

CONGREGATION BETH JACOB

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The Newsletter of Congregation Beth Jacob

מה-טבו אהליך, יעקב, משכנתך, ישראל!

“How lovely are your tents, O Jacob, your dwelling places, O Israel!”

MARCH/APRIL 2014

HOLIDAYS

5774

MARCH 16	PURIM
APRIL 14	FIRST SEDER
MAY 6	YOMHA'ATZMUT
MAY 18	LAG BA'OMAR

Holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the dates listed.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear CBJ friends,

This is certainly turning out to be one snowy winter, and I hope that all of you are managing to stay safe and warm. I for one am looking forward to Spring!

As you will read in Rabbi Silverman's message, we look forward to the holiday of Purim coming up in March. The commandments of Purim are to eat, drink and be merry, but this is also accompanied by the mitzvah of giving "matanot l'evyonim" (gifts to the poor) and "tzedakah" (charity). In the Book of Esther we read, "The same days on which Jews enjoyed relief from their foes and the same month which had been transformed for them from one of grief to joy and from mourning to festival, they were to observe them as days of feasting and merry-making, and as an occasion for sending gifts [mishloach manot] and presents to the poor [matanot l'evyonim]" (Esther 9:22). So as you celebrate Purim this year, I encourage you to think of ways to give gifts to those less fortunate. Bring in some extra food items to donate to the Greater Plymouth Food Warehouse, or volunteer to help at the Warehouse. Support our "Nights of Hospitality for the Homeless" in March (see details on page 5). Remember that performing mitzvot brings rewards not only to the lives of those to whom we are giving, but it also brings rewards to our own lives through a sense of blessing, of healing and of connection.

Shalom,

Christine Burke

President, CBJ

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FROM RABBI SILVERMAN:

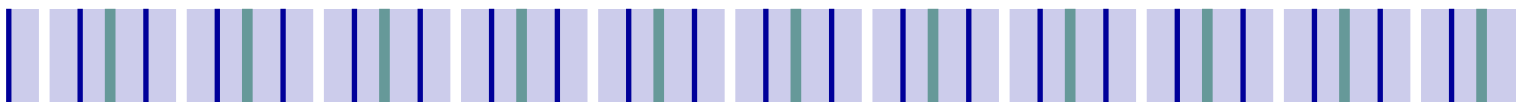
With the Feast of Purim just around the corner (March 16), I thought it would be appropriate to focus on some of the power of this so-called "minor" holiday. My focus begins with a look at the "Purimspiel."

A "Purimspiel" (Yiddish for "Purim Play") is a traditional dramatization based on the Book of Esther and performed on or about the time of the Feast of Esther, that is, Purim. The Purimspiel appears to have started 250 to 300 years ago in Eastern Europe. It generally satirizes the characters in the Purim story: King Achashvayrosh, Vashti, Haman, Mordechai, Esther, et al. Ordinarily such satire would have been deemed inappropriate for the synagogue -- except on Purim!

The Purimspiel and the holiday of Purim itself became so much enjoyed and loved by the Jewish people that Purimspiel-type performances spread to other Biblical stories as well, such as "Joseph and His Brothers" and "Daniel in the Lions' Den." When times were tough, as they often were, nothing was as soothing and uplifting as a story with a happy ending about the Jewish people's ancient heroes. Usually the Purimspiel used non-professional people as actors. One favorite form, especially for children, involved the use of puppets.

The foregoing background brings us to an amazing discovery that took place only a few years ago: a manuscript of a Purimspiel, composed by Walter Freud (no relation to Sigmund) and written in the prison camp of by the Nazis, in the spring of 1942, to Terezin. He immediately began staging puppet shows for the children. He directed performances for the Jewish holidays. In 1943, the Zionist Youth organization in Terezin celebrated Purim using Freud's original Purimspiel. (The play whose manuscript was discovered recently.) In good traditional fashion, even in such a place, his text was a comic one. His script combined freely the Biblical characters with scenes that gave insight into the prisoners' lives. The Purimspiel included: a cabaret song about gossip in the camp; scenes about the young Zionists' love of labor and their dedication to the land of Israel; vignettes showing their struggles to learn to speak modern Hebrew; and moments of great tension and fear turning into triumphal relief. In the finale, Esther, Mordechai, the King, and Haman (still around) all sang a comic refrain based on a German folk-song.

Can we imagine it? There is great spirit and power in the make-believe of this so-called "minor" holiday of Purim. All honor to Walter Freud, of blessed memory -- and to those who remember the Jewish people's history, as we celebrate Esther's feast.



LIMUD TORAH / TORAH STUDY GROUP

Our Limud Torah / Torah Study Group generally meets every Monday morning, from 8:30 to 10:00 a. m., at the Synagogue. As a group, we decide upon a traditional or modern piece of Jewish literature, which then becomes our subject for a month or for half a year, depending upon the scope of the work we are considering. We now look forward to continuing our study of our new subject, the Book of Ecclesiastes. Under the direction of Rabbi Silverman. No Hebrew required (though always helpful). Newcomers are always welcome! Meetings of the group are planned for March 3, 10, 17, and 24. Please see the Weekly Update for dates in April and occasional modifications to our schedule.

BEIT SEFER NEWS

Jewish Calendar Unit - The children enjoyed a creative unit focusing on our lunar calendar. Classes compared our everyday calendar with the Jewish calendar and discovered their dates of birth according to the Jewish calendar. Each student received a certificate with that date and the name of Torah portion that is read on their date of birth. Another fun and tasty activity involved showing the phases of the moon using Oreo cookies!

Literature Unit - Students explored more Jewish literature focusing on topics such as holidays, culture & traditions, Ellis Island, and the Holocaust. Activities involved comparing stories, creating a classroom quilt, decorating spice boxes, and story writing.

Shabbat Attendance - Remember that children are expected to attend 4 Shabbat services during the school year. If they can't make it to our Simcha Shabbat, they can get credit for attending another Shabbat service. Consider reaching out to other parents to see if they can help with transportation.

Purim Carnival - Join us at 10:00 on Sunday, March 16th for the Rabbi's exciting reading of the Megillah! This will be followed by the annual CBJ Purim Carnival. Thanks to the PTO for planning this event

Moe's Fundraiser— Eat at Moe's Sunday, March 30th between 12 pm—6 pm present the flyer on page 7 and proceeds go to the PTO

Upcoming Dates -

Saturday, March 1st - Pizza & Havdalah (@ 5:30 pm (must have reserved your spot by 2/24)

Sunday, March 9th - Ten Commandments unit

Sunday, March 16th - Reading of the Megillah & Purim Carnival (@ 10:00 am

Sunday, March 23rd - Ten Commandments unit

Sunday, March 30th - Synagogue unit & Moe's Fundraiser — See Flyer on Page 7 (must present flyer at Moe's)

Friday, April 4th - Simcha Shabbat with a special presentation by our 3rd & 4th graders

Sunday, April 6th - Synagogue unit

Sunday, April 13th - Chocolate Seder

Sunday, April 20th & 27th - No Beit Sefer - School Vacation

Friday, May 2nd - Simcha Shabbat

Sunday, May 4th - Closing Ceremony and Family Fun Day

CONGREGATION BETH JACOB EXECUTIVE BOARD

Christine Burke – President

Open – Vice President

Paula Keller – Recording Secretary

Sheila Finer – Corresponding Secretary

Brian Duckman – Treasurer

Alan Koplan – Assistant Treasurer

Carl Finer - Member-at-Large

Len Freed - Member-at-Large

Melissa Goldbach - Member-at-Large

Steve Goldberg - Member-at-Large

Jeremy Kusmin - Member-at-Large

Ronnie Hirschhorn - Member-at-Large

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Brian Duckman

Arnold Gladstein

Larry Winokur

CONFIRMATION DATES:

Confirmation meets 10:25—11:25 on the following Sundays:

March 9th

March 16th (Purim Carnival—please arrive for Megilah reading at 10:00 and help with carnival)

March 30th

April 13th

SISTERHOOD NEWS:

Sisterhood is holding its major fundraiser of the year, Donor Luncheon, on Sunday, May 18th at Carmela's in Kingston with wine and cheese at noon. Joanne Levy has once again agreed to organize our auction. If you have an item to contribute email Joanne Jolevy@gmail.com. Invitations will be mailed early April.

ONEGS:

March 7th: Russell and Colleen Neitlich

March 14th: Matt & Marjorie Nydell

March 21st: Unassigned

March 28th: Carl and Sheila Finer

April 4th: Brian & Alexandria Duckman

April 11th: Unassigned

April 18th: Sisterhood

April 28th: Unassigned

If you would like to host an Oneg contact Susan Solomon at bunnienu@gmail.com or call 781-258-7861

WE OFFER HOSPITALITY FOR THE HOMELESS, MARCH 2nd-8th

This project is literally a life-saving Mitzvah, as we offer shelter to about 20 homeless men during these cold winter nights. Please consider making a commitment to help. As part of an interfaith effort, sponsored by the Plymouth Area Taskforce for the Homeless and the Interfaith Clergy Association, CBJ will be hosting "Nights of Hospitality for the Homeless" during the week of March 2-8. We have been offered the meeting-hall in Plymouth's First Baptist Church as the location we can use to provide shelter. In order to be able to offer a successful program, we need: 1) Gifts to the Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund, so that our participation does not have an impact of CBJ's budget; 2) Meal-providers for each of our seven nights (some subsidies are available); 3) Two Chaperones per night for each of the seven nights. To volunteer, please call Shellie at 508-746-3026 (she can also answer many of your questions). Please respond! Please help! There are 20 homeless people who need our help.

Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund:

The Mitzvah Fund is used to support charitable and educational projects and programs for the benefit of the Congregation and in its name any amount. Your thoughtfulness is important and appreciated. Checks should be made payable to "CBJ-Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund" and sent to the Rabbi's attention at P.O. Box 3284, Plymouth, MA 02361. Please include your dedication instructions. A note will be sent to the person(s) honored by your gift or to the family of someone in whose memory a contribution is made. Thank you for considering a donation in any amount. Your thoughtfulness is important and appreciated.

The Congregation sends a hearty "Mazel Tov" to...

JULIAN MILLER, Son of Dr. Gregg and Cassandra Miller who will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, March 8th.

"The Memory of the Righteous is a Blessing"

The Congregation offers heartfelt condolences to....

Julie, Samantha & Giavanna Benedetto on the passing of loving husband and father, Ed Benedetto
Suzanne Goldberg and the Goldberg family on the passing of her husband Stephen

Deadline for the May/June TENT is April 13th. Articles and news may be submitted to Robin Kirby at robink12@verizon.net and are accepted earlier than the deadline. Please note that the deadline is just that a deadline. I would like to keep the issues of the TENT coming out the last week of the month prior to the TENT issue ie. November/December should be out the last week of October so congregants that wish to attend upcoming events know of them in advance.

Thank you in advance for your understanding,
Robin Kirby, Editor



**PURIM CARNIVAL
FOR THE ENTIRE
CONGREGATION BETH JACOB CONGREGATION
(at the Synagogue, 8 Pleasant Street, Plymouth)**

Sunday March 16 10:45 A.M. – 11:45 A.M.

*(After the 10:00 reading of the Megillah
by Rabbi Silverman)*



**Be sure to wear your Costume
(both ADULTS and CHILDREN)**

**Refreshments will be provided
Including, of course:
Hamantashen**

**P.S. Yes, there will be games, activities and
prizes for the kids
(Courtesy of the PTO and supporters)**

**Please remember: to bring non-perishable food items for
the Greater Plymouth Food Warehouse**



MOE'S KNOWS FUNDRAISING

Do you know what's better than enjoying delicious food from Moe's? Being able to eat your burrito and keep the proceeds too!



Come out on **Sunday March 30, 2014 anytime from 12:00 noon to 6:00 P.M.** and support Congregation Beth Jacob PTO and your stomach! A percentage of the proceeds from the night will be donated back to the PTO.

110 Colony Place, Plymouth

Please present flier to cashier when paying.

DONATIONS**YAHREIT FUND**

In Memory of our Dearest Friend Dr. Arthur W. Goodman by Jdgc. & Mrs. Gregory Baler;
 Atty. & Mrs. Adam J. Baler & Family
 Benny's in Memory of Samuel & Sadye Gereboff
 Laura & Mark Goldberg in Memory of Lawrence Fredman
 William Righter in Memory of Hannah Cooper
 William Righter in Memory of Charles Righter
 Ronnie & Dan Hirschhorn in Memory of Nathan & Mae Hirschhorn & Bernarc Riback
 Sherri & Ed Sore in Memory of William Lashin, Elaine Winter, Max Winter and Lilly Winter
 David & Ruth Weiner in Memory of Stephen Goldberg

GENERAL FUND

Matt & Marjorie Nydell in Honor of Jonathan Nydell's first job at SpaceX
 Sherri & Ed Sore in Honor of Robin Kirby's 50th Birthday
 Sheila Toabe for CBJ

RABBI'S MITZVAH FUND

Matching donation from the Rabbi's appeal in November
 Carol & Donald Gilbert in Honor of Robin Kirby's 50th Birthday

RESNICK FAMILY EDUCATION FUND

Bernard Resnick in Memory of Seda Resnick

ESTELLE POKROSS AND HYMAN SHERMAN FUND**SARAH AND ABRAHAM SHERMAN FUND**

Rose Geller and Family in Memory of Dr. Arthur Goodman

MISC**PLEASE NOTE:**

Contributions to the Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund are always welcome and, during the winter months, are especially needed. Checks should be made payable to "CBJ-Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund" and sent to the Rabbi's attention at P.O. Box 3284, Plymouth, MA 02361. Please include your dedication instructions. A note will be sent to the person (s) honored by your gift or to the family of someone in whose memory a contribution is made.

HINENI

The Brotherhood and Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Jacob are continuing (Hineni) to provide one-time or short-term services to congregants. To this end, a number of congregants have volunteered to provide rides, meals, and other similar assistance as needed and requested.

For examples, rides to Temple for services, programs, and meetings as well as to appointments can be arranged. Meals will also be provided on a limited basis.

All congregant requests will be maintained in the strictest of confidentiality. Any requests for assistance should be directed to the program coordinators, Suzanne Goldberg @ 508-833-8896, or Rabbi Silverman @ 508-746-1575. Volunteers are always welcomed and needed.

Yahrzeits During MARCH/APRIL

Please note: Yahrzeit observance begins the evening preceding the date shown.

Yahrzeits: MARCH/APRIL

(Yahrzeit Observance begins the evening before the date shown)

"May the Memory of each one abide as a Blessing"

MARCH

7 Max Shriber
8 Hyman Sherman
9 Ida Toabe
10 Beatrice Klein
12 Edith Albert
13 Dinah Van West
14 Lillie Pokross
14 Sylvia Wippman
16 Sarah Rebecca Cohen
16 Sally Sarke
17 Rebecca Kirschner
17 I. Harry Keller
18 Betty Balton
19 Elizabeth Rains
19 Rose Goldberg
21 Eleanor Azerrad
22 Susan Starr
23 Adele Hollander
24 Ben Lipman
25 Adele Baler
27 Sadye Arons
29 Phillip Van West
29 Isidore H. Waterman
30 Henry Grace
30 Samuel Bailey

31 Lawrence Hollander

APRIL

2 Bernard Skulsky
2 Janet Kalaminsky
3 Ida Herman
4 Jeffrey Hirschhorn
5 Isaac Cohen
5 Bessie Shepard
7 Samuel Poretsky
10 Mary Jane Katz
10 Joseph G. Resnick
11 Molly Skulsky
Balonis
14 Sadye Sherman Gereboff
14 Albert Silverman
14 Louis Segal
16 Ida Cohen
16 Mitchell Toabe
16 Leah Supornick
16 Henry Feinberg
18 Fannie Penn
22 Max Winokur
22 Joseph Weiner
23 Joseph Barney Van West
23 Joseph Greenberg
26 Hyman John Klasky
26 James Moore
27 Day of Holocaust Remembrance
27 Eleanor Goldberg
29 Leigh Robinson



"May the Memory of each one abide as a Blessing"

Notes on Yahrzeit observance:

Some customs associated with Yahrzeit observance are: lighting a memorial candle at home in the evening at the beginning of the Yahrzeit period; saying Kaddish during a Shabbat service close to the Yahrzeit; donating to a charity or one of CBJ's special funds in memory of the one whose Yahrzeit is being observed.

Members, Guests and Friends of CBJ:

I am happy to remind you of a program that we offer at Congregation Beth Jacob to inform fellow Jews: both members and their families and friends of CBJ, of the annual yahrzeit dates of their loved ones. Once you have supplied the names and dates (either Hebrew or English) of those whom you wish to remember, you will receive notification approximately three weeks in advance of the yahrzeit date. There is no charge for this service. We feel that it's important to supply this service to all interested Jews.

I realize that our members have furnished this information when they joined CBJ. We ask those of you who have not done so to supply this information again so we can be sure our records are up-to-date and accurate. This program is separate from your listings in our annual Yizkor Book of Remembrance.

Please send this information to:

Congregation Beth Jacob
Attn: Arnold Gladstein
P O Box 3284
Plymouth, MA 02361

HOW TO REACH US AT CBJ

508-746-1575

(Messages can be left here)

Rabbi Silverman can be reached at 508-746-0010 during Calling Hours and in Case of Emergency (Confidential messages can be left at this number).

Exception: When one knows that Rabbi Silverman is at the Synagogue, for example, for Hebrew School or Bar/Bat Mitzvah lessons, then it makes sense to try the Synagogue number first.

RABBI SILVERMAN'S CALLING HOURS:

Rabbi Silverman observes Calling Hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am - noon. In case of emergency, messages may always be left at 508-746-0010.

MARCH 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Pizza & Havdallah 5:30 pm
2	3	4 7:00 Sisterhood Meeting	5	6	7 Shabbat Services 7:30 Onge: Russell and Colleen Neitlich	8 Bar Mitzvah 10:00 Julien Miller
9 9:45 Beit Sefer 10:25 Confirmation	10	11	12	13	14 Simcha Shabbat Service 7:30 pm Oneg: Matt & Marjorie Nydell	15
16 9:45 Beit Sefer 10:00 Purim Carnival 10:25 Confirmation	17	18	19	20	21 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Oneg: OPEN	22
23 9:45 Beit Sefer	24 7:00 CBJ Board Meeting	25	26	27	28 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Oneg: Carl & Sheila Finer	29

APRIL 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 9:45 Beit Sefer 10:25 Confirmation MOE's FUNDRAISER	31	1 7:00 Sisterhood Meeting	2	3	4 Simcha Shabbat 7:30pm Oneg: Brian & Alexan- dria Duckman	5
6 9:45 Beit Sefer	7	8	9	10	11 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Oneg: OPEN	12 6:30 pm Bingo/ Potluck
13 9:45 Beit Sefer 10:25 Confirmation	14 First Seder	15	16	17	18 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Oneg: Sisterhood	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Shabbat Service 7:30pm Oneg: Open	26
27	28 7:00 CBJ Board Meeting	29	30			

Holidays begin at sundown on the evening before the dates listed.

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