



# Brotherhood Synagogue ביה

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Tevet / Shevat 5778 January 2018

## O Jerusalem

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

Three times a day, Jews traditionally recite the prayer, “To Jerusalem Your city, may You return in compassion, and may You dwell in it as You promised... Blessed are You, Lord, who builds Jerusalem.” On Sunday, January 21 from 10:00 am until noon at the Brotherhood Synagogue, we will have the opportunity to build the city of Jerusalem “one Lego brick at a time!” The Old City will come alive on a 20 foot by 20 foot drawing complete with the Walls, the eight gates to the city, the Western Wall, King David’s Tower, the Temple, and other important landmarks.

The real city of Jerusalem has been much in the news lately with President Trump’s recognition of her as the capital of Israel and his pledge to move the American embassy there from Tel Aviv. Certainly, in terms of fairness, Jerusalem has long been the heart of Israel and the Jewish people for 3,000 years, and should be recognized as the capital of the Jewish state. No other country has its capital questioned by the rest of the world.

Among the many vanquished capital cities of the ancient world, only Jerusalem survived in the imagination of her exiles and in that of their descendants from generation to generation. The Jews had taken her memory with them into exile, as well as her Torah. As they wandered from land to land, they remained stubbornly a people of Jerusalem (in the words of the Psalms):

If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning.

If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth; if I prefer not Jerusalem above my chief joy.

Jerusalem, explains the Israeli writer Amos Elon, became their great Capital of Memory. Memory gave them their culture and identity. The Jews never forgot Jerusalem. Under the iron skies of northern Europe, the Jewish festivals remained tied to the seasons of the city. Passover and Yom Kippur services ended with the exhortation “Next year in Jerusalem.” For centuries, Jews turned in prayer toward Jerusalem three times a day.

Those unable to go on pilgrimage to Jerusalem were assured by the Jewish sages that

through piety and prayer they were “building Jerusalem daily.” One adds a row, “another only a brick. When Jerusalem is completed redemption will come.” The rabbis developed elaborate rules and rituals to keep Jerusalem alive in the memory of her exiles. No home was to be without a *zecher lakhurban* (reminder of the destruction)—that is, a piece of wall left unfinished or without paint, and a plaque, often with a sketch of the Western Wall, indicating the direction of prayer.

As the centuries passed, the attachment of Jews to Jerusalem became a compelling bond. Without this mystic lure, they and their religion might not have survived. Jerusalem was there every day of the week, every Shabbat, and every holiday, in every religious rite and prayer, morning, noon, and night. No matter where in the world Jews found themselves, they invoked the memory of Jerusalem—when completing a meal, when marrying, when a child was born, when somebody died and was buried.

The Jewish dispersion was a spiritual empire with Jerusalem as its capital. Jews turned to her in prayer and song, and even as they became assimilated to the ways of the Greeks, the Arabs, the Spaniards, or the Germans, they did not forget her. In czarist Russia, in North Africa, or in the farthest corner of Iran, they remained residents of an imaginary Jerusalem through their rituals.

Samuel Joseph Agnon, whose modern Hebrew novels echo the life and death of Eastern European Jewry, expressed a kind of transcendental truth when he said in his speech accepting the 1966 Nobel Prize in literature: “Through a historical catastrophe—the destruction of Jerusalem by the empire of Rome... I was born in one of the cities of the diaspora. But I always deemed myself as one who was really born in Jerusalem.”

In the Jewish tradition, Jerusalem came to be almost synonymous with the Jewish people. Modern Jewish nationalism took its name from Zion, a synonym for Jerusalem. The early Zionist hymn “Hatikva” (“The Hope”), today Israel’s national anthem, speaks neither of Jewry nor of Israel but of the “hope to be a free people in the land of Zion and Jerusalem.”

## Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 9:30 AM  
*Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Wagener*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 9:30 AM  
*B’nai Mitzvah of  
Alexa and Philip Von Mueffling*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 6:30 PM  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 9:30 AM

## Adult Education Winter 2018 Announcement

Beat the winter chills by warming up to a good Jewish study course filled with conversation and camaraderie.



Several new classes have been added this semester so check out the enclosed brochure or the Adult Ed page on the Brotherhood website <http://brotherhoodsynagogue.org/adult-education.html> for descriptions!



Classes begin the week of January 22

## My Two Cents

by Daniel Rovin, Brotherhood Youth Group Leader & Educator

My name is Daniel Rovin and I am the youth group director here at the synagogue. We started our program last year and, for such a fledgling program, were very encouraged by the number of participants we had throughout the year. As a new program, one of our biggest issues has been not only that a lot of our synagogue might not be aware of the program in general, but are unaware of what the purpose of a youth group is. Not surprisingly, the majority of our children that have been participating (and loving it!) have parents who participated in a youth group themselves. Youth Group is simply a way to build a community of young adults and future leaders at our synagogue. The idea is that if we can keep them in the community with a group of their peers, then in maturity they can continue our traditions and pass it along to their children like their parents had passed to them.

Currently, we have a 6th-7th grade group called 'Shemesh' which in Hebrew means 'Sun'. The name signifies that our youth should be what our congregation revolves around, and not only that, but that they are a bright light at the center of our community. Our 6th grade group meets for an hour every Wednesday after Hebrew School, and our 7th grade group every Tuesday. We do around one event per month outside of the synagogue including things like bowling, laser tag and Sky Zone.

The idea behind that group is that it will transition into an 8-12th grade group. Once they turn into an older high school group, there will be more opportunities to do educational programming and charity work within the community. We are also working on a culminating trip to Israel with the high school group down the pipeline. We currently have some of our high school aged youth participating in a BBYO group with another synagogue downtown, but we certainly have

the numbers to have our own group in the near future. If you are a parent of a high school student reading this, please get in contact with me to see what opportunities are available for your child.

As for me, since some of you might not know much about who I am, I came to Brotherhood last year and teach Hebrew, B'nai Mitzvah lessons, and 1st Grade. I was born here in NYC, but grew up in Greenville, SC where every summer I attended Camp Ramah Darom! My passion outside of Judaism is music (unless you ask my girlfriend Rebecca, she will tell you it's sports) and I own and operate a recording studio in midtown. I started the youth group at my synagogue in Greenville when I was in high school, where we had every single kid our age (about 15) participate and won chapter of the year in USY because we had so much ruach! That is the kind of spirit that I want to instill in the youth here at The Brotherhood. I have grown very close to so many of them through the group and teaching, that I know we can build something special.

The Synagogue led by our liaison Judy Shapiro has been nothing but supportive of the program, as have a lot of parents that are aware of what we're trying to do. What I'm asking you now is if you have a child in 6-12th grade, please reach out to me! I know you might have thousands of questions about youth group especially if you never participated in one, and I am available to hopefully have thousands of answers. I know children are very busy as well especially in NYC, but even if your child can only participate in one event per year that's totally fine. Please do not hesitate to e-mail me at [thebrotherhoodyouth@gmail.com](mailto:thebrotherhoodyouth@gmail.com) with any questions or suggestions you might have.

Thank you all and I hope to see some new faces in youth group in the coming weeks! 🌈

## Shabbat Club

**Saturday, January 13, 1:00 pm**

Our topic for the **January 13** meeting will be the *My Faith / Your Faith* organization, which is open to teens in grades 8 - 12 from diverse faith communities in the New York City area. Participants teach each other about their traditions, attend religious services at houses of worship, observe home rituals at each others' homes, and engage in social justice projects together. The major goals of the program are encouraging religious understanding and building friendship among the involved communities across lines of religious difference.

**Phil Rothman** will be the discussion leader and **students participating in *My Faith/Your Faith*** will also attend and share their thoughts about the program. We will meet in the reception room opposite the sanctuary. Light snacks and beverages will be served. All are welcome to attend—all ages, including teenagers and parents.

On February 17, we will have a workshop for tolerance. **Moshe Berlin**, our guide, will lead us in a discussion of the dangers of intolerance, including BDS and anti-Semitism. He has studied the psychology and group dynamics of hatred.

## A Note from Development

### Estate Planning Seminar and Planned Giving Society

Last month's Estate Planning Seminar, held on Sunday, December 3rd, was received with unanimously positive reviews from all participants! More than 40 people attended the Sunday morning brunch session to learn about such topics as estate planning, charitable giving and taxes from our presenters, Joe Goldgrab and Tamara Telesko—both experts from TIAA. The event was so successful that we plan to offer another one in the new year, perhaps on a weekday evening.

The seminar opened with the official announcement of the Brotherhood Synagogue's first-ever Planned Giving Society. We were honored to have the Block family's imprimatur on naming the Society *The Irving J. Block Legacy Society* after our beloved founding Rabbi. The Society will include individuals who name the Brotherhood Synagogue in their estate plans (wills, beneficiaries of life insurance policies, IRA distributions, savings, checking or brokerage accounts, as examples). There will also be an annual recognition event for Society members. Brochures with further information about the Society are available from our office and we plan to do a general mailing about the Society to our members later this month. Please contact me at 212-674-5750 or [mstrozak@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:mstrozak@brotherhoodsynagogue.org) if you are interested in either attending an Estate Planning Seminar or in becoming a charter member of *The Irving J. Block Legacy Society*.

—Marilyn Strozak, Director of Development 🌈

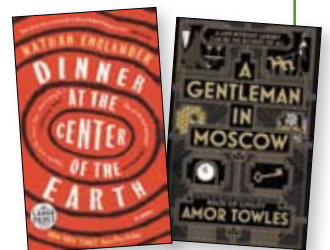
## Brotherhood Book Club

**Thursday, January 18, 7:00 pm**

Susan Franklin will lead a discussion of Nathan Englander's *Dinner at the Center of the Earth*.

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!



## SAVE THE DATE!

Calling all Brotherhood kids, families and LEGO-loving adults!

# LEGO® – JERUSALEM !!

Sunday, January 21, 10 am SHARP !! – 12 noon

Join us as we build the Old City of Jerusalem LEGO by LEGO, using 70,000 lego blocks (!!) at this family fun day at Brotherhood with the Building Blocks Workshop!



Cost: \$15/family \$10/individual • Bagels, juice will be served.

PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE!

To register, visit the website calendar, or click on the link in the weekly email.

## Volunteer with The Hunger Van Project at Brotherhood!

Sunday, January 28, 11:00 am-12:30 pm



The Interfaith Committee and the Social Action Committee invite Brotherhood families and individuals to volunteer to fight against hunger on Sunday, January 28 at 11:00 am when Brotherhood will again host **The Hunger Van**, a project run by *Muslims Against Hunger*.

Volunteers will work together to prepare sandwiches and salads for distribution by *The Hunger Van* to the needy at NYC locations.

Please rsvp to Roberta ([rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue](mailto:rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue)) or call the office to rsvp 212.674.5750 by Tuesday, January 23 since we need a final count of volunteers! In addition, a contribution of **\$20 per individual adult or \$30 per family** is recommended in order to help defray the costs of the food.

## 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. In this "mini-course," Dr. Eric Goldman will examine the changing nature of Israeli society as reflected through its cinema. We will view and discuss multiple clips in January and March and screen the full length film, *Late Summer Blues* (1987) in February.

### Thursday, January 25 • 7:00 pm BUILDING A STATE

Sunday, February 11 • 4:30 pm

### THE MIDDLE YEARS

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."*

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

# Happenings in Our Kehilah

## B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

**Gebhard Wagener** and **Laurie Schulwolf** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Benjamin Wagener**. Ben, a student at Eastside Middle School, will celebrate his simcha with his younger sister, **Anna**.

**Jessica Balaban** on the B'nai Mitzvah of her daughter and son, **Alexa** and **Philip Von Mueffling**. Alexa and Philip are students at the Heschel School.

## Births, Mazal Tov to:

**Millie** and **Alan Fell** on the birth of their grandson, **Lucas Fell**, born to **Jackie** and **Jonathan Fell**.

**Norman Borden** and **Ann Schwartz** on the birth of their grandson, **Nathaniel Ray Borden**, born to **Rachel Henes** and **Matthew Borden**.

## Condolences to:

**Brenda Berman** on the passing of her mother, **Ruth Mendlowitz**.

**Edna Greenbaum**, on the passing of her husband, and our Honorary Trustee, **Arthur Greenbaum**.

**Ilene Wilets** on the passing of her brother, **Arthur Wilets**.

**Gregg Rubin** on the passing of his mother, **Myriam Rubin**.

**Sherry Davis** on the passing of her father, **Merle Davis**.

**Sylvia Fendel Rosenbach** on the passing of her son, **Bruce Fendell**.

**Alyson Fendel Breier** on the passing of her brother, **Bruce Fendell**.

## Welcome New Members:

Welcome to **Gabrielle Lang** of the Upper East Side. Gabrielle is an attorney.

**Joshua Moskovitz** and **Charlotte Noorollah** and their daughter, **Ellie**, live in Murray Hill. Joshua is an emergency physician with Jacobi Medical Center and Charlotte is a dermatologist with Brooklyn Dermatology.

**Andrew** and **Sarah Kessler** of Flatiron are expecting a baby boy soon. Andrew is the CEO of Turbo Dog Productions and Warsaw Blumenthal. Sarah is an accountant for a financial investment firm.

**Kurt** and **Rachel Enger** of the Upper West Side are both freelance filmmakers who love to collaborate together. They have a daughter, **Charlotte**, who just turned 1 and are expecting their second child this winter.

Welcome to **Steven Blush** and **Alyssa Fisher** of Greenwich Village. Steven is a writer and Alyssa works in technology management with Bloomberg. Their daughter, **Jackie**, attends PS 41 and Brotherhood's Hebrew School.

**Evan Lynn** and **Marlisa Popper** reside in Murray Hill. Evan is an endodontist and Marlisa is a prosthodontist. They have two children, **Ethan** and **Spencer**, who both attend PS 116 and our Hebrew School.

Welcome to **Jed** and **Lauren Garfunkel** of Flatiron. Jed is a project manager at a local law firm and Lauren works part-time as a group facilitator for new moms. They have a son, **Levon**.

**Arnold** and **Marion Schwartzberg** of Peter Cooper Village are both retired. They have a grown daughter, **Ronni**.

Welcome to **Russ** and **Emily Shattan** and their 7 month old son, **Wyatt**. They live in Chelsea. Russ works in investments at MCR, a real estate firm, and Emily is in brand marketing at Denihan Hospitality, a hotel company.

**Jared** and **Mindy Epstein** reside in Chelsea. Jared is a principal at Aurora Capital Associates, a developer of real estate with a

*Continued on page 6.*

## Social Action



### Project Cicero During the Month of February

During the entire month of February we will be collecting new and gently used books for under-resourced NYC schools. Stay tuned to weekly emails and announcements for more about Project Cicero.



Thanks to all who participated in the **DOROT Thanksgiving Deliveries and Visits** with seniors the weekend before Thanksgiving and to all who participated in our visit to the **Hebrew Home in Riverdale** on Sunday, December 3—the spirit of Brotherhood was truly amazing at both these volunteer events!

## Hadassah Meetings

**Tuesday, January 16, 1:00 pm**

Please join us for our monthly meeting when our speaker will be **Rabbi Daniel Alder**.

**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!**

## The Chesed\* Committee WANTS YOU TO KNOW

In a joint project with the Social Action Committee, we can offer rides to local area cemeteries for members who wish to visit the grave of a loved one around the time of a *yahrzeit*. (This is in addition to the long-standing program that provides such rides around the time of the High Holidays.) To make arrangements, please contact Manda in the synagogue office (212.674.5750 or at [mbegardt@brotherhoodsynagogue.org](mailto:mbegardt@brotherhoodsynagogue.org)).

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

## President's Post

by Trudi Rae Bartow

In the retail world, January is known as the “new year new you” promotional month. This is the time of year when companies put out their best products featuring buzz words like “detox,” “cleanse,” “fresh start,” and “new beginnings.” When the last drop of eggnog is consumed and the final latkes devoured, we look at ourselves in the mirror and construct our resolutions. It is no surprise that the number one resolution year after year is to lose weight. Now I’m not going to talk about calories in versus calories out in this column but I would like to focus on losing 5 pounds of spiritual stress weight. Spiritual stress weight is what I consider all the guilt that goes into things left undone the previous year in your religious life.

Did you remember to give to the annual fund this year? Light candles each night of Chanukah, or shake the lulav during Sukkot? If not, that’s the equivalent of eating at least a half dozen calorie-dense Krispy Kreme donuts. Didn’t make as many Shabbat services as you wanted to? (The snooze button is very tempting on Saturday.) That’s a whole extra slice of chocolate cake. Forgot to bring in those canned foods or children’s books to one of the Social Action committee drives? That’s at least 3 liters of regular soda right on your soul. But what’s the remedy...? You exercise the soul the same way you exercise your body. Attend a service, join the minyan on Tuesday afternoons, give financial support, volunteer, or attend at any of the programs your favorite Brotherhood Synagogue committees sponsor including Chesed, Social Action, Interfaith, Israel or help out at our Homeless Shelter, Tikvah Program, or so many more that need your help and presence.

I wish you all only happiness and health in the new year and I’ll see you around the Synagogue where we all can work to burn those spiritual calories and get back into shape for 2018! 🌊

The 35th season of Brotherhood Synagogue’s homeless shelter runs through March 27 on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings. We will have 8 male guests each night. **Donations of new socks, underwear, scarves, hats, and gloves would be most appreciated.** A variety of volunteer opportunities are available. It is a heartening, rewarding and hands-on opportunity to do good. If you are able to volunteer, please call our office at 212.674.5750. Thank you.



## YAHREZEITS

^Garden of Remembrance \*Book of Remembrance

### January 6 - 12

^Tessie Adler, Isaac Alhadeff, Fred Bayroff, Jessie Zera Benardete, ^Frances Berger, Phyllis Block, \*Philip Block, Galina Bronshteyn, Rae Brumberg, ^Roberta Cummings, \*Julius Dolitsky, \*Meyer Ellenbogen, \*Ben Farland, Beatrice Feder, \*Fannie Feldman, Yale Fendel, \*Rachel Finebaum, Lisa Fisher, ^Shaynii K. Gadsden, Ansel Garfin, ^Mark Geller, \*Vicki Germaine, Abraham Glasser, George Goldberg, ^\*H. Mark Goldschlag, ^Jerome Goldstein, ^Roger Gomby, \*Minnie Gross, ^\*Daniel Halpern, \*Sarah Handler, ^Yaakov Michele Hirsch, \*George Hirschfeld, Neil Kaplan, \*Edith R. Karban, \*Charlotte Chernoble Klein, ^Leon Krentzman, Estelle Lasser, Isaias Lerner, Jeanne Levine, Ruth Lewis, Isidore Marke, Marie Myhrberg-Blomgren, Esther Nirenberg, Shirley Pearlstein, \*Murray Pfeffer, Hannah Pressman, Lawrence Raizman, \*Leroy S. Rosenbaum, Yita Chaya Royardo, Sylvia Rubinstein, Charlotte Hope Saltzman, Sophia Savits, Isidore Schneider, ^Charles D. Seeman, Sandy Seidman, ^Abba Settle, Pauline Shapiro, ^Theresa Rena Sidran, Julian Silbiger, Edward L. Silverstein, Stanley Simon, Miriam B. Singer, Barry N. Spilkin, ^Rose Strong, ^Evelyn K. Sussman, Larry Toporek, ^William Tudor, ^Samuel A. Valentine, \*Samuel Warfman, ^William Warmbrand, ^\*Celia L. Warmbrand, ^Phyllis Weinstein, Melvin A. Wool, Marc Zeitlin

### January 13 - 19

Lazar Agababayev, \*Herman Alshan, ^Harold Altman, Molly Baron, ^Cylka Berke, \*Henry Biegeleisen, Belle Cassar, Nathan Cheshes, \*Beatrice Chizner, ^Beth Cosnow, ^May Lipton Cummins, ^Louis Diamond, ^Mary Diamond, \*Benjamin Dymm, Milton M. Enzer, ^E. Joyce Feitell, \*George Fraenkel, Paula Franklin, \*Rabbi Moses Fried, \*Hanie Friedman, Pearl Goldfinger, ^Joseph D. Goldreich, \*Irving Goodman, Ilse Jacobson Henry, ^Sophie Hoffman, \*Bessie Honig, Goldy Hushansky, \*Aaron Bernard Israel, Jack Kasman, Deborah Larkin, Arthur Levitz, Joel Levitz, Ralph Lusskin, \*Gilbert Naftalis, \*Florence Newfield, William Pukatch, Gertrude Riff, ^Howard Topol Roberts, \*Belle Robinove, Dr. Thomas Robitscher, Schiffy Rosenblum, ^Henry Rosenblum, ^Natalie Simon Rosenfeld, Ullman Rosenfield, \*Harry Satosky, \*Isabelle P. Schechter, Milton Schupak, Frances Schwartzberg, ^Jeannette Mildred Seinfeld, Lily Seregi, George Silver, Hyman Slotnick, Irma Louise Spitzer, ^Sari Orovan Steiner, Nathan Tucker, \*Isaac Versh, ^Maurice Volk, ^Gertrude Weiner, Louis Jeffery Wolfson, Jimmie Yee, \*Joseph Zalkind

### January 20 - 26

^Mary Abbey, ^Rose Alster, Blume Alter, ^Barbara Altman, Jossie Barcelona, ^Pauline Birnbach, Abraham Block, ^Alice Blumenthal, \*Edward H. Breiterman, Barbara Brooks, Morris Brown, Sidney Burack, Ira Cirker, \*Herman Cohen, Bertha Cooperman, David Fener, ^Irvin Fisher, ^Jennie Fox, \*Faye Frankel, Morris Friedman, ^Charles Samuel Ginsburg, Sophie Gipsman, ^Rose Schlamowitz Glass, ^Liza Gleizer, Harold H. Goldberg, ^Gertrude Goldschmidt,

Marty Goldstone, Anna Gottlieb, ^\*Sabina Graetzer, ^Henrietta P. Green, Julia Greenbaum, Norman Halper, ^Yetta Halpern, Ilse Hammerstein, \*Lillian R. Hayt, Esther Ir, Jean Iskowitz, ^Joseph Israel, ^David Janow, ^Lawrence Janow, ^Cecelia Josselson, ^Philip Kimmel, Lee Kohn, \*Bea Kramer, Clarice Lefkowitz, \*Beatrice Levine, ^Barney Levine, Elayne Lieberman, \*Sidney Liebowitz, Aaron Machlin, \*Joseph Meyers, Susan Miller, ^Jean Miller, ^Solomon Novom, \*Frieda Pearl, \*Herbert Plaut, \*Eva Posner Post, Phillip Raffae, Frieda Rauch, Edward Renstrom, Irving Rubenstein, Koula Saba, \*Monroe I. Schechter, ^George Schwartz, Henry Sellner, Ruth Share, Ronald Shiffman, \*Adam Siegal, ^David Milton Solomon, ^Lena Steinberg, Leo Teviovitz, \*Bea Topal, ^Honor Hess Ward, Seymour Weinstein, ^Solomon Yaker, Rachel Leah Zacks

### January 27 - February 2

Sasson Abada, ^Dr. Bernat Abraham, ^Ruth Appelbaum, Beatrice Babitz, \*Lilian Bachrach, Clara S. Benjamin, Lee Blaymore, Siegfried Blum, \*Temma H. Bohrer, \*Abraham Chizner, Claire Klaitz Cohen, Lorraine Cohen, \*Helen Elkin, ^Cyril Freed, Ethel Gostin, Solomon Greenberg, \*Fred Greenberg\*, ^\*Daniel Franklin Greenhouse, Ben Gross, \*Rose Gross, ^\*Louis Gross, Sally Grossman, ^Irving Handler, Joseph Hardenburgh, Fritz Herz, ^Dora Jaffe, \*Moshe Josephson, \*Rose Katz, Charlotte Beldegreen Kaufman, ^Jennie G. Klein, Ephriam Komar, Betty Lampert, Rose Levine, Morris Levine, Martin Licht, Alice Lichter, Sarah Liebowitz, Florence Liebowitz, Hyman Lipkis, Frieda Belkowitz Maloff, Lawrence Maloff, Lillian Manischewitz, ^Ruth Weichman Mantel, Mollie Meadow, Isidore Olsfanger, Dov Rahav, ^Michael Remba, ^Rose Schindel Rich, Rabbi Andrew J. Robins, ^Lillian Roniss, ^Stanley Rosenthal, ^Philip Satonoff, Selma Schechter, Jack Schor, Brenda Silver, Robert Silverman, ^Fritz A. Sontag, ^Rose Stopler, ^Rose Teitelbaum, Alice Teviovitz, \*Augusta Toby, Helene Vassil, ^Alice E. Warfman, ^\*Jonas Weintraub, David Weissman, \*Ida Robinove Weller, ^\*Leo E. Williams, Murray Zenkel

## 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

## Life Goes On

We had a great time at Brotherhood's Holiday Concert on Sunday, December 10! We were even able to give Cantor Yager another round of applause when he came upstairs to his office just following the concert! After the music, we gathered in Brotherhood's library for our annual Chanukah/Holiday party and meal, complete with Chanukah Harry (Secret Santa) exchanges, our annual custom!

Our January LGO Book Club meeting will be on Monday, January 22 at 7:00 pm and we will be reading Jennifer Egan's *Manhattan Beach*. As usual, NYU Professor Margaret Birns will guide our discussion and wine and desserts will be served. **Please remember you must RSVP if you plan to attend to Brenda Pace (Bapace172@gmail.com) or Ellen Kenigsberg (ellensken14@gmail.com) or call Brenda at 212.982.3131. The cost of participation is \$20 per person which is nonrefundable if you cancel within 48 hours.**

Our January event will take place on **Thursday, January 25**. We will meet at the synagogue (in the library on the 4th floor) at 5:30 pm

and enjoy dinner a together and, just following, at 7:00 pm, we will attend the lecture and screening to be given by Professor Eric Goldman at Brotherhood. This is the first session of the **Brotherhood Film Series 2018: A Lens on Israel: A Society Through Its Cinema**. Cost to attend the lecture/screening: \$10 payable at the door. Cost of the dinner TBD. **Please RSVP to Brenda Pace Bapace172@gmail.com or call her (212.982.3131) by NO LATER than Monday, January 22 if you will be joining us for dinner.** Otherwise, we hope you will join our group for the lecture/screening.

*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. 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, call Roberta in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750. ~

HAPPENINGS, continued from page 4

vast portfolio in downtown Manhattan. Mindy is a full-time mother. They reside in Chelsea with their 16 month old son **Jagger**, a blind 10 year puggle named Madison, and will be welcoming another boy who is set to arrive this month.

**Alexander Wolfman** lives in Tribeca and works at Avenue Capital Group. He has a daughter, **Bailey**, and a son, **Wyatt**. Bailey is 10 years old and is enrolled in our Hebrew School. Wyatt is 13 years old. They both currently attend LREI. The Wolfman's look forward to re-establishing a connection with the Brotherhood community (Alexander had his Bar Mitzvah here).

**Matt and Jessica Weiler** reside in Chelsea and have a son, **Jack**, who is almost two years old. Matt is the VP of Finance at Glossier and Jessica is the social worker at Achievement First Brooklyn High School. ~

## Hebrew School News

The Hebrew word for education is **חינוך** (*Chinukh*). It has the same Hebrew root (**חנכ**) as the festival of Chanukah (**חנוכה**). Since Chanukah means "dedication" one may reasonably draw the conclusion that in order to become educated, one must be *dedicated* to learning. Known as "People of the Book," we value education. As Jewish parents we are instructed to teach our children—as set forth in the *V'Ahavta*. "And these words, which I command you this day, you shall take to heart. Teach them diligently, to your children, recite them at home and away, night and day. Bind them as a sign upon your hand, and as a reminder above your eyes. Inscribe them upon the doorposts of your homes and upon your gates [that you may remember and do all of G-d's commandments]" (Deut. 6:6-9).

To fulfill the mitzvah of educating our children, we turn to the synagogue and its teachers. Here, at Brotherhood Synagogue, Rabbi Alder is teacher to all. This month Rabbi Alder will be visiting our Hebrew School classes. He and the children will engage in enlightening Q & A sessions. In preparation for the Rabbi's visits, students in Gan (Kindergarten) through Kitah Zayin (7th Grade) are developing a list of "Ask the Rabbi" questions.

### Questions about "being a Rabbi" have included:

What does a rabbi do? Is it fun to be a rabbi? Who teaches the rabbi? Who was the first rabbi?



Did you always want to be a rabbi? Why did you become a rabbi? Were your parents supportive of your decision to be a rabbi? How does one become a rabbi? What is it like being a rabbi? Did you have another profession before you became a rabbi? How do you feel when you officiate at a Bar/Bat Mitzvah? Who inspires you in your work as a rabbi?

**G-d Questions:** What does G-d look like? Who made G-d? How do we know that G-d exists? How did G-d make the world? Why can't you see G-d? How come you can't hear G-d?

### Questions about our Traditions:

What is the point of Judaism? Why do Jewish boys/men wear a kippah?

To be a good Jew, which is the most important commandment to follow?

Why does the Eternal Light burn forever?

### Torah Questions:

Who wrote the Torah? How many letters are there in the Torah? [304,805]

How many words are there in the Torah? [79,847] Why are there so many Torahs in the Aron HaKodesh (the Holy Ark)? Since there are so many Torahs in the Aron HaKodesh, how do you decide which Torah to read from? Why do we read the Torah over and over and over again (every year)?

How many words are there in the Book of Genesis? How many words are there in the Book of Exodus?

How does it feel marching around the synagogue holding a Torah? What is the Hebrew word for the profession of writing Torahs? How long was a day during the six days of Creation? Did Cain have children? Why did Pharaoh want to kill only the Jewish boy babies? (and not the Jewish girl babies)?

### Holiday Questions:

What's your favorite holiday & why? Why do parents bless their children on Shabbat?

### Questions about the Hebrew Language:

Where did the Hebrew Language come from? Why does Hebrew have "final letters"?

Through their inquiries & Rabbi Alder's replies, our Hebrew School children not only learn, but teach and inspire us as well. The Babylonian Talmud got it right! "Much I have learned from my teachers, more from my peers, but most of all from my students." (Babylonian Talmud, Ta'anit 7a)

—Barbara Simon,  
Hebrew School Principal ~

## Nursery School Thoughts

by Marla Gabay

Brotherhood wears many different hats for us. It's the place where our eldest daughter went to nursery school and all the firsts that entailed. It's the place where our son had his bris and afterward he and I hid in the small room on the second floor while everyone was celebrating downstairs. It's a place we come to pray and reflect, maybe not as often as we'd like. It's the place our children go to Hebrew school, sometimes much more than they'd like. It has been a place of a million firsts for us. This year, as our youngest daughter enters the Yellow Room every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, it is no less meaningful or captivating as it was almost 8 years ago. The feeling walking into the nursery school is so unique, warm and special. Already Nina walks in chest high, so proud that she is going to her school, her Brotherhood. To watch her take ownership of the place in which we all have, at different moments in our lives, brings such hope. Hope of a warm loving community. If something falls on the floor, she will pick it up because this is her school.

If a friend is having trouble getting out of the stroller in the morning, she will wait for them to walk together because this is her classmate. To have the chance to learn in this microcosm is so special because it builds her confidence to take this knowledge and apply it to the greater community around her. New York City is the perfect place to practice Judaism's most fundamental acts. Giving and doing acts of tzedakah is not just our right and privilege, it is our duty and honor. We already see her mind working in this way. Along with wanting to do everything herself, except maybe wipe her bottom, she's already reaching out in the community. When a neighbor was sick, she made him a sticker filled card to go along with the knishes her big sister made for him. When an elderly woman on the street needed help making it those last few steps to her doorstep, Nina held my hand as I held the woman's. We are so grateful to the nursery school for helping us instill in our children that there is a larger loving community out there that needs us and we need too. ~



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

Friday, January 12

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

Friday, January 26

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

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

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

## ♪ Cantor's Notes ♪

by Cantor Isaac Yager

It is fair to say that the Jewish people have a complex history. We have suffered, triumphed, and have always searched for religious clarity. Fundamentally, the musical bodies of work that we have produced as a people, whether they are liturgically oriented or culturally motivated, have always been generated in response to the circumstances of the time in which they were produced, and reflective of our own intricate existence. In times of spiritual necessity, music has the ability to alleviate the disheartened and provide comfort, relief, and transparency.

Abraham Goldfaden (1840-1908) understood this concept. Attributed as one of the founding fathers of Yiddish theater, Goldfaden sought to utilize familiar Jewish folk music (presented dramatically) as a means of strengthening the spiritual development of his Eastern European Jewish community. Recognizing that there was an inherent need at the time among Jews for greater connections to divine understanding and sustenance, Goldfaden used well-known folk melodies (and dramatic stories) as a means to educate his community and provide a more tangible relationship to Jewish traditions and beliefs. The presentation of culturally familiar Jewish music, embedded within a compelling storyline, enabled Gold-

faden to tap into the hearts and minds of his audience and help them reaffirm their connections to Jewish thought and practice. Furthermore, as seems to be the pattern according to the timeline of Jewish music, Goldfaden's application of recognizable folk melodies paralleled the needs of the Yiddish speaking community at large looking to more easily retrieve and take pride in their Jewish identities.

Ultimately, not much has changed in more contemporary times. When we examine the Jewish music that emerged after the creation of the state of Israel, we are able to recognize this same model of music attempting to meet the needs of an evolving Jewish/Israeli identity. The innovative application of Modern Hebrew lyrics is a prime example of Jewish composers seeking to acknowledge and respect the emergence of a new Jewish identity in a post-Holocaust world. Yiddish, chiefly used in Jewish folk and popular music up until that point, had become the language associated with Jewish persecution in the aftermath of the war. With the establishment of a new Jewish state, Jewish composers sought to use music as a tool of reinvention. The integration of the Modern Hebrew language into songs was a symbolic gesture of a new national pride. The circumstances of this time period demanded a new

visible strength and a projection of this resilience to both the world and Jews alike. Modern Hebrew was now the language of the young nation of Israel. Consequently, it was imperative that Jewish music be able to tap into this energy and reclaim Hebrew as the language of a newly empowered people.

Even when we examine the popular Israeli music of today, this same pattern emerges. Today, being religious, or at least attempting to reconnect with individual Jewish spirituality, has become trendy. Recognizing this desire (especially among young individuals hovering between secularity and religious curiosity), contemporary Jewish and Israeli pop musicians understand how to make religiously themed music decisively fresh. As history demonstrates, Jewish music continuously meets the demand of its time. For today's Jewish youth who are attracted to the idea and practices of Judaism, but who also require its content set against a catchy hip-hop beat, today's modern Jewish music scene fits the bill. As always, Jewish music is a constant and ever-changing reflection of the evolving needs of its people. This definition of Jewish music will certainly be applicable for the foreseeable future. After all, Jewish music is rooted in adaptation, and there is no future without adaptation. ~

# Brotherhood Synagogue



Tevet / Shevat 5778  
January 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   |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| 31  | 1  | 2<br>4 pm: Hebrew School<br>5:40 pm: Minyan   | 3<br>4 pm: Hebrew School  | 4<br>Noon: Lunch and Learn   | 5<br>4:25 pm: Candles<br>6:30 pm: Services   | 6 ☆<br>9:30 am: Services<br><br><b>SHEMOT</b>  |
| 7<br>9:30 am: Tikvah  | 8<br>Nursery School Resumes<br>4 pm: Hebrew School   | 9<br>10 am: English in Action<br>5:40 pm: Minyan<br>4 pm: Hebrew School   | 10<br>4 pm: Hebrew School   | 11<br>Noon: Lunch and Learn<br>2 pm: English in Action<br>8 pm: The Band's Visit (offsite)   | 12<br>4:32 pm: Candles<br>5:30 pm: Family Shabbat up to age 3<br>6:30 pm: Services   | 13 ☆<br>9:30 am: Services<br>Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Wagener<br>1 pm: Shabbat Club<br><br><b>VAERA</b> |
| 14<br>9:30 am: Tikvah   | 15<br><br><b>MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY</b>   | 16<br>9:30 am: Toddler Class<br>10 am: English in Action<br>10:45 am: Toddler Class<br>1 pm: Hadassah Meeting<br>4 pm: Hebrew School<br>5:40 pm: Minyan | 17<br>10 am: Pre-Toddler Class<br>11 am: Baby Class<br>4 pm: Hebrew School  | 18<br>9:30 am: Toddler Class<br>11 am: Pre-Toddler Class<br>Noon: Lunch and Learn<br>2 pm: English in Action<br>3 pm: Thursday Corner<br>4:15 pm: Thursday Corner Section 2<br>7 pm: Brotherhood Book Club | 19<br>4:40 pm: Candles<br>6:30 pm: Services  | 20 ☆<br>9:30 am: Services<br>B'nai Mitzvah of Philip and Alexa Von Muffling<br><br><b>BO</b>           |
| 21<br>9:30 am: Tikvah<br>10 am SHARP: LEGO - Jerusalem                | 22<br>11:30 am: Baby Class<br>4 pm: Hebrew School<br>5 pm: Torah Study<br>7 pm: Prayerbook Hebrew<br>7 pm: Life Goes On Book Club<br>8 pm: Jewish Current Events | 23<br>9:30 am: Toddler Class<br>10 am: English in Action<br>10:45 am: Toddler Class<br>4 pm: Hebrew School<br>5:40 pm: Minyan<br>6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!   | 24<br>10 am: Pre-Toddler Class<br>11 am: Baby Class<br>4 pm: Hebrew School<br>7 pm: Streets of Tel Aviv                           | 25<br>Noon: Lunch and Learn<br>2 pm: English in Action<br>3 pm: Thursday Corner<br>4:15 pm: Thursday Corner Section 2<br>5:30 pm: Life Goes On<br>7 pm: Brotherhood Film Series: A Lens on Israel          | 26<br>4:48 pm: Candles<br>5:30 pm: Family Shabbat up to age 3<br>5:30 pm: Family Shabbat ages 3-6<br>6:30 pm: Family Shabbat Grades 2-7<br>6:30 pm: Services | 27 ☆<br>9:30 am: Services<br><br><b>BESHALACH</b>  |
| 28<br>9:30 am: Tikvah<br>11 am: Volunteer with The Hunger Van Project | 29<br>11:30 am: Baby Class<br>4 pm: Hebrew School<br>5 pm: Torah Study<br>7 pm: Prayerbook Hebrew<br>8 pm: Jewish Current Events                                 | 30<br>9:30 am: Toddler Class<br>10 am: English in Action<br>10:45 am: Toddler Class<br>4 pm: Hebrew School<br>5:40 pm: Minyan<br>6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH!   | 31<br>10 am: Pre-Toddler Class<br>11 am: Baby Class<br>4 pm: Hebrew School<br>7 pm: Streets of Tel Aviv<br><br><b>TU B'SHEVAT</b> | 1<br>Noon: Lunch and Learn<br>2 pm: English in Action<br>3 pm: Thursday Corner<br>4:15 pm: Thursday Corner Section 2   | 2<br>4:57 pm: Candles<br>6:30 pm: Services   | 3 ☆<br>9:30 am: Services<br><br><b>YITRO</b>   |



We had another GREAT (!!!) Chanukah celebration in December with Eyal Vilner's amazing swing band! Thanks Israel Committee and all who attended!