

# Congregation ETZ CHAIM

Volume 5, Issue 3

March 2018 Nisan – Iyar 5778

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

## Executive Committee:

Terry Brodof  
Russ Rosen  
Aaron Schechtman  
Stephany Schechtman  
Steve Segerman

## Staff:

Hank Lerer, Executive Director  
Chava Vidal, Program Director

## Men's Club:

Aaron Schechtman, President

## Sisterhood:

Sandy Baden & Laura Maxwell  
Co-Directors

## Ritual Co-Chairs:

Barry Joffe & Barbara Taggart-Milberg



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

## Message from your President – Terry



As I am writing this, I have just returned from the Kallah weekend and I want to share my experience. I can't tell you how wonderful it is to have experienced some needed time away from Shul while spending time with the wonderful people who are a part of our Shul. The overall experience, spending Shabbat and essentially the weekend, not only with my family but with my Shul family, was once again both fun and memorable. It was an opportunity I took to spend more than a moment with people I see all the time. An opportunity I gave myself, thanks to the Kallah grant, to learn so much about people in our congregation that I did not know well.

I wonder how many other congregations have ever spent a weekend, two years in a row, destination traveling together, not to experience the destination but rather to share time, thoughts, experiences, and the joy of Shabbat together? The kallah weekends have strengthened and renewed the family bond that we have created and that should exist within a synagogue family. What a fantastic opportunity we received as a congregation. I am extremely thankful. Not only for the opportunity but that so many of us worked hard to make it a success and that so many of us embraced it.

I want to thank our three co-chairs who have worked on the project for months. They are Stephany Schechtman, Sandy Baden and Sara Gati. They led a committee of volunteers who worked very hard to outline programs and events during the weekend. I also want to recognize Brian Wolfe and Hank Lerer who muscled through the practicals and did the pre-event problem solving from Ritual to Kashrut.

Lastly, a special thank you with extreme gratitude, goes out to Chava Vidal. Chava initiated the Grant proposal. Chava was the Lead planning advisor and overseer of all of the follow through and hours of work that went into making all of this come together so smoothly. Both last year and this year. The Kallah was a one of a kind professionally planned program that she created. Every aspect was geared towards the needs and requests she answered from our congregants and from our leadership. When you see Chava, or any member of the Kallah team, let them know you appreciate all the work they have done. I just did. Kol Ha'Kavod.

**Continued on the next page...**

I will take this opportunity to remind everyone that it is because of our dedication to our core values that we became the recipient of one of only five such Kallah grants. We believed that we could be a better community when we reached out and accepted each of our families as our own with Judaism and Conservative values as our bond. It has made us a strong community. We have certainly created a unique and diverse community.

This year, at the kallah, I met Cheerleaders, I met people who have climbed mountains, I met congregants who have won academic and athletic honors and awards, discovered friends who have been on television, who play the harmonica, who teach, who have been waitresses, had second careers and a few of us that can boast of some very strange talents.

I also learned about the difference between Turkey vultures and Black Vultures, which trees are Cherry trees, oak, birch and Maple, and a bit about which birds and trees are causing problems within the eco system.

We learned as a community about Jewish Athletes that have stood out in Olympic history. We took guided nature walks, participated in several theoretical talks, participated in educational sessions and Musaf lessons. We enjoyed fireplace singalongs til midnight, never ending food, trivia contests, swimming in the pool and fun in Hank's hospitality room. It was a weekend full of fun, food, spirituality and social time.

I was a guest at the table we filled with our millennials this year. Yes, we had a full table of millennials in attendance. (I got a lunch invite to the table and took advantage of the opportunity). They have diverse interests yet all of them told me they were having a great time and that they found activities they were able to enjoy with one another and apart from the older generations 40 and better.

And.... if you'd like to find out more about the above-mentioned activities and people.... ask any one of the 60 members that attended.

So, what is going on this month? I heard that we have several educational opportunities to attend, both inside and outside of our building, In March we will have a Shabbat guest speaker, our Men's club is having a bowling event, we will have a kashering of the kitchen open to all congregants, it is Luey (Let us entertain you) month and those are just a few of the highlights.

We are in the month of Adar. Our joy is heightened and we have so much to celebrate. We are planning a huge synagogue celebration April 22<sup>nd</sup> where we will be honoring two couples from our synagogue. Both couples have been leaders in their former shuls and continue to be leaders in the congregation we have built together. They are the Kwiateks and the Schechtmans. Both couples have shared their talents and vision with us throughout our merger and continue to positively influence the direction we are heading in, as a young Cincinnati congregation.

If you would like to hear more about all of the congregants I have mentioned in my address or about all of these events.... turn the page.

B'Shalom,  
Terry

.....  
● Due to unavoidable issues with our Bulk Mail system we will be printing the bulletin in house and ●  
● sending it to you monthly in large white envelopes. The cost is the same, but the workload is more. If ●  
● you are willing to help us label, stamp or stuff envelopes monthly please let Hank or Chava know. We ●  
● are grateful! ●  
.....



## Ritual Matters

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

We hope that you had a Chag Purim Sameach! Purim is always a fun, fun - fun time at Etz Chaim, from making and delivering Hamentaschen to services and Megillah reading to lovely dinner to wonderful schpiel to... Thanks to everyone who participated in this joyous holiday. And now we can set our sights on Passover – but wait! First some additional news:

On Friday, February 2, we had our first Friday service geared towards kids – this one entitled Tater Tot Shabbat. Created especially for families with young children and grandchildren, this half hour service covered all the basics for Shabbat and best of all was fun, interactive and educational including a kid friendly Shabbat dinner. All who attended had a great time. We had 12 energetic children and the Joffes get the prize for bringing the most kids from their family! Thanks to the volunteers for infusing their creativity, energy and effort to make this a success.

Wow, what a great Kallah retreat we had over the February 9-10-11 weekend. All 59 attendees had an enjoyable time at Hueston Woods. Thank you to Stephany, Sara, Sandy and the entire Kallah Committee who worked so hard on making this Shabbaton such an enjoyable experience and a real treat. (Note that the word ‘treat’ is part of ‘retreat’) Some ritual standouts: Again, just as last year, we had ten (count them, ten!) Torah readers each lehning an Aliyah. Some new additions to our services this year were a Movement Musaf, offered as an alternative to the traditional Musaf on Saturday morning, and a contemplative Minchah service, offered as an alternative to the traditional Minchah on Saturday afternoon. Add to this all of the other special programming that was available and the weekend offered so much for us to enjoy.

Now we can get to Pesach, our next holiday coming up. First Seder is Friday evening, March 30. Second Seder is Saturday evening, March 31. Come celebrate with us all at Etz Chaim for Second Seder, good fun, good food, good education. This year we observe not just one but two Passover Shabbatot. Etz Chaim will holding services on the first, second, seventh and eighth days, all beginning at 9:30 a.m.

On March 17 at 4pm Lynne Haber will lead another healing service, following a similar format to the successful one we had last November. As before, the service will draw on Jewish traditions and text with prayer and other contemplative elements related to healing.

The RITCOM meeting will be on Sunday, March 4 and will discuss various topics, including some put forth by congregants like you. We listen to what our membership has to say and work to create meaningful services. Therefore, if you have anything to bring to the floor, so to speak, contact Barry, Barbara or anyone else on the RITCOM.

Barbara and Barry





**HUESTON WOODS**



**ETZ CHAIM 2018 KALLAH 2018**





**Kosher Pickle Trivia Team! MMM... SOUR!**





I am writing this article as I am sitting at home reminiscing about the Kallah weekend. A smile is on my face and a warm glow in my heart. I am thinking about all the wonderful friends that shared in the spiritual, social, educational and exciting musical event of the weekend. Although we were all acquaintances when we arrived, we all left with renewed friendships and the sense of community that will carry us back to Etz Chaim for years to come. It was truly an amazing weekend with all the ruach which our synagogue is known for.

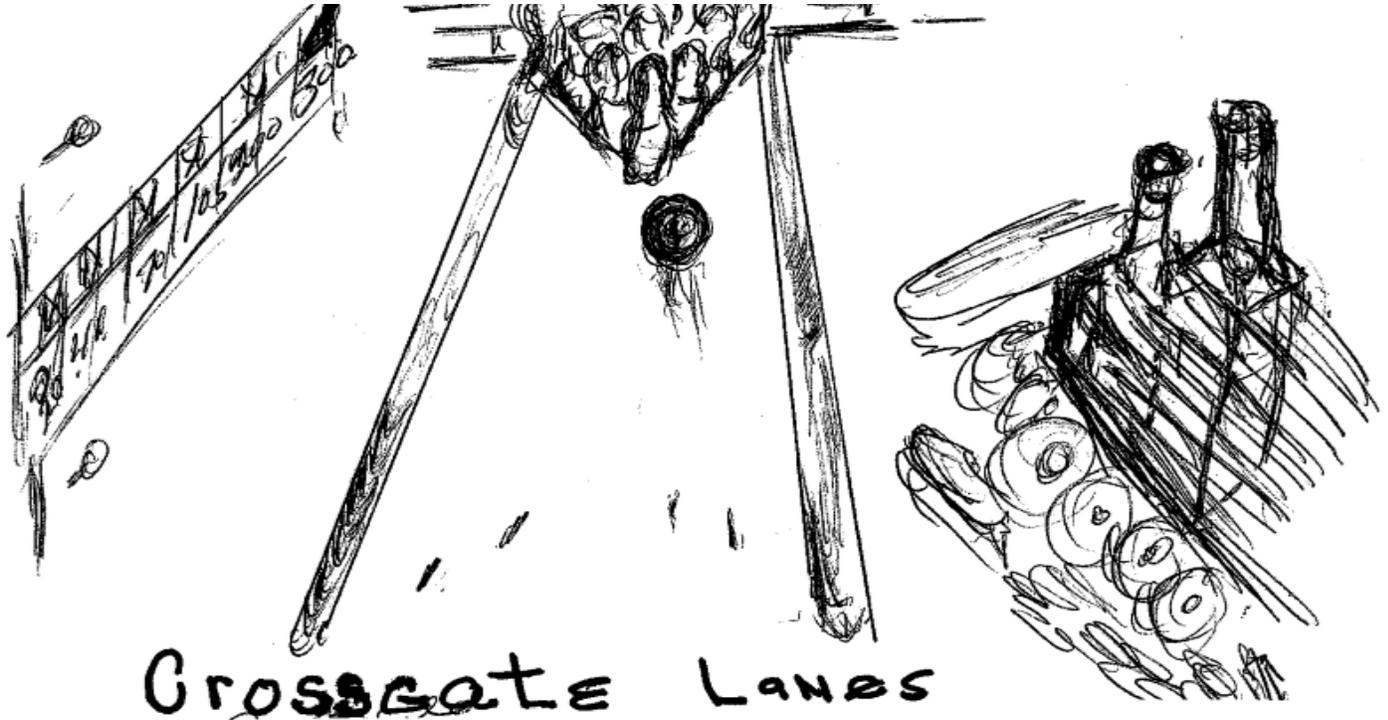
We want to thank all the people that put many many hours into preparing for this weekend. It could not have happened without all their hard work. The retreat was a wonderful place to share with friends and come away with renewed bonds of spiritual feelings and great friendships. A special thanks to Kallah Project for recognizing how special our Synagogue truly is and awarding us the grant that allowed this to happen.

Stephany Schechtman  
Sandy Baden  
Sara Gati





# MEN'S CLUB



No, this message is not from Ira Fisher, the old back handed weather man. This message is from the president of the Men's Club. What does one do to get rid of cabin fever? They do not sit in the cabin, but get out and enjoy the moment. The formula for this is to nosh, laugh a lot and schmooze. Another idea is to enjoy a Men's Club activity. On March 18th we are meeting at Crossgate Bowling Lanes on Hunt Road at 9:45am-12:00pm. We have lanes reserved and are going to have a brunch fit for a king. All you have to do is come and enjoy knocking down the pins and laughing with your friends. All supplies, shoes and bowling balls are included. Do not tell me that you cannot bowl, as there will be bumper pads for us. It will be a great Sunday morning activity.

When: Sunday, March 15 9:45am-12:00pm

Where: Crossgate Bowling Lanes- Hunt Rd

Cost: \$15 per person

Reservations MUST be made by March 11 to Mark Rogoff #793-7671

-Aaron Schechtman



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



## MISHLOACH MANOT

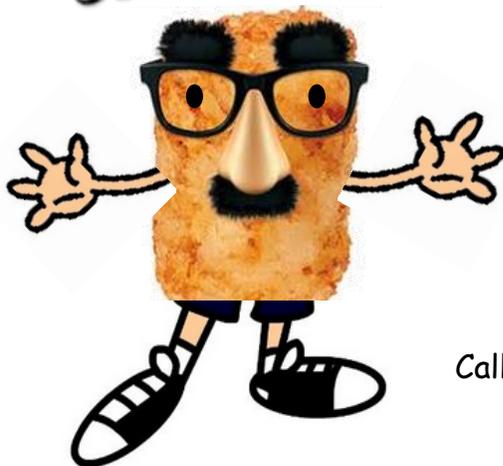


Thanks to **YOU**, the Sisterhood's Mishloach Manot Project was a big success. Thanks to everyone who supported our efforts by ordering Mishloach Manot for friends and fellow congregants. Thank you also to the women and men who helped purchase, assemble and deliver Mishloach Manot, as well as to our hamantaschen bakers. A special thank you to Julie Kaufman, who, among many other things, kept track of all the paper work involved and who created the delivery routes. This was truly a group effort and we thank everyone for their support and help in making it a success.

*Mishloach Manot Committee*

TATER-TOT

SHABBAT



Friday Night, March 16, 2018

We welcome all families with young children to a special Friday Night Service & Celebration

6:00pm to 6:30pm

Fun, Interactive & Educational Shabbat Service with stories, singing and more!

6:30pm to 7:00pm

Kid friendly Shabbat Dinner

RSVP in advance and your child will receive a special toy that is sure to bring laughter!

Call the office today 513-489-3399. Please let us know your child's age and any dietary considerations. All are welcome! Free to Attend!



# LETTUCE ENTERTAIN YOU



A one-of-a-kind Variety Show  
Hosted by Congregation Etz Chaim  
And featuring that proverbial plant as your mascot...

**Mr. Lettucehead**

Saturday Evening,  
March 10, 2018  
Havdalah at 7:15 pm & Show Starts at 7:30pm

Members and friends will perform; an evening of fun and entertainment  
that you're sure to enjoy.

Attend this enchanted evening for just  
\$10 for adults and children  
Plus, the opportunity to take part in a split-the-pot raffle

RSVP to the Etz Chaim office by March 2, 2018.



During the LUEY talent show  
It will be our special privilege to wish bon  
voyage to Sally and Alex Cohen. They will  
soon be leaving for California and while  
they may be far – their presence will  
always be felt. Alex was not only a founder  
of Congregation B'nai Tzedek but he was  
an invaluable member of our marriage  
team and is credited as a founder of  
Congregation Etz Chaim as well.  
We wish them nothing but happiness in  
their new city – Alex and Sally you will be  
greatly missed!



# Building Bridges, Closing Gaps

By: Brian Wolfe

Gratitude: from the Latin gratus 'pleasing, thankful' is a feeling of appreciation .... shown by the recipient of kindness, gifts, help, favor etc towards the giver of such gifts. (thanks Wiki)

"Wag more, bark less" seen on a bumper sticker

"When you have eaten your fill, give thanks to the Lord your God for the good land which He has given you" -Deuteronomy 8:10

I have never been comfortable with awards, accolades or honors. I never cared for the attention, mostly because at different times, attention was bad. I was smart, but lazy. Or is it I was lazy, but smart? Whichever it is, I still am. So, you can imagine the trouble that can cause.

Over the years I have worked for a couple of employers who liked to motivate employees by giving out awards for work that had been done. I often wondered (quietly) how they were awarded for doing their job. Were these awards just for show, or to make people feel good?

If that's the case – maybe it's not about the awards themselves, but the message behind them. Maybe there is something to be said for changing our attitude to gratitude. Being thankful for what we have. Showing gratitude for the things that other people have done for us.

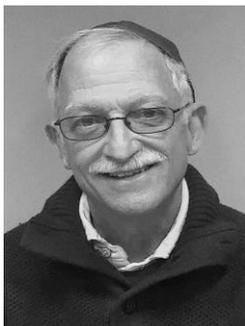
At the conclusion of a meal we read/chant/sing Brikat Hamazon. How far of a stretch of the imagination do we have to go to consider that among the series of blessing that include: thanks for food, for the land, Jerusalem and God's goodness. we should include thanks to others for the part they played?

Last month during our Kallah at Hueston Woods, I overheard how blown away the chef and the staff was by us. They had never encountered a group like us. I don't mean a Jewish group. I mean a group that cheered for them, and thanked them for their hard work after every meal. And we know how hard that is, right? Cooking for a large group, setting tables, cleaning up, waiting on us. It was such a nice shared moment. Can you imagine how they felt? How did it make you feel? Good, right?

Wouldn't it be great if we can show our appreciation – gratitude – for the people in our lives. Not just when we are away, but when we are home. Taking a small moment out of our day to compliment and thank as opposed to critique. A moment to pause and simply say thank you. Let's give it a try. I'll start.... Thanks for reading!

**We will be Cleaning & Kashering our Kitchen for Passover on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 starting at 6pm. If you can spare an hour or two it really helps to lighten the stress and make the evening go by quickly – Contact Hank if you can help!**

Matzah, Marror & Macarons – HERE WE COME!



# Membership Matters

*You – our membership – matter!*

This month we continue the intermittent series of building community by sharing information about our members.

## Stan Timmer

Among our newest members is Stan Timmer, who is married to Michelle Fesman, a longtime member of Ohav Shalom. Stan and Michelle had a passing acquaintance which intensified when they frequently saw each other in the hospital, while both of their first spouses were fighting what proved to be fatal illnesses.

Stan was raised in a small town, Vanceburg, Kentucky, located 23 miles from Portsmouth, Ohio. For much of the time that he lived in Vanceburg, Stan’s family were the only Jews in the small community. Nevertheless, his family kept kosher, often traveling 200 miles round-trip to get kosher products. Stan was raised in the Reform Temple located in Portsmouth. That Temple was frequently staffed by student rabbis from Hebrew Union College, and Stan remembers that one of them was Sol Greenberg, who later would be the rabbi for many years of Valley Temple, in Wyoming, Ohio.

Stan’s parents both died at a young age, and with little else to keep him in Vanceburg, he soon moved to Cincinnati. After holding several jobs, Stan found a job that he could make a career of with the Ohio Department of Taxation. He met his first wife, Susan, through a singles group called the “Underground Plum,” which meet in the basement of the Plum Street Temple. Susan and Stan were members for 26 years at Temple Shalom. Stan has also, at various times, been a member of Rockdale Temple.

Though he knew several members of Ohav Shalom, it was not until he met and eventually married Michelle, that Stan became involved with Congregation Etz Chaim. He was amazed at how he was immediately made to feel at home at CEC, saying that he “could not believe how welcomed he was made to feel” at CEC.” “The people are the best thing about CEC,” claims Stan. “They really are like family,” he adds. Now, having been a member for several years, he says that he “wouldn’t trade it for any shul in the world.”

Stan has performed in the Purim shpiel and likes to walk, but he finds that much of his current free time is being spent getting his house ready to be put on the market.



### WEEKLY CONGREGATIONAL EBLAST!

Every few months a congregant comes into the office and says.... “Is there a weekly email that is sent out” and we respond YES! Every Wednesday we send out an “eblast”; think of it like a snap shot of the upcoming week in Synagogue life. It includes yahrzeit minyanim that are requested, volunteer opportunities and details on the upcoming events. If you are not receiving this email weekly PLEASE call the office and we can help you stay in the know!



Saturday March 3, 2018

Join us for a post-Kiddush session on  
“An Iconic American Pair: Black-Jewish Relations in  
America,”

This will be led by one of our own, newly-minted  
PhD and Etz Chaim member, Alley Schottenstein.

The story of Black-Jewish relations is one about coming  
together, falling apart, and reconciliation. It is a story of hope,  
media fascination, and a cultural phenomenon. Why are they  
America’s iconic pair? Dr. Alley Schottenstein will present the  
history of Black-Jewish Relations in America up until the  
present. The presentation will explain the ties that bind both  
communities to each other and what has torn them apart.  
Dr. Schottenstein will provide her own original research  
about the topic and discuss whether the relationship still  
exists today.



Alley Schottenstein has a PhD in History from the University of Texas at Austin, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude from Brandeis University with a bachelor’s degree in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies and Women and Gender Studies. She received her masters in history from the University of Texas at Austin and won the Perry Prize for best master thesis. Her broad interest is in American Jewish History with subfields in European Jewish history, American Race/Ethnic History and Religion. Her dissertation focused on the Houston Jewish Community’s reaction to the Civil Rights Movement.



**Choir held two rehearsals last month, the first to rehearse the songs we sang at the Etz Chaim retreat that was held February 9-10-11 and the second to rehearse what we will sing at Lettuce Entertain You (LUEY) on March 10, 2018.**

**We appreciate being asked to participate at the retreat and what a wonderful weekend we all had. All but a small few of our choir members came so our attendance record was good.**

**This may be a little on the early side but we have started to rehearse some songs for the High Holy Days (HHD) next fall. Last year the choir voted to re-introduce HHD tunes at earlier meetings so that we are even better prepared when the time comes for us to rehearse in earnest.**

**March rehearsals have not been established at this writing but check the synagogue calendar for those upcoming dates. Again, if you're interested in joining us please contact Barbara, Emmy or anyone in the choir.**

**Musically Yours,  
Barbara and Emmy, Choir Co-Directors**



## March 2018 CYJL Monthly Bulletin Article

### **Milestones are being reached with Create Your Jewish Legacy.**

Just prior to our most recent monthly CYJL meeting, Randy, Russ, Sandy, and I received the following fantastic news from Arlene Schiff, the National Director of Life & Legacy:

**Mazel Tov to the Cincinnati Federation staff and their partner legacy teams for being the first LIFE & LEGACY community to exceed 1,000 letters of intent!**

**Cincinnati is just beginning Year 4 so we are sure to see their legacy commitment numbers continue to increase in the coming year.**

**We thank you for your commitment to changing the language and landscape of giving in your community, for fostering a camaraderie and respect among your organizations and for providing generous and forward-thinking members of the Cincinnati Jewish community with the opportunity to express their passion, purpose and commitment to the Jewish future.**

**May you continue to go from strength to strength.**

To have over 1,000 LOI's in just three years is very impressive, and something that we can all take pride in. It truly shows that we have a city that takes its legacy seriously. A hearty Mazel Tov to all.

About the same time that we received word of the local success, our Congregation Etz Chaim team reached our goal of obtaining and submitting to the Federation 25 Letters of Intent for year one. When we were first introduced to the program, we were told that there would be an incentive to our congregation of \$1,000 for obtaining 18 LOI's, and \$1,300 if we obtained 25 LOI's. Our team took a brief moment upon hearing this incentive, and then looked at each other and said that we'd definitely be reaching the more challenging 25 LOI's. We've done that, and now we're moving on to Year 2 with the same goal of reaching another 25 LOI's.

If you've completed and submitted your LOI, then we say "Thank You". If you've not yet completed your LOI, and have questions about what's involved, and how can you be a part of this program which is about your Legacy to our shul and other Greater Cincinnati Jewish organizations, then please reach out to one of our team members, and we'd be happy to schedule a time to meet with you.

-Steven Segerman



#### *Legacy Team Members*

*Sandy Baden  
Russell Rosen  
Steven N. Segerman  
Randy T. Slovin*

*Please remember the Jewish community with a gift in your will, trust, IRA, or life insurance policy.*



8100 CORNELL ROAD

CINCINNATI, OHIO  
45249-2234

Phone: (513) 489-3399

Fax: (513) 489-3372

Email: [EtzChaimOffice@fuse.net](mailto:EtzChaimOffice@fuse.net)

[www.EtzChaimCincinnati.org](http://www.EtzChaimCincinnati.org)

## *Healing Service*

Finding healing in a broken world  
Finding wholeness in the presence of illness and troubles  
A Time for Healing of Body, Mind and Spirit

Join us for a 1-hour Healing Service  
Experience the restorative power of  
contemplative communal prayer and singing

Saturday, March 17, 4:00 PM in the Chapel

This will not be a traditional mincha, but we will  
say mourner's kaddish if there is a minyan

Light refreshments  
For more information, contact Lynne Haber



### **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



**IMPORTANT**  
**PASSOVER DATES 5778:**

**Fast of the Firstborn**

Friday, March 30 – 7AM Minyan  
Service and learning session

In order to absolve the firstborns  
from fasting. Followed by a breakfast  
with the last morsels of Chametz.



**Sell Your Chametz by:**

10am on Friday, March 30

First Seder at home – Friday, March 30

\*Note – Friday Night services will be canceled in  
deference to the Seder to ensure all families are able  
to be together and fulfill the mitzvah. If you are in  
need of a host family or are able to host, please  
contact the membership committee

**Pesach Day 1**

Saturday, March 31 – 9:30AM Services

**Second Seder at Etz Chaim**

Saturday, March 31 – 6:30pm

RSVPs are required – Save your spot today!

**Pesach Day 2**

Sunday, April 1 – 9:30AM Services

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

**Morning Minyan**

Thursday, April 5 – 7AM Services

**Pesach Day 7**

Friday, April 6 – 9:30AM Services

**Friday Night – April 6**

Shabbat Services with Passover Twist - 6:00pm

**Pesach Day 8**

Saturday, April 7 – 9:30AM Services  
Yizkor will be at approximately 10:45AM

**Passover Ends**

Saturday, April 7 - 8:48pm



# Passover Second Seder



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

On the second night of Passover  
Saturday, March 31, 2018

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\* per person  
RSVP to the Office 489-3399

**FIRM DEADLINE**  
**of March 11, 2018**

\*Please bring 2 canned food items with  
you that night to be donated to the  
Barbash Vital Support Center

## 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 chameitz, one is required to sell chameitz (m'chirat chametz), search for chameitz the night before Pesach (b'dikat chametz), nullify the chameitz (bitul chameitz-the wording is found at the beginning of the Hagaddah) and burn the chameitz (biur chametz). (\*Note the Conservative Movement has now made an allowance for kitniyot to be consumed – however please follow your personal traditions – the shul has not accepted this halachik ordinance)

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, March 30, 2018 and continues up to the evening of Saturday, April 7, 2018.

And to this I hereby affix my signature(s) on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year 2018.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Husband and Wife, specify names



Complete and return to Hank Lerer no later than 10 AM on Friday, March 30, 2018.

It is customary, prior to Pesach, to provide Tzedakah (Ma-ot Chittim-wheat money) for the needy in our community.

## 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 (Nisan - Iyar) we remember:**

#### **March 1—Adar 14**

Harry Anish\*  
June Francis\*  
Arthur Kaplan  
Israel Klayman\*  
Anna Kravitz\*  
Jenny Kwiatek  
Irving Troy\*  
Caroline Sax  
Marcia Weller\*  
Joseph Young\*

#### **March 2—Adar 15**

Judith Carsch  
Dorothy Freckman  
Ben Overbook\*  
Raphael Penso\*  
Kurt Rose\*

#### **March 3—Adar 16**

Bertha Baneth\*  
Nathan Carl\*  
Harry Grossman\*  
Abe Gurfine\*  
Rose Scheen\*  
Hyman Schneider\*  
Louis Smilansky  
Jacob Wiener

#### **March 4—Adar 17**

Harry Fiermark\*  
Alfred Funk\*  
Rosa Nagler

#### **March 5—Adar 18**

Ida Bloch\*  
Esther Gold\*  
Jennie Ida Karp\*  
Annette Nogen\*

#### **March 6—Adar 19**

Minnie Ehrlich\*  
Minnete Goldstein  
Lillian Holbrook\*  
Sonia Kitain  
Morris Lipman\*  
Margaret Panigel  
Anna Serotkin\*  
Melvin Wacksman\*

#### **March 7—Adar 20**

David Brookenthal  
Morris Cyrkin\*  
Ida Lee Feldman\*  
David Gordon\*  
Ruth Kahler\*  
Joshua Lass\*  
Herman Less\*  
Wolf Lipsky\*  
Chaya Rubinstein

#### **March 8—Adar 21**

Schiffra Becker\*  
Tillie Charkins\*  
Ben Schilmeister\*  
Samuel Schraeder\*

#### **March 9—Adar 22**

Leo Arenstein  
Dora Herman\*  
Sarah Herman\*  
Jack Hoffman\*  
Esther Hoodin\*  
Robyn Novick\*  
Max Pinsky\*  
Helen Young\*  
Rivka Zwikelski

#### **March 10—Adar 23**

Marion Belfeld  
Rose Bell\*  
Bertha Cohen\*  
Frank Cohen\*  
Sima Goldfarb\*  
Diana Lee Hinkel  
Dora Metz\*  
Rose Pywen\*  
Ruth Robinson  
Louis Schechtman  
Meyer Siegel\*  
Sophia Sklar  
Elaine Sorenson\*  
Morris Weinstein\*

#### **March 11—Adar 24**

Harry Freid\*  
Ida Goldberg\*  
Annette Kusel\*  
Paul Levin  
Jacob Newmark\*  
Harvey Ornstein  
Arthur Richards  
Elliot Segerman\*  
Sylvia Shapiro\*

#### **March 12—Adar 25**

Lyrice Behrman\*  
Edith Brownstein\*  
Abe Farb\*  
Helen Freeman  
Gertrude Holtzman\*  
Jacob Jacobs\*  
Harriet Komer  
Gertrude Nevins  
Ralph Sax  
Eva Spitz

#### **March 13—Adar 26**

George Camins\*  
David Cohn\*

Belle Kuhr\*  
Anna Lerer\*  
Ida Malinsky\*  
Aaron Mandell\*  
Yocheved Waldman\*  
David Weitzman\*  
Geraldine Yarmush  
**March 14—Adar 27**  
Frank Holtzman\*  
David Kaufman\*  
Sam Kruke\*  
Hyman Sobol\*  
Issac Spievack\*  
Phillip Zakem\*

#### **March 15—Adar 28**

Emma Belhassen  
Albert Caplan\*  
Abe Goldberg  
Charles Goldberg  
Stanley Shapiro  
Mary Wasserman\*  
**March 16—Adar 29**  
Moshe Herszage  
Edward Malkis\*  
Millie Prager\*  
Mary Rose\*

#### **March 17—Nissan 1**

Libby Cohn  
Sidney Edelstein  
Ben Hoffman\*  
Louis Oxlander\*

#### **March 18—Nissan 2**

Rose Gendelman\*  
John Lerer\*

#### **March 19—Nissan 3**

Beila Fingerhut\*  
Anna Franklin\*  
Dove Funk\*  
Nora Siegel  
Miriam Warm\*

#### **March 20—Nissan 4**

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

#### **March 21 - Nissan 5**

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

## 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 March (Nisan- Iyar) we remember:**

#### **March 22 - Nisan 6**

Yetta Baverman  
Ann Freiden\*  
Chaya Gersensfish\*  
Reva Jacobs\*  
Michael Nogen\*  
Joseph Stoller\*  
Ben Weitzman\*

#### **March 23 - Nisan 7**

Aaron Friedenber  
Aaron Gurfine\*  
Binim Linn\*

#### **March 24 - Nisan 8**

Thelma Lipsky\*  
Esther Saal  
Eva Skurow\*  
David Tunick\*

#### **March 25 - Nisan 9**

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

#### **March 26 - Nisan 10**

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

#### **March 27 - Nisan 11**

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

#### **March 28 - Nisan 12**

Albert Baneth\*  
Rebecca Golding  
Rachel Lipsky\*

#### **March 29 - Nisan 13**

Rebecca Aronoff

#### **March 30 - Nisan 14**

Morris Kauffman\*  
Clara Kuresman\*  
Rachel Lerer\*

Jacob Nedelman

Louis Rothchild  
Florence Shokler  
Ellen Sorger

#### **March 31 - Nisan 15**

Donald Kuhr  
Frances Landman  
Sylvia Max  
Sol Rosenbaum\*  
Harry Simkin\*  
Harry Stoller\*

*\* Names are on  
the Sanctuary  
Yahrzeit Panels*

*Of Blessed Memory*  
*ז'כרוןם אברכה*

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](mailto: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.

**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.



*Save the Date as we host a  
Special Luncheon Honoring*

*“A Pair of Perfect Pairs”*

*On Sunday, April 22, 2018  
We will be recognizing the  
incredible commitment and  
dedication of two couples in  
our congregational family.*

*Candy & Kim Kwiatek and  
Stephany & Aaron Schechtman*

*Invitations will soon be  
mailed but plan to join us  
as we thank these four  
remarkable people and help  
our Synagogue with this  
Donor Fundraiser.*

*Luncheon at High Noon  
followed by program.*



# March

## Synagogue Happenings

### We wish Speedy Recoveries to:

Cindy Bransford  
Bill Meister  
Marianne Nidich

### We extend condolences to:

George Gati on the loss  
of his brother, Mordechai z"l

The family of Shirley Nedelman z"l

The family of Bev Levine z"l

### Mazel Tov to:

Carol Friedman on the birth of her  
granddaughter Claudia Estelle

### SERVICE PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

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

### MISHEBERACH

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

### ANISH/OKRENT

#### REMEMBRANCE WALL

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

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

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

### **Shabbat Kiddush Opportunities**

Kiddush Sponsorships are available for any  
occasion. Many menu choices are available and  
Sisterhood will accommodate special requests.

Our catering kitchen crew is delighted to be  
cooking for larger Shabbat kiddush lunches.

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

The standard enhanced dairy  
Kiddush will be \$225.

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

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

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

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

# 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:

Rona Peerless for sponsoring Kiddush of February 3 in memory of Mel z"l

Eleanor Segal for sponsoring Kiddush on February 17 in honor of Herbie's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday

Michael and Bryan Taplits for sponsoring Kiddush on February 25  
in memory of their father Sol Taplits z"l

May we continue to have share Simchot Together!

## **Congratulations to all our March Birthdays!**

- 4 Ruth Cohen
- 4 Monica Lerner
- 8 Bernie Beraha
- 8 Sasha Cohn
- 13 Gloria Nadel
- 16 Sara Gati
- 17 Jory Edlin
- 17 Sterling Segal
- 17 Ron Shapiro
- 18 Bernard Tepper
- 19 Sanford Franklin
- 19 Haguit Rubinstein-Towler
- 22 Susan Segerman
- 22 Leslie Sokol
- 23 Nelson Linder
- 23 David Neman
- 23 Chie Weil
- 26 Shia Edelstein
- 29 Steven Cohn
- 29 Sam Krimins
- 31 Karen Barnes



## **Happy Anniversary to:**

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



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

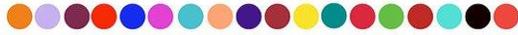
Friday Night, March 9, 2018

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.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1>MARCH 2018</h1>				<b>1</b> Purim Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks  Kitchen Volunteers are welcome at 6pm	<b>2</b> Scrambler Maries Breakfast Learning 10am  Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	<b>3</b> Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am post Kiddush learning session
<b>4</b> 11am Ritual Committee  12:15pm Choir Rehearsal  2pm Purim Shpiel at Cedar Village	<b>5</b>  The office is closed	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	<b>9</b>  Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm & Birthday Minyan with CAKE	<b>10</b>  Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am  LUEY Talent Show 7:15pm
<b>11</b> 9:30am Kallah Meeting Recap  11am Sisterhood Board Meeting  Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen Volunteer Opportunity	<b>12</b>  The office is closed	<b>13</b>  Sisterhood Volunteering At Matthew 25 Ministries 4:30pm	<b>14</b>  Board of Directors Meeting 7:30pm	<b>15</b>  Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks  Kitchen Volunteers are welcome at 6pm	<b>16</b>  Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm  Tater Tot Shabbat Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	<b>17</b> Shabbat Hachodesh Rosh Chodesh Shabbat Services at 9:30am  Healing Service 4pm
<b>18</b>  Men's Club Bowling 9:45am at Crossgate Bowling Lanes  4pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b>  The office is closed	<b>20</b>  Kashering the Kitchen 6pm and onward – come lend a hand!	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks	<b>23</b>  Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm	<b>24</b>  Shabbat Hagadol Shabbat Services at 9:30am
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  The office is closed	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks  Kitchen Volunteers are welcome at 6pm	<b>30</b> Minyan 7am followed by chametz!  Please Note There are no evening services in deference to the 1 <sup>st</sup> night seder	<b>31</b> Shabbat and Day 1 Passover Services at 9:30am  Second Seder 6:30pm

**COMING SOON**



**Save these Important  
April Dates:**

**OTR Soup Kitchen – April 8**

**Wisdom on Wednesday returns on  
Wednesday April 11 - 3pm  
at Joseph Beth Books at Rookwood**

**Donor Event honoring  
Candy & Kim Kwiatek  
and  
Stephany & Aaron Schechtman—  
Sunday, April 22, 2018  
High Noon Luncheon  
followed by special program**

Congregation  
**ETZ CHAIM**



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



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

**Contact the office at 513-489-3399**

## **Upcoming Events: March**

### **Breakfast Learning**

Friday, March 2 – 10am  
Meet at Scrambler Marie's  
please RSVP to Hank or Chava

### **March Birthday Minyan Friday Night, March 9 – 6PM**

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

### **Let Us Entertain You**

Talent Show & Tribute  
Saturday Night March 10 – 7:15pm

### **Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen**

Sunday, March 11 – Contact Matt Brodof  
for more details. This endeavor is made  
possible by the Sandor Kutas Fund for  
Hunger.

### **Sisterhood Volunteering at Matthew 25 Ministries**

Tuesday, March 13 – 4:30pm  
Please contact Laura Maxwell  
To RSVP and for more details.

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, March 14, 2018– 7:30pm

### **Tater Tot Shabbat**

Friday Night, March 16 - 6pm  
Kid friendly services & dinner

### **Healing Service**

Saturday, March 17 – 4pm

### **Kasher the Kitchen for Passover**

Join us for a fun spring cleaning it's a fun  
night full of snacks, drinks, elbow grease  
and blow torches! March 20 at 6pm

### **Congregational Second Seder**

Saturday Night, March 31 - 6:30pm