



Voice of Chaim

February 2025 | Shevat 5785 | Volume 50, Issue 2 | etzchaim.net

Golden Anniversary Celebration



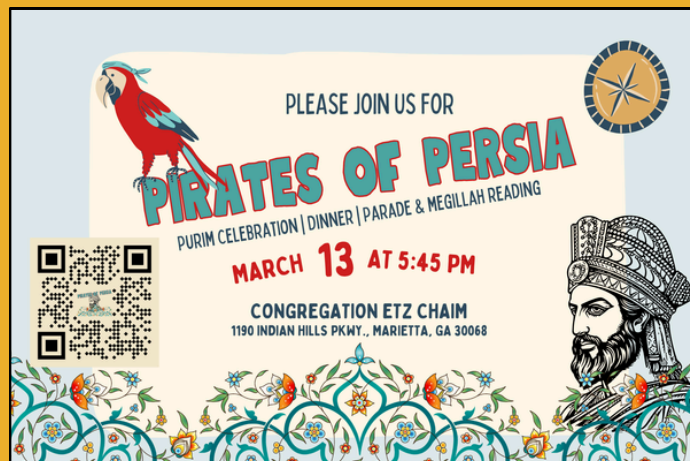
Congregation
ETZ CHAIM

creating meaningful Jewish experiences

We are currently seeking congregants to assist us in obtaining local business advertisements for our Ad Journal and Membership Directory. If you would like to volunteer, please contact our VP of Fundraising, [Harris Fogel](#).

Remember to mark your calendar to join us on Sunday, April 27, 2025

For information about our celebration, see pages 14 & 15.



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Daily Minyan Times

Sunday Mornings: 9:15 a.m.

Monday – Friday Mornings: 7:00 a.m.

Sunday – Thursday Evenings: 6:30 p.m.

Please note:

Morning Minyan for Federal Holidays: 9:00 a.m.

Shabbat Services:

Friday, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, 9:30 a.m. (*in-person & livestream*)

etzchaim.net/facebook-livestream

Etz Chaim Executive Board

Elliot Okrent, President

Lisa Olens, Executive Vice President

Barry Gang, Chief Financial Officer

Harris Fogel, VP of Fundraising

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

Mallory Low, 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/Calendar

Christine Bezdek, Bookkeeper

Bernice Isaac, Communications/Voice of Chaim/Digital Content

Karen Chauvin, Administrative Assistant/Donations/Social Media

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, Lilmode/Adult Education

Mathew Nathan, Men's Club

Janice Levine, Phillip's Library

Andrew Kagan, Pride Alliance

Gail Vanovitch and Andrea Cohen, Prime Timers

Rabbi Adler and Karen Needle, Ruach Singers

Helaine Mark and Dani Oren, Sisterhood

Sharon Lightstone, Social Action

Anne Still, Young Adults

Bethany Levee, Youth Commission



Dan Dorsch Rabbi

Reflecting on my life, I discovered something about myself which, not all that surprisingly, is common to many people. When something in my life happens that is completely out of my control, I find healthy ways to take control in other areas of my life where I can exhibit control.

The area where I do this is regarding my diet and exercise. In general, I must confess I am not mindful about what I eat or the amount of exercise that I get (if you are my doctor, pretend you didn't read that). However, if something happens that is out of my control, I go back to the long-forgotten Peloton. I use an app to record the food that I eat. It may seem a little compulsive. But it helps satisfy my urge for control, with the added benefit of making me feel physically and mentally healthy.

I also turn to Jewish practice. Years ago, when COVID started (talk about a life event out of your control), I began studying Daf Yomi. Daf Yomi is a program during which a person studies a folio of Talmud a day until seven and a half years later, you've completed the entire Talmud. During quarantine, in addition to taking an evening walk, I would study my folio of Talmud every day. Not surprisingly, once COVID restrictions ended, my study continued but became less diligent.

You don't have to be a "control freak" or obsessive-compulsive to understand how loss of control can affect your life (for the record, I am neither). All of us go through cycles where we encounter feelings of struggle, loss, or hardship. Fortunately, it's in these circumstances that we can count our blessings as a part of a religious tradition that excels at fostering opportunities to regain control in challenging times.

Perhaps, the easiest example for Jews to connect with is the power of saying kaddish after a loss. Some say kaddish because of the kabbalistic idea that it helps the soul of our loved one ascend to heaven (there is a regaining of control here). But we cannot forget that going through loss leaves us feeling scared, alone, and like our entire world has been turned upside down.

Judaism therefore has a ritual that insists that for up to an entire year we attend services and become part of a community. Saying kaddish regularly restores that sense of purpose and control that our loss took away from us. It's no wonder then that the overwhelming majority of people who attend daily minyan today were at one point themselves kaddish sayers. These are people who refound their purpose, saw the value of community, and never stopped coming.

Thankfully, I have personally found healthy mechanisms in my life to regain control, even when I lose it in other areas. You may likely have them as well. Not everyone is so lucky. Some people seek unhealthy pathways—drugs, alcohol, etc.—as a means of dulling the pain and giving them an illusion of control, but ultimately, leading down a rabbit hole of an even greater loss of control than when we started.

Should you be struggling, please do not hesitate to reach out for help. Rebbe Nachman of Breslav may have noted that "the world can feel like a narrow bridge, but that we do not have to be afraid." We are a community of rabbis, professionals, and kind members of our community who are all willing to help guide you across in hard times.

Purim Seudah with Dr. Yizhar Hess

Vice Chairman of the World Zionist Organization

**Friday, March 14, 8:00 a.m.
at Etz Chaim**

WZO elections begin on March 10!

Come vote in the WZO election and join us for breakfast, hamantashen and discussion with Dr. Hess.

FREE with your confirmation of your vote.

(print out your vote confirmation or show us on your phone)

Or, vote here in the morning and join us for the seudah.



1190 Indian Hills Parkway, Marietta, GA 30068





Elliot Okrent President

“Ground Control to Major Tom...Ground Control to Major Tom...Take your protein pills and put your helmet on. (Ten) Ground Control (Nine) to Major Tom (Eight, seven),(Six) Commencing (Five) countdown, engines on...(Four, three, two). Check ignition (One) and may God's love (Lift off) be with you.” – *David Bowie, Space Oddity*

Over the holiday break, our family headed to Cocoa Beach, Florida, and I had the opportunity to share one of my all-time favorite movies with Glynis and the kids - *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*. Aiden, Emma and Evan had never seen it, so we turned it into a special family movie night. For me, it wasn't just about watching a film; it was one of those moments I'll always hold onto. This movie has everything—amazing music, a fantastic cast, stunning visuals, and some pretty deep life lessons. Watching it with my family made it all the more meaningful.

If you haven't seen it yet (and seriously, you should), *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* is an adventure/comedy starring Ben Stiller. It's about a quiet, daydreaming photo editor at LIFE magazine who ends up going on a real-life adventure that takes him to incredible places like Greenland and the Himalayas. It's a story about stepping out of your comfort zone, facing challenges and discovering who you really are. Woven throughout the movie is a version of the original LIFE magazine motto – and it sums it up perfectly: “To see the world, things dangerous to come to, to see behind walls, to draw closer, to find each other and to feel. That is the purpose of life.”

What hits me every time I watch it is the message: Don't let fear or routine stop you from becoming the person you want to be or living the life you dream about. Walter starts out stuck—playing it safe and living in his head—but his journey teaches him courage and shows him the beauty of taking risks and embracing life.

The soundtrack is another reason I love the movie. Songs like “Stay Alive” by José González perfectly match Walter's transformation as he goes from just dreaming to actually living. Then there's “Dirty Paws” by Of Monsters and Men, which is woven into the film in such a powerful way. It adds this dreamy, adventurous vibe that perfectly captures Walter's journey as he steps into the wider world. And “Space Oddity”? Absolute perfection, especially as a metaphor for taking a leap of faith into the unknown. The music ties the whole experience together, making it unforgettable.

While we were in Cocoa Beach, we also watched a rocket launch – the first time we've seen one. Standing on the beach under the stars, watching it light up the midnight sky and then fade into the darkness, was incredible. It reminded me of Walter Mitty's message about breaking barriers and going after what seems impossible. That rocket launch felt like a real-life symbol of dreaming big and making it happen.

As we kick off this new year, I can't help but think about those themes—both from the movie and the rocket launch. What's holding us back? What dreams are we shelving because they feel too far-fetched or scary? Life is messy and unpredictable, but just like Walter (and those rockets), we're capable of incredible things if we're willing to take that first step.



Marty Gilbert Executive Director

“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” ~ Mark Twain

February is a strange month.

Besides being only 28 days (29 occasionally).

It has a holiday that revolves around a large rodent seeing or not seeing its shadow; a holiday that supports Florists and Chocolatiers; and if you don't acknowledge it to your significant other will have ramifications that extend into March and beyond, and last but not least, a holiday that as of 1970 celebrates all American Presidents...even Millard Fillmore.

This year Presidents Day is Monday, February 17, which also happens to be Random Acts of Kindness Day, a day to celebrate and encourage being kind to others. "It's just a day to celebrate kindness and the whole pay it forward mentality", said Tracy Van Kalsbeek, executive director of the Stratford Perth Community Foundation, in 2016. Unlike its sister secondary holidays that card companies and florists have invented, this one has some redeeming qualities.

We as a congregation support this concept not just on this day but all year round.

The Morning Minyan folks give to the Tzedakah/Pushka Fund daily. That money helps us to support a congregation in Uganda. B'nai Mitzvah projects support various social action activities. The Religious School has done bagel rescues. The Preschool does animal rescue donation drives. Congregants give and participate in the Hunger Walk every year. We have a blood drive in January. We donate food to Rebecca's Tent in February. And of course, we continue to fill the food barrels on Yom Kippur, and throughout the year.

The newly revised Chesed Committee extends itself into our community to spread support and goodwill.

It is wonderful that we live this concept of Tikkun Olam all year round and it doesn't have to be a big deal. Just the acknowledgment that we all need each other to sometimes just get through the day.

So, remember, sometimes simply a smile and holding the door open for someone else is all you really need to pay it forward.



The holiday of Tu B'Shevat is a celebration of the trees. It is celebrated on the fifteenth day of Shevat, and we honor the day by planting trees, eating fruit, and even having a Tu B'Shevat Seder. We celebrate trees, what they give to us and how we, as humans, can protect trees and strengthen our connection to nature. These are all beautiful traditions and ways to enjoy this holiday.

Do you know what we do to celebrate Tu B'Shevat in our Preschool? We plant parsley seeds. Parsley does not grow on trees. It will never become a tree. So why parsley seeds? The time between Tu B'Shevat and Pesach is the perfect time to plant and grow enough parsley to have at our Pesach Seder. Of course, we take nature walks to look at different trees. We read books about trees. We taste fruits that grow on trees. And we even have a Tu B'Shevat Seder to taste the various species of fruits. But as far as actually planting trees, we need something a little more foolproof.

Planting parsley seeds is a way to allow young children to move through the growing process of a plant and learn how to nurture and care for a growing, living thing. It gives the children an opportunity to watch something grow in front of their eyes. Planting parsley on Tu B'Shevat also connects one holiday to another which would normally not be connected. Tu B'Shevat being our earliest Spring holiday and Pesach being our main Spring holiday makes an example of time passing, and of patiently waiting for the parsley to grow. It is so exciting to see the children's faces light up when the first buds of parsley peek through the dirt and show themselves. The ownership and pride the preschoolers feel when they get to clip the parsley plants and place them on the Pesach seder plate is priceless. So we will say, "Happy Birthday to the Trees!" And we will plant our seeds and prepare for our future.



Babysitting on Shabbat Morning

Saturdays, February 8, 15 and 22
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.



Etz Chaim
Preschool
Web Page



Sing-a-long Shabbat on Shabbat Morning

Saturday, February 1
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.



M&M Shabbat

Friday, March 7, 6:00 p.m. Service/6:30 p.m. Dinner

Join us for a fun-filled family Shabbat service in Phillip's Library with a dairy dinner to follow in the Hammer-Tritt Social Hall. The cost is \$18 per member family (immediate family) and \$36 for guest families. [Click here](#) to RSVP or scan the QR code.



Shabbat Flowers Preschool Fundraiser

Fridays in front of the Education Office

Each Friday, our Preschool will have a Flower Cart with beautiful fresh flowers you can take for a small donation to brighten up your Shabbat table.

Preschool Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, February 11, Preschool Mom's Night Out
Thursday, February 13, Preschool Dad's Event
Saturday, February 15, Kids Night Out
Monday, February 17, Preschool Closed (ECE Kallah)

ASP Classes for Puppies and Cool Cats:

ASP Cooking: Mondays, February 3, 10 and 24
ASP Rhythm & Movement: Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18 & 25
ASP Art: Wednesdays, February 5, 12, 19 and 26
ASP Science: Thursdays, February 6, 13, 20 and 27
ASP Photography: Fridays, February 7, 14, and 28

Preschool Photo Gallery

So much joy from playing and working together!



Religious School News

Debbie Deutsch

Director, Religious School
and Youth Programming



With every new year, change is inevitable. Our Religious School is no different. Last month we brought some new things to our curriculum, and we are pleased with our efforts thus far. Standing out as one of our most impactful changes is the addition of our Holocaust curriculum in 6th and 7th grades. Utilizing members of our community and Kennesaw State University, as well as the Echoes and Reflections curriculum, a joint program of the ADL, USC Shoah Foundation, and Yad Vashem, our students are getting a comprehensive introduction to the Holocaust. They are learning terminology through primary sources, inquiry-based learning, and critical thinking. The goal of the lessons is to help foster empathy while contextualizing the history of the event. It's a heavy topic but one we are delving into with forethought and intention.

3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will delve more into their curriculum objectives about Israel. We've learned a bit about the geography from our Shinshin, Amit Ozeri, but we are ready for more. Our goal is to have the students feel a connection to Israel and we are working toward that connection in many ways. We will make the connection between the Temple of long ago and the Kotel, the western wall in Jerusalem. We'll connect our ancestors to the places they lived to what is that location today. We'll bring in our community experts to tell the stories of their connections to the land as a segue way to the concept of peoplehood and our connections as Jews to the land of Israel. This is also new territory for us and we are excited to bring this to our school.

Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades will forge ahead with parsha learning. Although it is called parshat hashavua, the parsha of the week, we know that some Torah portions require and deserve more attention than one Sunday session gives us. Our teachers are methodically covering the stories of Bereshit, Genesis, throughout the year, while 2nd grade is getting ready to tackle the stories of Shemot, the book of Exodus.

And our sweet pre-K class will continue learning about the holidays, mitzvot, and what it means to be Jewish.



Shake it Up Shabbat

(formerly Team Shabbat)

Saturdays February 1
9:30 a.m.

Join us once a month for *Shake it Up Shabbat* morning service for **kindergarten through seventh grade** students and families. The goal of the service is for everyone to become more comfortable in the Radow Sanctuary while those children who choose to do so will lead us in parts of the service. This service and Rabbi Adler's Learners' Minyan replaces last year's Team Shabbat. We look forward to seeing all of our families.



Religious
School
Web Page



M&M Shabbat

Friday, March 7, 6:00 p.m. Service/6:30 p.m. Dinner

Join us for a fun-filled family Shabbat service in Phillip's Library with a dairy dinner to follow in the Hammer-Tritt Social Hall. The cost is \$18 per member family (immediate family) and \$36 for guest families. [Click here](#) to RSVP or scan the QR code.



Mark your calendars for the following events this month:

Saturday, February 1 - Shake It Up Shabbat

Sunday, February 2 – 5th Grade Family Workshop

Sunday, February 9 – Pre-K Class in Session

World Wide Wrap for 6th and 7th Graders

Sunday, February 16, and Tuesday, February 18 – Religious School Closed

Saturday, February 22 - B'nai Mitzvah of Lenny and Samantha Silverstein

Youth Department

Debbie Deutsch

Director, Religious School
and Youth Programming



Youth Department

Membership Information for 2024-2025

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

Costs are as follows:

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

Geshher \$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 January Programming:



Chalutzim (K-2nd GR) - Tu B'Shevat
February 2 from 12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Birthday party for the trees! Games, crafts, cupcakes and lost of fun! RSVP by January 29.



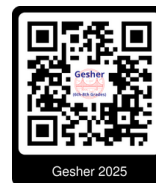
Chaverim (3rd-5th GR) - Tu B'Shevat
February 9 from 12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Adamah Atlanta will be on site for Tu B'Shevat activities. RSVP by February 5.



Geshher (6th-8th GR) - MineCraft
February 23 from 12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

To Chef Jewish Holiday style and a Try Not to Laugh challenge. Come ready to back with your straight face. RSVP by February 19.



Sababa USY (9th-12th GR)
Saturday, February 1, Limo Lock-in

Wacky Wednesdays,
February 5, 12 and 26 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

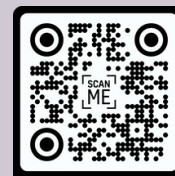
Friday - Sunday, February 28 - March 2, Ein Gedi Sub-Regional Convention,
Birmingham, AL

B'nai Mitzvah



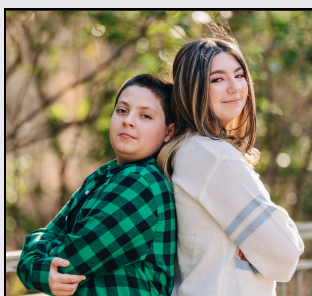
The Voice features information on upcoming B'nai Mitzvah. If your child has a Bar/Bat Mitzvah in the coming months, we would like to feature your child's:

- Biographical information
- School information
- Photo
- D'var Torah Quote
- Mitzvah Project



B'nai Mitzvah

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.



Leonard (Lenny) and Samantha (Sami) Silverstein will be called to the Torah as B'nai Mitzvah on February 22, 2025 - 24 Shevat 5785. They are the children of Phyllis Gothelf Silverstein and Lee Silverstein. Lenny and Sami's B'nai Mitzvah Parsha is Mishpatim. They are 7th graders at Mabry Middle School and have been students in our Religious School for eight years and attended our Preschool for four years. Sami's hobbies and interests include Drama Club, drawing/art, and listening to music. Lenny's hobbies and interests include gaming, Scouts (Troop 1818), and organizing.

Lenny and Sami's D'var Torah quote is "This Torah portion is called Mishpatim, or "laws". There are two important themes: Follow God's 613 mitzvot "commandments" and care for the strangers as we were once strangers in a strange land." For their mitzvah project, Sami is collecting items to help Good Mews Animal Foundation with the cats and kitties. Lenny would like to install solar lighting for the stairs leading from the parking lot to the Bayit so the Sisterhood Board ladies won't fall while walking to and from their cars.

College Connection



Did your college student recently graduate or move to a new apartment? Please let us know!

Mazal tov to our December 2024 graduates! Please update us on their status (especially if they should no longer receive a package). If your student has moved into a new living arrangement, please share their address with us.

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!

Send us your student's information for Care Packages:

[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](https://www.etzchaim.net/get-involved/college-connection/). (<https://www.etzchaim.net/get-involved/college-connection/>)

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



Men's Club



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

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

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

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

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

President: [Mathew Nathan](#), VP: [Clifford Martin](#)

Greetings and Happy 2025 Etz Chaim Congregants,

Men's Club kicked things off in January with our Annual Best Breakfast in Town. We had close to 100 people show up. Judy Marx from the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival presented previews of several of the movies to our Etz Chaim crowd. Special thanks to *Bart Agrow* for coordinating the event and the Men's Club cooking team for managing the kitchen.

Men's Club is working with the Religious School in preparation for the **World Wide Wrap** on **Sunday, February 9**, where we instruct the 6th and 7th graders on how to wrap Tefillin and its significance. This is the first of many educational programs Men's Club will assist with in 2025.

On **February 16**, we will be joining Sisterhood for our annual **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.

Please mark your calendars for the **Men's Club Retreat at Camp Ramah on February 28 – March 2**. First-timers will get a \$100 scholarship to attend. We would love to see some new faces this year!

Watch out for our **Super Bowl Squares** "event". You can find more information on these programs and others in the weekly EtzBlast.

We welcome new and existing congregants to become involved with the Men's Club! Did you know that over 80% of the men in our congregation are members? Do you have a great idea for an event? Please share your thoughts with us. We are actively seeking new ideas from our members to create new opportunities to engage with Men's Club. Your annual membership allows you to attend any of our Men's Club-sponsored programs. You can volunteer to cook or help with any of our events. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact either Mathew Nathan mattynathan@gmail.com or Clifford Martin, cliffordmartin@gmail.com.

Come Out and Enjoy Your Men's Club!

Mathew Nathan, President
Clifford Martin, 1st Vice President
mensclub@etzchaim.net

Mazal Tov to our new Men's Club Board!
See page 19.



**Men's Club
World Wide Wrap**
**Sunday, February 9
10:00 a.m.**

Calling all Men's Club members, join us as we share the mitzvah of wrapping Tefillin with the 6th and 7th grade Religious School students.



MEN'S CLUB GOES TO ATLANTA BRAVES
SUNDAY, MAY 4

Join us for a fun evening as the Atlanta Braves take on the LA Dodgers!

More details will be in the March Voice.



Join Etz Chaim's Men's Club and Sisterhood for a night of trivia, food, and fun!
Sunday, February 16
Let's meet at 6:00 p.m.
Trivia begins at 6:30 p.m.

Appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages will be our treat.
All other items are at your own expense.

RSVP by Friday, February 14 - Limited seating
www.etzchaim.net/events/trivia2025



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

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](mailto:Lauren.Gray@etzchaim.net) for information
giftshop@etzchaim.net.

JNF Trees for Israel:

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

Want to know more about Sisterhood?

Please contact [Helaine Mark](mailto:Helaine.Mark@etzchaim.net) at (404) 353-4589 or [Dani Oren](mailto:Dani.Oren@etzchaim.net) 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.



We are Women's League
Engaging, Enriching and Empowering Jewish Women
Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Sisterhood WhatsApp:

Join our WhatsApp Community and stay connected! You will be able to receive updates, chat with Sisterhood members, and join subgroups organized by topic such as Monthly Minyan and Book Club. Please complete [this form](#) to join our Community. Need assistance? Contact [Karen](mailto:Karen@etzchaim.net) in the synagogue office.

Torah Fund - Support Women's League

Torah Fund supports scholarships and programs in the Conservative Institutes of Higher Jewish Learning. This year's pin, *Am Yisrael Chai* (The People of Israel Live), is a statement of solidarity for our Jewish nation and the continuity of our people. For information on donations and giving levels, contact Sandy Bailey at (770) 490-7874 or by email at jbsandy10@gmail.com.

Mah Jongg Card Orders

Orders must be received by Sunday, February 2. [Click here](#) to order or scan the QR code.

Purim - Mishloach Manot

See page 18 for details.



Join us for our Annual Sisterhood Shabbat
Saturday, February 8
10 Shevat 5785
9:30 a.m.
Radow Sanctuary

"Then Miriam the Prophet, the sister of Aaron, took her Timbrel in her hand, and all the women followed her with timbrels and in dance. And Miriam chanted to them." (Exodus 15: 20-21)

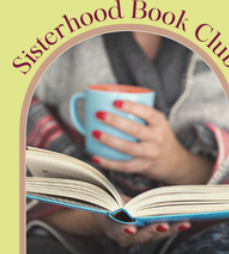
50th Congregation ETZ CHAIM

1190 Indian Hills Pkwy., Marietta, GA 30062



Join us for our monthly book discussion at the Bayit hosted by Linda Ames
Sunday, February 2 at 10:00 a.m.


Sisterhood Book Club



Join us as we discuss the book, *Sadie On A Plate*, by Amanda Elliott

Our next book will be *The Postcard*, by Anne Berest with our discussion on March 2, at the Bayit

For more information and to RSVP, contact [Myra Goldberg](mailto:Myra.Goldberg@etzchaim.net).



Sisterhood Presents: *Sisters and Brothers for Israel* *Why Christians support Israel and the Jewish People*

Tuesday, March 25
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Be a part of this fascinating evening as we discuss our common connections to Israel with Rabbi Dan Dorsch and Cheryl Morrison, board member of JNF Atlanta and a member of Christians United for Israel. This event is open to the entire congregation. Q & A followed by light refreshments.

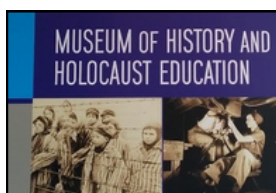
RSVP by March 18 at etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/event/supportisrael



Lilmode: Adult Education



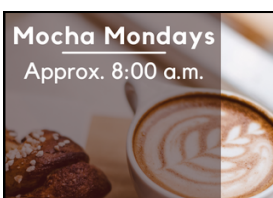
Our goal is to offer programs and classes that provide our congregants with an array of Jewish learning opportunities. We have purposefully chosen a variety of enriching experiences so every member can benefit from courses, classes, and lectures. If you have a class idea for *Lilmode*, please feel free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



Save One Life: Resistance in the Holocaust

at the **KSU Museum of History and Holocaust Education** 3333 Busbee Drive, NW, Kennesaw
Sunday, March 23, from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Lilmode is heading to Kennesaw State University's museum for an informative field trip! Join us for a captivating speaker session and a guided tour of the exhibit. Remember, admission and parking are free! Just bring your passion for learning and your own transportation. To RSVP, simply [click here](#) or scan the QR code. We can't wait to explore with you!



Mocha Monday with Rabbi Dorsch

Monthly Coffee and Breakfast

Monday, February 3, after morning minyan, approximately 8:00 a.m. in Hammer-Tritt Social Hall 3

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



Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Dorsch Monthly Discussion and Pizza

Tuesday at noon

February 11, at US Bank, Virginia Highlands Conference Room

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.



Weekly Torah Study with the Rabbi

Thursdays 10:00 a.m., Hammer-Tritt Social Hall

February 6, 13, 20 & 27

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



Monthly Torah Study at Huntcliff

Thursday, February 6, at 11:30 a.m.

All are welcome to attend the monthly Torah Study hosted by Huntcliff Summit I - Independent Living, located on 8592 Roswell Road, Sandy Springs, 30350



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](#).

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/Social Action 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 2025

As a congregation, this is 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.

If you have any questions, please reach out to [Angela Nothdurft](#), or (240) 476-5758.



Save these Dates

ART FOR A MITZVAH IS RETURNING!

We are planning four sessions to make a Keepsake Box.
Look for an email with the details to follow.

1:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, February 19 and 26

March 5 and 12

Led by Lynne Johannesen and Miriam Rosenbaum

RSVP: etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/event/2025art4mitzvah



 **HUNGER
WALKRUN**
IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL EVENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

at The Home Depot Backyard



For more information and to join or sponsor Etz Chaim's Team, go to www.tinyurl.com/hungerwalk2025, scan the QR code or contact our Team Captain, Bob Frohlich, at chisakid@bellsouth.net.

Golden Anniversary Celebration



As we approach 2025, we are planning many meaningful ways to celebrate our golden anniversary as a congregation. For more information about our celebration, contact our Celebration co-chairs, Bob Bachrach and Barney Epstein.

We are currently seeking items for our silent auction.

Substantial items such as art, vacation homes, airline mileage, professional services, etc., for our silent auction are wanted. If you or a friend or relative have a local business or a service to be auctioned, any help with these type of donations would be appreciated!

Save the Date

Golden Anniversary Celebration

50
Congregation
ETZ CHAIM

לדור ודור
L'dor V'dor

Sunday, April 27
5:30 p.m.
Congregation Etz Chaim
Hammer-Tritt Social Hall

Open Bar | Dinner
Live Band & Dancing
\$50 per person
FREE Babysitting with RSVP

To purchase an ad in our
Ad Journal & Membership Directory
go to www.tinyurl.com/CEC50years



Golden Anniversary Celebration 2025 Ad Journal and Membership Directory

Advertiser Name _____ Business Name _____
 Contact Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____
 Advertiser Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____

Select the size of ad to be purchased:

Full Page
(8" H x 5" W)

- Benefactor** \$2,000
- Platinum Patron** \$1,250
- Gold Patron** \$1,000
- Silver Patron** \$750
- Patron** \$500

Eighth Page
(1.75" H x 2.33" W)

- Eighth Page** \$75
- Shout Out**
(18 words or less)
- Shout Out** \$18

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Contract Received: _____
 Art Work Received: _____
 Date Ad Paid by: _____
 Check
 Credit Card

Half Page
(3.75" H x 5" W)

- Half Page** \$300
Horizontal

Quarter Page
(3.75" H x 2.5" W)

- Quarter Page** \$180
Vertical

Cover Options
(8" H x 5" W)

- Back Cover** \$5,500
- Inside Front Cover** \$4,000
- Inside Front Facing** \$3,500
- Inside Back Cover** \$3,500
- Inside Back Facing** \$3,000

Please check one:

- Business Ad**
- Personal Greeting/Ad**
- Shout-out (Max. 18 words)**

Please check all that apply:

- Black & White Ad (standard)**
- Full-color Ad \$75 (additional)**
- Graphic Design Assistance \$25**
(if we are creating your business ad)
- Same advertisement as last year**
- Submitting a high-resolution family photo**

Check Enclosed (Payable to Etz Chaim) Amount _____ Check Number _____ **Bill My Account**

Credit Card (Visa, MC, or AmEx only) Amount _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV (3 digit code) _____

Card Number _____

Please attach your text for greeting submission. Contracts should be submitted to bernice@etzchaim.net.

Please submit all images in a high-resolution (minimum 300dpi) .jpg or .png format.

For questions regarding the Ad Journal, contact Bernice Isaac, (770) 973-0137

To purchase your ad online, go to <https://tinyurl.com/CEC50years>

1190 Indian Hills Parkway, Marietta, Georgia 30068 | Ph: (770) 973-0137 | Fax: (770) 977-0829

Condolences and Yahrzeits



Our Condolences

- To Adam Katz on the passing of his beloved mother, Alene Katz
- To Michelle Grey on the passing of her beloved father, Stanley Katz, and to Hailee Yarus and Daniel Grey on the passing of their grandmother
- To Kathy Schwartz on the passing of her beloved mother and congregant, Anita Freedman
- To Stephen King on the passing of his beloved wife and congregant, Joan King, and to Lisa Coleman and Traci Thaler on the passing of their beloved mother, and grandmother to Grace Coleman, Jolie Thaler and Mitzi Thaler

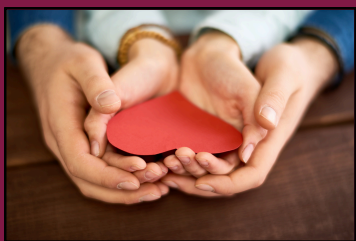
We Remember

- 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.

February Yahrzeits

1-Feb Jay Schulberg 3 Shevat	11-Feb Maxine Small 13 Shevat	20-Feb Miriam Kaye 22 Shevat
1-Feb Julius Pomerantz 3 Shevat	*11-Feb Sam Szeftel 13 Shevat	20-Feb Paul Russman 22 Shevat
1-Feb Sylvia Fogel 3 Shevat	11-Feb Sydney Barber 13 Shevat	*21-Feb Jack Agrow 23 Shevat
2-Feb James Vines 4 Shevat	12-Feb Elaine Shapiro 14 Shevat	22-Feb Joan Rabin 24 Shevat
2-Feb Marsha Blatt 4 Shevat	12-Feb Jeanette Katz 14 Shevat	22-Feb Louis Simon 24 Shevat
2-Feb Ron Patinkin 4 Shevat	12-Feb Rose Wexler 14 Shevat	*22-Feb Marilyn Kirschner 24 Shevat
2-Feb Sandra Sandrowitz 4 Shevat	*12-Feb Sarah Graiser 14 Shevat	23-Feb Alan Goldsmith 25 Shevat
*2-Feb Sarah Yucht 4 Shevat	13-Feb Charles Wexler 15 Shevat	23-Feb Barbara Baer 25 Shevat
*3-Feb Louis Siegel 5 Shevat	*13-Feb Donald M. Sencer 15 Shevat	23-Feb Gertrude Wilensky 25 Shevat
*3-Feb Ron Toron 5 Shevat	13-Feb Eddie Masters 15 Shevat	*23-Feb Harry Lutzky 25 Shevat
*3-Feb Rose Bernknopf 5 Shevat	*13-Feb Ruth Richman 15 Shevat	23-Feb Stephen Schwartz 25 Shevat
3-Feb Zelda Moog 5 Shevat	14-Feb Sandy Zelony 16 Shevat	23-Feb William Bernstein 25 Shevat
*4-Feb Ira Altfeder 6 Shevat	*15-Feb Bernard Cohen 17 Shevat	23-Feb William Reiss 25 Shevat
4-Feb Lucille Ehrlich 6 Shevat	15-Feb Helen Salamon 17 Shevat	24-Feb Beverly W. Isaac 26 Shevat
4-Feb Samuel Kahn 6 Shevat	*15-Feb Leo Altfeder 17 Shevat	24-Feb Harry Shrago 26 Shevat
*4-Feb Steven Krodman 6 Shevat	15-Feb Lionel Schlosberg 17 Shevat	*24-Feb Hermine Bachrach 26 Shevat
5-Feb Leona Weiner 7 Shevat	15-Feb Samuel Scopp 17 Shevat	24-Feb Leon Epstein 26 Shevat
5-Feb Marilyn Mayers 7 Shevat	15-Feb Sidney Itzkowitz 17 Shevat	24-Feb Leon Kroungold 26 Shevat
5-Feb Rae Weiss 7 Shevat	16-Feb Ira Segal 18 Shevat	24-Feb Nathan Greenstein 26 Shevat
*6-Feb Dorothy Goldstein 8 Shevat	*16-Feb Selda K. Slater 18 Shevat	24-Feb Sheila Zager 26 Shevat
*6-Feb Harold Stiller 8 Shevat	16-Feb Sylvia Berman 18 Shevat	25-Feb Barry Nathan 27 Shevat
*6-Feb Ruth Lutzky 8 Shevat	*17-Feb Annette Krugman 19 Shevat	25-Feb Cynthia Freeman 27 Shevat
7-Feb Estelle Marsand 9 Shevat	17-Feb Elsie Simon 19 Shevat	25-Feb Estelle Weinberger 27 Shevat
7-Feb Ethel Chernow 9 Shevat	*17-Feb Louise "Fuz" Spector 19 Shevat	26-Feb Clara Beker 28 Shevat
7-Feb Henia Mayers 9 Shevat	*18-Feb Adam Cadranel 20 Shevat	26-Feb Herbert Sackett 28 Shevat
7-Feb Manny Riesenber 9 Shevat	18-Feb Bernard Levine 20 Shevat	26-Feb Loretta Katz 28 Shevat
7-Feb Robbie Goldin 9 Shevat	*18-Feb David Greenspon 20 Shevat	*27-Feb Bernard Seidman 29 Shevat
8-Feb Alexander Freeman 10 Shevat	18-Feb Dorothy Smith 20 Shevat	*27-Feb Deborah Jane Slater Cohen 29 Shevat
8-Feb Irvan "Van" Pearlberg 10 Shevat	18-Feb Irving Sackler 20 Shevat	27-Feb Lillian Cohen 29 Shevat
9-Feb Gertrude Olens 11 Shevat	19-Feb Emery Gray 21 Shevat	27-Feb Richard Bachrach 29 Shevat
*9-Feb Nathan Rosenzweig 11 Shevat	*19-Feb Grace King 21 Shevat	27-Feb Sylvia Bernstein 29 Shevat
10-Feb Christopher Hassey 12 Shevat	*19-Feb Jeffrey Donner 21 Shevat	28-Feb Mildred Peskin 30 Shevat
10-Feb Anna Walpin 12 Shevat	19-Feb Seymour A. Ziskend 21 Shevat	28-Feb Phoebe Birch 30 Shevat
*10-Feb William Galin 12 Shevat	20-Feb Alan Medof 22 Shevat	28-Feb Leonard Klein 30 Adar I
11-Feb Bernard Levit 13 Shevat	20-Feb Jerome Karp 22 Shevat	
*11-Feb Carol Carola 13 Shevat	20-Feb Millie Loewy 22 Shevat	

Our Caring Community



How Can We Help?

The Chesed Committee is expanding to help you navigate life's challenging times.

Shalom Baby!

שלום תינוק

Hello Baby!

Honorary Bubbes & Zaydes

Grand Mothers & Fathers

Lev El Lev

לב אל לב

Heart to Heart

Yad V'Yad

יד בידי

Hand in Hand

Bikkur Cholim

ביקור חולים

Visiting the ill

Nefesh L'Nefesh

נפש לנפש

Soul to Soul

Contact Rabbi Dorsch at (770) 973-0137 or rabbidorsch@etzchaim.net to see how the Chesed Committee can help YOU or someone in your immediate family! Confidentiality respected.

IS THERE A NEW BABY IN YOUR HOUSE?

Shalom Baby!

Once the synagogue has been notified, we're here to provide a warm welcome to the newest member of your family. We can suggest resources for a brit milah or a simchat bat, provide some nourishment for the whole family during those hectic first days and even provide your little one with some Etz Chaim "merch"!

DO YOUR CHILDREN NEED A LOCAL GRANDPARENT?

Honorary Bubbes and Zaydes (Grandmothers and Grandfathers)

Sometimes grandparents live too far away for regular visits or even visits on special occasions; even local grandparents are sometimes unavailable. If you'd like your child or children to have the special gift of connection with a local bubbe or zayde, a savta or saba, we can arrange it!

WOULD YOU WELCOME A VISIT FROM A NEW FRIEND?

Lev El Lev (Heart to Heart)

Sometimes illness, age, the death of a spouse or partner – even a new move to this area – can leave us feeling isolated and lonely. If you'd welcome the chance to meet a new friend, share a cup of coffee and maybe some life stories, we'd be happy to provide that friend for you!

DON'T FIGHT A MEDICAL BATTLE ALONE

Yad B'Yad (Hand in Hand)

If you're facing or battling a medical challenge, walk down that road hand-in-hand with someone who's already made that journey. A member of our congregation who has faced a similar medical issue can provide information, tips and other resources as you navigate the road ahead.

WOULD A VISIT LIFT YOUR SPIRITS?

Bikkur Cholim (Visiting the Ill)

Time in the hospital, in rehab or during recuperation at home can be very long. A visit from a member of our congregation who comes with a smile -- and maybe even a joke or two -- can help break the boredom.

HAS A LOVED ONE PASSED AWAY?

Nefesh L'Nefesh (Soul to Soul)

After the synagogue has been notified of the death of a congregant or a congregant's loved one, Nefesh L'Nefesh volunteers arrange a meal for the immediate family of the deceased after an in-town funeral. (Those congregants who observe shiva at home after an out-of-town funeral receive a fruit platter.) With our rabbis, we can also provide both short-and long-term resources to help you deal with loss and grief.

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.



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](#).



Koffee & Kibbitz

Sponsored by AgeWell and Etz Chaim

Tuesday, February 25

10:30 a.m. Have some koffee and kibbitz

11:00 a.m. Presentation "Why a King?" with Miriam Rosenbaum

How did ancient Israel go from being led by a prophet, to being led by a warrior, to being led by The Judges, and end up with a monarch? And why was Saul chosen to be the first king of Israel?

Parallels can be found between the creation of governments in the ancient world with the world we live in today. Studying the texts of the biblical books of Judges and Samuel, we will discover what led to the establishment of the Israelite monarchy. A chilling tale of chaos, disunity, war and the near total destruction of the tribe of Benjamin, by fellow Israelites! For more information, contact Ashley Maloy at amaloy@jfcSATL.org.



HAVDALAH AND SING-ALONG

Saturday, March 8
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Hammer Pavilion
(rain plan ~ Phillip's Library)

Join the Prime Timers For a camp-style Havdalah and sing-along.

- Firepit
- S'mores
- Light Snacks
- Hot Chocolate & Hot Apple Cider
- Sing-along to great tunes

RSVP: etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/event/HavdalahSingAlong

Congregation Etz Chaim | 1190 Indian Hills Pkwy. | Marietta, GA 30068



Our Etz Chaim Community



Have News You'd Like to Share?

Please submit community news to [Bernice Isaac](#) in the synagogue office.

Mazal Tov Wishes

- Elyse and David Shaw on the engagement of their daughter, Bekah, to Shane Quinonez
- Lara Rush and Amy Mittleberg on for being installed as Board Members of Metulla Hadassah. Lara is the incoming co-president.

Shout Outs

- Kol HaKavod to Milo Medof, son of Alli and Billy Medof, for his participation in the 50th Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Commemorative Service. He was part of the student presentations with words of MLK, Jr., "Freedom, Justice & Democracy".
- Thank you to our office volunteers: Ron Judenberg, Michael Karp, Keith Kirshner, and Linda Weinroth
- Thank you to the "office recycling team" for their weekly collection of paper

Email Updates

- Gilad Moyal | gilad2908@gmail.com

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](#) to schedule a Shabbat honor.

Mazal Tov to our incoming Men's Club Board!



Officers

President: [Mathew Nathan](#)
1st Vice President: [Clifford Martin](#)
VP, Membership: [John Chaifetz](#)
VP, Engagement: [Steven Caras](#)
VP, Programming: [Bart Agrow](#)
Treasurer: [Richard Millman](#)
Recording Secretary: [Chuck Bernstein](#)
Parliamentarian: [R. Bryan Coleman](#)

Trustees

[Jerry Cohen](#)
[Steven Dix](#)
[Joseph Goldstein](#)
[Alan Lightstone](#)
[Hank Needle](#)
[Barry Riesenber](#)
[Bruce Rosenblum](#)
[Mathias Salamon](#)
[Jack Weinstein](#)



Pictured L to R: Sheri Rosenblum, author Mimi Zieman and Myra Goldberg pose for a photo at their January Sisterhood Book Club.

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](#).

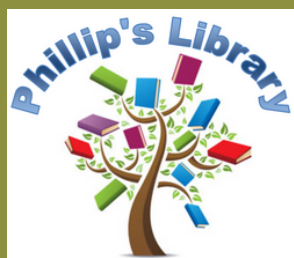
Follow us on [Facebook](#).

Mutation Brewing - Trivia Night

5825 Roswell Rd., NE, Sandy Springs, 30328

Wednesday, February 19, from 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

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

Stop by Phillip's Library and browse our wide selection of books for children, teenagers and adults. Look up books anytime in our online catalog also found on the Etz Chaim website: etzchaimlibrary.follettdestiny.com

Just follow the directions on the circulation desk for self-check-out. There is a slot on the circulation desk for book returns.

Looking for some interesting new recipes or the history of Jewish southern cooking? Why not check out one of the cookbooks in the library at Etz Chaim in the 641.5 nonfiction section.

Here are a few of our great books related to Jewish cooking:

Hip Kosher: 175 Easy-to-Prepare Recipes for Today's Kosher Cooks by Ronnie Fein. This cookbook has simple, quick, easy to prepare contemporary dishes featuring fresh ingredients that all will enjoy, whether you cook kosher or not. (641.5 FEI)

Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South by Marcie Cohen Ferris. This is more of a history book than a cookbook. Full of insightful stories about different Southern towns, with over 30 recipes included as well, this is an interesting read. Read this book to find out how there can be such a thing as Southern Jewish cooking when the laws of kashrut, governing what foods Jews may or may not eat, forbid such staples of southern kitchens as pork, shrimp, oysters, and crab. (641.5 FER)

Zahav: A World of Israeli Cooking by Michael Solomonov and Steven Cook. Last but not least, our newest cookbook. This is a gorgeous book full of amazing recipes with fascinating stories accompanying them. The hummus recipe has received many rave reviews. (641.5 SOL)

Want a cookbook to cook fun recipes for the Jewish holidays with your children? Look in the children's section under J 641.5.

THINKING ABOUT KEEPING A KOSHER HOME? Check out one of these websites:

[Kashrut - The Digital Home for Conservative Judaism](#)

[Keeping Kosher Archives](#) | [My Jewish Learning](#)

Roots Groups

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

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



Schmooze on Zoom

Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m.

If you are looking for a place to chat and make social connections with friendly, non-aggressive chit-chat, we are looking for you!

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

All are welcome...anyone of any age, looking to connect with others. If you are looking for some adult 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: 847 2190 3334 PW: 789726 or scan the QR code to the right. Questions? Contact [Esther Shultz](#), facilitator.



Holiday Information



Tu B'Shevat 5785/2025

Sunday, February 2, 3:00 p.m.

Sisterhood's "Toasting, Tasting and Talking" A Women's Tu B'Shevat Experience

Purim 5785/2025

Sunday, March 9, 11:30 a.m.

Purim Carnival

Thursday, March 13

Pirates of Persia Purim Celebration

5:45 p.m. Dinner

6:15 p.m. Purim Parade

6:30 p.m. Chanting of Megillat Esther

Friday, March 14, 8:00 a.m.

Purim Seudah with Dr. Yizhar Hess, Vice Chairman of the WZO



Purim is coming...

It's time to order Mishloach Manot!

Start making your lists to fulfill the mitzvah of giving Mishloach Manot and supporting our community through Etz Chaim's Sisterhood. What better way to connect with our kehillah than by sending these gift bags!



Ordering is easy:

- All members will be sent a unique code to use on HappyPurim.com
- Select your recipients, enter your payment info, and you're done!
- Online ordering has begun! The form closes on February 26.

Mishloach Manot will again be DELIVERED within 18 miles of Etz Chaim!

Questions? Contact Allison Saffran or Shari Judenberg at etzmm1@gmail.com



AHOY MATEYS!

DON'T BE A "SCURVY DOG"
OR YOU'LL WALK THE PLANK!

JOIN US FOR OUR

PIRATE THEMED PURIM CARNIVAL

MARCH 09 AT 11:45 AM
AT CONGREGATION ETZ CHAIM

11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Come early for a sensory-friendly experience
12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Carnival opens to all!

Festivities include a children's costume contest with prizes, carnival games, inflatables, raffle prizes, lunch for purchase, hamantaschen, popcorn and more!

Advanced admission bracelets are \$15.00 per child if purchased by Thursday, March 6. \$20.00 per child at the door. **RSVP: etzchaimatl.shulcloud.com/event/PurimCarnival2025**



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

Upcoming Community Events

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

THE LIMITS OF TIKKUN OLAM & THE POWER OF JEWISH PEOPLEHOOD



Where We've Strayed in Our Mission and a Plan to Get Back on Track

Discussion led by Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch and presented by The Dupree



Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch
Stephen Wise Free
Synagogue NYC



Rabbi Ben Atwood
Congregation
Ohr HaTorah



Rabbi Dan Dorsch
Congregation
Etz Chaim



Rabbi Samantha Trief
Temple Sinai

FEBRUARY 11 | 6:30 - 8:30 PM | CONGREGATION B'NAI TORAH

RSVP: [THEDUPREE.ORG](https://thedupree.org)

\$18 per person registration donation for Amplify Israel

in partnership with



SAVE THE DATE



60th Annual Community-Wide Holocaust Commemoration

Sunday, April 27, 2025 | 11:00 a.m. Rain or Shine
at the Memorial to the Six Million located inside
Greenwood Cemetery



Vote Mercaz

5 MINUTES. 5 DOLLARS. 5 REASONS.

Why you should vote MERCAZ USA in elections to the World Zionist Congress.
Polls are open online between March 10th and May 4th.

1. **Voting MERCAZ USA** helps deliver \$25 million for Conservative congregations like yours as well as organizations like Ramah, USY, Sisterhoods, Men's Clubs, and more.
2. **Voting MERCAZ USA** delivers millions to the Masorti Movement and its institutions in Israel, helping promote pluralism and shape an Israel that's a welcoming home for each and every kind of Jew.
3. **Voting MERCAZ USA** strengthens pro-democracy forces in Israel by making it clear that world Jewry supports protecting democracy in the Jewish state. Your vote also delivers support for key civil society organizations and helps promote gender and LGBTQ+ equality in Israel and the Jewish world.
4. **Voting MERCAZ USA** will make sure that KKL/JNF's \$2 billion budget goes not to extremists' pet projects, but to those who need it most: the communities hardest hit on October 7th. We'll also ensure our hostages and their families are taken care of through the government's Hostages and Hostages Family Directorate, which is now under the auspices of the WZO.
5. **Voting MERCAZ USA** prevents a takeover of the Jewish Agency by ultra-Orthodox extremists, which would endanger the ability of so many in our communities to make Aliyah and be recognized as Jewish in the Jewish state. It would also put our ability to fund shlichim and shinshinim in our communities at risk.

Voting is a simple, online process that takes just five minutes and five dollars

COMMUNITY CODE: 402



Scan the QR, or visit mercazusa.org/votemercaz2025 where you can click to sign up for a reminder to vote from your community's MERCAZ captain - make sure to enter your community code.



mercazusa.org

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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.

Tzedakah / Donations

Cynthia R. Freeman Memorial Endowment

In loving memory of:

my mother, Rita Freeman. We miss you every day.

Alan and Lisa Freeman

In memory of:

my mother, Rita Freeman, beloved mother, wife, grandmother and friend. You are missed.

Joseph and Lori Freeman

Gertrude and Joe Wilensky Memorial Endowment

In celebration of:

the engagement of Madelyn Chernau to Noah Medwed. Mazel Tov. We are so very happy for you both.

Lynn and Bob Sustak

Barbara S. Wilensky's 80th birthday

Marc and Ellie Weinstein

In loving memory of:

our brother, Larry Scopp

Frank and Barbara Wilensky

Phillip Michael Silverman Memorial Endowment

In memory of:

Lee and Sidney Silverman on their yahrzeits. We love you. Your grandchildren -

Bonnie, Alan and great grand Laura Silverman

Reba and Bob Bachrach Education Endowment

In loving memory of:

Shirley Hammer

Reba and Bob Bachrach

In memory of:

Alene Katz

Robert and Reba Bachrach

Wishing Mazel Tov to:

Madelyn Chernau and Noah Medwed on their engagement.

Reba and Bob Bachrach

Sisterhood Endowment Fund

In loving memory of:

my sweet granddaughter, Riea Madeline Howell. You left us too soon. I think of you every day with such love. Ama

Paula L. Coplon

Rabbi Dorsch Discretionary Fund

Barney Epstein

Stanley and Luci Sunshine

In appreciation of:

our grandson's Brit Milah

Ava and Irwin Weitz

Janice Levine for bringing me home after Book Club

Marsha Bernstein

Rabbi Dorsch. Thank you for the kindness that you and the members of the congregation have extended to me during my recent visits.

It is my desire that these funds assist someone in need. With that said, feel free to utilize these funds as you see fit.

Eric Young

Rabbi Dorsch for leading Torah study at Huntcliff

Marvin and Barbara Fellner

In celebration of:

Bob Beer's milestone 70th birthday

Sheri and Bruce Rosenblum

In honor of:

Karen and Hank Needle on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Reuben Needle. Mazel Tov!

Linda and Stan Bernknopf

In loving memory of:

Burnet Mendelsohn

Faye and Craig Lebish

Robert Rothstein, a dear brother and uncle

Jana and Brad Ross and Family

my mother, Diana Regitsky

Jon and Stacy Regitsky

Albert Sandak

Larry Sandak

Barbara Chardkoff Rabhan

Mindy and Louis Kandel

In memory of:

my mother-in-law, Eva Levine

my son, Robert Colman

Barnet Colman

Judy Engel

Donald and Susie Sommer

Shirley Hammer

Frank and Barbara Wilensky

my husband, Norman Mehlman

Marsha Mehlman

Contributions processed from
December 16, 2024 - January 15, 2025

my beloved son, Robert Rothstein on his
yahrzeit

Sandra Rothstein

Anne Schulman

Steve and Judy Greenberg

Rabbi Lewis Discretionary Fund

In celebration of:

our grandson's Brit Milah

Ava and Irwin Weitz

In memory of:

my brother from another mother, Jay Tinter. RIP.

Andrew and Jayne Becker

my father, John D. Brindle

Robert and Sandra Brindle

Shirley Hammer, a woman of valor

Shimon Lipsky

Backpack Buddies Fund

In appreciation of:

Angela Nothdurft for the stellar way she has handled the Backpack Buddies program.

Your work is a shining star for the shul.

Bob and Sheri Frohlich

Marty Gilbert. A huge thank you to Marty for all his help at the High Holidays.

Janice and Richard Etscovitz

In loving memory of:

my mother, Mae Slone Reich on her yahrzeit

Joanne Reicher

Charlie Jassen, the greatest dad, Grampa, Great-Grampa and role model around!

You would be so proud of "LA Familia!"

With love,

Karen and Hank Needle

In memory of:

my father, Irving Funk, and my husband, Harry Shrago, pillars of my life

Marsha Shrago

my father, Morris Shapiro, on his yahrzeit

Randy and Debbi Chartash

my beloved father, Abraham Etscovitz

Richard and Janice Etscovitz

my mother, Marion Pearlberg

Ronnie Dinin

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Martine Bookman

Bernice Mellman

Tzedakah / Donations

Contributions processed from
December 16, 2024 - January 15, 2025

Building Enhancement Fund

In loving memory of:

Libby Crystal, one of the greatest aunts
Craig and Susan Adair

In memory of:

Shirley Hammer. We wish to extend our sincere condolences to Jack and the entire family on Shirley's passing.

Jessica and Jeff Brown

General Fund

Rick and Peggy Bernstein

In loving memory of:

my dad, Al Gelb, who created the slogan "All roads lead to Poughkeepsie!"

Cheryl Eppsteiner

my father, Ed Lemer

Lawrence and Nancy Lemer

my grandmother, Minnie Altholtz
Linda Bernknopf

my nephew, Ross Kaplowitz, on his yahrzeit
Mitch and Arlene Manning

my father, Paul Radow

Norman and Lindy Radow

my mother, Marcia Karol

Richard J. Karol MD

In memory of:

Shirley Rivchun. Remembering the life of my dear mom. Her life touched so many and brought much happiness. She lives inside me always.

Ron Toron. Always on my mind, forever in my heart. I was given a gift forever how long of having you.

Suzanne Rivchun and David Lieberman

Carol Carola

James and Joan Skesavage, Jr.

Alan Danis

Malcolm Lewis

Kenneth and Jodi Danis

Lillian Rosengarten. We miss you.

Lou, Elliott Rosengarten and Debbie Deutsch

Shirley Hammer

Michael Reiner

Luci and Stan Sunshine

Kitchen Fund

In loving memory of:

my mother, Marcia Karol. You are in my thoughts daily, Mom.

Sandy Bailey

Linda H. Weinroth Education Fund

In loving memory of:

Evelyn Ebel

Lynn Sustak

Phillip's Library Fund

In loving memory of:

my maternal aunt, Doris StOURS

my maternal grandmother, Bubby Ethel Glushakow

Neda Gayle

In memory of:

Beatrice Davis

David and Madeline Rothbard

In honor of:

Bonnie and Alan Silverman, Happy Chanukah. Love, Phillip's Bubbe

Barbara Feerman

Preschool Fund

In appreciation of:

David Lieberman and Suzanne Rivchun

Sai Mukkamala

In honor of:

our Aliyah during Rosh Hashanah

Steven and Linda Horovitz

Robert Klein Memorial Chesed Fund

In appreciation of:

Joe Ziskend

Marcy Graiser

In loving memory of:

my dad, Irwin Sisselman. It's been 5 years since we've been together, and I miss you every day.

Jayne Becker

In memory of:

my father, Bennett Teitelman

our aunt, Joyce Lewis

Barry and Joyce Teitelman

Sisterhood Fund

In memory of:

our dear grandparents, Basha and Ruben Plotkin, on their yahrzeits. We love and miss you very much.

Jerold and Barbara Mayer

Social Action Fund

In celebration of:

Bob Beer's 70th Birthday - Happy Birthday!

Linda and Kenny Pollock

Wishing Mazal Tov to:

Bill and Jenifer Lieberbaum on the marriage of their son Jordon to Lamiae. We wish them all the best.

Bob and Sheri Frohlich

Steven Krodman Men's Club Scholarship Fund

Wishing a speedy recovery to:

Marsha Bernstein

Judy and Joel Schancupp

Youth Fund

In honor of:

Kayla Kleinman

Rosalind Reiss

In memory of:

Gloria Wilensky

Louis Rosengarten



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BYOM for Kiddush lunch to reduce our paper goods footprint.

- Your name will be placed on your mug (using an oil-based paint pen).
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- 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.

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Contact Aram at the synagogue.

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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.



WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

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

Options include:

- ◆ A simple bequest in a will or trust
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- ◆ 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

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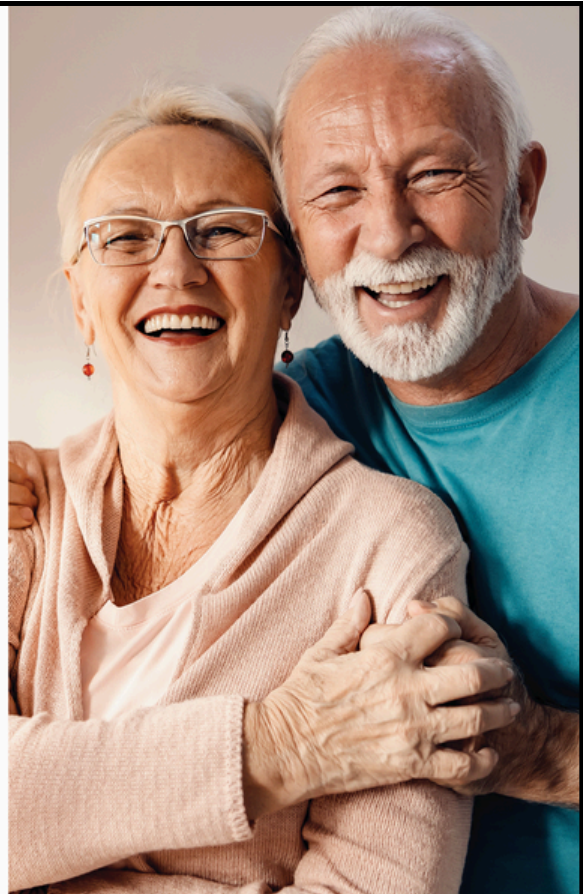
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