



Bethel-Harrisonburg.org

The purpose of this congregation shall be to worship God in accordance with the faith of Judaism; to cultivate a love and understanding of the Jewish heritage; to strengthen the ties within the Jewish community; to strengthen the bonds of loyalty with the Jewish people everywhere; to bring nearer the Dominion of God on earth through an emphasis on the principles of righteousness and harmony in society at large, and to engage in social action projects in pursuit of social justice and Tikkun Olam (repair of both the human and nonhuman components of the world).

JANUARY 2020

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, From the Board 12/16/2019

- Michelle continues to respond to inquiries as needed. In addition, this month she met with a group of East Rock High School students to discuss symbols in Judaism.
- Josh Linder is looking for someone to replace him as faculty advisor of Hillel. He will send the details of the position to Ron Rubin as a start.
- Les Mintzer spoke with the Fire Marshall regarding the possibility of locking the Sanctuary doors. He states that no locking mechanisms can be present on the bottom 10 inches of the door. Les continues to look into options to lock the doors securely.
- Ron Ornstein reports that Clarence has been out of commission due to his stroke, and Barbara has been doing the cleaning. Clarence is recovering well.
- The bulletin board strips for Religious School have arrived but have not yet been installed.
- Andy Kohen stated that both the full-time and part-time advertisements have been placed, but not yet been posted.
- Andy reported that Arnie Kahn is the new secretary at Faith in Action. Andy is a member of the campaign committee of Faith in Action. The full \$5,000 from Chuck Slott's estate donation has been received. This donation is intended to be used for Social Action and will be placed into the Chuck Slott Memorial Fund. This fund will be noted in the Bridge for further donations from the congregation, as we will need to maintain it for future use. A social action information event at the Temple is in the planning stages.
- Men's Club: Les reports that they are meeting this coming Wednesday at Taste of Thai. They will be feeding the Lion's Club on 1/14/20.
- Sisterhood: Sherri Alt reports that they just finished delivering gifts for 12 children through Social Services. The Chanukah dinner will be this Sunday night.
- Religious School: Liz Weber is present tonight. Dara Hall reports that "RS really enjoyed participating in the Kulanu event tied to family education. The RS Shabbat service went well – Rabbi Grumbacher led a consecration ceremony for 5 of students, followed by a potluck luncheon. Jackson Moyer was Bar Mitzvah'd during Thanksgiving break in Aruba. Today was the last day of RS until the New Year, and we return January 5th. On January 19th, the students will be preparing a parents' appreciation lunch." Liz adds that Gabriella is no longer a teacher as her availability has not been great, and she will only function as a back-up teacher. She brought some of the Chanukah cards that the kids made to show us. The teachers are interested in incorporating more music, and they have started to do so, at Liz's encouragement.

SHORTY:

- The ski trip will be the weekend of Jan 31 to Feb 1st. They will be having some teens attending Winter Kallah Jan 17-20, but we do not have a final count as to who will be attending.

Old Business:

- Security Update: As above. Michelle reminded us that we should be mindful of keeping the front door locked, and monitoring to keep it so.

- Open Doors: Gale Clemons and LeeAnne Shepard are making the arrangements. Gale expressed the need for individuals to sign-up to attend. Gale has made contact again with Abas from the Islamic Center.

New Business:

- The board approved the following two usage requests: The first is a book group (second Friday of the month from 10-12noon); the second is from the Shenandoah Valley LGBT forum on Sunday, January 12 from 2:30-5pm. The book group will only incur a cleaning charge if deemed necessary. The second group will probably require a cleaning cost, as the group will be larger.
- Also approved: Christmas bonus the Barbara & Clarence Ashburn. Christmas gift to Don Smith.

There was one change to the calendar: Rabbi Grumbacher will be leading services on January 17, 2020 (originally listed as a lay service.)

The next board meeting is Monday, January 20, 2020.

-peace

Michelle Ornstein, board president

MY (MONTHLY) WORD!

“20/20 Insight: Hindsight and Foresight”

As we enter the new year of 2020 we find that the month of January contains two Torah portions that end the Book of Genesis and two that begin the Book of Exodus. Do those portions give us insight (ugh!)?

A little hindsight (oy!)...

Ending the first book of the Torah takes us out of the realm of dysfunction; the stories of the matriarchs and patriarchs make us wonder how could we move forward. There was all kinds of drama, parents “sacrificing” their children on many levels, sibling rivalry and favoritism. We find ourselves in Egypt, thrilled that one of our own (Joseph) has made it big in the court of Pharaoh but until then we wondered if our People would survive at all in its nascent stage. The children of Israel (Jacob) who will make up the Twelve Tribes are themselves so very different as their father indicated in his review of their qualities. Being different is no big deal inasmuch as most siblings have unique qualities not shared by their brothers and sisters, but do those differences result in even greater fragility as we will soon find ourselves in Egypt?

And once Genesis ends and Exodus begins can we offer foresight (OMG!) into what our People will encounter? Well, we can for sure since we’ve got the book. All we have to do is read it. Nevertheless it’s good to summarize the highlights of the journey our People will be taking as we move from one *sedra* to the next.

We taste slavery. Taste? For over four hundred years we served the Pharaohs. Yes, but we are told that through all that time we stuck to the customs of our ancestors and didn’t give in to the lure of Egypt. It was confusing for us...why were we targeted? Of course the German Jews couldn’t understand that either; as they said “*We were so beloved!*” and Joseph’s Pharaoh too treated the immigrant Israelites to wonderful real estate, the suburb of Goshen. We found freedom and we knew we were to serve the One God, punctuated by receiving Torah at Sinai. The Ten Commandments were only symbolic; the following chapters map out the specific laws we were to follow. Of course between the time Moses ascended Sinai and the time revelation was clear, we lost sight (ENUF!) of our treasured status by fashioning a golden calf.

Just look at the end and the beginning of the first two books of Torah. Interesting? Indeed, fascinating! We learned so much and will continue to do, material that points to our uniqueness in the world today if we but appreciate the insights (OK!) we can get from our sacred text.

Leadership

Rabbi: Peter H. Grumbacher
President: Michelle Ornstein
Vice President: Joshua Linder
Treasurer: Bill Ney
Secretary: Phil Renick
Corresponding Secretary: Gale Clemons
Trustee: Lester Mintzer
Trustee: Eric Rynar
Trustee: Ron Ornstein
Past President: Andy Kohen
At large member: Amanda Friss
At large member: Ron Rubin
Sisterhood Presidents: Sherri Alt + Rebekah Greenfield
Men's Club President: Lester Mintzer
Religious School Principals: Dara Hall + Liz Webb

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YAHREZEITS

01 Bertha Hammer		Member	
Margaret Stein			John Stewart's Mother
Isadore Pfeffer			
Dora Brill	1966		
Sadye Goldberger	2007		Mike Goldberger's Mother
02 Bertha Wise	1887	Original Member	
Samuel Clayman	1980		Harry Clayman's Father
Eleanor Stoloff			Marjorie Huisinga's Mother
03 Samuel Ney	1902	Infant Child	
Lester Kahn			Arnie Kahn's Father
Karen Vanderhoof	2009		Dale Brothers' Sister
04 Mary Helbraun			Erwin Helbraun's Mother
05 Emma Hirsch Isaacs	1962	Member	
06 Leopold Wise	1885	Founding Member	
Max Hirsch	1955	Made donation for new temple	
Elsie K Cohn			

Richard Banker		
08 Leonard Hirsch	1909	
Rosa Isaacs		
Lillian Hamburg		
09 Baby Spiro	1917	
Helen Rotkin Levenson	1965	
Shirley Baron		
10 Paul Miller	1944	Member
Anna Weiss		
Dee Goldstein	2007	
11 Pearl Loewner Gravely		Member
Isadore Iseman	1948	
Verne Slater	1934	Member
12 Baby Klingstein	1887	
Elaine Schreiber	2018	
13 Bruno Stein		
Gerald Greenfield		
14 Rose Levine	1992	
15 Hulda Ney Iseman	1960	Member
Sam Weiss		
16 Sadye Robinson	1941	Member
17 Beatrice Winoker		
Marjorie Lichtenstein		
19 Harry Weiss		
20 Sophia Wurtzberger	1943	Member
23 Beulah (Bootie) Klingstein		Member
24 Fannie Wise	1877	Member
Nathan Gelman		
25 Harry Clayman	2007	Member
26 Leroy Loewner	1953	Member
27 Henry Robinson	1978	Member
28 Abe B Zindler Sr		
Jay Funston	1997	Member
29 William Stein		
Minnie Zindler Finger		
30 Vera Levine	1998	
31 Lessie Hirsch Baum	1942	
Shirley Goodman Saletan		

Roberta Stein's Father

Judy Liss' Mother
Cindy Baron's Mother

Lisa Giovanetti's Mother

Eugene Schreiber's Wife,
Gina Jarmin's Mother

Margee Greenfield's Father
Janet Kohen's Mother

Joan Funston's Mother

Josh Robinson's Father
Leo Zindler's Grandfather
Joan Funston's Husband
John Stewart's Father
Leo Zindler's Aunt
Joyce Helbraun's Sister

Suzi Trubitz' Mother

DONATIONS

To the Chuck Slott Memorial Fund

Irene Montaigne

To the General Fund

Dan Bly

Eddie Ney & Margee Greenfield-Ney in memory of Mary Abriss

Valerie Stephens in honor of Eddie Ney & Margee Greenfield-Ney's Anniversary

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL/SHORTY

Hope everyone has had a very happy Hanukkah, and best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year from Religious School!

This month we learned, we sang some fun songs, and we even decorated cards and photo frames for our families as gifts for Hanukkah.

Our b'nai mitzvah student, Troy, shared his hopes via an email that was shared with families that we will start using juice concentrate instead of juice bottles as part of our environmental stewardship. Good idea, Troy!

December was a short month for religious school because of our break, but before you know it we will be back in school in 2020. Religious school resumes on January 5th. In January we look forward to sharing in a special luncheon with our parents as the students prepare a meal to show how much we appreciate them.

L'shalom,

Dara & Liz

SHORTY

Happy Holidays from SHORTY! We had a fun Hanukkah celebration on 12/20 with dinner and a gift exchange at Sakura and then a late movie night at Regal. We are looking forward to a wonderful New Year for all, with our ski weekend kicking it off beginning Friday, January 31st. Hope you will join us at services that evening!

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PHOTOS

Congregation List

A new congregation list will be readied soon. Is your address on last year's list accurate? Let me know if you have a new email address. We also list cell phone numbers. Is your name listed the way you would like it to appear? All this information is only used for temple communication. If you have a college age student, I can send them the temple newsletter via email or snail mail. We can also list the email address of young people. To keep expenses down, if you have been receiving the newsletter by mail but can now receive it via email, please let me know. Judy Freudenthal, 867-5648 or jfreudy@aol.com. Thank you.



Gift Wrapping at Barnes and Noble 12/24/2019

Eight Sisterhood members wrapped holiday gifts at Barnes & Noble, for incredibly appreciative shoppers. Margee, Judy Freudenthal, Thea, Judy Liss, Joan, Esther, Zissel and Mona had a wonderful time seeing and wrapping what customers bought. If they asked, we told them the cost was a smile. They left wonderful donations and Sisterhood members had a great time.



First Step Wish List

SHELTER SUPPLIES

eraser sponges (Mr. Clean Magic Erasers)
clorox or lysol wipes
wet & dry swiffer refills
bleach & no chlorine bleach
bathroom/toilet cleaners
borax
hand sanitizer
dish detergent
liquid hand soap
disposable gloves
trash bags (13 & 30 gallon)
toilet paper
paper towels
laundry detergent (HE & sensitive skin)
fabric softener
laundry stain remover
laundry baskets
wheeled storage bins with drawers
under bed plastic storage containers
towels
bath rugs
hotel grade shower curtains
heavy duty shower liners
new bed pillows
twin size bedding & linen sets
rubber mattress covers
coffee makers

PERSONAL ITEMS

shampoo, conditioner, & body wash (full size)
African American hair products
sunscreen & body lotion (full size)
vaseline
shaving cream & razors
deodorant
maxi pads & tampons
baby shampoo, oil, lotion, & bath soap
diaper rash cream
baby wipes
diapers & pull ups (size 3, 4, 5, 6)
first aid supplies
antibiotic ointment, alcohol, & peroxide
tweezers & baby nail clippers
manicure sets & eye masks
hair brushes & combs
pajamas, bras, & underwear
sneakers, rain boots, & croc style shoes
flip flops & slippers
sunglasses
purple draw string bags
alarm clocks
umbrellas
purse sized flashlights
journals
adult coloring books
infant & toddler toys

Don't have time to go out to the store? Shop and order through [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and choose "First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence" as the designated charity! A portion of your purchase will be donated to First Step at NO EXTRA CHARGE TO YOU! Have items delivered to:

First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence at 129 Franklin St. Harrisonburg, VA 22801

FOOD

crackers & packaged snacks
saltine crackers
cereal & oatmeal
cookies & graham crackers
granola bars
flour, baking powder, & baking soda
instant noodles, pasta, & soup
spaghetti sauce

cooking oil
pudding & jell-o cups
cake & brownie mixes, icing
raisins & dried fruit
fresh fruit (oranges/apples)
water bottles
sports drinks
juice (bottles, packets, & boxes)
drink mixes (kool-aid, crystal light, etc.)
shelf stable milk (liquid & powdered)

ground coffee
tea bags
powdered & individual creamers
coffee filters (cylinders)
sugar & artificial sweeteners
condiments & spices
peanut butter & jelly
canned chicken, tuna, & other meat

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

small household items for residents moving into new apartments or homes! #housewarming

electric pump air mattresses
sheets & towels
measuring cups & spoons
dish sets, cups, mugs, & utensils
can openers & spatulas
pots/pans/bowls
small appliances
shower curtains & rings
strollers
pack-n-plays

Specific items can be found on our wish lists at Wal-Mart and Target. Just add those items to your cart, check out, & ship to First Step or drop them off! If you have any questions, give us a call at (540) 434-0295.

GIFT CARDS

At times, First Step residents need items that First Step does not have (i.e. perishable food, job specific clothing & shoes, gas for vehicle, etc.). Gift cards are used when there are no other community resources to provide the items.

Dollar General
Food Lion
Roses
Wal-Mart
Ross
Gas stations
Hair salons
Barber shops
Clothing & shoe stores

OFFICE SUPPLIES

batteries (AAA, AA, C, & D)
accordion folders
lined notepads & journals
notebooks
business envelopes
stamps
permanent markers
highlighters
binders
dividers
loose leaf paper
scissors
pencil pouches & boxes
pencil sharpeners

WAL-MART REGISTRY

go to:
<https://www.walmart.com/cp/3774807>
and search:
"First Step"
we're the first & only ones!

TARGET WISH LIST

[tgt.gifts/FirstStep-129](https://www.target.com/gifts/FirstStep-129)

JANUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
Hanukkah (Day 7) No religious school	Hanukkah (Day 8)	New Year's Eve	New Year's Day		7:30pm Lay service	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
SHORTY Meeting					7:30pm Lay service	
9:30am Religious school						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30am Religious school		Lions Club Dinner			7:30pm Rabbi Grumbacher	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30am Religious school	Martin Luther King Jr. Day				7:30pm Lay service	
Parents Appreciation Lunch	6:30pm Board Meeting					
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9:30am Religious school					Ski weekend	
					7:30pm Rabbi Grumbacher	