

BET CHAVERIM

(206) 577-0403 March 2018

“To provide a forum for news and editorials relevant to
Bet Chaverim and its Jewish Community”

Editor: Barbara Roessler Proofreader: Carrie Bagatell
Services with Rabbi Emily Meyer
Always at 7:30 p.m.



From Our Rabbi

Emily Meyer emilymeyer18@gmail.com

What is our purpose here in this world? How do we find it? How do we know we have found it? How do we help others find theirs? These questions might inspire us or terrify us, but, at some point or another, each of us likely wonders them.

And we are not the first to wonder. We see the same themes in our sacred texts. I am particularly drawn to the following quote from the book of Esther. Her uncle Mordechai, urging her to speak to King Ahashuerous about the threats made to the Jewish people, says, “Do not imagine that you, of all the Jews, will escape with your life by being in the king’s palace... And who knows, perhaps you have attained to royal position for just a time like this.” Perhaps Esther has come to her position of power as royalty of Shushan for the purpose of helping her people escape annihilation.

Last month, I had the honor of attending the Search for Meaning Festival at Seattle University. One keynote speaker, The Rev. Dr. Barbara Brown Taylor, spoke about her recent book, “Redeeming Darkness: A Spirituality for the Night Times”. She primarily spoke of the literal times when darkness brings peace, understanding, or holiness in the Biblical text. Abraham, for example, is only able to imagine his multitudinous progeny when looking up at the starry night sky. Or later, his grandson Jacob receives his blessing and the name of Israel as he wrestles in the night.

Perhaps we might extend this hidden potential to metaphorical darkness as well. When life seems darkest, when the situation is direst, perhaps that is the moment when we might understand our true potential. We might find inspiration in Abraham, doubting, but still able to see potential, or Jacob, stubborn, but still able to be transformed, or Esther, terrified, but still willing to speak truth to power. May we, as well, find the potential in the darker moments of life, and in so doing, see the beauty that is there.

From Our President:

Melissa Brooks melissabrooks25@gmail.com

Hi Folks! Michael and I have been back from the URJ Scheidt Leadership seminar for about a week and half now and we are still buzzing with everything that we learned. I would like to share some of the big ideas:

One of the principles that drive strong congregations is "start with why". Why does our congregation exist? Ultimately, are we here to make the world a better place? At our annual June congregation meeting I would love to have a conversation about why does our congregation exist. If you start with the “why”, the names of our congregation committees would probably look different. Instead of the “Social Action” committee you might have a “How to Raise Children In An Uncertain World” committee; instead of a “Religious” or “Ritual” committee you might have a “How do I Face My Own Mortality” or “How Do I Show Gratitude” committee. If you look at our website in the “Welcome to Bet Chaverim” section, in the 4th paragraph it states that our goal is to continue to build a Jewish community based on inclusiveness, reflecting the congregation’s belief in cooperation and mutual support. I personally think that we are doing a good job at meeting that goal.



Another big idea had to do with forming sacred partnerships and the importance of relationship building. Some of you might remember when our former president, Lonnie Wall, came to each congregant's house and had a "getting to know you and your concerns" conversation. In the next few months Michael and I plan on meeting with each congregation member to learn more about your story and what is important to you.

I am looking forward to our Peter, Paul and Purim service on March 2nd and eating hamentashen. If you happen to listen to KBCS 91.3, you might hear some advertisements about our Purim service during the 3-6 P.M. segment.



On March 9th we are having a potluck dinner starting at 6 P.M. before the Shabbat service. During the potluck, some of the members of the Saltwater Church Social Action group will do a short presentation and lead us in a discussion.

We are planning another fantastic community Passover Seder on Saturday, March 31st at 5 P.M. Please see the flyer.

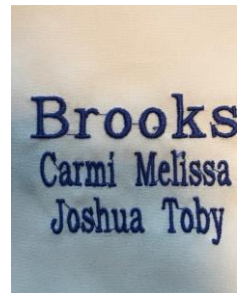
Lastly, if you are interested in adding your family name to our congregation tablecloth (see flyer), please send your form in.

Put Your Family Name On Our Bet Chaverim Tablecloth



You too can experience the joy of seeing your family members' names when you look at the tablecloth displayed under the Shabbat candles and Torah.

Experience the pride of knowing that your family will be remembered by our congregation for many years to come. Plus, you will be adding to the beauty of our sanctuary.



The cost to have your family names embroidered is \$40.

Please return this along with your check by March 15th, 2018. Checks can be made out to:

Bet Chaverim
1911 S.W. Campus Drive PMB#562
Federal Way, WA. 98023

Last name: _____

First names: _____



This month we remember:

- 2/5 Simon Alpert, father of Sherwin Alpert
- 2/9 Ethel Locascio, mother of Jack Locascio
- 2/13 Charles Schainen, father of Judith Schainen
- 2/14 Cora Gross, grandmother of Nancy Blase
- 2/15 Jess M. Lym, husband of Carol Lym
- 2/16 Oscar Schaffer, father of Robyn Alpert
- 2/18 Regina Wise May, grandmother of Nancy Blase
- 2/20 Hank Parker, brother of Vickie Burns
- 2/22 Marvin Galland, uncle of Susan Demner
- 2/27 Richard Sofferin, brother of Stanley Sofferin

March Anniversaries

3/5 Ken & Rhonda Steinman

March Birthdays

3/13 Carrie Bagatell
 3/27 Michael Banks

Please visit our website at
www.betchaverim.org.



Stay in touch with a Sunshine Card!

You can order a hand stamped card for any occasion: birthday to bar mitzvah, births to funerals, get well and greetings! Support Sisterhood with Sunshine cards for only \$3.00; this covers the card and postage.

To order, contact Vickie Burns by phone, 206 878-6926 or email mvblburns@comcast.net. Just tell her the name and address of the recipient, the occasion and how you want the card signed. Send payment to Sisterhood treasurer, Judy Schainen.

Caring Committee

Some of you might not be aware that our synagogue has a "caring committee". The purpose of the committee is to help coordinate assistance to any congregation members who might need additional support due to illness or other life events. Judy Schainen is the current chair of this committee.

If you are in need of assistance: please e-mail:
caringcommittee@betchaverim.org.

Our services are held at:
 Saltwater Unitarian
 Universalist Church
 25701 14th Pl. S.
 Des Moines, WA 98198

Interested in Sponsoring an Oneg?

If interested in sponsoring an oneg for a celebration such as a birthday, anniversary, Yahrzeit, return health or occasion, please contact Chris at cabogart@yahoo.com. Please know there is also a sign up sheet at the synagogue as well.

Remember you don't need a reason to sponsor an oneg.

Our Temple Board:

President:	Melissa Brooks
Vice President:	Michael Banks
Secretary:	Robyn Alpert
Treasurer:	Archie Levine
Members at Large:	Jack Kornberg
	Eytan Olivier
	Judy Schainen
	Rick Siegler
	Peter Smith

Bet Chaverim Community Passover Seder

Saturday, March 31st Beginning at 5 P.M. Doors open at 4:15 Led by Rabbi E. Meyer



Caterer Gino's: **Slow Braised Beef Shoulder** in a green peppercorn sauce
Chicken Cacciatore (roasted chicken breast topped with sautéed green peppers, onions & mushrooms in marinara sauce)
Eggplant Napoleon (roasted zucchini, yellow squash, red onions, brussel sprouts)

Traditional homemade favorites by congregation members:

**Matzah Ball Soup Gefilte Fish Deviled Eggs Chopped Liver Charoset
 Tossed Salad Fruit Salad Desserts**

The seder will be held at **Bet Chaverim 25701 14th Pl. So., Des Moines**

For directions: <http://betchaverim.org/aboutus/directions>

Questions: Email at jkornberg101@gmail.com or call 253-878-4062

Please help us by meeting our March 20th deadline; **after March 16th add \$5/person**



Reservation form due by March 20th – make check payable to Bet Chaverim
 Mail to: Jack Kornberg, 5500 SW 315th St., Federal Way, WA 98023

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

<u>Category</u>	How Many	Rate *	Amount
Members in good standing		\$36	
Other adults		\$50	
Children ages 5-18		\$18	
Children under age 5		No charge	
Total persons and payment			

Donation to Passover Fund (for those who need funding to attend) \$ _____

* After March 16th, add \$5 per person Amount for late fee \$ _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Number who are gluten free _____ Number who are vegetarian _____

MARCH

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Purim Shabbat Service w/ Rabbi Emily & Neil 7:30 pm Torah Reading: Parshat Ki Tisa Candle Lighting 5:38 pm	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Potluck and Presentation w/ Saltwater Pooling Resources ^:00 pm Shabbat Service w/ Rabbi Emily 7:30 pm Torah Reading: Parshat Va-Yakhel-Pekudei Candle Lighting 5:48 pm	10
11	12	13	14 Temple Board Mtg - 7:00 pm	15	16 Torah Reading: Parshat Va-Yikra Candle Lighting 6:59 pm	17 Shabbat Torah service followed by Potluck & Torah Discussion 10:00 am
18	19	20	21	22	23 Torah Reading: Parshat Tzav Candle Lighting 7:09 pm	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Pesach Eve Candle Lighting 7:19 pm	31 Community Seder 5:00