

B'er Chayim Bulletin



April 2021

Nissan / Adar 5781

107 West Union Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502

301-722-5688

From Cantor Bessman

Dear BCT Members,

Last month was a good month. In addition to the Board's preparation for the reopening of the building, we were invited to the Frostburg State University Department of Music's Spring Choral Concert's presentation of *L'chaim! A Jewish Composers Showcase*. It was a delightful concert and very well done. Our congregational second-night seder was also a success. We said: *Next year in Jerusalem; Next year in the Temple*. I think it will be so.

To that point, it's been a year since the dreaded lockdowns and closings that began in earnest last March. Few knew the devastation this virus would cause or how long it would last. In fact, it is still with us and will be for years to come (the bad news). However, at long last, we are going to open the temple to in-house services once again (the good news). The Board and I believe that we can do this safely. Many of us are vaccinated, but we

should all continue to practice safe distancing and mask wearing. Saturday, April 3rd is the day. 10:00 am is the time. We will continue with Zoom, meaning you have two options on how to attend. Also, the same safeguards will be used that were in place last year to ensure the safety of those who choose to come in person.

Please attend the second in our series of virtual tours on Sunday, April 18th at 2:00 pm. This month we visit the areas of Masada and the Dead Sea with Moshe Gold (followmoses.com), our tour guide from February. It will be hard to top the "Jerusalem's Old City" tour he led, but I think he just might. Fez, Morocco and Warsaw, Poland are future stops on our trip. There is much to see (and buy-I'm thinking a fez would make a perfect souvenir).

Hope to see you there,

Cantor Richard Bessman



The Western Maryland Advisory Council (WMAC) is a 15-member volunteer advisory group to the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR). WMAC is composed of individuals and community leaders residing in Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington counties to help address issues related to opportunity, inclusion, and equity.

In an effort to help the WMAC and MCCR develop a more comprehensive understanding of the presence of hate bias and hate crime in Western Maryland communities, we are asking that you share the [Hate Bias and Hate Crime Survey \(en Español\)](#) within your network of individuals or organizations in Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington counties. Responses to the survey will help the WMAC to help guide the actions of the Council to further educate our communities about hate crimes and to address experiences with local and State agencies so, together, we can reduce such incidents and crimes.

Additional information regarding MCCR and WMAC can be found at:

<https://mccr.maryland.gov/Pages/MCCRWMAC.aspx>

Auction Update: You've likely seen some communication lately from several very hard-working congregants and from the office about the eBay auction that is underway to raise funds for the Temple. What you may not have seen yet is the selection of distinctive items that are available.



Pictured is part of a collection of lovely state souvenir plates in very good condition, and a wooden putter, just in time for your first spring golf outing. The plates and several unique vintage toys, sports memorabilia, a Califone record player to play all that vinyl you're still hanging onto, distinctive lighters, novelty liquor bottles and many other intriguing pieces can be viewed at B'er Chayim's auction site:



<https://www.ebay.com/str/berchayimtemple>.

Sales are going well, but there are still items you may find you are absolutely not able to do without. Check out the site, and if you see something that interests you, get it quickly! If you have questions about a particular piece, please contact the office.

Yahrtzeits

Donor

March 2021:

Francine Schreiber Reynolds and Howard Reynolds
 Robin Redding
 Tadd and Sandy Schwab
 Jack and Lynda Kaufman
 Jeremy Drelich
 Emerson Miller
 Ferne Kaplon Jaffe
 David Fram
 The Friedland Family
 Alan and Tamar Clark

April 2021:

Howard and Carol Mendelsohn, Neil, Sarah and Kim
 Larry and Dottie Hohing
 Robin Redding
 Rae Brodell
 Harold Yankelevitz
 Ferne Kaplon Jaffe
 Dr. Fred Schindler
 Elena Manasse
 Judi Lazarus-Haag
 Elizabeth Weisman and Bill Hirsch

In memory of

Maurice H. Schreiber, Stuart M. Schreiber
 Bess Naviasky
 Jane Schwab
 Evelyn Kauffman
 Andrew Drelich
 Bertha Miller
 Rebecca Kaplon, Harry Olin
 Sara Sommer
 Arthur Friedland
 Ruth and Sidney Nobel

Howard E. Mendelsohn
 William J. Miller, Sara Gerson, Rebecca Gerson
 Norton Naviasky
 Nathan Brodell
 Florence Yankelevitz
 Toby Kaplon
 Regina Schindler
 Jean Mazzucca
 Timothy C. Peach, Jr.
 Henry Weisman

Thank you to Gerald and Lieba Cohen for their contribution in honor of B'er Chayim Congregation.

From the President

Dear B'er Chayim Congregation,

I trust that everyone had a happy, healthy Passover. It seems like during this Passover we could truly identify with the plight of the Hebrews of ancient Egypt. During those times the Jewish people were held as hostages and enslaved by Pharaoh. During the past year and a half, we have also lost many of our everyday freedoms and have been held hostage by this devastating pandemic. Similarly, as with Moses and the ancient Hebrew people, we have used our perseverance and ingenuity to deliver us from this terrible time in our history. Like the miracle of the parting of the Red Sea, we have again been able to witness a modern-day miracle. Mankind has summoned all its resources to develop Coronavirus vaccines with lightning quickness, like we have never seen before. As during the time of Pharaoh, a miracle has occurred that promises to restore life to some state of normalcy.

Although some rather abstract parallels have been drawn here, I am sure, that as with the Hebrews in ancient Egypt, we have also learned to be thankful for the basic freedoms that life gives us, freedoms that we sometimes take for granted. It also makes us more appreciative of the smaller things in life, such as going to temple for a community Seder or for Shabbat services. When we return to normalcy and are able to celebrate our Jewish religion and culture, in person, these events will become even more special than they already are.

This is why I am pleased to announce that the Temple Board has voted unanimously to reopen B'er Chayim for in-person services and adult education starting this coming Saturday, April 3rd. The Board felt that with the reduction in Covid-19 cases in our area and the increased number of vaccinations, it would be prudent to reopen B'er Chayim.

Congregants who choose to attend services in person will still be required to wear masks while in the building. B'er Chayim will also still practice social distancing as well as check temperatures at the door. For those of you who either cannot attend, or don't feel comfortable attending in person, we will continue using Zoom. Cantor Bessman and the B'er Chayim Board all look forward to seeing you at Temple.

Bruce



Thanks to Doug Schwab and Betsey Hurwitz-Schwab for sharing a picture of their Passover gathering that included Bernice Friedland, Gayle Griffith and Lee Schwartz.



April 2021

Thursday, April 1	7:30 p.m.	Adult Education
Saturday, April 2	10:00 a.m.	Shabbat Morning Service
Thursday, April 8	7:30 p.m.	Adult Hebrew
Friday, April 9	7:30 p.m.	Erev Shabbat Service
Thursday, April 15	7:30 p.m.	Adult Hebrew
Friday, April 16	7:30 p.m.	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturday, April 17	10:00 a.m.	Torah Study
Sunday, April 18	2:00 p.m.	Virtual Tour of Masada and The Dead Sea
Thursday, April 22	7:30 p.m.	Adult Hebrew
Friday, April 23	7:30 p.m.	Erev Shabbat Service
Thursday, April 29	7:30 p.m.	Adult Hebrew
Friday, April 30	7:30 p.m.	Erev Shabbat Service



We Remember

Yahrzeits for week ending

April 3, 2021/ 21 Nissan 5781

Samuel Dantzig
Sol Glicksman
Clara Hersch
Sara Gottlieb
Barney Mandell
Stella Wertheimer
Aryeh Leib Bernstein
Bernard Hirsh
Barnett Beneman
Frederick J. Kaplon
Rae Schindler
Stuart Schreiber
John F. Markley

Yahrzeits for week ending

April 10, 2021/ 28 Nissan 5781

Sara Goodman
Morris Mandell
Dewey Brumberg
Anna Schoffman
Walter Brock
Eva S. Weisman
Mollie Baron
Helen M. Kaplon
Gary Atkinson Snow
Helen Wilner
Nathan Friedland

Yahrzeits for week ending

April 10, 2021/ 28 Nissan 5781

Hyman Katzer
Louise Gershbach Martin
Simon Rosenbaum
Yosef Fivel Kaplon
Rose L. Myers

Yahrzeits for week ending

April 17, 2021/ 5 Iyar 5781

Joseph Mazzucca
Ira Lippel
Charlotte Becker
Eva Kleeman
Retta Luddeke
Arthur Rosenau
Abraham Rothstein
Reuben Lichtenstein
Elizabeth Weisman
Isaac H. Rosenberg

Yahrzeits for week ending

April 24, 2021/ 12 Iyar 5781

Howard Feldstein
Susan C. Hurwitz
Ben F. Ruel
Elke Klein
Bob Manasse
Israel Sack
Louis Bernstein
Henry Manasse
Harry I. Margolis
Aberta Friedland Mosler
Louis Londe
Jack Minkelgreen
Louise Sommer
Betty White
Aaron Benjamin Friedland
Nathanial Isaacs
Cora Shapiro

Yahrzeits for week ending

May 1, 2021/ 19 Iyar 5781

Esther Meyer
Richard Neff
Ben Schindler
Samuel Yankelevitz
Minnie Levin
Rae Pariser
George Rothstein
Israel Schmitt
Harry S. Gerson
Seymour Sallerson



Directory: Whom to Call

Rebecca Galliher, Administrative Assistant
admin@berchayim.org 301-722-5688

Cantor Richard Bessman
rbessman@berchayim.org 301-722-5688

President Bruce Dubins
301-268-2425
dubinsbruce@yahoo.com

First Vice President Gregg Schaaf
301-724-3360
schaafgregg@gmail.com

Second Vice President Brian Lang
540-931-1910
bmlang1982@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary Marilyn Brock
301-729-8257

Recording Secretary Betsey Hurwitz-Schwab
301-759-9385
bhs@9northcentre.com

Financial Secretary (Dues) Debbie Lang
301-729-2042
dlang1@atlanticbb.net

Membership Brian Lang
540-931-1910
bmlang1982@gmail.com

Plaques/Tree of Life Gayle Griffith
301-697-6664 (cell)
301-722-8345 (work)

Bulletin & Grocery Scrip Rebecca Galliher
301-722-5688
admin@berchayim.org

Cemetery Larry Brock
301-729-8257
lbrock@gapselfstorage.net

Endowment Fund

Western Wall Memorial located near the entrance of the sanctuary.
Contact Gayle Griffith for more information.

Yahrzeit Plaques

Cost of plaque - \$250
Preparation of plaque – about one month.
Contact Gayle Griffith for more information.

Tree of Life/Memory Leaves

Cost of leaf - \$40
Preparation of leaf – about two weeks.
Contact Gayle Griffith for more information.

Building Fund

Contributions may be given for general building use, or a specific building project (subject to Board approval). Contact Debbie Lang for more information.

Jane & Leonard Schwab Jewish Life Fund

This fund is used to enhance Jewish life in the B'er Chayim community. Please make checks payable to the "Jane and Leonard Schwab Jewish Life Fund."

eBay Fundraising Project

<https://www.ebay.com/str/berchayimtemple>
Do you have items you would like to sell on eBay with the proceeds going to B'er Chayim?
Contact Larry Brock or Brian Lang for more information.

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Contact Cantor Bessman for more information.

