Lighting of Kfir Gispan's Chanukiah

Lighting of a Kfir Gispan’s Chanukiah, with Rabbi Bloom and over 70 members of Congregation Beth Yam. This took place in the courtyard at Coligny Beach Market, outside Crave Restaurant. The Chanukiah was rescued from the hurricane, found floating in the ground level garage. It sustained only minor damage; another Chanukah miracle!

The president of Congregation Beth Yam, Pennie Meiselman represented the entire Jewish community while we sang Chanukah songs & concluded with Hatikvah and suffanyiot.
# January 2017

**Tishri—Cheshvan 5777**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
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<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Chanukah 8 NEW YEAR'S DAY</strong></td>
<td>2 OFFICE CLOSED</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7 <strong>Parashat Vayigash</strong></td>
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<td>3:30 PM Set up for the Executive Committee</td>
<td>10 AM Sisterhood Executive Board Meeting</td>
<td>3:30 PM “High Tea in The Low Country” at The Cottage in Bluffton</td>
<td>7:30 PM Shabbat Service with Shabbat Choir</td>
<td>5:00 PM Teen Lock-in</td>
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<td>4 PM Executive Committee</td>
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<td><strong>8 FAST DAY</strong></td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>14 <strong>Parashat Vayechi</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>9 AM Religious School</td>
<td>10 AM Ritual Committee</td>
<td>4 PM Music Meeting</td>
<td>10 AM Sisterhood Board</td>
<td>10 AM Sisterhood Geigerman to visit the Cypress</td>
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<td>9:15 AM Religious School Committee</td>
<td>1 PM Communications Committee</td>
<td>5:30 PM Reserved</td>
<td>12:30 PM Sisterhood Book Club</td>
<td>12:30 PM Sisterhood honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.</td>
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<td>12:15 PM Hebrew School</td>
<td>3:30 PM Set up for the Board Meeting</td>
<td>6 PM Dine Around-Hudson’s</td>
<td>1:30 PM Outreach Committee</td>
<td>6:45 PM Reserved</td>
<td>9:30-10 AM Breakfast</td>
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<td>2 PM Reserved</td>
<td>4 PM Board Meeting</td>
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<td>3 PM Fund Raising Committee The Hunger Coalition</td>
<td>7 PM Community-Wide service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Queen Chapel AME Church</td>
<td>10:30-11:30 AM Discussion</td>
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<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td>16 <strong>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</strong></td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>21 <strong>Parashat Shemot</strong></td>
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<td>9 AM Religious School</td>
<td>10:30 AM Men’s Club Board Meeting</td>
<td>4 PM Music Meeting</td>
<td>1 PM Membership Committee</td>
<td>6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Torah Discussion</td>
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<td>12:15 PM Hebrew School</td>
<td>12:15 PM Men’s Club Luncheon</td>
<td>5:30 PM Reserved</td>
<td>3 PM Back Pack Buddies Gala/Fundraising Committee</td>
<td>7 PM Pot Luck Dinner</td>
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<td>2 PM Reserved</td>
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<td>6 PM High School Seminar</td>
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<td>7 PM Shabbat Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>28 <strong>Parashat Va’era</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>9 AM Religious School</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 PM Music Meeting</td>
<td>4 PM Adult Education Meeting</td>
<td><strong>Candle Lighting 5:46</strong></td>
<td><strong>ROSH CHODESH</strong></td>
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**Save the Date!**

Join us on February 25 for an Evening of Music with Student Cantor Daniel Geigerman—Details to follow.
## Save The Date for February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>February Events</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>February Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4 PM</td>
<td>Endowment Trustees</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Sisterhood Sweetheart Luncheon</td>
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<td>Board Meeting</td>
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<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>Men’s Club Board Meeting</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>3 PM</td>
<td>The Hunger Coalition</td>
<td>12:15 PM</td>
<td>Men’s Club Luncheon</td>
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<td>Shabbat Service with Shabbat Choir</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Exploring Our Roots Film Series</td>
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<td>High School Seminar</td>
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<td>Reserved</td>
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<td>History of Jewish Immigration to US</td>
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<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>Exploring Our Roots Film Series</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Executive Committee</td>
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<td>2 PM</td>
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<td>4 PM</td>
<td>Music Meeting</td>
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<td>Set up for film</td>
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<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Film Voyage of the St. Louis</td>
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<td>Women’s Study Group</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>10 AM</td>
<td>Sisterhood Board</td>
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<td>History of Jewish Immigration to US</td>
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<td>Outreach Committee</td>
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<td>3 PM</td>
<td>Fund Raising Committee</td>
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<td>7:35 PM</td>
<td>Family Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>4 PM</td>
<td>History of Jewish Immigration to US</td>
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<td>An Evening of Music with Student</td>
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<td>6:45 PM</td>
<td>Reserved</td>
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<td>9 AM</td>
<td>Religious School</td>
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<td>6 PM</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Parent Brunch &amp; Learn</td>
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<td>Hot Topic</td>
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<td>12:15 PM</td>
<td>Hebrew School</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Presentation - Viking River Cruises</td>
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</tbody>
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**Men’s Club—Alan Krumholz, President**

The Men’s Club is held its holiday meeting on December 8 at Frankie Bones.

We have planned the first six months of our 2017 calendar. It features lunch meetings on January 17, February 14 and March 14 with speakers January and March and our spring dinner meeting on April 18. Our annual meeting will be a Sunday brunch on June 4.

Please contact Stuart Blickstein, Nelson Adelman or Mike Werner of our events committee with any ideas for new events, or revivals of old meeting programs. We welcome your suggestions for short programs, for future meetings, and larger scale events.

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.

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**Potluck Dinner**

*Please join us for the Congregation Beth Yam Potluck Dinner on January 20, 2017 in the Social Hall following the 6:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat service.*

For more information and ways to make reservations [click here](#).

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**3**
Rabbi’s Message.

Each year we have worked hard to present an exciting and enriching Shabbat Service when we honor the memory and teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We have had speakers and choirs. Our congregation has been committed to become part of the activities of the MLK weekend and we have proudly joined the Community-wide MLK committee. This year, however, the process has been different. I say this because it has been our honor to be invited to host the annual interfaith service during our Shabbat Service. It has been such a joy for me to work together with three pastors from the African-American religious community including Pastors Louis Johnson, Alvin Petty and Edward Alston. They, along with their respective congregations and choirs, will join us and lead the service together with me as we seek to educate, inspire and share a spiritual message that speaks from the words of Dr. King to the soulful music and inspiring message from our pastors who will share their insights with us.

The times today call upon us to be aware and active towards building bridges that lead us to get to know each other and to learn from each other. We have seen the old ugly faces of hatred and bigotry out in public. Our congregation should be out in the forefront of racial justice, peace, education and non-violence. Our love for and dedication to the Holy Scriptures we share together gives us a platform to identify the needs of the poor, to take a stand against racism and to condemn anti-Semitism. If America is going to continue to be the greatest nation on earth for what American ideas are supposed to stand for then it is up to each generation of religious leaders and congregations to find a pathway to dialogue and mutual respect. Our efforts at planning this special Shabbat Service may end up being an experience of us just preaching to the choir but that is where it begins. It is up to each of us to take that message of justice and freedom into our conversations and interactions with all our friends in this community, regardless of background.

The Jewish people have always shared with the African-American community a kindred spirit for what it means to face the forces of prejudice. So I urge my congregation to join us on January thirteenth for this upcoming service which I predict will make a difference in our hearts and souls. In addition, on Shabbat morning, the 14 of January, we will hold our first Hot Topics Shabbat where Reverend Johnson will sit down with us and engage us in dialogue on the Civil Rights agenda today. That should be a lively and productive conversation.

Dr. King said, “Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Even a superficial look at history reveals that no social advance rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle, the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals. Without persistent effort, time itself becomes an ally of the insurgent and primitive forces of irrational emotionalism and social destruction. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive actions.”

This Shabbat Service and the rest of the activities during the weekend is the positive action we strive to achieve. Please come and stand up for the values we, as Jews, cherish.

Hag Sameah

Rabbi Brad L. Bloom MSW DD

Membership Committee—Candy Solomon & Michael Weingarten, Co-chairs

REMINDER:
Please stop in and pick up your CBY directory ASAP!
Thank you.
New affiliate members who need a family directory and binder, please contact Sharyn Brager

Welcome

New member: Betty Zats, an affiliate member from Minnesota, to our CBY family. Please welcome her warmly when you meet her.
**Message From The President—Pennie Meiselman**

There are moments in life that make you proud of the community that you lead. One of these moments happened recently when we, the congregation of CBY, were able to help some of our families who incurred devastating damage to their homes due to Hurricane Matthew. A significant amount of money was raised and earmarked for the Tzedakah Fund for Hurricane Relief. I want to thank the congregation - this was a team effort. Members of the Care Committee, Social Action Committee and Sisterhood called all of our members, both Affiliate and Resident members, to check on them after the hurricane to see how they were, how they were coping and if they needed assistance.

From Pirke Avot, Ethics of our Fathers Hillel said, “If I am not for myself, who is for me? And when I am for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?” When is now. This is what a congregation does. As Shammai said, “Make your Torah study a habit, say little, but do much”. I will always be vigilant with people in need.

As we start the new calendar year we have many exciting and meaningful activities planned. We begin with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. service on Friday, January 13. I am proud to say we are, through the efforts of Rabbi Bloom and the Social Action Committee, the host congregation for the observance of this important day.

In February the Adult Education Committee is continuing their program of the “History of Jewish Immigration to the United States”.

On February 25 our student cantor, Daniel Geigerman, will present a special concert.

On Saturday, March 4 we will be having An “Evening to Remember” Honoring Our Founders: the ABCs of CBY. This of, course is our bi-annual event.

We celebrate Passover first on March 9 with the annual Women’s Seder and then on April 11 with our wonderful Community Seder.

Please update your calendars so you will not miss out on any of our special activities.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year,
Shalom,

Pennie Bloom

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**Adult Education—Barbara Slagowitz, Chair**

**FEBRUARY IS “EXPLORING OUR ROOTS MONTH”**

The first annual CBY film festival starts on Saturday, February 5 at 7:30 PM with the showing of Hester Street, an examination of the immigrant experience on the lower east side. There will be a discussion after the film with coffee and...

Sunday, February 5, at 5:30 PM we will show An American Tail, a cartoon about a mouse who immigrates to the US. Monday, February 6 at 7:30 PM we will show Avalon, depicting the Jewish experience in prewar Baltimore. Discussion and coffee to follow the film.

Wednesday, February 8 at 7:30 PM the SAC and Adult ED are sponsoring the film The Voyage of the St. Louis. Discussion and coffee to follow the film.

On Saturday February 11, the HOT TOPIC Shabbat will be about immigration. Join us at 9:30 AM for a lively discussion. Rabbi Bloom’s lecture series on Jewish Immigration to the United States begins on February 9 and continues on the 16, 23 and March 2. Classes begin at 4:00 PM for about 1 ½ hours. Email Karen Blickstein to register.

Our next lunch and learn will be March 15 at 12:30 with a review and discussion of The Jew Store by Stella Suberman. Copies are available on Amazon and in the JRC library.

The May 17 lunch and learn will be on the book Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean by Edward Kitzler. Yes, pirates, who knew? Copies are available on Amazon.

The last program in this series is a trip to Atlanta. We will travel by carpool to visit the Breman Museum, The Temple and Oakland Cemetery. We will spend one night at a convenient hotel. The dates for this trip are April 25-26. Please contact Ruth Hilsen if you are interested in participating.

**ADULT B’NAI MITZVAH CLASS**

We have about 16 men and women enrolled in the class. There are three Hebrew tutors, Judy Bluestone, Janice Kaden and Maury Fradkin. The students will begin working on learning Hebrew in January. If you are interested in joining the group, even if you do not want to be Bar/Bat Mitzvahed but just want to learn Hebrew, contact Judy Bluestone.
Religious School –
Robin Krumholz, Principal

Our students were very busy this month, studying our patriarch Jacob and his twin brother Esau. We discovered that among our 40 students, we have three pairs of twins! They were interviewed by the Rabbi regarding the challenges of growing up as twins.

On December 9, Rabbi and Student Cantor Geigerman held a very moving consecration ceremony for our newest students, commemorating the beginning of their study of Torah. The students and their parents were blessed under the Chupah, with a drop of honey on their tongue from the Rabbi, as the Cantor sang about the words of the Torah being as “Sweet as Honey.” The parents of our consecrated students provided the Oneg for the evening.

This year, our school committee parents threw an awesome Chanukah party for the Religious School community on a Sunday evening at the Mill Creek Club House, in lieu of the usual Sunday afternoon in the Social Hall. This enabled our CBY renters (the LDS Church) to use our Social Hall without conflict. Students enjoyed a huge playground, games and crafts before a scrumptious potluck buffet including latkes, sofagiyou (jelly donuts), and other more sustaining dinner options. After dinner the students danced the night away with a disc Jockey, crazy lights, and party games.

This month we also began our new Hebrew curriculum, regrouping students for Hebrew class by skill mastery levels, rather than by grade, and introducing Hebrew practice software via our new Online Learning Center. We look forward to having the capability to develop stronger Hebrew skills for our more motivated students.

After our winter break, students look forward to exploring the trials of our next biblical hero, Joseph! Hope everyone had a wonderful Chanukah!

Youth Group—
Robin Krumholz, Acting Director

Our Youth Group had a wonderful active month. They made profit of over $100 by selling hotdogs an home-made sofagiyou (jelly donuts) during the Sisterhood Chanukah Bazaar. Then they had a Havdalah service and sing-along around the campfire with Student Cantor Geigerman, ending, of course, with s’mores.

In January our students will have a “lock-in” sleepover in the Social Hall, while they convert our largest classroom into a “Youth Lounge”. Students will be painting the room, and decorating it to create a more “homey” look and feel. Our Middle School students will have a more relaxed atmosphere for study and oral reciting practice, and our teens will also have a more personalized gathering spot for meetings. Youth Groupers are grateful to anyone willing to donate items to enhance the coziness of the room. Their wish list includes: Jumbo sitting pillows, game chairs, a couch, area rug (approx. 8x10 … or larger) and funky curtains. Boxed games are also welcome. If you are able to donate any of these items, please contact Robin. DO NOT just bring it to CBY without informing Robin, as we do not want to end up with too much of anything. Thank you to all who are supporting our Youth Group endeavors!

Our Youth Group is STILL actively searching for a Youth Group Director! If you know of anyone that might be interested in doing this role, please contact Robin ASAP!
Message from the Sisterhood President–

Sue Gostanian

What a wonderful way to start the New Year! I am still “kvelling” as I think of recent events members of Sisterhood supported and sponsored. The Women’s Interfaith Prayer Service was such a unique program that we hosted and celebrated with the Episcopal Church Women. The music and readings were appreciated by women of all faiths who attended and came together to express our collective healing and thanksgiving. Also, in November, the women of CBY celebrated Leah and Michael’s upcoming wedding plans at her bridal shower. Cathy Kite planned and chaired the celebration, along with her cadre of helpers and our own resident Creative Cake Boss, Nadyne. It was a festive, fun evening that was enjoyed by all.

I am pleased to announce a “new” series of informal events that are being presented to address the well-being of the women of CBY. The series is offered by the Lisa G Memorial Fund to address women’s contemporary issues. There is no cost to those who attend. The series is titled: Transitions in the Lives of Women. Some of the presentations will cover subjects such as—Caretaking...Adjustment to retirement, (ours and partners)...Changes in physical health...Adapting to Adult Children’s Choices...Aging and Appearance...

Please check the Tidings for announcements regarding these and other programs. This New Year is dedicated to the health and happiness of all of us and all the people we care about.

Yours in Sisterhood,

Sue

High Tea in the Low Country

Pinkies out ladies! Sisterhood is having a “High Tea in the Low Country”

Location: The Cottage in Bluffton on January 5, 2017 at 3:30 PM. The cost is $25.00 and will Include a full tea. Space is limited! Reservations with payment will be taken until January 2, 2017. After that date a wait-list will be used. Contact Carol Carty.

Book Club

Book Club will be held at Cypress on January 12 at 12:30 PM. Buffet Lunch, $16.00 per person, cash only please. Book: The Black Widow by Daniel Silva: A wonderful story about the character, Gabriel Allon, and his “adventures” with ISIS. A book not to be missed. Reviewer: Elaine Lust. RSVP to Ellen Lash by email so that Ellen may make the proper reservations and arrange guest passes for us all.

Save the Date

Work has begun on planning our Annual Sweetheart Luncheon to be held at CBY on February 13, 2017. We hope that many of you will be able to attend. Carol Carty (609) 313-9035. All proceeds of this event will benefit the Sisterhood Camp Scholarship Fund.

Women’s Study Group

The next Women’s Study group will be held on February 22. Helen Hauer has graciously opened her home to host the event. The home has an elevator, which is a great convenience for our guests. Our featured speaker, Susan Sneider, will facilitate the discussion, “Grit, Generosity and Gratitude.” Susan Sneider is a CBY member, and an internationally known consultant in the legal and financial service industries. We are thrilled to have her for the evening. As seats are limited, please respond early; only the first 20 reservations can be accepted. Please send RSVPs and potluck preferences (appetizer, entrée, salad, or dessert) to Judy Movshin.

Annual Sisterhood Barnes & Noble Gift-wrapping Project

Every year Sisterhood conducts a drive at Barnes and Noble to collect donations for selected charities. Two person Sisterhood teams have been doing the wrapping and Barnes and Noble provide the wrapping paper and other supplies. This year over 50 Sisterhood members wrapped gifts on 12 days during the holiday season! The charities selected to benefit from the donations were Treat the Troops and Volunteers in Medicine (VIM). A big thank you to those members who volunteered to make this project a success. Thanks for doing this JoAnne Doyle and Janice Fradkin.
President Pennie Meiselman called the meeting to order.
Motion made and seconded to accept minutes from previous month. Motion passed.
Rabbi spoke briefly about the IMF Program and the importance of enforcing a Jewish identity for our young people.
Cong Beth Yam hosting MLK Community Service on January 13, 2017
  • Four choirs will be involved in program
  • Hot Topic Shabbat will be held on January 14 with Rabbi interviewing an Pastor Rev. Louis Johnson
  • SAC will provide food

Membership Committee will hold Potluck Dinner on January 20, 2017
New member approved for affiliate membership
New HVAC units have been installed in Social Hall and Religious School
Hold’em Tournament was held the beginning of December and was a successful event.
Religious School held a very successful Chanukah Party
Friday night Consecration Service also had a large turnout
Next family service will be held on January 27, 2017
Time for students to register for Camp Coleman
Shabbat Service on December 30 will include Night of 100 Menorahs
Meeting adjourned

Latkes and sufganiot, menorah blessings and an old fashioned sing along were all part of the festivities as the Care Committee held its annual Chanukah luncheon celebration at the temple on December 7. More than 85 CBY members and Jewish residents of area senior residences and their family members attended. Special thanks to Rabbi Bloom, David Kimbell and our wonderful temple volunteers who made our guests feel so welcome!
Also in December, the Care and Social Action Committees co-hosted a holiday sing along for the residents of Bloom at Hilton Head. Bob Diamond accompanied on the piano while many CBY members lent their voices and good cheer to a fun afternoon. Thanks to all who participated!

A happy and healthy New Year from the Social Action Committee. A big thank you to all who volunteered on SAC projects during the past year.
December was a busy month for the committee. We stocked shelves with food and prepared linens for those in need at Bluffton Self Help and Deep Well. Donations from Tzedakah were also made to the two charities to spread holiday cheer. A Chanukah party was held at the Children’s Center with songs, games, stories and dreidels. Holiday songs were sung by members of the Care and SAC Committees with Bob Diamond playing the piano at Bloom.
See the Tidings for information on our annual Martin Luther King Shabbat on 1/13/17 and a special Hot Topic Shabbat on Saturday, January 14, about African-American and Jewish relationships with guest preacher Pastor Rev. Louis Johnson. Please join us on February 8 for a special showing of the film about the ship The St. Louis filled with Jewish refugees that was not allowed to dock in New York. The film and discussion is sponsored by SAC and is part of the Adult Education program on our roots. There will be a follow-up Hot Topic on the February 11 led by Ellen Jenner and the Rabbi.
Looking forward to seeing you at these activities.
Contributions: We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions from November 16—December 15

ATTENTION:

Good news for Amazon Shoppers

For all of our loyal Amazon shoppers and potential new shoppers, we are now using Amazon Smile as our preferred link. Amazon Smile works just like the normal version of Amazon and CBY will still get an average 4% return on your purchases. But, it also allows you to designate a charity of your choice to receive an additional 0.5% rebate. If asked by the Amazon Smile site, we encourage you to choose Congregation Beth Yam as your designated charity. Click here and see the Amazon Smile site.

Now, when you click on the Amazon logo on our CBY homepage, you will automatically be taken to the Amazon Smile web site. You may add this site to your favorites or bookmark it so you can return to the site directly. Please delete your old Amazon favorites or bookmark. If you don’t use bookmarks or favorites, just go to the CBY homepage and click on the Amazon logo. That’s all you need to do. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you have questions, please email webmaster@bethyam.org.

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING DONATION:

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Send Card To:  
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In Honor of:  
In memory of:  
Send Card To:  
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General - Unrestricted
Adult Education
Backpack Buddies
Bellet Youth
Building Expansion
Cantor
Caplan Dedicated
Care Committee
Flower
Friends of CBY
Israel Events
Landscape
Music
Prayer Book
Rabbi’s Discretionary
Rabbi’s Enrichment
Rabbi’s Library
Religious School
Ritual
Tzedakah/Social Action
Youth Group
An Open Letter to
Sisterhood & Men’s Club

I have always been proud to be a CBY Sisterhood member because of their support of CBY, the greater community and to Jewish values. Sisterhood as well as Men’s Club have made very generous donations to Backpack Buddies (BPBs). Since Backpack Buddies was started in 2010 by CBY and the Board approved a restricted fund, the program has grown to be an interdenominational effort serving almost 300 elementary school children. These children receive free and subsidized breakfasts and lunch during the school week and BPBs fills in the gap on the weekends and summers with nutritional meals. Due to the volunteer support by our members led by Nancy Lerner, we coordinate, pack and deliver meals weekly. Our members also generously donate to the CBY Backpack Fund. This year when the fund was down and the need up in part due to Hurricane Matthew, our affiliate organizations, Sisterhood and Men’s Club stepped up.

Thank you on behalf of the nutritionally underserved children in our community that you have helped.

Janet Weingarten, Backpack Buddies, a program of The Hunger Coalition of the Lowcountry.

Fundraising Committee—
Alan Meiselman, Chair

The committee is very pleased to report that several events have now been completed with great success. The Hold’em tournament had over 40 attendees. This resulted in a net profit to CBY of over $700, matching the winners distribution. The newly crowned poker champion of CBY is Jeff Wynne. Gobby Cohen and Neil Hilsen came in second and third in a very exciting experience. Winners also include Christie Cohen, Fred Carty, Ted David, David Uram and Phyllis Napoli.

The Dine Around program, under the guidance of Diane Miller, has also been very successful. The most recent evening brought 45 diners to Crane’s Steakhouse for delicious meals. The year’s closing event, at Crave by Daniels, was sold out with 50 attendees. The Chanukiah lighting in the public space outside the restaurant had an overflow crowd. They were treated to sufganiyot and traditional Chanukah songs. It was a very festive event.

The Gala Auction committee is pleased to report that many new items have been secured for the auction, including a donation of a crepe-myrtle & a magnolia tree - good timing for those of us that lost so much shrubbery and so many trees. Trips to villas in Tuscany and the French countryside are also on our list of acquisitions. We are still looking for more items. Please pitch in and get some things of interest to add to the auction.

The Viking River boat cruise, on the Rhine or Danube, will be previewed at CBY on Monday, February 27 at 2 PM. A Viking representative will present the video version of each trip and answer questions. Wine and snacks will be served. We anticipate a large group of attendees. Please make reservations with Helen Hauer by email.

Letters have recently been sent to all congregants advising them of our plans for the auction event. There was a form enclosed inviting participation in the testimonial journal. The “Mazel Tov” page will list all members who wish to congratulate our founders. For members wishing to send a special message there are opportunities from full-page down to one ninth of a page to express your thanks. We hope that everyone will take this opportunity to thank the founders for their efforts in establishing a home for the Jewish community on Hilton Head and in the Lowcountry. All members wishing to volunteer to help make this evening truly “An Evening To Remember” should contact Janice Fradkin. Gala co chairs are Janice Fradkin and Alan Meiselman.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Shabbat Weekend Celebration

Please join us for a special celebration of the life of Dr. King at Shabbat Services on January 13 at 7:30 PM. The evening will be filled with music by Student Cantor Daniel Geiger, the CBY choir plus the choirs from the AME Queens Chapel, Central Oak Grove Baptist Church and the Historic First African Baptist Church. There will be special readings, remarks, and honors by our youth and visiting youth, clergy and SAC members. Sponsors of the evening are The Hilton Head MLK Committee, the Social Action Committee and the above mentioned churches.

In addition there will be a Hot Topic Shabbat on Saturday, January 14 at 9:30 AM with a short Torah service, a dialogue on African-American and Jewish Relationships with Pastor Rev. Louis Johnson and participation by congregation attendees and a light breakfast.
Ritual Committee—David Kurjan, Chair

The Torah portions to be read in January contain some of the most familiar narratives in the entire Torah. The first portion, *Vayigash*, tells of Joseph reconciling with his brothers and reuniting with his entire family, including his father (Jacob), and the famine in Egypt. This Torah portion begins to set the stage for the Egyptian captivity of the sons of Jacob. Joseph did not retaliate against his brothers. Instead, he broke the cycle by offering complete forgiveness. Why? He saw that, although the brothers had meant his sale into slavery for evil, God meant it for good. Everything had worked according to God’s plan and wisdom.

The second portion in January is *Vayechi*, which is the last reading in the book of Genesis. In this Torah portion, Jacob prepares for his death by securing a double portion of inheritance for Joseph and then blessing each of his sons with prophetic blessings. The book of Genesis ends with the death of Jacob, followed shortly by the death of Joseph and a promise of redemption from Egypt. Part of life is preparing for death. Jacob prepared for death in full confidence because he had a relationship with God.

The third Torah portion this month, *Shemot*, is both the title for the second book in the Torah and the title of the first portion in this book, which is also known as Exodus. In this portion, we find the children of Israel in slavery. It seems at first that the God of their forefathers has forgotten them; but God has not forgotten His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We read of the birth of Moses, the burning bush, the Israelites forced to make bricks without straw, and God telling Moses to demand freedom from Pharaoh.

Finally, in *Va’era*, the portion begins with four expressions of redemption whereby God promises to bring Israel out of the Egyptian bondage. The narrative progresses to tell the story of the first seven of the ten plagues that God unleashed on Egypt.

An “Evening to Remember”

HONORING our FOUNDERS: the ABCs of CBY

Recognize our roots by ‘Honoring our Founders: the ABC of CBY’.
We will celebrate 36 years (double Chai) of our “By The Sea Temple.”

Volunteers needed: If you would like to make this a personally enjoyable *Evening to Remember*, then do something! Contact Janice Fradkin by email.

Please check the sponsorship possibilities and “thank-you” opportunities in the recent mailing from CBY about this event.

Gala Committee Co-chairs:
Janice Fradkin & Alan Meiselman
As this article is being written, the Friends Campaign for the 2016-2017 Beth Yam year was launched just over one month ago. On December 23, 2016, $39,055—over half of the Friends goal of $77,000—has been received. This year-to-date total has been helped by a number of donors who have increased their prior years’ donations usually by ten to fifteen per cent. We hope many others will make the same type of increase.

The early donations are the easy part. Even the next $20,000 won’t be terribly difficult. That will require a few emails and maybe a call or two. It’s the last ten or fifteen thousand that requires most of the effort because that’s simply the way all fundraising or sales efforts evolve. The money is there; it just takes an “ask”, a “noodge” or if you know the donor well enough, a push.

I have often quoted from Estee Lauder’s obituary where she said, “I sold every day and I sold hard.” Charitable causes can also sell hard and some do. Friends does not. We’ll ask but the selling is done by Congregation Beth Yam. Unlike many shuls and temples we have neither a large endowment nor a few very large donors.

Yes, CBY has a few members who contribute larger amounts but the annual receipts are generated by contributions from the broad spectrum of members. The combined contributions of the ten largest contributors to CBY represent between only 6% and 9% of the operating revenues of the Congregation.

While it would be easier and less stressful to make a half dozen phone calls, we are a healthier congregation if we broadly support the organization. Dues are our biggest source of income and everybody basically pays the same amount but the Friends Campaign is when we ask everyone to give a little more and those who can, to contribute a generous gift to maintain our Jewish life in Hilton Head, Bluffton and the Lowcountry.

Please make your gift to the Beth Yam Friends Campaign today.

Judy Bluestone and Bob Sable-Co-Chairs, 2016-2017 Beth Yam Friends Campaign
LOOK AT THE DESIGN AND SELECTIONS IN MARCIA’S NEW MASTER AND GUEST BATHROOMS...

River Rock Shower Floor and Modern Hand Held

New Master Shower

New Guest Vanity/Counter Top and Glass Sink...

Porcelain wood-look tile

Jack, thank you so much for the excellent work you did on the remodel of my master and guest bathrooms. As always, the work was done carefully and expertly, and my house was left clean and fresh when all the work was over. Your subcontractors and the companies you suggested for tile, cabinets, counter tops, etc., were the very highest quality, and were absolutely wonderful, helpful and very knowledgeable. In all, another excellent job. I am very happy knowing I can count on you for the best and most efficient work.

Thank you so much...”  
Marcia Mann

Group 4 Builders  843-422-6925  jack1899resnick@gmail.com
2016/2017 Board of Directors

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