

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Jacquelyn Baldwin, Rabbi Yahath Brazelton,
Shakeyah Brazelton, Avivah Buie, Jordain Dickerson,
Zion Dickerson, Zakeniah Sara Ellis, Ben Chayil Israel,
Eliyahu Macabee, Maklia Roberts, Marquell Roberts,
Candace Smith, Nashone Yehudah



Willie & Toni Miller
Michael & Anita Bridge

SHAVUOT

JUNE 2, 2025 6th SIVAN 5785



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

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Chicago, IL 60629

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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.

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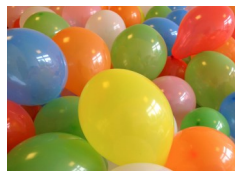
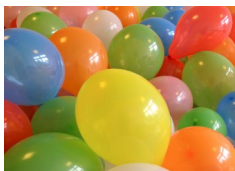
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Shavuot

6th Sivan 5785 – June 2, 2025
Chief Rabbi Capers Shmuel Yefuneh

“And you shall be a kingdom of Kohanim (priests) and a holy nation.” Exodus 19:6

A Kohen is one whose life is devoted to the service of Hashem. The title Kohen also implies “scholar”. As it is written in II Shmuel 8:18; which means that they were Torah scholars. Hence, the prime pursuit of Am Yisrael is the study of Torah.

Harav Avigdor Miller, Shlita, observes that this pasuk does not merely state Hashem’s promise to Am Yisrael’s future reward. It is an aspect of Hashem’s covenant with us which responds to our acceptance of the Torah. When we responded with the words “We will do and we will hear,” we thereby obligated ourselves to be a kingdom of Kohanim and a holy nation. Every B’nai Yisrael was to become a “Kohen” in regard to his obligation to study Torah and live a life of holiness. Although many people have gone on to other pursuits, the study of Torah has remained a lifelong goal. Indeed, throughout our history we have always distinguished parts of our day, week, month, or year for Torah study and scholarship, reflecting the fact that this endeavor is our lifelong occupation.

The second aspect of this tribute is kedushah, holiness. The quality of “kedushah” is not perceived simply as an aspect of our relationship with Hashem, the source of all kedushah. It is actually a component, emanating from Hashem, which is imbued in the object of this kedushah.

Now we are prepared to receive the Ten Commandments of Hashem! “Hear Oh Yisrael the Lord our G-d is one G-d!!

Hag Shavuot!!!

SHAVUOT

Torah Reading: Exodus 19:1 - 20:23 (page 290)

Maftir: Numbers 28:26-31 (page 696)

Haftorah: Ezekiel 1:1 - 28 & 3:12 (page 1027)

WEEKLY SERVICE

Saturday: Shacharit (Morning) Service 10:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M.

Gift Shop (Tue & Thurs.) 12:00 P.M.- 2:00 P.M.

PRAYER LIST:

Paul Reynolds, Jeff Zemel, Lee M. Kelley, Sr., Cohen Abdi Levi,

Rabbi Tyrone Avraham Burks, Yahzerah Brazelton, Rudy Jackson, Richard Smith, Chief
Rabbi Capers Funnye, Jr., Chief Gershon Ben Israel, Gerard Thomas, Chayyim Dunlap

Tishima Brazelton, Mahalia Koroma, Naiyah Yehudah, Paula Winter, Christine Hickman,
Marnina Grier, Tonya Horton, Patricia Barnett, Dayanie Norris, Johnnie Mae Morris,
J'nel Funnye, Mary Dickerson, Keiferah Levi

Yahrzeit

Love yourself, appreciate yourself, see the good in you... and respect yourself. — Betty Shabazz

To Our Guest:

We appreciate you being with us today. There are times during our service when walking is prohibited. Please refrain from walking while we stand during prayers and when the Torah is being read. We thank you in advance for honoring our request.

**** MARK YOUR CALENDAR ****

Zaken Adar Ben Yisrael's Soup Kitchen

Days and Hours of Operation

for the month of June

1 pm - 3 pm

Friday, June 6th & Sunday, June 8th

Friday, June 13th & Sunday, June 15th

Friday, June 20th

Friday, June 27th & Sunday June, 29th

Volunteers are needed, please see

Rabbinit Mary Funnye to sign up.

Don't miss Nashe Or Sisterhood's in-person meeting on Sun. 6/8 @4:00 p.m. sharp @ the temple. A light refreshment will be served, AND a fun activity is planned immediately after the meeting. A Zoom will be provided for those who are unable to attend.

Congregation Temple Beth El of Philadelphia

Anniversary

Friday, July 25th - Sunday, July 27th