



## Message from Rabbi Mitch Levine



In the beginning, God rested from creative labor on the seventh day. Later, as we see from the blessing for the Friday night Kiddush, remembering the exodus from Egypt became a central Shabbat theme. The prophet Isaiah added the concept of Oneg Shabbat. In rabbinic times, a lively debate erupted over whether Shabbat was meant to be primarily a day devoted to contemplative study and prayer, or a day of relaxed eating and drinking with friends and family. The early 20th century Hebrew essayist Ahad Ha'am considered Shabbat the key to Jewish continuity, famously commenting, "More than Jews have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jews." The meaning and expression of Shabbat has changed from time to time. That's how it's stayed relevant through the ages.

We've decided the time has come to introduce a change in Kabbalat Shabbat. CBI has been welcoming Shabbat on Zoom with a small but tenaciously dedicated group on an every-other-week basis for the duration of the pandemic. It's been fun seeing old friends and a few new faces (and I mean that literally - an advantage of Zoom is that masks aren't needed!) but Friday evening is also an opportunity to try some new ideas and possibly inspire more to join us. Beginning this month, we've ceased the usual service and instead are trying out a fresh approach. Josefa, who has been very successful in leading a Zoom Friday night for kids has graciously offered to do something similar aimed at adults. A few of us have been discussing how we might be able to leverage the Shabbat-luck potluck concept as a way to connect via Zoom on Friday evenings for Shalom Aleichem, Kiddush and schmoozing around a selected topic. Perhaps there's a member who would like to play a musical piece introducing Shabbat for us. Perhaps members would volunteer to be guest speakers on a variety of interesting topics. Let's be an incubator for Jewish ideas. Let me know if you have one you'd like to try.

### Inside this issue

Meet the CBI Board.....	4
Social Action Committee News .....	5
Friday Noon Study Group .....	6
Security Committee .....	8
Donations.....	10
Yahrzeits .....	12
Community News .....	13-14
February Calendar. ....	15

### Shabbat Learning with Rabbi Mitch Saturday February 12, 9:30am

Come for some learning with Rabbi Mitch followed by Shabbat services at 10:30am.

### Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Mitch Thursday February 24, 12-1pm

For insightful discussion and learning with each other and Rabbi Mitch, join us to continue the topic of "The Invention of Judaism".

# From the CBI Executive Director

## Rochelle Reich

What songs are playing in your head these days? For me there is a rotation of great music including Olivia Rodrigo's *Deja vu*, *Time Warp* from the Rocky Horror Picture Show soundtrack, Dead or Alive's *You Spin Me Round*, Whitesnakes' *Here I go Again*, and The Byrds' song *Turn! Turn! Turn!* (appropriately inspired by the original text from *Koheleth/Ecclesiastes*). For those of you unfamiliar with any one of these songs, I encourage you to pull them up on youtube.com and amuse yourself for a moment. Why are these songs in my brain these days you ask? I feel like we are in a weird mix of *deja vu* and a *time warp*, where we all are just getting spun around and around (like a record, baby) thinking 'here we go again!' So much of our time is spent feeling like we are on a hybrid *Merry go Round/Roller Coaster* in regards to all things related to COVID. It's frustrating, scary and exhausting. I know that you are all dealing with the same thing (so feel free to steal my playlist) in your lives. I want to extend my appreciation to you all for your cooperation, patience and suggestions as we continue to turn, turn, turn.



The CBI Medical task force continues to meet regularly and adjust protocol and recommendations. As of the writing of this article, we have temporarily suspended food service at the shul, with hopes that sometime in February, we will resume. For those of you wondering why we haven't brought back the larger round tables in the social hall, we had been intentionally keeping to tables of six to minimize the size of small groups that would be unmasked during lunch together. We continue to require all age-eligible individuals to be fully vaccinated (including booster) or have a negative PCR test prior to coming to shul, and require masks for everyone while here. Of course, we all know that none of these precautions are fool-proof- which is the reason that we continue to ask that everyone register each week when coming to shul. When we have had attendees discover that they test positive for COVID after having just been at shul, we use this registration list to notify everyone who was here. The excellent news is that as far as we know, no one that was potentially exposed while at shul, has subsequently tested positive as a result of that exposure.

As you might guess, my optimistic and resilient self has me working on adding some balance to my playlist... I'm thinking of adding *What's New Pussycat?* to help remind me that COVID isn't the only thing to be focused on. There are so many exciting and fun things at shul in the works! It's important to remind myself to keep an eye on the **new**. An obvious (and yes, totally cliché) addition is Kool and the Gang's *We are Family* to keep me grounded in the reason for this amazing shul community: supporting and caring for each other. And if I had the talent to mix my own music, then I would create my own mash-up adding the Backstreet Boys' melody of *Adon Olam*, Matisyahu's *One Day*, and *Ashrei* (I encourage you to look up the translation of *Adon Olam* and *Ashrei* if you don't know it- you will likely also find meaning there). These songs and prayers combined with *We are Family* would complete the musical mantra as to why I am blessed to work at our shul.

Do you have a suggestion for my playlist? I would love to hear from you. Call, email - we could set up a Zoom or come on over for a visit- we can talk about music or anything you want (except maybe we could NOT talk about COVID?)



<https://www.facebook.com/>

## Greeters Needed

Our congregation is in need of volunteer greeters to welcome visitors to our warm and friendly Shul. We could use your help to greet people at the door and say a few welcoming words as they arrive for Shabbat or holiday services. We will even provide some training! If you are willing to help out, please contact Rochelle Reich at 828-252-8660 or [director@bethisraelinc.org](mailto:director@bethisraelinc.org).



## Whatcha Planting?

Sunday February 6th, 10am on Zoom

Due to the snow apocalypse on Tu B'Shvat, we weren't able to get together at Yesod Farm to celebrate and learn together. This won't be quite the same (by far) but let's get together and share what we are planting, what's working, what's not. There is a lot of philosophy and Jewish context that can be brought into this conversation as well (if that's what folks want to talk about.) Maybe this will be an ongoing once a month group? Bring your questions, successes and smiles. Congregant Robert Stein will lead the discussion.



## The HaShofar Needs You!

Our beloved Jimi Moore, current editor of the HaShofar, and her husband are moving out of the area and will be joining a new Jewish community and lending their talents and energy there. We are now looking for a newsletter editor to start immediately. Who is looking to contribute time from home? We could even teach you some new skills... Contact Lee or Rochelle if you are interested.



## Editor's Note

Deadline: 14 February for the March issue  
15 March for the April issue

For questions or submissions contact the editor at [hashofar@bethisraelinc.org](mailto:hashofar@bethisraelinc.org)

## 2022 CBI Golf Classic

Friday, June 3 at Springdale Golf Course



Save the Date!! CBI Golf Classic will be held on Friday, June 3rd at Springdale Golf Course. More information coming soon, but please mark your calendars now and plan for a fun day together, outside on the green! We are actively looking for volunteers to help make this fundraiser successful. Please contact Rochelle if you are interested in helping (you need know NOTHING about golf to be an excellent volunteer).



## Volunteer Needs at the Shul

We are currently seeking folks interested in reimagining several of our *shul's* committees. Don't let the word "committee" scare you; we need your energy and enthusiasm! All committees welcome new members, but specifically we are looking for new folks to join the Fund Development, Adult Ed, Security and newly-forming CBI Club *Havurah* social committee. Contact Rochelle to discuss your interests.

# Get to Know the Board: Alan Baumgarten

Hello, I am Alan Baumgarten and I am in my second year as a Congregation Beth Israel (CBI) board member. My wife, Judy Hoffman, and our family have been CBI members for upwards of 25 years. Judy is a retired psychiatrist. We have two grown children, Nathan and Alexandra, who both had their b'nai mitzvah at CBI. Alex is engaged (Sam Cates), lives in Nashville and is nearing the completion of her anesthesia residency. Nathan is a third-year medical student, and his wife Ivana is a pediatrician. They have one-year-old identical twin boys, and grandparenting them is almost too much fun. I am a semi-retired family practice physician and have been practicing in Asheville for more than 35 years at The Family Health Center. In my free time I enjoy exercise, gardening, woodworking, cooking/baking and travel. I am deeply committed to spiritual Judaism, contemplative prayer and the sacred space that CBI provides.



Alan Baumgarten with grandson Maks (L) and Oskar (R).

## Purim isn't until March BUT we want you to start planning now!



- 1) Mark your calendars for Wednesday March 16th in the evening- you will not want to miss what we have planned
- 2) If you enjoy making cookies and/or eating cookies, then start thinking now about what hamentaschen recipe you want to dust off for our first ever "Hamentaschen Swap" more info to come soon, but start thinking about recipes now. For those of you who aren't bakers, we'll have an ideas for you too!
- 3) The Purim Schpiel is still seeking a few more actors to complete the cast. No memorization necessary. Contact Rochelle at [director@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:director@bethisraelnc.org).

## Our Madrichim Help You Create Personal and Meaningful Programs at CBI

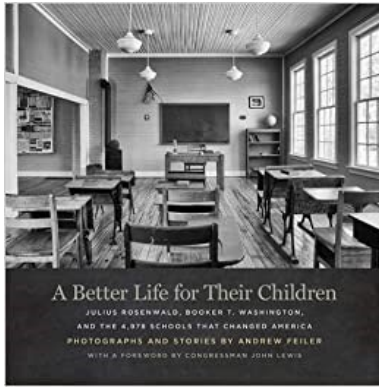
At its core, the CBI Madrichim initiative is designed to engage **each and every member** on a personal level; **empower each of us** to create the Jewish experiences that are meaningful for us; and, in doing so, **enhance our potential** for authentic Jewish expression. Success is when we realize that we benefit as much by supporting another's personal journey as we do from the program itself. What is your passion or interest: a class, a club, a social action program, a fundraiser, a *tikkun olam* project, a social event? Think about it. Then contact one of the folks below and let us help you make it happen!

### **CBI Madrichim**

Robert Marcus  
Alan Silverman

Sally Gooze  
Mike Weizman

Caren Kessler



## CBI Social Action Committee Collaborates with Others in the Asheville Community to Explore a Remarkable Alliance

While our Social Action Committee continues to engage our congregation in *Tikkun Olam* through such activities as helping to clothe, shelter, and feed those in need, we are also part of a regional effort to raise community awareness of racial justice issues and alliances between African-Americans and Jews.

CBI congregants have joined with other Jewish and non-Jewish institutions to explore an extraordinary relationship between Julius Rosenwald, a Jewish philanthropist who for many years served as CEO of Sears, Roebuck, and Booker T. Washington, educator, author, and dominant leader in the African American community at the turn of the twentieth century. Working closely together, Washington and Rosenwald helped to establish a network of nearly 5,000 schools intended to serve African-American children in the South.

Under the thoughtful leadership of CBI congregant Sally Gooze, the Rosenwald Collaborative has been working for months to plan programs that will familiarize the Asheville Community with Rosenwald's philanthropy, the pioneering Black-Jewish alliance formed between Rosenwald and Washington, and the Rosenwald Schools and their legacy. These programs, planned to start this Spring, will include:

Multiple **screenings of Aviva Kempner's documentary film, *Rosenwald: The Remarkable Story of a Jewish Partnership with African American Communities*** (dates and venues to be announced).

**A scholar-in-residence weekend** featuring author/photographer Andrew Feiler, whose book, *A Better Life for Their Children* documents his visits to 105 schools, his interviews with dozens of former students, teachers, preservationists, and community leaders, and an introduction by the late former congressman John Lewis who attended a Rosenwald school in Alabama. A presentation at CBI is scheduled for Sunday, May 22, 2022.

**A chartered bus visit to the Charlotte Museum of History** for those interested in viewing Feiler's photography exhibit, *A Better Life for Our Children*.

**Tours and programs at the beautifully restored Mars Hill Anderson Rosenwald School**, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**A booth at the May 1 Hard Lox festival** to inform the community about Julius Rosenwald and the Anderson School's renovation.

**A variety of interviews and speakers** that will include local Rosenwald School Alumnae and possibly a descendent of Booker T. Washington and Frederick Douglass.

More details will follow on all these programs. We hope CBI members will attend many of these events.

CBI's Friday Noon Study Group is exploring

# בְּרֵאשִׁית

## The Book of GENESIS

The first of the five books of Moses, Genesis ("Origins") is viewed in Judeo-Christian traditions as an account of the creation of the world, the early history of humanity, Israel's ancestors, and the origins of the Jewish people. Its Hebrew name is the same as its first word, *Bereshit* ("In the beginning"). Genesis is filled with wonderful—and problematic—stories: Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Noah and the Great Flood, the Patriarchs and Matriarchs, and Joseph and his brothers.

At CBI, and in synagogues around the world, Jews, whom a rabbi once called participants in the oldest book club in the world, once again began their annual *Torah* cycle with the reading of the first chapters of Genesis on October 2. Our weekly discussion group began examining these opening chapters on October 8. It has been several years since our Friday Noon Study Group has read Genesis together and we look forward to the insights and questions all the chapters of the Book of Genesis will bring forward.

Our group meets via Zoom every Friday from 12-1. Check the CBI web page for a link. All are welcome to join us, regardless of their level of expertise. Please bring whatever copy of the Bible you might have (the more different translations the livelier the discussion). If you have questions, please contact Jay Jacoby at [jjacoby@uncc.edu](mailto:jjacoby@uncc.edu).

# Our Gift Shop

## Regular Gift Shop Hours: Fridays, 12 to 3

- - Outside of these regular hours, Rochelle and Lee may be available to assist you to make purchases from the shop. Alternatively, please don't hesitate to call Carol Samsky at (828)676-0765 to arrange a convenient time to open the shop or request a special order.

When was the last time you visited our gem of a store? Yes, it is hidden in the back of the lobby area, but it is worth the short trek to discover new Judaica items that Guild and member artists have produced. Our inventory will be changing now that Hanukkah has slipped away and the secular New Year has begun. Check us out and please bring your friends. Our prices are incredible because we are able to pass on the savings of no overhead and volunteer staffing.

Your purchase takes on special significance when you know that you are supporting local artists, and most importantly, CBI.



## Ongoing CBI Events

### Torah on Tap at the CBI Firepit A Lively Group Discussion

On the last Sunday of the month from 4- 5:30 pm., Torah on Tap, a lively group discussion is meeting at the CBI Firepit. In case of inclement weather, we'll meet inside. You are welcome to bring a lawn chair, snack or meal, and a beverage of your choice.

### Parsha discussion with Justin

Once a month following services and lunch, join your CBI family and Justin Goldstein in a deep dive into the week's *parsha*. Come for lunch and stay for the discussion, or spend the day celebrating Shabbat with services, lunch and discussion. Check the weekly bulletin for the February discussion.

### Social Action Volunteer Opportunities

**Help serving dinner at the Western Carolina Rescue Mission** on the third Tuesday of the month from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm. The Rescue Mission is located at 225 Patton Avenue, Asheville. Contact Alan Escovitz [aescovitz@charter.net](mailto:aescovitz@charter.net).  
**Help with our involvement with Room In the Inn.** Contact Jan Zollars [warreallysucks@yahoo.com](mailto:warreallysucks@yahoo.com).

**All COVID-19 precautions are observed in these activities.**

# Upcoming Security Trainings

The **Secure Community Network\***, in cooperation with the **WNC Jewish Security Task Force**, is pleased to announce a series of security and safety training program modules scheduled twice a month during **January – May 2022** from **7:00-8:30pm**. The online Zoom training sessions are being offered to our WNC Jewish communities at no cost with advance registration required. (Please ignore the 6:00pm Central Time reference at the course sign-up website). The series is being funded with a grant from the **Jewish Federation of WNC**.

The training modules below have accompanying links for registration and will provide you with a Zoom viewing link via email upon receipt of your registration. The Secure Community Network will also provide participants a downloadable certificate with the course name and the SCN logo affixed.

**Registration should be done by each individual in the household to enable everyone to receive a certificate of completion, even if you will be viewing on the same computer**



- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Tues., Feb. 15 | <b>Stop the Bleed (Repeated on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>)</b><br><a href="https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsdOGsqD8jHdloeOeaWmvRI4zaQGf0ffqB">https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsdOGsqD8jHdloeOeaWmvRI4zaQGf0ffqB</a>                         |
| Wed., Feb. 23  | <b>Stop the Bleed</b><br><a href="https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0lf--rrD4rHdBgJXoe_gjqcylQBeeVsQKw">https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0lf--rrD4rHdBgJXoe_gjqcylQBeeVsQKw</a>  |
| Tues., Mar. 15 | <b>Safety and Security Team, Part 1 (Repeated May 17<sup>th</sup>)</b><br><a href="https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkcuihqz8rGdzh0noBKFD4tVhXE1swXrdJ">https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkcuihqz8rGdzh0noBKFD4tVhXE1swXrdJ</a>           |
| Wed., Mar. 23  | <b>Safety and Security Team, Part 2 (Repeated May 25<sup>th</sup>)</b><br><a href="https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtceuqqD4oHNa0JEah1bCBdt0AGmBugkl">https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtceuqqD4oHNa0JEah1bCBdt0AGmBugkl</a>             |
| Tues., Apr. 19 | <b>Situational Awareness (repeated from January 18<sup>th</sup>)</b><br><a href="https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZltdurTkve9HtANFYSKyOEUMtxP_2fZKF">https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZltdurTkve9HtANFYSKyOEUMtxP_2fZKF</a>                 |
| Wed., Apr. 27  | <b>Countering Active Threat Training (repeated from January 26<sup>th</sup>)</b><br><a href="https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vdO-urD0tG9GGqbVNIotbcyn4_MnkbIJk">https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vdO-urD0tG9GGqbVNIotbcyn4_MnkbIJk</a> |
| Tues., May 17  | <b>Safety and Security Team, Part 1</b><br><a href="https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwode6upj4tGtP554-yJR7jxssUpXZZ3WGH">https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwode6upj4tGtP554-yJR7jxssUpXZZ3WGH</a>  |
| Wed., May 25   | <b>Safety and Security Team, Part 2</b><br><a href="https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocuitpjosHddEUNYlwdqIhnGUoNCXnS8B">https://securecommunitynetwork-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYocuitpjosHddEUNYlwdqIhnGUoNCXnS8B</a>  |

\*The Secure Community Network (SCN), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, is the official homeland security and safety initiative of the organized Jewish community in North America. It was founded in 2004 under the auspices of The Jewish Federations of North America. SCN provides timely, credible threat and incident information to both law enforcement and community partners, serves as the community's formal liaison with federal law enforcement, and coordinates closely with state and local law enforcement partners. SCN works with communities and partners across North America to develop and implement strategic frameworks that enhance safety and security of the Jewish people, developing best practice policies and procedures, undertaking threat and vulnerability assessments, coordinating training and education, offering consultation on safety and security matters and providing crisis management support during critical incidents..

## CBI Virtual Office

If you would like to pay your dues or make a donation, you can do it quickly and securely online through CBI's Virtual Office on the CBI website. You can use ACH, your credit card or debit card, and save yourself a stamp or a trip to CBI.



To Donate  
click here

Just go to CBI's home page at <https://www.bethisraelinc.org/> and click on CBI Virtual Office in the top bar <https://www.bethisraelinc.org/cbi-virtual-office/>

If you are making a donation or ticket payment, please fill in the memo line so that we can allocate it correctly. Thank you for supporting CBI!

Click on the donate button at the left to pay your dues, make a contribution, pay your Annual Appeal Pledge or pay for your Ingles cards. This simple Web Check system is a direct debit to your checking account and allows you to send a message to the CBI office along with your payment. No need to write checks or make special trips to the office.

### Support Your Shul and Its Congregants!

Ingles cards are a no-cost fundraiser for Beth Israel. Each month CBI members and friends buy \$8,000 worth of Ingles gift cards to help raise \$400 for Beth Israel – over \$4,800 annually. Ingles gift cards can be used at any Ingles store for groceries, pharmacy items and gasoline. Sign up now to receive your Ingles cards automatically each month. The office also keeps an inventory of Ingles cards for immediate purchase. Contact the CBI office to get more information and/or to participate at 828-252-8660 or [admin@bethisraelinc.org](mailto:admin@bethisraelinc.org).



The **ingles**  
ADVANTAGE™

### Your Amazon Purchases Can Help Support Beth Israel

Your Amazon purchases can help support Beth Israel. Amazon Smile donates 1% of your purchases to CBI at no cost to you. Just visit <https://smile.amazon.com> and select Congregation Beth Israel, then shop as you regularly would. If you are a regular Amazon shopper, you can bookmark this website so as to find it easily every time you shop.



### For Information about Burial Plots at Lou Pollock Memorial Park

Please call Josh Tager if you need any further information:  
[joshtager@gmail.com](mailto:joshtager@gmail.com) or 828 285-9995

Current Rates: \$1500 for members of Beth Israel Synagogue.  
\$2000 for Non-members.

## Support Your Shul and Its Congregants!

# Active Donor Directed Funds

For those members of CBI who would like to direct their financial support toward a specific area within CBI, these are the active donor directed funds. You are encouraged to support the **General Fund** with your donations, allowing the Board of Directors the discretion to direct this support toward areas of the most need.

\*\* These funds are very active and in the most need of regular contributions.

♥\*\* **Spiritual Life Fund** – Support of spiritual life programs and needs

♥\*\* **Social Action Fund** – Funds CBI's social action projects

♥\*\* **Chesed/Tzedakah Fund** – Supports the Bereavement Committee and other Chesed related activities

♥\*\* **Ted Liebowitz Children's Fund** – Provides scholarships for Bet Sefer students and supports Bet Sefer expenses

♥\*\* **Toby Cohen Minyan Katan and Junior Congregation Fun**

♥\*\* **Family Education Fund** – Supports family education programming

♥ **Shorashim Teen Program Fund** – Supports CBI teen programs

♥\*\* **Bernard Coleman Adult Ed Fund**

♥ **Website/Computer/Tech Fund**

♥ **Cemetery Committee Fund** – Supports maintenance of CBI's Lou Pollock Cemetery

♥ **Chevra Kadisha Fund** – Supports efforts toward preparing the body of the departed for Jewish burial.

♥\*\* **Rabbi Discretionary Fund** – Supports needs or causes the Rabbi chooses to support

♥\*\* **Executive Director's Discretionary Fund** – Supports needs of the shul/ community that were not budgeted for

## December-January

# לדור ודור

### **General Fund**

*Stanlee Stahl & George Ackerman*

*Bob & Eileen Elkin: in honor of Jay Jacoby's birthday*

*Sally Gooze: in memory of Jules Rosenthal*

*Bob & Eileen Elkin: in honor of Norman & Tamar Katzwer's anniversary*

*Don & Debra Wooton: in honor of Jay Jacoby's birthday*

*Jerry & Thelma Uhler: in honor of Kevin Uhler's birthday*

*Carol Kaufman*

*David Kaufman: in honor of Adam, Laura, Ben and Nate Kaufman*

*Ron & Liz Levine*

*Allison Marks: wishing refuah shleimah to her mother, Eleanore Fisher*

*Shirley Horowitz*

*Jerry & Thelma Uhler: in honor of Warren Uhler's birthday*

*Marta & Jimmy Metscher: in memory of Esther & Burnerd Horwitz*

### **Yahrzeit Fund**

*Gail Shulimson: in memory of her mother, Isabel Shulimson*

*Norma Schulman: in memory of her brother, Leonard J. Yospin*

*Gail Shulimson: in memory of her father, Ben Shulimson*

*Bob & Eileen Elkin: in memory of Eileen's father, Raymond Greene*

*Gail Shulimson: in memory of her brother, Richard Shulimson*

*Bob & Eileen Elkin: in memory of Eileen's grandmother, Anita Grossman*

*Gerard & Thelma Uhler: in memory of Thelma's father, Barney Sherman*

*Rhona Reagen: in memory of her father, Philip Raffe*

*Michael & Michele Heller: in memory of Michael's father, Joseph A. Heller*

*Hal & Mary Lewis: in memory of Hal's mother, Arlene Lewis*

*Neal & Beth Appel: in memory of Neal's brother, Clifford Appel*

*Eleanore Fisher: in memory of her husband, Lowell Fisher*

*Walter Ziffer & Gail Rosenthal: in memory of Walter's sister, Edith Altman*

*Janice Brock: in memory of her mother, Gishie Bloomfield*

*Allison Marks: in memory of her father, Lowell Fisher*

*William & Barbara Lewin: in memory of Barbara's grandfather, Abe Blick*

*Ileana Grams-Moog: in memory of her father, Armand (Chaim) Jacobovitch*

### **Youth Education Fund**

*Alan & Lorraine Silverman: in memory of Alan's grandmother, Miriam Lewitt*

### **Cantorial Fund**

*Shirley Kayne: in honor of David, Cathy, Jonathan & Eli Kayne*

*Shirley Kayne: in honor of Roni Robbins*

*Shirley Kayne: in honor of the birth of Neel Shalom Shukla*

### **Chesed Fund**

*Lee Avishai*

### **Hanukkah Fund**

*Teri Kayne*

*Anon.*

### **Kol Nidre Donations**

*Lou Lieb*

*Alan & Lorraine Silverman*

*Joe & Rendi Mann-Stadt*

*Carey & Lisa Harnash*



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 02 Lorraine Silverman
- 04 Rabbi Mitch Levine  
Shirley Kayne
- 07 Marcia Schantz  
Daniel Kulick
- 08 Josh Gettinger
- 09 Shep Goldstein  
Jacob Zivony
- 10 Dee Weiner
- 12 Ira Naiman  
Moses Goldstein
- 14 Carol Samsky  
Elliot Tocaben

- 17 Barry Tureff
- 19 Sid Tureff
- 21 Ruth Gaynes
- 23 Paul Michalove  
Bart Brass
- 26 Adam Kaufman
- 28 Margaret Teich

**FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

- 13 David & Beth Kulick
- 14 William & Barbara Lewin
- 16 Carey & Lisa Harnash
- 25 Walter Ziffer & Gail Rosenthal

**Refuah Shleimah**

To Karin Fraade, Shirley Kayne, Karen Marcus, Patti Haskell, Jerry Uhler, Thelma Uhler, Julie Sherman, Devorah Reed

**Thank You!**

To Club Havurah for planning the December 25th events, and to Wendy Feinberg for leading the historic neighborhood tour.

To our CBI hiking guides, Eva & Beth Israel Blinder.

**JFS Director Lisa Harnash-Rothman**



Congratulations to Lisa Harnash-Rothman who has just begun as the new Jewish Family Services Director. Mazel Tov and Todah Rabah to Lisa on this important community role. Lisa has previously served on the CBI Board and has chaired several fundraisers. Most recently Lisa served as

the CBI fundraising chair and still currently sits on that committee as well as a planned giving task force.

**Membership Renewal**

Thank you to all of you who have renewed already for the 21-22 year that began in July. We've heard from many of you that you hadn't received membership renewal requests so we are putting one here as hopefully one more place that it may be seen. Not sure if you've renewed yet? Please contact the office and we'll look it up for you. Also, if you haven't received a statement lately, that is a good indicator that you haven't renewed yet. Please remember that membership support is our core revenue source and your commitment is vitally important.



**Brunch b'Yachad Virtual**

Join us for a joint JCC/CBI program *Brunch B'yachad* Virtual. Fridays at 10:30 am. The format for the hour will be some facilitated socializing followed by a discussion through the Jewish lens of a relevant topic or current event. Past topics have included optimism in the face of adversity, civil discourse, Jewish identity and anti-Semitism. Join through the CBI website or click [here](#) .





# יזכור

## *Yahrzeits*

May their memories be for a blessing

Announced during services on:

### **January 28 & 29**

- 02 (01 Adar) Eleanore Fisher for her mother, Rose W. Goodman
- 02 (01 Adar I) Jeremy Lerner for his father, Arthur Lerner
- 03 (02 Adar I) Jodi Travis for her grandmother, Mae Bander
- 03 (02 Adar I) Caren Kessler for her grandmother, Sophie Kessler
- 04 (03 Adar) Lauren Malinoff for her grandfather, Joseph Malinoff

### **February 5**

- 06 (05 Adar) Louis & Hanina Ruttenberg for their daughter, Naomi Gerlitz
- 08 (07 Adar I) Norman Winkelman for his brother, Milton Winkelman
- 08 (07 Adar I) Rochelle Neuringer for her brother, Maurice Rosenberg
- 09 (08 Adar I) Eileen Elkin for her grandmother, Bessie Greenspoon

### **February 11 & 12**

- 12 (11 Adar) Perry Dror for his mother, Florence Gaynes
- 12 (11 Adar I) Robert Goldstein for his father, Abraham Goldstein
- 13 (12 Adar I) Rochelle Neuringer for her mother, Molly Rosenberg
- 13 (12 Adar I) Robert Kline for his father, Morris Alfred Kline
- 13 (12 Adar I) Joanna Zimmerman Corbett for her grandfather, Ignacy Kornhaber
- 15 (14 Adar) Leonard Koenick for his father, Harry Koenick
- 15 (14 Adar) Norman Winkelman for his father, Frank Winkelman
- 15 (14 Adar) Marlene Jacoby for her first husband, Edward Heiman
- 16 (15 Adar) Mary Lewis for her brother, George Lazansky
- 16 (15 Adar I) Bob Deutsch for his uncle, Walter Rosenberg
- 17 (16 Adar I) Bradley Fisher for his father, Irving Fisher
- 18 (17 Adar) Sharon Boas for her mother, Fannie Ehrlich
- 18 (17 Adar I) Steve Miller for his uncle, Irwin Richard Abrams

### **February 19**

- 20 (19 Adar I) Irvin Saron for his father, Benjamin Saron
- 21 (20 Adar) Mark Silberstein for his father, Aharon Eliezer Silberstein
- 22 (21 Adar I) Gail Shulimson for her grandmother, Esther Shulimson
- 24 (23 Adar) Adrian Sandler for his mother, Carla Sandler
- 25 (24 Adar) Caren Kessler for her aunt, Miriam Friedenber
- 25 (24 Adar I) William Lewin for his father, George Lewin

### **February 25 & 26**

- 26 (25 Adar I) Rick Sanders for his mother, Ann Sanders
- 26 (25 Adar I) Arnold Wengrow for his father, Sam Wengrow
- 27 (26 Adar) Hannah Kirschenfeld for her father, Steve Mesnik
- 27 (26 Adar) Hanan Weizman for his father, Michael Weizman
- 31 (29 Shevat) Jay Jacoby for his mother, Esther Jacoby

# Community News

*In the interest of civil dialog and inclusivity, this information is provided as a service to the CBI community.*

*The views of these organizations may or may not reflect the views of CBI or its members.*

**Happenings in the Asheville Jewish Community** – [www.jcwnc.org](http://www.jcwnc.org) is your gateway into all the amazing and wonderful organizations and activities that you can explore.

**The Asheville Jewish Community Center** strengthens Jewish identity, celebrates Jewish culture, and builds inclusive community through a wide variety of social, educational, cultural, and wellness programs for people from all backgrounds at every stage of life. For more information [www.jcc-asheville.org](http://www.jcc-asheville.org).

**Jewish Family Services (JFS)** provides unique and integrated services that will engage you in identifying your needs, strengths and goals. We offer support for our aging community members through our unique Elder Club Group Respite Program; sliding-scale mental health services through Healing Solutions counseling; case management; crisis services and spiritual care and healing services. We offer a variety of volunteer opportunities, too! Reach out to [Cindy@jfswn.org](mailto:Cindy@jfswn.org) to learn more!

**Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater Asheville Area** – Our Mission – The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), in keeping with the traditional Jewish mandates to pursue justice and to repair the world, builds bridges of understanding and communication within our Jewish community and beyond to the general community. We work within the Jewish and broader communities in the greater Asheville area to enhance cooperation with other religious, racial, ethnic and civic groups and to foster a just, democratic and pluralistic society. Whether advocating for students, teachers and staff with local schools and universities, meeting with government officials, collaborating in interfaith initiatives, responding to issues of anti-Semitism, or combatting all forms of racial and ethnic hatred and prejudice, the JCRC assists our community in this pursuit for justice.

**Carolina Jews for Justice (CJJ)** is a statewide organization devoted to pursuing social justice from a Jewish perspective in the areas of racial equity, fighting poverty, opposing anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred (including anti-Muslim and anti-LGBTQ discrimination), working on a non-partisan basis for increased voter engagement and fair redistricting, and advocating for sensible and humane immigration policies, among others. Please visit its website at <https://www.carolinajewsforjustice.org> to learn more. We are committed to being a dependable source of support, education, advocacy, and action. We have a WNC chapter, [CJJ/West](#), and a CJJ/West [Facebook page](#), and we would welcome your involvement.

**Antisemitism Listening Project:** Over the past few years, CJJ has hosted several retreats and workshops about the relationship between antisemitism, racism and white nationalism. To expand on this work, we have begun a statewide listening tour focused on developing a better understanding of how we as Jews have experienced antisemitism. For more information and to stay informed about the project, including when circles are taking place, contact Lisa Forehand at [Lisa@carolinajewsforjustice.org](mailto:Lisa@carolinajewsforjustice.org).

**Don't Kvetch, Organize!** CJJ is sponsoring online training through [JOIN for Justice](#), the Jewish organizing institute. Participants will learn skills for social justice and community organizing and how they relate to Jewish traditions and values. The course is from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. on February 15, 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. CJJ is subsidizing the cost of the program (and will pay the entire cost for those who cannot afford even the reduced CJJ rate). Here's a [link](#) to the CJJ sign-up page.

**The Government Accountability Project.** To effectively encourage local government toward racial justice, advocacy groups and the public need timely information on policy decisions that are in the works in both the city and county governments. We're excited to announce a new initiative that the Racial Justice Coalition, of which CJJ/West is a founding member, is launching with community allies: the Government Accountability Project (GAP). Key findings on the most urgent matters making their way through the political process will be shared once a week (or more) on the [GAP website](#), with ways to take action and advocate for racial justice. You can sign up now to be a "committee watcher" at [this link](#). To stay up to date visit the website and/or [subscribe](#) to receive weekly updates.

# Community News Continued

For more information about Carolina Jews for Justice and the CJJ/West chapter, contact Frank Goldsmith at [goldsmith.cf@gmail.com](mailto:goldsmith.cf@gmail.com) or Judy Leavitt at [judleavitt76@gmail.com](mailto:judleavitt76@gmail.com).

**Dayenu, A Jewish Call to Climate Action**—A movement to confront the climate crisis, rooted in Jewish values, experience, and spirit. [dayenu.org](http://dayenu.org)

**Jewish Conservative Coalition-Lamed 18** – JCCL was formed to bring together like-minded individuals who support and defend the Jewish people and our Constitutional values. Lamed is the Hebrew letter that teaches us to learn from everything in life. Eighteen (18) in *Gematria* means good things to come. For additional organization, member and upcoming events information contact: [JCCLevents@charter.net](mailto:JCCLevents@charter.net)

**Conference of Jewish Affairs** – We believe that America is a unique civilization worth preserving, and that liberty is the core engine behind America's success. As Jews and as admirers of the Bible, we believe in free markets and capitalism; judging people as individuals as opposed to indistinguishable members of groups; personal self-defense; reverence for the Constitution; property rights, national sovereignty and patriotism; a strong and capable military; and opportunity for all to succeed. We have a deep pride in Israel and her extraordinary achievements, and advocate for a secure and strong Israel. Please visit the [website](http://www.conferenceofjewishaffairs.org/): (www.conferenceofjewishaffairs.org/)

## 5782/2022 is a *Shmitah* Year ... A Time for a Pause

By Frank Goldsmith

Are you feeling like you are running on empty, just generally exhausted, whether from pandemic stress, political chaos here and abroad, or fear about climate change? It may be time to explore the Jewish concept of *Shmitah* and how it can relate to our lives today.

According to the Torah, just as every seventh day is a Sabbath day, a day of rest, a day to refrain from work, from economic activity, from striving, so too every seventh year is a Sabbath year, a year of rest or "release," called the *Shmitah* year. Along with the Sabbath and the Jubilee year (occurring after the seventh *Shmitah* year), it is part of the Torah's sacred cycle of sevens, forcing us and the land to rest, to reset the economy in order to avoid permanent states of poverty and landlessness, and to put aside the practice of defining a person's value in economic terms alone. It's the Torah's attempt to correct some of the social ills of the world. Land is released, allowed to lie fallow. Whatever grows on its own may be shared by rich and poor; anyone can take what they want. Rabbi Sarah Tasman of [The Tasman Center for Jewish Creativity](http://TheTasmanCenterforJewishCreativity.com) suggests applying the concept of release to our own lives. "Are there relationships, grudges or old habits I can let go of?" she asks.

*Shmitah* was conceived as a corrective, reorienting society every seven years from an economy based on the acquisition of private property to one of communal responsibility to provide for all. Today, with even greater disparity between the "haves" and the "have nots," we can reclaim this biblical mandate on our own terms to help create a more compassionate and just society. In this year of 5782, we can reimagine the purpose of *Shmitah* in such a way that we demonstrate through our actions the profound intent of this ancient ethical principle. We can bring rest, release, renewal and righteous behavior into our lives. In this *Shmitah* year, we can create space to re-establish our priorities and reimagine how we want to see ourselves as we look toward the future.

### Opportunities for Community Involvement

For more information about the cycles of *Shmitah* and additional programs and activities, please visit our website, [carolinajewsforjustice.org](http://carolinajewsforjustice.org). For instance, consider signing up for "**Cycles of Rest, Release and Liberation: Antiracism and Shemitah as Spiritual Practice: A collaboration between Yavilah McCoy (Dimension Education Consulting) and the Institute of Jewish Spirituality.**" This free four-part learning series began January 12, 2022 and continues through May 11, 2022. To register and for more information [click here](#).

***In the interest of civil dialog and inclusivity, this information is provided as a service to the CBI community. The views of these organizations may or may not reflect the views of CBI or its members.***



# February 2022

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3	4 <i>12noon Online Study Group 6pm Shabbat Malcah with Josepha(Zoom)</i>	5 <i>9:30am Shabbat Services &amp; Kid-dush</i>
6 <i>10am Garden Group on Zoom 2:30pm Online Jewish Meditation &amp; Chant Circle</i>	7	8	9	10 <i>6:30pm Zoom Board Meeting</i>	11 <i>12noon Online Study Group</i>	12 <i>9:30am Shabbat Learning with Rabbi Mitch 10:30am Shabbat Service</i>
13	14	15 <i>7pm(Zoom) Stop the Bleed Training</i>	16	17	18 <i>12noon Online Study Group 6pm Online Family Shabbat</i>	19 <i>9:30am Shabbat Services &amp; Kid-dush</i>
20 <i>2:30pm Online Jewish Meditation &amp; Chant Circle</i>	21	22	23 <i>7pm (Zoom) Stop the Bleed Training</i>	24 <i>12noon Lunch &amp; Learn with Rabbi Mitch</i>	25 <i>12noon Online Study Group</i>	26 <i>9:30am Shabbat Services &amp; Kid-dush</i>
27 <i>4pm Torah on Tap</i>	28					



Congregation Beth Israel

229 Murdock Avenue

Asheville, NC 28804

Office Phone (828) 252-8660

email: [admin@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:admin@bethisraelnc.org)

Synagogue Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

For updated information

visit our website at

[www.bethisraelnc.org](http://www.bethisraelnc.org)

## February

### Candle-lighting & Havdalah

Friday	02/04/22	5:43 pm
Saturday	02/05/22	6:32 pm
Friday	02/11/22	5:50 pm
Saturday	02/12/22	6:39 pm
Friday	02/18/22	5:57 pm
Saturday	02/19/22	6:46 pm
Friday	02/25/22	6:04 pm
Saturday	02/26/22	6:53 pm

### Administration

Rabbi Mitch Levine, [rabbi@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:rabbi@bethisraelnc.org)

Rochelle Reich, Executive Director [director@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:director@bethisraelnc.org)

Lee Avishai, Administrator [admin@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:admin@bethisraelnc.org)

Adrienne Press, Kitchen [kitchen@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:kitchen@bethisraelnc.org)

### Executive Committee

Ellen Sanders, President [president@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:president@bethisraelnc.org)

Danielle Tocaben, Vice Pres. [vicepresident@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:vicepresident@bethisraelnc.org)

Julie Sherman, Secretary [boardsecretary@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:boardsecretary@bethisraelnc.org)

Bruce Brown, Treasurer [cbitreasurer@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:cbitreasurer@bethisraelnc.org)

Mike Weizman, Past President [msweizman@gmail.com](mailto:msweizman@gmail.com)

### Committee Chairs/Members

Gail Gordon, Membership [chokma@outlook.com](mailto:chokma@outlook.com)

Meta Berkowitz, Membership [metabetamax@gmail.com](mailto:metabetamax@gmail.com)

## Chesed: CBI's Support Network

**Chesed** is a caring team of CBI members who are here to help out their CBI community during both challenging as well as joyous times. This committee has assisted individuals and families in a variety of ways. Sometimes it's as simple as making a call or writing a card. Sometimes it's preparing a meal, making a visit or providing a ride. Sometimes it's helping with a life cycle event: a *bat* or *bar mitzvah*, the birth of a baby, the loss of a loved one. But we need your help to continue our work effectively.

We can't offer to do anything unless we know who needs and wants some support. If we can help you with something or if you are aware of someone who needs assistance, please tell Lee, who will pass along that information to the **Chesed** committee. Or you can send an email request to [chesed@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:chesed@bethisraelnc.org). Many people at CBI are waiting to help out. At this point, over 70 people have put their names on one or more lists to provide support for their CBI family.

We also need your help responding to the requests. If you want to be involved, please tell Lee, who will pass along your interest to the committee. You can also contact the **Chesed** committee directly at [chesed@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:chesed@bethisraelnc.org). We'll get in touch with you to see what you are interested in doing. We're grateful to have you volunteer to do one or all of the following (it's really up to you):

- Visit those who are sick
- Make calls
- Be part of a *shiva minyan*
- Prepare meals
- Provide transportation
- Run errands
- Assist with set up for a *bar/bat mitzvah* party
- Host someone for a holiday meal

Jewish communities have a rich history of taking care of each other. The Babylonian Talmud teaches us that *All Jews are responsible one for another (Shevuot 39a)*.

The **Chesed** Committee invites you to be a part of that meaningful tradition.

Eva Blinder, Spiritual/Ritual [ejb5711@gmail.com](mailto:ejb5711@gmail.com)

Marlene Jacoby, Social Action [marlenejacoby@gmail.com](mailto:marlenejacoby@gmail.com)

Jay Jacoby, Social Action [bjacoby@uncc.edu](mailto:bjacoby@uncc.edu)

Caren Kessler, Chesed [chesed@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:chesed@bethisraelnc.org)

Jimi Moore, HaShofar [hashofar@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:hashofar@bethisraelnc.org)

Steve Kayne, House [1houseforu@gmail.com](mailto:1houseforu@gmail.com)

### Board Members-at-Large

Beth Blinder [bci92411@nc.rr.com](mailto:bci92411@nc.rr.com)

Bob Goldstein [goldst9@gmail.com](mailto:goldst9@gmail.com)

Alan Baumgarten [abaumgarten4@gmail.com](mailto:abaumgarten4@gmail.com)

Karen Fraade [kfraade@gmail.com](mailto:kfraade@gmail.com)

Alan Escovitz [aescovitz@charter.net](mailto:aescovitz@charter.net)

For everything else, contact [admin@bethisraelnc.org](mailto:admin@bethisraelnc.org)