



THE TIDINGS

**BULLETIN OF
BETH ISRAEL, NORTHFIELD, NJ**

MARCH-APRIL 2026

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Happy Pesach!

March-April Services and Programs

Parashat Ki Tisa

Exodus 30:11-34:35

6 Erev Shabbat Service, Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM
Fri Sermon: The Golden Calf of Easy Answers

7 Shabbat Morning Study, 9:15 AM
Sat Shabbat Morning Service: Bat Mitzvah of
Audrey Crenshaw, Engelberg Sanctuary, 10:30 AM

Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei

Exodus 35:1-40:38

13 Erev Shabbat Service
Fri Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM

Parashat Vayikra

Leviticus 1:1-5:26

20 Erev Shabbat Service, Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM
Fri

21 Shabbat Morning Study, 9:15 AM
Sat Shabbat Morning Service: Bat Mitzvah of
Teddi Stromfeld, Engelberg Sanctuary, 10:30 AM

Parashat Tzav/Shabbat HaGadol

Leviticus 6:1-8:36

27 Erev Shabbat Service, Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM
Fri Sermon: The Sin Also Rises

28 Shabbat Morning Study, 9:15 AM
Sat

Pesach (Passover)

1 April Erev Pesach/First Night of Passover
Wed First Night Seder, in our homes

3 Erev Shabbat/Chol HaMoed Pesach Svc
Fri Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM

4 Special Torah Study:
Sat The Song of Songs, 9:15 AM

7 Eve of the Seventh and Final Day of Pesach
Tue Pesach Festival Evening and
Yizkor Memorial Service,
Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM

Parashat Shmini

Leviticus 9:1-11:47

10 Erev Shabbat Service
Fri Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM

11 Shabbat Morning Study
Sat 9:15 AM

Yom HaShoah

Holocaust Martyr's and Heroes Remembrance

13 Community Yom HaShoah Observance
Mon Beth El Synagogue, Margate, NJ, 5:30 PM
Registration required; see page 10, below

Parashat Tazria-Metzorah

Leviticus 12:1-15:33

- 17 Wine and Cheese Reception, 5:00 PM
Fri Kaddish Prayer and Reflections, 5:30 PM
Tot Shabbat, Wolff Chapel, 6:00 PM
Dinner for Tot Families, 6:45 PM

- 18 Shabbat Morning Study, 9:15 AM
Sat

**Yom HaZikaron/Yom Ha'Atzma'ut
Israeli Memorial Day and
Israeli Independence Day**

- 19 Family Friendly Yom HaAtzma'ut Observance
Sun at the Margate JCC, 2 PM

- 21 Community Yom HaZikaron and
Tue Yom Ha'Atzma'ut Observance,
Details to follow

- 22 Community Yom HaAtzma'ut Speaker
Wed at the Margate JCC, 10:30 AM

Parashat Acharai Mot-Kedoshim

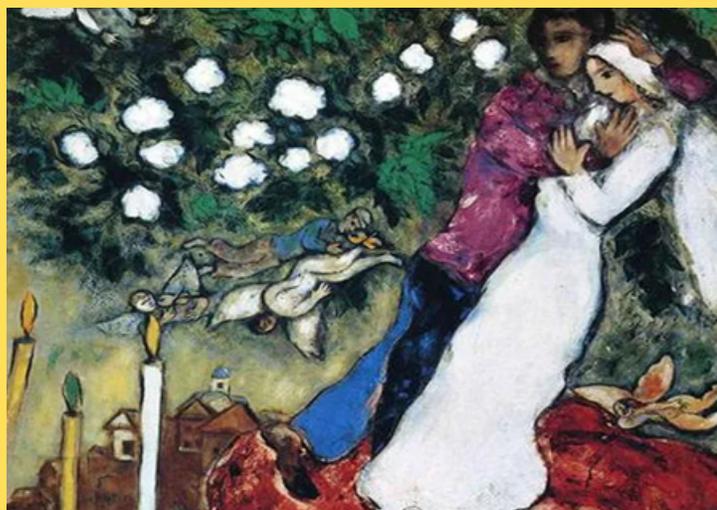
Leviticus 16:1-20:27

- 24 Erev Shabbat Service,
Fri Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM

- 25 Shabbat Morning Study, 9:15 AM
Sat

All services held in the Beth Israel Engelberg Sanctuary, and Erev Shabbat (Friday Night) services in the Wolff Chapel are streamed on our website, www.cbinorthfield.org, as well as on our You Tube Channel (Google "Beth Israel Northfield You Tube")

Shabbat Morning Study is usually both in person and available on Zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6096413600> or use Meeting ID 609 641 3600.



**Special Study:
Shir HaShirim,
The Song of Songs
Saturday, April 4, 2026
Beth Israel, 9:15 AM**

Is it erotic love poetry? Does it really say what it seems to say? Is it a metaphor? Does it matter? And *what* is it doing in the Bible?

Shir HaShirim, the Song of Songs, one of the strangest books in the Hebrew Bible, is traditionally read in a synagogue setting during Pesach - either on the Shabbat of *Chol HaMoed* (the intermediate days) or sometime during the week. There are some customs which feature this book after the seder; it was printed at the end of some traditional *haggadot*. Come hear for yourself this powerful poetry, and decide if you agree with the once controversial call to include it in the Bible!

Not Buy Bread

Message from Rabbi Michael L. Feshbach



There are three core commandments associated with the holiday of Pesach (Passover). They are:

1. To tell the story (which we do at the seder)
2. To eat *matza* (the commandment applies to the first night).
3. To *not* eat *chametz* (leaven), **for the entire week.**

Almost all Jews, everywhere, observe the first two of these three. It is the third one I want to address here.

Reform rabbis rarely speak in the language of “should” or “should not” when it comes to Jewish practice. About ethical issues we sometimes speak with a prophetic call, but regarding rituals we use a different tone. We are so steeped in choice, we are so committed to individual autonomy as we approach our tradition, that our toolbox is much more one of encouragement and persuasion and the creation of opportunities to explore Jewish life.

I want to suggest that this third commandment is also a core component of Jewish life and identity. I don’t mean purging your house, changing your dishes, replacing even basic condiments and getting rid of every scrap of any item which might have any leaven in it, although, of course, there are many Jews who do all of this for Pesach. I mean, for now, not eating bread during the entire holiday.

I also think our wording can get in the way. I think it is unfortunate that we translate the term “*Pesadich*” as “kosher for Passover” to mean “fit for Passover,” since it easily allows anyone who does not keep kosher in general to dismiss the custom.

continued on the next page

But, in fact, these are different commandments. When I was growing up, we did not keep kosher, but we did (in terms of putting cereal away, and a relatively light purging of the house) observe Passover. I remember – and this is hard to say out loud now or even write down, but I remember growing up eating ham and cheese on matza during Passover. Hey, we didn't keep kosher. But we did observe Passover!

There was a time (I know that makes me sound like I am waxing nostalgic) that not eating bread during the entire week was very widely observed. There were times when I went to school, and saw classmates who were not members of synagogues and not otherwise active in Jewish life showing up with matza sandwiches for lunch. I had not even known some of them were Jewish until then!

Putting bread aside for the entire week is a core marker of Jewish identity. It is truly an act of reading oneself “in” to our story. And whether one observes Passover for seven days (for most Reform Jews, and also in Israel), or eight (the Diaspora custom in Conservative and Orthodox settings), there is something powerful and communal as we “break” Passover and return to “normal” at the end of the holiday. There is a buzz in the Jewish community, an energy, a sense of solidarity

Passover this year begins on the evening of April 1 (no joke). Depending on whether you do seven or eight days, it lasts until sundown on April 8 or April 9.

Experience is often a greater foundation for understanding than words or explanations can ever be. So: try it! If this is not something you have done before, I want to invite you to step into the third commandment of Passover. I want to ask you to put aside that bread, through the entire holiday. And, then, I am happy to speak with any of you new to doing this about how it felt, what it meant, whether it increased your sense of commitment and connection, or it was merely inconvenient and irritating.

And in any event, may this be a season of liberation and freedom. May this Passover bring us closer to redemption, for us, and for the world!



Message from Linda Karp, President



What a winter this has been. Between ice, below freezing temperatures and snow, we have surely weathered the storms!

It's wonderful to finally see longer daylight hours and warmer days. After a difficult winter, everything comes to life again, freed from the cold, snowy weather. Spring is almost here.

Our Friday night Services provide the warmth and friendship that we need, so please join us at 5:30p for Shabbat. It's a wonderful way to be together with your Beth Israel family.

It's almost time for Passover – April 1-8.

This spring around the world, Jewish families just like yours will be simultaneously celebrating Passover and commemorating the Israelites' journey from slavery to freedom. The Passover seder is, for many Jews, the most important ritual feast of the year.

As you sit down to your Passover Seder, enjoy the time and traditions your family has experienced over the years. Talk about your favorite Passover memories and just enjoy the time together.

Wishing you and your loved ones a meaningful Passover, resonating with the timeless values of liberty, justice, and compassion.

Chag Sameach!
Linda

Message from Susan Sokalsky, Executive Director



Michael and I just spent three weeks on vacation in Albufeira, a small town in Portugal.

It is a small city about two hours south of Lisbon on the Atlantic Ocean. The town is hundreds of years old and was rebuilt after the 1755 earthquake that destroyed a large part of the country. So, the first thing you notice are the tight winding streets, with laundry flying from clotheslines outside each apartment. Certainly, different than suburban America.

I want you to use this description as a frame of reference. Americans believe we are the most sophisticated, educated and cultured country. However, when you visit other cities and countries you realize we are all part of a larger world. My father had a saying. "You know Susan, everyone puts their pants on one leg at a time." I did not understand as a child, but the inference is clear. We are all interconnected. We are one humanity.

We took a day trip to Tangiers, Morocco. Walking through the casbah we came upon an old synagogue, now a museum. Our guide opened the Ark and there were three Torahs, probably hundred of years old. Emotion overwhelmed me, I felt connected to those generations who have stood before that Ark and felt sad that it no longer functions as a House of Worship.

As we approach Passover and the season of redemption, let us rededicate ourselves to our history, culture and humanity.

**Message from
Director of Education
Cookie Feldman**



Celebrating holidays at Sunday school is always special. It usually involves games, movement and food. Purim was no different this year. The children came dressed as princesses, kings, football players, superheroes and even someone as a hot dog. We had a crazy scavenger hunt around the building looking for clues to solve a word puzzle. As usual, one of the clues got moved and it took our fifth and sixth graders a very long time to complete their puzzle. We ended the morning with delicious Hamantaschen and chocolate bars. Boo Haman!!!!

As soon as the groggers were put away, we began learning about Passover. This year we will have a Chocolate Seder with the children. It is a great way to tell the story, but the food is so much better. We drink chocolate milk instead of juice and when we dip, we dip fruit into chocolate sauce. The final line of the Seder is Next Year in Jerusalem or HERSHEY PARK. Pretty yummy, I think.

Our final Tot Shabbat for this season is on April 17th at 6 pm. We have great fun welcoming Shabbat with our youngest members. We sing, dance, tell stories, eat pizza and ice cream. If you have a little one, please hold the date and come join us. Tell your friends as well.

Have a sweet Passover!



QUIZZO TRIVIA NIGHT

Save The Date for Trivia Night!
\$25 RSVP by March 24th
\$30 At The Door

Bring your Team or join one when you arrive

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH, 7-10PM

**BETH ISRAEL
2501 SHORE RD. NORTHFIELD**

FOOD

DESSERT

BYO

Reserve your spot by March 24th : 609-641-3600
Venmo : @BINorthfield
Paypal or QR Code



Yom HaShoah

*Remembering the 6 million
Jewish victims of the Shoah*

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026 5786

at 5:30^{PM} - PROMPTLY

**BETH EL SYNAGOGUE
500 NORTH JEROME AVENUE
MARGATE, NJ 08402**

This commemoration will be held in person.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | RSVP REQUIRED

Please RSVP to the Jewish Federation of Atlantic and Cape May Counties at
bit.ly/yom-hashoah-beth-el or by phone at 609-822-4404

The community is grateful to the following organizations for their assistance in providing both leadership and guidance for our observance of Yom HaShoah:

Beron Jewish Older Adult Services
Board of Jewish Education of Atlantic Cape May Counties
Chabad Stockton University
Office of the Dean of Students at Stockton University
Garr-Greenstein Friedenbergs Jewish War Veterans Post 39
Generations after the Shoah
Holocaust Survivors' Committee
Jewish Family Service of Atlantic and Cape May Counties
Jewish Federation of Atlantic & Cape May Counties
Marjorie & Lewis Katz Jewish Community Center
MOSAIC
Sam Azeez Museum of Woodbine Heritage
Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center at Stockton University
South Jersey Board of Rabbis and Cantors
Stockton University Hillel



Tot Shabbat

Tot Shabbat

Friday, April 17, 2026
6:00 PM

-8-

**Pizza Dinner followed by
fun and games**

Open for all ages

**No separate evening service
on this Friday night.**

**Rabbi Feshbach will say a brief
Kaddish in the Chapel at 5:30 PM,
with anyone who wishes to do so.**

**Dinner: \$18/family
RSVP by April 13
for the dinner
bethisrael@
cbinorthfield.org
or 609-641-3600**

BETH 
ISRAEL **לְדוֹר וְדוֹר**
Building our
Future Together **וְדוֹר**
2501 Shore Rd., Northfield, NJ 08225

Pesach (Passover) 2026



Wednesday, April 1, 2026:

First Night Seder
in our own homes

Thursday, April 2, 2026:

First Day of Pesach

Friday, April 3, 2026

Erev Shabbat/
Chol HaMoed Pesach Service
Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM

Saturday, April 4, 2026

Special Study: Song of Songs
Beth Israel, 9:15 AM

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Eve of the Seventh Day of Pesach

Pesach Concluding Festival Evening
and Yizkor Memorial Service,
Wolff Chapel, 5:30 PM

SAVE THE DATE

SISTERHOOD SPRING 2026

NOSH & BARGAIN HUNT

MAY 3-4

NOTE:
*The Spring version
of our Fall 2025
"Thrift & Bake
Sale" event with
added features*



PLEASE VOLUNTEER

WE NEED YOU: April 20 - May 4. YOUR INVOLVEMENT AND CONTRIBUTION CELEBRATES AND FOSTERS A MEANINGFUL JEWISH EXPERIENCE AND CONNECTION WITH EACH OTHER AND OUR COMMUNITY. Email bethisrael@cbnorthfield.org with your availability.

Set up dates and times for your donations of Gently Used Clothes, Shoes, Purses, Working Toys, Books, Jewelry, Decor and Home Goods will be on the following days/times.

Enter through the **FRONT DOOR.**

Sunday, April 26, 09:00 am - 12:00 noon

Monday, April 27, 10:00 am - 04:00 pm

Tuesday, April 28, 10:00 am - 04:00 pm

Wednesday, April 29, 10:00am - 06:00 pm (only late night)

Thursday, April 30, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

BETH ISRAEL, 2501 SHORE ROAD, NORTHFIELD

Contact us with questions or your availability times/dates to volunteer anytime during April 20 - May 4th:

1609-641-3600 or bethisrael@cbnorthfield.org



Covenant Society

Beth Israel is devoted to being open
to anyone who wishes to participate in Jewish life.
The members of our Covenant Society, through their generosity,
allow us to fulfill this sacred mission.
We thank these families.

SUSTAINER

Anonymous

Drs. Arthur & Julianne Childs
Dr. Howard & Gayle Gross
Mark Lippman
Robert & Susan Mayer
Darren & Brett Matik
Dr. Leonard Popowich

SHOMER YAHADUT (Guardians of Judaism)

Dr. Paul & Jodi Goodman
Dr. George & Arlene Groch
Josh & ToniAnn Lubeck
Patti Rosenberg

EZRAT YISRAEL (Helpers of Israel) Continued

Tom & Robin Shields
Steve & Pam Sinderbrand
Mark & Lisa Stein
Dr. Glenn & Geri Zuck

EZRAT YISRAEL (Helpers of Israel)

Larry & Rosalie Clofine
Shora Haydari
Dr. Richard Kader & Dawn Gadon
Dr. Howard & Linda Karp
Gail Kiedjan
Dr. Lonny Matlick
Mona Miksis
Larry & Robin Mintz
Betsy Peck
Jack & Marjorie Plackter
Drs. Lloyd & Robin Pritz
Barbara Rosenblatt
Dr. Robert & Kim Sabo
Tom & Wendy Seymour

MAGEIN HaBRIT (Sustainers of the Covenant)

Brian & Shelly Meyers
David Schoenen

CHAVER EMUNAH (Faithful Friends)

Elliot & Adrienne Beinfest
Ted & Janet Rich
Dr. Gary & Debra Rosman
Adam & Brooke Stromfeld
Stu & Rita Stromfeld
David & Angela Thierman
Golda Wood

We thank those members
who wish to remain Anonymous

if you are in a position to do so,
please consider participating in
our Covenant Society.
This is what enables us
to remain open
to any and all those
who would come to us!



Life & Legacy contributors

Life and Legacy is a partnership of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation
and the Jewish Community of Atlantic and Cape May Counties
that promotes after-lifetime giving.

Beth Israel Legacy Donors remember the past
and make a promise to the future
that Beth Israel will remain a thriving dynamic Jewish home.
Join us on this sacred quest.
Call for more information.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Anonymous

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Sara Belkin & Rachel Belkin

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Eliot Sokalsky

Michael & Susan Sokalsky

David and Angela Thierman

Jeff Vasser

Elise Waldman

Rachel Waldman

Rabbi David & Susan Weis

Norman Zlotnick

**We share
the news of...**

Mazal Tov to.....

Shora Haydari

in honor of her formal conversion
to Judaism

"There are stars up above..."

**We mourn
the loss of...**

**Leonard Vogel
Dr. Stephen Gosin
Barry Dunayer
Hannah Karr
Betsy Gail Rosen**

**Stuart Factor
Judi Friedland
Craig Tragbar
Bonnie Glass**

T H A N K Y O U

GRACIOUS GIFTS

In Memory Of:

Shirley Pincus – Barry & Debbie Pincus
Steven Shaw – Barry & Debbie Pincus
Maurice Nathanson – Borenstein Family
Sylvia Kintish – Debbie Kintish Reeves
Eleanor Thierman – David & Angela Thierman
Sid Nisenfield – Harry & Carol Marder
Jerome Rhodes – Lloyd & Ellen Eisen
Raymond Laskin – Harriet Young
Cecile Joelson – Joanne Kettler
Betty Langman – Golda Wood
Alfred Wood – Golda Wood
Irwin Wood – Golda Wood
Mildred Green – Bill & Cookie Gutman
Rae Dunayer – Sharon Altman
Leon Fabricant – Dori Waldman
Fannee Yantes – Shelly Dorazio
Jeanette Gamberg – Susan & Bruce Gamberg
Mildred Needle – David Schoenen
Abraham Rackoff – Bonnie Kennedy
Ruth Rackoff – Bonnie Kennedy
Craig Tragbar – Adrienne & Elliot Beinfest
Mark Powell – Blanche Powell
Abraham Perkins – Phyllis Perkins
Esther Perkins – Phyllis Perkins
Marge Rappoport – Felicia Nivens
Matthew Rosenfield – Ellen Rosenfield
Maurice Nissman – Ellen Rosenfield
Yetta Nissman – Ellen Rosenfield
David Kaplan – Erma Kaplan
Edward Weislow – Ruth Weislow
Pauline Hillman – Harriet Diamond
Miriam Robinson – Barbara Scarpa
Charles Thierman – David & Angela Thierman
Howard Resnick – Ava Resnick



In Memory of (continued)

Dr. Stephen Gosin – Gary & Deb Rosman, David Lowenstein,
Howard & Linda Karp, Golda Wood, Josh & Toni Lubeck

Leonard Vogel – Gary & Deb Rosman

Louis Capecci – Phyllis Perkins

Kay Goldberg – Betsy Peck

Nita Heyman – John Heyman

Kenneth Heyman – John Heyman

Sara Cohen – Harry Cohen

George Dungan – Marge Gosin

Annette Dungan – Marge Gosin

Rose Erichson – Marge Gosin

John Conner – Marge Gosin

Kate Rosen – Barbara Rosenblatt

Gertrude Groch – George & Arlene Groch

Tillie Goodman – Felicia & James Niven

Leonard S. Kraft – Sindy & Karl Baker

Samuel Berkowitz – Arlene Goldstein

Victoria Breon – Shari & Brian Cohen

Aida Ljubich – Paul & Ingrid Ljubich

Valentine Laur – Jeannette Flax

In Honor of :

Shora Haydari's conversion:

Shora Haydari-In Love and friendship -

Shelly, Brian, Erin, Noa & Laila- Meyers Family

MALLIN/MALAMUT FUND

In Memory Of:

Gary Malamut – Martha Moscowitz



BETH ISRAEL

You belong with us...

Welcome to Beth Israel,
a congregation, a community,
a family of families with a storied history,
a vibrant present and an exciting future.

Beth Israel is a warm and welcoming home for all,
a beautiful place to explore your spirituality,
lift your spirits, and celebrate the infinite value
that lies within each of us.

In coming here now,
you step into that treasured tradition,
putting your own stamp on our ever-evolving story,
and helping to shape it
for generations to come.

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Beth Israel
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