

The Israelight

*Congregation Beth Israel of Media
A Reconstructionist Jewish Community*



Vigil for Israel in Media led by R. Nathan and Rabbi Kelilah Miller of Ohev Shalom. Several members of BI were there and local dignitaries stood for and spoke eloquently for Israel

ARCC & Teen Group	3		Donations: August	9
Events			Thank you	
Our Survivor Torah	5	Table of Contents	Sustainability Corner	10,11
Memorial Trust Gathering			Green Torah; New Beds	
Religious Practice Committee	6		BI's New Sign	12
Thank yous & HH review planned			It's here!	
Adult Education	7		Social Action Committee & Coat Collection	13
Torah Treks, Beit Midrash, and more			Report and Request.	
Yahrzeits:	8		Tot Shabbat	14
We remember them			Schedule, pictures	

Rabbi's Column Rabbi Nathan Martin



Dear Friends,

Like many of you I have been heart-broken of the horrific murders carried out by Hamas militants against Israelis, the taking of hostages, and also the loss of civilian lives in Gaza during this conflict. Know that we are with you and we do our best to hold and grieve the loss together and also

pray for a quick resolution to this conflict with a minimum of loss of life.

As American Jews, we are deeply affected by this trauma. Many of us have friends and relatives in Israel, and many of us carefully follow the news and events of this important center of Jewish life in our world today. While we cannot control the course and events of this war, I do want to take this time to offer some reflections on how we might respond to the current moment. I do this in the framework of the teaching from *Pirkei Avot* (The Ethics of our Ancestors) that the world is sustained by three things: **Torah, Avodah (Spiritual Practice), and Gemilut Hasadim (Acts of Loving Kindness).**

Torah: As lifelong learners it can be helpful for some to not only to follow the day to day news of the conflict, but this can be an opportunity to deepen our perspective on Israel and the challenges that it faces today. Learning about Israel can be a way to build more connection to the country and its people. And, being able to hold the complexity of Israeli life, politics, and culture can be an important practice in its own right that can help one to stay connected outside of the current conflict. I am always available as a resource in this work.

Avodah: As you know, your rabbis have been strong advocates of investing in spiritual practice as a tool to weather the challenging information we are receiving each day about the war. Some particular practices can include:

- * setting aside time for mindfulness meditation each day to notice your breath and the thoughts that arise, unbidden, that might be escalating your dis-ease. Invite those thoughts to pass through your awareness without having to be held by them. Simple practices like this can help us to be less captive to anxiety that may arise.

- * Relatedly, we invite you to offer prayers for yourself and others, to pray for peace and well-being in the world, to pray for safety and end to conflict, to pray for understanding and healing for those in pain. This too can be an important regular practice.

- * Additionally, we invite you to see the practice of connection as a type of Avodah. Perhaps consider taking time to walk with a friend, each taking time to share how you are holding up at this moment. Perhaps the connection is simply with the world around you, or a local park, or another space you find nourishing.

Gemilut Hasadim: Finally, finding ways to support and be of service during this time can also be helpful and grounding. We invite you to connect and donate to a particular tzedaka that might reflect your values around this conflict. (We are happy to offer suggestions). Perhaps your acts of kindness are making a point to reach out to relatives and friends in Israel to offer a listening ear, or to reach out to friends and family here in the US to do the same - and we include in this practice friends of all backgrounds: Jewish, Muslim, young and old alike.

But most importantly we want to acknowledge and validate that this is a deeply unsettling time. We worry for the safety of our brothers and sisters and friends in Israel. We worry for the safety and well being of innocent civilians affected by this conflict. We worry about the stability of the region of the Middle East and the potential for broader conflict. And this is not to mention our concerns we have been holding before October 7.

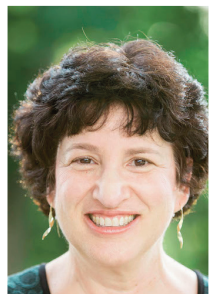
It makes sense if you find yourself feeling ill at ease as you go about your day. This is a particular moment to be gentle with ourselves and each other, to notice that we may be more tired or irritable, less patient, and simply less able to carry on our lives with the same ease as previously. As we notice this, we invite you to slow down, take a breath, and be compassionate with yourself in this challenging reality. And may we continue to be there for each other.

I leave us with the image that the Tabernacle was carried through the wilderness in pieces. May each of us together not only hold our grief from this moment but also carry each other through this unknown wilderness with love and compassion.

See page 3 for Rabbi Linda's note

SUPPORTING OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS DURING CHALLENGING TIMES

If your student would like to gather with other BI college students for support please let Rabbi Linda know and she will convene another zoom gathering.



Tell us what you need.

"Allow yourself to be at a loss for words" may be the most helpful words since the nightmare began on October 7. I've added a nightly practice of offering psalms on behalf of safety, healing, peace. I have ongoing contact with loved ones in Israel. I take in news judiciously, not overburdening myself with more than I can stomach in a day. I lean into the spiritual practices of prayer, Torah study, mussar, meditation and connection. I give tzedakah, I build bridges to other communities. I savor acts of kindness, those that I receive, witness or bestow.

How are you getting through these times and how might we help? Would you like more BI gatherings dedicated to sharing thoughts or feelings or prayers with regard to this situation? Would you like ongoing lists of places to offer tzedakah? Would you like a zoom gathering for BI members where we invite our loved ones in Israel to speak out? BI, your community, your rabbis are here for you through the good times and the painful ones.

Tell us what you need.

OUR BETH ISRAEL COMMUNITY

ARCC will continue to support the community in the monthly practice of learning, through sending out monthly modules that people can engage with individually or with a study buddy (chevruta). The module will go out 10 days in advance.

ARCC is exploring ways in which BI might partner with other groups on engaging in the issue of criminal justice as a focus for our antiracism work this year. Look for more opportunities to learn about this.

ARCC supports our partnership with FUSE. Many BI members took part in our FUSE Sukkot program on October 3rd.

BI is taking the lead to expose "hard history."

Presented with the **Anti-Racism Coordinating Committee**

ANTIRACISM DISCUSSIONS THE EXPLORATIONS CONTINUE



JUSTICE, JUSTICE YOU SHALL PURSUE
DEUTERONOMY 16:20

BI CONVERSATIONS ON ANTIRACISM

Please check your email for the modules that are delivered to your inbox. 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 facilitated discussion of the module, 7-10 days after you first receive it.

Wednesday, November 8 7:30 on zoom with Rabbi Linda & Julie Mayer Module 13
Criminal Justice Reform

How would you like BI to engage in this work? To share your thoughts or for more information contact any member of the ARCC - Harry Chen, Deb Erie, Michael Fishkow (chair), Julie Mayer, Katie Sibley, Rabbi Linda.

TEEN GROUP AT BETH ISRAEL Sunday November 19th at 12:30 at Beth Israel

Our teen group is up and running, with an important focus and a very exciting possibility. We will meet 1X per month in person at 12:30 pm on a Sunday at Beth Israel to socialize, learn and work on projects around the theme of sustainability

We're also planning to partner with a teen group in Costa Rica. We plan to gather 1X per month on a different Sunday, probably around 5 or thereabouts, to meet on zoom with the Costa Rica teens.

We will also explore the possibility of the Costa Rica teens visiting us in Media and bringing our BI teens to Costa Rica. Does this sound interesting?

If you plan on participating send an email to Rabbi Linda: ravltp@bethisraelmedia.org



Dear Beth Israel Community,

I am taking time this month to reflect on our high holidays at Beth Israel. In mid-September we kicked things off with Rosh Hashanah, our new year. With apples and honey, we celebrated the occasion and our hopes for a sweet year ahead. Shabbat fell on the first day and after lengthy discussion, we had the rare treat of hearing the sounding of our shofar in the third part of the Shabbat Rosh Hashanah service. The second day was filled with more sounds of the shofar. Yom Kippur, our day of atonement, featured our looking for forgiveness from G-d and our community. By the end of the month, we were harvesting corn stalks and decorating our sukkah for the opportunity to expose ourselves to the elements during a delicious catered dinner and beer tasting. Finally in the first part of October we observed Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah with the unfurling of our Torah as we began our cycle again.

With our two wonderful Rabbis, and our host of Rabbinic interns, we prayed and learned and asked forgiveness and ate and celebrated. Our fantastic Religious Practices committee put countless hours into planning and carrying out a meaningful high holiday season. Our congregants co-led big parts of the services, without a professional cantor, and helped personalize and make meaningful our observances.

My conclusion is that the Days of Awe were totally awesome. I hope you had a similar experience. In addition, I hope that you will join us in our cozy, safe, and secure sanctuary as we move through fall into the cold days of winter.

Best,
Mark

Come dance! Israeli Dancing at BI taught by Andi and Sharon! November 14 7:00 We will meet the **2nd Tuesday of every month** from 7:00 to 8:30 in the sanctuary.

Ring and enter at the main entrance or phone Sharon. (RSVP to SharonLKleban@gmail.com; she will send her cell number)



No partner or experience is needed. The evening will include both beginner/liturgical dances and intermediate/modern dances. 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 andiwallach@gmail.com or sharonkleban@gmail.com for more information.

BI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Facilities Co-ordinators:

Immediate Past President: Emma Lefkowitz

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MEMBERS AT LARGE:

Jackie Gelman, Lynn Cashell

Lisa Blaskey deCamp, Natalya Zhukovskaya

Larry Hamermesh

John Greenstine

Marion Hamermesh, Rich Remenick

Elaine Feldman, Ron Romoff

Emma Lefkowitz

Jennifer Lenway

Marissa Band, Harry Chen, Jeff Golan, Adam Nicol, Jonathan Washington



SAVE THE DATE!

MEMORIAL SCROLLS TRUST GATHERING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 7:00 P.M.

KRISTALLNACHT

CONGREGATION RODEPH SHALOM

(615 N. BROAD ST. PHILADELPHIA, PA 19123)

ENTRANCE & PARKING LOCATED AT 1339 GREEN ST.)

Honor the Holocaust Torah Scrolls
rescued from Czechoslovakia.

Registration required at bit.ly/mstgathering.

For questions, contact Barbara Chesler
at bchesler12@gmail.com.



REMINDER - PLEASE DON'T PROP OPEN ANY EXTERIOR DOORS AT BETH ISRAEL

Unfortunately in the world in which we live, it is necessary to consider the security of our building and our congregants. When we prop open doors, we expose ourselves to anyone with bad intent. If you do not currently have a fob for entry into the building, please contact our Safety and Security chair, Alan Ross, or our administrator, Mikayla Losanowych, to get a personalized fob for entry. Please don't prop open any exterior doors or leave the main entrance door in the unlocked (orange button) mode at Beth Israel.

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

How to Reach our Rabbis

By phone: (610) 566-4645, choose option 1 if Mikayla 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).

Yamim Nora'im Todah Rabah High Holy Days Thank you

A big thank you/Todah Rabbah to Rabbi Linda, Rabbi Nathan, and everyone who contributed so much to our High Holy Days services in so many different ways. Chanting, singing, reading, leading text study, shofar blowing, playing music, ushering and greeting, beautifying, and parking – all of these contributions that made our High Holy Days services so satisfying and special vividly demonstrated the vibrancy of our community. Among the many members of our community who contributed to those services, we particularly recognize:

- Alan Ross, for his unstinting efforts to protect all of us by managing traffic, training ushers and greeters, and standing guard outside the building during every minute of our High Holy Days services;
- Josh Waterston, Chris Pragman, Steve Platt, and John Greenstine for doing the time-consuming job of setting up, monitoring, and troubleshooting the livestream of our services to those unable to attend in person;
- Marissa Band, Carol Briselli, Lynn Cashell, Daniela Eskenazi, Allan Feldman, Elaine Feldman, Jackie Gelman, John Greenstine, Marion Hamermesh, Joyann Kroser, Jennifer Lenway, Randi Raskin Nash, Joyce Romoff, Mark Rosenberg, and Katie Sibley, for taking time away from services to station themselves in the foyer to greet members and visitors as they entered the building;
- Elaine Feldman, for attentively and patiently tending to the many needs of our physical facilities;
- Alison Manaker, for once again putting together the Yizkor book, and Marilyn Verbits and Marion Hamermesh, for sensitive efforts in the reading of names during the Yizkor service;
- Reisa Mukamal, for (among many other things) assembling the bimah baskets;
- Randy Tiffany and Chris Pragman, for leading the construction of our Sukkah;
- Mikayla Losanawych, for organizing communications and supplies for our events;
- Keith Mason and Carolyn Byrd, for keeping our space neat and organized;
- Laura Lee Blechner, for her largely unrecognized work behind the scenes organizing the whole range of activities during the holidays.

Thank you for being such a wonderful community.

Larry Hamermesh, RPC chair, and Laura Lee Blechner, RPC High Holy Days Vice Chair

Friends,

The RPC meeting on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 7:00 (on Zoom) will be devoted to evaluating this year's High Holy Days services and events. You are welcome to attend the meeting and share your feedback, on the following topics as well as any other aspects you'd like to bring up:

Use of technology (and if you participated by Zoom, the quality of your experience);
The role of lay cantors;
Length and quality of in person services;
Quality, accessibility, and timeliness of information about services and events;
Efforts to promote security;
Food and eating arrangements.

If you are unable to attend, we welcome comments by email. We may begin the meeting with some brief routine business, but we will proceed directly to the evaluation of the High Holy Days services.

Larry Hamermesh, RPC chair (larry@hamermesh.com)

Laura Lee Blechner, High Holy Days vice chair (lblechner@pragman.net)



SATURDAY MORNINGS

November 4 Aya Baron teaches Aviva Zornberg!!!

9:45 Services | 11:45 Kiddush & potluck lunch | 12:30 – 2:00

Each program is independent. Come for all the sessions or attend selectively. There is no charge for lunch or the study sessions and RSVPs are not necessary. Whether you are able to attend services or not, whether or not you are able to contribute to the pot-luck, whether or not you've engaged the texts before, you are welcome to come for lunch & study. Streaming will be available.

Teachers and topics TBA

goodpurpose.org/shapes-in-space-cata-retrospective/

NEW!

BEIT MIDRASH - Text Study with a teacher and a study partner (bring one or find one there.)

In the sanctuary

7:30 - 9:30

3rd Wednesdays October - May

Once a month we'll get together in the sanctuary for some old fashioned learning on contemporary issues. Our rabbinic intern, Nora Chernov, will be the main teacher but our Rabbis and members of our congregation will also teach. Following some introductory remarks, we'll sit and study with a chevruta (study partner), exploring translations of fascinating and relevant texts. On October 18 Nora and R. Linda will lead an exploration of Collective and Individual Responses to Climate Change through texts from Torah portion *Noach*. If there are topics or texts that you'd like to explore, please send your ideas to [R. Linda](#), [Nora Chernov](#), or [Marion Hamermesh](#).

The Torah of Now: Challenge and Response

What guidance does Jewish tradition give us for thinking about some of today's most difficult issues? Stay tuned to hear about selected Friday night services that will include a speaker and discussion that will bring wisdom to our understanding of a challenge of contemporary life.

In the Senior Rabbi's Study

Meditation and Text - An Alternative Spiritual Practice

November 15 We will gather at 3:45 and begin at 4:00

These sessions will take place in the sanctuary on weekday afternoons and begin with a word of Torah to ground the practice. Come explore mindfulness through a Jewish lens. If you are able, RSVP to [Rabbi Linda](#).

Also in the planning stages:

The Annual Raz Lecture

Opportunities to talk about Israel

Mussar (closed group; contact Rabbi Linda for more information)

Thursday November 16. at 12:30 on Zoom

Going forward: the 3rd Thursday of each month September - June

Learning with Rabbi Richard Hirsh

3 Thursdays in 2024 on Zoom details tba

The Adult Education Committee supports the work of the Anti-Racism Co-ordinating Committee (p 3) and the Beth Israel Green Torah Group (p 10)

Are you interested in helping to plan and implement Adult Ed at BI? Please contact marion@hamermesh.com

Mourner	Remembering	Relationship	Yahrzeit 2023	Yahrzeit 5784
Steven Blum	Adam Spiro*	Grandfather	November 1	17 Cheshvan
Alex Dresner	Victor Newman	Grandfather	November 2	18 Cheshvan
Emily Squires Levine	Arnold Squires	Father	November 3	19 Cheshvan
Linda Cohen	Jacob Handloff	Father	November 3	19 Cheshvan
Judy Goodrobb	Beatrice Pollack	Mother	November 3	19 Cheshvan
Kathy Andersen	Alexander Silberman*	Father	November 4	20 Cheshvan
Dr. Larrye Loss	Robert Loss	Father	November 4	20 Cheshvan
Samuel Ruby	Victor Ruby	Father	November 6	22 Cheshvan
Lydia Kendis	Rosalie Goldberg	Grandmother	November 13	29 Cheshvan
Robin Schaufler	Florence Gordon	Mother	November 13	30 Cheshvan
Arnie Schwartz	Samuel Silverstein	Grandfather	November 15	2 Kislev
Judy Ritter	Alexander Ritter	Father	November 17	4 Kislev
Gerry Elman	Lucille Elman	Mother	November 17	4 Kislev
Stephen Friedman	Herman Friedman	Father	November 17	4 Kislev
Judy Kinman	Mildred Zitt	Sister	November 18	5 Kislev
Selene Platt	Irene Routhenstein	Grandmother	November 19	6 Kislev
Penny Bernick	Joshua Bornstein	Father	November 20	7 Kislev
Alex Dresner	Alice Schlossberg	Aunt	November 20	7 Kislev
Stanley Sklar	John Joseph Sklar	Father	November 28	15 Kislev
Amy Fantalis	John Joseph Sklar	Grandfather	November 28	15 Kislev
Steven Arnold	Bernard Arnold	Father	November 28	15 Kislev
Reisa Mukamal	Bernard Arnold	Father in law	November 28	15 Kislev
Arnie Schwartz	Sol Schwartz	Father	November 29	16 Kislev
Lydia Kendis	Elsie Kendis	Grandmother	November 29	16 Kislev
Joyce Romoff	Samuel Weizer*	Father	November 30	17 Kislev

*after a name indicates that there is a plaque.

Yahrzeit begins at sundown the evening before the date shown.



Burton J. Cohen Endowment Fund

Sheldon and Penny Bernick, In memory of Dr. Robert "Bob" Colman, long-term friend and David's dentist.

Ellie Festival Fund

Candy Berlin and Ralph Kaufman, to Emily and Ron Levine and family, with warm memories of your mother and mother-in-law, Selma Sondik Squires. May her memory continue to be for a blessing.

General Fund

Judy Kinman, in memory of Selma Squires, mother of Emily Levine.

Judy Kinman, in memory of Marion Finkelman, mother of Natalie Bennett.

Bonnie Rusinek, in honor of the Eskenazi family.

Lois Drake

Har Jehuda Cemetery Fund

Deborah Hirsch Mayer and Jack Mayer, in memory of Michael Alberts, proud and loved father/father-in-law of Scott and Shira Alberts.

Rabbis' Discretionary Fund

Ala Hamilton Day and Peter Bernstein, in memory of Selma Squires, beloved mother of Emily Squires Levine.

May her memory be a blessing.

Lisa Schachner

Social Action Fund for the Media Food Bank

Gwen Miriam Sigler in honor of Ala Hamilton Day for helping the vulnerable.

Jennifer Lenway

Stephen Platt

Andrew Coleman and Merdie Gilmore

Marilyn Drukin

REFUAH SHLEIMAH There are many in the BI family in need of healing. Our blessings go out to everyone in need of refuah - healing of body and/or healing of spirit. Join us at Shabbat or weekday services where we pray for healing.

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

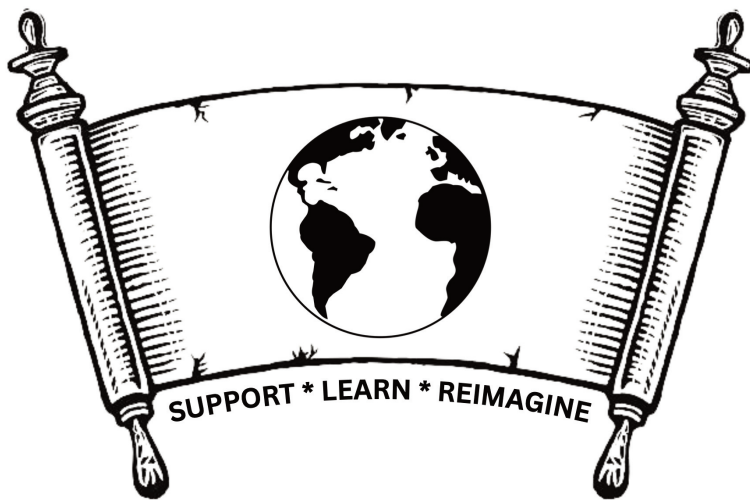
Your generous support not only enables Beth Israel to provide a robust variety of programs that foster the spiritual needs of our community, your support also enhances our ability to bring about tikkun olam through our social action initiatives. Your generosity is appreciated now

DID YOU KNOW... if you're going to make a contribution by check to a restricted fund, like the Rabbi's Discretionary or Social Action Funds, that it's better for you (and for us), if you make your check payable to "Congregation Beth Israel of Media." You can always note any special purpose for the contribution in the memo line of your check. Why? "Congregation Beth Israel" is the correct payee. Also, by noting the special purpose, if any, on your check, we can make absolutely certain that your donation is directed to the appropriate fund, your account is properly credited, and your end-of-year tax letter is accurate. Like you, the rabbis, administrative staff, directors and officers of BI are absolutely committed to making certain your donation is put to its intended purpose. Please help us help you to make certain that happens. Thank you.

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.

Beth Israel continues to make progress in its greening and sustainability work! We kicked off our Green Torah group - currently meeting the first Sunday afternoon each month at BI - to explore our relationship and responses to the planetary predicaments that we are facing. If you are interested in participating contact Robin Schaufler (robin@likethebird.com). Additionally, thanks to support from our Whole Kids Foundation grant, we were able to purchase and set up a fourth raised bed for our BI garden! (See pictures on p. 11). We are also grateful to Steve Linville and Linvilla Orchards for providing wood chips and compost soil (driving it over in his own backhoe) for the garden bed. We also planted our fall crops in our existing three raised beds! If you want to be part of our garden team please be in touch with Dave Cashell (DavidCashell@proton-mail.com). And you have other ideas for these efforts let us know!

BETH ISRAEL'S GREEN TORAH GROUP



As we face climate change, overshoot, inequity, and many other global challenges, participate in Beth Israel's new Green Torah group to:

- ✿ Exchange mutual support
- ✿ Deepen our understanding of the current predicament
- ✿ Imagine ways to move towards a peaceful, sustainable future

Each session will be lead by one of our BI rabbis and Robin Schaufler

First Sundays, 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

October 8, November 5, December 3

For more information, contact Robin Schaufler

E: robin@likethebird.com c: 650-906-1784



See p. 10 for explanation.

For many years, we've recognized that the Beth Israel Sign was deteriorating and needed to be replaced. The Design Committee, Reisa Mukamal, Candy Berlin and Kathy Anderson spearheaded the discussions. Actively participating were Josh Waterston, Lynn Cashell, Jackie Gelman, Alan Ross and as they honed in on choices they brought the discussion to the Board to refine the direction and narrow into the specifics.

Through evaluating possibilities, Beth Israel chose to partner with Chris Densten of Aerial Signs. He worked seamlessly with us as we refined what we wanted the sign to look like. The finalization of purchasing and building the sign became protracted due to Township zoning codes concerning the sign's height, square footage, and distance from the road. We submitted the design/configuration that we believed was best, which had the same footprint as the signs on this property going back about 50 years. We filed for approval of the preferred design with the Township with the help of Meredith Merino, the Township's Director of Planning and Development. The paper filing was denied; but we exercised our right to appeal at the next zoning board meeting. Prior to the in-person appeal we spoke with our immediate neighbors to show what we planned, and asked for any concerns that they might have that we needed to consider. After sharing it in full, they thought it made sense and was a good plan.

Jackie Gelman and Elaine Feldman presented the details and reasoning for a variance request in person at February's Zoning Board meeting. The Zoning Board members quickly understood the value of the requested sign configuration, size, and location; for visibility and safety reasons and since it was consistent with what had long been on site. We volunteered to take 2" off the height, to make it consistent with the historic height and they voted to approve our submitted design, tweaked to the historic height.

Besides the members of this team, great thanks to:

- Aerial Signs: Chris Densten of Aerial Signs and his team for their expertise and their ongoing ready willingness to meet our needs/requests for tweaking the size and layout and producing new renderings. For working seamlessly with the Township and having solutions for hiccups. And of course for their beautiful, well- constructed, and resiliently installed sign.
- The Tradesmen: Chris Chelo and the Tradesmen for the beautiful stone work, and working with our team to select the preferred lighting to illuminate the sign well and assuring it was properly tied into our astronomic timer system for automatic scheduling.
- Hollywood Landscaping: Many thanks to John Kelley, owner of Hollywood Landscaping, for donating their time and expertise to create a beautiful garden around the new sign. The design committee worked closely with Hollywood's landscape designer, Susan Powell, to select native and low-maintenance plants that would provide color and interest year-round. John and Susan live and work in our local community and are committed to its beautification and success. If you are looking for help with landscaping services, please reach out to John and don't forget to mention you're a member of BI.

Again many thanks for the relentless work of the Sign team and additional thanks to Jackie Gelman for bringing Hollywood Landscaping to the team and to Jackie and Dave Cashell for making sure that all the new plantings are being watered most days.



HOLLYWOOD LANDSCAPING
610-517-5398 KelleyJohnA@aol.com

Lawncare Treatment
Garden and Landscape Design
Planting, Seasonal Cleanup

SAC finished its successful High Holidays Food Drive with a huge windfall of food from our congregants. We coordinated with the Jewish Federation and its Mitzvah Pantry effort, which also requested grocery cards. We gathered nearly 100 bags of food and \$550 in grocery cards, all going to the Media Food Bank. Ala Hamilton Day coordinated this effort.



SAC will coordinate with Natalia Zhukovskaya and her children for our annual Warm Clothing and Coat Collection drive this fall. The clothing will go to Chester Eastside's Fall Coat Drive. Dates to be announced.

Monday, October 30th will be our next Food Service for the Upper Darby Life Center residents. Lynn Cashell has requested donations of food plus Halloween candy bags.

A Better Start for Babies is planning its 2023-2024 campaign, following its successful program this year, supplying its goal of 150 bags of vital baby supplies. SAC members Julie Mayer, Judy Kinman, Susan Klein, Carol Briselli and John Greenstine are working with ChesPenn development officer Tamara Fox to review and update our plans.

Please remember to donate personal care items and toiletries for the homeless shelters and the Community Action Agency. The collection box is on the main floor, under the coat rack. Thank you –

BI Annual Winter Coat Drive

Drop off dates:

Sunday, November 19, 11 am – 1:30 pm

Sunday, December 3, 11 am – 1:30 pm

Please look through your closets for winter wear items for men, women and children who really need our help to stay warm. Bring your clean and gently used items – or new things – to BI on Sunday, 11/19 or 12/3. The donated clothing will be delivered to the Chester Eastside Ministries, which has been the recipient of past BI coat drives.

**** Chester Eastside has specifically asked for children's coats in sizes 2t, 3t, 4t, 5-6, 7-8, 10-12, 14-16 up to a size XL for girls and boys ****

If you have any questions, please email natalia_lz@yahoo.com

Thank you all for your help!

Bowen-Zhukovskaya Family

The BI Tot Shabbat program is going strong!

Thanks so much to all the young families and volunteers who continue to make our Tot Shabbat program such a success.

In August we experimented with adding an additional monthly program on Saturday mornings, specifically designed for families with very young "tots". We had a great turnout so we will be adding an informal Saturday morning option to our already popular Friday evening program that occurs in the 2nd Friday of the month.

Come and enjoy our upcoming events:

Friday, November 10: 5:45 to 7:15, with Rabbi Nathan

Saturday, November 18: 10:30 to noon, with the option to join the baby naming during the Torah service.

If you'd like to volunteer at one of these events please reach out to [Jackie Gelman](#).



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29 Cheshvan 14 9:30am Hebrew School Session 11:00am Nominating Committee Meeting (Closed Group, on Zoom) 12:30pm Teen Group Meeting (in person)	30 Cheshvan 15 5:30pm SAC Food Service	31 Cheshvan 16	1 Cheshvan 17 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice (on Zoom) 7:00pm Religious Practices Committee Meeting (on Zoom)	2 Cheshvan 18	3 Cheshvan 19 5:39pm Candle Lighting 7:30pm Shabbat Service (On Zoom with Aya Baron)	4 Cheshvan 20 Vayera 9:45am Shabbat Service (In Person with Rabbi Linda) 11:45am Shabbat Potluck Lunch 12:30pm Torah Treks Study 6:46pm Havdalah
5 Cheshvan 21 9:30am Hebrew School Session 10:00am Gan Session 10:15am Executive Committee Meeting (on Zoom) 1:00pm Green Torah 1:00pm Chorus Rehearsal with Alicia DePaolo (in sanctuary)	6 Cheshvan 22	7 Cheshvan 23	8 Cheshvan 24 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice (on Zoom) 7:30pm Antiracism Discussion of Module 13 with Rabbi Linda & Julie Mayer on Zoom	9 Cheshvan 25 12:00pm FUSE Steering Committee with Rabbi Linda (closed group) 6:00pm Memorial Scrolls Trust Celebration at Rodef Shalom	10 Cheshvan 26 4:32pm Candle Lighting 5:45pm Tot Shabbat (In Person) 7:30pm Shabbat Service (In Person with Rabbi Nathan)	11 Cheshvan 27 Shabbat Mevarchim Chayei Sara 9:45am Shabbat Service (On Zoom with Rabbi Nathan) 5:39pm Havdalah
12 Cheshvan 28 9:30am Hebrew School Session	13 Cheshvan 29 7:00pm Board of Directors Meeting (on Zoom)	14 Kislev 1 Rosh Chodesh Kislev 7:00pm Israeli Dancing (in person)	15 Kislev 2 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice (on Zoom) 7:30pm ADULT ED TEXT STUDY: BEIT MIDRASH in the sanctuary with a teacher and a study partner. 3:45 Meditation in the sanctuary	16 Kislev 3 12:30pm Mussar with Rabbi Linda (Closed Group, in Person)	17 Kislev 4 4:26pm Candle Lighting 7:30pm Shabbat Service (On Zoom with Rabbi Linda)	18 Kislev 5 Toldot 9:45am Shabbat Service with Rabbi Linda, & Baby Naming Ceremony for Davidson-Wolf/Battaglia Family (in person) 5:34pm Havdalah
19 Kislev 6 9:30am Hebrew School Session 10:00am Mechina Session	20 Kislev 7	21 Kislev 8 7:00pm Membership Committee Meeting (on Zoom)	22 Kislev 9 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice (on Zoom) 7:30pm SAC Meeting (on Zoom)	23 Kislev 10	24 Kislev 11 4:22pm Candle Lighting 7:30pm Shabbat Service led by Congregation (on Zoom)	25 Kislev 12 Vayetzei 5:29pm Havdalah
26 Kislev 13 Thanksgiving Break - No Hebrew School	27 Kislev 14	28 Kislev 15	29 Kislev 16 8:30am Morning Spiritual Practice (on Zoom)	30 Kislev 17	1 Kislev 18 4:19pm Candle Lighting 7:30pm Shabbat Service (On Zoom with Rabbi Nathan)	2 Kislev 19 Vayishlach 9:45am Shabbat Service (In Person with Rabbi Nathan) 11:45am Shabbat Potluck Lunch 12:30pm Torah Treks Study 5:27pm Havdalah

Me'ira Pitkapaasi
Hebrew, B'nai Mitzvah,
Math, Special Ed

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