

# *B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation*

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MAY 2013

IYAR / SIVAN 5773

## JOIN US IN MAY FOR

Friday, May 3	<b>KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
Saturday, May 4	TEXT STUDY: Prophets <i>Amos</i> Extended study with coffee and bagels	9:30 AM
Friday, May 10	<b>EREV SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
Saturday, May 11	TORAH STUDY: <i>Bemidbar</i> Num. 1.1-4.20	9:30 AM
Tuesday, May 14	<b>EREV SHAVUOT SERVICE</b> Confirmation, Yizkor, Ten Commandments	<b>7:30 PM</b>
Friday, May 17	<b>EREV SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
Saturday, May 18	TORAH STUDY: <i>Nasso</i> Num. 4.21-7.89	9:30 AM
Friday, May 24	<b>EREV SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
Saturday, May 25	TORAH STUDY: <i>Baha'alotcha</i> Num. 8.1-12.16	9:30 AM
Friday, May 31	<b>EREV SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>
Saturday, June 1	TORAH STUDY: <i>Sh'lach-Lekha</i> Num. 13.1-15.41 <b>SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE</b> Bar Mitzvah of Max Suib	9:30 AM <b>10:30 AM</b>
Friday, June 7	<b>KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE</b>	<b>6:00 PM</b>
Saturday, June 8	TORAH STUDY: <i>Prophets -- Amos</i> Extended study with coffee and bagels	9:30 AM

*B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation, a Reform Jewish synagogue, is a community that fosters individual, family and congregational spirituality by engaging in worship and prayer, promoting learning on all levels, supporting each others' needs, bettering our community and our world, and forging connections with worldwide Jewry.*

*We take pride in being warm, welcoming, informal, progressive, open-minded, diverse, and participatory.*

*We strive to create a vibrant Jewish present, linking our ancient traditions with the promise of the future.*

## *President's Post*

I'm writing this on April 17, and it's been a rough few days. The Boston bombing on April 15 – Patriots Day, to those of us who have lived in the Boston area – has set me back on my heels. Karl and I lived in Watertown, MA, one of Boston's neighboring towns, for many years. We have friends in the Boston area for whom Patriots Day, featuring a Red Sox game and the Boston Marathon, is a rite of spring. Ben was born at Brigham and Women's Hospital, one of the many hospitals treating those injured as a result of the blasts. I've watched runners at various points on the Marathon route. It has all hit far too close to home.

As those of you who either attended Founders' Day this year or subscribe to any of the Union for Reform Judaism mailing lists are aware, URJ has created a new website, called [ReformJudaism.org](http://www.ReformJudaism.org): (<http://www.ReformJudaism.org>). An April 16 article on the site written by Rabbi Evan Moffic has the thought-provoking title, "All of Us are Boston Marathon Runners." In it, Rabbi Moffic suggests that the very qualities that marathon runners rely on for success are the same ones that will help all of us get through this tragedy: persistence, replenishment, endurance, and hope. For persistence, he writes that "Life demands caution and awareness to be sure, but not abandoning the race." Replenishment refers not merely to water or food, but time to grieve, and to surrounding ourselves with friends, family, and prayer. We all know that a marathon is not a sprint, that it requires long-term focus and endurance. We need to pace ourselves. And we rely on hope to pull us through, using it to find the strength to rebuild, and carry on.

If anything, this tragedy is a reminder of the human spirit and how adversity sometimes brings out the best in people. I still remember how kind and caring people were across the country in the immediate aftermath of 9/11. We all asked ourselves the same question: What can I do to help? This same question is being asked and answered right now. Comedian Patton Oswalt captured this sense of goodness in a Facebook posting shortly after the Marathon bombing. "I remember, when 9/11 went down, my reaction was 'Well, I've had it with humanity.'"

"But I was wrong. I don't know what's going to be revealed to be behind all of this mayhem...But here's what I DO know. If it's one person or a HUNDRED people, that number is not even a fraction of a fraction of a percent of the population on this planet. You watch the videos of the carnage and there are people running TOWARDS the destruction to help out."

"...So when you spot violence, or bigotry, or intolerance or fear or just garden-variety misogyny, hatred or ignorance, just look it in the eye and think 'The good outnumber you, and we always will.'"

These words carry a particular resonance at this time of year. On Erev Yom HaShoah, April 7, B'nai Sholom sponsored a community-wide event. Rabbi Cashman and members of the Ritual Committee did a remarkable job in organizing and planning this moving event, featuring dispatches and a Warsaw Ghetto Uprising timeline read by B'nai Sholom congregants and Mifgash students (photos from this event are available on the B'nai Sholom web site). Not only does Yom HaShoah serve to remind us of those lost in the Holocaust, it is also a time for us to remember the good in humanity, vowing we will go on, we will endure, and we will never let this happen again.

All of our friends from the Boston area appear to be safe, and for that we give thanks. I hope the situation is the same for you and your friends and families. In the coming days, we will be reciting Mi Shebeirach for those who are physically, or emotionally wounded, and Kaddish for those who died in the blast. By standing up for them, we remind ourselves that we are all connected by shared bonds of community and that we remember, rebuild, and endure.

*L'shalom, Jodi Kerper*

## Social Action

**Our next blood drive will be held on Sunday, May 5** from 8 am to 1 pm in the social hall. Regional supplies were depleted by the Marathon bombings so please sign up to donate. March 10 was the cutoff date for donating prior to this drive. Many thanks to those who already signed up to volunteer or to donate - we will call to remind you of your time.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in our blood drives, please call the temple office. We are always in need of volunteers to help recruit donors and to help run the drives. It's a good way to get to know your fellow congregants!

### **SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE ON SUNDAY, MAY 19**

We will be collecting gently used and clean spring and summer clothing from 9 am until 1 pm. Please sort your donation twice: first sort for gender (male/female/unisex) and then for age group (adult/teen/child/infant). Be sure to include this information with your donation.

Our new social action project, *Books for Babies* has received a lot of support from congregants but we are still in need of more funds to insure that every targeted family receives a book. If you have not already done so, please support this project. You may pick up a contribution form at the synagogue or just send a check with a note: \$18 buys 4 books; \$36 buys 8 books; \$72 buys 16 books. Join these other congregants who are supporting the project:

Sam & Heather Spitzberg  
Martha & John Rozett  
Larry & Gail Volk  
Maggie Tabak & David Smith  
Rita Alowitz  
Maxine & Eric Goldberg  
Harvey & Marcia Tress  
Steve & Fran Berg  
Lynn & Barney Horowitz  
Sheldon Bosin & Ruth Burkowsky  
The Wexler Family  
Candy Raderman & Carey Hatch  
Ben & Becky Marvin  
Rochelle Goldfarb & Gail Golderman

Susan Radosh & Steve Klein  
Herb & Ruth Swift  
Sonny & Anne Hausgaard  
Jodi, Karl & Ben Rethemeyer  
The Shlomo Family  
Mari Vosburgh  
Richard Propp  
Howard & Bettina Stoller  
Frank Steinhardt  
Bruce & Edith Goldstein  
Judy Lee & Bill Herbert  
The Cromling-Strassberg Family  
Laurie Shanks

**VOLUNTEER READER NEEDED:** A blind neighbor on Whitehall Rd. is in need of a volunteer to read his mail to him once a week. If you are able to help, please call Becky in the synagogue office.

## **GRADUATION SHABBAT June 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Celebrate our graduating high school seniors!*

Our annual Graduation Shabbat is our chance to congratulate and celebrate with the families of high school senior who are graduating this spring. In addition to the service, there will be a very special Oneg Shabbat honoring the families who have enabled these students to reach this special milestone. The oneg will feature the traditional "name cake" listing all of the graduates. Please mark your calendar. Everyone wants to say *MAZEL TOV!*

## **FIRST AID/CPR TRAINING OFFERED**

Sunday, June 9 10 am – 1 pm

The Caring Community of B'nai Sholom has arranged for instruction in first aid and CPR using funds given in memory of Vera Propp. There is no charge for the class but you must pre-register. Teenagers are welcome. Since class size is limited to 25 participants, be sure to register early by contacting Ruth Swift: 355-9289 or [hswift1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:hswift1@nycap.rr.com).

### **Weekly Announcements via Email**

Our weekly announcements, read during services on Shabbat, are sent out via email each Thursday to all congregants with email addresses in our directory. The distribution list is refreshed each November with the current addresses extracted from the directory (allowing time for everyone to submit changes and corrections to the directory that's published during the Days of Awe). All addresses that are in the current directory are added to the distribution list with the exception of aol.com addresses. For those, only addresses previously approved are re-added to meet spam prevention measures taken by AOL. If you are not receiving the weekly announcements (whether you have an AOL address or an address not in the directory), you can subscribe to the list by sending a note to:

[Weekly-request@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us](mailto:Weekly-request@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us)

with "subscribe" in the subject line. If you are receiving the weekly postings and do not want them any longer, you can send a note to that same address with "unsubscribe" in the subject line. As always, you can send a note to [postmaster@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us](mailto:postmaster@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us) with any questions or comments. And don't forget to visit our home page occasionally: [www.bnaisholom.albany.ny.us](http://www.bnaisholom.albany.ny.us). We hope to re-structure the site in the near future, so if you have any suggestions for improvements or additions, please send a note to [webmaster@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us](mailto:webmaster@bnaisholom.albany.ny.us).

Current and upcoming events, the Monthly Bulletin, lots of photographs, and in-depth information about B'nai Sholom are all available on the new congregational web site, [bnaisholom.albany.ny.us](http://bnaisholom.albany.ny.us). Bookmark the site and visit often!

**Please "like" our new Facebook page at [Facebook.com/bnaisholomalbany](https://www.facebook.com/bnaisholomalbany).**

A Nominating Committee for the Board of Trustees has been formed. The Committee members are:

Doug Goldman, Chair.  
Deb Adler  
Maxine Goldberg  
Stacey Wager-Pacuk

Julie Friedman  
Sonny Hausgaard  
Melissa Putterman Hoffmann

## **IN THE COMMUNITY**

### **"Celebrating Sephardic Music"**

21st annual concert by *Ne'imah Jewish Community Chorus*

Sunday, June 2, 2013 7:30 PM

The Linda, WAMC Northeast Public Radio Performing Arts Studio, 339 Central Avenue, Albany

Tickets: general admission-\$15/senior students \$10 Purchase at door or call 438-9561.

The concert will bring to the Capital District's community a program of Sephardic culture not often heard here. "Sepharad" and "Sepharadim" are Hebrew translations for "Spain" and "Jews of Spain", respectively.

Cantor Ramon Tasat, Ph.D., a renowned professional vocalist and guitarist and performer of Sephardic songs, with a large repertoire of Ladino, Aramaic, Spanish and English songs, will be the concert's guest performer.

Sephardic music has its roots in the musical traditions of the Jewish communities in medieval Spain. Since then, it has picked up influences from Morocco, Argentina, Turkey, Greece, and other places where Sephardim settled after their expulsion from Spain in 1492. It has inspired folk bands and composers of both choral and instrumental music, demonstrating Jewish musical diversity. A majority of the songs are performed in Ladino, a blend of medieval Spanish, Hebrew, Arabic and Portuguese.

### **Mazel Tov!**

--to **Carrie Levinn** who received a National Goldwater Scholarship in the field of chemistry.

### **THANK YOU**

--to the paper-cut brigade who prepared the April Bulletin: **Stella, Max and Hannah Suib; Cheryl Reeder, Bill Schwartz, Nancy Rockefeller, Sonny and Anne Hausgaard**

--to the congregants who provided us with a sweet Shabbat: **Sharona Wachs and Rabbi Don Cashman, Judy and Roy Fruiterman, Sheila and Bill Schwartz, Carol and Doug Smith** and our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and families

## YAHRTZEITS

The following Yahrtzeits will be observed in May:

- 3 Cecelia Zimmelman\*, George Rudinger, Fay Levinn, Hyman Ikler  
10 Sol Goldstein\*, Meyer Pogoda, Samuel Bach\*, Louis Samuel Harris, Elaine Karlson, Anna Liff\*,  
Aaron Harold Rosner, Mac Kashdan, Gordon Goldstein, Mel Lee, Dorothy Lazoroff\*  
17 Dorothy Raderman, Sam Rauch, Glory Swartz, Alan Berke\*, Herbert Horowitz, Louis  
Rosenblatt\*, Edgar Altmayer, Hyman Tress, Henry Kramer, Dorothea Schips, Meyer Tabak  
24 Leo Levin, Jack Raderman, Jerome Hoffmann\*, Marion Goldstein\*, Rene Stoller, Elaine H.  
Neuburger, Marvin Kerper, George Singer\*, Evelyn Golden, Frances Dobris\*, Jack Davidson  
31 Rose Rogers Singer\*, Kenneth Wessell Rockefeller, Hyman Zima\*, Lillian Raskin Kuperman\*,  
Vera Walker\*, Philip Haas, Joseph Finkelstein\*, Earl Marvin, Lena Rosenblatt\*

*\*denotes that a Perpetual Memorial has been established*

The congregation notes with sorrow the deaths of

<b>ENID SMITH</b> Congregant
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## THE CONGREGATION NOTES WITH THANKS THESE CONTRIBUTIONS...

### General Fund

In memory of **Rhoda Green** and **Evelyn Davis** by Randy and Ellie Davis  
In memory of **Lazar Kleinfeld** and **Sylvia Lande** by Howard and Bettina Stoller  
In memory of **Judy Reeder** and **Caleb Reeder** by Mark and Cheryl Reeder  
In memory of **William Lacov** by Robin Seguire and family  
In memory of **David Fiks** by Howard and Bettina Stoller  
In memory of **Lieselotte Weiner** by Herb and Ruth Swift

### Vera Propp Social Action Fund

In memory of **Lillian Ruzow** by Sonny and Anne Hausgaard  
In memory of **Enid Smith** by Richard Propp  
In honor of **Valerie Tabak**, **Steve** and **Fran Berg**, **Ben** and **Becky Marvin** by Richard Propp  
In memory of **Rebecca Miller Shultz** by Becky and Ben Marvin  
In honor of the birth of **Eleanor Natalie Johnson** by Ben and Becky Marvin

<p>RABBI: <b>Donald P. Cashman</b></p>
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<p>PRESIDENT: <b>Jodi Kerper</b></p>
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<p>OFFICE MANAGER: <b>Rebecca S. Marvin</b></p>
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<p>RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR: <b>Elizabeth Alowitz</b></p>
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<p>*OFFICE HOURS: MON/TUES/THU/FRI 9:15 AM – 3:00 PM</p>
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**“As a rule, the BULLETIN DEADLINE is the second Wednesday of each month.”**

<u>Period Covered</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
June	May 8
July/August	June 12

Articles and news received after deadline are subject to omission
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