

חברים

CHAVERIM

November/December 2021 | Kislev/Tevet 5782



**BOLTON
STREET**

Synagogue

doors • wide • open



HANUKKAH AT BOLTON STREET

Wednesday, December 1

5:30 pm

Hanukkah Sing-Along in the Parking Lot

Friday, December 3

5:30 pm

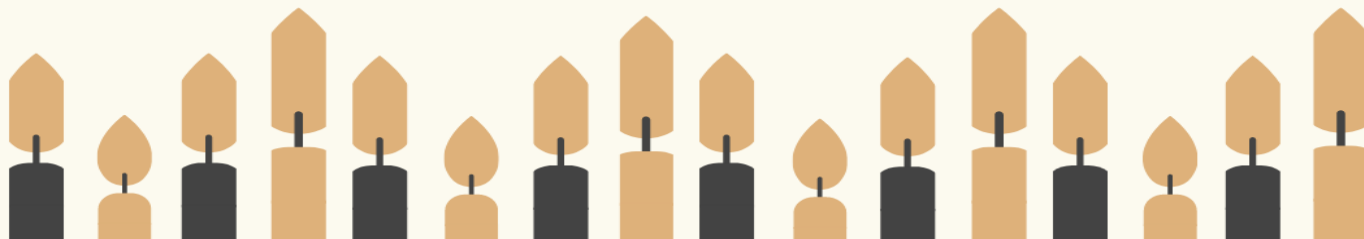
Tot Shabbat

6:00 pm

Menorah Lighting & Pizza in the Parking Lot

6:30 pm

Shabbat Service



A LOOK INSIDE

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CLERGY, STAFF, & LEADERSHIP

Andrew Gordon	<i>Rabbi</i>
Monica Blum	<i>Administrator</i>
Cory Hermann	<i>Director of Education</i>
Johnny McIntyre	<i>Custodian</i>
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Judy Bass	Ben Wilson
Paige Finkelstein	Nick Windt

Visit www.boltonstreet.org for more information



STRENGTHENING OUR SYNAGOGUE

This past summer, I was accepted to be a part of the Clergy Leadership Incubator (CLI) along with twenty other rabbis from across the country. CLI is a two-year program to support and encourage rabbis serving congregations in the areas of innovative thinking, change management and institutional transformation. It is a program for rabbis who are mid-career (8 – 15 years in their rabbinate) to help their communities go from good to great!

I've already begun working on this new fellowship in earnest through an Innovation Project Learning Journey which attempts to look deeply at our aspirational communal principles, to identify a problem that we'd like to address, and to start the discovery process. The hope is that this discovery process will help our synagogue come up with innovative project ideas that can transform it into a place of belonging, a place of justice, and a place of questioning!

Throughout the late summer and fall, I began working with some of our synagogue leadership including Marc Wernick, Melissa Zieve, Administrator Monica Blum, and President Leslie Margolis. In addition, other conversations began to bubble up at services, High Holy Days, and at religious school. We've realized that we are truly a community of communities. We encompass lots of small communities where our members build strengthened relationships such as at kehillah (religious school parents), 6T +, Social Action Committee, BUILD, BOLT (20's/30's), and at services.

We also realized that many of our newer members, and even those who have been a part of the congregation for a long time, don't always feel connected to our community. Our members often speak fondly about our synagogue and our values, but don't feel deeply connected to other members of the congregation.

We decided to begin to have some initial conversations with some in our congregation to learn more and to hear their thoughts about our synagogue. This summer we had two parlor meetings as well as some one-on-one conversations. We asked: What was a time that you felt connected to the BSS community? What could we do as a congregation to foster deeper connections?

We've only begun to speak to a small fraction of our community, and I'm looking forward to more conversations in the weeks and months ahead! We heard that our members are looking to gather in small groups, perhaps by zip code (or neighborhood), by interest area, or by demographic group. We've begun to dream about the possibility of small micro-communities such as a Canton/Patterson Park Group, a Charles Village Group, or a Challah baking group, Book Club, or

New Parents Group. We've heard that many of our members don't have family nearby and are looking for ways to build multi-generational gatherings for holidays, Shabbat, and other celebrations. And, we hear that many of our members are looking for ways to engage one-on-one with each other, especially when they first enter our doors.

This is only the beginning, there are lots of conversations ahead to look deeply at our vision, values, our strengths, and our challenges. As the pandemic continues to adapt and change, we want to rethink how we do what we do and put our energy and time into creating a Jewish community filled with learning, social gatherings, spirituality, and justice work. Stay tuned in the months ahead!

And, so, here's your homework! Think about when you felt most connected to BSS. And, think about how we can foster deeper connections amongst our members. I'd love to hear from you, so please drop me a line so we can talk or grab a cup of coffee. This will be a long two-year process, but we are looking forward to seeing what comes next and how we can strengthen our synagogue in the post-pandemic days ahead!

Andy

Next Sessions:
November 7 & December 12
Group Sessions:
November 14 & December 19

Daring to Daven

Bolton Street Synagogue's newest
Adult Education opportunity.
Making prayer come alive through the creation
of modern liturgical blessings and new rituals.

10:00-11:00 am
on two Sundays each month through May



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I love stories. As a child, I read constantly, and as a comparative literature major during my now-distant college years, I was lucky to be able to fill my academic time with great books and stories. As a disability rights lawyer, I use stories as a tool to advocate for the rights of my clients and to push for systemic policy change.

We are nicknamed the “people of the Book” because of our deep relationship to the Torah, which is filled with stories that we read and listen to again and again. Literally. Each Simchat Torah, we complete our reading of the Book of Deuteronomy and immediately begin to read the book of Genesis anew. We also have a rich tradition of storytelling. Who among us does not smile with anticipation when Rabbi Gordon announces from the Bimah that he is going to tell us a story?

I have been thinking about stories because of two recent Bolton Street events I attended. First, our religious school began the 2021-22 school year on October 3rd, and, after welcoming our students in the meadow, I joined Kehillah in the memorial brick garden to meet a number of our students’ parents. It was moving and powerful to hear those of you who were there tell your stories of how you and your children found your way to—or back to—Bolton Street Synagogue and to the religious school. I was exhilarated by the vibrancy of our religious school and by how rich each family’s experience with Bolton Street has been. I am excited to see and hear the stories your children are creating for themselves as they begin or continue their Jewish education.

Second, I had the pleasure of attending our new member garden party on October 16th in our beautiful front garden. Again, I was moved and honored to be

part of the event as I listened to those of you who were present share your stories of what led you to Baltimore and to Bolton Street Synagogue. I came away, as I had from the Kehilla meeting, thinking about how interesting our members are. Every person at Bolton Street Synagogue has a story to tell, and I hope that over this coming year, as we plan our 36th anniversary celebration, you will share yours. Whether you have been at Bolton Street for a long time or a short time, whether you are deeply involved or still deciding if you want to jump in and join an initiative, I hope you will reach out and tell your story. What drew you to BSS? What keeps you here? What parts of BSS’ story remain untold, and what role do you want to play in telling that story? As always please feel free to reach out at any time.

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'Leslie'.

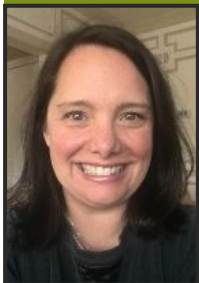
SHABBAT SERVICE

Welcoming special guest,
Lawrence T. Brown, PhD.,
Director of The Butterfly Project
and author of *The Black Butterfly:
The Harmful Politics of Race
and Space in America*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 7:30 PM



Please join us in the Sanctuary or over Zoom.



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

What a start to the year it has been! We began our year with a Sukkot family program in shifts and celebrated Simchat Torah outside and online as a community. Our classes have been meeting outside throughout the month of October. It has been amazing to be able to have our in-person classes and really feel our school community coming together.

We are once again using ShalomLearning for the core of our curriculum this year. This curriculum allows for our students in Bet-Zayin to log in to Schoology and do Hebrew enrichment activities. These activities allow our students to strengthen their Hebrew reading and chanting skills. The more students access this tool, the stronger their Hebrew proficiency will be.

We also welcomed Guy Groisman, our amazing Shinshin (Israeli emissary), to Bolton Street Synagogue Religious School. Guy is a high school graduate from the town of Nesher, who has delayed his army service to spend the year in Baltimore, working in schools to help our students have a personal connection to Israel. Stay tuned for more opportunities to connect with Guy in the future,

Speaking of Israel, we were fortunate to receive a grant from The Jacob & Hilda Blaustein Fund for the Enrichment of Jewish Education of The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore. This grant helped us to create the Bolton Street Synagogue Israel Experience. Uri Feinberg,

an amazing Israel Educator and tour guide, has curated and is facilitating a variety of programs to help us learn about and connect with Israel. Uri has been teaching a course for adults in October and November, and a course for teens in November over Zoom. Uri will be coming to BSS in January. Keep a look out for more information in the BSS Weekly News and Religious School emails.

As we head into November and December, we are busy planning ways to connect with one another and celebrate Hanukkah as a community. During November and December, our Shevet Achim students are collecting baby supplies (diapers, wipes, diaper cream, bottles, etc) to be donated to an organization called ShareBaby. You can find more information about ShareBaby and the important work they do here: <https://www.sharebaby.org/>. Donations can be left in the crib that you can find in the synagogue lobby.

Information about a variety of programs can be found in weekly religious school emails from me. If you are not getting these emails, please let me know so we can be sure to add you to our list. Also, if you have Gmail, it is possible that our emails get stuck in the promotions section of your email.

I hope you are having a great Fall!

TOT SHABBAT
November 5 & December 3
Fridays at 5:30 pm



Join us in the sanctuary or over Zoom.
Bring your shakers and instruments to
help bring in the joy of Shabbat!



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 5:30 PM

*Hanukkah Sing-Along
in the Parking Lot*

Break out your ugly Hanukkah sweater and
join us for some hot cocoa and fun!



Hanukkah at Bolton Street Synagogue
Friday, December 3

TOT SHABBAT- 5:30 PM

*MENORAH LIGHTING &
PIZZA IN THE PARKING LOT- 6:00 PM*

SHABBAT SERVICE- 6:30 PM

Please join us for this festive evening!



A Celebration of Latkes, Love, and Language

LGBTQ+ Hanukkah Event

Tuesday, November 30th at 6:30 pm at the Gordon Center @ the JCC



On the third night of Hanukkah, satisfy your taste buds then warm your heart with the documentary, *A Sign For Love*, an Israeli documentary about two deaf co-parents raising a child together. The event will feature a latke dinner, a screening of the film and a lively talkback panel. Co-director and co-parent, Elad Cohen, explores the meaning and experience of family. Growing up deaf and gay in a family of hearing people, Cohen never felt at home and always felt alone. That feeling of estrangement was exacerbated during his adolescence by the sudden death of his mother and the subsequent rift with his father as the family scattered in different directions. Cohen creates a sense of family with a small group of friends, including his best friend, Yaeli, a deaf woman. While he wants a child and a life partner, he fears that he won't find the right man in the small deaf community in his "sweet little country." Sharing a desire with Yaeli to be parents, the new "couple" decide to have a child in a shared parenting arrangement.

Clips from Cohen's childhood are interspersed with footage of family members and friends and his day-to-day life. As new parents, they soon realize the naïveté in their expectations about bringing up a baby together. Their journey reveals the challenges of parenting, the bias against deaf individuals and the intricacies of human relationships. Ultimately, their newborn helps Cohen become a more complete person and allows him to mend his relationship with his own father. —*Michele Lynn*

\$8 - JCC, Bolton Street and Beth Am Members (and other partners)

\$10- general admission

Watch your email for more details. For more information, contact Marc Wernick— mhwernick@aol.com.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 12:30 PM

BOLT HANUKKAH BRUNCH

Join us for a gift exchange, food, and drinks
at the home of David & Diana Speer.
All participants must be vaccinated.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Upcoming 6T+ Events

Including Shabbat guest, Lawrence T. Brown, PhD, Baltimore author of *The Black Butterfly*

The 6T+ group has a robust line-up of guest speakers scheduled for the next several months including three author/historians, a visionary bookstore owner, and our own Rabbi Andrew Gordon.

The group meets by Zoom on the third Tuesday of each month. Virtual doors open at 5:15 pm for schmoozers; each lively presentation and discussion runs from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. If you're not yet 60-years-old but see a topic you like, please join in!

SPECIAL Shabbat Guest

Friday, November 12, 7:30 pm (sponsored by the 6T+ group)

Lawrence T. Brown, PhD, Baltimore author of *The Black Butterfly: The Harmful Politics of Race and Space in Baltimore*

November 16, 5:30 pm

Emma Snyder, Ivy Book Shop owner-entrepreneur-visionary

December 21, 5:30 pm

Rabbi Andrew Gordon, our spiritual guide and greater Jewish community leader

January 18, 2022, 5:30 pm

Aaron Shapiro, Executive Director, Patapsco Heritage Greenway (PHG), former director of the public history program at UNC, and national historian for the US Forest Service

February 15, 2022, 5:30 pm

Jeremy Diamond, Baltimore author of *Tastemakers: The Legacy of Jewish Entrepreneurs in the Mid-Atlantic Grocery Industry*

For more info or to propose additional topics and guests, feel free to contact Linda Blonsley (lblonsley@aol.com) or Elaine Richman (elainerichman12@gmail.com).



A MONTHLY MEETING OF FAMILIES
WITH INFANTS 18 MONTHS AND
YOUNGER LOOKING FOR A SPACE
TO CONNECT AND GROW TOGETHER
IN A JEWISH ENVIRONMENT

Bolton Street Baby Brood

November 20 & December 18
Saturdays at 11:00 - 11:45 am
at Bolton Street Synagogue

REGISTRATION REQUIRED :
NAOMIRRAPHAEL@GMAIL.COM



YAHREZEITS

November 2021

11/03/2021	Jack Hyman, father of Mark Hyman
11/03/2021	Charles Brennecke, father of Peggy Brennecke
11/04/2021	Goldie Waxman, grandmother of Kalee Gould
11/05/2021	Walter Spaderna, father of Max Spaderna
11/06/2021	Arthur Feinstein, father of Miriam Lupien
11/07/2021	Deborah Potter Brener, sister of Elli Potter
11/08/2021	George Salabes, Jr., father of Natalie Baker
11/10/2021	Bruce Stein, brother-in-law of Joyce Moskovitz
11/12/2021	Taubal Appelbaum, mother of Hilda Coyne
11/12/2021	Milton Moskovitz, father of Joyce Moskovitz
11/13/2021	Louis Kreshtool, father of Barbara Anderson
11/16/2021	Charles Potter, father of Elli Potter
11/18/2021	Charlotte Berkowitz, mother of Bernard Berkowitz
11/20/2021	Edward Novick, father of Abe Novick
11/20/2021	Bill O'Neill, brother of Patrick O' Neall
11/22/2021	Emma Moliver, grandmother of Roni Neff
11/24/2021	Pepi Zielinski, mother of Ethel Zelenske
11/24/2021	Gertrud Ehrlich, grandmother of Marion Ehrlich
11/24/2021	Marion Ehrlich, aunt of Marion Ehrlich
11/25/2021	Wilbur Simon, father of Eleanor Simon
11/26/2021	Alan Rosenberg, son of Ruth Rosenberg, brother of Sara Rybczynski
11/27/2021	Ruth Morrison, mother of Reed Morrison
11/28/2021	Randy Siegmeister, cousin of Lissa Abrams

December 2021

12/01/2021	Albi Tallarico, father of Pat Gilstein
12/04/2021	James Lurie, grandfather of Ilana Lurie
12/05/2021	Judy Freedman, mother of Jacqueline Bershad
12/05/2021	Richard Schuck, father of Lane Zawacki
12/05/2021	Eva Weissman, mother of Carol Goldstein
12/07/2021	Bertha Lurie, grandmother of Ilana Lurie
12/07/2021	Edith Solomon, mother of Bayla Weisbart
12/07/2021	Martin West, father of Jason Weixelbaum
12/08/2021	Janet Richman, mother of Elaine Richman
12/09/2021	Stanley Martin Hattman, father of Ursula Suskin
12/12/2021	Jean Saklad, mother of Sheila Morrison
12/13/2021	Miriam Simon, sister of Eleanor Simon
12/13/2021	Evelyn Gilstein, mother of Saul Gilstein
12/15/2021	Elaine K. Stern, step-mother of Jeffrey Stern
12/16/2021	Kate McGready, sister of John McGready
12/16/2021	Nancy Weishaar, sister of Tim Nehl
12/16/2021	Harry Wishnie, grandfather of Melissa Zieve, great-grandfather of Rose Berns-Zieve
12/17/2021	Eugene Gould, father of Lois Gould
12/19/2021	Martin Moliver, grandfather of Roni Neff
12/21/2021	Gary Beaver, father of Doug Carrey-Beaver
12/23/2021	Daniel Bakal, father of Carol Van Besien
12/24/2021	Jerome Cohen, father of Vicki Cohen
12/25/2021	Helen Dalsheimer, grandmother of Nancy Savage
12/25/2021	Phyllis Zheutlin, mother of Lynne Zheutlin
12/26/2021	Lael Hinton, daughter of Hilda Coyne
12/26/2021	Florence C. Miller, aunt of Andy Cohen
12/27/2021	Scott Carrey, nephew of Nancy Carrey-Beaver
12/27/2021	Janet Dalsheimer, sister of Nancy Savage, daughter of Sandra Hess
12/27/2021	Judy Willis, sister of Linda Blonsley
12/28/2021	Alison Daubert, friend of Felipe Munoz-Castillo
12/29/2021	Seth Feinstein, brother of Miriam Lupien
12/30/2021	Rachel Wax, cousin of Ethel Zelenske
12/30/2021	Peter Clark, brother-in-law of Alison Hartman
12/31/2021	Milton Hirsch, uncle of Barbara Feldman



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CONTRIBUTIONS

Bookplate Fund

Marc & Chris Hartstein, in honor of the marriage of Gary Krevor Weisbaum and Dr. Morgan Heinzelmann

Melvin Cohen Social Action Fund

Robert & Karen Brown, in memory of Jane Nehl
Robert & Karen Brown, in memory of Theodor Frank, Margot Frank, and Alice Siedner
Vicki Cohen, in memory of Jane Scholes Nehl
Russell & Leslie Margolis, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox
Beth Raymond, in memory of Jeffrey C. Raymond
Larry Wissow & Nancy Hutton, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox
Ethel Zelenske, in thanks to Monica Blum for a smooth High Holy Days

Leadership Development Fund

Russell & Leslie Margolis, in honor of the birth of Chinedu & Chinemelu Herlich
Nancy Savage & Paul Levine, in honor of the marriage of Gary Krevor Weisbaum & Morgan Heinzelmann

Library and Lifelong Learning Fund

Linda Blonsley, in memory of Gill Blonsley
Alison Hartman, in memory of Roy Fishman
Richard & Donna Neuworth, in memory of Thelma B. Neuworth

Mike Zabner Youth Education Scholarship Fund

Eleanor Potter, in memory of Mike Zabner
Aaron Schneiderman & Sarah Sette, in memory of Esther Rothman

CONTRIBUTIONS, CNTD.

Music and Worship Fund

Linda Blonsley, in appreciation of a remarkable High Holy Days at BSS

Nancy Robinson, in memory of Janet and Stanley Robinson

Abe Wasserberger & Lissa Abrams, in honor of the marriage of Gary Krevor Weisbaum and Dr. Morgan Heinzelmann

Ethel Zelenske, in memory of Morris Wax

President's Discretionary Fund

Russell & Leslie Margolis, in memory of Rose Wiener

David Meyers & Roberta Strickler, in memory of Jane Scholes Nehl

Nancy Savage & Paul Levine, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox

Nancy Savage & Paul Levine, in memory of Jane Nehl

Nancy Savage & Paul Levine, in honor of the births of Chinedu and Chinemelu Herlich

Operating Fund

Barbara & Gary Anderson, in memory of Marion Kreshtool

Bernard Berkowitz, in memory of Rachel Herz

Louis Blank, in memory of Herbie Blank

Hilda Coyne, in gratitude for High Holy Day services

Leslie Finke, in gratitude for High Holy Day services

Marc & Amy Halushka, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox

Marc & Chris Hartstein, in memory of Ceil Zukof

Marc & Chris Hartstein, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox

Marc & Chris Hartstein, in honor of the births of Chinedu and Chinemelu Herlich

Marc & Chris Hartstein, in memory of Gabriel Hartstein

Sandra & Thomas Hess, in memory of Karen Sortino

Sandra & Thomas Hess, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox

Mark Hyman & Peggy Brennecke, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox

Miriam Lupien, in memory of Jane Scholes Nehl

Abe Wasserberger & Lissa Abrams, in honor of the birth of our grandsons, Chinedu and Chinemelu Herlich

Melissa Zieve & Peter Berns, in memory of Roslyn Berns

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jeffrey & Joan Dier, in memory of James H. Crumpton

Carol Goldstein, in memory of Gussie Thorer

Michael & Catherine Gordon, in gratitude for High Holy Day services

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Russell & Leslie Margolis, in memory of Jane Scholes Nehl

Kevin Murphy & Lynn Zheutlin, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox

Beth Raymond, in memory of Leslie Anderson Maddox

Ruth Rosenberg, in memory of Paul M. Rosenberg

Everett Siegel & Janet Berg, in gratitude for Rabbi Gordon

Ethel Zelenske, in thanks to Rabbi Gordon for meaningful High Holy Day services



CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2021

2	12:30 PM	BSS Israel Experience
5	5:30 PM	Tot Shabbat
	6:30 PM	Shabbat Service
6	9:30 AM	Taking Hold of Torah
7	9:00 AM	Religious School
	10:00 AM	Daring to Daven
9	12:30 PM	BSS Israel Experience
10	7:00 PM	Social Action Committee Meeting
12	7:30 PM	Shabbat Service
13	9:30 AM	Taking Hold of Torah
14	9:00 AM	Religious School
	10:00 AM	Daring to Daven Groups
16	12:30 PM	BSS Israel Experience
	5:30 PM	6T+ Group Program
17	7:00 PM	Board of Trustees Meeting
18	7:00 PM	Membership Engagement Committee Meeting
19	6:30 PM	Shabbat Service
20	9:30 AM	Taking Hold of Torah
	10:30 AM	Bolton Street Baby Brood
21	9:00 AM	Religious School
	1:30 PM	BLMIC Rally
25		Thanksgiving Day
26	7:30 PM	Shabbat Service
28		First Night Hanukkah

DECEMBER 2021

1	5:30 PM	Hanukkah Sing-Along in the Parking Lot
3	5:30 PM	Hanukkah Tot Shabbat
	6:00 PM	Pizza & Menorah Lighting in the Parking Lot
	6:30 PM	Hanukkah Shabbat Service
4	9:30 AM	Taking Hold of Torah
5	9:00 AM	Religious School
8	6:30 PM	BUILD Delegates Assembly
	7:00 PM	Social Action Committee Meeting
10	7:30 PM	Shabbat Service
11	10:30 AM	Bar Mitzvah of Liam Testa
12	9:00 AM	Religious School
	10:00 AM	Daring to Daven
16	7:00 PM	Membership Engagement Committee Meeting
17	6:30 PM	Shabbat Service
18	9:30 AM	Taking Hold of Torah
	10:30 AM	Bolton Street Baby Brood
19	9:00 AM	Religious School
	10:00 AM	Daring to Daven Groups
	1:30 PM	BLMIC Rally
21	5:30 PM	6T+ Group Program
24	5:30 PM	Shabbat Service (Zoom Only)

