

JULY/AUGUST 2023

TAMUZ/AV/ELUL 5783

SUMMER ISSUE

VOLUME 80
NUMBER 8

B'NAI ISRAEL SCROLL

STAY CONNECTED



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www.bnaiisraelcong.org

UPCOMING

Tisha B'Av begins Wednesday, July 26.

See page 8 for details.

UPCOMING

SUMMER @ B'nai Israel

We wish you a safe and wonderful Summer season!
For the latest on Summer programming and worship,
please see:

- Summer Beit Midrash p. 6
- Summer Speaker Series p. 7
- Casual Shabbat p. 8
- Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat Services p. 8

WELCOME TO
JEFF FREDMAN,
OUR NEW
SYNAGOGUE PRESIDENT
AS OF JULY 1, 2023



*Read Jeff's inaugural Leadership
Message on page 3.*

B'NAI ISRAEL

HIGH HOLIDAYS

2023/5784

SCHEDULE & SEATING INFORMATION

Forms are due Friday, July 14. See page 2 for more information.

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B'NAI MITZVAH בני מצוה

Emma Levit

August 19 | 9:00 AM

Emma Madelyn Levit, daughter of Michelle and Roman Levit, granddaughter of Helen and Arthur Popper, and Vera and Michael (z"l) Levit, is a rising eighth-grade student at Earle B. Wood Middle School. For her *mitzvah* project, Emma is volunteering at the Friendship Circle, a non-profit organization which provides and helps children with disabilities to gain friendship, inclusion and the emotional support they deserve. Emma volunteers monthly by attending birthday parties and supporting children doing different activities in the community. She is also raising funds to support the work of the Friendship Circle.



William Falk

August 26 | 9:00 AM

William Nathaniel Falk, son of Myah and Alan Falk, grandson of Norman (z"l) and Janet (z"l) Falk, Lavonne Walker, and Dan and Meta Walton, is an eighth-grade student at Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. For his *mitzvah* project, William is collecting donations to support Children's National Hospital in Washington, DC.



Lilah Meyerstein

September 2 | 9:00 AM

Lilah Lande Meyerstein, daughter of Dana Lande and Avi Meyerstein, granddaughter of Israella and Michael Meyerstein, and Nancy and Paul Lande, is a seventh-grade student at CESJDS. For her *mitzvah* project, Lilah is volunteering with Crohn's and infusion patients.



High Holiday Ticketing Requests Due by July 14

B'NAI ISRAEL

HIGH HOLIDAYS 2023/5784



As you have recently received via mail and email, we are already hard at work planning for the High Holidays. To ensure your ticketing and seating requests, please return all forms OR register ONLINE by July 14.

When filling out your High Holiday Ticket Requests, please note:

ALL MEMBER HOUSEHOLDS will continue to receive one High Holiday ticket for each adult member of the household. **There is no longer a charge to request a pew seat in Dweck Sanctuary or Bimblech Hall.** Please indicate your room preference (Dweck Sanctuary/Bimblech Hall, Gudelsky Hall; Goodman Assembly Hall; or Hayman Chapel Family Service), and seats will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. There are no changes for dedicated seat holders; they will continue to request and receive their priority assigned seats.

NEW FAMILY SERVICE This new "ticketed" service will take place in Hayman Chapel on the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur morning. This approximately two-hour service (one hour on Kol Nidre) is designed for families with children in elementary school. The service is specifically designed for parents and children to celebrate and experience the holiday together. Content will be age-appropriate, relevant, engaging, and participatory. The format promises to deepen connections to our faith and traditions, while fostering a sense of community among our families.

TOTS, BABYSITTING, YOUTH AND TEEN OPPORTUNITIES Our full menu of youth programming including an expanded Tots Service, babysitting, Youth and Teen Services is available online at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/highholidays2023. Registration for these programs is available online only.

YIZKOR MEMORIAL BOOK Submissions for our Yizkor Memorial Book are due by Friday, July 28 via your printed packet or when registering online.

HONORS AND USHERS Your participation is important to us. You can let us know if you are interested in High Holiday Honors or Ushering via your printed packet or online registration.

RECIPROCITY B'nai Israel continues to offer seats to members of other Conservative synagogues as we do for our own members. Please contact Patricia Simitakos (301-816-5573, patricia@bnaiisraelcong.org) to inquire.

We look forward to welcoming 5784 with you!

Detailed Schedule of Services including Youth Programming
www.bnaiisraelcong.org/HighHolidays2023

To register for Ticket and Seating Requests: www.bnaiisraelcong.org/hhreg
Be on the lookout for the High Holidays Issue of the Scroll in late August.



RABBI'S MESSAGE

by RABBI MITCHELL BERKOWITZ

Because they fall during the summer months, the observances of the 17th of Tammuz and the 9th of Av are often relegated to minor events that are less intensely observed. This year, the 17th of Tammuz will be observed on July 6, and the 9th of Av (known more widely by its Hebrew name, Tisha B'Av) on July 27 (see p. 10 for additional details).

The 17th of Tammuz commemorates the day on which the walls of Jerusalem were breached, and, exactly three weeks later, the 9th of Av commemorates the day on which the Temple was destroyed. The two are observed as fast days, and Tisha B'Av is a full day fast, with other restrictions akin to Yom Kippur. Both are days of national mourning.

I write this all from *Ir Hakodesh*, the Holy City of Jerusalem. As I write, late in the evening, I can hear the city alive outside—cars honking their horns in traffic, buses passing through major intersections, pedestrians walking about. And yet, on these two fast days, we mourn the destruction of Jerusalem, and we pray that this city be rebuilt speedily in our days. There is great irony in praying for a city to be “rebuilt” when all you see out your window are construction cranes! This city is certainly rebuilt, and continues to be rebuilt every day.

In truth, we mourn the loss of the ancient Temples, the central place of worship for ancient Israel, a focal point of this city, and a place to which individuals would travel to demonstrate their gratitude to God. So when we mourn, we are mourning the loss of the Temple, and when we pray for a “rebuilt” city, we invoke our dreams for the messianic future referred to by our prophets.

Today our congregational trip to Israel visited the Kotel and the Western Wall Tunnels. We explored Robinson's Arch, and prayed at the Kotel, where many in the group visited for the very first time in their lives (including our two children, although one was fast asleep!). And then we entered the Western Wall Tunnels, an incredible archaeological exploration of the Western Wall, below and beyond what you see at the Kotel. The wall extends deep beneath the ground, covered up by years of building, destroying, rebuilding, etc. The massive stones were quarried nearby, and relocated the short distance to serve as the walls that would form the great platform atop of which Herod would refurbish the Second Temple.

Reading about it in an article and seeing pictures are valuable, but insufficient. Standing in the tunnels beneath the Kotel while looking up and recognizing how high the walls extend, and seeing down below to the depths to which it extends is an incredibly overwhelming experience. Sure, it was at its time and is to this day an incredible achievement in construction, but the real meaning is found beyond the wall itself.

The real meaning (or at least *one* real meaning) is that this wall is a metaphor for Judaism. Most people think of Judaism, including many Jews, and have a very narrow understanding of what Judaism is. Not everyone chooses to plumb the depths of Judaism, to learn more about our history, our sacred texts, and our traditions. On the 17th of Tammuz and on the 9th of Av, this is what we mourn, that most of Judaism is a hidden mystery to many Jews. So when we pray for Jerusalem to be rebuilt, we do not necessarily pray for more construction or massive building projects, but we pray that individually and collectively we will rededicate ourselves to Jewish learning and Jewish living.

May these days of fasting and mourning speedily becomes days of joy and gladness.

Welcome to the Newest Members of Our B'nai Israel Family

(April 23–June 19)

NEW MEMBERS

GLORIA & MICHAEL ACKERMAN

DIANA & DR. ARI AVRAM

DEBBIE BAND

JAMIE & TYLER CARLIN

SHERYL & STEVEN FREISHTAT

ROCHELLE GOMES

DOV GRUMET-MORRIS

ANNA & ALEXANDER HUGHES

ROSALIND POMERANCE

REBECCA & MICHAEL SCARPELLI

HARRIET & MARTIN SOLOMON

Brukhim habaim!

The entire congregation shares our joy in welcoming you into our B'nai Israel family.

B'NAI ISRAEL CONGREGATION

6301 Montrose Road
Rockville, Maryland 20852
301-881-6550
www.bnaiisraelcong.org

Affiliated with The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism



Safety
Respect
Equity



B'nai Israel Congregation is an accessible building.

MICHAEL J. SAFRA

Senior Rabbi

MITCHELL H. BERKOWITZ

Associate Rabbi

CHERYL STONE

Assistant Rabbi

JONATHAN A. SCHNITZER

Rabbi Emeritus

MATTHEW H. SIMON

Rabbi Emeritus

JOSH C. PERLMAN

Hazzan

SARAH BOLTS

Associate Hazzan

HAL OSSMAN

Executive Director

DAFNA SPEAR

Lessans Talmud Torah Principal

RACHEL SIEGEL

Early Childhood Director

ELIZABETH CARPENTER

Schilit Nursery School Assistant Director

KAREN GERTON

Early Childhood Director Emerita

MAYER ADELBERG

Director of Youth Engagement

LILY POLLACK

Youth Coordinator

JILL GENDELMAN

Librarian

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Congregational Shlichah

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Communications and Development Director

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Men's Club Co-Presidents

DR. STEVEN HAUSMAN

ALAN ISENBERG

DR. FRED MESSING

DR. STEPHEN B. ROBBINS

JOEL SHANKMAN

JAY WECHSLER

Gabbaim



NOTES

by CANTOR JOSH C. PERLMAN

I love celebrating birthdays. This summer if you have some downtime, please check your synagogue information in our database to make sure we have it.

Every day I try to send an email with a song to all of the birthdays of each day. I have found many email addresses are incorrect as well as missing or incorrect birth dates. If you would like to email me all of your information including your children, if they have email addresses, great! If not, just let me know that I can send them to you.

I have been doing this now for over a year and have been doing it on Facebook for many years and it gives me an opportunity to think about those who I very rarely see. It also lets you know how very important you are to me.

Please email me your information about birthdays, anniversaries, and any other dates that are important to you. If dealing with the synagogue database is too daunting, please send me your information and I will get it updated myself. No problem.

I look forward to connecting with you all. Have a safe and wonderful summer.

JEWISH HERITAGE DAY

Jewish Heritage Day at Nationals Park

September 3

1:35 PM

\$31/ticket

The Nationals invite members of local Jewish organizations, synagogues, and all of Jewish Greater Washington to join them at the ballpark for Jewish Heritage Day.

You will receive an email from B'nai Israel the week before gameday about how to access your electronic tickets via the MLB Ballpark App (available on iPhone and Android). Tickets are only available in an electronic format via the App, and cannot be distributed in hard copy.

Space is limited. Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/nationalsjewishcommunityday2023

The Dr. Stuart Lessans TALMUD TORAH REGISTRATION 2023-2024

Registration is now open at

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/talmudtorah

For questions, please contact Jennifer (240-221-2508, jenniferc@bnaiisraelcong.org).



LEADERSHIP MESSAGE

by JEFF FREDMAN
President

While I appreciate the trust placed by the congregation in electing me to serve as your President for the next two years, B'nai belongs to all of us. And unlike that treadmill with clothes hanging all over it, we want you to take full advantage of the fantastic spiritual and engagement opportunities going on literally every day. Our daily *minyans* build camaraderie and quickly become places where everyone knows your name. Summer Beit Midrash will connect you to new aspects of Judaism. And isn't meeting friends at *kiddush* a fun bonus to Rabbis Safra, Berkowitz or Stone's inspiring sermon and Cantors Perlman or Bolts enjoyable chanting of the prayers?

The B'nai Executive Committee team is busy developing plans and goals for the upcoming year. We welcome your participation with programming, with your ideas, and with your effort on the committees that will strengthen B'nai and our local community. Our professional staff and clergy are engaged in exciting programs and events for the coming year. Feel free to contact me if there is an initiative that you're interested in developing and running that would enhance our congregation and community.

In moving B'nai forward, I hope I can live up to the standards set by the many who served before me. I especially want to thank Scott Hodes for his leadership for the past two years, made more difficult by Covid. We are very fortunate to have a mix of new and experienced members on our Executive

Committee. You'll hear from many of them in the coming months.

Dina Gruber will be our Administrative Vice President, Dana Lande will be Vice President for Membership; Haidee Bernstein will remain as Vice President for Religious affairs; and Marcie Peters will remain as Vice President for Youth and Education. Jessica Lieberman will take over as Vice President of Development, Ben Wilcher will be Secretary, Madeline Pelish will switch to Treasurer; and Jeff Sussman will remain as Assistant Treasurer. Scott Hodes, who ably guided us for the last two years, now becomes the immediate Past President. Dan Fisher will take on the role of Parliamentarian.

And we are continuing to plan for B'nai Israel's Centennial in 2025–2026. You'll hear more about the planning for this milestone as my term progresses. I look forward to seeing all of you during the upcoming year. My family and I would like to wish all of you a wonderful Summer and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Yizkor Memorial Book

Each year, B'nai Israel Congregation provides a Book of Memory for use at the Yizkor service on Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, the eighth day of Pesah, and the second day of Shavuot. Including the names of our deceased loved ones in our Yizkor Memorial Book is a meaningful tribute to them and a tangible reflection of their impact on our lives. May the memory of our loved ones always be a blessing.

To submit the names of loved ones, please return the form from your High Holiday mailing or visit www.bnaiisraelcong.org/highholidays2023 to complete the form online.

Entries are due by Friday, July 28.



Congregational Jewish Tour to Buenos Aires Argentina



with Rabbi Michael and Sharon Safra

March 4–12, 2024

with optional extension to Iguaçu Falls March 12–14

Tour Highlights Include:

- ITW Expert Guide and the Dean of the Rabbinical School, Rabbi Yattah
- Study and Discussions at the Seminario
- Plaza de Mayo (the birth-place of the City of Buenos Aires and the historical and political center of the country)
- Cabildo (the colonial House of Government)
- Metropolitan Cathedral (last pope's Church) with memorial for victims of the Shoah
- Casa Rosada, The Pink House (the official presidential residence and government headquarters)
- El Obelisco, the Obelisk (memorial monument with Argentine history engraved on each of its four faces)
- Masorti Schools and Congregations (Weitzman, Lamroth Hakol, Natan Beit Hilel, etc.)
- Colon Theatre (largest theater in the southern hemisphere)
- Tomb of Evita Peron
- Day Trip to Tigre Delta (lush scenery and boat rides)
- Tango Class at Tango Porteno
- 'Fiesta Gaucha' (gaucho party, a traditional ranch in the Argentina countryside)
- ...and more!

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/triptoargentina



SARA & SAMUEL J. LESSANS ADULT LEARNING INSTITUTE

Summer Beit Midrash

Tuesdays in July

7:30-9:00 PM

There is no charge to attend. Each session is independent. Register for those that interest you or for all.

JULY 11

The Ethics of Leadership: Judges and Kings with

Rabbi Michael Safra

“Appoint for yourself judges...” (Deuteronomy 16:18). “Set for yourself a king...” (Deuteronomy 17:15).

Moses may have spoken directly with God, but political and judicial leadership since then has been an entirely earthly endeavor. And it is fraught.

The Torah invites Israel to appoint judges and kings, and instructs them to abide by their rulings. But what are the limits of their power? How did our ancestors protect themselves against conflicts of interest and other concerns about the corruptive nature of power? How are kings (or modern political leaders) to be held accountable under the law? Join Rabbi Safra for an exploration of these and other timely questions, using texts from Deuteronomy and Mishnah Sanhedrin as our guide.



JULY 18

Shmittah, the Jubilee, and other Challenging Jewish Economic Policies

with

Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz

The Torah does not shy away from articulating a certain Israelite economic policy. The ideal for their agrarian society was to create a world in which everyone was a landowner, poverty was temporary and debt was forgiven.

How do the voices in our tradition wrestle with the practical implications of these policies? Do these laws have a practical application today, and if so, what is it?



JULY 25

Locating LGBTQIA Identity in Jewish Texts with

Cantor Sarah Bolts

While popular discourse might suggest otherwise, we can find many positive depictions of same-sex relationships and gender nonconformity in biblical and rabbinic texts. We will study some of these texts and discuss how and where LGBTQIA people can see themselves reflected in the Jewish tradition.



PROJECT ZUG



Always Already There: Shabbat and the Illusory Search for God

with

Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz

Monday, July 10 and continuing 3 more Mondays

9:30 AM

Zoom Event

Recommended \$36 donation to the Safra Adult Programming Endowment

Shabbat is a day of rest from the work of the week, and a time to dive deep into the soul. But what if the work of the week is spiritual work and Shabbat is about stepping back from the ways we usually seek out God? Through rich hassidic teachings of the Sefat Emet (R. Yehudah Aryeh Leib Alter), you will have the opportunity to explore Shabbat as a paradigm to illuminate ways we do and don't, should and shouldn't, try to find God in our lives and in our world. Together, we'll trace the origins and impact of this profound theology that at once embraces and rejects the spiritual quest.

Course and materials provided in partnership with Project Zug. Classes supported by the Safra Adult Programming Endowment.

Class sessions will be recorded and shared with everyone registered. Register at www.bnaiisraelcong.org/event/projectzugshabbat2023.html.



WWW.PROJECTZUG.ORG

Register at

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/summerbeitmidrash2023

SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES

During the summer months, we invite members of our community to speak on Shabbat mornings and address the congregation about the interesting ways that they connect special experiences to their Jewish identities. All presentations take place during Shabbat services, at approximately 10:45 AM.

JULY 1

Fundamental Forces of the Universe with Dr. Fredric Messing

The quest to understand the fundamental forces of the universe spanned four centuries involving a surprising cast of characters and a series of serendipitous coincidences and brilliant insights.

Dr. Fredric Messing is a former Associate Professor of Physics at Carnegie Mellon University. Dr. Messing serves as a congregational gabbai, reads Torah, leads services, and has pursued extensive independent study in Jewish text.



A member of B'nai Israel Congregation for over a decade, Hana graduated from Sandy Spring Friends School in 2022. Using her experience as the music madricha in the B'nai Israel Lessans Talmud Torah, she is currently serving as Song Leader for Ramah Day Camp Greater DC before beginning her studies at Muhlenberg College this fall.

JULY 22

How A Brass Plaque Kindles Healing with Rabbi Michael Meyerstein

Just months ago, Rabbi Michael Meyerstein, returned from a transformational journey to Leipzig. It was there that he re-examined conflicting emotions about Germany and Germans, learned a surprising new version of his family's history, and dared himself to engage "the Other."



Rabbi Meyerstein retired from two fulfilling careers. The first as pulpit rabbi in TX, PA, and MD. The second in non-profit management and fundraising. He has travelled widely, including countless trips to Israel. His wife, Israella Meyerstein, is a retired family therapist. They live near 3 married children, and 8 grandchildren, in the D.C. area.

JULY 29

Moco Mitzvah Moms: Care Packages for Children in Need with Avery Sudow, Julie Rachlin, and Laura Cohen

Moco Mitzvah Moms was founded to provide support to local families who are grappling with caring for a child in need of prolonged medical care. In our first year, we have held an event every month—connecting dozens of Moco moms—while creating more than 500 care packages for two children's hospitals...and we are just getting started. Founded by Laura Cohen, Julie Rachlin and Avery Sudow (B'nai Israel members) serve on the Founding Board.



AUGUST 5

Antisemitism in School: A Student's Perspective with Rae Weinstein

It is no secret that antisemitic acts are on the rise across the United States, from social media to schools, and even in places like our very own Montgomery County. Rae Weinstein will discuss her experience of antisemitism in school, and how you can do your part to try to address it.

Rae Weinstein, a recent Wootton High School graduate, grew up at B'nai Israel. She was the editor-in-chief of *Wootton Common Sense*, the official news source for Thomas S. Wootton High School. She has reported on antisemitism in her school and advocated for Jewish students. Rae will begin her studies at the University of Florida this fall.

AUGUST 12

Interfaith Works: Helping Neighbors in Need with Sam Taylor

Interfaith Works is a nonprofit that provides emergency shelter, supportive housing, essential needs, and employment programs to over 35,000 residents of Montgomery County, MD, every year. IW was founded in 1972 by local faith communities who saw Montgomery County residents in need and felt collaborative action was the best way to help them. Today, Interfaith Works is not a religious organization, but we maintain our original spirit of striving to provide Montgomery County residents in need with the best possible assistance through our various programs.



Sam Taylor serves as the Faith Partnerships Coordinator for Interfaith Works since March of 2022. Before that, he worked at Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, where his fiancé, Courtney, still works. Sam's work is focused on creating and sustaining the vital partnerships between Interfaith Works and the abundant faith communities in Montgomery County. Sam and his fiancé attend Congregation Or Chadash in Damascus, MD.

JULY 8

American Jewry: Past, Present, and Future with Rabbi Herbert Rosenblum

Examining Jonathan Sarna's two recent authoritative analyses of current trends in American Jewish history, Rabbi Rosenblum will share his reflections on the history of American Jewry.



Herbert Rosenblum received a PhD in American Jewish history at Brandeis University in 1970, was ordained a Rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1954, and received his undergraduate BA at Yeshiva University in 1950. Rabbi Rosenblum served for many years as Associate Dean and Professor of Jewish history at the Boston Hebrew College.

JULY 15

V'Kol Nativoteicha: Reflections on my Year in Israel with Hana Feig

This past year, I attended the Nativ College Leadership Program in Israel: a gap year program organized by the Conservative movement. Throughout my nine months in Israel, I learned things about Israel, Judaism, and myself that I never expected while planning my gap year experience.



www.bnaiisraelcong.org/summerspeakersseries2023

WORSHIP

NEW!

Through August 25, Friday evening *Kabbalat Shabbat* services will begin at 7:00 PM (rather than our usual 6:15 PM time).

We look forward to seeing you!



Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat Summer Services

Fridays, July 14, July 28, and August 11
7:00 PM

These Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat services will take place outdoors in the Hurwitz-Guritzky Meditation Garden.

CASUAL SHABBAT

is back!

Saturdays through August 12

No ties, no jeans.

Take a “sabbatical” from the usual Shabbat routine and join us for Shabbat services and *Kiddush*.

New Time for Tot Shabbat Starting July 1

Beginning Saturday, July 1, Tot Shabbat will meet from 10:45–11:30 AM.

The synagogue offices will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

Minyan will take place at 9:00 AM and 8:00 PM.

SHABBAT

שבת

Candlelighting and Havdalah

June 30/July 1	8:22 PM / 9:11 PM
July 7/8	8:20 PM / 9:09 PM
July 14/15	8:18 PM / 9:06 PM
July 21/22	8:13 PM / 9:01 PM
July 28/29	8:08 PM / 8:54 PM
August 4/5	8:00 PM / 8:47 PM
August 11/12	7:52 PM / 8:38 PM
August 18/19	7:43 PM / 8:28 PM
August 25/26	7:33 PM / 8:18 PM

Tish'a B'Av The Ninth of Av

On this day we commemorate the destruction of the Temples and other tragedies of Jewish history.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

8:00 PM *Minha* service followed by *Ma'ariv* and chanting of *Eikha/Lamentations*

THURSDAY, JULY 27

7:15 AM *Shaharit*
2:00 PM *Minha*
8:00 PM *Ma'ariv*

Fast ends at 8:57 PM

UPCOMING SCROLL SCHEDULE 2023

High Holidays/Sukkot Issue
(September–mid-October)
Received by August 21

Fall Issue
(mid-October–mid-November)
Received by October 10

Hanukkah Issue
(mid-November–December)
Received by November 15

You can always visit
www.bnaiisraelcong.org/calendar
for a full listing of upcoming events.



EARLY CHILDHOOD

by RACHEL SIEGEL
Early Childhood Director

Happy Summer! The end of the school year is always bittersweet, but luckily we always have the B'nai Israel Schilit Nursery School Camp.



BISNS Camp is underway, and we love having fun in the sun with our all our friends! Each summer, camp looks much like our school program, but with more outside time, water play, and special Shabbat Fridays!

Prior to the end of the school year, we celebrated our Siyyum for the 2022–2023 school year which celebrated 22 of our children and all their accomplishments, experiences, growth, discoveries, friendships, tears, laughter, bravery, learning and love here at BISNS whether it be four years, three years, or two years.

Here is a special peek into our celebration. Special thanks to Marion Haberman for sharing her photography skills with us!



We have limited spaces for the 3's and 4's for the 2023–2024 school year. Please be sure to reach out to Rachel Siegel, Early Childhood Director at rachels@bnaiisraelcong.org to inquire about availability!



YOUTH & EDUCATION

by **RABBI CHERYL STONE**
Assistant Rabbi/
Chief Education Officer

Tisha B'Av to Tu
B'Av—From Great
Sadness Comes
Great Joy



Psalms 30:12

הַפֶּכֶת מִסִּפְדִּי לְמַחֹל לִי פִתְחָה שְׂקִי וְנִאֲדָרְנִי
שְׂמֵחָה

You have turned my sadness into a joyful dance; you have taken away my sorrow and surrounded me with joy.

In the Jewish calendar, summer can feel less eventful than the rest of the year. Shavuot has just passed, and we haven't quite worked up to full steam of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot. But there are two holidays that happen in quick succession right in the middle of this time; Tisha B'Av and Tu B'Av.

At first glance, it may appear that these two holidays bear no relationship towards one another. Tisha B'Av (the 9th day of the Hebrew month of Av) is the commemoration of the destruction of Solomon's Temple (586 BCE) and the Second Temple (70 CE) in Jerusalem. These two events have had such a profound impact on the Jewish psyche that all other tragedies, be it the expulsion from England or Spain to the Holocaust are said to be connected to this same date. This holy day is observed with rituals that are akin to what one would expect of those in mourning, such as fasting, sitting on the floor and chanting in somber tones, in this case from *Eicha*, the *Book of Lamentations*. Less than a week later, Tu B'Av (the 15th

of the same month) seems like the very antithesis of Tisha B'Av. As opposed to the deep mourning of our suffering and loss, we are celebrating with gusto the joy of love. In the Mishnah, it is said that on this date maidens would dress in white and go out into the vineyards where they would meet their future spouses. In today's world, this date is often chosen for weddings because of its romantic significance.

How can it be that two holidays so ostensibly disconnected can be in such close proximity? In truth, these two holidays are intertwined. Just as at a Jewish wedding we temper our joy by breaking a glass, thus remembering the destruction of the *Beit HaMikdash*, Holy Temple, so too, the Temple will not be rebuilt until we publicly proclaim our love for each other.¹

One can often get caught up in one's pain. But, says Judaism, that is not how we are to live our lives. Our sorrows are there to teach us. For example, it is only through a space of vulnerability, that of a broken heart, that we can truly love another. Conversely, others of us try to hide from life's hardships, feigning bliss at all costs. If we did not experience suffering, joy would lose its value. Both are vital to what it means to be human, one informing the other. "And is not the lute that soothes your spirit, the very wood that was hollowed with knives?"²

Jews sometimes get a bad rap as pessimists. Not true. There is a strong optimistic pull within our religion. Although sadness and joy are necessary pieces of a spiritually fulfilling life, we believe that from tragedy will come hope. Furthermore, we are pragmatists. It is not enough to wait for the pendulum to swing on its own from despair to delight, we must be active and seek ways to bring more love into our lives, to support one another, and to grow *ahavat chinam*, our ability to love. As Rebbi Nachman of Breslov said, "Joy is not incidental to a spiritual quest. It is vital."

As we travel along the highs and lows of holy days of this summer and the seasons of our lives, may we remember to appreciate the lessons that each brings us, savoring the joy just a bit more than the sorrow.



¹ Mishnah Ta'anit 4:8 "Go forth, daughters of Zion, and gaze upon King Solomon, upon the crown with which his mother crowned him on the day of his wedding, and on the day of the gladness of his heart" (Song of Songs 3:11). "On the day of his wedding"; this is the giving of the Torah "And on the day of the gladness of his heart"; this is the building of the Temple.

² *On Joy and Sorrow* Kahlil Gibran

GOLD KIPPAH HONOR SOCIEY

Mazal tov to the following students who have demonstrated their mastery of the required *t'fillot* (prayers) to reach:

BLUE

Julia Chernicoff-Bolts
Emmet Miserendino
Gabriella Margolis
Zackariah Margolis
Isaac Silver
Blake Tennen

BRONZE

Rose Kane
Gabriella Margolis
Zackariah Margolis
Emma Willcher

SILVER

Gabriella Margolis
Zackariah Margolis
Isaac Silver
Levi Schilit
Emma Willcher



YOUTH EXPERIENCES

by Mayer Adelberg
Director of Youth Engagement

It is with mixed feelings that I share of my departure from B'nai Israel. Working as the Director of Youth Engagement here has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life, and this year was full of fantastic events, amazing learning opportunities, and all your wonderful children. I truly enjoyed my time working with the youth at Bonim, Machar, Gesher, and Teen events, on Shabbat during Family Minyan and Teen Minyan, during Talmud Torah with our *madrichim* and sixth graders, and in the community, and I feel overjoyed to have been part of this incredible synagogue community. B'nai Israel and our youth has brought me such warmth, and it's been an honor and privilege to work here. I want to give immense thanks to all for welcoming me in and allowing me the opportunity to be a Jewish mentor to our children.

I recognized this year that my truest self is as a filmmaker, and so I will be returning to Northern California to pursue this passion full-time. I look forward to remaining in touch as I embark on this next chapter of my life. Feel free to connect through my personal email (mayeradelberg@gmail.com) or on my social media (Instagram @mayer.ad). Most of all, I wish you all the best with the incoming Youth Department Coordinator, who I know will do an amazing job!



Get to know your New Youth Coordinator



LILY POLLACK

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Rockville and right here at B'nai Israel! This is a dream job for me.

What are you most excited about in your new position?

I am excited that this position allows me to interact with children of all ages and ensure that their connection to Judaism is positive and strong. We have lots of wonderful times ahead!

What's your dream vacation spot?

Anywhere that is warm and sunny!

What is your favorite food?

Cheesecake, hands down.

What is your favorite color?

Green, every shade except olive.

When do you get started?

I officially start in mid-July and we have an exciting Fall schedule being planned to kick off a great season of youth events and programs. Stay tuned and can't wait to see everyone soon!

Contact Lily at
lilyp@bnaiisraelcong.org

SISTERHOOD JUDAICA SHOP

Summer is a busy time filled with many happy occasions: engagements, weddings, graduations and parties. Come check out the many beautiful gift options we have at your Judaica Shop.



Summer Shop Hours (through July 26)

Tuesdays 10:00 AM-12:30 PM
Wednesdays 10:00 AM-12:30 PM

August hours are by appointment only
(bnaijudaica@gmail.com or 301-770-7577).

If you are planning a *simha*, don't forget that you can order your kippot and benchers through your Judaica Shop.

Contact Suzy Levy (301-460-9636). She will be happy to help.



FOR ALL YOUR JUDAICA NEEDS

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/youthprograms

• • • END OF THE PROGRAM Y

B'nai Israel Congregational Shabbaton

May 12-14 at Pearlstone Retreat Center



Hineini Annual Campaign Thank You Reception & Annual Meeting



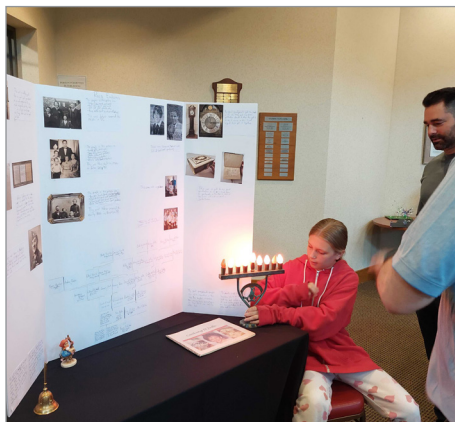
YEAR PHOTO ROUND-UP • • •

5th & 6th Grade Kallah

March 10-12
at Pearlstone Retreat Center



Lessans Talmud Torah



Schilit Nursery School





BLUMBERG-ZALIS FAMILY LIBRARY

by JILL GENDELMAN
Librarian

Happy Summer! Get a head start on next year's B'nai Israel book discussion group as some of the selected reading below will be selected for next year's discussions. Read and enjoy!

***Signal Fires* by Dani Shapiro**

Late on a summer night in 1985, three teenagers are in a tragic car crash on the quiet, suburban Division Avenue. Years later the families' fates are once again entwined setting in motion the spellbinding, unforgettable climax.

***Cradles of the Reich* by Jennifer Coburn**

At a Nazi sanctioned maternity home in Bavaria, three women's fates are irrevocably intertwined. Based on untold historical events, this novel brings us intimately inside the women's homes that actually existed in several countries during World War II, when thousands of babies were taken from their mothers to be raised as part of the new Germany.

***Sadness Is a White Bird* by Moriel Rothman-Zecher (A 2018 National Jewish Book Award Finalist for Debut Fiction)** - In this lyrical and searing novel, a young man is preparing to serve in the Israeli army while also trying to reconcile his close relationship to two Palestinian siblings with his deeply ingrained loyalties to family and country. The story begins in an Israeli military jail, where—four days after his nineteenth birthday—Jonathan stares up at the fluorescent lights of his cell and recalls the series of events that led him there.

***A Small Sacrifice for Enormous Happiness* by Jai Charkrabarti**

From the National Jewish Book Award-winning author comes, fourteen masterful stories that cross continents, cultures, borders, religions, and race to explore what it means to cultivate a family today; showcasing the skill of a storyteller who dazzles with the breadth of his vision.

Impossible Takes Longer: 75 Years After Its Creation, Has Israel Fulfilled Its Founders' by Daniel Gordis and Rob Shapiro

On Israel's seventy-fifth anniversary comes a nuanced examination of the country's past, present, and future. Israel's founders had much more in mind than the creation of a state. Gordis provides a thorough, balanced perspective on how the Israel of today exceeds the country's original aspirations and how it has fallen short, never-the-less, suggesting that the success is far beyond anything its founders could have imagined.

***Palestine 1936: The Great Revolt of the Middle East Conflict* by Oren Kessler**

A gripping, profoundly human, yet even-handed narrative of the origins of the Middle East conflict. In spring 1936, the Holy Land erupted in a rebellion that targeted both the local Jewish community and the British Mandate authorities that for two decades had midwived the Zionist project. The Great Arab Revolt would last three years, cost thousands of lives—Jewish, British, and Arab—and cast the trajectory for the Middle East conflict ever since. Today, eight decades on, the revolt's legacy endures. Palestine 1936 reveals world-changing events through extraordinary individuals on all sides: their loves and their hatreds, their deepest fears and profoundest hopes.

***The Origins of Judaism: An Archaeological-Historical Reappraisal* by Yonatan Adler**

Throughout much of history, the Jewish way of life has been characterized by strict adherence to the practices and prohibitions legislated by the Torah. In this revolutionary new study, Adler methodically engages ancient texts and archaeological discoveries to reveal the earliest evidence of Torah observance among ordinary Judeans transforming much of what we thought we knew about the genesis of Judaism.

SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS ARE BY APPOINTMENT.

Contact Jill at
bnailibrary@bnaiisrael.cong.org.

The Blumberg-Zalis Family Library was awarded the **Advanced Accreditation Degree** by the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) in June 2014* and again in June 2019*.

**This award is for a five-year time period.*

Support B'nai Israel's PROJECT MANNA

Urgently Needed Food Items
(though we take all nonperishable food items)

- Instant Oatmeal Packets (Original Flavor)
- Brown Rice
- Whole Grain Pasta
- Tuna/Salmon/Chicken (in Water)
- Dry/Canned Beans (Low Sodium)
- Natural Nut Butters
- Canned Vegetables (Low Sodium)
- Canned Fruit (in Juice)
- Fruit Cups
- Shelf-stable Individual Milk Boxes
- Cooking Oils & Spices



Thank you for your commitment to this life-giving mitzvah! All food items will be directed to the Manna Food Center.

**There is ALWAYS
something happening
at B'nai Israel!**

STAY CONNECTED

If you are not receiving our electronic connections, please send your email address to
laurie@bnaiisraelcong.org.

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/library

SISTERHOOD



2023-2024

Sisterhood Membership Registration

Be on the lookout for mail from us!

Flowers for Rosh Hashanah

Stay connected with family and friends by sending a beautiful arrangement of fresh flowers for their Rosh Hashanah table. \$70 for local delivery, \$75 for out-of-area delivery. Orders must be received by Tuesday, September 5 for delivery before Rosh Hashanah. Questions? Contact Linda Heller (hellerbehr@gmail.com, 240-462-1108).

Meals for Interfaith Works Women's Shelter

Sundays, July 23 and August 20
See page 16 for details.

Drop-in Mah Jongg

We're meeting through the summer. Mondays from 10:00 AM–12:00 PM (when the building is open). Questions? Sue Edwards (suzied25@gmail.com) or Beverly Markowitz (beverly.markowitz@yahoo.com).

Judaica Shop Summer Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00 AM–12:30 PM until July 26. August by appointment only. (301-770-7577, bnaijudaica@gmail.com).

Personalized Kippot and Benchers

Have an upcoming *simha*? Contact Suzy Levy (301-460-9636) to order for your event.

Washington Jewish Week

Subscribe or renew through Sisterhood. *Washington Jewish Week* subscriptions are \$55 for one year and \$100 for two years (for seniors 55+, \$42 and \$76). Contact Cheryl Rod for more information (cherylrod234@gmail.com).

Meals on Wheels

Sisterhood volunteers deliver kosher Meals on Wheels every Friday morning. To become involved, contact Alice Harris (alicemetrobug@gmail.com) or Diane Boehr (dboehr@comcast.net).

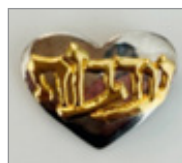
Blanket Making Project

B'nai Israel Sisterhood supports the MCAFCE Blanket Making Project. FCE volunteers gather monthly at their “crafting bee” at the Agricultural History Farm Park in Derwood, MD, to *schmooze* and sew, knit, and crochet. For more information about donation specifications or MCAFCE, contact Juliann Goldman (juliann.goldman@yahoo.com).



“Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh Ba'Zeh” Our 2023-2024 Campaign

*All of the people of
Israel are responsible
for one another*



Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we help committed Jewish students become rabbis, cantors, educators, synagogue administrators, social workers, scholars, researchers, and lay leaders of tomorrow.

When you support Torah Fund, you help educate students in New York, Los Angeles, Israel, Latin America, and Europe. You align with those who value learning, knowledge, and providing the future generation with relevant skills to fortify the Jewish people and Conservative/Masorti Judaism.

Please plan to support Torah Fund in this coming campaign. To donate online visit: inspired.jtsa.edu/torahfund or send a check made out to “Torah Fund” to Sue Taffet, 14402 Nadine Drive, Rockville MD 20853.

THANK YOU for your continued support!

HONEY FROM THE HEART

Sisterhood Fundraiser



What better way to wish family, friends, and business associates a “Sweet and Healthy New Year” than sending a jar of honey?

Each Honey from the Heart gift contains an 8 oz. jar of pure clover honey, certified kosher by the Orthodox Union. It is accompanied by a personalized gift card reading “L'Shana Tova – Wishing You a Healthy and Happy New Year” and is delivered in time for Rosh Hashanah. The card also lets the recipient know that a donation to B'nai Israel Sisterhood has been made in their honor.

The \$14 cost per jar includes free domestic shipping for orders placed by Tuesday, August 1. After August 1, there is an additional \$7 for late shipping. Orders received by August 25 are guaranteed delivery for Rosh Hashanah.

To place an order, go to www.honeyfromtheheart.org/ROC. For more information or assistance, contact Debra Fredman (301-231-4866, jnfpntent@msn.com).

MEN'S CLUB

Service to B'nai Israel & Community Strengthening Jewish Values

As we pause for the summer, here are a few recent highlights.

With the help of our *shlich*a, Uriel Lin, we welcomed author Oren Kessler to talk about his book on the 1936 Palestine revolt. He brought copies of his book to sell and autograph.

Rabbi Safra sat down with our co-president, Jonathan Salant, to discuss the civil rights tour of the South that he and other rabbis went on earlier this year. The rabbi is planning a similar tour for synagogue members.

We had four of the five clergy members at our Jews and Brews events, with Rabbi Berkowitz headlining the final session and talking about the future of the Conservative movement. For the first time, two of our four guests were women—Cantor Bolts and Rabbi Stone.

And we honored our immediate past president, Lewis Gertz, with our Man of the Year award at the annual breakfast of the Seaboard Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. Lew didn't have to travel very far to get the award. The breakfast was held at B'nai Israel and attracted some 250 attendees. A big thank you to the staff of B'nai Israel who did terrific work making sure the event went off as well as it did.



Jonathan Salant & Alan Isenberg
Men's Club Co-Presidents

We will resume programming in September. Among the planned activities:

- A fall kickoff at the 7 Locks Brewery in Rockville, where the Men's Club will pay for the first drink and cheese pizza.
- Our award-winning health fair in October, part of Health Awareness Month.
- A tour of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, with an emphasis on Jewish themes.
- A dinner and candle lighting to celebrate Chankuah co-sponsored with the Sisterhood.
- And of course another round of our Jews and Brews events with members of the B'nai clergy.
- A look at the Political Year in Review with B'nai member David Becker, executive director and founder of the Center for Election Innovation and Research, and Men's Club co-president Jonathan Salant, a veteran Washington political reporter who was just inducted into the Society of Professional Journalists D.C. pro chapter's Journalism Hall of Fame. The program is scheduled for November, a year before the 2024 presidential election.

Enjoy the summer. As The Happenings once sung, "See you in September."

SOCIAL ACTION



Mazal Tov to Haley and Spencer Robinson who as part of their B'nai Mitzvah Project, collected over 70 items (new bathrobes, blankets, and slippers) for the Interfaith Works Women's Shelter.

Meals for Interfaith Works Women's Shelter

Sunday, July 23
11:30 AM (Crabbs Branch)
and
Sunday, August 20
11:30 AM (Taft Court)

B'nai Israel will be providing meals for the residents Interfaith Works Women's Shelters. We need your help in supplying various parts of the meal. The meal items can be purchased or prepared in your home. There will be various options to drop-off your items. The meal items should serve 6–8 people and be in disposable pans.

For more information, contact Signe Wetrogan (signe0420@verizon.net), Randi Poli (randipoli@gmail.com), or Wayne Berman (wayneb4me@aol.com).

SAVE THE DATE

Rosh Hashanah Package Delivery

Sunday, September 10
9:30 AM–12:00 PM

Help B'nai Israel Deliver Rosh Hashanah Packages to Senior Residents in the Rockville area. Volunteers meet in the B'nai Israel parking lot at 9:30 AM to receive packages and names and addresses of the recipients. In the past, volunteers delivered 4 to 6 packages. For information, contact Signe Wetrogan (signe0420@verizon.net).

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/mensclub

IN SYMPATHY

זכרונם לברכה

B'nai Israel Congregation mourns the loss of our beloved member:

MARLYN HEISERMAN

B'nai Israel Congregation extends sympathies to our members in mourning:

Rhona Longman and Robb Longman on the loss of their mother and grandmother, **Sylvia Davis**.

Michael Heiserman on the loss of his wife, **Marlyn Heiserman**.

Roman Levit on the loss of his father, **Michael Levit**.

Sara and Barry Marcus on the loss of their daughter, **Paula Marcus Neal**.

Eric Eisenstein on the loss of his sister, **Pamela "Penny" Volk**.

B'nai Israel Cemetery Sunday Hours

Our cemetery at Oxon Hill will be open for visitors on July 2 and August 6 from 9:00 AM–2:00 PM. No appointment is necessary.

*"For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose...
...a time to be born, and a time to die..."*

B'NAI ISRAEL CEMETERIES

B'nai Israel Congregation maintains three attractive cemetery locations.

B'nai Israel Historic Cemetery
Oxon Hill, Maryland

Judean Memorial Gardens
Olney, Maryland

**Garden of Remembrance
Memorial Park**
Clarksburg, Maryland

For information, please contact our executive director, Hal Ossman at the synagogue office (301-816-5563, hossman@bnaiisraelcong.org).

Opportunities to Memorialize and Honor Your Loved Ones

Our beautiful Synagogue provides many meaningful opportunities to arrange dedications *in memory of* or *in honor of* loved ones. Memorial plaques, endowments, scholarships, capital gifts, fine arts, and educational programs are among the possibilities available at B'nai Israel Congregation.

For further information, please contact Allison Karasik (240-221-2507, allison@bnaiisraelcong.org).

CREATE A JEWISH LEGACY

We are all touched by
B'nai Israel.

It makes a difference in our lives. And it is our endeavor to ensure that it makes a difference in our community for many years to come.

As our parents planted for us, let us sow the seeds that will make a difference for our children and grandchildren.

—Talmud Ta'anit 23a

CREATE YOUR JEWISH LEGACY

www.jewishlegacygw.org

As we celebrate our successes, we are grateful for the commitment and generosity of those who came before us. Dues and annual donations do not provide sufficient resources for all we must do to sustain Jewish life at B'nai Israel. And so we invite and encourage you to create your own legacy.

It is so easy to make a planned gift or bequest through B'nai Israel's Create a Jewish Legacy Program. Simply include B'nai Israel in your estate planning as a beneficiary in your will, under your retirement plan or life insurance policy. It carries no financial obligation in the present, but it will have a huge and lasting impact on our future.

Avery Sudow
Development Director
301-816-5569
avery@bnaiisraelcong.org

July Anniversaries

Kenny and Janis Lefkowitz – 1
 Mitchell and Stefanie Rishty – 1
 David and Rachel Weinstein – 1
 Rob and Bonnie Altneu – 2
 Don Amodeo and Ilana Jolson – 2
 Corey and Sharone Cines – 2
 Jonathan and Shoshana Fliegel – 2
 Fred and Stefanie Langsam – 2
 Albert Schmelzer and Tirza Covel – 2
 Ariel and Jennifer Lavinbuk – 3
 Josh and Leah Lipsky – 3
 Victor Schneider and Wilma Braun – 3
 Kevin and Laurie Brodsky – 3
 Lawrence and Allee Burka – 4
 David and Shelly Freishtat – 4
 Bob Kaplan and Mona Chase – 4
 David and Marilyn Levine – 4
 Stewart Mader and Amy Sommer – 5
 Hal and Rachel Ossman – 5
 David and Pam Rothenstein – 5
 Matthew and Sara Glick – 6
 Richard and Linda Rosenbluth – 6
 Dean and Natalie Levitan – 7
 Richard and Barbara Daumit – 8
 Noah and Alicia Gottesman – 9
 Michael Chernicoff and Sarah Bolts – 10
 Seth Edlavitch and Melissa Segal – 10
 Paul and Vicki Goldberg – 10
 Stephen Kitt and Elyse Carmen – 10
 Brian and Julie Barke – 11
 Ezra and Abby Cohen – 11
 Paul Foldi and Bonnie Glick – 11
 Scott and Erica Goldberg – 12
 Robert and Barbara Phillips – 12
 Joel and Pam Zingesser – 12
 Darren and Melissa Ash – 13
 Joseph and Elaine Potosky – 16
 Richard and Beth Sheer – 16
 Tyler and Jamie Carlin – 18
 Bruce and Karen Main – 18
 Bill and Ruth Oshinsky – 18
 Steven and Elaine Keller – 20
 Noel and Devon Kesterman – 20
 Nimrod and Hannah Levy – 20
 Michael and Sharon Safra – 20
 Jason and Jessica Neuringer – 21
 David Streeter and Hillary Cohen – 21
 Steven and Rachel Pet – 23
 John and Tracy Shefferman – 23
 Aaron Oser and Liz Lauren-Oser – 25
 Alan and Lisa Isenberg – 27
 Barry and Sara Marcus – 30
 Peter and Deede Schaumberg – 30
 Bruce and Robin Bortnick – 31
 Stanley and Joanne Milobsky – 31
 Brian and Marni Zweig – 31

August Anniversaries

David and Stacy Schlactus – 1
 David and June Trone – 1
 Jeff and Anne Abend – 2
 David Tannenbaum and Maggie Xu – 2
 Donald and Carol Tender – 2
 Ed and Bonnie Belkin – 3
 Ira and Terri Cohen – 3
 Jeffrey and Yvonne Distenfeld – 3
 Matt and Jennifer Mandel – 3
 Daniel Kohn and Emily Ruda – 4
 Larry Fishbein and Kathleen Watson – 4
 Ted and Harriet Fredman – 4
 Stanley and Carol Goldman – 4
 Jared and Reyna Farber – 5
 Michael and Ellie Flyer – 5
 Nicholas and Deborah Rodin – 5
 Jed Weiner and Veronique Nussenblatt – 5
 Jake and Ellen Rothmel – 6
 Larry and Bobbi Shulman – 6
 Chet and Rita Stein – 6
 Irwin and Leslie Altschuler – 7
 Mike and Debbi Herbst – 8
 Avi Meyerstein and Dana Lande – 8
 Neil and Yolanda Moyer – 8
 Barry and Amy Schneider – 8
 Jason and Jaime Froehlich – 9
 Michael and Eleanor Goode – 9
 Yair Inspektor and Amanda Stone – 9
 Jeffrey and Irena Lavine – 9
 Shaya and Beverly Markowitz – 9
 Brian and Marisa Michnick – 9
 Jimmy Vainstein and Diana Mayer – 9
 Elliot and Paula Aleskow – 10
 Harry and Arlene Gildenhorn – 10
 Steve and Lois Gutmann – 10
 Allan and Barbara Hoberman – 10
 Steven and Stacy Kahn – 10
 Scott and Robin Koenig – 10
 David and Ellen Ginsberg – 11
 Evan and Judy Novenstein – 11
 Aaron and Alisa Rulnick – 11
 Steve and Susan Zweig – 11
 Kevin Bradford and
 Shira Selis-Bradford – 12
 Mark Ellenberg and
 Nancy Abramowitz – 12
 Joshua and Rena Kramer – 12
 Ron and Wilma Lenkin – 12
 David Levin and Norda Kittrie – 12
 Hugh and Carol April – 13
 Alan and Debby Berger – 14
 Ken Brown and Juliann Goldman – 14
 Alan and Marjory Siegel – 14
 Kamran and Susan Azhdam – 15
 Bruce and Marcia Kay – 15
 Daniel Lacoretz and Jill Furman – 15

Scott Miserendino and
 Rebecca Adler Miserendino – 15
 Kevin and Alexis Tinsley – 15
 Tom and Barbie Gluck – 16
 Ben and Amy Margolis – 16
 Fredric and Laura Messing – 16
 Bob and Lesley Gasperow – 17
 Adam and Dana Goldberg – 17
 Lowell and Micki Gordon – 17
 Stephen and Andra Metz – 17
 Howard and Carol Nelson – 17
 Mark and Marilyn Wetterhahn – 17
 Harold and Joan Krauthamer – 18
 David and Linda Richin – 18
 Jeff and Stephanie Zweig – 18
 Stuart and Tobi Bassin – 19
 Charles and Lois Price – 19
 Ted Avraham and Frida Belinky – 20
 Daniel and Alisa Berger – 20
 Joel and Jane Lubin – 20
 Sidney and Marsha Tishler – 20
 Howard and Carol Chalker – 21
 Sheldon and Denise Iskow – 21
 Herbert and Brenda Jacobson – 21
 Eric Luftman and Elise Kleinwaks – 21
 Nicholas and Jo-Anne Fleischer – 22
 Erik and Marjorie Kane – 22
 Allan and Leah Zendel – 22
 Sheldon and Miriam Tommer – 23
 David and Penny Doman – 24
 David and Natasha Hurwitz – 24
 Jeffrey and Linda Reisner – 24
 Marty and Harriet Feldman – 25
 Ivan and Stephanie Nalibotsky – 26
 Mark and Zsuzsanna Zetlin – 26
 Larry and Judy Berg – 27
 Joshua and Rachel Dhyani – 27
 Barry and Carole Forman – 27
 Leon and Signe Wetrogan – 27
 Mitch and Janet Arnowitz – 28
 Mitchell Berkowitz and
 Rebecca Ravski – 28
 Gil and Tammy Cohn – 28
 Morris and Kathy Dweck – 29
 Rand and Julie Fishbein – 29
 Marc and Susan Levine – 29
 Arthur and Gail Nimetz – 30
 Jeremy and Lexi Robbins – 30
 Scott and Jodi Cohen – 31
 Roman and Michelle Levit – 31
 Daniel Mehlman and Michelle Finkel – 31
 Abe and Barbara Osofsky – 31
 Jason and Sharon Rosenthal – 31
 Craig and Amy Strent – 31
 Matt and Jenni Weinstein – 31

and Mazal Tov to ...

Allison and Andrew Friedman on the birth of their son, Dylan James Friedman.

Karin Bleeg and Frank Dana on the birth of their daughter, Aviva Elizabeth Dana.

Yvonne Schlafstein Distenfeld and Jeff Distenfeld on the birth of their grandson, Milo Rocky Chapman. And *mazal tov* to the proud parents, Shelby Distenfeld and Evan Chapman.

Marni and Eli Meloul on the birth of their grandson, Lavi Shimon Ben Arie. And *mazal tov* to the proud parents, Maital and Yaakov Ben Arie.

Karen and Rabbi Jim Michaels on the birth of their granddaughter, Naomi Rachel Michaels. And *mazal tov* to Tetiana and Marnin Michaels.

Sharlene and Al Klotz on the birth of their great granddaughter, Olivia Tyler Franklin. And *mazal tov* to the proud parents, Asha and Tyler Franklin.



In Search of B'nai Israel Historic Photos!

B'nai Israel will be celebrating 100 years before too long. The Fine Arts Committee is working to display the history of B'nai Israel, and would love to copy (and return the originals) old photos that you may have.

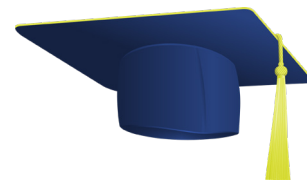
Confirmation Photos

Looking for years prior to 1954
Looking for 1958, 1959, 1964, 1970,
1972-1982, 1994-2001

Please contact Randy Sager
(randysager@gmail.com).

Mazal Tov to Our 2023 High School Graduates!

We wish them every success as they begin their next journey.



Jason Altneu
Gabrielle Barke
Jonah Bassin
Eli Bull
Ethan Bull
Maia Byala
Lilah Cohen

Sam Diewald
Aaron Fenster
Jacob Getlan
Ethan Goldstein
Lillie Gritz
Elianna Hart
Zachary Jager
Kyley Kaplan
Lizzie Kotlove
Lucas Leichter
Ethan Lenkin
Tsvi Margolis
Daniel McFeeters
Danielle Nadelman
Samantha Oblon
Avery Schiff
Elyssa Shenker
Oliver Strent
Ryan Weiner
Rae Weinstein
Zoe Weiss
Jamie Zweig

University of Maryland
University of Maryland
Michigan State University
University of Maryland
University of Washington
University of Maryland
Habonim Dror Workshop Gap Year
and University of Maryland
Towson University
Indiana University
University of Wisconsin
University of South Carolina
Montgomery College
Tulane University (after gap year)
Tufts University
University of Maryland
University of Maryland
Towson University
Tulane University
Dartmouth College
Local 5 Plumbing Training Center
University of Wisconsin
Tulane University
Syracuse University
Marymount Manhattan College
Rollins College
University of Virginia
University of Florida
Arizona State University
Indiana University

B'NAI ISRAEL COLLEGE CONNECTION!

If you are a college student or the parent of one,
sign up for College Connection today.
Packages have included Starbucks gift cards, holiday gifts,
candy, and more. Don't miss out!

www.bnaiisraelcong.org/collegeconnection

B'nai Israel Congregation deeply appreciates all contributions directed to the various funds of our congregation.

DONATIONS



Due to increased printing and labor costs:

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In Honor Of:

Penina Alexander. It has been an honor to teach with you as our principal by Susan Kramer

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Rabbi Michael Safra with heartfelt thanks and appreciation for calling me to wish me a Guten Yom Tov on Erev Passover by Marshall Lewis, DTM

In Celebration Of:

Harvey Stein on the 70th anniversary of his bar mitzvah by Linda and Jeff Reisner

In Honor Of:

Cantor Bolts with my sincere appreciation for her beautiful periodic selection and chanting of Jewish songs after completing all the respective Torah readings on Shabbos by Marshall Lewis, DTM

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Our grandson Jack Goldberg and Grandparents Day by BB and Poppop Kathrins
Karen Gerton's fabulous years of leadership by Nancy Robins
Karen Gerton's 32 years at B'nai and the many, many gifts she has bestowed upon all of us by Stacy, Dwayne, and Logan Frazier

In Honor Of:

Karen Gerton's 32 years of dedication to the Schilit Nursery School by Paula Pascal Levine
Karen Gerton and in celebration of her 32 years leading B'nai's nursery school by Eileen, Jenna, and Adam Shatzman

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Mark Corbman by Lisa and Evan Jacobson
Louisa Noble by Rita and Chet Stein

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The birth of Henry Fleishman Fanaroff by the Troops, the Little Troops, and the Wee Troops
The bat mitzvah of Sunny Polsky's granddaughter by the Troops, the Little Troops, and the Wee Troops
The birth of Brooks Mason Fanaroff by the Troops, the Little Troops, and the Wee Troops
Brent Ain with wishes for continued good health by Wendy Fanaroff

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Rabbi Berkowitz's beloved grandfather and great-grandfather by Wendy Fanaroff
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Charlotte Jawitz, beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother to Vicki Goldman and family by Wendy Fanaroff

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In Appreciation Of:

Cantor Josh for arranging for a special morning minyan breakfast on Sunday, April 23 for my mom, Mrs. Bessie Cardash Lewis' yahrzeit, by her son, Marshall C. Lewis, DTM
Jeff Fenster, Esq., wishing him continued professional and personal success in his select chosen legal field by his friend, Marshall Lewis, DTM, Distinguished Toastmaster
Assistant Rabbi Cheryl Stone for her first-class and awe-inspiring Shabbos Pesach Droscha on Saturday, April 8 by Marshall C. Lewis, DTM
Cantor Josh and Sherri Gollins who graciously surprised me on the Passover holiday with special Passover Haddar pressed pretzels by Marshall C. Lewis, DTM

In Honor Of:

Linda Heller for going above and beyond her role in compiling and ordering Passover flowers for B'nai Israel congregants by Marshall C. Lewis, DTM
Rabbi Michael Safra for delivering his inspiring and touching prelude before Yizkor and greatly influencing my personal Yizkor prayers with special meaning on the last day of Passover by Marshall C. Lewis, DTM
Rabbi Michael Safra and Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz who profoundly, succinctly, and quite eloquently always come prepared with crisp, fresh, special touching human insights before reciting our special, personal, Yizkor prayers by Marshall C. Lewis, DTM
My mom, Bessie C. Lewis of blessed memory who gave me daily confidence, always provided me with emotional support, served as a perfect ideal role model, and lovingly instilled in my heart and soul that the correct soft kind words can start a new relationship in life by Marshall C. Lewis, DTM

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The marriage of Ezekiel and Joni Simon by Cindy and Glenn Easton

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Rabbi Berkowitz for assistance with the funeral of Sidney Wertz by Ira and Susan Jaffe
Rabbi Safra and Rabbi Berkowitz for officiating and preparing Lila Ziman for her bat mitzvah by Lesley and Andrew Ziman

In Memory Of:

Rabbi Berkowitz's grandfather by Don and Carol Vogel
David Waldman, grandfather of Rabbi Mitchell Berkowitz by Linda and Jeff Reisner

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Marcia and Jules Levine celebrating many special occasions by Barbara and Richard Daumit
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Charles Pascal by Susan and Marc Levine

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Marcia Levine's special birthday Jules Levine's special birthday, and Marcia and Jules Levine's 58th wedding anniversary by Sharon Seidel and Steve Moss

In Honor Of:

Harvey Stein's 70th anniversary of his bar mitzvah by Harriet and Ted Fredman

The birthdays of Marcia and Jules Levine and their 58th wedding anniversary by Signe and Leon Wetrogan

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Cantor Bolts for her kindness and support during the mourning period of my father, Jerry Klotzman by Barbara and Andy Halpern

Cantor Bolts for teaching and supporting Lila Ziman in preparation for her bat mitzvah by Lesley and Andrew Ziman

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In Appreciation Of:

Rabbi Safra for his kindness and support during the mourning period of my father, Jerry Klotzman by Barbara and Andy Halpern

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In Memory Of:

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Lloyd Needle, beloved husband, father, and grandfather by Hanna Lee Pomerantz

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