



THE PUP TENT

Congregation Beth Jacob's Monthly Newsletter

June, 2021



June 2, 7:00 pm: Sisterhood Meeting: Jews in the Arts - Painting/Sculpting
June 4, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Service
June 7, 8:30 am: Limud Torah
June 11, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Service
June 14, 8:30 am: Limud Torah
June 18, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Service
June 21, 8:30 am: Limud Torah
June 25, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Service
June 28, 8:30 am: Limud Torah
June 28, 7:00 pm: CBJ Board Meeting

CBJ Calendar of Upcoming Events (All via Zoom - See the “CBJ Weekly Update” for details and links to join these meetings.)

[To see CBJ's online Calendar of Events, click here.](#)

SHABBAT!



Consistent with the practice of other synagogues in our area, CBJ has been conducting Shabbat services via **Zoom** for the past year. See the “CBJ Weekly Update” for information on how to connect to these services. If you do not currently receive the “Weekly Update,” please send an email message to Judith Sherman at judith.sherman@gmail.com, and she will be happy to add you to the distribution list.

Introducing Rabbi Estelle Mills

CBJ's Co-Presidents, Fred Sarke and Ronnie Hirschhorn are very happy to report that we have entered into an agreement of employment with our new rabbi, Rabbi Estelle Mills. Rabbi Mills will begin her rabbinate with CBJ on July 1st, 2021. Rabbi Silverman will officially retire on July 31st. The Executive Board is currently planning activities to celebrate Rabbi Silverman's many, many years serving our congregation and welcoming Rabbi Mills to CBJ. We'll keep you informed as our plans begin to solidify. Rabbi Mills' biography is below.



Rabbi Estelle Gottman Mills earned her honorary doctorate for twenty-five years of service as a rabbi in 2017. Most of those twenty-five years were spent serving as the rabbi of Congregation Kol Chadash in the Cleveland suburb of Solon, and as the rabbi of Congregation Kol Am in the St. Louis suburb of Ballwin. Under her leadership, these congregations experienced significant growth in membership and in their religious schools. She has most recently served as the rabbi of Temple Bat Yam in Berlin, Maryland.

Rabbi Mills has been recognized for her innovative and cutting-edge programming. She was the recipient of the prestigious Legacy Heritage Innovator Grant and the Union for Reform Judaism has recognized her creative and innovative programming by awarding her an Incubator Grant for her Family Education Program: "Exciting Destinations, Jewish Explorations" and a Belin Award for her Membership Program: "No Regrets Membership."

Her rabbinate has always included very active and ongoing involvement with the school and the young families. A gifted educator, she passionately believes that strong, high quality Jewish educational opportunities and programming for all ages from seniors to the youngest learners are essential to strengthening and growing today's congregations. For her, the response to declining involvement in congregational life is not watering down content; rather the answer is to make these experiences valuable, meaningful and accessible. She recognizes that we are living in a time of great innovation in almost every area of life, and Jewish institutions must embrace these innovations to attract today's families. She has been recognized and led workshops for her use of "Public Space Judaism", using outside public venues for activities that then bring the unaffiliated into the congregation.

Rabbi Mills was born in Yonkers, New York and grew up in Greensboro, N.C. She was ordained by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati in 1992, and holds a B.A. with honors in Jewish History from University of Michigan. She and her husband, Rabbi Steven Mills (Zichrona Livracha) are the proud parents of three children, Rafi, a 2015 Lehigh University engineering graduate currently working at a government nuclear facility in Schenectady NY, Sivan, a 2017 University of Pennsylvania graduate who works for Aetna Insurance in Philadelphia and Noa, a recent graduate of Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York who is starting the doctoral program in occupational therapy at Tufts University.



SAVE THE DATE!

**Meet and Greet Reception Being Planned for Rabbi Mills
August 15th, 1:00-3:00 pm
White Cliffs Country Club**

We look forward to Rabbi Mill's presence on our bimah and we want to welcome her with our friendly smiles. Please come to our Meet and Greet event planned for Sunday afternoon, August 15 at White Cliffs Country Club. Invitations will be mailed to each member by July 1st. The Planning Committee is working very hard to put together a wonderful event.

REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIPS

Is there a family or individual who would like to subsidize this event by making a donation in honor of a happy occasion like a graduation or in memory of a loved one - please call Rose at 508-677-7913.



**Article from The Old Colony Memorial on May 17, 2021
CBJ Announces the Retirement of Rabbi Lawrence Silverman**

In its May 17th issue, The Old Colony Memorial published the following news release announcing the retirement of Rabbi Silverman and the hiring of Rabbi Estelle Mills.

Congregation Beth Jacob has announced the coming retirement of Rabbi Lawrence Silverman after 44 years of service to the Plymouth area Jewish community. He will be leaving his position as Rabbi at the end of July 2021. He and his wife, Meredith, will continue to reside in Plymouth. Silverman has been a member of the Plymouth Area Interfaith Clergy Alliance for many years. He is held in high esteem by both fellow clergy and members of their congregations, who have often expressed their appreciation for hearing him speak on occasions such as the community Thanksgiving service, Congregation Beth Jacob said in its statement.

Silverman has also invited members of PAICA, the No Place for Hate committee and others to participate as readers in the annual community Holocaust Remembrance. He has included choral students from both Plymouth high schools in this commemoration, as well as musicians and other vocalists.

Over the years, he has visited many area schools and libraries sharing the stories of major Jewish holidays and historical events. His presence in the community has been an important source of collaboration, education and inspiration. It is with fondness and the warmest of best wishes that the CBJ congratulates him on his retirement.

At this time, the CBJ will welcome Rabbi Estelle Gottman Mills as the new rabbi, effective July 1. Over the past 25 years, Mills has served congregations in the Cleveland suburb of Solon, the St. Louis suburb of Baldwin, and, most recently, in Berlin, Maryland.

She has been recognized by the Union for Reform Judaism for her innovative programming in family education and has always been actively involved in providing educational opportunities and programming for all ages from seniors to children.

Mills was born in Yonkers, New York, and grew up in Greensboro, North Carolina. She was ordained by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati in 1992 and has a Bachelor of Arts with honors in Jewish History from the University of Michigan. Her late husband, Steven Mills, was also a rabbi. Her oldest son, Rafi, an engineering graduate of Lehigh University, works for the government in Schenectady, New York; her daughter, Sivan, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, works for Aetna Insurance in Philadelphia; and her youngest daughter, Noa, a recent graduate of Skidmore College, is starting a doctoral program in occupational therapy at Tufts University.



The Following Yahrzeits Will be Observed This Month:

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

June 2021

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Dora G. Bell | 17 Jack Greenberg |
| 1 Ruth Cohen | 17 Edith Lipetz |
| 1 Jacob William Yutan | 17 Herbert Silverman |
| 2 Vera I. Marcus | 18 Alice Harris |
| 2 Hattie Resnick Waterman | 18 Jack C. Swartz |
| 3 Jack Gurwitch | 18 Jack Weiss |
| 4 Rachel Resnick | 19 Robert Donald Schwartz |
| 5 Leon Bromberg | 19 Frank Simon |
| 5 Sara Skulsky | 21 Joseph S. Cohen |
| 6 Myer "Mike" Starr | 21 Florence Efron |
| 7 William F. Melville | 22 Kurt Weishaupt |
| 7 Ruth Putnam Sherman | 24 Sadie Addis |
| 8 Israel Erdunast | 25 Edward R. Bloom |
| 8 Carl Finer | 25 Lena Milner Koblantz |
| 8 Faye Rothstein | 25 Hyman Romanow |
| 8 Frances Taub | 25 Raymond Russo |
| 9 Louis Koplan | 27 Esther Aranowitz |
| 10 Esther Ruth Keil | 27 Joseph Feinberg |
| 10 Zelda Selya Silverman | 27 John Martini |
| 13 Cecile Baker Greenberg | 29 Harry Minsky |
| 14 Kate Hurwitz | 29 Jack Minsky |
| 14 Mary Minsky | 29 Katherine P. Toabe |
| 14 Milton Moore | 30 Melinda Hightower |
| 15 David Starr | 30 Selma Leopold |
| 16 Irving Isaacson | |

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:

General Fund:

Ronald & Greta Post, in memory of Dan Hirschhorn

Yahrzeit Fund:

- Joe & Paula Keller and the Campanella Family, in memory of Paula's mother, Lucille Arons
- Sherman Geller, in memory of his mother, Rose Sherman Geller
- Fred & Irene Sarke, in memory of Irene's father, Marc Lipetz

Sisterhood Diaper Fund Drive:

Pam Sechoka
Rabbi Lawrence Silverman
Rabbi's Mitzvah Fund

Brotherhood News



All Brotherhood activities are on hold while we seek volunteers to serve as its new President. Over the next several months, individual Brotherhood members may wish to plan and organize specific activities, such as a film for a Movie Discussion Night or a speaker for a Discussion Group. Watch the Weekly Update for further information.



Rabbi Silverman's Sermon From Shabbat Service on May 7, 2021

THE MAGIC RING

This week's Torah portion, named "Emor," which is a word of command meaning "speak," gives us the first (but not the last) calendar of our major holidays. "Emor" also instructs us in the Counting of the Omer, which we took part in a few minutes ago. We number the weeks and days of the Omer until we arrive at Shavu'ot, when we have completed seven weeks of counting.

But first I want to tell you a story that comes from a collection offered by my colleague and friend, Rabbi Edward Feinstein.

The story is told: There was a king who collected jewels. One night, he had a vivid and very unusual dream. He dreamed that somewhere in the world there was a ring with strange and amazing powers. When one was sad, it could make the person happy. If one had been drinking too much, it could make the individual sober and bring him or her back to oneself. When the person was joyful, it intensified the joy.

The king awoke from his dream convinced that the ring he dreamed about really existed. Calling together his court, he recounted the dream and offered a fabulous reward for the one who found the ring. Each of the courtiers went out to search the world. And each returned empty-handed. Except one. There was one whose love for his master pushed him onward. Years went by. He scoured the world, searching every shop, every bazaar, for the magic ring. To no avail. But before he would admit to failure, he stepped, one last time, into a tiny shop near the palace. He described what he sought and told the owner about all his travail over the past years. The owner simply smiled and said, "I have the ring," and he also said, "come, let me get it for you." He took down an old box and handed the ring to the astonished servant of the king. "Take it as my gift to the king," he said.

The servant rushed to the palace. He entered the king's chamber, approached the throne, and presented the ring to the king. When the king opened the box, he found a plain, unadorned, metal ring. Could this be the precious, magical ring that he had dreamed about? Then he saw that three Hebrew words were engraved on the ring: GAHM ZEH YA-AVOR, THIS TOO WILL PASS. Over time, the king came to realize the magical power of the ring. When he was sad, the ring would remind him: THIS TOO WILL PASS, and he would be consoled. If he had too much to drink, he would look upon the ring: THIS TOO WILL PASS, and he was sobered. And when he experienced true joy, real happiness, the ring reminded him: "Gahm Zeh Ya'avohr," THIS TOO WILL PASS; and he recognized the preciousness of special moments. Soon he realized that this was indeed the most valuable ring in the world. He lost interest in the rest of his collection: all his many jewels and gems paled in the face of the plain metal ring which never left his hand and taught him true lessons about his life.

The story is true. The ring and its power really exist. It is the greatest magic of all: learning to live with the passage of time. It is said, "Time heals all wounds." This is true only for the minor wounds. Real pain, the pain that comes with the bitter truth of human mortality, never goes away. But over time, the sweetness of memory mixes with the bitterness of loss and forgetfulness. The pain, the loneliness, is still there. And eventually it mellows for us, as we remember.

When we are frivolous, when life becomes a search for the next distraction and amusement, we remember that no one has an endless supply of tomorrows to accomplish the important tasks of life. And we wake up. As the sage Hillel taught: "If I am not for myself, who is for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?"

And when we are truly happy, we also remember that moments of joy are fleeting. They must be cherished. Children grow older. Loved ones do not live forever. For the wise, the bitterness of our mortality teaches us to hold on to the sweetness of special moments.

Traditionally Jews have a serious relationship with time: Counting the days until Shabbat, marking the beginning of each new month, waiting for the next holiday. And especially at this time of the year: Seven weeks of the Omer, each day counted and each week marked, as we are instructed in this week's Torah portion. To remind us that time is passing. And to give us this gift: The poignancy, the intensity, the full bitterness and the full sweetness of life lived within the inevitable passing of time. The magic ring of our story is the Torah's gift to all of us who are here this week. Shabbat Shalom!



CBJ'S NEW SISTERHOOD

Co-Presidents: Rose Litchman and Suzanne Goldberg

Rose: snobuntng@aol.com

Suzanne: sgold3016@comcast.net

NEW SISTERHOOD LEADERSHIP IN THE COMING YEAR

Over the past year, Cindy Teles and Rose Litchman have served as Sisterhood's co-Presidents. For the coming year, Cindy will be stepping aside, and Susanne Goldberg has graciously offered to serve, together with Rose, as Sisterhood's new co-Presidents. Suzanne is dedicated to CBJ, having served as Sisterhood's President for many years, as well as being the tireless Oneg coordinator for CBJ's Friday evening services and heading up Sisterhood's Diaper Drive.

Sisterhood members can look forward to another exciting year, with programs that will be stimulating and informative. Please support our efforts and plan to participate in the coming year. Even if you may not have been an active member for a while, you will be warmly welcomed. Sisterhood's mission remains the same - to promote our Jewishness, to bring us together to reinforce our existing friendships, and to make new friends. What can be better than that? We want to express our appreciation to Cindy Teles for serving as co-President over the past year. Cindy will continue to serve as Sisterhood's Treasurer and on CBJ's Board, as she has for many years.

Our Theme This Year is "Jews in the Arts"

Our Last Program for This Season:

Jewish Painting/Sculpting

Featuring Sculptor Barney Zeitz

June 2nd at 7:00 pm



Jews have always made key contributions to the intellectual life of the arts. Over the past several months, we have explored the Jewish influence on culinary arts, humor, music, and Jewish poets. In our upcoming (and last meeting of the season), we will explore Jewish graphic artists. Artist Barney Zeitz will tell us about his Holocaust project in Providence, his stained glass windows in temples and his current project, a diversity piece in Fall River.

All are welcome! To join this meeting, click on the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6400746829?pwd=WWR3Y2JXZlg0U0pjY20xdUloV3VwUT09>

Meeting ID: 640 074 6829

Passcode: 45mGzJ

About Barney Zeitz



Barney Zeitz has lived solely off the sale of his artworks in glass, metals and drawing since 1972. Most of this work has been built on commission for public spaces and private residences across the United States. He is proficient in both leaded and Tiffany techniques, but since 1977, has developed a style of fused and bonded stained glass that is truly unique. His skills as a welder/fabricator of metals developed over many years of making frames and screens for his glass projects. Since designing and building his studio/ home/ showspace on Martha's Vineyard, he has fabricated metal furniture, lighting fixtures, trellises and ceremonial objects for the home.

In 1993, Zeitz designed a memorial for the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Providence, R.I. on a competition basis. This design for an outdoor, abstract steel and bronze sculpture measuring 144" tall was unanimously chosen by members of three organizations. This sculpture was dedicated on November 9, 1993, the anniversary of Kristalnacht, and was the subject of a documentary video by Ian Ellerby.

He went on to win a competition in 2001 for the Immigrant Memorial at Plymouth Rock, incorporating Rev Peter Gomes' quote. Over the last decade he has designed and built stained glass windows for a German church former synagogue in Fliesen as well as a wall of glass signature piece for the Center at Maple Grove in New York. Zeitz feels that it is his responsibility as a public artist to produce work appropriate to each situation, yet stay true to himself as a contemporary artist.

Recipe for ZUCCHINI CARROT BREAD



Ingredients:

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
1/8 teaspoon freshly-grated nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup oil
2 eggs
2/3 cup finely-shredded zucchini
2/3 cup finely-shredded carrots
3/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease a 9x5x3 inch loaf pan. In a medium bowl, combine flour, brown sugar, baking powder, spices and salt. Stir to mix. In a large bowl, beat the oil and eggs together. Stir in zucchini, carrots and vanilla. Add the flour mixture and beat until smooth. Pour into the pan and bake for 45 to 50 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean when inserted into the center of the loaf.

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"