

# Shevat / Adar I 5784

# February 2024

## Congregation Beth Israel

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### *From the Cantor's Desk:*

In January, the CBI Book Club agreed to read a book that I had suggested. I think it was not typical fare for the book club, being a murder mystery rather than a “serious” book of non-fiction. I’m not going to share the plot of the book but I found the book made me think about several topics other than solving the murder. The main character of the book is a homicide detective who is repeatedly described by the author as kind, sensitive, intelligent, honest, full of integrity, erudite, a lover of music, art, literature, poetry and good food, but not driven by money or material things. He married the love of his life and they seem to have the perfect marriage. He also seems to be the ideal boss, often taking employees that have failed out of other departments and nurturing them into highly effective and loyal police agents. In the book of the series we read, however, the author delves into the relationship between the detective and his son. I have read all the books of this series (think this was #17) and had not even noticed that this son existed. I was surprised that the detective, with all the qualities described above, had a dysfunctional to non-existent relationship with his oldest son. All the interactions between these two seem to turn the wrong way.

“What we’ve got here is failure to communicate.” It seems that every conversation and gesture between father and son gets misinterpreted by the other, leading to years of estrangement and hard feelings by both father (who does not know what he did to alienate his son or why every gesture of reconciliation he tries seems to cause more hurt) and the son, who takes every move by his father as further evidence reinforcing his own world view. I was surprised that this character who has been developed as such a “good” person, with the most perfect marital relationship one could imagine, could have such troubled relationships with others. It reminds me that all is not always as it seems, that individual relationships require work in different ways and open and loving communication is key to good relationships.

If you’re like me, you might find yourself lamenting the problem relationships in your own life and envying others who seem to have something better. However, things are not always what they seem on the outside and relationships take work. Ultimately, both parties to any relationship have to be willing to listen, really listen, to the other without judgment, with an open heart and mind, AND must be willing to speak, without shame or fear.

In the book, the rift between father and son was caused by fear and misunderstanding. Perhaps if both father and son had been able to listen and speak without fear, shame and judgment, their relationship could have been repaired much sooner, and they each could have avoided the pain that all their miscommunications caused over the years.

In Pirkei Avot, it is taught that Torah is more precious than priesthood or royalty because acquiring Torah requires 48 things (as opposed to the other two, more easily acquired). The enumerated requirements include: “attentive listening, by proper speech, by an understanding heart, by an intelligent heart, awe, fear, humility, joy, . . .critical give and take with friends . . .By fine argumentation with disciples, By clear thinking, . . . By generosity . . .” (Pirkei Avot 6:6). If these attributes are necessary to understand and be in relationship with Torah, how much more essential are they to understanding and being and in relationship with another human being. Whether it’s a spouse, child, parent, sibling or friend, we cannot just unroll the scroll and read the words written there to understand. *(... continued on page 2)*

We need that person to feel comfortable enough to unroll for us and we need to be able to read between the lines and to be able to open up our own scroll to the other person. Listening is difficult. Revealing ourselves without shame is also difficult. May you all find those in your life to whom you can really reveal yourself and who will listen and may you open your own ears and hearts to listen to those in your life.



**JOSEPH AND GERTRUDE  
BOWMAN JEWISH FILM  
STUDIES presents:**

**Orchestra of Exiles on  
February 18th**

*a documentary is about the formation of the orchestra to eventually be known as THE ISRAEL PHILARMONIC ORCHESTRA. 1930 was the beginning of the firing of Jewish Musicians across Europe. The story of one man's courage and tenacity in saving nearly 1000 Jews and thus guaranteeing Europe's musical heritage.*

**OFFICE ERROR**

**Please excuse the omitted section from our Yahrzeit list in January's bulletin:**

Marthe Pleet— remembered by Alec Pleet

**PERSONAL**

**Congregation Beth Israel sends out sincere condolences to the following families for their losses:**

- Allan Smith, of Carlisle, for his wife, Arlene on December 30, 2023.
- Margi Wolfson, for her brother, Richard Caden on January 9, 2024.
- Janet Klompus Sligh, for her mother, Lucille Grace Klompus on January 21, 2024.



<u>Shevat</u>	<u>Feb</u>	
22	1	Michael E. Selby— Father of Cantor Marilyn Selby Okoshi
23	2	Hertha Julia Freund— Mother of Vera Freed
25	4	George Shattls— Uncle of Trudy Shattls and Fred Shattls
25	4	Julius Shattls— Grandfather of Trudy Shattls and Fred Shattls
27	6	Robert Axelrod— Father of Carol Prouse
27	6	Sadie Ostrow— Mother-in-Law of Gerald Berman & Grandmother of Carolyn Frankhauser
30	9	Lester Etter— Father of Robert Etter

<u>Adar I</u>	<u>Feb</u>	
1	10	Carol Blickstein— Wife of Harris Blickstein
2	11	Kenneth Haller— Father of David Haller
4	13	Pauline Portnoff— Mother of Janet Katz
5	14	Joseph Shankroff— Father of Ben Shankroff and Stanley Shankroff
5	14	Jerome Shattls— Father of Trudy Shattls and Fred Shattls
8	17	Howard Lokyitch— Father of Robin Haller
9	18	Russell Medalie— Uncle of Dr. Susan Medalie
12	21	Tillie Alster— Mother-in-Law of Iris Alster
12	21	Lillian Trautfield— Mother of Debra Schaffer
14	23	Arthur Zivic— Father of Rabbi Louis Zivic
18	27	Sally Pleet— Wife of Alec Pleet, Daughter-in-Law of David Pleet & Sister-in-Law of Jesse Pleet and Tracy Pleet Troain
19	28	Dora Weintraub Kohen— Mother of Bert Weintraub
20	29	Milton Weiner— Father of Steven Weiner

**O u r t h a n k s f o r R e m e m b e r i n g  
B e t h I s r a e l i n J a n u a r y**

**Y A H R Z E I T:**

Stacey Knarr	Bernadine Shattls	Tracy Pleet Troain
Barbara Fishman	Jesse Pleet	David Pleet
Debby Abel	Benjamin Shankroff	

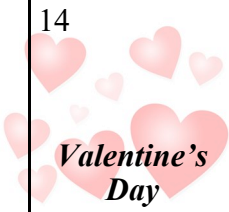
**ESTHER & SAMUEL CLARK YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND**

Dr & Mrs Joseph Clark

**BULLETIN DEADLINE for MARCH: February 19th**

**President of the Month & Next: Dr. Joseph Clark**

## February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 CL 4:31 PM 7:30PM Service/ Hybrid	3 9:30AM Service/ Hybrid
4 9AM Minyan/ Hybrid	5	6	7	8 7:15AM Minyan/ Hybrid  Adult Education 7PM	9 CL 4:38 PM 7:30PM Service/ Hybrid	10 9:30AM Service/ Hybrid
11 9AM Minyan/ Hybrid	12	13	14  Valentine's Day	15 7:15AM Minyan/ Hybrid	16 CL 4:46 PM 7:30PM Service/ Hybrid	17 9:30AM Service/ Hybrid
18 9AM Minyan/ Hybrid  Movie 1PM	19  <b>BULLETIN DUE</b>  <i>President's Day</i>	20	21  <b>BOOK CLUB</b> 7:30pm via zoom	22 7:15AM Minyan/ Hybrid	23 CL 4:54 PM 7:30PM Service/ Hybrid	24 9:30AM Service/ Hybrid
25 9AM Minyan/ Hybrid	26  <b>BOARD MEETING</b> 7PM	27	28	29 7:15AM Minyan/ Hybrid		

**Let's Celebrate !!**  
the Birthdays & Anniversaries in February!

*A Time  
to  
Celebrate*

Steven Weiner	Joanne Bennetch	Debby Abel	Louise Perlmutter	Cantor Marilyn Selby Okoshi
Marsha Grosky	Lillian Cowan	Scott & Carolyn Frankhauser	Steven Breit	Linda Siegel
Francine Fleisher	Thomas & Linda Siegel	Pamela Kaplan	Donald Clark	David Pleet
		Mary Rich	Josiah Lisman	

**BOOK CLUB** Next Meeting: **Wednesday, February 21st at 7:30PM via Zoom**

**The book is: On the Chocolate Trail by Rabbi Deborah R. Prinz,  
reviewed by Gene Gilman**



## **Hadassah's 2024 Solidarity Mission to Israel**

Nearly 50 Hadassah leaders traveled to Israel on January 7th to show their support for the country and its people who are still reeling and healing from the October 7 terror attacks and subsequent war with Hamas.

The full Hadassah delegation — including representatives from the United States, Latin America and Europe — met with top Israeli officials and leaders, as well as staff and patients at Hadassah's hospitals, visited war sites, sang with the Meir Shfeyah Mandolin Orchestra, heard about the impact of the war from Hadassah Neurim youth, and met with hostage families.

During the meeting, First Lady Michal Herzog emphasized her concern for addressing mental health challenges brought on by the events of October 7 and for exposing the heinous crimes against women that took place that day and that continue for hostages in captivity, an issue Hadassah has been mobilizing and educating around.

### **Petition to the ICRC**

On the first day of the mission, Schwartz, Smolow and Executive Director of the Hadassah Offices in Israel Suzanne Patt Benvenisti hand-delivered a petition to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) office in Tel Aviv, demanding that ICRC representatives meet with the Israeli hostages held by Hamas in Gaza.

The petition, signed by more than 5,000 Hadassah members and supporters, expresses outrage at the ICRC's failure to fulfill its humanitarian role on behalf of citizens of Israel and other countries. The Hadassah representatives challenged the Red Cross to use their leverage with their branch office in Gaza and to find creative means to ascertain the condition of the hostages.

### **Honoring Those Lost, Meeting With Hostage Families**

Hadassah leaders paid solemn visits to two October 7 sites of mass slaughter — Kfar Aza and Nir Am — and the site of the Nova dance festival in Re'im, where they recited the mourner's Kaddish and sang Hatikvah.

**The Hadassah website has more updates from members of the mission who visited the hospital and the youth villages**

## SISTERHOOD NEWS

Due to the snow on January 19th, Sisterhood Shabbat has been postponed.

### **!! SOUP SALE !!**

**Your order form will be mailed soon! \*local Lebanon residents only\***



**Coming soon—Purim Shalach monos baskets!**

**If you would like to join Sisterhood, please contact Linda Siegel at 717-274-1197.**

If you wish to change your bulletin preferences or would like to unsubscribe, please contact the office 717-273-2669 or e-mail us!

Mailing section only

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