

# Kesher



# קשר

Your Connection to the World of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda

Shavuot 2016 | 5776

SHINE BRIGHTLY AT OUR

## Dancing with Diamonds Gala

DON'T MISS THE FINAL SALUTE TO OUR 60TH YEAR.

**TUESDAY JUNE 7TH AT 6:30 PM**  
COCKTAILS FOLLOWED BY DINNER  
COUVERT: \$136 PER PERSON

**DANCE TO THE MUSIC OF GEORGE ST. KITTS AND HIS ORCHESTRA**  
DRESS: FANCY FORMAL & FABULOUS

CALL THE OFFICE TO RESERVE. 416 633.3838.  
TICKET & SPONSORSHIP FORMS ON PAGE 3.

# CONNECTIONS THAT THEY MAKE WILL LAST LIFE-LONG



DISCOVER WHAT THIS COULD MEAN FOR YOUR CHILD

The Toronto  
Heschel School



בית הספר  
על שם השל

## THE TORONTO HESCHEL SCHOOL

### MEANINGFUL JEWISH EDUCATION

JK TO GRADE 8 | BUS SERVICE AVAILABLE | LOW STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO

**TO REGISTER FOR AN UPCOMING OPEN HOUSE OR TO BOOK A PERSONAL TOUR,**  
PLEASE CONTACT US AT [ADMISSIONS@TORONTOHESCHEL.ORG](mailto:ADMISSIONS@TORONTOHESCHEL.ORG) OR 416 635 1876 EXT 334

[torontoheschel.org](http://torontoheschel.org)

819 Sheppard Avenue West



Julia & Henry Koschitzky  
Centre for Jewish Education  
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

**Beth Emeth & Adath Israel**

invite you to a

# **TIKUN LEIL SHAVUOT**

**Saturday, June 11th at 8:00 pm**

at **Adath Israel, 37 Southbourne Avenue.**

Panelists include:

**Rabbi Moshe Meirovich  
Rabbi Howard Morrison  
and Rabbi David Seed**

- 8:00 pm Mincha  
8:30 pm Enhanced Seudah Shlisheet  
9:00 pm Panel discussion –  
*The Current State of Jewish Education and its Future*  
9:45 pm Ma'ariv, Kiddush – light Yom Tov buffet meal  
10:30 pm Panel discussion – *'What Happened at Sinai? –  
Contemporary Implications'*  
11:45 pm Conclusion and dessert

Tikun Leil takes place at Adath Israel, 37 Southbourne Avenue.

## **Tex-Mex Teen Tikkun program at Beth Emeth**

Saturday June 11, 8:30 pm-12:30 am.

No cost, but registration is mandatory. See page 14 for details.

**Questions? Call the Beth Emeth office 416 633.3838.**

## **SHAVUOT SCHEDULE**

### **Shabbat**

#### **Erev Shavuot**

Saturday, June 11, 2016

Graduation Recognition Service

8:45 am

Mincha/Maariv: 8:30 pm

### **First Day of Shavuot**

Sunday, June 12, 2016

Shacharit: 8:45 am

Mincha/Maariv: 8:40 pm

### **Second Day of Shavuot**

Monday, June 13, 2016

Shacharit: 8:45 am

Followed by Musaf & Yizkor

Mincha/Maariv: 8:45 pm

## RABBI HOWARD MORRISON

Dear Congregational Family,

In 2003, when very few Diaspora Jews were visiting Israel because of a series of suicide bombings, the Toronto Board of Rabbis quickly organized a three day solidarity mission to Israel. I was fortunate to attend, as did Rabbi Joseph and Sara Kelman, of blessed memories. It was during this brief visit that we toured the now renowned Shalom Hartman Institute. My colleagues and I had the distinct pleasure of meeting Rabbi David Hartman, now of blessed memory, the founder of the institute. I felt like a grasshopper in front of a giant. This was my first time sitting in person with Rabbi Hartman. He had only recently begun recuperating from a heart attack. Yet, he found the energy and time to meet with a handful of Canadian rabbis and some spouses. Before he made Aliyah, Rabbi Hartman had served for many years as a congregational rabbi in Montreal.

As soon as I met Rabbi Hartman, I became a fan of his ideology. He was the most maverick Modern Orthodox rabbi I had ever met. He challenged us all to question our own intellectual and ideological assumptions. To this day, I often make references to three of his most famous books: ***A Living Covenant – The Innovative Spirit in Traditional Judaism***, ***A Heart of Many Rooms – Celebrating the Many Voices within Judaism***, and ***The God Who Hates Lies: Confronting and Rethinking Jewish Tradition***.

Since Rabbi David Hartman's passing a few years ago, his son, Rabbi Donniel Hartman has picked up where his father left off. This year, he has written a book entitled, ***Putting God Second: How to Save Religion From Itself***. The thesis of the book goes as follows: If religion is so great, why does it so often fail to do its job of forming good people? Rabbi Hartman proposes that religion today suffers from an autoimmune disease. First, many people suffer from God intoxication. They are so enraptured by God's presence that they forget everything else, including other

people and the ethical demands that are part of religious life. In the book, Rabbi Hartman tells the story of the Chasidic master who criticizes a student so caught up in prayer at home that he fails to attend to his crying baby. If praying makes one deaf to the cries of a child, there is something flawed in the prayer, the rebbe tells the young man.

Religion's second critical flaw, writes Rabbi Donniel Hartman, is God manipulation. This is what happens when we force God to serve the self-interests of the anointed, to the exclusion of all others, by using God in the service of our own interests, while simultaneously waving the banner of divine approval. This, he writes, is God sanctioned indifference to anyone who is not "us." There is a lot more substantive content in his book, just as there is in the earlier writings of his father, Rabbi David Hartman, of blessed memory.

As we prepare to celebrate Shavuot, which marks the giving of the Torah and our commitment to renewing it on a daily basis, it is timely to consider some essential questions which may challenge some of our own preconceived notions. Such an approach would encourage us to engage openly with Judaism and not be forced to leave our critical faculties at the door of that engagement.

Tamara and I wish you and your family a joyous Shavuot, Chag Sameach!

**Rabbi Howard Morrison**  
[rabbi@beby.org](mailto:rabbi@beby.org)



### ***Inside our World of Experience***

Dancing with Diamonds Gala  
Tikun Leil Shavuot  
Message from Rabbi Morrison  
Schedule of Services  
Message from Rabbi Lipson  
Nash and Drash  
Chazzan's Notes  
Shabbatini  
President's Message  
Boardroom Banter  
Executive Director's Message  
Graduation Shabbat  
Continuing Education

Garden Donor Wall Dedication  
Seniors Events  
Rosen Judaica Gift Shop  
BEBY Men's Club  
Beer Tasting  
Golf Tournament  
Youth & Young Families  
Scholarship Funds  
Greening Committee  
Music Committee  
Aleph Bais Yehuda Elementary  
Ontario Volunteer Service Awards  
Writer's Corner

BEBY Time Capsule  
Events Check List  
Seniors Music Program  
Morasha - Adult Education  
Library  
Out of the Cold  
Uptown Gourmet Catering  
The Recipe Box  
Chesed Committee  
Donation Opportunities  
The Kadima Centre  
Chesed Knitters  
Calendar of Events

A few weeks ago, I had the pleasure of meeting an elderly gentleman. His accent belied the fact that he was from somewhere other than Toronto. Rather his accent suggested that he was from somewhere in Eastern Europe. I asked where he came from originally and he responded, "Poland, I come from Poland." "There are many places in Poland, places that once provided home to millions of Jews". I said, "Where in Poland?" He looked at me and qualified his answer by saying I probably would have never heard of it. After all it wasn't such a big city like Warsaw, Krakow, Vilna or Lublin. "Apte, I came from Apte." I then asked if he had ever met the Apter Rebbe, a great Chassidic Rebbe of the early 20th century. This elderly man explained that he had studied in the Apter Rebbe's Yeshiva prior to the War and then wound up in the camps. He told me that he managed to survive, came to Toronto and had two sons. He continued to tell me that he was blessed with seven grandchildren. I asked about great-grandchildren. He replied that as of yet, he had none. He quickly added that his eldest granddaughter, who is in her early twenties, is involved with a Jewish young man. At this point, the elderly man's son, (the father of the eldest granddaughter) approached us and sighed, explaining that "it was very nice that my daughter is dating a Jewish boy, but he is not observant, nor does he believe." The son explained that they invite the boyfriend for Shabbat, for Pesach, and to lectures. However the young man is cynical and is not a believer. The boyfriend can't imagine observing Torah and mitzvoth until he believes. The son (father) seemed to be at his wits end as he continues trying to convince the daughter's boyfriend that he should believe in God and Torah. The grandfather, the survivor, then made an interesting comment. "It is OK if he doesn't believe right now, but I think I should spend some time with him. Maybe then he will believe." The elderly gentleman wanted to share his experience, his miracle of survival as a testament of belief. As a survivor of the Holocaust this Jewish man from Apte had a case in point. After hearing this man's life story who wouldn't believe in God, and Torah and the numerous miracles that have been part of our people's survival?



On June 12th and 13th, we will complete the 50 day counting of the Omer and celebrate Chag Shavuot, the Festival of Weeks. By comparisons to the festivals of Pesach and Sukkot, Shavuot is a very short holiday encompassing only two days compared to 8 days respectively. While the other two holidays are specifically mentioned by date in the Torah: the 14th day of the first month, or the 14th day of the 7th month, Shavuot enjoys no such specificity. Rather its existence is mentioned in terms of Pesach and the counting of the Omer (Lev. 23:15-18). Because the two festivals, Pesach and Shavuot are connected by this counting, we learn that the freedom we earned at Pesach is only one aspect of the great goal which was the Revelation at Sinai, the Matan Torah, which occurred 50 days later. Our Mesorah, our Tradition, teaches us that the historical aspect of Shavuot is our national experience at Sinai.

I am sure that this Survivor's granddaughter's boyfriend probably has a tough time with the Revelation at Sinai as truth. Certainly the Survivor had no problem with Torah M'Sinai - The Revelation at Sinai nor did the son. The old man's survival made a believer out of him and his sons. However it is safe to say in the non-frum, in the non-orthodox world, many have a hard time believing in Torah M'Sinai. Rather, many believe that the Revelation at Sinai and for that matter, all the narratives, and all these commandments that we read each Shabbat are quaint stories, perhaps even myths. If these stories are indeed myth then there is no reason to believe in it. If there is no reason to believe in it, then why bother with it? After the son (father) said he was doing all he could to try to convince the young man to believe in God and Torah, he asked me my opinion. I thought about it and told him that my opinion is the same as I tell my congregation.

Belief is not a result of a logical proof. Belief is intensely personal so trying to prove that this miracle happened or that event happened or God said this or did that is pointless. My response is like the Survivor's response to his son. Myth or Not Myth, Truth or Un-Truth, the issue is, can we learn from this "myth", can we learn how to live our lives in a holy manner from this "truth"? If the answer is yes, we can learn from and learn how to achieve holiness, and we actually do it, then on some fundamental level, we must believe. The grandfather from Apte had it right; let this young man learn from the older man. Let the older man impart Torah to him, and then let the young man incorporate a little learning and a little observance into his life. The survivor ended our chat by saying, "If I teach all that, and he does what he is supposed to do, the belief will take care of itself." So it is with us as we share in the experience of our ancestors and receive the gift of Torah this Shavuot.

Chag Sameach,  
**Rabbi Lipson**  
[rabbilipson@beby.org](mailto:rabbilipson@beby.org)

## **NASH AND DRASH**

**Thursday June 16th at 12 noon**  
**Chazzans David Edwards &**  
**Tibor Kovari of Beth Tikvah Synagogue**  
**with accompanist Klara Bagley**  
**Join us for a delicious lunch and musical performance.**

**Advance reservations ONLY by**  
**Monday, June 14th.**  
**to the Beth Emeth Synagogue office**  
**at 416.633.3838. \$15 per person.**

Change..... What is change and how do we as human beings deal with change? The simple answer is not easy. People have a tendency to get used to their daily, weekly or monthly habits and when something happens in life that creates a new irreversible scenario, there can be anxiety, fear and difficulty. On the other hand, change can be an excellent thing if it provides a new opportunity to improve one's quality of life, and dispense with something that could have become a bad habit or poor use of precious time.

Imagine what must have confronted the Jewish people on Pesach as they prepared to leave Egypt, the land of slavery and oppression and prepared to march into the unknown in the hope that they would reach the Promised Land. They had no idea of the meaning of freedom or the responsibility that freedom entailed. When they reached the banks of the Red Sea they were faced with some hard choices with Pharaoh's army in hot pursuit. Those moments must have been frightening to say the least. The people were conflicted as to what they should do – some even suggested they go back to Egypt, but we know how the story unfolded in the end.

Several weeks later, the people stood at Mount Sinai and it was there that the greatest marriage in history took place between G-d and the Jewish People with the giving of the 10 Commandments. As we count the Omer day by day leading up to this historical event, we count up as if each day increases our level of spirituality and readiness to receive G-d's Law. And as the text in the Torah later unfolds, it is noticeable that a band of slaves slowly begins to organize themselves to become a proud independent nation. Not an easy transition at all.

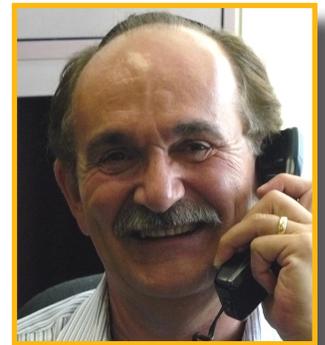
Similarly for Sandi and myself, we are going to be dealing with big changes as we begin my last year of service as the Senior Cantor of

the Synagogue. Next April, I will be qualifying for my retirement pension. In looking at how I spend my time, I feel the need to make some changes. I need to find more time to spend with my grandchildren who live in two different cities in the USA and the demands of my job do not give me a great deal of time to pursue other things that I find enjoyable in life. It is also important for the synagogue to have a younger cantor on the team so he can work closely with the younger families and develop the next generations of the Beth Emeth Family. So there will be a new Cantor hired in the coming year and I am confident that he will grow into the position the same way as I did over the last 5 years. It is sad to contemplate the end of my tenure at the shul, but I have every hope and intention to retain the wonderful friendships and relationships we have made over the years. We have celebrated (and mourned) the circle of life together and we have made incredible memories too. It is important to note that Beth Emeth was part of my life several years before I was hired in an official capacity and going forward, I trust that to continue.

During the next year, I hope to continue to celebrate our time and our relationships together and when it is time to say Goodbye, we will not use that word but instead, Lehitraot. ....until we see you again.

Chag Sameach for a joyous Shavuot and a wonderful happy summer!

**Chazzan David Edwards**  
[chazzandavid@beby.org](mailto:chazzandavid@beby.org)



## SHABBATINI

Friday May 27th at 6:15 pm

Join us for a special Oneg Shabbat celebration —  
With Chazzan David Edwards, Reuven Grajner,  
and live music accompaniment.

Featuring a Martini Bar for the adults and “mocktinis” for the children. Hors d’oeuvres and an opportunity for everyone to mingle and socialize.

7:00 pm Musical Erev Shabbat services.  
No Charge - but please RSVP to the office by May 25th.  
416.633.3838.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - "EXCEPTIONAL"

Dear Congregants and Friends of Beth Emeth,

Exceptional is a word that communicates important beliefs that I believe we have in our Congregation.

First, 'Exceptional' conveys our Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Hebrew Men of England brand of rock solid traditional conservative values that have been our bedrock foundation for the past 60 years. These values are an assurance in stability and security. Throughout our past we have been unwavering in our commitment to our members in our core values. While others in the community at large tend to vacillate hoping that a change in tradition is the promise of a better future, we say in fact the opposite is true. We recognize our stability comes from that which we hold dear, and our practices and observances are the critical differentiator today. We continue to stand out against our peers with a strong and growing membership base which can always count on what they see today, is what they will get tomorrow.

Second, 'Exceptional' also describes the breadth and combination of the talent we have that lie within making our Synagogue an even more special place to worship, learn, participate, mentor and work. Let me explain.

We have a committed, diverse and active leadership team. Leadership is continuing to develop strategies that are required to deal with the turbulent times within our greater community and to welcome those who may require the embrace of a new spiritual home. Leadership continues to demonstrate exceptional standards of good governance. Leadership also includes a very active group of Past Presidents and former Executive and Board Members. This group of special people, called the 'Va'ad', has been truly instrumental in offering excellent advice to the Board and myself. I offer a hearty Mazel Tov to the Dean of the 'Va'ad', Mr. David Anisman on the occasion of his 101st Birthday, recently celebrated at the end of April.

We also have a committed clergy team who continues the mantra of care, compassion and concern. Our clergy are accessible and very willing to embrace the needs of our Congregants. They keep our values and traditions safeguarded. As we move forward in the search process of a new Chazzan preparing for the retirement of our own Chazzan Edwards in April 2017, we do so as 'menschen' and with great sensitivity.

We have a dedicated and loyal professional staff who views service to our members as their clarion call. Our Executive Director is a conductor, par excellence whose continued advice to many of us especially in the areas of a best practice strategy is very much appreciated.

Our other support staff including our building manager, custodians and of course our five-star Caterer ensures that service to our own members always is of the highest standard. Our staff are instrumental in being the unsung heroes behind the scenes ensuring our many programs held annually run smoothly.

Simply put, the efforts of our committed leadership, clergy and professional staff have helped our Synagogue grow and prosper.

Lastly, 'Exceptional' also describes the boundless opportunities ahead. As our magnificent 60th anniversary year comes to a close, we should all be equally excited about the future. Within our evolving landscape, leadership sees opportunities for continued growth. The Board of Directors, Clergy and Professional Staff will be active participants in future discussions regarding what the next 60 years might look like. Our spirit and energy are high, our future boundless. I encourage all members and those within our greater community to feel part of something special and meaningful. Help us build an incredible future together.

*"And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them".* My first six months as President have been exciting and rewarding. To tell you the truth, I have loved every minute. I have enjoyed first and foremost the chance to meet many of our members and to engage and learn from them. I am looking forward to our *Exceptional* future.

On behalf of my entire family a very warm Hag Shavuot Sameach, engaging our love and learning of Torah, and the values we hold so dear.

**Michael Shawn Kerzner**

President

[president@beby.org](mailto:president@beby.org)



## Share Your Thoughts...

Let us know what's on your mind! Tell us about what's going on in your life and we'll be happy to include them in our Rosh Hashanah Keshet. Please send your emails to [freda@beby.org](mailto:freda@beby.org)

## BOARDROOM BANTER

Shavuot is a time of duality: we celebrate the harvest and we celebrate the Torah. The time spent by a synagogue volunteer on the Board as a Director also consists of a duality. Our Board of Directors is elected to serve the needs of the congregation by dealing with the running of our synagogue in all its facets: financial, social, administrative and spiritual. We lead by identifying the needs and issues of the synagogue and work to bring solutions to short term issues and to develop strategies to address longer term issues. So while some refer to the Board of Directors as the leadership, or the “leaders of our congregation”, I think of us as “servants” as well. We lead and we serve. Only through serving the needs of the congregation can one claim to be a leader.

The issues of greatest concern to any Board are the financial health of the organization, followed by the need to fulfill the organization’s mission statement. These two go hand in hand. Without the necessary financial resources, we cannot ensure that we will be able to fulfill the synagogue’s mission. Our Board has spent the last few months reviewing many issues of importance to many facets of the Synagogue. We have diligently reviewed our finances and committee budgets, our membership offerings and programs, our administrative needs and our building. I believe that Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda has done an excellent job in all these areas. Our building has had many wonderful upgrades over the past few years including the Tessler Lounge, Shelly’s Elevator, the new boilers and generator, the Samuel Edelstein Children’s Garden, the Mecklinger Wing and the Smuschkowitz Concourse.

We have held great programming over our 60th anniversary, from the lead off 50’s party to the upcoming Gala. There have been great social events, and we have also provided excellent opportunities for learning. We have improved our administration through streamlined computer systems and great leadership from our professional staff in prioritizing and streamlining work assignments. And, we have offered excellent ritual services, from our daily minyanim, to our Shabbat and Yom Tov services — all providing meaningful opportunities for reflection and spiritual enhancement. The clergy have also provided excellence in their service to the congregation for weddings, bar/bat mitzvot, shivas, funerals and classes for Jewish learning.

One of the most important responsibilities of our leadership is to safeguard the financial health of our Synagogue. While the Treasurer will give you a financial update at the AGM in the fall, like all the Synagogues in North America, our challenge is to continue to thrive while being fiscally responsible. The Board

has been careful with trying to find the balance between saving and spending. We have approved spending in areas like LED lighting that cost money now, but save money over the long run. We have applied the principles of smart spending to all areas of the synagogue. On the flip side, we have worked to make the Synagogue an inviting place of spiritual, social and educational excellence, to attract more members. And we have created excellent fundraising events to enable and support valuable social and educational programs while enhancing our financial position.

The reality is, the finances of our synagogue entail a duality as well, of financial management and fundraising. We can either cut costs or raise income to remain financially healthy. Once you have identified waste and cut it, further cost cutting means cutting services, which hits at the very core of our mission statement. And while the synagogue raises a significant portion of its money through membership, like every synagogue, it is never enough to cover the actual costs of running our synagogue. Fundraising is a necessary part of the financial health of our synagogue. As members, we all give to our synagogue through our membership contribution. In addition, we are blessed to have a number of members who understand this reality and give beyond their membership commitment to honour and remember loved ones and/or simply to support and strengthen our synagogue. They believe in the importance of the synagogue in Jewish life, and they lead by example.

This leads me to my final duality. The duality of giving charity to our synagogue. We give, but we also receive. The stronger we make our synagogue financially the greater the gift we receive. The gift of ensuring our synagogue is strong not only for us but for the next generation, our children and grandchildren, so they benefit from a place of prayer, learning, gathering and well-being. I invite you all to share in this important duality.

Wishing you all a Happy Shavuot.

**Morris (Michael) Sugarman**  
Chairman of the Board  
[chair@beby.org](mailto:chair@beby.org)



## High Holy Day Honours

Please let us know if you would like to receive a High Holy Day honour.  
If you have never received an honour or have not received one recently  
please send an email to [freda@beby.org](mailto:freda@beby.org) with your request and time of day preference.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Shavuot commemorates an event that is at the core of who we are as a people. Yet, it seems to me that it is observed by fewer Jewish people than most other Jewish holidays and holy days. I always wondered why Shavuot is the oft-neglected chag. After all, Shavuot is the holy day when G-d bestowed upon the Jewish people, the definitive gift of the Torah - the source of so much of what it means to be a Jew. How can we forget or disregard this powerful nation-building experience? Yet, for many Jewish people, Shavuot is simply the Jewish holiday when we eat cheese cake and cheese blintzes. These delicacies are an important symbol of Shavuot for many reasons yet there is much more to it than that. Shavuot is a time of learning, prayer and general appreciation of what it means to be part of Am Yisrael and Klal Yisrael, the people of Israel and the community of Israel.

Shavuot is also known as Chag Ha' Bikkurim. This reference to Shavuot stems back to the days of the Temple in Jerusalem and the offering of the first fruits. In Israel today, Chag Ha'Bikkurim is celebrated with outdoor parades and festivals, with dancing in the parks and on the kibbutzim, with children wearing crowns of flowers and everyone eating delicious dairy delicacies. It is also the time of the spring harvest in Israel. It is a time to nourish our bodies with healthy foods, healthy activities and appreciation of our environment.

When we think of these two aspects of the Shavuot chag: the giving of the Torah at Sinai and the offering of the first fruits at the Temple, we can appreciate the brilliance of our Jewish traditions and heritage where we recognize the importance of nurturing two aspects of our humanity – our spiritual souls and our physical beings and surroundings. We are given the opportunity to feed and safeguard our bodies by enjoying the fruits of the spring harvest and we are given the opportunity to feed our souls with the spiritual nourishment derived from the Jewish values and lessons of the Torah and from attending our houses of prayer and study. Our Synagogues foster this spiritual growth by providing safe and welcoming spaces where the bustle of the outside world takes second place.

At Beth Emeth, we always strive to be that special safe place you can be proud of from both the physical and spiritual standpoints. People visiting our Shul always tell me how beautiful our building

is. As you have likely discerned from your visits to the Synagogue, efforts are continual to ensure our Synagogue home is maintained, upgraded, enhanced, accessible and up-to-date. Even, as I write this article, our Sanctuary is being improved with the installation of the assistive hearing system known as the "loop system". Our members, friends and community who require hearing support will be able to enjoy a new world of clear sound opened up to them during the services and programmes taking place in the Sanctuary and in the Fischtein Hall. The installation of the assistive hearing system\* required the lifting of the old carpet creating an opportune time to freshen and modernize the look of the sanctuary with new carpeting. Come by soon to enjoy the new look and to feel pride in this important step toward achieving our goal of ensuring that our Sanctuary and our Synagogue become increasingly more accessible and inviting to people of all abilities.

As beautiful as our building is – it is much more than that – it is also the home of a community of people who care about each other. It is these people and the relationships that are created and nurtured within the building that truly reflect the sweet soul of our Synagogue. People are the essence of why we all decide to affiliate with a synagogue – with OUR synagogue. The people we see here every Shabbat and on the chagim and yamim noraim (High Holy Days) are what draw us together and it is their love, support and friendship that nurtures our souls each and every day, week, month and year.

At this special time on the Jewish calendar, on behalf of the entire staff team at Beth Emeth and on behalf of my entire family, I wish you all a Chag Shavuot Sameach.

**Pearl Grundland**  
Executive Director  
[pearl@beby.org](mailto:pearl@beby.org)

*\* This project is funded by the Government of Canada*



## GRADUATION SHABBAT SATURDAY JUNE 11TH AT 8:45 AM

A reminder to graduates and parents that we will be holding our annual Graduation Shabbat on Saturday, June 11th. We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you and your family. Please RSVP to the office.

**Eileen Jadd and Karen Seidman**, Graduation Recognition Committee

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

I feel it in the air. The wonderful beginnings of Spring and renewal. From the fresh smell of snow melting to our longer daytime hour, a sense of hope and promise. The Continuing Education Committee has already begun the process of developing new programs for the new season. This year we were able to present three amazing speakers who were generously sponsored by the Fogel, Cooper and Schwartz families. They included the HEW author, Marianne Szegedy-Maszak, "***I Kiss Your Hands Many Times***, Dr. Mordechai Kedar (personal experiences in the Middle East) and Dr. Nathan Herrmann (Preservation of Memory). We look forward to hearing about ***Winston Churchill and the Jews***, on Thursday, May 26th with Professor Stephen Berk, sponsored by the Kerzner family. We are now in the process of developing an informative two part series

### Sundays

- **Hebrew Reading Classes** — with Michael Kinrys. Hebrew Reading Crash Course Levels I and II will resume next season. Watch for more info TBA.
- **Tanach Study Group** — led by shul members and meeting in their homes, this interactive study group analyzes and discusses various Tanach texts. Check the weekly bulletin for dates and locations.

### Mondays

- **New Topic - To be announced.** — Boardroom. 7:15 - 8:15 pm.

### Tuesdays

- **Talmud Study Group** — sponsored by Sisterhood – Rabbis Morrison & Lipson alternate in teaching insights from the Talmud. 10:00 -11:30 am in the synagogue.

### Thursdays

- **Nash & Drash** — Rabbi Morrison leads a study session, combined with a light lunch. Noon, meets monthly in the synagogue. Resumes next fall.

### Shabbat

- **Tish and Torah with Rabbi Lipson** — learning sessions for the Parshat Hashavua at 10:00 am
- **Rabbinics Study Group** —Daf Ha'Shavua - The weekly page of Talmud. For beginning or intermediate students, we will explore page by page the first Tractate of the Talmud known as Masechet Berachot using the new Koren Talmud Bavli Daf Yomi Edition which contains the text in its original as well as full English translation and commentary by Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz. 35 minutes prior to Mincha.



program for September 14th and 21st. Our movie nights have really grown and attract many people who look forward to our monthly reviews shared by Rabbi Lipson who does an amazing job. Our book review on ***Fields of Exile***, was so well received, that we are now developing a new series in conjunction with the Library for next year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Rabbi Lipson, Earl and Perry and the entire committee for their time and efforts in making all the Continuing Education programs extremely successful for the last 3 years. It is now time to encourage another individual to come forward with new ideas and inspiration and continue the model we have built. We are more than willing to mentor anyone who has a vision to take this portfolio even further. Please contact the Synagogue for more details.

In the meantime, we wish all our Synagogue members a Chag Sameach.

**Marlene White, Perry Davis & Earl Cooperman  
Chairs**



## The Samuel Edelstein Children's Garden Donor Wall Dedication

**Friday June 24th  
at 6:00 pm**

Musical Friday Night Kabbalat Shabbat  
featuring light food and drinks!

Join us (weather permitting) in  
The Samuel Edelstein Children's Garden  
(or the foyer)  
before Friday evening services.  
Free of charge but please RSVP to the office  
no later than Wednesday June 22 at noon.

## SENIORS EVENTS

Very often I receive inquiries about what activities are going on in our shul. Here is an update, and I hope you will come and participate.

Monday mornings we meet in the library, 9:30am until noon, and knit blankets that are distributed by Project Linus to various hospitals and shelters. Black toques are knitted and sent to Israel for the IDF. You will be welcomed by the most amazing group of ladies, of all ages, and our wonderful man, where we socialize and share our lives with each other. Our door is always open. Drop in for a coffee and get to know us. I want to take this opportunity to thank Steeles Memorial Chapel for the wonderful contribution to our Chesed Knitters fund. We are so very appreciative of their commitment. We ask you, our members and their families to remember our Chesed Knitters fund when calling the office to make donations. We appreciate and thank you for any amount. A big thanks to the men and women from our morning minyans for their ongoing support and wonderful donations to assist us in the purchase of yarn.

Monday and Wednesday afternoon we meet to play Mah Jong and Rummikub starting at noon. Players must be experienced. We held two beginner classes and after graduating, participants are now playing with us every week. The date of the next beginner class will be announced soon.

Exercise classes run on Tuesday and Thursday for men and women over 64. Class runs from 11:15 am until noon. The attendance is phenomenal and our instructor is excellent.

Please call to register and let us know of your interest.

After a very successful Falls Prevention program, we will have a

repeat of the 12 week class. The date will be announced soon.

Back by popular demand! The **Emergency Preparedness Seminar**. An encore presentation is scheduled for Tuesday, May 31 at 1:00 pm. Constables will cover fraud, crime, safety and much more. Come with your family, including your teenagers.

As before share your stories and ask your questions. Do not miss out in this excellent opportunity to protect ourselves in today's world. Call the office to register. No charge.

Our theatre trips, this year to Stratford, as in the past, were very popular and sold out immediately. This year we had an overwhelming response to see **A Chorus Line** at Stratford. The response was so phenomenal that we sold out within a few days, without even a flyer. Next year we will add a third day to include all who were unable to get seats this year.

You can keep busy attending our events Monday through Thursday, and the benefits are wonderful. Our programs are open to the community at large and we continue during the summer months.

Pass the word along and join us for these amazing activities. For more information please call the office and they will connect you with me.

Have a great summer,  
**Miriam Crystal**



### *A Message from the Editor,*

I wish to remind you that the meaning of Keshet is "Connection" – our connection to the membership.

Our aim is to inform the members of current and future programmes via shorter articles and eye catching visual displays. The Editorial Committee reserves the right to edit all submissions.

All comments are welcome. A joyous Shavuot to all!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Connie Kachuck".

Connie Kachuck

## ROSEN JUDAICA GIFT SHOP

To celebrate my tenth anniversary as the chair of the Rosen Judaica Gift Shop and to thank all of you for your patronage we are holding a HUGE pre-inventory sale.

Everything will be reduced from 10% to 75% off.

We have gifts for every occasion and for every taste.

Whether you are looking for Judaica or for regular merchandise, make us your one stop shopping venue.

Remember, we never charge tax,

and gift wrapping is available free of charge.

Help me celebrate this milestone (the best job I've ever had and so ideal for a shopaholic) and let me help you make your shopping experience enjoyable and stress free.

Chag Sameach.

Have a wonderful summer. We'll see you in September.

*Sonia Hendler, Gift Shop Chair.*

## MEN'S CLUB

Our Men's Club has been quite busy over the past year.

Our group of 200 plus members has enjoyed Steak in the Sukkah, Scotch Tasting and Bourbon Tasting evenings. Some enjoyed a fun, spiritual weekend at The Federation of Jewish Men's Club, Lake Ontario Region retreat in beautiful Prince Edward County.

Our Men's Club once again distributed Yom Hashoah candles and we thank those who donated to the cause.

Our synagogue also hosted the FJMC Man of the Year breakfast. Mazal Tov to our honouree, our President, Michael Kerzner.

This year our club, along with Sisterhood helped finance the refurbishing of the upstairs meat kitchen. We will certainly enjoy

these upgrades as we once again prepare our own food for the upcoming Beer Pairing evening taking place this coming June 15th at 7 p.m. Please reserve your spot and enjoy what is always a fun event.

On behalf of The Martin Family, I wish you all a Chag Sameach and a safe summer.

**Bruce Martin**  
Men's Club President  
[mensclub@beby.org](mailto:mensclub@beby.org)



### Beer Tasting & Food Pairings.

**Wednesday, June 15th at 7 pm**

FJMC Members: \$40 pp. Non-Members: \$55 pp.

Sample an amazing selection of unique craft beers, paired with good friends, and a delicious dinner catered by the Men's Club.

Event payment and reservations by June 10th, 12 noon.

Go to: <http://mensclubbeertasting.eventbrite.ca>.



## The Classic BEBY ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join us at the Brand New

**Lebovic Golf Club**

Registration: 11:30 am

Lunch: 12:00 pm

Shotgun Start: 1:00 pm

**Thursday, August 25th**

Lead Sponsors:

The Joseph Lebovic Charitable Foundation

The Wolf Lebovic Charitable Foundation

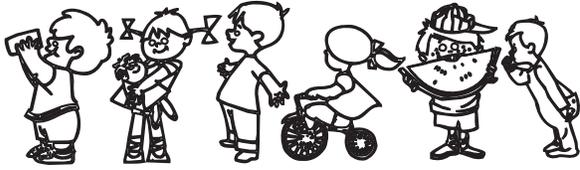
Don't miss this opportunity to be one of the first to play on this exquisite course, designed by Doug Carrick. Tournament includes power golf cart, Kosher BBQ lunch and catered gourmet Kosher dinner, prizes and much more!

This all-inclusive day is yours for \$300 per golfer.

To learn more or reserve your space please speak with Tanya at 416 633 3838 x288 or register on-line via Eventbrite at [bebygolftournament.eventbrite.ca](http://bebygolftournament.eventbrite.ca)



## YOUTH AND YOUNG FAMILIES



For more information on any program, to volunteer or apply for a position, contact the youth department at 416.633.3838 x 229 or [youth@beby.org](mailto:youth@beby.org).

Can you believe it's Shavuot already? Time flew by in the Youth Department – a CCCS Shabbaton, a wonderful family Purim carnival, a middle school sleepover, a delicious chocolate seder, and a lovely outing to the Toronto Zoo, just to name a few! Our Family Shabbat services have been a huge success as well – look for these to return in the coming year, along with more great youth and family programs!

Our Bar/Bat Mitzvah program, aimed at children who are preparing for a Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration (ages 10-12), was very successful this year. New hands-on field trips allowed Bar/Bat Mitzvah program participants to experience parts of Jewish Toronto they might not otherwise be able to, such as a visit to the Holocaust

Education Centre, a mikvah, and a walking tour of old Jewish Toronto in present-day Kensington Market. We look forward to welcoming a new group of Bar/Bat Mitzvah program participants in September! Stay tuned for the exact date, to be announced shortly.

Our Gan Shabbat nursery is open during the summer for children up to Grade 1 (6 years old). Junior Congregation ends on June 25 and will begin again in September.

It's time to start thinking about the High Holidays! We are looking for volunteers and room coordinators to fill positions in our Youth Department High Holiday programming. Please visit the BEBY website, <http://www.beby.org/form/>

[high-holidays-2016-application.html](#) and fill in the form!

As this programming year comes to an end, I would like to take this time to thank Karla Yakobi, Youth Council chair, and the rest of the Youth Council for their guidance and help with all of this year's programs! Yasher Koach!

**Dale Gold**, Youth Director

### Youth Department Activities for **SHABBAT**

#### **GAN SHABBAT**

Structured weekly Shabbat programming for children ages 1 through JK, including Tefillot, songs, games and healthy snack. Our Gan Shabbat runs all year around, including the summer time!

From 10am to the end of services, located in the BEBY Babies Room on the lower level near the parking lot side.

#### **JR. CONGREGATION YOUTH SERVICES**

Our weekly Shabbat program for families, youth and teens. Our service leaders provide both beautiful melodies and insightful commentaries on our Shabbat service. Following services, join us for an interactive discussion based on a wide range of current Jewish topics and/or the weekly parshah. Services begin 10 am in the Chapel.

#### **YOUTH KIDDISH IS BACK!**

Consider sponsoring a youth kiddish in honour of your child's birthday or milestone!

### **SATURDAY MAY 28TH: FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE AND NEW TOT SHABBAT**

Join together for our last Family Shabbat Service and Lunch!

The service is very interactive, and participation is encouraged! Grandparents and grandchildren welcome – we love it when we have multiple generations all together! 10am, Arback Hall (upstairs).

**NEW: TOT SHABBAT!** Happening at the same time as the Family Shabbat service discussion (after the service, before lunch). This program is for children 5 and under to attend with a parent or grandparent. 11am in the Shabbat Nursery for fun, engaging Jewish songs and stories. After Tot Shabbat, join up with the Family Service (around 11:30 am) for a yummy lunch.

**NOTE: PARENTS** who want to go to Tot Shabbat with their toddler do not need to be with their older children in the Family Shabbat discussion in the Arback Hall. We will ALL join together for lunch at the end of both programs!



## SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS



The Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program on a walking tour of Old Jewish Toronto - in front of the Minsker Shul, May 1, 2016.



Young Families - and a day at the Toronto Zoo!  
Sunday, May 15th, 2016.

### Beth Emeth Member Scholarships

Beth Emeth offers many scholarship opportunities to our members.

**APPLY NOW!**

### Karol Family Scholarship for Limudai Torah

Adults and teens of Beth Emeth who have an interest in engaging in advanced Torah scholarship and study are welcome to apply.

Deadline for applications:

April 1st for study in the fall.

September 1st for study in winter/spring.

### Joseph Smith Sports Achievement Award

This scholarship supports our congregants' children and grandchildren in their extra-curricular sporting activities.

Award applications received by

May 13, 2016 will be awarded on June 11th, 2016 at Graduation Shabbat.

### David and Sandra Anisman Israel Fund Scholarships

Available to members studying or attending a program in Israel.

To request an application, please speak with

Tanya in the synagogue office or visit

<http://www.beby.org/scholarships.html>

Applications MUST be submitted before departure.



### HIGH SCHOOLERS – TIKUN LEIL SHAVUOT LATE NIGHT STUDY

Saturday June 11th,  
8:30 pm - 12:30 am

The annual Teen Tikkun Leil Shavuot... with a new spin! Come out for the fun learning with friends, and stay for the yummy nachos, tacos, and quesadillas! As usual, there will be an ice cream sundae bar at midnight. No cost, but registration is mandatory. Register online or email [youth@beby.org](mailto:youth@beby.org).

## GREENING COMMITTEE



Our upcoming spring holiday of Shavuot, also known as the Festival of First Fruits, is a celebration of both receiving the Torah and caring for our natural world by protecting our environment. Frequently, somewhere in the world, we hear about the impact of extreme weather events occurring.

Beth Emeth is a designated Community Hub and collaboratively, the Greening Committee will spearhead the creation of our SWAT team focusing on emergency preparedness that will provide: Shelter • Warmth • Accessibility • Training

If interested in exploring this novice initiative, please join us for an interfaith, inter-community workshop:

### Preparing Your Faith Community for an Extreme Weather Event — Part 3

When: Wednesday June 1st: from 6:30 to 8:30 pm  
Where: Eastminster United Church, 310 Danforth Avenue  
Guest Speaker: Boris Rosolak, Office of Emergency Management, City of Toronto

#### **You will learn:**

1. How to prepare your own household for 72 hours.
2. Best Practices for getting your building and people ready, before an emergency happens
3. Do's and Don'ts of how to care for vulnerable people during an emergency situation.



Kosher refreshments will be available. Don't delay. To reserve your spot, please RSVP to the shul office.

Mel & I wish you and your family a Happy Shavuot and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming program.

**Hilda Swirsky, RN, BScN, MEd**  
Chair, Beth Emeth's Greening Committee

## MUSIC COMMITTEE

As we move from the festivities and Seders that make Pesach a wonderful time on the Jewish calendar the Music Committee would like to review the past few months and look forward to things to come. At Beth Emeth we operate from June to June.



With that in mind, I recall a wonderful concert held here last December as the joint bands and choirs from Tanenbaum CHAT entertained a very large and enthusiastic crowd. We followed that with our annual Shabbat Shira concert held at Adath Israel Synagogue and featured our own Chazzan Edwards and Cantor Stein. The room was filled to bursting and we still added more chairs. The music was wonderful and the crowd enjoyed every moment. The BEBY Players gave us two very entertaining performances of The Wonderful Megillah of Oz this year. This in-house production really showed the quality of talent here at Beth Emeth. The writing, music and acting was all provided by members of our synagogue. We salute their efforts and look forward to what they may have in mind for next year.

So what do we have in mind to keep the energy going? In May, we have a Shabbatini planned for Friday May 27th. Food and drinks will be served in the foyer alongside an accompaniment of live music. The music will carry on as the service begins, in the Lerman Chapel, until the service reaches its true beginning. At that point we will usher in Shabbat.

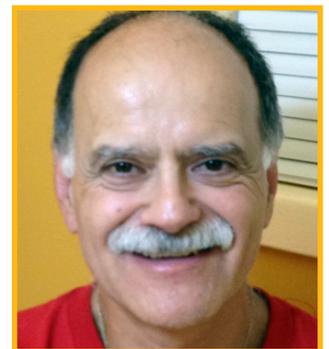
The Shabbatini planned for June 24th is a way of recognizing the donors and contributors to the Samuel Edelstein Children's Garden.

The summer months are usually quiet as we prepare for the High Holy Day season but the Music Committee is always working on new projects and ideas. Keep your eye on the Shabbat Bulletin and other email correspondence to find out what is coming up.

Later in the year we are planning a follow up to last year's wonderful concert with CHAT. Plans are now being developed to present a night of music from several choirs. We will keep you updated as the plans develop.

From Lori and me, we wish you Chag Sameach and all the best for the summer season.

**Perry Davis**  
Co-Chair, Music Committee



As we celebrate Shavuot and commemorate Matan Torah, the giving of the Torah at Sinai, we should keep in mind that Matan Torah occurs every time we study it and learn from it. Our students at the Aleph Bais Yehuda have spent Sundays of the school year doing just that. They have been receiving Torah. They have studied the simplest components of Torah, the black letters. They have studied some pretty sophisticated ideas that are found in the spaces in between the black letters and between the lines. They have investigated the deeper meaning of our letters, like some of our prayers, and our holidays. Something remarkable occurred as each of our students received Torah, they became excited and wanted more. For this remarkable attitude and thirst for knowledge, we have wonderful and caring teachers to thank including Shauna Small, Marilyn Joseph, and Michael Basch. All of these teachers passionately give their students Torah and our students have excitedly demanded more.

If you have a child or a grandchild in grades 1-7 who is not enrolled in day school, be sure to give your child the gift of Torah. It is never too late. Certainly it is not too late to begin enrolling your children and grandchildren for the fall of 2016.

## BEBY ALEPH BAIS YEHUDA Elementary School



Traditional Judaism | Non-traditional Learning

Some of our students are graduating from Aleph Bais. To our graduates Avi Abel, Ethan and Isabelle Adler and Jordan Osak we wish them a Mazal Tov and hope they will continue studying the black letters of the Torah, investigating the white spaces between the letters of the Torah, and make God's Torah their Torah.

Chag Sameach,

**Rabbi Lipson**

Director of Aleph Bais Yehuda School

## ONTARIO VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS

Allen Kichler ~ 15 Years • Michael Kinryst ~ 10 Years  
Joan Segal ~ 10 Years • Hilda Swirsky ~ 20 Years  
Marlene White ~ 25 Years • Gerry Wise ~ 15 Years

The Ontario Volunteer Service Awards recognize individual volunteers for continuous years of commitment and dedicated service to an organization.

On May 11th, at The Grand Luxe, the above named Beth Emeth members were presented with the Ontario Volunteer Service Awards Honours by the Awards Secretariat, Ontario Ministry of Immigration and International Trade.

Adults are recognized for five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30+, 40+, 50+ and 60+ years of continuous service.

*Yasher Koach to all of you  
for a job well done!*



## Writer's Corner

### A Mother's Prayer to Welcome the Shabbat

The Sabbath has arrived in its glorious way.  
May we love each other day by day  
These lights are a symbol of our unity and love  
Perpetuating Judaism is the strength from above  
Dear children you are my gift and my treasure  
So I bless you for a life abundant with pleasure  
May the values of our forefathers be with you  
And may the path of righteousness guide in all you do  
I have faith that you will be good and kind  
With a heart of wisdom and a discerning mind  
May you be blessed with joyful laughter  
Kindness, compassion, now and for ever after.  
Shabbat Shalom.

**Composed and written by Rosalie Shadlyn**

## BEBY'S TIME CAPSULE

As one of the culminating activities of our exciting 60th anniversary at BEBY, we are very proud to present you with the chance to speak directly to the BEBY community of the future. We are putting together a time capsule to be opened in 2056 - 40 years from now, on our 100th anniversary

A time capsule is an historic cache of goods or information, intended as a method of communication with future generations to be opened or accessed at later date.

What would you want BEBY congregants of 2056 to know about life at BEBY in 2016? What is important to us at the shule? What makes us unique? What does being a part of the Beth Emeth community mean to you and your family? We invite you to record, in a one page letter or picture\*, the thoughts you wish to convey



to the BEBY community of the future. Whether you are a young child, a bar or bat mitzvah, a post-secondary student, a young adult, a family or a member of long standing, we want to hear from you! You have a special message to convey to our future shule members based on your personal perspective and unique relationship with Beth Emeth. This is a great opportunity to share your inspirational stories and create a legacy.

How can you contribute to the Time Capsule?

Talk with your family members and bring your message into the shule office before September 1, 2016. We will collect all the messages and put them in a specially designed time capsule box along with memorabilia from our past 60 years. We will have a special ceremony in the fall, during the High Holy Day season of 2016, to bury the time capsule in the Samuel Edelstein Children's Garden. A plaque in the foyer will honour sponsors of this engaging and educational project. Sponsorship opportunities are highlighted below.

We want your help in creating an historical artifact that will capture, unite and ignite our imaginations as we move forward to the 100th anniversary of the shule.

Stay tuned for more information. Questions may be directed to Tanya Werger at the shule office.

**Eleanor Minuk**

Curator, Time Capsule Project

### EVENTS CHECK LIST



#### **Beit Halochem Disabled Veterans Welcome**

Thursday June 2nd

#### **60th Anniversary Gala**

Tuesday, June 7th

#### **Graduation Recognition Shabbat**

Saturday, June 11th

#### **Erev Tikun Leil Shavuot**

Saturday, June 11th

#### **Beer Tasting & Food Pairing**

Wednesday, June 15th

#### **Nash & Drash**

Thursday, June 16th

#### **Septembers of Shiraz Screening**

Thursday, June 16th

#### **Garden Wall Dedication & Shabbatini**

Friday, June 24th

#### **Golf Tournament**

Thursday, August 25th

### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Time Capsule Benefactor — \$1800

Time Capsule Patron — \$360

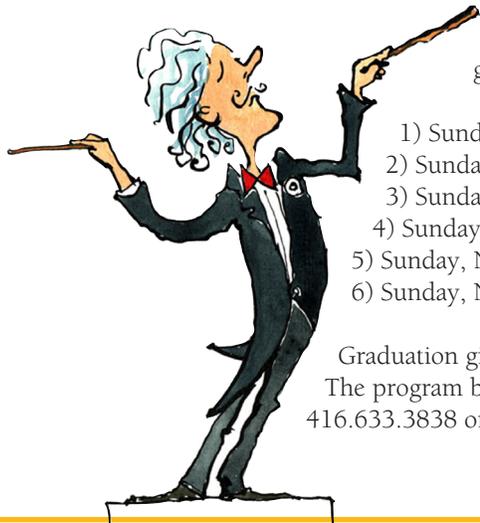
Time Capsule Sponsor — \$180

Your sponsorship will be recognized on a plaque in the foyer as well as on a plaque on the time capsule itself. Tax receipts will be issued to the maximum amount allowable.

\*All entries are subject to editorial review. There is no cost to submitting a letter or picture.

## Seniors Music Program led by Cantor Aaron Bensoussan

Come join an exciting music mentorship program led by Cantor Aaron Bensoussan. Seniors will be taught by Cantor Bensoussan how to play the rhythms of various Jewish melodies and then will help mentor our Kadima Centre participants to play along.



The music program is comprised of 5 music classes and a final performance at the graduation ceremony.

- 1) Sunday, September 11, 2016 – Music Class
- 2) Sunday, September 25, 2016 – Music Class
- 3) Sunday, October 16, 2016 – Music Class
- 4) Sunday, October 30, 2016 – Music Class
- 5) Sunday, November 13, 2016 – Music Class
- 6) Sunday, November 27, 2016 – Graduation Ceremony

Graduation gifts will be given to all Seniors who are mentors to our Kadima Centre participants. The program begins September 2016. Please register today by calling the Beth Emeth office at 416.633.3838 or e-mail [marcelcohen2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:marcelcohen2003@yahoo.ca). See you there!

This project is funded in part  
by the Government of Canada.

Canada

### REMEMBER: WE'VE GOT MAIL!

If you have an email address PLEASE share it with the office. You can subscribe directly using the on-line form from our home page at [www.beby.org](http://www.beby.org). The Keshers can also be found on line... go to our home page and click the Keshet link.



## MORASHA

Morasha is a wide-ranging Jewish adult education program drawing teachers and students from the entire Toronto community. Topics range from texts and arts to sociology and history. We invite you to join us.

From May 18 to June 8, Jerry Fink, former head of Naxos Records will teach a course on Jewish composers of 20th century opera and concerti, Wednesdays 11:15 am to 12:45 pm in the Beth Emeth Board Room (2nd floor).

This summer, Morasha joins with YU Torah MiTzion Beth Mi-drash to present two courses June 22-July 13.

10 am, Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner will offer "Introduction to Kabbalah"

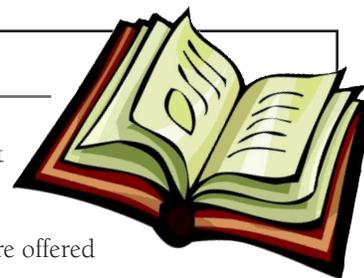
11 am, Rabbi Jonathan Ziring will offer "A History of Conversion."

These classes will meet at Yeshivat Or Haim (159 Almore Avenue, corner of Faywood, a few blocks south of Sheppard Avenue) and are offered free (no tuition).

This is a lovely opportunity for new students to try out these classes and for experienced students to tackle new subjects. For more information and to register, go to [www.torontotorah.com/summer](http://www.torontotorah.com/summer) or write to [info@torontotorah.com](mailto:info@torontotorah.com)

Watch for our Fall class offerings, coming soon! Classes meet from September and June, Wednesday mornings at Beth Emeth, ranging from 3 to 6 weeks in length.

If you have ideas about topics or teachers to suggest, or questions about the regular program, please contact [nancywallack@gmail.com](mailto:nancywallack@gmail.com).

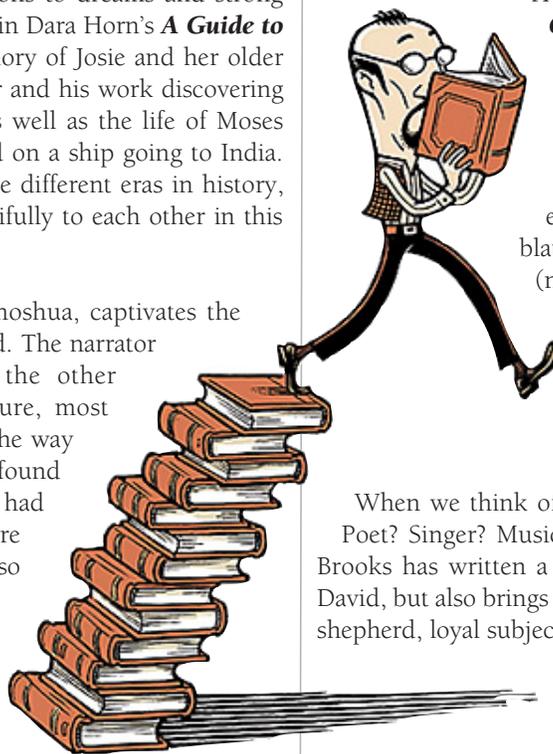


Sibling rivalry, a pit, Egypt and allusions to dreams and strong parallels to the story of Joseph abound in Dara Horn's ***A Guide to the Perplexed***. Intertwined with the story of Josie and her older sister, we read about Solomon Schecter and his work discovering and organizing the Geniza of Cairo as well as the life of Moses Maimonides and his brother, who died on a ship going to India. Although the stories take place in three different eras in history, the common elements link them beautifully to each other in this well-crafted novel.

***A Woman in Jerusalem***, by A. B. Yehoshua, captivates the reader with the many details left unsaid. The narrator remains unnamed, as do most of the other characters. Like all existential literature, most events seem random: there is little in the way of logical cause and effect. A woman is found murdered in Jerusalem. Although she had terminated her employment weeks before her death, she was still receiving wages, so her identity is linked to her employer. The Manager of Human Resources is charged with finding out about her and ultimately accompanying the dead woman's body to Russia. What transpires during the investigation and the trip to Russia are many ironic twists and turns that lead the reader to question the extent of responsibility for one another.

***Second Person Singular***, by Sayed Kashua, is another translation from Hebrew. In it, an Arab husband who lives with his family in Jerusalem, and who also remains nameless, discovers a note in a book he purchases at a second hand store. He recognizes the writing as that of his wife, which sets him on a bizarre mental odyssey as he jumps from conclusion to conclusion about his marriage, his life and his wife. Throughout, we are privy to many thoughts about assimilation, acculturation, and life as seen by many Arabs in Israel today.

***Growing Up Jewish in Canada*** is a chronicle of short vignettes written by Jews who grew up in Canada, mostly from the 1920s onward. The collection is edited by Rosalie Sharp, Irving Abella and Edwin Godman. Many were born in Europe – especially in Poland – though some were born in Winnipeg, Montreal, Toronto and small towns in Southern Ontario. Most grew up in modest homes but many have made fortunes for themselves either by design or by accident. Anti-Semitism in Canada, both from individuals and from the government at the time is a common thread in the chapters. Of particular note is Fred Sharf's detailing of the Christie Pits riots, where media may have attempted to make the event sound as if it were a single event, not, as was the truth, ongoing before and especially after the baseball field riots.



A companion to ***Growing Up Jewish in Canada*** is Gerald Tulchinsky's demographic study of Jews in Canada from the late 1700s to the end of the 20th century. ***Branching Out*** provides a highly detailed analysis of the implications of political sway, primarily in Quebec and Ontario. When viewed with eyes in 2016, it is most interesting to see how blatant anti-Semitism, espoused by political and (non-Jewish) religious leaders was tolerated and accepted by the general public. Chapters about the educational struggle that Jews in Quebec faced and the challenges of sweat shops in Toronto are fascinating.

When we think of King David, what comes to mind? Ruler? Poet? Singer? Musician? Ancestor of the Mashiach? Geraldine Brooks has written a novel that encompasses all these facets of David, but also brings to life other aspects of this remarkable man - shepherd, loyal subject, warrior, husband, father, and more.

Geraldine Brooks, in ***The Secret Chord***, reminds us that this period in Israel's history was exceedingly violent, with constant warfare between Israel and its neighbours. She has filled in the sparse description of David and his associates that we read in Tanach to create fully-realized people who love, kill and do everything in between. What were David's thoughts and feelings when he fought on the side of the Philistines, the mortal enemies of the Israelites? How did Michal, Saul's daughter, feel when she was married off to David, then taken away and given to another man, then taken back years later by David? Brooks allows us to feel the pain of Michal's husband and children who lose their wife and mother due to a royal edict.

What was the relationship between David and Jonathan? Brooks imagines that they were lovers, which was certainly not uncommon among warriors in the ancient world. What was David thinking when he sent Uriah, Bathsheba's husband, to the front to be killed in battle? How could David stand aloof after he learns that his son has raped his daughter? Why didn't David see that another son was conspiring to usurp the kingdom?

Brooks has succeeded in painting a vivid picture of life in Israel of 3,000 years ago - the intrigues, the loves, the violence, and the poetry.

Special thank you to Michael Kinrys for his review of ***The Secret Chord***.

**Eleanor Minuk**  
Library Committee

## OUT OF THE COLD

Our Out-Of-The-Cold Program has just completed another successful year of service. For 8 Mondays, a large group of tireless volunteers provided food, shelter, clothing, and toiletries to members of the community who are homeless or socially isolated. Our program is the huge success that it is because of the large number of volunteers who help out “behind the scenes” as well as on the days the guests come to our Synagogue. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped out this year, far too many to name, for your dedication and support. The guests appreciate all that we do to make their day a little brighter.

Special thanks to our corporate donors for their very generous contributions to this year’s program; Uptown Gourmet, Mazon Canada, Costco (Wilson Ave.), Brands International Corporation Inc., McGregor American Essentials, Just Socks Partner Charity, Scholastic Canada Ltd., Trimfit Co. Ltd, TD Bank, Manulife, Stonemill Bakehouse, Metro #401, Commercial Bakeries Corp., Coppas Fresh Market, Ganz.

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda is looking forward to once again opening its doors to the homeless next January and February. The program provides a warm and welcoming atmosphere, a hot kosher meal, gently used clothing, a warm bed to sleep in, a bagged lunch and toiletries. The program will run for 8 consecutive Monday nights-Tuesday mornings starting January 2017.

This program cannot run without your ongoing generous support. We have seen first-hand how far your donations have gone and the difference you’ve made in people’s lives. We are in need of funding and ask that you please consider this program when making donations commemorating an occasion or when honouring a loved one to ensure our commitment to help those most vulnerable in our community.

We are also looking for donations of new and gently used clothing, specifically large and extra large jackets and winter boots, warm winter apparel, and toiletries. We ask that if you are doing a spring-cleaning of your winter clothing to please consider the Out of the Cold program. Furthermore we are encouraging people to take the opportunity to give back to the community and volunteer for this program.

There are NEW volunteer positions available on the steering committee. Current openings include:

- Donations in kind – volunteers in need of soliciting donations of clothing and food
- Night owl – volunteers for the late evening and overnight shifts
- Evening Social – volunteers needed to coordinate social events and entertainment for guests



- Sunday volunteers – needed to sort clothing and prepare for the guests to arrive on Monday
- And more!

Please reach out if you are interested in joining this important cause.

If you are interested in volunteering for the 2017 program, please send an email at the end of the summer to [bebyoutofthecold@gmail.com](mailto:bebyoutofthecold@gmail.com). To make financial donations, please contact the shul office at 416-633-3838. To donate clothing, please leave with the shul security guard at the Wilmington Street Entrance.

Chag Sameach!

**Out of the Cold Steering Committee**

**UPTOWN**  
GOURMET CATERING

*Remember...we don't just cook  
- we cater!*



We are here to serve you with all your catering needs. Be sure to watch for the 2016 Rosh Hashanah menus coming mid-summer. For direct catering services, please contact Edmund Duarte to discuss all your simcha needs. Call 416.636.9000 or 416.633.3838 x 290 or email: [uptowngourmet@gmail.com](mailto:uptowngourmet@gmail.com)



## FRENCH ONION SOUP PUFFS

- 2 tbsp butter
- 6 cups sliced onions
- 1/2 tsp salt and mustard
- 1 cup broth
- 2 tsp fresh thyme leaves
- 1 lb. frozen pre-rolled puff pastry, thawed
- 1 cup shredded cheese (e.g. Gruyere)
- 1 tbsp chives, chopped



1. In large skillet melt butter, add onions, salt, mustard and thyme and cook until onions are golden. Stir in broth and cook until most of broth is reduced and onions are dark caramel colour.

2. Cut each piece of pastry into 25 - 2 inch squares). Press pieces into sprayed mini muffin pan.

3. Chill in fridge for 15 minutes. Top with 2 tsp onion mixture and sprinkle with cheese.

4. Bake in 425° oven until pastry is puffed and golden, about 8-10 minutes. Top with chives and serve warm.

These can be assembled and frozen in muffin pan for 1 hour. Place in container and freeze.

Return to muffin pan and bake from frozen adding 2 minutes to baking time (12 minutes)

These are really worth the labour.

Enjoy and Chag Sameach.  
**Reni Cuperfain**

## MARTY KESHEN CHESED COMMITTEE



### Volunteer Requirements:

- Visiting Shiva Houses
- Calling Shut Ins
- Calling Shul members in a Seniors Residence or home from a hospital stay
- Picking up the phone and communicating with those members in need

### Qualifications:

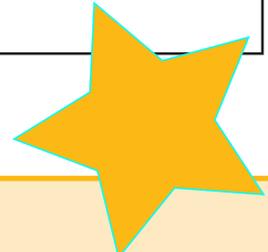
- Warm and caring individuals
- Volunteers who want the opportunity to reach out to our Synagogue Community
- Need to give back to the shul community
- Time available for volunteering
- Good interpersonal skills

If this sounds like you, then we recommend that you get in touch with the Synagogue for further information how you can become involved with the Marty Keshen Chesed Committee.

Wishing all our Beth Emeth members and their families a Healthy and wonderful Shavuot.

To become involved, please call one of our chairs and help us to enhance the lives of our synagogue members in need.

**Rochelle Kerzner or Marlene White**  
[chesed@beby.org](mailto:chesed@beby.org)



## Summer Frumba Classes!

Thursday nights at 7:45 pm

Running from  
June 9, 16, 23, 30  
to July 7, 14, 21, 28

To find out more,  
please email  
[frumbadance@gmail.com](mailto:frumbadance@gmail.com)

## *For all your charitable giving*

Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda offers you several convenient ways to send meaningful gifts, celebrate special occasions and life cycle events, and commemorate people who are important to you and your family.

- Tax deductible receipts will be issued
- Your gift will be acknowledged in future Kesher issues or at sponsored events (at your discretion).

---

### **1. Send a beautifully inscribed card.**

Help support Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda with a card directed to the fund of your choice. Minimum donation \$18.00. Card and postage are included with your donation and are mailed out within 2 business days of your request.

- Aleph Bais Yehuda Elementary School
- Cantor Danto Music Library
- Chesed Fund / Toy Drive
- Chesed Knitters
- Community Assistance
- Samuel Edelstein Children's Garden
- Green Fund
- Holocaust Education Endowment Fund
- Israel Fund
- Joseph Smith Sports Achievement Scholarship
- Joseph & Sylvia Lichtman Twinning Program
- The Kadima Centre (Special Needs)
- Karol Family Scholarship for Limudai Torah
- Kelman Endowment Fund
- Library & Music
- Mitzvah Fund
- Out of the Cold (Homelessness)
- Torah Maintenance  Chumash \$108

### **2. Sponsor a Kiddush\* or Oneg Shabbat:**

- Hashkama Minyan \$72 or 3 for \$180 (NM \$100)
- Daily morning breakfast from \$100 (\$120 NM)
- Congregational Shabbat from \$360 (\$500 NM)

- Seudah Shlisheet from \$180
- Jr. Congregation — Various Amounts
- Friday Night — Various Amounts
- Youth Kiddush — \$36
- Weekly Shabbat Bulletin - \$180

### **3. Sponsor a Continuing Education Program.**

As the donor, your name will, at your discretion, be featured on all promotional literature and publicly acknowledged at the event. You will also be invited to meet and introduce the speaker. We will call you to discuss the specific program you wish to sponsor:

- Class or Study Group from \$54
- Lecture Sponsorship from \$360
- Scholar-in-Residence Weekend from \$3600

### **4. Legacy Planning.**

These gifts may include bequests, life insurance, RRSP's and RRIF's, stocks and securities. Call for more information if you are interested in establishing a legacy gift at Beth Emeth.

### **5. Other Opportunities include:**

Lerman Chapel Dedications, Tessler Lounge, The Samuel Edelstein Children's Garden and The Community Hub. Call the office for more information on these and other donor opportunities.

\* speak to Valerie for meat kiddush pricing.

***Invest in a world of Jewish Experience.  
Make Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda a destination point for your charitable giving.***

## THE KADIMA CENTRE

Hi Everyone!

On Shavuot we recall the Bikkurim (the First Fruits) which were brought to the Beit HaMikdash and the formulaic passage that pilgrims use to recite, "My forefather was a lost Aramean, etc."

This ritual beautifully draws our attention to our difficult beginnings as a people in order to be fully grateful to G-d for what we are and what we have today.

It is with that "attitude of gratitude" at Shavuot time that I would like to take this time to say thank you to Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue for housing and hosting Kadima Centre for so many years.

Today the Kadima Centre program is thriving with a record number of attendees and a variety of high quality social, recreational and educational programming for our participants.

Starting in September, we look forward to a new season of more trips, music, art, friendship, laughter, learning, Torah and celebrating the Chagim together as a family. We are going to do more joint programming with Reena in the coming year and more

collaboration with organizations such as Yachad and the UJA Inclusion Committee.

It is wonderful to see Kadima Centre participants meet new people and learn new things but also it is important to reconnect with our past friends and teachers.

Experience the magic that is Kadima Centre by volunteering this Fall season.

To volunteer, please contact me at: [marcelcohen2003@yahoo.ca](mailto:marcelcohen2003@yahoo.ca) or call the shul office at: 416-633-3838 and leave me a message.

Chag Samayach to all of you and your families.

Sincerely yours,

**Marcel Cohen**

Program Director,  
The Kadima Centre



## THE CHESED KNITTERS

The Chesed Knitters of Beth Emeth continue to knit blankets for children in hospitals and shelters. They are distributed through the Linus Project. Thank you to all the knitters for their time and creative efforts, and to those whose generous donations to the shule help to defray the cost of the yarn we use.

In addition, we also knit toques for soldiers and have sent over 150 to Israel in the past year alone. We gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the assistance of El Al Airlines for taking the hats overseas and especially Dinah Kutner for arranging to have them delivered on our behalf. We received some lovely correspondence lauding our "Hats".

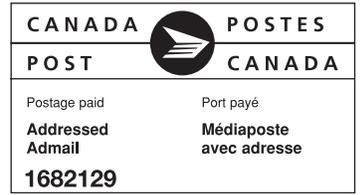
I just wanted to let you know that the latest shipment of hats for IDF soldiers, from the Project Linus knitters, has arrived. They are lovely and are already going out today, they'll be distributed to soldiers in Chevron on Purim.

Thank you as always, and please forward my love and appreciation to all involved at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda,  
**Channah Koppel — [www.HatsforIsraeliSoldiers.blogspot.com](http://www.HatsforIsraeliSoldiers.blogspot.com)**



Senior Rabbi: ..... **Howard B. Morrison**  
Rabbi..... **Leslie Lipson**  
Chazzan ..... **David Edwards**  
Executive Director: ..... **Pearl Grundland**  
Building Manager: ..... **Maxim Varshavsky**  
Youth Director: ..... **Dale Gold**

President: ..... **Michael S. Kerzner**  
Chairman of the Board: ..... **Michael Sugarman**  
Managing Editor: ..... **Connie Kachuck**  
Copy Editor: ..... **Barbara Lazar**  
Keshet Coordinator: ..... **Freda Marcovitch**  
Design & Layout: ..... **Andrea Levine**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY א	MONDAY ב	TUESDAY ג	WEDNESDAY ד	THURSDAY ה	FRIDAY ו	SATURDAY שבת
<b>JUNE</b>						
June 12 6 Sivan <b>Shavuot Day 1</b> Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 13 7 Sivan <b>Shavuot Day 2</b> <b>Yizkor</b> Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 14 8 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 15 9 Sivan <b>Beer Tasting &amp; Food Pairing</b> Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 16 10 Sivan <b>Nash &amp; Drash</b> <b>Septembers of Shiraz Screening</b> Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 17 11 Sivan Mincha: 7:00 pm	June 18 12 Sivan Mincha: 8:35 pm
June 19 13 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 20 14 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 21 15 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 22 16 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 23 17 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 24 18 Sivan <b>Garden Wall Dedication</b> Mincha: 7:00 pm	June 25 19 Sivan Mincha: 8:35 pm
					<b>JULY</b>	
June 26 20 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 27 21 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 28 22 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 29 23 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	June 30 24 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	July 1 25 Sivan <b>Canada Day</b> Mincha: 7:00 pm	July 2 26 Sivan Mincha: 8:35 pm
July 3 27 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	July 4 28 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	July 5 29 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	July 6 30 Sivan Mincha: 8:45 pm	July 7 1 Tammuz Mincha: 8:45 pm	July 8 2 Tammuz Mincha: 7:00 pm	July 9 3 Tammuz Mincha: 8:30 pm
July 10 4 Tammuz Mincha: 8:40 pm	July 11 5 Tammuz Mincha: 8:40 pm	July 12 6 Tammuz Mincha: 8:40 pm	July 13 7 Tammuz Mincha: 8:40 pm	July 14 8 Tammuz Mincha: 8:40 pm	July 15 9 Tammuz Mincha: 7:00 pm	July 16 10 Tammuz Mincha: 8:30 pm
July 17 11 Tammuz Mincha: 8:30 pm	July 18 12 Tammuz Mincha: 8:30 pm	July 19 13 Tammuz Mincha: 8:30 pm	July 20 14 Tammuz Mincha: 8:30 pm	July 21 15 Tammuz Mincha: 8:30 pm	July 22 16 Tammuz Mincha: 7:00 pm	July 23 17 Tammuz Mincha: 8:20 pm

### MORNING SERVICES:

**Shabbat** ~7:30 and 8:45 am **Sunday & Secular Holidays** ~ 8:00 am **Monday to Friday** ~ 7:15 and 8:15 am  
**Rosh Chodesh Services ~ Weekdays:** 15 minutes earlier at 1st Minyan