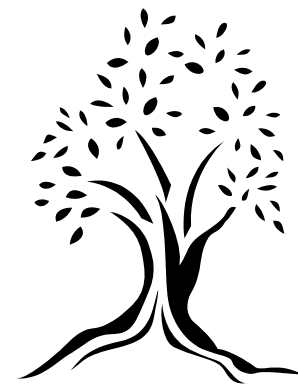


# The Little Minyan Newsletter



Jan — Feb 2012

Volume 1, Issue 2

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*Tu B'Shvat is coming!*

Interested in helping with the newsletter? Contact Sharon at 614-263-7522

**Bi-monthly e-news for the Little Minyan Community**

**From the Social Action Work Group...**

## More Ways to Help

The Little Minyan has been active with the Community Resources Center (CRC) in Clintonville for several years. We will continue to meet there to help out as we have been, but now a new opportunity for supporting the CRC has presented itself.

Various religious groups have been serving dinners for CRC clients on Tuesdays once a month. They currently do not have volunteers for the fourth Tuesdays that fall in months when there are five Tuesdays in a month. January is one of those and The Little Minyan has committed to serve dinner on the fourth Tuesday this month – January 24.

About 30-40 people attend these dinners. After the clients eat, volunteers and staff members can serve themselves and join the guests. Volunteers are encouraged to come and mingle with the guests at these very dinners.

So, how can you help? First, food donations are needed. You can bring food in around 5:30-6, but if necessary, you can bring it in ahead and put it in the small kitchen's refrigerator (if it is cold) or in the oven (if it is hot). Please label

your donations with your name and the contents of the dish. Main dishes, such as brisket, chicken, or a veggie alternative, are welcome as are side dishes like salad and, of course, desserts.

Volunteers are also needed that day at 6:30 p.m. to unload food deliveries from the Mid-Ohio Food Bank. These are usually heavy bags, so strong backs are needed.

Please let me know by January 12 if you will be cooking (and what dish you can bring) or unloading food. The CRC is located at 14 W. Lakeview (off High St., 4 blocks south of North Broadway). If you have questions, call me at 267-1341 or via email at [mcseltzer@wowway.com](mailto:mcseltzer@wowway.com)

Many thanks to the volunteers who joined me at the CRC in December – Eric, Lynley, Jacob and Sarah Anderman and Mike and Toni Selsley.

Micki Seltzer

*Have a story to share? Submit via email to [stiniano@columbus.rr.com](mailto:stiniano@columbus.rr.com) by February 26 for the March/April issue.*

## Calendar for January and February

### Worship Services:

- Friday, January 13—Peace & Pizza Erev Shabbat, 6:15 pm dinner; 7:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; 7:30 pm evening service; see page 3 for details
- Saturday, January 28—Shabbat morning service, 10 –11:30 am followed by dairy potluck lunch and discussion of the weekly parshat
- Friday, February 10—Souper Shabbat Erev Shabbat service, 6:15 pm dinner; 7:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; 7:30 pm evening service
- Saturday, February 25—Shabbat morning service, 10 –11:30 am followed by dairy potluck lunch and discussion of the weekly parshat

Unless otherwise noted, all worship services will be held at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 2070 Ridgecliff Road, Upper Arlington. Non-members are always welcome.

### Meetings:

- Monday, January 16—Advisory Council Meeting, 7:30-9:00 pm; 17 Aldrich Road in Clintonville; contact [stiniano@columbus.rr.com](mailto:stiniano@columbus.rr.com) for information
- Monday, February 20—Full Community Meeting, 7:00-9:00 pm; Northwoods Bldg, 2231 N. High Street, Columbus, 43201; contact [stiniano@columbus.rr.com](mailto:stiniano@columbus.rr.com) for information

### Holidays & Events:

- Saturday, February 4—Tu B'Shvat Seder , 2-4 pm; Antrim Park Shelter House, Olentangy River Road

### Social Action:

- Tuesday, January 29— Clintonville Community Resource Center, 7-9 pm
  - Thursday, February 22— Clintonville Community Resource Center , 7-9 pm
- Feel free to come whatever time you can make within the 7-9 p.m. framework. The CRC is located at 14 W. Lakeview (off High St. , 4 blocks south of North Broadway.) in Clintonville. Please let Micki Seltzer know if you are planning to come by calling 267-1341, or sending an email to [mcseltzer@wowway.com](mailto:mcseltzer@wowway.com)

### Adult Learning

Date, time and place to be announced! Watch for an email or check the website—Join us to watch the movie Left Luggage, followed by a discussion. Contact [PeggyBrgr@gmail.com](mailto:PeggyBrgr@gmail.com) for more information.

For the most up-to-date calendar information, visit the website at [www.littleminyana.org](http://www.littleminyana.org).

***Pesach is coming!***

Volunteer to help plan our community seder  
by contacting David Sapper at [davidbsapper@gmail.com](mailto:davidbsapper@gmail.com)

## New Year, New Ideas

We are always trying new things at the Little Minyan. Here are few that are coming up:

### Peace and Pizza

Join us for a new spin on Shabbat on Friday, January 13th. We will host a Peace and Pizza Shabbat to bring warmth and light to the dark winter days. We will begin with dinner at 6:15; please bring a salad or dairy side dish to share - pizza and beverages will be provided. Kabbalat Shabbat will follow at 7 pm and will be filled with ruach and song. At 7:30 pm our evening service will begin and it will conclude by 8:45 pm.

We are excited to have families and all minyanites join us for as much of the dinner and service as they can. Please do arrive when you can and feel free to leave when you need to.

If coming to the dinner, please RSVP to Emia Oppenheim at 267.5974 or [eo10@cornell.edu](mailto:eo10@cornell.edu) by January 10th. .

### Social Action

Thanks to everyone who completed the social action survey, your responses were very helpful in informing the social action work group. There has been a lot of enthusiasm for the work we have been doing and some great suggestions for future planning.

Areas of volunteer work our members contribute to - separate from the Little Minyan - include working in a variety of ways to be sure those in need have food available to them, career coaching, teaching reading to adult learners, teaching English as a second language, and volunteering at the library and with animal rescue shelters.

For the Little Minyan in the upcoming year, the work group has agreed to focus our efforts to fit the size and interests of our membership while building our cohesiveness as a community. Please see the article on page 1 about the opportunity to

work in a different way with the Clintonville Community Resources Center. We also plan to organize community participation in some of the fundraising walks this spring. We welcome your ideas and participation in both our planning process and events

### Worship Working Group

The Worship working group is currently engaged in one of our primary tasks—evaluating our minhag, or custom of practicing Judaism. Minhag is an interesting category of Jewish law, and if you are curious, I encourage you to read the Tracy Rich's excellent article at <http://www.jewfaq.org/halakhah.htm>

One variation in minhag familiar to many people the difference between what may be eaten on Passover according to Ashkenazic and Sephardic Jews, often referred to as kitniyot. Our current process of evaluating minhag will result in a survey sent out to the membership and a report back to the membership on that survey.

At our October meeting, we discussed the feedback we received about High Holiday services. Our overall impression was that people found the services deeply meaningful. The most common descriptor was *nice* followed closely by *lovely*, *great*, *good*, *beautiful*, *meaningful*, *like* and *wonderful* and *moving*, *loved*, *liked*, *enjoyed*, *positive*, *excellent*, *appreciated*. We noted many expressions of gratitude for the sacred space created by our talented service leaders, Jessica Shimberg and Wendy Ungar.

Some survey respondents noted that they missed the greater diversity of service leadership we have been blessed with in past years. The Worship working group hopes that more members of the community will step forward to be part of these important services in the coming years. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you want to be involved. (see Worship, page 4)

## ***From the community***

### **Donations to the Little Minyan**

From Yutan Getzler and Beth Conrey for SLC position

Bob and Liz Gitter for use by the community as needed

Irene and Dan Donhowe for use by the community with this message; "All the best to our dearly missed Minyanites for 2012. See you this summer!"

Marty and Micki Seltzer in memory of Emia's mother, in memory of Cheryl Lubow's father, and in memory of Micki Seltzer's parents

Emia Oppenheim in memory of Emia's mother; and in honor of Callie Jones's Bat Mitzvah

Steve and Orlene Shimberg in honor of Callie Jones's Bat Mitzvah

**Thank you!**

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***Continued from page 3***

### **Worship**

It was also noted that for some, Hebrew is sometimes a barrier to engagement with the service. We expect that the balance between Hebrew and English will be included in our upcoming evaluation of *minhag*.

The most frequently occurring words that can be read as negative all relate to time (*long*, *time*, *length*) with most of these showing up in responses to Rosh Hashanah morning . Shamanu (we heard you)! This was the only one of our High Holiday services where this concern was consistently raised. The Worship working group expects that in future years communication regarding service length will be much clearer and that the natural breaks in the service will be emphasized to allow those with time constraints to leave gracefully. We noted that many respondents were happy to attend lengthy services, they just wanted to know what they were getting into so they could plan their days accordingly.

We had a total of 35 respondents with the attendance indicated at the following services: Erev Rosh Hashanah (24), Rosh Hashanah morning (22), Tashlich (10), Kol Nidre (21), Yom Kippur morning (19), Yizkor (15), YK afternoon activities (8) and YK Concluding/Evening services (19). For Rosh Hashanah, five respondents attended no services and for Yom Kippur, eight respondents attended no services.

Thanks to everyone who completed the social action survey, your responses

Yutan Getzler