



BETH OR Spotlight

May-June 2016 | Volume 60, Issue 5 | Nisan-Iyyar-Sivan | 5776



Mazel Tov

to our Confirmands!

Dara N. King Photography

May Worship Schedule

Friday, May 6

Shabbat Aharei Mot

5:45 pm – Munchkin Minyan

6 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

7 pm – Yom HaShoah Commemoration with the Keystone State Boy Choir

Saturday, May 7

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Kevin Allen, son of Ken and Beth Allen

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Rachel King, daughter of Garret King and Dara Nappen King and Jacob Goldberg, son of Bob and Sara Goldberg

Friday, May 13

Shabbat Kedoshim

7 pm – Celebrations Shabbat Worship

8 pm – Shabbat Worship with Adult B'nai Mitzvah: Judy Beck, Eddi Gorman, Mark Markoff, Sabrina Maurer, Robyn Randa and Randall Royfe

Saturday, May 14

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Michelle Gladstone, daughter of Adam and Marne Gladstone

11 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Emma Solnick, daughter of Jay Solnick and Mindy Levin Solnick

Friday, May 20

Shabbat Emor

8 pm – Shabbat Worship with Adult Confirmation: April Brasher, Lynn Edelman, Dawn Hogan, Willie Lorber, Chris and Jenny Platt, Julie Spahn, Robin Staats, Connie Welsh, Howard and Jill Zipin

Saturday, May 21

11 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Brooke Ashdale, daughter of John and Tracy Ashdale

Friday, May 27

Shabbat Behar

8 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, May 28

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Jordyn Alt, daughter of Jonathan Alt and Deborah Marshall

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Madeline Hoffman, daughter of Mark and Lisa Hoffman and Spencer Beidner, son of Brad and Michelle Beidner

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June Worship Schedule

Friday, June 3

Shabbat Behukotai

6 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Worship

7 pm – Family Shabbat Worship

Saturday, June 4

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Elle Clibanoff, daughter of James Clibanoff and Felice Tucker Clibanoff

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Noah Fechter, son of Gary and Debbie Fechter and Sara Shorr, daughter of Scott and Jennifer Shorr

Friday, June 10

Shabbat B'Midbar

8 pm – Shabbat Worship with Installation of Officers and Board of Trustees

Saturday, June 11

9 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Seth and Ben Lerner, sons of Jason and Lauren Lerner

11 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Sammy Caplan, son of Jimmy and Alyson Caplan

June 12 – Shavuot

11 am – Shavuot Worship, Confirmation and Yizkor Service

Friday, June 17 – Shabbat Naso

8 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, June 18

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Ari Lasdon, son of Alan and Cari Lasdon

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Alexa Cutler, daughter of Evan Cutler and Helene Warren-Cutler and Jack Liss, son of Derek and Samantha Liss

Friday, June 24

Shabbat Beha'alotecha

8 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, June 25

9 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Kira Wiener, daughter of Stewart Wiener and Kathy Kersul-Wiener

11 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Mark Kesack, son of Craig and Andrea Kesack and Benjamin Lotman, son of Keith and Amy Lotman in the Gitlin Sanctuary

11 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Devon Hirsch, son of Charles and Tonya Hirsch in the Haines Memorial Chapel

May/June Candle Lighting Times

Friday, May 6 • 7:42 pm

Friday, May 13 • 7:48 pm

Friday, May 20 • 7:55 pm

Friday, May 27 • 8:01 pm

Friday, June 3 • 8:06 pm

Friday, June 10 • 8:10 pm

Friday, June 17 • 8:13 pm

Friday, June 24 • 8:15 pm





Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

Visiting Those Who Are Ill in Our Community

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

It is so difficult to be ill and alone. Just today, I visited with a member of Beth Or, who was so pleased that I stopped by to talk. When you see a doctor, if you are lucky, they offer a way out of illness. When you see your rabbi during a time of illness, we bring not healing, but emotional and spiritual support. In Hebrew, the mitzvah of visiting the sick, is called *Bikkur Cholim*. This mitzvah begins with Genesis, chapter 18. While the Torah doesn't specifically mention this mitzvah by name, it does teach us this lesson by example. The opening words are "Vayerah Adonai elav — And the Lord appeared to Abraham." Elsewhere in the Torah, God speaks to Abraham, he calls on him, but He never "appears" to him. The reason is clear. You see in the previous chapter, Abraham circumcised himself as a sign of entering into a covenant. So in Genesis 18, God pays a visit and offers comfort to a recuperating man.

From the Rabbi's Desk

Jewish tradition teaches us that the purpose of *Bikkur Cholim* is to provide the patient with the strength to precede the cure.

It is noticed by the sages, that God only pays a visit to Abraham. He does not cure him or relieve his pain. So what's the point of God's house call, if not to heal? Jewish tradition teaches us that the purpose of *Bikkur Cholim* is to provide the patient with the strength to precede the cure. Nature will follow its own course.

Today, medicine and therapy can help. We must allow doctors and nurses to do their job. But visitors bring something equally important to the infirm. We can bring the healing power of love and the knowledge that we are not alone in our suffering. A Jew performing the mitzvah of *Bikkur Cholim* has the ability to bring caring and empathy into the sick room. Like God, we can remind the patient that he is created in the image of God. We can affirm the humanity of the patient at a time when they may feel more like a statistic or a diagnosis than a human being.

God didn't appear to Abraham as a doctor or even as God. The Torah says, "God appeared to him...and behold there were three men..." God came as a friend. Sometimes that's the most important thing one can offer another person. In discussing the power of visiting the sick, the Talmud tells us that one who visits the infirm, takes away one sixtieth of his/her illness. In truth, that's not a lot. But it's something. A visit won't cure a person. But we can bring comfort and relief. Apparently the Rabbis were pragmatists. They saw the power of being a caring visitor but they also knew its limitations.

My reason for telling you this is because Rabbi Gerber, Cantor Green and I want to visit with you and perform this mitzvah when and if you are in need. If you or a loved one is ill, please let us know and we will be honored to visit. Please know that we are happy to visit your parents or grandparents as well. They do not have to be a member of Beth Or, for us to reach out. Recently, I had the privilege of visiting a member of Beth Or's grandmother who was in hospice. I would like to believe that my visit brought the family some comfort.

The Talmud wisely points out that, "The prisoner cannot free himself from jail." No matter how capable a person may be, there are certain things a person cannot accomplish on his own. We need one another. We cannot heal ourselves. We need the love that only another person can offer.

The Bright Future of Beth Or

Ira Secouler, Beth Or President

In 2015, the leadership of the congregation recognized that to ensure the future of Beth Or a strong financial footing was required. As with most non-profit organizations, the growth of our endowment funds would be necessary to provide a strong base that would allow us to function and survive long term. It is about long term sustainability. The Ner Tamid Endowment Campaign was established to define Beth Or's future as a financially well-positioned strong congregation.

Throughout 2015 and 2016, the campaign volunteers made telephone calls, individual visits to congregants, wrote letters, held parlor meetings, and discussed with many of you the goals and desires of the campaign. More importantly, we reached out to our congregants to find out what was important to them, what meaning Beth Or had in their



Ira Secouler

President's Corner

the campaign or a future bequest to the congregation.

We thank all of you who responded to our community's need. We are proud and delighted to announce that we have reached a milestone mark of nearly five million dollars. This is an overwhelming number that shows the commitment and desire of our congregants to ensure the future of Beth Or. We thank you for your pledge, we thank you for your commitment, we thank you for your dedication, and we thank you for engaging us.

lives, and what dreams did they see in the congregation's future. Many of you responded with stories of how Beth Or had impacted your life and your desire to see that we remain a strong, vibrant, and caring community. Many of you responded by making a current pledge to

With this endowment,

we can build upon our legacy and plan for the future.

We can continue our policy of allowing all families to join the Beth Or community regardless of their financial situation. We can create more meaningful and diverse opportunities for our congregants to connect with Jewish wisdom and practice. We can better manage the cost of membership for families and students in our schools. We can improve programming, including connection to Israel, cultural programs, music programs, and educational programs. Most of all, we can strengthen the connections our congregants have with each other.

The leadership of the congregation extends a grateful thank you to our core of volunteers under the direction of the outstanding endowment co-chairs Bryna Berman and Jill Zipin. We thank our development chair, and Past President, Jennie Nerenberg, for her dedication, hard work, leadership, and support. The entire team worked tirelessly to achieve a meaningful result for our community. In addition, we thank Rabbi Marx, Amy Abrams, and Ellen Wichterman, for their professionalism, dedication, and guidance throughout the campaign. They made the work of our volunteers efficient and effective.

The leadership of the congregation will continue to manage, budget, and evaluate our finances. I can assure you that financial matters at our congregation are taken with utmost seriousness and diligence. We are and will continue to be good stewards of your generosity.

Although we have reached a lofty goal, we ask that you continue to think about creating a legacy with Beth Or. The campaign is coming to a close at the end of this June, but we will continue to accept endowment contributions and ask that you consider bequests to the congregation. With your support the light that is Beth Or will continue to shine into the future, brightly and with purpose.



Rabbi David Gerber

Tradition and Change

Rabbi David Gerber, Associate Rabbi

A fiddler on the roof. Sounds crazy, no? But in our little village of Anatevka, you might say every one of us is a fiddler on the roof, trying to scratch out a pleasant, simple tune without breaking his neck. It isn't easy. You may ask, why do we stay here if it's so dangerous? We stay because Anatevka is our home. And how do we keep our balance? That I can tell you in a word — tradition!

As Tevye so eloquently stated in *Fiddler on the Roof*, the one thing that has kept the Jewish religion alive and intact is our strict adherence to our traditions. Throughout the ages, we have maintained our identity in the face of oppression and assimilation by keeping a firm grip on our traditions.

Long before Tevye, our rabbis spoke of the balance between that which is universal, and that which is cultural. For example, all Jews must recite the Shema. But the prayer can be sung or chanted in a variety of melodies. The words of the prayer keep us connected with our tradition, but by adding our own melody, we keep our tradition relevant.

We are challenged, as a Jewish community, to make sure that we not only keep our traditions, but we keep our traditions relevant. It is with this spirit that we are excited to announce that we have adopted a new prayer book (machzor) for the High Holidays. After a thorough examination by our Rituals and Practices committee, our board, and our clergy, we will be using *Mishkan HaNefesh* this fall.

Those of us who grew up with the red Gates of Repentance machzor may have noticed subtle changes throughout the years. We have been introducing more inclusive language (no more referring to God as “He” or “King”). We have also added the matriarchs (Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah) to our Avot prayer.

These changes are examples of how our community's culture is reflected in our worship. The Reform movement has introduced *Mishkan HaNefesh* as a response to our changing attitude towards how our tradition is expressed. *Mishkan HaNefesh* thoroughly addresses our evolving community while adhering to the traditions that unite us.

Perhaps the most important thing to know about this new machzor is that we believe it perfectly maintains the balance that tradition requires. Avinu Malkeinu is still Avinu Malkeinu. Shema Koleinu is still Shema Koleinu. In *Mishkan HaNefesh*, however, we will find transliteration to help with the Hebrew. We will find that the translations are more true to the text and the English readings may seem more relevant to our generation.

With *Mishkan HaNefesh*, we will be able to experience the High Holidays in a manner that is consistent with what we are used to while allowing us the opportunity to be more inclusive and grow together as a community. *Mishkan HaNefesh* comes with the enthusiastic support of Rabbi Marx, myself, Cantor Green, the board of trustees, the ritual committee and following a town hall meeting.

As we take our seats this Fall and find a new machzor, it is our hope that we will enjoy this new expression of our sacred tradition. We hope that it brings us closer to our faith and deepens our understanding of the Days of Awe. We hope that this progression gives our fiddler the balance needed to play his pleasant, simple tune for generations to come.

From the Rabbi's Desk

We are challenged, as a Jewish community, to make sure that we not only keep our traditions, but we keep our traditions relevant.



Important School Dates

Sunday, May 1:

6th Grade Family Education:
10 Things I Love About Judaism

Sunday, May 8:

No Sunday School, Sunday
Academy, or Confirmation Class:
Mother's Day

Sunday, May 15:

4th Grade Naming Ceremony

Monday, May 16:

BOFTY pizza dinner, 6-7 pm

Sunday, May 22:

Last Day of Sunday School/
Sunday Academy:
9-10:30 am Siyyum Hashanah

Monday, May 23:

Last Day of Monday Hebrew and
Monday Academy

Tuesday, May 24:

Last Day of Tuesday Hebrew

*Have a
great
summer!*

Religious School NEWS

Aaron Nielsenshultz, Director of Religious School

I can't believe that my first year with the Leonard and Madlyn Abramson Education Center is already over! Our last days of school are May 22 for Sunday School and Sunday Academy, May 23 for Monday Hebrew and Academy, and May 24 for Tuesday Hebrew. We will mark the end of our year with a Siyyum Hashanah, a celebration of the year, on the last day of Sunday School beginning at 9 am. We will gather as a community to honor and thank all of our Religious School teachers and to share in the achievements of our students. During this Siyyum, we will celebrate what has been a great year, and we'll recognize our yearly Awards for Excellence winners in the following categories:



Aaron Nielsenshultz

Deborah Gene Eisman Award • 1st-3rd Grades

This award, in memory of Deborah Gene Eisman, is given to one student each from 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades who exhibits exemplary behavior, completes outstanding work throughout the school year, and displays excellent attendance.

Derech Eretz Award • 3rd-7th Grades

Derech Eretz is often interpreted as good manners, but also involves sensitivity to the feelings of others. If Torah means acting with concern for others, then good manners and sensitivity to others' needs must always go hand in hand. The Derech Eretz award will be given to students who show respect and kindness toward themselves and others, who are polite and helpful and who take their Judaism seriously, excelling in their Jewish studies and having excellent attendance.

Excellence in Attendance • K-10th Grade

To be eligible for this award, students must have no more than one absence for the year.

Excellence in Attendance at Shabbat Services • Grades K-6th Grade

To be eligible for this award, K-6 students must attend TWELVE Shabbat services during the course of the year. In order to be given credit for the service, parents must submit in writing to the Religious School office the dates on which the child attended.

Excellence in Hebrew and Prayer • 4th and 5th Grades

This award recognizes students who show consistent mastery in Hebrew, excelling at their literacy and prayer knowledge.

The community is welcome to join us for what ought to be a fun and energetic morning. I hope to see you there!



Dara N. King Photography

We congratulate our congregants on their achievement in reaching their spiritual goal and recognize their passion and dedication to living a vibrant and committed Jewish Life.

Confirmation Class

June 12, 2016
6 Sivan 5776

Raechel E. Arnold
Robin P. Arnold

Michael Asch
Jeff and Susan Asch

Sydni Delfiner
Greg and Marna Delfiner

Hannah Joy Diamond
Mitch and
Suzanne Diamond

Remi Paige Fine
Stephen and Wendy Fine

Taylor Paige Fried
Randy and Julie Fried

Blake Geisler
Drew and Tracy Geisler

Yoni Gilad
Oren and Debbi Gilad

Lindsay Gilbert
Martin Gilbert and
Lisa Cooper

Brett Jacobson
Marty and
Dawn Jacobson

Jacob Harrison Kaffey
David and Kim Kaffey

Noah Kilshaw
Graham and
Becky Kilshaw

Zachary Klevit
Shari Klevit and
Nathan Klevit

Izak Angelo Kron
Edward and Garland Kron

Jake Miller
Mike and Cori Miller

Blake Ellen Nutis
David and Sheryl Nutis

Jacob Holden Parlow
Michael and
Angela Parlow

Rayza Laya Parlow
Michael and
Angela Parlow

Julia Pollock
Nicki Pollock

**Justin Lee Rabinowitz and
Seth Andrew Rabinowitz**
Mark and Sue Rabinowitz

Zachary Reiner
Keith and Lori Reiner

Addy Robbins
Holly Wright and
Seth Robbins

Allie Michelle Samson
Mark and Lynn Samson

Jason Ian Smith
Adam and Lori Ann Smith

Evan Trump
Jonathan and
Marcie Trump

Kimberly Wang
Peter and Robyn Wang

Adult B'nai Mitzvah

May 13, 2016
6 Iyar 5776

Judy Beck

Eddi Gorman

Mark Markoff

Sabrina Maurer

Robyn Randa

Randall Royfe

Adult Confirmation

May 20, 2016
12 Iyar 5776

April Brasher

Lynn Edelman

Dawn Hogan

Wilma Lorber

Christopher Platt

Jenny Platt

Julie Spahn

Howard Zipin

Jill Zipin

SOCIAL Action

Beth Or Congregants Make a Difference at the Interfaith Hospitality Network

The Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) provides emergency shelter and is one of the programs of the Interfaith Housing Alliance. IHN provides Montgomery County families experiencing homelessness with a safe place to stay for up to 90 days. The program is non-denominational and provides support services to assist families through this difficult time. This process gives them the opportunity to improve life skills and decision-making abilities and develop resources necessary to become self-sufficient. The model can accommodate families of various compositions. However most served are a single parent, female-headed household with young children.

In our area, 19 faith communities are involved in this unique shelter delivery model. Each congregation serves families for one month each year, providing them with a room to sleep, and their congregants prepare and share meals, stay overnight, and help with transportation needs. Congregation Beth Or hosts families who are participating in the IHN, for the entire month of February.

HISTORY

Lei Barry founded IHN in 1982 after she and her two children became homeless and struggled for years before being able to access the resources needed to improve their lives. Lei and other members of the community initially launched a 24-hour emergency hotline to connect homeless families with community resources. Based on the successful IHN model, Lei mobilized a coalition of faith-based organizations in Montgomery County, and the program evolved to provide emergency shelter, food, and other crucial services. It was the first IHN Pennsylvania affiliate and the third in the nation.

In 1995, Hope Gardens was established as the Interfaith Housing Alliance's transitional housing program for low-income families with children. It provides a secure home for families for up to two years while they gain the tools they need to become financially stable and self-sufficient. Hope Gardens is an eight-unit building with one, two, three, and four-bedroom apartments. Families living at Hope Gardens receive comprehensive support services

to help ensure their long-term success. Services include case management, life skills training, and food supplies through the food cupboard. Beth Or sponsors one of these apartments. Volunteers from the congregation assist with painting and cleaning the apartment every time a family moves out and steps up when special needs arise. Also, every year on Mitzvah Day, Deb Schwartz organizes an outing with the families to ensure a day of fun, for instance, a bowling party or a visit to Freddy Hill Farms.



FEBRUARY 2016

This past February, more than 100 Beth Or congregants logged in nearly 1,000 volunteer hours in hosting three families. We saw the challenges that parents face dealing with the stresses of caring for children coupled with late night employment, all the while dependent on many people who they were meeting for the first time, for food, transportation and a temporary roof over their heads. It took a lot of patience and flexibility with the frequent schedule changes affecting meals, rides and overnight chaperoning.

Frequently, we wonder if we make a difference in the lives of the families who we host since we do not hear from them after they leave the program. Recently, we had the opportunity to talk to the mother of one of the families we served last year. She said that we were her family's favorite congregation. Her family is doing great; they have a stable apartment and the children are thriving. She also shared that another family that was at Beth Or lives very close to her, and they are doing well too. Both were very appreciative of the kindness and generosity that Beth Or volunteers showed them.

We do make a difference. Please think about the success of these families, especially when next February rolls around. This program succeeds because of you who make Beth Or a Kehillah Kedoshah, a caring community.

Thank you!

Susy Krimker and Marv Schwartz, Co-Chairs

Beth Or's Shark Tank Connection

by Steve Stone

Congregants who attend Friday night services religiously or who otherwise are engaged in Shabbat activities may not be familiar with the popular TV show "Shark Tank." Those who know how to record and time shift, or watch programming on demand, may know that the show features a panel of potential investors, called "Sharks," who consider offers from aspiring entrepreneurs seeking investments for their business or product. The Sharks invest their own money in deals they find appealing. The entrepreneur can make a deal for an investment right on the show if a panel member is interested. If all of the panel members decline, the entrepreneur leaves empty-handed. Beth Or now has a connection with that show. Here is the story!

Around the world, Jews have established organizations known as "free loan societies" — Jewish organizations that lend money without interest for a broad array of personal and household needs. Free loan societies arose in the United States to help Jews bring their families from Europe, and to help those immigrants get a start in America.

The Hebrew Free Loan Society (HFLS) of Greater Philadelphia was formed to fulfill the mitzvah of help with dignity. Traditionally, it granted loans for many reasons, like the one for an immigrant from the former Soviet Union who supported herself through her cleaning business, but needed a reliable car to ensure she could meet her work obligations. Borrowers include students who seek loans to cover what financial aid packages don't, such as the costs of books. Interest free loans are available for medical bills, home repairs, apartment rental deposits, utility bills, adoptions, Jewish camps, even for synagogue dues.

In 2012, the Hebrew Free Loan Society of Greater Philadelphia expanded its permissible purposes to include business loans. In that year, Jordan Berman established the "R & B Business Loan Fund at Congregation Beth Or" in memory of his son Richard. Richard Berman was a long time congregant who sadly died in the prime of life from leukemia. Richard was a successful entrepreneur who had a good heart and a burning desire to help others. Jordan thought it a fitting tribute to his son to establish this fund to help entrepreneurs start a new business, or expand, relocate or reposition an existing business. In an agreement among Jordan, Beth Or and the HFLS, the Society administers the fund, and Beth Or appoints 2 members to the HFLS Board of Directors. I am honored to serve as one of the appointees, together with congregant Doug Leavitt.

As our Board members volunteer their time, and because overhead and delinquency are miniscule, we are able to recycle loan funds over and over. In the short time since the R & B Business Loan fund has been in existence, we have processed almost 30 loans to restaurants, bakeries, beauty salons, a used car dealer and a wholesale specialty yarn distributor. Each loan application is reviewed and processed by two members of the Business Loan Committee.

So, back to the "Shark Tank" connection. Last spring, I was happy to be paired with Richard Berman's son Matt to review the application of Jess Edelstein and Sarah Ribner, two energetic, enthusiastic, dynamic, talented Jewish young ladies in their mid-20s, best friends since elementary school when they ran a lemonade stand together. They developed a propriety formula for an all-natural underarm deodorant. Their dream was to build a business making and marketing this product. They came to us with a business plan to support their dream. After reviewing their application and supporting materials, and meeting with them right here at Beth Or, Matt and I recommended and the HFLS approved a loan to get them off the ground. Fast forward seven months: our young entrepreneurs were invited to appear on Shark Tank to make a pitch for an equity investment in their company. Two of the "Sharks" actually competed to become investors in the company. A deal was reached, the HFLS loan was repaid, and our young entrepreneurs are off to the races! Before their appearance on "Shark Tank," their company, PiperWai, had \$110,000 in sales in 1½ years. In the 4 weeks after their appearance on the show in December 2015, sales have exceeded \$1.3 million!

While perhaps not as dramatic as the PiperWai success story, the businesses funded by the R & B Fund have shown remarkable success, a fitting tribute to Richard Berman and to Jordan's vision.

More information about the Hebrew Free Loan Society of Greater Philadelphia is available from brochures in the literature rack in the Spain Lobby, from our clergy and Executive Director, from Doug Leavitt and me, and from the Society's website: <http://www.hebrewfreeloanphila.org/>



Beth Or BROTHERHOOD

Unfinished Business

Michael Davis, Brotherhood President



Michael Davis

While I have been President for less than a year and probably have more than a year to go in my tenure as Beth Or Brotherhood President, I keep projects filed in my head that I would like to see accomplished before I pass the reins of leadership to other "bros". Here are some of those items:

Last year, I happened to spot Reverend Charles Quann of Bethlehem Baptist Church enjoying a meal at Pumpernicks Deli and thought, "Wouldn't it be great for some of our Brotherhood members to break bread with some of the men of Bethlehem Baptist Church?" I have a couple of capable "bros" involved in this project. My idea is morphing into something that would go beyond Pumpernicks as the meeting place (maybe a BBQ on the porch instead). This could grow into joint service projects and enjoying a Phillies trip together. For me, I would be delighted to begin with my original concept, a shared meal at Pumpernicks with a small group.

At a Brotherhood monthly meeting last year, while reviewing the budget, the subject of Men of Reform Judaism (MRJ) dues came up. Payment of MRJ dues is

voluntary and the question was asked "What do we get for our dues?" I agreed to check out what MRJ had to offer and get back with the research. Last night, I attended a small meeting of local brotherhood/men's club presidents for both conservative and reform congregations at the home of Tom Wiener, MRJ President. Members of the (Conservative) Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs joined us. What this first meeting could evolve into might fill another Spotlight column. I see this meeting as one of the most promising developments to occur on my watch.

One of features of congregational life that has always troubled me is that men drop off their sons and daughters and go off somewhere until it is time to bring them home. I also would like to see more (men) parents involved in Brotherhood. I'm still puzzling over how to best get parents to linger on Sundays, but suspect that Aaron Nienshultz and Rabbi Gerber might have part of the answer.

Last, a major part of the reason why I became "Bro Prez" was because I looked around and did not see anyone else salivating for the opportunity, along with the sense that a vital Brotherhood was important to the health of our congregation. Every so often, I see someone at Beth Or who could be a future Brotherhood officer and I try to steer them along that path. I haven't had much success yet, but as an optimist, I will keep pitching and nudging.

So, if you are one of the men of Beth Or who would like to work with us on completing one of these unfinished projects or would care to suggest another, I look forward to hearing from you. I am delighted to share the credit, fun, and some "tech tips" with men who are interested.



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

Get Involved And Feel Connected

Marilyn Ackerman and Ellen Mirbach, Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Sisterhood offers numerous types of activities and opportunities to feel connected with our Jewish community locally and internationally. There are many ways to become involved and they don't even require you to attend meetings!

Do you sew? Our co-president, Ellen Mirbach does! She was a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher for 35 years. It is a passion of hers to provide those she loves with pieces of fabric that become cherished treasures. Because sewing is a passion of hers and others, Beth Or Sisterhood has made a commitment to help support KindQuilts, an



Marilyn Ackerman and Ellen Mirbach



organization that creates and distributes sewing kits for volunteers to sew into quilts. KindQuilts then delivers them to seriously ill children and adults around the world. If you have a sewing machine and basic sewing skills, this is the perfect project for you! No quilting experience is necessary. All you have to supply, other than a little time, is batting. The kit contains everything else you need to sew a beautiful quilt that will become cherished treasures to those who need one.

We are currently looking for as many volunteers as we can, because this summer, the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's Renaissance Young Leadership Israel 360 group will be delivering KindQuilts to disadvantaged children during their trip to Israel. It would be fantastic if Beth Or Sisterhood is able to supply many of these quilts, as many of our congregants are members of the Renaissance Group. We would like to take a moment to give a big thank you to our sisterhood members who are already busy sewing for this trip! With even more help, we can assist KindQuilts to spread love, joy, and hope to those in need.

For more information and inspiration check out their website, <http://kindquilts.org>. If you have any questions or would like a kit, contact Ellen Mirbach at semirbach@gmail.com.

If you don't sew, but you knit or crochet your talent is also needed to create blankets that are given to various hospitals and nursing homes. Even if you don't knit or crochet but would like to learn, there is a gathering each month where you can learn and/or socialize while creating. Materials are provided if needed. Please contact *Faye Benshetler* at Febx@comcast.net.

And just to publicize one other opportunity we offer that falls into Ellen's wheelhouse of Family and Consumer Sciences, cooking is a major part of two activities that you might enjoy participating in. Meals that Matter meets once a month at Beth Or to prepare meals to be distributed by the Jewish Federation. If you are interested, contact Caren Gutman at carengutman@gmail.com. If you aren't able to be present at the times they cook, you can prepare food on your own time for our own Beth Or families in need. The Caring Congregants will then deliver to those families during times of need. If you are interested, please contact Ellen Werther at ekwfarm@comcast.net.

If you have a passion or interest and would like Beth Or Sisterhood's support, we are here to get involved. Sisterhood is about supporting one another and engaging in our community together. Please contact any sisterhood member.

Please Support the

Tarshis Gift Shop

Proceeds Benefit Beth Or Sisterhood Programs

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

Meet Our B'nai Mitzvah Students

Mattie Headley

April 16

Mattie is working for **WAGS Rescue** for his mitzvah project. He helped at their adoption event by walking the dogs and plans to hold a fundraising drive to donate to the organization and collect items for them. He will be holding these collection drives at Sandy Run Middle School (and hopefully Beth Or!) for any dog related items (food, toys, pee pads...etc...) that will go to help those who foster their pets.



warehouse to work as a team, build up boxes, prepare pallets, fill boxes, and then deliver them. I volunteered to prepare a pallet and distributed the food into the packing boxes as others walked the line. My family, friends, and I then delivered lots of full boxes to people after the packing process. It was so amazing to see everyone in my community working toward the same mitzvah.

Jordyn Alt

May 28

My Bat Mitzvah project is for the **Kitty Adoption Team**, a non-profit, all-volunteer rescue organization dedicated to providing loving care to every foster kitten or cat in the KAT network. All donated funds are used for shelter, food and veterinary care of the foster animals. There are several ways you can help donate to this worthy cause. First, there is a donation bin set up in the preschool lobby for donations of Nutro complete care dry or canned kitten food, hanging cat toys, or cat litter. Second, you can make a financial donation to the Kitty Adoption Team, Inc. Third, you can volunteer to be a foster family to take care of the kittens until forever homes can be found. You can also visit Pet Valu in Blue Bell to see the KAT display cages with kittens available for adoption. If you have additional questions you can email DianeatKAT@comcast.net.



Kevin Allen

May 7

Kevin Allen wanted to do a mitzvah project to help a dog. Ironically, a family friend's pet was recently diagnosed with mega-esophagus, a digestive disorder. The 14 year old terrier named Patches needed a special high-chair that lets him eat sitting up to aide digestion and prevent malnutrition. These chairs can cost \$500+ and the family couldn't afford to buy one, so Patches was eating in a tall trash can. Kevin and his mom built a **"Bailey" Chair for Patches**. Kevin's mom helped plan the chair and cut materials while Kevin painted, stapled, glued and screwed the parts together. Since delivering the chair, Patches has gained back weight and had fewer choking episodes. At his Bar Mitzvah luncheon, Kevin will collect dog supplies for a local shelter to help pay it forward.



Madeline Hoffman

May 28

When I was ten-years old, I founded **Buddee Bags**, a charity that provides hand-sewn wheelchair and walker bags to those in need. To date, Buddee Bags has provided more than 200 of these high-quality bags to children and adults. For my Bat Mitzvah project, I have been focusing Buddee Bags for a new service project! I have been working with many volunteers to hand-sew new drawstring bags. Other volunteers have helped by donating toiletries and goodies to fill each bag. To date, through this Bat Mitzvah project, my volunteers and I have made more than 100 of these bags to donate to those in need in Bucks and Montgomery counties. To learn more about Buddee Bags, please visit: www.buddeebags.org.



Rachel King

May 7

Rachel King has been participating in **Project ShEMA: (Sharing and Enriching through Multigenerational Activities)** which involves volunteering with seniors. Rachel has been spending time each week with a resident. While working on a craft project every week, they learn about each other. The ShEMA program brings together people of all ages for meaningful and mutually rewarding activities such as Shabbat and holiday celebrations, concerts, arts and crafts, gardening, pet therapy, special mitzvah projects, or just friendly visits and warm conversation. To participate in any of these volunteering opportunities with the elderly, call 215-371-1816 or e-mail info@abramsoncenter.org.



Spencer Beidner

May 28

Spencer participated in a few of Team Tzedek's charitable programs this year including **Jewish Federation's Super Sunday**, where he called many past donors and asked for their continued support of the Federation. Spencer is also participating in the program **"Stack the Caps"** where he is collecting new baseball caps to be provided to kids with cancer. His summer camp, Camp Starlight, has collected about 450 feet of caps to date and he'd like to add at least 6 feet to the total.



Cobi Goldberg

May 7

For my Bar Mitzvah project, I volunteered at the **Jewish Relief Agency** for several months. The JRA is an organization that provides food to individuals and families living in the Philadelphia area who need it. Hundreds of volunteers come to the JRA



Noah Fechter

June 4

My Bar Mitzvah project is to raise funds for an organization called **ELIYA**. Created in 1982, ELIYA offers unique programming for blind and visually impaired children and their families in Israel. The goal is to prepare these children for integration into the mainstream education system and community. Raising money and awareness for ELIYA is important to me because I have worn glasses since the 1st grade and, more recently, I went through a year of specific eye therapy to help improve my eye function and vision. To raise money for ELIYA, I am having several bake sales and hope to also raise awareness among Beth Or's members for this amazing organization. To learn more or to make a donation go to www.ELIYA.org.il.



of my friends, my Bubbie and my Mom, we cooked and packaged the meals at Beth Or, then sent them on to KleinLife to be delivered over the Holidays for lunch and dinner. If you are interested in making a donation or donating your time, please visit their website Kleinlife.org.

Jack Liss

June 18

Jack's Bar Mitzvah project is to participate in **Muckfest MS** to raise funds for the fight against Multiple Sclerosis on June 4. Muckfest MS is a fun mud and obstacle 5K. He is joining the team, Sandy's Striders. Sandy is the sister of one of Jack's closest family friends. The "MS" part of MuckFest MS stands for multiple sclerosis, a chronic and often disabling disease that attacks the central nervous system. Jack will be raising funds through an online fund raiser as well as holding a sports (either basketball or lacrosse) play day with his friends to raise funds to support his Muckfest MS run. To support Jack in his race to fight against MS, please go to the following web page: <http://main.nationalmssociety.org/goto/JackLiss>.



Sammy Caplan

June 11

Sammy, co-captain for the **Relay for Life** team — Team Berman — will be raising money for the team and organization by holding fundraisers at his school including a bracelet sale, a pretzel sale, and organizing a bike-a-thon. On Friday, May 13-Saturday, May 14, Sammy and his teammates will walk for 24 hours to raise awareness and funds for cancer research. Contact Sammy and his family to find out how to make a donation to this cause.



Kira Wiener

June 25

Special Equestrians is a nonprofit organization dedicated to giving kids with disabilities the opportunity to ride and interact with horses, improving their physical abilities and their self-esteem. No one is ever turned away because they lack the ability to pay. I chose this as my mitzvah project because I love to ride horses and I want others to have that opportunity, too. I made visual aids for the tack room to help everyone, including those who can't read, find the equipment that they need. I also hosted a bake sale to raise money for the stables, because it costs a lot to take care of the horses and keep them healthy. You can find more information, including how to donate, at <http://www.specialequestrians.org/>.



Ari Lasdon

June 18

For my Bar Mitzvah project, I am volunteering for **Manna on Main Street's Healthy Snack Project**. Each month Manna distributes 2,000 snack bags for the after-school homework club held at the Indian Valley Boys and Girls Club. The program supports young people in the community, providing snacks that offer the energy and nutrition necessary to power through their homework and succeed in school. My friends and I got together at my house and prepared snack bags that contained a healthy trail mix. We then delivered the bags to Manna on Main. This is a great project for kids that are too young to volunteer at Manna's soup kitchen or food pantry.



Benjamin Lotman

June 25

For my Bar Mitzvah project, I volunteered at **Manna on Main Street** which is committed to ending hunger in the North Penn region by providing food, fulfilling social services and education needs and conducting community outreach. Manna is hoping to make a difference through a food pantry and soup kitchen, emergency financial aid, counseling and referral services and educational opportunities. I prepared healthy snack bags for the after-school homework clubs held at the North Penn and Indian Valley Boys and Girls Clubs. The program supports young people in the community by providing snacks that offer energy and nutrition. If you are interested in donating a food item or your time to Manna on Main Street, please visit <http://www.mannaonmain.org>.



Alexa Cutler

June 18

For my Bat Mitzvah project, I decided to do **"Cook for a Friend"** which partners with **KleinLife Home Delivered Meals Program**. Cook for a Friend serves seniors who are unable to shop or prepare their own meals, so no senior goes hungry. Volunteers support the program by helping to cook meals, package the meals for delivery and finally, making a friendly visit. I raised donations and my family and friends helped me reach my goal, which was to raise enough to help me buy all the supplies for making over 500 meals! With the help of some



YOUTH Activities

Best. Summer. Ever. Camp Chaverim 2016

Jillian Glick, Director of Youth and Camp Engagement

This past November, I was fortunate to attend the Union for Reform Judaism's Camp is almost here! June 27 begins our 2016 Camp Chaverim season. The smell of sunscreen will fill our building and sounds of fun will burst throughout the halls. Splashing in the pool, kicking balls in sports class and tending to the garden will be just a few highlights of the fun to come this summer.

This past March, I was lucky enough to attend the ACA Tri State Camp Convention in Atlantic City. This is a conference for camp directors, group leaders, counselors and vendors from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. While there, I got to see many familiar faces from local camps, my alma mater — Sesame/Rockwood Day Camps, and even Camp Harlam and Harlam Day Camp staff. There were a variety of wonderful sessions for camp leaders to choose from. They ranged from staff management sessions to CIT leadership training, to team building games all the way to craft sessions like "Totally Tubular: Toilet Paper Roll Crafts." Needless to say, it was full of many take-aways that I am excited to implement for the summer to come.

The ACA Camp Conferences mainly focus on residential and day camps for kids ages 5 and up. More and more folks in the camping industry are interested in learning opportunities for their youngest campers- ages 4 and under. They are either starting their programs younger, or their camps, like ours, are only for younger children. Due to this increase in interest, I was asked to facilitate two sessions. (Side note: so exciting!) One was called "Process vs. Product: Making Crafts Developmentally Appropriate for Preschool Aged Campers." (Yes, they still call it preschool — we know it's Early Childhood Education!) . We discussed the importance of the **process** for young children, rather than the **product** they are sent home with. I am proud to say, here at Camp Chaverim and the center we already implement these skills. Our counselors and teachers are trained to let the children explore art, nature, music, movement and other skills through play. The second session I facilitated was called: "Sharing is Caring: Strategies to transform your non- camp space into a young camper's dream." I think I learned just as much from my colleagues about space-sharing, pool alternatives and creative ideas for programming as they may have learned from me. We even made "water parks" in the convention center!

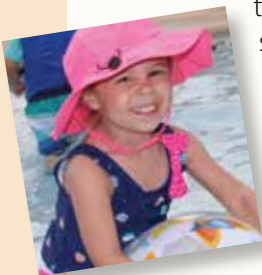
I left this conference feeling proud of the work we do at Camp Chaverim! Our specialty classes are developmentally appropriate for all of our campers. Our special events are top notch. We have a flourishing garden that our campers plant (with help) and then eat the fruits of their labor for healthy snacks over the summer. Our afternoon extracurricular activities are creative and competitive. Shabbat is warm (sometimes literally — it's outside!) and filled with joy. We offer Mommy and Me classes. We are a community of camp families- we come together for Camp Munchkin Minyan. We have an incredibly dedicated staff. All of these reasons and more make me proud to be the director at Camp Chaverim.

Since I am a firm believer that camp isn't just for the young, I would like to extend an invitation. Visit us this summer! Schedule a time to join us at Shabbat, or during a specialty program. Get wet in our sprinklers or join in on Zumba class! Let us know if you know someone looking for camps or our Mommy and Me Summer program. I look forward to you sharing in our fun at #CampChaverim2016!

L'Shalom



Jillian Glick



An Awesome Year for the Junior Choir!

Our Junior Choir has had a very busy and joyful past few months. On March 4, we led the Family and 6th Grade Shabbat Service and followed it up with an awesome sleepover at Beth Or. (Not sure how much sleeping actually occurred, but fun was had by all!)

During the rest of March, the Junior Choir spent their Sunday afternoons rehearsing for an amazing interactive Purim Shpiel. It was challenging and creative and everyone involved had a blast! We performed the Purim Shpiel just after the service on Wed., March 23, and many Jr. Choir members had the opportunity to showcase their incredible voices and acting abilities!

On April Fool's Day, the Jr. Choir led the Family and 3rd Grade Shabbat Service and spent their Sundays in April rehearsing music to sing with the amazing a capella group Six13 at their concert on Sunday evening April 17. It was so cool to meet the members of Six13 and to sing with them in concert!!!

Junior Choir families celebrated the end of Passover at Beth Or with our congregation at the End of Passover Pizza Fest and Shabbat Service. It was so great just to be together to end the holiday!!!

As Junior Choir winds down for the year, we will have our annual banquet on Friday, May 6 at 5 pm. Every Junior Choir member will be honored for their commitment to Beth Or and to our choir. The new Jr. Staffers will be inducted that evening and our graduating seniors will be celebrated! Following the banquet, the Junior Choir will participate in Yom HaShoah Services that evening.

Junior Choir will have one last Family Shabbat Service on June 3 and then we will all depart for our summer activities.

Thank you so so much to Barbara Murtha, Nancy Portney, Kevan Portney, Helene Cutler, and to all of our volunteers who make the Junior Choir run so smoothly and efficiently! Thank you to this year's Lead and Scheduling Jr. Staffers-Scott Schwartz, Yoni Gilad, Jason Smith, Becca Porter, and Lily Ashery; to our Service Leaders Jenna Heisman and Hannah Cutler and to our Jr. Staffer Programming Team, Josh Portney and Alena Schwartz.

And last, but definitely not least, a huge thank you to my student teachers, Hannah Cutler and Ryan and Kyle Voron, who showed up every week to help with the music classes, even when they weren't scheduled. You are a true blessing. Thank you to all of my Jr. Staffers for volunteering their time on Sundays to help out!

It was such a pleasure singing with the Junior Choir this year! We made many wonderful memories that I hope they will all cherish. I know I will!

Thank you Junior Choir members and families for your commitment to Beth Or, to me, and for helping to create another fabulous year for everyone.

Junior Choir May/June Calendar

Friday, May 6 at 5 pm

Jr. Choir Banquet and Awards
Dinner and Service

Friday, June 3, at 7 pm

Family Shabbat Service

Please note that the rehearsal time for the May and June services is 6:30 pm.



Beth Or EVENTS

Art Gallery

Joel Sloane

Opening Night – Friday, May 20

The Olitsky Gallery is pleased to present an exhibit featuring the work of Joel Sloane, from May 13 through June 8. Please join us at the reception to meet the artist on Friday, May 20, immediately following Shabbat services.

Joel's artwork is inspired by spiritual symbols and ideas found in Judaism and other world traditions. His work is a blending of universal paths, drawing on archetypal and natural forms.

Joel recently completed a master's degree program in Creativity at Pacifica Graduate Institute, in Santa Barbara, California. His work has been exhibited in many local venues, and has won numerous awards.

Oreland Art Center Artists

Opening Night – Friday, June 10

The Olitsky Gallery at Beth Or is pleased to welcome the artists of Oreland Art Center to exhibit their work from June 10 through September 7. Please join us at the opening reception to meet the artists.

Located in Ambler, Oreland Art Center has been serving this area for 60 years, offering classes, demonstrations and workshops to artists of all levels. Participating artists include Sherrie Longello, Vickie Buccini, Marita McVeigh, Pauline Braun, Kay Collins, and others.



Shabbat and Holiday Programs

Yom Hashoah Service and Program

Friday, May 6 at 6 pm

Join us for a Kabbalat Shabbat Service in the Gitlin Sanctuary. Stay to hear the untold story of the Holocaust from a child of survivors, Beth OR member Walter Kirszbraun. There will be musical performances by the Beth Or Junior Choir and Keystone State BoyChoir.



Volunteer Appreciation Dinner and Shabbat Service

Friday, June 10

Dinner at 6 pm. Shabbat Service at 8 pm.

If you have served on a committee this year or volunteered your time and talents to make Beth Or a better place, please join us for a Shabbat dinner in your honor. Dinner is free but you must RSVP to info@bethor.org by June 1.

Shabbat in Our Park

Friday, July 15 at 5 pm

Come out for our annual Shabbat in Our Park service. Bring your lawn chairs and picnic blankets and sit outside on our grounds with your family and friends. Please bring a side dish that goes with a meat meal. No pork, dairy or shellfish please. RSVP to jglick@bethor.org by July 11.



Special Events

Join Beth Or's Walk Against Hate Team Today! Sunday, May 15 at 8:30 am at the Philadelphia Navy Yard

The 6th Annual Walk Against Hate is sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). The funds raised are used to support its programming intended to stop defamation of the Jewish people and secure justice and fair treatment for all people.

For more information about this event, contact Austin Faberman at Austin.faberman@gmail.com. You can register for the event on-line at www.walkagainsthate.org. When you register, look for the Beth Or team and join us!

11th Annual Oy Vey 5K/10K and 1 Mile Walk Sunday, June 5 at 8:30 am



Our incredibly popular 5K/10K race is back again at Beth Or! This year, we are raising money for Beth Or and STARS After School Program.

Registration will soon be available on www.runtheday.com and the Beth Or website. The 5K and 10K races are both chip-timed on a certified course. There are water stops along the way and t-shirts for everyone who registers by May 16. Limited t-shirts will be available on race day. Medals will be given to the top 3 winners of 10 year age brackets in both races. Finishing awards will be given to everyone! There will also be great food and family activities for all participants and spectators.

Register for the race on-line at <http://bit.ly/oyvey5k10k2016>.



Beth Or Travel

Mission Trip to Mexico November 13-20, 2016

Join Rabbi Gerber and members of the Social Action committee on a mission trip to Xiloxochico, Mexico and work alongside the Nahua families on life-changing, hands on projects. This trip is perfect for individuals, couples and families who want to give back and experience life in another culture. For more information, contact Susy at susykrinker@gmail.com.



Travel to Italy and Israel December 18, 2016 – January 1, 2017

Join Rabbi Marx 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.

Congregational Notice

Notice of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation

In accordance with Article II, Section 6 (a) of the Constitution and By-laws of Congregation Beth Or, notice of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation is being provided to all members of the Congregation. The Board of Trustees has set the date of **June 8, 2016, 7 pm** as the date and time of the Annual Meeting.

All Congregants are invited to attend this meeting and hear reports from the Officers, presentation of the Annual Budget and for the filling of elected Officer and Trustee positions. We hope to see you at the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Cohen, Parliamentarian



Chai-Lights — MAY-JUNE 2016

New Members

Aaron Gottlieb & Stephanie Tedesco
Chris, Sara, Sophia & Olivia Collins
Jason, Rachel & Logan Goldsmith
Joseph Waslow & Sonya Civallo
Jolene Defusco
William & Ellen Nathan
Joshua, Shannon, David & Ethan Funt
Howard & Sandie Salasin

May Their Memory Be a Blessing

Steven Louis Anthony, brother of
Vanessa Klein
Corinne Cowan, cousin of Helene Simoni
Louis Savadove, father of Leah Marks
Stanford "Pat" Hunn, uncle of Carol Packer
Eleanor Davis, grandmother of
Stephanie Winegrad
Toby Ravitch, mother of Nina Sternberg
Millicent Moed, mother of Howard Moed
Dianne Naplan, sister of Marlene Robinson
Nina Goldfarb, aunt of Ron Lincow
Louis Biundo, father of Lisa Herman
Estelle Cohen, mother of Norman Cohen
Ann "Bidi" Finkelstein, mother of
Gary Finkelstein, grandmother of
Joanne Schell & Lauren Hellman
Martin Weiss, husband of Nancy Weiss &
Father of Max Weiss
Lillian Kaufman, aunt of Harvey Gitlin &
great aunt of Michelle Goldstein &
Amy Gitlin
Lillian Becker, grandmother of Jaime Hersh
Gloria Biundo, mother of Lisa Herman
Leonard Jackowski, husband of
Ida Jackowski

Mazel Tov

Birth of Jack Richard Goodman, grandson
of Phil and Pennye Goodman and
great grandson of Sanford and
Ina Goodman
Engagement of Arielle Schaeffer,
daughter of Rodger and Virpi Schaefer,
to Andrew Weiss
Birth of Ilana Fay Gershenson,
granddaughter of Stephen Gershenson
& the late Shona Gershenson
Baby Naming of Samantha Blake
Bromberg, daughter of Alan and
Carly Bromberg
Birth of Josephine Krol Kirker,
granddaughter of Alice Milrod and the
late Anthony Krol
Bar Mitzvah of Kevin Allen
Bat Mitzvah of Rachel King
Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Goldberg
Bat Mitzvah of Michelle Gladstone
Bat Mitzvah of Emma Solnick
Bat Mitzvah of Brooke Ashdale
Bat Mitzvah of Jordyn Alt

Bat Mitzvah of Madeline Hoffman
Bar Mitzvah of Spencer Beidner
Bat Mitzvah of Elle Clibanoff
Bar Mitzvah of Noah Fechter
Bat Mitzvah of Sara Shorr
B'nai Mitzvah of Benjamin and Seth Lerner
Bar Mitzvah of Sammy Caplan

Bar Mitzvah of Ari Lasdon
Bat Mitzvah of Alexa Cutler
Bar Mitzvah of Jack Liss
Bat Mitzvah of Kira Wiener
Bar Mitzvah of Mark Kesack
Bar Mitzvah of Devon Hirsch
Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Lotman

Oneg and Flower Donations

Additional January Donations

January 29 • Dana & Jonathan Grosser in honor of Gabrielle Grosser's Bat Mitzvah
Barry & Vicki Oppenheim & Rita Roy in memory of Charles Roy & Mary Axler

Additional February Donations

Oneg:

February 5 • Brian & Hope Heck in honor of Benjamin Paul Heck's Bar Mitzvah

February 19 • Barry & Jennifer Toren in honor of Griffin Toren's Bar Mitzvah

February 26 • Jennifer & Lee Marcus in honor of Zachary Marcus' Bar Mitzvah

Flowers:

February 26 • Jennifer & Lee Marcus in honor of Zachary Marcus' Bar Mitzvah

March Donations

Oneg:

March 4 • Joel & Nancy Rosen in honor of Rachel Rosen's Bat Mitzvah

March 25 • Jack & Staci Rosenbloom in honor of Jacob Rosenbloom's Bar Mitzvah

Leah & Jonathan Marks in honor of Jamie Lynn Mark's Bat Mitzvah

Alice Milrod in honor of the Baby Naming of her granddaughter, Josephine Kirker Krol

Flowers:

March 4 • Linda & Jim Kollmar in honor of Benjamin Kollmar's Bar Mitzvah

Joel & Nancy Rosen in honor of Rachel Rosen's Bat Mitzvah

March 25 • Jack & Staci Rosenbloom in honor of Jacob Rosenbloom's Bar Mitzvah

Leah & Jonathan Marks in honor of Jamie Lynn Marks Bat Mitzvah

April Donations

Oneg:

April 1 • Michelle & Mark Sirota in honor of Ben Sirota's Bar Mitzvah

April 8 • Eric and Kim Ratner in honor of Justin Ratner's Bar Mitzvah

April 15 • Tammy and Dino Ciliberti in honor of Joshua Ciliberti's Bar Mitzvah

Flowers:

April 15 • Tammy and Dino Ciliberti in honor of Joshua Ciliberti's Bar Mitzvah

May Donation

Oneg:

May 20 • The Adult Confirmation Class: April Brasher, Lynn Edelman, Dawn Hogan,
Willie Lorber, Chris & Jennie Platt, July Spahn, Robin Staats, Connie Welsh,
Howard & Jill Zipin



From the Executive Director

Give Your Family Peace of Mind

Amy Abrams, Executive Director

The togetherness of Jewish families has always been a part of our heritage. This same heritage extends all through life and includes providing for a final resting place for our loved ones in advance of need.

Congregation Beth Or, is a sacred community where we care for one another and we share our lifecycle events — both joys and sorrows.

Many congregations own cemeteries as a way to support their congregations' needs and to provide a source of revenue to the congregation itself. This is no longer financially prudent for congregations to do, but the need to make such arrangements has not changed.

As an additional benefit of congregation membership, we have obtained special pricing from Roosevelt Memorial Park for our members to purchase family burial plots. Furthermore, each purchase by a congregant will be recognized by Roosevelt Memorial Park through a donation to Beth Or, in the family's honor.

If you have not already planned for this family need, please contact Doreen Berest, a family service consultant and pre-arrangement specialist at Roosevelt Memorial Park and a member of our congregation. Those who have already worked with Doreen find her to be compassionate, caring and an expert in her field.

Doreen is available to answer your questions and address your concerns. She can be reached at 215-219-9293 or via email at doreen.berest@dignitymemorial.com.



Amy Abrams

Memorials and Contributions

Rabbi Marx's Discretionary Fund

Donation by

CHARLES & DANNITA BROOKER
SUSAN HYATT

In Memory of

JAY APPEL
Audrey Appel
STEVEN LOUIS ANTHONY
Bruce & Linda Baron
HERBERT J. GREENBLATT
Bryna Berman
UNCLE PAT HUNN
Carol Packer, Mike Snyder,
Andie & Adam
SONNY PORTMAN
David & Carol Udis
CHARLES F. BECK
Don & Kathie Sachs
ESTELLE COHEN
Doreen Berest
DOROTHY VOGEL
JAY APPEL
Eric & Mindi Vogel

ANN "BIDI" FINKELSTEIN
Gary & Phyllis Finkelstein
Larry & Sheila Schwartz
Ronald & Barbara Rosenthal

IDA & JOSEPH SCHULTZ
Harry & Lila Schultz

GILBERT & CLARICE STRAUSS
Jacqueline Zelle

DAVID FELDMAN
Josh & Marcie Gottlieb

BERT FIELD

LOUIS FIELD

GOLDIE L. GIBBS
Larry & Sandy Frankel

ZIPPORAH ABRAMSON
Leonard & Madlyn Abramson

RUTH BERTIN
Linda Baron

LOUIS HERSHMAN
Lowell & Madeline Lander

SADIE SLIMER
Marc Meketon &
Naomi Sussman

MARTIN WEISS
Nancy Weiss

JILLIAN SIEGEL
Philip & Nancy Siegel
STANFORD "PAT" HUNN
Robert, Shari and Noah Hunn

FLORENCE RESNICK
Steven Resnick

In Appreciation of

RABBI MARX
Carole Chasen
Howard & Vanessa Klein
Ilene Schneller & Dana Marion

Congratulations to

PHIL & PENNYE GOODMAN
Stephen Gershenson

Speedy Recovery to

CANTOR GREEN
Joan Garde

Rabbi Gerber's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

ELYSE GREENSTEIN
Carol Packer & Michael Snyder
FRANCES CHASEN
Carole Chasen

LOUIS SAVADOVE
Nancy Savadove
STEVEN J. GALLANT
Scott & Amy Gallant

In Honor of

RABBI GERBER & LAUREN
GERBER'S new baby, TESSA
Bernie & Beth Johl
Birth of TESSA ROSE GERBER
Carol Packer & Michael Snyder
Doreen Berest
Elaine Slott
Ellen Werther
Jack & Rosie Elias

In Appreciation of

Baby naming of
ADELYN & ZOE LEAVESLEY
Carl & Lauren Leavesley

RABBI GERBER
Carol Packer & Michael Snyder
& their extended family
Mark Sirota
Michael & Rebecca Silverman
The Selsley Family

Memorials and Contributions — Continued

Congratulations to

RABBI GERBER
Allen & Diane Shapiro
Birth of TESSA ROSE
Michael & Michelle Boas

Cantor Green's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

RAY S. BERRY
Don & Amanda Berry
BURTON WEINBERG
Eli & Jean Aghen
JULIAN LOEWENSTERN
Gary & Cindy Loewenstern
TOBY RAVITCH
Michael & Beth Berkowitz
IRVIN BERLIN
SYLVIA BERLIN
Norm, Betsy, Dan & Mike Berlin
SONNY BENJAMIN
Philip & Hope Bernstein
FRANK LEAVITT
EDGAR SILVERMAN
Robert Silverman & Randi Leavitt
DORA SMILOVITZ
Sylvia Chachkin
SEYMOUR KURTZ
Zane & Jane Kurtz

In Honor of

CANTOR GREEN'S
20th Anniversary
Bernie & Beth Johl

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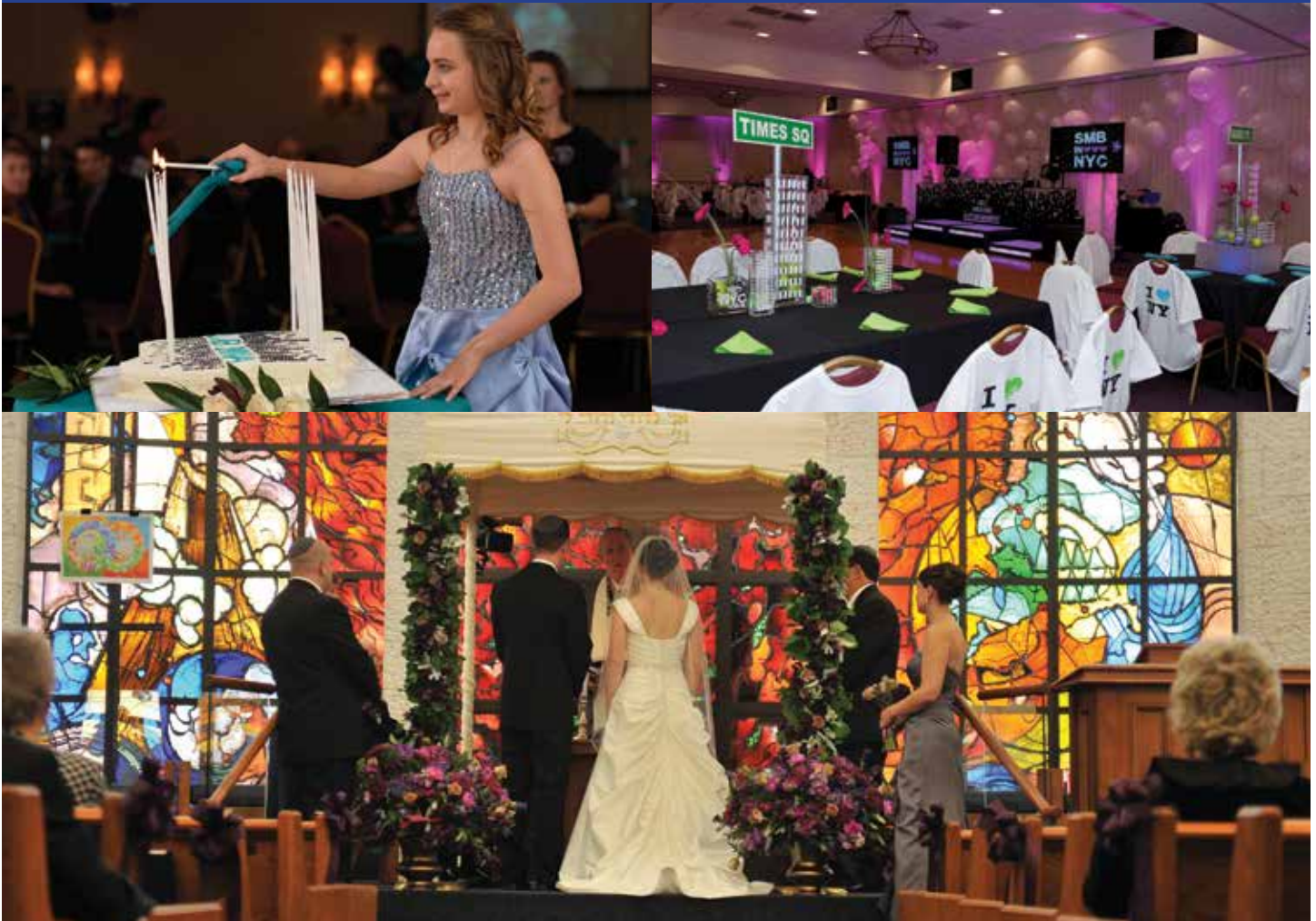
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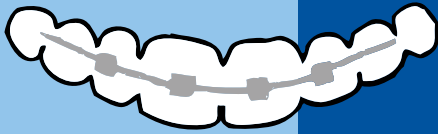
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March-April 2016 | Volume 60, Issue 3 | Nisan-Iyyar-Sivan | 5776

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