



**Representative Bill Pascrell
9th Congressional District Representative
Will be our guest at services over Zoom on
Shabbat Morning, January 8th**

Just 2 days after the first anniversary of the breach of the Capitol Building, the Congressman will share his experiences with us.

To attend: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89446247890>
[pwd=ZIVNdmtnZTNxalJxV1g0U25zQjhPdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89446247890)

Participant ID/Passcode: 585121 (if required)

Dial in: 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 894 4624 7890#

More information on page 4

Our Torah Members

We honor these generous individuals who have chosen to help those Synagogue members who are less fortunate and in need of assistance. They have voluntarily elected to contribute dues at a higher level in order to assist other Jews .

ETERNAL LIGHT MEMBERS

Our Eternal Light members have generously added \$1,000 to their synagogue membership dues in order to provide assistance to our other congregants who are enduring financial hardship.

Anonymous
Steven & Suzette Kolitch
David Korn



Marvin & Judith Platt
Joni Rosen
Myrna Weissman

CHAI MEMBERS

Our Chai members have generously added \$500 to their synagogue membership dues in order to provide assistance to our other congregants who are enduring financial hardship.

Anonymous
Seymour Blechman
Martin & Rochelle Carus
Mercy Cohen
Iris Coleman
Harvey & Barbara Fishman
Regina Friedman

Hilda Froelke
Heidi Skolnik & Michael Glantz
Sylvia Gosberg
Seymour & Nancy Green
Daniel Kraut & Eve Kohut
Irwin & Karen Meyers
Larry Lesh & Terry Gottlieb
Stephen & Merilee Obstbaum

Hennie Ostrower
Abraham Ravid
Ann Rosenberg
Richard & Nancy Schiff
Mike & Sally Seymour
Norm & Florence Silverberg
Barbara & Barry Sussman

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Our President's Council



Our President's Council was established to honor "Our Leadership Donors" who contribute \$1,250 or more to our *Kol Nidre Annual Fund*.

These generous individuals are the "Financial Guardians" of our synagogue.

GUARDIAN LEADERS *Gifts of \$25,000 and above*

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * Reggie Feuerstein | Joseph Lempel <i>a"h</i> | William & Helen Tobenkin <i>a"h</i> |
| * Steven & Suzette Kolitch | | Congregation Sons of Israel |

CHAI-FOUNDERS *Gifts of \$18,000 - \$24,999*

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| * Anonymous (1) | * Gary & Lisa Maier |
|-----------------|---------------------|

FOUNDERS *Gifts of \$10,000 - \$17,999*

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Kenneth Feldman <i>a"h</i> | Manfred & Renee Gruenspecht Fund |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|

BENEFACTORS *Gifts of \$5,000 - \$9,999*

Sisterhood

PATRONS *Gifts of \$2,500 - \$4,999*

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Regina Friedman | Alice & Arnold Grodman | Loren & Lori Wasserman |
| | Nancy & Richard Schiff | |

BUILDERS *Gifts of \$1,750 - \$2,499*

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|
| <i>Anonymous (2)</i> | Laurie Singer | Joni Rosen |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|

SUSTAINERS *Gifts of \$1,250 - \$1,749*

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Anonymous (3)</i> | Irith & Arnie Insler | * Richard & Nancy Schiff |
| Mark & Audrey Altschul | Ruth Korn | Norm & Florence Silverberg |
| Ethel Chesen | David Korn | Ellen Yuder |
| Iris Coleman | * Leo Rettig | |

* Charter Members - Indicates annual contributions since 1995.

JANUARY HAPPENINGS



Congressman Bill Pascrell Jr.-- January 8

As traumatic as her experiences may have been, I really didn't want to hear what happened to Alexandria Ocasio Cortez on January 6, 2021; I wanted to hear what our Congressman, Bill

Pascrell experienced. After giving him 2 months to center himself, I started emailing his office (and also some of his staff directly) regularly to invite him to join our shul over Zoom to tell us exactly what he witnessed. Most of my emails went unanswered, a few directed me to contact others in Pascrell's office, but nothing came of any of them. Until...December 7! My persistence finally paid off: the Congressman's Chief of Staff finally signed off on my request.

Given the timing, I thought I'd make the most of the return call's proximity to the first anniversary of the breach of the Capitol Building. **Congressman Bill Pascrell will join us (via Zoom) on Shabbat morning, January 8, 2022!**

I still don't know where the Congressman was when the Building was breached (on the Floor of the House? in the passageways? in his office?), what he saw or heard, but I would remind you that even though none of us were in the Twin Towers on 9/11, many of us nevertheless have compelling stories to tell about what happened to us or to our acquaintances.

Let me also take this opportunity to tell you that our Representative is very much his own person! He regularly says, "If you don't like my positions, you can vote for my opponent in the next election." Having lobbied him regularly as part of my participation in the AIPAC Policy Conference, he rarely tips his hand, but promises that he will look into proposed legislation, and he never co-sponsors pro-Israel bills. The truth is, that even as he refuses to be characterized as pro-Israel, but calls them as he sees them, the Congressman's voting record speaks for itself. Unless something shifts dramatically, we have a friend in Bill Pascrell.

I hope you will join us in person at CBIOTP (by making advance arrangements with Debbie Mullholland, agreeing to be masked throughout the service and fully "vaxxed") or over Zoom at 10:30 am on the 8th. We will be using the regular zoom link for all of our prayer services:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89446247890?pwd=ZlVNdmtNZTNxalJxVlIlg0U25zQjhPdzo9>

Participant ID/Passcode: 585121 (if required)

**Dial in: 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 894 4624
7890#**

Tu B'Shevat Seder--January 17

We didn't attempt a congregational Tu B'Shevat Seder last year largely because my own experience with a Zoomed Passover Seder in 2020 (shortly after the onset of the pandemic) was so depressing with a plague raging right outside our doors!. But with more than a year of Zooming and distancing under our belts, 2021's Passover Seder was a much better experience and felt so much more "normal".

So I am pleased to invite you to join us for a congregational Tu B'Shevat Seder on Monday, January 17 at 12:30pm. I hope this will be an opportunity for those who have never availed themselves of our Tu B'Shevat Seder to login or dial in to our regular programming zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82296486657?pwd=ZXUzVlpaVWUzVmprdGFScmxNdzNSQT09>

Participant ID/Passcode: 144384 (if required)

**Dial in: 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 822 9648
6657#**

We will screenshare the text of the Seder, but you will need to provide yourself with:

- Red and white grape juice
- Fruit that is hard on the outside and soft on the inside, such as (most nuts) walnuts, coconuts almonds, pecans, chestnuts
- Fruit that is soft, with a pit in the center, such as olives, dates peaches, apricots
- Fruit that is soft throughout and is completely edible, such as figs, grapes, raisins
- Fruit that has a tough skin on the outside but sweet/edible fruit within, such as mangos, avocados, sabra (desert pear), citrus

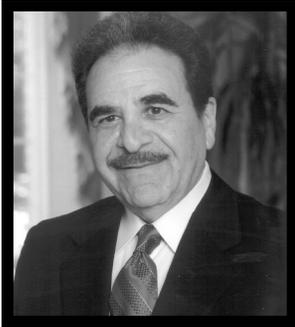
And it won't last for hours, either! Please plan on spending 30-45 minutes with us!

CHANUKAH MENORAH LIGHTING 2021





BRINGING LIGHT TO LIFE



As I reflect on the year 2021, I am so proud that our congregation has sustained our daily virtual **Minyanim** (plus Shabbat and Yom Tov services) throughout the year during

challenging times. We almost achieved a perfect record of having a daily minyan. Whether our worshippers came once a day, twice a day, once a week, or whenever able, your devotion to our **Minyan** enabled us to accomplish what I thought might not be possible. Your presence made a big difference. **Our Clergy team and indeed all of us are so grateful.**

As we begin our 2022 journey, the year 2021 may be seen as a time of sadness and loss. But the old year’s legacy is not all bad.. The past year’s challenges inspired us to rethink our priorities, to come together in a common cause and draw on our faith.

A number of days ago (December 21st) was the shortest day of the year. With **Chanukah** still on our minds and in our thoughts we are reminded how we can light up our lives, when sunlight is in short supply. Moving forward as the days get longer, we will have the chance to see more light. In spiritual terms, **“light” relates to joy, a sense of purpose and a deep trust and faith in God.**

Our sages teach us that there are three things the Jewish world stands on– and for many of us reading this Messenger, how well we remember the words on the left wall of our sanctuary on Anderson Avenue:

Al ShlosHa Devarim Haolam Omed: Al Hatorah, V'al Ha'avodah, V'al Gemilut Chasadim... (On 3 things the world stands: Prayer, learning Torah, and acts of kindness.)

In a moving and powerful way, children around the world love raising their voices in song to **Chaim Zur’s** melody to **“Al ShlosHa Devarim.”**



In our own lives we thank God each and every day for the gifts of life, health, shelter, children, grandchildren, food and freedom. When we learn **Torah** and hear the Torah read (not only on Shabbat but on Mondays, Thursdays and holidays) we realize it is unlike any other book. It is directly from God. These are words God dictated to Moses on Mt. Sinai. **We are connecting with God... Our souls are nourished by the food of the Torah.** The inner-flame is now getting stronger, just as the days are getting longer.

Acts of kindness enable us to spread the light. That light comes from compassion, love and care for each other. Just as we witnessed the shortest day of 2021 very recently, from here-on in we will have one more light to illuminate our lives; the three things our Rabbi’s taught us in the Mishnah hundreds of years ago, and still hold true today.

As we say “good-bye” to 2021 and “hello” to 2022, we pray that **God listen to our prayers, inspire us with Torah, and we continue towards deeds of kindness.** We hope to be granted a year of blessing, of health, happiness and peace—and **look forward to a day soon when we can all begin worshipping together in person!**

עַל שְׁלוֹשָׁה דְּבָרִים הָעוֹלָם עוֹמֵד. עַל הַתּוֹרָה וְעַל
הָעֲבוּדָה וְעַל גְּמִילוּת חַסָּדִים

Al sh'losHa d'varim ha-olam o-meid.

Al ha-Torah, v'al ha-avodah, v'al g'milut chasadim.

The world stands upon three things: On Torah, worship and loving deeds.

(Pirke Avot 1:2)

Tu B'Shevat—January 17th

The 15th day of the month of Shevat is designated as the New Year for Trees. It marks the end of winter and beginning of spring in the Holy Land. The almond trees are then in full bloom. It is traditional to plant trees in Israel via the Jewish National Fund and to eat fruits and nuts grown there such as figs, dates, bokser (fruit of the carob tree), almonds and walnuts, The first Tu B'Shevat Seder in our synagogue was created and sponsored by Sisterhood in 1993.



**Purim
March 16th**

As the Purim holiday approaches Sisterhood once again invites you to participate in the mitzvah of **Mishloach Manot**; The sending of a gift to members of our Synagogue family.

This all charity project supports our Synagogue and charities in the United States and Israel.

Volunteers will be needed to assemble gift packages and to deliver them. Please say yes to this project.

Your Purim gift lists will be mailed soon. Please fill them out with your check made out to **Sisterhood JCC Fort Lee**. Please help make this a success.



*The Sisterhood Wishes
You a
Happy and
Healthy
Secular
New Year!*



Books Books Books

All members of the JCC Fort Lee and Congregation Beth Israel on the Palisades are invited to join the **Sisterhood Book Club** which is in its 12th year. We are a group of enthusiasts and avid readers (men and women) who enjoy lively book discussions. The book selections deal mostly with Jewish content but some are of a secular nature.

We will meet in person (proof of vaccination required) and on ZOOM. Look for the current flyer in this messenger and see the box below.



**Sisterhood Book Club
Tuesday March 22nd– 1:00pm
The Two Family House
By Lynda Cohen Loigman**

We will meet **in person** at Congregation Beth Israel on the Palisades: 1585 Center Avenue, Fort Lee, and on **ZOOM**.

Our reserved books will be available February 14th at the Fort Lee Public Library. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to Chairpersons:

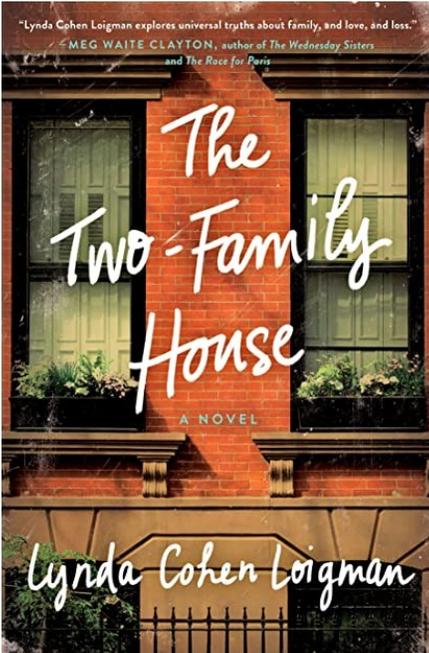
Kathy Grazian
201-592-0463

or

Naomi Altschul
201-568-9274

“The Two Family House”

By Lynda Cohen Loigman



"An emotional but dreamy novel that...will transport you far, far away from your next dreary Monday morning. You may do a lot of sobbing, but don't worry, you'll be smiling by the end." —Bustle

"A novel you won't be able to put down." —Diane Chamberlain, *New York Times* bestselling author

Brooklyn, 1947: In the midst of a blizzard, in a two-family brownstone, two babies are born, minutes apart. The mothers are sisters by marriage: dutiful, quiet Rose, who wants nothing more than to please her difficult husband; and warm, generous Helen, the exhausted mother of four rambunctious boys who seem to need her less and less each day. Raising their families side by side, supporting one another, Rose and Helen share an impenetrable bond forged before and during that dramatic winter night.

When the storm passes, life seems to return to normal; but as the years progress, small cracks start to appear and the once deep friendship between the two women begins to unravel. No one knows why, and no one can stop it. One misguided choice; one moment of tragedy. Heartbreak wars with happiness and almost, but not quite, wins. Moving and evocative, Lynda Cohen Loigman's debut novel *The Two-Family House* is a heart-wrenching, gripping multigenerational story, woven around the deepest of secrets.

Our reserved books will be available February 14th at the Fort Lee Public Library.

***We will meet in person— proof of vaccination is required- and on ZOOM
Congregation Beth Israel on the Palisades 1585 Center Ave, Fort Lee
Refreshments will be served***

**To attend via ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82296486657>
[pwd=ZXUzVlpaVWUzVmprdGFScmxNdzNSQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82296486657)**

Participant ID/Passcode: 144384 (if required)

Dial in: 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 822 9648 6657#

RSVP to Chairpersons:

Naomi Altschul 201-568-9274 or Kathy Grazian 201-592-0463

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1	Marcia Wities Orange	7	Susan Ginsburg	20	Eve Kohut
1	Anne Salmon	8	Selma Spielman	21	Greta Flam
1	Michael Seymour	9	Romy Gabay	22	Rita Berliner
1	Suzi Rose	10	Sheila Scherl	23	Eran Gensler
2	Rachel Sussman	13	Janet Chertkoff	25	Michael Glantz
3	Aviv Gensler	14	Yakov Kishinevsky	26	Gloria Deutsch
3	Valerie Maier	17	Karen Halpern	27	Charlene Stern
3	Laurie Smilovitz	17	Aaron Gabay	29	Randy Karpman
4	Sally Seymour	17	Beth Schefflan	30	Charles Shatz
6	Adam Schefflan	19	Steven Sussman	31	Howard Schefflan
		2	Hilda & Jack Reisner		
		26	Florence & Norman Silverberg		

THANK YOU TO OUR SYNAGOGUE CONTRIBUTORS

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The Davis Family
The Davis Family

The Davis Family
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The Davis Family

Irith & Arnold Insler

IN HONOR OF

Alice Grodman's Birthday
The Grodman's Granddaughter
Sophie's Bat Mitzvah

Shifra Ruda's Birthday
Naomi ALtschul's Birthday
Nancy & Richard Schiff's
Anniversary

The Grodman's Granddaughter
Ally's Wedding

DONOR

Nancy & Seymour Green
Nancy & Seymour Green

IN HONOR OF

Rabbi Kenneth Stern
Cantor Paul Zim

Donations listed were received in November



Tu B'Shevat Seder January 17th 12:30pm

Tu B'Shevat was a date of great significance in Temple times, when all produce was tithed (10%) based on the age of trees and on the number of years that the tree produced fruit. The Tu B'Shevat Seder is a celebration of God's creation in which 4 cups of wine (modeled on the Passover Seder, but we'll be drinking grape juice) and a variety of fruits were consumed as their way of celebrating and inaugurating Rosh Hashanah l'Ilanot (the new year for trees). Today, Tu B'Shevat recalls Temple times, celebrates God's creation, acknowledges our bounty and reminds us of the fragility of nature.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82296486657> pwd=ZXUzVlpaVWUzVmprdGFScmxNdzNSQT09

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Wednesdays at 8pm

From the Papers of the Committee of Jewish Law and Standards:

Removing the Stumbling Block: From Theory to Practice

Jan 19, 2022 Daniel S. Nevins & Lauren Tuchman

"Status of the Heresh (Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing) and of Sign Language"

Jan 26, 2022 Pamela Barmash & Naomi Brunlehrmann & Susan Cohen

When Jews Made Fellow Jews "Other": Hasidism and Its Opponents

Feb 2, 2022 David Fishman

From Kinyan to Brit: Options for Egalitarian Partnerships in Conservative Halakhah

Feb 9, 2022 Gail Labovitz

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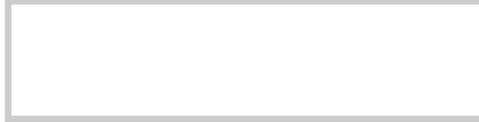
*enerations of our families
have been honored to serve
Generations of your family*

JANUARY 2022

Tevet/Shevat - 5782

Daily Online/Phone Service Times
 Sunday - Friday 9:00am & 7:00pm
 Saturday 10:30am & Minchah

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 28 Tevet Service via zoom 10:30 am Havdalah 5:30pm VA'ERA
2 29 Tevet	3 1 Shevat	4 2 Shevat	5 3 Shevat	6 4 Shevat	7 5 Shevat  4:26	8 6 Shevat Service via zoom featuring Congressional Representative Bill Pascrell 10:30 am Havdalah 5:30pm BO
9 7 Shevat	10 8 Shevat	11 9 Shevat	12 10 Shevat	13 11 Shevat	14 12 Shevat  4:34	15 13 Shevat Service via zoom 10:30 am Havdalah 5:30pm B'SHALLACH
16 14 Shevat	17 15 Shevat TU B'Shevat Seder 12:30pm	18 16 Shevat	19 17 Shevat	20 18 Shevat	21 19 Shevat  4:42	22 20 Shevat Service via zoom 10:30 am Havdalah 5:45 pm YITRO
23 21 Shevat	24 22 Shevat	25 23 Shevat	26 24 Shevat	27 25 Shevat	28 26 Shevat  4:50	28 27 Shevat Service via zoom 10:30 am Havdalah 5:45 pm MISHPATIM
30 28 Shevat	31 29 Shevat					



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Recording Secretary	Rochelle Carus
<u>Men's Club</u>	
President/Treasurer	Alan Stern

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