

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

VOLUME 19, NUMBER 2

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Kabbalat Shabbat Together

A Kaleidoscope of Opportunities Fridays at 5:00 pm

TGIF! Looking for new & different ways to welcome Shabbat? We're offering a variety of worship experiences with something for everyone!



Families with children of all ages are invited to this joyous and creative Shabbat celebration, full of songs, prayers and movement. We supply the instruments and the rhythm and you and your family bring the ruach! RHYTHM 'N' RUACH

2nd Friday (11/11, 5:00-5:45 pm)

Idra Shabbat with Rav Aubrey

In this contemplative Kabbalat Shabbat service, we will explore two spiritual modalities: Jewish meditation (hitbonnenut) & wordless melodies (niggunim). The service will be held in the round, inspired by the mystical forms found in the Zohar, where the idra (אדרא) is the "threshing floor" where seekers meet as the site of holy fellowship and revelation. We will oscillate between silence, sound, and spiritual uplift, emerging from

the energy of the group of seekers gathering together to explore the mysteries of welcoming the Shekhina. 1st and 3rd Fridays (11/4 & 11/18 at 5:00-6:00 pm)

Kabba-Lotsa-Fun Shabbat with Cantor Raizen

Our popular Zoom Kabbalat Shabbat service will take a break this month, but it will be back on the 4th Friday of the month in December.

What a blessing to be able to gather again in person, and share in welcoming the inspiration of spirit that comes with the week's end that we call Kabbalat Shabbat. This rotating kaleidoscope of Kabbalat Shabbat services reflects the unique surfaces of our souls, tilted to each other at different angles, so that we experience this welcoming of the beloved in unique ways, expanding this creative tradition in different symmetrical patterns, bringing us through different doorways into Shabbat.

Try something new with us!



The Cantor's Corner Cantor Andrea Raizen

What a difference a month makes. At the end of September we were all still holding our breath wondering if Rav



Aubrey would be here for the holidays. But with a lot of persistence, faith and a little bit of mazal, he arrived with just a couple of days to spare, and the holiday services came off

without a hitch. No one could have been more grateful than me. Despite the anxiety that we all experienced leading up to Rosh Hashanah, once the first service began, I have to say that I felt even more calm than I can ever remember being as the season kicked in. We received so much positive feedback, both from people who attended in person and those who watched the livestream. This was certainly a great way to begin a fresh new year.

Rav Aubrey's arrival brought us not just a rabbi in time for the holidays, but a scholar, a teacher, and a mentsch who has already endeared himself to so many in our community. Before he even arrived in Dayton, Rav Aubrey began teaching a class online about learning how to learn. We all know the saying that we Jews are "The People of the Book," and I know that one of Rav Aubrey's missions is to assist each and every one of us in taking the journey with him to increase our overall Jewish literacy quotient. The concept of lifelong learning is nothing new to the Jewish people, and as an educator it is something that I strive for, not only for my students, but for myself. Thanks to Rav Aubrey there is no lack of Jewish learning opportunities currently at Beth Abraham, but it's time, once again, to throw one more into the mix.

I am so grateful to the dozen or so Torah readers that regularly take on the challenge of studying and preparing to

chant Torah on Shabbat. No matter how many years I have done it personally, it still takes time to carefully prepare and take on this sacred task. It is definitely time to bring some new readers into the ranks, and what better time than now. You may ask, "What does it take to be a Torah reader?" That's a great question. First of all, it takes the desire to become an active participant in the Shabbat service. Students should be able to read Hebrew well enough to be able to concentrate on learning the skill of deciphering and chanting according to not need to be fluent in Hebrew or even understand all of the words, but you should be able to easily sound out words. You do not need to be a great singer. Torah is chanted, meaning that nothing really high or low. The benefits of Torah reading include amongst other things, 1) You are doing a great mitzvah and 2) It helps keep your mind sharp as it takes a lot of concentration. Right now the plan is to hold the classes on Monday evenings at 7:30pm on Zoom

beginning November 14. So, if you have been thinking about doing this, now is the time! Call and let me know that you are ready to take the Torah Trope Challenge!

A new Torah chanting class begins on

Monday, November 14, 7:30 pm, on Zoom

For more details, see the above article. If you have any questions or are ready to enroll, please contact Cantor Raizen.



BETH ABRAHAM



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*OF BLESSED MEMORY

WHAT TO DO WITH NOVEMBER? REDISCOVER YOUR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITHIN THE JOURNEY OF JACOB

Rav Aubrey L. Glazer, PhD

The journey is the destination. How true, as this aptly describes much of life. So, I



was
pleasantly
surprised the
last time we
announced
the advent of
the new
Hebrew
month of
Marchesvan
at Shabbat
services to

see how our wonderful Siddur Lev Shalem sets out a road map for our perennial journey through all the months and aligns them with their astrological sign. (Believe it or not, astrology was considered a requisite know-how for rabbis in the Talmudic period but there was no course offered at JTS during my studies!) I was reminded that the sign of Marchesvan is the scorpion, akrav—it just sort of creeps up on you and can sting you into a deeper awareness that is unexpected. Marchesvan almost always begins around this autumnal time of year and its claim to fame is that it remains the only month of the year without major holidays or fast days. So, what shall we do with November and its generally low-key spiritual status?

As Jews we live with the times, so Torah remains our guide through this seemingly uneventful month. If indeed the journey is the destination, then perhaps this is our time to reconsider how and why our own personal journey is connected to our collective, ancestral journey. From the journey of "going forth to find your true self" which Abraham and Sarah set forth upon (Parshat Lech Lecha) to the birth and generativity of Jacob and Esau (Parshat Toldot), Marchesvan is a month of oscillation and of searching. We are called upon to see our lives as part of the oscillating journey of Jacob, who carries forward the project of Judaism now emerging as a chain of tradition from his grandfather, Abraham. Just as Abraham left his home in Ur of the Chaldees to discover the uncharted territory of Canaan that transforms into the Promised Land, so too does Jacob journey, leaving Be'er

Sheva and journeying to Haran. I was struck by the insights of hasidic master, Rabbi Moshe Hayyim Efrayim of Sudilkov (c. 1740-1800) on Jacob's journey. In his Torah commentary called, *Sefer Degel Mahaneh Efrayim* we discover Rabbi Moshe Hayyim Efrayim's following insights on *Parashat Veyeizei* that relates to our own individual journeys--

"Jacob left from Be'er Sheva and journeyed to Haran... He happened upon a certain place... He took one of the stones of that place..." (Genesis 28:10-12).

"In this there is the secret of expanded consciousness and constricted consciousness. As is known in the name of my grandfather, his soul in Eden, may his memory be for a blessing for the life of the world to come, that "the creatures oscillated fluttering to and fro" (Ezekiel 1:14). It is impossible to stand on one rung perpetually; [instead one] only ascends and descends. And the descent is for the sake of ascent when one takes this to heart—and knows and feels that one is in [a state of] constricted consciousness—when one prays to God in the manner of (Deuteronomy 4:29): "But if from there you shall seek YHVH your God, you shall find Him."

The journey here is to discover how, through the ascent and descent of life and its generations, that Torah continues to be transmitted. Here that transmission takes place from a grandchild carrying forward the legacy of their grandparent, recalling how - R. Moshe Hayyim Efrayim of Sudilkov was the grandson of the Ba'al Shem Tov, and Jacob in relation to his grandfather, Abraham - both hailed from illustrious families and had to forge their own unique personalities in the shadow of their remarkable ancestry. How does that happen? By being present to what emerges "from the place where one is" which sometimes is the place where "one falls from their rung and takes leave from

the fountain and [from] the Shekhinah." R. Moshe Hayyim Efrayim describes an experience many spiritual seekers face, namely, of feeling like they are "falling away" or "growing distant" from the divine energy source in their lives (especially the month following the high holidays!) Perhaps this feeling is precisely what inspired Eric Neumann to leave Zurich and write to his teacher about his own journey of aliyah to Eretz Yisrael. In the summer of 1934, Eric Neumann wrote his teacher Carl G. Jung, the founder of Archetypal Psychology, to share his re-interpretation of Jacob's journey. Neumann was teaching his teacher that Jacob symbolized introversion, while his brother Esau symbolized extroversion, representing the world as other, also residing within himself. Neumann struggled on striking that balance upon his journey to the Holy Land and challenged what he felt was his teacher's imbalanced misunderstanding of Jacob, and by extension Judaism. What Neumann noticed in Jung's process of individuation is how tradition is replaced by personal experience that returns full circle back to the "beginning of the chain of tradition where forefathers' and prophets' collectively individual experiences were central." So, as we journey onwards within our sacred communal kehillah of Beth Abraham, both within and beyond its walls, how does our own personal experience affect the evolving chain of traditions we are carrying forward from generation to generation? In what ways can my own personal experience complement and enhance the collective experience of community? Can we enhance each other's journey? Perhaps that is the question and the spiritual work of this month - the oscillating journey of Jacob we are all invited to reconsider this month. Remember, Marchesvan is the scorpion, akrav - the reminder to awaken to wherever you find yourself, and know that God is with you, even when you least



expect it or feel it.

TODAH RABAH!

A big thank you to Rav Aubrey and Cantor Raizen for leading us in beautiful and meaningful High Holiday services. Along with our clergy, we have so many more wonderful congregants to thank for volunteering their time during the holidays. Many stepped up to the plate when Dennis was out sick and also when Cantor was out of town. We would be remiss if we didn't recognize them.

High Holiday Services

- Preliminary Prayers: Jeff Roberts
- Shacharit: Ralph Williams
- Torah Readers: Elaine Arnovitz, Ted Cooper, Irwin Dumtschin, Alex Katz, Rachel Kinard and Norm Lewis
- Haftarah Readers: Alan Chesen, Steve Horenstein and Norm Lewis
- Shofar Blowers: Irwin Dumtschin and Marshall Weiss
- Floor Gabbai: Jeff Roberts
- Youth Services: Tara Feiner

Usher Coordinator: David Rothschild

 Ushers: Beth Adelman, Bari Blumhof, Steve Blumhof, Dena Briskin, Linda Brotkin, Doug Deutsch, Melinda Doner, Howard Ducker, Adam Feiner, Irene Fishbein, Steve Fraim, Mike Freed, Mike Goldstein, Garry Greene, Meryl Hattenbach, Linda Horenstein, Mike Jaffe, Allan Katz, Linda Katz, Jerry Kuhr, Beverly Louis, Abe Merdinger, Connie Roberts, David Rothschild, Andy Schwartz, Judy Schwartzman, Joel Shapiro, Chaya Vidal and Diane Williams

Break the Fast Kitchen Crew

Linda Katz (captain cook), Claudia Birch, Linda Brotkin, Liz Musin and David Rothschild

Helpers During Dennis and Cantor's Absence

 Matt Adkins, Linda Brotkin, Tara Feiner, Mindy Greene, Garry Greene, Linda Horenstein, Linda Katz, Rachel Kinard, Judy Woll

Beth Abraham is a family – and we are a wonderful family of volunteers working together to meet the synagogue's needs and those of our community. THANK YOU!!

(if we inadvertently left someone's name out, please accept our apologies!)



AND NOW FOR A WORD ABOUT SPONSORS...

We are really thrilled that people are taking advantage of opportunities for sponsorships at Beth Abraham.

We'd like to thank Renate Frydman & family, and Susie & Eddie Katz for sponsoring our bimah flowers for the High Holidays; and Tara & Adam Feiner for their purchase of soft Torahs for our kids to carry on Simchat Torah.

We still have a number of other sponsorship opportunities, such as the replacement of our defibrillator and our welcome baskets given to new members. Your effort with providing sponsorships allows Beth Abraham to continue to meet its needs. Please contact Elaine in the office to discuss your interests.



BETH ABRAHAM SYNAGOGUE

IN THE BETH ABRAHAM FAMILY

We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

Bert Appel Fund

In memory of
Rick Pinsky, by Joel &
Angela Frydman
Maxine Rubin, by Joel &
Angela Frydman
Charles Frydman, by
Charlotte Golden

In honor of
The birth of Matt & Elaine
Arnovitz's grandson, by Bill
& Melinda Doner

General Fund

In memory of
Rick Pinsky, by Jenny, Andy
& Eric Lunsford, Tom
Glassman, Barry Greenberg, Marcia & Eddie Kress,
Judith Woll & Ron Bernard,
Randi Potasky, Carrie &
David Pinsky, William &
Melinda Doner
Susan Schear's sister-inlaw, by Eddie & Marcia
Kress
Ruby Pilder, by Bert &

Wanda-Lea Pilder
In honor of
The birth of Ellen &
Michael Leffak's new
granddaughter, by Larry &
Marilyn Klaben
Cantor Raizen, for her help
preparing Bruce for his
Torah reading, by Bruce
Brenner & Sandy Sloane
Brenner

Ida Pinsky Fund

In memory of
Lori Ellman, by Marlene &
Terry Pinsky
Ida Goodman, by Carole &
Donald Marger
Rick Pinsky, by Rabbi
Melissa Crespy & Larry

Kaufman, Maureen & Selden Schwartzberg, Roberta & Dick Prigozen, Rachel Jacobs, Fern & Irwin Cohen, Marilyn & Larry Klaben, Ellie & Bob Bernstein, Julie & Adam Waldman, Sue & Don Zulanch, Beth Adelman, Beverly Farnbacher, Connie & Stan Blum, Ann & Dan Potter, Barbara & Jim Weprin, Lawrence & Sheila Wagenfeld, Susie & Eddie Katz, Bob & Suzanne Thum, Ralph & Diane Williams, Larry & Cindy Burick, Linda Novak, Howard & Sue Ducker, Linda & Dennis Patterson, Scott & Ann Liberman, Mindy Metz, Sylvia Blum, Alvin & Ellen Stein, Wendy Lipp, Donald & Patricia Gable, Andrea & William Franklin, Stanley & Susan Katz, Jackie & Jay Dorman, Larry & Natalie Katz, Susan Chudde, Steve & Bari Blumhof, Lorie, Edward, Rachel & Steph Rosen, Sandy Kulback

Joel Horenstein Fund

Rick Pinsky, by Doug &

Bonnie Deutsch, Linda &

In memory of

Steve Horenstein
Dr. Stephen House's son,
by Linda & Steve
Horenstein
Doug & Bonnie Deutsch's
nephew, by Linda & Steve
Horenstein
Helene Sureck, by Dena
Briskin

Irving Fishbein, by Michael

Fishbein

Barbara Guggenheimer, by Henry Guggenheimer Sylvia Wall, by Henry Guggenheimer Helga Landau, by Henry Guggenheimer

In honor of
Heather Metz's wedding,
by Linda & Steve
Horenstein
Barbara Raizen's 90th
birthday, by Linda & Steve
Horenstein

Speedy recovery Rabbi Samuel Press, by Linda & Steve Horenstein

Kiddush Fund

In memory of Joseph Frankowitz, by Adele Krug

Rav Glazer's Discretionary Fund

In honor of
Rav Glazer & Elyssa joining
us, by Sarah Moore
Leventhal

Rinzler College Fund In memory of

Rick Pinsky, by Brenda Rinzler

In honor of
Sue Zulanch's 80th
birthday, by Brenda Rinzler
Speedy recovery
Bruce Feldman, by Brenda
Rinzler

Ritual Fund

In memory of
Rick Pinsky, by Mark &
Kathy Gordon, Nadine &
John Merker, Henry
Guggenheimer
Lawrence Skal, by Nadine

& John Merker Charles Feldman, by Bari & Steve Blumhof Samuel Davis, by Anne **Davis** Richard Schear, by Paul Schear Sarah Lewis, by Norm & Kay Lewis Mary Louise Dreety, by Philip & Louisa Dreety Annette Rennemann, by Ann & Scott Liberman Marian Plotnick, by David Plotnick & family Albert Kravitz, by Myron Stayman Jack Tilson, by Myron Stayman Oscar Soifer, by Bruce & Sue Soifer Albert Solkov, by Lauren Maio, Janine Raye, & Michelle Rose Barbara Solkov, by Lauren Maio, Janine Raye, & Michelle Rose Jack Ross, by Jay Ross Hannah Miller, by Mindy Metz

In honor of The beautiful High Holiday services, by Mark & Kathy Gordon

Speedy recovery
Bruce Feldman, by Mark &
Kathy Gordon

Ruth & Fred Scheuer Life Enrichment Series

In honor of Jason Roden's recent wedding, by Marvin & Linda Roden

In the Beth Abraham Family

Thanks to the following Service Sponsors:

October 1 - Men's Club & Sisterhood in honor of Rav Aubrey Glazer's first Shabbat at BA

October 8 - Garry & Mindy Greene in honor of their special anniversary

October 15 - Dena Briskin and Joel & Judi Guggenheimer in honor of Henry Guggenheimer's special birthday

October 22 - The Krummel-Adkins Family in honor of Shoshana Krummel-Adkins' bat mitzvah

October 29 - A Friend of Beth Abraham

Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in November:

November Birthdays

- 3 Lynn Goldenberg
- 4 Sandy Sloane-Brenner
- 4 Maya Liner
- 5 Penney Fraim
- 9 Jody Pollack Blazar
- 10 Michael Jaffe
- 11 Alan Moscowitz
- 11 Francine Shuchat Shaw
- 12 Kenneth Krochmal
- 12 Wanda-Lea Pilder
- 14 Eric Sussman
- 15 David Plotnick
- 18 Bernard Barsky
- 18 Michael Goldstein
- 19 Howard Michaels
- 20 Linda Brotkin
- 21 Judy Schwartzman
- 21 Lois Gross
- 23 Sanford Wolfe
- 23 Patti Schear
- 24 Renate Frydman
- 24 Laurie Braverman
- 25 Norm Lewis
- 26 Bella Freeman
- 27 Shirley Frankowitz
- 28 Enrique Ellenbogen
- 29 Brenda Rinzler
- 30 Roger Chudde

November Anniversaries

- 7 Richard & Erika Zawatsky
- 10 Michael & Marcie Sherman
- 16 Lawrence & Sheila Wagenfeld
- 18 Steve & Taryn Wagenfeld
- 26 Todd & Jody Sobol
- 30 Adam & Tara Feiner
- ** If your birthday or anniversary is not listed above, please call the office so we can put it in the database

WE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS:

Alex and Jane Briskin

WE RECORD WITH DEEP SORROW THE PASSING OF:

Lori Ellman, daughter of Marianne Ellman Rick Pinsky

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YOM KIPPUR APPEAL REMINDER

Did you enjoy the High Holidays at Beth Abraham, whether streaming online or in person? Excited about the upcoming year? If you have forgotten or not yet sent in your Yom Kippur Appeal, it's not too late. As we hope for 100% participation, any amount is welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.

YAHRZEITS

This list represents yahrzeits for this month as listed in Beth Abraham's database. If we have missed a name, please call the Synagogue office at (937) 293-9520 and let us know so we can update our records.

This October (Tishrei - Heshvan) we remember:

HESHVAN Helen Abramovitz Frank Adelman Ida Appelblatt Max Arnovitz **Gladys Atkins** Samuel Barnett Bernard Beaman Robert E. Bernstein Elaine Bialer Louise Blake Lawrence Blumberg Murray Borkan Chavim Isaac Brauer Bernice Brown Herman C. Burke Esther Lefkowitz Burstein **David Chesen** Saul Layb Chodos Sarah Cohen Jennie Cohen William Cohen **Terry Coit Beatrice Cowan** Bertha Cunix Mary Deutsch Anna Deutsch Sadie Dorfman Jack Dorfman Ruthe Dorfman Norma Dreety Louis Dubro Alan Michael Effron Silvia Ellenbogen Tili Faiga Ellison Abraham Ellman Lilian Epstein Alex Farkus Alissa Fein Charles Feldman Hal Feldman Belle Feldman Mollie Felman Louis Fink **Howard Fischbach** Anna Fishkind Sam Fleat George Foreman

Louis Frankel Sarah B. Fred Manuel Freeman Jean L. Friedman Rebecca Frydman Lena Gaffin Jules Garlikov Fred Gertzman **David Goldberg David Goldsmith** Louis Goldstein Poriss Gordon Abraham Gordon Bernard Gutmann William Handler Howard Hillelson **Doris Hulman** Eva Jaffe Sadie Joffe Vincent Johnson **Bess Kanter** Gertrude Kanter **Bobbie Kantor** Louis Kaplan Rachel Kaplan Esther Katz Leonard Katz Clara Klass Joseph Klausner M. Zlata Kramer Samuel Kramer Regina Krochmal Orville Kuhr Walter Kurland George Layton Frieda Leet Nathaniel Leff Gertrude Lefkowitz Isabel Lerner Irvin Lieberman **Richard Liss** Herman Liss **Dorothy Liss** George Lubin Sarah Marks Ilene Marshall Pearl Mason Chava Bluma May-

bruck

Tessie Meyer Hyman Michaels Katherine Miller Ida Miller Samuel Miller **Irving Miller** Elsie Mintz Ann Moran Donald J. Morris Lester Myers **Eve Naiman** Lillian Newhouse David A. Nizny Sadelle Odell Abraham Parker Leo Pollack **Bernard Precker** Philip Pretekin Nathan Prigozen **Dorothy Rabinowitz** Louis Rauchman Irwin Reingold **Daniel Riback** Joseph Riback Sholom Riback Jennie Rich Lee Robins Stanford Rosen Aaron Rosenkrantz Abraham Rosenthal Albert Rosenthal Berthold Rothschild **Gerald Rubin** Hattie Ruttenberg Sherman L. Saeks Mary Saewitz **Eugene Schear** Freada Scheller Jacob Schneider Maurice Schoenfeld Kenneth Schriber Louis Schriber Eva Schultz Lillian Schurr Sidney M. Schwartz **Ted Schwartz** Miriam Schwartzman **Paul Shapiro**

Ben Sherman

Ben Shirer Sadie Shokler Libbie Shottenstein Mary Ann Shuster Benhamin Siegel Alex Sinder Tillie Singer Alexander Jaco Smith Harry Solkov Isabelle Stecker David Stern Melvin Sumner **Temple Herbert Tomchin Edith Tracht** Abe Unger Henry Wahrman **David Weinstein** Gittle Weiss **Ethel Wilks** Rose E. Wilks Abe Wilks Ada B Wolfe Louis Wool Blanche Wyke Elaine Zelickman **Neil Zwelling Ruth Zwerner**

KISLEV

Helen Abromowitz Frieda Appel **Bernard Appel** Rubin Arnold Rosetta Aronson Sadie Auster Joseph Balshone Max Beloff Pauline Brill Rebecca Center Sarah Chudde Clara Cohen Mollie G. Cohen Joseph Dreety **Shirley Dunn** Joseph Ellison Selma Farnbacher **Ruth Frankowitz** Arlene Furst

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"YOU SHALL REJOICE IN YOUR FESTIVALS" (Deut. 16:14) A GALLERY OF OUR SUKKOT CELEBRATIONS













From the President's Desk...

Scott Liberman, Beth Abraham President

(This is the first part of Scott's Yom Kippur Appeal delivered at Kol

Nidre service.)



So, a lawyer, a congressman and a rabbi walk into a bar. Oh, you thought that I was about to tell you a joke? I can tell you that the past several months were not a joke, but

really did involve a lawyer, a congressman and a rabbi. And we all know the punchline to that story.

I'd actually like to talk about three topics tonight - traditions, a journey and a future.

First, traditions! Why am I addressing the Beth Abraham congregation at Kol Nidre? As long as I have been a member of this shul, the President always gave his or her appeal prior to Yizkor on Yom Kippur day. Traditions! In the words of Tevye: "Because of our traditions, we've kept our balance for many, many years." But even Tevye realized that some traditions needed to change. While changing my Appeal to the nighttime is not such a big deal, it is a change of our traditions. And believe me, I'm glad to have it over with tonight. But why do I bring this up? Well, because our congregation is at a crossroads.

Traditions are important to our congregation with so many multi-generation and long-time members, but a realization that change is also good is needed as we experience changes in our Dayton Jewish demographics. New traditions can be established and accepted for the continued existence of our synagogue.

As the only recent President who had three rabbis in his initial two-year term, I've realized that learning to embrace change is a good thing. "Rolling with the punches" is another way to describe it. As I told you last year, my presidential term envisioned three challenges: coming out of a pandemic, having an interim rabbi, and the quest for a new permanent rabbi. It seems that we have met those three challenges.

While we have adapted to the continuing changes in COVID infection rates, I believe that we are able to again get together for most activities. Thanks to our Congregational Engagement Committee, chaired by Steve Fraim, we were able to navigate the pandemic with this new normal. The committee will continue to monitor the current situation to provide a

safe and healthy place for worshiping and gathering together.

We were also able to continue our normal observances, programming, and weekly Shabbat services this past year with our interim rabbi. Rabbi Crespy's assistance during this past year will not be forgotten. Additionally, I cannot thank enough Cantor Raizen for her engaging programming and leading of services. She was especially helpful during those months when we did not have an in-person rabbi. And she was one to roll with the punches.

And finally, we formed a strong Rabbi Search Committee chaired by Norm Lewis and Debbie Feldman. Seems that they had a great result, don't you think? Thanks to everyone on the committee and to the whole congregation for coming out to interviews and for your feedback. I again want to formally welcome Rabbi Glazer and his wife, Elyssa, to our Beth Abraham family.

So, it seems that we accomplished those initial goals, while at the same time carrying on many of our Beth Abraham traditions and programming. Here is a quick review of what we did this past year: the Havdalanukkah event, our Shushan Night Fever Disco Purim, Shavuot in the Park, weekly Friday night Kabba Lotsa-Fun Shabbat on zoom, Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas dinners, daily minyan, Shabbat under the Stars, an active religious school, and the Sunday Sundae Fun Day, just to name a few. Plus, remember some new events like Havdala-nukkah and the Beth Abraham led Innovation Grant - Field Day: Reignite Your Mind, Body & Spirit. Both old and new Traditions!

My second topic is about a journey. The hiring of Rav Aubrey was not just about getting a new permanent rabbi for Beth Abraham. It was about continuing a journey. A journey that not only our congregation agreed to take, but one that Rav Aubrey challenged us to take as early as our first interview with him.

This journey actually began at different times for each of us. For example, my personal Beth Abraham journey began over 30 years ago when Ann and I, a first year UD law student, came to Dayton. My first experience with Beth Abraham was the kindness of the Hellman family having us for dinner on Erev Rosh Hashanah. I still talk about the softball sized matzah balls. As a conservative Jew, I felt comfortable at Beth Abraham. My kids grew up in the religious school and we embraced the traditions of

this congregation. My family's tradition of getting involved in synagogue life encouraged me to eventually accept a position on the Board and finally become your president. I gave of my time and talents to help where needed. I am sure that you have your own similar type of journey that you could talk about.

For the Beth Abraham congregation as a whole, the most recent journey began during the rabbi interview process, continued through the hiring and contracting process, and (especially for me and Rav Aubrey) through an immigration process. Sure, as president, I never expected that last challenge; but it was certainly just part of the journey...one that took 5 months, four days, 10.5 hours. But who's counting? Once they crossed the Peace Bridge into the United States, I thought, finally, we have completed the journey. We got them here in time for the High Holidays.

But then it occurred to me that our journey was actually just beginning. And this is a journey that we, as a congregation are all on together. Rav Aubrey brings a wealth of education, experience, programming and ideas; all with the goal of taking us on an exciting Jewish journey over the next several years. This journey includes educating and invigorating our membership in new ways to pray, to build relationships, to play, and to experience and learn about our Judaism.

Rav Aubrey has already begun educational classes, been providing congregant outreach and has been involved in day-to-day synagogue operations, even before he was physically present in Dayton. So early in his tenure at Beth Abraham, it already seems that he has been able to make an impact on so many of us. While he leads us on our Beth Abraham journey, it is my hope that each of you are on a personal journey that embraces what Beth Abraham means to you.

Next month, my article will continue to explore and explain exactly what that journey could mean to you and how you each can assist the synagogue as a whole.

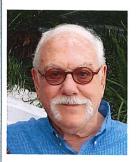
To be continued...



Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter

(This is part 4 of an article about Jewish



historian Salo Baron's book, The Russian Jew Under Czars and Soviets).

Baron emphasizes that in the 1930s some individual Russian Jews,

mostly intellectuals, artists and writers, escaped the oppressive nature of the community government by moving to Palestine. They may have had the vision of building a Jewish homeland and reviving Hebrew as a spoken language. Sadly, the British, who had control of Palestine, would declare in 1939 that no more than 75,000 Jews could enter Palestine for the next five years, just when Jews would desperately need a place of refuge.

At the same time, more publications of all kinds in Yiddish appeared in the Soviet Union than ever before. During the 1930s, however, the communist government pressured Russian Jews to abandon Yiddish as their language and to accept the Russian language instead. Yiddish theater, which flourished at the beginning of the 1930s, had almost completely faded away by the end of the decade.

On August 24, 1939 the Soviet Union agreed to a non-aggression treaty with Germany, allowing Germany to attack Poland, launching World War II in Europe. The two nations agreed to share occupation of Poland. Germany attacked Poland a week later. Poland would be defeated in just over a month and the enormous scope of the Holocaust would begin to take shape. Poland had a Jewish population estimated at 3.3 million. Then Germany attacked the Soviet Union in late June, 1941 and quickly took control of the eastern half of Poland. This sealed the doom of about 90 percent of the Jews of Poland. As German forces advanced more than

1,000 miles into the Soviet Union, they overran both White Russia (known as Byelorussia, today Belarus) and the Ukraine, both on the western edge of the Soviet Union.

White Russia had a Jewish population estimated at 375,000 and about 245,000, or 65 percent, would be victims in the Holocaust. The Ukraine had a Jewish population estimated at 1.5 million and 900,000 or about 60 percent would perish in the Holocaust. The area of the Soviet Union just beyond White Russia and the Ukraine had a Jewish population estimated at 975,000. An estimated 107,000 Jews or only 11 percent in that area would be lost.

German forces never made it to Moscow before the Soviet forces launched a massive counterattack in December, 1941. Baron says that about 420,000 Jews fought in the Soviet army. In addition to risking their lives in combat, Baron emphasizes that Jews learned quickly if they were taken as prisoners of war, they faced almost certain death. Another 65,000 Jews served in the air force and 40,000 in the navy. The war in Europe ended in May, 1945 and surviving Jews hoped for a better life. The Soviet government encouraged Jews to settle in Biro-Bidzhan. At least 6,000 did so in 1947-1948. The main city now had a population of between 30,000 and 40,000. At the same time, the creation of the State of Israel in 1948 offered new opportunities for Jews anywhere in the world. To the surprise of Jews everywhere, the Soviet Union supported the establishment of Israel, believing it might become a socialist or even communist nation.

Unfortunately, when it became clear that Israel would be firmly aligned with the United States and the nations of Western Europe, the Soviet Union turned against Israel and revived the tradition of anti-Semitism. Before his death in 1953, the brutal dictator Stalin, increasingly paranoid, turned viciously against the Jews, culminating in an



allegation that a group of Jewish physicians had plotted to murder him. Stalin died in March, 1953. The Soviet Union began to change, first with Georgi Malenkov as leader, more of an interim figurehead, then under Nikita Khrushchev as of 1955. Baron says that because of the repressive and secretive nature of the regime, there is a serious lack of sources about the life of the Jews, and in the census of 1959 fewer than 2.3 million individuals identified as Jews.

As of the 1960s, many younger Jews had abandoned Judaism to become assimilated into a completely secular society. At the same time, many older Jews began to agitate for the right to leave for Israel. Baron's book first appeared in the early 1960s when it may have seemed that Judaism as a way of life might be on its way to extinction in the Soviet Union.

The census of 1970, for instance, indicated that the Jewish population had declined to a bit more than 2.1 million. In a subsequent edition of the book published in 1976, however, Baron includes a long chapter titled "Incipient Revival." He questions the accuracy of census figures from both 1959 and 1970. He says life under Khrushchev and under Leonid Brezhnev as of 1964 improved a bit for the Jews. As he describes it, the creation of the State of Israel had given the Jews more prestige.

The rally cry of the Jews emerged as Let My people Go, bringing up memories of the Israelites led out of Egypt by Moses. Jewish communities in Israel, the United States and Western Europe began a relentless campaign to allow Jews to leave the Soviet Union. Finally, at the end of the 1960s, the Soviet government allowed Jews to leave for Israel. About 250,000 decided to leave in the 1970s and 1980s though many went to the United States or other countries.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Irene Fishbein

It was wonderful to be together again to celebrate Sunset in the Sukkah, our annual kick-off event, in our traditional way. We enjoyed celebrating together in person in the sukkah as well as reconnecting with each other. Thank you to our wonderful committee chaired by Judy Chesen. She not only planned a beautiful and meaningful program, but catered it as well, with the help of the rest of the fabulous committee: Dena Briskin, Linda Brotkin, Ruth Ellenbogen, Beverly Farnbacher, Ann Liberman and Liz Musin. I also want to thank Rav Aubrey, Cantor Raizen, Elaine Arnovitz, Ann Rismiller, and Dennis Day. This event would not have been possible without the support of each and every one of you! How special it was to have Rav Aubrey and Elyssa here to celebrate with us in person.

Mazel Tov to the Sunset in the Sukkah raffle winners: Linda Horenstein - wire and beaded kippah, Cheryl Lewis – glass nail file, Ann Liberman – earrings, Suzanne Thum – mezuzah. We hope you all enjoy your prizes!

We kicked off our mitzvah project at Sunset in the Sukkah, collecting feminine hygiene products in support of **The Femme Aid Collaborative** and their mission to end period poverty in Montgomery County. We will continue the collection through November. Please drop off your items on the table in the lobby. If you prefer, monetary donations are more than welcome. Checks may be made payable to Femme Aid. Last year we collected 2,811 pieces and \$184 (which allowed Femme Aid to purchase an additional 1500 pieces!). Please help us top that total this year! Thank you to those who have already contributed. Please visit **femmeaid.com** for more information.

Thank you to Beverly Farnbacher, whose name was inadvertently left off the list of mobile mensches who delivered the High Holiday bags in September.



MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Irwin Dumtschin

Men's Club has suffered a tremendous loss with the untimely passing of Rick Pinsky. He was not only our secretary but also volunteered to chair or co-chair many of our programs and events. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Pinsky family. He will be sorely missed.

Beth Abraham Sunday Brunch Speaker Series: Men's Club kicks off the Sunday morning brunch speaker series October 30th with Rav Glazer as our first speaker. In November, once again, our guest speaker for our special Veterans Day brunch will be retired Brigadier General Paul Cooper. More information is below.

Sukkah Building: Thank you to the following for helping to set up the Sukkah (pictured on bottom left): Alan Chesen, Irwin Dumtschin, Adam Feiner, Rav Glazer, Marc Katz, Steve Musin, David Rothschild, and Ralph Williams. Thanks also to Steve Musin for helping Dennis take it down.

Monthly Meetings: The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 21st, at 7:30 PM via Zoom. Our meetings are open to all, so come join us. Look for the Zoom link in the upcoming News & Notes.



SUNDAY MORNING BRUNCH SPEAKER SERIES

Our Sunday brunches **begin at 10:00 am**. The cost for brunch is **\$7**. Upcoming speakers:

Oct. 30 - Rav Aubrey Glazer, Why Would a Wise Child Walk on the Wild Side? Lou Reed's Abject American-Jewish Songbook

Nov. 13 - Brig. Gen. ret. Paul Cooper, *Tactical Airlift in Desert Storm: My Personal Story of 7 Months Flying in the Desert*

Nov. 20 - Bob Thum – *Jewish Life in 19th Century America*

Dec. 4 - Elliot Ratzman – Endowed Chair of Jewish Studies at Earlham College - *Zipporah's* Knife: Jewish Ways of Antiracism

Rabbi Aubrey L. Glazer, PhD. Cantor Andrea S. Raizen President **Scott Liberman Vice President Matthew Arnovitz Vice President** Tara Feiner **Vice President Beverly Louis Vice President Dale Schiff Treasurer Andrew Schwartz** Secretary Irene Fishbein Men's Club President **Irwin Dumtschin** Sisterhood President Irene Fishbein Chevra Kadisha President **Ted Cooper Rabbi Emeritus** Samuel B. Press, D.D. **Cantor Emeritus** Jerome B. Kopmar, D. Mus.

LIVESTREAM LINK

The link for all livestreamed services through StreamSpot is: https://venue.streamspot.com/72a802ed

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DIRECTORY TIME!

Have you moved in the last year? Changed your phone number or added a cell number? Please check your listing in last year's directory and make sure it is correct. Let us know if you have changes by **December 20th** - we'll be getting set to roll out the latest edition of the Beth Abraham Directory in January, and we want to make sure we have your correct info. Just give the office a call or shoot us an email!

SHABBAT CLASS - PILGRIMAGE THROUGH PSALMS

What is it about the timeless poetry of the Psalms that keeps us re/turning to them along our pilgrimages through the roller coaster of life? Join Rav Aubrey in rediscovering Psalms along the pilgrimage of our spiritual journeys on Shabbat, after Saturday morning services at kiddush lunch, for a close reading of key Psalms in our Lev Shalem Siddur, starting with the Psalms of the Day. All are welcome.

<u>Times for Shabbat Candle Lighting & Services</u> Online service links can be found at www.bethabrahamdayton.org, Facebook, or in your weekly News& Notes email

	Friday, November 4 Idra Shabbat Service 5:00 pm		Saturday, November 12 Morning Service 9:30 am		Friday, November 25 NO Kabba-Lotsa-Fun Shabbat	
	Candle Lighting	6:13 pm	Havdalah	6:08 pm	Candle Lighting	4:56 pm
	Saturday, November 5		Friday, November 18		Saturday, November 26	
l	Morning Service	9:30 am	Idra Shabbat Service	5:00 pm	Morning Service	9:30 am
	Havdalah	7:15 pm	Candle Lighting	5:00 pm	Havdalah	5:59 pm
	Friday, November 11		Saturday, November 19			
	Rhythm & Ruach	5:00 pm	Morning Service	9:30 am		
	Candle Lighting	5:06 pm	Havdalah	6:03 pm		
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