

Be★

Community You
Can Believe In

TEMPLE
topics

January-February
2020

Tevet-Shevat-Adar 5780

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★ SULAM Beth El - Seek. Understand. Learn. Act. Marvel.



Our primary grades learned about the Festival of Lights in a round-robin created by our awesome educators. Learners traveled from station to station, coloring chanukiot, learning the music and blessings for lighting the candles, playing dreidel and hearing the Chanukah story.

December was all about Chanukah for our SULAM learners!



Sixth and seventh graders learned about Hillel and Shammai's candle debate and constructed torn paper midrashim to reflect their understanding and preference. Most opted for Hillel's take, lighting one candle on the first night (and increasing through the holiday), as opposed to Shammai's position that we should start with eight candles the first night (and decrease each night).



Singing along to our favorite Chanukah songs with music educator Sawyer Harrington-Verb

Upcoming Programs and Events

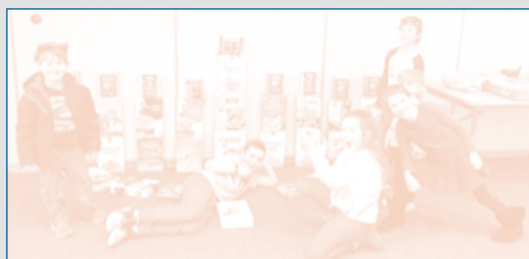
JANUARY

Sun	5	9:00AM	Gr. 6 – Bar/Bat Mitzvah & Beyond Workshop #2
Sun	12	9:00AM	Gan – Family Challah Baking
Sun	26	9:00AM 10:00AM	Gr. 7 – ADL Program PALS – Tu BiShevat Program
Fri	31	5:30PM	Gan – Family Shabbat Dinner

FEBRUARY

Sun	2	9:00AM	Gr. 3 – Siddur Presentation
Sun	9	9:00AM	Gr. 7 – Torah Celebration
Sun	23	10:00AM	PALS – Purim Program

No SULAM	Sun	January	19
	Sun	February	16
	Tu-Th	February	18-20



Special thanks to our family Chanukah partygoers who donated cereal and pasta to create a giant chanukiah! The donations then headed to JFS's Kosher Food Pantry ahead of the holidays.

NOTE:
The mitzvah continues in 2020! SULAM is collecting canned fish in January and laundry detergent in February.

You're Invited!

Join us for these two special events! Our third graders (and their families) worked so hard on their siddur covers, and our seventh graders have diligently practiced their Torah introductions. Our Siddur Presentation and Torah Celebration programs begin at 9am for parents and learners, but **extended families and the community are invited at 10am** to celebrate our learners!



Show off your own siddur! Share a photo of it on Instagram with **#MyChildhoodSiddur** and tag us so we can share them with our learners! We're online at **@beth.el.temple.wh!**



★ Enjoying Beth El

Mah Jongg Night
Wednesday, February 5
7:30 – 9:30 PM

Get your team of 4 and come play with us! No team – we'll set you up!



COST: \$10/BET Members, \$15/non-members
REFRESHMENTS: wine and snacks
REGISTER: by 1/31, tinyurl.com/BETMahjongg
QUESTIONS: Beth, womensnetworkbethel@gmail.com
NOTE: bring your set if you have one
SPONSOR: Women's Network

This is JEOPARDY!
Saturday,
February 22
7:45 PM



Another social evening just to be together!
Teams of up to 6 people will play Jeopardy!
Prizes will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place teams!

Grab your friends (members and non-members) and make a team, or ask us to assign you a team! Please select and send us the name and a picture of your team captain.

Bring your fully charged smartphone to be your buzzer (don't have one? We'll put you on a team with someone who does!).

COST: \$25/person; \$30/person after 2/10
REFRESHMENTS: beer, wine, coffee, tea, soda, seltzers, snacks, and desserts
REGISTER: tinyurl.com/BETJeopardy
QUESTIONS: Marci Alter, 860-655-2935, mbajba1@gmail.com, Sheila Diamond, 860-965-6564, stdiamond@comcast.net
NOTE: there is no snow date



Shabbat Across America
Friday, February 28
6:00 PM Services
7:00 PM Dinner

Join in as hundreds of synagogues across the continent will take part in this historic national Jewish event to celebrate what unifies all Jews – Shabbat!

COST FOR DINNER: \$12/adult, \$8/child (ages 5-12)
REGISTRATION: required for dinner by noon, 2/25, tinyurl.com/SAA2020BET

Scholar-in-Residence - Personal Connection



Many of us have been fortunate to have had the guidance of mentors for our lives. People who have kindly and graciously shown us a way to succeed in life and to help us make a difference in everything we do.

In my life that role was played graciously by my teacher Rabbi Joel Zaiman. As his assistant rabbi, he taught me what it meant to be a learning and giving presence as a representative of Torah and tradition.

At the time of my installation, at Dani's Bar Mitzvah and other times he kindly appeared at Beth El as a teacher for these special

moments. Many of you were given a glimpse of his wisdom and compassion. Sadly, he died this past August. I was honored to co-officiate at his funeral.

In our years in Baltimore, we were privileged to know all of the members of the Zaiman family. One of them, Elana Zaiman, became a rabbi herself and has brilliantly made her mark as a deep, caring, compassionate teacher who connects the lessons of Torah with our personal lives. Through her work and her book, *The Forever Letter*, she has helped thousands to find the ways of reflecting, writing, and providing for loved ones the major lessons of their own personal lives. She helps people of many different

backgrounds in crafting loving messages that are ordinarily so hard to create in our busy lives.

Her very presence is a gift and we are so delighted that she will be joining us February 7-9 for a Scholar-in-Residence weekend. Please come and join us as we learn from her dynamic yet sensitive presentations.

I know she will give us tools to understand ourselves better and how in a loving Jewish way, we can share that wisdom with those we hold dear.

~ Rabbi Jim Rosen

See the back cover for information about, and registration links for, this Scholar-in-Residence weekend.

★ From the Rabbi's Desk



We've all heard the rumors of Conservative Judaism's impending demise. It's hard to be in the middle and to maintain our ground, especially when the pulls to the left (Reform) and the right (Orthodox) seem so strong. Conservative Judaism can be

confusing. Not actually "conservative" as the name implies but rather our name comes from a history of preserving tradition while embracing change. In Israel we are called Masorti, meaning traditional, which may seem an odd description both here, and frankly, in Israel, but that's what we are. I think it all comes down to this: defining the middle is challenging, and understanding who we are – as opposed to what we are not – has never been more difficult.

It is because of this that so many feel the shrinking numbers of affiliated Conservative Jews means our movement is over.

But in December 2019, I had an experience that proves just the opposite.

Over 1,300 Conservative Jews – rabbis, lay leaders, educators, synagogue directors, and interested friends – joined together in Boston for "2020 Judaism: A Collaborative Convention of United Synagogue and the Rabbinical Assembly." The days were packed with sessions about innovation, inclusion, spirituality, the Jewish family, and Israel. We heard from experts on anti-Semitism. We learned about the future of our synagogues, our Jewish communities, and our Jewish people. Imagine a program that offers sessions on climate change, LGBTQ rituals, interfaith opportunities for grandparents, guns in synagogues,

#metoo in Jewish spaces, mental health, addiction, and immigration!

I was honored to teach at the convention about SULAM, our innovative educational program, and about Chai Mitzvah, a very successful adult education component. I learned so much, too. But what I also noticed was that we are a vital, vibrant, and strong Conservative movement, and we are facing forward fearlessly into a fabulous future. I am no longer worried about shrinking numbers or the pressures to move right or left. Now, I just want to sing our movement's praises!

Most of us don't even realize all that has come out of – and continues to strengthen – our Conservative movement: Solomon Schechter Day Schools, Camp Ramah, United Synagogue Youth (USY), our beautiful siddur and High Holiday machzor, Lev Shalem (as well as previous siddurim and machzorim over the last 100 years). Seminaries, rabbis, cantors, educators, knowledgeable lay leaders...the list goes on and on. We stand strong in the middle, with so much to offer the world around us.

So the question I will leave you with as we enter 2020: what is YOUR "2020 Vision" for your Jewish experience and expression? How might you shape the future of our synagogue, our Jewish community, and our Jewish people? And how might you take a step toward more deeply understanding who we are and what we stand for, so that you, too, can feel deeply rooted in our vibrant center?

Wishing you a Happy 2020!

~ Rabbi Ilana Garber

Mitzvah Day 2019

In the next Temple Topics there will be a complete list of participants and activities on Mitzvah Day.



ReJEWvenate Membership Campaign

Help grow Beth El

Do you know we have a membership referral benefit (to you, the referring member) as well as a new member promotion? If you know someone who might enjoy being part of our incredible community – a *Community You Can Believe In* – or if you are looking for a warm, supportive, engaging, and spiritual Jewish community – please be in touch.

New Member Promotion – January 2020!

Join in January at our already discounted new member rate AND you are set through June 2021! It's 18 months for the price of 12! And the member making a referral will get a credit on their dues bill!

This is the perfect time to join Beth El!

CONTACT: Rabbi Ilana Garber, igarber@bethelwh.org, 860-233-9696

★ Reflections from the President



Was Mr. Rogers a Torah Scholar?

Okay, I admit it. I have been a Mr. Rogers fan for so many years and for so many reasons. Watching the

movie *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* reminded me of the importance of the many life lessons that Mr. Rogers passed along to children, and adults as well.

In fact, many of those life lessons represent some of the most basic human values: respect, kindness, compassion, integrity, humility, and forgiveness. These are the same values we learn from our weekly Torah passages and the thoughtful

Shabbat sermons from our rabbis. The Torah, our rabbis, and Mr. Rogers speak of the importance of listening, looking for safe places, caring for others, communicating clearly, and anticipating the ways listeners will hear what we say.

Such values and lessons remind us of the good in the world, even during the most challenging times. As members, I hope we all hold these practices dear to our hearts, and that, as a community, we continue to reach out to those who could use a little TLC: offering meals, rides, visits, Shiva calls, and even a mazel tov when celebrating a simcha.

Please join us as a much-needed volunteer and help give others, especially those who could use a touch of kindness, a “Beautiful Day” in our Beth El neighborhood. That’s what makes us a *Community You Can Believe In*. Just email me at president@bethelwh.org, or leave your name for me at the office, 860-233-9696.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful New Year as, together, we create new memories and possibilities in 2020.

~ Judy Rosenthal

★ Cantor’s Corner - A Winter’s Psalm

The landscape for as far as the eye can see, is covered with white powdery snow resembling eternity.

Standing just at the edge, looking to cross that open and bleak landscape, the snowflakes still lightly fall – blanketing trees and earth, touching them so very quietly, as if to engage in a soft embrace.

Silence...

The stillness is filled with a gentility that brings with it a certain clarity. The snow falls like stardust – a cascade of precious gems, each crystal of the infinity that caresses the earth is its own masterpiece of creation, never to be repeated. An origination of the finite, in that it is fleeting, receding by melting from nature’s pulsating energy, is part of its essence.

And so the compulsion for us to gaze, to hold, to touch with wonderment... and experience the oneness of each crystal in complement to the vastness and quiet majesty of the topography that is before our eyes – A gift from God...

There is a suggestion that You and I are woven into a story of the singular, uncopiable and irreplaceable “one” to the immensity of humanity – all with the finiteness that is our lives.

The realization of the quietude that comes from gazing first at the singular crystal and then across the snow-covered landscape can now inspire us to cherish who we are and embrace the immensity of our aspirations.

~ Cantor Joseph Ness

BEMA

Beth El Music & Arts
2019-2020 Season



<u>Concerts</u>	Sundays, 7PM
<i>March 22</i>	Jerusalem of Gold, with music by Bach, Handel, Rossi, and Ness
<i>June 7</i>	Opera+
<u>Lectures</u>	Sundays, 1PM
<i>February 16</i>	Liturgical Chat
<i>May 17</i>	Operas of the Jewish Experience

***Music Appreciation Trip to
Israel with Cantor Ness***

August, 2020

led by Sharon Efron

Details coming soon!

★ Worshipping Together - Shabbat

Fridays

Shababa

MONTHLY: JANUARY 17, FEBRUARY 21

5:45 – 6:45 PM

QUESTIONS: Rabbi Garber, igarber@bethelwh.org

REGISTRATION: tinyurl.com/Shababajan;

tinyurl.com/ShababaFeb

TARGET AGE: children 8 & younger (and siblings, parents, and grandparents)

RSVP: encouraged, not required, to enable us to better plan for dinner.

A fun, engaging “service” for our youngest generation. Experience the joy of Shabbat with dancing, singing, stories, prayers, and a free chicken nugget dinner.



Challah Baking Workshop

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

REGISTER: tinyurl.com/ChallahJan

SPACE: limited, may be cancelled if not enough sign up

NOTE: open to all, no cost

Come to Rabbi Garber’s workshop to bake challah for members of our community – and participants will get to take one home for their own family. Volunteers may be asked to deliver challah as well.



Saturdays

Mazel Tots

(birth – K, with parents)

WEEKLY

11:00 AM – NOON

Mazel Tots is the spot for kiddos on Shabbat mornings! Parent volunteers lead songs, prayers and stories.



Shabbat Club (K – 5, with parents)

WEEKLY

11:00 AM – NOON

LEADER: volunteer parents

Games, puzzles, and more, plus occasional programming with our parent educators; in our redesigned Youth Lounge.



Birthday Aliyah (all ages)

**MONTHLY: JANUARY 4,
FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 7**

DURING THE MORNING TORAH SERVICE

On the first Shabbat of the month, we celebrate that month’s congregational birthdays with a special aliyah!



Shabbat Yoga (all ages)

JANUARY 4

10:30 AM – NOON

LEADERS: Rabbi Garber and Adriana Matozzo from West Hartford Yoga

An all-levels yoga class with Hebrew prayer, chanting and Jewish meditation.



Topics in Tefillah: an In-Depth Exploration of Prayer (adults)

JANUARY 18

11:00 AM – NOON

NOTE: this is a class, not an actual service; all are welcome

Designed for adults who wish to explore elements of Shabbat services with our rabbis.

JCL* Service (all ages)

JANUARY 25

10:30 AM – NOON

* Jewish Association of Community Living

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

NOTE: a light Kiddush lunch follows

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



Jewish Association
for Community Living
Community active... Community strong!

Family Service & Lunch (families)

FEBRUARY 22

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

NOTE: concludes with lunch and games

RSVP: by noon 2/20, tinyurl.com/FamilyFeb

SPONSOR: The Kest Family Fund, a named fund within The Endowment Fund of Beth El Temple

We come together as a “family” for a combined service, bringing the best from *Mazel Tots*, *Shabbat Club*, and Beth El’s *Community You Can Believe In* to build our Shabbat family community.

★ Celebrating - Tu BiShevat

A Historical Refresher

This minor holiday wasn't always a festival. Instead, it was a key farming date that Jews marked in ancient times.

"When you enter the land [of Israel] and plant any tree for food, you shall regard its fruit as forbidden. Three years it shall be forbidden for you, not to be eaten" (Leviticus 19:23).

The fruit a tree bore in year four was offered to the priests in the Temple, but the fruit of the fifth year (and all the ones after!) was for the farmers. The rabbis established the 15th of the month of Shevat as the "birthday" for trees, regardless of when they were planted during the year.

The Seven Species

as rendered by Israeli artist Ahuva Elany in a copper tile wall hanging..

- ☆ wheat ☆ grapes ☆ pomegranate
- ☆ barley ☆ fig ☆ olive branch
- ☆ date palm



The New Year of Trees begins Sunday evening , February 9.

Our Celebration of Nature

An increasingly popular way to celebrate is with a Tu BiShevat seder (yes, Passover doesn't have a lock on the seder). The menu includes the traditional four cups of wine along with foods celebrating the *Seven Species* traditionally grown in Israel.

The seder is a great, tangible way to connect with Israel. We eat fruits that symbolize the life-sustaining power brought forth from the earth, the spiritual strength within each of us, the mystery of our world, and our study of Torah. Find details on how to lead the seder and where to find a Haggadah on our Pinterest board.

PreSchool PALS Play And Learn @ Synagogue

Parents and Preschoolers (up to age 5)

SUNDAYS: JANUARY 26 Tu BiShevat
FEBRUARY 23 Purim

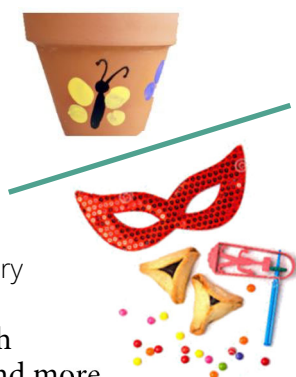
10:00 – 11:30 AM

QUESTIONS: Rabbi Garber,
igarber@bethelwh.org

COST: no charge

RSVP: for supplies and snacks:
tinyurl.com/PALS-Jan
tinyurl.com/PALS-February

This holiday-focused exploration provides a "Taste of SULAM" with songs, stories, art, creative play, and more...



It's the start of spring in Israel...

...but here in CT we can settle for planting parsley (it'll be perfect for Passover!)



★ Worshipping Together - Daily Services

Daily Minyan

Shacharit

7:00 AM Mon–Fri
8:45 AM Sun

Ma'ariv

7:30 PM Sun–Thu

Note: Special Minyan Time

Wed, January 1

9:00 AM

Shabbat – Friday

Kabbalat Shabbat

6:00 PM

Shabbat – Saturday

Pirkei Avot Study

8:30 AM

Shacharit, Torah & Musaf Services

9:30 AM

Children's Playroom

9:30 AM

Mazel Tots & Shabbat Club

11:00 AM

Mincha Service

12:30 PM

There are no regular services (Ma'ariv & Havdalah) on Saturday evenings.

Candle Lighting & Havdalah Times

Shabbat	Friday	Saturday
Jan 3-4	4:15 PM	5:14 PM
Jan 10-11	4:23 PM	5:21 PM
Jan 17-18	4:30 PM	5:29 PM
Jan 24-25	4:38 PM	5:37 PM
Jan 31– Feb 1	4:47 PM	5:46 PM
Feb 7-8	4:56 PM	5:55 PM
Feb 14-15	5:05 PM	6:04 PM
Feb 21-22	5:14 PM	6:13 PM
Feb 28-29	5:22 PM	6:21 PM

★ Celebrating - Purim

Purim Faire Extravaganza:

A Purim Carnival with a Mitzvah Twist

SUNDAY, MARCH 1 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$5/person

VOLUNTEERS: needed to run booths, contact Liz

LUNCH: items available for purchase

ADULT-ONLY AREA: Pour'em Pub

QUESTIONS: Liz DePalma, 860-233-9696, edepalma@bethelwh.org

Mishloach Manot

VOLUNTEER help package AND/OR deliver

PACKAGE: week of March 1

DELIVER: Sunday, March 8

REGISTER: tinyurl.com/BETPurimHelp

It's time to package and deliver hundreds of gifts.

This is a fun chance to spread Purim cheer.

(Experienced with creating and using routes in Google Maps?
We could especially use your help!)

It's Purim!



MONDAY, MARCH 9

5:30 PM Purim Pasta Bar Dinner

COST: \$5/person, ages 3+

RSVP: tinyurl.com/PurimDinner2020, by 3/5, noon

6:15 PM Gantza Megillah Reading

Bring boxes of pasta to shake and drown out Haman's name, and then to donate to the JFS kosher food pantry. Wear your costumes!

7:30 PM Evening Minyan

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:00 AM Morning Minyan, with Megillah Reading

★ Engaging Generations

Mazal Tov! and Appreciation for Sponsoring a Kiddush or Lunch

The Brown family, in honor of Ilana's Bat Mitzvah

Chai Society, in honor of our Veterans

The Berey family, in honor of Evan's Bar Mitzvah

Nancy & Rabbi Jim Rosen and Phyllis & Joe Zwarick, in honor of mother & mother-in-law Elsie Farber's 100th birthday

Stephanie & Justin Landrie and Lynn & Marc Estra, in honor of baby naming of daughter/granddaughter, Taylor Ava Landrie

Klau & Cohen families, in honor of the 85th birthdays of David Klau and Michael Cohen

The Krulewitz Family, in honor of Joelson's Bar Mitzvah

Taste of Shabbat

New Members

Jami & Travis Bish, with Mila

William Glucksman & Wendy Amblo, with Rachel, Henry

Congratulations

Elina & Daniel Tannenbaum, on baby naming of daughter, Evetta Tannenbaum

Of Blessed Memory

Charlotte Bazer

Randy Bobrow, stepfather of Mindy Jason, and Kimberly DiBella

Michael DeRosa, husband of Marlene DeRosa

Arnold Eisenfeld, brother of Len Eisenfeld

Marcia Goldberg, mother of Len Goldberg

Irma Golfin, mother of Gary Rubin

Shirley Garten Reif, mother of Deborah Shoflick

Geraldine Sack

Wendy Schulman, wife of Hon. Jed Schulman

Shirley Seltzer, grandmother of Julie Winick

Jean Weil, mother of Michele Kostin

Bar and Bat Mitzvah Celebrations

Information on Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations is available from the Temple Office.

If you would like to share your Simchas and Sorrows with the Beth El Community, please send your Life Cycle announcements to Laurea in the Office: LEsau@bethelwh.org.

★ Making Connections

College Connection

Every year, Beth El sends *Mishloach Manot* to the children of our members away at school. Let us send a Purim gift to your college student; provide name and college address. All are invited to help assemble the packages.



RSVP: by 2/2 with college mailing addresses
PACKING: the week of 2/23
CONTACT: Mina Nemirow, betcollegeconnections@gmail.com
SPONSOR: the generosity of the Gavens Family College Youth Fund makes this project possible



Thinking about Camp Ramah?
Ready to learn more?

UPCOMING CAMP RAMAH
INFORMATION MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
4:00 PM

Meet Asst. Director Josh
Edelglass at a local home

www.campramahne.org
Please RSVP to:
pamelak@campramahne.org

Hosting Israeli High School Students for the Annual Robotics Competition at Trinity College

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, APRIL 3-5: Competition

CONTACT: Sharon Efron, 860-559-4010, sgredancer@yahoo.com

Once again, our community will support the Israeli robot engineers coming to compete. Host families are needed for both students and teachers for about 6 days. Responsibilities include lodging, meals, transportation, etc.

Men's Club

Walk Around the Reservoir

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 9:15 AM

LOCATION: Reservoir #6 on Route 44,
meet in parking lot

CONTACT: Stu Bernstein, 860-232-2012,
scbernste@aol.com

To help sponsor a breakfast/dessert program:
MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION: \$36
CONTACT: bruceshein@comcast.net

West Hartford United Synagogue Youth

HaNer USY Regional Winter Kallah

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7-9

LOCATION: The Emanuel Synagogue

Adult volunteers are needed as West Hartford is again hosting this annual weekend:

- ★ Host USYers or staff. The online host form has all of the details: tinyurl.com/usyhosting
- ★ Help at meal times with prep, setup, and service. Please contact Jason if you are able to help on Friday evening, Saturday late afternoon, Saturday night, or Sunday morning.

Thank you very much in advance.

Shabbat Through the Decades Series

FRIDAYS: JANUARY 24 1970s
MARCH 6 1920s
APRIL 3 1980s
MAY 15 Future!

LOCATIONS: TBA

COST: \$13/student/dinner, (inc. with Premier membership)

This year, we are celebrating six amazing decades with delicious food from the Crown Market and themes to make each a fun night.

Teens at Summerwood

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

1:00 – 2:00 PM

LOCATION: Hoffman Summerwood,
160 Simsbuy Rd, West Hartford

RSVP: by 1/7, Jason, whusy18@gmail.com

NOTE: rides available, just ask

It's a mitzvah, and it will be fun as we get to know some of the Summerwood residents.

Jr. USY Wednesdays

**MONTHLY: JANUARY 15, FEBRUARY 19, MARCH 18,
APRIL 22, MAY 13**

2:45 – 3:45 PM

LOCATION: The Emanuel Synagogue

6-8 graders are invited for fun, engaging programs – always with a side of social action and food.

Membership

\$25 Jr. USY
\$40 USY
\$90 USY Premier, inc. Shabbat Series
ADVISORS: Jason Kay, 609-651-0891, whusy18@gmail.com;
Tamar Mor, whusyadvisor@gmail.com
JOIN: tinyurl.com/whusymembership



★ Lifelong Learning

Mitzvah, Munchies, and Israel

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

7:30 PM

DETAILS: to follow

REFRESHMENTS: Israeli wines and kosher cheeses

SPONSOR: Israel Engagement Committee

An informational presentation to learn about two organizations making a difference in Israel and for all people: Israel Cancer Research Fund and the Jewish National Fund.

2023 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

10:00 AM OR 6:30 PM

RSVP: Liz, edepalma@bethelwh.org

Parents of children born in 2010 are invited as we officially kick-off your journey to your child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah & Beyond!

Ongoing Weekly Adult Classes

New participants welcome!
No registration, no charge.

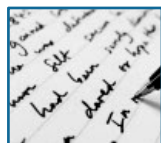
Writing Workshop

TUESDAYS

10:30 – NOON

CONTACT: Betty Hoffman,

860-233-4853, bhoffman3@comcast.net



Lunch & Learn

TUESDAYS

12:00 – 1:00 PM

BYOL: bring your own dairy lunch, optional

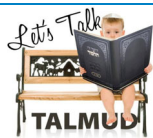


Talmud Study

WEDNESDAYS

10:15 – 11:15 AM

CONTACT: Steve Stier, steven.stier@gmail.com



Bible & Breakfast

THURSDAYS

8:00 – 9:00 AM



Pirkei Avot Study

SATURDAYS

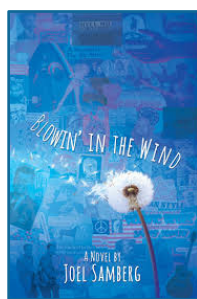
8:30 – 9:30 AM

No prior knowledge necessary.

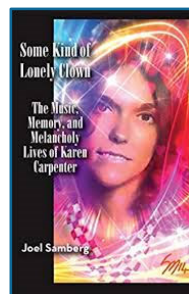


Library Corner

Joel Samberg, Avon Author ★ Roberta J. Buland



Our Men's Club welcomed Avon author and journalist Joel Samberg to present his two recent novels. He has written on many topics for books and magazines; some include Jewish themes. His new novel, *Blowin' in the Wind*, a sweeping Jewish-American suburban saga, is filled with comedy, drama, and music. It centers around the life of nine-year-old Daniel Hillman, a musical prodigy, as he and his family navigate the turbulent 1960s. He knows he'll be the first preteen in history to write, arrange, and perform his own hit album, even though there are many other things he'd like to do. He knows that his older brother, Steven, will become the first teenager to circumnavigate the globe, his terrible school grades notwithstanding. He also knows that his sister, Lori, is destined to become something great, even though she cries almost every day in school and is an emotional wreck. What Daniel does *not* know is that life can get in the way: parents, cheaters, Vietnam, jealousy, and desire. Daniel's journey proves that life can be as hard and painful as having one's insides kicked out by circumstances beyond control, or as simple and carefree as looking up and making a wish, or maybe both.



Some Kind of Lonely Clown: The Music, Memory, and Melancholy Lives of Karen Carpenter "brings back so many lovely and amusing memories of a sadly missed friend. She was unique and irreplaceable," according to singer Petula Clark. "Joel has been thorough in his research, and his love and respect for Karen shine through." Neil Sadaka praised the book as "an insightful look at the life of Karen Carpenter, a singing hero." He noted, "I had the pleasure of opening for the Carpenters in 1975, but it was more exciting that they recorded several of my songs, particularly 'Solitaire,' which featured a breathtaking Karen vocal." As Goodreads comments, "Beyond the giftedness of Karen was also a love-starved romantic, conflicted sister, obedient daughter, unpredictable jester, modest millionaire, optimistic dreamer, wannabe mother, emotional wreck, generous friend, and melancholy clown."

The Beth El Library thanks the David Diamond family for donating Joel Samberg's books to its collection.

Library Corner provides information about books housed in our library. Books are reviewed rather than critiqued. To request that a book be reviewed, please contact rjbland@comcast.net.

★ Doing Mitzvot

Your Presence is the Gift of Community

One of the keystones of Judaism teaches us:

You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from it. (2:21)

It is an oft-cited quote from *Ethics of our Ancestors*, a concept our children learn early on. It is also the basis for Beth El's key value: *Community You Can Believe In*.

Underpinning everything we stand for at Beth El is this idea of supportive community: we lift each other up and in turn are, ourselves, lifted up. Right now, we are looking for help in an area where just an hour of your time can make a real difference in our community: *shiva minyans*.

When a member of our congregation experiences the death of a loved one, it is customary to sit *shiva*. Some people observe this custom for a week, others for a few

nights. In order to say the *Mourner's Kaddish* during *shiva*, a *minyan* of 10 adults is required. Contrary to popular belief, many members of our community don't know enough people to "make" the 10-person *minyan*. That's where you come in.

We are looking for volunteers from West Hartford (all zip codes!), Avon, Farmington, Hartford, and Bloomfield to serve as "Shiva Captains." Each captain will receive a short list of email addresses for people in their zip code. Should there be a need for a *shiva minyan* in that zip code, we'll send the information for the captain to email to their list. For those of you who receive the email and can attend, simply let your Shiva Captain know and then show up at the house.

Your first instinct may be, "But I don't know the person. Won't it

seem odd?" Those who have attended these *shiva minyans* have experienced immense gratitude from the family. The family knows that you have gone out of your way to help them in a time of need.

As we learn from the Talmud, "the highest form of wisdom is kindness." We hope you will consider adding your kindness to our community.

We are looking for about 20 volunteer Shiva Captains. And we are hoping for many, many more to be on each list. If you are interested in either role, please connect with Ritual Committee Chair Diane Lieberfarb at diane.lieberfarb@gmail.com.

Thank you to the members of the Ritual Committee who have helped develop this concept: Sharon Gorelick, Abbey Kreinik, Jill Jones, Russ Selzer, and Bruce Sussman.

Monthly Programs

KNITzvah Group

**SUNDAYS: JANUARY 5, FEBRUARY 2, MARCH 15
10:00 – 11:30 AM**

CONTACTS: Annette Gavens,
sygavens@aol.com,
Norma Jean Sternschein,
jnsternschein@comcast.net

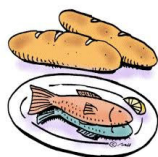


If you knit or crochet, this is a fun way to spend 90 minutes. We chat and schmooze while creating something useful to be donated to local charities for people who need a little "extra love."

Loaves & Fishes Soup Kitchen

**FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH: JANUARY 6,
FEBRUARY 3, MARCH 2
10:00 AM – 12:45 PM**

LOCATION: Immanuel Church,
Woodland St, Hartford
CONTACT: Ellen Solomon,
gingy81434@hotmail.com



Charter Oak Project

**JANUARY 12/15, FEBRUARY 16/19,
MARCH 8/11**

9:00 – 11:00 AM SUNDAYS

Cook at Beth El

5:00 – 7:00 PM WEDNESDAYS

Serve at Burr Elementary School
400 Wethersfield Ave, Hartford

CONTACT:

Cook: Adam Schuyler,
adam.d.schuyler@gmail.com;

Serve: Myra & Bill Kleinman,
860-508-3672,
mwkleinman@outlook.com,
wnkleinman@gmail.com

NOTE: children 12+ are welcome
with an adult.

We provide meals for children participating in a special after-school music program, and their families.

3-Season Opportunities

(on break for Winter)

Both of these outdoor activities make great bar/t mitzvah projects. Volunteers are invited to come with friends, as a family, or solo.

Plantings and Flower Beds

CONTACT: Sheila Fox,
860-828-3939,
Alison Demarest,
alisonsupermom@comcast.net

Jessie's Garden

VOLUNTEERING/SCHEDULING:
Betty Hoffman,
860-233-4853,
bhoffman3@comcast.net

★ The EveryOne Annual Appeal

2018-2019/5779

We did it!! Thank you once again to all of our members who participated in the ***EveryOne Annual Appeal!*** Whether your generosity was through our *High Holiday Appeal* and/or our *65th Anniversary Event*, or if you made a contribution to one of our Beth El funds, we surpassed our fundraising goals for the year!

Thank you for continuing to make this endeavor a great success. At Beth El, we believe every member and every gift matters!

The *EveryOne Appeal* is a unified effort to raise funds that began with the High Holiday Appeal in 2018 and ended with our fiscal year on June 30, 2019. The Appeal is cumulative, recognizing all of your tax-deductible contributions to Beth El, including your annual gift.

These Circles of Honor represent the various cumulative giving opportunities.

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Honey Sue Springut

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 C. Dianne & Richard Zweig



This list is current as of December 31, 2019. We apologize for any inadvertent errors or omission, and ask that you please bring such to our attention.

★ Israel Engagement Committee

Meet the “Other” Faces of Israel

Jews constitute 75% of the population of Israel. While we might conflate Israeli Jews with Ashkenazic Jews, over 50% are *Mizrahi* or *Sephardic*. *Mizrahi* describes Jews from Arab and/or Muslim lands, including Jews from North Africa, the Middle East, and parts of the Caucasus. *Mizrahi* is distinct from, but often overlaps with, *Sephardi*; the two are sometimes used interchangeably.



Sharren Haskel,
youngest member
of Likud

While *Sephardim* literally means Jews from the Iberian Peninsula, today it describes Jews from Africa or Asia or those who follow *Sephardic* religious practice. Following the expulsion from Spain, many Sephardic Jews immigrated to Arab countries, blending with the local

population, making it difficult to distinguish between *Sephardim* and native *Mizrahim*.

Today, most *Mizrahi* Jews live either in Israel or the United States and maintain particularly strong ties with others from their family's nation of origin. Each subgroup often maintains its own synagogue as well as its own language.

Since the expulsion of Jews from Spain in the late 15th century, *Sephardim* and Jews from Arab lands (some who had returned to Israel from Babylonia, now Iraq, during the Second Temple period), were the majority of Jews in the land of Israel, and *Sephardic* religious practice dominated Jewish life.



Kurdish Jewish
grandfather and
child enroute to
Israel, Tehran,
Iran 1950

Uganda, Uzbekistan, Kurdistan, Tajikistan, Dagestan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Armenia.

As Israel shifts from a “melting pot” model to one of multiculturalism, Israeli *Mizrahi* Jews are bringing their unique *Mizrahi* culture back to the center of Israeli life. Yemenite music entered the pop scene with Ofra Haza, who blends traditional instruments, rhythms, and lyrics with modern flair.

Micha Biton weaves into his music the haunting melodies of his Moroccan heritage. Yemenite silversmiths create sacred objects used by Jews of all backgrounds. *Mizrahi* restaurants – where large platters of skewered meat and breads and bowl upon bowl of salads and condiments are shared by a group – have become fashionable gathering places in Israel, while their cuisine and customs enjoy a resurgence.



Ofra Haza, Yemenite-
style performer



Dalia Itzik,
1st female speaker
of the Knesset



Yekutiel Adam,
Major General
in the IDF,
Commander
of Operation
Entebbe



Micha Biton,
Moroccan-style
performer

COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS:
Sharon Efron
sgredancer@yahoo.com
Robin Santiago
drsantiago@drsantiago.net

★ Supporting Beth El

We deeply appreciate the following
Thoughtful Contributions.

Cantor's Music Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Cantor Ness for bat mitzvah of Ilana Brown – **Maria & Eric Brown**
Cantor Ness – **Caryl & Leonard Goldberg, Margolis family, Shakun family, Weisman family**
Cantor Ness for the bar mitzvah of Joel Harris – **Lisa & Peter Harris**
Cantor Ness for the bat mitzvah of Jordan Lang – **Lauren & Jason Lang**

IN HONOR OF

Bat mitzvah of Ilana Brown, daughter of Maria & Eric, granddaughter of Barbara & David – **BJ & Leonard Diamond**
Temple music program – **Rivka Dvorin & Arthur Freedman**

IN MEMORY OF

Donald Lehrer, father of Marci Alter – **Bobby & David Klau**
Beatrice Margolis, mother of Jerry, sister of Florence Shakun & Joel Weisman – **Jeanne & Dan Kleinman**

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

J. Kim Buland, husband – **Roberta Buland**

Chai Society

IN MEMORY OF

Esther & Stanley Weiner, parents of Judi Greene; Bertha Rosenfield, mother of Howard – **Wendy & Jed Schulman**

WISHING A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

Marlene Fein – **Roz Rachlin**

Friends of Ari Santiago Temple Accessibility Fund

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Lila Santiago, mother – **Robin & Rafi Santiago**

Rabbi Garber's Discretionary Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

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Rabbi Garber for the bat mitzvah of Jordan Lang – **Lauren & Jason Lang**

Camp Ramah Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Charlotte Bazer – **Annette & Seymour Gavens**

Education Fund

IN HONOR OF

High Holiday chapel service – **Helene & Felix Springer**

IN MEMORY OF

Donald Lehrer, father of Marci Alter – **Barbara & Robert Green**
Michael DeRosa, husband of Marlena; Marcia Goldberg, mother of Leonard – **Diane & Ron Salm**

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

George Scharmett, grandfather – **Jill & Gary Jones**

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IN HONOR OF

A wonderful Temple – **Rivka Dvorin & Arthur Freedman**

Joseph Springut Security Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Charlotte Bazer – **Honey Sue Springut**

Youth Activities Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Beatrice Margolis, mother of Jerry, sister of Florence Shakun & Joel Weisman – **Joanne & Saul Pasternack**

Rabbi Rosen's Discretionary Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Diane Lieberfarb & Sharon Levine-Shein – **Shirley K. & David Brody**
Rabbi Rosen – **Marci & Jonathan Alter, Rivka Dvorin & Arthur Freedman, Caryl & Leonard Goldberg, Janice Hechter, Margolis family, Denise & Richard Order, Susan & Mark Schmedik, Shakun family, Weisman family, Ruth & Penny Yancovich**
Rabbi Rosen for the bat mitzvah of Ilana Brown – **Maria & Eric Brown**
Rabbi Rosen for the bar mitzvah of Joel Harris – **Lisa & Peter Harris**
Rabbi Rosen & the office staff – **Estelle Sherry**
Rabbi Rosen for the marriage of daughter, Bari Sloves to Sam Stein – **Elyse & Jay Sloves**

IN HONOR OF

Kol Nidrei honor – **Harriet & Robert Berland**

Bat mitzvah of Ilana Brown, daughter of Maria & Eric, granddaughter of Barbara & David – **Joanne & Arthur Rome**

IN MEMORY OF

Bruce Bank – **Michele & Bruce Aronson, Roslyn & Marvin Katz**
Beatrice Margolis, mother of Jerry, sister of Florence Shakun & Joel Weisman – **Shirley K. & David Brody, Joan & Richard Druckman**
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1st Lt. Herschel Howard Mattes, brother of Estelle Sherry – **Jeanne & Marshall Elman**
Donald Lehrer, father of Marci Alter – **Susan & Jeffrey Factor, Felice Goldman**
Ann Cohen, mother of Lewis – **Andrea & Bob Lindenberg**
Ida Gillman, mother of Felice Goldman – **Ida Ressler**
Dr. Marvin Levine, husband – **Terri Levine**

Tsedakah/Chesed Fund

IN HONOR OF

Our wedding – **Rivka Dvorin & Arthur Freedman**

Temple Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Rabbis Garber, Rosen, Sowalsky & Cantor Ness for the bat mitzvah of Pauline Golder – **Shera & David Golder**
Judy & David Rosenthal – **Caryl & Leonard Goldberg**
Rabbi Rosen – **Nancy Gottfried, Erica & Neer Hershtig**
Judy & David Rosenthal's gracious hospitality during the High Holidays – **Denise & Richard Order**

(fund continues)



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Temple Fund (cont.)

IN HONOR OF

Birth of Aiden Shoham-Marquez,
grandson of Ronit & Scott Shoham;
birth of Louis Hiro Zachs, grandson of
Jessica & Eric, great-grandson of Judy
Zachs and Henry Zachs – **Lee Ann &
Claudio Benadiva**

Bar Mitzvah of Owen Ludgin, son of Jen
& Andy, grandson of Karen & Rob –
Fredda & Jon Goldstein

Birth of grandson to Andrea & Bob
Lindenberg – **Nancy & Dennis
Gottfried**

Patti & Howard Weiner – **Debbie & Steve
Kleinman**

Judge Henry Cohn receiving the
Distinguished Graduate Award from
UConn Law School – **Peggy & Alan
Mendelson**

Bat mitzvah of Pauline Golder, daughter
of Shera & David, granddaughter of
Alison & Alan Gittleman – **Denise &
Richard Order**

President Judy Rosenthal's eloquent &
inspiring Yom Kippur message to the
congregation – **Eileen & Elliot Pollack**

IN MEMORY OF

Donald Lehrer, father of Marci Alter –
**Estelle & Abe Bernstein, Linda &
Henry Cohn, Bella & Judd Fink, Sherry
family**

1st Lt. Herschel Howard Mattes, brother of
Estelle Sherry – **Naomi & Michael
Cohen, Judith Kotick**

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Gladstone, Kessler family, Rona & Jack
Wenik**

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of Florence Shakun & Joel Weisman –
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Goldstein, Satlof family**

Marcia Goldberg, mother of Leonard –
**Frances Gurtman & Richard Goldberg,
Karen & Jeffrey Polinsky**

Ann Cohen, mother of Lewis; Shirley
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Jan & Harold Moskowitz

Bertha Rosenfield, mother of Howard –
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Jeffrey Polinsky**

Charlotte Bazer – **Judy & David Satlof,
Holly & Jerry Swirsky**

FOR THE YAHREZEIT OF

Leon Abkowicz, father – **Marilyn & Leslie
Abkowicz**

Florence & Lester Wasserman, parents –
Shelley Barker

Anita Beckenstein, grandmother &
mother-in-law – **Julie & RozLynn
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remembrance – **Carolyn & Stu
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Blumberg**

Rosalie Borus, mother-in-law; Mimi
Aleng, Holocaust remembrance – **Judy
Borus**

Molly Kling, mother & grandmother –
Shirley K & David Brody & family

(continues)

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- ✧ This list reflects contributions received and processed through
November 19, 2019.
- ✧ For the next edition of Temple Topics, contributions need to be
received in the office by January 21, 2020.

Every dollar contributed can
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and will be acknowledged.

The minimum donation
for **each** listing is \$10.

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★ Supporting Beth El, cont.

Temple Fund (cont.)

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 Jack Miller, father; David Cohen, grandfather – **Gloria Rubin**
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 Oscar Rutstein, husband – **Edith Shapiro**
 Ruth Krongold, mother & grandmother – **Cyral & Richard Sheldon & family**
 Ernest Sherry, husband – **Estelle Sherry**
 Myra & Lionel Stern, parents & grandparents – **Stacey & Eric Shore & family**
 William Portman, father – **Phyllis Siegal**
 Rosalyn K. Goldberg, mother – **Judy Singer**
 Norton Seltzer, father – **Susan Solinsky**
 Joseph Springut, husband; Arthur Springut, father-in-law – **Honey Sue Springut**
 Harry Starr, brother; Irving Brown, brother – **Selma Starr**
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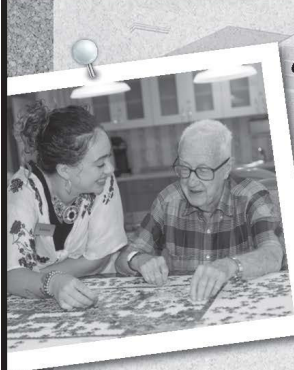


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IN APPRECIATION OF

The ushers on the High Holidays for all they do – **Annette & Seymour Gavens**

IN HONOR OF

Marci & Jonathan Alter – **Judy & Eric Bloom**

Bat mitzvah of Pauline Golder, daughter of Shera & David,
granddaughter of Alison & Alan Gittleman – **Lois & Chuck Koteen**

IN MEMORY OF

Gerri Sack; Beatrice Margolis, mother of Jerry, sister of Florence

Shakun & Joel Weisman – **Annette & Seymour Gavens**

Beatrice Margolis, mother of Jerry, sister of Florence Shakun & Joel

Weisman – **Beverly & Tony Halpin**

Isadore & Clara Sowalsky, parents of Shirley Brody, grandparents of
Paul, Caren & David – **Caren Peters**

Alter Family Fund

IN HONOR OF

Engagement of Stephanie Belsky, daughter of Patti & Howard Weiner
to Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh – **Marci & Jonathan Alter**

Jonathan Alter's leadership as Beth El's president – **Barbara & Robert Green**

IN MEMORY OF

Donald Lehrer, father of Marci Alter – **Judy Borus, Debbie & Lewis**

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Engelman, Annette & Seymour Gavens, Leah Katz, Abbey

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Shoham, Dorine & Marty Toyen, Sue & Stuart Wachtel

Edward & Susan Chestler Family Endowment Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Charlotte Bazer – **Susan & Ed Chestler**

Sharon & Bob Efron Family Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Charlotte Bazer – **Sharon & Bob Efron**

Friends Fund for Members in Need

IN APPRECIATION OF

Patti & Howard Weiner – **Reba & Alden Stock**

IN HONOR OF

Judy Rosenthal becoming president of Beth El – **Sharon & Bob Efron**

Birth of Evan Max Miller, grandson of Tammy Levine and Patti &

Howard Weiner – **Lois & Chuck Koteen, Judy & David Rosenthal**

Bat mitzvah of Ilana Brown, daughter of Maria & Eric, granddaughter

of Barbara & David – **Alys & Jack Krichavsky**

Engagement of Stephanie Belsky, daughter of Patti & Howard

Weiner to Rabbi Jeff Stombaugh; birth of Louis Hiro Zachs,

grandson of Jessica & Eric, great-grandson of Judy Zachs and

Henry Zachs – **Judy & David Rosenthal**

IN MEMORY OF

Shirley Seltzer – **Alys & Jack Krichavsky, Joyce & Richard Leibert**

Gavens Family College Youth Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Having experienced another High Holiday season – **Annette & Seymour Gavens**

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Morton Gavens, brother; Etelle Wachs, sister – **Seymour Gavens**

Goldberg Endowment Fund for Education

IN MEMORY OF

Marcia Goldberg, mother of Leonard – **Sharon & Bob Efron, Lois &**

Chuck Koteen, Abbey Kreinik, Judy & David Rosenthal

Irving & Shirley Gutcheon Congregant Assistance Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Paulette & Jim Lotstein – **Lois & Chuck Koteen**

(continues)

★ Supporting Beth El, cont.

Eleanor Weinberg Jainchill Family Fund

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Alvin L. Weinberg, husband; Rosetta Alberg, Holocaust remembrance – Eleanor Jainchill

Koteen Family Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Lois & Chuck Koteen – Lois Saffer

Krasow Greenblatt Family Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Sandra Ganezer Bloom, sister of Marlene Passman; Rosalind Hahn, wife of Howard – Zabelle & Arthur Krasow Greenblatt

Kreinik Family Endowment Fund

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Dorothy Kreinik, mother-in-law – Abbey Miller Kreinik

Leshem Family Fund

IN HONOR OF

Bat mitzvah of Ava Leshem, daughter of Elaine & Jerry, granddaughter of Alice & Adam – Lois & Chuck Koteen, Abbey Kreinik

Diane & Richard Lieberfarb Endowment Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Donald Lehrer, father of Marci Alter; Marcia Goldberg, mother of Leonard – Diane & Richard Lieberfarb

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Estelle Davis, mother – Diane Lieberfarb

Marc S. Levine & Tamara Kagan Levine Family Endowment Fund

IN HONOR OF

Children, Elizabeth & Andrew Miller, on birth of grandson, Evan Max – Tammy Levine

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Marc S. Levine, husband; Bessie Levine, mother-in-law; Muriel Koplowitz, aunt – Tammy Levine

Ludgin Family Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Rabbi Stanley Kessler, father of Abigail Hanna – Karen & Rob Ludgin

Janet & Harold Moskowitz Endowment Fund

IN HONOR OF

“Bar mitzvah” of Harold Moskowitz – Ellen Blumberg & Butch Shimelman, Pat & Arthur Roth

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IN MEMORY OF

Ann Cohen, mother of Lewis; Andrew Moss, brother of Roberta; Sandra Bloom, sister of Marlene Passman; Marguerite Zumbado, mother of Esther Aronson – Carolyn & Jeff Weiser

Resnick Family Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Judy & Frank Resnick for their gracious hospitality during the High Holidays – Denise & Richard Order

Bruce Shein & Sharon Levine-Shein Endowment Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Stuart Bernstein, David Diamond, Tom Falik, Ava Geetter, Betty & Herb Hoffman, Shelley Langer, Diane Lieberfarb, Stephen Rabb, Deborah Rosenfeld, Robin Santiago, Lonni Schulz, Gale Shapiro – Sharon Levine-Shein & Bruce Shein

Sisterhood-Women's Network Endowment Fund

IN MEMORY OF

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Rabbi Howard Sowalsky – Meryl Danitz, Rivka Dvorin & Arthur Freedman
Rabbi Howard Sowalsky for the bar mitzvah of Alex Nollman – Liza & Bill Nollman

Amy E. Toyen Endowment Fund

IN HONOR OF

100th birthday of Salena Blake, mother of Dorine Toyen – Joan & Mel Levi

IN MEMORY OF

Charlotte Bazer – Dorine & Marty Toyen

I. Milton Widem Adult Education Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Bertha Rosenfield, mother of Howard; Harriet Carpenos – Susan Widem

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Beth El and Inclusiveness

Inclusiveness is one of our core values at Beth El. We do everything feasible to allow those with disabilities or special needs to participate in services, classes and programs. Examples include the synagogue elevator, hearing devices, and periodic special services for those with disabilities. These days, we're also focusing on those with fragrance sensitivities. This represents a significant group which includes Beth El members, staff, and undoubtedly, visitors.



Fragrance sensitivity is a very common problem which causes a wide variety of health concerns; e.g. difficulty breathing. Many institutions and businesses, and a growing number of houses of worship, have enacted Fragrance Free policies. In order to assure that affected individuals are able to participate and enjoy Beth El, we request that you avoid wearing not only perfumes and colognes, but any scented products.

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

Rosen Family Kehillah Kedosha Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Sherry Lohr – Meryl Danitz

Marshall & Sandra Rulnick Endowment Fund

IN APPRECIATION OF

Sandy & Marshall Rulnick – Leah Katz,
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Laurie & Marshall Shakun Family Fund

IN MEMORY OF

Beatrice Margolis, mother of Jerry, sister of
Florence Shakun & Joel Weisman –
Laurie & Marshall Shakun

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Michael Plaut, father – Laurie & Marshall
Shakun

Muriel G. & Morton L. Schenker Fund for the Arts

IN MEMORY OF

Bertha Rosenfield, mother of Howard –
Susan & Michael Schenker

Sussman Families Fund

FOR THE YAHRZEIT OF

Fred Andorsky, father – Lisa Sussman

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Note: The calendar grid is a separate document and can be downloaded from our website. Each month is a separate page, designed for legal-sized paper (8.5"x14"). Copies are also available in the office.

★ Scholar-in-Residence - Rabbi Elana Zaiman

Join us for a special weekend with Rabbi Elana Zaiman. Please see Rabbi Rosen's introduction on page 3.



Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, February 7

6:00 PM Services

7:00 PM Oneg Shabbat

Rabbi Zaiman will be our guest teacher and offer the evening's sermon.

NOTE: open to all, no cost

Shabbat Morning Services

Saturday, February 8

9:30 AM Services

12:00 PM Congregational Lunch

Rabbi Zaiman guides us on a storytelling journey into forever letters – what they are, why write them, and how they can be powerful tools to authentically connect us with ourselves and with the people we love.

NOTE: open to all, no cost

Forever Letter Writing Workshop

Sunday, February 9

10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

You don't have to be a writer. You don't have to love to write. You don't even have to know to whom you will write. The only requirement: show up and be yourself!

In this workshop, we will look at excerpts of letters from medieval and modern times as templates for the forever letters we will begin to write. We will talk about tone, content, and how to write to be heard. We will use prompts to reflect on ourselves, the people we love, and our shared relationships.

Write to your children, parents, grandchildren, grandparents, siblings, spouse, partner, friends. Feel free to bring a special notebook and pen or your laptop.

REGISTER: tinyurl.com/BETForever

REFRESHMENTS: coffee and a light breakfast

This Scholar-in-Residence weekend
is being underwritten by the
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