



# KOLENU

"Our Voice" The Newsletter of Congregation Anshei Israel

March/April 2021 • Adar/Nisan/Iyar 5781

Volume 74 Number 4

*Happy Passover*  
*5781*



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# KOLENU • קולנו

"Our Voice"

The Newsletter of Congregation Anshei Israel

## Congregation Anshei Israel

A Conservative Synagogue and  
Proud Member of USCJ



5550 East Fifth Street • Tucson AZ 85711  
(520) 745-5550 • fax (520) 745-9058  
[caiaz.org](http://caiaz.org)

### MISSION STATEMENT

Congregation Anshei Israel shall serve as a source of spiritual, educational, and social enrichment in order to encourage and ensure Judaic values in accordance with the Principles of Conservative Judaism.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# Shalom!

Please  
warmly



## Welcome

Our new & rejoining  
members:



Brenda Ruiz, Daniel Fredman & son Danilo Fredman  
Marcia Sabesin

## Strategic Development and Rabbinic Transition Task Force Update

It has been just over six months since the Strategic Development and Rabbinic Transition Task Force completed its initial phase of work which included: (i) gathering and interpreting data on the needs, wants, and desires of our congregation for the coming years; (ii) identifying the type of rabbinic leadership necessary to achieve those things the congregation told us were of the utmost importance; (iii) conducting the search and interview process which culminated in hiring Rabbi Sara Metz.

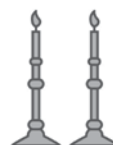
Over the past six months, Stephanie Roberts and Phillip Pepper have been assisting in the "on-boarding," orientation and acclimation of our new rabbi. While they will continue to work with Rabbi Metz, the introductory period is over. It is now time, in partnership with the rabbi, to turn our attention and focus to the priorities that you, our congregation, identified.

To this end and with President Dan Jurkowitz's blessing, the Task Force is engaging with Rabbi Metz, Cantorial Soloist/Education Director Nichole Chorny, and our Executive Director Debra Lytle, in developing a strategic plan for the future direction of CAI. This of course will need to be in partnership with the Board, Synagogue Life Council and active participation from you, the congregation.

We look forward to engaging you in this strategic plan that will allow Congregation Anshei Israel to survive, grow, and develop into the next generation synagogue we all want. Stay tuned . . .

## Candle Lighting Times March/April 2021

March 5	6:07pm
March 12	6:12pm
March 19	6:17pm
March 26	6:22pm
March 27	7:22pm
March 28	7:23pm



April 2	6:26pm
April 3	7:27pm
April 9	6:31pm
April 16	6:36pm
April 23	6:41pm
April 30	6:46pm

Please visit our website [caiaz.org](http://caiaz.org) and check your email for the most up-to-date information.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT



It's now been a year since COVID-19 interrupted our lives, and we are still waiting for life to return to normal. But with *Nisan* arriving, it is the start of a new calendar year, and we have much to look forward to as the vaccines continue to make their way out to folks.

As always, I am looking forward to finding new music for *Pesach*. To get in the mood

for the Seder, here are some recommendations to pull up on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Music or wherever you get your music: *Vehi Sheamda* by Yossi Azulay, *Chad Gadya* by Moishe Oysher, *Chad Gadya* by Shmuel Frednik and Amitai Matar, *Let My People Go/Avadim Hayinu* from Coral Ensemble, *Simchah Raba/Spring* by Carmel A-Cappella, *Passover Medley* by Quinta.5, *A Lion King Passover and Chosen* by Six13, *Ten Plagues in Egypt Land* by Peter & Ellen Allard, *Dayenu* by Craig Taubman, and *Echad Mi Yodeah* from *HaSeder HaYisraeli HaGadol* in 2020.

Don't forget that once Passover is over, you can consult Michelle Citrin for **20 Things To Do With Matzah**.

Best wishes for a meaningful Seder with family and friends (in-person or virtually), and *Chag Pesach Sameach*.

B'Shalom,

Dan Jurkowitz, [President@caiaz.org](mailto:President@caiaz.org)

### CAI's 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Monday, May 10, 2021

SAVE  
the DATE

The Governance Committee is responsible for conducting an annual review of the bylaws and suggesting changes as appropriate, updating bylaws and resolving questions about them as required, reviewing all petitions to amend bylaws, reviewing general Board, Synagogue Life Council and committee operating rules, and maintaining and updating Board policies as appropriate. They also assess the leadership needs of committees and Board and create a slate of Officers and Board members.

This year's slate of Officers and Board member recommendations will be shared in the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting announcement.

**CAI's Governance Committee:** Vicki Pepper, Chair

Paul Kahn	Rachel Green
David Jeck	Richard Green
Hyla Windham	Stephanie Roberts
Steve Shenitzer ( <i>alternate</i> )	

For families with young children...

### Zoom into Tot Shabbat



with Rabbi Metz & Cantorial Soloist Nichole Chorny

Friday, March 5 • 5:00pm

## Women's League



There are many congregants who need to purchase and stock up on Judaica, books, candles, Mah Jongg cards, and other gifts for friends and family. To set up a private shopping appointment, contact Marianne at **349-3347** or

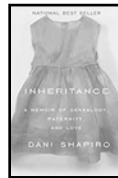
[marilang@comcast.net](mailto:marilang@comcast.net). Check out the items featured on the back page of this issue.

Women's League is now taking orders for 2021 Mah Jongg cards. **Cards are \$9 each or \$10 each for cards with large print.** Cards for 2020 are available in the Gift Shop and are used through the end of March.



Please send your check made out to Judy Fishman and mail to Judy at 485 S. Edgeside Avenue, Tucson AZ 85748.

We look forward to seeing you at **Devorah's Palm Tree**, a monthly study group that Women's League is sponsoring. See page 5 for details.



Don't forget to join us for our next **Read It and Meet** session on March 21 at 11:00am on Zoom. March's book is *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love* by Dani Shapiro. Lois Bodin will facilitate the discussion.

Please save the date for our next session on April 25, for the book *The Yellow Bird Sings* by Jennifer Rosner.

Watch your email for details and links.



### UPCOMING DATE & TITLE

May 23 *Color Me In* by Natasha Diaz

### Mazal Tov to Womens League and Debby Eisen for CAI's successful 2020 Torah Fund Campaign

Awarded by  
Women's League for Conservative Judaism



# EDUCATION

## Preschool/Kindergarten



Classrooms were filled with giggles, laughter, and cheers of excitement from students and staff as the snow began to fall. Not wanting to miss an opportunity, our preschool classes quickly took to the outside to experience the cold, wet, amazing white fluffy stuff flurrying down.

"I've never seen snow before," cried one student. "It's like joy," shouted another. Some children ran around trying to catch the snowflakes in their small hands, while others simply stood with their mouths wide open wanting a taste. The moment was pure, innocent and a delight to watch.



It's times like these that remind us that with everything going on in the world today, something so simple as snow falling can bring such excitement and happiness, and watching it through the eyes of a child makes it even that more heartfelt.

Snow wasn't the only exciting thing happening around the school. Purim found our hallways filled with superheroes, princesses, and many more characters. The children participated in a fun but socially-distant outdoor parade and finished the day with a classroom celebration of hamantaschen and groggers.

March finds us getting into the spirit of Passover, my favorite holiday. Teachers are beginning to fill their classrooms with art, music, prayers, and songs bringing the story of Moses, Pharaoh, the plagues, and the Dead Sea to life. Classroom Model Seders will take place, and I'm sure the frogs will definitely be "jumping everywhere" getting everyone into the Passover holiday *ruach* (spirit).

A big thank you to Mr. Nature's Virtual Music Tour for keeping the children moving and grooving on Thursday mornings, and *todah rabah* to Nichole Chorny for virtually sharing Shabbat songs with us on Friday mornings – Shabbat never sounded so sweet.

We're still accepting preschool registration for the upcoming 2021-22 school year. Please contact the preschool office or visit the CAI website under Lifelong Learning/Preschool for more information.

*If we all could see the world through eyes of a child, we would see the magic in everything.*

*B'Shalom,*

**Kimmie Spitzer, Early Childhood Director**  
745-5550, ext. 229 [ECDirector@caiaz.org](mailto:ECDirector@caiaz.org)

## B'Yahad and USY

In the month of *Adar* (in which Purim is held), we are commanded to "increase our joy."

Although our world continues to be uncertain and we may not always feel like being joyful

as we juggle our new normal, we certainly have increased our joy over the last month in our Youth Programming! Highlights included our **Havdalah in Pajamas** program to welcome the month of *Adar*, making hamantaschen together, Purim festivities, and a **Teddy-**

**Bear Mock Wedding** to conclude our B'Yahad Life Cycle unit on Jewish weddings. Many of our families participated in a collaborative **Tu B'Shvat Art Program** with PJ Library, and our Madrichim and USYers participated in a special workshop on Anti-Semitism with StandWithUs, along with Jewish teens from Or Chadash/Temple Emanu-el and BBYO, who we invited to join us.

USYers held a special Movie Night and made Hamantaschen together for their monthly gatherings, while our Kadima-nicks baked banana bread with Adina and prepared for a special service project. Stay tuned and watch your emails for more exciting USY & Kadima programs in March and April!



All K-8 B'Yahad, THA, and USY students will be invited to participate in our **Chocolate Seder and Passover Program on Sunday, March 21**. Watch your email for details and information about a supply pick-up. Also save-the-date for our **Siddur Dedication/Kabbalat Siddur Service on Friday, April 23** as our 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade students lead parts of the Shabbat evening service, celebrate their Jewish studies, and receive their very own *siddur* from the congregation.

We realize this continues to be a challenging time for all of our families, and we want to continue to support each other in every way. Please be sure to reach out to us if you have any technology issues, or need anything at all. We are here for you!

*B'Shalom,*

**Nichole Chorny**  
Cantorial Soloist and Education & Youth Director  
745-5550 ext. 227 [CantorialSoloist@caiaz.org](mailto:CantorialSoloist@caiaz.org)



## "Matzah & More" Passover Food Drive Now through March 12

CAI's B'Yahad Religious School is coordinating this community drive for Jewish Family & Children's Services to provide Passover foods for families in need. *Please help with this cause to enhance the Passover celebration for these families.*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, **only monetary donations can be accepted**. JFCS will then purchase gift cards to distribute safely.

Mail checks made payable to CAI, and note "Matzah & More" on it. You can also make a secure donation online at [caiaz.org](http://caiaz.org).

*Todah Rabah and Chag Pesach Sameach to all!*



# ADULT EDUCATION



## Devorah's Palm Tree

**Classes are held the first Monday of every month  
Monday, March 1 at noon on Zoom**



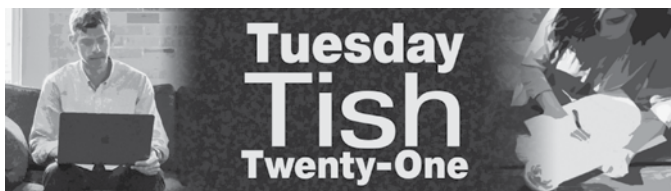
Join Rabbi Metz and Women's League the first Monday of every month to learn more about how and why we celebrate our holidays. We will be studying the book, *My Jewish Year* by Abigail Pogrebin. It is not necessary to have the book in order

to participate in the class. Your perspective makes for a lively discussion. Our March topic will be Passover, which starts on page 177.

Next date - April 5, 2021. Topic: Lag B'Omer page 229.

*Zoom links are available in your e-mail.*

*Call 745-5550 for more information or to be added to our email list.*



## Tuesday Tish 21

*A weekly class held*

**Tuesdays at 7:00pm on Zoom**

Rabbi Metz is teaching *Walking With God*, a series of 9 Tuesday classes (final class - March 9) in which we will learn different ideas about God in Judaism throughout our history through today.

No charge for the class, but a minimum \$18 donation is suggested for a bound, printed packet of all the materials we will be studying together. *Please consider an additional donation sponsoring the packet for another.*

**NOTE:** Complimentary digital packets will also be available online.

*Zoom links are available in your e-mail.*

*Call 745-5550 for more information or to be added to our email list.*

## Online Weekday Torah Study Group



Led by Rabbi Metz, this informal study group can lead to lively discussion. Held Thursdays on Zoom, 12:00 noon until 1:00pm.

*Bring your Bible and your desire to learn together.*

Study materials can be found at [caiaz.org/resources](http://caiaz.org/resources)

**NO CLASS MARCH 18, 25 & APRIL 3**

*Zoom link can be found in your email.*

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# JOIN OUR VIRTUAL SERVICES!



Connection information and links to materials are shared with members via email

## VIRTUAL MINYANIM ON ZOOM

Join us online for daily prayer services!

*Sign in 10 minutes before Morning Minyan and Mincha/Ma'ariv services begin for a schmooze.*

### Morning Minyan

8:00am Sunday • 7:30am Monday-Friday

### Evening Service

5:30pm Sunday-Thursday

### *Let your voice be heard - Become a Meturgeman!*

We are inviting congregants to sign up to prepare and share a short summary of the week's Torah portion (2-3 minutes, about 1 page), and what we might learn from it. The focus can be on a word, a verse and/or the theme of the portion. You will then share your thoughts with the congregation immediately after we remove the Torah from the Ark, right before we begin reading the weekly portion.

Please let us know when you would like to serve as our meturgeman, adding your voice, your Torah, to ours. To choose a date, contact Amber Page at [ExecAssist@caiaz.org](mailto:ExecAssist@caiaz.org). For more details, please contact Rabbi Metz at [RabbiMetz@caiaz.org](mailto:RabbiMetz@caiaz.org).

## VIRTUAL SHABBAT ON ZOOM

### Kabbalat Shabbat

5:45pm Friday

### Shabbat Morning Service

9:00am Saturday

### Virtual Kiddush & Schmooze

*Immediately following Shabbat Morning Service*

## HAVDALAH ON FACEBOOK LIVE

*Make the transition from Shabbat to the week!*

**Approx. 7:00pm Saturday\***

[facebook.com/congregationansheisrael](https://facebook.com/congregationansheisrael)  
No Facebook account is necessary.

*\*Times vary. Check [caiaz.org](http://caiaz.org) for times.*

Service materials are online at [caiaz.org/resources](http://caiaz.org/resources) or call 745-5550 (M-F 8am-4pm) for pickup or delivery of prayer books. Zoom links are available in your e-mail. Call 745-5550 for more information or to be added to our email list. Times may vary. Please check our website [caiaz.org](http://caiaz.org) for up-to-date details.



## COMING UP



### Virtual Passover Kollel on Zoom

**Tuesday, March 16**  
**7:00-8:00pm**

**Complimentary for CAI Members**  
**Guests - \$18 per person**

Join Rabbi Metz & Cantorial Soloist Nichole Chorny  
to get ready for Passover and learn something new for this year!

**7:00-7:30pm**

Rabbi Metz will discuss

***Hallelu WAH?!***  
***Hallel and Praising God***  
***in our Seder***

**7:30-8:00pm**

Nichole will present

***Embracing Jewish On-the-Job***  
***Training:***  
***The Passover Seder***

*Check your email for details and links.*

### Virtual Siyum for Ta'Anit Bechorim (Fast of the First-Born)

**Thursday, March 25**  
**7:30-8:30am**  
**on Zoom**

Join Rabbi Metz after Minyan for a short lesson and  
celebration of finishing the study of the tractate of  
*Mishna Gittin*.

Our celebration of this accomplishment includes a  
BYOB (Bring Your Own Breakfast) and schmooze!

*Check your email for details and links.*



*It is customary that all first-borns fast on the eve of Pesach (or on the preceding Thursday when Erev Pesach falls on Saturday night) commemorating the plague of the first-born before the Exodus from Egypt.*

*First-born are excused from fasting if they attend a Siyum, celebrating the conclusion of studying a significant portion of Rabbinic literature. Rabbi Metz will conduct our annual Siyum after a special morning service on Thursday, March 25 at 7:30am. We invite all "first-born" (male and female) to participate in our Siyum.*

# CATCHING UP

## CAI, PJ Library and Eric Carle Museum "It's in the Bag" Tu B'Shvat Program



## Kadima USY - Baking Banana Muffins and Bread



## B'Yahad's Virtual Mock Wedding, concluding the Life Cycle Unit about Jewish Weddings



## Tu B'Shvat Seder Supply Pick-up



## Tu B'Shvat Seder on Zoom





# CATCHING UP

## B'Yahad's Virtual Chanukkah Maccabiah



## StandWithUs Virtual Anti-Semitism Workshop for CAI's and other Jewish high school students



# CATCHING UP

**Shabbat Music with  
Cantorial Soloist Nichole Chorny**



**Shemesh students fingerpainting  
with Assistant Teacher Ms. Erin**



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**Please refer to the inserts included  
in this issue of Kolenu for more  
information about:**

- Virtual Second Seder on Zoom
- Passover Service Schedule
- Passover Seder Traditions
- *Ta'Anit Bechorim* -Fast of the First-Born
- The Seder Table
- Kosher Symbols
- Matzah & More
- Symbolic Foods
- *Bedikat Hametz*, searching for leaven
- *Ma'ot Hittim*
- *Mechirat Hametz*: Selling of Hametz
- Supplemental Readings for the Seder
- Special Shabbats



# CATCHING UP

## Hamentaschen for Hunger 2021

Thanks to the generosity of our participants in this year's Hamentaschen for Hunger program, we raised \$790 that will be evenly split between the Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona and Leket Israel, the National Food Bank of Israel.



# MAZAL TOV

## Birth Announcements

This column features the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of CAI members. The announcement and photo (if available) will appear in the issue of Kolenu within appropriate print dates. Please notify Amber at 745-5550, ext. 225 or [ExecAssist@caiaz.org](mailto:ExecAssist@caiaz.org)



**Mia Faye Tinker**  
Born January 8

Mia is the granddaughter of Hedy Feuer and Michael Perlman. (Parents: Lauren Rocker Tinker & Chas Tinker)

**Benjamin Miles Glaser**  
Born February 1

Benjamin is the grandson of Judy & Chuck Schultz. (Parents: Karen & Peter Glaser)

**Yisroel Meir Cohen**  
Born February 8



Yisroel is the great grandson of Phyllis Broad, and grandson of Rabbi Avi & Sherri Bloch (parents: Devorah & Simcha Cohen)

## March Anniversaries

Date		Years
5	Ofelia & Simon Fried	40
	<b>Billie &amp; Boris Kozolchyk</b>	<b>54</b>
6	Shelley & Alan Baumgarten	27
7	Marsha & Charles Blitzer	40
9	Nancy & Richard Weiss	36
14	Marylou & Norman Feiger	28
21	Shelly & Les Silberman	36
	Valorie & Andrew Douglas	12
	Irene & Scott Glass	12
25	Dani & Phil Bregman	20
27	Stacey & Zach Singer	10
30	<b>Sarah &amp; Leonard Schultz</b>	<b>52</b>

## April Anniversaries

Date		Years
2	<b>Norma &amp; Ron Karp</b>	<b>55</b>
11	<b>Judith &amp; Borah Jacobskind</b>	<b>67</b>
28	Barbara & Peter Danes	19
29	Ellen Eichler & Lawrence Grabell	26



## Thank you to the following congregants for sponsoring our Virtual Kiddush

- Elaine Blumberg, in honor of her mother Roslyn Blumberg's 95th birthday
- Rachel & Jonathan Green, in honor of Rachel's birthday and first day as Virtual Gabbai
- Evelyn Sigafus, in memory of her parents, Claire & Herman Weiss
- Adeline Horst, in appreciation of our minyan services
- Susan Wortman, in honor of Jack Pinnas' birthday
- Abby Rosen, in honor of her birthday
- Ron & Margo Gray, in honor of Ron & son William's birthdays
- Joan & Richard Green, in honor of Richard's birthday
- Rosie & Paul Kahn, in honor of their anniversary
- Teresa & Brandon Matheson, in honor of their daughter Melayna becoming a Bat Mitzvah
- Malka & Bill Abraham, in memory of Malka's mother, Edith Goodman

## Know Someone New to Tucson?

If you know someone new to the Tucson community who you believe would be interested in finding out about CAI, please call Debra Lytle at 745-5550, ext. 242, so we can speak to them about all of the many religious, spiritual, educational and communal opportunities the synagogue has to offer!



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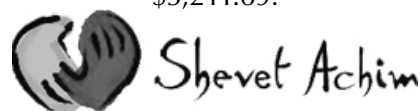
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## Todah Rabah

Thank you for all the generous donations made for our sister shul, *Shevet Achim* in Gilo, Israel.

Together, with matching your donations, we raised \$3,211.69!





## Honorable "Menschens"

Todah Rabah to:

### High Holy Day Appeal Donors

Nancy & Tidhar Ozeri  
Abigail & Noah Tolby  
Nancy & Richard Weiss

### Kolenu Proofreading

Marianne Langer  
Donna Saffioti  
Judy Schultz  
Linda Silverman  
Terry Williams

### Congregational Mishloach Manot

Adeline Horst

### Shabbat Virtual Gabbaim

Lois Bodin  
Ron Gray  
Rachel Green  
Vicki Pepper  
Marsha Rosenblum

### Wild West CAR-nival Helpers

Michael Jurkowitz	Abby Rosen
Adina Lytle	Elena Windham
Noah Lytle	Seth Windham

*If we missed you, we apologize. If you would like to be included in further announcements, please let us know.*



### Thank you to our "Yad Squad"

*(Those who read Torah and Haftarah in January and February)*

Malka Abraham	Natalie Leonard
Joshua Anbar	Ziva Mason
Charles Blitzer	Nancy Ozeri
Ben Cook	Phillip Pepper
Shira Dubin	Joy Peskin
Margo Gray	Helen Rib
Richard Green	Leonard Schultz
Mike Jacobson	Steve Seltzer
Lisa Jurkowitz	Sophia Temyanko
Michael Jurkowitz	

### Share your Simcha!

*Become a sponsor of our weekly Virtual Kiddush and Schmooze held every Saturday morning immediately following Shabbat Morning Services.*

Sponsorships start at \$36, and will be acknowledged in eblasts, during services, and in the Kolenu. If you are able to support us, please email Debra at [ExecDir@caiaz.org](mailto:ExecDir@caiaz.org)

## Condolences

### המקום ינחם אתכם

*The congregation mourns the loss of our members:*

Nancy Bee  
John Gellman  
Marvin Glassberg  
Arnold Joffe  
Anne Lapin  
Seymour Sabesin  
Morty Segal

*Our condolences to these members who mourn the loss of their loved ones:*

Jean Glassberg - her husband, Marvin Glassberg  
Jessie Joffe - her husband, Arnold Joffe  
Leonard (Marcelle) Joffe - his brother, Arnold Joffe  
Jerry Lapin - his wife, Anne  
Marcia Sabesin - her husband, Seymour Sabesin  
Sarah Segal - her husband, Morty Segal  
Joel Steinfeld - his sister, Judith Fleischer

*May the Author of Life Comfort the Mourners*



### Anshei Israel Memorial Hall

Installation of a memorial plaque is a beautiful way to perpetuate the memory of a loved one. Each year on the anniversary of your loved one's death, the synagogue will send you a reminder of the Yahrzeit and light the light adjacent to their memorial plaque. Call Debra at 745-5550, ext. 242, to make arrangements or if you wish to reserve a space for the future.

### Dealing with Grief and Loss?



Are you having difficulty dealing with grief and loss? Perhaps it would be helpful to talk with a trained counselor. A synagogue volunteer would be happy to speak with you confidentially. Please call Norma Karp at 299-3382.

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# CONGREGATION ANSHEI ISRAEL DONATIONS

Donations made to Anshei Israel Funds enable our Synagogue to continue to carry out its work, thereby better serving our members.  
Please consider making a donation in honor of a relative or friend who may be celebrating a simcha or in memory of a loved one.  
This list reflects those donations made after the last issue's publication date. Todah Rabah to all.

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is at the Front Desk  
in the administrative office  
AND  
at [caiaz.org](http://caiaz.org)

Notification cards are  
sent for donations of  
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*In memory of:*

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Janet & Steve Seltzer

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*In appreciation of:*  
 All my fellow congregants' support  
*Abby Rosen*

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*Sarah Segal & family*

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Welcome to the Hesed Committee, the largest committee at Congregation Anshei Israel.

Did you know that you are a member of this committee? Every congregant is a member.

*Hesed* means loving kindness, grace, helping each other. We exist to help our members in times of need.

Please feel free to contact me.

**Ron Gray**  
**Hesed Committee Chair**  
*RonPsych@yahoo.com*



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