

THE HAKOL

THE HIGH HOLIDAYS AT BETH TIKVAH!

Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre, Yom Kippur, and so much more! Read about all of our plans for the High Holidays at Beth Tikvah Synagogue this year!

CLERGY GREETINGS

Read messages from Rabbi Jarrod Grover and Rabbi Louis J. Sachs as they share their New Year greetings!

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Read about our upcoming exciting programs happening this fall, both in-person and virtually at Beth Tikvah!

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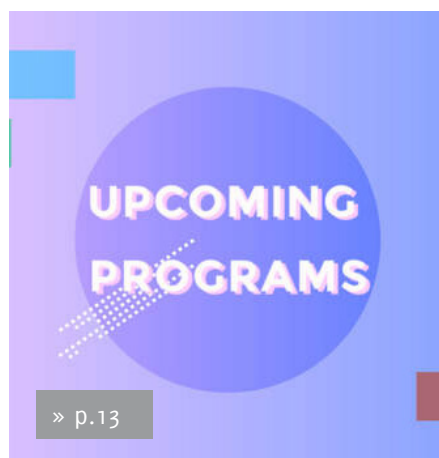
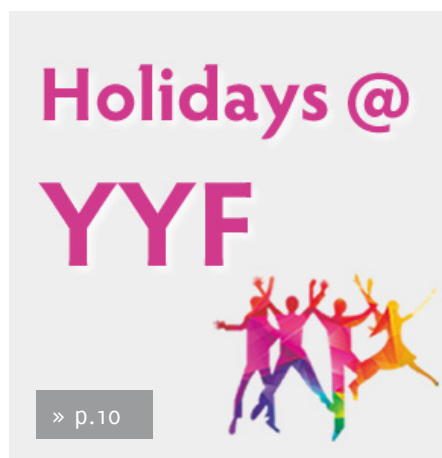


PLUS

Learn about an amazing member of BT!

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We want to recognize all of our donors who have helped to sustain Beth Tikvah Synagogue this past year!





Please Note: Services with (***) next to them require registration to attend. Only those with a ticket will be allowed into the service. Due to government regulations, only members of Beth Tikvah Synagogue are eligible this year to RSVP.

5782 HIGH HOLIDAYS

THE FULL SERVICE SCHEDULE

Selihot ***

Saturday, August 28, 2021

Lecture 9:00pm/Service 10:00pm

Erev Rosh Hashanah - Monday, September 6

Evening Service @ 6:15pm

Rosh Hashanah Day I - Tuesday, September 7

Morning Service @ 9:00am ***

Tashlikh @ 5:15pm (both services)

Evening Service & Shofar @ 6:15pm

Rosh Hashanah Day II - Wednesday, September 8

Morning Service @ 9:00am ***

Evening Service & Shofar @ 7:30pm

Shabbat Shuvah Morning

September 11 @ 9:00am

Kever Avot - Sunday, September 12

Pardes Shalom @ 10:00am

Bathurst Lawn @ 12:30pm

Erev Yom Kippur - Wednesday, September 15

Minhah @ 6:15pm ***

Kol Nidre @ 7:00pm (sunset is 7:27pm) ***

Yom Kippur - Thursday, September 16

Morning Service @ 9:00am ***

Study Session @ 4:00pm (Assembly Hall) ***

Minhah Service @ 5:20pm ***

Healing Service @ 5:20pm (Tent/Assembly Hall) ***

Neilah Service @ 6:35pm ***

Special Neilah Service @ 6:35pm (Tent/Assembly Hall) ***

Shofar Blast @ 8:08pm ***

All Holiday services will be in-person & livestreamed. For more information please visit www.bethtikvahtoronto.org

CLERGY HOLIDAY GREETINGS FOR 5782



RABBI JARROD GROVER

The Synagogue Remains

Even more than previously thought, COVID-19 has demonstrated in multiple ways that the Jewish community needs robust and active synagogues.

First, while one can pray anywhere, dedicated space is important. We often think the purpose of synagogue is to join the minyan in prayer, but the Shulhan Arukh (Orah Hayyim 90:9) rules that one who cannot pray with a minyan should still pray in the synagogue. The Mishnah Berurah (90:33) explains that it is a place set aside for sanctity. This principle is not just a directive for greater piety, but also speaks to the core of our prayer experience. We all saw the upsides of turning our homes into mini-synagogues during the pandemic, but we also saw the downsides. In the home, it's much more difficult to maintain the notion of sanctity, to distinguish between the holy and

the mundane, between Shabbat and the rest of the week. It is easier to communicate with God and hear God's voice if the place we go for that conversation is different from the place where we communicate with friends, and hear the noise of mundane entertainment and news.

It's also important to consider the virtue of a verse articulated in Proverbs (14:28): be-rov am hadrat melekh, "the king is glorified among the multitudes." This is not just a halakhic concept but a spiritual and experiential one. There is an energy that a community can create that one cannot replicate online. Praying in a large group creates a different energy than praying alone or with a small group. Power is found in numbers.

Another element of synagogues are the classes delivered by a rabbi or layperson. At some points, I have wondered why anyone would want to come listen to me teach Torah when everyone can access the best speakers and teachers available with a few clicks of the mouse. Yet, at the end of the day, it is meaningful for people to learn with those with whom they have a connection. Inspiration can come from an online speaker, but connection comes from learning with someone with whom one has a prior relationship. While videos and podcasts will surely remain popular post-pandemic, there is much to gain from learning that takes place with others in the same room. The speaker draws energy from the audience, and that energy creates a dynamic that is difficult to replicate online.

A third element of synagogue life that is even more difficult to create virtually than prayer and learning: the social-communal relationships generated by synagogue participation. As engagement expert Ron Wolfson writes, synagogue "is not about programs. It's not about branding, labels, logos, clever titles, websites, or smartphone apps. It's not even about institutions. It's about relationships." While the primary, expressed purpose of synagogue is our relationship with God, there is a lot of truth to the notion that we come to synagogue to connect with other people.

We can create deeper and more successful relationships by being part of an expansive and dynamic social network. There are benefits to our well-being from casual friendships beyond our closest inner circles, and we have been missing that during the pandemic. Showing up to a robust synagogue community can bring us those friendships, including with people of a different generation who have a lot to teach us.

The pandemic will change synagogue life, but it has not lead me to feel any less confident in the centrality and importance of the physical synagogue to sustain Jewish life. We are more needed and more relevant as ever. Hashiveinu Hashem Eilekha v-nashuvah – God is allowing us to return to our holy spaces once again. Hadeish yameinu k-kedem – in these days, may we find true renewal with opportunities to reshape, re-imagine, and rebuild.

Wishing everyone a Shanah Tovah u'Metukah!

- Rabbi Jarrod Grover



RABBI LOUIS J. SACHS

Living in God's Presence - Psalm 27

During the Hebrew month of Elul, in preparation for the High Holidays, there is a tradition to recite Psalm 27 each day. Its central theme of faith and hope is an appropriate choice as we prepare to face the unknown joys and inevitable challenges that await us in the year to come. However, in particular, one verse makes me smile and even chuckle to myself each year as I read these words.

“One thing I ask of the LORD, the only thing that I do seek: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life.”

It reminds me of the old joke, a rabbi explaining to a Hebrew school class that Olam Haba, the world to come, is like a great yeshivah; you can sit and study Torah all day long! Of course, the students reply that this sounds more like Hell than Heaven...

Do any of us truthfully want, “...to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life?” Can we really say these words honestly and with sincerity?

I’m literally paid to go to synagogue, and yet I would not want to live there 24/7 for the rest of my life. Don’t get me wrong, I love going to shul, especially after being separated from all of you for so long, but there is so much more to the world God created for us than what is within those walls.

Each year as I read this verse I smile and then focus on what I think it really means. The author doesn’t want to live in the Temple continuously, but rather to feel that same sense of God’s presence as they do in worship in all their other activities and experiences.

We too often separate our religious and spiritual side from the rest of our identity. Who we are as a Jew, isn’t connected to who we are as an employee, boss, or co-worker. Our Judaism is what we do in shul, not what we do as a spouse, parent, child, or sibling. Our Judaism gets relegated to synagogue and rituals at home for Shabbat or Holidays, distinct from the rest of who we are.

The Psalmist’s request is to break that pattern, to allow their Judaism to infiltrate every aspect of who they are, to allow them to feel God’s presence in all that they do and wherever they go.

This year has been difficult, but one of the benefits has been our ability to bring the synagogue to you, in doing so, Judaism beyond the walls of our building.

Our living rooms and kitchens have become sanctuaries for those who watch the Livestream. A sofa has become a seat in the Beit Midrash, or study hall, for those who’ve attended class over Zoom. Minyan has taken place in people’s porches, offices, and even bedrooms.

This next year I can’t wait to gather together safely in the synagogue. To sit together in our chapel, to sing in our sanctuary, and to learn face to face. But this last year, we came a bit closer to the words of this Psalm, to living in God’s presence not just at synagogue, but at home, work, and even the cottage.

The challenge will be for us this year, when we can come back to synagogue in person, will we leave our Judaism at the door on our way out, or will we carry it with us in all that we do?

Shanah Tovah U’Metukah. On behalf of the Sachs Famiy, A Happy and Healthy New Year to you all!

- RLS

GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DOUG MILLSTONE



PRESIDENT OF BT,
DOUG MILLSTONE

Summer is usually quiet time at BT. Ha-ha summer 2021. Never been busier.

The pandemic has meant many things to many people and institutions. For BT it has meant adapting often on the fly to react to new health guidelines. The Executive has had to have quick meetings to discuss our safety plan and under what circumstance services will be held or even if they will occur.

Now that restrictions are easing we have been hard at work developing the protocol for High Holiday services. Those will be out to you shortly.

It appears that God-willing we will return to some degree of life before the pandemic.

In my last message I wrote about hope. Well it seems to me that there is more reality to the hope that I pondered in the last Hakol.

During the spring months it appeared that chances were slipping away for the rental of the school. Nothing firm yet but the interest in the school I hear from the property group of volunteers is picking up. There may be a tenant soon. I'll for sure let you know if and when that happens.

The severance of the Lawnsview property is likely going to happen in the next few months. Much hard work went into this.

Then there is merger/amalgamation. We have now had two meetings of the groups from BT and BD. A nondisclosure agreement has been signed so that we can get down to the nitty gritty. Rabbis Grover, Sachs, Doris Alter and myself had an in depth tour of the BD synagogue. To those who asked, they do own the property. It also appears that the work to be done to renew the building is not structurally significant. One might call it refurbish. That's my look.

There is much work to be done on the truly significant creation of a new congregation, but it is gaining traction. You will note that current email blasts from BT are promoting a clergy programme involving members from both shuls. Messaging about the discussions will be regular. Please know for sure that any major decisions will require input from our membership and of course approval.

No date yet but another Town Hall will be held soon.

The most significant message I wish to send for 5782 is to welcome everyone back to be together in person for High Holidays. We will accommodate as many of you as possible.

I can't encourage you enough that if you have not already, be double vaccinated. Do this for yours and everyone's wellbeing.

I can't encourage you enough to come back to shul. Come back for the daily minyan, Kabbalat Shabbat, Shabbat and the holidays.

I hope that you and your family are all as well and safe as you can be.

On behalf of the Executive, Board and myself personally I want to wish everyone a Shanah Tova u'Metukah

- Doug Millstone, President of Beth Tikvah Synagogue

SELIHOT AT BETH TIKVAH SYNAGOGUE

7

SELIHOT



THE SEASON OF REPENTANCE BEGINS...

Leil Selihot: In-person & live-streamed from the Beth Tikvah Sanctuary!

A NIGHT OF INSPIRATION, PRAYER, AND LEARNING TO
PREPARE FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

SATURDAY NIGHT – AUGUST 28, 2021

SELIHOT LECTURE @ 9:00 PM

Teshuvah & Freewill: Can we change our past or future?

Repentance or Teshuvah is a central theme around the High-Holidays. Our tradition emphasizes that we have the ability to change and act better in the year to come. Even more, some Jewish sources teach that with teshuvah we can even change our past mistakes. Yet still, other sources imagine that God is in the driver's seat, and we are just along for the ride. How are we to make sense of these different views within the tradition? How should we approach teshuvah for the year to come?

Join Rabbi Sachs as we dive into ancient and modern teachings on the power of repentance and the existence of free choice. We will discover the answer to these questions and help make sense of the upcoming holidays.



SELIHOT SERVICE @ 10 PM

Lecture followed by the dedication of memorial plaques, and Beth Tikvah's magnificent solemn Selihot service featuring Cantor Tibor Kovari, the Beth Tikvah Singers, and the Wellington String Quartet.

5782 HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING

Tashlikh 5782



A service of renewal in the New Year

Tuesday, September 7 at 5:15 PM

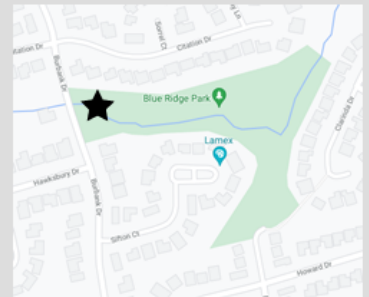
On the first day of Rosh Hashanah Hazzan Kovari will lead a service at Pomona Park in Thornhill which will include tashlikh, shofar blasting, and minhah. In addition, you can meet Rabbi Grover at the same time for Tashlikh at the East Don River for Tashlikh on Burbank Drive right near Beth Tikvah. And following Tashlikh, he'll conduct minhah and ma'ariv in sanctuary (with shofar blasting), to begin around 6:15pm.

Tashlikh #1
with Hazzan Kovari

Registration is not required
for Tashlikh services.



Tashlikh #2
with Rabbi Grover



JOIN US FOR EITHER SERVICE!

5782

Yom Kippur

Study Session



Rabbi Grover in Conversation with Dr. Michael Dan



We are pleased to announce that this year's Yom Kippur afternoon study session will feature a conversation between Rabbi Grover and Dr. Michael Dan. Dr. Dan is a highly respected doctor and philanthropist who has dedicated his life to assisting those most marginalized in Canadian society, especially Indigenous people.

Dr. Dan and Rabbi Grover will be talking about colonization, intergenerational trauma, and the many sins committed by Canada against its first nations. It is a topic which ties directly into the themes of Yom Kippur - reconciliation, atonement, forgiveness, etc.

Thursday, September 16 at 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

Only open to those with ticket for Yom Kippur Afternoon/Evening services

**This program will also be
livestreamed for those at home.**

5782 HIGH HOLIDAY ALTERNATIVE SERVICES AT BETH TIKVAH

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**T'fillah: Healing & Prayer - with Rabbi Grover****Yom Kippur, Thursday September 16 @ 5:20 PM****Tent/Assembly Hall**

Yom Kippur is a time of prayer and introspection, and it is also a day when we are asked to stand before God as our most vulnerable selves. Our healing service will be open to all who seek a comforting and peaceful place to ask God for healing of body, mind, and soul. The service will incorporate healing liturgy with moments of song, silence, and meditation. If you're seeking additional prayers to add meaning to your High Holy Day experience, join us in this special service of healing and comfort.

**T'fillah: Enhanced Neilah - with Rabbi Sachs****Yom Kippur, Thursday September 16 @ 6:35 PM****Tent/Assembly Hall**

As Yom Kippur comes to a close, Neilah presents our final moments for spiritual renewal and awakening. Join us for a more intimate prayer experience which will include explanations and excerpts from the traditional liturgy, combined with English readings, songs, and moments of meditation. This service will seek to engage participant's minds and spirits as we join together in the final moments to prepare ourselves for the year to come.

Please note that these services require advanced registration to attend and a ticket will be required upon arrival. Thank you for your understanding.



The following is the complete YYF schedule for the High Holidays:

Tuesday, August 31 - ZOOM



- **Make Yourself into a Cartoon!** @ 5:30 pm

Everything is AWE-some as the new year is coming around! Let's get creative together as we prepare for Rosh Hashanah!

Thursday, September 2 - ZOOM



- **Le Dough va Dough: Making Round Hallahs for the High Holidays!** @ 8:00 PM

Get your family together for a multi-generational Hallah baking party with some sweet additions to get you into the spirit for the new year! Ellie will be leading a live Hallah baking tutorial and we encourage everyone to be prepared to share some wonderful family traditions of their own that have passed from generation to generation.

Monday, September 6 - YOUTUBE



- **YouTube Special Presentation**

Check out our YouTube page for a special High Holiday sing-along video from the YYF team and our friend Mark Weinstock; Available @ 9:00 AM for all of our young families and friends!

Tuesday, September 7 - YOUTUBE



- **YouTube Special Presentation**

Check out our YouTube page @ 9:00 AM for a special pre-recorded service that will be fun for the entire family! Don't forget to download your YYF Mahzor and supplementary PDF Materials to help follow along the service from the comfort of your own home! To download, just visit our website!

Tuesday, September 7 - IN-PERSON (RSVP REQUIRED)



- **Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Young Family Service, Seating 1 @ 9:30 – 11:00 AM**

This year we are welcoming our young families to our tented service for a lively, educational, and meaningful High Holiday service experience. Join Ellie Reinblatt, Avee Helfand, and our incredible Beth Tikvah Clergy as we welcome the new year with games and prayer together! *Our early morning service will feature a special Tashlikh service geared toward our families with children ages 5 and under.* To RSVP, visit the BT website.

- **Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Young Family Service, Seating 2 @ 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM**



Our second service of the day will include the same prayers as our early morning seating, but will feature interactive components and games *that are suited for our families with children ages 5-10 years, however all are welcome!* To RSVP, visit the BT website.

Wednesday, September 8 - YOUTUBE



- **YouTube Special Presentation**

Check out our YouTube page @ 9:00 AM for a special pre-recorded service that will be fun for the entire family! Don't forget to download your YYF Mahzor and supplementary PDF Materials to help follow along the service from the comfort of your own home! To download, just visit our website!

Wednesday, September 8 - IN-PERSON (RSVP REQUIRED)



- **Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Young Family Service @ 9:30 – 11:00 AM**

The second day of Rosh Hashanah promises to be just as memorable as the first with appearances from our clergy, a Torah Service that will encourage our youngest congregants to get on their feet, and a whole lot of fun! - *This service is for families with children ages 10 and under, however all are welcome!* To RSVP, visit the BT website



YOUTH & YOUNG FAMILIES



BETH TIKVAH YOUTH AND YOUNG FAMILIES



• Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Special YYF Programming @ 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM IN PERSON

It is the world's birthday, so we want to celebrate! Join us for a very special in-person Rosh Hashanah party complete with games, stories, singing, crafting, and more! - *This program is for families with children ages 10 and under.* To RSVP, visit the BT website.

Wednesday, September 15 - IN-PERSON (RSVP REQUIRED) IN PERSON

• YYF Special Teen Speaker - Maayan Ziv @ 7:00 PM

As we transition into Yom Kippur this evening, we are delighted to be welcoming Maayan Ziv, the Founder and CEO of AccessNow to speak to our teens about her take on our Yom Kippur theme "From Darkness to Light." Maayan will be speaking about how she would never let any setbacks get in the way of her successes, and we hope that she will inspire everyone to follow her lead. - *This is a drop-off programs for Teens Only during Kol Nidre Services.* To RSVP, visit the BT website.

Thursday, September 16 - YOUTUBE

• YouTube Special Presentation

Check out our YouTube page @ 9:00 AM for a special pre-recorded service that will be fun for the entire family! Don't forget to download your YYF Mahzor and supplementary PDF Materials to help follow along the service from the comfort of your own home! To download, just visit our website!

Thursday, September 16 - IN-PERSON (RSVP REQUIRED) IN PERSON

• Yom Kippur Young Family Service, Seating 1 @ 9:30 – 11:00 AM

Join us this Yom Kippur in person in our tented service led by Ellie Reinblatt and Avee Helfand, as we look forward to the joys of the days ahead in the new year. This service will feature everything that your family loves about a Beth Tikvah Young Family Service: meaningful prayer, thoughtful lessons, wonderful stories, and of course, a whole lot of fun and games. - *This service is for families with children ages 5 and under, however all are welcome!* To RSVP, visit the BT website.

• Yom Kippur Young Family Service, Seating 2 @ 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM IN PERSON

We will return for a second seating of our Yom Kippur service followed by a Yizkor Service. To RSVP, visit the BT website.

Sunday, September 19 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM- IN-PERSON (RSVP REQUIRED) IN PERSON

• Decorate the Sukkah Party!

Join the YYF team as we decorate the Sukkah in preparation for Sukkot! Lunch will be provided. To RSVP, visit the BT website.

Thursday, September 23 at 8:00 PM - IN-PERSON (RSVP REQUIRED) / ZOOM IN PERSON

• Special Guest Speaker, Olympian, Alex Kopacz

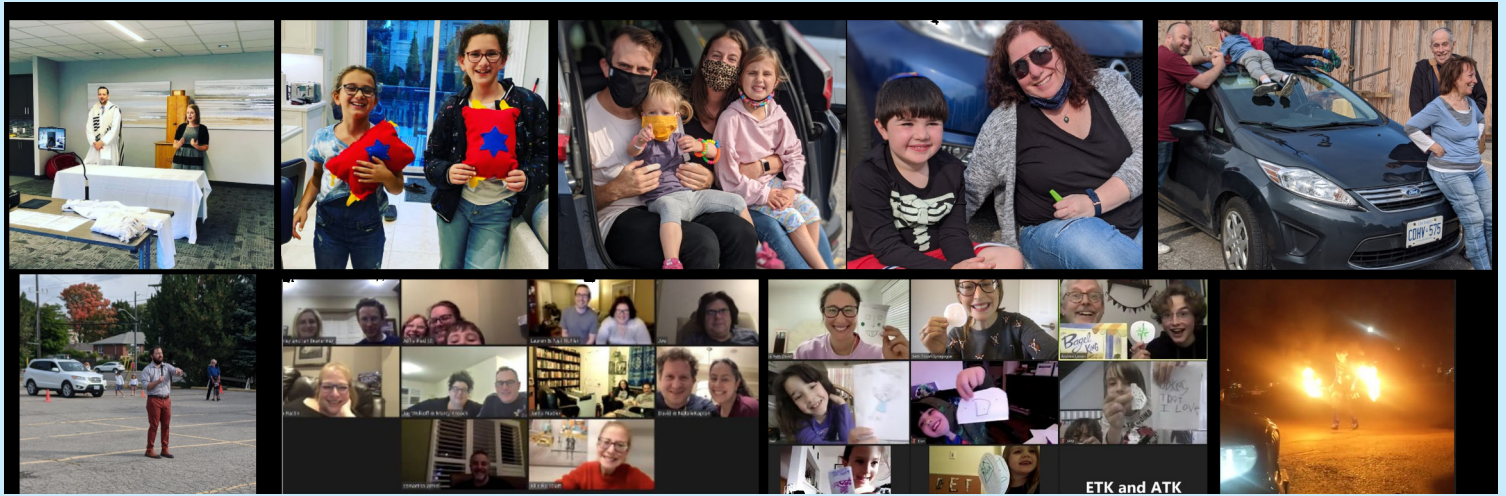
We are welcoming Canadian Gold Medalist Olympian Alex Kopacz to speak about his experiences going from being an Engineering student at Western University to competing in the most recent Winter Olympic Games, as well as his fight in the ICU against Covid-19. All are welcome to tune in to watch this phenomenal speaker over Zoom, and we are excited to welcome our teens for a special experience watching together in the Sukkah [weather dependent]. To RSVP, visit the BT website.

For more information on any of the programming listed above, please visit our website at www.bethtikvahtoronto.org or call the office at 416-221-3433.



A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE YYF TEAM!

What a year it has been! Looking back, we can't believe how much we were still able to accomplish and enjoy together. Our Youth and Young Family team along with all our incredible families and friends have come together virtually for lessons with our clergy, special speakers, cooking lessons, holiday festivities and the return of some favourite programming like our Kids Club. We have met new families (some with extra new additions) through our Shabbat Tots program and braved the elements for some of the most memorable programs we could imagine like our exhilarating Light Up the Night Hanukkah Extravaganza. We believe that we have become closer with so many of our young families this past year and are so very grateful to everyone who took time from their days to join us online, help with volunteering efforts, and check in with one another. Beth Tikvah truly is a mishpaha, and our young families have shown us time and again that they are the future of this synagogue. We cannot wait to see what the next year has in store for the YYF gang; we know it is going to be awesome! - Rabbi Louis, Hazzan Tibi, and Ellie!



LEARN WITH RABBI JARROD GROVER

MONDAY MORNING LEARNING RETURNS!

**Classes in-person
and recorded!
RSVP on the BT
website!**



The Passover Haggadah is the Best Book Ever Written

Beginning Monday, October 18 @ 9:45 AM

Using the Haggadah as our blueprint, we review the rituals and the readings of the Passover seder to reveal the ancient truths and wisdom found inside. **RSVP NOW on the BT website!**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT BETH TIKVAH



UPCOMING EVENTS



Back to Shul Pizza & Ice Cream Party Night!

Wednesday, September 1 from 5:30 PM -7:15 PM

Join Beth Tikvah Synagogue as we welcome our members back from summer vacation, in an outdoor socially distanced party night! Including Pizza & Ice Cream, fun and games for the kids, music and dancing, plus pick up your High Holiday package! **To RSVP, visit the BT website!**



Lunch & Learn 2022 Fall Session

Beginning Tuesday, October 5 @ 12:00 PM

Stay tuned to the Beth Tikvah website and social media for updates on our upcoming speakers for the Fall session of Lunch and Learn! **Prices are \$36 for 6 pack/ \$18 for 3 pack, or \$30 for On-Demand.**

To RSVP, visit the BT website!



Rabbi Grover in conversation with Rabbi Ammiel Hirsh

Rabbi Grover in Conversation with Rabbi Ammiel Hirsh

Monday, October 18 @ 7:30 PM

Join us as Rabbi Grover speaks with Rabbi Ammiel Hirsh Ammiel Hirsch who is a Reform Jewish rabbi and an attorney admitted to practice in New York. He is the senior rabbi of Stephen Wise Free Synagogue and former Executive Director of the Association of Reform Zionists of America/World Union for Progressive Judaism, North America. In 2018, The Jerusalem Post named him among “The 50 Most Influential Jews of the Year.” The two Rabbis will be discussing the Jewish movement in the United States and Canada and important connections to Israel. *To RSVP, visit the BT website!*

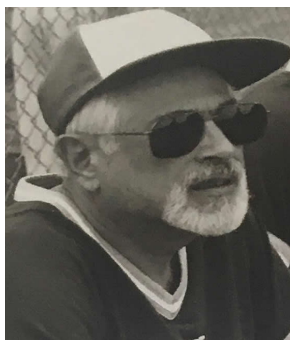


Virtual Tours of Synagogues from Around the World

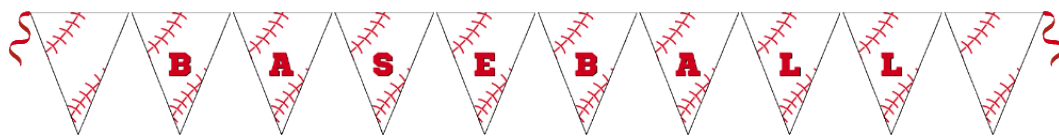
Beginning Tuesday, November 23 @ 11:00 AM

Join 3 different tour guides as we visit some of the most beautiful synagogues from the comfort of your own home including Synagogues from Istanbul, Budapest and Mexico City! *To RSVP, visit the BT website!*

Our Amazing Beth Tikvah Member



BETH TIKVAH'S MR. BASEBALL



Isaac Silverstein might be called Beth Tikvah's Mr. Baseball. Now age 89, when he became a member of Beth Tikvah Synagogue in the 1960's, he learned of its baseball team and he was happy to join the Inter Synagogue Baseball League.

He had been playing baseball in downtown Toronto since he was a young child, in a family of 4 boys and two girls, encouraged by their father. He lived close to Christie Pits, in a Jewish area with its share of anti-Semitism. He played

Isaac was playing for a Jewish Boy Scouts team in his teens, and they had many disturbing events when playing gentile teams. This was life for Jewish people in the 1930s and 1940s in Toronto.



The riots involved hundreds of young men on each side and began after a baseball game was being played between a Jewish and a gentile team.

The riots involved hundreds of young men on each side and began after a baseball game was being played between a Jewish and a gentile team. The riots began when a Swastika Club member unfurled a large banner with a Nazi swastika on it and the Jewish players objected. This story is well described in *Letters Across the Sea* a historical novel by Genevieve Graham. It will be reviewed this summer at a Beth Tikvah-sponsored book review by the author.

(See next page)

It is made up of men from the brotherhoods of various other synagogues. He was the captain for many years, retiring just a few years ago. His team had won about eight trophies by then. He had mentored many of our team members, including Mathew Shulman our current captain. Isaac is also a past president of our Shul and has been a choir member for decades.

baseball from an early age on his public school team. He was later made aware of the 1933 Christie Pits Riot and had his own issues after those riots with bullying and abuse from local gentile children. In one case this involved a friend being shoved and rolled down the hill into the Pits. The friend was unhurt and the five bullies fled.

Currently, Beth Tikvah's baseball team has resumed playing after Covid considerations, and would benefit from some new Synagogue talent. Members are mainly in their 30s and 40's, but some are age 20 to 60. Family members and younger children are welcome to observe and cheer the players on. It's good fun.

- David Rapoport, Beth Tikvah Member



2021 Beth Tikvah Men's Baseball Team

Summer 2021 Yoga at Beth Tikvah Synagogue!

"Come back to your breath," our instructor and Beth Tikvah member Orli Ziv reminds us. Up to 15 participants respond to her, taking part of restorative yoga classes offered by the shul.

As our lives are still restrained and shaped by the pandemic, each hour-long session gives us the opportunity to slow down and relax using a number of yoga poses.

Orli remains the calm centre of the class, encouraging us to sit tall, bend deeply, listen to our bodies.

Most times, warm weather has allowed us to be outdoors, under the shade of the trees, able to hear the birds and feel the breeze. And at the end of the session, I feel more at peace and ready to experience the day.

- Barbara Barak, Member of BT

Funds from Bingo World Richmond Hill, helped Beth Tikvah offset the costs for this program.



Schedule of Services for Sukkot 5782 at Beth Tikvah Synagogue

Monday, September 20

Minḥah and Ma'ariv services for the first night of Sukkot	6:30 PM
Beth Tikvah Sukkot Dinner (<i>in our tent outside - RSVP required</i>)	7:15 PM
<i>Candlelighting is at 7:00 PM</i>	

Tuesday, September 21

Shaharit for the first day of Sukkot	9:00 AM
Minḥah and Ma'ariv for the second night of Sukkot	6:00 PM
<i>Candlelighting is at 7:59 PM</i>	

Wednesday, September 22

Shaharit for the second day of Sukkot	9:00 AM
Minḥah for the second day of Sukkot, Ma'ariv for Hol Hamoed and Havdalah	7:05 PM
<i>Havdalah is at 7:57 PM</i>	

Thursday, September 23

Shaharit for <u>H</u> ol Hamoed (Zoom)	8:30 AM
Minḥah and Ma'ariv for <u>H</u> ol Hamoed	7:30 PM

Friday, September 24

Shaharit for <u>H</u> ol Hamoed (Zoom)	8:30 AM
Minḥah and Ma'ariv for Shabbat and <u>H</u> ol Hamoed	6:00 PM
<i>Candlelighting is at 6:52</i>	

Shabbat, September 25

Shaharit for Shabbat <u>H</u> ol Hamoed	8:45 AM
Minḥah for Shabbat <u>H</u> ol Hamoed, Ma'ariv and Havdalah	6:45 PM
<i>Havdalah is at 7:52</i>	

Sunday, September 26

Shaharit for <u>H</u> ol Hamoed (Zoom)	8:30 AM
Minḥah and Ma'ariv for <u>H</u> ol Hamoed	7:30 PM

Monday, September 27

Shaharit for Hoshanah Rabbah (Zoom)	8:30 AM
Minḥah and Ma'ariv for Shemini Atzeret	6:00 PM
<i>Candlelighting is at 6:47 PM</i>	

Tuesday, September 28

Shaharit for Shemini Atzeret (Yizkor recited)	8:45 AM
Minḥah for Shemini Atzeret and Ma'ariv for Simḥat Torah	6:55 PM
<i>Candlelighting is at 7:45 PM</i>	

Wednesday, September 29

Shaharit for Simḥat Torah	9:00 AM
Individual Aliyot	9:45 AM
Light Kiddush and Hakafot	10:40 AM
Special Aliyot	11:10 PM
Luncheon	12:20 PM
Minḥah for Simḥat Torah, Ma'ariv and Havdalah	6:55 PM
<i>Havdalah is at 7:45 PM</i>	

PAST HIGHLIGHTS FROM BT!

FRIDAY NIGHT MUSICAL KABBALAT SHABBAT

What started as just Tibi and Reuven on the piano, while in-person services could take place, eventually turned into a popular full-fledged band featuring Daniel Kovari on drums, Reuven Grajner on the piano, and Yitzhak Argaman on guitar. In-person services resumed outdoors underneath the tent and continue now in the Sanctuary.



KABBALAT SHABBAT IN THE PARK

As part of the YYF Summer Shabbat Series, we moved our Friday night services to Parkview Park, where individuals and families of Beth Tikvah could join together, nash, prayer and welcome in Shabbat as a community.



IN-PERSON SERVICES RESUMED AT BETH TIKVAH

As Ontario began to have control over the Covid-19 Pandemic, and more people were able to be vaccinated, we were once again able to re-open Beth Tikvah Synagogue for in-person programming and services. We officially re-opened on June 18th and continue to gather, while still abiding by social distancing and mask wearing. The following are the current daily minyan times at Beth Tikvah:

- **Shaharit services on Zoom: Sunday-Friday at 8:30 AM.**
- **Minhah/Ma'ariv in the Sanctuary (and livestreamed): Sunday-Thursday at 7:30 PM, Fridays at 6:00 PM, and Shabbat according to sunset.**
- **Shabbat morning services in the Sanctuary (and livestreamed): 9:00 AM.**

LEARNING WITH BRACHA FEDER

Join Bracha for a Year-long Course Exploring:

Voices Toward Healing Society: Past and Present

Each Thinker and Source, we will study, perceives a breakdown of particular values essential to a healthy society. After reviewing the ills and challenges each criticizes, we will ponder and discuss their suggestions for change.

FALL SCHEDULE:

ALL CLASSES ARE WEDNESDAYS AT 1PM, FREE ON ZOOM!

(Zoom coordinates will be in the daily email)



Sefer Shmirat Halashon/ Proper Speech by Chofetz Chaim Words that Hurt, Words that Heal by Rabbi Joseph Telushkin Mishneh Torah, Laws of Character by Rambam/ Maimonides

- Wednesday, October 6 - Part 1
- Wednesday, October 13 - Part 2
- Wednesday, October 20 - Part 3

Fundamentals of Jewish Conflict Resolution by Rav Dr. H. Kaminsky

- Wednesday, November 3 - Part 1
- Wednesday, November 10 - Part 2
- Wednesday, November 17 - Part 3

Tree of Life, Tree of knowledge by Professor Michael Rosenak

- Wednesday, December 1 - Part 1
- Wednesday, December 8 - Part 2



**Join Beth Tikvah and
Classi Lectures for our
Winter Reading Series!**

Our virtual summer reading series was such a success that we are working on 3 more books to add to your winter vacation reading list. Thank you to Sue Walsh of Classi Lectures for co-sponsoring this program with BT, along with Rabbi Sachs, Gayle Kertzman and Rona Arato for leading engaging conversations with our three authors.

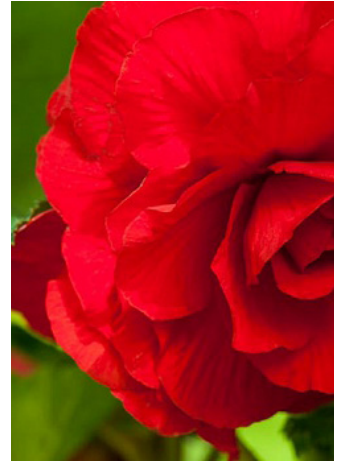
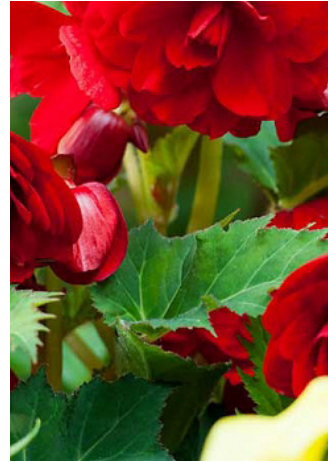


**BETH TIKVAH
WOMEN**

JOIN US THIS FALL!

We had a successful fundraiser for Mother's Day by selling Begonia plants. Here are the pictures of my beautiful begonias.

Sukkot is coming. Come out to a musical program with Reuven Grajner (during Sukkot) on **Thursday, September 23rd**. His topic will be Jewish Musical Influence in Jazz. In case you don't recognize the name, Reuven is a wonderful musician who is part of the Kabbalat Shabbat band. He will play the keyboard, sing and will be accompanied by some recorded excerpts and a slide-show. It is sure to be a wonderful program. Everyone is invited. Registration details are coming soon!



Looking ahead, mark your calendar - on **October 24th**, we will be having a Niggun Night (humming) led by Ellen Rosenbloom, Marilyn Cohen's sister. Then on **November 22nd**, we will be hosting "An Evening with Morty Weiselberg" who will tell us about growing up in Peru. Details for all these programs will follow.

We hope you will join us for these wonderful programs. Tell your friends and relatives and see what Beth Tikvah Women is all about! - *Written by Raizie Jacobson - an active executive member of Beth Tikvah Women*

The Mitzvah Knitters continue to be very busy knitting hats and blankets for those in need. This month we sent out 8 large bags of finished projects to Brands for Canada who distribute them to hospitals, shelters, schools and wherever there is a need. Two of our members have generously donated large quantities of yarn and we are so grateful for this contribution. We are hoping to have a get together in September either in Renee's backyard or garage for a yarn and product exchange. We are hoping that everyone is doubly vaccinated so we can have a safe and long awaited visit.



We are always looking for knitters young and old to help us continue our good work. We are also in the need of cash and yarn donations so we can provide our knitters with a constant supply of yarn. We want to wish you and your families a very healthy and happy New Years. - *Renee and Elaine*



MUSICA FALL PROGRAMS

Stay tuned as Hazzan Tibor Kovari and Musica Beth Tikvah bring you programs that will lift your spirit and fill your heart with joy!

Below are a few of the programs planned for this Fall:



Returning later this fall after the Holidays, celebrate Shabbat in-person and virtually with Beth Tikvah every Friday night, featuring singing from Hazzan Tibor Kovari, and accompaniment from the BT Instrumental Trio! (Featuring Daniel Kovari on drums, Reuven Grajner on the piano, and Yitzhak Argaman on guitar).

Check the weekly Ma Nishma for correct weekly start time.

Out to lunch with the **Cantors**

IN CONVERSATION, SONG, AND BANTER

Join us during lunch time, for an informal, funny and musical Zoom talk-show and get a glimpse of the life and stories of Cantors. Lunch is self served, and it can be milchig, fleishig or parve.

**2ND SEASON COMING
THIS FALL!**

Coming this Fall

*Beth Tikvah
Afternoon and Evening
Musical Soirees*

Unfortunately the Pride of Israel Kosher Food Bank is still closed. Beth Tikvah will be advised when it re-opens.

Mother Hubbard's cupboard remains bare for the time being. Once we can safely deliver to the organizations who appreciate our help, there will be an announcement asking for unused cosmetics and glasses.

However, the Yom Kippur North York Harvest Food Bank Drive continues, except this year we will call it the Rosh Hashanah North York Harvest Food Bank Drive.
(See below for details)



If you and your family are interested in volunteering during the days leading up to Rosh Hashanah, please contact Gayle at gayle@behtikvahtoronto.org.

Thank you!



**BETH
TIKVAH
SYNAGOGUE**



Drop-off non-perishable food items at the Shul for the North York Harvest Food Bank (beginning August 24 to September 2).

Any donation of food or cheque will be greatly appreciated. Last year we collected almost 1,000 pounds. Let's see if we can top that amount this year.

PLEASE FILL AND BRING A BAG WITH NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS SUCH AS: PASTA, POWDERED MILK, CEREALS, CANNED TUNA, SALMON, SOUPS AND VEGETABLES.

SINCE YOU'VE BEEN ASKING:

Questions asked by our members...
Questions answered by us....



1. What are the factors that the synagogue considered when moving outside to the tent and then inside again?

Our decisions were influenced by Ontario public health restrictions on indoor gatherings. At the time, there were more people who wanted to attend Shabbat services than were permitted to gather indoors. Also, since we had summer weather, we were able to consider an outside service and a tent. The executive of the Board approved the funds for both the tent and the livestream for those services.

While for many, the services in the tent were a good return to in-person prayer, for others the return indoors was most welcome. Additionally, once public health regulations allowed us to accommodate a larger indoor gathering, we wanted to return indoors early enough to be able to address any issues arising as we prepared for the High Holidays. Over the course of the last few weeks, we have been able to adjust our practices to best and most safely prepare to host a larger number of members for the hagim.

2. How will moving back to indoor services include members who are reluctant to attend indoors?

Of course, all of our members will have the option of participating at any of our services via livestream. We are so grateful to the modern technology that lets us all be together as a congregation even if we are not in the same room. Familiar faces, even if masked, are nice to see on our screens.

While we long for the future when we can once again worship more comfortably together in person, we are thrilled to be able to accommodate a much larger in-person gathering than at this time last year. With circumstances and sensibilities changing on a day-to-day basis, it is difficult to predict how many worshippers will feel comfortable attending services in person. Our goal for the High Holidays this year is to ensure that every adult who is comfortable will have the opportunity to attend at least once.

The synagogue is taking every precaution to make the indoor space a safe and welcoming environment. We are following Ontario public health guidelines in terms of sanitizing, strictly enforced social distancing, and mask wearing. We feel so strongly about this that any non-compliance with full mask wearing by a member will result in that member being asked to leave the indoor space. All attendees must be double vaccinated at least 2 weeks before attending or have received a negative COVID test administered within 48 hours of attending.

While we are conscious of the concerns of those members who are reluctant to attend in person, we also are conscious of disadvantaging younger children who are not yet able to receive any COVID vaccine and cannot come to indoor in-person services even if they want to and even if their parents are double vaccinated.

We hope that our safety protocols, livestream, and tent family services will offer some form of participation by our entire congregation.

3. Is there an update on the school building rental?

As previously reported, we have engaged real estate agents to secure a new tenant. There has been interest and several showings, although nothing firm yet. COVID related uncertainties about school re-openings and protocols have slowed the process.

4. What is happening with the general membership survey that we were told about?

A survey is both a means of involving respondents and gathering information for decision-makers. Both aspects are important for a survey to be relevant to the needs of the synagogue. What keeps changing for us is what information we need from the synagogue membership at a particular point in time. The survey was almost ready when we were faced with the possibility of Rabbi Grover moving to Montreal and we may have needed a survey to reflect that change. *(next page)*

Once that settled with Rabbi Grover remaining, the merger possibility with Beth David became an active merger exploration. At this point, the volunteers working on the survey are waiting until the merger exploration is further along so that information gathered is helpful to that process and the desires of Beth Tikvah members.

A survey is an information gathering tool. **It is not a decision-making tool.** Deciding on a possible merger comes with a membership vote following a process of education and discussion with our members. This is very similar to the process we undertook for the vote on egalitarianism.

5. What is happening with the 2017-2022 Strategic Plan?

Despite the fact that the financial impact of the loss of school rental income has been a major focus of these past couple of years, there has been a lot of Board and other volunteer activity that has addressed the goals and desired outcomes of the Plan. For example, we have a greater representation of younger members on our Board and a very active Youth and Young Family programming with both Rabbi Sachs and Ellie Reinblatt. Beth Tikvah Women have run many programs on Zoom. The focus group process of last winter was completed and reported to the Board. From that, a group of volunteers has prepared a written listing of Core Values of Beth Tikvah. A group of volunteers is working on aspects of member retention: looking at why members have left us and if there is a way to encourage their return as well as reaching out to new members to look at ways to offer a more personal welcome to them. Our High Holiday appeal fund raising campaign of last year was a success in terms of financial donation and, most importantly, in terms of number of members who made contributions.

There is more to do and the Plan is one more thing that will need to be updated as our future path gets clearer but the work of the staff and members who contributed to the current plan has laid a strong foundation.

As one of the desired outcomes laid out in the plan was strong volunteer involvement, it is a credit to Beth Tikvah that volunteers have come forward for the focus groups, for task forces and committees organized for specific purposes and to support the Grover family after Gabriel's birth. Volunteers are welcome and encouraged. If you would like to volunteer, have not yet done so and are not sure where, send an email to Doris Alter at doris@bethtikvahtoronto.org.

6. What is happening with the merger exploration discussions?

There are volunteers from both our synagogue and Beth David who are in discussion about the potential merger. Alan Birnbaum is the chair of that group. They report to our Board. They are not a decision-making body and although this may seem like slow work, they are moving forward as quickly, thoroughly and transparently as they can through such an important process. The two synagogues are at a different stage of disclosure and membership involvement but Beth David is working quickly to bring its members up to speed. Both synagogues are in the process of finding and engaging a professional facilitator to help in this process and in the meantime, you will notice some joint programming with Beth David as a first step. Updating the congregation on the progress of merger exploration is a priority for Doug Millstone, our President, in his communications with the synagogue.

7. What services, classes, programs and events are planned at the synagogue and will they be in-person or will we be offering a hybrid of in-person and livestream?

We are hoping to move back to in-person activity as much as is safe, reasonable and possible. We recognize that Zoom and livestream have made it possible for us to expand our programming and to create an inclusive environment for our members. Virtual programming and services have helped all of our members stay connected to Beth Tikvah and we anticipate some form of virtual and hybrid (both in-person and online) attendance moving forward. Information about our current programming is available on our website and in the daily emails.

8. If I have an idea for a program or a speaker, whom do I direct that to?

If you have ideas for evening or daytime programs, please let us know. If you have ideas geared to particular age or life stage groups, please let us know. If you want to volunteer to help with any aspect of this or think you could offer a program yourself, please let us know. We have many talented and gifted members in our midst. The easiest way to do that is to send an email to Gayle Kertzman at gayle@bethtikvahtoronto.org.

MAZAL TOV TO THE FOLLOWING:



BIRTHS

Erin & Jessica Kraft on the birth of their daughter, Olivia Piper Kraft. Grandparents are Leslie and Arlene Kraft. Great-Grandparents are Ruth Pakes, Sydney Dubisky (Israel), Barbara and Michael Sedlacek.

Farrell & Barry Lexchin on the birth of their daughter, Livy Lexchin. Grandparents are Marla & Dr. Gerry Pearson.

Sarah & Vlad Calina on the birth of their daughter, Lyre Margaret Rhea Calina. Grandparents are Shelley Birenbaum & Michael Sharpe and Great-Grandparents are Abe & Sheila Birenbaum.

Ross & Michelle Litman on the birth of their daughter, Chloe Liba Maya Litman. Grandparents are Batia & Misha Lazarciuc.

Nicole & Peter Schwartz on the birth of their son, Eytan Hartley Ben-Ami Schwartz. Grandparents are Batia & Misha Lazarciuc.

Solveig & Benjamin Lazarciuc on the birth of their daughter, Maja Lind Lazarciuc. Grandparents are Batia & Misha Lazarciuc.

Shane and Brittany Urowitz on the birth of their son, Tyler Jay. Grandparents are Marsha & Jack Urowitz, Reesa & Eric Nussbaum, Mark Delson and Sandy Armeland.

Carmela & Rabbi Jarrod Grover on the birth of their son, Gabriel Solomon Grover. Grandparents are Richard Grover, and Joan & Larry Lieberman. Great-Grandparents are Marvyn Grover and Bena Singer.

Cindy & David Friesner on the birth and Baby Naming of their daughter, Leah Friesner. Grandfather is Abraham Friesner.

Adam Jerusalem and Eve Hurowitz on the birth of their daughter, Hannah Sydney Jerusalem. Grandparent are Glynis & Jack Jerusalem, Beth Warren and Eric Hurowitz. Great-grandmother is Selma Chanock.

(Listings are by date occurrence)

Sarah & Vlad Calina on the birth of their daughter, Lyre Margaret Rhea Calina. Grandparents are Shelley Birenbaum & Michael Sharpe. Great-grandparents are Sheila & Abe Birenbaum.

Meg Casson and Zachary Bordman on the birth of their daughter, Naomi Jesse Bordman. Grandparents are Risa & Joel Bordman and Ruth Wilson & Ian Casson. Great-grandparents are Annie Bordman and Helen Daniels.

BAR & BAT MITZVAHS

Philip & Marissa Sylver on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Ari Sylver. Grandparents are Arlene & Allan Sylver and Paula & David Cooperman.

Aimee Draper and Jay Stolberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Riley Stolberg.

Marnie Pasco and Yaniv Pasco on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Shawn Pasco. Grandparents are Len & Linda Sadinsky.

ENGAGEMENTS/WEDDINGS

Jennifer Kraft and Nathan Leifer on their engagement. Parents are Leslie and Arlene Kraft and Randy and Randi Leifer. Grandparents are Ruth Pakes, Sydney Dubisky (Israel) and Feige Kay.

Simon Foot and Rebecca Jackson-Berarey on their Aufruf and upcoming Marriage. Parents are Jeanne & Keith Foot. Grandfather is Harold Foot.

★MAZAL★TOV★

A special Mazal Tov to Rona Arato for winning third prize at the 2020 Moment Magazine- Karma oundation Short Fiction Contest!

Rona was awarded this internationally-acclaimed prize for her fictional Holocaust story, "Polonaise".

Polonaise: Andrew, a Hungarian Holocaust survivor and Emily a music student, are drawn together in 1960's New York over their love of music and shared need for company. As their relationship develops, the secrets of Andrew's past emerge, at first separating them and then forging an unbreakable bond.

Moment is an independent magazine that since its founding 45 years ago by Elie Wiesel and Leonard Fein has provided a unique lens on the issues that concern and inspire American Jews.





We extend condolences to the following:

Manny and Sharon Tward on the passing of their brother and brother-in-law, Dr. Howard Tward ^{z"l}.

Sylvia Cooper, on the passing of her sister, Min Mandel ^{z"l}.

Errol and Marlene Abella, on the passing of their sister and sister-in-law, Deenie Abella ^{z"l}.

On the passing of our member, Julie Movsowitz ^{z"l}.

Susan Walsh, on the passing of her husband, Mark Walsh ^{z"l}.

On the passing of our member, Betty Stone ^{z"l}.

On the passing of our member, Renée Unger ^{z"l}.

Ian and Jill Joffe, on the passing of their mother and mother-in-law, Becky Joffe ^{z"l}.

Charles and Joanne Bleier, on the passing of their mother and mother-in-law, Irene Bleier ^{z"l}.

Susan and Robert Robinson, on the passing of their mother and mother-in-law, Leiba Long ^{z"l}.

Sheila and Irvin Sherman, on the passing of their brother and brother-in-law, Darryl Hennick ^{z"l}.

Susan Herberman, on the passing of her husband, Harry Herberman ^{z"l}.

(Listings are by date occurrence)



הַמָּקוֹם יְנַחֵם אֶתְכֶם
בְּתוֹךְ שְׂאֵר אֲבֵלֵי צִיּוֹן וִירוּשָׁלַיִם.

Hamakôm ye'nachem et'chem
be'toch she'ar evlei Tsiyon ve'Yerushalâyim.

May G-d comfort you among all
the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Beth Tikvah gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

50th Anniversary Fund

Doris Alter
Shirlee & Harvey Dolman
Suzanne & Nathan Tepper

Adult Education Programs

Bev Birkan
Freda Gottesman-Brender &
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PURCHASE YOUR
**Lulav
& Etrog**
For Sukkot



We will not have any Lulav & Etrog available this year for communal use. Please purchase your own if you wish to partake in the mitzvah.

Cost: \$70

Deadline to order your Lulav & Etrog is Friday, September 3

Order online at www.bethtikvahtoronto.org or call the BT Office!

A REBEL DESTINED TO LEAD

UPHEAVAL

מהפך

THE JOURNEY OF MENACHEM BEGIN



The incredible story of former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin comes to life in this new, captivating documentary. Menachem Begin's story is modern Israel's story. Driven by a passion for his people, this former prime minister of Israel dedicated his life to the survival and safety of Israel and the unity of the Jewish people. Rarely seen archival materials and revealing interviews showcase Begin's life in this compelling new film.

f

ABRAMORAMA



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HIGH HOLY DAYS
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for our virtual High Holy Day appeal featuring a special panel discussion and a screening of

UPHEAVAL

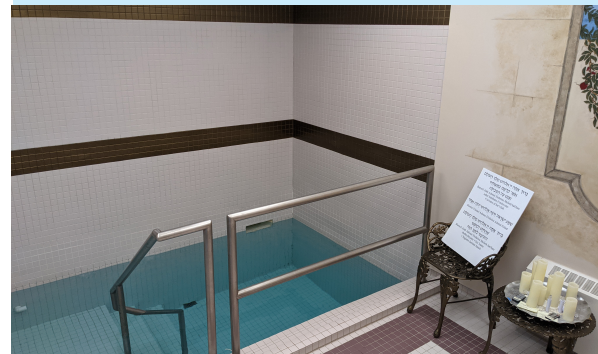
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Beth Tikvah Synagogue is proud to announce that we are now members of the Community Mikvah of Greater Toronto!



Thank you to the Feldgaier Shapiro Endowment Fund for supporting this initiative!



Canadian.
Jewish.
Advocacy.

SIX FEET APART BUT CLOSER THAN EVER

This has been a challenging year.

5781 has been a challenging year for the Jewish people. A community that cherishes togetherness was isolated by the pandemic. A people who seeks peace faced terror and war in Israel.

As we write, it appears the havoc of the pandemic is abating. The ways in which we adapted to restricted celebration of simchas and grieving of loss seem to be ending. We can once again embrace friends and family in joy and in consolation.

However, the gathering clouds of antisemitism show no signs of parting. Sparked by the conflict between Israel and Hamas last spring, the shocking spike in antisemitism in Canada and around the world has alarmed our community.

Online, our children and grandchildren have witnessed a flood of misleading - and often blatantly antisemitic - content demonizing Jews and our connection to the land and people of Israel. This toxic propaganda has seeped into schools, workplaces, and civil society, causing grave concern about the place of Jews in our city, province, and country, and stoking fears that Canada could, in the not-too-distant future, resemble France, where Jewish life is increasingly hidden.

Those who seek to demonize and, through BDS and other forms of advocacy, ultimately dismantle the Jewish State are becoming bolder and more aggressive, letting the veil slip on the false distinction between anti-Zionism and antisemitism, with some seeking openly to undermine our unqualified right as Jewish Canadians to be accepted as equals in Canadian politics, democracy, and civil society. The fight against the anti-Israel agenda is a fight to preserve the future of the Canadian Jewish community.

The good news is that the Jewish people are resilient. We have survived immeasurable challenges, and we will overcome this one as well. Our strength resides in our ability to come together in moments like these, united in our hope for the future.

Over recent months, tens of thousands joined CIJA in asking the government to take meaningful actions to combat antisemitism, leading to a National Summit on Antisemitism held in July. Through UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, our community raised more than \$1M to support the people of Israel, as more than 4,000 missiles from Gaza rained down on Israeli towns and cities.

As we welcome a new year, we must renew our commitment to take meaningful action together. Combating antisemitism and hate is not only for advocacy groups and the government. From volunteering with UJA Genesis (ujagenesis.com/contact-us), to writing to your local MP or media outlet, to joining CIJA's campaign at fightit.ca, each of us has a role to play in ensuring the fabric of our society is not torn by those who seek to marginalize, exclude, or harm us.

Toronto is one of the greatest cities in the world in which to be Jewish. In the year ahead we must work to preserve and protect this and ensure antisemitism is addressed head-on. We must come together as a community, united in our resolve and in our pride of who we are, to fight for our rightful place in society.

May we all be inscribed and sealed for a good year. L'Shana Tova!



Barbara Bank

Barbara Bank
Chair, CIJA Toronto Council



Noah Shack

Noah Shack
Vice President, GTA, CIJA