Winter Holy Days
# Music Makes Friends

It's a good time for a new series of music events, live streamed to CBY members. Hosted by Music Director David Kimbell, all concerts will be held on Sundays at 4:00 PM and last about one hour. Concerts can be viewed from our home page, bethyam.org and our Facebook page. Details of each concert will follow shortly and check out the Weekly Tidings.

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<tr>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Save the Dates</strong></td>
<td><strong>January 24</strong>—Another Side of Charlie</td>
<td><strong>February 21</strong>—David Katz, violinist</td>
<td><strong>March 21</strong>—Adriana Sings in English!</td>
<td><strong>April 4</strong> - artists TBD</td>
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<td><strong>Candle Lighting 5:20 PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>6 PM Shabbat Service-Live Stream</strong></td>
<td><strong>Parashat Vayechi</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4:30 PM Executive Committee-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>10 AM Ritual Committee-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>2:30 PM Hebrew II-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 PM Hebrew Class-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>3 PM Endowment Trustees-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 PM Staff Meeting-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>7 PM Renee Chavurah</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5:30 PM Adult B'nai Mizvah Program-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>8 Candle Lighting 5:26 PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>11 AM Hebrew Class-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service-Live Stream</strong></td>
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<td><strong>10 AM Hebrew Class-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>14 Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat</strong></td>
<td><strong>12:30 PM Sisterhood Book Club-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>15 Candle Lighting 5:32 PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>11 AM Hebrew Class-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>6:30 PM Shabbat Service-MLK-Live Stream</strong></td>
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<td><strong>4 PM Staff Meeting-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>16 Parashat Vaera</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:30 AM Sisterhood Board-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>22 Candle Lighting 5:39 PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>11 AM Hebrew Class-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>6:30 PM Shabbat Service-Live Stream</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>18 OFFICE CLOSED</strong></td>
<td><strong>19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 PM Staff Meeting-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>21 10:30 AM Sisterhood Board-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>23 Parashat Bo</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1:30 PM SAC Meeting Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>2:30 PM Hebrew II-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 PM Hebrew Class-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>24 Candle Lighting 5:45 PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>11 AM Hebrew Class-Zoom</strong></td>
<td><strong>6:30 PM Shabbat Service-Live Stream</strong></td>
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<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td><strong>28 Tu B'Shvat</strong></td>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
<td><strong>30 Parashat Beshalach</strong></td>
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<td><strong>24</strong></td>
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<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td><strong>28 Tu B'Shvat</strong></td>
<td><strong>29 Candle Lighting 5:45 PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>30 Parashat Beshalach</strong></td>
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<td><strong>31</strong></td>
<td><strong>Need Technical Help?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Are you having difficulty viewing services on-line? Finding our Facebook Live page? Understanding how to follow website links? Nancy Rosen has offered her technical expertise to anyone that could use some assistance. Contact her at 215-219-7901 or by email. ✪</strong></td>
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If we are going to need anything special to get us through 2021, it’s gonna be heart. I have two different thoughts I would like to share with you about the heart we need to call upon within ourselves for the rest of the year.

One of my favorite teachers of Torah, the Kotzker Rebbe (19th century Eastern Europe) commented on a verse from Exodus 25:8 which says, “And let them build Me a Sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.”

He said, “A person must prepare their heart so that the Torah will be present there, until his heart becomes a Sanctuary, in which to house his Creator.”

This is fairly deep spiritual language but there is a message for us all here. The next year, whatever we do, is going to require us to reach down deep inside. We will have to balance lots of conflicting emotions and desires. The outer world will require us to be flexible, and we will adapt to more circumstances than we could never have imagined, like vaccines and so forth. What is important is that we have a strong inner core of spirit and resilience to sustain us in trying times. The heart inside is going to be the river that sustains each of us if we pay attention and get into the spiritual side of our challenges.

The Kotzker Rebbe’s second comment on this same verse was to question why the verse itself did not say “that I (God) may dwell within it” instead of saying “that I may dwell among them?” Of course there is a subtle point that the rabbi saw which he maintained that when the children of Israel contribute and freely give, the heart of each one becomes a sort of Sanctuary, and the divine Presence is to be found within it.

Now we see! Giving of ourselves is what Judaism is all about. It’s not just about being financially generous, although that is crucial to maintain our congregation. The giving is about giving our heart and our time to the work of making CBY fulfill its mission, which is to renew and sustain Judaism with its values and its relationships to our community of Jews who pray, socialize, learn, care, mourn, and celebrate with each other.

This coming year 2021, we will blend our fortitude with our hope that the light is at the end of the tunnel. Congregation Beth Yam is doing great and we have an active program to reach out in a virtual way to all our congregants. The congregants who volunteer and who provide leadership do this because they have a heart for the community. They have a heart and soul for each of us. They intuitively get it that we are all building a small sanctuary inside ourselves.

The actual building is waiting for us. Sure, it is lonely and quiet, and sometimes I even talk to the building as if I was speaking to a friend who feels lonely for attention. I assure the building we are coming back. Not now. Not yet. But soon enough we will return. We will return to discover who we are as a community and what we have learned about life itself and our Jewish faith too.

Let’s get back to planning our future and giving the 40th anniversary of this congregation its rightful attention that it deserves. Let’s slowly start to imagine what next fall will look like and how we will roar back with energy and vigor to excite everyone that CBY continues to be the shining light in the sky that it has been for so long.

May this secular New Year bring us the heart we need to renew body and soul and to build that inner Sanctuary inside ourselves as we await the day of our return to the building we built and love as a symbol of our heritage and religious devotion.

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

PRAYER BOOK LENDING
We are so fortunate to be able to view services virtually through streaming on our website or Facebook page. We also are so happy to have the Virtual T’filah projected on screens from the Sanctuary. For congregants who miss the feel and look of the actual prayer book, Mishkan T’filah, we have some exciting news. The Ritual Committee, with the sanction of the COVID Committee, is offering to lend out copies of the siddur to congregants who would like to borrow one. If you are interested in borrowing a prayer book, call, text or email Randy Kurjan. She will meet you at CBY, outside, to provide a numbered book for you to use for the duration of our virtual services. ♦
Message from the President – Candy Solomon

Shalom CBY,

New Year’s Day is a public holiday in all countries that observe the Gregorian calendar with the exception of Israel. It is the world’s most widely observed public holiday. The start of the year was fixed as January 1 in 153 BCE by two Roman consuls. The month was named Janus after the name of the Roman god of doors and gates. Janus had two faces, one facing forward and one facing backward, a fitting name for the month at the start of the year.

The tradition of setting New Year’s resolutions began 4,000 years ago with the ancient Babylonians. According to historians, a popular resolution was to pay off all debts. Today, many people continue to take the opportunity to make resolutions at this time of year. Some of the more popular resolutions are to exercise more, lose weight, and to eat more healthily.

As Jews, we have already taken stock of our lives during our High Holy Day celebrations. This is another chance for us to think about how we are progressing toward the changes that we reflected upon in September. We are always growing and refining our decisions. This is our opportunity to reset our lives and make a course correction if necessary. Our reflections at the High Holy Days should focus more on our spiritual growth. We ask for forgiveness. It is our time to focus on self-reflection, repentance, and renewal. Our reflections in January should focus more on resolutions in the physical sense. We can allow ourselves to be a little more self-centered as we concentrate on our physical health and well-being. Now, as we celebrate the beginning of 2021, let us focus on our total health - the spiritual, the physical, and the mental health of mind and body. Be well and Happy New Year.

Shalom and keep smiling,

Candy

Why CBY?

John and Shari Box

John and I had been visitors to Hilton Head Island for 24 years. The first time I visited, I was pregnant with our son, Adam, so technically he and I have been coming here the longest. We moved to Charlotte, NC, in 1996 from Illinois, where John had grown up in Glencoe and attended the University of Illinois.

While I was in a Harris Teeter in Charlotte, I asked a woman, “Where do you go to the beach around here?” She said, “Hilton Head”. If she had said Myrtle Beach our story would be very different. So off we went to Hilton Head Beach and Tennis Club for our first family beach weekend. Our son Adam and daughter Mia have been coming ever since and are now 24 and 21 years old. There were many weekends and weeks to follow all over the island.

In 2016 we bought a small place in Sea Pines to “test” out if we would come down often. A weekend, became a long weekend, became a week, became two weeks, then we would live “at the beach” for the summer, where our daughter has worked at Coligny, Marley’s, and the Marriott. I worked teaching yoga at Jiva, while John continued to work as a commercial real estate agent. He would drive back to his office in Charlotte, while I would “stay” at the beach.

John and I had decided to go to services for Rosh Hashanah in 2017 “on the island”. We both were “looking for a sign” to see if we would feel comfortable at CBY. We arrived early to get our seats, just to see this woman that looked so familiar to me greeting all the congregants. I told John, “I know that woman”. What is a bigger sign than one of Linda Bloom’s hats? So, as Linda came around to introduce herself to us, I told her I knew her, and she and I discovered that John and I were members of Sinai Temple in Champaign, IL, while Rabbi Bloom was the Rabbi. We became associate members. Now we are full time residents and members.

We live in Palmetto Dunes with our dog, Winnie. John is actively working in commercial real estate, and I am just active, both physically and socially! I am currently on the SAC and Ritual Committee. Hope to meet you soon.
Membership Committee — Janice Fradkin & Judy Movshin, Co-chairs

Hanukkah is known as the Festival of Lights, and the lights were bright at the second annual Bluffton menorah lighting at DuBois Park on the fourth night of the holiday. Because of the safety guidelines, attendance was limited but the enthusiasm was strong, as CBY families gathered to sing and hear the story of the miracle of Hanukkah. Our beautiful outdoor traveling menorah, created by Mike Clancy and now part of our own Judaica collection, set the tone for a warm and inspiring holiday celebration. Thanks to all who made this happen!

It has been a challenging 2020. The Membership committee sends you virtual hugs and our best wishes for a new year filled with good health and connection.

Janice Fradkin and Judy Movshin ♦

“Night of 100 Menorot”
December 18

2nd Annual Menorah Lighting
DuBois Park in Bluffton
Sisterhood — Helen Hauer, President

We hope to see all of you at our January 10 Cooking Class at 2 PM. It will be a Zoom event. Six cooks will be making a complete Shabbat dinner. If you are interested in attending, please email Lorna Bonner by email for the Zoom invite.

There will also be a Zoom Book Club meeting on January 14. We will be reading "House on Endless Waters" by Emuna Elon. Email Susan Sigalow at for a Zoom invite if you wish to attend.

Other exciting events coming up include a Gardening program on Feb. 11 and a Mary Kay discussion on March 18. More information will be forthcoming.

Raffle tickets for the hand-knit afghan are still available for $10 for 1 and $25 for 3. Please contact Robin Krumholz by email to purchase them.

Happy New Year to all.

Yours in Sisterhood,
Helen

Sharing Shabbat Recipes During the Time of Social Distancing

Friday night Shabbat dinner is a special time for family and friendship. It’s also quality time during which we can still enjoy each other’s company via Zoom.

Please join our next virtual Shabbat Cooking Class! We have a wonderful line-up of Sisterhood chefs who will demonstrate different parts of a Shabbat meal, including how to make challah, chicken soup for the Jewish soul, and yummy vegetables like Momma used to make and a delectable dessert.

Please email me to let me know that you will be attending Sisterhood’s Shabbat Cooking Class January 10 at 2 pm, and we will send you the Zoom link.

Lorna Bonner, Membership VP

Book Club

Thursday, January 14 at 12:30 PM
The next Sisterhood Book Club will feature “House on the Endless Waters” by Emma Elon. This will be a Zoom session. You must RSVP to Susan Sigalow, 330-571-2334.

She will give you the Zoom link to join the Book Club meeting.

Save the Date

A special program about Native Plants for a Lowcountry Landscape will be presented February 11 at 11 AM by Clemson Extension Horticulture Service. Men and women in our congregation are invited to tune in. You will learn the importance of native plants attracting wildlife and sustaining healthy ecosystems.

There are great examples of ways you can have a beautiful landscape, pollinators and migratory songbirds, while saving money on irrigation, fertilizer and avoiding harmful pesticides.

Laura Lee Rose is the Urban Horticulture Agent for Clemson Extension in Beaufort County. She teaches the Master Gardener classes and writes gardening articles for the Island Packet, Beaufort Gazette and Lowcountry Weekly magazine. She is a South Carolina native and has been active with the South Carolina Native Plant Society for over 20 years.

We hope you will watch this informative presentation, which will be live streamed at the CBY website and Facebook page. Please e-mail Tena Graber with any questions you would like to be addressed. This program, sponsored by Sisterhood, is for the entire Beaufort County community.

SISTERHOOD VIRTUAL ONEG PROGRAM

Sisterhood has established a Virtual Oneg program to replace our usual oneg program until we return to our synagogue for services. We are asking that individual congregants, couples, families, committees, chavurim or groups donate to Sisterhood the money that they would ordinarily spend to sponsor the food for an actual oneg in our synagogue. Sisterhood will then put together all the money that is received and donate the funds to Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger. You may sponsor a Virtual Oneg in honor of a person or event. The name of the person or group sponsoring the Virtual Oneg on any given week will be announced, as usual, and thanked from the Bimah. If you would like to sponsor a Virtual Oneg, please send your donation to Felicia Pascal, along with the date you would like to sponsor and the event or person you are honoring. ☺
Friends Campaign – Kim Shapiro, Chair

Fundraising Committee – Dave Solomon, Chair

This year has been like no other; 2020 has thrown a lot of challenges our way. Maybe it feels like we’d rather wish away 2020 than be thankful for it. However, we believe we have much to be thankful for as well this year. We are grateful for the friends and community created by our own CBY. There have been many bright spots in 2020 amid the challenges. Activities that have brought us together, even when we were apart. None of these undertakings would be possible without the support of you, our friends, our congregation.

How important is your donation to Friends? While the synagogue is closed temporarily as a result of the pandemic, CBY has lost access to a number of streams of supplemental income, including facility rentals, gala dinners, life event celebrations, etc. Your donations and financial support are essential to help CBY continue to serve you during the pandemic. Since the pandemic began, our professional staff and dedicated volunteers have worked hard to ensure that our Congregation Beth Yam serves the ever changing spiritual and emotional needs of our members during this difficult time.

We would like to thank those of you that have already made your gift to the Friends campaign, if you haven’t, there is still plenty of time to make your donation. As we communicated in our initial letter, the Friends campaign is critical to CBY to cover the difference between financial needs and dues revenues; this voluntary annual Friends contribution is an essential component of CBY’s financial health.

Please join with us and your fellow members and make your Friends donation to the 2020-2021 campaign now. It’s worth the cost to keep our community’s Jewish home safe and fully operational.

Thank you and wishing you a happy and healthy 2021.

Kim Shapiro and Dave Solomon
Rabbi Bloom and the Care Committee have embarked on a new outreach to CBY congregants. We call it “Rabbi on the Road.” In partnership with the Care Committee, Rabbi Bloom has visited Hilton Head Plantation, Indigo Run, Port Royal, Palmetto Dunes, Sun City, and Shelter Cove. Rabbi wants to maintain his contact with all of us and this is a way congregants and Rabbi can touch base even if it is just a wave from your front lawn or a short visit. The Care Committee is working to facilitate his visits to all of our communities. You will be receiving notification of designated days that Rabbi Bloom will be spending in your community. If you would like a visit, please respond by emailing JoAnne for Hilton Head visits or Kathy Burnce for Bluffton visits so that we can set up the times for the Rabbi to visit. We are a caring community, and we thank Rabbi Bloom for making this effort to touch base with our membership.

Volunteers are needed to make phone calls! During the current pandemic, when most of us are staying at home, we miss our family and friends. The Care Committee has recruited volunteer callers from across the congregation to call members just to keep in touch, but more volunteers are needed to make calls to congregants not yet contacted. If you would like to help us make a few calls, please contact JoAnne by email. If you would like a phone call from the Care Committee, or from Rabbi Bloom, please contact JoAnne by email or Kathy by email.

Thank you
JoAnne and Kathy ♡

December Board Meeting Action Items
(Abstracted from Board Minutes)

Jeremy Press, on behalf of the Security Committee, moved (J. Bluestone seconded) that its name be changed to the Security and Safety Committee and that the Board (1) approve modifications to the Security Policy and (2) adopt nine new items specifying Pandemic Safety Policy as per the Board December package. The multipart motion passed. ♡
CONTRIBUTIONS: We gratefully acknowledge the following from November 16-December 15:

Shabbat Service Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Friday, January 15 at 6:30 PM
Special Guests include:
Galen Miller, chair of the MLK Committee & Audrey “Miss B” Johnson

Streamed from our home page bethyam.org and our Facebook page.
Group 4 Builders, LLC
New Home Construction / Remodels / Additions
843-422-6925 / www.hiltonheadgroup4builders.com

Group 4 Builders removed the old wooden handrail and pressure treated decking, and replaced it with a beautiful, stainless steel cable handrail, and a composite, virtually maintenance-free deck...

“Jack is always patient and helpful as Jane cycles though every color and style of building and decorating material for each project that he has done for us. This deck and railing were particularly difficult to complete due to availability and shipping issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Jack kept checking and coaxing the vendors until the supplies were delivered and got them installed and painted quickly. The result is perfect! We love the way it looks, much more contemporary and offering better visibility of our beautiful view.”

JANE AND HART JOSEPH
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.