



Beth Or Spotlight

November-December 2020 | Volume 65, Issue 2 | Cheshvan-Kislev-Tevet



November Worship Schedule

Friday, November 6 Shabbat Vayera

- 5:30 pm Munchkin Minyan –
Facebook Live
- 6:30 pm Family Shabbat Worship –
Webstream & Facebook Live
- 7:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
– Facebook Live

Saturday, November 7

- 9:00 am Shabbat Worship with the
Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Schwartz,
son of Geoff and Heather Schwartz
– Webstream
- 9:30 am Torah Study – Zoom

Friday, November 13 Shabbat Hayei-Sarah

- 7:30 pm Shabbat Worship Honoring
Veterans – Webstream & Facebook
Live

Saturday, November 14

- 9:00 am Shabbat Worship with the
Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Pollack,
daughter of Ross and Kristen
Pollack
- 9:30 am Torah Study – Zoom
- 11:00 am Shabbat Worship with
the B'nai Mitzvah of Matthew and
Ava Shohen, children of Scott and
Elizabeth Shohen – Webstream

Friday, November 20 Shabbat Toledot

- 7:30 pm Shabbat Worship –
Webstream & Facebook Live

Saturday, November 21 Shabbat Toledot

- 9:00 am Shabbat Worship with the
Bar Mitzvah of Logan Frost, son of
Ryan and Jennifer Frost
- 9:30 am Torah Study – Zoom
- 11:00 am Shabbat Worship with
the Bat Mitzvah of Mallory Hersh,
daughter of Jason and Jaime Hersh
– Webstream

Friday, November 27 Shabbat Vayetzei

- 7:30 pm Shabbat Worship –
Webstream & Facebook Live

Saturday, November 28

- 9:00 am Shabbat Worship with
the Bat Mitzvah of Jessie Young,
daughter of Michael & Sheri Young
- 9:30 am Torah Study – Zoom
- 11:00 am Shabbat Worship with the
Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Levinson,
son of Brian and Stephanie
Levinson – Webstream

December Worship Schedule

Friday, December 4 Shabbat Vayishlah

- 6:30 pm 3rd Grade Family Shabbat
Worship – Zoom
- 7:30 pm Shabbat Worship –
Webstream & Facebook Live

Saturday, December 5

- 9:30 am Torah Study – Zoom
- 11:00 am Shabbat Worship with the
B'nai Mitzvah of Madeline Kaufman,
daughter of Scott Kaufman and
Amy Schlein-Kaufman and Brandon
Altman, son of Ben and Rebecca
Altman – Webstream

Friday, December 11 Shabbat Vayeshev

- 6:30 pm Beth Or Chanukah Circle of
Light Program and Shabbat Service
– Outside (weather permitting)

Saturday, December 12

- 9:00 am Shabbat Worship with the
Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Orlick, son of
Cinde Orlick and Carly Driban
- 9:30 am Torah Study – Zoom
- 11:00 am Shabbat Worship with
the Bat Mitzvah of Juliette Yahav,
daughter of Ricki Lang Yahav and
Eric Yahav – Webstream

Friday, December 18 Shabbat Miketz

- 7:30 pm Shabbat Worship –
Webstream & Facebook Live

Saturday, December 19

- 9:00 am Shabbat Worship with the
Bat Mitzvah of Gabriella Kilshaw,
daughter of Graham and Rebecca
Kilshaw
- 9:30 am Torah Study – Zoom
- 11:00 am Shabbat Worship with the
Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Torban,
daughter of Eric and Jennifer
Torban – Webstream

Friday, December 25 Shabbat Vayigash

- 7:30 pm Shabbat Worship –
Webstream & Facebook Live

Saturday, December 26

- 9:30 am Torah Study - Zoom
- 11:00 am Shabbat Worship –
Facebook Live

*In-person Shabbat Worship is currently
limited to 80 people with advance
registration. For additional information
or to RSVP, contact Barbara Murtha,
bmurtha@bethor.org or Amy Abrams,
aabrams@bethor.org by Thursday morning
each week.*



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For Your Viewing Pleasure

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

I recently read that movie theaters across America and Europe are declaring bankruptcy due to COVID-19. According to the press, Regal Cinema in the US and Cineworld in Europe are closing their doors and laying off thousands. This is just another casualty from the pandemic. In truth, I would not want to go to a movie theater to sit and watch a show, knowing full well that the person eating popcorn next to me could be infected.

But, according to the press, movie viewing on streaming services has never been higher. While I don't often have the time to view movies, I do enjoy a bowl of popcorn and watching a movie that takes me to a new time and place. It's wonderful to watch at home and maybe have a discussion with a member of the family. Beth Or is going one step beyond and above that.



Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

From the Rabbi's Desk

It is in that spirit, that I am delighted to announce an enhanced movie viewing experience open to our members. Patty Bassman, our APEX and Israeli Movie Chairperson, has worked hard to bring a few films to the Beth Or community in November and December. The idea is very simple. We can stream the movie at our convenience at home and then join together for a moderated discussion, led by me, to react to the film.



Beginning on Wednesday, November 18 through Monday, November 23, starting at 4:30 pm you can view the film, ***The Tobacconist***. It is a beautifully crafted film about Sigmund Freud and his relationship with a young man in love, living in Nazi occupied Vienna. Set during tumultuous and violent times, it is a personal story of learning, growth and Jewish identity. Then on November 23 at 7 pm, join me for a discussion of the film. You will find links for the free film screening and registration for the Zoom discussion on the Beth Or website calendar listing and weekly Chai Lights email. Once you register, you will receive a confirmation email with the unique Zoom meeting link. This film is co-sponsored by APEX, Lifelong Learning, Brotherhood & the Israel Committee.

On Monday, December 7, Beth Or's APEX, Lifelong Learning & Israel Committees and Brotherhood, along with the Anti-Defamation League, the Black Jewish Alliance of Philadelphia and Bethlehem Baptist Church will co-sponsor a discussion on the ground breaking movie, ***I Shall Not be***

Silent. This film chronicles the early days of the civil rights movement and Rabbi Joachim Prinz's impact on it. The film tells the story of this courageous Rabbi who was expelled from Germany in 1937. Upon arriving in the US, Rabbi Prinz, looking forward to living a life of liberty and justice, was shocked to find racism running rampant in the US. He witnessed systemic bigotry against African Americans and realized that the American ideal was far from a reality. So many tell of the common cause between Rev. Martin Luther King and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, but this story is of equal import. The film can be streamed to your home from Thursday, December 2 through Monday, December 7, starting at 6 pm. Then, join us for the discussion on December 7 at 7 pm. As with the previous film, check the Beth Or website calendar listing or your weekly Chai Lights email for the movie screening link and Zoom registration.

Theaters, sadly, may be closing, but we can still watch, enjoy, share, and hopefully learn together.

A Sweet New Year?

Josh Gottlieb, Beth Or President

Well, it has been approximately seven months since our world was turned upside down by this pandemic. Some of us have lost loved ones. All of us have been impacted in profound ways.

As the weather turns from summer into fall, and soon late fall into early winter, the cold wind and gray skies of some days won't exactly inspire many of us to spend lots of time outside. So, when that happens, but we are still carefully isolating from most friends and family, how will we cope?

In the last issue of *Spotlight*, Rabbi Marx wrote that we should "reprioritize, rebalance and refocus on that which brings meaning and purpose to our own lives and betterment to the community". Rabbi Bonder wrote that we should, through repentance, prayer and acts of justice, determine "who we are at our core".



Josh Gottlieb

President's Corner

One way that the isolating has affected me is to want to lose myself in being entertained. I am thrilled that sports came back after a long hiatus. Having been a fan all my life, it was very weird and tough when there were no games to divert my attention, especially at this time. I wish our local teams had done better (only the Flyers met or exceeded expectations) but, as any long-time fan of Philadelphia teams is used to saying, "maybe next year." We have also watched many movies, and binged a number of shows, including three series from Israel that we really enjoyed.

But, as our Rabbis so eloquently stated, the High Holy Days must also be a time when each of us looks inwardly in a way that we may not always do when distracted by everyday life. I am transitioning from my mid-60s into my late-60s, and I have been disappointed in myself, more often than I wish, that I have not lived up to being and acting like the kind of person I have always believed I am.

When I succeed in looking honestly at my behavior, I see too many instances where my reactions, my words, my behaviors, reflect how things affect me. That is not who I want to be. So even in my extremely late middle age, I have decided to make a sincere effort to grow, to mature, to change.

At Rosh Hashanah we wish each other a "sweet new year". I hope to make this an even sweeter new year for those who I care most about, by making strides, even if they are small steps forward, to becoming a better me by being more tolerant, patient, and giving.



Rabbi Jason Bonder

From the Rabbi's Desk

**Gratitude for that
which I do have is
paramount to enjoying
Thanksgiving.**

We Are the Candles. Beth Or is the *Shamash*

Rabbi Jason Bonder, Associate Rabbi

On Chanukah we literally bring light to the darkness for eight nights. The sacred act of lighting the candles and singing the prayers prompts us to ask ourselves how we may brighten not only a dark space, but how we may be a light in a time of darkness. I don't know about you, but for me, I don't actually get much of an opportunity to bring this greater call to fruition during the eight days of Chanukah. I'm too busy frying latkes, spinning dreidels, and buying gifts for the kids! So am I missing the point of the holiday if I'm not bringing light into the world in other ways? I don't think so. Don't get me wrong — if you'd like, Chanukah is a wonderful time for us to bring light into someone else's life. Perhaps you can volunteer or perhaps you can make a donation. The opportunities are endless. But if your Chanukah is eight crazy nights with no time for volunteering, that's ok too.

It's ok not to volunteer on Chanukah itself because bringing light to the darkness isn't reserved for eight days in December. Chanukah is like the *shamash* of the year. Just as we use the helper candle to kindle the other lights, we use the holiday of Chanukah as our annual catalyst to remind us that there is work to be done in our world all year round. If we waited all year to spend only eight days bringing light into the world, we wouldn't be fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy: "I will make you a light of nations, that my salvation shall reach the ends of the earth." (Isaiah 49:6) Isaiah, quoting the Almighty, charges us with the job of bringing light to the world, not only on Chanukah, but every single day.

If Chanukah is our yearly reminder to bring light into the world, what then, can be our year-round reminder? You guessed it — Beth Or — the House of *Light*.

If we only "do Jewish" at the synagogue (or on Zoom these days), it's not enough to make us who we are. If our children only read Hebrew in class and if we only ever pray when we are attending services then we aren't building our Jewish identities to their full potential. We can't bring light to the Jewish part of us only at Beth Or. Yes, our community is a place where we can push our learning further. We can shape our ideas and challenge them. The lasting power of this community is that after we celebrate and live out our Jewish values together, we disperse and carry the light we created into the rest of our lives. We take it with us so that we can go and spread that light to the ends of the earth.

Beth Or is our *Shamash*. We must kindle it and then be illuminated by it. Once ignited, may the power of this community light a fire within our hearts. May we take the light with us in our daily lives and bring light to the darkness.

What Does Joseph Teach Us About Addressing Human Catastrophes?

Cantor David Green



Cantor David Green

The experiences of Joseph in the Torah portion Miketz, Genesis 41:1 teaches us a lot about addressing human catastrophes. This is not the lesson of Joseph and his relationships with his brothers, nor his inner conflict of his questioning his Jewish identity. It is, rather, his ability to dream, more specifically to dream of the seven years of plenty followed by the seven years of famine.

In this Torah portion, Pharaoh rewards Joseph by putting him in charge of food collection during the years of plenty, and distribution of the food during the famine. Nachmanides believes Joseph not only went far beyond acting on his dreams to save and distribute food, but rather "he had the technology to store the food for long periods of time without it rotting." In other words, Joseph had the innate ability to predict future problems, and plans to effectively address those problems.

The famous Spanish chef, Jose Andres, is having great success today in the 21st century repeating many of the same actions to address world hunger today. Many of his efforts are centered on providing meals in the wake of natural disasters.

The Famine Early Warning System Network, established after the Ethiopian famine of 1983, looks at agricultural production and market prices, to predict future famines. Modern technology and the skills of many such people like Jose Andres today and Joseph, in his own time, present the tools and abilities to address human disasters. Whether we are confronted with world hunger, a pandemic, global warming, or other such challenges, human beings do possess the means to combat them.

The real issue is whether humans will accept these challenges. Joseph chose to do so in his time and really saw no other alternatives.

As Ramban states: "Joseph did it not to feel himself free to do as he liked but considered that he was destined to play the part of savior..." In modern parlance, you would have called Joseph a "change agent."

We, as human beings, all have the choice to be "change agents"- a choice if we want to do *Tikkun Olam* (repair of the world). Let us all follow Joseph's example, choosing to repair and make the world a better place.

November/December Candle Lighting

Friday, November 6 • 4:34 pm

Friday, November 13 • 4:28 pm

Friday, November 20 • 4:22 pm

Friday, November 27 • 4:19 pm

Friday, December 4 • 4:17 pm

Friday, December 11 • 4:18 pm

Friday, December 18 • 4:20 pm

Friday, December 25 • 4:23 pm



Important School Dates

Sunday, November 1

K-2 youth event

Sunday, November 8

3-4 youth event

Sunday, November 15

5-6 youth event

Sunday, November 29

Thanksgiving – No School

Friday, December 4

3rd Grade Shabbat

Sunday, December 27

Winter Break – No School

Religious School NEWS

Learning Together Apart

Aaron Nienshultz, Director of Religious School

It's been a different fall here in the Leonard and Madlyn Abramson Education Center! As in other years, we'd be holding in-person classes with lots of hands-on and engaging learning. This year, we've been meeting in Zoom rooms in order to hear each other's voices, see each other's faces, and learn as a community. Three days a week, we are holding class and learning together.

Believe it or not, our current state reminds me of one of the pictures that hangs in the downstairs hallway near the Multipurpose Room at Beth Or. The image comes from the Old Yishuv of Israel, around the turn of the 20th century, and it shows a room of children sitting on benches around the periphery of

a room, while in the middle sits a teacher with a large volume from which he is reading to the students. What does that have to do with our current situation, I'm sure you're asking. The way the students look, the way they learn, the very nature of their lives could not be more different! And yet—these are Jewish children learning with a Jewish teacher, making the most of the situation that they were in. The core of that mission, to educate Jewish children in any situation, is what resonates down the ages to me, and our whole community should be proud of the strides we're making.

The backbone of this effort has been our faculty. I always love to give them the credit they deserve, and this year, they deserve special attention. They've been working extra hard to plan for and to work with students, so please join me in thanking them for extraordinary effort!



Aaron Nienshultz



**Leonard &
Madlyn Abramson
Education Center**

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Jill Bascove
Bekah Jacobson
Becca Porter
Melanie Beifel
Dale Laing
Jared Rosenbloom
Faye Benshetler
Susan Levey
Ashley Rossi

Lee Berman
Vivian Lichtman
Jill Rucker
Rabbi Jason Bonder
Rabbi Gregory Marx
Susan Silverman
Kayla Diamond
Cantor Jaime Murley
Rozi Snyder

Yael Freiman
Sydney Novick
Sherry Spector
Alexis Goldman
Susan Novick
Beth Stoloff
Stacey Gutman
Rachel Older

Many thanks, you devoted teachers!

Finding the Light this Chanukah!

Sara Baum, Early Childhood Director

There are always things to be thankful for even in the toughest of times. For my family it has been spending more time together. Holidays has always been a special time where memories are being made and traditions are being created. Chanukah is the festival of light and children love flashlights! This Chanukah I offer your family some activities you can do at home after the latkes have been eaten and the candles are lit.

- **Catch the Light** – Children love to watch the flashlight dart around the room. In this game, their goal is to catch the light. Move the light all around the room, including on the ceiling, the walls, and on the floor. At random times, stop the light. Once the light is still your children are able to catch it. They can jump on it, stomp it, and hop on one foot to get it. These motions are fun for children and helps build their gross motor skills.
- **Spotlight** – This is a fun one for kids just learning their letters, numbers, or colors. Create letters, numbers, or colorful shapes out of paper or you can buy foam items. Place them all over the room you are in. Shine the light on one of the objects and have you child tell you what it is. After they name it your child can hold it up in the light. A shadow of the letter or number will show up on the wall!
- **Flashlight Tag** – I am sure some of you played this as a child. Think tag and hide-and-seek in the dark. Flashlight tag's rules vary, but the basic premise is one person is "it" and tries to spot someone hiding in the dark by using the flashlight. You're it!
- **Light Up a Fort** – You can do this in a bed or using the cushions of a couch. Build a fort out of a soft object at home. Gather some flashlights and take them inside the fort. Cozy up together!! You can read books, tell stories, or just chat about your day inside your comfy fort!
- **Going on a Scavenger Hunt** – You can either hunt for things already around your home or you can hide items inside or outside! Everyone gets a flashlight to find a secret treasure!! This game can be made harder for older children and easier for the younger ones. You can choose to give clues to help them along the way.
- **Shadow Puppets** – Everyone has made a bunny on the wall using a flashlight but what else can you make? Maybe a butterfly, jellyfish, or bird. You can turn this activity into a guessing game too!
- **Flashlight Picture Game** – Let a flashlight become your paintbrush and an empty wall as your canvas. You can make something as easy as a smiley face or a shape.
- **Flashlight Dance Party** – Get your playlist ready and grab your dancing shoes!! Nothing brings on the smiles and burns some energy like dancing around. Turn out the lights and grab a flashlight to make your dance party even more special. A disco ball doesn't hurt if you have one laying around!

I hope these fun activities make your Chanukah even more special and fun this year. Silliness and smiles are always the best way to bring joy. Life is always better when you can find the light!



Sara Baum



Zipporah S. Abramson
Center for Early
Childhood Education

CONGREGATION BETH OR



Am Yisrael Chai



Jaime Murley



Cantor Jaime Murley, Junior Choir Director

Am Yisrael Chai... "the Jewish people live on." For thousands of years, the Jewish people have lived on through music. Sadly, the pandemic has been responsible for putting a stop to synagogue choirs all over the world. I am so proud to announce that the Beth Or Junior Choir and Teen Chai Notes Ensembles are going stronger than ever! I want to take this opportunity to tell you how we have adapted to the times.

The word choir is defined as "an organized group of singers that performs regularly in public." Obviously, this wasn't going to work during a pandemic. Therefore, all singing has become remote. With the help of the fabulous choir families, parents of the younger kids have been

submitting videos of their children singing songs which I have taught on zoom or pre-recorded. With the wonders of technology I can splice these videos together to create a video of each song. The teenagers have mastered musical software which allows them to hear their friends and then layer their own tracks over top to create beautiful arrangements and harmonies. The results have been fantastic! Be sure to look for these recordings on the synagogue's YouTube channel.

As far as "live performances" are concerned, we have started a new First Friday tradition where one member of the choir co-leads Family Shabbat services with me and represents the "voice of the choir." This has been an amazing program for me because I get to work one on one with a student and watch them take ownership of a Friday night service. These are kids who have spent years in the choir and really know the Friday night liturgy, and so to watch them have a moment where they (and their families) can see just how much they know, has been really empowering for them and exciting for me!

Finally, one key component of our choirs has always been the social aspect. The kids sing so well together because they truly like spending time together. Keeping that connection is so important, so we have adapted in very safe ways. Our annual movie night was moved outdoors where we spread out on the lakeside terrace. Our annual DJ party moved indoors due to rain, but each child had a distanced "circle" that was their homebase so they could do line dances and dancing games far apart from their friends.

Lastly, our annual indoor laser tag party will be moved outdoors where the field behind the synagogue will be transformed into an exciting space with forts and bunkers. Although masks are worn at all of our events, everyone can see the eyes shining from the smiles underneath.

If you are interested in joining one of our singing groups, it is never too late to sign up! Please be in touch with me at jmurley@bethor.org if you have any questions. *Am Yisrael Chai...* the Jewish music at Beth Or continues to live on in our children!

Junior Choir November/December Calendar

Sunday, November 8

Laser Tag (2nd – 6th Grade)
2:30 pm-3:15 pm

Sunday, November 8

Laser Tag (7th – 12th Grade)
3:15 pm-4 pm

Sundays, November 22- December 6

Junior Choir Rehearsal
(K – 6th Grade)
12 pm-12:30 pm (Zoom)

Sundays, November 15- December 13

Chai Notes Rehearsal
(7th – 12th Grade)
5 pm-6 pm (Zoom)



A NEW CONNECTION

"Evan.... I need a lawyer," the sweet, yet somewhat frazzled, voice said as I picked up a recent phone call. "You were kind enough to help me find a doctor last month.... now I need a lawyer, as I believe a contractor at my home has taken advantage of me."

Well... I'm not a lawyer or doctor...so why was this lovely lady calling me for advice? Let me start from the beginning:



My name is Evan Segal. My wife Jennifer and I have been Beth Or members since 2017. Our children Savannah and Graham attend religious school here. I am recording secretary of our Brotherhood Group, Assistant Treasurer and member of our Board of Trustees, active in our Membership Committee, and have helped spearhead GET CONNECTED – the Beth Or Business and Career Network. As you can tell I am a bit of a "joiner"! I love getting involved, helping to strengthen our synagogue, and spreading the word about Beth Or around our community.

One of the privileges of being on these committees is the ability to meet new members and help them get acclimated to the synagogue and our community. The Membership Committee assigned me to call a few new members, welcome them to the synagogue, and ask them if they needed assistance with anything. So I grabbed my phone during my lunch break and decided to start dialing.

I called a couple who had moved back to the area from the Midwest. After a nice conversation the wife asked, "Could you help us find a new local family doctor?" I wanted to refer them to a doctor who is a member of Beth Or, but I could not think of one quickly, so I gave them the name of my family doctor. All worked out well.

Fast forward to last week when the same nice lady called me back. "I really need a lawyer now. Can you refer me to someone please?" That got me thinking. Wouldn't it be great if there was a resource within Beth Or, where congregants could connect with business owners & professionals who are also Beth Or members? What is the best way to find them, meet them and know their specialty? That's where GET CONNECTED can help.

GET CONNECTED is the Beth Or Business and Career Network. GET CONNECTED is the place to be if you want to be on the business end of one of these referrals. GET CONNECTED is open to all Beth Or members. We meet the 2nd Monday of every month via Zoom (for now). Each meeting includes a special topic along with time for networking. Participants share what they do for a living, what kind of job they may be seeking, or topics that may help each other with business/career development. You just might find that you will get some new business at your first meeting, in a month, or in a year. At the very least, you will build meaningful relationships and find yourself surrounded by caring, like-minded individuals, who are looking to help others. In turn you will be rewarded with the great feeling of helping someone find a new job, a new client, and perhaps pick business for yourself along the way.

In the past year, our members have found new jobs, new clients, and are actively referring business and job opportunities to each other. Just last week I refinanced my house using a mortgage company who I met through GET CONNECTED, so I can tell you that it works and is worth your time. Please join us on at 7pm on November 9 and December 14 for our next meetings and if you ever need a doctor or lawyer you now know who to call!

Be well —
Evan Segal

To our Beth Or Family.

You are always there for us in good times and bad. This time is no exception! To all of you who have taken the time to welcome Millie Jane to the world and to the CBO community — THANK YOU! We are blessed to be able to watch her grow up in such a loving and special place. Her Jewish journey will certainly be a full one!

We love you all and cannot wait for you to meet our sweet Millie!

With love and appreciation,
Jillian & Wes Peskin



Meet Our B'nai Mitzvah Students

Andrew Schwartz November 7

For my Mitzvah Project, I am supporting **The Israel Sport Center for the Disabled (ISCD)**. This is an organization that empowers Israeli children and youth with physical disabilities to participate in rehabilitation through sports in order to lead a productive and successful life. With the help of my good friend and basketball teammate, Noah Cohen, we have been raising money to buy a special basketball wheelchair for the athletes from this organization. So far we have hosted a March Madness bracket, a NBA Playoff pool, and plan to hold other basketball events, such as a 3 on 3 tournament, until we reach our goal of buying the ISCD a new basketball wheelchair. The ISCD taught me how fortunate I am to be able to play the sports I love. This inspired me to do everything I can to support these athletes so they can have the same opportunity to play the sports they enjoy. For more information and to donate, please visit <https://www.afiscd.org>.



Ava Shohen November 14

For my Bat Mitzvah project, I decided to raise money to donate to the **Abramson Center for Jewish Life**. My friend, Mallory and I collaborated on a project where we tie dyed face masks beginning last March when the pandemic began. We worked hard and sold over 200 face masks to family, friends, and many others to raise over \$3000. The Abramson Center is extremely close to my heart because my grandfather lived there for three years before he died last April. The nurses, rehab staff and aides were so kind to him, and I wanted to give back to them because they took such great care of him over the past few years. I know he would be so delighted to hear I was doing this Mitzvah in his honor. For more information and if you would like to donate, please go to www.abramsonseniorcare.org.



Mallory Hersh November 21

For my Mitzvah Project I raised money to donate to the **Abington Hospice in Warminster**. My Bubby passed away this past year and my family and I spent a lot of time at the hospice. The staff was so wonderful and I wanted to do something special in return to help them. During quarantine I started an Instagram business with my friend Ava called @_patchitupdesign_. We tie dyed masks and ironed on fun patches to make each one unique. The business started out as a fun activity but little did we know there would be such a demand and we are still making masks today! We raised over \$3000 so far and plan to continue the business for as long as masks are needed. I am so fortunate to be able to donate a portion of the proceeds to the Abington Hospice in Warminster and they are planning to purchase new furniture for a family lounge.



Hannah Pollack November 14

My Mitzvah Project is **making cards for people in nursing homes** during this pandemic. I made over 40 cards by hand for the people at my mom's nursing home. I felt bad for all the elderly since no one could visit them. They were so sad and felt no one loved them so I tried to help by making these cards.



Matthew Shohen November 14

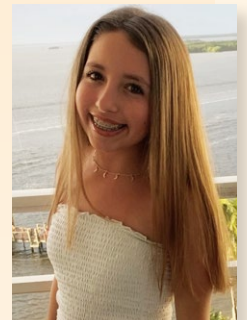
For my Mitzvah Project, I chose to **collect gently used lacrosse equipment** to donate to organizations in need. The organization I chose is called **ReLax**. They will take the lacrosse equipment I collected and redistribute it to promote lacrosse education to 35 teams in the US who are in need of equipment and to 16 countries around the world.



I am passionate about the sport of lacrosse, but the cost of starting this sport can be a barrier for some people; particularly in inner cities. A starter set which includes pads, a helmet, stick and gloves can be extremely expensive. As a result, some kids who may want to play lacrosse are not able to play. This upsets me because these kids are not able to play the sport they love. My hope is that by donating this equipment, I will be able to help some of these kids pursue their passion. To learn more or to donate, please visit: relaxcollections.org.

Jessie Young November 28

For my Mitzvah Project, I selected to work with **Cradles to Crayons**. This organization helps families in need. I chose this as my project in memory of my fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Wolinsky. She taught me about gratitude and helping others be happy when they are struggling, which is why she came to Cradles to Crayons. For my project, I created collection boxes to gather "Ready to Learn" items to help children prepare for school. Items included: school supplies, art supplies, children's books and backpacks. I collected these supplies during the month of October. In November, I arranged to visit one of the drop off locations to



deliver all the supplies that I collected. In addition, I will help to organize these items so they can be delivered to families. Thank you to our family and friends who helped to contribute to my Mitzvah Project!

Zachary Levinson **November 28**

For my Mitzvah Project, I hosted an NBA2K tournament on XBOX and PS4 to raise money for **Gift of Life Donor Program**. This organization helps procure organs and vital tissues to save lives. In addition, they provide care and resources for donors, recipients, and their families. They also help to promote organ and tissue donation awareness. I am proud to say I have raised close to \$1500 for this life saving organization! Since my grandfather and great aunt were both donor recipients and benefited from this program, I feel good giving back to them as a small token of my family's huge appreciation for the amazing work they do. I also hope it helps other families like mine. You can learn more and/or donate at www.donors1.org.



Brandon Altman **December 5**

For the past 5 years, my family and I have been involved with the **Einstein Walk and Run Through the Park**. This year, I have chosen to help spread the word for this very special and important event as part of my Bar Mitzvah project. Cancer and cancer treatment is something that touches each of us in different ways and coming together to support those who are facing this disease truly makes a positive impact. The event (which was done virtually this year), is so critical to cancer patients, survivors and those that love them in our community. My team, the NBA AllStars, was able to raise almost \$5,000! Annually, for the past 17 years, the Walk and Run Through the Park has raised thousands of dollars to enhance patient care in Montgomery County. Funds raised by this year's Virtual 7 Day Challenge will fund programs and services that impact the lives of those diagnosed with breast cancer.



Jake Orlick **December 12**

For my Bar Mitzvah Project I chose to take my own personal experience battling Ewing's Sarcoma, a form of pediatric bone cancer, to raise awareness of this terrible disease. **Pediatric cancer** only receives 4% of funding and I believe children are worth more than 4%. I created an Instagram account (#jbonesarmy) and work to educate and inspire people by sharing my story and weekly motivational tips. I also work with local charities like **Hogs and Honey** to spread awareness. I now have 1,300 followers on Instagram (some of them famous athletes) and am currently CANCER FREE!



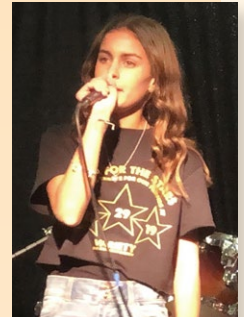
Juliette Yahav **December 12**

I decided to **make cards for senior citizens** to brighten their days. I feel especially strong about this as I have seen news and spoken to some of the elderly and understand the lack of visitation they are allowed during the pandemic. I chose to send these handmade cards to the **Abramson Center**. I am planning 2 card making sessions with a few friends who are excited to participate for this great cause.



Gabriella Kilshaw **December 19**

Last November, at Ft Washington's School of Rock, my friend, Lexi Klein, and I organized and performed in a benefit concert which we called **Reach for the Stars**. We, along with six other teenage musicians (PJ Fratantaro, Elias Kilshaw, Max Bleefeld, Cameron Blumberg, Maddy Westcott and Aidan Coughlin) put on a tremendously successful concert that raised several thousand dollars for **Variety — the Children's Charity**. Variety focuses on multiple unmet needs of children who are sick, disadvantaged or live with disabilities and other special needs at a local and national level. The proceeds from our concert went to a local branch of Variety that provides a summer camp for children.



Samantha Torban **December 19**

For my Bat Mitzvah project, I have been delivering boxes of food for the **JRA (Jewish Relief Agency)**. The JRA is an organization that serves over 6,000 diverse low-income individuals across the Philadelphia area by relieving hunger, improving lives, and strengthening the community. Since this past May, I have been delivering boxes once a month to those who are in need. I thought this was the perfect way to help the community during this time of Covid because it is contactless delivery. This is something that I plan to keep doing even after my Bat Mitzvah is over as it is easy to give 2-3 hours a month to help those who are less fortunate than myself. If you are interested in being a part of helping the JRA, you can visit their website: jewishrelief.org.



2020/5781 High Holy Days:

Finding Gifts and Meaning During an Unprecedented Year

2020 was a year unlike any other. Change was forced upon us all. Unprecedented changes. Losses and sadness, gifts and joy, growth and opportunities - all beyond our imagination.

Focusing on the gifts and joy has given me purpose and hope. I am grateful for that. Gifts do come in all shapes, sizes, wrapped and unwrapped. I was given the gift and honor to lead a team from our congregation ensuring we were kept safe while providing a meaningful High Holy Days experience for everyone.

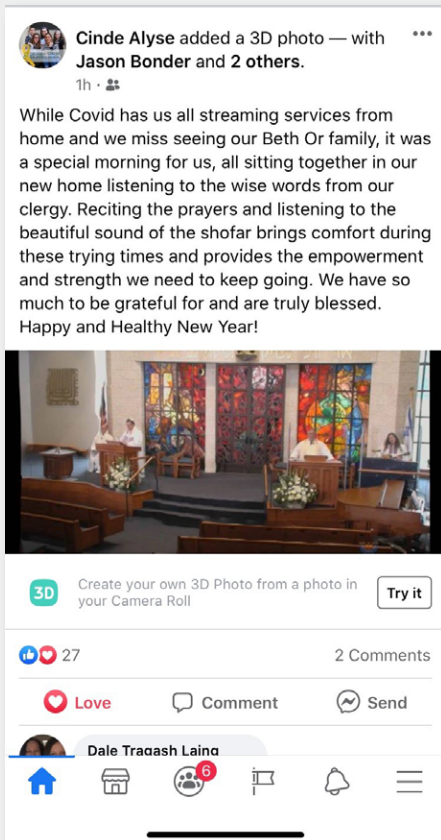
Creating intimacy and connection is not just about how many attend in-person or physical proximity, it's about the emotion felt in the heart and mind... an opportunity for our community to connect in a new way. The sheer number of people who picked up a #SweetNewYear Bag and prayer books was a gift to those handing them out. Knowing that we had more than 3,000 devices streaming content from our Beth Or sanctuary on Yom Kippur was a gift to the Clergy and production team. Seeing the number participating and hearing the encouraging and positive comments, both during and after our services, as well as knowing we had even a small positive impact on so many was a gift to me, and the entire task force.

We have a strong, vibrant, and thoughtful community. Together we worked to make our High Holy Days meaningful for us and for others who joined us virtually.

I want to thank all those who helped make our worship services, in-person and virtual experiences possible (full cast list below). This year has been difficult for each of us personally and for our congregation. I urge you to find the gifts and joy that are all around us even in the most challenging of times. Best wishes for a happy and healthy 5781.

Gwen Silverstein, 1st Vice President & High Holy Days Task Force Chair





Clergy, HHD Task Force, Staff & Congregants

Amy Abrams
Wendy Axelrod
Mandy Baer
Jill Bascope
Sara Baum
Andi Becker-Arnold
Clarissa Bencan
Faye Benshetler
Melissa Berg
Eli Berman
Amanda Berry
Don Berry
Caroline Biberman
Howard Blum
Board of Trustees
Julia Boas
Michelle Boas
Rabbi Jason Bonder
Brenda Briefer
Marc Briefer
Stu Briefer
Brotherhood
Leah Brouda
Naomi Brouda
Caring Congregants
Sharon Carlin
Carole Chasen
Joel Cohen
Marlene Cohen
Andy Cohn
Art Cohn
Ian Comisky
Hannah Diamond
Suzanne Diamond
Sam Drossner
Gary Dukart
Cliff Ehrlich
Heather Ehrlich
Danny Eichberg
Emily Forti
Becky Freiman
Emma Friedman
Jake Friedman
Gass Family
Raya Gilman
Jodie Girsh
Charlie Goldstein
Flynn Goldstein
Elaine Goldfield
Phil Goodman
Josh Gottlieb
Cantor David Green
Darryl Green
Jeff Green
Jennifer Green
Lori Green
Sarah Green
Bob Harris
Andrew Heisman
Elisa Heisman
Elisabeth Hess
Bob Hirsch
Liz Hirsch

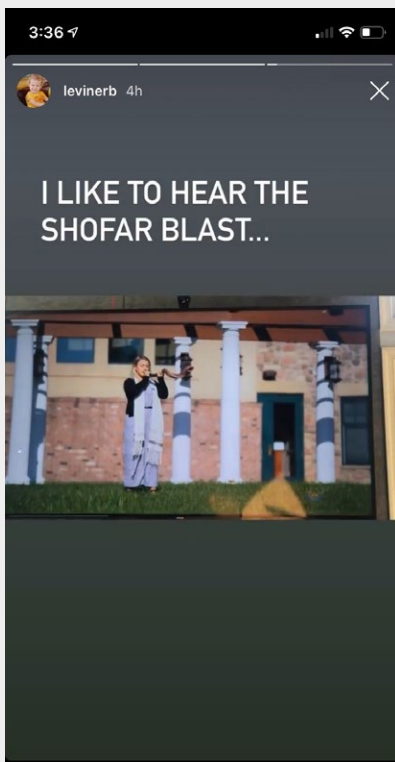
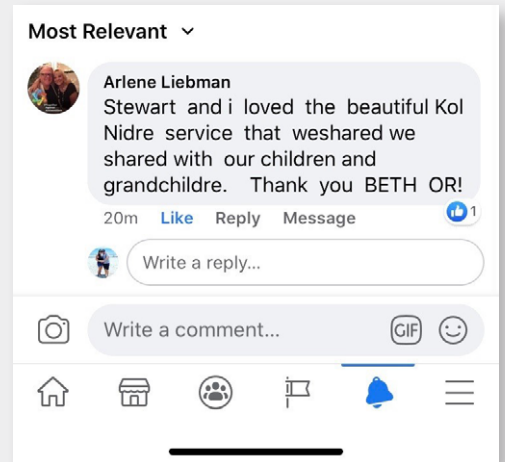
Steve Hirsch
Abby Iris
Daniel Iris
Rebekah Jacobson
Jack Jankovitz
Rachel Jasner
Dahlia Kaplan
Colden Karl
Reese Karl
Ruth King Ryave
Alan Kober
Donna Kordelski
Seth Kurtz
Rina Lebovitz
Allison Levin
Samantha Levin
Anna Lotman
Micah Margolis
Laurie Marx
Rabbi Gregory Marx
Gabby Miller
Melissa Miller
Ellen Mirbach
Cantor Jaime Murley
Barbara Murtha
Jennie Nerenberg
Aaron Nielsenshultz
Jody Pascal
Jillian Peskin
Jamie Pesttrack
Andy Phipps
Judy Phipps
Mark Pokedoff
Tori Rabin
Aren Rice
Sammy Salin
Craig Schulz
Emmy Schurr
Ellee Segal
Gwen Silverstein
Bob Simon
Sisterhood
Alison Skolnick
Paul Snyderman
Social Action
Charla Stein
Joshua Stein
Rachel Steinberg
Marty Tarabar
Lem Tarshis
Sue Tarshis
Hal Tragash
Pearl Tragash
Judy Trias
Brandon Trice
Leslie Weiss
Dean Werner
Ellen Werther
Ellen Wichterman
Lukas Wieland
Trevor Wieland
Holly Wiener
Kira Wiener

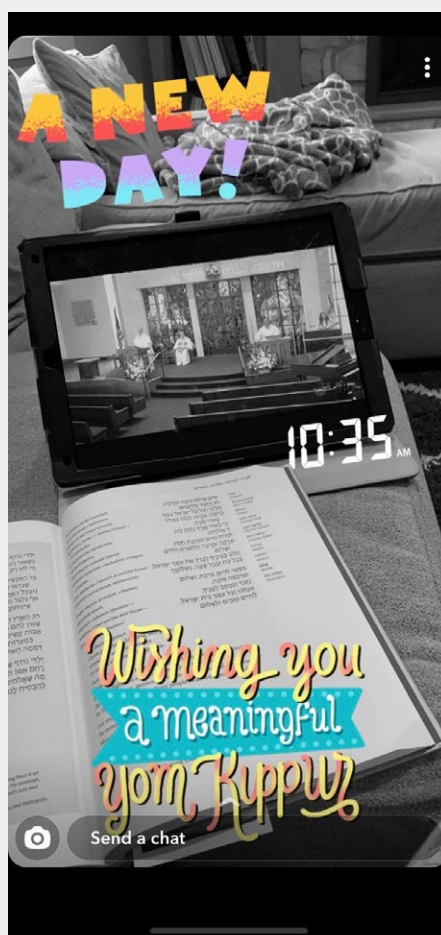
Vendors & Professional Partners

Andrew Demerest/IMS Systems (Video Production & Web Streaming)
Larry Hoenig (Professional Singer)
Tom Kraines (Cellist)
Megan McFadden (Professional Singer)
Deb Miles (Comcast)
Liam Nielsenshultz/Hythan (Video Production & Editing)
Jonathan Oehler (Professional Singer)
Barnet Paul/Hy Paul Studios (Web Streaming)
Kent Schaubler (Professional Singer)
Meg Vandergrift (Professional Singer)
Roland Woehr (Organ/Music Direction)



2020/5781 High Holy Days:





A Thank You Message to Beth Or Mask Makers and Knitting Circle Chair Faye Benshetler!

(sing to the tune of Matchmaker from Fiddler on The Roof)

*Mask maker, Mask maker
Thank you so much
For making the masks
Many lives that you touch
Mask maker, Mask maker
Sewing at night
And protecting those in need
Mask maker, Mask maker
You make us real proud
Delivering the masks
Everyone's wowed
You're near six hundred masks to date
It's unanimous you are great!!*



Thank you to our dedicated Beth Or Mask Makers who have provided masks for children, teens, and adults in need of essentials, which now includes masks: Riss Bencan, Faye Benshetler, Linda Block-Love, Theresa Knee, Joan Kober, Vivian Lichtman, Vickie Oppenheim, Judy Phipps, Dottie Singer, Ellen Tannenbaum, Jody Walker, and Karen Weiss.

Special thanks to Theresa, who has set a personal goal to sew 1000 masks and whose handiwork has touched the lives of patients and essential workers at the Horsham Clinic and homeless teens at the Covenant House. When the package arrived at the Covenant House on September 21, they acknowledged it with these words, "Thank you once again for the kindness and generosity shown to us. The support shown to Covenant House by you is greatly appreciated. Thank you so very much for continuing to think of us and the youth we serve."

Gratitude, Tzedakah, Tikvah

Leading up to the High Holy Days, Rabbi Marx, Rabbi Bonder, Cantor Green, and Aaron Nielsenshultz's Jewels of Elul included thoughts on Gratitude, *Tzedakah* (charity/justice) and *Tikvah* (hope). We thank them for their thoughtful and meaningful messages and inspiration.

We appreciate every member of Beth Or who supports our efforts in spirit or through direct participation.

Todah Rabah to all who were able to donate to the High Holy Day Drives during our Mini-Mitzvah Days, making a difference for the recipient organizations: Our Closet, Mitzvah Circle, Cradles to Crayons, SPCA/Abington, and the Food Pantry at Bethlehem Baptist Church. Special thanks to Mini-Mitzvah organizers Rachel Steinberg, Andi Becker-Arnold, Jennie Nerenberg and volunteers, Stu Briefer, Marlene & Bob Cohen, Shari Coltoff, Fred Dugan, and Susan Silverstein.

All are welcome to join the Social Action Committee! Please feel free to reach out with any ideas or let us know if you are interested in attending our next virtual meeting.

Susy Krimker, Social Action Chair, susykrimker@gmail.com
Margie Chachkin, Social Action Vice-Chair, chachkin@aol.com

Ready, Set, **Vote**

One of my earliest memories as a child was voting with my dad. As the curtain closed behind us, the booth's aura seemed magical. When he lifted me up to "help" him pull the mighty lever, I felt like I had superpowers. The truth is, I still feel the same way. The voting booth is a magical place and voting is a superpower. That's why I was delighted when Margie Chachkin approached me to help champion Congregation Beth Or's 2020 voting initiative.

Beth Or is striving for 100% voter participation in the 2020 election as part of the Religious Action Center's Every Voice, Every Vote civic action campaign. RAC's campaign represents a nonpartisan effort to strengthen our democracy by encouraging everyone to participate in the U.S. election and ensuring that Reform Jewish values are represented in the public square.

As part of our effort at Beth Or, we've encouraged our members via social media and email communications with our 3-pronged message to:

- 1) GET READY: register to vote**
- 2) GET SET: make a voting plan**
- 3) VOTE!: make your voice heard on November 3**

We focused on getting these messages out to our young voters, many of whom are exercising their right for the very first time. Thank you to Carole Chasen, Kim Kaffey, Andrea Kesack and Sheila Ritchey for their phone outreach to our newest voters to ensure that they had registered by the deadline and applied for an absentee ballot if they attend college out of town.

Additionally, we've had the great opportunity to tap into the talents of former Beth Or President Jan Zauzmer who recently published a children's book, "If You Go With Your Goat to Vote". Rabbi Bonder hosted a virtual read-aloud with Jan for the CECE children and families. It's my hope that this book inspires a whole new generation of voters.

It's also my hope that our congregation achieves 100% voting participation this year. Every voice is important, so don't forget to grab your cape and use your superpowers on November 3.

Michelle Boas
Beth Or Board Member



Beth Or Brotherhood

Brotherhood Annual Dinner... Timing Is Everything!

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



Allan Posner



Brotherhood
CONGREGATION BETH OR
Fellowship • Community
Service • Support

Fellowship, Community, Service and Support. These are the very human and very Jewish values we wear on our Brotherhood golf shirts, place on our letterhead and carry in our hearts. This Covid-crisis has been trying on all of us, and certainly changed the world, but not our mission.

As a result of the changes to our lives, we must pass along to you the unfortunate news that our Annual Fundraiser and Dinner, scheduled for December 8, has been postponed this year.

We investigated numerous alternatives such as a remote event, a large outdoor tent and others. Ultimately, we realized that the only logical approach was to delay until a time that we hope that Covid will be under control. Throughout the spring and early summer, our Dinner Planning Team made significant progress on the logistic and promotional programs for the event. We put most of those efforts on hold for now, but are excited about two things that continue. First, SARGE The Comedian, our headline act for the evening agreed to honor his contract for our new date of December 7, 2021. **We are still on track to deliver a fabulous and inclusive evening of entertainment for all men and women of the CBO family.** Yes! Women are welcome to attend. Secondly, we've maintained relationships with our sponsors and are continuing to form relationships to generate new sponsorships. Please reach out if you have thoughts on this topic or would like to be a sponsor next year. Your help is appreciated.

In the interim, the Dinner Planning team will meet occasionally to discuss logistics issues including the numerous and wonderful suggestions we've received for additional entertainment and fundraising components. Please continue to share your thoughts about anything that will help make the 2021 Annual Fundraiser and Dinner the best yet both in enjoyment and funds raised to fulfill our missions of service and support.

Brotherhood remains strong because of you, and will continue to seek out ways to keep us together and to serve CBO and the wider community. During this pandemic with limited access, we continue looking forward to our support of JRA, Religious School programming, Red Cross Blood Drives and more. Our Zoom meetings and occasional virtual get togethers have been a big success. Please support your local restaurants socially distancing with Brotherhood friends!

Lastly, we want to wish everyone a Happy Chanukah. May this season's Festival of Lights shine brighter with your help!

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

Sisterhood Programs Adjust And Continue During Pandemic

Lois Lambersky, Sisterhood President

Sometimes I feel like I will just scream if I have to hear one more mention of how the COVID-19 Virus has changed our lives. We all know that so many things are different. Why point out the obvious? But at the same time, it's true. Our lives are different.

For myself, I know that I have been increasingly difficult to live with. I'm grumpy and bored, and not doing things I like to do. Without really realizing it, I've been taking it out on everybody else. Why spend time thinking about nice things that you could do for others if you aren't allowed to do them anyway?

So, I'll admit that I've had to take myself out to the woodshed and give myself a good talking to sometimes. There's a lot that we can't do right now. But there's a lot that we CAN STILL do. And it's important to remember that. A lot that is important still goes on. So, how about some good news!

- Did you know that in the midst of this pandemic Sisterhood still decorated our beautiful Sukkah in the Sanctuary?
- We still foster communication and support of our members through our virtual monthly Sisterhood meetings on Zoom the first Wednesday of the month.
- Thursdays are our FUN nights with virtual activities such as Bingo, Kahoot, Flower arranging, chair exercises, jam making, and more!
- We will have virtual fund raisers, such as Mary Kay Cosmetics and Tupperware, to help generate money for Sisterhood-sponsored Beth Or programs.
- Our knitters have been busy making hats, scarves, lap robes and knotted blankets as well as much needed masks to give to various hospitals and homes

A lot is still happening in Sisterhood. While we can't enjoy your physical presence right now, please know that we are here for you and we miss you.

I wish you all a safe, healthy and meaningful Thanksgiving and a Happy Chanukah.



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:

Currently open by appointment only, Monday - Thursday, 9 am - 2 pm. Contact Holly Green (215-805-8597) or email tarshisgiftshop@gmail.com to schedule your appointment.

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

Virtual and In-Person Events

ADULT PROGRAMS

APEX Lunch & Learn: Fred Dugan's Favorite Stories

Sunday, December 6 • 12 pm

Fred Dugan is one of our most favorite guest speakers. Grab your lunch, sit back at home, and join Fred on Zoom as he tells the real story of Henry VIII and his wives, the tale of one of the most colorful figures in American history — the Civil War general who single handedly almost lost the Battle of Gettysburg, and, time permitting, why we should change the words to the Marine Corp Hymn. Refer to the website calendar listing or weekly Chai Lights email for Zoom registration. Advance registration appreciated by December 5.

APEX is the Adult Programming Experience Committee which presents events geared toward congregational members 55 and older.

GET CONNECTED: Beth Or Business & Career Network

Monthly Programs – Topics Vary

Monday, November 9, 7pm - 8pm

Monday, December 14, 7pm - 8pm

GET CONNECTED is our business & career group. We meet on the 2nd Monday of each month to network, brainstorm, and build meaningful relationships that may help grow our businesses or help us find our next career or job. All members of Beth Or are welcome. Join us every month or just pop in when a topic intrigues you. Look for details about upcoming meeting agendas in your weekly Chai Lights email. Monthly programs currently take place on Zoom. Contact Evan Segal, evan@segalfinancial.com, or Elisa Heisman, elisa_heisman@yahoo.com, with any questions or topic ideas.

BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD EVENTS

Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by Brotherhood

Sunday, November 1 • 9 am - 2 pm

Help Beth Or continue to be one of the area's largest donation sites! All Beth Or members are urged to participate. There is an urgent need for blood donations of all types. Must be 17+ (or 16 with parent's consent.) The blood drive follows all CDC COVID-19 health & safety guidelines that are in place for hospitals

and doctors' offices. Register directly with the Red Cross using the link on the Beth Or website calendar listing, or contact Stu Briefer, Brotherhood's Blood Drive Chairman, smbriefer@gmail.com.



Chanukah Bazaar sponsored by Sisterhood

Sunday, November 1 • 10 am – 2 pm

Our Chanukah Bazaar has moved outdoors to the Beth Or parking lot this year! Help support Sisterhood, local small businesses and vendors by visiting each booth. Check off your holiday shopping lists with unique gifts – Jewelry, Clothing, Accessories, Fine Art, Candles, Soaps, Stained Glass, Gift Items, Judaica and more! Food will be available. For the safety of all, social distancing and mask wearing will be enforced. This event is shine only. Contact Sherry Spector, sspector1949@gmail.com, with any questions.

Fun with Sisterhood: Virtual Tupperware Party & Fundraiser

Thursday, November 12 • 7 pm

Thursday fun with Sisterhood continues with a Zoom Tupperware party & fundraiser! This event features a special party catalog with exclusives only available through this program. Our Tupperware consultant will guide us through product demonstrations, tips, games, prizes & lots of interactive fun! Sisterhood receives 40% from purchases from the fundraising brochure to support Beth Or programs. Full catalog will also be available. Visit the website calendar listing for the Zoom meeting link.

Fun with Sisterhood: Making Jams, Jellies, Preserves & Memories

Thursday, November 19 • 7 pm

Jody Walker leads this program, where she explains how to make your own jam, jelly and preserves.

Bring your favorite jar(s) of jam, jelly or preserves to share virtually. Tell us why you like them and how you use them (cookies, pastries, smoothies, tea breads, fillings for cakes, sauces for chicken, etc.). Do certain smells or flavors whisk you back to your childhood? We will share our cherished memories. Refer to the website calendar listing for the Zoom meeting link.



HOLIDAYS AND SHABBAT EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THIS INAUGURAL EVENT!

Beth Or Community Chanukah Circle of Light and Hope

Friday, December 11 • 6:30 pm

Bring your families and join the clergy for this exciting outdoor service on the lawn by the pond. We will gather together as a community to celebrate the second night of the festival of lights by lighting up the sky! This outdoor program and service is weather permitting. We will move inside for a Glow Stick Shabbat service if the weather doesn't cooperate, following all guidelines currently in place for a Friday night Shabbat service. Look for details in upcoming weekly emails.

LIFELONG LEARNING

Lifelong Learning Classes are free for Beth Or members (\$50 for non-members). **Fall classes will take place on Zoom. Refer to the event listing on the website calendar for Zoom registration link.** Contact Barbara Murtha, bmurtha@bethor.org, 215-646-5806 ext. 220 with any questions.

News & Nosh with Rabbi Marx

Sunday, November 8 • 10 am - 11 am

Rabbi Marx leads an open and informative discussion on today's events affecting the larger Jewish community and our role in and beyond local politics. Participants are welcome to share their own articles that they would like to discuss with the group.



This Book Could Change Your Life! 3 Sessions with Aaron Nienshultz

How the Torah Teaches us to Avoid Objectifying Others, Ourselves & The World Around Us

Tuesday, November 10 • 7 pm - 8 pm

How the Narrative Arc of the Torah Mimics our Lives & How Knowing it can help us through the Bad Times

Tuesday, November 17 • 7 pm - 8 pm

The Torah's Secret Meaning: Infusing Holiness into Everything we do, from the Mundane to the Majestic

Tuesday, November 24 • 7 pm - 8 pm

We've heard it before, haven't we? Some self-help book comes along that holds the secret to adding meaning or clarity to our lives. Did you know that we've had the best self-help book around for more than 3500 years? Over 3 weeks we'll look at what the Torah can teach us about our relationships to ourselves, others, and the world around us, and how exploring its lessons and mysteries can offer structure and holiness to us. Aaron will help us peel back the layers of the Torah, getting at its beauty and its ability to change our lives.

Cooking with Gass: Easy Thanksgiving

Monday, November 16 • 7 pm

Join Alyson Gass virtually as she shares a few recipes that will be easy to make and bring comfort to your Thanksgiving table.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Virtual Israel Tour

Safed: Thursday, November 5 • 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Belvoir - Kochav HaYarden: Thursday, December 3 • 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Since we aren't able to travel to Israel this year, we've been bringing the Holy Land to you. Our popular virtual exploration of Israel continues on the first Thursday of each month through March 2021. Our Israeli Tour Guide, Rotem Shahr, shows us the sites and stops along the way for an interactive discussion. Join us for all of the destinations along our journey, or just come on the months that you can. Register for the Zoom link on the website calendar listing. You only need to register the first time you join us.

Film Screening & Discussion: *The Tobacconist*

Monday, November 23 • 7 pm - 8:30 pm

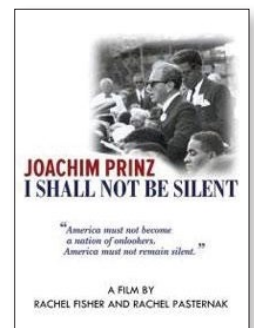
Rabbi Marx will lead an in-depth discussion on Zoom about this film, which is a tender, heart-breaking story about one young man and his friendship with Sigmund Freud during the Nazi occupation of Vienna. Participants can stream the film (113-minute run time, mature themes, subtitles) for free from November 18 – 23. Refer to the website calendar of your weekly Chai Lights email for both the film streaming link and Zoom discussion registration. This program is sponsored by APEX, Lifelong Learning, Brotherhood & the Israel Committee.

Film Screening & Discussion: *I Shall Not Be Silent*

Monday, December 7 • 7 pm - 8:30 pm

This interactive discussion is sponsored by APEX, Lifelong Learning, Brotherhood & the Israel Committee, along with the Anti-Defamation League, the Black Jewish Alliance of Philadelphia and Bethlehem Baptist Church.

Join Rabbi Marx, Pastor Quann and leaders of the ADL to review this groundbreaking film about the early days of the civil rights movement and Rabbi Joachim Prinz's impact on it. The movie (50-minute run time) is available for free streaming from December 3 – 7. Refer to the website calendar of your weekly Chai Lights email for both the film streaming link and Zoom discussion registration.



Mitzvas Day

Friday, December 25 • 10 am - 1 pm

Social Action's annual Mitzvah month and Mitzvas Day — our season of Tikkun Olam collection drives and activities, is going virtual this year. Details about how your family can participate to come soon!



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 at 215-646-5806.

Approved Caterer List — 2020/21

Annemarie's Cuisine • Annemarie Silva	215-806-7675
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

Classical Caterers



Fine Kosher and Glatt Kosher Catering

Our Service Will Delight... Your Every Expectation.

732.297.6444 • www.classicalcaterers.com

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Bar & Bat Mitzvah, Weddings, Showers,
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May Their Memory Be A Blessing

Irving Camp, father of Neen Davis
Barbara "Bobbie" Green, mother of Jodye Green, grandmother of Morgan Bell
Helen Londer, grandmother of Sondra Rossi
Michelle Naumburg, cousin of Elsa-Lu Berkowitz
Daniel Paul Harrison, father of Meichelle Feinberg
Stanley Halbert, husband of Carol Halbert & father of Isa Welsch
Dorothy Sacks, sister of Felice Kahn
Naomi Woehr, mother of Roland Woehr
Sheila Krupnick, mother of Judy Seligman
Bernard Lebow, former father-in-law of Howard Altman
Barnett Nappen, brother of Robert Nappen & uncle to Allan Nappen & Dara King
Joan Parkin, grandmother of Jeremy Parkin

Mazel Tov

Birth of Mason Alexander Goldman, grandson of Alan & Gail Goldman
Birth of Hannah Jean Klondar, granddaughter of Anthony & Bobbi Klondar
Birth of Millie Jane Peskin, daughter of Wes & Jillian Peskin
Birth of Sophia Kayden Sloane, daughter of David & Eleanor Sloane
Birth of Julia Sloan Thomas, granddaughter of Elaine Thomas
Birth of Maddison Deanna Gross, granddaughter of Mark Gross & Janessa Althouse
Birth of Benjamin Eli Cohen, grandson of Bob & Marlene Cohen
Baby Naming of Lillian Blake Glaser, daughter of Gary & Staci Glaser & granddaughter of Mark & Bernice Glaser

Baby Naming of Marisa Nora Kline, daughter of Kevin & Danielle Kline
Baby Naming of Eliana Rose London, daughter of Brian & Jessica London
Baby Naming of Heather Daphne Hill, daughter of Sean & Brooke Hill & granddaughter of Mark & Sally Hurwitz
Baby Naming of Annie Rose Gottlieb, granddaughter of Josh Gottlieb & Marcie Feldman
Engagement of Rachel Rosenfeld, daughter of Jack & Linda Rosenfeld, to Dave Combs
Wedding of Hal Goldstein, son of Bob & Joyce Goldstein, to Samantha Stern
Wedding of Lauren Harper, daughter of Peter & Ellen Harper, to Ian Kaczer

Wedding of Samantha Oskie and Jeremy Parkin
Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Schwartz
Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Pollack
B'nai Mitzvah of Matthew & Ava Shohen
Bar Mitzvah of Logan Frost
Bat Mitzvah of Mallory Hersh
Bat Mitzvah of Jessie Young
Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Levinson
Bat Mitzvah of Madeline Kaufman
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Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Orlick
Bat Mitzvah of Juliette Yahav
Bat Mitzvah of Gabriella Kilshaw
Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Torban

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November Donations:

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November 13 • Ross & Kristen Pollack in honor of Hannah Pollack's Bat Mitzvah
Scott & Elizabeth Shohen in honor of Matthew & Ava Shohen's B'nai Mitzvah
November 20 • Ryan & Jennifer Frost in honor of Logan Frost's Bar Mitzvah
Jason & Jaime Hersh in honor of Mallory Hersh's Bat Mitzvah
November 27 • Michael & Sheri Young in honor of Jessie Young's Bat Mitzvah
Brian & Stephanie Levinson in honor of Zachary Levinson's Bar Mitzvah

December Donations:

December 4 • Scott Kaufman & Amy Schlein-Kaufman in honor of Madeline Kaufman's Bat Mitzvah
Ben & Rebecca Altman in honor of Brandon Altman's Bar Mitzvah
December 11 • Cinde Orlick & Carly Driban in honor of Jacob Orlick's Bar Mitzvah
Ricki Lang Yahav & Eric Yahav in honor of Juliette Yahav's Bat Mitzvah
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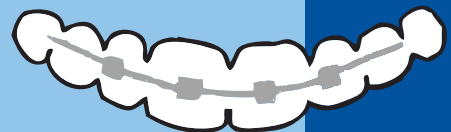
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You value knowledge. You value exceptional medical care. You value privacy.

When you need to be in the hospital, you can find exceptional medical care in an elegant healing environment at Lankenau Medical Center, part of Main Line Health. During your stay in the artfully appointed Barbara Brodsky Suites, you will have a personal concierge to see to your needs, deluxe amenities to make your stay more comfortable, chef-prepared gourmet meals, and private living and dining areas for you and your loved ones. It's these extras that create an incomparable experience.



To see a virtual tour of the Barbara Brodsky Suites, visit mainlinehealth.org/brodsky. To check availability, call 484.476.6180 or email BrodskySuites@mlhs.org.



Opening late 2020 Joseph Levine & Sons Blue Bell, PA

During the construction phase, any family making advance funeral planning for the use of this facility, will be provided a credit towards chapel services (Blue Bell location only). A funeral director from our staff can meet with you in the comfort of your home or any of our offices. If pre-arrangements already exist with other establishments, you may be able to transfer them to our firm. Since 1883, a Levine family member or one of our funeral directors are always available to answer any of your questions or concerns.

By fulfilling a promise to the Montgomery County community, our newest facility conveniently located in the heart of Blue Bell, PA, will feature modern Memorial Chapels on just under 5 acres of land.

JOSEPH *Levine* & SONS

SERVICE • TRADITION • DIGNITY
www.levinefuneral.com

With both a large and small chapel the funeral home will feature:

- Flexible event space with separate reception room for catered family gatherings
- State-of-the art audio and video equipment
- Funeral service webcasting availability
- Parking for almost 200 vehicles
- Private arrangement offices and family rooms
- Minutes away from the PA Turnpike, Route 476 (Blue Route) and Route 202

Joseph Levine & Sons, Inc.

Jonathon D. Levine, Supervisor
4737 Street Road
Trevoise, PA 19053
(215) 942-4700

Joseph Levine & Sons, Inc.

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Haym Salomon Memorial Park

Adam D. Levine
A Levine Family Company
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Beth Or Spotlight

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239 Welsh Road, Maple Glen, PA 19002

Phone: 215-646-5806 | Fax: 215-646-0173 | Website: www.bethor.org

Senior Rabbi Gregory S. Marx
Associate Rabbi Jason Bonder
Cantor David Green
Adjunct Cantor/Jr. Choir Director Jaime Murley
Executive Director Amy S. Abrams
Director of Religious School Aaron Nielsenshultz
Early Childhood Director Sara Baum
Asst. Early Childhood Director Sharon Carlin
Director of Accounting Suzanne Diamond
Director of Marketing & Communications Judy Trias
Director of Member/Youth Engagement Jillian Peskin
Executive Director Emerita Elizabeth L. Hirsch, F.T.A.

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Assistant Treasurer Evan Segal
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Secretary Joshua Stein
Brotherhood President Allan Posner
Sisterhood President Lois Lambersky
Beth Or Spotlight Editors Ellen Werther/Judy Trias

Join us to Celebrate Chanukah & Shabbat!



Beth Or Community Chanukah Circle of Light and Hope

Friday, December 11 • 6:30 pm

Outdoor Program & Service (weather permitting)

We are coming together as a community for Shabbat on the second night of the festival of lights to light up the sky!

All families are invited to join the clergy and your Beth Or friends on the lawn by the pond for this exciting outdoor service featuring songs, stories, glow sticks and more!

All health & safety protocols will be in place. All participants must wear masks and maintain social distancing.

Look for more details to come in your weekly emails!