Mar - Apr 2018

#### 2017-2018 Board of Trustees

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Scott Raynes

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Religious School Coordinator Barbara Jacobs

# A message from the President ...

Exciting times are ahead! As the long, not-so-cold winter fades away, we've got some amazing activities in the coming weeks and months. With so much going on these days, it's hard not to be excited!

- April 8<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Study Panel Rabbi Moskowitz and Pastor David Wright will host a
  discussion series on 'The Psalms and King David'. This first session of the series focuses on
  "David the Shepherd". Our goal is share an opportunity for learning and fellowship,
  exploring our shared spiritual heritage and encouraging collaboration between our two
  congregations, B'nai Torah and Westminster Presbyterian Church.
- April 29<sup>th</sup> Mock Israel Trip We'll be taking our religious school on a pretend trip to Israel. We'll start at customs with our passports in hand, and move onto El Al Airlines, flight #5. We'll enjoy falafel, and stops at the Western Wall and Masada. If it sounds like fun, you're right! We need volunteers to help make the experience as amazing as possible. Please reach out to Barb Jacobs is you'd like to get involved!
- May 6<sup>th</sup> Sababa rocks B'nai Torah! CBT hosts 'Jewish music's coolest band!'
- May 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Congregation meeting. We'll be electing officers as well as several interim Trustees at Large.

#### Also:

- Check out our new website!
- Follow us on Facebook and see what else is going on at CBT
- Write a <u>review on Google</u>

Join us for some of these amazing events.

Sincerely, Scott Raynes







## Volunteer Spotlight:

B'nai Torah is overflowing with kind-hearted and generous members. In that way, we are truly blessed. I can't imagine how we would function without them and I truly thank you all. This month, the volunteer spotlight shines on Deborah Doleshal, someone who personifies that kind and generous spirit.

Deborah, not Deb, serves as a member of Board of Trustees, as well as our Oneg Coordinator. She's a registered dietician, and food, health and wellness blogger on Facebook at <u>vegwonderful</u>. Deborah has led several cooking-related events including a healthy latke making session for Hanukkah. Deborah recently began coordinating roaming Shabbat gatherings in the off-weeks between services, and hosted the first at her home last month. She also introduces us to new dishes that expand and challenge our views of vegan and gluten-free cooking.

Deborah is actively involved in planning and organizing community events and you might never know it. She's incredibly humble, but don't let that fool you. She's not shy. She's very social and ever enthusiastic about building the CBT community. For those reasons, and many others, we thank her and appreciate everything she does for our congregation!



## **Religious School update**

We're preparing for our Mock Israel trip on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Students were excited about completing their passports. Daniel and his mom Nikki brought in an instant photo camera and Daniel was helpful in taking everyone's passport photos. The kids were showed photos of 'the Wall' and Barb explained about inserting notes between the bricks. We're getting excited!

### 2017-18 Religious School Curriculum

<u>February-March</u>: Adar-Nissan: Religious freedom, interfaith, Purim and Passover, God hidden in the text and in our actions, refugees in Colorado, Anti-Defamation League (ADL)

- Jewish Texts: Book of Esther, Torah, Haggadah
- Action Items: Collection of items for a Refugee family in Colorado (connecting with church to do this),
   Collection and delivery of Passover Food for need Jewish family in Colorado, Guest speaker from ADL about protecting various religious groups and safety in the community, antisemitism, etc.
- Friday night services Purim and Community Seder: collection of items, teaching and presenting of projects, inviting non-Jewish guests to learn about us while we learn about them

<u>April-May</u>: Iyar: Israel (70 years), American Jews or Jewish Americans, Israeli historical figures (Ben Gurion, Golda Meir, etc.), history and modernity, Jerusalem - facing East and prayers in the wall, modern Israeli discoveries (learn what was invented in Israel), Arava Institute in the Negev

• Action Items: Pick a charity in Israel as a class to donate to, Plan a Yom-Ha'atzmaut celebration for our synagogue with Israeli food, dancing, etc.





# Purim 2018!



# Chocolate-covered Matzah recipe

## Ingredients:

- 5 sheets of matzah
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 cups chocolate chips
- 2 cups chopped nuts (optional) and/or
- Crushed toffee candy (optional)

#### Directions:

- Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
- Line an 11 x 17 inch pan with foil and grease the foil with butter or line the pan with parchment paper.
- Line pan with the matzah sheets.
- Melt the brown sugar and butter over medium heat. Once melted, boil undisturbed for 3 minutes.
- Remove from heat. Pour mixture over matzah. Spread mixture with a spoon so it covers as much of the matzah as possible.
- Bake in the preheated oven for 5 minutes.
- Remove from oven. Sprinkle matzah sheets with the chocolate chips. Let stand for a few minutes until melted and spread the chocolate with the back of a spoon.
- Sprinkle with nuts and/or toffee if desired.
- Put entire pan in refrigerator to harden and cool.
- Break into pieces and enjoy!







PJ Library Comes to CBT

It was so fun to teach the kids about why, when and how to celebrate Havdalah. Here is an overview of the afternoon:

- Sang and moved to Head Shoulders Knees and Toes to warm up our senses, because we use all our senses for Havdalah.
- We dimmed the lights and did the entire Havdalah ceremony. The multi wick candle was a hit!
- Then right into singing Shavua Tov.
- They were then invited to decorate a special Havdalah Kiddush cup and make a Havdalah Porcupine with an orange and cloves.
- As they were working, Roberta and I sang the very traditional Havdalah song, Eliyahu Hanavi.
- I gave all the kids the PJ Library Havdalah scratch and sniff cards to take home, so they could continue the conversation with their family.
- Closed with a high five and wished them all a Shavua Tov!





### Ways to get involved and support CBT:

- Attend Board meetings We encourage members to attend a board meeting once a year. Come and spend 2
  hours with us one Sunday and gain an understanding of how the Board serves the congregation, and the
  decisions we make on its behalf. Meetings are usually held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month.
- Host an Oneg Hosting an Oneg is an easy way to get involved in the community. Signing up to bring food
  after services allows you to engage with members at a deeper level and support the congregation in a fun
  way. To learn more, contact Deborah Doleshal, our Oneg Coordinator.
- Volunteering There are numerous opportunities to get connected with the CBT community:
  - Help with a fundraiser like our Purim baskets
  - o Man our booth at the Boulder Jewish Festival
  - o Participate in the Purim Shpiel
  - Coordinate an event like the 'Lunch and Learns' or community dinners

Interested in helping to make our congregation stronger? Have other ideas on ways to volunteer? Contact a board member or email us at <a href="mailto:bnaitorahpres@gmail.com">bnaitorahpres@gmail.com</a>. We'd love to hear from you.



Did you know Amazon.com will donate a portion of your purchases to the non-profit organization of your choice? They will if you go to www.smile.amazon.com when you shop. In short, CBT can benefit from the purchases you're already making. Please consider signing up for the program, and selecting 'Congregation Bnai Torah' as your designated organization. For additional details and Frequently Asked Questions, please visit the Amazon Smile Program FAQ page.



Have you signed up for Vanco yet? Vanco allows members to pay their dues and make donations electronically. Setting up electronic payments is easy, and helps ensure that CBT maintains a consistent financial state.

Electronic transfers or credit card payments can be set up at regular intervals including monthly, quarterly and annually using the Vanco link on our website at the top of the page.



The King Soopers card program is an easy way to help CBT without financial commitment. Pre-load money that you normally spend on groceries onto the gift card. Then simply pay with the gift card when you go shopping. You can even load the card right at the register before they start ringing up your groceries. CBT gets a percentage of purchases paid with those cards.

If you're interested in obtaining a card, please contact <u>Paula Emeson</u> or click <u>here</u> for more information.



### o Birthdays

Hal Levison	3/1	Rabbi Moskowitz	3/24	David Thorne	4/10
Ari Buechler	3/2	Marla Bender	3/24	John Beltrone	4/10
Mike Metlay	3/6	Cat Palmer	3/28	Rebecca White	4/19
Lyric Martin	3/12	Aydia Kaplan	3/31	Adrienne Jacobi	4/19
Todd Doleshal	3/16	Kera Magarill	4/3	Jill Kingen	4/21
Jerry Failing	3/18	Sean Thorne	4/5	Robert Barclay	4/27
, 6	-, -	Marsha Corn	4/6	Anne Perry	4/27
Aneesha Parrone	3/22	Max Guerra	4/7	Ilene Raynes	4/28
Sarah Hendricks	3/24	Wax Gaerra			

### o Anniversarys

Joshua L. Brodsky

Karen Hartman & Evan Siegal 4/2 Susan & Stephen Scruggs 4/17 Erin & Robert Barclay 4/29

Brodsky

### o Yahrzeits In Honor Of

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Jacob Firestone	3/8	Firestone
David Brown	3/10	Failing
Anita Perkins	3/15	White / Pancheri
Pearl 'Bunny' Tabachnik	3/31	Handler
Jerry Fear	4/10	Fear
Ann Handler	4/11	Jessen
David Freedman	4/11	Freedman
Nettie Farkas	4/13	Farkas
Peter Traub	4/14	Metlay
Tom Parrone	4/21	Parrone
Rose Handler	4/30	Handler
Sidney Handler	4/30	Handler

3/7

#### Save the Dates:

April 15<sup>th</sup> - FunRaiser at Sweet Tomatoes

April 29<sup>th,</sup> 2018 - Mock Israel Trip

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - <u>Sababa</u> concert

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Annual Congregation meeting

Visit us online at www. bnai-torah-colorado.org

Like us on facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Congregation-Bnai-Torah