Shabbat ON THE BEACH

July 15, August 12
at 6:00 pm

Shady Beach Norwalk

Bring a picnic dinner or purchase from us in advance. We will supply dessert ... an ice cream truck courtesy of Beth El!

Order Dinner on the Beach:
Deadline is 10 am the Wednesday prior

*Note: Services are in person at the beach only. No Zoom will be available due to the location.
Dear Members,

It is a familiar refrain from Ecclesiastes, “For every season, turn, turn.” And we are now in, by far, my favorite season of the year: Summer. Some may like the blossoms of spring, others the vibrant fall colors and still others a snow day at home. But for me, being outside until late, wearing shorts, and dinner and a walk at the beach make this prime time for me.

As I write this, Shavuot is just over and, while preparation is beginning for the High Holidays in late September, they are still far off into the distance. My hope is that after two years of remote or hybrid services our ability to join together in person will continue this summer and into the fall.

Meanwhile, as Nat King Cole once sang, “Those lazy, hazy days of summer” are upon us. Vacations beckon. Still, our operations and planning at Beth El continue without pause. Let me give you some examples...

Rabbi Paskind continues to lead our Shabbat services and has introduced some new features such as a Shabbat Nature Walk along the Norwalk River. The non-walkers of us will stay behind and be engaged in Torah study. And that’s just weekends. There are other stimulating programs available in person and online all week long, even in the summer. Like to chant a haftarah? We have weekly openings and I am happy to provide you with the info. Just email me and we’ll set up a date.

Our Executive Committee, made up of the synagogue leadership meets monthly in the summer to plan and discuss the synagogue’s operations.

Beth El operates through a variety of committees. One of which we just recently formed is called the Vision Committee. This committee will be meeting throughout the summer looking at our assets and liabilities and coming up with plans to keep Beth El strong in the coming years.

Even in the summer we remain available for all the lifecycle events. Our Cemetery Committee concluded its annual meeting with the report that our property on Richards Avenue has never looked better. The rabbi is a phone call away to assist in any lifecycle event.

Finally, we all have to eat during the summer. Our Gift Card Team, led by Josh Lander is available every day to make sure grocery and other gift cards are available. You can reach out to Josh at 203.984.8639 or onesourcellc@yahoo.com.

All that said, I hope you have a wonderful, refreshing summer.

Keith
Shabbat at the Beach

The Talmud teaches that “A person should not pray except in a room which has windows.” Sure, we might get distracted if there’s a commotion outside the window, but if it’s the right view, a window can really offer a source of inspiration for our individual and communal tefillah. I have a feeling this is part of the reason so many synagogues, like ours, have beautiful stained-glass windows: they, too, can provide inspiration for our prayer.

I’m thinking about this praying-with-windows concept as we move our services outdoors as much as possible, especially on Friday evenings. We’ve done this during summertime for a few years now, and even in our parking lot, we have the opportunity to change up the view, to feel the breeze and hear the birds, and see the sun begin to set. I have always loved connecting to the natural world, especially in the context of Shabbat and tefillah.

This summer, the thing that most excites me is a new opportunity: Friday nights at the beach!* I can’t wait to welcome Shabbat barefoot in the sand, overlooking the expanse of the beach and the Sound, the voices of happy children playing nearby, and in the company of hundreds of fellow Norwalkers enjoying the start of the weekend.**

I hope you’ll be there with me.

Bring your picnic Shabbat dinner or purchase one in advance, but save room for a sweet treat from the (synagogue-sponsored) ice cream truck!

Friday, July 15, 6pm
Friday, August 12, 6pm***

*It took a few years of conversations with Norwalk Parks & Rec, but we did it: We’re the first house of worship to host a service at Shady Beach (it’s the left-most side of Calf Pasture Beach)! Many thanks to Jody for helping me pursue this dream.

**If your car is registered outside Norwalk, try to carpool with a Norwalk resident to avoid fees. And pay attention as we get closer—we’re working on the best plan to avoid fees if you do drive over.

*** Other than these 2 dates, we’ll be in the CBE parking lot throughout the summer, weather permitting. Come on out!
This time of year is always so bittersweet for any educator. You look at your students and you see how far they have come during the school year. You are so proud of all the hard work that they have put into school. On the other hand, you are sad to send them on their way. Preschool is no different. We feel like we have had a hand in molding these young children and now we must say goodbye to them. I could not be prouder of our three graduates. I know they are going to shine in kindergarten.

Our Goodbye Party/Graduation was a huge success. The children sang their hearts out to their families, we had yummy cupcakes to help celebrate and then Tom Weber, a children's musician, helped us rock out right into summer.

Camp is already in full swing at Nitzan. We are busy running through sprinklers, painting outside, getting wet at the water table—all kinds of good outdoor fun! If you are passing through the Beth El parking lot, you may hear squeals of delight as the campers are enjoying themselves. Feel free to peek your head in and see what all the fun is about.

A huge thank you to all who came out to support Nitzan at our "Mr. Frosty's Ice-cream Shop" fundraiser. The weather was absolutely perfect. We all had a blast. It was so fun to see all Nitzan families spending time with one another.

Have you seen the two new additions to our playground? The first is our raised garden beds. Thanks to a very generous donation from Stephanie and Neil Gordon, Nitzan was able to purchase some raised beds, soil and some vegetables to plant. We are very excited to watch our plants grow and to sow the benefits of our garden.

The second is our long awaited “buddy bench” in memory of Harry Morgenthaler. The children love to take a rest on the bench while playing.

I am excited to share with the congregation that CBE member, Dr. Rachel Messinger, has agreed to serve as Nitzan’s Dental Consultant again for the upcoming school year. We are thrilled she is willing to support our program in this capacity. We are very lucky to have her be a part of our team.

While summer is still in full swing, we are already looking toward the beginning of the new school year. We are currently accepting registration for the fall. If you know any preschool aged children, please tell them about our wonderful school. They can contact me at nitzan@congbethel.org to learn more about our program.
I am very much looking forward to my expanded role as Director of the new Beth El Community Jewish Learning Center, combining the religious schools of Temple Beth El, Stamford, and Congregation Beth El, Norwalk. This summer, I am working hard with teachers, clergy, and members of the leadership of both congregations to develop an educational program that will bring the students and families of both congregations together in our school and engage them in meaningful learning experiences, while simultaneously preserving our student and family connections to their particular synagogue communities.

I believe that a strong Jewish educational program nurtures Jewish identity and develops in our students a sense of connection to the Jewish community. Our educational programming should aim to instill in our students’ minds and hearts a love for Judaism and nurture a commitment to lifelong Jewish learning and living. I believe that it’s essential for students to feel welcome and valued in a warm, exciting, challenging, and supportive environment. We hope the children in our community will be engaged, active learners who are willing to challenge and to question as they express their views on everything, from the meaning of prayer to why we observe various holidays and the importance of ethics.

I have been the Director of Congregational Learning for Temple Beth El, Stamford, for the past nine years. At Temple Beth El, I am the head of the religious school program, coordinate adult education, teen programming, and High Holy Days activities for families with children. I help plan and implement holiday and Shabbat programming for families with children throughout the year.

I have more than 24 years of experience as a synagogue education director. Over the years, I have also been a synagogue youth director, summer camp teen Jewish educator at Surprise Lake Camp, member of the faculty at Crane Lake Camp and NFTY Northeast region. I have been a synagogue librarian, cooking teacher, Israeli dance instructor, Judaic studies instructor, and preschool assistant teacher.

I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Drama from the University of Southern California and a Master of Arts in Folklore and Mythology from the University of California at Los Angeles. I also have some post-graduate training in Jewish education, Jewish family education, and Hebrew language. My husband, Amnon Udi and I have two grown sons, Adam and Jordan.
“Blood Libel”

When asked how Russia can claim to be fighting to “De-Nazify Ukraine” when President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is himself Jewish, on May 2, 2022, Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sergei Lavrov claimed: “... but Hitler also had Jewish Blood [that Zelenskyy is Jewish] means absolutely nothing. Wise Jewish people say that the most ardent anti-Semites are usually Jews.” It must be noted that rumors about Hitler’s ancestry go back to the 1920’s, but are dismissed by legitimate Holocaust scholars.

This statement by Lavrov has been condemned as a “Blood Libel” by most Jewish and Israeli commentators and leaders. Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett is quoted as responding: “Such lies are meant to blame the Jews themselves for the most terrible crimes in history and thus free the oppressor of the Jews from their responsibility.”

In a modern connotation, the usage of the term “Blood Libel” is used to foist blame on the Jews or Israel as a collective entity that conspires to kill, destroy, or otherwise harm non-Jews for ritual purposes or for monetary gain or power. A further connotation is to employ ambiguous or false scenarios to assign blame and/or condemnation upon Jews and/or Israel. The origins of this claim emerged in Medieval Europe in the 12th century and has been revived periodically in Eastern and Central Europe, Damascus in 1840, and even here in the US in 1928, generally leading to the persecution and sometime the murder of the Jews. The Blood Libel itself is a superstitious and unjustified accusation that Jews ritually murder Christian children at Passover to obtain blood to be used in Matzos and/or crucify them in a manner as to avenge Christian treatment of the Jews. The basis for these calumnies and canards arise from primitive superstitions that the Jews were agents of the devil.

My intent is to provide in this editorial a brief history of the “Blood Libel” and then focus on its usage in the present day to disparage the Jewish People and the State of Israel.

Thomas of Monmouth, an English monk, is the source of the first Medieval Blood Libel claiming that William of Norwich, a young tanner’s apprentice, was crucified during the Passover/Easter period of 1164 CE by members of the Norwich Jewish Community. It was claimed that the Norwich Jewish Community was chosen by lot to ritually sacrifice a Christian child in a Passover ritual and that local officials were bribed to look the other way. Fortunately, it would appear none of the Jews of Norwich were either forced to confess, or tortured, punished or killed for this false, mythical and defaming accusation. However, most Jewish communities falsely accused of Blood Libels were not so fortunate. The entire Jewish community of Blois, France was sentenced to death and burnt alive in 1171 CE on the basis of a blood libel.

In 1235 CE, after the bodies of five boys were found in Fulda in Hesse (present day Germany), the populace claimed that Jews had killed them to consume their blood and burned 34 Jews to death with the aid of Christian crusaders assembled in the town. Emperor Frederick II cleared the Jews of these charges after a thorough investigation.

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In 1255 CE the body of a young boy was discovered in a well owned by a Jew in Lincoln, England who was claimed to have been murdered and tortured by the Jewish community to mock the crucifixion of Christ. Dozens of Jews who had come to Lincoln for a wedding were accused of this calumny and many received death sentences which were endorsed by Henry III, King of England who thereupon confiscated their property. (It should be noted that Henry III’s son and successor, Edward I, expelled all Jews from the realm in 1290 CE)

In 1475 Simon of Trent (Italy), a two-year-old boy, was allegedly kidnapped and murdered by local Jews to use his blood in Passover rituals. Jew haters incited by the Prince-Bishop of Trent tortured and extracted confessions from fifteen Jews who were then burned to death. The executed Jews were later found innocent of the charges and Simon’s death was attributed to Christians who wanted to appropriate Jewish property.

The “Blood Libel” is not merely a Medieval canard. In 1840 in Ottoman-ruled Damascus, when a Capuchin monk and his Muslim servant disappeared, a Blood Libel was orchestrated against the Jews by a corrupt and notorious French anti-Semitic counsel. Nine Jews were arrested and tortured to extract confessions. At least two succumbed to the torture and the imprisonment until the charges were ultimately dropped after much worldwide protest.

In 1899 and 1900 in the town of Polna (please note that our Holocaust Torah originated in Polna) in Bohemia, Austro-Hungarian Empire, a Jewish vagabond, Leopold Hilsner was accused and convicted of ritually murdering two teenaged Catholic girls to use their blood for ritual purposes. Tomas Masaryk, later President of post World War I independent Czechoslovakia intervened on Hilsner’s behalf, but to no avail. After 19 years in prison, Austro-Hungarian Emperor Karl Franz-Joseph pardoned Hilsner.

In 1911 in Kiev, then part of the Russian Empire, Menachem Mutual Beilus was falsely accused of the ritual murder of a 12-year-old Christian boy for ritual purposes. Even though a police investigation implicated a non-Jewish criminal gang for the murder, an anti-Semitic prosecutor with government approval tried Beilus for the murder. Beilus was ultimately acquitted.

Yes, there has even been a “Blood Libel” claim in the US. On September 22, 1928 (two days before Yom Kippur), four-year-old Barbara Griffiths went missing in Massena, NY. The police presumed they had a murder case and pursued a ritual murder/ “Blood Libel” investigation against the small, nineteen family Jewish community including Rabbi Berel Brennglass. The four-year-old girl showed up the next day healthy and unharmed. The Mayor of Massena later admitted that the idea to connect the Jews with the disappearance of the child originated with him.

There have been many hundreds of “Blood Libel” accusations over the centuries, primarily in Europe. None has been proven juridically by today’s standards.

Recently, however, there have been ritual murder/ “Blood Libel” claims made within the Arab world and by proponents of the BDS movement.

In 2003, Hezbollah TV broadcast a series to “expose the Criminal History of Zionism.” One of the claims made was a depiction of the ritual murder by Jews of a Christian child to use his blood to prepare Passover Matzah.

Miftah, a Palestinian group led by Hanan Ashrawi published an article by a Palestinian Journalist attacking President Obama for holding a Passover Seder at the White House positing: “Does President Obama know the truth about the connection between

Painting of blood libel in Sandomierz Cathedral in Sandomierz, Poland

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Passover and Christian Blood ... or between Passover and the Jewish Blood Dances.”


During Passover 2019, Anti-Semitic British Politician Baroness Jenny Tonge posted the following connecting modern Israel to the “Blood Libel” accusation: “Army Injures 27 Palestinians, including a New Born Baby in Nablus” which she captioned “All to Celebrate Passover.”

As stated previously the modern charge of “Blood Libel” is based on attempts to blame Jews and/or Israel collectively to conspire to kill, destroy or otherwise harm non-Jews for monetary gain or power and as a corollary to emphasizing false and/or ambiguous rendering of facts to conclude that Jews continue to kill, destroy or harm non-Jews to advance their collective community and/or State interest. The Palestinian rejectionist and BDS adherents continually misrepresent or obfuscate the facts to show that Israel and Jews are unprincipled oppressors who attempt to destroy Palestinians for their own propaganda advantages.

I will present five examples of these modern “Blood Libels” against the State of Israel:

BDS adherents and some Palestinians continue to falsely claim that Israel withholds Covid Vaccines from Israeli non-Jewish minorities and Palestinians. Hamas recently refused to accept medical deliveries from Qatar through Israel due to labeling issues.

False allegations by Palestinians supported by BDS adherents that Israel is harvesting and/or stealing kidneys from Palestinians to use either for profit or for Jewish recipients.

In 2002 during the Al-Aqsa Intifada, France 2 TV released footage from an attack in Gaza on an IDF outpost at the Netzarim Junction by armed Palestinians including policemen using Molotov Cocktails and automatic weapons. During the incident a 12-year-old Palestinian Child, Mohammed al-Dura and perhaps his father was allegedly killed by Israeli return fire. Though Israel at first accepted responsibility for the death after further investigation as to the film (which had been edited) and the scene itself, it would appear that it was more likely that the child, if wounded or killed at all, was hit by Palestinian fire. (One investigation asked how Israeli weapons could shoot around corners) Again there was a rush to judgment with blame focused on Israel prior to a full and proper investigation.

On May 11, 2022 Al Jazeera reported one of their newscasters Shireen Abu Akleh was killed in Jenin while reporting on a clash between Palestinians and the IDF. Once again Israel is faced with a “rush to judgment” and worldwide condemnation even before a full investigation has been completed. Since the Palestinian Authority refused to cooperate in the investigation and refused to share the bullet that allegedly killed Shireen Abu Akleh there will never be closure and the usual Anti-Israel groups will use this death as another “Blood Libel” against the State of Israel and possibly the Jewish people.

Certain BDS adherents and Black Lives Matter proponents have blamed Israel for the police murder of George Floyd because some US Police have been trained by Israeli Police in crowd control and the manner of disarming and apprehending an alleged criminal perpetrator.

The “Blood Libel” is a mythical charge that has haunted the Jewish people and/or the State of Israel collectively for almost 1,000 years and in its modern permeation continues to be employed to oppress and persecute the Jews and Israel down to the present day.

Salt Lake Tribune, Pat Bagley – February 2, 2021
Artifacts, Relics and Heirlooms
What does your family cherish?
Rhonda & Larry Ginsberg

Linda Lerman

A couple of years ago, my curiosity about the origin of the lovely silver candlesticks I inherited from my maternal grandmother when Jeffery and I married in 1979, led to an online search that answered some questions but led to so many more. I knew that my maternal great grandfather, Joseph Lezerson (later, Schon), immigrated to the United States in the early 1920s (1921 or 1922) bringing his daughter, Sylvia (Tzipora) then 11 or 12 years old, and his oldest son, William, then 9 or 10 years old, on a long journey from Ostrava near Partzeva (or Parczew), Poland. Once great grandfather Yosef found work and saved enough, he returned to Poland, to bring his wife, Lillian (Leiba) Buchwald Lezerson and their youngest son to America. Family stories tell that among their few possessions was this pair of silver candlesticks and a silver soup ladle. No doubt the silver candlesticks were new, celebrating their new life in America, while the ladle represented the family recipes handed down through generations of my ancestors. My grandmother passed both the candlesticks and the ladle on to me, as the only granddaughter. I was also named for three of my great grandmothers.

As a professional researcher, I successfully located a well known craftsman, a goldsmith, by the name of Izrael Szekman, who was active during the 1880s and 1890s. In 1989, an article by Dr. Izabella Rejduch-Samkova printed in Folks-Sztyme, No. 19 (May 19, 1989) entitled “Scarlet and Szekman - two little known Jewish goldsmiths” she notes that I. Szekman founded his company in ca. 1886 and it was active until 1915. In 1913, a magazine includes a reference to I. Szekman as a provider for plated and silver products. His heirs were Berisz and Zyskind Szekman, most likely his sons, who used Szekman’s stamped label and produced silver tableware at a “good artistic level.” While the candlesticks that my great grandfather purchased in the 1920s do not carry I. Szekman’s label, they are from the same design line, and were based on the work of I. Szekman. Examples of I. Szekman’s works are found in the National Museum in Warsaw, the Historical Museum of the Capitol City of Warsaw, the Goldsmiths Museum in Kazimierz, as well as the Historical Museum of the City of Krakow, according to Rejduch-Samkova.

In Jay Weinstein’s A Collector’s Guide to Judaica (1985), the author notes that most silver candlesticks in Warsaw were made from about the middle of the 19th century until WWII, and almost all were exclusively for Jewish ritual use. Like my candlesticks, some are of a Neo Classical style, with a capital decorated and embossed with foliage or wreaths, garlands or ribbons, over a circular standard and a square base on raised legs. The domed and tiered base are similarly decorated. They stand about 13” high and weigh about 19.2 oz. A search on the Internet for similar candlesticks will occasionally find a pair for sale.

These Yom Tov silver candlesticks have opened the genealogical doors to discovering more about my family before coming to America. My hope is that these candlesticks will continue to be passed down through the female line and used every Yom Tov as they have been for the past 100 years.

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Dorothy Grimm

In the 90’s, several years after graduating from Brandeis, my daughter Marni attended the Worcester Center for Crafts, her interest being pottery-making in particular. Just before Hanukah that year she presented us with a beautiful and distinctive menorah that she had made at school. We were thrilled with her gift… something from her very own hand.

It was on the first day of Hanukah, that very December, that my mother passed away. The funeral was in Florida but we returned north to finish shiva in our home.

I remember it well, Rabbi Ron Fish leading the service in our living room, friends and family gathered around. Most memorable of all was lighting the candles afterwards on our newly handcrafted menorah, punctuated with the singing of the blessings.

It was indeed a special moment. Something about a meaningful family thread? It was, after all, a passing of light m’dor l’dor, a daughter remembering/memorializing/honoring her grandmother, the candles flickering brightly in our special menorah. Little had we known that its first use would be at shiva.

I treasure this unique menorah, and I suspect it will be handed down and remain a family heirloom.

If you have an artifact or heirloom that you wish to share with the Congregation, please submit a picture and description to the editors at: bulletins@congbethel.org

Do you know any 2, 3 or 4 year olds?

Let them know about our wonderful Nitzan Nursery School!
Donations
Thank you to the following congregants whose generosity helps to maintain our Congregation.

Special Thank You

Special thank you to Stephanie & Neil Gordon for donating planters, soil, and plants for the Nitzan Garden

General Fund

Janet & Stephen Green in gratitude for Rabbi Paskind’s advice and support with Harry Schmerl’s death
Barbara & Harvey Hennes in memory of Steve Stein’s brother, Myron Stein
Barbara & Harvey Hennes in memory of Harvey’s brother, Leon Hennes
The Osen family in memory of Steven Rotstein’s mother, Betty Rotstein
Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in memory of Stephen Stein’s brother, Myron Stein
Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Patricia & James Samuels in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Linda & Steve Stein in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Linda & Steve Stein in memory of Max Feldman’s mother, Maria Feldman
Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in memory of Max Feldman’s mother, Maria Feldman
Karen & Richard Schwam in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman in memory of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
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Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman in honor of the engagement of Sharon & Marc Rosen’s son, Nate to Alma Rechnitzer
Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in memory of Cindy Almanzar’s aunt, Vernel O. Bowden
Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in honor of the engagement of Sharon & Marc Rosen’s son, Nate to Alma Rechnitzer
Beth & Bruce Billig in memory of Harvey Hennes’s brother, Leon Hennes
Susan & Alvin Epstein in memory of Harvey Hennes’s brother, Leon Hennes
Rina Eidelberg Reichgut & Mitchell Reichgut in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Amy & Joseph SantaLucia in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Hope & Peter Levensohn in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Paul & Florence Danzer in memory of Mark Danzer
Ronni & Paul Ginsberg in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Scott Shaefitz in memory of Steve Stein’s brother, Myron Stein
Anonymous donation in celebration of Bob Gordon’s 85th birthday
Anonymous donation in memory of Ronald Schechter
Anonymous donation in memory of Chaya Cohen
Ronni & Paul Ginsberg with sincere thanks and gratitude to Josh Lander for his continued hard work and dedication
Riva Silverman & Abram Heisler in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon
Jody & Jeffrey Dietch in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon
Jody & Jeffrey Dietch in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon
Rina Eidelberg Reichgut & Mitchell Reichgut in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon
Judy Wilkins in honor of Josh Kesselman
Amy & Joe SantaLucia in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon

Sarah & Marvin Rosenbaum Kiddush Fund

Laura & James Sugarman in memory of Steve Stein’s brother, Myron Stein
Laura & James Sugarman in memory of Harvey Hennes’s brother, Leon Hennes

Marvin Rosenbaum in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Marvin Rosenbaum in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
The Kesselman family in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Ellen & Joel Wasserman in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Doug & Dr. Sharon Karp in appreciation of Sharon & Steve DeFala’s support of the Rosenbaum Kiddush Fund
Doug & Dr. Sharon Karp in appreciation of Marvin Rosenbaum’s support of the Kiddush Fund
Doug & Dr. Sharon Karp in appreciation of Ellen & Joel Wasserman’s support of the Rosenbaum Kiddush Fund
Doug & Dr. Sharon Karp in appreciation of Keith Satter’s “Grover Cleveland second act”
Karen & Richard Schwam in honor of Lily Fanwick’s graduation from high school
Karen & Richard Schwam in honor of Ethan Reichgut’s graduation from college
Karen & Richard Schwam wishing Stuart Garrelick a swift recovery
Marvin Rosenbaum in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon

Building Fund

Stuart Garrelick in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Irma & Joseph Schachter in memory of Irma’s mother, Rose Gilstein Klein

Nitzan Nursery School Fund

Phyllis & Les Asher in memory of Harvey Hennes’s brother, Leon Hennes
Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Max Feldman’s mother, Maria Feldman

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Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Harvey Hennes’s brother, Leon Hennes
Karen & Richard Schwam in memory of father and father-in-law of Jeffrey & Jody Dietch, Herb Gross
Hilary & Donald Shaefitz for a continued speedy recovery for Brian Berger
Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon
Sharon & Steve DeFala in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon

Navasky Hebrew School Fund
Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Donald’s father, Sam Shaefitz
Janet & Denis Mittleman in honor of Navasky Director, Danielle Mittleman
Linda & Steve Stein in memory of Neil Gordon’s mother, Sandra Gordon
Rabbi Eichenholtz in appreciation for the gift of books

Kiddush Fund
Michelle & Eric Fanwick in memory of Max Feldman’s mother, Maria Feldman

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
Adam Nemzer in memory of his mother, Bea Nemzer
Lillian Gross
Gerry Rosenberg

Soup Kitchen
Raquel Stabinski-Leib in honor of Joanne Kozak’s 94th birthday
Raquel Stabinski in memory of Belina Stabinski, Freida Leib and Max Leib

Tzedakah Fund
*Per the family’s request donations in memory of Charles Stabinsky have gone to Open Doors
Karen & Richard Schwam in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Gloria Walkoff and family in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Linda & Steve Stein in memory of Charles Stabinsky

Robert Schneider & Peter Berman in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Lynn & Brian Duchan in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Ilene & Simon Sumberg in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Stephanie & Neil Gordon in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Sharon & Leo Field in memory of Charles Stabinsky
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Doris & Roger Kaye in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Karen & Richard Schwam in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Geraldine & Nathan Snyder in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Phyllis & Les Asher in memory of Charles Stabinsky
Gail & Richard Epstein in memory of Charles Stabinsky

Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman in memory of their father and father-in-law, Sidney Lerman
Gail & Robert Ginsberg in memory of Robert’s father, Jerry Ginsberg
Lois Miller in memory of her mother, Malverna Hirsch
Ronni & Paul Ginsberg in memory of Paul’s mother, Lillian Ginsberg
Gail & Robert Pravder in memory of Robert’s mother, Ruth Pravder
Sandra Ferguson, Anne & Greer in memory of Sandra’s mother, Anna Schub
Michael Simpson in memory of his mother, Rose Simpson
Arlette & Robert Britton in memory of Arlette’s cousin, Leon Rene Rasson
David, Barry, and Jeffrey Knishkowy in memory of their grandfather, Jack Knishkowy
Ellen & Leonard Martin in memory of Ellen’s mother, Anne Karlins
Ellen & Leonard Martin in memory of Ellen’s father, Meyer Karlins
Lilia & Irwin Kfare in memory of Irwin’s father, David Kfare
Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in memory of Steven’s father, Natan Rotstein
The Karp family in memory of their mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, Jennie Kaplan
Gloria Berman in memory of her husband, Murray Berman
Susan & Alvin Epstein in memory of Susan’s sister, Sandra Gerson
Susan & Alvin Epstein in memory of Alvin’s mother, Edith Epstein
Regina Munter-Young & Christopher Young in memory of Regina’s father, Chaim Munter
Patricia & James Samuels in memory of James’s mother, Jennie Samuels
Marcia Helfand in memory of her father, Morton Starr
Sonya & Alan Rich in memory of their mother-in-law and mother, Edith Rich
Lawrence & Susan Bai in memory of their father-in-law and father, Eli Bai

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Beth El Food & Gift Cards Program

Please consider joining the growing number of congregants participating in the Food & Gift Card Program of the Synagogue. We earn a profit of 5-10% on your purchase of Caraluzzi, ShopRite, Stew Leonard’s, and Stop & Shop gift cards. It doesn’t cost you a penny, because the profit comes to us directly from the stores when we purchase the cards. Please fill out the form below and we will enroll you in the program. You may pick up the cards at the Synagogue or from one of our volunteer sellers, or we will be happy to DELIVER them to you on a regular basis. Remember, it doesn’t cost you anything; you buy the cards at face value from the Synagogue. Use them as cash at the participating stores and the Synagogue earns money! This all goes to help support our various programs. Call the office at 838-2710 with any questions. Thank you!

Name __________________________________________ Telephone __________________________ City ________________

Caraluzzi $ __________________________
ShopRite $ __________________________ Stew Leonard’s $ _______________________

Please set up delivery of the cards on the ______ of each month. I will pick up the cards from the Synagogue on the ______ of each month.

I would prefer to pick up the cards from one of the Synagogue’s sellers. Please tell me the name and phone number of the closest seller.

Don’t forget to buy your Food and Gift Cards! To order, call the synagogue at 203-838-2710 or fill out the form below.

COVID has hurt our sales – please support this program – we deliver!!

Food and Gift Cards

Donations continued from page 12

Phyllis & Richard Weisberg in memory of Phyllis’ mother, Freda Hertz
Myra Skluth in memory of her mother, Emelie Skluth
Gail & Richard Epstein in memory of Gail’s grandfather, Louis Bassin
Susan Munter in memory of her husband, Chaim Munter
Joan & Michael, Gabriel, and Jordan Albert in memory of their father and grandfather, Bernard Albert
Stefanie & Winthrop Baum in memory of their friend, Erna Marx
Phyllis Eldridge & Martin Shankman in memory of Phyllis’ mother, Norma Tarshis
Pamela & Stephen Karlins in memory of Stephen’s father, Meyer Karlins
Pamela & Stephen Karlins in memory of Stephen’s mother, Anne Karlins

Exciting Program for Jewish Teens Coming to Westport!

Merkaz, a weekly educational program open to all Jewish Teens grades 8-12, is coming to Westport this Fall! Give your teen the gift of Jewish community with fun classes and time to see old friends and make new ones! Learn more and register today at MerkazCT.org
Mazal Tov to Miss Marla on Her Retirement

Goodbyes are always so hard – especially after 25 years. Nitzan Nursery School said goodbye to our beloved Miss Marla this past June when she retired from teaching. Over these years, Marla has touched so many young lives—she will be dearly missed within the walls of not only Nitzan Nursery school but of Congregation Beth El as well. To help us honor her, this stone will be placed on Nitzan’s playground so that we can always remember just how much Marla touched our lives.

Hello Summer

All Friday services are in the parking lot, weather permitting.

Stayed tuned for summer activities from the Beth Elles, CBE’s women’s group. Among the plans are an offsite dinner and another Sunday morning walk.

Watch for your High Holiday packet going out this summer.
Rosh Hashanah begins Sunday, September 25

CBE Book Club’s next meeting will be Monday, July 18th.
Join via this LINK at 7:30 pm.
Zoom Meeting ID: 8144 115 8507

The Book Club meets on the THIRD MONDAY of each month. Please confirm each month’s meeting via our website calendar HERE. Any date changes will also be noted in our weekly email. For more information, contact Barbara at clio2@cs.com

Coming for Sukkot, Oct 14:
Award-winning standup comedian, actor, and writer Liz Glazer and Sukkot Stories.

SAVE THE DATE!
Come on a Hike with Beth El Synagogue, Norwalk

Contact us at: 203-838-2710 or email at office@congbethel.org if you need more information

• Led by Beth El’s own Sam Shukovsky, we will meet on **Sunday, July 24, at 1 pm** at the parking lot next to Orem’s Diner in Wilton, as shown on the map.

• Dress lightly as it will be warm, bring water, a hat, wear comfortable shoes.

• The hike will last about one hour, and we will travel on the west side of Wilton heading north.

• Plan to have fun!

• Rain date is Sunday, August 14 at 1 pm