Adult Education Committee—Barbara Slagowitz, Chair

Save the date: February 28, 2016 - Dinner and a Movie
We are joining with the Italian American club to present the movie My Italian Secret: The Forgotten Heroes. Enjoy a fabulous Italian buffet including wine and dessert. The cost is $20 per person. Send your check to Phyllis Napoli, made out to CBY, to reserve your spot. Flyers with additional information are available in the lobby or CLICK HERE.

A Very Special April Program: April 14, 2016 - Award Winning Author Mellissa Fay Green will be visiting to discuss her books. At 12:30 PM she will lead our lunch and learn specially discussing Praying for Sheetrock and her latest book. That evening she will be discussing her best seller The Temple Bombing, a National Book Award finalist with a meet the author reception after the talk. Further details will follow.

On May 11, 2016: Rabbi Bloom will lead a lunch and learn exploring two books, Killing a King by Dan Efron and Not in God’s Name, confronting religious violence.

February is a great time to curl up with a good book. A special thank you to Felicia Pascal for leading a wonderful January lunch and learn book club.
# February 2016
Shevat ~ Adar I 5776

The simplest acts of kindness are by far more powerful than a thousand heads bowed in prayer.
Mahatma Gandhi

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This month CBY embarks upon its second pilgrimage to Israel. The President of our congregation, Twyla Sable, and her husband Bob will be co-leading this trip with me beginning on February 13. The recent events of Palestinian violence, especially the knifings of innocent Israeli civilians, has certainly contributed to the concerns that quite a few of our congregants have shared with me about this forthcoming trip. I take these to heart and appreciate the concerns for our group’s well being; yet the truth of the matter is, that whenever I travel to Israel there is a concern for security. When I lived in Israel for over a year there was always a security issue every time I ascended to an Egged Bus. Wherever I traveled in Jerusalem, I learned to watch what was going on around me. It was the way decades ago as it is today; yet I never let the fear of potential dangers interfere in my plans and security is part and parcel today in planning any trip to Israel.

In my heart I believe that traveling to Israel is one of the most important things we can do for the state. Sure, we should give tzedakah for Israel, especially the charities which desperately need our financial support. We can talk about Israel and defend it in our conversations with neighbors and friends. The importance of traveling to Israel belongs to a different category of mitzvoth which I maintain is incumbent upon all Jews. It is not just an economic factor that should motivate us to travel there to support its economy. It is also a deep-seated feeling of being present in this amazing country. Walking the streets, seeing the diversity of this nation, touring the ancient world and speaking to people who are engaged in the everyday drama of Israeli life is part of that holy pilgrimage. Praying at the Western Wall and visiting the Jewish quarter in the old city of Jerusalem to Masada and then to the Golan is all part of the must see moments that remind us of how history has resurrected our dream. Even with the profound problems which Israel faces, including the Arab population and the domestic economic and social issues that Israelis themselves must contend with, we are present to bring our support and be witnesses to the continuing miracle of Israel’s existence.

Every group which I lead to Israel returns feeling transformed and much more connected, not only to Israel but also to Judaism as a whole. I hope you will give us your blessings and not only wish that we go in peace and return in peace but that we experience the joy blending the ancient and the modern of Israel in our souls.

I still believe, after all the trips to Israel, in the statement attributed to David Ben-Gurion - Israel’s first prime minister. He said, “In Israel, in order to be a realist, you must believe in miracles.” I do even more so today.

Please mark your calendar for Friday night, March 4 when I will deliver my report to the congregation upon my return from the “state of miracles.”

Shalom,

Rabbi Brad L. Bloom MSW DD

Starting on Wednesday, March 9, Rabbi Bloom will have open office hours for any congregant who would like to stop in and, without an appointment, sit down and visit. Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30 AM and Thursdays from 2:00-4:00 PM will become an “open door” period. If and when there are two or more congregants waiting, Rabbi will limit these time frames for each person. If an individual needs to meet further then Rabbi Bloom will set up an appointment for more detailed meetings. The only times that Rabbi will not be in the office at these designated times is if a funeral is scheduled for those times, there is a pastoral emergency or if Rabbi Bloom is out of town. Rabbi Bloom is hopeful that more congregants will come and visit with him. Thank you for your attention.
President's Message

The CBY umbrella is composed of many pieces and parts, including a long handle and shaft to hold up its ribs and a canopy. The Rabbi is both the handle and the shaft providing the main support for all of us with his leadership, spiritual advice and teachings.

The canopy and ribs form the most visible parts of the CBY umbrella, the life blood of our temple. Our many colors and shades make up who we are. There is a rib for the founding members who had the vision to bring a synagogue to this community, another rib is the generosity of those who have given so charitably to build and maintain this temple. Another rib is for those who give through the highest form of charity – anonymously – enables us to have special programming and to receive special gifts with the focus on the gift not the giver. The Board of Directors and Past Presidents keeps us on a steady path toward growth and sustainability. Other ribs are the dedicated committee people who work tirelessly to bring excellent varied programming to stimulate the mind and soul.

The very last part but not least and the most important is the canopy that is the part of the umbrella that keeps the rain out and is the biggest and most visible part of the CBY umbrella. This canopy is the CBY members who attend and participate in our services and other programs. The members are the part of the umbrella that we see and that protects us. Without the canopy there is no umbrella. Those central parts, the members, are the main part of commitment to your temple, the umbrella. That’s what makes it work.

The membership is the reason for Beth Yam’s existence and also the reason that it works and provides support and protection for all of its other parts. This congregation, just as an assembled umbrella, is greater than the sum of its parts. Congregation Beth Yam is much greater than its members, officers, committees and rabbi separately.

We are separate parts but together we have a much greater purpose and function better in a way that none of the parts standing alone can.

Todah Rabah,
Twyla

Ritual Committee ~ David Kurjan, Chair

- This spring Rabbi Bloom will be starting an adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah program. We hope that many of you avail yourselves of this opportunity.
- **Please take note:** Our annual Purim service and Megillah reading will be on March 23 at 6:00 PM. There will be plenty of hamantaschen. More details to follow soon.
- There are four more Torah studies this spring (March 12, April 9, May 14, and June 11) and three Hot Topic Shabbats (March 19, April 16, and May 21). Mark your calendars.
- Welcome to Carol and Fred Carty as new members of the Ritual Committee.
- This past January 24-25 was Tu BiSh’vat, the New Year for Trees. We are blessed to be living in an area where there are so many of them. Keep that in mind when you take a walk.

SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday June 12, 2016**

**AROUND THE WORLD WITH TWYLA SABLE**

Please join us in honoring our outgoing president as we salute her on the completion of her successful two years as president of Congregation Beth Yam. Enjoy a wonderful evening with Twyla and her friends. More information will follow : Watch the Tidings, Small Tidings, the Electronic Board and the web site.
Sisterhood ~ Cathy Kite, President

Shalom Friends,

Sisterhood has many interesting programs planned for 2016. Make your reservations now for our Sweetheart Luncheon, February 11 at 11:30 AM. Join us in welcoming Elizabeth Millen, Editor of Pink Magazine, as our guest speaker.

Pink Magazine is a monthly publication dedicated to informing, educating and supporting the women of the Low Country. This year’s theme, “Be Your Own Sweetheart,” will feature an afternoon dedicated to fostering our own well being. Please CLICK HERE for details.

March 30 will mark Sisterhood’s 16th Annual Women’s Seder. This is an opportunity to share the joys of Passover with our friends of all faiths, an enriching experience for everyone. As in the past, we will be reading from our award winning CBY Woman’s Haggadah, edited by Elaine Lust. This Seder is a time to connect with our friends and share Passover memories and we look forward to this very special holiday. Details to follow.

Every woman in our Congregation has a voice and we want to hear yours. Please take part in our standing projects such as “Treat The Troops,” delivering groceries to the VIM Food Pantry, support of WRJ’S YES Fund, Shabbat Onegs and scholarships for our CBY Summer campers. We ARE stronger together.

Yours In Sisterhood,

Cathy

BOOK CLUB:
Please join us on Thursday, March 10 at 12:30 PM at Moss Creek Country Club for lunch and a lively discussion of the book BOSTON GIRL by Anita Diamant (author of the Red Tent) Reviewer: Kathy Burnce. An unforgettable novel about family ties, values, friendship and feminism through the eyes of a young Jewish woman (Addie Baum) growing up in Boston in the early 20th century. RSVP to Judie Aronson at (843) 342-6126.

BARNES & NOBLE GIFT WRAP-UP
Once again, the dedicated women of the CBY Sisterhood volunteered to wrap gifts at Barnes and Noble during the holiday season. Shoppers’ donations will benefit Treat the Troops and Bluffton Self-Help. A big “thank you!” to all the wrappers who made this possible, including Nadyne Ulicny, Sharon Bass, Helen Hauer, Ellen Jenner, Judie Aronson, Judy Gimbel, Joann Doyle, Ila Shapiro, Candy Solomon, Anne Sirowitz, Marcy Fine, Sheri Farbstein, Joey Perchick, Gay Birnbaum, Robin Krumholtz, Lou Drucker, Paula Rudman, Sharon Leff, Barbara Frogel, Fran Krieger, Marcia Mann, Sandy Levin, Sue Fritz, Elaine Lust, Sandy Leff, Sharon Burststein, Bev Averack, Randy Kurjan, Marcie Frisch and Cathy Kite.

ONEGS:
The following provided the onegs for December: Barbara Frogel, Susan Sneider, The Outreach Committee, Shaya Shatz & Helen Hauer.

SAVE THE DATE:
• Women’s Seder on Wednesday, March 30. More information will be coming next month.
• CBY Community Seder on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 5:00 PM, It will once again be led by Rabbi Bloom, with musical accompaniment by Adriana Urato and David Kimbell and catered by SERG Group. Be on the lookout for the opening of reservations. This event fills up fast and space is limited.
• Sisterhood Women’s Health Forum Wednesday, May 4, 2016 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM. This program will feature several prominent Hilton Head physicians specializing in the diagnosis, treatment and continuing care of women’s breast health. There is no cost for this event. Details to follow.

Sisterhood is proud to announce a new dedicated fund—the CBY Youth Camp Scholarship Fund. You will now be able to donate to this wonderful way to help our religious school students attend summer camp. It inspires one of the strongest ties to Judaism and offers experiences that last a lifetime!

Sunday, January 24
Crossing the Line: Anti-Semitism on College Campus with the CBY Youth Group
Corridor of Shame...
Highway To Hope

Thursday, February 18, 2016, 7:00 PM—9:00 PM
At Congregation Beth Yam

For more information go to www.bethyam.org
FREE admission with a NEW school supply
or a BOOK that will help a teacher tutor basic skills

Sponsored by the Social Action Committee of Congregation Beth Yam and the Hunger Coalition of the Lowcountry

DOES A DINNER/CASINO CRUISE INTEREST YOU?

Before we commit, we thought we would query. At this point, send no money, just your opinion. Does a Sunday afternoon on a lovely cruise boat with fun, gambling, delicious food and delightful company seem like something you would seriously consider? Your choice of 5 buffet dinners--if you can tear yourself away from the roulette, blackjack, slots, poker and more. Pizza, nachos and open cash bar available all afternoon, not to mention a lovely deck for just relaxing and breathing in the fresh sea air.

Remember you’re not signing up, just sharing your point of view. Reply to Barry Dixon at (914) 260-9564 and let us know if this spring event might interest you.

Library Committee — Linda Stern and Felicia Pascal

We are fortunate to have a wide selection of material in our Resource Center. We have CDs and DVDs as well as a wealth of material in book form. The Library Committee is a small group whose efforts are essential to maintain the collection.

Our committee reports to the Sisterhood Board; we have only a few members, not all of them up to dealing with physical shifting and culling of the collection when that is needed. We hope that some of our CBY membership will be interested in working with the Library Committee. We have few meetings but the book reviews and ideas for electronic display are on-going activity. We also have plans to re-verify our holdings and cull items of little or no interest in order to make room for new material. We will be selling some of our duplicates at the Sisterhood Sweetheart Luncheon on Thursday, February 11 at 11:30 AM.

It you think you might like to join the committee, please call Felicia Pascal at (843) 682-8211. There are no pre-requisites to joining except a love of books and interest to support CBY activities.

February Book Review: This is Not a Love Story by Judy Brown - Reviewed by Sue Fritz

Don’t be misled by the title. The author writes about her upbringing in an ultra-orthodox Jewish family, with her autistic sibling. As a child, she has no comprehension of her brother’s problems. She attempts to negotiate with God to cure her brother and to secure her personal wishes. The family interactions reveal a strong love that binds them through all of their conflicts.

Check out the following link to see the books in our library catalog on CBY Website:
Adult Education Committee presents

BASIC HEBREW & THE YIDDISH PROJECT

Classes start Tuesday, January 10 and run for 5 consecutive Tuesdays

**REGISTER NOW FOR CLASSES!**

- Class size is limited to 10 students per class
- **The Yiddish Project** 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
  - Yiddish language and culture
  - Online classes including videos and discussion of the role of Yiddish in our lives.

- **Basic Hebrew** 10:45 AM - 11:45 AM
  - An introduction to Hebrew leading to an understanding of the alphabet, vowels and root words. This is a prerequisite for anyone interested in becoming an adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Class taught by Janice Kaden.

**Contact Barbara Slagowitz to register or for additional information**

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Reserve your space now at Our Dine-Around Venue for 2016

**Upcoming**

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<td>Sigler’s Rotisserie &amp; Seafood (Bluffton)</td>
<td>Thursday, Feb 24</td>
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<td>Beach Club at Sea Pines</td>
<td>Thursday, March 3</td>
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<td>Osko and/or Peking Acrobats</td>
<td>Saturday, March 26</td>
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<th>Contact Diane Miller for reservations</th>
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<td>More information at <a href="http://www.bethyam.org">www.bethyam.org</a></td>
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This banner, as pictured on the front cover, is available to any committee or event who needs a visual.
Men’s Club—Alan Krumholz, President

- Our next board meeting and lunch will be on **Tuesday, February 8 at 12:00 PM.**
- The Events Committee will be presenting the 2016 calendar at our February meeting. We hope to have 2 dinner meetings next year and, if possible, an annual meeting Sunday brunch (in June) as well. Please contact Stuart Blickstein, Nelson Adelman or Mike Werner of our events committee, with any ideas for new events, revivals or meeting programs. We welcome your suggestions for short programs for future meetings, and larger scale events.
- The Golf Committee has begun to plan for the 2016 tourney and the first step is course selection. Please contact Steve Burstein with suggestions or if you wish to be involved in helping make this event as successful as it has been.
- We will be holding our annual Super Bowl party at CBY on February 7 at 6:00 PM.
- Finally, and **most importantly**, we have had to move our email communication to Constant Contact. If you are a dues paying member and not receiving our regular emails it is because your system is blocking the communication using Constant Contact. Please let me know and we will send you a direct email to help you fix the problem going forward. Thanks for your cooperation.

Fundraising Committee—Alan Meiselman, Chair

- The First Dine-Around of the year, a brunch at Buffalos in Palmetto Bluff, was a very pleasant and successful event. We will consider more of this type of Dine-Arounds later in the year. Our first dinner event, at Catch 22, was also a delicious sellout. The next evening meal will be at Sigler’s in Bluffton. Please contact Diane Miller for reservations. Seating will be limited to the first 40 reservations.
- On Thursday, March 3 we will **Dine-Around at The Beach Club in Sea Pines.**
- On Saturday, March 26, we will have an all Asian evening: dinner at OKKO Asian Bistro followed by the presentation of The Peking Acrobats at the Arts Center. These two event can be done separately or together.
- The 92Y LIVE program is being renewed under the chairmanship of Fred Carty. These will be announced as soon as they are available. It promises to be a series of special evenings.
- The committee is also beginning soliciting ads for our next Family Directory. Please contact Alan Meiselman for details and forms. We will need all the help we can get to meet our goals for the benefit of CBY.

Membership Committee
Pennie Meiselman and Mike Weingarten, Co-Chairs

- Susan & Steve Sigalow, New Affiliate members
- Karen & Daniel Borsky and Marcy & Ed Fine, New Resident members

Nominating Committee ~ Jack Miller

Each fiscal year (July-June), the president of the congregation appoints a nominating committee to present to the congregation a slate of Board of Directors and officers to be voted on for the next fiscal year. The Nominating Committee consists of a chairperson and 4 members. The chair and two of the members must be on the Board with terms continuing into the next year. The remaining two members must be resident members of the congregation who are not on the Board.

The Board consists of 15 elected Board members, 3 ex-officio voting Board members (immediate past president and presidents of Sisterhood and Men’s Club) and 1 ex-officio non-voting member (Rabbi).

This year’s committee members are Jack Miller, chairperson, Ed Brager, Melanie Wynne, Nadyne Ulicny and Kathy Burnce. If you are interested in either an officer or Board position, please contact any of the committee members.
Religious School ~ Robin Krumholz, Principal

January began our second semester of Religious School. We are trying something new with our Hebrew class (students 4th grade to B’nai Mitzvah.) Instead of meeting Thursdays from 4:30 – 6:00 PM, we will have Hebrew class on Sunday afternoon from 12:30 - 2:00 PM. We hope this will help our students have fewer conflicts with secular activities.

Our High School students explored how ethical Jewish principles should influence their use of social media, and our parents studied Jewish perspectives on “the afterlife.” Several families enjoyed learning how, and then celebrating, Havdalah with Student Cantor Dubin. Each family received a Havdalah candle and a self-decorated spice box. Our Bet students (2nd & 3rd graders) led Family Shabbat on Friday, January 29 at 6:00 PM, celebrating the birthday of trees, for Tu BiSh’vat.

Our Mitzvah point tallies are growing! Check out our bulletin board in the school hallway!

During our 1st semester almost every student attended at least one Shabbat Service! Rabbi Bloom and Adriana Urato continue to lead creative Sunday morning Boker Tov services for school-wide student and parent learning. We have been averaging 15-20 parents each week. Recall that our Boker Tov service (11:30 AM) is open to the whole congregation! Please plan to join us one Sunday soon.

In February, our Gimel class (4th & 5th graders) will lead Family Shabbat Service, our High School students will continue to introspect on the ethics of social media, our parents will study different branches of Judaism, and the Religious School Committee will turn their thoughts towards Purim! Spring is around the corner!

Thank you to everyone who has continued to donate both time and dollars to help us ensure that our future generation grows up knowing and loving their heritage. Shalom Y’all.

Youth Group News ~ Rachel Pepin, Youth Advisor

Youth group had a very busy January and plan to do the same in February. Two of our students, Miyah and Ariel Shatz, volunteered to speak during the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Shabbat this month and I am very proud of them for rising to the challenge. We had a wonderful event with the Sisterhood on January 24 viewing a very eye opening documentary about anti-Semitism on college campuses. Our students were quite engaged in the discussion with many members of the congregation.

February brings a lock-in that our students requested be an evening of pizza and board games. We will spend a good deal of time at the lock-in finalizing plans for the much anticipated and rejuvenated Purim Carnival coming to CBY very soon! It is so wonderful to see our youth wanting to spend time together and even more astounding to see how Judaism radiates from all of them.

Marcie Frisch presenting sisterhood's check to Lilli Coleman, Executive Director at Bluffton Self Help.

This is the proceeds of our gift wrapping at Barnes & Noble.

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING DONATION:

From: ____________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________
In Honor of: _______________________________________________________
In memory of: _______________________________________________________
Send Card To: _____________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________

SEND TO: Congregation Beth Yam, 4501 Meeting Street, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

We are Stronger Together
Congregation Beth Yam Sisterhood’s Membership Renewal Is Now In Progress!
Membership forms are available in the Office or click here
Abstract of Board Meeting ~ January 11, 2016—Judy Bluestone, Recording Secretary

- Rabbi Bloom urged board members to attend the MLK service on Friday, January 16 to experience the unique presentation of guest Melanie DeMore; he announced that the process for hiring a new student cantor for the fall of 2016 has commenced.

- The treasurer reported that our budget is in line in both expenses and revenues. Reminders will soon be sent to members who have not paid their annual dues.

- The Board of Directors voted on and welcomed new resident members Marcie and Ed Fine and Karen and Dave Bosky and new affiliates Susan and Steve Sigalow. Our membership stands at 307 to date.

- The Congregational Potluck Dinner is scheduled for February 12 and the ambassador party for April 10.

- The Board passed the following policy: “When CBY has a special event open to the general community, professional security will be hired.”

- Dine Around dates were announced for January. In March, a special Asian Dine Around will be featured: Dinner at OKKO followed by the Arts Center’s presentation of the Peking Acrobats. Dinner only, dinner with show or show only options are available. Show tickets (50 only) are $42. Make reservations (CBY members only) for the Texas Hold’Em tournament on February 6.

- The CBY Directory ad selling period is now open. Members are asked to sell an ad or suggest a potential buyer to the Fundraising Committee.

- Fred Carty will be the 92Y chair. Watch for news about an exciting new schedule of programs.

- The Religious School Committee chair announced a full schedule of January events involving religious school and the Youth Group.

- In an effort to increase attendance, Hebrew School will be held on Sundays, after Religious School, from 12:30 PM to 2:00 PM. Children must attend to develop proficiency prior to beginning instruction for B’nai Mitzvah next year.

- The Board approved the Religious School request to convert a classroom to a more casual environment for use by the Youth Group for meetings and informal gatherings. It will continue to serve as a classroom on Sunday mornings.

- The Governance Task Force will redefine its purpose and bring it to the Executive Committee and Board. It is moving forward on developing an emergency evacuation protocol and with organizing our bylaws.

- Interviews are underway for a new full time office staff person.

- The 2016 Nominating Committee has met and is moving forward.

- The Board approved the Care Committee’s plans to establish a bereavement group for CBY members.

- A Michal Meron illustrated Torah has been purchased for the synagogue by an anonymous benefactor. The Torah contains an illustrated version of each parasha and individual canvas panels of each one may be purchased to commemorate a b’nah mitzvah or other Jewish life cycle occasions.
New Home Construction
A month later... “compare these to last month’s photos”

Whether we build a new home from the ground up or remodel yours, Group 4 will do it right, on time and on budget!

“In about 3 weeks, Laura Christie (shown above) and her family will move into their new home. You can depend on Group 4 Builders to pay attention to every detail of your project. From site clearance, foundation, framing/siding/roofing all the way to the smallest of details...we will be there doing it right!” Jack Resnick, Owner

Group 4 Builders  843-422-6925  jack1899resnick@gmail.com
2015/2016 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

Twyla Sable                  President
Pennie Meiselman            1st Vice-President
Elaine Lust                 2nd Vice-President
Robert Sable                Treasurer
Judy Bluestone              Recording Secretary
Marcia Frezza               Corresponding Secretary
Michael Weingarten          Immediate Past President

DIRECTORS

Karen Blickstein            Alan Meiselman
Ed Brager                   Janet Weingarten
Stan Kleiman *              Melanie Wynne
David Kurjan

Rabbi Brad L. Bloom

Sisterhood President, Cathy Kite
Men’s Club President, Alan Krumholz

* Deceased