



Happy
Birthday



SHABBAT SHALOM

May 16, 2026

29th Iyar 5786

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Michaelangelo Eldridge
Seagleah Macabee
Zyon Magee
Jonhy O'Reily
Deja Parker
Nikko Roberts
Shekinah Roberts
Naomi-Ruth Torres

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Michael & Maricar Eldridge
Capers III & Jamako Funnye
Rabbi & Rabbinit Funnye
DelaYahu & Shekinah Roberts
David & Gale Whitfield



Beth Shalom B'nai Zaken E.H.C.

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Chicago, IL 60629

Phone: 773.476.2924

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www.bethshalombz.org

WELCOME

We welcome you and your interest in Beth Shalom B'nai Zaken Ethiopian Hebrew Congregation (House of Peace for the Children of the Ancient Ethiopian Hebrews). As stated in Psalm 133:1, "*how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!*"

We are truly blessed by your presence and welcome the opportunity to share our love of the Most High G-d with you. Your experience today will probably be very different from most services you have attended. We hope this information will explain our beliefs and mode of worship. As G-d stated in Isaiah 56:7... "*for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.*" Again, we welcome you and pray that you will enjoy our service as much as we do.

Beth Shalom B'nai Zaken Ethiopian Hebrew Congregation (Beth Shalom) is the oldest Temple in the Chicago area serving the Israelite Community. It was established as the Ethiopian Hebrew Association in 1918, by Rabbi Horace Hasan. In 1920, Rabbi David Lasarus and Rabbi Caino Stirson, came to the Chicago area from New York and later joined forces with Rabbi Hasan. In 1923 our beloved Senior Rabbi Abihu Ben Reuben, (may G-D bless his memory) joined this congregation, which was located at 1850 West Lake Street. In the 1930s and 1940s, the leadership of the Ethiopian Hebrew community was firmly in the hands of Rabbi Abihu Ben Reuben, Rabbi Lazarus, and Rabbi Louis Green. Rabbis Reuben and Lazarus studied with Chief Rabbi Wentworth A. Matthew, at the Commandment Keepers Congregation in New York City, and were ordained rabbis by Chief Rabbi Matthew. Rabbi Louis Green received his Masters of Science in Jewish Studies from the College of Jewish Studies in Chicago, Illinois.

In 1952, Chief Rabbi Wentworth A Matthew came to Chicago to oversee the opening of a new Temple to serve the Ethiopian Hebrew Community. In 1984, the Congregation of Ethiopian Hebrews and Beth Shalom Hebrew Congregation merged to form Beth Shalom Ethiopian Hebrew Congregation. Rabbis Abihu Ben Reuben and Capers C. Funnye, Jr., served the congregation as senior and assistant rabbis. In 1993, Beth Shalom merged with the Congregation of B'nai Zaken, to form Beth Shalom B'nai Zaken Ethiopian Hebrew Congregation, with Rabbi Capers C. Funnye, Jr. as Rabbi.

Beth Shalom is an affiliate congregation of the International Israelite Board of Rabbis Inc. and fully embraces the ideals of Resolution 801A which was passed by the Board in 1981. It affirms the brotherhood of all people who worship the G-D of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob without regard to tradition or terminology (for example: Black Jews', Hebrews, Israelites, Jews, etc.) However, when among us, visitors are obliged to respect the customs and traditions followed by members.

MARCHING TO ZION

By Isaac Watts

Come we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known,
Join in a song of sweet accord, join in a song of sweet accord,
And thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Chorus

We're marching to Zion, Beautiful, beautiful Zion
We're marching upward to Zion,
That beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing, Who never knew our God,
But children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King,
May speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.

Chorus

The hills of Zion yield, a thousand sacred sweets,
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets.

Chorus

Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry,
We're marching thru Yahowah's ground,
We're marching thru Yahowah's ground,
To fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high.

Chorus

“ LIFT EVERY VOICE”
By James Weldon Johnson



Tidbit: Bamidbar
29th Iyar 5786: – May 16, 2026
Chief Rabbi Capers Shmuel Yefuneh

דבר ד' אל משה במדבר סיני"

“And Hashem spoke to Moshe in the wilderness of Sinai.” Num. 1:1+

The Midrash states that the Torah was given through the media of fire, water, and wilderness. The commentators differ in communicating the message of this Midrash. Harav M. Shapiro, z.l., suggests that these three elements reflect the magnitude of Klal Yisrael’s devotion to Hashem to the point of their self-sacrifice.

Fire alludes to the fiery caldron into which Avraham Avinu was thrown because of his staunch belief in Hashem. This, however, only illustrates one part of the individual Israelite. Water, which symbolizes Klal Yisrael’s passage through the Red Sea, represents our unwavering devotion to Hashem as a whole nation. Yet, these two examples alone still do not provide sufficient proof of Klal Yisrael’s loyalty. Surrounded by the threatening animals, Klal Yisrael travelled in a wilderness devoid of nourishment for forty years. Throughout this period, they displayed their constant, unstinting love for Hashem. Mesiras nefesh, which is demonstrated by this threefold pattern of individual, collective, and constant devotion to Hashem, is evidence of the strength of our nation’s bond to Hashem.

“And Hashem spoke to Moshe in the wilderness of Sinai.” Num.6:

Chazal note an integral relationship between the “Midbar,” wilderness, and the Torah. Much of the Torah’s narrative takes place in the wilderness. The Torah itself was given in the wilderness, a point which Chazal emphasize frequently. It is, therefore, appropriate that the Torah reading immediately prior to Shavuot, the festival the giving of the Torah, is Parashat Bamidbar. Chazal suggested many explanations for the connection.

Even today, we are considered to be in the wilderness of America. So many of our people do not know who they are, where they are, nor where their inheritance lies. We are B’nai Yisrael! Glory unto the Most High G-d.

Shabbat Shalom

Lift every voice and sing,
Till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the list’ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the chast’ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past,
Till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who hast by Thy might,
Led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land.

SHABBAT SHALOM

Bamidbar

Torah Reading: Num. 1:1 - 4:20 (page 568)

Haftorah: 1st Samuel 20:19 - 18:42 (page 948)

WEEKLY SERVICE

Saturday: Shacharit (Morning) Service	10:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.
Minchah (Evening) Service	3:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.
Gift Shop (Tue & Thurs.)	12:00 P.M.- 2:00 P.M.

PRAYER LIST:

May the Most High bless those in need of prayer and healing and swiftly send them a complete renewal of body and spirit.

Paul Reynolds, Cohen Abdi Levi, Rabbi Tyrone Avraham Burks, Rudy Jackson, Richard Smith, Chief Rabbi Capers Funnye, Jr., Gerard Thomas, Earl Watson, Willie Webb, Law John Starks, Darrell Jackson, Zaken Dahn Ben Judah, Harold Johnson, Benyamin Maccabee, Rudi Simons, Richard Wong, Michael Harrell, Elder Michael Thompson, Michael Cooper, Willie Miller, Zaken David Harris, Delayahu Yashar'el, Andre Zerach Maberry

Mahalia Koroma, Naiyah Yehudah, Christine Hickman, Tonya Horton, Patricia Barnett, Dayanie Norris, Mary Dickerson, Tanya Wilson, V. Gale Harris, Joslyn James, Marie Jackson, Barbara Scott, Ann Johnson, Shulamite Bat Sarah, Eunice Hale, Toni Miller, Belinda Minor, Niniece White

Yarzheit

Lander Buie, Sr.
(father of Elder Moshe Buie)

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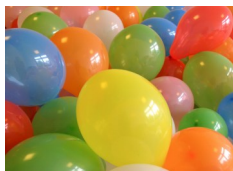
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THIS WEEK IN BLACK & LATINO

May 10, 1994 - Nelson Mandela was inaugurated as South Africa's first Black president, officially ending decades of apartheid and white minority rule.

May 11, 1967 - Nine Caravans of poor people arrived in Washington for first phase of Poor People's Campaign. Caravans started from different sections of country on May 2 and picked up demonstrators along the way. In Washington, demonstrators erected camp called Resurrection City on sixteen-acre site near Lincoln Monument.

May 12, 1898 - Louisiana adopts a state of constitution designed to "purify the electorate" by using poll taxes, literacy tests, and landowning requirements to block Black people from voting.

May 13, 1947 - Operation Bootstrap begins as a way to shift the Puerto Rican economy from dependence on low-paying agricultural jobs to dependence on high-paying industrial jobs.

May 14, 1936 - Carlos Garcia, a mechanical engineer who helped test spacecraft materials for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) was born on this day.

May 15, 2006 - President George W. Bush sends about 5,000 National Guard members to support the Border Patrol along a 2,000 mile stretch of the U.S. Mexico border.

May 16, 1963 - The Children's Crusade: Students marched from 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham to protest segregation. Facing police brutality, including water hoses in subsequent

****** MARK YOUR CALENDAR ******

Zaken Adar Ben Yisrael's Soup Kitchen

**Days and Hours of Operation
for the month of March
1pm - 3 pm**

**Sunday, May 17th
Sunday, May 24th & Friday, May 29th
Sunday, May 31
Volunteers are needed, please see
Rabbinit Mary Funnye to sign up.**

**Shavuot service is Friday, May 22nd
@ 10:30 a. m.**

**Sisterhood Shabbat
May 30, 2026**

**Please see Angela Parker to be assigned a prayer or
Aaliyah. We would like for all of the sisters to par-
ticipate.**

**Haftorah Reading
Bamidbar**

1st Samuel 20:18 - 42

**Capers Funnye, IV (T.J.) will be leading the blessings and
the reading of the Haftorah and giving a brief synopsis.**

****** MARK YOUR CALENDAR ******

Visiting information for Bruce Carey

**Dahn Ben Judah is currently rehabbing at a
friends' home. He is taking phone calls, you can
reach him at 773/707-7673**

*******ATTENTION*******

**Children are not allowed in the library unless they are
accompanied by an adult!!**

Sisterhood Appreciation

June 7, 2026

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Let's Eat To Live

621 E. 67th St., Chicago, IL 60637