

Congregation ETZ CHAIM

Volume 4, Issue 9

December 2017 Kislev-Tevet 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.*

Oversight Committee:

Terry Brodof
Russ Rosen
Aaron Schechtman
Stephany Schechtman
Steve Segerman

Staff:

Hank Lerer, Executive Director
Chava Vidal, Youth & Family Program Director

Men's Club:

Aaron Schechtman, President

Sisterhood:

Sandy Baden & Laura Maxwell
Co-Directors

Ritual Co-Chairs:

Barry Joffe & Barbara Taggart-Milberg



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

Message from your President – Terry



Congratulations! On October 29, 2017, our congregation voted unanimously to finalize a journey, and from that date forward, legally become Congregation Etz Chaim.

I was sitting in the sanctuary Shabbat morning just prior to the day of the vote, and the parsha we read and

discussed was Lech Lecha. The words translate into “go forth”, and I thought to myself how very appropriate for what our synagogue was about to do. We were about to embark on yet another new journey.

Lynne Haber gave a beautiful D’var that Shabbat. Lynne noted that the Mei Ha-shiloah interprets the beginning of the parsha to mean “go forth to find your authentic self, to learn who you are meant to be.” Of course, in the parsha, Adonai was speaking to Abraham, but I thought to myself, we are on a very similar kind of beginning (or journey) that will begin the next day, and head to a place unknown.

We all realize that we will never lose who we are, nor where we came from, but we are embarking on a new path and we must be open to a multitude of possibilities on the path, in order to find who, and what, this family can be, or become.

Our first Special Congregational Shabbat Program on December 1st is Camelot Shabbat. Camelot? Why Camelot? Camelot is a term that references King Arthur’s legendary Kingdom where truth, goodness, joy, and beauty reigned. In the Broadway musical *Camelot*, the lyrics in the title song read “...don’t ever let it be forgot, that once there was a spot, for one brief shining moment that was Camelot”. Throughout time there have been numerous references to Camelot. It is perhaps a goal, perhaps a dream. It may be a place where the world seems right and where good always triumphs. Perhaps it’s a place where people believe in truth, in being righteousness, in tolerance, and where good deeds prevail. Might Camelot be a place where the world permanently rests in peace and upon strong principals? Much like the world we choose to believe in as Jews. A place where we put great importance on the study of Torah, Prayers, and performing deeds of loving kindness.

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Continued from the front page...

Camelot has been a reference throughout time, as a society that perhaps never was, but should have been. Judaism perhaps describes it best in phrases that can be found in the Mishna describing Tikkun Olam..."We must strive to create a society that benefits the world that is in need of repair."

Camelot may not be a place that physically existed, but as Jews, we look to create a better world, and heal a troubled world through the performance of selfless acts. Maybe we all are searching for something that is imaginary like Camelot, but isn't it a worthy goal to journey towards?

It's December and we will soon light menorahs, spin dreidels and speak of *the great miracle that happened there*. It is a perfect time to *dedicate* ourselves to Tikkun Olam, and our synagogue offers you so many opportunities to do so.

Terry Brodof

On Sunday, October 29, we held a congregational meeting to vote on the Agreement of Merger, the proposed Constitution, and the Board of Directors. We were advised by legal counsel that we should have separate votes from each of the two founding congregations, in order to make this a lawful merger in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code section on mergers. Therefore, we had two ballots that day, one for members of Congregation B'nai Tzedek, and one for Congregation Ohav Shalom. The first vote taken was on the Agreement of Merger, which was unanimously approved by all voting members from each synagogue. The second vote taken was on the Constitution, which again was a unanimous vote by all voting members of each synagogue. The last vote taken was on the proposed new Board of Directors, and there was only one vote against; all other ballots were in favor of the proposed slate. Therefore, the new Board of Directors for Congregation Etz Chaim consists of the following members: Terry Brodof, President, Bob Friedenberg, Jeff Gabbour, Israela Ginsberg, Lynne Haber, Barry Joffe, Marianne Nidich, Mark Rogoff, Russ Rosen, Marty Ruben, Howard Saal, Aaron Schechtman, Stephany Schechtman, Steven Segerman, and Brian Wolfe. Congratulations are in order not just to our new President and Board, but to all who worked on the merger, including the joint steering committee, both of the former boards of directors, and every congregant who assisted over the past 3 years in ensuring that our merger or marriage was successful and that it became "legally recognized". Likewise, congratulations go out to all congregants for joining in on the process, whether you helped build the Sukkah, helped with the Attic Sale, attended a Shabbat service, or by continuing your membership in our wonderful shul. After the voting, we heard from committee chairs who gave reports on the status of their committees. To all those who would like to get involved, please talk to one of our new Board members, to a committee chair, or to Hank or Chava. We would love to have your continued support and engagement.

-By: Randy Slovin



Ritual Matters

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

We are now officially Congregation Etz Chaim! Like any merger, we the Ritual Committee (the RITCOM) have encountered our share of challenges blending services, participation or other but we believe that most of that is now behind us. We give ourselves high marks for being attentive to ritual issues both past and ongoing, and we hope that you will agree with this assessment. It really is much smoother sailing nowadays...

At our last meeting we discussed how to we can make our High Holiday days services next year even better!. We also identified a couple opportunities in our service flow which we feel we can fine-tune. Saturday Shabbat service timing was discussed again at the recent meeting, and our decision is to have the full Amidah (with repetition) when there are no additions to the 'normal' Shabbat liturgy, thereby helping to ensure that services end by noon. But we still desire your feedback. Please contact anyone on the RITCOM to make your comments, criticisms, suggestions known.

Plans are in place at the time of writing for a Healing Service on November 18th. Thank you to Lynne Haber for the planning and prep and we'll offer another service of this kind in the spring. We all need some healing in our lives and our hope is that attendees find solace and comfort from this type of service.

Chanukah is coming soon! We've had our 'holiday break' from the High Holy Day/Holiday marathon days and now it's time to look forward to our next services and festivities as we celebrate this winter's (chase away the winter blues) first holiday.

All Shabbatot are special but we note some extra special ones being celebrated in December. December 1 is Camelot Shabbat, December 2 is Men's Club Shabbat, December 8 is Birthday Shabbat, December 9 is Choir Shabbat and December 16 is CYJL (Create Your Jewish Legacy) and Chanukah Shabbat. And that's just the extraordinary Shabbat services! We also have weekly Thursday morning minyan services and additional minyan services on demand. And this doesn't include all the non-ritual goings on. We are indeed a busy shul!

Happy Chanukah!

Barbara and Barry





Kabbalat Shabbat

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

Your presence is requested

*At a Camelot Kabbalat Shabbat Celebration Friday Night, the
first night of the month of December at Six in the evening*

Journey to the Etz Chaim Castle

for revelry, feasting, libations, learning and levity

\$12 for knights and maidens

CAMELOT KABBALAT SHABBAT
FRIDAY NIGHT, DECEMBER 1, 2017
6PM — SERVICES
7PM — DINNER FIT FOR A KING

COME AND LEARN HOW THE
KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE
& KING ARTHUR TIE INTO JUDAISM.
THEN ON 12/2 WE'LL CELEBRATE MEN'S
CLUB SHABBAT & DUB SOME VERY SPECIAL
HONOREES — IT'S A WEEKEND AFFAIR!



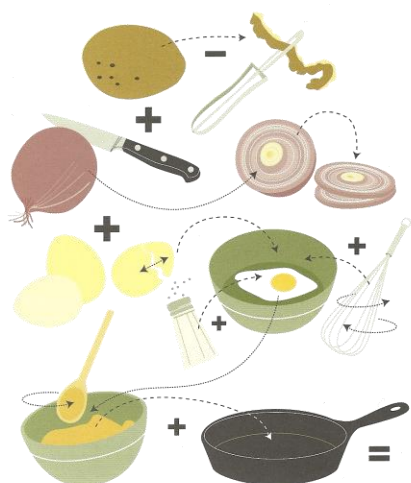


MEN'S CLUB

Men's Club Shabbat: Saturday Dec. 2, 2017

Join the Etz Chaim Men's Club as they lead and guide us in
a meaningful Shabbat Morning Service 9:30AM
Special Kiddush Luncheon

Calling All Latke Makers



Calling all kitchen maven,
latke lovers, potato peelers,
onion dicers and more to help
Men's Club prepare our
delicious latkes.

Wednesday, December 13, 2017
10am to 2pm

Contact Aaron to let him
know you can help!



**Come
Experience
a
Magical
Chanukah...**



ABRACADABRA
ALLAKAZOO

**CEC wants to celebrate
Chanukah with you!**

Wednesday Night, December 13, 2017

6pm to 7pm – It's Magic – we're having
breakfast for dinner!

Breakfast Bar complete with Latkes & all the fixins!

7pm Magic Show

With Local Illusionist: Brad Eickhoff

Followed by Menorah Lights & Sufganiyot

\$10 if you RSVP by Dec 4, 2017

Price increases to \$12 after December 4.

| Building Bridges, Closing Gaps

By: Brian Wolfe

"To make an omelet, you have to crack a few eggs."

Multiple possible attributions (Robespierre, Napoleon, Lenin)

"No pain, no gain." & "Feel the burn"

(attributed to Jane Fonda in a series of work out videos in the early 80's)

Rabbi Ben Hei Hei says, "According to the pain is the gain."

— Pirkei Avot 5:21[5]

"Great event. Wow! What a mess"

Volunteers (2015, 2016, 2017)

These are quotes or expressions that reflect the promise of a greater reward for the price of hard work. And let me tell you, the rewards keep on coming in the form of great events.

Of course, those events don't happen in a vacuum – they happen in mixers, blenders and ovens (Ha). Actually, if we do our job right, we need more than a vacuum to put things back in order. We need soap and scrubbers, brooms and rags, table clearers and laundry doers. (Thanks to our October washing machine operators: Robyn Duvall and Steve Segerman). We will be drawing names for the December laundry pool. Hurry and enter the drawing -- winners will be announced soon!

And you know what else we need? RSVPs. We need you to tell us that you are coming for the great events that we host in our synagogue...But wait, you have food issues like:

No meat? No problem. We fix great veggie meals

No chicken? Too bad Terry, eat it anyway. 😊 (one of the many jobs that comes with being the president!)

No pasta? No problem. We have a new spiral thingy that makes veggie into noodles

No nuts? No problem. We are nuts enough for you.

No dairy? No problem. You RSVP and I will leave out the dairy (or serve meat).

Any other special requests? Tell the operator when you RSVP.

You don't want to make an RSVP? - Well... We need you to! If we don't know you are attending, how will we know that you need something special? And you know, that we want to know, that you know, that we will accommodate you. You know?

By the way: **Help Wanted.** Kosher kitchen seeks vegetarian to help with veggie ideas. Salary commensurate with experience; meat eaters need not apply.

Shabbat to Honor CYJL

(Create Your Jewish Legacy) Donors

Saturday, December 16, 2017

On Saturday, December 16, Congregation Etz Chaim will be hosting a Shabbat to honor all donors who have committed to the future of our synagogue, with a special Shabbat and luncheon.

CYJL, or Create Your Jewish Legacy, is a program hosted by Jewish Federation and funded by both Federation and Jewish Foundation, to ensure that all local Jewish institutions including synagogues, prepare for their future, by encouraging members and friends of such institutions to leave a legacy gift, such as a bequest in your will, in honor of that beneficiary organization.

The CYJL planning for Congregation Etz Chaim is off to a fantastic start, with at least 18 members and friends having committed to leave legacy gifts to assist with the future of our shul. We will honor any person who has planned for the future of Etz Chaim on December 16 with a special Shabbat program and luncheon. Please mark the date on your calendar, so you can join us in this celebration of our donors. We hope to see you there.



What will your legacy be?



Spaghetti Dinner & Fundraiser



Thank you to the organizations and restaurants that donated goods and services allowing our 2017 Gift Card Raffle to become a reality: New Horizon Dixieland Band, Mio's, European Café, Johnny Chan, Tony's, Brooklyn Pizza & Pasta, Through the Garden, Starbucks, Barnes & Noble, Mayerson JCC, Grand Central Deli, JCPenny, Durum Grill, Maggiano's, First Watch, Regal Cinema, Chili's, Rhino's, Meijer, Graeter's, Red Robin, Fricker's, Amazon, Bones' Burgers, Ulta Beauty, Cazadores, C'est Cheese, Pitrelli's, Hairport Salon, Jungle Jim's, Subway, Panera, Ferrari's Little Italy, AMC, Share: Cheesebar



Spaghetti Dinner 5778





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

Congregation Etz Chaim wants **you!**

Thanks to the Kallah Project & the Grant we received we are pleased to offer this special member rate.

CEC will be subsidizing each adult* member in the amount of \$50.00

Your total cost (after subsidy) is:
\$175. Per adult, double occupancy, meals included.
\$300. Per adult, single occupancy, meals included.

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

**Call the office for more details
& to make your Reservation!**

Interested in helping other congregants come to the retreat? Consider forgoing some or all of your subsidy - Talk to Chava for more information on this and other mitzvah opportunities.



Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

of Adults: _____ # of Children _____

We require a room with special accommodations: _____

Deposit (50%) _____

Make check payable to:
Congregation Etz Chaim

RSVP by: December 10, 2017

Friday, February 9, 2018

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



**HUESTON
WOODS**
Ohio State Park

Shabbat, February 10, 2018

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



Event Tri-Chairs:

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

Some Reminders:

- We want **EVERYONE!!!**
Adults, teens, children and grandchildren.
- We will have gourmet dairy/vegetarian meals .
- Dress will be casual...
leave your ties and suit jackets at home.
- Each room has 2 double beds (alternative child-friendly layouts available)
- Each room has a refrigerator, coffee maker, hair dryer and iron. (Yes there is a TV but consider reconnecting with Shabbat and unplugging for awhile)
- Our committee is hard at work trying to plan every detail for your enjoyment (Yes, even on the road we are working to perfect every detail of your experience)



Sunday, February 11, 2018

- ✧ Shacharit at 8:00am
- ✧ Leisurely Breakfast Buffet including French Toast with warm fruit topping, scrambled eggs, savory potatoes, fresh sliced fruit, coffee and juices
- ✧ Interlocking Rings– Tikkun Olam Table
- ✧ Time to say goodbye, checkout by noon



Thursday Morning Minyan

Mystery Macabee Gift Exchange - 2017

Join the Thursday Morning Minyanaires
On Thursday, December 14th for a fun
filled service, delicious breakfast and then
the moment we've been waiting for 365
days.... The Mystery Macabee Gift
Exchange. Want to participant? Just attend
services and bring a gift valued at \$10 or
less. Be sure it's wrapped and be ready to
smile at the creativity of these wacky gifts.
Contact David Weil the Thursday Morning
Minyan Captain for more details



PURIM SHPIEL

You know you've been
thinking about it...

You know you want to be a
part of the action....

Join us at the open
casting call on

Sunday, December 24, 2017

10AM in the Social Hall



Happy New Year

New Year's Eve is around the corner!

Announcing this year's theme:

NYE

in

NYC



Celebrate 2018 in Style!

*DJ & Dancing
Hors d'oeuvres
Midnight Toast &
Breakfast*

Sunday, December 31, 2017
9pm – 1am

Guests are welcome!

Make your reservation by:

December 15, 2017

Your check to Etz Chaim

holds your place

\$25 per person.

*Dressy Attire
Encouraged!*

Dress up in your
fancy attire and join us
as DJ Phil helps us
to dance and party the night
away!

The evening begins
at 9pm at 8100 Cornell Road
with heavy hors d'oeuvres.

It's BYOB (kosher list
available)

and we provide the mixers.

We'll count down to 2018 as a



Congregation Etz Chaim ---

You make the old adage "Ask and you shall receive" true!!!

We want to thank you for generously donating 5 bags of coats, gloves, scarves, hats, socks and uniform pants for our November Collection Drive. All items were taken to a public school in Price Hill and they are now keeping our littlest friends warm. It is an honor to work for an organization that sees a need and answers it with open loving arms. Kol Hakavod Congregants!



Breakfast Learning

First Friday at:



We'll meet at
10am – RSVPS
appreciated

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

The First Friday of Each Month
at the Scrambler Marie's
40006 Hauck Rd.
Sharonville, OH 45241
(Across from Gabes on Rt 42)

Mark Your Calendars:

Friday, January 5
Friday, February 2
Friday, May 4
Friday, June 1

Wisdom on Wednesdays

After 11 years of study, discussion, laughter, and challenge, the Wednesday Torah class finally completed the entire Five Books of Moses! After celebrating with a siyyum (a study-celebration party), the class has now embarked on a study of “the rest of the story.”



Starting this month, the class will begin their exploration of the Tanakh (the entire Jewish Bible) with the Book of Joshua – a much different study experience than the Torah. We will be studying the books in “historical order” rather than the traditional order so that we can understand them better. Each session will also include a parashat ha-shavua (weekly Torah portion) “learning moment” in preparation for the upcoming Shabbat.

Come join us for lively learning and conversation – everyone is welcome! No Hebrew is necessary, but please bring a Tanakh. Also, let Candy know well in advance if you’re joining the group so we can reserve space – during the holiday season that can be kind of dicey!

Wednesdays at Bronte Bistro

(Joseph Beth Books @ Rookwood)

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

Classes will be held on the following dates:

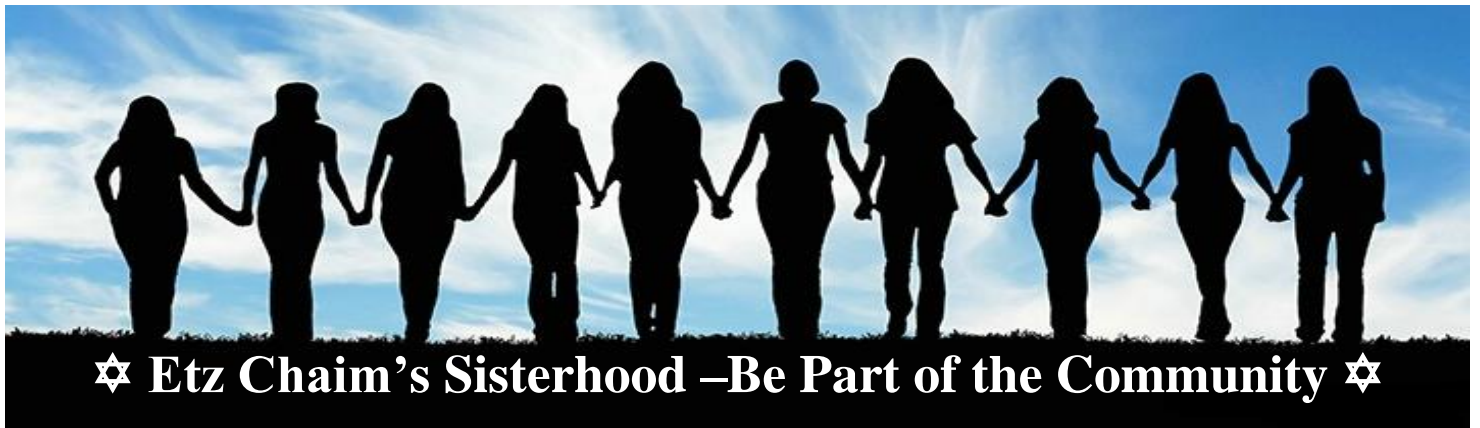
December 6, 13, 20, 27

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 *tentative*

*To receive email updates including change or cancellation notices,
contact Candy at KITANDCABOODLE@gmail.com*

-----Advertisement-----

Interested in learning how to daven services?
Weekday services? Shabbat services?
One-on-one lessons or possible group lessons.
Contact Steve Segerman at (513) 339-0579 or
SSegerman@cinci.rr.com.



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

Our Etz Chaim Sisterhood is off to a great start with an opening luncheon, free to paid-up members, that had a terrific attendance of 40+ members, more than half of our total membership!

On December 1, at a synagogue Shabbat dinner, we distributed “paper dolls” to those who once again wanted to help children in need with holiday gifts. We also are collecting gloves, hats, scarves for an Over-the-Rhine School, and ask that you bring those items to the synagogue anytime at your convenience.

Here are some upcoming activities:

Please put Sunday, January 21, 2 PM, on your calendar for a party we're calling “Etz Chaim Sisterhood—Pamper Our Kitchen and Yourself.”

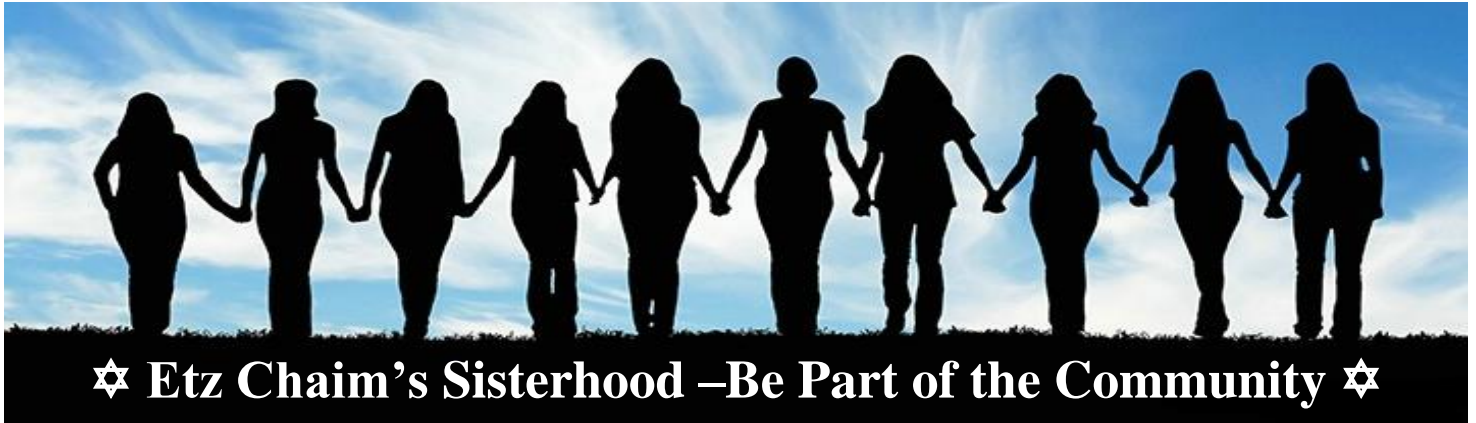
Our own Cindy Bransford, a Pampered Chef regional manager, will demonstrate many new and creative kitchen utensils while preparing some great food for us to sample. You can purchase items for yourself and for our kitchen, and the profit will go to the Sisterhood, specifically for care and maintenance of our kitchen. The party will be held at Laura Maxwell's new house—9458 Mapletop Lane, Loveland, OH 45140. There will be Pampered Chef catalogs in the synagogue lobby for you to pick up. Following is a link where you can view the Pampered Chef catalog online and place orders when you're ready:

<https://pamperedchef.com/go/EtzChaimSisterhood>

Also put these dates on your calendar—January 22 and 29, February 5 and 12, 7-9 PM—for Mah Jongg. We will be teaching the game to all who want to learn, sharpen their skills, or just play! If you're interested please let Sandy Baden or Laura Maxwell know. Also, don't forget to order your 2018 Mah Jongg card from our Sisterhood.

We will begin baking Hamentashen in January and a schedule for baking dates will be in next month's bulletin. Please bring in preserves and nuts as you did last year for the our “special Sisterhood” filling. Make certain the preserves and jams are “heckshured” and the nuts (pecans, almonds, walnuts) are whole nuts and shelled.

Continue on the next page...



Sisterhood members, we have two people who take care of sending personal notes to our members for special occasions. Sharyn Fox (793-3977) sends out notes for happy occasions such as births, bar/bat mitzvahs, weddings, etc. Audrey Martin (984-4433) sends get well and condolence cards. Please be sure to notify them if you know of a member who should receive a special note from us.

There's a lot happening and we want YOU to be a part of our group!

With undying love for Etz Chaim,

Sandy & Laura



It's time for the 2018 Mah Jongg card!

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

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

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

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

Membership Matters

You – our membership – matter!

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

Introducing - Christon Hurst



Chris is a regular attendee Friday nights and at other events. He has been with us for about a year, and made the leap this past spring to joining the congregation. Chris is a Cincinnati native, went to Greenhills High, and did his undergraduate work in biology at U.C. He first encountered then-Ohav Shalom as an undergraduate, when Victor Levey, who was his supervisor for a part-time job, invited Chris to join the congregation for the High Holidays.

Chris then got his Ph.D. in virology and epidemiology from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, where he studied at the Jewish Institute for Medical Research. Eventually Chris moved back to Cincinnati and spent 26 years researching water-borne infectious diseases for the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. He has lived and taught in Latin America and has edited several books on microbiology, including virology and infectious disease. Chris also holds a lifetime appointment as Visiting Professor at the Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia.

He had been raised in Reformed Judaism, but felt that something was missing and so he did not Bar Mitzvah at the usual age. When he was a graduate student in Houston, Chris was introduced to a Conservative synagogue where he felt at home and there eventually celebrated his Bar Mitzvah ceremony at 24 years of age.

Despite his professional success in microbiology, Chris' first love was dancing and since his retirement from the EPA he has considered dance to be his profession. He is an adjunct faculty member at Xavier University, where he teaches ballroom dance as fine art. He has also taught dancing at the Jewish Community Center.

Chris is the proud biological father of two adult children, Rachel and Allen. In addition, he has taken Billy and Karris (now adults) under his wing, informally adopted them and proudly also considers them as his children. Chris deeply understands the importance of adult connections. As a boy, Chris was mentored by his boy scout leaders, and Chris is committed to passing on the benefits he received from that relationship.

Eventually, Chris decided to come back to our congregation for a visit based upon his earlier memories. He notes that many people at Etz Chaim were very kind to him, but particularly credits the outreach and enthusiastic kindness from Russ Rosen in his decision to join our congregation. Chris is happy to talk about topics ranging from ballroom dancing to microbiology, and many subjects in between. Say hi the next time you see him!

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 December (Kiselev - Tevet) we remember:

December 1 – Kislev 13

Aaron Brown*
Sara Bumazhnaya
Aaron Levine*
Eva Linn*
James Martin
Joseph Rosen*
Ida Schneider
Albert Segal

December 2 – Kislev 14

Henry Bartel*
Harry Halpern*
Morris Karp*
Marian Schraeder*
Irene Weiner*

December 3—Kislev 15

Phillip Bayliss*
Joe Gordon
Evelyn Neuman
Adele Prager*
Hedwig West
Estelle Zakem*

December 4 – Kislev 16

Steven Bernstein
Mary Cooper
Max Cyrkin*
Charles Favish
Sonia Haber
Rosalind Key*
Philip Moskowitz*
Esther Waxman

December 5 – Kislev 17

Samuel Brown*
Betty Finkelstein*
Jack Goldberg*
Jozsef Guttman
Ben Hochhauser*
Max Krasnitzky*
Lena Plotnick
Sarah Polakoff*
Siegfried Stern

December 6 –Kislev 18

Sam Dubin*
Mary Glickman*
Pearl Himelfarb*
Louis Schneider
David Shor
Bertha Troy*

December 7 – Kislev 19

Carolyn Abravaya
Sarah Edlin
Sol Feldman*
Ben Karp*
Mary Simpson*

Bertha Singer*
Richard Steinberg
Anna Wershbole

December 8 – Kislev 20

Ida Eckman
Abraham Frank*
Sophia Greenblatt*
Fannie Hoodin*
Susan Timmer
Mildred Weinstein
Nathan Weiser*

December 9 – Kislev 21

Harry Brown*
Harry Cirkin
Rose Cohen*
Mildred Gurian*
Molly Levenson*
Joseph Levine*
Stanley Mandell*
Dorothy Okrent
Elisha Rachovitsky
Sara Ross
Heskel Sawdai*
Jack Segal
Esther Weinberg

December 10 – Kislev 22

Joseph Feldman*
Ida Fink*
Baila Kirzner*
Lillie Kosofsky*
Albert Michelson
Esther Neuer
Benjamin Rubinstein
Nathan Weiner*
Frank Wolpa*
Esther Zelen*

December 11 – Kislev 23

Ben Eckman
David Gordon
Lillian Klayman*
Fanny Kuhr*
Rose Levenson*

December 12 – Kislev 24

Sara Klatch
Allen Nagler*
Debbie Stewart

December 13 – Kislev 25

Ina Fletcher*
Harold Goldstein*
Mildred Lerman
Samuel Pinsky*
Rita Pywen
Jack Robinson

December 14 – Kislev 26

Clara Blatt*
Frieda Ettin*
Esther Evers
Ben Feldman*
Jerome Gabel
Edward Harris
Harold Holbrook
Lillian Kluber*
Abe Korelitz*
Harry Lerer*
Joseph Okrent*
George Rosen*
Abe Skurow
Bertha Steinberg*
Mary Steinberg*

December 15 – Kislev 27

Diana Gelburd*
Harry Gordon*
Meyer Newmark*
Morris Streicher

December 16 – Kislev 28

Esther Durham
Morris Faust*
Florence Frisch*
Paul Kahler*
Rose Miller
Angel Mordechai Perez
Eli Rohrberger*
Aaron Strikman
Claire Turner

December 17 – Kislev 29

Rose Rosenberg*
Laurence Sattler

December 18 – Kislev 30

Dorothy Bowman
Aaron Charkins*
Max Meyer

December 19—Tevet 1

Melva Case*
Deann Cohen*
Harry Flax*
Charles Glicklich*
Ann Greenblatt*
John Greenblatt*
Eugene Hammer
Adele Kuperstein
Sarah Lutzky
Carl Mass*
Isadore Metz*
Samuel Minster
Rose Rothstein
Morris Sunshein*
Isaac Yanofsky*

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 December (Kislev - Tevet) we remember:

December 20—Tevet 2

Minette Mandell
Ralph Schneider*
Lillian Siegel
Marian Skurow

December 21 – Tevet 3

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

December 22 – Tevet 4

Sonie Eurove*
Hazel Lakeman
Eda Lederman
Harry Shechtman

December 23 – Tevet 5

David Blumenthal
Esther Freeman*
Augusta Jacobs*
Irvin Singer*

December 24 – Tevet 6

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

December 25 – Tevet 7

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

December 26 – Tevet 8

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

December 27 – Tevet 9

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

December 28 – Tevet 10

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

December 29– Tevet 11

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

December 30– Tevet 12

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

December 31 – Tevet 14

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

** Names are on
the Sanctuary
Yahrzeit Panels*

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

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

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

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

Of Blessed Memory
זיכרונם לברכה

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

SAVE THE DATE:

Board Installation Shabbat

Saturday, January 6, 2018

Help us honor the women and men who help our synagogue run. Special Kiddush Luncheon to follow



L' Dor va Dor - from generation to generation brought over 40 women to the sisterhood luncheon on October 22nd. There was good food, good company and good stories. What more could one ask for? My personal favorite was about a two-year-old who was converted to Judaism. She looked at the 3 Rabbi's when the ceremony was over and said "now I bees Jewish ". Our sisterhood is a great group to belong to and we hope to see YOU soon partaking in all that we do.

By: Barbara Rosen

Social Action All Year Long

Don't forget to bring us your:

Soda Pop Tabs

Empty Pill Bottles

Used Printer Cartridges

And watch for our Purim collection drives to help support the Barbash Family Vital Support Center



December Synagogue Happenings

We wish Speedy Recoveries to:

Esther Manes
Rachel Rachovitsky

We Extend a Mazel Tov to:

Alex & Sally Cohen on the birth
of their great grandson

We Extend condolences to:

Karen Barnes on the
loss of her brother Mitchell, z"l

SERVICE PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

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

MISHEBERACH

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

ANISH/OKRENT

REMEMBRANCE WALL

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

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

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

Shabbat Kiddush Opportunities

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

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

The standard enhanced dairy Kiddush will be \$225.

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

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

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

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

Upcoming Events: **December**

Camelot Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday Night, Dec. 1 – 6pm

Join us for an hour long ruach filled service followed by a Shabbat dinner fit for a king, knights, and fair maidens. \$12 to attend

Men's Club Shabbat

Saturday, December 2, 2017

9:30am Services followed by a special Kiddush luncheon honoring the work of our Men's Club

December Birthday Minyan **Friday Night, December 8 – 6PM**

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

Choir Shabbat

Saturday, December 9, 2017

9:30am Services including melodic performances by our choir and never before heard compositions followed by a delicious Kiddush luncheon

Men's Club Latka Making

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

10am to 2pm in the Kitchen

All are welcome to help prepare this fried goodness. RSVP to Aaron Schechtman – first 10 guys get the traditional Chanukah apron!

A Magical Chanukah Experience **Congregational Dinner, Menorah** **Lighting & Evening with Brad** **Eickhoff the MAGICIAN**

Wednesday Night, December 13
6pm join us for “breakfast for dinner” complete with Latkas and all the fixings, followed by a night of illusions, menorah lighting and of course jelly donuts. \$10 to attend

CYJL Shabbat

Saturday, December 16, 2017

9:30am Services honoring our congregants and their families for protecting the legacy of Congregation Etz Chaim followed by a special Kiddush luncheon

Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017 – 7:30pm

Wishing all of our Congregants
A Happy Holiday Season!

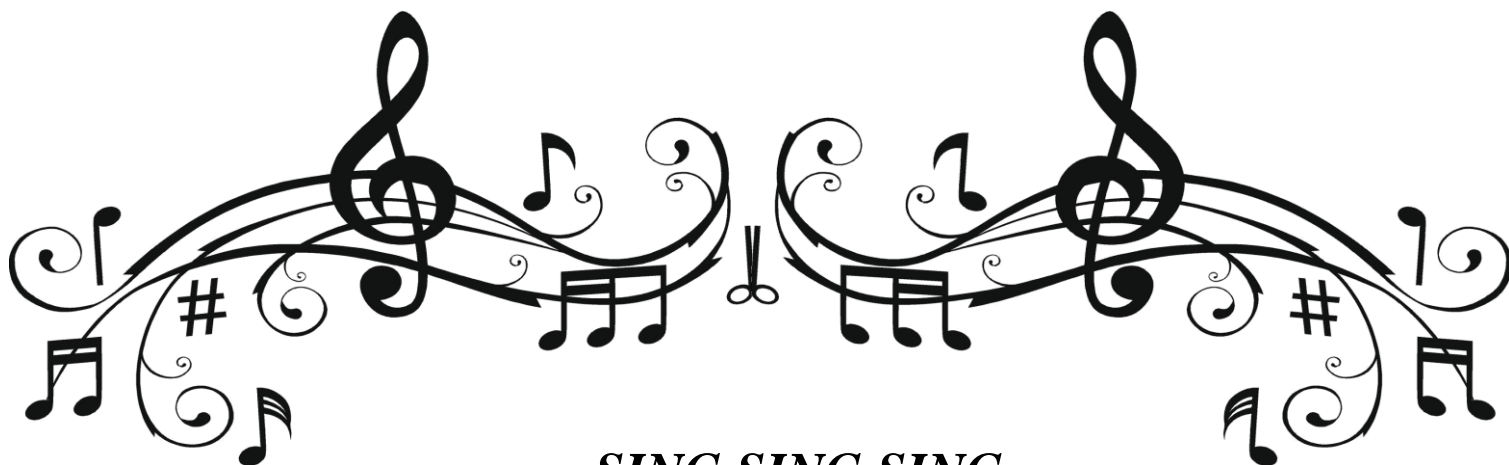


Save these Important **January Dates:**

Board Installation Shabbat 1/6

Week 312 – Celebrating 6 years of
consecutive Friday night minyanim 1/26
Friday night services & Dinner

Choir Shabbat Part II – 1/27



SING SING SING

Ruach Etz Chaim and Pri Yadeiha choirs are coming to a Shabbat service nearest you. You needn't wait long either. Hailed as 'Choir Shabbat', Saturday, December 9th Shabbat services will emphasize our presence as, with your help and support, we sing our way through services. Among the songs we will sing are melodies written by Meir Ovadia, some we have sung at a service before and some that we will present anew. Additionally, since it is the Shabbat before Chanukah, look for us to sneak in a couple of tunes for that holiday as well. Oh, and we're also sponsoring the Kiddush that day!

After December 9, we will begin rehearsing songs for the next Choir Shabbat, to be held at the end of January. Add to that a choir presence at our winter retreat in February and this makes for a full and planned schedule for us for the next months.

Our members give up their time to be in our choirs and we thank them for that. As part of our ongoing recruiting effort, we ask that you please consider becoming a member of your synagogue choir(s). Contact one of us if you are interested.

Musically Yours,

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

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:

Barb Rosen for sponsoring the Kiddush on November 11 in honor of our Veterans.

Friends of Atarah Jablonsky who sponsored the Kiddush on November 25 in honor of Atarah's 90th birthday.

May we continue to have share Simchot Together!



Happy Anniversary to:

27 Richard and Michelle Gabbour

Congratulations to all our December Birthdays!

- 2 Judy Beraha
- 2 Mary Ganulin
- 2 Beth Neman
- 4 Allan Goldstein
- 8 Avi Edelstein
- 10 Harriet Kuhr
- 11 Jason Littman
- 12 Stanley Zeidman
- 14 Ellen Greenberger
- 14 Lynne Haber
- 15 Sharyn Fox
- 15 Sandi Pywen
- 15 Audrey Ronis-Tobin
- 16 Michelle Gabbour
- 17 Lincoln Saal
- 18 George Gati
- 18 Elisa Knudsen
- 18 Marjorie Zeidman
- 19 Vance Towler
- 27 Linda Berger
- 29 Rachel Rachovitsky
- 29 Esther Zwerdling
- 30 Brian Kluger



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

Friday Night,
December 8, 2017

Kabbalat Shabbat services start at 6pm in the
chapel then at 7pm we'll have cake in honor of
all our December 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.



Congregation **ETZ CHAIM**



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



With 2018 almost here – take this opportunity to reconnect with the incredible members that make up our very special shul!

Contact the office at 513-489-3399

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Cincinnati, OH 45249
(513) 489-3399

DATED MATERIAL -- DELIVER BY DECEMBER 1