

HOUSE REPORT JANUARY 2024 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. Ad Hoc Security Committee Update
 - A. The committee met on January 11, 2024
 - B. The committee will be setting objectives to have procedures for a safer building
3. 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

FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 2024 BY RAYMOND ROKNI

Revenue – Overall might be down by ~20K from the budget for the year.

- Line 1 – Membership fees – Membership revenue is on track to meet or exceed budget. We are forecasting overall ~\$1.8M in revenue (\$20-\$25K above budget).
- Line 2 – School Fees: will not meet our Tuition budget this year – We project that overall; we will be under budget by \$40 to \$45K (mainly due to the shift in applying adjustments in the form of Scholarships to school fees). This is also reflected in School Revenue Current vs Prior Year.
- Line 3 – Ritual – \$322K appeal commitment slightly under budget.
- Line 5 – House – upside from memorial Plaque – expected to be at budget for the year.
- Line 7 – Fundraising: will be at budget - Lower YOY due to PY one-time ERTC receipt in 2022.

Expenses – proportionally spend is on track at 51% of budget.

- Line 20 - Ritual – overall higher than budget:
 - o High Holiday expenses were higher this year.
 - o While budgeted, Kiddush expenses are significantly higher YOY due to increased attendance post COVID.
- Line 21 – School – Expenses are lower compared to plan – only 38% spend to date however, school starts later in calendar year. Expect to finish the year under budget.
- Line 22 – House: Expenses are significantly higher than last year. It is also budgeted \$90K higher than last year and tracking below 50% spend at midyear.
 - o Utility cost and labor are higher than last year.
 - o Building insurance is higher due to a timing difference vs last year.
 - o Security: Security is trending up for November and December as per board approvals. Projecting \$60K to \$80K unplanned expenses for the remainder of 2023-24 if we continue with the of CBS expanded security for the next 6 months.
- Line 23 - Administration – YOY variance is mainly related to timing of expenses:
 - o Telephone Exp – high due to change in phone system (one-time charges). This should level off throughout the remainder of the year.

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- o Staff/Lay training – over budget due to increased training opportunities but in line with previous year spending.
- Line 24 – Youth - YOY variance due to addition of FT Youth Director – this is a budgeted transition item.
- Line 25 – Adult Education and Programming - Expenses are skewed due to income from upcoming Civil Rights Journey trip prepayments. We will be on budget for the year.

MEN'S CLUB REPORT JANUARY 2024 BY BOB GOLDWIN

- Men's Club is still in the midst of our yearly Lox Box Fundraiser, if anyone has not been approached or would like to order more Lox Boxes let anyone on the Men's Club Board know and we can help you out.
- Prior to our last meeting we announced that Steven Elisco was named our Man of the Year, so congrats Steven. On February 11th, 2024, the Men's Club will be participating in the World Wide Wrap followed by a complimentary breakfast. On February 18th, 2024, the Men's Club will be hosting a breakfast featuring a speaker from Shalva that largest independent Jewish Organization dealing with Domestic Violence. We encourage everyone to attend this extremely important event.

SOCIAL ACTION REPORT JANUARY 2024 BY ROBYN ROSENGARD

- The Northfield Food Pantry is in need of food. Please consider dropping food off.
- Thank you to Jill Olefsky for getting a group together to go to Bernie's Book Bank to help volunteer.
- Drop off food for PADS will take place on February 12th, March 11th, and April 8th. More information can be obtained from Sara Weinstein at saraweinstein55@gmail.com
- Hungry Free Northbrook. Thank you to those that have signed up already!! We still need volunteers! If you are not comfortable shopping, I'm happy to do it for you! You can send me a check for \$30. Please reach out with any questions to me at leatteg@gmail.com. Thanks! Leatte

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4EAEAC29ABF49-hunger1/26871344#/>

- Next Social Action meeting is Sunday February 4th 10-11:30am

SISTERHOOD REPORT JANUARY 2024 BY LANI SCHRANK

DECEMBER RECAP:

- Fantastic Latke Charcuterie Event in December! Several other Sisterhoods reached out about replicating event
- Distributed Hannukah Bags (candles, gelt, etc.) to religious school children and families at the Ark
- Judaica Shop continues to do well with Sunday Hours

JANUARY/FEBRUARY LOOK AHEAD:

- Beginning Nomination process for 2024-2025 board positions
- Sisterhood Shabbat is Saturday 2/2, and we already have strong participation
- Jan Blum Memorial games day is coming up on 2/25. Good response from community

FUNDRAISING REPORT JANUARY 2024 BY ELLEN GROSSMAN



The February 10, 2024 Fundraiser

is moving!!! We have over 115 people signed up already (with 3 weeks to go)- we have (2) \$1800 donors,

(2) \$1000 donors,

and (10) \$ 360 donors.

Please join us for a very fun evening, lavish food & drink and great silent auction items. Ticket prices go up on January 29th to \$84 per ticket vs. \$72.

Any questions?

Please email or call me for more information.

Ellen Grossman

Elkie17@gmail.com

SCHOOL REPORT JANUARY 2024 BY CHARLOTTE STERN

- The Sunday of the Scholar in residence weekend, Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz will be working with the 3rd through 5th grades and our 8th through 12th graders.
- 5th grade service and dinner. Students will be leading different parts of the service. Dinner menu afterwards is planned by the class and includes BBQ brisket. The whole congregation is invited to join.
- Chagigat HaGan is on January 28th. Celebration to welcome our kindergarten class. Students will be getting mini torahs.
- Mechina Shabbat is on February 3rd during normal shabbat morning services. Students are leading parts of the service. Families can have an Aliyah and read Torah.
- Purim is not too far away. Purim baskets are being ordered. Theme is Dr. Seuss this year. Everyone should participate in this as this is our one and only fundraiser for the school. The baskets will be passed out during the carnival on March 17th and the Monday and Tuesday following.
- Strategic plan. We talked about the first area of focus: Enhance religious participation, congregant spirituality and Jewish Communities.
 - o Action Item #1: Formally define synagogue demographic groups
 - ☐ School age groups K-12
 - ☐ Would like to grow demographic to pre-K and possibly 3 year olds
 - ☐ Several families have reached out to start a pre-K program; ideally a 3-4 year old class and rotating every 2 years
 - ☐ Several options: child only; child with parent / caregiver (space becomes an issue); and various timings (every week; every other week etc)
 - ☐ Main barrier: to have good educator/teacher.
 - o Action Item #2: Evaluate and/or define religious/spiritual engagement strategy for each demographic.
 - ☐ Activities are planned for many chaggim which include families of religious school children and other congregational families
 - ☐ Grade level Shabbat dinners including the entire congregation.
 - ☐ Changed the 6th and 7th grade class to meet on Shabbat morning

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- o Action Item #3: Determine need for additional religious/spiritual programs
- ☒ Options for individual Hebrew lessons

- o Action Item #4: Determine if there is demand for alternative religious engagement/spiritual activities
- ☒ Always looking but have found that what parents want vs. what they actually show up and do are not always the same
- ☒ We have better response when Clergy attend

PROGRAMMING REPORT JANUARY 2024 BY RANDY SAMBORN

Programming Report

Randy Samborn, Programming VP

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

Report will be provided next month

CBS Civil Rights Journey March 26-28, 2024

CBS U/Adult Ed

- Israel In Depth 2023 – 2024
- ***** Please be advised topics subject to change based on the current situation in Israel *****



- February 4 -- the 21 Percent: Israel's Arab citizens
- March 10 -- Israel's Constitutional Moment: Why the country has no constitution and how that might change
- May 19 -- Friends in High Places: Mapping support for Israel among Americans - Jews and non-Jews (**There will be NO breakfast on May 19**)

- Instructor: Carl Schrag
- Dates: Sundays 2/4, 3/10 & 5/19
- Time: 10:00 – 11:15 am (immediately following Breakfast by Men's Club)
- Fee: No charge for CBS members (including breakfast)
- \$10 per person each session for non-members
- Questions? Contact Audrey at ATaxer@bethshalomb.org
- **Register for February** at: <https://tinyurl.com/IsraelinDepthFeb>



ATTENTION ATTORNEYS: (Open to non-attorneys too!)

- Contemporary Issues in Jewish Law -- Part V

- **Description:** This class will explore Jewish history and legal precedent through examination of specific topics, including: **Dying, Burial/Cremation, surrogacy, and divorce.**
- **MCLE approved for attorneys for 9 CLE credits.**
- **Instructor:** Rabbi Aaron Melman and Rabbi David Chapman
- **Dates:** Tuesdays 4/18, 4/25, 5/2, **5/8 (Wednesday)**, 5/16, 5/23
- **Time:** 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- **Location:** At CBS and Via Zoom (Multi - Access)
- **Fee:** \$50 for CBS members; \$100 for non-members
- **Questions?** Contact Leann (LBlue@BethShalomNB.org) or Audrey (ATaxer@BethShalomNB.org)
- **Click here to register:** <https://tinyurl.com/jewishlawpart5>

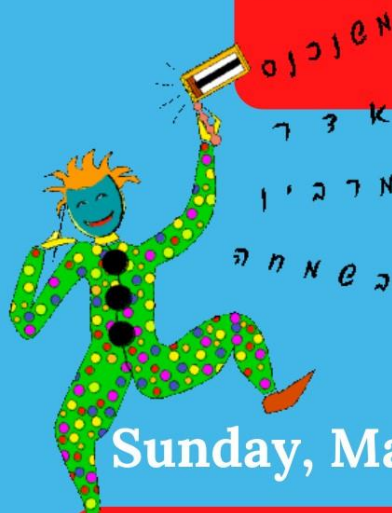


Oh, The Purim You Will Celebrate!

Purim 5784 -- March 23 & 24, 2024

Saturday, March 23rd, 2024

**7:30 pm Maariv, Havdalah & full Megillah reading
including drinks & dessert**



Sunday, March 24th, 2024

**8:15 am Minyan with full Megillah reading
9:30 am Green Eggs and Hamantashen Breakfast
10:00 am Dr. Seuss interpretive Megillah and FUN**



Register at: tinyurl.com/2024purim

**Questions? Contact Audrey at Ataxer@bethshalomnb.org
OR (847)-498-4100, ext. 145**

YOUTH REPORT JANUARY 2024 BY RACHEL LAVEN

- **Let there be Play:** Jonathan Schmidt Chapman is starting a new Shabbat program for kids age 5-9. This will parallel with Ark Adventures on February 10th so siblings have more age appropriate activities www.tinyurl.com/cbsplayfeb
- **Shabbaton** preparations continue. Rabbi Chapman and I visited the Perlstein Retreat Center to get a better sense of the space and to visualize the layout of the weekend. We have a first draft of the weekend activities. The committee is hard at work with continued planning and recruitment. We currently have 16 families registered. Our goal is 20-25 families. Still working on staffing needs including possible 8th graders to help with various activities throughout the weekend
- Focus group being formed to discuss programming needs for kids in elementary school