



Scholar-in-Residence Weekend with Rabbi Brad Hirschfield

January 19 and 20, 2024

*Together and Apart:
Nurturing Unity in an Era of Increasing Polarization*



For a schedule and description of events, see page 15.

RSVP: www.etzchaim.net/event/sir2024

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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.

Shabbat Services:

Friday, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, 9:30 a.m.
(in-person & Livestream)

www.etzchaim.net/facebook-livestream

Daniel Dorsch
Rabbi



A colleague told me about a Shabbat dinner he was invited to at a congregant's home. The Rabbi and his family entered the home to the wonderful smells of Shabbat.

The family and its guests gathered around the table. The sun had set several hours prior as it was the winter months. Nonetheless, it was the custom of this family to light Shabbat candles after sunset before they began the meal.

Although this observance ran contrary to Jewish law, the Rabbi chose not to say anything; he did not want to embarrass his gracious hosts. However, one of the other guests present at dinner chose to raise the issue. "Why are you lighting candles after sundown? Hasn't Shabbat already started?" asked one of the guests. The family, it turns out, had not given much thought to the idea that lighting candles after sundown ran contrary to Jewish law. They replied: "It's what our parents always did...why would we do anything different now?"

I've been thinking a lot about this story since I first heard it from a colleague. Are children always required to emulate what their parents do, let alone follow their wishes?

As Jewish children, there are any number of actions that we are supposed to perform to demonstrate respect and honor for our parents. These include not sitting in their favorite chairs at the table, caring for them when they are older, and not putting them to shame.

However, there are times when children are invited to overrule their parents' wishes. One of the examples that I encounter the most in my work are parents who tell their children that their final wishes are to be cremated. The children I meet are often uncomfortable with their parents' choice and are struggling themselves. They want to honor their parents' wishes, while also being fully aware that cremation is against Jewish law (not to mention in modern times, evokes images of

the Holocaust). In these circumstances, where parents act contrary to Jewish law in such a serious way, I explain they may in good conscience overrule their parents.

It's also true that parents may not always be good parents, in which case, children have a responsibility to break the cycle of abuse. In our relatively new Siddur, there is a specific passage for children to recite during the *Yizkor* memorial service. It is titled for a "parent who was hurtful". Reciting this passage during *Yizkor* strikes the right chord for children who want to be dutiful to their Jewish tradition while acknowledging the pain of the relationship.

In Judaism, we talk about children's obligations to parents. Rarely though do we spend enough time talking about parents' obligations to their children. The Rabbis have a principle: *Maaseh Avot Siman Levanim*, "that actions of parents create signposts for their children". The principle is a warning for parents that if we are not careful in our behavior, our children may choose to emulate not only our endearing qualities, but the ones that are less endearing. What we say. How we treat other people. Lighting candles, in my humble opinion, is small potatoes compared to what our children can and will emulate if we are not careful.

In the end, I am not sure that I would've acted any different than my colleague did. It's wonderful that this family wanted to light candles at all, even if I would have preferred it had been done in a more *halachic* way.

Nonetheless, we should never feel pressured to follow a practice "because our parents said so." Each generation forges its own path.

A graphic for a Senior Seminar. On the left is a circular illustration of a graduate in a cap and gown, holding a diploma, surrounded by a laurel wreath. To the right, the text reads: "Senior Seminar for 11th and 12th Graders with Rabbi Dorsch and the following speakers: January 22, Julie Katz (AJC Atlanta): Anti-Semitism on College Campuses February 12, Rabbi Larry Sernovitz (Hillel): Finding your Jewish Self in College March 18, Cindee Sapoznik: Resume Building and Interview Skills for School and for Life Classes to be held at the home of Rabbi Dorsch, 7:00 p.m."/>

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Marty Gilbert
Executive Director

On January 6, a new synagogue President, Executive Board and Board of Trustees will be installed here at Congregation Etz Chaim. The incoming slate was approved on December 3 at

the Annual Congregational Meeting after months of deliberation, interviews and setting of expectations by the committee that determined the slate.

What appears on the surface to be a very simple and easy process is, in fact, very time-consuming and detailed. We here at Etz Chaim are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and passionate group of lay leaders in our ranks. Since I started here in June of 2017, I have been extremely impressed with the session planning that has taken place and the thorough way the process plays out. In the past 6-1/2 years, I have worked with five presidents and five different executive boards and boards of trustees. Everyone involved has a great vision for Etz Chaim and is also a strong supporter of what we are as a Conservative Jewish synagogue.

We continue to move seamlessly from leadership team to leadership team because of the dedication and vision of our lay leaders and their partnership with clergy and the professional staff.

What I have learned in these past 6-1/2 years is that we can shift within our vision and represent ourselves based on our ever-changing world. One of our biggest challenges will always be financial, but to some extent, that challenge is overshadowed by our need to have more people interested in taking on leadership positions. Fundamentally, we will always be what we are, a Conservative Jewish congregation; but within that basic framework we can make a difference in our congregants' lives and in the community we serve and call our home. That comes from all of you.

I want to thank Jamie Platt Lyons for her guidance and energy these past two years as President. It has been a privilege to work with her. I look forward to working with Elliot Okrent for the next two years as he helps "Create Meaningful Jewish Experiences" for all of us at Etz Chaim.

Questions about
purchasing
a cemetery plot?
Call Marty Gilbert
770-973-0137

Jamie Platt Lyons
President



SAY YES

I started my very first Voice of Chaim article in February 2022 with the *Shehecheyanu*. As I wrote then, usually we say the *Shehecheyanu* in times of thanks or commemoration. Generally, it's when we are experiencing something that truly nourishes our soul and occurs infrequently. Nothing I wrote two years ago about this meaningful blessing has changed, except that I am now on the other side of my presidential journey. I hope during my presidency I've encouraged you to find moments for yourself (perhaps a "Never Have I Ever" moment) that are so special or important they are worthy of being commemorated with the *Shehecheyanu*.

I am grateful there have been so many of these special and commemorative moments during my Etz Chaim Presidency. True to form, I will name THREE. (1) The congregation recited the *Shehecheyanu* at two installation Shabbat services. (2) Rabbi Dorsch, Marty Gilbert, and I said the *Shehecheyanu* at the closing table when we purchased the front five acres of property from the Lutheran Church. (3) Rabbi Adler and I chanted the *Shehecheyanu* when we signed his full-time contract together. These were (and are) three meaningful, significant, important moments that I was part of because of my role as President of Etz Chaim.

I also said the *Shehecheyanu* silently when we voted in our new Executive Committee and Board of Trustees at our annual meeting on December 3rd. I think most congregants know this, but just in case you don't, I'm going to SAY IT OUT LOUD. . . at Etz Chaim, we have a long established succession plan where the Executive Vice President of the synagogue is considered next in line to be President. So, when Lisa Olens was asked if she would accept the Executive Vice President role, she also was being asked if she would agree to be the future President of our congregation. Before saying yes, Lisa called a number of people at Etz Chaim. During our talk, I reflected on my feelings about being President of Etz Chaim.

You may have heard me say I LOVE BEING PRESIDENT OF ETZ CHAIM. Well, it's true. I told Lisa that when I was installed as President, I made a commitment to myself to GO ALL IN. I poured every ounce of energy and time into these past two years. I wanted to show up for as many events, activities, learning sessions, shivas, social opportunities, minyans, and meetings as possible. I wanted to be present, soak it up, and see it in action. That's how I chose to engage as President.

In doing so, here's what I discovered - THE MORE I GAVE, THE MORE I RECEIVED. While this was a huge endeavor (and it was scary and overwhelming at times), when I look back on it, I am so grateful I was trusted with this position and I am so proud of myself for SAYING YES. I told Lisa that if she was at a point in her life to be able to SAY YES, she should not hesitate.

I say the same to all of you . . . when you are asked to volunteer and give of your time and energy, SAY YES if possible. I promise you will get more out of it than you give. If you aren't able to say yes, try "not right now, but ask me again at another time." You will not be disappointed. Instead, you will find that the more you contribute, the more you grow, and the more you learn. So don't hesitate, SAY YES.

Here I am now, four years after I SAID YES (two as E.VP and two as President) and I am reciting the *Shehecheyanu* again. This time it's to celebrate that I have reached the end of my Presidential term with an excellent professional staff, a deeply committed Executive Committee, an engaged and thoughtful Board of Trustees, and so many other lay leaders who dedicate their time to our very special community. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to SAY YES to serve Congregation Etz Chaim.

Department of Education

DATES TO REMEMBER:

PRESCHOOL

Monday, **1/1**
School Closed
Tue. **1/2** & Wed. **1/3**,
School Closed
(Teacher Workday)
Friday, **1/5**
Tot Shabbat
Saturday, **1/13**
Team Shabbat
Monday, **1/15**
School Closed (MLK Day)
Saturday, **1/27**
Team Shabbat
Kids Night Out

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Friday, **1/5**
5th Grade Shabbat Dinner
Saturday, **1/13**
Team Shabbat
Sunday, **1/14**
School Closed
Sunday, **1/21**
Pre-K Class in Session
3rd Grade Family
Workshop
Friday, **1/26**
3rd Grade Haggigat Siddur
and Dinner
Saturday, **1/27**
Team Shabbat

**ETZ CHAIM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER AND
GRADED SHABBATOT**

**Dates, times and registration
Information is available
on page 13.**



Debbie Deutsch
Director of Education

Kitah Hey in Action

Kitah Hay is high energy, enthusiastic about improving their Hebrew skills and marked by insightful discussion. Throughout the year, they return to the idea that they are part of a community and that their actions are impactful.

The students have become very comfortable using their Siddurim and are currently learning the Amidah. The students practice prayers both on the Bimah (during joint Tefillah sessions with 6th and 7th grade) and working in small groups in the classroom. They also work on Hebrew skills with words relevant to holidays and from the weekly Torah portion.

One component of Kitah Hay's Judaic studies is, of course, holidays. Our focus is understanding the reasons for our observances and what they mean to us. During the High Holy Days, we explored the idea that Teshuvah can be the process of returning to our best selves. As Chanukah approached, we learned about the role of the Second Temple in Jewish life and why the rededication was so important.

The other component of Kitah Hay's Judaic studies is a project-based learning endeavor. The students have been challenged to answer the question, "Why is it said of the Matriarchs and Patriarchs that we stand on the shoulders of giants?" Once they have completed their research and deliberations, they will be tasked with making something to share the answer with others. It will be fascinating to see what they create!



Lauren Chernau
Assistant Director Etz Chaim Preschool

This month I would like to highlight our Monkeys Class. The Monkeys are our second 14 month – 24 month and walking class. Their teachers, Mrs. Faer and Ms. Feibel make each day fun and exciting to be a Monkey!

At any given time, you can walk into their classroom and see the children engaged in various sensory activities. Whether it is playing with playdough, exploring materials in the sensory table, playing on the climbing equipment, or taste-testing a new fruit, these teachers make sure that the children are engaged in meaningful experiences each day. Every week you can find the Monkeys mixing and stirring ingredients to make their own challah for Shabbat. The children have opportunities to sing songs, listen to stories, and enjoy finger puppet chants throughout their day. Mrs. Faer loves to come to work each day because she says, "They give me what my 19- and 21-year-old daughters won't give me anymore – lots of snuggles, hugs, and kisses! I also enjoy teaching them Judaics because it brings me back to my Religious School days!"

The Monkeys love to celebrate holidays and you can often hear them singing songs about each celebration. Ms. Feibel brings such creativity to the class. She is always coming up with ideas to present to the children to allow them to experience the processes of art. Ms. Feibel said, "My favorite part of being the Monkeys teacher is watching them grow and change, literally day to day!" The children in this class have so many opportunities to be a part of developmentally appropriate experiences as they are growing and changing and learning how to engage with each other every day.

You can help Etz Chaim's Religious School and Preschool students reach their goal of planting over 120 new trees in Israel. Join them in this time honored tradition for Tu B'Shevat. See page 23 for all of the details.



“Hey, hey, we're
the Monkeys
And people say
we monkey
around”
- The Monkeys





Join us on these Fridays for Winter/Spring 2024:

January 5 - February 2 - March 1 - April 12 - May 10

5:00 - 5:45 p.m. Bring Your Own Dinner "BYOD"

5:45 - 6:30 p.m. Tot Shabbat - songs, dances, crafts, and fun!

Check out our Preschool Facebook page for more information.

Questions? Contact Debbie Deutsch 770-977-3384 or debbie@etzchaim.net

www.etzchaim.net/preschool

1190 Indian Hills Parkway, Marietta, GA 30068

TEAM SHABBAT AT ETZ CHAIM 2023-24 SEASON

SHABBAT PROGRAMMING FOR ALL CHILDREN!

LITTLE LEAGUE
PARENTS & CHILDREN
PRE-K AND UNDER

MINOR LEAGUES
GRADES K-2

MAJOR LEAGUES
GRADES 3-5

ALL STARS
GRADES 6 & 7

TIME:

10:30 - 11:45 A.M.

SAVE THESE TEAM SHABBAT DATES:

JANUARY 13 & 27 - FEBRUARY 3 & 10

MARCH 9 & 23 - APRIL 13 & 20

DATES FOR ALL STARS:

FEBRUARY 10 - MARCH 16 - APRIL 13 - MAY 11

COME CHECK US OUT, 'CAUSE IT'S A HOME RUN!



Our Etz Chaim Community

Mazal Tov to...

Allison and Scott Saffran on the marriage of their daughter Hannah to Eric Steel on November 18, 2023

Our Condolences to...

Faye Lebish on the passing of her beloved father, Burnet Mendelsohn

Barbara Wilensky on the passing of her beloved brother, Larry Scopp

Marsha Mehlman on the passing of her beloved husband, Norman Mehlman

Thank You to our Office Volunteers...

Tamar England
Keith Kirshner
Ron Judenberg
Linda Weinroth

We would like to thank...

Michael Karp and Andy Becker for delivering our food donations to JF&CS Kosher Food Pantry. Keep those donations coming!

Clifford Martin for taking beautiful photos at many of our Etz Chaim programs.

We are pleased to welcome back to our kehillah...

Jill and Steven Birch
2250 Sandy Oaks Dr.
Marietta, GA 30066
Jill Cell: (949) 226-2884
jillbirch1@yahoo.com
Steven Cell: (714) 588-1921
steve.b18@cox.net



Updated Emails...

Roy Masters
Roymasters419@gmail.com

Members on the Move...

Gregory Charlop and Suan White
1191 Stoneheath Mews
Marietta, GA 30068

Carol and Brian Sacks
3128 Gracefield Road
Hampton Square, Apt. 573
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Have news you'd like to share with our community? Please contact Bernice in the shul office at bernice@etzchaim.net.

*You are cordially invited to celebrate
Etz Chaim's Board of Trustees
Installation Shabbat
Saturday, January 6
9:30 a.m.
Kiddush lunch to follow*



Canasta and Mah Jongg Sponsored by AgeWell

**Join us on Mondays
from 10:00 a.m. - Noon**

Free and open to the community.



\$100 Referral Bonus
To be received 30 days after hire.

We are Hiring

Do you enjoy engaging with children and watching them grow?
Join our extended care staff!
Experience preferred but not required.

Join Our Team

- Competitive pay (\$12 - \$15/hr)
- Discounts on student tuition
- Flexible schedule, hours ranging from 7am - 6pm

Contact Lauren Chernau at:

- www.etzchaim.net
- Lauren@etzchaim.net
- Call 770-977-3384




WINTER donation drive

January 23, 2024
2-4pm

Congregation Etz Chaim
1190 Indian Hills Pkwy
Marietta, GA 30068

l'dor v'dor judaica
spreading light from generation to generation

www.ldorvdorjudaica.org

DID YOU KNOW...

You can make your donations online. For step-by-step entry, go to:

<https://www.etzchaim.net/payment.php>

For assistance, call Karen at the synagogue office at 770-973-0137



BAM...CRACK...DOT

It's time to order the
2024 MAH JONGG CARD

Let Etz Chaim's Sisterhood send in your order!
www.etzchaim.net/form/2024mahjcard
Order by February 1, 2024

Same price as the National Mah Jongg League - Order from Sisterhood and we receive a \$5.00 rebate per card to support Etz Chaim Programs!

Prices: \$14.00 standard size card / \$15.00 large print card

Purchase through our website or fill out the form below. If you are an established NMJL member, when you receive your 2024 order booklet, include your UNPEELED address label. Make check payable to "Etz Chaim Sisterhood". Drop off the form and payment to the synagogue or mail to Lisa Flagel, 827 Hillwood Drive, Marietta, GA 30068.

Name: _____	Email: _____
Address: _____	Phone: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	# of Cards _____ x \$14 standard = _____ total
____ New Member / ____ Change of Address	# of Cards _____ x \$15 large = _____ total

MINYAN AND SHABBAT INFORMATION FOR IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM:

All Shabbat Services in-person and via livestream.

Minyanim will be held in-person only.

BE A MITZVAH MAKER.

PLEASE HELP US MAKE A MINYAN FOR THOSE SAYING KADDISH.

(In order to say Mourner's Kaddish, we need to have 10 participants.)

Monday - Friday Mornings 7:00 a.m. ☆ Sunday Mornings 9:15 a.m.

Sunday through Thursday Evenings 6:30 p.m.

Monday, January 1, minyan at 9:00 a.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 p.m. ☆ Shabbat Morning Services 9:30 a.m.

Click link to livestream:

<https://www.etzchaim.net/facebook-livestream>

**MINYANIM ARE HELD IN THE ALLAN AND VIVIAN LEVINE FAMILY CHAPEL
SHABBAT SERVICES ARE HELD IN THE LINDY AND NORMAN RADOW SANCTUARY**

Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah

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 at:

bernice@etzchaim.net

All materials must be received no later than the **1st of the month prior to the simcha**. We will gladly accept material earlier.



**Shabbat Morning Babysitting
9:30 - 11:45 a.m.**

Babysitting is available on Shabbat when there is no "Team Shabbat". Please check our website at www.etzchaim.net/calendar or in the weekly EtzBlast for more information.

Upcoming Dates:

January 6 & 20 and February 17 & 24



Shabbat Honors

Be on the lookout in your inbox for an email from the Shabbat Honors Committee. We'd like to honor all our wonderful volunteers at Etz Chaim with an Aliyah as a thank you for a job well done.

Have a milestone birthday, anniversary, or another significant life event? Being called to the Torah is a great way to celebrate and share your good news with our Etz Chaim community. Are you observing a yahrzeit? An Aliyah is a meaningful way to honor the memory of your loved one.

Please let us know about your events or your friends' events by emailing us at shabbathonorsetzchaim@gmail.com.

Men's Club Notes

Happy New Year, Etz Chaim Congregants.

I hope everyone had a warm holiday season spent with family and friends creating lots of memories.

Men's Club continued upon our theme of giving back as we cooked Chili and accoutrements for our First Responders on December 11, as a way of thanking them for their service not only to Etz Chaim, but the community at large. The Cobb County Fire and Police Departments were very appreciative and thankful to have a nice home cooked meal! Special thanks to **Barry Riesenber**g and **Joe Ziskend** for their efforts with this program.

We are very much looking forward to an active year at Etz Chaim and we start things off on **January 14 at 10:00 a.m.** with the **BEST BREAKFAST IN TOWN** and preview of this year's Atlanta Jewish Film Festival with **Judy Marx**. All are invited and we hope you can join us for this fabulous program.

On **February 18**, we will be joining Sisterhood for **Trivia Night at Padriac's** in Smyrna. This event was a big hit last year and sold out, so please register early as seating is limited. See ad on page 19.

Please mark your calendars for the **Men's Club Retreat at Camp Ramah on March 1-3**. We offer a \$100 scholarship for first timers. **Rabbi Dorsch** will be one of the host Rabbis for the event this year.

Other dates of note are the World Wide Wrap will be on February 11, and the **L'Etz Go Braves** outing will be on **April 21**. We will also be doing Super Bowl squares again. Look for more information on these events and others in the weekly EtzBlast.

Lastly, we welcome you to get involved with Men's Club! Volunteer to cook or prep. Attend any of our Men's Club sponsored events. Have a great idea about an event? Please share with us your thoughts. We are actively looking for more members to come socialize with us. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Bryan Coleman (rog-bry@mindspring.com) or Mathew Nathan (mattynathan@gmail.com).



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 Daron Retreat
- Synagogue Softball League
- Usher for High Holidays
- Support 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 THE LIST - CONTACT US AT: mensclub@etzchaim.net

President: Bryan Coleman
VP: Mathew Nathan

Come Out and Enjoy Your Men's Club!
mensclub@etzchaim.net

SAVE THE DATE:
JANUARY 14, 2024
BLOOD MOBILE
Etz Chaim Parking Lot
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers

NEW DATE

Scan me!

ATLANTA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 24TH

Men's Club Best Breakfast in Town and AJFF Preview

Sunday, January 14 10:00 a.m.
Hammer-Tritt Social Hall

ETZ CHAIM

MEN'S CLUB

\$10.00 per person with RSVP
\$12.00 per person at the door
We will also have a 50/50 raffle!

www.etzchaim.net/event/ajffpreview2024

Minyan Makers

The Sisterhood sponsorship for Etz Chaim’s daily minyan is on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. Come join us for the morning service and then stay afterward to nosh and kibbitz.

Interest Groups

We’re also looking to start interest groups for activities to follow our nosh such as mah jongg, knitting, and a walking group. Feel free to let us know if you have any other ideas and to participate.

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.

JNF Trees for Israel

Honor someone special by purchasing a tree in the Etz Chaim Sisterhood grove. For more information, contact Sandy Bailey at 770-490-7874 or the Gift Shop.

For more information about Sisterhood, please contact:

Neda Gayle, 615-477-3152, nedagayle@att.net or Helaine Mark at 404-353-4589, laineybeth@comcast.net.

Check us out on Facebook or on our website at www.etzchaim.net/sisterhood

ATTENTION ETZ CHAIM MEMBERS:

If you are planning to be away for an extended amount of time, please inform the office.

Judaica and Gifts Shop Hours

Sundays:
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Mondays:
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Tuesdays:
4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
or by appointment, contact Lauren Gray

The Sisterhood Scoop

Surround Yourself with Women that will Lift you Higher.

“New Year’s marks a time when people everywhere celebrate the possibility of building a better tomorrow. It symbolizes the human desire to demarcate the past from the future, the old from the new. But what if we really understood that our words — our resolutions and commitments — could create a new beginning? What if we really believed that our vows had the power to help us get past the past?”

There is a deep human desire to be able to start again, not to be imprisoned by the past. We need to feel hope for new possibilities and see that our future is not governed entirely by our history.” (Rabbi Brad Hirschfeld)

A new year is beginning with endless possibilities. Let’s begin by connecting to each other and Etz Chaim.

A special program presented by 2MyPlace and The Rotary Club will be held on **Wednesday, January 10, at 7:00 p.m.** - “**Not in My Neighborhood – Oh Yes It is**”. Prominent panel and survivors will lead the discussion to end Human Trafficking. See our ad on page 13.

January 14, at 10:00 a.m. at the Bayit, Janice Levine will host the Book Club to share thoughts and inspiration on **The Matchmakers Gift by Linda Cohan Loigman**. See our ad on page 17.

Join us for **Sisterhood Shabbat on Saturday, January 27**. The services will be led by Sisterhood. Our annual event honors the women who make a difference and support our congregation.

Stop by our award-winning **Judaica and Gifts Shop**. New items are coming in! Open during religious school hours, Sundays and Mondays from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and Tuesdays, 4:30—6:30 p.m.

Please continue to support **Sunday Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m.** Every person who attends is vital and appreciated. Your attendance can make a difference! We are one of the only synagogues in the area that have daily minyans. It is a mitzvah to be there for those in mourning and observing Yahrzeit.

Save the date **February 18**, for the **Sisterhood and Men’s Club Trivia Night!** Always a crowd pleaser! Prizes, food and friends! What a way to start the year. See our ad on page 19.

Save the date for the **WLCJ Southern Region Conference April 7-9, 2024**. The theme is “Challenges Facing Sisterhood in the 21st Century”. The conference is being held at Ahavath Achim Synagogue and Etz Chaim’s Sisterhood will be co-hosting this long-anticipated event. See our ad on page 24.

We encourage you to get involved with Sisterhood! Volunteer. Join a committee. Attend Sisterhood-sponsored Sunday Morning Minyan. The possibilities are endless! Feel connected, have fun, and make new friends. Won’t you step up? Please contact Neda Gayle at 615-477-3152, nedagayle@att.net, or Helaine Mark at 404-353-4589, laineybeth@comcast.net for any questions or to inquire further.

Until next time...

Neda and Helaine
Co-Presidents, Sisterhood



Donate to the Torah Fund today. New year, new pin! See page 24 for more information.

Order your 2024 Mah Jongg Cards! See page 8.


Mark Your Calendar

Voice of Chaim Submission Deadlines

February Deadline: Tuesday, January 2
 March Deadline: Thursday, February 1
 April Deadline: Friday, March 1

Submissions should be sent to:
Bernice at bernice@etzchaim.net





SHALOM IN THE SHUL


SPONSORED BY
SISTERHOOD

All are welcome to join Rabbi Lewis
in a lively discussion on the book.

"NOT IN GOD'S NAME"
by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks.

All sessions 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Please RSVP: www.etzchaim.net/event/shalshul23-24
Contact Rabbi Lewis if you need help getting access to the book.



**THIS IS ONE "RERUN" YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS.
ON THE GROUND IN ISRAEL: A FIRST-HAND LOOK
PRESENTED BY RABBI DAN DORSCH**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 8
AT 7:00 P.M.**

ETZ CHAIM'S HAMMER-TRITT SOCIAL HALL

Due to the importance of this topic and those who were unable to attend the November program, Rabbi Dorsch will share his insights and experiences from his October mission trip to Israel through photographs and stories.

RSVP: WWW.ETZCHAIM.NET/EVENT/ISRAELFIRSTHAND2024

1190 Indian Hills Parkway | Marietta, GA 30068

"Not in My Neighborhood - Oh Yes it Is!"

Please join 2myPlace and the Rotary Club to End Human Trafficking for a panel discussion of experts and survivors to heighten awareness of Human Trafficking in our community.

Naeshia McDowell, MPH - Director | CSEC Response Team, Children's Advocacy Centers of Georgia

Traci Hurley - Program Coordinator, Prevention and Training - Stephanie V. Blank Center for Safe and Healthy Children A Department of CHOA

Janice Johnson - National Legal Advocate and Survivor Leader for Her Song

Faythe Kadona - MS - Street Grace - Prevention and Protection, Law Enforcement and Legislative Policies

Veronica McDaniel - Executive Director and Founder of FREEST International

January 10, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Congregation Etz Chaim
1190 Indian Hills Parkway
Marietta, GA 30068



901 Macy Drive, Roswell GA 30076 - Phone: 770.815.6044
Non-profit 501(c)3 - EIN#81-1761365 - www.2myPlace.org



Join us for...

Religious School Shabbat Services and Dinner by Grade with RSVP link information

January 12 - 5th Grade, 6:30p Service/7:15p Dinner: www.etzchaim.net/event/hay5shabbat2023

January 26 - 3rd Grade, 6:30p Service/7:15p Dinner: www.etzchaim.net/event/gimel3shabbat2023

February 9 - 4th Grade, 6:30p Service/7:30p Dinner: www.etzchaim.net/event/dalet4shabbat2023

April 12 - 2nd Grade, 5p Dinner/6:30p Service: www.etzchaim.net/event/bet2shabbat2023

The cost is \$5.00 per child (13 and under) / \$8.00 per Adult

Torah Study with the Rabbi

Join us in person or via Zoom for a stimulating conversation with the Rabbi.

**Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
Hammer-Tritt Social Hall
at Etz Chaim**

January 4, 11, 18 & 25
February 1, 8, 15 & 29
March 7, 14, 21 & 28
April 4, 11 & 18
May 2 & 9

**Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.
Huntcliff Summit I -
Independent Living**

January 9
February 13
March 12
April 9

To be added to our email list or receive the Zoom link, contact Betsy in the office at betsy@etzchaim.net.



Mocha Mondays

7:45 a.m.

Monthly Coffee and Breakfast with the Rabbi accompanied by the Talmud's Greatest Hits

Save these dates:

January 8

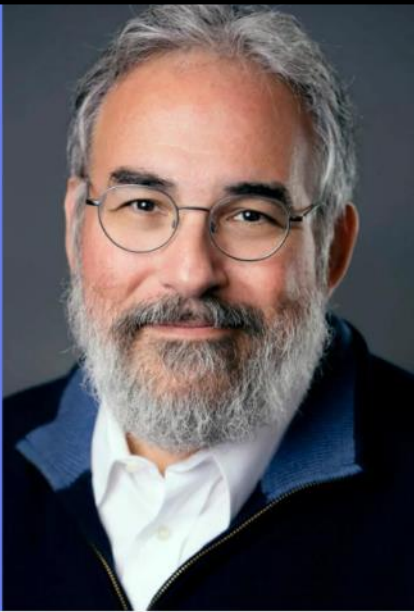
February 5

March 18

April 15

May 13 - Yom HaZikaron





Scholar-in-Residence

January 19 - 20, 2024

featuring

Rabbi Brad Hirschfield

President, Clal - The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership

Co-Founder and Executive Editor, TheWisdomDaily.com

Sponsored by the Joyce and Ramie Tritt Family Foundation

Together and Apart: Nurturing Unity In An Era of Increasing Polarization

Friday Night, January 19:

Shabbat Service at 6:30 p.m.

Shabbat Dinner (by reservation) at 7:15 p.m., Program/Lecture: 8:15 p.m.

Finding Faith Without Fanaticism - We live in an insanely polarized time — we as Jews, we as Americans, we in Israel, and beyond — but can we actually do anything about it? The answer is yes!

Saturday Morning, January 20:

Shabbat Service at 9:30 a.m.

Shabbat Drash: **All In: How a Forever People Builds A Forever Community.**

Following Shabbat Service and Kiddush Lunch at 12:45 p.m.

Rabbis Behaving Badly Or Brilliantly: Talmudic Life-Lessons For Today. In an interactive exploration of a 1600-year-old story that has never been more relevant — one that assumes that controversies will always exist and that we can have them without undermining ourselves or those with whom we have them.

About Rabbi Hirschfield: How fortunate we are to have such an accomplished scholar in our midst so we may benefit from the knowledge he will share with us. Rabbi Hirschfield's accomplishments include multiple honors as "One of iAmerica's 50 Most Influential Rabbis" (Newsweek). He has been recognized as one of our nation's leading "Preachers and Teachers" by Beliefnet.com, as well as an author and editor of numerous books, including *You Don't Have To Be Wrong For Me To Be Right: Finding Faith Without Fanaticism*, and a frequent guest on radio and television. Rabbi Hirschfield is the founder of the Stand and See Fellowship, which brings hundreds of Christian religious leaders to Israel, preparing them to address the increasing polarization around Middle East issues with six words, "It's more complicated than we know."

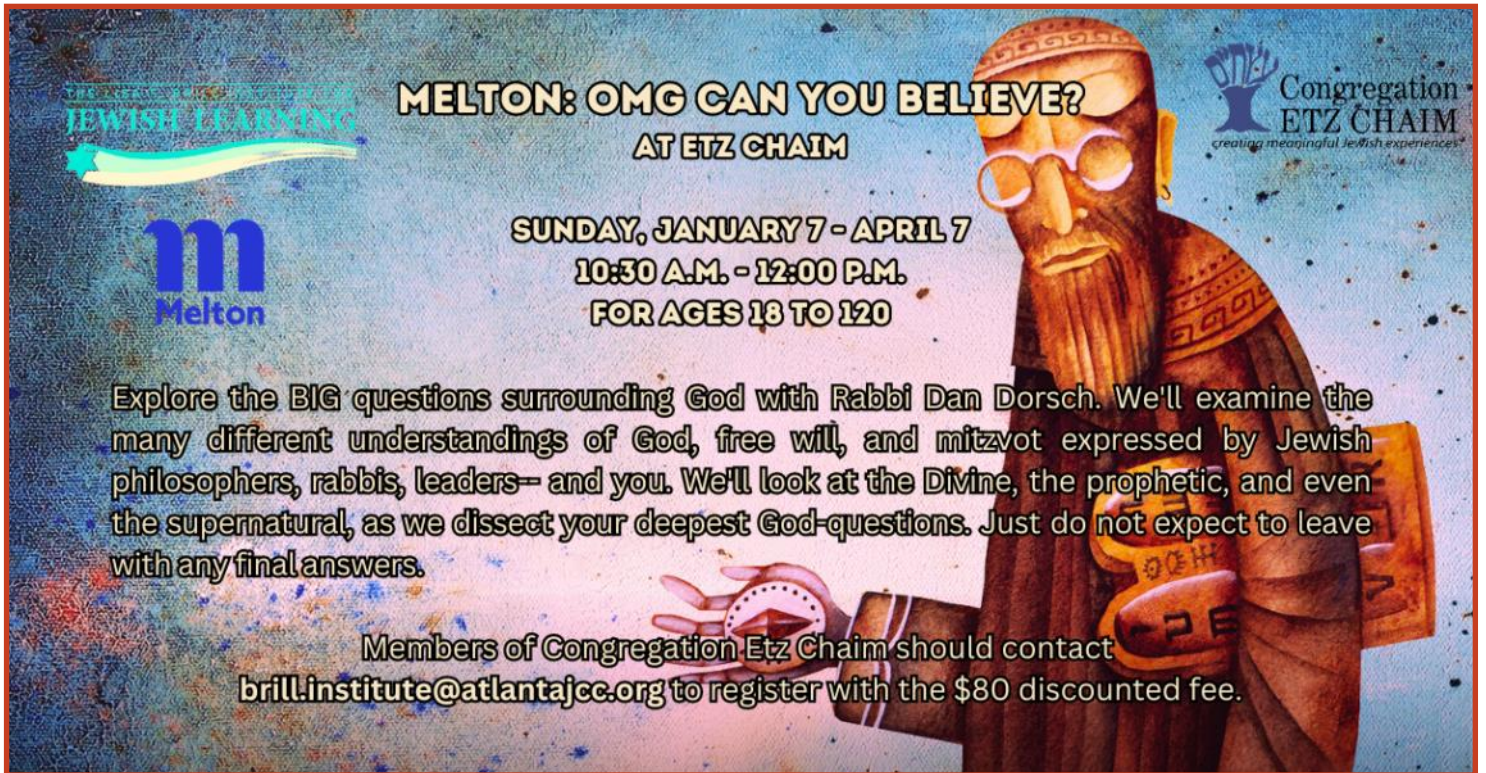
*Clal, is a training institute, think tank, and resource center for volunteers and professional leadership that nurtures religious, intellectual, and social pluralism, within the Jewish community, and the wider world to create a safe space to meet the challenges of our 21st Century global Jewish family. Please join us in welcoming Rabbi Brad Hirschfield to our community.



RSVP: www.etzchaim.net/event/sir2024

1190 Indian Hills Parkway, Marietta, GA 30068





MELTON: OMG CAN YOU BELIEVE?
AT ETZ CHAIM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 - APRIL 7
10:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
FOR AGES 13 TO 120

Explore the **BIG** questions surrounding God with Rabbi Dan Dorsch. We'll examine the many different understandings of God, free will, and mitzvot expressed by Jewish philosophers, rabbis, leaders— and you. We'll look at the Divine, the prophetic, and even the supernatural, as we dissect your deepest God-questions. Just do not expect to leave with any final answers.

Members of Congregation Etz Chaim should contact brill.institute@atlantajcc.org to register with the \$80 discounted fee.

THE BRILL INSTITUTE OF JEWISH LEARNING

Melton

Congregation ETZ CHAIM
creating meaningful Jewish experiences

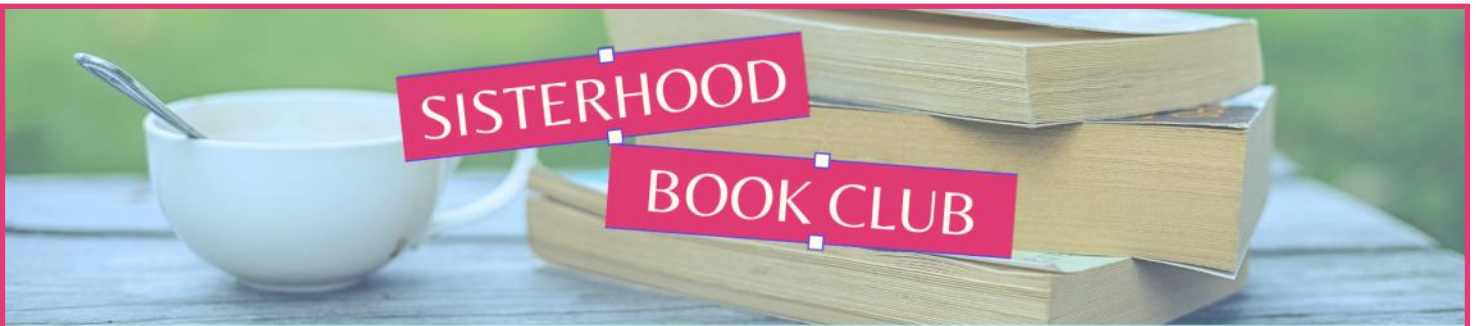


BEARING WITNESS
ADULT EDUCATION CLASS
WITH BRENDAN MURPHY, HISTORY TEACHER AT MARIST

Three-part class:
January 21, 2 - 4:00 p.m., January 28, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., and February 4, 2 - 4:00 p.m.
Marist School's Woodruff Auditorium

The study of the Holocaust is a humanizing endeavor, a journey through the past that helps us reconsider how we understand ourselves as human beings.

Registration Info:
bearing-witness.my.canva.site



UPCOMING BOOKS AND DATES

January 14: *Matchmaker's Gift* by Lynda Cohen Loigman - Host: Janice Levine at the Bayit

February 11: *The Italian Ballerina* by Kristy Cambron - Host: Patrice Levy at the home of Joanne Chaifetz

March 10: *Shanda: A Memoir of Shame and Secrecy* by Letty Cottin Pogrebin, Host: Marcy Caras at the Bayit

April 14: *Woman Beyond the Sea* by Sarit Yishai-Levi - Host: Iris Bachenheimer at the Bayit

All sessions are on Sunday beginning at 10:00 a.m.
If you would like to connect via Zoom, contact Myra Goldberg
Book Club will be held in person at the Bayit unless noted.



Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Dan Dorsch 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Come to our monthly study on Tuesdays with the Rabbi on a variety of topics and enjoy some pizza.

To get a monthly reminder and to RSVP, contact Betsy at betsy@etzchaim.net.

Save these dates:

January 23	March 18	May 13 Topic:
February 5	April 15	Yom Ha'atzmaut

1 Concourse Pkwy., Atlanta, GA 30328
Lobby "Virginia Highlands" Conference Room

Sponsored by the Joyce and Ramie Tritt Family Foundation
Thank you to U.S. Bank for hosting our Lunch & Learn

Join Congregation Etz Chaim's Multi-Generational Israel Adventure Led by Rabbi Daniel Dorsch

July 9–19, 2024

Optional: The North and Tel Aviv Extension—July 18-21, 2024

“Arise, Walk Throughout the Land”



For additional information and to register, visit www.etzchaim.net/israeltour2024.



Congregation Etz Chaim
Pride Alliance

As members of our Etz Chaim community, let's join upcoming Pride & LGBTQ events here at our synagogue and around metro Atlanta to show our commitment to love, acceptance, and inclusion. By participating, we can bridge divides, foster understanding, and spread the message of love that transcends all boundaries. Let's embrace diversity, celebrate uniqueness, and be a living example of our Judaism in action. Join us and also have tons of FUN! For more information, contact [Andrew Kagan](#).



Did you know that 1 in 6 children in Georgia is food insecure?

Did you know that children who rely on free breakfast and lunch at school are often food insecure on weekends?

Join us as we launch Backpack Buddies at Etz Chaim to help fill the weekend hunger gap. Our congregation sponsors children at Eastvalley Elementary School - which means we are responsible for providing bags of food for dozens of children each week this school year.

To learn how you can help and sign up to volunteer, please visit the Social Action page of our website or scan the QR code.



Backpack Buddies
of Metro Atlanta | Because hunger doesn't take the weekend off



Scan me



**I feel like dancing, dancing,
dance the night away... ~Leo Sayer**

Prime Timers Dance

Saturday, February 3
7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Congregation Etz Chaim
Hammer-Tritt Social Hall

Live DJ, Dancing, Cocktails and Hot Hors D'oeuvres

Cost: \$36 per person or purchase a table with your friends!

RSVP: www.etzchaim.net/event/dance2024

Congregation
ETZ CHAIM
creating meaningful Jewish experiences

1190 Indian Hills Parkway, Marietta, GA 30068



Trivia Night

Join Etz Chaim's Men's Club
and Sisterhood for a night of
trivia, food, and fun!

Sunday, February 18

Let's meet at 7:00 p.m.
Trivia begins at 7:30 p.m.

Appetizers and non-alcoholic
beverages will be our treat.

All other items are at your own expense.

RSVP by Monday, February 12 ~ Limited seating

www.etzchaim.net/event/m&strivia



ETZ CHAIM
Etz Chaim
Sisterhood



ETZ CHAIM
MEN'S CLUB



PADRIAC'S

2640 Cumberland Pkwy., SE, #110
Atlanta, GA 30339

January Yahrzeits

Memorialize a loved one with a **Brick** in our Holocaust Memorial Garden or a **Plaque** on our Yahrzeit Wall. For information, please contact the synagogue office.

*Denotes a memorial plaque in our sanctuary to be lit on the day of the yahrzeit and on all Yizkor holidays.

Bereavement Services Offered to Congregants

Etz Chaim's Chesed Committee will offer to provide meals of consolation to members. This meal is traditionally a dairy meal eaten by mourners upon their return home from the funeral. It includes whole hard-boiled eggs, symbolizing the continuity of life. This service provided by the Chesed Committee allows the family and friends who normally provide the meal to attend the funeral themselves and give the emotional support to the bereaved. Members attending out of town funerals, who sit shiva or hold a memorial service in Atlanta, will be offered a fruit tray.

Contributions made to the Chesed Fund will help to fund these services.

Please contact:

Lisa Fligel—678-591-7950

Your cooperation please!

The disabled parking spots are reserved for the **exclusive use** of those with permits. These spaces are **not** to be used by **anyone** else at **anytime**. There is **no** parking under the Education Wing overhang. It is a fire code violation.


Family Member In the Hospital?



The rabbi has asked that you notify the synagogue office in the event of a family member's hospital stay or serious illness.

* 1-Jan	Beth Rubin	20	Tevet	16-Jan	Marilyn Mayers	6	Shevat
2-Jan	Harvey Slovin	21	Tevet	16-Jan	Samuel Kahn	6	Shevat
* 3-Jan	Ellen Epstein	22	Tevet	* 16-Jan	Steven Krodman	6	Shevat
3-Jan	Henry Mehlman	22	Tevet	17-Jan	Leona Weiner	7	Shevat
* 3-Jan	Jacob Taylor	22	Tevet	17-Jan	Rae Weiss	7	Shevat
3-Jan	Virginia Raider	22	Tevet	* 18-Jan	Dorothy Goldstein	8	Shevat
* 4-Jan	Ferencz Frank	23	Tevet	* 18-Jan	Harold Stiller	8	Shevat
4-Jan	Seymour Gothelf	23	Tevet	* 18-Jan	Ruth Lutzky	8	Shevat
5-Jan	Belle Lessans	24	Tevet	19-Jan	Estelle Marsand	9	Shevat
* 5-Jan	Ellen Nadolne	24	Tevet	19-Jan	Ethel Chernow	9	Shevat
5-Jan	Hal Minchew	24	Tevet	19-Jan	Henia Mayers	9	Shevat
5-Jan	Mose Darling	24	Tevet	19-Jan	Manny Riesenber	9	Shevat
* 5-Jan	Sol David	24	Tevet	19-Jan	Robbie Goldin	9	Shevat
6-Jan	Beatrice Davis	25	Tevet	20-Jan	Alexander Freeman	10	Shevat
6-Jan	Joseph Judenberg	25	Tevet	21-Jan	Gertrude Olens	11	Shevat
* 7-Jan	Charlie Jassen	26	Tevet	* 21-Jan	Nathan Rosenzweig	11	Shevat
* 7-Jan	Harry Phillips	26	Tevet	22-Jan	Christopher Hassey	12	Shevat
* 7-Jan	Joseph Goldstein	26	Tevet	* 22-Jan	William Galin	12	Shevat
7-Jan	Philip Meyer	26	Tevet	23-Jan	Bernard Levit	13	Shevat
7-Jan	Tess Weintraub	26	Tevet	* 23-Jan	Sam Szeftel	13	Shevat
8-Jan	Gerald Flom	27	Tevet	23-Jan	Sydney Barber	13	Shevat
8-Jan	Henrietta L. Hurvitz	27	Tevet	24-Jan	Elaine Shapiro	14	Shevat
* 9-Jan	Mary Goldstein	28	Tevet	24-Jan	Jeanette Katz	14	Shevat
9-Jan	Murray Kalish	28	Tevet	24-Jan	Rose Wexler	14	Shevat
10-Jan	Larry Krieger	29	Tevet	* 24-Jan	Sarah Graiser	14	Shevat
10-Jan	Philmore Dickson	29	Tevet	25-Jan	Charles Wexler	15	Shevat
11-Jan	Gloria Wilensky	1	Shevat	* 25-Jan	Donald M. Sencer	15	Shevat
11-Jan	Molly Nelson	1	Shevat	25-Jan	Eddie Masters	15	Shevat
11-Jan	Rose Lebow	1	Shevat	* 25-Jan	Ruth Richman	15	Shevat
12-Jan	Irwin Sisselman	2	Shevat	26-Jan	Sandy Zelony	16	Shevat
* 12-Jan	Judith Caplen	2	Shevat	* 27-Jan	Bernard Cohen	17	Shevat
12-Jan	Leon Spielman	2	Shevat	27-Jan	Helen Salamon	17	Shevat
12-Jan	Shirley Sarlin	2	Shevat	* 27-Jan	Leo Altfeder	17	Shevat
13-Jan	Jay Schulberg	3	Shevat	27-Jan	Lionel Schlosberg	17	Shevat
13-Jan	Julius Pomerantz	3	Shevat	27-Jan	Samuel Scopp	17	Shevat
13-Jan	Maureen Zack	3	Shevat	27-Jan	Sidney Itzkowitz	17	Shevat
13-Jan	Sylvia Fogel	3	Shevat	28-Jan	Ira Segal	18	Shevat
14-Jan	James Vines	4	Shevat	* 28-Jan	Selda K. Slater	18	Shevat
14-Jan	Marsha Blatt	4	Shevat	28-Jan	Sylvia Berman	18	Shevat
14-Jan	Ron Patinkin	4	Shevat	* 29-Jan	Annette Krugman	19	Shevat
14-Jan	Sandra Sandrowitz	4	Shevat	29-Jan	Elsie Simon	19	Shevat
* 14-Jan	Sarah Yucht	4	Shevat	* 30-Jan	Adam Cadranel	20	Shevat
* 15-Jan	Louis Siegel	5	Shevat	30-Jan	Bernard Levine	20	Shevat
* 15-Jan	Ron Toron	5	Shevat	30-Jan	Dorothy Smith	20	Shevat
* 15-Jan	Rose Bernknopf	5	Shevat	30-Jan	Irving Sackler	20	Shevat
15-Jan	Zelda Moog	5	Shevat	31-Jan	Emery Gray	21	Shevat
* 16-Jan	Ira Altfeder	6	Shevat	* 31-Jan	Grace King	21	Shevat
16-Jan	Lucille Ehrlich	6	Shevat	* 31-Jan	Jeffrey Donner	21	Shevat
				31-Jan	Seymour A. Ziskend	21	Shevat

January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 (20 Tevet) New Year's Day Preschool Closed Synagogue Offices Closed Morning Minyan 9a Evening Minyan 6:30p	2 (21 Tevet) Preschool Closed (Teacher Workday) Morning Minyan 7a Religious School 4:45p Evening Minyan 6:30p <i>Lilmode: Beginning Hebrew 7p</i>	3 (22 Tevet) Preschool Closed (Teacher Workday) Morning Minyan 7a Preschool CPR Class 9a Evening Minyan 6:30p	4 (23 Tevet) Morning Minyan 7a Torah Study 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p	5 (24 Tevet) Morning Minyan 7a Tot Shabbat 5p Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p 5th GR Shabbat Dinner 7:15p Candle Lighting 5:25p	6 (25 Tevet) Shemot Board Installation Shabbat 9:30a Babysitting avail. 9:30a Shabbat Ends 6:34p	
7 (26 Tevet) Lifesouth Blood Drive 9a Religious School 9:15a Morning Minyan 9:15a Melton Class 10a Girl Scouts Mtg. 12:15p Chaverim Event 12:15p Evening Minyan 6:30p	8 (27 Tevet) Morning Minyan 7a Mocha Monday with Rabbi Dorsch 7:45a Shalom in the Shul 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p On the Ground in Israel w/Rabbi Dorsch 7p	9 (28 Tevet) Morning Minyan 7a Torah Study-Huntcliff 2p Religious School 4:45p Evening Minyan 6:30p	10 (29 Tevet) Rabbi Adler @ Etz Chaim Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p USY Wacky 6:30p <i>Lilmode: "Not in My Neighborhood..." 7p</i>	11 (1 Shevat) Rosh Chodesh Shevat Rabbi Adler @ Etz Chaim Morning Minyan 7a Torah Study 10a Confirmation Class 5:30p Evening Minyan 6:30p Sisterhood Board Mtg. 7p Chai Five B'Yachad 7p	12 (2 Shevat) Rabbi Adler @ Etz Chaim Morning Minyan 7a Shir Shel Musical Shabbat Service 6:30p Candle Lighting 5:31p	13 (3 Shevat) Vaera Rabbi Adler @ Etz Chaim Shabbat Services 9:30a Team Shabbat 10:30a Shabbat Ends 6:40p
14 (4 Shevat) Rabbi Adler @ Etz Chaim No Religious School Men's Club Best Break-fast in Town and AJFF Preview 10a Morning Minyan 9:15a Melton Class 10a S'hood Book Club 10a Geshet Event 12:15p Evening Minyan 6:30p	15 (5 Shevat) MLK Day Preschool Closed Synagogue Offices Closed Morning Minyan 9a Evening Minyan 6:30p	16 (6 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a Lunch & Learn (off-site) 12p Religious School 4:45p Evening Minyan 6:30p Exec. Comm. Mtg. 7:15p	17 (7 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p USY Wacky 6:30p RS Board Mtg. 7:30p	18 (8 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a Torah Study 10a Evening Minyan 6:30p	19 (9 Shevat) Scholar-in-Residence Morning Minyan 7a Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p Shabbat Dinner 7:15p Scholar Program 8:15p Candle Lighting 5:38p	20 (10 Shevat) Bo Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat Services 9:30a Babysitting avail. 9:30a Scholar Program 12:45p Shabbat Ends 6:46pm
21 (11 Shevat) Morning Minyan 9:15a Pre-K and Religious School 9:15a 3 rd GR Family Workshop 9:15a Chalutzim Event 12:15p Evening Minyan 6:30p Board of Trustees 7p	22 (12 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p Chai 5 - Senior Seminar: <i>Anti-Semitism on College Campuses</i> 7p	23 (13 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a L'Dor V'dor Judaica Donation Drive 2-4p Religious School 4:45p Evening Minyan 6:30p	24 (14 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p USY Wacky 6:30p	25 (15 Shevat) Tu B'Shvat Morning Minyan 7a Torah Study 10a Confirmation Class 5:30p Evening Minyan 6:30p	26 (16 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p Haggigat Siddur 6:30p Candle Lighting 5:44p	27 (17 Shevat) Beshalach Sisterhood Shabbat 9:30a Team Shabbat 10:30a Kids Night Out 5p Shabbat Ends 6:53p
28 (18 Shevat) Morning Minyan 9:15a Religious School 9:15a New Memb. Brunch 11a Chaverim Event 12:15p Evening Minyan 6:30p	29 (19 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p	30 (20 Shevat) Morning Minyan 7a Religious School 4:45p Evening Minyan 6:30p	31 (21 Shevat) Rabbi Adler @ Etz Chaim Morning Minyan 7a Evening Minyan 6:30p USY Wacky 6:30p			



POWERFUL TOOLS for CAREGIVERS

PRESENTED BY COBB COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES & AGEWELL ATLANTA

This program helps family caregivers reduce stress, improve self-confidence, learn different ways to communicate, and increase ability to make tough decisions. Interactive lessons, discussions, and brainstorming will help you use the tools and put them into action for your life.

Classes consist of six in-person sessions held once a week. Participants must commit to attending all six sessions. Registration deadline is January 12, 2024.

DATES: Mondays | January 22, 29 | February 5, 12, 26 | March 4

TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 AM

LOCATION: Temple Kol Emeth | 1415 Old Canton Rd | Marietta, GA 30062

RSVP: Ashley Maloy | amaloy@jfcSATL.org | 770.677.9499

FREE and
open to the
community



AgeWell Atlanta Founding Partners:



Learn about all of the resources you can access:

agewellatl.org | info@agewellatl.org | 1.866.AGEWELL | 1.866.243.9355



Ways to show your support for Israel:

[JFGA Emergency Campaign](#)

[JNF Israel Resilience Campaign](#)

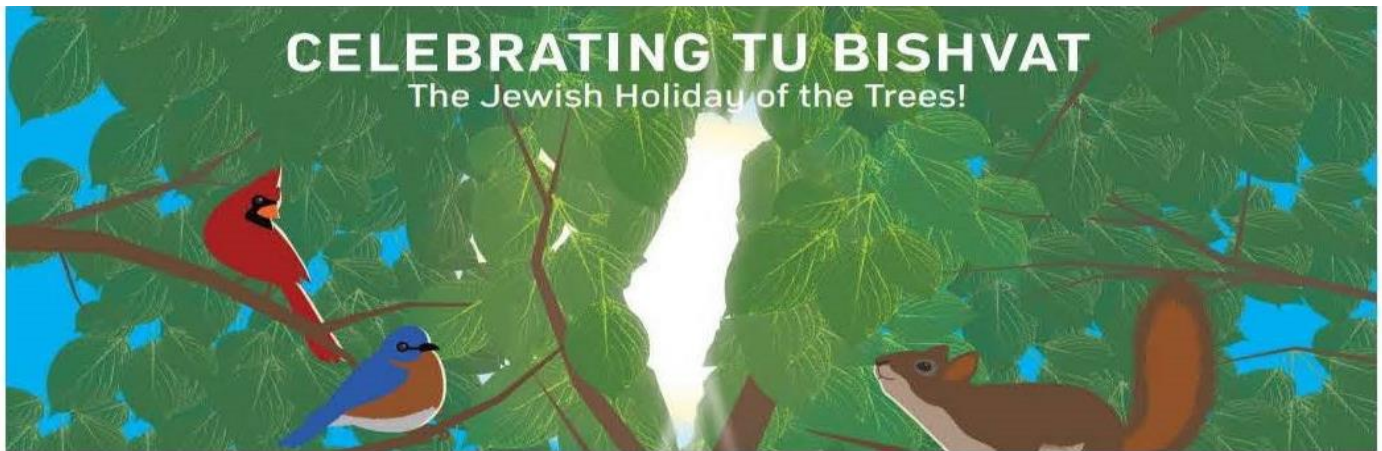
[Israel Bonds](#)

[Friends of the IDF](#)

[Atlanta Israel Coalition](#)

[Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Inc.](#)

[Brothers and Sisters for Israel](#)



HELP ISRAEL BLOOM WHEN IT'S NEEDED MOST

You can help **Etz Chaim Religious School** and **Etz Chaim Preschool** students reach our goal to plant over 120 new trees in Israel. And when we meet our goal, Jewish National Fund-USA will sponsor an ice cream sundae bar for us on February 4th!!



WHY PLANT TREES IN ISRAEL, AND WHY NOW?



Many trees have been damaged in the war. Trees symbolize new life and growth and there is no better time to help plant the seeds for growth in Israel than now.

Trees help the environment and give animals a safe and healthy habitat.

Planting trees for TuBiShvat is a time-honored tradition. Jewish National Fund-USA has been helping to plant trees in Israel since 1901.

It's a great way to honor or remember a family member, friend, favorite teacher, or even a pet.

CLICK HERE

TO PLANT A TREE!

Tu Bishvat, the Jewish New Year for the Trees, symbolizes our concern for our planet and our connection to Israel. Throughout Jewish history, it has evolved from a holiday of the ancient farmers and the medieval mystics to one of the pioneering Zionists and the modern environmentalists. Jewish National Fund-USA adopted Tu Bishvat as its flagship holiday, a day for planting trees in Israel and running educational programs affirming the connection of the Jewish people to their ancestral homeland.

*Questions? Please reach out to Dani Oren, Israel Programs Admission Director
@ Doren@jnf.org or 404-236-8990 x852*

ETZ CHAIM SISTERHOOD

Torah Fund

SUPPORT WOMEN'S LEAGUE



DID YOU KNOW?

When you support Torah Fund, you help educate the next generation of Jewish scholars around the world. For more info visit www.WLCJ.org

2024 TORAH FUND PIN



Benefactor level donations and above receive this year's pin

MULTIPLE GIVING LEVELS

Keter Kavod \$5000
Scholarship Patron \$2500
Patron \$1200
Associate Patron \$600
Guardian \$300
Benefactor \$180

CONTACT SANDY BAILEY

✉ jbsandy10@gmail.com
☎ 770-490-7874

WLCJ SOUTHERN REGION
CONFERENCE



Save the Date

APRIL 7TH - 9TH 2024

AHAVATH ACHIM SYNAGOGUE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



Theme:

CHALLENGES FACING SISTERHOODS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

GEORGIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE, ESTHER PANITCH

Esther Panitch is a Georgia Legislator focusing on legislation to define antisemitism and protect the Jewish community from discrimination



HELP US HELP OTHERS
JF&CS KOSHER FOOD PANTRY

Kosher, non-perishable items are needed for our ongoing Tzedakah project for JF&CS.

- Canned tuna & salmon
- Shelf-stable milk
- Cereal
- Pasta & pasta sauce
- Peanut butter
- All items must be marked with a kosher symbol.

- Jelly
- Mac & Cheese - Publix
- Kosher Soup
- Soup Packets

For more information, contact Sharon Lightstone.



HUNGER WALK RUN
IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL EVENT

SAVE THE DATE:
SUNDAY, MARCH 10
Registration opens in January.

Etz Chaim will have two teams this year!
Be on the lookout for more information from Captains Bob Frohlich and Debbi Chartash.

Enjoy these photos from Game Day and the Menorah Lighting in December



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Authorized Organization's Name and Address:
Congregation Etz Chaim ▪ 1190 Indian Hills Pkwy. ▪ Marietta, GA 30068





Looking for a good book to read? Check out the great books available for children and adults from Phillip's Library at Etz Chaim. Look for books online anytime in our online catalog. <https://etzchaimlibrary.follettdestiny.com>

There are wonderful books available for checkout for the upcoming holidays - Martin Luther King's birthday and then Tu B'Shevat, which falls this year on January 25th. Look for some out on display in the library.

Be sure to also check out the Sydney Award Winners for best children's books for 2023, available in our library at Etz Chaim. Here are just a few:

Sydney Taylor Award Picture Book Winner

The Tower of Life: How Yaffa Eliach Rebuilt her Town in Stories and Photographs by Chana Stiefel. This is a moving biography of the woman who created The Tower of Faces, a powerful exhibit at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. There are many picture books about the Holocaust, but this one stands out with Gal's beautiful watercolor pictures and the true account of one woman's goal that her community never be forgotten. For Grades 3-5. (J 940.4 STI)

Sydney Taylor Honor Picture Book

Big Dreams, Small Fish written and illustrated by Paula Cohen. This is a heartwarming, beautifully illustrated story of Shirley's Jewish immigrant family who are not having much luck selling gefilte fish in their neighborhood store. Shirley gets her chance to prove that she may be little, but her BIG ideas for the store are the BEST ideas! For Grades K-3. (E COH)

Sydney Taylor Award Notable Picture Book

Madame Alexander: The Creator of the Iconic American Doll by Susan Goldman Rubin. For children who love dolls, Rubin's picture-book biography of the Jewish American woman who came to be known as Madame Alexander will prove fascinating. Vividly brings to life the inspiring story of Beatrice Alexander, who grew up fixing and making dolls, and then founded the Madame Alexander doll company after WWII, creating some of the first plastic and collectible dolls that never break. For Grades K-3. (J Biog MAD)

FOR SOME ONLINE FUN

For children and adults, check out Jacob Richman's website. You can learn Hebrew, check out links for the holidays, play Jewish games, etc. <https://jr.co.il> Specifically for links to websites for Tu B'Shevat and other holidays: <https://jr.co.il/hotsites/jewish-holidays.htm>

Stop by and browse our synagogue library at any time. Just follow the directions on the Circulation Desk for self-check-out. There is a slot on the Circulation Desk for book returns.

Tzedakah ▪ צדקה

Contributions processed from November 1—30, 2023

**JOAN H. RABIN
MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT**

In appreciation of:

Jan and Craig Sher for your wonderful hospitality in November.

Daniel Rabin, Michelle and Jonah Manne

In loving memory of:

my sister, Sandy Rabin Moss, on her yahrzeit

Daniel Rabin

my father, Stuart Samuels, on his yahrzeit

Jeffrey and Amy Samuels

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Miki Soran and Brian Moss. Congratulations on David's Bar Mitzvah. He did a great job, and it was a wonderful celebration.

Daniel Rabin

**PHILLIP MICHAEL SILVERMAN
MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT**

In memory of:

Herbert Seltman, father of Marc Seltman

Ellen and Billy Balsler

SISTERHOOD ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Jim Berman

Renee Berman

RABBI DORSCH DISCRETIONARY FUND

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Dorsch and our Etz Chaim family, thankful for your blessings, support, and love

Alberto and Cindee Sapoznik

Rabbi Dorsch for honoring Marvin with such a beautiful funeral service and eulogy. Todah Rabah.

Bobbi Shams

Linda Diamond. Thank you for your kindness.

Rosalind Reiss

Rabbi Dorsch. Thank you for making the 60th anniversary of my Bar Mitzvah special. Also honoring all the Morning Minyan Shabbat participants.

Samuel and Bonnie Roth

Richard and Sandy Smith. Thank you for all your help and everything else.

Sharon Kavanagh

In honor of:

Rabbi Dan Dorsch. Thank you for your leadership, friendship, and support.

Amy and Jeffrey Samuels

Rabbi Dorsch's inspiring Neshama

Marsha Shrago

Rabbi Dorsch's Yom Kippur service and sermon

Steven and Eydie Koonin

In loving memory of:

Faye Ellen Slutsky

Bernie Slutsky

Manny Rothstein. Love,

Bradford and Jana Ross and Family

Mikey Patinkin, best friend to Josh and adopted family member, sending healing thoughts in the days ahead and much love to Shannon and Mark

Ellen and John Jarrett

my father, Irwin Vanovitch

Gail Vanovitch

our sister and aunt, Sandra Jarrett

John, Ellen, Rebecca, and Joshua Jarrett

my mother, Diana Regitsky

Jonathan and Stacy Regitsky

our mother and grandmother, Irene Altholtz, on her yahrzeit

Linda Bernknopf and Family

Betty Rickles

Your Havurah Friends

In memory of:

Herbert Seltman. Wishing Marc Seltman and family our sincerest condolences on the loss of your dear father. May the memories of him bring you much warmth and comfort during this difficult time. May his memory be for a blessing.

David and Elyse Shaw

Ruth Fassberg

Joel and Judy Schancupp

Garry Siegel. Much love to all the family.

Lauren and Ron Eisenman

Ross Kaplowitz

Mitch and Arlene Manning

Norma and Allen Mador. Both of you are greatly missed and greatly loved.

Neil and Merrie Weiss

Dr. Oscar Stadtler

Robert and Miriam Rosenbaum

Sol Yonks, father, and grandfather. We are thinking of you on the anniversary of your yahrzeit.

Sandy Rothstein and Family

my beloved son, Robert Rothstein, on his yahrzeit

Sandra Rothstein

In Appreciation of:

Rabbi Dorsch for his support and leadership

Jason and Lora Sommer

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Joanne and John Chaifetz on your new grandbaby. Love,

Charles and Marsha Bernstein

RABBI ADLER DISCRETIONARY FUND

In celebration of:

Rabbi Adler's birthday and welcome

Lisa and Sam Olens

RABBI LEWIS DISCRETIONARY FUND

In loving memory of:

my mother, Mrs. Evelyn F. Brindle

Robert J. and Sandra Brindle

In memory of:

Edwin Berger, our wonderful father, grandfather, and great grandfather. We miss you.

Jerry and Iris Silver

BACKPACK BUDDIES FUND

In loving memory of:

Dorothy Schwartz on her yahrzeit

Elaine, Jay, Josh, and Rachel Schwartz

my big brother, Jef Jaisun. Always unique, forever a blues man. With love,

Henry and Karen Needle

In memory of:

my mom, Hana S. Kramer

Bob and Shelley Brodsky

Herbert Seltman

Wendy and Dale Bearman

Tzedakah ▪ צדקה

Contributions processed from November 1—30, 2023

BOB GOLDMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of:

Samuel Klemes Yucht
Jonathan and Maxine Schein

BUILDING ENHANCEMENT FUND

In loving memory of:

my grandma, Ida Stern. You are always in my heart.
Thomas and Myra Sheftel

COLLEGE CONNECTION FUND

In loving memory of:

Betty Rickles, mother of Stephanie Gang
Ellen and Billy Balsler

my father, Joseph Louis Reiter
Saundi and Adam Shapiro

In memory of:

Malcolm Lewis, my father, on his yahrzeit
Jodi Danis

GENERAL FUND

In honor of:

Rabbi Adler on joining the staff/family of Congregation Etz Chaim
Marsha Shrago

our High Holiday Aliyah
Michael and Shelly Reiner

In loving memory of:

Helen Kanner. I miss you every day, Mom.
Edward Kanner

Herbert Seltman, father of Marc Seltman. May your father's memory always be for a blessing.

Toby and Dave Fagin

In memory of:

Garry Siegel
Ann Levin

Dannie Newberry
Barrie Treger

Herbert Seltman
Charlotte and Joel Marks

Herbert Seltman
Betty Rickles

Ronald Richer
Lisa and Sam Olens

Josephine Diamond (Grandma-Jo). With love,
Michael, Linda, Sarah, and Benjamin Diamond

Edward Metzker
Stephen and Shelley Buxbaum

KITCHEN FUND

In memory of:

Pearl Israelton, always in our hearts.
Howard and Faith Shatzman

LINDA H. WEINROTH EDUCATION FUND

In loving memory of:

Daniel's mother, Baila Pransky, on her first yahrzeit
Sandy Rosenberg and Daniel Pransky

Hannah Rae Levine on her yahrzeit
Allan and Vivian Levine

MORRIS FRANK SACRED TEXT FUND

In memory of:

Joe H. Gerson, father-in-law. Cheering in spirit for the GA bulldogs!

Martin Taffel
Jerome Mittelberg, father of Rickey Mittelberg
Wendy and Ron Feinberg

PHILLIP'S LIBRARY FUND

In loving memory of:

Henrietta Weinroth
Michael and Linda Weinroth

In memory of:

Esther Cohen and Isadore Cohn
Lawrence Cohen

PRESCHOOL FUND

In celebration of:

Helen Rosengarten's 90th birthday
Elaine Moore

Helen Rosengarten's special birthday
Rosalind Reiss

In honor of:

Helen Rosengarten's milestone birthday. Let the tiles forever be in your favor.

Janice and Richard Etscovitz

Jordan Chefchis
Noah and Berna Levine

ROBERT KLEIN MEMORIAL CHESED FUND

In memory of:

my mother, Pauline Teitelman and my father, Bennett Teitelman
Barry and Joyce Teitelman

Garry Siegel. Please accept our heartfelt sympathy on Garry's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Eleanor and David Hochberg

Ron Williamson, husband of our beloved friend, Robin. May his memory be for a blessing.

Grace and Kenneth Graiser

Lillian Shatzman on her yahrzeit, always in our hearts

Howard and Faith Shatzman

SISTERHOOD FUND

In memory of:

Rona Weiss, dearest beloved sister. Miss you so much. With love,
Jerold and Barbara Mayer

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In loving memory of:

Theodore Weinroth
Michael and Linda Weinroth

In memory of:

Joyce Teitelman's brother-in-law, Harry Kidson. May his memory be a blessing.
Bruce and Bernice Mellman

my father, Irving Funk, on the 50th anniversary of his yahrzeit

Robert Harris, father of Karen Keeter

Betty Rickles, mother of Stephanie Gang
Marsha Shrago

**STEVEN KRODMAN
MEN'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

In loving memory of:

Dennis Renyi. Condolences to the family, we will miss our good friend.

Barry and Malka Riesenber

In memory of:

Lazoro (Leizer) Sapoznik
Jay Bailey

Alberto and Cindee Sapoznik

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Al Sapoznik
Sandy Bailey

YOUTH FUND

Sherry Adams

New Chavurot Forming!!



A chavurah is a wonderful opportunity to build treasured friendships in a small setting with other people in the Etz Chaim community.

Your chavurah will gather regularly throughout the year to enrich your lives by socializing, learning, and celebrating Jewish life together. Chavurah members plan activities of their own choosing.

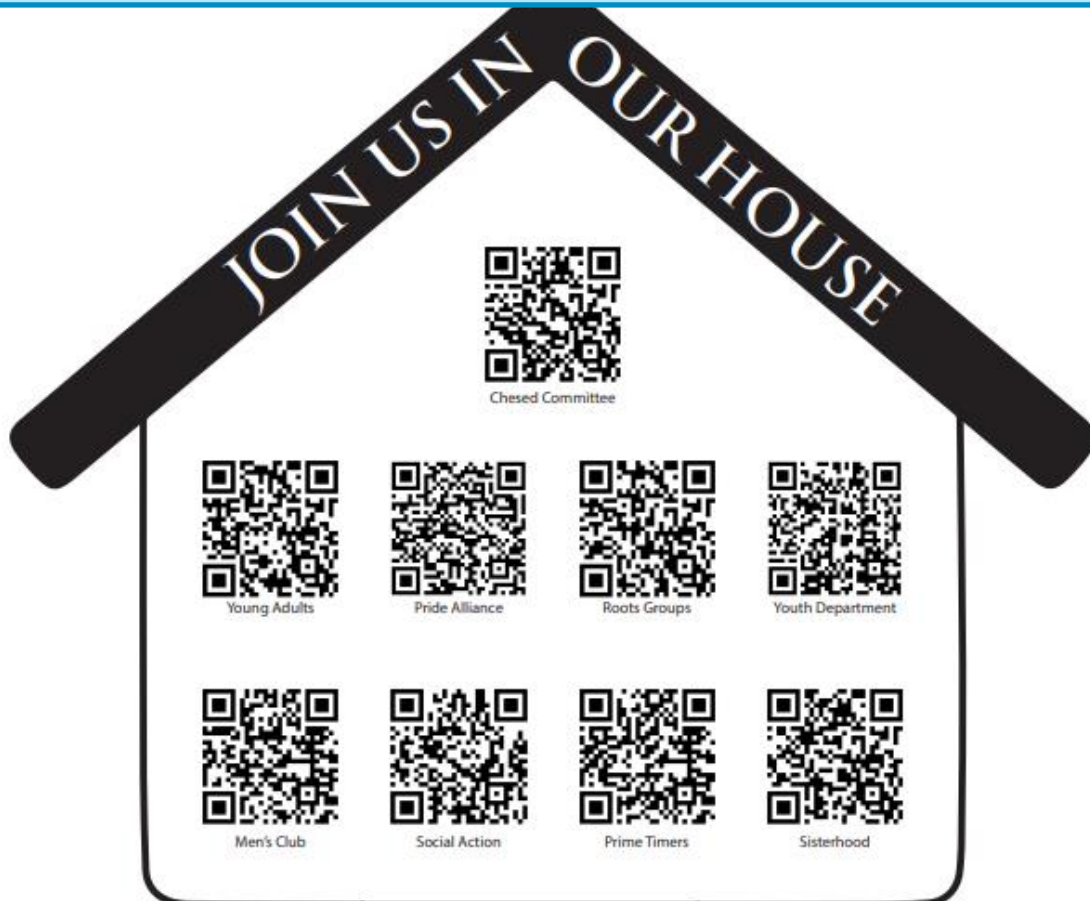
If you are interested, please complete the form at:

www.etzchaim.net/form/chavurot

We look forward to speaking with you and getting to know you!

***Ellen Davison 770-656-9602 and
Felicia Berne 678-910-1656
or chavurah@etzchaim.net***

Do you want to know what's going on with our various Affinity Groups? Scan the QR code you're interested in below for more information on what's happening in a specific group.



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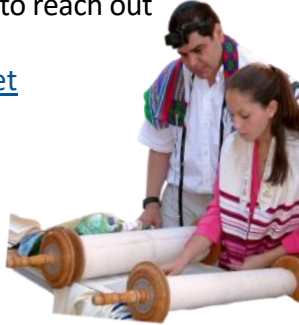
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Need help enrolling?
Contact the Synagogue office.

TORAH READERS WANTED!

We are excited to restart our Torah reading program. Please contact Bob Frohlich or Rabbi Dorsch to be added to our list to receive Torah reading opportunities. If you have any specific questions, please feel free to reach out to Rabbi Dorsch at rabbidorsch@etzchaim.net or Bob Frohlich at chisakid@bellsouth.net.



Kindness Matters.

Gemilut Chasadim...

Join us in the Act of Loving Kindness

Come be a part of our newly expanded CHESED COMMITTEE!

There are a few ways you can choose to get involved and help us all feel more connected: *Bikkur Cholim* (visiting/helping those who are ill), providing support during a funeral, or welcoming a new baby with a meal for a family.

If you would like to be a part of this wonderful committee or want more information, please reach out to Lisa Flagel at lisaflagel@gmail.com or call her at 678-591-7950.

Let's Connect!

Etz Chaim and its many Affinity Groups have Facebook pages where we share news about upcoming events, photos and much more. We also have a private Facebook group for members to share good news, ask for referrals and discuss a variety of topics.

Visit www.etzchaim.net/socialmedia for more information!



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SPOTLIGHT ON SOCIAL ACTION

Be a part of our
Social Action Committee!

If you are interested in Tikkun Olam and doing great things for the community at large, please contact:

Sharon Lightstone, spricelight32@gmail.com

Roots—Etz Chaim’s Small Group Initiative:



Have you heard about *Roots*, Etz Chaim’s new interest-based small groups initiative? Below are current *Roots* groups. Do you have an interest-based group in mind for Etz Chaim? Let’s make it happen! Once we have a volunteer leader and five committed members, a group can be formed. You decide when and where. Have questions or want to form a new *Roots* group?

Please contact Leah in the synagogue at 770-973-0137 x125.

Artists Collective

Are you an artist? An art roots group is forming at Etz Chaim! This is an opportunity for all artists to meet, explore Jewish art connections, discuss art topics, support each other in our projects, and contribute to our community. All mediums welcome. Whether it is a hobby or profession, please come to share your art interests and skills as we create this exciting new group! Meetings are usually held on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 p.m. on Zoom. For more information and to be part of this group, please contact Rob Foster at fosterrob@comcast.net.

Wednesday Golf Roots Group

Do you have a flexible weekday work schedule? Retired? Looking for some camaraderie? Our Roots golf group typically meets on Wednesdays throughout the calendar year. Our outings are at the Fox Creek Golf Course in Smyrna in the afternoon typically between 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. To join our list, email Alan Silverman at ajsilverman@comcast.net.

T’shuvah Group organized by JF&CS and HAMSA

In Hebrew, T’shuvah means to repent or return. Led by Rabbi Mark Borowitz, founder at Beit T’shuvah, the Atlanta T’shuvah group believes everyone has a right to redeem themselves, and through doing this work, to create new pathways and choices to live well. Whether you are living with addiction or in recovery, toxicity in relationships, facing challenges to your sense of self, experiencing life changes, or simply want to self reflect and create more meaning in your life – all are welcome.

To learn more about T’shuvah group, please contact HAMSA at 833-HAMSA-HELPS or HAMSAHelps@jfcSATL.org.

*Beit T’shuvah is a Jewish residential addiction treatment center in Los Angeles. Learn more at www.beittshuvah.org.

Schmooze on Zoom

Join us for an informal schmooze/chat on Zoom every Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. Our only request is to avoid the topic of politics. All are welcome. Facilitated by Esther Shultz. To be added to the email reminder list, please contact Esther at: savtaesther5@gmail.com. See you on Zoom at: www.tinyurl.com/EtzSchmooze Meeting ID: 844 2620 2608

Woodworkers of Etz Chaim

If you enjoy woodworking of all types and are interested in participating in this interest group, please contact Hank Needle at hneedle@gmail.com or text 678-520-8635. Look forward to hearing from interested parties. Contact Hank for location.

Movie Group

The Etz Chaim Roots Movie Group is back! This group meets once a month on a Sunday afternoon at Merchants Walk to see a family friendly movie (PG/PG-13). If you are interested in receiving communications regarding future movie outings, please contact Leah Green at leah@etzchaim.net.

The following Roots Groups listed below are on hiatus. We look forward to continuing these groups once the CDC gives the “all clear” to congregate safely with one another. Volunteer leader information is below if you would like to reach out for additional information.

Hiking Group Dani Oren at Daniandamir@gmail.com.

Birthday Club Laurie Lavinsky at laulav6@gmail.com or Malka Riesenber at malka217@gmail.com.

Walking/Running Group Amir Oren at aoren1@yahoo.com.

Canasta Group Join our group which meets on Mondays from 10 a.m. to Noon in the Hammer—Tritt Social Hall. Sponsored by AgeWell. For more information, contact [Leah Green](mailto:Leah.Green).



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Brain Health Bootcamp

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Memory Support Coaching

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Memory Lane TV

Using multisensory programming, Memory Lane TV is designed for people in later stages of cognitive loss as an intervention in times of need and distress. Guided imagery and soundscapes are used to engage, reminisce, and evoke positive memories and feelings.



Music & Memory

Personalized music programs for people living with dementia or other cognitive impairments, Music & Memory is tailored to their preferences and era. Music has transformative healing power for those living with dementia and can improve quality of life while reducing caregiver stress.



Robotic Pets

Used for companionship, stimulation, and to relieve depressive symptoms, Robotic Pets are helpful for those with or without cognitive loss. They react to sound and touch like a real pet – by barking, meowing, and purring!

For more information, call 770.677.9415

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Counseling and therapy for individuals, couples and families seeking support for life stressors and transitions, grief, anxiety, depression and self-esteem concerns. We're here to help and enhance your emotional well-being as you navigate life's challenges.

Geriatric Care managers (GCMs) help families help the older adults in their lives. As a caregiver, we're here to help you with their immediate needs—as well as to work with you to create and implement a plan for longer term. Services include in-person needs assessments, development and review of a care plan, medical referrals, and arranging for and monitoring specific care needs.

Emergency Assistance helps people in economic crisis with rent and utilities assistance as well as needed food (both Kosher and not). We're here for your members during this challenging time—and we offer our services with dignity, respect and confidentiality.

For more information about our services, call our Synagogue Support line at 770-677-9436.

We are here for you!

**Have a great idea?
A question to ask?**

Your **Board of Trustee 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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- ◆ A simple bequest in a will or trust
- ◆ An outright gift using appreciated assets or cash
- ◆ A charitable remainder trust
- ◆ A charitable gift annuity



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 Fligel - 678-560-5820
Scott Rittenberg - 770-645-6887

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



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