



Spring Reflections

by Sheryl Liberman

THE MONTH OF MAY brings some beginnings and some endings at Betenu. Our Shavuot/Confirmation service provides our community with the continuity and traditions of Torah that Jews have celebrated for many years—in Betenu style, of course. Although the 2014-15 school year comes to an end, planning and organizing for next year begins immediately. The annual meeting brings changes to the board, to the constitution and to bylaws. Rabbinic schedules are set and High Holiday preparations made.

For those of us on the board, it is a time to reflect. Did we reach our goals? What makes us successful? And what can we do better?

One of my personal goals for Betenu has been to bridge the relationship within the generations in our membership. Parent-led presentations have offered the Sunday school students a fun look at music, fashion, inventions, sports, dance and more, in Israel. These presentations were immensely popular with the students who continually asked for more! Class Shabbat services help build community and strengthen relationships among families and membership as well as carry on ritual and traditions of Judaism and Shabbat. Craft projects monthly, with instruction from **Barbara Bailey** and **Elaine Schwartz**, not only gave the students a fun activity, but extended learning and contributed decorations to the Temple and our homes for some of the holiday celebrations.



**SHAVUOT SERVICE &
CONFIRMATION REUNION**
Friday, May 29, 7:30 pm

Spread the word to confirmands
past and present—join us for a
celebration of Shavuot and Betenu!

So, just because spring beckons and summer is on the way, we still continue to strive and reach those objectives and encourage building and strengthening Betenu in all ways possible.

- ◆ **Rav Rebekah Goldman** will continue leading Shabbat services on May 1, May 15 and our Confirmation/Shavuot service on May 29. Please come to support **Alex Dube** during his confirmation and enjoy Betenu at its best. Pass on to your already confirmed kids the date—Friday, May 29 at 7:30 pm as Betenu's traditional Reunion Service. Let's make it a record attendance! Pass this page on to them. Or if you would like us to let them know, call or email me with an email address. Facebook—No problem! You may be surprised to know how important this contact is!
- ◆ Our Adult Education program on Saturday, May 16 at 11 am is highlighted by **Dr. Sanders Burstein** and Rav Rebekah, who will present a thoughtful discussion on planning for the end of life. (See page 2 for additional details.)

- ◆ Also, be sure to attend our Annual Meeting and share your input on Sunday, May 17 at 7:30 pm.

Betenu has so many wonderful caring members who continually show their dedication, and interest in traditions—new and old—we sustain. Be an active part of our community! We assure you that you'll gain much and have a little fun!

IN THIS ISSUE

**Food for Thought:
End-of-life Planning**

Education Updates

Annual Meeting Preview

May/June Calendars

CONGREGATION BETENU

A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

5 Northern Boulevard
Amherst, NH 03031
(603) 886-1633

On the Web:
www.betenu.org

To submit articles or information, please
visit betenu.org and use our email link.



*Please join us
in acknowledging
the generosity
and achievements
of these members
and friends.*

NEWS & NOTES

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank You!

- ◆ **All** who attended our Passover seder on April 4
- ◆ **Roberta Pavoll** for providing seder plates
- ◆ **Jen Starr & Family** for their Judaica donations
- ◆ **Alex Dube** for leading our service on April 10
- ◆ **Rav Rebekah** and attendees of her adult education session on April 19
- ◆ **Sara & Dan Murphy** for their efforts maintaining our website and calendar, as well as helping us upgrade our office email

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Sarah Goldstein
Amanda Leary
Peter James Stewart



Yahrzeits

In Loving Memory

Elinor Fierman twin sister of Elaine Schwartz	May 1
Ruth Cushner aunt of Sheryl Liberman	May 4
Rebecca Groden grandmother of Karen Satz	May 4
Estelle Mailman mother of Steve Mailman	May 10
Solomon Macks grandfather of Elsa Conrad	May 10
Sofia Munteanu mother of Bety Dar	May 17
Elaine Rimalover mother of Robert Rimalover	May 18
David Vincent Romanelli	May 21
Zara Milamed aunt of Sheryl Liberman	May 24

CONGREGATION BETENU OFFICERS

Co-Presidents: Elsa Conrad 879-9189, Sheryl Liberman 424-4609

VP Finance: Bob Rimalover 672-5629

VP Education: Pam Blotcky 882-4029

VP Administration: Barbara Bailey 880-9355

Membership: Mark Starin 486-8083

Trustees: Steve Blotcky 882-4029, Allison Leary 672-4774,
Vivian McGuire 882-3139, Roberta Pavoll 672-9820

Trustees At-Large: Sara Murphy 465-7119, Joel Silberberg 472-8143

Oneg/Interfaith Representative: Roberta Pavoll 672-9820

Publicity: Barbara Bailey 880-9355, Marcella Dube 673-9412

Rabbi Emeritus: Joshua Segal emeritus@betenu.org

ADULT EDUCATION:

Advance Care Planning & End-of-Life Issues

On Saturday, May 16 at 11 am, **Dr. Sanders**

Burstein will lead a discussion at Betenu on the top-

ic of advance care planning. In addition to learning how you can plan in advance for your own care or that of your loved ones, **Rav Rebekah Goldman**, will discuss Jewish perspectives on end-of-life care and related issues. All congregants are welcome to attend, and this promises to be an extremely well-attended event. Why not pack a lunch and enjoy a little food for thought?





FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Betenu's religious school year is coming to a close, and that means our June 30 school deadlines are approaching! Please keep these Shabbat minimum service requirements in mind:

Grades K, 1 and 2	4 services
Grades 3	4 services
Grades 4 and 5	7 services
Grades 6 and 7	15 services



Please check with **Sheryl Liberman** at 424-4609 to verify your child's attendance. Ongoing summer service attendance will be credited to next year.

Time to Register Students for Next Year

Parents, please note: May 3 is our last day of school, so please be ready to fill out 2015-16 **registration forms** that day, with an \$18 deposit per child.

Important Upcoming Dates

- ◆ **Sunday, May 3:** So nice, we're saying it twice! May 3 is the last day of Sunday school and progress reports will be handed out. There'll be an 11 am assembly and student fashion show, followed by pizza. Parents, please arrive promptly! Students, please bring a snack and tzedaka.
- ◆ **Sunday, May 3:** B'nei Mitzvah parent and student meeting, 9:15 am.
- ◆ **Saturday, May 16:** Our PJ Havdallah screening of "Fiddler on the Roof" (with pizza) takes place at 4:30 pm—siblings and friends and all other congregants are welcome! Admission is \$3.00 per child. An RSVP is required, so let us know and bring the whole family.



- ◆ **Friday, May 29:** Alex Dube will be confirmed at the Shavuot service. Why not come out and congratulate him? And if you know any past confirmands, please be sure to invite them to our Shavuot celebration and reunion.

IN BRIEF

Get Something Nice for Mom—and for Betenu!

Mother's Day is May 10, so if you're planning to buy gifts online you can also benefit Betenu at no cost. It's easy with the **AmazonSmile** program. Just follow these simple steps:

- ◆ Go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or via your mobile device.
- ◆ Login to your Amazon account.
- ◆ Select Betenu as your preferred charity in the "Your Account" section. We're listed as *Congregation Betenu C/O J. Ditman*.
- ◆ Every time you shop at smile.amazon.com afterward, we'll receive a half-percent of each sale's proceeds. It's that easy!

Hannaford Gift Card Fundraiser

Hannaford gift cards are still available, with 5% of proceeds donated to Betenu. Contact the office or call **Elsa Conrad** at 879-9189 for cards.



Newsletter Editor

If you enjoy writing or desktop publishing, Betenu has just the job for you—editing *Betenu News* each month! Experience with Microsoft Publisher is helpful but not essential, and we'll be glad to train you. Contact Elsa Conrad at 879-9189, or email mmeconrad@hotmail.com.

Attend Our Annual Meeting on May 17

BETENU'S annual meeting convenes at 7:30 pm on Sunday, May 17. In addition to a vote on revised bylaws, elections will be held to fill the offices of President, Vice President of Finance and Secretary, as well as two Executive Trustee positions. If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please telephone 886-1633 or email the Betenu office at office@betenu.org. NOTE: a quorum is required to hold the meeting, and all proxies count toward the quorum. If you cannot attend, please give your proxy to an attending member. We hope to see you there!



PROXY VOTING FORM *

Congregation Betenu Annual Meeting
Amherst, New Hampshire – May 17, 2015

I / We, _____,

being entitled to vote at the Congregation Betenu Annual Meeting, hereby appoint

_____ as proxy* to vote on my/our behalf at the 2015 meeting.

_____ (signature)

_____ (date)

THIS YEAR'S SLATE

Co-Presidents

Elsa Conrad
Sheryl Liberman

VP Finance

Open

Secretary

Open

Executive Trustees

Vivian McGuire
Roberta Pavoll

KEY ISSUES

- ◆ Proposed amendments to bylaws:
 - Article V, Section 2b
 - Article VI, Section 5

CAN'T ATTEND?

Use this form to assign your voting proxy to an attending Betenu member.

May at Betenu

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Service with Rav Rebekah & Sarah Noyovitz, 7:30 pm	2 <i>Acharei Mot-Kedoshim</i>
3 Last Day of School w/ Rav Rebekah, 9 am B'nei Mitzvah Mtg, 9:15 am	4	5	6	7	8 Lay-Led Service, 7:30 pm	9 <i>Emor</i> Torah for Tots, 10:30 pm
10	11 Board Meeting, 7:30 pm	12	13	14	15 Service with Rav Rebekah, 7:30 pm	16 <i>Behar- Bechukotai</i> Adult Ed, 11 am PJ Havdallah, 4:30 pm
17 Annual Meeting, 7:30 pm	18	19	20	21	22 Lay-Led Service, 7:30 pm	23 <i>Bemidbar</i> Erev Shavuot
24 <i>Shavuot</i>	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29 Reunion Confirmation Service w/ Rav Rebekah, 7:30 pm	30 <i>Naso</i>
31						

June at Betenu

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 Lay-led Service, 7:30 pm	6 Havdallah w/ Rav Rebekah, 7pm <i>Beha' alotecha</i>
7	8	9	10	11	12 Lay-led Service, 7:30 pm	13 <i>Shelach</i>
14	15 Board Meeting, 7:30 pm	16	17 <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>	18 <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>	19 Service with Rav Rebekah, 7:30 pm	20 <i>Korach</i>
21 Father's Day Summer Begins	22	23	24	25	26 Lay-Led Service, 7:30 pm	27 <i>Chukat</i>
28	29	30				