

BETH ISRAEL THE SHUL SHOFAR

VOL. 25, NO. 5 * Congregation Beth Israel * Bellingham, WA 98229 * bethisraelbellingham.org * (360) 733-8890

LGBTQ, Jewish and **Holocaust History**

BY EMILY WEINER

Perhaps your grandparents or greatgrandparents rubbed elbows with Chawa Zloczewer (in Polish, KHAHvah Zlo-CHEver) in the spring of 1912, on board the Vaderland, the ship that brought her from Europe to New York City. Born in 1891 in Mlawa, Poland, she was among more than two million Jews from Eastern Europe who came to the United States between 1880 and the onset of restrictive immigration quotas in 1924.

THE DARING LIFE AND DANGEROUS TIMES OF EVE ADAMS JONATHAN NED KATZ

June 6, 4:00 pm Jonathan Ned Katz will speak about his book, The Daring Life and Dangerous Times of Eve Adams.

A friend of hers wrote: "For years she was an unwilling factory worker; and found comfort in the radical labor movement." Many Jewish immigrants in the first decades of the twentieth century found work in factories, as did my own grandparents, who also participated in the radical labor movement.

Perhaps your ancestors also changed their names. The Polish version of Chawa's first name was Ewa (pronounced "Eva"), which soon after her arrival she anglicized to Eve.

But the delightfully androgynous name she chose seven years later, Eve Adams, points to how her path diverged and she became a gender-

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FROM THE RABBI

We All Stood Together



There is a beautifully written, yet heartbreaking poem about the Sinai experience that I love sharing during Shavuot with my Torah study class. It

was written by Merle Feld.

We All Stood Together for Rachel Adler

My brother and I were at Sinai. He kept a journal of what he saw, of what he heard. of what it all meant to him. I wish I had such a record of what happened to me there. It seems like every time I want to write I can't -I'm always holding a baby, one of my own, or one for a friend, always holding a baby, so my hands are never free to write things down. And then as time passes, the particulars, the hard data,



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From the President...

Onward and Upward

It is with some disbelief that I am seeing the end of my term as Board President.

I was petrified at the onset of my term, but throughout the whole journey, I have had a solid core of allies: Rabbi Samuels, Mary, the Kesher co-directors, and many friends on many committees. I have enjoyed a fabulous group of Board buddies who brought their various skills, perspectives, and energy to the work we did, with a willing heart and a spirit of cooperation. Most of all, my husband, Greg, and my daughters, Julia and Samantha, always had my back - thank you so much! The lesson from this is that with good friends and colleagues, much can be done. I was told at the beginning of my term that if I were doing a good job, the time would fly by. The time has flown, but that may be because so much has happened in the last two years! I am continually grateful for all the support I have felt along the way.

At the beginning of my term, I wrote down what I had hoped to see accomplished by the end. Among those hopes were a completed and well-used gaga pit, a completed kitchen, and a new Ark. I hoped for growth in Kesher, programming, and finances. I wanted to see the Board continue to be a fun place where we were efficient and effective in getting things done. I wanted the occupancy and landscaping to be complete. Most of all, I hoped for the community to be more connected. Other than the kitchen, most of these have come to pass, and it was absolutely a team effort every step of the way.

I did not plan for a pandemic. No one was expecting that we would have to completely change how we hold services, run meetings, or have Kesher classes. But that's what we got, and while it changed almost everything we do and derailed a few things we had planned, we as a community also rallied, persevered, and learned new skills that will help us do a better job of staying connected and reaching out as we move forward.

Community has been the underpinning of my involvement with the Board and with

CBI. I will continue to be involved on the board for the next year as Past President, but I am looking forward to narrowing my focus and deepening my involvement in the ways that have most meaning for me. It is difficult to choose. I see the value and importance of every committee! Kesher involves our youngest members as they start their Jewish journey, and brings connection to the young families of our community. Landscaping and gardening feed my soul, and I feel a personal investment in seeing our new plantings thrive and the county requirements satisfied.

Programming is crucial. In addition to religious services and Kesher, this is a huge community-building set of experiences! Care Committee is the embodiment of gemilut hasadim, acts of loving kindness. Social Action...always battles to be fought! I'd love to see a Connectivity Committee, to pick things up from when new members join, and to explore ways to make being in community easier. We already have our new photo directory! How about a new and easier-to-use Community Calendar online? I also see a huge opportunity to help new leaders enter our ranks. I know, it seems so scary to think of being a leader! But when you have great teammates, it is not so scary, and it is even fun! And the time does fly by.

I have some work to do with 'limiting my focus,' I think! I hope some of you, many of you, will take a fresh look at the many ways to be involved at CBI. Start with one small step. It will make CBI feel even more like your Jewish home. Please contact me if you'd like help finding a way to match your interests and skills with CBI's opportunities.

Mostly what I look forward to, in the next year, is being back at the synagogue, with you, in person. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your President, and I have the utmost confidence in the new leadership coming on board. I am excited to see what the next phase brings!

— MIRIAM SCHWARTZ, PRESIDENT

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

751 San Juan Boulevard Bellingham, WA 98229

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Deadline for submission of all articles and calendar events for the July/August issue is <u>JUNE 11</u>. Call the office for more information.

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From the Kesher Center for Jewish Learning

Windows into Kesher - Part Two: Thoughts from Our Students

BY AIDEN SHUPACK, MAX NAIMAN, EVAN KONIKOFF, LUCY NAIMAN, AND MIA CLARK



Kesher has been virtual for a year now, but that doesn't mean the learning has stopped. Children are still thriving in their Jewish education, but it looks, well, different. We want to provide you with an inside view of what is happening in some of our classrooms.

Therefore, this month, we have

asked some students to share their thoughts on "Virtual Kesher." Not all classes are featured, but we hope this selection will give you a feel for how our children are doing, in their own words, in spite of not being in person with their teachers and classmates. While most miss seeing their friends, we are happy to report that they are still enjoying their online classes.

Aiden Shupack, Third Grade

Kesher on Zoom can be less engaging, but I like Kesher on Zoom because we can bring people in from all over the world, like Israel. In the third-grade class Miriam brought her sister from Israel, and she talked about what Israel is like. We also sent in questions to kids in Israel, and they sent back videos answering them. It was really fun, and I wish it could have been longer. I like Kesher on Zoom because you don't have to go to the shul, you just log onto your computer from your house. Kesher has been pretty fun this year, even though it's hard to sing on Zoom. But if a bunch of people record themselves, you can put them together and be able to sing together. I really liked the video our class made, and the fourth-fifthgrade video that Kevin made. They were very sweet.

Max Naiman, Fourth-Fifth Grade

Let's be honest, Kesher on Zoom is much worse than in person, but it's still great! I still learn a lot and have fun. This year, we've been learning about our Jewish history! We've also been learning more about Hebrew words and how to write them. After we learn about Jewish history and Hebrew words, we do Kahoots and quizzes to see what we know. It's always fun to do them. Even though things like that are for fun, we still try and have friendly competitions against our classmates and Michael [Michael Sommers, our madrich / teacher assistant]. Overall, our Kesher year has been great!

Evan Konikoff, Sixth Grade

I miss in-person Kesher because you could always see your friends from other grades all throughout the day, not just in Tefilah. You could also have lunch in Kesher with your friends, not with people you just spent about 6 months quarantining with. However, online Kesher has high points, too. You can still chat with your friends, and you can learn in your own bedroom! All in all, both are great, but in my opinion, nothing can beat in-person Kesher.

Lucy Naiman, Seventh Grade

This year has got to be the craziest year I've ever experienced. Through all of this craziness, though, we all have had to become super resilient. That is true even when it comes to Kesher. Especially when it comes to Kesher. Everyone — all of the teachers, Rabbi, Andrea, my mom (Nicky), and tons of other people — had to work

Continued on Page 14

Synagogue 411

Archives: Tim Baker, (360) 305-6945 **Library, Scrip:** Joan Wayne, Care: Harriet Markell, (916) 207-9381; (360) 676-8939 Else Sokol, (360) 393-9618 Membership: Ann Suloway,

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Bat Mitzvah



Tahlia Riley Somers will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on May 1, 2021. She is the daughter of Perry and Katie Somers, the older sister of Lior, and granddaughter of Majorie and Arnold Somers, z"l. Tahlia is an eighth-grade student at Conway School. Her pursuits are rock climbing and theater, and her

favorite subject in school is science. She loves to learn about space and how Disney Imagineers use physics and storytelling to design and develop rides. For her Mitzvah project, Tahlia is developing a pen pal program for shut-ins who may not otherwise receive letters. She is also participating in the 2020-2021 class B'nei Mitzvah project of reducing single-use plastic.

Tahlia's family invites you to join them in celebrating this *simcha*:

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE Friday, April 30, 2021 at 5:30 pm

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 10:00 am

Bat Mitzvah



Natalie Ravitsky will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on May 15, 2021. She is the daughter of Oleg and Orly Ravitsky and the older sister of Koby and Avigail. Natalie is a seventh grader in Whatcom Middle School. She enjoys math and science and loves to be involved with school through leadership clubs and

Future Problem Solvers. In her free time, she loves to read, practice swimming with her swim team, and play the piano.

Natalie's family invites you to join them in celebrating this *simcha*:

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE Friday, May 14, 2021 at 5:30 pm

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 10:00 am





B'nei Mitzvah

Jeremiah Ryan James Witte ("Remy") will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on June 5, 2021. **Nathaniel Evan John Witte ("Nate")** will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on June 19, 2021. Nate and Remy are the sons of Todd and Sarah Witte and the brothers of Gabriel and Elizabeth.



Remy is a seventh grader at The Franklin Academy, where he is especially interested in science. He enjoys playing video games online with friends, playing board games with family, and woodworking – actually, creating and designing in general, on wood, paper, metal, Lego or anything he can get his hands on.



Nate is a seventh grader at The Franklin Academy. At school, he especially enjoys language arts and writing. He loves playing Minecraft with his cousins, appreciating music and theatre (especially "Hamilton") and promoting environmental awareness

Both brothers love spending time at the lake, reading, snowboarding, learning Kuk Sool Won (martial arts) with their CBI friends, and being with their guinea pigs Luke (Remy's) and Sven (Nate's) and their dog, Murray.

The family invites you to join them in celebration:

Remy Witte

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE Friday, June 4, 2021 at 5:30 pm

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 10:00 am

Nate Witte

SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE Friday, June 18, 2021 at 5:30 pm

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE Saturday, June 19, 2021 at 10:00 am

Anniversaries

| Marrid | Dish and 9 Ideline Trans | /# 4 7 \ | l a 10 | Doy and Chairele 9 Minhalla Doyales | /# 7 \ |
|--------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| May 1 | Richard & Idalina Trank | (# 17) | June 10 | David Strich & Michelle Banks | (# 7) |
| May 7 | Miriam & Perry Davids | (# 4) | June 12 | Andy Kaplowitz & Lore Filgueira | (# 1) |
| May 7 | Steven & Victoria Garfinkle | (# 27) | June 12 | Gaby & Victoria Mayers | (# 36) |
| May 9 | John & Melissa Schapiro | (# 28) | June 14 | Joel & Jessica Cohen | (#13) |
| May 11 | Patrick Crane & Rick Peavy | (# 37) | June 16 | Tammy & Daryl Dixon | (# 14) |
| May 12 | Jeffrey & Wendy Holtzman | (# 36) | June 16 | Andy & Neah Ingram-Monteiro | (#3) |
| May 16 | Larry & Melissa Stahlberg | (# 43) | June 18 | David & Jill Elkayam | (# 43) |
| May 18 | Rick & Leslie Adelstein | (# 46) | June 19 | Miles Bryant & Sarah Bauman | (# 45) |
| May 24 | Rick & Tracey Levine | (# 34) | June 19 | Erin & Steven Cohen | (# 33) |
| May 24 | Rebecca & Andrew Orloff | (# 23) | June 19 | David & Nancy Halpern | (# 17) |
| May 27 | Lynne & Mark MacDonald | (# 43) | June 19 | Ann Suloway & Tim Baker | (# 28) |
| May 28 | David & Ellen Smith | (# 44) | June 23 | Michelle & Joseph Anderson | (#20) |
| May 29 | Darcie Donegan & Phil Buri | (# 28) | June 23 | Meg Jacobson & Russell Pritchett | (# 47) |
| May 29 | Rabbi Joshua & Nicole Samuels | (#16) | June 23 | David & Rena Ziegler | (# 53) |
| June 2 | Jay & Donna Solomon | (# 57) | June 25 | Peter & Nancy Auerbach | (# 55) |
| June 5 | John Sternlicht & James Finley | (# 11) | June 25 | Sarah & Todd Witte | (# 21) |
| June 9 | Don Fenbert & Valerie Randolph | (# 31) | | | |

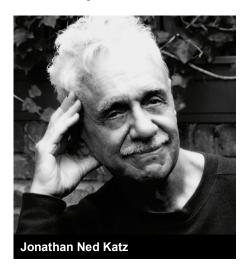
LGBTQ, JEWISH AND HOLOCAUST HISTORY

Continued from Page 1

bending pioneer. She ran lesbianand-gay-friendly speakeasies in Chicago and New York, and in 1925 risked all to write and publish a book titled *Lesbian Love*.

When Eve Adams's leftist activism caught the attention of the young J. Edgar Hoover and the U.S. Bureau of Investigation, she was arrested, convicted of publishing an obscene book, and attempted sex with a policewoman sent to entrap her. She was deported back to Europe and ultimately murdered by Nazis in Auschwitz.

Jonathan Ned Katz began to investigate Eve Adams's life in 2016 after seeing a reference to her in the *New York Times Book Review*: a "Polish-Jewish immigrant" accused of "a



homosexual advance toward an undercover cop." He was surprised he hadn't heard of her before, because since 1971 he had been researching and writing books about previously invisible lesbian and gay male history, including the groundbreaking Gay American History, published in 1976.

The Daring Life and Dangerous Times of Eve Adams will be published May 18, 2021, and can be preordered from Village Books. The book includes the long-lost text of Lesbian Love.

On June 6, at 4:00 pm, CBI member Emily Weiner will interview Jonathan Ned Katz and moderate a Q&A on Zoom. Registration information will be provided in the *Timbrel* newsletter the week before, or by email from the CBI office. This CBI Program Committee event is cosponsored by Village Books and two units of Western Washington University: Western Libraries' Heritage Resources and the Ray Wolpow Institute for the Study of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Crimes Against Humanity.

The opportunity for CBI to present one of the most distinguished historians of LGBTQ history has come our way because Emily Weiner and Jonathan Ned Katz have been friends since 1972, when Emily appeared in the original off-off-Broadway production of his play *Coming Out!* — a documentary play about gay ife and liberation in the United States.



Emily Weiner (raising fist) and Elizabeth Rosen appeared in the original 1972 off-off-Broadway production of Jonathan Ned Katz's play *Coming Out!* (photo by Bettye Lane)

For more information on *The*Daring Life and Dangerous Times

of Eve Adams:

www.chicagoreviewpress.com/daring -life-and-dangerous-times-of-eve-adams-the-products-9781641605168.php

The SCRIP Program Needs YOU!

The SCRIP program has been a consistent fundraiser for Beth Israel for over a decade. Because of Covid-19, many congregants have chosen to have their groceries delivered and SCRIP cannot be used for home delivery groceries. As more of us are vaccinated and we return to grocery shopping, please consider using SCRIP again or for the first time! These merchants are always available: Haggen, Safeway, Fred Meyer, Food Co-op, and Starbucks. Contact Joan Wayne with questions or to place an order at jawayne2@gmail.com or 360-676-8939.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot across the Country

Sunday, May 16-Monday, May 17

This year, we have the opportunity to take classes from many Reform rabbis and educators across the country who are participating in the "Small Congregations Tikkun Leil Shavuot 5781." The event begins on Sunday, May 16 and goes deep into the night and into Monday. There will be several sessions to choose from at each hour, with Rabbi Samuels leading a late-night class. All Zoom links will be provided beforehand in the *Timbrel*.

6/8



Birthdays

5/21

Ann Suloway

| MAY | 2021 | 5/22 | Danny Finkelstein | 6/9 | Jeffrey Grossman |
|------|-------------------------|------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------|
| F/0 | B: 1 - 1 - 1 | 5/22 | Aviva Grossman (10th) | 6/10 | James Prickett |
| 5/2 | Richard Trank | 5/23 | Isaac Blum | 6/11 | Diane Garmo |
| 5/3 | Lenny Halpern (14th) | 5/23 | Serge Lindner | 6/11 | Neah Ingram-Monteiro |
| 5/4 | Avigail Ravitsky (7th) | 5/23 | Ezra Carter Price (16th) | 6/11 | Marcy Probst |
| 5/4 | Bobbie Jaffe | 5/24 | Harriet Fine | 6/11 | Aiden Shupack (9th) |
| 5/4 | Sydney Wolfson (15th) | 5/24 | Jeffrey Holtzman | 6/11 | Adin Sokol (19th) |
| 5/5 | Rick Adelstein | 5/24 | Stephen Martin | 6/12 | Ron Walt |
| 5/5 | Michael Braunstein | 5/24 | Becki Van Glubt | 6/12 | Henry Zemel |
| 5/5 | Oleg Ravitsky | 5/25 | Alan Barney | 6/13 | Leslie Shankman |
| 5/5 | Russell Sheinkopf | 5/25 | Rena Blauner | 6/14 | Susan Kendal |
| 5/6 | Gary Adelstein | 5/26 | Stephen Spigelman | 6/14 | Willa Wren Levinson (7th) |
| 5/8 | Greg Schwartz | 5/26 | Cassandra Wolfson | 6/15 | Diane Leigh |
| 5/10 | Andy Kaplowitz | 5/27 | Haley Davis | 6/16 | Lee Shapiro |
| 5/10 | Penny Schuman | 5/27 | Fay Farkas | 6/16 | Stuart Zemel |
| 5/12 | Warren Cornwall | 5/29 | Aline Wanne | 6/17 | Valerie Randolph |
| 5/12 | Leah Grossman | 5/30 | Teddy Ingberman (18th) | 6/17 | Todd Shuster |
| 5/13 | Joseph Anderson | 5/31 | Todd Witte | 6/19 | Rena Ziegler |
| 5/13 | Tim Baker | | | 6/20 | Phyllis Mazur |
| 5/13 | David Cohn | JUNI | E 2021 | 6/21 | Sheila Sondik |
| 5/13 | Adam Greenberg (20th) | | | 6/22 | Milo Levinson (12th) |
| 5/16 | Lyla Simmie Attar (4th) | 6/1 | Steve Spitzer | 6/24 | Jill Elkayam |
| 5/16 | Max Johnson (20th) | 6/1 | Caden Stoane (19th) | 6/25 | Mike Brennan |
| 5/16 | Natalie Ravitsky (13th) | 6/3 | Hans-Rudolf Guenter-Schlesinger | 6/25 | Julia Schwartz (19th) |
| 5/17 | Lindsey Genut | 6/3 | Linda B. Hirsh | 6/26 | Tracy Diller |
| 5/17 | Suzanne Fischél Kite | 6/4 | Emily Bastow | 6/26 | Claira Garretson (9th) |
| 5/18 | Kendra Bradford | 6/4 | Judith Osman | 6/26 | Jane Hammerstrom |
| 5/18 | Adelle John | 6/4 | Belle Shalom | 6/26 | Jeremiah Witte (14th) |
| 5/19 | Howard Fuller | 6/5 | Samuel Comstock (11th) | 6/26 | Nathaniel Witte (14th) |
| 5/20 | Helen Franklin | 6/5 | Lore Filgueira | 6/27 | Sid Wanne |
| 5/20 | John Siegfried | 6/6 | Stephanie Druckman | 6/29 | Lily Davis (10th) |
| 5/20 | Emily Weiner | 6/7 | McNeel Jantzen | 6/29 | Nicole Samuels |
| 5/21 | Meredith Attar | 6/8 | Chris Balton | | |

Janet Seltzer

Faces in Our Community: Lynn and Michael Korner

BY LINDA HIRSH

Imagine going to
Disneyland on a first
date. Lynn and Michael
Korner did. Not only
that, but when they
married, instead of
topping the wedding
cake with a small model
of the couple in formal
wedding attire per usual,
they chose Minnie and
Mickey Mouse.

"I remember vividly all the childhood hours running around in the rich world of dream-creating and imagination that the 'Wonderful World of Disney' was," Lynn said, "and I relive all the wonder being there with our grandchildren."

Lynn, who serves on the synagogue board and is an active member of several committees, often opts to talk Congregation Beth Israel business, so her love of things Disney reveals a fun side of her. And Michael shares her Disney enthusiasm.

Both were both born on the East Coast, Lynn in New York and Michael in New Jersey. Both families moved to California — Michael's to Santa Barbara and Lynn's to San Diego and Long Beach.

Lynn attended Long Beach City College to become a licensed practical nurse/vocational nurse, working in the orthopedic and newborn units at Long Beach Memorial Hospital.



Michael, Eli, Lynn, and Jaime

She then studied for a license in massage therapy for a business she still runs. Michael attended University of California at Berkeley to study psychology and education.

The couple met in Long Beach, working at the same elementary school, Michael as a second-grade teacher and Lynn as an aide with special-education preschoolers. The couple was in their mid-thirties when they married in 1994. It was the first marriage for Michael, the second for Lynn, who has son in Oklahoma, and a daughter with two sons in Nevada.

Living near the ocean was a plus, but, "Southern California is like one

big city of concrete and smog, so we longed to leave," Lynn said.

After some vacations northward, they came across Bellingham and fell in love with the town. They moved in 1995, while Lynn was pregnant with their daughter Jaime, now 25 years old. They found small-town life, forests, and fresh air appealing. They also found Congregation Beth Israel.

Michael was raised Catholic, but his grandmother was Jewish. Likewise, Lynn was raised Methodist/ Episcopal/Lutheran, but her mother

From the Social Action Committee

Racial Justice and Environmental Justice

BY LINDA BLACKWELL

Enclosed in the *Shul Shofar* this month is the Racial Justice Survey from the Social Action Committee. The Racial Justice Task Force is discussing which programs and events will help our congregation become more antiracist. It would help if we had your input. This survey asks questions about your interests and beliefs. Please mail the survey to CBI or use the link provided in the *Timbrel*.

The Reform Movement of Judaism announced the launch of a Racial Justice Campaign on April 6, 2021 stating, "The Reform Jewish movement is honoring our deeply rooted Jewish imperative to pursue justice for the endemic racism still facing Blacks and People of Color (BPOC), Asian Americans, LGBTQ+ Americans and Latinx Americans." The campaign is to address systemic racism in our congregations and our wider communities via Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI). The campaign will aid our support of Jews of Color and address inequalities in our institutions. The external focus of the campaign is to advocate for legislation and policy changes, with voter suppression being the most pressing issue. As with previous campaigns, the Religious Action Center (RAC) of Reform Judaism will educate our leaders in outreach for congregational advocacy. At Congregation Beth Israel, the Social Action Committee is planning a forum to discuss the intersection of racial inequality and antisemitism. The suppression of any minority, especially by white supremacist groups, is contrary to Jewish laws and values.

Environmental justice is also a Jewish value. The Environmental Justice Movement identifies discriminatory environmental concerns including toxic waste, rising sea levels and the increase in weather disasters which nega-

tively affect communities of color. As such, there is the interconnection of climate change with racism. The term "environmental racism" is credited to Dr. Benjamin Chavis, a Black civil rights activist, in 1982. The Black population bears a disproportionate burden of air pollution and drinking water contamination. Locally, the Lummi Nation has been very active in caring for and sustaining our environment. However, increased algae blooms in their ancestral clam beds and decreasing salmon populations are problems that they cannot fix alone. The Jewish concept of *Tzedek* — righteousness, justice, and equity — demands that we create an environment that is sustainable for all of society.

As I write this article, the Kesher Mitzvah Day this year will be held with Earth Day activities at the end of April. Plans are for an adult event featuring speakers Howard Scharfstein and Steven Hollenhorst on "Creating a Carbon Conservation Trust Movement." We also will have sponsored letter-writing and petitions on climate change. Members of the committee are active in the local Multifaith Network for Climate Justice. The MNCJ is a coalition of faith-based groups in Whatcom County that are combating climate change. As we move into the *schmita* year next Rosh Hashanah, the Social Action Committee plans activities to emphasize our commitment to be stewards of the Earth.

If you want to participate in social justice programs at CBI, please contact Linda Blackwell (blackwellbham@gmail.com) or Corinne Gimbel-Levine (gimbelarnp2015@gmail.com), co-chairs of the Social Action Committee.

The Kvelling Corner



Iris and Kevin Parker are delighted to announce the birth of their granddaughter, Juliana Majors, on April 2, 2021. Her proud parents are Johanna and Jeffrey Majors of Houston, Texas, and she is the new little sister of big brother, Jordan. Juliana's Hebrew name is in loving memory of her great-great-grandmother, Rose Engelman, a survivor of the Holocaust from Budapest, Hungary. *Mazel Tov* to the family!

Congregant **Richard Widerkehr** has published a new book of poems,

At The Grace Cafe. He will be reading selections from this book and sharing his insights by a Zoom event on Monday, May 10, at 7:00 pm. His book will be available soon at Village Books. A Zoom link for this event will be included in the May 5 *Timbrel*.

Mazel tov to **Maya Cornwall** on becoming a 2021 National Merit Scholarship finalist.

Welcome to our new member!

Robin Kodner – Bellingham

May/June 2021 Shabbat Service Schedule

All services via Zoom link, which is provided in the weekly *Timbrel* e-newsletter or by request — contact the CBI office by phone or email. *On the fourth Friday of each month, services begin at* **7:30 pm**.

Saturday, May 1 10:00 am Bat Mitzvah of Friday, June 4 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Tahlia Somers Family Service, with leadership from the Kesher First/Second Friday, May 7 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Grade class and Jeremiah Witte Family Service: Confirmation & Saturday, June 5 10:00 am Bar Mitzvah of **Teacher Appreciation** Jeremiah Witte Saturday, May 8 9:30 am Torah Study (Parashat B'har-B'chukotai) Friday, June 11 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Friday, May 14 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat, Saturday, June 12 9:30 am Torah Study with leadership from Natalie (Parashat Korach) Ravitsky Friday, June 18 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat, Saturday, May 15 10:00 am Bat Mitzvah of with leadership from Natalie Ravitsky **Nathaniel Witte** 10:00 am Bar Mitzvah of Friday, May 21 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Saturday, June 19 Nathaniel Witte Saturday, May 22 9:30 am Torah Study (Parashat Naso) Friday, June 25 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat and Board Consecration, with 10:30 am Conservative-style leadership from members of the lay-led minyan the Ma'Ayan Shir ensemble Friday, May 28 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Saturday, June 26 9:30 am Torah Study with members of the Ma'Ayan (Parashat Balak) Shir ensemble 10:30 am Conservative-style Saturday, May 29 9:30 am Torah Study lay-led minyan (Parashat B'chaalot'cha)



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IN APPRECIATION TO:

Beth Israel Chevra Kadisha, on the passing of Ruth Philipp

From: Elizabeth Philipp (New York, NY)

Else Sokol & the Care Committee for the wonderful meal train after Mira's birth. We are so grateful for everything you do for our community.

From: Kayla Schott-Bressler, lan McCurdy & Mira McCurdy

IN MEMORIAM:

*To Dan Raas, in loving memory of Debbie *To Elka Fink, in loving memory of Myron *In loving memory of Archie Fine, Lylyan Wick and Etta Fine From: Harriet Fine

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Rabbi Samuels

From: Theresa Mandeville (B'ham)

Rabbi Samuels for the wonderful Passover seder From: Frederick & Myrna Loceff (B'ham)

Rabbi Samuels – Thank you for the Seder invitation From: Barbara Leopold (Greenbrae, CA)

IN HONOR OF:

Arthur Rivkin, in celebration of his 97th birthday

From: Rhoda & Peter Samuels (Rancho Mirage, CA)

Tahlia Somers, on becoming a Bat Mitzvah

From: Patrick Crane

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Marilyn Marker, in memory of Buddy Shapiro

From: Rhoda & Peter Samuels (Rancho Mirage, CA)

IN MEMORIAM:

To Dan Raas, in loving memory of Debbie

From: Jerry & Marilyn Eisner

COMMEMORATING THE YAHRZEIT OF:

Jack Mazur, our beloved father

From: Phyllis & Shelly Mazur

Manny S. Emanuel **From:** *Harriet Emanuel*

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To Warren Rosenthal **From:** *Dan Raas*

From: Phyllis & Shelly Mazur

IN HONOR OF:

Our 40th Anniversary

From: Joel David &

Kristin Sykes-David

Moses Judah

From: Gaby & Victoria Mayers

Lynn Korner – thank you for all the hard work you do for our congregation

From: Amanda Robins & Daniel Zagnoli

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:

Elaine Beck, on the loss of her husband John Bruns **From:** Joan & Marv Wayne

CONTRIBUTION FROM:

Steve & Debbie Adelstein Minda Rae Amiran Beth Israel Sisterhood Isaac & Wendy Blum Marta & Craig Brand Paul Blum & Alison Zak Tamar & Shawn Clarke Patrick Crane Joel David & Kristin Sykes-David Miriam & Perry Davids Tammy DuBow Ruth Evans Arlene Feld Don Fenbert & Valerie Randolph Gayle Gordon-Martin & Steve Martin Wendy & Jeffrey Holtzman Meg Jacobson Floyd King & Leigh Squires Isaac & Samantha Konikoff Lynn & Michael Korner Hank Levine & Corinne Gimbel-Levine Ken & Regan Levinson Fran Levy Lou & Marcia Lippman Nancy Luster

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SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

IN MEMORY OF:

Sholem & Edith Pavlautsky and their community, who perished in the Tetiev, Ukraine Pogram - 6 Nisan

From: Shlomis Waters

News from the Interfaith Coalition

BY JANIE PEMBLE

In lieu of an auction this year, the Interfaith Coalition is asking for your participation in several other fun ways to support families working to leave homelessness:

May 22 at 7:00 pm Sanctuary: Sounds of Home

Please join us for a virtual concert and fundraising event for Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County and its Family Promise program. This concert will feature Flip Breskin, Keith Carpenter and Lynn Givler, and Yankee Driver. Registration is free. Please follow this link: www.interfaith-coalition.org.

Another part of our Sounds of Home celebration, is the virtual choir production of "**We Shall Be Known**." Singers from Interfaith congregations (including Beth Israel) and from across the country, perform this beautiful song that echoes the foundation of our Coalition: "We shall be known by the company we keep…"

Follow this link in your internet browser to listen: tinyurl.com/5hfaxe22



Sanctuary: Calm in Chaos, a Virtual Storytelling Evening was presented on April 10. If you missed this special event, please go to the Interfaith website for a link to the recording and enjoy stories from our local community, including a Moth Slam storytelling champion, and a story from one of our Family Promise families.

Please share all of these events and links with your friends and families! Thank you!

You can register for the May 22 concert event, enjoy the recorded virtual storytelling evening, and donate to support families experiencing homelessness by going to the Interfaith Coalition website: www.interfaith-coalition.org

FROM THE RABBI

Continued from Page 1

the who what when where why, slip away from me, and all I'm left with is the feeling.
But feelings are just sounds the vowel barking of a mute.
My brother is so sure of what he heard — after all he's got a record of it — consonant after consonant after consonant. If we remembered it together we could recreate holy time, sparks flying.

© Merle Feld A Spiritual Life: Exploring the Heart and Jewish Tradition, revised edition SUNY Press 2007

This poem was written in the early 1980s and was inspired by a conversation amongst close feminist friends who sat together one night studying an article by one of my rabbinical school professors, Dr. Rabbi Rachel Adler. "We all Stood Together" has become a sort of anthem of the Jewish feminist movement. It is included in *haggadot*, religious school curriculums, and poetry anthologies.

I have always loved this poem, or modern midrash. The speaker clearly feels outside the normative experience that we read about and study each year. This popular story that we celebrate as our narrative does not represent her perspective, because she's a woman. This moment of revelation that bound the Jewish people to God for eternity is yet filled with pain for the speaker and so many who are viewed as less or other.

As with most rabbinic texts, there is a silver lining. This poem isn't all about exclusion and sorrow. It ends with a glimmer of hope for how things can and ought to be. If we are truly inclusive then "we could recreate holy time, sparks flying."

While there are many ways to feel outside the "norm" of Jewish life (dietary practices, davening proficiency, gender and sexual identity, skin color, country of origin, etc.), Shavuot is the time of year when we should ask how we find ourselves in the Sinai story. Because we all have a place, and no one is any closer to the source than anyone else. The answers might not come as easily to all of us, but I think this is what the poet wants us to figure out, no matter how we are viewed or where we stand amongst the Jewish community.

May we all work towards creating a Jewish community that honors everyone, in all their marvelousness and uniqueness.

Cantor's Corner

Reflections on Two Years of School

BY ANDREA SHUPACK

I am writing this article while also working on finals for school, which will conclude my first two years at the Academy for Jewish Religion. It's only now starting to dawn on me that I am not the newbie student anymore. Newer students come to me for advice, the faculty asked me to participate as the student representative for the cantorial curriculum committee, and as I just registered for summer semester, I was surprised at how many of the courses I have already completed. It also came as a surprise to me to realize that I have been serving as your cantor for seven years now!

I want to share with you a little about what I've been learning so far. I am a third of the way through school, and doing very well in classes. It's incredible going back to school as an adult, being super-focused and passionate about what I am studying. Going to school in the same field I am simultaneously working in has been extra rewarding and useful, as I am able to practice and apply what I am learning at school in my work.

Classes have been over a wide range of topics including leadership, education, counseling, ancient Jewish and modern Israeli history, life-cycle events, and leading prayer experiences.

I have also taken several classes on liturgy, studying the prayers of our *siddur* in a deep and methodical way, while also creating projects to help make the prayers more meaningful for congregants. I have even more appreciation for the richness and brilliance within this poetry, and I can't wait to teach another liturgy class next year at CBI with my new knowledge.

I just completed two semesters of intense study of the High Holy Day *Nusach* — the traditional musical motifs that give each service its specific sound and feel. This has inspired in me an even deeper connection to the texts, and the nuances of the melodies, helping me add emotion and expression to the texts. I'm looking forward to bringing more of this ancient tradition into this year's Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services.

It is hard to encapsulate in words the sum of all these parts. My courses and teachers have been impressive, yet it has become much more than that. I have experienced professional growth and lots of new knowledge - yes, but also something much more personal. I am learning more about myself and my strengths, and I am more committed than ever to the path of finding my Jewish voice. I would not be on this path without the continued support of Rabbi Samuels and all of you, our incredible CBI community. Thank you for helping me realize this long-held dream. It has been an honor to serve Beth Israel for these past seven years, and while I am impressed with how well we've continued online

this past year, I am eagerly awaiting the time we can gather together again in person to celebrate, *daven*, and learn as a community.

Here is a little taste from this semester. I am in a class called "Sacred Writing," with Rabbi Rachel Barenblatt, a rabbi and poet I have long admired, since stumbling on her website, the Velveteen Rabbi. In this class, we have been developing our creative writing skills, inspired by and reflecting new ideas from our sacred texts. Here is one poem I wrote about the *Akeida* from Sarah's voice.

Akeida

I woke up this morning and you were already gone. I made you food the day before, and you were up with the dawn before I could kiss and wave goodbye.

If I had, I would have seen your face and known.

If I had, you would have seen my face and known.

Could my eyes penetrate yours and make you defy even God?

Or would my eyes have helped you see God's true message?

If God had chosen me, not you, the message would have been different, for that is not my God.

If God had chosen me, we would all be sharing our evening meal together, after our journey back down the mountain.

I was the angel stopping your hand.
I heard you preparing the alter, and I knew.
At that instant, my soul leapt out of my body to spare my son.

My only son.

If only I had more lives to give for my children.



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KESHER

Continued from Page 3

incredibly hard to move Kesher online, so a huge thank you to everyone who made it possible for all of us to still be able to learn. Everyone did an amazing job. After the frustrating initial period of adjusting to Zoom and all of this new technology and stuff, this year of Kesher turned out really great. I can't really pick out one Kesher memory to list as my favorite, as we all have so many from this year. From watching the fourth-fifth-grade class's very memorable family service to playing a game where we tried to draw our favorite Jewish holiday (the twist being that the paper you drew on was on top of your head so you couldn't see anything you were drawing), there are just too many to choose from. I have one memory in particular at the beginning of working on our Role Model project. Hannah was pulling us into breakout rooms individually to check up on how the project was going. While Hannah was going into breakout rooms, our class had a chance to chat, and despite the fact that all

we could see of each other were tiny boxes with faces in them, things actually felt back to normal again, or at least as back to normal as Zoom can be. Thank you everyone for such an incredible Kesher year! I can't wait for next year!

Mia Clarke, Ninth Grade

Kesher online has been a super fun learning experience for me. I love that I can still see my friends safely while still having deep conversations about topics of interest. I like being online for the freedom it also brings. For example, we can talk to people all the way in different states without them having to make a long trip, and we can still hear their story. That has been very exciting and a great new way to connect with people. I do miss being in the synagogue and seeing everyone together, but I have no doubt we will be back together soon when it is safe! Overall, I have really enjoyed Kesher online a lot more than I thought I would, and I hope I can continue to further connect with my class and learn more about social justice issues.

LYNN AND MICHAEL KORNER

Continued from Page 8

was Jewish. Little was spoken of the Jewish side, until as a teen, Lynn began to probe her Jewish heritage. That and having a child intensified the couple's interest in Judaism. They first came to the synagogue to celebrate Shabbat Across America. Congregant Anne Brown (z"I) greeted the two warmly. Michael remembers those early days. "She invited us to many Chanukah parties with fellow congregants at her home," he said.

It had an effect. "Not having grown up in Jewish practices, our fondest memories are lighting candles on menorahs and frying up latkes with Anne," Lynn said. "Jaime thrived in Sunday religious school. Her Bat

Mitzvah was a crowning life moment."

Camp Kalsman immersed Jamie in Jewish culture. As her love for Judaism grew, she took a four-week trip to Israel, then became a Camp Advisor, running the organic garden there. Dad Michael is also an avid gardener.

"These experiences are the threads that weave the tapestry of Judaism in Jaime's life," Lynn said.

And early on, congregant Marcia Lippman encouraged Lynn to become active at the shul. "Lynn cochaired the Chanukah party and Purim Carnival with me and then took the two events over," Marcia said. "It was such a pleasure to work with Lynn and a rewarding experience because of the resulting friendships. Committee work is such a good way to connect with CBI. It's win-win."

Lynn, Michael, and Jaime continue to fry latkes and set the Seder table together with Jaime's boyfriend, Eli, whom she met five years ago at Brandeis University. Jaime will graduate from the University of Victoria in August with a PhD in chemistry. When Jaime went off to college, Lynn was invited to serve on the synagogue board. She was also asked to help raise funds for the Capital Campaign, allowing the congregation to move into the new building.

"It has been a mitzvah for me to serve these last eight years, and as this time comes to an end, I look forward to the next chapter," she said.

But there is always room for Disney, as well. And the destination for Lynn and Michael's twenty fifth wedding anniversary was Disneyworld!

Yahrzeits

Observances follow the Hebrew calendar, unless the secular date is requested, and are read on the Shabbat prior to the observance date.

| Friday, May 7 | | Edward R. Glazer | 5/30 | Faye Goldberg-Miller | 6/16 |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Rose Thal | 5/8 | Stanley Schlanger | 5/30 | Eva Rosenberg Kiersky | 6/16 |
| Louis Adelstein | 5/9 | Rose Rebecca Glazer | 5/31 | Nathan Lassman | 6/16 |
| Rose Block | 5/9 | Vincent Romito | 5/31 | Morris R. Hecht | 6/17 |
| Frederick (Freddy) Kullman | 5/9 | Bill Lewis | 6/1 | Doris Zemel | 6/17 |
| Lloyd Saxton | 5/9 | Samuel Schwartz | 6/2 | Lillian Markell | 6/18 |
| Lucie Weis | 5/9 | Gloria Abrams | 6/3 | Stanley Simon | 6/18 |
| Nan Lopresti | 5/10 | Otto Furth | 6/3 | Friday, June 18 and | |
| William Stone | 5/10 | Marcella Schapiro | 6/3 | - | |
| Barbara Vaughan | 5/10 | Reva Beck | 6/4 | Saturday, June 19 | 0/40 |
| Sally Warshay | 5/11 | Friday, June 4 and | | Sadie Rosen | 6/19 |
| Pearl Albert | 5/13 | Saturday, June 5 | | Jacob Schlitt | 6/19 |
| Dottie Berelson | 5/14 | • • | CIE | Sue Groper | 6/20 |
| Oscar Evans | 5/14 | Samuel Beck | 6/5 6/5 | Naftalie Mottel Jaffe | 6/20 6/20 |
| Friday, May 14 and | | Belle Kaplan Shapiro | | Beatrice (Bea) Moss | |
| • • | | Irving Edward Shapiro Edith Corman | 6/5 6/6 | Leah Tabak Eric O. Sonneman | 6/20 6/22 |
| Saturday, May 15 | | | 6/6 | Erwin Mayer | 6/23 |
| Noemi Ban | 5/15 | Dorothy Katz Rasela Catz | 6/8 | Stanley Sklar | 6/25 |
| Ethel Sandford | 5/15 | Elaine Meadows | 6/8 | Sandy Thompson | 6/25 |
| | | | | | (1//:) |
| Louise Hecht | 5/17 | | | | 0/20 |
| Florence Marcus | 5/17 | Ann Dechter | 6/9 | Friday, June 25 | 0/20 |
| Florence Marcus Annette Curtis | 5/17 5/18 | Ann Dechter Sol Harris Lewis | 6/9 6/9 | | 6/26 |
| Florence Marcus Annette Curtis Henry W. Fenbert | 5/17 5/18 5/18 | Ann Dechter Sol Harris Lewis Jay Renfro | 6/9 6/9 6/9 | Friday, June 25 | |
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| Florence Marcus Annette Curtis Henry W. Fenbert Marvin Globerman Denise Guren Emanuel Jacobson Rose Millstein Maia Haykin Barbara (McNulty) Higham Evelyn Renfro Monroe Abrams David Archie Bauman Rachel DeVries Lloyd Relin Irene Rosenfeld Friday, May 21 Anne Frank | 5/17 5/18 5/18 5/18 5/19 5/19 5/19 5/20 5/20 5/20 5/21 5/21 5/21 5/21 5/21 | Ann Dechter Sol Harris Lewis Jay Renfro Arthur Thal Lawrence Witte Libby Witte Sandy York Rose Beck Adrienne Benson David Horwitz Friday, June 11 Ida Ostry William Robinson Emma (Weigt) Korneck Chaim (Carol) Zacharia Benjamin Heller Chase Jimmy | 6/9 6/9 6/9 6/9 6/9 6/9 6/10 6/10 6/11 6/12 6/12 6/13 6/13 6/14 | Friday, June 25 Harold "Bud" Blank Anne Brown Lillian Feldman Myer Horwitz Michael Kendal Albert Shankman Edward Witte May Meyers Bernice Shear Earnest Ban Elaine Lev Beller Hugo M. Fisher Alice Lebansky Goldie Bettman | 6/26 6/26 6/26 6/26 6/26 6/29 6/30 7/1 7/1 7/1 7/1 7/1 |

In Memoriam

Zichronam l'vrachah ~ May their memories be for a blessing

We mourn the passing of two members of the Beth Israel family, and offer heartfelt condolences to their loved ones:

John Bruns, who died on February 22, 2021, with his wife, Elaine Beck, at his side. He was 90 years old. John was an Air Force pilot, and worked for NASA and Boeing as a mechanical engineer.

Leon Baron, who died on March 28, 2021 at the age of 90. His wife of 55 years, Sherry Baron, was at his side, along with his children, Joel Baron and Aimee Baron Moran. Leon was an optometrist for many years, and in his retirement he developed a passion for building balsa wood airplanes and boats.

Friday, May 28

Marcia M. Morris Yust

Audrey Jaffe

David Ohms

Audrey May King

Marion Selznick

Miriam Shepard

Frances Glazer Garmo

Jack Glazer 5/29 Walter Miller 5/29 Adam Frank 5/30

5/24

5/25

5/25

5/27

5/27

5/27

5/27

THE SHUL SHOFAR

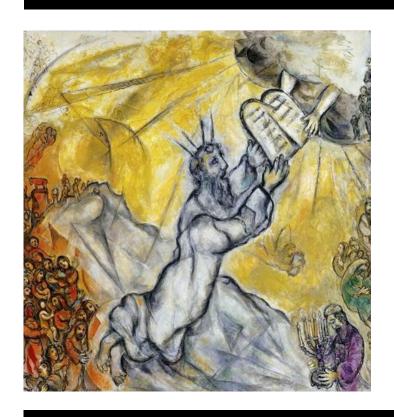
Congregation Beth Israel

751 San Juan Boulevard Bellingham, WA 98229

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TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT



Sunday, May 16-Monday, May 17

This year we have the opportunity to take classes from many Reform rabbis and educators across the country.

See page 7 for more info!