



Summer 2016  
Volume 15 Issue 1

# Beth Chaverim

Humanistic Jewish Community



## Upcoming Events

### **Jewish Festival**

Sunday, June 5  
St. Paul Woods  
Morton Grove

### **Soup Kitchen**

Sunday, June 26  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Evanston

### **Adult Education**

Siblings in the Bible  
Wednesday, June 1  
Wednesday, July 13  
Wednesday, August 10  
2:00pm  
Barnes & Noble, Deerfield

### **Book Club**

Monday, June 20  
Monday, July 18  
Tuesday, August 9

### **Maxwell Street Klezmer Band Concert**

Sunday, July 31  
Devonshire Park, Skokie

### **Shabbat Under The Stars**

Friday, August 26

## **The Difference You Make**

When Beth Chaverim celebrated its b'nai mitzvah, turning 13, we engaged in a significant community service project and proudly wore t-shirts that declared "Thirteen Years of Making a Difference." The idea that each of us can make a difference to improve the world in big and small ways is a fundamental principle of our community. Collectively we accomplish so very much. But it is really what each of you can do. You are empowered to make a difference; you have the ability to achieve change. As Gandhi said, "be the change you want to see in the world." Humanistic Judaism offers the vehicle to increase your authority over your own life. It philosophically values the power you have to make a difference. You can assume responsibility for the Judaism that reflects your values, your family and your life. You can educate your children in a meaningful and relevant way that treasures Jewish culture without being bound to another's notion of being Jewish. You can participate in life cycle events that reflect the people about whom the event is undertaken. And you can engage in holiday celebrations that enhance your Jewish identity. There is great power in this and great responsibility. There is no one else who can make these decisions for you, and no one else who can take either the credit or the blame. Indeed Beth Chaverim is the place where you can make a difference.

become engaged. In the ensuing thirteen years, scores of children have benefited because you found it important to donate toys, books and school supplies. Their lives have been made better because of you. Over the years, even animals have been the recipients of your generosity as you donated pet supplies and made animal toys for the local animal shelter. You have responded to the financial needs of the victims of natural disasters locally and around the world. Even a brief look at the good works done, you can see that you have much to be proud of.

Likewise, our Beth Chaverim community has been the beneficiary of your generosity as you support our programs with your attendance, and financial donations. You have been there to support each other in times of great tragedy and to celebrate in times of great joy. You have entrusted your children for their Jewish education; and watching them grow and think as they develop their Jewish identities is a point of immense personal privilege. It is you who makes Beth Chaverim what it is, and I could not be more proud nor more privileged to be your rabbi.

I hope you will find in these pages more opportunities that attract you to Beth Chaverim and that you will join us over the summer.

B'shalom,

*Rabbi Jodi*



Since our founding, all of you have worked to feed the hungry giving your time at a soup kitchen, or making breakfast for the local homeless shelter; or giving groceries to the food pantry. Hundreds of people have benefited because you chose to

## President's End of Year Annual Address 2016

Dear Members:

It is so difficult to “summarize” this year’s Beth Chaverim experience. I cannot begin with anything except to express my deep sorrow at the passing of our rebbitzin, our teacher, our friend and our unofficial song leader and in house poet David Kornfeld. He will be dearly missed. The closeness of our Beth Chaverim “family” was demonstrated over and over this spring with outpourings of support for Rabbi Jodi and her family as well as for our community.

Through all of this, I want to thank Rabbi Jodi for her unwavering commitment to Beth Chaverim. I want to be sure she is aware how much we appreciate her resolve to continue to make our community a place of learning, sharing, giving and friendship.

Next, I would like to thank the steering committee members who work with Rabbi Jodi to plan our programming each year. Our members include David Kantor, Alan Solid, Sue Pinkus, Michele Wartell, Jodi Hernandez, Carolyn and Dan Lewis, Laurie Matlin and my husband Steve Rusnak. I’d especially like to express my gratitude to Linda Horn who took over so much in helping me to keep things running this spring.

We are so grateful to our dedicated teachers for helping our children to learn about Judaism, humanism and community. Dick Strauss, Rabbi Jodi and Kiley Hernandez have been instrumental in working with our children to help them build a Jewish identity. Brooke Perlman has continued as our wonderful music director and our High Holiday vocalist. A special mention goes out to Jillana Enteen for stepping up and taking over David’s class for the remainder of the spring semester.

I want to be sure to mention our appreciation to our helping hands committee headed by Laurie Matlin. They are active in providing food and support for the members of our community experiencing temporary setbacks. They have provided both meals and transportation for members in need.

This community would not be successful without the efforts of so many members who have found both time and funding to help with the multiple projects we have undertaken during the year. From those who have shopped for and cooked PADS breakfasts to members setting up Tu B’shevat and Chocolate Seders to hosting book club and baking for the High Holidays. You are the ones who make Beth Chaverim a wonderful community. Please know that your time, effort and donations are appreciated.

We have some exciting projects planned for the 2016-1017 calendar year. Our first new commitment is taking charge once per month during the warmer months to help distribute fresh food leftover at the end of the Saturday Deerfield Farmers Market to those in need. Please watch your email for information about how you can help. Next year we are planning to continue with our PADS breakfasts to help the homeless. Once we are back at The Center for Enriched Living in the fall, the students will again be able to make the meals and participate more fully in this project. We will once again be making and serving a summer barbecue meal at the food kitchen at St. Paul’s Church in Evanston on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers and food donations for both projects are much appreciated.

The Chicagoland Jewish Festival will be held this summer on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>. We will again have a booth at the festival and hope that you can join us.

This summer we will once again get together for an evening concert at Devonshire Park in Skokie and we will end our summer with our Annual Shabbat Under the Stars Evening. All are welcome and please feel free to invite guests (especially potential members).

It appears that the construction at The Center for Enriched Living in Riverwoods will finish in time for us to start back there with the beginning of the Sunday School semester in the fall. This will give us access to a new and improved kitchen as well as new program rooms and gym area for our multiple activities.

We are launching a new Preschool Initiative to be taught by our own Dan Lewis. On five Sunday mornings during the school year a one hour program for three to four year olds will focus on teaching the children about the Jewish Holidays. The program is free for members but is also open to non-members and we hope you will encourage friends and family to attend.

We are continuing our music program with Brooke next fall. Our school will continue to celebrate Sukkot, Simchat Torah, Chanukah, Tu B’shevat, Purim and Passover during Sunday School in addition to our Annual Friday evening Chanukah Party in December and our Community Seder in the spring.

## President's End of Year Annual Address 2016 Continued

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services will be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 12<sup>th</sup> respectively. We will celebrate Sukkot during Sunday school hours on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. As a special project this year, a week before Sukkot we will be making lulavs and etrogs out of Challah dough. All are invited even if you don't have children in our Sunday school program. Our Annual Chanukah Party this year will be on December 16<sup>th</sup> and our Community Passover Seder will take place on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Tentative plans are being made to again cosponsor a program in October with the Southeast Lake County Interreligious Council. The previous Saturday evening performances have been wonderful and this year's show is rumored to be a music performance exploring interfaith issues. The tentative date for this program is Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Be sure to look for more information before the High Holidays.

Our schedule has many things to offer for everyone. Other events that are added during our fiscal year will be sent to you as e-mails as well as being posted in our newsletter. Be sure we have an updated e-mail address. Please don't forget that you're welcome to join us for book club or Bible study. No experience is necessary. Also feel free to consider inviting friends and potential future members to join us at any of our upcoming events. Word of mouth and trying us out are by far the best way to attract new membership to our community.

Finally, thank you all for being the Beth Chaverim Humanistic Community and know that I feel privileged to be a part of this House of Friends. This is a wonderful group of adults and children who go out of their way to embrace the Jewish Culture while working to make this world a better place.

*Debi Rusnak, President*



### School Supply Drive—Jewish Child and Family Services



Beth Chaverim is proud to participate in the School Supply Drive sponsored by Jewish Child and Family Services. Now through August 1, we will be collecting the following items needed by children served by JCFS in pre-K through High School. You can drop items off at Rabbi Jodi's home, or make other arrangements. The supplies must be new.

**Items are: backpacks – solid colored; erasers; glue sticks; paper, spiral notebook or loose leaf; ruler; crayons; folders; markers, washable; pencils; scissors.**



### Beth Chaverim Mission Statement

Beth Chaverim is a place for individuals and families to explore their Jewish heritage and traditions, to learn to think critically and independently about religious and theological issues, and to develop meaningful and relevant Jewish identities through education.

## What's Happening at Beth Chaverim

### *Mah Nishmah*

To the following families who provided the food for our February PADS breakfast: **The Cheskin family, the Enciso family, the Grant family, the Horn family, the Kantor family, the Kornfeld family, the Latulippe family, the Lewis family, the Shore family and the Lewis family** for delivering it.

To the following families who provided the food for our March PADS breakfast: **the Cheskin family, the Kantor family, the Lewis family and the Shore family.**

To the following families who provided the food for our April PADS breakfast: **The Grant family, the Kantor family, the Lewis family, the Rusnak family, the Shore family, and the Solid family**

**Jillana Enteen** for helping with mask making in the fifth/sixth grade class

**Laurie and Bob Matlin** for substitute teaching the third/fourth and primary classes

**Nancy Freedkin** for helping with the Purim celebration, making no-bake hamantashen.

**Jillana Enteen, Linda Horn, Bettina Ittovici, Dan and Carolyn Lewis, and Amy Tamul** for helping at the chocolate seder.

**To our e-auction donors:**

- Nancy & Stuart Babendir
- Ben Kornfeld & Bridget Wild
- Bob Strauss
- Alan Solid
- Abt Electronics
- Cora Lee Candies
- Crossroads Soft Cloth Car Wash
- Olsky Jewelers
- Sabrabooks.com
- Spritzology
- Cooper's Hawk Winery
- Courtyard by Marriott
- Hilton Chicago Northbrook
- Shedd Aquarium
- AMC Theaters
- Life Line Theatre
- Northlight Theater
- NorthShore Chamber Music Festival
- Metropolis Theater
- Barnaby's of Northbrook
- Bob Chinn's Crabhouse
- Café Pyrenees
- Claim Company
- Culver's
- Dover Straits
- Egg Harbor Café
- Ely's of Glenview
- Il-Forno Pizzeria
- Johnny's Kitchen & Tap
- Lou Malnati's Pizzeria
- Mariano's
- Meatheads
- Rosati's Pizza
- Superdawg
- Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa
- The Right Bank Salon
- UB Spa Nails

### Todah Rabah

*means thank you  
very much*

### Mazel Tov

**Kiley Hernandez** who graduated Mundelein High School and will attend Carroll University

**Sophia Whittemore** who graduated Benet Academy and will attend Dartmouth College

**Aaron Freedkin** on his graduation from Lake Zurich High School

**Mindy Shore** on her graduation from University of Illinois

**Sophia Whittemore** on the publication of her novel, Mr. Funnyman

**The Grant Family** on **Lindsey's** bat mitzvah

**Ben Kornfeld & Bridget Wild** on the birth of their son, Theodore Brady



### Donations

Alicia Gejman  
Linda & Rich Horn

### We Remember



**David Kornfeld,**  
*Husband of Rabbi Jodi  
Father of Ben and Emma Kornfeld*

## Beth Chaverim Steering Committee Members

President : Deb Rusnak

Past President:

Robin Chessick

Treasurer: David Kantor

Members At Large:

Carolyn Lewis Dan Lewis Laurie Matlin

Secretary: Steve Rusnak

Sue Pinkus Alan Solid

## What's Happening at Beth Chaverim Continued

### *Mah Nishmah*

Lindsey Grant

Bat Mitzvah



Lindsey Grant is excited and honored to be taking the important step of becoming a Bat Mitzvah. She attends Junior High in Buffalo Grove where she is an excellent student and is extremely involved in extracurricular activities and sports. Outside of school, she plays on a competitive lacrosse team. More than anything, Lindsey loves to read and is often reading several books at one time. In fact, her Mitzvah project was a book drive to collect books for Bernie's Book Bank, where she volunteers. Lindsey also loves playing games. She will be donating the unopened games from her Bat Mitzvah party to the Ann and Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital. Lindsey enjoys traveling and her favorite vacation spots are Disney World and New York City. She hopes London will be next.

## The Humanist Café - Food for the Mind & the Appetite

### On Being Human

One of the most deeply perplexing and profoundly philosophical questions facing us is what does it mean to be human. We are part of the natural and animal world, yet clearly different from that which surrounds us. We may claim to be unique, yet we share the majority of our DNA with other primates. As humans, we stake a claim to the ability to communicate; yet dolphins for example have the same ability. We claim as our own the ability to be empathetic and express our feelings, yet one need only look to our own pets to see that they express all kinds of feelings and sympathy toward each other and to us. We are social animals who thrive through social interactions, and still other animals do the same. So the question remains, what is it that makes us human; where human is an adjective and not just a noun. Though we share these and other traits of survival, resilience and emotions with other creatures, the true mark of being human likely lies in what we do with our lives and the meaning it brings. The philosopher Viktor Frankl said that, "Challenging the meaning of life is the truest expression of the state of being human." It means living life to the fullest as we drink in each experience. Being human means doing our utmost to better our surroundings and bringing kindness and compassion into the world. In Yiddish, it means being a mensch, an upstanding individual who sets a moral example and lives a principled life true to one's values. In the Jewish tradition, this humanist quality is valued. From the Ethics of Our Fathers, "In a place where there are no men, strive to be a man."



### Bundt Pan Kugel

By Jodi Hernandez

#### Ingredients

1 stick butter  
 Pecan Halves (optional)  
 18 ounces medium egg noodles  
 1 Cup Dark Brown Sugar  
 4 eggs  
 3/4 teaspoon cinnamon  
 2/3 cup white sugar  
 1 cup sour cream  
 1 cup apple sauce

#### Process

Coat Bundt Pan with Pam or butter.  
 Melt 1/2 stick butter and pour into bottom of the Bundt Pan. Sprinkle with the brown sugar, If using pecans, cover bottom of pan flat side up.  
 Cook 18 ounces of egg noodles al dente. DO NOT OVER COOK.  
 Beat 4 eggs. Add cinnamon, white sugar, sour cream, apple sauce and the other half stick of butter melted. Mix all together and blend in cooked and drained noodles. Spoon into bundt pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour until noodles turn crispy on edges. Cool a bit before unmolding on a serving



## Beth Chaverim Book Club

Please join us as we discuss the following books over the summer.

On **June 20 at 7:30 pm** “Forgiving Mariela Camacho” by A.J.Sadransky, the second in his “forgiving” series. This thriller is described by amazon.com as follows: “Detective Pete Gonzalvez knew from the start that the dead woman he and his partner, Tolya Kurchenko, discovered in a Manhattan apartment did not commit suicide. Pete knew her better than that. Mariela Comacho was the love of his life. The road to the truth winds through the slums of the Dominican Republic, the cold streets of Soviet Moscow, the hot sands of the Judean Hills, and into the dark clubs of New York City's underworld. They learn that Mariela was not merely murdered, but was the most recent victim of an international serial killer—a phantom from Tolya's past—and Karin Kurchenko, nine months pregnant, could be in his cold-blooded crosshairs.”

On **July 18 at 7:30 pm**, we will read a first novel by Israeli author Shani Boianjiu, “The People of Forever are Not Afraid.” It is a story of three young Israeli women conscripted into the Israel Defense Force. From the Washington Post, “At the end of “How to Tell a True War Story,” Tim O'Brien suggests that a true war story is always a love story. It's a tribute to Boianjiu's artistry and humanity that she portrays those on both sides of the barbed wire as loved and feared. “The People of Forever Are Not Afraid” is a fierce and beautiful portrait of the damage done by war.”

Finally, on **August 9 at 7:30 pm** we will discuss “Henna House” by Nomi Eve. It tells the story of Yemeni Jews in the early twentieth century. From simonandschuster.com, ““A touching coming-of-age story” (*Publishers Weekly*) in the tradition of Anita Diamant's *The Red Tent*, about a young woman, her family, their community and the customs that bind them, from “a storyteller of uncommon energy and poise” (Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*). This vivid saga begins in Yemen in 1920. Adela Damari's parents' health is failing as they desperately seek a future husband for their young daughter, who is in danger of becoming adopted by the local Muslim community if she is orphaned. With no likely marriage prospects, Adela's situation looks dire—until she meets two cousins from faraway cities: a boy with whom she shares her most treasured secret, and a girl who introduces her to the powerful rituals of henna. Ultimately, Adela's life journey brings her old and new loves, her true calling, and a new life as she is transported to Israel as part of Operation On Wings of Eagles.”

Many if not most of the books we read in our book group are in the Beth Chaverim library. If you would like to borrow one of the books, just contact Rabbi Jodi.



### Did You Know?



Rabbi Jodi Kornfeld is available to conduct **life cycle ceremonies** including **weddings, civil unions, baby namings** and **funerals** for members and non-members.

Contact Rabbi Jodi for further information,

847-945-6512

RABBIJODI@GMAIL.COM

## HuJews Conclave 2016



*Kiley Hernandez joined by a group of Conclave participants making brunch for the families at the Ronald McDonald House for Lurie Children's Hospital.*

### A Reflection on Conclave By Kiley Hernandez

The HuJews Conclave is my favorite part of the year. The fact that I get to see my friends for an entire weekend puts a smile on my face. This year, Conclave was held in Chicago, which gave the participants a lot of opportunities for service work, and also, a chance to explore new places. I never go downtown, so I was ecstatic to find out it was downtown this year. Throughout the weekend I participated in heated discussions on hot topics now. The best part about Conclave is that you can walk up to some kid you've never met, ask them about their opinion on anything, and you'll wind up making a new friend who enjoys asking and answering big questions. Another interesting thing about Conclave is that it gives people a chance to participate in service projects they don't normally get to do at home. I was thrilled to work at the Ronald McDonald House downtown. Recently, my close friend's family had a medical emergency and they had to stay at a Ronald McDonald House. They told me that they had a great experience when they stayed there, and that made me want to volunteer there. Conclave has changed my life. The friends I've made, the lessons I've learned, the experiences that helped me shape who I am today. I will never forget the people I've met and the memories I've made with these people.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

RAHM EMANUEL  
MAYOR

March 4, 2016

Dear Friends:

As Mayor, and on behalf of the City of Chicago, it is my pleasure to extend warm greetings to everyone gathered for the annual conclave of Humanistic Jewish teens and young adults.

Established in 2003, Beth Chaverim is an active Humanistic Jewish community that continues to provide invaluable and involved programming to numerous families and individuals throughout the Chicagoland area. Founded to promote a safe and open environment to explore Judaism, the community also equips Jewish youth with educational, social, and life skills. Beth Chaverim is a true leader in promoting the heritage, traditions and values of the Jewish people.

This annual conclave ensures that the Humanistic Jewish Community continues to carry on its dynamic mission of service and outreach. The conclave not only serves to provide community service but also acts as a force in bringing youth together to celebrate each other, and uplift the Jewish community. I commend the Humanistic Jewish Community for its unwavering support and dedication to the youth it serves.

I hope that those visiting our great city take time to experience some of the special places in Chicago. Our historic neighborhoods, iconic skyline, and incredible lakefront invite you to explore all Chicago has to offer. I hope you have a chance to sample our distinguished restaurants, tour our great universities, and visit our world-class museums during your stay.

On behalf of the people of Chicago, I am proud to extend heartfelt congratulations to all of you on this special event. Best wishes for much continued success.

Sincerely,

*Rahm Emanuel*  
Mayor

### About Conclave

The annual HuJews Conclave was held in Chicago in March and was coordinated by Rabbi Jodi. Mayor Rahm Emmanuel welcomed in participants and singled out Beth Chaverim as the host community (see above letter). The weekend included significant community service as well as a walking tour of the city.





## Look What the Mail Brought



March 9, 2016

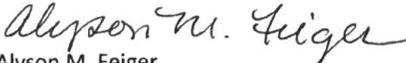
Dear Beth Chaverim Humanistic,

Thank you for your support of West Deerfield Township and the Food Pantry during its time of need. Your generous donation will help us continue to serve those who rely on the pantry each month.

We were truly touched by your quick call to action and generosity. In light of the recent temporary closure of our food pantry, we appreciate the overwhelming support of community members within your congregation.

On behalf of West Deerfield Township officials, staff and Food Pantry Board, my deepest thanks for your compassion and response.

Sincerely,

  
Alyson M. Feiger  
West Deerfield Township Supervisor

## Remembering David Kornfeld



### HEARTDANCE

It's the light behind the darkness.  
 It's the beat which never sleeps.  
 It's the most natural of rhythm.  
 It's the everpresent mystery,  
 and the aching of a loss.

It's the catch in the catch-can,  
 It's the death of one and all.

So, remind us of the numbered days.  
 Remind us of the need for play.  
 Remind us of the conscious pain.  
 Remind us of the eternal sway.

The sparkle seeks the passage through.  
 The eyes record the sense that's new.

Until the days come crashing down.  
 Until the nights come crashing down.  
 Until the heart comes crashing down.  
 Until the eyes no longer see.  
 Until there is no dance-  
 to rescue me.

Nat David

### Donations in Memory of David Kornfeld

Dr. Evan B. Goodman & Andi Berk  
 Dana & David Kantor  
 HJ Schwartz  
 Jill & Greg Lapin  
 Amy & Paul Tamul  
 Sheila Banes  
 Michele & Paul Wartell  
 Rebecca & Steven Glawe  
 Elizabeth Turner & Bryan Thielbar  
 Vera Vasilemko  
 Christian & Theresia Whittemore  
 Adra & Jason Lustig  
 Michele & Larry Rivkin  
 Ashley Olian  
 Laura McGrew  
 Robin & Cary Chessick  
 Matthew Boote  
 Reid Willis  
 The Lewis Family  
 Dr. Lawrence Wolin  
 The Friedman Family  
 Randie Bricker  
 The staff of The Mikva Challenge  
 Foundation  
 Ronnie Hirsch  
 Candace Wang  
 The Enciso Family  
 Barry Glicklich & Katherine Lato  
 Beth Erdman  
 Dr. Monica Joseph & John Griffin  
 Phyllis & Howard Cheskin  
 Gene & Katherine Neer  
 Denise Siegel & David L. Jaffe  
 Richard & Linda Vittenson

Elaine Kruse  
 The Mandeltort Family  
 James & Mindy Ruby  
 Nicole Cameron  
 Nick & Jan Garcia  
 Deborah & Steven Rusnak  
 Jan & Boyce Carsella  
 Vivian & Loren Kramer  
 Marlene Arbetter Mitchel  
 William & Susan Driebusch, Stacie  
 & Dave Selinger, Corrie Driebusch  
 & Ryan Closson  
 Edgar Rose  
 Thomas & Pam Davies  
 Laurie & Robert Matlin  
 Mark & Paula Debofsky  
 Elyse & Thomas Magill  
 Carolyn Rusnak  
 Julie Boyer  
 James & Roberta Taormina  
 Debra Shore  
 Reva & Morty Denlow  
 SELCIRCL (C/O Brian Roots)  
 Anne & Barry Chessick  
 Kevin & Diane Wild  
 Sue & Hugh Pinkus  
 Alan & Rhonda Solid  
 Stuart & Nancy Babendir  
 Richard & Linda Horn  
 John & Aimee Moyer  
 Lorraine W. Matz  
 David K. Barhydt & Judith Matz  
 Emily Korzynski  
 Dr. Matthew Czarny  
 Dick & Donna Strauss



\*Nat David is the pen name of David Kornfeld. This poem is from his award winning book, *Heartdance*



## Gleanings Project

This summer (June 18, July 16, August 13, September 10 and October 8) we are partnering with other area congregations to continue a "gleanings ministry" started by a local church at the Deerfield Farmers' Market.

We will staff a table once a month (a Saturday from 11:30 to 1:30, including set up and take down) where the vendors bring their leftover produce and people served by the Deerfield Township Food Pantry are able to obtain fresh produce at no charge.



Things still remaining are taken to One Deerfield Place for the residents living there. If you would like to help with this, contact Rabbi Jodi. It is a wonderful opportunity for a family to do good works together.



## Maot Chitim Food Delivery for Passover

Thank you to Jen & Neil Enciso, Jodi Hernandez, Linda & Rich Horn, Bettina Ittovici, Carolyn & Dan Lewis, and Laurie & Bob Matlin for assisting with this project, including picking up 51 boxes at the warehouse, and escorting our students to make the deliveries.





Over the past few years, we have had several families within our community that have had a temporary setback, ie: a surgery, loss of a job, family crises, etc.

"Helping Hands" is available to help with the needs of these families, either through delivering a meal, or driving to a doctor's appointment or any other minor needs a family could use. Over the past several months, assistance has been provided to several members.

If you would like to be added to the list of members who will assist when needed, please email us and Laurie Matlin will contact you when the need arises. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered already; it is greatly appreciated. Any family needing assistance can seek it by contacting Rabbi Jodi.



### ???? Membership Questions ????

Do you have questions about membership?  
Then contact our membership liaison  
Deb Rusnak at [dfishman63@comcast.net](mailto:dfishman63@comcast.net)

### Can You Help?

We are always looking for some assistance large and small for our events. Please let us know if you are interested to help with any of the following events this year or next.

- Helping Hands Committee
- E-Auction

## Humanistic Judaism 101

- Defines Judaism as the collective historic experience of the Jewish people and promotes a community of shared Jewish values.
- Promotes the development of a strong Jewish identity, especially for those Jews who cannot intellectually or emotionally embrace a supernatural being, or who are unsure about the existence of such a being and want to express their Judaism in an honest and meaningful way.
- Emphasizes the capacity in all human beings to improve themselves and the world through learning and the performance of good deeds.
- Teaches that ethical behavior is conduct which enhances the dignity of every individual.
- Understands that ritual without meaning is simply empty ritual and that liberal Judaism is authentic Judaism, without apologies to the present or nostalgic bows to the past.

Beth Chaverim is affiliated with the Society for Humanistic Judaism.

### Standing On One Foot

(Judaism in 140 characters or less)

Judaism today is pluralistic and diverse; no different than Judaism of days gone by. Since the Second Temple period, Judaism has existed in the plural not the singular.

# Spring Sunday School Events & Celebrations at Beth Chaverim

## Passover



## Purim



## Jewish Heroes



## Adult Education Continues

*Through The Desert With Moses, Aaron, and Miriam* continues on

**Wednesdays, June 1, July 13, and August 10  
all at 2pm at the café at Barnes & Noble in Deerfield.**

We will be studying the relationship between Moses, Aaron and Miriam.



“We live and find it good to live. We feel the invitation of doing and we rush to the surprise of new excitement. We sense the opportunity of our talents and we plunge to taste their fulfillment. Bold events stimulate our sense of self and tease the ordering skill of our security of love. The world is an open door to vital variety and it stuns our hopes with boundless promise. The light of our possibility shines through to overwhelm the darkness.” From sherwinwine.com

*Rabbi Sherwin T. Wine*

**Join us at the Jewish Festival Sunday, June 5th!**



**SUNDAY  
JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>  
2016**  
*on Yom Yerushalim / Jerusalem Day*

**GREATER CHICAGO  
JEWISH FESTIVAL**  
*Celebrating for Over 35 Years*

**11AM-6PM**  
**COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE**  
Oakton Street West of Lehigh & Plenty of Parking On-Site  
\$5 Per Person Suggested Donation

*NEW: Contact us now to sponsor & paint a 4ft fiberglass Pomegranate to be installed on the Festival grounds.*

**Featuring:**

- SHULY NATHAN
- THE MACCABEATS
- RICK RECHT

**4 STAGES INCLUDING:**  
*Rabbi Joe Black, Kol Sasson, Listen UP!, Maxwell Street Klezmer Band, & More!*

**JURIED ART FAIR**  
*Artists from Israel and across the USA including Melanie Dankowitz, Beth Kanter Silvia Schmelzer, Louis Robinson and Beth Stoltz*

**KOSHER FOOD FAIR**

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY AREA**

**ORGANIZATION FAIR**  
*120 Jewish organizations & programing by Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership*

**FOR MORE INFO OR TO VOLUNTEER:**  
**WWW.JEWISHFESTIVAL.ORG**  
**847.933.3000**  

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**Beth Chaverim Donation Form**

**A wonderful way to recognize any occasion and benefit Beth Chaverim.**

**Fill out this form and clip and mail along with your donation.**

Please accept our donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Beth Chaverim Humanistic Jewish Community.

This donation is being made In Honor/Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail Donation acknowledgement to the following person:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Beth Chaverim  
Humanistic Jewish  
Community**



**Pre-School Program  
for  
3-4 Year Olds**

Learn about the Jewish holidays with stories, art projects and songs

September 25, 2016 (Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur)

October 16, 2016 (Sukkot)

December 4, 2016 (Chanukah)

March 5, 2017 (Purim)

April 9, 2017 (Passover)



Children and parents together welcome to join our all-school celebrations  
(10/23/16; 12/11/16; 3/5/17; 4/9/17)

Classes held at The Center for Enriched Living in Riverwoods, IL  
10:00am -11:00am

Free to members; \$136 for non-members

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**We'd love to be a part of the Beth Chaverim Pre-School Program**

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail a check to: Beth Chaverim Humanistic Jewish Community  
1457 Wilmot Rd. Deerfield, IL 60015

**Memorial Plaque Order Form**  
**Beth Chaverim Memorial Plaque**  
**Order Form**  
*(One Name per plaque)*

Name of Loved One: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Plaque Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Loved One: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Plaque Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

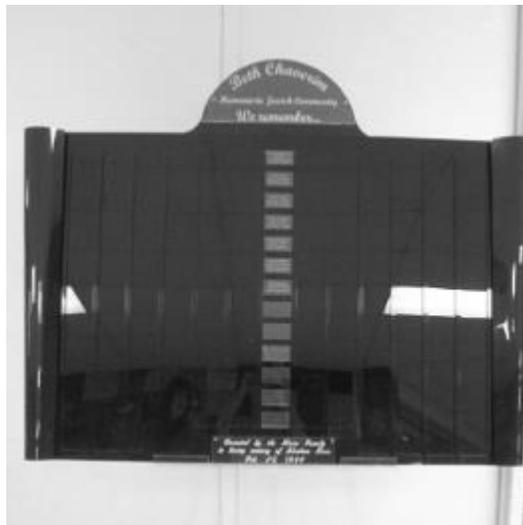
Plaque Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

\$136/plaque X \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to our office.

Checks payable to Beth Chaverim Humanistic Jewish Community  
 1457 Wilmot Road  
 Deerfield, IL 60015





## Beth Chaverim

A quarterly publication of

### Beth Chaverim

Humanistic Jewish Community

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Rabbi Jodi Kornfeld  
Administrator Linda Horn  
Editor Brooke Perlman

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