

January-February 2024 | Volume 68, Issue 3 | Tevet-Shevat-Adar



#### **January Worship Schedule**

#### Friday, January 5 Shabbat Shemot

6:30 pm Family Shabbat Worship – Gitlin Sanctuary – Facebook Live & Live Stream

#### Saturday, January 6

9:30 am Torah Study11:00 am Shabbat Worship

#### Friday, January 12 Shabbat Vaera

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship honoring Brotherhood – Gitlin Sanctuary – Facebook Live & Live Stream

#### Saturday, January 13

9:30 am Torah Study11:00 am Shabbat Worship

#### Friday, January 19 Shabbat Bo

6:00 pm Israel Trips Reunion Shabbat Dinner (Ticket required.)

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship – Gitlin Sanctuary – Facebook Live & Live Stream

#### Saturday, January 20

9:30 am Torah Study

11:00 am Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Mollie Brooke Litten, daughter of Michael and Dorie Litten – Gitlin Sanctuary – *Live Stream* 

#### Friday, January 26 Shabbat Beshalah

7:30 pm Shabbat Shira Worship with the Adult Choir – Gitlin Sanctuary – Facebook Live & Live Stream

8:45 pm Tu B'Shevat Celebration (RSVP required.)

#### Saturday, January 27

9:30 am Torah Study

11:00 am Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Amanda Evelyn Gaffney, daughter of Andrew and Dana Gaffney – Gitlin Sanctuary – *Live* Stream

#### **February Worship Schedule**

#### Friday, February 2 Shabbat Yitro

5:00 pm Munchkin Minyan – Gitlin Sanctuary

5:30 pm Shabbat Family Dinner – Rosenfeld Social Hall (RSVP required.)

6:30 pm 6th Grade Family Shabbat Worship – Gitlin Sanctuary – *Live* Stream

#### Saturday, February 3

9:30 am Torah Study

10:00 am Sisterhood Shabbaton – Haines Chapel

11:00 am Shabbat Worship with the Bat Mitzvah of Johanna Borlington Finkelstein, daughter of Andrew and Jackie Finkelstein – Gitlin Sanctuary – *Live Stream* 

#### Friday, February 9 Shabbat Mishpatim

7:30 pm Shabbat Worship with the Installation of Rabbi Melissa Carp Lefkowitz featuring the Multigenerational Choir – Gitlin Sanctuary – Facebook Live & Live Stream

#### Saturday, February 10

9:30 am Torah Study

11:00 am Shabbat Worship with the B'rit Bat of Rena Harriet Lefkowitz, daughter of Rabbis Melissa and Kevin Lefkowitz

#### Friday, February 16 Shabbat Terumah

7:30 pm Mental Health Awareness Shabbat Worship – Gitlin Sanctuary – Facebook Live & Live Stream

#### Saturday, February 17

9:30 am Torah Study 11:00 am Shabbat Worship

#### Friday, February 23 Shabbat Tetzaveh

7:30 pm JDAIM (Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month) Shabbat Worship – Gitlin Sanctuary – Facebook Live & Live Stream

#### Saturday, February 24

9:30 am Torah Study

11:00 am Shabbat Worship with the Bar Mitzvah of Chase Friedman, son of Jason and Lindsay Friedman – Gitlin Sanctuary – *Live Stream* 

5:30 pm Havdalah Service with the Bat Mitzvah of Summer Adams, daughter of Travis and Cindy Adams – Gitlin Sanctuary

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COVER PHOTO: On December 15, 2023, the newly renovated Multi-Purpose Room was renamed MARX HALL in honor of Rabbi Gregory and Laurie's Marx' 35 years of leadership and service to our community. We are grateful to the Gitlin family for their generous donation and on-going support of Beth Or. The dedication event is part of L'dor Va'dor. See pages 10 & 11 for more.

## **Having the Difficult Conversations** on Israel

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

I was privileged in December to speak with members of two local churches about the current war between Israel and Hamas. I'd like to share some observations that might bring greater clarity to our community.

First, too many are getting their news on social media. There, they watch usually emotionally wrenching short videos that are meant to influence and persuade. If all you see are suffering children in Gaza, then viewers will naturally blame the conflict squarely on Israel. But, the conflict is not so simple. What is missing is context, history, and depth



Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

**Second, people want to understand.** More often than not, people can change their opinions from anti-Zionist to Pro, if we don't get too emotional and answer their concerns with facts and empathy for those who are caught up in this terrible conflict.

#### From the Rabbi's Desk

Third, there is no excuse for terror. I have heard people say that "Israel had it coming." This is nothing short of "victim blaming," in which those who were brutally assaulted, kidnapped and killed on

October 7, Simchat Torah, were seen not as the victims but rather as the terrorists themselves. Conversely, those Hamas terrorists, who committed the atrocities were seen not in fact, as terrorists but rather the victims of Israeli aggression thereby making their attacks justifiable. We need to be clear. Just as those 3,000 Americans murdered by bin Laden on 9/11 were victims not oppressors, despite what many Muslim leaders said, so those who died in Israel were the victims. It is absurd that I have to say this, but sadly in today's climate, I do.

Fourth, too many are simply ignorant of Jewish history. Their sense of Jewish history in Israel begins just before 1948 with the Jewish People fleeing antisemitism, coming to a land with Arabs living in it, making life difficult for them, and eventually creating their own Jewish state on this Arab land. The fact is that Jews have had a continuous presence in the Land of Israel for thousands of years. I said to one Christian, "Jesus was Jewish and he lived in Israel 2000 years ago." This alone should be enough to convince most of our presence in Israel long before 1948.

Fifth, some have been critical of Israel because in the modern world, they think there is no room for a modern ethno-state. I rarely hear this critique of religious or ethnic states elsewhere, but only with regard to Israel. So my question is a simple one: why do others have the right to have an Islamic State, a Hindu State or a Christina state, but the Jews have no such right? Israel is the Jewish homeland, its calendar is a Jewish one, and its religious sites mark our values, while still affirming the rights and place of others.

Finally, in the eyes of the left, protesting against Israel has become a metaphor for all different types of people looking to fight oppression. Well-meaning progressives are looking to stand up against injustices in the world – that's a good thing. Unfortunately, many of them don't understand the nuances and context of what is happening in Israel, and see the "plight of the Palestinians" as another injustice happening against oppressed people. Too many of the protestors carry signs with swastikas on them; chanting "From the River to the Sea" which is a call for Israel's dismantling, while calling for violence, boycotts and killing Jews. We need to point out that we don't march for social justice while calling out to "genocide the Jews" and demanding that diners boycott Jewish restaurants as if we were in Nazi Germany.

Talk to your friends and neighbors. Don't shy away from honest discussions. Avot de Rabbi Natan teaches, "Who is the mightiest of all? It is the one who can turn an enemy into a friend."

#### **President's Corner**

## Phnom Penh, Buddhism and Beth Or

Leslie Weiss, Beth Or President

"Happiness will never come to those who fail to appreciate what they already have." — Buddha

A couple of weeks after the Hamas attack on Israel on October 7, my husband and I departed for a two week adventure to Cambodia and Laos. We left with some reservations about taking this big vacation when there was so much suffering in our Jewish world. On

Leslie Weiss

the long flight to our first stop in Qatar, I fell asleep and woke up just as we were flying over Gaza, according to the flight map. I could not help but think of the chaos that ensued far below the confines of my airplane. We safely arrived in Phnom Penh, far from the Israeli conflict, far from our home and far from other Jews.

**Phnom Penh:** Day 1 was a cultural experience where we learned about Cambodia's harrowing modern history. Many of you may recall the horrible genocide which took place in the 1970's by the Khmer Rouge. Our first stop was S-21, a former high school turned into an interrogation, torture, and death center. We continued the day with a drive to the infamous Killing Fields, a former extermination camp for political prisoners. There are many "killing fields' scattered throughout the country, with the one in Phnom Penh being the most visited. Our guide lost her entire family to the Khmer Rouge when she was 6 years old. Her suffering was incomprehensible, and we ached for the pain she must have experienced.

**Buddhism:** During our time in Cambodia and Laos we learned a lot about Buddhism, visited many temples and, since one of our tour guides was a former Monk, we got insight into what life is like living in the monastery. We observed the Monks praying, we watched them at 6 am during their daily procession for morning alms, and we witnessed the community supporting them with food and money. There was a calmness in their movements and prayer and a true love and connection with their community.

**Beth Or:** So why am I sharing this with you? During our difficult day in Phnom Penh, I could not help but think about how Jews are not alone in their suffering and how many other cultures and people have suffered unnecessarily. This day was another example of a torrid history of hate and death, reminiscent of my visit to Auschwitz. And of course, the current connection to the pain and suffering of our Israeli brothers and sisters during the ongoing war.

As we know, where there is a tortured history, kindness always emerges and that was apparent in our learnings about Buddhism and the recovery of Cambodia post Khmer Rouge. The people are warm, kind and most gracious to share their stories and rebuild their country. I am confident when the Israeli-Hamas war is over, peace will come, we will once again visit the land we love. Beth Or has demonstrated our loyal commitment to Israel through donations and prayer.

And so, to reflect on the quote from Buddha I provided at the beginning of this article, now that we are back home and the war continues, we are more than ever appreciative of Beth Or, the Jewish community and our love of Israel.





Rabbi Jason Bonder

## A Symbol Of Israeli Resilience

Rabbi Jason Bonder, Associate Rabbi

This is Barkuni. He is an Israeli internet sensation. He is an alien from another star in our galaxy. He is 14 lightyears old and he mistakenly landed in Israel. Barkuni lives with his roommate, Evyatar, who he hates very much. Barkuni was "hired" at LSports – an Israeli tech company, and he has become a local celebrity ever since. Barkuni has 28,000 followers on his Hebrew-language YouTube channel, and he makes public appearances occasionally.





#### From the Rabbi's Desk

my children that he would look after me while I was in Israel.

made an incredibly generous offer on Instagram. If you wanted a call from Barkuni to cheer you up, you could send a message and let him know. The next day, Meyshar posted again. He notified his followers

that, to his surprise, approximately 1,200 people had put in requests for calls. Meyshar said that he would do his best to get back to every single request.

For much of 2023, watching Barkuni videos had been my very favorite way to work on my Hebrew. My children would watch along with me, and that worked out great because they got to watch a Hebrew-speaking puppet, and all of the inappropriate things that Barkuni said would go over their heads. But after October 7, Barkuni became more than a comic puppet. He and Meyshar became heroes in my eyes. Videos on his account ensued, showing wonderful clips of children and adults getting calls from their beloved puppet during their toughest moments. It warmed my heart.

Then the email came that changed my life. An invitation to join the Jewish Federation on the Emergency Rabbinic Solidarity Mission to Israel. After deciding that I would go, I knew that I would have to share the unnerving news with my family. I was most worried to tell my children. I knew that they would be worried about me. So I knew what I had to do next. I sent a message to Barkuni.

I contacted Barkuni on Instagram. I explained my situation. I explained that I was so impressed with all that he was doing. I told him that I understood how busy he was as he responded to thousands of messages, but if he could send a quick message to my children, it would mean the world to them. Ten minutes later, I got a voice message back. In classic Barkuni form, he told my children that he wasn't very impressed with their Dad's Hebrew skills, but there was still time for them to get better at Hebrew. He told them about how he heard that their dad was going to Israel, and that they should not worry. Barkuni promised my children that he would look after me while I was in Israel.

In the midst of a war, in the midst of all the stress of daily life in Israel, Roi Meyshar (and Barkuni) took the time to send a message of encouragement to my children. This is the spirit of the Israeli people right now. This is the resilience that exists throughout the country. This is the resilience of Israel and the Jewish people.



To our beloved Beth Or family,

Thank you for helping us welcome Rena into our community! In the short time that we have been PA residents, growing our family at this place that we hold so dear has been



such a blessing! We have been so touched with all the well wishes, warm meals, and words of encouragement as we become first time parents.

Rena will begin in the CECE upon my return in January.

We look forward to welcoming her into the community in the weeks to come.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts,
Rabbis Melissa and Kevin Lefkowitz

## Thank You! I Am Not Alone!



Cantor Jaime Murley

As you all well know, I had the honor and the pleasure of being a partner on the *bima* with Cantor David Green for 10 years. There isn't a service that goes by, where I don't think of him and fondly remember the music we enjoyed creating together. Upon his departure, I was worried that I would be lonely up on the *bima* without him.

Well.....six months into my official role as cantor, I can say that I am truly astounded as to how many people in the congregation have stepped up to be my NEW partners in music making at Beth Or! Thank you!! I am not alone!!

Since September, the advanced singers of our Adult Choir led us masterfully in a beautiful High Holy Day season; the spirited singers of our Multigenerational choir brought joy and light to my Installation Service, a community Thanksgiving Service at St. Matthews, and at our Glow Stick Chanukah Shabbat celebration; and of course, the incredible children of our Junior Choir who led our High Holy Day and Shabbat family services with so much joy. They brought beautiful smiles to the faces of everyone watching them.

In addition to these groups, I have also had the pleasure of leading services with talented soloists in our community, such as Holly Wiener, Joshua Stein, Marty Tarabar and Joe Marx, and create music with our incredible keyboardists, Roland Woehr and Mark Sobol, and our other amazing instrumentalists Jared Meyers, Barbara Golden, and Steve Ferraro.

In addition to all the music on the *bima*, we just completed an exhilarating four session Israeli Dance workshop where we got to experience music with our whole bodies. Every class brought joy and a special connection to Israel to everyone who attended.

As you can see, music is an integral part of how we experience Judaism at Beth Or...and we're just getting started! Here is what is coming up in January and February. Please join us either by adding your voice to one of the groups or supporting them from the congregation:

**January 5 and February 2 •** Family Shabbat led by the Junior Choir. If you haven't seen them yet this year, please come and see how amazing they are!

January 12 • Brotherhood Shabbat led by Joshua Stein and Marty Tarabar

**January 14** • Our Adult Choir will represent Beth Or at Bethlehem Baptist Church's Martin Luther King Jr. Service

**January 26 ·** Shabbat Shirah! Our Adult Choir will present "Judaism on the Big Screen" where they will sing songs from "The Prince of Egypt", "Fiddler on the Roof", "American Tail", and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." (It's also Tu B'Shevat!) This promises to be a night to remember!

**February 9 ·** Our Multigenerational Choir will add joy and beauty to the moment as we officially install our newest clergy team member, Rabbi Lefkowitz

It is never too late to join one of our musical groups. Please reach out to me at *jmurley@bethor.org* if you are not yet involved and would like to be!







#### **Important School Dates**

Monday, January 1 No School: Winter Break

Tuesday, January 2 No School: Winter Break

**Sunday, January 7**Bar/Bat Mitzvah Explanation
Program

**Sunday, January 14** No School: Dr King Weekend

Monday, January 15 No School: Dr King Weekend

Tuesday, January 16 No School: Dr King Weekend

Sunday, January 21 3rd Grade Family Ed

Sunday, January 28 1st Grade Family Ed

**Friday, February 2** 6th Grade Family Shabbat

**Saturday, February 10**Family Corn Hole Tournament, 7pm

**Sunday, February 18**No School: Presidents Day
Weekend

Monday, February 19 No School: Presidents Day Weekend

Tuesday, February 20 No School: Presidents Day Weekend

## Religious School **NEWS**

## Connecting with High School Students

Aaron Nielsenshultz, Director of Religious School and B'nai Mitzvah Training

It has been a whirlwind at Beth Or over the last few months, and the whole religious school staff is focused on taking care of our students! Chana and I have introduced a number of social and emotional learning programs into the school—which is a fancy way of saying that we're giving students more opportunities to do fun things

and mitzvah projects together to build relationships. The clergy, faculty, Chana, and I check in on how students are feeling with the state of the world.



Aaron Nielsenshultz

Leonard & Madlyn Abramson Education Center

CONGREGATION BETH OR

I also know that we have a number of students in the local community who can use our help, so I've reached out to local high schools to support their Jewish student clubs. Rabbi Marx, Rabbi Bonder, Jillian Peskin and I have all taught classes and sessions ranging from the history of Israel, understanding the current war, connecting to Rosh Hashanah/ Yom Kippur, and celebrating Chanukah. We have had serious conversations, we have laughed, we have shared deep conversations and feelings, and we have spread the warmth and love of the Beth Or community to Upper Dublin High, Wissahickon, and Central Bucks South high schools. We're making connections at two other area high schools, too. If you have a connection to another school, please let me know!



## **Hakarat Hatov**

Chana Tillman, Assistant Religious School Director

We all hope and pray Israel will have peace in the start of this new year.

Recently all Religious School students, kindergarten through YOBO age, learned the Hebrew words — *hakarat hatov* which translates to gratitude. As Jewish people living in America, we have much for which to be grateful. Many thought-provoking statements arose during these discussions.

One student mentioned that although he didn't get a lot of playing time on the school's basketball team, he was grateful for making the team and being a part of it.

Another student mentioned feeling safe to ask questions about was is occurring in Israel while here at Beth Or.



Chana Tillman

We had a project where each student was given two stones on which to write one word on each of what they are grateful for and decorate it. One was to take home and the other was to be placed outside Beth Or. The students from the CECE graciously went on walks and placed the stones outside. This program spread

throughout the entire building and involved children of all ages.





### Meet Our B'nai Mitzvah Students

## **Mollie Litten January 20**

#### **Summer Adams**

#### **February 24**

Our Mitzvah Project will be a "Day of Dance" to benefit the **BIA Dancers**. This is an organization started by one of our choreographers to promote



dance classes and scholarships to financially insecure families. This Spring we will spend a day at IDA, our dance studio, holding special classes to support Dom and his BIA dancers! We are so excited to give other kids the opportunity to love dance the way that we do!

#### **Amanda Gaffney**

#### **January 27**

For my Mitzvah Project, I went to Philadelphia and handed out

**Thanksgiving dinners** to people in need. This event was hosted by the Temple Hospital Nurses and Technical and Professional Staff. I chose to do this charity because I did this event



last year with my Dad and I liked what I was doing. When I saw people coming to take the food, they seemed like they were going through a hard time. When I saw those people leave with smiles on their faces, it made me feel really happy because I knew I was doing the right thing for these people. I felt that I had given these people a gift because now they would be able to have dinner with their loved ones and celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday, just like I was going to do with my family.

### Johanna Finkelstein

#### **February 3**

My Mitzvah Project is for **Home At Last Rescue**. HAL saves unwanted dogs from entering high kill shelters and places them in loving homes. We rescued our dog, Maybee, from HAL. HAL is a volunteer- based rescue that relies on donations and humans to



foster and care for the dogs until they find their new home. My project is focused on raising awareness and being a voice for rescue dogs, as well as fundraising for needed supplies or monetary donations. I will be working as a supply transport, along with my parents, to help all the dogs in need.

Ways you can help! Bring supplies to Beth Or, buy supplies and we can pick them up, Or use the two links below for HAL's wishlist.

https://www.chewy.com/g/home-at-last-dog-rescue\_ b66323136

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ Is/1EXEHR1MZIJ6V?ref\_=wl\_share

#### **Chase Friedman**

#### February 24

For my Mitzvah Project I am raising money for ALS. I will donate the proceeds to the **ALS Association** – **Greater Philadelphia Chapter**. My cousin who has ALS has written a story book and created a notebook that I will sell to raise money. I am going to



have my Mom ask our family and friends to purchase a copy. I will also promote these items on social media. The money raised will be donated to help cure this horrible disease.



## **Resources to Help in Times of War**

Sara Baum, Early Childhood Director

We continue to find ourselves balancing life during these challenging times. Raising a young family has stresses on its own coupling it with a time of war makes our days a little more difficult.

**ZERO TO THREE** is an organization whose mission is to ensure that infants and toddlers have a strong start in life. They provide resources to families and caregivers to help meet the social and emotional needs of young children. They released a statement in response to the Israel-Hamas conflict concerning infants and toddlers that can be found on their website, *ZEROTOTHREE.org*.

ZERO TO THREE offers free resources for families and caregivers, that offer guidance on helping adults caring for young children grieve and process traumatic experiences, enabling them to provide the best care for babies and themselves in times of war and turmoil.



- A Big Impact on Little Kids: Understanding How Traumatic Experiences Affect Very Young Children
- How to Talk to Young Children About War
- Little Listeners in an Uncertain World
- Helping Toddlers Cope with Grief and Death
- Mindfulness and Self Care: Building a Resilient Community and Culture of Caring
- Children's Book: Once I Was Very Very Scared by Chandra Gosh Ippen.

If you are looking for more information in helping to talk to your children about the crisis happening in Israel, Truvie (The Jewish Education Project) (truvie.org) is another resource. Here you can find articles and videos to gain more knowledge about how to talk to your children or learn more yourself. Some articles to search for that we found to be helpful include:

- How to Talk to Children About Israel Today
- Webinar Recording: Guidance for Parents of Young Children
- It's Okay to be Scared: A Book for Young Children by Sari Kopitnikoff

Please remember you are not alone during these hard times. Stay connected, reach out to friends and ask for help or understanding.



Sara Baum







## **Marx Hall Dedication Shabbat**

### Friday, December 15

A picture is worth a thousand words. Enjoy this photo montage of a very special L'dor Va'dor event, when the newly renovated Multi-Purpose Room was renamed Marx Hall in honor of Rabbi Gregory and Laurie Marx, thanks to the generous support of the Gitlin Family. The evening started with a pre-Shabbat dinner for L'dor Va'dor sponsors, the Marx family and guests. Shabbat Worship included the dedication of a Torah mantle to Amy Abrams, in honor of her 10 years of service as Beth Or's Executive Director. Following the service, congregants gathered in the Shmear Café and Spain Lobby balcony for the dedication ceremony led by Rabbi Bonder and Cantor Murley. During the ceremony, Laurie Marx was thanked for her years of dedication to the success of the Shmear Café. Congregants then lined the hallway while Rabbi and Laurie made their way down to unveil the Marx Hall sign. Once inside, congregation president, Leslie Weiss and 1st Vice President Aly Caplan, unveiled the dedication plaque. Then, congregants enjoyed a magnificent oneg and some impromptu Israeli dancing to complete the celebration.



























## **Rabbi Gregory & Laurie Marx**

# Celebration Weekend

**April 19 & 20** 

Thirty-five years ago, a young couple left the comfort of family in Florida and came north to Congregation Beth Or, then a community of approximately 400 families, with a raw vision of leading them into the future. Little could they, nor we, have envisioned what the next three and a half decades would become. They entered a welcoming congregation with classical Reform roots at a time when the Reform movement was welcoming more traditional forms of religious practice and opening its doors to those on the periphery of Judaism. Greg and Laurie have helped bring us to where we are today: a caring community of those born into "the Tribe", Jews by choice, and non-Jews in an interfaith couple or family — now thousands of people who currently call Congregation Beth Or their home.

Rabbi Marx's influence on shaping how we practice our Judaism has been immeasurable, whether one's focus is on religion and/or social action and/or community service. He has been our teacher, our leader in prayer, our comfort in times of need, and our voice in the greater community. Laurie has been instrumental in creating the warm atmosphere that permeates our walls and is a true friend.

We encourage each of you to join us in celebrating and thanking Greg and Laurie throughout the year as they transition from our pulpit to our pews, with his retirement this June. Our Marx Celebration weekend will take place on April 19 and 20. On Friday evening, our entire



Phil and Pennye Goodman with Greg and Laurie Marx

congregation will be welcome to pay tribute to them during a Shabbat Service and during the Oneg that will follow. On Saturday evening, we will host a ticketed Gala with cocktails, dinner, and dancing.

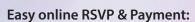
Beginning this January, everyone will be welcome to place an ad in the commemorative e-Tribute Book which we will present them to thank them for their years of service. We also welcome you to join us as a sponsor of L'dor Va'dor, through 2025, our 2-year celebration shining a light on the community we've built together and renewing our strength for our next 70 years.

Phil & Pennye Goodman, Celebration Weekend Chairs

# Join us!

A special weekend to pay tribute to Rabbi and Laurie's 35 years of service to our community!

3 ways to participate: La'dor Va'dor Sponsorships, e-Tribute Book Ads and Celebratory Events.



www.bethor.org/marx2024 (The on-line RSVP form will be accessible on January 15.)

(If you would like to pay by check or bill to your account, please make sure to log in to your Shul Cloud account when you complete your on-line form. Payment by credit card is subject to processing fees.)



#### Marx Celebration Weekend Events

- Shabbat Service Honoring Rabbi & Laurie Marx | Friday, April 19 7:30 pm The weekend kicks off with an enhanced Shabbat service where we honor Rabbi & Laurie Marx's legacy with a variety of special guests. This service is open to all and will also be available to watch remotely via
  - Livestream or Facebook Live. A special Oneg will follow. No RSVP necessary.
- Spring Fundraiser: Gala Honoring Rabbi & Laurie Marx | Saturday, April 20 6 pm 10 pm Join us for a wonderful evening of cocktails, dinner, drinks, music and dancing with Rabbi and Laurie. (Dress code: semi-formal).

**Tickets Required.** Ticket price: \$180/person. | RSVP form will be available on January 15. RSVP early we expect this event to sell out quickly! | RSVP Deadline: Monday, April 1.

Please contact Jillian Peskin, jpeskin@bethor.org, with any questions about the Marx Celebration Weekend events

## L'dor Va'dor Sponsorships

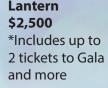
The Marx Celebration Weekend is part of L'dor Va'dor, our two year celebration shining a light on the community we've build together and renewing our strength for our next 70 years. There are six (6) L'dor Va'dor sponsorship levels covering special events though 2025.



Ner Tamid	
\$50,000+	
*Includes up	
to 10 tickets to	
Gala and more	

Lighthouse \$36,000		
*Includes up to		
8 tickets to Gala		
and more		

Torch \$5,000 \*Includes up to 4 tickets to Gala and more



Please contact Jennie Nerenberg, brucenjen@verizon.net, 267-481-2157 with any questions.

\*Use the QR code or visit www.bethor.org/ldvd to see full details of Sponsorship level benefits.

We invite you to join our current Sponsors (listing as of 12/14/23):

**Ner Tamid and Honorary Chairs:** Leonard Abramson, Reid and Krista Buerger, The Gitlin Family. Beacon: Susan Golden-Jacobson and Michael Golden. Spotlight: Andrea Becker Arnold and Joe Arnold, Amanda and Don Berry, Marlene and Bob Cohen, Nancy and Cary Flitter, Lynne and Bill

Garbose, Pennye and Phil Goodman, Mike Snyder and The Carol Packer Memorial Fund, Leslie and Evan Weiss. Torch: Beth Or Brotherhood Lantern: Amy and Mitchell Abrams, Beth Or Sisterhood, Sally and Mark Hurwitz, Jennie Nerenberg and Bruce Dorsey.



#### e-Tribute Book Ads

Share your good wishes with Rabbi and Laurie Marx by participating in a commemorative e-Tribute Book which will be presented to them at the Gala, displayed throughout the event, and available to view on-line on the Beth Or website for years to come. This special piece is electronic and not printed.

Full Page Gold (section 7) • \$1,800 Includes 2 tickets to Gala

Half Page • \$500 Quarter Page • \$250 Eighth Page • \$118

Full Page Silver (section 8) • \$1,000

Sixteenth Page • \$54

Includes 2 tickets to Gala

Ad specs and submission details will be available on January 15. Reservation and submission deadline: Monday, April 1. Please contact Samantha Drossner, samanthadrossner@gmail.com, with any questions about your e-Tribute Book ad submission.

For complete weekend details and to reserve/purchase L'dor Va'dor Sponsorships, e-Tribute Book ads and Gala Event Tickets please visit www.bethor.org/marx2024. (Web page will be available January 15.)

### 'Mitzvah for Marx' in Honor of Rabbi Gregory Marx

On November 5, the Social Action Committee honored Rabbi Marx by baking and delivering cookies to the Delaware Valley Veterans' Home in Philadelphia. The Home's 167 residents each received a box decorated by our Religious School students with a handmade card enclosed.

This L'dor V'dor Celebration prompted us to write a poem recognizing Rabbi Marx for his commitment to social action, his leadership and goodwill throughout the community.

In an up 'n down world, year after year, Rabbi Greg Marx is always near. With a warm heart and jokes so clever, he brings smiles that last forever. High holidays begin with his jest, a funny start, he knows it's best. Like a therapist, he lends an ear, guiding souls, wiping every tear. Social justice burns within his core, a passion he fights for that much more. Imans, pastors, and priests all agree - his love and kindness are a sight to see.

Wisdom at Torah Study on Shabbat morn - matches the brightness the day he was born. Doreen and Marvin, his parents dear, she calls him "Gregory" with an accent clear. The family names, a familiar refrain, Myron, and Byron linked in the chain. Laurie, a devoted wife close to his side, a partner in life's adventurous ride. Daniel 'n Tye with Lilah so sweet, Joe 'n Kayla, Ricca 'n Rima, make his heart beat.

In '89, he found his place — Congregation Beth Or, a sacred space. No day is ever the same as a rabbi's quest, but Thursdays bring a well-deserved rest. Supporting the move, a bold endeavor, from Spring House to Maple Glen, forever. In '22, the mortgage did fade, a triumph to cherish, foundations laid.

Retiring soon, in '24, leaving a legacy to adore:
Board of Rabbis, Bonds for the land, ADL's fight, a helping hand.
A Prayer Breakfast's blessings to share, Inaugurations' hope, a fervent prayer.
The Phillies fields, the balls to bless, In moments of glory, his presence impress.
Abington's care and Abramson's grace, Citizen of the Week, leaving a trace.
Panim el Panim, Jacob's Ladder, his call - uniting us, one and all.
Israel's land, he's led us through, Morocco, Cuba, destinations anew.
Poland's somber history he's unveiled. Greek Islands beauty, in tales regaled.
Rabbi Sacks' wisdom, Mendelssohn's light, Bruno's muse, day, and night.

A future foreseen, a book to unfold, sermons to cherish, wisdom untold.

His words ring true, purpose so clear - inspiring hope, dispelling all fear.

A leader, unwavering, in moments grand - with strength and conviction, a steady hand.

Consistent, unyielding, in strength he stands, an incredible leader, through shifting sands.

Never afraid to voice his mind, in his guidance, brilliance we find.

In Beth Or's heart, his legacy sown, a leader, a friend, to us he's known.

With gratitude and love, we stand as one - for Rabbi Marx, our journey's sun.

'Mitzvah for Marx' started our relationship with the Veterans Home and it's only just begun. For further information about this opportunity or other Social Action Committee activities, please contact Co-chairs, Susy Krimker (susykrimker@gmail.com) or Margie Chachkin (chachkin@aol.com).









## Resolve To Make It a Great New Year for Montco Families Who Need Emergency Housing

#### **Volunteer Now with Family Promise (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network)**

Happy New Year! February is right around the corner---a time when Beth Or opens its' doors to three families in need of emergency housing. Our synagogue is proud to be one of 19 Montgomery County churches, synagogues and mosques that participate in this emergency shelter program run by Family Promise.



Thanks to this compassionate coalition of faith communities, families in transition have a safe space to stay while participating in programs that help enhance their life skills, improve their decision-making abilities, and develop the resources they need to become self-sufficient.

We have begun the process of transforming several lower-level classrooms into studio apartments for participating families. Volunteers from our congregation are now signing up to prepare meals, help with transportation needs and serve as chaperones for our guests during the dinner hour, many of whom are single-parent families with young children. We need more help!

2024 marks our 25th year of involvement in this stellar program that uplifts and transforms the lives of others. Last year, more than 100 caring congregants performed this major mitzvah, logging more than 1000 volunteer hours.

Please help us go from strength to strength as we begin our second decade as a Family Promise community partner. Together, we will make Beth Or a warm and welcoming place for these families in transition.

Please use our online scheduling calendar, http://www.carecalendar.org/logon/224429, security code 1111, to access more information and to sign up on the days convenient for you to make a meal, drive families to and from the synagogue, and/or chaperone our February guests.

New this year will be the chance to sign up for gift card donations to provide our families the opportunity to shop for their own food. A sign up genius will be available in January.

For more information, contact Elisabeth Hess, 610-731-3688 or Nancy Shaffer-End, at 215-266-1055.



## Beth Or Brotherhood

## What Is In a Name? Shem?

Stu Briefer, Brotherhood President



Stu Briefer



As we move into the book of Exodus, we start with *Shemot* — these are the names. In December, Brotherhood held a very successful Annual Dinner and Fundraiser. Many Brotherhood members helped to make this a successful evening. These are the names... the Brotherhood members. Because of their help, our sponsors and all of you who purchased tickets and participated in the Silent Auction, we were able to help local First Responders with a financial and public thank you.

Again — what is in a name? This month, Brotherhood will honor Rabbi Marx during Brotherhood Shabbat. When you think of a leader, friend, or teacher such as Rabbi Marx, you know what is in his name. For me, Rabbi Marx is a lifesaver, mensch, spiritual and community leader, friend, and educator.

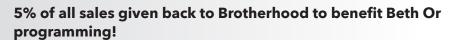
What about the men of Brotherhood? The same is true for what we do at Brotherhood at Beth Or. We meet monthly to review areas where we can help in the synagogue, our community and our home in Israel. Rabbi Bonder recently led us in a discussion about his trip to Israel after the war broke out and his impact on the lives of so many who needed a shoulder to lean on. Cantor Murley lifts our spirits with her voice and the love of people. I could go on and on about our spiritual community, but I think you understand what I am saying. Brotherhood members are part of the names of people who help lift others while learning more about what is essential to each of us.

We are the tribes that make Beth Or a house of light, a house of hope, and a house of love. I am proud to be the president of Brotherhood, and to be a part of all the names in our house of light.

Over the next two months, we will lead services, learn how to cook healthy meals, celebrate holidays together, and remember those who came before us. I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events that Brotherhood sponsors. All Beth Or men are welcome.

## KOSHER WINE SALES

Now you can purchase kosher wine all year long & 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.



Questions? Contact info@bethorbrotherhood.org.



## Beth Or Sisterhood

### Where Did 2023 Go???

Kim Kaffey, Sisterhood President

Looks like we made it through another calendar year. As we turn the page to 2024, I would like to reflect back on all of the things that Sisterhood has accomplished in the second half of 2023. We started by welcoming in a new "steering committee" (a.k.a. Executive Board). We currently have a strong group of women leading us. I am thankful, as the current president of Sisterhood, to have them all by my side for support. We kicked off the fiscal year with a Sisterhood "Welcome Back" cooking event lead by Alyson Gass, supported the congregational "Welcome Back Reconnection Fair by providing bagels for all with Brotherhood, greeted everyone at the High Holy Days services with our Apple Ambassadors handing out candy for a sweet new year, decorated the bimah with a beautiful Sukkah, lead services during our Sisterhood Shabbat, organized a collection drive benefitting "Soldiers Save Lives" lead by our own Bonnie Goldsmith, and sent packages to college students/young professionals (BOCCO program). Sisterhood also had one of our most successful and well attended Chanukah Bazaars in November. I would like to give a quick shout out to all the "Sisters" who help plan, organize, and coordinate this wonderful annual event. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart! We recently had our 3rd Annual Cooking contest with a "Festive Cookie" theme. Congratulations to our winners: Alyssa Bruner, Roberta English, Hillary Wagner and Ellen Mirbach. I am also super excited about coordinating with the CECE and Religious School committees, as well as the Next Generation Moms (post religious school parents) to host fun social events



Kim Kaffey



such as a Mixology event at Boardroom Spirits and a Glass Fusion event at The Art Department Studio (Thank You to our Programming Committee!).

Wow!!!! It's been a busy and exciting time for Sisterhood. We continue to look for volunteers to help plan, organize and support Sisterhood events in 2024, especially for our Shabbaton (February) and the Ecumenical Luncheon in the spring. Feel free to email me at any time at KSK67@verizon.net and let me know how you would like to support our Sisterhood!! Make sure to check the Beth Or web calendar, Chai Lights emails, the Sisterhood Constant Contact emails and the new Sisterhood Facebook page (Please "like" Congregation Beth Or Sisterhood!) for details and dates for all upcoming Sisterhood programming.

I look forward to seeing all my "sisters" (the new and the regulars) at our meetings and programs in 2024!



**Hours:** For a personal appointment, contact Bobbi Adair, *Bobbifadair@gmail.com*, 215-896-4787 or Holly Green, 215-805-8597 **Winter Hours:** Sunday, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm • Friday 10 am - 12 pm

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

## Beth Or **Events**

## BROTHERHOOD/SISTERHOOD EVENTS

Women's Shabbaton

Saturday, February 3 • 9 am – 1 pm

Details to come.

## HOLIDAYS AND SHABBAT EVENTS

## Shabbat Worship honoring Brotherhood Friday, January 12 • 7:30 pm

Brotherhood is honored and participates in tonight's service

#### Shabbat Shira Worship and Tu B'Shevat Celebration Friday, January 26 • Worship Service, 7:30 pm; Tu B'Shevat Activity 8:45 pm

Please join us for a special Shabbat evening. We begin with a Shabbat Shira service enhanced by musicians and a performance by the Adult Choir. Following services, adults are invited to celebrate Tu B'Shevat by enjoying Israeli wine and beer provided by Brotherhood and potting succulents to take home, courtesy of Gene at Ambler Flowers. This event is free with advance RSVP required. Check the web calendar or weekly email for the RSVP link.



#### First Friday Shabbat

#### Friday, February 2

#### Munchkin Minyan • 5 pm - 5:30 pm

Bring your preschool age children to enjoy a short, song & story filled service in the Haines Memorial Chapel led by Rabbi Bonder & Cantor Murley. Tonight's program features our 4 year old students. All young families are welcome. No RSVP required.

#### Family Shabbat Dinner • 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Join us between Munchkin Minyan and Family Shabbat Worship for a traditional Shabbat dinner. This is a great opportunity for families with children in preschool – 6th grade to get together and celebrate Shabbat. Dinner is catered by Pumpernick's. Cost: \$25/adult; \$10/child. Must RSVP in advance. Check weekly Chai Lights or web calendar for RSVP.

#### Family Shabbat Worship • 6:30 pm

The junior choir performs at every Family Shabbat service. Our 6th grade students are highlighted in February.

#### "Healing is a Gift of Love" Shabbat

#### Friday, February 16 • 7:30 pm

Tonight's Shabbat healing service will be led by Rabbi Bonder, Cantor Murley and members of the Beth Or Mental Health Task Force. This special service, taking place during Mental Health Awareness month, will focus on celebrating resilience and community.

## JDAIM (Jewish Disability Awareness & Inclusion Month) Shabbat

Friday, February 23 • 7:30 pm

Rabbi Lefkowitz will speak about the importance of inclusion as Beth Or celebrates JDAIM.

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

## Talking Antisemitism with Lizzy Savetsky Monday, January 8 • 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Beth Or and Women's Philanthropy of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia invite you to a very special evening featuring Lizzy Savetsky, a popular digital influencer and passionate activist for Israel and the Jewish community. Lizzy will lead a discussion on what it means to be Jewish today, the current rise in antisemitism and



how we can harness our passions to combat it. Cost: \$75/person. Must pre-register. This event is sold out. RSVP for wait list. VIsit the web calendar listing for RSVP link. Questions? Contact Jillian Peskin, *ipeskin@bethor.org*.

## Wood & Resin Challah Board Making Workshop Sunday, February 11 • 2 pm – 4 pm

Due to popular demand, we have scheduled a 2nd wood and resin challah board workshop with Carrie B. Come to Beth Or for a fun afternoon where you'll make & take your challah board. Light snacks will be provided. Cost: \$50/person. See your weekly Chai Light email of the web calendar listing for details and RSVP link. Questions? Contact Jillian Peskin, jpeskin@bethor.org.





Honorary Chairs: Leonard Abramson, Reid and Krista Buerger, The Gitlin Family

#### L'DOR VA'DOR EVENTS

## **Israel Trips Shabbat Reunion Dinner with Rabbi & Laurie Marx**

#### Friday, January 19, 6 pm

Have you previously traveled to Israel with Beth Or? If so, this event is for you! Join Rabbi and Laurie Marx for an Israeli-themed dinner where we will share stories and reminisce. Participants are encourages to bring trip photos to share with their table and the community of Israel travelers. Cost: \$50/person (members); \$75/person (non-members). RSVP required by January 8. See your weekly Chai Lights email or the website calendar listing for RSVP link. Event Captains: Nancy Flitter & Claudie Leslie.

## **Installation of Rabbi Melissa Carp Lefkowitz** Friday, February 9, 7:30 pm

Join us for a special Shabbat service with the formal installation of our Assistant Rabbi, Melissa Carp Lefkowitz. Event Captains: Sara Erlbaum & Josh Levinson. No RSVP necessary.

#### Marx is a Mensch Sunday, February 11, 11 am

Today is our Religious School students turn to shower Rabbi Marx with special surprises. This event is for students and teachers. Photos will be shared with parents afterward. Event Captains: Rachel Silverman & Aaron Nielsenshultz.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

#### Beit Sefer Café honoring Rabbi Marx

#### Tuesday, March 19 • 6 pm – 9 pm

This year's annual night of learning will celebrate all of the wisdom Rabbi Marx has shared with us over the years. RSVP required. Check your weekly Chai Lights email or the website calendar for details and RSVP soon! Event Captain Don Berry



#### **Guest Speakers Wanted!**

## GET CONNECTED: Beth Or's Business and Career Network is looking for Beth Or congregants to be featured as guest speakers at upcoming networking events.

Get Connected is open to all Beth Or members who are looking to make connections to grow their businesses or make a career move. We welcome the involvement of people from all professions including business, education, medicine, law, sports, finance, insurance and more. Previous guest speakers have provided education and skill building, and transparency and value about their businesses and their specific roles.



Jake Toyberman, Get Connected Chair

If you would like to present at a future Get Connected meeting, or if you would like to become part of Get Connected, please reach out to Jake Toyberman, Get Connected Chair, at jtoyberman@homestarrinc.com.



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 Jillian Peskin at 215-646-5806.

#### Approved Caterer List — 2023/24

Alyson's Sweet Petites • Alyson Gass	973-732-0151
Annemarie's Cuisine • Annemarie Silva	215-806-7675
Catering by Design • Fred Morganstein	610-405-9787
Curds N Whey • Davida Berger	215-866-2203
Panache Catering by Foodarama *Kosher* • Gary Rosenwald	215-633-7100
Pumpernick's Deli • Jeff Klein	215-393-5800
Steve Stein's Famous Deli • Lee Stein	215-673-6000
The Gourmet Vendor • Brad Orenstein	215-396-7000

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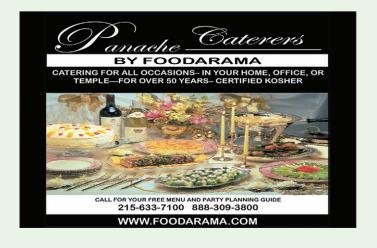
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## Chai-Lights — January/February 2024

#### **New Members**

Fred & Bonnie Ritterman

Robert, Danielle, Olivia, Isabelle, Isla Kaniewski

Rob & Roberta English

Paul Milch

#### **May Their Memory Be A Blessing**

Elaine Slott, congregant & wife of Ron Slott Eugene Gruber, close family friend of Andi Becker-Arnold

Elsa-Lu Berkowitz, long-time congregant & wife of Arnold Berkowitz, z"l

lan Berg, father of Casey & Ryan Berg Robert Gerson, brother of Philip Gerson, uncle of Jodi Gerson & Debra Steinberg

Yanai Hetzroni & Ayala Hetzroni, family members of Debbi Gilad

Liel Hetzroni, family member of Debbi Gilad

Rodger Wichterman, husband of Ellen Wichterman

Joann Simon, wife of Mort Simon z'l, mother of Robert Simon & David Simon

Doris Wang, mother of Helene Abrams Mark Ackerman, father of Alyse Miller Phyllis Turek, mother of Ellen Klocek

Shirley Issadore, grandmother of Michelle Issadore

Harry Ardman, father of Craig Ardman

#### **Mazel Tov**

Engagement of Jessica Franklin, daughter of Michael & Valerie Franklin, to Jay Davis

Engagement of Lily Feldman, daughter of Marc & Alison Feldman, to Drew Winig

Engagement of Rycki Freedman, daughter of Gary Freedman & Abby Gilbert, to Michael Clougher

Wedding of Alexandra Simon, daughter of David & Stephanie Simon, granddaughter of Joann Simon & Mort Simon, niece of Bob Simon, to Pearce Olson

Birth of Lily Jude Carlin, granddaughter of Jimmy & Sharon Carlin, niece of Sean & Danielle Carlin

Birth of Amirah Eliza Samuels, granddaughter of Cantor Kevin Wartell & Marcy Harris-Wartell

Baby Naming of Sophie Sloane Starkie, granddaughter of Al & Lori Shemtob, 10/08/2023

Baby Naming of Maya Aviva Ledig, daughter of Katerina Kremenets

Baby Naming of Daisy Jane Kozlik, granddaughter of Zane & Jane z'l Kurtz Baby Naming of Ethan Andrew Kaiser, grandson of Bill & Marcy Kaiser

Baby Naming of Harrison & Marley Kozlowski, grandchildren of Ken & Abby Sherman & grandchildren of Davy Cohn (Marilyn, z'l)

Baby Naming of Nora June Knee, granddaughter of Rob & Theresa Knee Bat Mitzvah of Mollie Litten
Bat Mitzvah of Amanda Gaffney
Bat Mitzvah of Johanna Finkelstein
Bar Mitzvah of Chase Friedman
Bat Mitzvah of Summer Adams

## **Oneg & Flower Donations**

#### **Additional November Donation:**

#### Oneg:

**November 10 • •** The Lowell and Dawn Lebovitz Family in honor of Rabbi Jason and Rina Bonder and family

**November 17 •** Ken and Abby Sherman in honor of the Baby Naming of their grandchildren, Marley James and Harrison Duke

#### **Additional December Donations:**

#### Oneg:

**December 1 •** Rob and Theresa Knee in honor of the Baby Naming of their granddaughter, Nora June Knee

**December 29** • Jackie Ioli in honor of the 50th anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah

#### **January Donations:**

#### **Oneg & Flowers:**

January 20 • Michael and Dorie Litten in honor of Mollie Litten's Bat Mitzvah

**January 27** • Andrew and Dana Gaffney in honor of Amanda Gaffney's Bat Mitzvah

#### **February Donations:**

#### **Oneg & Flowers:**

**February 3 •** Andrew and Jacqueline Finkelstein in honor of Johanna Finkelstein's Bat Mitzvah

**February 24 •** Jason and Lindsay Friedman in honor of Chase Friedman's Bar Mitzvah
Travis and Cindy Adams in honor of Summer Adams' Bat Mitzvah



## **Memorials & Contributions**

#### Notifications for both the donor and recipient are now delivered to your email from dedications@bethor.org.

Be sure to add dedications@bethor.org to your safe senders list to ensure these notices do not end up in your spam folder. If the donor or recipient does not have an email address, the notice will come via regular mail. If you have any guestions, contact Jill Bascove, jbascove@bethor.org or 215-646-5806.

#### Rabbi Marx's **Discretionary Fund**

#### In memory of

RODGER WICHTERMAN Cindi Pasceri **ELSA-LU BERKOWITZ** Harry & Lila Schultz **GRETE SCHWARZ** 

Jeffrey & Susan Bellos LARRY KNEE Rob & Theresa Knee

**JULIE DAVIS** 

Steve & Anita Davis

#### In honor of

ETHAN ANDREW KAISER Marcy & Bill Kaiser Marcy & Jeff Berman Sam & Merri Kaiser Marriage of SAM HEYMAN & LINDSAY JOHNSON Sandy & Larry Frankel

#### In appreciation of RABBI MARX

Alex & Sheryl Gruber Connie & Dick Berman Dave Simon Ellen Werther Irene & Michael Beer Jonathan & Leah Marks Sally & Jay Steele Sondra Levitt

#### Mazel tov to

BETTE TIGER, on the marriage of your grandson Sandy & Larry Frankel

#### Rabbi Bonder's **Discretionary Fund**

#### In memory of

RODGER WICHTERMAN Doreen Berest Flisa & Scott Heisman Ellen Mirbach Randi & Scott Copman Sherry Spector Susan & Jeff Asch MYRNA LEVINE Fllen Levine-Smith RONALD JOSEPH Linda Joseph JUDITH SCHRANZ Susan & Jeffrey Bellos

JENNIE (JACKIE) GROSSMAN

Larry & Joanne Grossman

Baby naming of MARLEY & **HARRISON** Jody & David Pascal

Rabbi Bonder's trip to Israel Mike Snyder

#### In appreciation of

RABBI BONDER

Alex & Sheryl Gruber Andrea, Jeff, Wendy & David Bergman Dave Simon David & Carol Udis Deanna Roth Debbi & Oren Gilad Lori & Al Shemtob & Jenn & Ben Starkie Michael Mevrowitz

#### Rabbi Lefkowitz **Discretionary Fund**

#### In memory of

**JOANN SIMON** Amanda & Don Berry

#### In honor of

Birth of RENA HARRIET CARP **LEFKOWITZ** 

Mike Snyder Dave Simon Fllen Werther

#### Cantor Murley's **Discretionary Fund**

#### In memory of

BERNICE GARTENBERG SIMON BELASCO David & Janice Belasco **ELAINE SLOTT** Helene Baker ELSA-LU BERKOWITZ

Jodie & Harry Girsh In honor of CANTOR MURLEY's

Installation Amy & Mitchell Abrams **CECE Sunshine Fund** Dave Simon

Judy & Merrill Brown Mike Snyder

Welcoming of CANTOR MURLEY

Ellen Werther Fave & Eric Benshetler **CANTOR JAIME MURLEY** Jodie & Harry Girsh

#### In appreciation of

CANTOR MURLEY Alex & Sheryl Gruber Ellen Werther Stewart, Kathy, Kira, & Holly Wiener

#### Mazel tov to

**CANTOR JAIME MURLEY** Jody & David Pascal

#### Arnold Berkowitz **Memorial Fund for** Veteran's Shabbat

#### In memory of

ELSA-LU BERKOWITZ Bryna & Fred Berman Cindi Pasceri Doreen Berest Edythe Newman & family Ellen Mirbach Fllen Werther Fave & Eric Benshetler Gail Karafin Gary Greenberg Harriet Greenberg Ilene Schneller & Dana Marion Jodie & Harry Girsh Lynn Levy & Tom Miller Margie Chachkin Michael & Irene Beer Neen Davis Pat Bassman Phil Gerson & family Randi & Scott Copman Roger & Flo Lipitz **Sherry Spector** Sussie & Al Harris **HERMAN MARCUS** Paul & Dale Snyderman

#### **Barbara Goldberg Nursery School Fund**

#### In memory of **ELAINE SLOTT**

Diadre Feldman **JOANN SIMON** Joan & Alan Kober **RODGER WICHTERMAN** Nancy Scudder Laurie Rubin Sara Baum Sharon & Jim Carlin

#### In honor of

REBECCA CARLIN's marriage to CONNOR MARCHBANK Birth of LILY JUDE CARLIN **CECE Sunshine Fund** Marsha & Steve Milakofsky Birth of RENA HARRIET CARP LFFKOWITZ Todd & Michelle Landau

In appreciation of **RABBI MARX** Jim & Sharon Carlin

#### **Brotherhood Camp** Harlam Scholarship Fund

#### In memory of

CHARLES BENSHETLER Eric & Faye Benshetler

#### Caring Congregants Fund

#### In memory of

**RUSTY LIPSCHUTZ** JACQUELINE RUTH Beth & Elliot Selsley **ROBERT GERSON** Ellen Werther RODGER WICHTERMAN Jody & David Pascal JOANN SIMON Marvin Schwartz Robin & Max Minkoff and Family

#### In honor of

Birth of MAGNUS BEER Ellen Werther

#### Speedy recovery to

**ERIC BASCOVE** Ellen Werther JODY EMPOL SCHWARTZ Eric & Fave Benshetler

#### **CECE Appreciative Families Fund**

#### Mazel tov to

**ILENE SCHNELLER & FAMILY** on the birth of REMY YAEL Mark & Sally Hurwitz

#### **Deborah Gene and** Daniel H. Eisman **Outstanding Student** Award Fund

#### In memory of

**ELSA-LU BERKOWITZ** Linda Eisman, David Thomas & Joan Eisman Isack

#### **Disaster Relief Fund**

#### In memory of

**DAVID JACOBS** Deena & Earl Rochvarg

#### In appreciation of

HARVEY GITLIN Margie Chachkin

#### **Memorials & Contributions**

#### Friends of IDF Fund

#### In memory of

**AVIA HERZRONI** Bryna & Fred Berman RODGER WICHTERMAN

Diane Berliner Ellen Werther **FAMILY TRAGEDY** 

PHYLLIS BROWN Elaine & Stephen Kelbick

JOANN SIMON NORMAN GOLDBERG The Polin Family

#### In honor of

**Engagement of RYCKI FREEDMAN** Ellen Werther JAFFA WEISBERG Nicole Shakespeare FERNE SUSSMAN Richard & Lauren Shusman

#### Donation by

Davida Berger Jeffrey & Maxine Goldman Mark Gross & Janessa Althouse

#### **General Fund**

#### In memory of

**ELSA-LU BERKOWITZ** Alison & Arnold Richman **AYALA HETZRONI** RODGER WICHTERMAN JACQUELINE RUTH WASS **Bob Simon AVIA HETZRONI ELAINE SLOTT RODGER WICHTERMAN** LIEL HETZRONI David Simon **ELAINE SLOTT** Donna & Stanton Rultenberg Mimi (Singer) Licence **RODGER WICHTERMAN** Irene & Michael Beer Sussie & Al Harris LILLIAN BASSMAN HARRY BASSMAN

#### Pat Bassman In appreciation of

BETH OR Stephanie Forti

#### **Goldstein Family** Religious School **Scholarship Endowment Fund**

#### In appreciation of

AARON NIELSENSHULTZ The Windheim Family

#### **Hannah Miller Book & Education Fund**

#### In memory of

**ELAINE SLOTT** Ellen Werther STELLA & JOY VAN BENTHEM WENDY BARNES Ilene & Larry Stella **RODGER WICHTERMAN** Jan & Bob Zauzmer

#### **Interfaith Apartment** Fund

#### In memory of

RODGER WICHTERMAN Marv Schwartz

#### **Israel Support Fund**

#### In memory of

JOANN SIMON

Alan & Caren Wallen Art & Andy Cohn Barbara & John Murtha Barbara & William Shoulberg Cindi & Vincent Pasceri Cliff & Sherrie Ehrlich Deborah Cohen Donna Drosendahl & Vicki Chack-Flamini Ellen Mirbach Ellen Wichterman Howard Levy Ilene Schneller & Dana Marion Ira & Robin Secouler Jan & Bob Zauzmer Jennie Nerenbera & Bruce Dorsey Lemuel & Susan Tarshis Margaret Carney Margie Chachkin Fave & Eric Benshetler Mike Snyder Michelle & Michael Boas Mindi Voael Richard & Bonita Black Robin Barq Sara & Jeffrey Erlbaum Sherry Spector Stuart Bykofsky Sussie & Al Harris Terry & Paul Swanson The DeCandido Family

**DORIS WANG** 

Cohen

Allan Cohen & Susan Utain

Andi Becker-Arnold & Joe Arnold Bobbi & Garry Adair Fave & Eric Benshetler Robert & Susan Silverstein Sammy & Barbara Stephens The Boas Family YANAI & AYALA HETZRONI LIEL HETZRONI Bob Simon PETER RAFAELI Caren & David Gutman **ELAINE SLOTT** Cindi Pasceri Honey & Marty Cohen AVIA HETZRONI Cori Miller David Broida Edward James Allen Robert & Susan Silverstein ISRAELI'S & AMERICANS who gave their lives & are wounded during the Hamas War Tod & Andi Drucker SAMANTHA ROSEN Gail A Edelsohn HOWARD KATZ Marlene Dukart MELVIN GARBER Stephanie & Norman Lubin TRIXIE Susan Silverstein IAN BERG Tamara Berg GENE GRUBER Todd & Michelle Landau JOSE KRIMKER Armand & Nora Saragovi MILTON BLUM Howard Blum DR. ALICE BERLIN

**RODGER WICHTERMAN** 

#### Norman & Betsy Berlin In honor of

MATTHEW WINDHEIM becoming a bar mitzvah Cathy & Jim Weiss RABBI BONDER's Israel Trip Pam, Warren, Morgan & Ashley Bloom

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