important in her family.

The Evers came to Cincinnati when Paul was offered a highly desirable job by the Mercy hospital system, where he subsequently worked for 23 years. Paul and Tsila have two children who were very young when they moved to Cincinnati. Tsila likely made professional sacrifices when she came to Cincinnati from Ann Arbor where she got her doctorate in Educational Psychology.

Michael, their youngest child, has been a member of CEC for several years. His older sister Sara lives in New Orleans. While Michael’s presence at CEC certainly influenced their joining, the Evers also like CEC because, as Tsila says, “so many people contribute,” and because of its informality. Paul adds that the fact that CEC “is lay-led is refreshing” and reminds him very much of the congregation in Boston in which he grew up.

The Evers enjoy traveling and meeting new people very much. Since Tsila still has family in Israel that is a frequent destination. Paul is semi-retired, and still occasionally does consulting work in the medical field. Tsila is active in AMOS, a federation of congregations in Greater Cincinnati dedicated to promoting justice & improving the quality of life for all residents. She is also active in Shomrei Olam an environmental organization.



The Time is Now...
It's Time to Celebrate...
Time has flown by...

Join us at a Congregational Shabbat Dinner - Celebrating Week 312
SIX YEARS of consecutive Friday Night Minyanim

Friday Night, January 26, 2018
6pm Services & Ruach & 7pm Dinner & Rejoicing

Hold your heads up high! We are able to boast something that the
conservative synagogues in our area can't...
6 years of consecutive Friday night minyanim

Come and join us for this joyful and ruach filled evening.
You may be thinking: "But I don't attend services – this isn't my
celebration" however, let us assure you IT IS! We, Etz Chaim, have
accomplished this special distinction together and we are the only
Synagogue in the area to be able to claim this honor.
Let us all rejoice and welcome in the peace of Shabbat together!

Sponsorship opportunities available for this dinner - by including an
additional \$18 donation you'll pledge your support to our Kabbalat Shabbat
streak and be listed as a "Friend of Friday Night"

PLEASE RSVP by 1/12/18 - \$13 per adult (children <13 \$6)
(6 years+ 13 dollars = 613 the total number of commandments in the Torah!)

Congregants – We need your help!

Time is our theme and we'd like to borrow your clocks, pocket watches, time pieces, etc
for this special evening. Talk to Chava for more details.



MEN'S CLUB



Paige & Brian



Ron Shapiro – Swinging for the fences



Robyn Wolfe, Paige Shapiro & Terry Brodof

- The Men's Club at Congregation Etz Chaim has been busy to say the least. On Sunday, November 19th they treated congregants to a delicious breakfast complete with their famous potatoes followed by an outing to TopGolf in West Chester.
- Then it was on to Men's Club Shabbat on Saturday, December 2, 2017. The entire service was led by men and over 50 people participated in planning, cooking, set-up and leading services. We couldn't be more proud of these guys.
- Then it was all hands on deck for KP (Kitchen Patrol) as we called in the Men for Latka making. We are pleased to announce that our men were able to make and fry 448 latkas from scratch. 60 pounds of potatoes, 14 onions, 6 bottles of oil, 4 cans of matza meal, laughter and comradery that happened during those six hours of cooking – priceless.



MEN'S CLUB



Thank you to the Men's Club for making our delicious latkas. Their hard work meant that we had latkas for our Chanukah Party, Thursday Morning Minyan, and over ten care packages to congregants in need.
Yasher Kochachem gentlemen on a job well done!



Additional Chanukah Photos from latke making, gift giving, Congregational Dinner and more will be in our February Bulletin and on Facebook – Stay Tuned!

On Thursday, December 14, 2017 the Thursday morning Minyanaires came together for a special annual tradition of fun and celebration:

MYSTERY MACABEE GIFT EXCHANGE

The hot ticket items this year were toilet golf (yup it's exactly what it sounds like), a bottle of red wine and a santa hat.

You need only look at these photos to see that a good time was had by all. Thank you to all who participated!

Mystery Maccabee



Shots



Lox



& Blocks



One of best kept secrets is our Thursday morning minyan. Minyan Captain David Weil and all the minyanaires would love to have more congregants join us. Remember shots, lox and blocks after minyan sets you 'on fire' for the day!

We meet every Thursday at 7am in the Chapel. Steve leads a beautiful hour long service and sometimes Bryan and Hank will pinch hit if needed. In that hour, there are morning blessings, a short Torah reading service and several chances to say Mourner's Kaddish.

The cast of characters that attend this early morning service are fun loving caffeine drinkers (minus Ron – Mr. Decaf) that are always happy to welcome in new faces.

Breakfast follows services and consists of Bagels, Lox, Cream Cheese, Butter, Jellies, Coffee, Tea, OJ and shots. Sometimes we are even treated to a pastry or two. Table conversations are always riveting and include humor, current events, religion, twitter, celebrities, movies, stories from days gone by and so much more... Why not try it one Thursday morning – you just may find you like it.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Thursday Morning Minyan

Mystery Macabee 2017



Building Bridges, Closing Gaps

By: Brian Wolfe

We had the first 'real' snow of the season recently, if you can count the dusting we had as snow, and I am sitting in my living room looking through the three giant panels of glass and out over the deck, I can see my large bird feeders and the hordes of birds and squirrels feasting. The dark color birds look like pepper against the white of the snow. Makes me think of mashed potatoes. (you had to be there).

Just before the snow, I filled all three bird feeders. I noticed that for some reason, everybody (wildlife) has been eating out of one feeder until all the food is gone. A few birds have eaten from the other two, but for the most part, everybody else seems to have ignored them. I refilled the first feeder, and again, all the food is eaten, a little bit is eaten from the other two, but mostly ignored. Strange behavior.

Then it occurred to me. Maybe they can't eat the food I have been putting out. It is possible that the feed in the first feeder is different from the other two. I have been getting it at Home Depot since I seem to spend about as much time there as Kroger and they have it at a decent price. Maybe they are allergic to what is in those feeders. Maybe they have dietary restrictions. I know it can happen in people and our pets, so why not the birds?

Pets have a unique way of telling us what they can and can't eat. People can too: email or phone is great. So, I am asking, please let us know your dietary restrictions. Our many kitchen volunteers work hard to prepare meals for everyone and strive to meet everybody's restrictions including the more common: gluten free, dairy free, egg free, nut free and low salt. I have even known people that can't eat celery or strawberries or pineapple or spinach? How about black pepper. Yep. I knew a person. I literally picked black peppercorns from a fancy mixed jar of black, red, green peppercorns.

What can you do to help us help you? Tell us. How? When you make your reservations. If you leave a message on the answering machine, indicate any restrictions – be specific. If you speak with one of our lovely office people, tell them. You can even tell me. Call me. Email me. Slip me a note attached to a \$5 bill. Not really – the note isn't necessary. I mean the \$5 isn't necessary. I am in the directory.

Finally: Congratulation to the December Laundry Lottery winner:

Mr. & Mrs. Anony Mous (I think they are French)

Thank you to all of our participants. Perhaps YOU will be the next winner. What's that? You don't know about the lottery? Well, let me be the first to tell you about. It is Etz Chaim's newest game of chance allowing you to show us your skills. The rules are simple. Here is how to play. At random times throughout the month (typically when people are in the building for a meeting or rehearsal or some other fun activity), a cart with a couple baskets of towels, table cloths aprons, etc. will be placed nearby. All you have to do is volunteer to take one of the baskets home, wash and fold the contents, and return the cart to Etz Chaim. You don't even have to put them away.

Winners will be announced and thanked.

Simple, fun and extremely helpful.

So be on the lookout for the cart with the laundry gnome and you too could be a winner.





Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen Mitzvah Mavens!

Next Soup Kitchen
Volunteer Opportunity will be:
Sunday, February 18th – Save the Date &
RSVP to Matt Brodof if you can attend!

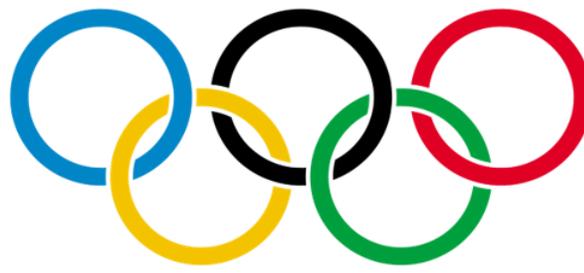


Thank you to the volunteers
who helped out at our last
soup kitchen of 2017. We'd
also like to thank our
congregants for donating
kitchen towels and
potholders for the Over the
Rhine Soup Kitchen.
Way to go Etz Chaim!





CEC UNITE



KALLAH 2018



Congregation Etz Chaim * Kallah/Retreat * February 9-10-11

We are looking forward to spending the weekend offsite as a congregation. The itinerary includes socializing, services, fun, learning, mixers (both ice breakers and drinks) and so much more.



While the deadline has passed if you are now able to attend please contact Chava to see if there is any way we might be able to accommodate you (depends on the hotel!)



Event Tri-Chairs:

- Sandy Baden #513-554-1649
- Sara Gati # 513-489-3261
- Stephany Schechtman # 513-677-0446



SING SING SING

Did you attend Choir Shabbat on December 9th? Do you have any feedback to give either the Ritual Committee or directly to one of us? Ruach Etz Chaim and Pri Yadeiha sang their way through that morning and lo and behold we're going to do it again on January 27th, which is Shabbat Shirah and the ultimate 'singing Shabbat'. In December, we highlighted some tunes by Meir Ovdia but this time our focus will be on Shabbat Shirah and the holiday of Tu b'Shevat, which begins on Tuesday evening, January 30th.

We also had a role to play during the Chanukah party on December 13th and for that we appreciated being involved.

Meir wants to record us singing some of his songs (just the first 5 we know right now; he has more for us to learn!) and we hope to accomplish this at our January 14 rehearsal. We are rehearsing the next week too (January 21) in hopes to learn or re-learn a few songs that we'll be singing at the February retreat.

We generally have rehearsals twice a month. (aside from the weeks leading up to the High Holy Days) Rehearsals are open to all; you are more than welcome to stop in (we usually meet in the Chapel) to 'hear us out' -- check the Etz Chaim calendar for the days and times we meet.

Musically Yours,
Barbara and Emmy, Choir Co-Directors



LETTUCE ENTERTAIN

YOU

Calling All Acts for

Etz Chaim's one-of-a-kind Variety Show
featuring that proverbial plant as your mascot...

Mr. Lettucehead

LUEY, as this show is affectionately called, will run on
Saturday evening, March 10, 2018

So get your Act together.

(suggested length of 5-7 minutes)

Contact Barbara Taggart-Milberg *today* to reserve for this special show.

It's time
to start dreaming
of
Hammentashen!!!!



Which means that Baking Season is upon us!

We've designed this year's baking dates around YOUR convenience

We have day shifts, night shifts and Sunday shifts available

Please contact Sandy Baden to let her know when it's most convenient for you

Let Sandy know that you're willing to lend a hand.

By calling her at 513-554-1649 or by emailing sbaden@cinci.rr.com



Well Folks – January is upon us which means that we may have the chance for inclement weather.

We have multiple ways to communicate with you and we just want to remind you of some of them:

Check your local TV Stations for Synagogue wide closures. While WCPO is our main connection we have been told that the closing will appear on all local Cincinnati stations.

If we are given enough notice, we may use the eblast or email to communicate a weather related canceled event.

If you are scheduled to attend a meeting, please contact the Chair of the committee.

We try very hard not to cancel services but ask that you use sound judgement this winter.

Stay Warm and Be Safe!



Conversation & Camaraderie

FIVE – the number of tables now needed at Bronte Bistro to accommodate the attendees that vary each week from 12 to 16.

FOUR – the number of reasons for meeting: thoughtful conversation, inspirational learning, challenging ideas, nonstop camaraderie.

THREE – the number of states you can find represented at the table (OH, KY, VA).

TWO – the number of books under the microscope each week: one from the Torah (*the weekly portion*) and one from the Tanakh (*currently the Book of Joshua*).

ONE – the number of requirements for attendance: an interest in exploring the foundational stories and ideas of Judaism and uncovering how and why they are still relevant today.

Come meet us at Rookwood! Stop by and listen for a session or two. Or join in the lively learning and conversation. We guarantee a warm welcome and no pressure. Hebrew is not necessary, but please bring a Tanakh or Bible of your choice. Also, please let Candy know well in advance if you'd like to stop in for a day so she can reserve adequate space.



Wednesdays at Bronte Bistro

(Joseph Beth Books @ Rookwood)

3:00-4:30pm followed by dinner, if you choose to stay!

Classes will be held on the following dates:

January 10, 17, 24, 31 (Tu B'Shevat)

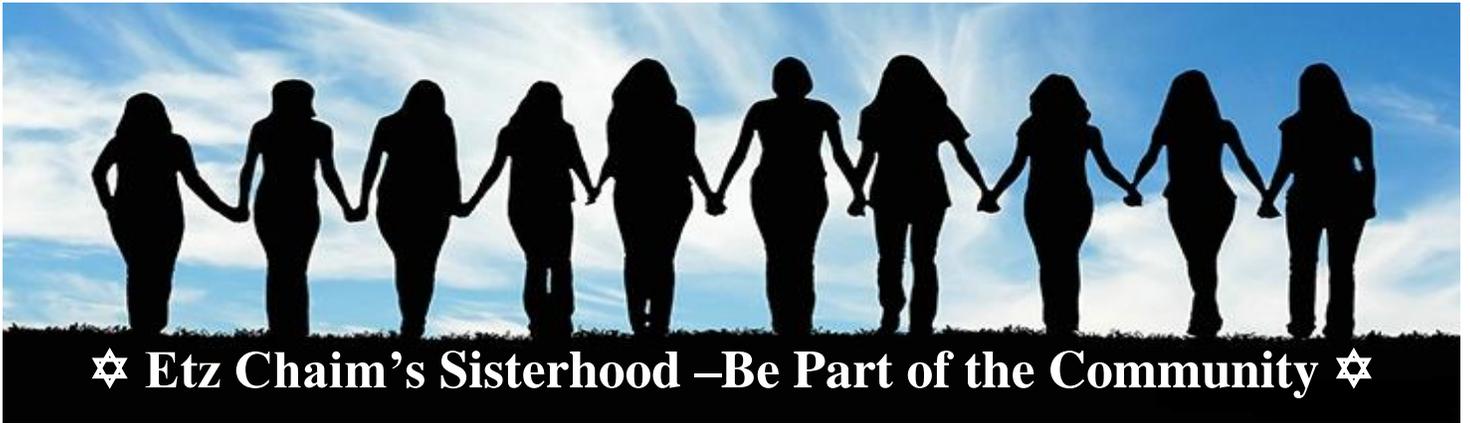
To receive email updates including weather cancellation notices, contact Candy at

KITANDCABOODLE@gmail.com

Will you be our friend?



Did you know that Congregation Etz Chaim has its own Facebook Page? Check it out at <https://www.facebook.com/etzchaimcincinnati/?ref=ts> "Friend" the page and "like" event notifications, photos or videos that are posted there. The more traffic our page gets, the greater the likelihood is that other people will be drawn to it. Don't ask how, that's just how Facebook works. It's a way to get people outside of the Etz Chaim Community to learn that we are a vibrant and active congregation.



Winter blues? Come and shmooze - at this Winter's upcoming Sisterhood events!

First up: January 21st we are having a Pampered Chef party with our own Cindy Bransford. There will be plenty to eat and drink as we shop for ourselves and the synagogue kitchen. Watch your mailbox for a flyer with more details. You do not need to buy to attend AND you do not need to attend to buy.

Second up. Mahj Jongg learning series!

Whether you already play or have always wanted to, come be a mentor or a student. The 4 classes are scheduled for 1/22, 1/29, 2/5 and 2/12 from 7-9pm. Mark your calendars now and watch for more info. If you are planning to participate please RSVP to Sandy or Laura so we can plan for enough sets and cards.

Under the "if you weren't there, you missed a good one" category is:

#1: Holiday cookie decorating. On 11/26, Sisterhood volunteers decorated holiday-themed cookies for the needy that frequent the Barbash Family Vital Support Center. Thank you to all who took part in this much-needed mitzvah.



Continue on the next page...





☆ Etz Chaim's Sisterhood –Be Part of the Community ☆

#2: The December 1st congregational Dinner. We ate shepherd's pie in Camelot and Stephany Schechtman continued her legacy of leadership in coordinating holiday shopping for local, needy children. This year we are brightening the holidays for young students of Roberts Academy where one of our congregants teaches. If you missed it, it's never too late to give. We have an ongoing collection of gloves, hats and scarves for the children as well. Please drop off in the lobby or to the office.

Our next Sisterhood board meeting is scheduled for Sunday 1/21 just prior to the Pampered Chef party, time to be announced.

With undying love for Etz Chaim,
Sandy & Laura



It's time for the 2018 Mah Jongg card!

Our Sisterhood is once again providing you the opportunity to purchase your card through us. It will be sent directly to your home. It will cost the same as if you purchased it from the Mah Jongg League, but our Sisterhood will receive a rebate. The cost is \$8.00 for the standard size and \$9.00 for the large print.

All you need to do is send a check to Sandy Baden, 4135 Fox Hollow Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45241, with the following information, or drop your check and info off at the Etz Chaim office. Call with any questions: 513-554-1649 or 513-470-6428.

We need your name, address, choice of card size and check. In late March you will receive your new card directly from the Mah Jongg League.

Please pass this information on to your friends, your Mahj group, and anyone you know who plays the game. Please note that I need a name and address for each card ordered. I cannot order multiple cards for a group and send them to one address. The deadline for orders is January 28, so please get your orders in as soon as possible.

Y AHRZEITS

This list represents yahrzeits for this month as listed in the Synagogue Database. If we have missed a name, please call the synagogue office at 489-3399 and let us know so we can update our records.

This January (Tevet - Shevat) we remember:

January 1 – Tevet 14

Martha Berger
Rudolph Blatt*
Morris Dorfman
Lee Foreman
Louis Knapp*
Jesse Kropveld
Martin Meyer*
Reuben Nedelman
Henry Steinbuch*

January 2 – Tevet 15

Abe Bartel*
Ruth Becker*
Samuel Dunbar*

January 3 – Tevet 16

Max Becker
Frances Berger
Harry Cannon*
Jake Kravitz*

January 4 – Tevet 17

Rose Binik*
Max Brown*
Robert Frankel
Isachar Gersensfish*
Lillian Nedelman
Joan Ruth Polasky
Arnold Skurow*
Sam Stregovsky

January 5 – Tevet 18

Abraham Baverman
Marian Bershinsky*
Hershel Bloom
Anita Gabor*
Fannie Gersensfish*
Sandra Hellman
Joseph Leichtman*
Sol Lipsky*
Sylvia Rubinoff
Isaac Shuman*
Fannie Weitzman*

January 6 – Tevet 19

Grace Gabel
Sarah Katz*
Mary Kauffman*
Rosaline Lisner*
Ben Stein*
Harry Toran*
Nathan Tulch*

January 7 – Tevet 20

Louis Bartel*
Rose Feuer
Sol Goodman*
Ida Sax Rudner
Hyman Young*

January 8 – Tevet 21

Joseph Cohen*
Harry Fox*
Paula Gallop*
Shaine Klotsky*
Sadie Sobelow*
Emilia Zelonaya

January 9 – Tevet 22

Leah Bloom
Anna Freiden*
Bertha Greenbaum*

January 10 – Tevet 23

Victor Krasnitzky*
Kate Lazier*
Marcus Schreiber*

January 11 – Tevet 24

Larry Selker
Sam Cohen
Rae Kruke Engel*
Robert Feldman*
Lillian Scheer

January 12 – Tevet 25

Abe Braunstein*
Morris Fox*
Kate Kundin*
Steven Lederman
Isadore Meyer*
Betty Neumann
Dorothy Schilmeister*
Max Schneider*
Max Siegel
Minnie Stone*

January 13 – Tevet 26

Ben Albert*
Samuel Chodash*
Ethel Germain*
Fannie Goldberg
Rose Koff*
Kim Bryan
Louis Lipsky*

January 14 – Tevet 27

Leonard Edlin
Louis Gillett*
Harry Katz
Bessie Levine*
Mary Ann Raffel
Edward Reiner

January 15 – Tevet 28

Solomon Beraha
Benjamin Cohen*
Anna Frieman*
Miriam Krauser
Ben Roth*

January 16 – Tevet 29

Hyman Bongard*
Barney Eberlin

Gertrude Kamin*
Katie Meyers
Harry Mitman*
Helen Rose
Abraham Wartik*

January 17 – Shevat 1

Hyman Kirzner*
Philip Paim*
Rose Weiser*

January 18 – Shevat 2

Mary Bartel*
Milton Bloch*
Isabelle Funk*
Betty Greenburg
Frances Schulein*
Fannie Skolnick
Florence Wolfson

January 19 – Shevat 3

Isaac Gersensfish*
Albert Koff
Herbert Krauser
Jacob Mendelsohn
Sara Raboff*

January 20 – Shevat 4

Pearl Gerschkovitz*
Rose Haberman*
Fanny Skurow*
Sarah Skurow*

January 21 – Shevat 5

Ethel Anish*
Anna Cohn*
Mollie Diamant*
Sadye Freeman*
Leonard Shifres
Sophie Silverstein

January 22 – Shevat 6

Phillip Cohen*
Anna Fox*
Sally Frankel

Ben Holtzman*

Frank Kauffman*

Isadore Levine*

Lottie Stoller

January 23 – Shevat 7

Louis Goldberg*

Elliot Lefkowitz*

Harry Licht*

Marian Meyer

Mollie Weiner*

January 24 – Shevat 8

Pauline Baum

Samuel Miller

Sasson Sawdayee*

Pearl Wollin*

Yahrzeits

This list represents yahrzeits for this month as listed in the Synagogue Database. If we have missed a name, please call the synagogue office at 489-3399 and let us know so we can update our records.

This January (Tevet - Shevat) we remember:

January 25 - Shevat 9

Alex Bell*
Abe Ehrlich
Jay Marks*
Leopold Neu
Samuel Parkin*
Charles Robinson
Philip Rose
Ben Schneider
Max Meyer

January 26 – Shevat 10

Abraham Cirkin
Samuel Gutterman
Isadore Klutman*
Robert Klein
Lillian Koorland*
Albert Spitz

January 27 – Shevat 11

Celia Rohrberger*
Sol Skurow*
Hubert Spitz
Harry Strauss*
May Topelberg

January 28 – Shevat 12

Lena Einhorn*
Sidney Meyers*
Nathan Robinson
Max Schoemann
Eva Segal
Sidney Singer*
Norman Uncle

January 29 – Shevat 13

Daniel Cohen
Ira Green
Max Hecht
Helen Klein
Mollie Lande*
Mordechai Levine*
Morris Levine*
Hyman Metz*
June Roney

January 30 – Shevat 14

Albert Goldfarb*
Henry Greenfield
Jacqueline Kuhr
Max Lessure*
Mitchell Liberman
Rubin Slovin*
Sadie Smith*
Rahamim Yarchi

January 31 – Shevat 15

William Cyrkin*
Michael Evers
Hazel Ginsberg*
Meyer Himelfarb*
Joseph Lerer*
Bessie Polin
William Robinson
Jacob Rosky
Martin Siegel

** Names are on
the Sanctuary
Yahrzeit Panels*

Congregation Etz Chaim is proud to offer minyanim upon request. If you would like to observe the Yahrzeit of a loved one and it occurs on a date that we do not have services scheduled, please call or email Julie Kaufman at jsk9998@gmail.com or call 793-6354 and leave a message.

Julie is our dedicated volunteer who helps to coordinate yahrzeit minyanim. If you would like to request a minyan please do so at least one week in advance.

When a minyan is requested Julie will send out an email to people who have signed up to help us ensure we always have ten people in attendance. If you would like to sign up to help us ensure minyanim please contact Julie and ask her to add your name to the list.

We are a community and we are strengthened by each other. Thank you in advance for helping us perform and fulfill these good deeds.

Of Blessed Memory
זכרונם לברכה

Yahrzeit - Begins the evening before the date listed above. Kaddish should be recited the evening before the above listed date, and the following day at both morning and afternoon services.

January

Synagogue Happenings

We wish Speedy Recoveries to:

Barb Rosen
David Neman
Toby Franklin
Nelson Linder
Arlene Solomon
Bernie Beraha

We wish Mazel Tov to:

Oscar & Cindy Jarnicki on the marriage of their daughter Sarah

We extend condolences to:

Simon & Pam on the loss of his mother, Jeanette z"l

Leslie & Steve Finkelstein on the loss of her father, Mark z"l

SERVICE PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

Your participation and leadership in our services - weekday and Shabbat - is encouraged. Please volunteer to assist in leading services, reading Torah or chanting Haftorah. If you would like to learn the skills, please contact Hank Lerer at the office, or via e-mail at: hlerer@fuse.net.

MISHEBERACH

It is customary to recite a Misheberach, a prayer requesting blessing and healing, for those who are sick. These prayers are recited on Monday and Thursday mornings and on Shabbat. If you would like a Misheberach recited for a friend or loved one, please call the synagogue office.

ANISH/OKRENT

REMEMBRANCE WALL

The Anish/Okrent Remembrance Wall is dedicated in memory of:

**Harry & Ethel Anish
and
Joseph & Ida Okrent**

whose bequests provided for the purchase of the Cornell Road property. Bricks of Remembrance are available for purchase. Have your significant events and dedications permanently inscribed and made a part of ETZ CHAIM Bricks on the Remembrance Wall are available for \$250 each. Please contact the office if interested at 489-3399.

Shabbat Kiddush Opportunities

Kiddush Sponsorships are available for any occasion. Many menu choices are available and Sisterhood will accommodate special requests. Our catering kitchen crew is delighted to be cooking for larger Shabbat kiddush lunches.

The price to sponsor a basic kiddush lunch will now be \$118. This will consist of 1 salad, a protein dish, bread & a dessert.

The standard enhanced dairy Kiddush will be \$225.

To add smoked salmon and the accompaniments or to add special requests, the additional enhancements will raise the costs slightly to \$300.

To sponsor a meat kiddush the cost will be \$450.

Please contact the office to book your Kiddush and share your simchot with your synagogue family.

Kitchen Volunteers are always welcome! Check your eblast for weekly cooking dates. It's a pretty safe assumption if we have a sponsored kiddush or Friday Night Dinner we'll be cooking the Thursday before the event from 6pm on!

Upcoming Events:
January

Breakfast Learning

Friday, January 5 – 10am
Meet at Scrambler Marie's – please
RSVP to Hank or Chava

Board Installation Shabbat

Saturday, January 6, 2018 -9:30am
Shabbat Morning Services followed
by a special Kiddush luncheon to
welcome in our new
CEC Board of Directors

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018– 7:30pm

January Birthday Minyan

Friday Night, January 12 – 6PM

If you were born in the month of
January we want to celebrate with
you! Join us for birthday cake
following our one-hour
Friday night service

Sisterhood Pampered Chef Party

Sunday, January 14, 2018
At the home of Laura & Andy
Maxwell – details to follow

Sisterhood Mahj Series

Monday Nights 7 – 9pm

January 22 & 29
February 5 & 12
Meet in the lobby

Trivia Night at Cedar Village
Wednesday, Jan. 24 at 6:30pm

All are welcome to help with this
mitzvah opportunity!

Congregational Shabbat Dinner
Celebrating 6 Years of Minyanim!

Friday Night, January 26 – 6pm
Join us for an hour long ruach filled
service followed by Shabbat dinner
\$13 to attend. RSVP required

Choir Shabbat

Saturday, January 27, 2018 -9:30am
Services including melodic tunes in
honor of Shabbat Shira



Save these Important
February Dates:

Superbowl Shabbat 2/3

Synagogue Wide Retreat
Kallah Weekend Feb 9, 10, 11

Megillah Reading, Purim Shpiel &
Festive Seudah (Meal) 2/28 6pm
LAST YEAR WE HAD 192
PEOPLE – DON'T MISS OUT!

IN THE ETZ CHAIM FAMILY

Share a simcha with your synagogue family – call the office today to schedule a sponsored Kiddush!
Thank you to the many kitchen volunteers who make these kiddushim possible!

Special Thank You to:

Men's Club and Stan & Michelle for sponsoring the Kiddush on December 2, 2017.

The Choir for sponsoring the Kiddush on December 9 in honor of Choir Shabbat

CYJL for sponsoring the Kiddush on December 16.

May we continue to have share Simchot Together!

Congratulations to all our January Birthdays!

- 2 Barry Joffe
- 2 Andrew Segal
- 6 Paul Solomon
- 11 Susan Moskowitz
- 14 Arlene Solomon
- 16 Joyce Goldberg
- 16 Betty Harris
- 24 Sandra Sherwat
- 25 Shirley Dreyer
- 27 Brad Kaplan
- 28 Margot Nathan

Happy Anniversary to:

- 1 Paul & Arlene Solomon
- 3 Benjamin & Faith Kutnicki
- 17 Jenny Lichtenstein & Jose Rodriguez



We look forward to celebrating with you at our
January Birthday Minyan!

Friday Night,
January 12, 2017

Kabbalat Shabbat services start at 6pm in the
chapel then at 7pm we'll have cake in honor of
all our January Birthdays!
We'll see you there!

** If you have a birthday or anniversary and it
is not listed above, please call the office so we
can put it in our database.

JANUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Happy New Year's Day The office is closed	2	3	4 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks Kitchen Volunteers are welcome at 6pm	5 Scrambler Maries Breakfast Learning 10am Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	6 Board Installation Shabbat Services at 9:30am followed by a special Kiddush lunch
7 10am Purim Shpiel Rehearsal	8 The office is closed	9	10 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm Board of Directors Meeting 7:30pm	11 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	12 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm & Birthday Minyan with Cake	13 Shabbat Services at 9:30am
14 10am Purim Shpiel Rehearsal Sisterhood Pampered Chef Program at the Home of Laura Maxwell	15 The office is closed	16	17 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm	18 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	19 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	20 Shabbat Services at 9:30am
21 10am Purim Shpiel Rehearsal 12pm Ritual Committee Meeting	22 The office is closed Sisterhood Maj Class 7pm to 9pm	23	24 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm	25 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks Kitchen Volunteers are welcome at 6pm	26 Special Friday Night Celebration & Dinner – week 312 6 years of consecutive Friday Night Minyanim 6pm services 7pm Dinner	27 Choir Shabbat Shabbat Shira Services at 9:30am
28 10am Purim Shpiel Rehearsal	29 The office is closed Sisterhood Maj Class 7pm to 9pm	30	31 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm	<p>We look forward to seeing you at events and services. For more information please feel free to call the office. Remember to check your weekly e-blast which is sent out every Wednesday. If you are not receiving the e-blast please call the office and we'll add you to the list.</p>		



Congregation **ETZ CHAIM**



Etz Chaim isn't just a synagogue... it's a home...



*A New Year, A New You, skip the gym
and reinvent yourself at CEC
We have something for everyone – make
shul your New Year's Resolution!*

Contact the office at 513-489-3399

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Cincinnati, OH 45249
(513) 489-3399

DATED MATERIAL -- DELIVER BY JANUARY 1