

# The Message

DECEMBER 2021



## CLERGY MESSAGE FROM RABBI BRIAN STRAUSS

There is a famous story widely told about a visit to NASA by President John F. Kennedy. It was 1962, just at the dawn of America's space age. A year before, President Kennedy had promised, in soaring language in his inaugural address, that Americans would reach the moon before the end of the 1960s. As the president began his tour of the NASA facility, he noticed a man standing in the building with a broom and dust bin. The president approached the man and said, "Hi, I'm Jack Kennedy. What is your job here?" "Well, Mr. President," the janitor responded, "I'm helping put a man on the moon."

Of course, the moral of the story is that everyone at NASA was essential in fulfilling the goal of landing a man on the moon. No job was too small.

As we look back over 2021, I believe we have a new understanding of who should be considered essential. The men and women of our police and fire departments, paramedics, nurses, teachers, grocery workers, truck drivers, and all who deliver our important goods are the indispensable men and women of our society.

I treasure the Chassidic tradition of the *"lamed vuv tzadikim,"* the 36 hidden righteous people who uphold the world. They appear like ordinary people and live everyday lives, yet in undertaking important work, these regular Joe's save the world. The *lamedvuvnik* are good men and women quietly doing good things, on the periphery and away from the limelight. The beauty of the *lamedvuvnik* tradition is that it forces us to consider that anyone may be carrying the fate of the entire world on their shoulders.

Can we do more to thank those who have courageously risked their lives to serve others? They could have run, quit their jobs, and hid in fear. Instead, they have gone above and beyond – sometimes sacrificing their well-being to protect our lives. They have done God's work. Let us be forever grateful.

## Check out what's happening on and around campus!

Thanksgiving Kit Making for Search, 100 Jewish Men, B'nai Mitzvah Family Program, YES Group, Tot Shabbat, Shabbat Bags



## Celebrate Hanukkah with Beth Yeshurun!

**November 28<sup>th</sup>** Virtual Candlelighting with Cantor Finkelstein

**November 29<sup>th</sup>** Virtual Candlelighting with Rabbi Strauss

**November 30<sup>th</sup>** Virtual Candlelighting with Rabbi Morgen

**December 1<sup>st</sup>** Virtual Candlelighting with Rabbi Fort  
BY Young Professionals Ultimate Hanukkah Game Night

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>** Virtual Candlelighting with Rabbi Rosen  
Hanukkah Bazaar - Event for Houston's YP's and 20 Somethings

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** Hanukkah Lighting at Shabbat Renewal  
Tot Shabbat with Miss Cathy!

**December 4<sup>th</sup>** Virtual Candlelighting with Rabbi Segal

**December 5<sup>th</sup>** Light Up the Night - Congregational Event

**High Holy Day Appeal Supporters** We are so grateful for the meaningful donations which allow us to continue to offer valuable programs to all of our members. The following supporters were inadvertently omitted from the list of contributors printed in the November Message:

Celine Hecht  
Marcie & Rabbi David Rosen



## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

12/1	8	Kelly & Jay Gerstenhaber
	36	Marlene & Daniel Siegman
12/2	20	Felicia & Steven Goldberg
12/3	16	Marsha Capen & Barry Kahan
12/5	53	Harriet & Taghi Hajizade
12/6	57	Marion & Dennis Schepps
12/8	25	Sharron & William Fisherman
12/9	9	Jennifer & Justin Davidoff
12/10	5	Deanne & Ian Falik
	45	Cathy & Earle Steinberg
12/11	46	Bracha & Mishaël Radom
12/12	9	Anat & Jay Zeidman
12/13	35	Joni & Randy Levy
	55	Dafran & Fred Provada
12/14	35	Shelly & Mark Grenader
12/15	58	Avril & Julius Danziger
12/17	5	Danielle & Casey Millman
	4	Dayna & Joshua Tillis
12/18	61	Shirley & Sheldon Arsham
	9	Devorah Beinart & David Quail
	33	Wendy & Howard Cohen
	22	Debora Levine & Giancarlo Romero
	44	Pearl & Meir Monk
	25	Estelle & Charles Racusin
	66	Janice & Earl Selzer
	22	Bianca & Matthew Wigder
12/19	56	Sharon & Richard Kammerman
	50	Elaine & Jerome Rose
	51	Hedy & Howard Spiegel
	29	Robin & Bradley Stein
	67	Barbara & Stanley Weinstein
12/20	34	Rae & Paul Engel
	31	Sandra Goijman-Vexsler & Pablo Vexsler
	33	Alice & Marc Levin
	24	Polina & Mark Strug
	13	Leslie & Samuel Sutin
12/21	52	Ell Jana & Jack Camhi
	19	Alexandra & Mark Katz
	41	Barbara & Martin Lindenberg
12/22	9	Lindsay & Tyler Brochstein
	19	Mara Gittess & Jeffrey Plastrik
	25	Irina & Alex Niemer
	47	Faye & Jerry Wender
12/23	31	Dana & Isaac Aboulafia
	48	Deborah & David Bergeron
	21	Cathie & Neal Gittleman
	33	Leah & Paul Katz
	14	Stephanie & Howard Loeser
	65	Marcia & Jerry Pappert
	43	Patricia & Dean Solomon
	49	Denise & Jerald Turboff
12/24	26	Karen & Michael Buxbaum
	33	Barbara & Dell Coleman

12/24	46	Gila & Michael Kaufman
	52	Jan & Howard Stomel
12/25	61	Beverly & David Sufian
	60	Myrna & Sheldon Zwickel
12/26	50	Marsha & Sidney Gerber
	51	Rebeca & Leon Halfon
12/26	50	Maureen & Gary Tucker
12/27	35	Paula & Rodney Kapp
	29	Alissa & Michael Leightman
	41	Hope & Alan Malowitz
	68	Evelyn & Joe Sandler
12/28	30	Lisa & Eric Hardee
	52	Diane & Stephen Kaminsky
	49	Olivia & Arnold Ostrin
	52	Carol & Louis Ringold
	43	Eva Roth & Vojtech Ackerman
	53	Florence & Howard Shapiro
12/29	42	Judy & Kenneth Arfa
	14	Robyn & Brian Goldstein
	3	Sara & Daniel Hurwitz
	47	Lesley & Jeffrey Katz
	47	Lesley & Eric Solomon
	48	Dolly & Glenn Stange
	58	Evelyn & Jerry Yellen
12/30	65	Rema & Lyusyen Berkovich
	48	Sharon & Daniel Brener
	14	Jackie & David Janco
	26	Janet & Daniel Kleban
	15	Allison & Neville Leibman
	50	Sandra & Chris Rich
	49	Adriana & Steve Rosenbaum
	8	Marcy Lynn Rothman & Tammy Pye
	42	Wendy & Allen Shapiro
12/31	18	Syndy & Marc Gold
	54	Sharon Turboff Katz & Marvin Katz

### MAKE TIME - MAKE A DIFFERENCE NEW VOLUNTEER PROGRAM RECRUITING PARTICIPANTS

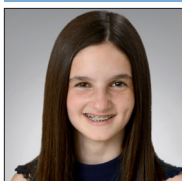


Do you consider Beth Yeshurun your home away from home? Are you looking for a new way to volunteer and make a contribution to synagogue life? COFI (Congregants of First Impressions) is looking for volunteers to donate their time to warmly welcome visitors and other congregants as they enter the Bender Levy Lobby during peak weekend and special event times. You'll be the first point of contact with important information regarding general synagogue information, Shabbat service times and locations, and Sunday's Jewish Learning Project. Shifts will be in two hour increments.

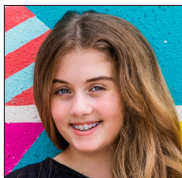
COFI was created by Rina Camhi, with the vision of cultivating an impactful program that meets a need for both Beth Yeshurun and volunteers. This program requires a 45 minute orientation prior to start. The first orientation will be held Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:30AM. RSVP to **MSTERN@BETHYESHURUN.ORG** or call Mindi at 713.666.1881 ext 360.



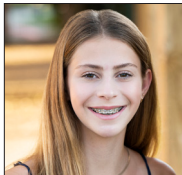
## Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah!



**Annie Lynn Katz (December 3-4)**  
daughter of Dana & Kenneth Katz; sister of David and Carly; granddaughter of Denise & Martin Yudovich and Sharon Turboff Katz & Marvin Katz; great-granddaughter of Fini Konstat.



**Hayley Merritt Naggar (December 10-11)** daughter of Elizabeth & Rob Naggar; sister of Finn; granddaughter of Anais & Buddy Watsky.



**Kayla Whitman (December 17-18)**  
daughter of Susan and Gary Whitman; sister of Sam Whitman; granddaughter of Carol and Mark Entman.

**Second Bar Mitzvah of Dr. Mark Entman December 18**

## Welcome New Members

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

**Irina & Ivan Cech**

**Kelly & James Cersonsky, Lindsey**

**Batel Vakin and Hanan Tuchshnieder, Orita & Eliya  
Stacey Zubowski & Jonathan Beckerman, Sloane & Tate**

Know someone interested in becoming a part of our community? New to town? Looking to connect with us?

Contact Mindi Stern at [MSSTERN@BETHYESHURUN.ORG](mailto:MSSTERN@BETHYESHURUN.ORG)  
or 713.666.1881 x 360.

## It's a Mitzvah!

Interested in sponsoring a 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 Eileen Pettigrew, Food Service Manager, at [EPETTIGREW@BETHYESHURUN.ORG](mailto:EPETTIGREW@BETHYESHURUN.ORG) or 713.666.1881, ext. 368.

## IN MEMORY OF

**Joseph Horwitz** by Dr. Kenneth Horwitz & Annette Sondock

**Anne Janco** by David and Jackie Janco

**Helen Katz** by Susan Baum

## 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](mailto:LUNSELL@BETHYESHURUN.ORG) or 713.255.8017  
to request a phone call or visit for your loved one.

## Condolences

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

Jerome Samuel Fram, Sadie Greenman, and  
Mary Jean Schneider

*May their memories be for a blessing.*

## Worship Schedule

### FRIDAY EVENINGS

**December 3, 2021 - Hanukkah Lighting for 6<sup>th</sup> Night**

**Parashat Miketz | Rosh Chodesh Tevet | CL 5:05PM**

5:00 PM - Tot Shabbat with Miss Cathy!

5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal

**December 10, 2021**

**Parashat Vayigash | CL 5:06PM**

5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

5:30 PM - Moment at the Ark: Prayers for Healing

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal - Guest Renee Wizig-Barrios,  
President & CEO of the Jewish Federation of Houston

**December 17, 2021**

**Parashat Vayechi | CL 5:08PM**

5:00 PM - Story Time with Rabbi Fort

5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal

**December 24, 2021**

**Parashat Shemot | CL 5:11PM**

5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal

**December 31, 2021**

**Parashat Vaera | Shabbat Mevarchim | CL 5:16PM**

5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal

**January 7, 2022**

**Parashat Bo | CL 5:21PM**

5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal

### 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

**December 4, 2021 | 5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel**

**December 11, 2021 | 5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel**

**December 18, 2021 | 5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel**

**December 25, 2021 | 5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel**

**January 1, 2022 | 5:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel**

### WEEKDAY CHAPEL SERVICES

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

*Afternoon/Evenings:* Sun-Thu 5:00PM

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

Join us in person or virtually on our website,  
Facebook page, and/or YouTube channel.

### 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.

# Kaplan Sinus Relief

Breathe Well. Live Well.

**Michael Kaplan, M.D. is proud to sponsor "The Message"**

Beth Yeshurun is a synagogue with a vital mission: to offer spiritual experiences that inspire and uplift all ages, to educate children and adults, and to provide a setting in which Judaism can be joyously lived and experienced.

*At Kaplan Sinus Relief, we want everyone to  
Breathe Well...and Live Well*

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*Time sensitive material - please deliver promptly!*

## Upcoming Events

- 12/1** Virtual Candle Lighting - Night 4
- 12/2** Virtual Candle Lighting - Night 5
- 12/3** Tot Shabbat with Miss Cathy!
- 12/4** Shabbat Refreshed  
Virtual Candle Lighting - Night 6
- 12/5** RS/Sulam/JLP Classes Meet  
Light up the Night - Congregation Hanukkah Event
- 12/8** Midweek Religious School  
100JM - Dr. Tom Cole
- 12/9** Talking to God with Rabbi Morgen
- 12/10** A Moment at the Ark: Prayers for Healing  
Shabbat Renewal Guest: Renee Wizig-Barrios
- 12/11** MyShabbat  
Young Family Havdalah
- 12/12** RS/Sulam/JLP Classes Meet  
Better Together: Jews Cruise & Booze  
Introduction to Judaism 2.0
- 12/16** Kids Meals/SEARCH Bags Assembly
- 12/17** Story Time with Rabbi Fort
- 12/19** JLP Classes Meet  
Blood Drive at Beth Yeshurun
- 12/23** Shabbat Bag Project Distribution
- 12/24** Administrative Office Closed
- 12/25** Minyanaire of the Year - Service

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

## Contact Us

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School Office 713.666.1884, 713.255.8045  
Jennifer LeVine, Head of School: JLEVINE@BYDS.ORG  
Read **The Message** online at BETHYESHURUN.ORG

The  
Breakfast  
Club

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

#### **Tuesday: Wisdom of Torah with Rabbi Strauss**

*This program is held in memory of Steve Rudoff<sup>TM</sup>. Breakfast is  
sponsored by: Larry Finder, Stephen Tew, Gordon Zuber, and Jack Uzick*

#### **Wednesdays: Voices of Torah 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*

#### **Fridays: Torah Music Lounge with Cantor Finkelstein**

#### **Saturdays: Weekly Torah Portion with Rabbi Horwitz**