

## Rabbi's Message | Bet Hasdai

RABBI DAVID E. OSTRICH

Reb Nachman of Breslov had an interesting take on evil. He believed that every act of evil had a spark of goodness at its core. The problem is that the Evil Inclination (*Yetzer HaRa*) takes this spark of goodness and twists it and perverts it and covers up the goodness till it is imperceptible.

A thief's thieving ways originate from a situation of lacking and may begin as a way of taking care of oneself and one's family. A racist's hateful attitudes originate from a situation of vulnerability and begin as a way of gaining strength and protecting oneself. The same can be said for pretty much every kind of evil doer. The evil they do is still wrong, but, Rebbe Nachman teaches, they were not wrong or evil from the very beginning.

The television series, *Orange is the New Black*, is a kind of exercise in this kind of thinking. Though each inmate's story explains how circumstances and unfairness might have afflicted them, there is seldom a genuine defense of the crimes they committed. What they did was wrong, there were victims, and they deserve their punishment, but they are nevertheless human beings who deserve a measure of dignity and respect.

Whenever I discuss Rebbe Nachman's teaching on evil, his belief seems to challenge listeners to go to the extremes of human evil and doubt that there was ever any good in them. Hitler and Stalin come up very quickly, as do other monsters. But, rather than argue about the extremes, I think that Rebbe Nachman was speaking of garden-variety

sinners—people like you and me—and of his technique for repentance.

When we have done something wrong, the Rebbe urges us to examine the deed or attitude for its motivating factors. Dig deep and deeper still until we find a grain of goodness, even though it may be buried under husks of selfishness and self-delusion. Once we have found it, we should think about better ways to pursue our original goal—ways without selfishness, or mean-spiritedness, or lust. How can we begin with this essential element of good and end up with a different result—a good result? This is the process of repentance, and Reb Nachman teaches that this kind of change is possible within us all.

Here are some prayers from the Rebbe that speak to the process of purifying our motivations and actions. They are from his collected teachings, *Likotay HaMoharan*, and are found in *The Gentle Weapon: Prayers for Everyday and Not-So-Everyday Moments*, adapted by Moshe Mykoff and S.C. Mizrahi with the Breslov Research Institute, Jewish Lights Publishing, 2009.

**Dear God,**

I need Your guidance.

Bring perspective to my life,  
for the meaningless allures of this world  
control me.

Let me see beyond the coarse  
requirements of my daily subsistence.

Let me bask in that which is truly precious—  
In the beauty of my relationship  
with You, dear God. (p.14)

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## CONGREGATIONAL E-MAIL

We send out a **weekly newsletter** with a schedule of events, yahrzeits, AND a Torah commentary by Rabbi Ostrich. If you have not been getting this weekly e-newsletter, please contact Michelle Davis in the office: [admin@britshalomstatecollege.org](mailto:admin@britshalomstatecollege.org) or (814) 238-4611.

## CONGREGATIONAL WEBSITE

If you need information about the congregation or our programming, remember our website: [britshalomstatecollege.org](http://britshalomstatecollege.org). If you have any suggestions (or excellent photos to share), please contact Rabbi Ostrich ([rabbiostrich@britshalomstatecollege.org](mailto:rabbiostrich@britshalomstatecollege.org)).

# President's Column

BARRY RUBACK

Thank you for the honor of being elected president of the congregation. Through Benson Lichtig's recent leadership, and that of our past presidents and Boards, the congregation is in good shape. Still, we face the challenge of sustaining and enhancing our synagogue. We have an able and hard-working Board, and we will be up to the challenge.

A congregation is a community with multiple responsibilities. We are a religious institution that addresses the spiritual needs of our members, who vary in beliefs about God, the need for prayer, and the importance of tradition. We are an educational institution, concerned with

teaching our youth and with continued learning for adults. We are a business that meets a payroll and maintains an expensive building. We are a social institution that brings members together for talks, musical performances, films, and food. And we are a social action institution that encourages involvement with helping others, Jewish and non-Jewish, in State College and in the larger world.

It takes a supportive Rabbi, a large and diverse Board, and the full congregation to meet those responsibilities. Let us know your ideas and suggestions. We look forward to working with you.

## A Letter from Marla & Dave Yukelson

Dear Congregation B'rit Shalom:

As we leave State College to move back to California, we want to take a moment to thank the B'rit Shalom community for all of the love and support we have received as a family for the past 30 years. When we first moved here in 1988, the synagogue was instrumental in our transition to State College, and we've met wonderful lifelong friends and gained spiritual connections as a result of the special B'rit Shalom community. Our boys started in the nursery school, went on to religious school and their bar mitzvahs, Marla completed her adult bat mitzvah as

well and we have many wonderful memories that we will carry with us always. The synagogue has always been another "home" for us and we will miss all of the relationships and interactions with all of you.

Thank you also for the Helping Hands Award Marla received—it means so very much. It will be hard to replicate the close community ties we have here when we relocate to our new home in Southern California.

We wish you all the best,

Marla and Dave Yukelson

# Religious School/ Registration/New Time

MIKE RADIS

Happy summer to all of our students and families. We are looking forward to and preparing for the fall and the beginning of a new school year. With the changes to the hours in the State College Area School District, we have needed to make adjustments to our Thursday timing. Hebrew classes for grades 3-7 will run from 4:30-6:00 P.M. This will allow all students to arrive home from school and get to the synagogue on time and will not shortchange any student in class time.

The Education Committee has been doing a lot of work in getting the classrooms cleaned and prepared for the next academic year. We believe that they will be conducive for promoting learning. We have also been finalizing a Hebrew language and Jewish Studies curriculum for adoption this year.

We are hoping that the parents of young children (kindergarten age), are considering registering child(ren) for Sunday School at Congregation Brit Shalom. This will be a great time to get your children started on their Jewish education in a fun and exciting way.

For students entering third grade who have not yet started their Hebrew education: please note that, by congregational rules, this is the latest grade in which a student can register and still have their Bar/Bat Mitzvah at the appropriate age.

Registration will take place online over the summer, but if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [mikeradis@comcast.net](mailto:mikeradis@comcast.net) or 814-238-5891 or Michelle at the synagogue office- 238-4611.

## State College Hadassah Summer 2018

**MEMBERSHIP:** Consider becoming a member of Hadassah and helping us keep a strong voice when it comes to issues on women's health and connection with Israel. If you are interested in finding out more about our organization, call Carol Shapiro, 237-2010; email: [csshapiro@comcast.net](mailto:csshapiro@comcast.net) or Zaryab Iqbal, 803-413-1312; email: [zxir@psu.edu](mailto:zxir@psu.edu)

**CARDS & TREE CERTIFICATES to benefit the Hadassah Hospital:** If you are interested in purchasing CARDS of ALL occasions, including Rosh Hashanah, please contact Joni Ostrich at 235-5359.

TREE CERTIFICATES can be purchased through Betty Moore at 238-2895

### ADULT EDUCATION: WEDNESDAY TORAH LUNCHEONS

Our Wednesday luncheon program is on vacation for the Summer, but we'll be back in business in the Fall. Look for information on our website or in the September October edition of The Centre Scroll. The proposed subject for the Fall is Israel: Traditional and Modern Jewish Views.

### PAYMENTS & CONTRIBUTIONS



When making payments or contributions for Dues, School Fees, Kol Nidre, Gift Fund donations, etc, kindly issue separate checks for each of these, rather than combining them on one check. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

**UPCOMING  
B'NAI MITZVAH**

**May 10, 2019**  
Asher & Elana Collens

**June 21/22, 2019**  
Avery and Griffin Selber

**September 21, 2019**  
Josh Fragin

**May 16, 2020**  
Keira Schreiber

**MICHELLE KATZ:  
SHABBAT IN SONG**

Once each month, member and musician extraordinaire Michelle Katz will provide the music for our Friday evening service. Bringing her collection of inspiring and upbeat Jewish music, Michelle will enhance our worship service and bring a Shabbat smile to everyone's face.

Her next appearance will be on July 20.

Join us!

# Upcoming Schedule

## SHABBAT SERVICES SUMMER SCHEDULE

Friday nights every week at 7:00 P.M. | Reform Style Services

Children are welcome at all of our worship services. Join us and make worship a family practice.

# High Holy Day Schedule

## ROSH HASHANAH

**Sunday, September 9**  
8:00 P.M. Evening Service

**Monday, September 10**  
10:00 A.M. Morning Service  
4:00 P.M. Tashlich Hike

**Tuesday, September 11**  
10:00 A.M. Second Day Morning Service

## YOM KIPPUR

**Tuesday, September 18**  
7:00 P.M. Kol Nidre and Evening Service

**Wednesday, September 19**  
10:00 A.M. Morning Service and Yizkor  
3:00 P.M. Adult Discussion Group  
4:30 P.M. Minchah (Afternoon Service)  
6:30 P.M. Neilah (Concluding) Service  
7:45 P.M. Break the Fast

# Rabbi's Message | Bet Hasdai

Continued from page 1

## ***Though I have no choice but to work***

to support myself and those who depend on me, let my job never dominate my life and psyche. Let me never be so caught up in the pursuit of my livelihood that I stoop to dishonesty in order to get ahead. Let me make no transaction without recognizing that any measure of success I might find can come only from You. (p.15)

## ***Merciful God,***

let me experience Your mercy. Save me from pessimism, from bitterness and from cynicism. Help me overcome my negative feelings; help me avoid every form of arrogance, every hint of greed. (p.44)

## ***Teach me to search for the fine qualities in others,***

to recognize their immeasurable worth. Teach me to cultivate a love for all Your children, for no one, no one is without redeeming value. Let the good in me connect with the good in others, until all the world is transformed through the compelling power of love. (p.47)

## ***Dear God,***

Save me from wanting what is not mine. Protect me from my own jealousy, from desiring the money or possessions, the position or the honor that belong to another. Let me trust in You enough to believe that what is meant to be mine will come to me. Let me trust in You enough to be satisfied with all that I have today. (p.57)

## ***My vision is distorted,***

loving God of truth. I want to see clearly, but my heart leads me through twisted, convoluted paths of misunderstood impressions. Straighten those paths so that I can strengthen myself in the conviction of my beliefs. (p.71)

## **PARTICIPATION IN SATURDAY MORNING SERVICES**



Are you interested in learning how to participate in Saturday morning services? We have roles to fill—noisy gabbai and reading Haftorah in English or Hebrew. Please contact Lauren Gluckman if interested and we'll get you started! [laurengluckman@icloud.com](mailto:laurengluckman@icloud.com)

# Gift Funds

## **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND** |

*used by the Rabbi for books, donations, scholarships, etc.*

In memory Harry Meister, father of James Meister | *from James and Janet Meister*

In memory of my mother Julia Bergman | *from Ernest Bergman*

In honor of Milt's special birthday | *from Barbara Linevsky*

In memory of Charles Levine, husband of Sylvia Levine | *from Trudy and Sam Levine*

In honor of Rabbi Ostrich, Meredith's very special teacher | *from Gloria Sulman*

In honor of the naming ceremony recently conducted for our grandson Philip Dexter | *from Stephen Seidman*

In honor of my father Jay Berger | *from Cynthia Berger*

In memory of my wife, Irene Schor | *from Stanley Schor*

In honor of Eileen Leibowitz on her 90th Birthday | *best wishes from Jim and Deena Ultman*

**GENERAL FUND** | *all undesignated gifts to Brit Shalom.*

In memory of Blossom Aberg | *from Gil Aberg*

In memory of my cousin, Fran Levin | *from Lesley Robinson*

In memory of Nick Petnick | *from Lynne Verity*

In memory of my Grandparents, Paul and Esther Leipzig | *from Lauren Gluckman*

In memory of Anne Cenziper | *from Lynn and Evan Myers*

In memory of my father Zalman Heyn | *from Pinhas Heyn*

In memory of Kay Vincent Reid, Rosie the Riveter and Original woman engineer | *from the Vincent-Killian Family*

**EDUCATION FUND** | *to offset expenses for the Religious School.*

In memory of my father Kenneth Silverman | *from Willa Silverman*

**DENISE ZIFF MEMORIAL** | *to pay for the new addition and associated improvements.*

In honor and thanks for Marla receiving the Helping Hands Award from the Congregation | *from Marla and Dave Yukelson*

**HESED FUND** | *to help families in need with emphasis on local Jewish families.*

In memory of Mary Ruback | *from Barry and Jasmin Ruback*

### **BUILDING FUND**

In memory of Allen Siegel | *from Brenda and Sons*

### **PROGRAMMING AND MEMBERSHIP FUND**

In memory of my husband, Daniel Frankl | *from Estelle Frankl*

**RODEF SHOLEM CEMETERY FUND** | *to support the maintenance of this historic Jewish cemetery in Bellefonte.*

In memory of Dora Edelist, mother of Trudy Lipowsky | *from Herb and Trudy Lipowsky*

In memory of Benjamin Lipowsky, father of Herb Lipowsky | *from Herb and Trudy Lipowsky*

### **HOW TO CONTRIBUTE**

To make a contribution to any of the Brit Shalom funds, please mail or drop off a check payable to Congregation Brit Shalom, 620 East Hamilton Avenue, State College, PA 16801. Contributions of \$18 or more will be listed in the Scroll following the date the contribution is made. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle Davis, Office Manager, at 814-238-4611.

### **IS CONGREGATION BRIT SHALOM IN YOUR WILL?**

An important part of our future is represented by bequests made by members. Thoughtful bequests enable Congregation Brit Shalom to retain a future of Jewish life for generations to come. From funding our Rabbi to scholarships at our religious school, your generous gift maintains our financial health.

A simple codicil can be added to your existing will, if you wish to make a bequest, such as "I give and bequest to Congregation Brit Shalom, located in State College, Pennsylvania, the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ [or "\_\_\_\_\_ percentage of my estate as finally determined for federal (or Pennsylvania) estate tax purposes]."

A will or codicil should be prepared by an attorney.

Please call the congregation office at 238-4611 to discuss including Congregation Brit Shalom in your estate.

# Yahrzeits

## WEEK OF JULY 6, 2018

Eleanor I. Proksa	<i>Grandmother of Maggie Patt Biddle</i>	July 3
Harold M. Brown	<i>Father of Theresa Lafer</i>	18 Tammuz
Maurice Hoffman	<i>Brother-in-Law of Janice Hoffman</i>	18 Tammuz
Meyer Small	<i>Brother of Sylvia Levine</i>	18 Tammuz
Freda Jaffe	<i>Mother of William Jaffe</i>	19 Tammuz
Sadie Shur	<i>Mother of Deena Ultman</i>	20 Tammuz
Muriel Feigelson	<i>Mother of Eric Feigelson</i>	20 Tammuz
Sydney Schiff	<i>Father of Steven Schiff</i>	21 Tammuz
Belle Alperin Stein	<i>Grandmother of David Ostrich</i>	21 Tammuz
Morris Thaler	<i>Grandfather of Renee Marks</i>	21 Tammuz
Ida Zuskin Novey		23 Tammuz

## WEEK OF JULY 13, 2018

Frances Frankl	<i>Mother-in-Law of Estelle Frankl</i>	26 Tammuz
Dora Francis Salkin	<i>Friend of the Ostrich Family</i>	26 Tammuz
Sylvan Seidman	<i>Father of Stephen Seidman</i>	26 Tammuz
Henry Small	<i>Father of Sylvia Levine</i>	27 Tammuz
Paul Keller	<i>Husband of Ruth Keller</i>	28 Tammuz

## WEEK OF JULY 20, 2018

Norman Ruback	<i>Father of Barry Ruback</i>	5 Av
Joseph Rabinowitz	<i>Father of William Rabinowitz</i>	7 Av
Louis Wolkoff	<i>Grandfather of Barbara Katz</i>	7 Av
Philip H. Harris	<i>Father-in-Law of Selma Harris</i>	8 Av

## WEEK OF JULY 27, 2018

Carol Cohen	<i>Sister of Ellen Stein</i>	10 Av
Jacob Hodes	<i>Uncle of Ron Hodes</i>	10 Av
Barbara Perlmutter Marder	<i>Mother of Susanne Marder-Pincus</i>	10 Av
Dora Foner	<i>Mother of Trudy Levine</i>	11 Av
Howard Castle	<i>Father of Lynn Abramson</i>	11 Av
Michael Steinberg	<i>Son of Susan and Lewis Steinberg</i>	12 Av
Bernice Geffner	<i>Sister of Arlan Temeles</i>	13 Av
Martin Marder	<i>Father of Susanne Marder-Pincus</i>	13 Av
Reba Galley	<i>Mother of Kirk Galley</i>	13 Av
Mary Apfelbaum		13 Av
Henri Anna Ostrich	<i>Grandmother of David Ostrich</i>	14 Av
Minna B. Kantar		14 Av
Rosadelle Spanier	<i>Mother of Graham Spanier</i>	14 Av
Ida Bishoff	<i>Mother-in-Law of Arlan Temeles</i>	15 Av
Joanne Goldberg Levine	<i>Mother of Joni Ostrich</i>	July 28

## WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 2018

Ernest Ultman	<i>Father of James Ultman</i>	17 Av
David Felkoff	<i>Father of Bonnie Abrams</i>	18 Av
Miriam Kalin	<i>Grandmother of Richard Kalin</i>	18 Av
Jacob Rose		19 Av
Leonard Kantar		19 Av
Dora Rudlin Bear	<i>Mother of Nada Ottenstein</i>	22 Av
Anita Fogel		22 Av
Richard Levy	<i>Father of Ellen Stein</i>	23 Av
Reba Wood	<i>Mother of Lola Geselowitz</i>	23 Av



WEEK OF AUGUST 10, 2018

Tillie Linevsky	<i>Mother of Milton Linevsky</i>	24 Av
L.B. Stein	<i>Cousin of David Ostrich</i>	24 Av
Joan Hassol	<i>Sister of Wilma Stern</i>	25 Av
Michael Schoenholtz	<i>Father of Murray Schoenholtz</i>	26 Av
Gertrude Thaler	<i>Grandmother of Renee Marks</i>	26 Av
Mayya Berlyand	<i>Mother of Leonid Berlyand</i>	26 Av
Albert Ziff	<i>Brother of Phil Ziff</i>	27 Av
Charles Gilbert	<i>Father of Harvey Gilbert</i>	27 Av
Rose Wolkoff	<i>Mother of Barbara Katz</i>	27 Av
Ruth Ellen Schwartz	<i>Mother of Susie Sherlock</i>	28 Av

WEEK OF AUGUST 17, 2018

Trudie Engel		1 Elul
Eugene Boardman	<i>Father of Susan Boardman</i>	2 Elul
Murray Fischer	<i>Father of Cindy Herbst</i>	3 Elul
Merial Hofberg	<i>Aunt of Richard Kopley</i>	5 Elul
Bessie Goldstein Rubinstein	<i>Grandmother of Bessie Rubinstein</i>	5 Elul

WEEK OF AUGUST 24, 2018

Geraldine Stomackin	<i>Mother of Richard Stomackin</i>	6 Elul
Ethel Schoenholtz	<i>Mother of Murray Schoenholtz</i>	9 Elul
Seymour Schoenholtz	<i>Brother of Murray Schoenholtz</i>	9 Elul
Dorothy Schor	<i>Mother of Stanley Schor</i>	9 Elul
Emil Hoffman		10 Elul
Carrie Quimby	<i>Partner of Susan Boardman</i>	10 Elul
Robert Leinbach	<i>Father of Carol Hodes</i>	11 Elul
Honey Jaffe	<i>Wife of Bill Jaffe</i>	12 Elul
Joseph Glass	<i>Grandfather of Steve Krentzman</i>	14 Elul
Phyllis Caplan	<i>Mother of Sharon Price</i>	14 Elul

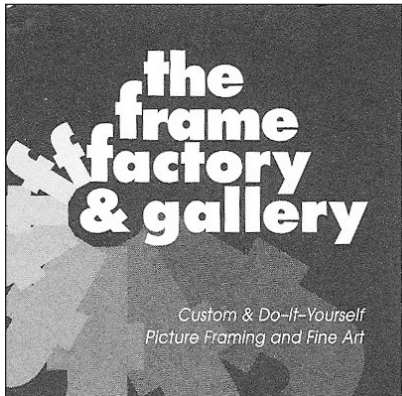
WEEK OF AUGUST 31, 2018

Irving Schoenholtz	<i>Brother of Murray Schoenholtz</i>	15 Elul
Shirley Laiken	<i>Mother of Lynn Jaffe</i>	15 Elul
Trudy Brinen	<i>Sister of Sam Levine</i>	16 Elul
Edith G. Malyn		16 Elul
Joan Marcus	<i>Mother of Andrew Marcus</i>	16 Elul
Rebecca Levine	<i>Mother of Sam Levine</i>	17 Elul
Anna Foner Cohen	<i>Sister of Trudy Levine</i>	17 Elul
Bernice Abrams	<i>Mother of Elliot Abrams</i>	20 Elul
Yaakov Landowska	<i>Father of Marie Cameron</i>	September 1
Ruth Landowska	<i>Mother of Marie Cameron</i>	September 1

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7/8, 2018

Steward Copeland	<i>Brother of Janice Hoffman</i>	22 Elul
Morris Hodes	<i>Uncle of Ron Hodes</i>	23 Elul
Emanuel Ostrich	<i>Grandfather of David Ostrich</i>	23 Elul
Arthur Rigler	<i>Father of Wendy Snetsinger</i>	23 Elul
Norman Davids		24 Elul
Phillip J. Levine		26 Elul
Dr. William Boniface	<i>Father of Zoe Boniface</i>	26 Elul
Mary Marateck	<i>Mother of Anita Fogel</i>	26 Elul
Durmot Elmo Killian	<i>Father of Richard Killian</i>	26 Elul
Max Schulman	<i>Grandfather of Aileen Galley</i>	27 Elul
Miriam Pell Schmerler	<i>Mother of Joel Solkoff</i>	27 Elul
Bernard "Mackie" Levine	<i>Husband of Susan Levine</i>	28 Elul

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