

# Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

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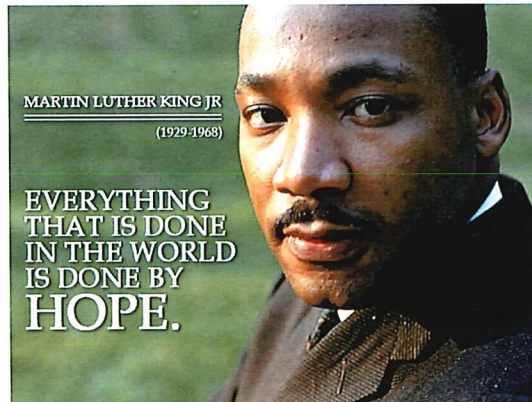
TEVET - SHEVAT 5783

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## LIVING IN A POSTURE OF HOPE MLK WEEKEND PULPIT EXCHANGE January 14-15, 2023

This Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend we are partnering with The Potter's House - Dayton International Ministries. Unfortunately, Corinthian Baptist, our usual pulpit exchange partner, is unable to join us this year. Rav Aubrey Glazer and Pastor Ken Moss will each be addressing "Living in a Posture of Hope."



**Saturday, Jan. 14th** at Beth Abraham Shabbat services with Pastor Moss giving the sermon. Following the service, at Kiddush, Pastor Moss will join Rav Aubrey for a study session on the Psalms, continuing the weekend's theme.

**Sunday, Jan. 15th** at The Potter's House, 2050 Germantown St., 45417. Services at **10:30** with Rav Aubrey's sermon at **11:30**.

Pastor Moss serves as the Senior Pastor of The Potter's House – Dayton International Ministries. He has served the Dayton community in various capacities over the years as a coach and mentor to many men and women who have been impacted by poverty and the Criminal Justice System, both at the State and Federal levels. At the core of his mission work is the belief that intentional, authentic relationships drive change and it is his aim to ignite passion, and invite both participants and parishioners to engage in relationships that span socioeconomic, racial, or cultural boundaries in order to build thriving communities.

Parishioners from The Potter's House will join us on Saturday and we look forward to attending their service on Sunday.

## PURIM: IT'S NOW OR NEVER!



If you've always wanted to strut your stuff in one of our famous Purim sphiels, now's the time to grab your Blue Suede Shoes and get your Jailhouse Rock on for **Purim: According to Elvis**. This year, with help from Irvin Moscowwitz and Diane Williams writing song parodies, we hope to bring you another fun-filled Purim evening on **March 6**. For now, we are looking for people to sing (and dance) in the chorus. Rehearsals will take place **each Sunday in February from 1:00-3:00pm**. Please contact Cantor Raizen to let her know that you have a Burning Love to join us!

BETH ABRAHAM SYNAGOGUE



## The Cantor's Corner *Cantor Andrea Raizen*

By now, most of you will have heard about the soon to be infamous last night of Hanukkah flood and fire at Beth



Abraham. Although these incidents in the moment felt like the plagues, in retrospect it was fortunate that we were preparing to celebrate the end of Hanukkah as a community. Had we not been in the

building as the fire suppression system pipes burst, we would have lost many more items in the office area. We are grateful to the congregants arriving for our celebration, along with firefighters and police officers who graciously pitched in to move things out of the offices as the water continued to pour in. Those of you who have been in my office will probably agree that this was the catalyst needed to finally push me to straighten up in there. As for the fire, we will have to rethink how we light 40+ Hanukkah menorahs without creating a fire hazard. Thanks to the speedy reactions of attendees, the fire was quelled quickly. One can only hope that we can finish off the year with warmer temperatures and less excitement.

I did, however, intend to write about some of the lesser-known happenings that took place as 2022 was coming to an end at Beth Abraham. Many of you are aware that we have a religious school program for children in grades K-6. But because it is very small and meets primarily on Sunday mornings, most people are not around to see what is happening. This year our school families have been introduced to *Rhythm 'N' Ruach*, the same program that we are using for Kabbalat Shabbat on the second Friday of each month. We use it on Sundays as part of our *tefillah* sessions. We integrate it into our more traditional *davening* and the students are responding quite positively to it. We took a field trip to a fabric store one Sunday in November. Our younger

students received pillowcases to decorate that had the *Shema* prayer printed on them, so that they would be reminded to recite it as they go to sleep. Our older group had been learning about the commandment of *tzitzit* and had even learned to tie them. On the trip they each selected a piece of fabric from which they would make their own tallit. They decorated pieces that would be attached as the *atara* (collar) and the four corners where the *tzitzit* would be tied. As you can see from the photo below, they all did a great job.

We had a visit from staff at Camp Livingston, a Jewish overnight camp about 2 hours away from Dayton. This introduced families to the idea of Jewish summer camp, especially now that our Jewish Federation of Greater Dayton is launching the SEEDS Program which will provide a \$500 yearly stipend to every Jewish child in Dayton to be used towards any type of Jewish program from religious school to youth group activities to camp and Israel programs.

We finished off the year with our own Hanukkah celebration the morning of the first candle lighting. We made cookies, ate latkes, sang songs and made beautiful drip plates for our Hanukkah menorahs. We are looking forward to more hands-on, experiential learning with our families and the entire congregation. Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2023.



Religious school children with their handmade tallitot.

## BETH ABRAHAM



### GIVING SOCIETIES

#### CHAI SOCIETY

MIKE FREED  
STEVEN & LINDA HORENSTEIN  
TERRY & MARLENE PINSKY  
ALLAN\* & BRENDA RINZLER  
NORM & MARY RITA WEISSMAN

#### RABBI'S MINYAN

LARRY & CINDY BURICK  
BRUCE & DEBBIE FELDMAN  
DAVID & SUSAN JOFFE  
MARC KATZ & JULIE LISS-KATZ  
EDWARD & MARCIA KRESS  
MICHAEL & ELLEN LEFFAK  
ALLEN LEVIN  
DONALD & CAROLE MARGER  
ANDREW & PAMELA SCHWARTZ

#### CANTOR'S CHOIR

ADAM & TARA FEINER  
DAVID & JOAN MARCUS  
IRVIN & GAYLE MOSCOWITZ  
JIM & CAROL\* NATHANSON  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

#### PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

BETH ADELMAN  
MATT & ELAINE ARNOVITZ  
BILL & MELINDA DONER  
DOUGLAS & BETHANY EINSTEIN  
DENEAL & ESTHER FELDMAN  
GARY & IRENE FISHBEIN  
LYNN FOSTER  
JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN  
RENATE FRYDMAN  
MICHAEL & ROCHELLE GOLDSTEIN  
SAMMYE HARRISON  
STANLEY & SUSAN KATZ  
NORM & KAY LEWIS  
SCOTT & ANN LIBERMAN  
ALAN & MYRNI MOSCOWITZ  
WALTER RICE & BONNIE BEAMAN RICE  
LEE & PATTI SCHEAR  
DALE & SHARON SCHIFF  
REX & LOUISE TINCHER  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

\*OF BLESSED MEMORY



# WHEN SO MANY ARE IN NEED, HOW CAN “ALL WHO ARE HUNGRY, COME EAT”?

Rav Aubrey L. Glazer, PhD

“I’ve been lined up since 5:45 AM this morning to make sure I could get all the



food my family needs.” This is what I was told by one of the first drivers of 500 carloads of families that drove through the

Dayton Foodbank on Hannukah. Along with volunteers from Beth Abraham and in conjunction with JCRC, we sorted, bagged, boxed and loaded 500 carloads of food for the holiday season. When I was driving up to begin my volunteer shift, I was worried about actually even being able to get into the facility as the hundreds of cars lined up looked like a blockade—but it is a regular sight here in Dayton. So as the light of 4 Hanukkah candles were burning in my mind, my heart cried out: when so many are in need, how can “All who are hungry, come eat?” I was asking a question more suited to Passover although it felt so relevant this Hannukah, but the inspiration remains alive in Reb Nachman of Bratzlav’s comment on this wonderful prelude to eating Matzah at the seder:

*“All who are hungry, come eat” - God took us out of bondage as a selfless act of kindness. We were not ready. We were undeserving. We must emulate God; performing selfless acts of kindness. We must make ourselves deserving of Divine Grace-Hesed. Before Passover, give much Charity-Tzedakah. Call out to the needy to come join us. Through this, we will merit to truly eat Matzah, the symbol of Divine Grace. (Likutey Halakhot, Kibud Av V’Aim 2: 4, 6, 16).*

I was amazed by the collective sense of duty present that stemmed from each

volunteers’ selfless act of kindness and resilient spirit to withstand the cold of the drive thru and the shlepping of hundreds of pounds of food into the cars of those in need. These volunteers comprised all ages, stages, religions and orientations, uniting together to bring some light into another family’s week through essential sustenance we so often take for granted. So when our president Scott Liberman told me he was still mulling over my sermon from a few Shabbatot ago, when I spoke of our patriarch, Jacob as the first homeless teenager and how we could make a difference in Dayton today, I felt that this was one of many concrete responses that are impactful. While we may have doubts about giving money to someone on the street, we can be sure that giving them food and clothing will be greatly appreciated, and applied to direct human needs and dignity. So from time to time, I plan to share with you here some reflections on different local *tikkun olam* initiatives that I hope will inspire us to join in as part of our sacred service within the Beth Abraham communal family. Dayton Foodbank provides an essential service of feeding the hundreds of families in Dayton in need of food on their tables. Today was the beginning of a deeper awareness - *Da’at* - that emerges in heightened

times like Passover, but should also be emerging for us through the lights of Hanukah. So I was inspired to donate my time and some small treasure from the Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund to make a concrete difference that felt impactful.

A few of the things that the Foodbank does are their regular Foodbank drive-thrus, Mobile Farmer’s Markets, food backpacks for school children to sustain them when school is out, and an Urban Garden. I encourage you to create a profile on their site ([thefoodbankdayton.org](http://thefoodbankdayton.org)) and sign up to volunteer - invite a friend from Beth Abraham and spread the word.

I am grateful for the call to make a difference as a Beth Abraham volunteer that came from our relationship with JCRC, which reminded me in a profound way how much we need to remember that we are never ready to be redeemed and we are always undeserving. But that’s why we must continue to emulate God, by performing more selfless acts of kindness to ensure the flame of godliness in the dark and broken world is never extinguished.



Volunteers at the Food Bank Drive-Thru



## CELEBRATING SHABBAT SHIRA & TU BISHVAT

The Shabbat at which we chant Shirat Hayam, the song that Moses, Miriam and the Israelites sang at the shores of the Red Sea, is called Shabbat Shira, the Sabbath of Song. This year it falls on **February 4**. To enhance the celebration this year, plan to attend these additional special events:

### DR. RACHEL ADELSTEIN SPEAKER

**Thursday, February 2  
7:00 pm on Zoom**

Ethnomusicologist Dr. Rachel Adelstein will give a talk titled, "(Shabbat) Angels in America: Israel Goldfarb, "Shalom Aleichem," and the Search for Nusach America." The Zoom link will be available in the News & Notes weekly email.

### DAYTON JEWISH CHORALE

**Friday, February 3  
6:00 pm at Temple Israel**

The Dayton Jewish Chorale will sing as part of the Shabbat service. This is part of Temple Israel's Share Shabbat and Potluck. Those interested in staying for the dinner, please RSVP to Temple Israel at: (937) 496-0050.

### TU BISHVAT SEDER

**Saturday, February 4  
Kiddush at Beth Abraham**

Following Shabbat service, we will have a Tu Bishvat seder as part of the kiddush lunch.



### GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SHABBAS? YOU ARE - IN PERSON!

Please join in for this fun Shabbat dinner at member's homes, on **Friday, January 27th**. Enjoy meeting other Beth Abraham members while having Shabbat dinner together.

You can choose whether you want to be a guest or a host. Remember, there are only two expectations for our hosts:

1. to provide a pareve or dairy dinner; and,
2. to recite the brachot for the candle lighting, the wine, and the challah.

As always, we need many more guests than hosts to make the program successful, so don't be shy...Be our guest! Links to sign up can be found in our weekly News & Notes email. **Please sign up no later than Monday, January 9th!**

### MEET AND GREET SESSIONS WITH RAV AUBREY CONTINUE

We so appreciate those members who have opened their homes for congregants to meet with Rav Aubrey in small groups: Jody Pollock Blazar, Beverly Louis, Larry & Marilyn Klaben, as well as at One Lincoln Park.

For those who wish to attend a meeting virtually, we plan to have a **Zoom meeting on Thursday, January 19th at 6:00 pm**. We will use the daily minyan Zoom link, found in News & Notes. In February, we are planning a couple more meetings, both north and south of town. Stay tuned for more information on those sessions.





# IN THE BETH ABRAHAM FAMILY

## We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

### Cantor Raizen's Discretionary Fund

In memory of  
**Theresa Krummel**, by  
Miriamne Krummel  
**Helen Rothberg**, by  
Beverly Louis

### General Fund

In memory of  
**Susan Jacobs Davis**, by  
Donald & Carole Marger

In honor of  
**Bill Schoenfeld's 96<sup>th</sup>  
birthday**, by the  
Schoenfeld family

**Speedy recovery**  
**Sue Ducker**, by Irvin &  
Gayle Moscowitz

### Gerald Wilks Fund

In memory of  
**Philip Froikin**, by Howard  
Ducker

### Ida Pinsky Fund

In memory of  
**Rick Pinsky**, by Marlene &

Aryeh Dori, Renate  
Frydman, Jennifer  
Schriber, Betty Crouse,  
Philip & Carol Friedman  
**Beverly Kantor**, by Terry  
& Marlene Pinsky

### Joel Horenstein Fund

**Speedy recovery**  
**Martin Warshaw**, by  
Steve & Linda Horenstein

### Rav Glazer's Discretionary Fund

In memory of  
**Richard Flagel**, by Marni  
Flagel

**Bert Lieberman**, by  
Marilyn & Larry Klaben

In honor of  
**Rav Glazer's joining us**, by  
Minette Weiss, Jackie  
Miner

### Ritual Fund

In memory of  
**Dorothy Gordon**, by Mark  
Gordon

**David Michaels**, by  
Howard Michaels  
**Sarah Budnick**, by Susan  
Remick Topek

**Irving Stein**, by Lynn &  
David Goldenberg

**Ruthe Stein**, by Lynn &  
David Goldenberg

**Hyman Blum**, by Ric Blum,  
Ken & Lisa Blum, Sylvia  
Blum

**Milton Krochmal**, by Jerry  
Krochmal

**Isadore Metz**, by Mindy  
Metz, Heather Metz

**Leon Lapidus**, by Susan &  
Stan Katz

**Rudolf Ellenbogen**, by  
Enrique & Ruth Ellen-  
bogen

**Leon Stein**, by Alvin Stein  
**Helen Bernie**, by Karen &  
Sanford Wolfe

**Meyer Dreety**, by Philip  
Dreety

**Mardelle Friedberg**, by  
Allen Levin

**Morris Dumtschin**, by  
Irwin Dumtschin

**Claire Soifer**, by Sue &  
Bruce Soifer

**Robert Bernstein**, by  
Dorothe Bernstein

**Irving Neiman**, by Barbara  
Mendelson

### Sam & Sadie Berman Candy Fund

In memory of  
**David Hochstein**, by Clara  
Hochstein

**Shirley Berman**, by Clara  
Hochstein

### Social Action Fund

In memory of  
**Yetta Papish Pomeranz**,  
by Miriamne Krummel

In honor of  
**Courtney Rice's marriage**,  
by Susan & David Joffe

### SHABBAT LUNCH & LEARN A PILGRIMAGE THROUGH PSALMS

Rediscover the magic of Psalms along the pilgrimage of our spiritual journeys each Shabbat, following morning services at kiddush lunch with Rav Aubrey. The group gathers for a close reading of key Psalms in Martin Cohen's new translation and commentary, *Our Haven, Our Strength*. All are welcome, and you can join at any time.

### SHOPPING EARNS MONEY FOR BETH ABRAHAM

Don't forget - you can help raise funds for the synagogue without sending us money! Here is info to sign up if you haven't already done so. If you need help, call the office and we'll be glad to assist you.

**Kroger Shopping:** go to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards) and follow the prompts to register your card. **Beth Abraham's ID# is 85475.**

**DLM Shopping:** go to [www.dorothylane.com/goodneighbor](http://www.dorothylane.com/goodneighbor), and enter your name, DLM card number and **Beth Abraham's ID #798**. This card must be renewed every year.

**Amazon:** Visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com). Sign in with your Amazon.com log-in and password, then in the search box look for Beth Abraham Synagogue. Once found, select Beth Abraham as your charity for donations. Don't forget to add the Amazon Smile link to your bookmarks for easy access whenever you make a purchase!

**CARS:** Do you have a car you would like to donate? Call the toll-free CARS number (855-500-7433) and CARS handles the process from there.



### In the Beth Abraham Family

Thanks to the following Service Sponsors:

- December 3** - Beth Abraham in honor of our new members
- December 10** - Bruce & Esther Glazer in honor of Rav Aubrey, Elyssa & Tal
- December 17** - Janel Pequignot in honor of Edie Pequignot's birthday
- December 24** - Hindy Gruber in memory of Harold Bloom
- December 31** - Ralph and Diane Williams in honor of Diane's 75th birthday

**Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in January:**

#### January Birthdays

- 1 Marianne Ellman
- 3 Mindy Chudde
- 3 Peggy Schear
- 5 Kim Goldenberg
- 5 Ruth Ellenbogen
- 5 Judah Schwartz
- 7 Bonnie Rice
- 9 Sammye Harrison
- 13 Barbara Rothstein
- 14 Bert Pilder
- 15 Ann Berger
- 17 Bruce Feldman
- 19 Susan Chudde
- 19 Scott Liberman
- 21 Sue Ducker
- 24 Corrine Matusoff
- 24 Jim Nathanson
- 25 Barbara Mendelson
- 25 Jonah Orloff
- 25 Steve Wagenfeld
- 25 Harvey Fiddler
- 26 Howard Rubenstein
- 30 Frieda Blum
- 31 Marilyn Klaben

#### January Anniversaries

- 13 Steven & Penney Fraim
- 17 Enrique & Ruth Ellenbogen
- 19 Bruce Brenner & Sandy Sloane-Brenner

\*\* If your birthday or anniversary is not listed above, please call the office so we can put it in the database

**WE WELCOME THIS NEW MEMBER:**  
Meredith Levinson

For three generations  
Dayton's Traditional  
Jewish Funeral Home

**Marker & Heller**  
Funeral Homes

1706 N. Main & 5844 Old Troy Pike  
275-7434



Religious School students made drip plates for Hanukkah



Making a tallit



# YAHREZITS

*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 January (Tevet - Shevat) we remember:***

### **TEVET**

Sam Aides  
David Eli Alpert  
Gilbert Arenstein  
Jennie Arnovitz  
Lillian Atkins  
Renee Bennett  
Joe Berger  
Helen Bernie  
Lois Blank  
Naomi Brant  
Meilech Brill  
Harry C. Brook  
Albert Brotkin  
Isadore Brotkin  
Rachel Burick  
Claire Charme  
Phyllis Charme  
Ruth Elaine Cohen  
Virginia Cohen  
Irving S. Cohen  
Isaac Cohen  
Gertrude Coit  
Yitzhak Czigler  
Anne Dlott  
Sidney Douglas  
Meyer Dreety  
Abe Duberstein  
Harry Dworkin  
Rose Lillian Edeliant  
Herman Ellison  
John Farnbacher  
Mary Kling Feldman  
Mary Felman  
David Felman  
Elizabeth Fischbach  
Richard Flagel  
Elaine Foreman  
Anne Foreman  
Mark S. Foster  
Gertrude Friedman  
Alan Froug  
Sidney L. Gable  
Minnie Gertzman  
Samuel Golden  
Edith Golden  
Adele Marie Goldstein  
Philip Goldstein  
Celia Goodman  
Harry Gordon  
Sarah Govenar  
James Weston Green  
Etta Greenhouse  
Shiela Gullixson  
Libbie Gurevitz

David Hochstein  
Evelyn Horowitz  
Eve Hurevitz  
Freeda Hurwitz  
Fannie Hyman  
Max Jaffe  
Lawrence Jaffe  
Sam Jaffe  
Beverly Jenefsky  
Toby Jenefsky  
Charles Jenefsky  
Carolyn Jenefsky  
Theodore Kahn  
Tillie Kahn  
Milton Kantor  
Toby Katz  
Florence Katz  
Frederick Kessler  
Ella Kling  
Jacob S. Kopell  
Bessie Kopelove  
Marian Kopelove  
Glenna Krakoff  
Elizabeth Kravitz  
Dov Berl Kuhr  
Melissa S. Kuhr  
Anna Kuttner  
Edythe Lamden  
Florence Leffak  
Rudolf Lehman  
Leonard Leicht  
Anna Levine  
Katie Levine  
Maurice Lieberman  
Richard Lieberman  
Ida Lieberman  
Morris Liebman  
Abe J. Liff  
Benjamin Lifschitz  
Lester Lind  
Morris Lubin  
Samuel Maimon  
Oscar Mann  
Sarah Mann  
Freda Matusoff  
Bernard Maybruck  
Albert Miller  
Michael Miller  
Abraham Miller  
Pearl Mitnik  
Minnie Myers  
Irving Neiman  
Leon Nizny  
Harold Odell  
Kathryn Ostrov

Rabbi Abraham Pollack  
Yetta Papish Pomeranz  
Isador Press  
Rubin Rabinowitz  
Gladys Resler  
Glen Rittner  
Rachel Leah Rosen  
Rose Rosen  
Arthur Rosenbaum  
William Rosenberg  
Louis Rosenberg  
Robert Rosengarten  
Stuart Allen Rosenstein  
Evelyn Ross  
Sondra Ross  
Jacob Roth  
Jenny Rothschild  
Jose Sales  
Ralph Schear  
Sarah Toba Schear  
Rose Schemensky  
Sidney Scher  
Ida Schiffer  
Toby Schuman  
Rosa Schwab  
Barry M. Serotkin  
Shlomo Eliezer Shapiro  
Ann Sherman  
Sylvia Siegle  
Jake Simon  
Robert Slavin  
Sylvia Soifer  
Fred Sokol  
Leon Stein  
Leah G. Stein  
Bertha Stern  
Walter Stern  
Joseph Stoler  
Michael Sunray  
Max Tanis  
Barry Tannebaum  
Benjamin Tannen  
Violet Valensky  
Jeanette Wagenfeld  
Ludwig Weil  
Shaina Risha Weinstein  
Edward L. Weisbrod  
Charles Weisman  
Pearl Weiss  
Gerald Wilks  
Ryka Winter  
Sarah Worly  
Amanda Wynne  
Jean Zeifman  
Harry Zeifman

Harry H. Zimmerman  
**SHEVAT**  
Dora Abrams  
William Abramson  
Marvin L Alpert  
Leo Berman  
Dov Baer Block  
Minnie Blumberg  
Arthur Carne  
Annette Cohen  
Manuel Cohen  
Sol Dubro  
Isidore Ducker  
Mary Ellman  
Harley Ellman  
Jullius Ellman  
Herbert Ezekiel  
Emma Field  
Mimi Fisher  
Stephen Friedberg  
Etta Gales  
Rose Ganzer  
Jack H Garber  
Irv Garlikov  
Beverly Marx Goldberg  
Meyer Gurevitz  
Roy Harlan  
Marcia Isaacs  
Yetta Jacobson  
Ben Katz  
Irving Koretsky  
Marilyn Kuhr  
Sylvia Labovitch  
Bruce Lang  
Charles Lapinsky  
Celia Lepsky  
Sarah Liebman  
William Liss  
Mildred Lynn  
Sadie Mardy  
Harry Mendelson  
Zimmel Miller  
Sidney Miller  
Jack Moody  
Berko Moscowitz  
Elizabeth Niren  
Ida Oscherwitz  
Ruben Pilder  
Belle Press  
Rachael Pressman  
Elsie Remick  
Anna Resler  
Rabbi Jacob Richman  
Florence Rinzler

Irwin Roberts  
Carrie Rosengarten  
Irvin Rosenstein  
Edward Rubin  
Nicholas Rubin  
Aaron Rubinet  
Leona C. Sachs  
Howard Sanderow  
Anna Sanzon  
Hyman Schear  
Fred Scheuer  
Florence B Schwartz  
Ann Shainman  
Ruth Spialter  
Julian Spurling  
Diana Stayman  
Ilse Stein  
David Stein  
Marilyn Stone  
Anna Teisch  
Dorothy Tingle  
Annie Tomchin  
Ida Valensky  
Mitchell Vangrov  
Frank Wallace  
Jennie Weine  
Sylvia Weinstein  
Harry Winer  
Theodore Winters  
Pearl Wollin





## SOCIAL ACTION

*Beth Adelman*

On Wednesday, December 21st, members of Beth Abraham, including Rav Glazer, joined others from the Jewish Community at the Dayton Foodbank to help with their Holiday Drive Thru. Over 500 cars, each representing 1-4 families, drove thru. We helped pack each car with a variety of holiday foods. Children present received some special treats and food was also available for pets. Thanks to all who helped with this fun, worthwhile project, especially to JCRC's Executive Director, Chen Shterenbach, and Board Chair, Bonnie Beaman Rice, who organized it.

Our Social Action Committee will be meeting in early January to discuss programs for the coming year. We would appreciate any ideas you have. We are also looking for a few new members. Please contact Beth Adelman or Elaine Arnovitz if you have ideas or are interested in joining the committee.



## WOK N' ROLL HANUKKAH FUN!



Both children and adults had fun on the eighth night of Hanukkah, lighting our menorahs, eating, schmoozing, making crafts and playing Family Feud!





## From the President's Desk...

Scott Liberman, Beth Abraham President

### WHAT'S UP WITH THE LADDERS?



For Chanukah this year, I received a new ladder. I started reading the instruction manual for my new ladder. It said, "Step one, then step two, then step three...." Then I realized that there was no need for the "ladder training," since I had the step-by-step manual. Finally, I used that ladder to change a lightbulb in the house and realized that was the high-light of the day.

Okay, enough of my dad Jokes about ladders, but I truly do want to discuss ladders this month. That is correct, ladders. Google defines a ladder as a structure consisting of a series of bars or steps between two upright lengths of wood, metal, or rope, used for climbing up or down something. Spiritually, a ladder is symbolic of the connection between Heaven and Earth. Biblically, Jacob's ladder established a contact between man and God. In Hebrew, the word for ladder is "Sulam." So, you may be asking yourselves, why all this talk about ladders....Sulam? The United

Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) has a suite of Sulam leadership programs giving congregations the ability to reach higher toward the goals of becoming thriving congregations with thriving leaders.

Your current Board of Directors at Beth Abraham has begun the "Sulam for Current Leaders" (SCL) program, which will help in creating the new strategic plan for Beth Abraham. SCL is a leadership-development program that strengthens the collective performance of our officers, board members, and committees resulting in a shared purpose, energy, and goals to create a sustainable congregation.

Along with our USCJ consultant, Mindy Gordon, the Board will develop a vision, build an effective board, execute a plan of accountability, and finalize a program of volunteer development. This 6-8 month process, which began in November, is being co-chaired by Norm Weissman and Tara Feiner. The ultimate goal is to make our board function better, outline expectations for board members and officers, and develop leadership within our board structure.

The Beth Abraham board has a lot of strengths already, as demonstrated by our cooperative and respectful discussions and decision making. But the Board can do so much more when we specifically outline those expectations and develop our future leaders. The Board began this process by taking a self-assessment survey to obtain board initial thoughts about leadership, delegation, recruitment and training, and accountability. As a result of that survey, the Board is working on a common vision. Ideally, this vision will kick start some great and important work with the Board and eventually this congregation.

The Board has been enthusiastic about this challenge; and thanks to the encouragement of USCJ, our clergy, and the push from Norm and Tara, we believe that the end result will be a stronger board for Beth Abraham. But the process does take time and as the ladder manual reads....one step (or rung) at a time. I look forward to sharing more about the Board's progress and accomplishments as we progress up those rungs.



Our gifts for the Adopt-a-Family holiday project.

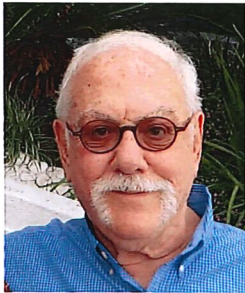


Chaya Vidal's Adult Hebrew class.



# Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter



A sort of a sequel to Salo Baron's classic study titled, *The Russian Jew Under Czars and Soviets* is *The Jews of Silence: A Personal Report on Soviet Jewry* by the prolific author Elie Wiesel.

Although

Wiesel's work may be dated, published in 1965, it offers a poignant snapshot of life for the Jews who remained in the Soviet Union at the height of the Cold War.

Wiesel explains that he had the opportunity to visit the Soviet Union during the High Holidays in late September-early October, 1965. Wiesel says that he only wanted to understand the "silence" of the Jews living in the Soviet Union cut off from the Jewish people because they could not receive permission to leave. Rather than their silence, he says, he brought back their "cry."

As perhaps only Wiesel could put it, he says the most memorable experience involved looking into the eyes of the various Jewish individuals he encountered. In a chapter simply titled "Fear," Wiesel describes how the Jews lived in fear even though the brutal Stalin had died in 1953. He admits that life in the Soviet Union had improved, but not that much for the Jews. Wiesel, a survivor of the Holocaust, strenuously insists that no matter how bad life for the Jews in the Soviet Union had become, it should not be compared to the Holocaust. In that regard, Wiesel includes a chapter titled "Babi Yar." Wiesel could not have come to the Soviet Union without visiting the site at Babi Yar, just about five miles outside Kiev in the Ukraine, then part of the Soviet Union.

At Babi Yar, almost 34,000 Jews had been shot to death at the end of

September and beginning of October, 1941 between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. As Wiesel so eloquently puts it: Babi Yar is Kiev! Wiesel reminds us that as many as 70,000 to 100,000 more Jews may have been murdered at Babi Yar in the months that followed the original massacre. Wiesel insists that the entire Ukraine is Babi Yar.

As if Wiesel turned a corner and came into the sunlight, he includes a chapter titled "Celebration in Moscow." Wiesel celebrated Simchat Torah at the Great Synagogue in Moscow. Some 2,000 individuals filled the synagogue to capacity. An unbelievable moment involved the participation in the service of the Israeli Ambassador to the Soviet Union. The entire Israeli diplomatic delegation attended.

The best was yet to come. As Wiesel describes it in a chapter titled "A Night of Dancing," when he left the synagogue, he encountered a crowd he estimates at about 30,000 young people dancing and singing to celebrate Simchat Torah. This seemed to contradict those who predicted that Judaism would disappear in the Soviet Union because young people would abandon the religion to assimilate into the officially atheistic society.

The most poignant episode of Wiesel's trip involved a man who said: they tell me there are three million Jews in New York and six million Jews in the United States. I don't believe it. If there are that many Jews in the United States, why are they silent about our situation? Wiesel admits that he didn't have an answer. He could not have predicted that just three years later, in 1968, the Soviet Union would at last allow Jews to leave for Israel.

Jews in the United States and in other countries had not been silent, but the Jews in the Soviet Union had not been allowed to learn about the Jews in the outside world. Of course, many Soviet

Jews chose to go to the United States or other countries, but that is the point: they were free to do so. They had gained their freedom at last. (Between 1970 and 1988 about 165,000 Soviet Jews left for Israel and about 125,000 left for the United States.)

Wiesel concludes with a sort of postscript titled, "Historical Afterword on Soviet Jewry" written by Neal Kozodoy. As editor of *Commentary* from 1995 to 2009 Kozodoy would be included in the informal group known as the "New York intellectuals." Kozodoy points out that a census done in 1959 counted fewer than 2.3 million Jews in the Soviet Union. He describes how the authorities tried to eliminate both Hebrew and Yiddish as spoken and written languages in the Soviet Union.

According to Kozodoy, only 60 synagogues remained in the entire enormous territory of the Soviet Union by mid-1965. Kozodoy emphasizes that far from being silent about the plight of the Jews in the Soviet Union, the press in the United States and in Western Europe regularly called for relief for those Jews. A rally at Madison Square Garden in June, 1965 featured Norman Thomas, Socialist, and both United States senators from New York, Jacob Javits, Republican, and Robert Kennedy, Democrat as speakers.

There had been unrelenting pressure on the Soviet Union. As the Cold War began to recede, the Soviet Union hoped to improve its image in the world. Today, Russia is a much smaller version of the Soviet Union. The numbers may not be completely accurate, but there may be fewer than 200,000 Jews in Russia. There are additional Jews in the Ukraine and in other countries that had been part of the Soviet Union.





## SISTERHOOD NEWS

Irene Fishbein

Thank you to all who contributed to our fall mitzvah project, which was supporting the Femme Aid Collaborative whose mission is to end "period poverty" in Montgomery County, especially the Dayton area. This year I'm proud to report that **we collected 1080 pieces plus an additional \$131.00.** Way to go Beth Abraham! Thank you to all who contributed and especially to Judy Chesen for coordinating our collection this year.

Sisterhood and the Men's Club successfully delivered our special Chanukah Gift bags to our local congregants. We hope you all enjoyed your goodies! This labor of love would not be possible without the support of our Power Packers and Mobile Mensches. We'd like to send a huge thank you to all of them: Beth Adelman, Elaine Arnovitz, Maryann Bernstein, Dena Briskin, Alan & Judy Chesen, Ted Cooper, Doug & Bonnie Deutsch, Irwin Dumtschin & Beverly Farnbacher, Irene Fishbein, Shana Fishbein, Mike Goldstein, Mindy Greene, Marilyn Klaben, Franklin & Cheryl Lewis, Ann Liberman, Gayle Moscowitz, Amy Munich, Liz Musin, Jeff & Connie Roberts, David Rothschild, Dale & Sharon Schiff, Judy Schwartzman, Allan Spetter & Claudia Birch, Bob & Suzanne Thum, and Ralph & Diane Williams.

Would you like to learn about how to make a tallit and participate in creating one? Watch this space for information on a very special Sisterhood series.



**THANK YOU TO OUR GIFT BAG VOLUNTEERS!**

## MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Irwin Dumtschin

**Men's Club Man of the Year Award:** Congratulations to Alan Chesen who has been elected to be Beth Abraham Men's Club's 2023 Man of the Year! This is a well-deserved recognition for all his hard work and contributions over the years. He will be honored in the region at a luncheon later this year.

**Rick Pinsky Sunday Brunch Speaker Series:** Our Sunday brunch speaker program has been renamed in memory of Rick who was an officer and one of our most active members. He will be sorely missed.

**Annual Raffle Fund Raiser Event:** We are still looking for additional prizes, so if you or someone you know can donate any retail merchandise or professional services as a raffle prize, please contact the synagogue office or Irwin Dumtschin as soon as possible. Raffle tickets are being mailed later this month.

**WWW 2023:** Save the date for our annual World Wild Wrap on Sunday, February 12 (Super Bowl Sunday). Rav Aubrey will join us in person in the chapel beginning at 8:30 AM.

**Men's Club Monthly Meeting:** Our next meeting is Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 PM via Zoom. Our meetings are open to all and you'll find the link in News & Notes.

## RICK PINSKY SUNDAY BRUNCH SERIES

Our Sunday brunches begin at **10:00 am (9:45 at Temple Israel).** Cost \$7. Please RSVP so we can plan accordingly.



- **Jan. 8** - Jennifer Caplan, chair of Jewish Studies at Univ. of Cincinnati - *Unmasking the Masked Jew: Jewish Identity and American Comic Books*. This program is being held at Temple Israel as part of their Ryterband Series (starting at 9:45 am)
- **Jan. 22** - Miriamne Krummel, PhD - *Three Thirteenth Century Jewish Dates and Chaucer's Prioress's Tale*
- **Jan. 29** - Jack Bernstein, M.D. - *The Return of Flu and RSV in the Age of COVID*



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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.

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### LIVESTREAM LINK

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

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## WOMEN OF VALOR - SAVE THE DATE!

We are pleased to announce that this year's Women of Valor event will be honoring the inspiring female spiritual leaders in our Dayton Jewish community. Save the date of **Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>** for the luncheon and program.

### Times for Shabbat Candle Lighting & Services

Online service links can be found at [www.bethabrahamdayton.org](http://www.bethabrahamdayton.org), Facebook, or in your weekly News & Notes email

#### Friday, January 6

Idra Shabbat	5:00 pm
Candle Lighting	5:09 pm

#### Saturday, January 7

Morning Service	9:30 am
Havdalah	6:13 pm

#### Friday, January 13

Rhythm 'N' Ruach	5:00 pm
Candle Lighting	5:16 pm

#### Saturday, January 14

Morning Service	9:30 am
Havdalah	6:20 pm

#### Friday, January 20

Idra Shabbat	5:00 pm
Candle Lighting	5:24 pm

#### Saturday, January 21

Morning Service	9:30 am
Havdalah	6:28 pm

#### Friday, January 27

NO Kabba-Lotsa Fun Shabbat due to GWCTS	
Candle Lighting	5:32 pm

#### Saturday, January 28

Morning Service	9:30 am
Havdalah	6:37 pm