



# Brotherhood Synagogue ה"ב

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## The Opioid Crisis is Also a Jewish One

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

Every day, more than 90 Americans die after overdosing on opioids. The misuse of and addiction to opioids—including prescription pain relievers, heroin, and synthetic opioids such as fentanyl—is a serious national crisis that affects public health as well as social and economic welfare. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the total “economic burden” of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion dollars a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement.


In the hope of helping those who need it, I’m open to listening to those who would like to talk, and I share the pertinent story of Kathryn Schneider as was published by the *Forward* newspaper in an article by Bethany Mandel:

My story is both uniquely mine and exactly the same as millions of other addicts. We all start using different substances, at different times, for different reasons; but once we find ourselves in that bottomless pit, we are all in a vicious battle to save our own lives. Many of us make it into recovery, but, tragically, many don’t. I’m one of the fortunate ones who got out. I’m both an opiate addict and an alcoholic and have been in recovery for over two years. My first attempt at getting sober was in 2004, so it was a long fight. It was the most difficult thing I’ve ever done.

I was already in AA when I had to see a doctor about some health issues and was prescribed an opiate pain medication. Before I even filled the prescription I talked it over with my sponsor, my partner (also in recovery) and my mother. We made a plan, and because I’d never taken or abused opiates, I truly thought it wouldn’t be an issue. So I began taking them as needed. And thus the battle began. In the nine years between that first prescription and my last sobriety date, I went to numerous detox facilities, multiple treatment centers, faced crippling depression,

attempted suicide, lost my home and my family, and caused immeasurable damage to most of the people who loved me. Some of those relationships have healed, some are works in progress, and some were beyond repair. But at every point along the way, I had at least one person who refused to give up on me. It wasn’t always the same person, but I always had someone willing to stand beside me. My mom was one of those people.

Most of the Jewish men and women I have known in recovery all believed the same thing at some point: Jews can’t be alcoholics or, God forbid, drug addicts. I kept saying, “But I’m a nice Jewish girl from Shaker Heights!” For some of us, the stigma kept us drinking or using longer. And for our friends and families, it may keep them from talking about it or reaching out for support. Both of those things can be deadly. As things got worse and worse, my mom needed to be able to talk about what was happening in her life. Fortunately, when she reached out to some friends and a few people at her temple, she found lots of support and no judgment. Her rabbi offered an open door and countless prayers. She didn’t have to hide or carry the burden alone. This was vital.

My mom refused to give up on me, which probably saved my life, but it took an enormous toll on her. She didn’t sleep through the night for years. (I’m happy to tell you, she sleeps soundly now.) There is no one connected to addiction who doesn’t suffer in some way. It’s a heartbreaking disease. The road may be long and painful, but sobriety is both possible and amazing. We should never give up hope, on ourselves or our loved ones. Sharing our stories is one way we can offer hope to someone else in need. Every voice matters. The more we talk, the better chance we have of making a difference in someone else’s life. And when it comes to addiction, it is literally life and death. 

## Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 6:30 PM  
*Followed by Shabbaton Dinner and  
Speaker: Rabbi Judith Edelstein*  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 9:30 AM  
*Bat Mitzvah of Caroline Taylor*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 9:30 AM  
*Bat Mitzvah of Mae Neuman*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 9:30 AM  
*Bat Mitzvah of Alana Falter*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 9:30 AM

## Purim Festivities

Our annual **Children’s Purim carnival** will take place on **Sunday, February 25th from 11:00 am–1:00 pm** beginning with a mini-Megillah reading in the Sanctuary and continuing with games, food, and prizes. **Come one, come all, come in costume. Everyone’s a winner!**

On **Wednesday, February 28th, at 5:00 pm**, there will be the classic **Purim story puppet show** in the Community Room for pre-school age children and their parents.

Beginning at **6:30 pm on Wednesday, February 28th**, an **abbreviated Megillah reading and Purim shpiel** will be held in the Community Room geared to school-age children and their families.

The **traditional Purim evening service** and reading of the Megillah will be held in the Sanctuary on **Wednesday, February 28th, also beginning at 6:30 pm**.

**Services for the morning of Purim** will be held on **Thursday, March 1st at 7:30 am** with a reading of the Megillah.

**Hamentaschen and refreshments follow all these events.**



**ALL ARE WELCOME to all our Purim festivities! Bring friends!**

## My Two Cents by Ellen Renstrom

During my travels over the past 20 or so years, whenever possible, I have tried to attend services. These experiences, in Venice, Budapest, Prague, Paris, Lyon, The Hague, Bangkok and Hong Kong, to name a few, have given me added perspective to the destinations, and shown me that what we might take for granted here is not necessarily the case elsewhere in the world.

At the end of June last year I traveled to Barcelona with a former colleague about a month and a half before terrorists attacked various sites in and near Barcelona. Of Spain's population of 46 million, the Jewish community is estimated at 50,000, living mainly in Madrid, Barcelona and the Malaga area. Some believe that Spain's Jewish community dates from the Roman Era when Jews from Jerusalem arrived in Granada. Under the Alhambra Decree of 1492, Jews were expelled, and it is interesting to note that in 2014, the Spanish government announced that descendents of those Jews are now able to return to Spain and apply for citizenship.

While it is common here in New York to have some sort of security check before entering synagogues, past experience has shown me that it is generally necessary to contact a synagogue ahead of time to ask permission to attend services. Upon emailing the Comunidad Israelita de Barcelona, I was first told to email a copy of my passport to the Secretaria. I did so, and soon received an email with a 15-question Entry Form which needed to be filled in. Both my friend and I did as requested, replying to questions including our names, passport information, synagogue affiliation, exact reason for wishing to visit the synagogue, whether I would be attending alone or with family/friends, and a list of countries lived in during the past 10 years. A few days before departing for Barcelona we were told our request had been approved. On Friday evening, as our taxi got closer to the synagogue on Avenir, we noticed the police barricade, and our driver said we needed to walk the rest of the way. We walked past the police car, then a few steps further along, more impressively-armed police with a dog. The synagogue is from the 1950s, and blends in with the adjoining apartment buildings. At the entrance, 2 plain-clothes guards greeted those they recognized, and asked those they didn't to step aside. Even though we had already had an email confirmation, the guards told us it didn't matter—they had additional questions. Eventually we were permitted to enter and proceed upstairs to the women's section. A woman visiting from England and 3 from New York showed me which might be the better prayer book to use, and helped figure out where we were during the service. The Rabbi was Sephardic, and the tunes for prayers were beautiful. We were told that most services began with the men (downstairs) taking turns reading Song of Songs. Afterwards, there was a simple Oneg in the entryway of the men's section. Upon departing, the police car, guard and dog were still very visible, and traffic was still not permitted on the street in front of the synagogue.

In mid-August, I traveled to Stockholm, where I had lived during most of the 1970s. Stockholm

had had a terrorist attack in April. Sweden's Jewish community dates from the end of the 18th century, and grew when restrictions were lifted by 1838. The Great Synagogue of Stockholm, built in 1870, was originally Orthodox. It is now Conservative; the rabbi is a woman, and men and women sit together. There are approximately 18,000 Jews among Sweden's population of 9 million.

I contacted the synagogue office and was told the only thing needed was to email a passport copy, which my cousin and I did. When we arrived for services, we saw no one else except a young couple waiting at the entrance gate. We were soon told that the website information hadn't been updated, and we should come back an hour later. It turned out that the couple, from Chicago, and had just arrived on a Baltic cruise. They had never traveled overseas, and had no idea about attending services outside USA. We returned an hour later, and the security guard questioned them, then asked me about the couple. I said we had met them an hour earlier and had spoken with them a bit; apparently this was sufficient and we all were able to enter. The prayer book and the service were very similar to ours, and afterwards there was a brief Oneg in the sanctuary.

During my most recent trip I was unsuccessful in locating any Jewish community in Zanzibar, but hopefully I will be able to experience services later this summer in Istanbul. I urge you, too, to attend services and feel a bit of 'home' whenever traveling away from New York. 🐟

## Shabbat Club

Saturday, February 17, 1:00 pm

On Saturday, February 17, Moshe Berlin will lead a workshop for tolerance at the Shabbat Club meeting, at 1 pm in the 2nd floor reception room. He will guide the group in a discussion of the psychological and social benefits, and the requirements and dangers surrounding the subjects of tolerance and acceptance, both for individuals and groups. Bring to share with the group your own experiences, opinions and ideas! This discussion is the first part of a larger workshop for tolerance. The second part, an exercise on tolerance, requires a larger number of participants.

M. Berlin has a B.Sc. degree in Psychology and Education from the City University of New York. He has identified group dynamics related to tolerance that are common and recognizable, yet usually relegated to the background. When highlighted in the exercise workshop, these group dynamics illustrate that hatred is a sign of some degree of emotional disturbance or mental illness in individuals or in groups. Visit [www.habarbadi.com/classes/tolerance](http://www.habarbadi.com/classes/tolerance) to read more about the exercise workshop.

All are welcome to this discussion. There will be light refreshments.

## Life Goes On

*Life Goes On* is a group for those of us who have lost a spouse or life partner and want to experience the beauty, joy, and opportunity that New York life offers surrounded by supportive friends who understand and share in the loss.

On **Thursday, February 8 at 4:30pm** we will be hosting Jack Cassis, a computer expert as well as a patient and gentle soul, in the fourth floor library of Brotherhood Synagogue. The plan is for Jack to teach us anything and everything we have always wanted to know about using our computers more fully and easily. Please plan to come with your computer, if possible, and start assembling a list of items you would like to learn so that we can tailor the session to your needs. Sheila Zaslower is arranging this event as free of charge for all! All you have to do is please forward your list of items and the type of computer you will be bringing to Sheila at [szaslower@aol.com](mailto:szaslower@aol.com) ASAP. **With that in mind, attendance will be limited so RSVP ASAP if you are interested.** Dinner will follow as usual, probably at Gramercy Farmer and the Fish, with details to follow.

Save the date: on **Tuesday, March 13 at 4:30pm**, we will be going to the fabulous and much discussed Downton Abbey exhibit at 218

West 57th Street! This event is being organized by Judy Schneider, so if you have any questions please email her at [jjudith26@gmail.com](mailto:jjudith26@gmail.com). The entrance fee is \$28 per person, and viewing the exhibit will take about 60-90 minutes. We plan to have dinner together afterward at the wonderful Rue 57 restaurant.

Our book club's discussion of *Manhattan Beach* by Jennifer Egan has set new records for enthusiasm and interesting discussions. Our February book club date and book have not been set yet—members will be advised as soon as that information is available. As usual, NYU Professor Margaret Birns will guide our discussion and wine and desserts will be served. Please remember that **you must RSVP in advance if you plan to attend and know that the cost of participation is \$20 per person which is nonrefundable if you cancel within 48 hours.**

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of *Life Goes On*, please come to our meetings—we would be happy to see you! If you have any questions, please call Agnes Marton at 917.519.4427 or e-mail her at [Iagnesmarton@gmail.com](mailto:Iagnesmarton@gmail.com) or call Roberta Kahn in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750, [rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org). 🐟

Learn about the origins of the Mussar Movement and how it can help you to cope with contemporary times

## SHABBATON SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE

Friday-Saturday, February 2-3

Elevate your Jewish Soul Through Mussar

### Featuring Rabbi Judith Edelstein from Mussar Institute

On Friday, February 2, please join us for a congregational dinner after Shabbat services, which will be followed by a talk from Scholar in Residence, Rabbi Judith Edelstein. She will speak about: **What is Mussar and Why Should I Care: The Keys to a Better You and a Better World.**

Mussar is a Jewish practice for personal growth, focused on ethics and character development. It provides a Jewish answer to questions we all have:

- Why do I keep repeating the same mistakes?
- Why do I cause pain to myself and those around me?
- What can I do to bring my life closer to its potential?

On Saturday at 1:00 pm there will be a brief reading from a Mussar Master's text followed by a group discussion and practical application led by Rabbi Edelstein.



**Rabbi Judith Edelstein**, (Brotherhood Synagogue Intern 1996-7), Doctor of Ministry, Certified Chaplain, has been a Mussar practitioner for 10 years. She has facilitated groups in many venues throughout the USA, and has worked for The Mussar Institute on many projects. She has been the Mussar Scholar in Residence at several synagogues on the East Coast.

### Friday, February 2

6:30-7:30 pm: Shabbat Services with Rabbi Alder and Cantor Yager

7:30 pm: Congregational Dinner for members and friends

8:30-9:15 pm: Speaker - Rabbi Judith Edelstein

9:15-9:45 pm: Oneg Shabbat - Stay for dessert, coffee, and after-dinner conversation.

### Saturday, February 3

9:30-Noon: Shabbat Services with Rabbi Alder and Cantor Yager

9:30-10:15 am: Torah Talk with Phil Rothman, Topic: *Listen to Your Father-in-Law* in the 4th floor library

Noon: Kiddush Lunch in the Community Room

1:00-2:00 pm: Rabbi Judith Edelstein

2:15-3:15 pm: Spiritual Yoga with Rebecca Kryspin. All levels welcome.

4:00 - 5:00 pm: Terrific Toddler Time with Daphna Mor

## BROTHERHOOD FILM SERIES

ERIC GOLDMAN'S 3-PART SERIES:

### A LENS ON ISRAEL: A SOCIETY THROUGH ITS CINEMA

Israeli movies provide insight into Israel's birth, growth, and development as a country. Dr. Eric Goldman will continue our examination of the changing nature of Israeli society, reflected through its cinema. (Previous attendance not necessary!)

#### SESSION 2

Sunday, February 11 • 4:30 pm

### THE MIDDLE YEARS

Screening of the full length film *Late Summer Blues* (1987). Discussion to follow.

SESSION 3: Thursday, March 8 • 7:00 pm

### COMING OF AGE

Cost: \$10 per session payable at the door

*Eric Goldman is adjunct professor of cinema at Yeshiva University and was a fellow at Brandeis University's Schusterman Institute for Israel Studies. He has been a host, with Robert Osborne, on Turner Classic Movies, for the series "The Projected Image: The Jewish Experience on Film."*

## SAVE THESE DATES IN MARCH

### Traditional Jewish Bread Baking Class

With Brotherhood Member Mark Goldey  
Sunday, March 4,  
Noon-4:00 pm

Learn to make bialys, pletzl, and cornbread—the good stuff—like your parents used to get at the neighborhood bakery. One secret is the flour. Another is the technique. With a little practice, you can make these things at home, better than your local bakery. Learn how! This class is limited to 12 participants and to those 16 years old and above.

\$36 for members, \$46 for non-members (the fee covers the cost of the materials supplied).

Please visit the Adult Education page of the website or call the office to register.



### The Tallit Woven with Love and Tradition

Wednesday, March 7, 7:00 pm



Come meet Robert Kleiman who will be visiting us from Israel to share how his family has been hand weaving tallitot (prayer shawls) in Jerusalem for the past 35 years. Robert will discuss how this family of weavers came to Israel, the significance of wearing a tallit as a ritual object, and show us how to tie tzizit. His talk will be accompanied by a visual presentation and a display of the family's magnificent tallitot. We encourage everyone who is interested in this very special art form to join us and especially encourage children in 5th grade and above and their parents as they think about their upcoming bnai mitvat. If you have a special occasion coming up you may want to purchase or custom order a tallit!

Learn more here: <http://jerusalemallit.com/>



## Happenings in Our Kehilah

### B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

Peter Taylor and Shelly Jacobson-Taylor on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Caroline Taylor**; and to grandmother, **Elaine Jacobson**. Caroline, a student at **Avenues**, will celebrate her simcha with her older brother, **Billy**.

David Neuman and Erika Salzman on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Mae Neuman**. Mae, a student at Simon Baruch Middle School, will celebrate her simcha with her younger sisters, **Liza** and **Beatrice**.

Holger Falter and Debra Laefer on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Alana Falter**. Alana, a student at Simon Baruch Middle School, will celebrate her simcha with her younger brother, **Aidan**.

### Births, Mazal Tov to:

Ayelet and Aaron Rosen on the birth of their daughter, **Mia Eve Rosen**; and to older siblings, **Jonah** and **Eden**.

Sarah and Andrew Kessler on the birth of their son, **Wyatt Douglas Kessler**.

### Condolences to:

Ron Sussman on the passing of his sister, **Barbara Sussman Diana**.

Larry Wexer on the passing of his mother, **Renee Wexer**.

Sue Goldberg on the passing of her husband, and our member, **Stanley Goldberg**.

Martha Feinstein on the passing of her sister, **Arlene Ford**.

Richard Silberberg on the passing of his father, and our member, **Joseph Silberberg**.

The family of our member, **Marion Cooper**, on her passing.

The family of our member, **Adelyn Soifer**, on her passing.

Daniel Neiden on the passing of his father, **Max Neiden**.

Dorene Goldfinger and Mark Goldfinger on the passing of their husband and father, **Norman Goldfinger**.

Rhonda Krupin Goldin on the passing of her mother, **Gertrude Krupin**.

The family of **Fred Rosenberg-Wilmoth** on his passing. 🌸

## Hadassah Meeting

### Tuesday, February 13, 1:00 pm

Please join us for our monthly meeting when our speaker will be **Meredeth Kelly**, who is co-leader, along with her husband, Cantor Isaac Yager, of Brotherhood's congregational choir, **Harmoni'AH!** All are welcome!

## Social Action News



During the month of February we are collecting new and gently used books appropriate for kindergarten-high school age children for Project Cicero ([www.projectcicero.org](http://www.projectcicero.org)), a non-profit organization which provides books to under-resourced NYC schools. The Project Cicero mission is to enable children to build a love for reading by ensuring that each classroom has a viable library.

Kindly bring your new or gently used hardcover or paperback books suitable for children and young adults to the collection box in the lobby. **Picture books, early readers, reference books, fiction, non-fiction, and biographies are welcome.** NO textbooks, library discards, or reference books more than five years old.

High school aged students may fulfill school community service requirements by volunteering to help with this project.

For more information, contact Linda Yee Kaleko through the synagogue office.

Sponsored by the Social Action Committee



## Brotherhood Book Club

### Thursday, February 15, 7:00 pm

On February 15, Linda Kates will lead a discussion of *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles

Please contact Margie Katz [margie.katz@icloud.com](mailto:margie.katz@icloud.com) if you would like further information about the Brotherhood Book Club. All are welcome!



The 35th season of Brotherhood Synagogue's homeless shelter runs through March 27 on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings. We have 8 male guests each night.

**Donations of new socks, underwear, scarves, hats, and gloves would be most appreciated.**



## Update on the Rothman Educational Fund to Benefit the Hebrew School

Since the "Year of Phil" began in September 2016 with a Shabbat *oneg* celebration for what was to have been a year-long campaign, we have extended the "year" to two years so that we could effectively plan and execute a successful roll-out of the campaign—AND—there is just too much of Phil to be honored in one year!

In the intervening time, both Board and staff have been deeply engaged in planning and fundraising towards our goal of \$1 million by the campaign's end, which will occur in October/November of 2018. All funds contributed to the Rothman Fund will go into an endowment that will support the Hebrew School in perpetuity, enabling us to provide additional support for special, experimental and innovative programming, subsidize faculty salaries and student tuition and cover annual operating costs incurred due to our generous scholarship program and the extra services we provide to those in need. **This Fund will impact and benefit future Hebrew School students for generations to come.**

At this time, we are pleased to announce that we have reached our half-way fundraising goal of \$500,000 (on time!) and we welcome the ideas, input, participation and involvement of the entire Brotherhood community in helping us reach our \$1 million fundraising goal by November 2018.

In previous Bulletins, we have announced a series of events to take place this year—events that include "A Conversation with Phil" on the past, present and future of Hebrew School/Jewish Education, **A Night at the Races** at Yonkers Raceway (you didn't know Phil loves the race-track?) and a culminating community-wide **Family Havdalah** (to bookend the Shabbat evening kick-off)—as well as a few surprises. You will be hearing lots more in the days and weeks to come!

Please contact me at 212-674-5750 or [mstrozak@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:mstrozak@brotherhoodsynagogue.org) at any time to learn more about The Rothman Fund or if you wish to discuss how you might help contribute to its success! 🌸

## President's Post

by Trudi Rae Bartow

Every year I like to take the big international trip. I think travel is one of the most important ways to make you a responsible citizen of the world. Travel can show you different cultures and help you understand people on a new level. Traveling really does open your eyes and lets you experience firsthand all the amazing and wondrous things out there. One of the first trips I ever took was to the Pushkar camel fair in the Rajasthan desert of India. (In case you are wondering how I ended up on this trip, I stood in front of a map, closed my eyes, and wherever the pin landed, that's where I was going). The Pushkar fair is a series of livestock events such as races and trades held in November and features dozens of nomadic tribes from all over the region. I had never seen anything like it in my entire life! Since then, I can count walking with penguins on the Antarctic continent, climbing up to see the big Buddha in Hong Kong and haggling over the relics of rugs in Turkey among the amazing things I have seen. But I think one of my favorite travel memories happened on a Saturday morning in Tel Aviv.

This moment happened several years ago during the Brotherhood Synagogue's trip to Israel. We were staying in a fantastic hotel in Tel Aviv and had free time Saturday morning to walk around and experience the city. A bunch of us walked along the beach and ran into people dancing. It was so spontaneous and joyful that we all grabbed hands and joined in. This trip was my first to Israel and I had so many fun times (especially with my fellow Brotherhood members and friends!!) and learned so much about people living in Israel today and the important history of the land that I can't wait to go back!

I would love to hear some of your favorite travel memories—I'm always looking for inspiration for my next trip! Write in and tell us about your favorite restaurant, event, museum or spontaneous moment. [Trudirae@gmail.com](mailto:Trudirae@gmail.com).



### The Chesed\* Committee WANTS YOU TO KNOW

If you are finding it physically difficult to get to Brotherhood for services or other programs, or would be more comfortable doing so if someone would walk or ride with you, please let us know because we may be able to arrange for a car service or other accommodation. Please call the Brotherhood office to inquire at (212) 674-5750.

\*The Chesed Committee provides help and compassion to Brotherhood members in times of need. Reach us at [chesed@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:chesed@brotherhoodsynagogue.org) or through the synagogue office.



## YAHREZEITS

^Garden of Remembrance \*Book of Remembrance

### February 3 - 9

\*Helen Belle Aaronson, Morris Adelsberg, Gustave Altman, Robert Arias, \*Steven Mark Berkowitz, Harriet Bernstein, Joel Bernstein, Leon Blumenthal, \*Lilian Blye, ^Eve Cassell, Stanley Chusid, Sarah Eisenberg, Carole Epstein, Emanuel Evans, \*Aaron Fassler, Howard Feinstein, Charles Fell, Robert Feuer, \*Rose M. Finneman, Judith Friedjung, Steven Futterman, Maitin Gelber, ^Sylvia Glassman, Murray Goldfinger, Charlotte Grabisch, ^Felicia Greene, ^Morris Greene, Kurt Grubler, Arthur Kantor, Dara Kaufman, ^Mollie Kronenberg, Thelma Levine, ^Anna Levine, ^Melvin Lipp, ^Herbert Magram, Gail AnnLowe Maidman, Adolf Markovitz, David Miller, Max Miller, ^Sara Miller, ^Jeanne C. Moskowitz, \*Louis Nudelman, Miriam Olken, Belle Plutzer, \*Renee Pollack, Bessie Potell, Irene Raphael, ^Lee Avram Rappaport, ^Bertha Russ, Louis Schiffman, ^Dinah Simila Chaya Schumer, Sam Shapiro, Ben Sherman, ^Ann Silberberg, Tessie Sklar, Daniel Stacher, ^Sylvia Tint, Clarence Trainer, Karl Waldbrand, Myer Weingarten, ^Michael Weiss, ^Blanche Wind

### February 10 - 16

Nathan Barry, \*Celia Berkowitz, Mary Blum, Sara Borochov, Benjamin Braff, \*Lillian Cantor, Tillie Cohen, ^Yetta Dienstag, Rosalind Donziger, Stanley Esratz, ^Sarah Lerner Feldman, Meyer Glazer, ^Helen Green, \*Harry Gross, Felicia Grubler, Nelly Guggenheim, Klara Halpern, \*Max Hamburger, \*Jane Deborah Hansen, Beatrice Harper, Shirley Helfant, Selma Hochhauser, Donald Michael Iskowitz, ^Benjamin Janow, Bernard Jerski, ^Hannah Kirshbaum, Milton Klein, Brenda Klotz, Ronnie Kornfeld, ^Joan Koven, Phyllis Kurland, Cary Leeds, ^Judith Levenstein, ^Dr. Paul Pincus Lippman, ^Samuel Lubell, ^David Manischewitz, Morton Maxwell, ^George W. Rabinoff, ^Carole Reiff, \*Benjamin Rosenberg, Aaron Rosenbloom, ^Rebecca Rubinoff, ^Ina Safra, Mabel Sarner, ^Albert Shear, Sheila Siderow, ^Jack Silverman, ^Evelyn Singer, ^Florence Solomon, Judge Sidney Squire, ^Emma Stahl, Esther Wolf, ^Morris Zelmanowicz

### February 17-23

^Fannie Abraham, Ardelle Allenson, Altgracia Alvarez, ^Charles Barron, Stan Berger, ^Chaim Berglas, Mel Berk, Naomi Berk, Lauretta Berkman, Claire Bernstein, \*Herbert Blye, Bertha Brenner, ^Natalie Brickman, \*Mae Caplan, Harry L. Cohen, ^Selim Eliahu Cohen, Jenia Distenfeld, ^Anna Eidelberg, Myrtle Feinsilber, Nora Fenton, ^David Fox, Eleanor Giman, ^Sally F. Gold, ^Anne Goldsmith, ^Mary J. Goldstein, ^Morris Goldstein, ^Paul Goldstein, ^Henry Greenbaum, Sid Grossman, Dora Haber, ^Ethel Haber, ^Marl Hendel, Lillian Hoffman, Mordechai Horton, ^Jack Janal, ^David Janow, Hyman Kampel, J. Lawrence Katz, Bernard Kitover, Ilene Korach, ^Fred Krupnik, ^Victor Kuhne, ^A. Harry Kupersmith, Michael

Lasser, ^George Lester, ^Anna Jelosnik Levine, ^Rose Levine, ^Harold Levine, Anna Levins, \*Abraham Lewinstein, Morris Lichter, Elaine Grace Lippman, Frances Mann, Hazzan David Mann, Pearl Memling, ^Joseph Meresman, Jeffrey Milman, \*Katie Naftalis, ^Rachel Novom, Ilse Nussbaum, ^Rose Perlstein, Minnie Pollick, Sadie Primack, ^Lee Avram Rappaport, ^Claire G. Rich, ^Howard I. Rich, Murray Rockower, \*Tillie Rosenbaum, David Ross, \*^Elizabeth Rossman, ^Catharine Roth, Dorothy Rubin, \*Irving Schaffel, Cynthia Scheffris, Dr. Louis Scheib, ^Frieda Schindel, ^Jacob Schindel, ^Rose Wade Settle, Rae Shulman, Rhea Soifer, Jeanette Spira, David Sussman, Susan Tabor, Esther Toback, ^Lillian Turteltaub, Shirley Warren, \*Rifke Weingast, ^Fannie Weisman, \*William Werner, ^Margo Wolff, Florence Yarkow, ^Bessie Zacks, ^Paula Zweibach

### February 24-March 2

Phyllis Altman, ^Gussie Bardack, Anna Baslow, George H. Behrens, Paula Berenstein, Solomon Bersoff, Marjorie Bobker, Fredrick Bryan, Lillian Burack, June Chusid, Rita Cohen, \*Rose Cohen, ^Frances Cohen, ^Mildred M. Cohen, Arlene Ellant, \*Burton Farland, Lawrence Fischman, ^Isidore Flame, David Frommer, Lillian Gillman, ^Morton Globus, Henry Gluck, \*Sadie Goldwasser, ^\*Rachel Greenhouse, Jenniel Harrison, ^Sonia Himmell, ^Jack Hollander, ^Leo Kaye, ^Betty Kimbel, Joe Krantz, ^Jerome Lande, Jeanne Landon, ^\*Abe Lebewohl, ^Jeanette Lesser, \*Hyman Nemser, Gerald Charles Randolph, ^M.E. Reckson, Theresa Rogoff, Adam Todd Ross, ^Sam Rothstein, Simon Schurberg, Zelda Shapiro-Wilmoth, ^Irving Silberstang, Dorothy Silverman, Lenore Sofferman, \*Louis H. Solomon, ^Dr. Gustave Steinberg, ^Meyer Steinberg, ^Kate Taormina, ^Bernard Trocker, ^Clara Tucker, \*Hyman Werner, \*Pauline Werner, Herbert Yassky

### The Brotherhood Synagogue



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

RABBI DANIEL ALDER,  
CANTOR ISAAC YAGER,

RABBI IRVING J. BLOCK<sup>21</sup> D.D.: Founding Rabbi  
HERMAN DIAMOND: Cantor Emeritus  
TRUDI RAE BARTOW: President  
PHILLIP ROTHMAN:  
Executive and Education Director

Congregation founded in 1954  
Historic Landmark Building erected in 1859



## משוכנס אדר מרבין בשמחה "Mishenichnas Adar Marbin B'Simcha"

One who enters the month of Adar (February 16–March 16, 2018) increases in joy! Be happy it's Adar!

Purim, which is celebrated on the 14th day of the Hebrew month of Adar, is a time of joy and celebration!!!

Our Hebrew School children are learning that Purim has four main Mitzvot:

1. The Reading of the Megillah (*Mikra Megillah*)
2. The Festive Purim Meal (*Seudat Purim*)
3. Sending Gifts (*Mishloach Manot*)
4. Gifts to the poor (*Matanot L'Evyonim*)

In anticipation of observing the mitzvah of reading *Megillat Esther* (the Scroll of Esther) connected with the festival of Purim, our children are preparing a Purim shpiel to complement *Megillat Esther* at our Purim Family Service on Wednesday evening February 28 @ 6:30 pm. This year's shpiel is *The Thriller Megiller*—with lyrics by Norman Roth and music by Michael Jackson, performed by our Kitah Dalet (4th Grade) and Kitah Hey (5th Grade) students.

The mitzvah of Sending Gifts (*Mishloach Manot*) is being multiplied by our Kitah Zayin (7th Grade) students!



They will be preparing *Mishloach Manot* baskets and selling them at our Purim Carnival, which will take place on Sunday February 25, to raise funds for their Mitzvah Project—support of the JCCA (Jewish Child Care Association). Stay tuned for additional Kitah Zayin (7th Grade) fundraisers for the JCCA!

There is still time to volunteer to create and run a booth at our Purim Carnival on Sunday February 25 (10:30 am to 1:00 pm). Some examples of Purim Carnival Booths: Haman Toss; Cupcake Decorating; Purim Jeopardy; Beading Booths; Mask Making; and other games of skill and games of chance! Please consider developing a Family Purim Carnival Booth! We look forward to your participation in the wonderful Purim celebration!

All of the Hebrew School children and their families will participate in the mitzvah of gifts to the poor (*Matanot L'Evyonim*) when they join in at our Family Purim Service on Wednesday evening February 28 @ 6:30 pm. There will be a basket to collect funds to provide gifts to the poor—enabling us all to fulfill the mitzvah of *Matanot L'Evyonim*.

The mitzvah of the Festive Purim Meal (*Seudat Purim*) is traditionally done on Pu-

Sunday, February 25,  
11 am – 1 pm

**Purim  
Carnival**  
*Everyone's a winner!*



A mini-Megillah reading in the Sanctuary begins at 11am and will be followed by Brotherhood's Purim Carnival in the Community Room with games, food & prizes! Come one, come all, come in costume.

rim day, this year March 1st! This is a joyous meal filled with food and drink!

One of the central messages of the Festival of Purim is that *Megillat Esther* teaches us how important it is for Jews to support one another and whatever our differences, we all belong to *klal Yisrael*. We are one people—and we need to be able to count on one another—especially in perilous times!

We look forward to celebrating our time of joy together! Happy Purim! *Purim Sameach!*

**פורים שמח!!!**

—Barbara Simon,  
Hebrew School Principal

## LEGO® – JERUSALEM !!

Brotherhood builds Jerusalem! A great time was had by all on Sunday, January 21, at LEGO Jerusalem!



## Nursery School Thoughts

by Whitney Levin

This isn't my first rodeo. My first experience with the Yellow Room was in 2013 with my daughter Blake. Within 10 minutes she told me to leave and that she would see me "later" and I never thought twice about it. Fast forward to a different year and a different child and I knew it wouldn't be quite so easy breezy. My son Ben is the oldest in his yellow room class, but sure enough, I was in that classroom with him for the first 8 weeks. I was initially pretty annoyed. I had grand visions of all I would accomplish while Ben was at school for 2 hours and 45 minutes. I took my impossibly big biographies that I had no intention of ever actually reading and settled myself in the little chair in the corner of the yellow room. While I did stay pretty irritated that I had to spend so many hours in the classroom, I started to enjoy my observations. After all, these would be Ben's classmates for the next three years and I really got to know the children and to see their little school personalities unfold. I watched them start to form their own independent relationships and watched them figure out how to interact with each other and with Rivki, Jonathan and Mel. I learned that Billie is infatuated with babies and that Archer is always impossibly happy and that Aviva really loves her big brother Seth and that

Joshy has a really cool collection of crocs. But the key takeaway which was almost worth the time in there was what a nice class this is.

Which brings me to the second part of what made my sojourn into preschool more bearable- observing what phenomenal teachers our kids have. Which was pretty affirming I have to say. Emotional 2 year olds are hard to deal with on an individual basis and the care, kindness, finesse and understanding these teachers manage to apply to a whole group of these temperamental toddlers is something to see. They model how to behave so effortlessly and have so much fun with the kids in the process. I also loved seeing the ease with which Merrill would stop by and play with the kids or Isabelle would chat with them. Brotherhood truly is a warm, small and special community and nothing exemplifies that more than the teachers. The kids are allowed to have fun and play and be themselves and I once again was so glad that we are at Brotherhood for this special time in our children's lives. Rivki eventually did kick me out of the classroom (displaying the same patience for the parents as she has for our kids). Ben was ready and she knew it. He now loves school and talks about his own autonomous life sharing the songs he learned



Please join us at Brotherhood  
for our wonderful  
**Family Shabbat  
services!**

.....  
**Friday, February 9**

5:30 pm - Children ages 4-6 years  
old with Katie Shea

6:30 pm - Grades 2-7 with  
Phil Rothman

.....  
**Friday, February 16**

5:30 pm - Children up to age 3  
with Saskia Lane

from Katie or what he did with Naoko with such pride and pleasure. The kids in the Yellow Room are just starting their own independent lives and we as parents are beyond fortunate that the Brotherhood staff know just what they are doing. ~

## ♪ Cantor's Notes ♪

by Cantor Isaac Yager

In many ways, my CPE training (Clinical Pastoral Education) proved to be the most formative experience during my five years in seminary. For eight summer weeks, I served as a chaplain at both a Brooklyn hospital and a residential facility for formerly homeless individuals that offered supportive services and day programming. I learned a lot that summer. Ultimately, I discovered that my work as a chaplain was most effective when individuals understood that I was emotionally present for them. Our humanity, imperfections and all, is the greatest bridge we have towards making genuine emotional connections with each other. Interestingly enough, I happened to be the only Jewish chaplain in my program. While I originally thought that this would prove to be a challenge, it in fact was not. Fundamentally, regardless of an individual's personal religious path, everyone just wants to be heard and have his/her emotions acknowledged. It takes a strong sense of empathy in order to achieve this. While a sense of spirituality and a connection to God serves a function, a genuine display of kindness and compassion was always

at the forefront of my most successful pastoral interactions. Additionally, one of the greatest lessons I learned from my CPE training was the understanding that verbal communication with individuals in need was not constantly essential.

Silence can be scary in pastoral work. Silence represents uncertainty, insecurity, and the general uneasiness that can emerge when strangers tackle spiritually and emotionally fraught concerns together. At the start of the CPE program, I feared silence during my interactions with patients and residents. Initially, I thought that I was doing something wrong if my pastoral presence did not always generate a dialogue. Yet, as time went on, I began to understand that the occurrence of dialogue was less critical than my presence itself. Once I adapted this understanding, my identity as a chaplain strengthened. I was able to recognize the powerful way in which my silence could illicit feelings, outcomes, and reactions from those under my pastoral care that would not have emerged had I tried to force them out with my words. There were many occa-

sions in which people would say things like "I have nothing to talk about" on the onset of our visit, but after five minutes of my just being there and "proving" my emotional and empathetic presence, I would hear entire life stories including fears of death and loneliness, as well as determination to improve health and family relationships. Instead of clumsily commenting about the weather with patients when I thought I had nothing else to offer them, I learned to wait for them, match their energy, and not force feed responses or my own advice. Admittedly, I am quite impulsive by nature. I want things at the moment of want and I like to see results immediately. However, my CPE training taught me to adjust these types of expectations and to recognize that any community I serve, whether it is a hospital, synagogue, or even my own home will have members with different needs and different approaches to address those needs. Ultimately, it is my responsibility to adapt to those needs, not to impose myself upon them. Of course, this is easier said than done. Yet, the most difficult and worthwhile lessons often are. ~



# Brotherhood Synagogue

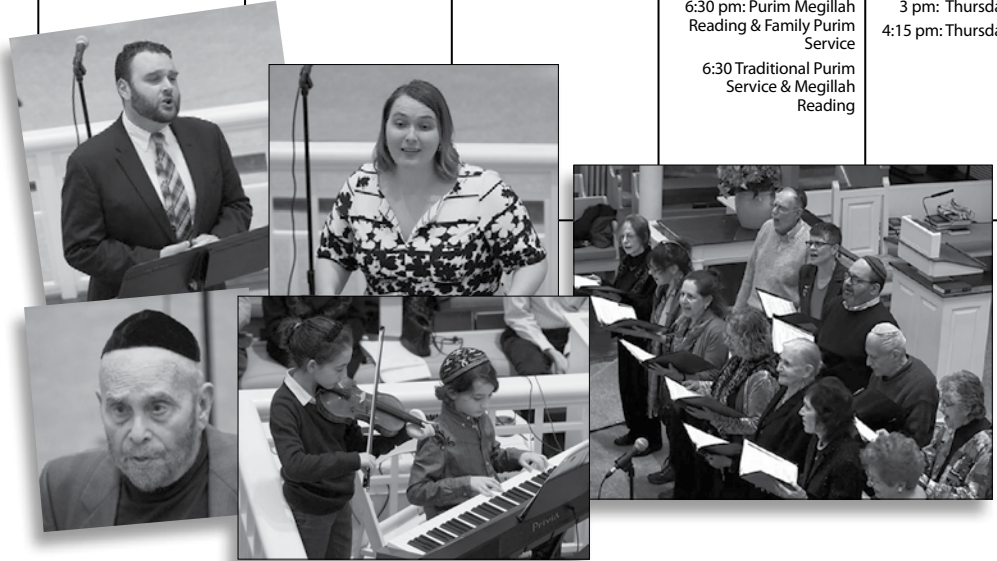


Shevat Adar 5778  
February 2018

☆ Saturday Mornings

Shabbat Corner 9:45 am / Junior Congregation 10:30 am / Alef-Bet Club 11 am

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 9:30 am: Tikvah 11 am: Volunteer with The Hunger Van Project	29 11:30 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 7 pm: Prayerbook Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events	30 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English in Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!	31 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: The Art of the Shaliach Tzibur on Erev Shabbat 7 pm: Streets of Tel Aviv  <b>TU B'SHEVAT</b>	1 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner Section 2	2 4:57 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services 7:30 pm: Shabbaton Dinner & Speaker	3 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Caroline Taylor 9:30: Torah Talk 1 pm: Rabbi Judith Edelstein 2:15 pm: Spiritual Yoga 4 pm: Terrific Toddler Time  <b>YITRO</b>
4 9:30 am: Tikvah	5 11:30 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 7 pm: Prayerbook Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events	6 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English in Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!	7 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: The Art of the Shaliach Tzibur on Erev Shabbat 7 pm: Streets of Tel Aviv	8 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner Section 2	9 5:05 pm: Candles 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat up to age 3 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat ages 3-6 6:30 pm: Family Shabbat Grades 2-7 6:30 pm: Services	10 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Mae Nueman  <b>MISHPATIM</b>
11 9:30 am: Tikvah 4:30 pm: Brotherhood Film Series: A Lens on Israel	12 11:30 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 7 pm: Prayerbook Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events	13 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English in Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 1 pm: Hadassah Meeting 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!	14 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: The Art of the Shaliach Tzibur on Erev Shabbat 7 pm: Streets of Tel Aviv	15 7:30 am: Minyan 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner Section 2 7 pm: Brotherhood Book Club  <b>ROSH CHODESH</b>	16 5:14 pm: Candles 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat up to age 3 6:30 pm: Services	17 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Alana Falter 1 pm: Shabbat Club  <b>BO</b>
18	19 <b>PRESIDENTS DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	20 10 am: English in Action 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!	21 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class Noon: Interfaith Bible Study	22 Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action	23 5:22 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services	24 ☆ 9:30 am: Services  <b>BESHALACH</b>
<b>PRESIDENTS' WEEK VACATION - SCHOOLS CLOSED</b>						
25 11 am: Children's Purim Carnival	26 11:30 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 7 pm: Prayerbook Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events	27 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English in Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!	28 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class Noon: Interfaith Bible Study 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Purim Puppet Show 6:30 pm: Purim Megillah Reading & Family Purim Service 6:30 Traditional Purim Service & Megillah Reading	1 7:30 am: Purim Services & Megillah Reading 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner Section 2	2 4:57 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services	3 ☆ 9:30 am: Services  <b>KITISSA</b>



Brotherhood's Holiday Concert, held in early December, was sheer delight! All of our performers from youngest to oldest gave us a musical evening to remember!