

Congregation ETZ CHAIM

Volume 2, Issue 3

March 2016, Adar 1 - Adar II 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

In last month's message I alluded to the fact that running Congregation Etz Chaim was an expensive proposition, as it is for all synagogues. Our synagogue has four main sources of income. These are dues, donations, rental income from the Schilling School, and fundraising. It is the latter source of income that is the subject of this month's discourse.

I am encouraging all of you to become involved in our fundraising efforts. We have a gamut of initiatives that involve varying amounts of time and effort. Simply by removing Box Tops for education labels found on items in your pantry, and bringing them to the synagogue office, you already have helped with fundraising. Also, Kroger and Rempke offer community rewards to our synagogue. In terms of Kroger, you must renew your community rewards designation each April. If you need help with initiating or renewing these community rewards programs, the office can assist. In essence, each time you shop at Kroger or Rempke, the synagogue receives a small percentage of your total grocery purchase.

In house, Stephany Schechtman handles tribute cards. You can send a message to a fellow congregant in honor or remembrance of a special occasion. Again, tribute cards are another easy way to support the synagogue's fundraising efforts.

A new, exciting fundraising initiative instituted by Russ Rosen of the Fundraising Committee is **FOODIE CARDS**. These are decks of 54 cards that provide \$10 off your meal at 54 different restaurants in Cincinnati and Northern KY. You get \$10 off your meal when you spend the restaurant's required minimum that ranges from \$20-\$50. Each deck of Foodie Cards sells for \$30, of which the synagogue gets \$10. Most important is that there is no financial outlay by the synagogue, as we get the decks of cards on consignment. Our immediate goal is to have 40 people each sell 10 decks of cards to raise \$4,000. Already, members of the Steering Committee and the Fundraising Committee are selling Foodie Cards.

....continue on the next page

President's Message Continued...

What is great about this fundraising initiative is that it is community based. These cards can be sold to friends and co-workers, and make excellent gifts for birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions. Because one needs only to use **three** cards to recoup one's investment, it is an easy sell. The decks of cards are good until December 31st each year. Of course, to make this new fundraising project viable, we need your help. We strongly appeal to each congregant to step forward and help sell these cards. To obtain the cards, please contact Russ or the synagogue office. Remember, the more **YOU** do for your synagogue, the more **YOUR** synagogue can do for **YOU**.

OMBUDSMAN

Next, I would like to call your attention to a new proposal from the Membership Committee and the Steering Committee. We are sincere when we state that we want to become aware of your concerns and your compliments. Additionally, we are aware that we need to provide additional channels to bring these to the Steering Committee's attention. We have decided to appoint two ombudsmen with whom congregants can address their specific concerns and feelings. The ombudsmen then will bring those concerns to the Steering Committee. Depending on the particular issue, it will be sent to the appropriate committee for consideration and action. Our two ombudsmen are Stephany Schechtman and Howard Saal. We hope that you will find this new idea beneficial.

MISSION STATEMENT EXPLAINED

Please be sure to read the article explaining how the Steering Committee developed our Mission Statement for Congregation Etz Chaim. You will find it enlightening.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

“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 liberal ideas while learning and pursuing spiritual growth.”

The steering committee wrestled a lot with the statement, spending large chunks of time at 3 different meetings. We started with all of the key words and phrases from the core values breakouts, so the input of the many participants from both our communities is represented. From that megalist, we identified the top/most important values, and worked from there to develop the mission statement. It was a very engaging and collaborative effort among everyone on the steering committee.

The mission statement is aimed both at our current members, and at the broader community, capturing the principle of reaching out to the community and reinventing ourselves. It is intended to be inspirational and aspirational. We wanted it to be exciting and stimulating, while capturing who we really are. We as a community will need to work to be everything it suggests, just as we as individuals need to work to fulfill our highest potential.

So – in the spirit of the Passover Haggadah, here is the unpacked version of the mission statement for you as explained on the next page of this bulletin.

<p>Passionate and participatory, our supportive Jewish community engages each individual in a life-long Jewish journey.</p>	<p><i>We begin with “community” rather than the “individual.” Research has indicated that those seeking a Jewish home, from young to more established, are seeking community above all.</i></p>
<p><i>Passionate and participatory,</i></p>	<p>The first few words must both grab and intrigue the reader while at the same time expressing some of the key values of the community. Engagement, participation, and leadership are key features of the community we are working to build.</p>
<p><i>our supportive Jewish community</i></p>	<p>Across the religious spectrum, the communities seeing growth are those that support the members in myriad ways, not just those that provide programming or educational opportunities.</p>
<p><i>engages each individual</i></p>	<p>We are building a community that engages all of the members in ways that meet their unique and personal needs, not one that provides a one-size-fits-all</p>
<p><i>in a life-long Jewish journey.</i></p>	<p>Personal Jewish identity is a process, not a product that ends with a bris, bat mitzvah, conversion, or marriage. The individual and the community work in partnership to create memorable Jewish journeys.</p>
<p>We embrace diverse experiences that span both traditional and liberal ideas while learning and pursuing spiritual growth.</p>	<p><i>We now move to the tenor and goals of the congregation: diversity of experience in the pursuit of knowledge and spiritual growth.</i></p>
<p><i>We embrace diverse experiences</i></p>	<p>The learning and spiritual growth that fuel Jewish identity demand a variety of experiences that touch the hands, head, and heart.</p>
<p><i>that span both traditional and liberal ideas</i></p>	<p>As a community, we recognize and embrace the broad spectrum of belief and practice that falls within the conservative framework.</p>
<p><i>“Wait a minute – why doesn’t the mission statement explicitly say that we’re a conservative community?”</i></p>	<p>The steering committee really wrestled with this issue. After much discussion, we felt that we could capture the intent without using a potentially loaded term. There were several reasons for this. 1. Many “seekers,” particularly young people, tend to avoid or dislike labels, and identify as “just Jewish.” 2. While <i>we</i> know that conservative is a movement/philosophy, it can also be interpreted as either a political affiliation or looking backwards, rather than the theme of creating something new while honoring the old.</p>
<p><i>while learning</i></p>	<p>Learning takes many forms, from traditional text study to working with the needy in the greater community. It is a critical factor in making our Jewish lives meaningful and for Jewish continuity. Without knowledge, rituals and practices become rote and fade away.</p>
<p><i>and pursuing spiritual growth.</i></p>	<p>Another key reason people seek out a faith community is the search for spirituality however one defines it – searching for one’s purpose in life, moments of profound inner experience, the possibility of an afterlife, and more.</p>



Ritual Matters

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

The ritual committee would like to clarify Etz Chaim service practice when someone is in **shiva or shloshim**. It is considered a mitzvah to daven during Shloshim but with the following exceptions:

- One may daven weekday services but not on Shabbat or holidays, as these are festive services.
- One is not allowed to have a Torah aliyah, unless it is for a Yahrzeit on that particular day.
- One can study Torah for items of mourning or on Tisha b'Av, but not on Shabbat
- No Torah lehning is allowed

Torah lehning classes held in January went well. Feedback was positive and we now have a few more Torah lehnors to call upon for our services! A big thank you to Jill Segerman for leading classes.

We would like to expand upon this class idea and teach congregants how to lead the weekday minyan services. We expect soon to make this idea a reality.

We continue to look to hire a pastoral care provider for Etz Chaim and have received some additional suggestions including contacting HUC for resource help. Thanks to Hank Lerer for providing pastoral care representing our synagogue these last couple of months.

World Wide Wrap (WWW) was held last month as a Sunday minyan service. Attendees were taught how to lay Tefillin before the service began. Several members of the ritual committee joined others in this event. WWW was celebrated on that day at many synagogues in cities throughout the world.

Our genizah must go! But before burial, we first have to move all boxes from the Kugler Mill site to a designated storage site that Steve Segerman has provided. (thanks, Steve!) The ritcom will soon decide upon a burial day and time, and hopefully include some educational learning at the same time.

Spring Training Shabbat is on March 11 and 12. As with any themed Shabbat services that must first be approved by the ritual committee, the 'Spring Training Shabbat team' brought their ideas to us for final approval and we thank them, as we thank all, for doing this.

The ritcom has embraced davener's choice at Saturday morning services to enable the traditions of our founding congregations to be expressed. In response to those who prefer more consistency in davening we decided to look for opportunities to standardize some parts of our service.

Purim is fast approaching. Come to shul on Wednesday evening, March 23th for a great evening of services, Megillah reading, dinner and "The Schpiel". A special thank you to our Megillah readers who will share the Book of Esther story with us all.

B'Shalom,

Barry and Barbara



Membership Matters

As part of our goal of building community, the membership column will periodically feature a new member. Just a caveat – at the rate we’ve been going, we have the good problem of more new members than months. So, if you’re new members, please be patient with the membership committee about getting to you.



Introducing... Sharyn Weiss, a regular member of our Friday Night community

I joined Etz Chaim in September 2015. I’ve been attending services and various events at Etz Chaim, and the community has been very warm and welcoming. I decided that I wanted to be a part of the community.

Last year, I retired from Cincinnati Public Schools after teaching in the field of special education for 35 years. Over the course of my career, I taught students with cognitive, emotional, and learning disabilities. During my last two years, which were at Aiken High School, I taught students with multiple disabilities and autism. Although those two years were the most challenging, they were also the most rewarding.

Now I'm able to spend more time with family and friends, including my 9 year old golden retriever, Lilly. I also work part-time for Weight Watchers as a receptionist, weighing people in and giving assistance, support and encouragement. I have worked with Weight Watchers since November 2010, after going through the program in 2009.

I hope to continue to increase my involvement with the synagogue in the future. I welcome the opportunity to grow spiritually within a community of faith.

Not a Thursday morning Minyan regular?

Why not try it out on Purim morning, Thursday, March 24
7 AM service; including special interactive, abridged Megillah reading
Followed by a “banquet fit for a King and Queen”
Consisting of bagels, Shmear, shots, and of course, Hamantashen!

No RSVP required; show up and this group
will welcome you with open arms.



For Purim 2016... It's "South Per-sific"

James Michener's "Tales of South Pacific" not only won him a Pulitzer Prize, it also inspired Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II to collaborate on one of the most beloved musicals of all times. "South Pacific" opened on Broadway in April 1949 and ran for 1925 performances. How can we ever forget that fabulous pairing of Mary Martin and Ezio Pinza?!

Well, we're aiming to tickle your funny bones this year with our Cincinnati Debut performance. Gracing the Etz Chaim stage for your enjoyment will be: Adam Berger, Ethan Berger, Terry Brodof, Alex Cohen, Avi Edelstein, Olivia Edelstein, Jim Farber, Michelle Fesman, Aasia Gabbour, Gale Goldner, Hank Lerer, Laura Maxwell, Barbara Taggart-Milberg, Simon Newman, Barb Rosen, Russ Rosen, Alan Sirkin, Rachel Wolfe and Robyn Wolfe.

Our resident Schmatte Maven, Linda Berger, has some new tricks up her sleeves and our tech crew directed by Stephen Berger (yup that's our Schmatte Maven's husband for those of you who have been paying attention) is hard at work ensuring a state of the art 21st century performance. Mitch Liberman and Dana Kolovson will again provide toe tapping music. Our set crew has built a memorable prop that will be hard to forget and our dinner will be skillfully prepared by "Surf Duuuude Catering" So needless to say this will be a wonderful night.

So here's the plan for that night: Wednesday, March 23, 2016

- **Megillah Reading at 6:00pm**
- **Dinner at 7:00pm**
- **Purim Shpiel at 8:00pm**



Reminders:

- **Make your reservations! No seriously guys make your reservations.... don't make Chava call you – because she will.... RSVP today!!!**
- **Bring a can of pineapple! – Which will be donated to the Barbash Family Vital Support Center**
- **Costumes are strongly – STRONGLY encouraged!**



פורים
שמח



PURIM IS COMING!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, MARCH 23, 2016

Come participate in the mitzvot of Purim...
Hear the Megillah, Give and receive gifts (mishloach manot)
Donate cans of pineapple to help the poor and
Share in the joy that Purim brings...

Why not make this Purim special – consider taking on one additional good deed to help bring joy into the world. We have many mitzvah opportunities for you to choose from or we can help you develop something tailored for you.

From the soup kitchen, pill bottle collection, delivering a meal to a sick congregant, checking on a friend who might be down, giving charity, volunteering to help make Shabbat kiddushes and so much more.

This Purim pledge to share smiles, love and joy.



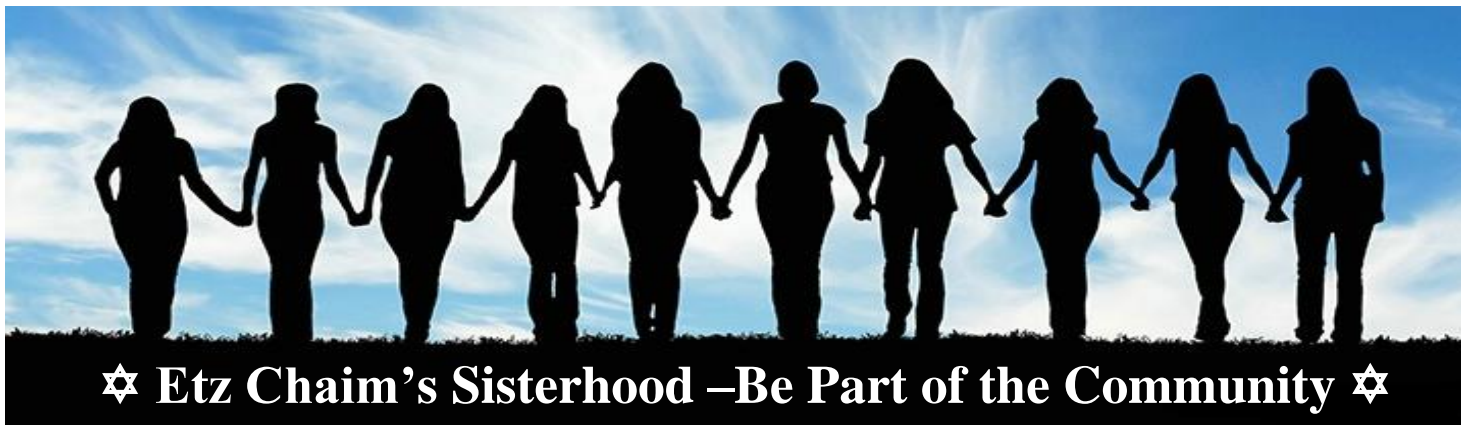
**Cedar Village
Retirement Community**
Life begins at Cedar Village.



Tell Your Friends and Mark your calendars now:

The Purim Shpiel Cast is proud to offer you an encore performance. They will help bring Purim joy to residents of Cedar Village by presenting the purim shpiel again at 2pm on Sunday, March 27, 2016.

Everyone is welcome to attend!



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

March Dates for our Mishloach Manot Project

This project requires a huge amount of help from all our Sisterhood members.

We will be in the kitchen on March 7, 8, 9, and 10. There will be 2 day time shifts that help is needed...9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm each day. If you can help please notify Sandy Baden at 554-1649.

If you're a working woman and would like to help on Sundays stay tuned for the call for volunteers on Sunday March 13th and Sunday March 20th

Join our awesome women as we work together in a fun filled atmosphere.

Coming up this April....

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

We can't reveal the craft project to you just yet.... So stay tuned or better yet commit to helping on:

Sunday, April 3, 2016

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

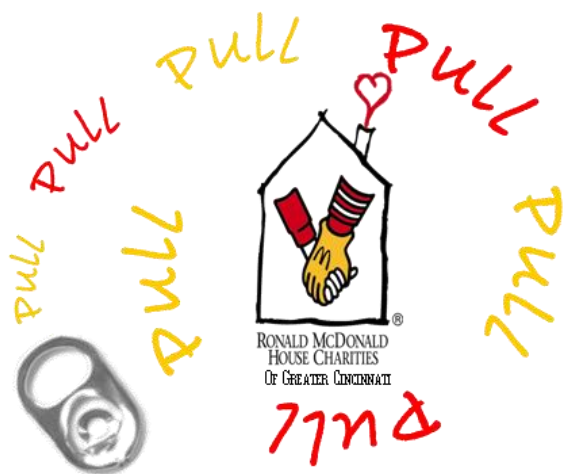
Please RSVP to Sharyn Fox if you can attend!





☆ 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!



Keep those soda tabs coming...
We have collection bins in the office and kitchen and with your help we hope to beat our record last year which was 9lbs.

Once again we'll be delivering them in person to the Ronald McDonald House in May.

Sisterhood Dinner & D'var Tuesday, March 8, 2016



Join the Sisterhood Ladies as they share a meal together and learn a little Torah. We'll meet at the Olive Garden Italian Restaurant located on Fields Ertel Road. Dinner at 6:30pm complete with schmoozing. Then it's on to Torah over dessert. RSVP to Stephany Schechtman.

SAVE THE DATE:

Tuesday, March 8 – Dinner & D'var – 6:30pm

Wednesday Night, March 23, - Purim Celebration and Mishloach Manot distribution

Men's Club



I am very excited to report that the Men's Club had another successful event in Feb, the World Wide Wrap. Our tefillin wrap was inspiring, with a yummy brunch that followed.

The Hole in the Wall gang had it's first poker night of the 2016 year with Mark Rogoff walking away with the table stakes.

Watch for the next great events for the spring. Keep your eyes on the Blast and bulletin.



*Aaron Schechtman
Men's Club President*

Photos From:

**WORLD
WIDE
WRAP**

**Sunday
February 3, 2016**



Etz Chaim Spring Training Shabbat

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 11TH & 12TH



FRIDAY'S BATTING ORDER INCLUDES:

- 6 p.m. Shabbat Services
- Feel free to wear your favorite baseball jersey
- Following services, there will be a baseball themed Oneg Shabbat.

SATURDAY'S DOUBLE HEADER BATTING ORDER INCLUDES:

Morning

- 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Services
- Following services, there will be a baseball themed Kiddush Luncheon

Evening (\$5 charge per person) – snacks and refreshments included (beer is extra ☺)

- 6:30 – 7:15 **Baseball Trivia**
- 7:15 – 7:30 **Havdalah Service**
- 7:30 – 7:50 **Check out our Baseball Memorabilia**
- 7:50 – 9:50 ***** TWIN BILL OF MOVIES *****

The Yankles – A down and out ex-major league player, needing to do community service hours, is recruited to coach an Orthodox yeshiva baseball team, desperate for a coach. Winner of Heartland Film Festival and Anthem International Film Festival.

Sandlot – A coming-of-age baseball comedy which tells the story of a group of young baseball players during the summer of 1962 where the new kid in town is taken under the wing of a young baseball prodigy and his team. Together they get themselves into many adventures.



8100 Cornell Road (45249) (513) 489-3399

www.etzchaimcincinnati.org





Congregation Etz Chaim's third scheduled participation at the Over-the-Rhine Soup Kitchen for the 2016 calendar year is Sunday, March 27th 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 March 27th date at the OTR Soup Kitchen, please sign-up by contacting Matthew Brodof at 513-373-6925 or by email at mb371607@gmail.com



*Thank You to all our February Volunteers.
Get Involved and become one of these smiling faces!*





Adult Education

Congregation Etz Chaim – Offering Learning for Life

Study Breakfasts

Coffee, Cake & Conversation

March 5, 2016

9:00am in the Lobby

Join Candy in short, engaging, holiday-themed learning sessions just prior to holidays, Shabbat or Festival services.

She will provide the coffee, cake, and content “challenge”; YOU provide the conversation!

March’s Topic: The Persian Connection



Unpacking the Commandments

March 26, during Shabbat Kiddush



The *Aseret haDibrot*, the Ten Sayings often called the Ten Commandments, are familiar to most of us. Can you name all ten without looking? What is the explanation for their order? How relevant can a commandment about false gods really be today? Does the commandment really say to write God’s name with a little dash? To whom is the commandment to “honor” parents really directed...and why? Do you REALLY observe ALL the Commandments? Join us with your Kiddush nosh in the library and begin the exploration...

March’s topic: *Building Blocks*

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 March, we will meet on the 2nd & 30th only due to purim and vacation schedules.



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

Y AHRZEITS

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

This March (Adar I - Adar II) we remember:

March 1 – Adar-I 21

Schiffra Becker*
Tillie Charkins*
Samuel Schraeder*

March 2—Adar-I 22

Leo Arenstein
Dora Herman*
Jack Hoffman*
Robyn Gayle Novick*
Max Pinsky*
Helen Young*
Rivka Zwikelski

March 3—Adar-I 23

Marion Belfeld
Frank Cohen*
Sima Goldfarb*
Diana Lee Hinkel
Dora Metz*
Rose Pywen*
Ruth Robinson
Meyer Siegel*
Sophia Sklar
Morris Weinstein*

March 4—Adar-I 24

Harry Freid*
Ida Goldberg*
Paul Levin
Jacob Newmark*
Elliot Segerman*
Sylvia Shapiro*

March 5—Adar-I 25

Edith Brownstein*
Abe Farb*
Helen Freeman
Jacob Jacobs*
Gertrude Nevins
Ralph Sax
Eva Spitz

March 6—Adar-I 26

George Camins*
David Cohn*
Belle Kuhr*
Anna Lerer*
Ida Malinsky*
Aaron Mandell*
Yocheved Waldman*
Geraldine Yarmush

March 7—Adar-I 27

David Kaufman*
Dora Krayterman
Hyman Sobol*
Isaac Spievack*
Phillip Zakem*

March 8—Adar-I 28

Emma Belhassen
Albert Caplan*
Bertha Kropveld
Max Mermelstein
Stanley Shapiro
Mary Wasserman*

March 9—Adar-I 29

Robert Farber
Amy Frankel
Moshe Herszage
Edward Malkis*
Millie Prager*
Mary Rose*

March 10—Adar-I 30

Robert Baden*
Stanley Kolker
Marvin Skurow

March 11—Adar-II 1

Joseph Leventhal*
Fannie Max*

March 12—Adar-II 2

Napoleon Bryant, Jr.
Steven Cohen
Gerson Marks
Benjamin Torf

March 13—Adar-II 3

Doris Farber
Rose Wasserman*
Jurek Werthaiser

March 14—Adar-II 4

Hyman Goldfarb
Henry Goldstein*
Esther Kaufman

March 15—Adar-II 5

Esther Spitzer*
Erna Weissman*
Bertha Zimmerman*

March 16—Adar-II 6

Samuel Holbrook*
Joseph Saltzman

March 17—Adar-II 7

Sheila Flint
James Shmalo*
Samuel Sunshein

March 18—Adar-II 8

Leah Friedman*
David Frieman*
Bess Hammer
Alvin Pflaster*
David Rose*
Harry Tobin
May Zappin

March 19—Adar-II 9

Beila Metz*

March 20--Adar-II 10

Marcelle Castiglione
Adele Katz
Maurice Levine*
May Wolpa*

March 21—Adar-II 11

Jeffrey Blatt*
Max Fox*
Rose Halpern*

March 22—Adar-II 12

Arthur Feldstein
Gerald Lee Plotkin
Keith Saeks
Elaine Weesen

March 23—Adar-II 13

Harley Felman
Victor Kaufman
Rosa Mendel*

March 24—Adar-II 14

June Francis*
Arthur Kaplan
Irving Troy*

March 25—Adar-II 15

March 26—Adar-II 16

Bertha Baneth*
Rose Scheen*
Hyman Schneider*
Jacob Wiener

March 27—Adar-II 17

Ruth Shosteck

March 28—Adar-II 18

Jennie Karp*
Max Nogen

March 29—Adar-II 19

Sonia Kitain
Anna Serotkin*

March 30—Adar-II 20

Ida Lee Feldman*
David Gordon*
Ruth Kahler*

March 31—Adar-II 21

Ben Schilmeister*

Of Blessed Memory
זיכרונם לברכה

Y AHRZEIT - 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.

Congregation Etz Chaim Volunteering at Cedar Village



Thank you to our special volunteers who spent time making special eco-friendly crafts at Cedar Village in honor of Tu B'Shevat. This event was part of our year long commitment to strengthen our connection with Cedar Village and it's residents. To find out how you can help contact Chava!



Synagogue Correspondence MARCH

Synagogue Happenings

We extend our condolences to:

Fred Goldfarb and his family on the passing of his brother Albert Goldfarb z"l

Edee Rosen and her family on the passing of her son Michael Rosen z"l

Trish Krimins and her family on the passing of her father David Lower z"l

The family of Evelyn Lipsky z"l

We wish a speedy recovery to:

Bernie Beraha
Sue Segerman
Arlene Solomon

We extend a Mazel Tov to:

Marty and Shirley Ruben on the birth of their newest great-granddaughter

Alex and Sally Cohen on the birth Of their great grandson & great granddaughter

Ronn and Leslie Sokol on the birth of their grandson

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:
MARCH

New Member Shabbat

March 5, 2016 – 9:30am

Special Kiddush lunch

Saturday Study Breakfast

9:00-9:30am

Shabbat, March 5, 2016

Coffee, Cake & Candy K.

Sisterhood Dinner & D'var

March 8, 2016 – 6:30pm

Olive Garden on Fields Ertel

Good Food, Great Friends and a little

Torah learning to top off the night

Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 9, 2016 – 7:30pm

March Birthday Minyan

Friday Night, March 11 – 6PM

If you were born in the month of
March we want to celebrate with you!

Join us for birthday cake following
our one hour Friday night service

BASEBALL SHABBAT

March 11-12, 2016

Kabbalat Shabbat at 6pm followed by
a baseball themed Oneg

Shabbat morning – wear your Jerseys
at 9:30am for services and baseball
themed Kiddush lunch

Then Motzi Shabbat it's trivia,
havdallah, dinner, movies & more

Sunday, March 20, 2016
Sisterhood Hammentashen Pickup
10am -12pm in the main lobby

PURIM CELEBRATION

Wednesday Night, March 23, 2016

6:00pm

Megillah Reading, Dinner

Purim Shpiel – Costumes enforced ☺

RSVP OR ELSE!!!! SERIOUSLY

CHAVA SAYS SHE MEANS IT!

*Be sure to attend not just because it's
fun but you can pick up your
sisterhood mishloach manot packages*

Unpacking the Commandments

March 26, 2016

Join Candy in engaging

learning session following services

Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen

Sunday, March 27, 2016

Contact Matt Brodof for more details.

Thank you to the Sandor Kutas Fund
for making this endeavor possible

Encore Purim Presentation

The Purim Shpiel Cast performs

South Persific at

Cedar Village – 2pm

Everyone is welcome to attend!

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.



**RITUAL COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW THAT OUR
TORAH LEHNING CLASSES WERE A GREAT SUCCESS!**

OUR THANKS TO JILL SEGERMAN FOR HER GREAT TEACHING!

**OUR THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS WHO HAVE JOINED
*THE ETZ CHAIM YAD SQUAD:***

**STEVE SEGERMAN
ANDY SEGERMAN
SAMANTHA SEGERMAN**

**JEFFREY GABBOUR
AASIA GABBOUR
MICHELLE FESMAN**

GREAT JOB, ALL! YASHER KOACH!

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



SING SING SING

Ruach Etz Chaim was a busy choir in February, having not just one, not two but three! gigs. And don't forget the rehearsals needed *for* those gigs, those are even more important. Pri Yadeiha will take center stage at a later date – looking to May and the Sisterhood Shabbat for that.

First up last month: Ruach provided vocal support at the Simon and Garfunkel Shabbat service on Friday, February 19. Thanks to Laura Maxwell and Terry Brodof for organizing this service, for securing the choir's involvement and for attending our rehearsals to help us to master the selected tunes to prayers. A big thanks to Laura for her vision and arrangement of tunes for this lovely event.

Next up: Ruach had the chance to 'strut their stuff' in an amusing way with their Parody Act for the Lettuce Entertain You variety show on February 27. Parodies are fun to sing and fun to involve the audience as well. I hope I speak for others in saying that that was an enjoyable time for all.

Finally: Ruach provided the entertainment at Cedar Village on February 28. We engaged the audience members in making some simple musical instruments and then had a grand ole sing-a-long time using those instruments we made for accompaniment.

Choir rehearsals in March are Sunday, March 6 at 12:30pm and Sunday, March 13 at 12:15pm. Since many of our members are also involved in the Etz Chaim Purim schpiel, both times were selected to follow the schpiel rehearsal. Oh, and also to fit within the choir director's own schedule – thank you very much for allowing that.

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:

Bernie Tepper in honor of Shirley Nedelman

Rona Peerless who sponsored in memory of
Mel's Yahrzeit

And to Jeffrey Gabbour who sponsored in honor
of his mother Mirielle Gabbour

Happy Anniversary to:

March 4	Alex & Sally Cohen
March 13	Barry & Melanie Joffe
March 15	Edward & Lana Gallop
March 20	Albert & Karen Sawdai
March 21	Benjamin & Fay Krauss
March 27	Harvey & Jane Cohen
March 28	Fred & Gail Zeifman



Congratulations to all our March Birthdays!

4 Ruth Cohen	22 Susan Segerman
4 Monica Lerner	22 Leslie Sokol
7 Shirley Ruben	23 Nelson Linder
8 Bernie Beraha	23 David Neman
8 Lauren Brodof	23 Chie Weil
8 Sasha Cohn	26 Alvin Goldey
12 Tamar Moskowitz	29 Steven Cohn
13 Gloria Nadel	29 Sam Krimins
15 Samuel Pressman	29 Betty Weitzman
16 Sara Gati	31 Karen Barnes
17 Jory Edlin	
17 Sterling Segal	
17 Ron Shapiro	
19 Sanford Franklin	
19 Haguit Rubinstein-Towler	

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

Friday Night,
March 11, 2016

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

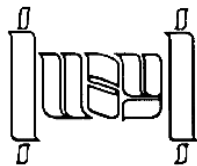
** If you have a birthday or
anniversary and it
is not listed above, please call
the office
so we can put it in our
database.



MARCH 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm	3 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks Kitchen Volunteers Welcome 6pm	4 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	5 Study Breakfast 9am-9:30am New Member Shabbat & Special Kiddush Lunch Services at 9:30am
6 Shpiel Practice 10am Ritual Meeting 10:30am Choir – 12:30pm	7 The office is closed	8 Sisterhood Dinner & D'var 6:30pm	9 Cornell Road Board Meeting 5:30pm Steering Committee Meeting 7:30pm	10 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	11 Spring Training Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm & Birthday Minyan with Cake	12 Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am 6:30pm Basbeball Festivities continue
13 Soup Kitchen Shpiel Practice 10am Choir Rehearsal 12:15pm	14 The office is closed	15	16	17 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks Kitchen Volunteers welcome 6pm	18 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	19 Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am
20 Shpiel Practice Ritual Mtg 12:15pm Sisterhood Hammentashen pickup 10-12	21 The office is closed	22	23 Purim!!! Megillah reading, dinner and purim shpiel 6:00pm	24 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	25 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	26 Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am Unpacking the Commandments
27 Soup Kitchen Encore presentation of South Persific at Cedar Village 2pm	28 The office is closed	29	30 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm	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

Come laugh and be merry with us at
Our Megillah reading, Purim Shpiel,
Dinner and celebration. Wednesday
Night, March 23, 2016!

Contact the office at 513-489-3399

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Congregation Etz Chaim
8100 Cornell Road
Cincinnati, OH 45249
(513) 489-3399

DATED MATERIAL -- DELIVER BY March 1