



Beth Or Spotlight

July-August 2021 | Volume 65, Issue 6 | Tammuz-Av-Elul



July Worship Schedule

Friday, July 2 Shabbat Pinhas

6:30 pm Family Shabbat Worship
in the Gitlin Sanctuary – In person,
Webstream or Facebook Live

Friday, July 9 Shabbat Matot-Masei

6:00 pm Tailgate Dinner in the
Beth Or Parking Lot (Shine Only)

6:30 pm Shabbat in Our PARKing
Lot – Outside service will NOT
be Streamed, but if weather
moves the service inside, it will
be available on Webstream or
Facebook Live

Monday, July 12

7:00 pm Service of Remembrance
in the Gitlin Sanctuary –
remembering those we lost
during pandemic restrictions – In
person & Webstream

Friday, July 16 Shabbat Devarim

5:30 pm Camp Munchkin Minyan
7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – In-person,
Webstream or Facebook Live

Friday, July 23 Shabbat Vaet'hanan

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – In person,
Webstream or Facebook Live

Friday, July 30 Shabbat Ekev

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in
the Gitlin Sanctuary – In person,
Webstream or Facebook Live

Saturday, July 31

11:00 am Shabbat Worship with
Bar Mitzvah of Gabe Jackson, son
of Evan and Carie Jackson in the
Sanctuary

August Worship Schedule

Friday, August 6 Shabbat Re'eh

6:00 pm Tailgate Dinner in the Beth
Or Parking Lot (Shine Only)

6:30 pm Shabbat in Our PARKing
Lot – Outside Service will NOT
be Streamed, but if weather
moves the service inside, it will
be available on Webstream or
Facebook Live

Friday August 13 Shabbat Shoftim

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – In person,
Webstream or Facebook Live

Friday, August 20 Shabbat Ki-Tetze

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – In person,
Webstream or Facebook Live

Friday, August 27 Shabbat Ki-Tavo

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – In person,
Webstream or Facebook Live

Saturday, August 28 Selichot

6:30 pm Selichot Dinner & Program
8:30 pm Selichot Worship Service
– Gitlin Sanctuary – In person,
Facebook Live

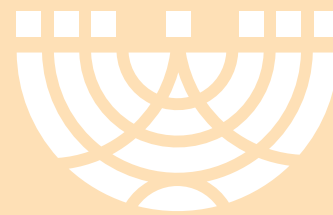


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*All Shabbat services are taking place in person in the Gitlin Sanctuary. All Friday Shabbat services can also be streamed at <https://venue.livecontrol.io/watch/bethor> or viewed on the Beth Or Facebook page, www.facebook.com/CongBethOr.



Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

From the Rabbi's Desk

**People will remember
us mostly, not for
our thoughts,
but for our actions.**

Actions Speak Louder Than Words

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

We can spend a great deal of time thinking about the meaning of our lives. We can evaluate our priorities, our goals and our values. It is essential. A life of import is predicated on thinking about what truly matters in our lives. In my life, for example, I have come to focus on three truths: Improving the world, enjoying the world and learning from the world. This is based on the teaching in the Talmud book of *Pirke Avot*, "The world is based on three truths, torah (wisdom), *avodah* (worship or growth) and *gemilut chasadim* (deeds of lovingkindness.)"

Having said that, I also believe that in-depth inquiries should lead us down the path to action. Thinking should never become an escape from reality. It can become a way to avoid making necessary life changes. My head can be full of abstract ideas and my actions can be empty. Thought without deed is ephemeral and ineffective. Thus the Talmud teaches, "The divine test of a person's worth is not their theology but their life."

Let me ask you during the slower months of the summer: What are you saying about your values through your actions? Do they communicate what you want to be saying? If you want to be compassionate, are you engaging in acts of compassion or are you just thinking about doing them? If you want to learn, are you engaging in pursuing a plan of study?

People will remember us mostly, not for our thoughts, but for our actions. It was for this reason that we as a community focus on the mitzvah, the deed, more than the creed. When the people of Israel covenanted with God at Mount Sinai, they said, "*Na'aseh ve'Nishmah*," which means "we will do and we will understand." We are called upon to act, not just think.

As we see so much upheaval and unrest around the world, be it racial injustice, anti-Semitism, or environmental collapse, we must dedicate ourselves to actions that bring about redemption. Talking is fine, but it is the deed, hopefully the moral and righteous deed, that will move us closer to solving our problems. Think first and then act. But at the end of the day, we are defined by our actions.

May we all find the strength to put our words and thoughts into action.

WHY Congregation Beth Or

Gwen Silverstein, Beth Or President

My name is Gwen Silverstein and I am honored to be serving as the president of our congregation. I have been a member of Beth Or for over 22 years. We joined when my children were starting pre-school and have stayed ever since. I am grateful for all that our congregation has given to me and my family and I am excited to continue to give back.

I have two daughters, Carly (23) and Gracie (20). As a full-time working mom and avid runner, the first committee I participated in was the Oy Vey 5K. I have been volunteering ever since. Serving on the Religious School Committee was the next invite I accepted, and after that, I was tagged in to participate in a visioning task force for our Religious School.

Soon after, I volunteered to lead a search committee for our Associate Rabbi and then, one thing led to the next. I joined the Board of Trustees, was nominated to be vice president and then president. I have participated, co-led and led a total of four searches for lay leaders and clergy. Additionally, over the past eight years I have led our Human Resources Steering Committee. Each opportunity opened more doors for connections to our clergy, lay leaders and community which deepened my love for Congregation Beth Or.



Gwen Silverstein

President's Corner

There are three aspects which have influenced my Jewish identity and shaped the person I am today.

- The first influence came from my parents.
- The second influence, which caused this spark to magnify and become my eternal flame for living a Jewish life, came from my seven summers at URJ Camp Harlam as both a camper and counselor.
- I have chosen to be the third influence. As a parent I have had the sheer joy of sharing Jewish holy moments with my daughters. Judaism has given me roots to stay grounded and the wings to help my children develop who they are today. L'dor V'dor, so let it be said I am attempting to secure the future of our people with the next generation.

I like to ask, why have faith? If you are faithful, why be Jewish? If you are Jewish, why be a Reform Jew? If you are a Reform Jew, why belong to Congregation Beth Or? What is your WHY? I look forward to sharing with you more about my WHY and hearing yours!

July/August Candle Lighting

Friday, July 2 • 8:15 pm

Friday, July 9 • 8:13 pm

Friday, July 16 • 8:10 pm

Friday, July 23 • 8:05 pm

Friday, July 30 • 7:59 pm

Friday, August 6 • 7:51 pm

Friday, August 13 • 7:43 pm

Friday, August 20 • 7:32 pm

Friday, August 27 • 7:21 pm



Rabbi Jason Bonder

From the Rabbi's Desk

We have to make the most of the present and the future if we want to honor that which came before us.

Before We Remember, We Create

Rabbi Jason Bonder, Associate Rabbi

One of the many remarkable aspects of the Zionist project is its relationship to the past and the future. For two thousand years, Jewish people pored over ancient texts and studied the Hebrew of the Torah and the Aramaic of the Talmud so that they could remember the greatness of the eras of Jewish sovereignty in Jerusalem. Instead of solely looking backwards and remembering what was, the founders of the Zionist movement began to look into the future and tried to create something new while simultaneously honoring the past.

Instead of dreaming about the Jewish nation-states of years past, Theodor Herzl began his quest to envision a new political state. Instead of only memorizing Biblical Hebrew words of old, Eliezer Ben-Yehuda began creating new Hebrew

words for the modern day. In some cases, he borrowed Biblical Hebrew words and assigned them new modern meanings. For example, the modern Hebrew word for apple, *tapuach* תפוח, comes from the Biblical book, *The Song of Songs*. While it was a fruit of some

kind, there were no apples in the region when that book was written. Ben-Yehudah borrowed the word from that ancient book and assigned to it a new modern meaning.

We learn from these two great innovators that the best way to remember is to not only look to the past. We have to make the most of the present and the future if we want to honor that which came before us. This idea is beautifully communicated through the words of Shimon Peres, Israel's ninth President. "We should use our imagination more than our memory."

What will be the lasting memories of this summer? What lasting moments will be ingrained in your minds and the minds of your children and grandchildren? The answer to that question fully depends on what you decided to create this summer. Your imagination is the only limit on the memories you will make.

I cannot wait to see you all so very soon to welcome in the new year of 5782. I look forward to diving into the memories of our sacred tradition together. But even more so, I greatly anticipate hearing about the creativity and innovation that made this summer a season to remember. As Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook, Israel's first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi, once said, "The old shall be made new, and the new shall be made holy."

New Year, New Capabilities

Amy S. Abrams, Beth Or Executive Director

Since the beginning of the calendar year, we have been working on upgrades to some of our system capabilities.

New Member Management Software - ShulCloud

First, we are moving our congregant database from Chaverware to "ShulCloud." The new management software system is cloud based and the same platform that our website exists on. This move allows for full integration of our systems and provides our congregants with a more user friendly interface with the ability to view your account, pay your bill, make donations, access our member directory and more.

Shulcloud is used by over 900 synagogues throughout the United States. This system was created to directly serve synagogues and their members' unique needs. As of now, all of our current membership records and financial data have been imported into ShulCloud. We will be ready to launch the new platform this summer. Watch your email in July for an invitation to log in and create/update your profile.

New Live Stream Service – Live Control

Second, while we are back in the Sanctuary for in-person worship, live streaming services is here to stay! We have installed a second camera in our Sanctuary and we have contracted with Live Control to provide us with remote production capabilities. Friday evening Shabbat services will continue to be streamed from the link on our website home page and Shabbat page and available to view/comment on the Beth Or Face page, too. This new system will be implemented in July.

Upgraded Assisted Listening System

Third, we want to make our services as accessible as possible for those with hearing difficulties, so we are installing a new assisted listening system in the Sanctuary and Social Hall that uses Bluetooth technology to connect hearing aids, and other mobile devices directly to our sound system allowing the congregant/worshiper to have the sound come directly into their hearing aids, earbuds or headphones. We hope this new system will be in place for the High Holy Days.

Watch your emails for continued updates on these new capabilities.



Amy S. Abrams

Purchase your own Lulav & Etrog for your sukkah

The Holidays are early this year!

Send a check for \$50 payable to Beth Or to the office.

Attn: Barbara Murtha

Please include your name, email and phone number.

Deadline: August 25



Do We Have Choices To Make As The Effects of Covid-19 (Hopefully) Subside This Summer?

Cantor David Green



Cantor David Green

I am sure that most of us are looking forward to being able to do a lot more this summer than during this time last year. Many of us are looking forward to spending this summer on some kind of vacation and/or spending more time in person with loved ones. Hopefully, we will feel comfortable in our choices to reduce our social distance, not always wear masks and come back to a more normal enjoyment of the summer months.

One of the summer Torah portions, *Re'eh*, Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17, addresses the topic of "choices." In this portion, Moses tells the Israelites they can choose between following the commandments of God or not to do so. Of course, there are consequences for both.

Many rabbis interpret this as the Jewish perspective of "free will." Some rabbis interpret it as "fear" of God, while others label it as "love" for God. One rabbi suggests that it is not that black and white, but rather human beings making choices to find meaning and fulfillment in their lives.

Maimonides (Laws of Repentance) may have said it best: "If one desires to turn himself to the path of good and be righteous, this choice is his. Should he desire to turn to the path of evil and be wicked, the choice is his."

Just as the Israelites could freely choose between good and evil, today we have "free will" as well. As Joseph Telushkin states: "If there is no free will, it makes as little sense to have a Torah instructing people how to act..."

**Hopefully, with easing of restrictions, being fully vaccinated,
and with proper precautions, we will all, once again, have "free will"
and "choices" to enjoy a little summer respite.**





Important School Dates

Sunday, September 19

Opening Day of Sunday —
Judaics, Hebrew, and YOBO!

Monday, October 4

First day of Monday classes

Tuesday, October 5

First day of Tuesday classes

Religious School NEWS

Chanukah I'Chinuch

Aaron Nienshultz, Director of Religious School

I'm so excited! We're planning for an in-person school year to come, and I cannot wait to see everyone's smiling faces. In fact, I've started getting ready by returning to my usual welcoming spot in the Spain Lobby. I'm out of condition, though, for greeting all the students, so stay tuned to Beth Or's social media to see my preparations.

During the darkest parts of last winter, with COVID separating us, I noticed something startling while getting ready for Chanukah. The word Chanukah **חנוכה** in Hebrew means "dedication" or "inauguration," and it comes from the root *chet-nun-chaf*, or **ח-נ-כ**. Now that root also

creates another really important word: Chinuch, **חינוך**, and this word refers to educating our children. In the darkest of that COVID winter, it occurred to me that the perfect theme for this year would be Chanukah I'Chinuch— **חנוכה לחינוך** —Dedication to Education! By coming back together at Beth Or, in person, we're demonstrating how dedicated we are to our children's Jewish education. We are all together bringing Jewish light into the world, a la Chanukah, and we're doing it together by learning.

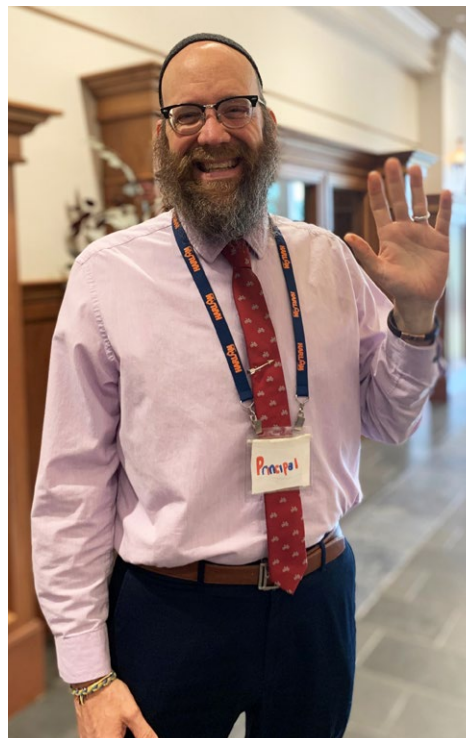


Aaron Nienshultz



**Leonard &
Madlyn Abramson
Education Center**

CONGREGATION BETH OR



With that in mind, I'm planning lots of fun and hands-on activities, for children and parents, to celebrate coming back together. From regular classes to family eds to family Shabbat services, we'll be dedicating ourselves to creating the positive, meaningful Jewish identity you've come to expect from Beth Or. I can't wait to see you all soon!

Welcome Summer!

Sara Baum, Early Childhood Director

As the summer begins we would like to thank the staff and teachers at the Center for all the hard work they put into making this year as normal as possible. This year would not have been as successful without their commitment, creativity, and love. The families at the Center also deserve a huge thank you for their patience and flexibility. We were able to come together and it is what makes our community such a special place!



Sara Baum



Zipporah S. Abramson
Center for Early
Childhood Education

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Welcome to Camp Chaverim!! We welcome this summer with a bit more enthusiasm than other summers. It feels like we are beginning to hit the light at the end of the tunnel. This year's camp theme is OUT OF THIS WORLD! We are blasting off to outer space and starting a great adventure. The children will participate in a variety of activities including nature, art, music, sports, dance, tumbling, building, yoga, and much more! The children at the CECE are sure to have a blast this summer!

CAMP IS NOW IN SESSION through August 13

Join us as we shoot for the stars!



Camp Chaverim is
**OUT OF THIS
WORLD**

FULL DAY and PART DAY OPTIONS AVAILABLE



Camp Chaverim
CONGREGATION BETH OR
Friendships Start Here

For additional information contact

Sara Baum, sbaum@bethor.org or Sharon Carlin, scarlin@bethor.org

A New Kind of Welcome



Jillian Peskin

Jillian Peskin, Director of Member & Youth Engagement

As most of you know, I have worn so many hats here at Beth Or. I am a congregant, I am the Youth Director, I am the Membership Director, I have been the Camp Director, I taught in the CECE and Religious School, but I have yet to be a parent in the congregation — until now!

As you know from a previous article, Millie is in daycare in our CECE. She absolutely loves her teachers and everyone she meets here. I couldn't be happier with her first school experience!

As a new mom in a pandemic it's been so hard to meet other moms and friends in our boat. However, the feeling from my fellow parents at the CECE has been so welcoming! The PTO chairs have hosted engaging events (spin class), fundraisers, PTO meetings and opportunities to meet one another. In addition, thanks to some other friends in the center, I have been introduced to some amazing parents in Millie's class. It feels so good

to be welcomed into a new place!

This spring and summer we have also launched multiple parent & me classes that are outdoors! Millie and I attended one of the first ones — it was the best hour of our week! I've heard from all the parents who attended that they were so grateful for a safe space for themselves and their children to meet friends!

We have so many new members joining us this month! Lots of them have kids in the CECE and the Religious School. When you are back in the building next, make sure to introduce yourself to someone new. Welcome them to our community and help them make Beth Or their home!

Looking forward to seeing you soon!



Meet Our B'nai Mitzvah Student



Gabe Jackson

July 31

For my Mitzvah project, I collected and donated books to an organization called **Reading Recycled**. The majority of Philadelphia schools don't have a school library, so it is up to teachers to supply books. Reading Recycled gives new and slightly used books to teachers so they can give books to their students. They also distribute books to community organizations throughout the city. I have always liked to read, so this cause is important to me. I would like other people to enjoy books just like I do. I was able to donate over 400 books to this charity. Please visit readingrecycled.org to learn more.

Mazel
Tor

Taking One Step at a Time Together

As you know from being part of the Beth Or congregational family, the Social Action Committee plans projects throughout the year that fills a void for those in need. We want to thank you for your participation, and generosity of spirit, and giving that continues to uplift us all.

That said, this past year and a half was difficult. An unimaginable amount of suffering and needs throughout the community were in front of us. Although our commitment was apparent, we asked ourselves if we were prepared to tackle the multiple challenges that faced so many of our neighbors.

We are proud to report that the answer was yes. Whether we filled food pantries, delivered clothing, sewed masks, knitted blankets, collected school supplies, and most recently children's books for a school that never had a library, in unison, we took one step at a time.

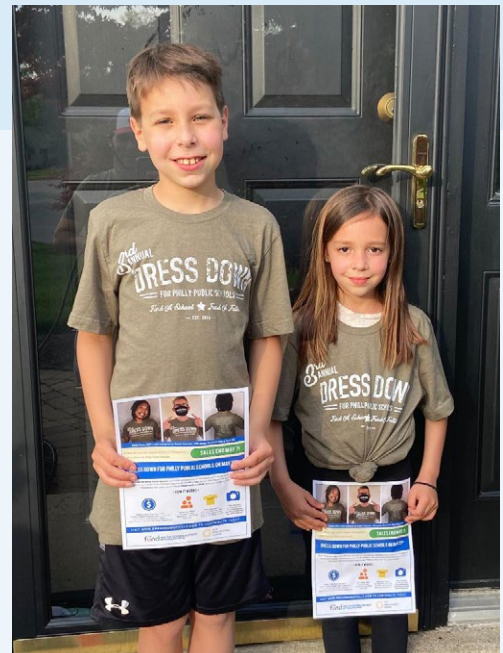
Single-handedly, a social issue can be overwhelming and even easy to ignore. But the Beth Or approach achieves results because we stand together in our commitment to Tikkun Olam and share the responsibility of helping society as one community.

TODAH RABAH!

SOCIAL *Justice*

Social Action and Social Justice Committees Join Forces with Bethlehem Baptist Church

Special Thanks to Abby and Alex Fischer, who distributed flyers in their 'Dress Down Philly' t-shirts promoting Beth Or's Social Action/Social Justice efforts to raise funds for a playground at the Add B. Anderson School in West Philadelphia. Abby and Alex added some of their favorite books to the hundreds of others that fellow congregants dropped off in May. These were collaborative projects with Bethlehem Baptist Church.



Abby and Alex Fischer,

Social Justice Chair Noah Fischer, noahfischer25@yahoo.com
Social Action Co-chairs Susy Krimker, susykrimker@gmail.com
and Margie Chachkin, chachkin@aol.com

GET CONNECTED

Business & Career Network



Evan Segal

**Do something
this year to help
our synagogue
survive and thrive!**

Do Something!

Fellow Congregants:

I hope you all have been well and are feeling good about safely getting back out into society again. I wanted to take this opportunity to formally welcome you all back to the world and to invite you to all to DO SOMETHING!! That's right... you are out of excuses now. There is no reason not to get involved in doing SOMETHING right now. I don't mean riding bikes with your family, going to the shore, or out to dinner. Do something this year to help our synagogue survive and thrive! Here are some easy steps:

- Renew your commitment to Beth Or.
- Commit to joining a group or committee this year at Beth Or. We need you, your thoughts, ideas, and your energy. We have a lot of catching up to do!
- Engage your Jewish friends who are not members of Beth Or in conversation about why. Encourage them to take another look at Beth Or and share with them how meaningful synagogue membership is to you and your family.

This isn't just talk. I'm walking the walk. Since joining Beth Or just a few years ago, I have joined Brotherhood, became a board member (now your new treasurer), and helped launch GET CONNECTED – Beth Or's business and career network. I have small kids, a small business, and a ton of other commitments too.... just like you. Still, I have decided to prioritize Beth Or in my life and making it a better place is worth the extra effort. Why not do the same?

So please join me at a GET CONNECTED meeting in the fall, join a committee, come to services, talk Beth Or up with your neighbors, or come up with some new ideas of your own. Get involved. In the spirit of getting back to real life again! Here is your not-so-gentle push.....DO SOMETHING!! You will feel great about it and you will be helping the synagogue in more ways than you know. Thank you for your continued support of CBO.

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.

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

Questions? Contact info@bethorbrotherhood.org.



Beth Or Brotherhood

Connecting All Beth Or Men

Doug Burtnick, Brotherhood President; Mark Pokedoff & Evan Segal, Membership Co-Chairs



Doug Burtnick



Thankfully our year of separation seems to be in the rear view. Brotherhood's mission over the next year is to help fill that yearning built up during the time of seclusion. Whether it was a year of struggle or of great success for you, our goal is to help fill in what's been missing. The Brotherhood logo includes four words: Fellowship, Community, Service, Support. A fifth, not spelled out on the logo, Connections, defines what Brotherhood is really about and why it is here for the men of Beth Or. It's about connecting Beth Or men to each other.

Of course, Brotherhood is also about car shows, beer gardens and the annual dinner. Brotherhood has evolved in recent years and I can't thank past president Allan Posner enough for his energy, drive and leadership cementing Brotherhood as an important hub within Beth Or. Allan makes big things look easy. He steered Brotherhood's view of the world to engage with more of Beth Or's congregants and the community, by identifying what matters to Beth Or men NOW and in the FUTURE. That is Allan's lasting legacy.

As the new Brotherhood president, I am thrilled that Brotherhood starts out with a well laid-out path of successful activities, great engagement and a strong connection with Beth Or. We have built a great foundation which we will build up to connect more men, serve more needs and test drive ideas and events that we haven't done before. After a year of gloom, we look for brilliant light, hope and connections to all men at Beth Or.

Brotherhood thrives because of the energy of its members. Our executive committee's role is to ensure that we can do the big things that matter to everyone while simultaneously facilitating things that support smaller groups within the congregation. We're fortunate that

the officers have a lot of leadership experience at Beth Or, in business and with other synagogues. Get to know them well, suggest things, volunteer to create a new event. We are here to make Brotherhood work for you.

Stu Briefer – 1st VP ■ Josh Stein – 2nd VP ■ Bob Rosin – 3rd VP/Service VP
Phil Goodman – Treasurer ■ Jim Tannenbaum – Secretary

Evan Segal and Mark Pokedoff lead our membership task force, and numerous other Brotherhood members spend hours behind the scenes planning, volunteering and making Brotherhood what it is today... and what it will be tomorrow.

Our agenda is rich with familiar and new activities to help us get to know each other better. As an example, a few of our monthly meetings each year feature clergy-led discussion. They've been so successful we hope to incorporate a guest speaker/conversation of some sort into every meeting this year. Everyone is welcome; watch the CBO calendar for details. If meetings aren't your thing, come to some of our key events:

- **10th annual Beth Or Brotherhood Car Show – Sunday, October 17**
- **Brotherhood's Annual Fundraiser and Dinner featuring comedian Sarge the Entertainer — Tuesday, December 7.** All Beth Or men and women are invited this year. Join Brotherhood as a Mensch member to get a complimentary ticket for yourself and to guarantee access to another paid ticket for your guest.

Drop us a line at bethorbromembership@gmail.com. We want to know you better.

Beth Or Sisterhood

Focus on the Good and the Good Gets Better

Melisa Lubinski, Sisterhood President

As the world begins to emerge and reconnect to the familiar, I humbly and with great pride begin a journey not familiar to myself. I am walking in the shadows of 45 strong, passionate and determined women who served as Sisterhood President for our beloved Congregation. They served in different times, had varying motivations, yet the common goal was supporting the Congregation's mission while providing an arena for women to grow and fulfill themselves both as individuals and as Jewish women. What it means to be Jewish is changing. Creativity and innovation must reflect busy, varied schedules and lifestyles. Sisterhood desires to engage with women at all points of their journey by providing rewarding opportunities for personal growth and spiritual exploration while supporting congregational goals and community wellness. Not everyone needs Sisterhood, but Sisterhood has room for everyone.

Our family has been Beth Or members for eleven years. My first experience with Sisterhood was decorating the Sukkah on the bimah. This was a fun and short time commitment, but I liked how I felt joining these women to work on a festive task. My husband Dan and I burst with joy watching our children, Max and Morgen, complete B'nai Mitzvah experiences followed by Confirmation and embracing the ideals of Tikkun Olam by working with special needs children, animal rescues, and caring for elderly relatives. I was inspired to become an Adult Bat Mitzvah and to remain actively working and growing within Sisterhood. As Vice President, I assisted in planning programs with committees. Here I found my comfort zone and the power and importance of relationships within our congregational community. How wonderful it was that I could attend services and always find a friendly face in the crowd and someone to sit with!

The isolation forced upon us this past year underscored the importance of relationships and caring for each other's welfare. Sisterhood rose to the challenge and used technology to stay in touch with members, maintain traditions and rituals and provide supportive programming virtually. Though having a different look, the message remained, "Sisterhood is here for you."

I am honored to hold the role of President and help Sisterhood bridge back towards normalcy. We value the lessons we learned from this past year and are excitedly moving forward scheduling in-person events as safety guidelines allow. Our energy comes from a mix of seasoned and newer members brainstorming and planning events, putting twists on traditional programming, and coordinating with our other auxiliaries to ensure that we address and better match the needs of our changing Jewish women and the world we live in. When you see me in the sanctuary, know that the seat next to me is always available.



Melisa Lubinski



Sisterhood

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Fellowship • Community
Service • Support

Please Support the

Tarshis Gift Shop

Proceeds Benefit Beth Or Sisterhood Programs

Hours:

Summer Hours by appointment only. Contact Bobbi Adair, BobbiAdair@gmail.com.

September Hours: Sunday, 9:30 am – 12:40 pm • Tuesday 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm • Friday 9 am - 12 pm

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

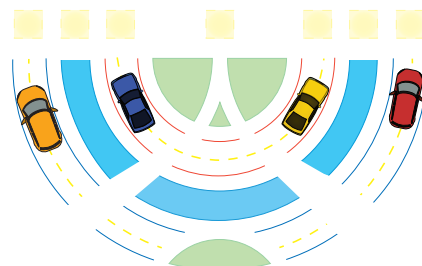
Virtual and In-Person Events

HOLIDAYS & SHABBAT

Shabbat in our PARKing Lot (In-person)

Friday, July 9 & Friday, August 6 • BYO Dinner, 6 pm • Worship Service, 6:30 pm

We are excited to provide an outdoor Shabbat worship experience, tailgate-style in the Beth Or parking lot. The parking lot opens at 5:30 pm. Plan to arrive by 6 pm to park your car and eat. We request everyone BYO kosher-style food and tailgating chairs/supplies. Starting at 6:30 pm, the clergy will lead a lively, song-filled service. Advance RSVP is required. Check your weekly email or the event calendar listing to RSVP. **Please note — since this is an outdoor event there will be no livestream or Facebook Live this week!** This event is shine-only. We will move indoors for the Shabbat service if weather doesn't cooperate.



SHABBAT in our PARKING LOT

Congregation Beth Or

SPECIAL EVENTS

Service of Remembrance & Support

Monday, July 12 • 7 pm

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions, too many of us had to endure the loss of loved ones without the support of friends and family. We mourned alone, were not allowed to have shiva in our homes and find the comfort for which we yearned. It is in this spirit that we will gather together in the Gitlin Sanctuary for a special service of remembrance and celebration, where we can support one another and share stories of those we lost. If you would like to participate, please RSVP to Barbara Murtha, bmurtha@bethor.org with the following information: Name(s) of the person you wish to memorialize, the date of passing (between 3/2020 – 6/2021), and a photo of your loved one(s). The format of the service will depend on the number of people who RSVP.

Red Cross Blood Drive (In-person)

Friday, July 30 • 12 pm – 5 pm

Donating blood makes you a triple life saver! Be a hero for patients in need by joining with other Beth Or members and their families, friends and neighbors for a Red Cross Blood Drive, open to anyone ages 17+ (16 with parental consent form). The Red Cross follows all recommended CDC health/safety guidelines. Appointments are required. You can register directly on-line for your appointment time or contact Stu Briefer, smbriefer@gmail.com/215-661-9990 and he will sign you up. Go to Red Cross event calendar listing on the Beth Or website for sign-up links. Thanks to all of you who participate, the blood drive at Beth Or is consistently one of the top Red Cross donation sites in the region!

HIGH HOLY DAYS 2021/5782

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The High Holy Days are early this year. Be on the lookout starting in early July for emails and printed materials detailing this year's plans, important on-line registration forms and RSVP deadlines.

SELICHOT – Saturday, August 28

EREV ROSH HASHANAH – Monday, September 6

ROSH HASHANAH – Tuesday & Wednesday, September 7 & 8

KOL NIDRE – Wednesday, September 15

YOM KIPPUR – Thursday, September 16



Chai-Lights — July/August 2021

New Members

Michael Goodman and Jordee Shapiro & Hadley & Mason Goodman

Jack, Melissa, Samuel & Emilia Gibson

Josh, Kim, Hayden Kenley & Brody Vigderman

Reid, Randi, Theo Bryn & Micah Tonik

Robert, Steffany, Soleil & Vie Moonaz

Scott, Sasha & Elliott Kiefer & Michelle Issadore

Carl, Lauren, Adelyn & Zoe Leavesley

Nick, Becky, Isaac & Ruby Lubenetski

Daniel Harman & Rachel Kauffman and Adin Harman

Brad, Christina, Gabriel & Miles Terebelo

May Their Memory Be A Blessing

Stephen Blumenfeld, father of Candace Kanaplue

Janice Gelman, wife of Arnold Gelman

Arlene Lander, sister-in-law of Madeline Lander & sister of Lowell Lander, z"l

Aviva Shigon-Jaffee, mother of Marshall Shigon

Marian Klein, mother of Randi Copman

Dorothy L. Wagner, mother of Donna Wolf

Herbert Moskovitz, father of Darren Moskovitz

Bernard "Bud" Berks, cousin of Judy Phipps & 2nd cousin of Andy Phipps

Gerald Wernovsky, cousin of Carole Chasen & Barry Chasen, z"l

Byron Krulewitch, stepfather of Rabbi Marx

Edyth Rosenzwog, great aunt of Sherrie Ehrlich

Donald Gray, father of Heidi Gray Devita

Mazel Tov

Engagement of Sarah McKinney, daughter of Amy Small-McKinney & Russ McKinney, z"l, to AJ Simanglatt

Engagement of Scott Edelman, son of Mitch & Lynn Edelman to Kristen Grill

Wedding of David Wexler, son of John & Mindy Wexler, to Amanda Joseph

Wedding of Laure Biron, daughter of George & Carol Biron, to Nicole Steinberg

Wedding of Sean Goldstein, son of Samuel & Cindy Goldstein, to Rachel Rothstein

Wedding of Michelle Miron, daughter of Ami & Ayala, z"l Miron to Benjamin Meir Zax

Wedding of Benjamin Milakofsky, son of Steve & Marsha Milakofsky and grandson of Myer Bernstein, to Ali Barrett

Baby Naming of Kayla Sadie Leibovitz, granddaughter of Howard & Ronda Moses

Birth of Rosalyn Guinevere Wheatman, granddaughter of Steven & Ellen Wheatman

Birth of Lula Jett Gniewek, daughter of Andrew & Ali Gniewek

Birth of Lillian Berman, daughter of Joshua & Rachael Berman & granddaughter of Sharon Berman (Richard, z"l) & Charles Meyers

Birth of Kaiden Zayn Stone, son of Josh & Reshma Stone & grandson of Steven Stone & Terry Stone

Birth of Isadora "Izzy" Leigh Credeur, granddaughter of Harvey Grossman

Birth of Noa Madeline Sifert, granddaughter of Marc & Allison Feldman

Birth of Ruth Kaye Freedman, granddaughter of Jay & Sue Freedman

Birth of Samantha Rose Horowitz, granddaughter of Paul & Dale Snyderman

Bar Mitzvah of Gabe Jackson

Flower Donation

July Flower Donation:

July 30 • Evan and Carie Jackson in honor of Gabe Jackson's Bar Mitzvah





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Betty the Caterer (Kosher) • Jeff Kalinsky	215-224-8400
Ben & Irv's Deli • Lennie or Michael	215-355-2000
Classical Caterers • Evan Bernstein	732-297-6444
Go2eventplanner (new Phila. based) • Arlene Rotfeld	516-909-8580
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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SYLVIA COHEN

Helene & Gary Fisher
EDDI GORMAN

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MARIAN KLEIN

Stacie Kisver
MARY ANN DORSEY
Stephen & Merle Schwartz

In Honor of

BARBARA MURTHA
Lourdes Barracano
ELIAS TRICHON's Bar Mitzvah
Ronald & Susan Trichon
NADINE GOLDENBERG's
Birthday
Sandy & Larry Frankel
CASEY NADELL's Bat Mitzvah
The Nadells

In Appreciation of

RABBI MARX
Fred, Stacy, Alexa & Dillon
Frankel
Len & Jeri Zimmerman
The 2021 Confirmation
Class
Madeline Lander
Celebrating MANNY KOHN's
103rd Birthday and his 90th
Anniversary of his Bar
Mitzvah in March
Manny Kohn
David Kohn
Ellen and Henry Mishel and
Family

KAYLA's Baby Naming
Ceremony
Richard & Kimberly
Leibovitz
Howard & Ronda Moses
LOIS LAMBERSKY
The Lubinski Family
EVAN NORDLINGER's
Bar Mitzvah
Phil Nordlinger & Kim
Marks

Rabbi Bonder's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

ALBERT MANOFF
Marjorie Zukerman

In Honor of

CASEY NADELL's Bat Mitzvah
The Nadells

Mazel Tov to

SADIE FAE SHIFFRIN
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In Appreciation of

LILY's Baby Naming
Dave Cherkas & Lauren
Ferst

RABBI BONDER
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Bar Mitzvah
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Susan Bellos

In Honor of

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Ellen & Steven Wheatman
CASEY NADELL's Bat Mitzvah
The Nadells

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LOIS LAMBERSKY
The Lubinski Family
EVAN NORDLINGER's
Bar Mitzvah
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In Memory of

MARY ANN DORSEY
Tod & Andi Drucker

In Honor of

CASEY NADELL's Bat
Mitzvah & LAURYN NADELL's
Confirmation
The Landau Family

In Appreciation of

AARON NIELSENSHULTZ
Neen Davis

Annual Appeal 2020-2021

In Memory of

MARSHALL FREEDMAN and
the 20th Anniversary of his
Bar Mitzvah
Jay & Sue Freedman

Arnold Berkowitz Memorial Fund for Veteran's Shabbat

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Esther, Len, Bevy, John,
Leah, Benji, Adam, Sarah &
Shmuly
JAY ABRAMS
Harriet Greenberg

Barbara Goldberg Nursery School Fund

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Hal & Pearl Tragash

In Honor of

ALEXANDER JAMES STEIGER
Gail Steiger
Birth of KAIDEN STONE
Birth of LAURIE RUBIN's
Granddaughter
Sunshine Fund at CECE

Barbara & Marvin Goldberg Confirmation Israel Trip Endowment

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Judi & Roy Schwartz

In Honor of

FLYNN's Bar Mitzvah
Matthew Goldstein

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In Memory of

MARY ANN DORSEY
Beverly and Lowell
Nerenberg
Eric, Paige, Zach & Julie
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MARTA GOTTLIEB
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ROIG
50th Anniversary of CINDI &
VINCE PASCERI and their
Membership at Beth Or
Ellen Werther
Engagement of RENEE &
HERB COHEN's son JOSH
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Mazel Tov to

PHILIP & PENNY GOODMAN
on the Birth of their
Grandchildren, EMUNA
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Stephen Gershenson

Memorials and Contributions

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In Memory of

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KAIDEN ZAYNE STONE
Bob Simon
BOB SIMON's 70th Birthday
Elaine Slott
Special Birthday of
CARY FLITTER
Jo Ann & Harry Windman
FLYNN GOLDSTEIN
becoming a Bar Mitzvah
Sussie & Al Harris

Mazel Tov

FLYNN GOLDSTEIN's
Bar Mitzvah
Eileen & Barnett Daley
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Goldstein Religious School Scholarship Endowment Fund

In Memory of

MARILYN FISHER
Helene & Gary Fisher

In Appreciation of

AARON NIELSENHULTZ
The 2021 Confirmation Class

The Hannah Miller Book and Education Fund

Mazel Tov to

The Birth of our
Granddaughter, AMELIA
Ilene & Larry Stella

Jenna Demar Educational Fund

In Appreciation of

AREN RICE
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In Honor of

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The Confirmation of MICAH MARGOLIS
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MARY ANN DORSEY
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In Memory of

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Joseph, Matthew &
Zachary Arnold
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JOAN KOBER's Special Birthday
Jonathan & Judy Beck
Birthday of RANDY MILAKOFSKY-COHEN
Margie Chachkin

Music Fund

In Honor of

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Bernie & Beth Johl

Reuben R. Wolfert Memorial Fund for Scholastic Excellence

In Memory of

MARIAN KLEIN
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In Honor of

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Special Birthday
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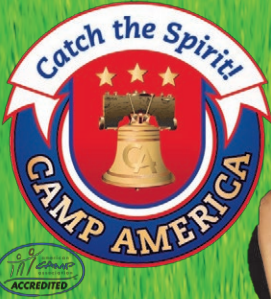
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Beth Or Spotlight

July-August 2021 | Volume 65, Issue 6 | Tammuz-Av-Elul

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 Sisterhood President Melisa Lubinski
 Beth Or Spotlight Editors Ellen Werther/Judy Trias



Friday, July 9
Friday, August 6

RSVP Required. Refer to the website calendar and weekly emails for details & RSVP form for each month's program.

Current CDC/PA health & safety guidelines for outdoor events will be followed.

Shine Only. Due to this outdoor Shabbat program, worship services will not be available virtually on 7/9 or 8/6.

Questions? Contact Jillian Peskin, jpeskin@bethor.org

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL IN-PERSON SHABBAT EXPERIENCE!

TAILGATE-STYLE DINNER, 6PM ■ FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE, 6:30PM

- Come to the Beth Or parking lot for an outdoor dinner at your car followed by a song-filled service led by our Clergy.
- Enjoy a fun, spiritually uplifting evening with your Beth Or friends from the comfort of your parking space!
- Bring your own kosher-style dinner, chairs and tailgate supplies.