

BHBIRochester.org
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Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

BULLETIN

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July President's Message

Friends,

This is a time of contrasts. In the secular calendar, we are entering the high point of the summer. Warmth. Sun. Fireworks. Picnics. In the Jewish calendar we are about to enter the three weeks of mourning, from the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz, which we will be observing jointly with Temple Beth Am, Temple Beth David, and the Turkish Cultural Center on July 5th (get your reservations in) to the Fast of the 9th of Av, which we will be observing with Temple Beth Am and Temple Beth David on the evening of July 25th. These fast days are associated with the destruction of the two Temples in Jerusalem, by the Babylonians in 586 BCE and by the Romans in 70 CE.

The rabbis teach us that the destruction of the second Temple was brought about because of causeless hatred. If you look around at our country and the world right now, you might even wonder if there is something else getting ready to be destroyed. Last week's two momentous Supreme Court decisions, upholding the Affordable Care Act and upholding same-sex marriage were greeted by very partisan reactions, great celebration and great vitriol. I would qualify the vitriolic reactions as causeless hatred, hatred out of proportion to the issues. I see a lot of it in the media and in the social media, including coming from people I know.

As far as I know, Conservative Judaism does not have an opinion about the Affordable Care Act, but it does have an opinion about same-sex marriage. In fact, it has two. In 2006 an opinion was published supporting same-sex marriage. At the same time, another opinion was published which did not support same-sex marriage. It is left to the individual rabbi to decide which opinion to accept. The result has been that the Conservative seminaries are now accepting homosexual students and in 2012 the Rabbinic Assembly published a Jewish ritual for performing a same-sex marriage. The argument in favor of same-sex marriage is that rabbinic restrictions in halacha can be overturned in support of human dignity. Human dignity is an argument that also was used in the Supreme Court decision.

As you proceed into the summer and the upcoming election season, as you look at events in Europe, in the Middle East, and elsewhere, feel free to hold as strong opinions as you want to, but express them in a way that upholds your own dignity and the dignity of those you oppose. Don't increase the expression of hatred.

Enjoy your summer.

Leon Metlay

**See Page 4 for Details About Our Upcoming Interfaith Event:
*Fasting in Our Religious Traditions***

BHBI WEBSITE

Have you checked out the BHBI web site lately? If you haven't there is a lot that you're missing. The web site at www.BHBIRochester.org provides information about many aspects of our congregation, lists the BHBI calendar, has electronic versions of this and previous bulletins going back several years, has an extensive history of our congregation along with historic photos, includes photos from several BHBI dinners, picnics and other special events, and has the unique Adon Olam Songbook with information on over 100 melodies for Adon Olam.

BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – JULY 2015

Friday	July 3	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service at Heather Heights in Pittsford Light candles at 8:34 PM
Saturday	July 4	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Balak
Sunday	July 5	2:25 AM	Joint Jewish-Muslim Pre-Fast Meal for the Fast of Tammuz and Ramadan at Temple Beth Am's space at TBK Room 103
		8:15 PM	Fasting in Our Religious Traditions Discussion as Part of the 'United by Faith' Interfaith Series at the Turkish Cultural Center, 2692 Dewey Ave.
		9:30 PM	Post-Fast Dinner at the Turkish Cultural Center
Friday	July 10	7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at TBK Room 103 Light candles at 8:32 PM
Saturday	July 11	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Torah: Pinchas
Sunday	July 12	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Monday	July 13	7:30 PM	BHBI Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday	July 15	7:30 PM	Small Conservative Synagogue Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI
Friday	July 17	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 8:28 PM
Saturday	July 18	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Matot-Massei
Sunday	July 19	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	July 24	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 8:22 PM
Saturday	July 25	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Devarim
		8:00 PM	Shabbat Mincha with Temple Beth Am and Temple Beth David @ BHBI
		8:30 PM	Erev Tisha b'Av Service Pre-Fast Snack and Socializing @ BHBI
		8:40 PM	Erev Tisha b'Av Study Session (Mourning vs. Celebrating Shabbat)
		9:30 PM	Ma'ariv Service with Reading of Eicha (Lamentations) and Havdalah Tisha b'Av Fast begins at 8:40 PM
Sunday	July 26	9:00 AM	Tisha b'Av Morning Service
Friday	July 31	7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Light candles at 8:14 PM

SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

This month's Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study session will be held at BHBI on Wednesday, July 15th at 7:30 p.m. at BHBI. Come and bring your friends. Everyone is welcome!

GOODSEARCH.COM

Goodsearch.com is an on-line internet search program that pays non-profit organizations like BHBI a fee every time someone uses their search service. Go to www.goodsearch.com, enter the search term that you want and put in BHBI on the line where it says Who Do You Goodsearch For? BHBI will benefit from each search you make!

DONATIONS THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

GENERAL FUND

Nelly Vishnagorsky

Yahrzeits

At the following Shabbat Services, we will read the names of our late loved ones whose Yahrzeits will occur on that Shabbat or during the following week.

July 3-4	Tammuz	July 10-11	Tammuz-Av	July 17-18	Av	July 24-25	Av
Sam Hector*	20	Nelli Ahuva Metlay*	24	Benjamin Bobb	2	William Aaron	
Harry Sarachan*	20	Ira Edward Potter*	24	Joseph Greenbaum*	2	Bernstein*	9
Rose Schiff*	20	Thelma Ring Smith*	25	Moses Berkowitz*	3	David Titof	9
Louis Edelson*	21	Irwin Bertman*	26	Kathy Shur*	5	Haim Menachem Levy	12
Bernard Sallerson*	21	Oscar Hart	27	Julian Sugarman	7	Hyman Silverman*	12
Max Goodman*	23	Mark Rose	27	Anna Berman*	8	Frank Carper*	13
David Gordon*	23	Abraham Schriba*	27	George Cohen*	8	Sarah R. Spector*	13
		Doriene Baker	28			Morris Shimberg*	15
Denotes name memorialized on BHBI Memorial Plaque		Hyman Tanenbaum	28				
		Celia Silverstein*	29			July 31-August 1	Av
		Sidney Gold	1			Abraham Heyman*	17
		Louis Schiff*	1			Phillip Boyarsky*	18
						Charles Levinson	18
						Jennie Braime*	20
						Abraham Spector*	20
						Maurice Ohl*	21
						Sarah Applebaum	
						Gastel*	22
						Israel Osband*	22

We pray that our mourners will be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem and that the memory of the deceased continues to be a blessing to all who knew them.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

You can also memorialize a friend or loved one on a BHBI memorial plaque. Our memorial plaques are very reasonably priced. For more information, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

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So far our *TOPS* Gift Card fundraiser has been quite successful. Remember, *TOPS* Gift Cards are now available through BHBI in \$50 denominations. To purchase *TOPS* Gift Cards, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

June 6	Cathy Block in memory of her mother-in-law, Theresa Meyer Block
June 13	Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky in honor of Nina's birthday
June 20	The Congregation
June 27	Tamara Strubel in memory of Gad Strubel

MAKE YOUR PURCHASES AT AMAZON.COM AND SUPPORT BHBI AT THE SAME TIME!

Why not contribute to BHBI while making on-line purchases? It's easy to make purchases on-line at Amazon.com and support BHBI financially at the same time. Just go to the BHBI web page at www.BHBIROchester.org and click on the Amazon.com link. Each time you make a purchase after linking to Amazon.com from our web page, BHBI gets a percentage of the purchase price. The more you buy in this way, the more BHBI makes!

Fasting in Our Religious Traditions

Marking the coincidence of the Jewish partial fast day of the 17th of Tammuz with the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, BHBI, Temple Beth Am, Temple Beth David, the Turkish Cultural Center of Rochester and the Peace Islands Institute of Upstate NY will have a joint program on "Fasting in our Religious Traditions" as part of our ongoing 'United by Faith' Interfaith Series. Joint activities will include a pre-fast meal before sunrise on Sunday, July 5th, a discussion of the Jewish and Muslim perspectives on fasting on Sunday evening and a post-fast dinner.

The pre-fast meal will start at 2:25 a.m., hosted by Temple Beth Am at their Temple B'rith Kodesh location. The meal will conclude at 2:58am (to accommodate start of the Ramadan fast; the Jewish fast starts at 3:40am).

The post-fast dinner will start at 9:31 p.m. and will be hosted by the Turkish Cultural Center at their building (the Ramadan fast ends 9:01pm, the Jewish fast ends 9:31pm).

Prior to the dinner there will be program led by Rabbi Peter Stein of Temple B'rith Kodesh and by Dr. Ahmed Celenli, the U of R Muslim chaplain, on the meaning of fasting in our different religious traditions. The program will begin at 8:15pm and is at the Turkish Cultural Center, 2692 Dewey Ave.

Turkish food will be halal but not kosher. Kosher meals will be available for those who request it. Reservations are required for each meal (but not the program). To make a reservation, please send an email to bhbirochester@gmail.com, and indicate which meal(s) you are making a reservation for, and whether you wish to have a kosher meal. Reservations are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, July 3rd.

The Significance of the 17th of Tammuz and Tisha b'Av

July marks two fast days, the 17th of Tammuz and the 9th (Tisha) of Av. Both dates are very significant in the Jewish calendar. The 17th of Tammuz marks the date on which the Romans breeched the walls of Jerusalem, while the 9th of Av marks the date on which several terrible events happened in Jewish history including the date on which both the First and Second Temples were destroyed, the date on which Beitar, the last Jewish fortress to fall to the Romans during the Bar Kochba Rebellion was captured, marking the beginning of a tremendous loss of life, and the date on which the Jews were expelled from Spain during the Inquisition. The 17th of Tammuz is commemorated as a fast during daylight hours only while Tisha b'Av is observed as a complete fast day (like Yom Kippur). The Book of Lamentations is read and we sit on the floor or on low seats as in mourning during Tisha b' Av services. The 3 weeks from the 17th of Tammuz until the 9th of Av are days of mourning in which no weddings or other festivities are scheduled.

Rochester Jewish Film Festival

The Rochester Jewish Film Festival will be held from July 12th – July 20th at a number of local venues. The list of films to be screened includes the following:

Film	Date	Time	Place
Belle & Sebastian	Sunday, July 12	1 pm	Dryden Theatre
To Life	Sunday, July 12	4 pm	Dryden Theatre
Above and Beyond (with Opening Night Party!)	Sunday, July 12	7:30 pm	Dryden Theatre
Deli Man (& Deli Box Lunch)	Monday, July 13	11 am	JCC
God's Slave	Monday, July 13	1:30 pm	JCC
Mr. Kaplan	Monday, July 13	6 pm	Dryden Theatre
Gett: The Trial of Viviane Amselem	Monday, July 13	9 pm	Dryden Theatre
The Green Prince	Tuesday, July 14	11 am	JCC
Anywhere Else	Tuesday, July 14	1:30 pm	JCC
Little White Lie	Tuesday, July 14	6 pm	Little Theatre
A Borrowed Identity	Tuesday, July 14	9 pm	Little Theatre
The Return	Wednesday, July 15	11 am	JCC
Sacred Sperm	Wednesday, July 15	2 pm	JCC
Beneath the Helmet	Wednesday, July 15	6 pm	Little Theatre
24 Days	Wednesday, July 15	9 pm	Little Theatre
The Muses of Isaac Bachevis Singer	Thursday, July 16	11 am	JCC
Hanna's Journey	Thursday, July 16	1:30 pm	JCC
Zemene	Thursday, July 16	6 pm	Little Theatre
The Farewell Party	Thursday, July 16	9 pm	Little Theatre
Havana Curveball	Saturday, July 18	6 pm	Dryden Theatre
Zero Motivation & You Must Be Joking	Saturday, July 18	8 pm	Dryden Theatre
Macropolis	Sunday, July 19	10:30 am	JCC
The Dove Flyer	Sunday, July 19	2 pm	Dryden Theatre
Dough	Sunday, July 19	6 pm	Dryden Theatre
The Last Mentsch	Sunday, July 19	8:30 pm	Dryden Theatre
Serial (Bad) Weddings (with Closing Night party!)	Monday, July 20	7 pm	Dryden Theatre

For tickets or more information, go to rjff.org or call 461-2000.

OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Leon Metlay at 271-2945 or Stan Schaffer at 473-8072. You can also e-mail us at BHBIRochester@gmail.com

WANT TO REMEMBER OR HONOR SOMEONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION? *Consider sponsoring a kiddush or making a donation to any one of our funds* (General Fund, Kiddush Fund, Harry Rogachefsky BHBI Building Fund, Torah Fund, Rabbi Aaron Solomon Scholarship Fund, Special Events Fund or the Sam Malina Memorial Fund). Please indicate which fund you would like your donation to go to and we will send out an acknowledgement card as you indicate and print an announcement in this bulletin. A standard sponsored kiddush at BHBI costs just \$40 while a larger enhanced kiddush is just \$50.

BULLETIN CONTENT What do you enjoy reading in the BHBI Bulletin? Is there something that you would like added (or taken out)? If so, please let Stan Schaffer know. We always appreciate feedback.

DID YOU MISPLACE YOUR BULLETIN? Don't worry. BHBI Bulletins going back several years can now be found on our web page: www.BHBIRochester.org

WANT TO GET YOUR BULLETIN HOT-OFF-THE-PRESS? Consider having us e-mail it to you! Contact Stan Schaffer at: stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

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