



Congregation Beth Mordecai

Your Jewish Home for the Soul



March 2020

Adar/Nissan 5780





Are you even listening?

A story is told about a child who comes home from school, eager to show her mother a drawing. As the girl walks into the house, her mother is busy. “Mom, guess what?” she squeals, waving the drawing. Without looking up, her mother responds, “What?” “Guess what?” repeats the child. Again the mother asks, “What?” “Mom, you're not listening.” Still not looking up from her task, she says, “I am.” “But Mom, you're not listening with your eyes.”

What does it mean to truly listen? These days, with the distraction of smart phones around every corner we are lucky if we are able to get someone else's “half-attention,” let alone complete attention with actual eye contact. We can easily begin to understand why it is difficult for so many of us (myself included) to learn to “listen with our eyes,” when our eyes (and ears) are constantly being pulled in multiple directions.

The challenge is to listen fully, without distraction. In Hebrew, when we want someone to pay attention we say “sim lev,” literally, “put your heart into it.” How often do we listen with our hearts – despite the noise that is constantly around us? A wonderful example of the importance of this type of listening can be found in the upcoming holiday of Purim. Purim is a useful frame in which to look at the challenges of listening amidst distraction.

One of the four mitzvot of Purim surrounds the obligation to “hear” the Megillah being read. We have a holiday that emphasizes the importance of “listening,” despite the fact that we are sometimes surrounded by outside “noise,” especially the noise that is made trying to drown out Haman's name.

When was the last time that you truly felt that someone listened to you? How did the person let you know that you “mattered?” What are the distractions that hinder you from being fully present? Is it your phone on during meetings or dinner?

Is it your mind, that is racing with your “to do” list, and hindering your presence with the person who you are with? Do you seem to be always “on the go,” and have trouble slowing down long enough to truly listen? Active listening, takes practice, discipline, and a calming of the mind.

As we continue through the Hebrew month of Adar and into Purim and our preparations for Passover, may God bless us with patience and listening hearts.

Rabbi Sara Metz

Schedule of Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat Services led by Sharon Bender

Kabbalat Shabbat Services led by Jeremy Strauss

Kabbalat Shabbat Services with Catered dinner to follow
Dinner is generously subsidized by Norman & Rosa Silverstein.

Abbreviated Shabbat morning service led by Marc Fertik
Bagels and nosh to follow

Kabbalat Shabbat Services led by Rabbi Metz

REDISCOVER THE PURIM STORY

Join Beth Mordecai to discover what they did not teach
• you in Hebrew School about the Purim story!
We'll discover drunken debauchery, betrayal and lots of
racy euphemisms in this farcical text!

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, AT 7:00 PM

AT CONGREGATION BETH MORDECAI

\$10 RSVP and pay by 2/27
\$12 After 2/28



RSVP to Rabbi.SaraMetz@gmail.com



CONGREGATION BETH MORDECAI
Your Jewish Home for the Soul

Join Congregation Beth Mordecai
for

Rabbalat Shabbat Services
&
A CATERED COMMUNITY DINNER

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

6:30 PM

**\$18 if RSVP and payment
is recieved before
Wednesday, March 11**

\$25 on and after March 12

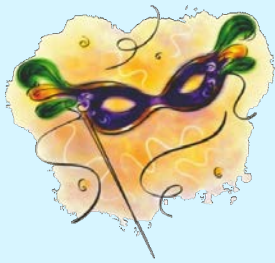
Dinner is generously subsidized
by Norman and Rosa Silverstein

**RSVP to Rabbi.SaraMetz@gmail.com
Please contact Rabbi Metz to subsize
future community dinners.**



Join the Fun at Our Community Wide

PURIM CARNIVAL



Sunday March 8, 2020
11am - 2pm

@ The JCC of Middlesex County
1775 Oak Tree Road, Edison

(NEW THIS YEAR: Carnival is open from 10:15 - 11:00am for families with special needs children who require a quieter and line-free environment.)

FREE ADMISSION

PRIZES

FREE PUPPET SHOW

FREE GAMES

LIVE SHOW/\$4 per ticket
Tropical Rainforest Reptiles & Amphibians



Enjoy lunch while celebrating. Food available for purchase.

Come in costume to receive two free prize tickets!



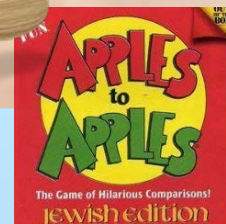
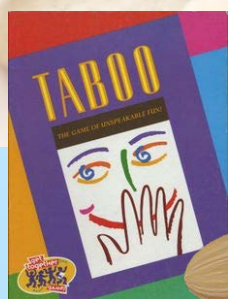
For more information call: The JCC of Middlesex County at 732-494-3232.



This program is partially
sponsored by Jewish Federation
in the Heart of New Jersey



*Join us for a
hamentashen tasting
contest & board
games!*



Battle of the Hamentashen and Board Games!

Think your hamentashen are the best?

Prove it!

Bring a plate of your best hamentashen for us to taste.

We will cast votes to see whose are the best!

The fun continues with an evening of board games!

Bring your favorite games and we will provide some as well.

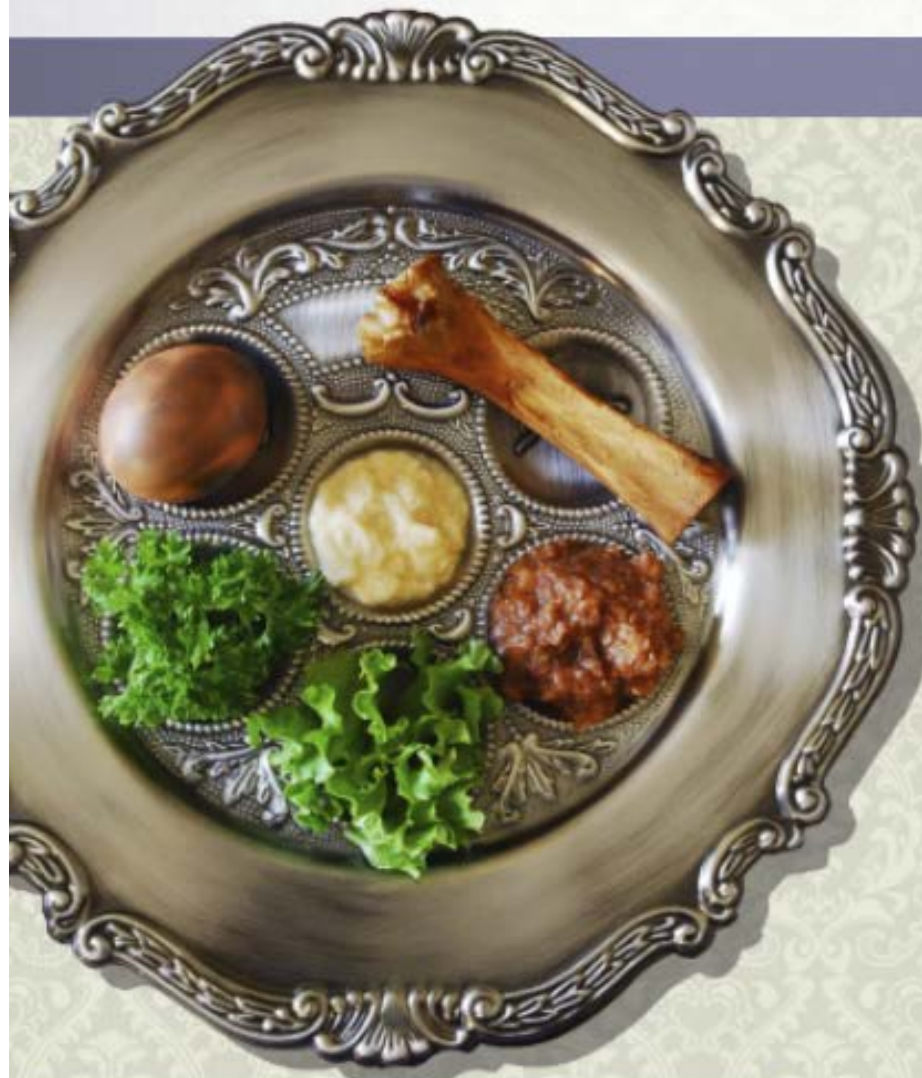
Sunday, March 28 at 3 PM

\$10 per person with RSVP and payment before March 23

\$12 per person on and after March 24

Celebrate the Exodus
at the Beth Mordecai

Passover Seder



Cost

Adult: \$42

Under 18: \$20

**Help subsidize
the cost to help
another:
\$90 or donation
of your choice**

April 9, 2020
6:30 pm

RSVP Required by March 30
Email:
Rabbi.SaraMetz@gmail.com

Congregation Beth Mordecai Passover Seder

224 High Street, Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
(732) 442-1373



March Birthdays

Daniel Goldman

Bob Krentar

Louis Sher

Allen Weingarten

March Anniversaries

Sava & Yevgeniya
Gitelman



A DONATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE SYNAGOGUE BY:

- Hannah Rose Adams in memory of Rachel Adams, Hyman Saverslak, and Max Saverslak
- Arthur Aneckstein in memory of Sara Aneckstein
- E. Fred Bernhardt in memory of Irene Bernhardt
- Sava and Yevgeniya Gitelman in memory of Iserlis Ada
- Dr. Alvin Kravet in memory of Ginette Kravet
- Shirley Levinson in memory of Vera Weiss and Reuben Levinson
- Janet Lipman in memory of Nathan Lipman
- Patrick Miller in memory of Ila Miller
- Ron & Lori Miskoff in memory of Rose Nisenman and Mollie Epstein
- Mike Shevell in memory of Gordon Sandler
- Les & Judy Wurtzel in memory of Jeanette Klein

**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. Metuchen, NJ 08840 732.548.2134 NJ Lic. No. 4105	23 Fords Ave. Fords, NJ 08863 732.826.0358 NJ Lic. No. 2158
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**Whom do I call?**

In the case of a death, call a medical authority,
the funeral home and then Beth Mordecai.

Rabbi Sara Metz

732.442.2431 or 732.442.1373 or Rabbi.SaraMetz@gmail.com





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 Rabbi.SaraMetz@gmail.com
Office Hours 10am - 2pm Monday - Thursday
Website http://BethMordecai.org
Facebook (Public) Congregation Beth Mordecai
Facebook (Closed) We Are Beth Mordecai

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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".**



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

**Your generous and thoughtful
support of our funds are used
to enrich & invigorate our
community.**

Todah Rabbah - Thank you

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On the next page, will be a list of possible matches; select "Congregation Beth Mordecai".

A confirmation email will be sent.

Begin shopping!