Congregation
ETZ CHAIM
creating meaningful Jewish experiences

Voice of Chaim

June/July 2026 | Sivan/Tammuz 5786 | Volume 51, Issue 6 | etzchaim.net



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Daily Minyan Times

Sunday Mornings: 9:15 a.m.
Monday – Friday Mornings: 7:00 a.m.
Sunday – Thursday Evenings: 6:30 p.m.
Please note:
Morning Minyan for Federal Holidays: 9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Services:

Friday, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, 9:30 a.m. *(in-person & livestream)*
etzchaim.net/facebook-livestream

Etz Chaim Executive Board

Lisa Olens, President
Harris Fogel, Executive Vice President
Jen Katz, Chief Financial Officer
Rob Miller, VP of Fundraising
Audrey Fried-Sheets and Evan Charles, Co-VPs of Religion
Mallory Low, VP of Education
Lisa Dubovy, VP of Communications and Secretary
Rachel Wilson, VP of Membership Services
Joe Ziskend, VP of Engagement
Elliot Okrent, Immediate Past President and Parliamentarian

Synagogue Staff

Dan Dorsch, Rabbi
Jonathon Adler, Rabbi
Shalom Lewis, Rabbi Emeritus
Marty Gilbert, Executive Director
Aram Blankenship, Facilities Manager
Debbie Deutsch, Director of Religious School and Youth Programming
Lauren Chernau, Director of Preschool
Tiana Plendl, Office Manager, Education Department
Betsy Fitzwater, Office Manager, Synagogue/Yahrzeits/Calendar
Christine Bezdek, Bookkeeper
Bernice Isaac, Communications/Voice of Chaim/Digital Content
Hannah Milley, Administrative Assistant/Donations

Get Involved with our Affinity Groups!

Backpack Buddies: Angie Nothdurft
Chesed (Caring) Committee: Suzanne Rivchun
Chavurot/Friendship Groups: TBA
College Connection: Edye Mahaffey and Beth Walter
Inclusion Committee: Steven Perlow
Lilmode/Adult Education: Steve Birch
Membership Services: Rachel Wilson
Men's Club: Mathew Nathan
Phillip's Library: Janice Levine
Pride Alliance: Andrew Kagan
Prime Timers: Gail Vanovitch and Andrea Cohen
Ruach Singers: Rabbi Adler and Karen Needle
Sisterhood: Dani Oren and Phyllis Silverstein
Social Action: Sharon Lightstone
Young Adults: Anne Still
Youth Commission: Bethany Levee



Dan Dorsch

Rabbi

June 24, 2026 will mark the official 10th anniversary of our family's arrival in Georgia. More importantly, however, it will mark our son Zev's 13th birthday.

Zev will observe his Hebrew birthday over the summer. To mark the occasion quietly, we plan to attend morning minyan at Etz Chaim, where Zev will take an aliyah in honor of his "official" milestone.

Because Zev has a summer birthday, and after considering a variety of practical factors over the years, including summer schedules and late sundown times, we decided as a family long ago to hold his public celebration later in the year. Accordingly, we are excited to invite our synagogue family and friends to celebrate with us on Shabbat morning, November 6. There will be a festive luncheon after services to which the entire congregation is invited. Having shared in so many of your family simchot over the years, we could not imagine celebrating this milestone without our Etz Chaim family beside us. We look forward to sharing this joyous occasion together.

Please note that, in keeping with Zev's wishes, the Saturday night record hop will be a kids-only celebration for his friends. Zev is especially excited to bring together the many friendships he has built through synagogue life, Epstein, camp, and the various communities that have shaped him.

This summer, Zev and I are also planning a special trip to New Jersey to visit his great-grandfather and purchase his tallit and tefillin. At 98 years old, we feel extraordinarily blessed to have both of my mother's parents still with us and able to serve as a living link between generations.

Alongside his cousin's bar mitzvah in Winnipeg and my godson's bar mitzvah in Westchester, this promises to be a particularly joyful year of smachot for the Dorsch family. We look forward to celebrating many meaningful milestones together with all of you in the year ahead.



Jonathon Adler

Assistant Rabbi

School's out for summer! May was a month full of celebrations. Confirmation, graduations, including our own Baccalaureate Ceremony here at Etz Chaim, and for me personally, a trip to Ohio to watch my nephew graduate from high school, where my sister and I were bewildered by how quickly 18 and a half years have gone by since he was born. He's turning into a remarkable man. So many celebrations!

Although we didn't mark a formal graduation for them, the Maccabiah Games marked the end of Religious School for our rising eighth-grade class. They worked hard and had so much fun creating this event for our entire Religious School. I am so proud of them for so much more than this. Truly, it's been a great privilege and joy to teach them on Sundays and Tuesdays, and to attend (most of) their B'nai Mitzvah. We learned about Torah, Jewish lifecycle events, doing mitzvot, and we took a look at what Jewish adult lives can look like. I am confident they found inspiration in this.

On another level, it's been a remarkable experience to watch them grow taller, older, and wiser as they've continued along their journeys. In a few years, God-willing, I'll be at their Baccalaureate, where I'll no doubt reflect again on how far they will have come by then, and on what I will have taught them leading up to that point.

V'Shinantam L'Vanecha, teaching the Torah to our children is a mitzvah commanded in the Ve'ahavta. In his commentary Siftei Chachamim, 17th-century scholar Shabbethai Bass explains that this refers not to teaching one's biological children, but rather one's students. As a rabbi and teacher, I can think of no better gift than to be entrusted to teach students in our community, regardless of age.

There's a quote in the Talmud, attributed to both Rabbi Chanina and Rabbi Yehuda haNasi, that says, "I have learned much from my teachers, more from my friends than from my teachers, and from my students more than all of them." I can't wait to find out what I'll learn from our rising seventh-graders and the students in classes I have yet to teach.

New Programs Created During the 2025-2026:

- Kabbalah Study Roots Group
- Celebrating Lag B'Omer as a community
- Shabbat Dinners with the Prime Timers



Check out our new monthly podcast with Rabbi Dorsch and a special guest. Produced by Josh Vexler. (Available on the SoundCloud App, Spotify, and Apple iTunes.)



Rabbi Dorsch has created a monthly coworking space at Etz Chaim. For questions, contact Rabbi Dorsch. Space is limited.





Lisa Olens
President

Does it feel harder to make friends these days—like our social circles have shrunk, especially since COVID? You're not imagining it. One national survey found that far fewer Americans report having a large circle of close friends than in decades past.

And the stakes are real: strong relationships are closely tied to our well-being. So what's the solution?

I believe one of the best answers is right here: taking full advantage of your membership at Congregation Etz Chaim—not just to attend, but to connect.

As I started drafting this mid-year message, I expected to write a simple recap of the first six months of 2026. What I realized instead is that these programs are more than "events" on a calendar—they are the way a congregation becomes community: shared Shabbat tables, learning in good company, showing up for one another in moments of joy and challenge, and finding your people.

Quantity alone isn't a measure of success; it's clear that Etz Chaim is offering intentional, meaningful ways to plug in—across ages, stages, interests, and schedules. Here are a few highlights from January through June, organized by the kinds of connections they create.

Worship and Shabbat—never routine: In just the first six months, we celebrated Sisterhood Shabbat, Men's Club Shabbat, Shake It Up Shabbat, M&M Shabbat, Tot Shabbat, Club Parsha, Sing-along Shabbat, Musical Friday Night Shabbat, and Installation Shabbat. Our lay leadership participates in and leads many services, including our twice-daily minyanim, always adding their special touch.

Learning—something for every learner: We offered Torah Study, Mocha Mondays, Lunch & Learn, Shabbat Shiur, Shalom in the Home, and the newly launched Zug. The Worldwide Wrap gave our students an opportunity to wrap tefillin with Men's Club. And we were wowed and enlightened by Rabbi Ed Feinstein all weekend long during our Scholar-in-Residence weekend.

Holidays and Celebrations—joy we share: We marked the season with Purim in Oz, the Purim Carnival and Mishloach Manot, a First Night Pesach Seder, and Lag B'Omer Cinco de Mayo style.

Friendship and fun—show up, and you'll recognize faces: Prime Timers hosted the Winter Blast Dance, Game Day, and a Shabbat Dinner, and enjoyed a Persian cooking program. Our JF&CS AgeWell partnership brought Canasta and Mah Jongg, plus Koffee & Kibbitz on a regular schedule. Our Young Adults enjoyed Mah Jongg with Moms and attended the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival.

Caring community—showing up for one another: Our Chesed Committee continued to support members through life's moments—especially when things are hard—through Shalom Baby!, Honorary Bubbes & Zaydes, Lev El Lev, Yad V'Yad, Bikkur Cholim, and Nefesh L'Nefesh. It's also a wonderful place to volunteer.

Giving back—living our values in the wider world: Social Action continued ongoing efforts like Backpack Buddies and the JF&CS food drive for the Kosher Food Pantry, and we also participated in the Hunger Walk benefiting the Atlanta Community Food Bank, provided meals for Rebecca's Tent, and hosted a blood drive. And our Young Adults packed sandwiches with Moishe House and Repair the World.

Shared interests—smaller circles within the larger community: Our Roots Groups helped members connect around what they love—Schmooze on Zoom, recycling with the Green Team, Stitch 'n' Kibbitz, and a Kabbalah group. And for the artists among us (or those who want to learn), Art for a Mitzvah continued to create and connect. Sisterhood Book Club offered our book lovers a place to connect with others.

Families and youth—learning, growing, and leading: Our Preschool is growing (approximately 65 students), and our Religious School is thriving with a new curriculum and strong feedback. Both schools have active parent groups. And our lifecycle milestones continued to bring us together in joy—B'nai Mitzvah, births, weddings, Confirmation, and Baccalaureate. Our youth groups for grades K–2 (Chalutzim), grades 3–5 (Chaverim), and grades 6–8 (Gesher) continued to offer monthly opportunities for our children to foster Jewish friendships. And our award-winning Sababa USY chapter helped high school students embrace their Jewish identity—whether it was at Wacky Wednesdays or another event.

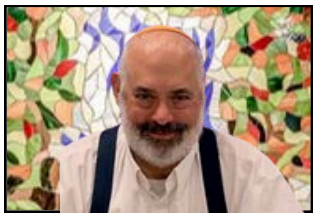
This is not just a recap—it's an invitation. These experiences are a path to deeper engagement, a stronger sense of belonging, and (yes) new friendships. And if you're not seeing exactly what you're looking for yet, please tell us. We want to build it with you.

What can you do? Choose one small step this month—then take another next month.

- Come to a Shabbat service—and sit with someone you don't know yet at oneg.
- Try one learning offering and introduce yourself to one person.
- Join a Roots Group or affinity group—or start a chavurah if you're ready to gather a few people.
- Volunteer once: with Chesed, Social Action, Sisterhood, Men's Club, the office, or the Judaica shop.
- If you see someone standing alone, be the person who says hello.
- Bond with other parents, especially as you move through the B'nai Mitzvah years.

Each of these steps can open the door to community, connection, and belonging—and you may be surprised how quickly familiar faces become friends.

Thank you to our incredible staff and to the many volunteers who make all this possible. If you've been on the edges—or you're newer and not quite sure where you fit—I hope you'll take one small step. There is a place for you here, and we're glad you're part of Etz Chaim.



Marty Gilbert
Executive Director

We continue to live in challenging times. The safety and security of our congregants, students, guests, staff, teachers, etc., is our paramount concern. As our 2025-2026 fiscal year ends and a new fiscal year begins, we continue to look for ways to improve our security so everyone feels safe in our building.

Many of you, if not all of you, are aware of the armed off-duty Sheriff's deputy onsite at various times during the week, and at specific holidays and events. Our doors are always locked, and we have an extensive camera system and a monitored door access system.

We recently installed the BluePoint Alert System, an emergency pull-station system that alerts police and medical responders. It operates similarly to our fire pull stations and helps speed emergency response. The system is designed to be used **ONLY** in a **DEADLY FORCE SITUATION** (Active Shooter, Bomb, etc.). Any issue that does not fall into that category should be reported to 911.

Our synagogue Security Committee meets on a quarterly basis to evaluate our security protocols and make recommendations on how to improve our campus. I attend quarterly Community Security Meetings, and receive daily updates on the threat environment in the Atlanta area and nationally from the Secure Community Network (SCN).

We want you to feel safe when you continue to "create meaningful Jewish experiences".



The Figur Family Outdoor Classroom
is open after kiddush lunch.

Parental Supervision Is Required.



We are excited to introduce the Minyan Maker App. It is simple to use, and allows you to update your availability in real time to help with the mitzvah of making minyan Sunday through Thursday evening.

Click here to create an account or use the link below or QR Code.

www.etzchaim.net/minyan-signup/

This link can also be found on the Etz Chaim website under Daily Minyan. Thank you for your participation. Questions? You can contact our Co-VPs of Religion: Audrey Fried-Sheets and Evan Charles, or Ron Judenberg.

Minyan Sign-up

Etz Chaim Preschool

Etz Chaim Preschool Web Page

Lauren Chernau

Preschool Director





Babysitting on Shabbat

Mark your Calendars!
Saturdays, June 6, 13, 20, and 27
July 4, 11, 18, and 25

Babysitting is available on Shabbat during the summer months. Please check our website calendar or in the weekly EtzBlast for updates.

Not your typical baby class. This is where communication begins! Speech-Language and Lullabies is an SLP-led early communication experience for babies and their grown-ups. Through music, movement, baby sign, early literacy, and sensory play, little ones explore language while caregivers learn simple, effective ways to support communication at home. Joyful for babies and supportive for those who love them. Class facilitated by Stacey Tygielski, M.S., CCC-SLP. Recommended age: 6-18 months. @speechlanguagelullabies

Six -Class Course on Tuesdays, at Congregation Etz Chaim. RSVP today:

Registration: www.speechlanguagelullabies.com
Discount Promo Code for congregation: Etzmember

Week 1 (Tuesday, June 9, and Thursday, June 11, at 10:30 a.m.)
Week 2 (Tuesday, June 16, and Wednesday, June 17, at 10:30 a.m.)
Week 3 (Tuesday, June 23, and Thursday, June 25, at 10:30 a.m.)

Speech-Language and Lullabies



Preschool/Camp Ruach! Dates to Remember:

Monday - Friday
June 1 - 5, Week 1 - Summer Fun
June 8 - 12, Week 2 - Music Makers
June 15 - 19*, Week 3 - Artist Colony (Camp Closed on Friday, June 19)
June 22 - 26, Week 4 - Sports-O-Rama
June 29 - July 3, Week 5 - Colorful Cooking (Camp Closed on Friday, July 3)
July 6 - 10, Week 6 - Zoo Animals
July 13 - 17, Week 7 - Outer Space Adventures
July 20 - 24, Week 8 - Camping Fun (Camp Closed on Thursday, July 23)

Monday - Wednesday
Bonus Days of Camp:
July 27 - 29, Week 9 - Engineering Challenges

Youth Photo Gallery

Wrapping up a year full of learning, laughter, and unforgettable memories!





















Youth Department

Debbie Deutsch
Director, Religious School
and Youth Programming



Youth Department

The Youth Department is having a lot of fun with great activities. Haven't registered your child?

We are now accepting membership forms for the 2026 - 2027 school year. Use the QR code to register.

If you would like your child to attend these and other upcoming events, they must be a member of our Youth Department.

The price for USY is all-inclusive, covering Wacky dinners, Limo Lock-in, social events, and the Banquet for USY members.

Congregation Etz Chaim Youth Department

Chalutzim K- 2nd Grades

Chaverim 3rd-5th Grades

Gesher (6th-8th Grades)

Sababa USY

SCAN ME

etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/form/26.27YouthGroupMembershipApp



Wishing much mazal to our incoming Sababa USY Board Members:

President – Ethan Greenberg
Vice President of Jewish Life – Ari Oren
Vice President of Programs – Noah Needle
Vice President of Outreach – Aliza Goldstein
Vice President of Communications – Isabelle Finn

Kol HaKavod to Asher Barchichat on being elected President of HaNegev Regional Board of United Synagogue Youth (USY).
Asher is the son of Allison and Tanah Barchichat and grandson of Myra Goldberg and Neda Gayle. **Mazal Tov!**

If you register before October 1, 2026, you will receive a free Youth Department t-shirt. If you register after October 1, there will be an additional fee of $15 for a t-shirt (if you want one).

The price for USY is an all-in price, including all Wacky dinners, Limo Lock-in, social events, and Banquet for USY members.

Mazal Tov for a job well done! Outgoing Sababa USY Board Members:

President – Daniel Barchichat
VP of Israel Affairs – Evan Okrent
VP of Social Action/Tikkun Olam – Asher Barchichat
VP of Membership – Eli Slomovitz
VP of Communications – Ethan Greenberg



Religious School News

Religious School Web Page

Debbie Deutsch

Director, Religious School and Youth Programming



Last, But Certainly Not Least… Kitah Vav and Kitah Zayin (6th and 7th Grades)

Lisa Dubovy, Kitah Vav teacher, has been teaching for 35 years and has wanted to become an educator since she was in elementary school. During the week, Lisa teaches Middle School Science, STEAM, and is the Girls' Dean at Pace Academy. Five years ago, at Pace, she started the Middle School Jewish Affinity group. Organizing the Jewish Affinity group made Lisa realize that she wanted to expand her teaching career by educating Middle School students in the Religious School setting.

Asher Barchichat completes the **Kitah Vav** team. "My name is Asher Barchichat, and I chose to work at the Religious School because it is important to me to share my Jewish identity with the youth and help them explore theirs while preparing them for their B'nai Mitzvah. I enjoy science and engineering, which drives me to think critically about problems and how to find solutions. In 8th grade, I joined USY thinking... I would like it, but not invest years into it. The following year, I began to enjoy USY more and more; eventually, I ran for the Regional Board. After winning, I reflected on myself and improved to the best of my abilities this year. I ran for Regional President and won. Being Jewish is what makes me "me". Mentoring young Jews and teaching about our faith is what I love most."

As you have read in **Rabbi Adler's article, Kitah Zayin** had a very successful year. So much of that success is due to the curious and cohesive group of students, and due to Rabbi Adler's interest in learning more about teaching. His enthusiasm for delving into pedagogy and how to make a lesson interactive and enjoyable was key to the success of his class. Kol Hakavod to Rabbi Adler for reaching each student in the manner that is best for them!

Todah Rabah to our Teaching Team for another great school year!



Gan K'tan Class - Pre-K
Moran Gross | Talia England | Noah Needle
Kitah Gan - Kindergarten
Sarah Fran Neuwirth | Elisheva Miller
Kitah Alef - First Grade
Fran Friedrich | Ari Flaks | Ella Needle
Kitah Bet Keshet - Second Grade
Amy Szumstein | Spencer Fox
Kitah Bet Shemesh - Second Grade
Rachel Slomovitz | Lily Nothdurft
Kitah Gimel - Third Grade
Bernice Isaac | Harrison Miller | Juliet Sutton
Kitah Dalet - Fourth Grade
Janna Cohen | Eli Slomovitz | Violet Bolton | Noah Needle
Kitah Hay - Fifth Grade
SaraJane Weinstein | Jordan Nathan | Ari Oren
Kitah Vav - Sixth Grade
Lisa Dubovy | Asher Barchichat
Kitah Zayin - Seventh Grade
Rabbi Jonathon Adler
Tuesday Hebrew Teachers
Donna Bierman | Amanda Flaks | Esti Kleinman
Rebecca Streetman | Toby Streetman | Faun Yordon

Don't forget to register for the 2026-2027 school year!



Religious School fees schedule:

Please register and choose your payment option by June 15 to avoid late fees.

Registration from June 16 – July 15 will incur a $30 per-child late fee.

Registering after July 15 will incur a $60 per-child late fee.

B'nai Mitzvah Mazal Tov!

The Voice features information on upcoming B'nai Mitzvah. If your child has a Bar/Bat Mitzvah in the coming months, we would like to feature your child's:

- Biographical information
- School information
- Photo
- D'var Torah Quote
- Mitzvah Project

To have your child's simcha included in the Voice, please email the Bio form which is included in the B'nai Mitzvah Handbook from the Religious School along with a high-resolution photo to Bernice in the synagogue office.

B'nai Mitzvah

Mazal Tov to our Kitah Zayin - 7th Grade B'nai Mitzvah Class



Back row - Rabbi Dan Dorsch, Jenny Charlop, Alex Goldband, Rhiannon Charlop and Rabbi Jonathon Adler; Second row - Lucas Planer, Jacob Guggenheim, Josh Cohen; Third row - Rachel Edelstein, Taylor Nighbert, Ariel Brand; Front row - Darrah Agin, Debbie Deutsch, Cory Levee, Avery Combs



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Men's Club

Men's Club is a vital part of our congregation.
Our ongoing programs include:

- Supporting daily minyan
- Sponsoring picnics
- World Wide Wrap
- Providing scholarships
- Men's Club Shabbat
- Anshei Darom Retreat
- Synagogue Softball League
- Ushering for High Holidays
- Supporting the Holocaust Garden

Our goal is to provide our members with opportunities to meet one another and make new lasting friendships, support our community, and have fun during the process.

Join *Men's Club* and make a difference in our Etz Chaim community.

Get on our mailing list at: mensclub@etzchaim.net

President: Mathew Nathan

Do you have an idea for a Men's Club event? Please send us an email, and let's discuss. We are actively seeking ideas for more social opportunities for our members. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mathew Nathan (mattynathan@gmail.com).

Mathew Nathan, President

Sisterhood Scoop

Sisterhood is gearing up for an exciting new year of uplifting programs. We are revamping some familiar programs and events. Please note that **our annual Installation will now take place in August.** Stay tuned for the exact date and upcoming events.

Wishing all our sisters a wonderful summer.

Dani and Phyllis

Sisterhood Minyan Makers:
Join Sisterhood on the 1st Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. as we help make a minyan for those saying Kaddish for a loved one.

Judaica and Gifts Shop:
Summer store hours are by appointment only. Please contact Lauren Gray for information at: giftshop@etzchaim.net.

JNF Trees for Israel:
Honor someone special by purchasing a tree in the Etz Chaim Sisterhood Grove in Israel. For more information, contact Sandy Bailey, the Gift Shop or Click here to place your order. Trees are $18 each.

Want to know more about Sisterhood?
Please contact Dani Oren at (770) 630-2254 or Phyllis Silverstein at (404) 643-8678.

Centerpiece Rental:
Consider using our beautiful new topiary centerpieces for your Friday night dinner, Kiddush luncheon or Saturday evening affair. Contact the Gift Shop for more information.

Sisterhood WhatsApp:
Join our WhatsApp Community and stay connected! You will be able to receive updates, chat with Sisterhood members, and join subgroups organized by topic such as Monthly Minyan and Book Club. Please complete this form to join our Community. Need assistance? Contact Karen in the synagogue office.



2026 Minyannaires

Torah Fund - Support Women's League Torah Fund supports scholarships and programs in the Conservative Institutes of Higher Jewish Learning. This year's pin, *Am Yisrael Chai* (The People of Israel Live), is a statement of solidarity for our Jewish nation and the continuity of our people. For information on donations and giving levels, contact Sandy Bailey at (770) 490-7874 or by email at jbsandy10@gmail.com.

TORAH FUND
WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM
Announcing Our 2025-2026 Campaign Theme:
Oseh Shalom
עשה שלום
Maker of Peace

It's never too late to support Torah Fund!
Contact Sandy Bailey.

Lilmode: Adult Education

From Our *Lilmode* Chair, Steve Birch

As we enter summer, our thoughts shift to vacation travels and time outdoors, while many of our regular Lilmode offerings are on hiatus. But Jewish learning can still continue on by reading Jewish books on our vacation, including Jewish destinations on our itineraries and finding new and different Jewish experiences wherever we may be. We're developing a calendar full of new learning opportunities as we get ready to enter 5787. We look forward to learning with you. If you have an idea for some new learning or a request for Lilmode, please feel free to reach out to Steve Birch.

Coming to you this fall:

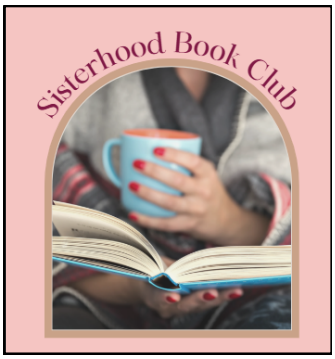


Huntcliff Summit Monthly Torah Study with Rabbi Dorsch
Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m.

SAVE THESE DATES:
September 8 | October 13 | November 10 | December 8

Love, Loss, and Wisdom
Sundays, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Beginning in December

More details and registration information to come this fall.



Sisterhood Book Club
Sunday, June 28, 10 - 11:45 a.m.

The book, ***Heart of a Stranger*** **by Angela Buhdahl,** will be discussed.

Be on the lookout for the location to be determined at a later date.
Facilitated by Myra Goldberg.

For more information please contact Myra (myra.goldberg@yahoo.com)

Holiday Information



Tisha B'Av

Wednesday, July 22

Our commemoration will be in partnership with Temple Beth Tikvah at their shul.
Watch your email for more details to come.

Shabbat Honors Reminders:

- Do you have a milestone birthday, anniversary, or another significant life event? Observing a yahrzeit?
- Being called to the Torah is a great way to commemorate the occasion, whether honoring a simcha or honoring the memory of a loved one.
- We also honor those who have volunteered at the synagogue to mark a job well done.

Please contact Steven Horovitz if you would like to receive an honor during Shabbat Services.

Our Caring Community



How Can We Help?

The Chesed Committee is expanding to help you navigate life's challenging times.

Shalom Baby! **שלום תינוק** *Hello Baby!*	**Honorary Bubbes & Zaydes** *Grand Mothers & Fathers*	**Lev El Lev** **לב אל לב** *Heart to Heart*
Yad V'Yad **יד ביד** *Hand in Hand*	**Bikkur Cholim** **ביקור חולים** *Visiting the ill*	**Nefesh L'Nefesh** **נפש לנפש** *Soul to Soul*

Contact Rabbi Dorsch at (770) 973-0137 or rabbidorsch@etzchaim.net to see how the Chesed Committee can help YOU or someone in your immediate family! Confidentiality respected.

IS THERE A NEW BABY IN YOUR HOUSE?
Shalom Baby!

Once the synagogue has been notified, we're here to provide a warm welcome to the newest member of your family. We can suggest resources for a brit milah or a simchat bat, provide some nourishment for the whole family during those hectic first days and even provide your little one with some Etz Chaim "merch"!

DO YOUR CHILDREN NEED A LOCAL GRANDPARENT?
Honorary Bubbes and Zaydes (Grandmothers and Grandfathers)

Sometimes grandparents live too far away for regular visits or even visits on special occasions; even local grandparents are sometimes unavailable. If you'd like your child or children to have the special gift of connection with a local bubbe or zayde, a savta or saba, we can arrange it!

WOULD YOU WELCOME A VISIT FROM A NEW FRIEND?
Lev El Lev (Heart to Heart)

Sometimes illness, age, the death of a spouse or partner – even a new move to this area – can leave us feeling isolated and lonely. If you'd welcome the chance to meet a new friend, share a cup of coffee and maybe some life stories, we'd be happy to provide that friend for you!

DON'T FIGHT A MEDICAL BATTLE ALONE
Yad B'Yad (Hand in Hand)

If you're facing or battling a medical challenge, walk down that road hand-in-hand with someone who's already made that journey. A member of our congregation who has faced a similar medical issue can provide information, tips and other resources as you navigate the road ahead.

WOULD A VISIT LIFT YOUR SPIRITS?
Bikkur Cholim (Visiting the Ill)

Time in the hospital, in rehab or during recuperation at home can be very long. A visit from a member of our congregation who comes with a smile -- and maybe even a joke or two -- can help break the boredom.

HAS A LOVED ONE PASSED AWAY?
Nefesh L'Nefesh (Soul to Soul)

After the synagogue has been notified of the death of a congregant or a congregant's loved one, Nefesh L'Nefesh volunteers arrange a meal for the immediate family of the deceased after an in-town funeral. (Those congregants who observe shiva at home after an out-of-town funeral receive a fruit platter.) With our rabbis, we can also provide both short-and long-term resources to help you deal with loss and grief.

Condolences & Yahrzeits



Condolences to...

- Lois Chesin on the passing of her beloved husband, Marvin Chesin

הַמָּקוֹם יְנַחֵם אֶתְכֶם בְּתוֹךְ שְׁאָר אֲבֵלֵי צִיּוֹן וִירוּשָׁלָיִם

Hamakom yenachem etchem betoch sha'ar avelay tziyon v'yerushalayim.

May God comfort you together with all the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

June Yahrzeits

Jun 1 | Evalyn Ginsburg | 16 Sivan
Jun 1 | Marvin Berk | 16 Sivan
*Jun 1 | Sylvia Steinfeld | 16 Sivan
Jun 2 | Barbara Levin | 17 Sivan
Jun 3 | Lillian Cohen | 18 Sivan
*Jun 3 | Morris Schneider | 18 Sivan
Jun 3 | Philip Sultzer | 18 Sivan
Jun 4 | Barbara Schlosberg | 19 Sivan
Jun 4 | Marvin Kaiman | 19 Sivan
Jun 4 | Adeline Agrow Teich | 19 Sivan
*Jun 4 | Abraham Bernknopf | 19 Sivan
Jun 5 | Milton I. Zlotin | 20 Sivan
*Jun 5 | Harold Bowman | 20 Sivan
*Jun 5 | Herb Dalmat | 20 Sivan
*Jun 6 | Louis Coltman | 21 Sivan
*Jun 6 | Bea Stadtler | 21 Sivan
*Jun 6 | Tillie Cohen | 21 Sivan
*Jun 7 | Marion Kroungold | 22 Sivan
Jun 7 | Arlene Miller | 22 Sivan
*Jun 7 | Charlotte Berg | 22 Sivan
Jun 7 | Elsie Brodsky | 22 Sivan
*Jun 7 | Adele (Dolly) Zucker | 22 Sivan
Jun 8 | Barry Garron | 23 Sivan
Jun 9 | Ruth Dickson | 24 Sivan
*Jun 9 | Phillip Rosenberg | 24 Sivan
Jun 9 | Edythe Simon | 24 Sivan
*Jun 10 | Diana Robbins | 25 Sivan
*Jun 10 | Robert Silverman | 25 Sivan
Jun 10 | Alan Shultz | 25 Sivan
*Jun 10 | William Schwartz | 25 Sivan
Jun 10 | Gerald Sheftel | 25 Sivan
*Jun 10 | Carl Lambert | 25 Sivan
Jun 10 | Carl Isbitts | 25 Sivan
Jun 10 | Glenda Ballew | 25 Sivan
Jun 11 | Mania Gontmakher | 26 Sivan
Jun 11 | Ed Mandel | 26 Sivan
Jun 11 | Arthur Padawer | 26 Sivan
Jun 11 | Sanford Juntoff | 26 Sivan
Jun 12 | Louis Shilling | 27 Sivan
Jun 13 | Joel Kummins | 28 Sivan
Jun 13 | Paul Cohen | 28 Sivan
Jun 13 | Elliot Gordon | 28 Sivan
*Jun 13 | Fritz Eden | 28 Sivan
Jun 14 | Morton Berg | 29 Sivan
*Jun 14 | Marny Liebschutz | 29 Sivan
*Jun 15 | Annette Tinter Easton | 30 Sivan
Jun 15 | Carol Schulman | 30 Sivan
Jun 15 | Margie B. Greenberg | 30 Sivan
Jun 15 | Mildred Itzkowitz | 30 Sivan
*Jun 15 | Charles Schweitzer | 30 Sivan
*Jun 15 | Howard D. Goldman | 30 Sivan
*Jun 15 | Herman Yucht | 30 Sivan
Jun 15 | Martin Friedner | 30 Sivan
*Jun 15 | Daniel Goldman | 30 Sivan
Jun 16 | Annette Felson | 1 Tammuz
*Jun 16 | Joseph Schwarz | 1 Tammuz
Jun 16 | Morris Steiner | 1 Tammuz
*Jun 16 | Marjorie Liebschutz | 1 Tammuz
Jun 16 | Louis Cohen | 1 Tammuz
Jun 16 | Linda Greene | 1 Tammuz
Jun 16 | Joyce Barbara Isbitts | 1 Tammuz
*Jun 16 | Rose Goldstein Alter | 1 Tammuz
Jun 16 | Frances Levy | 1 Tammuz
Jun 17 | Leo Mayers | 2 Tammuz
*Jun 17 | Sylvia Schulberg | 2 Tammuz
*Jun 17 | Ben Smith | 2 Tammuz
*Jun 17 | Louis Silverberg | 2 Tammuz
*Jun 17 | Belle Resnick | 2 Tammuz
Jun 17 | Marc Ebel | 2 Tammuz
Jun 18 | Herbert Kaplan | 3 Tammuz
*Jun 18 | Archie Struhl | 3 Tammuz
*Jun 18 | Penny Zinsenheim | 3 Tammuz
Jun 18 | Alex Rothbard | 3 Tammuz
Jun 18 | Abraham Moe Richman | 3 Tammuz
Jun 18 | Pauline Kahn | 3 Tammuz
Jun 19 | Samuel Binder | 4 Tammuz
Jun 19 | Dorothy Halperin | 4 Tammuz
Jun 19 | Marc Sheinbein | 4 Tammuz
Jun 19 | Barbara Goodman | 4 Tammuz
Jun 19 | Marcia S. Sarachek | 4 Tammuz
*Jun 20 | Burnett Roth | 5 Tammuz
Jun 21 | Leon Harrison | 6 Tammuz
*Jun 21 | Manfred Heinemann | 6 Tammuz
Jun 21 | Betty Lipson | 6 Tammuz
Jun 21 | Eugene Allen | 6 Tammuz
*Jun 21 | Morris Cohen | 6 Tammuz
*Jun 21 | Irv Sonshein | 6 Tammuz
Jun 22 | Harold Greenblatt | 7 Tammuz
*Jun 22 | Robert Sukloff | 7 Tammuz
Jun 23 | Elliott B Gilbert |
Jun 23 | Audrey Nathan | 8 Tammuz
Jun 23 | Bert Karol | 8 Tammuz
*Jun 23 | Lilly Wanuck | 8 Tammuz
Jun 23 | Philip Gordon | 8 Tammuz
Jun 23 | Alice Kopen | 8 Tammuz
*Jun 23 | Henry Becker | 8 Tammuz
Jun 24 | Sarah Krieger | 9 Tammuz
Jun 24 | Sonia Rosenberg | 9 Tammuz
*Jun 24 | David Kaplan | 9 Tammuz
Jun 25 | Leonard Kornbluth | 10 Tammuz
*Jun 25 | Phillip Morris | 10 Tammuz
Jun 26 | Marcos Beker | 11 Tammuz
Jun 26 | Benjamin Karp | 11 Tammuz
*Jun 27 | Claire Mitchell | 12 Tammuz
*Jun 27 | Albert Easton | 12 Tammuz
*Jun 27 | Jack Rabinowitz | 12 Tammuz
*Jun 28 | Ellen Friedman | 13 Tammuz
*Jun 28 | Rachel Grodin | 13 Tammuz
Jun 28 | Bertram Greenberg | 13 Tammuz
Jun 29 | Roger Waterman | 14 Tammuz
*Jun 29 | Barbara Cohen | 14 Tammuz
Jun 29 | Lois Gordon | 14 Tammuz
Jun 29 | Dean Coleman | 14 Tammuz
Jun 29 | Lorene Shaw | 14 Tammuz
*Jun 30 | Albert Aronson | 15 Tammuz
*Jun 30 | Garry La Vine | 15 Tammuz

Condolences & Yahrzeits



הַמָּקוֹם יְנַחֵם אֶתְכֶם בְּתוֹךְ שְׁאָר אֲבֵלֵי צִיּוֹן וִירוּשָׁלָיִם

Hamakom yenachem etechem betoch shaar avelay tziyon v'yerushalayim.

May God comfort you together with all the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

July Yahrzeits

*Jul 1 | Arline Mandel-Friedman | 16 Tammuz
Jul 1 | Elizabeth Sklar | 16 Tammuz
Jul 1 | Henry "Hank" Landau | 16 Tammuz
Jul 2 | Betty Lipsey Goldenberg | 17 Tammuz
Jul 2 | Helen Avni | 17 Tammuz
Jul 2 | Ana Gelbs Sapoznik | 17 Tammuz
*Jul 2 | Edna Frankel | 17 Tammuz
Jul 2 | Irving Adelman | 17 Tammuz
Jul 2 | Robert "Bob" Kirschner | 17 Tammuz
*Jul 3 | Sidney Rothstein | 18 Tammuz
Jul 3 | Sidney Davis | 18 Tammuz
Jul 5 | Bernard Friedrich | 20 Tammuz
*Jul 5 | Murray Steinfeld | 20 Tammuz
Jul 5 | Jayne Adair | 20 Tammuz
Jul 5 | Barry Adelman | 20 Tammuz
Jul 5 | Diane F Gilbert | 20 Tammuz
*Jul 6 | Flori David | 21 Tammuz
*Jul 6 | Beverly Mandel | 21 Tammuz
Jul 6 | Marcia Stone | 21 Tammuz
Jul 6 | Saltanatte Filsoof | 21 Tammuz
*Jul 6 | Elaine Sandak | 21 Tammuz
Jul 7 | Mildred Green | 22 Tammuz
*Jul 7 | Sofia Sosnovsky | 22 Tammuz
*Jul 7 | Arthur Robbins | 22 Tammuz
*Jul 7 | Allen Robbins | 22 Tammuz
Jul 7 | Mildred Swartzman | 22 Tammuz
Jul 8 | Harold Greenberg | 23 Tammuz
*Jul 9 | Felix Louis Rand | 24 Tammuz
*Jul 10 | Polly Boardman | 25 Tammuz
*Jul 11 | Sylvia Friedman | 26 Tammuz
*Jul 11 | Irving Greenspon | 26 Tammuz
Jul 11 | Marjorie Haase | 26 Tammuz
Jul 11 | Joshua Sirkin | 26 Tammuz
*Jul 12 | Howard Levy | 27 Tammuz
Jul 12 | Margaret Rosenzweig | 27 Tammuz
Jul 12 | Irwin Yonks | 27 Tammuz
Jul 12 | Barbara Festinger | 27 Tammuz
Jul 13 | Alvin Greenberg | 28 Tammuz
*Jul 13 | Selma Friedman Cohen | 28 Tammuz
*Jul 13 | Robert Fruchtman | 28 Tammuz
Jul 13 | Michael Hersh | 28 Tammuz
*Jul 13 | Barbara Briks | 28 Tammuz
Jul 13 | Harriet Kaplinsky | 28 Tammuz
*Jul 13 | Frederick Miner | 28 Tammuz
Jul 13 | Harriet Kaplinsky | 28 Tammuz
*Jul 13 | Frederick Miner | 28 Tammuz
*Jul 14 | Isidor Barkan | 29 Tammuz
Jul 14 | Aaron Epstein | 29 Tammuz
Jul 14 | Morton Mandell | 29 Tammuz
Jul 14 | Arthur Hoffman | 29 Tammuz
Jul 15 | Suzanne Levine | 1 Av
*Jul 15 | Rosalind Klein | 1 Av
Jul 16 | Herman Peskin | 2 Av
*Jul 16 | Bertha Sachs | 2 Av
Jul 16 | Selma Barman | 2 Av
Jul 16 | Frances Misnuner | 2 Av
Jul 16 | Lawrence Salba | 2 Av
Jul 17 | Alfred E. Isaac | 3 Av
*Jul 18 | Effie Becker | 4 Av
*Jul 18 | Gertrude Gronsbell | 4 Av
Jul 18 | Susan Dermer | 4 Av
Jul 18 | Charlotte Friedrich | 4 Av
Jul 18 | Ellen Levin Adler | 4 Av
*Jul 19 | Eleanor M. Cohen | 5 Av
*Jul 19 | Sylvia Pomerantz | 5 Av
Jul 19 | Ruth Epstein | 5 Av
Jul 19 | Rosie Riesenberg | 5 Av
Jul 19 | Dorothy Cohen | 5 Av
*Jul 20 | Oscar Adelman | 6 Av
Jul 20 | Issie Katz | 6 Av
*Jul 20 | Mildred Wachter | 6 Av
Jul 20 | Alan Mark Jacobs | 6 Av
*Jul 21 | Sarah Hirsch | 7 Av
*Jul 21 | Pearl Stickgold | 7 Av
Jul 21 | Rita Hoffman | 7 Av
Jul 21 | Joshua Lane | 7 Av
Jul 22 | Leslie Reicher | 8 Av
Jul 22 | David Sackler | 8 Av
*Jul 23 | Phillip Kaplan | 9 Av
Jul 23 | Anna Rosenberg | 9 Av
*Jul 23 | Marjorie R. Stark | 9 Av
Jul 23 | Lois Ann Cohen | 9 Av
*Jul 23 | Debra Bernes | 9 Av
*Jul 23 | Susan Altfeder | 9 Av
*Jul 24 | Harry Rinzler | 10 Av
Jul 24 | Nancy Wetstone | 10 Av
Jul 24 | Arthur Ehrlich | 10 Av
Jul 24 | Ethel Kravitz | 10 Av
Jul 25 | Mose Taffel | 11 Av
Jul 25 | Max Weinstock | 11 Av
Jul 25 | Harvey Silverman | 11 Av
Jul 25 | Michael Pomerantz | 11 Av
Jul 26 | Harry Diamond | 12 Av
Jul 26 | Anita Lichter | 12 Av
Jul 26 | Barbara Lightstone | 12 Av
Jul 26 | Edna Brown | 12 Av
*Jul 26 | Stephen Renyi | 12 Av
Jul 26 | Edward Kappelman | 12 Av
Jul 26 | Eric Jacobsen | 12 Av
Jul 27 | Hilda Kurtz | 13 Av
Jul 27 | Stanley H. Levine | 13 Av
Jul 27 | Markus Spandorfer | 13 Av
Jul 28 | Raymond Kahn | 14 Av
Jul 28 | Jane Cohen | 14 Av
*Jul 29 | Morris Elkan | 15 Av
*Jul 29 | Harry Cohen | 15 Av
*Jul 29 | Rueven Wollner | 15 Av
Jul 29 | Marc Elkan | 15 Av
Jul 29 | Herman Trotz | 15 Av
Jul 29 | Peggy Kaplan | 15 Av
Jul 29 | Benjamin Jarrod Chanin | 15 Av
*Jul 30 | Dr. Jerome B. Cohen | 16 Av
*Jul 30 | Ben Kazer | 16 Av
Jul 30 | Linda Epstein | 16 Av
Jul 30 | Jennie Wilson | 16 Av
Jul 31 | Joe Brown | 17 Av
*Jul 31 | Isaac Haskel Koenig | 17 Av
Jul 31 | Samuel Wesley Adams | 17 Av

Phillip's Library News

Phillip's Library was refreshed and dedicated in memory of Phillip Michael Silverman on September 10, 2017.

Our library catalog is available online. You can look to see what books are available in our library anytime, day or night, by accessing our catalog.

There are lots of great books and DVDs available at Phillip's Library for children and adults!

Stop by the library and browse anytime except during Religious School hours. Just follow the directions on the circulation desk to self-check out books.

Book returns go in the return slot at the circulation desk.

Library Catalog

Suggestions are welcome for new Jewish books to purchase for the library.

You can also locate the link to the online library catalog on the home page of Etz Chaim's website under the Learning tab, then Library from the main menu bar.

BOOK DONATIONS: Please DO NOT leave book donations on the library check-out desk or in the synagogue office. If you have gently used Jewish books from the last ten years you would like to donate, don't hesitate to get in touch with Janice Levine (levines2000@comcast.net).

THANK YOU! Thanks to our library volunteers for this school year: Ana Zaldivar Rosales, Erica Fox, Patsy Schneider, and Maddy Rothbard. The library cannot function without the help of its wonderful volunteers.

NEED SOME SUMMER READING? Why not check out some books for adults and some for kids at Phillip's Library at Etz Chaim to read over the summer? We have lots of great books to choose from. Stop by and browse anytime the synagogue is open. Self-Checkout directions are on the library desk.

DO YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS FOR BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY? Please email Janice Levine with book purchase suggestions.

- **CHECK OUT THESE WEBSITES**
  for some summer activities for children and adults:
- **FOR CHILDREN**
  Go to PJ Library at pjlibrary.org/home
- **FOR ADULTS**
  The Jewish Guide on the internet has great weblinks for teenagers and adults alike www.jewishinternetguide.com
- **FOR EVERYONE**
  Jacob Richman's Home Page has activities for children and adults. Learn Hebrew, play games, etc., at this website jr.co.il/



ANNUAL REPORT FOR PHILLIP'S LIBRARY FISCAL YEAR ENDING 2025-2026

The library had more books checked out this year. Stop by sometime and take a look.

- 558 books checked out this year
- 3785 books in Phillip's Library Collection
- 106 new books added this year

BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY BY CATEGORY

- 1752 Books for Adults: Fiction & Nonfiction (including Biographies, Genealogy, and Reference)
- 2033 Books for Children: (including Chapter books for Children in Grades K-4 and Young Adults Grades 5-12, Picture Books, & Nonfiction, including General Nonfiction and Biographies)
- The K-2 children in the Religious School enjoyed storytime and library book checkout again this year.
- Pre-K in the Preschool did book checkout weekly for the first time.
- Books were also purchased to support the Sisterhood Book Club.
- Research help and library curriculum support were given to teachers in the Religious School.



Our Etz Chaim Community



Have News You'd Like to Share?

Please submit community news to Bernice Isaac in the synagogue office.

Mazal Tov Wishes to...

- Susie and Joey Moskowitz on the birth of their grandson Charlie Baer Moskowitz, born on April 19, to parents, Brittany and Neal Moskowitz
- Dana and Ari Greenberg on the marriage of their daughter, Ilyse to Scott Gillet on June 7
- Stephanie and Jeffrey Knauer on the birth of their grandson, Miles Jackson, born to Madeline and Spencer Hodes

Shout Outs…

- Thank you to our office volunteers: Reba Bachrach, Wendy Feinberg, Lauren Gray, Ron Judenberg, and Linda Weinroth.
- Thank you to Michael Karp for delivering our food donations to JF&CS each month.
- Thank you to the "recycling team" for their weekly collection of recyclables in our building.
- Yasher Koach to the Celebration committee for "A Decade with the Dorsches". It was a wonderful evening. Thank you to Janis Greenfield, Sarah and Mathias Salamon, and Debbie and Irwin Berman.



Join the Etz Chaim Recycling Team as a rotating volunteer for the weekly collection of paper, plastics, glass, and cardboard from throughout our building. To join the team, contact Billy Balser at Balser18@bellsouth.net.

Young Adults

Congregation Etz Chaim's Young Adults Group is open to Jews in their 20's and 30's. Synagogue membership is not necessary; however, a reduced membership is offered and includes a High Holiday ticket. Programs vary from social events, holiday programs and social action opportunities. Events take place at Etz Chaim, as well as locations around the city of Atlanta.

If you are interested in learning more about our Young Adults Group or would like to be added to our email list, please contact Anne Still and follow us on Facebook.

Looking for a great opportunity to build and engage with the Jewish community after college? Apply today for the Moishe House in Toco Hills!

MOISHE HOUSE | Inspiring Jewish Homes

As a Moishe House resident, you have the ability to plan Jewish programs and social events for your peers with organizational support that also helps pay the bills! Along with a program stipend to support the material costs of events, Moishe House supplies all houses with a rent subsidy up to $3000. Moishe House residents work together to plan and lead programs ranging from purely social, low-impact activities to fully home-cooked Shabbat dinners and holiday programs. Being a resident can be an incredibly fulfilling experience, and one that is truly what you make of it.

You have the freedom (and resources) to plan, partner, and promote the kinds of programs that YOU would like to see. Make an impact on the Atlanta Jewish young adult community, and apply to live at the Moishe House in Toco Hills today: www.memglobal.org/become-a-resident

Questions? Contact Anne Still at (678) 630-3835 or anneelise1997@gmail.com.





Roots Groups

Have you heard about *Roots*, Etz Chaim's interest-based small groups initiative?

All you need is a volunteer leader and five committed members to form a group. You decide when and where. Have a question about joining or creating a Roots Group? Contact us in the synagogue office.

Schmooze on Zoom

Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m.

If you are looking for a place to chat and make social connections with friendly, non-aggressive chit-chat, we are looking for you!

All topics are welcome, *except for politics*. Drop in any time and leave whenever you wish.

All are welcome...anyone of any age looking to connect with others. If you are looking for some adult conversation, are homebound, in the hospital, home with your children, or want to schmooze with friendly faces, we are here for you!

To join the conversation, please contact **Esther Shultz** or call her at (678) 462-2373 for the Zoom link.

Prime Timers

The Prime Timers are an affinity group of congregants who are 55+ in age and/or no longer have children living at home and are in the prime of their lives. They build new friendships and enjoy social and cultural events by coming together for monthly programs.

Past events have included: Atlanta Jewish Film Festival, Historical and Museum Tours, Vodka and Latkes, Brunch, Trivia Night, and Dance parties with live music.

Want more information about this affinity group? Contact one of the co-chairs: Gail Vanovitch or Andrea Cohen.



Sponsored by AgeWell and Etz Chaim

Mondays, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Join us for fun and games with AgeWell. Free and open to the community. Questions? Contact Bernice Mellman.



No K & K in June. Join us on...

Tuesday, July 21

10:30 a.m. Kibbitz and snacks
11:00 a.m. Art Project
Look for program details in the EtzBlast.

All are welcome to attend.
Open to the community.

Join us as two senior participants lead us in two separate art projects. More details to come!

For questions, contact Ashley Maloy, or Bernice Mellman

RSVP: etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/event/k&k_July21

Prime Timers Annual Report

The Prime Timers held six successful events during the 2025-2026 programming year. These included:

- Welcome Brunch in August
- Havdalah/Sing Along in November
- Game Day in December
- Annual Winter Blast Dance in February
- Shabbat Dinner in March
- Persian Cooking Demonstration in April

All events were well attended, with the larger events averaging 75 attendees and the smaller events 25.

Chavurot Are Happening!

We welcome you to create your own chavurah or let us place you in a newly forming friendship group.

We are building communities together!

- Build treasured friendships
- Variety of activities
- Explore Atlanta
- Try new foods and restaurants
- Celebrate the holidays

Join Us!

For more information, reach out to Felicia Berne or Suzanne Rivchun or visit our website and fill out our online interest form.

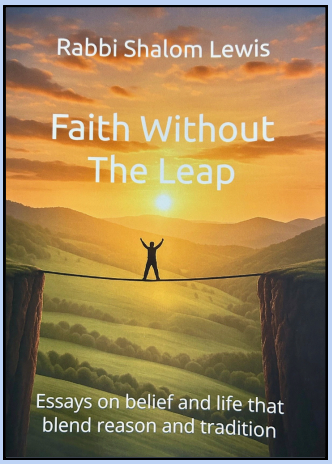
etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/form/chavurot



Save the Date - Book Signing with Rabbi Shalom Lewis

Sunday, August 9 at 1:00 p.m.

To order Rabbi Lewis' book, ***Faith Without The Leap***, it is now available on Amazon at: https://tinyurl.com/RabbiLewisBook or scan the QR code to the right.



Social Media Usage Growth 2025 - 2026

PAGES	2025-26	2024-25
Facebook CongEtzChaim	1,700 likes/followers	1,300 likes/1,700 followers
Facebook Virtual Kiddush	505 members	494 members
Facebook Etz Chaim Youth Dept.	291 likes/followers	295 likes/295 followers
Etz Chaim Preschool	465 likes/followers	427 likes/448 followers
Camp Ruach! at EC Preschool	74 likes/followers	54 likes/60 followers
Etz Chaim Religious School	136 likes/followers	125 likes/136 followers
Etz Chaim Sisterhood	330 likes/followers	312 likes/324 followers
Etz Chaim Men's Club	143 likes/followers	135 likes/137 followers
Etz Chaim Young Families	154 members	155 members
Instagram EtzChaim_Marietta	394 followers	394 followers
Instagram Sababa USY	274 followers	274 followers
Instagram Young Adults etzya_marietta	43 followers	
Instagram EtzChaimPreschool	117 followers	
YouTube (@congregationetzchaim-marie4670)	117 subscribers	78 Subscribers

Want to be "in the know"?... Like Us, Follow Us, Share Us!

Tzedakah / Donations

Contributions processed from April 16 - May 15, 2026

Fineman Family Program Endowment

In memory of:

Lewis Craine
Beth Friedman

Joan H. Rabin Memorial Endowment

In loving memory of:

my parents, Suzanne and Stanley Levine, on their 25th and 14th yahrzeits. You are missed and remembered every day.
Amy Levine Samuels

Phillip Michael Silverman Memorial Endowment

In memory of:

Lewis Craine. May his memory be a blessing.
Martine and Murray Bookman

Reba and Bob Bachrach Education Endowment

In loving memory of:

our Dad, Bill Bachrach
Reba and Bob Bachrach

In memory of:

Sybil Bernath, beloved mother of Stacye Fogel
Reba and Bob Bachrach

Isador Epstein
Barney Epstein

Sisterhood Endowment Fund

In loving memory of:

David Coplon, loving husband, father, and grandfather. We miss you every day. Love,
Paula Coplon, Cheryl, Jonathan, Jamie, Brooke, Evan, Ethan, Levi, and Clara

Rabbi Dorsch Discretionary Fund

Miriam and Robert Rosenbaum

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Dorsch for a beautiful Aufruf for Ilyse and Scott. We loved your kind and meaningful words.
Dana and Ari Greenberg

Rabbi Dorsch for bringing compassion and empathy on the passing of my husband, Lewis
Sandra Craine

Rabbi Dorsch, for your help with our Hebrew name search.
Mindy and Jim Intner

Rabbi Dorsch's kind words at the 60th anniversary of my bar mitzvah
Lisa and Alan Freeman

Rabbi Dan Dorsch
Ellen Davison

Rabbi Dorsch for a beautiful Passover Seder
Linda Ames

Rabbi Dorsch for the aliyah in honor of my milestone birthday. The special day was even better because of your kindness and words.
Bruce Rosenblum

In celebration of:

Joshua Cohen's Bar Mitzvah! Thank you to all his teachers and Rabbis at Etz Chaim!
Amy and Rickey Mittelberg

In honor of:

the Auf Ruf of Ilyse Greenberg and Scott Gillet
Gina and Brian Gillet

In loving memory of:

my father, Joe Shuman
Marcy Mehlman

Marvin Chesin
Lois, Adam, Jen, and Jackson Chesin, and Robyn, Matt, Maddie, and Evan Davis

Suzanne Shochet
Betsy and Mark Popkin

Meilakh Barshay, grandpa and father-in-law. Although we never met you, the love your son, Marat, carried in his heart will always be in our hearts.
Galina Barshay

Louis Olens
Lisa and Sam Olens

In memory of:

our father, Lewis Craine
Van de Grift and Craine Families

my mother-in-law, Dora Keller
Louis Rosengarten

Alice Taffel Tenenbaum: mother, grandmother, "MAW" to all who knew her. We miss you!
Martin Taffel

Sybil Bernath
Lisa and Sam Olens

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Roz Reiss on the marriage of her grandson
Judy Lebow

Rabbi Adler Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Adler's support for Lewis Craine's shiva
Sandra Craine

In memory of:
our father, Lewis Craine
Van de Grift and Craine Families

Rabbi Lewis Discretionary Fund

In memory of:

Norman Cohen
Eileen and Douglas Cohen

Backpack Buddies

In loving memory of:

Eddie Hassey, brother of Joyce Teitelman. We hope the wonderful memories you and Barry have with him keep a smile in your heart.

Eddie Hassey, brother of Joyce Teitelman. We hope the wonderful memories you and Barry have with him keep a smile in your heart.
Jayne and Andy Becker

In loving memory of:

your mother, Helene Cohen, to her life and the love she shared so generously. May her memory bring you comfort and peace during this difficult time. You are in our thoughts.

Sybil Bernath. May her memory bring you comfort and peace during this difficult time. You are in our thoughts. Love,
The Schneiders

In memory of:

Sylvia Bernath, mother of Stacye Fogel. May her memory be a blessing.
Jayne and Andy Becker

Building Enhancement Fund

In memory of:

Our former neighbor Marvin Chesin. Our hearts and prayers go out to his wife, Lois, and children, Adam and Robyn, and their extended families.
Ian and Roni Robbins

Figur Family Outdoor Classroom

In memory of:

Sybil Bernath, beloved mother of Stacye Fogel
Adrienne and Randall Figur

General Fund

In celebration of:

Dr. Bob Grenitz's birthday. May you have a happy birthday and a wonderful year ahead!
Honey and Howard Workman

In honor of:

Lisa Olens on becoming President of Etz Chaim
Bobbi Shams

In loving memory of:

Al Bernknopf, beloved father and grandfather, on his yahrzeit
Stan and Linda Bernknopf

Ruth Schwartz
Sheri and Mark Schwartz

our dear Mom and Nana, Esther Bigel
Penney, Jeremy, and Michelle Cohen

In memory of:

my mother, Ruth Berg
Iris Bachenheimer

Judy Bentley, sister of Sherry Seidman. I am so sorry for your loss.
Bobbi Shams

Marcia Baumrind. Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs to the Baumrind family. I am so sorry for your loss. Marcia was a delight to know. Her smile brightened everyone's day.
Bobbi Shams

Sybil Paula Bernath. May your wonderful memories help sustain you at this time and always.
Maxine and Jonathan Schein

Abraham Besser, husband of Marlene Besser
Marlene Besser

Tzedakah / Donations

Sylvia and Abraham Block, parents of Toby Block
Toby Block

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Stan Bernknopf
Joyce and Barry Teitelman

Esther Low. I hope you feel better really soon.
Bobbi Shams

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Stephanie and Jeff Knauer on the birth of their grandson, Miles Jackson Hodes

Madeline and Spencer Hodes on the arrival of Miles Jackson Hodes. I can't wait to meet your newborn son.
Bobbi Shams

Lilmode - Adult Education Fund

In honor of:

the marriage of Ora Rosenbaum to Scott Haynes

the marriage of Shira Rosenbaum to Ryan Workman
Berna and Noah Levine

Linda H. Weinroth Education Fund

In loving memory of:

my cousin, Robert S. Cohen
Linda Bernknopf

Phillip's Library Fund

In memory of:

Lewis Craine
Linda and Irv Briks

my paternal grandmother, Bessie Silver Angster
Neda Gayle

Beverly Cohen
Lawrence M. Cohen

Preschool Fund

In loving memory of:

my father, Richard Feibel, on his yahrzeit
Ron and Karen Feibel

In memory of:

my sister, Deena Stickgold, on her yahrzeit
Vivian Levine

Lewis Craine. Our condolences to his wife, Sandra Craine, and his family. You are in our thoughts and prayers.
Ron and Karen Feibel

Edward Leonard, father of Berna Levine
Berna and Noah Levine

Robert Klein Memorial Chesed Fund

In appreciation of:

the shiva meal in memory of Lewis Craine
Sandra Craine

Sisterhood Fund

In honor of:

Debbie Adelman's 75th birthday
Shelly and Marc Tanenbaum

In loving memory of:

Sybil Paula Bernath, beloved mother of Stacye Fogel
Melissa and Don Sklar

In memory of:

Marcia Klein
Lynn Schimmel

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Elizabeth Low...Sorry to hear of your recent issues; however, I am happy to hear you are on the mend.
Bob Frohlich

Social Action Fund

In memory of:

Lewis Craine
Berna and Noah Levine



Steven Krodman Men's Club Scholarship Fund

In appreciation of:

Men's Club for the wonderful job that you did to make Lag B'Omer a wonderful celebration and success.
Judy and Joel Schancupp

Mathew Nathan for his exemplary stewardship in leading to a successful Lag B'Omer dinner.
Bob Frohlich

Alan Lightstone for his exemplary stewardship in leading to a successful Lag B'Omer dinner.
Bob Frohlich

In honor of:

Steve Dix's 75th birthday
Shelly and Marc Tanenbaum

Sunshine Kitchen Fund

In memory of:

Stanley Rosenthal

Carol Gordon
Robert Gordon

Youth Scholarship Fund

In loving memory of:

our nephew, Jon Wohlman
Simone and Norman Marinoff

Rabbi Elazar said: Anyone who performs charity and justice is considered as though he filled the whole world in its entirety with kindness, as it is stated: "He loves charity and justice; the earth is full of the kindness of the Lord".
(Psalms 33:5)

New Endowments Created in 2025-2026:

These new endowment funds have been created to enhance our programs at Etz Chaim. With gratitude and thanks for your generosity:

- **The Fineman Family Program Endowment**
- **The Cheryl and David Miller Innovation Endowment**



With Gratitude to these Grantors:

We continue to receive contributions to the following Endowments. With thanks for your continued support and generosity:

- **The Cynthia R. Freeman Memorial Endowment**
- **Joan H. Rabin Memorial Endowment**
- **Phillip Michael Silverman Memorial Endowment**
- **Rabbi Shalom J. Lewis Endowment**
- **Reba and Bob Bachrach Sustaining Endowment**
- **The Beverly and Paul Radow Youth Endowment**
- **Staff Appreciation Endowment**

Social Action/ Tikkun Olam



At Etz Chaim, we care about the world around us. Through a variety of opportunities within Etz Chaim and the greater Atlanta community, Tikkun Olam is one of the cornerstones of Jewish tradition.

We continue to participate in the following annual events:

- Hunger Walk benefiting the Atlanta Community Food Bank and Kosher Pantry
- Knitting scarfs with our Sisterhood to provide warmth to our friends at MUST Ministries
- Cooking meals for the residents at Rebecca's Tent, a women's shelter, during the month of February
- Men's Club/Social Action annual blood drive with Life South
- Monthly food drive for the Kosher Food Pantry at JF&CS
- Educational programs on anti-sex trafficking and protecting your child from predators

If you have suggestions or would like to get involved in *Social Action* programs, please feel free to contact Sharon Lightstone, chair.

Thank you to all who did huge mitzvot in our recent projects!

- Rebecca's Tent - We provide nourishing, hot meals for 2 weeks to 11+ women who sleep at the shelter. It is a schlep down to Morningside, but it helps to remember that these women struggle with more than traffic. Working and being homeless are real things. I highly recommend reading "There Is No Place for Us" by Brian Goldstone.
- Life South Blood Drive - Great turnout. A huge thank you to the new donors who mustered the courage to do such a huge mitzvah, as well as to regular donors. One pint of blood can save approximately 3 lives, and those of us with O-neg have our pints often sent to the NICU. One pint of blood can save up to 3 lives. Make it a regular mitzvah. It can take less than 45 minutes at the facility on Ashford Dunwoody.

If you want to join me in creating more social action projects, please let me know.

Sharon P. Lightstone
(404) 457-4543



Backpack Buddies at Etz Chaim

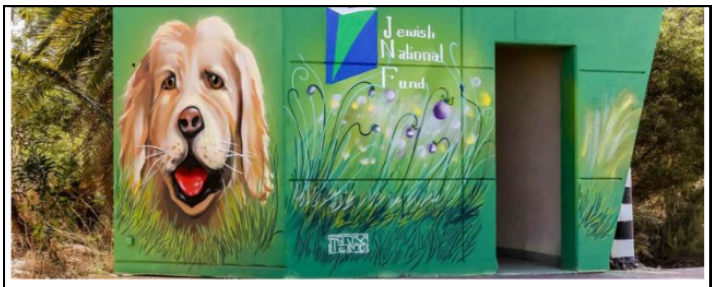
Help provide food to food-insecure children each week with our social action project!

To volunteer your time, please click here to fill out the interest form.

To donate food, shop our Amazon Wish List or purchase items yourself from our list of requested items and drop them off in the bin in the Etz Chaim lobby.

For more information, contact Angie Nothdurft or Ellen Perlow.





We're Almost There!
$2,970 left to raise.

BOMB SHELTER BEAUTIFICATION

Etz Chaim is providing safety in times of need.
With Etz Chaim's total gift of $10,000, we will be able to sponsor the painting of a bomb shelter to brighten the spirits of local residents.

DONATE TODAY AT:
https://my.jnf.org/synagoguepaintshelters/CongregationEtzChaim

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

Your bequest or other planned gift to Congregation Etz Chaim will help to keep our community strong for generations to come. Everyone has a unique family and financial situation. You can create a legacy gift to match your personal circumstances.

Options include:

- A simple bequest in a will or trust
- An outright gift using appreciated assets or cash
- A charitable remainder trust
- A charitable gift annuity

LIFE & LEGACY
Assuring JEWISH TOMORROWS

We have a number of accountants, attorneys, and insurance professionals who are available to help you, should you need assistance. For more information:

Marty Gilbert - 770-973-0137
Irwin Berman - 404-849-4308
Bob Bachrach - 770-846-3239
John Flagel - 678-560-5820
Scott Rittenberg - 770-645-6887

"As my ancestors planted before us, so must we plant for our children." - Talmud

We are here for you!

Have a great idea?
A question to ask?
Your **Board of Trustees Liaison** is available to point you in the right direction or answer your questions.

Feel free to call or email him/her with your suggestions and concerns!
Not sure of the contact information?
Call the office 770.973.0137 to find that out.



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