

Dedication

CBST opens New Doors on April 3, 2016 at 130 West 30th Street, New York NY

אֶבֶן מֵאֲסוּי הַבּוֹנִים הָיְתָה לְרֵאשׁוֹ פֶּנֶה

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. (Psalm 118:22)



Beit
Simchat
Torah CONGREGATION

קהלה קדושה בית שמחת תורה

Dedication Year Sponsors: Steven M. Fruh and Paul L. Marsolini

Mission

Congregation Beit Simchat Torah (CBST) is a vibrant spiritual community and a progressive voice within Judaism. Founded in 1973, CBST attracts and welcomes gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender, queer and straight individuals and families who share common values. Passionate, provocative, and deeply Jewish, CBST champions a Judaism that rejoices in diversity, denounces social injustice wherever it exists, and strives for human rights for all people.

We are a house of prayer, offering both traditional and liberal services and lifecycle events.

We are a house of learning, continually expanding our knowledge and deepening our understanding of our religious and cultural heritage.

We are a house of refuge and healing, offering community support and pastoral care.

We are a house of conscience, fighting for the full equality of LGBTQ people locally, nationally and internationally.

We are committed to Israel and engaged in supporting efforts to secure peace, justice and equality for all.

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Senior Rabbi



*Enlarge the site of your tent
Extend the size of your dwelling
Do not stint!
Lengthen the ropes and drive the pegs firm.
— Isaiah*

As Dorothy so eloquently puts it, there's no place like home.

For us at CBST, having a home of our own is inexpressibly meaningful. After 43 years of wandering and over a decade of planning and fundraising, we are finally coming home.

I imagine that for those in our congregation who can remember our first home in the childrens' room of the Church of the Holy Apostles in 1973, then Westbeth Bank Street in 1975, then the move to our current location up the ramp in Westbeth in 1977, and back to the Church of the Holy Apostles for services in 1998, today must seem miraculous. I hope for all in our community who have been rejected by their families because of their sexuality or gender identity and who have found a new family at CBST, our new home on 30th Street feels no less miraculous.

What we have built and continue to build together is a place unique within both Judaism and the LGBTQS community. CBST is a very rare and important example of religious pluralism in action, where all are welcome through our Open Door. CBST also represents a distinguished center of GLBT, feminist and activist theological innovation. Our commitment to spiritual seeking is matched by our commitment to social justice, and we act on our commitments. The world needs spiritual renewal and it cries out for racial and economic justice. At CBST, we take both prayer and activism seriously. Our home is expansive, inclusive and notable.

And our new home is no longer hidden. We are finally coming all the way out, with 50 feet of street level presence and windows looking into our 17,000 sq.ft. synagogue. We invite the world into our no longer secret home. Our Bethune location was reminiscent of a 1970s lesbian bar – invisible from the street and impossible to find the first time.

Let us dream our future together, aware that we stand on the shoulders of many who came before us. We will build upon our very rich history, on our legacy of incredible joy and devastating loss, remembering those who have gone before us.

We must build community to outlast all of us – to evolve and grow continually and become a sacred, spiritual and holy place for the generations who come after us. We pray we may deserve their gratitude.

I am so eager to see how we come together in new ways in this gorgeous new space. Ultimately most important, though, is how we fill the space within these beautiful walls. This building is a sacred container which will inspire, energize, motivate us. But it will be up to us to fill it with love, seeking God's presence through prayer, study, activism, music, art, and gratitude.

My overwhelming gratitude to all. Thanks beyond measure to the over 1,000 donors who gave in every conceivable manner, to the architects, to the construction workers, to the designers, to the development experts, to the acousticians, to the graphic designers, to the Landmarks Commission, to the artists, to the writers, to the CBST executive directors and staff, to the many CBST boards who oversaw the project, to the CBST Presidents, to the many Cooperberg-Rittmaster Rabbinical Interns, Cantorial Interns, Cantors, Cantorial Soloist, and Rabbis, to the chorus and musicians, to the adults and the children, to the living and to the dead.

And my deepest gratitude to the Creator of us all who has given me the privilege of living to this day and serving this community for 24 years. May the work of my hands and the prayers of my heart reflect the Holy One in all ways.

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum

Board President



What an honor to be president of CBST at this moment. I could not be more proud or more grateful. It is my special privilege to express our community's deep appreciation to those who have taken us on the journey to build a Home of Our Own.

This has been a remarkable forty-three year journey for our congregation. Along the way, we learned that vision, dedication, generosity and building community are as essential as funding to meet the challenge of bringing our dream to reality. Miraculous!

The collaborative vision of Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum and lay leaders laid the theological and communal groundwork to breathe life into the project. Over the years, sharing their inspiration, knowledge, expertise, time, hands, and hearts, our clergy and staff teams, presidents and board members, so many volunteers, and of course our congregants and friends of CBST have all helped move us forward on a sacred path.

The Mishkan Committee and Premises Fund donors took the first leap of faith. The Home of Our Own Capital Campaign Steering Committee under the leadership of Bill Hibsher has been tirelessly devoted to the campaign's success. Over 1,000 donors have made gifts ranging from \$5 to \$5.5 million. Every gift has been and will continue to be vital to reach our goal of \$23 million.

CBST Vice President, Aari Ludvigsen Gaines has steadfastly devoted her time, energy and expertise as our volunteer project manager on this architecturally significant project. Architecture Research Office (ARO) and Eurostruct Construction, with their staff, consultants, crew and sub-contractors, have met the needs of the community and addressed the challenges of our project with creativity, professionalism, and a deep respect and care for CBST as a special client.

The Dedication Committee under the leadership of co-chairs Cindy Rizzo and Jonathan Sheffer has collaborated with our clergy and staff to craft meaningful, celebratory activities that enable each of us to participate in this historic milestone.

On behalf of the 2016 Board of Directors, I extend heartfelt thanks to all.

Together, we have done something magical, something our founders could not have imagined. Now, it is up to us to steward this accomplishment and make the most of it for our community, city, and indeed the world. As we continue to grow as a beacon for hope, equality and love, may we continue to go from strength to strength.


Nathan Goldstein

PS: **Save-the-Date** –

CBST's Presidents will be honored at our 21st Annual Shabbat Shirah Benefit Concert at our Home of Our Own, 130 West 30th Street on Sunday, May 22, 2016.

Capital Project Chair



In April, 1995, CBST's board created the Mishkan Committee to help with space needs—most pressing being, where to hold Friday night services. I had the privilege of co-chairing that effort with Marcy Kahn. The Committee scoured Manhattan for a space suitable in size and location and available every Friday night. Members visited theaters, schools, synagogues (the one orthodox shul we negotiated with was OK with a gay congregation in their space on Friday nights but not with women on the Bimah), churches and other venues, and in 1997 chose Church of the Holy Apostles, the very place in which CBST was founded in 1973.

Some years later, Rabbi Kleinbaum came to us to say that it was time to think about moving out of our dark, hidden loft on Bethune Street and into a more prominent—and fabulous—space. And that we should own, not rent.

The first consultant we worked with said CBST was not ready. More donor cultivation and infrastructure were needed. Several years later we began to explore properties but quickly learned that the then overheated real estate market constantly passed us by, as condominium developers gobbled up every interesting site we visited.

But the market changed, as did our donor base and infrastructure, and we were ready to swing into high gear in the mid-2000's. Our effort was enormously aided by one person, David Wine, who not only pledged a lead gift to the Project—increased by multiples over the years—but also offered his real estate expertise and reputation, which enhanced our credibility.

Many leading architects vied for the job, and we chose well, Architecture Research Office, for their incredible skill and perceived patience. ARO is deserving of the national acclaim it has received in recent years. ARO conducted scores of meetings with congregants and others to ascertain what we needed and helped us evaluate dozens of sites during the many years that we have worked together. When we came upon the two commercial properties, a fur store and a handbag store, which were simultaneously on the market on West 30th Street a few years ago, ARO had the vision that this space could work, and you see the fruit of that vision today.

Fundraising and design took several more years, and at the start of that process, Board Member and trained architect Aari Ludvigsen agreed to take on the role of owner's rep, saving us hundreds of thousands of dollars, but more importantly, bringing to the job a commitment and passion that money could not buy. Aari oversaw innumerable decisions, seeking consensus at every turn, all the while focusing on the overriding need to bring the Project to conclusion. Scores of volunteers joined our dedicated staff and clergy to work on various phases of the project—fundraising, site selection and design and construction. We owe all much gratitude. And it has been a great privilege for me to serve with them.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Hibsher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William Hibsher

Dedication Committee Co-Chairs



The book you hold in your hands has been created to serve two purposes: to be a detailed guide through the activities surrounding the dedication of our new space; and a permanent record of this moment in time, of the people who sustain and define our community, and detailed information about the building and how we hope to inhabit it.

This is but one artifact of many that Congregation Beit Simchat Torah has produced over our forty-year history. We created our own *siddur*, and last year we published a lavishly illustrated volume that chronicled our rich history, a multi-generational journey from our founding in a post-Stonewall era, through the decades of AIDS to the legalization of same-sex marriage, a journey that has now brought us to this momentous occasion, the dedication of our permanent home.

During the six months leading up to this time, the Dedication Committee worked hard to plan and implement a series of events that would showcase the new space, and to describe a new world of activity for our congregation, one that was only dreamed of previously. The breadth of the talent in our congregation is remarkable, deep in the respect for ritual and lively in a talent for presentation, and many CBST members gave generously of their time and expertise. Through this work, we were always cognizant of the strength of our amazing staff and the visionary leadership and guidance of our clergy.

So read on! Marvel at the depth and breadth of commitment, of vision and dedication that surround us at CBST. Keep this book and treasure it, share it with your families and friends; for it catalogues who we are, what we do, and how we envision our future, a future we hope to share with you.

Cindy Rizzo

Jonathan Sheffer



Tekes - Gathering for a blessing before construction begins at 30th Street.
Photo by Meryl Meisler

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 2016

I send greetings to all those attending the dedication of your new synagogue.

No matter who we are, who we love, or what faith we practice, we all deserve a place to worship safely and freely. Our country was built on this founding ideal, and we must carry it forward by always treating one another with dignity and respect and upholding our responsibility as our brothers' and our sisters' keepers.

For over forty years, your congregation has contributed to the Jewish community in immeasurable ways—opening its doors as a house of prayer, learning, and refuge to those in need and those who are often left in the margins. Your work to unite people in a spirit of fellowship reflects the ways faith challenges us to envision the world as it should be: tolerant, accepting, and undaunted by change.

As you come together on this special occasion and recommit to the values you hold dear, I wish you all the best.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, consisting of a large 'B' and 'O' with a horizontal line extending to the right.



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

ANDREW M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

April 3, 2016

Congregation Beit Simchat Torah
130 West 30th Street
New York, NY 10001

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the Dedication Ceremony of Congregation Beit Simchat Torah's new synagogue.

Since 1973, this congregation has served the spiritual, cultural, and social needs of a flourishing and growing membership, fostering a greater appreciation of Jewish identity while encouraging charity, unity, and friendship throughout the Greater Metropolitan area. As the largest LGBTQS synagogue, you celebrate diversity as a progressive voice within Judaism.

Today, you come together to walk through your historic past to a promising future in the landmarked Cass Gilbert Building. On this festive occasion, I congratulate you on the eagerly anticipated completion of your beautiful new home. I commend everyone affiliated with this exciting project which will further enable your community outreach, serving as an inspiration to the grateful people of New York City who will welcome Congregation Beit Simchat Torah to its new neighborhood.

With warmest regards and best wishes for a memorable day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Cuomo".

ANDREW M. CUOMO

WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE
PERFORMANCE ★ INTEGRITY ★ PRIDE

printed on recycled paper

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3203

April 3, 2016

Dear Friends of Congregation Beit Simchat Torah:

As you gather today to formally dedicate your beautiful new synagogue, I join the entire congregation in celebrating this joyous occasion and paying tribute to the extraordinary contributions that Congregation Beit Simchat Torah (CBST) has made to New York.

This day has been many years in the making. Since its founding in 1973, when a small group of devoted individuals gathered to celebrate Shabbat and their shared identity, CBST has been a pillar of the LGBTQ community in our city. It has provided a place of worship and a sanctuary for thousands of New Yorkers, all of whom share in the desire to stand up for peace, justice, and equality for all. But for too long, CBST has had to do this without a permanent home for itself. Like the Israelites in the desert, CBST was without a home to call its own – until now.

Thanks to the remarkable efforts of your congregation and the generosity of your donors, CBST will now have a house of worship whose physical splendor matches its congregation's spirit. In this moment, I am reminded of God's instructions in *Exodus 25:8*: "You shall make Me a sanctuary so that I may dwell among them." These words remind us of the fact that although the Israelites are commanded to construct a magnificent *Mikdash*, God explicitly emphasizes that he will be among the people rather than in the building. For it is the community, not the physical structure, that makes the congregation. And this couldn't be truer for CBST and the wonderfully committed men and women who make up its community.

Over the years, CBST has provided not only a place of worship but also – in keeping with the great Talmudic tradition – a forum for robust debate and discussion. I know this firsthand from my experience as the keynote speaker during your Family and Friends Gay Pride Shabbat Service in June 2013. Not everyone agreed with my position that evening, but I will always appreciate the invitation to enter into a conversation in the face of disagreement, and the humanity, intelligence, and compassion that framed the discussion. I was even more impressed with the spirituality, Judaic pride, and community that pervades this special congregation.

Thank you for paving the way for so many in the LGBTQ community and beyond. Of course, none of this would be possible without the leadership of your terrific rabbi and my dear friend, Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, who for years has been a true asset to your congregation, the community at large, and our entire city. I am confident that in your new home, CBST will continue its longstanding tradition of promoting diversity and inspiring us all for years to come.

B'virvat Shalom,



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator

KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND
NEW YORK



UNITED STATES SENATOR

April 3, 2016

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to send greetings to everyone attending Congregation Beit Simchat Torah's Dedication Day Ceremony. Today represents the culmination of your hard work and extraordinary commitment to create a beautiful new spiritual home dedicated to prayer, the promotion of social justice and the advancement of progressive Jewish values.

I would like to thank the entire Clergy Team, Senior Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, Associate Rabbi Rachel Weiss, Rabbi David Dunn Bauer, Georgette Kennebrae, Alex Weissman, Joyce Rosenzweig, Larry Kay, Vladimir Lapin, Judy Ribnick, and Steve Zeidenberg as well as President Nathan Goldstein, Executive Director Yolanda Potasinski, the Board of Directors, past Presidents, Dedication Committee Co-Chairs Jonathan Sheffer and Cindy Rizzo, as well as the entire Dedication Committee and all of the synagogue's supporters for making today possible.

Since its inception in 1973, Congregation Beit Simchat Torah has opened its doors to all people and has been a model for inclusion and commitment to human rights. Today, Congregation Beit Simchat Torah continues to champion diversity and fight for the rights of LGBTQ individuals throughout the world. Your tireless work educates and strengthens the Jewish community to provide peace for all.

It is my hope that your efforts inspire others locally and beyond. Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,
Kirsten Gillibrand

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

April 3, 2016

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to all those celebrating the dedication and opening of Congregation Beit Simchat Torah's new home on West 30th Street.

New York is dependent upon faith communities that build firm foundations for our neighborhoods, uplift people in need, and forge paths to a brighter future. In addition to strengthening the rich fabric that unites our city, Congregation Beit Simchat Torah has stood as a pillar of leadership and steadfast support since 1973, providing a welcoming spiritual home for LGBTQ New Yorkers and a center of Jewish life and learning. CBST has demonstrated its tremendous care and compassion in the ways it has fostered the growth of its surrounding community and welcomed residents for times of fellowship, while also serving as a voice for social justice and equality and advancing human rights. As you gather to celebrate this important moment in the history of this congregation as well as its long legacy of service, I am delighted to commend its members for making an indelible impact in the five boroughs and beyond.

On behalf of the City of New York, *mazel tov*, and best wishes for a wonderful dedication ceremony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill de Blasio".

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

RANKING MEMBER

COURTS, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY,
AND THE INTERNET

CONSTITUTION AND CIVIL JUSTICE

**TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

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HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
RAILROADS, PIPELINES AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

ASSISTANT WHIP



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

JERROLD NADLER
10TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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2109 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
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NEW YORK, NY 10014
(212) 367-7350
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6605 FT. HAMILTON PARKWAY
BROOKLYN, NY 11219
(718) 373-3198

Web: www.nadler.house.gov

March 4, 2016

Congregation Beit Simchat Torah
130 West 30th Street,
New York, NY 10001

Dear Friends:

I am proud to join Congregation Beit Simchat Torah (CBST) in celebration of their historic synagogue dedication. I send my warmest regards as we commemorate both the dedication of the synagogue, as well as the inspiring CBST community itself.

For 43 years, CBST has been at the forefront of social justice. As a proud Jew and LGBTQ ally, I am grateful to CBST for creating a space where LGBTQ individuals can feel at home in our Jewish family. The small minyan that gathered for their first Friday night Shabbat service in 1973 is now the world's largest LGBTQ congregation, with 600 member households. CBST has built a welcoming and inclusive environment that I am extraordinarily proud to have in my Congressional district. Alongside the creation of this space, CBST has simultaneously been at the forefront of LGBTQ advocacy in religious and secular spaces for decades, working towards understanding and acceptance.

The dedication of this new synagogue represents the fruits of CBST's labor. The astounding financial and time commitments towards this beautiful three-story building are a result of the movement CBST leaders built. I am proud and honored to join CBST in celebration of such great achievements and inspiring leadership as we walk the Torahs to their new home on April 3, 2016.

I extend my congratulations to the Dedication Committee for their achievements, to Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum for her leadership, and to all Congregation Beit Simchat Torah members for their positive contributions to the greater community. On behalf of my constituents, I thank you for your excellent work and send you my best wishes. I wish you many more decades of services, simchas, memorials, learning, community, and social justice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerrold Nadler".

JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress



DEBORAH J. GLICK
Assemblymember 66TH District
New York County

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Higher Education Committee
Intern Committee

COMMITTEES
Environmental Conservation
Governmental Operations
Rules
Ways & Means

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum
Congregation Beit Simchat Torah
57 Bethune Street
New York, NY 10014

March 1, 2016

Dear Rabbi Kleinbaum and Fellow Congregation,

It is with great warmth and enthusiasm that I join in the dedication of the new Congregation Beit Simchat Torah (CBST). Symbolically, after 40 years in the desert without a home of our own, Congregation Beit Simchat Torah is dedicating this new space, as our permanent home.

As you know, the synagogue's historic journey started in 1973 with a few members, but has since grown into one of the largest LGBT synagogues in the world. Today, we celebrate our progress, as we leave our old location to become a greater synagogue in which future generations can gather in worship, service and thanks giving.

Throughout the years, CBST has stood on the forefront of social and humanitarian justice initiatives such as advocating on behalf of the LGBT homeless population or raising awareness on climate change. Congregation Beit Simchat Torah has long been a progressive and inclusive community. With the long standing open door policy for high holidays, and the unprecedented outreach, CBST has expanded its reach far beyond the LGBT community.

Please accept my warmest enthusiasm as I happily join you in celebrating this awe-inspiring dedication. Shalom!

Sincerely,

Deborah J. Glick
Assemblymember

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
INVESTIGATIONS &
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

COMMITTEES

AGING
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM, PARKS &
RECREATION
HEALTH
JUDICIARY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT



SENATOR
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27TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
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website :
hoylman.nysenate.gov

April 3, 2016

Dear Friends:

It is my honor to write in celebration of Congregation Beit Simchat Torah's official move to its new home on 30th Street. I have the privilege of being both a member of this community and its elected representative in the New York State Senate, and as such this joyous occasion touches me deeply.

CBST is a unique American and Jewish institution, and has provided crucial spiritual grounding for the LGBT Jewish community in New York for over forty years. It was beautiful and natural that its home should be in Greenwich Village, as it has been since 1975, long the beating heart of America's LGBT civil rights movement. But this is a homecoming as well, with CBST returning to Chelsea where the first services were held at the Church of the Holy Apostles and where 12 people dreamed this community into reality over the course of a Passover Seder.

It would be impossible to recount everything that CBST has contributed to New York, to American Jewry, and to the advancement of civil rights and social justice. Instead, please accept the best statement I am able to give in less than novel length: **thank you.** To Rabbi Kleinbaum, Rabbi Weiss as she moves forward on her wonderful journey, the many clergy members who have served this community, the board of trustees and everyone who makes CBST what it is - you have my profound gratitude.

Mazel tov on this wonderful simcha, and many more to come.

All best,

Brad Hoylman

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THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
JIMMY VAN BRAMER
MAJORITY LEADER
COUNCIL MEMBER, 26TH DISTRICT, QUEENS

CHAIR
CULTURAL AFFAIRS,
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COMMITTEES
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TRANSPORTATION
PARKS & RECREATION
PUBLIC HOUSING
HEALTH

April 3, 2016

Congregation Beit Simchat Torah
130 W 30th St.
New York, NY 10001

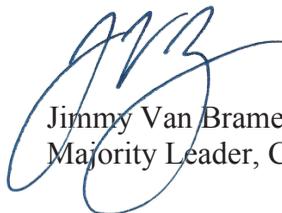
Dear Friends,

It is my great pleasure to send congratulations to Congregation Beit Simchat Torah on the dedication of their wonderful new space!

Since 1973, when it was founded by twelve gay Jewish men in Chelsea, Congregation Beit Simchat Torah (CBST) has functioned as a spiritual home for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community of New York City. Since then it has grown into the world's largest LGBT synagogue and with this new space, will grow even more. I commend CBST for their commitment to creating such a beautiful and well-deserved place of worship for all of their members. By way of prayer, social action and human rights work, generosity, education, and fellowship, CBST serves an essential position in our community – it is a spiritual anchor and a shining beacon of hope for many in this city.

As an openly gay elected official, I congratulate CBST on its new home, and its outstanding accomplishments and achievements. Please accept my deepest wishes for continued success. Mazel Tov!

Sincerely,


Jimmy Van Bramer
Majority Leader, Chair of Cultural Affairs



THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COREY JOHNSON
COUNCIL MEMBER
3RD DISTRICT, MANHATTAN

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COMMITTEES
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MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY,
ALCOHOLISM, DRUG ABUSE AND DISABILITY SERVICES
WATERFRONTS

April 3, 2016

Dear Friends:

I am thrilled and honored to congratulate and send greetings to Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum and the Congregation Beit Simchat Torah (CBST) on such a momentous occasion.

It is truly extraordinary that after so many years CBST will have a new home in the district I serve on 30th Street, in a beautiful landmarked Cass Gilbert Building.

Since 1973 CBST has been a progressive voice within Judaism, the LGBT community and of all people. Throughout the years they have offered healing, refuge and pastoral care to those in need. I commend CBST for their efforts to secure peace, justice and equality for all, serving the community with warmth and compassion.

I hope you will not hesitate to contact our office if in need, particularly since we will now be neighbors. I wish you the very best in your new home with many years of continued success.

Sincerely,



Corey Johnson
Council Member 3rd District

"The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."

A HOME OF OUR OWN

A CAMPAIGN FOR CBST

"Rainbow Entrance" on Bank Street, 1975 ▶

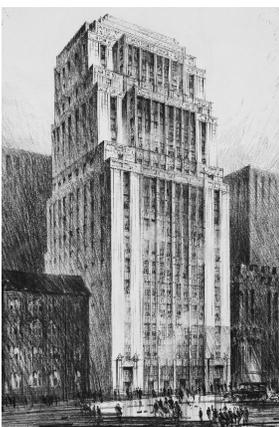


57 Bethune Street Westbeth, 1977 ▼



Photo by Meryl Meisler

- ▲ Shabbat Services at Church of the Holy Apostles, Chelsea
- ▼ 130 West 30th Street—Landmark Cass Gilbert Building



In 1973, thirteen Jews established a unique congregation. Today, with over 1100 members, thousands of supportive friends, and numerous institutional partnerships, CBST remains unique, committed, accomplished, inclusive and visionary.

In 2011, to fulfill a long-standing dream of a Home of Our Own, CBST purchased a 3-story, 17,000 square foot condo space in the landmark Cass Gilbert building at 130 West 30th Street. Plans for the major renovation to serve our needs were developed by ARO (Architecture Research Office). The design is beautiful, with meaningful details reflecting Judaism's traditional and contemporary approach to ritual, learning, and community.

Our New Home includes a prominent fifty-foot wide street level entry and upper and lower levels. This will be our own spiritual home with an inspiring 299-seat Sanctuary and an intimate Chapel. It will be our home for Jewish learning with classrooms for children and adults. It will be a home to celebrate life cycle events, with a Community Hall where we will share warmth and strength, laughter and tears, ideas and dreams, stories and food (of course). Our clergy, staff and volunteers will address the needs of our community in modern offices. Our doors will open wider than ever, as we pray, learn, build community and pursue ground-breaking social action and justice advocacy.

To take this project from dream to reality, the \$23 million budget includes site acquisition, construction and soft costs. Our goal is to complete the Home of Our Own campaign during this Dedication Year. To date, members and friends have committed \$20.5 million—a remarkable achievement

On the pages that follow, with deepest gratitude, we acknowledge Home of Our Own donors as of March 20, 2016. Nearly 1,000 donors have made commitments ranging from \$5. to over \$5,500,000. Each gift is meaningful, important, and appreciated. Each of us can support this project in our own way. There are significant naming, dedication and recognition opportunities available. Contact development@cbst.org.

Together, we have created our New Home. Together, we open our new doors to all. Together we continue changing lives and making history.



LOWER LEVEL NAMINGS & DEDICATIONS

KURIEL CHAPEL

dedicated by Esteban and Heymi Kuriel

ARK

dedicated in Memory of
Ralph Sheffer, Betty Rabinowitz,
and Douglas Sheffer, z"l

BIMAH

dedicated by Steven M. Fruh and
Paul L. Marsolini in Memory of
Loved Ones, z"l

NER TAMID

dedicated by Eric M. Ganz and
Neil R. Jacobs in Memory of
David Ganz, z"l

STUDY TABLE

dedicated by Michael Goldstein and
Alton Bader

EVAN WOLFSON COMMUNITY HALL

dedicated by The Milton and Tamar
Maltz Family Foundation in Honor of
Evan Wolfson, Architect of the
Movement for the Freedom to Marry

REICH-MARRAN ROOM

dedicated by David L. Reich and
Keith L. Marran

GAINES ROOM

dedicated by Barbara Gaines and
Aari Ludvigsen Gaines in Loving
Memory of Sophie and Michael Gaines
and Miles Ludvigsen, z"l

KESSLER-KARP ROOM

dedicated by Sari Kessler and Erika Karp
in Honor of our Children, Ruby, Hanna
and Molly

DRATFIELD ROOM

dedicated by Simon Dratfield and
Sherri Felt Dratfield in Memory of
Cornelius E. Felt and Marjorie B. Felt, z"l

HIBSHER-ORIENT ROOM

dedicated by William Hibsher and
Richard Orient in Memory of their
late partners, William Johnson, z"l
and Jeffrey Carples, z"l

EDUCATION OFFICE

dedicated by David, Patrick, Leora and
Younatan Bowers-Poulad in Loving
Memory of Our Father & Grandfather
Younatan Poulad, z"l

KITCHEN

dedicated by Erica Forman

MAIN RESTROOM

dedicated by Lou Rittmaster
in Memory of Irv Cooperberg, z"l

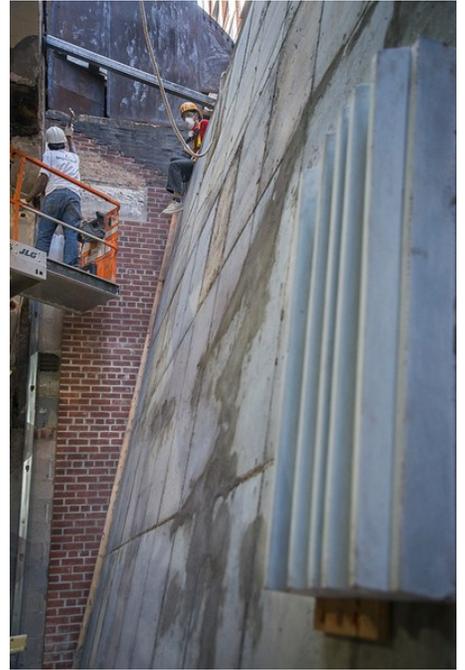


FAMILY RESTROOM

dedicated by Samuel W. Rosenblatt
and Mario G. D'Andrea in Honor of
our Children, Aidan and Jared

At CBST, we are proud of our diverse community which includes people of many gender identities and expressions. All our restrooms may be used by anyone of any gender. The Main Restroom features full-door private toilet rooms, two with changing tables. Sharing a restroom with people with various gender expressions may be new to you. Please treat each person here with the same respect you would anywhere else in the building. Refrain from commenting on someone's appearance or gender presentation, and from asking personal questions about someone's body—help make this a safe space for all.

PHOTO BY SUSAN E. MEYER



Skylight under construction. Photo by Esteban Kuriel

Sanctuary Vestibule. Photo by Esteban Kuriel



FIRST FLOOR - NAMINGS & DEDICATIONS

WINE FAMILY SANCTUARY

dedicated by David Wine & Michael MacElhenny
in Honor of the Many Branches of the Wine Family
in Loving Memory of Aaron and Beatrice Wine, z”l

SHEFFER FAMILY LOBBY

dedicated by Jonathan Sheffer

ADMINISTRATIVE SUITE

dedicated by Stephen Frank and Adam Berger
and Family in Loving Memory of Drs. Anna and Siegfried Spitz

PURPLE ROOM

dedicated by Nancy Alpert and Gwen Marcus

MEMORIAL WALL

dedicated by Dr. William H. Fern and Rev. John Bliss

BIMAH

dedicated by Congregants, Colleagues and Friends in Honor of
Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum on the occasion of her 20th Anniversary
as Rabbi at CBST, December 9, 2012 / Kislev 25 5773

NER TAMID

dedicated by Eric Rosenbaum and Pierre Vallet

BIMAH WALL

dedicated by Michael Sarkozi and Ron Shuma

SKYLIGHTS

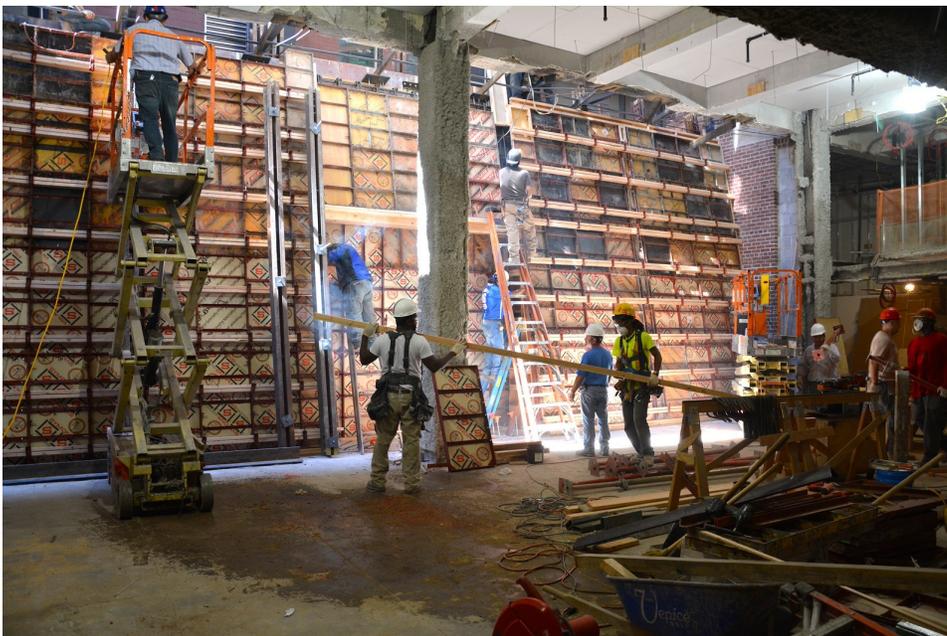
dedicated by:
Andrew D. Austin and Michael R. Sonberg
Robert Reuven Couturier
David G. Flohr
Linda A. Ginsberg

PIANO

dedicated by Marsha Melnick and Susan E. Meyer



Preparation of desks for Cooperberg-Rittmaster Rabbinical Interns, Clergy Assistants and Programming in the Clergy, Music and Social Justice Suite.
Photo by Esteban Kuriel



Wine Family Sanctuary Bimah Wall in preparation for pouring concrete. Photo by Jack Nieman

MEZZANINE NAMINGS & DEDICATIONS

CLERGY, MUSIC and
SOCIAL JUSTICE Suite
dedicated by Lee Traub and Phyllis Dicker
in Memory of Margaret (Peggy) Traub, z”l

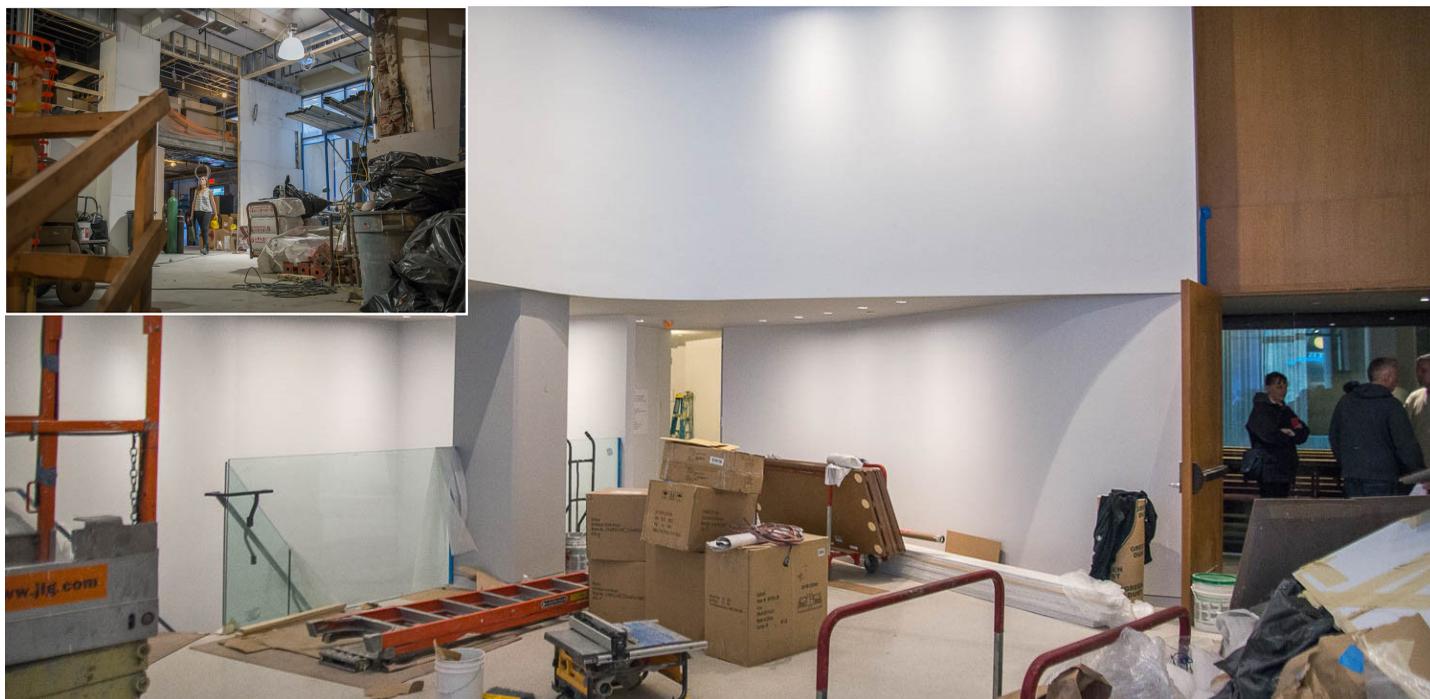
RABBI STUDY
dedicated by the Waldor-Long Family
in Memory of
Major General Jerome N. Waldor UASF, z”l

MUSIC ROOM
dedicated by Mark R. Winkler
in Memory of Charles Kaplan, z”l

ABOUT THE SYNAGOGUE

130 West 30th Street

Two pairs of lions, sculpted from terra cotta, bracket the building's entryways. The lions, like the edifice they guard, were designed by Cass Gilbert (1859-1934). Gilbert's masterworks include the Woolworth Building, one of Manhattan's most beloved skyscrapers, and the U.S. Supreme Court, with its sculptural depictions of lawgivers like Solomon and Moses.



PHOTOS BY ESTEBAN KURIEL

Sheffer Family Lobby

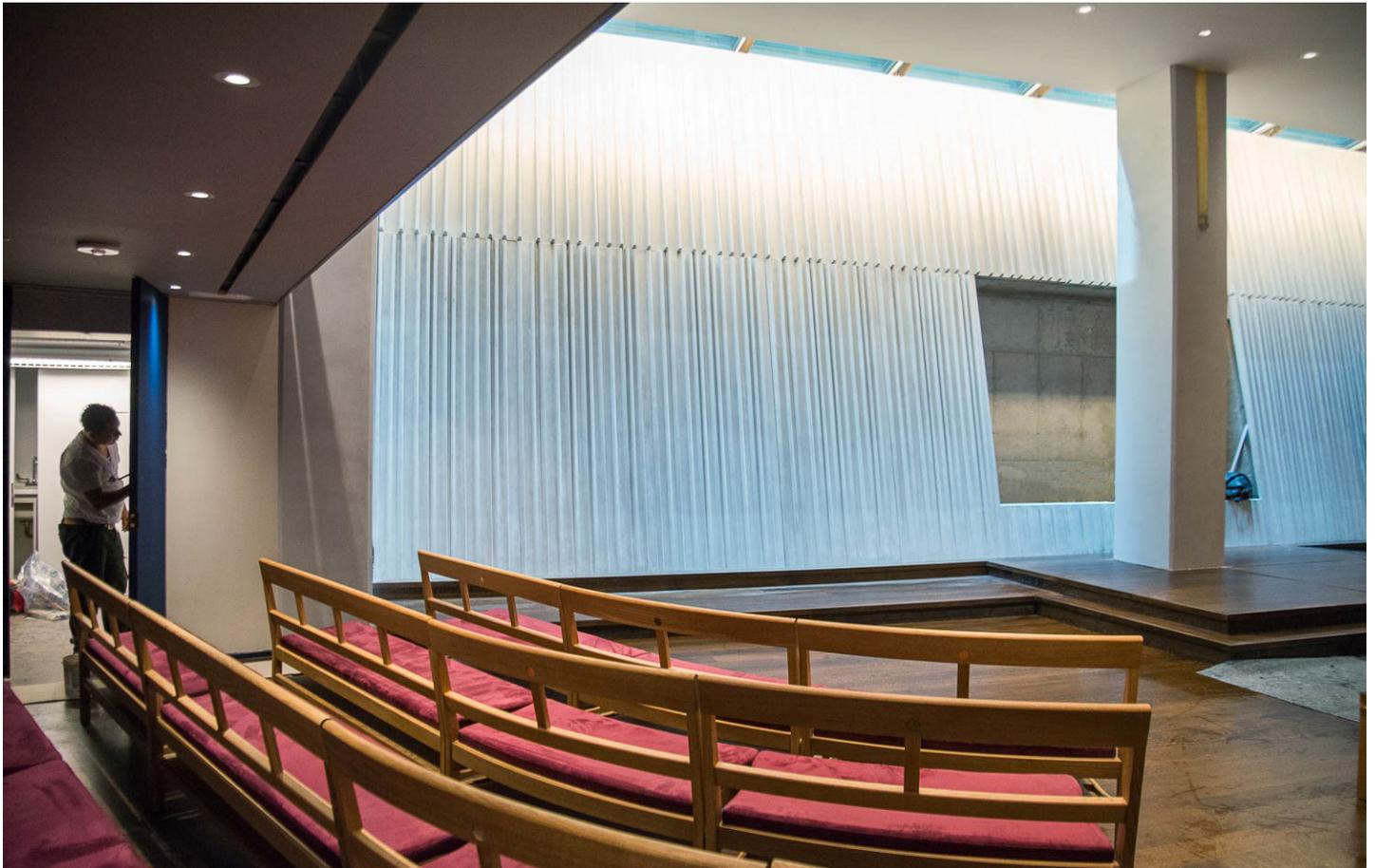
Nearly 900 square feet, with a 16-foot-ceiling, it is generous, welcoming, and bright. The lobby beckons with a 16-foot-tall sheet of purple glass, visible from the street and bearing the words *tov l'hodot l'Adonai* ("It's good to give thanks to the one above") from Psalm 92. This phrase also appears on the custom bronze door handles, on the woven panel of the sanctuary ark, and on the ark in the Kuriel Chapel. The names of all those who contributed \$1,800 or more toward construction appear on the east wall of the vestibule. The names of "major donors" — who gave \$18,000 or more to CBST's capital campaign — are printed on a wall of the main stairway.

Wine Family Sanctuary

The room is wide and shallow, allowing everyone to sit within 30 feet of the bimah. There is room not only for worshipers, but for a large volunteer chorus and a grand piano, reflecting the centrality of music to CBST. Instead of a single large piece of furniture, CBST's clergy requested a suite of "shtenders" (lecterns) and small tables, a reflection of a service style in which leaders and congregants feel as little separation as possible.

Pushing through the bimah is a column, helping to support the 18 floors of apartments above. The permanent column is the perfect support for a permanent light — the sanctuary's *ner tamid*

The room's back wall — 46 feet wide and 17 feet high — tilts out at 10 degrees, creating a horizontal gap that functions as a skylight, allowing sunshine to reach the bimah, and congregants to see the shifting light and weather. The tilted wall is faced with glass-fiber-reinforced concrete with striations that give it the look of a flowing drape. The pattern was developed with input from acoustical consultants. Its curves bounce sound around the room, helping to ensure that no one misses a song or a drash.



Emerging from the undulating wall is the holy ark, big enough to hold CBST's five Torahs. The ark has three layers: The outermost is a sliding panel of twisted oak staves, a modern "tree of life." That panel is closed when the room is used for non-religious functions. Behind it is a textile woven of silver and bronze threads, a kind of "soft architecture" from the workshop Hechizoo in Bogota, Colombia. And behind that is a parochet (the curtain that shields the Torahs), in the traditional Ashkenazi colors, wine and gold, but laser-cut in a pattern derived by Stephen Cassell from the floral motif on a frieze at the 14th century Synagogue of El Transito of Toledo, Spain — a deliberate nod to Sephardic tradition.

Hanging above the doors to the Wine Family Sanctuary are four Lions of Judah — two male and two female — framing a pair of tablets and a crown. Designed by congregant Walter Schwartz, the bronze artwork stood atop the ark in CBST's Bethune Street facility for 30 years.

The Wine Family Sanctuary is designed to serve more than one purpose. Its custom oak benches, designed by ARO and the British furniture maker Luke Hughes, can be stacked and rolled into storage. (Hughes believes they are the first curved wooden benches made to stack.) Then it can be used for seated dinners (including Passover seders), for dancing and the unrolling of the Torah on Simchat Torah, and for numerous other occasions.

At the back of the Wine Family Sanctuary, a floor-to-ceiling wall of gray glass bears the names of CBST members who have passed away. LEDs behind the glass are programmed to illuminate each name during the week in which the member died. Special memorials to those who died of AIDS and in the Holocaust are lit continuously. In addition, the Family and Friends memorial plaques from Bethune Street have been updated with LEDs and installed in the Kuriel Chapel.



Kuriel Chapel

It is designed to accommodate up to 90 people for services and simchas of all kinds, with suitably flexible seating. Part of the wall and ceiling are festooned with boards of steam-bent oak, which frame an ark and a ner tamid (eternal light) carried from Bethune Street. Across the room are a study table and a wall of books. The bronze ark doors in the Kuriel Chapel are from the Tremont Temple, Gates of Mercy in the Bronx. CBST acquired them in 1979, when that temple sold its building (now a Baptist church) and merged with a congregation in Scarsdale. Fittingly, the doors celebrate music — an important part of CBST since its founding. “Music,” says Rabbi Kleinbaum, “is central to my understanding of religious life.”

Mezuzot

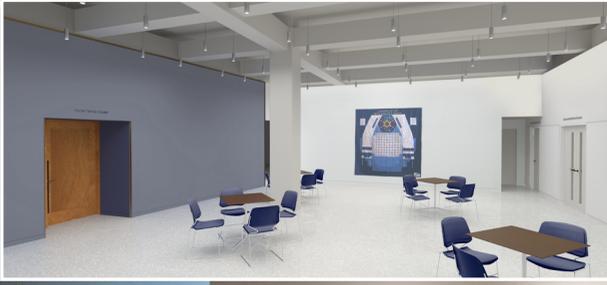
Bronze mezuzot used throughout the building bear impressions of doorposts of Jewish homes in Poland where mezuzot hung before the Holocaust. The Polish artists Mi Polin have made nearly three dozen such mezuzot, each with an address in Poland engraved on its side; this is the first time all of them have been used together in one building.

Justice

All restrooms at CBST can be used by anyone of any gender identity or gender expression. The main restroom has seven private toilet stalls with floor-to-ceiling doors. With building codes still requiring separate restrooms for men and women, CBST’s plan required a variance from the Buildings Department. In the congregation’s application for the variance, Rabbi Kleinbaum told city officials that “CBST seeks to provide, in its new construction, restroom accommodations that are safe, welcoming and inclusive of the gender identity of all of its employees, congregants and visitors.” With the variance approved, CBST established a precedent that has already been cited in other applications.

Accessibility

As a religious institution, CBST is exempt from the public accommodation requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, but it has chosen to meet — and sometimes exceed — those standards. For people with limited hearing, the Wine Family Sanctuary features an induction hearing loop. Sign language interpretation is regularly available at major services, and at other times by request. For people with sight limitations, suggestions made by The Jewish Guild for the Blind for lighting were incorporated into the design. For people with limited mobility, automated entry doors and a new elevator facilitate access, as does a ramp up to the bimah. Movingly, mezuzot throughout the building are placed low enough to be accessible from wheelchairs.



Evan Wolfson Community Hall

The stairs down from the main lobby widen into “bleachers” overlooking the Evan Wolfson Community Hall, dedicated by The Milton and Tamar Maltz Family Foundation in honor of the renowned architect of the movement for the freedom to marry. The community hall, a core space for activities at CBST, opens onto four classrooms with solid walls —none of those folding partitions of Hebrew schools past, which were difficult to operate and made important rooms seem temporary. The lower level also contains a kitchen that, ingeniously, is equipped to function as a classroom — lessons in baking challah and rugelach await.

Poetry

Embedded in the terrazzo stair treads are excerpts from a Walt Whitman poem that appears in CBST’s Siddur. (“I hear and behold God in every object . . . In the faces of men and women I see God.”) The full poem is printed on the wallpaper inside the elevator cab.

Sustainability

The Torah commands us to be good stewards of the earth. CBST’s new home takes that duty seriously. Tons of demolition debris were recycled. Forest Stewardship Council-certified wood was used for floors. Heating and air conditioning systems and lighting are among the most efficient available. Sinks and toilets are ultra-low-flow. As a result, the project is expected to receive a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) gold rating from the U.S. Green Building Council.

History

CBST will never forget its history. The main restroom and the elevator feature custom wallpaper by Alexa Mulvihill and Shana Faust depicting aspects of CBST’s first 43 years. And on the west wall of the vestibule is a statement of CBST’s origin. “In 1973 a minyan came together in defiance of the prevailing belief that it was impossible to be both deeply Jewish and proudly gay. The community that grew from that inspiration has become Congregation Beit Simchat Torah”

– Fred A. Bernstein

Fred Bernstein studied architecture at Princeton and law at NYU and writes about both subjects. He first came to CBST in 1979.

The Design and Construction Team

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Nora Yoo

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Adam Stehura
Michael Haddy

Silman
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Matthew Lytle
Pasquale Conte
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Kelvin Brown
Stanley Baclawski
Sam Lee

Romeo Hermogenes
Kevin Hyland

Altieri Sebor Weber
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FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERS

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Robert Louth
Steven Wilkie
Kari Nystrom

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LIGHTING DESIGNER

Suzan Tillotson
Mitul Parekh
Katherine Lindsay

Threshold Acoustics LLC
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Molly Norris
Rob James
Shane Jerome Kanter

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Dominic Borgia
Jeffrey Ludlow
Jessica Dobkin
Florian Mewes
Kelly Sung
Jie Yu

Atelier Ten
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Junko Nakagawa
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RITUAL ITEMS DESIGN

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Kathleen Lipp
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ARK CURTAIN CONSULTANT
Erik Bruce

Luke Hughes
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Stephen Sharp
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Duncan Taylor
Katie Spence
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Kathryn Weedon
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Edgar Sanchez
Amanda Torres

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Services LLC
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Sheryl Sori

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Partners, LLC
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Erin Rulli

Simpson Gumpertz & Heger
WATERPROOFING

Amrish Patel

Stages Consultants LLC
THEATER CONSULTANT

Alec Stoll

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Wood Flooring by Walsh
WOOD FLOORS
Joe Walsh



PHOTO BY SUSAN E. MEYER

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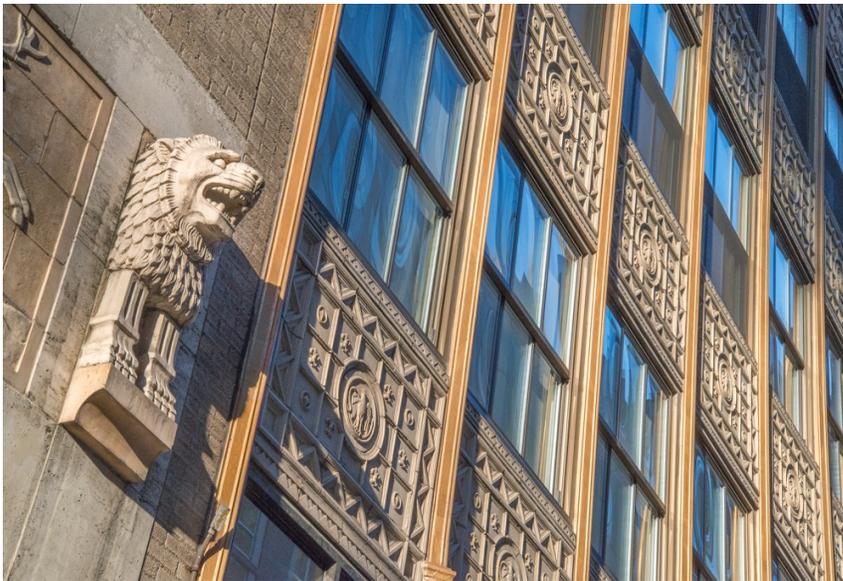
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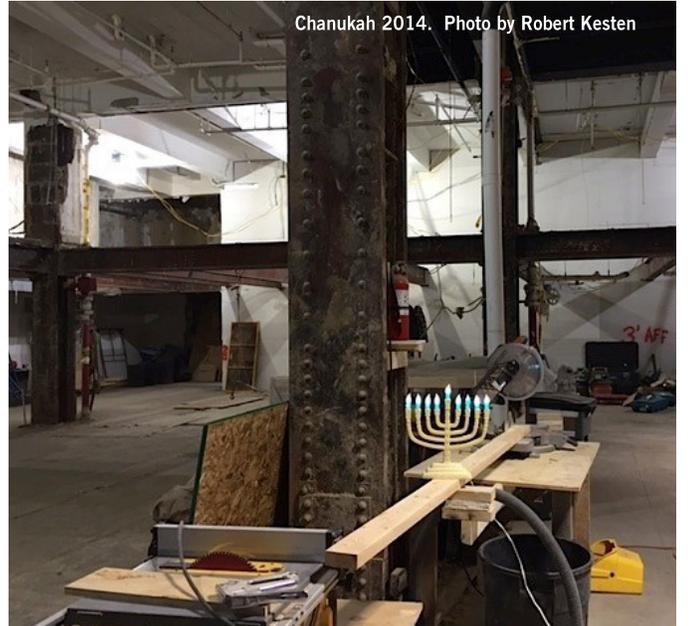
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Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen
Rabbi Roderick Young
Amos Gil
Ilene Sameth



Teaching in the 30th Street Sanctuary under construction.



Detail of landmarked Cass Gilbert Building Façade. Photo by Esteban Kuriel



Chanukah 2014. Photo by Robert Kesten

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CBST Timeline

- 1972** While leading a gay seder at the Church of the Holy Apostles, the idea of gay synagogue comes to Jacob Gubbay.
- 1973** Twelve attend a *Kabbalat Shabbat* service 8 PM, Feb 9, at the Church of the Holy Apostles in Chelsea.
- 1974** First monthly newsletter published in November; 400 copies printed.
- 1975** CBST moves to Westbeth in August.
- 1976** Isaac Bashevis Singer visits. CBST moves to current Westbeth space. CBST's first commitment ceremony.
- 1977** 201 attend International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews held at CBST.
- 1978** CBST's first Friday Evening *Siddur* is finished.
- 1979** First CBST chorus begins rehearsals; sings at *Rosh Hashanah* .
- 1980** New York City Comptroller Harrison J. Goldin at CBST.
- 1981** Education program with Village Temple, Conservative Synagogue of 1st Avenue, Derkh Amuno, and Town & Village Synagogue
- 1982** "Diseases That Plague Gays," first newsletter article on AIDS. 350 attend symposium on gay diseases at CBST.
- 1983** Tenth anniversary bash drew 275 attendees. Over 1000 attend High Holidays services.
- 1984** CBST is Jewish Week cover story.
- 1985** Mayor Ed Koch visits CBST.
- 1986** New York City's Stephen Wise Free Synagogue holds community-wide conference on gay and lesbian Jews.
- 1987** March on Washington, October 11. To accommodate High Holidays attendance, 2 services are held.
- 1988** *B'nei Jeshurun* Rabbi Marshall Meyer speaks at CBST. Renovations planned.
- 1989** Israeli *Knesset* member Shulamit Aloni at CBST. Renovations completed; 1400 attend High Holidays services.
- 1990** Mayor Dinkins speaks at CBST. Board votes to hire rabbi, begins search.
- 1991** Ten synagogues hold joint *Yom Hashoah* service at CBST.
- 1992** Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum installed. *Yom Kippur* services at Javits Center; 2200 attend.
- 1993** Twentieth anniversary celebrated. Bereavement group begins meeting. Rabbi launches adult education classes.
- 1994** Joyce Rosenzweig, Music Director creates Chorus. Cooperberg-Rittmaster Rabbinical Internship program begins.
- 1995** "The Future of CBST," an open brunch for all members, held in February.
- 1996** First annual *Shabbat Shira* concert. CBST sponsors trip to Jerusalem for city's 3000th anniversary.
- 1997** Member deaths from AIDS exceed 100.
- 1998** 20th Anniversary. UJA-Federation of NY 4-year adult education grant. Rabbi Benay Lappe launches *Lehrhaus Judaica* program.
- 1999** *Kabbalat* Service returns to Church of the Holy Apostles. Rabbi Roderick Young becomes first assistant rabbi. Ford Foundation grant underwrites Executive Director position.
- 2000** Tel Aviv City Council Member, out lesbian activist Mychal Eden speaks. Over 3400 attend Yom Kippur services at Javits Center.
- 2001** Amos Gil is first Executive Director. Solidarity mission to Israel. 6000 attend Yom Kippur services at Javits Center.
- 2002** CBST dedicates its cemetery, Cedar Park, N.J. Rabbi Ayelet Cohen of Jewish Theological Seminary joins CBST.
- 2003** Kollel Mispachah launched
- 2004** Marriage Clergy Pledge launched
- 2005** "Listening for the Oboe," collection of Rabbi Kleinbaum's drashot at CBST was published.
- 2006** A Reimagine Initiative is launched.
- 2007** Rabbi Kleinbaum named #19 on *Newsweek*TM s annual 50 Most Influential Rabbis list. Pilot edition of CBST Siddur released
- 2008** Rabbi Kleinbaum named #17 on *Newsweek*TM s annual 50 Most Influential Rabbis list.
- 2010** Rabbi Rachel Weiss become CBST Assistant Rabbi
- 2011** CBST acquires first home and launches \$16 million capital campaign.

In gratitude to all Home of Our Own Capital Campaign donors

We've done our best to create a correct, complete listing as of 3/20/16. We apologize for any errors or omissions; please let us know so that we can make amends.



In 2011, the contract to purchase 130 W 30th Street is signed. Present, clockwise from left: David Wine, Ilene Sameth, William Hibsher, Heymi Kuriel, Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, Steven Frank

\$5,500,000 +

David Wine & Michael MacElhenny

\$1,500,000 +

Heymi Kuriel & Esteban Kuriel

\$1,000,000 +

Dr. William Fern & Rev. John Bliss
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\$180,000 +

Adam Berger & Stephen Frank
Steven M. Fruh & Paul L. Marsolini
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\$100,000 +

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The Builders' Wall, located in the vestibule, acknowledges all Home of Our Own Capital Campaign donors of \$1,800 or more prior to the Dedication 2016.

This Dedication Book, distributed on April 3, 2016 and available throughout the Dedication Year, acknowledges ALL donors to the Home of Our Own Capital Campaign.

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The Dedication

APRIL 3, 2016 / 24 ADAR II, 5776

- 10 am Sharing Memories and Farewell at Bethune Street, our home for four decades
Noon Klezmer Music accompanying our Torahs on the Journey to their new Ark
1 pm Farewell to Church of the Holy Apostles, where we have held Shabbat services for two decades; the Church community sharing blessing in song to the CBST Torah procession
2 pm Ceremony of Dedication at 130 West 30th Street—our Journey brings us Home with inspiring words from community leaders, beautiful ritual as our Torahs enter our new Home, uplifting song by the CBST Community Chorus, and a “Fanfare for C-B-S-T” with brass & shofarot
3 pm Our new doors are open!

With our hallmark Open Door, we welcome all into our own home—Jews, those of other faiths and seekers; lesbian, bi-sexual, gay, trans, queer and straight people; those in need and those who will give of their skills, hands, hearts and funds to move our community, nation and world forward in justice and peace.

CBST celebrates this achievement with gratitude, “It is good to give thanks to Adonai.”

CBST Community Chorus directed by CBST Music Director, Joyce Rosenzweig

Julie Levinsohn Aarlev	Donna Gray	Marc Molomot
Marni Aaron Aarlev	Stacey Harris	Glenn Mones
Gary Adler	Dianne Hess	Julia Ostrov
Jonathon Adler	Susan Ingerman	Ellen Ratner
Yael Bat-Chava	Nora Isacoff	Rivke L. Reid
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Ilene Block	Sara Dena Kleinbaum	Ira Rosenblum
Mitchell Bloom	Karen Krop	Aimee Saginaw
Maya Orli Cohen	Josh Kruchten	Johanna Sanders
Yoav Davis	Philippe Lachkeur	Diane Temkin
Dan Ettinger	Rosanne Leipzig	Joyce Weinstein
Roberta Feldhusen	Paul Marsolini	Janet Zaleon
Roy Feldhusen	Barbara Meinwald	

“Fanfare for C-B-S-T” by Jonathan Sheffer

The “Fanfare for a Sacred Space: *C-B-S-T*” is a work written for this occasion. The piece, for three trumpets, two trombones and a mixed chorus of shofarot celebrates the excitement attendant on this gladsome occasion, while acknowledging the quiet, personal sacredness of a spiritual mission. It opens with blasts from the brass, like ancient sentries posted outside a religious landmark. There is a central section, more introspective, describing the purpose within the wall, and a joyous ending that culminates in an unruly response from scores of shofar blowers, whose joy is unrestrained. The main melody is derived from the letters C-B-S-T, which correspond to the tones C-Bb-E-F in the lydian mode, an ancient scale common in the tropes of Jewish prayer.

Trumpets: Matthew Mead, Josh Frank, and Sam Nester
Tenor Trombone: Michael Lormand
Bass Trombone: Jonathan Greenberg
Shofar Blowers: CBST Members and Friends in the Community

The Dedication

Congregations and Organizations represented at the CBST Dedication, April 3, 2016 *

14th St Y	J Street	Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
Ansche Chesed	JCC of Manhattan	Romemu
Bend the Arc:	Jews For Racial and Economic Justice	Sid Jacobson Community Center
A Jewish Partnership for Justice	Jewish Theological Seminary	Society for the Advancement of Judaism
Brotherhood Synagogue	Kerem Shalom	Stephen Wise Free Synagogue
Columbia/Barnard Hillel	Keshet	Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael
Congregation Habonim	Keshet: LGBTQ Jews at NYU	Temple Beth Tikvah
Congregation Rodeph Sholom	Kolot Chayeinu	Temple Israel of the City of New York
Fort Tryon Jewish Center	Lab/Shul	T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
Greater New York Labor- Religion Coalition	Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transgender Community Center	UJA - Federation
Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute of Religion	Ohel Ayalah	West End Synagogue
Hebro	Or Chayim	Yeshivat Chovevei Torah
	Rabbinical School of Hebrew College	

* Partial List, as of March 20, 2016

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Volunteers who were so generous with their time and skills to assist the CBST staff to sort, preserve, toss, shred, organize, proof and pack in preparation for the Dedication and the move from Bethune Street to 30th Street:

Julie Aarlev	Barbara Cohen	Pat Hewitt	Marsha Melnick	Elizabeth Sapareto
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שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת לַדָּוָד שְׂמַחְתִּי בְּאִמְרִים לִי בֵּית יְהוָה נִלְכָּה:

Samachtî b'omrim li beit Adonai neilech.

I rejoiced when they said unto me:

Let us go to the House of the Lord.

(Psalm 122)

We dedicate this page to Steve's parents and to all of you.

Steven M. Fruh and Paul L. Marsolini



Trudy and Justin Fruh, z"l

G-d bless CBST,
and all who seek community here.

—Jonathan Sheffer

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David Wine & Michael MacElhenny

With great pride and warm affection for our CBST
and with sincere thanks to so many people who,
over many years, have contributed to our success.

Bill Fern and John Bliss

Jonathan Sheffer

In Memory of
Yehuda Berger, z”l

Marc Waldor

Congratulations to the community of CBST.

We wish to particularly thank
the members and staff
who devoted their love and lives
to create your amazing new home.

It was a dream and
pleasure to work at your side.

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Dedication GOLD PAGE Sponsor

We are so proud to share in celebration with our community, with gratitude for the vision, commitment, creativity and generosity of all those who have brought the dream of a Home of Our Own to reality—clergy, staff, lay leaders, volunteers, consultants, and contributors—and with a special note of appreciation to William Hibsher and Aari Ludvigsen.

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We are proud to be part
of this historic accomplishment.

May our community continue to go
from strength to strength.

Esteban & Heymi Kuriel

ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH OFFICE
is honored to have
taken part in the making of
Congregation Beit Simchat Torah's
new home.



Elias A. Cohen Foundation
Noblesse Oblige

Dedication BRONZE PAGE Sponsor

When we met at CBST, in 1976,
we could not have imagined this day!

We are honored, blessed, proud,
and very grateful to be part of this journey.

May our congregation flourish in our beautiful new home
for many decades to come.

Ira Rosenblum and Kenneth Karpel



Exodus 25:8

וַעֲשׂוּ לִי, מִקְדָּשׁ; וְשִׁכַּנְתִּי, בְּתוֹכָם.

And let them make Me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them.

With heartfelt gratitude and in loving memory for those who had the vision, courage, passion and dream that one day we would have a "Home of Our Own." For as long as this "Home" stands, you will live on, for the fabric of your spirit resides.

MAZEL TOV...to those whose dedication and effort have helped make this dream a reality!

— Dvorah Stoll

CBST has become my spiritual home.

Each Friday night, as I walk toward the Church of the Holy Apostles for Shabbat services, I see the place where our community gathers to pray, sing, and learn. The physical structure no longer looks like a church to me - simply our community's home.

In reality, however, we share this space with worshipers of another faith, and it is not our own. On Friday, April 8, our community celebrates our first Shabbat in a home of our own.

How my spiritual home will grow and develop as we move into our own physical space is unknown, but the endless possibilities this change represents are transcendent, inspirational, and exhilarating.

Mazel tov, CBST, and welcome home!

Lee Jason Goldberg



Mazel tov to our entire community on achieving this historic milestone.
We are so thankful to all those who, over the past 43 years,
have helped us get to this moment, and we
look forward to the simchas that are to come.
It is an honor to be serving our community
as we transition to our Home of our Own.

CBST President Nathan Goldstein and First Husband Mitchell Davis

With gratitude to the legions
of donors, volunteers, staff and clergy
that has made our new home possible.

Bill and Richard

To Bill Hibsher & Richard Orient

For your amazing vision & commitment
to CBST's new home becoming a reality.

With love & admiration,

Sue Kanrich & family

Enlarge the site of your tent,
Extend the size of your dwelling,
Do not stint!
Lengthen the ropes, and drive the pegs firm.
(Isaiah 54)

With deep and profound gratitude to all who contributed money and time, talent and inspiration. To the living and the dead. To those who have come before and those who will come after. We pray for peace on this house of gathering. We pray for God's blessing on all who enter. May the work of our hands and the meditation of our hearts reflect the presence of God in all that we do within and beyond these walls.

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum and Randi Weingarten

Bless this house, O' God we pray . . .

Harry Lutrin

We are thrilled to celebrate this
great milestone
in the life of our community.

CBST has been
changing lives and making history
from our first Shabbat forty-three years ago
to this glorious day!

With profound gratitude
to all who have helped
us reach this moment as well as
those no longer with us but whom
we remember.

May we continue to go from strength to strength,

Marsha Melnick and Susan E. Meyer

Congratulations
to the CBST community
on this historic achievement.

Our new doors are now open wide.

Vicki Gail Price and Veda O. Luftig

On this happy day we emerge from the shadows. Open ownership in our society brings more power. We remember our families, children and friends who lived in the shadows during most of our lifetimes - the firings, the silence, the taunts to our children, the anger of some former spouses, the devastation of AIDS which destroyed so many lives.

CBST will always fight for the rights of LGBTQ and our straight friends. While many other synagogues accept us, our concerns and needs are primary at CBST. There is still a long struggle ahead. What rights we have can be taken away. Too many states still limit our freedom. We are confident that the younger generations will continue to fight for change.

Congratulations on our home of our own.

Rick Reder and Jack Nieman

As we dedicate our new home,
we take pride
in being part of
the CBST community and
look forward to many
fulfilling years of
worshipping and rejoicing
with our beloved congregation.

Cindy Rizzo & Jennifer Schwam

MANY THANKS TO THE CBST DEDICATION COMMITTEE

For it's tireless work to create a celebration worthy of this amazing occasion.

Jonathan Sheffer, Co-Chair

Adria Benjamin

Barbara Gaines

Bill Hibsher

Aari Ludvigsen

Patrice Ruel

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum

Rabbi Rachel Weiss

Rabbi David Bauer

Yolanda Potasinski

Joyce Rosenzweig

Ann Targownik

Tasha Calhoun

Doug Wingo & Staff

Babette & Bruce Roberts

It's been a pleasure to work with you.

Cindy Rizzo, Co-Chair

MAZEL TOVCBST

After more than 40 years of wandering,
we are home.

May many future generations find the
solace, acceptance and community
that so many of us have already.

הִנֵּנוּ

Hinenu! We are here!

Jayne Baron Sherman & Deborah Zum

מַה-נּוֹרָא הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה

Mah norah ha'makom ha'zeh

How awe-filled is this place (Genesis 28:17)

We are grateful and blessed
to have found so many places full of awe within CBST,
and we are grateful and blessed
to know CBST will always be among our many homes.

We are filled with joy and pride to be part of this sacred moment.

Rabbi Rachel Weiss, Julia Tauber
Hannah and Norah Tauber-Weiss

“There’s no place like home,
there’s no place like home,
there’s no place like home”
- Dorothy



In Loving Memory of Annette F. Miller, z”/
Long-time Member of the Building Committee

This is the fulfillment of Annette’s dream for CBST.

Elise & Perry Zimmerman
Jeffrey Miller & Laurie Magid
Sheila Averback & Katherine Keenan

When we joined the CBST community thirty-six years ago...
We could barely have imagined that we would reach this day!

מזל טוב

On the joyous dedication of our new home.

Andy Austin & Michael Sonberg

MAZEL TOV

Alton Bader
&
Michael Goldstein

“There’s No Place Like Home!”

Mazel Tov to the CBST Community

with love and gratitude,

Karen Benezra

With Deepest Gratitude
to the dedicated visionaries who brought us to this historic day.

L'Dor V'Dor

Dorothy Bowser and Elizabeth Unruh



*P.O. Box 369
56 Livingston Ave.
Roseland, NJ 07068
(973) 549-1900*

***Congratulations to CBST**
From your friends at Brown & Brown*

Thank you for considering us for your insurance needs!

Mazel tov on your new home!
CBST has always been a house of prayer for all peoples,
making New York City more welcoming and more just.
May your new, now permanent, home be blessed
with love, joy, and celebration - *titchadshu!*

With love,
Your friends at Central Synagogue”



MAZEL TOV
TO OUR ENTIRE COMMUNITY!

BARBARA DOLGIN & HANNA GAFNI

The boy from Iowa who first visited the "gay" synagogue on Bank Street in January 1976 came for good in 1979. Even then we dreamed of a space of our own, and I looked forward to being a part of the eventual fulfillment of that dream.



I served on the Board from 1986 to 1988. The second year I was treasurer, not because I was qualified, but because nobody else wanted the position. I was in fact merely a glorified bookkeeper using a handwritten ledger, but that is what we needed at the time. The most controversial issue was whether or not to hire our first staff person. In the end, we were not ready to take that step. Our dream was a distant dream.

Tonight, I salute all the leaders - rabbis and board members - who understood how to grow our synagogue to the point where we could bring this dream to fruition.

Let me also salute all who have supported our monthly Traditional Egalitarian service, which I have coordinated for almost 20 years. I am proud to be part of a synagogue that actively welcomes people from diverse Jewish backgrounds.

David Feinberg

A mazing
A rchitect
R eally can't believe the temple is finally here
I (Barbara) couldn't be more proud

L ovely
U have been working so hard
D ivine
V ixen
I (Simon) couldn't be more proud
G oing to see you more now!
S mart
E ven a 1/2 Aari is more than most
N o more meetings!

Aari Blake Ludvigsen Gaines
Congratulations!
We love you!
Barbara & Simon

Dedicated in Memory of our Beloved Friend
Annette Miller, z"l
whose spirit will always be with us.
Susan Ingerman & Arlene Spiegelman

MAZEL TOV TO THE CBST COMMUNITY,
AND TO CAPITAL COMMITTEE CHAIR BILL HIBSHER,
WHOSE STEADY LEADERSHIP HAS MADE
OUR DREAM OF A HOME OF OUR OWN A REALITY.

Marcy Kahn and Diane Churchill

Mazel Tov to our community as we enter our new home!

We are blessed with leadership both past and present
that made our dream a reality.

We are grateful for the tireless work of so many hands.

May we continue to go from strength to strength together.

V'asu li mikdash v'shachanti b'tocham

Make for Me a Holy Place so that My Presence may dwell among you.

(Exodus 25:8)

Lisa Kartzman & Janet Pavloff

Congratulations to CBST on moving to your new home!

We wish we could be with you, sounding our shofar, to celebrate this wonderful event.
No doubt this will have a profound impact upon the congregation.

A home all your own! What a wonderful thing.
May it be filled with the *shechinah*.
May you continue to find God's presence in each other.

Shehechyanu and *Mazal tov!*

From Levi Weiman-Kelman (rabbi) and Danny Savitch (executive director)
and the members of Congregation Kol HaNeshama in Jerusalem

L'dor vador
from generation to generation
with gratitude & love

Sally Kopstein & Lin Rosenbluth

Congratulations to All of Us
on this Milestone

Art Leonard & Tim Nenno

In Memory of Paul Kaplan, z"l
who took me to my first CBST Service, 1984.

Wendy J. Marks

Nancy Meyer & Marc Weiss
in Honor of All Who Have Built CBST

ועשו לי מקדש ושכנתי בתוכם

"Let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them."

Exodus 25:8

Congratulations to CBST, our clergy, our members,
and the countless people who feel that CBST is their spiritual home.
We are the most diverse, most energetic, most artistic, most influential,
and most welcoming congregation in this great town.
And for that, we all deserve a brand new home to call our own.

Mazel Tov,

Isaac & Andrew Mitchell-Namdar

Holy Place by Debbie Friedman based on Exodus 25:8

In gratitude and awe
to all those who came before us,
to all who are with us now
and to all future generations
that we hope will continue
to make CBST a Holy Place.

Yolanda Potasinski

These are the gifts that we bring
That we may build a holy place.
This is the spirit that we bring
That we may build a holy place.
We will bring all the goodness
That comes from our hearts
And the spirit of God will dwell within.

These are the colors of our dreams
We bring to make a holy place.
This is the weaving of our lives
We bring to make a holy place.
We will bring all the goodness
That comes from our hearts
And the spirit of love will dwell within.

These are the prayers that we bring
That we may make a holy place.
These are the visions that we seek
That we may build this holy place.
Let our promise forever be strong,
Let our souls rise together in song
That the spirit of God and the spirit of love
Schechinah, will dwell within.

It is a privilege to serve the CBST community and
an inspiration to share in this historic celebration.

Mazal tov !

Ann Targownik

WITH PRIDE
WE REMEMBER
THE PAST.

WITH HOPE
WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE!

The CBST Staff
2016 / 5776

As family and friends of CBST,
we join with the community in giving thanks
at the dawn of an exciting new era
in your beautiful new building.

Stephen P. Cohen and Elaine Shizgal Cohen

Mazal tov, CBST, on your new home!

We are thrilled to celebrate this momentous occasion in honor of our board members, William H. ("Bill") Fern and Eric Rosenbaum, our graduates Rabbis Sharon Kleinbaum, Rachel Weiss, and David Dunn Bauer, and the long line of Cooperberg-Rittmaster Rabbinical Interns who have trained with you from RRC.

Wishing you every *simcha!*

 RECONSTRUCTIONIST RABBINICAL COLLEGE AND
JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST COMMUNITIES

Mazel Tov! Rabbi Kleinbaum,
the Board of Directors
and the passionate, resilient
and dedicated congregants
who've provided the sweat-equity
to realize a permanent
home for Congregation Beit Simchat Torah.

CBST, thank you for 40 years
of spiritual guidance
to so many in our community.

Beth Applegate, MSOD



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change since 1996 through
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כִּי בֵיתִי בֵּית־תְּפִלָּה יִקְרָא לְכָל־הָעַמִּים:

“For my house will be called a house of prayer
for all people.”

Isaiah 56:7

The Academy for Jewish Religion
wishes CBST *mazal tov* on this milestone
and on their continued leadership toward
a more inclusive Jewish community.

*Training pluralistic rabbis, cantors and Jewish
leaders for 60 years.*



28 Wells Avenue | Yonkers, NY 10701 | ajrsem.org | 914.709.0900



Mazal tov, CBST,
on the opening of your brand-new
home. We are so inspired by
your tireless commitment
to the LGBTQ community.
UJA-Federation of New York
stands with you as an ally in
our joint effort to uphold the
Jewish values of inclusion and
acceptance of all.

UJA Federation
of New York
Good together.®

 ujafedny.org

 facebook.com/ujafedny

 twitter.com/ujafedny

 instagram.com/ujafedny



Welcomes CBST
to West 30th Street

CBST & J Levine Judaica—
Great to be close neighbors

Mazel tov!

5 West 30th Street
between Broadway & 5th Ave
levinejudaica.com

“There’s No Place Like Home.”

Robert Gorman
Howard Oboler

For our dear friends at CBST,

Thank you for modeling
warm, welcoming community.

We celebrate 43 years of opening new doors,
and wish you mazel tov on this occasion!



In honor of
Rabbi Kleinbaum,
Bill Hibsher,
the Capital Campaign Committee
and all the donors
for accomplishing
this amazing milestone
in the life of our Congregation.

Ken Krasney & Terry Hughes



To all of our friends
at CBST,
WELCOME HOME!

callen-lorde.org



/callenlorde

CalLEN LORDE
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

356 West 18th Street • New York, NY 10011

WE ARE BLESSED
TO BE PART OF THE CBST FAMILY
AS WE MOVE INTO OUR NEW
W. 30TH ST. HOME

MARK LEIDER
FRED MIGGINS
HOWARD REBENSTOCK
STUART STERN & STEVE ELSON

שְׂחַחֲנוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזַמַּן הַזֶּה. (אָמֵן)

Adele & Sheldon Lobel
congratulate
Congregation Beit Simchat Torah
and our wonderful friends
William Hibsher and Richard Orient

Anonymous

Herbert Zohn
In Memory of Dr. Benjamin Zohn

Emily Bernstein Dunkel
#1 Bat Mitzvah in CBST's new home
- we are so proud, Mom & Mimi

Leslie Bernstein & Fran Dunkel

Congratulations CBST on your new home!
May it be a space full of love, learning,
and pursuing justice.

Stosh Cotler and
all of your friends at Bend the Arc



Mazel Tov!
Honored to have played a small part
in making this possible.

Nick Hanzel-Snider & Family

טוב להודות

Tov I'hodot
It is good to give thanks!

Adria Benjamin and Laurie Rhodes

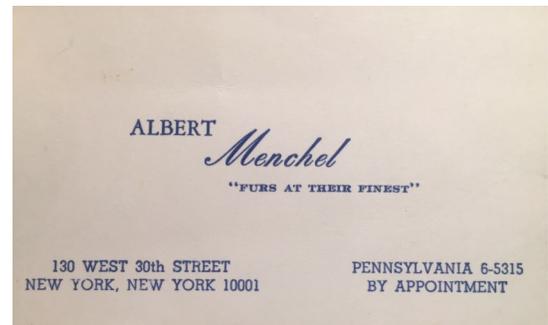
Best wishes.

Ryan Karben

With pride and appreciation
for all those who made this happen
and for those who came before us.

- Eric R. Cohen

In Memory of My Grandfather, z"l



Allison Drew Klein

L'chaim to CBST!

Miri and Joseph Colvin
Andrea Bass, Dr. Douglas Bass, MD,
and Jonathan David Bass

Samuel A. Klein, z"l
Feb 9, 1926 - September 3, 2015

A life well lived and well loved.

He certainly would've loved this!

Allison Drew Klein & Lisa Ayn Padilla

Mazel tov to the entire CBST community
& to our favorite Rabbi on your new home!

Michele & Paul Kleinbaum

Mazel Tov!

We look forward to celebrating
many simchas over the coming years
at this beautiful new home!

Brian, Toby and Anna Rubin-Sowers

WITH YOU INTO THE FUTURE

b'Sha'a Tova

SHARI and DEBBI

Jewish community is about love and family.
That's what I found here at CBST.
I may be West Coast, but CBST is the home
where I grew up, and you all remain loving family.

MAZAL TOV to my friend and colleague
Reb Sharon and to my CBST mishpachah
on this wonderful milestone.
May you continue to inspire love, family, courage,
justice, warmth, compassion, community,
spiritual depth and shalom.

Rabbi Dr. J.B. Sacks

Proud to be a part of the CBST family
at this momentous time.

Alan Landsberg and Bob Beal

For a blessing,

Families Singer,
Kinsbrunner and Thaler

Mazal Tov to CBST
and the entire community
on this remarkable milestone.

Gabe Most

“There’s no place like home.
There’s no place like home.
There’s no place like home.”
Dorothy Gale, *The Wizard of Oz*

Welcome home CBST!

Wylie G. Tené

We carry the memory of our friends
on a remarkable journey.

Leah Trachten and Regina Linder

with love--and joy--and gratitude,
Ellen Wertheim and Joanne Jacobson

Michele Trester

Jean Wright

DREAMS REALLY DO COME TRUE

Bill Wahler & John Archer

Saul L. Zalkin and Cedric Walker

LAW OFFICE OF JILLIAN T. WEISS, P.C.

JILLIAN T. WEISS, ESQ.

ATTORNEY AT LAW

TEL: (845) 709-3237
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P.O. Box 642
TUDEDO PARK, NY 10987
WWW.JTWEISSLAW.COM

Dedicated to the Ludvigsen-Gaines Family
Mazel Tov for all the amazing work you did
to build the new temple and to celebrate its opening!
I wish we could be there to see it and celebrate with you.
We love you guys so so so much!

Nancy, Walter, Jane & Abby

Dedication Messages

Anonymous

I'm old enough to remember
going to the first "gay services."
We've come a long way!
Bruce Green & Barry Karas

Mazal Tov to Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum
and the entire CBST community.
May your new home fill you with inspiration
as you have inspired so many of us.
Rabbi Carie Carter, Park Slope Jewish Center

I'm filled with pride, gratitude and love
for our new home built on the
fiery, invigorating, inspiring and healing memories
from Bethune and Church of the Holy Apostles.
Jinny Henenberg

Here's to the next 43 years and beyond!
Proud to be a member of CBST for the last 35 years!
Happy with the friendships that were
forged over the years.
Amy Chasanoff

May we continue to create a warm,
enriching and intergenerational space
for our vibrant community.
Mazel tov from Keshet: LGBTQ Jews at NYU!

It has been an honor to be a member over 40 years
and to watch our growth.
May we all enjoy a blessed future.
Mazel Tov!
Phyllis Cooper

J Meaney and B Savits and family

In Memory of My Parents – Holocaust Survivors
Pearl Fisk

We are so glad to be present after such a long journey.
May this new home be a place
for our community to thrive.
Eric Rosenbaum & Pierre Vallet

Donated in memory of Yehuda Berger, z"l
who was linked with CBST ever since it began.
Eric I. Friedland

"You have given us the strength to
witness and create wonders..." Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen
Mazel Tov on our 40+ years of community
and our new home. Hazak, Hazak!
Laurie Siegel

Our dream has come true.
Home is where love resides, memories are created,
friends always belong and happiness never ends.
May peace and love move in with us!
Sharon Golub

Shehechianu for all of us
upon reaching this wonderful new season
in our communal life.
With Joy & Gratitude,
Judith Tax & Rabbi Nancy H. Wiener

Dedication Messages

In Memory of ANNETTE MILLER, z"l
of Blessed Memory
Nancy and Frank Allen

Couldn't be more proud!
Rabbi Guy Austrian & Rabbi Jill Jacobs

The dream has become a reality.
Mazel tov!
Jason Bernstein

After 40 years (Mark) and 20 years (Glen):
"We are thrilled to participate!"
Mark Black & Glen Leiner

PRIDE & LOVE
from Rita Fischer

In Honor of CSBT
Founders, Leaders, and Rabbis
Deborah Friedman & Joyce Klein

1973-2016 ... we made it to the Promised Land!
Mazel Tov!
- Ruth Gursky

Congratulations to all who helped
make this dream a reality.
- from Jen, Laurie, Adam, and Gabriel

Mazel Tov!
Gary Kaufman

Finally, a place of our own to call home!
Marge Kaufman

"This is the day God created.
Let's rejoice in it." (Ps 118:24)
Neal Kaunfer

In Memory of My Parents:
Chaim Kimchy, Rosa Kimchy, and Lea Kimchy, z"l
Assaf-Barry Kimchy

LAB/SHUL
www.labshul.org
is honored to send radical rainbow
love, pride and congratulations!

Thanks mom,
for sending me to CBST on 4/20/1973.
Rick Landman

Mazel Tov!
Enjoy your new sacred space.
Rabbi Lynne Landsberg

Mazel Tov to our whole CBST community!
Cindy E. Levitz

Mazel Tov to all at CBST,
and a special thank you to Rabbi Kleinbaum!
Ed Linderman & Sandy Levitt

In Memory of our Brother Marc Janover.
He would be so proud! Mazel Tov!
Melanie Lipson

with you in spirit & across miles
~ Steve Marsden, z"l & Rebecca Rosenbaum

Harvey Mesnikoff

We are excited to be part of this new day.
Lea Rizack & Jane Spielman

Congratulations to everyone who helped
build this beautiful new home.
We're so grateful to you!
Jonathan & David Shmidt Chapman

Our new marriage. Your new home.
Mazel tov to all!
Glenn and Joe Silver-Souza

Home is where the heart is...and I'm home.
Curt Wagner

Mazel Tov to Congregation Beit Simchat Torah!
After 40 years of wandering I'm home!
Shep Wahnnon

In Honor of Our Lifetime Together
Myron & Philip

Dedication Contributors

Ava Alterman	Stanley Pearlberg
Rafaela Anshel	Julia Porper
Tara Apley	Daniel M. Posener
David Asch	Amy Prince & Robin Schatell
Andrew Blecher	Phyllis D. Ravinett
Shayna Caul	Geoffrey Rogers
Terry Cramer	Daniel Rowen, Stuart Sproule & Parker Sproule
Carol de Fritsch	Marilynn & Richard Rowen
Elizabeth Deutsch & Lizbeth Dornfeld	Richard Sacher & Stanley Wilson
Lee & Ira Donenfeld	Elizabeth Sapareto
Lawrence Finkelstein	Mark Saretsky
Jay Fischer & Michael Lehrman	Abbe Shapiro
Nicole Fix	Saul Shapiro & Michael Sanchez
Wendy Freund & Lee Schlesinger	Jack Sherratt
Daniel Friedman	Jonathan & David Shmidt Chapman
George A. Golden	Robert Sholiton
Steven Goldschmidt & Stacy Sussman	Eileen Shrem
Matthew Gore	Malissa Smith
Lisa Green & Yael Bat-Chava, Jonathan, Talia & Arielle	Merryl Soloway
Rabbi Reuven Greenvald	Phyllis Soonachan
Ann Gregory	Jessica Stark
Kim Haviv	Sheila Trachtenberg
Mark Joffe	Michele Trester
Larry Joseph	Joan Treistman
Barry Karpel and Alan Levy	Brandon Wang
Assaf-Barry Kimchy	Sandy Warshaw
Maryann King & Beth Rosen	Scott Wasserman
Alix Kucker & Gail Rothstein	Colin Weil
J Levine Judaica	Seth Weiner & Ngoc Nguyen
Michael Levine	Jeffrey Weiss
Shari Moidel & Doreen Vargas	Rachel Wolff & Patricia Voight
Jeremy Nagel & Chaski Naor	

Beit Simchat Torah CONGREGATION

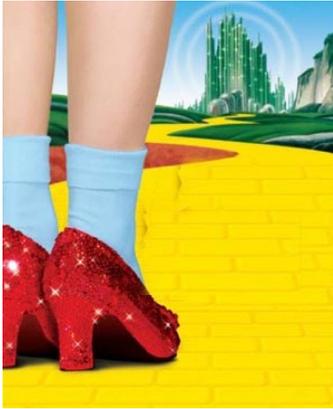
The CBST 21st Annual Shabbat Shirah Benefit CONCERT

Sunday, May 22, 4:00 PM

130 West 30th Street
New York NY 10001-4004

Proceeds benefit MUSIC at CBST

קהלה קדושה בית שמחת תורה



“There’s No Place Like Home”

This year’s Shabbat Shirah Concert will be a moving, unforgettable musical celebration of our long-awaited Home of Our Own. The Concert will feature selections from musical theater, choral and chamber music, Jewish sacred music, and songs in Yiddish, illuminating CBST’s mission as an LGBTQS house of prayer, learning, culture, healing, and celebration, and its deep commitment to social justice.

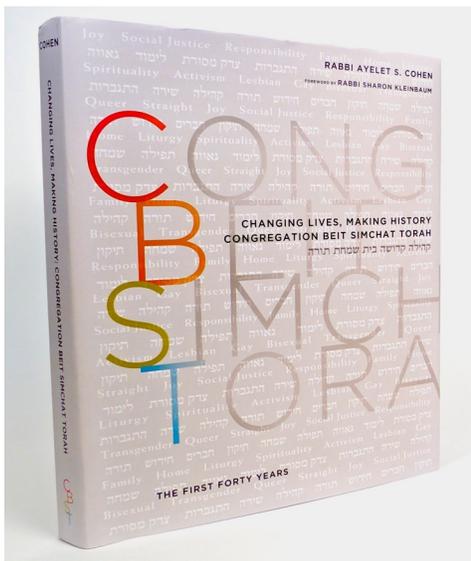
The CBST community honors our presidents:

Dr. Nathan Goldstein, and past presidents, Harriet Beckman, Mark Bieber, z”l, Irving Cooperberg, z”l, Stephen Frank, William Hibsher, Lisa Kartzman, Michael Levine, Arnold Mandelbaum, z”l, Yolanda Potasinski, Melvin Rosen, z”l, Eric Rosenbaum, Arthur Strickler, z”l, Mike Vine, and Bill Wahler.

These leaders and visionaries have guided our community with dedication and love, helping to bring us to this exciting, historic Dedication Year.

The Concert will be an afternoon of sublime music and well-deserved tributes. A Reception for honorees and sponsors will precede the Concert. A Reception for all attendees will follow the Concert.

Read about the remarkable journey, “Changing Lives, Making History: CBST—The First Forty Years”



written by Rabbi Ayelet S. Cohen
with Foreword by Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum
—a magnificent 320-page 8”x10” full color,
lavishly illustrated, hard cover volume—

“...an historic work, important for anyone interested in the movement for LGBTQ rights, progressive religious life, and the dramatic events that continue to define social, political, and religious dynamics today.”

Available at CBST 130 West 30th Street
during the months of April and May 2016
or online through amazon.com \$50

Contributions and proceeds from sales
benefit CBST’s Historic Archive Fund

Dedication Week Schedule + A Look Ahead ...

Monday, April 4
 Noon—2:00 pm **Guided Tours**

Tuesday, April 5
 Noon—2:00 pm **Teachings with our 3 Rabbis + Lunch & Tours**
 5:00—6:00 pm **Guided Tours**
 6:00—8:00 pm **Teachings with our 3 Rabbis + Nosh & Tours**

Thursday, April 7
 Noon—2:00 pm **Guided Tours**

Friday, April 8
There will be 2 services on this Shabbat only; Advance Registration is Required
 6:00 pm **Earlier Shabbat Service**
 8:15 pm **Later Shabbat Service**

Note: Starting April 15, **Kabbalat Shabbat Services will be held every Friday at 6:30 pm. All are welcome, without registration or charge!**

Saturday, April 9
 10:00 am **Saturday Morning Shabbat Service with Bat Mitzvah followed by Kiddush**

2016 is a historic year as we dedicate CBST's new Home of Our Own and dedicate ourselves to ancient and contemporary Jewish and LGBTQ values.

Visit www.cbst.org, stop by or give us a call about the array of programs through out the year—Adult Education, Family and Children's educational programs, Social Justice initiatives—and the lifecycle, pastoral care, spiritual guidance, social & cultural programs, Aleinu (20s & 30s), Mishpachah (55+), Shabbat Dinners and more. CBST offers a Fair Share Membership program.

A Taste of things to come...

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| APRIL: JOURNEY | Friday, April 15 Mishpacha (55+) Welcome Dinner
Saturday, April 16 Family Retreat Day in the City
Saturday, April 22 Passover Community Seder
Saturday, April 30 Pesach Yizkor Service |
| MAY: MUSIC | Wednesday, May 4 CBST hosts Community Yom Hashoah Observance
Friday-Sunday, May 6-8 Maimouna Nehirim Adult Retreat
Sunday, May 22 21st Annual Shabbat Shirah Benefit Concert: "There's No Place Like Home" |
| JUNE: PRIDE | Friday, June 10 Celebration in Honor of Rabbi Rachel Weiss
Saturday, June 11 PRIDE Families with Children Shabbat
Friday, June 17 PRIDE Family & Friends Shabbat
Friday, June 24 PRIDE Shabbat
Sunday, June 26 CBST participates in PRIDE March |
| JULY: JOY | Shabbat Dinners continue for Summer in the City |
| AUGUST: COMMUNITY | Tisha B'Av—Destruction / Remembrance / Hope |
| SEPTEMBER: LEARNING | Limmud B'Shabbat Family Education Program
Elul: Return & Renewal |
| OCTOBER: DAYS of AWE | October 2/3/4 Rosh Hashanah
October 11/12 Kol Nidre / Yom Kippur |
| NOVEMBER: SOCIAL JUSTICE | "Justice, justice shall you pursue." (Deut. 16:20) |
| DECEMBER: RE-DEDICATION | Friday, December 30 Shabbat in Chanukah
Saturday, December 31 Havdalah with Time Capsule Installation & New Year Celebration |

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