

BHBIRochester.org
Published Monthly
Vol 54/No. 3
Kislev - Tevet 5780
December 2019

Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

BULLETIN

Editor: Steve Teitel

President: Harris Honickman
Treasurer: Ira Cohen

First Vice-President: Steve Teitel
Recording Secretary: Nina Klionsky

Second Vice-President: Leon Metlay

December President's Message

Friends,

There was a great summary of origins of Chanukah in last year's December Bulletin by our previous president, Steve Teitel. He discussed the multiple factors that prompted the Macabees to struggle against the Selucid Greeks which led to restoring the sanctity of the Temple. The Jews who had adopted Hellenistic culture joined with Antiochus IV to resist the traditional Jews led by Judah Maccabee. Steve also pointed out that latkes were originally made from cheese until the mid-19th century when potatoes were cultivated by the Russians. Who knew?

Chanukah literally means to rededicate. The contemporary emphasis has been on the fight for freedom – specifically religious freedom. Certainly the importance of freedom can't be denied, but why do the concepts of freedom, tolerance, justice, spirituality, devotion to righteous living, charity and reverence for G-d – all require a physical structure for their realization? Indeed some streams of Judaism reject the need for the Temple and disparage those Jews who fervently yearn for it to be rebuilt.

In our discussions we tend to emphasize the abstract over tactile substance. It is often considered more high-minded to speak of the "spirit" over the "material." Humans are however both material and spirit; one is not a substitute for the other. In our time the Temple – Beit HaMikdash – whether recalled as it once was or foreseen as will be in the future, can be both the spiritual and corporeal home for our prayer and ritual practice.

Beyond our rationalization for the need for the Temple, there is the Divine injunction to David through the prophet Nathan: "He shall build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever." Chronicles 17: 12

The themes of Chanukah – liberation vs. oppression and Jewish Peoplehood vs. assimilation are driven by our prayer for the Temple to be rebuilt when we say "There we will serve thee with awe as in the days of old."

We observe Chanukah this year beginning the evening of December 22 until sundown on December 29. We will have a Chanukah party at the shul at 5:00 PM on Sunday December 22 with latkes, songs and games. Please make your reservation by 5 PM Tuesday, December 17. Leon Metlay has offered to chair the committee preparing the Chanukah meal. Please contact Leon to join in helping with preparations.

See you at shul,
Harris Honickman

**Don't forget to make your reservation for the BHBI – Beth Am
Chanukah Party and Dinner, Sunday, December 22, 5pm.
See page 4 for further information.**

BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – DECEMBER 2019

Friday	Dec 6	6:30 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temples Beth Am and Beth David and Ohel Avraham at Beth Am (TBK room 103)(light candles 4:17 PM)
Saturday	Dec 7	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am, Torah: Vayeitzei
Sunday	Dec 8	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast, Discussion
Monday	Dec 9	7:30 PM	BHBI Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday	Dec 13	6:30 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temples Beth Am and Beth David at Beth Am (TBK room 103) (light candles 4:17 PM)
Saturday	Dec 14	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am, Torah: Vayishlach
Sunday	Dec 15	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast, Discussion
Wednesday	Dec 18	7:30 PM	Small Shul Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI
Friday	Dec 20	6:30 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temples Beth Am and Beth David and Ohel Avraham at Beth Am (TBK room 103)(light candles 4:20 PM)
Saturday	Dec 21	9:30 PM	Shabbat Morning Service, Torah: Vayeishev
Sunday	Dec 22	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Service, Breakfast, Discussion Joint BHBI – Beth Am Chanukah Party and Dinner
Friday	Dec 27	6:00 PM 7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temples Beth Am and Beth David at Beth Am (TBK room 103) (light candles 4:24 PM) Shabbat Dinner at Beth Am
Saturday	Dec 28	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service, Torah: Hanukah Mikeitz
Sunday	Dec 29	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast, Discussion

FRIDAY SHABBAT EVENING SERVICES

BHBI, Temple Beth Am and Temple Beth David hold joint Shabbat Evening Services every Friday in the Beth Am Sanctuary (TBK Room 103). Services will be at 6:30 PM, except for the 4th Friday of the month when Services will be at 6:00 PM followed by a vegetarian dinner at 7:00 PM. Contact Ronna Marsh at 473-4317, or ronnamarsh@yahoo.com, by 6:00 PM of that week's Wednesday if you plan to come to the dinner.

SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

Our Torah study session in November will be held on Wednesday, December 18th, at 7:30 pm at BHBI. New participants are welcome at any time! No prior experience required!

EVENTS THIS MONTH IN THE COMMUNITY

On Wednesday, December 25, at Temple Beth El, there will be a community-wide Chanukah event with kosher, vegetarian, Chinese food from 11 AM to 1 PM, followed by the showing of several different movies for different age groups from 1 to 5 PM. Popcorn, fortune cookies, and candy are included! Please RSVP with the names of all attendees and any allergic/dietary restrictions to 473-1770. Register and pay online via credit/debit card at: tberochester.org The cost is \$18 per adult, \$10 per child, \$65 family maximum. Volunteers are needed to set up rooms and to clean up. Contact Debbie Zeger, 473-1770 or dzeger@tberochester.org, for further information.

TOPS CARDS

So far our *TOPS* Gift Card fundraiser has been quite successful. Remember, *TOPS* Gift Cards are now available through BHBI in \$50 denominations. To purchase *TOPS* Gift Cards, contact Ira Cohen at 943-1040 or by e-mail at gouldron@aol.com

DONATIONS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!
GENERAL FUND

In memory of Katy Metlay
Bill and Ellen Gertzog
Cindy Halpern
Harris and Aline Honickman
David Rogachefsky
Sonia Sugarman

In memory of Bernard Lipschutz
Judith Mercer

In memory of Daniel Horowitz and Jean Traub
Ken and Mollie Traub

In memory of Louis Gastel
Ruth and Shari Polur

In memory of Sarah Gastel
Ruth Polur

In memory of Tanja Block
Cathy Block

In memory of Len Gold
Lynn and Norman Adams

HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL

Sabrina Shapiro

John Rothbard

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS
FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

Nov 2	Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky in memory of Nina's father Dr. Bernard Klionsky
Nov 9	Esther and Hermann Vogelstein in memory of their mother Inge Vogelstein
Nov 16	The Congregation
Nov 23	Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky in honor of Metlay-Carney birthdays

MAKE YOUR PURCHASES AT AMAZON and GOODSHOP
AND SUPPORT BHBI AT THE SAME TIME!

Why not contribute to BHBI while making on-line purchases? It's easy to make purchases on-line at Amazon and Goodshop and support BHBI financially at the same time. To support BHBI by making purchases with Amazon or Goodshop, go to the BHBI web page at www.BHBIRochester.org, go to the Donate page and click on the Amazon or Goodshop link. Each time you make a purchase after linking to them from our web page, BHBI gets a percentage of the purchase price. The more you buy in this way, the more BHBI makes! You can also support BHBI by making purchases directly with Amazon Smile. To do so, go to Smile.Amazon.com, sign in as you normally would on Amazon, and select Congregation Beth Hamedresh-Beth Israel as the non-profit organization that you wish to support. Thereafter, every time you make an Amazon purchase at Smile.Amazon.com, BHBI will receive a portion of the cost of your purchase.

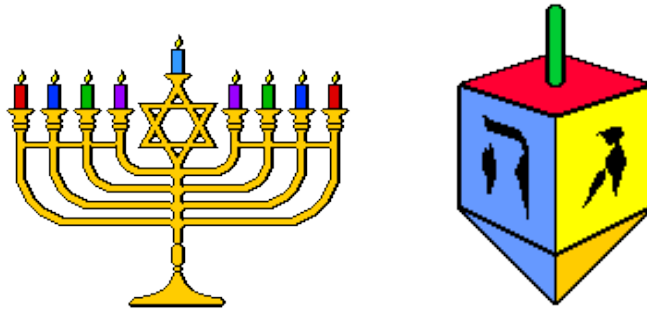
GOODSEARCH.ORG

Goodsearch.org is an on-line internet search program that pays non-profit organizations like BHBI a fee every time someone uses their search service. Go to www.Goodsearch.org, log-in (after signing up and designating BHBI as your preferred non-profit), enter the search term that you want and every time that you do a search from that site BHBI will get a small fee. BHBI will benefit from each search you make! You can also reach the Goodshop internet marketplace site from Goodsearch.org, but remember to sign in before purchasing anything so that BHBI benefits.

Joint BHBI - Temple Beth Am Chanukah Party and Dinner

Sunday, December 22, 5 pm

Congregation Beth Hamedresh - Beth Israel
1369 East Avenue, Rochester, NY



Celebrate the holiday with our Conservative Congregations!

- 5:00 pm *Get Together*
- 5:30 pm Menorah Lighting -- bring your menorah from home and we'll light them all together!
 Followed by dreidels -- sing along -- games
- 6:00 pm Festive Dinner -- soup, latkes, and more!

Dinner: \$12 for adults, \$8 for children 12 and under,
family maximum of \$36.

Reservations required

Call or email by 5pm Tuesday, December 17
244-2060 • BHBIrochester@gmail.com
visit our website www.BHBIrochester.org

Yahrzeits

At the following Shabbat Services, we will read the names of our late loved ones whose Yahrzeits will occur on that Shabbat or during the following week.

Nov 29-30	Kislev	Dec 6-7	Kislev	Dec 13-14	Kislev	Dec 27-28	Tevet
Charles Franke	2	Nathan Bernstein*	9	Bernard Rodney	17	Morris Kanthor*	3
Sam Morris*	4	Beatryce Cohen*	9	Edward M. Hart	19	Morton Fink*	4
Israel Schriba*	4	Joseph Louis Shapiro*	9	Hyman Ring*	20	Abraham Weinstein*	4
Jacob Smilack*	4	Rose Alderman*	10	Joseph Goldberg*	21	Abraham Stolnitz*	5
Dorothy Lewis Cohen*	5	Feist Hess*	10			Barbara Bertman*	6
Mark H. Keyfetz*	5	Eleanor Teitel	10	Dec 20-21	Kislev	Sigmund Traub*	6
Rachel Olkes*	6	Dr. Mark Blue	11	Ida Bobb	24	*Denotes name memorialized on BHBI Memorial Plaque	
Meyer Kovel'ski*	7	Wolf Schild*	12	Emanuel Kovel'ski*	24		
Fanny Titof	8	Jack Soble*	14	Sarah Hoffman*	25		
				Hyman Snider*	25		
				Michael Miller*	27		
				Emma Aranow*	28		
				Karen Cohen	28		

We pray that our mourners will be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem and that the memory of the deceased continues to be a blessing to all who knew them.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

You can memorialize a friend or loved one on a BHBI memorial plaque. Our memorial plaques are very reasonably priced. For more information, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

CEMETERY PLOTS

Did you know that BHBI has designated sections at Stone Road, Britten Road and Mt. Hope Cemeteries and that we sell cemetery plots? If you would like more information, contact Steve Teitel at BHBIRochester@gmail.com.

BHBI WEBSITE

Have you checked out the BHBI web site lately? If you haven't there is a lot that you're missing. The web site at www.BHBIRochester.org provides information about many aspects of our congregation, lists the BHBI calendar, has electronic versions of this and previous bulletins going back several years, has an extensive history of our congregation along with historic photos, includes photos from several BHBI dinners, picnics and other special events, and has the unique Adon Olam Songbook with information on over 100 melodies for Adon Olam.

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AD SPONSORS

We are always looking for additional businesses that are interested in placing an ad in the BHBI Bulletin. If you know of someone whose business or company may be interested, please have them contact the congregation at BHBIRochester@gmail.com

OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Steve Teitel at 473-5741 or Harris Honickman at 271-5145. You can also e-mail us at BHBIRochester@gmail.com

WANT TO REMEMBER OR HONOR SOMEONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION? *Consider sponsoring a kiddush or making a donation to any one of our funds* (General Fund, Kiddush Fund, Harry Rogachefsky BHBI Building Fund, Torah Fund, Rabbi Aaron Solomon Scholarship Fund, Special Events Fund or the Sam Malina Memorial Fund). Please indicate which fund you would like your donation to go to and we will send out an acknowledgement card as you indicate and print an announcement in this bulletin. A standard sponsored kiddush at BHBI costs just \$40 while a larger enhanced kiddush is just \$50.

BULLETIN CONTENT What do you enjoy reading in the BHBI Bulletin? Is there something that you would like added (or taken out)? If so, please let Steve Teitel know. We always appreciate feedback.

DID YOU MISPLACE YOUR BULLETIN? Don't worry. BHBI Bulletins going back several years can now be found on our web page: www.BHBIRochester.org

WANT TO GET YOUR BULLETIN HOT-OFF-THE-PRESS? Consider having us e-mail it to you! Contact Steve Teitel at: BHBIRochester@gmail.com

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