



January 20, 2026

A Note From Our Chair

January is a time of momentum for our community. While winter encourages us to slow down, it also creates space to come together with intention—and that spirit is very present right now at SGBJC.

This season has already included meaningful moments of connection. Our Hanukkah celebrations, bowling party and Community Challah Bake brought people together across generations, creating warmth, conversation, and shared experience at a time of year when those moments matter deeply. These gatherings continue to remind us that community is built through presence and participation.

Running alongside these events is our Be the Light initiative—an ongoing focus for our community that reflects how we want to show up, both for one another and for the wider Collingwood area. Be the Light is about encouraging engagement, compassion, and action in ways that are accessible and meaningful. It creates opportunities for people to contribute time, energy, or support in ways that align with their capacity, while strengthening connections with local organizations doing important work.

Right now, Be the Light is very much in motion. It includes our participation in the Coldest Night of the Year walk, as well as continued efforts to raise awareness, invite involvement, and build partnerships within the broader community. It's not a single event, but a framework that guides how we think about community responsibility and collective care.

Looking ahead, our calendar continues to offer a range of ways to engage—from learning and reflection through Yom HaShoah programming, to ongoing Book Club gatherings, to opportunities connected to Be the Light. Together, these initiatives reflect a community that is thoughtful, responsive, and committed to making a difference.

We encourage you to stay connected, follow along on our social channels, and take part in the initiatives that resonate with you. Community grows when people feel welcomed to participate in ways that feel right for them—and we are grateful for the energy and care that continue to shape this moment.

Warmly,
Rashell Feldman
Chair, SGBJC

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PROGRAMS

January 27 is a day of remembrance. A day to pause, to gather as a community, and to honor the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust. We remember those whose lives were taken, and we bear witness to those who survived..

Join us to view a video interview with Oprah Winfrey and Dr. Eger—an open and deeply moving conversation reflecting on survival, responsibility, and her bestselling book, *The Choice: Embrace the Possible*.

Edith Eva Eger is a Hungarian Jewish Holocaust survivor who was deported to Auschwitz in 1944, where her parents were murdered. She survived unimaginable trauma and was rescued from near death at the end of the war. Today, she continues to share her story, offering a powerful voice of resilience, memory, and moral choice.

Hosted by Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community

DATE: Tuesday, January 27th, 2026

TIME: 9:30 am

LOCATION: Simcoe St Theater, 65 Simcoe St, Collingwood

rsvp for details: shalom@sbgjc.ca

Yom HaShoah
JANUARY 27TH

Edith Eva Eger was a Hungarian Jewish teenager deported to Auschwitz in 1944, where her parents were murdered. She survived through extraordinary resilience and was rescued from near death at the war's end—her life a testament to survival in the Holocaust.

* Join us for a video interview with Oprah Winfrey and Edith Eva Eger—an open and deeply moving conversation about survival, resilience, and her bestselling book, *The Choice: Embrace the Possible*.

DR. EDITH EGER

Collingwood, On
Time: 9:30am
RSVP shalom@sbgjc.ca

“You are not what happened to you. You are what you choose to become.”
The Choice

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Book Club

Join us for dinner, dessert or drinks while we discuss *The Choice: Embrace the Possible*.

To follow our Yom HaShoah January 27th event, we are meeting to have a further conversation centered around Edith Eva Eger's story.

Dr Edith Eva Eger is an eminent psychologist whose own experiences as a Holocaust survivor helps treat patients and allows them to escape the prisons of their own minds.

It's 1944 and 16 year old ballerina and gymnast Edith Eger is sent to Auschwitz. Separated from her parents on arrival, she endures unimaginable experiences, including being made to dance for the infamous Josef Mengele. When the camp is finally liberated, she is pulled from a pile of bodies, barely alive. The horrors of the Holocaust didn't break Edith. In fact, they helped her learn to live again with life-affirming strength and a truly remarkable resilience. *The Choice* is her unforgettable story.

Hosted by Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community

DATE: Wednesday, February 18th, 2026

TIME: 7-9pm

LOCATION: Kelsey's 371 First St, Collingwood

rsvp for details: shalom@sbgjc.ca

The flyer features the SGBJC logo (Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community) with a Star of David. It lists the event date as Wednesday, February 18th, 7-9pm at Collingwood. The text invites attendees to join for dinner, dessert, or drinks while discussing the book *The Choice: Embrace the Possible* by Holocaust survivor Edith Eva Eger. The book cover is shown, featuring a thorny branch with a single orange flower. The cover text includes: "THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER", "“It'll be forever changed by Dr. Eger's story.” —OPRAH", "THE CHOICE Embrace the Possible", "A mind-blowing memoir of surviving Auschwitz... I can't imagine a more important message for modern times." —LORI GOTTLEBER, *The New York Times Book Review*, and "A Memoir by Dr. Edith Eva Eger, Foreword by Philip Zimbardo, PhD". Two award medals are also visible. At the bottom, it says "RSVP SHALOM@SGBJC.CA" and "BOOK CLUB" in large bold letters, accompanied by a portrait of Dr. Edith Eva Eger.

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STAY IN TOUCH!

Celebrate Tu B'Shevat with SGBJC at The Paintbar with a guided canvas painting activity and social!

Time & Location

Feb 01, 2026, 2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The Paint Bar Collingwood, 191 Hurontario St, Collingwood, ON L9Y 2M1, Canada, Unit 9

Every one of all ages welcome! \$40/per painter follow the link to purchase your ticket!

Whether you're looking for connection, a creative outlet, or simply a break from your everyday routine—this is just for you.

We've got everything covered: supplies, inspiration, and a fun, welcoming atmosphere. All you have to do is show up and enjoy!

<https://www.thepaintbar.ca/event-details/tu-bshevat-painting-session>

Tu B'Shevat Painting

SGBJC
SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY
JEWISH COMMUNITY

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 1
2-4:30 PM
THE PAINTBAR
191 HURONTARIO ST, UNIT 9
COLLINGWOOD ON

JOIN US FOR A
GUIDED CANVAS
PAINTING
WORKSHOP AND
SOCIAL TO
CELEBRATE
TU B'SHEVAT!

ALL AGES
EVERYONE
WELCOME!

\$40 PER PERSON
SIGN UP WITH
THE LINK BELOW

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STAY IN TOUCH!

Activities & Advocacy

The Hanukkah Bowling Party was a big success! It was fun to come together, nosh, bowl and get to know each other while celebrating Hanukkah!

A big highlight for the children was getting called up to light the Hanukkah candles by Peter!



Community Challah Bake – Collingwood

Our recent challah bake at the First Presbyterian Church was a wonderful gathering, with an amazing turnout that brought together families, friends, and multiple generations from our community.

Led by Naomi and Hillary, participants learned our challah recipe through a hands-on experience, shaping their own loaves to take home, rise, and bake in their own ovens. The room was filled with great conversation, shared learning, and a real sense of connection.

A meaningful afternoon rooted in tradition, community, and time spent together.

Special thank you to Julia Sheffield for welcoming us into her community



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Coming Soon...

Coldest Night of the Year – February 28

On February 28, our Be The Light team will be walking in the Coldest Night of the Year, a community event supporting those experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness in our area. We're proud to walk in support of Home Horizon and Barbara Weider House, two local organizations providing essential care and support in our community.

There are several ways to take part:

- Join our team and walk with us
- Sponsor the team
- Volunteer at the event

However you choose to participate, your involvement helps make a meaningful local impact. We hope you'll be part of this community event.

<https://secure.e2rm.com/regisrant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1041062>

Be The Light – A Community Initiative

Be The Light is a community initiative led by the Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community, created to encourage people of all ages in Collingwood to get involved with local charitable organizations making a difference close to home.

Through events, pop-ups, and community outreach, Be The Light highlights local charities and helps connect residents with volunteer opportunities that align with their interests and availability. By working directly with community partners, the initiative supports organizations where help is most needed and makes it easier for people to get involved.

At its core, Be The Light is about connection – strengthening local supports, bringing people together, and encouraging hands-on involvement in our community. By keeping our focus local, we can support vulnerable populations and contribute in meaningful, practical ways.

Team "BE THE LIGHT"
Sign up online to join our team
or sponsor us in support of
Collingwood Home Horizon.



The Coldest Night of the Year is a family-friendly fundraising walk in support of local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness... because it's cold out there. Join us on February 28, 2026



Join our mailing list by filling out the form on our website

www.southerngeorgianbayjewishcommunity.com