



Congregation Ahavath Sholom

The Creative Spirit Dwells Here

CAS Newsletter

April 2024

Upcoming services and events

Wednesday, April 3 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Friday, April 5 at 5:00 PM: Erev Shabbat with Rabbi Jennifer Rudin at the synagogue

Wednesday, April 10 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Saturday, April 13 at 10:00 AM: Shabbat Study with Rabbi Jennifer Rudin at the synagogue

Monday, April 15 at 12:00 PM: Memoir Workshop via Zoom

at **5:00 PM:** April Board Meeting via Zoom

at **7:00 PM:** Photography Workshop via Zoom

Wednesday, April 17 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Tuesday, April 23 at 4:30-5:30 PM: Second Night Passover Seder (no meal) at the synagogue

Wednesday, April 24 at 10:00 AM: Café Kehillah with Rabbi Barbara Cohen via Zoom

Sunday, April 28 at 2:00 PM: *I Teresa Lucena* Book Talk at Friends Meeting House

This month's newsletter features:

CAS/Jewish Museum Tour: *New York 1962-64*

***I, Theresa de Lucena: Reflections on the Trial of a Conversa* book talk**

Special Services

April Creative Arts Workshops

April Yahrzeits

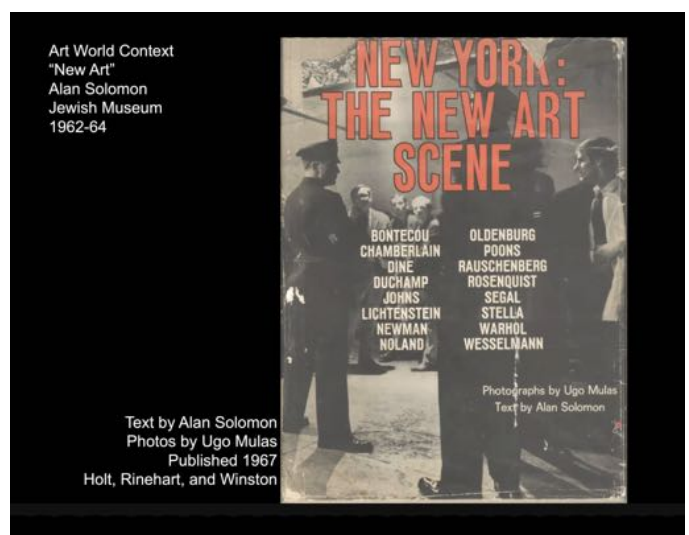
April Donations

Upcoming Community Events

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Last month's Jewish Museum Tour: *New York 1962-64*

The final CAS/Jewish Museum winter online tour, *New York 1962-4*, took place on March 24th. The presentation by Rena Tobey explored a pivotal three-year period in the history of art and culture in New York City and the museum's critical role in the New York art scene in the early 1960s. Rena discussed and examined a large number of works and spoke of how each of the prominent art movements merged or led into newer art forms and directions. Below are some of the art works that were highlighted.



I, Teresa de Lucena: How We Built the Book

On Sunday, April 28 at 2 p.m., join author Ellen Kanner, illustrator Annie Zeybekoglu, and Rabbi Barbara Cohen of Congregation Ahavath Sholom for a conversation about *I, Teresa de Lucena: Reflections on the Trial of a Conversa*. Using examples from the book, they will illustrate the interplay between text, interpretation and design and lead what promises to be a lively conversation about the creative process, book arts, and Jewish tradition.

This event will be held at the Quaker Meeting House, 280 State Road in Great Barrington. There is no charge to attend, but donations to the congregation will be appreciated.

I, Teresa de Lucena: Reflections on the Trial of a Conversa is the result of a unique collaboration between a translator, an artist, and a rabbi who joined forces and their respective talents to tell the story of Teresa de Lucena (1467-1545), a woman who faced the Spanish Inquisition twice. It is a work of microhistory, a nonfiction genre that places an individual at the center of the narrative and then zooms out to create the larger context of her life and times. Where did she live? How old was she when her father fled from Spain? Who were the witnesses against her? The book, based on Kanner's translations of the original Inquisition transcripts, Zeybekoglu's evocative illustrations, and Rabbi Cohen's insights into Jewish culture, creates an intimate portrait of a conversa in tumultuous times.

"This is an astonishing work, historically rigorous and profoundly affecting" according to Kirkus Reviews.



Ellen Kanner and Annie Zeybekoglu working on their book



Ellen Kanner is an independent scholar and teacher who has lived and studied in Spain for many years. In her career as a nonprofit professional, she led development and strategic planning initiatives in Boston and the Berkshires, where she and her family lived for many years.

Annie Zeybekoglu is an artist and book designer with extensive commercial and teaching experience. Her work appears in collections in the United States and abroad.

Rabbi Barbara Kipnis Cohen has served as the spiritual leader of Congregation Ahavath Sholom, Great Barrington, MA since 2005. She is a life-long student and teacher of Torah and Jewish mysticism.

The personal nature of their collaboration also deserves special mention: Kanner and Zeybekoglu were classmates at Smith College; Kanner and Rabbi Cohen are sisters.

Special Services

We are delighted to be joined by Rabbi Jennifer Rudin on three occasions in the next several weeks, where she will be participating with Rabbi Barbara in leading our services and study.

- Friday, April 5th, 5 PM Erev Shabbat Service
- Saturday, April 13th, 10 AM Shabbat Study
- Saturday, April 20th, 10 AM Shabbat Morning Service

All events will take place at the synagogue.



About Rabbi Jennifer:

Rabbi Jennifer Rudin is founder of Simcha-Services and Congregation Derech HaShalom, a new Jewish Community in MetroWest Boston. Rabbi Rudin believes in a Judaism that is authentic and meaningful, one that honors each person's unique religious practices, and is supportive of each individual's personal Jewish journey. Rabbi Rudin holds a BS in Urban Bilingual Education (Wheaton College), a MA in Jewish Education (Hebrew College), a Certificate in Jewish Family Education and a Certificate in Jewish Special Education. Rabbi Rudin was ordained through the Jewish Spiritual Leader's Institute. Rabbi Rudin splits her time between her home in Milford, MA and her father's, CAS member Harold Rudin's, home in Becket, MA. She has three adult daughters and shares her life with her partner Dr. Jeffrey Bornstein.

Please join us as we welcome Rabbi Jennifer to our spiritual home this spring.

Food Collection for the People's Pantry



For April, the Pantry requested children's snacks and cereals. Please bring to CAS when attending services or study groups. They count on us for help!

April Creative Arts Workshops

The next Memoir Writing Workshop is scheduled for Monday, April 15th at noon. Shared readings and short writing exercises. Each of these sessions is stand-alone. Please RSVP to Barbara Janoff at bjanoff1@gmail.com. Suggested donation to CAS is \$10 to support our Creative Arts Programs.

Barbara Janoff Ph.D. recently retired from the Fashion Institute of Technology, State University of New York in Manhattan, where she taught writing and literature. Her poetry and essays have appeared in a number of journals, including Communication Arts, Women's Work: The Journal of the Columbia College Women's Center and the Berkshire Review.



Photograph by Unseen Studio on Unsplash

The next Photography Workshop will also take place on Monday, April 15th, but at 7:00 PM. Participants in the workshop can submit any images they would like discussed, regardless of subject matter or content, using phone or camera. They can also share their screen with the group. These workshops are stand-alone sessions, open to all. Please RSVP to arthurhillman54@gmail.com. Suggested donation to CAS is \$10 to support our Creative Arts Programs.

Photographer and printmaker Arthur Hillman has been exhibiting his prints for more than 50 years. He has delivered a variety of lectures and presentations on photography and printmaking, juried many exhibits, and was a founding member of the Berkshire Photography Group. He is Professor Emeritus, Photography, Printmaking and Design, Bard College at Simon's Rock.



Photograph by Jeshoots on Unsplash

April Jahrzeits

Much of our experience of divine goodness, grace and love has come to us through those whose lives have touched our own.

	Hebrew Date	Original Date	This Year
Martin Cohn	Adar2 21 5771	3/27/2011	3/31
Oscar Slote	Adar2 25 5727	4/6/1967	4/4
Kenneth Kaplan	Nisan 01 5772	3/24/12	4/9
Raye Steiner Pozefsky	Nisan 4 5734	3/27/74	4/12
John Gellert	Nisan 06 5726	3/27/1966	4/14
John P. Hammond	Nisan 06 5763	4/8/2003	4/14
Muriel Budnick	Nisan 07 5773	3/18/2013	4/15
Irving Nathaniel Barth	Nisan 8 5743	3/22/1983	4/16
Edward Alec Weiner	Nisan 12 5766	4/10/2006	4/20
Edith Rosenberger	Nisan 12 5756	4/2/1996	4/20
Lotte Kunstler	Nisan13 5772	4/5/2012	4/21
Harry Mullen	Nisan 14 5753	4/5/1993	4/22
Jean Kessman	Nisan 15 5759	4/1/1999	4/23
Mal Guralnick	Nisan 21 5779	4/26/2019	4/29

April Donations

Passover Donation

Chuck and Karen Schader

In support of the Creative Arts Workshops

Bill Barth (Photography)
Ross Bettinger (Memoir)
Csroline Forsman (Photography and Memoir)
Bruce Frishkoff (Memoir)
Linda Geffin (Memoir)
Arthur Hillman (Memoir)
Louise Hillman (Photography)
Barbara Janoff (Photography)
Carol Killian (Memoir)

Memorial donation

Irwin Kessman

Upcoming Community Events

IN HONOR OF YOM HASHOAH
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY



Songs of the Lost Communities

Concert and Memorial Candle Lighting
Sunday, May 5 at 2 pm
The Berkshire Museum, 39 South Street, Pittsfield


Performing artist and lecturer Laura Wetzler will share the music and history of Sephardic and Ashkenazi communities celebrating the vitality of prewar Jewish life. Laura's father Rudi was a Nazi era survivor from Frankfurt, Germany.

AFTER THE CONCERT
A candle lighting, prayers, and a moment of reflection in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.



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Shabbat

Across

The Berkshires

Shabbat Across the Berkshires Friday, June 7 at 5:45 pm

Hosted by
Congregation Knesset Israel
16 Colt Road, Pittsfield, MA

Join the extended Berkshire Jewish Community as we come together to celebrate a joyous Kabbalat Shabbat with a musical family-friendly service led by our local Rabbis, followed by a delicious kosher Shabbat dinner.

REGISTER FOR DINNER BY JUNE 2: Adults \$20, Children free.
Reserve at knessetisrael.org/rsvp or call (413) 445-4872, ext 10.

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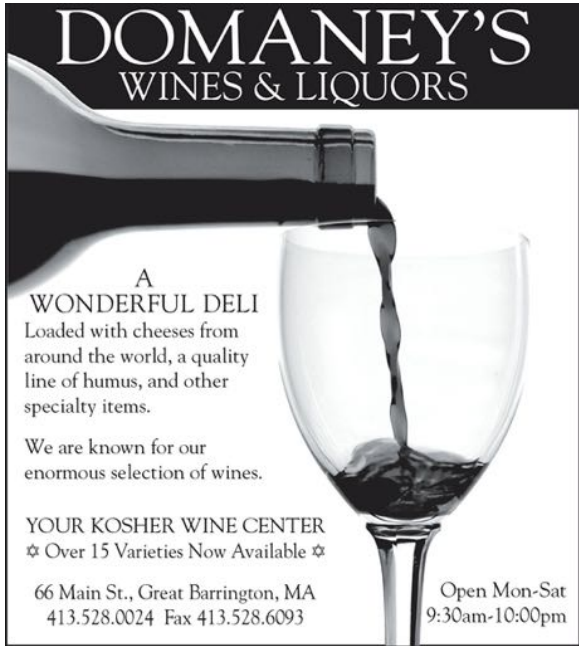
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