



# Chadashot Ha'am

September 2014

ELUL 5774/TISHRI 5775

## A Message from Rabbi Saks

My parents were great about bringing my brother and me to family *Shabbat* services on a regular basis when I was growing up. They took pride in our receiving a strong Jewish



education. Regular holiday participation was also a cornerstone of my childhood. One of the experiences that I remember fondly was spending much of the day at temple for *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. Involvement in my Jewish community as a child gave me a solid foundation that kept me connected to Judaism through my teen years, my time at college and into my adult life. I found such comfort being in my synagogue that a group of friends and I dubbed ourselves the Friday Night *Oneg* Club. I think we even had t-shirts with "F.N.O.C." printed on them. A few of us became Jewish professionals, though the majority of us simply took pleasure in being present at our congregation.

Of all of the days of the

Jewish year, there is one that calls us to be present more than the others. That day is *Yom Kippur*. You may have noticed that the morning liturgy for *Yom Kippur* lacks the familiar ending of our other worship services.

It does not include *Aleinu* or *Kaddish*, the concluding prayers of the other services. The reason is that the day of *Yom Kippur* is treated like one service that stretches from daybreak until the blast of the *shofar* signals the end of the Ten Days of Awe. The healing and meditation service, the afternoon study session, the afternoon and *Yizkor* services and the *Neilah* service that concludes *Yom Kippur* are all part of one extended observance. As a child, when I couldn't sit through the entire service and would join my friends in the hallway outside the sanctuary, I still understood the power of simply being present for the day.

For many of us at Bet Ha'am, worship on *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* is a primary focus. For others, the

opportunity to be together as a community and see friends whom we may not have seen for a long time is reason enough to be present. And for some, contributing to our community and supporting the experience of others gives the holidays greater meaning. With this in mind, I want to share a variety of ways you can choose to be present throughout the High Holy Days this year. Whether you find yourself in the sanctuary with a prayer book or in the halls and classrooms of Bet Ha'am, there are many ways simply to be present.

Last year we began offering an experience called *Project Shofar* in addition to our regular childcare. *Project Shofar* supports children from three years old through third grade to participate in learning and craft experiences while their parents are worshipping in the sanctuary. We always need volunteers to be present with these children and create both meaningful holiday experiences for

(continued on page 3)

## President's Message - Lisa Munderback

By the time you read this, it will be the month of *Elul*, the month before the High Holy Days. *Elul* is when we search our hearts and make amends for hurts done to others and promises not kept. One of the themes of *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* is vows and promises. Hopefully we have made honest efforts to follow through on these promises. If we have failed to make good on them and if we apologize for missing the mark, then we hope that those whom we've disappointed or hurt will forgive us.

Communication is so important in all of our relationships. It's one of the things that I fall short on. Every year I tell myself I will do better. Sometimes I do, and often I don't. One example is the discussion our congregation has been having about the roles of our members who don't identify as Jewish. I have been negligent in communicating and keeping everyone informed of our discussions, despite my intention to do so. I apologize, and I will share a synopsis to bring everyone up to date.

For several years the Board has grappled with how we can be a more welcoming congregation, and Rabbi Saks has shared a number of ways and approaches we could take to meet that goal. During the Strategic Planning process we learned that some people have strong feelings that non-Jewish members do not feel welcomed and feel disenfranchised. In November 2013 I wrote a column for *Chadashot* about our



practices related to our non-Jewish members. The responses I received in emails and phone calls made it clear that there were strong feelings and opinions on all sides of this topic. It also became clear that this could be a divisive issue for our congregation. As a Board, we wanted to continue to address these questions but felt we needed to develop deeper connections among members to sustain us through what were likely to be difficult conversations.

We decided to hold a series of neighborhood meetings during spring and early summer to develop connections among members who live near each other. About 90 members have participated, and we may hold a few more neighborhood meetings in early fall. The meetings bring together members from the same neighborhood or town to get to know each other, share an update on the Strategic Plan and discuss what roles non-Jewish members should have in our Religious School and leadership positions. We have continued to hear a range of thoughts and feelings ranging from non-Jewish members being considered for all roles and responsibilities to some roles and responsibilities requiring that the member be Jewish. Some people expressed that non-Jewish members should be considered for Board positions

but not for Religious School teacher positions; others expressed that it would be okay for non-Jewish members to be considered for Religious School teaching positions but not for Board positions. Some participants felt that it would be okay for non-Jewish members to be on the Board but not hold the positions of president or vice president of the congregation. While expressing strong feelings and a wide range of beliefs, feelings and ideas at the neighborhood meetings, participants made new connections and deepened old ones.

We are planning a congregational forum on Sunday, October 26. Our goals are to present feedback from the neighborhood meetings and provide another opportunity for folks to share what they are thinking about these questions, especially if they were not able to attend a neighborhood meeting. The Board's goal is to have as much information as possible in order to make a thoughtful and informed decision about the roles of our members, both Jewish and non-Jewish.

When faced with questions about which people have such strong and diverse opinions and feelings, it is unlikely that everyone will be completely satisfied when a decision is made. I hope, however, that each member will feel he or she has been heard and respected. Our goal is to move forward as a congregation in a positive way.

*L'shanah Tovah*

**Congregation Bet Ha'am**

81 Westbrook Street  
 South Portland, Maine 04106  
 Phone (207) 879-0028  
 Fax (207) 879-1866  
 TTY available  
[www.bethaam.org](http://www.bethaam.org)

**Rabbi Jared Saks**

Orly Mendelson Biggie, Religious School Director  
 Kris Dorer, Executive Director  
 Teri Berenson, Bookkeeper  
 Karen Hindall, Administrative Assistant  
 Chris Skidgel, Custodian

**Executive Committee**

Lisa Munderback, President  
 Andrew Kosak, Vice President  
 Tom Rosen, Treasurer  
 Nathan Szanton, Secretary  
 Lisa Pierce, Past President

**Board of Directors**

Julia Bailin  
 Lee Broder  
 David Butzel  
 Mylan Cohen  
 Howard Glass  
 Ben Grant  
 Samantha Johnson  
 Erin Koepf  
 Martin Lodish  
 Jeremy Moser  
 Jane Snerson  
 Steve Steinbock  
 Lee Tabenken

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM  
 The office is closed on Mondays.  
 Building Use: All meetings, events or gatherings  
 must be scheduled with the office.

**Office extensions and email addresses:**

Rabbi Saks, Ext. 100  
[ravsaks@bethaam.org](mailto:ravsaks@bethaam.org)  
 Orly Biggie, Religious School Director, Ext. 102  
[orly@bethaam.org](mailto:orly@bethaam.org)  
 Kris Dorer, Executive Director, Ext. 104  
[kris@bethaam.org](mailto:kris@bethaam.org)  
 Teri Berenson, Bookkeeper, Ext. 103  
[teri@bethaam.org](mailto:teri@bethaam.org)  
 Karen Hindall, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 101  
[karen@bethaam.org](mailto:karen@bethaam.org)  
 Chris Skidgel, Custodian,  
[chris@bethaam.org](mailto:chris@bethaam.org)

**(Rabbi Saks, continued from page 1)**

them and the supervision they need so that their parents can worship. If you're interested in helping with Project *Shofar*, even for a portion of the morning of *Rosh Hashanah*, please contact Kris Dorer in the office at 879-0028 or [kris@bethaam.org](mailto:kris@bethaam.org).

Throughout the day, ushers and greeters are needed to welcome members and guests to our building and to help people find the restrooms, the coat room, seats in the sanctuary and even page numbers in the prayer book. If you would like to help with greeting or ushering on the High Holy Days, I hope that you'll reach out to Donna Landau, who coordinates our ushers, at [dmlandau@hotmail.com](mailto:dmlandau@hotmail.com).

As part of our observance of the High Holy Days this year, we are partnering with Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation and conducting a bone marrow registry drive throughout the day on Yom *Kippur*. Donors between the ages of 18 and 60 and volunteers of all ages are needed to help with the bone marrow registry drive. Registry with the Gift of Life requires a simple cheek swab and a little paperwork. If you can help or want to register, please contact Jen Harriman at [jennyharriman@gmail.com](mailto:jennyharriman@gmail.com). To learn more, please visit [www.yomkippurproject.org](http://www.yomkippurproject.org).

And, of course, we always need and welcome help setting up or cleaning up for our Break the Fast Potluck meal at the end of the *Neilah* Service on Yom *Kippur*. Please contact Erin Koepf at [ekoepf@gmail.com](mailto:ekoepf@gmail.com) if you can help.

I look forward to seeing you during the High Holy Days, whether I find you in our sanctuary, helping with one of these endeavors or simply relaxing and meditating in our beautiful sanctuary gardens. *L'Shanah Tovah Tikateivu*. May you be inscribed for blessing in the Book of Life.

## Schedule of Services September

### Friday, September 5

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM

### Saturday, September 6

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Parashat Ki Teitzei

### Friday, September 12

Family Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30 PM

### Saturday, September 13

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Parashat Ki Tavo

### Friday, September 19

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 PM

### Saturday, September 20

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Parashat Nitzavim/Vayeilech  
Selichot Worship Service 7:30 PM

### Wednesday, September 24

Erev Rosh Hashanah 8:00 PM

### Thursday, September 25

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Rosh Hashanah Service 10:00 AM

### Friday, September 26

Shabbat Shuvah Service 7:30 PM

### Saturday, September 27

Torah Study 9:00 AM  
Shabbat Shuvah  
Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Parashat Haazinu

## From the Religious School Director

Orly Mendelson Biggie



This year the High Holy Days fall later in September than last year. *Rosh Hashanah* is on the first day of the Jewish month of *Tishrei* and *Yom Kippur* is on the tenth day of *Tishrei*. I'm excited when *Rosh Hashanah* falls at the end of September because we have more time to

explore the true meanings of these important holidays in Religious School!

Some of our teens will help us in Sunday morning Religious School through a new option that we are calling the BAGEL Program. This program gives our older students opportunities to mentor younger students. Teens will have the opportunity to participate in BAGEL (Breakfast, Arrangements, Go to mentees, Execute, Learn) about one Sunday each month. During their evening studies, the teens will learn about leadership and teaching with Andrew Kosak, a long-time Bet Ha'am teacher and professional educator. This initiative is one of the changes recommended in our strategic planning last year. It is designed to increase our teens' engagement in Religious School and to increase relationships between older and younger students.

Another event planned for our teens, also originating from our strategic planning process, is the second annual *Shabbaton* Retreat at Camp Ketcha on Friday and Saturday, January 23-24, 2015. We are also planning a trip to New York for this year's Confirmation Class. We are grateful for the generous grant funding from the Bronstein Foundation for these two teen learning activities and will share more information as our planning continues.

I wish everyone a very happy, healthy and peaceful new year.

## Religious School News

### Opening day of Religious School

Our first day of Religious School will be Sunday, September 7.

Grades 1-6 will attend from 9:00 AM to noon.

Grades 7-10 will attend from 5:00-7:30 PM.

All students must be registered before the first day of Religious School.

### Parent meetings

Parent meetings provide a chance to meet other parents and share information about the upcoming year.

Please join us at the meeting for your child/children's grade level(s):

September 7

Grade 1, 9:30 AM

Grade 4, 11:15 AM

Grade 7, 4:30 PM

Grade 10, 7:30 PM

September 14

Grade 2, 9:30 AM

Grade 5, 11:15 AM

September 21

Grade 3, 9:30 AM

Grade 6, 11:15 AM

### Holy Book Burial for Students in Grades 7-10 and their Parents

Sunday, September 14, 5:00 PM at Mt. Sinai Cemetery, Hick Street, Portland

Our seventh to tenth graders will participate in community holy book burial, followed by a mourners' meal (*seudat aveleem*). Everyone is welcome to join us for this meaningful program. Please RSVP by September 7 to [orly@bethaam.org](mailto:orly@bethaam.org) or call the office at 879-0028.

### Religious School Fee Balances are due by September 7

If you have a student in seventh through tenth grade, please remember to add \$135 for the dinner fee. Please also remember to deduct the \$25 pre-registration fee that you have already paid for each child. The kindergarten school fee is half of the fee listed below. The fee is determined by the date you registered your child.

### Fee per child for students in grades 1-10:

Registered by 6/1/2014: \$400

Registered from 6/2/2014-8/2/2014: \$440

Registered after 8/15/2014: \$490

Please call the office (879-0028) if you have any questions about the amount due on your school account.

Religious School parents and students are invited to join us for the annual  
**Welcome Back Breakfast**  
 Sunday, September 7, at 8:30 AM

Please join us for some DELICIOUS and FREE bagels, muffins, fruit, coffee and juice.

Catch up with other Religious School families and introduce yourself to new ones!

*Sponsored by the Bet Ha'am  
 Membership Committee*

## You Could Help Save a Life!

Members of Congregation Bet Ha'am have an opportunity to save a life on Yom Kippur. Bet Ha'am will be partnering with the Religious Action Center and Gift of Life Bone Marrow Foundation to host a bone marrow donor recruitment drive. Joining the registry does not mean you will automatically be a donor. It means that you can be a potential donor until your sixty-first birthday. Since tissue type is inherited, a patient's best chance of finding a genetic match lies with donors of similar ethnicity.

The only way you will know if you can help save a life is by taking the first step and getting tested. Registration is simple; it consists of swabbing your cheek and completing a quick consent form. Eligible donors must be at least eighteen, no older than sixty and in general good health.

We need volunteers to help us make this drive a success. Please consider volunteering for one of the following shifts on Yom Kippur, October 4:

11:30-12:30

12:30-1:30

1:30-2:30

2:30-3:30

3:30-4:30

For more information about Gift of Life, please visit [www.yomkippurproject.org](http://www.yomkippurproject.org). To volunteer or if you have questions about the Bet Ha'am drive, please contact Jennifer Harriman at [jennyharriman@gmail.com](mailto:jennyharriman@gmail.com).

## Milestone Teacher Recognition

Please join us on Friday, September 12, at 6:30 PM for a special *Shabbat* service honoring Jane Snerson and Lynn Urbach. Jane has been teaching in our Religious School for fifteen years, and Lynn has been teaching for ten years. We are immensely grateful for the thousands of hours the two of them have volunteered to teach the children of Bet Ha'am, many of whom are now young adults. We hope you will join us to thank Jane and Lynn for their commitment and many contributions to our next generation.



## Do you have information about any of the works of art at Bet Ha'am?

The Art Committee is reviewing works of art in our building. If you have information about who donated certain pieces (especially those in the Adult Study - Room 104) or information that you think should be in the synagogue's records about any of our works of art, please contact Natasha Goldman at [ngoldman@bowdoin.edu](mailto:ngoldman@bowdoin.edu) or 725-9988. Thank you!

## Come learn about a Bet Ha'am study seminar in Israel next spring!

**Seminar dates: May 28 – June 7, 2015**

**Information meeting date:  
Thursday, September 4, 5:30 PM at Bet Ha'am**

Israeli society. We will travel together with Rabbi Steve Burnstein and Paul Liptz of the Saltz Center for ten days of experiential learning and study throughout Israel.

The descriptions below of the first several days of this study seminar will give you a taste of the itinerary. The seminar was designed for those who have visited Israel in the past and want to delve deeper into the history of the creation of the State of Israel and learn more about the challenges and accomplishments in modern

For more information, contact Elizabeth Rosen at 838-7415 or [esrosen65@gmail.com](mailto:esrosen65@gmail.com). (Elizabeth will be in Israel from September 5 - October 6 and can be reached toll-free at (973) 685-5645. Remember that Israel is seven hours ahead of Eastern Daylight Time in Maine.)

<b>Thursday 28 May</b>	
	Check-in <i>Beit Shmuel</i> , Jerusalem
18:00	Dinner at <i>Beit Shmuel</i> with Rabbi Steve Burnstein and Saltz Staff
19:00	Welcome Ceremony – The Centrality of Israel in Jewish Life with Rabbi Steve Burnstein
<i>Overnight Beit Shmuel</i>	
<b>Friday 29 May</b>	
7:00	Breakfast
8:00	<i>Tfilot</i> with Rabbi Steve Burnstein
9:00	Complexities of Life in Israel with Paul Liptz
10:30	Walking Tour of Jerusalem Neighborhoods with Paul Liptz
12:30	Lunch & free time on own in <i>Machene Yehuda</i>
16:30	Depart for <i>Kibbutz Gezer</i>
17:15	Meet with Rabbi Miri Gold about her ten-year battle for recognition and funding as a female Reform rabbi in Israel
18:00	<i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> at <i>Kehilat Birkat Shalom</i> , <i>Kibbutz Gezer</i>
19:15	Home Hospitality Dinner at <i>Kibbutz Gezer</i>
21:30	Return to Jerusalem
<i>Overnight Beit Shmuel</i>	
<b>Shabbat 30 May</b>	
	Breakfast
9:15	<i>Shabbat Tfilot</i> options in Jerusalem
12:30	Lunch at <i>Beit Shmuel</i>
13:30	Rest time
15:00	Walking Jerusalem with the Psalms or <i>Amichai</i>
17:30	<i>Seudah Shlishit</i> (snack) - Text Study: Zionist Thinkers and Diversity with Paul Liptz
19:30	Havdalah
20:00	Free evening, dinner on own
<i>Overnight Beit Shmuel</i>	

## Burgers and Bytes: BBQ, Tour of our New Website and More!

Sunday, September 14  
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

10:00 – 11:30 AM

Join us for a gathering of Bet Ha'am committees and find out how you can become involved!

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

New Website Tour: Join us in the sanctuary for a tour of our new website and learn about its user-friendly features and benefits!

12:00 – 3:00 PM

BBQ: Enjoy a family-style BBQ with music and lawn games! There is no cost for the BBQ; please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

All are welcome! Please contact the office or Dan Bailin at [dbailin@theviaagency.com](mailto:dbailin@theviaagency.com) for more information.



## From the Social Action Committee

- The Social Action Committee will be collecting school supplies at the Bet Ha'am barbecue on Sunday, September 14 (noon to 3 PM) to donate to students in need. Please consider donating backpacks (new or gently used), notebooks (binders or spiral-bound), pencils, erasers, pencil bags and any other assorted school supplies. Thank you!
- The Social Action Committee will meet on Sunday, September 14, at 10:00 AM. Future meeting dates are: October 19, November 9, December 14, January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12 and May 10. All meetings start at 10:00 AM. We hope you will join us.
- Bet Ha'am will hold its annual Food Drive throughout the High Holy Days. Envelopes for cash/check donations and grocery bags for non-perishable food donations will be available on Rosh Hashanah. Please return your donations on Yom Kippur. Stay tuned for more details.

## Welcome New Members!

- Cynthia Davidson
- Amy and Jesse Gerlitz and their son Jackson
- Naomi Quenk
- Karola and David Mait and their children Sandy, Melanie, Jaclyn and Joey

## A Checklist of Reminders from the Holiday Committee



### **Be on the lookout for more information in your mail and emails, including:**

- Name tags to use during High Holy Day services, schedule of services and information about Annual Giving Fund
- Opportunities to prepare for the holidays during the month of *Elul*



### **Sign-up for Project Shofar\***

Available by reservation for children ages three years to third grade during *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* morning services



### **Submit names of your loved ones for our Yizkor book\***

A donation of \$18 per name is requested to help cover the cost of printing the booklets for distribution at our *Yizkor* service on *Yom Kippur*



### **RSVP for the Yom Kippur Break the Fast Potluck**

Follow the e-vite link in the weekly emails to let us know that you will join us



### **After Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, there will be**

- Learning from writers in our congregation to celebrate *Sukkot*
- Dancing with our *Torah* on *Simchat Torah* with music by the Casco Bay Tumblers



### **Consider volunteering. We need help with a variety of activities, including:**

- Ushering for services
- Assisting with the High Holy Days food drive
- Helping with Project *Shofar*: we are looking for both teens and adults enhance their holiday experience by working with our children
- Setting up or cleaning up for our *Yom Kippur* Break the Fast Potluck
- Putting up and taking down our congregational *sukkah*

Please email [ekoepf@gmail.com](mailto:ekoepf@gmail.com) or call 813-810-2858 for more information.



### **Have a sweet new year and meaningful holiday season!**

\* For more information on Project *Shofar*, please contact the Bet Ha'am office at 207-879-0028. Please see the form in this issue of *Chadashot* to submit new names for the *Yizkor* memorial booklet.

## High Holy Days Schedule of Services 2014-5775

All services are held at Congregation Bet Ha'am.

<b>SELICHOT</b>	Saturday, September 20, 7:30 PM
<b>ROSH HASHANAH</b>	
<b>Erev Rosh Hashanah Service</b>	Wednesday, September 24, 8:00 PM
<b>Children's Service*</b>	Thursday, September 25, 8:30 AM
<b>Torah Study</b>	Thursday, September 25, 9:00 AM
<b>Worship Service<sup>^</sup></b>	Thursday, September 25, 10:00 AM
<b>Tashlich</b>	Thursday, September 25, 12:30 PM (Time approximate after worship service)
<b>SHABBAT SHUVAH</b>	
<b>Shabbat Evening Service</b>	Friday, September 26, 7:30 PM
<b>Torah Study</b>	Saturday, September 27, 9:00 AM
<b>Shabbat Morning Service</b>	Saturday, September 27, 10:00 AM
<b>KOL NIDRE</b>	Friday, October 3, 8:00 PM
<b>YOM KIPPUR</b>	Saturday, October 4
<b>Children's Service*</b>	8:30 AM
<b>Torah Study</b>	9:00 AM
<b>Worship Service<sup>^</sup></b>	10:00 AM
<b>Meditation &amp; Healing Service</b>	12:45 PM
<b>Afternoon Study</b>	2:00 PM
<b>Afternoon Service</b>	3:00 PM
<b>Yizkor Service</b>	4:30 PM
<b>Neilah</b>	5:00 PM
<b>Break the Fast Potluck**</b>	5:30 PM (Time approximate after Neilah)
<b><u>SUKKOT and SIMCHAT TORAH:</u></b>	
<b>Sukkot Celebration with Oneg</b>	Wednesday, October 8, 7:30 PM
<b>Sukkot Morning Service</b>	Thursday, October 9, 10:00 AM
<b>Consecration and Simchat Torah Service</b>	Wednesday, October 15, 6:30 PM
<b>Atzeret – Simchat Torah and Yizkor Service</b>	Thursday, October 16, 10:00 AM

\* Our Children's Services are designed for children in third grade and younger with their families.

<sup>^</sup> During the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning worship services we will be offering Project Shofar, a program for our children ages three through third grade. The program is free, but children must be pre-registered.

We will also be offering childcare for children under three. Childcare is free, but children must be pre-registered. There will be a \$25 childcare fee for those not registered in advance. Please contact the office at 879-0028 for registration and more information.

\*\* Please join us for our Break the Fast Potluck after the Neilah service. We need food contributions of all kinds and ask that you please RSVP. Please contact Erin Koepf at [erinkoepf@gmail.com](mailto:erinkoepf@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping.

## Adult Library News

### KEEPING UP WITH YOUR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL STUDENTS

Did you know that the Bet Ha'm library is a great source for books about the topics to be covered in Religious School this year? While you are waiting for your child on Sunday mornings, we invite you to come to the library and browse or borrow books on such topics as the Jewish holidays, the prophets and their writings, Israel and Jewish communities around the world.

### HIGH HOLY DAYS DISPLAY

Be on the lookout for a display of resource books you can read in our library or borrow as you prepare for the High Holy Days.

### REQUEST FOR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Library Committee usually meets on the third Thursday of the month from 10:30 AM to noon. Since *Rosh Hashanah* is on the third Thursday this year, the committee will meet on September 18. Please come just to listen or to bring your ideas on how to grow the library, plan events that the library might sponsor and/or suggest titles and authors. We welcome everyone to attend these meetings, perhaps join the committee or volunteer in the library, especially on Sunday mornings when Religious School is in session.

### WHAT CONGREGANTS ARE READING

1. *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay* by Michael Chabon (Fic Cha)
2. *Stars of David: Prominent Jews Talk About Being Jewish* by Abigail Pogrebin (E 184.37 Pog)
3. *Miriam's Kitchen: A Memoir* by Elizabeth Ehrlich (TX 724 Ehr)
4. *The Bible With Sources Revealed* by Richard Elliott Friedman (BS 1225.3 Fri)

### DID YOU KNOW?

The white binders on the library shelves contain every newsletter since our founding. They are a great summary of the history of our congregation. Check them out.

### THANKS TO

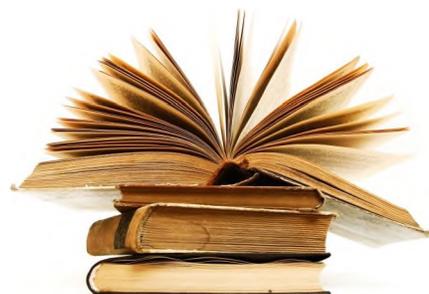
- Stephanie Cummings for her volunteer work in the library - always, and especially over the summer.
- Rabbi Bill Leffler for his recent donation of books to the collection.

### A NOTE ABOUT OVERDUE BOOKS

One of the many features of the library's software is generating statistics, including how long library books have been overdue. We have never charged a fee for this less than stellar habit. However, if we did, the book that has been overdue longest would generate \$35.35 (707 days @ 5 cents per day). If you borrowed that book or one of the others that is overdue, we urge you to return the book(s) as soon as possible, no questions asked. If you cannot find the book or know that you have lost it, please let us know by emailing [dmlandau@hotmail.com](mailto:dmlandau@hotmail.com).

**PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION TO THE ADULT LIBRARY** when celebrating a *simchah* or remembering a loved one's *yahrzeit*. Your contribution will be used to purchase new books.

**SHANAH TOVAH from the Library Committee!**



## Yizkor Memorial Booklet

During *Yom Kippur* services, we recite *Yizkor* (memorial prayers) and hold memories of our departed loved ones in our hearts.

We are continuing the Bet Ha'am tradition of printing and distributing a memorial booklet. As a courtesy, names that were included last year will be included again.

Please send your donation for listings to the office. If you forget, we will send you a reminder bill after the High Holy Days.

If you have new entries or changes, please complete this form and return it with your donation by **Tuesday, September 23**. The suggested donation is \$18 per listing. You can email the information to [teri@bethaam.org](mailto:teri@bethaam.org), bring your donation to the office or mail the form to Bet Ha'am at 81 Westbrook Street, South Portland, ME 04106.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

New Listings:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Death \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Please do not repeat my listing from last year

## Support Bet Ha'am's Annual Food Drive!

We have two options for supporting our High Holy Day Food Drive again this year.



### Donations of Food

As in the past, after *Rosh Hashanah* services, we will be handing out grocery bags with lists of items needed by local food pantries. If you would like, please take a

bag, fill it, and return it to Bet Ha'am on *Yom Kippur*.



### Donations of Money

You can maximize the impact of your gift by writing a check for the amount you would have spent on food

donations. This allows agencies to buy up to eight times the amount of food that you could purchase with the same amount of money. If you would like, please take a Food Drive envelope after *Rosh Hashanah* services.

Please make your checks payable to Congregation Bet Ha'am. You can write "High Holy Day Food Drive" on the memo line if you'd like. Please return your envelope to Bet Ha'am on *Yom Kippur*. We will send the money donated to both local food pantries and global agencies addressing hunger.

And of course, you can also support our food drive using both options. Thank you!



Featuring Bet Ha'am members Alan Davis, Emma Scott and Peter Scott and their friends

# SPRUCE ROOSTER

Saturday, November 1  
6:30 to 8:30 PM

at Congregation Bet Ha'am, 81 Westbrook Street, South Portland  
FMI call 879-0028

*Join us for an evening of old time squares and contras*

All ages welcome!  
No experience required!  
No partner necessary!

**Cash Bar, Live Music, and Home-Baked Pie**

\$10 adult/\$5 child



**That's SQUARE dancing and ROUND pies!**

## Join the Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery

We invite you to join the Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery today! We have many needs and many ways for you to contribute. If you have an event you would like to celebrate, a person you would like to honor, a *yahrzeit* to remember, or you just want to help support our programs, please fill out the form and send it along with your check to Bet Ha'am. Include an address if you would like an acknowledgement to be sent.

Our Donor Gallery listing should read:

Please acknowledge to: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Fund choice (please check one):

- Annual Fund
- General Fund
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Adult Library Fund
- Rabbi Berkowitz Open Door Fund
- Building Capital Campaign
- Rabbi Cohen Fund for Worship & Learning
- Rabbi Goldfinger Fund for Israel Travel
- Lehman Fund for Gardens & Grounds
- Religious School Library Fund
- Rosalyne S. & Sumner T. Bernstein  
Scholar in Residence Fund
- Rabbi Jared H. Saks and Kirk J. Boettcher  
Artist in Residence Fund
- Rabbi Sandmel Education Fund
- Tutor Fund
- Youth Fund

### ***Bet Ha'am Donor Gallery***

#### **We thank our generous contributors**

##### **Annual Fund**

- Andrew and Jennifer Kosak

##### **Artist in Residence Fund**

- Larry Landau
- Ben Grant and Caroline Elliot
- Sue Howard
- Alan Cardinal and Sylvia Most
- Wendy and Peter Hayes
- Andrew Denker and Michelle Pearlman
- Donna Landau
- David and Rachel Reed

##### **Capital Campaign**

- In honor of Zoe Watts becoming *Bat Mitzvah* by Peter Scott and Larisa Semenuk
- In honor of Lilah Morrow-Spitzer becoming *Bat Mitzvah* by Peter Scott and Larisa Semenuk

##### **General Fund**

- In memory of Jacob Broder on his *yahrzeit* by Jamie and Lee Broder
- In honor of Claire Scott becoming *Bat Mitzvah* by Jill and Michael Epstein

- In honor of the wedding of Samantha Singer and Evan Carney by Gary and Paula Singer
- In appreciation by Ariel Schmulder
- In honor of Louise Abramson, Volunteer of the Year, by Tricia and Jim Wasserman
- In honor of Elinore Kosak becoming *Bat Mitzvah* by Laura Kittle and Jeremy Moser
- In celebration of Penny Bailin by Jeremy Moser and Laura Kittle
- In memory of Wilder G. Purdy by John and Beryl Cole

##### **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

- In appreciation by Barbara and Arthur Kahn
- In appreciation by Gary and Paula Singer
- In celebration of the birth of Jackson Douglas Gerlitz by Harley and Jay Gerlitz
- In celebration of the naming and *brit* of the Schmulder twins by Ariel Schmulder

##### **Religious School Library Fund**

- In honor of Jessica Abramson, our unsung hero, by Rachel and David Reed

# September 2014

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Office Closed	<b>2</b> Religious School Teachers' Meeting 7:00 PM	<b>3</b> Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM	<b>4</b> Israel Study Seminar Informational Meeting 5:30 PM	<b>5</b> <i>Shabbat</i> Service with Guest Speaker, Kate Goldfield 7:30 PM	<b>6</b> Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
<b>7</b> Welcome Back Breakfast 8:30 AM  Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM  Grades 7-10 Religious School 5:00 PM	<b>8</b> Membership Committee 7:00 PM	<b>9</b> Nominating Committee 4:45 PM	<b>10</b> Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM  Education Committee 6:30 PM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Family <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> Service honoring our milestone teachers, Jane Snerson and Lynn Urbach 6:30 PM	<b>13</b> Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM  Youth Group Bowling Night 7:45 PM
<b>14</b> Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM  Burgers, Bytes & BBQ Event 10:00 AM-3:00 PM  Grades 7-10 Religious School, Book Burial at Mt. Sinai Cemetery 5:00 PM	<b>15</b> Office Closed	<b>16</b> Executive Committee 5:30 PM	<b>17</b> Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM  Garden Committee 5:30 PM	<b>18</b> Library Committee 10:30 AM	<b>19</b> National Council of Jewish Women <i>Shabbat</i> Service 7:30 PM	<b>20</b> <i>Selichot</i> Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM  <i>Selichot</i> Service 7:30 PM
<b>21</b> Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM  Garden Care 9:00 AM  Grades 7-10 Religious School 5:00 PM	<b>22</b> Office Closed	<b>23</b> Board Meeting 6:30 PM	<b>24</b> Office Closes at Noon  <i>Erev Rosh Hashanah</i>  Morning <i>Minyan</i> 7:00 AM  Worship Service 8:00 PM	<b>25</b> Office Closed  <i>Rosh Hashanah</i> Children's Service 8:30 AM Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM <i>Tashlich</i> 12:30 PM	<b>26</b> <i>Shabbat Shuvah</i>  Worship Service 7:30 PM	<b>27</b> <i>Shabbat Shuvah</i>  Torah Study 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM
<b>28</b> Grades 1-6 Religious School 9:00 AM  Grades 7-10 Religious School 5:00 PM	<b>29</b> Office Closed	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <i>Kol Nidre</i>	<b>4</b> <i>Yom Kippur</i>