



Congregation Beth Mordecai

A Jewish Home for the Soul

April 2016

Adar II/Nisan 5776



Monday, April 4

8pm

The Gruber's Home (7 King Arthurs Court, Edison)

A fun, social event to get together, have some wine, beer, dessert, and good times watching the National College Basketball Championship.

Please RSVP to Larry Gruber (lgruber1@optonline.net).



Cleaning the Synagogue Kitchen!!!!

Sunday, April 17 - 12:30pm

Tuesday, April 19 - 7:30pm

Come join us in a cleaning party to prepare the kitchen for Passover. The greater the number of folks to help, the faster we can get the tasks completed!

1st Day of Passover Services (& Shabbat)

Saturday, April 23 - 10:00am

Welcome in Shabbat and Passover with this morning service for the first day of the holiday.

Beth Mordecai Community 2nd Seder

Saturday, April 23 - 6:00pm

Enjoy our full Seder Service and dinner, led by Rabbi Saks. Detailed information was sent through the mail. For any questions, please contact the office (732.442.1373).

2nd Day of Passover Services

Sunday, April 24 - 10:00am

Celebrate Passover with this enjoyable morning service for the second day of the holiday.

7th Day of Passover Services

Friday, April 29 - 10:00am

Celebrate the end of Passover with this morning service.

8th Day of Passover Services (& Shabbat)

Saturday, April 30 - 10:00am

Celebrate Shabbat and enjoy the last moments of Passover, as we recite **YIZKOR** in honor of our dearly departed.



Congregation Beth Mordecai

Established 1897

Address 224 High St., Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
Office Phone 732.442.1373
Rabbi's Phone 732.442.2431
Office E-mail OfficeBethMordecai@gmail.com
Rabbi's E-mail Ari.Saks@gmail.com
Office Hours 10am - 2pm Monday - Thursday
Website http://BethMordecai.org

Synagogue Staff

Rabbi Ari Saks
Executive Director Elliot Rubin

Board of Trustees

President Alan Roy
Vice President Cheryl August
Treasurer Marc Fertik
Secretary Scott Gursky
Past President Norman Silverstein
Past President Michael Gast
Past President Ron Miskoff
Past President Larry Deutchman
Trustee David Bennett
Trustee Ann Blog
Trustee Steve Safran
Trustee Louis Sher

Committee Contacts

Caring	Sherry Weber	908.451.9708
Duck Race	Alan Roy	908.403.4303
High Holidays	Marc Fertik	732.390.3348
	David Bennett	732.494.9029
Oneg/Kiddush	Betty Fertik	732.407.0821
	Jeremy Strauss	732.331.4049
Strategic Planning	Marc Fertik	732.390.3348
YJPA	Stella Morrison	



Acknowledge the Occasion through Beth Mordecai

"Tzedaka is equal in importance to all other commandments combined."
-Talmud

**I am pleased to make a contribution of \$ _____
to the following fund...**

☐ **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**
Allows the rabbi to support special programs and individuals in need.

☐ **General Fund**
Applied to the operating budget of the congregation.

☐ **Friday Night Oneg Fund**
Used for cookies and other noshes following Friday night services.
A contribution of \$75 supports one oneg.

☐ **Shabbat Morning Kiddush Fund**
Used for luncheons and noshes following Saturday morning services.
A contribution of \$125 supports one Kiddush.

...in honor, memory or appreciation of:

My Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

**Please send this contribution form and check directly to the synagogue office.
Checks should be made payable to "Congregation Beth Mordecai".**

DONATE NOW

Secure Donations
by **PayPal**



**Contributions to the above listed funds may
also be made on the synagogue website
through our secure PayPal link.**

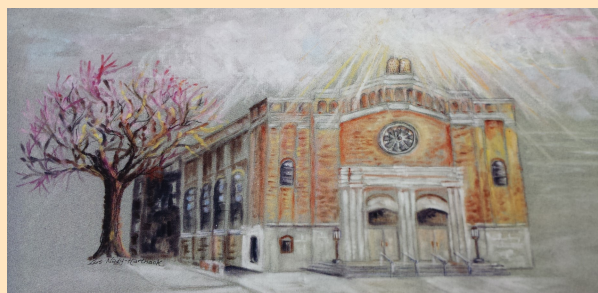
*Thank you for your generous and thoughtful support of our funds
which are used to enrich & invigorate our community.
Todah Rabbah - many thanks to you all!*

General Fund Donations

Shirley & Martin Engel
Rona & Larry Goldsmith
Patricia & William Robbins

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Donations

Martin Pearlman, in honor Lilah Michal
Beth Rudnick



got shabbat? now, shalom!



732.331.4049
straussjer@gmail.com



732.407.0821
bettymf@me.com

Friday Night Services - Open to All

Join us for spirited and lively participatory services. Each service includes elements of singing, storytelling and conversation with the community. Monthly themes:

Celebration Shabbat - April 1 - 8pm

Commemorate your birthday or anniversary in the upcoming month with a special celebration, to be followed by a Blowout Oneg Shabbat. (To sponsor an oneg contact Jeremy Strauss.)

Pardon the Interruption - April 8 - 8pm

A series of 3 conversations that interrupt the Jewish ritual service in order to understand different prayers and sections of the service on a deeper level. The conversations, each 5-7 minutes long, are thematically tied and interspersed throughout the service.

Traditional Service - April 15 - 8pm

Join us for a traditional, egalitarian service with Rabbi Saks.

No Service (1st Seder!) - April 22

Passover & Shabbat Service - April 29 - 8pm

Join us for a traditional, egalitarian service with Rabbi Saks celebrating both Shabbat and Passover.

LIGHT CANDLES		SHABBAT ENDS	
Apr. 1	7:04pm	Apr. 2	8:04pm
Apr. 8	7:12pm	Apr. 9	8:12pm
Apr. 15	7:19pm	Apr. 16	8:20pm
Apr. 22	7:26pm	Apr. 23	8:29pm
Apr. 29	7:32pm	Apr. 30	8:37pm
May 6	7:41pm	May 7	8:45pm
May 13	7:47pm	May 13	8:53pm
May 20	7:54pm	May 21	9:01pm
May 27	8:00pm	May 28	9:08pm

Times are specific to Perth Amboy; from Chabad.org.

Saturday Morning Services - Open to All

Connect to traditions while actively engaging in the service. There is opportunity for in-depth learning of the prayers and the Torah portion. Monthly themes:

Torah Talk - April 2 - 10am

Delve into the rich teachings of the week's Torah reading. In lieu of a formal sermon, we will pause the service after the Torah reading for a lively 10-15 minute discussion on how we can apply the wisdom of the Torah to the needs of our every day lives.

Pardon the Interruption - April 9 - 10am

See description to the left.

A Schtick of Yiddishkeit - April 16 - 9am

Learn about Jewish tradition, religion & history with an early morning sip of schnapps (optional!). The experience runs in lieu of services. We'll schmooze with families from Tot Shabbat as they have a kiddie Kiddush, then learn something interesting together according to Tot Shabbat's theme for the month, and we'll wrap up with Kiddush. This program is intended for ALL members of Beth Mordecai, especially those who are more interested in learning & discussion than services.

Passover & Shabbat Service - April 23 - 10am

Welcome both Shabbat and Passover with this service on the first day of Passover.

Passover & Shabbat Service (Yizkor) - April 30 - 10am

Celebrate Shabbat and the last day of Passover. Yizkor will be included as part of this service.

Tot Shabbat

CONNECTING YOUNG FAMILIES TO JEWISH LIFE.



April 16 - 10:00am



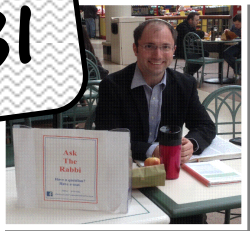
Ask the Rabbi

12:00pm

Wednesdays - April 6, 13, 20 & 27

Menlo Park Mall Food Court

Have a question? Have a seat! Bring your lunch and ask the rabbi ANY question you like...seriously! First person there will get a free drink from the rabbi!



Veterans Home Visit

Tuesdays - April 12, 19 & 26

3:30pm

Join Rabbi Saks, the Caring Committee and other members from the Jewish Home for Your Soul to help care for Jewish veterans on Tuesday afternoons. Contact Sherry for details sweber7854@aol.com.



Sunday, April 10 at 12:30pm

St. Peter's Church
(Perth Amboy)



Sunday, April 10 at 7:30pm

Congregation Beth Ohr
(Old Bridge)

"PLEASE UNDERSTAND ME":

How to Use Personal Narrative to Positively Engage with Your Intermarried Family

Come learn with us as we use the tools of Personal Narrative to grapple with important questions affecting relationships within our intermarried families. These will include:

- How to deal with our feelings of loss and our fear of not being understood?
- How to create the right environment to be heard by one another?
- In the midst of understanding each other, how to appreciate otherness?

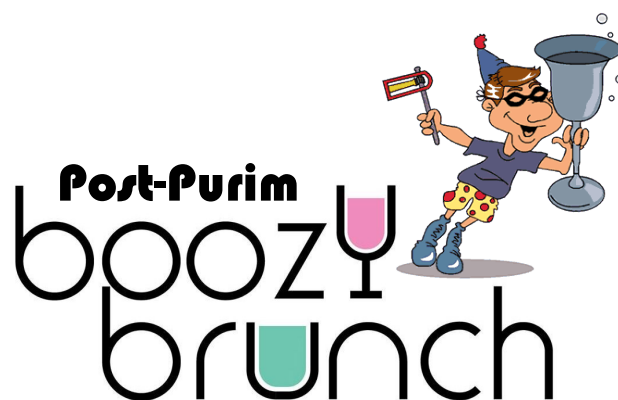
Workshop will be led by experts in the field, DONNA CEPHAS, M.A., and JESSICA COHEN, M.A. and co-facilitated by Rabbi Ari Saks (Beth Mordecai) and Reverend Anne-Marie Jeffery (St. Peter's). RSVP to Rabbi Saks by [email](#) or [Facebook](#).



Wednesdays - April 6 & 20

9:30am at Panera Bread in Woodbridge

At the suggestion of a member and in connection with our pillar of SHABBAT, Rabbi Saks will lead a book group on Abraham Joshua Heschel's, "The Sabbath."

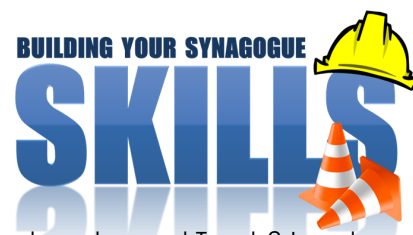


April 3

11:30am

Beth Mordecai

\$10 Sugg. Donation



April 6

7:30pm

Want to learn how to read Torah? Lead a prayer in the service? Join us to practice your synagogue skills as we prepare our Scholar-in-Residence Shabbat service with congregational participation. Snacks to be provided. No prior experience necessary. RSVP to Rabbi Saks by [email](#).



The Last Hug®

By Elliot Rubin

Years ago there was a picture in the New York Daily News that was seared into my memory. It was of a father kneeling on a beach holding his young dead son. The tide was lapping at his feet as he held the lifeless small body in his arms pressed against his chest; his head bent forward in grief. The small boy had unfortunately drowned. There was no story to the picture, only the headline over it.

The grief that father must have felt is unimaginable to me. I can only conceptualize his feelings, and wish no one else ever feels his pain. But there is a lesson I took away from seeing the picture.

We have to hug the ones we love as if it is the last hug. The tragedy of losing someone you care about, and not having that last moment in time with them can be very mentally disturbing.

There is no way someone can exceed the limits of kindness and love. Life is too short, too fast, and we cannot get back the time we lost.

Don't say I'm sorry, say I want a hug. Say I love you. You might not get another chance.



Next Bulletin
Deadline
April 20

submit your
NEWS
or
EVENT



Can you lend a hand?

Volunteers are needed for:

- Office Assistance
- Writing for the Bulletin
- Caring Committee Visitors
- Opening Up for Services & Events
- Shabbat Morning Coffee Set-Up
- Organizing & Sponsoring Kiddush

To help, please contact the office!



Birthdays

Ellie Shelko
Felice Gruber
Bernice Lamey
Ron Miskoff
Martin Pearlman
Sandy Katz

Pesach Humor





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**Please remember
Beth Mordecai
in your will or as a
dedicated beneficiary on
an insurance policy.**



Flynn and son
FUNERAL HOMES

JAMES J. FLYNN, MANAGER

424 East Ave.
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
732.826.0358
NJ Lic. No. 4152

BRENDAN J. FLYNN, MANAGER

319 Amboy Ave.	23 Fords Ave.
Metuchen, NJ 08840	Fords, NJ 08863
732.548.2134	732.826.0358
NJ Lic. No. 4105	NJ Lic. No. 2158

A DONATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE SYNAGOGUE BY:

Hannah Adams, in memory of Bernard, Beatrice & Irving Severslak
Arthur Aneckstein, in memory of Sara Aneckstein
Robert Arky, in memory of Ervine Pollak
Rhona & Fred Bernhardt, in memory of Irene Bernhardt
Martha Cole, in memory of Nathaniel Cole
Barbara Greenspan, in memory of Lottie Marks & Anna Davidson
Elyse Lyons, in memory of Adele Press Epstein
Fredda Robinson, in memory of Rene Goldstein & Gershon Robinson
Diane, Jeff & Jordan Salzberger, in memory of Harriet Hershkovitz
Mike Shevell, in memory of Gordon Sandler
Nate Zimmerman, in memory of Alice Zimmerman

MAY THEIR MEMORY BE FOR A BLESSING.

We Remember

Who Do I Call?

In the case of a death, the following calls should be made:

- 1st, a medical authority (to sign a death certificate).
- 2nd, the funeral home (to transfer of the deceased to the funeral home).
- 3rd, the synagogue.

Call/email: **Rabbi Ari Saks** | **732.442.2431** or **732.442.1373** | ari.saks@gmail.com

SULAM
LEADERSHIP
for emerging leaders

Sunday, April 17
10:00am

The first session of a drop in seminar to explore your Jewish identity and connect it to participation in synagogue life.

The session is part of a national program run by United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and will be co-led by Rabbi Saks and Marilyn Davidoff.

Email Rabbi Saks (ari.saks@gmail.com) if interested.

APRIL

- | | |
|--|---|
| 01 8:00pm - Shabbat Services - Celebration Shabbat | 17 10:00am - Sulam Leadership Seminar |
| 02 10:00am - Shabbat Services - Torah Talk | 17 12:30pm - Clean Synagogue Kitchen for Passover! |
| 03 11:30am - YJPA Post-Purim Boozy Brunch | 19 3:30pm - Veteran's Home Visit |
| 04 8:00pm - NCAA Championship Viewing Party | 19 7:30pm - Clean Synagogue Kitchen for Passover! |
| 06 9:30am - Book Group | 20 9:30am - Book Group |
| 06 12:00pm - Ask the Rabbi | 20 12:00pm - Ask the Rabbi |
| 06 7:30pm - Building Your Synagogue Skills | 23 10:00am - Shabbat & Passover Services |
| 08 8:00pm - Shabbat Services - Pardon the Interruption | 24 10:00am - Shabbat & Passover Services |
| 09 10:00am - Shabbat Services - Pardon the Interruption | 26 3:30pm - Veteran's Home Visit |
| 10 12:30pm - Faithful Families | 27 12:00pm - Ask the Rabbi |
| 10 7:30pm - Grandparent's Circle | 29 10:00am - Passover Day 7 Services |
| 12 3:30pm - Veteran's Home Visit | 29 8:00pm - Shabbat & Passover Services |
| 13 12:00pm - Ask the Rabbi | 30 10:00am - Shabbat Passover Services (with YIZKOR) |
| 15 8:00pm - Shabbat Services | |
| 16 9:00am - Shabbat Services - Schtickel of Yiddishkeit | |
| 16 10:00am - Tot Shabbat | |

