

# Or Chadash FOCUS



*By Rabbi Alison B. Kobey*

I have been thinking a lot lately about the schisms erupting within our society. We struggle to have conversations with people who are “other” than us, however you define the word “other.” Social media algorithms simply make it worse. It troubles me greatly, but then, I remind myself about the beauty of Judaism, for Judaism wants us to push back, to not accept this communal demise as the norm.

Judaism teaches us that we can learn from all people. In fact, Pirkei Avot (Ethics of our Sages), one of my favorite sacred texts (yes, I know I say that phrase a lot!), reminds us of the words of

Rabbi Ben Zoma.

He said: “Who is wise? One who learns from every person... Who is mighty? One who subdues one’s [evil] inclination... Who is rich? One who rejoices in one’s lot, as it is said: “You shall enjoy the fruit of your labors, you shall be happy and you shall prosper” Who is the one that is honored? One who honors their fellow human beings... Imagine if we followed this sage advice. Imagine if we allowed ourselves to learn from every person.

(continued on page 5)

## SHABBAT/HOLIDAY SERVICES

*All Shabbat Services are multi-access.*

**Friday, January 2** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services

**Friday, January 9** – 6:15 Shabbat Services with birthday blessings and social action theme

**Friday, January 9** – 7:15pm Dairy/Vegetarian Potluck dinner

**Friday, January 16** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services

**Friday, January 23** - 6:15pm Shabbat Services

**Friday, January 30** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with anniversary blessings and Or Chadash Singers

**Saturday, January 31** – 10:00am Shabbat Services with Adult B’nai Mitzvah of Meghan Howard and Hilary Rosenbloom

**Sunday, February 1** - 6:15pm Tu B’Shevat Seder

**Friday, February 6**– 6:15pm Shabbat Services led by NFTY-MAR

**Friday, February 6** – 7:15pm Dairy/Vegetarian Pot-luck Dinner

**Friday, February 13** – 4:00pm Tot Shabbat (Shabbat fun targeting 0-6 year olds plus their families)

**Friday, February 13** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with 5th grade participation and anniversary blessings

**Friday, February 27** – 6:15pm Shabbat Services with candy theme

**Monday, March 2** – 6:30pm Purim megillah reading, schpiel, and hamantaschen bake-off

## Contacting Us



### Rabbi

Rabbi Alison Kobey 301-482-1025  
[rabbi@cong-orchadashmd.org](mailto:rabbi@cong-orchadashmd.org)

### Cantorial Soloist

Deborah Sternberg  
[soloist@cong-orchadashmd.org](mailto:soloist@cong-orchadashmd.org)

### Location

24800 Kings Valley Road  
 Damascus, MD 20872

### Email Address:

[orchadashadmin@cong-orchadashmd.org](mailto:orchadashadmin@cong-orchadashmd.org)

### Mailing Address

24800 Kings Valley Rd  
 Damascus, MD 20872

### Web Address

[www.cong-orchadashmd.org](http://www.cong-orchadashmd.org)

### Telephone and FAX

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

### To Receive Email Updates

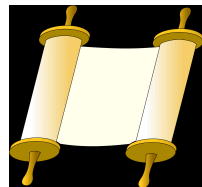
Send your email address to  
[orchadashadmin@cong-orchadashmd.org](mailto:orchadashadmin@cong-orchadashmd.org)

## Contact Us

<b>Religious School Director</b>	Rabbi Alison Kobey
<b>Temple Administrator</b>	Open
<b>Religious School Administrator</b>	Open
<b>Or Chadash Board</b>	
<b>President</b>	Ilene Krom
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Andrew Felrice
<b>Treasurer</b>	Terri Binder
<b>Secretary</b>	Susan Drubin
<b>At-Large</b>	Susie Gellert
	Meghan Howard
	Ray Lessans
	Cara Rinkoff
	Hilary Rosenbloom
	Louis Rosenthal
	Jack Zavin
<b>CORY President</b>	Micah Felman
<b>CORY Advisor</b>	Rabbi Alison Kobey
<b>Jr. CORY Advisor</b>	Rabbi Alison Kobey
<b>Kiddish Kids</b>	Rabbi Alison Kobey
<b>Or Chadash Singers Choir Director</b>	Rachel Stroud-Goodrich
<b>WCOC/Sisterhood President</b>	Ilene Krom
<b>Brotherhood Co-Chairs</b>	Jack Goldman.
	Ralph Locke
	Bruce Thorner
<b>Adult Social Group</b>	Open
<b>Ritual Committee</b>	Susan White
<b>Adult Learning Committee</b>	Ralph Locke
<b>Library Committee</b>	Michael Abrahams
<b>Membership Committee</b>	Lisa Cooperstein
<b>Fundraising Committee</b>	Open
<b>Social Action Committee</b>	Arlene Greenspan
<b>Religious School Committee</b>	Howard Benowitz
<b>Building Committee</b>	Rob Eisenberg
<b>FOCUS Editor</b>	Cara Rinkoff
<b>Webmaster</b>	Marti Kerner
<b>Dues or Tuition Relief</b>	Terri Binder
<b>Security</b>	Security

## Torah/Text Study

All are welcome, whether it is your first time attending or your millionth time attending! We hope you will join our text study fun. Please note that some days are in-person only and others are Zoom only.



### **Saturday, January 3rd – 9:30am Torah Study (Zoom Only) *Vayichi (Gen. 47:28-50:26)***

Why do Ephraim and Menasseh continue to be invoked in our blessings? How does Jacob prepare for death? What do his blessings say about him? About his sons?

**Saturday, January 10th – 9:30am (In-Person Only) *Shemot (Exodus 1:1-6:1)*** – What's in a name? How do the Israelites transition from Genesis to Exodus? How does a minority rise up against a mighty majority? How do we see God?

### **Saturday, January 10th - 11am Talmud Class (In-Person Only)**

**Saturday, January 17th – 9:30am Torah Study (Zoom Only) *Vaera (Exodus 6:2- 9:35)*** – What do you do when you encounter someone who is stubborn? How do you experience God? Do you listen to God? What is something that would help you believe in God today?

**Saturday, January 24th – 9:30am (Zoom only) *Bo (Exodus 10:1- 13:16)*** – What is your last straw in a fight? What is the first month of the year? From what kind of slavery does the deliverance from Egypt free us? How do we show we are part of the community? What are the direct commandments pertaining to Passover in this Torah portion?

**Saturday, January 31st - 10:00am (Multi-access)** Join us to celebrate the adult B'nai Mitzvah of Meghan Howard and Hilary Rosenbloom and hear more about Parashat Beshallach

**Saturday, February 7th – 9:30am Torah Study (Zoom Only) *Yitro (Exodus 18:1- 20:23)*** – What do names mean? What is Jethro's advice? How does the United States court system reflect this Torah portion? How do we prepare for holy moments? How do you connect with the Ten Statements? What are the two different tablets?

### **Saturday, February 14th – 9:30am Torah Study (In-Person Only)**

***Mishpatim (Exodus 21:1- 24:18)*** – What are some of your favorite commandments in this portion? Least favorites? What are some of Rabbi Kobey's favorites? What are some of the bigger values? What are the differences between *chukot* (laws) and *mishpatim* (laws)?

### **Saturday, February 14th – 11:00am (In-Person Only) Talmud class**

### **Saturday, February 21st – 9:30am Torah Study (In-Person Only)**

***Terumah (Exodus 25:1- 27:19)*** – What is one of the most common phrases found in this Torah portion? What kind of offering did the Israelites make? What should we do today? Why are the details so important? Does our sanctuary reflect similar values?

### **Saturday, February 28th – 9:30am Torah Study (Zoom Only)**

***Tetzaveh (Exodus 27:20-30:10)*** – What are the various symbols that the light represents? What does it mean to talk only to the wise-hearted? What about other people? Why is the Torah dressed the way it is? Why does the consecration period last seven years?

## *President's Column*

Favorites.

For any parent, this word seems to come up quite a bit. Especially when our children are younger, parents ask their children “What is your favorite color?” or “....favorite food?”. This is an easy concept for many children to understand as their brain doesn't fully understand subtlety. While their “favorites” may seem to change on a near-daily basis, it is an absolute in the moment. This is what they like the MOST (again, in the moment you ask the question).

My son also likes to think of things as “favorites”. It is not an uncommon question for him to ask anyone in the family “What is your favorite <fill in the blank>?”. Usually it relates to music. But with the approach of the December holiday season, he has been asking everyone what their favorite holiday is. You would think this would be an easy question to answer, but for me (at least this year), it has been anything but easy. Most holidays have their positives and negatives.

Passover is always one of the first things I think of when I think of a “favorite holiday”. It involves a gathering of family and friends, a large meal, and a chance to rejoice in freedom hard fought. But it also reminds us of slavery and antisemitism. As a child, I remember enjoying those positives greatly ... my grandmother was an amazing cook and made the most elaborate seder dishes. We would often have family come in from out of town who I didn't see very often and I would have the chance to play with my cousins (most lived halfway across the country). And my grandfather would hide the afikomen in places one would never think of (well, at least that was my perspective at the time ... it was probably lying in plain sight). It was always a fun

evening and I would get the treats that only come with Passover for the week (even if I did have to eat the Matzoh). Trade-offs definitely tilted on the positive, and it was always my “favorite.”

Even as an adult, Passover is probably still one of my favorite holidays. No, I'm still not a fan of Matzoh, but I do like many foods that we make with it (including Matzoh-Brie and my all time favorite matzoh farfel candy <my mother's specialty>). But now it comes with hard work. I'm the one preparing the meal and doing all the cleaning. The positive there is I get to choose the menu. But the process is a lot more labor intensive than I realized growing up and it has impacted on my enjoyment of the holiday (yes, I know I'm lazy). But despite that, I think I can declare, for my son's benefit, that my “favorite holiday” is Passover.

What's yours? And what makes it special? Is it the memories? Is it the food? Is it simply the story of what the holiday reminds us about?

*L'Shalom!*  
*Ilene Krom*  
*President*



Alison B. Kobey (continued)

I do think we can learn from everyone. We all have different strengths, different weaknesses, and we all see the world from our own vantage points. If instead of discarding those people with whom we disagree, with whom we view as “other” and instead view them as opportunities that can help us grow, the world would be in a better place. I am currently reading a book called *Thank You for Being Such a Pain* by Rosen (great title, right?!) The author reminds us of this very lesson, that everyone enters our lives for a reason, even, and perhaps especially, the difficult people in our lives. It is an important reminder.

What would your life be like if you looked at the difficult people in a different way? What if you tried to see those people as an opportunity for your own growth and learning? How would those encounters help you turn negative energy into more positive moments for yourself? It may not be possible in all situations, but I invite you to try. The world will be better if we stop putting people into the category of “other” and instead look at each individual with compassion and human dignity. May we all learn to follow Rabbi Ben Zoma’s advice and learn from all people, subdue our evil inclinations, and find richness and happiness by lifting others up.

*L'Shalom*

*Rabbi Alison B. Kobey*

## *Religious School Committee*

The Religious School is offering exciting electives in the Winter block of classes. We have Talmudic Debates, Jewish Values, and the annual Purim Shpiel. This year’s Schpiel theme is “Alice in Wonderland.” In Talmudic Debates, the students are exploring how arguments in the Talmud are structured, such as how multiple dissenting opinions are both presented and appreciated. The class is applying that structure to modern questions to frame their arguments in the same format and working towards writing their own “Talmudic” pages. In Jewish Values, the students are using stories, songs, and art to illustrate and demonstrate Jewish values that our *madrichim* (teaching assistants) introduce to the entire school at the beginning of every Sunday session.

As we have already experienced, winter is upon us. The Religious School does **not** follow Montgomery County or other counties regarding canceling school due to the weather. On Sundays, we will make a decision by 8:00am regarding school cancellation. On Tuesdays, we

try to make a decision regarding school cancellation by 4:00pm.

If school is canceled, an email will be sent to each family to notify them directly, and a message will be sent via the Remind app. Almost everyone in Religious School is registered for the announcements through the Remind app and has downloaded the app, so thank you! (If you need information about joining the Religious School group in the Remind app, please email the Temple administrator at [orchadashadmin@gmail.com](mailto:orchadashadmin@gmail.com).) Please do not call the Temple or school staff at home to inquire about cancellations.

Please join the Religious School Committee at our next meetings on **Sunday, January 4** and **Sunday, February 1**. All congregants are invited to attend. Please contact Howard Benowitz or check the weekly Or Chadash Happenings emails for more information.

*L'Shalom,*

*The Religious School Committee*

## B'nai Mitzvah Date Selection 2028

It is hard to believe that we must start thinking about the year 2028. If you have a child who will be eligible to become a Bar/Bat/B'nai Mitzvah in the year 2028, please join us in the sanctuary for Date Selection! **Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am.**

## *Keeping Up with Or Chadash*

### Committee Meetings

#### Membership Committee

**Wednesday, January 7** at 7:00pm (In-person only)

**Wednesday, February 11** at 6:00pm (In-person only)

#### Religious School Committee (RSC)

**Sunday, January 4** at 7:30pm (Zoom only)

**Sunday, February 1** at 12:15pm (In-Person only)

#### Ritual Committee

**Sunday, February 8** at 12:15pm (In-person only)

#### Social Action Committee

**Wednesday, January 28** at 6:30pm (Zoom only)

**Wednesday, February 25** at 6:30pm (Zoom only)

### Religious School Faculty Meeting

**Sunday, January 11** at 12:15pm

## WHERE ARE OUR TEENS?

**Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>-Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>** our 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade teens will be in New York City, exploring different synagogues, getting a taste of the Lower East Side with food and history, and more

**Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>- Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>** CORY will be hosting a regional NFTY-MAR

event. Our synagogue will be filled with teenagers! We may need additional households willing to host teens. It would mean transporting the teens back and forth within the weekend and providing towels for showers, snacks, etc. Please reach out to Rabbi if you are willing to host.

**Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>-Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>** at the time of this writing we are hoping to have an 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade retreat. If that is unable to pan-out, we look forward to offering a different fun opportunity for these teens

### Ice Skating

**For Kiddish Kids, Jr CORY, and CORY**

**Sunday, January 11** at 2:00pm Ice Skating at Rockville Town Center. RSVP to Rabbi,

### CORY

**Saturday, February 28** at 4:00pm - CORY Carnival Set-up

## Adult Education

### Torah/Text Study

All are welcome, whether it is your first time attending or your millionth time attending! We hope you will join our text study fun. Please note that some days are in person only and some days are Zoom only. See the separate Torah/Text Study section on page 3 of this FOCUS for a summary of each week's material, and schedule.

### Adult B'nai Mitzvah New and Continuing

Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class (In person only)  
Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm and  
Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00pm

New Adult B'nai Mitzvah class will begin in March. RSVP to Rabbi and stay tuned for additional information

### Friday Adult Education

Fridays at noon (Zoom only) give us another chance to learn from one another.

**Friday, January 30 and February 6** - Judaism Values and AI

**Friday, February 20 and February 27** - A look at Buber Theology

### Sunday Series

Join us for an in-person discussion on an article about Artificial Intelligence. Please RSVP to Rabbi to get the article in advance. Come at 9:30am for coffee/social time. Class will begin at 9:45am. The February class will be **Sunday, February 1**.

## Tot Programming

(Events focusing on children ages 0-6 and their families)

**Friday, February 13** - 4:00pm Tot Shabbat (Shabbat fun focusing on songs, prayers, stories, and snacks)

**Sunday, February 22** - 4:00pm Purim Party (Purim fun with crafts, stories, songs, and snacks)

**Friday, March 27** - 4:00pm Tot Shabbat

## Passover

The first seder is **Wednesday, April 1**.  
Save the date for our community seder on **Thursday, April 2 at 6:00pm**.

## Shabbat Greeter and Tech Support

We would love for you to sign up on the SignUpGenius (or reach out to Rabbi if you are having trouble) to be the door greeter or the tech person. If you are not yet trained in either (or both), we would be happy to train you! This link is also the link for the oneg list. Thank you in advance for volunteering!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050845ACA622A7FC1-56236090-shabbat#/>

## Or Chadash Singers

Or Chadash Singers will be participating in Shabbat Shira on **Friday, January 30**! All singers and instrumentalists are welcome - no experience needed. Contact Rachel at [rachel.stroudgoodrich@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.stroudgoodrich@gmail.com) for more information.

## Social Action Committee

The Social Action Committee has had a busy fall and we would like to thank all of the congregants that contributed to our fall activities. In October we had a successful winter coat and outerwear drive. With your generosity we were able to completely fill an SUV with coats, hats, scarves, socks and gloves for those in need. Donations went to Everymind, a community organization that provides direct services and assistance to people who have mental health challenges and may be in crisis. Many of their clients are homeless and winter clothing is essential for their survival.

In November, we turned our attention to the refugee community. With the elimination of government support for refugee resettlement, now more than ever, the refugee community needs to rely on volunteerism to assist with resettlement needs. New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance (NNIA) has stepped up to fill the gap. Or Chadash partners with NNIA to support newly settled refugees and asylum seekers in Montgomery County. In October, we filled laundry baskets with essential personal and household products. We were able to fill 20 baskets for families, doubling our efforts from last year. On November 18<sup>th</sup>, the President of NNIA and someone being served by NNIA presented on the work of NNIA and the difficulties refugees face coming to the United States. It was a moving presentation and resulted in additional people signing up to volunteer with NNIA. If you are interested in volunteering and have not signed up, please email Debbie Eisenberg or Arlene Greenspan. Volunteer opportunities vary in type and commitment and can be as simple as taking someone to a doctor's appointment, donating used furniture, or ongoing activities such as tutoring English, case management, or helping with finding a job for a refugee.



In 2026, our first project will be filling backpacks for children entering foster care. In addition to supplying backpacks, we will be asking congregants to help with items to fill these backpacks such as pajamas, soap, shampoo, books, and stuffed animals. (Children often have little notice and are just given a trash bag for packing.) These donations not only meet initial needs but give children dignity upon entering their new foster care home. This is being done in coordination with Comfort Cases, a nonprofit organization that works to provide each child with “a bag they can call their own” (and some essential items) as he or she gets relocated.

[LEARN ABOUT COMFORT CASES HERE.](#)

This year to add a more personal touch, we will be working with the Religious School Committee to have students write a personal note for each backpack.

Specific items will be announced in Happening using SignUp Genius, beginning January 8<sup>th</sup>. Donations will be ongoing through the first week in February. A bin labeled Comfort Cases will be placed in the lobby for donations. You may also order items and have them delivered to Or Chadash. We will be filling backpacks on **February 8 at 12:00pm**, directly after Sunday School.



## Brotherhood

The Brotherhood had Guys' Nights Out on November 20<sup>th</sup> (LongHorn Steakhouse) and December 18<sup>th</sup> (Om Indian Cuisine). Dinners are planned for **Thursday, January 15** and **Thursday, February 19**. Please consult *Happenings* for details; we hope to see you!

*Jack Goldman, Ralph Locke, and Bruce Thorner*

## From the Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is committed to helping Or Chadash grow! We have an exciting schedule of activities coming up; we hope you will join us and bring anyone who might be interested in joining our wonderful community.

We kicked things off with a successful Upcounty Hanukkah Party for kids 0-6 on Sunday, December 7. We welcomed twelve kids for crafts, donuts, and lots of holiday fun. Check out the COC Facebook and Instagram, as well as the article in the Washington Jewish Week for pictures. If you missed out this time, be sure to put the Community Purim Party, **Sunday, February 22**, on your calendar now.

By popular demand, we're bringing back Tot Shabbat! The first of these will take place on **Friday, February 13 from 4:00pm-5:00pm**. You don't have to be a kid to have fun with COC!

Our inaugural Brews with Jews night will take place on **Wednesday, February 4 at 7:00pm** at the Brookville Beer Farm. Join us as we hang out and enjoy each other's company. Don't drink? No problem! Brookville has nonalcoholic options as well as pizza and other snacks. Hope to see you there!

Are you a challah baker? Or have you been thinking about giving it a try? Put your best loaf forward for the Challah Bake Off after Shabbat services on **Friday, February 13!** We will also need expert tasters to help crown the winner. If you have any suggestions for events, places we

can advertise, or anything else, please let us know. Let's join together to help COC thrive!  
*Meghan Howard and Hillary Rosenbloom*



## Mah Jongg

Last year we started a monthly Mah Jongg session. It is not required for you to attend every session. We will meet on the third Sunday of the month from 2:00pm-4:00pm.

All levels are encouraged and beginners are welcome. Everyone is learning and we will provide instruction and refreshers as needed. And there is no obligation to come every month ... just come whenever you are able. If you have and are able, please bring a Mah Jongg set and/or square card table.

American Mah Jongg is played according to the rules and standard hands of the National Mah Jongg League. The Official Standard Hands and Rules Cards can be ordered at National Mah Jongg League (<https://www.nationalmahjonggleague.org/index.aspx>). It is \$14 for a regular card and \$15 for a large-print card. Please join us even if you do not (yet) have a card - we have some extras and can share.

## Library Committee

When going through the boxes of donated books for the Or Chadash library, we came across an album "In Memory of Noreen Bloch." There's no



other identifying or contact information except for the names of the people who contributed their memories of Ms. Bloch.

The names are:

Father Kelly

Rick & Deborah (son & daughter)

Teri & Steve (niece and nephew)

If the owner(s) of this book can contact the

synagogue ([orchadashadmin@gmail.com](mailto:orchadashadmin@gmail.com)), we would love to return it to its rightful owners.

*D. Levitus*

## Congregation Or Chadash Book Club

The next meeting of the Congregation Or Chadash Book Club is **Friday, January 16** at 11:30am at Wegmans Market Cafe, 20600 Seneca Meadows Parkway, Germantown. This is an in-person meeting. Zoom is not available. The book for January is **The Gates of Gaza: A Story of Betrayal, Survival, and Hope in Israel's Borderlands** by Amir Tibon. This book is available at Montgomery County Public Libraries. There is currently a short wait list for the book. E-format is available without a wait. A reading group discussion guide will be included in the reminder e-mail.

This is a coed book club. All are welcome to attend!

Please RSVP by **Monday, January 12** to Jane Harris at [clamityjgh@aol.com](mailto:clamityjgh@aol.com).

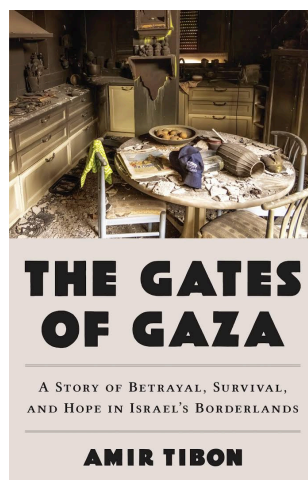
## Special Services

### Potlucks

Shabbat Potluck dinners follow our 6:15pm Shabbat services on **Friday, January 9** and **Friday, February 13**.

We hope you will join us and make or bring your favorite dairy/vegetarian dish. There are some sample ideas in the sign-up genius. 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.

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



## Celebrating Simchas (Happy Occasions)

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 January, come on **Friday, January 9 at 6:15pm** and for February, join us on **February 13 at 6:15pm**.

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 January 30<sup>th</sup> and February 20<sup>th</sup>, both at 6:15pm.

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

## Oneg Schedule

Oneg assignments have been made for the year. Assignments for January/February/March are listed below. We appreciate everyone's willingness to provide hospitality for our community in our sacred home. If you have any issues with your assignment, please email us at [orchadashadmin@gmail.com](mailto:orchadashadmin@gmail.com). You will be sent a reminder the Monday beforehand.

Friday, January 2	Donna Goldstein	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Michael and Cara Breuer	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, January 16	Gary and Maureen Young	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Brett and Alana Hyman	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, January 23	Scott Himmelfarb	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Emily Himmelfarb	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, January 30	Kathleen Lorenz	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Karen Dean	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, February 13	Kerri and Chris Hennelly	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Amber and Nick Hurson	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, February 20	Ronald and Nancy Isaacson	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Milton and Rona Kandel	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, February 27	Howard Kaufman	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Laura and Andrew Kayton	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, March 13	Reese Household	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
		Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, sweet treats)
Friday, March 20	Marti and Adam Kerner	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Ilene Krom	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)
Friday, March 27	Rosalind and William King	Oneg A (wine/juice/drinks, sweet treats)
	Andrew and Julie Klingenstein	Oneg B (challah, fruit/veggies, healthy snacks)



### Ronald Isaacson, Tutor

#### Hebrew

(Bar/Bat Mitzvah, 65+ students)

Member of Or Chadash since 1994

**(301) 996-9153**

**[isaacson4@gmail.com](mailto:isaacson4@gmail.com)**

## *Mazel Tov*

Jack Goldman and Susan Drubin are so happy to announce the birth of their newest grandchild, Cora Rosalie Warth, proud parents Nina and Adam Warth. Cora was born on November 13, 2025.

Meghan Howard and Hilary Rosenbloom will become Adult B'nai Mitzvah on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am. All are cordially welcome to join us in celebration of their sacred milestone.

## *Thank You to Our Donors*

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

### **General Donations**

Andrew & Suzanne Kolby in memory of  
Norman Colby  
Elizabeth and Giorgio Gatti

### **Rise Against Hunger**

Ziona & Thomas Swigart

### **High Holiday Appeal**

Gerald & Patricia Marlin  
Margot & Steven Raphael  
Stan Sobel & Nancy Belknap

### **Rabbi's Discretionary**

Bruce Katz & Lynne Mofenson  
Fran & Jack Zavin

### **Yahrtzeit Board**

Karl & Anne Gussow in memory of  
Harvey Gussow



**Garden of Remembrance**  
GAN ZIKARON MEMORIAL PARK

Peaceful and serene 152 acre nonprofit memorial park with  
beautiful Community Gardens, Family Gardens,  
and Green Burial Garden.



*The Garden of Remembrance* is a Certified Level I Arboretum  
surrounded by a Forest Conservation Preserve  
in Upper Montgomery County.

— *Serving the Jewish Community ~ One Family at a Time* —

For information or to schedule a visit please call (301) 428-3000  
14321 Comus Rd. Clarksburg, MD 20871  
[www.gardenofremembrance.org](http://www.gardenofremembrance.org)

## 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, January 2

Roberta Frank	Sister of David Kobey
Evelyn Gilstein	Mother of Margot Raphael
Lillian Astor	Grandmother of Jonathan Jackel
Nat Astor	Grandfather of Jonathan Jackel
Yetta Levitus	Mother of Sydney Levitus
William Stein	Brother of Barbara Marx
	Son of Florence Stein

### Friday, January 9

Abram Mossman	Grandfather of Ziona Mossman
	Swigart
Linda Berkowitz	Mother of Rosalind King
Walter Blumberg	Grandfather of Michelle Bellman
Shirley Friedman	Mother of Carol Cooper
William Garfunkel	Grandfather of Diane Levitus
Richard Fink	Father-in-Law of Howard Lansat
Robert Goldsteen	Father of Donna Goldsteen
Susan Kohn Lichtman	Mother of Howard Lichtman

### Friday, January 16

Isadore Schwartz	Stepfather of Ralph Locke
**Charles Gellert	Husband of Susan Gellert
Fred Goldman	Father of Jack Goldman
Edith Plesset	Grandmother of Michelle Bellman
Bessie Wolfson	Grandmother of Ron Isaacson
Joyce Blumberg	Grandmother of Michelle Bellman
Morris Silverleib	Father of Lynn Kobey

### Friday, January 23

Jennie Cohen	Grandmother of Heather Held
Bessie Dicken	Grandmother of Phil Dicken
Pearl Dinin Gould	Stepmother of Diane Levitus
Hazel Miller	Mother of Ina Meyer
Robert Siegfried	Father of Laura Jackel
Robert Lewis (Bob) Dicken	Father of Phil Dicken
Blanche Katz	Mother of Bruce Katz
Nancy Swain	Mother of David Swain
**Leslie Benenati	Wife of Luciano Benenati
Richard Gould	Brother of Diane Levitus
Nathan Marx	Grandfather of Fred Marx
Sandy B. Weber	Brother of Marsha Weber
Larry Bellman	Grandfather of Jared Bellman
Norman Lichtman	Father of Howard Lichtman
Selma Ostrin Schifter	Aunt of Larry Bender
Arnold David Goldman	Father of Audrey

### Friday, January 30 & Saturday, January 31

Edward Rosenthal	Father of Lou Rosenthal
------------------	-------------------------

Harry Steinberg	Grandfather of Lisa Cahn
Charles Cohen	Father of Doreen Kreger
Burt Weisman	Father of Cara Breuer
Barbara Bernstein	Mother of Ellyn Baum
Alice Bender	Mother of Larry Bender
Monica Roizner	Sister-in-Law of Rich
Louise Spector	Aunt of Heather Held

### Friday, February 6

Doree Cooper	Mother of Sloane Cooper
Gary Gartenberg	Brother of Jane Harris
William Cain	Father of Kathleen Lorenz
Samuel Lansat	Grandfather of Howard Lansat
Ruth Goldman	Mother of Jack Goldman
Irene Levitus	Sister-in-Law of Sydney Levitus
Freemont "Buddy" Swain	Father of David Swain
Marie Dunkle	Mother of Jean

### Friday, February 13

Bruno Stein	Grandfather of Barbara Marx
Sylvia Weber	Grandmother of Joe Baum
Richard Krom	Father of Kevin Krom
Sylvia Jackel	Grandfather of Jonathan Jackel
Helen Felrice	Mother of Andrew Felrice
Sara Levy	Aunt of Bruce Thorne
Cindy Mossman	Sister-in-Law of Ziona Mossman
	Swigart
Egon Rosenblum	Grandfather of Ziona Mossman
	Swigart

### Friday, February 20

Emanuel Gussow	Grandfather of Karl Gussow
Gladys Kandel	Mother of Milton Kandel
Alan Stresler	Father of Marc Strelser
Steve Kalman	Brother of Karen Conner
Barbara Ruskin	Mother of Maureen Ruskin
Lilian Epstein	Mother of Alan Epstein
Aaron Sliffman	Father of Marc Sliffman
**Maurine Zeidman	Mother of Ricki Zeidman

### Friday, February 27

Tom Judge	Father of Suzanne Colby
Hortense Stein	Grandmother of Barbara Marx
Oscar Lessans	Father of Raymond Lessans
Beatrice Bernstein	Grandmother of Ellyn Baum
Gene Friedman	Father of Carol Cooper
Aaron Sommer	Grandfather of Heather Held
Helen Krantzler	Mother of Rebecca Stroud
Merle Locke	Father of Ralph Locke
Amy Sommer	Sister-in-Law of Heather Held
Alan Streusand	Father of Doug Streusand

\*\*Yahrtzeit plaque





## Congregation Or Chadash Purim Celebration

Sunday March 1, 2026 (Purim Schpiel)

Monday, March 2, 2026 (Purim Service & Schpiel)



### *Schedule of Events*

**Sunday, March 1, 2026 | 11:15AM**

**Purim Schpiel & Carnival**

Theme: Alice in Wonderland

Games & Food & Fun

All proceeds go to CORY



**Monday, March 2, 2026 | 6:30PM**

**Purim Service & Schpiel (Costumes Welcome!)**

Megillah Reading

Hamantaschen Bake-off/Eat-off







## Congregation Or Chadash Tu B'Shevat Celebration

*Rosh HaShanah La'llanot (ראש השנה לאילנות)*

*"New Year to the Trees"*

**Sunday, February 1, 2026 | 6:15PM**

**Seder & Bake-off**

### **Tu B'Shevat Bake-off**

**Bake Something in 1 of 3 Categories**

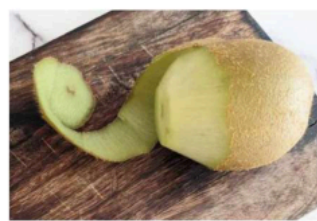
#### ***Fruits/Nuts with Inedible Peels***



#### ***Fruits with Pits***



#### ***All Edible Fruits***



***Congregation will provide food from the  
7 Species of Israel &  
A Chocolate Fountain***



RSVP to [orchadashadmin@gmail.com](mailto:orchadashadmin@gmail.com) by January 25, 2026

Subject: **Tu B'Shevat**

Include Name, # of Adults, & # of Children