

## SCHOOL REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY CHARLOTTE STERN

- Tzedakah collections are going nicely. Had a collection of hot chocolate, tea and coffee in December and next month will be collecting pancake mix. All will go to the Northfield Township Food Pantry. In addition to our food collection, currently our tzedakah money is going to the JUF Coats for Kids and campaign and we donated enough money for 13 coats.
- We have been celebrating Chanukah with gifts, food and art. All of our students and staff received a Chanukah bag from Sisterhood with candles, a dreidel and chocolate gelt. Sunday our kindergarten through 2nd graders enjoyed a snack of donut holes. Tuesday our 3rd – 7th graders will enjoy latkes, applesauce and donut holes during class. All classes had fun art projects. Our 6th and 7th graders listened to the Megillah of Antiochus and only using paper, their hands and glue sticks created artwork inspired by what they heard. Their artwork and some explanations will be displayed before the CBS candle lighting on Tuesday, December 12th. Members of the school committee will be in attendance.
- Aleph Champ medals will be given out during class on Sunday, December 17th.
- We will be off on winter break from Friday, December 22nd through Monday, January 8th.

## **SOCIAL ACTION REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY ROBYN ROSENGARD**

Thank you for your generosity and support. Northfield Food Pantry is in need of as the winter months and Holidays are upon us! Please drop off non-perishable, non-expired food to CBS.

Here are some things the pantry needs:

Canned fruits (100% juice)

Pancake mix

Boxed Cereal

Snacks- granola bars, pretzels

Juice and Juice Boxes (100% Juice)

Tea and Coffee

Oil

Can openers

Dishwashing Soap Liquid

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

**(SOCIAL ACTION REPORT C'TUED)**

Help is needed for Jan 16 meal for the homeless. We appreciate all those members who have provided a portion of the meals for Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec meals. Reach out to Sara Weinstein slo155@aol.com.

The notes we wrote to the IDF have been sent by Limore Zilberman who does all of this.

Happy Healthy New Year to you and your families! See you all in 2024!

Respectfully,

Robyn Rosengard

## **MEN'S CLUB REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY BOB GOLDWIN**

On Sunday 12/11 we had a wonderful breakfast featuring CBS member Jeff Kaminsky speaking on his work with assisting with Ukrainian refugees and helping with the relief effort in Israel.

The Men's Club has many wonderful upcoming events including breakfasts before Israel in Depth on 12/17 and 2/4; We will be sponsoring a breakfast with the Scholar in Residence on 1/21 and we will be welcoming a speaker from Shalva (the oldest independent Jewish organization that deals with domestic abuse) on Sunday 2/18. Our Lox Box fundraiser is underway and they can be purchased on-line or via phone, because calls will be going out shortly

## **PROGRAMMING REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY RANDY SAMBORN**

### **Scholar-In-Residence / Distinguished Speaker – Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz Jan. 18-21, 2024**

- 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, 2024**

- Currently 32 people registered
- Still have room for eight more CBS members. Please contact Leann if interested
- See attached flyer

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

- A new semester of classes begins in January (see attached flyer and website for updates)

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY JACKIE ZELKOWITZ

Our Membership count as follows:

|                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Total number of households | 1019               |
| January 2023 to present    | 47 dropped members |
| January 2023 to present    | 41 new members     |
| January 2023 to present    | 4 Re-joins         |

On Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, we had our Community Shabbat dinner following services. We had over 125 people at the dinner, including members of the Selah Choir and HUGS.

Please help spread the word that our next YACHAD/Chavurah Meet and Greet will be on Sunday, January 14, 2024. Several groups have already formed since our last Meet and Greet back in October and some members have connected with other members of CBS. If you or anyone you know would be 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)

Canasta groups are playing every Wednesday from 1-4 p.m. in the CBS library. We are working on getting a morning and evening date at CBS where you can play Mah Jongg. This will start in January of 2024. If you are interested in joining either group, please let me know at [MembershipVP@BethShalomnb.org](mailto:MembershipVP@BethShalomnb.org)

Morning Minyan YACHAD groups are forming. Each group will meet once a month to attend Minyan and then go out to breakfast. If you would like to be a part of this group, please reach out to Scott Bosley, [scottnbosley@gmail.com](mailto:scottnbosley@gmail.com)

## FINANCE REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY RAY ROKNI

**End of the year surplus/deficit** - We ended 2022-23 calendar with a surplus of \$237,723. It should be noted that, CBS was awarded an unbudgeted grant of \$343,000 which was recognized during this calendar year. Excluding this grant, we would have ended the year with \$105,000 of deficit which was lower than the budgeted deficit of \$221,469.

**Revenue** – we ended the year with significantly higher revenue than budget. Excluding the one-time grant of \$343,000, our revenue was \$2,920,783 which exceeded the budget by \$104,974.

- Line 1 – Membership fees – we ended the year with 1029 family members and membership dues exceeded the budget by \$127,410.
- Line 2 – School fee collection was at budget.
- Line 3 – Ritual exceeded budget primarily due to high holiday appeal collection.
- Line 5 - House – Higher than budget primarily from collection of security fees.
- Line 6 – Withdraw from EETP and Hineynu were lower than the planned budget by \$69,100.
- Line 7 – Fundraising– reflects collection of \$343,000 grants.
- Line 10 – Higher collection of donations against budget.
- Line 12 – smaller withdraw from Gold sefer Haftarah fund against budget.

**Expenses** – Overall managed well and slightly lower than budget.

- Line 20 - Ritual – Primarily salaries which were managed to the budget.
- Line 21 – School – lower to the budget primarily due to number of teachers and reflected salaries.
- Line 22 – House - slightly higher than budget primarily due to additional maintenance staff salaries.
- Line 23 – Administration - higher than budget due to variety of contributors; Office Expenses, Staff Training, insurance, United Synagogue dues.
- Line 24 – Youth - significantly lower than budget primarily due to the reduced salary. youth director was hired partway in the year.

**(FINANCE REPORT C'TUED)**

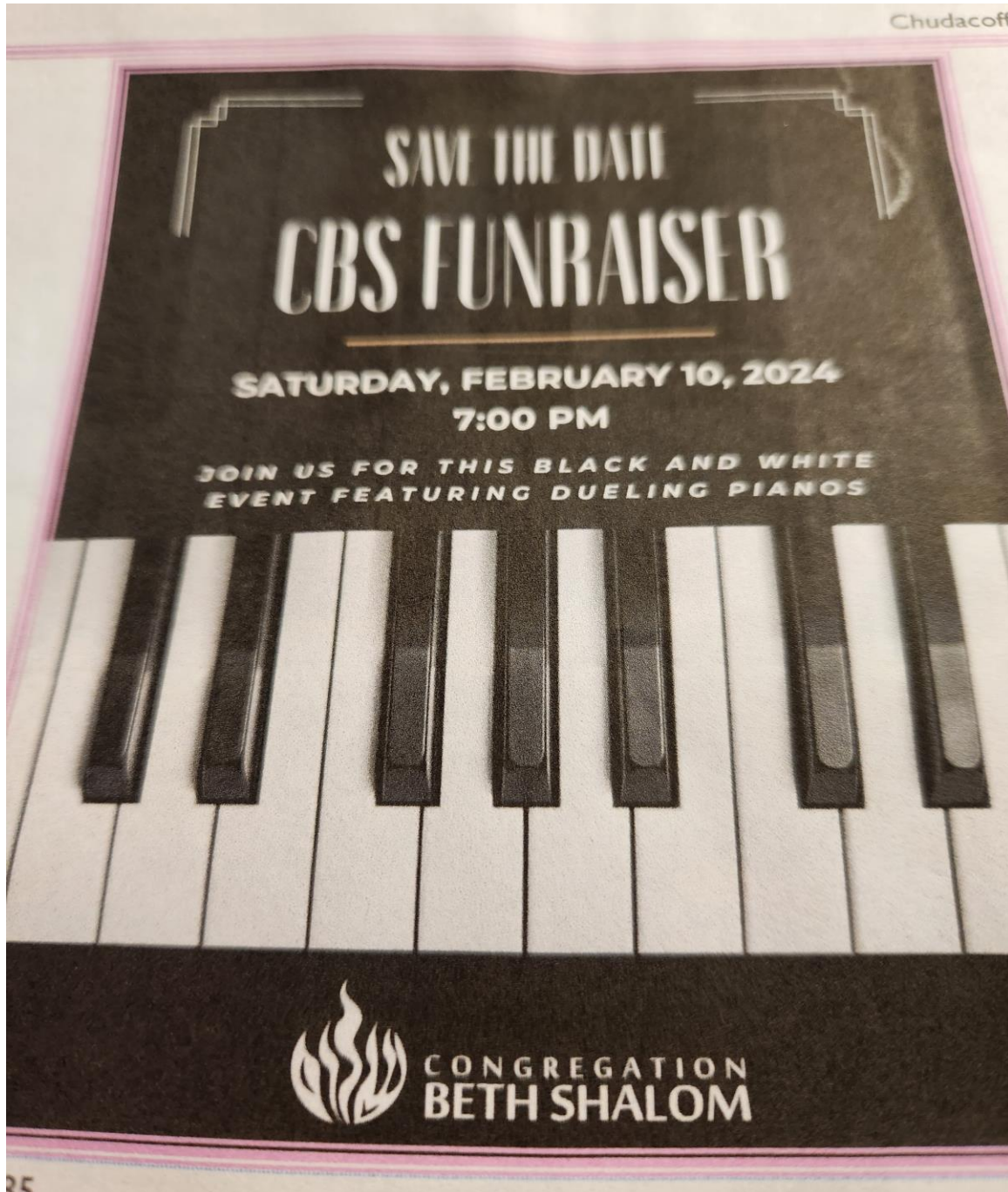
- Line 25&26 – Programming – significantly lower than budget with controlled management of programming cost.
- Line 27 - FICA – slightly lower than budget.
- Line 28 – Building Fund – Allocated \$55K to budling fund account as budgeted.



FUNDRAISING REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY ELLEN GROSSMAN

Please save the date for a fantastic and fun evening!

Check your bulletin or online to register.



## YOUTH REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY RACHEL LAVEN

- **Sing, Spin and Shine Chanukah Celebration** was a HUGE success! In partnership with the Northbrook Park District, we had about 100 attendees at the Leisure Center. The Selah Choir performed and there were several craft stations including cookie decorating. It was a great community event!
- Other **Chanukah Celebrations** included the **CBS Chanukiah lighting** attended by CBS youth throughout the week. On 12/12, the 6th and 7th graders helped to light the candles. And on 12/14, younger children enjoyed a hot chocolate bar, sufganiyot, and dreidel playing. This coincided with the USY Lounge Night.
- **Shabbat with a Twist** continues on the First Friday and Saturday of each month. This fun program is led by CBS member Karen Achtman.
- **Ark Adventures** is being held in the Gloss Youth Lounge now and it has been a great space for the program. We had a beautiful moment at the conclusion of services in the main sanctuary last weekend when all of the Ark Adventures participants came up to the bimah for a blessing.
- Kol HaKovod to our CBS USY President **Skylar Adler!** She was on the planning committee for CHUSYFest weekend. This was attended by over 60 Chicago area teens.
- On 12/17, the **Chaverim December event** was “Chanukah After Party”. About 12 kids stayed after religious school for a movie, gift exchange, and cookie decorating.
- **Focus committee** will be created to work on more programming for 1st-5th grade.

## HOUSE REPORT DECEMBER 2023 BY ARLEN LASINSKY

### **1. Other Uses of Building With Respect to Strategic Plan**

- A. Discussed areas of the synagogue to use other than the current use
- B. Creation of worksheet to suggest uses for various areas of the synagogue
- C. This project is in conjunction with the Strategic Planning Committee
  - 1. Find ways to be more inviting, more private events, to re-imagine public spaces in the synagogue
  - 2. Will be collaborated and coordinated with other committees of the synagogue, but this is our first step

### **2. Update on New 12.5 ton RTU Over School Wing**

- A. RTU was installed. Still needs to have chassis installed under the new RTU. Chassis is on back order

### **3. Ad Hoc Security Committee Update**

- A. The committee will be meeting the week of December 18, 2023
- B. The committee will be setting objectives to have procedures for a safer building

### **4. Awards in Lobby for Men's Club, Sisterhood and Youth**

- A. Space between utility closet and Museum on west wall
- B. Limit number of awards-three awards per group on a rotating basis
- C. To be pursued in coming months