

## HOUSE VP REPORT BY ARLEN LASINSKY

NOVEMBER 2023

### 1. Update on New 12.5 ton RTU Over School Wing

RTU not installed yet. Will be installed before Thanksgiving

### 2. FEMA Update

Awaiting approval from the State of Illinois

Will begin to pursue next year's grant

The current grant is for bollards, front door, cameras (\$75,000) and security costs (\$75,000)

### 3. Strategic Plan

- A. House Committee liaison is working with the Strategic Planning Committee
- B. There are two parts to the strategic plan for the House Committee
  - 1. Document the capital expenditures required in the future for synagogue and parsonages
  - 2. Inventory of the spaces in the synagogue
    - a. Detail the current area uses
    - b. Think "outside the box" as what future uses can be associated with the spaces

### 4. Ad Hoc Security Committee

Michael and Arlen will be meeting in November to create an ad hoc security committee

- 1. The committee will focus on enhanced security procedures and policies
- 2. The committee will consist of Rabbi Melman, Michael, House VP and two or three other house committee members
- 3. Will communicate with Houston Security and other professional staff as required

### 5. Parsonage

Nothing to report

**FINANCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT BY RAYMOND ROKNI**  
**NOVEMBER 2023**

Revenue – On track and slightly higher than budget. Also, at par to last year excluding 2022-23 Grant collection.

- Line 1 – Membership fees – on track to prior year. By mid-November membership stands at 1023 families compare to 1031 budgeted. Several drops reflectd while anticipating new member additions in 2024.
- Line 2 – School Enrollment: Currently there are 176 students enrolled against expected 178. This is the first year that we are applying tuition adjustments to accounts instead of membership fee. This is reflected in \$18K reduction in tuition collection this year. These won't show in total revenue, however, will affect total School Revenue Current vs Prior Year.
- Line 3 – Ritual - High Holiday Appeal – Budget \$325k and we have \$305K commitments so far. There are several anticipated donations that have yet to be pledged. Thank you and reminder letters were mailed.

Expenses – On track per budget while higher than prior year.

- Line 22 - Ritual – High Holiday expenses are higher compared to prior year by \$13K due to the following reasons:
  - o Increased cost for livestreaming tech support
  - o Chair rental
  - o Maintenance cost related to chair placement.
  - o Increased floral expense.
- Line 23 - Administration – within budget; however, Salaries and Insurance are higher by about \$20K vs last year.
- Line 24 - Youth expenses are higher; however, it is reflected in the budget increase of \$50+K compared to last year partially for increased salary and added Youth Family Programs.

## **SCHOOL REPORT BY CHARLOTTE STERN**

**NOVEMBER 2023**

In light of the ongoing war in Israel the school has pivoted to address the situation in age-appropriate ways.

Some classes have exchanged their curriculum from the different semesters to be able to talk about Israel this semester (usually done around Yom Ha'atzmaut.)

Stacy co-facilitates discussions with the classroom teachers as students ask questions and show that they would like to talk about the events. Our Rabbis spoke with our 4th through 7th graders and answered their questions.

Stacy has some stickers of the blue ribbons if students would like to wear them during school as a solidarity with those in Israel. She has explained what they mean to the students.

Our middle and high school students tied blue ribbons around the trees as a show of waiting for the hostages to come home.

Our 7th graders are also making Shabbat candlesticks out of Jerusalem stone and candles to bring light into the world.

All grades are learning Hatikvah and participating in music focusing on the concept of Klal Yisrael

On Tuesday December 12th the middle schoolers will be lighting the Chanukiah for the synagogue's Chanukah celebration with artwork and poetry related to Chanukah. Please Join us.

For last years and part of this year's Tzedakah money \$825 are going to the buying of the ambulance for Magen David Adom with the synagogue. Other tzedakah projects are ongoing. The school Tzedakah money through winter break will go to JUF's Coats for Kids Campaign. We are currently collecting tea, coffee and hot chocolate for the Northfield Township Food Pantry.

Some of the room parents have started to contact their classes for together and are trying to advertise some of the activities that are happening at the schul that might be fun for their age group such as the Wednesday before Thanksgiving event. This is to create community within each grade and make our CBS family feel a little smaller during big events.

## **PROGRAMMING REPORT BY RANDY SAMBORN**

**NOVEMBER 2023**

### **Distinguished Speaker “stats” – Joyce Vance & Neal Katyal Oct. 18:**

- Total advance registration – 872 (298 logged-in member accounts/574 public accounts)
- # people who passed through magnetometers – 635 (of those 60 were walk-in registration, with 28 being non-members and 32 being CBS members)
- # live streaming – Approximately 300
- # volunteers – 26
- # hired security – 5 Houston and 1 NBK police officer
- #magnetometers – 3

### **Scholar-In-Residence / Distinguished Speaker – Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz Jan. 18-21**

- Dates – Thursday evening, January 18 – Sunday afternoon, January 21
- Some activities will be geared to specific audiences, but most will be open to everyone
- See attached flyer for specific sessions
- If anyone would like to volunteer to help before and during the weekend, please contact Leann

### **CBS Civil Rights Journey is a “a go” March 26-28**

- Deposits and registration forms were due Nov. 16, and there were commitments from 27 people (25 were needed to run the trip)
- We can still accept applicants (on a first come, first served basis) until Dec. 13
- See attached flyer

### **HAZAK**

- HAZAK Shmooze and Sufganiyot – Wednesday, Dec. 13, in the Wintergarden at 7 pm for sweet treats and a little fun.
- Communal candle lighting will be at 7:35 in person and via live stream.
- Registration at: <https://tinyurl.com/hazakshmooze2023>

### **CBS U/Adult Ed**

- See attached flyer
- Classes still being added for Winter/Spring semester

**Next Committee Meeting is December 14<sup>th</sup>**

## **SOCIAL ACTION REPORT BY ROBYN ROSENGARD**

### **NOVEMBER 2023**

PADS Volunteers: Our sincere thanks for helping us reopen our shelter program after a 3-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We're so pleased that once again we can ease the burden of our homeless guests in such a welcoming environment.

The holiday season is right around the corner and we'd like to make it a bit brighter for our guests. There are two ways that you can help:

1. Contribute a gift card to be distributed to the guests.
2. Make a donation.

Gift Cards - For ease of distribution, we request denominations of \$10 to any of the following: McDonalds or Burger King. Please purchase gift cards at Beth Shalom. Contact me to arrange pick up/dropoff. Thanks so much for your dedication to serving!

the homeless. Sara Weinstein 837-477-5993. Help is needed for Dec.19 and Jan. 16 meal for the homeless. We appreciate all those members who have provided a portion of the meals for Sept., Oct., and Nov. meals. Reach out to Sara Weinstein at [slo155@aol.com](mailto:slo155@aol.com).

We collected 193 Vases which went to Inspire Through Flowers! Thank you to all who donated.

We collected 850 pounds of candy! We will be donating the candy to The Ark, Misericordia Health Center Foundation, and Ronald McDonald Homes. Thank you to everyone who dropped candy off!

Bernie's Book Bank Needs Our Help! Children's Book Drive is November 1-30th, 2023, and bins for donations located by Coat Room. Questions please contact Tina Cantrell [tina.cantrell@sbcglobal.com](mailto:tina.cantrell@sbcglobal.com) or Jill Olefsky [jolefsky@aol.com](mailto:jolefsky@aol.com). So far we have collected 300 books!

Blood Drive: The goal for the Blood Drive was 70 donations and we ended up with 74!

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT BY JACKIE ZELKOWITZ**  
**NOVEMBER 2023**

On Friday, December 15th, we will have a Community Shabbat dinner immediately following services. Please register for the dinner using the below link

<https://www.bethshalomnb.org/events/shabbatone-happening-and-community-shabbat-dinner/>

Canasta and Mah Jongg YACHAD groups have formed and are playing at CBS. If you are interested in joining either group, please let me know at [MembershipVP@BethShalomnb.org](mailto:MembershipVP@BethShalomnb.org)

Our next YACHAD/Chavurah Meet and Greet will be on Sunday, January 14, 2024. If you are interested in being a part of a Chavurah group (groups of CBS members that socialize and celebrate Jewish life together) or a YACHAD group (a social group based on one activity you all enjoy doing together), please register at:

YACHAD groups – [tinyurl.com/CBSYachad23](https://tinyurl.com/CBSYachad23)

Chavurah groups – [tinyurl.com/CBSChavurah23](https://tinyurl.com/CBSChavurah23)

## **YOUTH VP REPORT BY RACHEL LAVEN**

### **NOVEMBER 2023**

Families with Young Children Shabbat Dinner 11/10 - great turnout; in conjunction with Cantor Friedman's interview weekend. Next dinner is in January and the theme is Israel. This will be catered.

Feed My Starving Children Program 11/25 - Almost 60 people are signed up. Day of Giving Back has been postponed to January since it was so close to the FMSC program.

Our first Shabblock Party was a success! Our goal is to bring CBS and Shabbat into people's homes. Committee member Lauren Stein hosted two other Deerfield families at her home for Shabbat lunch. Small gift bags were given including candles, grape juice, challah rolls, and a challah cover with the CBS logo (done by Carly Sear). Working to start/expand program with others who want to host and be hosted. Stay tuned.

Sing, Spin & Shine: A Community Chanukah Celebration - in conjunction with CBS, the Northbrook Park District is hosting a Chanukah Program at the leisure center. Please spread the word and register with the Northbrook Park District. Appropriate for families with children age 3+.

Looking forward to the Youth led Hanukkah Candle Lighting night on 12/14. We will have a "Hot Chocolate Bar" and we're hoping to engage our older kids (elementary and middle school) and have help from USY as well.

College Care Packages are being brought back. Packages will be sent at the end of both school semesters as students are getting ready for finals. Will consider expanding to more students for the second semester based on budget.

Introduced the Strategic Plan to committee members and will start to work on assigned action items.

Shabbaton update: We have had to postpone our site visit several times and are hoping to go sometime before the end of the year. There have been some staffing changes at the Perlstein Retreat Center. Our committee continues to meet and work on planning. Around 10 families have signed up so far. The cost per family will likely be around \$500 per family thanks to a grant from the Rabbi Carl and Judy Wolkin Fund.