



Happy  
Birthday



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Sandra Baffour  
Anthony Bullock  
Zakai Bullock  
Amaya Funnye  
Jacob Levi Knight  
Mahalia Koroma  
Kefirah Levi  
J'Kyece Pridgeon  
Malik Roberts  
Baruch Sutton  
Michael Thompson  
Arlet Nora Torres-Raya  
Shoshanah Yehudah  
Kioto Washington

**SHABBAT SHALOM**  
February 7, 2026      20th Shevat 5786



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

6601 S. Kedzie Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60629  
Phone: 773.476.2924  
Fax: 773.476.2259

[www.bethshalombz.org](http://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.

## “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.

# 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



**Tidbit: Yitro**

**20th Shevat 5786 – February 7, 2026**  
**Chief Rabbi Capers Shmuel Yefuneh**

*"And Moses sent away his father-in-law, and he (Yitro) went his way to his own land."*

(Exo. 18:27)

Rashi states that Yitro returned home solely to convert the remainder of his family to Judaism. The Maharal interprets the words "And Moses sent" to imply that Moses gave his blessings to this return. Harav A.H. Lebovitz, Shlita, poignantly extols the supreme sacrifice that Yitro made by leaving B'nai Yisrael and returning to Midian. B'nai Yisrael had been privy to a unique miraculous existence. Sustained by manna, protected by the Clouds of Glory and a Pillar of Fire, B'nai Yisrael had experienced the most intense spiritual moments of all time. Under the tutelage of the greatest teacher, Moses Rabbeinu, they shared the consummate environment for unparalleled spiritual growth.

It would have required a formidable reason for Yitro to withdraw from this idyllic environment to return to heathen surroundings, antithetical to Torah world view. Moses felt it worthwhile that Yitro leave at this time, so that he would return and inspire his countrymen.

Harav Lebovitz states that we can certainly learn from Yitro regarding our responsibility to reach out to our alienated brethren. If Yitro was willing to perform this task, how much more so are we obligated to reach out to our fellow Israelites even when it forces us to make personal sacrifices. The spiritual and physical welfare of our brethren is a responsibility which we must shoulder with love, devotion, and pride. All Yisrael are responsible for each other.

Shabbat Shalom

# SHABBAT SHALOM

## Yitro

**Torah Reading:** Exodus 18:1 - 20:23 (page 288)

**Haftorah:** Isaiah: 6:1 - 13 (page 302) (Sephardi Ritual)

### 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, Cohen Abdi Levi, Rabbi Tyrone Abraham 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, Kerry Harrell, Rudi Simons, Richard Wong, Michael Harrell, Elder Michael Thompson, Michael Cooper, Willie Miller

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, Alyce Sardin, Ann Johnson, Shulamite Bat Sarah, Eunice Hale, Toni Miller

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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.*

**Harry Smith**

*(husband of Shalheves Smith)*

## BUSINESSES

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**eric@pearsonrealtygroup.com**

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### THE O EVENTS

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### ARMO'S

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Phone: 773-900-1188

[funnye4@yahoo.com](mailto:funnye4@yahoo.com)

## THIS WEEK IN BLACK & LATINO HISTORY

February 1, 1965 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and more than 200 others were arrested and jailed after a voting rights march in Selma, Alabama.

February 2, 1897 - Alfred L. Cralle invented the ice cream scooper with a built-in scraper to allow for one-handed operation.

February 3, 2005 - Alberto Gonzales, the son of Mexican migrant workers, was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to succeed Attorney General John Ashcroft as the nation's top law enforcement officer.

February 4, 1971 - National Guard mobilized to put an end to rioting in Wilmington, North Carolina. Two persons killed. Until the 9th.

February 5, 1917 - Congress passed the Immigration Act of 1917 to bar entry of Asian, Mexican, and Mediterranean people, poor people, and those with mental or physical disabilities or criminal records.

February 6, 1870 - On this day, Jonathan Jasper Wright was elected to the South Carolina Supreme Court.

February 7, 1926 - Negro History Week, which was originated by Carter G. Woodson was observed for the first time.

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

**Zaken Adar Ben Yisrael's Soup Kitchen**

Days and Hours of Operation  
for the month of February

1 pm - 3 pm

Sunday, Feb. 8th & Friday, Feb. 13th  
Sunday, Feb. 15th & Friday, Feb. 20th  
Sunday, Feb. 22nd & Friday, Feb. 27th

Volunteers are needed, please see  
Rabbit Mary Funnye to sign up.

**Elder Appreciation**

**Saturday, February 28, 2025**

Beth Shalom social hall.

More information coming soon.

**Haftorah Reading**

Yitro

Isaiah 6:1 - 13 (Sephardi Ritual)

Mykaya Parker 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)

**The Terraces At The Clare (Room 1005)**

**55 E. Pearson Street**  
**Chicago, IL 60611**  
**Phone: (312) 784-8100**

**ATTENTION**

There are prayer books and Pentateuchs missing  
from the synagogue, if you have one please return  
it as soon as possible.

**Beth Shalom B.Z.E.H.C. New Officers**

**President - Nashone Yehudah**

**Vice President - Dinah Judah-Peterson**

**Secretary - Simona Funnye-Dickerson**

**Treasurer - Raymond Barney**

**Asst. Treasurer - Mary Funnye**