



chai

FROM
CONGREGATION BETH EL

THE CENTER OF JEWISH LIFE IN FORT BEND COUNTY

NOVEMBER 2023

BETHELTx.ORG



WELCOME

to another look into our active community

The mission of Congregation Beth El shall be to maintain a place of worship for the Reform Jewish Community, as the Center of Jewish Life in Fort Bend, County. It is to advance Jewish education, promote Jewish Culture and provide facilities for social interaction. We will achieve this by conducting ourselves in accordance with our name "House of GOD."

Congregation Beth El is affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism. Becoming a synagogue member and joining a Jewish community is a deeply personal experience. We warmly welcome those who seek to be part of our congregation, regardless of age, marital status, race, or sexual orientation. We encourage you to meet the many wonderful people who are a part of our *kehillah k'dosha*. We seek to create a close-knit community bonded together by the highest ideals of our faith. Most importantly, Beth El provides a warm and welcoming environment that like family is ready to extend a hand to all who seek to enrich their faith in Judaism, support for the State of Israel, and become engaged in the community.

CONTACT US

CONGREGATION BETH EL

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Missouri City, TX 77459*

*281.499.5066
admin@betheltx.org
www.betheltx.org*

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a message from the Canyon

Thanksgiving comes but once a year; giving thanks is for every day. If you've ever met me, you know I'm a big proponent of small gratitude--by which I mean finding the seemingly smallest thing I can to be grateful for. Things we take for granted but would **really** miss if they were gone.

You've heard these three before: Washing machines. Curbside garbage pickup. Ice whenever we want some. That's not to say these are the things for which I am **most** grateful. Top of my list is the same as everyone else's: family, friends, health, food, clothing, and shelter. We know not to take those for granted, and we know there are many people on the planet who cannot count on those things. The challenge is seeking out more and more things to be an excuse to exercise the gratitude muscle. And the more we are able to build up that muscle, the more calm we are likely to find. The more gratitude, the more patience, the more resilience: the more contentment.

It's not always possible to feel gratitude or even think of something for which to feel gratitude. After a tragedy, for instance, or when mental illness prevents it. It is not shameful to be unable to be grateful. But when our life circumstances allow it, gratitude can be healing and strengthening. It can give us perspective on what is truly important and affect our worldview.

Take a moment to choose something "small" to be grateful for. Put a note on the fridge or your bathroom mirror to remind yourself to give thanks for your small something. See how it makes you feel and how it directs your thoughts.

Dave, Zev, and I are so grateful for our CBE community and wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving!





Jewish Federation
OF GREATER HOUSTON

MITZVAH MEALS

— Dine for a Cause —

Wednesday, November 1

Support restaurants in Israel feeding those directly impacted by the war by dining at local restaurants!

Amidst the crisis in Israel, numerous restaurants have transformed their kitchens into community hubs, cooking nourishing meals for affected families and those responding to the needs created by the conflict. Members of the Houston restaurant community are supporting restaurant groups in Israel by designating a special dining day to support Mitzvah Meals.

You can support this cause by dining at select Houston restaurants on Wednesday, November 1. Participating restaurants will donate a percentage of the day's proceeds to the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston's Mitzvah Meal campaign, a special effort as part of our Israel Emergency Fund.

BAGEL EXPRESS WILL DONATE 36% OF SALES



For a list of participating restaurants and more information, or if you want to donate directly, scan the QR code to visit

HOUSTONJEWISH.ORG/MITZVAHMEALS

BRANZAH

classes for Adults

November 2 & 16 and December 7 & 21
7p - 9p

Email Cantor Waghalter for more information

CONGREGATION BETH EL'S
FRIDAY NIGHT
SHIR SHABBAT

WITH A SPECIAL BLESSING FOR
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER 3

7 PM

IN PERSON

**THE BEAUTIFUL
VOICES OF
ALAN & ANNIE
SCHNEIDER
WILL BE
LEADING THE
SERVICE**



**Congregation Beth El is excited
to announce our**



SHABBAT PLAYDATE STROLL

**Saturday, Nov 4
9:30am start time**

*Let us know you will
be joining us by
clicking here no
later than Nov 2*



**Bring your stroller/wagon for a casual Shabbat
stroll down the edible path next to the temple.**

We will meet up at the Sukkah.

**Join us as we experience nature, pray together,
and share snacks along the path.**



SEEDS OF SERENITY

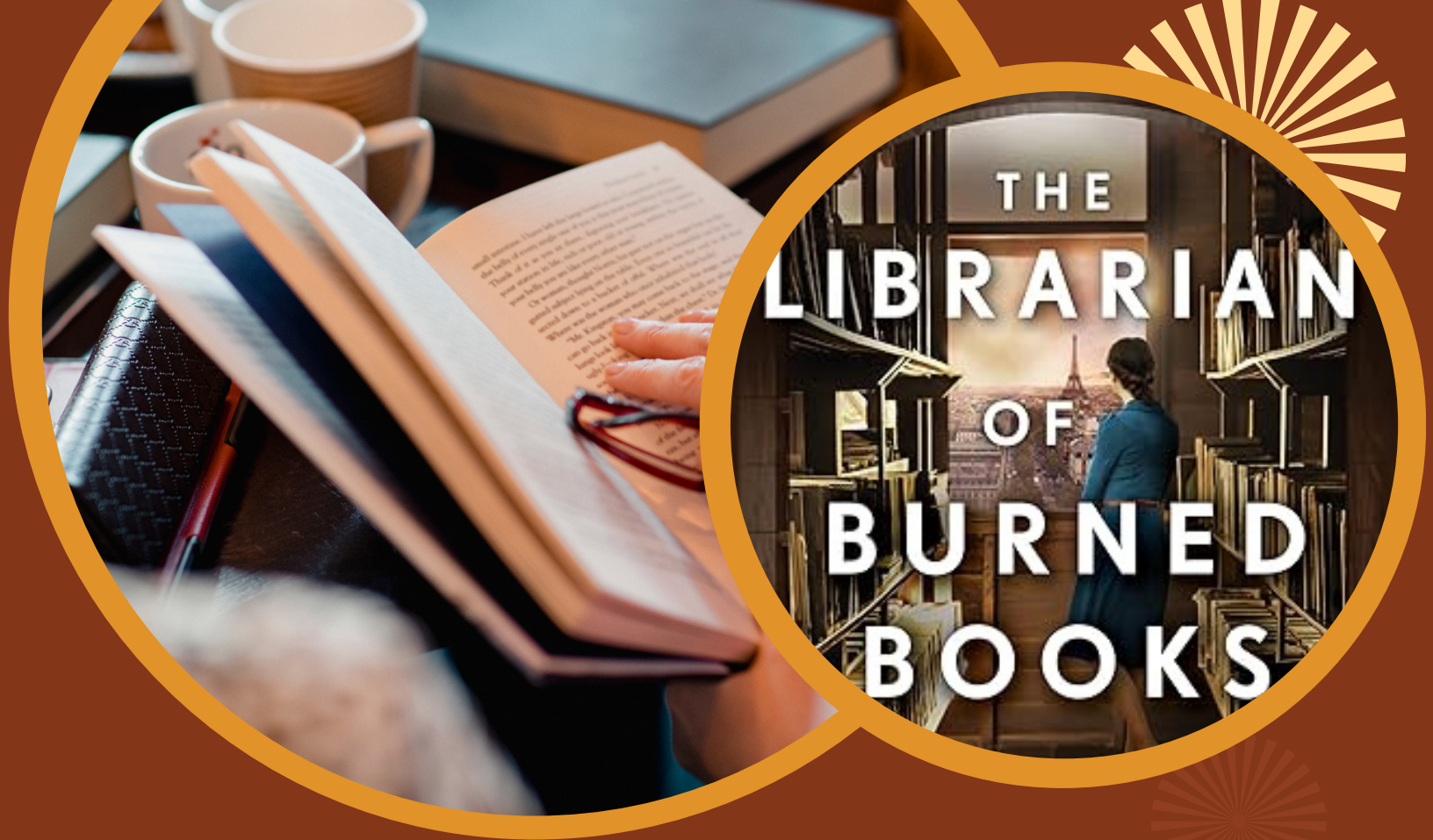
GARDEN CLUB

***The Garden Club will have its first gathering on
Sunday, November 5, at 9am!***

Angie Perry, will lead the group in assessing our garden. Followed by a trip to a local nursery. There, we'll have a chance to pick out some winter flowers that will add vibrancy and charm to our garden.

Upon our return, the planting begins! We will all roll up our sleeves and start planting the new additions to our garden. This hands-on activity is a great way to learn more about gardening and enjoy the process.





Ann and Stephen Kaufman Jewish Book & Arts Festival

COMMUNITY *Read*

Community Read is a book club for the entire community.
We invite book clubs and individual readers to unite in a
shared literary experience.

... **November 6th, 2023** ...
6:15 PM Dinner | 7:30 PM Author Event

Enjoy dinner with friends and have a photo opportunity with Brianna Labuskes. Pre-order a boxed dinner from Laykie's Café at the J, or bring your own, and we'll provide the wine! When you reserve your seat in the theatre, you can sign up for a spot at dinner, with options to reserve a boxed dinner and arrange for your group to sit together. Click the link below for more information.

WWW.ERJCCHOUSTON.ORG/EVENT/BOOK-FEST-COMMUNITY-READ/

Shabbat at Beth El

FRIDAYS AT 7 PM

November 3: Shir Shabbat is back! in person*

November 10: Shabbat in person*

November 17: Shabbat via Zoom

November 24: Shabbat via Zoom

**In-person services will not be live-streamed*

Friends and Guests of CBE can request the Zoom link [here](#).

CURRENT EVENTS November 8

**BRING YOUR LUNCH AND SMOOZE AT 12:30
DISCUSSION STARTS AT 1:00
BRING A TOPIC AND JOIN IN.
OPEN TO ALL ADULTS**



**WE'LL MEET IN THE
LIBRARY AT BETH EL.**

**HAVE QUESTIONS? CONTACT
ED CARLIN AT EDWRCAR@YAHOO.COM, (832) 886-4666 OR
BARB ZACK AT BARBARA3132001@YAHOO.COM, 813-340-8819**



Congregation Beth El Confirmation

The Hopeful Young Generation



Wednesday, November 8, 6:30 - 8:30pm

Join Cantor Waghalter and Michelle Renfrow for our first confirmation class of the fall! We will meet at Beth El for dinner (Mexican) and discuss the crisis in Israel with Haral Bassan, Houston Federation Shaliach.

RSVP HERE

(Save the date for December 6th- make latkes and Chanukah talk - bring a curious friend to teach them about this fun holiday!)



Hanukkah is Thursday, December 7th – December 15th

*To help celebrate, Bagel Express will be selling latkes, made exclusively by Kenny and Ziggy's and donating **\$20 per dozen** back to CBE!*

Click [**HERE**](#) to place your order online no later than Sunday, November 26th. You can also call the office at 281-499-5066 and leave a message for a staff member return your call.

Latke orders are available for pickup beginning
Thursday, December 7, 2023 from 7 am – 2 pm at:
Bagel Express – 4670 Highway 6, Sugar Land, TX 77478
(payment due at time of pickup)



Name: _____	Phone: _____
Potato Latkes \$24/dz. Qty: _____	Date of pickup: _____



Kristallnacht: Finding Strength and Inspiration through Reflection and Learning

**Don't Miss this Exclusive Virtual Event for Members of
Congregations Participating in ADL's Kulanu Program**

Join Kulanu congregations from across North America for a virtual learning session and text study marking Kristallnacht, featuring Rabbi David Wolpe, ADL's Rabbinic Fellow. This session will reflect on the events of Kristallnacht through the lens of Jewish thought leaders and foundational texts, offering hope in the face of rising antisemitism and hate today.

Kristallnacht, the night of the broken glass, occurred November 9-10, 1938, when mobs took to the streets of Germany and Austria, committing a wave of violent attacks against the Jewish community including the burning of synagogues, Torah scrolls and holy books, the desecration of Jewish cemeteries and schools and the murder of almost 100 Jews.

As ADL's Rabbinic Fellow, Rabbi David Wolpe serves as a thought leader within the organization, advising on interfaith and intergroup affairs, and sharing his thoughts and reflections with the community at large. Rabbi Wolpe, who has authored eight books, is the Max Webb Emeritus Rabbi of Sinai Temple in Los Angeles and was named the most influential Rabbi in America by Newsweek.



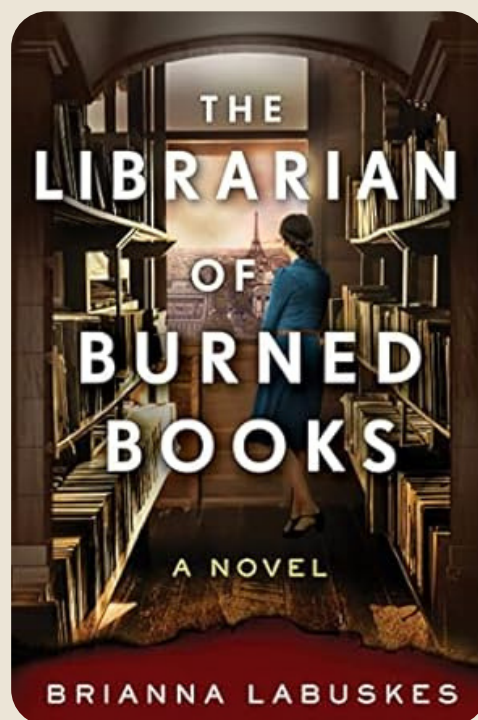
Rabbi David Wolpe
ADL Rabbinic Fellow

**Thursday,
November 16, 2023
7 pm ET/4 pm PT**

Register here.



CLUB BOOK CBE



TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 28 | 7 PM
HOSTED BY MARILYN CARLIN

**THE LIBRARIAN OF BURNED
BOOKS**

BY BRIANNA LABUSKES
**EVERYONE IS WELCOME, EVEN IF
YOU HAVE YET TO READ THE BOOK.**

**EVERYONE BRINGS SOMETHING FOR
THE GROUP TO SNACK ON.
DESSERT AND DRINKS WILL BE
PROVIDED.**

**PLEASE LET US KNOW WHAT YOU
PLAN TO BRING.**

**CONTACT MARILYN CARLIN AT
MARILYN@KATIEBEAR.NET**



J.U.L.I.E.T.

**Jewish Uber-fun Ladies
Interested in
Eating Together**

Our next Juliet lunch will be
Wednesday, November 15 at 11:30 am
The Nines Thai Cuisine - 203 Century Square Blvd.

For more information, feel free to call
Jan Poscovsly at 281.468.9185 with questions.

RSVP to www.betheltx.org/event/juliet so we can set up appropriately.
We are looking forward to schmoozing with everyone.

R.O.M.E.O.

RETIREED OLD MEN EATING OUT

A get-together for schmoozing & interfacing
The R.O.M.E.O. group will be meeting for lunch
Friday, November 17 - 12p at
Dumar's Mediterranean Grill
4518 Hwy 6, South

For more information
Call or text
Steve Raskin
713-822-1883



Fort Bend Meals on Wheels

Coffee Drive

November 27 - December 11
hosted by
Congregation Beth El

DROP OFF SCHEDULE
WEDNESDAYS, NOV 29 & DEC 6: 9a - 12p

FRIDAYS, DEC 1 & 8
11a - 1p or 6:30p before Shabbat service

SUNDAYS, DEC 3 & 10: 9a - 12p



Please Donate

Big Cans of ground coffee
(think Costco size or largest can buy at the grocery)

8oz Styrofoam cups

Sugar and Creamer
(individual packets or big containers)

Kleenex and Paper Towels
(to be used at the centers and also for Bingo Prizes)



Shopping Made Easy!

**Click on the Amazon logo and see
our wish list. Your orders will be
delivered to CBE and included in
our collection delivery to the
Meals on Wheels congregate
center in Richmond, TX**

**Questions? Call the synagogue at
281-499-5066 or
email admin@betheltx.org**

**To learn about Ft Bend Meals on Wheels
visit www.fortbendseniors.org**



**Thank You for
Your Donation...**



October 2023 Youth Events

BEFTY PUMPKINS & PANCAKES



Mrs. Nickels Religious School class
practiced their Hebrew words by
writing in chocolate

Hanukkah SHOP & SCHMOOZE

Sunday, Dec 3
9a - Noon
CBE Sanctuary

CLOTHING - CANDLES
JEWELRY - GIFTS & MORE

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE
CBE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

VENDORS, CLICK HERE FOR
MORE INFORMATION



Congregation Beth El Confirmation

The Hopeful Young Generation

Wednesday December 6

6:30 - 8:30pm

Meet Cantor Waghalter and
Michelle Renfrow at Beth El
for some Chanukah baking
delight!

Bring a friend to share in
the celebration of all things
Chanukah!

RSVP here



SL HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**NOVEMBER
2023**

November 4
Sarah Dushkin

November 5
Marcia Forbes

November 6
Daniel Steiner
Tina Steiner

November 8
Haley Rosales
Luke Okie

November 10
Elizabeth Newlin
Charlotte Krantz
Nicholas Ettinger

November 14
Anna Gratz

November 15
Dora Pincus
Betty Braun

November 16
Jodi Bernstein
Rivka Ettinger

November 17
Howard Katz

November 22
Brian Raywid

November 24
Madeline Marlowe

November 25
Carol Katz
Wendy Warren

November 28
Michael Bersin

November 30
Marilyn Gorel





Happy Anniversary

NOVEMBER 2023

November 4

Robert & Lisa Goodman

November 6

Brian Raywid & Patricia Rose

November 24

Ed & Marilyn Carlin

Bill & Ellen Asnes

November 28

Gilad Baram & Karen Moody

*'Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, King of the universe,
who hath created joy & gladness,
bridegroom and bride, mirth and exultation,
pleasure and delight, love and brotherhood,
peace and friendship.'*



NOVEMBER 2023

Yahrzeits

*May their
memory be
for a blessing.*

November 1
Harry Dobrin
Maria Fackeldey
Henry Wertheimer

November 2
Frieda Cahn
Darrellyn Soffar

November 3
David Linzer

November 4
Irving Raskin

November 5
Maury Berger
Jack Cohen

November 6
Israel R Cohen

November 7
Earl Gorel
Kenneth Topletz

November 9
Dave Abels

November 10
William Warren

November 13
Lillian Drew Krantz
Jacob Oksman
Isak Sporn

November 14
Evelyn Breslow

November 15
George Cohen

November 16
Rose Rosenberg
Y. Mike Wormser

November 17
Hyman Lipman
Sol Olan
Sidney Schoner

November 18
Michael Liftman
Adel Stern

November 19
Samuel Barenbaum
Neil Feldstein

November 20
Laurence R Friedman

November 21
June Must

November 24
William Kaplan

November 25
Rae Zackim

November 27
Herbert Goodman
Peter Lipman
Yetta Sporn

November 28
Hyman Markowitz
Brian Ricardo

November 29
Marjorie Campbell
Hyman Poscovsky
Susan May Schneider

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 MITZVAH MEALS SUPPORT ISRAEL WHILE YOU DINE	2 7p Adult B'nai Mitzvah class	3 7p Shir Shabbat in person	4 9a Shabbat Playdate Stroll
5 9a RS 9a Garden Clube 1p Private Event	6 6p Community Read	7 	8 12:30p AOA (library) 6:30p Confirmation Class	9	10 7p Shabbat in person	11
ORDER YOUR LATKES FROM BAGEL EXPRESS (DEC 7-15)						
12 NO RS 1p Private Event	13	14 BOARD MEETING	15 11:30a JULIET luncheon	16 7p Adult B'nai Mitzvah class 7p ADL Kuclanu	17 12p ROMEO 7p Shabbat Zoom Ask the Cantor	18
ORDER YOUR LATKES FROM BAGEL EXPRESS (DEC 7-15)						
19 NO RS 1p Private Event	20	21	22	23  Shul Office Closed	24 Shul Office Closed 7p Shabbat Zoom	25
26 NO RS	27	28	29 6:30p Cub Scouts 6:30p MCPOA (library)	30	DATES TO REMEMBER December 7 First night of Hanukkah December 25 & 26 Shul Office Closed January 1 & 2 - 2024 Shul Office Closed	
COFFEE DRIVE FOR FT BEND MEALS ON WHEELS (NOV 27-DEC 11)						

BETH EL
HIGH
HOLIDAY
PLEDGES
2023

*Bill & Ellen Asnes
Jodi Bernstein
Michael & Erin Bersin
Betty Braun
Darrell & Joy Caraway
Carol Cooper
Kay Danziger
Sarah & Joel Dushkin
Marc & Ellen Ellison
Barry & Monica Finberg
Robert & Lisa Goodman
Carol Katz
Steven & Suzanne Levine
Larry & Debra Linzer*

*Michael & Peggy Markowitz
Joanne Must
Beau & Elizabeth Newlin
Larry & Judy Ostrow
Jory & Debra Pacht
Deb & Jim Paras
Alison Rabinovitz
Eunice Reiter
Larry & Linda Rushefsky
Alan & Ann Schneider
Barry & Sharon Shapiro
Mark & Missi Shapiro
Daniel & Tina Steiner
Barbara Zack & Buddy Snyder*

Tzedakah is equal in importance to all other commandments combined!
— Talmud

**CONGREGATION BETH EL APPRECIATES YOUR
COMMITMENT AND SUPPORT IN ENSURING OUR PRESENCE
IN FORT BEND, TODAY AND TOMORROW!**

BETH EL
DONATIONS
NOVEMBER
2023

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

In memory of Kenneth and Sue Topletz

Kay Danziger

In honor of the Cantor's wonderful High Holiday services

Alan & Ann Schneider

In honor of Milbert, our High Holiday pianist

Alan & Ann Schneider

In honor of the High Holiday Choir

Alan & Ann Schneider

Dora & Daniel Soffar Operating Fund

In memory of Karl Reiter

Eunice Reiter

In memory of Darrellyn Soffar

Deb & Jim Paras

In memory of Mel Auster

Deb & Jim Paras