



## A Message from Rabbi Rachel

### *Top Three Summer Mitzvot Challenge!*



Summer is a time that many of us try things that are a bit “out of the box” of our regular lives. It’s a particularly intimate and beautiful time to be at CBTBI for Shabbat. But – there are many mitzvot waiting for you outdoors, wherever you happen to be. Here’s my summer

challenge: See if you can do these three mitzvot this summer — on vacation, at the beach, or even simply at home. Let me know how it goes!

#### **Mitzvah #1: Shechianu**

Did you know that it’s a mitzvah to try – and bless – new things? Judaism has long seen the wisdom in expanding ourselves, with new places, new tastes, and new experiences. We know from modern psychology that newness is good for us, too. Newness expands us, and helps our brain make deeper connections. What can you do this summer that’s new? Whether it’s visiting a new place, eating a new fruit, or trying a new experience, deepen the experience by saying the “Shechianu” blessing. Baruch Ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech HaOlam Shehechianu v’Kiemanu v’Higianu l’zman hazeh.

#### **Mitzvah #2: Talk to Strangers**

According to Judaism, it’s a big mitzvah to greet others with a smile, and cheer others up. In this life, we have no idea what others are dealing with on a daily basis. Make it a point to be an ambassador of kindness, in a world that is often cold and lonely. Whether it’s gently encouraging a crying baby and stressed mom in the check-out line, or visiting someone elderly who you may not know so well just to say hi, we all appreciate kindness.

#### **Mitzvah #3: Learn**

We all have heard that Jews should learn Torah. But, did you know that “Torah” can be defined as anything that will help make the world a better place? It’s a mitzvah to learn, so that we can teach, and improve the world, together. Learn about another culture, learn science of skin color, learn how to grow herbs. It’s endless. And, learning, and then sharing what you learn, is a mitzvah.

Have a great summer!!

### **Honor Your Loved Ones and Support CBTBI**

Rosh Hashanah is coming, and with it the annual Community Directory, which is distributed to all members at the High Holidays. This campaign is one of the biggest and most important fundraisers in support of CBTBI. You can help out by placing a personal ad; honoring your children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren (and even pets); sharing simchas such as anniversaries and special occasions from this past year; remembering loved ones, or writing personal greetings.

Click [here](#) for the form for Personal Ads & Names, or contact Diane Shapiro (856-740-0081 or [ashapdee@msn.com](mailto:ashapdee@msn.com)), and she will get a form to you.

If you have a business or know of a business that would like to advertise in the directory, please contact Paul Bunkin (856-228-1355).

**ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE DUE AUGUST 7.**

## From the President's Desk by Ben Negin

*Thank You for a Great Year*



There has been a lot happening at CBTBI as we head into summer! I would like to thank Wendy Marder and all of her teachers for another great school year. We said goodbye to four of our teachers, including Leora Rothschild, Rebecca Klavens, Renee Klavens, and Jodi Goldstein. They will be missed

tremendously. A special recognition goes to Renee who has provided CBTBI with decades of service.

Furthermore, on the education front, we completed our first year of Youth Group Plus, a program for students who have completed Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

Activities included a Sukkot pot luck under the stars, hamantaschen baking, and a trip to the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History in Philly. Through these programs we hope to keep our teenage congregants and their families connected to Judaism.

On the other end of the age spectrum, Mark and Sevena Sacks have initiated the Senior Group with some wonderful informational sessions. We are also reforming our outreach to the wider community and inreach to congregants.

I would also like to give a big thank-you to the departing board members: Karen Caughron, Kelly Chelnik, and Susan Krantweiss. Your service has helped the congregation tremendously. We are excited for our three new trustees: Todd Wilen, Karen Shimp, and Jesse Brown. The board and I are here for any questions or concerns over the year.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### **Wednesday, July 26, 7 PM: Tisha B'Av**

Join us as we observe Tisha B'Av, with rituals old and new. Many Jewish holidays are joyful; this day gives us the opportunity to support each other in loss, and hope.

### **Friday, July 28, 6 PM: Pizza/Services at Rabbi Rachel's**

We'll gather in Rabbi Rachel's yard in Collingswood for pizza, followed by services at 7 PM. Congregants are asked to bring a dessert.

### **Wednesday, August 2, 2 PM: Tu B'Av**

Movie time! Tu B'Av is the Jewish holiday of love. Join us for a Jewish movie about love in our sanctuary (title TBD), and discussion.

### **Sunday, August 13, 12-3 PM: BBQ Picnic/Pool Party at Greenwood Park-Bells Lake**

Open to members and invited guests only. Cost is \$6/person; children under 4 are free. CBTBI will provide kosher hamburgers and hot dogs. Sign up via the Evite link (click [here](#)), and let us know what you'll bring, or contact Chuck Nappen at [cnappen@hotmail.com](mailto:cnappen@hotmail.com).

## A Message from Wendy Marder, Educational Director

### *An Ode to Our Teachers*



I wrote this to pay tribute to and thank all of our wonderful teachers for this past school year, and to bid farewell to four of them: Renee Klavens, Rebecca Klavens, Leora Rothschild, and Jodi Goldstein. Enjoy, and if anyone knows qualified teachers willing to come to CBTBI, please send them my way!

*So I'll start at the very beginning - January 1986  
I was just married and moved here  
Josh Meyer made the teacher picks  
Debbie Brown taught then, Iris and Luisa too  
Rabbi & Elaine Zucker gave us our cue  
I became a mom, 1,2,3  
And so now I sing- Do Re Mi*

*Now to the tune of Doe a Deer...*

*Erica Mulloy's been here 25  
Watched her family grow & thrive  
Flexible, experienced, fun at work  
A fellow poet, as a perk  
Always ready to step in  
All the grades that she has been  
Now we work to recreate  
For next year we can't wait!*

*Renee was head of Ed committee  
For principal, she hired me  
Soon, she, agreed to teach  
And each student she did reach  
As we watched her students learn  
To read Hebrew is what they'd yearn  
Chag HaSiddur was the best  
With Renee we have been blessed*

*Then her kids, they taught here too  
Lucky for us we had a few  
Now, Rebecca's teaching here  
Even though it's her last year  
Helping students read and pray  
And learn how to live the Jewish way  
Years of 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th grade  
Excellent students made*

*Jodi just joined us - brought us new things  
Her lessons took off on soaring wings  
The students loved to meditate  
And Yoga and sign language were so great  
Her wit and warmth, her smiles and ways  
Made school life better all the days  
We will miss her every week  
But she promised us she'd peek*

*Dee just started this year to teach  
Each student she did try to reach  
New ideas, crafts, & more  
Holidays, history, games galore  
Planting, growing things outside  
Keeps the earth and kids alive  
Having fun but learning too  
Dee, we say thank you!*

*Ellyce, I know, so many years  
Taught my babies, wiped their tears  
At CBT she was mother hen  
Ran the office that was then  
Now our little guys are yours  
Maybe, we'll even add some 4's  
But for sure your Bubby to them all  
Winter, Spring and Fall!*

*Leora became our teacher too  
After volunteering years a few  
Her kindness and love for little ones  
Far outreaches rhymes & puns  
She is fun and kind and sweet  
Her caring really can't be beat  
Leora, we will all miss you  
We love you thru & thru.*

*Jana was, our student first  
For knowledge she did always thirst  
Chai awards each year for Shabbat  
The most, the highest, quite a lot!  
Now a Cantor and Lions Gates clergy  
We all look to her for our liturgy  
Jana's short, but tall in voice  
7th grade you can rejoice!*

## Have an IRA? Give to CBTBI? Save Big on Taxes with a QCD!

If you (or a loved one):

- Utilize an individual retirement account (IRA), and...
- Are aged 70 ½ years young or up, and...
- Make donations to CBTBI...

...then read on to learn about a valuable planned giving option called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD, also known as an IRA Charitable Rollover) that can help CBTBI finances.

### Here's how it works:

When donating to CBTBI, consider directing a payout straight from your IRA to CBTBI because you will attain some worthwhile benefits, including:

- Avoiding taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to our 501(c)(3) organization
- Making a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts
- Having the donation count toward your required minimum distribution (when you reach age 73) for the year, thus lowering your taxable income.

**Bonus Tip #1:** You can designate CBTBI as a beneficiary of your IRA to initiate an after-lifetime gift. Your gift will be added to CBTBI's Life & Legacy endowment fund so you may build your Jewish legacy for future generations.

**Bonus Tip #2:** Use QCD to pay your dues!

Keep in mind:

Your QCD should occur before making withdrawals to satisfy your RMD due to the "first money out" rule. As you withdraw from your IRA, whether for charitable purposes or your personal income, that reduces your RMD amount for the year, so it helps to plan ahead to ensure your charitable distributions count for your RMD if that is your intention.

### *The Shofar*

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Interested in more information about QCDs?

Contact Art Shapiro —

- Phone: 856-740-0081
- Email: [ashapdee@msn.com](mailto:ashapdee@msn.com)
- Text: 856-562-1419

Thank you, and happy giving!