Congregation ETZ CHAIM
creating meaningful Jewish experiences

Voice of Chaim

November 2026 | Cheshvan/Kislev | Volume 51, Issue 9 | etzchaim.net



Mark Your Calendars

for

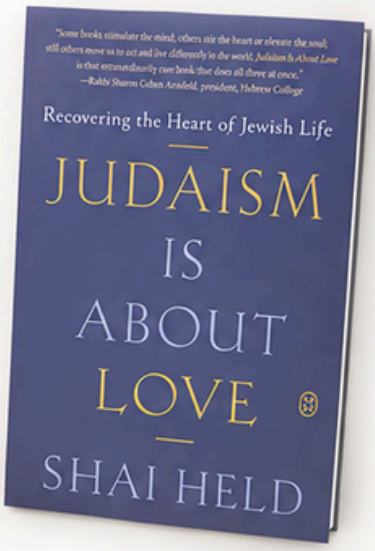
THE TRITT FAMILY
Scholar-in-Residence Weekend

with

Rabbi Shai Held

FEBRUARY 12 - 14, 2027

Rabbi Held is the President and Dean of the Hadar Institute in New York City. He received the prestigious Covenant Award for Excellence in Jewish Education, and has been named multiple times by Newsweek as one of the fifty most influential rabbis in America, and by the Jewish Daily Forward as one of the fifty most prominent Jews in the world. He is the author of several books, the latest being:
Judaism Is About Love: Recovering the Heart of Jewish Life.



Thank you to the Joyce and Ramie Tritt Family Foundation for sponsoring this meaningful weekend.

Watch for more information in the December Voice of Chaim.

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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
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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: Amy Mittelberg and Nancy Miller
College Connection: Phil Greenspon and Amir Oren
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
FunTimers 50+: Carole Masters and Patsy Schneider
Sisterhood: Dani Oren and Phyllis Silverstein
Social Action: Sharon Lightstone and Cindee Sapoznik
Young Adults: Anne Still
Youth Commission: Bethany Levee



Dan Dorsch
Rabbi

They say that it takes a village to raise a child, and without a doubt, I have seen that it took our village here to make sure that we made it to Zev's Bar Mitzvah with the few hairs I still have in place on my head.

Our first thank you must go to Ron Judenberg, who served as Zev's Bar Mitzvah tutor. Ron worked with Zev every week throughout the year, not only teaching him his Torah portion, but also serving as a role model and mentor throughout the process. We can't thank Ron enough for the patience, guidance, and love he put into teaching Zev.

Since we arrived in Georgia, Zev has received an excellent Jewish education. It began with the way he was lovingly welcomed by Debbie Deutsch and his teachers at the Etz Chaim Preschool. It continued at The Epstein School, at our Religious School, and over the summers at Camp Ramah, where he has made lifelong friends, many of whom will be guests at his Bar Mitzvah.

The weekend itself didn't happen in a vacuum. It would not have come together without Janis Greenfield, Dani Oren, and Sarah Salamon generously lending us their planning expertise and helping coordinate so many aspects of the weekend. It's great to be able to watch Marty operate, as we get to be the "Bar Mitzvah parents" for a change. Sarala Waller, alongside Sarah, prepared Shabbat dinner for our out-of-town guests. Many of you who live within walking distance eagerly stepped up to host some of our Shomer Shabbat family members.

As you can imagine, Hannah and the crew from Bagelicious are currently preparing for a somewhat "larger-than-average" oneg (at last count, 600, but don't tell Zev), and I am deeply indebted to them. Alongside Aram and our synagogue facilities staff, Scott and our Sheriff's Department are all hands-on deck to make sure that everything runs smoothly throughout the weekend.

As we were in the planning stages, Bernice Isaac in our office helped collect RSVPs and ensure that members of our congregation received invitations. What kept me up at night for months was trying to figure out how to make sure that everyone in our community was included. In the end, Bernice almost made it look easy.

The generosity of this synagogue and its lay leadership over the years have made it such a wonderful place to raise our family, and that generosity has been especially evident as we have brought this simcha together. This community has helped us in countless ways, large and small, and we are deeply grateful.

We are grateful to everyone who is here today, and to those who sent their regrets, because what makes a simcha truly special is not simply what happens on the bimah, but the people who surround us when we celebrate. There is no doubt that Zev will feel enormously loved and supported on his special day.

What will make this weekend especially meaningful are the members of both of our families who have flown in from near and far to be here with us for the weekend. In particular, it means the world to me to have our parents and Zev's great-great-grandparents watching via livestream.

But above all, with the final hair I have left on my head, I want to thank my incredible wife, Amy. The many moving parts of this simcha have somehow come together in a way that only a classroom teacher could make them. There are spreadsheets, schedules, lists, backup lists, and, I assume, at least one color-coded system that I was never cleared to see.

Amy has poured an extraordinary amount of love, energy, and thought into making this weekend special for Zev and for all of us. I am incredibly lucky to have her as my wife, and Zev and Haley are incredibly lucky to have her as their mother.

Check out Rabbi Dorsch's latest podcast, *Get off the Pulpit* on Spotify or Apple.

Thank you to Sam Olens, his latest guest.



Jonathon Adler
Assistant Rabbi

I've lived in East Cobb for almost three years now, and I've reached a landmark moment. I can actually find my way around - at least a bit - without using Waze. I'm starting to feel more like a local. I'll admit, I'm very excited about it.

I'm also realizing how fortunate we are to live here. I can buy kosher meat at multiple grocery stores within a few miles of my house, and when I do, I'm frequently – and pleasantly – surprised by lovely comments from random strangers. "Shabbat Shalom," recently, "Happy New Year," along with "My church and I stand with Israel." I had a lengthy conversation in Target about the matzah that, surprising no one, appeared on their Chanukah display last December.

My favorite among these interactions was with a cashier at Trader Joe's. I was buying chicken along with milk and butter. The cashier had the forethought to ask if I'd like them bagged separately, even though I hadn't bought nearly enough to need more than one. I was struck by the thoughtful offer they had made and thanked them profusely for doing so. And I made sure to affirm that was a great question to ask anyone who purchased kosher meat and dairy products at the same time.

Later this month, our turkeys will each get their own bag, and it's a blessing to know we can get them right here in the neighborhood. Better yet, we'll drive home to celebrate in our incredibly supportive - and navigable - community.

I wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving - and a great November across the board.



Lisa Olens
President

Why I Show Up for Minyan

In March 2017, my dad, Leonard Zellinger, of blessed memory, passed away. He was 86 years old — just days from his 87th birthday. Until then, I had never been religiously obligated to recite Kaddish. After my father's passing, I promised myself that I would attend minyan every day, to the best of my ability, for eleven months to recite Kaddish twice daily.

Attending minyan also connected me to my dad in a deeper way. He was a proud "minyanaire" at his synagogue, attending evening minyan regularly for years. It was one of many ways he showed up for his community.

So, I began my minyan journey and started attending.

That year had its challenges: nights when we didn't have a leader, and nights when we didn't have ten attending. On several occasions, I tried to lead, thinking I had picked up enough along the way; what a disaster! So, I made a conscious decision to learn Mincha and Ma'ariv so I could lead when needed. I was given recordings by other leaders, I practiced, and I kept showing up. Several regular minyan leaders helped me mark up my siddur, so I knew what to do—and when.

After my eleven months of saying Kaddish were complete, I still came—and I started leading minyan weekly on a regular basis (and, yes, most nights my husband, Sam, was with me). Even during COVID, when minyan moved to Zoom and later to a livestream from the chapel, it remained both a religious service and an important connection among members of our community.

Sam and I had our routine on Sunday evenings: getting there early; unlocking the door; turning off the alarm; turning on the lights in the chapel; commenting on how cold it was. My husband was responsible for buzzing attendees in. Before minyan started, I would review the list of yahrzeits for the day and remind myself of anything special (adding the Psalm for Repentance the month before Rosh Hashanah, Counting of the Omer, etc.). We would be done by 7:00 p.m., knowing we had made a difference in someone's life.

For those who have not yet needed to learn the traditions of mourning and remembrance, Kaddish is recited in the presence of a minyan—ten Jewish adults. This practice honors the deceased while surrounding the mourner with the rhythm and support of community.

Along the way, minyan became about more than fulfilling an obligation. I built relationships with people who understood the importance of simply showing up—for one another and for those who needed to say Kaddish. Sometimes that meant waiting a few extra minutes for someone who was running late. Other times, it meant making calls when we were short of ten. Through those moments, minyan taught me determination, compassion, and a deeper appreciation for the obligations and burdens others may carry quietly.

The core evening minyan leaders also share a special camaraderie. We rely on one another when schedules change, understand what it takes to make minyan happen, and each bring our own style to leading this meaningful mitzvah.

In January 2026, I "retired" as Sunday-night minyan leader. I miss the connection with the regulars, but you may still see me occasionally—I'm on the substitute list.

What began as a personal journey is why I so strongly support our daily minyan, especially in the evening. Etz Chaim is one of only a few congregations that offer minyan twice a day. It matters deeply to those who are in mourning or observing a yahrzeit, and it takes all of us to sustain it.

Our app makes it easier to sign up in advance, see where there are gaps, and let our Vice Presidents of Religion know who is planning to attend. It feels good to be the tenth person—the one who makes minyan possible. If you're able, please choose one evening this month to attend minyan at 6:30 p.m. and sign up on the app so we can count on you. The effort offers a meaningful pause in a hectic schedule, a connection to our religion, our heritage, and one another—and you may be the person who makes it possible for someone else to say Kaddish.

I think my dad would be proud of my minyan journey. When I show up for evening minyan, I'm remembering him—and continuing the legacy of showing up that he left me.

Lisa (with a little help from AI)



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



The Figur Family Outdoor Classroom
is open after kiddush lunch.
Parental Supervision Is Required.



Marty Gilbert
Executive Director

November has always been a month of many emotions for me.

Lori and I were married in November. My birth mother passed away in November, and the fact that the clocks change, and the leaves have fallen bring a finality to any semblance of summer.

The good news is that unlike bears, we don't hibernate. Football gets very serious and baseball has moved into hot-stove season. Our calendar is filled with simchas and celebrations. We are gearing up for a wonderful Chanukah season. I wish a hearty Mazal Tov to all the families having B'nai Mitzvot, including Zev Dorsch.

Rabbi, Amy and Haley you should all be very proud of Zev. It's not very often that you get to celebrate with an extended family of 600+.

Lori and I wish you all the best and success,

Mazal Tov to the Dorsch and Greenfield families.

Sincerely,

Marty Gilbert



Co-Working Space at Etz Chaim
January 14 | February 5 | April 16

Rabbi Dorsch has created a monthly co-working space for congregants. Space is limited. For additional information and to reserve your space, please get in touch with Rabbi Dorsch.





Preschool Gallery

From outdoor fun to indoor smiles, these pictures really capture the essense of Etz Chaim Preschool.



Puppies in the mud



Puppies & Turtles with Rabbi Adler



Turtles with Bubbe Berna



Monkeys playing



More Puppies fun



Ladybugs reading books



Cool Cats and blocks



Ladybugs dancing



Butterflies on the move



Cool Cats with dinos

Etz Chaim Preschool

Lauren Chernau
Preschool Director





Save the date:
January 22, for our next M&M Shabbat!

The Jewish value of *Hakarat Hatov,* recognizing or appreciating the good, guides us to have a grateful perspective in life.

Each day, we encourage the preschoolers to show goodness and kindness. These are concepts that children can easily see and feel. However, sometimes thankfulness and gratefulness are hard to explain to young children. So, often, we show what those values look like in action and what it feels like to receive kindness and thankfulness.

One of the ways we go about this is to ask the children to share. We ask them, "Why do you feel special?" "What is it that you are thankful for?" We make connections by making blessings and prayers a part of their daily routines. The children know that as they are reciting the *brachot,* blessings, they are showing gratitude to God.

We collect *tzedakah* encouraging the preschoolers to donate to a cause that is relatable, like an animal shelter or a children's hospital. And we model and speak about thankfulness for the nature around us and our responsibilities to care for God's creatures.

As we are in the season of thankfulness, when we gather with friends and family, we can all remember that thankfulness and kindness need to be shown not just by words, but by actions too.

Babysitting on Shabbat Morning



Mark your Calendars!
9:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
November 7, 14, 21, and 28

Babysitting is available on Shabbat on Saturday mornings. Please check our website calendar or in the weekly EtzBlast for updates.



Preschool Dates to Remember:

November

Saturday, November 17, Tot Shabbat and Kids Night Out
Friday, November 20, School Thanksgiving Lunch/Celebration
Monday - Friday, November 23 - 27, Preschool Closed

ASP Puppies, Turtles, and Cool Cats
Science: Mondays, November 2, 9, 16, and 30
Dance: Tuesdays, November 3, 10, and 17
Judo: Wednesdays, November 4, 11, and 18
Art: Thursdays, November 5, 12, and 19
Animal Explorers: Fridays, November 6, 13, and 20

Etz Chaim Preschool Web Page

Youth Department

Debbie Deutsch
Director, Religious School
and Youth Programming



Youth Department

SCAN ME

etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/form/26.27 YouthGroupMembershipApp

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.

If you would like your student to have a Youth Group t-shirt, there is an additional cost of $15 for a t-shirt.

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

Chalutzim - K - 2nd Grades

Sunday, November 1: Bubble Bonanza & Kickball
12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
RSVP by October 27

Chalutzim - K - 2nd Grades

Sunday, December 6: BINGO & Chanukah Celebration
12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
RSVP by December 1

CHALUTZIM FALL 26

Chaverim - 3rd - 5th

Sunday, November 15: Bubble Bonanza & Kickball
12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
RSVP by November 3

Chaverim - 3rd - 5th Grades

Sunday, December 13: Altitude Trampoline Park
12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
RSVP by December 8

CHAVERIM FALL 26

Gesher - 6th - 8th Grades

Sunday, November 8: "Nailed It" Cupcake Design
12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
RSVP by November 4

Gesher - 6th - 8th

Saturday, December 5: Movie Night at the Bayit
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
RSVP by December 1

GESHER FALL 26

Email any questions to: Debbie Deutsch, debbie@etzchaim.net

USY and Wacky Wednesdays:

New this year! Wackys are moving to the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Save these dates on your calendar:

November 4 and 18
December 2 and 16
January 6 and 20
February 3 and 24
March 3, 17, and 31
April 14
May 5 (Baccalaureate)
May 12 (USY Elections)
May 19 (Last Wacky of the school year)



Religious School News

Religious School Web Page

Debbie Deutsch
Director, Religious School and Youth Programming



Reflection, Atonement, Gratitude

This time of year, from August to November, is incredibly busy in terms of both actual work, as well as emotional work that requires our focus. In the Jewish educator professional world, it's a time for new beginnings in the school year and a time of planning and executing children's programs for a wide swath of ages.

We spend a good part of the summer reflecting on past years and planning for the current one, but the fall requires us to "put the pedal to metal" and do the actual work. While brainstorming with colleagues helps generate ideas for the coming holidays, we must reflect on what we did in the past to move forward effectively. So it is with life. The High Holidays call to us to reflect on what we did and how we can improve. Can we be a better communicator? A more helpful friend or colleague? Can we procrastinate less or be more open minded to new ideas?

Reflection opens us to identifying who we were and what we did. It then allows us to atone. To put meaningful thought into how to let those around us know that we are aware of what we did and how we want to apologize for any wrongs. We can also ceremoniously atone in our work and attempt to do better moving forward. Reflection and atonement are major focuses in August, September, and October, and both lead us to November and gratitude.

It would seem to be extremely difficult to be grateful for things if we had not yet spent the intentional energy to reflect and atone. Understanding where we've been can lead us to being grateful for where we are. Life is busy. We take many things for granted. I hope you take a breather in November to "stop and smell the roses" and be grateful for all that we have been given.

Religious School Dates to Remember:

Sunday, November 1
Kitah Gan & Alef (K & 1st Grades) Family Workshop
Chalutzim (K-2nd Grades) Youth Group - Registration Required
Sunday, November 8
Gesher (6th-8th Grades) Youth Group - Registration Required

Sunday, November 15
Pre-K Class in session
Kitah Hay (5th Grade) B'nai Mitzvah Family Workshop
Chaverim (3rd-5th Grades) Youth Group - Registration Required
Sundays, November 22 & 29, and Tuesday, November 24
School Closed (Thanksgiving Break)

Chai Five Teen Learning

REGISTER: CHAI FIVE

CHAI FIVE
B'YACHAD

Our B'Yachad program for 8th and 9th Graders, will bring teens together with Rabbi Adler six times over the coming year. Together, we'll explore some unusual aspects of Judaism, from folklore to practice. We'll visit museums, do creative projects, read a graphic novel or two, and so much more. Of course, we'll have lunch and enjoy plenty of social time, too. We're looking forward to an exciting year!

Lunch will be included. All sessions will begin at 12:30 p.m.

Dates are listed below:

Chai Five Calendar for 2026-2027

B'Yachad - 8th & 9th Grades
Sundays from 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Taught by Rabbi Jonathon Adler

November 1 | December 13 | January 31
February 28 | April 25

Confirmation Class for 10th Grade
Sundays from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Taught by Rabbi Dan Dorsch

November 15 | December 6
January 10 | February 7
February 28 - March 1 Confirmation Trip TBA
March 14 | April 11 | May 1 Confirmation Class Service

Senior Seminar for 11th & 12th Grades
Wednesdays from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Taught by Rabbi Dan Dorsch

Dates and Times TBA

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



Zev Noam Dorsch will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 7, 2026 - 26 Cheshvan 5787. He is the son of Rabbi Dan and Amy Dorsch. Zev's Bar Mitzvah parasha is Chayei Sarah. He is a 7th grader at The Epstein School. Zev was a student in our Preschool for three years. His hobbies and interests include baseball, hanging out with friends, bugging his sister, and steak.

For his mitzvah project, Zev has volunteered with The Miracle League, which gives children with mental and physical disabilities the opportunity to enjoy America's favorite pastime. Players play on a custom-designed, rubberized turf field that accommodates wheelchairs and other assestive devices while helping to prevent injuries. Zev was a buddy to Miracle League players. He cheered on his friend and helped him play the game with the encouragement and enthusiasm that Zev brings to everything he does. His compassion and empathy allowed him to shine as a Miracle League buddy, and showed that sports can be enjoyed by people of all abilities.

Charles (Charlie) Kirshner will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on November 14, 2026 - 4 Kislev 5787. He is the son of Sarah and Keith Kirshner, and grandson of Judy and Joel Schancupp. Charlie's Bar Mitzvah parasha is Toldot. He is a 7th grader at Dickerson Middle School. Charlie has been a student in our Religious School for six years. His hobbies and interests include golf, cooking, and water sports.



Charlie's D'var Torah quote is: "The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau." For his mitzvah project, Charlie is participating in the Am Yisrael Chai Daffodil Project, with a planting at The Dupree. He has been paired with a child who never lived to become a Bar Mitzvah; Moshe Szajnkop of Ciechanów, Poland, who was murdered at age ten - a nephew of Charlie's great-grandfather Charles Schancupp, for whom Charlie is named.



College Connection

Dear Etz Chaim Parents,

As our college students head back to campus, we want to help them stay connected to the people, traditions, and community that have been such an important part of their lives.

We invite you to enroll your student in our Etz Chaim College Connection Program! Click here to enroll.

As college student parents ourselves, we understand and truly value the importance of maintaining a connection between our students and our/their synagogue community.

College is an exciting time of growth and independence, but it can also be a time when students are farther away from the synagogue, traditions, and community that have always been part of their lives. We want to help bridge that distance.

Throughout the year, we'll send your student cards, treats, and small gifts designed to remind them that, no matter how far from home they may be, they always have a place in their synagogue community.

From candy and honey for Rosh Hashanah to other fun surprises throughout the year, each package will be a little reminder of their faith, their shul, and their home. Our hope is that these thoughtful touches will bring a smile to their faces and help them feel connected to Etz Chaim even while they are away at school.

We know firsthand how meaningful it is for our children to receive something from home when they are away. A small package, a handwritten card, or a sweet treat can be a wonderful reminder that they are remembered, they are missed, and they are always part of our Etz Chaim family.

Enroll your college student today and let us help keep their connection to Etz Chaim strong all year long!

We look forward to staying connected with our college students and letting them know that Etz Chaim is always their home, wherever their journey takes them.

Warmly,

Amir Oren and Phil Greenspon
College Connection Committee Chairs

Sisterhood Scoop

Etz Chaim Sisterhood

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.

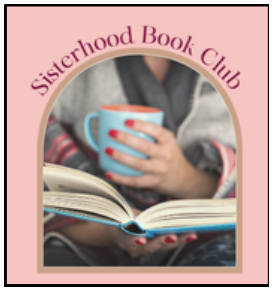
Judaica and Gifts Shop:
Gift Shop hours are Sunday (when school is in session) and Monday, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Tuesday (when school is in session) from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Please contact Lauren Gray for information at: giftshop@etzchaim.net.

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 topics such as Monthly Minyan and Book Club. Please complete this form to join our Community.



Sisterhood Book Club

November 15: ***Roots of the Guava Tree: Growing up Jewish and Arab in Columbia*** by Sonia Daccanett, moderatorated by Iris Bachenheimer

December 13: ***The Wolf Hunt*** by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen, moderated by Leslie Landau. This timely, suspenseful exploration of community, school, and family, as mother suspects a terrible crime.

For more information about the book club and the books being read OR to be placed on the email list, contact Myra Goldberg (myra.goldberg@yahoo.com)





Torah Fund - Support Women's League Torah Fund supports scholarships and programs in the Conservative Institutes of Higher Jewish Learning. This year's pin, *Shema Koleinu, Hear our voice,* marks 40 years since the first female cantor was invested. This year's Torah Fund pin with its joyful women and musical symbolism expresses the right of every woman's voice to be heard as we celebrate this anniversary.

For information on donations and giving levels, contact Sandy Bailey at (770) 490-7874 or by email at jbsandy10@gmail.com.

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

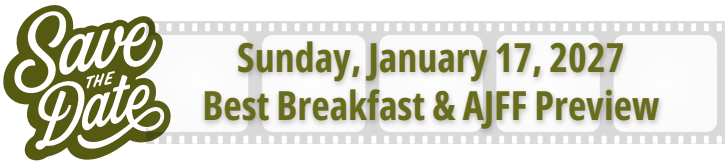
President: Mathew Nathan

Our Ribeyes with the Rabbis Sukkot event had approximately 80 men join us for great weather and brotherhood. We received over $500 in donations to our Stephen Krodman Men's Club Scholarship Fund and we were able to raise $750 for Joanne Chaifetz' Walk ALS Fundraiser as well. We thank everyone for supporting our "Steak in the Sukkah" event and their generosity in donating to these two special fundraisers.

The Atlanta Kosher BBQ Festival was held on October 18. We hope to report in the December issue of the Voice on our team's standing to earn some trophies.

Veterans Shabbat is November 21. Please let us know if there are any veterans we can recognize for their service.

Mathew Nathan
President





Members of the Etz Chaim Men's Club prepared and served Dinner to the 30 residents of the Zaban Paradies Center on Wednesday, September 16, 2026.



Fun Timers 50+

Introducing ***The Fun Timers 50+,*** an affinity group of congregants in the prime of their lives who are 50+, building new friendships, and enjoying social and cultural events by coming together for bi-monthly programs.

Past events have included: Atlanta Jewish Film Festival, Vodka and Latkes, Brunch, Trivia Night, and Dance parties with live music or a DJ.

Want more information about this affinity group? Contact one of the co-chairs: Carole Masters or Patsy Schneider.





Lilmode: Adult Education

With the High Holidays, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah behind us, we are ready to fully engage with 5787 and a new year of adult learning at Etz Chaim. Our focus is "The Year of the People of the Book" and we'll be engaging with a range of books over the year.

Our programming has started with Project Zug with coursework designed by Rabbi Avi Strausberg titled Out of the Ruins: Jewish Wisdom on Resilience.

We continue with Mocha Monday with Rabbi Dorsch, Hadar OTP Beit Midrash with Rabbi Ayal Robkin of Hadar Atlanta and Hadar Lunch and Learn. We're also offering a session based on congregant Dr. Joshua Azriel's book titled Jewish Renewal in Portugal, Identity, Memory and Return.

We look forward to learning with you and if you have thoughts on new offerings that you'd like to learn about with Lilmode, please contact the Lilmode Chair ***Steve Birch***.



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

SAVE THESE DATES:
November 10 | December 8 | January 5 | February 9 | March 9 | April 6 | May 11



Weekly Torah Study with Rabbi Dorsch
Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

SAVE THESE DATES:
November 12 & 19 | December 3, 10 & 17 | January 7, 14, 21 & 28



Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Dorsch
Tuesdays at Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Save these dates:
November 17 | December 1 | January 5 | February 2



Mocha Monday with Rabbi Dorsch
Monthly Coffee and Breakfast
Mondays after morning minyan, approximately 8:00 a.m.
Fall dates: November 16 | December 7 | January 25 | March 8 | March 29 | May 3

Join Rabbi Dorsch for a discussion on "The Talmud's Greatest Hits". All are welcome to attend.



Hadar's OTP Beit Midrash with Rabbi Ayal Robkin
Mondays at Noon - 1:00 p.m.

We welcome Rabbi Ayal Robkin and Hadar for this "Outside The Perimeter" Torah Study.
More information will be in the September/October Voice of Chaim, which will include registration information.

November 23 | December 14 | January 11 | February 8 | March 15 | April 12

Love, Loss, and Wisdom
Sundays, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Taught by Rabbi Dan Dorsch

December 6 | December 13 | January 24 | January 31 | February 28 | March 7

Discover, during this six-week course, the Jewish responses and rituals that take us through mourning and arrive at a place of healing. When death inevitably enters our lives, Jewish wisdom and ritual can help us cope with heartbreak and loss and the anguish of why suffering exists. We will also seek to understand the big questions of what Judaism says about life after death and its understanding of messianic times. With a wider lens, we gain context with which to better understand our moments of anguish as individuals and as a community. Find a class here.

Lesson 1: Why Me, Why Anyone? Making Sense of Suffering
Lesson 2: A Virtuous Visit: Making Time for the Sick
Lesson 3: Rest in Peace: Jewish Customs in Death and Burial
Lesson 4: Good Grief: How Mourning Helps Heal
Lesson 5: The Soul's Steps: What happens next?
Lesson 6: Are We There Yet? Jewish Views on the Messianic Era

Holiday Information



Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 19, Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration (see ad below)
The synagogue offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27

Chanukah

Friday, December 4, Erev Chanukah - First Candle
- 6:00 p.m. M&M Shabbat Chanukah Edition (information to RSVP is on page 7)

Saturday, December 5, Second Candle
- 6:30 p.m. Fun Timers 50+ Vodka & Latkes Country Western Dance (and lessons) Information to RSVP and cost is on page 13.

Sunday, December 6, Third Candle
- Chanukah Shuk during Religious School for our students (bring cash)
- 3:30 p.m. Community Chanukah Party at The Outlet Shoppes of Atlanta (See page 24.)

Monday, December 7, Fourth Candle
- 5:00 p.m. Menorah Lighting in Marietta Square with Etz Chaim

Tuesday, December 8, Fifth Candle
Wednesday, December 9, Sixth Candle
Thursday, December 10, Seventh Candle
Friday, December 11, Eighth Candle - Last Night of Chanukah
Saturday, December 12, Last Day of Chanukah

The Chanukah Brachot will be in the December Voice of Chaim.

Chag Purim Sameach!

22nd Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration

Thursday, November 19, 2026

hosted at *Temple Kol Emeth*
1415 Old Canton Rd. / Marietta

Doors open at 6:30PM / Celebration begins at 7PM



- *All are welcome!*
- *Non-denominational celebration*
- *20+ local faith organizations*
- *Inspirational reflections*
- *Combined multi-faith choir*
- *The handbell choir is back!*
- *Dessert reception*

Let Us Come Together,
Reaching Out to
One Another in PEACE

"Neighbors Helping Neighbors"
Non-perishables Food Drive.
Bring your donation with you.

Pre-registration preferred; on-site registration available

Online streaming

Give-A-Gobble donation



Condolences & Yahrzeits



Condolences to...

- Jody and Hershel Kahn on the passing of their beloved son, Benjamin Kahn
- Craig Adair on the passing of his beloved brother, Jeff Adair
- Sharon Misnuner on the passing of her beloved mother, Harriet Kaplan
- Jay Goldstein on the passing of his beloved father, Arthur Goldstein

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.

November Yahrzeits

Nov 1 | Rona Weiss | 21 Cheshvan
Nov 1 | Ben Katz | 21 Cheshvan
*Nov 1 | Pauline Teitelman | 21 Cheshvan
Nov 1 | Faye Lemer | 21 Cheshvan
Nov 2 | Margery Cohen | 22 Cheshvan
Nov 2 | Alan Pollack | 22 Cheshvan
Nov 2 | Tillie Tenenbaum | 22 Cheshvan
Nov 2 | Sylvia Goodman | 22 Cheshvan
Nov 2 | Josephine Diamond | 22 Cheshvan
*Nov 2 | Leonard Cohen | 22 Cheshvan
Nov 3 | Baila Pransky | 23 Cheshvan
Nov 3 | Martin Cohen | 23 Cheshvan
*Nov 4 | David Lyons | 24 Cheshvan
Nov 4 | Adeline Gelb | 24 Cheshvan
*Nov 4 | Oscar Stadtler | 24 Cheshvan
*Nov 4 | Jill Albert | 24 Cheshvan
Nov 4 | Edythe Stein Steiner | 24 Cheshvan
Nov 5 | Joseph L. Reiter | 25 Cheshvan
*Nov 5 | Mildred Labovitz Levith | 25 Cheshvan
Nov 6 | Joseph Salamon | 26 Cheshvan
Nov 6 | Andrew Rush | 26 Cheshvan
*Nov 6 | Phyllys Fruchtman | 26 Cheshvan
*Nov 7 | Rosalind Olshan Struletz | 27 Cheshvan
Nov 7 | Martha Weiss | 27 Cheshvan
Nov 7 | Gladys Lieberman | 27 Cheshvan
Nov 7 | Ronald Richer | 27 Cheshvan
Nov 7 | Roslyn Bellikoff | 27 Cheshvan
*Nov 7 | Samuel Brodsky | 27 Cheshvan
Nov 7 | Stanley Simon | 27 Cheshvan
*Nov 7 | Helen Goldman | 27 Cheshvan
*Nov 7 | Irene Altholtz | 27 Cheshvan
Nov 8 | Paul David Silberstein | 28 Cheshvan
Nov 8 | Rosabelle E. Sacks | 28 Cheshvan
Nov 8 | Alan Danis | 28 Cheshvan
Nov 8 | Marc Walter | 28 Cheshvan
*Nov 8 | Benjamin Taub | 28 Cheshvan
Nov 9 | Donna G. Angster | 29 Cheshvan
Nov 9 | Nace Cadranel | 29 Cheshvan
Nov 9 | Harvey Malter | 29 Cheshvan
*Nov 9 | Muriel Cutler | 29 Cheshvan
Nov 10 | "Geri" Brick Eppsteiner | 30 Cheshvan
*Nov 11 | Florence Malkhoo Koenig | 1 Kislev
Nov 11 | Lillian Shatzman | 1 Kislev
Nov 11 | Manny Rothstein | 1 Kislev
*Nov 11 | Jerome Mittelberg | 1 Kislev
*Nov 12 | Zelda Goldstein | 2 Kislev
*Nov 12 | Anna Jaffe | 2 Kislev
*Nov 12 | Shirley Greenfield | 2 Kislev
*Nov 12 | Sidney Emeson | 2 Kislev
Nov 12 | Rose Levine | 2 Kislev
Nov 13 | Maxwell Goldenberg | 3 Kislev
*Nov 13 | Robert Hammer | 3 Kislev
*Nov 13 | Sara Goldstein Taitz | 3 Kislev
*Nov 14 | Theodore Weinroth | 4 Kislev
Nov 14 | Murial Zemelman | 4 Kislev
Nov 15 | Betty Greenberg | 5 Kislev
*Nov 15 | Alex David | 5 Kislev
Nov 16 | Zene Persky | 6 Kislev
Nov 16 | Rufus Shelkoff | 6 Kislev
Nov 16 | Leo Bernstein | 6 Kislev
*Nov 16 | Morris Chotiner | 6 Kislev
*Nov 16 | Meyer Sloan | 6 Kislev
*Nov 16 | Leon Mandel | 6 Kislev
Nov 17 | Beatrice Bass | 7 Kislev
Nov 17 | Aline Shultz | 7 Kislev
*Nov 17 | Anna Deutch | 7 Kislev
*Nov 17 | Sam Cheslin | 7 Kislev
Nov 17 | Albert Rosengarten | 7 Kislev
Nov 18 | Rowena Fox | 8 Kislev
Nov 18 | Max Slutsky | 8 Kislev
*Nov 18 | John Schwebel | 8 Kislev
*Nov 19 | Faye Ellen Slutsky | 9 Kislev
Nov 19 | Helen Lewis | 9 Kislev
Nov 19 | George Levin | 9 Kislev
Nov 19 | Helen Ehrlich | 9 Kislev
Nov 19 | Neli Bejerano | 9 Kislev
Nov 19 | Nannette Walter | 9 Kislev
Nov 19 | Lazaro Sapoznik | 9 Kislev
*Nov 19 | Milton Berland | 9 Kislev
*Nov 19 | Irving Funk | 9 Kislev
Nov 19 | Esther Gersten | 9 Kislev
*Nov 19 | Frances Vexler | 9 Kislev
Nov 20 | Edwin Berger | 10 Kislev
Nov 20 | Lori Sperling | 10 Kislev
*Nov 20 | Herbert Goldstein | 10 Kislev
Nov 20 | Stuart Samuels | 10 Kislev
*Nov 20 | Stasya Kolina | 10 Kislev
*Nov 21 | Jack Zahn | 11 Kislev
*Nov 21 | Rose Weinstein | 11 Kislev
Nov 21 | Jack Levine | 11 Kislev
Nov 22 | Anne Schulman | 12 Kislev
Nov 22 | Della Eisenman | 12 Kislev
*Nov 22 | Dov Sidney Cohen | 12 Kislev
Nov 23 | Emmanuel Dermer | 13 Kislev
*Nov 23 | Hana Safran Kramer | 13 Kislev
*Nov 23 | Ruth Safran Diamond | 13 Kislev
Nov 23 | Laura Scheinzeit | 13 Kislev
*Nov 23 | Herbert Seltman | 13 Kislev
Nov 24 | Rita Bessen | 14 Kislev
Nov 24 | Lila Booth | 14 Kislev
Nov 24 | Irving Marcus | 14 Kislev
Nov 24 | Rachel Goldstein Smith | 14 Kislev
Nov 25 | Michael Wilensky | 15 Kislev
Nov 25 | Helen Kanner | 15 Kislev
Nov 25 | Ruth Bohrer Fassberg | 15 Kislev
Nov 25 | Joseph David Stock | 15 Kislev
*Nov 25 | Bennett Teitelman | 15 Kislev
Nov 26 | Alex Becker | 16 Kislev
Nov 26 | Edward Metzker | 16 Kislev
Nov 26 | Malcolm Lewis | 16 Kislev
Nov 26 | John Philip Miller | 16 Kislev
Nov 27 | Andrew Kroungold |
Nov 27 | Jules Scheinzeit | 17 Kislev
Nov 27 | Lois Cohn | 17 Kislev
Nov 27 | Belle Testa | 17 Kislev
Nov 27 | Iris Feuer | 17 Kislev
Nov 28 | Sandy Moss | 18 Kislev
Nov 28 | Arvin Goldberg | 18 Kislev
Nov 28 | Judith D Gilbert | 18 Kislev
Nov 29 | Joe Louis Sacks | 19 Kislev
Nov 29 | Paul Grenitz | 19 Kislev
Nov 29 | Irwin Vanovitch | 19 Kislev
Nov 29 | Henry Ginsburg | 19 Kislev
*Nov 29 | Debbie Flamm | 19 Kislev
Nov 30 | Joe Gerson | 20 Kislev
*Nov 30 | Mollye Seiden | 20 Kislev
*Nov 30 | David Levy | 20 Kislev
Nov 30 | Ralph Schwab | 20 Kislev
Nov 30 | Hortense Golsen | 20 Kislev
Nov 30 | Bruce Green | 20 Kislev
Nov 30 | Joyce Fieldsteel | 20 Kislev

Our Etz Chaim Community



Have News You'd Like to Share?

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

We Welcome These New Families to Our Etz Chaim Community:

Kerri Fogel and Andrew Stein
Kerri Cell: (678) 602-1851 | kerri.fogel@gmail.com
Andrew Cell: (954) 892-2114 | astein0430@gmail.com

Mazal Tov Wishes to...

- Shari and Ron Judenberg on the engagement of their daughter, Carly to Jay Palace
- Lani and Nick Ashner the marriage of their daughter, Meagan, to Connor Hyman
- Marnie and Brian Nadolne on the marriage of their daughter, Mollie, to Zach Landes and to Brenda Bookman, grandmother of Mollie Nadolne
- Gail Vanovitch, who has accepted the position of member-at-large on the JIFLA Board

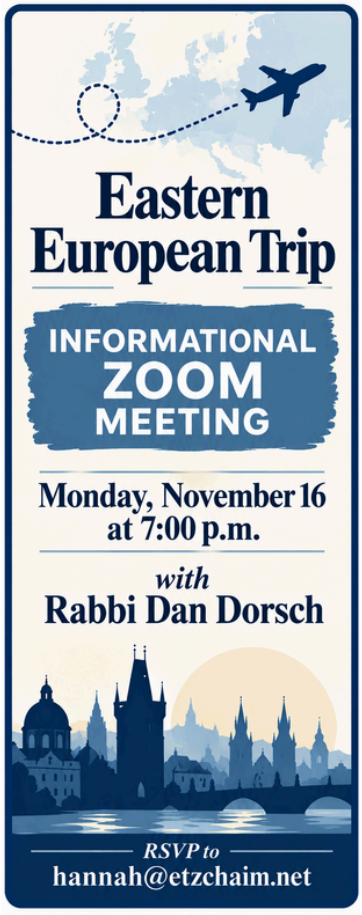
Shout-outs...

- Thank you to our office volunteers: Ron Judenberg | Linda Weinroth
- Thank you to our Sisterhood and Men's Club volunteers for putting out all of the materials on the pews for the High Holidays: Lauren Gray | Marnie Nadolne | Mathew Nathan | Dani Oren and Phyllis Silverstein
- 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.

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.





Experience the best of Budapest and Prague, where iconic landmarks, vibrant neighborhoods, and unforgettable views come together with centuries of rich Jewish history and heritage. Travel alongside Rabbi Dorsch and the Etz Chaim community as you explore two of Europe's most captivating cities.

Prague Highlights

- **Prague Castle** – Explore this iconic hilltop landmark, with centuries of royal history, Gothic architecture and sweeping views.
- **Charles Bridge** – Cross the famous 14th-century bridge, lined with historic statues.
- **Old Town Square & Astronomical Clock** – Experience the heart of Prague, surrounded by colorful façades, and the celebrated medieval Astronomical Clock.
- **Josefov (Historic Jewish Quarter)** – Discover centuries of Prague Jewish life.
- **Old-New Synagogue** – Visit one of Europe's oldest surviving synagogues, associated with the legend of the Golem.
- **Spanish Synagogue** – Admire its spectacular Moorish Revival interior while exploring the history of Jewish life in the Czech lands.
- **Terezín** – Visit the former Nazi ghetto and transit camp, where Jewish prisoners endured persecution while sustaining remarkable cultural, educational, and artistic life. Explore the Ghetto Museum, Magdeburg Barracks, Small Fortress and memorial areas.

Budapest Highlights

- **Fisherman's Bastion** – Explore fairy-tale terraces with spectacular views across the Danube.
- **Parliament Building** – Admire Budapest's magnificent Neo-Gothic Parliament, dramatically set along the Danube.
- **Dohány Street Synagogue** – Visit Budapest's most famous synagogue and one of the largest in the world.
- **Shoes on the Danube Memorial** – A moving riverfront memorial to Jews murdered between 1944–1945.
- **Raoul Wallenberg Memorial Park** – Honor Holocaust victims and rescuers, including Raoul Wallenberg, who helped save thousands of Hungarian Jews.
- **District VII (Historic Jewish Quarter)** – Explore the former Jewish ghetto and the heart of Jewish Budapest, where history, synagogues and vibrant Jewish life come together.
- **Evening Danube Cruise** – See Budapest at its most spectacular, with Parliament, its bridges and the Castle District illuminated after dark.

To learn more about this trip, please contact Rabbi Dorsch.

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.

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.

NOVEMBER IS JEWISH BOOK MONTH!

Library Donations for Chanukah: Phillip's Library at Etz Chaim relies completely on donations for the money to purchase new books. Why not consider donating to the Library Fund in honor or in memory of someone for Hanukkah to help celebrate Jewish Book Month?

FUN Chanukah Books: We have great Chanukah books for children of all ages from preschoolers to teens. Stop by and check out a new Chanukah story you may not have at home. Many are out on display atop the shelves and on the book rack near the library check-out desk.

Books for Kids:

***Hanukkah in Little Havana* by Julie Anna Blank.** A fun book with vibrant illustrations to share with your child or grandchild. A family goes to spend Hanukkah with the grandparents in Little Havana in Miami, enjoying the Cuban food and traditions. For Pre-K-Grade 2

***Red and Green and Blue and White* by Lee Wind.** Inspired by a true story, this is a story of a community that banded together to spread light after a Jewish family's window is smashed during Chanukah. Beautiful illustrations for a beautiful story. For Grades 1-3.

Online Fun:

Jacob Richman has a lot of interesting things at his website for children and adults **https://jr.co.il/** | **Jewish Games** **https://my-jewish-games.com**
Learn Some Hebrew **https://jr.co.il/links/index.html#hebrew-resources** | **Websites for Chanukah** **https://jr.co.il/hotsites/chanukah.htm**

Check out these fun activities and videos for kids for Chanukah at PJ Library's Hanukkah Hub: https://pjlibrary.org/hanukkah

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.



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.



Koffee & Kibbitz

Tuesday, November 17

10:30 a.m. Kibbitz and Snacks
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Bagel Packing w/Bagel Rescue

All are welcome to attend. Open to the community. Click here to RSVP.

Save the date: **December 3** Chanukah Party & Hannah Zale

For questions, contact Ashley Maloy, or Bernice Mellman

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

Congregation Etz Chaim **November 2026**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 (*21 Cheshvan*) Morning Minyan 9:15a Religious School 9:15a RS K & 1st GR Family Workshop 9:15a Chalutzim Event 12:15p B'Yachad 12:30p Project Zug 5p Evening Minyan 6:30p	**2** (*22 Cheshvan*) Morning Minyan 7a Community Canasta & Mah Jongg 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p	**3** (*23 Cheshvan*) US Election Day No Religious School Schmooze on Zoom 3p Evening Minyan 6:30p	**4** (*24 Cheshvan*) Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p USY Wacky 7p	**5** (*25 Cheshvan*) Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p Sisterhood Meeting 7p	**6** (*26 Cheshvan*) Morning Minyan 7a Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p Candle Lighting 5:23p	**7** (*27 Cheshvan*) **Chayei Sara** **Shabbat Mevarchim** Bar Mitzvah of Zev Dorsch 9:30a Babysitting Avail. 9:30a Shabbat Ends 6:30p
8 (*28 Cheshvan*) Morning Minyan 9:15a Religious School 9:15a RS 2nd GR Family Workshop 9:15a Gesher Event 12:15p Fun Timers 50+ Mtg. 2:30p Evening Minyan 6:30p	**9** (*29 Cheshvan*) Morning Minyan 7a Community Canasta & Mah Jongg 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p	**10** (*30 Cheshvan*) **Rosh Chodesh Kislev** Morning Minyan 7a Torah Study @ Huntcliff 2:30p Schmooze on Zoom 3p Religious School 4:45p Evening Minyan 6:30p	**11** (*1 Kislev*) **Rosh Chodesh Kislev** Veterans Day Morning Minyan 7a PS Faculty Mtg. 6p Evening Minyan 6:30p	**12** (*2 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 7a Torah Study 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p	**13** (*3 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 7a Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p Candle Lighting 5:18p	**14** (*4 Kislev*) **Toldot** Bar Mitzvah of Charlie Kirshner 9:30a Babysitting Avail. 9:30a Tot Shabbat 10:30a PS Kids Night Out 5p Fun Timers 50+ Havdallah & S'mores 6:30p Shabbat Ends 6:25p
15 (*5 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 9:15a RS & Pre-K 9:15a RS 5th GR Family Workshop 9:15a S'hood Book Club 10a Chaverim Event 12:15p Chavurah Singles 50+ Wine & Cheese 4p Evening Minyan 6:30p Confirmation Class 6:30p	**16** (*6 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 7a Mocha Monday 8a Community Canasta & Mah Jongg 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p Informational Zoom Mtg. East Europe Trip 7p	**17** (*7 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 7a Koffee & Kibbitz 10:30a Lunch & Learn 12p Schmooze on Zoom 3p Religious School 4:45p Evening Minyan 6:30p Exec. Committee 7:15p	**18** (*8 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p USY Wacky 7p	**19** (*9 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 7a Torah Study 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p Board of Trustees 7p	**20** (*10 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 7a PS Thanksgiving 12p Shir Shel Shabbat Musical Svc. & Dinner 6p Candle Lighting 5:14p	**21** (*11 Kislev*) **Vayetzei** Veterans Shabbat 9:30a Babysitting Avail. 9:30a Shabbat Ends 6:21p
22 (*12 Kislev*) No Religious School Morning Minyan 9:15a Evening Minyan 6:30p	**23** (*13 Kislev*) Preschool Closed Morning Minyan 7a Community Canasta & Mah Jongg 10a Hadar 12p Evening Minyan 6:30p	**24** (*14 Kislev*) No Religious School Preschool Closed Morning Minyan 7a Schmooze on Zoom 3p Evening Minyan 6:30p	**25** (*15 Kislev*) Preschool Closed Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p	**26** (*16 Kislev*) **Thanksgiving Day** Synagogue Ofc. Closed Preschool Closed Morning Minyan 9a Evening Minyan 6:30p	**27** (*17 Kislev*) Preschool Closed Synagogue Ofc. Closed Morning Minyan 7a Kabbalat Shabbat. 6:30pm Candle Lighting 5:11p	**28** (*18 Kislev*) **Vayishlach** Shabbat Services 9:30a Babysitting Avail. 9:30a Shabbat Ends 6:19p
29 (*19 Kislev*) No Religious School Morning Minyan 9:15a Evening Minyan 6:30p	**30** (*20 Kislev*) Morning Minyan 7a Canasta & Mahj 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p					

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
- Cooking meals for the residents at Rebecca's Tent Women's Shelter, in February
- Social Action/Men's Club 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 or Cindee Sapoznik, co-chairs.

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.



January 17 - Annual Blood Drive
February 14 - 27 - Meals for Rebecca's Tent - Spiegel Women's Shelter at Shearith Israel
March 2027 - Date and Registration will be announced in January

More details to come along with registration in the December Voice of Chaim.



Tzedakah / Donations

Contributions processed from August 17 - October 8, 2026

Cynthia R. Freeman Memorial Endowment

In honor of:

Joe Freeman's birthday and aliyah
Ken Winkler

To Lynn and Jeff Kaplin: L'shana Tova! Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year.
Sarah Freeman, Alisa Feldman, and Joe Freeman

Fineman Family Program Endowment

In memory of:

Eleanor Hochberg
Judy and Stan Fineman

Radow Youth Scholarship Endowment

In appreciation of:

Norman Radow for not allowing me to fall from grace after blowing the shofar on Rosh Hashanah
Allan and Vivian Levine

Reba and Bob Bachrach Education Endowment

In celebration of:

Reba and Bob Bachrach as our Chatan Torah and Kallat Bereishit
Bernice and Bruce Mellman

In honor of:

Reba and Bob Bachrach. Mazal tov on your 60th anniversary and on your Simchat Torah Aliyah. We love you.
Lynn and Bob Sustak

In loving memory of:

my wonderful husband, Lenny Simon
Jane Simon

our mother, Rae May
Reba and Bob Bachrach

In memory of:

Irving Simon
Jane Simon

Bob Miller, father of Rob Miller

our son, Howard Martin Bachrach
Robert and Reba Bachrach

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Lynn and Bob Sustak on becoming great-grandparents
Reba and Bob Bachrach

Staff Appreciation Endowment

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Poppa Lou Rosengarten. Thank you for your beautiful Haftorah reading at the Minyanaires Shabbat and more importantly, for your love and guidance.
Cindee and Alberto Sapoznik

Rabbi Dorsch Discretionary Fund

Happy birthday to Jack Hammer, and many more!

Happy Anniversary to Vivian and Allan Levine, and many more.
Barbara and Frank Wilensky

With sincere condolences on the loss of your beloved mother, Helen, to Warren Berne. Her blessed memory is for all time.

Sending strength and love to David Hochberg on the loss of your beloved wife, Eleanor. May her memory always be for a blessing.
Yaron and Robin Brill

In appreciation of:

Jeff Frankel for not allowing me to fall from grace after blowing the shofar on Rosh Hashanah
Allan and Vivian Levine

Rabbi Dorsch for all his support during Jay's illness and death. Your words at his unveiling were beautiful. We appreciate everything you have done. With our deepest appreciation.
Elaine, Josh, and Rachel Schwartz

In appreciation of Rabbi Dorsch. Thank you for your support and kindness during this difficult time.
Jenifer Lieberbaum

the High Holiday and "S" holiday meaningful services.
Sally Greenstein

In honor of:

Rabbi Dorsch's beautiful High Holiday services.
Amy and Rickey Mittelberg

In loving memory of:

my dad, Paul Berman, the original "Babu". Gone 25 years and missed every day.
Alan Berman

Papa Len Ross. Always in our hearts.
Brad and Jana Ross

family
Carole Wilson

Jay Schwartz on your first yahrzeit. We miss you so much.

Eva Phillips on your 30th yahrzeit
Elaine, Josh, and Rachel Schwartz

my mother, Paula Vanovitch
Gail Vanovitch

Marat Barshay. Thank you, Hashem, for the blessing of having you, for so many years as a husband, father and support system. You will always be in our hearts and you are missed every day.

Abraham Schwerd. It was Hashem's biggest blessing to me and my family to have you as an amazing, loving, caring, friend who took us out of the former USSR, and who was watching over us like an angel. We miss you and love you.

Efim Gontmakher, beloved father of Ella and Galina and grandfather to Meylakh Barshay. The pain and suffering that you went through from being an orphan (growing up in foster care till age 9), to becoming an invalid of the Second War ll at age 21, prove that you chose to create the family that you adored and left the past pain behind you. You sacrificed everything for us. You will always be in our hearts.
Galina Barshay

my Father, Harold Regitsky
Jon and Stacy Regitsky

my mother, Mary Sandak
Larry Sandak

Beverly Topiol, my sister

Bertha Baron, my mother

Sol Baron, my father
Sydelle Silberman

Ann Kaplan, beloved mother of Stan Sunshine. May her memory always be a blessing unto you. Sending strength and love at this difficult time.
Yaron and Robin Brill

In memory of:

our father, Joe Wilensky

our brother, Larry Scopp

our mother, Sadie Scopp

our sister, Ann Tepper
Barbara and Frank Wilensky

Pearl Levy and Richard Epstein
Barney Epstein

Morris Berg
Douglas and Eileen Cohen

Thelma Donner
Jeffrey and Melissa Goodman

our mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, Ruth Silver. We miss you.
Jerry and Iris Silver

Bob Miller. Rob, may your father's memory be a blessing.
Lisa and Sam Olens

Mark Schimmel
Lynn Schimmel

Eleanor Hochberg
Michael and Linda Diamond

Roslyn Greenberg, beloved mother of Ari Greenberg. May the memory of your dear mother be a blessing for all time. Our deepest condolences to you and your family.
Yaron and Robin Brill

Rabbi Adler Discretionary Fund

In honor of:

Rabbi Adler for being such a mensch.
Simone and Norman Marinoff

In memory of:

my mother, Muriel Becker, "Muzzy", who was a terrific mother, grandmother, and friend I miss you.

Richard Becker. It has been 50 years. A long time without you. Your memory still burns deep in my soul.
Andy Becker

Lea Turner
Stanley and Carole Turner

Rabbi Lewis Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of:

Jessica and Robby Miller, Vivian and Allan Levine, Dena Bachenheimer, and Neil Negrin
Shimon and Orah Lipsky

In memory of:

my wonderful mother, Florence Katz
Margie Sonshein

Mrs. Evelyn Brindle
Robert and Sandra Brindle

Tzedakah / Donations

Contributions processed from August 17 - October 8, 2026

Backpack Buddies

In celebration of:

Wendy and Ron Feinberg on the Bat Mitzvah of Bailey Levetan. You must be so proud of her. She is such a lovely young lady.
Esther Shultz

In honor of:

Angie Nothdurft, for all you do to make Backpack Buddies a success.
Reba and Bob Bachrach

my birthday!
Sally Greenstein

In loving memory of:

our parents and grandparents, Harry and Pearl Kolin, who taught us how to live, laugh, and love.
Jackie and Steve Pierce and the Girls

our Mom, Gramma, and Gigi, Rosie Jassen, on her yahrzeit. Your memory lives on in all of us!
Karen and Hank Needle

My dad, Manny Benjamin
Linda Ames

In memory of:

my mother, Vivian Epstein
Ellen Feldser

my dad, Abraham Etscovitz
Janice and Richard Etscovitz

Bob Miller, father of Rob, father-in-law of Jessica Miller, and grandfather of Harrison and Dylan Miller. We are so very sorry for your loss.
Lynn and Bob Sustak

In memory of Bob Miller, father of Rob Miller
Shelley and Bob Brodsky

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Jenifer Lieberbaum. Wishing you a refuah shleimah, a full and speedy recovery!
Suzan and Gary Saidman

Figur Family Outdoor Classroom

In honor of:

Reba and Bob Bachrach, celebrating their Simchat Torah honor
Randy and Adrienne Figur

In memory of:

Wynn Ebel, brother of Lynn Sustak
Lynn and Bob Sustak

my sister, Gail
Randall and Adrienne Figur

General Fund

In appreciation of:

Thank you to all of the religious leaders, teachers, and congregants who serve in leadership positions, who make Etz Chaim such a thriving community.
Susan Shapiro-McCarthy

In honor of:

Zev Dorsch's Bar Mitzvah
Amy and Rickey Mittelberg

In loving memory of:

Our father and grandfather, Manuel Bigel
Jeremy and Penney Cohen

Arlene William
Lee and Deborah Elfenbein

Gerson A. Levy
Steven and Marcy Caras

Earl J. Poche, father of Karen Chauvin. You have been gone for four years. You are sorely missed and loved.
Karen Chauvin

In memory of:

Albert Tenenbaum and Mimi Fagin
David and Toby Fagin

Willie Berman
Debbie and Irwin Berman

Ken Singer
Lawrence and Nancy Lemer

Mae Keller
Louis Rosengarten

my mother, Ida Wilensky
Martin Cohen

Lillian and Bernard Goodman
Melissa and Jeff Goodman

Catherine Barber
Michael Barber

Irving Holtz
Noel Holtz

my father, Ben Pollack
Stefan Pollack

Eva Caras
Steven and Marcy Caras

Irwin and Ida Silberman
Sydelle Silberman

Joan and Stephen King Fund

In memory of:

Harry King, my father and my role model, who taught me to be strong, kind, and giving. He provided me with the tools to be successful.

Bella Hans, "Bubbi," who taught me how to enjoy life

Fritz Eden, who was Joan's rock, and was always devoted to his family

Rafael Fruchter (Zeidi), my Jewish inspiration

Anne Eden, Joan's mom, who always encouraged her, and who taught her to be a special person that always puts family first
Stephen King

Lilmode - Adult Education Fund

In memory of:

Sylvia Orlikoff Schein and JM Schein. You are still missed after all these years.
Jonathan and Maxine Schein

Linda H. Weinroth Education Fund

In celebration of:

Linda Weinroth - wishing you a healthy 5787
Lynn and Bob Sustak

In memory of:

Eleanor Hochberg. Our heartfelt condolences.
Sue and Alan Rothstein

Morris Frank Sacred Text Fund

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Michael Barber. We miss you!
Esther Shultz

Phillip's Library Fund

Robert Fieldsteel and Jan Lewis

In loving memory of:

family
Carole Wilson

my Mother, Lily Oling
Jenifer Lieberbaum

In memory of:

Sophie Smith, a loving aunt

Harry Crystal, grandfather, great-grandfather, and great-great grandfather

a loving mom and grandma, Jayne Adair

Sidney Rothstein, dad, grandpa, and great-grandpa. All our love, all our life.
Craig and Susan Adair

Lila Intner
Jim Intner

our parents, Sally Chaifetz, Belle Testa, and David Testa
John and Joanne Chaifetz

Arthur Bishop (Cohen)
Steve Kasten

Preschool Fund

Our sincere condolences to Gail Vexler and family on the loss of their brother and uncle, Jay. We are very sorry for your loss. May Jay's memory be for a blessing, now and always.
Glenn and Arlene La Vine

In loving memory of:

our father, Eugene M. Levine
Berna and Noah Levine

family
Carole Wilson

In memory of:

Pearl Stickgold
Vivian Levine

Tzedakah / Donations

Contributions processed from August 17 - October 8, 2026

Robert Klein Memorial Chesed Fund

In loving memory of:

my dear departed loved ones who are missed daily but whose memories have definitely been a blessing to me
Esther Shultz

In memory of:

Eleanor Hochberg, wife of David Hochberg
Julie Kleinman

Sisterhood Fund

In memory of:

my dad, Bob Harris
Bill and Karen Keeter

Social Action Fund

In appreciation of:

Rabbis Dorsch, Lewis, Adler, and Slomovitz. Thank you for your guidance, love, support, understanding, confidentiality, and love in everything you do.
Alberto and Cindee Sapoznik

In honor of:

Steve Birch. Thank you for your davening on Yom Kippur and well wishes for Jill. May you be inscribed in the Book of Life.
Alberto and Cindee Sapoznik

In memory of:

Barbara Ziff
Bruce and Deborah Nelson

Norman Slater. Dad, we were singing Guys and Dolls in our Broadway Chorus...think of and smile about you often. Miss you.
Cindee and Alberto Sapoznik

my mother, Bela Hurtig
Sandra Craine

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Jenifer Lieberbaum. We're happy to hear your procedure went well and trust that the recovery goes just as well, if not better!
Sheri and Bob Frohlich

Steven Krodman Men's Club Scholarship Fund

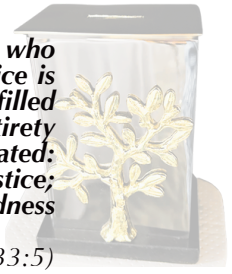
In memory of:

Albert Jacob Schein. You were the smartest man we ever knew.
Maxine and Jonathan Schein

Sunshine Kitchen Fund

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Jenifer Lieberbaum. Our hearts and prayers go out to you.
Roni and Ian Robbins



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)



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 Amy Mittelberg, Nancy Miller, or visit our website and fill out our online interest form.

etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/form/chavurot



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

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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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