

The Message

AUGUST 2023

**BY RABBI SARAH FORT**

As Jews, we are blessed with a plethora of our own—and, dare I say, better?—“versions” of many secular, American holidays. New Years? Rosh Hashanah! Arbor Day? Tu b'Shvat! Halloween? Purim! But there's another, much lesser-known Jewish “version” of a holiday coming up: Tu b'Av! Our very own, much better version of Valentine's Day.

Tu b'Av is one of those holidays with a very un-creative name, which is simply the date: Tu, the letters that spell out the date of the 15TH, and Av, the Hebrew month. In 2023, Tu b'Av falls on August 1ST and 2ND.

It's a Rabbinic holiday, meaning its origin dates back only to the ancient rabbis two thousand years, rather than the Torah. According to the Talmud, the 15th of Av was the date that marked the beginning of the grape harvest in Israel. Wine? Sounds romantic already!

But it's more than agriculture. “What is the special joy of the 15TH of Av? Shmu'el said, ‘That was the day members of different tribes were permitted to intermarry.’” Hooray for love!

It wasn't all chocolates and roses. “Rabbi Yochanan said, ‘The 15th of Av is the day on which the deaths of the Jews in the wilderness ceased, following God's wrath at the incident of the spies.’” Not romantic, but still a good thing!

However, the rabbis mostly tied the holiday to love. ‘The daughters of Jerusalem would go out in white clothes to the vineyards and dance. Anyone who did not have a wife would go there to find one (Taanit 30b-31a).’ A giant Jewish speed-dating white party with wine? Fun!

Tu b'Av hasn't become a big celebration. Partly this is due to timing: the peak of summer heat and vacations. Partly because of its place on the Jewish calendar: very minor (no requirements other than some prayer omissions) and relatively recent (only a few thousand years). But in modern times, it has made a minor resurgence. In Israel especially it has become a sort of Valentine's Day among both secular and Haredi populations. Harkening back to the young women dancing and eligible men coming to meet them, there are matchmaking events and celebrations. Some choose the day to propose or get married. In the United States, some Jewish organizations throw singles mixer ‘white parties.’

So Tu b'Av is a great excuse to take time to show them your appreciation and affection. Go to dinner. Have a conversation, maybe over a glass of wine? The ancient rabbis would have certainly approved!

Check out what's happening on and around campus!

Congregational Trip to Israel June 2023



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

8/2	59	Sue & Stuart Jacobson	8/17	20	Sheryl Levin & Avner Ramu
	42	Lisa & Alan Lipman		11	Karen Nahmod & Ariel Szvalb
8/3	43	Andrea & Steven Fradkin	8/18	60	Rhoda & Allen Clamen
8/4	2	Lauren Franklin & Ahad Khattak		60	Janice & David Gerber
	22	Lainie Gordon & David Mincberg		49	April & Albert Hiller
	22	Elizabeth & Frank Karkowsky		12	Adi & Oren Lutfak
	49	Terry & Bruce Merwin	8/19	39	Jill & David Siller
8/5	39	Patti & Michael Morgan	8/20	34	Cantor Diane Dorf &
	51	Janis & Lawrence Odensky			Rabbi Steven Morgen
8/6	62	Patricia & Lawrence Reichstein		23	Arlene & Gary Lassin
	8	Julie Riggins & David Edelstein		45	Diane & Mitchel Levy
	23	Jennifer & Mark Sondock		28	Maria & David Rosenfield
8/7	35	Lynn & Hyman Penn	8/21	58	Susan & Michael Bloome
8/8	8	Lauren & Kevin Abrahams		24	Jennifer & Ben Cowan
	52	Irene & Alexander Wolchansky		46	Andrea & George Forbes
8/9	48	Cheryl & Stanton Moldovan		57	Elaine & Melvin Kapell
				40	Elissa & Tom Varadi
8/10	43	Wendy & Ira Bleiweiss	8/22	31	Barbara & Jonathan Baliff
	37	Susan & Bruce Hurta		47	Linda & Nelson Block
	43	Dianne & Marc Magids		2	Debra Shlossman & Elliott Greenspan
8/11	55	Patricia & Guy Bobkoff		24	Jean & Micah Kessler
	49	Debbie & Mark Gottesman		52	Diane & Alan Levin
	11	Amma & Jared Grodin		59	Ellen & Abram Rosenberg
	23	Alisha Klapholz & Joshua Furman	8/23	56	Ruth & Jack Alpert
	38	Mardi & Mark Kunik		3	Raya Campeas & Avi Sheinfil
	32	Susan & Jeffrey Raizner		53	Sharon & Abe Charski
	21	Stephanie & Nir Stanietzky		59	Esther & Forrest Fox
8/12	61	Barbara & Thomas Asarch		42	Lori & Benny Herzog
	61	Rochelle & Edward Middleman		36	Lisa & Matthew Kornhauser
	28	Meredith & Mark Sakowitz		57	Susan & Samuel Simon
	44	Eileen & Burt Skolnik		54	Rebecca & Greg Walker
8/13	20	Kataline & Michael Cohen		59	Brenda & Edward Yosowitz
	23	Sarah & Eric Gibbs	8/24	43	Judy & Barry Friefield
	17	Hannah & Michael Hofrichter		43	Ellen & Michael Petras
8/14	63	Harriet & Jack Babchick	8/25	66	Marlene & Alan Finger
	30	Mona & Kenneth Bloom		32	Susana & Isaac Johary
	63	Cela & David Cukierman		55	Sandra & Kenneth Kopel
	46	Susan & Jeffrey Penn	8/26	33	Susan & Melvin Cweren
8/15	47	Linda & Ronny Abramson		51	Janet & Thomas Mcculloch
	58	Iris & Nathan Caplovitz		39	Beth & Mendel Nock
	58	Joyce & Arthur Dauber	8/28	58	Marilyn & A Denis Klein
	52	Rhea & Joseph Greenbaum		68	Rita & Arnold Wasserman
	30	Patricia & Chad Sweeden	8/29	39	Wendy & Andrew Bernstein
	58	Geraldine & Bernard Woolf		14	Katie & Benjamin Dillon
8/16	32	Pat & John Flatowicz		58	Ethel & Benard Nelkin
	64	Celine & David Hecht	8/31	15	Dori & Adam Goldman
	42	Cynthia & Robert MacLeod		26	Eleonora & Bryan Leibman
	42	Estelle & David Simchowitz		9	Rachel & Michael Saghian
8/17	37	Diana & Ronald Hecht		20	Amy & Segev Zadok

Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah!



Sophia Camille Winard (August 4-5)
daughter of Andrea & Yosef Winard;
sister of Alyssa; granddaughter of
Harriet & Arnold Eisenstein and Shlomo
Winard and Ione Winard^{z"l}.



Mia Rose Powers (August 11-12)
daughter of Jason & Amy Powers; sister
of Sarah and Danyel; granddaughter of
Barby & Lenny Weiner and Myrna and
Ted Powers^{z"l}.



Sadie Danielle Schwartz (August 11-12)
daughter of Perelle Solomon
and Daniel Schwartz; granddaughter
of Debbie & David Schwartz, Barry
Solomon and Judy Weil, and Tina &
Peter Allen.



Chase Benjamin Sperling (August 18-19)
son of Jennifer & Stuart Sperling;
brother of Sam Sperling; grandson of Jan
& Alan Ganderson and Michael & Phyllis
Sperling; great-grandson of Rhoda &
Martin Sheintoch^{z"l}, Margaret Hellner
and Walter Vail^{z"l}, Florence & Benjamin^{z"l}
Ganderson, and Claire & John^{z"l} Sperling.



Hailey Savannah Newman (August 25-26)
daughter of Jill & Steven Newman;
sister of Emily Newman; granddaughter
of Lynda & Joseph^{z"l} Newman and
Carol^{z"l} & Jerry Wasserstein.

Condolences

*The congregation extends its
sincerest condolences to the families of:*

Nava Enav, Charles Barry Goldberg, Michael W. Hess,
Howard H. Kaplan, Jerome Robert Rose, Rabbi Jack Segal,
Liza "Lizi" Gilad Silver, and Joan Sirotkin
May their memories be for a blessing.

A Notice About Bereavement Communications

Bereavement notices for our synagogue family are distributed with the permission of the deceased's family, and the timing of these notices is dictated by the family's request. Of course, each family grieves in its own way, and we are grateful for our congregation's patience and understanding with different families' preferences about how their loss is publicized.

Worship Schedule

FRIDAY EVENINGS

August 4, 2023

Parashat Eikev | CL 7:55PM

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal - Jerusalem Peacebuilders
6:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

August 11, 2023

Parashat Re'eh | Shabbat Mevarchim | CL 7:49PM

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal
6:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

August 18, 2023

Parashat Shoftim | CL 7:42PM

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal
6:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

August 25, 2023

Parashat Ki Teitzei | CL 7:35PM

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal
6:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

September 1, 2023

Parashat Ki Tavo | CL 7:27PM

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal
6:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

SATURDAY MORNING

8:30 AM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel
9:15 AM - Museum Minyan Service
9:30 AM - Main Sanctuary Service
11:30 AM - Torah Study

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICES

August 5, 2023 | 7:45 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

August 12, 2023 | 7:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

August 19, 2023 | 7:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

August 26, 2023 | 7:15 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

September 2, 2023 | 7:15 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

WEEKDAY CHAPEL SERVICES

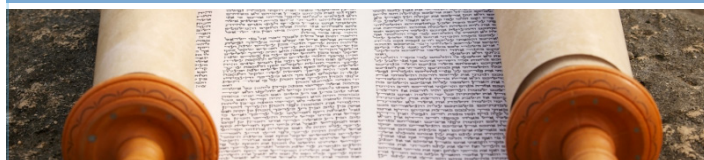
Mornings: Sun 8:00AM, Mon-Fri 7:00AM*

Afternoon/Evenings: Sun-Thu 6:30PM

* Rosh Chodesh Elul, August 17 & 18 at 6:45AM

Visit [BETHYESHURUN.ORG/CHAPEL](https://bethyeshurun.org/chapel) to view
the complete schedule for Daily Chapel Service.

Mazel Tov to our 2ND B'nai Mitzvah!



Our tradition teaches that at age 70, we "begin again,"
making 83 the new 13 (Psalms 90:10)! Led by Rabbi
Sarah Fort and Student Cantor Neal Taibel, we honored
our congregants born in 1940, on Saturday, July 22.

Mazel Tov to the following participants and their families:

Philip Abrams, Bob Birenbaum, Richard Brody, Pam
Capito, Shirley Cohn, Steve Gould, Joe Kirk, Vivian Levin,
Zully Lufschanowski, and Sewell Martin.

It's a Mitzvah!

Interested in making a donation towards the Chapel Minyan weekday breakfast, or a Chapel or Museum Minyan Shabbat Kiddush in memory of your loved one or in honor of a simcha? Please contact Marco Alvarado at MALVARADO@BETHYESHURUN.ORG or 713.666.1881 x368.

IN MEMORY OF

Elie Abraham Mordo by Mireille & Harvey Katz

Stanley Epstein by Marilyn Epstein, Rachel Epstein, Mollie Epstein-Makar & Leah Steinhart



Welcome to our YES (Youthful Energetic Seniors) Group!



YES Friends! Join our friends in the Senior Chai group at HCRJ for a joint trip to Lake Charles!

Tuesday, August 8th at 8:00AM | \$10 per person

We will meet at 8:00AM at HCRJ for a light breakfast and coffee and then head out on 2 comfy buses to the Golden Nugget in Lake Charles. Enjoy some gambling and lunch and return to HCRJ by 8:30PM. Our bus trip to Lake Charles will include pit stops at Bucee's.

Space is limited so please register soon

BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/GOLDENNUGGET2023



Join us Wednesday, August 16 for lunch, schmooze, and BINGO! Registration includes lunch, Bingo cards, and hopefully some great prizes if you're lucky!

\$10 per person | 11:30AM - Lunch | 12:00PM BINGO!

Open to the community, so feel free to share with other seniors that might enjoy our program. The deadline to register is Sunday, August 14th.

BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/YESAUGUST2023



ROSH CHODESH

A WOMEN'S GROUP LEAD BY
RABBI SARAH FORT WHERE WE WILL EXPLORE
JEWISH WOMEN'S ISSUES, WITH PARTICULAR
EMPHASIS ON PERSONAL SPIRITUALITY,
RITUAL, AND CELEBRATION.

Sunday, August 20 at 4:00PM \$18

Open to all Jewish adult women (Bat Mitzvah or older)

Join us each month for a new look at Rosh Chodesh. We look forward to exploring new themes through discussion, speakers, and hands-on activities each Hebrew month.

The month of Elul kicks off our program year. As Elul begins our preparations for the High Holy Days, we will work on our visions and intentions for the year to come.

Each program is a stand-alone, so even if you've joined us before, we ask you to register again.

BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/ROSHCHODESHAUG2023

The Breakfast Club

**Join us for
Morning Minyan...
stay and learn Torah with
our Clergy!**

Tuesdays: Wisdom of Torah with Rabbi Strauss

Held in memory of Steve Rudoff²¹. Breakfast is sponsored by: Larry Finder, Stephen Tew, Gordon Zuber, & Jack Uzick

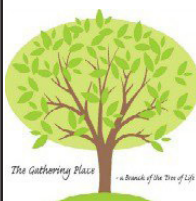
Wednesdays: Voices of Torah with Rabbi Morgen

Breakfast is sponsored by: Trudi & Max Esses, Larry Finder, Barbara & Dell Coleman, and Rachel & Andrew Toubin

Thursdays: Jewish Mysticism & Ancient Cultural Beliefs with Rabbi Fort

Breakfast is sponsored by: Anonymous and Courtney Zubowski-Haas & Eric Haas

Saturdays: Weekly Torah Portion with Rabbi Horwitz



The **Gathering Place** provides a free of charge loving, safe and fun environment for care partners experiencing memory loss due to Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, stroke or other forms of dementia. They meet once a month, at Congregation Beth Yeshurun, and a professional staff member attends providing expert support and assistance to the volunteers. The meetings combine physical movement, socialization, music, and other memory-stimulating activity in a safe and comfortable 2 hour time block. The Beth Yeshurun Sisterhood is a proud supporter of the Gathering Place. For more information please contact our coordinators: Lillie Hurwitz at LILLIEHUR@GMAIL.COM and Hedy Spiegel at HEDY1234@AOL.COM

High Holy Days 2023 | 5784

ROSH HASHANAH

Friday, September 15 - Sunday, September 17

KOL NIDRE

Sunday, September 24

YOM KIPPUR

Monday, September 25



HONEY FUNDRAISER

A jar of Kosher honey makes an excellent High Holy Days greeting. Consider sending honey to family, friends, teachers, customers and colleagues. Each package includes an 8-ounce jar of honey along with the appropriate prayers and a gift card from you. Honey will be delivered prior to Erev Rosh Hashanah. All proceeds from this sale benefit the students of our Shul and School. Visit [BETHYESHURUN.ORG/HONEY](https://bethyeshurun.org/honey). Fill in the name and address and the greeting for each jar. All orders must be placed on the order-entry system. No paper orders will be accepted. Cost \$21/jar includes shipping anywhere in the USA. There is an additional fee for international orders.

Important High Holy Day information, along with tickets to those members in good standing, will be mailed beginning August 15th. Mindi Stern, Membership Director, is available to meet regarding outstanding account issues. Please call 713.666.1881, ex. 360 to make an appointment.

All High Holy Day forms and resources can be found by visiting: [BETHYESHURUN.ORG/HHD](https://bethyeshurun.org/HHD)

Gratitude

Community

Tradition

High Holy Day Appeal

Education

Yizkor Book

Meals To Go

**RESERVED
PARKING**

Aliyot & Kibbudim

**Digital
Resources**

Mazel Tov!

We invite you to share with us your simchas - births, engagement, weddings, or award and recognitions. Fill out our Mazel Tov form with your information a picture and share your great news with the rest of the congregation.

[BETHYESHURUN.ORG/MAZELTOV](https://bethyeshurun.org/MAZELTOV)

TEACHERS WANTED

We're looking for Religious School substitute teachers for the upcoming school year! The Religious School (Pre-K - 7th Grade) meets on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday afternoons. If you're interested in sharing your love of Judaism with our children and have time on Sunday mornings and/or Wednesday afternoons, this might be for you! To learn more about available positions, please contact Sheryl Eskowitz, Education Director, at 713-255-8040 or SESKOWITZ@BETHYESHURUN.ORG.

MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to medical appointments is now available for members in good standing who are in need of assistance. This includes rides to the doctor's office, dentist's office, hospital, or any medical office that provides health care services.

To request a ride, please complete the waiver and call 346-833-8371 at least two workdays before your appointment or scheduled activity and mention any unique needs including wheelchair, lift, or a walker.

346-833-8371

transportation@bethyeshurun.org



Rae & Buddy Gerson Chesed Fund

we knead you at the

SISTERHOOD CHALLAH BAKE

Wednesday, August 30 at 6:00PM

Kickoff of the Sisterhood program year with our annual Challah Bake! Beginners, learn to make challah. Experts, perfect your technique. Get our famous recipe and make your dough to bake at home!

Open to all! \$10 per adult or \$18 per family. Kids and grandkids welcome!

BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/SISTERHOODCHALLAHBAKE2023

Mind the Museum



How many lights should be lit for Shabbat? How many do we need to fulfill this mitzvah? One? Two? Three?— To be honest, there is no particular number (probably, at least two) required. This beautiful, brass Shabbat candelabrum is from The Netherlands, late 19th century. The decoration on top is a stylized lion, this one almost comical. As you might already know, a lion (of David)

is a common sight on antique European Judaica as well as that created today.

Come visit the Kaplan Museum of Judaica, housed at Congregation Beth Yeshurun. Contact Lisa Unsell at 713-255-8017 or **LUNSELL@BETHYESHURUN.ORG** to arrange a visit. Group tours available upon request.



Sunday, August 13 at 12:00PM | \$25 per Teen/Tween

Teens and Tweens come join your friends to cheer on the Houston Astros! We have 20 tickets available for purchase in rows 3 & 4 of section 410 to enjoy a game together and watch our 2022 World Series Champs!!

We will be taking a bus from Beth Yeshurun to Minute Maid Park. Please arrive at 12:00PM in Zubowski A. We will return to Beth Yeshurun around 4:15PM.

Questions? Contact Rachel Hartman at 713.255.8029 or **RHARTMAN@BETHYESHURUN.ORG** or visit:

BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/ASTROSYOUTH081323

Family member or friend in the hospital or nursing care?

The CBY Clergy and/or Hospital Visiting Group members are happy to reach out to them with spiritual comfort.

Please contact Lisa Unsell at **LUNSELL@BETHYESHURUN.ORG**

or 713.255.8017 to request a phone call

(or visit in person, if possible) for your loved one.



Call Mindi Stern
for more
information
713.666.1881

**We are looking for volunteers to help
with receptionist desk coverage
and other general administrative tasks.**



Beth Yeshurun Sisterhood Giftshop Summer Hours

Open Tuesday-Friday 10am-1pm;
Closed Saturday-Monday

Call them at 713.255.8021 or email
GIFTSHOP@BETHYESHURUN.ORG



Beth Yeshurun Religious School is looking for 8th-12th graders to become madrichim (teachers' assistants)!

Looking for a fulfilling job or a way to earn service hours? Love interacting with kids, being creative, and helping out? Are you a great role model with a passion for Judaism? If so, become a madrich or madricha this year!

On Sundays from 9:00AM-12:45PM, madrichim provide crucial support and positively impact Religious School students, while enriching their own Jewish identity. Madrichim can earn a stipend or volunteer hours.

Teens must be Beth Yeshurun members and continuing their own Jewish education by attending either Kehillah High, Emery/Weiner, or Beren Academy to be eligible.

Apply at forms.gle/HcfxEknWcMYbguow5 by August 15TH. Contact Sheryl Eskowitz at SESKOWITZ@BETHYESHURUN.ORG with any questions.



We would love to have you join us in Religious School, Sulam, or Kehillah High for the upcoming year!

Registration is completed online by logging in to your account through the membership portal. Details about the program and registration can be found on the Beth Yeshurun website, BETHYESHURUN.ORG/REGISTRATION-INFORMATION

For more information, contact Education Director, Sheryl Eskowitz, at seskowitz@bethyeshurun.org or 713-255-8034

"The William S. Malev Schools for Religious Studies at Congregation Beth Yeshurun affords our daughter the opportunity to nurture her connection to Judaism with lifelong friends in a creative and safe environment. We are thankful to the leadership for their thoughtful approach to virtual and in-person learning during the pandemic." - Lynn and Jason Roth



Religious School Administrative Assistant

Provides general administrative support to the Education Director for the Religious School, Sulam, and Kehillah High. Performs work that is varied and generally administrative and/or project oriented. Work is often physical in nature and requires use of initiative and judgment.

Key Duties:

- Orders supplies for office and classrooms as needed and keeps office organized.
- Prepares materials for Religious School classes.
- Reorganizes supplies after classroom use.
- Records attendance after each class throughout the school year and compiles it at the end of each semester for progress reports.
- Oversees registration in synagogue database (ShulCloud) and keep spreadsheets for three programs updated.
- Updates student files.
- Prepares and mails/e-mails Religious School correspondence. Knowledge of mail merge is a plus.
- Communicates with parents and prospective parents as needed.
- Works with synagogue, Religious School, and Beth Yeshurun Day School staff on an ongoing basis.
- Works with teachers to set up technology for classroom use.
- Picks up students from classrooms when leaving early.
- Oversees teen madrichim on Sunday mornings.
- Counts tzedakah and turn in to synagogue office.
- Creates online monthly calendar from template that is e-mailed to parents, staff, clergy.
- Provides basic care (band aids, ice, call parents) for students who are sick or get hurt.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications/Skills: Proficiency with Word, Excel, Outlook, and Publisher. Experience with Canva is a plus. Experience with connecting laptops and projectors for media purposes. Must respect and support confidentiality of congregants, clergy, staff, and parents.

For the full job description and additional opportunities at Beth Yeshurun visit BETHYESHURUN.ORG/CAREERS

Rabbi JACK SEGAL



Rabbi Jack Segal was a pillar of wisdom, compassion, and faith, who touched the lives of countless individuals. His impact on the lives of those he encountered was immeasurable. May his teachings and deeds continue to inspire us to be better individuals, to seek justice, and to foster love and understanding.

ZICHRONO L'VRACHAH

May his memory be for a blessing, and may the family be comforted with the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Jewish Herald Voice

Community remembers Rabbi Jack Segal, a true leader, teacher and beloved mensch

The Houston community lost its beloved Rabbi Jack Segal, z”l, in the early hours of the morning Friday, July 7. The precious memories and legacy of the longtime Beth Yeshurun rabbi, however, will live on forever through the community he taught, nurtured and loved.

“Jack gave us strength when we were weak, held our hands when they were shaking, healed our hearts when they were broken and asked for so little in return, even as he gave us so very much,” Beth Yeshurun Rabbi Emeritus David Rosen said.

Rabbi Segal’s stories, kind wit and humor were legendary. He guided Houston and beyond with advances in educational

methods and by forming alliances that moved everyone in his wake forward. He was the quintessential change agent.

“No matter who we are, no matter how involved we have been and no matter where we came from, Rabbi Segal

made each of us feel truly counted,” Beth Yeshurun Senior Rabbi Brian Strauss told the JHV.

“He made each of us feel genuinely important and lifted each and everyone of us up. Even if you hadn’t been to shul in months, Rabbi Segal still remembered not just your name, but also so much more about you – your story, your life. He really knew and cared.”

Rabbi Segal, who was 94, leaves behind his wife, Toby; four children, Jeff Segal (Shelley), Michael Segal (Sharon), Lisa Kornhauser (Matthew) and Scott Segal (Dena); and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Rabbi Segal will always be remembered for his leadership, his compassion, his teaching and his ability to make everyone in the room feel special.

“Rabbi Segal was a unique man, a warm soul and a superb rabbi,” Beth Israel Senior Rabbi David Lyon told the JHV. “In his synagogue, he cared for every person, young or old, as if they were his own.

“Beyond Beth Yeshurun, he was a community rabbi, who saw the Houston Jewish community as the birthplace of every young Jew who needed to learn Torah, to know Israel and to see themselves as key to the Jewish future.”



In 1965, Rabbi Segal chose Beth Yeshurun over several other attractive opportunities. He worked for eight years as the associate rabbi with Beth Yeshurun’s nationally recognized Senior Rabbi William S. Malev, z”l.

Rabbi Segal then served as the senior rabbi at Beth Yeshurun for 23 years until his retirement from

the pulpit in 1996, when he became rabbi emeritus. He served in that distinguished role for the past 27 years.

Hazzan David Propis, who was in Houston for the funeral, worked alongside Rabbi Segal for many years at Beth Yeshurun.

“Rabbi Segal was a rabbi’s rabbi and a cantor’s rabbi. I am honored to have known him for 40 years, to have learned from him and to have considered him a dear friend,” Hazzan Propis told the JHV.

“When I started at Beth Yeshurun in 1994, I had no idea how lucky I was to inherit the treasure that was Rabbi Segal. He was a rabbi with many gifts, but perhaps the most valuable was the way he made people feel. He was an unforgettable presence.

“He could fill a room with warmth, simply by walking into it. He had a way of making every colleague, congregant or person with whom he spoke feel special and important.”

Hazzan Propis said Rabbi Segal and he would spend hours talking about and enjoying Jewish music.

“He encouraged me to spread my wings and gave me unconditional support to gradually incorporate a variety of musical prayer settings for services, programs and concerts,” Hazzan Propis said.

“He especially loved music that was leibedik (happy and from the heart). Not only was he a wonderful bimah partner, but he was the definition of a rabbi – a mentor to me and a teacher to thousands over the years. He taught through reasoning, discussion and humor.





"Rabbi Jack Segal was a true scholar, gentleman and, above all, a mensch. He will be greatly missed."

Rabbi Segal emphasized the dual concepts of cooperation and participation in leading a synagogue. He always looked for opportunities for everyone to participate actively in synagogue life.

His creative abbreviations for classes – TNT for Tallis and Tefillin, SOS for Siddur on Shabbos and CPR for coffee, peanuts and religion – resonated with the community and became legendary.



Rabbi Segal also was very ahead of his time.

"He brought rabbis down from the pulpit [to mingle with congregants] in a time

when that rarely happened. He defined inclusion before there was such a concept," Rabbi Strauss said.

"He was someone you could meet with anytime to seek counsel and guidance, and he did it all with empathy and compassion."

Another very important aspect of Rabbi Segal's work was his chaplaincy, where he made an effort to visit every Jewish hospital patient, regardless of affiliation.

"I remember walking into a room to see a Beth Israel member, and the patient told me, 'Rabbi Segal was just here,' " Rabbi Lyon said.

"It wasn't easy to keep up with him. The truth is that it will take many of us, today, to compensate the community for its loss. Ever since he retired, we've been trying."

Rabbi Segal also was known for his sense of humor, which often came out during the



thousands of life-cycle events he officiated throughout the years.

"That was one of Jack's greatest attributes, especially when he performed a baby naming or a wedding; there were always laughs," Congregation Emanu El Rabbi Emeritus Roy Walter told the JHV.

"Rabbi Segal has been a true blessing to our community. He was among the most positive, energetic people I have ever known. His love of people and his commitment to being a rabbi led him to serve the Jewish people selflessly."

Rabbi Segal also served as rabbinic role model to many who worked alongside him.

"He was such a brilliant mind and mensch, who was always there for me and so many others exactly when we needed him," Shaarey Tzedek Rabbi Deborah Schloss said.



"People were so much more important to him than synagogue politics, and he took the mitzvah of bikur cholim to the highest level, arriving to visit each member of his flock in the hospital, practically before they even realized they were there."

Rabbi Segal did not play politics, always encouraging people to talk with one another, even if they had differences.

And, at the end of every service, Rabbi Segal, himself, passed out mini candy bars – symbolizing the sweetness of Shabbat – to every congregant, young and old, who walked by him at the sanctuary exit. The handful of candy was accompanied by his smile and warm acknowledgement that he knew you and was glad you were there.

"He helped so many of us find peace, happiness and meaning in our lives, even when struggling with his own challenging circumstances," Rabbi Strauss said.

*Read the JHV's 12-Page Special Section on Rabbi Segal, with full thoughts from Rabbi David Rosen, Rabbi Brian Strauss, Toby Segal, and more: **READER.MEDIAWIREMOBILE.COM/JHV/ISSUES/208548/VIEWER***

A Meaningful and Important Announcement

Since the recent passing of our beloved Rabbi Emeritus, Jack Segal z"l, we have had an outpouring of love, memories, and inspirational messages from all over the world. For 58 years out of our school's 75-year history, Rabbi Jack Segal devoted his life to guiding and strengthening our Beth Yeshurun community, modeled a love of Jewish education, led with utmost integrity, and helped so many of us navigate life's joys and challenges. In recognition of Rabbi Segal's countless contributions to our community, we are excited to share a meaningful and important announcement with you.

Starting in the **2024-2025 school year**, we will be honoring our esteemed Beth Yeshurun Day School with a new name:

Jack Segal Academy of Beth Yeshurun



Earlier this summer, after unanimous approval from the school's executive committee and in partnership with Congregation Beth Yeshurun, we were fortunate to share these plans with Rabbi Segal and his family. Deeply moved, our rabbi emeritus humbly accepted this honor and, together with his family, gave his blessing to move forward with this change.

Jack Segal Academy of Beth Yeshurun is the perfect embodiment of what our school represents, and the effect Rabbi Segal's teachings continue to have on our community. Not only did Rabbi Segal have a deep passion for education, but he was also a life-long student himself earning seven degrees throughout his career, including three doctorate degrees. He made education a top priority in his life, and BYDS graduates exemplify the Jewish values he taught during his tenure.

While the school's name may be changing, our mission and vision stand strong: to foster confidence, leadership, a love of learning, and a sense of responsibility in students by honoring individual strengths in an environment dedicated to academic excellence, Jewish teachings, and the continuity of Jewish values.

As we celebrate our school's 75th diamond anniversary this year, we look forward to sharing our progress in making this monumental and historical transition with you throughout the course of the year.

L'Shalom,

Jennifer LeVine
Head of School, BYDS

Rabbi Brian Strauss
Senior Rabbi, CBY

Evan Weinberger
Board Chair, BYDS

Lori Herzog
President, CBY

Remembering Rabbi Jack Segal

We have several resources on our website to honoring Rabbi Jack Segal. Look for the images below on our website, **BETHYESHURUN.ORG**, or visit them directly by using the links below.



In gratitude to Toby and Rabbi Jack Segal for their lifelong dedication to Congregation Beth Yeshurun we graciously presented the Segal family with a tribute book comprised of personal messages from our congregants and community March 2023.

View the book online along with the tribute video:

[BETHYESHURUN.ORG/SEGALTRIBUTEBOOK](https://bethyeshurun.org/segaltributebook)



It is with great sadness
that we inform you of the
passing of our Rabbi
Emeritus

Rabbi
JACK SEGAL

Zichrono l'vrachah
May his memory be for a
blessing, and may the
family be comforted with
the mourners of Zion and
Jerusalem.

Clergy, friends, and family members shared stories of Rabbi Jack Segal and the impact he had on each one of their lives. To hear these stories watch the Memorial Service and Shivah Minyanim recordings:

[BETHYESHURUN.ORG/RABBISEGALMEMORIAL](https://bethyeshurun.org/rabbisegalmemorial)

Upcoming Events

- 8/4** Jerusalem Peacebuilders at Shabbat Renewal
- 8/8** Wisdom of Torah with Rabbi Brian Strauss resumes
YES Casino Trip to Golden Nugget
- 8/9** Voices of Torah with Rabbi Steven Morgen resumes
- 8/13** Astros Game for Teens/Tweens!
- 8/16** YES Lunch: Bingo!
- 8/17** Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Fort resumes
Kids Meals/SEARCH Bags Assembly
- 8/20** Pickleball for Jewish Singles over 50
Rosh Chodesh Program: Elul
- 8/24** Gathering Place
- 8/25** NEW! Fourth Friday Happy Hour!
- 8/27** Invitation to Judaism with Rabbi Steven Morgen
- 8/30** Sisterhood Challah Bake
- 9/4** Labor Day - Administrative Offices Closed
- 9/8** Tot Shabbat!
- 9/9** Selichot
- 9/10** Invitation to Judaism with Rabbi Steven Morgen
Reverse Tashlich for Young Professionals
Moment at the Ark: Prayers for Healing

Ongoing: Wednesdays: Jewish Meditation

**For information about these dates and more visit
BETHYESHURUN.ORG/CALENDAR
also make sure you are receiving our weekly emails!**

LET'S SHAKE THINGS UP!

FOURTH FRIDAY HAPPY HOUR!

**Congregants of all ages,
stop in for a schmooze, a
drink, and lite bites
before Shabbat Renewal!**



FOURTH FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
5:15 PM - 6:00 PM
SKYLIGHT LOBBY

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome the newest members to our congregational family. Please be sure to introduce yourself to newcomers as they become a part of our community.

Stacey & Gil Beer, Eliana and Sarah

Milka & Lou Diamond

Glenn Eldridge

Eileen Elfezouaty

Rebecca & Matthew Gold, Gwynn, Millie, and Derek

Claudia & Eric Goldberg, Naomi

Paula & Jay Grossman

Elaine Hirsch

Monica & Andrew Hoffman

Marlene & Brian Lord

Jasmin Singh, Santvana, Nanda, and Amit

Earl Spielman

Know someone interested in becoming a part of our community? New to town? Looking to connect? Contact Mindi Stern at MSTERN@BETHYESHURUN.ORG or 713.666.1881.

Time sensitive material - please deliver promptly!

Contact Us

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