

Beth Tikvah
B'nai Jeshurun

בית תקווה בני ישורון

SUMMER 2021
Tammuz - Av 5781

BTBJ...Where You Belong! *The Ruach!*

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JUNE and JULY CALENDAR EVENTS

JUNE 2021 EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1	ECC Last Day BTBJ U 7pm Adult Trope 7:30 pm	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Minyan 10:00 am		Confirmation Rehearsal & Dinner 6:30 pm	Adult Trope Class 7:30 pm	Minyan 10:00 am Beginner's Hebrew 10:45 pm Daf Yomi 7:00 pm	Pride Shabbat Service 6:30 pm	Services 10:00 am	Services 10:00 am Services 5:00 pm Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Benish
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Minyan 10:00 am Confirmation Services 10:00 am	Mussar Class 7:00 pm	BTBJ U 7:00 pm	Daf Yomi 7:00 pm	Minyan 10:00 am Board Meeting 7:30 pm		Special Adult Trope Services 10:00 am	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
Minyan 10:00 am Happy Father's Day	First Day ECC Camp			Minyan 10:00 am Beginner's Hebrew 10:45 am Daf Yomi 7:00 pm		Services 10:00 am	
27	28	29	30				
Minyan 10:00 am	Mussar Class 7:00 pm		Daf Yomi 7:00 pm				

JULY 2021 EVENTS

				1	2	3
				Minyan 10:00 am		Services 10:00 am
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Independence Day				Minyan 10:00 am		Services 10:00 am
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Minyan 10:00 am				Minyan 10:00 am		Services 10:00 am
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Tisha B'Av Services 10:00 am				Minyan 10:00 am		Services 10:00 am
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Minyan 10:00 am				Minyan 10:00 am		Services 10:00 am



“To Fight Age-Old Hatreds, it’s Time for Something New”
“Those who do not learn from the past are bound to repeat it”
-George Santayana

Will humanity ever learn?

From time immemorial people have been battling each other. We have fought with words, actions and weapons. We have scapegoated, blamed others and justified ourselves. Millions have died throughout history at the hands of those who sought power and claimed to represent that which is holy and right. Millions have been slain for what they believed, said, have done and with whom they have associated. Millions have died because simply of who they were and because they were hopelessly in the wrong place at the wrong time.

One may have thought that modernity and the rise in technology and social media would have changed that.

It is argued that the Nazis were able to slaughter 6 million Jews along with 5 million others because “the world didn’t know and even if they did, they would have considered it unbelievable”. At the end of WWII, the world learned and the world knew that the fantastic rumors proved true.

Today, we watch world events in real time on the phones we hold in our hands. Today, we know what people are saying and doing immediately. We witness the venomous spewing of hatred, false claims and attacks on others perceived to be “different than us”. Still, after thousands of years, before our watching eyes, humanity continues to hate, oppress, vilify and kill.

Black people are dying on the streets of America and crying out for justice and equal liberties. Asian Americans are beleaguered because of the pandemic and the lives it has claimed here and across the world. Jews are witnessing another spike in Anti-Semitic rhetoric and violence due to the recent 11-day clash between Israel and the Palestinians in Gaza. Hatred continues to rear its ugly head and claim a multitude of victims on all sides.

Republican representative Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia recently equated the mandates to wear masks with the brutality of the Nazi Holocaust. She said...

We can look back at a time in history where people were told to wear a gold star and they were definitely treated like second class citizens, so much so that they were put in trains and taken to gas chambers in Nazi Germany. And this is exactly the type of abuse that Nancy Pelosi is talking about (concerning the call to wear masks when Pelosi said, ‘We have a responsibility to make sure that the House of Representatives’ chamber is not a petri dish because of the selfishness of some not to be vaccinated’).

The American Jewish Congress responded,

You can never compare health-related restrictions with yellow stars, gas chambers and other Nazi atrocities. Such comparisons demean the Holocaust and contaminate American political speech.”

Democratic representative Bill Pascrell of New Jersey opined,

As Anti-Semitic violence rises it is disgusting that a Republican member of Congress is comparing mask requirements to the Holocaust.

Israeli comedian Tom Aharon criticized John Oliver for his criticism of Israel in the recent Palestinian – Jewish conflict...

Oliver said, “One side has suffered over ten times the casualties, something which speaks to both the severe power imbalance at play here and how that often gets obscured by how we choose to talk about it. While most of the rockets aimed toward Israeli citizens this week were intercepted (by the Iron Dome), Israel’s air strikes were not. They hit their targets including a house in a refugee camp, a building housing the Associated Press and Al Jazeera, and a 13-story office and apartment building. And while Israel insisted that there were military targets in that building and they destroyed it as humanely as possible, even warning people to evacuate it beforehand, destroying a civilian residence sure seems like a war crime. Life in Gaza is hard even when they’re not being bombed, and the US Government has implicitly co-signed on the brutally hard line Israel’s been taking.”

Aharon responded,

I would hope to someday have just a fraction of a white man's confidence when I'm talking about things that happen thousands of miles from where I live. Everyone has a right to criticize Israel, it's OK, I mean, the Holocaust did just happen. Some might even conclude that we're the bad guys, after all, someone's gotta be right? But I also believe that simplifying a complex matter doesn't do justice to either side.

Israeli satirist Lior Schleien added,

Oliver's arguments were like a Hamas missile – not smart, easily intercepted, yet causing Israel a great deal of damage. Not being able to paint an accurate picture is what led us to the Middle East conflict to begin with. I feel sorry for the Palestinian civilians in Gaza but the 'Israel is stronger argument so it's all Israel's fault' is a childish and a narrow perspective.

Just because Israel is stronger doesn't mean it's unjust. It's like you completely forgot the concept of terror. Remember, Israel withdrew from Gaza 16 years ago and there isn't a single Jew there anymore, except for the ones Hamas kidnapped (referring to captured IDF soldiers Avera Mengistu, Oron Shaul and Hadar Goldin, now deceased.

Anti-Semitic violence has occurred again in New York City.

On Thursday, May 20th a 29-year-old Jewish man was attacked in the Diamond District by a group of 5-6 men at 6:30 pm on Broadway near 49th St. As a result, the victim, Joseph Borgen said,

My whole face felt like it was on fire for hours.

Elsewhere in New York, on Saturday May 22, 3 males parked outside a synagogue in Borough Park around 7 pm yelled anti-Jewish statements,

Free Palestine! Kill all the Jews!

They then tried to enter the synagogue but couldn't get inside.

Soon after, a second incident happened on Ocean Parkway in Kensington. Police say 2 teenage men were approached by 2 unidentified males that demanded the victims make anti-Jewish statements. The men physically assaulted the teens, punched and choked them.

Ironically, a Muslim Uber driver drove them to safety.

In major American cities Pro-Palestinian demonstrations have been staged protesting Israeli policies, American support for Israel and voicing solidarity with the beleaguered Palestinian people.

Sadly, all of this speaks to the continuing cycle of violence that occurs when Israelis and Palestinians battle.

Proposed answers to the conflict include the vision of a One-State or Two-State solution. But as long as Hamas continues to dedicate itself to the destruction of Israel and Israel, despite her military superiority lives with the unending fear that her enemies are determined to eradicate the only Jewish homeland in the world, a lasting peace will prove elusive.

As in life, in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, there are no angels and no devils.

I believe it is fruitless for ethnic peoples to compare their suffering. Blacks, Jews, Asians, Muslims, Palestinians, Israelis and all others have suffered throughout history. We carry our pains and the attitudes they have instilled within us. If we really want to end the hatred that is directed our way, we have to strive to end hatred, intolerance, cruelty, bigotry and violence for not just ourselves but for all!!

Many of us are consumed with the injustices that are perpetrated against us, and rightly so. However, it is time for us to consider new approaches and solutions because all the old ones have failed to succeed!

Therefore, let us continue to strive to understand the anguish of others as well as we feel our own suffering. Let us strive to see life and the world through the eyes of another – from the perspective of a black man walking alone late at night on an American street fearing that he will be unjustly stopped by the police, or an Arab woman wearing a hijab fearing for her safety, or a Jew worshipping in a synagogue fearing the outbreak of a violent attack as we witnessed in Pittsburgh on October 27, 2018 that claimed 11 lives. Let us strive to understand how an American Asian might feel being blamed for the pandemic on an American street. We know how persecuted we feel. Are we ready to try to understand what others are experiencing and how we might help each other for the common good?

Until we do, until we are ready to stand up and fight for others like we do for ourselves, the cycle of violence will not end.

I want for all others what I want for myself and for every Jew, American and human being in this world.

I want to live life in freedom with equal access to liberty, justice and equality. I want to live without fear, without being hated for who I am and without being blamed to centuries of injustice. I want my children to dwell in peace with children of all ethnicities and backgrounds regardless of who they are.

I want, as the prophet Amos said,

Let justice roll on like a river and righteousness like a mighty stream!

Our world is filled with hatred, scapegoating, intolerance and violence.

But just because it has always been that way doesn't mean it has to continue.

The age-old cycles of violence and hatred need breaking by people who are willing to envision a new world based on peace for all.

All of us suffer when a fellow human being is vilified, attacked, terrorized and killed simply because of who they are.

All of us will benefit from defending the rights of one and all!

We live in a world where this racial violence is hurting us all.

But as long as we dream the dream and use our power, it doesn't have to be that way.

Not as long as we want to change the world and we believe that we can.

Each of us can promote this dream by how we speak, how we act and how we view each other.

Each of us can contribute to the building of a better world.

Each of us can make a difference and promote harmony instead of discord.

What will we do to promote more peaceful living for all and move beyond hatred, violence and wars?

How far will we go to create the world in which we want to live?

The answer lies within us all.

Summer is almost here! Woo Hoo!

We are happy that the school year came to a close with most of us being physically together. Hebrew School enjoyed a visit from the ice cream truck on the final Sunday of class. Mazel Tov to all the students, especially the Hay class, which had a lovely move up program led by Rabbi Grife and Rabbi Roni. Hopefully we will be seeing many of them back next year as part of the teen program or helping out around BTBJ in some capacity.

The year can not come to a close without thanking the teachers and staff for always putting 110% into creating lessons and events that fit the atypical learning year and kept students engaged and excited to learn. Rest up over the summer and we look forward to some type of normalcy next year hopefully. Rabbi Roni spearheads these efforts and we are so lucky to have her creative ideas and plans as part of our Educational Leadership at BTBJ.

We have really enjoyed being your RSPSG co chairs this year and look forward to continuing to add activities and events to make our school year fun and engaging. A HUGE thank you to Sheri Drossner who spearheaded the HR parents and all the parents who took on volunteer roles, either as HR parents or signing up to assist with drop off and pick up.. We will be finding you next year to help us even more!

We are happy to add that Emily Rosenfeld and Jayme Krauss will also be assisting us with activities and events and we encourage ideas for the upcoming school year, as always!

Mazel Tov to all the upcoming May and June B'nai Mitzvah! We are So proud of all of you!

Have a wonderful summer!!! Relax, and enjoy time with family!

Please stay safe and healthy!

Fondly-
Terri Rosen and
Rachel Handis
RSPSG
Co-Chairs



From the Desk of Rabbi Roni Handler



Rabbi Roni Handler
**Associate Rabbi/
Director of
Congregational
Learning**

Our theme for this year was Olam Hessed Yibaneh, we will be build this world from love. Throughout the year we have all been in the process of carefully coming out of our homes, and back into the world. Religious School looked different than ever before! We fell into a rhythm with virtual learning and outdoor classrooms. Safety protocols became second nature. Along the way our students continued to learn, grow, and shine! And every step of the way we continued to approach each other with a sense of love, compassion, and an open heart.

Mazel tov to all the students who won BINGO (and Five Below gift cards) as part of our Shabbat Attendance tracking and those who completed their Shabbat Attendance Requirement! A special mazel tov to our 2020-2021 Shabbatstar (the person who attended the most services this year) Dahlia de Koninck Handler! And great big mazel tov to the BTBJ winner of the 2020-2021 Better Together Better2Write Essay contest, Holly Boegner! Not only was Holly the winner from the BTBJ community, but her essay also won BTBJ 3rd place in the national contest! Mazel tov Holly!

TODAH RABBAH (a HUGE thank you) to everyone who helped to make this year possible: students, parents, teachers, teen aides, BTBJ office and maintenance staff, members of the Religious School Committee and Religious School Parent Support Group, and, of course, Rabbi Grife, Cantor Benjamin, Valerie Hurwitz, Kathy Gordon and the BTBJ Board of Directors. Special thanks to our outgoing Committee Chair, Mark Levy. It has been a joy to work with you over the last four years! And welcome to Ariane Gittleman, the incoming religious school committee chair! Lastly, we could not have made it through this year without Suzanne Caster (online learning coordinator) and Mindy Davidoff (religious school administrative assistant)! Everyone in this community pours their hearts and souls into caring for each other and keeping this community strong.

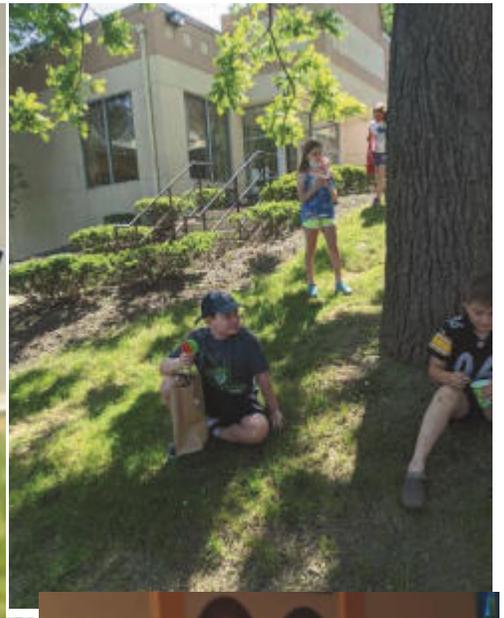
Student evaluations will be sent via email at the beginning of June. We also look forward to sharing our plans for next year! If you have not filled out the Religious School Survey (shared in the schmooze) please be sure to do so! Thank you all for a fantastic year! Wherever your summer takes you, may you go in peace (bo'achem l'shalom) and return to your BTBJ community in peace (tzetchem l'shalom).



Closing Day Religious School Pictures



Closing Day Religious School Pictures





**Michael Seeherman,
Men's Club
President**

Recently we gathered for our annual Steak Dinner and the presentation of The Sol H. Schwartz Memorial, BTBJ Men's Club, Man of the Year Award. First, I want to thank everyone who came out for the Steak Dinner, especially everyone who helped out with the event. We had Josh Gayl, Rob Slutsky, David Barrist and Peter Ghosh helping with set up and prep, with Jay Halbert, David Friedman, Warren Chiara and Sam Rosen leading the clean up efforts. The night was made extra special by our excellent grill masters Art Verbit and Rich Schindler, who also created our specialty cocktail for the evening (but more on him later). We all had a great time being together and having some really good food. Before I get to the Sol H. Schwartz Memorial, BTBJ Men's Club, Man of the Year award, I want to say that the Men's Club would never have been able to pull off everything we did this year without the superhuman efforts of our custodial staff, Lester Harris, George Nesmith and Rob Speak. They are the ones who have truly helped BTBJ stay alive this year.

The Sol H. Schwartz Memorial, BTBJ Men's Club, Man of the Year is annually presented to a Men's Club member who has made a positive impact on the club, congregation, and community. In 2020, due to the pandemic, we did not present a "man of the Year." We felt that the award is too important to just present via Zoom. That said, our 2021 recipient would also have been the 2020 nominee.

Our 2021 Sol H. Schwartz Memorial, BTBJ Men's Club, Man of the Year is Richard Schindler. Rich is not a bench warmer or shallow end type of guy. He has been involved in many community organizations, most focusing on his children; his passion. Rich was an amazing softball coach for many years with Whitmarsh Girls Softball League. Coaching was not enough so he assumed a board position as treasurer and replaced and built beautiful equipment storage sheds for the organization. Likewise, Rich took his

Men's Club (continued)

leadership role at the Men's Club as a star player. As a board member and Vice President, he took it upon himself to develop meaningful and exciting programming for the Club. He reached out and built an ongoing relationship with Northern Children's Service Center. Through his leadership, the Men's Club has routinely volunteered time as tutors and mentors for at risk youth. Furthermore, we have gifted much needed art and sports supplies for the children in the past. This year has been a tough year for them, with virtual schooling and limited volunteers. We are joining the children for an end of the year kickball game on June 9th.

Rich Schindler is a devoted husband to Past-Sisterhood-President, Jen Schindler and father to Becca and Nate. It is an honor to present Rich the Sol H. Schwartz Memorial Men's Club Man of the Year.

During 5781, despite COVID-19, the Men's Club felt that it could help maintain the sense of community at BTBJ that the pandemic was hindering. Therefore, the Men's Club has worked hard to provide an atmosphere of togetherness and connection to our members, and we have had some great events this year.

The following are our highlights of the year: In order to facilitate group viewing in socially distanced protocols the Men's Club donated a Big Screen TV, and along with Sisterhood, donated four patio heaters to help facilitate outdoor events.

Last August we held our Summer Social. This event was socially distanced in the parking lot of BTBJ. We had hot dogs, hamburgers and some other goodies to munch on while we had the opportunity to join together for the first time in a long while. Everyone who attended was relieved to be able to go out and actually be with old friends, and some new ones too, masked face to masked face.

Taking advantage of the perfect weather in September, the Men's Club also held a Sunday morning bike ride. We met in Manayunk and ended up biking along both sides of the Schuylkill River. We rode down Martin Luther King Drive and around the Philadelphia Museum of Art to the Azalea Garden. We stopped there for a picnic lunch then headed back to our starting point, riding on the opposite side of the Schuylkill.

Moving further into the fall, Sukkot is one of the favorite times of the year with the Men's Club. We met in the early morning on September 6th to install lattice around the Sukkah. We then met after Yom Kippur to

put on our new bamboo schach for the roof of the Sukkah. Both of these times gave us the opportunity to perform a service for the BTBJ community and, more importantly, the chance to build camaraderie and teamwork amongst our members. Thirty of our members then got to join together to celebrate in the Sukkah, enjoying a meal and having an insightful lesson with Rabbi Grife.

The Men's Club had a big L'Chaim on February 17th, with over 30 members participating in our Virtual Spirits Tasting event. Our hosts were John and Amy George, the owners of Five Saints Distilling. They entertained us with great stories about the history of their distillery. John, who is also their Master Distiller, gave us a virtual tour through the distillery. Daniel Gardner, the Five Saints bartender, led us through an entertaining and fun guided tasting of hand crafted cocktails. Each was made from the uniquely flavored five spirits that had been distributed in advance to each participant. Everyone had a great time.

Once again, the Men's Club sponsored the Yom HaShoah Yahrzeit Candles. We distributed candles to the entire BTBJ Community. As part of the worldwide Jewish community, the Men's Club believes it is our collective obligation to honor and remember the Six Million who perished in the Holocaust.

This spring we held a Lag B'Omer cookout in the BTBJ parking lot, where about 20 members joined together for some much needed camaraderie. In addition, we also held a very enjoyable Fantasy Football League and March Madness Pool.

We are looking forward to having an even more robust year of programming in 5782. Please keep an eye out for our kickoff summer social in August. Next year in BTBJ!



Men's Club Steak Night Dinner Pictures





Michael Drossner, President

As we look forward to the summer, I want to take a moment to look back on the year that just passed. Back in March 2020, as I was preparing to become the next President at BTBJ, our entire world was shut down. While schools, workplaces, and public buildings were closed, so was our beloved BTBJ. The building where we gathered for services, religious school, life-cycle events and so much more was no longer available to our community. Even more importantly, the future remained uncertain as to when we could, in fact, return to the building in any capacity.

Since that time, we have balanced so much between protecting our community while also trying to support and maintain the interpersonal relationships which make BTBJ so special. Of course, we have leaned heavily on virtual events and gatherings, but I think we can all admit that, while effective, they do not cultivate the community environment that we know and love here. I could write for days about the great work done by our clergy and staff but will just take a brief moment here to recognize them. Rabbi Roni had the unenviable task of figuring out how to educate around 100 kids, every week, while not being able to gather in groups. The logistical hurdles she had to manage to get that done, both last year and then transitioning into an entirely new model this year, was nothing short of exceptional. Here we are, over one year later, and we've had a successful year of Religious School for the children in our community - some virtual, some in-person, but each group connecting with each other. I also want to thank Rabbi Grife and Cantor Benjamin for their successful transition to a virtual model for services, minyan, adult education classes and B'nai Mitzvah preparations. Allowing our congregants to meet, study and pray together, albeit virtually, allowed them to connect with one another when they could not do so in person.

I also want to take time to specifically thank Marcie Leshner and our ECC staff. They were called into duty as front line workers during the high point of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ECC staff came to work in difficult circumstances to help care for the children so the parents of those children could return to work, especially those who are essential workers themselves. Our staff went above and beyond, every day, to create a caring environment which would be comfortable for those children and their families. If you know any of these wonderful teachers, please remember to thank them for their dedication to BTBJ and the families we serve.

Finally, I want to make special note of a few others. First would be Peter Ghosh's guidance on technology, especially last spring as the pandemic started and we needed to figure out how to connect with our community. Second is our finance team, led by finance chair Matt Schwenderman and Treasurer Steve Flaks, who helped navigate some rough terrain and unusual circumstances to help us stay afloat and manage our budget. Lastly, I think we all know that none of this would be possible without Valarie Hurwitz, our Executive Director extraordinaire who balances it all for the benefit of all of us. Val's hard work, creativity, and thoughtfulness are unmatched.

I think it's safe to say that last year was one of the most challenging in BTBJ history, and we made it through. It was not easy, it was not without challenges, and it was certainly not as we planned. However, as masking and distancing requirements slowly fade and vaccinations are rampant and available to all, I am incredibly hopeful for the year ahead. I look forward to gathering together at BTBJ, to creating memories together in our Jewish community, and making sure that we can remember that BTBJ is a place where we all belong.



TREE OF LIFE



Wishing all of you a good summer!

Leaves for our Tree of Life make great gifts for Graduations, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Confirmations, B'nai Mitzvah, etc.

Please help BTBJ by buying a leaf for \$136 and celebrate a simcha today.

If you have a lot of future simchas, we will put aside a branch for you.

Contact the BTBJ office or farrylc@aol.com
610-329-3311

We are expanding our Brag Bag.....

We would like to acknowledge the super accomplishments of all our talented congregants. We want to celebrate our children, our families and our friends on their special awards and honors. Please also let us know of your life cycle events with pictures including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, special birthdays, etc.

Mazel Tov to:

Nikki and Mike Cohen on the birth of their son, **Cooper Cohen**.

Cara and Ed Deming on the birth of their son, **Conor Gavin Deming**.

Jo Ann and Bruce Engleman along with proud parents, **Rachel and Eric Merin** on the birth of their son and grandson, **Leo Jacob Merin**.

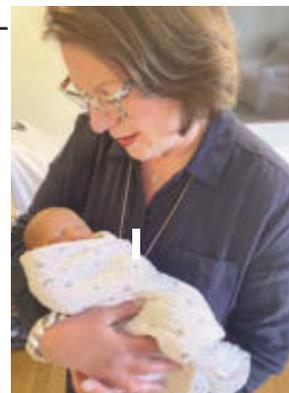


Cindy Harris along with proud parents, **Michael Harris and Rachel Glincher** on the birth of their son and grandson, **Jonah Finn Harris**.



Joelle Risler and Ari Kleinman on the birth of their son, **Chase Kleinman**.

Marcie Leshner along with proud parents, **Hal and Becca Fischer Leshner** on the birth of their daughter and granddaughter, **Lena Olivia Leshner**.



Marla Sones along with proud parents, **Matthew and Megan Sones** on the birth of their daughter and granddaughter, **Hayden Aubree Sones**.

**Our sincere condolences to:**

Dorene Karasick and family on the passing of their beloved mother and grandmother, **Ruthe Schwartz**. **Ruthe** has been a dedicated member of Beth Tikvah B'nai Jeshurun for over 40 years. She served in many capacities including BTBJ Executive Vice President and member of our Board of Directors, Sisterhood President for 14 years and manager of our Gift Shop. She was active in our Adult Education Committee and helped form BTBJ University. **Ruthe** was loved and respected by all who knew her.

Early Childhood Center Pictures



Early Childhood Center Pictures



**Lots of fun
at BTBJ
Early
Childhood
Center!**



MAZEL TOV GRADUATES!

High School Grads.....

Noah Beitler is graduating from the Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy. He will be attending Yeshiva University in New York City for college majoring in Computer Science. He is excited to first attend his gap year program at Yeshivat Sha'arei Mevasseret Zion in Mevasseret Tzion, Israel. He will be studying at Yeshivat Sha'arei Mevasseret Zion for 10 months starting this August. His entire family is very proud of his academic achievements and cannot wait to visit him in Israel.

David Harris will be graduating from Plymouth Whitemarsh High School and will be attending Schreyer Honors College at Pennsylvania State University in the fall.

Aliza Kligerman will be graduating from Plymouth Whitemarsh High School and will be attending Indiana University, Bloomington. She was accepted into the O'Neil School of Public and Environmental Affairs with Deans Scholarship studying Environmental and Sustainability Studies.

Jacob Kurtz is graduating from Plymouth Whitemarsh High School in June 2021. He will attend the University of Hartford, the Barney School of Business in September 2022. Jacob will spend summer 2021 in Israel working and giving back to the Jewish community. For September 2021, Jacob has chosen to take a gap year, living and working in Worcester, Massachusetts before attending college. We are very proud of his accomplishments in High School and we are even more excited for him to start his next journey in life.

Jack Mishkin will be graduating from Plymouth Whitemarsh High School and will attend Lehigh University this fall. He was accepted into their Computer Science and Business program.

Ben Picker is a Plymouth Whitemarsh High School honors student graduating in the Class of 2021. In September, he will attend Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ as a Pre-Physical Therapy, Kinesiology / Exercise Science major. We are thrilled he is combining his future interests with his personal goal of attending a Big 10 university. Ben's favorite highlights from his high school years include co-captain of the JV basketball team, pitcher for the varsity baseball team, 2019 Atlanta Maccabi games: basketball teammate with fellow BTBJer David Harris representing Philadelphia, CPR certified lifeguard, and PW member of the Best Buddies community service club.

Noah Stern is a graduate of Plymouth Whitemarsh. Noah received PW's President's Award for Academic Excellence. He will be attending the University of Maryland where he will be studying finance. Noah was admitted into the Collage Park Scholars program and was awarded the President's Scholarship.

College Grads.....

Kyle Blumenthal graduated from Lafayette College with a degree in Engineering Studies. After graduation, he will be moving to Arlington, VA to begin work as a Project Engineer at Balfour Beatty.

Adam Center graduated on Saturday, May 8th from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University with a degree in Marketing and Professional Sales and a minor in Sports Marketing and Management. Adam will be moving to Orlando Florida this summer for a sales position with Otis Elevator company. We are very excited for him and the opportunities that await him in the future. We will miss you Adam! Love Mom, Dad and Matthew

Julia Flaks graduated from Towson University on May 20th with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Special Education along with a certification in English as a Second Language. She is looking for teaching opportunities in the Philadelphia area starting in the new school year.

Remi Nuddle is graduating from the Temple University Graduate School of Education. She now has a Master's in Education - World Languages/Spanish, along with a graduate certificate in English as a Second Language. Remi is currently a long term substitute at the Academy at Palumbo Magnet School, part of the School District of Philadelphia.

Sophie Richards graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a B.S. magna cum laude in Gaming Simulation Arts and Sciences and Computer Science.

Andrew J. Slutsky graduated from Lehigh University with his B.S. degree on May 24, 2021. He Majored in Bio-Science and Minored in Ethics. Andrew is headed off to Villanova Law School in the fall 2021.

Shelly Zacharjasz graduated with honors with her MEd in Counseling, K-12, and Professional Counseling from Shippensburg University. The President of the Upsilon Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota, the professional academic honor society for counseling students, educators, and professionals, Shelly plans to expand her middle school teaching experience and counsel students in schools.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

MEMORIAL FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Bass and family
Ruthe Schwartz

Dr. and Mrs. Laurence Belkoff and family
Howard Belkoff

Ms. Leslie Berman
Harriett Stein

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cohen and family
Saundra Simon
Warren Simon
Ruthe Schwartz

Mr. and Mrs. Ian Drossner and family
Louise Sernoff

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Dvorak and family
Hyman Diamond
Virginia Galandak
John Mitchell
Anita Nason

Drs. Bruce and Toby Eisenstein
Ruthe Schwartz

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Green and family
Dave Green
Eleanor Wolf

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Handis and family
Louise Sernoff

Mr. and Mrs. David Ingber and family
Ruthe Schwartz

Ms. Rima Kapel
Saundra Simon
Warren Simon

Ms. Ellen Klein and family
Juliette Fox

Mrs. Eileen Lowenstein and family
Richard J. Lowenstein
Harry Lowenstein

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Mason and family
Rochelle Mason

Mr. and Mrs. David Nuddle and family
Saundra Simon
Warren Simon

Dr. and Mrs. Christopher O'Brien and family
Warren Simon
Saundra Simon

Dr. Martin Polinsky & Dr. Barbara Cohen and family
Louise Sernoff

Mrs. Susan Rees
Louise Sernoff
Ruthe Schwartz

Ms. Sue Ellen Rosenblum
Ruthe Schwartz

Mr. Randall Royfe
Miriam Finkelstein

Ms. Sandy Sandos
Irwin Sandos

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Schwenderman and family
Saundra Simon
Warren Simon

Mrs. Marla Sones and family
Louise Sernoff

Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Soowal and family
Ruthe Schwartz

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Tabak and family
Ruthe Schwartz

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Udell
Ethel Udell

Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Walters and family
Louise Sernoff

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Weisbaum and family
Saundra Simon
Warren Simon

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Wenzel
Ruthe Schwartz

Ms. Sherri Willner
Ruthe Schwartz

Mr. and Mrs. Mario Zacharjasz and family
Cheryl Rasansky

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING FUND

Mrs. Ellen Klein and family
In memory of Ruthe Schwartz
Dr. and Mrs. Christopher O'Brien and family
In memory of Ruthe Schwartz
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Solomon
In memory of Ruthe Schwartz
Mrs. Marla Sones and family
In honor of the college graduation of
Adam Center
In memory of Ruthe Schwartz

LINDA JOY GRIFE YAD L'YAD FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Engleman and family
In memory of Saundra Simon
In memory of Warren Simon

HONOR FUND

Mrs. Marla Sones and family
Mazel Tov to Jo Ann and Bruce Engleman on
the birth of their grandson, Leo Jacob Merin
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Soowal and family
Mazel Tov to Jo Ann and Bruce Engleman on
the birth of their grandson, Leo Jacob Merin

PRESCHOOL FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cohen and family
Mazel Tov to Marcie Leshner on the birth of
her granddaughter, Lena Olivia Leshner
Mr. and Mrs. Dar Feinman and family
Mazel Tov to Marcie Leshner on the birth of
her granddaughter, Lena Olivia Leshner
Mazel Tov to Cindy Harris on the birth of her
grandson, Jonah Finn Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Miller and family
Mazel Tov to Jo Ann and Bruce Engleman on
the birth of their grandson, Leo Jacob Merin
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Schwenderman and family
Mazel Tov to Cindy Harris on the birth of her
grandson, Jonah Finn Harris
Mazel Tov to Jo Ann and Bruce Engleman on
the birth of their grandson, Leo Jacob Merin
Mazel tov to Marla Sones on the birth of her
granddaughter, Hayden Aubree Sones
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Soowal and family
Mazel Tov to Marcie Leshner on the birth of
her granddaughter, Lena Olivia Leshner
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Tabak and family
Mazel Tov to Marcie Leshner on the birth of
her granddaughter, Lena Olivia Leshner
Mr. and Mrs. Jodi Taylor and family
In memory of Ruthe Schwartz
Mazel Tov to Marcie Leshner on the birth of
her granddaughter, Lena Olivia Leshner

BRICK CELEBRATION GARDEN

Mr. and Mrs. Don Wenger
In Celebration of the Life of Ruthe Schwartz

Thank
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You

You can contribute to the following funds at 3 levels. A card will be sent on your behalf and an acknowledgement will appear in the BTBJ Newsletter.

A wonderful way to let fellow congregants know you are thinking of them.

BRONZE - minimum \$12.00 donation **SILVER** - minimum \$18.00 donation
GOLD - minimum \$36.00 donation

HONOR FUND - Acknowledges happy occasions and milestones such as B'nai Mitzvah, Confirmations, graduations, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, births and any other occasion that moves you.

MEMORIAL FUND - Memorializes friends and family by honoring their passing.

CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING FUND - Supports lifelong learning which provides avenues for adults to expand their knowledge and practice of Judaism and Jewish life. Donations will help underwrite the costs of classes, lectures, workshops and exciting speakers.

BENJAMIN DONALDSON HAY CLASS FUND - Supplements the cost of the Hay Class New York trip.

BLUM FAMILY TEENS TOGETHER FUND - Supports Teens Together programming and helps underwrite Confirmation trip to New York.

EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT FUND - Purchases educational aids, equipment; provides enrichment programs for our Religious School.

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND - Supports special musical programming and educational endeavors at the discretion of Benjamin Greenfield.

WILLIAM HURWITZ SOCIAL MEDIA FUND - Provides broadcasting and video equipment for Religious Services and Educational Classes and Presentations.

LINDA'S FUND FOR THE LOVE OF ISRAEL - Provides stipends to teens and young adults for trips to Israel.

LINDA JOY GRIFE/YAD L'YAD FUND - "Helping Hands" provides meals and shiva trays when a congregant is hospitalized or has a death in the family. Supports other charitable activities such as disaster relief and mitzvah projects.

NANCY SELTZER TORAH RESTORATION FUND - Repairs and restores BTBJ Torahs.

PEGGY DVORAK MUSIC ENRICHMENT FUND - Supports music programming and education at BTBJ.

PHILIP & LEE HOROWITZ YOUTH FUND - Supports cost of youth activities.

PRESCHOOL FUND - Supports cost of youth activities.

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND - Supports charitable, spiritual and educational activities at the discretion of Rabbi Grife.

SCHWENDERMAN FAMILY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TUITION FUND - Funds scholarships to help defray the cost of religious school tuitions.

RUTH ELSON FUND - Funds scholarships to further Jewish education including Jewish summer programs.

SECURITY FUND - For the purpose of keeping the building safe and sound.

HELEN AND JOHN STAMM PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND - Funds scholarships to defray the cost of Preschool.

TREE OF LIFE - These beautiful brass leaves enhance our lobby and keep a living history of our simchas. For just \$136 you may honor someone special for achieving a milestone - B'nai Mitzvah, Confirmation, wedding, graduation and more. Help the tree grow by sponsoring a new branch or a foundation rock.

BRICKS - When something great happens, put it on a brick or bench and enhance our outdoor entry. Remember forever graduations, mitzvahs, weddings or other special events.

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MEMORIAL PLAQUES - Honor the memory of a loved one who has departed for \$236. Each year, plaque lights are illuminated on your loved ones' Yahrzeit and at Yizkor.

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SCHEDULE of SERVICES

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Light candles.....8:12 pm
Services.....6:30 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Services.....10:00 am
Matthew Benish, son of Debra Benish and David Benish
(of blessed memory) will be called to the Torah
as a Bar Mitzvah

FRIDAY, JUNE 18

Light candles.....8:11 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 19

Special Adult Trope Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, JUNE 25

Light candles.....8:14 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, JULY 2

Light candles.....8:15 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 3

Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, JULY 9

Light candles.....8:13 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 10

Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, JULY 16

Light candles.....8:10 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 17

Services.....10:00 am

SUNDAY, JULY 18

TISH'A B'AV

FRIDAY, JULY 23

Light candles.....8:05 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 24

Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, JULY 30

Light candles.....7:59 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Services.....10:00 am

SCHEDULE of SERVICES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

Light candles.....7:51 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13

Light candles.....7:43 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14

Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20

Light candles.....7:52 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21

Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27

Light candles.....7:21 pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28

Services.....10:00 am

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Light candles.....7:10 pm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Services.....10:00 am

