MJCBY NEWS

December 2023, Kislev 5784 – Tevet 5784



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MJCBY CLERGY & STAFF

CLERGY

Rabbi Adam Gillman

Cantor Shana Onigman

STAFF

Rockey Cornell, Office Administrator

Michael Roberts, Controller

Rebekah (Becky) Narli, Shalom Yeladim Director

Miriam Loew, Education and Program Director/Youth Advisor

Flo Sager, Religious School Administrator

Isaiah Ward & Marco Tello, Custodians

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Jason Navarino, President

Marci Charm, 1st Vice President

Alexis McGrath, 2nd Vice President

Doug Goldstein, Treasurer

Eric Weinstock, Financial Secretary

Rita Gotfried, Secretary

Rebecca Wanatick & Amy Weinstock, Immediate Past Presidents

Ira Hammer & Fern Spitzer, Advisors

ARMS OF THE SYNAGOGUE & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Adult Education - David Ganz & Peppi Glass

Board of Education - Marci Charm

Development – Irv Cohen & Sara Forman

Facilities – Fern Spitzer

Gemilut Hasadim - Debbie Goldstein

History – Lewis Stone

Inclusion – Rebecca Wanatick

Jewish Young Community – Nathan Vaisbort & Asher Weinstein

Membership - Amy Brunswick & Rebecca Wanatick

Personnel - Rita Gotfried

Ritual - Howard Baum, Paul Green, & Ira Hammer

Security - Alexis McGrath

Shalom Yeladim – Fern Spitzer

Social Action - Louis Bodian & Howard Buxbaum

Technology – Paul Green, Mark Levine, and Amy Weinstock

MEN'S CLUB

Mark Levine (917) 439-8366

SISTERHOOD

Dorothy Cohen (973) 361-4338

Heidi Schleifer-Fleischman (973) 615-5181

SISTERHOOD JUDAICA GIFT SHOP

Sharon Barkauskas (201) 874-8744, Vivian Laska (973) 984-8178, Kim Synalovski (973) 714-7636, Janet Appelbaum (973) 886-0702 & Ivy Rubin (973)

781-0844

SISTERHOOD KIDDUSH COMMITTEE

Dorothy Cohen (973) 361-4338

SISTERHOOD TORAH FUND

Linda Rosenbaum (973) 895-2390

NEWSLETTER

Paula Czeisler & Rockey Cornell, Editors & Designers

Fran Loewensteiner, Copy Editor

SERVICE SCHEDULE

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

ZOOM

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

Meeting ID: 657 629 7611 Passcode: MJCBY

Join us online for Havdalah at the end of Shabbat every week! Havdalah times listed in weekly e-blast.



Gemilut Hasadim means "bestowing kindness". In Judaism, an attribute of G-d is said to be imitated by those who show personal kindness towards others.

The Gemilut Hasadim Committee at MJCBY is here to help support you and your family during times of need. Whether experiencing an illness, recovering from surgery, or having lost a loved one, we are here to help make difficult times a little easier.

We are able to cook and deliver meals, provide support during shiva, or help connect you with other resources. If you or a fellow congregant could benefit from our services, please contact Debbie Goldstein. If you would like to be added to the list of those available to help when needs arise, please contact Debbie as well.

debbiegoldstein24@yahoo.com 973-713-3869

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK



Light in Time of Darkness Rabbi Adam Gillman

We find ourselves in a moment of immense difficulty and darkness. The war in Israel increased anti-semitism, bigotry, and hatred. We have not known a moment like this in so long. We find ourselves in a place of darkness. Yet, it is during Kisley, when the

days are short and the nights are long, that we celebrate Hanukkah, 25 Kislev (Thursday evening, December 7th) through 3 Tevet (Friday evening, December 15th).

Hanukkah is a celebration in which we commemorate the military victory of the Hasmoneans (the Maccabees), a Jewish populist movement rejecting the assimilation movement undertaken by the Hellenists and the pressures of the Syrian-Greek Empire in the year 165 BCE. Once victorious, the Hasmoneans sought to rededicate the Temple through the lighting of the menorah. They needed oil but only had enough to keep the flames burning for one night, which miraculously lasted eight days. In lighting the *Hanukkiah*, the Hanukkah menorah, we remember these miracles and fill the darkness of the season with light.

The Sefat Emet, Rabbi Yehudah Aryeh Leib Alter, a 19th-century Polish Chassidic master, teaches:

At this time in the season, when lights are miraculously lit for Israel, even though they did not have enough oil, there remains light even now to help us, with the aid of these Hanukkah candles, to find that hidden light within. Hiding takes place mainly in the dark; we need the candles' light to seek and find...by the power of inwardness, we can find the hidden light within our inner chambers.

Not only does our lighting harken back to historical experience and memory, but it also takes on a layer of spiritual symbolism and significance. The candles are the light by which we seek out our inner selves. Since the pogrom of October 7th, it's been hard to see the light we hold.

The holiday of lights (Hanukkah) is also discussed prominently in our greatest literary object, the Talmud. The ancient rabbis teach that when the first being, Adam, encountered the changing of the seasons as the days increasingly grew in darkness, he panicked and cried out: "Woe is me! Perhaps because I sinned, the world is becoming dark around me and will return to the [primordial state] of chaos and disorder... When the spring came and the darkness passed, he realized that this was merely the way of the world. In celebration, Adam established an eight-day festival for himself and future generations to commemorate the return of the light (Avodah Zara 8a).

It may seem surface, but the way out of the darkness is to build toward the light by coming together, gathering, listening, and affirming one another. Much like our ancestors who found themselves in the aftermath of destruction, we too must work together, set aside our differences, and uplift both the particular and universalistic. Hannukah is a ritualized reminder, physically, spiritually, and emotionally, conjuring the sanctity of life, relationship, connection, and capacity we all hold. May Hannukah and the lighting of the candles serve as a means through which we better understand and experience the light we hold and the power and potential it holds to bring us together and spread the love and light our world so desperately needs.

CANTOR'S NOTES



The Real Reason We Celebrate Hanukkah for 8 Days

Cantor Shana Onigman

The first time I heard the real reason we celebrate Hanukkah for eight days was something of a shock. I was in my early 20's, in Israel for the first time and on a docent-led walking tour of the ancient city of Jerusalem. In front of a replica modeled after the original seven branched menorah that was always burning in the ancient

Temple, our knowledgeable Israeli docent launched into an explanation of why, historically, the oil didn't really last eight days -- an explanation, she acknowledged, that shocked and surprised American visitors every time she told it. I felt shocked upon first hearing it, and then a bit of embarrassment for never having really questioned it before. And then, I must admit, I found myself rather annoyed that no one had ever told me the 'real' story. As a result, 15 years later, I make it a policy to explain to every 7th grade class I teach, that the historically accurate reason we celebrate Hanukkah for eight days is for the unglamorous reason that under the oppression of the Assyrian Greeks, the Judaeans were not allowed to celebrate Sukkot as they normally would have. So, after winning the war, recapturing, restoring, and re-dedicating (hence, the word Hanukkah, which literally means dedication) the Temple, they celebrated a belated Sukkot -- for eight days; because Sukkot is seven days plus one more for Shemini Atzeret, making a total of eight. The rabbis of the Talmud came up with the story of the tiny amount of oil lasting for eight days later. They wanted to de-emphasize the military victory by the Maccabees and focus instead on the presence and power of God through the miracle of the oil. This is the story that stuck and for good reason: the later descendants of the Maccabees were not so heroic, and in fact rather tyrannical towards the people they ruled, so stories of their heroism were deliberately downplayed. There is, of course, a great value placed on fact over fiction. During our current year of allegations of "fake news" and "alternative facts," many news stories that are presented are challenged, or their veracity is questioned. Nobody likes to be deceived, especially not teenagers and pre-teens. People have walked away from religious traditions entirely because they felt that they had been deceived when they discovered that our traditional stories -- those found in the Torah, Talmud, and Midrash -- may not all be factually and historically accurate. And yet, we deceive ourselves all the time: since we learned to communicate, humans have willingly suspended disbelief for stories. While they may not reflect fact, well-timed stories imbued with strong symbolism can teach values, shine a light on what should be true, and define us as human beings and as Jews, more than the dry facts as they happened. So, there is a time and a place for fiction, for a suspension of disbelief, and for a sense of wonder. In the case of the invented story of Hanukkah, the message we take away is that one military victory in the arc of history, however historically accurate, is less important than the light, renewed every year by our people for eight days, symbolizing freedom, pride, faith, and the miracle of our continued survival.

Our clergy is here for you. Please let us know when you need us 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 Gillman at (973) 538-9292 before you make any plans. He will be the most helpful in making these preparations in a proper Jewish manner.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Darkness and Light

Jason Navarino

What do Sukkot, Thanksgiving, and Hanukkah have in common? I'll come back to that in a moment.

Sukkot and the holidays immediately following it, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah (which are celebrated on the same day in Israel – this year, on October 7th), are referred to in our liturgy as *z'man simchateinu*, the season of our rejoicing. Sadly, our joy was shattered this year by the gravest tragedy to beset our people since the Shoah. We made it through that weekend, not yet fully comprehending

the scope of the tragedy, and obligated to nevertheless observe the joyful rituals of the holiday (as Rabbi Gillman instructed us, we had to be joyful because our brothers and sisters in Israel could not be). But in the days that followed, I found myself often unable to concentrate on the normal tasks of life, frequently overtaken by waves of anger and sadness. Even as the focus shifted from the horrors that occurred in southern Israel to the IDF's mission in Gaza to prevent such things from ever happening again, the anger and sadness didn't go away. Anger at the enemy. Sadness about the death and devastation – among both Israelis and Palestinians in Gaza – resulting from the enemy's evil acts.

Political leaders on both sides of the proverbial aisle expressed their support for Israel and the Jewish people. This is good, and we shouldn't forget it or take it lightly. But on both ends of the political spectrum, antisemitism reared its ugly head. The right-wing advocates of replacement theory soon found unlikely allies among the supposed peace advocates of the left-wing. Many of us disagree with calls for ceasefire, although wanting an end of fighting isn't necessarily antisemitic. But minimizing, justifying, or denying the atrocities that took place on October 7th? Calling for global Intifada (and thus not truly advocating for peace) against Zionists, supposedly all white, all rich, and somehow colonizing their own historic land? Denying the legitimacy of the world's only Jewish state and the only democratic state in the region, while sympathizing with the terrorists looking to establish another autocratic, theocratic, anti-pluralistic state in its place? Must we really have to choose between the folks chanting "Jews will not replace us!" and those screaming "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free!", without any regard for the humans in the area who happen to be Jews? Again, it is hard not to be both angry and sad.

Surely reporters for major news outlets would cut through this nonsense and report the truth, right? Wrong. Instead, we hear the talking heads on TV casting disbelief towards statements by the Israeli government and IDF, while repeating claims by Hamas-run agencies without scrutiny. We hear so much about the innocent children of Gaza, falling victim to the decisions of those in power around them, but are then told that the cause of their misfortune is Israel acting to defend itself, and not the terrorists who hid weapons and tunnel entrances in their bedrooms. And what about the children taken hostage by the terrorists, often after watching their parents raped and murdered in front of them? They are equated with the Palestinian detainees for whom they may be exchanged – those sitting in Israeli prisons for stabbing, murdering, and terrorizing other innocent civilians. This is outrageous. And so, the waves of anger and sadness keep coming over these post-October 7th days and weeks.

Which brings me to Thanksgiving this year. I have much to be thankful for – my family, my career, and this wonderful Jewish community that I have the privilege to play a leading role in. But I must admit, it was hard to feel thankful this year. How can I be thankful and joyful when surrounded by so much ignorance, so much hate, and so much uncertainty about what will happen next in Israel?

Of course, this isn't the first war to take place in Eretz Yisrael that will impact the future of the Jewish people. 2,200 years ago, the Maccabees fought the Hellenistic Seleucid Empire of modern-day Syria (colonizers!) to defend their religious traditions and freedom. Their victory allowed Judaism to survive and gave us a reason to celebrate the next holiday on our calendar, Hanukkah. The institution of Hanukkah as an eight-day holiday likely has to do with Sukkot – the fighting forces missed the annual celebration while waging war in the fall and made up for it in the winter after the war concluded. A second chance to be joyful and thankful.

So, let's hope that the light of the Hanukkah menorah, and in the faces of our children on this upcoming happy holiday, can break through the darkness of the current moment. Let's try to remind ourselves of all the things we can and should be thankful for even as we continue to confront our grief and frustration. And let us continue coming together as a proud Jewish community, to help each other out of the darkness and into light, as we've done here in Morristown for almost 125 years.

MJCBY Member Joe Notowicz Receives Medal of Honor



Veterans Day (originally known as Armistice Day) is a federal holiday in the U.S. observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954

In honor of Veterans Day we would like to highlight one of our members, Joseph C. Notowicz, who served during the Vietnam War. Joe was one of several veterans to receive a Medal of Honor at a special program held by the Morris County Commissioners in November. A summary of Joe's service can be found below.

Morristown Jewish Center congratulates Joe and all the other fine veterans on receipt of their Medals of Honor. Thank you for your service to our country!

Joseph C. Notowicz

Joseph C. Notowicz is a resident of Morristown who served in the Vietnam War from March 1967 until March 1970. Mr. Notowicz held the rank of Specialist 5th Class in the Army, serving with the Service Battery of the 2nd Battalion of the 3rd Artillery under the United States Army Europe.

In that capacity, he handled logistical, maintenance and supply tasks. Additional responsibilities included ensuring the timely provision of equipment, ammunition and other vital supplies to facilitate the battalion's operations and readiness.

For his service he was awarded several commendations including the Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Expert M-14 Badge for Marksmanship and Mechanics Badge with Bar.

After being honorably discharged from the Army, Mr. Notowicz furthered his education at Ferris State College's Vocational Technical Institute. He was employed as Morris County's Mechanic Foreman up until his retirement.

He remains actively involved with veteran organizations, including the 112th Field Artillery Association. He holds a significant role as the Firing Captain at the American Legion Post 59 in Morristown.

Outside his service and professional endeavors, he is interested in auto mechanics, art, music and sports.

MAZEL TOV, RABBI GILLMAN & LEAH!

We share in our very own Rabbi Gillman's joy at the occasion of his marriage to Leah Silver which happened at B'nai Jeshurun in New York City on Sunday, November 12th. We wish them many years of love and happiness, and we were pleased to celebrate their Sheva Brachot with them at our November 17th Shabbat Dinner. Mazel toy!

Dear MJCBY Community,

Thank you all for joining in the simkha (joy) of our recent marriage. We appreciate and continue to be deeply touched by the community's outpouring of kindness, hospitality, and support. Here are a few photos from our wedding, which was on the 28th of Cheshvan.

Todah Rabbah, Rabbi Gillman & Leah Silver





NOV 14TH WASHINGTON, DC ISRAEL RALLY!





Resources: Standing and Supporting Israel

DONATIONS

- <u>Jewish Federations of North America: Operation Swords of Iron</u>
- JFN's List of Trusted Agencies and Nonprofits
- My Home Is Your Home: Assist With Temporary Housing for Displaced Israelis, World Zionist Organization

GUIDES

Organizational

- Support and Solidarity for the Safe Return of Hostages, <u>Blue Ribbons for Israel Campaign</u>, <u>Promotional Toolkit</u>, <u>Press Release</u>.
- <u>Protect Social Media and Digital Resources</u>, Secure Communities Network (Situation Report and Guide)

General Education

- Responding to Questions and Disinformation about Israel, Boundless Israel
- Resources for Teaching about Israel in Crisis, Jewish Education Project
- Stats and Updates on the Israel Crisis, Israel Consulate General of NY, updated frequently

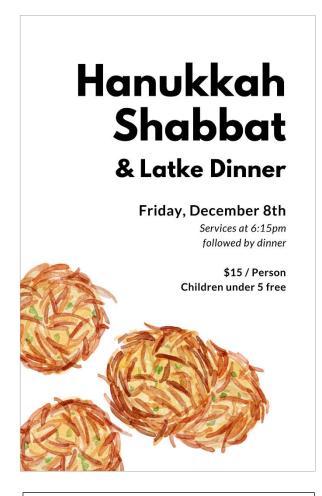
Youth

- Talking to Children about War, The National Child Traumatic Stress Network
- Tips for Talking to Kids about the War in Israel, Midrash Manicures
- Talking to Kids about Israel, Rebecca Rosenthal, Central Synagogue
- How to Limit Exposure to Graphic Images on Social Media, Prizmah Center for Jewish Day Schools

For more Israel Resources, click here



DECEMBER EVENTS



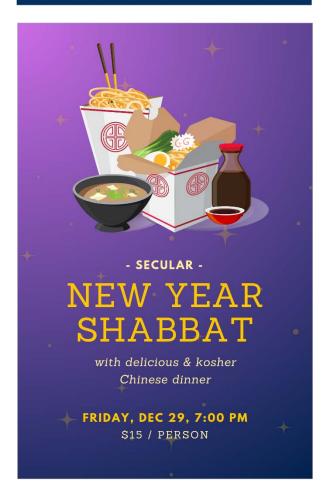
Please note that the December 17th movie night is canceled due to the Men's Club Hanukkah Hockey Night.

Please note that the Adult Ed program will take place sometime during the week of December 18th.

Live Music!
Doughnuts!
Hot Drinks!
Hanukkiah
Lighting!
Prizes!
Gelt!

Hanukkah
on the Green

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 5-6PM
FUN FOR ALL AGES



SECURITY CORNER



Bleeding Control Training

Alexis McGrath, Security

MJCBY's Security Committee continually strives to improve our security posture. Our overall goal is to ensure that our staff, clergy, volunteers, and congregants can help prevent, detect, mitigate, respond to, and recover from an emergency, whether at home, at work, or at MJCBY. One of the ways we do this is by providing critical training to members of our community. The Security Committee was recently given the opportunity to do just that,

greatly expanding our own emergency response capabilities.

On November 5, 2023, a large group of MJCBY staff, clergy, and volunteers participated in Traumatic Bleeding Control (B-CON) Training from the Morris County Office of Emergency Management. This hands-on course covered the immediate treatment of traumatic wounds that would otherwise cause someone to bleed to death before EMS can arrive (e.g., gunshot, stabbing, car accident, (partially) severed limb). Specifically, our group learned how to use tourniquets properly, how to pack wounds with gauze and hemostatic bandages, and how to preserve and protect the airway from traumatic injuries.

Unfortunately, EMS are never the first to arrive at an attack—instead police arrive first to clear the scene of threats. This means that—at MJCBY and elsewhere—we are responsible for each other until police clear the threat and allow EMS to enter. Bleeding Control Training is one way that we can take care of each other and our children.

As a result of MJCBY's participation in this course, we will receive a wall-mounted Bleed Control Kit Box containing ten individual kits that our security staff can pre-position around the building with trained personnel for religious services and events.

Below are some photos from the course. If you would like to participate in future training sessions such as this one, please contact Alexis. If you have any questions about security at MJCBY, want to suggest a Security Corner topic, or would like to volunteer, please email the security committee at security@mjcby.org.



PLEASE NOTE: In some cases, there are times, in addition to our security guards, when we will need MJCBY member volunteers to be door greeters during events and Friday night and Saturday morning services. Please do not ignore these pleas when you receive them. It takes a village to run a synagogue, and our village is our shul community. Please help us protect our building, especially in these heightened periods. If you would like to be on a list of potential volunteers for Door Greeter duty in the future, please email Alexis at the address above. Thank you!

DEVELOPMENT

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of MJCBY! Without your financial support, beyond your payment of dues, we cannot achieve as much as we desire. Today, we call on you to help strengthen our community by making a commitment to support our Kol Nidre and Education Endowment Fund. As of today, we do not know if matching funds will be available to us for any of our fundraising efforts going forward. Therefore, it is critical for us to reach 100% participation from our congregation for this appeal. No donation is too small or too big. We ask each of you to assess what you can afford and then just stretch a little bit more. We need to be able to fund the necessary expenses to run the daily needs of our shul and the programs that you want and need, beyond the religious aspects of our lives.

On many fronts, the last few years have been challenging and unfortunately the news has not improved. Our dues cover only a portion of the synagogue's operating budget. Maintaining the beauty of our historic building is costly, and our Education Fund directly benefits the religious school's comprehensive programming that sets MJCBY apart from all other synagogues in our area.

As your lay leadership, we are working hard to chart the best path forward for our community, which has changed significantly over the last several years. We have begun to develop a comprehensive strategic plan, but we need your help to achieve a living plan that meets our members' needs and desires. This does <u>not</u> only mean monetary support but also your thoughts, suggestions, needs, and desires. Your input is vital and necessary for MJCBY to grow and thrive into our next century.

Our board of directors understands that there is a limit to how many fundraising requests our members are prepared to consider, and that is why our 5784 campaign will be asking you to pledge for both Kol Nidre and the Education Fund together. Be on the lookout for a pledge card with this year's High Holiday information. We will be reaching out to each of you in the coming weeks and look forward to talking about how your generosity will help ensure a continuation of our spiritual home. If you would be interested in hosting a small gathering, we would be delighted to talk about MJCBY funding with you at any time.

We are always available to speak or to answer questions if you would like more information. Please do not hesitate to call us or text us; our mobile numbers are listed below.

Thank you again for your consideration, your past support, and your future commitment and involvement. There's nothing to say you can't give more to KN as the year goes on.

B'shalom,

Irv Cohen & Sara Forman

Development Co-Chairs (973) 615-4488 (917) 273-6185

MJCBY Builds an Inclusion Committee

Rebecca Wanatick, Chair

At MJCBY, we pride ourselves in being an inclusive and welcoming Jewish community. Feeling that each of us has a place to belong and contribute to community is key to wanting to be more involved. We are doing a great job, but we also know that there are ways in which we can do better.

We are taught, "Lo alecha hamlacha ligmor, v'lo atah ben chorin l'hivatel mimena" – "You are not expected to complete the task, but neither are you free to avoid it." (Rabbi Tarfon, Pirkei Avot 2:21) As we continue to grow and expand our programming to best meet the needs of our community, we are seeking your input to better understand how we move forward.

We are developing an Inclusion Committee to explore the ways in which we can better engage and meet the needs of all members of our community, with an initial focus on disability and LGBTQ+ communities. We will begin by developing 2 small working groups focused on addressing these areas. If you are interested in participating in either group, please contact Becca Wanatick at rwanatick@gmail.com. We hope to have an initial meeting with the full committee in December.

MEMBERSHIP

Rebecca Wanatick and Amy Brunswick, Membership Chairs

We welcome the following new members who were voted in by the board in November:

Drs. Corey & Stephanie Bosin and Family Ms. Kyle Rundles & Mr. Jordan Garfinkle and Family

SHALOM YELADIM -

THE JUDIE GERSTEIN EARLY LEARNING CENTER



Hanukkah! Becky Narli, Director

We have been very busy in Shalom Yeladim preparing for Thanksgiving and starting preparations for another early Hanukkah. Teachers and children have been busy making Thanksgiving crafts, learning the story, and remembering what we each have to be thankful for.

During November, we visited our next-door neighborhood firehouse to deliver a beautiful thank you card, and we also held our own Israel Parade, to show support for Israel and to honor the parade in Washington DC. The Parent Volunteers held the annual Scholastic Book Fair, which raises money for the school. Thank you, Parents and purchasers.

I am grateful for the amazing educators, the many, many volunteers, the children who brighten our days with their laughter and smiles, and the parents of our children, who always voice their appreciation in WhatsApp exchanges, or at the door at pickup or drop-off. No matter what happens in the World, this is a supportive, warm space for us all, and I am very grateful and thankful for that gift.

Judy's son teaches SY about music Last day with farmer Kim Visit to the Firehouse The Judie Gerstein Early Learning Center Showing SY support for Israel Thanksgiving Crafts with the New Twos

Becky Narli and the SY Teachers

Mommy & Me

For Babies up to 24 months and their caregivers

December 6, 13, 20 9:30 – 10:30am

For more information, please email ShalomYeladim@mjcby.org 973-538-8284

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY - NO CHARGE

DECEMBER CALENDAR

12/12/2023 HANUKKAH CELEBRATION
(HOLIDAY BEGINS DEC 7TH & ENDS DEC 15TH)

12/22/2023 WINTER BREAK – EARLY DISMISSAL AT 12PM

1/2/2024 SCHOOL RESUMES

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



Getting ready for Hanukkah!Miriam Loew, Director

We have been enjoying the visits from our Rishona Noa Akiva. We have written cards and have made videos for Israeli kids and soldiers and have learned about popular Israeli snacks!

Our classes are making beautiful progress with their Hebrew reading. Kindergarten and grades 1 & 2 have been enjoying many hands-on activities to playfully introduce them to Hebrew letters. Grades 3, 4 & 5 have been working diligently in our communal reading room, where each student is progressing at their own pace through color coded Hebrew reading levels. The energy in our reading room is palpable as each student is excited to master and pass their reading level.

Music with Cantor Shana is always a wonderful way to bring our entire school community together to learn Hebrew songs, prayers, holiday songs and more.

Each of our classes is gearing up for Hanukkah. We can't wait for our grade 6 & 7 Hanukkah play! We hope you join us for the play and the party on December 10th!



YOUTH SHABBAT

MINYONAIRES

Saturday, December 9th Ages 12+ at 9:30am

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

Saturday, December 16th $3^{rd} - 7^{th} \text{ Grade}$ 10:30am

ALP

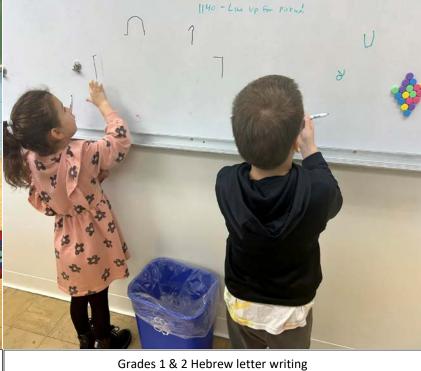
For Teens Grades 8-12

Monday, December 4th
6:30-8:30pm - dinner included
With Rabbi Gillman, Cantor Shana,
Religious School Director Miriam Loew,
and Guest Speakers

December Topic: Hanukkah Heirlooms

For more information, please email miriam@MJCBY.org





Kindergarten Parsha Stories

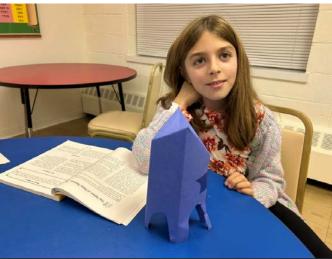


Grades 3 & 4 Parsha Timeline

Grade 5 learning about Algerian Jews



Grades 6 & 7 Bris Re-enactment



Abraham and Sarah's tent with 4 doors to welcome guests and travelers coming from every direction

JEWISH YOUNG COMMUNITY OF NEW JERSEY (JYC)

Upcoming Events!

Nathan Vaisbort <u>jycnewjersey@gmail.com</u> or (862) 217-4942 Asher Weinstein <u>aweinstein68@gmail.com</u> Co-Chairs Jacob Levy, Writer/Editor

Shabbat

On Friday, December 15th, JYC will be having Shabbat dinner at Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael (MJCBY). New members are always encouraged to attend.

Secure your spot for this FREE event by registering on OneTable by Wednesday, December 13th. Any registrations made afterwards will be \$10.

Services are at 6:15 P.M., followed by dinner at 7:15 P.M.

Let's celebrate the eighth night of Hanukkah together!

Holiday Lights at Turtle Back Zoo

JYC will be going to the Essex County Turtle Back Zoo in West Orange for the Holiday Lights Spectacular. The date and location will be announced soon.

This event will include free admission, an evening stroll through the zoo's captivating lights display, tasting delicious s'mores, seeing a wide array of animals, and more. Food and drinks available for purchase.

The zoo encourages donations of non-perishable food items, new (unwrapped) toys, or gently used coats.

Hanukkah Party

JYC is planning a festive Hanukkah celebration, complete with joy, laughter, and (possibly) latkes!

The date and location will be announced soon.

Stay connected through JYC's Facebook, Meetup, WhatsApp, and website to ensure you don't miss out.

LIFELONG LEARNING



So many activities for Hanukkah! Miriam Loew, Director

Hanukkah is in the air! We will kick off the festivities with a Hanukkah Shabbat Latke Dinner on December 8th. This will be fun for all ages and a wonderful way for our community to come together and celebrate.

Don't miss our Hanukkah Party on December 10! The Hanukkah Play by our Religious School grades 6 & 7, directed by Cantor Shana, is not to be missed! Following the Play we will have Hanukkah activities, Hanukkah treats (Latkes, Sufganiyot, Gelt...), and a Menorah Contest with Prizes!

December 13 is our annual Hanukkah on the Green event. If you'd like to walk with us from MJCBY, please let Miriam@MJCBY.org know. Mayor Dougherty will be in attendance, there will be Hanukkah treats, songs, the lighting of our giant Menorah, and more.



For our young families with children up to second grade: Don't miss our TGIS Blue Shabbat on December 15.

Finally, come join us on December 29 for our kosher Chinese New Year's Shabbat dinner!

Chag Hanukkah Sameach!

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

USY

Sunday, December 10thChopped Latke Competition

Better Together
Sunday, December 10th
Hanukkah Latke Lunch at MJCBY

TGIS

Blue Shabbat

Friday, December 15th

5:30pm in Frigand Hall For families with children up to Grade 2

Shabbat Sing-Along with Cantor Shana Shabbat Story with Rabbi Gillman Shabbat Activity with Miriam Delicious Shabbat Dinner

Open to the Community – No Charge

SISTERHOOD NEWS & EVENTS

JUDAICA GIFT SHOP

The Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop is open Sunday mornings during religious school hours and by appointment during the week. To make a shopping appointment, contact us at giftshop@mjcby.org. You may also review our various merchandise catalogs that are posted on the MJCBY website under Sisterhood or by selecting the

Sisterhood Judaica Shop link on the Support tab on the home page. Support Your Sisterhood-Support Your Shul! Note: Gift Certificates are available for purchase through the Gift Shop.

MARJORIE ELKIND SISTERHOOD BOOK GROUP

We are reviewing the book Dinners with Ruth: A Memoir on the Power of Friendships by Nina Totenberg on Tuesday December 5th. Place to be announced at a later date. For more info, please contact Amy Brunswick at abrunswick4321@gmail.com

KIDDUSH COMMITTEE

The **Kiddush Committee** needs your help to prepare the kiddush luncheon each week. Please contact Dorothy Cohen (dorothy_irvingcohen@msn.com) for more info.

BECOME A KIDDUSH SPONSOR

Share a special occasion with us by becoming a KIDDUSH SPONSOR. You and your honoree will be announced and thanked by the Rabbi from the Bimah. Contact Dorothy Cohen for an updated menu and details. To donate, send your check made out to: MJCBY Kiddush, Attn: Kiddush Fund, 177 Speedwell Ave, Morristown, NJ 07960. Please include the occasion and your honoree! Questions? Email Dorothy_irvingcohen@msn.com



SISTERHOOD DONATES TO THE ISRAEL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

On 10/22/2023, Sisterhood sent a check for \$315.84 to Jewish Federations of Greater MetroWest NJ, Israel Emergency Relief Fund.

The attendees at the Annual Membership Dinner on October 15th, 2023 donated this money.



Also donated were two personal checks and the winnings of that night's 50/50. Thank you all for your generosity!

AM YISRAEL CHAI!!!

JOIN SISTERHOOD FOR 2023-2024 YEAR

If you have not joined the Sisterhood yet, we'd like to encourage you to do so. Your \$36 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. Send a check payable to MJCBY Sisterhood, earmark it as dues on the bottom left line, and you'll be able to take part in all of the fun and exciting events we offer!



TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN OF WLCJ PIN 5784

(2023-2024)

Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh

All of Israel is Responsible for One An



This pin highlights the word 'arevut,' responsibility. It corresponds to the theme from the Babylonian Talmud, Shevuot 39a, that all the people of Israel are responsible for one another, and we assume that responsibility through our support of the five Conservative/Masorti institutions of higher education.

MAKE IT A PRIORITY TO GIVE TO TORAH FUND!

TORAH FUND GIVING LEVELS

Keter Kavod \$5,000 Scholarship Patron \$2,500 Patron \$1,200 Associate Patron \$600 Guardian \$300 Benefactor \$180 For more information, contact Linda Rosenbaum

Text or call: 973-214-0704

Send checks to: 4 Ascot Lane, Morristown, NJ 07960

Torah Fund Cards are also available in the Gift Shop!

A note from Linda Rosenbaum, our Torah Fund Chair:

Dear men (sons, brothers, husbands, fathers, parents, etc) of the congregation: Becoming a Torah Fund donor is not only a good thing for our future, but it's also a wonderful Hanukkah gift. Consider giving your female loved ones a gift for the holiday that's not only pretty but charitable as well. What woman doesn't like jewelry as a gift? 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. And it's tax deductible!

All you have to do is send me a check for the amount, and I will gift wrap the pin and card in holiday packaging. All the work is done for you. I will even do last minute, if necessary, even through all 8 days of the holiday! No time limit for last-minute shoppers! I will drop it off or you can pick it up, or I will mail it to you. If mailing, there will be a charge for postage.

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

Happy Hanukkah to all! Linda



The Judaica Shop is open for shopping on Sundays when Religious School is in session or by appointment. Contact us at: giftshop@mjcby.org

MEN'S CLUB

Mark Levine, President

Men's Book Club

All start at 7:30pm

Interested in joining? Questions?
Please reach out to Howard Buxbaum at howardbuxbaum@gmail.com

December 6th

Hotel Cuba by Aaron Hamburger

January 4th

Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver

February 7th
Trust by Herman Diaz



GOOD & WELFARE

MAZEL TOV TO:

John & Susan Salsberg on their twin granddaughters' Anya and Ariela Salsberg's B'Not Mitzvah Rabbi Adam Gillman and Leah Silver on their marriage

CONDOLENCES TO:

Dan Sontupe and family on the passing of his beloved mother, Bonnie Paul Mandel and family on the passing of his beloved father, Steven Michael Gooen and family on the passing of his beloved mother, Susan

REFUAH SHLEMA TO:

Flo & Joe Sager, Meryl Balaban, Debbie Brody, Cookie & Morton Wertheimer, Lisa Pollak, Joan Cohen, Steve Neibart, Sharon Kellman, Joyce Litchman, Jeff Czeisler, Sue Jacobowitz, Ron Saltzman, Rabbi David Nesson, Joel & Ginger Beecher, Linda Rosenbaum, Richard Rubenstein, Tom Schofield, Meredith Charak, Michael Gooen

SOCIAL ACTION

Volunteer Opportunities Abound!

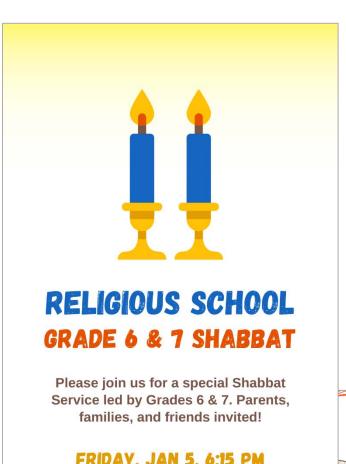
Lou Bodian & Howard Buxbaum, Social Action Chairs

Loub48@Gmail.com - HowardBuxbaum@Gmail.com

The Social Action Committee is organizing several events that will provide needed supplies and services to those less fortunate in our community, while enabling groups of our members to work together in pursuit of these commitments. Read ahead to see if something sparks your interest.

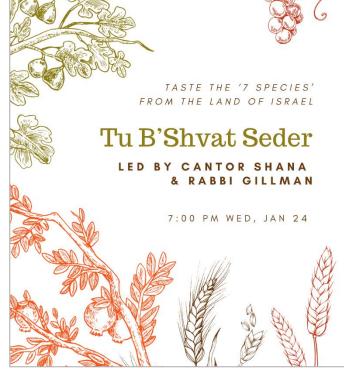
- Group Cooking a Dinner at Homeless Solutions get together with friends and help to prepare a meal at our local homeless shelter. We will do this in April of 2024.
- Help Assemble Breakfast Bags for NourishNJ contact Rachel Richman <u>Rachel.D.Richman@gmail.com</u>
- Purchase winter clothing or \$25 gift cards for those living in a shelter environment contact Rita Fand at <u>RitaFand@gmail.com</u>
- Help set up and staff a farmer's market at Morristown's Bethel AME Church for the Table of Hope operation – contact Sue Wallenstein at susanjw3@gmail.com
- Work with Jewish Family Services to assist children, elders and other vulnerable individuals served by Federation MetroWest
- Participate in Reading Buddies a program sponsored by Jewish Family Services, to work with elementary school students for an hour a week contact jcramer-le@ifsmetrowest.org
- Pair with a Senior as part of Tessie's Touch, another JFS program contact truszczyk@jfsmetrowest.org
- Work with the Maxine Myers JFS Volunteer Services group in a variety of activities benefitting local Jews – contact <u>JCramer-Le@ifsmetrowest.org</u>
- Participate in a kosher food drive organized by Chabad of Morristown. We will be hosting this event in our building in the Fall of 2024. Contact Lou Bodian at Loub48@Gmail.com
- Come out for our 3rd Annual Mitzvah Day on April 7th, 2024 to help those in need
- Sign up to provide a BackPack and school supplies for a local HeadStart student. We have committed
 to provide 60 such backpacks. Contact Howard Buxbaum at howardBuxbaum@Gmail.com or Lou
 Bodian at LouB48@gmail.com

JANUARY EVENTS



FRIDAY, JAN 5, 6:15 PM SATURDAY, FEB 3, 9:30 AM





CONTRIBUTIONS (Oct. 21st through Nov. 24th)

Alex Csillag Memorial Fund

 Patti Tuschman in memory of Earl Price & Joseph Csillag.

Building Renovation Fund

- Ralph & Eileen Goldberg
- Leo & Marji Josephs in memory of Chlotilde Josephs.
- Joyce Lantzman in memory of Sassoon Kashi, Doris Kashi, and Israel Lantzman.
- Paul & Gail Mandel in memory of Dr. Steve Mandel.
- Philip Onigman

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

- Debbie Brody in honor of Anya and Ariela Salsberg's B'Not Mitzvah, twin granddaughters of John & Sue Salsberg.
- Sonya Oppenheimer in memory of George Wein.
- John & Sue Salsberg in honor of Cantor Shana, for all she does for the synagogue.

Cantor's Shabbat Dinner Fund

 Peter & Nina Blank in memory of Jack Tetelbaum & Gertrude Youngerman.

Education Endowment Fund

- Josh & Marci Charm
- Mark Levine
- Philip Rosenbach & Wendy Miller in memory of Leonora Miller.
- Barry & Ricki Sokol in memory of Karen Gooen's mom, Ellen Levy.

 Michael & Rebecca Wanatick in honor of Rabbi Gillman & Leah Silver's wedding.

Gemilut Hasadim Society

- Ralph & Eileen Goldberg in memory of Sol Green.
- Sue Grossbard in honor of Joseph Notowicz receiving Medal of Honor from Morris County Commissioners for Military Service during the Vietnam War.
- Sue Grossbard in memory of Moses Grossbard.
- David & Nancy Medford in memory of Jerome & Doris Medford.

General Donation

- Larry & Rita Gotfried in honor of Karen Gooen, Sue Wallenstein, Linda Forgosh, Helena Kloder, Gigi Schwartz, Beverly Hammer and Amy Brunswick - Thank you for volunteering to help in the office! We couldn't have made it through these past months without your support!
- Amy Jones

Kiddush Fund

- Dorothy & Irving Cohen
- Joyce Lantzman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Jonathan & Alison Caplan in memory of Solomon Weinstein.
- Kirsten Kane in memory of her husband, Walter Kane.
- Paul Kopp in memory of William Kopp.
- Bea Mintz in memory of her husband Dr. Alvin Mintz.
- Jack & Jill Weinberg in memory of Meyer Weinberg & Belle Weinberg.

Social Action Fund

- Larry & Linda Kornreich in memory of Linda's mother, Bessie Lewis.
- William & Susan Neigher in memory of Molly Neigher & Sarah Rubinson.

Shalom Yeladim Fund

- Gary & Kim Gerstein in memory of Judy Gerstein.
- Leo & Marji Josephs in memory of Marji's father, Dr. Alvin Mintz.

Yahrzeit Fund

- Scott & Robin Epstein in memory of Dorothy Epstein's beloved brother Morris Amar.
- Michael & Susan Press in memory of Irving Press & Fred Schulman.
- Warren & Ann Rhines in memory of Philip Rhines.
- John & Sue Salsberg in memory of Bernard Oxfeld.
- Regina Yoskowitz in memory of her father, Joseph Markiewicz.

<u>FUNDS YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO</u>: Alex Csillag Memorial Fund, Building Renovation Fund, Cantor's Discretionary Fund, Cantor's Shabbat Dinner Fund, Chevra Kadisha, Education Endowment Fund, Frigand Minyonaires & Israel Experience Fund, Gemilut Hasadim (Caring Committee) Fund, General Donation, History Fund, Jewish Young Community (JYC), Kiddush Fund, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Shalom Yeladim Nursery School Fund, Social Action Fund, and Yahrzeit Fund.

DECEMBER YAHRZEITS

To Be Reme 12/2/23	19 Kislev	Aharon Attias*
12/2/23	13 Kisiev	Max Weinstein*
		Harry Kling*
		Bernard Gold
		Keith Miller
12/3/23	20 Kislev	Sherry Bialer*
12/3/23	20 Kisiev	Harry Cohn*
		Joel Lantzman
		Pearl Herman*
		Heda Schwartz
		William Schiff*
		Minka Haimann*
		Laura Levine*
12/4/22	21 Kislov	
12/4/23	21 Kislev	Minna Levine*
		Jacob Segal
12/5/22	22 Kiele	Cyril Francus
12/5/23	22 Kislev	Martin Samuels
	C	Irwin Messinger*
	Seymour \	/an Wiemokly*
12/5/22	22.10.1	Jack Buxbaum
12/6/23	23 Kislev	Deborah Weinstein*
		Minnie Glass*
12/7/23	24 Kislev	Joseph Terp
		Ida Levey*
		Morris Keller
		Louis Salny*
		Ethel Glass*
		Louis Goldman
12/8/23	25 Kislev	Benjamin Brender*
		Leon Pancis
		Maurice Adler*
		Louis Goldstein
		Philip Brody*
		Harold Gurevitz*
		Bernhard Meyer
		bbat Dec 8 & 9
12/9/23	26 Kislev	Bessie Liss*
		Lina Klausner*
		Matilde Rosenblum
		Eleanor Chazan
		Dave Dubin
		Alex Zukofsky*
		Morris Kaufman
		Leonard Levy
		Bella Bashe
		Regina Steyn
12/10/23	27 Kislev	Samuel Charm
		David Goldblatt*
		Abraham Weingast
		Mary Gelfand*
12/11/23	28 Kislev	Bernard Schwartz
,, -0		Walter Kane
	-	
		Betty Sherman

İ	1	Fred Schulman
12/12/23	29 Kislev	
12/12/23	29 KISIEV	Sally London Janet Stone
		Harry Drell*
		Morton Cowan
		Louis Glick
		Ruth Lavein
12/12/22	20 Kislov	Minerva Sidi
12/12/23	30 Kislev 30 Kislev	Hattie Kaplan* Sol Frankel*
12/13/23		Estell Leichtman*
12/13/23	1 Tevet	
12/14/22	2 Toyet	Alida Westerman
12/14/23	2 Tevet	Maurice Epstein*
12/15/23	3 Tevet	Lillian Hammer Belle Greenbaum
		Michael Rubenstein
		Bess Goldman Sally Fletcher*
		<u> </u>
		David Gladstone Louis Zupnick*
To Do Down		Bernice Krupnick
		bbat Dec 15 & 16
12/16/23	4 Tevet	Allan Davis*
12/17/23	5 Tevet	Belle Weinberg*
		Helen Fox*
42/40/22	CT	Harry Simon*
12/18/23	6 Tevet	Ida Rayfield
		Mildred Rehert
42/40/22	7.7	George H. Feldman*
12/19/23	7 Tevet	Eleanor Dornfeld
		Sidney Blaufeld
		Sophia Warshaw*
42/24/22	0.7	Morris Feurstein
12/21/23	9 Tevet	Daisy Kazam
		Sadie Weiss*
		Madelyn Iris
		Lois Goadkind
		Pauline Kornbleuth*
		Alfred Oppenheimer
42/22/22	40.7	Leroy Gordon
12/22/23	10 Tevet	Ruth Loewensteiner*
		Clara Brenner*
		Kate Csillag
		Melvin Greenberg
		Susan Blumenfield
.		Max Winter*
		bbat Dec 22 & 23
12/23/23	11 Tevet	Jack Nebrat
		Ann Rothstein
		Curtis B. Hayworth*
		David Grobman
	•	Rose Kantrowitz*
		Sadie Feldman*
12/24/23	12 Tevet	

		Frank Papish*
		Joseph Fleischman
		Nathan Heller
12/25/23	13 Tevet	Rebecca Freeman*
		Marian Smolowitz*
		Rene Selver
		Saul Rosen*
		Michael Weinstein*
		Rose Gebel
12/26/23	14 Tevet	Jerome Stock*
		Rhoda Zudick*
		Philip Rhines*
		Miriam Toffel
		David Gross
		Louis B Scheinman
		Bess Epstein*
		David Janowitz*
		Abraham Ossre*
12/27/23	15 Tevet	Sara Zaks
		Sadie Greenberg*
		Lillian Levitt
		Molly Neigher
		Goldie Wolfsohn*
		Morris Lindenstein*
12/28/23	16 Tevet	Marshall Leff
		Mannie Steyn
		Reuben Berger*
		Teddy Lief*
		Monroe Davis*
		Reuben Berger*
		Chlotilde Josephs
12/29/23	17 Tevet	Yetta Fine*
, ,		Edith Epstein*
		Rose Notowicz
		Minnie Chimoff*
		Edith Epstein*
To Be Reme	embered Sha	bbat Dec 29 & 30
12/30/23	18 Tevet	Sandy Geller
, ,		Abram Friedman*
		Joseph Prentky*
12/31/23	19 Tevet	Mathilda Rosenberg*
		Gussie Kornreich
		Blossom Weinstein
1/1/24	20 Tevet	Maurice Weiss*
		Irene Glick
		Frieda Stat*
		Samuel Sankin*
		Rhoda Frielich
		Janice Tetelbaum
		Morris Weinstein*
		Anny Korn
		Hasya Goldberg
		Emil Klausner*
		William Cohen
1/2/24	21 Tevet	Morton Stein*

		Abe Frost
		Abraham Levin
		Samuel Chimoff
1/3/24	22 Tevet	Henrietta Klausner*
		Chester Sankin*
		Alex Gordon*

1/4/24	23 Tevet	Sarah Rubinson
		Judie Gerstein
		Alexander Sadle
		Jacob Weiss*
		Ira Michael Sontupe*
1/5/24	24 Tevet	Miriam Karlin*

		Marcus Auslander
		Helen Pundyk*
		Ruth Bodian*
*denotes plaque on Yahrzeit wall		

Endocrine Consultants of Morris County

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Sheera Siegel, MD, FACE, ECNU — Anna Kissin, MD, FACE, ECNU







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Fellow – American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML)

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Christine M. Dangler, Mgr.-.N.J. Lic. No. 4706 Kip M. Dangler, Dir.- N.J. Lic. No. 3992

> James E. Dangler 1948 – 2005



Beth Israel Cemetery Association

Ridgedale Avenue, Cedar Knolls

Plots available for Congregation Members

For information call: **973-538-4606** Website: <u>www.bethisraelcemetery.com</u>

Opportunities for volunteers to help with flags for Memorial Day & Veterans Day

Cemetery is closed on the Sabbath