



From the Rabbi's Study

Check out our new monthly learning service

Over the recent High Holidays, for the second time, we offered a Junior Congregation option for our Religious School-aged students. It was

Rabbi Brian Michelson

an opportunity for them to do some prayers,

discuss, and do a creative activity about both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. I am

grateful to Jessica Leisawitz and Vicki Graff for making these services happen.

As a continuation of this idea, I wanted to let you know about a new, monthly Shabbat morning service that we are going to trial. On the fourth Saturday of most months (We will skip December due to school vacation.), we are going to introduce a learning service. Each will focus on a different portion of the liturgy.

This will give students, their families and anyone else who wishes to attend the opportunity to learn about and discuss various parts of the service as part of the worship experience. We will use a combination of the Family Prayerbook and our regular Siddur.

In addition, we will have the opportunity to do a bit of Torah study on the weekly portion we are reading. I expect that this

service will last just about an hour and will count as a service for B'nei Mitzvah students. Our first of these services will be on Saturday, Nov. 23 at 10 a.m. We will meet in the Chapel/Library.

This experiment will need your support. Please show your interest by attending over this six-month trial period. We will have services on Saturdays, Nov. 23, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22, April 26 and May 24.

Religious School News

Teaching the value of Tikkun Olam

By Holly Michelson

Religious School Director

I speak a lot about the values we teach in the school. Tzedakah is collected every week and will be donated at the end of the year. We encouraged students to take responsibilities for their actions and to offer help to others.

Tikkun Olam, in short taking care of our planet, is also a big one. Several of these values were put into action last month beginning with Mr. Newman, our Enrichment/STEM teacher, who came in on a day off and organized the students to pick the apples off our tree in front of the main entrance. For those who have tried these apples,

you know they are not very tasty. But we also don't like the idea of wasting food, so the apples were then donated to a local farm to help feed the animals.

From time to time, when we have a lot of absences, classes combine for the day. Recently, I had the opportunity to observe one of the greatest acts of kindness in a combined 2nd-5th grade class.

On one particular day in October, Esther Shanahan was leading a project to create New Year's tote bags. Students could make one for themselves (I suggested using it to carry Religious/Hebrew school books and supplies) or for someone else.

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Children pick apples from the RCOS tree.

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Marina Barnett

In loving memory of Kenneth Barnett

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Continued from Page 1

The totes were beautifully decorated with fabric markers, regular markers, stickers, and puff paint.

Unfortunately, one of the bags fell on the ground, face down (of course) and all of the decorations smudged on the bag and on the floor. The child whose project it was handled the situation very well. What was so gratifying to watch were the rest of the children in the class that day, who stepped up and offered to help her create a new bag even though we were at the end of our morning. They told her not to worry. They told her it would be OK and that they

would help her. Several helped us clean the floor. It is hard to explain what it meant to me to hear the support the students offered to their friend. It was also exactly what we want to hear from our students.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Reminders:

Sunday, Nov. 3:

Food Festival. NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, Nov. 5:

NO HEBREW SCHOOL – Election Day and we are a polling place.

Tuesday, Nov. 26 - Sunday Dec. 1:

NO SCHOOL Enjoy your Thanksgiving break



Religious School music with Cantor Binder.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH STREAMING

Did you ever wonder how RCOS provides live video of its events on YouTube? Artificial Intelligence? Smart Phone App? Magic? No, four volunteers make this happen. Streaming requires very basic computer capabilities plus the willingness to give some of your time (~1.5 hours). We need a few more volunteers. Old or young doesn't matter, just a desire to help out. After about an hour of training scheduled at your convenience, you too can become a stream producer and take a turn at broadcasting our events.



If interested, contact Steven Levine at levkom2@verizon.net or 484-332-8726.

Cantorial

Endowment Fund

In memory of Alan Robinson
Norma & Marty Beckerman
Lee, Amy, and Luke Berger

In memory of Harlan Kutscher
Bruce Cohen

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Alan Robinson
Annette & Sean Peppard
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Eileen Conn
Lynn & Jeffrey Driben

Get well soon to Stuart Cohn
Barbara & Seth Rosenzweig

Get well soon to Holly Michelson
Barbara & Seth Rosenzweig

In memory of John "Smokey"
Conn
Eileen Conn

In memory of Emmy Humbert
Ruth & Conrad Heisman

In memory of Rosilin Clark
Judith Synnaron
Lynn & Jeffrey Driben

In memory of Sidney Bratt
Susan Schlanger

In memory of Frances Gross
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A donation was received
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Liefter-Fein Memorial Scholarship Fund

In memory of Sidney Bratt
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In memory of Rosilin Clark
Anita & Jim Harrison

In memory of Alan Robinson
Anita & Jim Harrison

Jeraldine Kozloff Music Fund

A donation was received
Norma & Martin Beckerman

Arthur Cantorial Fund

In memory of Rosilin Clark
Dena & Victor Hammel

Social Action Committee

Join us as we restart an important community effort

By Jeri Diesinger

In September Board Vice President and past Social Action Committee co-chair Marty Beckerman met with new co-chairs Chad Schlanger and Jeri Diesinger to provide details of past committee activities and to assist with any questions regarding a restart of the Social Action Committee.

The committee's initial vision includes plans to encourage younger members (and non-members) to attend events and to participate in the committee. The co-chairs are looking forward to creating a fun but impactful place to encourage local Jews and current members to join and become active at RCOS.

The co-chairs understand that life is extremely busy for younger families and therefore, they hope to offer child care at many committee events or plan family-friendly events so that each family member can more fully participate.

Given our present world of turmoil, the co-chairs envision sharing our skills, our time and energy to working closely with groups like ours from other Jewish denominations; as well as to coordinate joint events with local churches, the Hispanic Center, Islamic Center, Opportunity House, Mary's Shelter, Safe Berks, Humane Society, the food bank, to name a few.

In short, we imagine a committee that introduces Berks County to our congregation by continually planning volunteer and community outreach events to incorporate into our daily lives and spread "tikkun olam," actions to improve and repair the world.

To be successful, the committee needs everyone to help! No one is too young or too old! What is YOUR strength and vision? Do you like to bake, knit, write, shop, build, organize, read? Then there is a place for you with the Social Action Committee where you can share your knowledge with others, assist with shopping or meal prep, read to shut-ins,

gather clothes, food and supplies for the homeless, disaster victims, deployed military units, college students. There is so much we can do if we do it together!

If you are interested in learning more and getting involved in our work, please join us. Watch for the committee meetings to be publicized in future weekly announcements.

Everyone is welcome, so bring the kids if you can't find a sitter. With notice, we will have activities and supervision arranged for the younger children.

We hope to meet monthly to plan for and prepare future events, and of course, there will be snacks!

Thanks to our greeters and ushers

Thank you to the following congregants who served as greeters and ushers for High Holiday or Shabbat services during the month of October:

Marty Beckerman, Sharon Berman, Jeri Deisinger, Jeff Driben, Sandy Fishman, Vicki Graff, Judith Kraines, Margo Levin, Annette Peppard Catherine Schultz, Esther Shanahan, Tracy Weiss

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*Please contact the Temple office for information on
advertising and sponsorship opportunities.*

Deadline for December issue is Nov. 5

Perpetual Memorials

Nov. 1-2

Arthur Humberg
Sig S. Schweriner
Jacob Weitzenkorn

Nov. 3-9

Max Baerncopf
Natalie Barnett
Daniel Epstein
Julia Folkman
Tessie Fried
Eleanor Gould
Lea Rachel Heiman
Eugen Jaschek
I.G. Schneeberger

Nov. 10-16

Madeline Atkins
Ervin Brok
Emily Epstein
Morris Guggenheim
Regina Herman
Eva N. Hyman
Maurice C. Isaacs
Helen Lightman
Martha M. Marcus
Susan Mendelsohn
Anna Miller

Nov. 17-23

Albert B. Ball
Morris H. Bash

Irvin Berger

Paulina Bernheimer
Fred Coopersmith
Albert Gilbert
Louis Hirsch
Samuel R. Liever
Rose Shlionsky Sack

Nov. 24-30

ANNIVERSARIES

Margo & Adam Levin Nov. 4
Lynn & Jeffrey Driben Nov. 6
Tracy & Mark Weiss Nov. 7
Jessica & Jesse Leisawitz Nov. 8
Howard Saidman &
Amy Simon-Saidman Nov. 14
Todd Banks &
Katherine Kozloff-Banks Nov. 17

Renee & Andrew Pinkard Nov. 17
Roseann & Allen Michelson Nov. 18
Lori & Michael Linton Nov. 19
Irene & John Sileski Nov. 20
Aleta & Steven Cohn Nov. 23
Jill & Michael Haas Nov. 27
Robin & Jeffrey Lupowitz Nov. 28

BIRTHDAYS

Jeffrey Nemeroff Nov. 2
Paula Bub Nov. 5
Chad Curry Nov. 8
Leah Rotenberg Nov. 8
Samantha Stein Nov. 10
Judith Ellsworth Nov. 11
Emily Hollinger Nov. 13
Michael Haas Nov. 14

Cindy Chronister Nov. 15
Miriam Gavigan Nov. 15
Steven Cohn Nov. 16
Sheri Leinbach Nov. 16
Sue Wachs Nov. 16
Lisa Nemeroff Nov. 17
Ella Polonski Nov. 17
Oleg Erlikh Nov. 19

Russell Diesinger Nov. 21
John Sileski Nov. 26
Patricia Frankel Nov. 27
Scott Davis Nov. 29
Piyali Cole Nov. 30
Karen Lutz Nov. 30

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November 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:30 AM Religious School	28 12 PM Torah Study 7 PM Board Meeting	29 3:30 Hebrew School 7 PM Balis Meeting	30	31	1 6 PM Shabbat Service-- Blessing of the Animals	2 10 AM Haftarah Study
3 No Religious School 11-4 PM Jewish and Cul- tural Food Festival	4 12 PM Torah Study 7 PM Security Committee Meeting	5 No Hebrew School 11 AM Lunch & Learn @ The Highlands	6	7	8 7:45 PM Shabbat Service	9 10 AM Tot Shabbat
10 9:30 AM Religious School	11 12 PM Torah Study 7 PM Executive Committee Meeting	12 3:30 Hebrew School	13	14	15 6 PM Shabbat Service	16 3 PM Bat Mitzvah of Sofia Schneider
17 9:30 AM Religious School	18 12 PM Torah Study 7 PM Finance Committee Meeting	19 3:30 Hebrew School	20	21	22 7 PM Shabbat Speaker Series w/ Cindy Chronister	23 10 AM RCOS Morning Shabbat Service
24 9:30 AM Religious School	25 12 PM Torah Study 7 PM Board Meeting	26 No Hebrew School	27 7 PM Interfaith Thanksgiving Service @ RCOS	28	29 7:45 PM Shabbat Service	30

Liefer-Fein scholarship applications available Dec. 1

By Steven Levine

The Liefer-Fein Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee is pleased to announce that applications for the academic year 2025-2026 will accepted beginning Dec. 1.

The application form will be available on the RCOS website (ohebsholom.org) from that date.

Completed applications

will need to be returned by Feb. 1 to qualify for consideration.

Applications will be reviewed and interviews will be held between February and April. Scholarship winners will be announced May 1.

The Liefer-Fein Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1971 by Nathan and Allerta Fein and has been sup-

plemented by a major donation from Joseph Liefer.

The income from this fund is used to provide scholarships for higher education to children of members of our congregation in good standing.

The awards are based on academic achievement, need, and character. The size of the scholarship(s) is dependent on the income from the fund.

The Liefer-Fein Memorial Scholarship Fund Committee is composed of Steven Levine, Chair, Pat Frankel, Rabbi Brian Michelson, Bruce Cohen, Holly Michelson, and Scott Davis.

If you have any questions about the fund, please contact Steven Levine at levkom2@verizon.net or at 484-332-8726.

Upcoming Cantor Binder service dates

Friday, Nov. 15, 6 p.m. — full weekend: Schneider BM & Religious School

Friday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 20, 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 3, 6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 24, 7:45 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m. — full weekend: Gan service, Tot Shabbat, & Religious School

Friday, Feb. 28, 6 p.m.

Friday, March 7, 6 p.m.

Friday, March 21, 7 p.m. — Speaker Series

Friday, April 4, 6 p.m. — full weekend: Balis award & Religious School

Friday, April 25 at 7 p.m. — Rabbi away

Friday, May 9, 7 p.m. — Teacher Appreciation & New Member Service

RCOS Speaker Series

Cindy Chronister
November 22, 2024
7:00 pm



Karl and Mathilde

**Zikaron
L'Dor V'Dor**

*Memory from
Generation to Generation*

Discover how Cindy uncovered her grandparents' hidden Holocaust survival story

Learn about Karl and Mathilde's escape from Vienna in 1939

Engage in conversation about why Holocaust stories matter today

Enjoy a special Oneg

Give these new members a warm welcome



Chazz Aden

Chazz Aden grew up in northern New Jersey and attended the University of Pittsburgh. He worked in electoral politics for about a decade, spending time in Iowa (Cedar Rapids and Des Moines), Michigan (Kalamazoo), Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh), New Jersey (Morristown), and Massachusetts (Boston), before settling in West Reading with his wife, Natalie Bell, and transitioning to work in state government. He can often be found watching baseball, reading a long and possibly boring book, or listening to records at home.

Candy Draper

Candy Draper is the mother of three daughters and Bubbe to three grandsons. A whole bunch of people in Pennsylvania have no clue what a Bubbe is when it's yelled to get my attention at soccer games. She lived her entire life in New York and is a retired insurance agent. Recently she moved to Pennsylvania, where one of her daughters and her family live. She describes it as a blessing, a challenge and a great experience and is looking forward to being part of her new RCOS community. .



Sara and Eric Pfeiffer

Sara and Eric Pfeiffer are excited to be welcomed into the Oheb Sholom community. Eric was born and raised in Lancaster and met Sara while she was pursuing her masters degree in Hershey. They moved back to the Reading area early in 2023 after having lived in Columbus, Ohio for seven years so that they could be closer to family while they raise their two young kids, Dana (age 6) and Cory (age 3). Dana is enrolled in Religious School, and Sara and Eric are excited to continue enriching their kids' lives as members of this community.

Harold Felton

Harold Felton moved to the Lehigh Valley in 1982 after finishing his PA studies in Brooklyn and a surgical residency at Yale University. He was the first PA at St. Luke's University Hospital. He is a retired Army colonel and is semi-retired working as a PA at St. Luke's in urgent care. He is married with four children and eight grandchildren. He enjoys traveling and woodworking and is looking forward to being a part of the Oheb Sholom community.

24th Annual Jewish Food & Cultural Festival Sunday, November 3rd · 11 am to 4 pm

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