

BHBIRochester.org  
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**Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel**

# BULLETIN

Editor: Stan Schaffer

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## **December President's Message**

Friends,

Winter is now upon us. The early snowfall this year threw my fall cleanup plans into chaos, and I only managed to get my leaves raked up during the brief warm spell last weekend. Fortunately our shul building committee was on the ball and we have now had both our leaves raked and our gutters cleaned. Our many thanks to the building committee – they are just some of the many folks who tirelessly work to keep our shul up and running year round. The building committee has also been continuing its investigations into options for the repair of the massive columns on the East Avenue side of the building, which are showing some signs of decay due to wood rot. Hopefully we will know more soon.

This month we celebrate the holiday of Chanukah. I am sure you all know the basic outlines of the traditional story – the evil King Antiochus IV, ruler of the Selucid Greek Kingdom, based in Antioch Syria, invaded and subjugated Judea defiling the Holy Temple and outlawing fundamental practices of Judaism such as circumcision. The priest Mattathias and his sons (among them Judah the Maccabee) led a popular revolt to expel the Syrian Greeks and rededicate the Temple leading to the miracle of the one jar of oil that lasted eight days. It was the victory of the weak over the strong, the few over the many. However, delving into various sources further, the story becomes a more complicated one of Jewish infighting and international political intrigue. After the death of Alexander the Great, the Greek Empire split into two parts: the Selucid Kingdom based in Syria, and the Ptolemaic Kingdom based in Egypt. Judea, situated at the border between these two kingdoms, engaged in a delicate balancing act, sometimes seeking the protection of the Selucids and sometimes the protection of the Ptolemies. The Jewish population of Judea was split between the traditionalists and the Hellenizers (i.e. Greek-o-philes) who sought to engage with the dominant Greek culture of the day. When Antiochus IV decided to attack the rival Ptolemaic Kingdom, and was reported to have died in battle, the traditionalists under the high-priest Onias took control and sought to realign Judea from the Selucids to the Ptolemies. When it emerged that Antiochus in fact was still alive, the Hellenizers, led by the sons of Tobias, lobbied Antiochus to recapture Jerusalem and restore them to power. In this light, the revolt of the Maccabees was as much a civil war against the Hellenizing Jews as it was a rebellion against the foreign occupation by the Selucids. Keep that in mind the next time you are enjoying your Greek yogurt.

Another fun Chanukah fact: Did you know that the original Chanukah latkes were originally made of cheese? The potato latkes we enjoy today only became popular in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century when Russian farmers began cultivating potatoes.

Our joint BHBI – Temple Beth Am Chanukah Celebration and Dinner will take place at BHBI on Sunday, December 9, starting at 5pm. Bring your menorah and we will light them together – but remember to bring lots of candles because it will be the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> and last day of the Holiday. Our celebration will continue with much less intrigue, but much more fun than the original event, with the singing of holiday songs and a festive dinner at 6pm. Please send your reservation in by 5 pm Tuesday, December 4, so we will know how much food to prepare. See page 5 for more information. I hope to see you at the party!

*Steve Teitel*

**Have a happy**



**Chanukah**

## BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – DECEMBER 2018

Saturday	Dec 1	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service      Torah: Vayeishev
Sunday	Dec 2	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Saturday	Dec 8	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Torah: Miketz (Shabbat Rosh Chodesh)
Sunday	Dec 9	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion Joint BHBI-Beth Am Chanukah Celebration and Dinner at BHBI
Monday	Dec 10	7:30 PM	BHBI Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday	Dec 14	7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am (TBK Room 103)
Saturday	Dec 15	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service      Torah: Vayigash
Sunday	Dec 16	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Wednesday	Dec 19	7:30 PM	Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI
Saturday	Dec 22	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service      Torah: Vayechi
Sunday	Dec 23	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Saturday	Dec 29	10:00 AM	Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am (TBK Room 103) Torah: Shemot
Sunday	Dec 30	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion

### SHABBAT CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

Friday, December 7 – 4:16 PM  
 Friday, December 14 – 4:17 PM  
 Friday, December 21 – 4:19 PM  
 Friday, December 28 – 4:24 PM

### MAKE YOUR PURCHASES AT AMAZON and GOODSHOP AND SUPPORT BHBI AT THE SAME TIME!

Chanukah is around the corner. Why not contribute to BHBI while making on-line purchases? It's easy to make purchases on-line at Amazon and Goodshop and support BHBI financially at the same time. Just go to the BHBI web page at [www.BHBIRochester.org](http://www.BHBIRochester.org), go to the Donate page and click on the Amazon or Goodshop link. Each time you make a purchase after linking to Amazon or Goodshop from our web page, BHBI gets a percentage of the purchase price. The more you buy in this way, the more BHBI makes!

### GOODSEARCH.ORG

Goodsearch.org 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.org](http://www.Goodsearch.org), log-in (after signing up and designating BHBI as your preferred non-profit), enter the search term that you want and every time that you do a search from that site BHBI will get a small fee. BHBI will benefit from each search you make! You can also reach the Goodshop internet marketplace site from Goodsearch.org, but remember to sign in before purchasing anything so that BHBI benefits.

# DONATIONS THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

## GENERAL FUND

In memory of Tanja Block  
*Cathy Block*

In memory of Charles Franke  
*Ellen Franke and Ira Cohen*

## THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

- November 3      The Congregation
- November 10    Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky in memory of Nina's father, Dr. Bernard Klionsky, and in honor of the birthday of Nina's brother, Matthew Klionsky  
Katharine Metlay in memory of her mother, Fannie Titof
- November 17    Steve and Ruth Teitel in memory of Steve's mother, Eleanor Teitel
- November 24    Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky in honor of the birthdays of Beth Metlay, Robyn and Katharine Carney, Leon Metlay and Daniel Klionsky

## 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.

Nov. 30 – Dec. 1	Kislev	December 14-15	Tevet	December 21-22	Tevet	December 28-29	Tevet
Emanuel Kovel'ski*	24	Meriam Jossem*	7	Joseph Morris*	14	Anna Buff*	21
Sarah Hoffman*	25	Mary Franke	8	Celia Suskind*	14	Benjamin Dvorkin*	21
Hyman Snider*	25	David Goodman*	8	Dora Rogovin*	15	Goldie Simon*	23
Michael Miller*	27	Selma Kauffman Lansky*	9	Nathan Goldberg	16	Leah Keyfetz*	24
Emma Aranow*	28	Rebecca H. Nussbaum*	10	Fannie Sablowsky*	17	Esther Sanzel*	24
Karen Cohen	28	William Silverstein*	10	Philip Senzel*	17	Samuel Meilstein*	26
December 7-8	Tevet	Maurice Bloom*	11	Joseph Schiff*	17	Ida Boyarsky*	27
		Sadye Abelman*	12	Hannah Senzel*	17		
Morris Kanthor*	3	Sol Lazarus*	12	Louis Bernstein*	18		
Morton Fink*	4	Fannie Osband*	13	Carl Kleinstein*	18		
Abraham Weinstein*	4			Rose Needler*	18		
Abraham Stolnitz*	5	*Denotes name		Estelle Hirsch*	19		
Barbara Bertman*	6	memorialized on BHBI		Shie Schmidman*	19		
Sigmund Traub*	6	Memorial Plaque					

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.

## CEMETERY PLOTS

Did you know that BHBI has designated sections at Stone Road, Britten Road and Mt. Hope Cemeteries and that we sell cemetery plots? If you would like more information, contact Steve Teitel.

## 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](mailto:stanschaffer@frontiernet.net)

## SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

Our next Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study session will be held at BHBI on Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.



## POTATO LATKE RECIPE FOR CHANUKAH

### Ingredients

5 large potatoes, peeled	1 large onion	1/3 cup oil for frying
4 eggs	1/3 cup matzah meal	
1 tsp. salt	1/4 tsp. pepper	

### Instructions:

Grate the potatoes and onion on the fine side of a grater or in a food processor or blender with a little bit of water added to it. Add eggs and mix well. Add matzah meal and seasoning and mix well. Heat oil in frying pan, then add mixture, 1 tablespoon at a time, into the frying pan. When golden brown, turn over and brown the other side.

## 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](mailto:stanschaffer@frontiernet.net)

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S/W corner of Jefferson & Winton Rds

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](mailto:stanschaffer@frontiernet.net)

## 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](http://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.

## EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

**Family Chanukah Concert with Simply Tsfat, Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 1:45 – 3:45 pm at the JCC –** Simply Tsfat is a trio of highly talented musicians from the mystical city of Tsfat, Israel, the cradle of Kabbalah. Simply Tsfat brings its high octane concert of ecstatic music and storytelling to audiences throughout the world, fusing Heaven and Earth together in their uniquely warm and intimate style. For joy, exceptional musical talent and inspiration - there simply is nothing better than Simply Tsfat! Sponsored by Chabad.

# Joint BHBI - Temple Beth Am Chanukah Celebration and Dinner

*Sunday, December 9th, 5 pm*

Congregation Beth Hamedresh - Beth Israel  
1369 East Avenue, Rochester, NY



*Celebrate the holiday with our congregations!*

- 5:00 pm      Get Together
- 5:30 pm      Menorah Lighting -- bring your menorahs and  
candles from home and we'll light them all together!  
Followed by a sing along -- dreidels -- games
- 6:00 pm      Festive Dinner -- soup, latkes, and more!

Dinner: \$12 for adults, \$8 for children 12 and under,  
family maximum of \$36.

## **Reservations required**

Call or email by 5pm Tuesday, December 4  
244-2060 • [BHBIRochester@gmail.com](mailto:BHBIRochester@gmail.com)  
Visit our website: [www.BHBIRochester.org](http://www.BHBIRochester.org)

**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 [BHBIRochester@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:stanschaffer@frontiernet.net)

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1369 East Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14610