Sisterhood Woman of the Year
and Brotherhood Man of the Year
January Worship Schedule

**Friday, January 3**
Shabbat Vayigash
- 6:30 pm  Family Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary
- 6:30 pm  Kabbalat Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

**Saturday, January 4**
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

**Friday, January 10**
Shabbat Vahevi
- 5:30 pm  Munchkin Minyan – Tots & 1st Steppers
- 7:30 pm  Shabbat Zimriya with guest speaker, Rev. Charles Quann of Bethlehem Baptist Church in the Gitlin Sanctuary

**Saturday, January 11**
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

**Friday, January 17**
Shabbat Shemot
- 7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

**Saturday, January 18**
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Emerson Shapiro, daughter of Hal and Michelle Shapiro in the Gitlin Sanctuary

**Friday, January 24**
Shabbat Vaera
- 7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

**Saturday, January 25**
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Lyvia Marcus, daughter of Matthew and Hillary Marcus in the Gitlin Sanctuary

February Worship Schedule

**Saturday, February 1**
- 9:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Lyvia Marcus, daughter of Matthew and Hillary Marcus in the Gitlin Sanctuary
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Randa, son of Mark and Robyn Randa in the Gitlin Sanctuary

**Friday, February 7**
Shabbat B’Shalach
- 5:30 pm 7 Species Challah Bake for Tu B’Shevat
- 6:30 pm 3rd Grade Family Shabbat & Music Shabbat with the Adult & Jr. Choirs

**Saturday, February 8**
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

**Friday, February 14**
Shabbat Yitro
- 7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship supporting JDAIM with guest speaker, Bev Weinberg, in the Gitlin Sanctuary.

**Saturday, February 15**
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

**Friday, February 21**
Shabbat Mishpatim/Shekalim
- 7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

**Saturday, February 22**
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Heart & Soul Shabbat
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

**Friday, February 28**
Shabbat Terumah
- 7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship honoring YOBO in the Gitlin Sanctuary.

**Saturday, February 29**
- 9:30 am  Torah Study
- 11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Allie Winegrad, daughter of Robert and Stephanie Winegrad

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Pictured on front Cover:
Ellen Mirbach and Allan Posner
Why Was Abraham the First Jew?

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

Having just returned from Spain and Portugal with 22 members of our community, I want to reflect on a conversation I had with our guide, Hector (a Catholic with limited exposure to Judaism). He was filled with many probing questions about the Jewish faith.

He asked me why was Abraham chosen? What was unique that made him worthy of being the father of Judaism and later Christianity and Islam? The Torah tells us why others were chosen. “Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generations.” We see Moses, in Exodus as a young man, intervening whenever he saw injustice. God told the prophet Jeremiah, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I set you apart.” Without this backstory for Abraham, our sages fill in the gap.

Rabbi Jonathan Sachs teaches that there are three primary explanations. The first is Abraham the Iconoclast. Abraham’s father, Terach was an idol worshipper. According to the midrash, he made and sold idols. One day Abraham smashed all the idols and left, leaving the stick with which he did so in the hand of the biggest idol. When his father returned and queried who had broken his gods, Abraham blamed the biggest idol. “Idols cannot do anything,” said Terach. “In that case,” asked the young Abraham, “why do you worship them?” Abraham was the one who wisely pointed out the foolishness of idolatry. He then led the way for our people’s courageous stand throughout the ages to think, reason, and stand apart.

Another perspective is that Abraham was chosen for his ability to reason. According to the philosopher Maimonides, who was from Spain, Abraham was the first philosopher, who used critical thinking in an age of superstition and irrationalism. Abraham understood that the world was ordered by God, not just natural forces, making him worthy of selection.

A third position is that Abraham was a courageous reshaper of the world. The midrash teaches that Abraham leaving his birthplace can be compared to a man who in his travels saw a palace in flames. He wondered, “Is it possible that the palace lacks an owner?” The owner of the palace looked out and said, “I am the owner of the palace.” So Abraham asked, “Is it possible that the world lacks a ruler?” God looked out and said, “I am the ruler, the Sovereign of the universe.”

Rabbi Sachs in his book, A Letter in the Scroll, argued that Abraham was struck by the contradiction between the order and beauty of the universe — the palace — and the disorder of life — the flames. It was as if God was saying to Abraham, from the palace, “I need you to help Me to put out the flames.” Thus, Abraham was chosen, because he understood that God needs us to be a partner. Abraham was the first person in recorded history to protest the injustice of the world. Abraham was the man who said to God, about to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah: “Shall the Judge of all the earth not do justly?” Where Noah accepted, Abraham did not. Abraham was chosen because he understood that he and his descendants were to honor God by doing what is right and just and standing up to injustice. Years later, it was Albert Einstein who noted that the Jewish people have been identified by “our almost fanatical love of justice.”

So, why was Abraham chosen? Abraham was the first to believe in one God and to see that faith was not as blind acceptance but as protest. We, his descendants are to understand our faith as a protest against the flames that threaten the palace.

(I am indebted to the teachings of Rabbi Jonathan Sachs for this article.)
I Am a Reform Jew — What Does That Mean?

Josh Gottlieb, Beth Or President

Rabbi Bonder recently led a class called Reintroduction to Judaism. On six successive Sunday mornings in October and November, a group of approximately 40 congregants met with the Rabbi to deepen their understanding of and connection to Reform Judaism. This group was diverse in terms of both age and background.

There are roughly 1,000 member families at Beth Or. We all took many different paths to this point in our lives as members. Some of us were raised as reform Jews, a smaller number may have been raised conservative, orthodox or reconstructionist. Some were raised in homes that celebrated Shabbat and holidays as a family, while others led much more secular lives. Some went through Bar or Bat mitzvah, and even Confirmation. Others did not even go to Sunday school. Many of our members were raised in other faiths, but are now in interfaith families and raising their children as Jews. Some of this latter group have even become Jews by choice.

Regardless of your personal history, what does being a reform Jew today mean to you? Here is my story. As a child I went through my Bar Mitzvah and Confirmation. But I grew up in a household where we did very little in the way of Jewish traditions and practices. From college through my early 30’s, I had very little contact with organized Judaism, even though I have always proudly identified as a Jew. I think I felt so strongly about being Jewish because of being in so many settings with few other Jews in my personal orbit. However, as my two sons got close to school age, their mother and I agreed that giving them a strong Jewish education and identity was important to us.

As a result, my reconnection to reform Judaism came through my role as a parent. About 25 years ago, we joined Beth Or after moving to Blue Bell. At that time, Youth Group was my most important connection. Now, with my children grown, Social Justice and my role as congregational president are primary drivers of my participation at Beth Or. Beth Or has become ever more important to me over the years because I found that committing myself to my Jewish roots and values just felt right for me.

How do you view your own identity as a member of Beth Or, a reform Jewish community? Which offerings or activities currently form the core of your connection? Are you a newer member who has children in the CECE and/or Religious School? If you do, in what ways do you provide a Jewish home for your children? If you would like some guidance, please get in touch with Rabbi Bonder, another member of the clergy, or the leaders of the CECE or Religious School. They can provide support on how to lead a Jewish life at home in a way that is comfortable and meaningful for you and your family.

If you have been a member for many years, like me, have your connections to the synagogue and community evolved over time?

We all know the old joke that if you put 10 Jews in a room you end up with 11 opinions. We debate with God, our clergy and each other. And, we all have made the informed choice to be a part of the Beth Or community. I suggest you consider taking Reintroduction to Judaism the next time Rabbi Bonder offers it if you would like to know more about the foundations of our faith as Reform Jews living in these complicated and stressful times in America. I also suggest you continue to look at other ways to live your life as a reform Jew and/or member of Beth Or in those ways that feel most right for you.
To get the most meaning out of the upcoming years, we must remember the past.

The 2010’s Aren’t Gone

Rabbi Jason Bonder, Associate Rabbi

As I progressed along my academic and spiritual journey, I encountered brilliant writers and ideas. As a result of this kind of exposure to new thoughts in the realm of theology, I was certain that I left the God of my childhood long behind me. I was sure that my original way of thinking about God was gone for good.

I was wrong. A professor of mine often referred to the God of our childhoods as “The God at the back of the bus.” It’s the God who you are sure you don’t believe in, but inevitably pops up in your consciousness, in your prayers, in your life. For me, the God sitting at the back of my bus is a man, He has a large white beard, He sits on a throne (how’d He get the throne on this bus anyway?) and He carries a large scepter in his hand.

The most rewarding progress in my theological perspective came when I realized that the God of my childhood was never going to leave me. He will always be with me, even if my new understanding of God is totally different.

As we start this new decade of the 2020’s, it would be a mistake to think of the past decade — the 2010’s as “gone.” These years will always be with us, sitting in the back of the bus with other decades gone by. The past shaped us into who we are today, both as individuals and as a community. To get the most meaning out of the upcoming years, we must remember the past. Perhaps the first thing to do as 2020 begins is to do a review of 2010 through today.

Who, or what, has been riding along at the back of your bus? What do we need to acknowledge about our past so that we can confidently move forward into the future?

Perhaps your understanding of Judaism is one of those things at the back of the bus. This past Fall we launched our “Re-Introduction to Judaism” course. The goal of the course was to reintroduce students to Judaism whose last experience of formal Jewish education was long ago. We had a terrific time learning together, and at least at the time of my writing this article, the plan is to go full steam ahead with “Re Intro 2.0.” By getting in touch with our thoughts and preconceived ideas about what Judaism is, I hope it will lead to the flourishing of our personal and communal Jewish journey moving forward into this brand new decade.

The 2010’s, and so much more, will be with us as we enter this new decade whether we like it or not. We might as well reintroduce ourselves to the things in the back of the bus before driving forward.
“Three things lead to tranquility of mind: music, fair sight and sweet smells.” (Talmud: Bereshit 57b.)

As a cantor, I certainly am biased and favor the first of the three. Jewish music is such an integral part of services, traditions and rituals. However, it is not an exclusive club of cantors or choirs. The music belongs to all of us, and we should all be a part of it. You probably have noticed that most of the music Cantor Murley and I use for services encourages congregational participation. For me, there is nothing more spiritual, than having 1500 people singing a High Holy Day prayer “along” with me or 300 congregants joining in on numerous Shabbat melodies.

This congregational participation goes far beyond group singing. Come to one of four Zimriya Shabbat services (next one on Friday, January 10 at 7:30 pm). You will see and hear six to eight soloists and five or more musicians, of all ages from our congregation, leading us in worship. This will be exponentially expanded when close to a hundred children and adults in our two choirs lead us in worship on Friday, February 7 at 6:30 pm. Those same choir singers will take our singing on the road with Martin Luther King services at Bethlehem Baptist Church on Sunday, January 19, with an Adult Zimriya at Beth Israel Congregation of Chester County on Sunday, June 7.

These are just a few of the many events and services where our congregants take "center bimah" to lift our spirits and reach our souls through Jewish music. Truly, Jewish music is essential, not only for tranquility of mind, but central to our Jewish soul. Most importantly, it is not the monopoly of cantors, but rather, you, as the kahal (community) who are the center of our ruach (spirit).
On November 6, the first session of GET CONNECTED: The Beth Or Business and Career Network, entitled “The Secret Sauce” was held. Congregants heard tips for successful networking from a panel of Beth Or congregants who have successfully used networking to achieve their business and career goals. Our panelists included:

**Joann S. Lublin**, the longtime career columnist for The Wall Street Journal. Her advice column “Your Executive Career” appears regularly. In 2003, she was a member of a Journal team awarded the Pulitzer Prize in explanatory reporting for stories that exposed corporate scandals.

**Gary Kurtis**, whose company [www.salestips101.com](http://www.salestips101.com) provides customized sales workshops for individuals and organizations. Gary used his networking and sales skills to build a highly successful career spanning four decades and has excellent strategies to share at this event.

**Doreen Berest**, a Pre-arrangement Consultant at Roosevelt Memorial Park for a decade. Doreen believes that every family should be prepared if a death occurs, which is why she customizes packages based on their needs. Her compassion and knowledge provides excellence to every family.

**Karen Schecter Dayno**, an attorney at Timoney Knox in Fort Washington. Karen has extensive experience in trust/estate planning and administration, guardianship matters, Orphans’ Court litigation, and succession planning. Karen has been named ‘Top Lawyer’ by Philadelphia Life/ Suburban Life Magazine for Estate Planning for the past seven years.

Those who attended came because they are interested in growing their businesses, enhancing their professional networking skills and looking to make new connections in our community. Members attended because they are looking to make a career change or are actively seeking a new job.

After the panel discussion, all who attended shared their business/career goals to create deeper connections to one another. These attendees will be given top priority to have their businesses listed in the Beth Or Business Directory which will be available on our website in 2020.

**What’s next:** LinkedIn is a key business networking tool. Interest in how to best present oneself and utilize this powerful resource is high. Our next GET CONNECTED session will be — “Pump Up Your LinkedIn Profile”. **Join us on Tuesday evening, January 7 beginning at 7 pm**, where expert LinkedIn users and congregants, Gwen Silverstein and Jonathan Marks, will share their tips for getting the most out of LinkedIn. They will cover how to create, enhance and leverage your LinkedIn profile to grow your professional network.

**Also, mark your calendar for Tuesday evening, February 11,** when GET CONNECTED will host another networking event beginning at 7pm.

We hope you will join us for these sessions.
Aaron Nielsenhultz, Director of Religious School

Among other Jewish areas of study we cover in our school, we spend a lot of time working on prayer mastery. After all, for their B’nai Mitzvah, students need to be able to lead the congregation in prayer, so they should be able to read in a fluent, efficient manner. We also work on understanding what the prayers mean. No one should ever feel compelled to lead a prayer without understanding or feeling a connection.

Given the rich tradition of Jewish commentary, there are multiple ways to find a personal connection with prayer.

I want to highlight one of the ways in which we emphasize personal connection with prayer: in our 6th grade Sunday curriculum, we spend a trimester on a project we call Build-a-Prayer. In this unit, students learn the structure of Hebrew prayer services, then choose a few prayers to wrestle with in-depth. The students write, discuss, and ultimately depict their ideas through art, and every February, we have an exhibit in the Olitsky Gallery here at Beth Or for them.

Here are some pictures of last year’s 6th grade art:

When you’re in the building after February 14, please make sure you stop by and see these amazing creations!

A note: In my last Spotlight article, I thanked all of our faculty, and in a serious oversight, I left off Cantor Jaime Murley’s title. Cantor Murley brings so much joy and life to our school, and I wanted to publically acknowledge this error of mine and to apologize to her for it. My heartfelt thanks and apologies, Cantor Murley!
With the summer and fall behind us, the weather gets colder and everyone comes indoors. It gives us a chance to get closer together. Some of our classes study hibernation this time of year. They learn about the different animals that go into their homes and take nice long naps. It is amazing to see all of our children’s minds at work as they create dens, discover in the science centers, and look through books about the creatures they are studying.

We too do our own form of hibernating. We are no longer at baseball games and playing at parks. Families seek indoor activities to stay warm. Here is a list of some fun indoor activities for you to do at home:

- **Make pillow forts** – Use blankets sheets and pillows to build a hide out. Read stories inside or take a quick nap.
- **Bake special snacks** – Teddy Bear Bread, Butterfly Snacks, or Penguin Cheese are great no bake ideas. I would be happy to share recipes if you need them.
- **Science experiments** – These activities engage children and spark creativity. They are perfect for your curious youngster.
- **Arts and Crafts** – Art is a great tool for igniting imagination. You are only a few Popsicle sticks away from a fun filled morning.

Mark your calendars with these important dates:

**January**
- 1/10 – Munchkin Minyan & Challah Bake
- 1/20 – School Closed
- 1/21 – School Closed and Parent/Teacher conferences

**February**
- 2/7 – Seven Species Challah Bake
- 2/17 – School Closed
- 2/24 – Dentist comes to school
Building Friendships, One Event at a Time

Jillian Peskin, Director of Member & Youth Engagement

One of my greatest joys is connecting people. I love making new friends and I feel so happy when I can connect people who can build long relationships. (Hence why I love my job so much!) If you didn’t know, one of the committees I work directly with is the Membership Committee. Our focus is on engaging new members, as well as keeping existing members engaged.

This fall and last spring, our Membership Committee introduced a “menu” of events to engage our congregants. These events were low barrier and an easy way for our congregants to make friends and meet people they may not have met otherwise.

In September we enjoyed a family pizza dinner after Hebrew School, coffee at Starbucks with Rabbi Bonder and a walk at Mondauk Park. We had a variety of participants, including new members and seasoned members. I personally enjoy watching conversations blossom and relationships build through these fun events!

This winter, we have a few more events planned that we hope you can attend. We will also have another “menu” of events for the spring, so stay tuned!

Please reach out to me, Allison Levin or Alyson Caplan if you have event ideas or would like to join us on the membership committee.

Winter Membership Events:
Monday, January 27, 6 pm-7 pm • Family Pizza
Dinner at Maple Glen Pizza
Tuesday, February 4, 7 pm-9 pm • Jewelry Making Night Out
For details and RSVP, check the website RSVP Portal.

Upcoming Youth Events:
K-6th Grade
January 26, 11 am-1 pm • Trolls Movie Morning for K-1st Grades

January 26, 1 pm-3 pm • Gamechangerz Game Truck for 2nd – 6th Grades
February 23, 11 am-2:30 pm • Skyzone for K-4th Grades

Middle & High School
January 19 • BBYO Liberty Region Spring Kickoff for 8th-12th Grades
January 17-20 • NFTY PAR WINSTY for 8th-12th Grades

Check the RSVP Portal or contact Jillian Peskin for more info.
The Greatest Haman

Cantor Jaime Murley, 
Junior Choir Director

In a few short months we will be celebrating the holiday of Purim. Purim is filled with fun traditions such as spinning the grogger, eating hamentaschen, and dressing in costume. But the most fun, if you ask the Beth Or Junior Choir, is performing the congregation’s Purim schpiel, or a show parody, based on the Book of Esther. Each year, the choir performs a show with a different theme. This year’s theme is based on the 2017 hit movie musical, “The Greatest Showman,” with parody lyrics and musical arrangements by Cantor Jamie Marx. The schpiel will star it’s usual cast of characters: Achashverosh, Vashti, Mordechai, Esther, and Haman (BOO!). But what makes this schpiel different from others in the past, is that it will explore some of the Book of Esther’s lesser known, but equally important characters, such as Bigtan and Teresh (the guards whose plot to kill Achachverosh was thwarted by Mordechai) and Haman’s (BOO!) wife, Zeresh, who helped her husband’s evil planning of the gallows. The Junior Choir is hard at work practicing for the schpiel, so mark your calendars and be sure to catch this year’s performance of “The Greatest Haman” on Sunday, March 8 at 10:05 am or Monday, March 9 at 6:15 pm.

Junior Choir
January/February Calendar

Friday, January 3
Family Service, 6:30 pm

Friday, February 7
Family Service/Music Shabbat, 6:30 pm

January/February Candle Lighting

Friday, January 3 • 4:30 pm  
Friday, January 10 • 4:36 pm  
Friday, January 17 • 4:44 pm  
Friday, January 24 • 4:52 pm  
Friday, January 31 • 5:00 pm  
Friday, February 7 • 5:08 pm  
Friday, February 14 • 5:17 pm  
Friday, February 21 • 5:25 pm  
Friday, February 28 • 5:33 pm
Meet Our B’nai Mitzvah Students

Emerson Shapiro
January 18
For my Mitzvah project, I knew that I wanted to donate to the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia because as a baby, I was sick and I spent a lot of time there. I remember never having anything to play with or read. I decided to help the hospital because of how much it helped me to get better and healthier. My Bat Mitzvah project was personal to me because I am giving back to a place that means a lot to me and made me who I am. I may not be here today without them. I decided to get toy donations from the synagogue so that I could bring them to the kids and families. My goal with my Mitzvah project was to make the children in CHOP happier through their struggles, and give them something to brighten their day.

Shira Klein
January 25
For my Bat Mitzvah project, I will be volunteering at Last Chance Ranch. They are a non-profit establishment that rescues and heals dogs, cats, horses and all sorts of animals. LCR is committed to encouraging and educating humane and responsible caring of all animals, especially the animals that they were able to place in Found Forever Homes. Many of these animals were abused, unwanted or neglected. At LCR the animals are provided a safe and secure environment until a permanent home is found.

I chose LCR because when I was on kibbutz visiting my safta (grandmom), I helped out with the horses and other farm animals that they have. I have always had an affection for animals, especially dogs. This will give me the opportunity to learn about them and help all kinds of animals.

Lyvia Marcus
February 1
For my Mitzvah project, I chose to volunteer at the Abramson Center for Jewish Life (ACFJL). I chose to do this because the ACFJL holds a very special place in my heart. My Bubbie, who lived to be 103, lived there for 5 years. I got to spend a lot of time with her while she was there, and got to see her enjoy the many different activities and events that they had at ACFJL. I truly believe this is what kept my Bubbie happy, active, involved, and gave her a new meaning to life.

As a volunteer at ACFJL, I assist the residents with many different activities and help transport them safely around the facility. I hope that by volunteering at the ACFJL, I too, can help to give meaning to the lives of the residents who live there, just like my Bubbie. I am holding a bake sale in honor of the ACFJL in hopes of raising money for the Activities Department so they can continue to fulfill the lives of the residents. I hope to continue my volunteer work as my schedule allows.

Matthew Randa
February 1
After dancing in my elementary school’s Mini-Thon since I was in first grade and dancing in my middle school’s Mini-Thon in December, I knew that I wanted my Bar Mitzvah project to benefit Penn State’s THON. THON is the largest student-run philanthropy in which students at Penn State dance (no sitting or sleeping) for 46 hours to raise money for the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Children’s Hospital. This year THON weekend is February 21-23, just a few weeks after my Bar Mitzvah. Money raised helps in the efforts to conquer childhood cancer through research and helps to cover the cost of treatment for families. In order to raise funds, I planned bake sales at Religious School and all proceeds from the sales are donated to THON. For the Kids.

Allie Winegrad
February 29
For my Bat Mitzvah Project, I hosted a soccer clinic which benefitted the Epilepsy Foundation. There are approximately 110,000 individuals in Eastern Pennsylvania living with epilepsy and many of them are children. Some children will outgrow epilepsy while others will have to be on medication for the rest of their lives. My goal was to raise money for the Foundation to give opportunities to children living with epilepsy.

Professional soccer player, Sebastian Le Toux, joined me in hosting the soccer clinic. We had an opportunity to ask Sebastian questions about what it is like to be a professional soccer player. He also taught us some cool soccer skills. We had a really fun time. To learn more about the Epilepsy Foundation, please visit the website at www.efepa.org.
Make It a Great New Year for Montco Families Experiencing Homelessness

VOLUNTEER with the Interfaith Hospitality network

This February, we will open our synagogue to families who are currently homeless. Beth Or is proud to be one of 19 Montgomery County churches, synagogues, and mosques that participate in this emergency shelter program run by The Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). Thanks to this compassionate coalition of faith communities, families in transition have a safe space to stay for up to 90 days while participating in programs that help enhance their life skills, improve their decision-making abilities, and develop the resources they need to become self-sufficient.

Beth Or will transform several lower-level classrooms into studio apartments for families participating in this initiative of the Interfaith Housing Alliance. Volunteers from our congregation will prepare and share meals, help with transportation needs, and serve as overnight chaperones for our guests, many of whom are single-parent families with young children.

This is our 21st year of involvement in this extraordinary initiative. Last year, more than 120 congregants participated, logging more than 1400 volunteer hours.

This New Year, let us resolve to make Beth Or a warm and welcoming place for these families in transition. We are planning to make our overnight chaperones more comfortable with the rental of a bed, lamp, table and chair to replace the air mattress.

Please use our online scheduling website for more information and to sign up on the days convenient for you to make and share a meal, drive families to and from the synagogue, and/or camp “in” overnight to ensure the safety and security of our guests. This year, we have the use of a seven passenger mini-van which will enable volunteers with smaller cars to participate in this great mitzvah.


New this year, Interfaith Housing Network, our partner in this project, has requested that our volunteers complete a free child abuse clearance check. You can register at https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis.

Let’s commit to performing this mitzvah of welcoming the stranger into our spiritual home.

For more information, contact Lynn Edelman, at 215-280-3841 or Nancy End, at 215-266-1055.
THANK YOU for Helping Children in Greater Philadelphia Living in Poverty

300,000 children in Greater Philadelphia live in poverty. By donating to the Beth Or year-round collection for Cradles to Crayons, whose goal is to make life better for children in need, you are making a difference. It takes a village to meet their goal, and the Beth Or community has been proud to be a part of that village for the past 13 years. THANK YOU!

Drop off’s may be made to the bin labelled ‘Cradles to Crayons’ located in the Religious School lobby.

Most Needed Items:
- Jeans and long-sleeve shirts – sizes 0-3 months and 7/8 through 18/20
- Winter boots – size 4 infant/toddler to 9 youth/adult
- Winter coats – sizes 0-3 months to 18/20 (especially 0-24 months)
- Long pants – boys sizes 7/8 through 18/20 and girls sizes 10/12 through 18/20
- Hat and glove bundles – ages 0 through 12 years
- Books – ages 0 through 12 years
- Baby board books – ages 0 through 2 years
- Pre-teen chapter books – ages 11 through 12 years
- New socks and underwear – all children and youth sizes

Dafna’s Heart Used Halloween Costume Collection Drive:
A Social Action and Israel Committee Project

We often write in this column that ideas from congregants are always welcomed. Below is a perfect example of how one suggestion developed into a new and wonderful project.

Nancy and Glenn Hyatt, and Caren and David Gutman, supporters of social action and Israel committee activities at Beth Or introduced us to Dafna’s Heart, an Israeli organization that collects Halloween costumes for families who cannot afford to purchase a costume during Purim. The costumes are stored in a warehouse in Had Ness located in the Golan Heights, and Dafna’s Heart rents them for the equivalent of $2.85.

Yogeve Atoon, who created Dafna’s Heart in memory of his mother, refers to the organization as the “magical costume exchange program.” He shared that, “Israeli kids love American Halloween costumes” and some people tell him that this is the first time they have celebrated Purim because previously they were ashamed that their children did not have a costume.

Caren, David, Nancy, and Glenn’s suggestion does not end here. On their travels to Israel this Spring, they have volunteered to deliver suitcases (plural!) filled with Halloween costumes from Beth Or to Dafna’s Heart.

The costume collection drive will take place throughout March with the drop off bin in the Spain Lobby entrance.

Thank you to the Gutman and Hyatt Families for bringing this “magical costume exchange program” to the Beth Or community!

Susy Krimker, Social Action Chair, susykrimker@gmail.com
Margie Chachkin, Social Action Vice-Chair, chachkin@aol.com
In Judaism, gematria is a way to interpret numbers in our understanding of sacred texts. Taking a look at the number 3 for example, it can symbolize the three Patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob), our three pilgrimage holidays, (Passover, Shavuot, Sukkot), and the three portions of the Tanakh (Torah/Teachings, Nevi’im/Prophets, and Ketuvim/Writings).

As Social Justice Chair, I am looking at this number as a symbol of what we have achieved in the first 3 years since the Committee formed. Below are some of our programs since 2017:

- Civic Engagement Fair with guest speaker Governor Ed Rendell
- CLIMATE OF HOPE book discussion
- Light in the Darkness: Stand Together Candlelight Vigil
- March for our Lives Beth Or bus to Washington D.C.
- Candidate Forum with Congressional candidates Dan David and Madeleine Dean
- Gun Violence as a Public Health Issue panel discussion
- QUEST documentary film screening and interfaith community forum
- Reproductive Justice panel discussion

If you haven’t been to one of our events, I invite you to join us or contact me with your interest in attending a meeting. We are a think tank that supports the Beth Or Social Justice mission: To educate, advocate and take action on issues affecting the rights and dignity of all people; to engage and activate our community in one of Beth Or’s core values, Tikkun Olam — the Jewish responsibility to help make the world a better place.

Noah Fischer, Social Justice Committee Chair, Noahfischer25@yahoo.com
Man of The Year

Allan Posner, Brotherhood President • Doug Burtnick, First Vice President

I hope everyone had an enjoyable time at our November Sisterhood/Brotherhood Brunch with Lisa Kohn, hearing her fascinating story of being in the Moonie cult during her early years, as well as a joyous Chanukah filled with family, friends, latkes and love. Of course, our action-packed year ended with an amazing Annual Dinner and Fundraiser in December as we laughed to the comedy of Andy Pitz and Brad Zimmerman of My Son the Waiter. Brotherhood looks forward to a better 2020 and we want you to come along with us for the ride.

As your President it’s time to take a break and go on vacation with the First Lady of Brotherhood, Andrea, so Doug Burtnick my First Vice President will handle the rest of today’s column. Take it away Doug!

Special Announcement from Doug Burtnick:

With great pride the Executive Board of the Beth Or Brotherhood announces that it has selected Allan Posner to receive this year’s Man of The Year Award. Allan’s actions and personal qualities exemplify what it means to be Man of the Year. We will recognize Allan for his many contributions to the Brotherhood, Congregation Beth Or and the Jewish Community in general at our annual Brotherhood Shabbat on January 31.

As 1st VP, I’ve had the pleasure to work closely with Allan over the past two and a half years. He’s poured endless energy into creating Brotherhood programming, engaging with lifelong members of Brotherhood and actively encouraging new members to join our ranks. Our auxiliary is stronger as a result of Allan’s bold decisions to improve our fundraising, expand our programming and encouraging “brotherhood” and connections among our members. Congregation Beth Or is stronger because of the heightened engagement of Brotherhood and the desire of its members to act on behalf of Brotherhood to support both the Congregation and our community. Allan’s leadership is a beacon to our members and has enabled the Brotherhood to shine a positive and sustainable light over all of Beth Or.

Please join us in thanking Allan for his tireless efforts and team building. A dinner, open to all members of the congregation, will be held in his honor the night of January 31. Dinner will begin at 6 pm, prior to Brotherhood Shabbat. Please RSVP in advance to info@bethorbrotherhood.org or the synagogue office. Cost is $18 per person and checks may be made payable to Beth Or Brotherhood.

Upcoming Events: JRA Day, Jan. 19 & Feb. 16 • Rabbi Bonder & Brotherhood Meeting, Jan. 22 • Brotherhood Shabbat, Jan. 31 • Monthly Meeting, Feb. 19

KOSHER WINE SALES

Now you can purchase kosher wine all year long and benefit Beth Or! Use the Beth Or affiliate link on kosherwine.com: http://bit.ly/BethOrBrotherhood or click the KosherWine symbol on the bottom right side of the Beth Or website home page, “Connect With Us” section.

• Over 700 Varieties
• Seasonal Specials and New Releases
• Easy On-line Ordering
• Ships directly to your home or anywhere in the U.S.

5% of all sales given back to Brotherhood to benefit Beth Or programming!

Questions? Contact info@bethorbrotherhood.org.
WOW in 2020!

*Lois Lambersky, Sisterhood President*

Happy and Healthy 2020 to all!

Sisterhood is planning many exciting events for the upcoming year including Theater Excursions, Game Events, Dine and Donate Days and much more than we can’t list here, so keep an eye out for more details to come.

Allow me to quote a line from a Peter Allen song, “Everything old is new again,” as Sisterhood is bringing back WOW (Women On Wednesdays) programming. Our goal is to feature diverse women and their distinctive areas of expertise. We hope to provide a stage for congregants to share their skills, hobbies and talents with others.

Our Sisterhood meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend. The goal is to host a speaker every other month immediately following the business portion of our meeting at 7:15 pm.

Our first program takes place January 8, featuring Farnaz Dar and Rosita Brennan speaking about organizing, decluttering and incorporating Feng Shui in our homes and lives. Who can’t make use of some good decluttering advice?

Please contact Jen Seboek at jenboek@gmail.com if you would like to be a speaker for Sisterhood in the future.

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**Please Support the Tarshis Gift Shop**

*Proceeds Benefit Beth Or Sisterhood Programs*

**Stop in for these items and more:**

- Holiday Items
- Mezuzot
- Hamsas and other Wall Art
- Tallit and Kippot
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah Gifts
- Wedding Smash Glasses and Gifts
- Jewelry
- Home Giftware
- Books for Adults and Children
- Children’s Toys and Games
- Baby Gifts
- Occasion Cards

**Hours:**

Monday - Friday 9 am - 12 pm; Monday & Tuesday 4:40 pm - 6 pm; Sunday 9 am - 1 pm

Discounts available for Sisterhood Members and Beth Or Staff I Great Monthly Sales and New Arrivals
DID YOU KNOW that the Tarshis Gift Shop located in the main lobby is owned and operated by Beth Or Sisterhood? Besides being a great place to shop for Judaica, gifts, jewelry, housewares, books and so much more, 100% of the proceeds are used to support our many Sisterhood projects. These projects directly benefit Beth Or children of every age, from holiday celebration events to college outreach programs. We are also very active in programs that help those in most need in our communities, such as Hope Gardens. We also sponsor initiatives to support interfaith understanding and acceptance. When you shop at the Tarshis Gift Shop, the gifts you give reach far beyond your family and friends.

The gift shop is staffed entirely by volunteers! They are generous with their time and talents. Being part of the gift shop family provides me with an opportunity to meet many Beth Or members. As with so many volunteer opportunities, I get back more than I give in knowing that what I do matters. Not to mention, we get an early preview of all the merchandise that comes in! If you are interested in being a part of this group, please stop in and leave your name and number.

I encourage you to take a few moments and browse our shelves. Not only will you find that special gift for someone or maybe something special for you or your home, you will also be directly supporting the good the Sisterhood does for the community. Five minutes of shopping will be the easiest mitzvah you’ve ever performed. Come and find out for yourself!

The shop is open

**Weekdays, 9 am - 12 pm**

**Monday and Tuesdays, 4:30 pm - 6 pm**

**Sundays, 9 am - 1 pm**

We look forward to seeing you in the Tarshis Gift Shop.
**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**APEX Brunch with Author Debbie Cenziper**  
Sunday, March 15 • 10 am – 12 pm

Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, Debbie Cenziper discusses her new book: *Citizen 865 — The Hunt for Hitler’s Hidden Soldiers in America*. The account details the gripping story of a team of Nazi hunters at the U.S. Department of Justice as they raced against time to expose members of a brutal SS killing force who disappeared in America after World War II. The decades-long investigation had strong Philadelphia ties. The Jewish Exponent has called *Citizen 865* brilliant! Books will be available for purchase and signing at the event — cash or checks only.

Debbie Cenziper is an investigative journalist, professor, and author based in Washington, D.C. A contributing reporter for the Investigative team at The Washington Post, she has won many major awards in print journalism, including the 2007 Pulitzer Prize. Cenziper is the co-author of the critically acclaimed *Love Wins: The Lovers and Lawyers Who Fought the Landmark Case for Marriage Equality*.

This program is co-sponsored by APEX and the Social Justice Committee. All congregants are invited to attend. Free with RSVP to Barbara Murtha, bmurtha@bethor.org, by Wednesday, March 11. $5 at the door.

**ART GALLERY**

**Artist – 6th Grade Religious School Students**  
Opening Reception: Friday, February 14 during Oneg Shabbat

Our 6th grade religious school students have put together a wonderful exhibit illustrating prayers that have special significance for them. Through color, symbols, drawing, collage, photography, paint and other techniques, each student has created a work of art that expresses his or her own connection to prayer, along with a written explanation for why they made the choices that they did. Please join us for the opening reception immediately following Shabbat services. Refreshments will be served. The exhibit continues through March 11.

**HOLIDAYS AND SHABBAT EVENTS**

**Munchkin Minyan & Challah Bake sponsored by the CECE**  
Friday, January 10 • 5:30pm

All young families with children in Kindergarten and younger are invited to a make challah, participate in a Munchkin Minyan service featuring our Infants, Toddlers & First Steppers and teachers, and enjoy a pizza dinner. Cost: $20/family includes dinner and donation to Challah for Hunger. RSVP by January 6 to Donna Kordelski in the CECE office (dkordelski@bethor.org, 215-646-8869). Contact Bob Simon at https://bobdinner2020.eventbrite.com. Please make checks payable to Beth Or Brotherhood. RSVP in advance for dinner using the website RSVP portal or https://bobdinner2020.eventbrite.com. Contact Bob Simon at YobobSimon@gmail.com or 610-547-0943 with any questions.

**Tu B’Shevat 7 Species Challah Bake followed by Music Shabbat**  
Friday, February 7 • Festival Event – 5:30pm; Shabbat Worship – 6:30pm

Tu B’Shevat is the holiday of the trees, but it also marks the time of year when nature comes alive in Israel! The Torah tells us of seven tasty foods called the seven species. We will show you how to incorporate them into delicious challah recipes. This free event is followed by Family Shabbat featuring our 3rd Grade students & Music Shabbat with the Adult & Jr. choirs. RSVP by January 31 on the website RSVP portal.

**Sisterhood Torah To Go**  
Wednesday, February 5 • 6:30pm

Let’s learn about *Parashat Beshalach*, the Song of the Sea, with Religious School Director Aaron Nielsenshultz. We’ll look at how the Torah itself gives us a clue about antagonistic relationships, how to disagree and how to fight for what we believe in.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Sisterhood Trip to see Harmony — A New Musical at the National Yiddish Theater Folsbiene, Battery Park, NY, Sunday, March 22**

Beth Or Sisterhood has reserved mezzanine seating and coach transportation for the 1pm showing of the New York debut and limited run of Harmony — A New Musical, with music by Barry Manilow and Book & Lyrics by Bruce Sussman. The musical tells the true story of six Comedian Harmonists in 1920’s Germany who took the world by storm until the inclusion of Jewish singers put them in a collision course with history. This story highlights the human spirit in the face of adversity and atrocity. More information, pricing and RSVP details coming soon.
Heart & Soul Shabbat
Saturday, February 22 • 11am – 1pm
Let’s bundle up at hit the trail! Heart & Soul Shabbat is back and we hope to foster the same sense of community and fitness that we did last time. Location is TBD. RSVP to Rabbi Bonder, jbonder@bethor.org for specific details. This event is shine only.

SPECIAL EVENTS
Get Connected: Beth Or Business Networking Program
Pump Up Your LinkedIn Profile • Tuesday, January 7 • 7 pm – 8:30 pm
Expert LinkedIn users, congregants Gwen Silverstein and Jonathan Marks, will share tips for creating, enhancing and leveraging your LinkedIn profiles to grow your professional network. RSVP using the website RSVP portal by January 3.

Networking Event • Tuesday, February 11 • 7 pm – 8:30 pm
Check your weekly Chai Lights emails for more details and RSVP!

WFCA Solidarity Walk
Sunday, January 19 • 3 pm
Join the Clergy and members from the Wissahickon Faith Community Association (WFCA) for this annual unification walk from Wissahickon High School to Bethlehem Baptist Church. Meet in the school parking lot at 2:45 pm. After the walk, all are invited to a 4 pm service at the church in celebration of the teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Winter Membership Events
Pizza Party • Monday, January 27 • 6 pm – 7 pm
Join your Hebrew School friends for pizza dinner in the private room at Maple Glen Pizza. We will provide some appetizers. This event is free and open to all families at Beth Or! No RSVP necessary.

Jewelry Making Night Out • Tuesday, February 4 • 7 pm – 9 pm
Enjoy a fun night out making some winter must-have jewelry with the Membership committee! Light appetizers provided. This event is BYOB and costs $18/person. Find more details and RSVP on the website RSVP Portal.

For information about upcoming membership events, please contact Membership Committee chairs, Alyson Caplan, alysoncaplan@gmail.com and Allison Levin, allisonlaurenlevin@gmail.com.

Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month (JDAIM) • February 2020
Beth Or supports JDAIM each year by incorporating a variety of activities into our worship, education and other programming to showcase how our community opens our arms to all, and how we can all do our part to promote inclusion, compassion and tolerance. Look for more details in weekly Community Matters emails.
SAVE THE DATE!

Beth Or & Baseball: Where Traditions Meet
Sunday, March 22

We are celebrating the new baseball season and the first time Israel is sending a baseball team to the Olympics!

Rabbi Bonder (who you may or may not know used to play professional baseball in Israel) and a few of our Beth Or Softball League members will host a batting & pitching clinic for children in the afternoon. In the evening, we are thrilled to bring in Eric Holtz, the manager of the 2020 Israel Olympic Baseball team, will join us in the Sanctuary for a fascinating Q&A discussion, followed by a meet & greet, autograph signing and baseball themed oneg — complete with beer (for adults) and rootbeer (for kids) provided by Beth Or Brotherhood! Team Israel baseball items will be available for sale, to benefit the team. This fun program is for anyone with an interest in baseball — parents are encouraged to bring their children. Look for more details and RSVP to come soon or contact Rabbi Bonder, jbonder@bethor.org for additional information.

SAVE THE DATE!

12th Annual Ladies Bingo Night benefitting the CECE
Wednesday, April 1 • 6 pm

If you would like to volunteer to help with this important fundraising event, please email Sharon Carlin, scarlin@bethor.org.

NEW! Winter Lifelong Learning Courses
RSVP for these newly added courses with Barbara Murtha, bmurtha@bethor.org.

Jewish Responses to Catastrophe and Cultural Transition (with Rabbi Marx)
Tuesdays, January 7, 14 & 21 • 7 pm

Throughout the Bible, medieval and modern period the Jewish people were forced to confront radical social upheaval and cultural destruction. We have as a result of those catastrophes, developed a particular coping mechanism that is unique to our community, and which has enabled our continuance and positive transformation in the face of upheaval. Study Biblical texts, such as Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Isaiah as well as the Talmud to uncover the ancient secrets. Then we will look to the modern period to determine more contemporary coping mechanisms that have allowed us to rebuild, reshape and reform.

Exploring Kabbalah: Writers, Texts & Methods for Engaging with Mysticism (with Aaron Nielsenshultz)
Mondays, January 27, February 3 & 10 • 7 pm

We touched on kabbalah in our Mysticism class in the fall, and we’ll take a different look at the topic this time around. Kabbalah can be a difficult, esoteric topic to jump into, so let’s get a foundation to help us out. We’ll tackle texts and wrestle with their concepts, while also learning about the personalities and places that have shaped the field and the way we see it. From the mind-bending mathematical beginnings and consciousness-raising practices of kabbalah to its very-worldly locations and very human writers, there will be something for all kinds of students.

History of Reform Judaism (with Rabbi Bonder)
Tuesdays, February 18, 25 & March 3 • 7 pm

What is Reform Judaism? Where did it come from? Where is it headed? What does it mean to be a Reform Jew? Join Rabbi Bonder in exploring the answers to all of these questions in a three-session course.

Reintroduction to Judaism – Part 2 (with Rabbi Bonder)
Sundays, January 26 – March 8 • 9:15 am – 10:45am

This popular class from Fall 2019 returns with six new topics that will appeal to anyone who is interested in refreshing their knowledge or learning new ideas about living Jewishly. There is no need to have participated in the Fall session in order to sign up. Throughout the 6 weeks, Rabbi Bonder will reintroduce the class to the Siddur (prayer book) & Worship Services, the Torah, Shabbat Meals & Rituals, Theology & Traditions, Celebrating Passover & Purim, and Israel. Contact Rabbi Bonder for more details on course content and RSVP, jbonder@bethor.org.

Babysitting will be available. Please let Rabbi Bonder know if you will need babysitting when you RSVP.

SAVE THE DATE!

Beit Sefer Café
Tuesday, March 24 • 6:30 pm – 9 pm

Our popular night of learning and schmoozing returns! Look for a brochure with the class options and RSVP info to be mailed to your home.
Celebrating Your Simcha

Our beautiful building provides the perfect place to celebrate your family’s simchas.

Our catering partners on the Approved Caterer List — shown below and published on our website (www.bethor.org) stand ready to provide delicious food for your event. They can provide menu options at a range of prices designed to meet your specific needs and budget.

We hope that you will consider having your celebrations at Beth Or. To learn more about hosting an event at Beth Or, please contact Amy Abrams or Genevieve Yanity at 215-646-5806.

Approved Caterer List — 2019/20

**Annemarie’s Cuisine**
Annemarie Silva .....................................................................................................................215-806-7675

**Barclay Caterers (Kosher)**
Steve Hellinger, Larry or Ian Drossner ....................................................................................215-612-2837

**Ben & Irv’s Deli**
Lennie or Michael ..............................................................................................................215-355-2000

**Betty the Caterer (Kosher)**
Jeff Kalinsky .......................................................................................................................215-224-8400

**Infinity Caterers**
Fred Morganstein ..............................................................................................................215-509-7280

**Panache Catering by Foodarama (Kosher)**
Gary Rosenwald ..................................................................................................................215-633-7100

**Pumpernick’s Deli**
Jeff Klein .............................................................................................................................215-393-5800
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A Special One
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New Members
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Edward Faden & Marissa Riback
Michael, Rachael & Theodore Rosenfeld
Jeremy Parkin & Samantha Oskie
Michael & Michele Meyrowitz
Geoffrey, Starr, Natalie & Ethan Faden
Marc, Stacey, Drake & Troy Lassin
David & Rosemary Moskowitz

Rejoining Members
Kurt & Bonnie Goldsmith

May Their Memory Be A Blessing
Marcia Friedman, cousin of Steven Stone
Ronald Myers, father of Todd Myers & stepfather of Beth Robinowitz
Alex Szweda, son of Susan Utain Cohen & Stepson of Allan Cohen
Ann Feinberg, mother of David Feinberg
Robert Wolfson, father of Richard Wolfson
Alan F. Mandel, father of Allison Levin
Judith Pripstein, mother of Elaine Thomas

Mazel Tov
Engagement of Penina (Allison) Garnick, daughter of Robert & Heidi Garnick, to Akiva Becker
Engagement of Heather Bernstein, daughter of Philip & Hope Bernstein, to Marc Levin
Engagement of Hannah Berry, daughter of Don & Amanda Berry, to C.J. Argue
Engagement of Reuben Treatman, son of Jack Treatman & Ruth Isaac, to Sharon Fass
Engagement of Melissa Sherman, daughter of Ken & Abby Sherman, to Sean Kozlowski
Engagement of Jeffrey Berest, son of Doreen Berest & Robert Berest, to Julia Cohen
Wedding of Laura Beaulieu, daughter of Paul & Ann Beaulieu, to Tom Guerin
Wedding of Max Knee, son of Rob & Theresa Knee, to Brigette Reichart
Hebrew Naming of Ruby, Stella & Jude Berman, children of Aron & Sarah Berman
Baby Naming of Isaac Marshall Freedman, grandson of Jay & Sue Freedman
Birth of Samuel Gary Zanan, son of Michael & Aimee Zanan
Birth of Jonathan Peter Dilorio, son of Peter Dilorio & Emily Marks

Birth of Ayla Elizabeth Wecht, granddaughter of Alan & Lea Wecht
Bat Mitzvah of Emerson Shapiro
Bat Mitzvah of Shira Klein

Oneg and Flower Donations

Additional October Donation:
Oneg:
October 25 • Gary and Judy Kurtis, Edward Rosenfeld and Wendy Rosenfeld in honor of the Baby Naming of their grandson, Theodore Franklin Rosenfeld

Additional November Donations:
Oneg:
November 8 • Jeff and Lisa Freedman and Brendan & Susan Corr in honor of the Baby Naming of their grandson, Ethan Corr
November 15 • The Beth Or Brotherhood

Additional December Donation:
Oneg:
December 13 • Marty and Jill Tarabar in honor of the Baby Naming of their grandson, Mason Isaiah Tarabar
December 20 • Alan and Lea Wecht in honor of the Baby Naming of their granddaughter Ayla Elizabeth Wecht

January Donations:
Oneg & Flowers:
January 17 • Hal and Michelle Shapiro in honor of Emerson Shapiro’s Bat Mitzvah
January 24 • Neil and Zohar Klein in honor of Shira Klein’s Bat Mitzvah
January 31 • Matthew and Hillary Marcus in honor of Lyvia Marcus’ Bat Mitzvah
Mark and Robyn Randa in honor of Matthew Randa’s Bar Mitzvah

February Donation:
Oneg & Flowers:
February 28 • Robert and Stephanie Winegrad in honor of Allie Winegrad’s Bat Mitzvah
Memorials and Contributions

Rabbi Marx’s Discretionary Fund

Donation by
Carole Chasen
Donna Schapiro

In Memory of
JANE KORMAN
AI & Lori Shamtoob

PHYLIS POLIN
Charles Polin

ROBERT WOLFSOHN
Ellen Perlmutter
Fred & Bryna Berman

LEONARD DUKART
Gary & Marlene Dukart

BARRY AZARVA
Harvey & Joan Azarva

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Ira & Sondra Berman

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Leonard & Madelyn Abramson

LAWRENCE (LARRY) GOLD
Linda Montz

BENNY SMILOVITZ
Sylvia Chachkin

SARAH & MANUEL KAPLAN
Zane & Jane Kurtz

MARIAN STADLEN
Phil & Judy Pfeffer

In Honor of
RABBI GREG & LAURIE MARX
Jack & Rosie Elias

B’not Mitzvah of LUCY & SADIE HESS
Jason & Elisabeth Hess

JON & JUDY BECK’s 50th Anniversary
Levi & Sue Fleishman

RICH LEVITT’s 80th Birthday
Phil & Judy Pfeffer

Baby Naming of DYLAN
PEARL ROSENBERG
Richard & Karen Leavitt

Baby Naming of ESRA VEE
PAMUKCU LESLIE

Rif Pamukcu & Lisa Brown

In Appreciation of
RABBI MARX
Alex & Sheryl Gruber
Arnie & Linda Freedman
Carol Drakeford
Eric & Kristin Knopping
Evelyn Levy
Gene & Bonnie Schwartz
Lee & Denise Farkas
Marilynn Kornfeld
Michael & Amy Yanofsky
Michael & Irene Beer
Randy Milakofsky
Rob & Theresa Knee
Sara & Adam Prince
Sylvia Chachkin

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES
Bernie & Beth Johl

JODY PASCAL
James Steiker & Lisa Rubin

BERNICE & MARK GLASER
Marc & Elyse Satalof

SOPHIE’S Bat Mitzvah
Marc & Leslie Levin

RABBI & LAURIE MARX & fellow SPAIN TRAVELERS
Sharon Labow

Rabbi Bonder’s Discretionary Fund

Donation by
Carole Chasen

In Memory of
SAMANTHA ROSEN
Gail A. Edelsohn
LINDA M. MOONBLATT
The Wagner Family
ALEX SZWEDA
Warren & Gayle Vogel

In Honor of
SONNY THAL’s 85th Birthday
Cantor Green’s assistance

Yom Kippur Haftarah
Shelli Ross

In Appreciation of
PAOLA & MICHAEL GREEN’s engagement
Margie Chachkin
MICAH MARGOLIS’ chanting

Dr. ROBERT RABIN’s assistance with Sophie’s Bat Mitzvah
Marc & Leslie Levin

RABBI BONDER

In Appreciation of
RABBI BONDER
Alex & Sheryl Gruber
Bill Judd & Family
Michael & Irene Beer
Michelle Grasela
Rande Kaminsky & Family
Randy Milakofsky
Rob & Theresa Knee
Sonny Thal
Sylvia Chachkin
Upper Dublin Lutheran Church

HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES
Bernie & Beth Johl
Mazel Tov to SONNY THAL
Ira & Phyllis Bergman

Cantor Green’s Discretionary Fund

Donation by
Carole Chasen

In Memory of
SOPHIE SPRINGER
Jay & Claudia Springer
HELEN A. BECK
Kathie Sachs

In Honor of
PAOLA & MICHAEL GREEN’s engagement
Margie Chachkin
MICAH MARGOLIS’ chanting
Yom Kippur Haftarah
Shelli Ross

In Appreciation of
CANTOR GREEN
Alex & Sheryl Gruber
Bill Judd & Family
Jay & Claudia Springer
Marilynn Kornfeld
Michael & Irene Beer
Randy Milakofsky
Sylvia Chachkin

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES
Bernie & Beth Johl
CANTOR GREEN’s assistance with Sophie’s Bat Mitzvah
Marc & Leslie Levin

Andrew Jarrett Fund for Religious School

In Memory of
CAROL PACKER
Robyn Barrett
LINDA M. MOONBLATT
The Wagner Family

In Honor of
Birth of BARBARA & HOWARD DAVIS’s Grandson
Larry & Sally Wolfish

Annual Appeal (2019-20)

Donation by
Alex & Sheryl Gruber
Carole Chasen

Arnold Berkowitz Memorial Fund for Veteran’s Shabbat

Donation by
Harriet Greenberg

In Memory of
JOSEPH BERKOWITZ
ISABEL EVANS
ElsaLu Berkowitz
ROBERT LORRAINE
Richard & Janet Lorraine
ARNOLD BERKOWITZ
Rozi Snyder

In Appreciation of
All those who have SERVED Marc Benshetler

Barbara & Marvin Goldberg Confirmation Israel Trip Endowment

Donation by
Elliot & Marian Fisher
Gary & Phyllis Finkelstein

In Memory of
CAROL PACKER
Robin Arnold
Vincent & Cindi Pasceri & Family

In Honor of
SOPHIE LEVIN’s Bat Mitzvah
Richard & Roberta Feinstein

Mazel Tov to JUDY & JON BECK
Martin Beifeld Jr. & Ina Ginsberg

Berman Family Caring Community Endowment

Donation by
Alex & Sheryl Gruber

In Memory of
CAROL PACKER
Ruth & Steven Segal, Andrea, Howard, Eric & Jaclyn

WILLIAM D. DOYLE
Sharon Ferrari
Memorials and Contributions

**Brotherhood Camp Harlam Scholarship Fund**

*In Memory of*
- LEON HAMMERSCHLAG  
  David Kohn
- CHARLES BENSHEETLER  
  Eric & Faye Benshetler

*In Honor of*
- Sisterhood’s Woman of the Year, ELLEN MIRBACH  
  Donna Spector
- IRA SECOULER  
  Manny Kohn

**Capital Fund**

*In Memory of*
- ROBERT WOLFSON  
  Bob & Liz Hirsch
- CAROL PACKER  
  Ellen Werther
- MARTIN BACHMAN  
  CAROL PACKER
- JULES MINDLIN  
  Phil & Pennye Goodman

*In Honor of*
- Birth of LEVI BEER  
  Ellen Werther

**Disaster Relief Fund**

*Donation by*
- Mitchell & Melissa Codkind
- Stephen Gershenson

*In Memory of*
- ROBERT WOLFSON  
  Margie Chachkin

*In Appreciation of Fire Fighters*
- Robert Rosin

**Ellen and Norman Werther Endowment Fund for Special Programs**

*In Memory of*
- DR. MILTON SALZBERG  
  Dave & Lorna Petersen

**Eva Sagoskin Memorial Fund for Adults**

*In Honor of*
- JUDY & JON BECK’s 50th Anniversary  
  Herb & Renee Cohen

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*Donation by*
- David & Rosemary Moskowitz
- Mitchell & Sharon Bonder
- Rebecca Landau
- Stephanie Forti
- Stuart & Jamie Klein

*In Memory of*
- CAROL PACKER  
  Alan & Shelly Goldstein
- Ruth Visnov
- Robert Parahas
- ALEX SZWEDA  
  Howard, Rosanna & Josh Zenker
- R. MORTON SIMON  
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