THE AFRO-SEMITIC EXPERIENCE
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& WINTER NIGHTS ON PARK HEIGHTS
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TO DAH RABBH

The Kiddush on December 3 was sponsored by Wendy Hoffman Blum in honor of her granddaughter Bailyn Elizabeth Erb becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

The Oneg Shabbat on December 9 was sponsored by Tess Carpenter & Drew Pate on the occasion of their son Samuel becoming a Bar Mitzvah and in memory of Sam’s mother Lisa Pate.

CORRECTION FROM THE DECEMBER BULLETIN

In our BHC Faces feature, the correct information is that Alex Mareiniss and husband Darren met at Dartmouth College (not SMU). Also, Darren completed training at The Johns Hopkins Hospital and is now an attending physician in Emergency Medicine at Franklin Square Medical Center and Chair of the Ethics Committee.

LIFECYCLE EVENTS

For lifecycle events and special occasions, BHC has wonderful facilities to rent, such as the Dalsheimer Auditorium, the Goodwin Center and Straus Social Hall. INFO: Francie Gill, Facility/Event Coordinator, 410-764-1587, ext. 226.

IN THE HOSPITAL?

Due to hospital policy, clergy and BHC Cares volunteers have no way of knowing you are in the hospital unless you or a family member inform us. INFO: Iris Powell, ipowell@baltimorehebrew.org or 410-764-1587, ext. 224.

FROM THE CLERGY

Making the Darkness Disappear

What’s better on a cold night than a great story (and maybe some hot chocolate by a fire)? Here’s one of my favorite Yiddish folktales:

A student said to his teacher, “Rebbe, I wanted to go down into the basement, but I was afraid of the darkness there. Tell me, Rebbe, is there a way to chase the darkness out?” The teacher went to the closet and took out a broom. He handed it to his student saying “Go, sweep the darkness out of the basement.”

Before long, the student returned and said, “Rebbe, I swept and swept, but the darkness did not budge an inch.” The Rabbi nodded and said, “Darkness in the world can be a stubborn thing. See if you can drive the darkness out by beating it.” He handed the student a ruler.

Soon enough, the student came back and said, “My arms are sore from beating the darkness, but it is still too stubborn to move.” The teacher nodded and said, “I see. Try this – go down to the basement and yell at the darkness. Raise your voice and scream that you want it to go away.”

Of course, the student came back almost immediately and reported that his screaming had been to no avail. The Rabbi led the student to the closet where he kept a box of candles for Shabbat. He handed a small white candle to his student and said, “Darkness is like evil. It sometimes seems too strong for any one person to fight. But let’s take this little light down to the basement.”

The two went down the steps to the basement, and wherever the light’s glow met the darkness, the darkness evaporated like fog dissipating in the warm sun. The student said, “Now I see, Rebbe, if we bring light into the world, even a little bit of light, we can make the darkness disappear.”

During this cold month of January, 2017, we will bring a little light into the world as we celebrate the Shabbat of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. weekend with a group called The Afro-Semitic Experience. The group brings together Jewish and African-American musical traditions. As they describe themselves, “Our friendship ignites our passion and purpose: we merge our musical roots, Jewish and Afro-diasporic melodies and grooves, combining the core concepts of àse and shalom—power, action, unity, and peace.”

In a time when so much darkness and hate divides us, we bring light to our community and the world. As Dr. King famously said, “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” I hope you’ll come to drive out the darkness!

– Rabbi Sachs-Kohen

TRANSPORTATION TO BHC

Baltimore Hebrew Congregation wants to help you get to services and events. We have two different services that provide rides to members of BHC and BHC’s auxiliaries.

On behalf of BHC Cares, we offer assistance by arranging transportation to BHC services and events. INFO: Sid Bravmann, 410-952-6352.

The Irene Gogel Transportation Fund offers taxi transportation, at no charge, to congregants and auxiliary group members who have no alternative means of attending BHC services and activities. INFO: Temple Office, 410-764-1587.

YAHREZIT REMINDER

To have a Yahrzeit name read, call the Temple Office or fill out a card when coming to a service. INFO: Iris Powell, ipowell@baltimorehebrew.org or 410-764-1587, ext. 224.
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: STEVEN SHARFSTEIN

On Sacred Spaces

What is a “sacred” space? And how do we see BHC’s sacred spaces as we prepare our Vision Plan for the future? On October 30, over 100 congregants and others participated in a day-long workshop with a marvelous team of facilitators and consultants from CHAI to begin the process of rethinking and imagining our building and property for the next 50-100 years. It was a memorable day for both its substance and the process with both large group and small group interactions. There was so much energy and enthusiasm in the Straus Social Hall that day. What did we learn and where do we go now?

We learned that a sacred space is much more than where we pray and worship. We live in a material world and we EXPERIENCE place within a given space. It is our experience of a space that creates a place for us to come together and express our unique values as Reform Jews. A place where we celebrate, connect and remember the past. And a place where we worship. Place has meaning not only for the individual but for the community, especially for our congregation. After all, it was pointed out by Rabbi Busch on that Sunday that we are called Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, not Temple Baltimore Hebrew or Baltimore Hebrew Synagogue.

Place is not experienced in the moment but also over TIME as we remember the past, lifecycle events and holidays in our spaces. We learned that as Jews we consider time to be holy and something we seek to sanctify in the space we call our spiritual home. Connecting to generations past and the Jewish historical saga is the purpose of the space we create and recreate for ourselves and our children and grandchildren.

We learned that architecture and design, the physical and material aspects of space, convey the SUBSTANCE of the vision for BHC. We looked at various synagogues, museums, gardens, institutions from around the world that utilized contemporary artistic culture with distinctive communal character in the construction of space. Our eyes were opened to many possibilities for our building and the BHC campus.

It was through these three lenses—EXPERIENCE, TIME and SUBSTANCE—that the participants provided ideas, opinions and emotional perspectives to the options we will develop for the BHC vision. What a robust and informative day.

The input from that day and the website will lead our consultants from CHAI to draft options for a BHC Vision Plan that will be refined further by convening focus groups in early 2017. We hope to have a final report by March.

And then the work begins as we implement our vision over the next few years. Stay involved and tuned in.

CONGREGATIONAL WISH LIST

If you have an iPad, flat-panel computer monitor 22” or larger, PC desktop or laptop computer no more than four years old that you would like to donate to BHC, contact Becky Gutin, bgutin@baltimorehebrew.org or 410-764-1587, ext. 250.

Stay current with all that’s happening at BHC! Send your e-mail address to postmaster@baltimorehebrew.org.

BHC Faces: Our Board and Staff

Amy Sponseller
Hails from: Amy grew up in Yorktown Heights, New York. She studied Psychology at Union College in Schenectady, NY and received her M.Ed in Counseling at American University, Washington, D.C. After nine years working as a counselor at Northern Virginia Community College, Amy worked for 14 years at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Human Resources. In 1997, while answering phones at a Johns Hopkins Pediatric fundraiser, she met her husband, Paul. Her connection to BHC flourished when her children were students at the Day School.
Board Role: Amy serves as Secretary for BHC’s Board of Electors.
Time at BHC: She has been a congregant since 1998.
Profession: Amy is a Human Resources consultant.

3 Things to Know About Amy:
(1) For the past 30 years, Amy has been a member of the Planning Committee for Johns Hopkins Pediatric Oncology Camp Sunrise, a camp for children who have or had cancer. The first summer had seven campers and now they have more than 120 annually.
(2) A central core of Amy’s life is community volunteering. When Rabbi Busch asked her if she would lead BHC’s Yom Kippur bone marrow drive with the Gift of Life Foundation, she saw it as merely an extension of her work with Camp Sunrise. Along with congregant Phyllis Lederman, Amy started and co-chairs our Get Swabbed with BHC team, and they have added more than 800 people to the national registry and made six matches in just three years! Amy is planning for more drives in 2017 and welcomes all to join the Get Swabbed team.
(3) Amy loves spending time with family: husband Paul, who is the Chief of Pediatric Orthopedics at Johns Hopkins, and two young adult children, Matt and Nina. Her sister, Alice Weisko, nephew Paul Weisko and soon-to-be 95 year old mother, Ruth Juskowitz are also a big part of her life, as are her many close friends.

Esther Rosenfeld
Hails from: Esther is originally from Indianapolis, Indiana. At age 18, she took a “year off” from school and traveled to Israel with a Jewish women’s institution. On her return, she studied English and Communications at Touro College in New York City, followed by a certificate for Non-Profit Management and Fundraising at NYU. After six years working in donor research for Touro, she came to Baltimore to be part of a Jewish community that she heard was thriving and not centralized within a city. She soon began work at BHC.
Staff Role: She serves as BHC’s Receptionist.
Time at BHC: Esther has worked at BHC for just over a year.

3 Things to Know About Esther:
(1) Esther is one of six children and an aunt of four.
(2) She is proudly a die-hard fantasy/sci-fi fan, which she considers an interesting filter for daily life. She writes fan fiction, subscribes to podcasts and participates in cosplay (costumed interaction). (Now, you have something else to chat with Esther about when you check-in at the front desk!)
(3) Esther learned to knit two years ago and has made ten berets so far.
Program Highlights

WARMING UP ON WINTER NIGHTS

January brings bone-chilling temperatures and, often, dreary skies. Cheer up! Instead of melancholy, fill this month with merriment and meaning at BHC’s Winter Nights on Park Heights. Our usual current events series is extra-long this year, running for six Thursdays, January 5, January 12, January 19, January 26, February 2 and February 9, 6:30-8 PM at BHC.

Enjoy our warm atmosphere, snacks and hot chocolate in a lodge-themed space as we examine news stories through a Jewish lens. All are welcome, so please invite your friends who are not BHC members so that they too can enjoy the warmth and spirit of these gatherings. There is no charge and no RSVP is needed. So, go ahead and brave the elements and set your sights on Winter Nights on Park Heights!

Andy Wayne
Director of Communications and Engagement
NEW YEAR’S DAY
BHC will host our annual New Year’s Day Concert where the region’s brightest vocal talent presents all-time favorite selections from the most beloved new and traditional operas. Directed and accompanied by Maestro James Harp of Lyric Opera Baltimore, this afternoon of opera has become a favorite annual tradition in the community. The concert is sponsored by the Peggy and Yale Gordon Trust and will be held on **Sunday, January 1, 2 PM** in the Dalsheimer Auditorium. Free tickets are available in the Temple Office. Come celebrate the start of 2017 with us!

TEEN INTERFAITH LEADERSHIP CORPS
Join Jewish teens and teens from St. Francis Academy for a seminar on civil rights and social action. Beginning **Tuesday, January 3**, the Leadership Corps will meet twice a month on Tuesdays after school. This program will run through May and be hosted at BHC and St. Francis Academy. **INFO**: Brad Cohen, Director of Education, bcohen@baltimorehebrew.org.

THE AFRO-SEMITIC EXPERIENCE: A MUSICAL MLK SHABBAT
At our Shabbat Shelanu on **Saturday, January 14, 10 AM**, BHC will welcome The Afro-Semitic Experience for a unique MLK Shabbat celebration. As their website notes, “With our highly accessible ethnic world music mix and our ability to get an audience on its feet, The Afro-Semitic Experience is redefining the jazz concert and making a difference with our message of Unity in the Community.” Be part of the celebration, as our morning service will be filled with music and meaning, honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. together.

CHOOSE YOUR HEBREW NAME
Whether a long term wish or a recent realization; if you are missing a Hebrew name, we would love to bless you with one. On Shabbat morning, **Saturday, January 21, 10 AM**, at our Shabbat Shelanu service, Rabbi Busch will be pleased to bless those choosing Hebrew names for themselves. On that Shabbat, we will begin the Book of Exodus, called in Hebrew Shemot. Shemot means names, so it is a beautiful chance to bless newly minted Hebrew names. **INFO**: Rabbi Busch, 410-764-1587 or abusch@baltimorehebrew.org, or our other clergy. They will be happy to discuss Hebrew names in advance. If you are not able to communicate in advance, please feel free to show up by 9:45 AM on January 21, and you will be helped in choosing a name.

ABC’S OF PRAYER
The ABC’s of Prayer will continue with three sessions: **Sundays, January 22 & 29 and February 5, 9:15-10:15 AM**. Come and learn with Cantor Solomon, not only the rubrics of the prayer service but the meanings and concepts behind them. **INFO**: Becky Gutin, bgutin@baltimorehebrew.org.

URJ SHABBAT SERVICE
Join BHC, Har Sinai Congregation, Temple Oheb Shalom and Bolton Street Synagogue, which has recently joined the Reform movement, as we gather to celebrate Shabbat evening and Reform Judaism together. On **Friday, January 27, 6:15 PM**, BHC will join with these other congregations at Temple Oheb Shalom in place of our own regular service. Speaking that evening will be Mark Pelavin, the Chief Program Officer of the Union for Reform Judaism, our North American congregational movement. Mark will share insights on the movement as a whole and help draw us together in community. The service will be followed by a special Oneg Shabbat. **RSVP (for catering purposes only)**: Caitlin Brazner, caitlin@templeohebshalom.org or 443-278-9343.

ONGOING ADULT LEARNING
Judaism offers us great opportunities to learn about our traditions, the world, and ourselves. PEP, Pursuing Educational Possibilities, is an ongoing Sunday morning learning opportunity, enjoyed by BHC congregants for decades.

It’s time to sign up for the spring semester. This spring, our teachers will be Rabbi Sachs-Kohen and Susanna Garfein, PhD, a BHC congregant who teaches at the Baltimore Hebrew Institute at Towson University. The courses will be “Creation Stories,” taught by Susanna Garfein, 9:30 AM, and “The Rabbis Said...Who Are Those Rabbis Anyway?” taught by Rabbi Sachs-Kohen, 10:45 AM. “Creation Stories” will examine the biblical accounts of creation in Genesis 1-3 to see how the biblical writers adapted, adopted, and reacted to other creation myths from the ancient Near East. Rabbi Sachs-Kohen’s course will allow you to meander through the lives of the great sages in the pages of Talmud and later writings. We’ll discover their stories – both the ones they told and the ones told about them, and we’ll be a little more familiar with Jewish wisdom’s family tree.

The semester begins **Sunday, January 29, 9 AM** and continues Sundays, February 12 & 26, March 19, and April 2 & 23. **INFO and Registration**: Ruth Spivak, spivakcpa@verizon.net, 410-666-1891 or fill out a flyer on BHC’s lobby table.

THIS IS HUNGER: MAZON TRUCK
BHC Hosts the National Tour of MAZON. Volunteers Needed: From **Friday, February 24-Wednesday, March 1**, BHC will be the host of a museum-quality exhibit titled “This Is Hunger.” Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger has organized a national tour of this truck-based educational exhibit regarding the causes and impact of hunger in the United States. We are seeking volunteers to assist in organizing, publicizing, and assisting with the exhibit during the week. **INFO**: Andy Wayne, Director of Communications and Engagement, awayne@baltimorehebrew.org or 410-764-1587, ext. 246.
HIGH SCHOOL ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

BHC happily provides scholarships to help our high school students travel to Israel on organized youth high school trips. We are also glad to provide guidance on choosing a trip. Please note that participating in a high school Israel trip generally still leaves the student eligible to participate in a Birthright trip during or after college. **INFO:** Brad Cohen, Director of Education, 410-764-1587, ext. 290 or bcohen@baltimorehebrew.org.

THE SALLY PALMBAUM FAMILY ASSISTANCE FUND

Our BHC community was saddened this fall by the loss of Sally Palmbaum, long-time congregant, administrative assistant, and chair of BHC’s Our Daily Bread efforts. BHC is honored to now be able to declare that Sally was also a long-time benefactor of the congregation. Through her generosity during her life and in her estate, Sally has been incredibly supportive of the congregation, including sponsoring renovations of our office suite a few years ago. Sally’s caring for BHC and for others in her community have led to her creation of the Sally Palmbaum Family Assistance Fund. Sally’s modesty originally led to this fund being named anonymously. She granted us permission to use her name following her passing. We are honored and appreciative that the Sally Palmbaum Family Assistance Fund will enable us to provide dues support and youth education tuition support to BHC families who need assistance participating in Jewish congregational life. It is so fitting that Sally thought about helping others, as she thought about Baltimore Hebrew Congregation.

A CHANGE IN CAREGIVER SUPPORT

As of January 2017, the Caregiver Support Group will be changing its format from monthly meetings to providing support to congregants when the need arises. Benjy Dubin, a congregant, is happy to share his personal experience and knowledge of being a caregiver with anyone who can benefit. **INFO:** Benjy Dubin, 410-486-3385.

SUMMER CAMP PLANS?

Jewish summer camps are a phenomenal way to enjoy the summer, while deepening your child’s Jewish identity. Every year, many BHC children spend time at a variety of Jewish overnight camps, some affiliated locally, some across the country with the Union for Reform Judaism. Some are general purpose camps and some focus on sports, nature, or on science-technology. Rabbis Busch and Sachs-Kohen and Brad Cohen, Director of Education, are all happy to talk to parents or students about Jewish summer camp.

BHC ISRAEL TRIP OPENINGS AVAILABLE

Rabbi Busch is leading a BHC trip to Israel from March 26 to April 5. The date for confirming best airfare is fast approaching. If interested, please contact ARZA World, 888-811-2812, arzaworld.com (search Baltimore Hebrew Congregation), and/or contact Rabbi Busch.

BHC CARES, FOR EVERYONE

BHC Cares strives to create and sustain a warm and caring atmosphere in the congregation and among congregants wherever they are. We help, connect and support. Below are only a few of the BHC Cares initiatives you can get involved with today:

**Meal Makers:** Offer support by providing meals to fellow congregants in need. For example, those who have lost a loved one, had a baby, or are recovering from illness. Special thanks to coordinator Sharon Edlow and meal makers like Sheri Land. **INFO:** Sharon Edlow, sharonkel23@gmail.com.

**Phone Connection:** Volunteers call congregants who are unable to get out. A simple call can show someone who is home-bound they are not forgotten. **INFO:** Lynette Berman, lynetteberman@yahoo.com or 410-484-6853.

**Educational Programs:** We recently offered two successful special programs “Wisdom of the Ages: Healthy Relationships Across Generations” and a STAY Shabbat: Shabbat That’s About You. Both provided good conversation, connection and food. Stay tuned for information about our next STAY Shabbat on **Saturday, February 25.**

L’DOR V’DOR, GENERATION TO GENERATION -- SOCIETY MEMBERS

Susan & Philip Abraham
Anonymous
*Simone Z. & Ralph A. Brunn
Selma Carton
Betty W. & *Irwin Cohen
*Lee Egerton
Edward S. Fishman
Janet & Dr. Robert P. Fleshman
Ronnie & *Robert Foodlick
*Dorothy N. & *Louis J. Fox
Carol & *Samuel Frank
*Eleanore G. Gann
Dr. Leslie B. & *David R. Glickman
*Paul Goodman

Hilda Perl Goodwin & *Douglas S. Goodwin
*Dailina & *Alvin Gorn
Edward J. Gutman
Betty Jean & *Martin S. Himeles, Sr.
Allan T. Hirsh, Jr.
Lisa S. & Allan T. Hirsh, III
*Alice Hoffberger
*Jacob D. Hornstein
*Barbi & Louis Hyman
Elaine & Ross Jandorf
Harriet & Jeffrey A. Legum
*Dr. Irving Lesser

Ellen & Alvin J. Levi
Isabel and Stan Levin
*Frank H. Libman
The Harvey & Linda Litofsky Foundation
Sheri & Dr. Sanford D. Minkin
*Shirley & *Dr. Edward Neulander
*Joyce & Mose Ottenheimer, 2nd
*Sally Palmbaum
Amy H. Peck
Susan & Edward Perl
Roberta & Aron Perlman
Sandra Raskin
Lois Rosenfield

Amy Shackman
*Dr. Albert Shapiro
Michele D. Cohen-Short
Linda G. Speert
Ruth & Robert M. Taubman
*Nancy & Geoffrey Tobias
Dr. David I. Tossman
Margie & *Dr. H. Leonard Warres
Martha & Stanley Weiman
Peggy K. & Fred Wolf III
Phyllis & Duke Zimmerman
Vivian Zipper
*z”l

Join fellow congregants with a Legacy gift to ensure the future of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation!

Annette Saxon, Director of Development
asaxon@baltimorehebrew.org or 410-764-1587, ext. 236
**Hoffberger Gallery**

“**EFFLORESCENCE**”

Work by Ann Kagan

January/February Exhibit

Reception: Sunday, January 8, 2-4 PM

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**Chai Life: 20s & 30s Community**

**KICKING OFF THE NEW YEAR**

Chai Life just finished up some great programs this past fall. As we continue to collaborate with groups including Repair The World, we have seen an increase in participation the last couple months. We kick-off the new year with trivia in Mt. Vernon on **Thursday, January 5, 8 PM** at HomeSlyce. This will be our third season in a row at this great location. Come out on Thursdays through March for a FREE drink and half-priced sandwiches. Additionally, we are returning to Stoneleigh Lanes for Bowling on **Saturday, January 21, 9 PM**. Chai Life will provide drinks and a great night.

*Steve DeBois and David Castine*

Chai Life Co-Chairs

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**About the Artist:** Ann Kathryn Kagan’s large, expressionistic, fantasy interpretations of flowers, landscapes, skyscapes and romantic symbols of hearts and figures are influenced by forms and colors of nature. She works on conveying an atmospheric mood with a technique of energetic brushstrokes and vibrant color.

Originally from New Brunswick, New Jersey, she majored in painting at the University of Cincinnati, School of Design, Art and Architecture, where she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and Art Education. Ann arrived in Baltimore along with her husband, architect Leonard Kagan, in 1969 and continued her education at the Maryland Institute College of Art and The College of Notre Dame.

In addition to being a private art teacher, she has also volunteered at numerous organizations throughout Maryland. Ann’s painting donations have helped to raise funds for various schools and non-profit organizations in and around the Baltimore area including Park School, Indian Creek School, The Carroll Museum, The Children’s Guild Outreach program, and the Emerge Program, among others.

Ann’s paintings are in many public and private collections and she has also been featured in numerous solo exhibits. Ann was recently recognized by the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

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**LIKE BHC ON FACEBOOK**

to receive notices of upcoming events and see current photos. Find event details and photos of past events. And, new this year are our “Time for Shabbat” videos, posted on Fridays. Let us know if you want to share your Shabbat plans with us to be featured on our page.

FACEBOOK.COM/BALTIMOREHEBREWCONGREGATION

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**ARE YOU IN YOUR 20s OR 30s?**

**LOOKING FOR SOME GOOD TIMES WITH A FUN CROWD?**

Be part of Chai Life gatherings such as trivia nights, kickball games, Shabbat dinners, “Helping Hons” and more! **INFO:** Chai Life Co-Chairs, Steve DeBois, sjdebois@gmail.com or David Castine, dcastine9@gmail.com.
Youth Education

FLEXIBILITY, COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

Wow! The year is flying by and our Youth Education program is stronger than ever. Our programs continue to be dynamic, alternative and strive to meet our students’ ever-changing needs. This year in particular we have created a system for our 6th-7th graders that gives them a choice (every month) of the Judaic classes they are taking. As these students move towards Bar/Bat Mitzvah we want them to have a say in their Jewish learning.

Our 7th graders have all been given Kindergarten buddies, and we have had some time over the past semester to connect with each other. There is nothing more exciting than to see a 7th grader reading Jewish stories to a Kindergarten buddy.

Our Family Mitzvah Corps program has been focusing on hunger. Each month this group gathers to make casseroles for Paul’s Place and learn about hunger in Baltimore. It has been amazing to see the families dive in with the learning. Our Gesher Family Program for 1st-2nd grade parents is going extremely well. The families have been studying with our rabbis and creating some family projects with Cory Hermann, one of our family educators.

Last but not least, all of our Youth Groups have been going strong and Lauren Offermann has been doing an amazing job leading the charge. We have more kids participating, making connections and creating friendships. Happy New Year!

L'Shalom (For Peace),
Brad Cohen
Director of Education

Youth Groups

A GREAT NEW YEAR

We are starting off the New Year strong! Youth Group for 1st-7th graders had tons of fun with our Bubble Soccer and Robotics event in December. Our next event is a 5th grade shul-in from Friday, January 13–Saturday, January 14! We will play games, participate in a Shabbat Service and spend the night with friends here at BHC. This event is $15, and dinner is included.

The Teen Advisory Committee has continued to meet once a month to engage with their peers, brainstorm new programs and ideas, and participate in leadership-building activities. Look out over the next few months for programs, panels, and community service opportunities created by our teens.

This month, Family Mitzvah Corps will focus their learning on Tikkun Olam with Rabbi Busch. What is Tikkun Olam and how does it relate to our service projects? In addition to our learning, contact me if you are interested in joining our Family Mitzvah Corps alternative programming in the spring.

INFO, RSVP & VOLUNTEER: Lauren Offermann, 410-764-1587, ext. 248 or loffermann@baltimorehebrew.org.

Log on to our website, baltimorehebrew.org, for our online Membership Directory, to pay your bill or make a donation. Simply click, “forgot your ID or password?” to have your login information emailed to you.
I was asked what curriculum we follow in the E.B. Hirsh Early Childhood Center. As usual the answer is not cut and dried. We follow three curricula: Creative Curriculum by Teaching Strategies, a company based in Bethesda, Maryland; Emergent Curriculum based on the Reggio Emilia approach; and Play-Based Learning based on the Montessori Approach. “Play is the work of the child” is the quote given by Maria Montessori when asked why the children were playing and not learning at desks in her childcare center. In all three curricula play allows for learning, exploration, and trial and error.

Play-Based Learning sets the environment and the tone of the room, ensuring that there are interesting and stimulating objects in the centers to play with and investigate. Emergent Curriculum sets the nature for the learning process, keeping it open-ended, asking questions, diving deeper to encourage more questions and doing it in ways that meet each learner’s needs. Creative Curriculum is the more formalized of the three curricula; it is the one that pulls them all together and gives the teachers resources and ideas on how to carry out activities to encourage the learning to expand in other areas. 

It is exciting that these curricula go hand-in-hand so seamlessly. Not only do they capture the imagination of each student learner type but they help to strengthen the teacher’s non-dominant teaching styles. They fit our philosophy perfectly: focused play is the best way to learn, discover, imagine and explore in an early childhood setting. Within the rubric of learning centers, rich Jewish ritual and cultural activities and teacher, student, and parent interactions we have the great responsibility to develop character and the foundation for life-long learning within each child under our care. Every child deserves a good education; one that meets their needs on their skill level and raises them up.
BROtherHood News

Brotherhood Breakfast

If you are a big film buff, don’t miss our Sunday morning breakfast on January 8, 9:30 AM. Our guest speaker will be Professor Christopher Llewellyn Reed of Stevenson University. He has been making movies for almost 20 years and has worked on numerous award-winning films as director, cinematographer, and editor. Chris is the current Chair of the Film Moving and Imaging Department at Stevenson University, and a graduate of Harvard University with a Master’s degree from Yale University. Chris will speak on “Jewish Hollywood: A Look Back at the History of the American Dream Machine.”

Bring your spouse and friends to enjoy a wonderful nosh and interesting program. It is free to BHC Brotherhood members as well as children under 18 years of age and only $5 for non-members, payable at the door. INFO: Sid Bravmann, 410-952-6352.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 5, 9:30 AM. WBAL-TV I-Team Lead Investigative Reporter Jayne Miller will speak at our next breakfast on “A New President, A New Mayor, But Does Anything Change?”

Help Chicken Flickers

Are you a Kitchen Maven? Are you a Server Maven? Become part of the Brotherhood Chicken Flickers. Known as the Iron Chefs of BHC, they cook for over 100 people at times, and they make tasty dishes. Whether it’s cooking tenderloin, salmon, or scrambled eggs it always comes out as good as a catered meal. However, they could use help occasionally to assist with cooking or serving. No experience is actually necessary, but you must be part of the Brotherhood. It’s an enjoyable way to do a mitzvah and enjoy feeding the program guests. INFO: Sid Bravmann 410-952-6352.

Sisterhood in Session

Board Meeting

The next Sisterhood Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22, 10:30 AM. All Sisterhood members are invited to attend whether or not you are a member of the Board. Come see how the Sisterhood board operates and participate in discussions.

Cellphones for Chana

Sisterhood is collecting used cell phones to be turned over to CHANA to be given to clients for emergency life-line or recycling. CHANA will clear and refurbish the phones. A drop-off box is located in the Temple Office. INFO: Chair, Marcia Gampel, mathmg@aol.com or 443-857-9619.

Find Out More!

Learn the benefits of joining Sisterhood: baltimorehebrew.org/sisterhood/about

The Fear of Islam in American Public Discourse

We will hold our 57th Annual Interfaith Institute on Monday, March 6, 9:30 AM-2 PM. Our timely topic is “The Fear of Islam in American Public Discourse,” led by Keynote Speaker Dr. Homayra Ziad. We are pleased to have Dr. Ziad, who is the Scholar of Islam at the Institute for Islamic Christian and Jewish Studies.

She was formerly Assistant Professor of Religion at Trinity College in Hartford, CT. After receiving her first degree from Bryn Mawr College, she earned a doctorate in Islamic Studies from Yale University. Dr. Ziad is deeply involved in interreligious education and training, as well as local, national and international interfaith initiatives and educational outreach on Islam. She is co-founder and co-chair of the American Academy of Religion’s Interreligious and Interfaith Studies Group, and co-founder/co-editor for the Palgrave series Interreligious Studies in Theory and Practice.

Panelists of different faiths will respond to Dr. Ziad’s Keynote Address. They include Catherine Osborn, Campaign Director of Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign, and Dr. Kristin Witte, Coordinator of Catholic Educational Engagement at Catholic Relief Services. Rabbi Busch will be the moderator.

The program will begin at 10 AM, followed by a lunch at Noon. This important program will be co-sponsored by the Baltimore Federal Executive Board’s Committee on Equal Employment (EEO) Diversity and Inclusion, the Alice Hecht Memorial Fund, Bernice S. Kramer Memorial Fund and BHC Sisterhood. INFO: Chair, Carol J. Caplan, 410-764-1587, ext. 270 or caroljc@comcast.net.
IN MEMORIAM
We record with sorrow the passing of

May their memories be for a blessing

PERPETUAL MEMORIALS

January 6-7
Jacob Abraham
Cora Eichengreen
Adler
Baran Annenberg
Dr. Daniel Bakal
Charles B. Baker
Martha Benanen
William Berger
Ann W. Branch
Oscar M. Brown
Betty Butler
Frank Caplan
Melvin Carp
Nathan Conn
Henry C. Dalsemer
Samuel DeBoesky
David Dogoloff
Mark Dogoloff
Belle A. Fensterwald
Morton Benjamin
Finifter
Sarah Senker Fisher
Frieda Fox
Jeanne Lapides
Goldberg
Larry Goldschmidt
Philip Gordon
Mr. Allan Richard
Greenberg
Vivian Grossman
Milton J. Haas
Florence M.
Hamburger
Elise Blum Herwood
Olivia Himmelfarb
Morris P. Hurwitz
Sidney Herbert
Hurwitz
Anna F. Hyman
Julius Kirschhausen
Ada S. Knapper
Joseph Lebow
Gustave Leibowitz
Jacob S. Leibson
Alma Fleishman
Leventen
Fannie Ambach
Lies
Isaac Ernest
Loveman

Elsa Betty
Lowenstein
Louis Elziezer
Lowenstein
Elizabeth C.
Lowenstein-Lane
Helena Morris
Frances L.
Moskowitz
Michael M.
Myerberg
Isaac Oppenheimer
Frances N.
Perlumber
Morton William
Peskin
Dr. E. Leonard Piven
Anne N. Plesser
Benjamin S.
Pumpian
Lawrence
Rosenfield
Mark Rosenfield
Lena Rudo
Alfred I. Sakin
Henry Sauber
Alfred Scherr
Rose Schnaper
Elsie Brown
Schneebberger
Louis Schumann
Minnie Zelda
Schwartz
Israel Shapiro
Ralph Sinsheimer
Frank S. Solomon
Lee Sonneborn
Michael Spencer
Jess H. Speyer
Sherman Steel
Henry Cullen Strauss
Bessie Sultzter
Mark Sultzter
Nathan A. Trupp
Jennie Turkel
Ruth Taubman
Vynor
E. David Weinberg,
M.D.
Bertha Fisher
Weisberg

Charles M.
Winternitz
Natalie Wolf
Liesel Ziegelstein
January 13-14
Dr. Max K. Baklor
Henry I. Becker
Jacob Benesch
Sol C. Berenholz
Laurette Berger
Belle Berman
Mr. Allen Marvin
Bernkant
Marvin Blumberg
Allen Brager
Mark Steven Brower
Morris Cohen
Robert Cohn
Levi H. David
Samuel F. Ephraim
Beatrice Ettermann
Joseph Farkas
Louis Federleicht
Julius B.
Fensterwald
M. Austin Fine
Bert Finkelstein
Milton Fleischer
Amelia Frank
Leonard Solomon
Frank
Jacob Freeman
Louis Carl Fried
Goldie Rose
Frosburg
Marion C. Futterman
Sidney M.
Goldsmith
Shirley Zimmerman
Goldstein
Dailina Gorn
Frank Handwerger
Justin Held
Mary L. Hyman
Hyman I. Israel
Len Jacobs
Ida Kadosh
Marcus H. Kahn
Melvin Karsh
Jennie B. Katten
Edward Klasman
Sylvia Esther
Rechtman Klein
John G. Kohn
Paul L. Kohntamm
Alice M. Lazarus
Molly K. Leibowitz
Minnie Hollan
Lesnick
Maurice W. Levin
Samuel Levy
Leib Lichter
Carly Elane
Lipman
Esther Lustick
Sarah Macks

Theresa Mahler
Harold Manekin
Linda M. Mayer
Jeannette N. Miller
Meyer Miller
Joseph Moskowitz
Nathan Newberger
Robert J. Potashnick
Mamie S. Quattner
Mildred Robinson
Sara Elssasser Rose
Samuel Rosen
Morris Rosenberg
Doris Rosenblatt
Miriam Rosenfeld
Robertine L.
Rosenthal
Eva Rottemen
Goldie Rubin
Tillye Sachs
Isidor Salaganik
Rose Ruth Schapiro
Rose Dorman
Shapiro
Dr. Jerome Sherman
Sara Shoshet
Harry M. Silverfarb
Mendel Silverman
Dr. Marvin Myron
Small
Shirley Solomon
Leah K. Sonner
Violet Strasburger
Spear
Amelia G. Steiger
Jacob Stern
Rabbi Richard
Sternberger
Max Straus
Mendelle Strauss
Sadie F. Strauss
Walter M. Thomas
Simon Turkel
Albert Tobias
Weinberg

January 20-21
Evelyn Blumenthal
Abraham
Daniel Stuart
Aiken
Max Alexander
Maria Bachrach
Samuel Barnett
Sylvia Baruch
Henrietta Birnthal
Amnie Jacobs
Caplan
Arthur O. Carp
Leon Carton
Selma Cassin
Rose Chapdelaine
Rena M. Chapin
Charles Cohen
Tillie Cohen
Samuel Charles
Cohn
Flora S. Dashew
Henry Deboesky
Albert I. Diener
Eugene Lobe
Eisenman
Lee Eisenman
Bertie Erlanger
Felsenberg
Rachael Frank
Rose Strauss Frank
Louis Frank, Sr.
Sylvia L. Getlin
Glazer
Helen L. Goldman
Walter Goldstein
Dora Gutman
Elsie Rosenfeld
Gutman
Rabbi Adolf
Guttmacher
Morris Handle
Bebe H. Hecht
Howard Herzog
Hilda Himmelrich
Miriam Himmelstein
Sophie Hurwitz
Rachel Imhoff
Rosa Herstein
Jacob
Jeanette Carmel
Kolman
Morton Kramer
Pauline Kramer
Samuel Levy
Marie W.
Lowenstein
Bessie Miller
Louis Miller
Samuel Miller
Charles Mindel
Jacob B. Olch
Ruth Oppenheimer
Isaac Osserman
Jacob L.
Ottenheimer
Edward Pierson
Selina Robinson
Theodore Ellis
Rodwell
Morris Gabriel
Rosenfeld
Leah Roseheim
Stella Rosenheim
Fannie Rosenthal
Sidney Rosenthal
Walter Rosenthal
Augusta Rothschild
Zelda Estelle Salkin
Rabbi Murray
Saltzman
Susan Rayna Scali
Merle D. Schacht
Moses Schenthal
Abraham Schultz
Paul Schwartz
Jack A. Segel
Joseph Shapiro
Anna Sharogradsky
Sol Shavel
Edna Simon
Herbert N. Slotnick
Sylvia Snyder
Henry Solomon
Eileen F. Stofberg
Aaron Straus
Jeanette E.
Tissenbaum
Samuel Tockman
Bessie Urwick
Edward Wagner
Jeanette Rosner
Wolman
Fannie Frances
Zipkin
Lisa Cahane Zweifler

January 27-28
Julia G. Abraham
Judah Paul
Bachrach
Benjamin Beck
Mary Beck
Anna Bercowitz
Nathan Blumberg
Ida Burke
Mollie Burke
Esther Carliner
Charles I. Cohen
Harry Cohen
Lydia Kolker Cohen
Gerald H. Cooper
Janet Ellen
Dalsheimer
J. Louis Davidsson
Adelaide Rosenfeld
Eisenman
Abram Eisenberg
Leonard Emerich
Anne Engel
Ruth Engel
Joseph E. Feivish
Isaac Ferber
Kurt Foster
Ellinor Jill Fox
Ruth Antin Frank
William Samuel
Friedberger
Solomon Fuld
Harry M. Goldberg
Nathan Goldberg
Pauline Goldman
Anna R. Gorn
Fannie Greenbaum
Edith Hallock
Wolfgang Hannes
Fannie Herling
Ellinor O. Hirsh
Jeanette F.
Hollander
Louis Hyman
Rose Jacobs
Julius Jacoby
David Kahn
From Generation to Generation

Special Birthdays
Joseph Mechanick, Jonathan Shorr, John Brooks, Richard Kemper, Herbert Siegel, Christine Siddle, Amy Horwitz, Nicole Cameron, Sylvia Duell, Barbara Blumberg, Trudy Greenberg, Yousif Gaffar, Ross Goldstein, Marc Lenet, Richard Ackerman, Eric Lang, Stuart Segall, James Boomin, Jr., Anne Fink, Susan Sherman, Andrea Loran, Alvin Levi, Aron Perlman, Samuel Cohen, Alan Horwitz, Stuart Newman, Chip Kalisch

Marriages
Andrew Bookstein, son of Elly Bookstein, to Jessica Renny
Susan Brinch, daughter of Jan and Peter Brinch, granddaughter of Minna and Louis Katz
Jessica Gambel, daughter of Susan and Brian Gambel
Rabbi Elissa & Missy Sachs-Kohen on their Bar Mitzvah, by Diane & Sid Bravmann
Rabbi Elissa & Missy Sachs-Kohen on their Bar Mitzvah, by Diane & Sid Bravmann

Engagements
Hope Arbesman, daughter of Barbara and Steve Arbesman, to Matt Weisman
Kevin Gill, son of Francine and Michael Gill, to Ashley Albrecht
Abraham Miller, son of Linda and Lawrence Miller, to Jaclyn Barbara

Births
Harrison Ries Brown, son of Amanda and Matt Brown, grandson of Amy and James Ries, great-grandson of Ann and E. Carey Ries
Hannah Elizabeth Lyons, daughter of Rebecca and Teddy Lyons, granddaughter of Cantor Ann and Joel Sacks

We gratefully acknowledge the following offerings:
For the speedy recovery of Jane Davis, by Suzanne Strutt
Irving Ehudin, by Suzanne Strutt
Marjie Goodman, by Suzanne Strutt
Carol Hawthof, by Becky & Larry Gutin
Herbert Kassel, by Susan & Norman Lorch

We gratefully acknowledge the following offerings:
For the speedy recovery of Jane Davis, by Suzanne Strutt
Irving Ehudin, by Suzanne Strutt
Marjie Goodman, by Suzanne Strutt
Carol Hawthof, by Becky & Larry Gutin
Herbert Kassel, by Susan & Norman Lorch
Prepaid Offering Envelopes may be purchased from the Temple Office - or online - 10 for $100, a savings of $50.

In commemoration of the birthday anniversary of
Edward Raskin, by Sandra Raskin

Acknowledgment
Appreciation is expressed for messages of good wishes and Books of Uniongrams received by
Rachel Dubin on her special birthday
Francine Gill on her special birthday
Sally & Bryl Hendler on the birth of their grandson Robert Thompson Hendler
Barbara Mandel in memory of her son Gary Mandel
Estelle & Barry Statter on their 60th wedding anniversary
Events

**January 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday, January 1</strong></td>
<td>2 PM</td>
<td>Yale Gordon New Year’s Day Concert</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, January 2</strong></td>
<td>Building and E.B.</td>
<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Hirsh Early Childhood Center Closed</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday, January 3</strong></td>
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<td>7 PM</td>
<td>Social Justice Discussion Group</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Alchohols Anonymous</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Overeaters Anonymous</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Grey Sheet Anonymous</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, January 5</strong></td>
<td>10 AM</td>
<td>Triple Treat</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Winter Nights on Park Heights</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, January 6</strong></td>
<td>6:15 PM</td>
<td>Shabbat Service,</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Oneg Shabbat following</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday, January 7</strong></td>
<td>9 AM</td>
<td>Torah Talk</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10 AM</td>
<td>Shabbat Shelanu</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Adult B’ni Mitzvah Class</td>
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</tbody>
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**Sunday, January 8**

- 9 AM Religious School
  - Aleph All Stars, 3s
  - Gesher Family Program
- 9:15 AM Adult Beginner Hebrew Class
- 9:30 AM Brotherhood Breakfast
- 11:15 AM Understanding Prayerbook Hebrew Class
- 12:15 PM Teen Advisory Committee
- 2 PM Hoffberger Gallery Reception

**Monday, January 9**

- 6:30 PM BEIT-RJ at Har Sinai Congregation
- 7:30 PM Board of Electors Meeting
- 7:30 PM Kol Rinnnah

**Tuesday, January 10**

- 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Grey Sheet Anonymous

**Thursday, January 12**

- 10 AM Sisterhood Triple Treat
- 6:30 PM Winter Nights on Park Heights

**Friday, January 13**

- 7 PM Shabbat 2.0
  - Oneg Shabbat following

**Saturday, January 14**

- 9 AM Torah Talk
- 10 AM Shabbat Shelanu honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Sunday, January 15**

**Monday, January 16**

**Tuesday, January 17**

- 5 PM BHC Cares Meeting
- 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Grey Sheet Anonymous

**Thursday, January 19**

- 6:30 PM Winter Nights on Park Heights

**Friday, January 20**

- 6:15 PM Shabbat Service, Oneg Shabbat following
- 7:30 PM BHC Pride Dinner

**Saturday, January 21**

- 9 AM Torah Talk
- 10 AM Shabbat Shelanu
- 11:30 AM Adult B’ni Mitzvah Class
- 2 PM Family Mitzvah Corps

**Sunday, January 22**

- 9 AM Religious School
  - Aleph All Stars, 4s
  - Gesher Family Program
- 9:15 AM Adult Beginner Hebrew Class
- 9:15 AM ABC’s of Prayer
- 10:30 AM Sisterhood Board Meeting
- 11:15 AM Understanding Prayerbook Hebrew Class

**Monday, January 23**

- 6:30 PM BEIT-RJ at Har Sinai Congregation
- 7:30 PM Kol Rinnah

**Tuesday, January 24**

- 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Grey Sheet Anonymous

**Thursday, January 26**

- 10 AM Sisterhood Triple Treat
- 6:30 PM Winter Nights on Park Heights

**Friday, January 27**

- 6:15 PM URJ Shabbat Serice at Temple Oheb Shalom (note: there will be no service at BHC), Oneg Shabbat following, RSVP Requested

**Saturday, January 28**

- 9 AM Torah Talk
- 10 AM Shabbat Shelanu

**Sunday, January 29**

- 9 AM Religious School
  - Aleph All Stars, 3s
- 9 AM PEP
- 9:15 AM Adult Beginner Hebrew Class
- 9:15 AM ABC’s of Prayer
- 11:15 AM Understanding Prayerbook Hebrew Class

**Monday, January 30**

- 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Grey Sheet Anonymous

**Tuesday, January 31**

- 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
- 7:30 PM Grey Sheet Anonymous

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**SAVE THE DATES: A LOOK AHEAD**

**STAY SHABBAT**

**Saturday, February 25**

Join us for “Shabbat That’s About You” as we come together to make our community more intimate through convivial conversation and connection.

**PURIM CARNIVAL**

**Sunday, March 12**

This year’s Purim Shpiel and carnival are not to be missed!

**INTERFAITH INSTITUTE**

**Monday, March 6**

Keynote speaker Dr. Homayra Ziad will lead us in a discussion of the timely topic “The Fear of Islam in American Public Discourse”

**SECOND NIGHT SEDER**

**Tuesday, April 11**

All are welcome to share in the celebration of Passover.

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Hearing loops are available in all of our worship spaces and some of our social halls. Simply turn on the T-coil or ask an usher for a headset.
SERVICES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
6:15 PM • Shabbat Service
Rabbi Busch will speak
6:30 PM • PJ Shabbat
with Rabbi Sachs-Kohen

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7
Vayigash, Genesis 44:18-47:27
9 AM • Torah Talk
10 AM • Shabbat Shelanu

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13
7 PM • Shabbat 2.0
Rabbi Busch will speak

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
Vayechi, Genesis 47:28-50:26
9 AM • Torah Talk
10 AM • Shabbat Shelanu Honoring
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Afro-Semitic Experience will perform

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20
6:15 PM • Shabbat Service
Rabbi Busch will speak

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21
Shemot, Exodus 1:1-6:1
9 AM • Torah Talk
10 AM • Shabbat Shelanu

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27
6:15 PM • URJ Shabbat Service
at Temple Oheb Shalom
(Note: no service at BHC)
Mark Pelavin, Chief Program Officer,
Union of Reform Judaism will speak

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28
Va'era, Exodus 6:2-9:35
9 AM • Torah Talk
10 AM • Shabbat Shelanu

Videostreaming for Shabbat and High Holy Day services is available by visiting ustream.tv/channel/baltimore-hebrew-congregation. Registration is not necessary and this service is completely free. We do our best to videostream all of our services, however there is no guarantee the recording will be uninterrupted or complete.