

BHBIRochester.org
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Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

BULLETIN

Editor: Stan Schaffer

December President's Message

Friends,

The leaves have come down – and perhaps even gotten raked! – and as the weather changes we begin the long haul into winter. But if you find that the cold and the grey is getting you down, there is one place to go where it is always warm and bright – Shabbat services at BHBI! Our furnace and our ruach are sure to warm both body and soul and the sit down kiddush luncheon provides both good food and good companionship. So if it has been awhile since you last came to Shabbat services, why not give it a try?

This month, as we close out the secular year, we will have our annual Chanukah Party and Dinner. As in the last few years, we will be joined by our friends from Temple Beth Am. The celebration will take place Sunday, December 25th, starting at 5 pm, with candle lighting (bring your own menorah!) at 5:30. A dinner of soup, salad, latkes, blintzes and dessert will follow at 6 pm. There will be songs and games for all ages, so you want to be sure not to miss the fun! Reservations are due by Tuesday, December 20th, so please be sure to either (i) mail in the reservation form found on page 5 of this bulletin, (ii) e-mail us at BHBI@frontiernet.net, or (iii) leave a message on our office answering machine 244-2060.

If you take a moment to read the history page of our shul website, www.BHBIRochester.org, you will see that this is a very special year for our Congregation. It is the 100th anniversary of the founding of Beth Hamedresh Hagodel, one of the two synagogues that merged to form present day BHBI. To celebrate, we will be having a special 101st Anniversary Party to be scheduled sometime this coming spring. It will be an event you won't want to miss. So keep an eye out for further details to be announced here in the coming months.

Finally, on a sad note, our long-time member, Wilma Miller, who lived in Princeton, NJ for the past few years, has passed away. Our sympathy goes to her family and friends.

See you in shul,

Steve Teitel

HAPPY CHANUKAH



BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – DECEMBER 2011

Friday	Dec 2	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service at Heather Heights in Pittsford Light candles at 4:17 PM
Saturday	Dec 3	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Vayeitzei
Sunday	Dec 4	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	Dec 9	8:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am Light candles at 4:16 PM
Saturday	Dec 10	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Torah: Vayishlach
Sunday	Dec 11	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Monday	Dec 12	7:30 PM	Monthly Meeting of the BHBI Board of Trustees
Wednesday	Dec 14	7:30 PM	Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study Session at BHBI
Friday	Dec 16	8:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 4:17 PM
Saturday	Dec 17	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Vayeishev
Sunday	Dec 18	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	Dec 23	8:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 4:20 PM
Saturday	Dec 24	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Miketz. Blessing of the New Month.
Sunday	Dec 25	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion.
		5:00 PM	BHBI/Beth Am Joint Chanukah Party at BHBI with candle-lighting and songs at 5:30 followed by dinner and games
Friday	Dec 30	8:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Light candles at 4:25 PM
Saturday	Dec 31	10:00 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am Torah: Vayigash

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS UNAFFILIATED AND INTERESTED IN JOINING A CONGREGATION?

Let them know about BHBI's special free 3 month trial membership (available to prospective first-time new members only). Have them contact BHBI at 244-2060 or BHBI@frontiernet.net and we will be happy to give them information about BHBI and this great offer!!

SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

The December Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study session will be held Wednesday, December 14th at 7:30 p.m. Come join the lively discussion.

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!

GET YOUR CHANUKAH GIFTS AT AMAZON.COM AT SUPPORT BHBI AT THE SAME TIME!

Why not contribute to BHBI while making on-line purchases? It's easy to purchase gifts 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!

BHBI WEB SITE

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.

AD SPONSORS

We are always looking for additional businesses that are interested in placing an ad in the BHBI Bulletin. If you know of someone whose business or company may be interested, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Super Sunday – December 4th – Please be generous when you get your Super Sunday call from a Jewish Federation volunteer on Sunday, December 4th. If you'd like to help as a volunteer, call the Federation at 461-0490 or go to the Federation web site at www.jewishrochester.org.

The Great Chanukah Giveaway – December 11th – Stop by Barnes & Noble at Pittsford Plaza from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the PJ Library Great Chanukah Giveaway. There will be lots of activities and performances for kids.

A Conversation with Inspiring Women – Building and Sustaining Strong Jewish Community – Dec. 15th at 7:30 p.m. - This panel discussion, to be held at the JCC, will focus on Jewish women and community leadership. A dessert reception will follow. Please RSVP on the JCC web site, www.jccrochester.org.

RECIPE FOR LATKES

Makes approximately 12 palm-sized latkes

- 4 medium potatoes
- 1 medium onion
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup matzah meal (flour or bread crumbs can be substituted)
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. each salt and black pepper (more or less to taste)
- vegetable oil

Shred the potatoes and onion into a large bowl. Press out all excess liquid.(if using a food processor, use the chopping blade for 2 or 3 seconds after pressing out liquid to avoid stringy fly-aways). Add eggs and mix well. Add matzah meal gradually while mixing until the batter is doughy, not too dry. (you may not need the whole amount, depending on how well you drained the veggies). Add the baking powder, salt and pepper and mix well. (Don't taste the batter -- it's really gross!). Don't worry if the batter turns a little orange; that will go away when it fries. Heat about 1/2 inch of oil to medium-high heat. Form the batter into thin patties about the size of your palm. Fry batter in oil. Be patient: this takes time, and too much flipping will burn the outside without cooking the inside. Don't fry too many latkes at once – doing so will cause them to absorb all of the oil. Flip when the bottom is golden brown.

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.

December 2-3	Kislev	December 9-10	Kislev	December 23-24	Kislev - Tevet	December 30-31	Tevet
Meyer Kovel'ski*	7	Jack Soble *	14	Emma Aranow*	28	Abraham Stolnitz*	5
Nathan Bernstein*	9	Edward M. Hart	19	Karen Cohen	28	Barbara Bertman*	6
Beatryce Cohen*	9	Rose Alderman*	20	Morris Kanthor*	3	Sigmund Traub*	6
J. Louis Shapiro*	9	Hyman Ring*	20	Morton Fink*	4	Miriam Jossem*	7
Feist Hess*	10			Belle Lipsky	4	David Goodman*	8
Eleanor Teitel	10	December 16-17	Kislev	Abraham Weinstein*	4	Selma Kauffman Lansky*	9
Fannie Titof	10					William Silverstein*	10
Dr. Mark Blue	11	Ida Bobb	24	*Denotes name		Maurice Bloom*	11
Wolf Schild*	12	Sarah Hoffman*	25	memorialized on BHBI		Manuel Miller*	11
Rachel Olkes*	13	Hyman Snyder*	25	Memorial Plaque			
		Michael Miller*	27				

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

A CHANUKAH JOKE

A woman goes to the post office to buy stamps for her Chanukah cards.

She says to the clerk, "May I have 50 Chanukah stamps?"

The clerk says, "What denomination?"

The woman says, "Oh my G-d. Has it come to this? Give me 6 Orthodox, 12 Conservative, and 32 Reform."

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

- November 5 Ira Cohen in memory of Dianne Hooker
- November 12 The Congregation
- November 19 The Congregation
- November 26 Katie Metlay in honor of Leon Metlay's birthday

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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

TO OUR DONORS – THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Stanley Toker
Peg Toker

In memory of Paul Israel's father, mother and brother
Paul and Rose Israel

In memory of Louis Gastel
Ruth Polur

HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL

Malcolm and Annette Weinberg
Phil and Joanne Katzman

BHBI/Beth Am Chanukah Dinner Reservation Form

Sunday, December 25th at BHBI
Be sure to bring your menorahs!

5:00 P.M. – The party begins

5:30 P.M. – Chanukah candle-lighting followed by songs

6:00 – Dinner and games

Cost: Adults: \$12, Kids ages 12 and under: \$8, Family Max: \$36

Bring a friend!!

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____ Adults; _____ Children Under 12

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please send your reservation form to BHBI, 1369 East Ave., Rochester, NY 14610 to be received no later than December 20th.



OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Steve Teitel at 473-5741 or Stan Schaffer at 473-8072. You can also e-mail us at BHBI@frontiernet.net

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 Operating, Kiddush, Library, Torah, Rabbi Aaron Solomon Scholarship, Our Youth, Special Events 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

Congregation Beth Hamedresh-Beth Israel
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