



THE TENT

Congregation Beth Jacob's Monthly Newsletter
March, 2022



CBJ Calendar of Upcoming Events:

March 2, 4:30 pm: Introduction to Judaism Class (hybrid)
Each class in this 15-week series is self-contained, and congregants are encouraged to drop in.
The Zoom link is in the Weekly Update (or contact Rabbi Mills at cbyplymouthrabbi@gmail.com for more information.)

March 2, 8:00 pm: Meet the Author: Helene Wecker: The Hidden Place

March 4, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Service

March 9, 4:30 pm: Introduction to Judaism Class (hybrid)
Planned Topic for This Week: Modern European History and the Holocaust

March 11, 7:00 pm: Hadassah Shabbat Service

March 15, 8:00 pm: Meet the Author: Wayne Federman: The History of Stand-Up

March 16, 4:30 pm: Introduction to Judaism Class (hybrid)

March 16, 7:30 pm: Purim! The Reading of the Megillah and Stimulating Discussion with 5 Other URJ Congregations (by Zoom)

March 18, 7:00 pm - Purim Shabbat Service (both in-person and via Zoom) - A backwards, crazy Shabbat service co-sponsored by our Beit Sefer students. Come in costume!
Hamentaschen Oneg!

March 22, 7:30 pm: Women Reform Rabbis Network Virtual Speaker Series, "On the Front Lines: Jewish Women Seeking Justice" To Register, click here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkcO2opj8qHtMBeGsQUJzYueatWCg7Ick>

March 25, 7:30 pm: URJ (Union for Reform Judaism) Shabbat Service
(for South Shore Reform Synagogues, including Easton, Hingham, Canton, Sharon, Westwood, and CBJ) This service will be in-person and by Zoom. The Canton synagogue will be the host for this service, and the Zoom link will be different from CBJ's usual link. See article for details.

March 31, 7:00 pm: Shabbat Service
[To see the complete CBJ Calendar on our website, click here.](#)

See the "CBJ Weekly Update" for details and links to join these meetings.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2022

Join Congregation

Beth Jacob's

PURIM^{BH} CELEBRATION

Wednesday at 7:30 pm on Zoom!

Megillah Reading with Stimulating Study

Joint with 5 URJ Congregations

Friday at 7:00 pm Hybrid

A Backwards, Crazy Shabbat & Purim
Service co-led by our Beit Sefer Students

Come in Costume/ Hamentaschen Oneg



AND FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2022

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**Join Us, Together with 5 Other Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) Congregations For
the Reading of the Megillah (Scroll of Esther) and Stimulating Study**

Wednesday, March 16th at 7:30 pm (via Zoom)!

The Zoom link will be available in the March 10th Edition of The Weekly Update

[To see the flier for this service, click here.](#)

And the Purim Shabbat is not like any other! Anything goes (almost!) Friday, March 18th at 7:00 pm. This service will be in-person and by Zoom, with a Hamentaschen Oneg! Join us!



PURIM'S ORIGINS

With celebrations including costumes, skits and songs, noisemakers, and gifts of food, Purim is definitely full of fun! Purim is a joyous holiday that affirms and celebrates Jewish survival and continuity throughout history. The main communal celebration involves a public reading—usually in the synagogue—of the Book of Esther (M'gillat Esther), which tells the story of the holiday: Under the rule of King Ahashverosh, Haman, the king's adviser, plots to exterminate all of the Jews of Persia. His plan is foiled by Queen Esther and her cousin Mordechai, who ultimately save the Jews of Persia from destruction. The reading of the m'gillah typically is a rowdy affair, punctuated by booing and noise-making when Haman's name is read aloud.

Purim is an unusual holiday in many respects. First, Esther is the only biblical book in which God is not mentioned. Second, Purim, like Hanukkah, is viewed as a minor festival according to Jewish custom, but has been elevated to a major holiday as a result of the Jewish historical experience. Over the centuries, Haman has come to symbolize every anti-Semite in every land where Jews were oppressed. The significance of Purim lies not so much in how it began, but in what it has become: a thankful and joyous affirmation of Jewish survival.



HOW TO MAKE YOUR OWN GROGGER (NOISEMAKER)

<https://reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/purim/make-your-own-grogger-noisemaker-purim>



COSTUMES

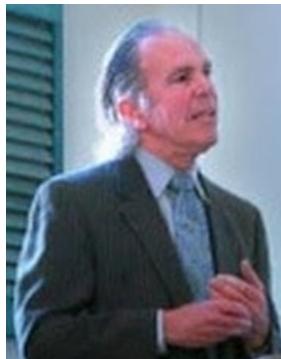
As part of the carnival-like atmosphere of Purim, many children and adults wear costumes. Some attribute this tradition to the fact that Esther initially “masked” her Jewish identity. Now a vibrant and widely practiced custom, some choose to dress as characters from the Purim story, while others select Jewish heroes from throughout history.

Ideas for making simple costumes are here:

<https://reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/purim/quick-costume-ideas-purim>

https://www.chabad.org/theJewishWoman/article_cdo/aid/477283/jewish/Homemade-Purim-Costume-Ideas.htm

and here: <https://rebekahlowin.com/diy-purim-costumes-for-kids/>



Limud Torah/Torah Study Group with Rabbi Emeritus Lawrence Silverman

Monday mornings, from 8:30 - 9:45 a.m.

All are Welcome!

To join the Zoom Meeting, click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2947234661?pwd=RVFTQmFFYXBVWHRJQ3RkeDhjTVptZz09>

Meeting ID: 294 723 4661, Passcode: 720299

Special Hadassah Shabbat Service March 11, 7:00 pm



Congregation Beth Jacob will be participating in Hadassah Southern New England's Shabbat Across this Geographic Area on March 11 with a Hadassah Shabbat. The service will include participation by Hadassah members, and readings highlighting the mission of Hadassah.



**Join Us For the
Annual Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) Shabbat Service
A Joint Service with Participation by Reform Congregations on the
South Shore
Friday, March 25, 7:30 pm**



CBJ will join Temple Beth David of Canton, Temple Beth David of Westwood, Temple Chayai Shalom of Easton, Congregation Shaaray Shalom of Hingham, and Temple Sinai of Sharon for the annual URJ Shabbat to be held in-person at Temple Beth David of Canton, as well as on Zoom. Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism in Washington DC, will be the special guest speaker this year. Join us as we gather together in prayer, song, and joy, as we commit ourselves to the just work of repairing the world.

This will be the first time that Congregation Beth Jacob will be participating in the annual URJ South Shore Shabbat. We hope you will join us in-person or over Zoom to share in this special Shabbat.

Information About Attending This Service in Person:

1. Where: Temple Beth David of the South Shore, 1060 Randolph St., Canton
2. For capacity planning and ease of check-in, registration for in-person attendance is required. The link to the registration form: <https://bit.ly/3s2B6nw>
3. Safety Requirements for In-Person Attendance: For those attending in-person, proof of vaccination, including booster, for those eligible, is required. Masks of surgical style or higher are also required.

Information About Attending This Service by Zoom:

If you are attending this service by Zoom, no registration is required. The Zoom link will be provided in The Weekly Update.

[To see the flier for this event, click here.](#)

For more information about Rabbi Pesner, please click here:

<https://rac.org/about-religious-action-center-reform-judaism/leadership-and-staff/rabbi-jonah-pesner-biography>



Exciting New Adult Education Programs! Conversations With Jewish Authors

Join with about 25 other Reform congregations for a monthly conversation with a Jewish author of a newly published book. You will find information about each monthly program in the Weekly Update, in The Pup Tent, and in the CBJ calendar of events on the CBJ website (cbjplymouth.org). **Please note that participation in these programs is free of charge, but advance registration is required. You may pre-register at the last minute (5 minutes before the program begins) if you wish.**

To see the complete schedule, click here.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Tx1u5CjP09H1o1o0xUZasj5BXPHDvUfja98V_nFsbg8/edit?usp=sharing

Upcoming Programs:

Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 8:00 PM ET

A Conversation with Helene Wecker, author of The Hidden Place

The Golem and the Jinni was awarded the Mythopoeic Award, the VCU Cabell Award, and the Harald U. Ribalow Prize, and was nominated for a Nebula and World Fantasy Awards. Her work has appeared in Joyland, Catamaran, and in the anthology The Djinn Falls in Love and Other Stories. She lives in the San Francisco Bay area with her family.

Helene Wecker's new book The Hidden Palace is the follow-up to the bestselling and award-winning debut novel The Golem and the Jinni, a novel that was lauded by the national review media as an utterly original work of marvelous storytelling and emotional depth, as entertaining as it is historically accurate. It introduced readers to Chava, a golem made of clay, and Ahmad, a jinni made of fire, in turn-of-the-century New York. This new work is set in the years leading up to World War I, and introduces even more characters and adventures, while deepening the relationship between these two fantastical creatures who must decide what exactly they mean to each other, all the while living disguised as humans and constantly fearing they will be exposed for who they really are. It is a mesmerizing story of the unexpected new challenges these two unlikely immigrants face while dealing with assimilation, individualism, and finding one's place in a rapidly changing human world.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82177959945?pwd=YXJ6SnIJZ0g4MEtsMGRlcjFUS3dkdz09>

March 15, 2022 at 8:00 PM ET

A Conversation with comedian Wayne Federman, author of The History of Stand Up

Wayne Federman is a stand-up, actor, professor, and author. He's appeared on The Tonight Show five times and has his own special on Comedy Central. He has acted in numerous films and TV shows including Curb Your Enthusiasm, Silicon Valley, Larry Sanders, Community, Legally Blonde, Knocked Up, Step Brothers, 50 First Dates, and Funny People.

Today's top stand-up comedians sell out arenas, generate millions of dollars, tour the world, and help shape our social discourse. So, how did this all happen? The History of Stand-Up chronicles the incredible evolution of this American art form—from its earliest pre-vaudeville practitioners like Artemus Ward and Mark Twain to present-day comedians of HBO and Netflix. The story has a connective tissue—humans standing on stage, alone, trying to get laughs. That experience connects all stand-ups through time, whether it's at the Palace, the Copacabana, Grossinger's, the Apollo, Mister Kelly's, the hungry i, the Improv, the Comedy Store, Madison Square Garden, UCB, or at an open mic in a backyard. Register in advance for this meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88190406923?pwd=SFZBNmMvQ1ZXTWF5M2xSRVU2aGFnZz09>



Introduction to Judaism Class

Wednesdays at 4:30 pm (No meetings on March 23rd and March 30th)

Each Class is Self-Contained, and

Congregants Are Encouraged to Drop In! Please Join Us!

This Introduction to Judaism class is being taught by Rabbi Mills, in-person and via Zoom. The class has been meeting on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm. To register, please send an email to Rabbi Mills at cbyplymouthrabbi@gmail.com. The class is for congregants who want a comprehensive overview of the Jewish faith, rituals, and beliefs. Each class is stand-alone, so you are encouraged to drop in, according to your interest and convenience.

Upcoming topics to be discussed include:

- History: The Biblical and Rabbinic Periods
- History: The Middle Ages and Early Modern Period
- Modern European Jewish History and the Holocaust
- Zionism and the Modern State of Israel
- America and the Jews
- The Holidays
- Life Cycle; Birth to Marriage
- Life Cycle: Divorce to Death
- Prayer and Ritual
- Sin, Atonement, Afterlife
- Views on Contemporary Issue

The Ark Curtain Project

The Rabbi's Retirement Committee, Barbara Aharoni and Ronnie Hirschhorn, set about making plans for a suitable way to recognize the contribution made by Rabbi Lawrence to our beloved synagogue for 44 years. What could we do to honor him within our congregation itself?

Barbara came up with the idea for a new Parochet L' Aron Hakodesh, a Curtain for our Holy Ark. This curtain would be a work of art representing our synagogue's historical place in Massachusetts and also recognizing the span of time during which Rabbi Silverman was our outstanding spiritual leader.

It was 2020, Plymouth's 400 Anniversary of the Landing of the Pilgrims. A huge Plymouth Tapestry had been commissioned by the Pilgrim Hall Museum to commemorate that event. That project was undertaken by Wellingsley Studio's Master Stitchery Designer Elizabeth Creedon. (See Elizabeth's breathtaking needle art at pilgrimhall.org/plymouth-tapestry-project.htm)

Barbara and Ronnie contacted Elizabeth Creedon to find out if it could even be possible for her to design and embroider an ark curtain for us. To our amazement, she was honored to be asked and looked forward to collaborating with us for the design.

Our idea was to use nature, the flora and fauna, native to our part of Massachusetts for this work of art. At the top of the curtain is the endangered white mayflower, which also happens to be the namesake for the famous Pilgrim ship whose historical replica is docked nearby the synagogue. When you walk, or drive, the road to the Point of Plymouth Long Beach, on either side you can see, when in season, all the beautiful beach roses in bloom. So those bright pink beach roses are placed on either side of the curtain. We chose The Great Blue Heron in flight to be a glorious representative of all the winged birds who grace our shores. A bower of cranberries and cranberry flowers are arranged over its head. Below the heron is the Hebrew word for Peace, Shalom. Under the Shalom is our dedication in honor of Rabbi Silverman. The finishing touch at the bottom of the curtain are the stylistic waves of our safe harbor with the emblem of our congregation in the center.

What you can not see is a loving addition by the artist who did her own research. She will put two golden cherubim embroidered on the curtain lining, In the Torah two such cherubim are described on the ark of the covenant and on the curtains of the Holy of Holies.

It says in Exodus 26:1: "*Moreover you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twisted linen and blue and purple and scarlet material; you shall make them with a design of cherubim, the work of a skillful workman.*"

In this case, they are the work of a skillful workwoman! They are the talisman, protectors, facing our Torah scrolls.



On Monday, January 24th, Barbara and Ronnie presented two gifts to Rabbi Lawrence in appreciation for his 44 years of devoted service to CBJ: The first is a book of memories submitted by our members, with letters, stories and photographs documenting weddings, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, and other significant family events, which were collected and lovingly compiled by Barbara and Ronnie into an album entitled "Who Will Bless The Rabbi."



The second gift is a beautiful framed watercolor of the Ark Curtain, painted by Elizabeth Creeden. Since the embroidered Ark Curtain will not be completed for several months, we decided to have Elizabeth create this watercolor so that Rabbi Lawrence could receive it immediately and enjoy having it in his home.

Thank you to Mark Streifer, who photographed the presentation of these gifts to Rabbi Lawrence. [To see more photos, please click here.](#)

Thank You to all of our congregants, who contributed letters and photographs for the album, as well as monetary contributions for the creation of the Ark Curtain and the watercolor of it.



If you know of any new families in the Plymouth area who might be interested in joining CBJ, please ask them to contact our Membership Chair, Rose Litchman at snobuntnng@aol.com
[Click here for a link to CBJ's Application Form.](#)

Brotherhood News



Watch the Weekly Update for information about future Brotherhood events that are being planned, including a Discussion Group and a Movie Discussion Night, both to be conducted by Zoom.



SISTERHOOD NEWS

Upcoming events are a wine tasting with a talk by Rabbi Mills on What Makes a Wine Kosher; a program about Rosh Chodesh; and a program from the Mikvah in Newton. We are going to do our best to do hybrid events whenever possible.

An Appeal for New Leadership!

As many of you already know, Suzanne Goldberg, our tireless leader for many years, will be spending the winter months in Florida. Although her plans are indefinite at this point and she may return to Massachusetts in mid-May, Suzanne may ultimately decide to make Florida her permanent home. She has asked Sisterhood members to please step up and take over the responsibility for conducting one or more of Sisterhood's programs, with help from Cindy Teles and Rose Litchman, and, of course, from Rabbi Mills.



Congregation Beth Jacob gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following donations:

General Fund:

Yahrzeit Fund:

Suzanne Goldberg - in memory of her husband, Stephen Goldberg
Samuel Van Tosh - in memory of his wife, Connie Van Tosh



The Following Yahrzeits Will be Observed This Month:
(A memorial candle should be lit on the preceding evening.)

March, 2022

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Charlotte Lippman | 19 Pauline Hazan |
| 3 George Skulsky | 20 Rose Goldberg |
| 4 Charles Shafran | 20 Elizabeth Rains |
| 7 Israel Buckman | 21 Rebecca Milner |
| 8 David Schwartz | 22 Hyman Dreitzer |
| 8 Max Shriber | 23 Molly Skulsky Balonis |
| 8 Rose Leah Yoffe | 23 Susan Starr |
| 10 Ida Toabe | 24 William Jacob Berg |
| 13 Edith Keshen Albert | 24 Sidney Egnatinsky |
| 13 Zena Dreitzer | 24 Sarah Mollie Goldberg |
| 13 Samuel Rice | 24 Barbara Hirschhorn |
| 14 Frieda Resnick | 24 Adele Hollander |
| 14 Ellis Shector | 24 Rose T. Romanow |
| 14 Dinah Van West | 25 Mendel Zavalcofsky |
| 14 Terri Wax | 26 Adele Baler |
| 15 Rebecca Miriam Dezorett | 26 Estelle Gladstein Ravage |
| 15 Lillie Pokross | 29 Sayde Arons |
| 15 Belle Sadow | 30 Phillip Van West |
| 16 Rachel Buckman | 30 Isadore H. Waterman |
| 17 Sarah Rebecca Cohen | 31 Samuel Bailey |
| 18 I. Harry Keller | |

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

Editor's Note: "The Tent" (formerly named 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 Tent" and "CBJ Weekly Update"

Recipe for Hamantaschen (3 doz.)

Recipe by Congregation Beth Shalom Sisterhood, Arlington, TX



INGREDIENTS

For the Dough:

3/4 cup margarine, softened but not melted

1 cup sugar

1 egg

1/4 cup orange juice

1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla

3 cups sifted all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

Prune Filling:

1 pound prunes

1 orange, sliced, with rind

1/4 cup sugar (optional)

1 teaspoon cinnamon

Rind and juice of 1 lemon

1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Cook prunes and orange in small amount of water until tender. Chop together with remaining ingredients (remove orange rind first).

Poppy Seed Filling:

1 can poppy seed filling

1/2 cup chopped nuts

1 tablespoon lemon juice

1 teaspoon cinnamon

Stir all ingredients together thoroughly.

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large mixing bowl, cream margarine and sugar together until fluffy. Add egg and beat well with mixer.
2. Stir in orange juice and vanilla and blend.
3. Add flour, baking soda, and salt.
4. Blend well. Refrigerate at least one hour.
5. Preheat oven to 375°F. Roll cold dough 1/8" thick on floured board and cut into 3 inch rounds with cookie cutters.
6. Place one teaspoon of filling in center of each round, Draw up two sides and then the third and pinch together, pinch side up to form triangle. Seal well.
7. Bake on ungreased cookie sheets about 10-12 minutes or until browned..

Note: Keep dough refrigerated when not using. After cutting rounds, refrigerate before filling and pinching.