



BETH OR Spotlight

November-December 2017 | Volume 62, Issue 2 | Cheshvan-Kislev-Tevet 5778



Congregation Beth Or publishes Beth Or Spotlight through an endowment from the Florence and Rhoda Kramer Memorial Fund

November Worship Schedule

Friday, November 3 Shabbat Vayera

- 5:30 pm** Munchkin Minyan for
4 year olds & kindergarten
- 6:00 pm** Pre-Neg
- 6:30 pm** Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
in the Haines Chapel
- 6:30 pm** 5th Grade Family Shabbat
Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

Saturday, November 4

- 9:30 am** Torah Study
- 11:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
B'nai Mitzvah of Dara Kisver, daughter
of Joshua and Stacie Kisver and
Andrew Slackman, son of Bill and
Julie Slackman in the Gitlin Sanctuary

Friday, November 10 Shabbat Hayei-Sarah

- 6:00 pm** Pre-Neg
- 6:30 pm** Shabbat Worship honoring
our Veterans in the Gitlin Sanctuary

Saturday, November 11

- 9:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Rice, son of Zev
and Aren Rice in the Gitlin Sanctuary
- 9:30 am** Torah Study
- 10:45 am** Extended Torah Study with
rabbinic intern, Janine Jankovitz
- 11:00 am** Shabbat Worship Service in
the Gitlin Sanctuary
- 12:00 pm** Celebrations Shabbat
Worship

Friday, November 17 Shabbat Toledot

- 6:00 pm** Pre-Neg
- 6:30 pm** Shabbat Worship

Saturday, November 18

- 9:30 am** Torah Study
- 11:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
B'nai Mitzvah of Nick Long, son of
William Long and Kim Bittman and
Lexi Cannan, daughter of TJ and Jodi
Cannan in the Gitlin Sanctuary

Friday, November 24 Shabbat Vayetzei

- 6:00 pm** Pre-Neg
- 6:30 pm** Shabbat Worship

Saturday, November 25

- 9:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Segal,
daughter of Ari Jay Segal and Abby
Lynn Segal in the Gitlin Sanctuary
- 9:30 am** Torah Study

- 11:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
B'nai Mitzvah of Brooke Abramson,
daughter of Glen and Jamie
Abramson and Adam Grossman, son
of Harvey Grossman and Deborah
Miller in the Gitlin Sanctuary

December Worship Schedule

Friday, December 1 Shabbat Vayishlah

- 5:00 pm** BOFTY Spaghetti Dinner
Fundriser (replaces Pre-Neg)
- 6:30 pm** Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
in the Haines Chapel
- 6:30 pm** 3rd Grade Family Shabbat
Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

Saturday, December 2

- 9:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
Bar Mitzvah of Garrison Euler, son
of Hunter and Danielle Euler in the
Gitlin Sanctuary
- 9:30 am** Torah Study
- 11:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
B'not Mitzvah of Julia and Jacqueline
Germer, daughters of John and
Melissa Germer in the Gitlin Sanctuary

Friday, December 8 Shabbat Vayeshev

- 5:30 pm** Munchkin Minyan for
3 year olds
- 6:00 pm** Pre-Neg
- 6:30 pm** Shabbat Worship with guest
speaker, Rev. Marek Zabriskie of St.
Thomas Episcopal Church in the
Gitlin Sanctuary

Saturday, December 9

- 9:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
Bat Mitzvah of Anna Gamburg,
daughter of Donald Gamburg and
Amy Coben Gamburg in the Gitlin
Sanctuary
- 9:30 am** Torah Study
- 10:45 am** Extended Torah Study with
rabbinic intern, Janine Jankovitz
- 11:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
B'nai Mitzvah of Max Simons-
Ettelson, son of Steven Simons and
Cori Ettelson and Jenna Rovner,
daughter of Paul and Lisa Rovner in
the Gitlin Sanctuary
- 12:00 pm** Celebrations Shabbat Worship

Friday, December 15 Shabbat Miketz

- 6:00 pm** Pre-Neg
- 6:30 pm** Family Chanukah Glow Stick
Shabbat Worship

Saturday, December 16

- 9:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
Bat Mitzvah of Carly Meltzer,
daughter of Joe and Wendi Meltzer
in the Gitlin Sanctuary
- 9:30 am** Torah Study
- 11:00 am** Shabbat Worship with the
Bar Mitzvah of Hunter Alabrodzinski,
son of Scott Alabrodzinski and Leslie
Sussman in the Gitlin Sanctuary

Friday, December 22 Shabbat Vayigash

- 6:00 pm** Pre-Neg
- 6:30 pm** Shabbat Worship

Saturday, December 23

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

Friday, December 29 Shabbat Vayehi

- 6:00 pm** Pre-Neg
- 6:30 pm** Shabbat Worship

Saturday, December 30

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

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Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

Tearing Down the Symbols of Hate

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

It goes without saying, symbols are important. They teach us about our values and our history. Did you know that the Flag of Israel is a tallit with a Star (Shield) of David in the middle? When Jews look upon that flag and place their hands over their hearts they are celebrating Israel as a place of faith and protection, valor and strength. A tzedakah box, placed in a prominent place in our homes tells our friends and family that charity is an important value. Do we display in our home's prominent places books or a bar? Symbols matter.

During this past summer, our nation was embroiled in a debate over symbols. Do Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis belong in the Statuary hall of the U.S. Congress? Should statues of Robert E. Lee and Roger Taney be in the town squares of towns and cities across the South?

From the Rabbi's Desk

**Symbols
are important.
They teach us
about our values
and our history.**

What we say through our symbols matters. Some may not know but on August 6, an American-based clothing design website called "Teespring" put on sale t-shirts and sweatshirts branded with a swastika, surrounded with the words, "Peace," "Zen," and "Love" as a "symbol of love and peace." By August 7 — the next day — they had already changed the t-shirts and sweatshirts after a widespread web outcry, including one post which said: *"This is not only highly naïve, but grossly offensive. What's next... using ISIS symbols to promote gender equality?"* Either malevolently or foolishly, Teespring sought to rebrand the Swastika as a symbol of tolerance. It is outlandish and our response was appropriate.

Which brings me to the statues of Robert E. Lee, Roger Taney and Frank Rizzo. Before we can decide what they symbolize, we need to think about the reason they were erected. Lee and Taney are both symbols of white supremacy. Robert E. Lee was a great military mind — no question about it! So much so, that he had been offered the opportunity to lead the Union army. He turned it down and chose the Confederacy instead. Roger Taney was the Supreme Court Justice who ruled in the Dread Scott Decision, which led to Jim Crow segregation. Most legal scholars consider it one of the worst decisions in the Supreme Court's history. Taney referred to black people as being an "inferior race." If he had said that about Jews, would we want a statue of him to stand? Frank Rizzo was a tough cop and an even more exacting Mayor, but he was not exclusively known for fighting to destroy black rights. He might have been a racist, but that was not what his statue symbolizes. The truth of the matter is, that many of the statues of Robert E. Lee and Taney were not erected soon after the Civil War, but many years later when people in the South were still trying to keep alive the dream of segregation. Most statues were erected in 1924 during the height of the period of lynching and mob brutality. Rizzo's statue had a different agenda. He might not have been perfect, but for that matter neither were Christopher Columbus or George Washington.

Symbols matter. Just as I would not want to see a Swastika on a tee shirt, our African American brothers and sisters should not have to see statues of people who sought to enslave them. Lee, Davis and Taney should be taken down.

In our homes...what are our symbols of faith that we use to teach our children? Signs of hate should go...symbols of love should go up.

Find Your Niche: Get Involved in a Beth Or Committee

David Simon, Beth Or President

I am writing this after attending the unseasonably hot Eagle's game on Sunday against the Giants so if it seems a little confusing, I think it is because I may be a little dehydrated.

There is an old adage that says a camel is a horse designed by a committee. The implied meaning from this is to denigrate the work of committees. However it fails to observe that a camel is a highly efficient machine, albeit for use in a desert. So perhaps committees really do good work.

Beth Or is competently run by our clergy, executive director, the professional and

administrative staff, and of course its several committees. These committees are primarily staffed by your fellow congregants and have diverse responsibilities. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of the many opportunities that you have to serve on a committee

and to help Beth Or live up to its "Why" statement that I discussed on Rosh Hashanah. As a reminder, that "Why" statement is ***"Through our Jewish values and traditions, we inspire our members to better themselves, our congregation and the community."***

Beth Or has over twenty five standing committees on which you can serve and help. Some of these committees require some specific knowledge and experience. For example, our legal steering, human resources ("HR") and investment committees include members who are attorneys, HR professionals or those with investment advisory experience.

However, for most of our committees the only prerequisite to serve is your interest, time and energy. If you have interest or experience in building or facilities management, then the buildings and grounds committee is the one for you. If Jewish education is your interest, then perhaps you can help with our Religious School or Lifelong Learning committees. If you have communications experience then please join the Membership or Youth committees. If none of the above is your "thing", then perhaps the Caring Congregants (helping our clergy to provide services for fellow congregants in need), APEX committee (plan events for our senior members), or Outreach committees (help coordinate events for our interfaith families) are more to your liking. If you have an interest in social action or social justice, then we have a committee for you that could use your help.

Over the next few months we will be improving our website to include more in depth discussion of our committee activities, what they are doing and how you can help. Please be sure to log on frequently to see what you like and how you can help.



David Simon

President's Corner





Rabbi David Gerber

After The Miracle

Rabbi David Gerber, Associate Rabbi

There is a lot to celebrate on Chanukah. Whether we are celebrating the miracle of the Temple's oil lasting an entire eight days or the undeniable courage of the Maccabees and their willingness to stand up to the mighty Greeks, it is truly worthy of our appreciation. While it is easy to get carried away with the lights, presents, and fried food for Chanukah, our tradition always commands us to temper our joy and excitement with a sense of the historical significance of the moment.

The historical truth of the Maccabean revolt is truly a great moment in our history. What followed, however, is an era of great tragedy.

During the Maccabean rule in ancient Israel, Jews were at odds with one another. There were Jews who wanted to embrace Greek culture while maintaining their Jewish identities and there were others who believed in total isolation; fearing hellenization would ultimately lead to the abandonment of our traditions.

While this doesn't sound like such a destructive argument, the infighting among the Jewish people ultimately led to the need for external mediation. The Jews actually invited the Romans into Jerusalem to rule when they couldn't agree on a path forward.

When it comes down to it, the destruction of the Second Temple was not instigated by outsiders conquering our people. The events that led to its destruction began the moment the Jews invited the Romans in to rule.

It was not the weakness of our army that cost us Jerusalem. It was our inability to get along with one another.

Today, Jews face a similar challenge. Jews question one another's legitimacy. We deny each other an equal share in the religious life in Israel. If we do not ultimately unite, we will share the same fate as our Maccabean ancestors.

Let us appreciate the wondrous miracles of the story of Chanukah. Let us marvel at the courage of the Maccabees. And let us strive to succeed where they could not: in maintaining an inclusive Jewish state in the land of Israel.

From the Rabbi's Desk

The historical truth of the Maccabean revolt is truly a great moment in our history.





Important School Dates

Friday, November 3

5th Grade Family Shabbat

Sunday, November 19

3rd Grade Abramson

10 am-11:30 am:

Ms. Gardener's Early Class

Sunday, November 26

No School: Thanksgiving Break

Friday, December 1

3rd Grade Family Shabbat

Sunday, December 3

Confirmation trip to NYC

Sunday, December 3

3rd Grade Abramson

10:30 am-12 pm:

Ms. Herman's Late Class

Sunday, December 10

4th, 5th, and 6th grade JRA Day

Sunday, December 17

Kindergarten Family Ed

Sunday, December 24

No School: Winter Break

Monday, December 25

No School: Winter Break

Tuesday, December 26

No School: Winter Break

Sunday, December 31

No School: Winter Break

Religious School NEWS

Aaron Nienshultz, Director of Religious School

You might recall that our Religious School theme for this year is "What's Your Mitzvah?" Our students have already started looking at what they can do in their lives to make the world a better place, one mitzvah at a time. Have a look at our 4th graders learning about what goes into making a mensch in the photo below.

Speaking of finding a mitzvah to do, I'm excited to tell you about our school JRA day on December 10. We'll be taking all of our 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students to the Jewish Relief Agency to pack and deliver boxes. The synagogue will arrange bus transportation there and back, including a bus that will return to Beth Or at 10:45 am for those unable to participate in the full morning. All other buses will return at 1 pm. Please RSVP to me to confirm your student's participation, and we will certainly need chaperones, so let me know if you're interested in coming. Let's get our mitzvahs going!



Aaron Nienshultz



Leonard &
Madlyn Abramson
Education Center

CONGREGATION BETH OR



Lisa Goldoor and Michelle Boas

Q & A with your religious school committee chairs....

Where did you meet?

Michelle: We met at the Beth Or Café after dropping off our 2-year-olds (who are now 11!!) I was new to the area and trolling for friends.

Lisa: I was avoiding loads of laundry at home and enjoying time with my Beth Or crew in the café.

Michelle & Lisa: It was love at first sight.

What were your first volunteer experiences together?

Michelle: I remember coming to your house, Lisa, and making batches of soup for Caring Congregants. I also remember spending too much money on tie dye clothing when we held a fundraiser for the preschool.

Lisa: Michelle and I have both been involved with the CECE, the board, and on different task forces, but not always at the same time. The religious school committee was our chance to team up and help an area of the synagogue we are so heavily invested in.

How do your different perspectives enhance your partnership as religious school chairs?

Lisa: Well, that's easy. I'm the cynical one. I'm the one who is always asking.... "but will they really read that e-mail?", and "is that something that our families really want?" As Michelle says, if it passes the Lisa Litmus test, we are more comfortable moving forward.

Michelle: I am the eternal optimist. I drink the Beth Or "Kool-Aid" and want to believe that there are many others like me. When we meet with Aaron to discuss religious school topics, we strike a good balance between lofty and realistic goals.

Why do you volunteer at Beth Or?

Lisa: I've been at Beth Or my entire life. My kids are second-generation religious school students and my love for the synagogue and its community keeps me coming back for more volunteer experiences.

Michelle: I moved to the area in 2008 not knowing anyone and Beth Or quickly became my home. I volunteer because having a vibrant Jewish community is important to me and I want to do my part to keep it that way.



Creating Memories That Last

Lisa Yoskowitz, Early Childhood Director

“The Holidays” — Just uttering these two words can evoke a myriad of emotions. For many families, it is the best of times — a time to come together and reconnect. And while these bonding moments can be wonderful, they do bring a variety of stresses with them which often affect the youngest members of our families (our children).

So what can we do when we’re so busy making that Thanksgiving meal for 10 but cooking for 20, wrapping the obligatory eight presents, frying up the 500 latkes for those “last-minute” extra people who your in-laws added to your guest list, while still trying to take care of the family, go to work, clean the house, help with homework... and on and on and on.



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

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Discover ♦ Grow ♦ Shine

We can look into our children’s eyes and see the holidays from their perspective. By simply “slowing down” and appreciating the moments and the memories that we create by coming together. If you were to ask me what I recall about the holidays as a young child, it had nothing to do with the material gifts I received. Quite the contrary — I remember one Thanksgiving sitting in my grandparents’ tiny apartment in the Bronx. Listening to their chatter (whenever they didn’t want me to know something, they spoke in Yiddish) only making me more determined to “listen” to what they were saying, and in doing so I received a gift far more precious than any materialistic one — the gift of the spoken word in the form of the most wonderful stories. The beauty of these stories, is in their ability to be retold over and over again to future generations.

Here is a list of other ways to capture the special moments of the holidays:

- **Share Thanks.** At dinner have everyone share what they are thankful for before eating dinner.
- **Treasure Hunt.** Create a simple treasure map and “prizes.” There can be one prize or multiple prizes. Ideas for prizes: chocolate turkeys or a packet of coins or a gift certificate wrapped up in a box. Share your ideas in the comments please!
- **Take a Walk.** Pick an enjoyable destination. All you need to bring are your sneakers and conversation! Or you could join a Thanksgiving road race or road walk.
- **Make an Edible Menorah.** Bake one batch of brownies. Give each family member a long, rectangular brownie. Invite the “Chanukah chefs” to create their own unique edible menorah using various treats such as licorice pieces to serve as candles, butterscotch chips to serve as flames, marshmallow filling to glue everything together, and any other candy or treat of your choice. Try a healthier version using half of a celery stalk as a base, baby carrots as candles, raisins as flames, and peanut butter to glue everything together. B’ti’avon! Good appetite!
- **Fry Up Some Latkes.** Search online or ask friends and family for latke recipes. Stir up the batter, fry the latkes, and enjoy. Spice up your holiday by searching for latke recipes that use a main ingredient other than potato. How about zucchini, sweet potatoes, carrots, or even cheese latkes? Try making a few recipes and let your family judge which recipe is the most delicious.
- **Host a Dreidel Spinoff.** After lighting the Chanukah candles, gather together as a family for a dreidel spinoff. Let each family member spin a dreidel. Using a stop watch, record the time each dreidel spins. If your dreidel spins the longest, you win. Consider adding the “Dreidel Spinoff” to the more traditional dreidel game. For example, if your dreidel spins the longest, you win the “pot.”



Lisa Yoskowitz



May this holiday season take you to your “happy place”. And if that “place” has lots of family, friends, good food, great conversations, love and laughter, than you are richer than you could have ever thought possible.

A New Look For Beth Or Communications

Judy Trias, Director of Marketing & Communications

On Rosh Hashanah we kicked off the new year by introducing Beth Or's new logo and tagline. Our Religious School, Early Childhood Center, and main Programs/Auxiliaries have updated their logos and color schemes too! Over the next year, you will begin to see a fresh, coordinated new look and feel in all of the digital and printed communications you receive from Beth Or, including a completely overhauled website.

How did we get here? Beth Or's Marketing and Communications Committee (BOMCOM) spent months analyzing our communications and marketing collateral in comparison to our diverse membership, dynamic programming and beautiful building/grounds, concluding that we were in need of an update. With that mindset, BOMCOM worked with the clergy, staff, Executive Committee and Board of Trustees to come up with a statement that succinctly summarized why we exist. Together, the following was created:

Beth Or's Why Statement: *"Through our Jewish values and traditions, we inspire our members to better themselves, our congregation and the community."* This statement is the driving force to guide decisions when it comes to what we do and how we do it — whether it is worship, education, programming or communications.

Why this logo? *Beth Or's new logo pays tribute to our past while representing the congregation today and as we continue in the future. It embodies why we exist and our core values.* Since the beginning, the menorah has been our symbol. It represents balance and harmony, using light as the focus. The word Menorah itself has the word "Or" (meaning light) at its center. Interpreting the updated design is much like our diverse membership — people will see different things in it and it will mean something different based on one's perspective.

What do you see?

THE TOTAL SHAPE

- **Community:** Symbolizes a congregational "hug"
- **Worship:** Congregants gathered in the sanctuary
- **Learning:** Rabbi/Teacher at the center, surrounded by students looking at him/her
- **Generations:** Small people (children) toward the inside, surround by parents/young adults, with grandparents/older adults on the outer ring



THE TOP

- **7 Boxes:** Represent the 7 stained glass windows above the bimah in the sanctuary, as well as the 7 days of the week
- **Yellow/Gold:** Symbolizes light/flames, warmth, and cheerfulness

THE MENORAH BASE

- **Use of Multiple Colors:** The colors represent stained glass, energy, vibrancy, and diversity, as well as individual members/synagogue subsidiaries and programs connecting to create the whole picture
- **Grounded in the Color Blue:** Blue inspires safety, serenity, depth, stability, trust, loyalty, wisdom, confidence, intelligence, faith, and truth — all characteristics of Beth Or

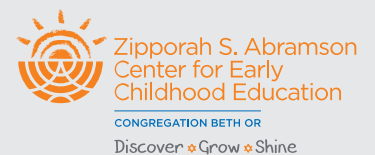
Why this tagline? *For those seeking guidance on their journey to strengthening their Jewish faith, Beth Or helps light that path.* Whether one is seeking spiritual guidance, a caring community, a stronger purpose or anything in between, Beth Or has the people and resources to help you find your way. Our new tagline speaks to how our members can light their own path but also how Beth Or serves as a guiding light for all generations and all stages of life.

We hope you find the new look and materials to be meaningful, and most importantly, useful. We encourage your feedback.



Lighting the path for all generations

Main Program and Auxiliary Logos



SOCIAL Action

Mitzvah Month

December 3-25

A Synagogue-wide Program

All are Encouraged to Participate

Striving — Caring — Making a Difference all month long!

This year marks Beth Or's first MITZVAH MONTH with projects throughout the month of December. Please join whatever catches your interest and let us know if you would like to carpool to offsite activities with fellow congregants. We'll make the arrangements!

Brochures with more details are available in the Spain Lobby and a summary is outlined below.

Sunday, December 3

Our Closet Collection: 9 am-12 noon • On-site

What is needed? Men's Clothing and Accessories. Chairs Jennie Nerenberg, brucenjen@verizon.net, Rachel Steinberg, levinerb@yahoo.com.



Help-a-Senior: any 2-hour shift after 12 noon • Off-site

Help with small essential tasks in the homes of seniors (clients of NORC) that live in the Northeast. Supplies and instructions will be provided. Pre-registration required. RSVP to Chair Abby Gilbert-Freedman, abbyfgf@gmail.com.

Alex's Lemonade Stand: 9 am-1 pm • On-site

Every cup of lemonade helps support pediatric cancer research. Chairs Lynn Levy, hannahsmom4ever@comcast.net, and Fred Dugan, fgdugan@comcast.net.

Beth Or Volunteer Mission in Response to Hurricane Harvey

In collaboration with NECHAMA (nechama.org), Beth Or is organizing a Volunteer Mission to help those affected by Hurricane Harvey. NECHAMA is a voluntary organization that provides natural disaster preparedness, response, and recovery services nationwide and whose work is rooted in the Jewish value of Tikkun Olam. They provide housing, food, and all tools and safety gear for volunteers. No experience is necessary. If interested in volunteering at the end of December or early January, please e-mail Amy Abrams (aabrams@bethor.org).

Sunday, December 10

Meals That Matter: 1 pm-3 pm • On-site

Cook meals for KleinLife's seniors and homebound clients. Pre-registration required. RSVP to Chair Caren Gutman, carengutman@gmail.com.



Jewish Relief Agency: 9 am-1 pm (or 9 am-10:45 am) • Off-site

Packing and delivering of meals. 4th, 5th and 6th graders will travel from Beth Or by bus. Chaperones are needed. Adults without school-aged children will carpool or meet at the warehouse at 10 am. Pre-registration required. Parents RSVP to Aaron Nielsenshultz, aaron@bethor.org. Adults without Religious School children, RSVP to Chair Marlene Cohen, msckidsot@aol.com.

Adopt-a-School Collection: 9 am-1 pm • On-site

What is needed? School supplies for Willow Hill Elementary School. See brochure for detailed list. Chairs Beth Johl, bandbjohl@comcast.net, Jody Pascal, jodyp2005@verizon.net, and Judy Bernstein, judybern@verizon.net.

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia — Toiletry Gift Bags: 9 am-12 noon • On-site

What is needed? NEW travel-sized toiletries. See brochure for detailed list. Join other volunteers to create individual bags for families staying over with their children at CHOP. Chair Lynn Levy, hannahsmom4ever@comcast.net.

Mitzvah Circle Collection: 9 am-1 pm • On-site

What is needed? NEW toiletries, diapers, school supplies, socks and underwear, car seats, hats and gloves, unexpired packaged food and baby accessories. Also, gently used/new clothing labeled with gender/size/season, coats, shoes, purses, housewares, linens, towels, toys, and small kitchen/personal appliances. Chair Marv Schwartz, marvdebschwartz@verizon.net.

Sunday, December 17**Mitzvah Circle Sorting: 12:30 -2:30 pm • Off-site**

Meet at Beth Or at 11:30 am and caravan to Mitzvah Circle (1561 Gehman Road, Harleysville) or meet at the location at 12:30 pm. This is a wonderful inter-generational project for parents and grandparents with children and grandchildren, ages 4+. See brochure for more details. Limited to 45 volunteers. Pre-registration required. Please RSVP to Chairs Dale Laing, Rebecca Laing, dalelaing73@gmail.com, and Jody Pascal, jodyp2005@verizon.net.

**Fox Chase Cancer Center Bake Sale:****9 am-12 noon • On-site**

Help support FCCC's Post-Doc Research Program by donating or purchasing donated baked goods. Chair Judy Bernstein, judybern@verizon.net.

Providence Animal Center: 11 am-2 pm • Off-site

Led by JPSP/Jewish Professionals of Suburban Philadelphia. Volunteers will be busy with grounds maintenance, facility clean up, or dog walking. Limited to 25 volunteers. Pre-registration required. RSVP to Chair Liz Stone, estone314@gmail.com.

Sunday, December 25**2nd Annual Mitzvas Day!****St. Christopher's Hospital — Committee to Benefit The Children: 10:30 am-12:30 pm • On-site and Off-site**

What is needed? Pajamas (toddler and teen sizes) dropped off in the Religious School lobby throughout the month. Depart Beth Or at 10:30 am for the Hospital with PJs and lunch provided by the Social Action Committee. Visit with patients and families, and hospital staff. Limited to 10 volunteers. Pre-registration required. RSVP to

Chairs Fred Dugan, fgdugan@comcast.net, and Beth and Bernie Johl, bandbjohl@comcast.net.

Bake Cookies and Deliver to Upper Dublin Police Station: 10 am-12:30 pm • On-site and Off-site

Bake cookies for Upper Dublin Police and visit local officers. Meet in the Beth Or lower level kitchen at 10 am. Leave for the station at 11:15 am. Limited to 25 people. Pre-registration required. RSVP to Chair Susy Krimker, susykrimker@gmail.com.

**Cook Soup for Interfaith Housing Alliance:****10 am-12 noon • On-site**

Prepare containers of homemade soup to serve many families living in transition. Meet in the Beth Or first floor kitchen. Pre-registration required. RSVP to Chairs Caren Gutman, carengutman@gmail.com and Barbara Spilove, bsbubbie@comcast.net.

**Fleece-Tie-Blankets: 10 am-12 noon • On-site**

Help make fleece-tie 'no-sew' blankets to be donated to help keep hospital patients warm while they receive treatments. Great project for teens and adults. Pre-registration required. Please RSVP to Chair Faye Benshetler, febx@comcast.net.

Silver Springs Martin Luther School:**9 am-12 noon • Off-site**

Serve holiday breakfast and distribute gifts to children residing at Silver Springs because of past abuse, neglect and trauma. Meet at 9 am (512 W. Township Line Road, Plymouth Meeting). Limited to 8 volunteers. Pre-registration required. RSVP to Chair Margie Chachkin for Release Form and Confidentiality Statement, chachkin@aol.com.

Thank you for being part of Beth Or's social action efforts!

Susy Krimker, Social Action Chair
Margie Chachkin, Social Action Vice-Chair

Jr. Choir Brings Joy to Family Shabbat Services



Jaime Murley

*Cantor Jaime Murley,
Junior Choir Director*

If you've never been to Family Shabbat services on the first Friday of the month, it is something to behold! The joy and *ruach* (spirit) that our community's young people display at Family Services is inspiring! Our junior choir brings beauty and energy to the prayers from their place in the choir loft; each grade is showcased monthly and they shine as they sing from the bima steps; the families beam at their children and sing encouragingly from the pews. There is literally music coming from EVERY direction and IT IS WONDERFUL!

The choir begins every school year with the most demanding of services — The High Holy Day services — of the year. With so much music to learn in such a short period of time, there is little time for socialization. That is why the November Family Service feels so especially important. This service is the first “relaxed” service of the year, when the kids feel really secure with the music they’ve prepared, and they can finally get a chance to kick back and get to know each other. On Friday, November 3, the Junior Choir will be having “Family Game Night” after services. Each child will bring a favorite game from home and students will sit around playing together, laughing together, and enjoying each other’s company... exactly the way Shabbat is supposed to feel. The Junior Choir will be enjoying Shabbat activities like this together throughout the year. If they don’t yet feel like a family by November, they certainly will by the year’s end!

If you were in awe of our amazing Junior Choir during this year’s High Holy Day services, and your child wishes to join the choir, it is never too late! Please contact Cantor Jaime Murley at jmurley@bethor.org for more information.

Junior Choir November/December Calendar

November 3

Family Service, 6:30 pm

November 12

Laser Tag, 2 pm

December 1

Family Service, 6:30 pm

December 10

Purimshpiel Auditions,
1:30 pm

December 15

Chanukah Service, 6:30 pm



Junior Choir

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Spaghetti... More Than Just Dinner

Jillian Glick, Director of Member & Youth Engagement

This December 1 will be the 10th Annual BOFTY Spaghetti Dinner. For those who have helped make this an awesome night, this is a momentous accomplishment! 10 years of hard work, money raised and only a few spaghetti sauce stains on the carpet!

For those of you who don't know, each year BOFTY hosts a dinner before a family Shabbat service. There is a small fee to attend dinner. Our meal is prepared by the world's best Spaghetti chefs, who happen to be a mixture of past BOFTY Parents, past BOFTY board members and past BOFTY youth directors! They include Sharon Carlin, Terry Stone, Josh Stone & Reshma Stone. Over the years they have perfected a menu of delicious Italian specialties! The best part are the servers — members of our BOFTY board! They take orders, serve tableside and even clean up!

In addition to the delicious food, we also have a raffle. The items are collected by a dedicated group of parents from our Youth Committee, led by Allison Levin. These raffle baskets are very kid friendly and the children who come love having an opportunity to win something!

In my opinion, the best part of the Spaghetti Dinner isn't just the Josh Stone Special (red sauce & white sauce mixed together) it's the community coming together to support the youth at Beth Or! Families that may not know each other sit together and meet. Some families still come because they want to support BOFTY, even though they don't have children in youth group any longer. The full bellies and the joy is what I think is the best part!

Please join me on December 1 at 5pm to join in on the fun!



Jillian Glick

Spaghetti Dinner Info:

Friday, December 1 from 5pm-6:30pm (before family Shabbat)

\$10/adult, \$5/child 12 and under

Gluten Free Options available! <https://www.bimbam.com/nitzavim>



BOFTY

CONGREGATION BETH OR
YOUTH GROUP

Social Justice: Don't Just Talk — Act!

Craig Schulz and Char Friedenheim, Social Justice Committee co-chairs

"I will be the voice for those who have been disenfranchised."

"I will talk to my children about civic engagement."

"I will not be afraid."

"I will volunteer on a political campaign."

Quotes from the "Thought Board" at the Beth Or Civic Engagement Fair

In early September, Beth Or hosted its first-ever Civic Engagement Fair. With organizations like the Religious Action Center, League of Women Voters, Anti-Defamation League and Fair Districts PA arrayed at tables around the social hall, participants were encouraged to walk around and learn about what each organization does and how it contributes to our public discourse. It was an opportunity for members of the Congregation (and the general public) to learn about government at all levels and explore ways to get involved.



*Craig Schulz and
Char Friedenheim*

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Former Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell joined us to speak about the work he and Judge Marjorie Rendell have been doing through the Rendell Center for Civics

and Civic Engagement — partnering with grade school educators to develop curriculum and programming that teach children the fundamentals of democracy and the importance of getting involved.

As Rabbi Marx reminded us at Rosh Hashana, this is not a time to be silent. It's more important than ever that we ensure that we and our children pay attention to and understand world events so that we can give voice to our values. Only then can we effectively fight back against forces of hate that seek to divide.

As reflected in the quotes above, written by Fair attendees on the event's Thought Board in which participants completed "I will" statements with a commitment to action, the event inspired. Some committed to taking a step — perhaps their first.

The words of Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg during the Civil War in 1863 remind us that as Americans we have an obligation to ensure the continuity of participatory government. "Government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth," Lincoln said. This is only true if we uphold our end of the bargain.



Meet Our B'nai Mitzvah Students

Elizabeth Fronstin

October 7

For my Mitzvah Project I volunteered at **Cradles to Crayons**. Cradles to Crayons provides children from birth through age 12 who are homeless or in low-income situations, with the essential items they need: clothing, shoes, books and games. Philadelphia has the highest rate of deep poverty in the nation. Over the course of several months, I volunteered in different areas of the warehouse and performed tasks like sorting and matching clothes and putting together bundles for emergency requests. I sorted and bagged school supplies for the organizations' Backpack-a-Thon in which over 30,000 backpacks were put together for impoverished children going back to school. I also organized a neighborhood book drive and collected over 200 books which will be distributed throughout the community.



families with the tools to translate the pain and suffering of tragedy into positive personal growth, deeper interpersonal relationships, and active community leadership.

The Jonathan Eric Gleit Memorial Fund sponsors children at Camp Ramah in the Poconos. Jonathan had a love for Judaism and his summer camp. His family set up the fund so others could also share this experience every summer. We are all Wissahickon students and we also wanted to give back locally to those who cannot normally afford the 1- week basketball camp offered twice every summer. With the funds we raised, we can now send at least 3 children to this camp next summer.

On Sunday, August 27 we hosted a fun-filled afternoon of basketball and lacrosse events for friends and family to attend. We also served food and sold baked goods to add to our profits. We raised approximately \$1,500 to be divided among the 3 charities. Thank you to our friends and family who attended and contributed to our Mitzvah project!

Jacob Schwartz

October 28

For my Mitzvah Project, I participated in a program with the **Friendship Circle** where I learned about people who have special needs in the community. The Friendship Circle connects teens to youth with special needs through different social settings. Genuine friendships are built in a caring and inclusive environment. I enjoy teaching, working and playing with kids so this was the perfect fit for me. I attended Sunday Circles where I spent quality time on Sunday afternoons with my buddy who has a disability. Together we did activities in art, music, sports, and played on the playground. I learned just as much from my buddy as he did from me. In addition, each Thursday before the Sunday Circle, I participated in a video conference to learn about the impact I can have on others and giving back to my community. I plan to continue working with the Friendship Circle and interacting with those who have special needs. If you would like to donate or learn more, please go to <http://www.phillyfriendship.com>.



Jordan Boymel

October 21

For my Mitzvah Project, I volunteered my time during June and July. My Mom and I volunteered at a small, non-profit organization in Warminster called **The Baby Bureau**. I volunteered every Monday and Friday during June and July. The Baby Bureau provides a 'Baby Bundle' as a gift to a mother who just gave birth, and can't afford to clothe her child. The Baby Bundle contains about 30 seasonally appropriate outfits, some blankets, hats, bibs, etc., which will clothe the baby for approximately two years. I really enjoyed the experience of volunteering at this organization, so much that next summer I am planning to volunteer there again. If you are interested in learning more, please visit their website at www.thebabybureau.org.



Matt Slovin

October 14

Gavin Myers

October 28

Andrew Slackman

November 4

For our Mitzvah Project, we chose to support 3 camp-themed charities: **Camp Koby** in Israel, **The Jonathan Eric Gleit Memorial Fund** via Har Zion Synagogue and **All-In Athletic Basketball Camp** and **Wissahickon Trojans**. The Koby Mandell Foundation runs therapeutic healing programs for those who have lost a mother, father, sister, brother, or child to terrorism. Overnight camps and retreats provide individuals and



Dana Kisver

November 4

Over the past few months, I have been volunteering at the Mitzvah Circle Foundation. This local organization helps people who are dealing with crisis, poverty, homelessness and serious illness. The local community donates toiletries, clothing, school supplies, household goods, diapers, and more. My contribution has been at the warehouse, where I sort donated items and then select and pack goods requested by families in need. I have read many letters from families



grateful for what they received and have gotten to know other young people who volunteer. I am enjoying my time at Mitzvah Circle and I feel it is worthwhile to help those who do not have enough of life's essentials. I will be continuing my volunteer work there.

Dylan Rice **November 11**

For my Mitzvah Project, I organized a football game to donate money for two organizations. The first organization is **The Miracle Field**, which is a baseball field that will make it possible for kids with disabilities to play baseball. This is organized by Kevin Baron who plays for Campbell University in North Carolina. If you would like to donate to The Miracle Field, please contact Kevin at 267-644-5732. The second organization is the **Jenna Demar Education Fund** at Congregation Beth Or in memory of Jenna.



Lexi Canaan **November 18**

The **Kitty Cottage Adoption Center, Inc.** is a nonprofit, cage-free, no-kill shelter for rescued and surrendered cats and kittens in the Greater Philadelphia area. Their mission is to facilitate adoptions by housing the cats in a home-like shelter where adopters and cats can interact and then be matched up more effectively rather than cats that are restricted to cages. I have 2 kittens of my own, Tiger who is 3 and Casper who will be 1 in November. They are both Persian little boys. I love them dearly and love all cats and animals. This is my way of giving back to those who need love and a good home. I am taking collections for wet and dry kitten food as well as for litter for the kittens. The location of the drop box is to be determined. I had a bake sale at Beth Or on October 8. All of the proceeds will go to the Kitty Cottage for them to use in any capacity necessary.

If you would like to donate to the cause, we are taking monetary donations. You can Venmo Jodi Cannan and mark the subject Lexi/Kitty Cottage or you can send a check to Jodi Cannan, 209 Crystal Court, Blue Bell, PA 19422



Samantha Segal **November 25**

For my Mitzvah Project, I raised money for an animal rescue shelter, and volunteered my time at the **Friendship Circle**. My family adopted "Perry", a dog from the "New Life Animal Rescue" in March of 2016. Perry was found wandering the streets of Philadelphia and taken to a shelter. "New Life" rescued Perry and then we adopted him. The love and joy he has brought into our family is incredible. I was able to have a bake sale with my friend, Jenna and we raised \$600 for two different Rescue Shelters (including New Life).



The Friendship Circle connects teens and young adults with children and teenagers with special needs and their families through a full range of social activities. This organization is so meaningful to me because my brother, Zachary, has special needs.

Brooke Abramson **November 25**

For my Mitzvah Project, I volunteered at the **Abramson Center for Jewish Life**. The Abramson Center provides senior caregiving services for Jewish seniors and those of any age, religion, or culture. The Center serves a variety of aging needs and provides long-term independent living, short-stay rehabilitation, hospice, dialysis, and more. As a volunteer at the Abramson Center, I participate in a variety of events with the residents, including bingo, trivia, art classes, and pet therapy. I have met many interesting people who have shared their stories and experiences with me. I enjoy having conversations with people who have had so much more life experience than I have had so far. I have been volunteering at the Abramson Center for the last year and plan to continue volunteering and meeting many more interesting people.



Julia Germer and **Jacqueline Germer** **December 2**

We chose to support Israel's largest humanitarian organization, **Save a Child's Heart (SACH)**, for our Mitzvah Project. Our neighbor introduced SACH to us and explained how SACH provides lifesaving cardiac surgeries for children from developing countries at the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, near Tel Aviv. To date, they have treated over 4,200 children primarily from the Middle East and from Africa. Presently, there are more than 1,000 children on their waiting list and it costs the center \$15,000 to save the life of a child suffering from heart disease. To help raise funds for this great charity, we held a Stella and Dot night over the summer where half of all proceeds went to SACH. We also created a short video, "The Tonight Show with Jacqueline Germer," where we talk about SACH, and hopefully entertain. You can see our video on our SACH webpage as well as make a direct donation: <https://give.classy.org/JandJindustries>.



Anna Gamburg

December 9

For my Bat Mitzvah project I have chosen to raise money to support the **Israel Guide Dog Center** for the blind, which is located in Israel. I walk and sit dogs for a donation, bake dog treats and had a Dine and Donate. My goal is to raise \$1000+ which will enable me to sponsor a puppy that will get trained to assist a blind person in Israel. I believe this is a great cause since there are people in Israel who are blind and don't have a guide dog. By raising and donating money, it allows people with special needs to have a dog to assist them and to keep them company.



interact with the residents, share stories, and learn from them. I also chose to raise money for **The Pit Mix** which is an organization that matches rescue dogs with loving families. I love dogs and last year my family adopted a puppy, Cozy, that the Pit Mix had rescued from Puerto Rico. Cozy has brought so much love into our family. If you would like to learn more about The Pit Mix or donate directly, please go to www.thepitmix.com.

Carly Meltzer

December 16

For my Mitzvah Project I chose to work with special needs students. I volunteered at the **Special Olympics Fall Festival** held at Villanova University. The Fall Festival is the largest annual student-run Special Olympics event in the world. I taught sports skills to children with special needs and cheered them on in competition. I am also involved with WISS Pals, an after-school club at my school that helps form connections between students, with and without special needs. I will continue to work with special needs children after my Bat Mitzvah.



Jenna Rovner

December 9

For my Bat Mitzvah project, I have been volunteering at **Brandywine Living** at Dresher Estates which specializes in senior living. They are very welcoming to volunteers. On Wednesday nights, I assisted with their weekly Bingo Night. I chose to spend time there so I could



November/December Candle Lighting

Friday, November 3 • 5:37 pm

Friday, November 10 • 4:29 pm

Friday, November 17 • 4:24 pm

Friday, November 24 • 4:19 pm

Friday, December 1 • 4:17 pm

Friday, December 8 • 4:16 pm

Friday, December 15 • 4:17 pm

Friday, December 22 • 4:20 pm

Friday, December 29 • 4:25 pm



Beth Or BROTHERHOOD

Brotherhood, Jewish Style

Allan Posner, Brotherhood President



Allan Posner

I hope everyone had a meaningful High Holiday experience and you enjoyed it with family and friends. It was a pleasure to seat you and our ushers thank all of you for your smiles and a friendly hello. Thank you to Mr. Bob Rosin for his assistance with the ushers. We also hope you had a chance to see us on the opening day of school in the Spain lobby for bagels and marveled at all those shiny classic cars on display in our parking lot during our October car show.

The Jewish Brotherhood ... Just who are we? No! We aren't a group of mobsters or gangsters wearing fedoras looking to shake you down for a favor. We are your dads, uncles, brothers, and cousins seeking meaning in our existence and trying to serve the synagogue and wider community. We are a loose collection of spirited men affiliated with Beth Or and other congregations in and around our area. Our agenda is to help with causes that we believe in.

If not for our efforts, egos and love of Hershel's hot pastrami and corned beef, we couldn't

survive. But, we do. We don't care what color your yarmulke is or if you even wear one. Most don't – but so long as you like to participate in Brotherhood's activities and making Beth Or a better shul, we want YOU! Our common bond is men united by paying dues, belonging and caring for others.



Brotherhood

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Fellowship ★ Community
Service ★ Support

Our agenda isn't political but more of embracing social committees, brunches, fund raising events such as our Annual Dinner, tzedakah as well as helping our youth programs. The future needs to see what Brotherhood is today. We aren't the mobsters huddling in a basement looking to seize power but more of a diverse group that meets in the Rosenfeld Social Hall and restaurants seeking to start our own revolution by organizing our efforts to help various synagogue groups.

What's the rush? We've talked about it for a long time. We wait for service in a restaurant and peek in the oven at a challah baking. There is a rush because Brotherhood has much to do and so little time. Please give your time and talent to us.

Tickets to our Annual Dinner are going fast! Get yours today to see WIP's Joe Conklin on December 5. Free for Mensch members, \$40 for Brotherhood members and \$50 for nonmembers. All are welcome!

SAVE THE DATE: November 12 • Brotherhood/Sisterhood brunch with Chuck Darrow

December 17 • EAGLES Latke Tailgate Party

Stay Connected!



Join our  Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CongBethOr

Like, comment and share our posts!



Sign up for our weekly Chai-Lights and Community Matters
e-mail blasts on the Beth Or website homepage, www.bethor.org.

Beth Or SISTERHOOD

Capturing the Spirit of Rabbi Hillel

Jodye Green, Sisterhood President

The days are growing shorter, the leaves are falling from the trees, and there's a definite chill in the air. This can only mean one thing... Fall is here and Thanksgiving is right around the corner. While not a Jewish holiday, Thanksgiving celebrates our religion's admonitions to appreciate our many blessings, as well as to recognize that not everyone is equally blessed.

Some time ago, under the guidance of then President, Neen Davis, Sisterhood created its Mitzvah Fund for the express purpose of providing mitzvot, good deeds, to those in need within our community and the community-at-large. Since the Fund's inception, we have provided financial support to those who have experienced the loss of family or loved ones, helped with meals for ailing congregants, purchased books for the Beth Or Library and provided financial assistance for funerals. Performing these mitzvot would not be possible without your contributions. So this year, as you celebrate your bountiful Thanksgiving feast and share what you are thankful for, please consider making a donation to The Mitzvah Fund. This will allow Sisterhood to continue providing mitzvot to both the Beth Or community and the community-at-large. In so doing, you will embody the selfless spirit of one of Judaism's sages, Rabbi Hillel, who teaches us to be mindful of the needs of our fellow men and women.

After the turkey dinner is over, make some room in your closets and donate your gently-used men's clothing and accessories to the Our Closet collection drive taking place on Sunday, December 3 from 10 am to 3 pm during the Annual Sisterhood Chanukah Bazaar. Be sure to check out all of our amazing vendors offering jewelry, clothing and crafts. All that shopping may make you hungry, so don't forget to grab some lunch, including delicious homemade latkes! Need something to drink with lunch? Stop off at the Alex's Lemonade Stand table, where every donation helps support pediatric cancer research.

We look forward to seeing you at our Chanukah Bazaar on December 3, at our January 21 lunch with Rabbi Gerber followed by a performance of *Les Miserables* at the Academy of Music, and at other Sisterhood and synagogue events throughout the year.



Jodye Green



Sisterhood

CONGREGATION BETH OR

Fellowship • Community
Service • Support

Please Support the

Tarshis Gift Shop

Proceeds Benefit Beth Or Sisterhood Programs

Stop in for these items and more:

- Holiday Items
- Mezuzot
- Hamsas and other Wall Art
- Tallit and Kippot
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah Gifts
- Wedding Smash Glasses and Gifts
- Jewelry
- Home Giftware
- Books for Adults and Children
- Children's Toys and Games
- Baby Gifts
- Occasion Cards

Hours:

- Sunday: 9 am-1 pm • Monday & Tuesday : 9 am-12 noon & 4:30 pm-6 pm
- Wednesday through Friday: 9 am-12 noon

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

Beth Or EVENTS

Adult Programs

AARP Safe Driving Class

Refresher Class – Wednesday, November 1 •

10 am-2 pm

Basic Class – Tuesday & Wednesday, November 14

& 15 • 10 am-2 pm

Take a class and get a significant discount on your car insurance. Both courses are open to both AARP members and non-members over 50 years of age. AARP membership card will be required to register for the lower participant fee. Please bring your driver's license to class. Course fee is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-AARP members. Please RSVP with payment to Beth Or, attn Jillian Glick, 215-646-5806, ext. 234, jglick@bethor.org. Checks should be made payable to AARP.

APEX Brunch & Book Discussion "Climate of Hope"

Sunday, December 10 • 10 am-12 noon

Enjoy brunch followed by a discussion of the book "*Climate of Hope*", facilitated by Beverly C. Rosen. This is the first of our "One Book, One Congregation" book discussion series presented by the Beth Or Social Justice Committee. This event is free with advanced registration. Contact Barb Murtha at bmurtha@bethor.org to RSVP by Wednesday, December 6.

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

Art Gallery

Artists – Jim and Betz Green

Opening Reception: Friday, November 10 • 6 pm- 6:30 pm

Jim Green's impressionist oil paintings depict vibrant regional landscapes, whimsical character portraits and the occasional still life. Betz Green's works reflect her renewed passion for drawing and painting directly from life. Her subjects include portraits, still lifes of collected objects, and local landscapes. Be sure to stop by to view this exhibit through December 6.



Event details subject to change. Please check the Beth Or website homepage RSVP Portal and/or calendar for the most up-to-date information and on-line RSVP forms.

Artist – Monique Sarkessian

Opening Reception: Friday, December 8 • 6 pm-6:30 pm

Monique creates vibrant oil and encaustic wax paintings that express the joy found in finding the divine in everyday life. The exhibit continues through January 10.



Brotherhood/Sisterhood Events

Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by Brotherhood Sunday, November 5 • 9 am-2 pm

Donate blood and help save a life! There is an urgent need for blood donations of all types. Must be 17+ (or 16 with parent's consent) Appointments available every 15 minutes. Register online at <http://redcrossblood.org/pennjersey> and search for our event date/location (November 5, 19002 and Congregation Beth Or) or contact our chairperson, Stu Briefer at smbriefer@gmail.com.

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Brunch Sunday November 12 • 10 am-Noon

Chuck Darrow, host of "That's Show Biz with Chuck Darrow" on WWDB-AM is an award-winning entertainment writer, accomplished stand-up comic and creative partner of former SNL star Joe Piscopo. Hear Chuck's stories about some of your favorite A+ Listers, including Jerry Seinfeld, Paul McCartney and Donald Trump. Cost \$10/person. Register in advance using the RSVP portal or contact Allan Posner at bethorbromembership@gmail.com.

Chanukah Bazaar sponsored by Sisterhood Sunday, December 3 • 10 am-3pm

Shop 'til you drop at our annual Chanukah Bazaar. Great finds — Jewelry, Clothing, Accessories, Fine Art, Candles, Soaps, Stained Glass, Gift Items, Judaica and more! Don't forget our delicious latkes! For vendor or volunteer information, contact Sherry Spector at sherryspector@yahoo.com.

Annual Brotherhood Dinner and Silent Auction featuring Joe Conklin

Tuesday, December 5 • 5:45 pm-9 pm

Join Brotherhood for our annual fundraiser. Enjoy great food, fun, laughs, auction and a chance to win \$2,000! This special evening features popular radio personality Joe Conklin, 94 WIP Sports Radio's "Man of a Thousand Voices". Cost: \$40 for Brotherhood members, \$50 for non-members, free for Brotherhood Mensch members. RSVP in advance using the RSVP portal on the website homepage or <https://bobdinner2017.eventbrite.com>. For more information, contact Allan Posner at bethorbromembership@gmail.com.



Eagles Tailgate & Latke Party sponsored by Brotherhood

Sunday, December 17 • 12:30 pm

Spend the afternoon at Beth Or watching the Eagles vs. Giants. This event includes tailgate-style table games, wings, deli, beer, latkes and more! New members and young families are encouraged to stop by while attending the Chanukah party. The event is free, but please RSVP on the website RSVP portal in advance so we know how many to expect. Contact bethorbromembership@gmail.com with any questions.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Brotherhood Shabbat and Dinner

Friday, January 19, 2018

The 2017-18 recipient of Beth Or Brotherhood's Man of the Year is our beloved Religious School Director, Aaron Nielsenshultz. Aaron will be honored at this event. Look for details and RSVP to come soon!



Holidays and Shabbat Events

10th Annual BOFTY Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Friday, December 1 at 5 pm

Help support Beth Or Youth at this annual youth-run family-fun FUNraiser! Includes activities for kids and raffle baskets. Gluten free pasta and sauce options available. \$10 for adults, \$5 kids 12 and under (suggested donation). RSVP to Sharon Carlin at 215-646-8869 or scarlin@bethor.org. This event replaces tonight's Pre-neg.

Veterans Shabbat and Dinner

Friday, November 10 • Worship at 6:30 pm followed by dinner at 7:45 pm

Veterans and active duty personnel are invited guests of the Arnold Berkowitz Memorial Fund. Family, friends and congregants are welcome. For more information, contact Elsa-Lu Berkowitz at 215-643-4700 or berktaxpa@aol.com.

Glow Stick Family Shabbat and Latke-Off!

Friday, December 23 at 6:30 pm.

Beth Or is aglow with lights as we celebrate Chanukah during this special Family Shabbat service featuring the Jr. Choir. Following services, join us for a family-friendly dinner, entertainment by Rak Dan, and the return of the infamous Shreddy Potatoman! This event is free but advanced RSVP required via the website RSVP portal.



Special Events

CECE First-Ever Denim & Diamonds Cocktail Gala

Saturday, November 18 • 7pm-11pm

All Preschool and Religious School Parents...Book your sitters!! The CECE is hosting the first ever Denim and Diamonds Fundraiser... an evening of food, drinks, entertainment and amazing raffles. All proceeds benefit the Zipporah Abramson Center for Early Childhood Education. Food provided by some of the best local restaurants! Music by DJ 5DF- Joe Speziale, Special Guest Comedian Jon Koppel. Space is limited so register today at <https://bethor.org/denimdiamonds2017>.

Social Action Mitzvah Month

December 2017

A synagogue wide month of Tikkun Olam! Several donation and volunteer opportunities every weekend in December, culminating with our second annual Mitzvas Day, Monday, December 25. See Social Action Article, pages 8 and 9 for dates and full details.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

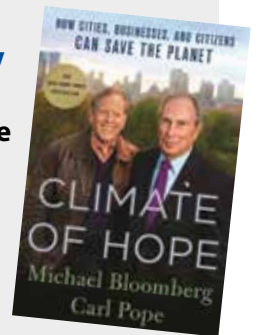
One Book One Jewish Community Book Series

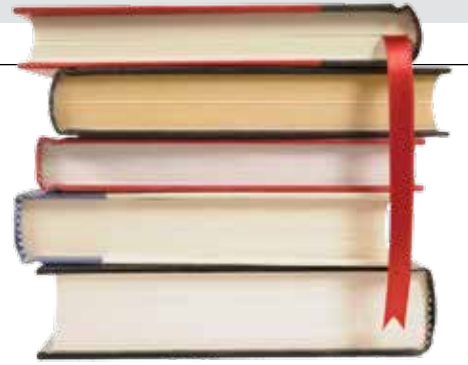
presented by the Beth Or Social Justice Committee: "Climate of Hope"

Climate of Hope offers an optimistic look at the challenge of climate change, the solutions holding the greatest promise, and the practical steps necessary to achieve them. The authors share their own stories from government, business, and advocacy, and provide a road map for tackling the most complicated challenge the world has ever faced.

Read the book and participate in any of a series of discussions, and a special Shabbat speaker. Book discussions are facilitated by Beverly C. Rosen, a noted leader in the cultural community. All related events are free but advanced RSVP with Barbara Murtha at bmurtha@bethor.org is required for Book Discussions. Contact Craig Schulz or Char Friedenheim at socialjustice@bethor.org with any questions.

- **APEX Brunch & Book Discussion:** Sunday December 10 • 10 am-Noon in the Rosenfeld Social Hall
- **Dinner & Book Discussion hosted by Margie Chachkin:** Tuesday, January 30 • Light Dinner at 6:30 pm; Discussion from 7 pm-8 pm at Margie's home, 824 Wright Drive, Maple Glen
- **Beit Sefer Café Book Discussion:** Tuesday, March 6 • 7 pm-8pm
- **Shabbat Guest Speaker Rear Admiral Dr. David W. Titley, US Navy (R):** Friday, April 13 • 6:30 pm





Lifelong Learning Courses

Fall/Winter Semester 2017/18

For all Lifelong Learning courses, you may register online via the website RSVP portal or contact Barbara Murtha at 215-646-5806, ext. 220 or bmurtha@bethor.org.

IN HOUSE COURSES

The Unsung Heroes of the Bible taught by Rabbi Gerber

Tuesday, November 7, 14 & 21 • 7 pm

We all know the big guys (and gals): Abraham, Miriam, King David, etc. This class focuses on the most important people in the Bible that you may have never heard of. For every Moses, there is a Nachshon. For every Solomon, there is a Hezekiah. For every Noah, there is an Enoch. Come and learn new stories from our tradition that shed light on some not-so-minor characters!

News & Nosh with Rabbi Marx **Sunday, November 19 • 10 am**

Grab a bagel and coffee in the Shmear Café and be ready to discuss today's current events with your fellow Beth Or members.

Coming to America taught by Cantor Green **Tuesday, December 12 at 7 pm**

When did the first Jews come to America? How did our founding American Ancestors view Jewish culture and the Hebrew Bible? What was the experience of the early Jewish settlers in America like? How did the Jewish people shape American culture and values today? Study the founding of the American Republic and the Jewish influence on it.

Men's Discussion Group **Wednesday, December 20 • 6 pm-7 pm** **Also meets February 21, April 18 & May 16, 2018**

We will meet to discuss topics of the day with Rabbi Marx. Join us for an open and frank conversation about issues that concern men today.

AT HOME COURSES

Are you interested in scheduling a course to be conducted at your convenience in your home? Refer to your Fall/Early Winter Semester Lifelong Learning brochure for class descriptions and contact Barbara Murtha, 215-646-5806, ext. 220 for details about scheduling the following courses:

Taught by Rabbi Gregory Marx: **Ben Franklin and Pirkei Avot** **Judaism, Justice & Holiness** **God's Final Exam**

Taught by Rabbi David Gerber: **Vinyl Judaism, Part II** **Crafts & Kabbalah** **Fright Night**

Taught by Cantor David Green: **Put your Action where your Mouth is!** **Social Justice & the Jewish Mission** **Tzimtzum in our Everyday Lives** **Jewish Music as Spirituality**

Taught by Aaron Nielsenshultz: **A Jewish Guide to Parenting** **Shimon, Nachum, and Nachman: How the Teachings** **of Three Rabbis can Change the Way you Think** **Understanding the Prayer Book: How do we Pray?** **Jewish Texts: Who's Who and What's What**

Taught by all: **Torah to Go**

Support Groups

If you or someone you know is struggling with a challenging life moment or transition, support is available. Cantor David Green facilitates counseling and support groups for a variety of issues, depending on the interest level in forming a group. Current Groups, which you may join at any time, include Bereavement Support and Divorced Women Support. Past groups have included topics such as Adult Care Giving, Mental Health, and Addiction. For more information, please contact Cantor Green at 215-646-5806, ext. 218 or dgreen@bethor.org.

Chai-Lights — November/December 2017

New Members

Les Garnas & Carole Landis
Eric & Gail Rifkin
Eric, Jill & Brian Bascope
Sidney & Barbara Geller
Michael, Tovah, Colden & Reese Karl
Anthony, Jillian, Spencer & Scarlet Hillman
Kurt & Bonnie Goldsmith
Michael & David Maizels
Suzzie Byron
Brad, Shira, Morgan & Riley Shulman
Glenn & Katia Boyet
Asa, Katie & Franklin Hersh
Michael, Daniel & Benjamin Eichberg & Maya Ponte
Ross, Kristen, Cole, Eli & Hannah Pollack
Jesse, Laurie & Kennedy Klein
David, Aimee, Matthew & Jacob Appleton
Will, Loryn, Griffy & Benje Whitman
Russell, Sarah, Reid, Nora & Adeline Rochestie
Michael, Sharon & Wyatt Ferrari

Rejoining Members

Brad, Jodi, Blake & Mia Bralow
Karen Silverberg
Hank & Helene Abrams

May Their Memory Be a Blessing

Anne Benjamin, mother of Charles Benjamin & Hope Bernstein
Edwin Sherman, brother of Marty Sherman & Uncle of Jeffrey Sherman & Ken Sherman
Melvin Toren, husband of Fayette Toren & father of Barry Toren
Anthony Stella, Uncle of Larry Stella
Zvi Yarom, father of Zahava Bar-Nir
Helen Twardowski, great grandmother of Cat Perry
Jack Curtis Dorsey, father of Bruce Dorsey
Harold Singer, Father of Laurie Marx
Barton Sklar, father of Mitchell Sklar

Mazel Tov

Birth of Aidan James Schrier, son of Joshua & Kimberly Schrier
Birth of Aaron Joshua Carp, son of Eric & Rachael Carp
Birth of Charlotte Irene Lubin & Lily Genevieve Lubin, granddaughters of Stephanie & Norman Lubin
Birth of Leah Jude Rhode, daughter of Brett & Yael Rhode
Wedding of Reid Rosenthal, son of Larry & Rhonda Rosenthal, to Brooke Hartka
Birth of Eliana Riley Snyderman, granddaughter of Paul & Dale Snyderman
Engagement of Sean Carlin, son of Jimmy & Sharon Carlin, to Danielle Strauss
Engagement of Jillian Glick & Wes Peskin
Hebrew Naming of Brooke Sage Gibbs, daughter of David & Jami Gibbs

Wedding of Mitchell Beer, son of Michael & Irene Beer, to Bo Rains
Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Rotkin
Bat Mitzvah of Paige Mandel
Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Crayder
Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Boymel
Bar Mitzvah of Brett Darnell
B'nai Mitzvah of Mark & Anita Farrell
Bar Mitzvah of Gavin Myers
Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Schwartz
Bat Mitzvah of Dara Kisver
Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Slackman
Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Rice

Bar Mitzvah of William Long
Bat Mitzvah of Lexi Cannan
Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Segal
Bar Mitzvah of Adam Grossman
Bat Mitzvah of Brooke Abramson
Bar Mitzvah of Garrison Euler
B'not Mitzvah of Julia & Jacqueline Germer
Bat Mitzvah of Anna Gamburg
Bar Mitzvah of Max Ettelson-Simons
Bat Mitzvah of Jenna Rovner
Bat Mitzvah of Carly Meltzer
Bar Mitzvah of Hunter Alabrodzinski



Pre-Neg and Flower Donations

Additional September Donations:

Pre-Neg:

September 8 • Beth and Bernie Johl in honor of Beth's special birthday

Flower Centerpieces for Selichot Dinner:

September 16 • Karen Silverberg and family in loving memory of Michael Silverberg

November Donations:

Pre-Neg & Flowers:

November 3 • Joshua and Stacie Kisver in honor of Dara Kisver's Bat Mitzvah

- Bill and Julie Slackman in honor of Andrew Slackman's Bar Mitzvah

November 11 • Zev and Aren Rice in honor of Dylan Rice's Bar Mitzvah

November 17 • William Long and Kim Bittman in honor of Nick Long's Bar Mitzvah

- TJ and Jodi Cannan in honor of Lexi Cannan's Bat Mitzvah

November 24 • Ari Jay Segal and Abby Lynn Segal in honor of Samantha Segal's Bat Mitzvah

- Glen and Jamie Abramson in honor of Brooke Abramson's Bat Mitzvah
- Harvey Grossman in honor of Adam Grossman's Bar Mitzvah

December Donations:

Pre-Neg & Flowers:

December 1 • Hunter and Danielle Euler in honor of Garrison Euler's Bar Mitzvah

- John and Melissa German in honor of Julia and Jacqueline Germer's B'not Mitzvah

December 8 • Donald Gamburg and Amy Coben Gamburg in honor of Anna Gamburg's Bat Mitzvah

- Cori Ettelson and Steven Simons in honor of Max Simons-Ettelson's Bar Mitzvah
- Paul and Lisa Rovner in honor of Jenna Rovner's Bat Mitzvah

December 15 • Joe and Wendi Meltzer in honor of Carly Meltzer's Bat Mitzvah

- Leslie Sussman and Scott Alabrodzinski in honor of Hunter Alabrodzinski's Bar Mitzvah

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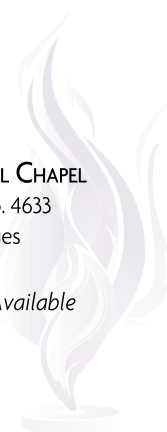
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