MJCBY «»NEWS

February 2023, Shevat 5783 – Adar 5783

"On Tu B'Shvat, on Tu B'Shvat, Watch the trees dancing in the breeze, giving shade to you and me, the beauty that we come to see that comes from planting just a seed.

And the Earth will be happy, and the Earth will sing songs, we will plant our trees and watch them blossom, giving fruit, giving gifts, growing strong.

On Tu B'Shvat, on Tu B'Shvat, Watch the trees dancing in the breeze, giving shade to you and me, the beauty that we come to see that comes from planting just a seed.



And the trees will be happy, and the trees will sing songs, they will grow to be full of fruit so sweet, caring for the hungry, you and me.

On Tu B'Shvat, on Tu B'Shvat, Watch the trees dancing in the breeze, giving shade to you and me, the beauty that we come to see that comes from planting just a seed."

The Tu B'Shvat Song by Debbie Friedman z'l

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NEWSLETTER

Paula Czeisler, Editor & Designer Fran Loewensteiner, Copy Editor

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Friday Night Services 6:15pm Saturday Morning Services 9:30am

ZOOM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6576297611

Meeting ID: 657 629 7611 Passcode: MJCBY

Livestream

https://www.mjcby.org/servicelivestream/

*64646666666*466666

Use the Zoom link above to join us online for Havdalah at the end of Shabbat! Look for Havdalah times in your weekly e-blast!

WHAT IS GEMILUT HASADIM?

The Gemilut Hasadim Committee is here to help support you and your family. We provide assistance to our MJCBY families who are experiencing illness, recovering from surgery or need help at a difficult time.

We provide meals to help comfort them and lessen one burden of needing to cook during these times. We are looking for volunteers to make an occasional meal for a MJCBY member who is in need.

If you are interested in helping others or in need contact Elisa Udaskin at e.udaskin@gmail.com. We will discuss your needs and provide meals for you and your family



Elisa Udaskin

If anyone needs anything added to a newsletter, please email paula.czeisler@gmail.com. Deadline is usually the 10th of the month for the following month's newsletter.

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FROM THE RABBI'S DESK



<u>Tu B'Shvat and Trees!</u> Judaism and the Environment Rabbi Nesson

Here we are in the middle of the winter, and yet this is the time of the year when we celebrate a holiday that seems better suited for the Spring. The 15th day of the month of Shevat, known as Tu B'Shvat is the New Year of Trees. Originally

this was not a holiday at all. It was not a holiday mentioned in the Torah, and even in Rabbinic Times, it was not a holiday per se. It was a day on which you calculated the age of the trees, and therefore what kind of Tax, or tithe, was to be collected. Not very fun, except for maybe Rabbi Accountants. It was only much later that the mystics turned this into a celebration and holiday. For the mystics, it was a holiday celebrating the land of Israel and the hidden meaning of its fruits. These mystics created a Tu B'Shvat Seder, mimicking the one we have on Passover. And then, Tu B'Shvat expanded to be a kind of Jewish environmental day.

Now, during Tu B'Shvat, we focus our attention on the environment and environmental issues. The most common focus for the environment is trees, which in many ways come to represent all of nature. Trees are special in and of themselves, and ecologically speaking, trees are at the heart of the environment. They shade the streams, keeping temperatures constant, and provide food for fish and other aquatic creatures. They bind and build the soil. Without trees, the land is subjected to the eroding forces of wind and water; the soil blows away leaving a dry and wasted land.

Trees hold a special and profound place in the Jewish thinking. The Torah is described as a "tree of life" to those who hold it dear. The two trees in the center of the Garden of Eden, the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, are at the center of the creation story in the Garden of Eden. Trees find their way into the greatest biblical love poem, the Song of Songs. And in the Psalms, it is written, "the righteous bloom like a palm tree; they thrive like a cedar in Lebanon; planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God" (Psalm 92:13- 15). The connection of Judaism and the Environment with Tu B'Shvat reminds us that trees are the symbol of life and sustenance. In the rabbinic imagination, even 'paradise' was associated with trees: "The rabbis said that God created Paradise on the third day of Creation, the same day that God made trees and green growing things. They said that there were eighty myriads of trees in every corner of Paradise and that the Tree of Life had fifteen thousand tastes when it stood in the middle of the Garden of Eden. The rabbinic Paradise was the picture of biological diversity". In our tradition, trees are evocative of the diversity of life, of the exuberance of life, and simply of life itself.

At the very beginning of the Torah, we were appointed by G-d to be guardians of the environment. It is, therefore, our job as stewards of the earth and of God's Creation to care for and be active in preservation and maintenance of our world.

On Tu B'Shvat, the New Year of Trees, let's make a New Year's resolution to take on the mantle of this holiday, to protect our world. It is, after all, the only world we have.

Our clergy is here for you. Please let us know when you need us—if someone is ill or in the hospital—or when you want to share your good news: a new baby, a marriage, or other simcha. We want to know, but you have to tell us. Please call the office at (973) 538-9292 or email office@mjcby.org.

When you have experienced the death of a loved one, please contact Rabbi Nesson at (973) 538-9292 or (973) 285-9772 before you make any plans. In this way, he will be the most helpful in making these preparations in a proper Jewish manner.

CANTOR'S NOTES





<u>Tu B'Shvat</u>

What I like most about Tu B'Shvat is how the holiday itself is such an amazing example of how Jewish tradition evolves. The reason we have a date on which we focus on celebrating trees at all is because in Biblical times, there were certain protocols regarding the age of the tree at which point its first fruits should be brought to the Temple in Jerusalem; therefore it was important for those who

owned trees to keep track of how old their trees were, and rather than getting into the technical business of keeping track of each tree from the day of its sprouting or the day of its planting, all the trees were simply considered to be one year older on the same date, that is, the 15th of Shevat. Of course, the Temple no longer stands in Jerusalem, so we no longer need to keep track of the age of trees in order to fulfill this mitzvah as described in the Torah, but the date remains, and in recent years our awareness of the importance of trees, our dependence upon them, and their vulnerability to human greed and carelessness has grown, and Tu B'Shvat has evolved into more of a day to raise that awareness and remind ourselves that there is more that must be done to protect trees, and, by proxy, the environment in which they -- and we -- live. I do still love the simplicity of what I learned Tu B'Shvat was when I was a child: a day for planting trees. There was always a special focus on planting trees in Eretz Yisrael, which as we know over time transformed much of its landscape. But then -- and now -- I found myself wishing we could plant trees here in the US on Tu B'Shvat as well. There are some organizations that manage to do so, I'm sure, but wherever I was there always seemed to be challenges of logistics: Where would the trees be planted? On what property? Who would grant permission? Not to mention who would keep track of the young tree? So instead, I focused on the yearly Tu B'Shvat Seder, at the end of which I would send my students home with seeds from the fruits they had eaten and encourage them to plant them. Some of them did so, with varying rates of success. One year, a student even managed to get an olive seed to sprout in a pot in her home and kept it alive for a few years. Since then, I've started sprouting my own seedlings to give my students to bring home on Tu B'Shvat: some citrus, maybe an apple or a pear. I don't know anything about growing trees in pots or in one's yard, or whether any of these seedlings will ever grow to be successful and healthy trees. But every year, as each seedling sprouts in its own time and stretches its first tiny leaves skyward with their own shape, each as unique-but-similar as snowflakes, I find the very idea of the potential of a seedling to grow from a tiny seed into a tree to be nothing short of miraculous, and I appreciate all over that we have set aside a day dedicated to planting and growing something that can outlast us in this world. May you enjoy a fruitful and beautiful Tu B'Shvat!

Cantor Shana Onigman



Jason Navarino



As this is the Tu B'Shvat edition of our newsletter, it is fitting that I talk about trees. Or at least one tree. I'll go with the oldest known tree, the Great Basin bristlecone pine tree in California known as Methuselah, which is believed to be over 4,800 years old. Think about it. That tree was around about 1,000 years before Abram became Abraham and started worshipping a singular G-d in a way that became our faith and tradition today. No Jew alive at any time in human history was alive before that tree took root.

MJCBY is nowhere near as old as Methuselah. But in January 2024, we will celebrate our 125th anniversary as a congregation. That means no Jew alive today, never mind a current member of our congregation, was alive when MJCBY began or at any point in its earliest years of existence. That can't be said for very many synagogues today.

Starting this month and for each of the next 11 months, our History Chair Lewis Stone will be educating us in this newsletter about some fun facts regarding MJCBY's remarkable history, leading up to the celebration of our 125th anniversary in January 2024. We should all take pride in our amazing history.

I love history. But what I love most about history is how it shapes today and the future. We would not be the congregation we are today if the patriarchs and matriarchs of the Morristown Jewish community had not seen fit to establish a synagogue. Likewise, our actions today will impact the future of MJCBY, and whether we'll still be here 125 years from now.

Here is one fun fact about our history. One man served as rabbi of MJCBY for over 25% of our history. His name, of course, is David Nesson. But as we get ready to celebrate the conclusion of his remarkable tenure as our spiritual leader, we must also plan for the future. What kind of person do we want to lead us for the next 125 years, or at least the next 10 to 20 years? What do we want in a rabbi, and how do we want to interact with him or her? These are not abstract questions to be left up to a few congregants in a back room. Rather, the whole congregation is invited to take part in the process.

To that end, this month will be a very special one in MJCBY's long history. As explained more in the Search Committee's update in this newsletter, we expect to have a few rabbinic candidates join us in the coming weeks to lead Friday night and Saturday morning services, break bread (challah?) with us, get to know us, and give us an opportunity to get to know them. I strongly encourage each of you to come to these services, stay for kiddush on Saturday, introduce yourself to the candidates, and provide your feedback to Joshua Charm or members of his Search Committee, who have put in a lot of hard work to get us to this point (and they're not done yet!). These weekends will be an awesome opportunity to consider the future of our congregation, and I hope many of you will join us in making them a success and helping us make a successful choice for the future.

<u>LEGACY</u>

Tu B'Shvat: The Time to Plant

This month we celebrate *Tu B'Shvat*, the birthday of the fruit trees which is often celebrated with a symbolic meal and tree planting activities. It is a holiday that acknowledges the many life-sustaining qualities that trees provide. They nourish us as they provide us with food, shelter, and beauty. The Talmud details the story of the sage Choni who sees a man toiling in the heat while he plants a carob tree. Choni asks the man how long it will take for this tree to bear fruit. When the man responds, "seventy years", Choni questions whether he expects to live long enough to eat and enjoy its fruit. The man answers that 'I found a fruitful world because my ancestors planted it for me. Likewise, I am planting for my children.'

Tu B'Shvat reminds us of our responsibility to...

Plant for the next generation.

Build a community and world that our children and grandchildren will cherish and thrive in.

Create a nurturing community that provides a sense of belonging.

While our congregation just turned 124 years old, the cornerstone of our building was laid on November 24, 1929. Our iconic building was literally the fruit of the labors of our earliest MJCBY families and has been lovingly cared for over the years by many many generous congregants like you and me.

This Tu B'Shvat, take your lead from Choni and the generations of congregants who have generously built our vibrant MJCBY community. <u>Plant the seeds that will nourish our future generations.</u>

Contact Marcy Needle at 973-886-1302 or <u>marcy.needle@gmail.com</u> to learn how.

HISTORY TO INSPIRE

By Lewis Stone, MJCBY Historian

First an introduction.

Our family joined the congregation in 1940 when my father-in-law, Albert Abraham moved to town. My wife's grandmother, Rose Zall, moved to Morristown and she attended many functions here. Therefore, our sons are 4th generation to pray at our shul.

I have served actively on the Board, in one capacity or another, since 2001. I have done everything from cleaning out the 'basement' and the 'attic' to creating historical exhibits.

I look at all the wonderful programs our shul has done over the years, and I hope that by sharing information about them, folks will be inspired by what I can teach.

Each month I hope to share a story that I hope will motivate our members to write the next exciting chapter in our history.

In this first column, I wanted to share the unofficial Mission Statement for this work. These are the principles that guide the work in preservation.

- 1. To appraise, collect organize, describe, make available and preserve primary and secondary resource materials emphasizing the documentation of the Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael formerly known as the Jewish Community Center and House of Israel.
- 2. To provide adequate facilities for the safe retention and preservation of such records.
- 3. To serve as a resource to stimulate and nourish creative teaching and learning using primary research materials and provide instruction in the use of those materials.
- 4. To serve research and scholarship by making available and encouraging the use of our collection by members of the larger Jewish community.
- 5. To disseminate research and information concerning the documentary heritage of the Synagogue.
- 6. To implement records management by formulating policy and procedures that will ensure the future collection and preservation of archival materials.
- 7. To develop a method of on-going display in a prominent area of the building and online.
- 8. To use our archival possessions for fund raising purposes when the use or display of the archival material can be used in a tasteful way that enhances the experience.
- 9. To use our archival material to showcase the place MJCBY and the Jewish Community has had in the larger Morris County community.
- 10. To use our archival material to promote the appreciation of our history by young people in our community so that they see themselves at the people who will write the next chapter.

Stay Tuned- Next month I will write what we have done in each of these 10 areas.

MEMBERSHIP

How does MJCBY inspire YOU?

In the countdown to our 125th anniversary, this column will highlight what inspires many of YOU about our MJCBY community. February's comment comes from a 'new-ish' member:

There are two distinct characteristics of our MJCBY community that I think are particularly special.

First is our programming for children and families. There are so many options available for different age groups, ways to get involved, and it's all musical, fun, and creative.

Second is the sense of community. While the shul is a longstanding one, newcomers are welcomed with open arms. There's something for everyone, regardless of level of observance. Always someone to happily greet you when you come in, people who genuinely care about you and are kindhearted. I was made to feel welcome.

Thanks for creating a warm community where all welcome! To me, MJCBY's depth and breadth of programming are the icing on the cake.

What inspires you? Email me at <u>marcy.needle@gmail.com</u> and you may see your thoughts reflected in this column.

Are you a prospective member interested in learning more about the MJCBY community? Let's talk. Send me an email sharing the best time for us to speak.

GOOD & WELFARE

CONDOLENCES TO:

The McGrath family on the passing of Jason McGrath's Grandfather, David Gross, grandfather-in-law of Alexis and great-grandfather to Abby and Madeline

REFUAH SHLEMA:

Howard Baum, Diane Rothstein, Meryl Balaban, Joel Goldman, Erica Navarino, Beverly Berns, Debbie Brody, Cookie Wertheimer, Morton Wertheimer, Joe Sager, Lisa Pollak, Phyllis Levin, Joan Cohen, Jeff Newmark, Steve Neibart, Sharon Kellman, Joyce Litchman, Jeff Czeisler, Sue Jacobowitz, Ron Saltzman, Pat Stein, Rabbi David Nesson, Joel Beecher, Ginger Beecher, Linda Rosenbaum, Richard Rubenstein

RABBI SEARCH COMMITTEE

Joshua Charm, Chair, joshcharm@gmail.com

The Rabbi Search Committee is excited to invite you to become an active participant in the process to identify our new spiritual leader! We have spent a meaningful amount of time over the past two months interviewing various candidates who expressed an interest in our congregation, and the Committee has now narrowed down the field of candidates to just a couple who we believe can best meet our needs and be a good fit with MJCBY. We have invited each of these impressive candidates to come to spend a weekend with our congregation to give the entire MJCBY community an opportunity to get to know them a little and see them in action.

During each weekend candidate visit, we will have a variety of opportunities set up where congregants can see, hear, and interact with the visiting rabbinic candidate. Each weekend visit will provide congregants with a chance to interact in various ways. Candidates will have an opportunity to interact with Shalom Yeladim children and families, with our religious school students and their parents, to lead services on Friday night and Shabbat morning, to deliver a sermon and/or D'var Torah, to answer questions collected by the Committee from congregants, and to "schmooze" a little as well.

The Search Committee believes it is critically important to obtain congregant feedback about the candidates who will visit with us so that we can make the most informed and appropriate recommendation to the Board of Trustees. Equally important, we want each candidate to gain a real sense about MJCBY and to be excited at the prospect of joining our community. Neither of these important outcomes is achievable without you – that is, without as many MJCBY congregants as possible participating in one or more of the scheduled activities during these weekend visits.

Focused on Our Future



You will be receiving information about each weekend visit separately, including information about the visiting candidate and a schedule of the activities we have planned for that weekend. We encourage you and your family members – young, not so young, and anywhere in the middle – to come out, see and hear each of the candidates, and then provide us with your thoughts and comments. Please keep an eye out for e-mails about the weekend visits or call the MJCBY office for additional information.

As always, please feel free at any time to reach out to Joshua Charm, Eric Weinstock, or any of the Rabbi Search committee members with any questions or thoughts you would like to share about the process, the candidates who visit with us, or our synagogue community more broadly. We look forward to seeing you all as we meet the visiting candidates.

Rabbi Search Committee Update: January 16, 2022

Speaking on behalf of the search committee, I want to update the congregation on the status of the rabbi search. The process began over five months ago with the formation of the search committee. The challenge to each committee member was to bring perspectives that represent the needs of all congregants leaving behind personal agendas. From the onset, it has been a working committee with creative exercises intended to bring this talented group together to best serve you. A committee that satisfies the above criteria stands the best chance to accomplish its charge.

Early in the process, President Jason Navarino and I sought guidance from Jo-Anne Tucker-Zemlak, the USCJ Synagogue Consultant for the east region. Soon after, we posted our detailed *Synagogue Morristown Jewish Community Center Questionnaire* on the Rabbinical Assembly (RA) website. The website is open to all rabbis who are members of the RA and potentially seeking a pulpit.

We received resumes from six candidates so far. After going through multiple interviews with candidate rabbis, we have extended two invitations. The goal is to allow the candidates a broad base exposure to our synagogue, surrounding community, and Jewish life in Northern NJ. The relationship works both ways and we are in the process of developing an itinerary that benefits both parties.

- Rabbi Adam Gillman will be visiting MJCBY February 2nd-5th. Rabbi Gillman is a fifth-year rabbinical student anticipating ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) in May. He has experience as a Rabbinic Intern in multiple congregations including the Hewlett East Rockaway Jewish Centre, American University Hillel, and Congregation Sons of Israel in Nyack, NY as well as multiple education and chaplaincy experiences.
- Rabbi Rachel Salston will visit February 23rd-26th. Rabbi Salston is currently the rabbi at Fair Lawn Jewish Center Congregation B'nai Israel, in Fair Lawn, NJ. In addition, she is a Soferet and has previous chaplaincy experience. She received her Rabbinic Ordination from the Ziegler School in 2018.

The opportunity to attract the very best rabbi depends on all of us as congregants. Collectively, we must find the rabbi that serves our needs today and propels our future growth. The search committee cannot emphasize enough what an invaluable resource you are. First and foremost, we need to have a very strong showing when the candidate comes to visit, especially Friday night and Saturday morning services. Having spoken repeatedly with the rabbis, each is looking for a vibrant synagogue to lead and grow. They are seeking a partnership with the congregation and are committed to serving all life stages of present and future congregants. Representation from all age groups and demographics is critical to the image we project. We just need to be ourselves and exude the enthusiasm, warmth, and positive persona of who we really are. So, we are asking you, the congregation, to please come out on the weekends of February 2nd-5th and February 23rd-26th to meet with both candidates and help us determine who will be MJCBY's next Rabbi.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the rabbi search committee members with questions or suggestions. My email address is joshcharm@gmail.com. I may be reached at 201-874-9743.

With warm personal regards,

Joshua Charm



SHALOM YELADIM – THE JUDIE GERSTEIN EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Winter is the theme in the Shalom Yeladim classrooms. The weather has been mild outside, but our students are learning about hibernation. Our older students have their Teddy Bears hibernating in the classroom, and each week they are learning about a different bear (polar, brown, and so on). They also learn how the magic number of 32 degrees will determine if it rains or if it snows. The teachers in our youngest class are talking about hats, mittens and do science experiments with ice. In February, we also learn about Tu B'Shvat and all the wonderful things trees give us. At the end of the month, we also talk about our President and the White House!

Michelle Nulman and the SY Teachers



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



"Ki ha'Adam Etz Hasadeh" - for humans are like a tree in the field (Deuteronomy 20:19)

Every year at Religious School we look forward to our special Tu B'Shvat Seder. Complete with delicious tastings of the seven special species from Israel, sweet grape juice, and songs, it is one of the highlights of our school year.

Tu B'Shvat is a day to reflect on how we as humans are like trees. Our children are compared to a tree's fruits. Both are a product of our thoughtful and intentional nurturing and guidance. Together - parents and educators - we form a sacred partnership to help the children entrusted in our care grow into the kinds of adults our world needs.

Young saplings depend on consistent watering and care. Here at Religious School, we teach Torah's values - which is compared to water - to the next generation. Here we take great care to surround our children with the optimal conditions to grow into well rounded adults with strong Jewish roots.

We look forward to a wonderful month filled with many special events: the Tu B'Shvat Seder, a breakfast and speaker from The Seeing Eye, Grade 6/7 Shabbat evening service and dinner, Grade 3-5 Shabbat morning service and Kiddush Lunch, A.L.P., Junior Congregation, Minyonnaires and more!

Miriam Loew & the RS Morahs





LIFELONG LEARNING

As we celebrate Tu B'Shvat this month it is a wonderful reminder that the shortest winter days are behind us, and spring will be here soon.

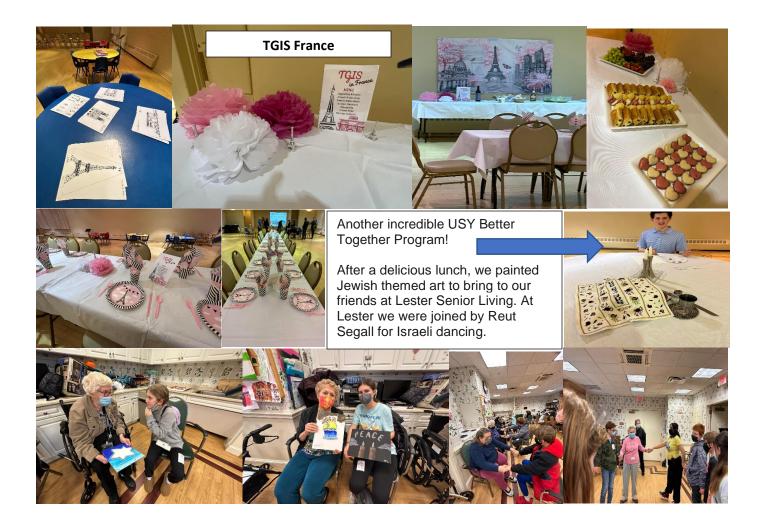
On this New Year for Trees let us take a moment to reflect on some important life lessons that trees can teach us. In Judaism a tree's fruits are often compared to our mitzvot and good deeds. A tree able

to bear fruit is considered the pinnacle of its accomplishments. Yet as we know, it takes much nurture and care to help a tree grow strong and healthy roots, enabling it to give us fruit.

Us humans are not so different then. It takes the nurturing, care, and strong roots that our families and communities give us, to help us grow into healthy, productive people, capable of sharing our gifts with the world.

Our Lifelong Learning Programming hopes to play an important part at every age and stage of your life. Our events are designed to nurture your soul and help you grow strong communal and spiritual roots. We hope to see you at one of our many events this month. Let's come together in learning and celebration, to nourish our roots and to share the sweet fruit of our mitzvot and good deeds.

Happy Tu B'Shvat! - *Miriam Loew*



ADULT ED February Programs

MJCBY Adult Education Presents:

JULIE ABRAHAM STONE FROM PLANT TO PLATE

A Labor of Love That Tastes Good Too

Julie Abraham Stone has been gardening for as long as she can remember. From tending the garden with her father in childhood, to now growing more than 50 different varieties of vegetables each season, we invite you to come hear Julie share her gardening advice about how to start, plan, plant and care for your own garden.



MJCBY ADULT EDUCATION AND MORRISTOWN & MORRIS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY INVITE YOU TO AN IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL EVENT WITH ACCLAIMED JOURNALIST

Andrew Lawler

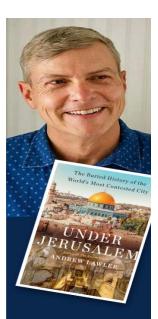
DISCUSSING HIS BOOK Under Jerusalem: The Buried History of the World's Most Contested City

Under Jerusalem provides the reader with a sweeping history of the hidden world below the Holy City- a saga of biblical treasures, intrepid explorers, and political upheaval.

Andrew Lawler is the author of two other books and has written more than a thousand newspaper and magazine articles from more than 24 countries. His work has appeared in The New York Times. The Washington Post, National Geographic, Smithsonian, and many others. He is a contributing writer for Science and a contributing ditor for Archaeology.

Following the in-person event, Under Jerusalem will be available for sale and signing. Zoom and livestream links will be released close to the event.

TO RSVP FOR IN PERSON ATTENDANCE, PLEASE EMAIL: QUESTIONS4EVENT@GMAIL.COM



THURSDAY FEBRUARY 23 7:00 PM



with Rabbi Nesson

THE LIFE AND TIMES THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY OF



Emil Fackenheim was considered to be the leading Jewish Philosopher and Theologian of the 20th Century. Together we will trace his thinking from a study of Revelation to his focus on The Holocaust as the event that ruptured history. It was his work that brought about the idea of the '614th Commandment'.

ZOOM CLASS ON WEDNESDAYS @ 7:30PM FEBRUARY 8, 15, 22





The Sisterhood Gift Shop wants to thank everyone who shopped with us for Hannukah. Supporting the Gift Shop supports our Synagogue, and your purchases are tax free! The Gift Shop continues to be open for business on Sunday mornings during religious school hours, and by appointment. You can reach out to Sharon Barkauskas (email: sharon47@optonline.net), Vivian Laska (email: sharon47@optonline.net), or Dorothy Cohen (email: dorothy_irvingcohen@msn.com) to schedule an appointment, if you'd like to shop in person outside of religious school hours. Keep your eyes out for email distributions of the Gift Shop catalog for an option to shop from home.

The next <u>Marjorie Elkind Sisterhood Book Group</u> discussion will be on Monday February 27th at 7:30pm. We will review <u>The Latecomer</u> by Jean Hanff Korelitz. If you'd like to participate, please contact Amy Brunswick, <u>abrunswick4321@gmail.com</u>, or Marcy Needle, <u>marcy.needle@gmail.com</u>, for more information.

Upcoming Events

We are excited to host a presentation by The Seeing Eye on Sunday, February 12th at 10am, in honor of Jewish Disabilities Inclusion Month. Please respond to Heidi Schleifer (<u>edheidi2@verfizon.net</u>) by February 5th, if you'd like to attend this special event.

Please also save the date for this year's Sisterhood Shabbat, scheduled for April 29th. Sign-ups for parts in the service have begun. If you are interested in helping us lead the service, please reach out to Paula Czeisler (<u>paula.czeisler@gmail.com</u>) or Debbie Marcus (<u>dmarcus@mac.com</u>). The Kiddush will be organized by the Men's Club and will feature a selection of Chulents prepared by Men's Club members. The whole family is welcome to join us!

<u>If you have not joined the Sisterhood yet, we'd like to encourage you to do so</u>. Your membership donation supports our Synagogue and the Women's League for Conservative Judaism and provides us with the opportunity to offer educational and fun community building events.

IS YOUR PRIDE AND JOY OFF TO COLLEGE?	MJCBY Sisterhood 177 Speedwell Avenue President Morristown, NJ 07960 973-538-9292 Sisterhood@mjcby.org
College Bound	\$36.00 DUES STATEMENT - 2022-2023 Sisterhood is comprised of vibrant women of all ages who support each other and the synagogue, women who work together for the benefit of our MJCBY community and so much more! We write today to invite all perspective and returning members to commit to Sisterhood and to the idea of having a dynamic and supportive fun year together. If ever there was a time that taught us that we are stronger together than apart, then this is that time.
ALLOW SISTERHOOD TO SEND GOODIE PACKAGES TO YOUR CHILD* WHEN THEY ARE AWAY OR AT HOME DURING THE YEAR! (undergraduate only)	Noto: New members to MJCBY receive complimentary first year Sisterhood membership. This year we will continue to have interesting and innovative programs. Our annual Pald-Up Membership event is set for Sunday, October 23, 2022, and we look forward to seeing you there.
Another good reason to support Sisterhood! * must be your child - no nieces, nephews or grandchildren.	Please accept my \$36.00 Sisterhood dues for the year 2022-2023.
Send your information to Heidi Schleifer edheidi2@verizon.net Childs Name: School Name: Address: City, St. Zip:	Name: Email: Phone: Please make checks payable to MJCBY Sisterhood and mail to:
	Dorothy Cohen * MJCBY Sisterhood * 19 Copeland Rd *Denville * NJ * 07834



CELEBRATING 80 YEARS

THE TORAH FUND PIN 5783 (2022-2023)

Chazak v'Ematz - Be Strong and Courageous

This pin symbolizes the story of the Israelites preparing to enter the Promised Land, when the leadership transitions from Moses to Joshua. The Israelites and Joshua are instructed to "be strong and courageous" (Deuteronomy 31:6, 7, 23; Joshua 1:6, 7, 9, 18). The 5783 Torah Fund pin represents 80 years of ever-increasing strength of Torah Fund.



IAKE IT A PRIORIT) GIVE TO TORAH FUNDI

TORAH FUND GIVING LEVELS

Keter Kayod \$5.000 Scholarship Patron \$2,500 Patron \$1,200 Associate Patron \$600 Guardian \$300 Benefactor \$180

For more information, contact Linda Rosenbaum at (973)-895–2390.

Torah Fund cards are also available.

Send all checks to: Linda Rosenbaum, 4 Ascot Lane, Morristown, NJ 07960.

Please add \$80 to your contribution in honor of the Torah Fund 80th Anniversary.

A note from Linda Rosenbaum, our Torah Fund Chair:

To the men (sons, brothers, husbands, fathers, parents, etc.) of the congregation: consider giving your female loved ones a gift for Valentine's Day that's not only pretty but charitable as well. Make your loved ones a Torah Fund donor by donating 180 dollars and up. You will not only get a beautiful pin, especially made for this year, but also 10 assorted Torah fund cards.

All you have to do is send me a check for the amount, and I will gift wrap the pin and card. All the work is done for you. I will even do last minute if necessary. No time limit for last-minute shoppers! I will drop it off or you can pick it up or I will mail it for you. If mailing, there will be a charge for postage.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 973-895-2390 or 973-214-0704. The check should be made out to Torah Fund and addressed to Linda Rosenbaum, 4 Ascot Lane, Morristown NJ 07960.

Happy Valentine's Day to all! Linda





It is great that we were able to host the New York Blood Center once again and allow it to run a blood drive at our facility in January, even if it took place in the parking lot (next time, we will hopefully be back in the Frigand Hall). Thank you, too, if you were able to donate blood.



SECURITY CORNER

I often talk in the Security Corner about how to be safe at MJCBY, from being aware of your surroundings to following security procedures and installing new security systems. The security committee is always working behind the scenes to keep you and your family safe when you are here.

But one of the most interesting facets of the security industry is that many of the same rules of thumb that apply to large houses of worship like MJCBY can be equally useful to congregants. As a member of MJCBY, we want you to have access to these tips and tricks to protect you and your family at home.

- First, outside your home, whether an apartment or house, try to keep your landscaping neat to eliminate hiding spots and give you clear sight of anyone approaching.
- Complement this with proper exterior lighting to allow you to see anyone approaching and deter criminals.
- Keep your exterior doors locked (even when you're home) and don't keep a spare key outside.
- If you go on vacation or leave for an extended period, sign up for your local police's "House Watch" program and set your interior lights on timers to make it seem like you're home.
- Develop and practice a Home Safety Plan with your children.
- Keep emergency kits in your home, office, and car. These should include medical supplies as well as drinking water.

Being security minded involves a continual learning process. To provide you and your family with the information you need to stay safe, the MJCBY security committee is hosting a discussion on Sunday 1/29 from 10 AM to 11:30 AM in Frigand Hall, led by our MJCBY security team and the Jewish Federation's lead security trainer. *"Staying Safe at MJCBY"* will explain our emergency plans and give you guidance on what to do if you or your family are at MJCBY during an emergency. We hope that you attend in person or via Zoom. You can contact the MJCBY office (office@mjcby.org) to receive the Zoom link.

If you have any questions about security at MJCBY, want to suggest a Security Corner topic, or would like to volunteer, please email Alexis at <u>amprecisioninsights@gmail.com</u>.

If you see something, say something!

It's not just true for the NYC subways. We have an old and complex synagogue building, with many parts and features that occasionally require attention. If you see something - a light bulb that's out, a door that isn't shutting, something that's come loose - or hear something that doesn't seem right, don't assume that others are aware of the issue. Report items around the building in need of attention to our Synagogue Administrator, Amy Stover, at administrator@micby.org, or call the office and let Amy or Rockey know. With your help, we'll keep 177 Speedwell Avenue in the best shape possible. Todah rabah!

SOCIAL ACTION



Activities:

- Assembling Breakfast Bags for clients of nourishNJ (the Soup Kitchen)
- Assembling backpacks for HeadStart students
- Collecting non-perishable food and cleaning supplies, e.g. paper towels, toilet paper, Lysol cleaner, laundry pods, etc.



We have activities for all ages (coloring and decorating paper bags for the youngest kids)

LEARN MORE

SUNDAY, MARCH 19 | ACTIVITIES BEGIN 11AM

RSVP TO HOWARD BUXBAUM OR LOU BODIAN

Howardbuxbaum@gmail.com Loub48@gmail.com

Mitzvah Day at MJCBY is coming soon, but we need help before then. Here's what you can do now:

- Contact either Howard Buxbaum or me to volunteer to help on March 19th.
- Donate so that we can purchase backpacks and school supplies for local HeadStart children. Each backpack costs about \$50.
- Volunteer to purchase and assemble a backpack. (This is a great opportunity to do with your school-age children)
- The next time you go shopping, add one or more of the following to your grocery list: Household cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, bath soap, shampoo, etc.
- Non-perishable food (e.g., cans of beans, pasta, cereal). Many of the families our community serves are just getting by, and the donation of these kinds of items will go a long way.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Lou Bodian, Social Action Chair

MARCH SAVE-THE-DATES



CALLING ALL USY AND KADIMA KIDS



Followed by Festive Purim Lunch

With special guests: Achashverosh, Mordechai, and Esther

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 10:30 - 12 PM Adults and Kids: Wear a Costume!



22 SOUTH STREET | RSVP TO MIRIAM@MJCBY.ORG Better Together Participants will be driving there together from Lester Senior Housing. All others: meet us there!





MORRISTOWN JEWISH CENTER

BEIT YISRAEL

Mishloach Manot Fundraiser

Shalom, Congregants and Friends. We hope this letter finds you well!

One of the mitzvot of the Purim holiday is sending food to other Jewish people. This act, called Mishloach Manot or "sending of portions," references a section of the Book of Esther where Jews refuted Haman's accusation that the Jews were "a scattered and divided people" and demonstrated by sending portions that they were, in fact, united.

The Purim gifts of food (Mishloach Manot) is one of MJCBY's largest fundraisers which supports all of our great programs, so in the spirit of a united MJCBY congregation, please consider participating in one or more of the following ways:

- 1. Send to the entire congregation: \$154
- 2. Send to non-congregant family/friends/college students: \$41 per address, includes shipping
- 3. Buy hamantashchen by the pound: \$15/lb
- 4. Buy Green's Babka (16oz): \$12 each

Purim gift bags will be delivered to your home between February 26th - March 6th. Please let us know if you may be away, and/or if you would prefer that your basket be donated to others.

This year, you can order online by scanning the QR code or filling out the order form on the back of this page. If you are sending to non-congregant family and friends or college students, and you're ordering by mail (instead of online), don't forget to fill out the enclosed gift tags and mailing labels (see separate form).

Payment and orders are due by February 10, 2023. Please make all checks payable to MJCBY and put "Purim" on the memo line. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mayrav Smith (973-975-6119), Debbie Goldstein (973-713-3869), Nancy Berns (973-886-8852), or Judy Diringer (914-417-1925).

We look forward to your participation in this wonderful mitzvah and thank you for your generous support of MJCBY.

Chag Purim Sameach!

Mayrav, Debbie, Navey, and Judy



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Mishloach Manot Mail Order Form

Send completed mail order form with payment by February 10th to:

MJCBY - Mishloach Manot 177 Speedwell Avenue Morristown NJ 07960

PREFERRED

ORDER ONLINE

Scan this QR code with your smartphone camera



Your Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Email:	Phone:	

□ 1	Please send to the <u>entire</u> congregation	\$1 54
□ 2	Please send to non-congregant family/friends/college students Fill out gift tags and mailing labels on separate page	x \$41 each = \$
3	I would like to buy hamantaschen Please enter desired number of pounds of each flavor: Mixed # Prune # Apricot # Chocolate # Mango # Poppy # Raspberry #	x \$15 each = \$
□ 4	I would like to buy Green's Babka Chocolate # Cinnamon #	x \$12 each = \$
Thank you!	I have enclosed a check made out to MJCBY with "Purim" in the memo line, or Visa / MasterCard below (+ 2.9% credit card fee) # Exp CV	TOTAL AMOUNT \$

UWe would like to donate our Purim Mishloach Manot.

- □ I can help pack hamentachen February 22nd, 23rd, or 24th
- □ I can help assemble baskets on February 26th

□ I can help deliver between February 26th and March 6th.

Mishloach Manot Mailing Labels PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

(Only for non-congregant families / friends / college students)

To:	Name:	
	Address:	
From:	City:	
	State:	Zip:
То:	Name:	
	Address:	
From:	City:	
	State:	Zip:
To:	Name:	
To:	Name: Address:	
To: From:		
	Address:	Zip:
	Address: City:	Zip:
From:	Address: City: State:	Zip:
From:	Address: City: State: Name:	Zip:

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Diringer, Jeremy & Judith H Lewis Stone & Julie Abraham Stone

Education Endowment Fund

<u>FUNDS YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO INCLUDE</u>: Alex Csillag Memorial Fund, Building Renovation Fund, Cantor's Discretionary Fund, Chevra Kadisha, Education Endowment Fund, Frigand Minyonnaires & Israel Experience Fund, Gemilut Hasadim (Caring Committee) Fund, General Donation, History Fund, Kiddush Fund, Kol Nidre Appeal, Morchower Flower Fund, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Shalom Yeladim Nursery School Fund, Siyum Fund, Social Action/Soup Kitchen Fund, and Yahrzeit & Book Fund.

Esposito, Michaele		
H Lewis Stone & Julie Abraham Stone		
Chinoy, Julie & Adam		
Navarino, Jason & Erica	in Memory of	David Gross, grandfather of Jason McGrath

Frigand Minyonnaires & Israel Experience Fund

Haimann, Howard & Barbara in Memory of Ida Silverstein yahrzeit

Gemilut Hasadim (Caring Committee) Fund

Hart, Brian & Vicki	in Memory of	Richard Hart
Bienstock, Sergio & Lanzkowsky, Shelley	in Memory of	Barbara Stein

History Fund

H Lewis Stone and Julie Abraham Stone

Kiddush Fund

Sakofs, Harriet	in Memory of	Debbie Bender & Phyllis Kopp
Forgosh, Linda		
Cohen, Irv & Dorothy		
Sagor, David & Karen	In honor of	David becoming a US Citizen

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Greif, Richard	in Memory of	Helen Pundyk
Loeb, Peter & Marilyn	in Memory of	Erwin Loeb
London, Martin & Joyce	in Memory of	Abraham Koenig
Neigher, William & Susan	in Memory of	Sarah Rubinson & Molly Neigher
Kornbleuth, Norman & Babette	in Memory of	Harry Kornbleuth

Social Action/Soup Kitchen Fund

Ganz, Marjorie	in Honor of	David Ganz and Family
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Shalom Yeladim Nursery School Fund

Weine, Gary & Sheryl in Memory of Nathan Sokol

Josephs, Leo & Marjorie	in Memory of	Chlotilde Josephs
Pikus, Edward & Pollak, Lisa	in Memory of	Harry Pikus & Ida K. Pikus
Van Vort, Ruth	in Memory of	Miriam Toffel

In preparation for tax season, on January 30, 2023, we will send via email statements of tax-deductible donations made in 2022. Please look for an email titled "MJCBY Important Tax Information." Contact the office or send an email to bookkeeper@mjcby.org if you do not receive a statement by February 1, 2023.

Yahrzeit Fund

FEBRUARY YAHRZEIT LIST

To Be Reme Shabbat Fel		
2/4/2023	13 Shevat	Paul Weiner
		Eleanor Loeb Yellin**
		Irving Grossman
		Celia Shustin**
		Herman Weissman
		William Kolsky**
		Nacie Salny
2/5/2023	14 Shevat	George Golding**
		Harry Pikus
		Marjorie Elkind**
		Mary Feurstein
2/6/2023	15 Shevat	Joseph Katz**
		Samuel E. Lewis
		Rose Hirsch
		Irwin Bialer**
		Bertha Mansfield**
2/7/2023	16 Shevat	Seymour Forman**
		Philip Rosenberg
		Stuart Rosenblum**
		Diane Levitt
		Judy Newmark
		Hilde Spain
2/8/2023	17 Shevat	Sigmund Beck
		Margie Sidman**
2/9/2023	18 Shevat	Frieda Reinheimer**
		Sigmar Guggenheimer**
		Roberta Gerwin
		Benjamin Schatman
		Irving Chojnowski
		Sol Stolzenberg
		Richard Schleifstein**
		Harry Welinsky**
2/10/2023	19 Shevat	Jack Ulman
		Kurt Lewin
		Trudie Baum
		Rachel Berger**
		Betty Dickinson
		Lois Chasin

2/11/2023	20 Shevat	Anna Charm
2/11/2023	20 Shevat	Alexander Glasser**
		Sylvia Leff
		Frances Ellenberg
		Nathan Kolsky**
		Joseph Freid
		Edith Fleischman
		William Samuels
2/42/2022	21 Chaust	George Wolff
2/12/2023	21 Shevat	Anna Friedman**
		George Michaels
		Rachel Shraer
		Alexander Fox**
- 4 4		Henry Katz
2/13/2023		Rose Ossre**
2/15/2023	24 Shevat	Harry Sklaver
		Albert Abraham**
		Ethel Rosenberg Cohen
		Ginsberg
		Rose Packer**
2/16/2023	25 Shevat	Milton Buchbinder**
		Louis Cohen
		Lillian Evans**
		Samuel Goldblatt**
2/17/2023	26 Shevat	Evelyn Reiter**
		Donald Squire
To Be Rem Shabbat Fe		
2/18/2023	27 Shevat	Sam Hirsh
		Cecelia Friedman
		Faye Abriola**
		George Karp
		·
		Ann Steinberger
		Ann Steinberger Moshe Kesten
2/20/2023	29 Shevat	Moshe Kesten
2/20/2023	29 Shevat	Moshe Kesten Louis Rockowitz**
2/20/2023	29 Shevat	Moshe Kesten Louis Rockowitz** Milford Salny
2/20/2023	29 Shevat	Moshe Kesten Louis Rockowitz** Milford Salny Henry Kosterlitz**
2/20/2023	29 Shevat	Moshe Kesten Louis Rockowitz** Milford Salny Henry Kosterlitz** Joan Samuels
		Moshe Kesten Louis Rockowitz** Milford Salny Henry Kosterlitz** Joan Samuels Anita Bienstock
2/20/2023	29 Shevat 30 Shevat	Moshe Kesten Louis Rockowitz** Milford Salny Henry Kosterlitz** Joan Samuels Anita Bienstock Esther Zudick
		Moshe Kesten Louis Rockowitz** Milford Salny Henry Kosterlitz** Joan Samuels Anita Bienstock

2/21/2023	30 Shevat	Bruce Kletzkin**
		Samuel Potter**
		David Salny**
2/22/2023	1 Adar	Seymour Miller
		Arthur Magidson
		Fannie Heller
		Ethel Goldblatt
		Celia Brender**
		Charles Feldman**
		William Roth**
2/23/2023	2 Adar	Meyer Wexler**
		Susan Radin
		Hyman Klausner**
2/24/2023	3 Adar	Celia Reich
		Sidney Shafran**
		Elyse Ames
		Minnie Goldstein
		Morris Schachtel
		Helen Jacobs
		Jerry Bernstein
To Be Remo Shabbat Fe		
2/25/2023	4 Adar	Abraham Fand**
		Abraham Rosenberg**
		Sylvia Green**
		Ida Revitz
a /a c /a a a a		
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner**
2/26/2023	5 Adar	
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner**
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson Lena Rosenberg
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson Lena Rosenberg Daniel Glass**
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson Lena Rosenberg Daniel Glass** Isaac Weinstein**
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson Lena Rosenberg Daniel Glass** Isaac Weinstein** Herman Lippman**
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson Lena Rosenberg Daniel Glass** Isaac Weinstein** Herman Lippman** Fruma Segal
2/26/2023	5 Adar	Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson Lena Rosenberg Daniel Glass** Isaac Weinstein** Herman Lippman** Fruma Segal Julius Reisman
		Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson Lena Rosenberg Daniel Glass** Isaac Weinstein** Herman Lippman** Fruma Segal Julius Reisman Isaac Israel**
		Hans Loewensteiner** Stanley Magidson Lena Rosenberg Daniel Glass** Isaac Weinstein** Herman Lippman** Fruma Segal Julius Reisman Isaac Israel** Ernest Goldberg**

2/28/2023	7 Adar	Jeannette Fogel
		Rose Dann**
		Lena Zam**
3/1/2023	8 Adar	Samuel Golding**
		Anna Frigand**
		Sally E. Sutta**
		Edith Potash**
		Nachman Berin**
		William Toffel
		Isidore Rosenberg**
3/2/2023	9 Adar	Dora Cutler**
		George Bodian**
		Eleanor Karp
		Hanna Bergman Lubliner**
		Rose Shapiro
		Harriet Schwartz
		Fay Hart**
		Lorraine Cohen**
3/3/2023	10 Adar	Estelle Feis
		Jerome Fischer
		Frances Tillinger
		Elaine Rovner
		Barbara Lupatkin
		Goldie Brenman
		Simon Goldmann
		Miriam Devorah Horwitz
		Barnett Zam**
		Hyman Fine**
**		
denotes		
plaque		

*Please note our new office hours: Monday - Friday - 9AM - 4PM

Our mailing address is: Morristown Jewish Center 177 Speedwell Avenue Morristown, NJ 07960 973.538.9292

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MORRISTOWN JEWISH CENTER BEIT YISRAEL = 177 Speedwell Avenue = Morristown, NJ 07960

(973) 538-9292 phone • office@mjcby.org • <u>www.mjcby.org</u>

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Address Service Requested

Log on for the Latest: www.MJCBY.org

Take a look at our new and improved website. You'll find this snappy site chock full of news, events, photos and more! Log on at www.mjcby.org

