

BH

Special Notice



Dear Congregants,

Due to the resurgence of the COVID-19 virus driven by the Delta variant, Mercer County recently reached a designated "high risk" level of transmission.

As a result, all congregants and guests will be required to wear masks in all areas of the shul, regardless of vaccination status.

Please make sure that all masks are properly worn by covering your nose and mouth during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Shabbat Shalom,
Board of Directors



Kol Hashofar

ב"ה



Young Israel of Lawrenceville
 2556 Princeton Pike
 Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
 www.yiol.com

September 2021
 Elul 5782
 Vol. 27—Issue 1



President's Message

Wishing everyone a happy and a healthy Rosh Hashanah and an easy fast for Yom Kippur.

Congratulations to the Mandler's, who had a Pidyon Haben for their new son at the synagogue. At the same time they had a Pidyon Haben for the father and grandfather who had not had one. To the best of my knowledge this was the first Pidyon Haben in the history of the shul.

Congratulations to Fay Lonstein on the birth of her great grandson.

Congratulations to the Levin's and Zur's, and the rest of the extended family on Aviel's bar

mitzvah. He read the torah on Monday and then did the haftorah on Saturday.

Congratulations to the Ferstenberg's on the birth of a grandson, to Alex and Aiden.

We wish a speedy rehabilitation for Carol Aronoff.

We have started to have some kiddushes, when there is a sponsor. If you would like to sponsor a kiddush, please let the Rebbetzin know so you can reserve a date.



Charles Miller
 President



VIEW FROM THE BIMAH

BH

Rosh Hashana, literally, means the head of the year.

More than a cute way of describing the beginning, the word Rosh – the head – is deliberate and specific; just as the head holds the life force for the entire body and distributes the appropriate measure and design to each part – for the eye to see, the ear to hear, etc. – so too, the first day of the year holds all the energy that it later dispenses to all the days of the year. Rosh Hashana is the day Al-mighty G-d renews His lease with the world and supplies all the necessary components for the upcoming year.

Now, we know that G-d is complete and lacks nothing. Why would He choose to create a world and place on it human beings (and supportive actors), doesn't the whole exercise seem unnecessary?

The short answer is, according to the Midrash, Nitaveh – G-d had a desire to have a home in the realms below. It wasn't satisfactory that He be whole and complete; G-d also wanted there to be a world with human beings who experience their own independence. When these beings choose, with their own free will, to have a relationship with G-d, this brings Him satisfaction.

In other words, the entire human experiment is contingent upon G-d still being interested and maintaining His part of the deal. Being that this is up for renegotiation on Rosh Hashana, it is crucial for the sustainability the world's existence that G-d remains committed.

But there are no guarantees. It is conceivable that G-d would lose interest and refuse to renew the arrangement (and to be perfectly honest, observing the atrocities committed by human beings, who can blame Him?)

However, our tradition tells us that there's one tool that conveys to G-d our innermost desire to have a relationship with Him, and that is the Shofar. When G-d hears the sound of the Shofar blown on Rosh Hashana, this elicits within Him the will to reciprocate and have a relationship with us. And, of course, in order to have that, He needs a world, and all its supporting actors.

So, my friends, this in a nutshell is the meaning behind the Shofar, and the reason it's so important to make sure to hear its blasts on Rosh Hashana. There is no better way for us to express our willingness to partner with G-d in His Creator-creation dynamic than this.

In addition to the regular Shofar services at Shul, we will also have an outdoor Shofar service in front of Young Israel on both days of Rosh Hashana at 6:30 PM.

May you and yours be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life for a good and sweet New Year!



Rabbi Y. Goldenberg

Young Israel Renovation Update



Proposed seating diagram

Young Israel of Lawrenceville has been excitedly making plans for an indoor renovation of our Shul. A beautiful brochure has been sent out – if you have not yet received one, please call the Shul and we will mail one to you. Thanks to all those who have participated so far with small and large donations, we are well underway for a successful campaign, and have reached close to 50% of our fundraising goal. We've also secured a reputable architect and an experienced and recommended builder to begin the work, please G-d, in November. Thanks to the generosity of so many friends and community members we have reached this far, but more

funds are needed. Please be in touch with any of the YI board members or myself if you would like to participate in this great project that will benefit the future of our community for many years to come. Thank you!

Rabbi Y. Goldenberg

Services will be held at the Rabbi's home during renovations.

**MAY YOU BE BLESSED
WITH GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS
THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR!**

**From the members
of Young Israel of Lawrenceville
and their families**



Rabbi Yitzchak and Dina Goldenberg

Tybie Abrams

Glenn and Arielle Altchek

William and Carol Aronoff

Bruce and Lydia Bitcover

Mort Cohen and Judy Dogin

Moshe Eventoff

Norman and Karrielyn Ferstenberg

Joel and Danit Sara Finkelstein

Martha Friedman

Eleanor Heck

David and Andrea Lev

Shuli and Jeannette Levin

Fay Lonstein

Charles and Diane Miller

Henry Redel and Dalya Levin

Mary Ellen Rogers

Aaron and Lynda Sacharov

Jonathan Seiden and Galette Levin

Ted and Marian Shafman

Ruth Sugerman

Emmanuel Zur and Tali Levin

Young Israel—Community Bulletin Board

YIOL offers a range of programs and services which enables opportunities for exploring Judaism in a non-judgmental way. Whether it be a prayer service, Torah class, or social gathering that you're seeking, you will be enthusiastically welcomed and celebrated, So come for a visit...and stay a while.

Adult Education Program

Please join us for our classes. All classes are conducted in English and are held at the Synagogue.

- **Tuesday evening class** -- Rabbi Goldenberg will be announcing a new series for his Tuesday night class.
- **Women's class** — Rebbetzin Goldenberg teaches a women's class on alternate Mondays at 7:30.

There is no charge for participation. For further information, call the synagogue at (609) 883-8833 any day from Saturday at nightfall through Friday early afternoon. If there is no reply, leave a message on the answering machine

Tzedakah Fund



Our Shul has a Tzedakah fund to help those in special need of assistance. The fund is derived primarily from contributions collected from the "pushka" in Shul. If you know of such a person, please advise either Rabbi Goldenberg or Charles Miller.

Kiddushim

Our thanks to those who have sponsored kiddushim. For a full list of recent kiddush sponsors, please refer to Donations and Good Tidings. To celebrate your special occasion with a kiddush, please e-mail Dina Goldenberg:

dinagoldenberg@aol.com

When paying your dues, please send your Kiddush assessment (\$100) in a separate check, payable to the Sisterhood.



The Memorial Board

The Memorial Board in the Synagogue is a special way to honor, in perpetuity, the memory of departed loved ones. Plaques are \$250 each and may be ordered by contacting the Synagogue.



Yahrzeit Advisory

It is very important that our Shul provide a minyan to enable members and others to observe a Yahrzeit anniversary. Whenever you need to observe a Yahrzeit, please contact one of our gabbaim several days in advance so we can ensure a minyan will be available. Please contact Charles Miller (530-1846).

Visiting the Sick



It is a religious duty (a *mitzvah*) to visit someone who is ill. If you become aware of someone who is unwell or infirm, please advise Rabbi Goldenberg or Charles Miller immediately so that the person may be contacted and visited at an appropriate and convenient time



Donations and Good Tidings

“May G-d bless those who dedicate synagogues for prayer and those who enter them to pray, those who provide light for them, wine for Kiddush and Havdalah, bread for guests and charity to the poor and all who are involved faithfully in the needs of the community.”

(from the Yekum Purkan prayer said every Shabbot at the end of the Shacharis service).

DONATIONS

THE GOLDENBERG FAMILY

Yizkor

KARRIELYN AND NORMAN FERSTENBERG

Yahrzeit of Gloria Ferstenberg
In honor of Asher Ferstenberg

MARTHA FRIEDMAN

In memory of Alex Friedman
In memory of Anna Greenwood
In memory of Eugene Greenwood
Yizkor

ELEANOR HECK

In honor of Asher Ferstenberg
In honor of Fay Lonstein's great-grandson
Yizkor
In honor of Chaya Goldenberg

ANDREA AND DAVID LEV

Yizkor

JEANNETTE AND SHULI LEVIN

Yizkor

DIANE AND CHARLES MILLER

Yizkor

LYNDA AND AARON SACHAROV

Yizkor

MARIAN AND TED SHAFMAN

Yizkor
Yahrzeit

MILTON YUDKOWITZ

Yizkor





Kiddush



MOSHE EVENTOFF

In honor of the Rebbe's yahrzeit

THE GOLDENBERG FAMILY

THE FINKELSTEIN FAMILY

AARON & LYNDA SACHAROV

DAVID KLEIN

MOSHE EVENTOFF

In honor of his birthday

THE ZUR FAMILY

In honor of Aviel's bar mitzvah

THE LONSTEIN FAMILY

In honor of the birth of a new great-grandson

THE GOLDENBERG FAMILY

In memory of Rabbi Yisroel Meir Munitz

PETER INVERSO

ELEANOR HECK

In memory of Seymour Charles Heck

AMAZON SMILE

Did you know that you can raise funds for Young Israel simply by shopping at Amazon?

It doesn't cost you anything extra! There's a one-time setup that needs to be done, and then just shop at smile.amazon.com (instead of www.amazon.com) like you normally would. All of your account settings will already be available.

To set this up for the first time, point your computer or mobile browser to smile.amazon.com. You will be asked to select a charity on the right side of the screen. Below the spotlight charities, there is an option to pick your own charitable organization. In the box, enter "Young Israel of Lawrenceville" and click "Search". The results will appear on the left, and you can select our Shul by clicking "Select" next to "Young Israel of Lawrenceville". Young Israel's unique charity link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-2115751>.

After that, just remember to shop at smile.amazon.com, and all eligible purchases will generate a donation to Young Israel.

To learn more about how AmazonSmile works, point your browser to https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/about/ref=smi_se_uspo_laas_aas

Daniel Zuckerman



Keep Smilin'



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In New Jersey, Three Generations of Firstborns ‘Redeemed’

“Pidyon haben” ceremony turned out to be a multi-generational affair

By [Mendel Super](#), July 11, 2021 2:54 PM



Newborn Zev Mordechai Mandler, center, with his father, Michael Mandler and (at right) grandfather Raul Mandler, who all took part in “pidyon haben” ceremonies conducted by Rabbi Aryeh Weinstein, left, a kohen, and Rabbi Yitzchak Goldenberg, spiritual leader of the Young Israel of Lawrenceville, N.J., and co-director of Chabad of Lawrenceville.

Michael and Hannah Mandler, proud first-time parents, had another less common mitzvah to do after circumcising their bundle of joy, whom they had named Zev Mordechai.

They had to redeem their firstborn son from a [Kohen](#), in a ceremony known as [pidyon haben](#), or the redemption of the firstborn. Redeem their own son?

The ritual harks back to the time when all firstborns had been designated to serve as [kohanim](#), or priests, in the Holy Temple. After the privilege was bestowed exclusively upon the descendants of Aaron the High Priest, a firstborn male must be symbolically redeemed from a [Kohen 31 days following his birth](#)—or any time after, if he hadn’t been redeemed on time.

The Mandlers, new to Lawrenceville, N.J., contacted Rabbi Yitzchak Goldenberg, spiritual leader of the Young Israel of Lawrenceville synagogue and co-director of [Chabad of Lawrenceville](#) with his wife, Dina.

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“We’d never celebrated a *pidyon haben* in our community,” Goldenberg tells Chabad.org. In fact, according to Young Israel’s president, Charles Miller, this would be the first in the synagogue’s half-century history.

For Goldenberg, the timing couldn’t have been better. “Our community hadn’t come together since the pandemic, and this presented the perfect opportunity.” Together with the Mandlers, they planned an outdoor, community-wide barbecue to mark the occasion.

The ritual harks back to the time when all firstborns had been designated to serve as [kohanim](#), or priests, in the Holy Temple.

Goldenberg recruited his colleague Rabbi Aryeh Weinstein, adult-education director at Lubavitch of Bucks County, Pa., to serve as the [Kohen](#) from whom the baby would be redeemed.

As the day neared, Mandler realized that he, as a first-born male, had never had a [pidyon haben](#) himself. “I was raised traditionally,” he explains. “I had a *brit*, but we never did a *pidyon haben*.”

Mandler’s family, Argentine émigrés to the United States, settled in Albuquerque, N.M., where they first became acquainted with [Chabad](#) at Chabad of New Mexico, led by Rabbi Chaim and Devorah Leah Schmukler.

But it was when he met his wife, [Hannah](#), from an observant New Jersey family that he began to become more familiar with the traditions. “I love my son more than the money,” he chuckles, “of course, I wanted to redeem him!”

Mandler’s father, Raul, wasn’t going to make it to the ceremony, but at the last minute, plans changed, and it turned out he would be attending. That’s when Michael realized there would be a third generation being redeemed that day: Raul, too, was a firstborn son.

On June 2, a warm summer's day, Lawrenceville made history not once, but three times, as three generations of Mandlers were redeemed in an age-old rite, in exchange for five silver coins.



"We'd never celebrated a pidyon haben in our community," Goldenberg tells Chabad.org. In fact, according to Young Israel's president, Charles Miller, this would be the first in the synagogue's half-century history.

"My Israelite wife has borne me this firstborn son," Michael, informed the *Kohen*, Rabbi Weinstein.

"Which would you rather have—your firstborn son, or the five coins which you are obligated to give me for the redemption of this your firstborn son?" asked Weinstein.

"I want this, my firstborn son," declared Michael (much to his wife Hannah's relief), "and here you have five coins which are required of me for the redemption."

The symbolic exchange carries special meaning to Michael. "It's a choice you make," he muses. "To me, it's about valuing your child more than material possessions. These traditions are so important to carry on; we need to be the spirit of Judaism."

For the rabbi, this rare ceremony reflects the recent growth of the community as a younger demographic joins their vibrant community. From a Sunday morning *tefillin* club to weekly Shabbat services, the active community is attracting new members in what may be a post-pandemic demographic shift. The Goldenbergs, whose portfolio includes nearby Rider University, now run a "Mommy & Me" program, bringing their reach to all segments of the Jewish community with an emphasis on family-oriented activities.

"Family comes first," Michael adds, "especially when we've lost so much."



Michael and Hannah Mandler with their firstborn, Zev Mordechai.

Reprinted from Chabad of Lawrenceville July 2021



You might find the following prayer comforting when lighting a Yahrzeit candle for a loved one....

Prayer on Kindling a Yahrzeit Lamp Eternal Rock of Ages

In hushed reverence, I kindle this memorial lamp in loving remembrance on this anniversary of _____'s death.

We have been taught that human souls are Thy candles.

Through them Thou bringest light into the world. For the light of compassion and tenderness which my loved one brought into my life, I am everlastingly grateful.

Help me, O G-d, to use the sacred memory of my loved one as a noble spur to consecrated living. May I perpetuate and transmit everything that was beautiful and loving about my loved one's character. Keep firm my faith that we cannot go where You are not, and where You are all is well.
Amen.

*As the light is kindled say:
"Zecher tsaddik leevrachah,"*



The memory of the upright is a source of the blessing.

The Yahrzeit candle should be lit at sunset on the evening before the anniversary of your loved one's passing.

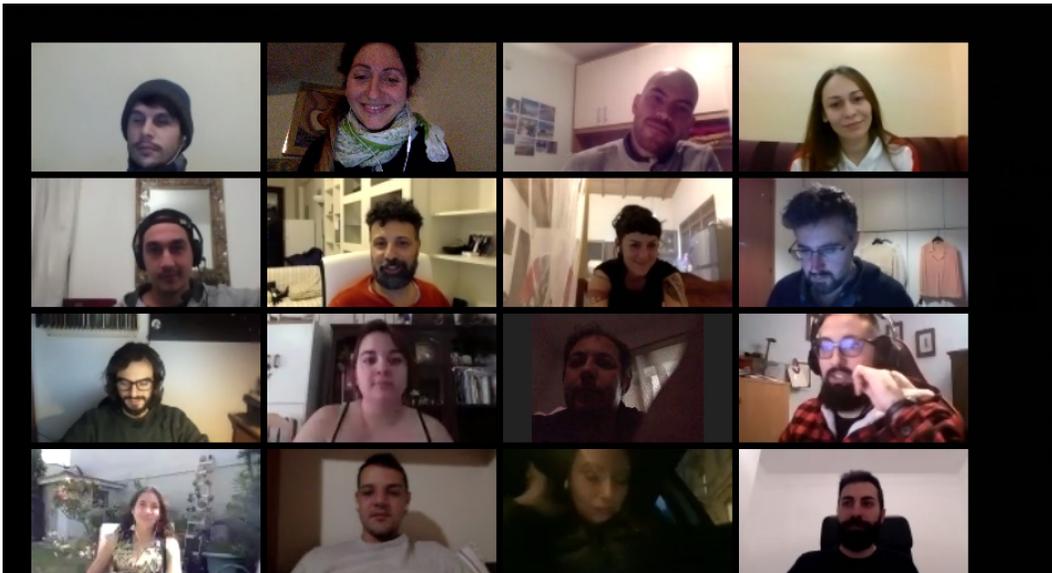
Hooray for the Café

Wondering how to fill that empty void you find in your pandemic social schedule? The solution is easy! Be sure to set a calendar reminder for 8 o'clock every Tuesday night to logon to the online Young Israel Café.

Zoom on in and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow congregants and friends while being entertained by a wide variety of interesting guests.



You get to bring your favorite snack and beverage to enjoy while having the opportunity to help perpetuate our congregational friendships during these otherwise isolating times. Watch for the exciting lineup of guests planned for this fall. As always, suggestions for thought-provoking speakers are always welcome. Perhaps best of all is that the dress code is informal, and you can feel free to invite a friend from anywhere!



Come for "Café"

The “No-Hassle Kiddush Initiative”

Dear Fellow Shul Goer,

I would like to present the community with an opportunity that could benefit its members: I’ll call it the “No-Hassle Kiddush Initiative”.

If you would like to sponsor a Kiddush but you can’t (or don’t want to!) deal with the headache of shopping, preparing, setting up, etc., no worries. I will do it for you. Yup, you read that correctly. I will prepare your entire Kiddush – all you need to do is show up! It’s that simple.

I will offer you choices of delicious homemade salads and baked goods, pretty platters, tasty desserts, and more. I will even include the paper goods J Below, you will find a list of options, as well as other information that you might need.

Note: this offer is my own personal initiative. It is in addition to, not in place of, what is currently being arranged by the YI sisterhood.

If you have any questions, you can contact me:

dinagoldenberg@aol.com

609-231-8609



The “Kiddush Initiative” is temporarily on hold until the Threat of COVID has passed.

From Dina's Kitchen

BASIC KIDDUSH - \$150

Salads (vegetable): Choice of 3

(Each additional salad \$7)

Eggplant – marinated

Eggplant – babaganoush

Taboule (quinoa)

Coleslaw

Potato

Carrot – cooked or grated

Tomato

Egg Salad

Olive dip

Chummus

Platters: Choice of 1

Fresh vegetable

Fresh fruit (seasonal)

Fish: Choice of 2

(Each additional \$10)

Gefilte fish with horseradish

Tuna (plain or scallion)

White fish salad (store bought)

Herring (store bought)

Nosh: One of each

(Each additional \$5)

Cookies – 2 types (rugelach, biscotti, chocolate chip, etc.)

Potato chips or Tortilla chips

Pretzels or other chips

Crackers – 2 types

Drinks: 2 seltzers and 1 juice (Soda upon request)

DELUXE KIDDUSH: \$225

Same as basic plus:

2 additional vegetable salads

Fish platter **OR** deli platter

Kugel – choice of potato, noodle or apple

Nuts or chocolate

Extras:

Cake for special occasion: \$50

*Price includes paper goods

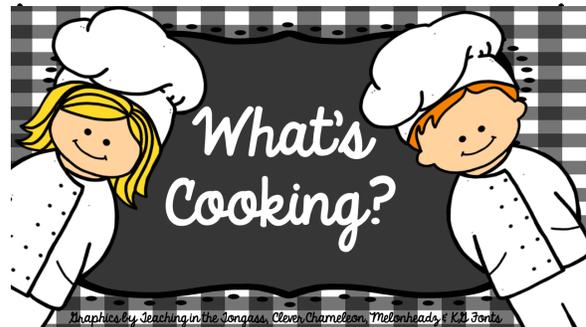
*Liquor provided by Kiddush sponsor

List is flexible. If you would like specific or select items, that can be arranged.

One week advance notice for all orders!

Orders must be pre-paid.

NOTE: If you are expecting a larger than usual crowd, please indicate approximately how many additional



Graphics by Searching in the Jungles, Clever, Chameleon, Melonheady & K.B. Jones

Bereavement Services

King Solomon said, "There is a time for all under the heavens — a time to love, a time to journey, a time to plant, a time to reap, a time to rejoice and a time to mourn."

In a most loving and caring way and with the greatest sensitivity, Rabbi Goldenberg will make it his business to offer all the comfort, guidance and bereavement support needed. In addition, he will be glad to offer his assistance in preparation, officiating at the funeral, making Shiva services, arranging for the kaddish to be recited, etc.

For assistance, or for more information, please call: (609) 882-4330.



THIS SPACE HAS TRADITIONALLY LAID OUT LIGHTING AND SERVICE TIMES FOR SHABBOS AND YOM TOV. HOWEVER, THANKS TO THE CHABAD OF LAWRENCEVILLE CALENDAR THAT THE RABBI MAILS OUT ANNUALLY AND TO THE RABBI'S WEEKLY E-TORAH E-MAIL, WE HAVE DECIDED THAT IT MAY NO LONGER BE NECESSARY TO INCLUDE THE

INFORMATION IN THE NEWSLETTER. PLEASE NOTIFY RABBI GOLDENBERG IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE CALENDAR OR BE ADDED TO THE MAILING LIST TO RECEIVE THE E-TORAH PLEASE FEEL FREE TO NOTIFY ELEANOR, LYNDA, OR THE RABBI IF YOU WOULD PREFER THAT THE NEWSLETTER ALSO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION.





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YOUNG ISRAEL

Marian and Ted Shafman

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www.yiol.com