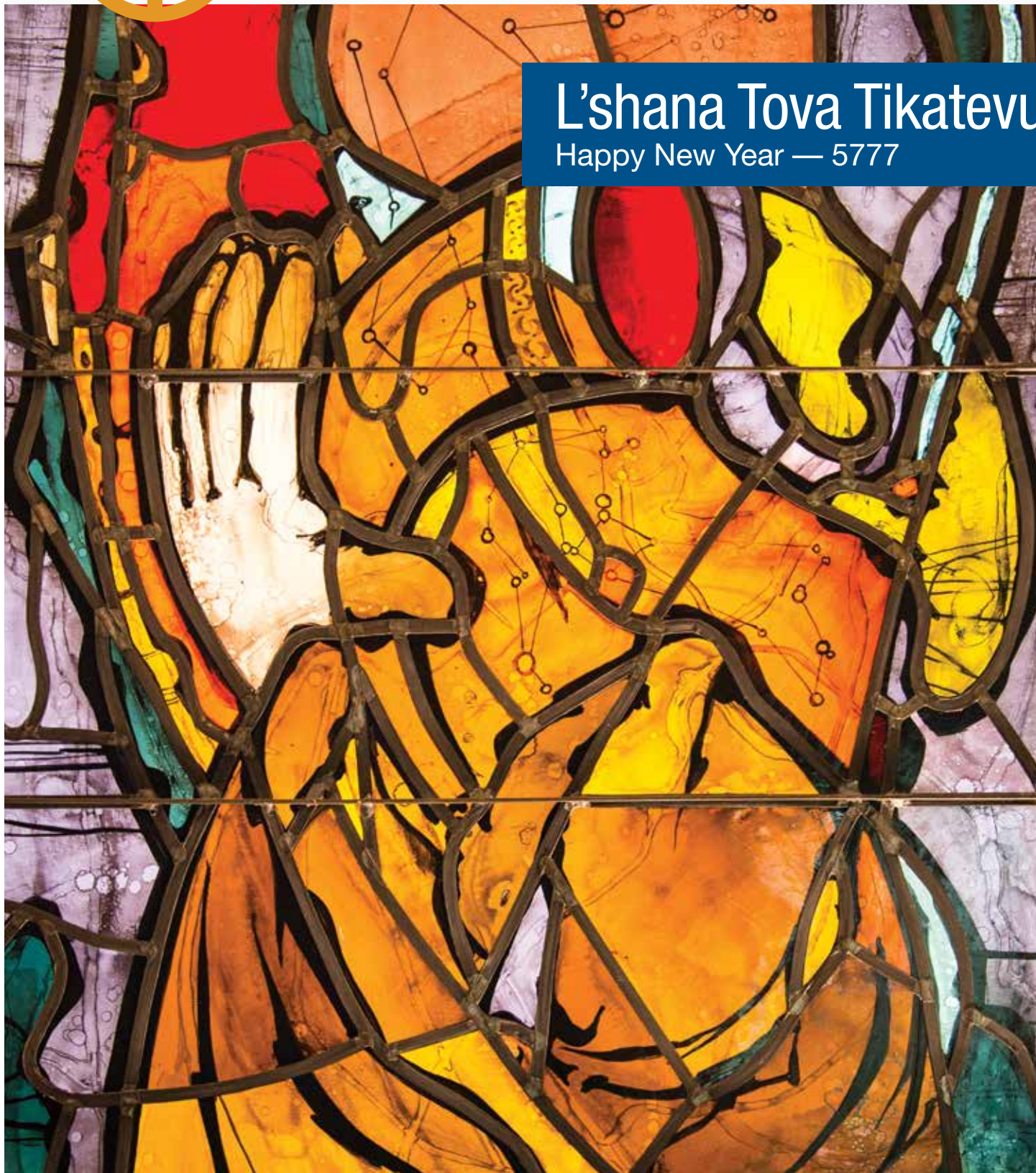




BETH OR Spotlight

September-October 2016 | Volume 61, Issue 1 | Av-Elul 5776 – Tishrei 5777

L'shana Tova Tikatevu!
Happy New Year — 5777



September Worship Schedule

Friday, September 2 • Shabbat Re'eh

6 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Family Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

6:30 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

Saturday, September 3

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Weinstein, daughter of Ken and Miriam Weinstein

11 am – Shabbat Worship with the B'nai Mitzvah of Emma and Samuel Baker, children of Jon Baker and Pamela Baker

Friday, September 9 • Shabbat Shoftim

6 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, September 10

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Morgan Tabas, daughter of Zachary Fletcher and Adrienne Tabas

11 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Adelman, daughter of Robert and Pamela Adelman

Friday, September 16 • Shabbat Ki Tetze

6 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, September 17

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Taylor Kloin, son of Scott Kloin and Jamie Dancer Kloin and Laili Poisson, daughter of Jeremy and Kristin Poisson

Friday, September 23

6 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship with guest speaker. Dr. Asaf Romirowsky on the challenges Israel faces today

Saturday, September 24

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Margot Klein, daughter of Stuart and Jamie Klein

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Noah Lambersky, son of Lee and Michelle Lambersky and Julia Boas, daughter of Michael and Michelle Boas

9:30 pm – Selichot dessert reception with the program, "An Introduction to the New High Holy Days Machzor, Mishkan HaNefesh: Innovative Ways to be Traditional"

10:45 pm – Selichot Worship with the Adult Choir

Friday, September 30 • Shabbat Nitzavim

6 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

October Worship Schedule

Saturday, October 1

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Keitz, daughter of Michael Keitz and Amy Navon

11 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Lily Frezel, daughter of Ron and Stacey Frezel

Sunday, October 2 • Erev Rosh Hashanah

8 pm – Erev Rosh Hashanah Worship

9:30 pm – Rosh Hashanah Dessert Reception

Monday, October 3 • 1st Day of Rosh Hashanah

9 am – Early Worship Service

9 am – Worship Service for Youth (K-4)

11:30 am – Tashlich Service

12:30 pm – Late Worship Service

3 pm – Tashlich Service

3:30 pm – Family & Tot Worship Services

4:30 pm – Tashlich Service

Tuesday, October 4 • 2nd Day of Rosh Hashanah

10 am – 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah Service

Friday, October 7 • Shabbat Shuvah/Vayeilech

6 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Family Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

6:30 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat in the Haines Memorial Chapel

Saturday, October 8

11 am – Shabbat Worship

Tuesday, October 11 • Kol Nidre

8 pm – Kol Nidre Worship

Wednesday, October 12 • Yom Kippur

9 am – Early Worship Service

9 am – Worship Service for Youth (K-4)

12 pm – Late Worship Service

12 pm – Yom Kippur Study Session

2 pm – Yom Kippur Study Session

2:45 pm – Family & Tot Worship Service

4 pm – Afternoon, Yizkor & Neilah Worship

6:15 pm – Break the Fast

Friday, October 14 • Shabbat Ha'azinu

5:30 pm – Munchkin Minyan (PreK)

6 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, October 15

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Sean Jordan, son of Steven and Pamela Jordan

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'not Mitzvah of Naomi Shigon, daughter of Marshall and Judy Shigon and Sarah Schleinkofer, daughter of Raymond and Lori Schleinkofer

Sunday, October 16 • Erev Sukkot

5 pm – Dinner in the Goldstein Sukkah

6:30 pm – Welcome To Our Tent in the Goldstein Sukkah with Lulav, Etrog and Songs

Monday, October 17 • Sukkot

9 am – Sukkot Worship in the Goldstein Sukkah with Brunch to follow

Friday, October 21 • Shabbat

5 pm – Extended Pre-Neg with Sushi & Sake in the Sukkah

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, October 22

9 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Jessica and Dean Wolfe, children of Richard and Charla Wolfe

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Andrew Heisman, son of Scott and Elisa Heisman and Ryan Comisky, son of Ian and Marci Comisky

Sunday, October 23 • Erev Simchat Torah

6:30 pm – Erev Simchat Torah Service and Consecration

7:45 pm – Israeli Dancing with RAK-DAN

Monday, October 24 • Simchat Torah

9 am – Simchat Torah Worship & Yizkor with Brunch to follow

10:30 am – Family Festival of Fun for ECE families

Friday, October 28 • Shabbat Bereshit

6 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship Honoring Sisterhood

7:45 pm – Shabbat Dinner Honoring Sisterhood

Saturday, October 29

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Annabel Hellman, daughter of Stephen M. Hellman and Lauren Finkelstein Hellman

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Bess Mensoff, daughter of Steven and Heather Mensoff and Zachary Porter, son of Scott and Jennifer Porter



Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

From the Rabbi's Desk

**Forgiveness, one of
the hardest *mitzvot*
to perform.**

A Time for Healing

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

The fall is a time for doing one particular mitzvah that most of us don't want to do. It has nothing to do with fasting on Yom Kippur or going to synagogue on Friday night. It has less to do with what one does and more to do with how we rethink our lives. Of course, I'm referring to forgiveness, one of the hardest *mitzvot* to perform.

We have come to the point that hatred based on our refusal to forgive is motivating citizens to shoot police as they protect peaceful protestors, and prompting police to shoot first and ask questions later. Hatred destroys our hope and robs us of our rights.

Michelangelo was a genius of the first order. He could carve statues that fill our hearts with amazement; he could paint pictures that fill our souls with wonder, but he simply could not forgive anyone who ever hurt him. The papal master of ceremony, Biagio da Cesenae, once dared to criticize his work of art. To seek revenge, he painted the man's face as the devil in the Sistine Chapel.

Conversely, Abraham Lincoln had a noble heart that allowed him to forgive. There is no president in all of American history who was as mocked and as maligned as he. The South mercilessly ridiculed him. Yet, when the war was coming to an end, Lincoln gave that incredible Second Inaugural Address, in which he said: "With malice towards none, with charity towards all, let us go forward to bind up the wounds of the soldiers on both sides and to care for their widows and for their orphans." He was a man of great wisdom and heart.

Maybe we don't like to forgive because we enjoy the taste of revenge. Maybe we hold on to our grudges because we maintain a sense of "I'm better than him." Refusing someone's apology gives us a certain amount of power over that person and that power can feel good.

But the truth is, our failure to forgive poisons ourselves. One of my favorite stories comes from Rabbi Harold Kushner. A woman once came to him, and poured out her anger against her husband. "Do you know what he did to me?" she said. "I got him through medical school and then he left me and married that no good floozy of a secretary?" She explained in gory detail how he had mistreated her and how he had neglected the children and how he had to be chased to pay the children's tuition. Finally, Rabbi Kushner said, "I think you should let it go." She resisted. He replied "Forgive him not for his sake but for yours. For ten years, you have been holding a hot coal in your hand, waiting for your ex to walk by so that you could throw it at him. And for ten years now, he has been living a happy life with his new wife and you have been burning your hand."

As we approach the High Holy Days, let us forgive each other, because our failure to do so, only hurts ourselves. Let us forgive each other, so that, if our lives have to have tsores in them, let it not be tsores that we inflict upon each other, but rather the kind that is built into creation. Let us forgive each other because that is the only thing that will save us on the streets of Dallas, Minneapolis, Baltimore and Chicago.

The poet, Peter Himmelman, says, "I have believed in money, and all I got was greed. I have believed in vengeance, and all I did was bleed. I have believed in fame, and fame turned its back on me. If I had only learned to love, I would have been set free."

A Jewish Journey

Ira Secouler, Beth Or President

Last May, twenty two members of Congregation Beth Or started a journey that would take them throughout Europe, from Budapest to Prague, through time and Jewish history. My wife Robin and I, were fortunate enough to be part of this amazing group.

We left Philadelphia on a Thursday evening and arrived in Budapest on Friday afternoon. We had arranged for a Shabbat service with two local reform (progressive) synagogues in Budapest. This joint service of three congregations was a joyous and bonding experience that introduced us to wonderful Jewish families of the area. There is nothing like being in a far away place with no connections, and then finding yourself at “home” with fellow Jews. They welcomed us with open arms and allowed us to be part of their community. It was a beautiful and moving experience to pray, sing, and enjoy each other in a Shabbat service, held in Hebrew, English, and Hungarian!



Ira Secouler

President's Corner

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday were spent touring Budapest. This included emotional trips to area Jewish sites including the famous Dohány Street Synagogue, burial sites, and monuments. Part of a walking tour included a stop at the Jewish memorial along the banks of the Danube River. There we found a display of shoes... shoes of all sizes and shapes. This was the site of Nazi horror, as Jews were tied together, shot, and dumped in the river. Throughout our trip, we witnessed such memorials, but this display was really overwhelming.

From Budapest we boarded our riverboat cruise up the Danube. We traveled to small towns such as Bratislava, Melk, and Salzburg, and larger cities such as Vienna and Passau.

In Bratislava Slovakia, we visited the Chatam Sofer Memorial. This is an underground Jewish burial shrine erected over the graves of prominent rabbis and scholars that ran a Yeshiva in Europe for over 700 years. It was interesting to see how the Jewish people in the area help to maintain, manage, and run the facility, even with limited government support.

In Vienna, we walked to the Judenplatz to see the Holocaust Memorial, which opened in 2000. During WWII, over seventy five synagogues were destroyed and over 240,000 Jews of Vienna were virtually wiped out.

In Prague, we visited the Jewish area of the city, including the area's six synagogues and the Old Jewish Cemetery, a graveyard used between the 1400s and 1700s with over 12,000 visible tombs. We toured the Jewish Museum with its collections of maps, artifacts and documents that chart the history of Jewish people in the Czech lands.

Finally on our last day, we boarded a bus for a trip to Terezin, a concentration camp established by the SS during World War II, as a deportation site for Auschwitz and Treblinka. This was an overwhelming journey into the horror of the Nazis, as this “false” propaganda town was really the final solution for thousands of Jews, including children. Finally, the day ended with a spiritual miracle, as we entered the “hidden synagogue” in Terezin. This synagogue was created in a home basement, hidden from the Nazis, so that Judaism could continue and Jews, even in a ghetto and deportation camp, could practice their faith.

As we enter the holiest of seasons with Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, take a moment to think about the past history of our people, their struggles, their resolve, and their dedication to their faith. May this year bring you good health and happiness. And may we rededicate ourselves to our faith, just as our people have done throughout history.

L'Shana Tova



Rabbi David Gerber

From the Rabbi's Desk

**The High Holy Days
bring us a renewed
sense of faith.**

Where Does God Exist?

Rabbi David Gerber, Associate Rabbi

A wise rabbi gathered his students close to him as they neared the end of their studies. "Where does God exist?" he asked them. His students, on the verge of becoming rabbis themselves, responded confidently "God exists everywhere." "No," their teacher said, "God exists only where man lets Him in."

During the High Holy Days, we are often reminded of the covenantal nature of Judaism. The Torah portion we read during the holidays begins with Abraham sitting at the entrance of his tent. Suddenly he looks up and three men appear before him. Abraham welcomes them into his tent for food and respite. As it turns out, these three men are angels who bring words of prophecy to Abraham and Sarah.

What if Abraham had not looked up to see these men? How many tents did these men pass by before someone noticed? How many people saw them in need of respite and closed their tent prior to their arrival?

We read from this Torah portion as we start the new year, partially because we need to be reminded that we have a responsibility to hold up our end of the bargain in our covenant with God. As the wise rabbi taught his students, it is entirely up to us whether or not God is a part of our lives. We have to be willing to engage in this covenant. We have to work for it.

Jews are taught that we cannot be passive in our pursuit of faith. We cannot wait for inspiration to strike or a life-changing event to enlighten us to God's presence. For Abraham, it was not a booming voice from the sky that taught him faith, but rather a chance encounter on an inconspicuous afternoon. Abraham had put himself in a position to receive this divine encounter by stationing himself at the entrance of his tent.

So how do we position ourselves correctly to find God? How do we ensure that we recognize the divine when its presence appears before us? Perhaps Rabbi Harold Kushner said it best, "When I pray I talk to God; when I study Torah God talks to me."

The High Holy Days often bring us a renewed sense of faith. For a few days out of the year we suspend our lives and immerse ourselves in the sacred texts and traditions of Judaism. It is essential that we remember that this sense of holiness can be accessed anytime, anywhere. Our Torah, Talmud, and millennia of philosophical texts are always at our disposal.

Let us dedicate this new year to putting ourselves in position to hear the sacred words of our tradition and allow God's presence to be part of our lives.

High Holy Days and Reflecting on Surviving Cancer

David Green, Cantor

During this time of the High Holy Days and surviving cancer, I wanted to share with the congregation some thoughts about my experiences this past year. First, I am happy to tell you that at this time, my Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma is completely cured. Modern medicine has enabled me to continue to work during most of my illness and successfully treated this form of cancer. The medical staffs and hospitals, including many physicians who are members of Beth Or, not only provided excellent, professional medical care, but were equally wonderful in their “bedside” manner and “personal” contact with me throughout the treatments and follow-up visits.



David Green

Most importantly, I want to thank everyone for the hundreds of emails and get well cards as well as donations to my Discretionary & Music Funds wishing me a “speedy recovery.”

Cantor’s Message

Your love and well wishes were so important to my healing and recovery. You kept my spirits and morale very high during some difficult times. I also found that coming to work during my chemo treatments and soon after my surgery kept my mind busy on the passions of Judaism that I love to pursue here at Beth Or. The professional and support staffs of Beth Or were also instrumental in covering for me when I could not be here and providing for the needs of the congregation in my absence.

While the old “fire & brimstone” message of the *U’netakeh Tokef* is part of our tradition at the High Holy Days, it does not personally speak to me. I do not believe in the God that “predetermines” who is going to live and die and who will have bad and good fortune.

I do not believe that God gave me cancer. I believe, rather, in the God that Rabbi Elie Kaplan Spitz talks about in her book, *Healing From Despair*. This concept of God is Talmudic in Interpretation. The Rabbis believed that God “views the world as good, but not perfect.” In Rabbi Luria’s description of creation, “God is left incomplete once the divine sparks left behind have become intermingled with the shards of the shattered vessels... We are to partner with God in the work of repairing the world.”

I believe all human beings experience “shattered vessels” in their lifetimes. What is most important is “how” we “choose” to respond to those “shattered vessels.” At this time of reflection during the High Holy Day period, I am so thankful to the Beth Or community for your many gifts of well wishes and support and helping me manage and overcome my “shattered vessels.”

September/October Candle Lighting

Friday, September 2 • 7:11 pm	Friday, October 7 • 6:14 pm
Friday, September 9 • 7 pm	Friday, October 14 • 6:04 pm
Friday, September 16 • 6:49 pm	Friday, October 21 • 5:54 pm
Friday, September 23 • 6:37 pm	Friday, October 28 • 5:44 pm
Friday, September 30 • 6:26 pm	

If you would like to purchase your own lulav & etrog for your sukkah:

Send a check for \$50 made payable to Beth Or to the attention of Barbara Murtha in the Beth Or office by September 20.





Religious School NEWS

Important School Dates

Sunday, September 11

First day of Sunday School

Monday, September 12

First day of Monday Academy

Monday, September 12

First day of Monday Hebrew

Tuesday, September 13

First day of Tuesday Hebrew

Sunday, October 2

No Sunday School: Rosh Hashanah

Monday, October 3

No School: Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday, October 4

No School: Rosh Hashanah

Monday, October 10

No School: Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 11

No School: Kol Nidre

Monday, October 17

No School: Sukkot

Tuesday, October 18

No School: Sukkot

Sunday, October 23

Consecration

Monday, October 24

No School: Simchat Torah

Tuesday, October 25

No School: Simchat Torah

Aaron Nielsenshultz, Director of Religious School

How much time do you spend looking at or thinking about your calendar? For many of us, our calendars figure quite prominently in our lives; we often have many things to juggle, between our own appointments and our friends' and loved ones' activities. Add it to the mix the combination of different calendars in our lives — work, family, fun — and all of a sudden, those little boxes fill up fast.

With all of these busy moments, we haven't even mentioned the Jewish calendar. Our cycle of holidays can complicate our secular lives. Remember last year, when the holidays occurred early in September? As the school director, I had to figure out the best day to start Sunday School and we didn't start until late in September. This year, the holidays fall at the beginning of each week in October, meaning that we'll have no Monday or Tuesday Hebrew or Academy for almost the whole month!

While we struggle with how to fill those little calendar boxes, perhaps we can take time to remember that the Jewish calendar is supposed to fill us up. While our other activities can take a lot out of us, the holidays are supposed to put life back into us. Deuteronomy 30:19 reminds us that we are supposed to follow a Jewish life "so that you and your children will live." And isn't that the essence of our school? Our children learn and embrace Judaism as a way to enhance their lives, to bring more meaning and fulfillment to it. That way, as they grow older, they can learn that while the calendar can demand a lot from them, making room for Jewish holidays can add to them.

May we all have a year that fills us up and brings us meaning!



Aaron Nielsenshultz

Opening Day Information

Join us for our **Opening Day Kick Off** on Sunday, September 11!

The Brotherhood/Sisterhood welcome back **Pancake Breakfast** begins at 8:30 am in the Social Hall.

EARLY SESSION SCHEDULE:

All-school kick off, for students and parents, 9 am in the Sanctuary

All-school sing-along for students, 10:35-10:45 am in the Sanctuary

Meet-the-teachers for parents, 10:35-10:45 am in each class

LATE SESSION SCHEDULE:

All-school kick off, for students and parents, 11:15 am in the Sanctuary

All-school sing-along for students, 12:50-1 pm in the Sanctuary

Meet-the-teachers for parents, 12:50-1 pm in each class



Process vs. Product: Art for Young Children

Dale Laing, Early Childhood Director

We are excited that school is back in session for the 2016-2017 school year. Art is an important part of our ECE program. We are continuing to engage our kids with age appropriate art activities focusing on process rather than product. What does this mean you ask? Our goal is to encourage children's creativity through their own lens. Process art is letting a child explore materials without a set of teacher expectations and models. What does this promote? This promotes creativity — there is no right or wrong way to explore and construct; the art is focused on the experience and on the exploration of techniques, tools, and materials. The art produced is unique and original, and the experience is relaxing and calming. When finished, a child feels a sense of accomplishment and possesses feelings of ownership. Our children love participating in process art activities and are proud of the art they create.



Dale Laing

How can you bring process art into your home? Try these fall themed activities with your young children!

- Take a nature walk, collect fall leaves and small sticks and use them to paint with.
- Collect acorns and pinecones, roll them in paint and stamp them or glue them together to make a fall sculpture.
- Instead of painting pumpkins this year, consider some sensory play with the insides. (Then bake and salt the seeds for a yummy snack!)



Welcome Back, Beth Or Youth!

Jillian Glick, Director of Member & Youth Engagement
Cantor Jaime Murley, Junior Choir Director

At Beth Or there are many ways to be involved and have fun. Two of the best ways to be involved are with BOFTY (Beth Or Federation of Temple Youth) and/or Beth Or's Junior Choir. BOFTY is open to all members in grades K-12; Junior Choir is open to all members in grades 2 thru 12. Both groups hold social events together and separately.

Junior Choir is an integral part of our family services! They lead our youth and families in prayer in the most joyful of ways! Choir members also get to participate in a welcome back DJ lunch, laser tag and more. In addition to being led by Cantor Jaime Murley, they have a dedicated group of youth leaders known as the Junior Staffers. The choir is a great way to build confidence in leadership and song leading while making friends!

BOFTY members have so many opportunities to make friends and have fun! BOFTY is divided into 4 sub-groups: Bitty BOFTY (K-2), Mini BOFTY (3-5), Junior BOFTY (6-8) and Senior BOFTY (9-12). Not only does each one of these sub-groups have its own monthly activities, but we are also a part of a bigger youth group- NFTY. NFTY is the Union for Reform Judaism's national youth program. We are a part of the Pennsylvania Area Region (PAR). NFTY PAR hosts events for teens and tweens in grades 6-12, either locally or at URJ Camp Harlam. Our Beth Or youth has an amazing opportunity to connect with teens from all over North America! In addition to that, like Junior Choir, BOFTY is led by a dedicated group of youth leaders- the BOFTY Board. Alex Green is this year's president.

You may be asking: What next? How do I learn more? How do I register?
Those answers are easy!

- Register online! www.bethor.org
- Call us! Cantor Murley and Jillian Glick are available to answer any of your youth questions!
- Come to our welcome back parties on the first day of Sunday School, Sunday, September 11:
 - **BOFTY All Youth Kickoff** — BOFTY Lounge is open from 9am-1pm with snacks, games, prizes and more!
 - **Junior Choir Welcome Back and Parents Party!** 1pm-3pm featuring a pizza lunch, DJ, games and an informational parents meeting!

Any way your child wants to find a home at Beth Or- we want to help them! Check the website calendar as we update youth events for the 5777 year. We look forward to seeing you back on Sunday, September 11!



Jillian Glick



Jaime Murley

BETH OR
BOFTY
Federation of Temple Youth

Beth Or

Junior Choir

SOCIAL *Action*

BETH OR MITZVAH DAY

Sunday, November 6

Thanks to the leadership and active participation from Beth Or members, Mitzvah Day has grown into a synagogue-wide event. The Social Action Committee comprised of 30 dedicated congregants, appreciates your support.

For a glimpse into activities scheduled for November 6, please read below:

Zumba-Thon for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Be part of the cystic fibrosis cure by raising funds for research and learn about the Jewish connection to the disease. Jump into a 20-minute Zumba class with Lauren Gerber at 10 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room. Religious School students will also take part at different times during the day. Fundraising goal per participant is \$18 (\$18 = Chai = Life).

First Aid Kits for KleinLife (formerly Klein JCC) Seniors

Join us as we assemble first aid kits that include the usual items (bandages and antibiotic ointment), but also small flashlights and 3x5 cards designed for listing medicines and emergency numbers for doctors and family.

Dogs, Dogs, Dogs!

- **Nor'wester Therapy Dogs** — learn how you and a therapy dog can offer emotional support to students in the "Reading to Rover Program."
- **Delaware Valley Golden Retriever Rescue** — learn about adopting a rescue dog, and meet an adoptee who was happily matched with a Beth Or Family!
- **Providence Animal Center** (formerly Delaware County SPCA) — led by Beth Or's Young Adults, this project involves dog-walking and facility clean-up.



Collection & Sorting Central

We will be collecting for several organizations including CHOP, Yad Leah, Our Closet, and HIAS. Volunteers will be needed to help with the sorting. A central collection station will be set up to accept travel size toiletries, children/teen dress wear and coats, clothing for men and women, laundry detergent and household cleaners, twin/queen sheets and comforters, kitchen items (pots, pans, dishes, utensils), books for K-6, band-aids, antiseptic wipes, and more.

Supporting Cancer Research

Alex's Lemonade Stand ■ Fox Chase Cancer Center Bake Sale

Caring For ...

- **Yourself** — blood pressure and blood sugar testing.
- **Others with your blood type** — donate to the Red Cross Blood Drive.
- **Seniors** — prepare meals for older adults living independently or help with small tasks in their homes (e.g.: change light bulbs and smoke detector batteries).
- **Beth Or's Corner of the Land** — assist with cleaning out the garden where vegetables harvested from June to October go to the Inter-Faith Housing Alliance.
- **The environment** — participate in a restoration project on the Wissahickon Trail.

Mitzvah Day is also about sharing knowledge. Information related to mental illness, gun safety, the bone marrow registry and volunteering in Israel will be available.

Todah Rabah!

Susy Krimker, Social Action Chair, susykrimker@gmail.com

Margie Chachkin, Social Action Vice-Chair, chachkin@aol.com

What Is Beth Or Troop Connections (BOTC)?

BOTC is an effort of the Beth Or Social Action Committee that began in 2006. We are dedicated to sending holiday packages to Jewish soldiers serving in the U.S. armed forces overseas at Rosh Hashanah, Chanukah and Passover. There are many ways to participate. Congregants can donate items that are relevant for each holiday, such as macaroons and matzah to help celebrate Passover. Religious School students create holiday greetings, and Brotherhood and Sisterhood support us financially to cover postage and specialty items for the packages. The Beth Or Knitting Circle donates afghans to the Chanukah Bazaar to raffle and the proceeds ensure that each package is filled with as many goodies as possible. To lift the spirits of our servicemen and women, letters are written by Rabbi Marx and Rabbi Gerber.

For the last few years, our packages have been sent to the U.S. AFRICOM (United States Africa Command) which is one of the U.S. Defense Department's geographic combatant commands responsible to the Secretary of Defense for military relations and operations with the African continent, its island nations, and surrounding waters. It has approximately 2,000 assigned personnel.

BOTC assists in other ways too. Earlier this year, we learned that members of the AFRICOM Command were in need of a particular cell phone that would allow them to communicate with their families but not have the calls traced. Thanks to the generosity of Sisterhood, Brotherhood, and the Beth Or clergy, we were able to support this need.



A vibrant, meaningful, and delicious place



Have you been in the synagogue on a Sunday morning? If so, you have felt the hustle and bustle of a busy building — young people laughing and running to classes, adults rushing to their kids, reminding them to give *tzedakah*, or other adults chatting on their way to various meetings. Amid this excitement, the Shmear Café has arisen as an oasis in the heart of the synagogue. Located downstairs, we sell delicious New York style bagels, schmears of whitefish and cream cheese; coffee and tea; along with interesting sweet delights, chips and candy. We are a place to meet a friend, your child, or gather for an informal meeting. Cocoon yourself within the heart of Beth Or and enjoy the calmness of the area.

This year Randi Copman, Stephanie Webb, and Laurie Marx will continue the management and coordination of the Shmear Café. Though the café has become a social hub, it is also a vehicle for *tikkun olam*, repair of the world. Any profits received are donated to various food-related causes such as Meals that Matter and Soup Squad. The café is also volunteer run — coordinated by Laurie Marx (lgsmarx@icloud.com), who is always happy to welcome a new volunteer. Come to see the Shmear Café as a vibrant, meaningful, and delicious place — a place to meet, a place to eat, or a place to volunteer.

A Warm Welcome to Judy Trias our new Director of Marketing & Communications

We are happy to announce that Judy Trias has joined Congregation Beth Or's professional staff as the new Director of Marketing & Communications.

Judy is an experienced marketer who has most recently worked as a consultant helping professionalize, customize and improve the effectiveness of her client's communications — from brochures to websites to social media. Prior to that she held positions of increasing responsibility at PREIT where she became their senior marketing professional responsible for both business-to-consumer and business-to-business communication strategies.

Effective communications are an important part of engaging you, our members, in our community and helping you find the programming and activities that best meet your needs. It is said that, "To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others." Judy will focus on making our communication relevant and customized to ensure you know about what interests you the most.

Please join us in welcoming Judy to the senior leadership team of our congregation.



Judy Trias

Hello to My New Beth Or Family!

Judy Trias, Director of Marketing & Communications

I've already met several of you and I am excited to work with such an amazing group of people committed to serving the congregation. In my role as Director of Marketing & Communications, my goal is to build upon the best of Beth Or's existing tools and add new ways to enhance the quality and consistency of how we reach and engage members with information that is important to you. Whether it is worship services, educational programs, holidays, youth activities, or fun-filled family events, there truly is something for everyone at Beth Or. We want to make sure you are in-the-know and the broader community is aware, too!

Prior to joining Beth Or, I enjoyed a wonderful marketing career rising through the ranks in the shopping center industry, ultimately holding the Vice President, Marketing position for PREIT – a Philadelphia based shopping center company, where I led the corporate and property marketing teams as well as an internal advertising agency.

Two years ago, I became a free-lance marketing consultant so I could follow my passion for directly helping others. I've partnered with business owners in small to medium sized companies, start-ups and family-run firms to customize branding, marketing and communications strategies designed to impact their business results. When the opportunity came up to do this for Beth Or, I felt I had come home!

A few fun facts about me:

- I was born and raised in Roslyn and went to Abington High School.
- I studied Communications and Business Administration/Marketing at The University of Delaware, where I met my husband, Jim.
- We live in Montgomery Township with our three children/young adults: Danielle, Alex and Jason, ages 24, 21, and 19.

I'm super excited to roll up my sleeves and get to work!! Please stop by my office to say hello (I'm in on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays). I look forward to meeting you.

Meet Our B'nai Mitzvah Students

Emma and Sam Baker September 3

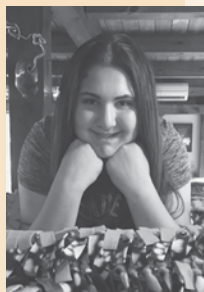
For their B'nai Mitzvah project, Emma and Sam Baker raised money for the **Epilepsy Foundation Eastern Pennsylvania** by selling concessions at Beth Or's Summer Movie Series movie nights outside on the Lakeside Terrace. They sold pizza, popcorn, candy and drinks while their friends and Beth Or members enjoyed Zootopia, Princess Bride and The Sandlot on three different nights throughout the summer. They raised over \$500 to support their cause. Sam Baker was diagnosed with Juvenile Myoclonic Epilepsy in 2014. Additional donations can be made to Epilepsy Foundation Eastern Pennsylvania, 919 Walnut Street, Suite 700, Philadelphia, PA 19107.



Rachel Adelman September 10

I have been volunteering with the **Beagle Rescue League, Inc.** "BRL" for my Bat Mitzvah Project. My family and I love beagles. BRL has a program where they work with laboratories who are releasing beagles of all ages so they can become pets. This program is called "Lab to Leash." We are lucky enough to have two Lab to Leash beagles: Cosby and Spree. I have been volunteering at BRL with my mom and sister for the past three years. In the past, we had a lemonade stand and donated the money we made. We helped with intakes when new dogs first arrive. My favorite part is playing with the puppies.

This summer I volunteered by going to one of the volunteer's homes and made the going-home blankets for adopted dogs. In one afternoon I made 10 blankets and delivered them to BRL. I also bathed all of the dogs that were in foster care and helped them learn how to walk on leashes. I am so glad there are rescues that exist so that someday there won't be any homeless dogs in the world. I hope by rescuing and helping rescues like BRL, I can make a difference. To donate to BRL visit: <http://www.beaglerescueleague.org/>



Morgan Tabas September 10

For Morgan's Bat Mitzvah project, she decided to donate to 100% non-profit organizations such as: **Cradles to Crayons** (for children 0-12 years old) and the **Laurel House** (for women attempting to escape domestic violence). Morgan hosted a clothing drive to collect new and like-new items for a wonderful cause. Morgan has worked hard collecting all kinds of items and necessities to help out women and children who are less fortunate and in need. Morgan has collected all kinds of items: diapers, clothes, toys, school supplies and toiletries. Morgan demonstrated what it means to be committed to a worthy cause without personal gain.



Laili Poisson September 17

For her Bat Mitzvah project, Laili has been volunteering at **Wags rescue adoption** events. She is also collecting much needed supplies for the rescue, including dog food, collars, and leashes. She will also be donating a portion of her Bat Mitzvah money to the organization.

Margot Klein September 24

For my Mitzvah project, I participated in an organization called **Sara's Smiles**. Sara's Smiles is a foundation that provides a positive environment and upbeat experiences for children who are diagnosed with cancer. I volunteered and set up a booth at Beth Or. I sold a variety of items including: t-shirts, hats, bracelets, key chains, and rubber bracelets that were provided by Sara's Smiles. All of the money I raised goes to "Inspirational Kits." These kits include: coloring books, toys, brain games, and other fun things for the kids to do! The kits also help parents to organize their bills and paperwork. These kits engage the children and family by brightening their spirits and empowering their frame of mind while battling cancer. I'd like to thank all of my family and friends who helped support me. To support Margot, please go to this website: www.saras-smiles.org.



Julia Boas

September 24

This past March, I took an unforgettable trip to Israel with my parents, siblings and grandparents. The trip made me feel connected to the land of Israel and I wanted to bring that connection back home. I was able to take photos and video of my journey with a 360 degree camera. During the upcoming Hebrew school year, I will be helping to **organize a virtual trip** for the students at Beth Or, as well as for the residents at the Abramson Center. Students and seniors will be able to view my pictures and video with the help of a smartphone and cardboard google glasses to give them the sensation of actually being there. In this way, I am hoping to spread my love of this amazing country to others.



Noah Lambersky

September 24

For my Mitzvah project, I decided to raise money for **The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation**. My brother was diagnosed with this disease in 2015, and I wanted to raise money because I want a cure to be found. I just want my brother to be able to do all the things that he used to do without being in pain. I raised money by having a bake sale, which was held at the synagogue. I hope the money I raised really helps research to find a cure for this disease.



Rebecca Keitz

October 1

For my Bat Mitzvah project I went to the YMCA and donated books to **Impact**. I also collected gently used and new soccer equipment. The equipment will be donated to children who cannot afford it. This project is important to me because I love soccer. It made realize how lucky I am to have what I have.



Lily Frezel

October 1

My Bat Mitzvah project is collecting school supplies for children that attend **Whitwell Middle School** in Whitwell, Tennessee. I chose to help because I went to visit the Children's Holocaust Memorial at the Middle School. It was an incredible trip. From meeting and talking to so many of the students and teachers during my time there, I found out that the teachers buy supplies for over 50 of the students, because their families can't afford them. I collected over 30 backpacks and lots of school supplies and will be sending them to Tennessee.



Sean Jordan

October 15

For my mitzvah project I volunteered with the **Challenger Program**. The Challenger Programs are sports programs that are designed for mentally and physically disabled youth to enjoy the full benefits of little league participation in an athletic environment structured to their individual abilities.

As a buddy, I helped the players in the field, helped them run the bases and also helped them with batting. I also served as a buddy in the basketball program. I met many great kids and dedicated volunteers. I hope to stay involved with this charitable organization long after my Bar Mitzvah.



Naomi Shigon

October 15

My Bat Mitzvah project is volunteering with **Mitzvah Circle Foundation**. They assist people through tragedy and crisis by providing individualized material support. After learning what people need most, Mitzvah Circle Foundation delivers care packages and provides ongoing assistance. Along with my family, I spent time volunteering in the warehouse compiling items and packing boxes to be sent to families in need. I know that some children do not have the necessary tools to begin the school year. Therefore, I have collected various school supplies from the community and have helped distribute them to families before the new school year. I have made a connection to this foundation in helping the community and I will continue to donate and participate in this wonderful program. Please look for opportunities to support Mitzvah Circle Foundation as your generous contributions will truly make a difference in someone's life.



Sarah Schleinkofer

October 15

Sarah's mitzvah project was to raise money for **Autism Speaks**. Autism Speaks is the world's leading autism science and advocacy organization whose goal is to change the future for all who struggle with autism spectrum disorder. They are dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatment, and a cure for autism; to raise public awareness about autism; and to bring hope to all who deal with the hardships of this disorder. For Sarah's mitzvah project, she sold home-baked goods at two bake sales and helped to organize a walk for Autism Speaks held at Mondauk Park. She also created a social media campaign with her friend called, "Every Piece Makes you Special" on Facebook. Through this campaign, people "Like" the Every Piece Makes You Special Facebook



page and post/upload a picture of themselves holding a puzzle piece to the site. The puzzle piece symbol reflects the mystery and complexity of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Additionally, since every puzzle piece is different in some way, a puzzle piece represents the diversity of people with Autism.

To contribute to this worthy cause, send a check to the address below and include "web gift for Team Inspiration - Philadelphia" in the memo field:

Autism Speaks
ATTN Web Gift: Team Inspiration — Philadelphia
1060 State Road, 2nd Floor
Princeton, NJ 08540
Tax ID #: 20-2329938

Ryan Comisky **October 22**

I volunteer at the **Abramson Center for Jewish Life**. I transport residents to services and bring the Torah to the residents. My work at the Abramson Center started several years ago. I also works in the technology center providing technology support to residents.



Andrew Heisman **October 22**

My bar mitzvah project is packing and delivering boxes of food for the **Jewish Relief Agency**. The JRA is important to me because it is an opportunity to help others who need assistance feeding their families. My favorite part is delivering the food and meeting the people who benefit from this program. I am also looking forward to hosting a lemonade stand and raise money for childhood cancer research for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation.



Annabel Hellman **October 29**

Annabel is planning to hold a bake sale, as well as solicit donations for **Circle of Tapawingo**. This organization provides a free week-long Maine summer camp experience in August at Camp Tapawingo for girls ages 9-14 who have experienced the death of a parent. Circle of Tapawingo supports an environment that empowers girls to address their grief while year after year enjoying the adventures and fun of living and playing together. Annabel attends Camp Tapawingo's 7-week summer program and it is incredibly special to her. She has known about Circle of Tapawingo for as long as she's been a "Tap Girl," and is eager to help this amazing organization. Her goal is to raise \$1,000 to cover the costs for one additional camper. If you would like to support Annabel's Bat Mitzvah project, please contact her at lauren_hellman@yahoo.com or 215-340-5025.



Bess Mensoff **October 29**

This summer I have been busy participating in two activities for my Bat Mitzvah project. First, I visited the **Mitzvah Circle Foundation**. Along with my family,

I volunteered my time to package boxes of clothing, books, toys, and household items for families in need. Following my Bat Mitzvah, I will be providing art supplies to help children express their creativity through Mitzvah Circle Foundation.

Second, I have been fortunate enough to volunteer as a Counselor-in-Training at **Beth Or's Camp Chaverim**. I have enjoyed making a difference in the lives of the children as they have made a difference in mine. I am already excited to volunteer again next year.



Zachary Porter **October 29**

I volunteer at a soccer camp on Friday nights to help the **Variety Club** fulfill its mission to build independence and self-confidence in adults and children with physical and developmental disabilities.



Beth Or BROTHERHOOD

Finding Your Purpose

Michael Davis, Brotherhood President



Michael Davis

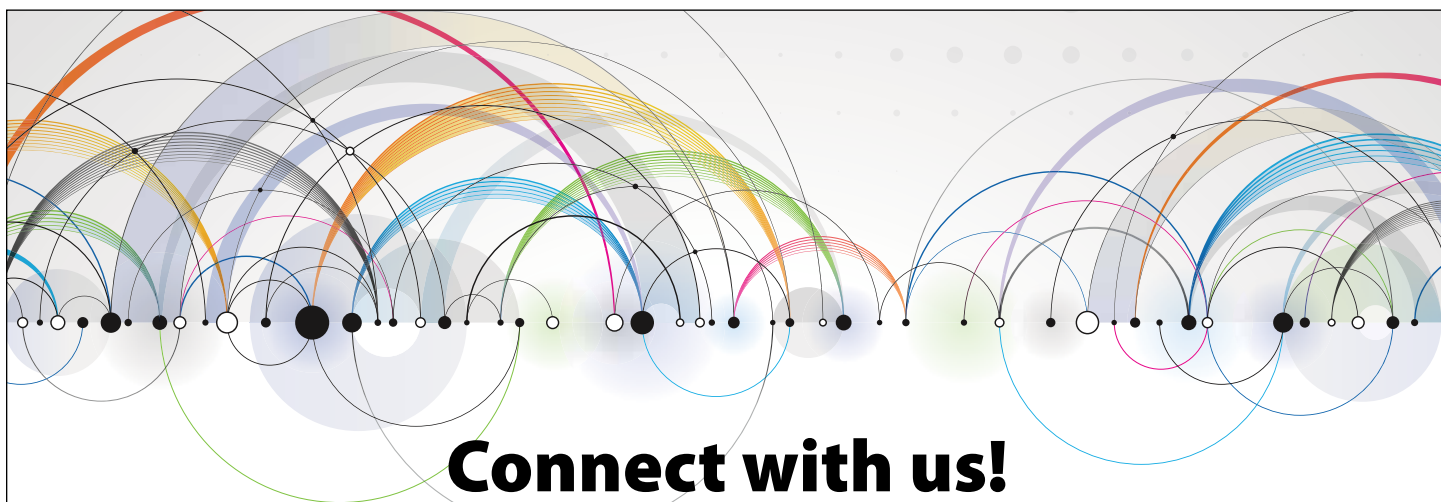
It is hard to top "Icky Can Be Good" but I will try. I set aside some time this morning to tap out my column, anticipating inspiration from last night's Beth Or Board meeting. I found inspiration there, and while watching the ESPYS on TV. During the meeting, Rabbi Marx reported that Elie Wiesel came to ask himself after the Holocaust, "Why am I here? What is my purpose?" We all know the answer to his question.

The ESPYS reminded me of the bravery of Jimmy V. and Craig Sager during their fights against cancer. Craig said last night, "If I've learned anything through all of this, it's that each and every day is a canvas waiting to be painted — an opportunity for love, for fun, for living, for learning." I can identify with Elie, Jimmy, and Craig. While I have never been challenged as they have, when my wife Carol died in January 2014, I, too, asked "Why am I here? What is my purpose?"

Part of the answer has been to become a better brother-in-law and uncle to Carol's family. When some of my groups needed someone to "step up", I answered the call. Drake the Cat is grateful that I adopted him. But there is much more we can do to

answer the call for purpose. Men who come to Brotherhood monthly meetings will find opportunities for purpose. One item on my agenda is to add more social opportunities for brothers to get to know each other better and build relationships.

A quick personal update: My cardiologist was not able to clear the right coronary artery blockage. However, the two collateral arteries are largely compensating for the blockage. New prescription drugs have cleared up my symptoms.



Connect with us!

Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/#!/CongBethOr

Sign up for our weekly e-mail blasts through the Beth Or website —
www.bethor.org

Beth Or SISTERHOOD

Create an Extended Family of Sisters

Marilyn Ackerman and Ellen Mirbach, Sisterhood Co-Presidents

By the time you read this, the cooler days of autumn will be approaching with the High Holy Days not far behind. September is a time of rebirth and renewal as Jews. It is also a time to find new ways to connect with the Beth Or Community. We hope that you will find your way to one of our many Sisterhood events! To get the year started off right, join us for an evening of drinks, food & fun at Trivia Night on September 27 at P.J. Whelihan's in Blue Bell. We also invite you to participate in the Women of Reform Judaism's Atlantic District Convention from November 3-6 at the Wyndham in Florham Park, NJ. This year's theme is "Parashat Noach, Visions through a Rainbow, New Challenges, New Opportunities." You can attend all or part of the Convention. If you have never attended a WRJ Convention, we promise it is a wonderful learning experience as well as a way to meet women from across our region and to celebrate Shabbat together. Contact either one of us if you're interested in participating.

In addition to honoring a "Woman of the Year, this year Sisterhood will recognize a "Woman of Valor." The Woman of Valor will also be honored at the WRJ Convention. All members of the Congregation may nominate a woman for each of these honors. Both the Woman of Valor and the Woman of the Year must have demonstrated support of and contribution to Sisterhood, Beth Or, the community; and, if applicable, her chosen profession. We encourage everyone to submit a nominee. Please call Marian Wolfert (610- 825-1620) for further information and to submit your nominee in either category.

We're also bringing back our Paid-Up Membership event so get your Sisterhood dues in by the beginning of November and there's no charge to attend! Our program will be held on November 13 and will feature Leah Koenig, author of Modern Jewish Cooking. Leah is a leading voice of the new generation of young Jewish cooks who are reworking traditional recipes.

Please give either of us a call with any questions about Sisterhood events. We hope to see you!



Marilyn Ackerman and Ellen Mirbach



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-12 noon • Monday: 9 am-12 noon, 4:30-6 pm, and 7-8:30 pm
- Tuesday: 9 am-12 noon and 4:30-6 pm • Wednesday thru Friday: 9 am-12 noon

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

Beth Or EVENTS

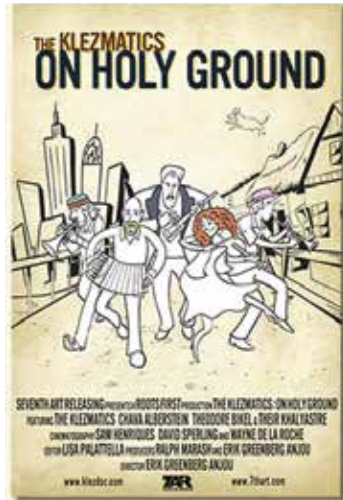
Adult Programs

APEX Event

Sunday September 18 • 10 am-1 pm

\$10 if you RSVP by September 13 or \$15 at the door

Join APEX for brunch and a showing of the award movie **"The Klezmatics – On Holy Ground,"** a documentary film from Erik Greenberg Anjou, brother of Beth Or congregant Lori Cagnoli. Erik, the producer/director will make a personal appearance, introduce the film and answer questions at its conclusion.



The Klezmatics — On Holy Ground is where a Quaker bassist and Reform Jewish trumpeter, Yiddish language, Hasidic dance, gospel music and Woody Guthrie meet. The feature-length documentary is the crown of a four-year journey alongside the band members, their music and their creative process.

Time Out, New York magazine announced, "The Klezmatics aren't just the best band in the klezmer vanguard; on a good night they rank among the greatest bands on the planet." From New York's Lower East Side to Krakow, Poland, this film shows why.

Don't miss this documentary of the Grammy-winning band, which has screened in over 70 cities in the US and abroad.

Contact Barb Murtha at bmurtha@bethor.org to RSVP and mail your check to congregation Beth Or, 239 E. Welsh Rd., Maple Glen, PA 19002. Attention Barb Murtha with a notation indicating APEX, September 18.

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.

AARP Safe Driving Class

Refresher Class – Tuesday, November 1 at 10 am

Basic Class – Tuesday/Wednesday, November 15-16 at 10 am

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, attention Jillian Glick. Checks should be made payable to AARP.

Art Gallery

Photography Club

Opening Reception: Friday, September 9

Please join us as we present the photography of Beth Or's own Photography Club from September 9 through October 14. The opening reception will be held immediately before Shabbat services from 6 to 6:30 pm, on Friday, September 9. Refreshments will be served. Come meet the artists as they present selections from their favorite photos. Featured artists include Bob Cohen, Marlene Cohen, Beth Johl, Dara King, Mark Sirota, Julie Spahn, Bruce Wagner, Hilary Wagner and others.



Artist – Susan Stefanski

Opening Reception: Friday, October 14

The Olitsky Gallery is pleased to present the lovely paintings of Susan Stefanski from Friday, October 14 through November 8. Please join us at the opening reception to meet the artist on Friday, October 14, at the Preneg from 6 to 6:30 pm.



Award winning artist Susan Stefanski has studied art at Villanova University and local art centers since 1999. Susan has had solo shows at Thomas Moser Gallery, Waverly Heights, Jenkin's Arboretum and Villanova University.

Susan's representational work, predominately landscapes, captures light, color and feelings falling under an umbrella of "God's Gifts". She has recently delved into Encaustic Abstract Expression.

Susan says, "I have always enjoyed taking raw materials and turning them into something beautiful. Painting has made me see the world differently, paying attention to shadows and colors like never before. I am more aware of my surroundings and drawn to painting outside. Fields, streams, flowers in the landscape, and shorelines call me to take brush and knife to canvas. I get lost in the cool and warm colors, the soft and hard edges of my representational, slightly impressionistic work. I hope to convey to the viewer feelings of peace, contentment and serenity."

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Events

Welcome Back Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, September 11 at 8:30 am to 12 noon

Kick off a brand new school year with a pancake breakfast in the Rosenfeld Social Hall sponsored by Beth Or Brotherhood and Sisterhood. Reunite with old friends and make some new ones!



Brotherhood 5th Annual Car Show

Sunday, September 18 at 9 am to 1 pm in the Beth Or parking lot

Participation awards; free food and drink; registration is free. To register email Bob Cohen at rcohenesquire@aol.com.

Sisterhood Trivia Night

Tuesday, September 27 at 7:30 pm

Test your knowledge of Movies & Pop Culture at Sisterhood Trivia Night on Tuesday, September 27 at PJ Whelihan's in Blue Bell! Trivia Night begins at 7:30 with appetizers and soft drinks for \$25. Cash bar. Prizes will be awarded! To reserve your spot, please send a check for \$25 (made payable to Beth Or Sisterhood) to Arlene Slobodzian at Beth Or by September 21.

Sisterhood Shabbat and Dinner Honoring our Woman of the Year and Woman of Valor

Friday, October 28 - Shabbat Worship at 6:30 pm followed by dinner at 7:45 pm

Join us for our annual Shabbat dinner and honor our Woman of the Year and The Woman of Valor. Call Marian Wolfert (610-825-1620) to submit your nominee in either category. More details to come.

Sisterhood Cooking Program

Sunday, November 13 at 2 pm

Save the Date for Sisterhood's Paid-Up Membership Event! Get your Sisterhood dues in by the beginning of November and enjoy Leah Koenig's Modern Jewish Cooking Demonstration on Nov. 13 at 2:00 pm at no cost! Non-member fee to be announced. Leah is a leading voice of the new generation of young Jewish cooks who are reworking traditional recipes. Babysitting may be provided depending upon interest. Check out Leah's website at <http://www.leahkoenig.com>.

Sisterhood Chanukah Bazaar – Save the Date!

Sunday, December 4 at 10 am

For vendor information or to volunteer, contact Sherry Spector at sherryspector@yahoo.com. Shop until you drop at our annual Chanukah Bazaar!

Holidays and Shabbat Events

Shabbat Guest Speaker Asaf Romirowsky

Friday, September 23 at 6:30 pm

Middle East historian Asaf Romirowsky is a fellow at the Middle East Forum and co-author of Religion, Politics, and the Origins of Palestine Refugee Relief. Dr. Romirowsky is a former IDF (Israel Defense Forces) International Relations liaison officer in the West Bank and will speak to our congregation.

Sushi Sake Sukkah Pre-Neg

Friday, October 21 at 5 pm followed by Shabbat Worship at 6:30 pm

Save the date for our 4th annual Sukkot event. Sushi and Sake for the adults and activities for the kids. Wave the lulav and etrog in the Goldstein Sukkah. More information to come.

Veterans Shabbat and Dinner

Friday, November 11 – Save the Date – Worship at 6:30 pm followed by dinner

Veterans and active duty personnel are invited as guests of the Arnold Berkowitz Memorial Fund. Family, friends and congregants are welcome. For more information, contact Elsa-Lu Berkowitz at (215) 643-4700.

Lifelong Learning:

Adult Confirmation Class

Begins Sunday, September 25 at 12 noon to 2pm

Cantor Green's class will meet once a month for two years from September thru May. Classes will be held on Sundays from 12 noon to 2:00 pm. Topics to be studied include: Life after Death, Euthanasia, Abortion, Sociology of the American Jewish Community, Arab-Israeli Relations Antisemitism, Cloning, Abortion, LGBT issues and Finding God. In the second year, participants will be asked to present a personal reflection paper and profile of a prominent Jewish philosopher from the text Finding God. The class will culminate with a graduation ceremony as part of a special Friday night Shabbat service.

This course is designed for any adult who never had the chance to experience Confirmation. There are NO prerequisites. One does NOT need to have gone through a Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony to participate. For further information and a copy of the syllabus, contact Cantor David Green at 646-5806 ext. 218 or to register contact Barbara Murtha at 646-5806 ext. 220 or bmurtha@bethor.org.

Lunch and Learn in the Sukkah

Wednesday, October 19 at 12 noon

Join Rabbi Marx for a discussion about the holiday of Sukkot. Please bring a bag lunch. RSVP to Barbara Murtha at bmurtha@bethor.org.

Beth Or EVENTS

Introduction to Judaism

18 Sessions starting on October 25 at 7- 9 pm

Learn the fundamentals of Jewish thought and practice with Beth Or's Clergy and Staff. This course is perfect for interfaith couples, those from different faith backgrounds considering conversion, and Jews looking for an adult-level introduction to Judaism. For more information, contact Rabbi Gerber at dgerber@bethor.org.

Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class

Begins Tuesday, November 29 at 7-9 pm

Did you miss your opportunity to become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah? It is never too late! A new Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah class with Cantor Green will begin on November 29. The class will meet on one or two Tuesday evenings each month from 7 to 9 pm and will run for two years (NO classes during the summer.)

Study topics will include the meaning of prayer, Jewish concepts of God and the history of Jewish music. Students will also learn and refine Hebrew prayer reading skills. The two years will culminate with the Adult B'nai Mitzvah class leading a Friday evening Shabbat service. HEBREW READING IS NOT A PRE-REQUISITE TO BE IN THE CLASS. For more information or to register contact Barbara Murtha at bmurtha@bethor.org.

Special Events:

Bingo Night

Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30 pm • Save the Date

Ladies! Join us for a fun night of bingo, raffle baskets, prizes, munchies and beverages. Back again this year is our VIP option! Purchase a VIP pass which includes 10 raffle tickets, wine and delicious food made on site by our sponsor, Carrabba's Italian Grill. This offer is only available during pre-orders until October 19. All proceeds will support the Zipporah S. Abramson Center for Early Childhood Education. Attendees are welcome to bring food and beverages.

Reserve your spot by October 19 and pay \$20 regular admission or \$40 for VIP pass. Please make checks payable to Congregation Beth Or and drop off or mail to the synagogue office. RSVP forms can be found in the bulk mailing, in the Spain Lobby of the synagogue or on our Facebook page. Look out for our 2016 Ladies Bingo Night on the Beth Or Facebook page! Join our page to see sneak peeks, specifics about the night's events and information from our sponsors!

Travel to Italy and Israel with Rabbi Gregory and Laurie Marx December 18, 2016-January 1, 2017

Join us for an unforgettable trip to Rome, Italy and Israel. In Rome, you will visit the Spanish Steps and Plaza Venecia as well as the Jewish Ghetto, the Coliseum, Vatican City and Sistine Chapel. In Israel, you will see the sights in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv as well as Eilat. A \$500 deposit is

required immediately as space is limited. Make checks payable to Journeys Unlimited. For further information, contact Rabbi Marx at gmarx@bethor.org.



Oy Vey 5K/10K Success

Even though the weather reports called for storms, the rain held off and our 11th Annual Oy Vey 5K/10K was successful. With over 250 participants running and walking in the race, we raised nearly \$10,000 for Congregation Beth Or and STARS of Ambler.

STARS is an after school program that supports the academic, personal, and social development of Wissahickon School District students in grades 3 – 6, primarily living in Ambler borough. STARS provides mentoring, tutoring and nutritious snacks 3 days a week to these students. Several Beth Or congregants volunteer for STARS and it is managed in part by Sally Hurwitz.

The Oy Vey 5K committee led by Steven Wheatman would like to thank all of the committee members and race day volunteers who showed up in spite of the "iffy" weather to help make the event a success.

A very special thanks to our sponsors who supported our event. They are:

Beth Or Brotherhood • Beth Or Sisterhood • Beneficial Bank • The Brickman Group • Camp America • Camp Green Lane • Camp Harlam • Camp Saginaw • Digital Benefits Advisors • Drs. Edelman & Stevenson • Eisner Amper • Goldsteins', Rosenberg, Raphael & Sacks • Hot Hot Hot Entertainment • Izzie's Deli • Dr. David Kaffey • Alan & Joan Kober • Joseph Levine's and Sons • Lev-El • New Dance Workshop • Prevention Healthcare • Pumpnick's Deli • Sally & Mark Hurwitz • Sesame/Rockwood Camps • Sovereign Insurance • The Tustin Group • Wings of Freedom Aviation Museum • Young Adjustment Company

Please consider joining the committee for the 12th annual Oy Vey 5K/10K race happening in June of 2017.

Chai-Lights — SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2016

New Members

Philip, Erica, Eli & Madison Perilstein
Eric Shiffrin & Michelle Ludwig Shiffrin
Zachary & Emily Berman
Dean & Nikki Drizin
Richard Leibovitz & Kimberly Moses
Neil Kuhn & Jackie Adair
Tom, Elyssa, Maxwell & Ella Barberio
Tom, Danielle & Miranda Baran
Luke, Jaime, Cooper, Noa & Darwin Murley
Gregg, Lauren & Jason Shapiro
Peter, Stefanie, Daniel & Joshua Somerman
Howard, Elissa, Blake & Rowan Lee

Rejoining Members

Ben, Jayme, Jacob & Hannah Picker

May Their Memory Be a Blessing

Herman C. Henschen, father of
Terry Stone & Grandfather of Liz Stone
& Josh Stone

Stanley Strauss, uncle of Lori Green
Nita Slutsky, congregant of Beth Or
Rose Rubin, mother of Beverly Samson &
grandmother of Mark Samson

Seymour Goldman, father of
Sheila Zamkoff

Stephen Marks, father of Leah Marks
Michael Benedum, father of April Stein
Charles Schwarz, father of Susan Bellos
Harvey Jacobs, brother-in-law of Harvey
Gitlin & uncle of Amy Gitlin &
Michelle Goldstein

Edna Waxler, grandmother of Roni Berman
Stuart M. Schechter, father of Sue Cornbluth
Jules Pearlstine, father of Neal Pearlstine,
Bruce Goodman & Mindy Wexler
Ruth Segal, grandmother of Marc Segal
Rhoda Spero, mother of Ellen Wheatman
Michele Storey, sister of Ellen Wheatman

Mazel Tov

Wedding of Aaron Gottlieb, son of Josh &
Marcie Gottlieb, to Stephanie Tedesco

Wedding of Zachary Berman, son of
Sharyn Berman & the late Richard
Berman, to Emily Rickel

Wedding of Michelle Ludwig, daughter of
Robert Ludwig & Joan Ryder Ludwig,
to Eric Shiffrin

Engagement of Michelle Stella, daughter
of Larry and Ilene Stella, to Zachary
Van Benthem

Baby Naming of Emersen Paige Simon,
daughter of Alex and Lynn Simon

Wedding of Courtney Baron, daughter of
Bruce and Linda Baron, to
Nic White-Petteruti

Wedding of Sonya Civello and
Joseph Waslow

Birth of Haviva Max Cantor, daughter of
Philip & Cari Cantor and
granddaughter of Ellen Mirbach &
the late Sol Mirbach

Birth of Shaina Rae Poppiti, daughter of
Keith & Karen Poppiti and
granddaughter of Larry & Janet Katz

Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Weinstein

B'nai Mitzvah of Samuel and Emma Baker

Bat Mitzvah of Morgan Tabas

Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Adelman

Bar Mitzvah of Taylor Kloin

Bat Mitzvah of Laili Poisson

Bat Mitzvah of Margot Klein

Bar Mitzvah of Noah Lambersky

Bat Mitzvah of Julia Boas

Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Keitz

Bat Mitzvah of Lillian Frezel

Bar Mitzvah of Sean Jordan

Bat Mitzvah of Naomi Shigon

Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Schleinkofer

B'nai Mitzvah of Jessica & Dean Wolfe

Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Heisman

Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Comisky

Bat Mitzvah of Annabel Hellman

Bat Mitzvah of Bess Mensoff

Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Porter

Oneg and Flower Donations

Additional May Donations

Oneg:

May 27 • Jonathan and Debbie Alt in honor of Jordyn Alt's Bat Mitzvah

Additional June Donations:

Oneg:

June 3 • James Clibanoff and Felice Tucker in honor of Elle Clibanoff's Bat Mitzvah

Scott and Jennifer Shorr in honor of Sara Shorr's Bat Mitzvah

Gary and Debbie Fechter in honor of Noah Fechter's Bar Mitzvah

June 17 • Helene Warren-Cutler and Evan Cutler in honor of Alexa Cutler's Bat Mitzvah

June 24 • Stewart Wiener and Kathy Kersul-Wiener in honor of Kira Wiener's Bat Mitzvah

Amy and Keith Lotman in honor of Ben Lotman's Bar Mitzvah

Flowers:

June 24 • Amy and Keith Lotman in honor of Ben Lotman's Bar Mitzvah



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PHYLLIS ENGLANDER'S Special
Birthday
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CAMERON SUCKLE becoming a
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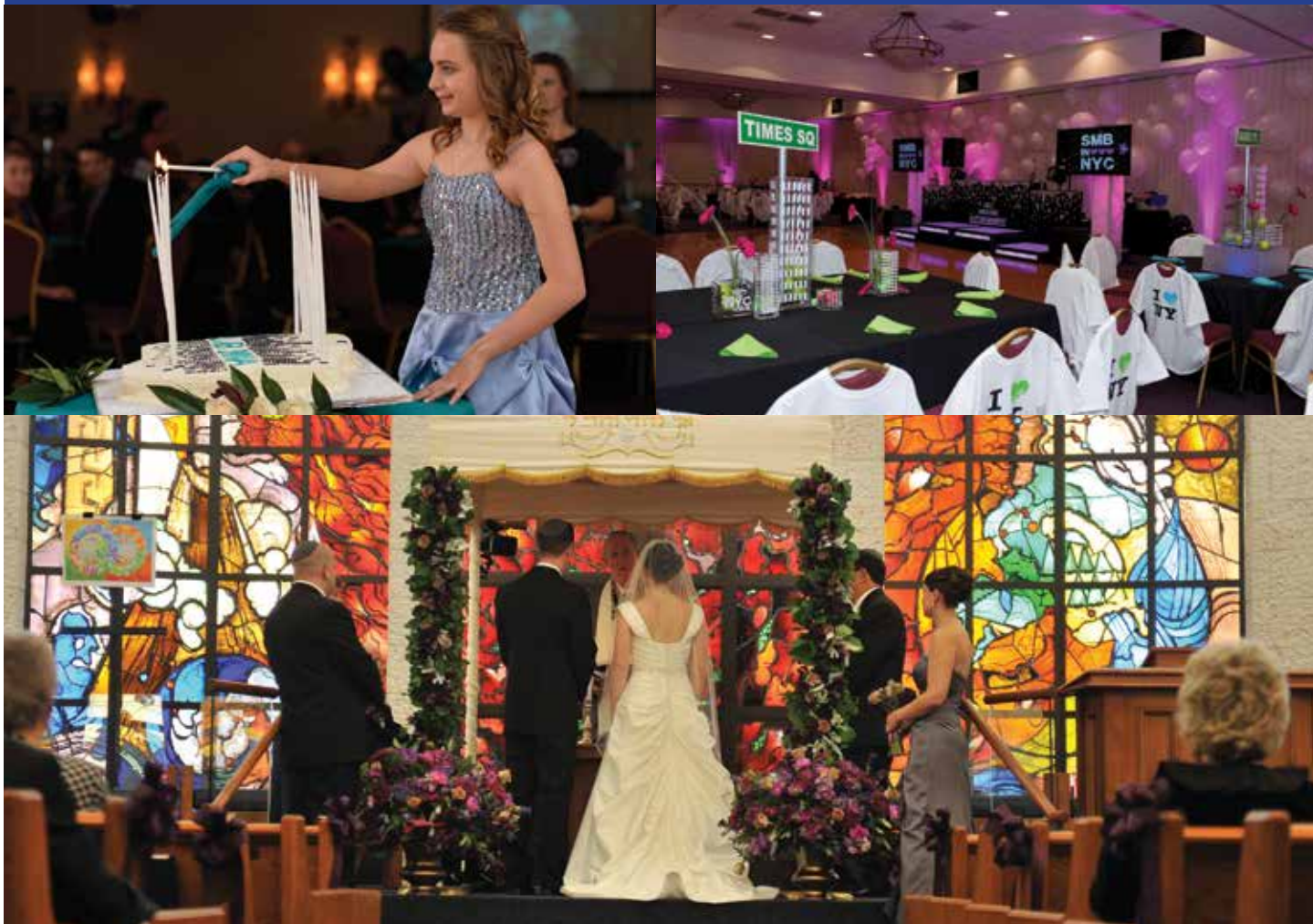


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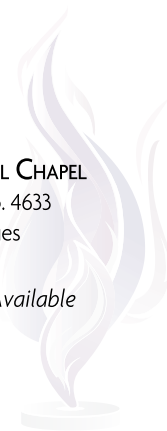
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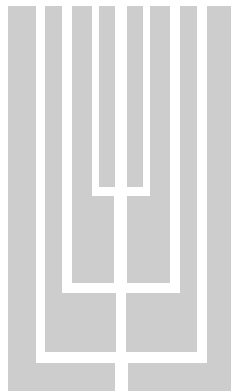


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