

CBZ NEWSLETTER: THE KEYS TO JUDAISM

Produced By: **Congregation B'nai Zion**

~ South Florida's Oldest Synagogue ~

Established in 1887

Rabbi Shimon Dudai

President Fred Covan PhD

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Volume 12
Mini-Issue 1



November 2020
(Heshvan/Kislev 5781)

Editor: Elyse Spialter

WHAT'S NEW?

The nature of this issue is definitely new. It is 5 pages long (instead of the usual 8) and I am referring to it as a "Mini-Issue".

The reason that I've produced this short issue and the reason that there was no September/October issue is, unfortunately, that my family has been struggling with various health and logistic issues over the past months. I specifically am dealing with illness (thankfully not coronavirus) that —together with other difficulties— has required me to cut-back on what I do.

This installment of the newsletter was undertaken with two specific goals in mind. First, to share communications from the Rabbi & our CBZ president to foster our being linked as a congregation. Rabbi Dudai imparts healing words in his Message that begins to the **right on this page**. Our president, Dr. Fred Covan, reports on the various CBZ activities that are being conducted as we work to maintain operations during these trying times (**on page 2**). The second purpose is to direct focus to the financial aspects of the synagogue—in terms of recognizing those who have been kind enough to give and to remind everyone of the need that exists for more giving. At the request of Fred & the Rabbi, this mini-issue is presented with the hope that it accomplishes these endeavors.

I am unable at this time to commit to when the next issue of the newsletter will come out, but I am hopeful it will be sometime in early 2021. It is regrettable that Covid-19 remains a very harsh reality in all of our lives; I know it is a hope we all share that 2021 brings an end to this surge. Stay safe and well!

שלום, Elyse

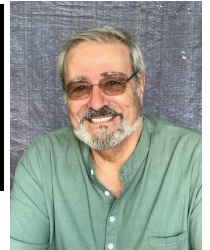
NEWS

!!

!!

CHADASHOT

Rabbi Dudai's Message
Please send comments regarding
any of the Rabbi's Messages to
shdudain@aol.com



November 2020

Greetings.

I open my message with a collection of quotes from our great sages:

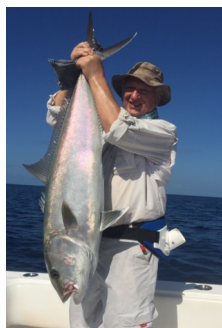
1. Ben Zoma (a 2nd century CE sage) asks, "Who is honorable?" He answered that it is he/she who respects others. Avot Ch 4-1
2. Eliezer Hagadol (a 2nd century CE sage) said, "Let the honor of others be as important to you as your own." Avot 2-15.
3. Avtalion (a 1st century CE sage and teacher of the great sage Hillel) said, "Beware, oh learned, be very cautious with your words." Avot 1-11

Our sages were extremely cautious in all matters concerning the respect and honor of others in spite of the fact that they had many disagreements. This is clearly observable in the Talmud.

CONTINUED ON P. 2

P.S From Elyse ... 2020 has brought one wonderful gift to me and Howard, the birth of our 3rd grandchild (and only granddaughter, so far). Since good news is sorely rare of late, I happily share this event!

Welcome To The World
Maya Aria Spialter
born 9/3/20
granddaughter of
Elyse & Howard Spialter



President's Message (FROM DR. FRED COVAN):

To those of you who are not in Key West currently and to those of you who are, I wanted to let you know what's been going on with Congregation B'nai Zion's activities. Since March, the rabbi has been holding Zoom Friday Night services to begin Shabbat. Attendance has varied ranging from 10 to 18-19; but who's counting? He is also continuing to hold "Lunch With The Rabbi" and Wednesday evening classes via Zoom. If

you have not attended any of these, I urge you to do so. It keeps you in touch both with CBZ and your spiritual selves, both of which are helpful coping mechanisms in this highly stressful period.

On October 17, we began in-person Saturday morning services. Due to our concern about exposure to the Covid virus in an indoor setting, we began with holding services in the garden. I love the setting and I rarely have an opportunity to sit in the garden and appreciate its magnificence. Some members, however, felt uncomfortable due to the heat and the less than ideal acoustics. We are purchasing an outdoor PA system and, hopefully, as we move further into autumn, the garden will be cooler. As I write this on November 9, I share that last Saturday we did have morning services in the sanctuary because of hurricane Eta. We did not have a minyon and we were easily able to space ourselves responsibly. When there is no minyon, the rabbi takes it as an opportunity to teach Torah. We've also resumed having a Kiddush; it was kept very simple and consisted of bagels/ lox and tuna, which we ate in the courtyard.

There really is very little else for me to report. I wanted to just touch base with you and be able to say "hi". Please participate in our activities in whatever way you feel comfortable. Like chicken soup, it's good for you.

Shalom, Fred

Rabbi Dudai's Message (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Our country is divided, as it always is during election times. Now, more than ever, let us be inspired and guided by the wise words of our sages.

- Let us re-learn how to speak across the political divide.
- Let us encourage civil conversations.
- Let us express differences and objections in ways that help connect and not divide us.
- Let us never surrender our natural desire to unite and support each other to the exaggerated gloom created by uncertainty.

Our country is a blessed one and is capable of enduring a period of hardship, survive it and emerge stronger from it.

So, please let's all also follow the loving guidance of the Torah that charges us with the sacred task of guarding and protecting our lives and the lives of others. Doing our part is a petition to heaven, an appeal seeking His part to aid us as well.

May Hashem bless, guard and protect us all,

Rabbi Dudai

COMMITTEES AT CBZ:

Cemetery Committee

Kenny Weschler - chair
Fred Covan
Bounce Margil
Suzanne Teicher
Liz Young

Events Committee

John Kreinces - chair
Fred Covan
Eileen Kawaler
Rebetzen Nadia Dudai
Barbara Webb

Facilities (Building) Committee

Fred Covan
Rebetzen Nadia Dudai
Donna Feldman
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Finance Committee

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Fred Covan
Merle Dimbath
Mark Funt
Jerry Ginsberg
Fred Greenberg
Eileen Kawaler
Mae McMahan
Peter Rysman
Barbara Webb
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Jack Einhorn

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Dean Bilton
Fred Covan
Donna Feldman
Mark Funt
Michael Klitenick
Maxine Makover
Barbara Webb

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Rabbi Dudai
Justin Kawaler
John Kreinces
Bounce Margil
Sid Wharton

Yahrzeit Committee

Sheldon Davidson
Karen Grant-Margil
Bruce York
Diana Heller-Yizkor Book

Please remember, CBZ is a volunteer organization with no "paid office staff"

... If you call & get the office answering machine, please leave a message & someone will get back to you as soon as possible or contact CBZ thru our Website:

www.bnaizionkw.com

A Note from The Editor
re BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LISTINGS:

Due to my inability to provide a September/October 2020 issue of the newsletter and the need to provide this simplified issue at this time (rather than the standard issue for November/December 2020), the Birthday/Anniversary Listings for these months have not been provided. My apologies for any inconvenience this causes but I trust you will understand the circumstances. PLEASE KNOW THAT CBZ WISHES MAZEL TOV TO ALL WHO HAVE CELEBRATED BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND ANY OTHER SIMCHA!

One very special birthday that has come to my attention is acknowledged here:

Happy 99th Birthday
to
JUSTINKAWALER

"We are obligated to be more scrupulous in fulfilling the mitzvah of tzedakah than any other positive commandment, because tzedakah is the sign of a righteous person."
-The Rambam

Contributions acknowledged in this issue include those posted from June 11 through October 28. Those made after 10/28 will be recognized in a future issue of the newsletter. Every effort is made to list your contribution in the newsletter as desired based on space allowances TO MAKE CERTAIN that any payment you provide is properly directed and acknowledged, please email to cbzkeywest@gmail.com to provide information regarding what payment you sent in and what it is for (or include a note if mailing a check). Thank you!

MANY THANKS!! Appreciation is extended to KAREN LEONARD & KAREN GRANT-MARGIL (and ALL who participated & assisted them) for the phenomenal job they undertook to provide us with services for the High Holidays. Thank you as well to RABBI DUDAI & CANTOR JOHN KREINCES for their efforts with all of the Fall holidays and weekly services. CBZ is grateful to ALL who assist in keeping us connected on-line with Services, the Rabbi's educational opportunities, and so on.

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

The impacts of the pandemic are far-reaching on so many levels. One is that B'nai Zion needs to urge all of its members and friends to consider the financial needs of the congregation at this time. Covid has prevented us from gathering regularly and that has led to a lessening of typical contributions being received — High Holiday donations have been particularly impacted. PLEASE UNDERTAKE THE MITZVAH OF TZEDAKAH NOW & PROVIDE WHATEVER FINANCIAL SUPPORT YOU CAN TO CBZ. Your anticipated help is most appreciated!

High Holidays Appeal

- * Deborah & Joel Meisel
- * Marilyn & Steve Oppenheimer
- * Wesley Calvin
- * Joan Cushman
(IMO Victor Cushman)
- * Deborah & Sidney Goldman
- * Susan & Brian Savitch
- * Judie & Michael Klitenick
- * Sidney Wharton
- * Stanley Coira
- * Barbara Levine
- * Deborah Schlein
- * Marsha Wolland
- * Carrie Helliesen
- * Sandra Levine
- * Yael & Arnold Hermelin
- * Michael Einhorn
- * Donna Feldman
- * Deborah Kreinces
- * Shayna Glickfield
- * Kim Gordon & Steven Mizner
- * B.G. Carter
- * Charlotte & Richard Moore
(IMO Milton Appel)
- * Maxine Makover
- * Suzanne Atkins
- * Nancy & Mark Funt
(h/o Rabbi, John, Mike, Karen & Karen for the High Holiday Services)

Heartfelt Thanks to the Following for Their Contributions to B'nai Zion:

- h/o Stan Sabuk
Robert Sher
- Billy Appelrouth Fund
Gail & Stewart Appelrouth
- h/o Stuart Kaufman's 80th B-day
Eileen & Justin Kawaler
- h/o Dean Bilton
Elsa Bilton
- Lox Fund & Kiddush Donation
Beverly & Bill Goldner
- Tree of Life
Beverly & Bill Goldner
- Purim Donation
Mae McMahan
- Gift Shop
Roberta & Gerald Ginsberg
- m/o Sheri Rice Brown
Edythe & Robert Baker
Nancy & Mark Funt
Eileen & Justin Kawaler
- m/o Neal Farr
Tina & Jamie Webb
Cassandra Krowl
Pamela Dyches
Nancy & Ed Swift
Janet & Michael Kass
Howard Sacarob
- General Fund
Carol & Larry Abramovitz
Mindy & Richard Esbin
Marian & Allen Gorman

Yahrzeit Donations

Deborah & Sidney Goldman

Lillian Kay
David Kay
Perry Goldman

Ninette & Sheldon Tuerk

Jerome Tuerk

Carol & Larry Abramovitz

Meyer Abramovitz

Ken Weschler

Milton Weschler

David Moore

Dr. Herman Kessler Moore
Simon Moore
Evelyn Moore Cohen

Mindy & Richard Esbin

Jack Varon
Nathan Edward Esbin
Betty Esbin

Rachelle Elias

Jacob Elias
Helen Elias
Bernard Kaplan
Rose Einhorn

Iris & Ronald Liszt

David Liszt
Samuel Liszt
Clara Liszt

Paula & Alan Goldberg

Stanley Goldberg
Jeanne Goldberg
Benjamin Delnick

Mitchell Appelrouth

Robert Appelrouth (brother)
William (Billy) H. Appelrouth

Joann Grant Sevel

Barbara E. Grant

Jack Einhorn

Abraham Einhorn

B.G. Carter

Isadore Levy
Joe Levy

Susan & David Samrick

Harry Samrick

Glenda & David Lebowitz

Edith Landsman

Jeffrey Gorsky

Samuel Gorsky (father)

Phyllis Roumm

Milton Roumm
David Lynn Roumm

Ann Mermelstein

Sheldon Mermelstein

Kim Gordon

Oriana Gordon Cherin

Judith & Stanley Zabar

Louis Segal

Arnold & Sally Young

Our Departed

Dean Bilton

Irving Bilton

Emily Bilton

Sherman C. Levie

Sandra & Jordan Bernstein

Grandmother Bolotin

Bonnie & Arnold Goldsmith

Esther Kaplan (mother)

Benjamin Hershenson

Betsy Hyman (sister)

Mae McMahan

Dear Departed

Ralph Wertheimer

Margalit Wertheimer

Eleanor Appel

Hyman Kippelman

Rubin Appel

Marilyn Kippelman Matsil

Raphael Ray Tenner

Joyce & Gilbert Walker

Our Loved Ones

C. Gary Zahler

Edward David Zahler

Byrdie Zahler

Linda & Alan Solomon

Lillian Goodsmith

Bonnie & Arnold Goldsmith

Phyllis Gpldsmith

Elias Gerth

Teja D. Gerth, M.D.

Neal Ruchman

Dear Departed

Carol & Larry Abramovitz

Gail Roth

Ruth Roth

Helen Appel

Leroy L. Appel, M.D.

Maxine Makover

Max Parker

Montine Parker

Stanley Coira

Bernard Coira

Fred Greenberg

Linda Greenberg

Carol & Phillip Wilks

Ida Wilks

A Note from The Editor re YAHREIT LISTINGS:

Due to my inability to provide a September/October 2020 issue of the newsletter and the need to provide this simplified issue at this time (rather than the standard issue for November/December 2020), the Yahrzeit Listings for these months have not been provided. My apologies for any inconvenience this causes but I trust you will understand the circumstances. If you have donated a Memorial Plaque, you should be receiving a mailed reminder that includes the Yahrzeit information.

YIZKOR BOOK 5781

Thank you to DIANA HELLER for her efforts in creating the 2020-21 Yizkor Book and to all those in CBZ who contributed to it & honored the memory of their Loved Ones.



CONDOLENCES

Editor's Note: The following acknowledgments include all those that were not yet contained in prior issues, ranging from late June through mid-November.

Congregation B'nai Zion extends sincere sympathy on the passing of ...

- BILL SCHWARTZ
(Grandson of Annette Ring)
- NEAL FARR
(Longtime Member & Dear CBZ Friend)
- SHERRI RICE BROWN
(Sister of Susan Kaufman)
- ARLENE DOTY
(Longtime Member & Dear CBZ Friend)

NOV 2020

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www.BnaiZionKW.com

AMAZON SMILE

A great way to help CBZ during these difficult times!

[illegible]

CBZ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Fred Covan	President
Dr. John Kreinces	Vice-President
Mae McMahan	Cors. Secretary
Donna Feldman	Rec. Secretary
Eileen Kawaler	Treasurer
Larry Abramovitz	
Nancy Funt	
Dr. Michael Klitenick	
Barbara Webb	
Kenneth Weschler	
Sid Wharton	



We are happy to announce that Congregation B'nai Zion is now a participant in the Amazon Smile program. What is Amazon Smile?

Amazon Smile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices and convenient shopping features as found on Amazon.com.

The difference is that when customers shop at Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com), the Amazon Smile Foundation donates 0.50% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization selected by the customer. There is **no cost** to the organization or the customer. If you have any questions contact 888-282-0536 or charity-support@amazon.com. We are registered as Congregation B'nai Zion IN Key West. If you are one of our many CBZers who shops on Amazon, please help us out by going to Amazon Smile. Thanks for your anticipated participation!

IN LIEU OF “CALENDAR OF EVENTS”

As it remains impractical to provide the regular “Calendar of Events” that usually appears in this spot, you are reminded of the various ways to stay connected to CBZ — to the right you’ll find the contact info for the synagogue’s email, website & Facebook alternatives. In particular, you are urged to follow the eBlasts sent frequently from the synagogue that contain the latest news. If you are NOT getting these emails from B’nai Zion, send an email to Abbey at cbzkeywest@gmail.com to ask her to add you to the list! At this time, there are various on-going virtual opportunities that continue and provide the chance to stay connected & participate in synagogue life. In addition, in-person services (which have been held occasionally) are being evaluated. A good review of CBZ happenings is found in Fred’s Message on page 2. All pertinent information as we move forward will be included in the eBlasts.

GET MORE CBZ INFO !!!!

Constant Contact E-BLASTS:

cbzkeywest@gmail.com

REMINDER: “NEW” WEBSITE:

www.bnaizionkw.com

FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/BnaiZionKW

In Conclusion, A Little Levity ...

At the store there was a big X by the register for me to stand on...

**I've seen too many
Road Runner
cartoons to fall for
that one.**