

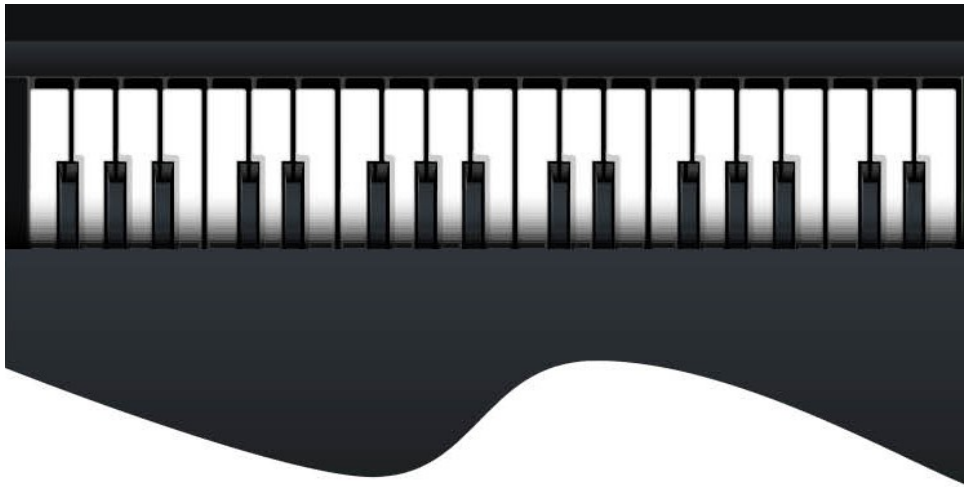
The Shofar



The Publication of Congregation Beth El of Bucks County

March/April 2018

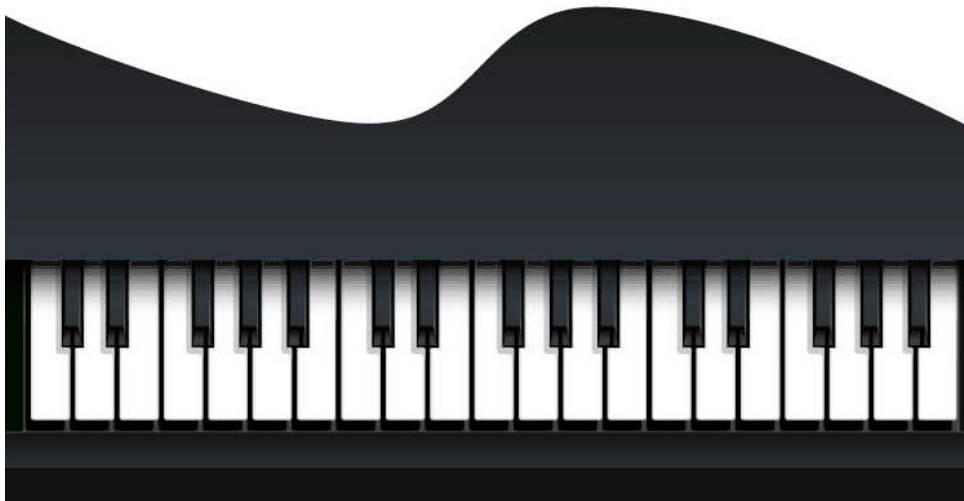
Adar/Nisan/Iyar 5778



Congregation Beth El

65th Birthday Bash Weekend of Celebration!

April 27-29, 2018



Keep a look out for your invitation in the mail!

Join us for Friday Night Shabbat Services, musical interlude and Oneg; Saturday Morning Services and Shabbat Luncheon; Sunday Evening cocktail-style dinner reception, followed by an entertaining and interactive show by Dueling Pianos, International. For more information contact: Penny Bardfeld pennyandlenny@comcast.net or Barbara Fineman bfine15@verizon.net.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Morning Minyan

Sunday 8:00am
Monday - Friday 7:00am

Evening Minyan

Monday - Thursday 7:30pm

Shabbat Services

Friday 6:00pm
Saturday 9:30am

SYNAGOGUE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday 8:30am - 2:00pm

BUBBES' JUDAICA SHOP HOURS

Sunday 9:00am - noon
Wednesday 10:00am - noon
Friday 10:00am - noon

To schedule an appointment, please
contact Michelle Flash at
michelleflash@me.com

Check out Our Event Calendar

[http://www.bethelyardley.org/
info/calendar.html](http://www.bethelyardley.org/info/calendar.html)

NEXT SHOFAR DEADLINE

**Deadline for the
May/June Shofar
is April 16**

Show Your Support

Buy an ad in the new
Beth El Directory

Support the community that supports you!

Ad Only: \$250

Quarter page ad
Listing in the directory

Bronze Package: \$500

Includes the above plus:
Half page black and white ad
2 tickets to event
Acknowledgment at the event
Logo in shofar through 12/18
Logo in lobby monitor through 12/18

Silver Package: \$1,000

Includes the above plus:
Full page black and white ad

Gold Package \$2,500

Includes the above plus:
Ad placement on inside cover
Reserved table for 8 at cocktail hour
Front row seating at performance

To purchase an ad or package:
Contact AmyKaissar@gmail.com



President's Message



Dear Friends,

As winter winds down, spring has already started to peak up through the thawing ground. The weather has suddenly turned warm, some of our flowers have started to come up and the warmth has finally allowed me to put our sukkah away! Memories of the bitter cold are fading fast as the days continue to get longer. And soon it will be time to get ready for Passover and spring cleaning.

Following Purim is Shabbat Parah, when we read the Torah portion about cleanliness, redemption and the red heifer. It signifies the start of our preparation for Passover. At the end of the redemption ritual, the people are purified, but the person who performed the ritual becomes temporarily impure; it makes the impure pure, and makes the pure impure. This portion is read at a time when we are preparing to clean our homes for Passover as well; when you clean a house, you start with a clean sponge and a dirty house and you end with a dirty sponge and a clean house. In both cases we are transferring the dirt or impurities to make us clean.

Spring is also a time for new beginnings. We can take this time to form new friendships or rekindle old ones. Beth El has many new members that have joined in the last few years. And we are fortunate to have so many veteran members. This spring we will honor Beth El and our members when we celebrate our 65th birthday the weekend of April 27, 28 and 29. Please take a look at the website (www.bethelyardley.org) and see all the activities that we have planned from Friday Night Shabbat Services to Shabbat Morning Services and our Shabbat luncheon and finally the Sunday Evening Gala. I hope everyone will be a part of this fun weekend. All of this will be commemorated in our gala directory. Please be a part of the directory as we would like to have all of our members included.

I wish you all a pleasant spring and a zissen Pesach. I look forward to seeing you at the Gala!

Laurence H. Schachter
President



Education & Youth

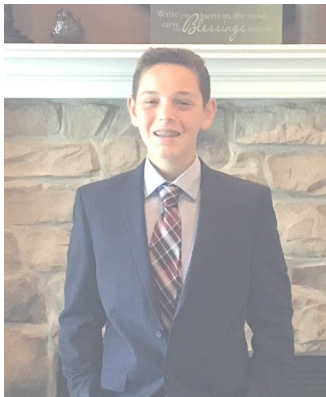
B'nai Mitzvah at Beth El



Evie Goldstein, daughter of Sheri and Rob Goldstein, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 10, 2018. For her mitzvah project, Evie has chosen to sponsor a dog for the Israeli Guide Dog Center. This non-profit organization breeds, raises, and trains puppies to help blind Israelis lead normal lives. She has been in touch with the local American Center right here in Bucks County to learn about the organization and how they help to raise money for this very worthy cause. The cost to sponsor a dog is \$1000. Evie has made and sold bracelets as well as created a Facebook campaign to reach her goal. Mazal Tov!



Rileigh Jelen, daughter of Shanna and Michael Jelen, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, March 24, 2018. For her mitzvah project, Rileigh has been working to raise money for Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, which donates money to child cancer research to find better treatments and cures for childhood cancer. Rileigh has made and sold bracelets as well as created an online campaign to help reach her goal. Mazal tov!



Jared Laff, son of Amy and Josh Laff will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 14, 2018. For the past five years, Jared has been fortunate to spend summers at Camp Ramah in the Poconos. There is a beautiful mural at Camp Ramah painted in memory of Michael Levin. Michael was a camper at Camp Ramah, who fell in love with Israel and decided to make Aliyah in Israel. Jared's mom's family knew Michael very well, and they spent many visiting days sitting on a blanket, under a tree together. Sadly, in 2006, Michael was killed while leading his troop into battle. His story is so touching, and despite never having met him, Jared feels very connected to Michael and chose to make The Lone Soldier Center: In Memory of Michael Levin, the focus of his mitzvah project. Mazal Tov!



Purim Carnival Portraits

Mazal Tov to our 7th Grade girls who planned an amazing Purim Carnival for the entire FJLC!



Education & Youth



Does a child in your family have
a birthday coming up?

How about dedicating a book to the Beth El library
in honor of your child's birthday?

A book plate with your dedication will be placed in the book.

The book will be shared with your child's class as well as the
Beth El community.

Suggested donation \$18

**Any support is appreciated as it will go towards
educational programs for Pre-K to 7th graders.**

Personalize your dedication & make a payment by going to the this link:
<http://www.bethelyardley.org/FJLCdonate>



Congregation
Beth El

PRESENTING...

minions congo

an educational and fun Shabbat program
for children pre-K to 5th Grades

Shabbat Prayers & Songs
Engaging Activities
Story Time
Torah Lessons
Oneg Shabbat



A SHABBAT CULTURAL ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCE!
LED BY LIZ RAVITCH IN ROOM 209

10:00 am to 12:00 pm on the following Saturdays

Mar. 17 Apr. 28 May 12

We ask that parents of children pre-K to 2nd grades
accompany their child(ren) to minions congo.

BAR-BAT MITZVAH UNIVERSITY 2017-2018

Preparing Congregation Beth El's 6th & 7th Graders
and their Parents for that Special Simcha!



Sunday Mornings

Four Sunday mornings
this year we will come
together to study and
explore the themes of
Bar/Bat Mitzvah with
Rabbi Gruenberg.

Join us for Brunch &
Learn 10am-12pm

Mar. 18

Shabbat Mornings

One Shabbat morning a month we will
come together to pray, to learn and to
share. Each Shabbat we will focus on
an important aspect of the Bar/Bat
Mitzvah journey in an effort to create a
meaningful experience for all.

Join us in the Chapel 10am-12pm

Mar. 17

Apr. 28 May 12

In the 6th & 7th grades, it is strongly recommended that B'nai Mitzvah learners attend Shabbat morning service at least once a month in order to become familiar with the service and gain comfort as both a participant and leader. For more information, contact Karen Lewin, Karen@BethElYardley.org or 215-493-1707 x3.

Adult Education



It's Date Night, What to do...What to Do...? Join us for Beth El's Jewish Film Festival. Our Beth El Jewish Film Festival kicked off with an auspicious 36, (*double chai), in attendance to watch the award winning Israeli film, *The Women's Balcony*. We laughed, we kvelled, we engaged in post viewing dialogue, and we enjoyed tasty and delicious snacks. If you have not sent in your reservations for the series, do so ASAP, and join us for the wonderful and varied March line-up (see below). Looking forward to seeing you at the movies.

Ahead of Time

The Extraordinary Journey of Ruth Gruber

March 3, 2018 7:30pm



A documentary on the remarkable life of Ruth Gruber. At 97 years old, Brooklyn-born Ruth still has that same intellect and moxie that propelled her to become the world's youngest PhD.

MAKING TROUBLE

Three Generations of Funny Women

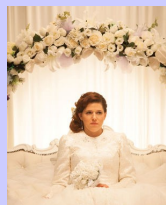
March 10, 2018 8:15 pm



The story of six of the greatest female comic performers of the last century; Molly Picon, Fanny Brice, Sophie Tucker, Joan Rivers, Gilda Radner, and Wendy Wasserstein.

THE WEDDING PLAN

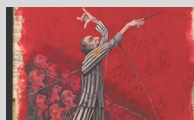
March 17, 2018 8:15 pm



30 days, 1 wedding, no groom. A poignant, funny, romantic comedy about love, marriage, and faith in life's infinite possibilities.

DEFIANT REQUIEM

March 24, 2018 8:30pm



Defiant Requiem, the little-known story of the Nazi concentration camp, Terezín. Led by imprisoned conductor, Rafael Schachter & the inmates, who fought back with art and music.

NAME _____ PHONE# _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

\$36 per person, for the series; \$10 per person/per movie
Includes popcorn, snacks & drinks

Indicate number of tickets:

____ 3/3 ____ 3/10 ____ 3/17 ____ 3/24

Total \$ _____ check made payable/mail to: Congregation Beth El 375 Stony Hill Road Yardley, PA 19067
Tickets will be at the door the night of the film.

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions contact: Judy Nussbaum cell# 215 - 431 - 4729

World Religions



**Join us at Congregation Beth El
along with community leaders
as we explore World Religions**

We had 20 people on Sunday, February 25. We learned about the Tenets of the Christian Faith from Rev. Matthew Biedrzycki. We held a lengthy question and answer period, as we gained a greater understanding of Christianity. Join us for our next two learning sessions. All are welcome.

Sunday, March 4 2:00pm - 3:30pm

A brief history of Islam presented by
Beth El Member,
Dr. Harriet Freidenreich

Sunday, March 18 2:00pm - 3:30pm

The tenets of Islam presented by Imam (TBA)



For more information contact: Sheldon Miller, millers@chc.edu

Congregation Beth El * 375 Stony Hill Road * Yardley, PA 19067 * 215-493-1707

Adult Education



Congregation Beth El Yardley Presents

Bach, Books, and Babka

Sunday, May 6 4-6 pm



In *And After the Fire*, award-winning author **Lauren Belfer** interweaves history, Bach, and the power of art to heal anti-Semitism.

Join music professor **Dr. Jay Kawarsky** and award-winning author **Lauren Belfer** to celebrate *And After the Fire* with:

- Live music from Bach cantata
- Author talk
- Book signing
- Dessert buffet

\$20/person*

Pre-register by April 25, 2018

*Paid pre-registration includes copy of *And After the Fire* (or another Lauren Belfer book)

Desserts donated by:



Makes checks payable to:
Congregation Beth El
375 Stony Hill Rd
Yardley, PA 19067

For more information & to Pre-register:

Visit www.bethelyardley.org

Phone: 215-493-1707

Email: office@bethelyardley.org

Adult Education

BROADEN YOUR HORIZONS
Adult Education
Presented by The Schwarz-Kurz-Zeller
Adult Education Institute

CURRENT EVENTS CLASS
with
RABBI GRUENBERG

EVERY WEDNESDAY
10:30AM
ONEG ROOM



Shabbat Adult Learning Service

*An alternative prayer and learning experience led
by Rabbi Gruenberg and Karen Lewin*

- ★ Learn the "how to's" of praying
- ★ Explore the structure of the service
- ★ Familiarize yourself with the prayers
- ★ Explore the meanings of the prayers

Warm atmosphere and comfortable setting
Interactive Discussions
Open to all adults

Saturday Mornings in the Teen Lounge

10:15am - 11:30am

May 12th

Congregation Beth El 375 Stony Hill Road
Yardley, PA 19067

215-493-1707 ∞ info@BethElYardley.org



For the literary omnivore who likes to graze

BOOK NOSH JEWISH BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

ALL ARE WELCOME

SUNDAYS, 10:30AM

MARCH 11 APRIL 22 10:30am

Have you read a book that has Jewish themes, a Jewish author or Jewish characters?

Then this book group is for you.

Even if you haven't read anything come join in the
conversation and have a nosh!

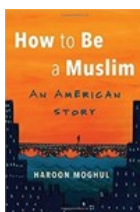
For more information contact:

Alexander Geiger alexandergeiger@aol.com

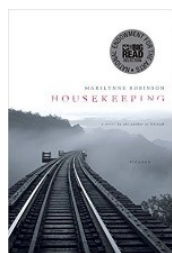
Adult Education: Book Nosh Notes from January 14th



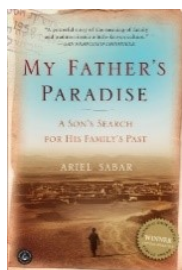
Modigliani Unmasked: Exhibition at the Jewish Museum of New York. We added another category to the list of media suitable for discussion during Book Nosh – art exhibits. Amedeo Modigliani arrived in Paris in 1906, when the city was still roiled by anti-Semitism after the long-running Dreyfus Affair. In response, the young artist got in the habit of saying, by way of introduction, “I’m Amedeo Modigliani; I’m a Jew.” We are reliably informed that the exhibit is well worth visiting.



How to Be a Muslim: An American Story, by Haroon Moghul. The author is a young man coping with the pressure of a world that fears Muslims, struggling with his faith and searching for intellectual forebears. This is the story of the second-generation immigrant, of what it’s like to lose yourself between cultures, and how to pick up the pieces.

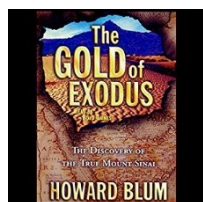


Housekeeping: A Novel, by Marilynne Robinson. First published in 1980, this book retains its haunting beauty. According to the NYTimes review, this book “is about people who have not managed to connect with a place, a purpose, a routine or another person. It’s about the immensely resourceful sadness of a certain kind of American, someone who has fallen out of history and is trying to invent a life without assistance of any kind, without even recognizing that there are precedents. It is about a woman who is so far from everyone else that it would be presumptuous to put a name to her frame of mind.” (The author won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for **Gilead**.)



My Father's Paradise: A Son's Search for His Family's Past, by Ariel Sabar. The author’s father was born in the ancient town of Zakho in a remote corner of northern Iraq. For nearly three thousand years, it was the home of a small group of Kurdish Jews. Alas, they were forced to leave their homes after the formation of the modern State of Israel. However, in searching for his family roots, the author uncovered fascinating aspects of the sweeping saga of Middle-Eastern Jewry – a world that is mostly gone now. Terrific book; highly recommended.

This book reminded one of our Book Noshers of the long-running PBS series called **Finding Your Roots**. Currently in its fourth season, Episode 5 featured Scarlett Johansson, Paul Rudd, and John Turturro. Two of those three actors have Jewish roots. Try to guess which two.



The Gold of Exodus: The Discovery of the Real Mount Sinai, by Howard Blum. This Indiana Jones-style adventure book recounts the story of a daring and dangerous attempt to find the site of the “true” Mt. Sinai (in modern-day Saudi Arabia!) using hints in the Old Testament for guidance. Whether historically or scientifically accurate or not, the book is an entertaining and discussion-provoking read.

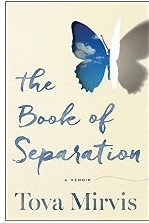
**ALL ARE WELCOME
SUNDAYS, 10:30AM**



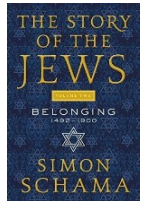
MARCH 11

APRIL 22

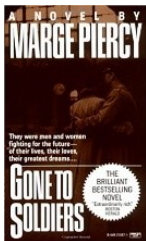
Adult Education: Book Nosh Notes Continued from January 14th



The Book of Separation: A Memoir, by Tova Mirvis. The young author of three well-received novels (*The Ladies Auxiliary*, *The Outside World*, and *Visible City*), Ms. Mirvis, born and raised in a tight-knit Orthodox Jewish family, decided at age 40 to leave her husband and her faith. This memoir recounts her experiences walking away from the only life she had ever known. This book brought to mind the explosion of recent movies dealing with life in, and separation from, ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities, including:



The Story of the Jews Volume Two: Belonging: 1492-1900, by Simon Schama. Companion book to the PBS and BBC series by the famed historian and best-selling author of numerous works of popular history. This volume spans the centuries and the continents, from the expulsion of the Jews from Spain during the Inquisition to the shtetls of Russia to the dusty streets of infant Hollywood. Highly recommended by our reviewer.



Gone to Soldiers, by Marge Piercy. A sweeping novel set during WWII, it recounts the horrors of the concentration camps, the heroism of soldiers on the beaches of Okinawa, the skies above London and the seas of the Mediterranean, the brilliance of code breakers, and the resilience of families waiting for the return of their loved ones. The stories are told by 10 women, each with her own voice and her own poignant saga.

Several other books, movies, TV shows, archeological digs, and stories of personal travel in the Middle East were mentioned in passing. You had to be there to find out what was so great about each one of them.

Book Nosh Notes from February 11th



And After the Fire: A Novel, by Lauren Belfer. The author, **Lauren Belfer, is coming to Beth El on May 6, 2018.** There will be a “musical salon,” including a Bach cantata performed by a professional choir, an author talk and book signing, and delicious “period” desserts provided by Lipkin’s Bakery. The program, food, and a **free book by Lauren Belfer** all included in the \$20 admission fee, if you pay in advance. Go to www.bethelyardley.org to register.

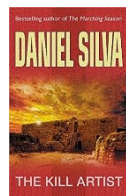


The Physician, A Novel, by Noah Gordon, tells the story of a Christian boy who lives in England in the 11th century. He decides to travel to Persia to study medicine with the famous Muslim physician Avicenna. As it happens, Christians are not welcome in Muslim Persia. To overcome this obstacle, the boy decides to pretend that he is a Jew. Unfortunately, this means that he has to travel across Christian Europe disguised as a Jew. Many adventures ensue. The book was also turned into an entertaining movie.

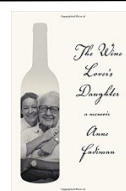
Adult Education: Book Nosh Notes continued from February 11th



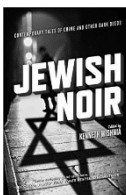
The Dovekeepers A Novel, by Alice Hoffman. Historical fiction at its best. The stories of four women who find themselves on Masada among several hundred Jewish fighters, besieged by the Roman legions, in 73 C.E.



The Kill Artist, by Daniel Silva. This is the book that introduced the world to the intrepid Israeli intelligence officer Gabriel Allon. At last count, Daniel Silva has published 20 thrillers, the last 17 of them featuring Gabriel Allon. We've been warned that you can't just read one – the series is seriously addictive. Last we heard, movie rights have been acquired by MGM, so look for another action franchise to hit your neighborhood movie theaters soon.



The Wine Lover's Daughter: A Memoir, by Anne Fadiman. A daughter's recollections of her father, Clifton Fadiman, the well-known Jewish intellectual, author, editor, radio and television personality, wine lover, and all-around bon vivant. (He died in 1999, at the age of 95) Written with wit, verve, and love.



Jewish Noir: Contemporary Tales of Crime and Other Dark Deeds, by Kenneth Wishnia.

A great collection of stories featuring Jewish mayhem and malfeasance, some of it possibly based on fact. After discussing one of the stories in particular, our reporter told us where she bought the book – a great little bookstore in Lenox, MA, where the owner, Matt Tannebaum, not only stocks a terrific collection of Jewish-themed books but will gladly spend 30 minutes chatting with you to make sure that you find just the right one. (See Matt's photo on the right.)



Gloria Allred was born Jewish – who knew? She was born into a Jewish working-class family right here in Philadelphia. She is now 76-years-old and has never stopped chasing high-profile cases. She is the subject of a flattering new Netflix documentary, **Seeing Allred**.



Social Action Opportunities

Beth El has raised over \$200.00 just by donating shoes

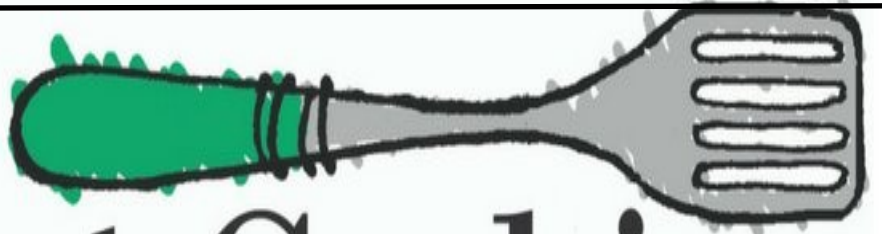
The American Friends of Kaplan Medical Center was incorporated in 2008 as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3). It is running a "Brick-by-Brick" campaign to raise \$15 million, over the next two years, for this new high-tech cardiac center costing \$45 million. Citizens of the State of Israel will match each U.S. dollar with two of their own – more than enough to cover the cost.

Construction will begin in 2018, and Israel needs our help! In addition to major fund-raising efforts, the AFKMC is launching the "Heart and Sole" Campaign at the grass roots level to involve donors and create awareness of KMC. "Gently worn" shoes collected will be recycled to more than 50 countries overseas. In return, based upon the total weight of shoes collected, the AFKMC will receive a check from the recycling agency, located in Bensalem, PA.

**All proceeds go directly to the
"Brick-by-Brick" fund.**

By contributing to this effort, community members perform a "triple" Mitzvah: money is donated to the Kaplan Medical Center project – a less fortunate individual receives the recycled shoes – and recycling the shoes is eco-friendly.

For more information contact Lou Balcher lbalcher@afkmc.com



Let's Get Cooking

WITH COOK FOR A FRIEND



**1ST TUESDAY OF
THE MONTH
MARCH 6 4:00PM**



Meet in the Beth El kitchen. No experience required. Come spend an hour or two and help prepare nutritious, kosher meals for homebound seniors.

Thank you to all of our Cook For a Friend Volunteers:

Carol Benderson-Lichter, Mandy Rothstein, Lois Levey, Sandy Silverman,
Eva Samachson, Beth Sadoff, Sylvia Goldberg, Stacey Freed, Laura Lebenkoff,
Jared Freed, Stephen Minsky, Judith Minsky, Marcia Kratz

For more information contact: Beth Sadoff at bjaws999@gmail.com
or 215-208-8006

Social Action Opportunities

GOT NEEDS?

We want to help!

Beth El's Hesed Community is here for you! Each member of Congregation Beth El is a vital part of our caring community. We gladly share in each other's simchas and seek to be supportive of one another when we are experiencing challenges in our lives.

Please let us know if you or someone you know needs assistance. We offer:

- *rides to doctor appointments, Shabbat Services, hospital visits, airport & more!
- *occasional food shopping *set up for a shiva house *babysitter referrals *meals

The possibilities are endless!



HESED COMMUNITY IS HERE FOR YOU!

Please reach out for help when needed

Contact:

- *Barbara or Marian in the office; 215 - 493 - 1707
- *Barbara Schwartz; barbara@bethelyardley.org
- *Marian Berger; mberger@bethelyardley.org

DO A MITZVAH!

Become part of the Hesed Community!

Volunteer to help someone in our community? Call the office.

Women of Beth El



The Women of Beth El

INVITE YOU TO OUR PAID UP MEMBERSHIP BRUNCH

celebrating

**OUR 65TH BIRTHDAY &
THE "UN-PRESIDENTS"**

April 15th, 2018

9:30 AM Mimosa Bar

10 AM Brunch & Reception

Covert \$10
with paid membership
Send checks by April 5th
to Beth El Sisterhood

Contact Estelle Blaustein
for further information
stellib25@gmail.com
(215) 741 - 9897

**HELP US KICK OFF OUR NEW INITIATIVE
MATILDA'S MENTIONABLES**

Women of Beth El

On January 7, the Women of Beth El came in from the frigid cold to share time together. The warmth of friendship was truly shared. Old and new friends had a chance to enjoy hot Israeli food such as cigars and bourekas just to mention a few of the yummys. This was truly a fun event where everyone had a chance to relax and be herself. Special thanks goes to Michelle Flash who opened her lovely house to the group.

For more information contact: Michelle Flash michelleflash@me.com; Gloria Feldman gsf512@netzero.net or Debbie Lubin dzlubin@comcast.net



Share Shabbat

Join
Congregation Beth El's

SHARE SHABBAT

Friday, April 13

6:45 pm

RSVP by March 25

Share Shabbat Dinners are times when congregants open up their homes to host other Beth El families for a Shabbat dinner. The host family prepares the main entree while their guests bring agreed upon accompaniments. The Share Shabbat committee members assign guests to hosts, making an effort to introduce Beth El families/couples to each other. This helps to create a better sense of community for all members.

Become a host or come as a guest.

We hope you will join us and be part of this wonderful experience!

**RSVP by March 25 to Susan Strouse 215-355-8999 or email:
shareshabbatdinner@yahoo.com**

Special Shabbat Happenings at Beth El: ALL ARE WELCOME!



Join us for community - wide
Shabbat Luncheons
Following Shabbat Morning Services

March 17

April 28

May 19

Join Congregation Beth El
on Friday, March 2 6:00pm
for an awesome Shabbat!

a Prayerful, Joyful,
Musical, Moving, Spiritual
Shabbat Experience!

Following services we will have a *Pot Luck Dinner*
Please bring a dairy/vegetarian main course, side
dish or salad to serve at least
8 - 10 people to enjoy!
Beth El will provide the dessert!

**Shiru
La'Adonai**

Next Shiru La'Adonai!
May 4

SPONSOR A SHABBAT

In honor of a birthday, anniversary or
any other occasion!



Each Shabbat we have a list of Oneg and Kiddush sponsors included in our Shabbat Flyer, TV monitor and weekly email. The sponsorship helps to offset the cost of Kosher challah and cakes. The cost is \$18. To sponsor, please contact Carol Benderson - Lighter 215-702-1361 or Marc Shoemaker 215-493-6207.

PASSOVER 2018

It is time to begin thinking about Pesach. Good preparation is the key to a wonderful Seder and a meaningful Pesach.

Hametz (leaven) – The main ritual observance of Pesach is ridding our homes of all forms of leaven. First, all bread products should be removed, either donated to a food pantry, sold, given or thrown away by nightfall on the day before Pesach. Second, we do a ritual search for leaven (*bedikat hametz*), this year on the evening of **Thursday, March 29**, traditionally by candlelight, using a feather and spoon to collect several pieces of specially placed leaven. This is a great ritual for the whole family! We then recite the formula for nullifying any unfound hametz (*bittul hametz*). In the event that some products are too expensive to actually be disposed of, they may be sold to a non-Jew for the duration of Pesach, and Rabbi Gruenberg can act as your agent in that transaction if you sign the form in the synagogue **office by Thursday, March 29**. On the morning of the First Seder night, (Friday, March 30) we destroy the hametz (*biur hametz*) that we found the night before, usually by burning it, and we again recite the formula for nullifying unfound hametz. The rituals for searching, nullifying and destroying hametz can be found in a good haggadah. **Beth El will be collecting your nonperishable, unopened chametz and donating it to the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry. Please leave your donations in the lobby no later than Thursday, March 29 7:00am.**

Ta'anit Bekhorim (Fast of the Firstborn)

On the day leading into seder, all firstborn Jews customarily fast from morning until evening. However, if one takes part in a mitzvah that includes a feast, the fast is cut short. Join Rabbi Gruenberg on **Friday, March 30 at 7:00am morning minyan for some study.**

Ma'ot Hittin

As on every Jewish holiday, it is praiseworthy to give to tzedakah so that others will have enough to eat and, in the case of Pesach, provisions for seder. One wonderful opportunity for doing so is by contributing to Mazon, a Jewish response to hunger. We have their materials in the synagogue lobby or go to: <http://www.mazon.org>. Please make checks payable to Mazon and mail to: P.O. Box 96116 Washington, D.C. 20090.

Seder

The complex details of seder are best addressed through a good haggadah. The Rabbinical Assembly's Feast of Freedom includes a lot of wonderful material, and the Hartman Institute's A Different Night is great for kids, but many others are also worth checking out. Remember that the best seder experience will be one where everyone participates by reading, acting out the story or telling their own stories of personal redemption. There are many online resources to help you enhance your seder.

Schedule of Passover Services

Friday, March 30 (Erev Passover - 1st Seder)

7:00am morning minyan & study with Rabbi Gruenberg

7:04pm Candle Lighting

Saturday, March 31 (1st Day of Passover - 2nd Seder)

9:30am Shabbat Morning Services 8:05 Havdalah

Sunday, April 1 (2nd Day of Passover)

9:30am Services 8:06 Havdalah

Thursday, April 5 (6th Day of Passover – Chol Hamoed)

6:00pm Services 7:10pm Candle Lighting

Friday, April 6 (7th Day of Passover)

9:30am Services 6:00pm Shabbat Evening Services

7:11pm Candle Lighting

Saturday, April 7 (8th Day of Passover)

9:30am Services with Yizkor 8:12pm Havdalah



DO YOU NEED A PLACE TO GO FOR A SEDER OR DO YOU HAVE SPACE AT YOUR SEDER TABLE FOR A GUEST?

Each year at the Passover Seder we recite the words,
"Let all who are hungry, enter and eat,
all who are in need,
let them come celebrate Pesach."

In order to fulfill this prayer, we are matching those
who have open seats at their seder tables with those
who are looking for seders.

If you fall in either category, please call the office by
March 12th, 215-493-1707 x4 or email
office@bethelyardley.org.
Passover begins on Friday, March 31st.

Thank you in advance to those who host, making it
possible for others to fulfill the mitzvah of
attending a seder.

Men's Club

MEN'S CLUB



Join the Men's Club and Rabbi Gruenberg for Torah on Tap. Discuss the weekly Torah portion while enjoying some spirits!

Men's Club meets monthly
on Thursdays

8:00 pm

March 22 - Continental Tavern
April 19 - Rabbi Gruenberg's home
May 3 - Beth El

For more information, contact Ian Schachter at
bonnians@verizon.net or call 215-208-9531
Visit www.bethelyardley.org for updates

MEN'S CLUB ASSISTS STUDENTS IN WORLD WIDE WRAP



MEN'S CLUB PICKLE RUN
VISIT WWW.BETHELYARDLEY.ORG OR MAIL FORM

2018 Men's Club Passover Pickle Run Order Form

Please remember these are the only 5 items available
 for Passover.

NEW Pickles – ¼ Sour	½ Sour	¾ Sour In the brine the longest	Red Horseradish	White Horseradish	Total Due \$13/Jar
					

Paid orders are due at the Synagogue by Monday March 19th, 2018(No Exceptions Please)

Make Checks Payable to Beth El Men's Club

Pickup pickle orders on Sunday, March 25th, 2018 from 11am to 12PM

(We are in communications if there are any changes of plans on the day of delivery)

Your contact information should be a number we can use to contact you on delivery day.

Orders are picked up from The Pickle Guys in New York on Sunday morning and delivered directly to Beth El

(Please make arrangements to pick up at this time. We cannot store your orders.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____





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*Birthday *Anniversary

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For more information contact:

Barbara Schwartz,

Synagogue Administrator

barbara@bethelyardley.org

215-493-1707



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Our Community Mourns the Loss of:



Jean Goldstein, Barbara Melmed's mother
and mother-in-law to Mark



Joyce Rosenstein, long time Beth El Member

Ben Lomas, Joy Lomas' son, father of Manny Lomas &
fiancé to Laura Kriegsberg

Bernard Pashak, John's Pashak's brother and
brother-in-law to Barbara

Eleanor Gutbezahl, long time member and Past President
of Beth El

Devorah Jacobvitz, Michael Jelen's grandmother;
grandmother-in-law to Shanna and great-grandmother to
Raleigh, Skylar & Casey

Martin Dubin, Miriam Dubin's husband

John Jacavage, Abbey Kramer's father, father-in-law to Greg
and grandfather to Jacob & Braydon



Mazel Tov to Sherry and Rob Goldstein on the occasion of their daughter, Evie becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Mazel Tov to Margie & Jack Wellerstein on the occasion of their granddaughter, Evie becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Mazel Tov to Michael and Shanna Jelen on the occasion of their daughter, Raleigh becoming a Bat Mitzvah

Mazel Tov to Amy and Josh Laff on the occasion of their son, Jared becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Mazel Tov to Cara & Marshal Davis on the birth of their son, Jacob Flash Davis

Mazel Tov to Michelle & Alan Flash on the birth of their grandson, Jacob Flash Davis

Mazel Tov to Mallory and Adam Flager on the birth of their son, Zev Andrew Flager; great grandson of Renee Flager; grandson of Randy and Sherry Flager and grandson of Marsha Flager; nephew of Melissa and Conrad Hough; great nephew of Debbie and Steve Lipschutz & Michael and Michelle Weinberg



Welcome new members to our
Beth El Family!

Morris and Janet Kaplan



We are looking for a few good Minyaners

Congregation Beth El holds both morning
and evening minyan services open to our
members and friends in the community.

We invite you to join us and become a
regular volunteer. Take some time from
your busy day or week, come to our chapel and pray with
friends and neighbors, and be there to support a person
saying kaddish or yarzeit.

**It's a mitzvah... It's good for you and it's good for
our community.**

Morning Services

Monday - Friday at 7:00 AM

Evening Services

Monday - Thursday at 7:30 PM

Sunday Morning Services

8:00 AM

Please give Brian Levey, our Minyan
Committee Leader, a call.

Home: 215-321-8670

Cell: 267-250-7526

Email: blevey1000@gmail.com or visit
www.bethelyardley.org



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Barbara Schwartz at
215-493-1707 or
email barbara@bethelyardley.org

Cemetery Plot



No one really expects the need of having to buy cemetery plots. It is a wonderful benefit of belonging to Congregation Beth El of Yardley. There is no better time to buy than the present time, before you have the need. We want to help you make the choice before the emotional time after a death. Many Funeral directors encourage the pre-need

arrangements of all of the aspects of the funeral, burial, and monuments. The Cemetery Committee can offer you the time to select a plot at the cemetery or just by reviewing our plot maps and photographs. King David Memorial Park is located in Bensalem, PA. Beth El has over 400 plots in section R. Effective September 1, 2016 the Board of Directors approved a price increase to \$1800 per plot. This is far below the price for the general public making a request at King David. A Family Gravesite includes four plots and costs \$7200. Sign up now for the reduced prices. These charges are transacted with the synagogue only and you may not deal with King David or other congregants directly for the purchase or sale of any plots in Section R. When a plot is paid in full the owner is granted the rights of sepulcher and these rights are shared with their heirs even if they are not members. Beth El does not sell plots to non-members of the congregation. In the event of an owner moving or not needing their plots, they may return their papers for a refund less 10% of the purchase price. The price of the plot does not include any services, openings, burial, vault, or monument charges.

For more information please call Michael Weinberg, Cemetery Committee Chairman @215-321-1312

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JEWISH FEDERATION FOOD PANTRY

The Jewish Federation's food pantry at KleinLife in Northeast Philadelphia is currently seeking volunteers on select Fridays from 10am–1pm as it expands its hours to serve more clients. The Choice Food Pantry at KleinLife features an innovative model where the clients get to choose what food they receive (rather than a pre-packaged box) and use a touchscreen to make their selection. Anyone interested in volunteering can email Jeremy Heller directly at mail@jeremyheller.com.



Ideas or submissions for The Shofar?

Email feedback, articles and pictures to:
barbara@bethelyardley.org

If you would like to receive a hard copy of *The Shofar* via regular U.S. mail, do not hesitate to request an issue to be delivered to your door.

Simply call the synagogue office,
215-493-1707 x4 or
email barbara@bethelyardley.org

We make every effort to ensure our information is accurate and up-to-date.

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*MARCH 2018 CALENDAR

visit www.bethelyardley.org

(*subject to change - always check website)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				14th of Adar Purim 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	15th of Adar Shushan Purim 7:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 5:34pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Shiru La'Adonai Musical Shabbat	16th of Adar Parashat Ki Tisa 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services 6:35pm Havdalah 8:00pm EPA/HaGeshher USY Prom 7:30pm Film Festival
4 17th of Adar 8:00am Morning Minyan 9:00am - Noon Gift Shop 9:00am - Noon FJLC (PreK - 7th) 9:15am - Noon FJLC Board Meeting 11:00am FJLC PTO Meeting 2:00pm - 3:30pm World Religion Class 1:30pm - 3:30pm Chaverim 2:00pm - 3:30pm Kadima	5 18th of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	6 19th of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 4:00pm Cook for a Friend 7:30pm Evening Minyan	7 20th of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 10:30am Current Events with Rabbi Gruenberg 4:30pm - 6:30pm FJLC (3rd - 7th) 6:30pm - 8:45pm HaMoadon Hebrew High 7:30pm Evening Minyan	8 21st of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	9 22nd of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 5:42pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Shabbat Services	10 23rd of Adar Parashat Vayakhel-Pekudei Shabbat Parah 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services with Bat Mitzvah of Evie Brynne Goldstein 6:43pm Havdalah 7:15pm Film Festival
11 24th of Adar Daylight saving time begins 8:00am Morning Minyan 9:00am - Noon Gift Shop 9:00am - Noon FJLC (PreK - 7th) 10:30am - Noon Book Nosh	12 25th of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan 7:30pm Executive Committee Meeting	13 26th of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	14 27th of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 10:30am - Current Events with Rabbi Gruenberg 4:30pm - 6:30pm FJLC (3rd - 7th) 6:30pm - 8:45pm HaMoadon Hebrew High 7:30pm Evening Minyan	15 28th of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	16 29th of Adar 7:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 6:00pm Kid-ish Club Shabbat (Lev Students) 6:49pm Candle Lighting	17 1st of Nissan Rosh Chodesh Nissan Parashat Vayikra Shabbat Ha Chodesh 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services with Shabbat Luncheon 10:00am BMU 10:00am Minions Congo 7:50pm Havdalah 8:15pm Film Festival
18 2nd of Nissan 8:00am Morning Minyan 9:00am - Noon Gift Shop 9:00am - Noon FJLC (PreK - 7th) 10:00am BMU 2:00pm - 3:30pm World Religion Class	19 3rd of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan 7:30pm Board Meeting	20 4th of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	21 5th of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 10:30am - Current Events with Rabbi Gruenberg 4:30pm - 6:30pm FJLC (3rd - 7th) 6:30pm - 8:45pm HaMoadon Hebrew High 7:30pm Evening Minyan	22 6th of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 6:00pm Men's Club Torah On Tap Continental Tavern 7:30pm Evening Minyan	23 7th of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 6:00pm Shabbat Services 6:56pm Candle Lighting	24 8th of Nissan Parashat Tzav Shabbat HaGadol 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services with Bat Mitzvah of Raleigh Jelen 7:57pm Havdalah 8:30pm Film Festival
25 9th of Nissan 9:00am Morning Minyan 9:00am - Noon Gift Shop 9:00am - Noon FJLC (PreK - 7th) 9:00am Men's Club Yom HaShoah Candle Project 10:00am FJLC Passover Program	26 10th of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	27 11th of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	28 12th of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 10:30am - Current Events With Rabbi Gruenberg 4:30pm - 6:30pm FJLC (3rd - 7th) 6:30pm - 8:45pm HaMoadon Hebrew High 7:30pm Evening Minyan	29 13th of Nissan 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	30 14th of Nissan 1st Passover Seder Erev Pesach OFFICE CLOSED Gift Shop closed No Friday Night Services 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:04pm Candle Lighting	31 15th of Nissan Passover Begins 2nd Passover Seder Pesach 1 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services 6:30pm Evening Minyan 8:05pm Havdalah

*APRIL 2018 CALENDAR

visit www.bethelyardley.org

(*subject to change - always check website)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 16th of Nisan Passover Pesach II Gift shop closed No FJLC 9:30am Passover Services 8:06pm Havdalah	2 17th of Nisan Passover Pesach III (CH" M) 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	3 18th of Nisan Passover Pesach IV (CH" M) 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening Minyan	4 19th of Nisan Passover Pesach V (CH" M) Gift Shop closed No Current Events No FJLC No HaMoadon 7:00am Morning Minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan	5 20th of Nisan Passover Pesach VI (CH" M) Office closes at Noon 7:00am Morning Minyan 6:00pm Evening minyan 7:10pm Candle lighting	6 21st of Nisan Passover Pesach VII OFFICE CLOSED Gift Shop closed 9:30am Passover Services 6:00pm Shabbat Services 7:11pm Candle Lighting	7 22nd of Nisan Pesach VIII Passover Ends 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services with Yizkor 8:12pm Havdalah
8 23rd of Nisan 8:00am Morning minyan 9:00am - Noon Gift Shop 9:00am - Noon FJLC (PreK - 7th)	9 24th of Nisan 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan 7:30pm Executive Committee Meeting	10 25th of Nisan 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan	11 26th of Nisan 7:00am Morning minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift shop 10:30am Current Events with Rabbi Gruenberg 4:30pm - 6:30pm FJLC (3rd-7th) 5:00pm Yom HaShoah Program 6:30pm - 8:00pm HaMoadon Hebrew High 7:30pm Evening Minyan 7:45pm Beth El Yom HaShoah Commemoration	12 27th of Nisan Yom HaShoah 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan	13 28th of Nisan 7:00am Morning minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 6:00pm Shabbat Services 6:45 pm Share Shabbat 7:18pm Candle Lighting	14 29th of Nisan Parashat Shmini 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services with Bar Mitzvah of Jared Laff 8:19pm Havdalah
15 30th of Nisan Rosh Chodesh Iyar 8:00am Morning minyan 9:00am - Noon Gift shop 9:00am - Noon FJLC (PreK - 7th) 10:00am Women of Beth El Paid-Up Membership Brunch	16 1st of Iyar Rosh Chodesh Iyar 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan 7:30pm Board Meeting	17 2nd of Iyar 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan	18 3rd of Iyar Yom HaZikaron 7:00am Morning minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 10:30am Current events with Rabbi Gruenberg 4:30pm - 6:30pm FJLC (3rd - 7th) 6:30pm - 8:45pm HaMoadon Hebrew High 7:30pm Evening minyan	19 4th of Iyar Yom Ha Atzma'ut 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan 8:00pm Men's Club Torah on Tap at Rabbi Gruenberg's home	20 5th of Iyar EPA/HaGesher USY Spring Convention 7:00am Morning minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift shop 6:00pm Kid-ish Club Shabbat (PreK-2) 6:00pm Shabbat Services 7:25pm Candle Lighting	21 6th of Iyar Parashat Tazria-Metzora EPA/HaGesher USY Spring Conference 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services 8:26pm Havdalah
22 7th of Iyar EPA/HaGesher USY Spring Conference 8:00am Morning minyan 9:00am - Noon Gift Shop 9:00am - Noon FJLC (PreK - 7th) 10:30am - Noon Book Nosh	23 8th of Iyar 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan	24 9th of Iyar 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan	25 10th of Iyar 7:00am Morning minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 10:30am Current events with Rabbi Gruenberg 4:30pm - 6:30pm FJLC (3rd - 7th) 5:00pm Yom HaShoah Program 6:30pm - 8:00pm HaMoadon Hebrew High 7:30pm Evening Minyan	26 11th of Iyar 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan	27 12th of Iyar 7:00am Morning minyan 10:00am - Noon Gift Shop 6:00pm Shabbat Services & Celebration of 65 years of Beth El 7:32pm Candle Lighting	28 13th of Iyar Parashat Achrei Kedoshim 9:30am Shabbat Morning Services with Shabbat Luncheon; Celebrating 65 years of Beth El 10:00am BMU 10:00am Minions Congo 8:33pm Havdalah
29 14th of Iyar Pesach Sheni 8:00am Morning minyan 9:00am - Noon Gift Shop 9:00am - Noon FJLC (PreK - 7th) 5:00pm Celebrate 65 years of Beth El: Dueling Pianos Cocktail Party	30 15th of Adar 7:00am Morning minyan 7:30pm Evening minyan					

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Mallory Flager's birthday and Mallory & Adam's anniversary
 Adam Flager

Birth of Jacob Flash Davis, son of Cara & Marshal, grandson of Michelle & Alan
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Birth of Jacob Flash Davis, grandson of Michelle & Alan Flash

Faye Laveson

20th anniversary of opening of Dr. Paul Rosen's practice

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B'nai Mitzvah of Samantha & Emily

Selma Spivack

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Eleanor Gutbezah

Deb & Dan Wachspress
Eileen & Elliot Berkman
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Faye Laveson
Selma Spivack

Jean Goldstein, mother of Barbara Melmed

Faye Laveson
Gloria Feldman
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Gerald Olen

Janet & Leon Rudolph

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Elliot Berkman

Charlotte & Harold Denenberg

Library Fund

In Memory of:

Jean Goldstein, mother of Barbara Melmed
Lenora Perlmutter

Morning Minyan Fund

In Honor of:

Birth of Zev Andrew Flager

Cara & Leon Weissman

In Memory of:

Andy Flager

Sherry & Randy Flager

Oring Family Hesed Fund

In Honor of:

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Karen, Marc & Matt Shoemaker

Birth of Zev Andrew Flager

Karen, Marc & Matt Shoemaker
Stuart Lighter & Carol Benderson-Lighter

In Memory of:

Jean Goldstein, mother of Barbara Melmed

Michelle & Alan Flash
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Helene & Alexander Geiger
The Shoemakers

Vera Glick

Charlotte & Harold Denenberg
Women of Beth El

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Charlotte & Harold Denenberg
Stuart Lighter & Carol Benderson-Lighter

Joan Hersch's sister, Lois

Karen, Marc & Matt Shoemaker

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Michelle & Michael Weinberg

Claire Rader

Pearl Meltzer

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Karen, Marc & Matt Shoemaker

Ilene Dolnick

Stuart Lighter & Carol Benderson-Lighter

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Stuart Lighter & Carol Benderson-Lighter

Perez Youth Scholarship Fund

(Jewish Camp & USY Programs)

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Bonnie Abrams

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Prayer Book Fund

In Honor of:

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The Rhoda & Morris Volk Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund

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When making a donation to Rabbi Gruenberg's Discretionary Fund, please make the check payable to:
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CONGREGATION BETH EL GIFT OPPORTUNITIES

Tree of Life Honor a birthday, anniversary, wedding, Bar/Bat Mitzvah or any other happy occasion with an engraved leaf on our tree of life for \$180 or a boulder for \$750.

Donation Cards Our donation cards are a wonderful way to recognize important life-cycle events, extend wishes for speedy recovery or show your appreciation for someone's kindness and helps fulfill the mitzvah of tzedakah. There are two different cards to choose from - a beautiful Menorah card (\$7) and a colorful picture of three of our Torot (\$18). Your gift can also be designated to one of the following funds:

Building Fund	Cook for a Friend Project Fund
Eric J. Marinoff College Outreach Fund	Fierverker Education Fund
Golda Meir Religious Books & Articles Fund	Heidi Mittleman Memorial Library Fund
Morning Minyan Fund	Oring Family Hesed Fund
Perez Youth Scholarship Fund	Rabbi Gruenberg's Discretionary Fund
(for Jewish camp & USY programs)	The Rhoda and Morris Volk Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund

Book Dedications There are also opportunities to have a bookplate placed on the back of the front cover of a Siddur (Prayer Book), or Mahzor (High Holiday Prayer Book) - any time someone opens the book, they will learn of your donation: Prayer Book: \$54 High Holiday Mahzor: \$54

Yahrzeit Plaques Among the customs to help us with loss and bereavement is the commemoration of a loved one on a Yahrzeit plaque. These plaques, which are affixed to a special memorial board in our Chapel, are an expression of love and devotion. The plaque will be mounted on our Yahrzeit board in perpetuity. Each year you will receive a notice of the date of the yahrzeit, it will be announced during Shabbat services, and the plaque will be lit in memory of your loved one for a full month. The cost is \$750 for members and \$900 for non-members. Contact the office to receive a form.

Cemetery Plots - Beth El owns cemetery plots at King David Memorial Park in Bensalem. Call the office for further details and pricing information or contact Michael Weinberg 215-321-1312.

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Enclosed is my gift of \$_____ (Menorah card \$7 - \$17, Torot card \$18+)

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