

Congregation B'nai Jacob of Phoenixville, PA

Elul – Tishri 5783-5784

September 2023

*Our mission is to provide a place rooted in Jewish tradition where all people feel welcome, supported and enriched. We strive to foster connections to our past, to our future and to the divine in an intimate, accepting community.*

## Service Times

Service Times will be contained in the weekly announcements

## Candle Lighting

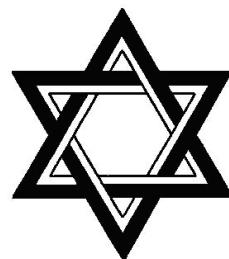
September 2	7:16pm
September 8	7:05pm
Sept 15– Shabbat/Rosh Hashanah	6:33pm
Sept 16– Rosh Hashanah	7:50pm
September 22	6:42pm
Sept 24– Yom Kippur	6:38pm
Sept 29– Shabbat/Sukkot	6:30pm
September 30– Sukkot	7:26pm

## Events

Dine and Donate September 5	See p.11
Ice Cream Social– Sept 8	See p. 12
Selichot Program– Sept 9	See p. 12
Food Distribution– Sept 10	See p. 13
Sisterhood Bake Sale– Sept 10 -9am to 1pm	
NYC Bus Trip– October 29	See p. 14
CBJU Personal Finance– Oct 29	See p. 15
Wine Tasting– November 11	See p. 16



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## RABBI'S MESSAGE



### Dear Chaveirim/Friends:

I As described last month, one of the biggest thrills of my sabbatical was going to 'visit' the golem in Prague. While all tours of the Jewish Quarter there include going into the 753 year old *Altneushul* (Old-New Shul), we didn't go there as part of a tour group, but rather as part of a *minyan*. *Davvening Kabbalat Shabbat* there was an emotional experience: to stand in front of the chair where the Maharal (the purported creator of the golem) sat; to pray just beneath the attic where legend says the decommissioned golem still lies in a heap of dirt, waiting to be re-activated; and to experience the only *shul* in the world in which Psalm 92, the Psalm of *Shabbat*, is recited not just once, but twice on Friday evening.

Throughout the coming year, there will be plenty of opportunities to delve down deeper into the many layers of meaning related to the *Altneushul*. Keep posted for more information about my year-long Sunday morning adult education class that will explore the legend of the golem and its implications, from the earliest Biblical reference, up through the stories associated with the *Altneushul*, and all the way into the future. One Friday night this fall I'll teach about the different possible reasons for why Psalm 92 is recited twice on Friday evenings in the *Altneushul* (and nowhere else).

As mentioned last month, there's a deep power to not just hearing about something, but rather to actually being there. To actually stand in a place where Jews have gathered and *davvened* for over 750 years. To gather there not only with the people living today but with our ancestors, in a community spanning generations and centuries. Even if that place was spared by the Nazis only because it was designated as the future home of a Museum to an Extinct Race, in which would be gathered Jewish ritual objects stolen from all over Bohemia and Moravia.

Today, we gather in just the same way, for many of the same reasons, in our own synagogue here in Phoenixville. Our community may seem young

in comparison, having been chartered by the State of Pennsylvania 'only' 111 years ago. And we've been in our current building for 66 years now.

As *Rosh HaShanah* and *Yom Kippur* (the *Yamim Nora'im/Days of Awe*) – our annual homecoming, our yearly in-gathering, our once-a-year family reunion – approach, we once again have the opportunity to join our individual journeys and energies together, in community with our ancestors and with our neighbors.

Prayers unsaid have no voice. Prayers said alone in our own homes don't have the same power and resonance as ones bolstered by the voices of others all around us. 'Being there' matters. Showing up, being with others, joining our individual voices together, releases a combined power unavailable to any individual person on their own.

And so we gather in our sanctuary once again for the *Yamim Nora'im*. For those who simply are physically unable to join us, due to health or distance, there will be the livestream option; for those without any other choice, it provides an essential alternative. On the livestream, you can see what's going on. You can follow along. But you can't be seen. You can't be heard.

As people have returned to movie theaters post-pandemic, over and over again they report how sitting in the dark and having a shared experience with others makes sitting at home watching a streamed movie by themselves pale in comparison. And what's true for watching movies is only more so for the ancient rituals and words that fill the *Yamim Nora'im*. There's something deeply powerful about sharing them with other people.

So if you're able, please join us in our sanctuary. While the largest number of people come for the morning services on the first day of *Rosh HaShanah* and on *Yom Kippur*, please accept this invitation to come other times as well.

*Continued on Page 3*

## RABBI'S MESSAGE (CONT.)

Continued from Page 2

Come for the Jewish calendar's New Year's Eve, *Erev Rosh HaShanah*, as sunset marks the literal moment when one year ends and the next one begins. It's one of the most powerful moments of the year. It's our ball dropping in Times Square. It's so much better surrounded by community.

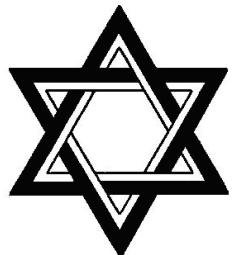
Join us for *Kol Nidrei*, the single moment when all regular, work-a-day activities and concerns grind to a halt, and we stand all together, as a united community, joining our own voices to ancient words. We need your voice to be part of that chorus; the lifting up of your voice helps to raise up all of our voices together.

Please know that the ritual that most dramatically epitomizes *Rosh HaShanah* – listening to the cry of the *shofar* – will not happen on the first day this year, since it falls on *Shabbat*. When this pattern occurs, however, it means that the second day of *Rosh HaShanah* is on Sunday, and we will hear the blast of the *shofar* then. Even if coming on the second day isn't part of your usual practice, perhaps this is the year to do it, so that you don't miss the most important element of the day. Or if you're only able or wanting to come one day, then consider coming on the second day this year.

In case you've missed it so far, the thread running through all these words is "be there, show up, gather with your community." Do it for yourself. Do it for everyone else who's uplifted by your presence and your voice.

**I look forward to seeing you soon!**

*L'Shalom,*  
Rabbi Jeff Sultar



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### Reflecting vs. Deflecting

As the calendar turns to September, preparations begin for the upcoming Days of Awe. This is a time for **reflecting vs deflecting** on the year behind and ahead. A time for call to action.

Still thinking about summer, I would like to share a story - when I was growing up, it meant endless time playing baseball in an empty lot near our house. Yet I still remember *that* day—and the crack of the bat when one of my friends pulverized the ball with a towering shot in the air.

Then suddenly there was a reverberating crash of a window being shattered.

Some friends scattered, not wanting to get caught—others were just too scared to move! But when the adults asked us what happened, that is when the fingers started to point. *It was not me...*

For most of us, these are some of our earliest life experiences—when we were dependent on everyone and accountable to no one. Back then, it was so easy to blame others when things went wrong—because our world was all about us.

The fact is, we all want love, approval, and acceptance. That is why we are hard wired early on in life to blame others and deflect our own faults. Consequently, we spend the rest of our lives trying our best to overcome that instinct.

It is quite the paradox—knowing we're naturally one thing and fighting to be another.

Today, it is so easy to point the finger at others for disappointing outcomes while overlooking our own faults. "*It's not me ... it's everybody else.*" Sometimes the moment clouds the context.

Research from a national Advisory firm bears this out. No one is infallible. 80% of us have blind spots about our own skills—and that carries a cost to those around us and our organizations. Research also reveals that people who overstate their abilities are 6.2 times more likely to derail than those who are self-aware.      *Cont. on Page 4*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT.)

Continued from Page 3

We are all works in progress. So, instead of deflecting—we should be reflecting.

Here are some thoughts:

**Moving self-interest and selfishness to shared interest and selflessness.** Rather than trying to hide our self-interest, we need to recognize it for what it is. Then it becomes our job to transform self-interest into shared interest.

**When our personalities meet performance.** Research reveals five key factors for achieving superior organizational outcomes. Three are intuitive: **purpose, leadership, and strategy.** The other two probably do not come to mind automatically: **accountability and capability**—but together, they contribute about 50% of performance. The same holds true for individuals and our personalities—accountability is the all-important foundation.

**Accountability is a good look in the mirror.** When most people think about accountability, they immediately look through the lens of how accountable others are to them. But first, we should look in the mirror and see how accountable we are to ourselves—for who we are and how we act. A person's word is only as good as the last promise kept. If we want to know how we are doing, we only need to count the number of times we say, "I'm sorry"—in all its forms including, "That's on me," "That was the wrong call," and "You were right."

Responsibility is in the present, accountability is forever.

It is not "what's in it for me"—it's about shifting our focus to what we can create for others. This is our maturation process... not to deflect, but to reflect.

On Rosh Hashanah, each of us will embrace our own new year, but knowing we will do this together, in-person and as a Community, and at that important moment – a period of reflection and looking ahead.

**L'Shalom,**

**Mark Snow**  
**President**

## FROM THE RABBI

### I Look Forward to Talking with You!

I look forward to meeting with you to talk about, well, just about anything that might be on your mind.

While you can always leave this to chance by just dropping by CBJ, it's best to call or e-mail to set a time for us to meet. While it's wonderful when people just stop by, sometimes people are frustrated that I'm not available when they do so. The problem is that much of the time I'm at CBJ is already scheduled with meetings; also, I frequently have meetings and Pastoral requirements that take me out of the building; and finally, I usually spend one day a week (typically Thursday) working at home.

For these reasons, never hesitate during "normal" hours to call my cell phone, and please also call the cell number at *any* time for a life-cycle emergency or for any other truly pressing matter. I typically check e-mail at least a few times during the day, but please also know that I have a "dumb" phone and do *not* get e-mails instantly when away from the computer. I get texts just fine.

While I always prefer talking in person, one of e-mails' best features is that it's good for finding mutually-good times to meet.

So be in touch, and let's figure out a good time to talk!

L'Shalom,  
Rabbi Jeff Sultar

E-mail: [rabbi@congbj.org](mailto:rabbi@congbj.org)

Cell Phone: (732) 606-5381

# 5784/2023 FALL HOLY DAYS

## CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES:

<b>Rosh Hashanah:</b>	First Night, Friday, September 15, 6:53 pm Second Night, Saturday, September 16, after 7:09 pm Festival ends Sunday, September 17, after 7:37 pm
<b>Yom Kippur:</b>	Sunday night, September 24, 6:38 pm Shofar blowing/End of Fast, Monday, September 25, after 7:24 pm
<b>Sukkot:</b>	First night, Friday, September 29, 6:29 pm Second night, Saturday, September 30, after 6:46 pm Festival ends Sunday, October 1, after 7:14 pm
<b>Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah:</b>	Shemini Atzeret, Friday, October 6, 6:18 pm Simchat Torah, Saturday, October 7, 6:34 pm Festival ends Sunday, October 8, after 7:03 pm

## 5784/2023 FALL HOLY DAYS SERVICE TIMES:

**Selichot Learning and Service:** Saturday, September 9, 8:15 pm  
**Kehillah-wide Learning & Service, via Zoom**

**Cemetery Memorial Service:** Sunday, September 10, 1:30 pm  
(At B'nai Jacob Cemetery, Lovers Lane, Mont Clare)

**Erev Rosh Hashanah:** Friday, September 15, 7:00 pm  
**Day 1 Rosh Hashanah:** Saturday, September 16, 9:00 am  
    **Children's Service:** Saturday, September 16, 10:00 am  
    **Tashlich:** Saturday, September 16, 4:00 pm (at Phoenixville YMCA)  
**Day 2 Rosh Hashanah:** Sunday, September 17, 9:00 am

**Shabbat Shuvah:** Friday, September 23, 7:30 pm  
Saturday, September 24, 9:30 am

**Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre:** Sunday, September 24, 6:30 pm  
**Yom Kippur Morning:** Monday, September 25, 9:00 am  
    **Children's Service:** Monday, September 25, 10:00 am  
    **Mincha:** Monday, September 25, 4:30 pm  
    **Ne'ilah:** Monday, September 25, 6:00 pm  
    **Final Shofar:** Monday, September 25, after 7:24 pm

**Erev Sukkot/Shabbat:** Friday, September 29, 7:30 pm  
**Sukkot Day 1/Shabbat:** Saturday, September 30, 9:30 am  
**Sukkot Day 2:** Sunday, October 1, 9:30 am  
**Pizza in the Hut:** Sunday, October 1, during school

**Erev Shemini Atzeret/Shabbat:** Friday, October 6, 7:30 pm  
**Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor:** Saturday, October 7, 9:30 am  
**Erev Simchat Torah:** Saturday, October 7, 6:30 pm  
**Simchat Torah:** Sunday, October 8, 9:30 am

## 5784/2023 FALL HOLY DAYS

### Book of Remembrance

Once again, in keeping with our Jewish tradition, we memorialize our deceased loved ones by listing their names in the “Book of Remembrance.”

The Booklet will be used during Yizkor Services of our major holidays: Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, Pesach and Shavuot. Please take a moment to consider honoring your beloved departed; whether a parent, grandparent, close relative or dear friend by completing this form.

A minimum donation of \$10.00 per single name (Mr. & Mrs. are two names) will assure the placement of the names you wish to enter in the “Book of Remembrance 2023.” It is very important that you send or email your listing in promptly. You may also call the office during business hours (610-933-5550) to request your listing be included this year.

**Deadline: September 6<sup>th</sup>**

Get ready for Sukkot...

It will be here before you know it.

We are now taking orders for  
Etrog sets - \$40 for Standard Set



Please call (610-933-5550) or email ([admin@congbj.org](mailto:admin@congbj.org))

the office to place your order - Orders are due by 9/21

## SPONSOR AN ONEG

### Have something to celebrate?

Come celebrate with your CBJ family by sponsoring an Oneg on Friday nights and/or a Kiddush snack on Saturdays after services. We make it easy - contact Adrienne at 484-318-3385 (cell) or [burnsao@gmail.com](mailto:burnsao@gmail.com) for details.

### Seeking all CBJ foodies!

Come schmooze, nosh and help out with Synagogue functions! I need helping hands to set up Onegs and kiddushes, as well as other occasions, throughout the year. If you can give a little time, contact Adrienne at 484-318-3385 (cell) or [burnsao@gmail.com](mailto:burnsao@gmail.com) for details.

## CBJ Social Media

Use CBJ's Social Media (Facebook, CBJ website) to announce your events, special occasions etc. Contact Seth Loux - [seth@louxfamily.com](mailto:seth@louxfamily.com) and Jerry Weiss - [mjjimweiss7@gmail.com](mailto:mjjimweiss7@gmail.com) for the website

and/or Lorraine Schur - [LSCHUR116@gmail.com](mailto:LSCHUR116@gmail.com) and Jerry Weiss - [mjjimweiss7@gmail.com](mailto:mjjimweiss7@gmail.com) for Facebook.

## SCRIP PROGRAM

### Support CBJ with our New Easy to Use CBJ RaiseRight Scrip Program

**Support the new CBJ RaiseRight (formerly Shopwithscrip) by purchasing gift cards to your favorite stores and restaurants!**

**You purchase cards at face value and CBJ receives 2-20% on every purchase. Enjoy the convenience of having access to over 750 top brands from the comfort of your home or the ease of your phone!**

ACME, Giant, Amazon, Target, Walmart, Home Depot, GrubHub and many more! Birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduations, donate to people in need...

I Instructions are below but you may always contact Lisa Anton, Scrip Coordinator, at [lanton109@yahoo.com](mailto:lanton109@yahoo.com) help you through the process.

### Easy Enrollment on either your computer or phone:

1. Go to [www.raiseright.com](http://www.raiseright.com)
2. Click "Join a Program" (desktop) or "Register" (cell)
3. Enter enrollment code: **97999E3432453**
4. Follow the prompts to create your account and start shopping!
5. Your cart will show your total cost and CBJ's profit.
6. Pay directly from your bank account (with a \$.15 ACH fee) or use a credit card.

### If you participated in our previous scrip program, [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com):

1. Go to [raiseright.com](http://raiseright.com) on your computer, tablet or download the mobile app on your phone.
2. Use your [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) sign in information to login.
3. Your gift cards and payment information will be automatically transferred to your RaiseRight account.
4. Buy your gift cards and support CBJ!

**E-GIFT cards** can be sent directly (and, in most cases, instantly) to your computer or phone or to a loved one. For a processing fee, you can also purchase **PHYSICAL gift cards** and have them shipped directly to your home, friends or family. **In this new program, we will not keep gift cards in the office for purchase.**

Pay directly from your bank account or with a credit card. For any questions or if you would like to pay with a check, please contact Lisa Anton, Scrip Coordinator, at [lanton109@yahoo.com](mailto:lanton109@yahoo.com)



### Livestream All Services

We are excited to announce CBJ Livestream! Just follow these steps:

1. Go to [www.congbi.org](http://www.congbi.org) from your PC, Laptop, Tablet or Phone
2. Scroll down and click the button under Services – WATCH LIVESTREAM
3. Complete the very brief form and click SUBMIT
4. You will be taken to the CBJ Livestream page (BOXCAST) for the service

Welcome to CBJ's newest member!!

Paul and Naomi Richman, new members this year, had a blessed event.

Hannah Daphne Richman  
Born August 3, 2023

### Parents Of Our School Children:

Did you know CBJ offers a wonderful scholarship opportunity to our religious school families?

The **Louis and Sadie Liss Scholarship Fund** provides scholarships for the children of our members to enjoy enriching Jewish events including Jewish camps, USY on Wheels, USY Israel Pilgrimage, Maccabi Games, Passport to Israel Program and other wonderful experiences.

For more information or to apply for a scholarship, please contact Valerie in the office.

### UPDATED

Covid vaccination and up-to-date booster status is strongly encouraged for all who are eligible.

**NOTE:** Covid vaccination is no longer required.

Masking is encouraged, especially for those who are unvaccinated or otherwise high risk. CBJ is a mask friendly community, and everyone who chooses to should feel comfortable masking.

**NOTE:** Masking is not required.

If you have an illness (e.g., fever, cough, flu-like symptoms, sore throat, etc.), then please stay home.

Food and drink are allowed (as per pre-Covid CBJ policy).

Live streaming will continue.

## CBJU

### **From Congregation B'nai Jacob-U...**

Upcoming Events for Fall 2023 and Early 2024

Sunday, October 29, 2023 10:00 AM

Dr. Jonathan Lemco and Personal Finance 101

Friday, November 17, 2023 Speaker Shabbat

Hal Tucker-Gun Violence Prevention Update

Friday, January 19, 2024 Speaker Shabbat Madelyn Anton-Phoenixville Health Care Access

Sunday, January 21, 2024 Non-Profit Community Expo (Time TBA)

If you have a story or a lesson that you'd like to share as part of CBJ-U programming, contact

Ruth Yeiser: [ryeiser@alumni.upenn.edu](mailto:ryeiser@alumni.upenn.edu)

## HOUSE AND GROUNDS

### Help wanted...House and Grounds

The House and Grounds committee (of 1) is looking for volunteers to help from time to time.

Duties include setting up tables and chairs for High Holidays and other events, setting up and taking down the Sukkah and Hanukah Menorah, changing light bulbs and batteries in fire and burglar alarm systems and small handyman tasks.

There is also some outside clean up and maintenance, as well as needing help from time to time opening and closing the building for contractors.

Timing is generally very flexible.  
If you can help, please contact Chuck Epstein at [CLEpstein@gmail.com](mailto:CLEpstein@gmail.com) or 610-212-7744 (leave a message). Thank you!

--  
Chuck Epstein

## CEMETERY

### B'nai Jacob Cemetery Service

Visiting the graves of loved ones prior to the High Holidays helps connect us to the holidays' themes of renewal, repentance, reflection, and growth through memories of our loved ones.

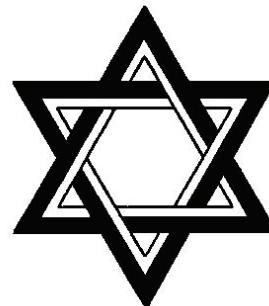
We visit the cemetery at this season to set our priorities straight, to remind ourselves about what truly matters, what remains long after we have left this earth.

That is why we visit. To reconnect, to remember and to go forth on our journey towards this fresh New Year, determined and inspired to live better lives.

Congregation B'nai Jacob and the Cemetery Association will hold a service led by Rabbi Jeff Sultar on Sunday, September 10, 2023 at 1:30 PM, at the B'nai Jacob Cemetery located at Lovers Lane, Mont Clare, PA 19453. Take PA-29N/Bridge St to Sowers St in Mont Clare. Follow Sowers St to Lovers Lane.



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CBJGroup>



## MEET OUR MEMBERS

*As an initiative of Team Engage, we will be sharing interviews with CBJ members to promote engagement within the congregation. This is the first in that series.*

### **Meet Kohenet Bekah Starr – Interview by Ellie Cantor for Team Engage**

Bekah Starr, her husband, Michael O'Brien, daughter Aria (age 8) and son Isaiah (age 11) have been members of CBJ for just over a year. They moved to Phoenixville from the Hudson Valley, NY, area to be closer to family and sought a community with good schools, an art scene, and, most importantly, a synagogue.

Originally from central New Jersey, Bekah grew up in the Reform Jewish community. After her bat mitzvah, she became very involved in Hebrew High School and NFTY, the Reform Jewish Youth Movement. She met Michael serendipitously in New York City when both were on their way to a music event. Michael is a physician and entrepreneur. He is board certified in internal medicine and pediatrics and has a focus in lifestyle medicine. Together, they rediscovered their Judaism and participated in the Romemu community (<https://romemu.org/>) in New York.

Bekah was ordained a Kohenet (Hebrew Priestess) by the Kohenet Hebrew Priestess Institute. She focuses on art and ritual in her priestessing. This organization "... reclaims and innovates embodied, earth-based feminist Judaism. Kohenet's spiritual leadership training, ordination programs, publications and community offerings center ritual as transformative practice." Her personal passions multi-media visual art and movement practices. She sees her art as "offering spiritual support through inspirational artwork, embodied ritual & spiritual mentorship," as stated on her website: <https://www.bekahstarrart.com/>.

She currently serves as the Jewish Life Coordinator for Ursinus College, where she is involved in engagement and programming for the students. Bekah's previous work experiences included PJ Library, Eden Village Camp, teaching, and performing baby naming ceremonies and other life cycle rituals.

Bekah fondly recalls celebrating the Jewish holidays in her parents' home by sharing traditional foods. Her father created many versions of matzah brei – from sweet to savory – and served them to a house full of friends and family each Pesach. The same was true for Hanukkah when latkes abounded.

We at CBJ welcome Bekah and her family to the B'nai Jacob family!



HELP RAISE MONEY FOR  
**CONGREGATION B'NAI JACOB**

**DINE &  
DONATE**

TUESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 5TH

THIS IS HOW IT WORKS!

DINE IN OR ORDER ONLINE

MENTION "CONGREGATION B'NAI JACOB"

VECCHIA WILL DONATE 20%

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VECCHIARESTAURANT.COM FOR ONLINE ORDERS  
OR CALL 610.933.1355

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

### Welcome Back Ice Cream Social

Please Join us at 6:30 pm for an Ice Cream Social  
and Celebration of August & September Birthdays & Anniversaries

Followed by a 7:30 pm Family-friendly Service



COMMUNITY

### Selichot Program and Service



**Saturday, September 9 | 8:15 p.m. | Virtual**

Kickoff this holiday season on a high note with a virtual Community Selichot Program from Chester & Delaware County Kehillot. Sing along to a musical performance of Leonard Cohen's classics, enjoy an interactive discussion on Cohen's lyrics, and be inspired by the brief selichot service.



**Register at [jewishphilly.org/selichot](http://jewishphilly.org/selichot)**

Advance registration is encouraged by Thursday, September 7

Questions? Contact Shelley Rappaport at [delawarecounty@jewishphilly.org](mailto:delawarecounty@jewishphilly.org)



**Jewish Federation  
of Greater Philadelphia**

Chester County Kehillah  
Delaware County Kehillah





# FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

## Sunday: Pick Up at Posted Times

September 10, 2023 10:30-10:45 AM  
October 15, 2023 10:30-10:45 AM  
November 19, 2023 10:30-10:45 AM  
December 17, 2023 10:30-10:45 AM  
January 14, 2024 10:30-10:45 AM  
February 11, 2024 10:30-10:45 AM  
March 10, 2024 11:30-10:45 AM  
April 7, 2024 10:30-10:45 AM  
May 5, 2024 11:30-11:45 AM  
June 2, 2024 10:30-10:45 AM



CBJ has partnered with the Jewish Relief Agency (JRA) and PACS to create a network for delivering groceries to resource challenged households in the Phoenixville Area one Sunday a month. We are now delivering to over 40 households in the area. **In order to make this program as successful as possible, we need your help delivering boxes!** It's a small commitment with a big impact.

All congregants are welcome to participate in this wonderful mitzvah delivering boxes to our neighbors in need!

To volunteer or for more information, please contact Ruth Yeiser at  
[ryeiser@alumni.upenn.edu](mailto:ryeiser@alumni.upenn.edu)

## **CBJ Goes to New York City**

Join us on Sunday, October 29, 2023, for a day in NYC via



The bus will leave from Congregation B'nai Jacob,  
Starr & Manavon Sts, Phoenixville, PA at 10 a.m.  
Return trip to CBJ will leave NYC at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Drop off and pick up in NYC will be at the Marriott Marquis  
535 Broadway (between 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Streets)

**While in New York, you may:**

\*Take in a show (pre-purchase your tickets on your own  
or see what TKTS in Times Square has to offer)\*

\*Head for a museum\*

\*Go shopping\*

\*Meet up with friends and family\*

\*Dine at your choice of restaurant\*

**Go With Us** will provide water, juice, and breakfast snacks on the way to New York, and water, soft drinks, and packaged snacks on the way home.

Coffee and tea are BYO.

Cost (excluding tips) is \$85 per person

**Reservations and pre-payment are required**

RSVP to [admin@congbj.org](mailto:admin@congbj.org) by October 10<sup>th</sup>

Make checks payable to Congregation B'nai Jacob and mail to:

101 Manavon St., Phoenixville, PA 19460

Tickets are limited, so reserve early.

**All Are Welcome – Tell Your Friends!**

## IN OUR COMMUNITY

### Congregation B'nai Jacob University Presents:

October 29, 2023

In-Person

10:00 AM



Personal Finance 101

Dr. Jonathan Lemco



**Dr. Jonathan Lemco**, recently retired from Vanguard and longtime member of CBJ, has written or edited eleven books and many articles on sovereign risk, comparative public policy and international economics. At Vanguard, Dr. Lemco managed the Emerging Markets Investment Team. He also spent four years as a professor at The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

"Personal Finance 101" will cover such topics as the difference between stocks and bonds, indexed vs. actively managed mutual funds, and how the broad economy might affect the markets. Participants will not get any personal financial advice, but questions can be sent ahead of time so that the conversation is tailored to the particular interests of the audience. Send your questions to: Jonathan Lemco <[jmlemco@gmail.com](mailto:jmlemco@gmail.com)>.

RSVP to the Synagogue Office [admin@congbj.org](mailto:admin@congbj.org) or 610-933-5550

Congregation B'nai Jacob  
Starr and Manavon Streets  
Phoenixville PA



*Our goal is to offer rich lifelong learning experiences to all within CBJ and the greater community through programs informed by Jewish values and presented in an atmosphere of fairness, balance, and respect.*

### CBJ Wine Tasting Fundraiser

**Date:** Saturday Evening, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

**Location:** Dr. Joel and Judy Eisner's lovely home on Creek Rd.  
(just minutes from CBJ)

**Cost:** \$60 per person- This event is open to adult members, friends and families

**Registration:** call Valerie in the CBJ office at 610-933-5550

Please join us for a fun evening of wine tasting. The tasting will be led by Moore Brothers Wine Company. We will be tasting 5 wines, including one or two that might elevate your Thanksgiving and/or New Year's festivities.

Our evening will begin at 7:00 pm and will include a Kosher style cold buffet dinner. Come and enjoy an evening of fun, wine tasting and education, good food, and socialization.



#### About Moore Brothers Wine Company

Moore Brothers Wine Company is unique. In 1996, Greg Moore, Sommelier and General Manager of the renowned Le Bec-Fin, and his brother David, a prominent wine retailer, created a wine store that reimagined the retail wine experience.

They represent the work of winegrowers committed to sustainable farming, small production, and the traditions of their respective regions.

Many of the producers they represent are considered among the finest in the world. Through personal relationships with these small wineries, the wines come directly from the cellars under perfect temperature controlled systems.



## DONATIONS

### **B'nai Jacob Cemetery**

Paul Honig in loving memory of father, Nathan Honig

### **Congregation B'nai Jacob**

Ellie Cantor in memory of beloved grandmother, Yetta Cantor  
Linda Segal in memory of beloved father, David Futtersak  
Hal Katz in memory of beloved wife, Kate Katz

### **Pinkus Stern Torah Restoration Fund**

Paul Honig in loving memory of mother, Trudy Honig

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

Joel and Judy Eisner in memory of Joel's beloved mother, Margaret Eisner

### **Security Fund**

Chuck and Roslyn Epstein in honor of Fred Liss's retirement

### **Sisterhood Fund**

Stephen and Lorraine Schur in memory of Stephen's beloved mother, Mary Schur  
Gari & Charles Bloom & Family in memory of Jim, with wishes for refuah shlema to Marilyn Goldman  
Mark and Lori Snow in memory of Mark's beloved mother, Adele Snow



## SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS



### Birthday Wishes

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Fred Liss         | 19 Naomi Neumann      |
| 3 Michael O'Brien   | 22 Joyce Shor Wilkens |
| 3 Michael Kane      | 23 Bekah Starr        |
| 5 Sarah Fleisher    | 23 Eric Miller        |
| 7 Claire Liss       | 24 Elaina Anton       |
| 8 Dawn Baskin       | 24 Aaron Liss         |
| 9 Alan Verbit       | 25 Larry Liss         |
| 9 Jeffrey Goodman   | 26 Kirstyn Walton     |
| 10 Dan Copeland     | 28 Mary Jane Weiss    |
| 10 Jordan Copeland  | 30 Leah Burns         |
| 10 Jocelyn Copeland | 30 Sonja Goldman      |
| 15 Steven Kerner    |                       |



- |                                |
|--------------------------------|
| 3 Mia & Doug Sigafoos          |
| 6 Kathryn & Larry Koller       |
| 9 Naomi & Jerry Neumann        |
| 11 Helene & Manny Bachman      |
| 12 Anne & David Schiffman      |
| 14 Eric Paster & Melissa Kenig |
| 16 Amy & Juan Borla            |
| 20 Heather & Jeffrey Goodman   |
| 21 Dawn & Andrew Baskin        |

## SEPTEMBER YAHRZEIT

<u>September</u>	<u>Hebrew Month</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Honoree</u>
1	ELUL	15	Morris Richman
2	ELUL	16	Donald Mandell
2	ELUL	16	Florence Weinstock
2	ELUL	16	Harry Ehrenkranz
3	ELUL	17	Sydney Kulick
4	ELUL	18	Lena Goldberg
4	ELUL	18	Leah Nathan
5	ELUL	19	Doris Burg
6	ELUL	20	Mark Heyderman
7	ELUL	21	Laurette Berger
8	ELUL	22	Isadore Clompus
8	ELUL	22	Leah Cramer
9	ELUL	23	William S. Bernard
10	ELUL	24	Max Manny Stern
10	ELUL	24	Murray Director
10	ELUL	24	Alan Feinberg
10	ELUL	24	Herbert Baskin
11	ELUL	25	Kate Eisdorfer
11	ELUL	25	Maria Kaplow
11	ELUL	27	Anastasia Berger
13	ELUL	27	Martha Cherashore
13	ELUL	27	Gordon F. Phillips
14	ELUL	28	Claire Goldstein
15	ELUL	29	Bessie Diamond
16	TISHRI	1	Louis Siegel
18	TISHRI	3	Freda Zorn Sherman
18	TISHRI	3	Lawrence Solomon
18	TISHRI	3	Ilsa Katz
18	TISHRI	3	Lewis Berkley
19	TISHRI	4	Lillian Goldstein
19	TISHRI	4	Estelle Bernard Solomon
20	TISHRI	5	Morris Shor
20	TISHRI	5	Blanche Bachman
20	TISHRI	5	Samuel Freeman
20	TISHRI	5	Hannah Shusterman
20	TISHRI	5	Daniel Yellen
20	TISHRI	5	Esther Ehrenkranz
21	TISHRI	6	Vera Siegel
22	TISHRI	7	Celia Boyer
23	TISHRI	8	Mimi Yager
23	TISHRI	8	Selma Kornblum
24	TISHRI	9	Eva Yager
25	TISHRI	10	Minnie Gruess
26	TISHRI	11	Emanuel M. Gruess
26	TISHRI	11	Phyllis Miller
27	TISHRI	12	Abraham Diamond
27	TISHRI	12	Harry Robert Siller
28	TISHRI	13	Allen Cooper
28	TISHRI	13	Louis Snow
28	TISHRI	13	Kymme Kaufman
30	TISHRI	15	Sadie Goldberg
30	TISHRI	15	Samuel Weiss
30	TISHRI	15	William Silverman

## THE TREE OF LIFE

In Judaism, the "Tree of Life" often symbolizes the wisdom of the Torah. In Proverbs it says: "Its ways are ways of pleasantness, and all its paths are peace. It is a tree of life for those who grasp it, and those who draw near it are fortunate." Laws and customs connected with trees permeate the Bible and Talmud, providing an ethical basis underlying human relationships (tithing and charity) and the environment (ecology).

We have a beautiful Tree of life sculpture as you enter our main lobby on the right hand wall. Stop a minute next time you are in the building and look at the names and memories permanently ensconced there- most are happy memories- milestone events like b'nai mitzvahs, marriages and appreciations for life-long friends.

You will see momentous occasions like 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries and 80<sup>th</sup> or "special" birthdays commemorated on the tree. Other leaves document continuity celebrations for our congregation like births of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Testimonials of generous service to our congregation and other individuals are written in its' boughs.

It tells a story of a community- our community- one we can celebrate and continue to tell going forward.

This is a great time to purchase one and add to our legacy. Let this Tree of Life bring our congregation both physical and spiritual sustenance for the years to come.

To purchase a leaf, contact Carol Actor ([cffactor@verizon.net](mailto:cffactor@verizon.net)). Leaves are \$150 each.

## Board of Directors

### Executive Committee

Mark Snow, President  
Jerry Weiss, First Vice President  
Andy Baskin,MD, Second Vice President  
Mary Jane Weiss, Third Vice President  
Larry Liss, Treasurer  
Kenneth Kulick, Financial Secretary  
Sheli James, Recording Secretary  
Ellie Cantor, Corresponding Secretary  
Charles Epstein, Security Officer  
Eric Miller, Chairman of Board of Trustees  
Rabbi Jeff Sultar, ex officio

### Committee Chairs

Sandy Stone, Religious Life/Memorial Plaques  
Chuck Epstein, House and Grounds  
Jerry Neumann, Chevra Kadisha  
Adrienne Burns, Kitchen/Kashrut–  
Carol Actor, Tree of Life  
Fred Liss, Scholarship  
Kathy Koller , Membership  
Lorraine Schur, Public Relations and Social Media  
Lee Berger, Visitation  
Jennifer Ford-Bey, Education  
Joel Eisner,MD, Mark Real, MD &  
Mike Trachtenberg, Major Gifts

5783-84  
2023

# September

elul  
tishri



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

	AUGUST	OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			29	30
31							31	
3	17 elul	4	18 elul	5	19 elul	6	20 elul	7
10	24 elul	11	25 elul	12	26 elul	13	27 elul	14
17	2 tishri	18	3 tishri	19	4 tishri	20	5 tishri	21
24	9 tishri	25	10 tishri	26	11 tishri	27	12 tishri	28

**AUGUST**

9am-12/1pm 1st Day RS  
9:00 am SH Bake Sale  
10:30 am IRA/CBU/PACS  
Food Distrib Pick Up  
1:30 pm Cemetery service

**3**

Fundraiser: Dine & Donate  
@ Vecchia in Phoenixville  
(restaurant hrs 5-8:30 pm)

**10**

LABOR DAY

**17**

9:00 am 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah Service  
NO Religious School

**ROSH HASHANAH**

**24**

6:30 pm Erev Yom Kippur  
Kippur Kol Nidre Service  
NO Religious School

**1**

**2**

9:30 am Service

**9:30 pm** Welcome Back  
Ice Cream Social and  
Aug/Sept Birth/Anniv  
celebration  
7:30 pm Service

**14**

Executive Committee/then  
7:15 pm Minyan, followed  
by Board Meeting

**20**

**21**

**22**

7:30 pm Service

**EREV ROSH HASHANAH**

**21**

6 tishri

**22**

7 tishri

**23**

8 tishri

**14 tishri**

**29**

14 tishri

**30**

15 tishri

**16 elul**

**2**

16 elul

**9:30 am** Service

**9:30 pm** Welcome Back  
Ice Cream Social and  
Aug/Sept Birth/Anniv  
celebration  
7:30 pm Service

**15**

28 elul

**16**

1 tishri

**17**

9:00 am 1st Day  
Rosh Hashanah Service  
4:00 pm - Tashlich @ Phx  
YMCA

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**9:30 am** Service

**7:30 pm** Erev Sukkot  
Service

**EREV SUKKOT**

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