September Worship Schedule
Wednesday, September 4
9:15 am  Morning Minyan
Friday, September 6 • Shabbat Shoftim
6:30 pm  Family Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary
6:30 pm  Kabbalat Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel
Saturday, September 7
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the B’nai Mitzvah of Ruthie Shigon, daughter of Marshall & Judy Shigon & Max Grunfeld, son of Eric & Shira Grunfeld
Friday, September 13 • Shabbat Ki-Tetze
7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship Service
Saturday, September 14
9:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Bloom, daughter of Beth Bloom & Jason Bloom
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Reese Fiergang, daughter of Anthony Scott Fiergang & Randi Gold Fiergang
Friday, September 20 • Shabbat Ki-Tavo
7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship Service
Saturday, September 21
Shabbat & Selichot
9:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bar Mitzvah of Ellie Werner, daughter of Dean & Dana Werner
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bar Mitzvah of Bailey Kaplan, son of David & Marisa Kaplan
6:30 pm  Selichot Dinner & Program
8:30 pm  Selichot Worship Service
Friday, September 27 • Shabbat Nitzavim
5:30 pm  CECE Round Challah for Hunger Bake & Munchkin Minyan
7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship Service
Saturday, September 28
9:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Sophia Gerson, daughter of Greg & Sheri Gerson
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Klein, son of Michael & Cheryl Klein
Sunday, September 29
Erev Rosh Hashanah
8:00 pm  Erev Rosh Hashanah Worship Service
9:30 pm  Rosh Hashanah Dessert Reception
Monday, September 30 • Rosh Hashanah
9:00 am  Early Worship Service
9:00 am  Worship Service for Youth (K-4)
11:30 am  Tashlich Service
12:00 pm  Late Worship Service
2:30 pm  Tashlich Service
3:00 pm  Family & Tot Worship Service
4:00 pm  Tashlich Service
October Worship Schedule
Tuesday, October 1
2nd Day Rosh Hashanah
10:00 am  2nd Day Rosh Hashanah Worship Service
Friday, October 4 • Shabbat Vayelech
6:30 pm  Family Shabbat Worship Service in the Gitlin Sanctuary
6:30 pm  Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Service in the Haines Memorial Chapel
Saturday, October 5
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship Service
Tuesday, October 8 • Kol Nidre
8:00 pm  Kol Nidre Worship Service
Wednesday, October 9 • Yom Kippur
9:00 am  Early Worship Service
9:00 am  Worship Service for Youth (K-4)
11:30 am  Yom Kippur Study Session #1
12:00 pm  Late Worship Service
1:00 pm  Yom Kippur Study Session #2
2:45 pm  Family & Tot Worship Service
2:45 pm  Yom Kippur Study Session #3
4:00 pm  Afternoon, Yizkor & Neilah Worship
6:15 pm  Break the Fast
Friday, October 11 • Shabbat Ha’azinu
7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship Service
Saturday, October 12
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bar Mitzvah of Noah Gibbs, son of Greg & Jami Gibbs
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bar Mitzvah of Evan Zislis, son of Lori Zislis & Ben Zislis
Sunday, October 13 • Erev Sukkot
5:30 pm  Dinner in the Goldstein Sukkah
6:30 pm  Welcome to Our Tent in the Goldstein Sukkah with Lulav, Etrog & Song
Monday, October 14 – Sukkot
9:00 am  Sukkot Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary with Brunch to Follow
10:30 am  CECE Family Festival of Fun
Wednesday, October 16
9:15 am  Morning Minyan
12:00 pm  APEX Lunch ’n Learn in the Goldstein Sukkah with Cantor Green
Friday, October 18 – Shabbat
5:45 pm  Sushi, Sake & Sukkah
7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship Service honoring our New Members
Saturday, October 19
9:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the B’not Mitzvah of Lucy & Sadie Hess, daughters of Jason & Elisabeth Hess
11:00 am  Heart & Soul Shabbat
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Sophia Levin, daughter of Marc & Leslie Levin
Sunday, October 20
Erev Simchat Torah
6:30 pm  Erev Simchat Torah Worship & Consecration followed by Israeli Dancing with RAK/DAN
Monday, October 21 • Simchat Torah
9:00 am  Simchat Torah Worship & Yizkor. Brunch will follow.
Friday, October 25 • Shabbat Bereshit
7:30 pm  Shabbat Worship Service
Saturday, October 26
11:00 am  Shabbat Worship with the Bar Mitzvah of Natalie Kraus, daughter of Nolan Kraus & Karen Crispino

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The Jewish Position on Abortion

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

There is probably no more contentious issue today than women’s reproductive rights. In keeping with our Social Justice committee’s focus on this topic, I would like to teach you what Judaism says about abortion, women’s rights and when life begins. I have collected several quotes that reflect Jewish thinking. I ask you to draw upon our collective wisdom and make your own conclusions.

Exodus 21:22 argues that a fetus lacks the rights of personage by only assigning a financial compensation if a woman miscarry as a result of deliberate injury, but demanding the death sentence for the wrongdoer if a pregnant woman dies. “If men strive together, and hurt a woman with child, so that a miscarriage results but no other damage ensues, the one responsible shall be fined…. But if other damage ensues (the mother dies), the penalty shall be life for life.”

Josephus, a Jewish historian corroborates the biblical teaching during Roman times. He writes in Antiquities 4:278 that a person who causes the abortion of a woman’s fetus as a result of injury shall pay a fine for “diminishing the population” in addition to paying monetary compensation to the husband and that such a person shall be put to death if the woman dies resulting from the blow.

Still, anti-abortion sentiment is strong in our tradition. In Genesis we read among the laws of Noah, commandments often referred to as the Seven Noahide laws. “He who sheds the blood of man, through man (through the court of law) shall his blood be shed.” Talmudic Rabbi Ishmael observed the words, “man through man,” \textit{adam b’adam}, could be read as “the human being within the human being,” and reads this as protection for the fetus.

By 6th Century C.E., abortion was not considered a transgression, unless the fetus was viable. The Rabbis in the Talmudic book, Sanhedrin 84b ask, “When is a fetus viable? R. Hiyya: from birth… R Simeon b. Rabbi: from when it spoke… Rabina: from conception… R. Nahman b. Isaac: from circumcision… R. Meir: from when it said ‘Amen’.” In other words, life begins at birth, not conception. Elsewhere in the Talmud, Sanhedrin 110b, the rabbis argue that actual life takes precedence over potential life. Thus the Rabbis are absolutely in favor of protecting the mother’s life, when there is any kind of danger to her. The Talmud regards the fetus as \textit{uber yerekh imo}, a “part of its mother.” It continues in Ohalot 7:6, “If a woman travails to give birth and it is feared she may die, one may sever the fetus from her womb and extract it, limb by limb, for her life takes precedence over his.”

Medieval commentator, Rashi, writes that a fetus can be aborted only to save the life of a mother; “This is the case only as long as the fetus has not emerged into the world, when it is not a life at all. But from the moment that the greater part of the fetus has emerged into the world . . . , it may not be touched, even if it endangers the mother, for “we do not set aside one life because of another.”

In the modern period, most notably the Kovno ghetto during the Holocaust, the Germans decreed that every pregnant Jewish woman shall be killed together with her fetus. As a result, in 1942 Rabbi Ephraim Oshry decided that an abortion was permissible in order to save a pregnant woman from the consequences of the decree.

In short, actual life takes precedence over a potential life. Abortion is not to be used for contraception, but the normative Jewish position is to allow it in order to save the life of the mother. Most significantly, life begins at birth, not conception. I hope this brief snapshot brings some light to the topic.
A New Year at Beth Or for All of Us

Josh Gottlieb, Beth Or President

As I write this column we are almost halfway through the summer. For me, this summer has been filled with joy and the anticipation of more happiness, combined with some real concern and a bit of worry mixed in. I again spent time with my granddaughter, Alexandra, and her parents, Jonah and Laura. In addition, within a few weeks my second granddaughter, Annie, will be born to her parents, Aaron and Stephanie. Plus I recently got engaged to Jenny, and we will be married next June. All of these bring me joy.

On May 13, I had a catheter ablation to hopefully cure my atrial fibrillation. My cardiac surgeon, while inside my heart, cauterized over a hundred locations where nerves encircle my heart. So far so good, but this is my first health issue related to something in my body that is truly vital. So, I admit I have at times been worried as I think about my future.

I suspect that most of the congregants at Beth Or similarly experience the ups and downs of life. Beth Or means many things to all of us. We educate our children here in the CECE and the religious school. We celebrate as they become B’nai Mitzvah or get confirmed. We attend services, weddings, social events and funerals.

We also participate in many activities with each other that are too numerous to mention, so I will just touch on a few. Sisterhood, Brotherhood, APEX and Lifelong Learning provide numerous opportunities for adult members by doing good in our community, learning together or just having fun. Our Youth Group provides many varied opportunities for our children, kindergarten age through high school, to enjoy the friendship of other Jewish children having lots of fun together while they also learn and do for others.

Tikkun Olam, repair of the world, is a core value for reform Jews. In the coming year, the Social Action Committee will offer: “Mitzvah Months” in November and December; hosting homeless families in February while congregants provide housing, meals and transportation; and, in collaboration with NAMI, Mental Health Awareness Month in May. The Social Justice Committee will focus on Women’s Reproductive Rights, a core issue of great importance for reform Jews.

As I said, there are countless other committees and interest groups, led by a combination of clergy, staff and our many motivated members. We will recognize Chai members (18+ years) and the numerous volunteers at an Evening of Appreciation on September 23, celebrated with a comedy show. If you are not able to attend, I hope to see you in the coming months, as you become more involved in what interests you at Beth Or.

I wish all of you a healthy and happy 5780.
Learning From King David

Rabbi Jason Bonder, Associate Rabbi

When I got the email reminder that September/October Spotlight articles were due, I got overwhelmed. I was already jotting down ideas for multiple High Holy Day sermons. I was already preparing experiential sermons for our pre-teens. What new idea could I possibly find that wouldn’t be a repetition of things I already planned on saying at some other point during the holidays? This problem is not unique to my role as a rabbi. I imagine that chefs experience this phenomenon regarding their seasonal menus. Musicians likely experience this when writing or playing their next song. And I know parents experience this while packing lunches each week. We all ask ourselves, “How can I provide even more unique and meaningful content (or food) that will seem new and exciting?”

The Psalmist has an answer for us in Psalm 27. It is this psalm that many of us read daily through the last month of the Hebrew calendar — Elul — in anticipation of the first month of the New Year — Tishrei.

"אֶחָֽת־שָׁלְוָ֣לֵת מֵאַתְוַ֣א אָוָּהָ֔ה אֶבֶּקֶ֣שׁ שָׁבַ֑עַת בֵּ֛בַעְתָּ הָ֗' כַּל יְיוָֽוָהָֽיִּמְּי..."

“One thing I ask of Adonai, only that do I seek: To live in the house of Adonai all the days of my life...”

Jewish tradition tells us that King David wrote these words. He was one of the most prolific figures in our tradition. He wrote the 150 psalms, he played music, he was a warrior and military strategist, he ruled over the Kingdom of Judah and Israel, and yes, he even slayed a giant.

Where did he get his inspiration? How did he churn out new content on a regular basis? It was not by searching far and wide for the latest and greatest idea or innovation. It was, instead, through a firm commitment to staying centered. It was by returning to the same source of inspiration — the House of God — that gave David strength and creativity.

This is the great power of the High Holy Days. No matter where we have been this year, no matter how many new events and challenges we had to face, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur call us back to our house of God — Beth Or. May our sacred place, traditions, music, and liturgy, serve as that centering point for you this year. May your return here yield a year of variety and innovation. May it inspire us to make unique contributions to ourselves, our families and our communities, regardless of whether that contribution may be school lunch, joyous music, or simply rejoicing in all the miracles of life.

Shanah Tovah U’Metukah — May you have a good and sweet New Year.
The Power of Humor In Bereavement

Cantor David Green

A congregant shared this epitaph with me recently. It brought a little chuckle to my heart. I had the same reaction when I saw the tombstone of Mel Blanc, the voice of Warner Brothers cartoon characters: “That’s All Folks” and Merv Griffin’s epitaph: “I Will Not Be Right Back.”

Of course, gravesides are somber and sad places. Yet, I often witness laughter and humor at shiva homes and gravesides. For many of us, some of our memories of our loved ones are funny and, when thinking of them, bring a moment of joy back to us.

Karen Kedar, in her book, God Whispers, talks about her experiences when she meets with families to prepare a eulogy. Many families will start with facts - when a person was born and died, what they did for a living and the names of family members who were close to them. These facts are important, but it does not tell us who that person was.

Kedar states: “After the facts, then we come to the visions of their heart. We hear the deceased ‘rebirthed and recreated.’ Many recall great universal truths about life and the search for meaning and longing for love and connection.”

Rabbi Alvin Fine describes this process as a journey: “Life is a journey and Death a destination to life everlasting.” So, when you visit the gravesites of your loved ones during the High Holy Day period this year, share your loved ones’ journeys through their lives. Those stories, memories and antidotes will enable their memories to live on, and maybe even with a little joy or humor.

September/October Candle Lighting

Friday, September 6 • 7:06 pm
Friday, September 13 • 6:55 pm
Friday, September 20 • 6:43 pm
Friday, September 27 • 6:32 pm
Friday, October 4 • 6:20 pm
Friday, October 11 • 6:09 pm
Friday, October 18 • 5:59 pm
Friday, October 25 • 5:49 pm
New Year, New Faces!

Jillian Peskin, Director of Member & Youth Engagement

Giving tours to perspective members is one of the most rewarding things I do here at Beth Or! I love hearing from families about their Jewish journeys and what or who directed them to Beth Or. I enjoy listening to the stories of where they grew up, what kind of Judaism they started with, where they went to camp and who they know at CBO.

This past spring and summer, I had the chance to meet so many new faces who have now joined our community! I hope to see everyone at High Holy Days, Lifelong Learning Classes, Religious School, and Preschool and at all of our exciting fall events.

To all of our longtime congregants, we ask that you please help us welcome newest members! Below are a few ways you can help make everyone feel at home:

- Say hi to someone new!
- Invite someone to one of our fall festival events — Welcome to Our Tent Dinner, Sushi Sake Sukkah, Consecration & Simchat Torah.
- Tell someone new why you love Beth Or. Is it our clergy? Is it our teachers? Is it our worship services? Is it our community programs?
- Host a Shabbat dinner for families who have kids in your children’s classes or who you may have met at Torah study.
- Tell someone new about our cool youth events for children in K – 6th grades (check the calendar to see what’s coming up!).
- Invite a stranger to sit with you at Shabbat services or chat with them at the oneg.
- Join the membership committee! Contact Allison Levin — allisonlaurenlevin@gmail.com or Alyson Caplan alysoncaplan@gmail.com.

To all of our new members – please let me know how I can help you feel most comfortable. On behalf of the staff and the rest of the congregation — WELCOME!!

To all of our longtime members — this year, find new ways to engage in our community. Perhaps try a new lifelong learning class, join us on a trip, attend a different worship service, volunteer with Social Action, study with one of our clergy, attend a festival event, take a walk around our beautiful grounds, or have coffee with an old Beth Or friend. If you want to talk about ways you can enrich your experience here, please call me!
Connecting to Hebrew

Aaron Nielsenshultz, Director of Religious School

Do you have this conversation in your house: When is Chanukah this year? When is Rosh Hashanah? We do all the time, and given the way the Hebrew calendar appears to move against our secular calendar, it can be quite confusing to keep track of Hebrew dates!

So let me help: This year, Rosh Hashanah starts on Sunday evening September 29. I’m not sharing this information with you simply because I’m a nice guy who is trying to make your holidays go smoothly; instead, I want to talk about such a relatively late start to the holidays will mean for Hebrew school.

While Sunday school won’t see too many changes due to our holidays this year, Hebrew school will not be quite so lucky: Monday/Tuesday Hebrew school will be out of session starting on September 30 and resume on October 28. That’s almost a whole month off! I would ask that you be sure to send your students to the dates we have school in September, and then get them right back into the swing of things at the end of October.

How else can you keep your student on track? Each student will bring home an Oatfan, a folder, for Hebrew school, and in that folder will be some resources for practicing as well as information about online resources available to work on Hebrew. You can go to our website and click on “Learn” toward the top of the page, then on the link for the Religious School. At the bottom of the page that comes up, you’ll see a link for our Audio/Visual Resources, and they can be a big help in keeping Hebrew knowledge fresh.

As always, you can also be in touch with me if you have questions. I’m sure that working together, we’ll be able to keep our students right on track for the year.

Important School Dates

Sunday, September 8
First Day of Sunday School

Monday, September 9
First Day of Monday Hebrew

Tuesday, September 10
First Day of Tuesday Hebrew

Sunday, September 29
No School: Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 30
No School: Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday, October 1
No School: Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, October 6
No School: Yom Kippur

Monday, October 7
No School: Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 8
No School: Yom Kippur

Sunday, October 13
Sunday School resumes

Monday, October 14
No School: Sukkot

Tuesday, October 15
No School: Sukkot

Sunday, October 20
Evening: Consecration

Monday, October 21
No School: Atzeret

Tuesday, October 22
No School: Atzeret

Monday, October 28
Monday Hebrew resumes

Tuesday, October 29
Tuesday Hebrew resumes
Welcome Back to the CECE!

*Sara Baum, Early Childhood Director*

We are busy getting ready for the start of another school year. I would like to welcome all our new and returning families to the CECE. This is a very exciting time for us! We get to start fresh with new teachers and classmates. It is also a time to reconnect with familiar faces from the year before.

This year in the office we get the best of both. We have familiar faces here in new roles. We are thrilled to be starting a new year together. For those of you who don’t know me from before, I am Sara Baum otherwise known as Ms. Sara. I began my time at the CECE as a lead teacher in 2015. The last two years I have been in the office as the Assistant Director before happily becoming the Director this past June. I have been in Early Childhood Education for most of my life and feel blessed to have found a home here at Beth Or! Sharon Carlin is a face you will be seeing a lot of in the office. She is our new Assistant Director. Sharon began her career at Beth Or in 2006 as the Administrative Assistant at the CECE. She was promoted to the position of Administrative Coordinator in 2014 where she supported both the CECE and Religious School. We are excited to have Sharon in this new role! Our office is always open. We can also be reached by phone 215-646-8869 or by email, Sara — *sbaum@bethor.org* and Sharon — *scarlin@bethor.org*.

We have a lot of exciting things happening in the coming months. Here are some important dates to mark on your calendars:

**September**
- 9/4 – Watermelon Welcome Back, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. RSVP to Heather at *HRFISCHER10@gmail.com* by 8/26
- 9/9 – First Day of School and Boo Hoo Breakfast, 8:15 am
- 9/24 – Back to School Night, 7 pm - 8:30 pm
- 9/30 – Rosh Hashanah (school closed)

**October**
- 10/1 – Rosh Hashanah(school closed)
- 10/9 – Yom Kippur (school closed)
- 10/14 - Sukkot Family Festival of Fun, 10:30 am — open to all young families
- 10/17 – Traveling Farm Visit, 9:30 am - 11:30 am

We are looking forward to learning, discovering, and exploring in the upcoming year!
Ten Reasons to Join Junior Choir

Cantor Jaime Murley,  
Junior Choir Director

Shalom! September is a time of starting anew in the Jewish tradition. In between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur we take ten days to reflect on the year that’s past, and think about ways to make the coming year a better one. Well, there’s one easy way to make the coming year a better one for kids in grades 2 through 12, and that’s by joining the Junior Choir! In honor of the 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, here are ten reasons why your son or daughter should join the Junior Choir this year:

- **High Holy Day Family services** – One of the highlights of the High Holy Day season is listening to the Junior Choir beautifully lead Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services!

- **Family Shabbat Services** – The Junior Choir gets to lead Family Shabbat Services on the first Friday of every month. We often follow services with a fun activity!

- **Knowledge of prayers and Hebrew** – it’s no secret that the students of the Junior Choir attend the most services throughout the year, and therefore become extremely knowledgeable of Hebrew and the prayers of the service!

- **Barnes and Noble, Sisterhood Cabaret, Music Shabbat, and more** – This year’s choir will have some extra fantastic singing opportunities in store for them!

- **Welcome back DJ party!!!** – Save the date - September 22!!! Always a blast... and so are these other fun activities we’ll do this year:
  - Laser Tag
  - Movie Nights
  - Ice cream Socials
  - **Purimschpiel** – This year’s is based on The Greatest Showman! Get your circus tricks ready!
  - **Forever Friendships** – The students of the Junior Choir, no matter what age, share a special connection and love of Judaism through Jewish music! Grab a friend (or just get ready to make some new ones) and join today!!

If you are interested in more information, please contact me at jmurley@bethor.org.

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**Junior Choir September/October Calendar**

**Friday, September 6**  
Family Service, 6:30 pm

**Sunday, September 22**  
Parent Meeting and Welcome Back DJ Party, 1 pm - 3 pm

**Monday, September 30**  
Rosh Hashanah Family Service, 3:30 pm

**Friday, October 4**  
Family Service, 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, October 9**  
Yom Kippur Family Service, 2:45 pm

**Sunday, October 13**  
Sukkot Service, 6:30 pm

**Sunday, October 20**  
Simchat Torah, 6:30 pm

Jaime Murley
Recognizing Acts of Kindness

Thank you to Faye Benshetler and members of the Beth Or Knitting Circle (Marlene Belkin, Marlene Cohen, Ellen Harper, Felice Kahn, Theresa Knee, Joan Kober, Lois Lambersky, Dina Levin, Vivian Lichtman, Ellen Mirbach, Eileen Sappir, Debbie Schwartz, Barbara Spilove, Debbie Steinberg, Jill Tarabar, Jody Walker, Karen Weiss) who show compassion and care through their year-round knitting projects. Since January 2019 the Knitting Circle has contributed handmade afghans and twiddle mats to the Abramson Center, wool hats to IDF soldiers, pillow cases, bears, afghans, scarves, hats, fleece blankets and sweaters to Mitzvah Circle, and hats to the Karnell Cancer Center. Congregants are invited to learn how to knit or work on their knitting skills while talking and catching up with other members of the community. Upcoming dates: Wednesday, September 18, October 16 and November 13, 7 pm - 8:30 pm. For further information, please contact Faye at Febx@comcast.net.

NEW Mitzvah Projects

The next issue of Beth Or Spotlight will include all the information you need to know about Mitzvah Months, November and December 2019. But before then, here’s a sneak preview of a few additions to our lineup:

1. Fix For A Friend — minor home maintenance for clients of the Northeast NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community) most of whom are living at or just above the poverty line. Some are survivors of the Holocaust or veterans, but for all, stability and community-based support are particularly important. On December 25 a team of Beth Or volunteers will meet at the synagogue at 9:30 am to pick up a supply kit and instructions of what needs to be fixed in the homes, such as, changing hard to reach light bulbs and smoke detector batteries, tightening loose doorknobs and hinges, covering window air conditioners, weatherizing windows, and replacing HVAC filters. Worklists are designed to be accomplished by a team of two to four volunteers in 60-90 minutes. All volunteers will return to Beth Or at the end to check in and return equipment and unused supplies. Thank you in advance to Co-chairs Abby Gilbert-Freedman and Walter Kirzbraun for leading this effort.

2. Distributing Dignity — on Sunday, December 8 we will be collecting bras and feminine hygiene products for women in need. We will deliver our donations to Distributing Dignity (distributingdignity.org) who will see to it that women living in a shelter or transitional home in Pennsylvania receive these items. The organizations that they work with include Turning Point of Lehigh Valley (turningpointlv.org), Valley Youth House (valleyyouthhouse.org), Safe Harbor Easton (safeharboreaston.org), Bethlehem Haven (bethlehemhaven.org), and Women Against Abuse (womenagainstabuse.org). Our thanks to Chair Shari Coltoff for making us aware of this need and for organizing the collection.

3. Ronald McDonald House — meal program supporting families of seriously ill children, offering them a welcomed relief as they return from an often exhausting day at the hospital, providing them with a nutritious meal that might otherwise be skipped, and creating an opportunity for families to interact with one another, share their stories, and learn from people in similar situations. We will be volunteering at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House, located at 100 East Erie Avenue on Sunday, November 24. The minimum age for participation is 16, and space will be limited. Our appreciation to Chair Jill Tarabar for bringing this meaningful volunteer opportunity to the Social Action Committee and Beth Or community.

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

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, November 20 • 7 pm - 9 pm
Panel Discussion: Reproductive Justice — The Jewish Perspective
Details on page 19.

Contact Noah Fischer, noahfishcher25@yahoo.com with any questions about this event or to get involved with the Social Justice Committee.
Meet Our B’nai Mitzvah Students

Max Grunfeld
September 7
For my Mitzvah project I held a 3-on-3 basketball tournament in order to raise funds for PeacePlayers International. PeacePlayers is an organization that uses the power of sport to unite, educate and inspire young people to create a more peaceful world. They offer sport programming, peace education, and leadership development to those living in communities in conflict. And they do this all through the game of basketball. Everyone who knows me knows that basketball is my life. It’s through this sport — either playing by myself, with my dad, sister or on a team — that I get to have fun, push myself to improve my skills and just let off some steam. By helping to raise funds for PeacePlayers, I hope that I can enable that for other kids living in communities in conflict. My 3-on-3 tournament was a huge success – we had over 20 kids play and raised almost $700. I am really proud of this achievement and my ability to donate to such a good cause.

Ruthie Shigon
September 7
For my Mitzvah Project I hosted a Dance and Donate which benefitted the Division of Neurology at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Each year, more than 25,000 children suffering from disorders related to the nervous system seek care at this hospital. CHOP has one of the largest Pediatric Neurology programs in the world. CHOP provides expert clinical care for children with epilepsy, headache, muscle and nerve disorders, critical illness, MS, pediatric strokes, and Tourette’s Syndrome, among others. CHOP is incredibly near and dear to my heart as it enhances the lives of children and families in our community.

The fundraising committee and my dance instructor helped me to organize an evening to raise donations for CHOP. The Institute of Dance Artistry in Fort Washington held a free dance class while friends and dancers from the community came with donations. That night we danced for children who are fighting for a healthier day! I was humbled and full of gratitude to be able to deliver a donation beyond my original expectation of $1,600 to CHOP Neurology Division. For more information and ways that you can participate, please visit CHOP.EDU/GIVING.

Sarah Bloom
September 14
I love all animals, but especially dogs. I am having a paper towel drive for Anarchy Animal Rescue, which can be found on Facebook. The Rescue will pick up animals who are being abused and try to find them their forever homes. This process can take time and lots of work and paper towels are always needed. I will be collecting towels at my house and my Mom is happy to drive and pick them up as well. I will then get to deliver them to the foster homes. I am very excited to be helping animals.

Reese Fiergang
September 14
For my Mitzvah project I chose to hold a fundraiser to provide financial assistance to our local Interfaith Housing Alliance which would benefit homeless children. I partnered with Project Night Night to help children feel more comfortable and less stressed when entering a shelter. I learned from Project Night Night that when children arrive at a shelter, they often come directly from an emergency situation, such as domestic violence, extreme poverty or disaster. Most of them have only the clothes on their backs. I held an event in which the attendees donated blankets, stuffed animals & books that were put together in packages to be given to the children. The stuffed animals and blankets offer comfort, security and a sense of ownership. The books provide an opportunity to develop vital language and reading skills. All totes and financial assistance were donated to our local Interfaith Housing Alliance. To learn more about both organizations please visit projectnightnight.org and https://www.i-fha.org.

Ellie Werner
September 21
For my Bat Mitzvah project, my wish is to honor the life of my paternal grandmother, Eileen Werner, who lost her life to the devastating disease of Pancreatic Cancer. I never had the chance to meet her, but I am told that I possess many of her good qualities such as her gregarious personality, her love of people and her desire to learn. I am hosting a 5K walk/run in September, and will raise money to support Pancreatic Cancer research. My hope is that someday, doctors will be able to detect this cancer at its earliest stage, and not succumb to this awful disease. If you would like to support my mitzvah project and make a donation in honor of my late grandmother, Eileen Werner, please visit the Pancreatic Cancer website, https://www.pancan.org.
Bailey Kaplan
September 21

I supported the **Special Olympics** for my Mitzvah project. The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics gives the participants continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community. I volunteered at multiple Special Olympics Track and Field events. This May, my whole family volunteered at the Montgomery County/Conshohocken AMBUCS Track & Field Invitational in honor of my Bar Mitzvah. We officiated at the Javelin throw and had an amazing experience encouraging and supporting all of the athletes who competed that day!

Sophia Gerson
September 28

For my Mitzvah project I decided to make **kosher meals** for people that have trouble cooking for themselves. This process helps older Jews in the area to spend less money on food and food shopping and more on vital necessities like medication. This was an interest of mine as I have been volunteering with Caren Gutman on Sundays after Hebrew school through the **Meals that Matter** program.

I invited my family and a few close friends to help me cook the dinners. We made 165 meals that Caren graciously delivered to JCC Klein branch for distribution! Thank you Caren! I look forward to cooking and packaging more meals in the future!

Jacob Klein
September 28

For my Mitzvah Project, I chose to work with the **Jewish Relief Organization (JRA)**, to help box and distribute food and other necessities to local families and individuals who are in need. JRA has a massive warehouse in Philadelphia, where volunteers spend time carefully organizing and loading various boxes with items based on the needs of various families and individuals. Once boxes are loaded and sealed, other volunteers arrange to deliver the boxes all over the Delaware Valley. JRA works year-round and can be contacted at either 610-660-0190 or jra@jewishrelief.org. JRA accepts donations of goods, money or volunteers who would like to donate their time helping out.

Evan Zislis
October 12

For my Bar Mitzvah project, I am working with **tennis clubs** to help donate gently-used tennis racquets to people who would like to learn how to play tennis but cannot afford to do so. All of the items collected will then be donated to local underserved programs that focus on tennis and education in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New Jersey. These programs include: **Legacy Youth Tennis and Education, Rodney Street Tennis and Tutoring, National Junior Tennis and Learning of Trenton**, and **Tennis Central**. If you are interested in providing any used tennis equipment for children or adults, please email zislis18@gmail.com and we will arrange to pick them up.

Sophia Levin
October 19

I am a 7th grader at Sandy Run Middle School. For my Bat Mitzvah Project, I will be raising money for the **Make-A-Wish Foundation**. The goal of Make-A-Wish is to grant the wish of every child diagnosed with a critical illness. To raise money for this important organization, I will be baking and selling cookies. Look for me (and my cookies!) at Beth Or on Sundays between Religious School sessions so that you can support this cause. In my free time, I enjoy doing gymnastics, playing the piano, traveling, and spending time with my family and friends.

Natalie Kraus
October 26

For my Mitzvah project I chose to help and take care of homeless cats for an organization called **Hart 2 Heart**. Hart 2 Heart is a non-profit pet rescue organization. This organization places cats, kittens, and dogs in a “furever” home. While the cats are waiting to get adopted, they are housed in local Pet Value stores. For the past few months I have been going to Pet Value and taking care of the cats there. I have been cleaning out the cats’ cages, feeding them and playing with them. I have also gone to adoption events where I helped set up. A few cats even got adopted! Animals can help people in many ways. They make people happier and feel better and I think it is important that we respect them and give them the love and care they need. I really enjoyed my choice to volunteer at Hart 2 Heart. To learn more and help make the world a better place, visit hart2heartphilly.com.
**FALL FESTIVALS**

**SUKKOT**
Sukkot events will take place in the Goldstein Sukkah (weather permitting), unless otherwise noted.

**Welcome to Our Tent Dinner in the Goldstein Sukkah**
*Sunday, October 13 • Dinner - 5:30 pm; Service - 6:30 pm*
This family event includes dinner and a Jr. Choir performance during our Erev Sukkot Service. All members and CECE families are invited. The event is free, but RSVP is required by October 7 using the website RSVP portal.

**Sukkot Worship & Brunch**
*Monday, October 14 • Service at 9 am followed by Brunch at 10:30 am*
Service takes place in the Gitlin Sanctuary with brunch in the Rosenfeld Social Hall.

**Family Festival of Fun sponsored by the CECE**
*Monday, October 14 • 10:30 am*
All Beth Or families with pre-school aged children who are off from school are invited to enjoy songs, crafts, and activities in the Sukkah. We will move indoors if the weather doesn’t cooperate. RSVP using the RSVP portal on the website homepage.

**Lunch & Learn in the Sukkah**
*Wednesday, October 16 • 12 pm – 2 pm*
Join Cantor Green for a discussion about the holiday of Sukkot. Please bring a bag lunch. RSVP to Barbara Murtha at bmurtha@bethor.org by October 11. This program is sponsored by APEX.

**Sushi, Sake, Sukkah!**
*Friday, October 18 • Event at 5:45 pm followed by Shabbat Worship at 7:30 pm*
Celebrate the beauty of Sukkot at this annual event. Join us on the patio by the Sukkah to shake the lulav & etrog, sip sake & beer (thanks to the Brotherhood Beer Garden), enjoy delicious food, music and more! As we rejoice in our temporary dwelling — the sukkah, we have the opportunity to help those experiencing homelessness. This event is free for Beth Or members and CECE families. Babysitting and kids programming also provided for free. Check the RSVP portal for details and to register by September 20.

After the festival event, weather permitting, we will welcome Shabbat amidst the changing leaves of Fall.
SIMCHAT TORAH
Erev Simchat Torah Worship, Consecration and Israeli Dancing with RAK-DAN
Sunday, October 20 • Service at 6:30 pm follow by Dancing at 7:45 pm
Join us for this annual tradition! Erev Simchat Torah worship and consecration is followed by lively Israeli dancing.

Simchat Torah Worship & Yizkor Brunch
Monday, October 21 • Service at 9 am followed by Brunch at 10:30 am
Service takes place in the Gitlin Sanctuary with brunch in the Rosenfeld Social Hall.

Purchase your own Lulav & Etrog for Sukkot!
Send a check for $50, payable to Beth Or, to the office, attn: Barbara Murtha.
Include your name, email and phone number.
Orders due by September 17.
I would like to welcome back all our Brotherhood members from what I hope was a summer packed with fun, sun and memories. As Rosh Hashanah approaches and another busy year of activities at Brotherhood, thank you to all of you… the families and members of Congregation Beth Or. You may be wondering why I am thanking you and for what. It will never happen here! The national trend is for many synagogue men’s clubs, brotherhoods as well as sisterhoods to close due to lack of interest and leadership. Thanks to the support of Beth Or members like you, our Brotherhood is thriving and gaining new membership. This past year saw increased general membership and a doubling of our Mensch level as well as support for activities and attendance to our Annual Dinner. Your membership dues are what allows us to support congregational programming in areas of religious education, youth activities, brunches, Holocaust remembrance and more. Every dollar we receive through your generosity goes directly back to support these areas. Thank you!

If you are not a current Brotherhood member or are a new family at Beth Or, I would encourage you to please join. Recently, you received a membership letter in your 2019-2020 Beth Or dues packet. You may remit your membership dues directly to the synagogue. If you would like to be a Mensch and receive a ticket to our Annual Dinner, simply fill out the bottom of the letter and send it in. Upon paying dues, we will enter your email address into our data base and you will receive monthly updates on programs and activities.

So, just what has Brotherhood been planning for September and October? Visit us on September 8 at Welcome Back Breakfast for Sunday School students. Need holiday wine? High Holy Day wine sales will be offered for the first-time on Sunday, September 8, 15 and 22 along with online sales from Kosherwine.com. Brotherhood will host the first Beer Garden of the season on Monday September 23. On October 13, join us for the annual Car Show where we expect over 75 vehicles to roar their engines. Our second Beer Garden event will have lots of suds on October 18 as we celebrate Sukkot.

If you would like to reach Brotherhood about events or have comments you may do so at info@bethorbrotherhood.org.

Wishing everyone a L’Shanah Tova and an easy fast.

News Flash!!! Our Annual Dinner on December 3 will feature comedian and actor Brad Zimmerman… Star of My Son the Waiter, A Jewish Tragedy. Tickets on sale now!

KOSHER WINE SALES

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

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

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

Questions? Contact info@bethorbrotherhood.org.
Matzah Ball Soup and Sisterhood are Good for the Soul

Lois Lambersky, Sisterhood President

As a young boy my son had many ups and downs like any other kid. When something good happened we celebrated with a good dinner starting off with a big pot of chicken soup and matzah balls. When he was ill or had a big loss on the baseball field this also called for a large dose of Jewish penicillin AKA matzah ball soup. Matzah ball soup had the power to heal and turn frowns upside down.

Belonging to Sisterhood has proven to be my adult version of Jewish Penicillin. The friends and memories I have made through Sisterhood give me warm feelings of joy and pride. Many ingredients come together to make a robust chicken soup. The wide variety of religious, educational, social, philanthropic and advocacy based programs offered make our Sisterhood a strong and robust group of Jewish women.

As the holidays approach, I hope you feel the warmth and comfort of Beth Or just as though you were enjoying a bowl of your Bubbe’s chicken soup.

Welcome to all our new members. Grab a spoon and dig in!

L’Shana Tova

Who will be Sisterhood’s Woman of the Year?

Nominations due by Friday, November 1.

Nominations are now being accepted for Sisterhood’s Woman of the Year! All Beth Or members are encouraged to nominate an outstanding Sisterhood woman for this prestigious award. Nominees should, through volunteerism, demonstrate significant and ongoing contributions to Sisterhood, the Congregation and the community.

Pick up a nomination form in the Spain Lobby. Drop off completed form in the Sisterhood mailbox in the office.

Questions? Contact Marian Wolfert, 610-825-1620, wolfertmarian@yahoo.com.

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
- Talit and Kippot
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah Gifts
- Wedding Smash Glasses and Gifts
- Jewelry
- Home Giftware
- Books for Adults and Children
- Children’s Toys and Games
- Baby Gifts
- Occasion Cards

Hours:

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

September/October sale: 25% Mezuzzahs, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Gifts. (no further discount applies.)

Discounts available for Sisterhood Members and Beth Or Staff I Great Monthly Sales and New Arrivals
Ellen Werther

Being A Caring Congregant

There is a passage in Psalms that speaks to me and is a guiding force in my life: “Show us how precious each day is; teach us how to be fully here. Let the work of our hands prosper for our little while”.

Living a life of purpose makes each day more meaningful for me. As Chair of Beth Or’s Caring Congregants, my life has been greatly enriched. To be there for others is transformative...it elevates one’s soul.

The Mitzvah of reaching out to another in transition...be it health related, suffering a loss, or isolation, can be life changing for both the giver and the recipient.

Those we touch with a simple visit, bringing a meal, taking time to let someone know they are not forgotten makes a tremendous difference. Taking time to just listen and lend support is a way to acknowledge that this individual is going through a period of adjustment.

Visiting the elderly is one aspect I truly enjoy. To restore their dignity; to let them know they are not forgotten is an act of G'milut Chasadim... one of lovingkindness and selflessness. Those who have reached longevity often are so lonely because of the loss of independence and their contemporaries. Engaging seniors in conversation is both poignant and remarkable. Many of them have only their memories to hold on to and sharing their happier days is cathartic for them.

Each of us can be a caring congregant even by sharing the name of one who could benefit from outreach and support. If there is an aspect of this committee that interests you, I’d be most happy to talk with you and answer your questions. My email: ekwfarm@comcast.net. My phone: 215-266-5905.

Shana Tova U’metukah!
**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**APEX Bus Trip to 911 Memorial Museum & Harold’s Deli**

**Sunday, September 15 • 8 am – 8 pm**

Join your Beth Or friends for a meaningful day of visiting the 911 memorial & Museum in NYC followed by an early bird dinner at the famous Harold’s Deli in Edison, NJ. Approximate schedule: Depart Beth Or, 8 am; Museum Tour, 10:30 am; Depart for Harold’s, 2 pm; Arrive back to Beth Or, 7 - 8 pm. Cost: $70/person includes coach bus, light breakfast and museum ticket. Space is limited. RSVP by September 9 to Barbara Murtha, bmurtha@bethor.org, 215-646-5806. Please make checks payable to Congregation Beth Or and send to the office, attm: APEX Bus Trip.

**AARP Safe Driver Courses**

Basic — Tuesday & Wednesday, September 17 & 18 • 10 am – 2 pm  
Refresher — Tuesday, September 24 • 10 am – 2 pm

Take a class and get a significant discount on your car insurance. Open to AARP members and non-members age 50+. Please bring your driver’s license to class. Course fee: $15 - AARP members, $20 - non-AARP members. (AARP membership card required to register for the lower fee.) Please RSVP with payment to the Beth Or office, attention Jillian Peskin. Checks should be made payable to AARP. Contact Jillian with any questions, jpeskin@bethor.org.

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

**ART GALLERY**

**Artist — Dara King & Marie Jackson**

**Opening Reception: Friday, September 13 during Oneg Shabbat • Exhibiting through November 6**

Please join us as the Olitsky Gallery presents an exhibit featuring Beth Or congregant Dara King and Marie Jackson. Friends for over 10 years, Dara and Marie collaborate on this exhibit with a message of peace, love and happiness. Dara Nappen King is a photographer who loves to share her view of the world through her lens. Dara’s travel gives her the opportunity to photograph nature in regions ranging from Alaska to Masada. Marie Jackson is a Personal Power Counselor, helping people to identify the beliefs that keep them from being happy. She and her client examine and reframe those beliefs, resulting in resilience, strength, and optimism for the future. Dara’s love of photography, partnered with Marie’s philosophical vision, is evident in this exhibit.

**BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD EVENTS**

**Welcome Back Breakfast sponsored by Brotherhood & Sisterhood**

**Sunday, September 8 • 8:30 am – 1 pm**

Our traditional kick off to the school year takes place in the Spain Lobby and outside of the main entrance! Parents and students can enjoy delicious Shmear Cafe bagels and coffee throughout the morning compliments of Brotherhood & Sisterhood. Meet Brotherhood and Sisterhood members to find out about upcoming events. Connect with our membership committee chairs, Allison Levin & Alyson Caplan to learn about ways to get involved this year if you are a new or returning member. Aaron Nielsenshultz and the Religious School Committee will be on hand to answer any questions in the Spain Lobby.

**High Holy Days Wine Sales sponsored by Brotherhood**

**Sunday, September 8, 15 & 22 • 9 am – 1 pm**

Are you interested in purchasing Kosher wine for the holidays while helping to support Religious School programming at Beth Or? Brotherhood will have an assortment of stock on hand at a table in the Spain Lobby on the three Sundays leading up to Rosh Hashanah. You can also purchase Kosher wine at any time throughout the year using the Beth Or Brotherhood affiliate link on kosherwine.com (http://bit.ly/BethOrBrotherhood), and have the wine delivered directly to your home. Contact info@bethorbrotherhood.org for additional information.

**Sisterhood Challah Bake with Rina Lebovitz**

**Sunday, September 8 • 2 pm – 4 pm**

Sisterhood welcomes you back from summer break! All are invited to a meet and greet with Rina Lebovitz (Bonder) to benefit Challah for Hunger. Spend a few hours braiding challahs to take home and bake. Light refreshments and beverages (some adult) will be served. See Chai Lights email for cost and RSVP deadline. RSVP to Ellen Mirbach, semirbach@gmail.com.

**Brotherhood 8th Annual Classic Car Show**

**Sunday, October 13 • 9 am - 1 pm in the Beth Or parking lot**

Come see GTOs, Vettes, Rolls Royces, Ferraris, antique fire engines, exotic sports cars, one-of-a-kind motorcycles, and other classic/muscle cars and trucks! Enjoy music and giveaways provided by B101 Radio, along with free food and drink. To register your car, contact Bob Cohen at rcohenesquire@aol.com or Allan Posner at info@bethorbrotherhood.com.
Sisterhood Bus Trip to Grounds for Sculpture
Sunday, October 27 • 9 am – 4 pm
Join Sisterhood as we explore a 42 acre sculpture park with over 270 works of art. See meticulously kept gardens, browse various types of art, and view sculptures in a variety of styles and media. Exhibits are both indoors and outdoors for your enjoyment. Bus transportation, a one hour guided tour and lunch at Mastoris Diner are included. Golf carts are available upon request for the walking tour if needed. This event is rain or shine. Cost: $65/person. RSVP using the Beth Or website RSVP portal.

SAVE THE DATE for these upcoming Brotherhood/Sisterhood events!

Broadway Cabaret Night
Saturday, November 9 • 7 pm – 11 pm
Sisterhood is proud to showcase Beth Or musical talents for a special night of favorite show tunes, featuring Cantors David Green & Jaime Murley and more! Bar snacks, specialty coffee creations by Top Hat Espresso Catering and gelato are included. Cash bar available. Check the Beth Or website or weekly Chai Lights email for RSVP and more information. RSVP Deadline: November 4.

Sisterhood Shabbat and Dinner
Friday, November 22 • Dinner at 5:45 pm follow by Worship at 7:30 pm
Join us for our annual Shabbat dinner and honor our Woman of the Year. Look for more details and RSVP in the weekly Chai Lights email or the website RSVP portal.

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Brunch featuring Lisa Kohn
Sunday, November 24 • 10 am – 12 noon
Lisa Kohn, author of To the Moon and Back: A Childhood Under the Influence, tells the tale of being raised in and torn between two conflicting worlds. There was the world she longed for and lived in on weekends – her mother’s world, which was the fanatical, puritanical cult of the Moonies – and the world she was forced to live in during the week – her father’s world, which was based in sex, drugs, and the squalor of life in New York City’s East Village in the 1970’s. All are welcome! Cost $10/person. Register in advance using the RSVP portal or info@bethorbrotherhood.org.

Chanukah Bazaar
Sunday, November 17 • 9 am – 2 pm
For vendor information or to volunteer, contact Sherry Spector at chanukahbazaar19@gmail.com. Shop until you drop at our annual Chanukah Bazaar!

Brotherhood Annual Dinner featuring Brad Zimmerman
Tuesday, December 3 • 5:45 pm - 9 pm
Spend an evening with comedian/actor Brad Zimmerman, star of My Son the Waiter: A Jewish Tragedy, with opening by Andy Pitz. All men and boys are welcome! Join Brotherhood for great food, fun, laughs, auction and a chance to win a $2,500 cash prize! Cost: Free for Mensch members; $50 – Brotherhood members; $60 – non-members. RSVP on the website RSVP portal. Contact Allan Posner, info@bethorbrotherhood.org, for additional information.

HOLIDAYS AND SHABBAT EVENTS

High Holy Days 5780
The complete High Holy Days Worship Schedule is listed on the inside front cover of this issue. Reminder: Tickets are required for all services. RSVP deadline: September 3. Brochure and fillable RSVP forms are available by clicking the High Holy Days Headquarters link on the homepage of www.bethor.org.

Round Challah Baking & Munchkin Minyan sponsored by the CECE
Friday, September 27 • 5:30 pm
Start a sweet new year with a special Challah for Hunger Challah Bake, Munchkin Minyan service featuring our 4 year old students and teachers, followed by dinner. This event is open to all Beth Or families with children in Kindergarten and younger. $15/family includes dinner. RSVP by September 23 via the website homepage RSVP portal.

Sukkot & Simchat Torah
See special section on page 12 & 13 for all Fall Festival Events & Worship Services.
NEW!! Heart & Soul Shabbat  
**Saturday, October 19 • 11am – 1pm**

Join us for the kick off of our newest program! Our bodies play an integral role in our spiritual lives as homes for our souls. For this inaugural event, we will meet at Forbidden Drive in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, where we will combine the physical and the spiritual during a unique Shabbat exercise experience. This program is led by Rabbi Bonder, marathoner, ironman, and teacher of Torah, along with congregant Paul Brooks, a professional personal trainer, and is open to all ages and abilities. Shine only! RSVP to Rabbi Bonder, jbonder@bethor.org by October 16.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Veterans Shabbat Service and Dinner**  
**Friday, November 8 • Dinner, 6 pm followed by Worship, 7:30 pm**

All are encouraged to support our Beth Or Veterans and active duty military personnel who will be honored at this service and guests at Shabbat dinner courtesy of the Arnold Berkowitz Memorial Fund for Veterans Services. Invitations will be mailed to veterans and active duty personnel. All are invited to attend the dinner for a couvert. RSVP information to come soon. Questions? Contact Elsa-Lu Berkowitz at 215-643-4700.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Fall Events sponsored by the Membership Committee

All are invited to these events as we welcome our new members and reconnect with Beth Or friends at the start of the school year. NO RSVP required.

**Walk in Mondauk Park**  
**Sunday, September 15 • 9:30am**

Join committee co-chair Alyson Caplan for a walk after Sunday School Drop off. Shine only!

**Welcome Back Pizza Party**  
**Tuesday, September 17 • 6:15 pm**

Join committee co-chair Allison Levin at Maple Glen Pizza (meet in the private room) for a family friendly pizza dinner after Hebrew School.

**Coffee with Rabbi Bonder**  
**Thursday, September 19 • 8 am**

Rabbi Bonder will be at Springhouse Starbucks to help you kick off your day!

**Chai Member & Volunteer Appreciation Comedy Show featuring Avi Liberman**  
**Monday, September 23 • 7 pm**

We are honoring all of our wonderful volunteers and Chai members with a special event guaranteed to make you laugh! Avi Liberman's quirky style has made him a favorite in comedy clubs from LA to NYC. His style is a winning combination of life experiences and topical issues told through a varied blend of characters and voices with worldwide expertise. This event is suitable for the entire family! Cost: Free for Beth Or volunteers & Chai members; Space permitting, $18/member ($36/non-member) for all others, payable at the door. RSVP by September 18 on the website RSVP portal, or contact Barbara Murtha, bmurtha@bethor.org.

**Run for Jenna**  
**Sunday, October 6 • 8:30 am**

The 3rd Annual Run for Jenna 5k and Family Fun Day will be held at Congregation Beth Or to raise funds for The Jenna Demar Educational Fund and Congregation Beth Or. To register, go to www.runtheday.com and search for “Run For Jenna”.

**Red Cross Blood Drive**  
**Sunday, November 3 • 9 am – 2 pm**

The Red Cross is in urgent need of all blood types. All qualified members over age 17 (or 16 with signed parental consent form) are encouraged to participate. Register via the link on the website RSVP portal or contact Stu Briefer at smbriefer@gmail.com or 215-661-9990. The blood drive is sponsored by Brotherhood.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**The Beth Or Social Justice Committee presents Reproductive Justice — The Jewish Perspective: A Panel Discussion**  
**Wednesday, November 20, 7 pm – 9 pm**

All are invited to an interesting discussion about this important hot-button topic. Panelists include Rabbi Gregory Marx, offering the Jewish perspective, and Dayle Steinberg, President/CEO of Planned Parenthood of Southeastern PA, providing the history and legal interpretation. Participants will also hear from Gloria Steinem and others who share their personal story on film. Babysitting available. Look for RSVP soon on the website RSVP portal and weekly Chai Lights email. For further information about this event or to get involved with the Social Justice Committee, contact Chair Noah Fischer, noahfischer25@yahoo.com.
Join us for the following classes this September & October.

**MUSSAR: Middot in the Middah a Month — Compassion, Holiness, Generosity, Equanimity, Silence & Truth**
Beginning Monday, September 3 • 7 pm – 8:30 pm
This class, taught by Susan Sussman, M. Ed., is suitable for all levels of participants because we all learn from each other, and because Mussar is the work of a lifetime. The course offers an accessible and flexible program of personal learning and practice, individualized guidance and group interaction. This comprehensive program provides the resources needed to come to a deeper understanding of the Mussar discipline and put its methods to work in your life to bring about lasting change.

The 13-week class meets together for 2 weeks in succession and then every other week. On alternating weeks, participants meet with a chevruta (learning partner) assigned on the basis of a questionnaire sent in advance.

**Cooking with Gass**
Tuesday, September 25 & October 22 • 7 pm
Alyson Gass’s popular cooking class is expanding with new themes! Join Alyson in the Kitchen next to the Rosenfeld Social Hall. This class fills up quickly, so don’t delay in registering.

9/25 – Sweet & Tart: You won’t want to miss all the yummy recipes that incorporate dry and fresh cranberries to your dinner plates!

10/22 – Dessert: Who doesn’t love a delectable dessert? It’s all about the scrumptious recipes that create the perfect ending!

**Re-Introduction to Judaism with Rabbi Bonder**
Sundays, October 20 – November 24 • 9:15 am - 10:40 am
How long has it been since your first introduction to Judaism? Is it time for a re-introduction?

Join Rabbi Bonder this fall for a 6-session mini-course appropriate for all who want to learn about Judaism, and more specifically geared towards those who need a refresher. We will cover history, theology, holidays, and how to teach this to others such as kids, friends, etc.

**The Amidah with Rabbi Bonder**
Tuesday, October 22, 29, & November 5 • 7 pm
There is one prayer so essential to the service that our siddur and the ancient rabbis refer to it simply as T’filah – the very word that means “prayer.” This prayer, also known as the Amidah or the Shmoneh Esreh consists of 19 blessings which are to be said at each weekday service. At the end of this 3-session course, students will have an increased knowledge of the history of the Amidah and will have a deeper understanding of their own relationship to prayer.

**Adult B’nai Mitzvah with Cantor Green (2nd year of 2-year program)**
Two Tuesdays/month, Starting October 22 • 7 pm - 8:30 pm
Topics to be studied include Talmudic interpretations of prayer and God, learning and/or building on Hebrew prayer reading skills, understanding the history and concepts of the Shabbat liturgy & culminating in preparing to lead a Shabbat service at the end of the 2 years of study together.

**Lunch & Learn with Cantor Green: Auschwitz to Charlottesville**
Wednesday, October 23, 30, & November 6 • 12 pm – 2 pm
Have we learned anything from the horrors of Auschwitz in dealing with antisemitism of Charlottesville? Chamberlain, Luger, Nitchke and others developed the foundation of racial antisemitism in the 19th Century. It became the basis of the Nazi “final solution” and is still with us today. We will examine the historical foundations of the “superior Aryan race” and the impact it had on Nazi Germany and western post-Holocaust philosophies.

**Torah Study with Rabbi Marx & Rabbi Bonder**
Beginning Saturday, October 26 • 9:30 am
Now in its 31st year, our Torah study class offers lively discussion on the Torah portion for the week, using traditional texts and modern commentary. No RSVP required.

**Adult Confirmation with Cantor Green (2nd year of 2-year program)**
One Sunday/month starting October 27 • 12 pm – 2 pm
The focus of study in the 2nd year is different Jewish theologians’ views of God and sharing of all the Adult Confirmands’ personal Jewish journeys. An adult confirmation is held at the conclusion of the 2-year program.

**Hebrew Prayer Lab**
Beginning Monday, October 28 or Tuesday, October 29 • 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Are you interested in learning (or relearning) basic Hebrew reading? Come for a weekly adult Hebrew class — no previous Hebrew knowledge required! Our focus is on learning to read with a goal of achieving siddur literacy. Cost: $18 for materials.

**Text Study with Rabbi Jankovitz Pastor**
Dates TBD. Refer to website calendar
Join Rabbi Janine Jankovitz Pastor for a lively discussion on Jewish texts. Janine is currently a fifth year student at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and brings her recent learnings to our community with a fresh interpretation, encouraging lively Shabbat discussions. No RSVP required.

For a complete list and description of all Fall/Winter 2019/20 Lifelong Learning courses (both in home and synagogue based), please refer to the brochure mailed to your home, or view it on line on the website Lifelong Learning page this September.
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Florence Miller, sister-in-law of Sylvia Chachkin & aunt of Margie Chachkin & Susan Silverstein

Mazel Tov

Wedding of Sarah Motis, daughter of Mark & Lori Motis, to Jacob Ruden
Wedding of Taryn Bell & CJ Scatena
Wedding of Eric Goldstein, son of Bob & Joyce Goldstein, to Katie Ranish
Wedding of Stephanie Wolfson, daughter of Richard & Nancy Wolfson & granddaughter of Madlyn & Leonard Abramson, to Brett Cohen
Wedding of Brittany Sherman, daughter of Jeffrey & Lisa Sherman, to Cameron Miller
Engagement of Stuart Udis, son of David & Carol Udis, to Stephanie Reich
Engagement of Hal Goldstein, son of Bob & Joyce Goldstein, to Samantha Stern

Birth & Baby Naming of Esra Vee Pamukcu Leslie, granddaughter of Lisa Brown & Rif Pamukcu
Birth of Mason Isaiah Tarabar, grandson of Marty & Jill Tarabar
Baby Naming of Eliza Reese Azarva, granddaughter of Harvey & Joan Azarva
Bat Mitzvah of Ruthie Shigon
Bar Mitzvah of Max Grunfeld
Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Bloom
Bar Mitzvah of Reese Fiergang
Bat Mitzvah of Ellie Werner
Bar Mitzvah of Bailey Kaplan
Bat Mitzvah of Sophia Gerson
Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Klein
Bar Mitzvah of Noah Gibbs
Bar Mitzvah of Evan Zislis
B’not Mitzvah of Lucy & Sadie Hess
Bat Mitzvah of Sophia Levin
Bat Mitzvah of Natalie Kraus

Oneg and Flower Donations

Additional June Donations:

Oneg:
June 14 • Art and Andy Cohn in honor of Art Cohn’s 80th birthday
Gary and Bev Weinberg and Andy and Lori Wallinsky in honor of Debbie and Marv Schwartz’s 50th anniversary

Additional July Donation:

Oneg:
July 26 • Drinks and dessert were provided by Sisterhood & water ice was provided by the Brotherhood for the Shabbat In Our Park picnic dinner.

September Donations:

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September 6 • Marshall and Judy Shigon in honor of Ruthie Shigon’s Bat Mitzvah
Eric and Shira Grunfeld in honor of Max Grunfeld’s Bar Mitzvah
September 13 • Beth Bloom and Jason Bloom in honor of Sarah Bloom’s Bat Mitzvah
Anthony Scott Fiergang and Randy Gold Fiergang in honor of Reese Fiergang’s Bar Mitzvah
September 20 • Dean and Dana Werner in honor of Ellie Werner’s Bat Mitzvah
David and Marisa Kaplan in honor of Bailey Kaplan’s Bar Mitzvah
September 27 • Greg and Sheri Gerson in honor of Sophia Gerson’s Bat Mitzvah
Michael and Cheryl Klein in honor of Jacob Klein’s Bar Mitzvah

October Donations:

Oneg & Flowers:
October 11 • David and Jami Gibbs in honor of Noah Gibbs’ Bar Mitzvah
Lori Zislis and Ben Zislis in honor of Evan Zislis’ Bar Mitzvah
October 18 • Jason and Elisabeth Hess in honor of Lucy and Sadie Hess’ B’not Mitzvah
Marc and Leslie Levin in honor of Sophia Levin’s Bat Mitzvah
October 25 • Nolan Kraus and Karen Crispino in honor of Natalie Kraus’ Bat Mitzvah
Memorials and Contributions

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