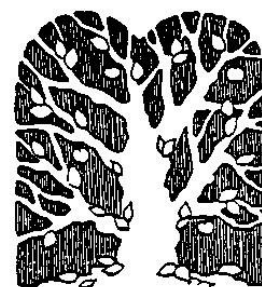


# B'er Chayim Bulletin



December 2022

Tevet - Shevat 5782

107 West Union Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502

301-722-5688

## From Cantor Bessman

Dear BCC Membership,

With the recently-canceled flights and outings, in many ways, the beginning of 2022 is feeling more like January 2021. It is not quite the same. The success of vaccines in reducing lethality, though not transmission, of the COVID-19 virus has enabled us to be comfortable with our hybrid-services model. We were able to have a Hanukkah party (it was pre-Omicron), and have hopes for a hybrid Passover seder this year. However, COVID-19 is in the driver's seat (to paraphrase Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell).

As I mentioned in this week's Shabbat Update, The Cumberland Area Interfaith Ministerial Association recently met (on Zoom). The discussion was—and has been for some time now—pandemic-related. This multi-denominational group of area spiritual leaders encourages everyone to be fully vaccinated (notwithstanding medical exceptions) and cautious. Our prayers for an end to the pandemic have not been answered, but we can be grateful for the progress made.

It is too soon to know if this year's Tu B'Shevat seder will be hybrid or only on Zoom. Either way, it is sure to happen on Sunday, January 16, at 6:30 pm. I hope you can come. It will be a while before the next Jewish holiday [Purim in March].

For regular readers of the Shabbat Update, this next part will not be news. The students in our Adult Education class decided that on Thursday, January 6, 2022, we will officially begin B'er Chayim's explorations in "Aseret: The Big Ten", (<https://www.chaimitzvah.org/curriculum/aseret-the-big-ten/>). This program consists of eleven self-contained units based on the Ten Commandments (Aseret Hadibrot), and together comprise an introduction/exploration in Jewish thought and text appropriate for adults of all backgrounds. Some participants worry that they may not be able to attend every 7:45-8:30 pm Thursday class. Fear not. The class will review and discuss the published material; therefore, a missed class should not be a problem. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. It's never too late.

Most important: The Board and I wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year,

Cantor Richard Bessman



## President's Corner

Dear Fellow Congregants and Friends of B'er Chayim,

More than fifteen years have passed since my wife, Debra and I were accepted by you as part of our diverse community. Thank you for this, and for permitting me to take a turn as your President.

Another secular year has passed. As we proceed in the new year of 5782, Debra and I wish each of you health, happiness and unexpected blessings. May we enrich and comfort each other as the need arises.

Perhaps we could begin the year with a little reflection about what brings us into this Jewish community - what keeps us here - and what more we would like to see? It is surely possible that the Congregation can do more than it now does to more fully meet the needs or aspirations of the community.

I am not asking you to speak up, if you are willing, as yet. In the next few months your Board, or a planning committee, will sincerely and more definitely reach out to listen to those who would like to be heard. As the only congregation within sixty miles, we can provide further shelter and support to a diverse community of Jews. We can "enlarge the tent", sharing with one another in good times and not so good times, notwithstanding diverse views.

In doing this, we will be standing on the backs of those who came before us. Twelve Jewish families formed B'er Chayim in 1853. Surely there were many challenges. More recently, many congregations have been very much weakened in the COVID environment. We haven't faltered and for that we are indebted to the outgoing President Bruce Dubins and many others.

Best to all - looking forward to a good year,

Gregg Schaaf

### Donation Acknowledgements

B'er Chayim is extremely grateful for contributions received. When sending a donation to B'er Chayim, please include your name as you would like it to be listed in the bulletin. Thank you!

### Donations

#### Yahrzeits

Donor

Judy Lazarus-Haag,  
Adam and Aaron Lazarus

Fred Schindler  
Carol & Howard Mendelsohn  
Debbie & Chuck Lang  
Glen Levis

In memory of

Margaret Markley

Dr. Richard Schindler  
Bertha L. Mendelsohn  
William Learish  
Sam & Ruth Levis  
Howie & Rose Weiss  
Erik Levis  
Elliot Levis

Condolences to Leslie, Barney and the Leibowitz Family on the death of their son and brother Steven.

## January 2022

Saturday, January 1	10:00 am	Shabbat Morning Service
Thursday, January 6	7:00 pm – 7:45 pm	Adult Hebrew
	7:45 pm – 8:30 pm	“Aseret: The Big Ten”
Friday, January 7	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Thursday, January 13	7:00 pm – 7:45 pm	Adult Hebrew
	7:45 pm – 8:30 pm	“Aseret: The Big Ten”
Friday, January 14	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Saturday, January 15	10:00 am	Torah Study
Sunday, January 16	6:30 pm	Tu B’Shevat Seder
Thursday, January 20	7:00 pm – 7:45 pm	Adult Hebrew
	7:45 pm – 8:30 pm	“Aseret: The Big Ten”
Friday, January 21	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service
Thursday, January 27	7:00 pm – 7:45 pm	Adult Hebrew / Adult Educ
	7:45 pm – 8:30 pm	“Aserett: The Big Ten”
Friday, January 28	7:30 pm	Erev Shabbat Service

## We Remember

### *Yahrzeits for week ending*

**January 1, 2022**

Max Feinstein  
Freida D. Togut  
Benjamin Waingold  
Catherine Elizabeth  
Shofer  
Joseph White  
Ruth Baron  
Simon Kline  
Richard Elias Schindler  
Betty Stein  
David S. Hurwitz  
Sarah Lewine  
Gertrude Schmitt  
Jeanne D. Newman  
Richard Schwab  
Paul Steinberger

### *Yahrzeits for week ending*

**January 8, 2022**

Helena Sauer  
Marion Lippel Willis  
Nina Lichtenstein  
John Ridgeway  
Beatrice Yankelevitz  
Rudolph H. Mendelsohn  
Pauline Bamberger  
Ira Rosenbaum  
Sidney Craig Goodman  
Morton Wm Peskin  
Esther Eisenberg  
Rose Price Rosenbaum  
Ethel Schindler

### *Yahrzeits for week ending*

**January 15, 2022**

Harold Maxwell Hersch  
Fannie B. Margolis  
Bertram K. Lazarus  
Eugenia Sack  
Esther Beerman  
Irving Goldstein  
David I. Levi  
David Levy

### *Yahrzeits for week ending*

**January 15, 2022**

Joseph Sonneborn  
Rose Spear  
Rachel Beerman  
Sarah G. Bernstein  
Harry Parish  
Sara Sommer  
Betty Atkinson Favre  
Johanna Rapp  
Goldie Kaplon  
John Franklin Atkinson  
L. Lee Lichtenstein  
Freda Vanetsky  
Sara R. Gerson  
Ellinor O. Hirsh  
Edna Rosenbaum  
Harvey H. Weiss



### *Yahrzeits for week ending*

**January 29, 2022**

Dr. Harry Kalet  
Max Mortkovitch  
Abram J. Brumberg  
Simon Isaacs  
Anna Lipson  
Emma Feldstein  
Rebecca Gerson  
Maury Feinstein  
Phyllis Sarubin  
Daphne Castelle  
Julie Ann Miller  
Maggie Stone  
Meyer Olin  
Maurice H. Schreiber  
Jean Schwartz

### *Yahrzeits for week ending*

**February 5, 2022**

Bessie Beerman  
Shaine Gerson  
Irving Pallik  
Madeline Guggenheimer  
Esther Tzirel Klein  
Bertha Miller  
Jay Brieloff  
Charles Schwab  
Basya Serebryanaya  
Lillian Landauer  
Lillian Tanzer Lindauer  
Anita Bauer  
Yakov Gordon  
Jane Schwab  
Miriam Schindler

## Directory: Whom to Call

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**Second Vice-President Ken Levitt**  
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**Corresponding Secretary Marilyn Brock**  
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**Cemetery**  
Larry Brock  
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lbrock@gapsselfstorage.net

## Ways in Which You Can Help B'er Chayim

### Endowment Fund

Western Wall Memorial outside of 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 which includes engraving.  
Preparation of leaf – about 2 weeks.  
Contact Gayle Griffith for more information.

### Building Fund

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

**Jane & Leonard Schwab Jewish Life Fund**  
This fund will be 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 sell  
on eBay with the proceeds benefitting  
B'er Chayim? Contact Larry Brock  
or Brian Lang for more information.

### Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Contact Cantor Bessman for more information.

