



THE PUP TENT

Congregation Beth Jacob's Monthly Newsletter

May, 2020

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

For the protection of our congregants, all previously scheduled meetings, Shabbat services, group activities, social events, and all Religious School classes have been canceled or postponed until further notice, in view of the current coronavirus pandemic. **Watch this space for updates on when scheduled meetings and events will resume.**

SHABBAT!



During the time when Shabbat services are suspended, a "Virtual Shabbat Service," with links to essential blessings, prayers and songs, as well as Rabbi Silverman's weekly message/sermon, is being published in the Weekly Update. CBJ has also been conducting Shabbat services via **Zoom**, a teleconferencing computer application. See the "CBJ Weekly Update" for information on how to connect to these services using Zoom.

Imagine! You can participate in our Shabbat service from the comfort of your own home. No need to rush through Friday night dinner or struggle to find parking in downtown Plymouth. Reconnect with fellow congregants and experience the joy of celebrating Shabbat – one of the most important holidays in the Jewish calendar. While we hope that the Covid-19 crisis will pass quickly and that our lives will resume some element of normalcy soon, we can still find a way to worship together and maintain our bonds as members of the CBJ family.



Message from Rabbi Silverman

(The following message was published in the January, 2019 edition of "The Tent." In it, our Rabbi addresses the importance of our observance of Shabbat -- how it brings us together as Jews and as a community; how it clears our minds and prepares us for a day of rest. At this unique time, although we cannot physically congregate in our Sanctuary, it is more important than ever for us to maintain the bonds of community and to remember that we are there for each other.)

The value of Shabbat services on Friday is often misunderstood. It does not mean, all of a sudden, because someone decides to attend our evening service, that the individual has become a "Shabbat observer." We had a surge in attendance on Friday, November 2nd, largely in response to the atrocity – the tragedy – which took place in Pittsburgh on the previous Shabbat. Being in our Synagogue that Friday night was an expression of solidarity, of pain, of remembrance, and of determination in the aftermath of the awful events which had come like a plague into our consciousness. Being together for a Shabbat service can be a response to tragedy and can be a response to values of a different kind: We are together with other Jews and visitors, some of whom may not be Jewish: individuals, for example, who are studying or wish to learn about Judaism. We are together for a peaceful purpose, in the midst of a world that is full of conflict. We hear or read words which come to us from a long tradition. We can acknowledge that these words may not express our own thoughts. Yet we know these words are important: Without them we may not have come to be where we are in the world and in our own thinking. We hear a D'var Torah, words of teaching, usually from me, the Rabbi, and occasionally from one of you, members of CBJ. We have a quiet time during services: time to let go of our daily struggles, time to meditate, time to think, time to remember those who are sick or injured and to send helpful thoughts in their direction. Being together for a Shabbat service also means a chance to socialize with others who are there with us: those others who are there, perhaps, just to meet us. This weekly practice of ours is one of the most precious hours in my daily life. How important might it be to you? I can't answer that question. Why not try it? Give services a chance – any Friday night will do – and see for yourself!

Rabbi Lawrence

You may contact Rabbi Silverman by phone (508-746-0010) or by email (rabbilawrence@gmail.com).



The Following Yahrzeits Will be Observed in May:

(A memorial candle should be lit on the preceding evening.)

May

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Beatrice Weiner | 20 Ida Portnoy |
| 3 Harry Jacobson | 22 Lucille Arons |
| 4 Helen Pearce | 22 Annie F. Goldman |
| 6 Maurice Treppel | 22 Marion E. Melville |
| 7 Arthur E. Jacobs | 22 Bertha Perlman |
| 7 Muriel Swartz | 22 Barbara Rountree |
| 8 Miles Herman | 23 Jacob Erie |
| 8 Max Levin | 24 Harold Goodless |
| 8 William Lippman | 26 Rebecca Frim |
| 10 Avi Teles Hunemorder | 26 Lawrence Geller |
| 12 Stella S. Bromberg | 26 Ada Greenberg |
| 12 Arnold B. Shelly | 26 Ralph Holler |
| 12 Louis Waterman | 26 Bessie A. Resnick |
| 14 Arnold Brodie | 27 Rae Baron |
| 14 Harvey F. Cohen | 27 Rose Sherman Geller |
| 15 Sheila Finer | 28 Marc Lipetz |
| 17 Miriam Polak Lelyveld | 29 Minnie E. Kaplan |
| 18 Kalman Aharoni | 30 Joan Eisenberg |
| 19 Joseph Epstein | 31 Belle Myer |
| 19 Edward L. Greenberg | 31 Walter Wise |
| 20 Abraham Goldberg | |

May their memories be for a blessing and live forever in the hearts of all who knew and loved them.



Congregation Beth Jacob gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following donations:

Yahrzeit Fund:

Dan & Ronnie Hirschhorn - in memory of Dan's parents, Jeffrey and Barbara Hirschhorn

Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund:

Rhonda & Jay John
Jeffrey Isaacson



Food for Thought . . . The following message was posted on Facebook in the midst of the Coronavirus outbreak. I found it to be beautiful, comforting, and meaningful. I hope you will too.

When This is Over

When this is over,
may we never again
take for granted
a handshake with a stranger,
full shelves at the store,
conversations with neighbors,
a crowded theatre,
Friday night out,
A Shabbat minyan,
A routine checkup.
The school rush each morning,
Coffee with a friend,
The stadium roaring,
Each deep breath,

A boring Tuesday.
Life itself.

When this ends,
may we find
that we have become
more like the people
we wanted to be
when we were called to be.
And may we stay
that way – better
for each other
because of the worst.

Adapted from Laura Kelly Fanucci

**In Case You Missed It....
This Will Make You Proud!**



Michael Cohen's Video of CBJ for Plymouth 2020

As you already know, the Plymouth 400 organization postponed opening ceremonies from April 24th to June 26th in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, and all of our synagogue tours that were scheduled for April and May have been suspended until it is safe and appropriate to reschedule them.

An important part of CBJ's tour is an exceptional video that Michael Cohen produced for us, documenting CBJ in the Past and in the Present. Michael is the grandson of Harry and Rose Cohen, one of CBJ's Founding Families. We are grateful to Michael for creating this beautiful video. A link to this video is below. Watch it and feel proud to be a member of our extraordinary congregation! (The violin music on the soundtrack is played by none other than Isaac Stern!) [Click here](https://youtu.be/I2q1OjSCEmg). Or paste this link into your browser: <https://youtu.be/I2q1OjSCEmg>

Recipe of the Month: Deluxe Noodle Kugel (for Shevuot)

Shevuot begins on May 28th and ends on May 30th. It is traditional to eat dairy foods on Shevuot. Here is an excellent recipe for Noodle Kugel from the URJ website.

KUGEL:

- 1/2 pound medium or extra-wide noodles
- 1 pound cream cheese
- 1/2 pound unsalted butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 8 eggs
- 1 small can mandarin oranges, drained
- 1 small can crushed pineapple, drained

TOPPING

- 4 ounces walnuts
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons butter

Cook the noodles according to package directions. Drain and place in a 4-quart bowl. Combine the cream cheese and butter in a processor work bowl and blend until smooth. Scrape down the sides of the work bowl. Add the sugar and process until well combined. Add the sour cream, vanilla, and eggs and process until well mixed. Pour into the 4-quart bowl with the noodles. Stir the fruits in by hand, and pour the mixture into a buttered 13 × 9-inch baking dish. The mixture will almost overflow. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate overnight. When ready to bake, uncover and place in a preheated 350°F oven and bake for 50 minutes. Combine the walnuts with the sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle on top of the kugel. Dot with the 2 tablespoons of butter and bake for 15 minutes more. Serve warm or at room temperature. This could be made totally in advance, but it won't be as light.

Laughter Corner

(I probably heard this story in the late 1950's, from a wonderful Jewish comedian and storyteller named Sam Levinson. He was a frequent guest on The Ed Sullivan Show. It's an oldie, but a goodie!)



What Did You Do All day?

A man came home from work and found his three children outside, still in their pajamas, playing in the mud, with empty food boxes and wrappers strewn all around the front yard. The door of his wife's car was open, as was the front door to the house and there was no sign of the dog.

Proceeding into the entry, he found an even bigger mess. A lamp had been knocked over, and the throw rug was wadded against one wall. In the front room the TV was loudly blaring a cartoon channel, and the family room was strewn with toys and various items of clothing. In the kitchen, dishes filled the sink, breakfast food was spilled on the counter, the fridge door was open wide, dog food was spilled on the floor, a broken glass lay under the table, and a small pile of sand was spread by the back door.

He quickly headed up the stairs, stepping over toys and more piles of clothes, looking for his wife. He was worried she might be ill, or that something serious had happened. He was met with a small trickle of water as it made its way out the bathroom door. As he peered inside he found wet towels, scummy soap, and more toys strewn over the floor. Miles of toilet paper lay in a heap and toothpaste had been smeared over the mirror and walls.

As he rushed to the bedroom, he found his wife still curled up in the bed in her pajamas, reading a novel. She looked up at him, smiled, and asked how his day went. He looked at her bewildered and asked: "What happened here today?" She again smiled and answered, "You know every day when you come home from work and you ask me what in the world I do all day?" "Yes," was his incredulous reply.

She answered, "Well, today I didn't do it."

Editor's Note: "The Pup Tent" is a monthly publication that provides a condensed summary of CBJ news, including the monthly Calendar, upcoming Yahrzeit dates, and acknowledgments of donations that have been received. The "CBJ Weekly Update" is our weekly email newsletter that includes full details about upcoming events, as well as information about the weekly Torah reading portion and helpful links to various resources. **To subscribe to the CBJ Weekly Update, please contact me at judith.sherman@gmail.com.** Thank you!

Judith Sherman, Editor, "The Pup Tent" and "CBJ Weekly Update"