

Congregation ETZ CHAIM

Congregation Etz Chaim's Mission Statement is: Passionate and participatory, our supportive Jewish community engages each individual in a life-long Jewish journey. We embrace diverse experiences that span both traditional and contemporary ideas while learning and pursuing spiritual growth.

Oversight Committee:

Simon Newman
 Terry Brodof
 Randy Slovin
 Russ Rosen

Staff:

Hank Lerer, Executive Director
 Chava Vidal, Youth & Family Program Director

Men's Club:

Aaron Schechtman, President

Sisterhood:

Sandy Baden & Laura Maxwell
 Co-Directors

Ritual Co-Chairs:

Barry Joffe & Barbara Taggart-Milberg



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Message from your President – Simon Newman



As you are well aware, from February 10-12, 2017, Congregation Etz Chaim held its first ever Kallah retreat at Deer Creek Resort in Mt. Sterling, Ohio. Entitled, "The Rhythm of Rest and Ruach", the retreat was a great success with fifty-seven congregants participating! For Pam and me, it truly was a relaxing weekend, and a nice getaway. The change in venue highlighted inspirational services,

but also presented the opportunity to expand one's spirituality with nature, fellow congregants, and within oneself. Pam and I particularly enjoyed our walk around the lake and engaging with congregants as we sat by the roaring fire in the indoor fire pit. Special thanks to Sara Gati and Stephany Schectman for Co-chairing this memorable event. Also, thanks to all who were members of the Kallah planning committee and devoted their time and effort to make this weekend endeavor such a success. I am grateful to Hank Lerer and Chava Vidal for their vision in writing the award-winning grant proposal. Kol Hakovod! As our grant provides for two more retreats, I highly encourage you take advantage of these future offerings.

In typical CEC fashion, we enter this new month with another major event scheduled for March 11. Doubtless, I am referring to Purim and our annual Purim Shpiel presented by the CEC Not Ready for Prime Time Players. You will not want to miss this wonderful program so get your reservations in NOW! What could be better than dining with friends, eating hamentaschen, and watching the story of Purim unfold on the background of a famous Broadway musical. Which one you might ask...HA! You will have to attend that night to find out, but I promise you won't be disappointed.

Turning to a completely different subject, we are only three months away from selling the Kugler Mill building. The Legacy Pointe Church continues to pay the mortgage and insurance on the building, and is on track to close on or before May 31st. Once the sale is completed, we finally will be able to "officially" form Congregation Etz Chaim. Prior to this date, the steering committee will be meeting to finalize the details of a new constitution and by-laws, which will be presented to the entire congregation for approval.

Article continues on the top of the next page...

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Additionally, a new slate of officers and Board of Trustees will be announced and also will require approval of CEC congregants. These final steps will culminate what has been a four-year process. As one of many who were involved from the beginning, I am very proud of what we have accomplished. We have encountered challenges, but it certainly has been worth every ounce of effort. Your continued support throughout this process is most appreciated.

As we begin to transition from winter to spring, a traditional time of rebirth and growth, remember that your synagogue offers a wide array of activities to stimulate your personal renewal.

CAMP
Livingston 
since 1920



THEY ASKED; WE DELIVERED

Camp Livingston, the Cincinnati and surrounding region's community camp located in Southwest Indiana, was recently looking for a Torah to replace a very old one that they had, which was no longer usable. They reached out to Congregation Etz Chaim, knowing that we had recently merged, and thinking that possibly we had an extra Torah on hand because of our former 2 congregations. After consultations with the Oversight Committee, our Steering Committee, and our Ritual Committee, we were able to enter into a loan agreement with Camp Livingston, for the long term loan of a Torah.

Camp Livingston has provided a Jewish summer experience for children for over 95 years, first in northeast Cincinnati, and now in the rolling hills of Indiana, just past Lawrenceburg and Aurora. The camp sits on 680 acres of beautiful and peaceful land, with a lake, a swimming pool, an athletic field with a high ropes course, an arts and crafts center, and a beautiful outdoor chapel for Shabbat services. Many of our members have either attended Camp Livingston, or had their children or grandchildren attend. One of our own, Russ Rosen, was even the long-time director of Camp Livingston. And, we should note with pride that Aaron Slovin, the current executive director, became a Bar Mitzvah at our shul. Lots of connections.

Our new congregation was proud to be asked to assist in this capacity with the donation of the Torah, and Camp was thrilled that we were able to provide. It will be used for Shabbat beginning this summer, and for years to come. Stay tuned for more information, as a delegation of our officers will likely attend a Shabbat this summer, and get to see "first-hand", another example of how Etz Chaim helps in our community.



Ritual Matters

Co-Chairs: Barry Joffe & Barbara Taggart-Milberg; Members: Alex Cohen, Emmy Friedenberg, Lynne Haber, Candy Kviatek, Hank Lerer, Steve Segerman, Chava Vidal, Robyn Wolfe.

The Ritual Committee (“RITCOM”) constantly grapples with important *Ritual Matters*! Suffice it to say that the RITCOM has enough on its docket to keep us going for life! 2017 is shaping up to be as busy a time as ever, as we have some big issues on the table. Before we get to that though, here’s a wrap-up of our biggest highlight from February and a look ahead to some upcoming holiday celebrations:

February 10-12, **Kallah retreat**: Wow – what a great Shabbaton weekend and a great out-of-the-box experience! Even the weather pretty much cooperated. Thank you to everyone who participated in so many ways, from services to programs to honors to...everything. From a ritual standpoint, the fact that we had ten (count them, ten!) Torah readers each leining an aliyah at this retreat is of worthy note. A special thanks to all who helped plan and execute this wonderful event. We’re sure everyone has enjoyed and learned from this experience.

Hear ye, Hear ye (call it an edict, if you will), **Purim** is almost here! – please join us on Saturday evening, March 11th for the festivities at Etz Chaim - Megillah reading, dinner, schpiel.

Passover: The first Passover Seder is on Monday, April 10. Passover services will be held in the Chapel on the following Tuesday and Wednesday mornings starting at 9:30 a.m., as well as on the next Monday and Tuesday mornings, again starting at 9:30 a.m.

Chapel vs Sanctuary: As you all have noticed, some of our Saturday morning services of late have been held in the Chapel and not in the Sanctuary. We were presented with this issue back in the early days of Etz Chaim’s existence and RITCOM had at that time resolved that services should be held in the Sanctuary on Shabbat mornings. Well...things change...things evolve...RITCOM is once again discussing when and where to hold Saturday services and how best to meet the needs of our congregants. What RITCOM resolved to do was to meet in the Chapel on a trial basis, to see what feedback we get from people as we experiment with the seating configuration to maximize comfort and flow. We are appreciative of all the comments, thoughts, even criticisms that we have received and will once again be reviewing and discussing this topic at the RITCOM meeting to solidify a decision.

The RITCOM serves and responds to the Etz Chaim community and we welcome and appreciate all of your thoughts, comments, suggestions, criticisms and the like. In fact, we need all of that from you in order to do our jobs appropriately, so please don’t hesitate to give us your feedback.

B’Shalom,
Barry and Barbara



Half a decade - Full of Success

By: Terry Brodof

Each of us hopes that the things we work hard to achieve are achievable.

On January 27, 2017, we celebrated a milestone and achieved what most thought might be unachievable.

Over 80 congregants gathered in our sanctuary to welcome in Shabbat, on January 27th, to celebrate 260 Friday nights of consecutive minyanim which marked a five-year milestone. It was a true acknowledgment of the achievements and the dedication, of our members, and the leadership, of this congregation.



You see, there was a time when there was almost to be no more Friday night services because we could not make a minyan; and it was not that long ago. We truly struggled. There was a sadness that we spoke of at ritual meetings. There were times congregants came to Friday night services and could not recite kaddish as we could not make a minyan.

During one very hard ritual meeting, the Friday night services appeared on the agenda. It was failing. Only a handful of regulars attended. Talk of discontinuing the service was being discussed. However, a few brave voices said. No – We must continue our services – we have to try and rebuild. They decided we will have a Friday night minyan and agreed that through hard work they would build it, one small step at a time.

Most of us do not realize the dedication and work that went into supporting a Friday night minyan. Thursday through Friday emails were sent updating the counts of congregants that had agreed to attend each week through outreach and phone calls. The Friday afternoon 4:00pm struggles to get 1 more commitment. The rainy days that we worried weather would keep people away. The snowy days we panicked. The work to pick up the phone and make the calls, to send the emails, though seven or eight equally pressing matters needed to also be checked off the list before Shabbat.

Terry recalled sending texts right before services began to absent minyan support volunteers. The texts simply read - Shabbat Shalom. “we got 10 the streak continues”.

The day perhaps we, should have celebrated more soundly, was the day the group of volunteers made the call to not make any phone calls. To trust that what we, meaning you, our congregants and the new regulars, had built a minyan that would stand on its own merits. The bad weather day we trusted that there was no need to touch base with members of the congregation and ask, will we see you tonight?

We trusted that our congregants wanted this service, enjoyed it, liked welcoming in Shabbat as a family; and that they would be there. We had 15 people show up that night. In the cold, in the wet.

There is a saying from an unknown author that states - If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way!

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Continued...

How proud we all should be that because of our vision, and our dedication to our Jewish identity, and to the community we serve, we have a Friday night service.

Our Friday night minyan regulars continue to grow. The service has brought in a number of new members who have walked through our doors looking for a minyan to attend.

Kabbalat Shabbat at Etz Chaim is lively. We sing, we dance, we welcome the Shabbat bride as a family and rejoice in the gift.

Many of our congregants, and board members, do not recognize the significance. There are few congregations that have achieved this milestone.

We should all recognize the work that went into it. We all enjoy the security of knowing we have a Friday night minyan where everyone can come, participate and say kaddish.

For most of our members, it is nothing special, because it always is there. It's always there because it's been that way now for five years. It is now, simply said, who we are.

Yizkor. There was a time when a few of us remember when it wasn't.

It is important to recognize that what we do as a congregation counts. The work that the dedicated Friday night minyan volunteers took on, has had meaning. To that core group, we say Kol ha' kavod.

Hank, we thank you for volunteering to oversee the Friday night services and for taking on the role as our service leader. We thank our entire congregation and dedicated volunteers for recognizing that our congregation can do anything we believe in, by simply starting to do things....in small ways.



**we need
your help!**

Shalom Congregants:

We have a project that needs your help

Please give us your gift cards!!!

You know the one that's been sitting in your wallet for months now. Or the kind you see when you check out at Kroger. All gift cards are welcome, all stores, all restaurants, all types, all denominations. No card is too large or too small. You can drop off your donations to the synagogue office –

Thank you in advance – from your Fundraising Committee

Congregation Etz Chaim Shabbat Retreat

February 10-12, 2017

“The Rhythm of Rest & Ruach”

Congregational Shabbat Kallah Getaway
Deer Creek Resort - Mt. Sterling, Ohio



Words from some of our Kallah Participants:

From our President, Simon Newman: *“The Kallah retreat was amazing! Thank you to all who worked so hard for this weekend. Members from both founding congregations, as well as new members and associate members, were all melded together and had a great time. Most important you could not tell anyone’s origin, demonstrating that we truly have become one congregation - Etz Chaim.”*

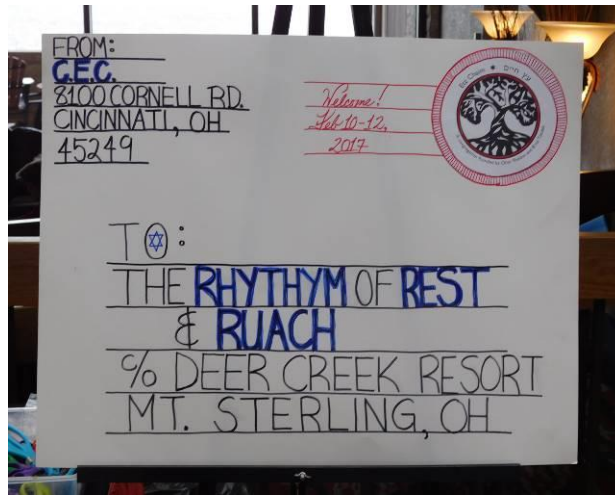


From our Vice President, Terry Brodof: *“As I mentioned at our closing circle on Sunday morning, the good feelings we all felt at this special weekend are not unique to this location or this moment in time. You can achieve this sense of love, this feeling of community and these incredible programs and services in our Synagogue building weekly. Come embrace all that your Synagogue has to offer!”*



From one of our Ritual Directors, Barry Joffe and his wife, Melanie: *“Yasher Koach to our whole team who planned and worked so hard to make the Kallah Retreat the success it was!”*



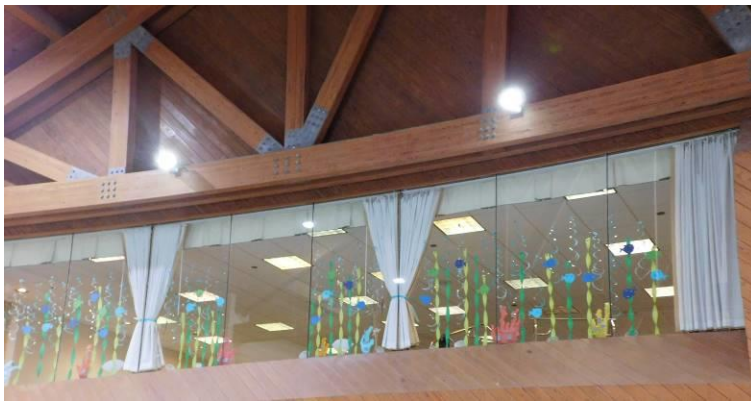


More Quotes & Photos
 In next month's bulletin, stay tuned or watch for our 2017 Kallah Album on Facebook. Thank you to the 57 people who made this retreat simply WONDERFUL!



ETZ CHAIM 2017 KALLAH – DEER CREEK RESORT







We would like to take a moment to acknowledge the hard work of the people that made this endeavor possible:

Thank You to our
2017 Kallah Project Co-Chairs:

Sara Gati and Stephany Schechtman

These ladies have clocked countless
behind the scene hours and led us to this point...
Yasher Kochachen ladies.

We would also like to thank the members of the
Kallah Planning Committee & their helpers:

Education Subcommittee: Sandy Baden, Robyn Duvall, Michael Evers, Lynne Haber, Hank Lerer and Israela Ginsburg

Food & Special Requirements: Brian Wolfe

Hospitality Subcommittee: Laura Maxwell, Simon Newman and Pam Newman

Orientation: Barb Rosen, Melissa Goldstein

Publicity: Terry Brodof

Ritual Subcommittee: Hank Lerer, Barry Joffe, Barbara Taggart-Milberg, Russ Rosen

Tikkun Olam Subcommittee: Aaron Schechtman, Rachel Wolfe & Robyn Wolfe

Special Thank You to the Kallah Project Foundation for awarding us a grant and making this weekend possible!

PURIM SHPIEL

For Purim 2017 ... it's "Kats, a Purr...sian Purim Tail"

Purim celebrations at Congregation Etz Chaim have in the past featured Purim *shpiels* with the music from "Grease", "West Side Story", "Les Mis" and "South Pacific". This year though, the talented cast of "Kats, a Purr...sian Purim Tail" will take the Purim *shpiel* to a whole new level as they recount the historic story... using **cats**! Why cats? You'll have to wait for the explanation.

Our cast includes the singing/dancing/comedic skills of Ernie Ambrosius, Adam Berger, Ethan Berger, Linda Berger, Stephen Berger, Terry Brodof, Alex Cohen, Michelle Fesman, Aasia Gabbour, Barry Joffe, Melanie Joffe, Julie Kaufman, Dana Kolovson, Hank Lerer, Mitch Liberman, Michelle Moncarz, Barb Rosen, Russ Rosen, Alan Sirkin, Barbara Taggart-Milberg, Stan Timmer, Gale Goldner, Russ Goldner, Brian Wolfe, Rachel Wolfe, Robyn Wolfe. You'll also see some pretty amazing make up and costumes! Invitations will be mailed out soon, but you know the plan: on Saturday afternoon, March 11 take a "Shabbos nap" in the afternoon and follow this schedule:

- *Megillah* Reading at 7:15pm
- Dinner (Purim *seudah*) at 8:15pm
- Purim Shpiel following dinner

REMINDERS:

- **Make your reservations!**
- **Bring a small bag of dry cat food or cans of wet cat food to use as a *grogger* afterwards it will be donated to a local animal rescue shelter**
- **Costumes are STRONGLY encouraged!**



Not Pictured: Ethan Berger, Linda Berger, Michelle Fesman, Aasia Gabbour, Melanie Joffe, Dana Kolovson, Michelle Moncarz, Russ Goldner, Brian Wolfe

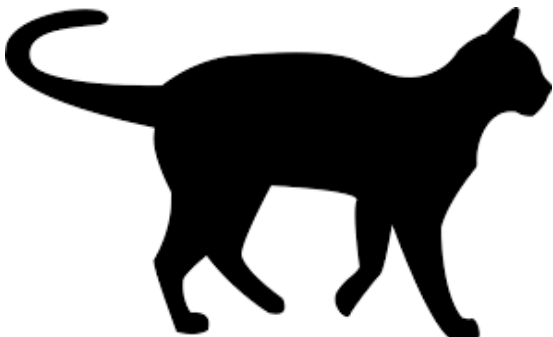


Etz Chaim Purim Program
Saturday Night, March 11, 2017

Act I: Scene I: The Sanctuary
Megillah Reading.....7:15pm

Act II: Scene 1: The Social Hall
Buffet Dinner..... 8:15pm
and Cash Bar

Act III: The Stage
"Kats, A Purr...sian Purim Tail" 9:15pm
The Purim Story set to the Music of "Cats"



Please RSVP to the office by
Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Dinner is \$15/adults and \$6.00/children under 13

Costumes are strongly encouraged!

*Bring a small bag of dry cat food or cans of wet cat food
to use as a grogger - afterwards it will be donated
to a local animal rescue shelter*

MEN'S CLUB

Shabbat
March 25, 2016

SHABBAT SPEAKER SERIES



Join us for our second Men's Club Speaker Series
All congregants and friends are welcome to attend

Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am
Special Kiddush Lunch following services

Then choose between one of our two guest speakers
Who will present on a different topic for thirty minutes

We'll then reunite as a larger group for dessert and kibitzing.

Join us for all or part of this special event –
save the date and

Watch for the topic announcement
and more details!

Special Thank You to all the volunteers who helped to make our
Superbowl Shabbat a reality. From the food, to
the décor, table set up, to Gatorade pouring on “the coach” it was a fun
filled morning and we appreciate all who attended and assisted.

**SUPER
BOWL
SHABBAT**



Building Bridges, Closing Gaps

By: Brian Wolfe

Etz Chaim is not just about services and praying. Sure, many of the events do center around holidays, but we have all kinds of other stuff that we celebrate as well. Where were you on:

November 11, 2016 when we held a USO Shabbat. We honored military members and had a moving tribute wall to those who have served. You should have seen the “mess tent!”

January 6, 2017 when Mens' Club sponsored a Scholar in Residence weekend with Rabbi Cantor David Julian. It was an uplifting Shabbat full of ruach. Did you hear his pleasing voice?

January 27, 2017 when Etz Chaim, your synagogue - celebrated 5 years of consecutive Friday night minyanim. I know where 80 of you were. What about the rest of you? We only priced it at 5 dollars to honor our 5-year accomplishment...

By the time, you read this we will have returned from our first Kallah at Deer Creek Resort and have resumed our hard work preparing for Purim, which is Saturday Night, March 11.

Passover will soon be upon us and we will once again host our larger than life Second Seder on Tuesday Night, April 11. It will challenge your Passover expectations, remind you of childhood memories and still be over in under 2 hours.

Lag B'Omer is May 13. Join us for “Lager B'Omer” - Bonfire & Beer Tasting. We know you like campfires... we know you like to sing, laugh and socialize.

These are just a few of the myriad of events that we have going on. Sign up and get in on the fun ... and the food. You know we (almost) always have food (except on Fast Days)

Bottom Line – We need you. We need you to attend.

We need you to show up and to get involved. We need your smiles and your energy.

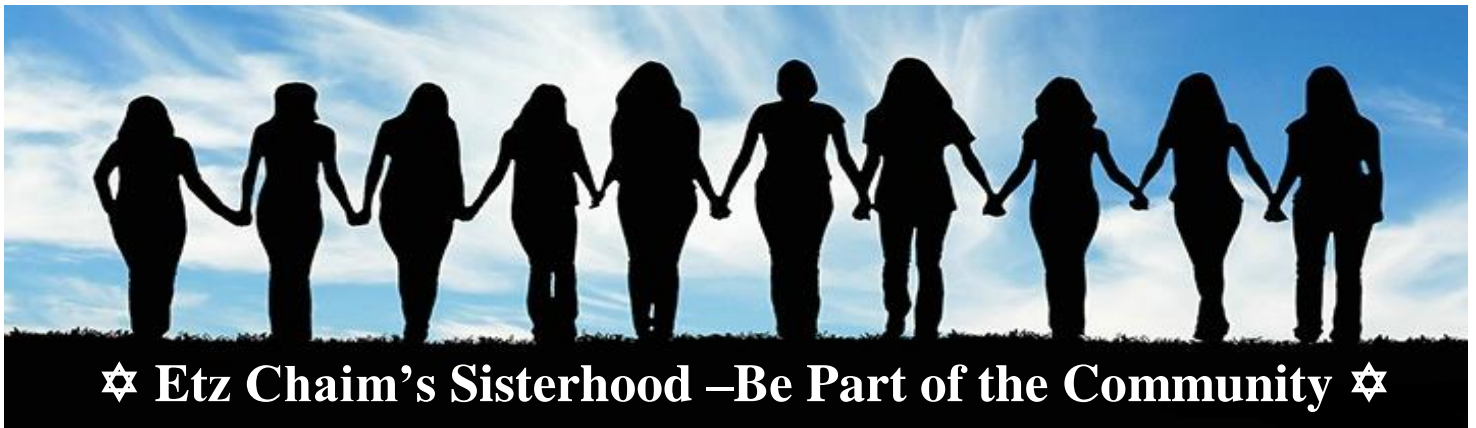
We need you to RSVP – SERIOUSLY – PLEASE RSVP.

RSVPs are essential to our planning, food preparations and event details. We know that life happens and that family issues, illnesses and unexpected complications arise but please step up and show up. We get that it is difficult to attend every event (after all we do have a lot to choose from), but come on people, this is **your** synagogue.

These are **your** events.

Commit to having a good time.

We hope to see you soon!



☆ Etz Chaim's Sisterhood –Be Part of the Community ☆

SISTERHOOD MESSAGE

Sisterhood has been hard at work! With Purim around the corner, hamentaschen production has been in full swing. Thanks to the leadership of our Co-Director Sandy Baden along with a dedicated crew of volunteers, over 3000 hamentaschen are baked and ready way ahead of schedule! We also would like to thank all those who donated preserves and nuts to this annual project. If you have not yet placed your order, please get it in to Julie Kaufmann in the office ASAP. In addition to ordering for yourself, consider participating in giving Mishloot Manot. For \$100, you can be part of giving to every congregant and supporting Sisterhood at the same time!

We have a social action program planned for March. While we are still collecting pop tabs to support Ronald McDonald House, we will be visiting Matthew Ministries to learn about natural disaster relief efforts and participate in readying supplies to go to areas of the world affected by such tragic events. The date is 3/21. We will meet at synagogue at 3:30 and caravan over to their location on Kenwood Road leaving at 3:45. Our visit will begin with a tour of different disaster rooms and then we will do volunteer work for an hour. Seated jobs are available. The plan is to be done at 5:30 and go to dinner as a group. Location to be announced! Our next board meeting will be on March 19th at 10am. In the meantime, watch the E-Blast for upcoming activities.

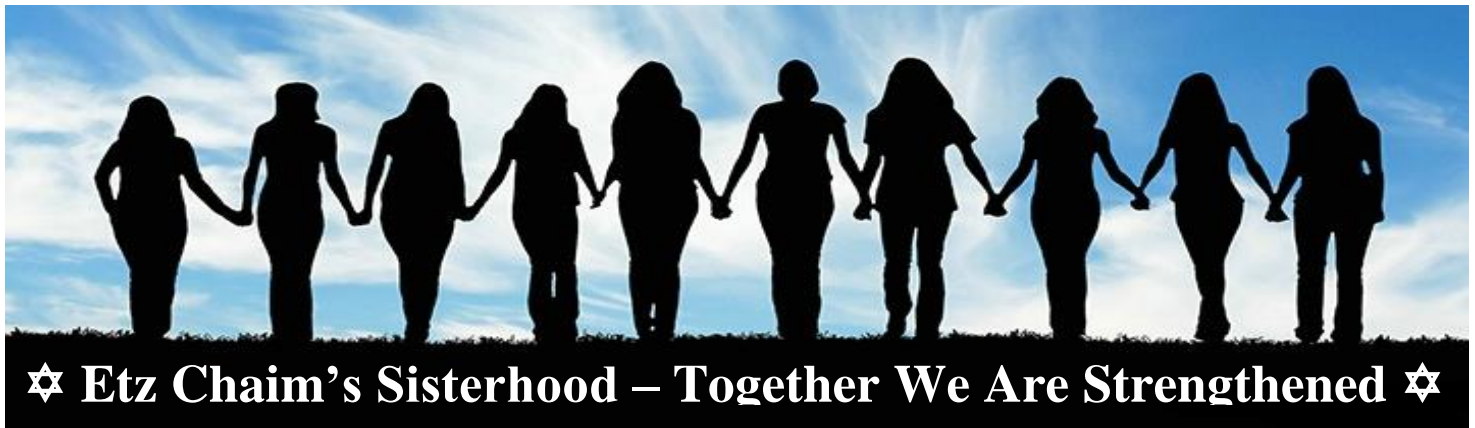
With undying love for Etz Chaim—Sandy & Laura

Co-Directors:

Sandy Baden (554-1649 or 470-6428, sbaden@cinci.rr.com)

Laura Maxwell (368-2465 or 247-0010, lauramaxwell1313@gmail.com)





☆ Etz Chaim's Sisterhood – Together We Are Strengthened ☆

HAMENTASCHEN 2017

Limited quantities available!
The deadline has technically passed but
call now to see if there are any left.

\$15/DOZEN \$8/HALF DOZEN \$15/LOG
Orders Can be picked up at Congregation Etz Chaim
on Sunday, March 5 from 10am to 12pm



MISHLOACH MANOT

Thank you to everyone who has placed orders for Mishloach Manot. And thank you to all who have baked, shopped, assembled and volunteered to help with their delivery. We are still in need of drivers to help deliver the Mishloach Manot that are not picked up at the synagogue Saturday evening, March 11, after the Megillah/Purim Dinner & Schpiel. Please call the office and volunteer to help with delivery on Sunday, March 12 at whatever time of day is convenient for you. Delivery routes are organized by zip code and arranged by neighborhood to minimize the amount of driving any one person will have to do.

If you will be out of town, or for any other reason do not wish to receive the Mishloach Manot delivered to your home, please call the office to let us know.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP

Sunday, March 5 at 10AM to Package the Mishloach Manot bags –This is always a good time. Filling the bags with all kinds of goodies. The more people that help out, the faster it gets done.

Sunday, March 12 at your convenience, deliver the bags that were not picked up after the Megillah reading and Purim Shpiel on March 11th – Delivery routes will be divided by area. We try to match up drivers to deliver in areas near their homes. Once again, the more volunteers we have, the fewer deliveries each driver will have to make.

Tikkun Olam Corner

Once again Etz Chaim has stepped up to prepare and serve meals at the Over-the-Rhine Soup Kitchen in 2017.

The following dates are the Sundays we are assigned to work the soup kitchen. Please consider volunteering and reserve one of these dates on your calendar.

March 5, 2017

April 16, 2017

May 21, 2017

October 15, 2017

November 26, 2017

Matthew Brodof

Etz Chaim Soup Kitchen Chairperson

Please contact me if you would like to be a volunteer on any of the above dates in 2017.

513-373-6925 or mb371607@gmail.com

This endeavor is made possible by the Sandor Kutas Hunger Fund

MISSION MACAROON



OR...VOLUNTEER. If you are interested in delivering Passover boxes to community members please visit Jewish Family Service's website www.jfscinti.org to volunteer.
Date: Sunday, April 2 Pick-Up Times: 10:30, 11:00 or 11:30 am Location: Jewish Family Service Barbash Family Vital Support Center on the Campus of Hebrew Union College

Once again, Etz Chaim is helping families in need celebrate Passover by participating in the 19th Annual Dr. Samuel S. Rockwern Passover Delivery Project of Jewish Family Service. As a congregation, we will be collecting Macaroons. Please place your items in the Jewish Family Service food barrel in our lobby by Sunday, March 19. Passover Delivery is April 2! We will need your donations by March 19 to prepare food boxes.



Adult Education

Congregation Etz Chaim – Offering Learning for Life



Why do the sages say about the Torah, “Turn it and turn it again, for everything is in it”? Because each time we return to the text, we find something new, something unexpected, something relevant. And studying the Torah with others is even better, because it brings a wealth of knowledge and experiences to the discussion.

Join in as we explore Deuteronomy – you’re guaranteed an “aha” moment or two along with the lively conversation! Come when your schedule allows or every week – there’s plenty of room!

NEWCOMERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME – NO TEXT STUDY EXPERIENCE OR HEBREW NECESSARY.

*Wednesdays at Bronte Bistro (Joseph Beth Books @ Rookwood)
3:00-4:30pm followed by dinner, if you choose to stay!*

Classes will be held March 1, 8, 22 & 29 and April 5, 19 & 26

To receive email reminders and change or cancellation notices, contact Candy at KITANDCABOODLE@gmail.com

I can't carry a tune 🎵 and I have 2 left feet 🦶, but if I could sing and dance, I would be in a play. Oh wait, I AM in the Purim shpiel 🎭 at Etz Chaim and you should be too! It's a lot of fun and very rewarding to see people smile 😊 and laugh 😂. No one expects perfection 🏆, just do your best and have a good time. Maybe YOU should try it next year and drown me out in the process....

Not yet convinced... well come and support us this year by attending Purim – that would simply be the cat's meow!



By: Barb Rosen

BOOKS etc. DONATIONS



Thank you, but...

Your literary generosity has been overwhelming! However, there are myriad bags and boxes of books 'n such that have been dropped off in the library, and they are starting to interfere with use of that room. Unfortunately, there is currently no shelf or storage space for these items, including prayerbooks and other religious items for which there is no geniza (storage room) at present. If you have such materials that you need to “unload,” please send an e-mail to Candy at kitandcaboodle@gmail.com and we'll help you find appropriate homes for them. Many thanks!

Passover Second Seder



This seder is made possible by
funding from the
Revella & Sidney Meyers
Pesach Fund

On the second night of Passover
Tuesday, April 11, 2017

Our Family Friendly Seder
will start at 6:30 pm

Spend seder with your Etz Chaim
family, read the haggadah & watch it
come to life, share your traditions,
recount the miracles, sing the familiar
songs and enjoy a delicious meal
catered by Bernstein's Kosher Catering.

Don't miss the exodus as only
Etz Chaim can tell it...

Cost: \$26.00* per person
RSVP to the Office 489-3399

FIRM DEADLINE
of March 30, 2017

*Please bring 2 canned food items with
you that night to be donated to the
Barbash Vital Support Center



Pesach 5777

Our April Bulletin will have our full Passover 2017 Information Section but here are a few details to help you stay up to date and to ensure you are in the know.

This year the first Seder will be Monday Night, April 10, 2017
If you are in need of a Seder OR can host congregants at your Seder, please let the membership committee know – no one should be without a place!

Etz Chaim is proud to once again host the Second Seder on
Tuesday Night, April 11, 2017 – 6:30pm
RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED BY MARCH, 30, 2017
WE BRING IN A CATERER SO DEADLINE IS FIRM

The April Bulletin will have information about donating
to the Matzah Fund and Selling your Chametz.

We will be Cleaning & Kashering our Kitchen for Passover on
Tuesday, April 4, 2017. If you can spare an hour or two it really
helps to lighten the stress and make the evening go by quickly –
Contact Hank if you can help!

A full list of services and times will be included in the
April Bulletin as well as additional ritual information.

Stay tuned for more Passover information!
Matzah, Marror & Macaroons – HERE WE COME!

Y AHRZEITS

This list represents yahrzeits for this month as listed in the Synagogue Database. If we have missed a name, please call the synagogue office at 489-3399 and let us know so we can update our records.

This March (Adar-Nissan) we remember:

March 1 – Adar 3

Ben Barsman*
Marie Beraha
Harry Feldman*
Rebecca Jarnicki
Clara Kravitz*
Max Kusel*
Shirley Levin
Irwin Marks
Irv Medinger
Libby Sandow*
Mary Sunshein*
Rose Wasserman*
Jurek Werthaiser

March 2—Adar 4

Hyman Goldfarb
Henry Goldstein*
Hyman Goldstein*
Jack Greenberg
Sadie Holtzman*
Esther Kaufman
Flora Schatz*
Mary Silverman*
Harold Torf*
David Weisberg

March 3—Adar 5

Bert Goldmeier
Charles Heilmann
Betty Parente*
Josef Saal
Sara Ann Seltz*
Esther Spitzer*
Erna Weissman*
Harry Zelian*
Bertha Zimmerman*

March 4—Adar 6

Samuel Holbrook*
Ann Kraus
Lewis Werth

March 5—Adar 7

Sheila Flint
Stuart Fox*
Frank Friedman*
Dora Gershman*
Marvin Jablonsky
Ron Krakovsky
Solomon Kutnicki
Alex Poss
James Schmalo*
Samuel Sunshein
Abe Zupnick*

March 6—Adar 8

Leah Friedman*
David Frieman*
Bess Hammer

David Licht
Jack Neumark*
Aryia Newmark*
Eshka Newmark*
Usna Newmark*
Alvin Pflaster*
David Rose*
Rebecca Rosenbaum*
Jack Skolnick
Harry Tobin
Harry Topelberg
Mary Zappin

March 7—Adar 9

Aaron Fox*
Edward Koff*
Frances Melamed
Beila Metz*
Libby Perlman
Samuel Rockwern*
Victor Rosenbaum
Joan Sinai
Sol Taplits*
Reuben Wershbole*

March 8—Adar 10

Dorothy Butchkes*
Marcelle Castiglione
Abraham Cohen*
Charlotte Drucker*
Isadore Freid
Adele Katz
Ruth Kaufman
Maurice Levine*
Tillie Long
Rowena Stecher
Rose Tulch*
May Wolpa*

March 9—Adar 11

Jeffrey Blatt*
Max Fox*
Aleta Goodson
Rose Halpern*
Sarah Klayman*
Frank Kraus*
Richard Manheimer
William Richshafer

March 10—Adar 12

Elizabeth Cohen*
Sara Cohen*
Arthur Feldstein
Esther Glicklich*
Gerald Plotkin
Keith Saeks
Elaine Weesen
Mary Wolpa*
Isaac Yourish*

March 11—Adar 13

Esther Benjamin
Benjamin Freiden*
Sarah Kaplan*
Victor Kaufman
Rosa Mendel*
Louis Nidich
Donald Shear
Abraham Zuber*

March 12—Adar 14

Harry Anish*
June Francis*
Arthur Kaplan
Israel Klayman*
Anna Kravitz*
Jenny Kwiatek
Irving Troy*
Caroline Sax
Marcia Weller*
Joseph Young*

March 13—Adar 15

Judith Carsch
Dorothy Freckman
Ben Overbook*
Raphael Penso*
Kurt Rose*

March 14—Adar 16

Bertha Baneth*
Nathan Carl*
Harry Grossman*
Abe Gurfine*
Rose Scheen*
Hyman Schneider*
Louis Smilansky
Jacob Wiener

March 15—Adar 17

Harry Fiermark*
Alfred Funk*
Rosa Nagler
Ruth Shosteck

March 16—Adar 18

Ida Bloch*
Esther Gold*
Elsie Heiman
Jennie Ida Karp*
Annette Nogen*

March 17—Adar 19

Minnie Ehrlich*
Minnete Goldstein
Lillian Holbrook*
Sonia Kitain
Morris Lipman*
Margaret Panigel
Anna Serotkin*
Melvin Wacksman*

Y AHRZEITS

This list represents yahrzeits for this month as listed in the Synagogue Database. If we have missed a name, please call the synagogue office at 489-3399 and let us know so we can update our records.

This March (Adar-Nissan) we remember:

March 18—Adar 20

David Brookenthal
Morris Cyrkin*
Ida Lee Feldman*
David Gordon*
Ruth Kahler*
Joshua Lass*
Herman Less*
Wolf Lipsky*
Chaya Rubinstein
Bernard Tuly

March 19—Adar 21

Schiffra Becker*
Tillie Charkins*
Ben Schilmeister*
Samuel Schraeder*

March 20—Adar 22

Leo Arenstein
Dora Herman*
Sarah Herman*
Jack Hoffman*
Esther Hoodin*
Robyn Novick*
Max Pinsky*
Helen Young*
Rivka Zwikelski

March 21—Adar 23

Marion Belfeld
Rose Bell*
Bertha Cohen*
Frank Cohen*
Sima Goldfarb*
Diana Lee Hinkel
Miriam Kapson
Dora Metz*
Rose Pywen*
Ruth Robinson
Louis Schechtman
Meyer Siegel*
Sophia Sklar

Elaine Sorenson*
Morris Weinstein*

March 22—Adar 24

Harry Freid*
Ida Goldberg*
Annette Kusel*
Paul Levin
Jacob Newmark*
Harvey Ornstein
Arthur Richards
Elliot Segerman*
Sylvia Shapiro*

March 23—Adar 25

Edith Brownstein*
Abe Farb*

Helen Freeman
Gertrude Holtzman*
Joseph Jacobs*
Harriet Komer
Gertrude Nevins
Ralph Sax
Eva Spitz

March 24—Adar 26

George Camins*
David Cohn*
Belle Kuhr*
Anna Lerer*
Ida Malinsky*
Aaron Mandell*
Ruth Tuly
Yocheved Waldman*
David Weitzman*
Geraldine Yarmush

March 25—Adar 27

Frank Holtzman*
David Kaufman*
Dora Krayterman
Sam Kruke*
Hyman Sobol*
Issac Spievack*
Phillip Zakem*

March 26—Adar 28

Emma Belhassen
Albert Caplan*
Abe Goldberg
Charles Goldberg
Bertha Kropveld
Max Mermelstein
Mary Wasserman*
Stuart Fletcher
Moshe Herzage
Edward Malkis*
Millie Prager*
Mary Rose*

March 28—Nissan 1

Libby Cohn
Sidney Edelstein
Ben Hoffman*
Louis Oxlander*

March 29—Nissan 2

Rose Gendelman*
John Lerer*

March 30—Nissan 3

Beila Fingerhut*
Anna Franklin*
Dove Funk*
Nora Siegel
Miriam Warm*

March 31—Nissan 4

Alex Chaiken*
Naomi Hepker
David Levine*
Louis Peller
Dora Stoller*

** Names are on
the Sanctuary
Yahrzeit Panels*

Congregation Etz Chaim is proud to offer minyanim upon request. If you would like to observe the Yahrzeit of a loved one and it occurs on a date that we do not have services scheduled, please call or email Julie Kaufman at jsk9998@gmail.com or call 793-6354 and leave a message.

Julie is our dedicated volunteer who helps to coordinate yahrzeit minyanim. If you would like to request a minyan please do so at least one week in advance.

When a minyan is requested Julie will send out an email to people who have signed up to help us ensure we always have ten people in attendance. If you would like to sign up to help us ensure minyanim please contact Julie and ask her to add your name to the list.

We are a community and we are strengthened by each other. Thank you in advance for helping us perform and fulfill these good deeds.

Of Blessed Memory
זיכרוןם לברכה

Y AHRZEIT - Begins the evening before the date listed above. Kaddish should be recited the evening before the above listed date, and the following day at both morning and afternoon services.

Synagogue Correspondence

MARCH

Synagogue Happenings

We extend our condolences to:

To Ronn & Leslie Sokol
on the passing of
Ronn's father, z"l

We wish a speedy recovery to:

Eleanor Segal
Audrey Martin
Shirley Ruben

We Wish Mazel Tov to:

Carney Sotto, who was nominated and won the
Honors of the Association award for 2017
presented by the Ohio Speech-Language-
Hearing Association

**SERVICE PARTICIPATION
AND LEADERSHIP**

Your participation and leadership in our services
- weekday and Shabbat - is encouraged. Please
volunteer to assist in leading services, reading
Torah or chanting Haftorah. If you would like
to learn the skills, please contact Hank Lerer at
the office, or via e-mail at: hlerer@fuse.net.

MISHEBERACH

It is customary to recite a Misheberach, a prayer
requesting blessing and healing, for those who
are sick. These prayers are recited on Monday
and Thursday mornings and on Shabbat. If you
would like a Misheberach recited for a friend or
loved one, please call the synagogue office.

Shabbat Kiddush Opportunities

Kiddush Sponsorships are available for any
occasion. Many menu choices are available and
Sisterhood will accommodate special requests.
Our catering kitchen crew is delighted to be cooking
for larger Shabbat kiddush lunches.

The price to sponsor a basic kiddush lunch will now
be \$118. This will consist of 1 salad, a protein dish,
bread & a dessert.

The standard enhanced dairy Kiddush will be \$225.

To add smoked salmon and the accompaniments or
to add special requests, the additional enhancements
will raise the costs slightly to \$300.

To sponsor a meat kiddush the cost will be \$450.

Please contact the office to book your Kiddush and
share your simchot with your synagogue family.

Kitchen Volunteers are always welcome!

Check your eblast for weekly cooking dates. It's a
pretty safe assumption if we have a sponsored
kiddush or Friday Night Dinner we'll be cooking the
Thursday before the event from 6pm on!

ANISH/OKRENT

REMEMBRANCE WALL

The Anish/Okrent Remembrance Wall is dedicated in
memory of:

**Harry & Ethel Anish
and
Joseph & Ida Okrent**

whose bequests provided for the purchase of the
Cornell Road property. Bricks of Remembrance are
available for purchase. Have your significant events
and dedications permanently inscribed and made a
part of ETZ CHAIM Bricks on the Remembrance Wall
are available for \$250 each. Please contact the office if
interested at 489-3399.

Upcoming Events:
MARCH

First Friday at Scrambler Marie's

Friday, March 3, 2017 – 9am
4006 Hauck Road - Sharonville
Breakfast & Learning
with Hank and Chava – Please RSVP

Unpacking the Torah

Saturday, March 4, 2017
The group will meet in the library
following the Kiddush.

Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen

Sunday, March 5, 2017
Contact Matt Brodof for more details
Thank you to the Sandor Kutas Fund
for making this endeavor possible

Hammentashen Pick Up

Sunday, March 5, 2017
10am – 12pm in the lobby

Steering Committee Meeting

Wed. March 8, 2017 – 7:30pm

PURIM CELEBRATION

Saturday Night, March 11, 2017
6:00pm Megillah Reading, Dinner
Purim Shpiel – Costumes
encouraged. RSVP OR ELSE!!!!
SERIOUSLY CHAVA SAYS SHE
MEANS IT!

Be sure to attend not just because it's fun
but you can pick up your sisterhood
mishloach manot package

Encore Purim Shpiel Presentation

Sunday, March 12, 2017
“Kats, a Purr...sian Purim Tail”
at Cedar Village – 2pm
Everyone is welcome to attend!

March Birthday Minyan

Friday Night, March 17 – 6PM

If you were born in the month of
March we want to celebrate with you!
Join us for birthday cake following
our one hour Friday night service

Sisterhood Board Meeting

Sunday, March 19 – 10am

Sisterhood Tikkun Olam

Tuesday, March 21 – 3:30pm
Meet at CEC then caravan over to
Matthew 25 Ministries for service
projects, learning and volunteering

Trivia Night at Cedar Village

Wednesday, March 22 at 6:30pm

All are welcome to help with this
mitzvah opportunity!

Men's Club Speaker Series

Shabbat, Saturday, March 25, 2017

9:30am Shabbat Morning Services
With a special Kiddush luncheon.

Then choose between
Two great speakers and come back
together for a dessert reception.



Legacy Team Members

*Sandy Baden
Russell Rosen
Steven N. Segerman
Randy T. Slovin*

*Please remember the
Jewish community with
a gift in your will, trust, IRA,
or life insurance policy.*



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Phone: (513) 489-3399

Fax: (513) 489-3372

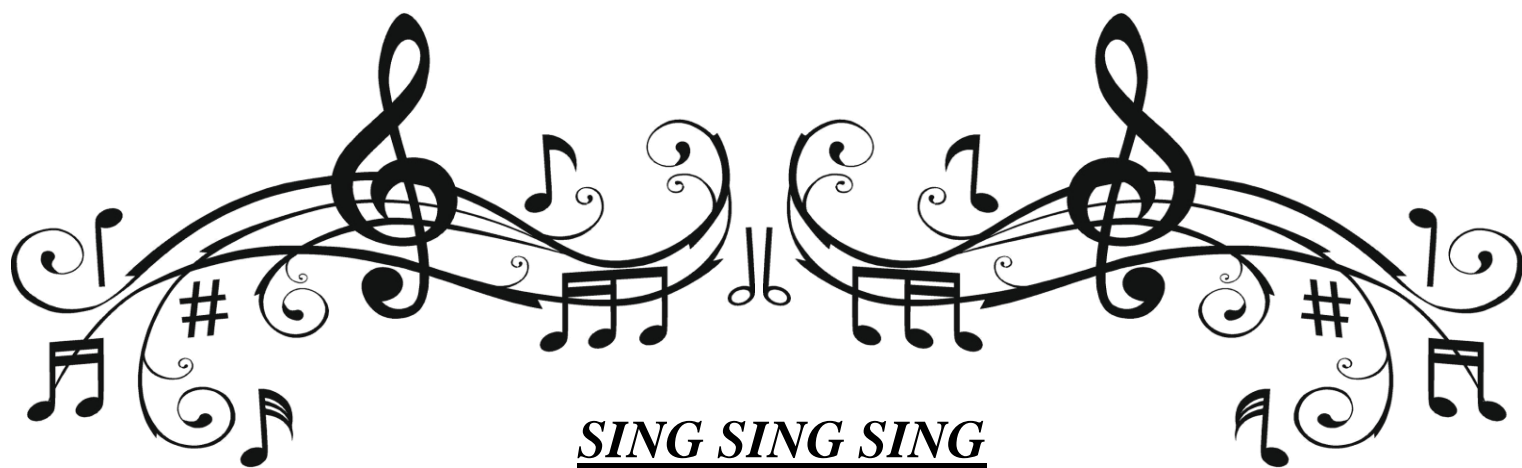
Email: EtzChaimOffice@fuse.net

www.EtzChaimCincinnati.org

As you may be aware from a prior article in this Bulletin, our congregation is participating in a program called Create Your Jewish Legacy, sponsored by the Jewish Federation. The purpose of the CYJL program is to strengthen Jewish organizations within the city, by encouraging its members to start thinking about their future funding sources, and by working with members and / or congregants of the participating organizations to consider legacy gifts. Along with other Jewish organizations and congregations from around the city, our CEC team, which includes Russ Rosen, Randy Slovin, Sandy Baden, and Steve Segerman, is currently taking part in a series of classes and seminars designed to take us through the process of how to strengthen our financial foundation for generations to come.

At our March Steering Committee Meeting, David Harris, the Executive Director of CYJL will be in attendance, as our CEC team makes our very first CYJL presentation. We will share what we've learned and have faith that we'll inspire our colleagues on the Steering Committee to step up and be the shining examples that we know them to be. Our address will not only show where we stand to date, but will include other actions taken, and recommendations designed to help us achieve goals we are setting for financial success. We are extremely excited about this project and how it can positively impact Etz Chaim for generations to come. We will keep you posted on more details, as we go through this process.

Randy Slovin



Ruach Etz Chaim (Ruach) is proud to have participated at Etz Chaim's first ever Kallah retreat weekend/Shabbaton. In fact, we not only participated *at* but participated *throughout* the entire weekend. Starting with Friday Shabbat services and continuing through to Sunday Shacharit, Ruach made their mark - their musical mark - on the weekend.

We want to introduce two new members of the choir. We are so happy that Marianne Nidich (soprano) and Michael Evers (tenor) have joined us! Continuing members of Ruach are Alex Cohen and Russ Rosen (tenors), Emmy Friedenber, Rachel Rachovitsky, Lynne Haber, Candy Kwiatek and Karen Litz (altos), Michelle Fesman, Gale Goldner and Barbara Taggart-Milberg (sopranos).

Aside from music we had prepared for the Kallah retreat, Ruach has been practicing a few other pieces so that we can sing for the congregation at times to be set in the near future. Our goal, which we are slowly but surely meeting, is to establish a repertoire of music to have 'under our belts'. In this way, it won't take us as long to review any music we decide to sing.

Pri Yadeiha (PY), the women's choir, has not been active in 5777 up till now, but rehearsals for PY will begin soon as our hope is for them to sing for Mother's Day Shabbat in May.



Musically yours,

Barbara and Emmy

In the Etz Chaim Family

Share a simcha with your synagogue family – call the office today to schedule a sponsored Kiddush! Thank you to the many kitchen volunteers who make these kiddushim possible!

Special Thank You to:

Men's Club for sponsoring on 2/4 in honor of our Superbowl Shabbat

Rona Peerless for sponsoring the Kiddush on February 18
In memory of her husband, Mel Peerless's yahrzeit.

Membership Committee for Sponsoring on February 25, 2017
in honor of our New Member Shabbat

Congratulations to all our March Birthdays!

- 4 Ruth Cohen
- 4 Monica Lerner
- 7 Shirley Ruben
- 8 Bernie Beraha
- 8 Sasha Cohn
- 13 Gloria Nadel
- 16 Sara Gati
- 17 Jory Edlin
- 17 Sterling Segal
- 17 Ron Shapiro
- 18 Bernard Tepper
- 19 Sanford Franklin
- 19 Haguit Rubinstein-Towler
- 22 Susan Segerman
- 22 Leslie Sokol
- 23 Nelson Linder
- 23 David Neman
- 23 Chie Weil
- 26 Shia Edelstein
- 29 Steven Cohn
- 29 Sam Krimins
- 31 Karen Barnes



Happy Anniversary to:

- 4 Alex & Sally Cohen
- 13 Barry & Melanie Joffe
- 15 Edward & Lana Gallop
- 20 Albert & Karen Sawdai
- 21 Benjamin & Fay Krauss
- 27 Harvey & Jane Cohen
- 28 Fred & Gail Zeifman



We look forward to celebrating with you at our
March Birthday Minyan!

Friday Night,
March 17, 2017

Kabbalat Shabbat services start at 6pm in the
chapel then at 7pm we'll have cake in honor of
all our March Birthdays!

We'll see you there!

** If you have a birthday or anniversary and it
is not listed above, please call the office so we
can put it in our database.

March 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>We look forward to seeing you at events and services. For more information please feel free to call the office. Remember to check your weekly e-blast which is sent out every Wednesday. If you are not receiving the e-blast please call the office and we'll add you to the list.</p>			<p>1 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm</p>	<p>2 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks</p>	<p>3 First Friday Breakfast 9am at Scrambler Maries Kabbalat Shabbat 6pm</p>	<p>4 Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am. Followed by Unpacking the Torah</p>
<p>5 Soup Kitchen Hammentashen pick up 10am 10:00 -12pm Purim Shpiel Rehearsal</p>	<p>6 The office is closed</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm Steering Committee Meeting 7:30pm</p>	<p>9 Morning Minyan 7AM In observance of the Fast of Esther there will be no breakfast Kitchen Volunteers needed 6pm</p>	<p>10 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm</p>	<p>11 Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am Purim Celebrations Megillah, Dinner & Shpiel 7:15pm</p>
<p>12 Purim Sameach! Encore Performance of the Purim Shpiel at Cedar Village 2pm</p>	<p>13 The office is closed</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks</p>	<p>17 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm & Birthday Minyan with Cake</p>	<p>18 Shabbat Parah Shabbat Morning Services at 9:30am</p>
<p>19 Sisterhood Board Meeting – 10am</p>	<p>20 The office is closed</p>	<p>21 Sisterhood Tikkun Olam at Matthew 25 Ministries – 3:30pm</p>	<p>22 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm Cedar Village Trivia 6:30pm</p>	<p>23 Morning Minyan 7AM followed by shots, lox & blocks Kitchen Volunteers Needed 6pm</p>	<p>24 Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6pm</p>	<p>25 Shabbat HaChodesh Shabbat Services at 9:30am – special Kiddush lunch & SPEAKER SERIES</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27 The office is closed</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Wisdom on Wednesday 3pm</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	



Congregation

ETZ CHAIM



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facebook

Etz Chaim isn't just a synagogue... it's a home...



Simon Newman

*Purim is in March & Passover is in April
Spend these joyful holidays with your
Etz Chaim Family – RSVP TODAY!!!*

Contact the office at 513-489-3399

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