

Congregation ETZ CHAIM

Volume 3, Issue 1

January 2017 Tevet - Shevat 5777

*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.*

Oversight Committee:

Simon Newman
Terry Brodof
Randy Slovin
Russ Rosen

Staff:

Hank Lerer, Executive Director
Chava Vidal, Youth & Family 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 – Simon Newman



HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! Welcome to winter Cincinnati style where it's cold, cold, cold, occasionally snowy, and the skies are cloudy for three months straight. Those cloudy skies may cause Seasonal Affective Disorder or SAD. And what's the best way to avoid (being) SAD....by attending social and educational events at Etz Chaim!

Already we have had our annual Chanukah party with its tasty latkas and sufganiot. Our New Year's Eve Black and White Ball promoted camaraderie, boasted great music and dancing, and ushered in the New Year with a champagne toast and breakfast. If you did not attend these CEC events, you truly are missing great opportunities to share fun times with your fellow congregants. As you form your New Year's resolutions, include attending Etz Chaim social events on your list.

To insure this resolution is achieved, CEC has a special weekend program scheduled for February 10-12, 2017. I strongly encourage you to join Pam and me for this unique event. Yes, I'm referring to our congregational Shabbat retreat to be held at Deer Creek Resort in Mt. Sterling, Ohio. The programs planned for this retreat weekend are presented in detail elsewhere in this bulletin.

Our retreat is underwritten by a grant from the Kallah Project. Funds from this grant allow CEC to subsidize the cost for each adult. An additional bonus is that children under 18 are FREE! Further, we do not want financial restraints to prohibit anyone from attending this exciting event. Please talk to Hank if you wish to attend but find that finances may be an obstacle to your participation.

Yes, I realize that the deadline for registration was December 20, 2016. However, we want to accommodate as many congregants as possible so stop reading this article and call the office now. I promise our little getaway will restore your spirits, keep you from (being) SAD, and allow you to keep at least one New Year's resolution. So, call now, I'm sincerely looking forward to sharing this experience with you.

Once again Pam and I extend our best wishes for a joyous, harmonious, and peaceful New Year.

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/?fref=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. Additionally, if you take photos at a congregational event, email them to Chava so she can post them on the Facebook page.



Thank You!

We would like to extend a huge Yasher Koach and thank you to everyone who helped us with our holiday gift giving drive. For the fourth year in a row we partnered with JFS to sponsor children and provide toys, clothes and shoes to those in need. We are so proud of you, our dear congregants, for making this endeavor possible. – Todah Rabbah! Special Thank you to Stephany Schechtman for making this mitzvah possible!



Update: Kol Haneshamah:
A Service Giving Voice to Every Soul
An Alternative/Parallel Shabbat Morning Service in the Chapel

First Meeting of Kol Haneshamah

The first meeting of Kol Haneshamah was a success. About 20 people attended the service in the chapel, including people from all three founding communities of Congregation Etz Chaim (Ohav Shalom, B'nai Tzedek, and Beit Chaverim), as well as some nonmembers. Participants enjoyed the lively singing, "kavanot" providing additional context to prayers, and the engaging Torah study. "I thought the service was moving, spiritual and uplifting," said Penny Manes.



Ritual Matters

Co-Chairs: Barry Joffe & Barbara Taggart-Milberg; Members: Alex Cohen, Emmy Friedenberg, Lynne Haber, Candy Kviatek, Hank Lerer, Steve Segerman, Chava Vidal, Robyn Wolfe.

We hope that everyone had a wonderful Chanukah filled with love and joy and lots of family time.
Happy secular New Year to all too!

We had our first Kol Haneshama service on Saturday morning, December 10, 2016. This new quarterly alternative learner's service included some abbreviations with more singing and a bit more English than the traditional service. The service focused a lot on 'Kavvanah' (the feeling behind the prayer). It was held in our Chapel from 10:15 AM until Noon and ran parallel to the traditional Shabbat service in the Sanctuary. Members and non-members alike attended. Thank you to Lynne and Candy for planning this service and also for adding their own enthusiasm and energies into this project. At the conclusion of both the traditional and Kol Haneshama services, everyone came together to enjoy a wonderful Kiddush lunch.

Camp Shabbat, another quarterly and new venture taking place at Etz Chaim, held its first service on a Friday last November. Although not an Etz Chaim service, our building is the site for this young people's gathering to celebrate Shabbat, camp style. It was reported that there were 50 attendees with some having attended camp in the 1970s.

Do we have a Shabbat in store for you on January 6 & 7! We are excited to welcome Rabbi Cantor David Julian as our Rabbi in Residence for this weekend. Rabbi Cantor Julian will lead Friday night service, and at Saturday morning services, he will give the D'var Torah. Saturday Night we celebrate Havdalah followed by a song session. Please join us to celebrate this wonderful Shabbat together.


Yet another exciting event is the weekend planned in February! For the weekend of February 10-12, Etz Chaim services will be moving to Deer Creek State Park for a Shabbaton weekend retreat. Entitled "The Rhythm of Rest & Ruach", this wonderful getaway will prove to be the best Etz Chaim experience ever! It is certainly an 'out of the box' one. Thanks to the Kallah Project & Grant – The Co-Chairs Stephany Schechtman and Sara Gati and to the Retreat Committee -- for helping to make this all possible.

As if there isn't enough going on at Etz Chaim, we have yet another special Shabbat service in store for you. On February 25, our Shabbat morning will be dedicated to ALL who have participated in one way or another at Shabbat services, be it as a Torah reader, a davener, a sermonizer -- you name it.

B'Shalom,

Barry and Barbara





Congregation Etz Chaim
is excited to welcome

Rabbi Cantor David Julian

As our Rabbi in Residence
Friday Night, January 6, 2017
& Saturday, January 7, 2017

Friday, January 6

Friday Night Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm

Led by Rabbi Cantor Julian

His melodic voice and vocal stylings are beautiful

Delicious Shabbat Dinner 7pm

\$15* includes your meal & after dinner program:

"Why?" "Why Not?!"

Why be Jewish? Does the World Still Need Us?

Saturday, January 7

Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am

D'var Torah by Rabbi Cantor Julian

Followed by a Special Kiddush Lunch

Sponsored by the Sisterhood

Study session following Kiddush:

Icons Seen and Unseen:

We Jews Are a Symbol Minded Culture

Saturday Night

Ruach Filled Havdalah – 6:15pm

Songs, libations, snacks & a hamishe feel

Relaxed – Informal Atmosphere

January 6-7, 2017

Rabbi Cantor David Julian



Born: New York City, NY

Trained for chazzanut at the University of Judaism and HUC;

Began cantorial career in 1970

Served the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center (Conservative), in Pasadena, CA from 1978 to 1993.

Served as Executive Director, Cantor, and Ersatz Rabbi for Temple Shaarei Torah (Conservative), Arcadia - CA. 1993 – 1995

Received Smicha & became Rabbi at Or Chadash Conservative Synagogue in Memphis, Tennessee 2008 - present

Guest lecturer at University of Memphis: on topics ranging from Medical Ethics, Jewish Music/Nusach, “Abrahamic Religions”, Jewish Beliefs, Jewish roles in American history, and more.

Hobbies: Grandparenting; Yiddish language, music, and lore; entomology, herpetology, piscatology; cheffing; gardening; & kibitzing.

Call the Office to secure your seat
at our Shabbat Dinner #513-489-3399

**As always Financial Need is never a barrier – sign up
to attend then speak to Hank*

This weekend is made possible thanks to Men’s Club,
Sisterhood and Generous Donors.

Interested in becoming a sponsor and allowing us to do
more programs like this in the future? – Talk to Hank!

Congregation Etz Chaim Shabbat Retreat

February 10-12, 2017

“The Rhythm of Rest & Ruach”

Congregational Shabbat Kallah Getaway

Deer Creek Resort - Mt. Sterling, Ohio



Congregation Etz Chaim Is going on vacation!

We filled out a Grant Request and submitted it to the Kallah Project Foundation. They received applications from across the nation but narrowed it down to five synagogues and we were one of those five!!!

This is something we are very proud of
and you should be too!

This grant allowed us the opportunity to offer you this special “Shabbat Kallah” – Shabbat Retreat. A chance to reconnect with Judaism, Nature, fellow congregants, loved ones and reward yourself with some down time in a beautiful setting.

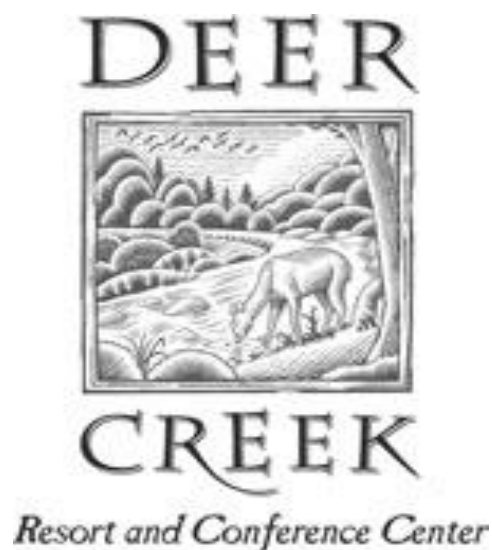
CEC will be subsidizing each adult*
member in the amount of \$70.00

Your total cost (after subsidy) is:

\$150. Per adult, double occupancy, meals included.

\$250. Per adult, single occupancy, meals included.

*To show you how much we love our youth and the future of our Synagogue all children under 18 are subsidized entirely – that means free!



Friday, February 10, 2017

- ✧Arrival/Check-In from 3:00pm
- ✧Enjoy Coffee and Tea bar as you welcome your friends
- ✧Check out our over-sized hospitality suite (stocked with kosher noshes, of course!)
- ✧Visit the beautiful Deer Creek Gift Shop (last chance before Shabbat!) and browse among their treasures.
- ✧Candle lighting & Kabbalat Shabbat 6pm
- ✧Shabbat Dinner at 7pm
- ✧After Dinner: Learning Session
- ✧Swim Party or Hospitality Suite



Please Note:

We will be closing our building the weekend of the Kallah, February 10-12. We are doing this to enhance maximum participation from our members.

While the deadline has already passed, there is a chance that we may be able to add one or two more rooms (no guarantee) if you are interested please call Chava ASAP!!!

Shabbat, February 11, 2017

- ✧Continental breakfast from 8am to 9:15am starts your day.
- ✧Shabbat Service at 9:30AM in the beautiful Scarlet Oak Room (traditional prayers with retreat ruach)
- ✧Noon luncheon overlooking the Lake
- ✧Free time from 1:30 to 4:30PM
Indoor Swim, Outdoor Hikes, Perhaps you prefer a snooze? The lobby overlooking beautiful Deer Creek Lake is great place for a bridge game or reading a book!
- ✧Optional sessions 3:30-4:30 on our theme: Rest & Ruach (revving up or powering down)
- ✧Study session 4:30pm – 5:30pm
- ✧Mincha 5:30pm – 6pm
- ✧Dinner 6:00pm
- ✧Maariv & Havdalah 7- 7:30pm
- ✧Fun and Games 7:30 – 8:30pm
- ✧Followed by a fire pit at our own bonfire. (Yes, we'll have kosher marshmallows!) We'll sing songs and tell stories before we tumble into bed!



Event Co-Chairs:

Sara Gati
513-489-3261

Stephany Schechtman
513-677-0446

Sunday, February 12, 2017

- ✧Shacharit at 8:00am
- ✧Leisurely Breakfast Buffet including French Toast with warm fruit topping, scrambled eggs, Deer Creek Potatoes, fresh sliced fruit, coffee and juices
- ✧Tu B'Shevat – Tikkun Olam Table
- ✧Time to say goodbye, checkout by noon

PURIM SHPIEL



You know you've been thinking about it...
You know you want to be a part of the
action....

Join us at the open
casting call on
Sunday, January 8, 2017
10AM in the Social Hall

Save the Date & Mark your calendars now:
Our Megilah Reading & Purim Shpiel will be Saturday, March 11, 2017
Everyone is welcome! Friends, Family, Neighbors, Dog Walkers, Mailmen, Estranged Uncles,
Salesmen, Doctors, Lawyers, People from other Synagogues, People from New Jersey ☺

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



One of the nicest traditions on Purim is that of giving a gift of food to friends, *Mishloach Manot*, the sending of gifts. According to Jewish law, one should give a gift of two different types of food, one of which is prepared (cooked or baked) to at least one person.

The Sisterhood of Congregation Etz Chaim would like to help you fulfill this lovely mitzvah by creating *Mishloach Manot* that can be pre-ordered and then picked up after the Megillah reading on Saturday evening, March 11th, or delivered (WE NEED TO RESTRICT DELIVERY AREA TO CINCINNATI - therefore, local congregants who spend the winter in Florida are listed on the back but bags will not be delivered to them) on Purim to the designated people on your list.

On the back of this order form is a list of Etz Chaim & Beit Chaverim Congregants plus Sisterhood Only members. Please put an "x" by the name of the congregant(s) to whom you would like a basket sent. Upon completion, send the order form and list, along with your check, payable to Etz Chaim Sisterhood, to:

Etz Chaim Sisterhood
Attn: *Mishloach Manot*
8100 Cornell Road
Cincinnati, OH 45249

ORDERS AND PAYMENT IN FULL MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 10, 2017

One basket will be delivered to each recipient, regardless of how many are ordered.

A card with the sender's name(s) will be included with the basket.

Your name: _____



Option A: SEND A BASKET TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY (check names listed on the back)

\$8 for each basket

of baskets ordered _____ x \$8 = Total \$ _____

Option B: PURCHASE A BASKET FOR NON-MEMBERS (attach a list of names to this order form)

These must be picked up the evening of March 11th. We are unable to deliver these.

\$10 for each basket

of baskets ordered _____ x \$10 = Total \$ _____

Option C: SEND BASKETS WITH RECIPROCITY INSURANCE – With the purchase of 4 or more baskets to Etz Chaim & Beit Chaverim Congregants and Sisterhood Only members, you are eligible to purchase "reciprocity insurance." This means that if someone sends you a basket and you have not ordered for him or her, we will automatically send a basket to that person for you.

\$8 for each basket

of baskets (minimum of 4) _____ x \$8 = Total for baskets \$ _____ + \$18 reciprocity insurance = \$ _____

Option D: FOR \$100 YOU CAN SEND A BASKET TO ALL LOCAL MEMBERS OF ETZ CHAIM, BEIT CHAVERIM AND SISTERHOOD ONLY MEMBERS.

To send a basket to someone, put an X to the LEFT of their name. Your name: _____

	Arenstein, Hal & Jan	Goldstein, Allan & Melissa	Neman, David	BEIT CHAVERIM
	Baden, Sandy	Goldstein, Barry	Nemoff, Ethel	Austern, Barry & Susan
	Barnett, Robert	Gordon, Erika	Newman, Simon & Pam	Cogen, Ethel
	Behrman, Lyrice	Grad, Bennet & Joyce	Nidich, Paul & Marianne	Feigenblatt, Marc & Harriet
	Behrman, Richard & Sara	Greenberger, Mark & Ellen	Ninio, Sami	Kramer, Marty & Lois
	Beraha, Bernie & Judy	Greenfield, Margie	Peerless, Rona	Litz, Stan & Karen
	Berger, Stephen & Linda	Gud, Estelle	Pettis, Charles & Debbie	Schneider, Cindy
	Berger, William & Marsha	Haber, Lynne	Plotkin, Alice	Sirkin, Alan & Diane
	Borden, Aaron	Harris, Betty	Plotnick, Harry & Rona	Sorger, James & Ellen
	Borden, Jean	Harris, Cheryl	Pywen, Richard & Sandi	
	Bransford, Neal & Cindy	Higgins, Mordechai	Rachovitsky, Rachel	
	Brodof, Matthew	Jablonsky, Atarah	Richards, Stuart & Rosalyn	SISTERHOOD ONLY
	Brodof, Terry	Jarnicki, Oscar & Cindy	Rogoff, Mark	Fox, Sonia
	Cohen, Alex & Sally	Joffe, Barry & Melanie	Ronis-Tobin, Vic & Audrey	Germain, Lois
	Cohen, Elisa	Kantor, Ray	Rosen, Barbara	Goldenberg, Georgeann
	Cohen, Harvey & Jane	Katz, Mitch & Casey	Rosen, Edee	Goldfarb, Audrey
	Cohen, Jon	Kaufman, Julie	Rosen, Russ & Arlene	Goldfarb, Shirley
	Cohen, Leah	Klein, Ann	Ruben, Helen	Goldman, Bernice
	Cohen, Ruth	Kluger, Brian & Carrie	Ruben, Marty & Shirley	Handler, Leslie
	Cohn, Steven	Kolovson, Dana & Barbara Taggart-Milberg	Rubinstein, Aaron	Klayman, Dottie
	Dannenber, Larry & Betty	Krimins, Ethan & Trish	Saal, Howard & Cara	Kutas, Eszter
	Diamond, Richard	Kuhr, Harriet	Sandow, Randy & Fabiana (Sawdai, Albert & Karen--Florida)	Levine, Beverley
	Diamond, Stanley & Marilyn	Kutnicki, Benjamin & Faith	Schechtman, Aaron & Stephany	Manes, Esther
	Dorfman, Alvin & Nancy	Kwiatek, Kim & Candy	Schottenstein, Gary & Gail	Marks, Shirley
	Dreyer, Bob & Shirley	Landman, Jack	Schulman, Ed & Nancy	Richter, Arlene
	Duvall, Robyn	Lerer, Hank & Wendy	Segal, Andrew & Orly	Rothchild, Frances
	Edelstein, Elliot & Kim	Lerer, Harriet (Hatsy)	Segal, Herb & Eleanor	Ruben, Terry
	Edlin, Jory	Lerer, Ida	Segerman, Steve & Susan	Schear, Vivian
	Edlin, Philip & Rita	Lerner, Monica	Selavan, Batya	Winkler, Bobbie
	Evers, Michael	Liberman, Joyce	Shapiro, Ron & Paige	
	Fesman, Michelle	Liberman, Mitch		
	Finkelstein, Stephen & Leslie	Lichtenstein, Jenny & Jose Rodriguez	Skurrow, Ruth	TOTAL NUMBER OF X's:
	Forman, Dale & Kimberly	Linder, Nelson	Slovin, Randy	
	Fox, Sharyn	Lipp, Lori	Slovin, Sylvia	*** NOTE ***
	Frankel, Judith	Littman, Dan & Susan	Sokol, Ronn & Leslie	Bags will be delivered only.
	Franklin, Dan	Malowitz, Jule & Shari	Solomon, Paul & Arlene	in the local area
	Franklin, Sanford & Toby	Manes, Penny	Sotto, Carney	
	Friedenberg, Bob & Emmy	Marcus, Diane	Stein, John	
	Friedman, Carol	Martin, Audrey	Taplits, Bryan	
	Gabbour, Jeffrey & Qing	Maxwell, Andy & Laura	Tepper, Bernie	
	(Gabbour, Mireille--Florida)	Meister, Bill	Tessel, David	
	Gabbour, Richard & Michelle	Mellman, Phyllis	Timmer, Stan	
	Gallop, Eddie & Lana	Mendelson, Laura	Towler, Vance & Haguit Rubinstein-Towler	
	Ganulin, Mary	Mindlin, Beth	Vidal, Chava	
	Gati, George & Sara	Mitman, Kenneth & Diane	Weil, David & Chie	
	Ginsberg, Eudice	Moksin, Alexander	(Weiner, Pat--Florida)	
	Ginsburg, Israella	Moskowitz, Joel & Susan	Weisberg, Ophra	
	Goldberg, Brian & Robin	Moskowitz, Mike & Miki	Weiss, Sharyn	
	Goldberg, Joyce	Nadel, Sam & Gloria	Wolfe, Brian & Robyn	
	Goldberg, Marian	Nagler, Adele	Yasgur, Howard & Diane	
	Goldey, Alvin & Bobbie	Nathan, Margot	Zeidman, Stanley & Marjorie	
	Goldfarb, Fred	Nedelman, Shirley	Zeifman, Fred & Gail	
	Goldner, Russell & Gale	Neman, Beth		

Building Bridges, Closing Gaps

By: a fellow congregant

“Coming together is a beginning; Keeping together is progress; Working together is success.”

Henry Ford

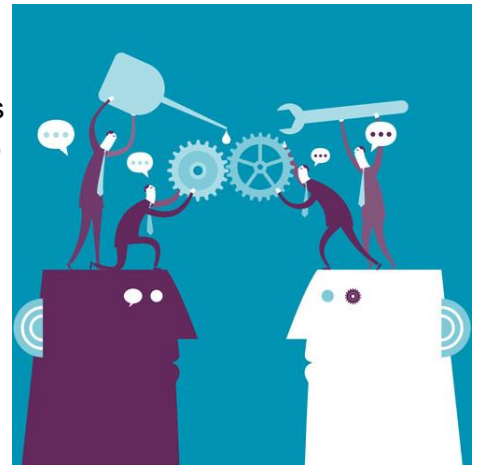
On March 29, 2015 Ohav Shalom and B’nai Tzedek began our journey together as a combined synagogue forming Etz Chaim. Of course, the planning began much sooner but **“Coming Together” – is a beginning.**

The plan? Be true to the lineage of our former congregations, unite as one new congregations, grow our brand and take over the world. Pipe dream? Maybe. But we must dream big. And given enough blood, sweat and tears, we might.

Here we are 18 months into our merger and we are still a work in progress. At times, it has been a rocky road as the two congregations continue to work together to create a shared identity, shared service, shared programs, shared holidays. We share in good times and we share in bad times. We are there as a family.

Perhaps the “work in progress” tag should always be there, driving us forward to make things better because **“Keeping together” – is progress.**

To move forward, sometimes we have be pushed out of our comfort zone. It is time for everyone to step up, get involved, and branch out.

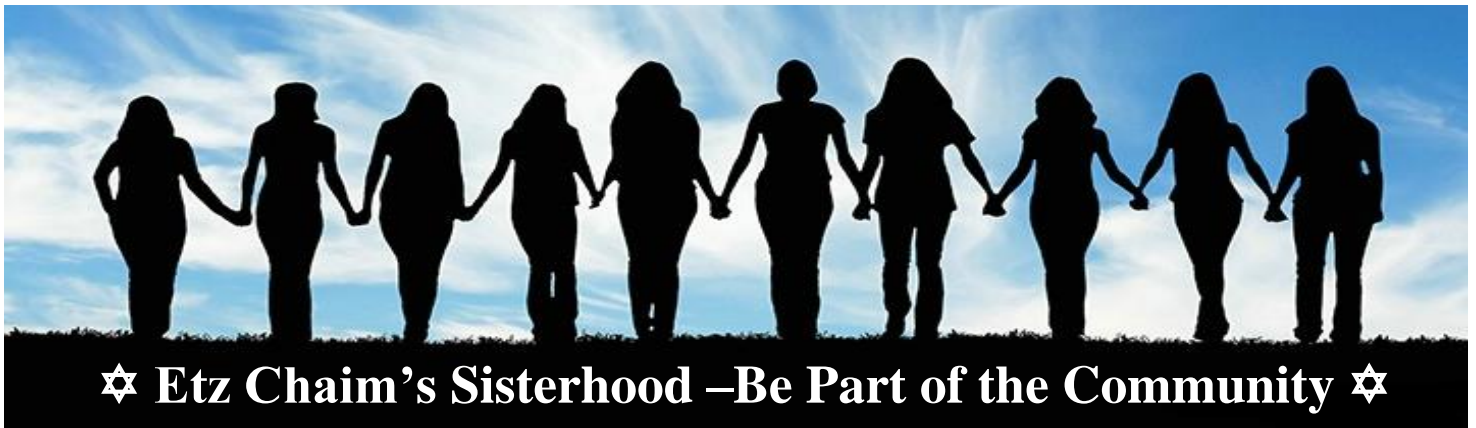


- Attend one more service during the week. How about joining us as we kick off Shabbat with our invigorating Friday night service, 260 consecutive Friday night minyanim and counting.
- Maybe join us Saturday for Shabbat service. Riveting Torah reading, friends you haven't seen in a week, and a delicious Kiddush.
- How about Thursday morning service? I know that 7 am is a little early but we got shots, blocks and lox (and coffee) afterwards. Just for you, the shots can start early. Tell them I said it was ok.
- Want to read a Torah, a haftorah or lead a service? Talk to Hank.

Services not your bailiwick? How about joining Sisterhood or Men's club? Men and Women are welcome in both. There are plenty of events that appeal to everybody. How about food? You like to eat? We like to cook and could use all the help we can get from setup to take down. An extra hand is always welcome and we have plenty of tasks for all skills levels.

Join a club, join a service, join a class, join a program – just join us. That way, we can honestly say we are **“Working together” and that will be our success.**

Change is difficult, sometimes even scary, but look at all we have accomplished so far and think of all the things yet to do. First step: Come on in, we're waiting for you.



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

A Sisterhood Sunday

Thank you to Carol Freidman for introducing Sisterhood to the very talented jewelry artist, Sharon Burick. Sharon has been handcrafting jewelry made from crystal and semi-precious stones for over 30 years. On Sunday, November 20th, the Sisterhood hosted Sharon for our own jewelry show. There were beautiful items in every price range and we had a lot of shoppers! Many bought gifts or something just for themselves. Beverages and sweet treats were on hand and so some people stayed to socialize for a while. Karen Bryant had a display of her own artwork for sale including t-shirts, potholders, jewelry and mezzuzot.



A special thank you goes to Julie Kaufman for opening the gift shop. Julie officially moved the gift shop to our former Youth Lounge location and has done a superb job of attractively showcasing the myriad of Judaica items. Many purchased Chanukah gift wrap, candles and dreidels. If you haven't seen the gift shop lately, make sure you take the time!



Immediately following the show, we caravanned up to Cedar Village where we spent a social hour with the residents making themed bookmarks. All the tables were filled! Thank you to Karen Bryant for creating the bookmark designs and thank you to all who volunteered to make this social action a success. We visit Cedar Village several times a year. It's a great way to connect with members of our Jewish community that have a difficult time getting out.

Sisterhood would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a Chag Sameach!

With undying love for Etz Chaim: Sandy & Laura





☆ Etz Chaim's Sisterhood – Together We Are Strengthened ☆

Sisterhood is made up of strong, loving, inspirational women. We are a family and we are a pillar of Etz Chaim. Come to events, get involved and join our sensational group. Contact a sisterhood board member today to learn more about these extraordinary women and how you can get involved!



Mitzvah Opportunity:

The sisterhood is collecting: Walnuts, Pecans, Honey and Preserves:
All items Must have a Hechsher (Kosher Symbol)



We need preserves in the following flavors: Apricot, Seedless Raspberry, Peach, Blackberry and Large jars of Strawberry preserves & 18oz jars of Orange marmalade

Smucker's jellies and preserves are usually hechshered as are Meijer brands of preserves and jellies. No quantity is too large or too small – thank you in advance!

It's time for the 2017 Mah Jongg card!

Don't Know how to play?? Come learn at our Synagogue Retreat – Feb 10-12!

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 27, so please get your orders in as soon as possible.



MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY/JUDAISM & RACE RELATIONS

9:00-9:30am

A relatively new federal holiday, Martin Luther King Day celebrates the life and achievements of Martin Luther King Jr. in the arena of racial equality in the United States. But what does the Bible say about relations between Jews and other peoples? Is the idea of chosenness in conflict with equality? What is the text really saying when Miriam complains about Moses' Ethiopian wife? Does Judaism's historical rejection of intermarriage reflect demeaning attitudes toward other people? Is there a Jewish principle that should guide us in relationships with others? Join in a lively learning and discussion session about Judaism's attitudes toward others.

If you are interested in volunteering for our January 22nd date at the OTR Soup Kitchen, please sign-up by contacting Matthew Brodof at 513-373-6925 or by email at mb371607@gmail.com



Adult Education

Congregation Etz Chaim – Offering Learning for Life

If you're seeking wisdom, reading or hearing the biblical text on your own is often not enough. Rather, studying the Torah with others who bring a wealth of experiences to the table is the perfect solution.

You're never too old to begin studying Torah – the best time to start is now! Join in as our lively group explores Deuteronomy using geography, history, current events and more. Good conversation, new friendships, and just plain fun. Come when your schedule allows or every week – there's plenty of room!

NEWCOMERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME – NO BACKGROUND OR EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.

Wednesdays at Bronte Bistro (Joseph Beth Books @ Rookwood)

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

Classes will be held January 11, 18, & 25

To join the email reminders and updates list, contact Candy at

KITANDCABOODLE@gmail.com



Unpacking the Commandments

January 21, 2017, during Shabbat Kiddush

We have finally completed studying the Aseret haDibrot – the 10 Sayings...or have we?

You may know all ten. You may even know them in order. But...were there really ten? You may remember that the first statement isn't a command at all, so couldn't one argue that there are only nine? Or were there just five, as some texts hint? Could it even be that they are all variants of a single command?

Join us for a final exploration of these essential principles and some fascinating additional ideas in the library during the Kiddush!

January's topic: #11

Reprise: Were there REALLY two tablets?



Congregational Shabbat Dinner

Friday Night

January 29, 2017



Join us at a Congregational Shabbat Dinner
Celebrating Week 260
FIVE YEARS of consecutive
Friday Night Minyanim

Friday Night, January 27, 2017
6pm Services & Ruach
7pm Dinner & Rejoicing

The night will be filled with traditional tunes,
delicious food and a program designed to bring us
even closer together through our shared interests.

Thanks to underwriting the cost of the evening
is only \$5 for members. \$15 for non-members
THAT'S RIGHT \$5 ONLY FOR A SHABBAT MEAL

We've made it so reasonably priced so **EVERYONE** can celebrate together
— that's only 1 dollar for each of our five years!

Celebrating Five Years!

Hold your heads up high!

We are able to boast something that most conservative synagogues in our area can't...

5 years of consecutive
Friday night minyanim
260 weeks to celebrate.

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 1/15/17



Flash report from the
Mench on the Bench
Moshe ben Yoki, outstanding journalist,
Has the following information to report:



A special word from the Menche on the Bench.
Our synagogue is built on many important pillars,
including ritual, sisterhood, men's club and many others.
They all play a vital role in the success of Etz Chaim.

I am appealing to the men of Etz Chaim to support
our men's organization, whether you participate
actively or passively to make this group stronger.

A mere \$18 (sent to the office) will make you a member
of this great group. Join today!!!

Our Men's Club Shabbat confirmed our strength
for today and our future. Thank you to all the men
that participated and to the women of Sisterhood for a
lovely Kiddush.

Our Chanukah latka making party showed the camaraderie of our dedicated hard working
men. Stay tuned for photos of this fun cooking feat in our February Bulletin!

CONGRATULATIONS to the Mitzvah award recipients
for their help behind the scene.

Bob Dreyer
Herb Segal
Paul Solomon

Keep up the good work gentlemen!

Aaron Schechtman
President

SUPER BOWL SHABBAT



Men's Club Presents:
Super Bowl Shabbat
February 4, 2017

There's no need to go to the grid iron...
Join Etz Chaim for a football themed Shabbat.

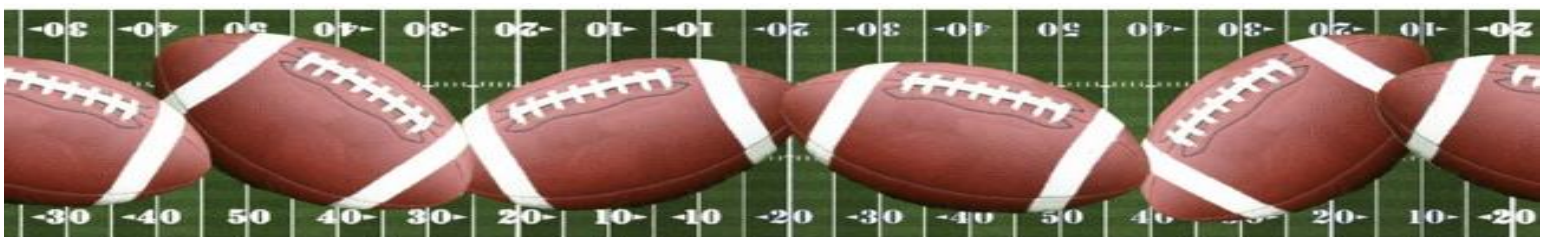
Shabbat Services start at 9:30AM
Wear your favorite team's jersey or colors
Tailgate with the Torah
As we worship with the
Traditional Service you know and love

We will be pre-gaming the big day with all sorts of
fun football and game day themed food and decorations.

Get excited for Super Bowl 51 with CEC!

Our stadium themed Kiddush
will make you feel like you're really at
The NRG Stadium in Houston

Brush up on your football knowledge
As Hank Lerer will host a special
Football Trivia Session during the Kiddush.



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 1 – Tevet 3

Anna Chaskin*
Louis Fingerhut*
Hyman Goldberg*
Eugene Hammer
Sarah Isralsky*
Thelma Mellman*
Revella Meyers*

January 2 – Tevet 4

Sonie Eurove*
Eda Lederman
Harry Shechtman

January 3 – Tevet 5

David Blumenthal
Esther Freeman*
Augusta Jacobs*
Irvin Singer*

January 4 – Tevet 6

Mordechai Blackman*
Shifra Gildenblatt
Edward Novick*
Evelyn Novikoff
Alter Gershon Peerless
Marion Schneider
Belle Skurow*

January 5 – Tevet 7

Pearl Cohen
Reva Dreyer
Dorothy Ginsberg*
Samuel Kaminsky
Anne Miller
Gitel Morovchik*
George Newburger*
Nathan Oxlander*
Philip Stein*

January 6 – Tevet 8

Fannie Bloom*
Aaron Dauber
Mary Etta Felman*
Barry Goldenberg
Jennie Goldfarb
Albert Gordon*
Ruth Kahn
Herman Katz
Goldie Schechter*
Fred Schulein*
Janice Siegel
Marilyn Spiegel

January 7 – Tevet 9

Louis Feldman*
Dora Franklin*
Samuel Klein
Louis Lewengood*
Florence Rosin*
Solomon Stein*

January 8 – Tevet 10

Rebecca Cyrkin*
Harry Katz*
Ann Kolkey*
Bessie Levine*
Randy Milberg
Bessie Mitman*
Richard Moskovitz
Bernard Neuer*
Harry Shapiro

January 9 – Tevet 11

Bess Faust
Sophie Finer*
Sara Greenland*
Mary Kraus*
David Milowsky*
Charles Wolfson*

January 10 – Tevet 12

Dorothy Boskind
David Kadetz*
Joseph Levine*
Sam Plotkin
Isaac Seltz*
Jacob Youngerman*

January 11 – Tevet 13

Charles Baron*
Samuel Baron*
Victoria Perl*
Irwin Sacolick*
Gerald Schiff
Israel Skurow
Isadore Weiser*

January 12 – Tevet 14

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

January 13 – Tevet 15

Abe Bartel*
Ruth Becker*
Samuel Dunbar*
Benjamin Gildenblatt

January 14 – Tevet 16

Max Becker
Frances Berger
Harry Cannon*
Jake Kravitz*

January 15 – Tevet 17

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

January 16 – Tevet 18

Abraham Baverman
Marian Bershadsky*
Hershel Bloom
Irving Frankel
Anita Gabor*
Fannie Gershenfish*
Sandra Hellman
Joseph Leichtman*
Sol Lipsky*
Sylvia Rubinoff
Isaac Shuman*
Fannie Weitzman*

January 17 – Tevet 19

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

January 18 – Tevet 20

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

January 19 – Tevet 21

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

January 20 – Tevet 22

Leah Bloom
Anna Freiden*
Bertha Greenbaum*

January 21 – Tevet 23

Victor Krasnitzky*
Kate Lazier*
Marcus Schreiber*

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 22 – Tevet 24

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

January 23 – Tevet 25

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

January 24 – Tevet 26

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

January 25 – Tevet 27

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

January 26 – Tevet 28

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

January 27 – Tevet 29

Hyman Bongard*
Barney Eberlin
Gertrude Kamin*
Katie Meyers
Harry Mitman*
Helen Rose
Abraham Wartik*

January 28 – Shevat 1

Hyman Kirzner*
Philip Paim*
Rose Weiser*

January 29 – Shevat 2

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

January 30 – Shevat 3

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

January 31 – Shevat 4

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

** 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
זיכרונם 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.

Synagogue Correspondence

JANUARY

Synagogue Happenings

We extend our condolences to:

To Michelle Fesman and family on the
passing of her mother
Shirley Lewengood z"l

To the family of Bernie Siegel z"l

We wish Mazel Tov to:

Marty & Shirley Ruben on the birth of their
10th great grandchild, Judah Marshall

Barry & Melanie Joffe on the birth of their
granddaughter, Bryn Aster

Ruth Cohen on the birth of her
granddaughter, Aliya Rachelle

Randy Slovin on the engagement of his son
Aaron to Rachel Myers

We wish a speedy recovery to:

Steve Cohn
Sharyn Fox
Herb Segal
Arlene Solomon
Larry Dannenberg

We welcome our new members:

Gary and Gail Schottenstein
And
Allison Schottenstein

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.

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 \$100. This will consist of 1 salad, a protein dish,
bread & a dessert. The enhanced dairy Kiddush will
be \$225. To add a fish dish, a veggie tray & a dessert
tray to the enhanced Kiddush will be \$300. In order
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

Rabbi in Residence Weekend **With Rabbi Cantor David Julian**

January 6-7

Friday Night – Services led by RCDJ followed by a delicious Shabbat Meal,

A study session and dessert.

Saturday – 9:30am Services featuring the Cantorial Stylings of RCDJ and a Special Kiddush Lunch. Following lunch we'll have another presentation and dessert. For topics see the two-page spread. Be sure to return on Saturday night for Havdalah and More.

Purim Cast Call

Sunday, January 8, 2017 – 10am

You've seen the dancing, singing and camaraderie – now it's your turn to get involved. All you need to do is show up! No talent needed just a willingness to smile and make your fellow congregants happy

Israel Trip Information Session **Tuesday Night, January 10 – 6pm**

Steering Committee Meeting

Wed. January 11, 2017 – 7:30pm

January Birthday Minyan

Friday Night, January 13 – 6PM

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

Study Breakfast with Candy **Saturday, January 14** **9 to 9:30am Topic: MLK** **Day/Ethnic Relations**

Unpacking the Torah
January 21 following Kiddush

Saturday Night, January 21
Bond Movie Series – Part 3 of 3
6:30pm join us for a movie,
learning and James Bond's
Favorite drink:
Martinis - Shaken not Stirred

Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen

Sunday, January 22, 2017

Contact Matt Brodof for more details
Thank you to the Sandor Kutas Fund
for making this endeavor possible

Trivia Night at Cedar Village **Wednesday, Jan 25 at 6:30pm**

All are welcome to help with this
mitzvah opportunity!

Week 260 – Five Years **Congregational Dinner & Celebration**

Friday Night, January 29, 2017

6pm Services

7pm Dinner

\$5 rsvp to the office

Come celebrate as we mark the
achievement of five years of
consecutive Friday Night Minyanim!

SIMCHAS ✧ REMEMBRANCES ✧ CONGRATULATIONS

Please call, mail or e-mail your contributions to Stephany Schechtman.

Synagogue General Fund

Yahrzeit

Alan Novick, Husband & Father
Phyllis & Pam Novick

Benjamin Silverstein, Husband
Bonnie Silverstein

Ernst Kahn, Father
Emmy & Bob Friedenberg

Louis Kreindler, Uncle
Sheila & Robert Lipsky

Irving Meister, Father
William Meister

Bernard Schatz, Husband
Harlene Schatz

Dorothy Martin, Mother
Audrey Martin

Emilie Perez-Sarfati, Aunt
Francine F. Heilmann-McClung

Anna Linder, Mother
Nelson Linder

Kalman Plotnick, Father
Harry & Rona Plotnick

Goldie Krauss, Grandmother
Reenie & Stanley Kravetz

Sylvia Kabakoff, Sister
Adele Nagler

Moritz Kahn, Grandfather
Emmy Friedenberg

Hedwig Neu, Mother
Margot Nathan

Donald Rosen, Husband
Barbara Rosen

Becky Simmons, Mother
Gail & Fred Zeifman

Bessie Licht, Grandmother
Marian Schraeder, Cousin
Hatsy Lerer

Minnie Glassman, Aunt
Esther Neuer, Grandmother
Dayva A. Green

Nathan Mitman, Father
Ken & Diane Mitman

Aaron Phillip Brown, Husband
Frieda Ettin, Mother

Shirley Brown-Dreyer

Daniel Dannenberg, Father
Molly Levenson, Mother
Larry, Betty, David & Harlan Dannenberg

Dr. Harry O. Lepsky
Beryl Hazen

Aaron Brown, Brother
Sam Brown, Brother
Shirley Berman

Memory

To Helen Ruben
IMO Frank
From Herb & Eleanor Segal

To Bobbie Goldey
IMO Alvin
From Herb & Eleanor Segal

To Mitzie LeVine
IMO Husband
From Sharyn Fox

To Donna & Irv Fox
IMO Debbie
From Stephanie & Barry Kogan

To Michelle Fesman
IMO Mother
From Sandy Baden
Rona Peerless
Stephany & Aaron Schechtman

Honor

To Bob & Emmy Friedenberg
IHO Daughter's Engagement
From Audrey Martin
Phyllis Mellman

To Leah Cohen
IHO Daughter's Engagement
From Ann Klein

To Robert & JoEllen Cohen
IHO Daughter's Engagement
From Ann Klein

To Marty Ruben
Happy Birthday!
From Rona Peerless

To Marty & Shirley Ruben
IHO New Great Grandchild
From Rona Peerless

SIMCHAS ☆ REMEMBRANCES ☆ CONGRATULATIONS

Please call, mail or e-mail your contributions to Stephany Schechtman.

Recovery

To Jack Landman
From Herb & Eleanor Segal

To Minnie Pinsky
From Herb & Eleanor Segal

To Sylvia Slovin
From Terry Brodof

To Shirley Ruben
From Shirley & Bob Dreyer
Aaron & Stephany Schechtman

Lily and Frank Friedman Prayer Book Fund

Yahrzeit

Ida Schneider, Grandmother
Bob & Alberta Schneider

Sandor Kutas Hunger Fund

Yahrzeit

Rebecca Fuchs, Grandmother
Dan & Ellen Fox

Israel R. Cohen, Father
Linda Mellman
Phyllis Mellman

Irvin & Sylvia Rauchman Youth Fund

Yahrzeit

Dorothy & Nathan Shostack, Parents
Rudolph Shostack, Grandfather
Marcy Shostack Weinzimmer

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.



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!





Shabbat – USO Style

There are a number of secular holidays that hold the same meaning no matter where it is acknowledged.

On November 11, 2016 during our Shabbat services, we took the opportunity to recognize our congregants that proudly served as veterans of all wars.

The evening included a dedication wall with pictures of the proud men and women of our congregation, that served in all branches of the military.

There was recognition as well throughout the evening of the efforts of those that stayed home and kept dreams and families going strong while our veterans proudly served.

A special and haunting tribute medley of tunes were combined and sung to the words of Adon Olam. It was a powerful reminder of the emotions of a nation during times of conflict and war.

Hank delivered a special D'var recognizing the home front efforts of people like Bob Hope who worked to keep all of our spirits, and the spirits of our troops elevated. Bob Hope brought laughter to places where smiles were a hard commodity to find at times. It is a reminder that only the miles separate the love and appreciation we feel for our veterans, as they served their country. We salute their efforts in how we live our lives daily.

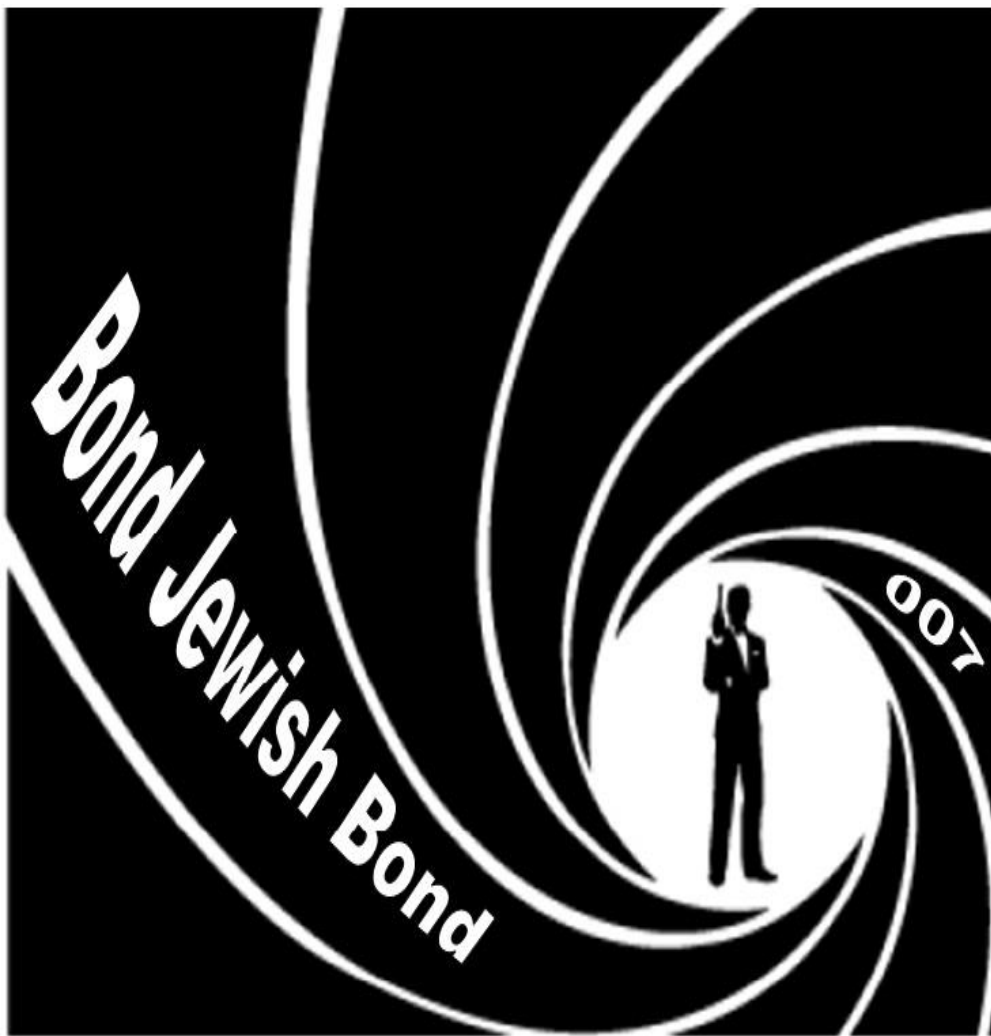
After services concluded, dinner was served mess hall style, complete with a serving line in a make-shift Mobile army style tent. Hawkeye Hank and Trapper Brian enjoyed serving up the Shabbat Supper to our congregational troops.

There was also a performance, USO style, of the Andrew Sisters rendition of Boogie Woogie Bugle boy – sung acapella, performed and led by Laura Maxwell, Robyn Wolfe and Terry Brodof.

It was a night where we recognized the brave men and women of our congregation who served and came back, those who gave their lives, and those left at home who worked to keep us going through all difficult times of conflict.

A nice way to recognize the true heroes amongst us.





**Three Part Film Series with a
Shaken Not Stirred
Educational Twist**

We'll start the Evening with
Havdalah,

**Themed Refreshments:
Sampling Bond's Favorite
Drink – Alcoholic and Non-
alcoholic Martini's and snacks
that pair well with his
signature drink**

And a Short Learning Session
connected to Bond - James
Bond. Then we will screen
a full-length bond film

**Join us for the third session:
Saturday Night, January 21,
2016 - 6:30pm**

**Study Topic Will be:
Anti-Semitism & Ian Fleming,
007's creator...**

**\$5 to attend - RSVPS
Encouraged**

First Friday at



The First Friday at First Watch Class
has moved locations.

We outgrew First Watch and so we've
reserved a separate room at
Scrambler Marie's:

40006 Hauck Rd.
Sharonville, OH 45241
(Across from Gabes on Rt 42)

They have reasonably priced meals and were
happy to host our breakfast learning session.

We hope to see you on
Friday, February 3, 2017 at 9am.

Let Hank or Chava know you'll be joining us
And we'll save you a seat



We have countless ways for you to help the synagogue – so in this our January Bulletin we decided to highlight just a few! If you see something you'd like to help with just call the office and let us know. (513-489-3399) Don't see something that appeals to you - but still want to help – Call Chava and we'll work to find you the perfect volunteer opportunity!

- Ironing:

Yep – you can do this from the comfort of your home. In 2017 we'll be starting a new program where we will be gifting a special Etz Chaim Onesie to new babies born to our congregants (this includes grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We have the onesies and the iron on transfers – now we need your help to make it happen.

- Delivery Drivers:

When we hear that a congregant is sick or in need of a little “pick-me-up” we try to provide a container of soup as part of our Bikkur Cholim initiatives. However, office time constraints can make that challenging, so if you have the availability to occasionally deliver a meal and would like to be added to our call list please let us know. Also, if you know of someone who might need a meal or a visit please call the office; do not assume we know!

- Cedar Village:

Throughout the year, we have small packages made up to be delivered to our Members who reside at Cedar Village. If you are able to deliver this small gifts quarterly, please let us know. We'll provide you with the names, room numbers and packages - you provide the smile!

- Blessing Bags:

We currently have 16 blessing bags left in the office. If you drive in an area that has people who would be in need of a blessing bag (contains snacks, personal care items, winter supplies, etc) please stop by the office on a first come first serve basis so we can distribute these packages to those in need. Don't look the other way at a street corner that has a homeless woman or an out of work vet... give them a blessing bag.

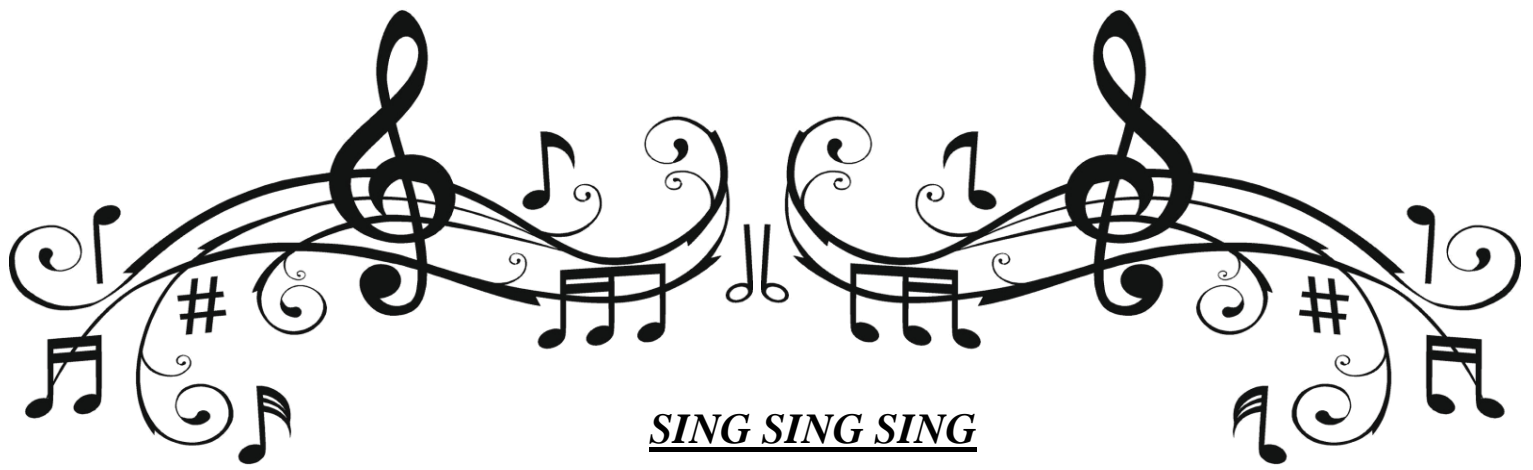
- Archiving:

Interested in preserving our history and making order out of chaos. We're working to preserve various memorabilia and event flyers and need someone who has the time, patience and organizational skills to create these historic binders.

- Bow Tying:

You know those delicious Hersey Bars you receive when you have a birthday or an anniversary on Shabbat? Well we have the chocolate and the ribbon – we just need you to help us stock up a supply so we'll be ready to continue celebrating various simchot!

While some of these may seem small – we assure you they are significant. They bring joy to fellow congregants and the community at large and we are grateful for all the helping hands we can get!



Speaking for our choirs, we hope that everyone enjoyed wonderful Chanukah celebrations and Happy (secular) New Year to all!

Starting with the new year, we are embarking on a recruiting effort to try to swell our ranks a bit. We *truly* appreciate our current choir members and the spirit and voices they lend to our groups (Ruach and Pri Yadeiha). But truth be told, a choir does not function as well when we lack enough voices at any one rehearsal, not to mention the 'gigs' we sing at.

And so, as the saying goes, the choir wants YOU. No audition is required, though we strongly request that you be able to carry a tune ☺

Ruach Etz Chaim recently sang at Cedar Village on December 11. We performed songs we've sung in recent past, led a singalong of requested songs, and also sang Chanukah songs. It was an entertaining hour!

Meir Ovadia, who has written songs for us in the past, has written a new song that we are calling the "Etz Chaim Mascot" song. It is, appropriately, called "Etz Chaim" and the choir wants to *debut* it during an upcoming Shabbat service. No date has been set at this time but we promise that it will be soon...

We would also like Pri Yadeiha, our women's choir, to start rehearsing, learn another pretty song for women's voices, and sing to you at an Etz Chaim function (not limited to a Shabbat service) in the near future.

Once again, as part of our recruiting effort, we ask that you please, please consider becoming a member of your synagogue choir(s). We are a flexible lot ☺ and we work with you and your schedule to achieve results. Contact one of us if you are interested. You know how to find us!



Musically yours,

Barbara and Emmy

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 the Edlin Family for Sponsoring in honor of Generations Weekend and Baby Maya's Simchat Bat on December 3

An Anonymous congregant for sponsoring Kiddush on December 10

The Edelstein family for sponsoring on December 17 in honor of Avi becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Stan Timmer for sponsoring the Kiddush on December 24
In memory of his wife, Susan's yahrzeit and in honor of our
Graduating Hebrew Students



Happy Anniversary to:

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

Congratulations to all our January Birthdays!

- 2 Barry Joffe
- 2 Andrew Segal
- 4 James Sorger
- 6 Paul Solomon
- 11 Susan Moskowitz
- 14 Arlene Solomon
- 14 Ellen Sorger
- 16 Joyce Goldberg
- 16 Betty Harris
- 21 Jonathan Schulman
- 25 Shirley Dreyer
- 28 Margot Nathan
- 29 Harriet Feigenblatt



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

Friday Night,
January 13, 2017

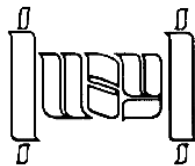
Kabbalat Shabbat services start at 6pm in the
chapel then at 7pm we'll have cake in honor of
all our January Birthdays!
We'll see you there!

** 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 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Happy Secular Rosh Hashanah & 8 th day of Chanukah	2 The office is closed	3	4	5 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks Kitchen Volunteers needed 6pm	6 Rabbi Cantor David Julian Will be joining us! 6pm services 7pm Dinner & Talk	7 Rabbi in Residence Services at 9:30am Followed by Kiddush Lunch & Discussion Havdalah & Sing along 6:15pm
8 Aseret B'Tevet – Fast Day 10:00 Purim Shpiel Cast Call	9 The office is closed	10 Israel Information Session 6pm Dinner 6:30pm Presentation	11 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm Steering Committee Meeting 7:30pm	12 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks Kitchen Volunteers Needed 6pm	13 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm & Birthday Minyan with Cake	14 Study Breakfast 9am Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am
15 10:00 – 12pm Kallah Planning Meeting Shpiel Rehearsal 1pm to 3pm	16 The office is closed in honor of Martin Luther King Day	17	18 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm	19 Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	20 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	21 Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am Unpacking the Torah Following the Kiddush Bond Movie #3 6:30pm
22 Volunteering at Over-the-Rhine Soup Kitchen Shpiel Rehearsal 10:00 – 12pm	23 The office is closed	24	25 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm Cedar Village Trivia 6:30pm	26 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks Kitchen Volunteers Needed 6pm	27 Week 260 Congregational Dinner & Celebration Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	28 Shabbat Services at 9:30am and it's Rosh Chodesh
29 Sisterhood Brunch and Bake 10am Shpiel Rehearsal 1pm to 3pm	30 The office is closed	31	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.			

Congregation **ETZ CHAIM**



חזק
Hazak

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



Simon Newman

*"It's a new year and time to recommit
yourself to volunteering, attending events
and services and being part of our
growing Etz Chaim Family!"*

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