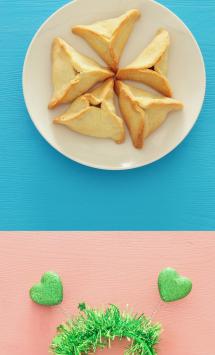




Your Connection to the World of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda







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### PURIM SERVICES SCHEDULE

### **FAST OF ESTHER & EREV PURIM**

### Wednesday, March 16

Shacharit - 7:30 AM (In person/Livestream)

 Mincha/Maariv/Megillah Readng - 7:00 PM (In person/Livestream)



### **PURIM DAY**

### Thursday, March 17

- Shacharit and Megillah 7:00 AM (In person/Livestream)
- Mincha/Maariv 7:00 PM (Zoom/Facebook live)

### THE FOUR MITZVOT OF PURIM

- 1) The Reading of Megillat Esther Every word of the Megillah must be read and heard by those present. The commandment applies equally to men and women because the "entire" people were under the threat of annihilation and thus deserve to celebrate the victory. Children, too, are strongly encouraged to listen to the entire Megillah reading.
- 2) Mishloach Manot The exchanging of gifts of food is based on chapter 9:19: "...a holiday and an occasion for sending gifts to one another." This obligation displays communal solidarity and creates a bond of friendship between fellow Jews.
- 3) Matanot Le'evyonim The obligation of gifts to the poor on Purim is based on chapter 9:22: "...an occasion for sending gifts to one another and presents to the poor." According to Jewish law, it is necessary to give these gifts to at least two people.
- 4) Seudat Purim The festive meal is also based on 9:22: "The same days on which the Jews enjoyed relief from their foes and the same month which had been transformed for them from one of grief and mourning to one of festive joy, they were to observe them as days of feasting and merrymaking..." Inviting the less fortunate to one's festive meal is of primary importance.



# JOIN US!

7:00 PM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16 7:00 AM THURSDAY, MARCH 17





### **RABBI'S COLUMN**

## PURIM, PASSOVER, COLLEYVILLE TEXAS, BETH EMETH, AND THE WORLD

Dear Congregational family,



As we approach the Festivals of Purim and Passover, the two holidays share much in common.

In both, there is a heinous hater of Israel who demands the annihilation of the Jewish people, Haman and Pharaoh.

In both, there is the celebration of a miraculous deliverance.

In both, a renewal of Jewish pride and commitment ensue. Purim brings to us the Mitzvot of Megillah, Mishloach Manot, Matanot L'Evyonim (gifts to the poor), and Mishteh (a festive party). Pesach brings to us the Seder, the laws of Matza and Chametz. Both holidays bring dimensions of joy to davening, and so much more.

I find it impossible to prepare for Purim and Pesach this year without thinking about the near tragedy and eventual miraculous deliverance which took place in Colleyville, Texas on Saturday, Shabbat and after Shabbat, this past January 15.

On Shabbat Shira, the Sabbath when Jews around the world read about the Exodus from Egypt and the Song of the Sea, a terrorist who was sympathetic to Al-Qaeda entered Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas and took hostage three congregants and their rabbi, Charlie Cytron-Walker. While one hostage was released mid-day, the entire ordeal last over eleven hours. Ultimately and heroically, the rabbi threw a chair at the terrorist and freed himself and the two remaining hostages. Gratitude goes to trained rescue workers and others who negotiated with the terrorist and who finally took him down.

Similar to the propaganda of Haman and Pharaoh, the terrorist claimed that Jews ran the world and spread other false propaganda. In the aftermath of the miraculous deliverance, all Jews came together as one person, which often happens at a moment of crisis. Jewish organizations representing various religious streams of Judaism reached out authentically to Rabbi Cytron-Walker and his synagogue with prayer, concern, and empathy.

In our tradition, commentaries describing the exodus of the twelve tribes from the Red Sea and their physical positioning at Mount Sinai portray them as completely united - one people.

On Saturday night, Motzaei Shabbat January 15, different Jewish values came to my mind.

Each morning, we praise God who is "Matir Asurim - releases the hostages." A particular Mitzvah which transcends most other competing values is called "Pidyon Shvuyim - the release of captives."

In the Ten Commandments, which we recited the Shabbat following the episode of Colleyville, the Mitzvah of "Lo Tignov - Thou shalt not steal" is understood in that particular context as a prohibition against stealing people, i.e. a ban on kidnapping.

Purim and Passover remind us of horrific circumstances, miraculous deliverance, faith, and commitment. So too do the events associated with Colleyville Texas, Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker, Congregation Beth Israel, and the entire Jewish world.

As we approach Spring's sacred seasons, may we reflect on the lessons of the upcoming holidays and the most recent contemporary events.

I wish everyone a healthy, joyous, and meaningful Purim/Passover season.

Chag Sameach, Rabbi Howard Morrison rabbi@beby.org

### **PASSOVER WORKSHOP**

with Rabbi Howard Morrison



### **SUNDAY, APRIL 10 | 10:00 AM | ZOOM**

An overview of the seder structure; tips for great seder leading; preparing the home; beautiful seder melodies will be taught.

Rabbi
Morrison's
study class
can be found
Tuesdays and
Thursdays on
Facebook Live
and Zoom at
12PM



Beth Emeth prays for and cares for the Jewish communities and the entire peoplehood of Ukraine:

Check out a Prayer for the welfare of Ukraine in Rabbi Morrison's blogs February 24.

Tzedaka - charitable giving can be made through many sources, including:

- UJA-Federation www.jewishtoronto.com/crisis-in-ukraine
- JIAS (Jewish Immigration Aid Services) www.jiastoronto.org/ukrainecrisis-update/
- Masorti www.mercaz.ca

Raffi Howard Morrison

### **PRESIDENT**

Dear BEBY congregants,

I am honoured to once again serve as President of Beth Emeth. It has been many years since I last served and so much has changed in our Beth Emeth. I will do my best in this article to update you as to our status as a leading conservative synagogue.

We are still in the midst of the pandemic, although, it appears that we may be moving closer to normal. Over the past 2 years a very dedicated group of lay leaders, clergy and volunteers have met on a regular basis to review government mandates, how they apply to our synagogue and what we can change. Currently, mid – February as I write this article, we are able to be more open. In order to safeguard our membership, we still require proof of vaccine and mask wearing while in the building. We recently had two B'nai Mitzvahs, one with a large luncheon following. There are weddings on the horizon, and I am encouraged to see normalcy returning. We have daily morning minyanim, usually with a minyan, followed by coffee and a snack. On Shabbat we're starting to have a sit-down Kiddush after services when there is a sponsor. Our priority is the safety of our members. We encourage you to come back to shul, we miss you!

Our cantor search committee has been hard at work, trying to find the right individual for us. There have been many resumes received. The committee will, shortly, begin to interview candidates. Our hope is to have a new cantor in place during the summer months. This will allow all of us to hear him and get to meet him and of course, for him to meet us and prepare for the high holy days. So again, we are hoping for your return to the building. Please watch the website and check your email; we will keep you all informed on the progress being made.

Many of you are interested to know the status of our discussions with Adath Israel Synagogue. I know when I became president, it was at the top of my list! As many of us are aware, shul attendance and membership over the past number of years have been in decline. I believe that the pandemic has increased these concerns exponentially. Several local shuls have been in discussion about the future and where we will be 10 years from now. At this stage, there have been very preliminary talks with Adath. There have been some financial forecasts and other communications. We have been running a number of programs jointly with Adath over the past few months- I encourage you to check them out. Additionally, we are seeking to hire a Youth Director, whose role would be shared between the two congregations. We have a very good relationship with the leaders of Adath. I pledge to keep the membership informed.

I'm sure you share the belief that our children are the future of our shul. In that regard, there are on-going discussions with other shuls and UJA Federation investigating the development of a new concept for supplementary Hebrew education. We will keep you updated on the progress. Our NextGen group continues to flourish, but we need more families to help it grow

In the spring of 2021 the Board decided that it was time to create an updated strategic plan to address our current challenges and help determine a path forward. A Strategic Planning Committee was struck and then we undertook an RFP process.

The committee selected the firm SuccessMap, led by husband and wife team Frank and Jennifer Viti. They began their process late in the fall with a series of in-depth interviews with Board members, professional staff and clergy. Shortly, you will hear from them as they expand their research by reaching out to the membership at large. I encourage you to participate when asked and ensure that your voice is heard.

Purim will be with us very soon; we are hoping to have many of you with us in the building for the Megillah reading. On March 13, we will be hosting an in-person Purim Family Funday and mini-Megillah reading. Bring your family and friends.

We continue to offer a vast variety of programs on a daily, weekly basis. Check our website for updates.

There was a group started during the pandemic among many of the conservative shuls in Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, London and Montreal. We meet on a biweekly basis to discuss current issues that we all are encountering.

I will keep you all abreast of any pertinent information. I look forward to greeting you in shul very soon.

Wishing all of you Chag Sameach Purim & Pesach, Stephen Werger President president@beby.org





### CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

At the time of writing my "Boardroom Banter" article for the upcoming Purim/Pesach Kesher, most COVID restrictions have been lifted. The synagogue can open at full capacity, an indoor Purim Carnival is being planned and hopefully we will all be able to celebrate Passover with our families together this year.

Throughout the last two years I have been inspired by our Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue (BEBY) community. Throughout the challenges our synagogue has demonstrated its community focus. The synagogue held vaccine clinics; supported the Out of the Cold program; conducted services via technology and in person (when possible); delivered an abundance of programs; and provided opportunities for young families to get together safely for Chanukah celebrations and outdoor activities.

I continue to be impressed and thankful for the hard work and leadership displayed by clergy; synagogue staff; and the dedicated synagogue members who volunteer to serve on Committees and the Board of Directors (the Board).

How fitting is it that Purim and Passover are such great examples of leadership. Queen Esther demonstrates how one person standing up made a difference to the survival of the Jewish people in Persia. Moses leads the Jewish people out of Egypt and knows he needs to transition his leadership. He chooses Joshua to be his successor and to lead the Jewish people to the Promised Land.

Just as Moses needed to transition his leadership, organizations also need to have succession plans. BEBY is a multi-generational synagogue. Currently, the Board is conducting its strategic planning exercise to ensure that BEBY remains a viable synagogue not just for this generation but for the generations to follow. One critical success factor for any religious institution is creating the environment that attracts young families; teens; and young adults - the next generation.

Another important critical success factor is the succession planning for the future lay leadership of the synagogue. Our synagogue members have a diverse variety of skills, talents and experience that would be an asset to the synagogue to ensure the development and continuation of engaging programs for all, but especially our next generation. Many of our current adult members, some with young families, honed their leadership skills by getting involved with BEBY youth programs. They were able to meet other young people from across North America and have forged lifelong friendships.

I encourage you to check out our programs and committees and reach out and let us know what type of activities and programs are important to you. Become involved in a committee; chair a committee; join the BEBY Board. Get involved, it truly is a rewarding experience. Let's ensure we continue to be a multigenerational synagogue. We need your involvement today to develop the leaders of tomorrow.

On behalf of my husband Brian and my family I would like to wish everyone Chaq Sameach.

Miriam Zielger-Goldberg Chairman of the Board Vice President, GAASC

Miriam Ziegler-Goldberg

### RITUAL AND BEBY NEXTGen

### **RECOGNIZING THE KING**

Every year, in advance of Purim, I take out the shul's Megillat Esther – the scroll of Esther, handwritten using a quill and ink. There are some nuances about the way a scribe writes a megillah that can be missed if we are not used to seeing the scroll. One of those special details is that the majority of modern Megillot Esther – including the ones we have at Beth Emeth - are called "Melech Megillot". Melech, means king, and the word appears frequently in the megillah, that this style of megillah features the word "Melech" as the first word at that top of every column, (except the first and last 3).

The words "Megillat Esther", meaning "the scroll of Esther" can also be translated as "the revealing of the hidden". Just as the Purim story is full of examples of hidden things becoming revealed, such as Haman's plot against the Jews and Esther's Jewishness, we can also understand that there are hidden reasons for everything happening with the Megillah – including the prominence of the word "Melech".

A Midrash (Esther Rabbi 3:10) teaches that whenever the Megillah uses the phrase "Melech Achashverosh", the Megillah is referencing the character in the story. However, when the Megillah uses the phrase "Melech", not connected to any specific name, the word carries a dual reference: on the one hand it still refers to the king in the story AND simultaneously, we can recognize in the text that there is also a hint toward the ultimate King, King of kings – God.

This is an important point for us to always remember: whatever is happening in our lives and whatever stories we are paying attention to, whether they be personal, communal, or global, there will always be certain characters who we perceive as the "king Acheshverosh" – the one who is in charge. However, the above Midrash reminds us that we should always remember that the first word of the column – the source of everything that is transpiring is really HaShem, hidden in the experience of our lives and it is our job to find that hidden holiness – the reason that every moment is a worthwhile learning experience.

God's name isn't mentioned in the Megillah even a single time, but we recognize that HaShem is present throughout the story.

While the global story for the last two years has been about the Covid pandemic, as a community, we have risen to the challenge of finding meaning, and have found many opportunities for learning and growing. Now, as we open up further, both for ritual and programming matters, let's all come back together and celebrate Purim with the immense joy of knowing that HaShem is supporting us through and will redeem us from all the challenges we face.

One month after Purim, we'll have the opportunity again to emerge redeemed, but this time during Pesach. May the redemptions and opportunities for growth and unity only become more evident in our lives, as individuals and as Jews, as we come together and celebrate the Purim and Pesach seasons.

Chag Purim Kasher v'Samei'ach and Chag Pesach Samei'ach v'Kasher! Rabbi David Grundland rabbidavid@beby.org

Raffi David Grundland

# SUNDAY FUNDAY!





























For 6 Sundays this winter we held a joint morning skate with Adath Israel at Irv Chapley rink.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about

- Margaret J. Wheatley

There has been much written and shared about our experiences over the past two years as we grappled with the pandemic: what has been lost, what has been gained and what has changed.

I believe we have developed a new awareness- or perhaps just a much needed reminder- of the value of community. Many members have shared that they miss being in shul, whether for services, programs or events.

Now that we are having daily morning minyanim, the comment I hear most often is "we need to get more people in." I couldn't agree more.

How we do that is another story.

Our community, like so many others, is at a critical juncture. How we move forward will largely depend on our members and their willingness to step up...and show up. Now is the time for a grass roots movement!

We are open for morning services every day, with coffee afterwards. When we have a sponsor, we are offering breakfast. Our Cantor Search Committee is working hard to find a new cantor to lead services. Programs, lifecycle and educational events are being planned in the building throughout the spring for the first time in two years. Why not put on something with a waistband (or not) and join us?

Just as we are obligated to tell the Passover story as if we ourselves were slaves in Egypt, it is up to each of us to become part of the solution. Rather than assuming that someone else will show up, someone else will sponsor...why not **be** that someone?

Being part of a community can provide comfort and company, pleasure and a sense of purpose. It is also a responsibility. That responsibility is why we make shiva calls, why we phone when we miss seeing someone in shul, why we come for services so others can say kaddish and so much more.

As we make our own "exodus" out of Covid, we need to decide what matters to us, what we care about and what we're willing to step up for.

I hope to see you in shul, soon...and often. Wishing you and yours a healthy and happy Purim and Pesach,

Candace Vogel Executive Director candace@beby.org



### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

# DID YOU KNOW?

A little-known benefit of membership at Beth Emeth is the variety of scholarships available to children of members in good standing. These scholarships are available to assist in funding a variety of programs and educational opportunities. You are encouraged to explore.

Available scholarships fall into four categories:



### THE RABBI KELMAN FUND

Offers scholarships for children attending approved Jewish overnight camps such as Camp Ramah, Camp Solelim, etc. Research shows definitively that attendance at Jewish overnight camp is a key factor in fostering Jewish identity among children.



### THE ANISMAN ISRAEL FUND

Provides scholarships for those studying at recognized academic institutions or other immersive programs in Israel, such as USY Pilgrimage. These experiences often form the basis of a lifelong love of and commitment to Israel.



### JOSEPH SMITH SPORTS ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Joseph Smith Sports Achievement Scholarship provides financial assistance to the younger members of our congregation who either wish to begin or continue their involvement in sports. The scholarship was established in memory of Joseph Smith z"l, an avid participant, fan and supporter of sports and athletics.



### KAROL FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FOR LIMUDAI TORAH

The Karol Family Scholarship Fund for Limudai Torah was established by the Karol Family in honour of Oren Shmuel Karol. This scholarship assists in funding students (or adults) wishing to pursue their goals and aspirations for higher learning in advanced Torah Study.



Applications can be found on our website at www.beby.org/scholarships

Beth Emeth is proud to be able to support our members of all ages through our various scholarship funds. Our four scholarship funds last year supported over 25 youth and young adults in their various endeavors from studying Limudai Torah, to Jewish summer camps, to Israel gap year programs, to high level sporting activities.

Over the years, our four scholarship funds—the Karol Family Scholarship for Limudai Torah, the Joseph Smith Sports Achievement Award, the Rabbi Kelman Endowment Fund and the David and Sandra Anisman Israel Fund—have assisted 100s of Beth Emeth members. We have supported future Rabbis, community leaders, teachers and more.

We continue to encourage all members to apply to our scholarship funds. Full descriptions of the funds and applications are available online at beby.org/scholarships

Please remember, the sustainability of these funds is dependent on your support. When contributing to the Synagogue, please consider donating to one of these funds to allow the Synagogue to award scholarships to more of our deserving members.

# KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR INBOX.

Tax receipts were sent out by email.

If we do not have your email address, you will receive them by mail.





PLEASE NOTE that if you made a donation to our Terumah campaign through the Raise Days online platform you would have received a tax receipt shortly afterwards from Raise Days/Beth Emeth.

Your donation <u>IS</u> tax-deductible but could not be claimed twice. If your receipt was issued through Raise Days/Beth Emeth it would be noted in your Beth Emeth account as not tax-deductible because a receipt was previously issued.

### **NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS**



Mazel Tov on the birth of Bella Emery, daughter of Remi & Jayme Kruger, granddaughter of Susan & Loren Kruger and Barbara & Ricky Kirshenblatt, great-granddaughter of Susan & Sam Kruger, Sarah & Harry ז"ל Falkovic, Molly & Gordon ז"ל Quitt, and Esther ז"ל & Lou ז"ל Kirshenblatt. Sister to Chase and Cole Kruger.

Mazel Tov to Hayley and Jonathan Shelson on the birth of their daughter Charli Elle. Granddaughter to Sharon and Lloyd Eidelman, and Rosie and Ken Shelson. Great-granddaughter to Norma Orlan.

Mazel Tov on the birth of Paul Forrest, son of Tanya Reznick & Glenn Welt, grandson of Louie & Rosalind Reznick, and David & Andrea Welt and great-grandson of the late Joe and Paula Krakowsky, the late Saul and Tania Reznick, the late Benjamin and Florence Welt and the late Marvin and Pearl Brodie.

Mazel Tov to Gerry & Natalie Antman on the birth of their son. Grandson of Brian & Rosalie Antman and Ellen Rivers-Osterer and Howard Osterer ז"ל. Great-grandson of Miriam Antman. Lovingly remembered at this time are Anne ז"ל & Jack ז"ל Laist.



Mazel Tov to Judah Davidson, son of Erin Norris & Larry Davidson. Grandson of Heather & Howard Davidson and Shelley Norris & Larry Crystal and the late Stephen Norris .

Mazel Tov to Harris Jake Meirovitz, son of Daniel & Heidi Meirovitz, brother to Sadie Libah Meirovitz. Grandson of Dorit & Robert Yufe and Genevieve & Sheldon Lipkus. Great-grandson of Lorna Yufe.

Mazel Tov to Cole Goodman, son of Sam & Ilana Goodman. Grandson of Heather & Jerry Saltsman, Gail & Gary Goodman, Myrna & Lenny ז"ל Berger.



Mazel Tov to Lisa and Peter Becker on the engagement of their son Daniel, to Jesse Schulman, daughter of Maxine and Josh Schulman. Brother of Ben Becker ז"ל. Grandson of Greta and Alan ז"ל Bluestone and Edith ז"ל and Bela ז"ל Becker; granddaughter of Henna and Irving ז"ל Pomeranz and Jo-Anne Nelson.

Mazel Tov to Debby & Len Silverberg on the engagement of their daughter Hayley, to Russell, son of Carol & Stephen Handelman. Granddaughter of Miriam ז״ל & Harold ז״ל Rubinstein and Dora & 5elig ז״ל Silverberg; grandson of Lionel & Ruth Fisch and Anne & Max ז״ל Handelman. Excited siblings Melyssa, Shayna, Zach, Robbie, Jessica, Bari, Geoffrey & Max.

Mazel Tov to Rosalie Shadlyn on the engagement of her grandson, Shawn Handelsman, son of Suni & Jeffrey Handelsman, to Amanda Friedman, daughter of Caryn & Allan Friedman. Lovingly remembered at this time is Harry Shadlyn ז״ל.

Mazel Tov to Andrea and Leonard Lipstein and Charlie Blumenfeld and Betty Policelli on the engagement of their daughter Stephanie Blumenfeld, to Cale Grossman, son of Pamela Grossman and Larry and Sylvia Grossman. Granddaughter of Sam and Emma ז״ל Shapiro and Claire and Herman ד״ל Blumenfeld.

Mazel Tov to Elliot & Evy Sugar on the engagement of their daughter, Carly to Jonathan Levy, son of Maurice Levy and Brigitte Levy ז"ל. Granddaughter of Joe Steinberg and Anne Steinberg and Jean Sugar and Sydney Sugar ז"ל.

Mazel Tov to Bella Steinberg & Elliot Sinukoff on the engagement of their son Jason to Yaelle Lechem, daughter of Ruthie Ekstein and Alan Lechem. Grandson of Joe Steinberg and Anne Steinberg ז״ל, Evelyn Sinukoff and Marvin Sinukoff ז״ל, and Joyce Bick and Harry Bick ז״ל, and granddaughter of Anita Ekstein and Frank Ekstein z"l and Brian Lechem and Belle Lechem z"l.



Mazel tov to Sharon & Lloyd Eidelman on the marriage of their daughter Carly to Jonathan Weinstein, son of Sharon & Lawrence Weinstein, of Ottawa.



Mazel Tov to Kenny & Esther Berger (Golinsky) on their anniversary. With much love from their family.

Mazel Tov to Julia Golinsky on recently celebrating her 94th birthday. With much love from her family.

Mazel Tov to Lynn Posluns, wife of Ken Crystal, daughter of Joyce Posluns and Wilfred ז"ל Posluns, daughter-in-law of Shirley Crystal and Sam Crystal ז"ל whose family is proud to announce her appointment as a member of the order of Canada for her work with women's brain issues.

### **BEREAVEMENTS**

Esther Plafker ז״ל, sister of Allen Koffman

Tom Ungar ז״ל, son of Eva Ungar

Helen Kwart ז"ל

Sara Lipnowski ז״ל, mother of Lisa Fruitman

Rose Steuerman ז"ל

Aaron Howard ז"ל brother of Beatrice Weiss

Florence Saraf 7"7 sister of Violet Esser and Miriam Abel

Ahuva Malamet ז"ל mother of Dan Malamet

Ellen Ann Keshen-Schachter ז"ל daughter of Rivi Keshen

Bernice Stein ז"ל wife of Harry Stein, mother of Lorne Stein, Sharyn Hurwitz and Michael Stein

Michael Sherman זייל brother of Charna Nightingale

lan Greenberg ז״ל brother of Sidney Greenberg

Alan Schwartz ז"ל , husband of Anna Schwartz

ז"ל Gloria Rumm

Sidney Traves ז״ל father of Robert Traves

Cary Wolgelerenter ז"ל, father of Daniel Wolgelerenter

Alexandre Kapeluto ז״ל, brother of Violette Greenspan and Sara Garnick

Ruthie Nisker ז"ל, sister of Suzan Mandell

Art Izenberg ז״ל , husband of Lorraine Izenberg, father of Lisa Ramelson, brother of Lillian Barmack

Lorraine Himmel ז״ל, wife of Aubie Himmel

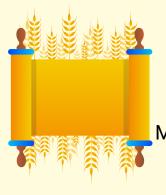
May their memories be a blessing

### **SHAVUOT KESHER**

We'd love to share your news!

If any members would like to share recent births, Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, engagements, weddings, nachas announcements -

please email Sari at sari@beby.org by Tuesday, May 17.



### **CHANUKAH TOY DRIVE**

The Kerzner Family is so grateful for all of your support in making this past year's annual Chanukah Toy Drive a GREAT success! Our Beth Emeth community raised an impressive total, the largest amount ever raised. Funds were used to purchase toys for Chai Lifeline Canada, which were distributed to children and teens in need.

We would like to thank all of you, our Beth Emeth members, clergy, office staff along with our partners at Chai Lifeline Canada, for helping to make our yearly Chanukah Toy Drive successful once again. The Toy Drive certainly wouldn't be successful for all these years without all your support!

We look forward to this year's Chanukah Toy Drive in the winter of 2022, which will be our 18th (Chai) year! Once again, we only will be accepting online donations and not collecting toys in the bin at shul. Please remember that you can donate to the Norton Lorne & Barbara Frances Grimson Chanukkah Toy Drive fund at Beth Emeth, all year around.

Let's make this year's 18th Annual Chanukkah Toy Drive online donations surpass this year's impressive total.

Wishing you and your families a festive Chag Purim sameach and a Chag Pesach sameach!!!

Michael, Rochelle, Seth, Aaron, and Shaina Kerzner



### **ALEPH BEIT CHADASH SCHOOL**



As we begin a new calendar year, Aleph Beit Chadash is continuing to blossom and explore our Jewish roots. We have had new students joining our program to engage in Jewish learning. Our small school continues to challenge them with critical thought and dynamic learning opportunities.

We have examined the miracles of Chanukah, including the small Maccabee army's conquest over the Greek army and of course the relevance of the oil. As students work on their Hebrew literacy every week, our Bar Mitzvah students have been learning the prayer for reading the Torah and also created their own yad to use on their "special day." As students continue to learn about our great history, we will continue to examine Israel in modern times as well and take pride in Eretz Israel. Purim is a time to look at heroes in our history and good over evil. We strive to make these topics relevant by connecting the topics to current affairs. Unfortunately, it is a very easy connection to make in our current state of affairs in Europe.

As acts of anti-Semitism have increased in frequency throughout our city and world, students have had an opportunity to debrief these incidents and learn their history so that they can proudly embrace their Jewish roots. We strive to engage students in critical discussions so that they can begin to make sense of the events in the media. Pesach will open up discussions around the Exodus, which we will connect to more modern day waves of "aliyot" to Israel from Sudan, France and the Ukraine.

Although we don't have Shinshinim in our classes this year, we have been able to connect to students in Israel through Zoom. Our students thoroughly enjoyed spending a morning with children their ages in Haifa to learn about life in Israel.

Candace Vogel and Eleanor Minuk continue to participate with a number of other Conservative synagogues in discussions about supplementary Hebrew School. Led by Coriphery Holistic Consulting Solutions, the group was taken through a process called Design Thinking, which trained participants to better understand the responses of those adults and children who were interviewed about their views on what Hebrew school should include, which parts they valued and how to best meet the needs of modern families. A presentation was made to the BEBY Board of Directors in February to bring them up to speed on the latest developments with the project. In several months, a presentation will be made to the Board on the proposed model. At that time, a decision will be made about whether we will participate in the revisioned framework. We are very proud of our Aleph Beit Chadash and the work that has been done in recent years to ensure that we have a robust, experiential curriculum that helps students continue to develop their critical thinking skills at the same time as we are supporting all children, both those with special needs and those who are fully mainstreamed. However, our numbers remain much smaller than we would prefer, and we are excited to be able to consider a format that could engage larger numbers of students and their families. Please stay tuned for more details as the spring unfolds.

Shauna Small
School Director schooldirector@beby.org











Registration for next
year will be coming out
this Spring. Don't forget
to tell friends and family
to register early for an
"early bird discount."

### **BEBY BOOMERS**

We hope you have all been doing well over the winter months. We are fortunate that despite the harsh winter weather, Zoom offers us the opportunity to attend and participate in a wide variety of programs organized by the different Shul committees. On November 23rd, the BEBY Boomer's Committee featured Rabbi Jennifer Gorman who spoke on today's Masorti Movement in Israel.

This was followed in early December by a virtual tour of the Bata Museum.

We held two more programs in February. On Feb.13th, we welcomed Dr. Jeremy Gilbert as our guest speaker. Dr. Gilbert gave an excellent talk on Type 2 Diabetes and on Feb.26th, the Boomers, along with the Continuing Education Committee, presented live theatre from Theatre Ariel, Pennsylvania's Jewish Theatre. The play - "The Wanderers" was about human nature and marriage and was truly excellent! We look forward to scheduling more programs in the coming months.

On behalf of the BEBY Boomer Committee, we extend our best wishes to you and your families for a happy Purim and a Chag Pesach Sameach.

REBY BOOMERS

Marlene White and Ruth Gilbert Co-Chairs, BEBY Boomers Committee



# CHESED KNITTERS

A group of our Chesed Knitters is back in the building on Monday mornings and knitting away the last of the winter days. We meet in the Tessler Lounge and socially distance ourselves to stay safe.

Barb Weisfeld from the Krinkle Project picked up 5 huge bags of blankets to distribute to mothers and children in emergency shelters across the city. As well, we sent a box of hats, head bands and neck warmers up to the Mishkeegogamang Reserve in Northern Ontario. We are collecting the knitted hats for soldiers and preparing to send another shipment to Israel shortly. All in all, our group has remained productive and creative over these past number of months and everyone agrees that doing something for someone else is a good way to maintain a positive state of mind during these sometimes difficult days.

Several of our knitters are, sadly, no longer able to knit as they did in the past, and we wish each and every one a *refuah shlema*, a full and speedy recovery. We miss you!

If you would like to join our group, we would be happy to have you with us. We meet every Monday morning at 10AM. Donations are gratefully accepted and help us purchase our supplies.



On behalf of the Chesed Knitters, I want to wish everyone a Happy Purim and a *Chag kasher* vesameach Pesach.

**Eleanor Minuk** 

This article is dedicated to Lorraine Himmel ז"ל, a beautiful lady and a wonderful crocheter, who will be missed.



### **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Welcome to Purim and the feeling of spring in the air. Not everything around us feels as if the world is opening up to expectations of better things to come. Unfortunately, even though we are preparing throw our arms in the air and celebrate this wonderful festival there is sadness and bleak expectations from world events and anti-Semitic actions close to home.

This is why our role at Continuing Education has always been that of informing and helping those around us to grasp what is happening and to try and explain why and what this all means to us as we carry on our daily lives. With education comes more understanding and a greater feeling about why things happen or the reasons actions are taken in good and bad ways. Through this pandemic we have offered a wide variety of programs to meet these lofty goals of education and entertainment which we hope have helped to relieve the stress and maybe even let us smile and laugh.

Purim brings us the Megillah reading which informs and educates our children and those who want to know more of what really happened to our people so many years ago. This year will also bring us Monty Python's Flying Circus as Norman Zinman will once again entertain and educate us during Purim to bring joy and laughter in these troubling times. You have all loved the previous adventures from Norman and this one will surely please everyone. Please join us on **Thursday**, **March 17** and register in advance to claim your seat. Barbara Kay will be returning to speak with us in the coming months and we are working on several programs dealing with anti-Semitism that everyone should participate in. Part 2 of Antisemitism Through the Eyes of Shylock will appear on **Wednesday**, **March 30** via Zoom so mark that date on your calendar. Always check the weekly eblast for dates and times and how to register for each of these fine programs as they come up.

Zoom has been a great tool for us these last couple of years as we have been able to reach out to all of our members in the comfort of their homes. We thank all of you who have taken the time and shown a dedicated interest in the programs we have offered. The Committee is honoured to serve your interests and hopes to be able to continue meeting your expectations as we go forward. With that thought in mind we are hoping that in-person programs will soon be available as restrictions change and the synagogue once again becomes the central place of gathering for our programs. Stay tuned as we work towards returning to our role of welcoming you inside Beth Emeth for live speakers and visual programs.

Chag Sameach to all of you and once again we offer thanks and well wishes to you as we look and plan ahead to being together at future programs. Hamantachen for all!

Perry Davis and Marlene White Co-chairs, Continuing Education

### MARTY KESHEN CHESED COMMITTEE

### Helping Shul Members and the Community

It has been two years since covid restrictions and lockdowns have been in place. These have impacted traditional Chesed Committee activities such as shiva calls to the bereaved, collecting food and other items for the food bank, and visiting those in need of company.

Hopefully the wave of Omicron infections will be the last wave and we can slowly move to resuming Chesed Committee activities.

Members of the Chesed Committee continue to reach out to Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda seniors to keep in touch and to see how they are coping. Our members are truly appreciative of this outreach. We are available to contact others in our community in need of social contact by telephone.

Virtual Coffee and Conversation on Zoom is an initiative of the Chesed Committee and BEBY as a place for members to get together and connect and chat. We continue to meet twice weekly and hope to see you at one of our sessions.

The Chesed Committee, on behalf of Beth Emeth, acknowledges individual birthdays and anniversaries with a personal phone call.

We have a group of dedicated volunteers who are available to provide much needed support to our members at all ages and stages of life.

Please contact the shul if you would like a member of the Chesed Committee to contact you:

- In times of illness
- · In times of loneliness
- · Who need emotional and social assistance
- In times of bereavement

You can call the shul office or email us at chesed@beby.org

Helen Katz Marty Keshen Chesed Committee Chair



### **GREENING COMMITTEE**

Hashem has sanctified us with His commandments and environmental traditions entrusting us to be stewards and protectors of the earth right from Genesis onward with numerous traditions, festivals and biblical teachings. The devastating impacts of climate change have alerted all of us that it is essential for each individual to protect our environment. Especially this year with strife, misinformation, mistrust and polarization so rampant, it is especially vital that we continue to focus on respectful, positive commonalities that bind us to each other and to the human family. Unifying events such as when we participate in cultural and faith celebrations that identify the importance of preserving and protecting water. On behalf of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario's Region 6 (Toronto West) the Ontario Nurses for the Environment and Beth Emeth's NextGen and Greening Committees, please join us for our jubilant collaborative celebration of World Water Day in a variety of cultural and faith venues.

Indigenous leader and cultural consultant Kim Wheatley will enlighten us with Indigenous knowledge and rituals on water appreciation and conservation. Registered Nurse Rob Samilack, who represented the Christian Climate Observers Program at the Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Scotland, will share some Christian water rituals. Our own Rabbi David Grundland will share some of our Jewish customs and a song or two. As the program begins, we will have a virtual City greeting from our Councillor James Pasternak.

When: Sunday March 27, 2022 at 7:30 PM. via Zoom. This is an exciting program not to be missed.

Councillor Pasternak will return to co-host our collaborative Passover/Earth Day program celebrating freedom from ancient and modern day slavery. Our own Rabbi David Grundland will be the other co-host. Together, they will share beautiful poems and sonnets from the Honourable Justice Michel J.Shore. This program will be interactive and will involve participants just as we are all involved in our Passover Sedars at home.

Our own tradition of Tikkun Olam is similar to this year's Earth Day theme: Investing in our Planet. What similarities are there between Passover and Earth Day? What one simple action will you commit to doing that demonstrates investing in our planet? Especially during this spring we can easily feel that we just left Egypt and are being renewed from the horrible two year pandemic. It truly is a time of renewal and liberation for all of us. We feel that we just left Egypt and can pinpoint today's modern day plagues: Covid-19, raging world-wide forest fires, flooding, drought, a plague of grasshoppers, darkness caused by Hydro outages. Earth Day draws our attention to current liberation from the slavery of exploiting, polluting, over-consuming, altering or destroying ecosystems that contribute to world-wide climate change. As advocates and role-models, we strive to protect, preserve and maintain the health of our diverse, natural environment.

Research is finding that children with ADHD show fewer symptoms when they have access to nature. Exposure to trees and nature aids concentration by reducing mental fatigue. Mental health will be an issue as we advance from this past pandemic and nature and green spaces are positively therapeutic.

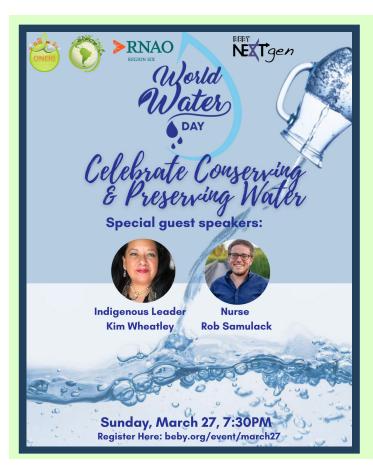
We can also reflect on our ingrained customs of Baal Taschit, not to destroy or waste, not even a mustard seed. During our wandering in the desert, manna fell from heaven and fed our ancestors daily. They collected what they needed and there was no waste.

Passover and Earth Day gives us a deepened appreciation and awareness of the powerful connections between our Earth Day and Passover and sustainability.

On behalf of Beth Emeth's Greening and NextGen Committees, please join us for our interactive, intertwined Passover/Earth Day program: When: Sunday April 10 at 7:30 PM via Zoom

Mel and I wish you and your families joyful Chag Sameach while keeping safe and abiding by health professionals advice during this time of transition.

Hilda Swirsky, RN,BScN, MEd Chair of Greening Committee





### LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Both Purim and Pesach serve to remind us of the importance of storytelling. Not only do we convey our history to the next generations through the details of our past, but we also learn the important lessons of empathy and understanding. In the Megillah Esther, we see how we must be proactive in fighting antisemitism, as important a lesson now as it was in ancient Persia. Through the Haggadah, we remember to enjoy our freedoms because we were once slaves.

Many of us have found refuge during the pandemic in the myriad of good books that are available. On April 28, Philippa Sheppard will be reviewing The Slaughterman's Daughter, by Yaniv Iczkovits. Philippa has done an excellent job of unpacking novels for us in the past, and I'm sure she will bring many enlightening insights into this book about life in Pale of Settlement. All Lunch and Literature events are held on Thurdays. Book reviews begin at 1:30 PM. When we can again serve lunch, we will be starting at 1:00.

We also have several very exciting presentations coming up in our Books and Bagels series, which takes place on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM. On March 20, Colorado based Rachel Maizes will be speaking about her newest prize-winning book entitled Other People's Pets. Rachel uses the nub of a current event as the genesis of her novels, mixes in her love of animals and adds a touch of paranormal. On April 13, we are featuring a first-time Toronto based author Moshe Mikanovsky in a discussion about The Resurrector. He explores the regrets we are sometimes left with after the death of a loved one and how we might resolve unfinished business. There are a number of twists and surprises in his book, which I'm sure will provoke very interesting discussion. Finally we are very happy to have been able to reschedule Ariana Neumann for May 1, when she will share with us her personal family story and how she discovered the details of her father's life in Germany during WWII in her book, When Time Stopped. Ariana will be zooming us from London, England.

Please consult the synagogue website to register for these events. As restrictions are lifted, we will again be offering in-person programming as soon as we are safely able to do so.

We want to again thank our wonderful sponsors, who allow us to provide our programming: Kensington Place Retirement Residences, Move by Design, PMT Home Services, Terraces of Baycrest, Thornhill Naturopathic Health Clinic, and VIVA Thornhill Woods Retirement Community, in addition to the Weinstein Family Fund, and the BEBY Sisterhood.

In the Channukah Kesher, we highlighted two very important and timely books, one of which was Dara Horn's People Love Dead Jews. Dara is one of the cadre of strong, articulate voices to speak about anti-Semitism. The BEBY Brotherhood is bringing Dara Horn, in person, to speak at the shul on April 24. Details of the program can be found on the synagogue website and we encourage everyone to attend.

On behalf of the Library Committee, I want to wish everyone a very happy Purim and Pesach.

**Eleanor Minuk** 

We are pleased to announce the library will be re-opening Sunday, March 27.

Library hours: 9:30AM - 12:30 PM

March 27, April 3, 10, 24, May 1, 8, 15







ABE & RUTH MARTIN

present in person Best-Selling Author

# DARA HORN



People
Love
Dead

Jews
Jews

REPORTS FROM A HAUNTED PRESENT
Dara Horn
Dara Horn

Sunday April 24th at 7PM

Tickets \$25 www.eventbrite.ca/e/288745624937

VIP EXPERIENCE \$136

(includes preferred seating, signed book copy, dessert reception)

beby.org/event/darahorn

Beth Emeth Synagogue 100 Elder St. Toronto M3H 5G7

### **SOCIETIES**

On behalf of all of our members, wishing you a healthy and happy Purim/Pesach season

Your friends from the Wierzbniker Fociety

Howard Nightingale
President

Bernie Schwartz Treasurer Michael Freedman Secretary

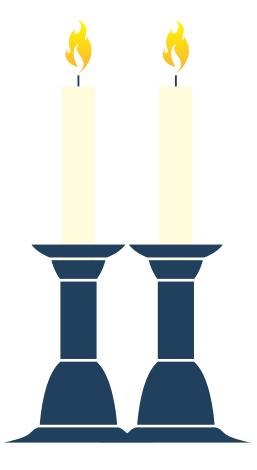


### **SPONSORSHIPS**

Honour your loved ones and your family milestones with a sponsorship at Beth Emeth.

Weekday services \$54
Kabbalat Shabbat / Havdallah \$72
Shabbat morning services \$108
Congregational Kiddush \$360

Visit beby.org/form/sponsor or call the office



### CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

 Date	Parshat	Candle Lighting	Havdalah
Mar 18	Tzav	7:09	8:11
Mar 25	Shmini	7:18	8:20
Apr 1	Tazria	7:26	8:29
Apr 8	Metzora	7:34	8:38
Apr 15	Pesach	7:43	
Apr 16	Pesach	8:47	8:49
Apr 21	Pesach	7:50	
Apr 22	Pesach	7:51	8:57
Apr 29	Achrei Mot	7:59	9:06
May 6	Kedoshim	8:08	9:16
May 13	Emor	8:16	9:25
May 20	Behar	8:23	9:34
May 27	Bechukotai	8:30	9:42
Jun 3	Bamidbar	8:36	

# PASSOVERRECIPE

# SPINACH **GNOCCHI**

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 packages (300 g/10 oz) frozen spinach or two large bags of fresh spinach wilted in a pan and 1 cup ricotta cheese

- 1 cup grated Parmesan cheese ½ cup potato starch
- 2 egg yolks
- A pinch of nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 5 tablespoons melted butter
- <sup>1</sup>⁄<sub>2</sub> cup Parmesan cheese (for topping)

### HOW TO DO IT

- 1. If using frozen, then thaw the spinach and allow it to sit in a strainer for at least 30 minutes to drain, and then squeeze as much water out as you can. If using fresh, cook on a dry pan until wilted (no more than 5 minutes) and chop.
- 2. In a bowl, mix together the ricotta, 1 cup Parmesan, egg yolks, potato starch and seasoning. Add the spinach and mix till combined.
- 3. Boil a large pot of salted water. Form small patties out of the spinach mixture with your hands (not more than about 4 cm / 1½ inches long) and ease them carefully into the water. When they rise, they are done. Remove with a slotted spoon or small strainer.
- 4. Pre-heat the oven to 180°C (350°F).
- 5. Butter a medium-sized baking dish and arrange the gnocchi one next to the other (no overlapping). Pour the melted butter on top and sprinkle the remaining Parmesan cheese.
- 6. Bake for about 15 minutes, or until the cheese starts browning.

# Jow WS. LIVE AND IN-PERSON

Weekday minyan -7:30 AM Sunday minyan - 8:30 AM Shabbat morning - 9:00 AM Kabbalat Shabbat - 7:00 PM

Registration required for Shabbat only



Masks and proof of double vaccination required







Wishing all our friends at Beth Emeth a Chag Purim Sameach and a Happy Passover!



Call us! 416-901-5044 info@apexkoshercatering.com





### Passover Menu 2022 | 5782

Email Orders to <a href="mailto:passover@apexkoshercatering">passover@apexkoshercatering</a>.com
All Orders Must be Received by Sunday April 10th, 2022
Available for Pick-Up From 10AM to 1PM on Friday, April 15th, 2022

SOUPS & APPETIZERS	MAINS	
OTV	OTV	
QTY  Butternut Squash and Pear Soup \$16 per litre (serves 4)	QTY Pan Seared Chicken Supreme Served with Mango Peach Salsa and Au Jus \$19 per portion	
Chicken Noodle Soup with Brunoise of Carrot, Celery, Onion and Diced Chicken \$20 per litre (serves 4)	Citrus Glazed Salmon Served with Citrus Pomegranate Salsa \$22 per 8 oz portion	
Clear Chicken Soup \$12 per litre (serves 4)  Matzah Balls	Montreal Spiced Braised Brisket Served with Au Jus \$28 per 80z portion cooked weight	
\$2 per plece	ADDITIONAL	
Sweet Gefilte Fish With Beet Horseradish		
\$4 per 4oz portion	Cajun Spiced Chicken Leg Quarters \$12 for 2 pieces \$25 for 6 pieces	
Salt and Pepper Gefilte Fish With Beet Horseradish	Chicken Fingers	
\$4 per 4oz portion	with Ketchup and Plum Sauce \$30 per dozen	
SALAD	Crispy Chicken Wings	
Rilyad Cyany Salad	with Smokey BBQ Sauce	
Mixed Green Salad with Orange, Grapefruit, Mandarin Segments, Sweet Pickled	\$24 per dozen	
Heirloom Carrots, Honey Berry Dressing	Charoset	
\$6 per portion	\$16 per 500 ml	
Baby Spinach Salad	PLEASE NOTE:	
With Roasted Red and Golden Beets, Balsamic Vinaigrette \$6 per portion	\$20 per plate MINIMUM SPEND	
40 her horizon	Red Beet Horseradish \$90 + HST	
SIDES/STARCH	Red Beet Horseradish \$7.50 per 250 ml	
Herb Crisp Potato	INDIVIDUAL DESSERTS	
with Garlic Chimichurri \$6 per portion (6oz. portions)		
	Frozen Lemon Cake	
Potato Kugel	\$7.50 per individual piece \$65 per whole cake	
\$14 per pan (7" x 4")	Flourless Chocolate Cake	
Apple Kugel \$16 per pan (7" x 4")	\$7 per Individual piece \$60 per whole cake	
	CLIENT INFORMATION	
Herb Sautéed Mixed Vegetables \$6 per portion (6oz. portions)	Name	
40 per perden (cost perdens)	Address	
SEDER SET MENU	Phone # () Date / /	
	100 M	
\$45 per person \$40 per person for set of 10	Email	
	PAYMENT INFORMATION (Minimum spend \$90 + HST)	
Seder Set Menu Includes:	CREDIT CARD	
<ul> <li>Chicken Noodle Matzah Ball Soup</li> </ul>	Credit Card #	
<ul> <li>Baby Spinach Salad with Roasted Red and Golden Beets, Balsamic Vinaigrette</li> </ul>	Expiry Date / CCV	
Pan Seared Chicken Supreme Served with Mango Peach Salsa with Au Jus	E-TRANSFER: m@apexkoshercatering.com  Pay VIA  Password: Provided after order confirmation  E-TRANSFER	
Herb Crisp Potato with Garlic Chimichurri	AND SAVE PICK UP/DELIVERY 2% SERVICE	
Sautéed Mixed Vegetables	CHARGE ON	
Choice of Dessert:	DAVMENTS	
frozen lemon cake  flourless chocolate cake	Holy Blossom Delivery	

### PASSOVER SERVICES SCHEDULE

### **FRIDAY APRIL 15**

Shacharit 7:30 AM
with Siyum Bchorim - Study for the first
born
Mincha-Maariv 7:00 PM
First Seder

### **SATURDAY APRIL 16**

First day of Pesach
Services 9:00AM
Mincha-Maariv 7:45PM
Second Seder - after conclusion of
Shabbat, 8:46PM

### **SUNDAY APRIL 17**

Second day of Pesach Services 9:00AM Mincha-Maariv 7:45PM

### MONDAY APRIL 18 Chol Ha'Moed

Shacharit 7:30AM Mincha-Maariv 7:45PM

### TUESDAY, APRIL 19 Chol Ha'Moed

Shacharit 7:30AM Mincha-Maariv 7:45PM

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20 Chol Ha'Moed

Shacharit 7:30AM Mincha-Maariv 7:45PM

### THURSDAY, APRIL 21 Chol Ha'Moed

Shacharit 7:30AM Mincha Maariv 7:00PM

### **FRIDAY APRIL 22**

Seventh day of Pesach Services 9:00AM Mincha-Maariv 7:00PM

### **SATURDAY APRIL 23**

Eighth day of Pesach Services 9:00AM Yizkor will be recited Mincha-Maariv 8:00PM Passover ends at 8:53PM



# Kesher



Your Connection to the World of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda

**Purim/Pesach 2022 • 5782** 













