



Beth Or Spotlight

July-August 2022 | Volume 66, Issue 6 | Tammuz-Av-Elul



July Worship Schedule

Friday, July 1 Shabbat Korah

6:30 pm Shabbat Worship on the
Flitter Family Terrace – *Webstream
and Facebook Live*

Friday, July 8 Shabbat Hukat

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – *Webstream and
Facebook Live*

Friday, July 15 Shabbat Balak

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – *Webstream and
Facebook Live*

Friday, July 22 Shabbat Pinhas

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – *Webstream and
Facebook Live*

Friday, July 29 Shabbat Matot-Masei

5:30 pm Shabbat In Our Park Dinner
on the Flitter Family Terrace
6:30 pm Shabbat In Our Park Service
on the Flitter Family Terrace

August Worship Schedule

Friday, August 5 Shabbat Devarim

6:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – *Webstream and
Facebook Live*

Friday, August 12 Shabbat Vaet-Hanan

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – *Webstream and
Facebook Live*

Friday, August 19 Shabbat Ekev

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – *Webstream and
Facebook Live*

Friday, August 26 Shabbat Re'eh

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship in the
Gitlin Sanctuary – *Webstream and
Facebook Live*

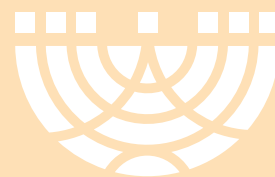


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July/August Candle Lighting

Friday, July 1 • 8:15 pm

Friday, July 8 • 8:14 pm

Friday, July 15 • 8:11 pm

Friday, July 22 • 8:06 pm

Friday, July 29 • 8:00 pm

Friday, August 5 • 7:53 pm

Friday, August 12 • 7:44 pm

Friday, August 19 • 7:33 pm

Friday, August 26 • 7:23 pm



Israel has a Purpose

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

I am thrilled to be taking 40 members of our community to Israel this summer. Though I do not live in Israel, I still consider myself a Zionist for I believe in and support the state of Israel and affirm the right of Jews to live free in their own homeland. Israel is, in theory, an old country even as it celebrates its 75th year. Israel was the 59th country to enter the UN. Today there are 193 countries in the UN, which means that two thirds of the world's countries are actually younger than Israel. Israel is in the oldest third of the countries in the world.

A milestone such as an anniversary is a time not only to celebrate but also to reflect. So what is Israel's purpose and has it met its goals?



Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

From the Rabbi's Desk

Most countries don't have a purpose. They just are. What's the purpose of Belgium, Italy or for that matter, Switzerland? Most countries weren't created with a purpose or goals in mind; they were created out of the people

who lived in those places and as Europe divided itself into nation states, people who had lived there, found themselves in one country or another. Borders made people of one nation or another.

Both the US and Israel have a purpose. Both Israel and America have a covenant that states their purpose. For America it is absorbing immigrants from around the world and offering them, "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." Americans are bound not by race or background, but by the principles in our Constitution. Likewise, Israel's Declaration of Independence begins, "The Jewish people were born in the land of Israel."

Israel provides a state for those who historically lived in Israel thousands of years ago. Israel is not a colonial outpost, but a rebirth of a lost nation and a return of an exiled people to their ancestral homeland.

For some like the 19th century thinker, Ahad Ha'am, the purpose of Israel was to be a cultural centerpiece for world Jewry. He had little purpose for a state that was devoid of *Yiddishkeit*. Theodore Hertzl, the founder of political Zionism, was less interested in Torah and more concerned with saving Jews. In both regards, Israel has accomplished so much in 74 years. Nobody walks around the Jewish State worried about antisemitism. Nobody is afraid of us not being in control of our destiny. People go into Israeli bookstores, and they see a lot of books. Gordis continues, "I go into an Israeli bookstore, and I see a miracle... We built this language. It had always been used for religious purposes, but nobody spoke it. There was no way to tell a plane on which runway to land. And there was no way for a doctor to say to another person at the operating table, 'Give me that. And suction that.' And there was no word for tomato. There was nothing. And the fact that you walk around outside and hear these little five-year-old kids and people 90 years old chitchatting here, that's just a miracle."



So what is Israel's purpose? What has Israel built? Israel allows the Jewish people to not only come home, but to find a thriving Jewish culture there. Israel is now absorbing hundreds of Ukrainian Jews who lost their home. It has done that for Ethiopian, Russian and Argentinian Jews before. It is a place where the Jewish people came home to reimagine themselves. It is the most prolific, dynamic, multicultural, multicolored, vibrant imagination that one could possibly find. I have no notion of what Israel will look like in another 75 years, but I am honored to be a part of that experiment and to bring the Beth Or community to its shores. I am proud to call myself a Zionist because I believe in the purpose of Israel. I hope you do too.

Here's My Top Ten

Gwen Silverstein, Beth Or President

Here are just a few reasons WHY I am grateful to be a member of Congregation Beth Or:

1. The strong circle of capable and generous individuals that, at a moment's notice, will support members of our community when needed.
2. The strength in numbers which has allowed us to maintain financial stability, even in years of economic hardship.
3. The lessons our children and grandchildren have and will continue to learn from our selfless clergy.
4. The beautiful and peaceful environment that we have all grown to call our second home, 239 E. Welsh Road.
5. The opportunity to extend this community to Jewish Summer Camp, where my own children spent years as campers and staff – developing lifelong friendships and instilling Jewish values.
6. The feeling of walking into our safe space (or joining a Zoom call) and knowing that no matter what happens in our busy lives, Beth Or will always be there for us.
7. Opportunities to get involved in support groups, leadership positions, and committees which allow our big community to feel smaller and more closely knit.
8. Friday night Shabbat services where the calm of the song and prayer allows for a break from our busy lives outside of the synagogue.
9. *Tikkun Olam*. Knowing that our congregation makes the world a better place, each day.
10. All of you.

I would love to hear your ten, please email me at silversteingwen@gmail.com.



Gwen Silverstein



Rabbi Jason Bonder

From the Rabbi's Desk

Judaism is a mix of traditions handed down through the ages along with something we create in real time.

Intro to Judaism is Also an Introduction to You

Rabbi Jason Bonder, Associate Rabbi

Imagine that the year is 632 BCE. The place is Jerusalem. You just walked into what you thought was an Intro to Judaism class hosted by the local Priest who serves in the Holy Temple. But what you find there surprises you.

There are animals present in the classroom. The teacher says he hopes you brought your hand sanitizer because you're about to witness a demonstration on how these animals get slaughtered for sacrifice. After the demonstration, perhaps you and the class will follow your teacher outside to learn about which

crops can be planted in which parts of your farm, when to harvest them, which crops are meant for the Temple in Jerusalem and their staff, and which crops are meant for you and your family. Believe it or not, these were essential elements of Jewish practice in the Biblical period.

Obviously Judaism looked a bit different back then as compared to today. I personally think that's a great thing. I also believe our Congregation Beth Or is a living example of the fact that Judaism is ever-changing. The good we do in our community, the creative ways we gather, the methods we use to teach our children, and even the ways we pray would have been unrecognizable to Jews five hundred years ago, let alone three thousand years ago. Judaism looks different today than it did at any point in the past. Why is that? And how did the Judaism of today come about? You don't even need to take the class to answer those questions. I'll give you that answer right now.

The reason why Judaism is different today than it was in years past is because Judaism is not something static that was given to us. Judaism is a mix of traditions handed down through the ages along with something we create in real time. Therefore, Judaism is an expression of who we are. This will be my third time teaching Introduction to Judaism here at Beth Or. Each time, what I find most rewarding is that through examining Jewish History and tradition, our community of learners wind up learning something special about ourselves and each other.

Our Introduction to Judaism is a wonderful opportunity to not only learn about what Judaism says about the world, but about what we think about the world. Often we think that religion has a set of demands about who we should be. That's true, but studying Judaism is also a wonderful way to begin asking the question, "Who do I want to be?" Only you can answer that question, but Judaism has three thousand years of wisdom to guide you along that path of questioning.

So come for the Judaism, but stay for you. Come for the learning, but stay for the community we build together. Please join me on this wonderful journey. Our *Introduction to Judaism* class begins right after the High Holy Days on Tuesday nights at 7pm. Please contact me with any questions you might have. I look forward to learning with you!

Who IS Cantor Murley???



Jaime Murley

Cantor Jaime Murley, Interim Cantor

I am so excited and honored to embark on my new position as Interim Cantor of Congregation Beth Or for the 2022-23 calendar year. Before I explain exactly what I will be doing (which is the most asked question of me), I thought I would begin by telling you a little bit about my background and how I got here.

I was born and raised as the youngest of three children in Northeast Philadelphia to Diane and Allen Shapiro. In first grade my parents enrolled me at Abrams Hebrew Academy Day School in Yardley, PA. It was there that my love of Judaism began. I couldn't get enough of the prayers and melodies, but my parents realized I had an ear for music, and unfortunately there was no music program at the small Jewish day school. In fifth grade, my parents sent me to public school so that I could get a music education. I tried several instruments and eventually found my true passion, marimba. The study of marimba led me to learn about the other instruments in the percussion family, which eventually led me to my first career as a professional classical percussionist. I graduated

from Temple University with both a bachelor's (1998) and master's degree (2000) in music performance (this is also where I met the man I would eventually marry, Luke Murley). Highly trained and successful in my field, I attended prestigious festivals such as Spoleto Festival USA, Pacific Music Festival in Japan, and Tanglewood Music Center. Upon graduation, I played with many of the area's symphonies including Delaware and Haddonfield, the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Opera and Ballet companies, and the New World Symphony in Miami, FL. I played under renowned conductors such as James Levine, Seiji Ozawa, Michael Tilson Thomas, and John Williams. I also played in concert with Andrea Bocelli, Luciano Pavarotti, Michael Bolton, the Moody Blues, and (my dad's favorite) the Shirelles.

In 2003, I accidentally walked into Congregation Rodeph Shalom in Philadelphia. How I got there is a whole other story, but after being their song leader for a year, I fell back in love with Jewish music and needed to know why. I decided to go back to school yet again, this time to pursue a master's in Jewish Music and Cantorial Studies at Gratz College in Elkins Park (where among my 5 years of study, I took a class on pastoral care with none other than the amazing Cantor David Green!). While in school, I practiced all of my newly learned skills at Rodeph Shalom, where my responsibilities included B'nai Mitzvah tutoring, lifecycle events, and co-leading holiday services. When I graduated from Gratz in 2009, I served as the synagogue's cantor. As cantor, I created a multigenerational choir, participated in the Synagogue 2000 campaign where we worked with the clergy of Central Synagogue in NY to update service practices, and co-created a contemporary music service experience for the High Holy Days, which became so successful that the services were relocated from the small social hall to the main sanctuary.

In 2012, I became pregnant with child #3, and needed to take on more of a part time position. That's when I learned Rabbi Axler had left Congregation Beth Or, and a guitar playing clergy person was needed on the *bima*. I was thrilled to get the chance to work alongside Cantor Green and learn from one of the greatest cantors in the field. In my ten years at Beth Or

I have worn many hats including music teacher for CECE, religious school music teacher, Junior Choir director, Beth Or band leader, Adult Ed instruction, lifecycle events, Purim Shpiel production (live and then virtual once Covid hit), Torah reader, and co-leader of Shabbat, Festivals, and High Holy Day Services. Cantor Green's expertise and guidance has been invaluable over the past ten years. I have shadowed him in every situation and I am so grateful for all that he has taught me.

In terms of my personal life (another question that often gets asked of me), I have been married to Luke Murley for 16 years. A fun story we like to tell is that when we met, he was a non-Jewish drummer and by the time we married, he was a Jewish lawyer, and my parents couldn't be happier! He is a partner at the law firm Saul-Ewing in Wilmington, DE. We live in between Wilmington, DE and Maple Glen, PA, in a small town called Wallingford, PA off of the Blue Route. We have 3 children, Cooper (15), Noa (12), and Darwin (10) who attend the Wallingford Swarthmore School District. Although my

mom passed in 2018, we love spending time with my dad, Allen Shapiro, who lives in the Regency Towers in Willow Grove (which makes being at Beth Or just a little bit sweeter since trips out there usually involve visits with my dad).

All of this brings me to what will be happening next year at Beth Or. Since I am the primary caretaker for my children, I am not able to take on a full-time role, however, I love Beth Or and I am thrilled to be able to serve as Interim Cantor on a part-time basis.

My responsibilities will include leading Shabbat, Festival, and High Holy Day services, religious school and Junior Choir director, Beth Or band director, CECE Shabbat music, adult B'nai Mitzvah and confirmation training, some lifecycles, and leading final B'nai Mitzvah rehearsals with families the day before their simchas. Others on the staff will be handling B'nai Mitzvah tutoring sessions, shivas and hospital visits.

I am so blessed to be surrounded and supported by the most amazingly talented and dedicated staff and clergy team, and I know that my dear friend and colleague, Cantor Green will always be just a phone call away. I want you to know that I feel the love and support of the congregation, and I am always happy to hear from you as to how I can best support your needs as the Interim Cantor. Thank you again for placing your trust in me and for giving me this amazing opportunity!

B'Shirah,

Cantor Jaime Murley



Important School Date

Sunday, September 11
Opening Day of Sunday
Religious School —Judaics,
Hebrew, and YOBO!



Opening the Doors

Aaron Nienshultz, Director of Religious School

There's a beautiful line from Psalm 118 that I often find in my head:

"Open for me the gates of justice; I shall enter them and thank God" (118:19).

There are other images of opening, too; the sages of the Talmud discuss when the gates of prayer are open, or when the gates of repentance are open. That sense of being open makes me think of warmth and welcome, that God is always happy to hear from us.

I'm sure you're wondering how this whole topic works into the idea of the religious school, so I'm happy to share that our theme for next year is "Opening the Doors," as we're anticipating a fully-engaged in-person year! Not only are we planning on opening our doors to students again, we're also welcoming parents back into the building. The Schmear Café will be re-opening, and parents will be welcome to hang out with a coffee and a nosh. We'll be bringing back Family Ed programs and all the engaging opportunities we can to help people connect to each other.

So enjoy the rest of your summer, and get ready to come back to Beth Or. We'll be glad to open the doors for you!



Aaron Nienshultz



**Leonard &
Madlyn Abramson
Education Center**

CONGREGATION BETH OR



Thank You TO OUR TEACHERS

Sara Baum, Early Childhood Director

The summer weeks give time to reflect on the last school year and prepare for the next. When thinking about all of the projects sent home, smiles from the children and activities throughout the center, there is one common thread: Our dedicated, creative and resilient teachers. **Our teachers are the glue that hold our center together.** They plan and prepare the projects. They laugh and comfort our children. They organize and execute the activities. We are blessed with some of the best teachers in Early Education. They work vigorously to meet the needs of each and every child. As we take this time to reflect and prepare, we also would like to take this time to thank the teachers of the CECE. Their dedication, hard work and care do not go unnoticed.



Sara Baum



**Zipporah S. Abramson
Center for Early
Childhood Education**

CONGREGATION BETH OR



Are you or someone you know interested in working with young children?

The Zipporah S. Abramson Center for Early Childhood Education (CECE) is a top-rated preschool with a warm, wonderful and dedicated staff caring for lovely and inquisitive children.

**We have immediate openings for full-time, part-time and substitute teachers
to join us in our mission of instilling a love of learning.**

The CECE includes children 3-months - K and is based on the belief that a child's development in the first years is crucial for later development and success. Our program addresses the needs of young children and provides a rich curriculum that works for the whole of the child.

- Good salary and excellent benefits
- Experience in Early Childhood education is preferred
- Must be 18 years or older
- Flexible schedules available

NEW BENEFIT: Complimentary Beth Or Membership for all Staff.
(Restrictions apply)

CONTACT CECE DIRECTOR, SARA BAUM, SBAUM@BETHOR.ORG
for additional information and to set up an interview



**Zipporah S. Abramson
Center for Early
Childhood Education**

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Discover • Grow • Shine

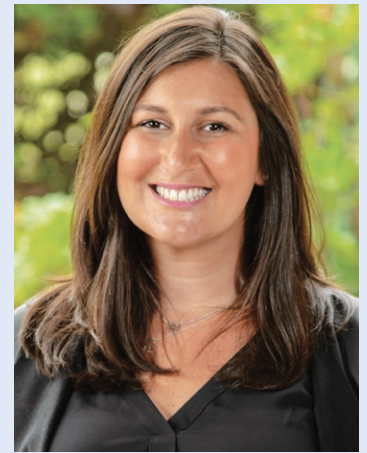
Building Community One Text at a Time

Jillian Peskin, Director of Member & Youth Engagement

No one searches for activities anymore. Sponsored ads on our social media feeds and promotions in our inboxes have conditioned us to be passive consumers of how we spend our time. In fact, I just stopped typing the draft of this article because I got a push notification on my phone. I now know about a local sale at one of my favorite shopping destinations. I may decide to check it out!

Our Congregation Beth Or community offers us so much of what we crave. Connection in times of isolation. Tradition and consistency in times of uncertainty. Yet in a world of ads and promotions, we're not in the habit of actively seeking that which we need most. We need the reminder that what we need is waiting for us at Beth Or. That's why we are bringing you our TEXT-A-FRIEND program, created by Beth Or's Engagement Taskforce.

We are asking a group of congregants to commit to attending events and inviting 3-5 friends, fellow parents, new congregants, bobbies or anyone who might want to join in. The commitment includes texting your friends, recording who you invited and who actually attended the event. That's it!



Jillian Peskin



On July 29, we have our Shabbat In Our Park dinner and services that will undoubtedly be a blast. But we know that more people are likely to attend if they see this information come across their phone from one of their friends than this article. Would YOU be willing to not only register for Shabbat In Our Park, but TEXT-A-FRIEND about it? Let's build community through texts. Please email me, jpeskin@bethor.org, to be included as an official Beth Or texter!

P.S. We have had so many amazing events and programs this past year! Please check out our year in photo review on the next few pages.





1st Day of Religious School 1st Grade Class



6th Grade Summer Send Off Event



Adult B'nai Mitzvah



Chanukah Hop



Religious School Madrichim



Beit Sefer Cafe

Highlights of 2021-22



CECE Bike Day



Brotherhood Car Show



C4C Singles Club



C4C Book Club



C4C Canasta Club



CECE Bingo Committee



Pirates & Princesses Young Family Shabbat



Chanukah Bazaar



PB&J Mitzvah Project



Ecumenical Luncheon and Program



Corner of Our Land Garden Prep



Meals that Matter



JSU at UDHS

Highlights of 2021-22



Rabbi Marx and Other Rabbis doing Ukrainian Humanitarian Work in Poland



Religious School Model Seder



Past Presidents Burning the Mortgage



Ukrainian Refugees Collection Drive



YOBO Cooks for Meals that Matter



Outdoor Sukkot Worship



Staff at Jewperhero Purim

Summer Fun



Rachel Shapiro

Rachel Shapiro, Youth Engagement Advisor

Hello Beth Or Families!

This summer, I have been given the opportunity to extend my role as Camp Chaverim's Program Coordinator. I am looking forward to meeting all of our campers and families in the upcoming weeks. We have tons of exciting events planned for our Wild Wild West campers this summer including but not limited to cookie decorating, square dancing, horse races and an end of the summer rodeo! For years, I attended Camp America Day Camp and had the best camp experience. It brings me so much joy to see all of our students going to summer camp whether it is day or overnight. Camp is a place to make memories, build relationships and experience new things.

I am eager to give new generations of campers the same camp experience I was so grateful to have.



Camp Chaverim

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Friendships Start Here

I am also excited to say we will be visiting our incredible religious school students at Camp Harlam this summer as well. Be on the lookout for us as we can't wait to see you!





Evan Segal



GET CONNECTED

Business & Career Network

Fellow Congregants: You are cordially invited to attend the **GET CONNECTED SUMMER NETWORKING BBQ EXTRAVAGANZA!**

Come join me and Beth Or's business and networking group for our first annual Summer Networking BBQ outdoors on the Social Hall Terrace at **6 pm on Monday, July 11.**

Bring your business cards and your willingness to network and build new business relationships. All Beth Or members are welcome to attend. All Beth Or members are welcome to bring a non-Beth Or guest if you register them.

The event is complimentary! If you attend please make a donation to one of the organizations that we will be supporting at the event. Details to follow.

Please email Evan Segal at evan@segalfinancial.com for more information. Check your Chai Lights email to RSVP for yourself and your guest by 7/7.

See you on July 11!

Evan Segal
GET CONNECTED Chair



My Second Bar Mitzvah

By Art Cohn

During the summer of 1990, my dad, Milton Cohn, became a Bar Mitzvah for the second time: The first at age 13, the second at age 83. So, this year, on the occasion of my upcoming 83rd birthday and to honor my beloved dad, I decided to have my second Bar Mitzvah on Friday night, May 27, 2022.

I became a Bar Mitzvah at a Conservative Synagogue, Congregation Beth El in West Philadelphia, as the son of an Orthodox Jew. My dad grew up in Atlantic City, and was a member of his dad's synagogue, Rodef Shalom where my Grandfather, Abraham, was a founding member and President for 7 years. So, I have a family history of commitment to synagogue life from generations ago.



Our Rabbi Greg Marx, and our Cantor, David Green, helped and supported me as I prepared to read Torah for only the second time in my life. I am so very thankful for their encouragement leading up to my special simcha and for having each of them right next to me on the bimah as I read Torah.

It filled my heart to overflowing to be able to have my dearest family and friends in the congregation in attendance. Right next to me on the bimah, were my Andy, our children Debbie and Norman, and grandchildren, Ethan and Alli.

As I mentioned during my remarks, I read Torah with the most meaningful gift of a Yad given to me by my dearest friend, Carole Chasen. This gift allowed me to know that she and her dearest husband of blessed memory, Barry, (a beloved friend to me) were right there on the bimah with me on this momentous occasion.

Being able to reach this incredibly meaningful occasion to become a Bar Mitzvah again at 83 will be a memory that I will cherish forever.

*Mazel
Tor*

The Essence of Beth Or Social Action

Howard Zinn, a World War II Air Force bombardier is quoted by Dahlia Lithwick (*Slate.com*, June 4, 2022) from his autobiography, *You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train*: "To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places — and there are so many — where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction, and if we act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory."

Coming soon!

Mitzvah Months at Beth Or extend throughout the year with concentrated collections in the Fall. This year, we kick-off with a High Holy Days Food Drive in September and close with our Annual Mitzvas Day on December 25. Between those four months, we will host collections for clothing, sneakers, household goods, socks, pet supplies, women's sanitary products, and more to benefit: Cradles to Crayons, Our Closet, Distributing Dignity, Joy of Sox, Bucks County SPCA, HIAS PA, Covenant House, Operation Bread Drop, Nike Reuse a Shoe, Mitzvah Circle, and Gemma Youth Residential Services. Check you Chai Lights and Religious School Notes emails this fall for details about each collection drive.

To join our efforts, please contact us.

Thank you!

Social Action Chairs

Susy Krimker, susykrimker@gmail.com • Margie Chachkin, chachkin@aol.com



Striving for 100% Voter Participation

Congregation Beth Or is striving for 100% voter participation in the 2022 General Election as part of the **Religious Action Center's Every Voice, Every Vote** campaign.

We encourage you to make a voting plan!

- ✓ **Register** by October 24 (remind anyone who will be 18 or older by 11/8/22)
- ✓ **Vote by Mail or Absentee Ballot** application deadline is November 1 (remind friends & relatives living temporarily out of state or in a senior center, too)
- ✓ Remind PA college students of their **voting options**.
- ✓ If voting in person, **confirm your polling place**.
- ✓ **Make your vote count on Election Day, November 8!**

Links for the bolded information above will be shared in Community Matters emails. For further information, please contact Social Justice Committee members, Janet Katz, bocakatz@aol.com or Margie Chachkin, chachkin@aol.com.



Transkids Documentary Discussion led by Beth Or Mental Health Task Force

The Beth Or Mental Task Force joined with APEX and the Social Action/Social Justice Committees to bring the film *Transkids* to Beth Or. Pictured left to right are Beth Or Mental Health Task Force members: Dr. Gail Edelsohn, Tanya Vishnevsky, Judy Kurtis, Rachel Kauffman, Michelle Schwartz. Joining them (far right) is Rachel Arledge, our special Guest Speaker on June 14 when the *Transkids* documentary film and the topic of gender identify were discussed. Rachel is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the CHOP Gender & Sexuality Development Program. With Dr. Edelsohn



facilitating, our attendees gained a greater understanding of the issues and challenges that young people and their parents face, and the film showed the support and joys that can be part the transitioning process.

Beth Or Brotherhood

What Do You Do?

Doug Burtnick, Brotherhood President



Doug Burtnick



Brotherhood
CONGREGATION BETH OR
Fellowship • Community
Service • Support

What do you say when someone asks what you do? Do you explain your profession, or involvement on boards or other titles? Or do you tell the person about the actions that you do in a way that helps them understand who you are? It's a subtle difference, but possibly important.

What does Brotherhood do?

In the simplest terms, Brotherhood brings Beth Or men together, to get to know each other, to network, to have fun and to help build and maintain our congregation and community. Perhaps that is a lot to unpack. Yet, I think that is a better description than some others could throw out there.

For example, how does this sound? Brotherhood provides financial support for YOBO and Religious School and provides help for events like the opening and closing day carnivals. What about... Brotherhood throws a massive bash each December to entertain our guests and raise money for our various charitable donations. Maybe, Brotherhood provides support to those who grieve and to those who need assistance within the Beth Or community. Brotherhood's Beer Gardens at festival time make Beth Or an even friendlier place. Brotherhood gives Beth Or men an avenue to get involved in our wonderful congregation and learn how it works. Brotherhood puts on one of the biggest and best car shows in our region, pulling in members and non-members from all around the area. Brotherhood

supports Beth Or Cares, a new health-oriented partnership with the congregation and other committees to raise awareness and provide support for critical health related issues that affect our members of all ages and genders.

Truthfully, at any given moment, each of the things above are "the most important" thing that Brotherhood does. That's because Brotherhood is not about A person, or an AN event. It's about YOU — the men of Beth Or.

So, watch closely for your upcoming Beth Or statement and join us. **Become a Mensch member and get a free ticket to this year's Annual Dinner on Saturday, December 3.** Or join as a regular member. Or just join some of our events to see what part of Brotherhood is what you want to do.

We look forward to seeing you soon. All of our events are posted on the Beth Or calendar and you can always reach out to us at BethOrBroMembership@gmail.com.

KOSHER WINE SALES

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

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

Questions? Contact info@bethorbrotherhood.org.



kosherWINE
.com

Beth Or Sisterhood

Have You Looked at the Sky Today?

Melisa Lubinski, Sisterhood President

Would you agree if I told you that summer feels like a Shabbat of the seasons? Judaism respects the need for rest and rejuvenation. This is what weekly Shabbat was designed to do - to take a break from the world of structured things and focus on other spiritual and emotional connections. Does summer not function in the same way? A time when the pace of life is expected to be slower, less doing is expected to be done, just being



becomes respectable and a renewed sense of optimism prevails. When the sun is out, anything seems possible. Rebbe Nachman tells a story of watching from his window the market place below and seeing his friend running from place to place all day long. He finally yelled to him and asked if he had seen the sky today. His friend paused and replied "What? The sky? Who's got time for that? I'm busy taking care of business." Rebbe Nachman wanted his friend to see he was spending too much time

doing and that was getting in the way of his being and likely his quality of life.

Summer beckons us to pick back up that house project long ignored, that book we got but never read that everyone was raving about, getting back on that bike that is sitting in the garage collecting dust, and reaching out to friends and family we feel out of touch with. Make the summer what you need it to be. It's your time and you deserve it. Katie Lee, cook, author and food critique suggests, "the grill is the summer equivalent of a fireplace; everyone gravitates to it."

As President of Sisterhood, I feel pride in our accomplishments this past year despite facing COVID-19 uncertainty. The fellowship amongst our Sisterhood is strong and we were able to hold several traditional events, and a few new ones too. Our board uses the summer as a time to evaluate past events, review feedback from our members and create new programs. We make sure that a balance exists when offering social, spiritual, educational and volunteer-oriented activities. We strive to throw out a broad net to capture the interests of a variety of women. A few future dates Sisterhood would like to highlight include: **Friday July 29 - Shabbat in the Park** (look for our banner and table); **Sunday September 18 - Welcome Back Member Event** guaranteed to be creative in nature and Sunday, **November 6 - Chanukah Bazaar in the Social Hall** full of fabulous vendors. See everyone in the fall. Be well, be safe, and eyes to the sky.



Melisa Lubinski



Sisterhood

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BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD

Dinner and Act II Playhouse

Thursday, July 14 • 5 pm

Join Sisterhood for dinner at Fireside Bar & Grille in Ambler, followed by Together Off-Broadway Merman & Martin at the Act II Playhouse in Ambler. The show is an upbeat, toe-tapper that shared the lives and careers of show biz luminaries and legends, Ethel Merman and Mary Martin. Dinner (including beverage & tip) - \$25; Theater Ticket - \$40; Combined Dinner & Theater - \$65. RSVP to Ellen Mirbach, semirbach@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE!

Chanukah Bazaar

Sunday, November 6 • 10 am - 2 pm

The Chanukah Bazaar will take place indoors in the Rosenfeld Social Hall. For vendor information, contact Sherry Spector, sspector1949@gmail.com.

HOLIDAYS & SHABBAT

Shabbat in our Park

Friday, July 29 • Dinner, 5:30 pm; Service, 6:30 pm

Our annual Shabbat in our Park returns to the Flitter Family Terrace and our beautiful grounds. All Beth Or families are invited to bring a picnic blanket or sit at the tables under the tent and join us for burgers and hot dogs grilled by the Clergy, side dishes prepared by congregant volunteers, delicious desserts provided by Sisterhood and water ice served by Brotherhood. Bring bags of chips and snacks to share! After dinner, the clergy will lead a song-filled Shabbat service. This event will move indoors if the weather doesn't cooperate. Check your weekly email or the website calendar listing to RSVP in advance.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Get Connected Summer Networking BBQ

Monday, July 11 • 6 pm – 8 pm

Are you looking to expand your business connections or make a change in your career? Get Connected, Beth Or's Business & Career Networking group invites you to attend a fun, casual barbeque on the Social Hall patio for a chance to eat and schmooze. This event is open to all – you are encouraged to bring a friend. Non Beth-Or members are welcome to join you, too! Contact Evan Segal, evan@segalfinancial.com with any questions. RSVP by July 7.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, July 29 • 12 pm – 5 pm

The Red Cross needs our help. Blood supplies are currently at a dangerously low level. Be a hero for patients in need and help save lives! All Beth Or members and their families, friends and neighbors age 17+ (16 with parental consent form) are able to participate. All recommended CDC health/safety guidelines will be followed. Appointments are required. Register directly on-line for your appointment time (click on the links on the Beth Or website event calendar listing) or contact Stu Briefer, smbriefer@gmail.com/ 215-661-9990 and he will sign you up. We are grateful to all of you who participate and help make the blood drive at Beth Or consistently one of the top Red Cross donation sites in the region!

HIGH HOLY DAYS 2022/5783

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Be on the lookout starting in mid-August for emails and printed materials detailing this year's plans, important on-line registration forms and RSVP deadlines.

SELICHOT • Saturday, September 17

EREV ROSH HASHANAH • Sunday, September 25

**ROSH HASHANAH • Monday & Tuesday,
September 26 & 27**

KOL NIDRE • Tuesday, October 4

YOM KIPPUR • Wednesday, October 5





Celebrating Your Simcha

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

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

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

Approved Caterer List — 2022/23

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Annemarie's Cuisine • Annemarie Silva	215-806-7675
Go2eventplanner • Arlene Rotfeld	516-909-8580
Catering by Design • Fred Morganstein	610-405-9787
Panache Catering by Foodarama (Kosher) • Gary Rosenwald	215-633-7100
Pumpernick's Deli • Jeff Klein	215-393-5800
The Gourmet Vendor • Brad Orenstein	215-396-7000

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Chai-Lights — July/August 2022

New Members

Michael Vingara, Nikki Shifren, Juda Vingara-Shifren (10) & Isaac Vingara-Shifren(8)
Tom, April, Ryan (14), Casey (11) & Brady (9) Shubert
Adam, Marissa, Aviva (10) & Simona (6) Samit
Jesse, Laurie, Kennedy (6) & Carter (4) Klein
Rob, Ilyana, Sarah (5) & Emily(3) Dropkin
David, Lisa, Isaac (6) & Matthew (4) Erlbaum
Benjamin, Samantha, Sarah (3) & Harrison (1) Glasberg
Ross & Stacey, Taylor (24) & Joshua(20) Wilner
Jeff, Carmel, Quinn (2) Intinarelli
Steven, Rebecca, Emerson (6) & Ezra (3) Molberger
Laurie & Lee Rubin

Rejoining Members

Beth Stoloff & Olivia Karle (20)

May Their Memory Be A Blessing

Lois B. Wolf, mother of Robin Risler
Paul Weintraub, brother-in-law of Phil Gerson; uncle of Jodi Gerson & Debra Steinberg
Myra Singer, aunt of Laurie Marx & wife of former Beth Or Rabbi, Merle Singer
Wendy Tengood, mother of Jillian Hillman
George Biron, husband of Carol Biron
Gary Neff, father of Cyndi Cohen

Bette Wood, Aunt of Beth Rubin
Rita Lokietz, mother of Lorna Petersen
Linda & Alan Cooper, mother & stepfather of Stuart Klein
Myer Bernstein, husband of Rita, z"l, father of Marsha Milakofsky & Mindy Pollikoff
Ronald Rossman, father of Heather Rossman
Edwen Leyens Goldstein, mother of Dana Greenspan

Mazel Tov

Birth of Sophia Paige Steiger, daughter of Adam & Samantha Steiger
Birth of Skylar Blake Goldshteyn, son of Allan & Chelsea Goldshteyn
Birth of Jack Martin Levine, grandson of Michael & Irene Duretz

Birth of Ainsley Isabella Weiss, daughter of Andrew Weiss & Arielle Schaeffer Weiss & granddaughter of Roger & Virpi Schaeffer
Birth of Lucas Zev Wecht, grandson of Alan & Lea Wecht
Baby Naming of Lula Jett Gniewek, daughter of Andrew & Ali Gniewek
Baby Naming of Isabella Maura Shemtob, granddaughter of Al & Lori Shemtob
Baby Naming of Sadie Grace Weinstein, granddaughter of Bob & Lana Weinstein
Baby Naming of Skyler Elias Goldberg, grandson of Norman & Stephanie Lubin
Marriage of Corey Drucker, son of Tod & Andrea Drucker to Ada Kantor

Oneg & Flower Donations

Additional May Donation Oneg

May 20 • The Adult Confirmation Class of 5782

July Donation Oneg

July 1 • Robert and Jan Zauzmer in honor of the aufuff of their son, Ben Zauzmer and Shayna Gokow and in honor of the marriage of their daughter, Julie Weil to Gabriel Weil



Memorials and Contributions

Rabbi Marx's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

MYRA SINGER

Abby Gilbert & Gary

Freedman

Vincent & Cindi Pasceri

RITA LOKIETZ

Bobbi & Anthony Klondar

DANA GREENSPAN's mother

Deborah & Dan Bronstein

RONALD SLOTT

GERTRUDE SLOTT

Elaine Slott

FRED KARAFIN

Gail Karafin

SYLVIA COHEN

Helene & Gary Fisher

ROSE RUBIN

Larry & Beverly Samson

MYER BERNSTEIN

Lynn & Mark Samson &

Family

CLAIRE ROSENTHAL

FRANCES LORBER WURTZEL

Ronald & Barbara Rosenthal

CHERYL SCHLACKMAN

Sandy & Richard Levitt &

Family

LEONARD B. LEVITHAN

Scott & Ellen Levithan

In Honor of

ELISABETH HESS's Bat

Mitzvah

Alan Hess

The Bloom Family

LEAH's Bat Mitzvah

Deborah & David

Rappaport

Naming of SADIE GRACE

Mark & Kate Weinstein

ART COHN

Vincent & Cindi Pasceri

Congratulations to

ELISABETH HESS on her

Bat Mitzvah

Aly & Jimmy Caplan

Stanford & Deborah Hess

ART COHN for his Bar

Mitzvah

Dina & Morris Levin

In Appreciation of

RABBI MARX

Alison & Marc Feldman

Brad & Debra Pliner

Art Cohn

Jay & Sue Freedman

Joey & Melanie Sutow

Laurie Appelbaum

Lynn Levy & Tom Miller

Phil Gerson & family

Sylvia Chachkin

Andi & Tod Drucker, Corey

Drucker & Ada Kantor

Lana & Robert Weinstein

Mazel Tov to

ELISABETH HESS on her

Bat Mitzvah

Diane & Sidney Bravmann

Janice Simon & Stephen

Litwin

Jen & Neal Jacobs

Stephanie, Brian, Zach &

Dylan Levinson

ART COHN on his Bar Mitzvah

Norman & Phyllis Goldberg

Mazel Tov on SAMMY &

LINDSAY's Engagement

Sandy & Larry Frankel

Speedy Recovery to

E.V. ASLANOVA

JOAN DRATCH

Sandy & Larry Frankel

Rabbi Bonder's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

EVELYN ROBINSON

MYER BERNSTEIN

Ellen & Stan Klocek

MYER BERNSTEIN

Tessa & Ian Wallis

FRED KARAFIN

Gail Karafin

STANLEY HALBERT

Isa & Mitchell Welsch

DORA DUKART

Marlene & Gary Dukart

In Honor of

LEAH's Bat Mitzvah

Deborah & David

Rappaport

MAX's Bar Mitzvah

Roni, Rich, Max & Eli

Berman

In Appreciation of

RABBI BONDER

Allan Goldshteyn & Chelsea

Shull

Brandon Shemtob & Alaina

Sullivan

Carol Halbert

Lynn Levy & Tom Miller

Michael & Jodi Schwartz

The Hillman Family

Cantor Green's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

FRED KARAFIN

Gail Karafin

CAROL KINSLICK

Charlotte Kahn

Hope & Phil Bernstein &

Family

CHARLES SCHWARZ

Susan Bellos

In Honor of

CANTOR GREEN

Alan & Mary Jean Stark

Deanna Roth & Holly

Wright, Addy & Nathan

Robbins

Hope, Phil, Brittany,

Heather & Marc Bernstein &

Family

Richard & Sondra Levitt

LEAH's Bat Mitzvah

Deborah & David

Rappaport

CLAUDIA LESLIE's

Confirmation

Karen & Rick Leavitt

ART COHN

Richard & Sondra Levitt

MAX's Bar Mitzvah

Roni, Rich, Max & Eli Berman

In Appreciation of

CANTOR GREEN

Lana & Robert Weinstein

Laurie Appelbaum

Vanessa & Howard Klein

Jack Rosenfeld

Mazel Tov to

CLAUDIA LESLIE on her

Confirmation

Robin Rosen

Andrew Jarrett Fund for Religious School

In Honor of

DONNA & LARRY KANE's

Anniversary

The Weiss Family -

Alexandra, Doug,

Benjamin, Jonah, Gabriel &

Ethan

In Appreciation of

RABBI BONDER

Ben Weiss

Annual Appeal

In Memory of

MADLYN ABRAMSON

Leonard Abramson

In Appreciation of

RABBI BONDER

Bryna Vandergrift

Arnold Berkowitz Memorial Fund for Veteran's Shabbat

In Memory of

ARNOLD BERKOWITZ

ELSA GREENBLATT

FRED KARAFIN

Elsa-Lu Berkowitz

Barbara Goldberg Nursery School Fund

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Alan & Deborah Cohen

Elaine & Jay Alberts

Lauren Alberts

The Gibson Family

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The Landau Family

FRED KARAFIN

George & Grace Collins

MAXINE OSTROFF

Hal & Fran Hershman

WENDY TENGOOD

Rachel Silverman & Family

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Ellen & Rodger Wichterman

CANTOR GREEN's Retirement

The Carlin Family

The Wedding of CANDICE &

BRYAN

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CECE

Marc & Sally Hurwitz

Berman Family Caring Community Endowment

In Honor of

BOB ROSIN's Confirmation

Denise, Jeff, Ilana & Aaron

Rachel & Steven Zoffer

Mazel Tov to

CLAUDIA LESLIE in honor of

her Confirmation

Sherri & Fred Katz

Brotherhood Camp Harlam Fund

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Lynn & Mitch Edelman

Robin Arnold

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Alissa Blumenthal

MILDRED BERRY

Don & Amanda Berry

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ROBERT KAFFEY

Ellen Werther

GRACE ARNOLD

Elyn & Adam Levine

EDNA TRAGASH

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ROBERT GOLDBLUM

Rebecca Kilshaw

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Todd Solodar & Marilyn

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Marvin Schwartz

RITA LOKIETZ

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Johl Family

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Second Bar Mitzvah of

ART COHN

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Congratulations to

JUDY on her birthday

Robert & Susan Silverstein

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Poland

Helene & Gary Fisher

Mazel Tov to

MICHAEL & MINDY BERLIN

Norman Berlin

Speedy Recovery to

MARLENE & BOB COHEN

Margie Chachkin

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Margie Chachkin

Ellen & Norman Werther Endowment Fund for Special Programs

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Mitzvah

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CLAUDIA LESLIE on her
Confirmation
Frank & Ellen Svitek

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Sherrie & Cliff Ehrlich

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In Memory of

MYER BERNSTEIN
Marian Wolfert

In Honor of

DAVID ESKIN's Birthday
Wolfert Family

Congratulations to

SUZANNE WOLFERT
Marian Wolfert

Mazel Tov to

ART COHN
The Wolfert Family

Sisterhood Mitzvah Fund

In Memory of

RITA LOKIETZ
Rob & Theresa Knee

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In Memory of

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SOLOMON COHEN
Allan Cohen & Susan Utain
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BERNICE SHIFFLETT
Andrew Johanson
JACK BARSKY
MINERVA PORTER
Arlene Porter
MICHAEL JOHL
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DAVID SIMON
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Joann Simon
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Lila Windheim
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The advertisement is a colorful collage featuring various photos of children at camp. At the top left, a boy is jumping in the air. Below him, a group of children are on a roller coaster. In the center, there are photos of children wearing swim caps and goggles, and a group of children wearing hard hats. On the right side, a boy is playing basketball, and below him, a girl is playing frisbee. At the bottom right, a group of girls are smiling. The background of the central text area is a light blue sky with clouds.



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HIGH HOLY DAYS

5783/2022



Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sunday, September 25

Rosh Hashanah
Monday, September 26

2nd Day Rosh Hashanah
Tuesday, September 27

Kol Nidre
Tuesday, October 4

Yom Kippur
Wednesday, October 5





Look for an e-mail with full details and on-line reservation form to come to your inbox in mid August.