

Congregation ETZ CHAIM

Volume 2, Issue 4

April 2016, Adar II- Nisan 5776

*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
Candy Kwiatek, Education Director

Men's Club:

Aaron Schechtman, President

Sisterhood:

Stephany Schechtman, President

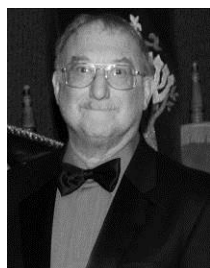
Ritual Co-Chairs:

Barry Joffe & Barbara Taggart-Milberg



8100 Cornell Road
Cincinnati, OH 45249
Phont: (513) 489-3399
Fax: (513) 489-3372
www.etzchaimcincinnati.org

Message from your President – Simon Newman



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One of the moral imperatives of Judaism is Tikkun Olam (literally to “heal the world”). Tikkun Olam has come to connote Social Action and the pursuit of social justice. At Congregation Etz Chaim we believe that in addition to caring for our synagogue family, it is vital that we reach out beyond the synagogue to help those in need. We have a responsibility to enrich our community in particular and the world in general.

Indeed, the third part of our Vision Statement is: **Building bridges with the broader community to improve the world and support Israel.** Our synagogue participates in several Social Action initiatives to allow you to fulfill your personal responsibility of Tikun Olam.

Many of our Social Action initiatives such as the collection of food and household goods for less fortunate community members occur throughout the year. We have collected bottles of oil around Chanukah; cans of pineapple during Purim; and we have even built a six foot tall can pyramid around Passover and donate the food the Barbash Vital Support Center. Also, we participate in the annual JFS Passover Delivery Project which provides Passover food to over 400 Cincinnati residents. Throughout the year, we collect pull tabs from pop top cans to support the Ronald McDonald House. In the spring, our collection is presented to the organization and our congregants prepare and serve meals to the residents.

Following Passover we will be participating in a new social action project entitled “Blessing Bags” in conjunction with other local organizations. We’ll fill large zip lock bags with protein bars, socks, snacks and personal care items. The bags will then be distributed to disadvantaged residents throughout downtown Cincinnati. Watch for the call to action and get involved with this new mitzvah opportunity.

Further, Project Isaiah is an undertaking instituted by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and carried out locally by our teenagers. On Rosh Hashanah members receive brown shopping bags and are asked to fill the bags with non-perishable goods. Then, these bags are returned to the synagogue on Yom Kippur. These goods are donated to local food pantries that cater to both the Jewish and secular communities.

....continue on the next page

President's Message Continued...

Additionally, we participate in a year-long initiative with Cedar Village in which we provide various forms of entertainment to the residents. Each month a different synagogue group takes responsibility for the program. For example, the preschool teachers visited and celebrated Chanukah with the residents. The residents listened to a Chanukah story and made Chanukah themed crafts. Another group had the residents play a game Chava created called "Jewish Cincinnati Monopoly". Recently the choir participated in this venture and assisted the residents with making musical instruments to accompany a sing along. Of course, on the Sunday after Purim, we presented our Purim Shpiel to Cedar Village residents to great fan fare.

The project that is most near and dear to my and Pam's hearts is serving a Sunday lunch at the Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen. This mitzvah is scheduled six times a year. This experience truly is amazing and humbling. We routinely provide lunch for about 200 individuals! Often high school students participate with us and the experience has a profound impact upon them.

In closing, Pam and I extend our best wishes for a meaningful and happy Passover. We look forward to celebrating with you at the Congregational Second Seder!

Membership Matters

You – our membership – matter!

As we celebrate the first anniversary of the marriage of Congregations B'nai Tzedek and Ohav Shalom, we have a lot to be proud of. We had a full year of programming, we continue our Friday night minyan record, as well as supporting our members through many life cycle transitions.

What is the membership committee doing to bring in new members? The membership committee is working on developing a number of initiatives, which we hope to be sharing next month, after they are better developed. In the meantime, note that although there is a smaller group that attends membership committee meetings, and is involved in planning, **the most important members of the membership committee are each and every congregant.** One of our initial mantras as we started dating was "it's the people, not the programs." We bring in new members by happy congregants sharing with others, and bringing their friends and contacts. And then by being our warm, welcoming, and friendly selves when people attend programs and services. "It's the people" of course also extends to our existing members, treating each other with respect and courtesy, giving the benefit of the doubt, etc., as Laura Maxwell has shared movingly in Shabbat evening leaves and other events.

The Etz Chaim welcome is being noticed. We have 18 new members since January 2015. At the new member Shabbat morning service, many of the new members shared movingly about why they are part of the community – about our warmth and welcoming, and feeling of unity and excitement. Of note for our demographics, several of our new members have children under 20 and/or are millennials.



Ritual Matters

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

The ritual committee (the RITCOM) takes its mission seriously to make sure all of our Etz Chaim services are inclusive and meaningful to all of our congregants.

So... for starters: Wasn't **Purim** at Etz Chaim fun? We hope everyone enjoyed themselves, from service to Megillah reading to dinner to schpiel! (OK, the last two weren't arranged by the RITCOM, so we can't take credit for them) The ritcom last met on Sunday, March 20. As always, we had a robust agenda of items discuss, much of what is noted below. For this month of April, we look forward to **Passover** and to the services we will be planning for this holiday. Services will be held at the following times:

Saturday, April 23 at 9:30am

Sunday, April 24 at 9:30am

Friday, April 29 at 9:30am

Saturday, April 30 (includes Yizkor) at 9:30am

Pesach Sameach to all!

We want to once again highlight our **weekly minyan services**. *Thursday mornings at 7AM:* Whether you come every week or once a month, it really is a great way to start your day. The services are wonderful and to top it off, there's breakfast awaiting you at the end. Bagels, Cream Cheese, Blocks, Shots & Lox! (Everyone takes a turn to sponsor this breakfast). David Weil, minyan captain, sends out a special email reminder to participants each week. Contact the Etz Chaim office to get your name on that list! *Special minyan services:* Any congregant wishing to have a special service to say yahrzeit for a loved one should call the office. Show your support for your fellow congregants by attending a service they ask for.

We are still pursuing avenues to obtain a **Pastoral Care Provider** for Etz Chaim. Thanks to Hank and any others who have helped out with Bikkur Cholim.

All **genizah items** (many boxes of) have now been moved from the Kugler Mill site to a temporary holding area in Blue Ash. Thank you to all who were involved with this move. In the near future, this genizah will be buried at Love Brothers cemetery. We would also like to arrange an educational event to accompany the burial.

We are trying to hone our **Hagbah and Gelilah practice** in the handling and wrapping the Sefer/Sefrei Torah during services. Those congregants being given these honors need to have a good understanding of their role. We recently agreed on a '**pet policy**' for our shul: while pets are certainly welcome while visiting the office for synagogue business, we ask that congregants please refrain from bringing pets to services.

B'Shalom,

Barry and Barbara





IMPORTANT
PASSOVER DATES 5776:

Fast of the First Born
Friday, April 22 – 7AM Minyan

Sell Your Chametz by:
10am on Friday, April 22

**Please note we changed our
Regularly Scheduled Friday Night Service
On Friday, April 22, 2015
To 5:00pm in order to accommodate
people returning home to
participate in sederim.**

Pesach Day 1
Saturday, April 23 – 9:30AM Services

Second Seder at Etz Chaim
Saturday, April 23 – 6:30pm
RSVPs are required – Save your spot today!

Pesach Day 2
Sunday, April 24 – 9:30AM Services

*The office and building will be closed
During the Week of Passover except for services.*

Morning Minyan
Thursday, April 28 – 7AM Services

Pesach Day 7
Friday, April 29 – 9:30AM Services

Friday Night – April 29
Kabbalat Shabbat Services with Passover Twist
6:00pm

Pesach Day 8
Saturday, April 30 – 9:30AM Services
Yizkor will be at approximately 10:45AM

Passover Ends
Saturday, April 30 - 9:14pm



Second Seder



**This seder is made possible by
funding from the
Revella & Sidney Meyers
Pesach Fund**

**On the second night of Passover
Saturday, April 23, 2016**

**Our Family Friendly Seder
will start at 6:30 pm**

**Spend seder with your Etz Chaim family,
read the haggadah & watch it come to life,
share your traditions, recount the miracles,
sing the familiar songs and enjoy a delicious
meal catered by Bernstein's Kosher Catering.**

**Don't miss the exodus as only
Etz Chaim can tell it...**

Cost: \$26.00*

RSVP to the Office 489-3399

**FIRM DEADLINE
of April 12, 2016**

***Please bring 2 canned food items with
you that night to be donated to the
Barbash Vital Support Center
(does not need to be Kosher for Passover)**





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

We would like to thank all the dedicated women and a few good men that worked SOOO hard and helped to make the hamantaschen so great...

Sandy Baden- chairperson

Cindy Bransford- head dough maker

Jill Goldfarb - assistant dough maker

Georgeann Goldenberg

Shari Malowitz

Carol Friedman

Robyn Duvall

Sharyn Weiss

Lois Germain

Terry Brodof

Barbara Taggart-Milberg

Diane Yasgur

Sophia Yasgur

Rochelle Baden Steele

Harriet Kuhr

Karen Litz

Sarah Gati

Dan Franklin

Hank Lerer

Barb Rosen

Eleanor Segal-head distributor

Julie Kaufman – Order Collection & Office Work

**Thank You as well
to our Mishloach
Manot team
spearheaded by
Emmy Friedenberg
who are currently
hard at work making
beautiful bags for us
all to enjoy!**





☆ 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!

Sisterhood Social Action in April....

Join the lovely ladies of Sisterhood as they volunteer their time and their smiles for a special planting palooza at Cedar Village.

We've got the flowers, the planters, you bring the gloves and the green thumbs.

Sunday, April 3, 2016
At 2pm it's an hour long session open to Etz Chaim members and the residents of Cedar Village.

Please RSVP to the office if you can attend!



Sisterhood Shabbat **Saturday, May 21, 2016**

Join the Sisterhood Ladies as they once again take over Shabbat Morning services and enhance Shabbat with their ruach and their grace. Interested in taking part, learning something new, opening the ark, or leading an English Reading? Talk to Stephany Schechtman or Chava today – we'd love to help you achieve your goal!

SAVE THE DATE:

Wednesday, May 25 – Volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House to Prepare Dinner 4pm

Watch for more details on our next Sisterhood Brunch!

Men's Club



The Hole in the Wall gang will once again meet for it's second poker night of the 2016 year with dinner, drinks and fun – Tuesday Night, April 12, 2016 – 6:30pm

Watch for exciting upcoming events...
Keep your eyes on the Blast and bulletin.

Aaron Schechtman
Men's Club President



Spring Training Shabbat



This was not a 1-2-3 strikeout affair, but instead a great triple play. Our Spring Training Shabbat was a homerun all the way around. Many of those attending the Shabbat services on Friday evening and Saturday morning were decked out in baseball jerseys and hats, which made for a festive atmosphere. The lineup card was submitted in time for the beginning of morning services on Saturday and the manager and players that took part in the service were a big hit. One individual at the concession stand after services, was heard saying that it was the best Kiddush lunch that we've had. *Of course that person loves ballpark fare.* The decorations for the weekend were valuable baseball memorabilia, that included bobbleheads, baseball lithographs, statues, and Ken Griffey Sr. and Jr. signed baseballs and bats. Saturday night was a perfect game of sorts as we had more baseball snack food, a baseball trivia contest, and a double-header featuring two entertaining movies. Now if only the upcoming season brings us as much nachus. Thank you to everyone who made this weekend possible.

By: Steve Segerman

Spotlight on some of our Etz Chaim Teens at Mercaz

Mercaz is a program for our high school students to learn more about Judaism, using novel ways to examine text and ideas. Samantha Segerman, Gabriella Segal, Adam Berger and Andy Segerman happen to spend their Sunday evenings developing applications (for Apple devices) with Jewish content. Samantha's application provides users a chance to select ingredients to prepare traditional Jewish foods. Andy's application provides users a chance to locate the Afikoman.

Adam Berger has created an application where the user imagines that they are an IDF pilot, firing weapons to protect the state of Israel.



Congregation Etz Chaim's fourth scheduled participation at the Over-the-Rhine Soup Kitchen for the 2016 calendar year is Sunday, May 1st and we need your help to make this year just as successful as the last.

What happens when you volunteer at the OTR Soup Kitchen?



- Etz Chaim volunteers prepare and serve food at the facility. We provide tableware (plates, napkins, cups and plastic dinnerware) and proper set up and cleanup of the facility afterwards.
- Volunteers serve the food and beverages during the noon-1 PM lunch hour.
- The meal includes a meat or casserole, starch, vegetable and/or salad, a dessert and beverage. We provide the volunteer help needed to cook, prepare, serve and clean.
- Etz Chaim volunteers ranging in age from ages 8 to 80+ are needed and welcome. We need approximately 8-10 volunteers each time we work and serve in the facility.
- Volunteers can work in one or two hours shifts or stay the entire time.
- Hours are from 10:30 a.m. until we finish cleaning and lock the doors around 1:30 p.m.

We promise that you will come away knowing you not only gave - you have received.

If you are interested in volunteering for our May 1st date at the OTR Soup Kitchen, please sign-up by contacting Matthew Brodof at 513-373-6925 or by email at mb371607@gmail.com

These are just some of the faces that made our Purim night possible – the cast of our 2016 Purim Shpiel. Please look for our Purim Spread in the May Bulletin for a complete list of thank yous and photos from that fun evening.



YAHREZEITS

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 April (Adar II - Nissan) we remember:

April 1 – II Adar 22

Sarah Herman*
Esther Hoodin*

April 2 – II Adar 23

Rose Bell*
Miriam Kapson
Louis Schechtman
Elaine Sorenson*

April 3 – II Adar 24

Annette Kusel*

April 4 – II Adar 25

Gertrude Holtzman*
Harriet Komer

April 5 – II Adar 26

Ruth Tuly
David Weitzman*

April 6 – II Adar 27

Frank Holtzman*
Sam Kruke*

April 7 – II Adar 28

Abe Goldberg
Charles Goldberg

April 8 – II Adar 29

April 9 - Nissan 1

Libby Cohn
Sidney Edelstein
Jonas Greenbaum
Ben Hoffman*
Louis Oxlander*

April 10 - Nissan 2

Rose Gendelman*
John Lerer*

April 11 - Nissan 3

Beila Fingerhut*
Anna Franklin*
Dove Funk*
Herb Haber
Nora Siegel
Miriam Warm*

April 12 - Nissan 4

Alex Chaiken*
Naomi Hepker
David Levine*
Louis Peller
Dora Stoller*

April 13 - Nissan 5

Jacob Dreyer
Gilbert Hemsley
Abraham Levy*
Reizel Linn*
Hyman Skurow
Joseph Spitzer*
Dorothy Turteltaub*

April 14 - Nissan 6

Yetta Baverman
Ann Freiden*

Chaya Gersenfisch*
Reva Jacobs*
Michael Nogen*
Joseph Stoller*
Ben Weitzman*

April 15 - Nissan 7

Aaron Friedenberg
Aaron Gurfine*
Binim Linn*

April 16 - Nissan 8

Sadie Gittelman
Thelma Lipsky*
Esther Saal
Eva Skurow*
David Tunick*

April 17 - Nissan 9

Anna Dorfman*
Sam Funk*
Harry Kruke*
Stanley Shapiro
Nathan Steinberg*

April 18 - Nissan 10

Allen Brown
Manual Cohen
Gertrude Dannenberg*
Reva Epstein
Stella Glicklich*
Devorah Kean
Marlene Kraus
Naomi Kraus*
Louis Nogen*
Henry Rolnick*
Fanny Singer*
Nicholas Weiner*

April 19 - Nissan 11

Rae Alter
William Jaeger*
Lillian Mellman
Mary Parkin*
Shirley Ruth Plotnick
Ivy Sawdai*
David Youngerman*

April 20 - Nissan 12

Albert Baneth*
Rebecca Golding
Rachel Lipsky*
Clara Rosen

April 21 - Nissan 13

Rebecca Aronoff
Michael Enzer
Fay Klug
Kathryn Miller
Sarah Schechtman

April 22 - Nissan 14

Samuel Brecher
Morris Kauffman*

Clara Kuresman*
Rachel Lerer*
Jacob Nedelman
Louis Rothchild
Florence Shokler

April 23 - Nissan 15

Ruth Goldhoff
Morris Halpern
Donald Kuhr
Frances Landman
Sol Rosenbaum*
Harry Simkin*
Harry Stoller*

April 24 - Nissan 16

Elaine Ninio
Samuel Prager*
Rebecca Rosen*
Helene Zwerdling

April 25 - Nissan 17

Tillie Fleisher
Marlene Glicklich*
Jeanette Grossman*
Rose Meister
Jack Pinsky*

April 26—Nissan 18

Max Barg*
Sadie Grossman*
Gene Kichler*
Marvin Linder*
Mary Lee Ratner*
Nellie Russo
Harry Schiff

April 27—Nissan 19

Samuel Gendelman*
Sadie Katz*
William West
Henrietta Wolfson

April 28--Nissan 20

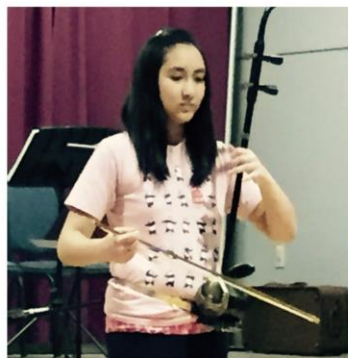
Edith Binik*
Israel Meyer*
Rebecca Schatz*
Morris Stuhlbarg*

April 29—Nissan 21

Johanna Bernstein
Harriet Chodash*
Bessie Feldman*
Gilbert Fingerman*
Lois Fried*
Isadore Greenland*
Rick Porter
Jennie Robfogel*

April 30—Nissan 22

Edward Berman*
Bezalel Goren*
Gustav Linder*
Boris Sacks



Wow – what an exciting talent filled night we had at the 2016 LUEY (Let Us Entertain You) event. Performers delighted us with singing, magic, acting, dance, music, shtick and more – what a talented group of congregants we are!

Special Thank You to Barbara Taggart-Milberg and her lettuce lads and ladies for making the evening possible!





Simon & Garfunkel Shabbat, co-chaired by Mitch Lieberman and Laura Maxwell, was a fun-packed evening that left our congregants feeling groovy!

Mitch entertained the early crowd with his lively keyboard rendition of S&G's greatest hits. He had people tapping to the beat and singing.

Once inside the sanctuary, Terry Brodof and Laura Maxwell led a sing-along style service. 4 different prayers were set to the famous tunes of "The Sound of Silence", "The 59th Street Bridge Song", "Cecilia", and "Scarborough Fair". Mitch introduced each song with commentary linking the lyrics to Shabbat. The choir led the congregation in singing each tune with the English lyrics. The prayer in Hebrew set to the same tune followed. The sanctuary was filled with happy voices.

The evening continued in the social hall where a delicious, themed dinner was served. All the dishes were prepared a la Scarborough Fair with ingredients of parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme. Dessert was as sweet as the evening: tie-dye brownies. Thanks to Brian Wolfe & all the kitchen volunteers.

Special thanks to Laura for this creative idea – if you have a programming idea follow Laura's lead and contact Chava and watch your program come to life!



Sale of Chametz

The heart of Pesach preparations focuses on the removal of 1) ownership, 2) benefit and 3) eating of 'chametz' (leaven products). This term refers to food prepared from five species of grain-wheat, barley, oats, spelt and rye that has been allowed to leaven or 'rise'. Any food on Pesach that is mixed with the above grains is also considered chametz and cannot be eaten. What differentiates 'chametz' from matzah? Matzah is *unleavened* bread made from the five grains, but customarily made from wheat flour that is kept dry and therefore not allowed to rise. (The term chametz also refers to all dishes and utensils in which foods are prepared or served during the year.)

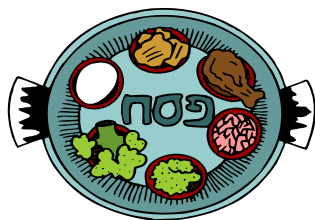
Accordingly, the following foods are prohibited during Pesach: leavened bread, cakes, biscuits, crackers, cereal, coffees containing cereal derivatives and all liquids containing ingredients or flavors made from grain alcohol. Ashkenazic authorities also prohibit the following legumes (kitniyot): i.e. rice, corn, millet, beans and peas, peanuts, sunflower seeds etc. (String beans are permitted). This prohibition also applies to corn sweeteners, corn oil and soy oil. To fulfill the halachic (Jewish legal) requirements regarding chametz, one is required to sell chametz (m'chirat chametz), search for chametz the night before Pesach (b'dikat chametz), nullify the chametz (bitul chametz-the wording is found at the beginning of the Hagaddah) and burn the chametz (biur chametz).

On Pesach we are not permitted to 'own' chametz. Both at home and in business, this could result in a financial loss. Therefore, to prevent such economic loss, one may 'sell' ownership of all leaven through the legal, monetary transaction of 'm'chirat chametz'. There is a person who serves as a 'shaliach', an agent who sells the chametz to a non-Jew who is not required to observe the laws of Pesach. (Even if a person will be away during Pesach, one is still required to sell chametz).

CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF CHAMEITZ (M'CHIRAT CHAMEITZ)

I, (We)** the undersigned, fully empower and permit Hank Lerer to act in my (Our) behalf to sell all chametz possessed by me (us)-knowingly and unknowingly-as defined by Torah and rabbinic law, and to lease all places wherein chametz owned may be found. This transaction will be in effect beginning Friday, April 22, 2016 and continues up to the evening of Saturday, April 30, 2016.

And to this I hereby affix my signature(s) on this _____ day of _____, in the year 2016.



Signature _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Telephone _____

**Husband and Wife, specify names

Complete and return to Hank Lerer no later than 10 AM on Friday, April 22, 2016.

It is customary, prior to Pesach, to provide Tzedakah (Ma-ot Chittim-wheat money) for the needy in our community. Etz Chaim joins in a citywide project aiding those in need. Please write your checks to: Etz Chaim-Ma-ot Chittim Fund.

Pesach is coming and we are in need of a few good volunteers!!!
 We will be Kashering our Kitchen for Passover on
 Monday, April 18 and Tuesday, April 19
 If you can help us by stopping by for a half a day or even just spend
 your lunch break with us it will help lighten our load immensely!
 Contact Hank if you can help!

Dr. Samuel S. Rockwern Passover Delivery of Jewish Family Service...

Collection Runs through April 4

Congregation Etz Chaim is collecting Macaroons that Jewish Family Service volunteers will deliver to more than 400 Jewish families in the Cincinnati area. The Macaroons are just one of several Passover food items personally delivered Sunday, April 17, 2016 during the 18th Annual Dr. Samuel S. Rockwern Passover Delivery of Jewish Family Service. **Please help us by dropping off Macaroons in the marked barrel in our lobby by April 4.**

Dr. Samuel S. Rockwern Passover Delivery of Jewish Family Service was adapted from a tradition that began hundreds of years ago to help those less fortunate observe Passover. Today, there is a great need in our own Cincinnati Jewish community.

MISSION MACAROON



MATZAH FUND

PESACH DELIVERY PROJECT



Every year at this time, we ask your help in providing funds so that those less able can afford to have a kosher, meaningful Pesach. We ask that you send a special contribution to our Matzah Fund. The monies will be used for two things. First, we will use the money so that Etz Chaim can participate in the Cincinnati Pesach Delivery Project. This award winning program provides Pesach food and Seder supplies to needy families in the Cincinnati Jewish Community. Second, the monies will be used to meet the special requests for assistance which are received during this special time of the year. Please send your contributions to:

Matzah Fund
Congregation Etz Chaim
 8100 Cornell Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45249

Synagogue Correspondence APRIL

Synagogue Happenings

We extend our condolences to:

Susan Farber and her family on the passing of her mother Hanka Brecher z"l

There will be an
Unveiling for Edith Lipsky
Sunday, May 1 at 2 pm at
Love Brothers Cemetery
All are invited to attend

We wish a speedy recovery to:

Sharyn Fox

We extend a Mazel Tov to:

Mazel Tov to Matt Brodof on his new position – Yasher Koach!

We Welcome our Newest Members:

Jonathan Cohen
Eliott & Kim Edelstein & Family

WEEKLY E-BLAST

Stay up to date with the latest synagogue news. Are you receiving our weekly Wednesday e-blast? If not call the office today!

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.

With larger groups, comes more expenses. Therefore our prices have been changed. 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:

April

Sisterhood Planting Palooza At Cedar Village

Sunday, April 3, 2016 – 2-3pm
Join us as we brighten the day of
cedar village residents with a
springtime planting hour!
Everyone is welcome to attend!

April Birthday Minyan Friday Night, April 8 – 6PM

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

Interested in learning more about our
Synagogue Kitchen?

We'll be holding an introductory
Class highlighting the features of our
commercial kitchen, synagogue
kashrut and a behind the scenes sneak
peak at all the fun we have
Sunday April 10 - 10am

Men's Club Poker Night

Dinner, Drinks & Cards
Tuesday, April 12 - 6:30pm

Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 13, 2016 – 7:30pm

CEC Singles Soup & Salad

Sunday, April 17, 2016
6pm – Come learn about our
new exciting endeavor

Pesach is Coming!

Be sure to sell your Hametz by
10am - Friday, April 22
Order forms can be found in this
bulletin or in the office!

Congregation Etz Chaim

Second Seder

Saturday, April 23, 2016 -6:30 pm
Be part of the magic and watch
as the seder comes to life.
Details on Flyer located in this
bulletin, firm deadline so
RSVP to the Office - ASAP!

Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen

Sunday, May 1, 2016
Contact Matt Brodof for more details.
Thank you to the Sandor Kutas Fund
for making this endeavor possible



SIMCHAS ☆ REMEMBRANCES ☆ CONGRATULATIONS

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

Synagogue General Fund

Yahrzeit

Lillian Koorland, Grandmother
Sheila & Robert Lipsky

Samuel Gutterman, Father
Joyce Liberman

Isadore Klayman, Brother-in-Law
Dorothy Klayman

Helen Rose, Mother & Grandmother
Betty & Cheryl Harris

Leopold Neu, Father
Margot Natian

Elliot Lefkowitz, Husband
Barbara Lefkowitz

Bess Silverstein, Mother-in-Law
Bonnie Silverstein

William B. Cyrkin, Husband & Father
Miriam, Debra, Steven & Sharon Cyrkin

Ben Roth, Father
Edee Rosen

Rubin Slovin, Husband
Sylvia Slovin

Phillip Rose, Father
Evelyn Feldman

Sasson Sawdayee
Albert & Karen Sawdai

Max Schoemann, Father
Carol Friedman

Harry Fiermark, Grandfather
Harold & Helene Kirzner

Gertrude Kirzner, Mother
Harold & Helene Kirzner

Anna Ornstein, Mother
Esther Zwerdling

Judith Carsch, Sister
Gail & Fred Zeifman

Morris Kirzner, Grandfather
Gail & Fred Zeifman

Charles Karl Jacob Heilmann, Husband
Francine F. Heilmann-McClung

A Generous Donation Was Received for the Yahrzeits of

Carl Franklin, Father
Dan Franklin

Irvin Metz, Father
Sherry Levin

Memory

To Richard Behrman
IMO Father
From Carrie & Ken Goldhoff

To Mitch Katz
IMO Father
From Carrie & Ken Goldhoff
Lynn Haber
Darrell & Benita Radin
Richard & Sara Behrman
The Saeks Family

To the Behrman Family
IMO Father
From Lynn Haber

To Sue Segerman & Family
IMO Grandfather
From Lynn Haber
Aaron & Stephany Schechtman
Darrell & Benita Radin
Lois & Ken Germain
Shirley Marks
Carol Friedman

To Fred Goldfarb
IMO Brother
From Annette Hattenbach

To Audrey Goldfarb
IMO Husband
From Barb & Harold Schwartz
Joel & Susan Moskowitz
Carol Friedman
Lois & Ken Germain

To the Family of Dorothy Schilmeister
IMO Dorothy
From Leah Cohen
Bob & Shirley Dreyer

SIMCHAS ☆ REMEMBRANCES ☆ CONGRATULATIONS

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

Honor

To Barry & Melanie Joffe
IHO Grandchildren
From Shirley & Marty Ruben
Lynn Haber

Recovery

To Diane Marcus
From Aaron & Stephany Schechtman
Audrey Martin

To Chaya Vidal
From Lois & Ken Germain
Carol Friedman

Aliyot

Barbara Rosen

Lily and Frank Friedman
Prayer Book Fund

Yahrzeit

Ben Schneider, Grandfather
Bob & Alberta Schneider

Helen Klein, Sister
Leah Cohen

Anna Falick, Aunt
Beverly Levine

Helen Klein, Sister
Ann Klein

Sandor Kutas Hunger Fund

Yahrzeit

Morris J. Fox, Father
Sylvia Sears

Isadore Fox, Father
Dan & Ellen Fox

Irvin & Sylvia Rauchman Youth Fund

Yahrzeit

**A Generous Donation Was Received for the
Yahrzeit of**
Hazel Ginsberg, Aunt
Marlene S. Ricanti

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.

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.

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.



Adult Education

Congregation Etz Chaim – Offering Learning for Life

Wisdom on Wednesdays

Our Group is Growing - Wisdom on Wednesdays is an opportunity to explore the Torah through text study, geography, history, and current events with a small, engaged group. Come delve into the Torah's connections to our everyday lives and unearth new and unexpected ideas.

In April, we will meet on the 1st & 2nd Wednesday only due to vacation schedules.

For more information and updates, contact Candy at kitandcaboodle@gmail.com.



We're so happy you are reading your bulletin but why not stay connected throughout the month as well?

It's simple; here's how:

Every Wednesday we send out a weekly e-blast – a short electronic newsletter that has highlighted items, weekly reminders, a list of fellow congregants birthdays and anniversaries as well as any needed tweaks to different events.

Not receiving this email...
Call the office today and we can sign you up, update email addresses and Help get you in the know!



Spend Second Seder With your Synagogue Family

Mark your calendars &
be sure to register early as we fill up fast.
Last year we celebrated with 100 people
At our fun & interactive Seder

Saturday Night, April 23, 2016
6:30pm
In the Etz Chaim Social Hall



Special Thank you to our Choir and other congregants who participated in our Cedar Village initiative on Sunday, February 28, 2016.

SING SING SING

Ruach Etz Chaim and Pri Yadeiha Choirs continue to enjoy scheduled activities with Etz Chaim. We are always ready and willing to take part in the multiple events that our shul has to offer, at home or away, and appreciate being involved.

Since February was an especially busy month for the choir, we took a short break for most of March but are back to practicing for some upcoming gigs. Ruach will play a small part in the April 16 Shabbat service and Pri Yadeiha has been asked to participate in Sisterhood Shabbat scheduled in May.

Choir practices in April are as follows:

Sunday, April 3 from 10:30-12:30 (both Ruach and Pri Yadeiha choirs)

Sunday, April 10 from 5-5:30 (brush-up rehearsal for Ruach)

Practices will start back in early May after a Passover break

For more information, contact Emmy Friedenberg at ebfriedenberg@gmail.com or Barbara Taggart-Milberg at bdtaggart@yahoo.com.

**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!

Special Thank You to:

Lynne Haber, Russ Rosen & the Membership
committee for sponsoring Kiddush on March 5th

The Men's Club and the Spring Training
Shabbat committee for sponsoring Kiddush on
March 12th

Happy Anniversary to:

April 6 Simon & Pam Newman
April 10 Charlie & Laura Enzer
April 11 David & Chie Weil
April 13 Andy & Laura Maxwell
April 20 Bennet & Joyce Grad
April 21 Larry & Betty Dannenberg



Congratulations to all our March Birthdays!

2 Jonathan Cohen	18 Adele Nagler
2 Jerry Mellman	19 Mitch Katz
2 Jared Witt	22 Rachel Immerman
4 Charles Pettis	22 Joyce Liberman
5 Julie Kaufman	23 Edith Rosen
9 Lyrice Behrman	23 Diane Yasgur
9 Laura Enzer	24 Debbie Pettis
9 Susan Littman	26 Rachel Wolfe
11 Hal Arenstein	27 Tal Laor
12 Rachel Cohn	27 Cindy Schneider
12 Daniel Franklin	27 Eleanor Segal
12 Oscar Jarnicki	28 Ruth Skurow
14 Melissa Goldstein	29 Bonnie Silverstein
17 Karen Sawdai	30 Orly Segal
18 William Meister	

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

Friday Night,
April 8, 2016

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

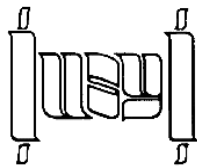
** If you have a birthday or
anniversary and it
is not listed above, please call
the office
so we can put it in our
database.



APRIL 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<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>					1 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	2 Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am Shabbat Parah
3 Choir – 10:30pm Sisterhood Planting Palooza at Cedar Village 2pm	4 The office is closed	5	6 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm	7 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	8 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm & Birthday Minyan with Cake	9 Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am Rosh Chodesh & Shabbat HaChodesh
10 Choir – 5:00pm	11 The office is closed	12 Men's Club Poker Night 6:30pm	13 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm Cornell Road Board Meeting 5:30pm Steering Committee	14 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	15 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	16 Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am Shabbat HaGadol
17 Ritual Mtg 10:30am	18 The office is closed	19	20	21 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	22 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 5pm** Note the time change First Seder	23 Pesach & Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am Etz Chaim Second Night Seder 6:30pm
24 9:30am Pesach Services	25 The office is closed	26 The office is closed	27 The office is closed	28 The office is closed	29 9:30am Pesach Services Kabbalat Shabbat 6pm	30 9:30am Pesach & Shabbat Services Yizkor

Congregation **ETZ CHAIM**



חזק
Hazak

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



Simon Newman

Wishing you and yours a Kosher and Happy Passover. Hope to see you at our Second Night Seder or one of our other exciting April events!

Contact the office at 513-489-3399

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Cincinnati, OH 45249
(513) 489-3399

DATED MATERIAL -- DELIVER BY APRIL 1