

Building On Our Legacy



Veterans Weekend Scholar-in-Residence

Made possible by the William Grossman Endowment



Friday, Nov. 11 – Saturday, Nov. 12

Friday, November 11

- Remembering Harry Morgenthauer z"l during Kabbalat Shabbat
- Shabbat Dinner with Scholar-in-Residence Rabbi Amy Levin

Saturday, November 12

- Shabbat morning services and Kiddush lunch with Rabbi Levin



Rabbi Levin is the president of the Rabbinical Assembly in Israel and the mother of veterans of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

 **RSVP for Friday Night Dinner**

 **RSVP for Saturday including kiddush**

Committed to Creating a Diverse Jewish Community

Rabbi Ita Paskind,
 Spiritual Leader

Keith Satter, President

Jody Dietch, Director

Amy SantaLucia,
 Nitzan Nursery School

Lisa Gittelman-Udi, Director of
 Congregational Learning

Hope Levensohn, Office Staff

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Congregation Beth El-Norwalk
 Affiliated with the United Synagogue
 of Conservative Judaism

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 congbethel.org

The office will be closed for Thanksgiving 11/24-11/25

President's Message

KEITH SATTER



Dear Members,

I am a research guy at heart. I love numbers and what's behind them. And even as the High Holidays are now memories, I was curious about one thing: the number of Ark openings that take place on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. So, I grabbed a copy of the Honor's list and

started to count. Between both days of Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur we open the Ark almost 40 times.

This led me to another question: Why? What is so special about all these prayers that we have to open the Ark and then stand. The more I thought about it the more I was intrigued. Some might argue but, to my way of thinking, the Sh'ma is the most important prayer of any service. Despite its importance, we don't stand for it. So, what's with all the Ark openings?

I did some research and this is what I found. Over the centuries local Hazans took many of the poems in the High Holiday liturgy and set them to their own music. Prayers we sing today that have become universal, back then, actually started in individual shuls. The people heard these new prayers and thought to themselves, "Ahh, this isn't ancient. He just made it up. A good time to leave the room for a break." Well, the rabbis (not *the* rabbis, local rabbis) saw the room emptying and said we have to do something about that. The answer was right before them, or I should say, behind them...the Ark. And open it they did. People thought if the Ark is opened this must be important. So, they stayed and stood. As my grandmother used to say, "Go be good..." Go and invent a new tune that we are still singing in 2022 and the rest of us pay for it by having to stand.

This is my lead in to thank Rabbi Paskind and all our service leaders, David Hirshfield, David Loewenberg, Marguerite Felsenfeld, Marvin

Rosenbaum, and Max Helfand for making these High Holidays especially memorable. And a special thank you to our Gabbais Supreme, Marvin Rosenbaum and Jim Sugarman, for the time and attention they gave in creating the Honor's list. It may look like a spreadsheet to you, but I am constantly surprised over the coordination required to create it. Also, thanks to Bob Gordon and Rhonda Ginsberg, our team on the scene, who take responsibility for making sure people with honors are at the right place at the right time.

As of this writing the holidays are over, the sukkah is down and Thanksgiving will be here before we know it. We are hard at work planning for Chanukkah and beyond. Comedy Night is around the bend as are all the special winter programs. As we hunker down for the cold winter nights, please take advantage of our many offerings via Zoom and, if you can, join us in person.

An early Happy Chanukkah and Happy (Secular) New Year!

Keith

SAVE THE DATE

*Annual Chanukah
Celebration*

Thursday, Dec 22

Time and place TBD



Rabbi's Table

RABBI ITA PASKIND

The fall holidays are concluded and there's a chill in the air. I could write to you about Thanksgiving or about Chanukah. I could promote Comedy Night (you should totally come!!) or our Veterans' Shabbat Scholar-In-Residence Rabbi Amy Levin (don't miss it!).

But I'm actually thinking about the Magen David-adorned Pride Flag that waves to passersby in front of our Beth El building, right there on East Avenue. It's been up since the beginning of June—Pride Month. We didn't forget to take it down. And I thought it would be nice to share the thinking behind the decision to leave it up.

Jewish communities the world over—including ours—like to describe ourselves with certain keywords: **open, warm, welcoming**. That's what we say here, right? And I believe those words accurately describe Congregation Beth El of Norwalk. It's why I fell in love with our shul, and I know why so many of you are here.

For those of us on the inside, our welcoming nature is a given. We assume that everyone who walks through the door will feel the same thing we feel, and they'll keep coming back. That certainly happens, and it's a joy.

But we have that mindset precisely *because* we're on the inside.

Someone who is not already integrated into our community—or any Jewish community—might make assumptions about what happens inside. For example, they might think that our synagogue is made up of all white people. Close, but not 100% true. They might think that everyone in our synagogue is able. Close, but not all. They might think that our synagogue includes only Jewish people. Again, that's almost true, but not 100%. They might think that our synagogue is made up of straight cisgender* individuals, couples, and families. That's not 100% true either.

Anyone on the outside who's thinking about these assumptions might also be worrying that there's



*not a place for them within our community. And it's very easy to decide **not** to come in.*

Flying a Pride Flag, especially the version we have with the Star of David, is one way we signal to Jewish members of the LGBTQ+ community that we are indeed warm, welcoming, accepting, and embracing of them and those they love. We are *allies*. Flying the Pride Flag signals to justice-minded Jews—very often in their 20s and 30s—that we are a socially conscious congregation and might be a wonderful Jewish home as they look to put down roots.

Flying a Pride Flag does not mean that our Beth El will not be welcoming to straight cisgender* individuals, couples and families. It does not mean that we're only interested in new members who identify as gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual, or nonbinary. It just means we want folks to know they're welcome here, no question.

You might be pleased to know that the Pride Flag has motivated quite a number of young Jews—of *all* orientations and identities—to visit our synagogue!

If you've noticed the flag and have been wondering why it's up long past June, I hope I've been able to help you understand why it's so very important.

There's one last piece, and it's crucial. In the end, the flag is just the invitation. The warm welcome rests with each one of us.

If you'd like to continue the conversation, I'd welcome the opportunity. You know where to find me.

Rabbi Ita Paskind

**a term used to describe a person whose gender identity corresponds to their sex assigned at birth*

Nitzan Nursery School

AMY SANTALUCIA

Nitzan's school year is off to a great start. I am thrilled to say that all the children settled into their new classrooms and quickly made friends.



The children had fun learning all about the Fall Jewish holidays with Rabbi Paskind. They discovered all about apples and honey, blowing the shofar, tossing their mistakes into the river and shaking the lulav and the etrog in the sukkah. They really enjoyed the days we got to have snack in the sukkah.



A huge thank you to all who supported Nitzan and their Double Good Popcorn fundraiser. The fundraiser was a HUGE success. All money earned will be used to bring in some new, innovative programming for the children to enjoy. Hope everyone liked the flavors they ordered!



Our first Mitzvah project of the year was also a huge success. We collected baby supplies (diapers, wipes, lotion etc...) that we then donated to Jewish Family Services. I am so impressed with how much we were able to collect. What a wonderful mitzvah we did!!

Rabbi Paskind and I restarted our "Baby and Me" Program in October. What's better than songs, stories, bubbles and snacks with little ones? If you know anyone with a young child (birth - 2), please let them know about this wonderful program. It is held every Thursday, 9:30-10:30.

As we look outside, we see that Autumn is in full swing. We are eagerly awaiting all that comes with it. We will continue to work on being thankful for all we have, practicing counting in Hebrew, modeling being a good friend, and trying cool art experiences. And of course, Chanukah is right around the corner. There is a lot of fun to be had at Nitzan—it's where learning is a blast!!

Kesher Beth El

LISA GITTELMAN-UDI

During October, our students and teachers have been getting to know each other. Older grades have been reviewing and evaluating their Hebrew decoding and prayer reading. We've begun our regular Jewish studies learning curricula in our class sessions. And the month of October was filled with special activities and holiday celebrations!

During our first session at Congregation Beth El, we made decorations for the sukkah and met Ofek, our new Israeli Sheliach!



Later that week, we had an amazing sukkah decorating party making and hanging our decorations... And we made our own edible sukkot!



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In our mid-October session at Temple Beth El, we visited the sukkah, and everyone had a chance to perform the mitzvah of sitting in the sukkah, eating in the sukkah, and shaking the lulav.



Our Sukkah Hop luncheon was fun for all!



We also celebrated Simchat Torah together and had a Kids' Choice Day session where our students were able to choose elective activities for part of the morning.

During the month of November, we will have Israel themed activities with Ofek, visit the Jewish Family Services Food Pantry Truck, have "Cantor Time" sessions with Cantor Katie, and participate in another Kids' Choice Day session. Our sixth and seventh grade students will also begin their Jewish Family History project with the Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County.

Before we know it, it will be time to celebrate Chanukkah! We are working on some special plans including a special candle lighting ceremony and a Chanukkah Shabbat celebration! Watch for emails coming soon!

Do Private Sector Employees have First Amendment Rights of Free Speech and Freedom of the Press?

After Yom Kippur we must realize that there are consequences to our actions. It would seem that The Hill's Katie Halper learned this lesson the hard way. The Hill is an American newspaper and digital media company based in Washington, DC that describes its output as: "nonpartisan reporting on the inner workings of Government and the nexus of politics and business." In 2020, it was the largest independent news site in the country. On September 28, 2022 Katie Halper, a Jewish American independent journalist and podcaster, was allegedly terminated from the Hill's morning broadcast "Rising" because she recorded a "Rising" monologue that described Israel as an "apartheid" state.

As many of our readers are aware, Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI), a Palestinian American member of the US House of Representatives recently stated that one cannot be "progressive and support Israel's apartheid government." Tlaib has been vocal in her criticism of Israel and of the role of Jewish Americans who allegedly expend large sums of money to exercise control of Israeli governmental policy, a vicious anti-Semitic canard. Many of Tlaib's House colleagues as well as leaders of American Jewish organizations have taken her to task for her anti-Israel and anti-Semitic utterances.

Katie Halper rose up in support of Tlaib stating and proposing to broadcast the following as a monologue on her "Rising" program:

"It's outrageous that Rashida Tlaib is getting attacked. Tlaib is merely stating that Israel is an apartheid state, and that people who claim to have progressive values should not support an apartheid state. No matter how loose a definition of progressive we are, it certainly excludes supporting a racist apartheid position. What's outrageous is attacking Tlaib for pointing out that Progressive except for Palestine is an intensely contradictory position. What's also outrageous



is that the Anti-Defamation League's Jonathan Greenblatt would claim that Israel is not an apartheid government. What's outrageous is that Jake Tapper (who ran a CNN segment quoting Tlaib's "Jewish colleagues" for calling her out as an anti-Semite) would accept Greenblatt's statement as the truth and not propaganda that needed to be pushed back against. I understand that Greenblatt and perhaps Tapper feel like Israel is not an apartheid state, but unfortunately for them, apartheid is not about their feeling but the facts."

Aside from standing up for Tlaib, Halper also uttered the words free Palestine. She then claims The Hill first censored her morning broadcast and then terminated her from "Rising."

The usual contingent of "anti-Israel" and alleged anti-Semitic haters of the Progressive Left, including Susan Sarandon, Roger Waters of Pink Floyd, Angela Davis, the World Socialist Website, the New Arab Website and others jumped to her defense. Journalist Chuck Moller is quoted as telling journalists that "if you want to keep your job you must keep lying." As an aside, most of the mainstream media do not openly accuse Israel of being an apartheid state.

Katie Halper has since claimed that her censure and termination violate her "right of Free Speech." But does the First Amendment's Right of Free Speech cover an employer/employee dispute where the employer is not a government agency.

The First Amendment to the US Constitution states in part: "Congress shall make no law ...; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press. ..."

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The Fourteenth Amendment states in part: "... nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; ..."

The Incorporation Doctrine is a Constitutional Doctrine as interpreted and ruled upon by the US Supreme Court which declares which part of the Bill of Rights (First Ten Amendments of the US Constitution) are made applicable to the States through the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Gitlow v. New York 268 US 682 (1925) was a landmark US Supreme Court decision holding that the Due Process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the US Constitution extended the First Amendment's provisions protecting freedom of speech and the press to apply to the government of the United States and also defined the scope of the First Amendment protection and established the standards to which a state or the Federal government would be held when it criminalized speech or media reporting.

Employment on an "at will" basis means that employers' have the right to terminate an employee's employment at any time, for any or no reason at all, unless the termination is based upon an illegal ground (i.e.: race, religion etc.) or a contractual obligation whereby the employer must follow the explicit terms of the contract when considering termination.

Generally, there is no right to free speech in private workplaces like The Hill since the First Amendment does not apply to private sector employers. However, some state laws do protect speech and expression. Connecticut, for example, provides that both public and private employees have certain free speech protections and prohibits employers from disciplining and/or discharging employees for exercising these rights within certain limitations. Free speech is permissible if it doesn't interfere with the employee's job performance or relationship with the employer and other employees and addresses a matter of public concern such as terms and conditions of employment or social justice. Therefore, conversations or expressions that disrupt working time, operations and a harmonious workplace may not be protected.



It's your editorial writer's opinion that Katie Halper is at least misinformed and, at worst, a Jewish anti-Semite in her position labeling Israel as an apartheid state. She is entitled to her opinion however, erroneous as it might be, but she is not exempt from the consequences of expressing her beliefs in an open forum. Unless she can show a contractual basis to retain her position (which she has not pursued to date) her employer has the right to terminate her employment for her comments. To be fair, if a Palestinian news agency terminated a reporter for expressing pro-Israel sentiments that too would be perfectly legal. Katie Halper is not a government employee and the First Amendment freedom of speech and the press do not apply to private employer/employee relations unless other state or Federal laws or contractual obligations are involved herein.

In fact, Congregation Beth El has every right to terminate your editors herein for any or no reason. Within the last six months or so they have added the disclaimer that the opinions expressed herein are your editors and not necessarily the opinions of Congregation Beth El.



Artifacts, Relics and Heirlooms: *What does your family cherish?*

RHONDA & LARRY GINSBERG

Oliver Wellington

It's a pretty ordinary chanukiah. Brass. Made in Israel. I believe my Dad brought it back on his first trip to Israel which I believe was in 1982. I can't say for sure, but fairly sure it was in his possession to at least that far back. It was in our dining room many years. Unfortunately, a lot of my father's archive possessions were lost when he died. I know he had photos of his first Israel trip. And, I remember some recollections of his. In any case, I associate it with his first trip to Israel, and part of his process of Jewish identity exploration. His first trip to Israel was totally part of that. He went as a Christian, but his perspective evolved over time. My father was born and raised in Coimbra, Portugal as a Catholic. Like his father, he had an aversion to the Church, and became a sabbatarian Christian as a teenager. His parents died in the mid 1960s, and after visiting some family thereafter around 1972, he somehow had an epiphany that he came from Jewish ancestry. I learned of this some years later from my mother. His experiences did certainly play a role in my spiritual journey. He did engage in some Christian ecumenical activism with Judaism in the 1980s into the 1990s (not missionizing, but purely ecumenical). I did find interest in it for a time, as a means to do anything with my father. But, the more I learned of Judaism, I understood that was my direction. I agreed with my parents' being not just sabbatarian, but also anti trinitarian. But, I could not foresee building a life and family in an heretical context in that religious community. I excommunicated myself in 1994 from Christianity, and I believe my first formal shul attendance as a conversion interest was 1995 Shabbat Chol HaMoed Succot at Beth Israel, Roanoke VA, (Conservative) where my parents eventually relocated in 2004 (near where my sister lives). My father himself abandoned



Christianity after I departed, and when he relocated to VA did ask to attend shul with me. He was a dues paying member of Beth Israel there until he passed in 2009. He did not convert though. (He was privately circumcised in the 1970s, which my mother only discreetly informed us some years later). We did travel together to Jerusalem in 2004 for Pesach, a life memory. I do remember him lighting the chanukiah over the years, and there was even a little family activity of some modest gifts. My family did not observe Christmas when we children were grown. My father had a shofar, I believe likely also brought back from Israel in 1982, but it has since been lost. It used to rest by the chanukiah in the dining room many years. Having lost far too many archives when he died, I resorted to ancestry research. While I never learned precisely what my father's initial source was for his Jewish identity, I marvel at the amount of information I've found, essentially proving he had considerable ancestry of Conversos Jews going back toward the Inquisition Era. I wish very much I could've shared all this with him.

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

Todah Rabah

To the Gift Shop for co-sponsoring the Erev Simchat Torah dinner

To Michelle Fanwick, Hilary Shaefitz, Ellen Wasserman for planning our Shabbat Dinners, including our Sukkot Dinner

To Cindy Almanzar, Danielle Ben-David, Mary Lester for planning our Erev Simchat Torah dinner

To Noah Goldman, Josh Kesselman, Barret Lester, Brian Tyson for building our sukkah

To Judy Katz for decorating the sukkah

To Kate Greenberg & Ali Hurwitz for creating our lovely lobby sitting area

To Ali & Josh Hurwitz for donating the funds for our new lobby sitting area

To Sylvia Schulman and Linda Lerman for delivering our food donations to the JSS Schoke Food Bank

To all who helped make the High Holidays, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah so warm and wonderful

Building our sukkah (below, right)



Sukkot Stories with Liz Glazer



Our new lobby sitting area



Donations

Thank you to the following congregants whose generosity helps to maintain our Congregation.

General Fund

Roberta & Steven Dick in honor of memorial prayers for Roberta's mother, Marcia Goodman, Roberta's father, Leonard Goodman, and Roberta's sister, Chaya Altman

Roberta & Steven Dick for get well prayers for Jackie Russano and Elissa Russano

Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman wishing a hearty Mazal Tov to Barbara & Rabbi Greg Schindler on the birth of their grandson

Rabbi Ita Paskind wishing Mazal Tov to Jody & Jeffrey Dietch on the vow exchange of their son Howie and daughter-in-law Katie

Hope & Peter Levensohn wishing Mazal Tov to Jody & Jeffrey Dietch on the vow exchange of their son Howie and daughter-in-law Katie

Hope & Peter Levensohn in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Amy & Joseph SantaLucia in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Linda & Steve Stein in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Rina Eidelberg Reichgut & Mitchel Reichgut in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Wendy Engel in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in honor of Susan & Gary Singer's daughter Hannah's marriage to David Gabriel

Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in honor of Eli Goldman's Bar Mitzvah

Linda & Steve Stein in memory of Dina Fleischmann's mother, Gertrude Pirnie

Jody & Jeffery Dietch in memory of Dina Fleischmann's mother, Gertrude Pirnie

Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in memory of Dina Fleischmann's mother, Gertrude Pirnie

Marguerite Felsenfeld & Steven Rotstein in memory of Debbie Morgenthaler's mother, Sally Abbey

Irina & Yulee Aronson thanking Beth El for supplying Jewish New Year calendars

Tony, Phyllis and Caroline Dreyspool in honor of Steve Stein's Yom Kippur appeal

Riva Silverman & Abram Heisler in memory of Rina Eidelberg Reichgut's mother, Sarah Eidelberg

Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman in memory of Dina Fleischmann's mother, Gertrude Pirnie

Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman in memory of Rina Eidelberg Reichgut's mother, Sarah Eidelberg

Sarah & Marvin Rosenbaum Kiddush Fund

Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman in honor of the naming of Betsy Bernstein & Keith Satter's granddaughter, Julia, with her Hebrew name, Elianor Gila

Joanie & Norm Rosenbaum in memory of Sarah Rosenbaum

Marvin Rosenbaum in honor of the birth of Barbara & Rabbi Greg Schindler's grandson

Marvin Rosenbaum in memory of Jeff & Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Laura & James Sugarman in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Sharon & Doug Karp in appreciation of Ellen & Joel Wasserman's support of the Rosenbaum Kiddush Fund

Sharon & Doug Karp in appreciation of Joseph Brachfeld's support of the Rosenbaum Kiddush Fund

Sharon & Doug Karp in appreciation of Hilary & Donald Shaefitz' support of the Rosenbaum Kiddush Fund

Sharon & Doug Karp in appreciation of Karen & Richard Schwam's support of the Rosenbaum Kiddush Fund

Sharon & Doug Karp in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Marvin Rosenbaum in honor of the marriage of Marilyn & Murray Lieberman's granddaughter, Dylan Krouse to Robbie Eanner

Marvin Rosenbaum in honor of Eli Goldman's Bar Mitzvah

Marvin Rosenbaum in memory of Dina Fleischmann's mother, Gertrude Pirnie

Nitzan Nursery School Fund

Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Hilary's grandmother, Irene Plotkin

Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in honor of the birth of Barbara & Rabbi Greg Schindler's grandson

Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Jeff and Jody Dietch's brother and brother-in-law, David Dietch

Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in honor of the naming of Betsy Bernstein & Keith Satter's granddaughter, Julia, with her Hebrew name, Elianor Gila

Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Hilary's aunt, Nettie Bass

Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Dina Fleischmann's mother, Gertrude Pirnie

Gail & Bob Ginsberg in honor of the Yahrzeit of Gail's, mother, Roslyn Kaprow

Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Hilary's father, Nathan Krantz

Hilary & Donald Shaefitz in memory of Rina Eidelberg Reichgut's mother, Sarah Eidelberg

Merkaz Scholarship Fund

Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery Silberman

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Beth El Community Jewish Learning Center Fund

Sharon & Joshua Kesselman for Navasky's year-end pizza party

Linda & Steve Stein in memory of Rina Eidelberg Reichgut's mother, Sarah Eidelberg

Karen & Richard Schwam in memory of Rina Eidelberg Reichgut's mother, Sarah Eidelberg

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Helen & Alan Levine in memory of Helen's mother, Bala Schmal

Barnet C. Corwin in memory of his mother, Bella Corwin

Barnet C. Corwin in memory of his father, Daniel Corwin

Barnet C. Corwin in memory of his sister, Nancy Corwin Gordon

Joseph Brachfeld

Jennifer & Jordan Kanfer in memory of Dina Fleischmann's mother, Gertrude Pirnie

The Hesed Fund

Rabbi Ita Paskind in memory of her grandpa, John Spiegler

Mary Oster & Stuart Garrellick in memory of Dina Fleischmann's mother, Gertrude Pirnie

Soup Kitchen Fund

Raquel Stabinski-Leib in memory of her grandmother, Rachelle Assa

Raquel Stabinski-Leib in memory of her grandfather, Sabeto Assa

Raquel Stabinski-Leib in memory of her cousin Sigfried Adler

Adult Education Fund

Elliot H. Gertel in memory of his beloved big brother, David Gertelman

Yahrzeit Fund

Amy & Aron Karp in memory of Leah Widawska Karp

Caryn & Andrew Moss in memory of Andrew's father, Robert H. Moss

Barbara Gertelman in memory of her husband, David Gertelman

The Karp family in memory of their father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Albert Karp

The Karp family in memory of their mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Naomi Karp

Betsy Karp in memory of her father, Albert Karp

Gail & Richard Epstein in memory of Gail's father, Leo S. Hirschhorn

Suzanne Seligson Serlin in memory of her father, Emanuel M. Seligson

Gloria Walkoff in memory of her father, Samuel Samowitz

Gloria Walkoff in memory of her sister, Marilyn Moss

Gloria Berman in memory of her mother-in-law, Ethel Berman

Sherwin Coplin and Brett Coplin in memory of their daughter and sister, Deena Coplin

Phyllis & Les Asher in memory of Les' father, Max Asher

Deborah Deliyannides in memory of Nathan Brodtkin

Howard Schloss in memory of his mother, Lenore Boles

Howard Schloss in memory of Helen & Siegbert Glueck

Linda & Steve Stein in memory of their parents and grandparents

Gloria Walkoff in memory of her mother-in-law, Pauline Walkoff

Janet & Stephen Green in memory of Janet's mother, Anne Schmerl

Elayne Richmond Moss and family in memory of Elayne's mother, Pearl Richmond

Elayne Richmond Moss and family in memory of Elayne's father, Irving Richmond

Pamela & Stephen Karlins in memory of their son, Jason Karlins

Suzannah and Henry Karlins in memory of their husband and father, Jason Karlins

Susan & Gary Singer in memory of their cousin, Michael Serkess

Susan & Gary Singer in memory of Gary's mother, Lillian Singer

Susan & Gary Singer in memory of Susan's mother, Nancy Levenson Olshansky

Linda & Steve Stein in memory of Linda's father, Julian Bass

Linda & Steve Stein in memory of Linda's mother, Nettie Bass

Hui Zhang & Stephen Apfelroth in memory of Sanford Apfelroth

Paulette & Mark Brachman in memory of Mark's parents, Rose & Harry Brachman

Paulette & Mark Brachman in memory of Paulette's parents, Sylvia & Carl Kaplowitz

Lori & Henry, Rachel and Josh Feldman in memory of their father and grandfather, Harry Morgenthaler

Barbara & Harvey Hennes in memory of Harvey's mother, Sylvia Hennes

Lillian & Dr. Bruce Billig in memory of Bruce's mother, Lillian Billig

Gail & Richard Epstein in memory of Gail's brother, Neil Alan Hirschhorn

Susan & Alvin Epstein in memory of Susan's brother, Elliot Rothpearl

Bruny Nieves Cortes in memory of her father, Jacinto Nieves Arroyo

Harriet & Noel Barstein in memory of Noel's brother, Samuel Barstein

The Asher family in memory of Sylvia Asher

Barbara Gertelman in memory of her father, David Glick

Phyllis Eldridge & Martin Shankman in memory of Phyllis' father, Morris Tarshis

Karen & Richard Schwam and family in memory of Karen's father, Herbert Etkind

Joseph Brachfeld in memory of his mother, Eva Brachfeld

Joseph Brachfeld in memory of his brother, Emanuel Brachfeld

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Donations *continued from page 12*

Beth & Bruce Billig in memory of
Beth's mother, Beatrice Weinstein

Virginia & Lawrence Katz in memory
of Lawrence's father, Morris Katz

Linda Lerman & Rabbi Jeffery
Silberman in memory of Helmut
(Hank) Silberman, father of Rabbi
Jeffery Silberman, Linda Lerman, Dina
Silberman, and Ari Silberman

Linda & Steve Stein in memory of
Daniel Louis Stein, son of Jenny & Evan
Stein, grandson of Linda & Steve Stein

REMINDER

The deadline for the January/February Bulletin is December 8. Please submit articles by email to bulletins@congbethel.org. All charitable contributions must be submitted to the office by the last day of the month (November 30) to be included. Donations made in October–November will be included. Charitable contributions to all funds received after the deadline will be included in the following issue's Bulletin Funds listing.



New Logo and New Look for The Bulletin

On the heels of our new logo, leadership wanted your input on our bi-monthly Bulletin. Thank you to those who took the couple of minutes to answer the survey questions.

We have a fabulous "open" rate for the Bulletin when it is emailed out. However, one message came through, our members are reading the Bulletin on their phones and our current format makes it difficult to read that way.

Being user-friendly is a goal we know we can meet. Effective with the January/February Bulletin, we will be changing to a more mobile user-friendly format. This new format will make a printed version more difficult to achieve. However, for those of you who are currently receiving a printed version, we will be doing our best to continue to send it via regular mail. It just may not look the same as what you are currently used to once the electronic version is printed.

We look forward to your feedback when we make the switch to the mobile friendly version.

2022 tax statements will be emailed (mailed to those without email) by the end of January for all donations received by December 31, 2022.

The Jan/Feb Bulletin will list everyone who paid their High Holiday Appeal pledge. If you want to be sure you are listed, please pay your pledge by December 8, 2022.



**CBE Book Club's next meeting
will be Monday, Nov 21st**

**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

Social Action

Mitzvah of the Month

Thanks to Barbara Lencheck for organizing this great event with the Norwalk Land Trust.



Mary Verel of NLT, Ilene Sumberg, Sylvia Schulman, Stuart Garrelick, Mary Oster, Irina Aronson, Neil Plain, Sharon DeFala in back row.



Andrea of NLT, Nancy Glater, Ilene Sumberg, Louis Schulman, Sylvia Schulman, Sharon DeFala, Rabbi, Mary Verel of NLT, Irina Aronson, man from NLT, Neil Plain.

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

Let them know about our wonderful Nitzan Nursery School!



Save the Date!

COMEDY NIGHT

Saturday, Dec 3

Doors Open at 7:30, show begins 8:30



Featuring Andy Pitz (*Letterman, Ferguson, Star Search*) and Robin Fox (*Nickmom Night Out, Ladies of Laughter*)

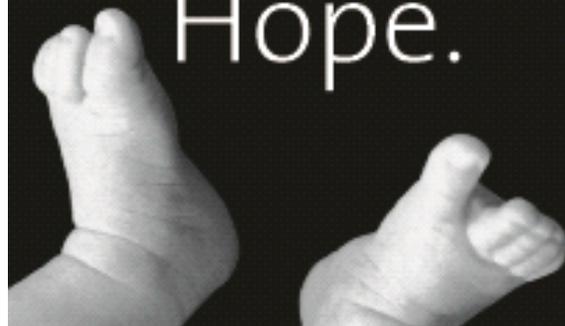
Save the Date – 2023 Gala
March 11, 2023

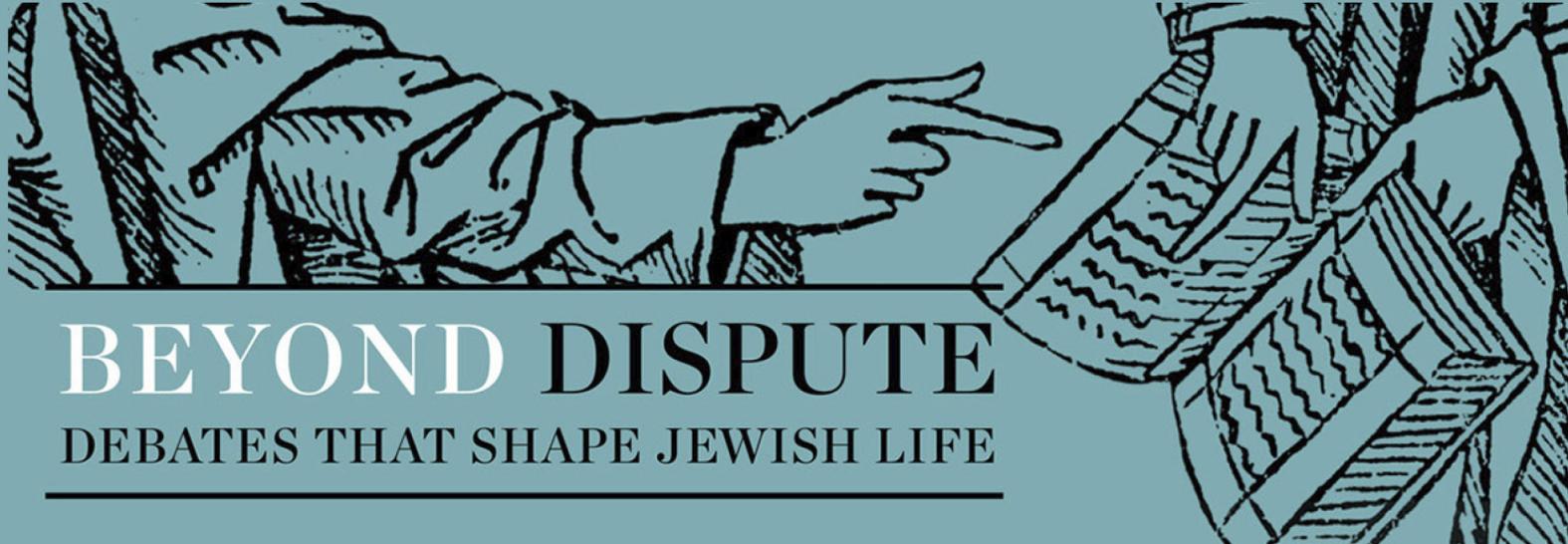


Reproductive Medicine Associates of Connecticut
Danbury, Norwalk, Stamford, Trumbull

Joshua M. Hurwitz, MD, FACOG

Hope.





BEYOND DISPUTE

DEBATES THAT SHAPE JEWISH LIFE

A NEW COURSE FROM  JTS

Led by Rabbi Ita Paskind of Congregation Beth El and Rabbi Jeremy Wiederhorn of TCS

Debates—philosophical, spiritual, ethical, and cultural—are at the heart of Judaism and Jewish life.

- Are religion and reason compatible?
- Can Jewish law change, based on context?
- How do we teach and talk about the Holocaust and the State of Israel?
- Should we prioritize Jewish or universal causes in our giving?
- Is Jewish tradition intrinsically patriarchal and ableist?
- Is our relationship with God defined by human obligation or divine compassion?

Each session of Beyond Dispute includes a short video lecture featuring a JTS faculty member, text study, and guided group discussion led by Rabbi Paskind or Rabbi Wiederhorn. Join us for this unique opportunity to explore how these debates have been manifested over the course of Jewish history, and to discuss their continued resonance for contemporary Jewish life.

We will meet on Thursdays. Each session will run 6-8pm and will start with dinner.

November 3	December 1	January 5, 2023	February 2, 2023
CBE	TCS	CBE	TCS



REGISTER HERE



109 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06851
(203) 838-2710 • congbethel.org

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Knitting For A Cause

Knit or crochet blankets and baby hats
to benefit DVCC (Domestic Violence Crisis Center)

Completed items can be dropped off at the synagogue

Need a pattern? [Click here](#) for some suggestions (scroll to the bottom of the page) or use any pattern you are comfortable using.

Let's Knit, Zoom and Nosh too!

**Our "get together" on Zoom will be
Every other Wednesday at 7:30 PM.**

Follow the zoom link [here](#)

Pass along to friends and neighbors! All invited!

Co-chairs: Kathie Oberst & Hilary Shaefitz
Knitter Extraordinaire: Dina Fleischmann

Questions: Email CBEknitting@gmail.com

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

Food and Gift Cards



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.

Beth El Food & Gift Cards Program

Please return this form to: Congregation Beth El-Norwalk,
109 East Ave, Norwalk, CT 06851

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 _____

Address _____ City _____

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ShopRite \$ _____ Stop & Shop \$ _____

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.

