



Beth Or Spotlight

July-August 2019 | Volume 63, Issue 6 | Sivan-Tammuz-Av 5779



July Worship Schedule

All Summer Services will take place in the Jayne Haines Memorial Chapel with the exception of Shabbat in Our Park on July 26.

Friday, July 5 Shabbat Korah

6:30 pm Family Shabbat Worship Service

Friday, July 12 Shabbat Hukat

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship Service

Friday, July 19 Shabbat Balak

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship Service

Friday, July 26 Shabbat Pinhas

5:30 pm Shabbat In Our Park Dinner
(dinner will be on the Lakeside Terrace, weather permitting)

6:30 pm Shabbat In Our Park Service (service will be on the Lakeside Terrace, weather permitting)

August Worship Schedule

Friday, August 2 Shabbat Matot-Masei

6:30 pm Family Shabbat Worship

Friday, August 9 Shabbat Devarim

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship Service

Friday, August 16 Shabbat Vaet'hanan

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship Service

Friday, August 23 Shabbat Ekev

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship Service

Friday, August 30 Shabbat Re'eh

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship



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July/August Candle Lighting

Friday, July 5 • 8:14 pm

Friday, July 12 • 8:12 pm

Friday, July 19 • 8:08 pm

Friday, July 26 • 8:03 pm

Friday, August 2 • 7:56 pm

Friday, August 9 • 7:48 pm

Friday, August 16 • 7:38 pm

Friday, August 23 • 7:28 pm

Friday, August 30 • 7:17 pm



A Time to Rejoice: Reflecting on Beth Or's Tribute Weekend

— Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

Every Shabbat we begin services with a chant from Psalms called, *Ashrei*. It celebrates happiness. It reads, "Happy is one who finds himself in the house of God and sings words of praise... Such a person shall be like a tree planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in its season. Its leaves will not wither; and all of its deeds will endure." (Ps. 1:1-3)

That is how Laurie and I feel following Beth Or's tribute weekend. We are blessed to be in this holy, faithful and loving community and feel like "trees planted by streams of fresh flowing water."

As we looked out upon the hundreds of faces during Shabbat evening services, the Havdallah service on Saturday night, and again on Sunday morning during the fabulous Israel festival, it dawned on both of us that our deepest relationships and friends come from our Beth Or community. I remember wondering if we ever could truly find friendship in a place where we were perceived

as "Rabbi and Ms. Rabbi," but following this amazing weekend, we have found our answer. "Yes." You are our friends and you have showered us with love, affection and support.



Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

From the Rabbi's Desk

Everything from Shabbat evening services to the tremendous tented party on Saturday night and the Israel festival on Sunday morning reminded us how fortunate we are to be a part of the Beth Or community.

On Sunday morning, during the Israel celebration, we asked students to write notes to Israeli soldiers. I am overcome with their heartfelt messages. I find it all the more poignant as they were written during one of Israel's recent flare-ups with Gaza. Read these and kvell:

Do you know who you are? You are the hope. And remember we stand with you.

To the hard working amazing incredible kind strong real army you are YOU. We are all proud of you!

I am 9 yrs old and you are my hero to be helping Israel and protecting the country. Thank you so much!!

You have done a great job serving in the IDF and I hope that you are doing well because while I am working hard at school you are saving the country.

Now that I think about it, I may want to go into the IDF when I am older.

I am ten years old. I am very grateful for what you are doing for Israel. I know it must be scary, but there are people who care for you and people that would protect you if they could. All of the other soldiers are there for you.

Thank you for protecting all of Israel! We all look up to you. I hope you like serving in the IDF because that's a very important job. Just remember you are special, and although it may not seem like it, you are helping all of us!

Thank you for protecting my family in Israel and please continue.

I don't know what I would do without them. Shalom.

I believe that there are two types of courage. There is moral courage and religious courage. It takes moral courage to stand in solidarity with those who may be unpopular, as too often Israel is. Our children have that moral courage; I would like to think they got some of that mettle from Beth Or and the lessons we teach. I saw religious courage on Saturday night when we joined together to rejoice, kick up our heels and dance.

On the weekend of May 3, I witnessed moral courage and experienced religious courage having a lot of fun, as well. Laurie and I feel piously courageous and extremely happy. God Bless you all for coming and thank you for creating and sharing in a most memorable moment.

Get To Know Your New President

Josh Gottlieb, Beth Or President

I have been a member of Beth Or for nearly twenty-five years. My two sons grew up here, going through religious school, youth group, bar mitzvah and confirmation. Now both are married. Jonah and his wife Laura, have a daughter, Alexandra. Aaron and his wife Stephanie will be parents when Annie is born in September.

Rabbi Marx and the Beth Or community were there to support our family when my ex-wife Marcie's parents died. This was true again when my mother and stepfather passed. This further strengthened my ties to Beth Or. I have a strong commitment to the state of Israel and its people. Led by Rabbi Marx, our congregation's ties and commitment to Israel, as well as supporting each other during our most difficult times, reflect our core values.



Josh Gottlieb

My involvement at Beth Or started when my kids were young. Despite the embarrassment of being "knocked out" at laser tag in the first minute of the game, I continued to chaperone many youth group activities and later joined the Youth

Committee. Having lost my father when I was nine years old, being actively involved with my sons was always very important to me. I have also always enjoyed the energy and spirit of large groups of children.

President's Corner

When my sons got older, I became a member, and then co-chair, of Lifelong Learning, which has sponsored many events that I have found meaningful over the years. I was lucky enough to be among the 300+ congregants who enjoyed a special evening as Terry Gross told captivating stories of her most memorable interviews. I also chaired the Human Resources Committee for several years given my experience in senior leadership at SEPTA. Then, twelve years ago I was asked to join the Board. While preparing for my presidency, I have been energized by our increasing commitment to social justice issues. As reform Jews, I believe passionately in this cause for our congregation. Recently I was very moved by our panel discussion on gun violence as a public health issue.

Although I now have a long schlep to Beth Or, particularly at rush hour, when even the strongest among us could consider giving up and going for a beer, joining a new synagogue was never an option. Being a part of this community is far too important to me. Last summer I moved to New Jersey to be with Jenny Barrett, my partner, after over 20 years in Blue Bell and other nearby communities. Being in an inter-faith relationship, it is very important to me that Beth Or is welcoming to inter-faith families.

My path has been similar to what hundreds of other congregants have followed. I hope each of you will bring your own energy to the activities at Beth Or that mean the most to you. If you don't see something that piques your interest, please get in touch with me. Together we can brainstorm a way to create something new. You don't need to join the board or become president to make a difference.

Together we are a vibrant, spiritual, warm and caring congregation, committed to making our community and the world a better place. If I don't already know you, I hope we meet at services or another event where Beth Or congregants pray, celebrate, learn and bond together.

Have a wonderful summer.





Rabbi Jason Bonder

From the Rabbi's Desk

My experiences at Beth Or are now a part of me. I am not the same person I was last year. And I believe that is a good thing.

Re-Introductions

Rabbi Jason Bonder, Associate Rabbi

In May of 2018, I was sitting with my laptop open at an outdoor table at Starbucks. It was a sunny 102 degree day underneath a device spraying cool mist into the air. It was there that I typed my introductory Beth Or Spotlight article. I wrote it with great excitement to be back East and also with great wonder about what it would be like to be a part of Congregation Beth Or.

It has been a delight.

And it has also been a whirlwind.

It is hard to believe I am typing another Summer Spotlight article. So many firsts here at Beth Or seem like they happened just yesterday. I love to think back to the “Bonding with Bonder” events at Starbucks, P.J. Whelihan’s, Maple Glen Pizza and on our gorgeous grounds for an afternoon hike. Those first times introducing myself truly felt like a blur. I don’t have the official number tallied up, but given all of these events, I can safely assume that I have said “Hi, I’m Rabbi Jason Bonder” many, many, many times.

The funny thing is, while I’ve introduced myself all year, I haven’t been introducing the same person each time. My experiences here have changed me. Slowly but surely I’ve learned about this place. Everything from where the bathrooms are to the mood and feel of each Shabbat service. I went from being the new guy to a true part of a team thanks to my wonderful colleagues. My experiences at Beth Or are now a part of me. I am not the same person I was last year. And I believe that is a good thing.

If so much change is possible in one year, think about how much change takes place in 20 or 30 or 40 years. For many of us, our last formal Jewish education took place at age 13 or 15, or maybe a college course between ages 18 and 22. How long ago was that for you? As much as you have changed, so has Judaism, Jewish practice, and so has the approach to Jewish education.

Unlike the last time you studied Judaism formally, you may now be in a position of having to be a spokesperson for Judaism. You may find yourself trying to explain our traditions and culture to children, grandchildren, spouses, friends or co-workers.

So maybe it’s time for a “Re-Introduction!” This fall I will teach a 6-session mini-course called “Re-Introduction to Judaism” on Sunday mornings, 9:15 am-10:40 am. It is geared toward all who want to learn about Judaism, regardless of background, and it will be specifically geared towards folks who need a refresher. Come join us and re-introduce yourself to Judaism.

Following this theme, while I’ve met many of you this year, I’m sure I haven’t met everyone. So please do reach out — especially in these summer months. Let’s meet, grab coffee or have lunch. And even if we’ve met a thousand times now, I know it will be lovely to Re-Introduce ourselves.

Have a wonderful summer.

Important School Dates

Sunday school begins on
Sunday, September 8.

Monday and Tuesday classes
begin on September 9 and 10.

Thank you for a great year!

Aaron Nienshultz, Director of Religious School

Summer is always a quiet time around the religious school. We miss having the students around, and during these less-active days, I work with faculty and staff on revamping our curriculum and planning ideas for the new school year. I've been working on one of these ideas lately: how to make our *tzedakah* program in the school more meaningful and personal for students, and I'm pleased to share how that idea will roll out in the year to come.

The religious school will work this fall to raise money for an Israel-based charity called *Latet*. *Latet* means "to give" in Hebrew, and

Latet is the leading food bank in Israel. *Latet* sends boxes of prepackaged and dry food to those experiencing food insecurity, and they serve many families every month, including 1000 Holocaust survivors. Each box costs \$36.

Religious school will begin next year by reminding students what *tzedakah* is and why Jews give it, and then students will learn about *Latet*. The school will provide a special large *tzedakah* box in the Spain Lobby every Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, and each class will deposit their daily *tzedakah* envelope in the box each school day. School staff will chart how many boxes each class raises, and in December I'll declare the winner of our *tzedakah* competition. Then on our Teen Trip to Israel in December, the teens and I will present a check to *Latet* for the funds the school has raised.

During the second part of the year, each class can continue to collect *tzedakah* for *Latet*, or they can choose another Israel-based or Jewish organization. Classes will present their organizations and totals at our end-of-year celebration on May 17, 2020.

My goal is for this program to raise awareness that *tzedakah* actually goes somewhere — it's not just coins in a *tzedakah* box. It's a way that each of us makes a positive, real difference in the world, and I hope students will find a renewed joy and energy in doing it through this program.



Aaron Nienshultz



Leonard &
Madlyn Abramson
Education Center

CONGREGATION BETH OR

One Home for Youth Engagement

Jillian Peskin, Director of Member & Youth Engagement

One of the greatest joys I have in my role as Director of Youth Engagement is watching kids flourish and grow in a Jewish environment while having fun! For many years, BOFTY — our youth group - has been a single silo program, living on its own. We go on trips, have shul-ins, and plan our own social action and fundraising programs.

Over the past few years, “youth group” has become “youth engagement”. Instead of BOFTY functioning on its own, it has crossed over into many of our Religious School and Academy offerings. Rosh Hodesh and Rosh Brodesh are two of the programs that cross this line. We engage our teens through experimental and meaningful programming, while also making being Jewish fun!

Aaron Nielsenshultz and I talk about this line a lot and discuss how we can better both programs. Both of us share the same goals when we think about our programs; to inspiring well-rounded Jewish kids who love to be at Beth Or. Over the past year, we have been working to create something new that combines both youth group and Hebrew school.

Coming this September, we will offer a new Youth Engagement program for all of our teens in 7th through 12th grade. Currently, as I write this article, we are polling our families to help us decide on a new name for our combined Academy & BOFTY programs. We are so excited to tell you all about it. Here are a few key details:

- All of our **7th – 12th graders** will meet **Sunday nights from 5pm – 7pm**.
- There will be **sessions 2 - 3 weeks per month**.
- These **sessions will vary in content**, including grade-level **core classes**, a **social action or other mitzvah project** and an **elective**.
- **Dinner will be served!**
- There will be time for **social experiences and bonding**.
- The **curriculum** will be **meaningful, relatable and rooted in Jewish values**.
- Your child can **come to as many classes per month as they want**. (A full year schedule will be available soon!)
- **Youth group programs for our students in K – 6 grade will remain the same**, but keep an eye out for a name change!

As Aaron and I continue to work on this new program, we encourage you to reach out to us and ask questions, add input and tell us what your children want to learn about.

See you on September 8!



Jillian Peskin



**NEW NAME
TO COME**

CONGREGATION BETH OR
YOUTH GROUP

Organ Stays for High Holy Days

Cantor David Green



Cantor David Green

The organ will continue to be used for the High Holy Days. There will be some modifications to the sound system so the choir vocals will blend better with the organ. The dynamics of how the organ is played will also be altered so that the balance between my voice and the choir creates a presentation where the organ is not so dominant. This decision was reached after months of collecting email feedback from congregants and culminating with a full hearing of this topic with the Rituals and Practices committee.

You may recall in a previous Spotlight article I asked congregants to email their views on whether we should keep using the organ for our High Holy Day services. I received several responses with differing opinions running the gamut from not to use the organ at all to using it, but with modifications.

The Rituals and Practices committee meeting echoed the wide variety of views expressed in the emails. The consensus of all the feedback was that the organ adds a certain unique quality of “majesty” that enhances the High Holy Day worship experience.

The overwhelming view was that the how and when we use the organ in the services should be carefully modified. This includes better quality and volume of sound for the choir and the Cantor, along with a toning down of volume and other modifications when the organ is used.

I want to thank all the members of the Rituals and Practices committee and those who took the time to provide feedback by email. I believe the changes that will be made reflect the consensus of how the congregation would like the organ to be utilized for our upcoming High Holy Day services.

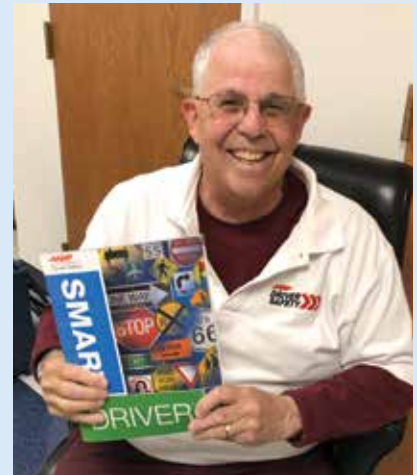


Marc Satalof

AARP DRIVER SAFETY has promoted both the BASIC and REFRESHER driver safety courses for many years. These courses are provided for SENIOR drivers, age 55 or older, throughout the United States. The emphasis in these course offerings focuses on the changes that occur, over time, in drivers, their vehicles, the driving environment and specific strategies that are beneficial for senior drivers as they adapt and adjust to these constant changes. In addition, there is an emphasis on specific STATE regulations that are designed to provide a safe driving environment for every driver in our Commonwealth. A thorough discussion and interaction between the class instructor and the participants taking the course assures that the participants will remain better informed, safer drivers as they continue to face the challenges of senior driving in today's world.

I have been an instructor for the AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM for more than a decade. All instructors in the AARP DSP are volunteers. When I began my tenure as a volunteer instructor, I set a goal of teaching 200 classes. I will soon make that goal a reality as have instructed 178 courses at this time. In addition, I served as the area trainer for several years. I have had the privilege of training many of the instructors who now provide instruction to dozens of host sites. I initially was a classroom participant in a course offered in our area many years ago. As I sat in the class, I immediately recognized the importance of the information that was contained in the course. It was readily apparent to me that the course content was designed to assure the driving safety of not only the participants in attendance, but also the other drivers on the roads as well.

As a lifelong educator, starting as a teacher and continuing as both an Assistant Principal and Principal employed by the School District of Philadelphia, it was somewhat of a "natural extension" to become an instructor in this vital effort. After meeting all of the training protocols required to become an AARP DSP instructor, I began to teach these courses in venues throughout our area. Teaching these courses has provided me with a wonderful opportunity to meet thousands of individuals who share a common goal; the desire to remain safe drivers as they meet the challenges of driving as a senior in today's world. In addition, I derive a tremendous amount of personal satisfaction in knowing that I have potentially made an impact on not only the safety of the participants taking the courses but also helping to create and maintain a safer driving environment throughout our area. I am fortunate to have this opportunity.



An Update on Beth Or's Collection Drives

The Beth Or Social Action Committee's long-running **Just One Project** has a new name: **Our Every Day Collections**.

Below is a list of what we are collecting year-round to meet some of the needs within the Greater Philadelphia area. *Please drop off items in the labeled bins located in the school lobby and main entrance vestibule.*

- **Household Items** such as utensils, dishes, pots/pans, small appliances and lamps for refugees who have recently settled in Philadelphia through the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS Pennsylvania). Chair: Theresa Knee.
- **Toiletries & Gently Used Clothing** for individuals and families living in crisis or faced with homelessness or severe illness who are served by Mitzvah Circle.
- **Non-perishable Food** for residents of Hope Gardens, an Inter-Faith Housing Alliance transitional housing program in Ambler.
- **Children's Clothing, Shoes, Books, School Supplies, Diapers, Strollers and Car Seats** for infants to age 12 who reside in a homeless shelter or who live in a low-income home, served by Cradles to Crayons.



Throughout the year, the Social Action Committee leads other collections that benefit our neighbors, such as men and women who require basic clothing for interviews or work, and parents whose children are patients at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP).

We thank you in advance for your support of Our Every Day Collections.

Susy Krimker, Social Action Chair, susykrimker@gmail.com

Margie Chachkin, Social Action Vice-Chair, chachkin@aol.com

Volunteers Needed!

In early May, Corner of the Land chairs Bruce Dorsey and Mitch Diamond prepped Beth Or's garden with some "fine mushroom soil" donated and delivered by the Svitek Family. On a rainy Sunday morning, with the help of Martin Gilbert, the planting of tomatoes, potatoes, peppers, lettuce, squash, zucchini, and butternut squash was complete.

Tending and harvesting will continue throughout the summer and into early Fall with vegetables reaching residents of Hope Gardens in Ambler, home to eight families living in transition.

Volunteers are needed and can sign up by emailing Bruce at brucedorsey11@gmail.com.

Special thanks to Emily Zauzmer who created the Corner of the Land logo (ten years ago!).



2018-19 Adopt-A-School Project was a Success

The Adopt-A-School Project was led by Beth Johl and Jody Pascal. With guidance from Carole Chasen, the J.K. Gotwals Elementary School in Norristown was identified as a school in great need of our help. Below are just a few statistics which led to the selection of this particular school:

- The percentage of Gotwals Elementary School students on free and reduced lunch assistance **(98.1%)** is **significantly higher than the state average of 51.4%**. Students from families with incomes at or below 130% of the federal poverty level are eligible for free meals. (Free meals annual income thresholds are \$20,449/family of 2 and \$31,005/family of 4.)
- Overall school rank is the **bottom 50%** in Pennsylvania. Gotwals is **1251 of 1,530** Pennsylvania Elementary Schools
- State proficiency test scores, **37% in math** and **36% in reading**.

Beth and Jody started their outreach with Principal Jeanette Hernandez and quickly learned about the academic needs of the students and teachers. At the top of the list were seat pockets. She explained that the children sit at tables, which unlike desks, haven't a place to store their supplies, and 100 seat pockets would help remedy that problem.

Our Beth Or congregational family got right to work! The Religious School families, with the great leadership of Michelle Boas and Lisa Goldoor, donated many of the requested supplies. Rebecca Laing collected items at her high school as well. Mike Werther donated a large number of books from California. Personal contributions came from Allan Posner, Beth & Bernie Johl, and Marlene & Bob Cohen, and the giving didn't end there. Sisterhood, Brotherhood, and the Social Action Committee also made donations. With the benevolence of this group, Jody and Beth were able to purchase all of the requested seat pockets. After delivering the supplies, Beth Or received heartfelt thank you notes from the students.

Also, Beth and Bernie collected and distributed (or shall we say schlepped) hundreds of children's books to help improve Gotwals' library. Fred Dugan volunteers his time to help organize the books that have a new home at this elementary school.

Beth, Jody, and Carole are identifying another needy school to support with this project in the 2019-20 school year.

Many, many thanks to this Kehilla Kedoshah, for making Beth Or's second annual Adopt-A-School Project such a success! Let's do it again!

SOCIAL *Justice*

Join Us!

Noah Fischer, Social Justice Chair

Have you ever wondered what it means to be involved with Social Justice at Beth Or?

Congregants usually express their thoughts after events, and following our screening of documentary film QUEST about a family in North Philadelphia and our panel discussion, "Gun Violence as a Public Health Issue" we received the following: "Your events are a good example of when many within the congregation come together." "Wow, what a moving and well-organized program. Thank you for bringing these speakers to Beth Or and highlighting this critical issue." "I am thankful for the courage, values, and support within Beth Or's leadership." "A wonderful event that I found personally meaningful." "Your program had deeper meaning and relevance than I could have imagined and moved me in ways that are hard to put into words." "The fact that Beth Or has a Social Justice Committee and we do not sit by the sidelines is a comfort."

The Social Justice Committee formed in 2017 and has stayed true to our 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*.

By attending our programs, you become part of this mission, and that's where it begins. You will hear the Jewish perspective from our clergy, learn from issue-specific experts, forge friendships within our congregational family, and you will help build the Beth Or *Kehillah Kedoshah*, our sacred community.

I look forward to meeting you at a future Social Justice event. If you would like to attend a Committee meeting, please contact me at noahfischer25@yahoo.com.

Thank you!

Beth Or Brotherhood

A Stranger is a Friend You Have Not Spoken to Yet

Allan Posner, Brotherhood President



Allan Posner



As Brotherhood begins another summer of transition and planning, I want to welcome and congratulate our recently elected Board members for 2019-2021. Doug Burtneck and Stu Briefer will be our First and Second Vice Presidents respectively. Both have been long time members of Beth Or and are excited to take up this new challenge. Bob Rosin will continue as our Service Vice President. Evan Segal, our newest member, will serve as Brotherhood Secretary and Assistant Treasurer to the synagogue. Yasher Koach to Evan. Brotherhood's Treasurer will again be Phil Goodman who is the sharpest pencil in the pack. The million-dollar question is who has Brotherhood elected as President? The answer is that I have agreed to serve an additional two-year term. I want to thank all of our newest members and the Board for allowing me to continue what I hope will be another two years of growth.

A stranger is a friend you have not spoken to yet. At Beth Or, no congregant should feel that he or she is a stranger in a strange land. I have had the opportunity these past two years to welcome many new members and hope to continue to do so. As President, I am wearing my ID badge of honor in the building so please come up to me or any member and say hello. Our group supports the synagogue youth and religious school. We work closely with Jillian and Aaron to support their missions. When called upon, Brotherhood helps Beth Or usher High Holy Days and community events held in our building. We have opportunities to serve on planning committees for new activities, communications, membership, car shows, brunches, beer gardens, Red Cross blood drives, wine sales, Phillies games, Annual Dinner and Fundraiser, Jewish Relief Agency and so much more.

Brotherhood is vibrant and bursting with ideas but we need YOU to join and become involved. Shortly, you will receive your synagogue invoice for the 2019-2020 year along with a membership application. Current members will receive a personal email from me as well. I am asking all gentlemen at Beth Or to join. Your participation at either Regular or Mensch level allows us to support and strengthen a greater cause which is the synagogue itself.

While summertime is relaxed and chill, as my millennial kids say, Brotherhood will be busy planning a full slate of events and hope you will join us in September.

If you would like to reach out to me with any questions or comments, please do so at: info@bethorbrotherhood.org. Be chill and enjoy your summer!

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): <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.



Beth Or Sisterhood

Experience a Deeper Connection to Others and Form Lasting Friendships

Lois Lambersky, Sisterhood President

Shalom! I am Lois Lambersky, the newly elected president of Congregation Beth Or's Sisterhood. We are women with diversified backgrounds and interests. Some work full time, some work part-time. Many have children in pre-school, some in college; some are stay-at-home empty nesters.

Wherever we are in life, one thing is certain... Sisterhood is an opportunity to meet friends and form lasting relationships. In addition, we can enrich our lives by becoming active in our Beth Or community.

We offer entertaining, educational and social programs to enhance holidays and our Jewish way of life.

There are many reasons why one chooses to join Sisterhood. The most important reason is to experience a deeper connection to others with opportunities to serve in small or large groups, depending on one's time and interests. Please feel free to offer any suggestions for programs or activities that may interest you. We are always looking for new ideas.

I look forward, along with our executive board, to a successful year working with our new and existing members.

We are a dynamic group!



Lois Lambersky



Sisterhood

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Fellowship • Community
Service • Support

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:

Summer Hours: For an appointment, contact Faye Benshetler, 215-915-5702 or Debbie Schwartz, 215-920-8205 (Debbie not available June 15-July 1)

Discounts available for Sisterhood Members and Beth Or Staff | Great Monthly Sales and New Arrivals

Beth Or Events

Event details subject to change. Please check the Beth Or website homepage RSVP Portal and/or calendar for the most up-to-date information and on-line RSVP forms.

ADULT PROGRAMS

SAVE THE DATE!

APEX Bus Trip to 911 Memorial Museum & Harold's Deli

Sunday, September 15

Look for details and RSVP information to come over the summer in your weekly Chai Lights e-mail! All are welcome!

APEX is the Adult Programming Experience Committee which presents events geared toward congregational members 55 and over. All Beth Or members are welcome to attend APEX events.

ART GALLERY

Artist – Hillary Wagner

Exhibiting now through September 11

Beth Or's Hillary Wagner's beautiful photography of wildlife and nature will capture your imagination. This exhibit is on display throughout the summer.



HOLIDAYS AND SHABBAT EVENTS

Shabbat in our Park Dinner & Worship

Friday, July 26 • Dinner - 5:30 pm, Service – 6:30 pm

Our annual Shabbat service and outdoor cookout is back! Bring your own lawn chairs and picnic blankets and sit outside on the grounds with your family and friends. (Tables/chairs provided for those who need.) Please bring a ready-to-serve side dish that goes with a meat meal. No dairy, pork or shellfish, please!

If it rains or is too hot, we will move our event inside to the Rosenfeld Social Hall. RSVP by July 19 using the RSVP portal on the website home page, or click the link on the calendar.



Beth Or Bowling League Goes Co-Ed!

In a break with tradition, the Beth Or Brotherhood Bowling League voted unanimously to invite women to join the league beginning with the 2019-20 season. From September to May, up to two dozen avid bowlers meet Monday evenings from 8 pm - 10:30 pm at Facenda-Whitaker Lanes in East Norriton. Bowlers span a wide variety of ages and carry a wide range of averages. The season begins on September 9. Openings for new bowlers are available. For more information contact League President Steve Stone at ssstone1111@gmail.com or League Treasurer Dave Kohn at dmk8444@gmail.com.

12 • BETH OR SPOTLIGHT

SPECIAL EVENTS

NEW! Beth Or at the Shore (with Rabbi Bonder) **Saturday and Sunday, July 13 and 14**

We're bringing a bit of Beth Or to Margate, Ventnor and Longport! On Saturday night, Rabbi Bonder will lead a sunset Havdalah service on the beach in Margate (exact location TBD) with summer refreshments. Then, Sunday morning, young families can join the Bonder family at the Longport playground for a Beth Or playdate. A group walk/run will also leave from the playground. Look for more details, time, and RSVP information in your weekly Chai Lights email as we get closer.

American Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by Brotherhood

Friday, August 2 • 12 pm – 5 pm

The Red Cross is in urgent need of all blood types. Please donate blood and help save a life. Beth Or is consistently one of the top blood drive locations in the region! Register online via the website RSVP Portal for the time slot of your choice, or contact Stu Briefer at smbriefer@gmail.com and he will register you. This event is sponsored by Brotherhood.

CECE Watermelon Welcome Back Play Date

Wednesday, August 28 • 6 pm to 7 pm

Come celebrate the new school year with new and old friends!

SAVE THE DATE!

Chai Member & Volunteer Appreciation Comedy Show

featuring Avi Liberman

Monday, September 23 • 7 pm

Avi Liberman's quirky style has made him a favorite in comedy clubs from LA to NYC. His style is a winning combination of life experiences and topical issues told through a varied blend of characters and voices with worldwide expertise. Avi's comedy is suitable for the entire family! In

appreciation for your support and dedication, this event is free for Beth Or Chai Members and Volunteers — Look for an e-vite with RSVP link and event ticket to be e-mailed over the summer. The show is open to all; \$18/person, payable at the door for non-ticket holders.



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Stand with Pittsburgh Service of Healing



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BREM Foundation Breast Cancer Prevention Event



Marx 30 Gala Celebration Havdalah

5779 MEMORIES



Simchat Torah



CECE Bingo Fundraiser



Beit Sefer Cafe



Cooking with Gass



Music and Menorahs

Purim Carnival



Beit Sefer Cafe Dinner Break



Mitzvah Month JRA



Mitzvas Day



Chanukah Community Candle Lighting



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Night Out



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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.

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Betty the Caterer (Kosher)

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Chai-Lights — July/August 2019

New Members

Reesa Wurtz

May Their Memory Be A Blessing

Morton Chavenson, father of Paul Chavenson

Jerome Dubowe, father of Robin Einhorn

Margot Wexler Salidor, mother of John Wexler

Phyllis Gillman, sister of Bob Hirsch

Nelson Garnick, father of Robert Garnick

Robert Kohn, Father of Andrea Godick

Alan Citrenbaum, Father of Amy Benjamin & Uncle of Mindy Levin

Robert Conn, Father of Andy Conn

Joan Kessler, mother of Lori Shemtob

Robert Goldblum, father of Becky Kilshaw

Bonnie Kousen, mother of Cheri Doll

Mort Simon, husband of Joann Simon and father of Bob Simon and David Simon

Mazel Tov

Wedding of Amanda Chavenson, daughter of Paul & Lisa Chavenson, to Salvatore Sciandra

Wedding of Sean Carlin, son of Jim & Sharon Carlin, to Danielle Strauss

Wedding of Mark Weinstein, son of Robert & Lana Weinstein, to Kate Dodds

Wedding of Brett Kaminsky, son of Rande & Judy Kaminsky, to Rachel Brooks

Wedding of Daniel Ludwig, son of Robert and Joan Ludwig, to Allison Cayne

Engagement of Laura Beaulieu, daughter of Paul & Ann Beaulieu, to Tom Guerin

Baby Naming of Milo Gitlin, son of Amy Gitlin & grandson of Harvey Gitlin & Phyllis Gitlin

Baby Naming of Miriam Jochnowitz, granddaughter of Michael & Lynn Jochnowitz

Birth of Emerson Adair Kuhn, granddaughter of Garry & Bobbi Adair

Birth of Isaac Marshall Freedman, grandson of Jay & Susan Freedman

Birth of Dylan Matthew Kaufman, grandson of Gary & Cindy Loewenstern

Birth of Russell Joseph Thomas, grandson of Elaine Thomas

Birth of Tsipora Adele Wolfe, granddaughter of Jane Liebman

Birth of Sonia Lehua Barnes, granddaughter of James & Joan Beste

Birth of Dylan Pearl Rosenberg, granddaughter of Richard & Karen Leavitt

Oneg and Flower Donations

Additional March Donation:

Oneg:

March 22 • Beth & Bernie Johl in honor of Bernie's special birthday

Additional April Donation:

Oneg:

April 26 • The Wolfson & Cohen families in honor of the marriage of their children, Stephanie Wolfson and Brett Cohen



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Rabbi Marx's Discretionary Fund

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Adam & Margot Bram

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SCIANDRA

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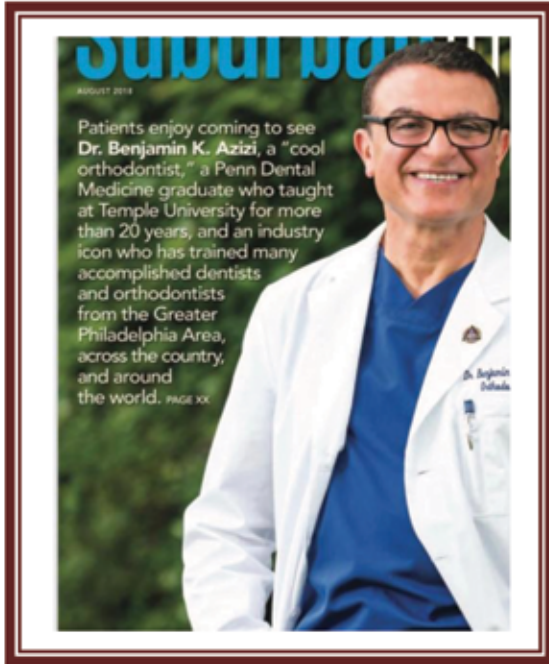
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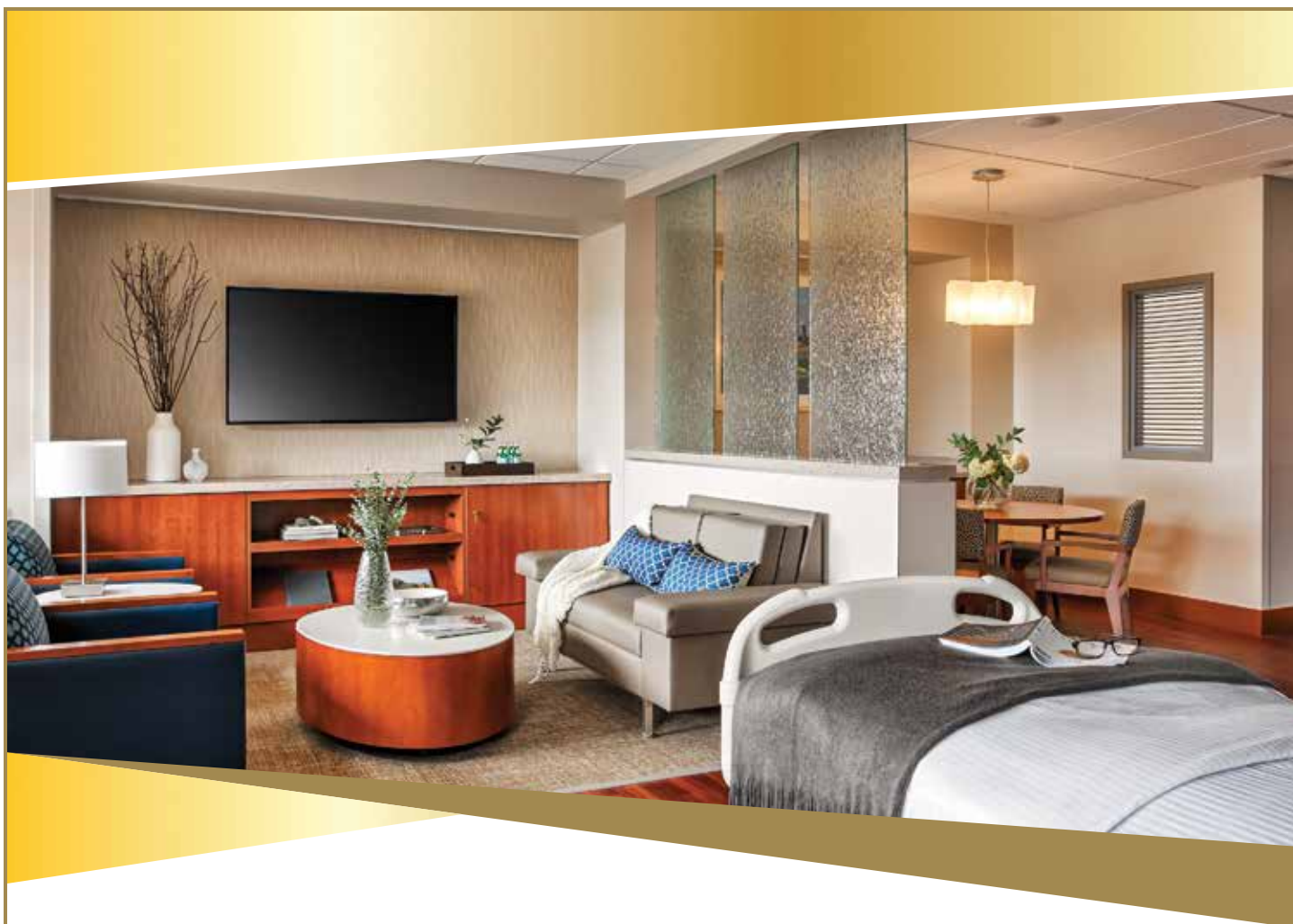
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