

## President's Message

by Sheryl Liberman

**A**RE YOU TIRED of the snow and cold? If not, perhaps you're enjoying the powder on skis or sleds—or you've taken advantage of a warm Betenu welcome like the one experienced by attendees of our Tu B'shevat seder on Feb. 6, led by **Rav Rebekah Goldman**. It was encouraging to think about spring, plants and fruits associated with summer! Our seder plates were filled to the brim with delicious



items such as dates, nuts, oranges and olives. New fruits added to our repertoire this year were pomegranates, blueberries and bananas!

Along with the delicious potluck dinner items, everyone's support and involvement made the entire evening fun. I'd like to credit the Bailey and Schwartz families for event planning and execution.



### PURIM EVENTS AT BETENU

**Friday, March 6 – 7:30 pm**  
**Purim service led by Rav Rebekah**  
**(costumes optional)**

**Sunday, March 8 – 11 am**  
**Hamentaschen workshop**  
**(RSVP required)**

Thanks to all who continue to show their devotion and enthusiasm! Join us this month for Shabbat services with Rav Rebekah on March 6 and March 27, our second *hamantaschen* workshop led by Roberta Pavoll on March 8 (please RSVP so we have enough supplies—and see page 4 for the items each baker needs to bring), and our students' Shabbat service on March 20. Plus many more events you'll find on our calendar page.

I cannot forget to thank the Sunday School parents for their flexibility and quick responses to changes in the school schedule due to the recent storms. Maybe a great celebration would be to go snow tubing together! Let me know if you are interested in planning a snowy, cold event or even a warm, cozy one!

**SPRING AHEAD** Undaunted by frigid New Hampshire temperatures, attendees sampled the fruits of a new year at our Feb. 6 Tu B'Shevat seder.



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### CONGREGATION BETENU

A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

5 Northern Boulevard  
Amherst, NH 03031  
(603) 886-1633

On the Web:  
[www.betenu.org](http://www.betenu.org)



*Please join us in acknowledging the generosity and achievements of these members and friends.*

## NEWS & NOTES

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

#### *Thank You!*

- ◆ All who cooked or helped with our Tu B'shevat potluck seder on Feb. 6
- ◆ The **Bailey** and **Schwartz** families for their awesome event planning and leadership
- ◆ All Tu B'shevat attendees
- ◆ The **Conrad/Conley** and **Dube** families for contributing to onegs in February





MAZEL TOV!

It is with great pleasure that we announce the birth of **Milo Jamieson Cobb**, son of **Jeremiah & Johanna Cobb** and grandson of Betenu's own **Peter & Jeanne Stein**, on Feb. 6, 2015. Congratulations to Milo's proud parents and grandparents!

### YAHRZEITS

#### *In Loving Memory*

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| <b>Charlotte Mendoza</b><br>mother of Sheryl Liberman        | March 1  |
| <b>Avraham Slifer</b><br>father of Bety Dar                  | March 1  |
| <b>Murray Cooper</b><br>father of Roberta Pavoll             | March 3  |
| <b>Elizabeth Krohn "Betty" Keiser</b>                        | March 3  |
| <b>Dorothy Franks</b><br>mother of Paul Franks               | March 3  |
| <b>Abraham Applebaum</b><br>grandfather of Elyse Wasserman   | March 7  |
| <b>Joel Mendoza</b><br>father of Sheryl Liberman             | March 7  |
| <b>Marion Krohn "Jane" Harris</b>                            | March 16 |
| <b>Etta Schuldwach</b><br>grandmother of Lenny Wasserman     | March 16 |
| <b>Martha Sandhaus</b>                                       | March 16 |
| <b>Shaun McGuire</b><br>son of Vivian McGuire                | March 18 |
| <b>Jacob Flagler</b><br>father of Susan Rodil                | March 19 |
| <b>Robin Kulm</b><br>friend of Roberta Pavoll                | March 20 |
| <b>Lillian Sidransky</b><br>grandmother of Daniel Becker     | March 22 |
| <b>Lillian Sigel</b><br>mother of Martha Sandhaus            | March 23 |
| <b>Louis Arthur Gross</b>                                    | March 24 |
| <b>Hannah Wasserman</b><br>grandmother of Lenny Wasserman    | March 25 |
| <b>Clifford Simonds</b><br>brother-in-law of Sheryl Liberman | March 25 |

### CONGREGATION BETENU OFFICERS

**Co-Presidents:** Elsa Conrad 879-9189, Sheryl Liberman 424-4609

**VP Finance:** Bob Rimalover 672-5629

**VP Education:** Pam Blotcky 882-4029

**VP Administration:** Barbara Bailey 880-9355

**Membership:** Mark Starin 486-8083

**Trustees:** Steve Blotcky 882-4029, Allison Leary 672-4774,  
Vivian McGuire 882-3139, Roberta Pavoll 672-9820

**Trustees At-Large:** Sara Murphy 465-7119, Joel Silberberg 472-8143

**Oneg/Interfaith Representative:** Roberta Pavoll 672-9820

**Publicity:** Barbara Bailey 880-9355, Marcella Dube 673-9412

**Rabbi Emeritus:** Joshua Segal [emeritus@betenu.org](mailto:emeritus@betenu.org)

### BIRTHDAYS

- ◆ **Nathaniel MacGregor**
- ◆ **Rebecca Savage**





## FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

### Confirmation Classes Scheduled for March 1, March 8 and March 29

Starting time for all Betenu confirmation classes will be 9:30 am.

### Musical Purim Service with Rav Rebekah on March 6

Our musical service series will add a special dimension to Purim observances on March 6, when **Sarah Noyovitz** joins **Rav Rebekah Goldman** at 7:30 pm. Be sure to join us—and remember, costumes are optional!

### March 8 Parent and Bar/t Mitzvah Meetings

**Rav Rebekah** will be meeting with parents at 9:15 am on March 8, followed by a parent meeting for Bar/t Mitzvah students.

### Torah for Tots (and Parents), 10:30 am to Noon on March 14

Help your children age 6 and under explore and take part in a Shabbat service at Betenu from 10:30 am to noon! Slightly older siblings are welcome too. Led by **Sandra Whitman**, this special morning will feature interactive prayers, songs and dance. A story and brief discussion of the weekly Torah portion is followed by a Kiddush and time for kids to socialize. To RSVP or get information, call us at 886-1633 or email [office@betenu.org](mailto:office@betenu.org) and be sure to provide your child's age.

### Student Assisted Shabbat Service on March 20

Our Grades 1-3 students will take a leadership role at Betenu's Shabbat service on Friday, March 20 at 7 pm. Please be sure to come out and show your support for our Betenu leaders of tomorrow.

### PJ Havdallah on March 21

Bring the little ones at 4:30 pm for a service, craft, pizza and "Totoro," a classic of Japanese animation.

### Sunday Craft Assembly on March 22

At 11 am on Sunday, March 22, we will host another of our family craft sessions. Parents bringing children under 6 are asked to remain present for supervision.

### Do a Parent Presentation on Israel!

If you have 15-20 minutes to talk to our Sunday school students about your favorite Israel topic, we'd love to hear your thoughts about Israel's history, food, sports, recipes, culture, music ... anything! Call **Sheryl Liberman** or get in touch with the Betenu office today.

## IN BRIEF

### Bring in Your 2014 Calendars

Drop off your old calendars at Betenu and we'll donate them to Home, Health & Hospice for recycling. It's a great way to de-clutter and help others!

### Hannaford Gift Card Fundraiser

Convenient for all your Hannaford shopping, these popular cards are still available with 5% of all proceeds donated to Betenu. Contact the office or call **Elsa Conrad** at 879-9189 to order cards.



### Shop at Amazon, Benefit Betenu

Buying online can benefit Betenu at no cost to you with the AmazonSmile program. Follow these simple steps once and it's automatic:

- ◆ Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer  or via your mobile device.
- ◆ Login to your Amazon account.
- ◆ Select Betenu as your preferred charity in the "Your Account" section. We're listed as *Congregation Betenu C/O J. Ditman*.
- ◆ Every time you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) afterward, we'll receive a half-percent of each sale's proceeds. It's that easy!

### Channel Your Inner Office Worker


Betenu needs a little weekly or monthly office help, and all support big or small is welcome. Hours are flexible, requiring only a few small chores. If you can help, contact **Sheryl Liberman** at 424-4609 or email [saml54@comcast.net](mailto:saml54@comcast.net).

### April Newsletter Deadlines

Early submissions to *Betenu News* are appreciated. Please email articles and information by Monday, March 23.



aish **PURIM** #getfriendly aish



## THE STORY

King Achashverosh executes his wife and installs a Jewish girl, Esther, as his new queen. Mordechai her uncle stops an assassination attempt on the king.


Haman the new Prime Minister gets a decree passed calling for the extermination of the Jews around the world.

The Queen invites the King and the Prime Minister to a feast

The King realises Mordechai has not been repaid for saving his life and orders Haman to lead him around town on a royal parade.

At the feast the Queen reveals she is Jewish and Haman is plotting to kill all her people.

Haman is hung & on the planned day of the extermination the Jews are able to take up arms & defend themselves.




## THE MITZVOT

The Megillah - We listen to the Megillah, retelling the story of Purim, twice, once in the evening and once in the morning

Mishloach Manot - To increase love and friendship amongst the Jewish people we send gifts of food to our friends. At least two items of food to one friend.

Matanot La'evyonim (Gifts to the Needy) - Sufficient money should be given to two different needy recipients to enable them to purchase food for a meal. It is better to spend more money on this mitzvah than any of the others.


Seudah (meal) - invite your nearest and dearest and enjoy your finest foods and drink. Commence the meal whilst it is still day and keep the party going well into the night!




## THE CUSTOMS

Fancy Dress- Let your imagination fly and dress up in style. Dressing up alludes to the fact that a lot of the Purim story developed behind the scenes. Purim was a miracle shrouded by "natural" developments, less overt than the Passover or Chanukah miracles.

Boo! - Sanctioned noise making in Synagogue. During the Megillah reading we take it upon ourselves to make a noise when we hear Haman's name being read out thus blotting out his name.



Hamantaschen - Some say they resemble Haman's pockets, ears or hat, either way don't miss out on this Purim themed treat.



Infographic and content courtesy of [Aish.org/uk](http://Aish.org/uk)

## PURIM MATH QUIZ

- ❶ How many times is God's name used in the Book of Esther?
- ❷ Haman's name is mentioned how many times?
- ❸ In the Book of Esther, how many years did Sarah live?

### ANSWERS

1. Zero. 2. 54 times. 3. 127 years.



## 2nd Annual HAMENTASCHEN WORKSHOP ▲ MARCH 8

Join baker extraordinaire **Roberta Pavoll** at 11 am and learn to prepare this beloved Purim treat just the way Bubbe did—and kids are welcome!

Each baker should bring a large mixing bowl, fork, measuring cup, glass, rolling pin, cookie sheet pan, parchment paper or silpat liner.

**RSVP REQUIRED:** Call Roberta or send an email indicating the number of attendees to [robertamastif@yahoo.com](mailto:robertamastif@yahoo.com).

(PS: Please note the spring time change, with clocks set ahead one hour that morning.)

# BOSTON JEWISH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Building musical bridges, this month's **Boston Jewish Music Festival** will feature musicians from around the world performing everything from Yemeni blues and Irish folk to ancient Jewish choral music and contemporary klezmer. There are even four events conveniently scheduled in New Hampshire! To get tickets and information about the festival, visit [www.bostonjewishmusicfestival.com](http://www.bostonjewishmusicfestival.com).

## SUNDAY, MARCH 1

2:30 pm

**AKA Doc Pomus**

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston MA

3 pm - 4 pm

**Sukkat Shalom – Songs of Healing & Hope**

HSL Center, Brookline MA

4 pm

**Sacred Songs of Hindus & Jews**

Temple Ohabei Shalom, Brookline MA

## THURSDAY, MARCH 5

8 pm - 10 pm

**Coolidge Corner Cafe Crawl**

Coolidge Corner, Brookline MA

## SATURDAY, MARCH 7

7:30 pm

**Israeli All-Star Cabaret**

Leventhal-Sidman JCC, Newton MA

8 pm

**Oran Etkin**

Temple Beth Abraham, Nashua NH

## SUNDAY, MARCH 8

11 am

**Oran Etkin's Timbalooloo**

Leventhal-Sidman JCC, Newton MA

4 pm

**The Sarah Aroeste Quartet**

Temple Israel, Sharon MA

7 pm

**Diwan Saz**

Temple Shalom, West Newton MA

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

7:30 pm

**Spirituality & Music**

Leventhal-Sidman JCC, Newton MA

8:30 pm

**Saints & Tzadiks**

Johnny D's, Somerville MA

## THURSDAY, MARCH 12

7:30 pm

**The Klezmatics**

Portsmouth Music Hall, Portsmouth NH

## FRIDAY, MARCH 13

7 pm

**Shabbat Dinner & Niggunim**

Boston Common Hotel, Boston MA

## SATURDAY, MARCH 14

8 pm - 9:45 pm

**The Klezmatics**

Somerville Theater, Somerville MA

## SUNDAY, MARCH 15

3 pm

**Israel Folkdance Festival**

MIT's Kresge Auditorium, Cambridge MA

4 pm

**Israeli All-Star Cabaret**

Temple Adath Yeshrun, Manchester NH

7 pm

**Jewish Classical & Operatic Music**

Temple Emanuel, Newton MA

## THURSDAY, MARCH 26

7:30 pm

**From The Top: Celebrating Jewish Music**

Temple Beth Elohim, Wellesley MA

## THIS MONTH

### Lights, Camera, Action! NH Jewish Film Festival Runs March 19-29

Providing sights to go with the sounds of the Jewish Music Festival is the 7th Annual New Hampshire Jewish Film Festival, sponsored by the Jewish Federation



of New Hampshire. Ten films with Jewish themes will be screened in Bedford, Concord, Keene, Manchester, Merrimack and Portsmouth.

Details and tickets are available at the JFNH website, [jewishnh.org](http://jewishnh.org), or at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com). Here's the schedule:

**MARCH 19: *The Outrageous***

*Sophie Tucker*

**MARCH 21: *Little White Lie &***

*Gala Dessert Reception*

**MARCH 22: *Run Boy Run***

**MARCH 22: *24 Days***

**MARCH 22: *Hill Start***

**MARCH 26/29: *Magic Men***

**MARCH 28: *Kidon***

**MARCH 29: *Deli Man &***

*Festival Wrap Party*

**MARCH 29: *God's Slave***

**MARCH 29: *Jon Imber's Left Hand***

For tickets, visit [jewishnh.org](http://jewishnh.org) or call 800-838-3006, extension 1.

# March at Betenu

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 School w/Rav Rebekah, 9 am Adult Ed, 12:30 pm	2	3	4 Purim	5 Purim	6 Purim Service w/ Rav Rebekah & Sarah Noyovitz, 7:30 pm	7 <i>Ki Tisa</i>
8 School w/ Rav Rebekah, 9 am; Parents Mtg, 9:15 am; Hamentaschen Class, 11 am	9	10	11	12	13 Lay-Led Service, 7:30 pm	14 <i>Vayakhel Pekude</i>  Torah for Tots, 10:30 pm
15 School, 9 am	16	17	18	19	20 Class-Led Service for Grades 1-3, 7 pm	21 <i>Vayikra</i> PJ Havdallah, 4:30 pm
22 School, 9 am  Craft Assembly, 11 am	23	24	25	26	27 Service w/ Rav Rebekah, 7:30 pm	28 <i>Vayikra</i>  Interfaith Family Presentation w/ Rav Rebekah, 4 pm
29 School w/Rav Rebekah, 9 am  Mock Seder, 11 am	30	31				

# April at Betenu

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 Passover Begins at Sunset— NO SERVICE	4 Lay-led 2nd Seder, 6 pm
5 School, 9 am	9	10	8	9	10 Lay-Led Service, 7 pm	11
12 School, 9 am	16	17	15	16	17 Service w/Rav Rebekah, 7:30 pm	18 <i>Shemini</i> Adult Ed, 7:30 pm
19 School w/Rav Rebekah, 9 am	20	21	22	23	24 Lay-Led Service, 7:30 pm	25 <i>Tazria-Metzora</i>
26 School, 9 am	27	28	29	30		