



EVENT PROGRAM FOR

**Cantors & Friends
Purim Party**

Sunday, February 21st

7:00 p.m.





Another online collaboration
of Cantors & Friends
from Madison, LaCrosse and
Greater Metropolitan Milwaukee,
singing together
and raising funds for the
Hunger Task Force of Milwaukee!

Online link

<https://bit.ly/CantorsFriendsPurimParty>

To make a donation
to the Hunger Task Force

<https://www.hungertaskforce.org/give/Cantors-Friends-Purim-Party/>



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Welcome

Welcome to the “Cantors & Friends Purim Party and virtual concert! Twelve Cantors and Cantorial Soloists will again be performing your Purim favorites and some new compositions.

Join the Cantors of Wisconsin in supporting Hunger Task Force in Milwaukee. This incredible collaboration of Cantors & Friends brings together singers from Madison, La Crosse and Greater Metropolitan Milwaukee singing together and giving back to the community.

One of the central themes of Purim is to fulfill the mitzvah of Matanot L’evyonim—giving gifts to those in need. The Cantors of Wisconsin aim to raise awareness of this mitzvah and ask you to join them in supporting Hunger Task Force before and during this Cantors & Friends Purim Party online concert (<https://bit.ly/CantorsFriendsPurimParty>).

This virtual food drive offers the chance to “shop” for your favorite food donations, place the items in your cart and check out to make a difference for someone in your community.

The Cantors of Wisconsin will match your donation dollar for dollar up to \$1,800 so please give generously.

Thank you and have a Happy Purim!

Members of Cantors of Wisconsin include cantors and others deeply involved in Jewish music. The members include: David Barash, Jerry Berkowitz, Karen Berman, David Blumberg, Enid Bootzin Berkovits, Marsha Fensin, Nancy Gorens-Edelman, Deborah Martin, Jacob Neimi, Richard Newman, David Perper, Michele Rozansky, Brian Serle, Jeremy Stein and Faith Steinsnyder.



Cast of Performers

Cantor David Barash

Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Cantor David Barash has served at Congregation Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun in Milwaukee, Wisconsin since 2001, and previously served as Cantor for nine years at Congregation Beth Shalom in Kansas City, Missouri. David loves engaging congregants through Jewish music: working with adult and children's choirs; conducting the CEEBJ congregational band; directing annual Purim spiels; leading participatory Shabbat, Festival and High Holy Day services; and teaching all kinds of subjects ranging from Prayer Aerobics to Moods and Modes in the Music of the High Holy Days.



David is happily married to Debra Gorra Barash and between them, they have four children, Natan and Rafi Barash, Janet (Nick) De Voe and Louise (Nick) Rasmussen; and four grandchildren, Wilson and Graham De Voe, and Hailey and Annabelle Rasmussen.

Guest Soloist Enid Bootzin Berkovits

Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid
Glendale, Wisconsin

Enid Bootzin Berkovits is a founding member of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Choral. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy from Alverno College in Milwaukee and has studied master's level choral conducting and voice performance at Northwestern University, DePaul University and The Wisconsin Conservatory of Music. Ms. Bootzin Berkovits has performed with the Skylight Opera Theatre, The Milwaukee Opera Company, Carousel Productions and the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. She is the choir director at Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid.



Cantor Jerry Berkowitz

Anshe Poale Zedek Synagogue
Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Cantor Jerry Berkowitz is the cantor and spiritual leader of Anshe Poale Zedek Synagogue of Manitowoc. Born in New York City, he is a graduate of Brooklyn College and the Cantorial Training Institute of Yeshiva University. From 1994 until 2010, he was the Cantor at the former Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue of Mequon. Naomi, his wife, serves as the Disaster Mental Health Coordinator for the Red Cross in Wisconsin and several other states in the mid-west. They have three adult children, seven grandchildren and reside in Port Washington.

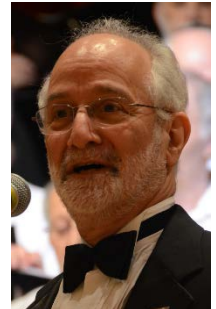




Cantorial Soloist David Blumberg

Glendale, Wisconsin

David Blumberg has served as a cantorial soloist for twenty years, in both Reform and Conservative congregations in Wisconsin and Illinois. For the past five years, he has helped lead High Holiday services at the Ovation Sarah Chudnow Community in Mequon. He has also been a member of the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus since the fall of 1999. David and his Jewish Educator wife, Sherry, are the proud parents of their son, Joshua, who still lives and works in the Milwaukee area, and of three now-adult, former foster children. When he is not singing, David is a practicing attorney sub-specializing exclusively in Interstate Child Custody Jurisdiction matters.



Guest Soloist Nancy Gorens-Edelman

Beth Hillel Temple
Kenosha, Wisconsin

Nancy Gorens-Edelman is a Guest Soloist and member of Beth Hillel Temple in Kenosha. Nancy has had a long career in education as a classroom teacher, school principal and teacher licensing advisor in a variety of public, private and Jewish school settings. She has experience as a song leader at camps and in reform congregations Temple Beth El, Madison; Am Shalom, Glencoe; and Congregations Shalom and Emanu-el B'ne Jeshurun, Milwaukee. Her degrees are from the University of Wisconsin and include a music concentration with licensing in K-12 elementary and exceptional education, school administration, and curriculum & instruction.



Cantor Deborah Martin

Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha
Waukesha, Wisconsin

Cantor Deborah Martin is the Spiritual Leader at Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha (CEEW). She came to CEEW in July of 2016, prior to that she served as the Cantor of Temple Beth El in Madison, from 1991 to 2015. A mezzo soprano, Cantor Martin obtained her formal vocal training in Boston, with a Bachelor of Music with honors from the New England Conservatory of Music and a Masters of Music Degree from Boston Conservatory. She sang Opera around the country before becoming a Cantorial soloist and then a Cantor. Deborah has two children. Her son, James, lives in Madison with his wife Gena, daughter Rowan and son Harrison. Her child Mika works in Olympia, Washington.





Cantor Richard Newman

Congregation Sinai
Fox Point, Wisconsin

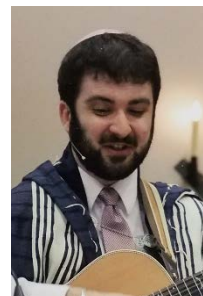
Cantor Richard Newman is honored to be the cantor at Congregation Sinai of Fox Point. He came to Sinai in July, 2017. Cantor Newman was born in Birmingham, UK, and has been interested in music all his life. Before beginning his cantorial training, Richard worked as a professional musician in London, having gained his masters in music at Trinity College of Music, London in 2011. Richard has appeared on TV, radio and numerous recordings over the years. Before moving to the US, Richard was a regular soloist with the Zemel Choir in London, the UK's premier mixed voice Jewish choir, and was a regular service leader at Belsize Square Synagogue in London.



Cantor Jacob Niemi

Temple Beth El
Madison, Wisconsin

Cantor Jacob Niemi has served as the cantor at Temple Beth El in Madison, WI since the summer of 2019. He earned a BA in sacred music with a minor in Hebrew language from Florida State University in 2013. He then continued his cantorial studies at the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College–Jewish Institute of Religion, earning a master's degree in sacred music in 2017 and ordination as a cantor in 2018.



Cantor David Perper

Congregation Shalom
Fox Point, Wisconsin

Cantor David Perper serves Congregation Shalom in Fox Point, Wisconsin. Cantor Perper was born and raised in Silver Spring, Maryland and he finished his undergraduate studies at The Catholic University of America, in Washington, DC. David then worked in retail for a bit before attending The Hebrew Union College – Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music in New York City. David has been joyously looking forward to this concert, and hoping for many more. Married to Cantor Faith Steinsnyder, the pair are looking forward to the opportunity to explore Milwaukee and points of interest in this beautiful state.





Rabbi Brian Serle

Congregation Sons of Abraham
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Rabbi Brian Serle has led Congregation Sons of Abraham in La Crosse, Wisconsin since 2019. A native of New Jersey, he attended graduate school at UWM, studying foreign languages, and taught at Congregations Beth El Ner Tamid, Beth Israel, and Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun. He served as spiritual leader of Congregation Beth El of Sheboygan, Wisconsin from 2000 to 2005. In Milwaukee, Rabbi Brian served as the director of the JCC's Holocaust Resource Center, and sang in the Milwaukee Jewish Community Chorale. He has also conducted High Holy Day services at Temple Shalom in Eau Claire and Cnesses Israel in Green Bay. Rabbi Brian's spirituality is based on his love of leading others in joyful group prayer and song.



Hazzan Jeremy Stein

Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid
Glendale, Wisconsin

Hazzan Jeremy Stein serves Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid in Glendale, where he is equally passionate about leading services and teaching congregants of all ages. He is currently working on a project detailing the 100-year history of the Abayudaya, the Jews of Uganda. In February, he is scheduled to release an album of new music of Havdalah as a benefit for Jewish summer camps. Hazzan Stein lives with his wife Amanda, a musicologist, who he met on his first full day in Milwaukee. They are proud parents of daughters Mirit and Hadas.



Cantor Faith Steinsnyder

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Faith Steinsnyder has served as cantor and director of music for synagogues across the country. She has taught at New York City's Jewish Theological Seminary, the Academy for Jewish Religion, and still serves on the faculty of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. A featured soloist at Carnegie Hall and Merkin Concert Hall in NYC, Faith has performed and recorded extensively with The Western Wind, Matthew Lazar and Michael Isaacson. Accompanied by members of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, she sang the title role in Stephen Richards' chamber opera "The Ballad of Ruth." Faith is featured in the critically acclaimed documentary film "100 voices: A Journey Home." Zamir Choral Foundation's annual North American Jewish Choral Festival features Faith teaching and performing with her husband, David Perper.





Musical Numbers

UTZU EITZAH – MUSIC BY FRED ROSS-PERRY AND FOLK MELODY, ARRANGED BY JACOB NIEMI; ENGLISH TEXT BY FRED ROSS-PERRY, HEBREW TEXT FROM ISAIAH 8:10

Sung by Cantor Jacob Neimi

Utzu eitzah v'tufar, dabru davar v'lo yakum, ki imanu Eil.

Devise and scheme, and plot your plan.

Take it from me, you've got no chance.

'Cause we've got love on our side.

We've got love on our side.

We've got love on our side.

Hebrew translation

Hatch a plot—it shall be foiled; Agree on action—it shall not succeed. For God is with us!

ESTHER, THE QUEEN – LYRICS BY SUSAN NURENBERG AND MUSIC BY MICHAEL ISAACSON

Sung by Cantor Faith Steinsnyder with pianist Joseph Abell

Let us remember with true emotion!

Let us pay homage to Esther the Queen,
and rekindle the ember of true devotion!

Esther we give you our blessed esteem!

Let us honor the day that we set for Purim!

Honor the story and all it can mean!

For the valorous way that she saved her people,
honor the glory of Esther the Queen!

We know: Haman, foe of Israel,
plotted a slaughter—

Each son and daughter soon would fall!

But Esther sought the King Achashveirosh...

She stood before him, proud and tall.

Saved us all!

Nations may flourish on high ambition,
only to weaken and pass from the scene,
but the Hebrews will nourish their strong tradition:

Always protecting!



Always reflecting!
Always perfecting,
lest we forget that we are indebted
to Esther the Queen!

I LIKE HAMENTASHEN –BY ELLEN ALLARD

Sung by Rabbi Brian Serle

CHORUS:

I like hamentashen, they're so good for noshin'
I like hamentashen, yummy, delicious and sweet.

VERSE 1

Do we wear them on our head? No! No! No!
Do we hide them in our bed? No! No! No!
Do we paint them blue and red? No! No! No!
Everybody knows that we eat them!

CHORUS

VERSE 2

Do we wear them on our nose? No! No! No!
Do we hide them in our clothes? No! No! No!
Do we spray them with a hose? Only when they're burnt!
Everybody knows that we eat them!

CHORUS

VERSE 3

Do we fill them with jelly? YES! YES! YES!
Are they safe in your belly? YES! YES! YES!
Are they delicious as can be? YES! YES! YES!
Everybody knows that we eat them!

CHORUS

VERSE 4

Do we put them in a tree? No! No! No!
Do we feed them to a bee? No! No! No!
Do we bounce them on our knees? No! No! No!
Everybody knows that we eat them!!

CHORUS



THE HAMAN CALYPSO – BY BARBARA KATZ

Sung by Cantor David Barash with Scott Finch on piano

VERSE 1

Here's a story about Haman,
Listen so you will understand.
Haman wanted a certain thing,
Wanted to be just like a king.

CHORUS:

Haman, Haman
The Jews will never bow down (No, we won't)
Haman, Haman
You'd better get out of town.

VERSE 2

Now there was a special guy,
A Jewish man called Mordechai.
Haman told him to bow his head,
But Mordechai said this instead.

CHORUS

VERSE 3

Pretty Esther was the queen,
And she knew Haman was very mean,
She told the king what he planned to do,
The king said, "Haman – you're all through!"

CHORUS

VASHTI'S SONG – BY DEBBIE FREIDMAN

Sung by Cantor Deborah Martin

VERSE 1

I never like to go to parties when I'm the only woman there.
When I said no to Achashveirosh, I really didn't know he'd care.
He threw me out, I could not be first lady any more.
I don't know what became of me, I'm not the queen no more.



CHORUS

Doo de doo doo de doo (4Xs)

VERSE 2

I was divorced ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*) ... that's not the worst ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*)
I was replaced ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*) ... with Esther's face ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*)
I told the king ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*) ... this one bad thing ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*)
I don't want to eat my meals
with a hundred men who deal
in the matters of the royal family ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*)
He wanted to show them my lovely face.
I didn't feel like dressing up in satin frills and lace.
Perhaps it was a pretty silly thing for me to do.
No woman wants to be a single act – how 'bout you?

CHORUS

VERSE 3

I was divorced ... (*she was divorced*) ... that's not the worst ... (*that's not the worst*)
I was replaced ... (*she was replaced*) ... with Esther's face ... (*with Esther's face*)
I told the king ... (*she told the king*) ... this one bad thing ... (*this one bad thing*)
I don't want the king's suggestions
to give me bad indigestion
in the matters of the royal family ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*)
All these matters make me toil
In the matters of the royal,
In the matters of the royal,
In the matters of the royal,
In the matters of the royal family ... (*Doo de doo doo de doo*)

HOP MAYNE HOMEN TASHN – BY M. PIROSHNIKOFF

Sung by Cantor Jerry Berkowitz

VERSE 1

Yakhne Dvoshe fort in shtot,
Zi halt zikh in eyn pakn.
Zi darf oyf purim koyfn mel –
Homen-taqshn bakn.

Translation

*Yakhne Dvoshe's going to town
She's busy with her packing.
It's flour for Purim she must buy
To bake her homen-tashn.*



CHORUS

Hop, mayne homen-tashn,
Hop, mayne vayse,
Hop, mit mayne homen-tashn,
Hot pasirt a mayse.

VERSE 2

S'geyt a regn, s'geyt a shney,
S'kapet fun di dekher,
Yakhne firt shoy'n korn-mel
In a zak ful lekher.

CHORUS

VERSE 3

Yakhne trogt shoy'n shalekh-mones,
Tzu der mume Yente,
Tsvey, dray shvartze homen-tashn,
Hakb roy, halb farbrente.

CHORUS

*Ho. Ho, my homen-tashn,
She's busy with her packing.
Ho, hear about my homen-tashn,
Listen to what happened.*

*It is raining, it is snowing,
All the roofs are dripping,
Poor Yakhne with her Purim flour
In a bag full of holes.*

*Now Yakhne's carrying shalekh-mones
To her aunt Yente,
Two or three homen-tashn
Half raw, half burnt.*

LIFE IN SHUSHAN (BASED ON LIFE ON MARS) – BY DAVID BOWIE AND JOSH PARKES (AS HEARD IN CONGREGATION SINAI'S 2019 PURIM SPIEL)

Sung by Cantor Richard Newman

It's not always an easy thing
Living under a Persian king.
We once had a land of our own
Till we were driven from our homes
But Messiah's nowhere to be seen
So we're doing the best that we can
In the village we call Shushan
Where we hold on to Zion's dream
The diaspora's a saddening bore
Seems like we lived it ten times or more
But it's the lot of the Jews
As we ask you to focus on
Vashti grooving in the dance hall
Oh man, look at this empire grow!



It's the freakiest show.
Take a look at this edict written by Haman,
Oh, man! Hear us wail and moan.
It's written in stone.
This is life in Shushan.

Just look at what's hap'ning now:
Delphi and Khirrah having a row.
Babylonia is starved for rain.
There's etrogs on sale again.
See the Romans amassing hordes
Soon they'll be expanding abroad
Achashverosh is out of bounds.
Now they're worshipping golden cows.
But our story is a thrilla'
Written down in the Megillah
It's about to be told again
As we ask you to focus on
Vashti grooving in the dance hall
Oh man, look at this empire grow!
This is our Purim show.
Take a look at this edict written by Haman,
Oh, man! Hear us wail and moan.
It's written in stone.
This is life in Shushan.

(HAMAN'S) MY HAT IT HAS 3 CORNERS – A CHILDREN'S SONG OF UNKNOWN ORIGINS

Sung by Guest Soloist Nancy Gorens-Edelman

Additionally, Nancy expresses "To friends and family affected by Covid – May Purim bring healing, some smiles and a healthy recovery."

VERSE 1

(Haman's) My hat it has 3 corners
3 corners has (his) my hat
And had it not 3 corners
It would not be (Haman's) my hat

**VERSE 2**

LA KOVA SHELI SHALOSH PINOT
SHALOSH PINOT
LA KOVA SHELI
LU-LEY HAYU LO SHALOSH PINOT
LO HAYA ZE HA KOVA SHELI

VERSE 3

(My hat) it has (3 corners)
(3 corners) has (my hat)
And had it not (3 corners)
It would not be (my hat)

SIR GREENBAUM'S MADRIGAL – BY ALLAN SHERMAN

Sung by Hazzan Jeremy Stein

ESTHER'S PRAYER – BY ROBBIE SOLOMON

Sung by Cantorial Soloist David Blumberg

Pray for her.
She's lost in a foreign place,
Knowing her life's at stake.
Show her the way.

Raise your voice for her,
You who have known her so well;
Don't spare your blessings now.
Show her the way.

Esther my queen,
All that we have become
May vanish away like a dream
With dawn and the morning sun

My people, my friends,
We must not let her down.
Somehow I know,
A way will be found.



Stay with her, if only a little while.
Once more she's an orphan child.
Show her the way.

And if she should fail,
Stopped by the fear and pain,
Set her aright again.
Show her the way.

Oh, Esther my child,
You must not be scared of him.
Think how he loved you, your smile
And all that you've shared with him.

And sometimes at night,
When all is a magic dream,
He's been your king,
And you've been his queen.

Pray for her.
We'll fast for three days for her.
Let love be the conqueror.
Let Love be the way.

Oh, don't despair,
And know if you truly care,
Your love is the greatest prayer.
Yes, love is the is the greatest prayer.

MI SHENICHNAS ADAR – BY NORTON SIEGEL

Sung by Guest Soloist Enid Bootzin Berkovits

Mi-she, mi-she, mi-she, mi-she-mi-she, mi-she-mi-she-mi-she mi-she-nich-nas A-dar
Mi-she-nich-nas, A-dar mar-bin be-sim-cha

Translation: When Adar begins, our joy increase!!



BOO-HAMIAN RHAPSODY – MUSIC BY QUEEN AND LYRICS BY DAVID PERPER

Sung by Cantor David Perper

Haman's so nasty, says he'll kill all the Jews.
Now I'm done fasting. No, this story's not fake news.
Open your eyes, be sure to be wise and see.
Let's have a feast dear, invite that beast here.
And we'll have savory treats kosher meats drink some wine then recline.
Once King A is chilled, I'll tell him the whole megillah!!!

Too late! There's evil here. Right here in Shushan town, he told us we must bow down.
Haman's cruel, and he threatens us, 'cause he has no respect for our rights.
One brave man is a champion of the rest, he is noble he is a mensch.
Honor him, honor him! To my people yes it matters.
Let's have an even bigger celebration, with buffet and a band we will do the fandango.
There will a band Oh, we could do the tango! Yes! Or the Hora, the Hora is such!!!!

We'll serve latkes they're my favorite! Hamantaschen! Latkes are the best;
Hamantaschen* no latkes@! Latkes are the best! Latkes are the best! Latkes are the best,
Hamantaschen, Hamantaschen.

Oh, mama mia mama mia, mama mia here we go.
So, here's the scoop, wicked Haman wants to kill the Jews!

(INSERT GUITAR HERO HERE!!)

Does Haman think he can torment my people, my family?
Does Haman think he can harm us and then he'll go free.

Booooooo Haman! Don't do this to us Haman! You gotta get out.
You gotta get right out of here!

Yes, it really matters, all of us can see.
Yes, it really matters. Yes, it really matters to me.