



MAY 2026: IYAR ~ SIVAN 5786

6525 Sylvania Avenue • Sylvania, OH 43560 • 419-517-8400 • cbitoledo.org

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

160 Years of Consecrated Service to God, Torah & Israel

A Congregation Affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Shabbat Shalom

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Dinner, & Confirmation

Friday, May 8, 2026, 6:00 PM at CBI

6:00 PM Dinner, 7:00 PM Service & Confirmation

In-Person & (Service) on Live Stream

Join us as we usher in Shabbat with a delicious dinner, followed by Ma-ariv services with participation from our Religious School students and confirmands, Cecilia Bringman and Sophia Chernow.

Adults: \$18

Children under 13 & Religious School Students: FREE

OPEN TO THE MEMBERS OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS
& GUESTS WITH RSVP

Reservations required. RSVP by May 1st to Kim Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419-517-8400.

**KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE,
DINNER, & CONFIRMATION**
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The Spring (Up of) Holidays - Part II

I mentioned last month that new holidays often are created in connection with historical events, but in some cases, they are connected with multiple events and grow and evolve. Lag baOmer is a good example of this. Probably the most well-known explanation for its existence as a celebratory day is that Rabbi Akiva's many students were dying during the first part of the Sefirat haOmer counting period which runs from Pesach to Shavuot. It was on this 33rd day (33 = lamed-gimel = "Lag") that they stopped dying and the light of Torah was restored (thus bonfires, barbecues, etc). Quite a few modern scholars and rabbis believe that since Rabbi Akiva was known to be a supporter of the Bar Kokhba revolt against the Romans (as per the Talmud of the Land of Israel) to liberate the land of Israel, that the references to his students dying en masse may indicate they participated in that or an earlier revolt. (Large numbers of yeshiva students leaving their studies to fight in a war has some interesting implications today as well...)

Coming back to Lag baOmer, however, the fact is that no connection at all between Lag baOmer and Rabbi Akiva's students appears in any extant source until the end of the 12th Century. Now, certainly the Talmud in Yevamot (62b) describes a plague that killed his many students during Sefirat haOmer, but it describes it as during the entire 49-day period. The same is said in a number of midrashic texts that recount the same event. Interestingly, we have a number of sources from the Geonic period (roughly the 7th-10th Centuries CE) that indicate that the same date as Lag baOmer (18 Iyar) was observed as a fast day for the *yahrzeit* of the biblical Joshua. So during those centuries it seems it was the opposite of a festive day. All indications are that Lag baOmer's connection to Rabbi Akiva originated in 12th Century France, perhaps as a compromise to having to be in a state of semi-mourning for the entire 49 days of Sefirot haOmer. This being the first opportunity in weeks for a wedding, haircut, or enjoying live music, you can see how it became a celebration.

Even before being observed as Joshua's *yahrzeit*, however, we find that the Roman-Jewish historian Josephus wrote that that day was when the uprising against Rome in 66 CE began (although those rebellions ended in the destruction of the Second Temple and the Second Jewish Commonwealth, the Jews' initial success could have led to the celebratory bonfire tradition we know today).

After all of this, Lag baOmer later developed further, becoming known as the *yahrzeit* of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, a mystic who was a student of Rabbi Akiva. He is possibly best known for his connection to the Zohar, the main text of Kabbalah, which is attributed to him (but likely actually written a thousand years after his death). His grave in Meron has become a focus of modern Lag baOmer celebration in Israel and his *yahrzeit* is seen as a festive occasion to commemorate the death of a righteous mystical leader.

As you can see, Lag baOmer has a complicated history of observances, and their interconnections are not entirely clear. On the other hand, as I described last month, several recent additions to the Jewish calendar originated in Israel and have clear origins. The one that occurs this month is Yom Yerushalayim: the anniversary (on the Jewish calendar) of the reunification of Jerusalem during the Six-Day war, allowing the Old City (including the Western Wall) to be open to worship for all religions rather than only Islam. The national and religious significance of the Jewish people's "eternal capital" coming into Jewish control should be pretty self-explanatory and falls in line with the aforementioned flowering of the redemption. This holiday is much more controversial around the world given that East Jerusalem remains mostly Arab, the location of the Al Aqsa Mosque, and the Palestinian Arabs' aspirations for Jerusalem to be their capital. Needless to say, there is a lot of international sentiment that Jerusalem should be divided again (if not entirely given to the Palestinians) and very few nations will even recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Polarization in Israel has not helped the matter, as in recent years, right-wingers have co-opted the celebration with its "flag march" to taunt, harass, and threaten the Arab population and even chant "Death to Arabs". This has not helped Israel's "genocide" case in the International Court of Justice. Nevertheless, many Jews around the world often celebrate this day for the restoration of our historic capital and especially the Old City to Jewish control, fulfilling nearly two millennia

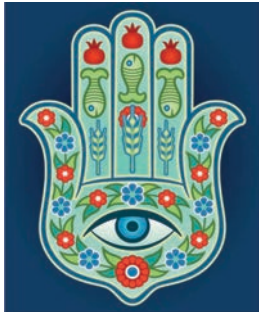
(cont. page 12)



A Hand for Our Shared Humanity

A friend recently gave my wife a Hamsa. It was a five-fingered hand with an eye in the middle of its palm. I'd never heard the word Hamsa before, so I did some internet research.

In Judaism, the Hamsa is often referred to as the Hand of Miriam. Associating it with Moses's and Aaron's sister connects the symbol to one of our important historical figures. Miriam was a prophetess known for her strength, leadership and her role in the Israelites' exodus from Egypt. "Miriam's Well," is said to have miraculously provided water to the Israelites in the desert. So the Hand of Miriam symbolizes divine providence, nourishment, and protection. Another name for the Hamsa is the Hamesh Hand. The Hebrew word Hamesh means "five", alluding to the hand's five fingers.



The Hamsa, however, isn't strictly Jewish. It has a very long history, traversing many cultures and faiths. It offers a fascinating glimpse into shared human values and distinct religious interpretations. Before its adoption by specific religions, various ancient Middle Eastern and North African cultures recognized in the Hamsa's eye a protection against the "evil eye" from others – a malevolent gaze believed to cause misfortune or harm. The open right hand is a universal gesture of blessing, power, strength and fertility.

Disciples of the Muslim faith call the *Khamsa* (guess what that Arabic word means) the Hand of Fatima, after the Prophet Muhammad's daughter. The five fingers evoke different meanings in different Muslim traditions: The Five Pillars of Islam (faith, prayer, charity, fasting, and pilgrimage) or The Five Holy Figures: the Prophet Muhammad, his daughter Fatima, his son-in-law Ali, and his grandsons Hasan and Husayn.

While the Hamsa is less prominent in mainstream Christianity compared to Judaism and Islam, it isn't entirely absent, either. Some Christians call it the "Hand of Mary", glorifying Jesus's mother and the divine protection offered by her son.

The Hamsa usually comes in two forms: a small amulet worn around the neck or wrist and a larger version that hangs on walls, which is what Jan received. If you show your Hamsa with fingers pointing downwards, you welcome abundance and prosperity into your life. Paintings depicting the Hamsa facing down symbolize the answers to prayers and the granting of wishes. On the other hand (intended), show your Hamsa with the fingers facing up and you'll enjoy the protective benefits of warding off negativity from unkind looks or jealous glances.

Many people wear a Hamsa for its artistic appeal or as a simple good luck charm, never mind the religious stuff. That might explain why today's celebrities (male/female, Jewish or not) have made Hamsa-wearing very trendy and fashionable, probably because the entertainment industry has more than its fair share of evil eyes.

Whether you call it the Hand of Miriam, Hand of Fatima, or Hand of Mary, its primary functions are to ward off adversity and bring good tidings. This shared belief (religious or not) in its protective qualities underscores a common human desire in all of us for security (divine or not). The Hamsa has transcended its specific religious origins to become a more universal emblem of goodwill and safety.

My thanks go to **Passover shoppers Karen McQuade, Miriam Beckerman, Jan Kasle, and Rhoda Miller.**

Today Rabah to the **anonymous donor who made possible our wonderful, first communal Seder in decades.** Setting up that experience were **Miriam Beckerman, Jan Kasle, Carol Richman, Cathy Sperling and Angie Katz. David, Stacy, KayLee Luce (Stacy's daughter) and Shirley Toyer** made sure we got fed with Chef Cari's delicious food.

April Bulletin Volunteers were Jerry Russell, Janet Erickson, Jack Katz, Jan Kasle, Dena Zack and Miriam Beckerman.

Did you spot the new name here? Want to be spotted in the next issue?

Tom Kasle, CBI President

May Special Birthdays



A Hearty Mazal Tov & Happy Birthday wishes to the following congregants on the occasion of their milestone birthdays!

Neriel Bernblum	May 4
Beverly Greenberg	May 10
Abygail Schwartz	May 19
Bonnie Swartz	May 31

May Special Anniversaries

Luann & Bill Garber May 6 50 Years

The CBI office will be CLOSED

Friday, May 22, 2026 Shavuot Day 1
Monday, May 25, 2026 Memorial Day



CBI wishes all of our members a Happy Mother's Day

Mother's Day is on Sunday, May 10, 2026

Todah Rabah & Mazal Tov to...

TO OUR KIDDUSH LUNCH SPONSORS:

Past Presidents of CBI March 21
In Honor of Fagie Benstein's Special Birthday

Find Exciting Jewish Programs on the FJMC Website

The FJMC, formerly know as the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, has rebranded. While the FJMC remains the Men's Club, our initials now refer to Friendship, Judaism, Mentorship and Community. The FJMC mission remains to involve Jewish Men in Jewish life. The FJMC is affiliated with the Women's League, The USCJ and the Masorti Movement among many other organizations. The FJMC provides Adult Education opportunities online for members and non-members. Go to the website below for more information.

<https://fjmc.org/initiatives/affinity-groups-webinars/>

Mazal Tov to...

- CBI 2026 Religious School Confirmands, Cecilia Bringman, daughter of Betsy & Dane Bringman, and Sophia Chernow, daughter of Rachel & David Chernow.
- CBI Hazzan Emeritus, Ivor Lichterman, on his induction into the Ohio Polish Cultural Center Hall of Fame for 2026. He was recognized for his devotion to faith, music, and cultural enrichment that has touched countless lives in our community. Inductees are honored individuals whose dedication has strengthened and preserved Polish culture in Northwest Ohio.
- Adam Davis, on his nomination by the the University of Toledo Early Childhood Education faculty for the Outstanding Student of the Year award.

CBI 2026 SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Each year, Congregation B'nai Israel awards scholarships to help subsidize the cost to attend overnight Jewish Summer Camp. In addition, there is a special fund designated for Camp Ramah.

This program works in conjunction with funding offered by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo. CBI members in good standing with children that attend the David S. Stone Religious School are eligible. Please contact the office at 419.517.8400. to receive the application.

**ATTENTION:
FAMILIES WITH
STUDENTS
GRADUATING
SPRING 2026**



We will again be featuring our CBI family graduates in the June bulletin. Please send us the student's name, parents' names, where they are graduating from, and what they will be doing next. We need all information by Wednesday, May 13, 2026. Please email your info to gmallin@cbitoledo.org.

Condolences

OUR SYNAGOGUE FAMILY MOURNS THE LOSS OF

ANDREW I. SATTLER

Husband of Lynnette, z"l, brother of Peter, step-father of Andrea and Chris, and grandfather of Julia and Jon.

LAWRENCE CHARLES LEVEY

Father of Alison (Bryan) Ahrens, grandfather of Sarah, Joshua, and Jamie Sherman.

May the families be comforted amongst all who mourn in Zion.

Report of the CBI Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is tasked with nominating first term trustees as well as re-nominating trustees completing their first terms. Additionally, the committee nominates first term officers and re-nominates continuing officers. Trustees are eligible for two (2) three-year terms and officers are eligible for five (5) one year terms.

Below is the slate of officers and trustees for Congregation Year 2026-2027:

Officers for a One-Year Term:

Tom Kasle
Paul Causman
Josh Sherman
Miriam Beckerman
Howard Moskowitz
Joshua Leizerman

President
Vice President of Administration
Vice President of Youth Activities
Vice President of Ritual Affairs
Secretary
Treasurer

Trustees serving a Three-Year Term Ending in 2029:

Angela Katz
Dale Levy
Megan Miller

Second-Term Trustee
Second-Term Trustee
First-Term Trustee

Trustees serving a Three-Year Term Ending in 2028:

Hope Davis
Elliot Eisenberg
Christina Katz

First-Term Trustee
Second-Term Trustee
First-Term Trustee

Trustees completing a Three-Year Term Ending in 2027:

Fran Weinblatt
Mike Mallin
Dena Zack

First-Term Trustee
First-Term Trustee
Second-Term Trustee

Outgoing Trustees and Officers:

Jim Wilson

Nominating Committee:

Chairman: Mike Tamor
Committee Members: Jack Katz, Bill Garber, Ellie Niejadlik, Stephanie Watkins, Jeff Bauer

SAVE THE DATE:

Incoming Board of Trustees & CBI Annual Meeting

Sunday, June 7, 2026 at 11:00 In-Person at CBI

RSVP by Monday, June 1, 2025 to kbrody@cbitoledo.org

Annual Meeting Special Awards:

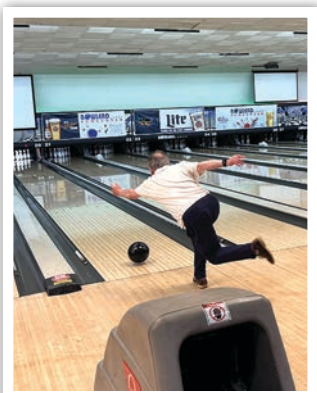
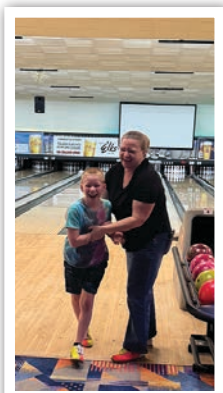
- BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR
- CONGREGANT OF THE YEAR
- SAM SCHWARTZ MINYAN AWARD



Photos from Havdalah & Planetarium Show on March 7, 2026



Photos from CBI Family Bowling Day! on March 22, 2026



Blintz Bonanza!**Cooking Demo with Mary Bilyeu****Sunday, May 3, 2026 11:30 AM at CBI**

Cost \$12: cash or check made out to CBI will be collected at the door.

Space is limited to the first 15 people who RSVP.

RSVP to kbrody@cbitoledo.org by April 24th.

Open to all CBI members.



tell folks they can eat what they make



TORAH PORTION OF THE WEEK

Join us each Friday morning to discuss and learn the weekly Torah portion with fellow CBI members and friends

**Friday Mornings at 11 AM -12 PM,
In-Person at CBI**

except on Jewish holidays or otherwise notified

**NO REGISTRATION NEEDED & A
KNOWLEDGE OF TORAH IS NOT REQUIRED**

Let's all learn together!

**THIS PROGRAM IS OPEN TO THE MEMBERS OF ALL
LOCAL CONGREGATIONS & GUESTS WITH RSVP**



WE NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER!

Jewish Toledo Habitat for Humanity Faith Build

Friday, June 12, 2026 8:30 AM-12:30 PM

Build site is at 2662 Latonia, Toledo

No particular construction skills are needed, though being handy is always a plus!

A kosher lunch will be provided for volunteers.

Please let Rabbi Marsh know if you are able to help out with this important project to help our greater community.

Rabbi Marsh's email: rabbi@cbitoledo.org

Ongoing Adult Education Classes

All classes are in-person at CBI & on Zoom. Contact the office if you need the Zoom link and passcode.

Judaism & Modernity: New Scientific/Technological Developments:

What does Judaism have to say about new developments such as AI, genetic engineering, etc. How do they help us? Create challenges for us? Different topics each week.

Sundays at 10:30-11:30 AM This class will run on Sunday mornings when there is not a monthly Adult Ed Series program - see calendar

Tefillah Talk - Musaf: Where did the prayers come from?

What is their purpose? How do we relate to them? What is the "choreography"? Learn to sing them.

Monday Evenings at 8:00-9:00 PM

Hebrew Reading: We will be learning a few letters/vowels

each week and doing reading exercises; when we've learned all the letters, we will re-announce this as "Intermediate Hebrew Reading". The class is for those who know their letters and want to improve their ability.

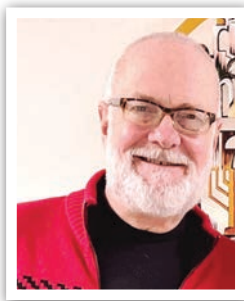
Wednesday Evenings at 7:40 PM

Intro to Judaism: The Basics of Judaism on a variety of topics.

Suitable for conversion students, non-Jewish family members, and those who missed out on the basics in one area or another (you can attend specific sessions).

Wednesday Evenings at 8:00-9:00 PM

If you missed a class, recordings are available. Contact Rabbi Marsh at rabbi@cbitoledo.org. RSVP to the office by calling 419-517-8400 if you'd like to join. Open to the members of all local congregations and guests with RSVP. Contact Rabbi Marsh with any questions at rabbi@cbitoledo.org.



Actor's Collaborative Toledo *presents*

"Tuesdays with Morrie" by Jeffrey Hatcher and Mitch Albom

a staged reading featuring the talents of:

PAUL CAUSMAN and JOHN DUVALL

Join other CBI members and friends at the May 3rd matinee performance.

Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 3:00 PM

at Temple Shomer Emunim 6453 Sylvania Avenue, Sylvania

Additional performances on April 30th and May 2nd at 7:30 PM

Tuesdays with Morrie is the autobiographical story of the friendship between Mitch Albom and Morrie Schwartz. At the end of Morrie's life, the two reconnect, swapping life stories and advice about living life to the fullest.

Available Ticket Pricing Options - Adults: \$20 Seniors 60 & up: \$15 Student: 25 & under: \$10

A portion of ticket proceeds will be donated to ALS research

To purchase tickets go to: <https://act419.booktix.com/dept/main/e/Tuesdays>



Lag B'Omer Light "Campfire" Dinner & Bonfire

Monday, May 4, 2026, 6:30 PM at CBI

In-Person & (Service) on Live Stream

Join us for a quick Mincha service followed by a light meal of hot dogs, chips, and pareve s'mores in front of an open fire on the CBI patio.

Cost: Adults: \$10

Children under 13 & CBI RS Students: FREE

SERVICE & DINNER ARE OPEN TO THE MEMBERS OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS & GUESTS WITH RSVP

Reservations required. Email gmalln@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by Monday, April 27th.

Lag B'Omer is a minor holiday that occurs on the 33rd day of the Omer, the 49-day period between Passover and Shavuot. A break from the semi-mourning of the Omer, key aspects of Lag B'Omer include holding Jewish weddings (it's the one day during the Omer when Jewish law permits them), lighting bonfires and getting haircuts.

According to a medieval tradition, the plague ceased on Lag B'Omer, the 33rd day of the Omer. (The Hebrew letters *lamed* and *gimel* which make up the acronym "Lag" have the combined numerical value of 33.) As a result, Lag B'Omer became a happy day, interrupting the sadness of the Omer period for 24 hours.

SAVE THE DATE EVENTS:

37th Interfaith Blood Drive

Saturday, June 27, 2026 12:00-2:30 PM

Grace Lutheran Church ▪ 4441 Monroe Street

There is a desperate need for blood.

This Blood Drive is critical in helping cover the needs of our community over the July 4th holiday.

Do a mitzvah and help save someone's life!

The last day to donate blood in order to be eligible to donate at the 37th Interfaith Blood Drive was April 15th.

For information call Devorah Shulamit at 419-356-5280 or shalom1836@bex.net. Blood donors, volunteers & bakers are needed to make this a successful blood drive for our community. Please donate, the need is great!

JOINT SYNAGOGUE BOOK CLUBS MEETING

Cong. B'nai Israel, Cong. Etz Chayim, Temple Shomer Emunim

**Heart of a Stranger: An Unlikely Rabbi's
Story of Faith, Identity & Belonging**
by Rabbi Angela Buchdahl

Tuesday, July 21, 2026 12:00 PM

Temple Shomer Emunim, 6453 Sylvania Ave.

Cost is \$10

RSVP to Elsa Leveton at Congregation Etz Chayim, 419-473-2401 or email elsa@etzchayimtoledo.org by July 14th.

Nosh & Knowledge: CBI Adult Education



Adult Education with speaker, Heidi Meyer

Sun., May 17, 2026 at
10:30 AM

Join us as high school teacher, Heidi Meyer, discusses how she teaches Holocaust education to her class. Meyer's "unwavering commitment to combating ignorance with knowledge and fostering empathy" earned her the Shine a Light on Antisemitism Civic Courage Award, a national award presented by The Jewish Education Project. She is one of two high school educators from across the nation and one of two Ohioans to receive the prestigious award for 2024.

OPEN TO THE MEMBERS OF ALL LOCAL CONGREGATIONS & GUESTS WITH RSVP

RSVP to Klm Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by May 12th.

Eiruv Tavshilin for Shavuot

There is a tradition to make an Eiruv Tavshilin for Shabbat when it falls right after Yom Tov. Since we do not cook on Yom Tov for the next day of Shabbat and we cannot cook meals on Shabbat, we make an Eiruv Tavshilin by setting aside two cooked items on Erev Yom Tov, Thursday, May 21st, such as a hard boiled egg, bread, meat or fish, and make the following declaration:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו על מצות עירוב

Baruch ata Ado-noi Elo-heinu melech ha-olam, Asher kid-shanu bi-mitzvo-tav Vi-tzee-vanu, al mitzvot eiruv.

'We bless You our God, Creator of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with Your commandments, and taught us concerning the observance of the eiruv.'

By means of this eiruv, may we be permitted to bake, cook, keep dishes warm, light candles, and prepare during the Holiday for Shabbat.

Note: This allows you to prepare food on Friday for Shabbat. It does not allow cooking on Shabbat.

ARE YOU RECEIVING CBI NOTIFICATIONS?

CBI sends out email updates and important information throughout the week. If you are not receiving emails from CBI, please contact the office as soon as possible by calling 419.517.8400 or email Rhoda Miller at rmiller@cbitoledo.org.

SHAVUOT BEGINS THE EVENING OF THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2026



Shavuot Dairy Dinner & Tikkun

Thursday Evening, May 21, 2026 7:00 PM
In-Person at CBI

Please RSVP for the Shavuot dinner by May 14th
\$12 for Adults, Children 13 & under and RS Students FREE
Reservations are required. Contact kbrody@cbitoledo.org.

Readings from "The Book of Ruth"

Friday & Saturday, May 22 & 23, 2026 9:30 AM
In-Person & Live Stream at CBI

Join us to hear Rabbi Marsh read two chapters each day of Shavuot from The Book of Ruth.

SHAVUOT TIKKUN & SERVICES SCHEDULE

IP - In Person ZM - Zoom LS - Live Stream

Thursday, May 21st: Erev Shavuot & Tikkun

7:00 PM	IP/LS	Mincha
7:15 PM		Dairy Dinner in the Social Hall
8:00 PM	IP	SHAVUOT TIKKUN
9:15 PM	IP/LS	Maariv
9:45 PM		Kiddush & Dessert in the Social Hall
8:35 PM		Holiday Candle Lighting

Friday, May 22nd: Shavuot Day 1

9:30 AM	IP/LS	Morning Services & Reading from the Book of Ruth
5:45 PM	IP/LS	Mincha Service
8:36 PM		Light candles from pre-existing flame

Saturday, May 23rd: Shavuot Day 2

9:30 AM	IP/LS	Morning Services & Reading from the Book of Ruth
10:45 AM	IP/LS	YIZKOR
12:45 PM	IP/LS	Mincha Service
9:35 PM		Shavuot/Shabbat Ends

Notes from our Principal

It's hard to believe that another year of David S. Stone Religious School is almost over. We have had an exciting school year with special visits from our chaverim from the Shin Shinim program. The importance of our student's connecting directly with young Israelis is more crucial than ever. The benefits from this program will be everlasting, and we are looking forward to continuing this program next year.

Please mark your calendars for the Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner and Confirmation service on Friday, May 8. Dinner will be at 6:00 PM followed by Kabbalat Service and Confirmation at 7:00 PM. We want to extend a big mazel tov to Cecilia Bringman and Sophia Chernow on their Confirmation. Please join us to hear them present their special Confirmation projects. This special evening will also be a closing Shabbat for Religious School. We hope to see everyone there.

I want to thank our Religious School families and staff, Megan Van Dyke, Paulette Sherline, Adam Davis, Peter Silverman, for your dedication to our students. We know it is not easy to bring your students on a Sunday morning but know how much you are all valued for your commitment to raising students with strong Jewish identities. It truly takes a village, and our small Jewish community is committed to a strong Jewish education.

Kim Brody, Principal, David S. Stone Religious School

David S. Stone Religious School May 2026 Calendar

Sun	5/3	9:30-11:30 AM Last Day of Religious School
Wed	5/6	4:15-5:45 PM Hebrew School
Fri	5/8	6:00 PM - Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner and Confirmation
Wed	5/13	4:15-5:45 PM Hebrew School
Wed	5/20	4:15-5:45 PM Hebrew School

LET US KNOW IF A CBI MEMBER IS ILL OR IN THE HOSPITAL

If you or someone you know is ill or in the hospital and would appreciate a phone call from Rabbi Marsh, please call the office at 419.517.8400 as soon as possible. Due to HIPAA privacy regulations, hospitals do not notify clergy if a member is admitted.

Volunteer to Help Hungry Children in Toledo



Monday, May 14, 2026 10 AM-12 PM

**at the Cherry Street Mission Building
1501 Monroe Street**

We are in need of 8-12 volunteers.

The volunteers will be putting together packages of food for children that live in the Toledo area.

RSVP to kbrody@cbitoledo.org by May 13th

Please join us for the Congregation B'nai Israel David S. Stone Religious School Confirmation Ceremony



at the Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Dinner

**Friday, May 8, 2026, 6:00 PM at CBI
6:00 PM Dinner, 7:00 PM Service & Confirmation**

Adults: \$18, Children under 13 &

CBI Religious School Students: FREE

Reservations required. RSVP to Kim Brody at kbrody@cbitoledo.org or call the office at 419.517.8400 by May. 1st.

2026 Confirmation Class

Cecilia Bringman Sophia Chernow

DAUGHTER OF
BETSY & DANE
BRINGMAN

DAUGHTER OF
RACHEL & DAVID
CHERNOW

When to Count the Omer: The counting of the omer begins on the second night of Passover. Jews in the Diaspora generally integrate this counting into the second seder. The omer is counted each evening after sundown. The counting of the omer is generally appended to the end of Ma'ariv (the evening service), as well.

What to Say: One stands when counting the omer, and begins by reciting the following blessing: *Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu Melekh ha'Olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al sefirat ha'omer.* "Blessed are you, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe, who has sanctified us with your commandments and commanded us to count the omer." After the blessing, one recites the appropriate day of the count. For example: *Hayom yom echad la'omer.* "Today is the first day of the omer." After the first six days, one also includes the number of weeks that one has counted. For example: *Hayom sh'losha asar yom, she'hem shavuah echad v'shisha yamim la'omer.* "Today is 13 days, which is one week and six days of the omer."

Congregation B'nai Israel Sefirat Ha'Omer Chart 2026 : 5786

ברוך אתה ה' אלקינו מלך העולם אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו על ספירת העומר	
Ba-ruch ah-tah Adonai Eh-lo-hay-nu meh-lech ha-o-lam ah-sheer ki-de-sha-nu be-mits-vo-tav ve-tsi-va-nu al se-fir-at ha-o-mer	Friday Eve., May 1
Hayom shloshim yom shehaym arba'ah shavuot ushnay yamim la-omer	Saturday Eve., May 2
Hayom echad ushloshim yom shehaym arba'ah shavuot ushloshah yamim la-omer	Sunday Eve., May 3
Hayom shnayim ushloshim yom shehaym arba'ah shavuot ve-arba'ah yamim la-omer	Monday Eve., May 4
Hayom shloshah ushloshim yom shehaym arba'ah shavuot vechamishah yamim la-omer	Tuesday Eve., May 5
Hayom arba'ah ushloshim yom shehaym arba'ah shavuot veshishah yamim la-omer	Wednesday Eve., May 6
Hayom chamishah ushloshim yom shehaym chamishah shavuot la-omer	Thursday Eve., May 7
Hayom shishah ushloshim yom shehaym chamishah shavuot veyom echad la-omer	Friday Eve., May 8
Hayom shiv'ah ushloshim yom shehaym chamishah shavuot ushnay yamim la-omer	Saturday Eve., May 9
Hayom shmonah ushloshim yom shehaym chamishah shavuot ushloshah yamim la-omer	Sunday Eve., May 10
Hayom tish'ah ushloshim yom shehaym chamishah shavuot ve-arba'ah yamim la-omer	Monday Eve., May 11
Hayom arba'im yom shehaym chamishah shavuot vechamishah yamim la-omer	Tuesday Eve., May 12
Hayom echad v-arba'im yom shehaym chamishah shavuot veshishah yamim la-omer	Wednesday Eve., May 13
Hayom shnayim v-arba'im yom shehaym shishah shavuot la-omer	Thursday Eve., May 14
Hayom shloshah v-arba'im yom shehaym shishah shavuot veyom echad la-omer	Friday Eve., May 15
Hayom arba'ah v-arba'im yom shehaym shishah shavuot ushnay yamim la-omer	Saturday Eve., May 16
Hayom chamishah v-arba'im yom shehaym shishah shavuot ushloshah yamim la-omer	Sunday Eve., May 17
Hayom shishah v-arba'im yom shehaym shishah shavuot ve-arba'ah yamim la-omer	Monday Eve., May 18
Hayom shiv'ah v-arba'im yom shehaym shishah shavuot vechamishah yamim la-omer	Tuesday Eve., May 19
Hayom shmonah v-arba'im yom shehaym shishah shavuot veshishah yamim la-omer	Wednesday Eve., May 20
Hayom tish'ah v-arba'im yom shehaym shiv'ah shavuot la-omer	

The Spring (Up of) Holidays - Part II

continued from page 2

of our prayers, and we pride ourselves on the fact that we have made it a place of freedom of religion for all.

So considering the Israeli holidays mentioned in Part 1 as well, we see that often, the Diaspora takes its cues from the Israeli government, whether it is the Knesset, the Rabbinat or otherwise, following suit to varying degrees, and sometimes with reservations. After all, even with the existence of Israel, there is no central governing body over all Judaism as there was in early Rabbinic times (not that everyone followed it then, either). The Knesset established the 23rd of Tishrei (Simchat Torah in the Diaspora, but an ordinary day in Israel) as a commemoration of the October 7 attacks. We will see how things develop in the Diaspora since this would mix joy with sorrow for us.

Last month, I also mentioned some holidays on the official Israeli calendar that are not on the radar of the entire Diaspora.

Another of those is Sigd, which occurs 50 days after Yom Kippur, paralleling the Sefirat haOmer that leads to Shavuot. This was initially an Ethiopian-Jewish holiday with a theme of renewing the covenant. This holiday has grown in popularity and practice in Israel, but less so beyond.

Interestingly, outside of Israel, there are holidays and observances that were once practiced and have fallen into disuse. Prominent rabbis mention a half fast day of the 1st of Sivan (five days before Shavuot) in memory of the Worms massacre of 1096, despite the fact that we are not supposed to fast on Rosh Hodesh. They actually (controversially) recited Hallel and the Fast Day Torah reading on the same day. The famous French rabbi Rashi's grandson Rabbeinu Tam established the 20th of Sivan as a remembrance day for one of the first blood libels in 1171 where many Jews were killed, and this was renewed in 1648 when the same date marked the beginning of the Chmielnicki massacres in Ukraine. Later, it was transformed into (yet another) Holocaust Memorial Day, particularly by the Hungarian Jews whose mass deportation occurred around that date.

May 1: 14 Iyar

Joanne Schwartzberg
Helene Sherman
Mark Lewis Schuster
Laya Tanenbaum
Samuel Danziger
Thea Lipson
Murray E. Remer
Frank Millman

May 2: 15 Iyar

Max Moldawsky

May 3: 16 Iyar

Anna Wengrow
Jacob Feinbloom
Ryan Daube
Fay Weiner
Earle Freedman

May 4: 17 Iyar

Lewis Bernstein
Philip C. Miller
Alice Bogart
Dora Katz

May 5: 18 Iyar

H. Martin Sitzmann
Rita Z. Levine
Ruth Bauer
Harry M. Bernstein
Joseph Topper
Edith Romanoff Bort
Ann Levine
Pauline Shoffer

May 6: 19 Iyar

Leo Kahn
Maurice Marenberg
Bertha Fink
Florence Lenenberg
Marian Goldner
Sherwin Bruce Siet
JoAnn Okun
Goldye Palman

May 7: 20 Iyar

Ethel Skolnick
Martin Davis

May 8: 21 Iyar

Norville Rappaport
Vernon Petler
Mollie Hoffman
Beatrice Sattinger
Richard Adler

May 9: 22 Iyar

Stanley Zimmerman
Jeanette Kohler
Matilda Lewis
Harvey Berg
Nathan B. Forman

May 10: 23 Iyar

Seymour Sattler
Irving Nathan Rubin
Grayce Rusgo Pervin
Karen Rosenbaum
Anna Korman
Bertha Odesky

May 11: 24 Iyar

Leon Williams
Norman Perlmutter
Esther Karp

May 12: 25 Iyar

Morton Herbert Goodman
Rachel Burack
Samuel Brassloff

May 13: 26 Iyar

Alfred Damrauer
Bobbi Gail Rosenbloom

May 14: 27 Iyar

Julius Swolsky
Roy Goldman
Jules Marsh
Howard Erd

May 14: 27 Iyar (cont.)

Miriam Wexler
Stan Radin
Richard Kasle

May 15: 28 Iyar

Harvey McGrew
Edward Barrack
Ralph Oberlin
Morris Joseph
Bertha Hecht
Earle Samuel Bracker
Rabbi Aaron Intrater
Isadore Leibovitz
Kopel Judashko

May 16: 29 Iyar

Linda Beth Bender Goldner
Herman Soldinger
Issac Scharf
Marcia Kisin
Ruth Scheer
Evelyn Grande
Ida Alexander
Hermine Bentley

May 17: 1 Sivan

Nathan Schwartz
Elsie Winter
Blanche Duchon Hurst
Charles Rubin
Clara Scharf
Florence Waldman
Gizella Weiss

May 18: 2 Sivan

Louis Bergher
Lillian Baneth

May 19: 3 Sivan

Marlene Weisman

May 20: 4 Sivan

Chester Tuschman
Daniel Brochin
Samuel Kaback
David Kalkstein
Libbey Boyk

May 21: 5 Sivan

Sheldon Cousins
Herman Siegel
George Shopneck
Henry Zyndorf
Marilyn Reinstein

May 22: 6 Sivan

Leo Tauber
Rose Katherine Wiegler
Shirley Gerber
Harry Katz

May 23: 7 Sivan

Fanny Tenzer
Anna Stauber
Pearl Tochtermann

May 24: 8 Sivan

Dr. William Boros
Benjamin Albert
Rose Goldstein
Sam Lipsitz

May 25: 9 Sivan

Gail Cousino
Frances Levy
Bernard Jacoby

May 26: 10 Sivan

Margit Lacker
Cantor Bruce Wetzler
Sol Scharf
David R. Radovsky
Cirala Shidlowsky

May 27: 11 Sivan

Edward Ginsberg
Saretta Bassett
Sadye Bookman
Harry Baron
Morris Siegman
Seymour Cohen
Ervine Frankel
Pearl Schwartz
Nettie Levitin
Shirley Fox
Avram Pinals

May 28: 12 Sivan

Phyllis Levy
Phyllis Levey
Louis Fishman
Israel Steinberg
Ruth Vinson
Sharon Gayle Friedes

May 29: 13 Sivan

Isidore Kahn
Leonard Tanenbaum

May 30: 14 Sivan

Charles Stupsker

May 31: 15 Sivan

Sava Mattathias
William Schroeder
Arlene Brookenthal
Irv Locketz
Joseph Scharf
Eriketi Mattathias
Matthew Mattathias
Zachary Morse
Mae Kwait
Solomon Mattathias
Louis Shuer
Lena Miller
Freida Williams
Morris Boslov
Mark Mattathias



Congregation B'nai Israel gratefully acknowledges the generous LiveSecure Campaign grant award from Jewish Federation of Greater Toledo. This important initiative helps ensure that our Toledo Jewish community remains a safe place for worship, learning, and connecting.

Not everything catches on everywhere, and the calendar of observances shifts over time as Jewish communities change their focus, composition, and locations. Some cities have their own "Purim Katan" celebrations on the anniversary of a miraculous rescue for that community. Some are observed to this day, but not widely known, and are rarely practiced outside the original city. Some are no longer observed, as the Jewish communities sadly no longer exist.

Will our "new" Jewish spring holidays remain on our calendar for the ages or fade away? Only time will tell, but one thing is for certain: there will always be more additions. new" holidays that are not in the Bible next month, in the continuation of this article, including Lag baOmer and Yom Yerushalayim.

Rabbi Aaron Marsh

CBI Weekly Services Schedule

Mon. & Thurs. Morning Minyan
8:00 AM - In Person/Zoom

Monday ~ Thursday Evening Minyan 5:45 PM Zoom
Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 PM Live Stream
On May 8th, services are In Person & Live Stream at 7:00 PM

Saturday Morning Shabbat
9:30 AM - In Person/Live Stream

Shabbat Mincha 12:45 PM - In-Person/Live Steam

***Sunday Morning Minyan 9:30 AM - In Person/Zoom**
**unless otherwise notified*

The link and passcode for weekday Zoom services is included in the Wednesday Update email sent to all CBI members.

If you need the information resent to you, email gmallin@cbitoledo.org with your request.



CBI
LIVE
STREAMING

How to access CBI Live Stream Services

On your **Computer, Tablet or Cell Phone:**

- Go to the CBI website, cbitoledo.org.
- At the top of the home page click on "Live Stream".
- When the page opens, you will be connected to the CBI live stream service.

On your **Television:**

You can also access the live stream services through your television if you have a "smart" TV, Roku or streaming stick which gives you access to YouTube.

- Click on the YouTube icon on your TV.
- When YouTube opens, search for "Congregation B'nai Israel - Sylvania, Ohio".
- Be sure to click on the listing that has the photo with Jewish star (*see photo above*).
- We recommend that you "subscribe" to the channel so you can easily locate the live stream for future services. We also highly recommend connecting to the live stream services on your TV as it is the most immersive and closest experience, short of being in the synagogue.

Process for Funeral Arrangements and Other Life Cycle Events

If a death occurs and you need to make funeral arrangements, your first call should be to the funeral director. The funeral home will contact CBI staff to make the necessary arrangements, including notifying the rabbi. The rabbi will then contact you to set up a meeting to gather information and plan the funeral.

Please bear in mind the Rabbi does not have his phone on him during Shabbat and Yom Tov, but he will respond as soon as he is able after Shabbat or Yom Tov ends.

To schedule and plan other life cycle events, you should call the synagogue office at 419-517-8400 during office hours (M-F, 9-3). Staff members can give you the Rabbi's number or will give the Rabbi your information and he will return your call.

MAZAL TOV & L'CHAIM!

Please let the office know if you have a simcha or special news that you would like to share with our congregation. We will happily post details and photos in the CBI bulletin if space allows. The deadline to submit is the 15th of the previous month. Please call the office at 419-517-8400.

Yahrzeit Notices...

If you are not receiving a yahrzeit notice for a friend or relative and would like one sent annually, please call the office at 419-517-8400. We will need the English date of death.



How to access CBI Zoom Programs & Services

- Check your email for the Zoom link and password for CBI Zoom services.
- Click on the link in the body of the email.
- If you have never used Zoom, you will be prompted to follow steps to download it on your computer.
- After that is successful, click on the link provided in the email, type in the provided password and you will be connected to the Zoom service.

A link and passcode will be emailed to congregants.

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:30 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 9:30 AM IP Last Day of Rel. School 10:30 AM IP/ZM Judaism & Modernity Class 11:30 AM IP Blintz Bonanza! with Mary Bilyeu 3:00 PM IP at Shomer Emunim "Tuesdays with Morrie"	4 EREV LAG B'OMER 8:00 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 6:30 PM IP/LS Lag B'omer Light "Campfire" Dinner & Bonfire 8:00 PM IP/ZM Tefillah Talk Class	5 LAG B'OMER 12:30 PM IP Canasta 5:45 PM ZM Afternoon Service	6 4:15-5:45 PM Hebrew School @ Chabad 5:45 PM IP/ZM Afternoon Service 7:40 PM IP/ZM Basic Hebrew Reading Class 8:00 PM IP/ZM Intro to Judaism Class	7 8:00 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 1:00 PM IP Mahjong 5:45 PM IP/ZM Afternoon Service	8 11:00 AM IP Parashat Hashavuah: Torah Portion of the Week 6:00 PM IP/LS Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner 7:00 PM IP/LS In-Person Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Confirmation 8:22 PM Light Candles	9 9:30 AM IP/LS Shabbat Morning Service Parashat Behar-Bechukotai 12:45 PM IP/LS Mincha 9:11 PM Shabbat Ends
10 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY 9:30 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 10:30 AM IP Adult Ed: Heidi Meyer	11 8:00 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 5:45 PM ZM Afternoon Service 8:00 PM IP/ZM Tefillah Talk Class	12 12:30 PM IP Canasta 5:45 PM ZM Afternoon Service	13 4:15-5:45 PM Hebrew School @ Chabad 5:45 PM IP/ZM Afternoon Service 7:40 PM IP/ZM Basic Hebrew Reading Class 8:00 PM IP/ZM Intro to Judaism Class	14 8:00 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 10:00 AM Cherry St. Mission Connecting Kids to Meals 1:00 PM IP Mahjong 5:45 PM IP/ZM Afternoon Service 6:45 PM IP Exec. Committee Mtg. 7:30 PM IP Board Meeting	15 11:00 AM IP Parashat Hashavuah: Torah Portion of the Week 5:45 PM ZM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	16 9:30 AM IP/LS Shabbat Morning Service Parashat Bamidbar Grubb Baby Naming 12:45 PM IP/LS Mincha 9:27 PM Light Candles
17 ROSH CHODESH SIVAN 9:30 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 10:30 AM IP Adult Ed: Heidi Meyer	18 8:00 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 5:45 PM ZM Afternoon Service 8:00 PM IP/ZM Tefillah Talk Class	19 12:30 PM IP Canasta 5:45 PM ZM Afternoon Service	20 4:15-5:45 PM Last Day Hebrew School @ Chabad 5:45 PM IP/ZM Afternoon Service 7:40 PM IP/ZM Basic Hebrew Reading Class 8:00 PM IP/ZM Intro to Judaism Class	21 EREV SHAVUOT 8:00 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 1:00 PM IP Mahjong 7:00 PM IP/LS Mincha, Shavuot Tikkun & Dairy Dinner 9:15 PM IP/LS Maariv 8:35 PM Light Holiday Candles	22 SHAVUOT DAY 1 CBI Office Closed 9:30 AM IP/LS Holiday Morning Service Reading from The Book of Ruth 5:45 PM IP/LS Afternoon Service 8:36 PM Light from pre-existing flame	23 SHAVUOT DAY 2/SHABBAT 9:30 AM IP/LS Shabbat/Holiday Morning Service Reading from The Book of Ruth 10:45 PM IP/LS YIZKOR 12:45 PM IP/LS Mincha 9:35 PM Shavuot/Shabbat Ends
24 9:30 AM IP/ZM Morning Service	25 MEMORIAL DAY CBI Office Closed 8:00 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 5:45 PM ZM Afternoon Service	26 12:30 PM IP Canasta 5:45 PM ZM Afternoon Service	27 5:45 PM IP/ZM Afternoon Service 7:40 PM IP/ZM Basic Hebrew Reading Class 8:00 PM IP/ZM Intro to Judaism Class	28 8:00 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 1:00 PM IP Mahjong 5:45 PM IP/ZM Afternoon Service	29 11:00 AM IP Parashat Hashavuah: Torah Portion of the Week 5:45 PM ZM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	30 9:30 AM IP/LS Shabbat Morning Service Parashat Naso 12:45 PM IP/LS Mincha 9:42 PM Light Candles
31 9:30 AM IP/ZM Morning Service 10:30 AM IP/ZM Judaism & Modernity Class						

Mazal Tov & L'Chaim!

Please let the office know if you have a simcha or special news that you would like to share with our congregation.



We will happily post details and photos in the CBI Bulletin, if space allows.

Deadline is the 15th of the previous month. Please call the office at 419-517-8400.

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