CONGREGATION BETH YESHURUN

The Message

FEBRUARY 2023



RABBI STEVEN MORGEN

Cantor Goldman has introduced a number of new melodies into our Friday night services. One of them is a very lively setting for the last verse in Psalm 99: "Romemu Adonai Elohenu, v'hishtakhavu l'har kodsho." In English, it could be translated as "Elevate Adonai our God and bow toward God's mountain" (referring to the Temple Mount, of course).

As a song of praise – and especially on Friday nights as we usher in the Sabbath with its promise of rest and restoration – it is fitting that we sing this verse joyfully.

But most of the Psalms are really complex poems, often filled with contradictory emotions, and phrases that are loaded with meaning.

An earlier verse in Psalm 99 notes that Moses, Aaron and the Prophet Samuel each cried out to God, and God answered them. What was on their mind when they each cried out to God? And in what way did God answer them? I hardly paid attention to this verse before. But in thinking about it, I realized that this Psalm may not be so simple. What do we know about the lives of Moses, Aaron and Samuel? Quite a bit, actually, from the Bible. What moments in their lives did the Psalmist have in mind when he wrote this verse?

How does our understanding of this verse affect how we understand the last verse which directs us to "elevate God"? And what does it mean to "elevate God"?

I am delighted that we are bringing back to Beth Yeshurun one of my teachers from JTS this month to help us explore these verses and more. Dr. Robert ("Robbie") Harris will be joining us for the Shabbat of February 17-18. Dr. Harris is a Bible professor and on Friday night at our services he will look at these verses from Psalm 99.

On Saturday at lunch time, Rabbi Harris will explore the fractured world in which the Prophet Jeremiah lived. It was a time of mortal danger for the Jewish people. A powerful enemy – the Babylonian Empire – threatened our destruction. And the Judeans themselves were caught in a bitter struggle between competing political factions. Can Jeremiah's message give us a vision for faith and hope for a better future?

That Saturday night, Daniel and Karol Musher will host an informal gathering with Rabbi Harris at their home.

This should be an engaging, uplifting and enlightening weekend.

Check out what's happening on and around campus!

Kehilia High trip and January Classes & Familiy Education Programs with our William S. Malev Schools for Religious Studies!













WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

W	EDDING ANNIVERSARIES
20	Jaffray & Chris Getz
3	Erica Robinson Winsor & Lawrence Winsor
32	Syma & Darryl Levy
16	Robyn & Kevin Rosenblatt
62	Teresa & Leonard Friedman
17	Victoria & Rodney Merwin
40	Robin & Bennett Greenspan
28	Leah Stolar & Bruce Kessler
29	Jeannie & Gary Wermuth
41	Irene & Lev Bleyzer
13	Lea & Tom Radom
63	Joan & Max Lupuloff
38	Jordana & Douglas Hoffman
32	Linda & Michael Lang
15	Emily & Joshua Mintz
12	Liliane & Joshua Lesnoy
12	Annette & Scott Ernstein
27	Lenora Noroski & Frank Inselbuch
29	Laraine & Mark Shpall
1	Jessica & Seth Finkelman
35	Nasrin & Abraham Maghsoudi
36	Carol & David Neider
8	Rachel & Levi Strauss
33	Carina & Bryan Deaktor
36	Sara Ellen & Hugh Kaiser
36	Traci & Steven Schwartz
19	Julie & Gregory Smith
59	Joan & Louis Katz
27	Stacy & Michael Schwartzberg
48	Cheryl & Les Wolf
15	Ernie & Rachelle Hernandez
44	Cheryl & Jack Taub
11	Carly & Bradley Olitzki
20	Cynthia & David Patrick
41	Adrienne & Roy Wagenheim
9	Linda Friedman Pravda & Ralph Burdett
42	Dianna & Adrian Shapiro
19	Barbara & Ron Smoller
32	Stell & Abraham Yheskel
15 15	Andrea & Shay Kuperman Natalie & Ross Stomel
15	Shiloh & Leon Davila
61	Joan & Harry Pressman
44	Linda & Gary Mendeloff
46	Jan & Leslie Cohen
45	Nancy & Melvin Gross
56	Donna & Arthur R. Miller
41	Karen & Edward Robbins
36	Shelley & Jeffrey Aboloff
53	Ruth & Richard Hirschfeld
	20 3 32 16 27 40 8 9 41 3 6 3 8 3 15 12 27 29 1 3 3 6 6 19 9 27 8 15 44 12 15 15 15 15 16 14 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16

Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah!



lan Donovan Kaufman (February 3-4) son of Amy & Jeff Kaufman; brother of Daphne; grandson of Annette & Barry Kaufman and Michele & David Kantor^{z1}.



Gabriel Mayer Zadok (February 24-25) son of Amy & Segev Zadok; brother to Benjamin and Emma Zadok; grandson to Helene & Dror Zadok and Elaine & Allen Schuster.

Our Apologies! Last month we printed the incorrect photo for our Bat Mizvah, Hailey Lane.

Mazel Tov once again on your recent Simcha!



Hailey Rose Lane (January 27-28) daughter of Donna and Robert Lane; sister of Jack and Natalie; granddaugher of Sara & Abraham Glaich and Helaine & David Lane.

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 HONOR OF

Ari Blum's Retirement by Friends and Family

IN MEMORY OF

His Parents by Rabbi Danny Horwitz

Michael Camberg by Tandy Camberg-Harris

Larry Greene by Robin & Lu Dorfman

Milton Kammerman by Susan & Lenny Kammerman

Myra Kaplan by Eugene Kaplan & Family

Florence Eisen Rosenthal by Louise & Stewert Rosenthal

Condolences

The congregation extends its sincerest condolences to the families of:

Marian Braun, Leon Horowitz, and Gladys Miller Kahn.

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.

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

DR. ROBERT HARRIS

February 17-19, 2023

Dr. Robert Harris is a Professor of Bible and Ancient Semitic Languages at The Jewish Theological Seminary. He is widely published and frequently speaks on biblical narrative and Jewish liturgy to congregations and organizations around the country.

We hope you will be able to join us for at least one of his sessions, as he is an entertaining and engaging speaker.



BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/DRROBERTHARRIS2023

Friday, February 17™ at 6:00PM Shabbat Renewal in the Freedman Levit Sanctuary

'Romemu: Crying out for God's Love and God's Justice in a world of struggles and conflict:" Reflections on Psalm 99 of Kabbalat Shabbat, from which we sing "Romemu Adonai Eloheinu."

Saturday, February 18™ at approx. 11:45AM Kiddush lunch in Stein Hall

"Truth or Consequences - Finding Faith and Kindness in a World of Dissension and Strife:" In a time of mortal danger to Israel - both from a powerful foreign enemy and internal hostility among political factions - Jeremiah sought to preserve the Jewish way of life. What insights can we discover to guide us today?

Saturday, February 18[™] at 7:00pm Daniel & Karol Musher's Home

Meet Dr. Harris for an informal Q&A.

Sunday, February 19™ Yom Limmud at Congregation Beth Israel

"I Pshat the Torah: From Charlemagne to Rashi - The Reinvention of Reading in the Middle Ages"



Worship Schedule

FRIDAY EVENINGS

February 3, 2022

Parashat B'shallah | CL 5:44PM

5:00 PM - Tot Shabbat

5:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal

February 10, 2023

Parashat Yitro | CL 5:50pm

5:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

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

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal - JDAIM Shabbat

February 17, 2022

Parashat Mishpatim | Shabbat Mevarchim | CL 5:55PM

5:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal - Scholar-in-Residence

February 24, 2022

Parashat T'rumah | CL 6:00pm

5:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal - Go Texan Shabbat!

March 3, 2022

Parashat T'tzavveh | Shabbat Shekalim | CL 6:05PM

5:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00 PM - Shabbat Renewal - Rock Shabbat!

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

February 4, 2022 | 5:30 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel February 11, 2022 | 5:45 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel February 18, 2022 | 5:45 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel February 25, 2022 | 5:45 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel March 4, 2022 | 6:00 PM - J.B. Greenfield Chapel

WEEKDAY CHAPEL SERVICES

Mornings: Sun 8:00am, Mon-Fri 7:00am* Afternoon/Evenings: Sun-Thu 5:30pm *Rosh Chodesh Adar, Februaru 21-22 6:45am

Visit **BETHYESHURUN.ORG/CHAPEL** to view the complete schedule for Daily Chapel Service.



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

WILLOW WATER HOLE CLEAN UP FOR TU B'SHEVAT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 AT 3:30PM

Calling all ages! Celebrate the Jewish New year of the Trees together outdoors this Tu B'Shevat!

BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/TUBSHEVAT2023



HAPPY NATIONAL

YOUR PET DAY

DID YOU KNOW THAT
FEBRUARY 20TH IS
NATIONAL LOVE YOUR PET DAY?

This month we are partnering with ERJCC Houston's Meal on Wheels for a pet supply drive. The Animeals program was founded so that homebound clients of Meals on Wheels would not need to share their limited food and resources with their pets. Not only does Meals on Wheels deliver hot lunches to seniors in our community, but they also supplement with pet food to care for the senior's pets.

How can you help? Purchases needed items such as dog and cat food, treats, and toys from the Meals on Wheels Pet Drive Wish List.

BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/LOVEYOURPETDAY2023

JDAIM

February 2023

Jewish Disability Awareness Acceptance and Inclusion Month

Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion Month (JDAIM) is a unified effort among Jewish organizations worldwide to raise awareness and foster acceptance and inclusion of people with disabilities and mental health conditions and those who love them. JDAIM is a call to action for all of us to act in accordance with our Jewish values, honoring the gifts and strengths that we each possess.

We'll be sharing resources throughout the month on social media relating to inclusion.

JDAIM SHABBAT



Our Guest Speaker
Katie Scott, MPH

President of CarePartners

The mission of JDAIM
(Jewish Disability
Awareness,
Acceptance, and
Inclusion Month) is a
unified initiative to
raise disability
awareness and
support efforts to
foster inclusion in
Jewish communities
worldwide

Friday, February 10 6:00 PM

Care Partners provides support, education, resources, and respite to family caregivers and quality care to those individuals living with memory loss, Alzheimer's or dementia, and other challenges of aging. One of their programs is Gathering Place, which Beth Yeshurun has hosted for over 11 years.



Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 7:30pm BETHYESHURUN.ORG/CANTORSCONCERT

We invite you to join us as we honor Toby and Rabbi Jack Segal with an evening celebration featuring performances by The Shul Sisters, a cantorial trio starring Cantor Laurie Akers, Cantor Rachel Brooks, and our very own Cantor Rachel Goldman. Chaired by Lori Herzog and Dana Katz, produced by Chris Hardin and directed by Richard Brown, this incomparable musical experience will take place in the Barg Sanctuary.

Please note your calendars for this special evening as seating will be limited. Club purchases, which can accommodate a party of 10, are available at three levels. Cantor Herschel Fox, our favorite funny cantor from California, will entertain underwriters at an outstanding kosher feast, just prior to the show, in Pulaski-Rauch from 5:30-7:15pm!

Club Tickets

All club level tickets include premium seating, dinner for 10, and valet for 5. \$7,500 Producer's Club \$5,400 Composer's Club \$3,600 Cantor's Club

Individual Tickets

\$360 Premier - reserved seating, dinner, and valet \$54 General Admission

Tribute Book for Toby & Rabbi Jack Segal

\$1,800 Full Page with Photo \$1,000 Half Page \$360 Quarter page \$180 Eighth Page \$36 One line (80 Characters)

To purchase a Club ticket package, please contact Lori or Dana or you may contact Jennifer Sutton at the synagogue: 713-666-1881 x 315 or **JSUTTON@ BETHYESHURUN.ORG**.



Through education, service and practice, the Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Yeshurun will do our best work for our synagogue to maintain our Jewish traditions, heritage and values now and for future generations while balancing health, family, work and community.

Coffee and Canasta | February 1 at 8:30AM

Join our Sisterhood for a morning with lite breakfast and Canasta. Don't know how to play? Join us and learn!

Cocktails & Ketubot | February 16 at 5:30pm

A showing of the extensive collection of ketubot in our Kaplan Museum, including many that are not on display.

Museum docent Carol Emery will give us the tour, and we will enjoy cocktails and lite bites.



9am - 12pm | Most Sundays

You can register as a single, double, or foursome. Note that if you register as a single there is no guarantee there will be players to pair up with. We have limited supplies, so players, please bring your own paddles if you have them.

To register visit: **BETHYESHURUN.ORG/CALENDAR**



JEWS OF COLOR: BLACK JEWS IN AFRICA, ISRAEL, AND THE US WITH BERNICE HEILBRUNN POTVIN

Six-Part Series beginning Sunday, February 26



BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/JEWSOFCOLOR2023



Join us the first Friday of every month for Tot Shabbat!

Toddlers & Preschoolers join us for a musical Shabbat with Rabbi Sarah Fort and Hailey Arnold, followed by challah and more fun! We'll meet at 5:00pm for our musical service and crafts. If weather permits, we will head to the PreSchool playground.

Next Date - February 3



Join Beth Yeshurun Sisterhood and our Social Action team to assemble snack bags for Kids Meals and SEARCH. New volunteers are always welcome to join in this ongoing monthly project We will meet every 3rd Thursday of the month.

Your Sisterhood Giftshop is here for all your Judaica needs!



Open Tuesday-Thursday 10am-4pm; Friday 10am-2:30pm; Sunday 10am-1:00pm; Closed Saturday & Monday.

Call them at 713.255.8021 or email **GIFTSHOP@BETHYESHURUN.ORG**



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



ROSH CHODESH

A NEW 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.

\$18 per session

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

Register by visiting the calendar dates below!

Sunday, February 19 at 4:00pm

Sunday, March 19 at 4:00pm

Sunday, April 16 at 4:00pm

Sunday, May 21 at 1:30pm



100 Jewish Men is a group of men dedicated to improving themselves and each other as men, fathers, husbands, brothers, sons, friends, and Jews. Through controversial, thought-provoking speakers and small group discussions, we will explore what usually remains unspoken in men's lives at work and at home. We have an incredible year planned, and we hope you choose to be part of it.

\$110 members | **\$135** non-members

Dinner at 6:30_{PM} \$12/p | Programs begin at 7:00_{PM} Open to members and non-members

- 2022-2023 GUESTS -

Wednesday, February 8

Brian T. Smith - Sports Columnist for the Houston Chronicle

Wednesday, March 8

Dena Marks, Senior Associate Director, ADL Southwest: "Recognizing and Responding to Hate Incidents and Hate Crimes"

Wednesday, April 2

18th Annual Man's Mock Seder at UOS

Wednesday, May 17

100 Jewish Men and CBY Sisterhood present: Adam Growe Ouiz Show

We have an engaging series of speakers lined up for the year!
BETHYESHURUN.ORG/100JM





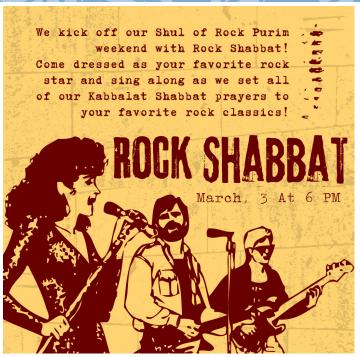
Start your super bowl Sunday with a prayer and let's wrap & roll!

Sunday, February 12 9:00_{AM}

Conservative Jewish men and women around the world will celebrate the Mitzvah of Tefillin at their morning minyanim, joining thousands of other men and women in the annual "World Wide Wrap."

Rabbis and trainers will be available to teach you how to daven with tefillin. Bring your own tefillin or borrow a set from our loaner supply.

Breakfast sponsored by 100 Jewish Men before we wrap!





ReelAbilities Houston Film & Arts Festival

SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 5-23, 2023



Feb. 5 - ReelArt

Feb. 15 - UP Abilities

Feb. 16 - ReelArt Crawl

Feb. 19-22 - ReelFilm

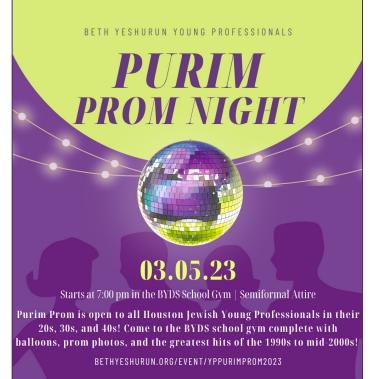
Feb. 23 - ReelMusic

REELABILITIESHOUSTON.ORG/SCHEDULE



MEGILLAH READING & SHPIEL MONDAY, MARCH 6

Join us for Megillah readings in the J.B. Greenfield Chapel at 6:30pm and the Main Sanctuary and Museum Minyan at 7:00pm. Come in costume and enjoy hamentaschen after the Megillah reading!







Congregation Beth Yeshurun and St. Paul's United Methodist Church are partnering to welcome

Susannah Heschel

"The Legacy of Abraham Joshua Heschel in Civil Rights – Our Work is Not Finished"

Thursday, March 2, 2023 Congregation Beth Yeshurun Program & Dessert Reception | 7:00pm

BETHYESHURUN.ORG/EVENT/ SUSANNAHHESCHEL030223

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

KAPLANSINUSRELIEF.COM | 713.588.9987

Upcoming Events

- **2/1** Sisterhood Coffee & Canasta
- 2/2 YP Wine Tasting & Seed Planting
- **2/3** Tot Shabbat!
- **2/4** MyShabbat
- **2/5** Willow Water Hole Clean up for Tu B'Shevat
- 2/6 Tu B'Shvat
- 2/8 100 Jewish Men: Brian T. Smith Sports Columnist
- **2/10** Moment at the Ark: Prayers for Healing JDAIM Shabbat
- 2/12 World Wide Wrap
- 2/16 Kids Meals/SEARCH Bags Assembly Sisterhood Cocktails & Ketubahs
- 2/17-19 Scholar-in-Residence: Dr. Robert Harris
- 2/18 MyShabbat
- **2/19** Yom Limmud hosted by Beth Israel
- 2/20 Love Your Pet Day Collection!
- 2/23 The Gathering Place
- **2/24** Go Texan Shabbat
- 2/26 Jews of Color: Black Jews in Africa, Israel, & US Pickleball for Jewish Singles over 50 Rosh Chodesh Program
- 3/2 Suannah Heschel
- 3/3 Tot Shabbat! Rock Shabbat
- **3/4** MyShabbat
- 3/5 Purim Carnival YP Purim Prom
- 3/6 Purim Megillah Reading & Shpiel
- 3/8 YES Lunch
 - 100 Jewish Men: Dena Marks, ADL Southwest
- 3/9 Sisterhood Passover Workshop
- 3/10 Moment at the Ark: Prayers for Healing
- 3/12 Jews of Color: Black Jews in Africa, Israel, & US
- **3/16** Kids Meals/SEARCH Bags Assembly The Gathering Place
- 3/19 Rosh Chodesh Program
- 3/23 Cantor's Concert 2023 Shul Sisters

Ongoing: Breakfast Club - Morning Torah Study with Clergy; Wednesdays: Jewish Meditation

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

Time sensitive material - please deliver promptly!

Contact Us

The Message Vol. LVIII, No. 2 February 2023 | Shevat-Adar 5783
The Message of Congregation Beth Yeshurun (USPS 968-500) is published monthly by Congregation Beth Yeshurun, 4525 Beechnut, Houston, Harris County, TX 77096-1801.

SYNAGOGUE OFFICE

BETHYESHURUN.ORG | 713.666.1881 4525 Beechnut St | Houston, TX 77096-1801

CLERGY

Rabbi Brian Strauss bstrauss@bethyeshurun.org
Assistant: Abby Rotenberg arotenberg@bethyeshurun.org
Rabbi Steven Morgen smorgen@bethyeshurun.org
Rabbi Sarah Fort sfort@bethyeshurun.org
Assistant: Lisa Unsell Lunsell@bethyeshurun.org
Rabbi David Rosen drosen@bethyeshurun.org
Rabbi Jack Segal rabsegal@aol.com
Cantor Rachel Goldman rgoldman@bethyeshurun.org
Asst. & B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator: Sara Ellen Kaiser
skaiser@bethyeshurun.org

SYNAGOGUE

David Stein, President PRESIDENT@BETHYESHURUN.ORG

Andy Burger, Executive Director ABURGER@BETHYESHURUN.ORG

Jennifer Rosenzweig, Program Director JROSENZWEIG@BETHYESHURUN.ORG

Mindi Stern, Director of Member Relations

MSTERN@BETHYESHURUN.ORG

Jennifer-Joy Sutton, Director of Development JSUTTON@BETHYESHURUN.ORG

Ashley Mills, Marketing & Communications

AMILLS@BETHYESHURUN.ORG

Larry Caulfield, Cemetery

LCAULFIELD@BETHYESHURUN.ORG | 713.255.8076

WILLIAM S. MALEV RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

Sheryl Eskowitz, Education Director SESKOWITZ@BETHYESHURUN.ORG | 713.255.8040

BETH YESHURUN DAY SCHOOL

School Office 713.666.1884, 713.255.8045 Jennifer LeVine, Head of School: JLEVINE@BYDS.ORG

Read The Message online at BETHYESHURUN.ORG