

Or Chadash FOCUS

By Rabbi Alison B. Kobey

One of the regular messages that I say to prospective congregants, congregants, and colleagues is how lucky I am to be at Or Chadash. The congregation is warm and welcoming, down-to-earth, and just filled with mensch-like behavior. (A mensch is someone who is a person of integrity and honor. A mensch is someone who does good.) I am so blessed to be starting my fifteenth year with you. Thank you!

Being here for this length of time, allows me to further reflect on our collective strengths and challenges. I have mentioned microaggressions before and am trying to be more intentional about my personal ones along with the synagogue's. I have taken extensive hours of diversity training and Or Chadash is now part of a year-long cohort to be even more intentional about supporting our LGBTQ+ community and being stronger in our ally-ship. For sure, EVERYONE is welcome at Or Chadash and everyone should feel fully safe to be fully themselves and you will hear more

about our link to this cohort in future conversations over the next several months.

As part of my reflection, looking at both my behaviors personally and our collective behaviors, both positive and negative, let me acknowledge one of my behaviors. I use a lot of Jewish and Hebrew terms freely in conversation. While that may not be all that radical, since I am a Rabbi, it does make assumptions on people's knowledge. Whether you are Jewish or Jewish-adjacent, I know that you come to us from some point along a whole spectrum, ranging from a fragile association to a deep connection with both ritual and knowledge. So, as part of my growth, I am trying to do a better job translating every term that may be foreign to you.

(continued on page 4)



SHABBAT SERVICES

Summer Shabbat Services are outdoors, weather permitting. If the weather is iffy and you are unsure of whether we are indoors or outdoors, please check our Instagram or Facebook social media accounts on any given late Friday afternoon, as we do our best to post our service location.

Friday, July 7 – 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Birthday Blessings

Friday, July 14 – 7:30pm Shabbat Services

Friday, July 21 – 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Anniversary Blessings and Smores Oneg

Friday, July 28 – 7:30pm Shabbat Services

Friday, August 4 – 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Birthday Blessings

Friday, August 11 – 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Bubbles Shabbat

Friday, August 18 – 7:30pm Shabbat Meditation Services with Anniversary Blessings

Friday, August 25 – 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Sundae Oneg

Friday, September 1 – 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Birthday Blessings



Rabbi

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Cantorial Soloist

Deborah Sternberg
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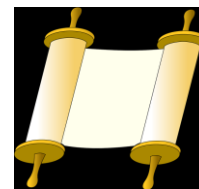
To Receive Email Updates

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Religious School Committee	Howard Benowitz
Building Committee	Rob Eisenberg
Oneg Coordinator	Open
FOCUS Editor	Debbie Eisenberg
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Dues or Tuition Relief	Andrew Colby

Torah Study / Talmud Class



Our current model is Zoom-only for Torah Study/Talmud class. If the current group of active learners wishes to change to in-person, it would be announced in the weekly email blasts. While we have our “regulars”, Torah Study and Talmud are both drop-in classes, as in no RSVP necessary, and everyone is always welcome. We hope you will join us!

Saturday, July 1 – 9:30am Torah Study

Chukat-Balak (Numbers 19:1-25:9) What is the paradox between ritually clean and impure? Does that paradox exist today? Have you ever had theological doubt? Have you ever disobeyed God? How do you know when you have reached the last stage of your journey? Do you behave differently? How do you see God? Have you ever wanted to curse someone? What happened?

Saturday, July 8 – 9:30am Torah Study

Pinchas (Numbers 25:10-30:1) How do you respond to something you hate? How do you stand up for justice? Are women equal to men? Are names really important? Is extremism okay?

Saturday, July 8 – 11:00am(ish) Talmud

Saturday, July 15 – 9:30am Torah Study

Matot-Masei (Numbers 30:2-36:13) Should you take a vow? Again, are women equal to men? Why are so many people uncomfortable with the ordinance of how things appear? Why is it important? If this section of Torah takes us into the fortieth year of wandering, what happens next?

Saturday, July 22 – 9:30am Torah Study

Devarim (Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22) Is review necessary? If you were in the “classroom” the first time, would you have followed directions? Why do many people resent/question the many challenges found within their journey? Is it different now than it was then?

Saturday, July 22 – 11:00am(ish) Talmud

Saturday, July 29, 9:30am Torah Study

Va’etchanan (Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11) How does someone show you they like you? How does God? Should all Jewish learning be free? Can you describe what God looks like? What text is right before the Jewish affirmation?

Saturday, August 5 – 9:30am Torah Study

Eikev (Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25) Is there anything more important than food? Why is the land of Israel so important then and now? What does God require of us? Do we find it easy or hard? If we emulate God, what are some of our behaviors? What is the difference between observing and remembering? Why are we so stiff-necked? What have our eyes experienced?

Saturday, August 12 – 9:30am Torah Study

Re’eh (Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17) How are we viewed and why? Are blessings and curses really a choice? Does a central worship place help unite us? What should we eat? Is eating meat a concession by God? How much should we donate to Jewish life? How do we show greater equality?

Saturday, August 12 – 11:00am(ish) – Talmud

Saturday, August 19 – 9:30am Torah Study

Shoftim (Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9) What does an ordered civil government look like? Regardless of what side of the political aisle in which you dwell, how does our American government reflect (or not) the Torah’s ideals? Is a king within a community helpful? Are witnesses ever reliable?

Saturday, August 19 – 11:00am(ish) – Talmud

Saturday, August 26 – 9:30am Torah Study

Ki Teitzei (Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19) What are the real issues about cross-dressing? What do you do with a child that does not listen? What is the time length for repaying a vow to God? If you hire a worker, how long do you have before paying the person? Is it okay to muzzle an animal?

Alison B. Kobey (continued)

Check out this newsletter. Did I succeed? Fun challenge... read this entire newsletter (please), including sections you may usually gloss over or skip entirely. How many terms did I translate and what else did you wish I translated? What would be helpful in your connection to Judaism and to Or Chadash? How can I help you feel fully

comfortable, both regarding language but also in any other ways that may be on your mind? I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at Temple! Happy summer!

L'Shalom

Rabbi Alison B. Kobey

President's Column

Thank you everyone for electing me to serve as your president. I have some rather large shoes to fill as both of my predecessors who I have worked with as a member of the Board have done such amazing jobs. I appreciate the faith you all are showing in me.

I have been on the Board of Directors for the last 6 or so years as both an "At Large" member and as "Vice President." I have been on the Board through our remediation of the mold and through COVID times. I have seen how much work the Board of Directors puts into this building and congregation and how much they all care about who we are and who we grow to become. They care not only about the building and staff but about each member and member family and they try their best to represent all.

However, since COVID, as a congregation we have been struggling in pretty much every way. First, we could not be together to worship or to celebrate or for support ... even for Religious School. Rabbi Kobey, the Board, the

committee chairs ... they all worked hard to find ways to keep things as normal as possible. Over time as the pandemic has been coming to an end and COVID has become endemic, we have been striving to redefine "normal" and reshape our lives so that things feel like they did before. But the truth is, things are different. And we are different.

So, I ask each of you What do you feel you need from me as your Board President? What do you need to see in order to be an active member of the congregation? Do you need more programming? Do you need more support? Is there a group that has dwindled that you want to see re-established?

I truly want to know. If I know what it is that you need, I can serve each of you better. Please feel free to reach out to me and we can have a conversation.

I look forward to serving,

Ilene Krom

Religious School Committee

If you have not done so already, please complete the 2023-24 Religious School registration form and submit it to the Temple office as soon as possible. Please fully complete your registration form, even if the only information on the form that changes from this past year is your child's age and grade. If you have any questions or need copies of the form, you can contact our Religious School Administrator, Mark Bilsky, at 301-482-1025. Thanks to all of the families who have already submitted your school forms.

The fact that we do not have any Religious School classes over the summer does not mean that your children should not be reading Hebrew! Just like secular schools recommend that our kids read during the summer, our children should be reading some Hebrew, too. There's no better way to read Hebrew than at Shabbat services! On **Friday, July 21**, we will have a S'mores Shabbat service. On **Friday, August 11**, we will have a Bubbles Shabbat service outside. And our August Sundae Shabbat service will be on **Friday, August 25**. Check our online calendar and this newsletter

for the dates and locations of our other services.

Religious School students who attend at least 4 Shabbat services over the course of the summer from **Friday, June 2** through **Friday, September 1** will be invited to participate in a special party at the start of the school year (which is **Sunday, October 15**). For every Shabbat service that a student attends in person, they will receive candy or an alternative fun prize.

If you have read this far, then you know that Sunday Religious School doesn't begin until **Sunday, October 15**. Tuesday Religious School begins on **Tuesday, October 17**. The reason? High Holidays, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah! These special services are a wonderful opportunity for our students to read Hebrew and see their friends – and for you to see your Or Chadash family.

*L'Shalom,
The Religious School Committee*



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Keeping Up with Or Chadash

CORY

CORY (Congregation Or Chadash Reform Youth) is our senior youth group, open to all 8th-12th Grade students, with an early welcome at a student's Bar/Bat/B'nai Mitzvah ceremony. Regardless of a student's status in Religious School (although we hope all eligible teens take advantage of our teen program!), a teen is welcome to be involved in youth group. The more people that are involved, the more fun for everyone. Some events include shul-ins (spending an overnight at Or Chadash), mini-golf, laser tag, bowling, golf, movie, hike, Escape Room, running a Shabbat service and the Purim carnival, and so much more. Stay tuned for a full calendar of events.

As we are part of the Reform Movement (URJ or Union for Reform Judaism), our youth group is also part of NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth). It connects us to teens all around North America through camps, social justice programming, and youth group events. NFTY is broken into different regions and our region is MAR (Mid-Atlantic Region). I know, it's an alphabet of abbreviations! While CORY is still finalizing our local youth group's calendar, please save the dates now for NFTY-MAR teen events: Winter Kallah (kallah means gathering) is **Friday, January 12 - Monday, January 15** (MLK Jr. Weekend) and Spring Kallah is **Friday, April 5 - Sunday, April 7**.

Somewhat connected / somewhat separate, our 10th -12th grade students enrolled in Religious School should also please mark your calendar for our L'Taken field trip, a social justice / social action weekend, **Friday, January 19 - Monday, January 22**. While I know this schedule means two back-to-back teen weekends in January, I can assure you the weekends are very different and both quite fun and enriching. More details will be provided in the coming months, but, as always, if someone needs more

information now or financial assistance for any of these events, please reach out to me. All information stays strictly confidential.

We are proud to present the CORY leadership of 2023-2024:

President: Jax Kobey

Co-Programming Vice Presidents: Micah Felman and Natalie Gussow

Religious/Cultural Vice President: Ryan Chidakel

Purim Carnival Chief: Zack Chidakel

8th Grade Representative: Adam Wolfson

Advisor: Rabbi (unless someone else wishes to do it!)

As always, if you have any questions about CORY or NFTY or L'Taken, please reach out to me!

Rabbi Alison B. Kobey

Religious School

Because of how the Tishrei cycle falls (Tishrei is the Hebrew month that has Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah), Religious School will begin on **Sunday, October 15**. We do hope that our Religious School families will join us at the family education program on **Saturday, September 9**, along with joining us at all the Fall holidays. Stay tuned for a full Religious School calendar in mid/late August.

Prospective Members

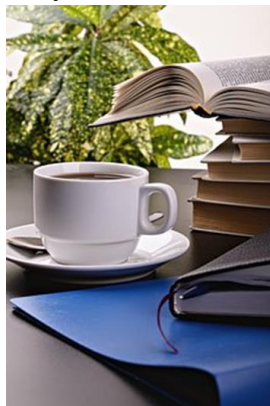
We need your help! We know that word of mouth is the best way for people to find us and get to know us. If you know of a possible member, please send us the name and any contact information you might have. Then, we will reach out and include the person(s) in a small group opportunity. We hope to hear from you! Also, this year, if people join by **Tuesday, August 15**, the first year is on us and free for them!

Adult Learning

Shofar Class: We are excited to present a brand-new opportunity! Have you been curious to learn more about the shofar? What is the origin of the shofar? How was it originally used and how did it historically evolve? What do the different shofar calls mean? How do you blow the shofar? Join Dave Bender and the Rabbi in a three-session class for an in-depth shofar learning experience. Come to one, two, or all three sessions. The first two sessions will be more the historical/background learning and will be on Zoom. The third session will be the practicalities of blowing the shofar and will be in person at Or Chadash. Bring your own shofar or come even if you do not have one. Ultimately, we hope to build a shofar-blowing corps at Or Chadash. Class will be **Wednesdays, August 23, August 30, and September 6** at 7:00pm.

Torah Study: Everyone is welcome. If you would like to be added to our Torah Study class list, please let the Rabbi know at rabbikobey@gmail.com, and you will receive any updates in advance.

Please check the Torah Study schedule on page 3 of this newsletter for details about the week's portion and questions to think about (or bring your own questions!). The Zoom link will be in the *Happenings* email blast.



Talmud Study: The ancient and medieval rabbis often asked some of the same questions that we do, and had a variety of intriguing answers. (Never just one answer!) Join us to discuss passages that the Rabbi has carefully selected for us. If you let Rabbi know you're thinking of attending, she'll send you some text to print out and have with you. (No obligation to read it in advance.) For dates and times: see page 3. The *Happenings* email blast will have the Zoom link.

Lamentations: Join us on Zoom on **Wednesday, July 26** at 7:00pm for a text study on Lamentations (Eichah). Why do we study this section on Tisha B'Av? How do you reflect on the holiday of Tisha B'Av? What are the modern links?



Summer Learning: Jewish Meditation and Other Topics: Once again, we will have some exciting adult-learning opportunities this summer. Rabbi is leading a **Friday, July 7** meditation class that began in June and will lead a class on forgiveness in Jewish context on **Friday, September 1**. During the rest of July and August, we have slots open for other topics. Previous summers have included sessions on poetry-writing, animal rights, the Hebrew language, and Jewish music. We encourage you to choose a topic and lead a discussion. Rabbi is happy to help support you behind the scenes with text or other materials if you need an extra boost. Here is a link to sign-up for a topic of your choosing: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0545A4AB2B0-cocadult>. And please contact Ralph Locke, Chair of Adult Learning, at Ralph.P.Locke@gmail.com, so he can help spread the word.

High Holy Day Honors

It is hard to believe that we are already busy planning for the High Holidays. As is our custom, we use the High Holidays as one of our opportunities to say thank you. If you have people that should be honored in this way, please give Rabbi names by **Monday, July 10**. Everyone who receives an honor during the High Holidays is nominated by one, if not more, members of the Leadership Group (Committee Chairs, Board, etc.) for their efforts to Or Chadash over the past year. We thank them for their dedication, and hope that in the coming year, you too will be an active volunteer and be on the bimah during Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur. To all our current volunteers- THANK YOU! Our sacred family is great because of you!

Summer Reading Time!

In our library, we have hundreds and hundreds of picture books, children's and teen fiction and nonfiction for young people. We have books on Jewish Values, folklore, history, holidays, and Israel. We have books for all ages and levels, including toddlers to teens. If you are looking for summer reading for your children, there are lots of interesting titles here in our Library. Come explore!

Among our recent additions for adults, you might consider:

Ismael's Oranges by Claire Hajaj. The author is of Jewish and Palestinian heritage, and her novel "follows the journeys of men and women cast adrift by war to tell the story of two families spanning the crossroad events of modern times." Find it in Fiction.

Berit Mila in the Reform Context, another addition, is a book written for medical professionals who are studying to become Mohelim/ot and conducting a bris. It's not a medical textbook, though - no anatomical drawings or 'how-to' instructions here. This book is about the history, theology, and sociology of circumcision. For expectant parents

considering circumcision, this would be a worthwhile read. This book is located in the Jewish Practice section of the library.

Join the Or Chadash Singers

Do you enjoy singing or playing a musical instrument? The Or Chadash Singers would love for you to join us! No audition required - all are welcome.

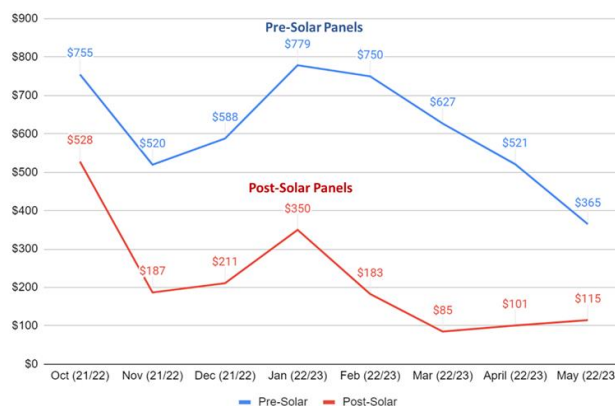
We'll be starting weekly Monday evening rehearsals, beginning **Monday, July 10** at 7:15pm, in preparation for High Holidays. Can't make every rehearsal? No problem - we'd still love for you to sing or play.

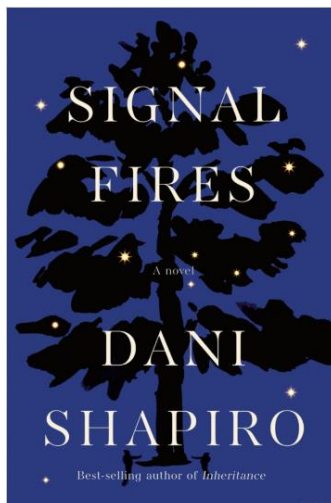
Please contact me at 718-490-7042 or rachel.stroudgoodrich@gmail.com for more info about rehearsals, music or any other questions you may have! Or just stop by one Monday night to learn more!

Rachel Stroud-Goodrich

Solar Panels

Last fall, through a very generous member donation we were able to install solar panels on the Temple roof. The following chart, which was shown at the annual meeting, shows how our monthly electric bill has dropped post installation by showing the comparative cost for each month. It shows the significant savings the Temple is receiving from this installation on an ongoing basis. Thank you again to our very generous donor.





Congregation Or Chadash Book Club

The next meeting of the Congregation Or Chadash Book Club is **Friday, August 11** at noon. Contact Jane Harris for meeting location information.

The books for August are *Signal Fires* by Dani Shapiro and *It's a Whole Spiel: Love, Latkes, and Other Jewish Stories* edited by Laura Silverman and Katherine Locke. These books are available at the Montgomery County Public Libraries.

This is a coed book club. All are welcome to attend! Please RSVP by **Friday, August 4** to Jane Harris at clamityjgh@aol.com

Guys Night Out

Thursday, July 20 at 6:30pm at The Old Town Pour House in Downtown Crown in Gaithersburg. This is an outdoor event.

Thursday, August 17 at 6:30pm at Red Robin in Germantown. This is an outdoor event.

Contact Joe Baum at jesaz99@aol.com for details and to RSVP.

Sisterhood

We have a few plans coming up over the next several months! First, our next dinner out (formerly referred to "Girl's Night Out") will be on **Thursday, July 13** at 7:30pm at Carrabba's Italian Grill, 19935 Century Blvd., Germantown. I hope to see you there!!!!

Our next event will be an evening at Top Golf on 20101 Century Blvd in Germantown on **Thursday, August 17** at 7:30pm.

For each of these events, please RSVP to Ilene by 3 days prior to the event.

Looking ahead, we also have a Mah Jong evening planned (come learn how to play!!!!) as well as restaurant visits every other month. Stay tuned for details on these upcoming events!

Ilene Krom at kromfamily726@gmail.com

Adult Social Group

The annual Summer Pool Party will be held on **Sunday, July 30** from 3:00pm to 8:00pm at the home of Maureen Ruskin and Jon Clark at 15 Esworthy Terrace, Gaithersburg, MD.

This is a rain or shine event since they just covered their deck. No Rain Date!

Maureen and Jon will supply the burgers and dogs as well as the condiments, chips, drinks and paper goods.

The cost will be \$15 per person to cover that cost.

Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to complement the meal.

Maureen will be organizing this event so please RSVP to Maureen at mkruskin@comcast.net.

See you all in July!

Social Action Committee

Supporting Refugees

In concert with New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance (NNIA), we are currently engaged to varying degrees with more than two dozen refugee families and individuals who have come to us seeking help. Many of our recent Afghan refugees have come to the US through the Southern Border after surviving a harrowing, danger-filled migration journey from Brazil. We are locating as many in Montgomery County as possible, with families in Gaithersburg, Germantown, Rockville, and Silver Spring.

We are currently making arrangements with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) to host another refugee family in Montgomery County, and training is being provided by LSS. For this family we will be furnishing an apartment, and providing our usual services, such as food deliveries, tutoring, education connections, job search support, and more.



Our monthly Women's Circle gathering, shown above, is becoming an increasingly popular event for both the NNIA mothers and volunteer women. It promotes a sense of community, and its guest speakers provide information that is important to the daily lives of our sponsored

families. We are in need of volunteers to drive, babysit, donate snacks, and provide general assistance. That and other volunteer activities can be found at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f45a4aa2da5f9c52-volunteer>.

This work would not be possible without the incredibly generous financial support that we have received from our compassionate donors! Donations can be made to Congregation Or Chadash's NNIA Refugee Fund by credit card here: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=UL49GH8DSQ7JU Or scan this QR code to donate. (For iPhones, just use your camera. For Android, drag down from the top of your phone, and select QR scanner.)



Checks can be mailed to the COC office with a note of NNIA Refugee Fund.

Contact us at NNIAMaryland@gmail.com, or contact congregant Debbie Eisenberg at rjeisenberg@comcast.net for more information.



Lessening Food Insufficiency

The Germantown HELP pantry is running low. Germantown HELP is looking for small groups to collect food (and/or funds) for the pantry. Collections in front of the Giant have historically worked well. Contact: Cindy Majane, Director, Germantown HELP, at cindymajane@gmail.com (cell: 301-502-2400).



Care Bags for Individuals Who Are Homeless

“What should I do if a person is clearly in need, and asks me for money?” COC’s Social Action Committee—following recommendations made by many social and religious organizations nationwide—is launching a project of assembling bags of helpful items that individual congregants can give to people who are homeless / currently unhoused, instead of giving them money. Sign up here for items to donate:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4FABAE1-care>.

Requested items: Socks, Bottled water, Band-Aids, Hand sanitizer, Razors, Shaving cream, Deodorant, Liquid soap, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Dental floss, Deodorant, Comb/brush, Wet wipes, Disposable rain poncho, Protein/power/granola bars, Wrapped packages of crackers, with or without cheese or peanut butter, and other small non-perishable food.

You can drop the items off in a bin in the temple lobby. The temple building is now open 9:30am-2:00pm Tuesday-Friday (but please call first: 301-482-1025), or you can bring the items before Friday-evening Shabbat services (someone can open the door starting at 6:30pm).

Once we have assembled enough supplies, the Social Action Committee will announce a time when members of the congregation can come join us in assembling the bags.

Interfaith Works

Interfaith Works is a nonprofit that provides emergency shelter, supportive housing, essential needs, and employment programs to over 35,000 residents of Montgomery County, MD every year. Their mission is providing vital services and a pathway to greater stability. Their goal is to partner with faith communities such as Congregation Or Chadash. They operate several shelters across the county as well as a food and clothing distribution center. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up here:

<https://www.iworksmc.org>



Do You Like to Knit (or Crochet)?

Congregant Nancy Thorner is starting a COC Knitting Club, to be called the “B’nai **Knitzvahs**.” She has suggested a great first project for the club: making baby blankets and other items for families that need them.

Her fellow Social Action Committee member Debbie Eisenberg has identified three refugee families that are expecting a child (two boys, one girl). She will make sure that the blankets get delivered.

Please contact Nancy at nethorner@yahoo.com if you’d like to participate in the B’nai **Knitzvahs**. You can also let her know if you have some thoughts on when and where to get together, or if you have other good projects to suggest. Members who crochet are also welcome to join us for future projects.



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Special Services

Celebrating Simchas (Joyous Moments)

Celebrate your birthday with your Or Chadash family. Be called to the bimah and receive a special blessing and a birthday treat to mark the occasion. We have Birthday Blessings every month. For the month of July come on **Friday, July 7** at 7:30pm and for the month of August join us on **Friday, August 4** at 7:30pm.

We also celebrate anniversaries within our Or Chadash family. Again, be invited onto the bimah for a special blessing and different treat. This is also monthly with Anniversary Blessings on **Friday, July 21** at 7:30pm and **Friday, August 18** at 7:30pm.

Do you have other simchas to share? Let Rabbi Kobey know, so we can rejoice together.

Shabbat Service Important Update

We know that a 7:30pm start time for Shabbat services, especially in the colder months, can be difficult for some people, whether because of early bedtimes for children or a struggle to drive

at night, or for other reasons. Starting **Friday, September 22** (Friday after Rosh Hashanah), we are going to do a multi-month trial (lasting through February) with a new Shabbat service start time of 6:15pm. We will remain multi-access, so if you get stuck at work or are long distance or something, you are still welcome to join via Zoom. However, we hope this earlier start time (again, beginning in mid-September) will encourage more people to join us in person and allow more of you to celebrate the wonders and peacefulness of Shabbat together. Moreover, we hope that the change in start time will allow people to have leisurely Shabbat dinners post-services. For some Shabbatot (plural of Shabbat) during the trial, we will have oneg (oneg literally means joy but we, of course, associate it with food treats) following services, and for some weeks during the trial, we will have a pre-neg (a made-up word, but basically meaning food before services). We hope you will enjoy this start time, tweak your work schedules if needed, put services on your calendar, and together once the trial is well-underway, we will evaluate its level of success.

Some High Holy Days Heads-Up

While I do try to avoid overly thinking about the High Holy Days in the early days of summer, I did want to give you the heads-up about some highlights. If you are interested in learning more about the shofar's history and meaning, and even how to blow the shofar, please take our 3-session shofar class (see class description in Adult Learning section for more details). **Saturday, September 9** starts the fall holiday season in earnest with Selichot (a holiday that sets the mood for Rosh Hashanah by offering a few of the prayers and melodies and moments of reflection). Events begin at 5:30pm that evening with a potluck dinner, an education program for people of all ages, and the service, followed by smores. **Sunday, September 10** at 10:00am will be Reverse Tashlich. (Tashlich is a communal ritual to help cast off our "sins" and free ourselves from the past.) Reverse Tashlich is an opportunity to come together as a COC community to engage in social action and mindfulness. We will clean up a park. Also on **Sunday, September 10**, we will have communal apple picking to also help people socialize with one another as we get our Rosh Hashanah apples. **Friday, September 15** marks Erev Rosh Hashanah with services at 7:30pm and **Saturday, September 16** marks our children's service, main services, a new program for 3rd - 6th grade students, a Rosh Hashanah luncheon, and Tashlich (see above for Tashlich meaning). Babysitting during the main service is also an option for our youngest members and guests. Erev Yom Kippur is **Sunday, September 24** and

Yom Kippur day is on the **Monday, September 25**, with babysitting again being an option at our morning service. We will again have our Rise Against Hunger program, packing over 11,000 meals to help feed the hungry. Yom Kippur services will continue in the afternoon, including time for meditation, yizkor (remembering our loved ones who have died), and the concluding service. We will end our day with a congregational (with guests) break-the-fast.

Friday, September 29 is the start of Sukkot and we will have services at 6:15pm followed by a popcorn taste-off. What crazy flavors of popcorn or popcorn recipes can you make or want to taste?! What flavor will win?! **Friday, October 6** is Simchat Torah. We will mark the holiday again at 6:15pm for services. Services will include Consecration (officially welcoming our newest students into the Religious School) followed by a chocolate fountain at oneg. Hopefully, we will get enough adult hands to help us so we can unroll the entire Torah scroll that evening!

I know the Fall is a busy season both in secular lives and in the Jewish calendar. (Really, I know!) Please mark your calendars and join us at all the events and holidays. While I may not love the months leading up to the holidays (because it's a lot to do), the holidays themselves are all really special. The more people that share in them, the more fun will be had by all!

Welcome to our New Members

Jen and Justin Walsh
Len and Margaret McWilliams

Condolences

We extend our deep condolences to Hilary Rosenbloom on the death of her father, Jeff Phipps, who died on Sunday, April 23.

Thank You to Our Donors

Thank you to our generous donors. Note that this list includes donations that were deposited during late April, May, and early June. Please contact the office for more information.

General Donations

Irwin & Terri Binder
Jon Clark & Maureen Ruskin
Jesse Gellert
Susan Gellert
David & Lynn Kobey
Diane & Sydney Levitus

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Susan & Scott Chidakel in honor of Zack's Bar Mitzvah
Ralph Locke & Lona Farhi in memory of Jeff Phipps,
father of Hilary Rosenbloom
Alan Randall & Rebecca DeSantis-Randall in honor of
Danna Randall's baby naming

Social Action Fund

Ralph Locke & Lona Farhi in memory of
Estelle Eisler, mother of Nancy Thorner

Tree of Life

Edwin & Susan Chidakel in honor of Ryan's Bar
Mitzvah
Edwin & Susan Chidakel in honor of
Zachary's Bar Mitzvah



Yahrzeits

If you have an upcoming yahrzeit that is not listed, please call the office at 301-482-1025, and we will add any names you wish to remember. Names will be read at Shabbat services during the week of a loved one's death. When two dates are shown, the names will be read during the Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services. Note that the second column lists the observing member.

Friday, July 7

Rhonda Zinn	Sister of Donna Goldsteen
Lawrence Solowey	Father of Rona Kandel
**Ferrell Winfield Furr	Father of Susan Gellert
Leonard Wolfson	Grandfather of Ron Isaacson
Doris Locke	Mother of Ralph Locke
Milton Marx	Father of Fred Marx
George Slong	Uncle of Barbara Marx
Sarah Soltar	Grandmother of Fred Petok
Frances Weidler	Mother of Nancy Isaacson

Friday, August 4

Elizabeth Murphey	Mother of Janyce Dissin
David Ortman	Husband of Robin Farquhar
Peter Stahl	Brother of Vivian Stahl
Louis I. Weber	Father of Marsha Weber
Lowell Bender	Uncle of David Bender
William King	Father of William King
Jacob Gilstein	Father of Margot Raphael
Anita Raphael	Mother of Steven Raphael
Jim Graf	Father of Edward Korenge

Friday, July 14

Mitch Bender	Father of Dave Bender
Robin Colby	Stepmother of Andrew Colby
JoAnn Medina Pinkerton	Mother of Karl Lorenz

Friday, August 11

Linda Evans	Cousin of Ellyn Baum
Israel Lazaruk	Father of Fran Zavin
Mollie Lipshy	Grandmother of Karen Conner
**Paul Benowitz	Father of Howard Benowitz

Friday, July 21

Helene Marx	Mother of Fred Marx
David Berman	Father of Terry Lewis

Friday, August 18

Sigmund Baum	Father of Joe Baum
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Friday, July 28

Evelyn Rosenthal	Grandmother of Lou Rosenthal
Charles Privot	Uncle of Phil Zeidman
Earl Tropp	Grandfather of Anne Gussow
Craig Held	Spouse of Heather Held
Jerrold Bernstein	Father of Ellyn Baum
Roberta Fisher	Mother of Sue Carr
Doris Mandelbaum	Risa Robinson

Friday, August 25

Florence Freitag	Grandmother of Michael Abrahams
Ina Glosman Weinstein	Mother of Alana Hyman
Pearl Garfunkel Gould	Mother of Diane Levitus
Sylvia Ar	Risa Robinson

Friday, September 1

Jane Nadler	Mother of Karl Nadler
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**Yahrzeit plaque



Congregation Or Chadash Tree of Life

Honor simchas (happy life events) with
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To order, please fill out the form below and return to the temple office.

To order remembrance plaques for the Yahrzeit Board, Please use the Yahrzeit Plaques Order Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____



Small Leaf ~ Suggested Donation \$180 ~ Three lines, 25 characters per line.



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Congregation Or Chadash
24800 Kings Valley Rd., Damascus, MD 20872

301-482-1025 (o)

301-482-1027 (f)



Yahrtzeit Plaque Order Form

Person being remembered (check fields desired):

☒ English Name: _____

☐ Hebrew Name: _____ ben/bat _____
Parent 1 Parent 2

☒ Secular Calendar Date of Death: _____

Approximate time of death: _____ (pre or post sundown)

☐ Hebrew Calendar Date: _____

If you wish to use the Hebrew date to be included, but don't know it, check the box and we will look up the date for you based on the secular date.

Member Placing the order:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City-State-Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Payment Information

The cost is \$180 per plaque. If transferring a plaque from another congregation, the cost is \$90 per plaque. Each plaque can remember only one person. Payment must accompany the order form.

☐ Check or cash (enclosed)

If you wish to order multiple plaques, please include information for additional remembered people on another sheet of paper.

**Return forms to the Temple office at
24800 Kings Valley Rd., Damascus, MD 20872 or
email to orchadashadmin@gmail.com.**

