

# KOL SHALOM

THE NEWSLETTER OF CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

DECEMBER 2011 | KISLEV / TEVET 5772

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## From Our Rabbi:

### UNITY VS. DISUNITY: THE OTHER MESSAGE OF CHANUKAH

Dancing dreidels. Flickering flames. Gelt. Gifts. Sizzling latkas. “The first fight for religious freedom in world history.”

These are the happy images and uplifting slogans of Chanukah, observed this year, from Tuesday night, December 20 – Wednesday December 28. But there is a dark underside of Chanukah which we NEVER, or almost never, share with our young, Hebrew school children, and certainly not our non-Jewish neighbors. Yet in this darker story is a cautionary tale that we Jews of Delaware would be wise to contemplate.

In the years leading up to 165 B.C.E., the Jewish community of Judea was far from united on how to deal with encroaching, seductive Hellenism. From the gym, to the theatre, to the hippodrome, to attractive ideas from democracy to physical beauty, the culture of Greece gave Judaism a real run for its money. Many Jews of Jerusalem hoped that Jerusalem would be selected as a *polis*, with all the benefits of being recognized as a city of culture. Observant Judaism had no role in this vision.

What ensued was nothing short of a Jewish civil war. In the First Book of Maccabees, we have Mattathias the High Priest running a sword through a fellow *cohen* who had sold out to Greek culture. His children, the mighty Maccabees, dragged a lot of fence-sitters and pro-Greek Jews kicking and screaming into armed conflict with Antiochus IV, the Selucid ruler.

More important, after the fighting was over and the Temple was rededicated, the Hasmonean rulers violated a sacred separation between powers by combining the positions of Priest and Prince (ethnarch) into one position. Going back to our Biblical roots, Moses and Aaron, although brothers, held Divine-ordered separate functions, thus secular and religious leadership would not be compromised by combining the two. The Hasmoneans, who at first fought Greek assimilation, Hellenized, with names like John Hyracanus (nephew of the famous Judah). It was this same John who conquered the Idumeans, and forcibly converted them to Judaism – unheard of in our religion. One of these forced converts was King Herod’s grandfather. It was this questionable Jew who the Romans later forced on the Jewish people with terrible consequences. (Although our beloved *Kotel*, Western Wall, was one of Herod’s lasting legacies to our people).

(Continued on page 2)

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**CONGREGATION  
BETH SHALOM**  
WILMINGTON, DE

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Rabbi Michael S. Beals

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Cantor Ruth L. Ross

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*(Continued from page 1, Unity vs. Disunity)*

And it would be inter-Hasmonean squabbling in the years after Hyracanus that would result in Pompey, the Roman General, being invited into Judea in 63 B.C.E. to resolve the Jewish power struggle. It is, of course, a short downhill plunge from 63 B.C.E. to the Roman destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E. The Rabbis of the Talmud were most unforgiving for what the Hasmoneans did. For this reason, in Tractate Shabbat, they innocently ask, *mai Chanukah?* What's Chanukah? And their answer completely edits any of the Maccabean victories in favor of a newly-created miracle of the oil lasting for eight nights.

Here in our beautiful Jewish community of Delaware there has been the recent growth of programs by established synagogues as well as the growth at least one new *minyan*. The disunity recounted in this dark-side of the Chanukah tale can be used as a cautionary tale of how we go forward as a community. **Our Jewish Delaware model should be complimentary NOT competitive.** We should understand and appreciate what each Jewish organization is doing to enhance our overall community, and then try to act in ways which enhance the overall Jewish experience in Delaware, rather than pit one organization against another. The Jewish Federation's Community Calendar is one of many ways of helping preserve community harmony, along with the custom of checking in with an organization already listing an event on the calendar before planning another event which competes. In today's tight economy, where both money and time are at a premium, we need to be far more sensitive of each than in years' past.

Inspired by the Chanukah story, it is vitally important, both psychologically and economically, to make an extra effort to attend each other's fundraisers, as well as educational and social programming. There is nothing as inspiring when you see a well-known member of another synagogue attending your synagogue's event. It gives one a feeling of true Jewish unity and solidarity. Even better are fundraisers and educational/social programs which are jointly planned between synagogues and agencies. I experienced this recently with the collaboration of the Jewish Federation's YLD and the Siegel JCC in planning a sold-out Havdalah Hayride for young adults and families. I also experienced this unity among the current rabbis and cantors who make up the Derech – the Delaware Association of Rabbis and Cantors.

Of course our enthusiastic support of Super Sunday and our Delaware Jewish Federation, which helps support all the community-wide Jewish organizations in Delaware, is the ultimate expression of Jewish unity in Delaware. May we continue to be inspired by the sights and sounds of Chanukah while taking to heart the less-told story of Jewish divisiveness, as we strive to add our own light in a time of darkness.

*Rabbi Michael Beals*

Congregation Beth Shalom is pleased to support the PJ Library!



Visit our website for details!

## A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM PRESIDENT PETER BURCAT

Dear Congregants:

Two (2) weeks ago, I sent an e-mail to our Congregation advising our members that Cantor Ruth announced she is leaving Congregation Beth Shalom effective August 1, 2012. Not surprisingly, many members were upset with this news and were not sure why Cantor Ruth made this decision. Since the Synagogue's Board of Directors and Executive Committee chose to follow proper etiquette during and after contract negotiations, it is not appropriate to reveal specifics of those negotiations. Likewise, it is not in the best interests of Congregation Beth Shalom or Cantor Ruth to have rumors and possible misinformation spread through the aisles. Therefore, I would like to share with you some more information so you know how we got to this point, and how we will proceed as a Congregation.

Earlier this year, the Board of Directors and Cantor Ruth entered into a one (1) year contract extension for the period of August 1, 2011 through July 31, 2012, and agreed to discuss the possibility of entering into a mutually acceptable long term employment agreement. At October's Board of Directors' meeting, I was instructed to meet with Cantor Ruth to discuss a long term contract agreement. I supported that decision. While the issues of those discussions are confidential, two (2) weeks ago it became clear that further discussions would not be able to breach the gap that existed. In order to not hinder Cantor Ruth's search for a new pulpit, not delay the appointment of a CBS Search Committee, and to foster a smooth transition, Cantor Ruth advised me, the staff, and others that she would be leaving CBS.

I want to assure you that rumors of the Cantor leaving because she already found another job or because of any performance issues are false. We believe the Cantor's decision to leave was based solely on the inability of both sides to reach a mutually-beneficial agreement. Unfortunately, this happens in negotiations.

Cantor Ruth is under contract with Congregation Beth Shalom through July 31, 2012. We have every reason to believe Cantor Ruth will be fulfilling the term of her contract. In the interim, the search committee will be deeply involved with the process of identifying a replacement for Cantor Ruth.

I realize that collectively we will miss Cantor Ruth. However, I know our congregation will continue to thrive. Of course, Rabbi Michael Beals is staying at Congregation Beth Shalom, lay service leaders will continue to make our religious services meaningful, our award winning Hebrew School will continue to provide a religious education for our students, and the Congregation as a whole will continue to support one another. As always, I hope you will feel that you have the ability to contact me about this or any other issues and concerns.

Sincerely yours,  
Peter Burcat, President  
Congregation Beth Shalom

## B'nai Mitzvah

### Andrew McDermott

On Saturday,  
December 3, 2011,  
Andrew Edward  
McDermott was  
called to the Torah



as a Bar Mitzvah. Andrew is the son of **Lecia and John McDermott**, brother of Jack and Anna and grandson of Sheila and Arthur Inden and Gail and Dr. Matthew McDermott.

Andrew is a seventh grade student at The Newark Center for Creative Learning (NCCL), in Newark, DE and attends the Kehillah class at Congregation Beth Shalom. Andrew is an avid skier, loves to read, skateboard and has recently earned his 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Black belt in karate.

Andrew's Mitzvah Community Service project has been to collect non-perishable food for many different programs in New Castle County. He is working with his school to collect for a local shelter in Newark and will work with the Jewish Family Services to collect for Thanksgiving. Andrew has gone door to door in his neighborhood and is volunteering his time at the Food Bank of Delaware.

Andrew has also had the real life work experience through his school as an apprentice for Switch Skate and Snow Shop in Newark. He has had great feedback and this has been a wonderful opportunity for him.

## Membership Directory Update

Atwood, David & Flug, Jennifer  
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Brandon  
Emma

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



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### Happy Holidays! Great Idea for the Hard to Buy!

You know you are going to go to your favorite supermarket - Acme, Shoprite, or Super G; your favorite drug store - Walgreen's (Happy Harry's), CVS or RiteAid, but, you want to give a little back to the shul. **Buy some scrip!** With increments as **low** as \$25 and the cards never expire, this is a **no-brainer!** Order forms are available online! You can also go to our partner web: [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) - use enrollment code: **838D79CF29691** and then order even more—from places like Applebees, Amazon, Boscov's, Home Depot, L.L. Bean, iTunes, and so much more! (hint: scrip makes a great gift for the mailman, the garbage collector, your favorite teacher, and especially, those who are hard to buy for...)

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## Kosher Gospel at Beth Shalom: A Tribute to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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No! “Kosher Gospel” is not an oxymoron, The Prince of Kosher Gospel is the “trademark” of Jonathan Nelson a popular, musician, teacher and entertainer .Nelson is Black and Jewish (he has called himself "the KKK's worst nightmare"). He became fascinated with music when he was 8, living in Brooklyn. His fascination lasted after he graduated from Newark's Performing Arts High School. He was the school's official soloist for the 4 years he studied there. He went on to do a 2-year college and kibbutz program in Israel studying at the Hebrew Union College as well as the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. While attending Hebrew University, he started blending Hebrew texts with gospel melodies and arranging Jewish hymns in gospel style, resulting in solo CDs like "Hebrew Soul."

Nelson is both a Jewish Gospel singer in the tradition of Mahalia Jackson, and a Hebrew teacher full-time in the Hebrew school at Sharey-Tefilo-Israel, a Reform synagogue in South Orange, NJ, when he is not on the road. He also serves as director of music at Hopewell Baptist Church in Newark, NJ, which is housed in a former synagogue (the former B'nai Jeshurun).

Nelson has performed with musical legends including Wynton Marsalis and Aretha Franklin and Stephanie Mills and Billy Preston, as well as gospel singers Albertina



Walker, the Barret Sisters, Hezekiah Walker, Kirk Franklin, Dottie Peoples, Dorothy Norwood, Vanessa Bell Armstrong, Reverend Timothy Wright, and Bobby Jones & New Life. Nelson also performs frequently with the Jewish Klezmer band The Klezmatics, and performed with the late jazz greats Cab Calloway and Dizzy Gillespie. Nelson sang before Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson, and performed for an audience in Jerusalem that included then-Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

“As clergy, we are in the business of communicating profound truths. Music is the easiest way to do that. Jewish liturgical music and Gospel music have remarkable commonalities: both focus on the human voice as the central and sometimes only instrument, both rely on clear, simple, heartfelt text often relating to shared biblical sources, both have an integrity that allow them to touch the hearts of their listeners and to serve as a conduit for those truths” said Beth Shalom’s Cantor Ruth Ross.

The Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation of Congregation Beth Shalom cordially welcomes you to a Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Joshua Nelson and troupe on **Friday Evening, January 13th 2012 at 8:00pm**. The service will include tributes to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service. Attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable food donation for our community food bank.

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## I Have A Dream

by Jacob Artson

Almost half a century ago, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stood at the Lincoln Memorial and delivered his “I Have A Dream” speech. He spoke about the promise of emancipation for Negroes, and how in the ensuing century, the plight of the Negro had not substantially changed. This was not the problem of Negroes alone, King urged, because no white man could feel free contributing to the Negro’s oppression through silence and inaction. King reminded us that America is founded on biblical

principles – justice, equality, dignity – but it had failed in its mission to live up those principles. Having witnessed so much violence against blacks, King had great reason to be pessimistic. But religion is about optimism, and as a religious leader he believed in hope and he believed that when shown the truth people would choose right and justice. King had a dream that one day, even in Alabama, perhaps the most racist state in the nation, “little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.” He had a dream

that his four little children “will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of the skin but by the content of their character.”

Those biblical principles that Dr. King spoke of are Judaism’s contribution to the world. But like America in the 1960’s, the Jewish community has forgotten that all of God’s creatures are made in God’s image. We have been willing to settle for segregation.

So I have a dream too. I have a dream that one day, in synagogues and

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Jewish camps throughout the United States, wherever Jews gather for comfort and support and connection, autistic Jewish boys and girls will be able to join hands with typically developing Jewish boys and girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream that one day, I and my friends with autism will be judged not by our strange sensory responses that we so despise, but by the content of our character. I have a dream that one day I will be able to walk into any synagogue or Jewish organization and no one will give me icy stares when I slip up and get too excited and noisy. I have a dream that one day in our day schools, where future Jewish leaders are created, Jewish students with ADD and learning disabilities won't politely be invited to leave to attend public schools and fed the canard that it is for their own good. I have a dream that *bimheirah b'yameinu* – speedily, in our day — I will have made myself superfluous because it will no longer be necessary for me to come before you and speak about including people with disabilities in the Jewish community.

Like Dr. King, I have complete faith that it is within our power to rectify the isolation and pain felt by so many individuals with autism and their families. Our movement has already heeded the call for justice and dignity for women and gays. Now it is the turn of people with disabilities. We have all the tools we need in our tradition and in our hearts.

A perfect example of this is the Pesach Sheni. In Parashat Be-ha'alotkha, God instructs Moses on the first anniversary of the Exodus about the Passover sacrifice. God directs that this sacrifice be offered on the fourteenth day of the month in a specific manner. On the appointed day, however, a group of men approaches Moses with a problem. They were ritually impure by virtue of having come in contact with a corpse and thus could not offer a sacrifice. Why, these men inquire of Moses,

should they be separated from the community and deprived of making the sacrifice with everyone else? Moses seeks guidance from God, who instructs Moses that anyone who is unable to offer the sacrifice on the originally scheduled date may offer it one month later, on the fourteenth day of the following month. This Pesach Sheni, or second Passover, has exactly the same effect as the original sacrifice.

Pesach Sheni is a perfect metaphor for inclusion of people with autism and other special needs in the community. Moses could have responded by strictly enforcing God's rule and telling the men they were out of luck if they couldn't comply. But the measure of Moses' greatness as a leader is that Moses saw it as his job to ensure that no one was excluded from the community simply because, through no fault of their own, they could not participate in exactly the same way as everyone else.

Edmund Burke once wrote, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." Burke probably got that line from Moses. Moses wasn't constrained by what existed. He examined the situation and recognized that exclusion could not possibly be God's command.

Gentlemen, you are all leaders of the Mens' Club and leaders of our Movement. You are our modern-day Moseses. You have taken the reins of leadership by inviting me to participate in today's session and including me as a guest blogger on Mentschen. Including people with special needs is not rocket science. First, it takes an attitude that all people are created in God's image and it is our job to find the part of God hidden in each person. Then it takes small gestures like smiling at people with disabilities and including them in your conversation and at your Kiddush table. And finally, it takes an openness to learning from them how to create the next Pesach Sheni that will enrich us all.

Last summer I attended my twin cousins' bnei mitzvah. Those of you who know me know that I pray very enthusiastically, so I was quite noticeable among all the other congregants, who were sitting quietly and decorously. At the party that night, an educator from my cousins' Jewish day school told us that after the service, her kids asked why I was allowed to dance and clap during the service. So, the mom explained that I have autism and downloaded some of my speeches and articles off the Internet and read them with her kids. Of course I was pleased that they found my words inspiring, but I think the mom actually missed the main point of the question. I think the kids were asking: why can't we all dance and clap during the service? In fact, my aunt said that several of the parents commented that my dancing and enthusiasm were the highlight of the service for them. So, that day, I got to teach some Torah through my autism. I got to teach that prayer is when your body, heart and mind are all in harmony. That is certainly true for me when I pray, and I used to think it was because autism makes it so hard for me to coordinate my movement with my thoughts. But everyone struggles to integrate their spiritual, emotional and intellectual selves. At our synagogue, everyone can dance and clap during the davening whether they have autism or not.

In his speech, Dr. King spoke of the many white people in attendance at the march and how the destinies of both whites and blacks were linked by the pursuit of justice. We Jews played a prominent role in the civil rights movement, marching with Dr. King and supporting integration in numerous other ways. The defining story of our people is the Exodus story, and it was to that same story that King alluded in his famous concluding passage "Free at last, free at last, Thank God Almighty we are free at last!" In his book *Exodus and*

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## Birthday Wishes & Special Anniversaries

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**W**e would like to extend Birthday and Anniversary greetings to members of our Beth Shalom Family this month. If a birthday or anniversary date was inadvertently left off, please contact the Beth Shalom Office (302-654-4462) so we can update our records. Mazel Tov and Best Wishes!

**December 1**

Gregg Fink

**December 2**

Jeffrey Metz

Rachel Rice

Jake Rosengarten

**December 3**

Stacy Steffen

Terri Steinberg

**December 4**

Paz Becker

Ann Breslow

Philip Fuhrman

**December 5**

Suzanne Burcat

Evan Mitchell

**December 7**

Jodi Frank

Jonathan Lehrfeld

Ruth Ross

**December 8**

Susan Detwiler

Glen Goleburn

**December 9**

Stanley Budner

Brooke Harrison

**December 10**

Chad Laurence

Elliot Mitchell

Karen Morris

**December 11**

Linda Drowos

Paula Epstein

Madeline Fruchtman

**December 12**

Jeffrey Drowos

Joel Lipschultz

Gregg Millman

**December 13**

Bess Lobel

**December 14**

Robert Chadwick

Ellen Meyer

Ethan Schultz

Tom Tolin

**December 15**

Rhoda Dombchik

David Wiley

**December 16**

Elizabeth Biener

Ruth Greenberg

Cheryl Mitchell

**December 17**

Barbara Swinger

**December 18**

Sara Downard, Jr.

Louis Epstein

Sarah Giffin

Rebecca Lustig

Irving Morris

Jordon Rosen

Esther Schmerling

**December 19**

Lewis Bennett

Kayla Saliman

**December 20**

Jennifer Fariello

Tess Wolf

**December 23**

Philip Epstein

Lexi Goldberg

Stacy Weaver

**December 24**

Walter Roth

Eva Weissman

**December 25**

Miriam Levine

**December 26**

Shelly Mand

Carla Markell

Harry Themal

Theodore Zutz

**December 27**

Elisha Caplan

Molly Cohen

Steven Ebner

**December 28**

Carol Derman

Jared Goldberg

Lawrence Ornston

**December 29**

Jordi Butt

Jill Downard

Gordon Manin

Joshua Schwartz

Rebecca Wiley

**December 30**

Reese Herscott

**December 31**

Rachel Clark

Ellen Levin

**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

Sara Truitt &amp; Steven Weiler (December 1)

Cindy &amp; Paul Imber (December 4)

Laura &amp; Sheldon Singer (December 7)

Errol &amp; Ruth Ann Ger (December 11)

Marlene &amp; Gary Gold (December 11)

Shirley &amp; Barry Klassman (December 17)

Susan &amp; Gregg Millman (December 17)

Sandye &amp; Gerald Turnauer (December 17)

Marlene &amp; Lawrence Ornston (December 19)

Barbara &amp; Les Dukart (December 22)

Hinda &amp; Jack Fink (December 24)

Harriet &amp; Jay Harowitz (December 24)

Jodi &amp; Martin Frank (December 26)

Vivian &amp; Elias Mamberg (December 26)

Eddi &amp; James Chaikin (December 27)

Lynne &amp; Terry Sklar (December 27)

Caryl Marcus &amp; Jeffrey Stape (December 27)

Suzanne &amp; Bill Adelman (December 31)



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Looking for a special place to celebrate your simcha?

Beth Shalom can do it! Call the synagogue office and speak with our Executive Director, Merrill Dorph, (302) 654-4462, about celebrating your special day with Beth Shalom!

It is the custom in our congregation at Shabbat Services to read aloud prior to the recitation of kaddish the names of those whose yearzeit occurs in the upcoming week. We are providing the names here for you, so that you can help us make a Minyan, allowing kaddish to be recited for those in mourning or whose custom it is to recite the kaddish. The Hebrew dates have been added. Listings are also now on our website for both the current day and week.

**5 Kislev (12/1/2011)**

Morris Cohen  
Jerry Epstein  
Rebecca Friedman  
William Kaplan  
Anna Lehrfeld  
Alex Pollack  
Ida Schutzman

**6 Kislev (12/2/2011)**

Hilda Codor  
Herman Dolinger  
Samuel Drowos  
Jacob Freedman  
Ruth Finger Gordon  
Irving Kessler  
Helen Levy  
Ignatz Roth  
Bernard Schaffer  
Morris Seltzer  
Harry David Zutz

**7 Kislev (12/3/2011)**

Phyllis Baylson  
Murray Cohen  
Abram Ettinger  
Pinkus Korbel  
Joseph Laiken  
Albert London

**8 Kislev (12/4/2011)**

Jennie Chasanov  
Morris Davidoff  
Emanuel Ehrenfeld  
Helen Feldman  
Ruth Leskiwec  
Louis Sherby  
Bertha Shusterman  
Marc Spevack  
Harry Stone  
Irving Harold Wexler

**9 Kislev (12/5/2011)**

Samuel Berlin  
Louis Finerosky  
Kenneth Hitman  
Lewis Raphaelson

**10 Kislev (12/6/2011)**

Wilbur Hait  
Leo Keil  
Fred Lewkowitz  
Lionel Lipschultz  
Jerry Singer

**11 Kislev (12/7/2011)**

Robert Ackerman  
Bernard G. Greenberg  
Melvin Himber  
Abraham Levine  
Fred Levy  
Una Rose  
Esther Schwebel  
Mariya Vishnevetsky

**12 Kislev (12/8/2011)**

Ida Edell  
Mark Harris  
Esther Jacobs  
Amihud Kramer  
Etta Pastor  
Samuel Sandal  
Alan Shapiro  
Harry Starr  
Morris Zucker

**13 Kislev (12/9/2011)**

Esther Benjamin  
Morris Eisenman  
Samuel Fineman  
Rebecca Frank  
Lena Hirsch  
Rose Moskowitz  
Irvin Sherman

**14 Kislev (12/10/2011)**

Max Bucholtz  
Bella Lipshutz

**15 Kislev (12/11/2011)**

Lillian Bellman  
Charles Ginns  
Lena Gross  
Daniel Lewis  
Alfred Mendelsohn  
Albert Raivy

**16 Kislev (12/12/2011)**

Jacob Garber  
Lillian Grand

Max Jacobs  
Maurice Liebesman  
Halina Preston  
Barbara Weiner

**17 Kislev (12/13/2011)**

Pauline Dinius  
Norman W. Grant  
Jacob Weinstein

**18 Kislev (12/14/2011)**

Rae Fink  
Harry Freedman  
Lisa Gross  
Benjamin Hamburger  
Hyman Kattler  
Harold Schoenberg

**19 Kislev (12/15/2011)**

Emma Berkman  
Seymour Donner  
Helen Gilbert  
Nathan Katz  
Charles Meyer  
Mary Weil  
Bertha Wirosloff

**20 Kislev (12/16/2011)**

Dorothy Goldstein

**21 Kislev (12/17/2011)**

Robert Einhorn  
James Gladstone  
Doris Himber  
Pauline Kaufman  
Anna Kushner  
Jacob Levoe  
Anna Lewin  
Jacob Rosenblatt  
Jack Stutz  
Celia Weissman

**22 Kislev (12/18/2011)**

Edith Labovsky  
Fay Shore  
Louis Sklut

**23 Kislev (12/19/2011)**

Alfred Carlis  
Ann Guberman

Fannie Kravitz  
Bertha Meyer  
Herbert Sperber  
Emmy Weil  
Isadore Wilderman

**24 Kislev (12/20/2011)**

Beatrice Cohen  
James Hall  
Judith Harrison  
Abraham Klein  
Esther Lewin  
Alfred Miller  
Rose Nadell  
Ida Rosen  
Irving Roth  
Selma Stellenberg  
Etta Watnik

**25 Kislev (12/21/2011)**

Gertrude Brecher  
Harry Dworkin  
Erwin Schmerling  
Bertha Sommers  
Ignatz Weiss  
Tillie Zutz

**26 Kislev (12/22/2011)**

Barbara Cohen  
Reba Fried  
Benjamin Lebowitz  
Herman Meritz  
Sadye Packer  
Alvin Silver  
Fay Unfried

**27 Kislev (12/23/2011)**

David Bitman  
Rose Horowitz  
Ruth Kashdan  
Isadore Reitzes  
Helen Rothenberg  
Henrietta Zutz

**28 Kislev (12/24/2011)**

Sidney Cohen  
Doris Gold  
Nina Roffman  
Leon Rosenthal

(Continued from page 8)

**29 Kislev (12/25/2011)**

Anne Z. Freedman  
Israel Kurfirst  
Abraham Leiberman  
Rhoda Peri  
Jacob Rabinowitz  
Ida Sachs  
Harry Schagrin  
Jennifer Leigh Wiener

**30 Kislev (12/26/2011)**

Herman Bertman  
Louis Dombchik  
Gertrude Goldman  
Joseph Harad  
Charles Levy  
Izaak Mamberg  
Samuel Scheibman

**1 Tevet (12/27/2011)**

Kurt Blatt  
Thelma Bucholtz  
Fannie Cohen  
Marvin Epstein  
Joseph Falcoff  
Ida C. Goldman  
Robert Gross  
Samuel Haberman  
Moses Levitt  
Rose Morganstein  
Sara Paskow  
Helene Wormser

**2 Tevet (12/28/2011)**

Anita Braunstein  
Ralph Breslow  
Louis Isaacs  
Lillian Kurman  
Rita E. Metzker

Maurice Harry Picon  
Julius Randall  
Ruth Schwartz  
Samuel Shore  
Leon Stein

**3 Tevet (12/29/2011)**

Searles Aaron Grossman  
Lily Karchmar  
Lena Roth  
Jacob Weiner

**4 Tevet (12/30/2011)**

Joseph Blatman  
Edith Brash  
Brian Dombchik  
Abram Hamburger  
Jeanette Holzman  
Emile Olschwane  
Beatrice G. Portnoy

Ida Preven  
Walter Rosenblatt  
Faga Laya Weiner

**5 Tevet (12/31/2011)**

Roslyn LaRossa  
Jean Lehrfeld  
Bennet Newmark  
Herbert Rubenstein  
Mae Steinberg  
Bertha Sutton  
Nettie Weiner

**B'nai Mitzvah**

**Jonathan Lehrfeld**

Jonathan Ross Lehrfeld will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 10, 2011. Jonathan is the son of **Lawrence and Wendy Lehrfeld** and the brother of Scott and Alan. The proud grandparents are Eve (z"l) and Elliot Lehrfeld of Oceanside, New York and Davida and Howard (z"l) Levitt of Wilmington, Delaware.

Jonathan is a seventh grader at Garnet Valley Middle School in Garnet Valley, Pennsylvania. He received Distinguished Honor Role throughout the 2010-2011 school year and is in the Academically Talented Program. He is continuing his Jewish education through the Kehillah program at Congregation Beth Shalom Hebrew School.

He has earned his brown belt in Isshinryu Karate at the Traditional Okinawan Karate Institute, plays Brandywine Youth Club baseball and is a talented artist studying at the Darlington Arts Center since 2005. Jonathan also enjoys acting, performing main roles at his Elementary School production of Willy Wonka and Middle School presentation of Headin for the Hills, as well as numerous shows at the Darlington Arts Center.



In lieu of flowers on the Bimah, Jonathan helped make "Mitzvah Baskets" filled with art supplies, which will be donated to the Kutz Home and the Ronald McDonald house. Jonathan will also be volunteering his time at each of these organizations to assist with art activities with the residents. In addition, Jonathan is in the Ozerim Program (Student Teaching Program) assisting in the CBS Hebrew School.

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## Contributions

*Congregation Beth Shalom raises funds to support synagogue activities, programs and projects. To make a donation to any of our existing funds, please email or call our synagogue accountant, Marlene Greenberg, at 654-4462. The minimum contribution to receive a tribute card is \$12. To establish a new fund or learn more about contributory opportunities, please call our synagogue Treasurer, Jill Downard. We appreciate your generosity.*

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### AL BERLIN MINYAN FUND

#### *In appreciation:*

**Judith & Howard Zucker**  
Debbie & Bob Berman

#### *In memory of:*

**Frances “Mutzie” Bellak**  
Loly Farnos & Herb Lesnoy  
The Luther Tower Aides

#### **Michael Berman**

Debbie & Bob Berman

#### **Frances Glick**

Estelle, Martin, Matthew & Holly Glick  
Debbie, Rich, Zack & Ben Newman

#### **Mary Swinger**

Barbara & Samuel Swinger

### ALBERT Z. GOLDBERG AUDIO/ VISUAL

#### *In memory of:*

**Albert Z. Goldberg**  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller

### BRIAN DOMBCHIK FUND

#### *In honor of:*

**Mel Pell – CBS Hattan for 5772**  
Danna & Roger Levy  
Ellen & Robert Meyer

### CAPITAL COMPLETION CAMPAIGN

#### *In appreciation of:*

**CBS High Holy Day Services**  
Ken Berman  
Beth Lubaroff Pfeifer, Robert &  
Shane Pfeifer

#### *In honor of:*

**Jordan Cooper’s Bar Mitzvah**  
Rhoda & Steven Dombchik  
**Marty Mand’s Special Birthday**  
Frances & Steven Klein  
**Walter Roth’s Special Birthday**  
Frances & Steven Klein

#### *In memory of:*

**Joseph Abramov**  
Elaine & Bob Cohen  
**Leonard Levin**  
Ruth Ann & Errol Ger, Leora & Dana  
**Charles Rubin**  
Cheryl & Ken Kamm

### CHESED

#### *In appreciation:*

Tammy Albom

### CONGREGATION FUND

#### *In appreciation:*

**Dina & Alan Lipschultz**  
Barbara & Donald Goldberg

#### *L’Shana Tovah:*

**Phyllis & Buddy Aerenson**  
Judy & Howard Zucker

#### *Mazel Tov:*

**Susan & Gregg Millman – Birth of  
Your New Grandchild**  
Susan Spitzer

#### *In honor of:*

**Mel Pell & Elaine Schmerling – CBS  
Hattan & Kallah for 5772**  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller  
**Walter Roth’s Special Birthday**  
Linda Berger  
Diane & Jerry Naplin  
Ella & Marty Zukoff  
**Diane Wolf & Lew Bennett’s Simchas**  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller

#### *In memory of:*

**Aaron Byron**  
Marlene, Gary, Brian & Steve Gold  
**Ellen & Ralph B. Downard**  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller  
**Leonard Dukart**  
Barbara & Les Dukart  
**Irving J. Epstein**  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller  
**Rebecca Fink**  
Tina & Henry Heiman  
**Nathan Levine**  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller  
**Robert Marcus**  
Tina & Henry Heiman  
**Helen Rosowsky**  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller  
**Clara Stein**  
Anita & Herman Stein  
**Margery Stern**  
Paula, Bruce, Marc & Marissa Epstein

### FINGER GORDON FUND

#### *In memory of:*

**Louis J. Finger**  
Dorothy Finger

### GLADYS ARIFF KITCHEN KLUB

#### *In honor of:*

**Marlene & Mitchell Greenberg’s  
Granddaughter, Emma Grace Gluck**  
Celina & Ronald Riebman  
**Mel Pell & Elaine Schmerling being  
named CBS Hattan & Kallah for 5772**  
Rhoda & Steven Dombchik  
Sheila Gardner  
Frances & Steven Klein  
Bryna & Jay Rappaport  
**Mel Pell – Hattan for 5772**  
Barbara & Donald Goldberg  
Marilyn & Sam Weiner

#### *In appreciation:*

**The Kitchen Klub for the  
Simhat Torah Luncheon**  
Elaine Schmerling & Warren Butt

#### *In memory of:*

**Gladys Ariff**  
Rhoda & Steven Dombchik  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller

### HARRIET KAUFMAN FUND

#### *Speedy Recovery:*

**Jordan Fogel**  
Lynda & Larry Kaufman

#### *In memory of:*

**Harriet Kaufman**  
Lynda & Larry Kaufman

### HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

#### *Mazel Tov:*

**Ronni & Michael Schwartz –  
Birth of Allison Rebecca**  
Carol Einhorn  
**Abby Schwartz –  
on Becoming a Big Sister**  
Carol Einhorn

#### *In memory of:*

**Ben Mason**  
Harriet & Jay Harowitz

### JOE AND MILLIE BYER EDUCATION WING

#### *In memory of:*

**Joe & Millie Byer**  
Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller

**KRAFT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

*In memory of:*

**Nisson Finkelstein**

Rona G. Finkelstein

**E. Aaron Glassman**

Rona G. Finkelstein

**Nadja Kuller**

Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller

**Goldie Portnoy**

Marilyn & Stuart Cooper

**LINDA GOLDSTEIN FUND**

*In memory of:*

**Clara Arieff**

Hannah Braunstein

**James Arieff**

Hannah Braunstein

**Phyllis Wilkins**

Frances Stein & Family

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*In appreciation:*

Susan Reiss & David Kerner

*In appreciation:*

**Rabbi & Elissa Green Beals'**

**Sukkot Hospitality**

Carol Einhorn

*In honor of:*

**Jordon Rosen's**

**Reading Jonah on Yom Kippur**

Cyrilla Rosen

*In memory of:*

**Roberta Marcus**

Barbara & David Blumberg

Jodi, Benjie, Ari, Jordan & Aliya Cohen

Rhoda & Steven Dombchik

Eluzfon, Austin, Reardon, Tarlov &

Mondell, P.A.

Suzanne & Stuart Grant

Doris Heisler & Family

Lori Barbanel & Mark Kuller

Jane, Raymond & Max Kursh

Ann & Ron Mcginnis

Randi & Joshua Schwartz &

Steven Sachs

Barbara & Frank Sparks

**Ferne Pressman**

Faye Blatnick & Family

**Paul Seidenstat**

Mindy & Robert Hughes

Marla & Paul Minestrella

Linda Seidenstat

Linda & Frank Stanczyk

**TORAH FUND**

*In memory of:*

**Sara Troubh**

Priscilla & Steve Braverman

*(Continued from page 6)*

*Revolution*, Michael Walzer, a political science professor at Princeton University, wrote that the enduring appeal of the Exodus story lies in the following truth:

- first, that wherever you live, it is probably Egypt;
- second, that there is a better place, a world more attractive, a promised land,
- and third, that the way to the land is through the wilderness. There is no way to get from here to there except by joining together and marching.

In the 15 years since I was diagnosed with autism, the Jewish community has made strides toward inclusion, but we still have a very long path ahead of us. I hope you will join together and march with me toward the day when we can all stand together at Mt. Sinai as one people, the day when everyone is included and together we bring God's glory to all of humanity.

*Jacob Artson, is the son of Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson, Abner and Roslyn Goldstine Dean's Chair of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies and is Vice President of American Jewish University in Los Angeles. This article was printed with Jacob's permission.*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**We need you.**

We are looking for a few good volunteers! If any of the activities below, spark your interest, please email: [info@cbswilmde.org](mailto:info@cbswilmde.org) and we will respond as quickly as we can.

Desktop Publishing

Public Relations

Grant Writing

Event Planning and Coordination

Fundraising

Family Programming

Child Care

Teen Programming

Social Media and Networking

Ad Journal

Communications

Interfaith Programming

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

fill in your interest(s) here

Thanks!

**Schoenberg Memorial Chapel**

519 Philadelphia Pike

Wilmington, DE 19808

(302) 762 0334

# KOL SHALOM

## Congregation Beth Shalom

1801 Baynard Blvd • Wilmington, DE 19802  
www.bethshalomwilmington.org

The Kol Shalom is the monthly newsletter of Congregation Beth Shalom, an egalitarian-Conservative congregation affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

We are a Framework for Excellence  
Congregational School!

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### *An Important Announcement from Our President, Page 3*

#### **DO A MITZVAH!**

#### **Volunteer at St. Francis Hospital on Sunday, December 25th**

Three shifts:  
7:00am – 11:00am  
10:30am – 2:00pm  
3:00pm – 7:00pm

St. Francis will feed you during your shift. All child volunteers must be at least 16 years old. Sign up for a shift by calling or emailing Ellen Meyer no later than **December 9th**.

(302) 652-6663 or email [ellenmeyer19806@gmail.com](mailto:ellenmeyer19806@gmail.com)

The St. Francis employees who will be able to spend Christmas Day with their families because of you will be most grateful.

Thank you!  
Ellen Meyer

#### **CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES**

DECEMBER 2: 4:20PM

DECEMBER 9: 4:20PM

DECEMBER 16: 4:21PM

DECEMBER 20:

FIRST NIGHT OF CHANUKAH

DECEMBER 23: 4:24PM

DECEMBER 27:

LAST NIGHT OF CHANUKAH

DECEMBER 30: 4:28PM

