



The Bulletin

Iyar / Sivan 5786

CBEAlbany.org

May / June 2026



Summer Loading

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CBE & ME: SHAVUOT

Thursday, May 21 at 5:00 pm

Join us for a special Shavuot edition of CBE & Me, designed for children ages 0-5 and the grown-ups who love them!

Shavuot is the "birthday" of the Torah, and we're celebrating with music, movement, and a very special hands-on tradition. We'll start with social time and holiday tunes on the guitar, followed by a story about the wonders of Mount Sinai.

Our main event is a "Sweet Torah" Scribe Workshop. Just like a real Sofer (scribe), children will create their very own tangible Torah scrolls to take home.

Of course, there will also be some amazing snacks to nosh on for both grown-ups and children.

Come celebrate the gift of the Torah and the joy of community!

WORSHIP

Friday Evening, May 1

5:00 pm Pre-neg
5:30 pm Ruach Shabbat Services
Followed by a Congregational Dinner

Saturday Morning, May 2

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis

Friday Evening, May 8

5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, May 9

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Mandell

Friday Evening, May 15

Yom Yerushalayim
6:00 pm Community Shabbat at Sidney Albert Albany JCC
No services at CBE that evening

Saturday Morning, May 16

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis
10:45 am Bar Mitzvah of Samuel Colman

Thursday Evening, May 21

Erev Shavuot
5:00 pm CBE & Me: Shavuot

Friday Morning, May 22

Shavuot
10:15 am Shavuot Yizkor Memorial Service

Friday Evening, May 22

Shavuot
5:30 pm Confirmation and Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, May 23

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Mandell

Friday Evening, May 29

5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services: Sisterhood and Brotherhood
Installation

Saturday Morning, May 30

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis

Friday Evening, June 5

5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, June 6

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Mandell
10:45 am Bar Mitzvah of Ari Sossner

Friday Evening, June 12

5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, June 13

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis
10:45 am Bat Mitzvah of Sadie Bright

Friday Evening, June 19

5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, June 20

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Weitzman

Friday Evening, June 26

5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

Saturday Morning, June 27

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Mandell

ADULT EDUCATION

Wednesday Afternoon, May 13

12:00 pm Lunch & Learn with Jill Goodman: Democracy, Reform Judaism, and Your Voice in Israel

When we “Vote Reform,” what happens next? Jill Goodman went to Jerusalem to find out. As an Alternate Delegate for the USA VoteReform slate at the World Zionist Congress, Jill saw firsthand how our collective voice shapes the allocation of over \$1 billion in annual funding for Jewish life and democratic values in Israel.

Grab your lunch and join us as Jill shares the highlights of her journey, the critical wins achieved by the Reform movement at the Congress, and the road ahead. Whether you are a longtime advocate or new to Israel organizing, you’ll leave with a clearer understanding of the WZC and a concrete way to plug into the URJ/RAC Israel Organizing Project.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR RABBI

Greg D. Weitzman



What Are We Building? V'shachanti b'tocham - "That I may dwell among them"

This is a season of both gratitude and transition at Beth Emeth.

As the program year begins to wind down and summer approaches, we find ourselves holding a great deal at once. We are saying goodbye. We are tending to change. We are making decisions about the future. And, in a very real way, we are building. Not only with bricks and beams – but with memory, with relationship, with intention.

In her final message, Cantor Short wrote that her “heart is full,” even as this moment is “profoundly bittersweet.” That is the nature of a sacred community. We do not simply move from one chapter to the next. We carry one another with us.

She reminds us that her journey here “began not on the bimah, but in your living rooms and over coffee.” It is a quiet but profound truth: what we build together is not only found in our services, but in the spaces in between – in conversation, in care, and in showing up for one another in moments of joy and in moments of challenge.

And we have built something real.

We have stood together in times of uncertainty and

pain, drawing strength from the community. We have celebrated moments of connection and growth. We have explored “new ways to pray,” stretching ourselves while remaining rooted in who we are. We have invested in the next generation of leadership and begun the sacred work of imagining what comes next.

These are not just experiences. They are the foundation. In *Pirkei Avot* we are taught: *Lo alecha hamlacha ligmor, v'lo atah ben chorin l'hibatel mimena* – you are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it.

Which is why this moment asks something of us.

Because at the very same time that we say goodbye, we are also quite literally building – repairing and strengthening the physical space that holds our community. It would be easy to see that work as practical, even mundane. But in truth, it is deeply spiritual.

To care for a building like ours is to say: this matters. To invest in it is to say: we believe in a future here. To endure the inconvenience and disruption is to say: we are not just inheriting this community – we are

***And we have built
something real***

responsible for it.

When the Israelites built the Mishkan in the wilderness, the Torah teaches: *"V'asu li mikdash v'shachanti b'tocham"* – "Let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them." Not in it, but among them. The holiness was never only in the structure – it was in the people who built it, sustained it, and filled it with meaning.

And so the question beneath all of this is not simply what are we repairing – *but what are we building?*

This question sits at the heart of our mission and vision work. It invites us to think not only about programs or priorities, but about the kind of community we are called to be. One that honors the relationships that have sustained us. One that makes room for new voices and new expressions of Jewish life. One that, in Cantor Short's words, continues to "shine as a beacon of light" for generations to come.

Summer will soon bring a different rhythm. The pace may soften, but the work of building continues –

often in quieter, less visible ways. In the relationships we nurture. In the ways we show up. In the intention we bring to being part of this community.

And before we turn fully toward that next season, we will gather as a community to mark this moment together.

I hope you will join us for Erev Shabbat services on **Friday, June 5 at 5:30 PM**, as we celebrate Cantor Emily Short and Frankie, and offer our gratitude, our blessings, and our love. Showing up for one another in moments like these is itself a sacred act – one more way we build community together.

Because in the end, Beth Emeth has never been defined by any one person, or even by the building itself. It is defined by what we build together.

And that work – sacred, ongoing, and shared – continues. Ashley, Eden, Jonny, and I wish you and your family a wonderful start to the warm months of May and June and we look forward to continuing to build together.

There are moments in Jewish life when even letting go becomes an act of holiness.

Our tradition teaches that sacred texts and ritual items - those that have held God's name or helped carry our prayers - are not simply discarded when they are worn or no longer usable. Instead, they are treated with the same care and dignity with which they were once used. This is the purpose of a *genizah*: a resting place for sacred materials before they are returned to the earth.

I invite you to join us for a Genizah Burial on Sunday, May 17 at 11:00 AM at the Congregation Beth Emeth Cemetery in Loudonville, NY.

Together, we will gather to learn about this meaningful tradition and to participate in the burial of worn or damaged sacred items: prayer books, Bibles, pages containing God's name, tallitot, and other ritual materials.

If you have items at home that can no longer be used, but should not be thrown away, you are encouraged to bring them with you. This will be a chance not only to respectfully lay them to rest, but also to deepen our understanding of how Judaism teaches us to honor the objects that have helped shape our spiritual lives.

This service and reflective gathering will include learning, prayer, and the opportunity to take part in this sacred mitzvah together.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Robin Sobol

***“The day is short, the work is great, the workers are many, and the reward is much.”
— Pirkei Avot***



As we move into May and June, this teaching from *Pirkei Avot* feels especially meaningful. Spring is turning into summer, our calendars fill with celebrations, and yet our sacred work as a community continues. At Congregation Beth Emeth, there is so much to celebrate and so much to look forward to as we finish our program year together.

First, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in our Mission, Vision, and Values survey and listening groups. Your voices matter, and your thoughtful input will help guide our congregation as we look toward the future. This was truly a community effort, and your willingness to share ideas, hopes, and dreams for Beth Emeth reflects the strength and care that define our congregation.

A very special and sincere thank you to Kerryn Kent for spearheading this enormous endeavor. Kerryn's leadership, dedication, and passion for Congregation Beth Emeth have been extraordinary. We are also deeply grateful to the members of her committee who devoted countless hours to this important work. Their efforts will help move Beth Emeth into the future with intention, clarity, and shared purpose.

This time of year also brings moments of celebration and transition. We honor our students as they reach milestones, from our youngest learners to our Confirmation students and graduates. We recognize the dedication of our teachers, volunteers, and leaders who have helped nurture Jewish learning and connection throughout the year. Watching our children and families grow together continues to be one of the greatest blessings of our congregation.

One of the highlights of our year is the Garage Sale in June. Chaired by Margie and Rob Dorkin, this beloved event truly takes a community to set up and run.

From collecting donations to organizing, pricing, and welcoming shoppers, so many of our congregants play a role. The Garage Sale not only brings us together but also serves as an important outreach to the broader community, showcasing the warmth and spirit of Congregation Beth Emeth. Thank you in advance to everyone who helps make this incredible event possible.

We also look ahead to Shavuot, when we gather to celebrate the giving of Torah. Shavuot reminds us that Jewish life is built on learning, community, and showing up for one another. Whether you join us for services, learning opportunities, or simply to connect with friends, Shavuot offers a beautiful moment to renew our commitment to Jewish life and to each other.

As summer approaches, our pace may shift, but our connections remain strong. This is a wonderful time to try something new, attend a service you don't usually attend, volunteer for an event, or simply stay for conversation at an oneg. Every time we show up, we strengthen our community.

I continue to be inspired by the warmth, kindness, and dedication of our Congregation Beth Emeth family. Together, we create a place where people feel welcomed, supported, and connected, not just during the busy months, but all year long.

Wishing you all a meaningful end to our program year, joyful celebrations, and the beginning of a relaxing and fulfilling summer. I look forward to seeing you at services and programs in the weeks ahead.

Warmly,

Robin Sobol

President, Congregation Beth Emeth

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jill Rafferty-Weinisch

I've always been a lover of stories. It's what led me to study theatre and to spend my career working with groups of people, helping them tell theirs.



Five months into my term as executive director, I am reminded of how much the stories we share with one another matter—and what a powerful gift listening can be.

I am deeply grateful to the congregants who have taken the time to share their CBE experiences with me—whether joyful, challenging, or thought-provoking. These moments of openness are true gifts. They help me understand not only what we are doing well, but also where we can grow. These contributions also signal a belief in our potential to be even stronger, more inclusive, and more meaningful. The staff and I welcome this input with gratitude as we strive to foster a culture where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued.

In a vibrant community, growth is never a solitary endeavor. It is shaped, refined, and strengthened through the voices of those who care deeply about our synagogue's past, present, and future. Every

story shared, every opinion expressed, and every suggestion offered reflects commitment—and is genuinely appreciated. The staff and I are committed to translating your feedback into meaningful improvements that strengthen our programs, deepen engagement, and enhance our shared experience.

As we plan for next year—and that work is already well underway—the insights you've shared through the Mission, Vision, and Values process, as well as through emails, phone calls, and even casual conversations in the lobby, are helping to shape the year ahead. In the spirit of Reform Judaism, which embraces ongoing learning and evolution, your willingness to dream big dreams for Beth Emeth remains one of our greatest strengths.

With gratitude,
Jill

Next Steps from the Mission/Vision/Values Task Force

Our sincere thanks to all of our members who participated in our Mission/Vision/Values Listening Campaign in March. This process enabled us to listen intently to what our members appreciate about CBE and what they would like to see for CBE in the future. For next steps, the task force is sorting through the collected information and preparing the analysis to share with the congregation. Please join us at the Annual Meeting to hear an overview of the results.

I'd like to take a moment to recognize the members of this task force, who invested an incredible amount of time and effort into this process. My thanks to our consultants, Elana Paru and Evie Rotstein, as well as our task force members: Liz Bauer, Steve Einhorn, Cheryl Gelder-Kogan, Karen Glaser, Jarah Moesch, Andy Safranko, Hal Sokol, and Ilene Stein. Also, thanks to Rabbi Weitzman, Cantor Short, Robin Sobol, Jill Rafferty-Weinesch, Steve Squires, Lauren Iselin, and Robyn Marinstein; this work wouldn't be possible without your leadership and constant support.

Warmly,

Kerryn Kent, Mission/Vision/Values Task Force Chair

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Sara Salitan-Thiell



I love the cyclical nature of the Jewish calendar and how it coincides with our natural seasons as well as the school year!

Now that the grass is green, we've enjoyed the early spring flowers, and some warmer temperatures, school comes to a close and we start dreaming of all that summer has to offer: camp, new friendships, cooling off in a lake or pool, reading for pleasure, extra daylight to relax outside, to name a few activities.

So it's time to tie up our current school year and thank our families for their constant support, our Education Committee co-chairs, Liz Albright and Julie Safranko for their leadership, and all of the parent and grandparent members of the Education Committee for their time and dedication. Much appreciation goes to our

teachers and staff for sharing so many gifts with our students. Many thanks to Rabbi Weitzman and Cantor Short for their leadership and support throughout the school year, and to Steve and Billy for all their logistical expertise.

The Einhorn Center closes in early May, and we'll all take a little time for reflection and a bit of relaxation, but planning for the coming year is well underway. We're already excited about what's to come! Wishing all of our students and families a wonderful beginning of the summer, full of sunshine, new adventures, and togetherness!

PURIM FUN



OUR TEMPLE FAMILY

IN MEMORIAM

Beth Emeth recognizes with profound sorrow the death of our members and extends sympathy to those in our congregation who have lost a loved one.

Karen Sukloff

Mother of Jeffry (Yolanda) Sukloff
Mother of Lauren (Rob) Austin
Wife of Mark Sukloff

Roz Kaplan

Aunt of David (Allison) Meyers
Aunt of Nancy (Frederic) Preston
Sister in Law of Kathleen Meyers

Jason Rice

Father of Nancy (Paul Germain) Rice
Brother-in-law of Joanne Davidoff

Harriet A. Weintraub

Mother of Allen (Ellen) Weintraub
Mother of Michael (Diane Rosen) Weintraub
Mother of Todd (Kelly) Weintraub

Janice Oser

Mother of Andrea Oser
Mother of Roy B. (Amy Linksy) Oser

Charlotte Lefton

Mother of Andrea Lefton
Grandmother of Samantha Lefton
Grandmother of Jessica Lefton

LET'S CELEBRATE!

Congregants are acknowledged on their special birthdays (from age 35) and anniversaries (from 10th) in multiples of 5 years.

May Special Birthdays

Carol Aronowitz	Heather Linsk
Patricia Boochever	Lawrence Marwill
Erin Casey	Ruth Mendel
Sanford Chorost	Mark Poskanzer
Ariel Fallon	Lisa Roth
Marcia Greenberg	Meredith Schoenblum
David Karlin	Peter Spitalny
Stuart Kletter	Herman Ungerman
Andrea M. Lefton	Renee Whitman

June Special Birthdays

Gayle Abrams	Elaine Rubenstein
Cindy Chan	Millicent Serling
Asaf Elkayam	David Shulan
Brian Epstein	Lucy Siegel
Jerome Goldstein	Sylvia Sossner
Genie Greenhouse	Laurie Stern
Stuart Madnick	Susan Weinberg
Kathleen Meyers	

May Special Anniversaries

Jennifer and Timothy Carabis ~ 10 years
Holly and Adam Poskanzer ~10 years
Rachel Flink-Bochacki and Ryan Bochacki ~ 15 years
Heather and Tony Linsk ~ 30 years
Heidi and Steve Sabatino ~ 30 years
Randee and Michael Lipnick ~ 45 years

June Special Anniversaries

Jenna and Yuriy Berin ~ 25 years
Ameera and Clinton Crellin ~ 25 years
Karen and Mark Friedman ~ 30 years
Gail and Jay Hurewitz ~ 35 years
Meredith and Paul Schoenblum ~ 35 years
Susan and Joe Schwartz ~ 35 years
Sheila and Gary Hand ~ 40 years
Cheryl Gelder-Kogan and Barry Kogan ~ 50 years
Ellen and Alan Kardon ~ 60 years
Judy and Stu Madnick ~ 60 years
Karen and Ed Martin ~ 60 years

MAZAL TOV TO...

Ellen Flasterstein Reohr on the birth of her grandson, Finn Reohr Stevens on March 16. Parents are Melissa Reohr and David Stevens. Laura and John Stevens of Paso Robles are the proud paternal grandparents.

Rabbi Emeritus Scott Shpeen for his participation and interview featured as a part of PBS' Black and Jewish America! Check out his video entitled "A Shared Understanding."

Rabbi Lily Kowalski, daughter of Cecile and Keith Kowalski, on her upcoming installation at Touro Synagogue! Rabbi Lily Kowalski is the Associate Rabbi and Director of Education and Family Engagement at Touro Synagogue.

Andrea McNellis on her acceptance into the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion's Virtual Pathway to Rabbinic Ordination. This forward looking program reflects the evolving nature of Jewish leadership, forming rabbis who are deeply rooted in community even as they learn. Andrea's selection is a testament to her intellect, compassion, and commitment to Jewish life. We are honored that her rabbinic journey will be intertwined with our own, and we look forward to the wisdom and leadership she will continue to bring to our community.

Debbie & Rick Sokoler on the birth of their grandson, James Stanley Marx Durtschi on February 27. Parents are Nina Sokoler and Andrew Durtschi. Kitty & Martin Durtschi are the proud paternal grandparents.

SHAVUOT YIZKOR SERVICE

Friday, May 22, 2026 at 10:15 am in the Chapel

*Listed below are the names of our loved ones who have died since last year and will be recited at this service.*If you would like the name of a loved one who died since last Shavuot (May 22, 2025) included in this service, please contact Siobhan Shea 518.436.9761 ext.240 Siobhan@CEBAlbany.org*

If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one with a contribution to the Beautification Fund, you may do so online or by mailing a check to the temple office.

Francine Berg
Harvey Brand
Marilyn Brass
Frances Dembling
Allen Goodman III
Michelle Heroux
Thomas Hunt
Milton Kapitansky
Marilyn Kaplan

Roslyn "Roz" Kaplan
Alan Koldin
Elaine Krouner
Robert Krouner
Robert Madison
Avraham Mandel
Jacob Mayron
Lisa Movitz

Caryl Newhof
Jason Rice
Frederick "Fred" Simon
Ted Sobol
Samuel Strasser
Karen Sukloff
Harriet Weintraub
David Weiss

B'NAI MITZVAH

B'nai mitzvah lead in candle lighting and Kiddush at the Friday night service prior to their b'nai mitzvah.



Bar Mitzvah of Samuel Colman - Saturday, May 16

Samuel Gerald Colman, son of Dr. David and Jennifer Colman, lives in Albany, NY with his family and puppy, Moxie. He is a 7th grader at Hackett Middle School and plays soccer for the Albany City School District, Albany Soccer Club, and the Eastern NY Olympic Development Program. Samuel is starting modified lacrosse this spring and is a fan of the NY Islanders, NY Jets, and Boston Celtics. He enjoys collecting cards, reading, fishing, playing saxophone, and will be participating in his first Maccabi games this summer in Toronto. Samuel's mitzvah project is volunteering for the Albany JCC food pantry.



Bar Mitzvah of Ari Sossner - Saturday, June 6

Ari Sossner, son of Dr. Sylvia Sossner and Dr. Harold Sossner, was born on May 31, 2013. He is in 7th grade at Voorheesville Middle School. He plays the trumpet and is in the school choir. He likes to play pickleball and recently found an interest in archery. He'll be going back to URJ Eisner Camp this summer to continue living and learning Judaism.



Bat Mitzvah of Sadie Bright - Saturday, June 13

Sadie Bright, daughter of Rebecca Cohen, was born on June 2, 2013, in Albany, New York. She currently resides in Voorheesville with her dog, Mac. Sadie has grown into a talented multi-sport athlete; she swims competitively for both her school's varsity team and the USAA Starfish club team, while also playing modified softball in the spring. Beyond her academic and athletic pursuits, Sadie is a creative spirit who enjoys music, drawing, and traveling. Whether she's skiing, spending time at the beach, spending time with her friends or cheering on her favorite football team, the Lions, Sadie is known for her adventurous nature and her incredibly kind heart.

Pride Parade

Sunday, June 14 at 9:00 am

Join your Beth Emeth family as we march together in the 2026 Capital Pride Parade! We are honored to walk in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community, celebrating love, diversity, and inclusion in the heart of Albany.



Whether you've marched for years or this is your first time, we want you there with us as we show that our doors and hearts are open to all.

Meet-Up Details

The parade officially kicks off at 11:30 AM on Sunday, June 14, 2026.

- **Early Arrival:** Please be prepared to arrive prior to 11:30 am. We will email all registrants with the exact meeting spot and arrival time once the parade lineup is finalized by the Pride Center.
- **Wait Times:** Depending on our position in the parade order, there may be some standing and waiting before our section begins to move. We recommend wearing comfortable shoes!

What to Bring

To ensure everyone stays happy and hydrated along the route, please remember to bring:

- **Water & Snacks:** Stay fueled and hydrated while we wait and march.
- **Sun Protection:** If it's a beautiful sunny day, don't forget your sunblock and perhaps a hat.
 - **Spirit:** Wear your favorite rainbow gear or Beth Emeth swag!

Once you register, you will be on our contact list for more details on meet-up and any updates the day of. Register today!

The Pride Parade is organized by the Pride Center of the Capital Region.

518capitalpride.com



CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR 2026 GRADUATES

Gabriel Schumann, son of Sara Berg and Eric Schumann, will be continuing as a 'super senior' at Devereux School.

Zachary Sinkoff, son of Francine and Brian Sinkoff, is graduating from Bethlehem High School and will be attending either Binghamton University or the University of Rhode Island.

Chaz Siegfeld, son of Rabbi Shara and David Siegfeld is graduating from Shaker High School and will be attending the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam, to pursue music education.

Chad Safranko, son of Andy and Julie Safranko, is graduating from Albany Academy and will be attending Clark University where he will study business and play lacrosse.

Hadassah Harrell, Daughter of Aaron (and Nichole) Harrell and Rebecca Harrell is graduating from Burnt Hills Ballston Lake High School and from the Albany BOCES with her license in Cosmetology. Hadassah plans to attend UAlbany in the fall and pursue a degree in Business with a concentration in Marketing. Her goal is to one day combine both of her passions and market high end hair products for a well renowned brand.

Taya Burns, granddaughter of Steven White and Karen Kaufman-White, will graduate from the Frank Sinatra School of the Arts this June. Taya will study nursing at the University of Alabama in the fall. She recently received her EMT certification. We couldn't be prouder!

Samantha Lefton, daughter of Andrea Lefton, will be graduating with an MA in Psychology from Hunter College. She will be working in the Mount Sinai Suicide Prevention Lab as she plans to pursue a PhD in Clinical Psychology. She will also be working as a healthcare advocate for Baba Care.

Emily Eagleton, daughter of Michael and Julie Koenig, granddaughter of Michael and Marcia Horelick will be graduating Harvard School of Law May 28, 2026.

Aliza Cotton, daughter of Katie Yezzi and Dan Cotton, is graduating from Williams College with a B.A. in Computer Science. For their thesis, Aliza optimized an algorithm to ensure equitable and efficient distribution of excess food to food banks. Aliza will begin their post-college career in Boston as an intern for Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light, a non-profit that organizes faith communities in pursuit of climate justice.

Eliana Linsk, daughter of Heather and Anthony Linsk, is graduating from Columbia High School and will be attending Fordham University.

MAZAL TOV TO OUR CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2026!

And their parents!



Maya Colman,
daughter of Jennifer
and David Colman

Brendon Feldman,
son of Charlie
Feldman

Bella Grundman,
daughter of Sarah
and Rob Grundman

Brianna Harding,
daughter of
Hillary Koldin

Jake Harwood,
son of Beth and
Michael Harwood

Jonah Kent,
son of Kerry and
Michael Kent

Sophia Kotlow,
daughter of Caren
and Andrew Kotlow

Jack Lurie,
son of Melissa and
Michael Lurie

Join Us on May 22, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Confirmation Anniversary Celebration

Join us for a heartwarming tradition at Beth Emeth's 2026 Confirmation Service. We're excited to welcome back members celebrating special Confirmation anniversaries to the bima, beautifully linking our new Confirmands with past generations through the passing of the Torah. Anniversary celebrants listed below received invitations to participate in the service, representing their milestone class and connecting the Class of 2026 to our rich history. If your name is missing or you did not receive your invitation by mail, please contact Siobhan Shea at 518.436.9761 x240 or Siobhan@CBEAlbany.org. We hope to see you there!

25th Anniversary (Class of 2001)

Daniel Swartz
Joshua Alfred
Arielle Dorkin
Benjamin Hager
Ashley Fluster
Adam Shpeen

30th Anniversary (Class of 1996)

Kristin Albert
Lauren Barnet Frantz
Beth Simon Harwood
Andrew Hartman
Rebecca Lozman Oxman

35th Anniversary (Class of 1991)

Michael Lurie
Lisa Danziger Metz
Deborah Rosen Zamer

40th Anniversary (Class of 1986)

Alison Kurzon Johnson

45th Anniversary (Class of 1981)

David Meyers
Michael Rosenblatt
Barbara Warford

50th Anniversary (Class of 1976)

Jana Bronstein Ostroff
Richard Ostroff
Lee Rosen
Mark Swyer

60th Anniversary (Class of 1966)

Myra Malmed Nathan
Wendy Dubins Perlmutter
David Siegal
Lois Heflich Suresky

65th Anniversary (Class of 1961)

Paul Feigenbaum
Judy Berinstein Koretz
Marsha Nadell Penrose
Lynn Katzman Shaw
Lori Mendelsohn Strong

70th Anniversary (Class of 1946)

Cynthia Frommer Freedman
Nancy Einhorn Roth

80th Anniversary (Class of 1946)

Lois Abramson August
Robert M. Rosenblatt
Gretchen Aronowitz Rubenstein

ANNUAL MEETING AND LECH LECHA :

Wednesday, June 17 at 7:00 pm

Join us for a pivotal evening as we gather to honor our past achievements and cast a vision for the year ahead. This year's Annual Meeting is more than just business; it is a celebration of our community's growth. We will conduct our congregational budget vote, ensuring our shared values are reflected in our financial future.

We are also thrilled to formally affirm Rabbi Spencer Mandell in his new role as Assistant Rabbi!

Finally, we will share a powerful "Lech Lecha" ritual moment to honor our graduating high school seniors. As they prepare to go forth into their next chapters, we will present them with special gifts and the accolades they deserve. Don't miss this beautiful bridge between the business of our synagogue and the heartbeat of our community.



THANK YOU TO OUR FLORIDA UNDERWRITERS!

Levine Memorial Chapel, Inc

Ayelet Tours, Ltd.

The Jeff Smith Group

Leslie & Barry Feinman



Congregation Beth Emeth
Threads of Time:
A Jewish Journey Through
MOROCCO

Led by Rabbi Greg Weitzman

MARCH 28 - APRIL 8, 2027



Join Rabbi Weitzman on an unforgettable journey through Morocco—where ancient traditions, living cultures and spiritual discovery intertwine. From the imperial cities of Rabat and Marrakech to the windswept Atlantic coast of Essaouira and the stillness of the Agafay Desert, this immersive experience invites us to explore the many layers of Moroccan Jewish history and contemporary life.

ON THIS TOUR, WE WILL:

- **Connect** with Morocco's rich Jewish heritage through meaningful encounters in Rabat, Casablanca, Essaouira, and Marrakech.
- **Enlighten** your understanding through immersive cultural experiences, historic synagogues, scholarly insights, and interfaith dialogue.
- **Inspire** your spirit with Shabbat in Essaouira, the beauty of the Agafay Desert, and the vibrant colors, flavors, and traditions of Morocco.

...and SO much more!

PRICING CHART	CHECK/CASH PRICE	CREDIT CARD PRICE
LAND TOUR <small>(BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)</small>	\$5,325	\$5,500
ADD FOR SINGLE OCCUPANCY	\$1,525	\$1,570

For assistance with flights,
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800-237-1517 x340



Learn more about this trip at
<https://secure.ayelet.com/WeitzmanMorocco2027.aspx>





THE LARNER FAMILY

CROWN

Sara Lee and Barry Lerner

TRUNK

Susan Benjamin

LEAVES

Karen and Mark Glaser

Carol and David Grand

Jane and Mark Levine

Linda Schechter

Robin Sobol

Sara Salitan and

Aaron Thiell

Diane and Stephen Weitzman

BUDS

Samatha and Brian Acevedo

Anonymous

Helena and Neil Davidoff

Joanne Davidoff

Ruthie and Norm Ellenbogen

Ceil and Richard Friedenthal

Carolyn and Bruce Ginsburg

Marion Kintisch Greenberg

Bernard, Diane, Jennifer,
and Brian Kern

Judith A. Koretz

Eileen and Gregory Lurie

Sharon and Jeffrey Radden

Bonnie and Stuart Rosenberg

Cookie Siegel and Family

Charlotte and Jeffrey Sperber

Michael Stulmaker

Toby and Fred Wander

Harriet Wilder Wicks

Nancy Yaffee

TREE OF LIFE DONATIONS



ROOTS

Beth Emeth Sisterhood

BRANCHES

Karen and Steven Fein

Sherry Gold and
Wendell Lorang

ACORNS

Jay M. Bernstein

Jim Campbell

Pat and Bob Friedman

Jacalyn Itzkow and
Carl Ruppert III

Wendy and Daniel Keyser

The Family of
Dr. Robert Lieberman

Robyn and Edward
Marinstein

Elissa and Bruce Peckage

Linda and Joseph Slaver

Steven White and Karen
Kaufman-White

MAY/JUNE CALENDAR

MAY 01
FRI
5:00 pm Pre-neg
5:30 pm Ruach Shabbat Services
Followed by a Congregational Shabbat Dinner

MAY 02
SAT
9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis
1:00 pm Sisterhood Walk

MAY 03
SUN
9:00 am Brotherhood Monthly Meeting
9:15 am Closing Day for Religious School
9:30 am Sunday Discoveries
11:00 am Soup Kitchen

MAY 04
MON
6:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting
7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

MAY 05
TUES
Lag BaOmer

MAY 06
WED
5:30 pm CBEYG Elections

MAY 07
THUR
6:30 pm Brotherhood Card Night

MAY 08
FRI
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

MAY 09
SAT
9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Mandell

MAY 11
MON
7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

MAY 13
WED
12:00 pm Lunch & Learn with Jill Goodman: Democracy, Reform Judaism, and Your Voice in Israel
5:30 pm CBEYG
7:00 pm Brotherhood Torah Schmooze - Virtual

MAY 14
THUR
9:00 am Mah Jongg

MAY 15
FRI
Yom Yerushalayim
6:00 pm Community Shabbat at Sidney Albert Albany JCC
No services at CBE that evening

MAY 16
SAT
9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis
10:45 am Bar Mitzvah of Samuel Colman

MAY 17
SUN
11:00 am Genizah Day

MAY 18
MON
7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

MAY 21
THUR
Erev Shavuot

MAY 22
FRI
Shavuot
Office Closed
10:15 am Shavuot Yizkor Memorial Service
5:30 pm Confirmation and Shabbat Services
9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Mandell

MAY 24
SUN
10:00 am Flags at the Cemetery for Memorial Day

MAY 25
MON
Office Closed
7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

MAY 27
WED
7:00 pm Israel at a Crossroads with Rabbi Rick Jacobs

MAY 28
THUR
11:30 am NNORC Birthday Potluck
6:30 pm Trivia at the Warbler

MAY 29
FRI
5:00 pm Oneg in honor of Ruth Mendel's 95th birthday
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services: Sisterhood and Brotherhood Installation

MAY 30
SAT
9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis

MAY 31
SUN
11:00 am Soup Kitchen with Brotherhood

JUN
01
MON

7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

JUN
04
THUR

6:30 pm Brotherhood Card Night
7:00 pm Sisterhood Book Club

JUN
05
FRI

5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services: Cantor Short's Send-Off

JUN
06
SAT

10:00 am Sisterhood Walk
10:45 am Bar Mitzvah of Ari Sossner

JUN
07
SUN

10:00 am Brotherhood Monthly Meeting - Offsite
11:00 am Soup Kitchen
12:00 pm Classical Piano Recital Featuring Asya Markova

JUN
10
WED

7:00 pm Brotherhood Torah Schmooze - Virtual

JUN
12
FRI

5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

JUN
13
SAT

9:30 am Torah Study with Andrea McNellis
10:45 am Bat Mitzvah of Sadie Bright

JUN
14
SUN

9:00 am Beth Emeth Marches in the Capital Pride Parade
5:00 pm Susan B. Shpeen (z"l) 15th Annual Memorial
Dinner & Concert

JUN
15
MON

7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

JUN
17
WED

7:00 pm Annual Meeting & Lech Lecha

JUN
18
THUR

9:00 am Mah Jongg
6:30 pm Trivia at the Warbler

JUN
19
FRI

Office Closed
5:30 pm Erev Shabbat Services

JUN
20
SAT

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Weitzman

JUN
21
SUN

9:00 am Garage Sale Drop Off

JUN
22
MON

9:00 am Garage Sale Drop Off
7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

JUN
23
TUE

9:00 am Garage Sale Drop Off

JUN
26
FRI

5:30pm Erev Shabbat Services

JUN
27
SAT

9:30 am Torah Study with Rabbi Mandell
6:30 pm Garage Sale Opening Night

JUN
28
SUN

9:00 am Garage Sale Main Event
2:00 pm Garage Sale Bag Sale

JUN
29
MON

3:00 pm Garage Sale Bag Sale
7:00 pm Sisterhood Knit & Nosh - Virtual

JUN
30
TUES

6:00 pm Sisterhood Dinner Out

Friday, May 15

6:00 pm
Community Shabbat at Sidney Albert Albany JCC

Friday May 29

Oneg in honor of Ruth Mendel's
95th birthday



Friday, June 5

5:30 pm
Erev Shabbat Services: Cantor Emily Short's Send-Off
Save the Date! "Festive Oneg"



The Susan B. Shpeen 15th Annual Memorial Donor Dinner

“Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of
beautiful memories”

Her light remains in our memories and in our hearts, and in
remembering her, we honor her.

Come be a part of the joy by laughing, chatting and honoring this very
special lady on the 15th anniversary of The Susan B. Shpeen Sisterhood
Memorial Donor Dinner.

Your presence will make the event shine, as we remember and honor
Susan as she was a rare mix of warmth, authenticity, humor and
intelligence, all with her infectious smile.

Congregation Beth Emeth

Sunday **14** 5:00 pm
June

Hors d'oeuvres and Dinner
Catering by 2Shea

Entertainment by The Memales

Dessert finale by Perfect Blend

This event is generously underwritten by
The Rabbi Scott L. Shpeen Distinguished Artist Fund

Event Chairs: Sara Bonder, Ellie Safranko, Robin Sobol

Donor \$65 for dinner, \$25 donation
Double Donor \$65 for dinner, \$50 donation
Invitation created by
Michelle Rosen



Cut out and send to Sisterhood at CBE

Kindly Respond by June 1

NAME: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

_____ \$65 DINNER - \$25 DONOR - \$90 TOTAL: \$ _____

_____ \$65 DINNER - \$50 DOUBLE DONOR - \$115 TOTAL: \$ _____

UNABLE TO ATTEND BUT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION \$ _____

Dinner Choices

_____ CHICKEN FRANCESE _____ SALMON _____ VEGETARIAN

DIETARY _____

RESTRICTIONS _____

SEATING _____

PREFERENCE _____

PLEASE FILL OUT AND SEND WITH A CHECK
PAYABLE TO BETH EMETH SISTERHOOD

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:
518.436.9761

Flags at the Cemetery

Sunday, May 24, 10:00 am

Everyone can make a difference! Join the Brotherhood for a simple yet impactful day at the cemetery, placing flags to honor our veterans. All you need is a willing heart. All ages and genders are invited to participate in this meaningful act of remembrance.



SCAN ME

BROTHERHOOD

As we reach the end of 2025-26, Brotherhood members can take pride in our accomplishments under the able leadership of our President, Jay Hurewitz, and our Board of Directors. Just some of our noteworthy programs and events include:

- Meal planning and preparation of several delicious Shabbat congregational dinners by our men and women volunteers, including the very successful Chanukah brisket dinner, which had 250 attendees. We also handled the food prep at the Purim Spiel and Carnival.
- Last November, as part of our Health Care Series, we organized another well-attended panel discussion, this time on **End-of-Life Preparation**.
- In recognition of CBE's capital needs, Brotherhood made a substantial monetary donation to help defray the cost of the HVAC system being replaced this summer.
- Through our Philanthropy Committee, we have begun supplying take-home "Shabbat Boxes" for students in our Religious School.
- To help in the observance of **Holocaust Remembrance Day**, Brotherhood once again spearheaded the assembly and delivery of 1,700 Yom HaShoah candle bags to households from six area synagogues. Approximately 35 CBE members, joined by many volunteers from other congregations, made the deliveries. This unique annual program has been recognized by the Men of Reform Judaism, which is affiliated with URJ.
- Most recently, in partnership with Sisterhood, we hosted an entertaining and educational **Israeli Kosher Wine Tasting**. Rob Brass, a wine expert, served as our MC, and George Forrest arranged for a generous donation of the 18 bottles of wine from Skurnik Wines & Spirits, his son-in-law's wine distributorship. Profits were donated to the Soup Kitchen Fund.

Some important upcoming events:

- On Sunday, May 24, Brotherhood members and other volunteers will meet at the Beth Emeth Cemetery to place American flags on the gravesites of CBE veterans who selflessly served our country.
- On Friday, May 29, installation of the incoming Brotherhood and Sisterhood Board members will occur at the evening Shabbat service.
- Beginning on Sunday, June 21 (donation drop-offs) and extending through Monday, June 29 (final bag sale), Brotherhood members and many other volunteers will be energetically helping with the annual **Garage Sale**. Not only is this CBE's biggest fundraiser, but it also provides a tremendous benefit to our diverse regional community, as well as bonding among the volunteers.



As the school year comes to a close, we thank our Beth Emeth community for your support. From baking apple pies in the fall and celebrating Chanukah together, to writing Valentine's Day cards for community members, leading the Purim Carnival, and hosting our Slime Seder for Passover, there is always something fun happening at CBEYG. We hope your family will be a part of it next year! As we wrap up another year of CBEYG, we thank our Beth Emeth community for your support.

We look forward to electing our officers for the 2026-2027 year and hope that many more students in grades 9-12 join us next year as we look to expand CBEYG not only in numbers, but in the programs that are planned.



REYUT: CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY



Our committee has been busy cooking and hand-delivering Mitzvah meals for congregants in need these past couple of months. We were also excited to put together our Senior Purim goodie bags delivered in celebration of this year's Purim! Thank you to everyone who joined us.

Want to join our circle of care? Whether you can cook a meal or make a delivery, we'd love to have you.

Email us: Reyut@CBEAlbany.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Robert Kivort



Caring for Our Sacred Home: Continuing the Journey

As we move forward with the essential repairs to our Temple, we want to share more about this important moment in our community's life. Our building has been a cherished home for prayer, learning, celebration, and connection for generations. To ensure it remains safe, welcoming, and sustainable, we must now address several critical needs, including a new HVAC system, roof, windows, and parking lot.

The good news is, according to Huston Engineering, the firm we hired to assess our building's needs, not all these repairs/replacements need to be done immediately. We estimate this work will occur over approximately a five-year period beginning with the HVAC replacement. By the time you are reading this Bulletin, the HVAC work will already be in progress and is scheduled to be completed by August 15, well before the start of the High Holy Days.

These improvements are more than maintenance—they are an expression of our responsibility to one another and to *l'dor vador*, caring for our community from generation to generation. By acting now, we will protect our sacred space and strengthen it for the future.

In the coming months, you may notice temporary changes in how we use our building. Some programs may shift locations, and certain areas may be briefly inaccessible. We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we navigate this work with care. Throughout the process, we will keep the congregation informed and ensure that our vibrant communal life continues uninterrupted.

In the interest of transparency, the cost for just the HVAC replacement is \$2.1 million. To date, we have quietly received almost \$800,000 from generous donors including \$10,000.00 gifts from both Brotherhood and Sisterhood. We remain incredibly grateful to all our donors.

Whatever shortfall remains, we will be drawing funds from the unrestricted portion of our Endowment. We would like to preserve our Endowment as much as possible. If you feel moved to support this effort, contributions can be made at **CBEAlbany.org** by selecting **Donate** and choosing the **Capital Improvements Fund** or by scanning the **QR Code** below.



Together, we are renewing our sacred home and ensuring it remains a place of welcome, connection, and holiness for all who enter.

GARAGE SALE

THE SALE

Opening Night

Saturday June 27
6:30 pm- 9:00 pm
\$10 Admission

Main Event

Sunday, June 28
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Free Admission

Bag Sale

Sunday, June 28
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
\$5, \$10, and \$15 Bags

Monday, June 29
3:00 pm - 6:00 pm
\$1, \$3, and \$5 Bags

DROP OFF DATES AND TIMES

Time to clean out your closets, garage, and attics.

The "Best in the Capital Region"

Garage Sale is set to begin with drop offs on

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM

WE APPRECIATE...

- Separate like items in different boxes e.g. kitchen, bathroom, men's, women's, kid's
- Be sure clothing is washed or dry cleaned
- Be sure clothing and linens are not ripped, have no holes or stains, and do not smell
 - Put items on hangers when practical
- Attach shoes together with a rubber band and mark size with sharpie
 - Wipe the dust and dirt off toys

WE CANNOT ACCEPT...

- TVs other than flat screen TVs
 - Major appliances, Tires
- Computer monitors, keyboards, printers
 - VCRs, fax machines, scanners
 - VCR tapes, cassettes
 - Mattresses or bed pillows
 - Underwear, swimsuits
 - Infant car seats or cribs
- Magazine collections, encyclopedias, or textbooks

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sunday, June 21 - Tuesday, June 30

Volunteering is so much fun!

We are always looking for new faces to help out. The commitment can be for a few hours, or multiple days. It's up to you!

Volunteers needed for clean-up and organizing hangers for storage

Tuesday, June 30. Sign up online.

If you have any questions, please contact us at GarageSale@CBEAlbany.org.



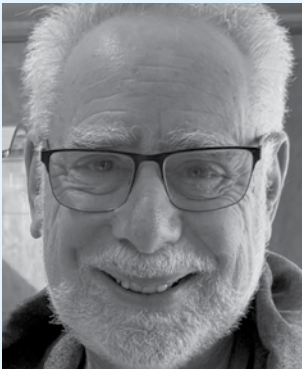
Scan me
to sign up
to volunteer

MEET OUR 2026 BOARD NOMINEES...

Each year, the 2nd Vice President is responsible for filling the vacancies on CBE's Board of Trustees, in accordance with our bylaws. This winter, we distributed a board nomination request form, inviting members to self-nominate or nominate others to serve on the Board. We were delighted by the strong response and look forward to continued engagement from everyone who expressed interest.

In February 2026, a Nomination Committee was selected to facilitate this process. Kerryn Kent chaired the committee, joined by Taylor Alfred, Joni Lieberman Basen, Jay Hurewitz, Lauren Iselin, Susan Lieberman, and Steven Stulmaker. We are grateful to them for their leadership and commitment to shaping our congregation's future.

The 2026 Board Nomination Committee is pleased to share the nominees below for election to the CBE Board of Trustees at the 188th Annual Meeting of the Congregation on Wednesday, June 17, 2026. Additionally, the Board Nomination Committee is pleased to nominate Jackie Kagan Dupiche for her second three-year term.



Mark Glaser

Mark is a highly experienced attorney specializing in government law, ethics, and compliance. As former Chief Ethics Counsel to the New York State Assembly, he played a key role in shaping New York's ethics framework and later advised clients at Greenberg Traurig, LLP on regulatory and lobbying matters. Beyond his legal expertise, Mark brings a deep understanding of group dynamics and thoughtful problem-solving developed over the course of his career. Having previously served on CBE's Board of Trustees, he is excited to return now that he is retired and able to devote more time to temple life. He looks forward to engaging in meaningful Board discussions and giving back to the community in a way that is both impactful and personally rewarding.

Peter Hoffman

Originally from Brooklyn, his family moved to the Capital Region in 2013 and was thrilled to find such a vibrant Reform community at Congregation Beth Emeth, where they have been active members ever since. Celebrating their daughter's Bat Mitzvah at CBE and seeing her continue to engage as a teen aide has been especially meaningful to Peter. From his time at Brandeis, to his work with the ADL, and now in state government, Peter has carried his Jewish values with him, guided by the principle of *tikkun olam*. He looks forward to the opportunity to continue helping this congregation grow and serve as a center for vibrant Jewish life in the Capital Region.





Alex Nicholson

Alex has been a member of CBE for ten years. He currently has four daughters in religious school with his oldest becoming a bat mitzvah in April. In recent years, he's experienced a renewed sense of the importance of the Jewish community and a feeling of obligation to practice *tikkun olam* and actively contribute to our congregation. Since then, Alex has been a member of the Education Committee and substitutes for the Religious School on Sundays when needed. You'll find him at all the Ruach Shabbats, and other services and Torah Study, as frequently as he can. As a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner for almost fourteen years, Alex treats children and adults with an array of mental health concerns or other problems and conflicts that can be experienced in life, but recognizes the single most important protective factor for an individual's well-being and resilience is the community they are a part of. Alex is looking to serve on the board to help in creating the community and congregation that we all want to be actively engaged in and want to have as a central part of our Jewish lives – one that is welcoming to all members, respects and is open to diverse backgrounds and perspectives, facilitates educational and spiritual growth, and that cares for its congregants in their difficult times and celebrates in their achievements and milestones. It would be an honor to serve on the board to help in serving those goals.

Thank you to our Board of Trustees Past, Present, and Future

At its April Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees elected the following Trustees as officers:

Robin Sobol, President

Robert Kivort, 1st Vice President

Kerryn Kent, 2nd Vice President

Karen Kaufman-White, Treasurer

Zachary Fluster, Secretary

We would also like to recognize and thank the members of our Board of Trustees completing their terms: Liz Albright, Taylor Alfred, and Chad Bernstein. Their time, care, and dedication have made a meaningful impact on their committees, and in our congregation.

We are equally grateful to Jay Hurewitz and Jordan Bernstein, who have served as Presidents of Brotherhood and CBEYG, and who will now be passing the torch to new leadership.

We deeply appreciate all their time, dedication, and behind-the-scenes efforts that sustain and strengthen our congregation's traditions.

We hope to see you on June 17 to elect these nominees, or submit your absentee ballot if you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting in person. Thank you!

FROM THE ARCHIVES...

100 years ago

From Rabbi Emeritus Scott Shpeen

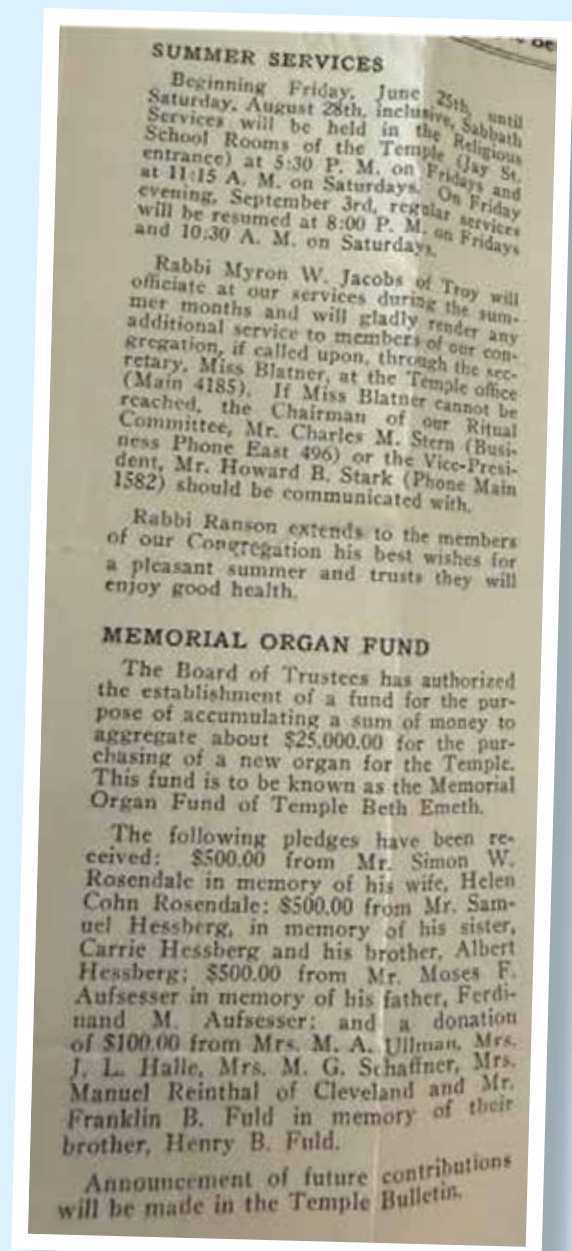
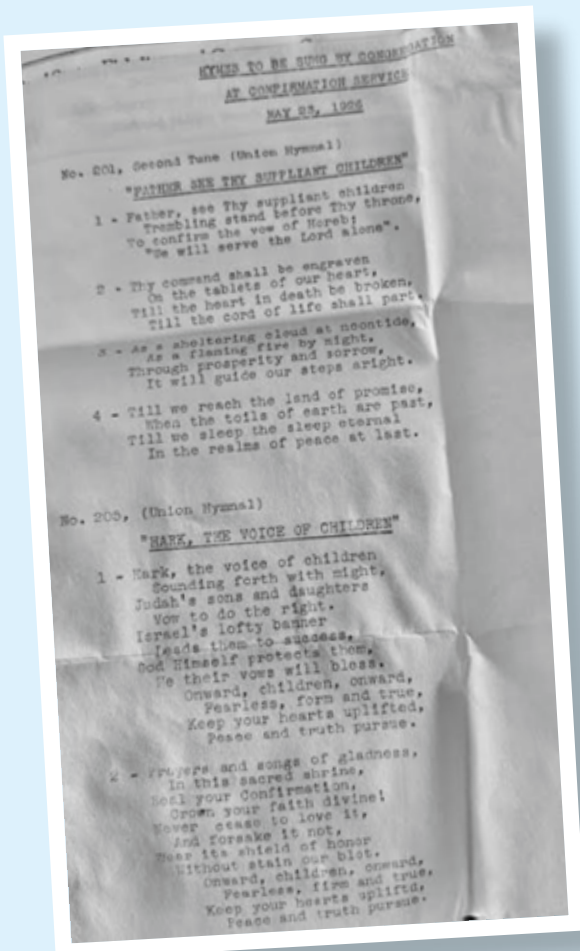


In 1926, Confirmation Services were held on Sunday, May 23.

Although the actual date of Shavuot in 1926 was Wednesday, May 19, for many years it was the custom at Beth Emeth that the Confirmation Service was held on the Sunday **AFTER** Shavuot.

As part of the service the congregation was invited to join in the singing of **TWO** particularly special hymns that became "Beth Emeth standards" especially for the confirmation service.

Even during my rabbinic tenure, longstanding members would reminisce about "*FATHER SEE THY SUPPLIANT CHILDREN*" and "*HARK, THE VOICE OF CHILDREN*" from the UNION HYMNAL (the salmon colored song book) being sung at their Confirmation and how special those memories were to them that the hymns evoked.



CELEBRATE OUR MEMBERS



On Friday, April 10, UAlbany Hillel hosted a special evening to celebrate Ilene Sykes for her decades of outstanding leadership, service, and steadfast dedication to the Capital Region Jewish community, and UAlbany Hillel.

We're so proud of our past President for her commitment to serving not only the CBE community but the wider Jewish community!

The Sidney Albert Albany Jewish Community Center is hosting a special celebration honoring leaders whose generosity, dedication, and compassion have strengthened our community. Robert Kivort and Jane and Garry Sanders are recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award! The celebration will take place on Monday, May 18, 2026, at the Albany JCC

Mazal Tov Robert Kivort on receiving the Pillars of the Community Award! Robert has been an active member for nearly 2 decades serving on the Finance Committee since 2015, chairing the Philanthropy Team since 2018, serving on the Board of Trustees since 2017, and acting as temple officer since 2020.



Mazal Tov Jane and Garry Sanders on receiving the Pillars of the Community Award! Jane and Garry Sanders are long time members of Congregation Beth Emeth. Jane has served as President of the Sisterhood and is now the membership chair. Garry has served as past President of Congregation Beth Emeth as well as past President of our Brotherhood.

BEAUTIFICATION

This fund enhances our building with beauty, including flowers for our bimah and in our chapel. Donations listed were received by February 3, 2026.

Shabbat of February 6-7

George and Nancy Forrest in memory of Zsuzsanna Osvath

Shabbat of March 5-6

Kathleen Meyers in memory of Mary Aronson Yunch

Shabbat of March 6-7

Mr and Mrs Brian Epstein in memory of Ervin Rosenfeld

Shabbat of March 27-28

Kathleen Meyers in memory of Burt Meyers

Shabbat of April 3-4

Elizabeth and Jerry Goldstein in memory of Donald A. Goldstein

Genie Greenhouse in memory of Kristin Greenhouse Brown

Shabbat of April 10-11

Mrs. Thomas (Hope) Nathan in memory of Betty Green Nathan

Shabbat of April 17-18

Marion L. Strasser in memory of Anna Behrens Levy

Marion L. Strasser in memory of Arnold Levy

Marion L. Strasser in memory of Paul Edward Langdon

Shabbat of April 24-25

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Epstein in memory of Arielle Rosenfeld

Jill G. Goldfine in memory of Marvin Grode

Mary Ellen and Alan Klein in memory of Lillian R. Klein

Shabbat of May 1-2

The Fischer family in memory of Martin Bennet Fischer

Bruce Rubenstein in memory of Janice W. Rubenstein

Terry Strong in memory of Shirley Burgin Brenner

Shabbat of May 8-9

Joanne Davidoff and Family in memory of Donald B. Davidoff

Dr. Henry B. Dubins

The Friedlander Family in memory of Leonard E. Friedlande

Mary Ellen and Alan Klein in memory of Leon Klein

Dr. Lawrence and Mrs. Wendy Perlmutter and Family in memory of

Michael and Lisa Rome in memory of Howard William Rome

The Tomson Family in memory of Louis Tomson

Sandi Zarch in memory of Anne Cohen Zarch

Shabbat of May 15-16

Jodi Boyle and Matthew Kohn in memory of Robert M. Boyle

Laura Cohen in memory of Melvin Wilcove

Joel and Jane Dobris in memory of Dorothy Lazoroff

The Family of Dorothy Lazoroff in memory of Dorothy Lazoroff

Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Friedman in memory of Jules I. Friedman

Deanna Langer in memory of Melvin Wilcove

Abby Potts in memory of Howard Clark

Ellen Clark Ratliff in memory of Howard Clark

Lawrence and Laura Rosenstock

in memory of Hon. Simon Rosenstock

The Ruslander Family in memory of Arthur Alexander Ruslander

The Serling Family in memory of Myron Serling

Terry Strong in memory of Abraham Brenner

Howard and Natalie Tillman

in memory of Norman Davidson Tillman

Shabbat of May 17-18

Carolyn and Bruce Ginsburg in memory of Elaine Ginsburg

Shabbat of May 22-23

Lynn Aronowitz in memory of Lewis A. Aronowitz

Cynthia Freedman, The Marinstein and Benoit Families

in memory of Marvin Freedman

The Friedlander Family in memory of Richard Alan Friedlander

Reid Lifset in memory of Harvey Lifset

Marc Lifset in memory of Hon. Harvey M. Lifset

Bonnie and Stuart Rosenberg in memory of Eva Rosenberg

Judith Roth and Family in memory of Paul Soroken

David and Mollie Shulan in memory of Helen Jacobson Shulan

Ilene and Chip Stein and Family in memory of Sidney J. Stein, Jr.

Eleanor Taub, Nancy and Frank Allen in memory of Arthur Taub

Ellen and John Tomlinson and family in memory of Sidney J Stein Jr.

Shabbat of May 29-30

The Family of Frances Dobris in memory of Frances Dobris

Joel and Jane Dobris in memory of Frances Lazoroff Dobris

Lynda Freedman, Kazimierz Deminski, and Barbara Freedman

in memory of William B. Freedman

Lynda Freedman, Kazimierz Deminski, and Barbara Freedman

in memory of Ruth Laven

Joan and Harvey Friedman in memory of Lee Perles

David Giller in memory of Elaine Slowe Giller

Dr. Donald Hoffman in memory of Dr. Benjamin Hoffman

Gloria Herkowitz Families in memory of Eleanor R. Metzner

Sara Lee and Barry Lerner Family in memory of Benjamin Bloom

The Levin and Gersowitz Families

in memory of Rose Kaplan Gersowitz

Lauren Mancuso in memory of Irving Green

Ira Oser in memory of George Oser

Nancy and Barry Simon and Family
in memory of Harold H. Greenstein
Cookie Siegel and Family in memory of Sydney Heller

Shabbat of June 5-6

Celia Berk in memory of Brian D. Berk
Phyllis L Berk in memory of Brian D Berk
Joanne Davidoff and Family in memory of Harry Allen Raab II
The Eisen Family in memory of Marvin Eisen
Jill Kapner Leamon and Will Leamon
in memory of Arthur R. Kapner
Lauren Mancuso in memory of Lena Green
Mona Raskin Miksis in memory of Lillian Raskin Kuperman
The Sommers and Bronstein Families
in memory of Donald H. Sommers

Shabbat of June 12-13

Celia Berk in memory of Sally Ann Lavine
Phyllis L Berk in memory of Sally Ann Lavine
Eileen Fluster and Family in memory of Mollie Ostroff Blacker
Jackie Itzkow and Carl Ruppert in memory of Harry Itzkow
Kathy and Dick Kotlow in memory of Bertha Kotlow
Cathy Rosenblatt in memory of Dr. Kalmon Rosenblatt
Bruce Rubenstein in memory of Alan W. Rubenstein
The Ruslander Family in memory of Donald V. Ruslander
The Shapiro Family in memory of Mildred Bersh Shapiro
Nancy and Barry Simon and Family
in memory of Janice B. Greenstein

Shabbat of June 19-20

Lisa, Max, and William Brown in memory of Frieda Rosenbaum
The Bush Family in memory of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman
Cathy and Erik Cooley in memory of Frances Drutman Switkes
Joanne Davidoff and Family in memory of Scott S. Davidoff
Miriam Doremus in memory of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman
Carolyn and Bruce Ginsburg in memory of Scott Ginsburg
Karen and Mark Glaser in memory of Martin E. Whitman
Gloria Herkowitz Families in memory of Morris Maistelman
Margie and Larry Kirsch in memory of Marion Kirsch
The Family of Dr. Robert C. Lieberman
in memory of Dr. Robert C Lieberman
Gail, Harold, Rebekah, and Drue Sokol
in memory of David Harris Sokol
Valarie and Spike Solomon in memory of Morris "Moe" Solomon
Valarie and Spike Solomon in memory of Shirley C Nelson
The Strumpf Family in memory of Lillian Strumpf

Shabbat of June 26-27

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Auerbach in memory of Sidney Nuss
Ronald E. Berinstein in memory of Lillian Hold Berinstein
Susan Barr Black in memory of Sara Kessler Barr

Greenberg and Hildreth Family in memory of Sidney Nuss
Bernie McGarry in memory of Susan L. Kupferman
Linda, Brian, and Andrew Schechter
in memory of Pauline Bernstein
Nancy and Barry Simon and Family
in memory of Beverly G. Greenstein
Nancy and Barry Simon and Family
in memory of Maurice P. Greenstein
Lori. M Strong in memory of Jesse Mendelsohn
Howard and Natalie Tillman in memory of Sarah Tillman

Shabbat of July 3-4

The Arensberg Family in memory of Dorothy S. Arensberg
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Auerbach in memory of Michelle Ginsberg
Joanne Davidoff and Family in memory of Harriet Cohen Dembo
The Friedlander Family in memory of Richard Friedlander
Greenberg and Hildreth Family in memory of Michelle Ginsberg
Marion Kintisch Greenberg and Family
in memory of Morton David Kintisch

Shabbat of July 10-11

The Friedlander Family in memory of Sophie Zweig

Perpetual Memorial

Perpetual Memorials ensure that Kaddish will always be recited for your loved ones. Each year the name is added to the Kaddish list and a plaque is hung in the Chapel or Sanctuary. Notices are sent to remind you of the upcoming yahrzeits and names are listed in the Bulletin.

The Family of Ruth and Rob Brass has established a Perpetual memorial in memory of Marilyn Perry Brass.

The Family of Wisley Junior Dupiche has established a perpetual Memorial in his memory.

The Family of Steven Ostroff has established a Perpetual memorial in memory of Thomas John Hunt.

The Family of Jane K. Loeb has established a perpetual Memorial in her memory.

The Family of David L. Weiss has established a perpetual Memorial in his memory.

To learn more about Perpetual Memorials, contact
Siobhan Shea 518.436.9761 ext.240
Siobhan@CEBAIbany.org

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Thank you to all of our generous donors! This list includes gifts received by February 3.

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Robert and Carol Rosenblatt in memory of Michelle Rosenblatt Heroux

Cantor Emily Short Musical Enrichment Fund

Steven Ostroff in celebration of Jane and Garry Sanders receiving the Pillars of the Community award

Steven Ostroff in celebration of Robert Kivort receiving the Pillars of the Community award

Steven Ostroff in celebration of the birth of Michelle Rosen's new grandson, Ari.

Cantor Jodi Schechtman Music Fund

Gene Laks in memory of Jacqueline Y. Schechtman, Mother of Cantor Jodi M. Schechtman, grandmother of Madison Laks Martell

Gene Laks in memory of Ralph R. Schechtman, father of Cantor Jodi M. Schechtman, grandfather of Madison Laks Martell

Melissa and Michael Lurie in celebration of the return of Cantor Kohn

Pat and Bob Friedman in honor of Joan Friedman and Lori Strong

Rabbi Greg D. Weitzman Discretionary Fund

Steven Shrager in appreciation of Rabbi Weitzman and his kindness in conducting the funeral of my cousin Arnold Hartman.

Meryl and Al Norek in memory of Gordon Perlmutter.

Elissa and Bruce Peckage and Family in appreciation of Rabbi Greg Weitzman

His loving family in memory of Alan Rubenstein

Robert and Carol Rosenblatt in memory of Michelle Rosenblatt Heroux

Mark and Lisa Gardner in memory of Ted Sobol

Alexa Brody and Brody Michaud in honor of Rory's naming

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General Fund

Harriet B. Wicks in memory of Fred Simon

Janet Ball in memory of Samuel Aronowitz Strasser

Lurie Wander Fund for Sukkot

Toby and Fred Wander in memory of Jason Rice

Mitzvah Day Fund

The Nicholsons in celebration of CBE

Amy Gordon in appreciation of ARBA class

Robyn and David Morrison in appreciation of All the CBE Hebrew school teachers

Dan Leinung in appreciation of CBE Mitzvah Day

Sisterhood General Fund

Michael Stulmaker in recognition of Robin Sobol's outstanding leadership

Sisterhood YES Fund

Phyllis Lavine Berk in appreciation of the Sisterhood's contribution to the Yes Fund in honor of her special birthday.

Social Action Tzedakah Fund

Anonymous in celebration of Mitzvah Day

Bonnie and Stuart Rosenberg in memory of Gordon S. Perlmutter, brother of Larry Perlmutter

Bob and Carol Rosenblatt in memory of their daughter Michelle Rosenblatt Heroux.

Family of Fred Simon in memory of father and grandfather.
Alex and Jessica Brand in memory of Alex's father
Karen and Steven Fein in celebration of the birth of Meera,
granddaughter of Debbie and Rick Sokoler

Susan Kushner Torah Study Fund

Nanci Saltwell in memory of Susan Kushner

Beautification Fund

Hillary Koldin and Daniel Harding in honor of the
confirmation of Brianna Harding

Hillary Koldin and family in memory of her father,
Alan A. Koldin

The Friedlander Family in memory of Jason Rice

Heddy Pilpel in celebration of Ari Sossner's Bar Mitzvah

Capital Improvements Fund

Jackie Itzkow and Carl Ruppert in celebration of Rob
Kivort being selected as a "Pillar of the Community."

Jackie Itzkow and Carl Ruppert in celebration of Garry
and Jane Sanders being recognized as "Pillars of the
Community."

Robert and Jocelyn Kivort in honor of Lauren and Harold
Iselin's 40th anniversary

Robert and Jocelyn Kivort in honor of Leslie and Barry
Feinman's 35th anniversary

Robert and Jocelyn Kivort in honor of Brian Sinkoff's
Special Birthday

Robert and Jocelyn Kivort in honor of Kerry Kent's
Special Birthday

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YAHREZEIT - MAY & JUNE

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Shabbat of May 1-2

Adelaide Marx Aufsesser
Matthew L. Berger
Florence Boochever
Albert Buchdahl
Isadore Fallek
Chester L. Fienberg
Martin Bennet Fischer
Lawrence Friedman
Rhea Fulder
Saul Gordon
Lee Greenberg
Benjamin Sternschus
Hegleman
Ellis Irving Hormats
Dr. Gerald S. Kanter
Morris Kramer
Caroline Getz Levy
Minna Caplan Levy
Ruth S. Linn
Jacob Lowenthal
Dora Nathan March
Shirley Rubin Meckler
Adelaide deBeer Muhlfelder
Joseph L. Muhlfelder
Dr. Howard R. Netter
Gustave L. Oppenheim
Sara J. Pose
Janice Rubenstein
Samuel Ruge
Milton Schaffer
Shirley Weinberg Sheber
Patricia Snyder
Stanley Sokoler
Jack Spitzer
Adolph Steinberg
Betty N. Tinkle
Louise Schlesinger Wenger
Nellie Wirth

Shabbat of May 8-9

Morris Alpert
Edith Popkin Bass
Isadore Bookstein
Sam Cohen
Donald B. Davidoff
Dr. Henry B. Dubins
Leon E. Fisher
Leonard E. Friedlander
Gussie Gertzberg
Arthur S. Kapewich
Leon Klein
Jerome Kleinberg

Lewis A. Kotzin
Mollie Frankel Lempert
Morris Mann
Lillian K. Marks
Jean Livingston Marx
Janet K. Patent
Harry Price
Jeanne Ratzker
Lillian Flug Ray
Howard William Rome
Ethel Dunn Rosenthal
Stanley Schacter
Burton A. Schaffer
Norman S. Shapiro
Samuel S. Silverstein
Howard Steven Smith
Moe Steinberg
Jacob H. Stern
Clara Stern
Ruth Mann Sumberg
Louis Tomson
Solomon M. Valkenburgh
Anne Cohen Zarch

Shabbat of May 15-16

Florence M. Auer
Esther Berinstein
Anna Berney
Robert M. Boyle
Claire Brandt
Isaac Brilleman
Howard Clark
Walter J. Cohen
Isaac Cohn
Amalia Cohn
Edward Dachs
Rosalind S. Doling
Samuel C. Drooz
Joan Englander
Rose E. Fisher
Jules I. Friedman
Harry L. Getz
Elaine Ginsburg
Samuel E. Goldstein
Sadie Simon Gordon
Marvin S. Hecker
Abraham Hersh
Bella Hersh
Helen Goldmeer Horowitz
Dorothy Lazoroff
Samuel W. Mann
Charles S. May
Max Mendel

Herman Morje
Everett B. Morris
Emanuel Myers
Ferdinand Neuman
Bertram Pickar
Thelma Ratner
Sarah Rosenthal Riber
Samuel Riber
Doris Metzner Rindsberg
Hon. Simon Rosenstock
Albert Rudnick
Sara Richter Rudnick
Samuel Rudof
Arthur Alexander Ruslander
Myron Serling
Anna Vener Shwartz
Rose Brothers Silberg
Sam Silk
Bernard Swartz
Ida Taylor
Norman Davidson Tillman
Lillian Julia Weitsen
Melvin Wilcove
Louis Wildove

Shabbat of May 22-23

Lewis A. Aronowitz
Susan L. Baker
Edward Bass
Leo Bronstein
Jay S. Caplan
Robert Cohn
Brindell Fellman
Maurice Fine
Arthur Fink
Burton Fisher
Marvin Freedman
Richard Alan Friedlander
Julia Blatner Fuld
Ida Gordon
Arthur Green
Robert Guthmann
Arnold S. Hatch, Jr.
Babetta Hydeman
Herbert H. Kestenbaum
Rose Levy Kraus
Edward S. Laventall
Hon. Harvey M. Lifset
Sarah Mann
Aaron Mann
Edward A. Marx
Dr. Milton B. Matin
Florence Medwin

Louise Metzendorf
Harold Metzendorf
Max Myers
Louis W. Neifeld
Jay Irwin Norek
Gertrude W. Oppenheim
Joan I. Paley
John C. N. Reohr
Eva Rosenberg
Arnold Rosenstein
Pearl K. Rosenstrauch
Celia Salit
Leatrice K. Saxe
Jacqueline Y. Schechtman
Harvey G. Scherzer
Marianna Schmidt
Mildred Schwartz
Sidney D. Segall
Helen Jacobson Shulan
Abraham P. Siegel
May E. Silk
Joseph N. Silverman
Paul Soroken
Sidney J. Stein, Jr.
Stevi Swire
Arthur Taub
Irene Weitzman

Shabbat of May 29-30

Minnie Anker
Ben Becker
Benjamin Bloom
Herbert Champagne
Sarah Brindel Cuttler
Frances Lazoroff Dobris
Irving M. Doling
Albert S. Drooz
William B. Freedman
David S. Freedman
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Elaine Slowe Giller
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Carrie Lehberg Lipman
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Ruth H. Manasse
Mina Markus Mann
Nancy Marx
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Samuel Poskanzer
Emma Reiner
Lillian Reiner
Joseph John Rose
Freddie O. Sabghir
Sol J. Schenck
Helen Rosen Scherzer
Jennie Roth Schips
Bertina Illich Simon
George Singer
Stephen David Sundell
David Weiss
Rabbi Samuel Wolk

Shabbat of June 5-6

Brian D. Berk
Rosalia Blatner
Eva Goldstein Brandao
Wilma Cadan
Rosa Danzinger
Marvin Eisen
Ruth Brown Feinman
Allen Glick
Sarah A. Goldfarb
Lena Green
Nathan Hatch
Satie "Sarah" Hirschfeld
Bruce Howard Huston
Rae Wolff Kapewich
Marc Kaplan
Arthur R. Kapner
Nadine Kaufman
Henry W. Kern
Gus Krips
Lillian Raskin Kuperman
Ferdinand B. Levison
Anita Lidman
Mary Mandelbaum
Louis Mann
Ira Mendleson
Sarah K. Metzendorf
Samuel Miller
Alfred W. Nathan
Ray Pollack
Harry Allen Raab II
Donald S. Rosenthal

Walter A. Saxe
Carrie M. Silberman
Rose Rogers Singer
Donald H. Sommers
Kate Spaner
Lewis A. Swartz
Samuel B. Weiss

Shabbat of June 12-13

Beatrice Lillian Allan
Bertram S. Armm
Yvette Hyman Benson
Mollie Ostroff Blacker
Henry M. Blatner
Harry Brickman
Robert Cantor
Sarah K. Clonick
Edward Cohn
Julia Coleman
Betty Zolzensky Colin
Vivian Vener Fink
Lillian Mann Fischer
Harry M. Fleishman
Barbara Symansky Frankel
Maurice Glatt
Rose Palsky Goldberg
George H. Green
Joseph Green
Janice B. Greenstein
Sanford W. Huston
Aaron "Al" Kellert
Bertha Kotlow
Sally Ann Lavine
Sadie Prager Levison
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Joseph Tiberi
Joseph Tinkle
Judith Loeb Wander
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Shabbat of June 19-20

Lillian Aberman
Sigmund Adler
Sarah Baere
Mendall Bloom
Esther Levitz Bocian
Mary Bookheim
Fannie Buchdahl
Annette A. Cohen
Dave Cooper
Scott S. Davidoff
Thomas Finklestein
Ruth Galeav
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Samuel Gordon
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Shabbat of June 26-27

Daniel Adler
Jonathan Aaron Albert
Sarah Geller Ambinder
Blanche Roth Ashkenas
Martha Auer
William Barnet II
Sara Kessler Barr
Gabrielle Beck
Abraham Berinstein
Lillian Hold Berinstein
Pauline Bernstein
Bertram R. Blume
Ruth Bloomberg Boochever
William Cohn
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Alford E. Freedman
Minnie G. Freedman
Rose Boochever Freund
Matilda T. Getz
Sidney Ginsburg
Maurice P. Goldstein
Beverly G. Greenstein
Irving Handler
Sara T. Kessler
David L. Kessler
Dr. Sidney Kimelblot
Lillian Kleinberg
Myer Kornreich
Susan L. Kupferman
Bernard Leff
Sadye Freedman Lerner
Milton M. Mann
Jessie Ehrlich Marks
Marga Marx
Dr. Archie A. Meckler
Jesse Mendelsohn
Alton P. Mendleson, Jr.
Irene L. Meyers
Pauline Fisher Myers
Sidney Nuss
Herbert Reiner
Frances Rose
Fannie G. Schlesinger
Harry L. Sherer
Dr. Edmund G. Silverman
David Harris Sokol
Ida Stern
Sarah Tillman
Gay Jasper Wattenberg

** Names of those who died
June 28-30 will be read on
the Shabbat of July 3-4*

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