

Beth El Temple of West Hartford, CT

March 2015

Adar-Nissan 5775, Vol. I, No. 7

Temple Topics

HEARTSTRINGS *Sunday, March 29, 7pm*

MENDELSSOHN • MAHLER • SCHOENBERG • KORNGOLD

2015 BEMA Series Concert #2
Conductor/Cantor Joseph Ness

PART OF THE CULTURE AT
BETH EL TEMPLE

The Music University Series continues

Wednesday, March 11, 7pm

The evening includes a performance of Wagner's "Siegfried Idyll" followed by a screening of the award-winning documentary film "Wagner's Jews".

Following the film there will be a panel discussion with filmmaker Hilan Warshaw; Dr. Leon Botstein, President, Bard College & Music Director of the American Symphony Orchestra; Carolyn Kuan, Music Director of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra; and Stephen Glassman, Executive Director of the ACLU of Connecticut.

Wednesday, March 18, 7pm

Schoenberg's Music Revolution & Music of the Theater
Moderator: Cantor Joseph Ness

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Please submit articles and
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Opting In ~ Opting Out ☆ Rabbi Jim Rosen

Choice is rarely a simple matter. Do you remember the days when as a member of the book club you would have been told, "If you want the main selection do nothing, it will be sent to you automatically?" You had to offer specific instructions to avoid receiving the company-ordained offering.

In more recent times, this arrangement has moved on-line. Unless you "opt out," companies and other institutions will gather your personal data and use it to entice you to buy with tailor-made advertising.

The term "opt out" has received a great deal of attention in the recent measles vaccination phenomenon. Parents fearing harm to their children (some of them from a much discredited study suggesting a link between the vaccines and autism) have increasingly chosen not to immunize. As such, they are diminishing the "herd immunity," the widespread effect of vaccination that has all but eradicated measles and other diseases from the population.

It is truly a case where personal choice and public well-being collide.

As Jews, we are well acquainted with this tension and the challenge of "opting out or in." Modernity has given us countless opportunities to choose just how much or how little we will identify with the Jewish people and our tradition.

Purim, which we will soon celebrate, embodies a tale that speaks to our choices and condition. At a time of great threat with genocide looming on the horizon, Mordechai and Esther "opt in" and step up to save the day by confronting Haman and his plan to destroy all the Jews of Persia. They could well have hidden their identities and hoped for the best. Yet they realized that hatred directed against their people had to be exposed and countered.

To opt in Jewishly in our day is to do something that is unique, countercultural and desperately needed. It isn't easy to embrace the assertive stance of a Mordechai and Esther. Yet, our world needs those who will stand up and say, "There are resurgences of anti-Semitism in the world, especially in Europe, and it must end." We need a Jewish voice to declare that Israel - with all of its faults - is hardly the source of evil in the world that so many trumpet.

Ultimately, to live a Purim triumph is to invite into our lives the words contained in the Book of Esther, "The Jews enjoyed light, gladness, happiness and honor." [Esther 8:16]

That was then and it can be for us now, for all who choose to opt-in to our tradition, values and future.

World Wide Wrap 2015

On Sunday, February 1, more than 30 Beth El members (a community of students, parents, and members of Men's Club) and clergy participated in the annual, nation-wide, Federation of Jewish Men's Club *World Wide Wrap*.





Cantor's Corner ☆ Joseph Ness

Here's hoping that everyone is keeping the winter at bay and looking forward to the approaching Spring. In March we are offering the last two lectures in our 2015 Music University Series about the Jewish role in European cultural activity in the 19th and 20th centuries. I have dedicated this series to the memory of my mother, Pauline Ness, z"l.

At the end of the month we present an important concert that will highlight the topics discussed in the lectures. *Heartstrings*, with full orchestra and soloists, will have some of the greatest music by the great Jewish composers of the last 150 years. I invite you all to attend this concert that will include the music of Mendelssohn and Mahler to music of the composers of American cinema.

Thank you for your continued support. Without you, there would be no music!

Heartstrings

BEMA Concert Series #2

Sunday, Mar. 29

7:00 PM

This offering marks the culmination of the 2015 Music University Series as it will highlight music by the 19th and 20th century Jewish composers presented in the series- Mendelssohn, Mahler and Korngold. Cantor Ness directs the Beth El Orchestra, and vocal and instrumental guests.

RSVP: Temple Office, 860-233-9696, to reserve seats

COST: \$20 - general admission; \$15 - seniors and students;

FREE - kids 12 and under!

NOTE: tickets available at the door, or in advance at the Temple Office

Music University Series

Wednesdays

7:00 PM

III. Screening of *Wagner's Jews* Documentary

March 11

Wagner's Jews highlights the complex relationship that composer Richard Wagner had with the Jews and the controversy behind his music that still exists today. Following the film, Cantor Joseph Ness will moderate a panel discussion with special guests:

- ◆ Hilan Warshaw, filmmaker
- ◆ Dr. Leon Botstein, President of Bard College
- ◆ Steven Glassman, Executive Dir. of CT ACLU
- ◆ Carolyn Kuan, Music Dir. Of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra

MOVIE COST: \$8 - regular adult admission; \$5 - seniors, students, and current BEMA Concert Series Subscribers; FREE - current BEMA Concert Series Sponsors

NOTE: you may only pay at the door

IV. Into The 20th Century: Schoenberg's Music Revolution & Music of the Theater

March 18

Cantor Ness will examine the pivotal and uncompromising influence of Arnold Schoenberg on a generation of his contemporaries as contrasted with 20th century popular music of the theater and cinema of Jewish composers.

NOTE: no charge for this lecture



RSVP: Temple Office, 860-233-9696, to reserve seats

NOTE: open to the public

CO-SPONSORS: BEMA and Lifelong Learning

Doing Mitzvot

Volunteer Opportunities – Monthly

Sundays

9:00 - 11:00 AM

Charter Oak Project: Cook Mar. 15, Apr. 26

Prepare dinner to be served the next day to Hartford schoolchildren and their families. Volunteers are also needed to shop and deliver the food to Charter Oak. Donations are welcome to help pay for the cost of the food.

CONTACT: Kerry Rausch, rausch.kerry@gmail.com, 860-232-3591, or Craig Diamond, craigpdiamond@yahoo.com, 860-461-0263

Sundays

10:00 - 11:00 AM

KNITzvah Group Mar. 15, Apr. 12

The group knits or crochets, mostly lap-afghans, and delivers them to local charities. Bring a #10 needle.

Mondays

10:30 AM - 12:45 PM

Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen Mar. 2, Apr. 6

The group prepares and serves lunch to approximately 80 clients.

LOCATION: Immanuel Church, Woodland Street, Hartford

CONTACT: Ellen Solomon, gingy81434@hotmail.com

Mondays

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Charter Oak Project: Serve Mar. 16, Apr. 27

Serve dinner to Hartford school children and their families.

LOCATION: Charter Oak Cultural Center, Charter Oak Ave, Hartford

CONTACT: see above

Worshipping Together - Shabbat

Shir Shabbat Service

Friday, Mar. 6
6:00 PM

We welcome Shabbat with joy and harmony, singing spiritual melodies that are easy to learn. Your heart will soar and your soul will feel refreshed as we pray together.

Ethan Bronner, guest speaker Saturday, Mar. 7 9:30 AM

Son of members Dr. Felix, z"l, and Leah Bronner, Ethan will speak on *Reporting from the Middle East: Truth and Consequences*. He is the managing editor for international news at Bloomberg, and spent more than 17 years at the NY Times, inc. Jerusalem bureau chief and deputy foreign editor.

Shabbat – weekly

Fridays 10:00 AM - NOON

bebe – Beth El Babies Exploring

Bring your little ones to enjoy tumbling equipment while parents enjoy coffee and conversation!

NOTE: Beth El membership not required.

Saturdays 9:30 AM - NOON

Children's Playroom UP TO AGE 5

A great place for our youngest ones to take a break from services. Parents must supervise their children.

Shabbat – monthly

Friday, Mar. 13 6:00 PM

Family Shabbat Service GR. 3-6 & FAMILIES

See *Shabbat Across America* (above) for details.

Saturday, Mar. 7 DURING SERVICES

Birthday Shabbat ALL AGES!

If your birthday is this month, enjoy a special group *aliyah* (Torah honor) and blessing from the Rabbi.

Friday, Mar. 27 5:45 - 6:45 PM

PJ Shabbat UP TO AGE 5

Kids' ClubShabbat AGES 5-8

Children may come in pj's to enjoy stories, songs and a Torah parade led by Rabbi Garber. Older children will have their own age appropriate services.

DINNER: follows for participants of both programs

NO CHARGE, families are invited to serve as sponsors in honor of their children

RSVP: Rabbi Rosenbaum, 860-233-9891,
hrosenbaum@bethelwh.org

Saturday, Mar. 28 10:30 AM - NOON

Shabbat Yoga

Led by Adriana Matozzo, of West Hartford Yoga, and Rabbi Garber; a Shabbat morning yoga experience for all levels. Wear yoga clothes (yes, on Shabbat!) and bring a yoga mat if you have one. Incorporates some basic Shabbat morning prayers.

NOTE: Free and open to the entire community

Blockbuster Shabbat

Saturdays, Mar. 14 & 28 11:00 AM - NOON

There's something for everyone through grade 6! 7th graders and up are invited to the main service. We conclude together on the *bima* for Kiddush and a treat.

NOTE: all free and open to the community

Tumbling with Torah UP TO AGE 5

NOTE: parent must stay with child(ren)

Shabbat Family Experience GRADES K-2

LEADER: Adrian Durlister, aka Mr. D

Junior Congregation (3/14) GRADES 3-6

LEADER: Rabbi Rosenbaum

CONTACT: if your student would like to read Torah,
860-233-9891, hrosenbaum@bethelwh.org

The Shabbat Zone (3/28) GRADES 3-6

LEADERS: Jonah Rothstein & Jake Greenberg

Women's Shabbat Circle Saturday, Mar. 7
10:00 AM - NOON

Join us for an intimate gathering of women to sing, socialize, and study together. Please try to arrive on time as we create a circle together.

QUESTIONS: Rabbi Garber, igarber@bethelwh.org

NOTE: This is free and open to the entire community

Shabbat Across America Friday, Mar. 13
COMMUNITY DINNER FOLLOWS 6:00 PM

Join us as tens of thousands of Jews across America come together to pray, eat, drink, dance, enjoy, debate, and celebrate at the 19th annual *Shabbat Across America*.

Two service choices:

☆ our weekly Kabbalat Shabbat Service

☆ our monthly Family Service

Our guest will be Kaskeset, see below.

DINNER: Home-cooked meal with child-friendly options;

inform us in advance of any special dietary needs

OPTIONAL: Bring your own Kosher wine to share

COST FOR DINNER: \$9 per person by 2/27, \$10 by 3/6,
\$12 by 3/12

RSVP: Temple Office, 860-233-9696

Kaskeset
קסקסט
Binghamton's Jewish A Capella Group

Friday, Mar. 13, after Community Dinner
Saturday, Mar. 14, after Kiddush Luncheon

This musical group will be our guest for Shabbat. Beth El's own Rachel Greenspan is a member.

NOTE: see *Shabbat Across America*, above, for dinner reservation and cost information

NOTE: Saturday lunch is open to all service attendees

Worshipping Together - Shabbat

JCL Special Needs Shabbat Service

Saturday, Mar. 14
10:30 AM

This joyous and exuberant service is open to adults who have special needs as well as "typical" worshippers who enjoy an abbreviated meaningful service filled with *ruach* (spirit and energy) and geared toward those with developmental delays. The service typically includes the singing of prayers, storytelling by Sara deBeer, a Torah parade, and Shabbat-appropriate activities based on the theme of the service.

LEADERS: Nancy Rosen; and Susan Fried & Bonnie Eisenberg-Greene, Judaic Coordinators of JCL

NOTE: A light Kiddush lunch follows the service

Soul Songs Friday Night Service

and Hot Hors D'oeuvres

Friday, Mar. 27
6:00 PM

This intergenerational Friday night service with Cantor Ness promotes congregational musical participation. The Beth El Adult and Children's choirs will grace us with occasional harmonies as we explore traditional Friday night melodies, plus Friday night melodies from around the world.

NOTE: hot hors d'oeuvres follow services

RSVP: none needed

CO-SPONSORS: BEMA and Lifelong Learning

Worshipping Together - Holidays

A Shrek Purim

Wednesday, Mar. 4

Come in costume!



Pre-Purim for Young Children

5:00 PM

Rabbi Garber will guide us through an interactive telling of the Purim story.

AGES: Geared toward birth to kindergarten

Carnival

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Plenty of games for all to play! Prizes galore! Dine at the *Shushan Café* (cash only): Hot Dogs, Chicken Nuggets, French Fries, Knishes, and Drinks.

VOLUNTEERS: teens and adults are needed

CONTACT: Rabbi Rosenbaum, 860-233-9891,
hrosenbaum@bethelwh.org

The Story ~ a Beth El Musical

7:00 PM

See how *Shrek* saves the Jews in Shushan – an all-Beth El cast! Includes partial *Megillah* reading, groggers, and hamantashen.

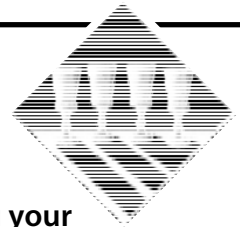
Ma'ariv and the Gantz Megillah

8:00 PM

Evening Minyan with full reading of *Megillat Esther*.

Drown out the name of Haman while performing a mitzvah! Bring a box of kosher macaroni and cheese or plain pasta for use as a *ra'ashan* (noise maker). After the *Megillah* reading, these *ra'ashanim* will be donated to the JFS Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry. (Note: elbows, rotini and other small pasta shapes will fare better than spaghetti!)

Passover Prep Pages



See pages 10-11 for guidelines on preparing your home for Passover. Contact one of our rabbis if you have any additional questions.

Craft Gallery

Shop our Judaica collection crafted by Israeli artists and others. Interesting Seder Plates are available now.

HOURS: most Sundays, 9:00 AM - NOON

BY APPOINTMENT: Shelley Barker, 860-232-6468

Passover Calendar, first weekend

Fri.	7:00 AM	Fast of the First Born Service and Study Session, followed by breakfast*
Fri.	9:00 AM	Deadline to Sell <i>Chametz</i>
Fri.	6:00 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat/Festival Ma'ariv
Fri.	evening	First Seder
Sat.	9:30 AM	Shabbat and Festivals Services
Sat.	12:30 PM	Shabbat and Festival Mincha
Sat.	evening	Second Seder
Sun.	9:30 AM	Festival Services
Sun.	7:15 PM	Festival Mincha, Ma'ariv, Havdalah

* Sponsored by Susan & Robert Gold in memory of Leo Gold

Making Connections

Muslim and Jewish Birth, Death, and Mourning Customs

Sunday, Mar. 8
9:15 AM

A discussion of the similarities and differences in beginning and end-of-life topics, including baby naming and circumcision; and timing of funerals, preparation and care of the body, burial and cemetery rules, and mourning customs. The presenters will be Khamis Abu-Hasaballah, President, Board of Trustees, Farmington Valley American Muslim Center and Mort Weinstein, Owner, Weinstein Mortuary.

COST FOR BREAKFAST PROGRAM:

WITH RSVP: \$7, no charge for Men's Club members

WALK-INS: \$10, \$5 for Men's Club members

RSVP: Joe Springut, 860-676-9878,
dr.EyesJoe@gmail.com, by 3/5

SPONSOR: Men's Club

College Choices, College Voices: How Do We Decide?

Monday, Mar. 9
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Are students comfortable expressing their opinions?

- ⇒ How do you know what the administration & faculty REALLY think/believe?
- ⇒ What do you ask and to whom when you want to know about freedom of speech on campus?

These are important issues regardless of the college search topic. However, when the subject is Israel, Jewish teens & their parents should be equipped with the tools to find out the answers they seek. Join us for this unique panel discussion that will feature college students from the Greater Hartford community. They will share their experiences with teens & their parents, giving us insight into how to negotiate being Jewish & supporting Israel on campus.

COST: no charge

NOTE: open to all Jewish teens & their parents

INFORMATION: JTConnect Office, 860-727-6110,
office@jtconnect.org

NextGen BETT

Beth El Thirsty Thursdays

Thursday, March 12
8:00 PM

NextGen's BETT returns with a night out for those in their 20s, 30s, and early 40s. Let us know you'll be there, or just show up and look for the NextGen BETT sign.

LOCATION: Vinted in Blue Back Square,
63 Memorial Road, West Hartford

RSVP: Sharon Neiberg, sharonneiberg@gmail.com

BET Women's Network Night at the Movies

Tuesday, March 17

PRE-FILM DINNER 5:30 PM
MOVIE 7:00 PM

It's a Girl's Night Out! We'll meet for dinner at Beth El, and then head to the Mandell JCC for the screening of *Run Boy Run*. REEL TALK discussion (with Darko Tresnjak, Artistic Director, Hartford Stage, and Prof. Avinoam Patt, University of Hartford) and dessert reception follow the movie. Bring your friends!

DINNER COST: \$10

LOCATION: Beth El Temple

MOVIE COST: \$8.00

LOCATION: Mandell JCC, 335 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford

RSVP: required with check to Beth El office by 3/9, payable to Beth El Temple with "Film Festival" on the memo line; you may bundle the costs into one check

QUESTIONS: Laura Kinyon, lkinyon123@aol.com

NOTE: this movie is part of the Hartford Jewish Film Festival

Community-Wide Israeli Friendship Dinner

Benefit for Israeli High School Robotics Teams

Thursday, Mar. 26
6:00 PM

Join us for a dinner in honor of the Israeli students and their advisors. See their award-winning robots and wish them luck as they prepare to compete at the next level, at the International Fire Fighting Robotics Contest at Trinity College on March 28-29. Following dinner, there will a presentation by members of the Teams about their robots.

COST: \$18.00 per adult; \$10 per child (12 and under)

RSVP: by 3/20, Sharon Efron, 860-561-4415,
sgredancer@yahoo.com

TABLES: if you wish to arrange a table of 8-12 people, please list their names on your reservation

Recognizing Our Volunteers

SOCIAL ACTION

Hamentashen Bakers

Nancy Asnes
Nicole Bolduc
Beth Brumberg with
Ahna
Ron Buckman
Amy Eisler with Liana

Amy Goldman
David & Melissa
Goldschmidt
Roz & Howard Hahn
Lisa Harris
Myra Kleinman
Tammy Krulewitz
Bonnie Lewis
Diane Lieberfarb

Howard Meyerowitz
Lori & Lance Reiser
Tara Rothstein
Rayna Segelman
Sharon Serow
Leslie Silvers
Jamie Silverstein
Leigh Newman &
Gary Starr

Debby & Michael
Stiebel
Karen Shoenfeld Tuvim
Marcia Waitzman
Stacey Wayne
Fran Weinberger
Melissa Weinstock
Felicia Wilion

TEMPLE TOPICS

Roberta J. Buland
Abbey Kreinik
Francine Stier

Lifelong Learning

Ongoing – Weekly

Mondays **Personal & Family History** 1:30 - 3:00 PM

This workshop helps each participant select the best approach for writing his or her personal and/or family history.

CONTACT: Betty Hoffman, 860-233-4853, bhoffman3@comcast.net

NOTE: Free; for Beth El Temple members only

Tuesdays **Lunch & Learn** NOON - 1:00 PM

Rabbi Rosen explores the Bible. Newcomers welcome!

Wednesdays **Talmud Study** 10:30 - 11:30 AM

We discuss the themes that were important 2000 years ago and have an impact on our Jewish journeys today. Texts are in English.

Thursdays **Bible & Breakfast** 7:45 - 8:45 AM

After *Minyan*, the Rabbis discuss the weekly *Torah* portion.

Thursdays **Hebrew Through Prayer** NOON - 1:00 PM

Eliane Freund is your guide as you explore the background and choreography of the major prayers of the Shabbat morning service! You'll learn the meanings of key Hebrew words and practice reading and chanting the prayers. (Classes began Feb. 5)

REGISTER: Beth El office, 860-233-9696

COST: \$50, Beth El Temple members; \$75, non-members

NOTE: ability to read Hebrew is necessary

SPONSOR: Lifelong Learning Committee

Preschool PALS

Play and Learn at Synagogue

Sunday, Mar. 8

11:00 AM - NOON

We will sing, dance, do some art projects, and enjoy a snack. Our theme is Passover.

AGES: children up to age 4.5

RSVP: Rabbi Garber, by 3/5 at noon,

igarber@bethelwh.org

COST: \$10, Beth El Temple members;

\$15, non-members

NOTE: you may pay at the door, but please RSVP to ensure enough supplies

Beginners' Hebrew Class ☆ NEW

Tuesdays, began Feb. 24

2:00 - 3:00 PM

This 10-week class is being taught by Sidra Sperling in her home.

REGISTRATION: required to get location, Beth El Office, 860-233-9696

NOTE: for Beth El members only, no cost, thanks to an anonymous donation from a member of our congregation

LIBRARY CORNER JEWISH FICTION AND FACT ☆ Roberta J. Buland

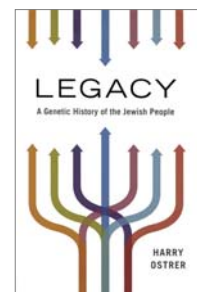


This book will be for sale at the event below.

Anita Diamant's *The Boston Girl* is a fictional memoir told by grandmother Addie Baum to granddaughter Ava about growing up in the first generation world of the early 20th century. Jewish identity, family relationships, short skirts, movies, celebrity culture, new opportunities for women, including college and a career and making one's own romantic matches, are explored. A fast read with humor and maturity, the dialogue resonates not only fact, but also deals with deep feelings toward answering granddaughter Ava's question, "How did you get to be the woman (age 85) that you are today?"

"I loved the Boston history, including the perspective of what life was like for women like my own grandmother," according to Rabbi Garber.

Legacy: A Genetic History of the Jewish People, by Harry Ostrer, a geneticist, is also a history of Jewish identity but through a scientific lens. General themes include looking Jewish, founders, tribes, and traits. He shows us that the science of genetics has been both right and wrong throughout history. Specific subjects explored include Albert Einstein, a Holocaust survivor, media spins, and the Law of Return. The book attempts to answer, "What does it mean to *feel* Jewish?" The 264-page book is thoroughly researched, including 40 pages devoted to footnotes and an index. A must read for genealogists.



This book is available from our library.

Monday, April 20, 7:30 PM

SAVE
THE
DATE

AN EVENING WITH
ANITA DIAMANT

A Women's Network
Torah Fund Event



SEASONAL LIBRARY DISPLAY

Elijah Cup Collection

Come and view the newest display in our library during the months of March and April. Bonnie and Abby Weiner are sharing their diverse collection of Elijah cups.

Note: the cups will be temporarily unavailable on the Seder nights.

Religious School

Journey Through the Bible

During this interactive program on January 25, students in grades 3-7 in our Religious School participated in a round-robin morning of activities. At each station, Beth El students met one or more Biblical characters – teachers dressed in costume – who told students about themselves and their lives. The Biblical characters described a challenging ethical situation which they faced and students added what they might do in such a situation.

The goal of this program was to help students gain perspective on how the stories of biblical characters provide important lessons that are relevant even today. Students had the opportunity to see, first-hand, the importance of the dilemmas and values presented in the Torah. The morning brought the Bible to life in a way that will encourage further study in the quest for modern-day relevance.

PROGRAM FUNDING: Alfred and Helen Weisel Jewish Education Grant



Honesty was discussed with Adam, Eve, and the Serpent. Students judged who they felt was innocent or guilty.



Abraham and Sarah emphasized the values of hospitality and faith in God. Students brainstormed what they would bring if told they had to leave their homes forever.

Freedom and love of God's creatures were highlighted by Moses and Miriam. Students joined in with Israeli dancing.



Wisdom was discussed with Solomon. Solomon shared his story and asked the students what they would have done.



Love and loyalty to family were explored with Ruth and Naomi. Students made PB&J sandwiches for the Charter Oak Cultural Center after school program.



Preparing the Home for Passover

A mitzvah of Passover is the removal of all *chametz* (leaven), both physically and symbolically, and all that has had contact with *chametz*. Because the Israelites had no time to let their bread rise, Jewish law forbids eating (or even possessing) any food that can contain leaven.

According to Jewish law, pots, dishes, and utensils that are used throughout the year absorb leaven and therefore may not be used on Passover. Today, in traditional households, it is customary to have special dishes that are only used during the Passover festival. However, vessels may be used for Passover if they undergo the process of *kashering*, thus purging and cleansing them of any and all leaven they may have absorbed. See page 14 for details.

Bedikat Chametz

In anticipation of Pesach, it is traditional to engage in a thorough spring cleaning. Then, there is a formal search that takes place right after sundown on the night before Pesach. A blessing is said, and the search is done by candlelight or flashlight, with a small bag to sweep up the crumbs, usually by using a feather. Since the house has already been cleaned thoroughly, it is customary to put crumbs in a few places where they can be easily found. The following morning, the leaven is burned (*biur chametz*). No *chametz* is eaten after this ritual until the end of Passover.

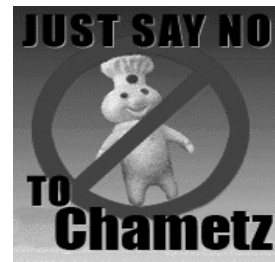
Mekhirat Chametz - Transfer of Chametz

All *chametz* vessels (dishes, utensils, etc., and unopened food cartons or cans stored away during the Festival) should no longer legally be in one's possession.

How do we achieve this in accordance with Jewish law? An agent is empowered to enact a transaction with someone not Jewish. The sale has to take a legal form, using a formal bill of sale. All *chametz* remains in that person's "ownership," for the Passover period. At the end of the holiday, the agent arranges for the reversion of ownership of the now-permitted *chametz*. If ownership of the *chametz* was not transferred before the holiday, the use of this *chametz* is prohibited after the holiday as well.

You may indicate your desire to observe this mitzvah by signing the form below and returning it to the Beth El Temple office no later than **Friday, April 3, 2015, before 9:00 AM**. You might also consider donating unopened, nonperishable *chametz* to FoodShare.

For any additional questions or concerns, please contact one of our Rabbis.



Mekhirat Chametz

I hereby transfer to an agent, Rabbi James Rosen, all *Chametz* in my possession located at my home as of **9:00 AM on April 3**.

Please consider a contribution to the Passover Fund for the Needy (*Maot Chitin*). Please send your donation to "Beth El Maot Chitin" or to "Mazon." Send it to the Beth El Office, attn.: Laurea Esau.

Name _____
Address _____
City, ST, Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
@ _____

Tour de Shuls May 31 Sunday

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Servicing all of your PC & Mac Needs  860-836-4191

Guidelines for Permitted and Prohibited Items

PERMITTED FOODS may or may not require a *Kosher le-Pesach* label, and it may differ if purchased before or during the holiday:

- ◆ NO label if purchased PRIOR to Pesach: unopened packages or containers of natural coffee without cereal additives; sugar, pure tea (not herbal tea); salt (not iodized); pepper; natural spices; frozen fruit juices with no additives; frozen (uncooked) vegetables (for legumes, see *Kitniyot*, right); milk; butter; cottage cheese; cream cheese; ripened cheeses such as cheddar (hard), muenster (semi-soft) and Camembert (soft); frozen (uncooked) fruit (with no additives); baking soda.
- ◆ NO label if purchased PRIOR or DURING Pesach: **fresh** fruits and vegetables (for legumes, see *Kitniyot*, right), eggs, fresh fish, and fresh meat.
- ◆ NEED label if purchased PRIOR or DURING Pesach: all baked products (matzah, cakes, matzah flour, farfel, matzah meal, and any products containing matzah); canned or bottled fruit juices; canned tuna; wine, vinegar, liquor, oils, dried fruits, candy, chocolate flavored milk, ice cream, yogurt, and soda.
- ◆ NEED label if purchased DURING Pesach: **processed** foods (canned, bottled, or frozen): milk, butter, juices, vegetables, fruit, milk products, spices, coffee, tea, and fish.

DETERGENTS: If permitted during the year, powdered and liquid detergents do NOT require a *Kosher le-Pesach* label.

MEDICINE: Since *chametz* binders are used in many pills, the following guidelines should be followed:

- ◆ If required for life sustaining therapy, and general medical health, it may be used.
- ◆ In all cases, capsules are preferable to pills.

PROHIBITED FOODS include the following: leavened bread, cakes, biscuits, crackers, cereal, coffees containing cereal derivatives, wheat, barley, oats, spelt, rye, and all liquids containing ingredients or flavors made from grain alcohol.

KITNIYOT: Most Ashkenazic authorities have added the following foods to the above list:

- ◆ rice, corn, millet, legumes (beans and peas); however, string beans are permitted.
- ◆ Peanuts and peanut oil are permissible.
- ◆ We permit the use of legumes in a form other than their natural state, for example, corn sweeteners, corn oil, soy oil. Sephardic authorities also permit the use of all of the above.

Kashering Utensils for Passover

The process of kashering depends on how the utensils are used. According to *halakhah* (Jewish law), leaven can be purged from a utensil by the same process in which it was absorbed in the utensil (*ke-voleo kakh polet*). Therefore, utensils used in cooking are kashered by boiling, those used in broiling are kashered by fire and heat, and those used only for cold food are kashered by rinsing.

◆ **EARTHENWARE** (china, pottery, etc.) may NOT be kashered. Exception: fine translucent chinaware which has not been used for over a year may be used if scoured and cleaned in hot water.

◆ **METAL** (wholly made of metal)

- ◇ Utensils used in fire (spit, broiler) must first be thoroughly scrubbed and cleansed and then made as hot as possible.
- ◇ Those used for cooking or eating (silverware, pots) must be thoroughly scrubbed and cleaned and completely immersed in boiling water. Pots should not be used for a period of at least 24 hours between the cleaning and the immersion in boiling water.
- ◇ Metal baking utensils can NOT be kashered.

◆ **OVENS AND RANGES:** Every part that comes in contact with food must be thoroughly scrubbed and cleaned. Then, oven and range should be heated as hot as possible for a half hour. If there is a broil setting, use it.

- ◇ Self-cleaning ovens should be scrubbed and cleaned and then put through the self-cleaning cycle.
- ◇ Continuous cleaning ovens must be kashered in the same manner as regular ovens.

◆ **SMOOTH GLASS TOP ELECTRIC RANGES** should be cleaned thoroughly, and then turn on the coils to maximum heat until they are red hot. Carefully, pour boiling water on the entire surface area.

- ◇ **Note:** Some will not be able to be kashered.

◆ **MICROWAVE OVENS** which do not cook the food by means of heat should be cleaned, then a cup of water placed inside, and the oven turned on until the water disappears.

- ◇ **Note:** A microwave oven that has a browning element can NOT be kashered for Pesach.

◆ **GLASSWARE** requires only a thorough scrubbing before Pesach, or putting them through a dishwasher. Some also soak in water for three days, changing the water every 24 hours.

- ◇ **Glass Cookware:** After a thorough cleansing, there should be water boiled in them which will overflow the rim.

- ◇ **Note:** Glass Bakeware, like metal bakeware, may NOT be kashered.

◆ **DISHWASHER** After not using the machine for a period of 24 hours, a full cycle with detergent should be run.

◆ **ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES** If the parts that come into contact with *chametz* are removable, they can be kashered in the appropriate way (if metal, follow the rules for metal utensils). All exposed parts should be thoroughly cleaned.

- ◇ **Note:** If the parts are not removable, the appliance can NOT be kashered.

◆ **TABLES, CLOSETS AND COUNTERS** If used with *chametz*, they should be thoroughly cleaned and covered, and then they may be used.

◆ **KITCHEN SINK** A metal sink can be kashered by thoroughly cleaning and then pouring boiling water over it. A porcelain sink should be cleaned and a sink rack used. Dishes may NOT be soaked in a porcelain sink.

◆ **CHAMETZ AND NON-PASSOVER UTENSILS** Non-Passover dishes, pots, and *chametz* whose ownership has been transferred, should be separated, locked up or covered, and marked in order to prevent accidental use.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 <i>10 Adar</i> ALL DAY <i>Mishloach Manot</i> Delivery	2 <i>11 Adar</i> 10:30 AM Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen	3 <i>12 Adar</i>	4 <i>13 Adar</i> No Religious School Fast of Esther 5:00 PM ECC Pre-Purim 5:30 PM Purim Carnival 7:00 PM Purim <i>Shpiel</i> 8:00 PM Evening Minyan & Full Megillah
8 <i>17 Adar</i> <i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i> 9:15 AM Men's Club Program 11:00 AM Pre-School P.A.L.S.	9 <i>18 Adar</i>	10 <i>19 Adar</i> 7:00 PM Board of Trustees	11 <i>20 Adar</i> 7:00 PM Music University ~ <i>Wagner's Jews</i> , a documentary film 8:00 PM Ritual Comm.
15 <i>24 Adar</i> 9:00 AM Charter Oak Project, cook 10:00 AM KNITzvah Group	16 <i>25 Adar</i> 5:30 PM Charter Oak Project, serve	17 <i>26 Adar</i> 5:30 PM Women's Network Night at the Movies	18 <i>27 Adar</i> 5:00 PM JCL Seder 7:00 PM Music University ~ Into the 20 th Century
22 <i>2 Nissan</i> <i>Gurlz Jam</i> Weekend Retreat 6:30 PM Evening Minyan 7:30 PM Jewish Film Festival, closing night, hosted at Beth El	23 <i>3 Nissan</i>	24 <i>4 Nissan</i> 7:30 PM Men's Club Board Meeting	25 <i>5 Nissan</i>
29 <i>9 Nissan</i> 3:30 PM Peter's Retreat 6:30 PM Evening Minyan 7:00 PM BEMA Concert ~ <i>Heartstrings</i>	30 <i>10 Nissan</i>	31 <i>11 Nissan</i>	1 <i>12 Nissan</i>

Daily Minyan Service Schedule

Mornings 7:00 AM Monday through Friday
8:45 AM Sunday

Evenings 7:30 PM Sunday through Thursday

Shabbat שבת

Friday 6:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Services
Saturday 9:30 AM Shacharit, Torah Service, Musaf
see grid Mincha, Ma'ariv, Havdalah Service

Note: When a Saturday evening B/M (Bar/Bat Mitzvah) is listed,
there will be a concurrent service in the Chapel.

Ongoing Weekly Programs, no registration required

Tue. 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn
Wed. 10:30 AM Talmud Study
Thu. 8:00 AM Bible & Breakfast (no class 3/5)
Fri. 10:00 AM bebe - Beth El Babies Exploring
Sat. 9:30 AM Children's Playroom

2015

March

7077-778

Adar – Nissan

5775

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

5 <i>14 Adar</i> Purim 7:00 AM Morning Minyan & Full Megillah	6 <i>15 Adar</i> 6:00 PM Shir Shabbat Candle Lighting: 5:27 PM	7 <i>16 Adar</i> Parsha Ki Tissa Birthday Shabbat 10:00 AM Women's Shabbat Circle 5:40 PM B/M Samantha Farber <i>Change your clocks before bed!</i> Havdalah: 6:28 PM
12 <i>21 Adar</i> 8:00 PM NextGen Beth El Thirsty Thursdays	13 <i>22 Adar</i> 6:00 PM <i>Shabbat Across America</i> 7:00 PM Community Shabbat Dinner Candle Lighting: 6:35 PM	14 <i>23 Adar</i> Parsha Vayak'hel-Pekudei 10:30 AM JCL Service 11:00 AM Tumbling / Family Exper. / Junior Cong. 12:00 PM Kaskeset from Binghamton 6:45 PM B/M Leah Simanovich Havdalah: 7:36 PM
19 <i>28 Adar</i>	20 <i>29 Adar</i> <i>Gurlz Jam Weekend Retreat</i> Candle Lighting: 6:43 PM	21 <i>1 Nissan</i> Rosh Chodesh Parsha Vayikra <i>Gurlz Jam Weekend Retreat</i> 6:55 PM Mincha, Ma'ariv, Havdalah Havdalah: 7:44 PM
26 <i>6 Nissan</i> 6:00 PM Robotics Dinner	27 <i>7 Nissan</i> 5:45 PM PJ Shabbat and Kids' ClubShabbat 6:00 PM Soul Songs Candle Lighting: 6:50 PM	28 <i>8 Nissan</i> Parsha Tzav 10:30 AM Shabbat Yoga 11:00 AM Tumbling / Family Exper. / Shabbat Zone 7:00 PM B/M Emma Nollman Havdalah: 7:52 PM
2 <i>13 Nissan</i>	3 <i>14 Nissan</i> Passover begins ~ First Seder 7:00 AM Fast of the First Born Service; breakfast 9:00 AM Deadline to sell <i>Chametz</i> Candle Lighting: 6:58 PM	4 <i>15 Nissan</i> Passover Day 1 ~ Second Seder Birthday Shabbat 12:30 PM Shabbat & Festival Mincha Candle Lighting: 7:59 PM

Multi-Week Classes, pre-registration and/or payment required

Mon.	1:30 PM	Personal and Family History Workshop
Mon.	7:00 PM	Hebrew Ulpan, Int./Adv.
Tue.	2:00 PM	Beginners' Hebrew Class
Thu.	12:00 PM	Hebrew through Prayer
Thu.	7:00 PM	Beth El Choir Rehearsal

Religious School Activities

Sun.	8	Hai Class JCL Program
Sun.	29	Yom HaShoah (Holocaust) Program

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We very much appreciate that so many Beth El members participated in our High Holiday Appeal. In fact, we exceeded our goal by almost 10%. Your High Holiday gifts are used throughout the synagogue to support programs, educational initiatives and badly needed facility upgrades. Our goal at Beth El is to bring Judaism to life, connecting you with each other and with activities - spiritual and otherwise - that can touch you in a very personal way. We hope you will look through Temple Topics, find something (or some *things!*) that speak to you and join in.

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Yetta Werner, mother – **Lilo & Herbert
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Gustav Zimmerman, father – **Dr. Richard
Zimmerman**

CORRECTION: Gussie Drapel, mother –

**Edith Shapiro (we regret the error in
last month's listing)**

Tsedakah/Chesed Fund

Hineini Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Irma Lieberman; Phyllis Steckler, mother
of Dr. Jeffrey Steckler – **Francine &
Steven Stier**

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

General Unrestricted Endowment Fund

IN HONOR OF

David Klau's 80th birthday – **Myra & Bill
Kleinman**

Glen Rosenfeld's 50th birthday – **Lois &
Chuck Koteen**

IN MEMORY OF

David Pollack – **CIMS Cheer Fund at
Aetna**

Edward Hotez – **Annette & Sy Gavens**

Jerome Kaiser – **Tema & Mark Silk**

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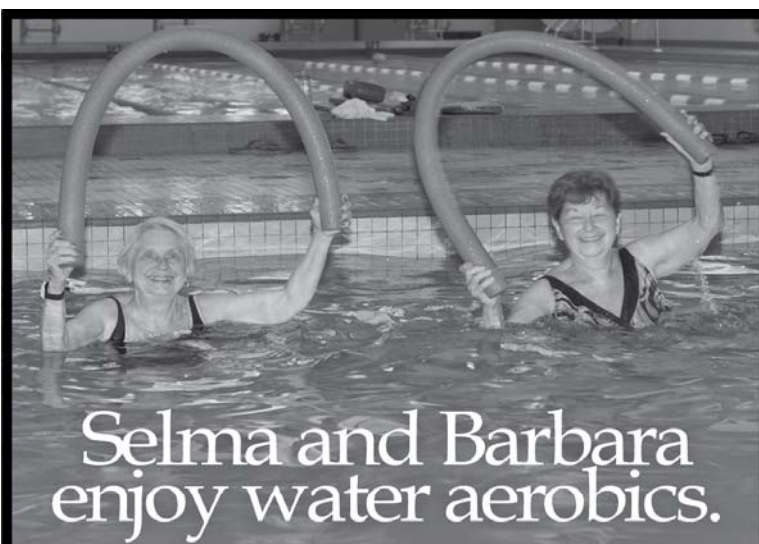
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Selma and Barbara enjoy water aerobics.

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Naomi & Michael Cohen Endowment Fund

IN HONOR OF

Michael Cohen's 80th birthday – Myra & Bill Kleinman

IN MEMORY OF

Sheila Weinberg – Naomi & Michael Cohen

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Lisa Deutsch – Naomi & Michael Cohen

Friends Fund for Members in Need

IN MEMORY OF

Edward Hotez – Joyce & Richard Leibert

Arthur Feinstein, husband of Rhoda; Evelyn Weiner;

Evelyn Weinstein, mother of Morton – Judy & David Rosenthal

Gavens Family College Youth Fund

IN HONOR OF

63rd wedding anniversary of parents, Annette & Sy Gavens

– Lee, Susan, Daniel & Abigail Gavens

IN MEMORY OF

Elliot Lifshitz – Annette & Sy Gavens

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Ida Labinger, sister – Annette Gavens

Mildred Glasband Memorial Fund

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Hyman Glasband, father – Linda Platt

Anna Heineman Memorial Fund

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Fanny & Aaron Anshel, grandparents; David Anshel, uncle
– Francine Stier

Eleanor Weinberg Jainchill Family Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Sheila Weinberg – Ellie Jainchill & Abe Weinberg

Lois & Alvin Reiner Family Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

The Zachs family especially Henry, for all they do for the Jewish community – Alvin Reiner

IN HONOR OF

Dr Benson Monastersky for giving his time and efforts to make the JCC better – Alvin Reiner

IN MEMORY OF

David Pollack; Gene Lasher, wife of Richard Lasher – Alvin Reiner

Michael & Susan Schenker Endowment Fund

IN HONOR OF

Birth of Kayla Chernoff, granddaughter of Michele & Dane Kostin – Susan & Michael Schenker

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

William Friedeberg, husband, father & grandfather –

Pamela Friedeberg & family

Daniel Novarr, brother – Susan & Michael Schenker

Bruce Shein & Sharon Levine-Shein Endowment Fund

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Rose Levine. Mother – Sharon Levine-Shein & Bruce Shein

Sowalsky Gabbai Rishon Endowment Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Rabbi Sowalsky – Korine & Ronald Ferraro, Joel Miller, Bonnie & Abby Weiner

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Jerry Trigg, nephew – Clara Sowalsky



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We are front and center when it comes to environmental concerns. Did you know that in most cases, scents present in fragranced beauty products are artificial, and represent complex formulations of chemicals (typically petroleum byproducts)? The potential health effects of these chemical cocktails have not been comprehensively studied, but we do know that they adversely affect millions of people. Please avoid wearing fragrances when you come to Beth El.

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Storm Closings

We make every effort to keep our offices open and maintain our *minyanim* as regularly scheduled. In case of really bad weather, you can learn whether the Beth El office will be open and/or morning and evening minyan will be held by checking for messages on:

- * email
- * WFSB Channel 3 and WVIT Channel 30
- * Facebook
- * Beth El answering machine: 860-233-9696

Engaging Generations

A Warm Welcome to New Members

Marilyn & Harry Goldberg
Sebastian Wogenstein & Sarah Willen with Dassi

Congratulations

Eric & Michelle Gladstein and Alison & Ed Demarest on the birth of granddaughter Anna Katherine Berube-Gladstein.

Rachel & Mitchell Marcus and Nancy & Herman Lefkowitz on the engagement of son/grandson Zachary Marcus to Cari Amador.

Ari & Erika Santiago, Rafi & Robin Santiago, and Sheila & Howard Mark on the birth of daughter/granddaughter/great-granddaughter Emerson Lila Santiago.

Karyn Schwartzer & Melissa Mentzer on the birth of granddaughter Leora Simone Schwartzer.

Mazal Tov! and appreciation for sponsoring a Kiddush or Lunch

Koteen Family, Starr/Newman Family, Efron Family,
Yontef Mathog family, Selzer family

Of Blessed Memory

Dr. Felix Bronner, husband of Leah Bronner

Estelle Burke, mother of Robert I. Burke

Lillian Beinart Golden, grandmother of Jed & Lisa Finman
George Haller

Seymour Putterman, father of Bruce Putterman

Samuel Schulman, husband of Natalie Schulman, father of
Honorable Jed Schulman

Robert Simons, husband of Barbara Simons

Please let us know of the Simchas and Sorrows in your life that you would like to share with your Beth El family.

Please contact the office for information about this month's Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations.