

## FOR LGBTQIQ PEOPLE

Our people came out of Egypt a mixed multitude, the spray of dividing waters sparkling diamonds all around them.

We stood together at Sinai, all of us - future, present, past - amid the rumble of thunder and the crack of bright lightning, to enter into covenant with the One who loves us, in whose shining image we are all created, over and over again.

We have wandered bleak landscapes, built flimsy tents of skins and then houses of stone. We have planted orchards and vineyards, seen two Temples rise and then go down in surging flames, forcing us into exile. We have loved and lost, grieved and danced, transgressed and celebrated. Hidden, suffered, thrived.

And we gather here this day, in the community of our people, a mixed multitude, and we sing out: Hear O Israel, we stand together, all of us, descendants of the single first human created on the sixth day, and of our myriad parents down through the generations, too numerous to name. We stand together, link arms, and pray.

Blessed are You, God of the universe, who sanctifies us with the commandment to love ourselves and one another - in all our varied ways - and blesses us with a diamond-bright radiance that still ripples out from Your first spoken words of creation.



# ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, May 20, 2012

5:00 PM

at the Synagogue

It's important for all members to attend this annual Congregational Meeting, at which we will vote for next year's Board of Directors, and for our affiliation with another synagogue. Please plan to attend. Refreshments will be served.



### *We're Recruiting!*

Interested in serving on our Board and playing an important role in guiding our future?

**We are having an Open Meeting on Tuesday, April 24th, at 7:30pm for**

**members who are interested in serving on the Board next year.**

# CONGREGATION ETZ CHAIM



שַׁבַּת שְׁלוֹם!

Shabbat Shalom!

**Shabbat Service 8:00 PM**

**Service Leader:** Rabbi Noah Kitty

**Hazzan:** Jerry Berkowitz

**Darshanit:** Rabbi Noah Kitty

**Friday, April 20, 2012 - 29 Nisan, 5772**

This week's Torah portion:  
**Shemini** Leviticus 9:1-11:47  
Haftarah: II Samuel 6:1-7:17

**Tonight's Oneg Shabbat is sponsored by Inez Pasher & Sharron Demarest, in celebration of their 37th anniversary. Congratulations!**

**Sponsor an Oneg Shabbat** - Please sponsor an *Oneg Shabbat* or donate to a synagogue sponsored *Oneg Shabbat*. Our *Oneg Shabbat* provides the socialization we all enjoy after Shabbat services. Your contribution, beginning at \$100, will allow us to continue this practice. It's easy! Either select an OPEN date in the red folder in the Guest Book or call the office at 954-564-9232.

**FULL, GROUP, OR PARTIAL SPONSORSHIPS ARE WELCOME!**

**Yahrzeits with Plaques – 04/20/12 - 04/26/12:**

Joyce R. Science Victor Houck

George L. Poole Theodore N. Pickar

**Yahrzeit Plaques** are available for purchase. We invite you to take the opportunity to memorialize your loved ones in this loving and traditional manner. We list the names from our plaques in this bulletin and in our weekly e-schmooze the Shabbat preceding the *yahrzeit*. Call the Etz Chaim office for details: 954-564-9232.

**Tzedakah:** Please donate generously.

**Congregation Etz Chaim Board of Directors**

President	Lauren Gultz
Executive Vice President	Ellen Slavin
Treasurer	Lauren Gultz
Secretary	Daniela Mitrovic
VP Fundraising	John Kaboff
VP Membership	Ellen Slavin
At Large	Naomi Siegel
At Large	Arthur Williams
At Large	Gloria Stein
Men's Club President	Michael Tublin

**Our Mission:** To provide a nurturing environment for Gay and Lesbian Jews, inclusive of Bi-sexual, Transgender, and Heterosexuals in South Florida. We are dedicated to the spiritual, social, educational and emotional support that empowers and enhances the quality of members' lives and the community as a whole.

The Board of Directors welcomes any member who wishes to address the Board. You must call the office at least two days prior to the meeting so your name can be put on the Agenda. **Board Meetings** will be the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The next is May 8, at 6:30pm, at the synagogue.

**Bikkur Cholim:** Our Bikkur Cholim committee wants to know when our members and friends are sick – either in hospital or at home – so we may call or visit. Please call the office and let us know.

**Standing and Sitting:** The Jewish tradition encourages you to remain seated comfortably whenever necessary. **Please refrain from applauding during services.**

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**Nominating Committee: Tuesday, April 24, 7:30pm**

**Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 6:30pm**

*All meetings at the Synagogue unless otherwise noted.*

**KADDISH LIST**

Shiela T. Goldman	05/04/11
Eric Kreisler	05/29/11
Ruth Joan Tenzer	07/05/11
Edith Hirshhorn	07/08/11
Dorothy Belinsky	07/18/11
Sandra Pasternak	09/28/11
Paul (Gregory) Harris	12/31/11
Frieda Weisberg Greenberg	01/10/12
Hillard Shurdut	02/08/12
Felicia Mintzer	02/29/12
Melvin Singer	02/04/12
Toby R. Goldstein	03/07/12
Stephen Jerome	03/08/12
Jeph Epstein	03/31/12

**Office/Mailing Address:**

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Fax: (954) 337-0338

**e-mail: [congregation@etz-chaim.com](mailto:congregation@etz-chaim.com)**

**Men's Club:**

**May 4: First Friday resumes!**

**Dinner at Zuckereello's 6:15 PM**

**3017 East Commercial Boulevard, Ft Lauderdale 33308**

**Contact Ken at [ktewel@aol.com](mailto:ktewel@aol.com)**

**May 6: Sunday Brunch at JB's at the Beach in Deerfield.**

Please contact Michael for more information.

**AIDS Walk 2012**

Congregation Etz Chaim is again sponsoring a team in this year's awareness and fundraising event. Visit the following link for more info, or contact Team Captain, Alex Rosenberg, for more details.

[http://takeaction.aidshealth.org/site/TR/Events/General/1380823844?pg=team&fr\\_id=1120&team\\_id=10140](http://takeaction.aidshealth.org/site/TR/Events/General/1380823844?pg=team&fr_id=1120&team_id=10140)

**Interested in being a singer in a choir group at our Shabbat services?** — Jerry will teach you all you need to know, so if you have an urge or talent to sing, just show up at the synagogue by 7 pm on Fridays.

**Scrip Program is Here!**

Here is the opportunity to support Etz Chaim at no additional cost to you. Joining the Scrip program provides additional funds to the Congregation, and all you need to do is sign up!

**For more information contact Scrip Coordinator Alan Hait at 954-568-5585, or [scrip@etzchaimflorida.org](mailto:scrip@etzchaimflorida.org).**