



December 1, 2024
Cheshvan/Kislev 5785

VOLUME 68, ISSUE 6

CONGREGATION

BETH OHR

P.O. Box 206
Old Bridge, NJ 08857
732-257-1523

Visit us at:

OldBridgeBethOhr.org

OHR BITS

GREETINGS FROM RABBI MISHKIN

Every so often at this time of year, two of the more sacred holidays coincide for two of the major religions. This year, it is more pronounced than ever. Because this year for Jews, the holiday of Hanukah will begin the evening of December 25th and for Christians, of course, the holiday of Christmas always falls on that very same day. This leaves us with an unusual phenomenon this year. For our children and grandchildren, it's a wonderful coincidence because they don't have to feel deprived of the December celebratory activities and of the presents that arrive at the homes of our Christian neighbors. However, for those of us who try to look past the usual glitter and sparkle of the season, we can also take away from it the shared promise of both faiths. At this time of the season, the nights are longest and the days are shortest. Christians light their Christmas trees to spread light and joy, and Jews kindle their Menorahs placing them near the windows to demonstrate the miracle of Hanukah. To put it simply, a small people oppressed by a tyrant could ultimately seize victory and illuminate the world with the light of peace and promise. Again, something that the Christian world understands as part of their tradition, a miraculous birth of their savior at a time when the world sorely needed brightness and hope.



This year, to further celebrate this coincidence, our congregation is inviting all of our members to a special program on the afternoon of December 25th. Instead of searching for something to do when just about EVERYTHING except movie theaters and Chinese restaurants close their doors, we will gather in our Social Hall for an afternoon of laughs, fun, snacks, coffee with a Jewish comedian, Larry Donsky.

I hope to see you there.

Happy Hanukah to one and all!

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CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

- December 6, 2024 4:13pm
- December 13, 2024 4:13pm
- December 20, 2024 4:16pm
- December 27, 2024 4:20pm

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I am happy to report that the Gala Journal event, our main fundraiser, which took place on Sunday, October 29, was a huge success. Thank you to the committee for planning a beautiful luncheon in our Social Hall to honor Rabbi Mishkin, Cheryl and Lee Cadell, and Roberta Karpel. It was terrific to see the large crowd of members support the Synagogue by attending in person and by purchasing advertisements in the Gala Journal. A special shout out to Lisa Mason who once again created a wonderful Journal for us.



A number of programs were held during the month of November. Both Rabbi Mishkin's Monday and Wednesday classes, and Linda Benish's Thursday class started on Zoom. Sisterhood and Men's Club held a joint Brunch sponsored by the Stephen Edwards Memorial Fund on Sunday, November 10. Guest speaker Tariq Sharif shared the interesting history of his life growing up with Jewish grandparents and being raised as a Muslim by his parents. The Global Day of Jewish Learning held at the East Brunswick Library on Sunday, November 17, planned by our programming committee and funded by the Jewish Federation, was attended by a large group of community members from Old Bridge, East Brunswick, Monroe, and Matawan. The Interfaith Thanksgiving Service held on Sunday, November 24, had a variety of religious denominations from Old Bridge as we prayed together for Thanksgiving and peace.

Please attend our Services on Saturday and Sunday mornings. We were without a minyan on Sunday, November 24 and Sunday, December 1 (Rosh Chodesh).

We all mourn the loss of our dear congregants Seymour Nussenbaum, Ira Donenfeld, and Joe Klein.

Thank you all for your Yizkor pledge donations in response to my speech on Yom Kippur. We are a small congregation and your loyalty to Beth Ohr is overwhelming!

Come to the Synagogue for a fun time on Wednesday, December 25, as we welcome Comedian Larry Donsky and celebrate Chanukah together.

Shalom,
Phil

Congregation Beth Ohr, its Men's Club and Sisterhood
wish our members and friends a Happy Chanukah
and a Happy and Healthy 2025!

On-Going Synagogue Fund Raiser

When dining in or ordering from **Fred & Murray's Kosher Delicatessen**, 4345 US Route 9 North in Freehold, please tell the Staff that you are a member of Congregation Beth Ohr. They will log your purchase in a special book and donate a portion of your purchase to our Synagogue. Thank you.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday Night Shabbat Service

6:00PM via Zoom

December 6, 13, 20, 27

Saturday Shabbat Service

9:30AM in the Sanctuary

December 7, 14, 21, 28

Sunday Morning Service

9:00AM in the Sanctuary

December 8, 15, 22, 29

CONTACT RABBI MISHKIN

Office: 732-257-1523, option 2

941-518-8864, after hours for emergencies

By email : rabbijoelmishkin@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline to submit items for the January Newsletter is Monday, December 27, 2024. Please email your articles to Meryl on or before that date.

RITUALLY SPEAKING—SHARE A SIMCHA

The Ritual Committee will honor members celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other simchas once a month at a Shabbat service. Mazel Tov to the following congregants who will be celebrating their simchas during the month of December. We will celebrate Simcha Shabbat on Saturday, December 14, 2024.

Birthdays

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Harriett Feld	December 04
Lee Donenfeld	December 05
Linda Garfinkel	December 10
Roberta Bernstein	December 11
Steven Ullman	December 11
Melody Schwartz	December 13
Wilma Appel	December 14
Lawrence Fachler	December 21
Jenni Goldstein-Bermudez	December 27
Sharen Silverman	December 28
Monica Atzbi	December 29
Marilyn Kamenitz	December 29
Linda Koppel	December 31

Anniversaries

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Mr. & Mrs. Perry Trechak	December 09
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Fachler	December 12
Mr. & Mrs. Myles Schwartz	December 14
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Rabinowitz	December 18
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Weiss	December 25

General Announcement

Barbara Schneider proudly announces the engagement of her oldest grandson Max Flores to Andrea. Parents are Julie & Rick Flores.

THANK YOU

Meryl & Marvin Lafazan extend a special thank you to the Sisterhood for the Gold Cards in honor of our grandson, Evan Lafazan's, Bar Mitzvah. We appreciate all the kind words and Mazel Tovs.

Thank you to Main Street Theater for their donation to our High Holiday Food Drive.

Thank you to our congregants who supported our High Holiday Food Drive.

Yahrzeit Donations

We honor the memories of our loved ones whose Yahrzeits are observed during the month of November. We acknowledge the following for their contributions.

Donated By	In Loving Memory Of
Linda & Allen Skupp	Sadie Wishnick, Doris Schulsinger
Paula Yourman & Family	Shirley Litwak, David Litwak, Gerald Litwak, Constance Litwak
Miriam Lubinsky & Balaban Family	Adolf Balaban
Marilyn Kamenitz	Molly Sackaroff
Melody & Myles Schwartz	Norman Schwartz
Mike & Liz Aroyo	Lewis Woods, Beatrice Woods, Ira Woods, Rita Aroyo, Eva Blumenthal
Alice & David Honig	Robert Honig, Seymour Himmelstein
Ellie Honig	Robert Honig
Herb Goldenberg	Rose Feuer, Sadie Goldenberg
Elias Engber	Donald Kaminsky, Eva Engber
Ed & Ronnie Mendlowitz & Family	Arthur Mendlowitz, Irving Weisgold
Linda Garfinkel	Barry Fass
Arlene & Nelson Silver	Jeanette Schenker
Glenda Levensten	Caryn Katz
Ann Herrmann & Susan Belmont & Families	Hesie Fusfeld
Linda & Harold Koppel	Erna Koppel
Clifford Shulman	Sylvia Shulman
The Feder Family	Albert Berman
Eva Yourman	Hal Yourman
Marilyn Gilbarg	Stephen Gilbarg
Linda & Ira Shapiro	Bertram Shapiro
Meryl Finkelstein	Henry Nathanson
Ashna Pincus	Charlie Pincus
Eileen Birnbaum	Jacob Birnbaum, Jules Birnbaum, Liebe Bernstein

CONGREGATION BETH OHR MEMORIAL FUNDS

The following is a listing of the tax-deductible Memorial Funds, and other Funds, to which tax deductible donations may be made. When donating to these funds, please make your checks out to Congregation Beth Ohr and write the fund's name in the memo portion of the check.

David Benish Memorial Fund
Ralph Karpel Memorial Fund
Elaine Leibowitz Memorial Fund
Herman & Frieda Lipp Memorial Fund
Stanley M. Perlman Memorial Fund
Stuart Polovsky Memorial Fund
Heidi Rogol Memorial Fund

GENERAL FUND

Donation from the Harrison's Smile Fund of the Princeton Area Community Foundation for the Building Fund in memory of Bob Zussman, Thomas & Maryann Huguenin, Scott & Jeff Huguenin from Lisa, Marc & Harrison Huguenin

Donation from Josephine Levine in Memory of Ira Donenfeld

Donation from Linda & Allen Skupp in Memory of Ira Donenfeld

In Memoriam

Our dear congregant, Ira Donenfeld passed away on November 16, 2024. The Beth Ohr family sends its condolences to Lee and her children, Stacie and Scott, grandchildren and the extended family.

Our dear congregant, Joseph Klein, passed away on November 23, 2024. The Beth Ohr family sends its condolences to his children, grandchildren and the extended family.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Donation from Rabbi Ethan Seidel

Donation from Meryl Lafazan

David Benish Memorial Fund

Edward & Ruth Lubitz in Memory of Ira Donenfeld

Stuart Polovsky Memorial Fund

Terrie Polovsky has renewed the subscriptions to Moment Magazine in memory of her husband Stuart Polovsky.

December 2024 YAHRZEITS

The actual date that the Yahrzeit is observed is to the right of the name. It is customary to light a memorial candle on the eve of this date and to give tzedakah in the memory of the Yahrzeit. One should recite the Mourner's Kaddish at services the evening before as well as the day of the Yahrzeit. The name of your departed will be read at the Friday evening and Shabbat morning services the week before the Yahrzeit date which are represented by the dates in the columns which are in bold print.

December 6/7

Lydia Edwards	12/7
Stephen Gilbarg	12/7
Anna Goldstein	12/7
Henry Sommers	12/7
Sadie Goldenberg	12/8
David Litwak	12/8
Bertram Shapiro	12/8
Sarah Shapiro	12/8
Sandor Ulman	12/8
Carrie Weiss	12/8
Jennie Bienenfeld	12/9
Sheldon Weinstein	12/9
Beatrice Woods	12/9
Doris Schulsinger	12/10
Max Reiser	12/11
Howard Boshak	12/12
Isaac Caleinar	12/12
Ted Cannata	12/12
Hesie Fusfeld	12/12
David Obsatz	12/12
Ben Rosenblum	12/12
Judith Abramson	12/13
Samuel Finkelstein	12/13
Rebecca Barbara Singer	12/13
Harry Spinner	12/13
Lillian Ullman	12/13

December 13/14

Sol Leibowitz	12/14
Meyer Levine	12/14
Henry Nathanson	12/14
Charles Pincus	12/14
Helene Albertson	12/15
Ralph Israel	12/15
Murray Rubrum	12/15
Lila Ash	12/16
Sylvia Cartmell	12/16
Bess Handler	12/16
Constance Litwak	12/16
Yetta Lustgarten	12/16
Frances Moskowitz	12/16

December 13/14

Nathan Albaum	12/17
Gussie Wasserman	12/17
Rita Aroyo	12/18
Albert Berman	12/18
Charles Winter	12/18
Howard Rice	12/19
Jules Cohen	12/20
Gerald Litwak	12/20

December 20/21

Marilyn Brown	12/21
Philip Fireman	12/21
June Rhoda Mishkin	12/21
Ron Samuel	12/21
Bertha Weissman	12/21
Boris Wodakow	12/21
Jacob Birnbaum	12/22
Mary Garcia	12/22
Betty Lionheart	12/22
Bertha Ravnitzky	12/22
Joel Rockaway	12/22
Elizabeth Feldman	12/23
Rose Podol	12/23
Beckie Ehrenworth	12/24
David Abstender	12/25
Morris Silver	12/25
Morris Erlish	12/26
Benny Praport	12/26
Leonard Apploff	12/27
Ruth Barry	12/27
Howard Gray	12/27
Bertha Ullmann	12/27
Joyce Ellen Weiss	12/27

Continued

December 27/28

Leibe Bernstein	12/28
Alec Goldberg	12/28
Ruth Masher	12/28
Mary Berkowitz	12/29
Ralph Betesh	12/29
Sylvia Hochheiser	12/29
Esther Ruth Nadler	12/29
Pauline Stern	12/29
Herman Waxenberg	12/29
Gertrude Bier	12/30
Sylvia Hochheiser	12/30
Murray Rosencranz	12/30
Jules Burns	12/31
Sylvia Shulman	12/31
Herman Kagan	01/1
Sam Morris	01/1
Sidney Segal	01/1
Milton Shumer	01/1
Nathan Ehrenworth	01/2
Charles Friedman	01/2
Haim Grayewsky	01/2
Donald Lipp	01/2
Larry Schnitzer	01/2
George Weiss	01/2
Betty Appel	01/3
Fred Kanig	01/3
Ralph Wishnia	01/3



Shalom to All Members,

Our Sisterhood Paid Up program was a lovely event and I want to extend our appreciation to the committee who did a wonderful job. Our joint Program with Mens Club on November 10th with guest speaker Tariq Sharif whose family story goes from Jewish grandparents to Islam which he practices today was very interesting.

On Wednesday, December 11th there will be a Zoom program at 7:00 PM with author Andrea J. Stein who wrote the novel Dear Eliza- One short letter, One big family secret.

Sara Ullman is leading the discussion of *The Marriage Box* by Corie Adjmi on Wednesday January 8, 2025 on Zoom.

Scrip is available at the Temple office from Meryl during her work hours, please contact her ahead of time to expect you. Of course, as always it is also available from Monica Atzbi, Sharen Silverman or Marcia Trechak.

Ilene Gray A-K ileneg22@comcast.net

Liz Aroyo L-Z mikeliza3@comcast.net

As always, we welcome input from our membership of any ideas that you would like to see from our Sisterhood. Please feel free to contact anyone of the Presidium which is Monica Atzbi, Cheryl Cadell, Barbara Schneider and Liz Aroyo.

Shalom,

Liz Aroyo, Presidium Member

2025 Mah Jongg Cards

Orders are now being taken for the new 2025 Mah Jongg cards! Small cards are \$14 and large cards are \$15. Make your check payable to Sisterhood Beth Ohr and send your check with your name, address and card size to:

Maxine Kaufman

118 Willet Way

West Deptford, NJ 08086

Please send your order by January 20, 2025.

For questions, call Maxine at 856-848-3113



SISTERHOOD ON-GOING FUND RAISERS

SISTERHOOD SCRIP

Sisterhood sells Shoprite, Stop 'n' Shop, and Acme Supermarket Gift Cards. This ongoing fundraiser helps support various activities of our Congregation. Sisterhood members receive donor credit equal to 5% of their scrip purchase.

To purchase Scrip, please contact one of the following people:

Monica Atzbi - 732-390-5890

Sharen Silverman - 732-266-2389

Marcia Trechak - 609-655-9507

Please call Meryl at 732-257-1523 or email her at congregationbethohr@gmail.com with your order.



SISTERHOOD BRICKS

Bricks are available for \$6.00 each to commemorate a death, birth, in honor of, or good wishes. Call Ronnie Mendlowitz at 732-254-1135 or email her at emrmcats@aol.com.

GOLD CARDS

Paula Yourman is Sisterhood's Hallmark lady. She is always willing to send your personal cards through Sisterhood. Just email the information to Paula at bubbe513@gmail.com or call her at 609-409-0346.

We have cards for speedy recovery, good wishes and remembrance. Each card is \$1.50, which includes the stamp. Some of you believe that cards can only be sent to Temple members, but I will send cards to anyone.

If you want a message to go out, please let me know, as I will not send anything out that comes to me second hand; it needs to come directly from you.

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS AND HIGH HOLIDAY MACHZORS

Donations in memory of, or to honor someone, can be made to Sisterhood, Congregation Beth Ohr. Please send your donation to: Meryl Finkelstein, 234 Community Circle, Old Bridge, NJ 08857.

If you would like to donate a High Holiday Prayer Book (Machzor) in memory of, or to honor someone, send a check for \$36.00 per Book, made out to Sisterhood, Congregation Beth Ohr and mail it to Meryl at the address in the previous paragraph. If you have any questions, please email Meryl at merylrob@aol.com or call her at 732-679-8701.



**PRESENTS AN EVENING
WITH ANDREA J. STEIN ON
ZOOM* ON WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 11 AT 7:00PM**



Andrea J. Stein was born in Brooklyn, raised in Springfield, NJ, and has lived in Summit, NJ since 2003. A book publicist by profession, she spends an inordinate amount of time taking pretty photos of books for Instagram.

Her award-winning debut novel, *Typecast*, was featured in BuzzFeed and ScaryMommy. Her sophomore novel, *Dear Eliza*, has received advance praise from multiple bestselling authors of women's fiction and was called a "top Jewish beach read" by Jewish Unpacked.

*** The Zoom Link will be emailed the week before the program.**

DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO CHRISTMAS DAY?
COME TO BETH OHR
TO CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF CHANUKAH
AND LAUGH THE AFTERNOON AWAY!
BETH OHR PRESENTS:

COMEDIAN LARRY DONSKY

One of the original stars of "Old Jews Telling Jokes"



Join us December 25, 2024

2 pm

For laughs and fun

For snacks and coffee

\$20 per person

RSVP TO MERYL AT 732-257-1523

SEND CHECKS TO THE SYNAGOGUE PO BOX 206,
OLD BRIDGE, NJ 08857

Men's Club News

Minyan every Sunday. All are Welcome.

Men's Club Calendar



The Sunday Minyans are in the Synagogue building. Every Sunday we will have Bagels and a schmear, coffee and more. **Join in with us in the Shul.** Services start at 9:00 and end around 9:45 and then the bagels, and camaraderie. If any questions, email or call Ed at emcpa1@aol.com or 732 890-3344.

All programs will be in building, Some will also be on ZOOM where indicated.

Coming attractions Programs subject to change.

Weekly: One Minute Dvar Torah emailed every Thursday.

Jan 5, 2025 DATE CHANGE: Men's Club New Year's Pancake Breakfast / Everyone invited / No charge

Jan 12 DATE CHANGE: Men's Club 11th Annual Sydney Lustgarten Mensch Award honoring **Mel Brandl**

Feb 9, 2025: Men's Club Ed Mendlowitz 45th Annual Financial Program. FJMC World Wide Wrap / Ed's topic: Mistakes to avoid when planning your estate – This will be an eye opener for everyone at any age.

Mar 16: Sisterhood / Men's Club Joint program. Sponsored by Herman and Frieda Lipp Memorial Fund in memory of Barbara Lipp. Program to be announced.

Apr 6: Men's Club Favorite Passover Memories Program

Apr 10: Siyum for First Born

May 29: Men's Club BBQ and Election

Jun 8: Men's Club Installation

Jun 29: Men's Club Red White and Blue Pancake Breakfast



Photos below

Mel Brandl who will be the recipient of the Sydney Lustgarten Mensch Award on January 12, 2025. Photos taken at a Minyan: Andy Mendlowitz, Harriet and Phil Rabinowitz and Harvey Cohen.



Sunday Minyan and Beth Ohr Program Photos

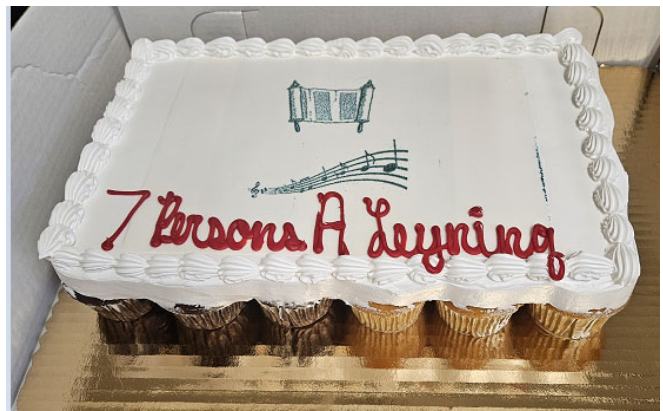
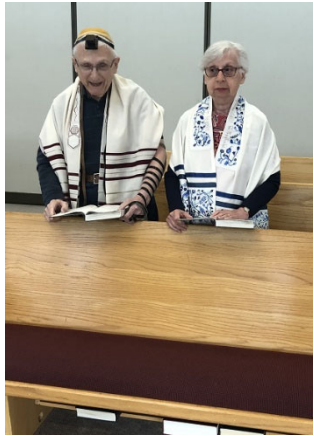


Photo descriptions

Top row at a Minyan: Roberta and Larry Fachler and Mel Brandl. Wilma and Allen Appel, Lisa Mason and Charlie, and Chuck Rogol, Morty Kamenitz and Ken Deitz. **2nd Row:** Tariq Sharif from Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Old Bridge speaking at the joint Sisterhood and Men's Club program sponsored by the Stephen Edwards Memorial Fund and photo of some of the attendees. On Shabbos November 16, seven different people lained a Torah portion. Some were doing it for the first time. They were Greg Perlman, Jeff Perlman, Phil Rabinowitz, Ed Mendlowitz, Mel Brandl, Morty Kamenitz and Ken Deitz. Marty Israel has a special inscription put on the cake to commemorate this. **3rd Row;** Global Day of Jewish Learning sponsored by the Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey on Nov 17. Linda Benish who was the organizer introducing the program. Shown are the five Rabbis that participated: Rabbi Larry Brandspiegel, East Brunswick Jewish Center, Rabbi Nathan Langer, retired local Rabbi, Rabbi Chaim Edelstein, Temple Beth Ahm of Aberdeen, Rabbi Joel Mishkin, Congregation Beth Ohr and Rabbi Eric Eisenkramer, Temple B'nai Shalom.

Beth Ohr Program and People Photos



Photo descriptions

Top: Interfaith Thanksgiving program at the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Old Bridge. Participants were the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Congregation Beth Ohr, Simpson United Methodist Church of Old Bridge, St. Thomas The Apostle Church of Old Bridge, Holy Trinnity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Red Bank and Glorious Faith of God Ministries. Next photo is a portion of the crowd attending. **2nd Row:** Dan Grynberg, Ed Mendlowitz, Andy Mendlowitz and Bob Weiss at their annual jaunt to Atlantic City, Next is Paula Yourman's great niece Tamar, an Orthodox mother of 7 who ran in the NYC Marathon and finished in the top 10% of the women. Obviously, Paula is very proud of her. Next is the Dara and Ken Deitz family in Aruba celebrating a warm weather Thanksgiving. **3rd Row:** Roberta and Larry Fachler stopping by to say hello to Chuck who was playing the Tuba at an Imperial Music Center Brass Band concert. **Happy Hanukah!**

Ira Donenfeld

November 12, 1941 – November 15, 2024

