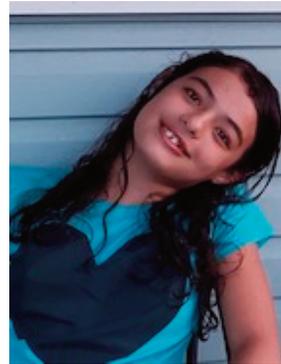
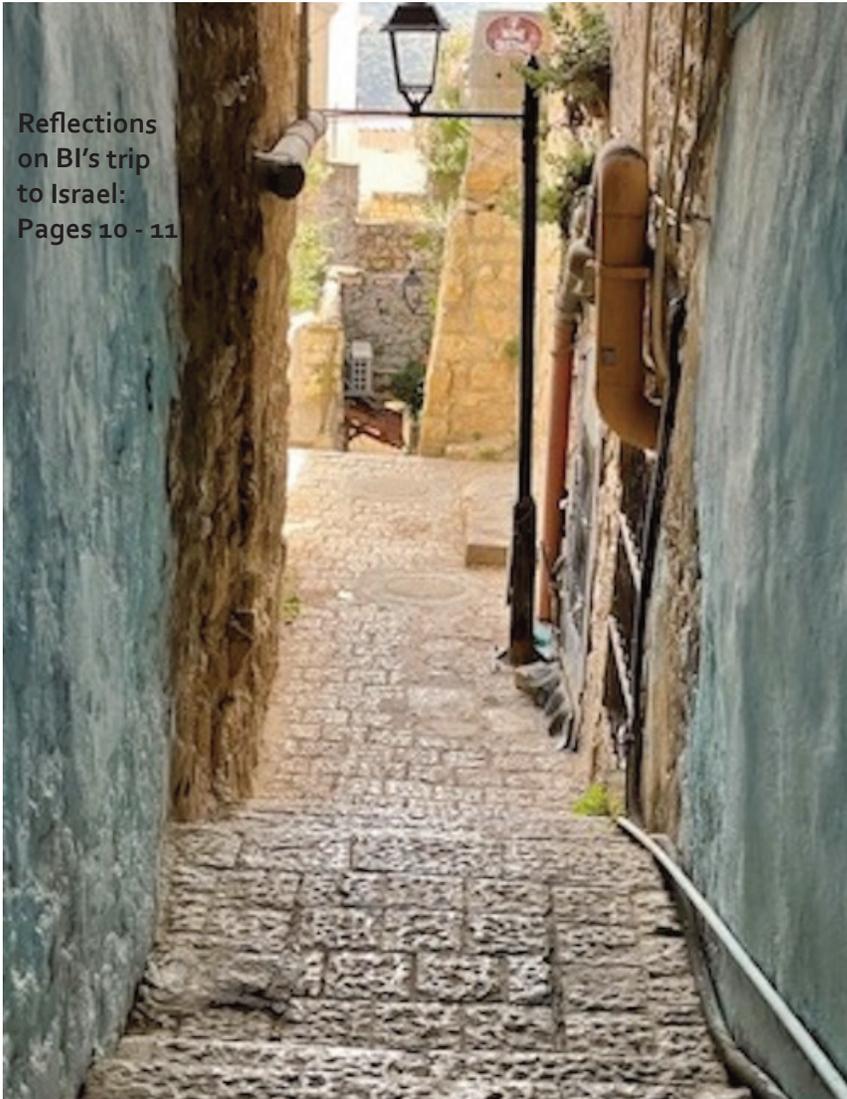




The Israelight

*Congregation Beth Israel of Media
A Reconstructionist Jewish Community*

Reflections
on BI's trip
to Israel:
Pages 10 - 11



Reflections on
becoming
B'nai Mitzvot
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Rabbi's Message Rabbi Nathan Martin



Reflections on being a Jewish American

In his reflection on the significance of July 4th in *The Faith of America* (1951), Mordechai Kaplan, the founding thinker of Reconstructing Judaism, shared sentiments of humility and constraint:

Teach us to respect the rights of others and to assert our own rights in accordance with Thy will. May we never abuse our liberties by employing them to our own advantage while depriving others of the opportunity to realize their just desires and hopes. (Excerpt from "The Significance of the Day [July 4th]")

Even though these words were written over 70 years ago they still ring true. The work involved in restraining the abuse of our liberties to unjust advantage is ongoing. At both a national and personal level we continue to increase our awareness of how racism "deprives others the opportunity to realize their just desires and hopes." And in recent years, and most recently with the airing of the proceedings of the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol, I have become even more aware of the fragility of our democracy, and how our systems of government rely on truth, professionalism, and the acceptance of the rule of law.

How does our Jewish tradition speak to this current moment?

Our tradition understands that each of our individual actions are part of a larger whole. There are large parts of Biblical and Rabbinic theology that see our fate as collective, dependent on the actions that we take, or don't take, as a group. Even in our daily liturgy our two most important prayers are written from the group voice: the petitions in the Amidah, (the daily standing prayer), for forgiveness and redemption are written in the first person plural; and the paragraphs in the Shema are also written with God instructing us as a whole to stay on the right path. This motif is also part of our collective understanding of Jewish time. For example, this summer we go through the collective moment of mourning the destruction of the Temple (and destruction of our historical communities) with the holiday of Tisha B'Av, and also the collective hope for forgiveness and reconciliation leading us into the high holidays.

This focus on collective national behavior, while potentially less resonant to our modern ears, still has relevance today when we think about our collective behavior as American citizens. Just as our ancestors saw themselves as responsible for ushering in divine blessing through their collective religious behavior (e.g. tithing, pilgrimage), today our engagement in collective civic behavior can also usher in the blessings of a more robust (albeit imperfect) democracy. I have personally become more aware and convinced that my actions in this area on behalf of the whole, whether this is engaging with our representatives, standing in protest, supporting free and fair elections at our local voting booth, or simply engaging with others in conversation about important national issues, does matter. And having the collective framework of my tradition helps me to make meaning around my actions.

Additionally, we also acknowledge in our tradition that collective change must start with our own self-refinement. This individual impulse is at the heart of the internal spiritual work we do each Shabbat and the Mussar practice that many of us have engaged in as well. The purpose of much of our inherited spiritual traditions — whether this is prayer, observing Shabbat and holidays, or the doing of other mitzvot — is not for the sake of "checking off the box" of having done or completed that practice, but rather is for the sake of self-transformation, of helping us to become more open, loving, and compassionate people.

This sentiment too remains relevant today in the civic realm. The work that we engage with personally can lead to our own and others transformation. It can help sensitize us to noticing our blind spots when we are acting out racism. It can help us build relationships with citizens who are very different than ourselves in temperament and outlook. The internal work we engage in helps make us better suited to engage in our democracy and our civic interactions.

So as we enter into our summer and into the moment of honoring the creation of this democratic experiment as a country, I invite us to find ways that our Jewish traditions and identity can serve as a resource for the work ahead that will be needed to support this form of government. May the work of our hands, and the work of our hearts, be blessed.

Rabbis' Note

Rabbi Linda Potemken



Joy In The Morning

Psalm 30, verse 6 teaches that "One may lie down weeping at nightfall;-but at dawn there are shouts of joy." . Sometimes that is actually true. And sometimes the sorrows of the world or our personal challenges leave us weeping in the morning as well. Torah doesn't offer a quick fix for life's sorrows but it does point us in some very helpful directions. So this note will raise up one of the critical ingredients to a meaningful life: Chesed, Acts of loving kindness. Torah teaches that we are here to add chesed to this world in whatever ways we are able. So when your heart is aching, when you are not feeling joy in the morning, lean into Torah and lean on community. Remember to practice gratitude. And find a way to perform several acts of caring, of chesed. It will not fix everything. But it will make a difference.

Adult Education

**ANTIRACISM DISCUSSIONS
THE EXPLORATIONS CONTINUE**

Please check your email for the modules that are delivered to your inbox every 3 weeks.

Each module includes a Jewish text, an antiracism resource and several questions to contemplate. The material is sent for you to explore at your convenience.



The community will then gather on zoom for a discussion of the module, 7-9 days after you first receive it. Please find the list of zoom discussion dates below.

July 12	7:30 pm	Antiracism Discussion of Module 4 with Rabbi Linda & team
August 4	7:30 pm	Antiracism Discussion of Module 5 with Rabbi Linda & team
September 14	7:30 pm	Antiracism Discussion of Module 6 with Rabbi Linda & team

SAVE THE DATE 7:30 September 7 on Zoom with Rabbi Linda Preparing for the Holidays

How to Reach our Rabbis

By phone: (610) 566-4645, choose option 1 if Diane does not answer. A voice message left for either Rabbi will reach them quickly.

By e-mail: Rabbi Linda: ravltp@bethisraelmedia.org Rabbi Nathan: rabbinate@bethisraelmedia.org

Not sure who's 'on' this weekend? Check the calendar, easily available at bethisraelmedia.org and on the penultimate page of this Israelight. Also, each rabbi's e-mail account responds with a message indicating which rabbi is 'on.'

In cases of a real emergency...

Senior Rabbi Linda's and Associate Rabbi Nathan's home phone numbers can be found in the Member's Area of our website under How to Reach Our Rabbis and in our Directory.

The Rabbinic Liaison Committee exists in most Reconstructionist communities to ensure the maintenance of a good working relationship between the rabbis and the congregation. While congregants are always welcome and encouraged to discuss questions or concerns directly with Rabbi Linda or Rabbi Nathan, they may at times feel more comfortable talking to the Rabbinic Liaison committee. Issues raised by congregants are discussed confidentially and, when appropriate, are shared with a Rabbi in a constructive manner. To discuss a question or concern with a lay member of the committee please feel free to contact: *Julian Yates* (jyates@udel.edu) *Deb Erie* (debjoerie@gmail.com), *Emily Levine* (emily@emilysquireslevine.com), or *Linda Cohen* (lhc@comcast.net).

President's Messages:

EMMA LEFKOWITZ



Dear Beth Israel community -

I have the pleasure of giving you good news about "personnel" at Beth Israel.

As we wish Diane Longenecker a sweet and rewarding retirement as of June 30, we welcome Mikayla Losanowych as our new Office Manager. Mikayla is working on her B.A. in Psychology at Wilmington, having just completed her Associate's degree at Delco Community College in May! She is a self-starter, with excellent skills in organization and communication. Mikayla is onboarding and training at this time, working closely with Diane to learn the role of Secretary and with Steve Goldfield to learn the role of financial administrator. We are lucky to have her!

We gave a huge thank you to our fabulous outgoing Hebrew School Director, Molly Paul, who will continue their rabbinic studies at RRC. Meanwhile, we are thrilled to welcome Faryn Borella, an RRC student going into her fifth and final year of study. Faryn holds a Master's degree in Religious Leadership for Social Change and has worked in social work, Jewish camps, Jewish education, chaplaincy and Jewish exhibit curation. She also specializes in Eco-Judaism, having created ecologically-focused programming on topics such as the shmita and tzitzit. The Hebrew School will benefit from her rich and deep experience!

Lastly, I am happy to share that Student Rabbi Aya Baron will be back at Beth Israel in the Fall - and again in the Spring after she comes back from maternity leave - to share her joyful and wise spiritual leadership and wise teaching with us. This continuation of her internship from this past year will be a wonderful opportunity for her and us to grow together. Thank you to Aya!

Wishing you a wonderful summer - Shalom, Emma

BI'ers - Help clean up Har Jehuda Cemetery! Sunday, July 24, 9-11am Friends, as you know Beth Israel has a long connection with Har Jehuda cemetery. For the last year and a half the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, the Kehillah of Delaware County, and local organizers have been working to clean up the cemetery and keep it in better repair. On July 24, all volunteers, particularly 12 years and older, are welcome to join Rabbi Nathan at Har Jehuda to spend some time on cleaning up the cemetery. Make sure to bring your own water bottle, sunscreen, work gloves, (and a rake if you have one). To register, go to the Federation registration page here: <https://jewishphilly.org/get-involved/cemetery-cleanups-register/>

FINANCIAL HARDSHIP? For those of you who may need some assistance for your small business or other financial issues that have arisen from the pandemic, consider consulting the following resources: The Hebrew Free Loan Society of Philadelphia: <https://hflphilly.org/> Grants, loans, other resources: jewishtgether.org run by the Jewish Federations of North America.

As usual, check your email for more information and for zoom links.

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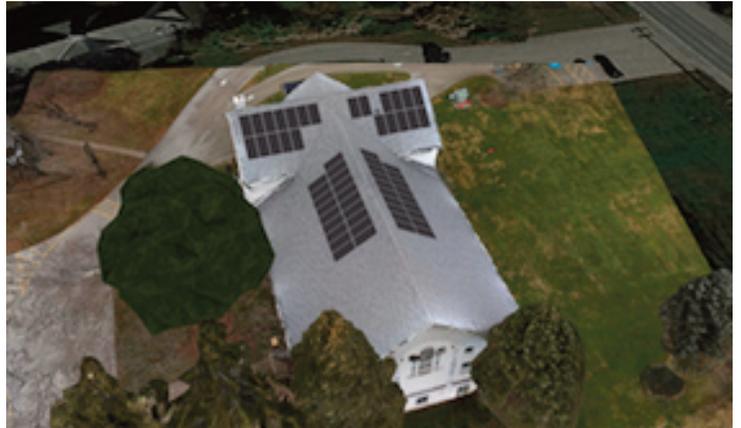


Update on the BI Solar Panel Project: We have received notification from Jacob Gross, the Solar States project manager for the BI installation, that the application for the PECO Interconnection permit was submitted on May 25th. A PECO permit may take 2-3 months. Once PECO provides a permit, the application to the township will be filed.

As you may know there has been inflation on the equipment, but Solar States has kept the price as signed. Also due to the supply chain issues, Solar States ordered, received and is storing BI's Panels to assure a timely install once approvals are received. The QCELL 430W panels, is a higher-powered variant of the panels than we were originally looking at for BI. This means that BI needs 61 Panels instead of the 75 originally required. The design rendition on BI's roof is attached.

BI passed the photographic roof evaluation using a drone in January. After further discussion with Solar States, some minor roof work and a physical roof evaluation will be done by Alpha Roofing prior to the installation to reinforce the integrity of the roof.

If all proceeds as planned, we anticipate an installation of the array in early Autumn.



The inauguration of Beth Israel's Vegetable Garden

Thanks to the generous donations of Beth Israel members on **Giving Tuesday** this past November, a team at Beth Israel was able to acquire and build three raised bed gardens in the back lot. We are grateful to the many volunteers who helped build the beds and for Dave Cashell's ongoing volunteer work in this project. Our garden was officially inaugurated during this year's **Ellie Festival** which included planting our first crop of vegetables (which are growing well!), along with other activities. We are particularly grateful to Reisa Mukamal, Kathy Anderson, Molly Paul and Aya Baron for helping to organize and lead parts of the festival. The garden is still looking for volunteers to help both in the summer and beyond. This can be a great activity for all ages.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Dave Cashell at DavidCashell@protonmail.com



Tutoring the children of the Chester Eastside Inc. Afterschool Program continued its online work with around a dozen BI members and friends as volunteers, led by Louis Friedler. Most of the Chester schools will be done by June 10th, and some tutoring will continue until final exams are complete. Eddie Wasekenas, who is a staff member of CEI, advised SAC that all of the tutored students were reading at or above their class level. SAC is coordinating a **summer field trip** with the CEI Phoenix summer camp program to the Elmwood Zoo in Norristown. SAC will fund the admission fees for the campers and their escorts.

Continuing our work to address hunger: Once again, thanks to the generosity of our amazing community, Rachel Gornstein and I were able to deliver a delicious Memorial Day meal to the clients of the Life Center of Upper Darby on Monday, May 30. We served hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, cole slaw, pasta salad, corn, baked beans, watermelon, water ice, and homemade cookies. Thank you to Amy Strauss, Larrye Loss, Elaine Feldman, Alisa Herman-Liu, Reisa Mukamal, Linda Cohen, Wendy Waterston, Andrea Bruno, Daniela Eskenazi, Judy Kinman, Deb Erie, Katie Sibley, Carol Briselli, Marilyn Verbits, Lauri Mansky, Selene Platt, and my co-organizer, Rachel Gornstein, for providing this wonderful feast. As always, the clients were incredibly grateful. Lynn Cashell, on behalf of the Social Action Committee

Concert for Peace in Ukraine: The committee and a number of BI volunteers, led by Carol Briselli and John Greenstine, staged the successful "Concert for Peace in Ukraine" on May 29th. 100 people turned out to hear BIMAS, featuring Reisa Mukamal, Selene Platt, Linda Cohen, Arnie Schwartz, Ron Romoff, Andrea Bruno, Harry Chen and Andrea Apter, Steve Schwartz, and Carol Briselli, the Arioso String Quartet; with Igor Szweg and Gregory Teperman, Violins, Carol Briselli, Viola, Vivian Barton Dozor, cello, and mezzo soprano Tatyana Rashkovsy Smolens and her accompanist Tatyana Mykhavlova. In addition to the audience in the sanctuary, 94 people viewed the streaming concert on Facebook Live. The attendees also enjoyed pierogies, made by a bakery in Roxborough, that Carol had donated. The concert raised over \$3500 to benefit HIAS in its work to settle and support Ukrainian refugees. Donations continue to be solicited, and a video of the concert will be linked to the BI website.

Continuing with refugee support, the committee heard from a representative of Swarthmore Presbyterian Church about its new "First Place Swarthmore" program, which is preparing to provide shelter and socialization services to a refugee family, in partnership with HIAS. The new family will be housed for some weeks and then moved to more permanent housing, and another refugee family will move in. The new program is looking for volunteers to help in many ways. SAC will discuss how the congregation might be involved.

The annual SAC "Honey for the High Holidays" sale: See page 7 for details.



Please remember to donate personal care items and toiletries for the homeless shelters and the Community Action Agency. The collection box is the blue bin downstairs. Thank you.

HONEY for the HIGH HOLIDAYS on Sale Now!

Isn't this a great way
to send your New
Year wishes?

Order through
August 1 for
free shipping!

Support
Vital
Causes!



Give honey to the ones you love for the High Holidays! This distinctive 8-ounce jar of kosher honey arrives in time for Rosh Hashanah, decorated with a festive label, and includes a personalized card reading “L’Shana Tova—Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year.” This card also lets the recipients know that a donation has been made in their honor. This year, we are directing the proceeds to [World Central Kitchen](#) for its work feeding hungry people in crisis locations around the world, and to the [Foundation for Delaware County](#) working towards greater equity across all Delco communities. A portion will also go to the Beth Israel General Fund. The cost is still just \$13.00 per jar, which includes shipping and handling within the United States when ordered through August 1st. We will gladly mail honey outside the US for an additional fee. To order honey, go to [ORTHONEY.com/CBI](#) and follow the step-by-step instructions.

- Free shipping within the USA for orders placed online through August 1st
- * Add \$25 for Canada, \$35 for other countries
- * Add \$6.50 for APO/FPO military addresses

**ORDER ONLINE through
August 1st to avoid a \$6.50 per
jar shipping fee.**

**Contact John Greenstine to pay
by check.**

For more
information,
please
contact

Chairperson: John Greenstine
Phone: 610 891-0806
E-mail: Jgreenstine@yahoo.com

**Please order online
if you can!**

Did you Know?

If you're 70½ and have a traditional Individual Retirement Account ("IRA"), or if you're 72 or older and you need to take required minimum distributions (RMDs) from your traditional IRA, you can avoid paying taxes on distributions from your IRA by donating that money to your favorite charities (so long as it is a Qualified Charitable Distribution). You just have to be sure to follow the rules carefully.

Here's what you need to know.

Normally, a distribution from a traditional IRA is taxable because the account holder didn't pay taxes on the money when the money went into the IRA.

But account holders aged 70½ or older who make a contribution directly from a traditional IRA to a qualified charity can donate up to \$100,000 without it being considered a taxable distribution. The deduction effectively lowers the donor's adjusted gross income (AGI). Neither you nor the charity pays taxes on the amount you donated from your IRA.

To avoid paying taxes on the donation, the donor must follow the IRS rules for Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs). Beth Israel is a qualified 501(c)3 organization. As usual, if you have any questions, consult your tax professional for guidance.

notes from Finance

- ask your employer about matching contributions to BI - including dues!
- Have you contributed to the BI Capital Campaign yet? If so, thank you!
- Don't forget to add E-Check to your BI online account, to avoid credit card fees!

questions?
EMAIL
OFFICEMANAGER@BETHISRAELMEDIA.ORG

Rosh Chodesh Group

Rosh Chodesh, the monthly holiday marking the new moon, has traditionally been identified with women through midrash and folk belief. Stories circulated about the special right of Jewish women to observe this holiday in recognition of their noble behavior when the Golden Calf was erected and worshipped. (Excerpt from *Miriam's Well* by Penina V. Adelman)

Psalm 137 says, "As a reward (for the women's refusal to participate in the making of the Golden Calf), God gave the new moons as holidays to women, and in the future world too they will be rewarded for their firm faith in God, in that, like the new moons, they, too, may monthly be rejuvenated."

At Beth Israel, we mark Rosh Chodesh with special prayers and blessings, and a group of women gather for food and conversation. For the past 25 years, our group traditionally met in each other's homes, bringing a potluck lunch, and sharing teachings based on the Torah, current holiday, or something of interest to women in our time. Due to the pandemic, we met on Zoom, and in the nice weather, gathered outside at Beth Israel.

Rosh Chodesh is open to all women in the Beth Israel community. The next meeting of the Rosh Chodesh group is scheduled for Sunday, July 10th at 12:30. The topic will be Health and the Jews, led by Judy Kinman. All BI women are invited to attend and to participate. If the weather permits, we will meet outside. Bring your lunch, a drink, and a folding chair if one is available. If the weather is oppressive or inclement, we will meet inside the building, socially distant. We look forward to welcoming new members and returnees. For questions, contact Judy Kinman at jkjinman125@gmail.com.

Congregation Beth Israel of Media High Holy Days 2022

Mark your calendars to come together and be spiritually uplifted on the
Yamim Nora'im (Days of Awe).

All services in person, with live-streaming anticipated.

Selichot program & service	Sat, Sept 17	7:30 pm
Erev Rosh Hashanah	Sun, Sept 25	Dinner 5:30 pm Service 7:00 pm
Rosh Hashanah Day 1	Mon, Sept 26	10:00 am
Outdoor Shofar Blowing & Tashlich	12:30 at Smedley Park	
Rosh Hashanah Day 2	Tues, Sept 27	10:00 am
Erev Yom Kippur	Tues, Oct 4	7:00 pm
Yom Kippur	Wed, Oct 5	10:00 am
Afternoon Programs TBA		
Mincha/Neilah (Concluding Service)		5:30 pm

Be on the lookout for information about opportunities to participate in High Holy Days events.



Our new front doors get a new mezuzah. Rabbi Nathan led the service; Alan Ross, deservedly, had the honor of affixing it to the lintel.



1

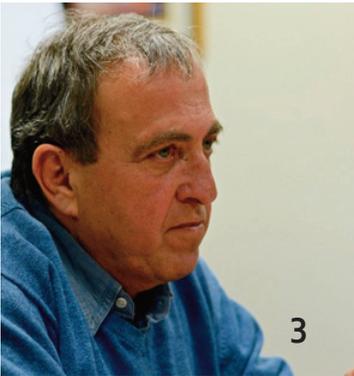
from Harry Chen There were many wonderful experiences on this 2 week trip to Israel, led by Rabbi Nathan. Looking at the schedule, I initially wondered how we could accomplish so much in such a short period of time. This was not the average Road Scholar tour. The secret ingredient was the wonderful guide, Ofer Askenazi, who seemed to know everyone and every place in Israel and our excellent bus driver, Yoram, who could steer the bus through the narrowest winding roads. The opportunity to be able to take naps on the bus between destinations was invaluable. I will describe two of the most memorable experiences in this thoughtfully organized tour by Shimon Felix, and Joe Perlov from Regarding Israel.

Ilham Alkamat, a Bedouin woman was divorced by her husband, because she had contracted Covid. She found a way to support her family by working as a tour guide in the Bedouin city of Rafat in the Negev, where she lives. She encountered many challenges as a woman in a male dominated society, as a Black person in a society ruled by mostly white people and as a Bedouin. Despite these challenges, she is surviving. I was also impressed with her daughter, Yosra, who loves to learn languages. When Yosra speaks English, she sounds like an American. She speaks Arabic, Hebrew, and English and she is learning other European languages.



2

Two members of the Parents Circle Families Forum spoke to us in Jerusalem. Rami' Elhanan's life in Jerusalem was changed when his 14 y/o daughter was killed by a suicide bomber. Similarly, Layla Al-Shaikh's life was changed when her 6-month old son suffered smoke inhalation and lung damage from tear gas that was set off in her town of Ramallah, West Bank. As a Palestinian, administrative guidelines prevented hospital treatment for 13 hours, and her son died, before receiving treatment that could have prevented this tragedy. Her talk had to be completed on time so that she could be driven back before the checkpoint to Ramallah closed that evening. While Rami and Layla had every reason to hate each other, they realized that the only meaningful way forward was to work together, and they now consider each other as brother and sister in an effort to stop the madness of hatred in Israel, by working in a growing peace movement, the Parents Circle Families Forum.



3

from Kathy Trow This was my first time in Israel and I couldn't have asked for a better tour. Our trip was rich in history, culture, education, spirituality, and of course, fun. I took this when we first arrived in Jerusalem. To see the image that is on my son's tallit was a moving experience. Israel is so far away but it feels like home. I can't wait to go back.



4

- Photos on pp 10 & 11.

 1. Getting on the bus
 2. R. Nathan and Ilham Akamat
 3. Rami Elhanan
 4. Jerusalem Skyline
 5. Jerusalem on Shabbat
 6. Roni Kaider at Gaza Border

from Andrea and David Wasser I think on joining our group we all wondered what would we learn about the impasse in Israeli-Palestinian relations and if a resolution was on the horizon. Many of the presentations were designed to send the message that individuals on both sides can make a difference but the essential first step was to view the other side as human beings. For me, the two meals at Arab Bedoin homes were highlights of the trip. The warmth and friendliness of both families and the feasts they provided to us, a group of Jews from another continent, were impossible not to respond to in kind. In each case, we learned about the difficulties of their lives, some imposed by the political situation but others by the rules of their ancient culture. After such an experience how can you not see Arabs as anything other than human beings with whom you have a lot in common?

Harder, much harder, is to come to that conclusion when you have suffered as a result of the actions of the other. Probably the most impactful presentation was the one by two members of the Parents Circle, a group none of us would want to join. This organization is comprised of parents who have lost a child to the unending violence. We heard from an Israeli man and Palestinian woman who had both lost children – the man lost his only daughter in a suicide bombing in a shopping district of Jerusalem; the woman lost her baby son to the indifference and delays of Israeli guards at a checkpoint who refused to let her and her baby through to get desperately needed medical attention only available on the Jewish side. Both admitted to years of unconstrained hate towards the other. And yet, both of these extraordinary people came gradually to the realization that dialogue and working for peace was the only real solution to leave their surviving children a better world. They each had to learn to accept the other side as human beings.

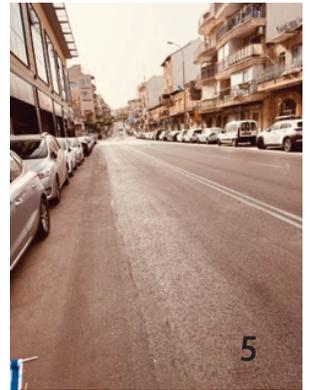
Of course, this is easier said than done. Coming home, I think about the deep divide in our own country. It is not an easy thing to see the other side as human beings, even here. But that may be the only answer, especially when, as in Israel, the political leadership has failed dismally to find a resolution.

from Joyce and Ron Romoff We were privileged to travel to Israel in 2018. Some asked us why we were returning "so soon." Israel makes us feel as if we once lived there, perhaps in a past life(?), need to return, periodically, to our "second home." Also, there's always something new to see, or see again, or see differently.

Israel is a country with enemies, or at least, not friends, on all sides. To us, that makes Israelis like diamonds; hard, resilient, brilliant and self reliant in a way we, in the States, haven't been since WWII. It's an amazing country where, according to Lt. Col Sarit, they look for tools, not solutions.

Others will talk about Haifa, Tzipori, Jerusalem, and Tel Aviv. But oh, the sirens. How to talk about the sirens? Three times, once during Yom HaShoah v'Gevurah and twice during Yom HaZikaron, we heard the sirens that sound throughout the entire country. The sirens seem, to me, to be such a cry of pain ("Look what the world has done to Jews"), defiance ("Masada shall not fall again") and strength ("Hear us roar"), that they made an enormous impression on us. Joyce cried. Every time. Sheesh.

It was an amazing trip. Kudos to our group, group leaders and, especially, to R. Nathan for his perseverance in getting this group to/from Israel, despite COVID. Thank you.



from Linda Cohen As we drove past the barrier wall erected in 2001 between Israel and Gaza, our guide reported how effective it has been in deterring terrorists from crossing that border, especially after the later addition of a deep underground border wall with sensors to detect tunnel construction, all a marvel of Israeli technology. We then visited a 77 year old Israeli peace activist, Roni Keider, living in a moshav, or agricultural cooperative, located close to the wall. We assembled in a large bomb shelter, where she detailed the hazards of living near Gaza as well as her efforts through an organization, Other Voice, to provide friendship and support to Palestinians across the wall. Later, our bus circled past Palestinian men awaiting clearance to pass through the checkpoint of the wall to travel to work. Some smiled and waved. For me, the witnessing of Israeli ingenuity and determination to survive, coupled with compassion for Palestinian residents, was at the heart of our amazing trip.

from Andrea Apter The trip was wonderful. I can only begin to imagine how much work went into the planning.

I kept thinking about the history of the Jewish State. Since I was born in June 1948, May 1948 as independence day was ingained. I thought about the bravery of those fleeing Europe from the Nazis and ready to start a new state. At the same time I have always wondered why the same people did not feel similar sympathy for Palestinians. Why were there persons who had experienced such oppression unsympathetic to their neighbors? I wanted to know more about Palestinians: Were there cultural groups? That is, were Palestinians from the West Bank culturally different from those from Gaza. Did Palestinians from the West Bank have cultural roots from Jordan? Did those from Gaza have Egyptian roots? How could the two areas, West Bank and Gaza, separated by Israel work as one country.

I worried about the different factions- of Israelis: the ultra-Orthodox who are not sympathetic to women who do not believe they should serve in the army. I wondered how women could partner with such men. I believe it is wrong to start new Jewish settlements on land that had belonged to Palestinian.

Finally, most of my thoughts seem to be about the politics and culture. I wonder why I have not thought very much about the religion except to think it is a very different feeling to be in a Jewish state. When I was in Sunday School we sang HaTikvah every Sunday in Hebrew. I still knew the words. I would like to learn more, visit again.

Mourner	Remembering	Relationship	Yahrzeit 2022	Yahrzeit 5782
James Wilson	Ann Wilson	Mother	July 01	2 Tammuz
Jill Whitcraft	Jacques Cohen	Grandfather	July 02	3 Tammuz
Nancy Hirschinger	Walter Hirschinger	Father	July 03	4 Tammuz
Gwen Miriam Sigler	George Sigler	Grandfather	July 04	5 Tammuz
Robert Stone	Vicki Brown	Friend	July 04	5 Tammuz
Joyce Romoff	Israel Weizer	Grandfather	July 08	9 Tammuz
Ronald Romoff	Elinor Romoff*	Mother	July 11	12 Tammuz
Laynie Browne	Patricia Browne	Stepmother	July 12	13 Tammuz
Rissa Sklar	Herman William Kaplan	Father	July 13	14 Tammuz
Joyce Romoff	Eric Paul Weizer	Nephew	July 13	14 Tammuz
Penny Bernick	Sara Bornstein	Mother	July 13	14 Tammuz
Lynn Cashell	Ruth Orris Schwartz	Stepmother	July 15	16 Tammuz
Gwen Miriam Sigler	Dorothy Sigler	Aunt	July 15	16 Tammuz
Susan Goldberg	Louis Goldberg*	Father	July 16	17 Tammuz
Sharon Kleban	Anna Handwerger	Grandmother	July 17	18 Tammuz
Jay Handwerger	Anna Handwerger	Mother	July 17	18 Tammuz
Lois Deutsch	Simon Schwalb	Father	July 17	18 Tammuz
Lynn Kelly	Rayfield Rosenberg	Father	July 17	18 Tammuz
Mark Rosenberg	Rayfield Rosenberg	Father	July 17	18 Tammuz
Eleanor Skale	Kate Skale*	Mother	July 18	19 Tammuz
Harry Chen	Tze Kong Chen	Father	July 18	19 Tammuz
Deanie Heller	Howard Heller*	Father	July 18	19 Tammuz
Richard Remenick	Diane Remenick	Mother	July 18	19 Tammuz
Barbara Drebing	Lillian Drebing	Mother	July 19	20 Tammuz
Randi Raskin Nash	Florence Alpert	Aunt	July 19	20 Tammuz
Kathy and Dan Andersen	Eliana Andersen*	Daughter	July 24	25 Tammuz
Judy Kinman	Anna Lazarus	Mother	July 27	28 Tammuz
Helen Plotkin	Judith "Billie" Plotkin*	Mother	July 30	2 Av
Jay Handwerger	Harry Handwerger	Father	July 31	3 Av
Sharon Kleban	Harry Handwerger	Grandfather	July 31	3 Av



*after a name indicates that there is a plaque.

Yahrzeit begins at sundown the evening before the date shown.

Please be sure to let the Rabbis know when you or someone in the congregation is in need of a blessing for healing.

Your generous support not only enables Beth Israel to provide a robust variety of programs that foster the spiritual needs of our community, your support also enhances our ability to bring about tikkun olam through our social action initiatives. Your generosity is appreciated now more than ever. Please consider honoring a friend or a loved one through a contribution to any of our designated funds.

Mourner	Remembering	Relationship	Yahrzeit 2022	Yahrzeit 5782
Jane Laffend	Audrey Shirk*	Mother	8/1/22	4 Av
Rae Roeder	Toby Jacobs*	Mother	8/2/22	5 Av
Ann Green	Louis Green*	Son	8/2/22	5 Av
Laura Lee Blechner	Sylvia Ferentz	Grandmother	8/3/22	6 Av
Joyce Romoff	Jacob Segal	Grandfather	8/3/22	6 Av
Mark Paikoff	Marlene Paikoff	Mother	8/4/22	7 Av
Deborah Dymond Markman	Harold Dymond*	Father	8/5/22	8 Av
Dr. Julie Mayer	Morton W. Jacobs*	Father	8/7/22	10 Av
Natalia Zhukovskaya	Ilya Begun	Grandfather	8/7/22	10 Av
Deborah Erie	Marcel Magnus	Grandfather	8/7/22	10 Av
Susan Klein	Yetta Klein*	Mother	8/9/22	12 Av
Mark Schlam	Caroline Schlam	Mother	8/9/22	12 Av
Andrew Bennett	Len Bennett	Father	8/9/22	12 Av
Deborah Erie	Ruth Erie	Mother	8/9/22	12 Av
Linda Cohen	Helen Handloff	Mother	8/10/22	13 Av
Sheldon Bernick	Judith Himmelstein Bernick	Wife	8/14/22	17 Av
Marion Hamermesh	Debby Yager	Sister	8/14/22	17 Av
Steven Goldfield	Leonard Goldfield*	Father	8/20/22	23 Av
Stanley Sklar	Essie Sklar*	Mother	8/23/22	26 Av
Amy Fantalis	Essie Sklar*	Grandmother	8/23/22	26 Av
Jane Laffend	Harry Joseph Metzger	Grandfather	8/23/22	26 Av
Judy Kinman	Edie Schwartz	Sister	8/23/22	26 Av
Marion Hamermesh	Paul Yager	Father	8/24/22	27 Av
Gwen Miriam Sigler	Florence Sigler	Grandmother	8/26/22	29 Av
Benjamin Alouf	Adi Alouf*	Brother	8/27/22	30 Av
Jeremy Loomis	Ben Loomis	Grandfather	8/28/22	1 Elul
Maya Kilimnik	Aron Kilimnik	Father	8/29/22	2 Elul
John Greenstine	Herbert Binder	Father-in-law	8/30/22	3 Elul
Amy Binder	Herbert Binder	Father	8/30/22	3 Elul
Helena Landis	Julian Kulski	Father	8/31/22	4 Elul
Alan Fink	Howard A. Fink	Father	8/31/22	4 Elul

הִפַּכְתָּ מִסִּפְדִּי לְמַחֹל לִי פִתַּחְתָּ שִׁקִּי וְתַאֲזַרְנִי שְׂמֵחָה:

You turned my lament into dancing,

you undid my sackcloth and girded me with joy, Psalm 30:12

Come dance!

Israeli Dancing at BI taught by Andi and Sharon!



We will meet every Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 PM downstairs in the Hebrew school common room.

Ring and enter via the side Hebrew School entrance. We will focus on beginner/ liturgical dances from 7:00 to 8:00 followed by intermediate/modern dances from 8:00 to 9:00.

No partner or experience is needed. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes and bring your own water bottle. You may bring your own smile or one will be provided for you :)

Contact Andi at andiwallach@gmail.com or Sharon at sharonkleban@gmail.com for more information.

General Fund

Bob and Ellen Meyer in honor of the bat mitzvah of Helene Gumerman's granddaughter Nora
Lynn and David Cashell in honor of Rabbi Dr. Linda Potemken

Burton J. Cohen Endowment Fund

Reisa Mukamal and Steven Arnold in honor of Rabbi Linda on receiving her Doctor of Divinity degree
and for 25 years of serving Congregation Beth Israel.

Golden Book

Rabbi Linda to Jennifer Waterston in memory of your beloved aunt, Marcia Roth
May her memory be a blessing for you and for your family

BIMAS

Susan Robinson and Andrew Weiner with thanks for participating in Nora Weiner's Bat Mitzvah. It was beautiful as always.
Natalia Zhukovskaya in honor of Ethan Bowen's Bar Mitzvah

Rabbis' Discretionary Fund

Arlene Benz in honor of Rabbi Linda's 25th anniversary.
Phyllis Perry to Rabbi Linda and Rabbi Nathan. Thank you for all the good you do.
Lenore and James Kaufman in gratitude for Rabbi Nathan's beautiful and heartfelt funeral ceremony for my sister
(Jim's sister-in-law), Marcia Roth. We could not have wished for a more perfect ceremony.
Blooming Glen Mennonite Church
Marilyn Drukin in honor of Rabbi Dr. Linda Potemken on receiving an Honorary Doctorate. I honor and celebrate
your impressive achievements.
Deborah Erie and Lynora Underwood in honor of Rabbi Linda's 25 years of service to Beth Israel

Capital Campaign

Ron and Joyce Romoff, Randi Raskin Nash and Kevin Nash, David and Lynn Cashell, Debra Wile, Richard Mandel, Benjamin Alouf, Daniel Gura and Nicole Sprague, Sallie Holzman, Phyllis Perry, Gwen Miriam Sigler

BI Seder Donations: *Peter Bernstein and Ala Hamilton Day; Marilyn Verbits*

Hebrew School Fund

Susan Robinson and Andrew Weiner recognizing Laura Lee for her hard work, creativity, and beautiful voice in preparing
Nora for her Bat Mitzvah.
Judy Goodrob
Leonid and Larisa Zhukovsky in honor of our grandson Ethan Bowen Bar Mitzvah. We'd like to express our sincere gratitude
to Laura Lee and all Beth Israel congregation.
Jennifer and Josh Waterston; Adam Nichols and Patti Prior; Allison and Scott Manaker

Ellie Festival Fund

Reisa Mukamal & Steven Arnold in memory of Eleanor Skale and her family in memory of beloved Gloria
Reisa Mukamal & Steven Arnold in honor of Paige Brown on receiving the Robert Nichols Scholar-Athlete Award. Mazel tov!
Katie Sibley and Joe Horwitz in honor of Bob Stone
Emma and Jeremy Lefkowitz, Amy Strauss, Marilyn Verbits, Ann Green, Judy Kinman, Ronan Marmorstein & Shoshanna Gottlieb

Peace in Ukraine Concert

Reisa Mukamal and Steven Arnold, Larrye and Pam Loss, Carol Briselli, Josh and Jennifer Waterston, Eve Biskind Klothen and Ken Klothen, Ann Green, John Greenstine, Susan Klein and Stuart Pittel, Louis Friedler and Arlene Lishinsky, Vitali and Daniela Eskenazi, Andrea Apter Chen and Harry Chen, Katherine Sibley and Joe Horwitz, Andrea Bruno, Richard Strauss, Julie Mayer and Barry Jacobs, Rabbi Nathan Martin and Abigail Weinberg, Miriam Sigler, Randi Raskin Nash and Kevin Nash, David and Lynn Cashell, Selene Platt, Ron and Joyce Romoff, Mary Ellen Maatman and Arnie Schwartz, Peter Bernstein and Ala Hamilton-Day, Marilyn Drukin, Elaine Feldman

HIAS: Wendy Waterston in memory of my wonderful, lifelong soulmate, Buzz.

Condolences: To *Eleanor Skale* on the passing of her beloved sister, Gloria Skale Rutberg. Please join us as we send condolences to Eleanor as she absorbs this profound loss.

Sending you blessings for healing: *Dottie Jenkins, Ron Romoff, Andrew Kelly, Alan Fink, Deanie Heller, Jane Laffend, Lynn Kelly, Helena Landis, Geoff Horowitz*

PLEASE NOTE: If your donation was received after May 30, your acknowledgement will appear in the next issue of The Israelight.



**2022 Rummage Sale
Thanks to Lynn and Joe and their team**

from Lynn and Joe This is an event that truly takes a village from everyone who contributed treasures, to those who baked, those who schlepped, those who volunteered their time to set up and clean up, and those who shopped. Our inventory was not as large as in past years, yet we still profited \$1452. That number tends to rise a little as Joe continues to sell over the next few weeks.

Just so folks know, the remaining items do not go into the dumpster. Some items are donated to Green Drop, blankets and other pet items go to the SPCA, we save some items for next year, and Joe "has a guy" who picks many items. We are going to take all of the remaining electronics (anything with a plug) to an electronics recycling event in the fall, so it does not wind up as landfill.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who gave of their time to make this event successful.

GROCERY CARDS ARE IN STOCK AT BETH ISRAEL —YES! I shop at Acme or Giant and I'm happy to purchase gift cards through BI! (for every card purchased, BI receives \$5 - it adds up and makes a difference!) Let Diane know if you'd like to purchas some. Phone 610-566-4645 or send her an email: diane_longenecker@bethisraelmedia.org

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Nora Weiner

When was your Bat Mitzvah?

April 2, 2022, and my Torah portion was Tazria in the Book of Leviticus.

Who is in your family?

My parents, Susan and Andrew, my brother Ross (who goes to college in Los Angeles), and our dog Brewster (who loves dog treats!)

What do you like about school?

Drawing in class, and anything active – volleyball, soccer, mountain biking, track.

What is your favorite movie?

Free Guy, about a background player in a video game who becomes the hero of his own story.

What will you remember from Hebrew school?

Snack! Especially the cold juice boxes and fruit snacks.

What surprised you about your Torah portion?

How much it talked about rashes! Oh, and girls are better because a mom would have to isolate for double the time if she had a girl.

If someone has a rash they would go to the priest or Kohen to get checked. If they do have Tzara'at they have to isolate for seven days. Why would you isolate someone for tzara'at? Rashi, a rabbi from France, along with some

earlier rabbis, believed that tzara'at could be considered a punishment for gossip. They based this on a story where Miriam got tzara'at after speaking against Moses. Another reason to isolate someone might be because they're infectious or because the rash could be infectious.

But it may be possible that being isolated would help them develop the discipline to not speak about other people. Sforno talked about how a quarantine makes a person have time to think about what they did and ask for God's forgiveness. Nehama Liebowitz added to what Sforno said and said that it teaches society to take notice of the first signs of misconduct, even when it is small, just like when you have the beginnings of an illness you can try to stop it before it becomes a big problem.

In my opinion, punishment by isolation doesn't seem fair, especially if it isn't your fault that you got tza'ra'at. How would they know that someone did something wrong? If you are isolated, would people then talk about you actually causing more gossip and then more tza'ra'at?

One thing I remember from when I was younger is how time outs never worked for me. When I was a child, I would be put in time out for bothering my brother. But even after all of the time outs, I got used to them, and I just continued to bother him, even though I kept getting time outs.



Max Grin

When was your Bar Mitzvah?

April 23, 2022, and my Torah portion was Acharei-Mot in the Book of Leviticus.

Who is in your family?

My parents, Michael and Maya, and my sister Abby (who goes to college at West Chester University).

What do you like about school?

Seeing my friends, gym, playing soccer and basketball. I also played the trumpet this year.

What is your favorite movie?

Any of the Marvel movies, but especially the Spiderman ones.

What will you remember from Hebrew school?

Snack! Especially the chips.

What did you learn from your Tikkun Olam project?

In the book of Leviticus, people bring food and other donations to the Temple to feed the priests and take care of the community. For my Tikkun Olam project, I donated coats to a West Chester University coat drive and food to the West Chester food bank so they could be handed out to people in need. I chose to do this because it can be very hard

when it is cold and you don't have food. I learned that it feels good to be able to help out people that need it more than I do.

What is your favorite prayer?

The Shema.

What surprised you about your Torah portion?

That I was able to learn how to chant it!

My Torah portion discusses the Yom Kippur sacrificial rituals. Yom Kippur became an annual ritual of cleansing mistakes because the Israelites, just like all people, make mistakes. Back in the times of the Torah, the Israelites used animal sacrifices to fix their mistakes or to celebrate a good harvest, or other good things, as a way to pray to God. The individual sacrifices fixed mistakes by cleansing their personal spiritual mistake record. But on Yom Kippur, the sacrifices of the two different goats cleanse the communal spiritual mistake record. It is useful to have some sort of ritual when you make a mistake because you don't want to be on God's bad side.



Ethan Bowen

When was your Bar Mitzvah?

May 28, 2022, and my Torah portion was Bamidbar in the Book of Bamidbar.

Who is in your family?

My parents, Natalia and Jim, my sisters Hannah and Claire, and our orange and white cat Vlad.

What do you like about school?

Learning French. Also, math and science.

What is your favorite book (and movie)?

Lord of the Rings. It is an entertaining, good long read, full of interesting, fun characters.

What will you remember from Hebrew school?

Snack, and all of the kids.

What did you learn from your Tikkun Olam project?

I'm raising money for Ukrainian refugees. I felt that it was important to help someone in need right now. It isn't fair that they are having their freedom taken away.

What is your favorite prayer?

A lot of them!

What surprised you about your Torah portion?

It was easier than I expected to learn how to chant Torah and Haftarah. One thing I wanted to share about preparing for my Bar Mitzvah is how meaningful it was to learn how to read and chant the Torah, just like people have done for hundreds and hundreds of years.

My Torah portion begins with a census of the Israelites. A question that came up for me was why did God count the men? One teaching I found was that, according to Rabbi Jonathan Kligler, having all the men be counted was an important reminder that they were all equally worthy of love as any other child of God. But I do find it challenging that God didn't count the women, children, and elders - only the fighting-age men.



Maya DeCamp

When was your Bat Mitzvah?

June 11, 2022. My Torah portion was Beha'alotcha in the Book of Bamidbar.

Who is in your family?

My parents, Lisa and Matt, my sister Lauren, and our dog, Tess.

What do you like about school?

Learning about the world and how things work. My favorite subject is writing – I'm writing a book right now.

What is your favorite book (and movie)?

Anything in the fantasy or sci-fi genre.

What will you remember from Hebrew school?

The community and experiencing holiness.

What is your Tikkun Olam project?

Because the environment is so important to me, I'm going to continue the work to maintain the new Beth Israel garden. I'm also going to make signs for the new trees so that people will know what they are.

What is your favorite prayer?

Shema and Ve'ahavta because it was the first prayer that I mastered and learned to lead.

What surprised you about your Torah portion?

That the Israelites wanted to go back to Egypt, even though they were slaves there.

A common theme throughout this Torah portion is that when complaining, you should always take notice of how you complain and never forget to stay grateful for what you have. When the Israelites leave, they become a nation, a people, not simply a group. Many rabbis talk about how when the Israelites left Egypt, they were figuratively babies. When the Israelites left Egypt, the nation of Israel was born.....

In this portion, the Israelites are now teenagers. These Israelites, who like teenagers in the modern age, like to complain, yet still are not as independent as adults. Throughout, the people of Israel, including Moses, and even God, like to complain about many things, some of it justifiable and some of it was done simply because they could.....In the end, complaining isn't really a bad thing. It is just how people use it. Are you complaining just to complain, or are you complaining to make the world better.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26 Sivan 27 9:00am BI Rummage Sale	27 Sivan 28 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice	28 Sivan 29 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	29 Sivan 30 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz	30 Tammuz 1 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice led by Me'ira Pitkapaasi 2:00pm VFI Israel Lecture/Tour	1 Tammuz 2 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Rabbi Linda (on zoom) 8:16pm Candle Lighting	2 Tammuz 3 Chukat 9:45am Shabbat at Home (at home and offline) 9:24pm Havdalah
3 Tammuz 4	4 Tammuz 5 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice	5 Tammuz 6 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	6 Tammuz 7	7 Tammuz 8 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice	8 Tammuz 9 9:00am RPC Meeting (on zoom) 7:30pm Shabbat at Home (at home and offline) 8:14pm Candle Lighting	9 Tammuz 10 Balak 9:45am Shabbat Services with Rabbi Linda and Celebration of Learning with Amy Nabut (in sanctuary) 9:22pm Havdalah
10 Tammuz 11	11 Tammuz 12 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice	12 Tammuz 13 7:00pm Israeli Dancing 7:30pm Antiracism Discussion of Module 4 w/ Rabbi Linda and Team	13 Tammuz 14	14 Tammuz 15 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice	15 Tammuz 16 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Rabbi Nathan (on zoom) 8:11pm Candle Lighting	16 Tammuz 17 Pinchas 9:45am Shabbat at Home (at home and offline) 9:19pm Havdalah
17 Tammuz 18 Fast of Tammuz 10:00am Membership Committee Meeting (On Zoom)	18 Tammuz 19 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice	19 Tammuz 20 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	20 Tammuz 21	21 Tammuz 22 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice led by Randi Raskin Nash	22 Tammuz 23 7:30pm Shabbat at Home (at home and offline) 8:07pm Candle Lighting	23 Tammuz 24 Shabbat Mevarchim Matot 9:45am Shabbat Services with lay leader (on zoom) 9:14pm Havdalah
24 Tammuz 25	25 Tammuz 26 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice	26 Tammuz 27 7:00pm Israeli Dancing	27 Tammuz 28 7:30pm Social Action Committee meeting (via Zoom)	28 Tammuz 29 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice led by Me'ira Pitkapaasi	29 Av 1 Rosh Chodesh Av 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Rabbi Nathan (in person) 8:00pm Candle Lighting	30 Av 2 Masei 9:45am Shabbat at Home (at home and offline) 9:07pm Havdalah
31 Av 3 10:00am Board of Directors Meeting (on Zoom)	1 Av 4	2 Av 5	3 Av 6	4 Av 7 7:30pm Antiracism Discussion of Module 5 w/ Rabbi Linda and Team	5 Av 8 7:30pm Shabbat Services with lay leader (on zoom) 7:53pm Candle Lighting	6 Av 9 Erev Tisha B'Av Shabbat Hazon Devanim 7:00pm Evening Tisha B'Av with Rabbi Nathan (in

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 Av 3 10:00am Board of Directors Meeting (on Zoom)	1 Av 4	2 Av 5	3 Av 6	4 Av 7 7:30pm Antiracism Discussion of Module 5 w/ Rabbi Linda and Team	5 Av 8 7:30pm Shabbat Services with lay leader (on zoom) 7:53pm Candle Lighting	6 Av 9 Erev Tisha B'Av Shabbat Hazon Devarim 7:00pm Evening Tisha B'Av with Rabbi Nathan (in person)
7 Av 10 Fast of Tisha B'Av 8:59pm Havdalah	8 Av 11	9 Av 12	10 Av 13	11 Av 14 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice led by Randi Raskin Nash	12 Av 15 Tu B'Av 7:30pm Shabbat at Home (at home and offline) 7:44pm Candle Lighting	13 Av 16 Shabbat Nachamu Vaetchanan 9:45am Shabbat Services with Rabbi Nathan (on zoom) 8:51pm Havdalah
14 Av 17	15 Av 18	16 Av 19	17 Av 20	18 Av 21	19 Av 22 7:30pm Shabbat Services with Rabbi Linda (in person) 7:35pm Candle Lighting	20 Av 23 Shabbat Mevarchim Eikev 9:45am Shabbat at Home (at home and offline) 8:41pm Havdalah
21 Av 24	22 Av 25	23 Av 26	24 Av 27 7:30pm Antiracism Discussion of Module 6 w/ Rabbi Linda and Team	25 Av 28	26 Av 29 7:25pm Candle Lighting 7:30pm Shabbat at Home (at home and offline)	27 Av 30 Rosh Chodesh Elul Re'eh 9:45am Shabbat Services with Rabbi Linda (on zoom) 8:31pm Havdalah
28 Elul 1 Rosh Chodesh Elul	29 Elul 2 5:30pm SAC Food Service	30 Elul 3	31 Elul 4 7:30pm Social Action Committee meeting (via Zoom)	1 Elul 5	2 Elul 6 7:14pm Candle Lighting	3 Elul 7 Shofetim 7:30pm Shabbat Service (On Zoom) 8:20pm Havdalah



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The Israelight is published on the first of each secular month. All submissions must be received by the editor by the 15th of the preceding month to guarantee inclusion. Articles may be submitted by mail to the synagogue office or by email to:

Israelight@bethisraelmedia.org

Next Issue: September Deadline: August 15

משנה אבות א'י"ד

(יד) הוא הָיָה אֹמֵר, אִם אֵין אָנִי לִי, מִי לִי. וּכְשָׁאֲנִי לְעַצְמִי, מֶה אָנִי. וְאִם לֹא עִכְשָׁיו, אֵימָתִי:

Pirkei Avot 1:14

(14) He [Rabbi Hillel] used to say: If I am not for me, who will be for me? And when I am for myself alone, what am I? And if not now, then when?



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