



Brotherhood Synagogue בית

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Vertella S. Gadsden, May her Memory be for a Blessing

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

Most folks knew her as Val. I knew her as *Zipporah bat Shmuel*. Officially, she was Vertella Sophia Valentine Gadsden. She passed away on erev Yom Kippur.

Val was an integral part of our congregation for many years. She was President and Chairwoman of

the Board of the synagogue, President of the Sisterhood and a tireless and selfless leader, worker and congregant.

Val Gadsden was also my personal hero. Her upbeat attitude toward life and genuine kindness to her fellowman make Val an exemplar of God's servant here on earth.

Even before Val assumed the presidency of the synagogue, she was a fixture at so many events and projects of the congregation. In her various roles of leadership, she understood that office is a call not to honor, but to service to the community. She looked upon synagogue service as a sacred trust. Without such an attitude, no congregation can hope to serve the genuine needs of its community.

It is related in the Talmud that Rabbi Gamliel once offered two of his outstanding students important positions in the community. Out of a sense of humility, they both declined the offer. Rabbi Gamliel, however, urged them to accept. "Do you imagine that I offer you rulership?" he asked. "It is servitude that I offer you." One who seeks office for rulership, power, or personal gain will fail the community and will fail himself. Only one who seeks office because it offers a means of serving the needs of others will both render service and also receive the honor that the office has to bestow.

When it came to synagogue matters, Val was tireless. She typified the maxim: "If you want something done—give it to a busy person." She was always busy but nevertheless had the time to get the job done. Val was always there. She seldom missed a religious service. She attended

Dedication of a seat plaque and remembrances in memory of Val Gadsden^{ztl} will take place at Shabbat evening services on Friday, December 8, 6:30 pm in the presence of her family and friends


every Board of Trustees meeting. And you knew Val was in attendance because she would participate with dignity and good cheer.

For a whole generation of synagogue members, Val was the cheerful and welcoming presence that met them at the front door before services on Shabbat.

She made them feel comfortable and encouraged them to stay and socialize at the oneg/Kiddush that followed. Many cited her as the reason they joined the Brotherhood Synagogue.

Val was born in Kingston, Jamaica, B.W.I., and was a product of the NYC public school system. She retired after 38 years of federal service. She was active in the local and regional councils of the Boy Scouts of America. Val was valedictorian at the graduation from the Institutional Synagogue's Hebrew School. She was the mother of twins, Pamela and Jeffrey, who had the distinction of being older than their mother. Val perennially claimed to be 27 years old.

I share with you a poem that she wrote in November 2003 entitled, "Memories Will Prevail":

One very seldom knows
The precise span of one's life.
But when the end arrives
There's no choice but to let go
Of this brief interval
---less than a moment in time---,
And leave behind grieving
Kin and friends to mourn their loss,
To share tales of the past,
And recollect deeds and words.
Know that time will lessen
The distressful pain of grief
And fill the void of loss
With precious memories, which
In due course, will prevail....
Cherished memories held close. 

Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 6:30 PM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 9:30 AM
Bar Mitzvah of Asher Kornfeld
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 5:30 PM
Bar Mitzvah of Eric Skinner

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 6:30 PM
Veterans' Shabbat
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 9:30 AM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 4:30 PM
Bar Mitzvah of Harris Benyacar

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 6:30 PM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 9:30 AM
Bar Mitzvah of Ezekiel Orlow

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 6:30 PM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 9:30 AM

SAVE THE DATE
Tuesday,
December 5, 2017
at 7 pm

Rabbi Joseph Potasnik
Executive Vice-President of
The New York Board of Rabbis
will speak at

Brotherhood Synagogue's
RABBI IRVING J. BLOCK
MEMORIAL LECTURE
on

"The Greatest Challenge
We Face as a Jewish People"

Reception to follow



My Two Cents: Its Not All or Nothing

by Randi Bayroff

This past July, I embarked on a life changing trip to Israel and I am compelled to share my experience with my Brotherhood community. I went with an organization called JWWRP—Jewish Womens Renaissance Project (<http://www.jwrrp.org>). I went with the Manhattan chapter—Jinspire. <https://www.facebook.com/JinspireManhattan/>



The trip is marketed as a “birthright for moms”—it is officially called “Momentum.” Inspire a woman, you inspire a family. Inspire enough families, you inspire a community. Inspire enough communities, you can change the world. Each participant receives a \$3,000 scholarship for the cost of the trip provided by private donations and the Jerusalem-based Ministry of Diaspora Affairs. The mothers pay for their own airfare and a nominal application fee, along with tips for our driver and tour guides. I was so intrigued I had to learn more! The only trip requirement was that you have a child under 18 living in your home, and you are not *shomer shabbos*. The program seeks highly motivated women who are curious about introducing more elements of Judaism into their home. Ok, I’m in! Having been to Israel several times, most recently with my son, Max, this past winter, I was nervous I wouldn’t get approved for the program. I already have a deep love of Israel, and (try to) incorporate Jewish values into our every day lives. But, my *nashuma* could always use some help. I applied and interviewed. The trip sounded amazing. Eight days in Israel with 20 women from NYC exploring Israel and participating in workshops/classes on parenting and Jewish identity/values. I was delighted to learn that I was accepted and started my journey. We had 3 pre-trip meetings to socialize with the other participants and learn more about the trip. I felt like I was back on a teen-tour circa 1985! All the moms were great and I was delighted to learn we had four amazing Manhattan women as our group leaders. Our leaders are Orthodox, thus, women we can learn from and ask questions of. I had some interesting kosher supermarket discussions and have received more Challah recipes than Shabbats in a year! With my son safely at sleep-away camp, I was excited for this adventure.

Once in Israel we met up with 400 other Jewish mom participants from all over the world (U.S., Israel, Latin America, Europe, Australia). Our first night was an explosion of *ruach* (spirit). All 400 women met at Decks restaurant in Tiberias for a delicious meal outdoors, along with fireworks and dancing. Wine flowed freely. We were all immediately soul sisters. We were there to transform ourselves, our families, our communities, and the world. If you want to have the greatest influence on the direction of the Jewish people, whom should you target? The Jewish mother, that’s who! The next day we all struggled to wake up. Not to get the kids off to school, not to prepare breakfast, or make sure homework was checked—we were embarking on our journey. Our bus was a mixture of Manhattan, South Florida and Israeli moms. We toured the Old

City of Jerusalem and were recipients of inspiring speeches by JWWRP staff. Many interesting topics were covered that we could all relate to—tips on being a better parent, daughter, and friend; an inspiring discussion on Pirkei Avot; and one on how the world stands on three things—Torah (wisdom), Avoda (service) and Gimilat Chassadim (acts of kindness). For me, the goal was to understand my strengths and then to develop other parts of my soul and make efforts to better understand others.

Of course, even in a country as small as Israel, it’s impossible to see everything. JWWRP definitely took us to some amazing highlights—Yad Vashem, Masada, Safed, the Kotel and the Dead Sea. But it was much more than that. More than the amazing tour guides describing our ancestral land which fellow Jews have fought and died to protect. To learn, in this country, was truly inspiring. What really struck me was when the tour guide thanked us for coming. Why? Because it’s our country as much as it is his.

Now, why do I title this article, “It’s Not All or Nothing?” Because if we can all bring into our lives some of the values passed down by generations—just some—it’s something. The trip doesn’t aim at “converting” anyone. Its goal is to inspire. Inspire a love of Israel. Inspire us to educate our children. One take away I initiated immediately upon my son’s return from camp was an allowance. Max gets \$5 a week. Only stipulation is that \$1 a week must go in the Tzadaka box. What is this teaching him? Values. Jewish values. And giving back. Giving back to the Jewish people, our community. Rabbi Yosef taught: “If you lend money to any of my people that are poor with you.” (Exodus 22:24) This verse teaches that if you have to choose between a Jew and a non-Jew, give to the Jew first. I am instilling in Max the importance of giving back to the Jewish community, our community.

Max and I decided to donate his Tzadaka to an organization in Israel called One Family <http://www.onefamilytogether.org/> One Family supports families of Israel’s victims of terror—those who have been bereaved, those who have been maimed, and those suffering from post-trauma as a result of terrorist attacks since 2001. During my JWWRP trip I visited the center in Jerusalem and was so inspired to help them. One Family empowers victims of terror to rebuild their lives, rehabilitate and reintegrate into society.

My journey with JWWRP continues to this day. We have reunions, an upcoming Challah Bake, cooking demonstrations and family gatherings. Each one of us are officially ambassadors and if we know just one more thing than we did before our journey, then we have an obligation to pay it forward. JWWRP has proven itself to be an excellent immersive experience program. I encourage you to check out the organization and please do not hesitate to contact me at rbayroff@gmail.com with any questions. 🌊

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.

Our visit last month to the Morgan Library to view the exhibition Master Drawings from the Thaw Collection was excellent—and the afternoon tea beforehand was a delight!

On Thursday, November 30 at 10:30 am, we will embark on a private tour of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and its gold vault. We will learn about the history, role, and responsibilities of the bank while checking out its iconic home. The tour is limited to 25 people and is free of charge—finally, our tax dollars at work! Security is very strict, and all who attend must carry photo identification to be presented. **Please make sure you provide the exact name that will be on the identification you bring with you—that information has to be supplied to the Bank in advance.** Dinner will follow as usual in an interesting restaurant in the Wall Street area, with details to be provided to tour goers ASAP.

Our November book club meeting will be on Wednesday, November 29 at 7pm. We will discuss *Forest Dark* by Nicole Krauss. 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 or call Roberta in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750. 🌊

Shabbat Club • Saturday Nov. 11, 1 pm

Mark your calendars! The Shabbat Club will meet on November 11 and on December 9. As usual, we will meet at 1 pm, in the reception room opposite the sanctuary. Light snacks and beverages will be available. All are invited to attend.

On Saturday, November 11, Rachel Aronson, Manager of Greening & Climate Initiatives for Hazon, America’s largest Jewish environmental group, will give an introductory presentation, “Why Go Green?” on how organizations such as ours can take the first steps to go green. It will include everything from steps to take, to the dollars and cents of implementation, and fits in with the efforts already begun at our synagogue to work toward sustainability and mindful consumption. Their mission is to create healthy and sustainable communities in the Jewish world and beyond.

Check the weekly synagogue email messages and Shabbat announcements for more information on topics and discussion leaders for these dates. Suggestions for the monthly meetings are always welcome. Contact Deborah Newman or the office.

MODIGLIANI UNMASKED:

A Docent-led Tour at The Jewish Museum
Thursday November 9, 4:45 pm

Featuring early drawings by Amedeo Modigliani—many of which are being shown for the first time in the United States—the exhibition *Modigliani Unmasked* illuminates Modigliani's heritage as an Italian Sephardic Jew as pivotal to understanding his artistic output in the unprecedented cultural melting pot of twentieth century Paris.

Modigliani Unmasked will consider the celebrated artist Amedeo Modigliani (Italian, 1884-1920) shortly after he arrived in Paris in 1906, when the city was still roiling with anti-Semitism after the long-running tumult of the Dreyfus Affair and the influx of foreign emigres. Modigliani's Italian-Sephardic background helped forge a complex cultural identity that rested, in part, on the ability of Italian Jews historically to assimilate and embrace diversity. The exhibition



will show that Modigliani's art cannot be fully understood without acknowledging the ways the artist responded to the social realities that he confronted.

Brotherhood's Special Events Committee has arranged for a docent led tour of this fascinating exhibit at The Jewish Museum (Fifth Avenue & 92 St). The group will gather @ 4:45 pm in the museum lobby after individually going through the inspection station at the entrance. The tour will be 45 minutes and group size is limited to 20.

Cost of the tour is \$20 and payment must be made in advance and is nonrefundable. Make checks payable to "Brotherhood Synagogue" or register and pay online through the link in our weekly email using a credit card.

This price includes admission to all other exhibits at the museum so be sure to check out "Veiled Meaning: Fashioning Jewish Dress" either before or after the tour—the museum is open until 9 pm!

Please call the office (212.674.5750) or email rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org to reserve your spot by November 1 or if you have any questions.



Summer Camp Fair!

Tuesday, November 14, 5:30-7:00 pm

Stop in to the Community Room before or after Hebrew School pickup to get info on some fantastic summer camp options for your child. Whether your child is sporty or arty or outdoorsy or none of the above, there is a Jewish camp for every family (at any level of observance)!

Overnight and day camps will be represented. Pizza and other snacks will be provided.



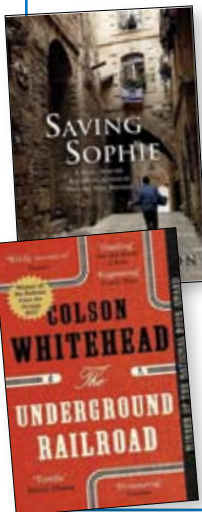
Brotherhood Book Club

The Brotherhood Book Club schedule for November and December is as follows:

November 16: Barbara Feingold will lead a discussion of Ronald H. Balson's *Saving Sophie*.

December 21: Wendy Linderman will lead a discussion of Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*.

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



Salon Sanctuary at Brotherhood Synagogue

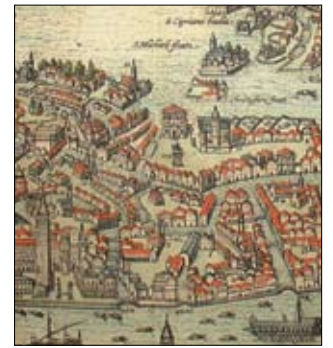
From Ghetto to Capella: Interfaith Exchanges in the Music of Baroque Italy

Thursday, November 16, 8:00 pm

Most recently presented at Temple Emanu-El in partnership with the Carnegie Hall *La Serenissima Festival*, in Italy at the Teatro all'Antica di Sabbioneta and the Great Synagogue of Florence, Brotherhood Synagogue will host the presenting of the fourth annual New York performance of *From Ghetto to Cappella*.

Works of **Benedetto Marcello**, **Francesco Durante**, **Barbara Strozzi**, **Salomone Rossi**, and unaccompanied Hebrew chants attest to a vibrant conversation, as do selections from the 1759 Hebrew libretto of **Handel's Esther**, commissioned by the Jewish community of Amsterdam in the year of the composer's death.

*Salon/Sanctuary Concerts was founded in 2009 by Artistic Director Jessica Gould in order to present early music in intimate venues which complement both the acoustic and the historical context of the repertoire and to encourage understanding among people of different faiths through the performance of sacred works in sanctuaries appropriate to the repertoire. <http://www.salonsanctuary.org/aboutus.html>



Jessica Gould, soprano
Elena Biscuola, mezzo-soprano
Loren Ludwig, viola da gamba
Charles Weaver, theorbo
Elliott Figg, harpsichord

For tickets visit: <https://www.showclix.com/event/from-ghetto-cappella-bro-syn>. Select the "Seniors/Students" ticket option and enter the promo code further down on the page. CODE: 1865

Speaker at Services: Father Patrick Ryan

"Living in a Multicultural World"

Friday, December 1, 6:30pm

Father Patrick Ryan, Laurence J. McGinley Professor of Religion and Society at Fordham University, returns to Brotherhood on Friday December 1 to address our congregation on how to stay connected in our multicultural society which has become more and more charged with anger and prejudice.

A native New Yorker, Fr. Ryan entered the Society of Jesus in 1957, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1968. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in English Language and Literature at Fordham, and a PhD in the comparative history of religion from Harvard University (with a specialization in Arabic and Islamic Studies),

For about half of his life as a Jesuit priest, Fr. Ryan worked in West Africa, mostly in Nigeria and Ghana holding faculty and administrative appointments at the University of Ghana, the University of Cape Coast in Ghana, Hekima College in Kenya and the Gregorian University in Rome.

The focus of his work in the McGinley chair at Fordham he writes, is "to provide a place here in the capital of the world where Jews, Christians and Muslims can engage in intellectual exchange." Father Ryan has authored numerous articles, scholarly and popular, and he has published three books. Sponsored by the Interfaith Committee.



Happenings in Our Kehilah

B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

Andi Kornfeld and **Philip Narotzky** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Asher Kornfeld**. Asher is a student at NEST+m.

Michael Skinner and **Cindy Menell** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Eric Skinner**. Eric, a student at Lowell, will celebrate his simcha with his older sister, **Luciana**.

Michelle Benyacar and **David Benyacar** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Harris Benyacar**. Harris, a student at Wagner, will celebrate his simcha with his younger sister, **Dara**.

Dan Orlow and **Susan Switzer** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Ezekiel Orlow**. Zeke, a student at Hunter, will celebrate his simcha with his siblings, **Katriel**, **Jesse** and **Aliza**.

Dan and **Robin Mittman** on the Bar Mitzvah of their daughter, **Charlotte Mittman**. Charlotte, a student at the Child School, will celebrate her simcha with her older sister, **Olivia**.

Births, Mazal Tov to:

Serafina and **Avi Drucker** on the birth of their daughter, **Lila Rachel Drucker**; and to older brother, **Noam**.

Sharon and **Edward Bergman** on the birth of their son, **Elliot Rafael Bergman**; and to older sisters, **Norah** and **Nina**.

Melissa and **Jeff Bergson** on the birth of their son, **Mason Grey Bergson**; and to older sister, **Emma**.

Ariel Foxman and **Brandon Cardet-Hernandez** on the birth of their son, **Cielo Rimón Foxman-Cardet**.

Jena and **Chris Thibodeau** on the birth of their daughter, **Ryan Sloane Thibodeau**; and to older sister, **Bryce**.

Condolences to:

Joshua Asen on the passing of his grandmother, **Brenda Lewis**.

The family of **Vertella "Val" Gadsden** on her passing, **Leslie Benardo** on the passing of her mother, and our member, **Anita Lappert**.

Victoria Leger on the passing of her grandmother, **Hanna Berdichevsky**.

Billie Elias on the passing of her step-mother, **Lillian Tekel**.

Welcome New Members:

Zachary and **Amy Pack** of Greenwich Village have two sons, **Teddy** and **Joseph**. Teddy is enrolled in the Brotherhood Nursery School.

Dan and **Robin Mittman** of the Upper East Side have two daughters, **Olivia** and **Charlotte**. Dan works at UBS, and Robin is a full-time mother.

Rich and **Joanne Agabs** of Chelsea have two sons, **Max**, 9, and **Charlie**, 7, who both attend Avenues, The World School. Joanne is a full-time mother and artist. Rich is the head of retail-healthcare for Jefferies.

Welcome to **Jason Rosen** and **Dena Setzer** of Murray Hill. Jason is CEO of WRS Therapeutics Pty. Ltd., while Dena is taking time off from her copywriting career to care for their 8-month-old son, **Shep**. The Rosens are very excited to be part of the Brotherhood community, and Shep takes a class in Brotherhood's pre-toddler program!

Alex Chertorisky and **Anna Shtromberg** of Chelsea have two daughters, **Maya** and **Stella**, who both attend PS 11. Alex is an RN with Healthfirst and Anna is a Managing Director/Head of Buiside Relationship Management at BondCliq.

Jeff and **Melissa Bergson** of Gramercy Park have a daughter, **Emma**, who is enrolled in Brotherhood's Nursery School. Jeff is an EVP at n-Tier Financial Services and Melissa works in licensing at Authentic Brands Group.

Aaron Glazer and **Zoe Fraade-Blanar** of Peter Cooper Village have a son, **Archer**, who attends Brotherhood Synagogue Nursery School.

Sampson Glassman and **Beth Steinberg** and their son, **Lev**, live in Chelsea. Sampson and Beth are both partners at Chelsea Venture Partners.

Chris Ferrari and **Jamie Royal** and their two children, **Eli** and **Milly**, live in Gramercy Park. Chris works in fixed income Sales and Jamie is an orthodontist.

Seth and **Amy Gillston** of Murray Hill have twins who attend PS 77—a son, **Noah**, and a daughter, **Leah**.

Welcome to **Josh** and **Rachel Goldin** of Murray Hill. Josh is in medical device sales at Alcon Labs and Rachel is an SVP in Human Resources with Bank of America. They have two children, **Jonah** and **Amelia** who both attend PS 116 and are enrolled in Brotherhood's Hebrew School.

Gregg Rubin and **Roxanne Farkas** live in Gramercy Park. Gregg is a General Partner with Polaris Founders Capital, a consumer and sports focused private equity firm. Roxanne is an MFA candidate in design and technology at the Parsons School of Design.

Adam and **Courtney Crown** of Gramercy Park are both from South Florida and graduates of The George Washington University. Adam is a financial advisor with Morgan Stanley and Courtney is a private jeweler and gemologist. They are new parents to beautiful son, **Noah Myer**, who had his bris at Brotherhood.

Welcome to **David** and **Susannah Bailin** reside in Woodbridge, CT. David is the Global Head of Investments at Citi Private Bank and Susannah is the founder and CEO of AdviceCoach. They have three daughters—**Alexandra**, **Juliet** and **Isabel**—who live and work in New York. 🌈

Social Action

Friday, November 10, 6:30 pm at services

Celebrate Veterans' Shabbat

Please join us at services and help us to honor American and Israeli veterans. We will be joined by Jerry Alperstein, Commander Jewish War Veterans Post 1.

All veterans urged to attend to be our honored guests. Special Oneg to follow services.



Sunday, November 19, 10 am–1 pm

DOROT Thanksgiving Food Delivery

Generations Helping Generations...

Join members of our Social Action Committee for our annual DOROT Thanksgiving Food Delivery and Visit on Sunday, November 19. DOROT is a wonderful organization focused on helping the elderly maintain independent lives in their own homes. The Thanksgiving Food Delivery and Visit

is a meaningful way for generations to help generations celebrate Thanksgiving. We will meet at Rodeph Shalom (7 West 83rd Street) at 10:00 am for a brief orientation. After the orientation, we will pick up a Thanksgiving meal, deliver the meal to a senior, and spend about an hour visiting with the senior. For those of you who have participated before, the visit tends to be the most important part of the day. We will be done before 1:00 pm.

DOROT asked for participants 13 years and older (teenagers must be with a parent) and space is limited! Please contact Roberta at rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org if you wish to volunteer.

Sunday, December 3, 10:00 am

Family Community Service Event at Hebrew Home in Riverdale

Join us for a day of family community service as we visit with residents, sing songs, and tour the

facilities at the Hebrew Home in Riverdale. We will meet at the Hebrew Home at 10:00 am and the event ends at 11:30 am.

There are only a limited number of volunteer spots available so please e-mail Beth Barry (blbar1@aol.com) asap if you'd like to join the group! Ages 8 and up are welcome.

Drivers are needed, so when you RSVP, please indicate if you will be able to drive and provide rides for others.

Collection for the Hebrew Home Visit in the Synagogue Lobby (last two weeks of November)

For the visit, we are also doing a mini collection in the lobby of small gifts for the residents. The following items are recommended by the Hebrew Home: **men's t-shirts • socks • pens • notepads • body wash • scented soaps • body lotion.**

President's Post

by Trudi Rae Bartow

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

—W.B. Yeats



An unquenchable desire to learn is one of the most important tools you can use to become a step closer to success in your professional life but it also creates a powerful personal growth in your daily life. I consider myself a lifelong learner and I love to take classes to challenge the limits I believe I have, explore new concepts, and learn about current innovations. This semester (yes, I still think in terms of semesters even though I haven't formally attended school in over 15 years) I am taking a class on integrated marketing concepts at Baruch and on understanding mussar right here at Brotherhood. The marketing class focuses on new media outlets and the best way to utilize your content—I had no idea there were so many ways to refocus, chop, hashtag and filter! The mussar class uses the philosophy's 19th century founding principles of character development and spiritual growth through a modern day lens of transformative introspective techniques. The Brotherhood class is taking a closer look at several of these character traits including humility and anger as a jumping off point. Through a series of lectures, journaling exercises, meditations, and conversations we will learn how these traits can be constructed to align heart and mind with the highest ideals of the Jewish tradition. As you can see the types of classes I like taking are very varied! I encourage you all to look at the various Brotherhood Adult Education classes and numerous lectures and events offered throughout the year and see if one is a good fit for you. 🌊

The Chesed* Committee

WANTS YOU TO KNOW

The Chesed Committee will be holding a **general meeting on November 13 at 7 pm**. If you are interested in helping with our existing activities or making suggestions as to what other programs or support we can offer as we serve the Brotherhood Community in times of need, please attend. We welcome your input and participation.

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



YAHREZITS

^Garden of Remembrance *Book of Remembrance

November 4-10

Clara Aaron, Libbie Bezief, *Louis A. Capaldo, Irving Cohen, Lewis Cohen, William Cypel, Sylvia Dolitsky, Rose Entus, *Samuel Fassler, *Matilda Fedelman, *Fred H. Feldman, ^Malcolm H. Flash, ^Sylvia Friedberg, ^^Betty Goldin, Ethel Block Gordon, ^Louis Green, Abraham Henzel, ^Abraham M. Hoffman, ^Samuel Kaplow, ^^Harry Katzman, Hyman Kaufman, ^Sylvia Krentzman, ^Arnold Lesser, Benjamin Levine, *Samuel Levine, Max Lippman, *Issay Lourie, Peter Loy, Sylvia Margolis, Jerome Menell, ^*Freida Novom Posner, ^Myer Press, Theodore Rauch, Gerald Rockower, ^Gerald Sager, Samuel Schechter, ^Abraham Schonhaut, Anna Shalek, Berta Shiller, ^Henry A. Silver, ^Shiphrah Silver, *Mary Spiegel, *Emma Stertzer, George Vassil, *Sophie Versh, Milton Warren, Ellen Wechsler, David Wilf, Miriam Wosk, ^Herman Zeitlin

November 11-17

*Goldie Appel, Ariella Arthur, ^Harry Blumenthal, Prof. Taamrat Emmanuel, Henry Entus, ^Belle Feuerstein, ^Samuel A. Fineman, ^Jack Fink, ^Samuel Friedman, Lina Frommer, Yoram Fuchs, Ruth Kempner Fuss, Yankel Glickstein, Jacob Goldberg, Sadie Goldberg, *Rabbi William Goldberg, Edith Goldman, ^^Dora Grossman, *Morris Herbst, ^Robert Victor Hoffman, *Henry L. Hudes, Harry Jacobs, *Dr. Herman Jacobs, ^Minnie Jedwick, ^Rose Kaminsky, Ida Kaplan, Aaron Kars, Fannie Karten, ^Minnie Katz, ^Ruth Rose Klonsky, Irving Korman, Bernard Levy, ^Brenda Alice Levy, Rose Lewis, *Helene Lind, ^Jack Low, *Abraham Mald, John Malino, *Anna Meyer, *Louis T. Meyer, ^^Emanuel Morgenstern, Robert N. Strauss, ^Fred Phillips, ^Morton Raskin, ^Betty Ress, Kate Richkin, Rose Rottenbach, Sophia Sainer, Philip Salant, ^Louis Schneider, ^Kate Schonhaut, Herbert Seidel, ^Jean Gordon Sperling, Sarah Spiegel, ^Herman Steinberg, Matilde (Schmidt) Tuchfeld, Semyon Vaidman, Eric Wagman, ^Max Joseph Wasserman, Belle Weiswasser, ^Dr. Maurice Yarkow

November 18-24

Maurice Abraham, ^Freida Abraham, Sarah Brown, Allan Campbell, ^Minnie Cohn, *Martin S. Drucker, Julius C. Edelstein, ^Lily Ente, Stanley K. Fass, ^Doris C. Freedman, Shirley Friedes, *A. Herman Friedman, Arthur Frommer, Rose Gelb, *Sylvia Gewirtz, Ephraim Glasser, Abraham Glazer, ^Rose Gottlieb, Sadie Grobow, Robert H. Harris, ^Hilda Harris, Emma Hayeem, *Naomi Holcomb,

*Solomon Hudes, Henry Iskowitz, Florence Jacobs, ^Hannah Kaplan, Max Karten, ^Geza Kesternbaum, Dorothy Klein, Jack Kleinman, ^Kate Knopf, ^Edith Kowal, David Kreloff, Ann Rechtschaeffer Levy, ^George Levy, ^Stephen Lewin, Elias Lieberman, Daniel Lipner, *Louis Lipshie, *Harris Mahler, Anna Marie Ross Maikish, *Harry Meyer, *Sarah Meyer, *Richard Naftalis, Michael Nappi, Louis Newman, Phillip Padva, Rodney Pollick, Joseph Rogoff, *Herman L. Rosenberg, Dr. Meyer Rosenblum, Walter Rosenthal, *Samuel Rossman, Rabbi Jeshai'a Schnitzer, *Molly Seidman, ^Anne Silberling, Mollie Silverstein, ^Joseph Simon, Rev. Jesse W. Stitt, Kay R. Strauss, Louis Sussman, ^Lillian Teitelbaum, *Flora Weinstein, Esther Wertzer

November 25-December 1

Mark Adelsberg, Ralph Adler, Myer Agin, Nellie Beck, Samuel Bolotin, Jerry Burger, ^^Ida Cohen, *Julius Duberstein, *Barnett Finebaum, Gary Fisher, Roger Flather, ^Gerald J. Friedman, *Honey F. Goldby, Alexander Gordon, ^Pauline Gordon, Hugo Hamburger, Benjamin Hauptman, Sheila Heller, Benjamin Hushansky, Barbara Joslyn, *David Katz, Andrea Katz-Andrade, George Landon, Abe Leinweber, Harry Liebowitz, ^Gussie Low, *Samuel L. Magerfield, ^Isabelle Mersky, ^Maurice Musiker, Caroline Nachman, ^Abraham Novom, ^Gertrude Novom, Herman Nussbaum, ^*Rose Greenberg Rechtschaeffer, ^Joseph Ripinsky, *Reuben Rothman, ^Annie Schindel, ^Pearl Sekular, *Jonas Spiegel, ^Miriam Statsinger, Ned Sussman, Ida Weinstein, ^Edward Weisman, Ida Wigdor, *Esther Wittenstein

Memorial Book

If you would like a copy of the Memorial Book and did not get one during the holidays, please stop by the office and pick one up.

The Brotherhood Synagogue



28 Gramercy Park South
New York, N.Y. 10003
Phone: (212) 674-5750
Fax: (212) 505-6707



www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org

RABBI DANIEL ALDER,
CANTOR ISAAC YAGER,

RABBI IRVING J. BLOCK²¹ 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

A Note from Development

The Year(s) of Phil and The Rothman Fund

Since the kick-off of the “Year of Phil” in September 2016, and the extension of the year until September 2018, we have been working behind the scenes on putting together several programming and fundraising opportunities that will honor Phil in the most appropriate way as the year unfolds. Our plans include: “*A Conversation with*

Phil” on trends in Hebrew School education, its past, its present and where it’s heading, to be held in April or May; “*A Night at the Races*”—an outing to Yonkers Raceway for a private event including a buffet (dairy) dinner overlooking the track, one race named for us—all of its winnings to go to the Rothman Fund, and a group photo op in the winner’s circle with the horse and driver—to be

held in early October 2018; and finally, *Havdalah at the Synagogue*, a family event to celebrate Phil, to take place in early November 2018. If you have any questions about *The Rothman Educational Fund for the Benefit of the Hebrew School*, feel free to contact me at 212-650-5750.

—Marilyn Strozak

Director of Development

Hebrew School News: Mishpacha, the building block of Jewish life...

Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan, whose ideas paved the way for 21st century Jewish life in America, articulated the importance of family education and family involvement in a child’s Jewish education. He said: “*To educate the child without educating and involving the parents and the entire family can be compared to heating the house while leaving the window open.*”

Consistent with the wisdom of Rabbi Kaplan, our on-going Mishpacha programming, brings the entire family into the learning process. This month, November (Cheshvan/Kislev) 5778, the Hebrew School calendar is filled with Mishpacha (Family) programming.

This program was an initiative of long-time Brotherhood Synagogue member, Annette Rosner, who made a generous contribution to fund the Mishpacha Program. The idea behind the program is that family learning and family participation in synagogue life builds strong families and a strong Jewish community. So, each year, we invite parents and grandparents to learn alongside their children/grandchildren.

Each grade has its own topic. This month the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grades are having Mishpacha Programming. Kitah Aleph (1st Grade) and

their families will be learning about the Sanctuary (11/21). Kitah Bet (2nd Graders) and their families will be learning about Shabbat (11/14). Kitah Gimmel (3rd Grade) and their families will be learning about the Ten Commandments (11/8). Kitah Dalet (the 4th grade) and their families will be learning about Kashrut (11/1). This past month Kitah Hey (the 5th Grade) and their families studied about Tzedakah (10/25). Kitah Vav and their families learned about the Havdalah ceremony (10/18).

How is the Mishpacha Program set up? We (Phil Rothman and Barbara Simon) begin our Mishpacha programs with a brief discussion of the topic or a story which illustrates the central issues to be explored. That discussion often leads to questions that our researchers (all of the Mishpacha participants) will explore. The children and their parents are then divided into three or four groups and are assigned questions related to the Mishpacha topic to be explored. Parents and children are provided with study packets to help them in their guided learning.

For example, during the Tzedakah mishpacha, groups are provided with Moses Maimonides (1135-1204) hierarchy of tzedakah—without

knowing how Maimonides ranked the levels of Tzedakah. The task of that group would be to analyze the eight levels of giving and decide for itself—based upon discussion and debate—to figure out the “correct order” (according to Maimonides) of the types of tzedakah—from best to worst—although it can be argued that even the “worst level” or “lowest ranking” of Tzedakah is better than no participation in the mitzvah of tzedakah at all. After lively discussion, debate and analysis, each group reports its conclusions to all of the Mishpacha participants. In this way parents and children learn together—making the Mishpacha Program true intergenerational learning.

Mishpacha participants are assigned “follow-up” activities. For example: Participants in the havdalah session are given travel havdalah candles and asked to perform the havdalah ceremony over the coming weeks—and then to write about their experiences.

Thanks to the vision and generosity of Annette Rosner, the Mishpacha program is alive and well at the Brotherhood Synagogue Hebrew School!

—Barbara Simon

Hebrew School Principal

ANNUAL BROTHERHOOD BOOK FAIR

Monday-Wednesday • November 13-14-15 • in the Community Room

Books
make great
gifts!

Conveniently OPEN during Nursery School
AND Hebrew School hours!

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday |
| 2:30 pm - 6 pm | 9 am - 6 pm | 9 am - 6 pm** |

There will be hundreds of books of Jewish interest for children, teens and adults! Books are great gifts and great holiday gifts!

Volunteer Opportunities Still Are Available!!

Please email David Barry (davidbarry@verizon.net) to volunteer to staff the book fair during any of the hours above and we are still looking for volunteers to help set up the fair on Monday, November 13 and break down the fair on Thursday, November 16. **Please volunteer!**



**SPECIAL
Author's Visit
5:15 pm on
November 15

Jewish Children's
Book Author
PENINNAH SCHRAM

Peninnah Schram, internationally known storyteller, teacher, author, and recording artist, is Professor Emerita of Speech and Drama at Stern College of Yeshiva University. Author of thirteen books of Jewish folktales, including *Jewish Stories One Generation Tells Another* and *Stories Within Stories: From the Jewish Oral Tradition*, she travels across the US and other countries presenting storytelling programs and workshops for all ages.



A PORTION OF YOUR PURCHASE GOES TO BROTHERHOOD SYNAGOGUE!

Nursery School Thoughts

by Samantha Fox Hollander

While this story isn't the typical heartfelt experience often attributed to the Nursery School Corner, it was an unnerving, heart-stopping moment that reminded me just how important it is to raise our voice—as individuals and as a community, as Jews, as parents and as strangers on the street. About two months ago, while walking on the Upper West Side I encountered a great deal of police commotion. Something was very wrong. I asked those around me what was happening and someone pointed up. It was then that I could see that a woman was standing on a seventh floor windowsill ready to jump. She had been out there for over an hour and was very clearly suicidal. There were thousands of people watching and many were videotaping her, which was sickening. A young woman in the crowd started screaming for everyone to put their phones away and start chanting "We. Love. You! We. Love. You!" It felt awkward and vulnerable to join in but I started chanting among the thousands of people, and, after about five or six minutes the woman on the ledge waved to everybody and climbed back inside the window. The lady who started the chant helped empower everyone around her, and thanks to her we were all about to see the impact we had to help someone feel less desperate. In this case, that empowerment resulted in a saved life.

As my husband and I raise our two children - our daughter Davy just began Pre-K at PS116 and our son Ozzie is in the Yellow Room at Brotherhood Synagogue Nursery School—I try to slow down and approach all of our experiences as a family, both the victories and the hair pulling, exhausting moments, from a thoughtful approach. The community we have built here at Brotherhood Synagogue has helped encouraged my children to find the confidence and the voice to speak up like that woman who helped save a life that day. I look forward to seeing the impact and awareness these kids have the potential to generate, and I'm grateful for the lessons they learn at the nursery school, which will foster that possibility. ~

The Tikvah Program

A Hebrew school program for children with special needs since 1994 at Brotherhood Synagogue has openings

We serve children starting at age 7 on Sunday mornings

We provide a Jewish education taught by certified Special Education teachers. Our classes emphasize our students' strengths to help imbue a love of Judaism along with traditional Hebrew school curriculum, art and music.

This program is tuition-free for our students. Families do not have to be members of Brotherhood to attend.

For further information contact **Myra Hushansky: mhushansky@nyc.rr.com**

Or at Brotherhood Synagogue: 212-674-5750. Visit our website at www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org

Please join us on the following Friday evenings to welcome Shabbat together with stories and song.



November 10

5:30 pm - Children up to 3 years old with Daphna Mor and Saskia Lane

November 17

5:30 pm - Children ages 3-6 years old with Katie Shea

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

♪ Cantor's Notes ♪ by Cantor Isaac Yager

In many ways, our historical Torah commentators and Jewish thinkers have the ability to provide just as much, and in some cases, more insight and clarity than the Torah itself. Of course, present-day Jewry is complicated, as are the varied demographics, observance levels, cultural backgrounds, and levels of spirituality that represent the characteristic traits of contemporary Jews. More traditionally observant Jews would seem to benefit more from the writings of the medieval commentator Rashi, whose approach is certainly one that Jews who are well versed in Torah and general Jewish practice could utilize and make relevant in their everyday lives. However, for Jews that are looking to reconnect or connect for the first time with their Jewish identities, Rashi's approach could be difficult to employ. But the approach of a figure such as Yehuda Halevi, the 11th and 12th century Spanish Jewish physician, poet, and philosopher, could be more effective. Halevi's method of connecting to Judaism was logical and open to diverse forms of Jewish practice and understanding. Undoubtedly, this would certainly have a successful chance of resonating with a great number of Jews today, traditional and non-traditional, observant and non-observant alike. Halevi's approach to

Jewish life has the ability to empower all those who choose to follow him. In his work, Halevi equips his readers with sophisticated, well thought out, and reasonable explanations related to complicated and difficult subjects including Jewish law and human free will. One does not have to be a Torah scholar to glean practical use from Halevi's teachings.

Our world today is very different from the one that existed centuries ago when figures such as Rashi and Halevi lived. Religion does not necessarily play the same role in society today as it did then. Nevertheless, both Rashi and Halevi lived in a world where many Jews struggled with their spiritual identities and their abilities to authentically practice Judaism. Interestingly, not much has changed in that regard. The works and insights of both Rashi and Halevi were created with the simple goal of trying to help Jews more easily be Jewish. Whether it was addressing everyday questions of *halakha* (Jewish law) or larger questions related to self-determination, these authors shared the common goal of making Judaism understandable, logical, and relevant to the time in which they existed. The fact that they are still relevant is not only beneficial, but quite reassuring as well. ~

Brotherhood Synagogue



Cheshvan / Kislev 5778
November 2017

☆ Saturday Mornings

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

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| 29 9:30 am: Tikvah | 30 9 am: Torah Study 1 11:30 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 2 7 pm: Learn to Read Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events | 31 10 am: English in Action 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH! 7:30 pm: Learning to Read Midrash | 1 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: The Art of Shaliach Tzibur on Erev Shabbat 7 pm: A Taste of Mussar | 2 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 6 pm: BBYO | 3 5:31 pm: Candles 5:15 pm: Nursery Family Shabbat Dinner 6:30 pm: Services | 4 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Asher Kornfeld 5:30 pm: Bar Mitzvah of Eric Skinner VAYERA |
| 5 9:30 am: Tikvah | 6 9 am: Torah Study 1 11:30 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 2 7 pm: Learn to Read Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events | 7 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English in Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH! 7:30 pm: Learning to Read Midrash | 8 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: The Art of Shaliach Tzibur on Erev Shabbat 7 pm: A Taste of Mussar | 9 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action 4:45 pm: Modigliani Unmasked at the Jewish Museum | 10 4:24 pm: Candles 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat up to age 3 6:30 pm: Veterans Day Friday Shabbat Services | 11 ☆ 9:30 am: Services 1pm: Shabbat Club 4:30 pm: Bar Mitzvah of Harris Benyacar CHAYE SARAH |
| 12 9:30 am: Tikvah | 13 9 am: Torah Study 1 11:30 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 2 7 pm: Learn to Read Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events | 14 10 am: English in Action 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:30 pm: Summer Camp Fair 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH! 7:30 pm: Learning to Read Midrash | 15 Parent Teacher Conferences - Nursery School 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: The Art of Shaliach Tzibur on Erev Shabbat 7 pm: A Taste of Mussar | 16 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 8 pm: Salon Sanctuary | 17 4:18 pm: Candles 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat ages 3-6 6:30 pm: Family Shabbat Grades 2-7 6:30 pm: Services | 18 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Ezekiel Orlow TOLEDOT |
| ANNUAL BROTHERHOOD BOOK FAIR | | | | | | |
| 19 9:30 am: Tikvah 9:30 am: Bat Mitzvah of Charlotte Mittman 10 am: DOROT Thanksgiving Food Delivery | 20 9 am: Torah Study 1 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 2 7 pm: Learn to Read Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events | 21 10 am: English in Action 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Harmoni-AH! 7:30 pm: Learning to Read Midrash | 22 Last day of Nursery School classes before Thanksgiving | 23 THANKSGIVING | 24 4:14 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services | 25 ☆ 9:30 am: Services VAYETZE |
| 26 | 27 9 am: Torah Study 1 11:30 am: Baby Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5 pm: Torah Study 2 7 pm: Learn to Read Hebrew 8 pm: Jewish Current Events | 28 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! 7:30 pm: Learning to Read Midrash | 29 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 6:30 pm: The Art of Shaliach Tzibur on Erev Shabbat 7 pm: A Taste of Mussar | 30 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 6 pm: BBYO | 1 4:11 pm: Candles 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat up to age 3 6:30 pm: Services Special Speaker: Father Patrick Ryan - Living in a Multicultural World | 2 ☆ 9:30 am: Services VAYISHLACH |

SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, December 10,
5:00 pm

Cantor Isaac Yager,
Meredeth Kelly,
Cantor Herman Diamond
and other special guests will
present a variety of musical
selections including Yiddish,
Opera, Hazzanut, and more!

SHABBATON 5778
Friday & Saturday, December 15-16

Please save the date and join us for
another great Shabbaton program!

Dinner Speaker on **December 15:**

**David Homan, Executive Director
of the America-Israel Cultural
Foundation** will talk about Hidden
Gems in Israeli Culture.

BIG BAND
EYAL VILNER'S 14-PIECE SWING BAND!
BIG LATKES
LOTS'A VODKAS
ADMISSION: \$10
DECEMBER 16
7:30 PM

