

SEPTEMBER 2023
BETHELTX.ORG

chai

FROM
CONGREGATION BETH EL

THE CENTER OF JEWISH LIFE IN FORT BEND COUNTY



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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The High Holidays are just around the corner and this year, as you enter our Synagogue on Rosh Hashanah, you will see that Phase I of our renovation plan has been completed! The lobby has been spruced up and provides a more peaceful and attractive space and the bathrooms have been painted as well. What a difference these few improvements have made! Thanks to all who made special contributions to enable this phase of the renovations.

And we've not only improved the physical space, we are focusing on providing you with even more joyful and meaningful experiences - strengthening our position as the Center of Jewish Life in Fort Bend County. To find out what is "joyful and meaningful" to you, we hope you will respond when you receive a survey, or an invitation to chat with CBE leadership. We will be reaching out to find out what would enrich your Congregation Beth El experience.

In 5784, we hope to grow in multiple ways. First and foremost, we will strive to increase the engagement and participation of our current members in our holiday celebrations, programs, social gatherings, and Shabbat services. Our plan is to extend our social groups to include young families, inter-faith families, photographers, gardeners, travelers, as well as groups focused on Tikkun Olum, healthy living and nature lovers. Do you have a special interest not mentioned? Please let us know!

For our High Holiday Services, we are offering free babysitting (by advanced registration). Our Erev Rosh Hashanah service will feature a musical ensemble and a festive, savory, and sweet Oneg, underwritten by Kay Danziger and supported by our talented CBE bakers.



There will also be a Rosh Hashanah carnival and picnic with Tashlich and a unique family service on September 17th at Community Park at 10 a.m. I am very much looking forward to our teen-led Yom Kippur afternoon service, followed by a tailgate break-the-fast in the parking lot on Sept 25th, immediately following the Neilah Service. Details on all can be found on betheltx.org.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we wish you Shana Tovah! May you and your family enjoy a sweet year, full of good health and happiness. I hope to see you enjoying our High Holiday services and activities.

Irene Helsinger, CBE President



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

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

Our next Juliet lunch will be
Wednesday, September 20, at 11:30 am
Alex's Kitchen - 2601 Cartwright

For more information, feel free to call
Irene Helsinger at 713-817-8299 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, September 29 - 12p at
Location to be Announced

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



Shabbat at Beth El

FRIDAYS AT 7 PM

September 1: Shabbat via Zoom

September 8: Selichot/Shabbat in-person*

September 15: Erev Rosh Hashanah/Shabbat in person*

September 22: Shabbat Shuvah via Zoom

September 29: Sukkot/Shabbat in person*

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

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

CURRENT EVENTS September 12 and 26

**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 OR (832) 886-4666 OR
BARB ZACK AT BARBARA3132001@YAHOO.COM OR 813-340-8819**

SHOFAR FACTORY



IN JUDAISM BLOWING THE SHOFAR AT THE BEGINNING OF DIFFERENT EVENTS AND HOLIDAYS IS A TRADITION. WHAT BETTER WAY TO START THE FIRST DAY OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AT CONGREGATION BETH EL THEN FOR EACH OF OUR STUDENTS TO MAKE THEIR VERY OWN SHOFAR! RABBI MENDY TRAXLER, WITH THE LIVING LEGACY, CAME AND TAUGHT OUR STUDENTS ABOUT VARIOUS TYPES OF ANIMALS FOUND IN ISRAEL AND THE SHAPE AND MAKE UP OF THE HORNS THAT COME FROM THEM. EACH CHILD THEN WAS ABLE TO SELECT THEIR OWN HORN SAND AND SMOOTH THE EXTERIOR EDGES OF IT, DRILL A HOLE FOR THE AIR TO GET THROUGH AND THEN WATCH AS RABBI MENDY FINISHED IT OFF ON THE BIG SANDER. YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN THE SMILES AND HEARD THE EXCLAMATIONS OF EXCITEMENT BY EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED TODAY! WHAT A GREAT WAY TO START THE YEAR.

CPR-a-thon



15 CBE Members and Staff are now CPR certified thanks to the CPR-a-thon organized by Anna and Andy Gratz. It was a great morning of learning and reminder for us all how to help in an emergency.



BEFORE

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT BY AVI ETTINGER

Thank you to Avi Ettinger for building a new gagapit for Beth El's youth! No more rusty nails or splinters, and it is now in the shade.



22 HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**SEPTEMBER
2023**

September 1
Dale Rosen

September 16
Rosa Gordon

September 3
Debra Ricardo

September 17
Jeff Wormser

September 5
Teresa Friedman

September 18
Kay Danziger

September 6
Mark Faulkenberg

September 20
Angela Perry

September 7
Gilad Baram

September 21
Megan Marlowe

September 10
Soren Ettinger

September 22
Rachel Rosen

September 11
George Starkschall

September 23
Brian Perry

September 12
Darrell Caraway

September 26
Ava Newlin

September 13
Alison Hernandez

September 28
Leticia Himmelstein
Stanley Poscovsky

September 14
Alexander Scheiner





Happy
Anniversary

SEPTEMBER 2023

September 1
Alan & Andrea Croft

September 2
Stanley & Janice Poscovsky

September 6
Larry & Judy Ostrow

*'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.'*



SEPTEMBER 2023

Yahrzeits

*May their
memory be
for a blessing.*

September 1

Leon Kraft

September 2

Maureen Schwartz

September 3

Stanley Shapiro

September 5

Joseph D Kramer

September 6

Norman Rose

September 7

Elizabeth Levy

Lena Ritman

September 8

Myra Horsey

September 9

Richard Levin

September 10

Claire Altman

Ann Brudno

Harris Worchel

September 11

Irwin Weltman

September 12

Laura Betesh

September 13

Maurice Gordon

September 15

Joel Rosenzweig

September 16

Irving Cohen

Robert Mellman

Stanley Schneider

September 17

Jose Luis Alonso

Michael Baren

Marian Saxe

September 19

Gloria Frederick

Fred Gordon

September 21

Laura Melasky

Abraham Pomerantz

September 23

Moira Zane

September 24

Marcus Shapiro

September 25

Alex Pikarsky

September 26

Moses Rodriguez

September 28

Julia Cohen

Benjamin Zack

September 29

Carl Himmelstein

David Hoff

September 30

Walter Brown

Emma Jordan

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7p Shabbat Zoom	2
3 NO RS 10a HHD Music Rehearsal 1p Private Event	4 LABOR DAY Shul Closed 	5	6 7:30p HHD Music Rehearsal	7	8 7p Selichot/Shabbat	9
10 9a RS 10a HHD Music Rehearsal 1p Private Event	11	12 12:30p Current Events (library)	13 7:30p HHD Music Rehearsal	14	15  7p Erev Rosh Hashanah	16 Rosh Hashanah I 10a Morning service
17 Rosh Hashanah II 9a Kever Avot Service 10a Tashlich & Family Service	18	19	20 11:30a JULIET	21	22 7p Shabbat Shuva via Zoom Ask the Cantor	23
24 9a RS 1p Private Event 7p Kol Nidre	25 YOM KIPPUR 10a Morning service 12:15p Yizkor 5:30p Ne'ilah Break the Fast Tailgate immediately following the final blast of the Shofar	26 12:30p Current Events (library)	27 5:30p Private Event (MD) 6p Cub Scouts 6:30p Private Event (MCP)	28	29 12p ROMEO 7p Sukkot/Shabbat	30 SUKKOT

BETH EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

2023-2024

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

DECEMBER						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JEWISH HOLIDAYS						
SELICHOT - FRI, SEPT 8						
EREV ROSH HASHANAH - FRI, SEPT 15						
ROSH HASHANAH - SAT, SEPT 16						
ROSH HASHANAH II - SUN, SEPT 17						
KOL NIDRE - SUN, SEPT 24						
YOM KIPPUR - MON, SEPT 25						
EREV SUKKOT - FRI, SEPT 29						
EREV SIMCHAT TORAH - FRI, OCT 6						
HANUKKAH BEGINS - THU, DEC 7						
TU B'SHEVAT - THU, JAN 25						
YOM LIMMUD - SUN, FEB 4						
EREV PURIM - SAT, MAR 23						
EREV PASSOVER - WED, APRIL 5						
YOM HASHOAH - SUN, MAY 6						
YOM HAZIKARON - SUN, MAY 12						
YOM HA'ATZMUAT - MON, MAY 13						
EREV SHAVUOT - TUE, JUN 11						

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL EVENTS						
THESE EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE						
SUUKAH DECORATING - SUN, OCT 1						
B'NAI MITZVAH KALLAH - SUN, DEC 3						
FAMILY HANUKKAH - SUN, DEC 10						
TREE PLANTING - SUN, JAN 21						
PURIM CARNIVAL - SUN, MARCH 24						
MATZAH HOUSE MAKING - SUN, APR 21						
END OF YEAR CELEBRATION - SUN, MAY 5						

SEECULAR HOLIDAYS						
LABOR DAY - SEPTEMBER 5						
FORT BEND COUNTY FAIR DAY - SEPTEMBER 29						
THANKSGIVING DAY - NOVEMBER 23						
CHRISTMAS DAY - DECEMBER 25						
NEW YEAR'S DAY - JANUARY 1						
VALENTINE'S DAY - FEBRUARY 14						
FBISD/LCISD SPRING BREAK - MARCH 11-15						
GOOD FRIDAY - MARCH 29						
EASTER - MARCH 31						
MEMORIAL DAY - MAY 27						

DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
REFER TO
THE CHAI MAGAZINE & BETHELTX.ORG
FOR UP TO THE MINUTE INFORMATION.



CLASS IN SESSION

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

MARCH						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

APRIL						
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MAY						
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

BETH EL DONATIONS

AUGUST
2023

DORA & DANIEL SOFFAR OPERATING FUND

In memory of June Kessler

Jim & Deb Paras

In memory of Jimmy Ormsby

Myra Soffar

SECURITY FUND

Erin Bersin and Jodi Kessler for their dedication, time,
and hard work on behalf of Congregation Beth El.

Jim & Deb Paras

STRATEGIC GROWTH FUND

Marc & Irene Helsinger

This is a donation on behalf of Marc Ellison. It is for the
support and generosity, especially, that he showed me.
I'm so appreciative and thankful.

Jonathan Robins

In memory of Meg Rosenzweig

Barry & Sharon Shapiro

TORAH FUND

Larry & Linda Rushefsky

ONEG SPONSOR

Harry & Leticia Himmelstein - Sustaining Supporters

THANK
YOU