



Congregation
ETZ CHAIM

Voice of Chaim

September 2024 | Av/Elul 5784 | Volume 49, Issue 9 | etzchaim.net



Shana Tova



L'Etz Go to the
MOVIES

Havdalah and feature film
"Maestro"
with Bradley Cooper

Saturday, September 21
8:15 p.m. at Etz Chaim



SCAN TO RSVP

Click image or
Scan QR to RSVP



Selichot 2024/5784
Shir Shel Selichot Musical Service

September 28

7:00 p.m. Mincha Service followed by
Havdallah and a Nosh

8:00 p.m. Musical Selichot Service



Selichot

Join Rabbis Adler and Dorsch for a musical service
with a focus on refreshing our minds and souls
using High Holiday melodies.

Click image or
Scan QR to RSVP

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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*)

etzchaim.net/facebook-livestream

Etz Chaim Executive Board

Elliot Okrent, President

Lisa Olens, Executive Vice President

Barry Gang, Chief Financial Officer

Evan Eisenstadt, VP of Fundraising

Rabba Amanda Flaks and Josh Vexler, Co-VPs of Religion

Jennifer Pila, VP of Education

Lisa Dubovy, VP of Communications and Secretary

Rachel Wilson, VP of Membership Services

Audrey Fried-Sheets, VP of Engagement

Jamie Platt Lyons, Immediate Past President and Parliamentarian

Synagogue Staff

Dan Dorsch, Rabbi

Jonathon Adler, Rabbi

Shalom Lewis, Rabbi Emeritus

Marty Gilbert, Executive Director

Aram Blankenship, Facilities Manager

Debbie Deutsch, Director of Religious School and Youth Programming

Lauren Chernau, Director of Preschool

Tiana Plendl, Office Manager, Education Department

Betsy Fitzwater, Office Manager, Synagogue/Yahrzeits

Christine Bezdek, Bookkeeper

Bernice Isaac, Communications/Voice of Chaim

Karen Chauvin, Administrative Assistant/Donations

Get Involved with our Affinity Groups!

Angie Nothdurft, Backpack Buddies

Suzanne Rivchun, Chesed/Caring Committee

Felicia Berne, Chavurot/Friendship Groups

Edye Mahaffey and Beth Walter, College Connection

Steven Perlow, Inclusion Committee

Jenifer Lieberbaum and Roni Robbins, Lilmode/Adult Education

Bryan Coleman and Mathew Nathan, Men's Club

Janice Levine, Phillip's Library

Andrew Kagan, Pride Alliance

Gail Vanovitch and Andrea Cohen, Prime Timers

Rabbi Adler, Ruach Singers

Helaine Mark and Dani Oren, Sisterhood

Sharon Lightstone, Social Action

Anne Still, Young Adults

Debbie Deutsch, Youth Department



Dan Dorsch

Rabbi

It's remarkable how many songs touch on the month of September. My mother's favorite song, Earth Wind and Fire's "September", talks nostalgically about "dancing the night away". Neil Diamond's "September Morn" has a similar take about the romantic intrigue of "September".

In more recent days people tend to think of another classic from Green Day's rock opera "American Idiot: Wake Me Up When September Ends". Charting a decidedly different path from the others, this song laments how September signifies the end of summer and marks the passage of time.

As Jews, there's little question that our September month tends to follow Green Day's path (even if Neil Diamond is an M.O.T.). According to our Mishna, there is not one, but four *rashei shanah*, new year's celebrations on our calendar. We count the age of trees by the month of Shevat, animals by Elul, and the reign of Kings according to Nissan. But the one that we celebrate as Rosh Hashanah each year is technically the one by which we measure the passage of time.

Most of the time, Rosh Hashanah falls out during September. We lament the end of summer and get prepared to welcome the new Jewish year. During August, our synagogue team gets into high gear as we prepare for the Yamim Noraim. Honey is sold online. Sermons are written. Services are coordinated. Any number of plans are made as we prepare for the "HiHos".

Alas, this year, everything feels amiss. This is because 5784 on the Jewish calendar is a leap year (literally called a *shana meuberet*, or a pregnant year, in Hebrew). You may recall that around March we added an entire extra month of Adar to account for the discrepancies between the moon cycles and the solar year. We do this 7 out of every 19 years, so it happens quite often.

This year, everything feels a little late. The High Holy Days won't fall until the beginning of October. Chanukah is going to continue into the year 2025. To some degree, that makes this September feel a little anticlimactic.

On the other hand, this gives us the opportunity to extend the passage of time just a little longer. Here in Georgia, we can keep our shorts on a little longer and enjoy an extended summer. We don't have to worry about holidays interrupting our fall break and cutting our Disney World trips short.

Usually, around this time of year, I am knee deep in spiritual reflection. This year, I am going to do my best "to dance the night away".



Jonathon Adler

Assistant Rabbi

When I lived in New York City, lots of people invited me to go to the movies with them. At the time, I had really great contacts to get Broadway tickets, usually at an amazing discount. "I'll see the movies on TV when I don't live this close to Broadway," was almost always my reply.

This means that in my spare time, I'm catching up on movies that I didn't see when they were in theatres. Streaming is amazing. Especially when I compare my first computer (A Mac II in the late 1980s – no hard drive, before the internet) to what I have now (a phone that does more than that first computer did), I marvel at the technology. I'm astounded to see what people have invented—over the course of my lifetime—and how these things have changed the world.

The idea of everyone being created in the Divine Image, as we learn in Genesis Chapter 2, is an extremely important part of my personal theology and of my own relationship with God. To me, this means that the actions of the scientists, programmers, and engineers who created the software, the hardware, and things that I will probably never know the names of, are all being guided by the Divine as they come up with these incredible inventions.

And it's fantastic to benefit from these innovations. I connected my TV to the Wi-Fi, and I now can watch almost anything I want, almost any time I want. Like movies, without having to go to Blockbuster to rent a VHS. If I pick a movie that I don't like, it's no big deal. I just stop watching.

A couple weeks ago, I watched "Hidden Figures," which is about black women who worked with computers at NASA in the 1960s. These women were incredibly brilliant, and although their primary role was in helping NASA's engineers succeed in their mission of sending men into orbit and then to the moon, they also helped pave the way for computers to become what they are today. These were also women of deep faith, and I know that they counted their computational ability as a gift from God. I know I'm grateful for it!

I'm also open to recommendations of good films to stream! And yes, from time to time, I'll still go back to Manhattan to see some shows. You can count on that!



Elliot Okrent President

“Don't take for granted the love this life gives you. When you get where you're going don't forget to turn back around and help the next one in line. Always stay humble and kind.”
– Tim McGraw

With the kids back at school and casual Shabbatot behind us for now, it's time to start thinking about what's next. The High Holidays are right around the corner and we're hard at work finalizing parking, schedules, service leaders, honors and more. For information about service times and other important details, please visit our website. We're grateful to Marty Gilbert, our Facilities team, Rabbis, Religion Co-VPs, and the countless others who work to ensure a meaningful High Holiday season.

Speaking of being grateful, we can't thank Reba and Bob Bachrach enough for establishing a new endowment to support our Etz Chaim community. In commemoration of their milestone birthdays, they have established the Reba and Bob Bachrach Education Endowment with the purpose of funding and supporting adult education, specifically through Lilmodé programs. The endowment will provide essential resources to enhance and encourage Jewish education for adults at our synagogue.

Reba and Bob, long-time and devoted members of our congregation, have served Congregation Etz Chaim in numerous volunteer and leadership roles over the last 37 years. Reba has given of her time, serving on Board Nominating Committees and being a member of one of the early Adult B'nai Mitzvah classes. Her efforts have been a catalyst for the growth of our Sisterhood, managing our gift shop since 2018 and as Sisterhood Treasurer since 2019. Bob joined the Board of Trustees in 1997. His first volunteer role was chairing the Human Resources Committee. In that position he oversaw the interview process and ultimate engagement of assistant rabbis, an executive director as well other key staff positions. He became Vice President of Communications, Executive Vice President and ultimately President from 2006 to 2008. Bob then served as our Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer from July 2008 to June 2017. Both Reba and Bob were primary supporters of our Renewal2020 Campaign, with Bob co-chairing the project. In addition, he continues to provide leadership and guidance on strategic facilities projects, as well as coordinating the Beautification Committee. Their participation and involvement demonstrate a continued commitment to our community.



For decades, endowments have always played a significant role in our financial planning and strategy. By supporting our budget using a portion of their investment earnings each year as established and decided by our Endowment Investment and Endowment Distribution Committees, they help ensure a reliable source of funds to help our congregation thrive. In addition to our main Congregation Etz Chaim Endowment, we now have 10 “named” endowments.

If you would like to donate to any of our endowments at any time, please visit our website or contact the Synagogue office. If you are interested in starting your own endowment, let's talk.

Thank you to Reba and Bob for your continued support and we look forward to putting your generous donation to good use.



Marty Gilbert Executive Director

As many of you know, Lori and I love Irish music. We were watching a film, Job of Songs, on Prime TV the other night. It's about Doolin in County Clare and its musical heritage. One of the musicians interviewed mentions that we need to have more patience. Patience to see beyond our phones and devices. Patience to notice the changes in the sky and the wind in the trees. Patience to slow down and savor our time.

At this time of year, right before the High Holidays, this concept is most important. There is certainly a lot to be done about a lot of different things.

Travel arrangements for out-of-town guests. Menu choices for holiday meals. Shopping for new holiday clothes. All sorts of details that need to be dealt with.

Here at Etz Chaim, we are certainly mapping out parking, handicapped parking, seating, tickets, guest tickets, etc.

So, frenetic may be the word most used to describe this time of year.

But most important in these hectic moments, we take time to slow down and enjoy the time we have with family, friends, and the world around us. We need to savor our ability to watch a hawk soar and the wind blow through the trees.

More importantly, we need to take the time to spend with friends and loved ones. Listen to each other and respect the time we have together.

Unfortunately, this time is fleeting.

The beginning of the New Year reminds us of where we have been and where we want to go, but we never do it alone.

Lori and I wish all of you, your families and friends a happy, healthy and joyous 5785.

L'Shana Tovah!



When I was a little girl, I remember there was nothing more exciting than going school supply shopping. The smell of the new notebooks, the bright colors of all the folders stacked closely together, the decision between the pastel or the primary markers, all are memories still fresh in my mind.

The excitement of starting preschool is similar, except perhaps the supplies look a bit different. Little children proudly sporting backpacks that hit the backs of their legs, fresh sleeves of diapers, packs of wipes, new snack bags, new shoes, and feelings of nervousness and comfort all at once. Etz Chaim Preschool is not just a school. For many of our children, this place is like a second home. Some arrive early in the morning and leave late in the afternoon. They spend much of their day eating, singing, dancing, sleeping and playing here.

It is often said, "A school is a building that has four walls and tomorrow inside." As preschool has begun, I smile thinking about this quote. Already, the children are falling into routines, making new friends, problem-solving, playing, digging, painting, glueing, and having fun. The sense of excitement and wonderment is already apparent and spills from one classroom into the next. If inside these walls lives our tomorrow, then I believe our future is bright!

If you are interested in volunteering in our preschool, as a substitute and/or a special bubbe/zaide, please contact me at lauren@etzchaim.net.



M&M Shabbat

(Formerly Minyan Mishpacha)

Friday, September 6

6:00 p.m. Service / 6:30 p.m. Dinner

Join us for a fun, camp-style family Shabbat service in the Outdoor Sanctuary and dinner in the Hammer Pavilion. [Click here](#) to RSVP or scan the QR code.



Babysitting on Shabbat Morning

Saturdays, September 7, 14, 21 and 28

9:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Babysitting is available on Shabbat when there is no other Youth Shabbat programming. Please check our [website calendar](#) or in the weekly EtzBlast for updates.



Tot Shabbat on Shabbat Evening

Fridays, September 13, November 8, December 20

5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Bring Your own Dinner (BYOD)

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

Questions? Contact Lauren Chernau, Preschool Director at lauren@etzchaim.net or call (770) 977-3384.



Sing-a-long Shabbat on Shabbat Morning

Saturdays, September 21, November 2, December 14

10:30 a.m. - Noon

Bring your child(ren) for a fun Shabbat morning sing-a-long. Questions? Contact Lauren Chernau, Preschool Director at lauren@etzchaim.net or call (770) 977-3384.

Preschool Photo Gallery

Our Busy Bees and Monkeys classes (14 months), Lady Bugs and Butterflies classes (2 year-olds), the Puppies class (3 year-olds), and Cool Cats (4 year-olds/Pre-K) enjoy their first day of classes for this school year.



Religious School News



Debbie Deutsch

Director, Religious School
and Youth Programming

In the Beginning

Every year for as long as I can remember, I've written an article about the beginning of the school year, focusing on the new faculty, new students, new concepts, new learning. And this year's article is no different, and yet, very different. For the first time in 30 years, there will be no information about the preschool. I'm officially a preschool graduate! Moving forward, my responsibilities begin with our Sunday PreK Religious School students and end with our high school seniors.

It's a big leap and yet it isn't as I've known most of these current students for many, many years. But making changes in our Religious School curriculum has been on my mind for a while, and over the summer, with the partnership of trusted colleagues Maddy Rothbard and Lisa Dubovy, we are charging ahead with some new focus. Our Hebrew curriculum will be much the same – letter and vowel identification and then decoding and the introduction of prayers from the Shabbat morning service. The bigger shift is in our Judaics curriculum, which will still spiral as the students move up in grades, but will have a segmented focus. Parsha will be the unit of study for kindergarten, first, and second grades, while third, fourth, and fifth will be focusing on Israel from our ancestors to today. Our sixth grade will continue its focus on kashrut and seventh with our Jewish world and service learning, and both will learn in a more targeted manner about the Holocaust. It's a bit of a shift, but with our new curriculum from Behrman House, the Center for Israel Education, and the Anti-Defamation League, we know we have the right amount of support for our teachers to access all the information they need. We are looking forward to an exciting year.

Youth Department

The Youth Department is up and running and I'm honored to take on this additional responsibility. With guidance and support from Jamie Lyons, who jumped in last year when needed, we have planned a full complement of activities for each of the youth groups – Chalutzim (grades K-2), Chaverim (grades 3-5), and Gesher (grades 6-7).

We are delighted to have Nic Poole returning to his position as Youth Advisor, and Nic will be joined by Tiana Plendl, who is helping to plan, prepare, and implement these programs as our Lead Advisor, alongside Nic. Back from a hugely successful stint as USY Advisor, is Alex Levin, who will continue to work closely with our tremendous USY Board and members.

Dates to Remember: Religious School

- Sunday, September 1**, Closed for Labor Day
- Sunday, September 8**, First Day Pre-K, Open House & Family Workshop
- Sunday, September 8**, Kindergarten Open House & Family Workshop
- Friday, September 13**, 6th & 7th Grades Shabbat Dinner
- Sunday, September 15**, 6th Grade Family Workshop
- Sunday & Tuesday, September 22 & 24**, No Religious School/Cobb Break
- Sunday, September 29**, Pre-K Class in Session

Preschool

- Monday, September 2**, Preschool Closed for Labor Day
- ASP Classes for Puppies and Cool Cats:**
- Mondays, September 9, 16 & 23**, ASP Cooking
- Tuesdays, September 3, 10, 17 & 24**, ASP Rhythm & Movement
- Wednesdays, September 4, 11, 18 & 25**, ASP Art
- Friday, September 13**, Tot Shabbat
- Thursday, September 26**, Cool Cats Tashlich Walk @ East Cobb Park



Youth
Department



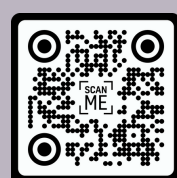
Religious
School



B'nai
Mitzvah



Etz Chaim
Preschool



Chai Five
Teen Learning

Youth Department



Debbie Deutsch

Director, Religious School
and Youth Programming



Membership Information for 2024-2025

It's time to sign your child(ren) up for this year's Youth Department age-appropriate programming!

New this year: Youth can "try-out" the events in August and September prior to becoming a youth group member. After Rosh Hashanah, you must be a Youth Department member to attend events.

Register your child(ren) on or before October 1 and receive a free Youth Department t-shirt. If family members would like a t-shirt, there will be an additional fee of \$15 each for the additional t-shirts. After October 1, if your child would like a t-shirt, it will be \$15.

Costs are as follows:

Chalutzim and Chaverim \$ 80 per child for members / \$116 for non-members

Gesher \$90 per child for members / \$126 for non-members

USY \$180 per child, all-inclusive price includes Wacky dinners, Limo Lock-in, social events, and Banquet for USY members.

USY non-member price is \$216

To fill out the Youth Department Membership Form, [click here](#) or scan the QR code to go directly to the form.

Youth Department Registration



Upcoming September Programming



Chalutzim (K-2nd GR)
Olympic-themed Game Day
September 15 from 12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Join your friends for a fun afternoon of games and get to know your fellow Chalutzim members.
Please RSVP by September 8.



Chaverim (3rd-5th GR)
Olympic-themed Game Day
September 29 from 12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Join your friends for a fun afternoon of games and get to know your fellow Chaverim members.
Please RSVP by September 22.



Gesher (6th-8th GR)
Scavenger Hunt
September 8 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

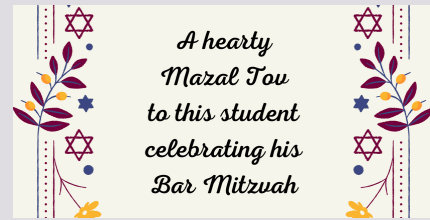
Put on your thinking cap and join us for our very own escape room! We will see how well you can problem-solve with your friends.
Please RSVP by September 1.



Sababa USY (9th-12th GR)
Wacky Wednesdays
September 4, 11 and 18 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Join your friends and fellow congregants for evening minyan in the Allan and Vivian Levine Family Chapel, followed by Pizza in the Bayit.

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.



Robert Bloom will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on September 14, 2024 - 11 Elul 5784. He is the son of Meredith Bloom and David Bloom. Robert's Bar Mitzvah Parasha is Ki Teitzei. He is an 8th Grader at Dodgen Middle School, and has been in our Religious School for seven years.

For his mitzvah project, Robert made homemade dog treats for Our Pal's Place, Amazing Mutts, and Wiggly Butts dog rescue organizations. He also collected leashes, collars, laundry detergent, disinfectant, and toys for these local rescues.



Third Annual MITZVAH FAIR

brought to you by
Etz Chaim's Religious School

Sunday, October 20
10:15 a.m. - Noon



Figuring out a mitzvah project can be challenging. Join us for this great opportunity to learn about the non-profit organizations in our community and how you can help.

The objective of the Mitzvah Fair is to provide information to the students in the 5th, 6th, and 7th grades to support the organizations by doing, collecting, or giving of their time, all while learning the value of charity and the act of doing a mitzvah (righteous act).

Men's Club



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

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

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

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

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

Shalom, Etz Chaim Congregants!

As we head into Fall and the High Holiday Season, I want to wish everyone a L'Shana Tovah.

What a fun **Shabbat in the Park** this year was! Grilling for the Congregation at East Cobb Park is one of our favorite duties of the year as it seems to bring the entire Shul out for an evening of Fun, Food, Prayer, and Laughter. It's so nice to see the kids singing, eating, and playing with their Parents and/or Grandparents. L'dor V'dor! Special thanks to **Alan Lightstone** for managing the grilling team.

The Etz Chaim Men's Softball teams have had outstanding seasons. The defending champion A-team is currently heading into the Semi-finals and are determined to defend their Title. The B-team, which won one game last season, had a huge turnaround and made a deep run into the playoffs only to fall just short. Special shout out to captains **William Balsler** and **Joshua Berry** for their leadership and organization of both teams.

Lastly, we have several Men's Club members, as well as Etz Chaim Members, scheduled to be **Docents** in the Holocaust Education Program for Cobb County and Marietta Schools which include **Steve Dix, David Lieberman, Al Sapoznik, Barry Riesenber, Bob Bachrach, Audrey Fried-Sheets, Esti Kleinman, and Allison Saffran**. Look for more details about this exciting program to come out soon.

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.

Thank you to our Men's Club Master Grillers - Shabbat in the Park



Sisterhood Scoop



Sisterhood Minyan Makers:

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

Judaica and Gifts Shop:

We are open for business! Hours are:
Sundays and Mondays, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Tuesdays, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Please contact [Lauren Gray](#) for information.

JNF Trees for Israel:

Honor someone special by purchasing a tree in the Etz Chaim Sisterhood Grove in Israel. For more information, contact [Sandy Bailey](#) or the [Gift Shop](#).

Want to know more about Sisterhood?

Please contact [Helaine Mark](#) at (404) 353-4589 or [Dani Oren](#) at (770) 630-2254.

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.

It's that time of year again – the BUSY time of year! Not only are we nearly into High Holiday season; not only are those of us with students in our household rolling with complicated scheduling for homework, games, scouts/youth group, tutoring for the SAT/ACT and nudging our kids to get their college applications underway or done; it's ELECTION SEASON! We're proud to announce that Etz Chaim Sisterhood, along with Etz Chaim's Social Action Committee and College Connection, is encouraging everyone to vote and giving you a tool to make it easier to do so!

Etz Chaim Sisterhood and the Women's League of Conservative Judaism encourages us to get involved in our community. In fact, it's what we're going to do and celebrate together at our **Membership Kickoff - Broads Broadening the Broader Community on September 7 at 7:00 p.m.** To RSVP, scan the QR code to the right or click the link: www.etzchaim.net/events/sisterhood-membership-kickoff/.



The official Election Day may be November 5 - and so may sound a ways off - but it is happening NOW! Now is the time to make sure your voter registration is up-to-date. And now is the time to request an absentee ballot if you may not be able to vote in person. Will you be out of town on November 5? Do you (or your kiddo) attend school out of state? And if they do, is it too far or difficult to plan to be home during early voting? Do you have health considerations that have you wanting to avoid crowds? If so, request an Absentee Ballot!

Absentee Ballots can be requested online. Below, you'll find the link to the My Voter Page of Georgia's Secretary of State. Please take a few minutes to click on the link both to confirm your voter registration status and, if voting by absentee ballot makes sense for you/your kiddo or loved one, follow the directions to request an absentee ballot as soon as possible. You may need to print out the form and scan it in once you've completed it, then just email it in. Once you receive your Absentee Ballot, take a minute right away to complete it and send it back. Be sure to follow the directions carefully, including signing & sealing the outer envelope. Given the slow speed of the postal service delivery in our area, please seriously consider sending it in via UPS or FedEx. It's the best way to assure that your vote is counted. Your vote is your voice. It matters!

Of course, please also plan to come to our wonderful Sisterhood events! We've got a lot going on before, during, and after the High Holidays! It is a busy time of year indeed!

See you at Sisterhood's kickoff event on September 8!

Helaine Mark & Dani Oren
Co-Presidents

**Please click the link below to confirm your voter registration, as well as to request an Absentee Ballot for the November 5 election: <https://mvp.sos.ga.gov/>



Save the Date: October 20, 6:45 p.m. Pinktober Mah Jongg Mixer

Join us for a casual evening of Mah Jongg with friends, food, and fun! Cost is \$18 pp. To RSVP [click here](#) or scan the QR code to the right.



Lilmode: Adult Education



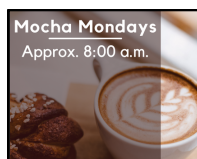
Our goal is to offer programs and classes that provide our congregants with an array of Jewish learning opportunities. We have purposefully chosen a variety of enriching experiences so every member can benefit from courses, classes, and lectures. If you have a class idea for *Lilmode*, please feel free to contact [Jenifer Lieberbaum](#) or [Roni Robbins](#), co-chairs.



Weekly Torah Study with the Rabbi

Thursdays, 10:00 a.m., Hammer-Tritt Social Hall
September dates: 5 and 19

Join us in person or via [Zoom](#) for a stimulating conversation with the Rabbi.



Mocha Monday with Rabbi Dorsch

Monthly Coffee and Breakfast

Mondays after morning minyan, approximately 8:00 a.m.
Fall dates: September 9, November 4, December 9

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



Monthly Torah Study at Huntcliff

Thursday mornings at 11:30 a.m.
Fall dates: September 12, November 14, December 12

All are welcome to attend the monthly Torah Study hosted by Huntcliff Summit I - Independent Living, located on Roswell Road.



Cheshbon Hanefesh: An Accounting of the Soul

Presented by congregant Steven Birch

Tuesday, September 17, 7:00 p.m. at Etz Chaim

Join us as we delve into the process of *Cheshbon Hanefesh* and discuss the practice of *Mussar*, which involves refining our spiritual traits. *Mussar* focuses on personal ethics and moral discipline which is something we can engage in every day on an ongoing basis. For more information and to register, [click here](#).



Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Dorsch

Monthly Discussion and Pizza

Tuesdays, at noon

Fall dates/locations: September 24 at US Bank, November 5 at Etz Chaim, December 3 at US Bank

Come learn and enjoy some pizza with Rabbi Dorsch as he discusses a variety of topics at this monthly L&L. To get a monthly reminder and to RSVP, email betsy@etzchaim.net.

Sponsored by the Joyce and Ramie Tritt Family Foundation.

Thank you to U.S. Bank for hosting our Lunch & Learn at 1 Concourse Pkwy., "Virginia Highlands" Conference Room



Shabbat Morning Learners Minyan

Saturday, September 7 and November 23 with Rabbi Adler

Everything you want to learn about Shabbat Services but were afraid to ask! Each minyan will focus on a specific part of our Shabbat Services, from Pesukei D'Zimra through Musaf. Why these prayers? Why wear a tallit? And so much more! Designed for people of all ages.

Our Etz Chaim Community



Have News You'd Like to Share?

Please submit community news to [Bernice Isaac](mailto:Bernice.Isaac@etzchaim.net) in the synagogue office.

Welcome New Members

- Jocelyn and Stewart Levine
jocelynlevine369@gmail.com | cell: (707) 246-6606
indylevine@yahoo.com | cell: (323) 428-9320
- Diane and Edward Vogel
gateach3rd@aol.com | cell: (478) 952-3276
evogelga@gmail.com | cell: (478) 972-8234
- Craig Ronai
cadronai1973@gmail.com | cell: (770) 500-5663
- Kelly "Keaton" Posada
keatonposada@gmail.com | cell: (404) 663-6103
- Jessica Katz
katz.jessicae@gmail.com | cell: (770) 378-9540
- Jordan and Jonathan Dollar
jordanbrooke917@gmail.com | cell: (404) 944-5820
jdollar11@me.com | cell: (770) 364-1912
- Laura Felson
lafdmail@yahoo.com | cell: (407) 694-8328
- Lee and Yariv Lis
leerebeca.lis@gmail.com | (404) 884-2545
yarivleas@gmail.com | (404) 552-3610
- Jacqueline Weiss
jrw72499@gmail.com | (908) 347-7648

Mazal Tov Wishes

- to Marsha Shrago on the birth of grandson, Samuel Elliot, born on August 2 to Alisha and Eric Shrago
- to Ellen Feldser on the birth of her granddaughter, Leah Ariella, born on August 7 to Beth and Aaron Feldser
- to Ellen and Billy Balser on the birth of their grandson, Evan Ryder, born on August 16 to Mel and Tommy Smith
- to these couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversaries: Karen and Hank Needle, Bonnie and Art Steinfeld, and Maddy and David Rothbard
- to Melissa Wikoff on her being elected as the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors at the City Springs Theater Company

Shout Outs

- Thank you to our office volunteers: Wendy Feinberg, Ellen Feldser, Ron Judenberg, Michael Karp, Keith Kirshner, Maxine Schein and Linda Weinroth
- Thank you to our amazing co-chairs for Shabbat in the Park, Debbie Isbitts and Marnie Nadolne. Yasher Koach on a great event!
- Thank you to our Men's Club Master Grillers for the tasty dinner at Shabbat in the Park (Photo of the team on page 10.)
- Thank you to our congregants who volunteered before and during Shabbat in the Park. Set up: Wendy Feinberg and Ron Scheinzeit, Break down: Eric Castater, Roni Robbins, Ron Scheinzeit and Keith Kirshner, Shopper: Amanda Flaks, Brownie Chefs: Nancy Miller, Karen Keeter and Jessica Sutton, Check-in: Jayne Becker, Brenda Bookman, Bernice Isaac, Suzanne Rivchun, General helpers: Larry Sandak, Rachel Wilson, Lori Gilbert, Glynis Okrent, Cindy Lewis and Audrey Fried-Sheets, Photographs: Jamie Lyons, Bruce Rosenblum and Bernice Isaac
- A special "shout out" to our Facilities Team for setting up and breaking down all of the tables/chairs/equipment for Shabbat in the Park. Pictured from left to right are Brandon, Cassandra, Torrey, Cameron and Tori (not pictured, Aram Blankenship).

New Phone Numbers and Email Addresses

- Glynis Okrent | cell: (770) 545-3499
- Spencer Fox | spencerf@avi.tv



Marnie and Debbie



Facilities Team

Shabbat Honors Reminders

- Do you have a milestone birthday, anniversary, or another significant life event? Observing a yahrzeit?
- Being called to the Torah is a great way to commemorate the occasion whether honoring a simcha or honoring the memory of a loved one.
- We also honor those who have volunteered at the synagogue to mark a job well done.
- Please reach out to [Glynis Okrent](mailto:Glynis.Okrent@etzchaim.net) to schedule a Shabbat honor.

Condolences and Yahrzeits



Our Condolences

- Caren Fetter on the passing of her beloved father, Joshua Sirkin
- Yaron Brill on the passing of his beloved father, Israel Brill
- Brian Misnuner on the passing of his beloved mother, Frances Misnuner
- Ann Pomerantz on the passing of her beloved husband, Michael Pomerantz

We Remember

- Memorialize a loved one with a **plaque** on our Yahrzeit Wall in the Radow Sanctuary or with a **brick** in our Holocaust Memorial Garden. For more information on purchasing a plaque, contact [Betsy Fitzwater](#).
- An Asterisk (*) denotes a memorial plaque in our sanctuary to be lit on the day of the yahrzeit and on all Yizkor holidays.

September Yahrzeits

*1-Sept Charles Hirsch 28 Av	13-Sept Henry Halperin 10 Elul	22-Sept Rebecca Bodenstein 19 Elul
1-Sept Lena Frank 28 Av	13-Sept Lillian Goodman 10 Elul	22-Sept Shira Levin 19 Elul
*2-Sept Ruth Bodzy 29 Av	13-Sept Vivian Epstein 10 Elul	*22-Sept Stanley Tinter 19 Elul
2-Sept Ruth Kroll 29 Av	13-Sept Willie Berman 10 Elul	*22-Sept Stephen Krosner 19 Elul
3-Sept Abraham Etscovitz 30 Av	14-Sept Bernard Goodman 11 Elul	23-Sept Allen Mador 20 Elul
3-Sept Adel Filsoof 30 Av	14-Sept Sol Yonks 11 Elul	*23-Sept Evelyn Coltman 20 Elul
3-Sept Lillian Spiselman 30 Av	14-Sept Solomon Krieger 11 Elul	23-Sept Phillip Rosner 20 Elul
3-Sept William Kurtz 30 Av	15-Sept Barry D. Bierman 12 Elul	*24-Sept Anne Eden 21 Elul
4-Sept Lila Kaplan 1 Elul	15-Sept Bruce Olens 12 Elul	25-Sept Bernie Nastir 22 Elul
*4-Sept Martin Sussman 1 Elul	15-Sept Carolyn Pollack 12 Elul	25-Sept Harold Regitsky 22 Elul
5-Sept Eleanor Mendel 2 Elul	15-Sept Gladys Slutsky 12 Elul	25-Sept Harold Winkler 22 Elul
5-Sept Florence Schneider 2 Elul	*15-Sept Jolantha Kronberger 12 Elul	*25-Sept Irving Holtz 22 Elul
5-Sept Margaret Harrison 2 Elul	15-Sept Kenneth Goodman 12 Elul	*25-Sept Leonard Simon 22 Elul
*5-Sept Rafael Fruchter 2 Elul	15-Sept Milton Kramer 12 Elul	25-Sept Lillian November 22 Elul
6-Sept Louis Chesin 3 Elul	*15-Sept Rose Hirsch 12 Elul	26-Sept Ben Pollack 23 Elul
*6-Sept Rochelle Perlow 3 Elul	*15-Sept Tillie Goodman 12 Elul	*26-Sept Eli Lewis 23 Elul
*7-Sept Debby Dix 4 Elul	16-Sept Bernard Levin 13 Elul	*26-Sept Florence Katz 23 Elul
8-Sept Arnold Drake 5 Elul	*16-Sept Emanuel Chartash 13 Elul	26-Sept Frances Marcus 23 Elul
8-Sept Charles Moog 5 Elul	*16-Sept Eva Smith 13 Elul	*26-Sept Harry Altholtz 23 Elul
*8-Sept Harry King 5 Elul	16-Sept Oscar Reiner 13 Elul	26-Sept Howard Brussel 23 Elul
8-Sept Lionel Bloomberg 5 Elul	*17-Sept Belle Goldman 14 Elul	26-Sept Iris Dix 23 Elul
9-Sept Diana Goldstein 6 Elul	17-Sept Dorothy Trotz 14 Elul	26-Sept Mary Sandak 23 Elul
9-Sept Leon Weinberger 6 Elul	17-Sept Harriet Levin 14 Elul	*26-Sept Wynn Ebel 23 Elul
*9-Sept Marshall H. Jaffe 6 Elul	17-Sept Louis Siegel 14 Elul	27-Sept Evelyn Padawer 24 Elul
10-Sept Moris Salk 7 Elul	*17-Sept Pearl Levy 14 Elul	27-Sept Harold Rainbow 24 Elul
11-Sept Earl Fairchild 8 Elul	17-Sept Yaakov Rosenberg 14 Elul	27-Sept Herbert Dubovy 24 Elul
11-Sept Eva F. Caras 8 Elul	18-Sept Irwin Silberman 15 Elul	27-Sept Irving Rosenblum 24 Elul
11-Sept Laura Agin 8 Elul	18-Sept Michael Patinkin 15 Elul	27-Sept Magda Frank 24 Elul
11-Sept Myrna Drake 8 Elul	19-Sept Abe Oresky 16 Elul	27-Sept Richard Epstein 24 Elul
*11-Sept Nathan Hersh 8 Elul	*19-Sept Gustav Tritt 16 Elul	28-Sept Arlene William 25 Elul
11-Sept William Raider 8 Elul	*19-Sept Helen Fisher 16 Elul	28-Sept Beatrice Lubeck 25 Elul
12-Sept Barbara Weinberg 9 Elul	*19-Sept Marvin Shams 16 Elul	28-Sept Frank Planer 25 Elul
*12-Sept Ethel Funk 9 Elul	19-Sept Sandy S. Carita 16 Elul	28-Sept Ida Silberman 25 Elul
12-Sept Frida Wallenstein 9 Elul	19-Sept Sheila Cohen 16 Elul	*28-Sept Joel Lebow 25 Elul
*12-Sept Isaac Struletz 9 Elul	20-Sept Diane Silverman 17 Elul	*28-Sept Murray Rosenzweig 25 Elul
12-Sept Kenneth Kaplan 9 Elul	20-Sept Ethel Karlin 17 Elul	*28-Sept Pearl Brodsky 25 Elul
12-Sept Lois Brussel 9 Elul	20-Sept Lea Turner 17 Elul	29-Sept Betty Shectman 26 Elul
12-Sept Norma S. Karesch 9 Elul	21-Sept Janet R. Katz 18 Elul	29-Sept Judith Cohen 26 Elul
12-Sept Philip Spiselman 9 Elul	21-Sept Lena Rudy 18 Elul	29-Sept Sherry Harms 26 Elul
13-Sept Abram Bernstein 10 Elul	21-Sept Lester Savitt 18 Elul	30-Sept Bill Gardner 27 Elul
13-Sept Al Kopen 10 Elul	21-Sept Michael Smith 18 Elul	30-Sept Harold Gutterman 27 Elul
13-Sept Barry Dvorchik 10 Elul	22-Sept Estelle Slomovitz 19 Elul	30-Sept Joan Komisar 27 Elul
*13-Sept Eva Phillips 10 Elul	22-Sept Mickey Low 19 Elul	30-Sept Marat Barshay 27 Elul
		30-Sept Marilyn Gorlin 27 Elul

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 (28 Av) No Religious School Sisterhood Book Club 10a	2 (29 Av) Labor Day Preschool Closed Synagogue Offices Closed	3 (30 Av) Rosh Chodesh Elul	4 (1 Elul) Rosh Chodesh Elul USY Wacky 6:30p	5 (2 Elul) Torah Study 10a Torah Chanting 11a Stitch & Kvetch 1:30p	6 (3 Elul) M&M Shabbat 6p (FKA Minyan Mishpacha) M&M Shabbat Dinner 6:30p (by RSVP)	7 (4 Elul) Shofetim
8 (5 Elul) First Day Pre-K & Kinder: Open House & Family Workshop 9:15a Melton Class 10:30a Gesher Event 11:30a Girl Scouts 12:15p Sisterhood Kickoff 7p	9 (6 Elul) Mocha Monday 8a Community Canasta & Mah Jongg 10a Leket Israel Program with Sally Poolat 7p (after evening minyan)	10 (7 Elul)	11 (8 Elul) USY Wacky 6:30p	12 (9 Elul) Torah Chanting 11a Stitch & Kvetch 1:30p	Candle Lighting 7:38p 13 (10 Elul) Tot Shabbat 5p Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p 6th & 7th Grades Shabbat Dinner 7:15p	Shabbat Ends 8:44p 14 (11 Elul) Ki Teitzei Bar Mitzvah of Robert Bloom 9:30a Babysitting 9:30a
15 (12 Elul) 6th Grade Family Workshop 10:45a Chalutzim Event 12:15p Board Trustees Mtg. 7p	16 (13 Elul) Community Canasta & Mah Jongg 10a	17 (14 Elul) <i>Lilmode</i> : Cheshbon Hanefesh: An Accounting of the Soul 7p	18 (15 Elul) USY Wacky 6:30p	19 (16 Elul) Torah Study 10a Torah Chanting 11a Stitch & Kvetch 1:30p	Candle Lighting 7:28p 20 (17 Elul) Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30p Prime Timers Shabbat Dinner 7:30p	Shabbat Ends 8:35p 21 (18 Elul) Ki Tavo Babysitting 9:30a Sing-a-long Shabbat 10:30a L'Etz go to the Movies: Havdallah & <i>Maestro</i> 8:30p
22 (19 Elul) No Religious School	23 (20 Elul) Community Canasta & Mah Jongg 10a	24 (21 Elul) No Religious School Koffee & Kibbitz— Mobility 10:30a Lunch & Learn Noon (off-site)	25 (22 Elul)	26 (23 Elul) Preschool Cool Cats Tashlich Walk Torah Chanting 11a Stitch & Kvetch 1:30p	Candle Lighting 7:18p 27 (24 Elul)	Shabbat Ends 8:25p 28 (25 Elul) Nitzavim-Vayeilech Selichot Musical Service featuring the Ruach Singers 7p
29 (26 Elul) Selichot - 1st Night Chaverim Event 12:15p	30 (27 Elul) Selichot Community Canasta & Mah Jongg 10a				Candle Lighting 7:08p	Shabbat Ends 8:15p

Etz Chaim September Events Calendar

College Connection



Do you have a college student in the family?

Etz Chaim's College Connection lets our undergraduate students know we are thinking about them. College Connection celebrates Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, and Purim by sending Jewish holiday "care packages" to our college students. All we need is the details on how to mail their care packages, and we'll do the rest!

[Click here](#) for a printable form and send it to the synagogue office to include your college student on our Care Package mailing list. To fill out the online form, [click here](#).

For more information regarding College Connection, [contact our co-chairs](#), Edey Mahaffey and Beth Walter.

College Connection

Etz Chaim College Connection lets our undergraduate students know that we are thinking about them. College Connection celebrates Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah, and Purim by sending Jewish holiday "care packages" to our college students. All we need are some details from you, and we'll do the rest!

To avoid the expense of mailing packages to potentially outdated addresses, **we purge the list every year and start fresh**. So, even **if your student was on the list last year and their address hasn't changed, please send us their information again**. Also, please let us know if your student graduates during the school year.

To complete the online form: <https://www.etzchaim.net/college-connection>
Or, email the following information to etzchaimcollegeconnection@gmail.com:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ⇒ Student Name | ⇒ Student Email |
| ⇒ Student Phone Number | ⇒ Any Food Allergies |
| ⇒ Student Address | ⇒ Parents' name(s) and phone number(s) |
| ⇒ Graduation Year | ⇒ Parents' email address(es) |
| ⇒ Name of College/University Attending | |



We look forward to connecting with you!

Alternatively, complete this form and return it to the Etz Chaim office:

Student's Name: _____
Email address: _____ Phone # _____
College Address Line 1: _____
College Address Line 2: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Any food allergies: _____ Graduation date: _____
Parent(s) Names/Email(s): _____

Please help us continue this wonderful tradition!

College kids love to receive packages, especially around the holidays. Voluntary contributions are always welcome and help ensure that we can keep this program up and running. Please send to: College Connection, Congregation Etz Chaim, 1190 Indian Hills Parkway, Marietta, GA 30068.

Donor Name: _____

Address: _____

Donation amount enclosed: \$18 \$36 \$54 \$72 Other _____



Questions? Please contact:
Edey Mahaffey or Beth Walter at etzchaimcollegeconnection@gmail.com

Young Adults



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

If you are interested in learning more about our Young Adults Group or would like to be added to our email list, please contact [Anne Still](#).

Follow us on [Facebook](#).

Roots Groups

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

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

This month, we are featuring:

Schmooze on Zoom Group and Woodworking Group



Schmooze on Zoom Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m.

For the past four years, our group has been "schmoozing" with one another over the internet. If you are looking for a place to chat and make social connections with friendly, non-aggressive chit-chat, we are looking for you!

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

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

[Click here](#) to join the Zoom (Meeting ID: 815 1837 7077 PW: 914449 or scan the QR code to the right. Questions? Contact [Esther Shultz](#), facilitator.



Woodworking Group

Our next Roots Group meeting will be held in conjunction with The Jewish Woodworkers of ATL. This group meets once a month for lunch, schmoozing, and exchanging ideas and solutions on woodworking. The meeting will take place on **Sunday, September 8, at 10:00 a.m.**, at La Madeleine, 1165 Perimeter Center W., Atlanta 30338 (next to REI near Perimeter Mall). To RSVP, contact [Ed Gerson](#) at (770) 842-9729. For more information on Etz Chaim's Woodworking Roots Group, contact Hank Needle, (678) 520-8635.



Birthday Club Lunch October 30, 12:30 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate all birthdays in September and October at the home of Laurie Lavinsky, 4531 Oakside Pt., Marietta, GA 30067. Please RSVP by October 25. For additional information, please reach out to [Laurie Lavinsky](#) at (404) 428-1018 or [Malka Riesenber](#) at (678) 522-3044.



New Chavurot Forming

A chavurah is an 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. For more information, contact [Felicia Berne](#) or [Suzanne Rivchun](#). To fill out the interest form, [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

Check out our ongoing and new programs, as well as new programs at Etz Chaim and in the greater Atlanta Jewish Community.



Canasta and Mah Jongg Sponsored by AgeWell and Etz Chaim

Mondays, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Join us for fun and games with AgeWell. Free and open to the community. Questions? Contact [Bernice Mellman](#).



Leket Israel Volunteering and Bar/Bat Mitzvah Programs Monday, September 9, 7:00 p.m. (after evening minyan)

Join us as we welcome Sally Poolat for an evening to discuss Leket Israel, whose unique mission is feeding Israelis in need. They rescue fresh, surplus food from farms, hotels, corporate cafeterias and IDF Army bases, feeding 330,000 of all Israelis on a weekly basis. Learn what we have done before and after October 7, 2023, to help the citizens of Israel.

For more information about Leket, [click here](#). To RSVP, [click here](#) or scan the QR code to the right.



L'Etz Go to the Movies Havdallah and movie featuring *Maestro* with Bradley Cooper Saturday, September 21, 8:15 p.m., at Etz Chaim

Join us for a movie at Etz Chaim. This movie is rated "R". [Click here](#) to RSVP or scan the QR code to the right.



Elul Yoga Workshop at Temple Beth Tikvah Wednesday, September 11, 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome to attend this community event at TBT to help shift gears for the High Holy Days with some gentle yoga, meditation, and journaling.

To RSVP, [click here](#) or scan the QR code to the right.



**Stitch & Kvetch
with Rabbi Adler**

**Thursdays
from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.**

Join us for a fun afternoon of stitching, schmoozing, and kvetching! Bring your cross-stitch, needlepoint, and knitting for this weekly activity in Social Hall 3.

All are welcome. No RSVP needed.

 Congregation ETZ CHAIM
1190 Indian Hills Parkway
Marietta, GA 30068

 **THE GREEN TEAM'S MISSION COFFEE MUG** 

MISSION BYOM - BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE MUG

BYOM for Kiddush lunch to reduce our paper goods footprint.

- Your name will be placed on your mug (using an oil-based paint pen).
- Your mug will be washed weekly.
- Your mug will be stored in the Sunshine Kitchen for use on Shabbat.

We ask you to bring your mug to the synagogue during the week to be labeled and stored.

Have questions?
Contact Aram at the synagogue.

Etz Chaim is not responsible for any broken or lost mugs



 **Artisans @ The Etz**
Sunday, December 8
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Hammer-Tritt Social Hall

Local artisans will be selling their wares at our holiday shopping extravaganza. There will be jewelry, ceramics, mosaics, woodworking, Judaica and glass designs, fabric art, photography, and much more!

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Bomb Shelter Beautification Project co-sponsored by JNF.

 Congregation ETZ CHAIM
1190 Indian Hills Pkwy.
Marietta, GA 30068

For additional information, contact [Miriam Rosenbaum](#) or [Lynne Johannesen](#)



The Prime Timers



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

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

Contact one of The Prime Timers co-chairs: [Gail Vanovitch](#) or [Andrea Cohen](#) for more information about The Prime Timers.



Prime Timers Shabbat Dinner

Friday, September 20, 6:30 p.m. Service

7:30 p.m. Dinner with reservation

Cost: \$36 per person in advance

Join us for Shabbat services and a beautifully catered Shabbat dinner in the Hammer-Tritt Social Hall. Come with your chavurah or come solo. This event is a wonderful way to make new friends, enjoy one another's company, and share in the spirit of Shabbat. Thanks to the *Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta* for providing a grant for this program. *Please RSVP by September 10.* [Click here](#) to reserve your seat today or scan the QR code to your right.



Tuesday, September 24

10:30 a.m. Koffee and Kibbitz

11:00 a.m. Start the new year with mindfulness with Brawner Raymond,
certified meditation instructor

As we come upon another Rosh Hashanah and new year, we will work to set out intentions together by incorporating some hands-on mindful practices focused on gratitude while reflecting on what *we'd like to welcome into our lives for the new year.* To RSVP, [Click here](#) or scan the QR code to your right.



Save the Date: Friday, October 18

Vines and Wines: A Sukkot Wine Tasting

12:30 p.m. (approximately)

Vines and Wines is back by popular demand. Join us immediately following services in the Hammer Pavilion/Sukkah for this delightful event sponsored by the Prime Timers. There will be a representative from Kroger's wine department to help us savor the experience. The RSVP link will be provided soon!

Holiday Information



Upcoming Holiday Services

Shir Shel Selichot Musical Service, September 28

7:00 p.m. Mincha in the Allan and Vivian Levine Family Chapel followed by Havdallah and a nosh

8:00 p.m. Selichot Musical Service with a focus on refreshing our minds and souls with High Holiday melodies

High Holiday Information

- Tickets are going out soon. If you have not placed your order, please do so as soon as possible.
- Registration is open until September 20 for Chavaya
- Registration for Babysitting is open. After September 6, there will be a \$15 late fee per child and if space is still available
- Lulav and Etrog Orders are open until October 1

High Holidays 2024 FOOD DRIVE

Teshuvah. Tefillah. Tzedakah!
Start the Jewish New Year with
a mitzvah and donate food.

Between September 16 – November 1:
Drop off items in JF&CS bins at your synagogue,
temple, school, or at JF&CS in Dunwoody.

Most needed items:

canned meat, canned fruit, canned vegetables,
rice, beans, canned tomatoes, and dry pasta

For more info, please contact Ernie Ball | eball@jfcsatl.org | 770.677.9315

Donate: give.jfcsatl.org/hhfooddrive



4549 Chamblee Dunwoody Road
Atlanta, GA 30338
jfcsatl.org | [@jfcsatl](https://www.instagram.com/jfcsatl)



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Social Action/ Tikkun Olam

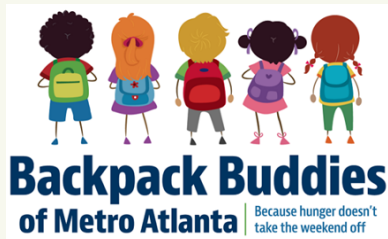


At Etz Chaim, we care about the world around us. Through a variety of opportunities within Etz Chaim and the greater Atlanta community, Tikkun Olam is one of the cornerstones of Jewish tradition.

We continue to participate in the following annual events:

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

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



Backpack Buddies 2024-2025

It's a new school year, which means a new year of Backpack Buddies! As a congregation, we will be kicking off our third year of this important program, supporting Eastvalley Elementary School by providing bags of food each week to food-insecure children. There are so many ways you can help this important cause!

1. Volunteer your time: If you are interested in packing bags of food, delivering bags to the school, and more, please [click here](#) to fill out the interest form.
2. Donate food: There is always a need for more nutritious food to stock our pantry shelves!

You can shop our [Amazon Wish List](#) here or purchase items yourself from our [list of requested items](#) and drop them off in the bin in the Etz Chaim lobby.

More from Sisterhood:

ETZ CHAIM SISTERHOOD

Torah Fund

SUPPORT WOMEN'S LEAGUE

DID YOU KNOW?

Torah Fund supports scholarships and programs in the Conservative Institutes of Higher Jewish Learning. With the philanthropy of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism, we have raised nearly \$106 million in 79 years.

Am Yisrael Chai (The People of Israel Live) is a statement of solidarity for our Jewish nation and the continuity of our Jewish people. With your gift to Torah Fund, it helps strengthen Jewish education and ensures the future of our people. For more info visit www.WLJC.org.

Benefactor level donations and above receive this year's pin.

CONTACT SANDY BAILEY
jbsandy10@gmail.com
 (770) 490-7874

MULTIPLE GIVING LEVELS

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

OCT
21

OCT
28

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

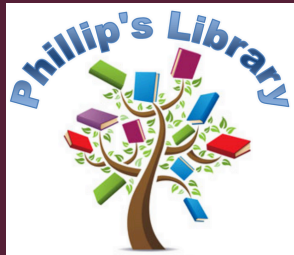
PLEASE RSVP:

Answers to tough questions:

- Israel & Zionism - The Truth
- GOD - Who is He or Who is She?
- Is the Torah True?
- The Soul - Life after Death

NO SPECIFIC ASSIGNED READING FOR THESE SESSIONS.

Phillip's Library News



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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Library Catalog

STAY TUNED NEXT MONTH FOR SOME GREAT BOOKS TO HELP YOU GET IN THE RIGHT MINDSET FOR THE FALL HOLIDAYS.



Volunteers Needed: Organizational Meeting for the new school year. We will meet at Etz Chaim on Sunday morning, **September 15, at 9:30 a.m.** in front of the Hammer-Tritt Social Hall. If you are interested in helping with the library, contact [Janice Levine](#) for more details.

Shanah Tovah to everyone!

GREAT BOOKS FOR THE FALL HOLIDAYS Why not check out a book from our library to help you get into a spiritual mindset for the upcoming fall holidays? Stop by and browse our books that are out on display for both adults and children. Self-check-out directions can be found on the library circulation desk.

Featured titles for the holidays:

For Adults

This is Real and You are Completely Unprepared: The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation by Rabbi Alan Lew. Rabbi Lew takes the reader on a journey of spiritual transformation in this life-changing book. This powerful book is a must-read to prepare for the High Holidays. (242 LEW)

For the Younger Kids

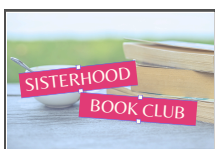
Two New Years by Richard Ho. Winner of several book awards, this warm and welcoming New Year celebration of a multicultural family invites readers to learn about Rosh Hashanah and Lunar New Year traditions. Beautifully illustrated, this book highlights how much more we are alike than different. (J 242 HO) For ages 4-7

For Older Kids

The Secret Shofar of Barcelona by Jacqueline Dembar Greene. This amazing story captures the experience of Conversos, Jews forced to convert to Christianity in Spain. Talented children's author Greene mixes the High Holidays with Jewish history during the Spanish Inquisition in a little known Sephardic legend. (J 242 GRE) For ages 6-10



Attention Children Ages 9 - 12: Did you know that you can sign up for [PJ Our Way](#)? Each month your child can choose a great new Jewish book that will be sent to you for free!



Sisterhood Book Club, 10:00 a.m. Sundays

Join us for our monthly book discussion at the Bayit and via Zoom (unless otherwise specified). For more information, contact [Myra Goldberg](#).

Here's a look at the great titles we will be reading this Fall:

September 1, *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride

October 6, *Kantika* by Elizabeth Graver

November 3, *The Children of My Knee* by Len Cooper

December 8, *The Late Comer* by Jane Hanff Korlize (available for free audio download)

Tzedakah / Donations

Contributions processed from
July 1 - 31, 2024

Cynthia R. Freeman Memorial Endowment

In loving memory of:

my father, Marty Steiner. You've been gone 34 years, and I miss you every day
Alan and Lisa Freeman

Joan H. Rabin Memorial Endowment

In loving memory of:

our mother, Dorothy Halperin and fathers, Max Rabin and Henry Halperin
Dan Rabin and Joan Halperin Rabin (z"l)

Rabbi Dorsch Discretionary Fund

Joshua and Lora Berry

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Dorsch, Rabbi Lewis, Marty Gilbert, Al Sapoznik and our Etz Chaim family, for the warm reception, inclusion in the service, reading of the Prayer for our Country, informational tour, Kiddush lunch, and overall kindness shown to my friends who attended Shabbat services with Al and me.
Cindee and Al Sapoznik

Rabbi Dorsch. Our family shares our deep appreciation for your kindness and words of inspiration.

Stephanie and Jeffrey Knauer

In honor of:

Bill Lieberbaum's 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah

Jonathan Goldman

Ramie Tritt's birthday

Joyce Tritt's birthday

the anniversary of Joyce and Ramie Tritt

Linda and Stan Bernknopf

In loving memory of:

my father, Howard D. Goldman on the anniversary of his yahrzeit

Jonathan and Nancy Goldman

Elaine Sandak

Arthur Hoffman

Larry Sandak

my grandmother, Sylvia Friedman

Linda A. Bernknopf

Bob Kirschner, our beloved father and granddaddy. We miss your smile and laughter every day. You were and still are a blessing to all of us. Your spirit brightens our days and reminds us of the power of gratitude and living in the moment. Always in our hearts.

Michele, Sid and Marc Gelernter, Kenzie and Frankie Gaudio

Rabbi Dorsch Discretionary Fund

In memory of:

Abraham "Moe" Richman

Simone and Norman Marinoff

Gerald Knauer and Regina Elkan on their yahrzeit

Stephanie and Jeffrey Knauer

Rita Hoffman

Larry Sandak

In memory of:

my father, Louis Coltman

Barnet Coltman

my beloved mother, Sylvia Schulberg

Grace and Kenneth Graiser

Audrey Nathan

Lawrence and Michelle Nathan

my grandfather, Lenny Press

Martyn and Donna Bierman

the yahrzeit of my parents, Lillian and Louis Cohen

Sally Greenstein

N.Y. Fire Chief, Irwin Yonks on his yahrzeit

Sandy Rothstein

Rabbi Adler Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Adler. Our family thanks you for your thoughtfulness at a difficult time.

Stephanie and Jeffrey Knauer

Rabbi Lewis Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of:

Rabbi Dorsch, Rabbi Lewis, Marty Gilbert, Al Sapoznik and our Etz Chaim family, for the warm reception, inclusion in the service, reading of the Prayer for our Country, informational tour, Kiddush lunch, and overall kindness shown to my friends who attended Shabbat services with Al and me.

Cindee and Al Sapoznik

Rabbi Lewis. Our family thanks you for your words of comfort at mom's service.

Stephanie and Jeffrey Knauer and Family

In loving memory of:

my aunt, Selma Friedman Cohen

Linda A. Bernknopf

In memory of:

Bubba Taratoot. Our condolences on the passing of your brother

Gary Taratoot. Our condolences to Debbie Taratoot and family on the passing of her husband

Linda and Stan Bernknopf

Backpack Buddies Fund

In loving memory of:

Bonnie Steinfeld's brother, Hugh Cheslin. May his memory be a blessing

Saundi Shapiro, Debbie Isbits, Amanda Shams, Perry Reiter and families dear sweet mom, Anita Reiter. She was an amazing lady who left an incredible legacy. May the many memories you have bring you comfort. She was the hamantashen queen! Sending our love to all the family.

Karen and Hank Needle

Building Enhancement Fund

In loving memory of:

mother and grandmother, Jayne Adair, forever loved

father and grandfather, Sidney Rothstein, with all our love!

Susan, Craig, and Paige Adair, Cami and Cason Maddox

General Fund

In honor of:

Al and Cindee Sapoznik
Margaret Miller

Karen and Hank Needle. Mazel Tov on your 50th Anniversary

Susan and Herschel Saparow

In loving memory of:

my parents, Sue and Stan Levine, on their 23rd and 12th yahrzeits

Amy Levine Samuels

Frances Levy

Marcy and Steven Caras

my niece, Ellen Freedman on her yahrzeit

Mitch and Arlene Manning

In memory of:

Annette Easton, Ricky Tinter's mother
Berna and Noah Levine

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Jayne and Andy Becker on becoming grandparents

Cheryl and David Eppsteiner on becoming grandparents

Stephanie and Jeffrey Knauer

Tzedakah / Donations

Contributions processed from
July 1-31, 2024

Linda H. Weinroth Education Fund

In celebration of:

50th wedding Anniversary of Karen and Hank Needle. Wishing you both many more happy and healthy years together! Love,
Lori and Allan Struletz

Phillip's Library Fund

In appreciation of:

Janice Levine for all of her hard work for Etz Chaim and for her great kindness to me personally
Sherry Adams

In memory of:

William Angster
Neda Gayle

Preschool Fund

In appreciation of:

Allison Barchichat: For all your years of service and dedication to the Etz Chaim Preschool
Marty and Lori Gilbert

In memory of:

Marcos Beker
David and Ronni Beker

Robert Klein Memorial Chesed Fund

In loving memory of:

Our Father and grandfather, Frederick Miner, on his yahrzeit. We have missed you every day over these last 4 years.

our father and grandfather, Harold Greenberg on his yahrzeit

Dana, Ari, Ilyse and Sam Greenberg

In memory of:

Robert Krieger, brother of Martin Krieger

Gary Taratoot
Stanley and Judy Fineman

Sisterhood Fund

Sherry Adams

In loving memory of:

Annette Tinter Easton, beloved mother of Ricky (Pam) Tinter
Melissa Sklar

Social Action Fund

In memory of:

Tema Rothenberg on her yahrzeit
Robert Gordon

Steven Krodman Men's Club Scholarship Fund

In memory of:

Ana Geibs Sapoznik on her yahrzeit
Cindee and Al Sapoznik

Sunshine Kitchen Fund

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Janelle Welborn and Alex Carolla engagement
Amara Kaplan



Did you know you can do all of these things online?

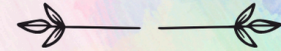
- Pay your dues
- Make donations
- RSVP for programs
- Update your family profile
- Utilize the online directory for emails, phone numbers, and addresses of our congregants
- View the synagogue calendar

For assistance, contact [Karen Chauvin](#) in the synagogue office or call her at 770-973-0137



Did you know...

- Revenue from the Gift Shop supports many areas of the synagogue including our schools, affinity groups, and new endeavors
- Special orders can be processed to make the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process easier
- Volunteers are always needed and welcomed
- Contact us for any questions or needs



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MEET DR. SAMANTHA JOHNSON

Dr. Johnson is a proud member of Etz Chaim and has practiced dentistry for over 20 years. She loves all areas of dentistry, but she excels in endodontics and Invisalign orthodontics making her prolific in full mouth rehabilitations and more complex cases. She has her DDS from New York University and has practiced in four states in different communities. Dr. Johnson would love to be a part of your healthcare team.



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

Options include:

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



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

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

We are here for you!

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

Your **Board of 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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