

Or Chadash FOCUS

By Rabbi Alison B. Kobey

Did you know that the Jewish calendar has a leap month every so often? It's true! At first glance, the Jewish calendar might seem somewhat simple. However, it is far more complicated than the secular calendar. This year is a leap year (on both calendars), so it seems like a good time to explain it all.

As we know, the secular calendar has 365 days in a year, except an additional day every four years (Happy February 29, 2024), as it follows the solar calendar. Bonus fun fact- we even have a congregant who has a Feb. 29th birthday. Someday she will be old enough that we can offer her Manischewitz! Haha!

Anyway, many people think that Judaism follows the lunar calendar, but we actually follow both the lunar and solar calendar. The

lunar calendar has 354 days, as in a differential of eleven days from the solar calendar. In contrast, Islam solely follows the lunar calendar and that is why you might find Ramadan in July or in December. We are both. We are lunisolar. In other words, as you know, we keep our holidays in the same season. You would never find Yom Kippur in February (despite how hard I argue with God on the calendaring!). Nor would you ever find Passover in August. So, while the holidays "move," they stay in their appointed seasons. In reality, the holidays do not actually move- they stay on their dates. It is just the overlapping between the Jewish calendar and the secular calendar that reflects the movement.

(continued on page 4)



SHABBAT/HOLIDAY SERVICES

Friday, March 1 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services
7:15pm(ish) Dairy/Vegetarian COC Potluck Dinner

Friday, March 8 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with Kindergarten and First Grade Participation and Birthday Blessings

Saturday, March 9 – 10:00am Shabbat Services with Bat Mitzvah of Makayla Hennelly

Friday, March 15 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with Game Show and Anniversary Blessings

Friday, March 22 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with book discussion *Becoming Eve* by Abby Stein

Saturday, March 23 – 6:00pm optional dinner. 7:00pm Purim-ness (See page 8 for additional Purim details)

Friday, March 29 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services

Friday, April 5 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with Birthday Blessings

Saturday, April 6 – 10:00am Shabbat Services with B'nai Mitzvah of Eli Kafetz and Ethan Kafetz

Friday, April 12 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with Anniversary Blessings. 7:15pm(ish) Dairy/Vegetarian COC Potluck Dinner

Saturday, April 13 – 10:00am Shabbat Services with 5th Grade Participation

Friday, April 19 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with a Disney Theme

Saturday, April 20 – 10:00am Shabbat Services with Bat Mitzvah of Leilah Goodrich

Monday, April 22 – Erev Passover. 1st Seder at peoples' homes

Tuesday, April 23 – 6:00pm 2nd Seder at Or Chadash

Friday, April 26 – 6:15pm Shabbat Services

Contacting Us



Rabbi

Rabbi Alison Kobey 301-482-1025
rabbi@cong-orchadashmd.org

Cantorial Soloist

Deborah Sternberg
soloist@cong-orchadashmd.org

Location

24800 Kings Valley Road
 Damascus, MD 20872

Office Hours

Sunday 8:00am-1:00pm
 Tuesday, 4:30pm-8:30pm
 Wednesday 8:00am-2:00pm

Email Address:

orchadashadmin@cong-orchadashmd.org

Mailing Address

24800 Kings Valley Rd
 Damascus, MD 20872

Web Address

www.cong-orchadashmd.org

Telephone and FAX

(T) 301-482-1025
 (F) 301-482-1027

To Receive Email Updates

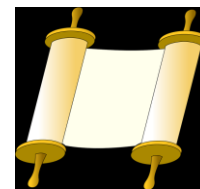
Send your email address to
orchadashadmin@cong-orchadashmd.org

Contact Us

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Religious School Administrator	Brett Abelman
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Torah Study / Talmud Classes

Regular Torah Study/Talmud Classes are Zoom only. If text study is part of services, the opportunity is multi-access.



Saturday, March 2 – 9:30am Torah Study

Ki Tisa (Exodus 30:11- 34:35) What exactly is a ransom for life? Why is creating a sanctuary critically important? What trumps the creation? Why is the intangible so hard for so many of us? What does God do here that so many parents do too?

Saturday, March 9 – 10:00am No regular Torah Study, but learn about the parashah by joining us at Shabbat services with the Bat Mitzvah of Makayla Hennelly

Saturday, March 16 – 9:30am Torah Study

Pekudei (Exodus 38:21-40:38) What is so important in your life that you would keep accurate records? How many people should keep the same accounting? What do you do with “heavy” tasks? Why did God ask for so many details about the Tabernacle?!

Saturday, March 16 – 11:00am(ish) Talmud Class

Saturday, March 23 – 9:30am Torah Study

Vayikra (Leviticus 1:1-5:26) How do we keep the different sacrifices (offerings) relevant today? What do they say about our behaviors? Are we generous to God today? How does God connect with Moses this week and how does God connect with us in today’s society?

Saturday, March 23 – 11:00am(ish) Talmud Class

Saturday, March 30 – 9:30am Torah Study

Tzav (Leviticus 6:1-8:36) How do we prepare for something important? How do we tell someone they are important? How do we help people of all means feel valued in society? If we were to ever reach the Messianic Age (is it wrong if I say don’t hold your breath?!), what offering would still exist and why? How does that relate to society today?

Saturday, April 6 – 10:00am No regular Torah study, but learn about the parashah by joining us at Shabbat services with the B’nai Mitzvah of Eli and Ethan Kafetz

Saturday, April 13 – 10:00am No regular Torah study, but learn about the parashah by joining us at Shabbat services with 5th Grade Participation

Saturday, April 13 – 11:30am(ish) Talmud Class

Saturday, April 20 – 10:00am No regular Torah study, but learn about the parashah by joining us at Shabbat services with the Bat Mitzvah of Leilah Goodrich

Saturday, April 27 – 9:30am Special Text Study *Song of Songs* The traditional text read during Passover

Alison B. Kobey (continued)

In order for the calendars to align, Judaism needs to add one month into the calendar every so often to shift the holidays and keep them in their seasons. How often, you may ask? Well, I'm glad you asked! Ready for this wild (but true) answer? The Jewish calendar runs on a 19-year cycle and within those 19 years there are 7 leap years. In other words, we get a leap year every two or three years. It is a leap year if the remainder is 3, 6, 8, 11, 14, 17, or 0 when dividing by 19. In other words, this year is 5784 and when we divide it by 19 the remainder is 8, so it is a leap year. It also tells us that we are in year 8 of the 19-year cycle.

Okay, your math lesson is over (whew!) but here is a bit more information about the Jewish calendar. There are twelve months a year in a regular calendar year, and thirteen when we have a leap year. We add the thirteenth month to the end of the cycle. The months are: Nisan, Iyar, Sivan, Tammuz, Av, Elul, Tishrei, Cheshvan, Kislev, Tevet, Shevat, and Adar. When there is a leap year, we have Adar I and Adar II. Purim, the holiday that is in Adar gets moved to Adar II when there is a leap year which is why starting with Purim, the holidays are "late" this year. (I tricked you! They are always on time!).

Have I thoroughly confused you or are you still with me? Ready for more? Just as we have different calendars in the secular world, so too do we have different ones in the Jewish world. In our secular lives, we might think of the annual year (i.e. we are in 2024), but also, we have the fiscal year and the school year, each of which have different starts and ends. In Judaism, we have four New Years. So, while the first month is Nisan, we also have the first of Elul (the new year for kings), Tu B'Shevat (the birthday of the trees), and Rosh Hashanah (the birthday of the world, when the year changes), which arrives in the seventh month.

Many of you will ask me when such and such a holiday falls. I always give you the answer, but I know it is often not the one you want, as I do not always pay attention to the secular calendar dates until it gets close enough. Months that have holidays are 30 days, months that do not have holidays are 29 days. The new moon starts the new month. The full moon is the 14th or 15th, so you can start looking at the moon and better appreciating the cycle of the Jewish calendar. Here's a list of the major holidays and now you can appreciate my answer: the holidays are never early nor late, but always on time.

- Nisan (Passover – 15th)
- Iyar (No major holidays)
- Sivan (Shavuot – 6th)
- Tammuz (No major holidays)
- Av (Tish B'Av – 9th)
- Elul (No major holidays, except Selichot which I will save for another day)
- Tishrei (Rosh Hashanah – 1st; Yom Kippur – 10th; Sukkot – 15th; Simchat Torah – 22nd (or 23rd if you are following the more traditional calendar)
- Cheshvan (No major holidays, except for Rabbi recovery)
- Kislev (Chanukah – 25th)
- Tevet (No major holidays)
- Shevat (Tu B'Shevat – 15th)
- Adar (Purim – 14th unless it is a leap year, and then it is on the 14th of Adar II)

Hope you enjoyed our calendaring fun! See you at Temple on whatever the date!

L'Shalom

Rabbi Alison B. Kobey

President's Column

Congregation Or Chadash needs your help. Yes ... YOU. Each of you. We are on the edge of something right now that needs fixing and it's something that the board needs the help of our full membership to help resolve. And the problem is a word in my last sentence.

Membership.

We are a small congregation. This is part of our charm and we like it that way. But because we are small, it doesn't take a lot to make significant changes. Since Covid began, we have been seeing a significant drop in membership, especially among young families. Our religious school is shrinking and it's starting to become quite alarming. While we value all new members, we are desperately looking to increase our numbers, especially with families with school age children.

There are various attempts to get word out about ourselves, but the word of mouth of our families is so valuable. Do you know of a family who is looking to join a Reform synagogue? Consider inviting them to Or Chadash for a service or to meet with the Rabbi or member of the board. Also, if you have ideas to help spread the word about us, please feel free to share them with the Rabbi or a member of the board. We are always looking for new ideas.

If all member families speak to just one family and 25% of them end up joining, we are going to make HUGE strides in bringing our numbers back to where they were prior to the start of the pandemic.

Let's work together to grow our family!

*L'Shalom,
Ilene Krom*

Religious School Committee

Winter is almost over! As of this writing, we haven't had much snow, but we still had some school cancellations in January due to the weather, so we are using our makeup days in May. Tuesday Hebrew School will finish on **Tuesday, May 14**, and Sunday Religious School will finish on **Sunday, May 19**.

Do you want to maximize your investment ... in your children's Jewish education? Spend time practicing Hebrew with your children each week. Even if you don't read Hebrew, encouraging them to practice will pay dividends. 15 minutes a night for three or four nights a week will make a difference in their learning. Your children attend our school for only a few hours each week, so practicing Hebrew at home and talking with parents about Sunday and Tuesday classes will help students remember and reinforce the information learned in class. Just as reading with your

children and being involved in their secular schools can enhance their secular learning, speaking with your children about Religious School can have a significant effect on their religious learning.

Please join the Religious School Committee at our next meeting on **Sunday, April 14** at 12:15pm at the temple to learn more about, and have a role in shaping, our religious school.

*L'Shalom,
The Religious School Committee*

Religious School

In Session:

March 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19

April 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21

Not in session:

March 24, 26, 31

April 23, 28, 30

Keeping Up with Or Chadash

Committee Meetings

Religious School Committee (RSC)

Sunday, April 14 – 12:15pm (In Person)

Ritual Committee

Sunday, March 3 – 12:15pm (In person)

Sunday, April 7 – 12:15pm (In person)

Social Action Committee

Wednesday, March 20 – 7:00pm

Brainstorming Session (Zoom Only)

Jr. CORY

Please join us **Sunday, April 14** at 2:45pm for Jr. CORY and CORY afternoon fun at Germantown Indoor Water Park. The cost for the event is \$5.00 per person. You must RSVP to Rabbi by **Friday, April 5**.

CORY

Saturday, March 16 at 4:00pm is our Purim carnival set-up. All hands on-deck! Please RSVP to Rabbi to confirm your attendance. Please also bring treats for college student boxes. See the separate sign-up.

The Purim carnival is **Sunday, March 17** at 12:00pm. The carnival itself begins at 12:00pm. Please wear your CORY t-shirt and, if you are not a madrikh/madrikhah/madrichim, please plan on arriving at 11:00am. Please RSVP to Rabbi to confirm your attendance!

Please join us **Sunday, April 14** at 2:45pm for Jr. CORY and CORY afternoon fun at Germantown Indoor Water Park. The cost for the event is \$5.00 per person. You must RSVP to Rabbi by **Friday, April 5**.

Please join us **Sunday, April 21** at 2:30pm for a Great Falls CORY hike. RSVP to Rabbi by **Friday, April 5**.

Teen Classes

8th-9th Grades

Sundays, March 3 and April 14

10th-12th Grades

Sundays, March 10 and April 21

All 8th-12th teens help with the Purim carnival on **Sunday, March 17**

NFTY

As we continue to strengthen our relationship with NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth), we are delighted that April provides an opportunity for our teens to attend the Spring Kallah from **Friday, April 5** to **Sunday, April 7**. If you have an 8th-12th grade student, we hope you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity and send your teen(s) to the NFTY weekend! Reach out to Rabbi Kobey for more info.

For all 3rd Grade Parents and Students

Come to a transition meeting to learn more about the 4th-7th Grade Religious School program on **Sunday, April 21** at 11:40am.

4th-5th Grade Parents/Grandparents/Special Adults Programming

Sunday, April 14 is wedding day! From 9:45am-10:30am we will have the third intergenerational program to finish up the scrapbooks focusing on weddings and other adult milestones. From 11:15am-12:00pm will be the 4th-5th grade mock wedding.

For all 7th Grade Parents and Students

Come to a transition meeting to learn more about the 8th-9th Grade Religious School program on **Tuesday, April 9** at 7:40pm.

Religious School Family Education Day

Sunday, April 7, learn about Passover customs around the world. Stay tuned for additional details.

Purim

Happy Adar, a time when we are commanded to be happy! Purim is the 14th of Adar II, translating this year to **Saturday, March 23**. Purim is a holiday for the fun, silly side in each of us. It is a holiday NOT just for children, as each of us should remember that our lives were at stake, and through a brave act by Esther and Mordechai, we are here today. We have five rabbinic commandments as part of this holiday: to read Megillat Esther, the Scroll of Esther; to be unable to distinguish between Ahasuerus and Haman; to give to the poor; to give gifts to others; and to have a festive meal. We are going to have lots of fun for Purim this year and I hope you all will join us! Wear a costume or come as yourself, but either way we hope to see you there!

Within the Religious School (but open to all) we will celebrate **Sunday, March 17** at 11:15am with a first opportunity to see the schpiel followed by the Purim carnival that is sponsored by CORY. The Religious School schpiel and carnival is open to both congregants and non-congregants so if you know of other Jewish children in the area, please welcome them to our festivities. (Rabbi will give you 3 free tickets if you bring a non-member guest!) Stay tuned for other details about the carnival. There will be pizza and snacks for purchase and ticket sales. (All proceeds go to CORY, our Senior Youth Group).

Tickets will cost:
3 tickets for \$1.00
20 tickets for \$5.00

And there will be other ticket options too!

Saturday, March 23 at 6:00pm we will have an optional shared dinner (RSVPs mandatory) and then as part of the evening, beginning at 7:00pm,

we will have a hamentaschen bake-off, hear some megillah reading, and see the schpiel (play). For the hamantaschen bake-off, please bring at least one dozen hamantaschen of the same flavor and label all main ingredients. The more you bake, the more we all taste! Even if you do not want to bake, please join us and be part of the tasting!

Passover Seders**First Night: To House or be Housed**

The first seder is Monday, April 22nd. Are you hosting a seder and willing/able to host extra people? Are you looking for a seder to attend? As soon as you know your plans, please contact the Temple office so that we have ample time to help make matches and ensure that everyone has a place for seder!! Please send an e-mail to orchadashadmin@gmail.com with how many people you can host or how many people you wish for someone else to host, any food allergies, any pets, preference for with children / preference for no children, etc. Together, we will make sure that everyone is part of a seder!

Second Night: Please Join us at Seder

The second seder is **Tuesday, April 23**. We will have a congregational seder at Or Chadash. Doors will open at 6:00pm and seder will begin at 6:30pm. It is open to all. We are still firming up the menu and prices but there will be food for vegetarians and non-vegetarians alike. If you are interested in attending, but concerned about the price, please reach out to Rabbi Kobey. All details remain confidential, but we want to be sure everyone is welcome and no one is turned away because of pricing. If you already know you want to attend, sign up now! RSVPs are mandatory for seder. Full details will be provided at a later date.

Membership and Prospective Outreach

We know the best way to reach other Jewish people is through word-of-mouth. If you know someone Jewish and unaffiliated, please reach out to them and see if they are interested in joining us at Purim, at Passover seder, at Shabbat services, or another holiday or event. Feeling shy about asking? Give Rabbi their information. She's happy to reach out!

Potluck Dinners

We hope you will join us and make or bring your favorite dairy/vegetarian dish. There are some sample ideas in the SignUpGenius. Please know that we want everyone to be welcome and included. While we hope people will sign up in advance and bring a dish to share, if you spontaneously come to Shabbat services or cannot bring food that evening, we hope you will still be comfortable staying and joining us at the potluck dinners. The next couple are **Friday, March 1** and **Friday, April 12**. Please sign up to bring a dish if you are able.


<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0545A4AB2B0-45173693-potluck>

Tech Support

We are trying to build our Shabbat/holiday tech team! We are happy to train you, but need you to volunteer to help us. Once you are trained, you would choose dates that work for you. This is a low-key, but important way to help Or Chadash! Teens could get SSL hours as needed. Please let the Rabbi know if you are interested/willing!


Oneg Planning

Before COVID-19, individual families would sponsor the weekly Oneg. These families would be assigned by a coordinator and would be asked to provide the food and wine for Oneg following the Friday night service and would be asked to set and clean up (with the help of temple volunteers). They would be invited to read the candle blessings during the service in appreciation for their service. If they were unable to be present, they were welcome to purchase the items and drop them off at the temple ahead of time or would be asked to provide funds so that someone else could buy the food and wine in their absence. In the next few months, this will be starting again. Families will have the freedom to select a specific week if it holds meaning for them (Yahrzeit, Birthday/Anniversary Blessings, etc.) by reaching out to the coordinator. Thank you all for your cooperation.




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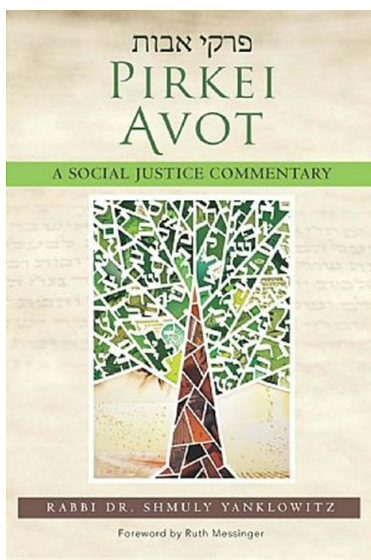


Adult Learning

Pirkei Avot Series (Ethics of the Sages)

The Adult Learning Committee is delighted to announce that Rabbi Kobey has been leading a fascinating multi-session discussion of passages from the Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) on **Fridays** from 12 noon to 1:15pm. Future sessions are: **March 15, 22, April 12, 26, May 3, 17**. The series is zoom-only. See the “Happenings” email-blast for the link.

Pirkei Avot is the most renowned tractate of the Talmud. It contains some of the most famous inspirational statements and ethical guidelines by Rabbi Hillel and other sages, including “If I am not for myself, who will be for me?”



We started at the beginning of Pirkei Avot. In our usual manner we discuss a small number of verses each time, sharing our own personal reactions, as well as any insights that we find in whatever translation or edition each of us is using. Feel free to contact the Rabbi for some texts, or to just show up. There is an online version at https://www.sefaria.org/Pirkei_Avot.1.1?lang=bi. Three good editions/translations are available in the COC library (first bookshelf on the left, as you enter). If you wish to purchase an inexpensive and reliable paperback version, put the search words Pirke (spelled without an i) and Olitzky into the Search at any bookseller site. Some class members have found the new Reform version valuable (shown above and available at CCARPress.org).

Tallit Making Workshop part 2

Join us on **Sunday, March 17 at 6:30pm**.

Book Discussion

Shabbat Services **Friday, March 22 at 6:15pm**

Join us for a book discussion of *Becoming Eve: My Journey From Ultra-Orthodox Rabbi to Transgender*

Woman by Abby Chava Stein, the powerful coming-of-age story of a descendant of the founder of the Hasidic movement who came out as a woman and became a transgender rights activist. While we encourage you to read the book in advance, everyone is invited to Shabbat services and the book discussion whether or not you read the book.



Special Guest



Or Chadash is excited to bring Gilad Paz to join us for a special evening. Gilad Paz is a rock singer, classical tenor, and crossover performer with extensive experience that ranges from the clubs of NYC's Lower East Side to Carnegie Hall to America's Got Talent! From classics to modern hits, Gilad takes the audience on a musical journey of Israeli culture with a performance for the whole family, where audience participation is highly encouraged.

Come and join us **Sunday, April 7 at 6:30pm!** This event is **FREE** for members, \$10/person for non-members.

Guys Night Out

The March Guys Night Out will be **Thursday, March 14** at 6:30pm at LongHorn Steakhouse, 20017 Century Blvd., Germantown, MD.

The April Guys Night Out will be **Thursday, April 18** at 6:30pm at Bonefish Grill in the Kentlands, 82 Market Street, Gaithersburg, MD.

The May Guys Night Out will be **Thursday, May 16** at 6:30pm at Ay! Jalisco Mexican Restaurant, 8401 Snouffer School Road, Gaithersburg, MD. This will be our first OUTDOOR event, weather permitting.

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

Sisterhood

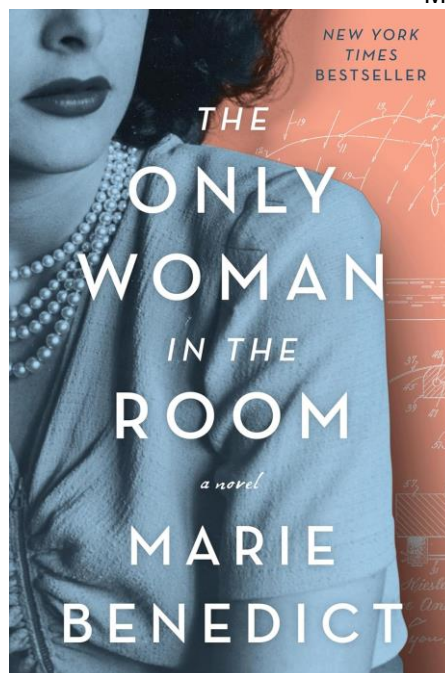
There are a few things coming up with the sisterhood these next couple of months. If there are events or locations for nights out that you would like to see moving forward, please don't hesitate to let Ilene Krom know (kromfamily726@gmail.com).

Thursday, March 14 at 7:30pm
Restaurant Night
Ted's Bulletin
220 Ellington Blvd, Gaithersburg

Sunday, March 17, at 4:00pm
Learn to Play Mah Jongg, Part 2
Congregation Or Chadash Sanctuary

Thursday, May 9 at 7:30pm
Restaurant Night (location TBD ... Ilene will consider suggestions)

Saturday, May 11 at 7:30pm
Board Game Night (Bring your favorite games!)
Congregation Or Chadash Sanctuary



Congregation Or Chadash Book Club

The next meeting of the Congregation Or Chadash Book Club is **Friday, March 8** at noon. This is a Zoom-only meeting. The Zoom link will be in the Or Chadash Happenings email.

The book for March is *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict. This book is available at the Montgomery County Public Libraries.

A reading group discussion guide is included in the book. For those wishing to read a biography of Hedy Lamarr, the Booklist review mentioned *Hedy's Folly* by Richard Rhodes. There is also a graphic biography, *Hedy Lamarr: An Incredible Life* by William Roy, which has a review on the Jewish Book Council website. Both of these books are available at the Montgomery County Public Libraries.

This is a coed book club. All are welcome to attend! Please RSVP by **Tuesday, March 5** to Jane Harris at clamityjgh@aol.com.



News from COC's Knitting Club

Last year, congregant Nancy Thorner started the COC Knitting and Crocheting Club, called the B'nai Knitzvahs. The Club has now completed some baby blankets, hats, and scarves and donated them to refugee families in Damascus or elsewhere in Montgomery Country.

Their next project is to stockpile some baby blankets for future delivery in the Spring and beyond to a deserving organization(s) of the Club's choice. They are seeking new members to assist with upcoming projects and perhaps suggest new ones.

Please contact Nancy at nethorner@yahoo.com with any questions about the group or to become a member. Projects can be done on your own or with other group members as a social event. Timelines are generous to allow for completion by all members.

Social Action Committee

Social Justice / Social Action Meeting

Are you interested in social justice/social action? Would you like Or Chadash to be doing more? Please join us for a Zoom only brainstorming session... Do you want more collections? More active projects? More lobbying? What would you like? The Rabbi really wants to know! Please help by joining us on **Wednesday, March 20** at 7:00pm (Zoom only) for a one-time meeting to help brainstorm/plan our future Social Justice/Social Action opportunities in the coming months.



Successful Collection of Personal Care Items for Homeless Individuals

Thanks to everyone who, over several months, contributed items to COC's months-long project of assembling Care Bags for people who are homeless! Items included socks, liquid soap, toothbrush/toothpaste, a healthy snack, and much more.

On **Sunday, January 7**, a group of adults and religious school students assembled 57 bags. Some were taken by congregants themselves to distribute. The rest were requested by the well-established organization Every Mind Matters (whose offices are in Rockville).

Congregants Bruce Thorner and Ralph Locke delivered dozens of bags to the EveryMind headquarters. Each large sack shown above contained five individual bags, each of which will be handed to individuals in need.

Details about EveryMind and its work can be found at <https://www.everymind.org/>.

Supporting Refugees

In the last few months, with New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance (NNIA) we have:

- Provided financial support, including rent, medicine, utilities, and more
- Set up 3 apartments and moved families into the apartments
- Provided food and diaper deliveries to 20 families
- Driven family members to dozens of appointments
- Engaged many active ESL tutors and enrolled adults in ESL classes
- Worked to help find employment for three breadwinners
- Welcomed 5 new babies to our New Neighbor families. (Four are shown below.)



Contact us at NNIAMaryland@gmail.com, or contact congregant Debbie Eisenberg at rjeisenberg@comcast.net for more information, or to volunteer. We are always looking for folks to help drive families to appointments, pick up food from food banks and deliver to their apartments, help them improve their English, and help with job searches. Also, check out the in-kind donations that are needed here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45A4AA2DA5F9C52-inkind1>.

All of 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, if not already enabled in your camera, 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.



Successful Winter Wear Drive!

Our congregation's winter clothing drive was an enormous success, resulting in two carloads (trunk and backseat!) containing dozens of coats, bags of gloves and socks, warm blankets, and much more. We contributed these to EveryMind, an outreach organization in Rockville that works with homeless (unhoused) individuals in our county, many of whom have mental health issues and/or are armed services veterans.

Amse Heck, EveryMind's Chief Development Officer, wrote to COC, thanking us for the winter wear and also for the 47 Personal-Care Bags (toothbrush and toothpaste, etc.) that we donated to EveryMind a few weeks ago.

Special Services

Celebrating Simchas (Happy Occasions)

Celebrate your birthday with your Or Chadash family. Receive a special blessing and birthday treat to mark the occasion. If you are in-person, you will get the treat that evening. If you are sharing services with us through Zoom, the Rabbi delivery service will be happy to make sure you receive your treat (just send her an email). We have Birthday Blessings every month. For the month of March, join us on **Friday, March 8** and for the month of April, Birthday Blessings will be on **Friday, April 5**, both at 6:15pm.

We also celebrate anniversaries within our Or Chadash family. Again, receive a special blessing and a different treat. This is also monthly with Anniversary Blessings on **Friday, March 15** and **Friday, April 12**, both at 6:15pm.

Do you have other simchas (happy occasions) to share? Let Rabbi Kobey know so we can rejoice together.

Thank You to Our Donors

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

General Donations

Barbara & Fred Marx
Gerald Ray Mollie Lipshy Charitable Trust & Judy Gable
Percival Stern Foundation: at the request of Laura Sardilli
Nancy & Scott Wolfson
Jack Shlachter in appreciation of decades of friendship with Irwin Binder

NNIA Refugee Fund

Susan Gellert

Tree of Life

Kerri & Chris Hennelly in honor of Makayla and Samantha's B'nai Mitzvah
Margot & Steven Raphael in honor of Jacklyn DiBartolo's Bat Mitzvah

Rabbi's Discretionary

Andrew, Ali, Scott, Trish, Erin and Matthew Felrice in memory of Helen Felrice
Kerri & Chris Hennelly
Lisa & Daniel Cooperstein

Mazel Tov

Congratulations to Makayla Hennelly who will become a Bat Mitzvah on March 9.

Congratulations to Leilah Goodrich who will become a Bat Mitzvah on April 20.

Congratulations to Eli & Ethan Kafetz who will become B'nai Mitzvah on April 6.

Condolences

We extend our deep condolences to David Swain and his family on the deaths of his mother, Nancy Swain, who died on January 21, and his father, Freemont "Buddy" Swain, who died on February 5.

We extend our deep condolences to Heather Held and her family on the death of her aunt, Louise Spector, who died on January 29.

We extend our deep condolences to Rich Bailen and his family on the death of his sister-in-law, Monica Roizner, who died on January 29.

We extend our deep condolences to Jane Harris and her family on the death of her brother, Gary Gartenberg, who died on February 1.

We extend our deep condolences to Jean Bender and her family on the death of her mother, Marie Dunkle, who died on February 6.

We extend our deep condolences to Andrew Felrice and his family on the death of his mother, Helen Felrice, who died on February 13.

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, March 1

**Estelle Eisler	Mother of Nancy Thoner
Beatrice Bernstein	Grandmother of Ellyn Baum
Gene Friedman	Father of Carol Cooper
Amy Sommer	Sister-in-Law of Heather Held
Anne Cahn	Step-Grandmother of Lisa Cahn
Helen Krantzler	Mother of Rebecca Stroud
Merle Locke	Father of Ralph Locke
Ethel Mossman	Grandmother of Ziona Mossman
	Swigart
Tillie Bender	Grandmother of David Bender

Friday, March 8 & Saturday, March 9

Ronald Santa	Dara Santa
Gerald Stahl	Father of Vivian Stahl
David Stein	Spouse of Florence Stein
	Father of Barbara Marx

Friday, March 15

Frank Berry Korenge	Father of Ed Korenge
Harry Kandel	Father of Milton Kandel
Marilyn Goldspiel	Mother of Barry Goldspiel
Paul Levitus	Father of Sydney Levitus
Mary Heritage	Mother of Robin Farquhar
Grace Stroud	Mother-in-Law of Rebecca Stroud

Friday, March 22

Leslie Schwartz	Wife of Seth Schwartz
**Maurine Zeidman	Grandmother of Phil Zeidman
Dara Lansat	Wife of Howard Lansat
**Jesse Gellert	Father-in-Law of Susan Gellert
Sibby Gosch	Heather Held

**Yahrtzeit plaque

Friday, March 29

Ed Gable	Stepfather of Karen Conner
**Nick Stroud	Husband of Rebecca Stroud
	Father of Rachel Stoud Goodrich
Florence Weber	Mother of Marsha Weber
Ruth Blechman	Kevin Krom
Dorothy Zoldan	Grandmother of Howard Lansat

Friday, April 5 & Saturday, April 6

Michael Goldfine	Uncle of Ellyn Baum
Dorothy Paley	Mother-in-Law of Ken Tharp

Friday, April 12 & Saturday, April 13

Douglas Apirian	Brother of Susan Drubin
Lee Caplan	Stephanie Ames
**Dolly Grobstein	Mother of Claire SanNicolas
Jon Clark Sr.	Father of Jon Clark
Samuel Rosenthal	Father of Cindy Bender
William Storck	Father of Dara Santa
B. Paul Heritage	Father of Robin Farquhar
Richard Gartenberg	Father of Jane Harris
Ted Petok	Father of Fred Petok

Friday, April 26

**Nahum Lebedinsky	Father of Alex Lebedinsky
Samuel Raphael	Father of Steven Raphael
Lawrence Arthur Young	Father of Gary Young
Jeff Phipps	Father of Hilary Rosenbloom
Marilyn Himmelfarb	Mother of Scott Himmelfarb
Rae Ostrov	Grandmother of Fred Marx
Rose Apirian	Mother of Susan Drubin
Norman Wickwire	Father of Alison Felrice

Friday, May 3

Fred Lafer	Uncle of Ellyn Baum
Linda Wickwire	Mother of Alison Felrice



Congregation Or Chadash

Tree of Life

Honor simchas (happy life events) with
a leaf on Congregation Or Chadash's
Tree of Life.

Two leaf sizes are available as well as a few special
Doves.

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 - Up to four lines, 25 characters per line.



Large Leaf - Suggested Donation \$360 - Five lines, 30 characters per line.



Dove - Suggested Donation \$1000 - Call the office for more details

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.**

