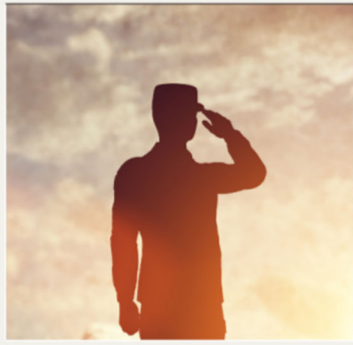




**MEN'S CLUB KICKOFF  
BREAKFAST**



**HONORING OUR  
VETERANS**



**S'MORE HAVDALLAH**



**FROZEN TURKEY DRIVE  
FOR JFS**

*8 things  
we're  
excited  
about this  
season*



**CELEBRATING  
RABBI RACHEL ZERIN**



**GATHERING TOGETHER  
FOR SERVICES**



**LIGHTING CHANUKAH  
CANDLES**



**BUILDING BRIDGES  
WITH THE ADL**

**Be.★**  
*Community You  
Can Believe In*

**TEMPLE**  
*topics*

November - December 2023 Cheshvan - Kislev - Tevet 5784

- ★ Helping Neighbors This Thanksgiving *page 3*
- ★ 4th Grade Leads S'more Havdallah *page 6*
- ★ Chanukah Games & Blessings *page 8*

# ★ Engaging Our Youth



*"He had a dream; a SULAM (ladder) was set on the ground and its top reached to the sky, and messengers of God were going up and down on it." ~ Genesis 28:12*

In the Torah, when Jacob left Beer-sheva and set out for Haran, he had a dream on his journey. In his dream, Jacob saw angels going up and going down the ladder. The ladder symbolizes our spiritual connection and the bond we feel with something more than just ourselves. The angels first went up and then descended the stairway or ladder. This teaches us the symbolic messengers in the dream started from the ground and then ascended to the sky.

When Jacob wakes up, he comes to the realization that, all along, God was surely in this place, he just wasn't aware. At SULAM, we take this message to heart. The ladder experience teaches Jacob to wake up and see the miracles all around him at every moment. The ladder encourages Jacob to marvel at the blessing of creation. Our goal at SULAM is to make the learning



relevant and meaningful so it will last a lifetime. Climbing one rung at a time, learning at SULAM aims to be authentic and from a heartfelt place. To engage with SULAM and start climbing the ladder of learning,

please be in touch with me to enroll your child today!

The question of living an authentic Jewish life is one we also unpack and explore both at SULAM and at JTConnect. One significant way we are encouraging our post B'nei Mitzvah students to be themselves and explore their own Jewish identity and wrestle with Jewish authenticity is by attending JTConnect (see p. 16 for more information).

I've been honored to lead brief community building activities before JTConnect's class time begins each week; second semester I will be teaching my own class. I've been impressed with the quality of learning and the commitment our teens make to this important learning opportunity. Hosting JTConnect at Beth El has been a wonderful experience.

~ Dr. Eliyahu Krigel  
ekrigel@bethelwh.org



Better Together in October: planted etrog seeds, learned together, listened to each other's stories



1<sup>st</sup> graders offering warm hospitality



UHa Senior Morah Zoey Birman leads SULAM in song and joy

**SULAM Beth El –**  
**Seek. Understand. Learn. Act. Marvel.**

## Taste of Sulam

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

**6:00 – 7:00 PM**

GEARED TO: learners and their parents

COST: free

RSVP: [tinyurl.com/TasteofSULAM2023](https://tinyurl.com/TasteofSULAM2023)

While learners munch on popcorn and watch a movie together, parents will meet with educators and Dr. Eliyahu and enjoy some appetizers, wine, and cheese.

## SULAM Programs and Events

### November

Sat. 11	Gr. 3 Siddur Ceremony
Sat. 18	Gr. 4 leads <i>S'Mores Havdallah</i>
Sun. 19	Gr. 5 Better Together
Thu. 30	Taste of SULAM

### December

Sun. 3	Gr. 6 B'nei Mitzvah and Beyond; Yad Design
Sun. 10	Gr. 5 Better Together
Sun. 17	Gr. 7 Torah Celebration



Mazel tov to Michelle Konigsberg who will receive an honorary Doctor of Pedagogy from the Jewish Theological Seminary on November 9 in recognition for her achievements and years of distinguished service to the Jewish people. *Kol HaKavod* Morah Michelle! We are all so proud and grateful for your leadership and commitment.

### Sunday SULAM

Nov. 5, 12, 19  
Dec. 3, 10, 17

NOTE: The Craft Gallery is open these mornings.

### Weekday SULAM

SULAM does NOT meet:  
Nov. 21-26  
Dec. 19-31

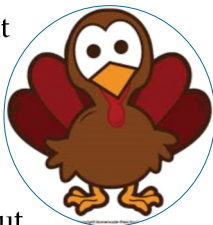


# ★ Happenings at Beth El

## Turkey Drive

Sunday, November 19  
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

The need for turkey donations is great this year, as there are so many in our community who risk going without a holiday meal. Thanks to your generosity last year, we were able to feed all of the families who reached out to Jewish Family Services (JFS)! This year we know we need



### 275 frozen turkeys

155 non-kosher and 120 kosher

Please bring your frozen turkeys, pop your trunks, and one of our volunteers will be there to assist you.

In addition, JFS is preparing special grocery bags to turn the turkey meal into a feast! It includes cans of vegetables, fresh potatoes and onions, packets of seasonings, and other fixings. The Rosenberg Toro families are matching all bag donations to provide comprehensive services to JFS Pantry clients! A cash or check donation (made payable to Jewish Family Services with "food pantry" in the memo) is also very much appreciated.

To VOLUNTEER: Judy Rosenthal, info@bethelwh.org,  
or call the office

NOTE: rain or shine!!

## Understanding this Israeli Moment

Sunday, November 26  
10:00 – 11:45 AM

Yossi Klein Halevi, an American-born Israeli author and journalist, will speak on current happenings in Israel, what has happened in recent history, and will answer questions from the audience. See page 20 for more information about our speaker.

COST: \$18

RSVP: [tinyurl.com/YKHatBET](https://tinyurl.com/YKHatBET)

CO-CHAIRS: Sharon Efron, 860-559-4010;

sgredancer@yahoo.com; Robin Santiago,

860-490-7661, Robin@rsantiagodmd.com

CO-SPONSORS: Israel Education Committee, Jewish  
Federation of Greater Hartford

## Kulanu (All of Us)



While there is anti-semitism around the world, you can fight it here at home through a new initiative with the ADL. Beth El has been accepted to join this network of congregations to build bridges of understanding across communities. This eight-month program is dedicated to empowering congregations to address antisemitism and hate in their communities through education, community engagement, and advocacy. We will learn how to have critical conversations about antisemitism and other forms of bigotry and cultivate the tools to fight them.

As a Kulanu synagogue, we commit to these activities:

- ✧ Forming a working group that oversees Kulanu programming
- ✧ Promoting reporting of antisemitic and bias incidents to ADL
- ✧ Implementing two programs or initiatives, one of which engages an external audience beyond the synagogue community
- ✧ Participating in Kulanu webinars
- ✧ Engaging in a community of practice for at least two meetings
- ✧ Sharing impact at the end of the program

CONTACT: Robin Landau, 860-305-6601,  
robin@ctvoicesofhope.org

## Shabbat of Light Celebrating Rabbi Rachel Zerin

Friday, December 15

Save the date for a formal welcome for our beloved Rabbi Zerin! While COVID-19 delayed our formal welcome (and then delayed it again last spring!), we look forward to celebrating Rabbi Zerin with a special Kabbalat Shabbat, followed by a Chinese food dinner! More details coming soon.

# ★ From the Rabbis' Desks

## Light in the Darkness



As we write this, we are entering the fourth week of the war between Israel and Hamas. Twenty-two days ago, darkness overshadowed what should have been one of our most joyful days, as we spent Simchat Torah in shock and grief, learning of the massacre of our people, of the hundreds taken hostage. Ever since then, it feels as if the world is a little less bright.

Before October 7, I (Rabbi Zerin) had written a message about Chanukah and dedication, which I had intended to print here. A message about my dedication to you, my Beth El Family, and the dedication you show to me and to our entire community. It was a message of gratitude to you for welcoming me so warmly ever since I arrived in July of 2021 and for celebrating my arrival with a Shabbat of Welcome this December, even after two and a half years of being here. I still feel all of that gratitude, very deeply.

And yet, ever since October 7, what seems most important about these coming months is not

dedication or celebration, but rather another theme of Chanukah. In fact, for the past three weeks, we have never felt the need for Chanukah more. Because two of the central messages of this holiday are light amidst darkness and the power of just one person to miraculously illuminate the dark.

There is something quite incredible about how our eyes work. When we are first plunged into darkness, it can be hard to see anything. But as our eyes adjust to the darkness, even the faintest of lights can illuminate our entire field of vision, in a way they never would in broad daylight.

It is no mistake, then, that Chanukah always comes in the depths of winter, when the days are darkest. It is during those days that even one small flame can illuminate the night. How much more so when each and every one of us kindles our lights.

This is not only true in the literal sense. Proverbs 20:27 says:

(continues on facing page)



# ★ Reflections from the President



Another very rewarding High Holiday season ended a few weeks ago here at Beth El. Our clergy and staff outdid themselves with all the preparation, attention to details, and last-minute adjustments thanks to our ever-changing New England weather. Seeing so many of you at all of our services and special events throughout the holidays was wonderful, and the spirit of community came through loud and clear. Beth El is a special place and for that I am very grateful.

I started to write this letter in a very light-hearted way, focusing on the upcoming celebrations of Thanksgiving and Chanukah. And then, as we were getting ready to celebrate Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, the unthinkable hit us. Israel was at war. The days went on, and more and more of the news came through, along with horrific videos. An article about fun and festivities felt foreign and wrong.

As we've had to do many times these past years, we refocused and applied our energy to what's important for our Beth El community. Whether we have immediate family in Israel, friends,

or simply people we've met along the way, the connection and bond we all feel and the heartache we experience brings us all together as one people. On Yom Kippur, I spoke of community, and that spirit of community has been so evident right now. As soon as the holidays ended that October weekend, we reached out to each of you with words of support. Our Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford held an incredible rally in West Hartford. Throughout those early days, our clergy guided us in conversation and prayer. We made sure our SULAM students and families had the right tools to help navigate through this turmoil. We

(continues on page 13)

## נִשְׁמַת אָדָם יָרָה

### The lamp of God is the soul of a person

This means that each and every one of us has the capacity to be a light in this world. Even – and perhaps especially – in the darkest of times, we have the capacity to be beacons of light. Even the smallest of acts can illuminate the dark.

Chanukah reminds us to be those lights. And it reminds us that the courage to be a light in the dark is itself a miracle. Our rabbis wonder why Chanukah is celebrated for eight days. Yes, the story goes, after the desecrated Temple was reclaimed, the oil that should have only lasted for one day lasted for eight. But surely that means that the miracle we celebrate was seven days long, the rabbis say. There is nothing miraculous about the oil that was sufficient for one day actually burning that first day!

Rabbi David Hartman, in his essay *Trusting a New Beginning*, offers a beautiful interpretation. He writes: “The miracle of the first day was expressed in the community's willingness to light a small cruse of oil without reasonable assurance that their efforts would

be sufficient to complete the rededication of the Temple. Chanukah celebrates the miracle expressed by those who lit the lamp and not only the miracle of the lamp's continued burning for eight days.”

In other words, Chanukah is a holiday that celebrates many miracles: it celebrates the miracle of a small amount of light piercing through the darkness; it celebrates the miracle of what seemed insufficient being enough; and it celebrates the miracle of people who are willing to create light, even in the smallest of ways, without any reason to believe that their light will make enough of a difference, but who hope beyond reason that it will.

May we all be able to perceive light in these dark times; may we all be the lights that are so desperately needed in this world; and may we act with the same kind of conviction and hope that our ancestors had, so that we, too, may experience miracles of light breaking through the darkness.

And may Israel soon know the light of hope, security, and healing in overcoming the current darkness.

~ Jim Rosen and  
~ Rachel Zerlin

## ★ Cantor's Corner



It is said that one can chronicle the history of a people through its music, through its song. Of course, one can

imagine that this space is not big enough to even dent the richness of this subject matter.

There is a poem by one of the great poets in the Hebrew language, Shaul Tchernichovsky, entitled *Omrin Yeshna Eretz*. This poem explores the notion of a land of holiness and the realization that it is in each of our hands to make that possibility into reality. And so, we explore passages in this

### They Say There Is a Land

wonderous poem...

*They say: There is a land,  
a land drenched with sun.  
Wherefore is that land?  
Where is that sun?*

*Where is that land,  
the stars of that hill?  
Who shall guide our way,  
tell me my path?*

With all the violence inflicted on the Jewish people over many thousands of years in all the lands where we dwelt, there was a great yearning to find a land that we could call our own, where we could live without threats and brutality, where we would be able to observe

in the manner of our traditions.

*Already have we passed several  
deserts and oceans.  
Already have we traversed  
several,  
our strengths are ending.  
How is it we have gone astray?  
That not yet have we been left  
alone?  
That land of sun,  
that one we have not found.*

A land that was in our dreams, a place of fantasy, a place unimaginably beautiful and peaceful, a place where we could build our lives with meaning and

(continues on page 13)

# ★ Worshipping Together – Shabbat

## Family Program

### Who Wants S'more Havdallah

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

**6:00 PM**

GEARED TO: children 0-18 and their families

COST: free

REGISTER: by 11/14 at noon,  
[tinyurl.com/BETSmore2023](https://tinyurl.com/BETSmore2023)

QUESTIONS: Jason Kay,  
[engagement@bethelwh.org](mailto:engagement@bethelwh.org)

SPONSOR: The Kest Family Fund

Families with children ages 0-18 are invited to join us for Havdallah, a campfire, s'mores, and singing. The community is invited to join us as we mark the transition from Shabbat into the rest of the week!

## Friday – weekly

### Kabbalat Shabbat

**5:45 PM**

Zoom and in person

We welcome Shabbat with joyous song and prayer led by Cantor Ness, *d'var Torah* from one of our rabbis, and special guest soloists.

**New start time!**

## Saturday – monthly

### Birthday Shabbat

all ages!

**SATURDAYS, NOVEMBER 4, DECEMBER 2, JANUARY 6**

On the first Shabbat of every month we celebrate birthdays with a group *aliyah* (Torah honor) and a blessing from the Rabbi.

## Candle & Havdallah Times; plus Havdallah Service Time

Shabbat	Friday	Saturday	
	Candle	Havdallah	Service
Nov 3-4	5:25 PM	6:22 PM	6:45 PM
Nov 10-11	4:17 PM	5:14 PM	5:35 PM
Nov 17-18	4:11 PM	5:08 PM	5:30 PM
Nov 24-25	4:06 PM	5:04 PM	5:25 PM
Dec 1-2	4:03 PM	5:01 PM	5:20 PM
Dec 8-9	4:02 PM	5:00 PM	5:20 PM
Dec 15-16	4:03 PM	5:01 PM	5:20 PM
Dec 22-23	4:06 PM	5:04 PM	5:25 PM
Dec 29-30	4:10 PM	5:09 PM	5:30 PM

## Veterans Day and Siddur Ceremony

**NOVEMBER 11**

Livestream and in person

**DURING MORNING SERVICES**

REGISTER: to [ChaiSociety@bethelwh.org](mailto:ChaiSociety@bethelwh.org), for veterans of any branch of service not already listed with us

KIDDUSH: follows for all, in honor of our veterans

SPONSOR: Chai Society

As we do annually, we will honor living Beth El veterans by reading their names during the service.

At this same service, we'll present some of our young learners with their very own siddur. Third graders at SULAM, with their parents, decorate siddur book covers for *hiddur mitzvah*, beautifying our observance.

## Saturday – weekly

### Shabbat Morning & Torah Services

**9:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

Livestream and in person

A traditional service; may include b'nei mitzvah or special programming.

### Children's Playroom

up to age 5

**9:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

NOTE: children must be supervised by a grown-up

A place to take a break with your energetic child.

### Youth Shabbat Services

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

no Virtual Options

QUESTIONS: Dr. Eliyahu, [ekrigel@bethelwh.org](mailto:ekrigel@bethelwh.org)

#### ★ Mazel Tots

Featuring songs and stories geared for children 6 and under with their families.



#### ★ Shabbat Club

Prayers, games, and activities for students in grades 1-5.



### Shabbat Mincha Service

**12:30 – 1:00 PM**

Livestream and in person

The brief afternoon service, complete with Torah readings, is in the Levine-Shein Chapel. Mourner's *Kaddish* will be recited for Sunday *yahrzeits*.

### Havdallah

LOCATION: Home

Zoom only

NOTE: see chart for timing; it follows sunset

We transition from Shabbat to the new week with this brief service using the traditional symbols of a burning candle, a spice box, and wine. This will not include an evening service; Mourner's *Kaddish* will not be recited.



# ★ Worshipping Together – Daily

## Mincha & Ma'ariv

In person and Zoom

SUNDAYS-THURSDAYS

5:30 PM

Our daily *minyan* (prayer service with at least 10 Jewish adults) includes *Kaddish* for those in mourning or observing *yahrzeit* (the anniversary of a person's passing).

## Shacharit

In person and Zoom

SUNDAYS

8:45 AM

MONDAY-FRIDAY

7:00 AM

NOTE: Nov 23, Dec 25, & Jan 1

9:00 AM

The morning *minyan* also includes reading Torah on Mondays, Thursdays, and *Rosh Chodesh*.

## Join Us For Minyan – In Person

Our in-person Minyan allows people to come together for worship, say *Kaddish*, name a baby, provide support in good and difficult times, and build a lasting connection to those around us. It is an opportunity for prayer, community, music, reflection, and a few moments of quiet in our busy world.

### What is a Minyan?

It is a gathering of at least ten Jewish adults (over the age of Bar/Bat Mitzvah) for prayer. At Beth El and many other synagogues, Minyan also refers to the non-Shabbat services that are held on weekdays, in both the morning and evening.

### Why do we have a Minyan?

A Minyan is required to say certain communal prayers (including Mourner's *Kaddish*, *Bar'chu*, and *Kedushah*) and to read Torah. Torah is read on Monday and Thursday mornings, as well as on Shabbat at the morning and afternoon services. During all Torah services, we can

- ✧ offer the *Mi Sheberach* prayer for those who are ill
- ✧ recite the *Gomel* blessing upon recovering from an illness or returning safely from travels
- ✧ name new babies in our community
- ✧ publicly recognize other simchas and sorrows with words from our clergy

### What if a scheduled Minyan or Shabbat Service does not have 10 Jewish adults in the room?

A mourner or those observing *Yahrzeits* (the annual commemoration of a person's passing) cannot recite the Mourner's *Kaddish* and particular blessings and prayers must be skipped. The Torah can't be read, and with that, we cannot recite the blessings listed above.

### Do I need to know Hebrew to attend?

No. All of our prayerbooks have English translations on the facing page of every prayer, and transliterations (using English letters to spell out Hebrew words) are provided for some prayers.

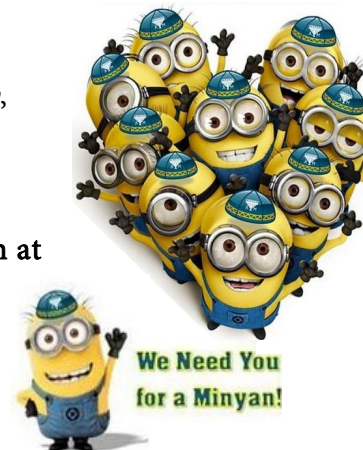
### What can I expect at Minyan?

Our clergy and/or a congregant leads and guides the service with English and Hebrew portions. Congregational participation is encouraged at whatever level you feel comfortable with.

### What do I do when I am at Minyan?

You can engage in any way you'd like:

- ✧ read the Hebrew
- ✧ read the English
- ✧ offer your own personal prayers



### How long is Minyan?

Sun, Tues, Wed, and Fri mornings:	30 minutes
Mon. and Thurs. mornings: (when Torah is read)	40 minutes
Sunday through Thursday evenings:	25 minutes

### Can children attend?

Everyone is welcome! Although one must be 13 years or older to be counted in the minyan, the presence of children always enhances the service, and children who are willing are encouraged to lead certain prayers like *Oseh Shalom*. We have books and toys available in the foyer outside the Levine-Shein Chapel (and inside the Sanctuary for Shabbat Services).

You are welcome whenever you show up.  
No registration required, no attendance taken!

However, if you know that you like to come on a particular day(s) of the week or will be there for a *Yahrzeit*, it is helpful for the clergy to know when they can count on a *Minyan*. Please sign up on our **NEW Signup Genius**. You will then receive a calendar invite and a reminder two days before your selected dates.



Visit [BethElWestHartford.org/Minyan](https://BethElWestHartford.org/Minyan),  
or scan this code:

# ★ Observing at Home - Chanukah

## Chanukah Program

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

11:30 AM

Save the date for a fun, family-friendly program, open to the community, with lunch.



## Women's Network Chanukah Celebration

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

6:00 – 8:00 PM

COST: no charge

REGISTER: [tinyurl.com/WNChanukah2023](https://tinyurl.com/WNChanukah2023)

CONTACT: Michelle Kunzman, 860-729-4201, michellekunzman1@gmail.com

SPONSOR: Women's Network

Come play games, eat latkes and other Chanukah treats, share stories about any special family traditions, or bring a cherished menorah to add to the joy and meaningfulness of this holiday.

## Lighting the *Chanukah* (Chanukah Menorah)

A *Chanukah* takes nine candles, eight at the same level and one *shamash* (guardian) that stands taller and is used to light all the others. Place the candles in the *Chanukah* right-to-left (as Hebrew is written and read), but light them left-to-right so that the new candle is lit first.

Each night, recite the first two blessings below, and on the first night add the third blessing. After reciting the blessings, light the candles.



The 1<sup>st</sup> night of Chanukah this year is **Thursday, December 7.**



### Chanukah Candle Lighting

Weeknights (Sun-Thu) after dark;  
Friday before Shabbat candles;  
Saturday after Havdallah.

### Praised are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe...

- ☆ who made us holy through Your commandments and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah lights.
- ☆ who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in those ancient days at this season.
- ☆ for giving us life, sustaining us, and enabling us to reach this season.

ברוך אתה ה' אלקינו מלך העולם  
אשר קדשנו במצוותיו  
וצננו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

ברוך אתה ה' אלקינו מלך העולם  
שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

ברוך אתה ה' אלקינו מלך העולם  
שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

### Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam...

- ☆ asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.
- ☆ she-asah nisim la'avoteinu (v'imoteinu) ba'yamim ha'haim bazman ha'zeh.
- ☆ shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higianu laz'man hazeh.

## Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel

The four Hebrew letters stand for *Nes gadol haya sham*, "A great miracle happened there."

1. Each player starts with the same number of game pieces (buttons, gelt, m&m's, anything!)
2. At the beginning and whenever the center "pot" is empty, each person puts one piece in the middle.
3. Each turn, spin the dreidel once, and give or take according to the letter landing face up.
4. Play until one person has all the pieces.



How to play →

נ *Nun*  
do nothing

ג *Gimel*  
take all

ה *Hey*  
take half

ש *Shin*  
put in 1

## A Historical Refresher

In 168 BCE, Syria's King Antiochus marched into Jerusalem to end Jewish worship in his kingdom. His soldiers desecrated the Temple and killed thousands of people. Three years later, Judah, a son of Mattathias the Kohen (priest), led a rebellion and retook Jerusalem. His search for pure, untainted olive oil to light the menorah – thus rededicating and returning Jewish practice to the Temple – netted enough for only one day. Miraculously, it lasted for eight.



# ★ Honoring Our Generations

Information on B'nei Mitzvah celebrations  
is available from the Temple Office.

## **Welcome to New Members**

Ilene Baron  
Sydney Feinstein & Cody Bondra  
Lauren Cohen, with Avi  
Deb & Robert Evnen  
Brandon Grody  
Jennifer & Randy Herz, with Isabella  
Alona & Vitaly Kantorovich, with Yaron  
Gayle & Bruce Krigel  
Rebecca Keys & Yoni Miller, with Yadin  
and Tair  
Michelle & Gregory Patchen, with Michael  
and William  
Patricia & Robert Shapiro  
Jed & Rachel Siegal, with Henry and Tyler  
Alexis Dietz & Adam Siegel  
Abigail Tulchinsky  
Amir Tulchinsky, with Sophie

## **Mazel Tov! and Appreciation for Sponsoring Shabbat Kiddush**

Gottfried family, in honor of  
Rafael's Bar Mitzvah  
Kabakoff family, in honor of Tali's  
Bat Mitzvah  
Kest family, in honor of Nava's  
Bat Mitzvah  
Mina & Barry Nemirow, in honor  
of their Chai Anniversary

## **Congratulations**

Jill & Gary Jones, on birth of grandchild  
Helen Shlizerman Jones  
Julie Malkin, on birth of grandchild  
Brooke Paige Rubin

## **Of Blessed Memory**

Martha Ehrlich  
Rebecca Feldman,  
grandmother of Adam Berkowitz  
Jean Gladstein, mother of Eric Gladstein  
Diane Greenfield  
Helene Haven,  
mother of Melinda Kaufmann  
Diane Lieberfarb,  
mother of Richard Lieberfarb  
Dr. Stephen Lieberman, partner of Marilyn  
Steinmetz  
Marvin Smith  
Selma Squires  
Stewart Yontef

If you would like to  
share your Simchas and  
Sorrows with the Beth El  
Community, please send  
your Life Cycle  
announcements to:  
[info@bethelwh.org](mailto:info@bethelwh.org).

# ★ Lifelong Learning

All services and classes can be accessed directly from the weekly e-blast to members (no login necessary) or by following the links on our website (login required).

## Classes with Clergy

### Is there an Essence to Being Jewish?

Three-Class Series with Rabbi Rosen

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 3, 10, & 17

7:00 – 8:00 PM

Zoom and in person

COST: no charge

NOTE: Zoom links will be emailed to all members

What does it mean to be Jewish? We'll dive into the roles of faith and practice, the land of Israel, being part of a people, and the importance of values in texts. How is it that these facets come together in different ways for each person, and why? Rabbi Rosen will lead us on a journey to considering our own Jewish identities, especially in light of the October 7<sup>th</sup> war.

### Musical Chat with Cantor Ness

MONDAYS, 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Zoom only

COST: no charge

NOTE: Zoom links will be emailed to all members

NOVEMBER 27 *Interpreting the Psalms*

DECEMBER 18 *Israel: A Coming Together*

### Dirshuni – Israeli Women's Midrash and the Missing Half of the Jewish Bookshelf with Rabbi Zerlin

SELECT WEDNESDAYS: NOVEMBER 8, 15; DECEMBER 6, 20

5:30 – 5:55 PM

Minyan

6:00 – 7:15 PM

Class

COST: no charge

REGISTER: [tinyurl.com/Dirshuni5784](https://tinyurl.com/Dirshuni5784)

QUESTIONS: Michelle Kunzman,

860-729-4201,

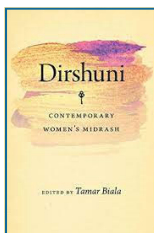
[michellekunzman1@gmail.com](mailto:michellekunzman1@gmail.com)

REFRESHMENTS: snacks provided

SCHEDULE: not meeting in January

NOTE: Zoom option available

SPONSOR: Women's Network



What can we discover if we read between the lines of the Torah? What were the people in the Torah thinking or feeling? What backstories were we never told? *Dirshuni* is a collection of *Midrashim* – imaginative interpretations of the Torah – written by modern Israeli women that answer these questions and more. We will read and discuss the texts together.

No previous knowledge or background is necessary. All are welcome to these classes; join us for one or more classes. Each stands on its own and enhances the others.

## Ongoing Weekly Adult Classes

New participants welcome!

Come occasionally or come weekly.

No registration, no charge.

Classes are both on Zoom and in person, unless otherwise noted.

### Lunch & Learn

TUESDAYS

12:00 – 1:00 PM



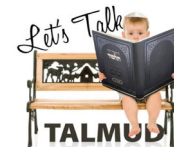
Now in its 30<sup>th</sup> year, Rabbi Rosen invites you to join us as we explore the Hebrew Bible together. We will continue to study *B'reisheet* (Genesis).

### Talmud Study

WEDNESDAYS

10:15 – 11:15 AM

Zoom only



We are a self-guided group of learners currently studying the tractate *Shevuot*. The only prerequisite is a desire to learn Torah as explored by our great sages.

### Bible & Breakfast

THURSDAYS

8:00 – 9:00 AM

NOTE: no class 11/23

Participants share their viewpoints and insights about the weekly parsha, guided by our rabbis. We all learn by listening, thinking, and sharing. People from all backgrounds are welcome; an ability to read Hebrew or knowledge of Hebrew text is not needed.



### Pirkei Avot Study

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

1:30 – 2:30 PM

NOTE: the class will be paused after 11/2 until January.



This small book of wisdom has been a source of inspiration for centuries. Rabbi Rosen leads us as we explore the nature of the good life from an ancient (and still very relevant) Rabbinic perspective.

## ★ Doing Mitzvot

### KNITzvah Group

MONTHLY SUNDAYS, NOVEMBER 5, DECEMBER 10  
10:00 – 11:00 AM

CONTACT: BJ and Fran, knitzvahgrp@gmail.com

The KNITzvah Group creates lapghans and other knitted or crocheted gifts which we donate to various organizations working with people who can use the extra love that is woven into our creations, with some delivered to Israel. We welcome knitters and crocheters of all levels to join us as we *make strings into things* to warm the hearts of those in need. If you have any questions, please email.



### Chesed (Kindness)

#### Committee

#### Supporting Our Members

COORDINATOR: Leah Katz,  
mitzvahbethel@gmail.com

If you are in need of some assistance or would like to be part of our volunteer corps, please contact us. Your Beth El community is prepared to be of help with any life challenge (illness, loss of a loved one).

### Go Fragrance Free: A Beautiful Proposition



As Jews, the best way to beautify ourselves is by performing acts of kindness (*Gemilut Hasadim*). Many people are highly sensitive to fragrances and can suffer adverse health consequences when exposed to them. The next time you're grooming yourself, please add a touch of beauty by avoiding the application of fragrances.

*Let's keep the air we share  
healthy and fragrance-free for all.*

### Food Pantry

The Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry at Jewish Family Services continually needs to be restocked. Throughout the year, when coming to Beth El, please bring a can of vegetables or fruit, peanut butter, tuna, pasta, or a bag of groceries. Place your donations in the box at the entrance across from the Community Room.

Items may also be brought directly to  
Jewish Family Services  
333 Bloomfield Ave, Suite A  
West Hartford

## ★ Supporting Beth El



### WELCOME TO THE BETH EL TEMPLE CRAFT GALLERY

We bring you a selection of the finest Judaica that is created by artists in Israel and from around the USA. We carry ceremonial items for B'nei Mitzvah and weddings, an array of traditional items for Chanukah, Passover, and Shabbat, as well as a variety of styles of beautiful kippot. We also have a children's section with gifts and games.

We may be small, but we strive to assist you with your individual needs. There is much to see in the gallery so please stop by and browse.

HOURS: Sundays, 9:00 – 11:30AM (when SULAM is in session)

APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE: Shelley Barker, 860-232-6468; Jill Jones, 860-922-7300

VOLUNTEERS: contact Jill to sign up

NOTE: proceeds benefit the synagogue, and we are staffed through the generosity of our volunteers



# ★ Recognizing our Volunteers - High Holidays

Making our High Holidays enjoyable for all takes a true community with many volunteers: tasks big and small, visible and behind the scenes. But all are important to keep things running smoothly.



We thank those listed below. If we left you out, please let us know. We try to cover everything, but don't always get there.

*Todah Rabah. Thank you very much.*

## Torah Readers, Teens and Adults

We continue our tradition of teens reading the majority of the Torah portions during the Holy Days. They receive a portion after their b'nei mitzvah, and it is theirs until they go to college.

Esther Aronson	Alexandra Golder	Will MacDermott
Logan Barash	Samantha Goldstein	Avi Mayo
Eben Bauman	Samantha Harris	Ella Nemirow
Noam Berkowitz	Joel Harris	Russ Selzer
Lila Brown	Ellie Kay	Lily Temkin
Jordan Cipriano	Dan Kulakofsky	Sarah Wayne
Lila Fried	Simon Levy	Sadie Weiner
Pauline Golder		

## Lay Service Leaders

We are blessed to have many congregants capable of leading our services and allowing us to offer different services.

Susan Gold                      Jason Kay

## Shofar Blower at Services

Lance Reiser

## Preparing the Sanctuary

Tending to our ritual objects by cleaning the silver adorning our Torahs.

Michelle Kunzman              Judy Rosenthal

## High Holiday Choir

Our all-volunteer choir worked this season for eight weeks and is representative of the High Holiday choir under Cantor Ness for over three decades.

Dan Cohen	Richard Lieberfarb	Lexy Curtin
Lexy Curtin	Lance Reiser	Elora Esposito
Diane Dolin	Joshua Rosenfeld	Eva Kaplan
Bruce Freedman	Mat Saidel	Jeanne Kleinman
Allan Geetter	Elisa Wagner	Lance Reiser
Susan Gold	<i>Soloists</i>	Joshua Rosenfeld
Eva Kaplan	Alyssa Barzach	Elisa Wagner
Jeanne Kleinman	Avi Bluestone	Dassi Wogenstein
Robin Lazinsk	Ilana Brown	Leila Zelman
Peter Levine		

## Special Lunch for Lake Norden Badger

A specially-themed lunch prepared to accompany Rabbi Rosen's annual story.

Howard Meyerowitz,	Lois Koteen
<i>chair</i>	Dan Kulakofsky
Stuart Bernstein	Gary Rubin
Ahna Bielek	Jane Rubin
Beth Brumberg	

## Ushers

Sharon Levine-Shein,	Harley Graime	Deborah Rosenfeld
Andrew Schoolnik,	Lois Koteen	Phil Schulz
<i>co-chairs</i>	Jacob Kovel	Stuart Wachtel
Stephen Aronson	Abbey Kreinik	
Michael Bloom	Barrie Kreinik	
Scott Dolin	Mina Nemirow	

## Yizkor Booklet

The staff produces the booklet, and a volunteer team proofreads this very important list of names. In addition, booklets were mailed to families that requested virtual-only access to services.

Deborah Rosenfeld,	Gale Shapiro	<i>Stuffing &amp; Sticking</i>
<i>coordinator</i>	Sharon Levine-Shein	Sheila Diamond
<i>Proofing</i>	Sandra Rulnick	Marilyn Grody
Judy Borus	Francine Stier	Eileen McMurrer
Betty Hoffman		Gary Starr

## Haftorah Readers

Alisha Cipriano	Peter Levine
Dennis Gottfried	Alan Tuvin

## Food Drive Sorting

Once again, our Community came through for our annual Food Drive for the Anja Rosenberg Kosher Food Pantry at JFS.

Sharon Levine-Shein,      Cindy Cohen  
*chair*                      Cindy Krish

## Garden Beautification

Tending to the garden beds and potted plants all around our building.

Alison Demarest,              Sheila Fox  
Robin Santiago,              David Silver  
*co-chairs*

## Honors Coordinators

Sharon Efron                      Rachel Leventhal-  
Michael Schenker              Weiner

## Bima Decorations for Sukkot

Cindy Krish  
Michelle Kunzman



## ★ Cantor's Corner, cont.

(continued from p. 4)

devotion to each other and to the Creator of all things. A land where we will be taken care of.... where we will be led by great rabbis and teachers...

*A land where shall come to pass  
what every man had hoped for,  
Everyone who enters,  
had met with Akiva.*

*Peace to you, Akiva!  
Peace to you, Rabbi!  
Where are the saints?  
Where is the Maccabee?*

A land where we finally arrive, but  
we see an empty barren land with

no leaders, with the exception of  
Rabbi Akiva, whom we greet and  
name our great teacher and sage,  
and we ask with desperation,  
“where are all our teachers and  
heroes that can save us?”

*Answers him Akiva, answers  
him the Rabbi: All of Israel is  
sainted, you are the Maccabee!*

Rabbi Akiva tells us that it is ALL  
OF US that are to be the teachers  
and heroes of this new yet ancient  
land, not to depend on others to  
save us. We are the shapers,  
teachers, and defenders of this  
land, of “milk and honey” a land of  
holiness, beauty, and joy.

And so we pray that the land of  
Israel is everlasting and a  
homeland for all of us with the  
realization that it is up to each of  
us, in our hearts, in our souls, and  
in our deeds to actively make that  
happen!

*Am Yisrael Chai!*

~ Joseph Ness

Many composers created beautiful  
songs with this poem. Here are two  
compositions on YouTube:

Joel Engel:

[tinyurl.com/BETEngel](https://tinyurl.com/BETEngel)

Naomi Shemer:

[tinyurl.com/BETShemer](https://tinyurl.com/BETShemer)

## ★ Reflections from the President, cont.

(continued from p. 3)

came together at Beth El for a  
special Shabbat gathering. Our professionals and staff  
worked as a team and continue to do so.

Now, the Thanksgiving holiday is upon us and some  
weeks later we will celebrate Chanukah. Granted, these  
holidays may feel a bit different this year. Our thoughts,  
prayers, and actions will remain focused on *Eretz Yisrael*.  
When we support our Greater Hartford neighbors in need  
of Thanksgiving meals, let us remember those who are  
missing loved ones at their kitchen tables from a place  
that is close to our hearts, but thousands of miles away.  
When we light the Chanukah candles, may we remember  
how important it is to carry our light into the world.

Let's continue to come together as a community at Beth  
El. It is never more urgent than now to be together as  
Jews. Beth El has so many opportunities to join together,  
and we look forward to spending time with you and your  
families. So though our hearts continue to ache, on behalf  
of the Officers and Board of Trustees, warmest wishes as  
we gather to give thanks and enjoy the lights of  
Chanukah.

~ Leah Katz

**BUILDING OUR  
MOVEMENT  
TOGETHER**  
תנועה ביחד

**OUR CONSERVATIVE/MASORTI  
SHABBATON & CONVENING**

**SHABBATON  
DEC 1-2  
2023** | **CONVENING  
DEC 3-5  
2023**

**AT THE BALTIMORE  
MARRIOTT WATERFRONT**

 **CANTORS ASSEMBLY**  
Every Jewish Soul Has A Voice

 **RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY**  
ASAMBLEA RABINICA כנסת הרבנים

 **USCJ** Seek meaning  
together

# ★ Making Connections

## Women's Network

### **Women's Network Shabbat and First Annual Woman of Valor Award**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**

**DURING MORNING SERVICES**

COST: no charge

CONTACT: Michelle Kunzman, 860-729-4201

michellekunzman1@gmail.com

KIDDUSH LUNCH: follows, sponsored by the Kravet family.

SPONSOR: Women's Network

Women's Network is bringing back the Sisterhood Shabbat from days gone by and initiating an annual award.

The **Sandra L. Kravet Woman of Valor Award** will honor a woman each year whose contributions to Beth El, the Jewish Community, and/or the Greater Hartford Community embody a modern-day Woman of Valor – and the deeds of Sandra L. Kravet z"l.

Women interested in reading Torah or other aliyot are encouraged to contact Michelle.

### **Kugel Kookoff**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

**1:00 – 3:30 PM**

LOCATION: 979 Dickinson St, Springfield, MA

COST: \$10, includes coffee, tea, desserts, fruit, Kugel tastings

RSVP: by check payable to NAR-WLCJ, mailed to Robin Metzger, 3 Walnut Hill Rd, Millis, MA 02052

CARPools: from The Emanuel Synagogue  
CONTACT: Audrey Yanofsky, 860.690.6139, to enter, limited to 12

Why do Jews eat Kugel? How many varieties of Kugel are there? Bakers and tasters are invited to find out at this regional event.

### **Book in the Sukkah Volunteers**

Rena Citron

Michelle Kunzman

Rivka Dvorin

Deena Myers

Lisa Fishman

Evi Shekman

## Men's Club

### **Breakfast Program: *Talking Art with Art***

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

**9:15 – 11:15 AM**

COST: no charge

RSVP: by 10/31, [tinyurl.com/ArtwithArt](http://tinyurl.com/ArtwithArt)

CONTACT: David Sabino, 917-453-2553, [dnsabino@gmail.com](mailto:dnsabino@gmail.com)

SPONSOR: the family of Stanley Wiesen in his memory

Our kickoff breakfast features Arthur Freedman, Men's Club President, a retired dentist and professional artist who has exhibited his work at numerous prestigious juried art shows throughout the Northeast.

### **Walk Around the Reservoir**

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 9:15 AM**

COST: no charge

LOCATION: Reservoir on Route 44, Albany Ave; meet in parking lot

CONTACT: Stu Bernstein, 860-232-2012, [sbernste@aol.com](mailto:sbernste@aol.com)

### **Fall Event Volunteers**

Fantasy Football League Draft

David Sabino

First Day of SULAM Breakfast

Dave Diamond

Cindy Krish

Phil Schulz

Arthur Freedman

Jeff Rudolph

Sukkahfest

Michael Bloom

Harley Graime

Jacob Kovel

Jeff Polinsky

Dave Diamond

Ruth Ann

Marty Melnick

Steve Rabb

Tom Falik

Graime

Eric Polinsky

Phil Schulz

Arthur Freedman

Dave Klau

DSA Banquet

Stu Bernstein

Gerry Garfield

Jacob Kovel

David Sabino

Michael Bloom

Harley Graime

Cindy Krish

Phil Schulz

Jeffrey Bourke

Dave Klau

Marty Melnick

Bruce Shein

Dave Diamond

Bill Kleinman

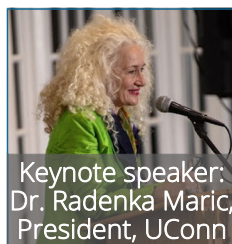
Steve Rabb

Eli Simon

Sheila Diamond

Tom Falik

Arthur Freedman



Keynote speaker:  
Dr. Radenka Maric,  
President, UConn

Photography by Jake Koteen



Lois Koteen (left) and Howard & Patti Weiner (right) shared stories of honorees David & Judy Rosenthal (center), in a packed room of 250 people for this annual event



# ★ Making Connections – Teens and Young Adults

## JTConnect

### Monday Night JTConnect at Beth El Temple

**MONDAYS**  
**6:15 – 7:45 PM**

INFORMATION: [www.JTConnect.org](http://www.JTConnect.org)  
CONTACT: Caroline Poland, Executive Director, [office@jtconnect.org](mailto:office@jtconnect.org)  
AGES: grades 8-12



Each evening begins with a Kosher dinner from The Crown Market; class offerings include:

- ✧ *Video Games and Judaism* with Max Beede, USY Advisor
- ✧ *Human Rights and Judaism* with Bob Fishman, Executive Director, CT Immigrant and Refugee Coalition
- ✧ *Exploring Israel* with Asif Peretz, Israel Emissary
- ✧ *Does God play Dice?* with Jason Kay, Engagement Coordinator, Beth El Temple
- ✧ *Jews in Comedy* with Marisa Beede, USY Advisor

### Teen Conference on Antisemitism

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5**  
**10:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

COST: \$18/person  
INFORMATION: [www.JTConnect.org](http://www.JTConnect.org)  
CONTACT: Caroline Poland, Executive Director, [office@jtconnect.org](mailto:office@jtconnect.org)  
AGES: grades 7-12, parents, partners, and friends

NOTE: a portion of the registration fee will be donated to a Jewish organization in Israel, as decided by our teen community

This Conference is an actionable way for teens and their parents to learn about, stand up to, and combat antisemitism and all forms of hate and bigotry.

## United Synagogue Youth

WHUSY, the local chapter of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's youth movement, serves teens from Beth El Temple and The Emanuel Synagogue. USY offers local and regional programs and conventions, local social and social justice activities, and more!



- NOVEMBER 11** Region "Undernight"  
(gr. 3-8, in Newton, MA)
- NOVEMBER 12** Sigd Celebration (ancient Ethiopian Jewish Holiday)
- DECEMBER 11** Chanukah Celebration with JTConnect
- DECEMBER 16-17** Region Semi-Formal & Lock-in  
(in Sharon, MA)

CONTACT: Marisa and Max Beede, Advisors,  
[whusyadvisor@gmail.com](mailto:whusyadvisor@gmail.com)  
AGES: grades 6-12

*WHUSY programming is made possible  
in part through the generosity of Jewish  
Federation of Greater Hartford.*

## College Connections

Do you have a child in college or college-aged? We'd like to stay connected with them! We send them greetings and goodies throughout the year: for Chanukah, we send a little gelt (an e-gift card!!!) and for Purim, we send *Mishloach Manot* with lots of goodies.

Please email us their contact information (name, school mailing address, cell phone number, and email address) so they know Beth El is thinking of them!

Stephanie Kudler, Chair  
[collegeconnections@bethelwh.org](mailto:collegeconnections@bethelwh.org)  
(note: new email address)



The generosity of the  
*Gavens Family College Youth Fund*  
makes this project possible.

# ★ Supporting Beth El

## We deeply appreciate the following Thoughtful Contributions.

- ★ This list reflects contributions received and processed through September 19, 2023.
- ★ For the next edition of Temple Topics, contributions need to be received in the office by November 16, 2023.

### Beautification Fund Ceremonial Court

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Ben Chorney, son of Sally & Harris – Lois & Chuck Koteen

### Camp Ramah Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF

Martha Ehrlich, mother of Jackie Cohen – Georgianne & Jonathan Cohen

### Cantor's Music Fund

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Stewart Lehman, husband of Phyllis – Lorraine & Tom Barber  
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Diane Greenfield – Marilyn Steinmetz

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Edna Turkenitch, aunt – Lorraine & Farrel Vogelhut  
Samuel Lindenberg, father – Judith Weisman

### Education Fund

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Dr. Eliyahu Krigel – Deena Myers

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Sheila Saxe, sister – Bill Gartner

### Max Goldfield Fund

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Fanny Drescher, Holocaust remembrance – Julie & George Risisky

### Prayerbook Fund

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Max Potish, father – Barbara & Harry Parlee

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Martha Ehrlich, mother of Jackie Cohen – Honey Sue Springut

### Rabbi Rosen's Discretionary Fund

#### IN APPRECIATION OF

Rabbi Rosen – Barbara & Robert Green

#### IN HONOR OF

Norma Jean & Robert Sternschein – Mara Whitman & Marc Edrich

#### IN MEMORY OF

Matthew Friend Byrne – Roberta Buland  
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Marlene Passman – Nicole & Joseph Ranieri

Dr. Jonas Leifer, brother-in-law of Robert Green – Janet & Steve Selden

Faye Cohen – Laurie & Steve Strauss

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Eliot Barron, husband – Vida Barron  
Emanuel Zimmer, father – Marylin & Arthur Noll

Rachel Ann Order – Denise & Richard Order

Selma Spiegler, mother – Liz & Steve Rafalowsky

Ruth Rosen, mother – Linda & Jon Rosen  
Hilda Lamkin Satz, mother – Linda & Bruce Stanger

### Rabbi Zerin's Discretionary Fund

#### IN APPRECIATION OF

Rabbi Zerin – Barbara & Robert Green  
Ellen Sanders-Nirenstein – Barbara & Robert Green

#### IN HONOR OF

63<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary of Bobby & David Klau – Naomi & Michael Cohen

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Dr. Selman A. Berger; Rhoda M. Grossman – Dr. Avram S. Berger  
Anne Zimmer, mother – Marylin & Arthur Noll

## There are two ways to make a donation:

- ★ Go to the Beth El website: [www.bethelwesthartford.org/giving](http://www.bethelwesthartford.org/giving)
- ★ Mail it in

## Please be sure to include:

- ◇ the name of the fund
- ◇ whom you wish to honor/remember and your relationship to the person
- ◇ their address for an acknowledgment card
- ◇ your address/phone/email

## Print clearly – or submit the information typed.

Every dollar contributed can and does make a difference and will be acknowledged.

The minimum donation for each listing is \$10.

Unrestricted funds support the timely needs of Beth El Temple. Restricted funds benefit specific purposes and objectives. For a complete list of funds and any specific designations, please visit our website.

### Cemetery Fund

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Scott Bernstein – Nancy Bernstein

### Chai Society

#### IN MEMORY OF

Selma Squires; Jean Gladstein, mother of Eric – Roz Rachlin & family

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

David Satlof, husband; Martha & Philip Ugelow, parents – Judith Satlof

### Taste Of Shabbat

#### IN MEMORY OF

Dr. Richard Freund; Martin Schulz, father of Phil – Philip Post



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#### IN MEMORY OF

Martha Erhlich, mother of Jackie Cohen –  
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& Jackson Cushman, Harriet & Dewey  
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& Judd Fink, Peter Levine, Iris & Eric  
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Kaufman – Elissa & Elliott Donn  
Faye Cohen – Lanie & Steven Etkind  
Dr. Jonas Leifer, brother-in-law of Robert  
Green – Sharon Gorlick  
Jean Gladstein, mother of Eric – Karen &  
Jeff Polinsky, Sue & Stuart Wachtel

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Rose Abkowicz – Leslie Abkowicz  
Jean Blumberg, mother – Leslie & Harold  
Blumberg  
Fanny Smith Cremer, mother – Reeve  
Cremer  
Jeannette Mandell, mother – Harriet  
Dannhauser  
Norman Mann – Tom Falik  
Ethel Corash, aunt; Rose Adelson, aunt –  
Matthew Friedman  
Seymour Gold, father – Sandy & Marc  
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Stanley M. Wiesen, father – Debby  
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Wiesen Rundgren  
Bernard Kessler, uncle; Eli Evnen,  
grandfather – Abigail Kessler Hanna  
Harry Meier – Debbie & Steve Kleinman  
Sarah Weinberg, grandmother – Miriam  
Lappen  
Perry Scott Levy, son – Judie & Coleman  
Levy  
Theodore Cooper, brother – Judy Levy  
Helen Soref, mother – Jean Meyer  
Ruth Moskowitz, mother – Harold  
Moskowitz  
Mollie G. & Samuel B. Pollack, parents –  
Elliott B. Pollack  
Cecil B. Schatz, grandfather – Deborah R.  
Rosenfeld  
Dora Wilensky, grandmother – Sue &  
Stuart Wachtel  
Betty Berkowitz, mother; Louis Berkowitz,  
grandfather – Lenore Weisinger  
Dorothy Zweig, mother – Doreen  
Fundiller-Zweig & Elliot Zweig, Diane  
& Richard Zweig

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#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Donald Lehrer, father – Marci & Jonathan  
Alter

#### Edward & Susan Chestler Family Endowment Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF

Stephen Lieberman – Sue & Ed Chestler

### General Unrestricted Endowment Fund

#### IN HONOR OF

Birth of Helen Jones, granddaughter of Jill  
& Gary – Abbey Kreinik  
Graduating Beth El members of the 2023  
Wexner Heritage Program – Gayle &  
Steven Temkin

#### IN MEMORY OF

Martha Ehrlich, mother of Jackie Cohen;  
Stephen Lieberman – Abbey Kreinik

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Ruth Katz, mother; Max Goldsmith,  
grandfather; Gustav Rosenbach,  
grandfather – Peter Katz

### Friends Fund for Members in Need

#### IN HONOR OF

Judy & David Rosenthal receiving the  
Men's Club Distinguished Service Award  
– Meryl & Mitchell Danitz  
50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Joyce &  
Richard Leibert – Tammy Levine

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Lillian Rosenfield, mother – Judy & David  
Rosenthal

### Garfield Family Fund

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Jamie Michael Garfield, son; Margot  
Garfield, sister – Whitney Whitaker &  
Gerry Garfield

### Anna Heineman Memorial Fund

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Anna & Frank Heineman, parents –  
Francine & Steve Stier

### Leah Goldschmidt Katz Endowment Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF

Stephen Lieberman – Leah Katz

### Ruth & Harry Kleinman Endowment Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF

Selma Squires – Jeanne & Dan Kleinman

### Koteen Family Fund

#### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Lillian Levitsky, mother – Lois & Chuck  
Koteen

### Levine-Shein Endowment Fund

#### IN HONOR OF

Sharon Levine-Shein, for all things "fire  
truck" – Dani Rosen & family

(continues)



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# ★ Supporting Beth El, cont.

## Judith & David Borus Family Endowment Fund

### IN HONOR OF

Birth of Helen Jones, granddaughter of Jill & Gary – **Judith Borus**

### IN MEMORY OF

Martha Ehrlich, mother of Jackie Cohen – **Judith Borus**

### FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Mimi Aleng, Holocaust remembrance – **Judith Borus**

## Gottfried Family Endowment Fund

### IN HONOR OF

45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Janet & Joel Miller; bar mitzvah of son, Rafael – **Shanna & Josh Gottfried**

Bar mitzvah of Rafael Gottfried, son of Shanna & Josh – **Lois & Chuck Koteen, Abbey Kreinik, Lea & Bernie Selig**

## Diane & Richard Lieberfarb Endowment Fund

### IN HONOR OF

Special birthday of Jackie Cohen; marriage of Evan Selzer, son of Shari Roth & Russ Selzer, and Lauren Rosenstock; marriage of Jonathan Feldman, son of Debra Feldman & Larry Kushner, and Greg DiSantis – **Diane & Richard Lieberfarb**

### IN MEMORY OF

Martha Ehrlich, mother of Jackie Cohen – **Diane & Richard Lieberfarb**

## Michael & Susan Schenker Endowment Fund

### IN HONOR OF

Bar mitzvah of Asher Wolfson, grandson of Susan & Michael Schenker – **Abbey Kreinik**

### IN MEMORY OF

Marsha Kamins, wife of Michael – **Susan & Michael Schenker**

## Albert & Mickie Schoolnik Endowment Fund

### IN HONOR OF

Wishing health and happiness to Julie & George Risisky in their new home – **Rita Schoolnik & Howard Zisserson**

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**Lois & Alvin Reiner Family Fund**  
**FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF**  
 Alvin Reiner, father – Gail Reiner, Jim Reiner  
**Marshall & Sandra Rulnick Endowment Fund**

**IN APPRECIATION OF**  
 Sandy & Marshall Rulnick – Leah Katz  
**Amy E. Toyen Endowment Fund**

**IN MEMORY OF**  
 Martha Ehrlich, mother of Jackie Cohen;  
 Marsha Kamins, sister of Elaine Dombroff – Marilyn & Alan Rothstein  
 Dr. Jonas Leifer, brother-in-law of Robert Green – Dorine & Marty Toyen

**FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF**  
 Amy Toyen, daughter of Dorine & Marty – Meryl & Mitchell Danitz, Alan & Alison Gittleman, Lois & Chuck Koteen

**Arthur & Stella Mostel Fund for Adult Education**

**FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF**  
 Charlotte Mostel, grandmother – Carolyn & Jeff Weiser

**Santiago Family Fund**

**FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF**  
 Bettie Santiago, sister – Robin & Rafi Santiago

**Sussman Families Fund**

**FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF**  
 Edythe & Paul Sussman, parents – Lisa & Bruce Sussman

**Sisterhood-Women's Network Endowment Fund**

**FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF**  
 John Kunzman, father – Michelle Kunzman & Steve Szafman

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## ★ Israel Education Committee

### Yossi Klein Halevi

We are very excited to have Yossi Klein Halevi join us by Zoom this November to help us understand the current political situation in Israel.

Many of you have already had the pleasure of meeting him here in the Hartford area when he visited in March of 2019. Halevi spoke then at West Hartford Town Hall in a dialogue with a Palestinian representative before an audience of several hundred. He spoke at a JCRC program and concluded his trip with a talk at UConn in Storrs. Others have heard him speak at AIPAC meetings. Many more will have heard him on the Shalom Hartman podcast, "For Heaven's Sake." He is highly regarded for his sensitivity, compassion, integrity, and ability to see the many sides of issues and to help others do the same. He is not afraid to pose hard questions and to work tirelessly to promote peace and understanding.

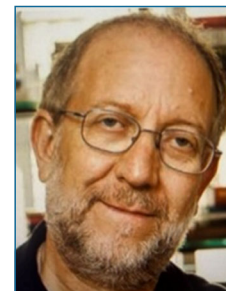
His works evoke the same qualities, clearly demonstrated in his most recent book, Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor, a New York Times best seller. His 2013 book, Like Dreamers, won the Jewish Book Council's Everett Book of the Year Award. His articles and op-eds appear in the Times, The Wall Street Journal, and The Atlantic, among others.

Yossi Klein Halevi is an American-born Israeli author and journalist. He is a senior fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Together with Imam Abdullah Antepli of Duke University, he co-directs the Institute's Muslim Leadership Initiative (MLI), which teaches emerging young Muslim American

leaders about Judaism, Jewish identity, and Israel. You can search YouTube to hear them in a conversation on 12/26/2018.

Halevi's parents were Hungarian Jewish immigrants, his father a Holocaust survivor, whose experiences colored his world view. His first book, *Memoirs of a Jewish Extremist*, published in 1995, tells of his youthful fascination with the militant Rabbi Meir Kahane and his subsequent disenchantment with that philosophy. Halevi's 2001 book, *At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden: A Jew's Search for God with Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land*, deals with his exploration of Christianity and Islam to better understand these faiths and how to create a climate of understanding and reconciliation. This book initiated his relationship with Imam Antepli and ultimately led to the creation of the MLI.

In 2013 he served as a visiting professor of Israel Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary and served as a writer in residence at the University of Illinois. He was a senior fellow at the Shalem Center in Jerusalem from 2004 until 2010. He moved to Israel in 1982 and lives in Jerusalem with wife, Sarah, who helps run a center for Jewish meditation. They have three children.



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