Join us for a special Shabbat service

Night of 100 Menorot

December 27
6:30 PM
Bring your family and your menorah!

Be sure to look inside for MORE upcoming events!
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<td>No Religious School classes-Winter break</td>
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<td>Chanukah II</td>
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<td>Chanukah Party 3:30 PM SAC Meeting</td>
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<td>5:30 PM Dine Together</td>
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<td>OFFICE CLOSED Chanukah IV</td>
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<td>Rosh Chodesh Tevet Chanukah VIII</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>New Year’s Eve</td>
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**Contact: Jaquey Schmid 843-681-2567 or by email.**
## SAVE THE DATE FOR JANUARY 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Social Hall B Reserved</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Lunch &amp; Learn Book</td>
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<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>The Hunger Coalition</td>
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<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Judaica Shop Open</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Staff Meeting</td>
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<td>Social Hall Reserved</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Ritual Committee</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>CBY Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>Set up for the Executive Committee</td>
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<td>Hold 'Em Poker Night</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
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<td>16:00 AM</td>
<td>Finance Committee</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Communications Meeting</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service Honoring MLK Jr with CBY Choir</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Judaica Shop Open</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
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<td>Endowment Trustees</td>
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<td>Judaica Shop Open</td>
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<td>Social Hall B Reserved</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>CBY Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Family Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Social Hall B Reserved</td>
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<td>Sanctuary Reserved</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Fund Raising Committee</td>
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<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Parent B’nai Mitzvah Class-All systems go! The Final Preparations!</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Lutheran Service</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Religious School Sanctuary Reserved</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>12:30 PM</td>
<td>Sisterhood Book Club</td>
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<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Religious School Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>1:00 PM</td>
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<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Boker Tov Service</td>
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<td>Social Hall Reserved</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>Lishmah Seminar-Talmud Torah: “Teach them to your children”- Role of education for parents and students- PARENTS should attend this session with their child Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:15 PM</td>
<td>Hebrew School</td>
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<td>CBY Choir Rehearsal</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>Set up for the Board Meeting</td>
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<td>Shabbat Service with Student Cantor Olivia Brodsky</td>
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<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Dine Together</td>
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**Join Congregation Beth Yam on the first night of Chanukah for an outdoor...**

**Chanukah Menorah Lighting Celebration**

**Sunday, December 22**

**5:30-6:30 PM**

**DuBois Park**

**67 Lawrence Street, Bluffton, SC**

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Enjoy festive music & Chanukah goodies for children

All are Welcome!
Chanukah is about the commemoration of miracles. In our prayer book we read each year a prayer called “Al HaNissim” or “About the Miracles.” Inside this prayer which we sing in our services we learn about Matiyahu, the son of Yochanan the High Priest, the Hasmonean and his sons who led a rebellion against the Greeks who occupied the land of Judea 165 BCE. We celebrate God’s protective presence during those dramatic events of this armed conflict. In fact, we attribute the heroic actions of the Maccabees to the power of faith and the protection from God.

“You waged their battles, defended their rights, and avenged the wrong done to them. You delivered the mighty into the hands of the weak, the many into the hands of the few, the impure into the hands of the pure, the wicked into the hands of the righteous, and the wanton sinners into the hands of those who occupy themselves with Your Torah.”

Once again we see that historic theme how God took the side of the weak and enabled us to be victorious in our hour of armed struggle against a much mightier adversary. This idea also resonates with the Exodus from Egypt. Just think how important Chanukah was in every Jewish home when we lived under the rule of sometimes hostile nations. Jewish children needed to believe that we had spiritual power and ultimately the physical power to defeat our enemies and defend ourselves. This belief, according to some scholars, may be one reason why the Books of the Maccabees were not canonized into the Hebrew Bible. The rabbis may have been concerned at that time that Rome would have not looked kindly upon the Jewish community for including these books about armed struggle against a world power.

Finally the Al HaNissim prayer concludes by saying; “You made a great and holy name for Yourself in Your world, and effected a great deliverance and redemption for Your people in Israel to this very day. Then Your children entered the shrine of Your House, cleansed Your Temple, purified Your Sanctuary, kindled lights in Your holy courtyards, and instituted these eight days of Chanukah to give thanks and praise to Your great Name.”

This celebration of our victory in ancient times and the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem (Chanukah comes from the root dedication) certainly resonated for the early founders of Zionism and the state of Israel. Celebrating our physical and spiritual devotion to freedom and Jewish autonomy fit perfectly into the beginnings of Israel’s modern history. This is clearly evident in the creation of the famed Maccabean Games in Israel today.

The dreidel game reminds us of that Chanukah miracle with each side of the dreidel - Nun, Gimmel, Hey, Shin. These letters stand for the phrase; “A great miracle happened there.”

We need to believe in miracles. David Ben Gurion once said, “What matters is not what the gentiles say, but what the Jews do. In Israel, in order to be a realist you must believe in miracles. Variant: Anyone who doesn’t believe in miracles isn’t a realist.”

The six day war proved Gurion’s point. The miracles of Chanukah certainly balance the preponderance of our history that depicts the sufferings of our people. This is why Chanukah is a nice counterbalance. Let us celebrate at temple this year at the Night of a Hundred Menorot. We shall also have a special public candle lighting on December 22nd at 5:30 PM at Dubois Park in Bluffton. Come join us at both events as we sing our songs, light the menorot, and spin our dreidels for the blessings of our ancestors who fought for us then. Let them be an inspiration to us even today.

Hag Sameah,

Rabbi Brad L. Bloom M.S.W., DD

SPECIAL EVENT

Rabbi Brad Bloom will be speaking to the St. Francis Bible Study Group (and friends) on Thursday, December 5 at 9:30 AM at the St. Francis Family Center. His topic will be “Social Justice, the Bible and Ethics.” Come early for fellowship and coffee. All are welcome.
“It’s that time of year” sing the lyrics of Mel Torme, Jewish singer and songwriter of note, when gift giving is the focus of almost every ad and commercial. This year, Chanukah and Christmas almost coincide making the retailers really happy. When you think about gift giving, give a thought to Congregation Beth Yam. Our products may not be shiny and sparkly, but they are in for the long haul, with benefits for many, young and older.

The month of December brings good works and synagogue needs into focus, and I refer to our various funds dedicated to the important activities they support. These include Adult Education, Back Pack Buddies, Care, Flower, General Operations, Israel Events, March of the Living, Music (Music Matters and Music Now!), Religious School, Ritual, and Tzedakah (Social Action). The CBY website provides a user friendly guide to making donations online. Think about sending good wishes for the holidays, for birthdays, for anniversaries and for sending condolences. Each recipient is notified by mail of your gift and any message you’d like to include.

In the spirit of gift giving, don’t forget the Friends Campaign, proceeds from which support CBY general operations. No gift is too small or too large, and you’ll feel great about being part of the growing group of CBY Friends.

Now here are some ways to treat yourselves and help CBY in the coming months:

- **December 11**: Comedy Night at Comedy Magic Cabaret: $49 (dessert, coffee, show).
- **January 12**: (12-5 PM): Spaghetti dinner to equip our playground with safe play structure: $10 adult and $5 for children (children under 3 free) online. Check out the raffle.
- **February 9, 16, 18**: Jewish Film Festival continues: $12 per show and $30 for a three show tickets.

My wish list is growing but you get the point. Please support CBY in this holiday season and throughout the year.

The World Zionist Congress elections in the U.S. are coming in March, and all Reform congregations have been asked by the movement to stand up for Israel. These elections are the only democratic opportunity for us as American Jews to influence Israeli society as we continue our efforts toward equality, pluralism, and tolerance. The U.S. has 145 delegates to the World Zionist Congress, and 56 represent the Reform Movement. The more we are represented in the vote, the more dollars will flow to the Israeli Reform Movement. In the almost five years since the last congress, four million dollars per year have been directed to the Israeli Reform Movement, compared to $1.1 billion to the Orthodox and Haredi institutions in Israel.

More to come on the voting process…

I wish you and your families a delightful fun filled Chanukah.

B’shalom,

Judy

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**Social Action Committee—Barbara Meyer, Chair**

Honor the work and ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by participating in the town wide events. At a time when communities need to join together, the words of Dr. King are as relevant today as they were when he first spoke them. Please see the list of events below sponsored by the Hilton Head MLK Committee and show your support.

- **Thursday, 1/16/20**: Interdenominational Service, 7:00 PM, at Christ Lutheran Church.
- **Friday, 1/17/20**: Shabbat Service, 7:30 PM, at CBY sponsored by the Social Action Committee, featuring our choir plus additional great music and guest speaker Reverend Black of the Campbell AME Church.
- **Monday, 1/20/20**: Parade, speeches, music and a wonderful hot free lunch to follow starting at 10:00 AM at Hilton Head High School.

“An individual has not started living until he or she can rise above the narrow confines of individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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**Care Committee – April Adelson & JoAnne Doyle, Co-chairs**

The Senior Chanukah Party is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17. If you know any seniors who are residing in independent and assisted living facilities, or still living at home, please encourage them to attend the party. Lunch is being catered by SERG, and David Kimbell is providing the entertainment. The flyer on page 12 of the Tidings has additional information.

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Sisterhood — Randy Kurjan, President

Sisterhood has been busy, with members involved in many activities. On Wednesday, November 12, a wonderful time was had by all at the Sisterhood Membership Appreciation Luncheon, also called “Hats Off to Sisterhood.” A big “thank you” to our guest speaker, Linda Bloom. Linda shared her amazing hat collection (or part of it) and her knowledge about how hats are relevant to Jewish culture and ritual.

Delicious homemade soups, salads and desserts were prepared and enjoyed by all. Thank you to all our chefs! Thank you to our Membership co-vice presidents, Ruth Hilsen and Sheila Margeson. Thank you to Sharon Leff, past Membership vice president, for her guidance and assistance. Heartfelt appreciation goes to Helen Hauer, Sisterhood Parliamentarian and Historian, for her generosity, once again donating her time and skill to create a beautiful afghan for our raffle. Thank you to Sheri Farbstein for her artistry and skill in creating our great centerpieces.

In February we will have another fun activity, of course accompanied by food! We look forward to spring, bringing Pesach and our Women’s Seder and Annual Sisterhood General Meeting and the Community Seder.

We have some ideas for other, smaller scale activities. I encourage you to tap into your creative juices and suggest or participate in an activity, program or event. You are the Sisterhood! What is your vision or desire? Give me a call and let’s talk. Would you like to learn how to make beaded jewelry at the wonderful local bead shop, learn how to decorate cookies while drinking wine at the Purple Cow or learn about Jewish art at a Women’s Study Group (formerly Lilith Salon)? There is no end to what we can do, if we have your interest and participation. Let’s make fun and worthwhile times happen!

It will soon be time for our nominating committee, chaired by past president Sue Gastonian, to recruit members to fill the board positions that will be open due to completion of terms. Sisterhood is you and you are Sisterhood. Without your involvement, there is no Sisterhood. So, when Sue, or another member of the nominating committee calls, we fervently hope that you will step up and respond “Hineni,” “I am here.”

Our December Jewish women of valor are a bit less known than our previous women of note, but no less important by their impact. Did you know, that in New Jersey in the 1970s, a Jewish judge, Sylvia Pressler, and a Jewish professor, Judith Weiss, successfully worked to make it possible for girls to play in Little League Baseball?!

Book Club, Rita Suntup

We had a lively discussion on “Goodbye Columbus” by Philip Roth on Thursday, October 24. Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 23, at 12:45 in the Social Hall. You are welcome to bring your lunch. Cold drinks will be provided. Sisterhood member Lili Kertesz will lead us in a discussion of “The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit” by Lucette Lagnado. Lili lived in Cairo, one of the book’s settings.

We are reading “The Huntress” by Kate Quinn for Thursday, March 26.

On Thursday, May 7 we will discuss “The Ministry of Special Cases” by Nathan Englander. We hope to see you at one of our book discussions! Please contact Rita Suntup to RSVP by email.

Judaica Shop, Robin Krumholz

The Judaica Shop will be having its next major fundraiser on December 8, showcasing lovely Chanukah items for all ages.

The Judaica staff is looking for volunteers to join our staff. No experience necessary. You can work as much or as little as you choose. Join us in this rewarding, fun effort.

SAVE THE DATE

This is your opportunity to give a gift of life. On Sunday, December 8, from 9 AM until 2 PM, we will be hosting a blood drive with OneBlood Mobile sitting in our CBY driveway. Please register to donate. ♡

oneblood
BLOOD DRIVE
Sunday, December 8, 2019
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Save the Date! Pre-register at www.oneblood.org
Sponsored by CBY Social Action Action Committee
Sisterhood Membership Appreciation Luncheon

CALLING ALL SHOPPERS!
1st night of Chanukah Dec 22nd!

Chanukah Showcase
Sunday, December 8, 10:00am - 1:00pm

Browse our Catalogs or shop by appointment with Robin Krumholz

Nosh while you shop!
Our Beth Yam Youth Group will be selling
Home-made Sofganiyot (& other goodies)
Ritual Committee — 
David Kurjan, Chair

Chanukah, a joyous celebration of family, freedom, and light, is a holiday primarily celebrated at home, beginning on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev and lasting for eight days. At what is the coldest, darkest time of the year for many people, we celebrate by bringing light and warmth into our homes, into our communities and into the world around us.

Blessings are recited when lighting the candles, which are held in a nine-branched menorah (called a chanukiyah).

The Chanukah lights are lit at sundown, the time when passers-by are most likely to see them. When possible, the menorah is placed in a window or elsewhere in the home so that it can be seen from the outside.

The word dreidel derives from a German word meaning “spinning top,” and is the toy used in a Chanukah game adapted from an old German gambling game. (Historically, Chanukah was one of the few times of the year when rabbis permitted games of chance.) The four sides of the top bear four Hebrew letters: nun, gimel, hei, and shin. Players begin by putting into a central pot or “kitty” a certain number of coins, foil-wrapped chocolate disks known as gelt, nuts, buttons or other small objects. Each player in turn spins the dreidel and proceeds as follows:

- nun – take nothing
- gimel – take everything
- hei – take half
- shin – put one in

Over time, the letters on the dreidel were reinterpreted to stand for the first letter of each word in the Hebrew statement “Neis gadol hayah sham,” which means “A great miracle happened there” and refers to the defeat of the Syrian army and the re-dedication of the temple. In Israel, the shin has been replaced with a pei, transforming the Hebrew statement into “Neis gadol hayah po,” which means “A great miracle happened here.”

For many families and communities, singing is a particularly joyous part of Chanukah celebrations. There are many traditional and contemporary songs for the holiday. “Maoz Tzur” (“Rock of Ages”) is customarily sung after the lighting of the candles each night. It was composed in Europe in the 12th or 13th century. “I Have a Little Dreidel” is a modern-day children’s song frequently sung during the Festival of Lights. Other holiday favorites include “Chanukah, Oh Chanukah;” “Sivivon, sov, sov, sov,” a Hebrew folksong; “Light One Candle,” written by Peter Yarrow; and “The Latke Song,” by Debbie Friedman, the renowned Jewish singer and songwriter.

Latkes (potato pancakes) and sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts) – foods cooked in oil – are customarily eaten during Chanukah and serve as a symbol of the legend of the jar of oil that lasted for eight days.

From one Chanukah to the next, it can be a challenge to remember in which direction to add candles and in which direction to light them. When the menorah is facing you, the candle for the first night is placed in the right-most holder of the eight-branched menorah and the shamash (helper candle) is placed in its holder. On each successive night, an additional candle is placed to the immediate left of the previous night’s candle, and the candles are lit from left to right, so the kindling begins with the newest light.

Membership Committee — 
Candy Solomon & Janice Fradkin, Co-chairs

Lots of exciting events are being planned by the Membership committee to take us into 2020. Our next Lev Simcha in Bluffton is being planned for Friday, December 20, at 6:30 PM. When looking at our newest family members from last month, four out of the nine families who joined live off-island. This reinforces the fact that we must market our synagogue throughout the Lowcountry.

We are also planning a Lev Simcha service at CBY on February 28, at 7:30 PM, when Student Cantor Olivia Brodsky will be with us that weekend. Lots of singing, discussion, and camaraderie abound, so mark it on your calendar!

The annual CBY Potluck Dinner will again be held in the social hall following Kabbalat services at 6 PM on Friday, February 14. Watch for details in the coming month.

Our New Member Shabbat/Ambassador Thank You Party will be held on Friday, March 6, at 7:30 PM. New members will participate in the service and will be honored with their ambassadors at the oneg following the service that evening.

Our Chavurah program got off to a wonderful beginning on Sunday, November 3, with a launch party at CBY. Plans are underway with each group planning their own activities and calendars for the coming year.

The Family Directory has been proofed and is with the printer now. Expect them ready for pick-up in the days ahead.

Wishing you light and laughter and a wonderful Chanukah holiday!
The title of this article is the response that a teenager gave 30 years ago to the question, “What’s the most important thing?”

In a teenager’s world, friends are the most important thing. In a Jewish congregation, the most important things are the services, the Rabbi, the preservation and strengthening of our Jewish religion, and maintenance of our congregation. At Beth Yam we have active religious and cultural programs, well attended weekly services, a religious school, a fully engaged and caring Rabbi, and many other outstanding activities. Our staff is helpful and friendly, and overall the synagogue works well, BUT the revenue side takes effort.

At CBY, the two largest sources of revenue are dues, followed by the Friends Campaign. Then there are smaller fundraising events which are generally a mix of work, fun, and even a little fundraising.

The Friends Campaign officially starts after the High Holy Days and continues until the end of the CBY fiscal year, June 30.

We are very happy to report that we exceeded last year’s goal of $79,000 thanks to your generosity. With your continued support we hope to exceed this year’s goal of $82,000.

In order to achieve our goal we hope that you will consider increasing your Friends gift as many have done in the past to maintain CBY’s healthy foundation of Jewish life in the Lowcountry.

If you have an IRA and are over 70 1/2, there can be a significant tax savings by donating directly from your IRA, instead donating from your non-IRA funds and taking the charitable deduction. It’s really worth considering.

Please be a better Friend this year. ✨
The Urato family from the renowned Fratello’s Restaurant of Hilton Head will be serving up their famous spaghetti and meatballs!

Sunday, January 12
12:00-5:00 PM at Congregation Beth Yam

Spaghetti, meatballs, bread, salad, and a drink

Online until Jan. 5:
$10 per person, $5 for children 4-12, free for children 3 & under
Walk In: $12/pp., $7 for children 4-12, free for children 3 & under

Carry Out or Dine In
Proceeds go towards the purchase of a playground for CBY

For tickets go to: www.bethyam.org
Or click here.

Enter the raffle online until Jan. 5 or in person that day to win beautiful artwork created by local artists! Click Artwork Raffle and try your luck as many times as you would like! $5 per entry.
Adult Education – Barbara Slagowitz, Chair

**Last chance to register.**
The Islam Religion – a three-part program taught by Ibrahim Abdul-Malik, the Imam of the Savannah mosque. He will discuss the history, texts and ritual of the Islam religion. Pre-registration is required, email Barbara Slagowitz to save a spot.

- **Session 1** – December 3
- **Session 2** – December 10
- **Session 3** – December 17

All sessions will be held at Congregation Beth Yam from 4:00 to 5:30 PM.

**Lunch and Learn** January 15, 12:00 PM

To prepare for the film “Who Will Write Our History”, we will read “The Last Jew of Treblinka” by Chil Raichman, a memoir.

As usual bring your lunch; drinks and sweets will be served.

**Lowcountry Jewish Film Festival, part 2**
The box office is open. Check the website [CLICK HERE](#) for special pricing. All tickets must be bought using the CBY website. **No tickets will be sold at Coligny Theater.**

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**Sun City Discussion Group**
If you live in the Sun City area, Ellie Dixon is organizing informal discussion groups with the Rabbi. Please contact her for the details.

Both the Adult Education Committee and the film festival group are in need of members. If you are interested in either please contact Barbara Slagowitz by email.

Happy Chanukah from the Adult Ed committee. 🌃

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**Comedy Magic Cabaret**
Wednesday, December 11, 7:30 PM

Eat, laugh and drink with friends at CBY’s Comedy Night. $49 per person incl. show, dessert, coffee, soft drinks & a cash bar.

Reserve your seat for a fun night [CLICK HERE](#)

Comedy Magic Cabaret
843 William Hilton Pkwy - South Island Square
The Congregation Beth Yam Care Committee is hosting

A Senior Chanukah Celebration & Luncheon for you and your family members

Tuesday, December 17, 2019 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

At Congregation Beth Yam
4501 Meeting Street Hilton Head

Featuring Music Director David Kimbell playing songs by Jewish songwriters
Lunch including bagels, latkes & fun!

There is no charge for this program, but you must RSVP by Monday, December 2 to:
April Adelson by email

Grant funding from:
January 16, 17 & 20

Thursday, January 16, 7:00 PM

Ecumenical Community Workshop Service

Christ Lutheran Church
829 William Hilton Parkway
Hilton Head Island

Friday, January 17, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Service at Congregation Beth Yam with the CBY Shabbat Choir

4501 Meeting Street
Hilton Head Island

Monday, January 20, 10:00 AM

MLK Memorial March

Starting and ending at Hilton Head High School parking lot
Lunch to follow in the high school cafeteria
MARTY AND JUDI KATZ
Constructed New Master Closet and Remodeled 2 Bathrooms and Sunroom

“Removed sliding glass partition and cased in opening...”

Painted vanity, new counter top, new faucet and mirrors...

Guest bathroom, new counter top, faucet, mirror and painted...

“We are very happy with the framing work that extended our living space. The final outcome of the painting and finish work was excellent.” Marty and Judi Katz

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reserves the right to select and
edit materials which are
submitted.

Please submit articles to
David Kurjan by email at
cbytidingseditor@gmail.com
or USB flash drive by the
15th of each month.

Live Stream Videos of past services can be viewed on the CBY website by going
to the Home/Media/Video Player web page. Click the link to go directly there.
http://www.bethyam.org/media-galleries/video-player.

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