Would you like to celebrate Israel's 75th anniversary IN Israel? Join Rabbi and Linda Bloom for this spiritual experience of building community, exploring history, and making new friends. CLICK HERE to email the office to let us know you are interested.
### July 2022

**Sivan-Tamuz 5782**

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<td>9 AM Social Hall Reserved 4 PM Staff Meeting-Zoom</td>
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**Please submit your articles to our new editor’s—email address:**

`tidings@bethyam.org
Sheila Margeon`

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### Resource Committee—Kim Shapiro & Robin Katz, Co-chairs

If you’ve thought about becoming more involved by joining or leading a committee, program, event, or Board of Directors service, we have a great opportunity for you. The Resource Committee will be conducting leadership sessions this winter. We will kick this off with a cocktail reception so you can learn more. This will be a great opportunity to meet other leaders, learn about our congregation and be a part of ensuring a successful future.

If interested, please contact one of the following by email:

- Kim Shapiro
- Robin Katz
- Jane Joseph.

**Don’t wait! Sign up NOW!!**
Rabbi’s Message

The summer season in Judaism is basically a preparation for the commemoration of the destruction of the Temple in Judaism. At the outset of the summer season, Judaism has set down three weeks that begin with a fast day on the 17th day of the Hebrew month of Tammuz (this year July 17). These days commemorate the time when the forces of the Babylonian monarch Nebuchadnezzar penetrated the walls surrounding Jerusalem around the year 586 BCE and then ends with the public fast day of Tisha B’Av (the 9th day of the Hebrew month of Av). According to the Talmud, the Babylonians destroyed the first temple and then centuries later, in 70 CE, the Romans destroyed the rebuilt temple, long after the exiled Jewish population had returned to Judea under the rule of the Persians.

During this three-week period, observant Jews in Ashkenazi culture refrain from getting married or listening to music or public entertainment and/or getting haircuts. In some traditions congregations recite the Avinu Malkeinu every morning at shaharit services.

Jewish tradition says that the 17th day of Tammuz occurred 40 days after Moses went up to receive the Torah on Shavuot. Some stories say that when Moses came down from Sinai, it was on the 17th of Tammuz, and when he saw the Israelites dancing over the golden calf, he broke the tablets of the Ten Commandments.

All these days lead up to the 9th of Av which this year is on August 5. This is the ultimate day when we observe, as a day of mourning, the destruction of the temple. It is a fast day that commemorates more than the destruction of the first and second temples. Tisha B’Av commemorates the Spanish Inquisition (1492) and the exile of the Jews from England (1290). Recited in synagogues, the Book of Lamentations describes the prophet’s horror and sadness at the destruction of the main institution of Jewish communal and religious life. The basic prohibitions of the fast day on Yom Kippur also apply to Tisha B’Av. For many in the Jewish world, Tisha B’Av remains the prime day of Jewish mourning in our history. Orthodox Jewry in Israel years ago tried to make the commemoration of the Holocaust on the 9th of Av. The Israeli public rightfully rejected that effort and fought for its own day in Israeli society.

Reform Judaism never truly adopted the Tisha B’Av fast day. First, Reform rejected the centrality of the temple in Jerusalem to Jewish theology in modern times. So, if the temple was not critical to our thinking, then why would Tisha B’Av be important to us? I always found it curious that despite our rejecting the holiday, the old Gates of Prayer Siddur included a special section of prayers and readings on Tisha B’Av. That was excluded when Mishkan Tefillah was released in 2006.

In addition, as a long-time rabbi in the reform camping movement Tisha B’Av became important because it was the only holy day in the summer that we could legitimately observe. I recall many creative ideas to instruct our kids about this holy historic moment, and they learned a lot about Jewish history in those camp activities.

I know full well that many of us will be out of town like myself on Tisha B’Av.

Generally speaking, we are not connected to this fast day like we are to other festivals and the High Holy Days. Yet, knowledge of our history and its customs is always a blessing. While I wish everyone a wonderful restful summer, I like to think that Jewish history is always a part of our consciousness as Jewish people. There is much to learn about our history and the tragedies that befell us as well as the after triumphs.

B’shalom,

Rabbi Brad Bloom

Rabbi on the Road

Since the beginning of the pandemic Rabbi Bloom has been visiting congregants in an effort to connect. Rabbi is extremely careful and has been fully vaccinated and boosted and wears a mask. He has met with people in their yard, garage, on patios as well as inside the home.

If you are not yet ready for a personal visit to your home, he’s willing to do a Zoom meeting or phone call or you are welcome to meet him in his study at temple.

His main concern is to simply see how his congregants are doing.

Are you interested in scheduling a visit with Rabbi Bloom? Contact the office by phone, 843-689-2179, or by email, bethyam@aol.com.

Please take a minute to look at my recent column in the Island Packet. I urge you to keep my “Faith in Action” column alive by clicking here and sharing it with friends and family.

“I always welcome your thoughts and comments.”

– Rabbi Bloom

http://www.islandpacket.com/living/religion/faith-in-action/
Message from the President—Joel N. Greene

Interlude: What is Jewish leadership all about, anyhow?

I had a wonderful English teacher in high school who taught me that when you lacked a title for a paper, you could simply call it “Interlude.” This is the first time I have actually taken his advice by doing that. But what does Interlude mean? Interlude is defined as an intervening period of time, a pause between acts in a play, or a performance that occurs during intermission.

With Candy Solomon’s presidency ending, and a new leadership effort starting, it seems appropriate that we take time for an interlude by pausing to consider where we are as a community, and what we want to do next.

I believe that we have emerged from the pandemic stronger than ever, in large part due to Candy’s resilience, determination, and leadership. We are blessed by being able to meet the original objectives of our founders: by providing religious school education for our youth and by serving as a vibrant spiritual center for the Jewish community in the Lowcountry.

According to The Book of Proverbs (8:15-16), when Rabbi Haggai appointed community leaders, he would have them carry a Torah scroll as a reminder to act according to the laws of the Torah. Our change in leadership likewise provides us with an opportunity to reflect on our Jewish values and ideals as well. It also gives us a chance to re-consider how we want to live personally. For example, I always thought at this point in my life, I would retire and spend my days on one of Hilton Head’s world-class beaches, with a novel in one hand, and a margarita in the other. I have a feeling that this plan has changed.

Frankly, I did not foresee becoming so involved in synagogue activities. Yet, as the Rabbi often points out, many of our members experience a similar resurgence of interest and connection with Judaism. In essence, we become motivated as individuals with a newborn desire to do something meaningful and altruistic with our lives that benefits ourselves as well as others in the Jewish community. Edrita Fried, a wonderful author and psychologist, summarizes this so well: “One of the most basic needs of the human race is activeness. To tackle life, to make human contacts, to experience vivid emotions, and to exercise will and skills are prime desires.”

She is also a realist noting that “activeness and efficacy...far outweigh the wish to live untroubled.” In other words, we all have a choice. We can live a passive, uninvolved life, and avoid challenges, or we can be active and positive by engaging life with passion and gusto.

Please continue to express your passion, your gusto, and your involvement in CBY. This is your synagogue, your community, and your spiritual home. It’s important that we all continue to take part in the events at CBY and that we join together in worship and other celebrations.

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity you have given me. Please continue to be active, involved in, and passionate about CBY. Remember always: Your leadership team is here to serve you.

Thank you,

Joel Greene

Social Action Committee—Barbara Meyer, Chair

This is a brief update on our committee’s activities for May and June. We had connected with the Boys and Girls Club of Hilton Head to see if they had needs we might be able to address. As it turns out, summer is a time when their children and teens can use some sports equipment and assorted items to take home and/or use at the club. So, we put out a request to our congregants and the Religious School for lightly used or new sports equipment, jump ropes, hula hoops, frisbees, sidewalk chalk, ball, bats, and gloves. To our delighted surprise, several parents with older teens wanted to clear out their garages of items no longer used or outgrown. We collected a bicycle, a razor scooter, skateboard, and all the other items listed above. We filled three large cars and drove them all over to the Boys and Girls Club. Everything was received with thanks.

On June 1, we held another food drive for Deep Well and Bluffton Self Help. Each pantry gave us lists of items needed. Since school is not in session, there was a focus on breakfast bars, fruit bars, and individual containers of fruit, as well as the usual items. Deep Well received 47 bags of groceries and Bluffton Self Help about 37 bags. While the pantries are thankful for whatever we collect, we had been hoping for more.

Continued on next page
Ritual Committee—Janet Kelley, Chair

Ten Things You May Not Know About a Minyan

1. Why is a minyan composed of ten adults? One explanation cites the story of Noah. Noah, his wives and three sons, numbered eight people, adding the presence of God and it was still not enough to save the world from destruction. Perhaps ten people may have saved it.

2. Another thought is that in the story of Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham was unable to find ten righteous people to prevent God from destroying the cities.

3. One does not need to have had a Bat or Bar Mitzvah to be counted in a minyan, but one must be old enough to have had one.

4. A minyan is necessary to recite the specific components of Shabbat services, including Kaddish and to read the Torah and Haftorah portions in the synagogue.

5. A minyan is required to recite the priestly blessings and for the wedding blessings.

6. A minyan is considered present to complete prayers, even if some members leave before the completion of the service, if at least six members remain.

7. Individuals may pray alone, but it is only in a communal setting that God may be declared holy. This originates from Leviticus 22:32: I will be sanctified in the midst of the people of Israel.

8. If a minyan is not obtained, the Torah may be read from a printed book and Kaddish may be recited in English instead.

9. During COVID some rabbis ruled a virtual minyan was acceptable because the members of the minyan only needed to see each other, instead of being together in a physical space.

10. The Jewish principle that all Jewish law can be overridden for the sake of saving lives was also cited by some rabbis supporting virtual minyans during the COVID pandemic.

Sources: myjewishlearning.com – Jewish Living: A Guide to Contemporary Reform Practice by Mark Washofsky

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Ruth Hilsen Fund

After the death of Ruth Hilsen in February 2020, her family established the Ruth D. Hilsen Memorial Fund for Social Justice to honor her memory. Ruth was passionate about education, including Holocaust education, and dedicated to developing community defined by religious tolerance and social justice. Ruth focused her considerable energy on programs that fostered respect and understanding among people of diverse backgrounds and divergent points of view. She was actively involved in our Social Action Committee and took on a leadership role in the Lowcountry Coalition Against Hate, dedicated to bringing a hate crime bill to the South Carolina legislature.

The Ruth D. Hilsen Memorial Fund supports those engaged in projects or programs or educational pursuits that will promote religious tolerance and eliminate bigotry, discrimination, and hate. One of this year's recipients of an award is Isabella Miller, daughter of Gina and Galen Miller. (All three family members are part of the Hilton Head MLK Committee for Justice). She will pursue an education at Howard University, majoring in sociology.

Isabella was a stellar student at May River High School, where she founded the Diversity and Multicultural Inclusion Club. One of her teacher's wrote, in a reference letter, “Bella is the example of discipline. I haven't had a student work harder on herself while also striving to help those around her succeed. Her unique ability to balance laborious responsibilities and social activities sets her apart from others. This award would truly benefit Bella, and I highly recommend her for the honor. She has what it takes to meet and exceed all expectations.”

The Hilsen Fund committee, chaired by Neil Hilsen, is immensely proud to award a scholarship to Isabella Miller. Somewhere, we can imagine Ruth smiling with inclusion.

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Social Action Committee (cont.)

Our committee is aware that we have held many more food drives than is typical. However, Covid took its toll on family budgets, food costs are inflated, and families are hungry. We are grateful for what our congregants have donated. We want you to know that we only ask because there continues to be food insecurity on our island.

We have been thinking about programming for the upcoming year. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

School Supply Drive

Once again, the Social Action Committee will be collecting needed school supplies for local elementary schools. We request that congregants place the supplies in the box in the back of the social hall. It would also be helpful if you put like items together in bags, so we don’t have to sort. The drive will run from July 5 through August 10. School begins that week, but the teachers like to get to know their students’ needs before “shopping” through our donations. Watch your e-mail for the list of needed supplies. (A suggestion has been made that if you have an Amazon Smile account linked to CBY, please make your purchases there, and CBY will get the percentage from the purchases.) In previous years we have sent over more than 30 bags of supplies. Thank you for supporting our local students.
The Sisterhood Board is busy planning a full calendar for the coming year with a variety of programs, both old and new. This year we are looking forward to resuming our traditional luncheons, and vibrant book club discussions, as well as a trying few new ideas for raising funds, and organizing groups of women to enjoy and grow together.

We were blessed in June with an enlightening presentation about the Historic Mitchelville Project from Director Ahmed Ward. Thank you to Ellen Jenner and Randy Kurjan for coordinating this event. This program was enjoyed by about 40 attendees, and $92 in donations were collected for the foundation. Sisterhood is proud to continue to support this monumental effort to preserve the early history of our Hilton Head Island. If you would like to support this project on your own, we encourage you to visit their website to make a donation, as well as visit the actual site off Beach City Road to explore their nature trails and learn about the unfolding plans for restoration. Visit exploremitchelville.org.

Sadly, CBY Sisterhood membership has been waning over recent years and was especially hard hit during the COVID pandemic, with almost 50% decline in membership. Sisterhood is depending on seeing a significant gain in membership for this coming 5783 (2022-23) year. We will soon be beginning our campaign to encourage all CBY women to (re)join. Watch for our new membership application soon.

PLEASE HOLD THE DATE: Our annual Membership Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday Nov 3, 2022. This will be a free event for paid-up members. Volunteers will be needed to make soups and salads. Contact Debby Malen if interested in volunteering. Looking forward to the fall, you will soon be hearing about our “Honey from the Heart” project for sending Rosh Hashanah greetings to friends and family. We hope you all will generously support this first fundraiser of the year, which will jointly support both CBY and American ORT, providing enabling programs for challenged individuals worldwide.

Our Sisterhood Book Club will be continuing to explore the talent of Pat Conroy. Watch for announcements for the date of the first meeting this fall. The book will be Beach Music. Contact Susan Sigalow for more information about our book club.

We will soon once again join hands with our fellow sisters in other Meeting Street congregations for an Interfaith Women’s Prayer Service on Tuesday, Oct 25, at 2PM. This annual tradition began in 2016 following the Hurricane Matthew clean up efforts. We look forward to once again counting our blessings together, as we emerge from COVID and the recent expressions of violence and hatred for faith-based expression.

I continue to ask that if you believe Sisterhood has not been meeting your expectations, then I’m all ears. I love to try to solve problems, so let’s talk. Most important, note that Sisterhood still has several open positions in leadership, as well as dozens of options for volunteers on committees. Ideas alone can’t make things happen.

Sisterhood has always been dependent on volunteers. Give me a call, drop me an email, or just catch me at an oneg after Shabbat services, and get involved.

Fondly, yours in Sisterhood,

Robin
Before we retired, we both worked for the federal government in Washington, DC, and for 23 years resided in Alexandria, VA. Walt is a retired Naval Captain. After his retirement he used his myriad of skills to support the Naval Sea Systems Command in the civil service. Sheila worked for the Department of the Navy, and that’s where we met. As her career progressed, she moved to General Services Administration, where she directed the National Marketing and Communication Programs.

During our working years we purchased a timeshare on Hilton Head and enjoyed our annual visits. This led us to purchase our house on Hilton Head Island in 2016. CBY’s existence was an integral part of our decision to move to this area after our retirement. We wanted a place to worship that was close by. We owned a Torah and decided that it needed a proper home. It now sits in the Ark on the CBY bimah, where everyone can see it when they attend services.

Between us we have four adult children and two grandsons. Most of our family lives on the West Coast, so we do a lot of Facetime and phone calling to stay in touch. In retirement hobbies can be important. Some of our hobbies include traveling, visiting friends and family, genealogy, bird watching, and creative writing. Sheila has won a few prizes with her submissions and is currently working on a Chanukah story she hopes to publish.

We enjoy walking, working out at the gym, reading, watching a good movie on Netflix, or just chilling.

Working on several CBY committees keeps us busy. We serve on the Membership, Communications, Ritual, Security, and Adult Education Committees, as well as Sisterhood and Men’s Club. Sheila also assists in the Judaica shop, and Walt participates in the annual Wreaths Over America. Most recently Walt has become a member of the Board of Directors, and Sheila has taken over the reins as Editor of the Tidings. Aside from supporting CBY, Sheila volunteers at the Bargain Box.

A highlight for us these past two years was being a part of the 2020-2022 B’Nai Mitzvah class. Reading from the Torah, writing a D’rash, learning the prayers, and working together with the members of the class was a very rich and rewarding journey for us.
The Guardian Society of the CBY Endowment Fund

For many of us, there is a compelling need to make a difference in the world in which we live. Your gift to the Congregation Beth Yam Endowment Fund can do just that.

Endowed funds differ from other funds in that the total amount of the gift is invested. Each year, only the income earned is available to spend or to be added to the principal for growth. Donations to the Endowment can only be spent in very restricted circumstances. In this respect, a gift to the endowment is a perpetual gift that keeps on giving.

Since its founding, Congregation Beth Yam has been more than just a synagogue, more than a religious school, more than a bimah, more than a place for social gatherings. It is our community's Jewish home, the center of Jewish life in the Lowcountry. The Endowment Fund is positioned to ensure that it remains so for many years to come.

We hope you'll seriously consider becoming a member of the Guardian Society by making a contemporary donation to the Endowment Fund or by including CBY in your estate/legacy planning. For your legacy documents, simply name the Congregation Beth Yam Endowment Fund as a beneficiary in your estate document; as a retirement plan beneficiary; or as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy and inform a member of the Endowment Committee of your decision.

Should you need additional information, or have any questions regarding the Endowment Fund, please contact Ted David by email.

Care Committee—JoAnne Doyle, Kathy Burnce, Maury Fradkin, Co-chairs

Mi Shebeirach List
Be our eyes and ears. If you hear of a congregant in need of healing prayers, please contact Rabbi Bloom, the office, or a member of the Care Committee (JoAnne Doyle, Kathy Burnce, or Maury Fradkin, by email.

Rosh Hashanah Gift Bags
Please volunteer to help. During the High Holy Days, the Care Committee is planning to reach out to Jewish seniors residing in care facilities in our community. We are planning to deliver holiday sweets and good wishes in gift bags to be distributed by the facility. Please volunteer to address holiday cards and pack and deliver the gift bags in Bluffton and Hilton Head. Email JoAnne Doyle.

Membership Committee—Robin Katz & Pat Levitt, Co-chairs

Pat Levitt and I are looking forward to the year ahead as your Membership Co-chairpersons. There is so much to look forward to! Our focus will be on attracting new members while planning activities to engage our current members. We would love to hear from you with your ideas, thoughts, and suggestions. Please let us know if you are interested in participating on the Membership Committee.

We would like to extend our thank you to the June Greeters: Sheri Farbstein and Howard Rothchild, Lorna Bonner and Joel Greene, Sheila and Walt Margeson, and Janice and Maury Fradkin. If you are interested in the honor of welcoming members and potential members to our beautiful synagogue, please contact us by email!

Robin Katz and Pat Levitt

Cemetery Committee—Felicia Roth, Chair
Plots for Sale: CBY members in good financial standing are eligible to purchase plots in CBY Gardens at Six Oaks Cemetery. Interested parties may contact Six Oaks or any members who wish to resell their interests. Please also contact Cemetery Chair Felicia Roth to facilitate arrangements between CBY and Six Oaks. Currently available for resale:

- Two plots at sale price. Contact Linda Newport at LNewp26316@aol.com or at 678-488-1657
Salute to Candy Solomon
CBY President 2020-2022
To view recent live-stream videos of services go to Congregation Beth Yam | StreamSpot (https://venue.streamspot.com/c3408706)

**2022/2024 Board of Directors**

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<td>Janice Fradkin</td>
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President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Treasurer
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Immediate Past President

Sisterhood President, Robin Krumholz
Men’s Club President, Dave Solomon