SHABBAT SHALOM

November 7, 2026 27 Chesvan 5787



Beth Shalom B.Z.E.H.C.
6601 S. Kedzie Ave.
Chicago, IL 60629
Phone: 773/476-2924
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.

Tidbit: Chayei Sarah: Gen. 23:1-25:18

1st Kings 1:1-31

27 Heshvan 5787 – November 7, 2026

Chief Rabbi Capers Shmuel Yefuneh

“And the life of Sarah was one-hundred years and twenty years and seven years; the years of Sarah’s life.” (Gen.21:1)

Harav S.R. Hirsch z.l., notes that this is the only place in Tanach in which the Torah records a woman’s age. There are two peculiarities in the text. After stating ”ו'ה'ו ח" שרה” - and the life of Sarah – rather than "שנ' ח" שרה" the years of Sarah’s life, the Torah finds it necessary to repeat this information at the end of the pasuk! Indeed, the simple textual interpretation is not that Sarah lived 127 years, but that she lived one hundred years, twenty years, and seven years. Chazal has noted Sarah’s life was divided into three periods which reflect the entire span of human life: the age of childhood, the time of maturing youth, and complete old age.

Chazal states that one who has perfectly matured maintains the ability to transmit the crowning quality of each age into the next stage of life. Hence, the term”בא ב'מ'ם" literally translated as “he walks in his days,” means that his days are not complete. He takes all of the moral and spiritual acquisitions, of his past days and carries them into the next stage of his natural life. He does not allow any of his past attainments to whither away. Instead he transports them into the future. His future is built upon the achievements of his past. Sarah took the beauty of childhood with her into maturing womanhood and the innocence of the twenty-year-old girl with her into the grave. This view which Chazal presented contrasts sharply with that expounded by contemporary society. Chazal seek beauty not in the maturing woman. We speak of “childish innocence”. It would be truly sad if childhood were enviable because of its innocence. Innocence presupposes the possibility of guilt. Only one who has matured into adulthood, confronted the struggle of his passions and matured into adulthood, confronting the struggle of his passions and managing to conquer them, is fit to be crowned with the wreath of innocence!

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Chayei Sarah

Torah Reading: Genesis 23:1 - 25:18 (page 80)

Haftorah: 1st Kings: 1:1 - 31 (page 90)

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.

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Paul Reynolds, Lee M. Kelley, Sr., Rabbi Tyrone Avraham Burks, Rudy Jackson, Richard Smith, Gerard Thomas, Earl Watson, Willie Webb, Michael Thompson, Law John Starks, Dennis Sardin, Darrell Jackson, Clarence McWoodson

Mahalia Koroma, Naiyah Yehudah, Paula Winter, Christine Hickman, Tonya Horton, Patricia Barnett, Dayanie Norris, Johnnie Mae Morris, Mary Dickerson, Tanya Wilson, V. Gale Harris, Joslyn James, Marie Jackson, Rai Barney-Porter, Barbara Scott, Alyce Sardin, Pecolia “Shebayah” Mcwoodson

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Yarzheit

May the souls of the following individuals be sheltered under the wings of the Almighty and bound up in the bond of eternal life.

Chief Rabbi Capers C. Funnye, Jr.

(husband of Rabbinit Miriam Funnye)

(father of J’nel Funnye, Simona Dickerson, Rabbi Capers Funnye, III & Aaron Funnye)

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

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.

**** MARK YOUR CALENDAR ****

Zaken Adar Ben Yisrael's Soup Kitchen

Days and Hours of Operation

for the month of November

1pm - 3 pm

Sunday, Nov. 1st & Fri. Nov. 6th

Sunday, Nov. 8th & Friday, Nov. 13th

Sunday, Nov. 15th & Friday, Nov. 20th

Sunday, Nov. 22nd





NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Khatrael Bradley
Anita Bridge
Michael Eldridge
Capers Funnye, IV
Calvin Caleb Cousman Levi
Matthew Roberts
Elder Benyamin Thomas
Shlomo McWoodson
Moreh Khizkeyahoo Y'hudah

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY