

Kesher



קשר

Your Connection to the World of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda

Rosh Hashanah 2020 | 5781



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HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES

ROSH HASHANAH

Erev Rosh Hashanah - Friday September 18

6:30 pm - Main Sanctuary/Live-stream

Rosh Hashanah Day 1 - Saturday September 19

9:30 am - Main Sanctuary/Live-stream

7:00 pm Mincha Maariv - Main Sanctuary/Live-stream

Rosh Hashanah Day 2 - Sunday September 20

9:30 am - Main Sanctuary/Live-stream

Shofar sounding during the service

Shofar sounding outdoors a half hour following services

6:00 pm - Tashlich including Shofar sounding at reservoir

6:45 pm - Shofar sounding outside synagogue

7:00 pm Mincha Maariv - Main Sanctuary/Live-stream

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YOM KIPPUR

Kol Nidrei - Sunday September 27

Mincha 3:00 pm - Zoom/Facebook Live

Kol Nidrei 6:45 pm - Main Sanctuary/Live-stream

Yom Kippur - Monday September 28

9:30 am - (*Yizkor recited*) Main Sanctuary/Live-stream

Outdoor learning session 2:30 pm

Indoor learning session 4:30 pm

Mincha 5:15 pm Neila 6:15 pm - Main Sanctuary/Live-stream

SUKKOT*

Erev Sukkot - Friday October 2

6:30 pm

Sukkot Day 1 - Saturday October 3

9:30 am

Mincha Maariv 6:30 pm

Sukkot Day 2 - Sunday October 4

9:30 am

Mincha Maariv 6:30 pm

Chol Ha'Moed- Monday October 5- Thursday October 8

Shacharit 7:45 am

Mincha Maariv 6:00 pm

Hoshana Rabbah - Friday October 9

Shacharit - 7:00 am

Mincha Maariv 6:30 pm

Shemini Atzeret - Saturday October 10

9:30 am (*Yizkor recited*)

Mincha Maariv 6:30 pm

Simchat Torah - Sunday October 11

9:30 am

Mincha Maariv 6:30 pm

*Service locations to be provided as they become available

RABBI HOWARD MORRISON

Kol Hatchalot Kashot - All beginnings are difficult

Dear Congregational Family,

A brief three word expression says so much. “Kol Hatchalot Kashot - All Beginnings are Difficult.”

Imagine the beginning of Jewish history, when God commanded Abraham to go forth and begin 4000 years of the Jewish historical experience. All beginnings are difficult. Imagine the aftermath following the destruction of the Second Temple and Jerusalem. How did Judaism survive and grow? Amazing visionaries reimagined Judaism while drawing on the past. If one cannot bring sacrifices daily, then offer formal verbal prayer daily. If the ritual of the altar can no longer grant atonement, then acts of kindness will grant atonement. All beginnings are difficult.

Several months ago, synagogues went on lockdown because of the pandemic. How would organized Jewish life go on? Contemporary visionaries adapted modern technology and created virtual congregations. Ongoing prayer, study, socializing, and connecting with others took on a new shape and form. All beginnings are difficult.

During the Summer, we at Beth Emeth slowly began to have services emanate from our synagogue. Wonderful volunteers spent countless hours assuring that all protocols are followed. We are now restoring services to our sanctuary, while we continue to broadcast electronically to private homes. All beginnings are difficult.

This coming Rosh Hashanah will be unlike any other. Some of us will gather in our shul over the Ten Days of Repentance, while many others will participate from home via livestream. Either way, we are here for you and because of you. All beginnings are difficult.

There will be many more phases of new beginnings. From our nation's inception 4000 years ago to today, we continue to be a resilient Jewish peoplehood.

On behalf of my family, I wish you and yours Shanah Tova U'Metukah - A sweet, healthy, peaceful and good New Year.

Rabbi Howard Morrison
rabbi@beby.org



RABBI DAVID GRUNDLAND

The Story of the High Holy Days

One of my favorite things to ask someone new is “Tell me, what’s your story?” It is an open-ended question that allows a person the opportunity to decide what pieces of information to share about themselves. It could be about family, career, background, hobbies, and even challenges and turning-points in life.

We all have a story to tell. Each story has many different components. There are happy times and sad times; there are moments of clarity and moments of uncertainty; there are times of celebration and times of mourning. This is true for all of us, regardless of our life circumstances.

Sometimes our stories are exclusively ours. My experience growing up and going through school, including my social, emotional, academic, and spiritual experiences, are my own. No one shares them with me as they are what define who I am today. Sometimes our stories have a collective nature to them, as we all are currently part of the story of the global Coronavirus pandemic and the intense political divisiveness and unrest that is prevalent throughout the world.

The story of the High Holidays – the month of Elul, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shmini Atzeret and Simchat Torah tell a story of their own and their story is the union of the personal story with the collective story. This period of time guides us each to reflect on our own individual experience as it relates to the collective experience, and to work toward a unified purpose.

During Elul, the Chassidic Rebbes teach that “the King is in the field”. That is, there is a King on His way to His castle for His annual inauguration party. On His way, he stops by every field (and front lawn) and invites everyone to attend. We each have a chance to have a close personal encounter with royalty, in our own space, in our own homes, in a fairly



laid-back atmosphere of comfort. We decide if and how we will attend the inauguration and how close we want to be to the king.

Rosh Hashanah is the story of when the King built His kingdom. The King lives amongst His people but once a year, on the anniversary of the completion of the kingdom, He sits on his throne and wants to hear an update from everyone – their successes, failures, hopes, and dreams. He wants to hear their thoughts on “how things are going in the world” and how they have been contributing and how they hope to contribute moving forward. Most importantly, though, the King wants to make sure that He has a personal relationship with everyone who lives in His Kingdom. He wants us to know His story, and He wants to know our stories.

Relationships established, on Yom Kippur, we can open up completely – not only to a King, but also to a loving Father and friend. We have the chance to acknowledge all of our best laid plans from the last year, and how many (if not most) of them didn’t come to fruition. Moreover, we also acknowledge the times that we acted destructively, intentionally or otherwise. Our acknowledgement is the key, though. As with any relationship, the more vulnerable we are in telling our story, the more deeply we feel the personal connection. When we atone - when we feel at one with the King’s own vision and with ourselves – both in our present state, regardless of missed-steps, and as we take our next-steps, we get to bask in the glory of a renewed intimate relationship.

The next part of the story is the “get-away”. On Sukkot we go somewhere temporary where we spend a week living the ideal life story that we proposed during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Like newlyweds on a honeymoon, we reflect on everything we hope to become and accomplish, the relationships we hope to pursue and we just enjoy our dreams and aspirations for all their inherent potential. Finally, on Shmini Atzeret and Simchat Torah, we just dance and celebrate, knowing that we are creating new beginnings. We talk about the beginning of the King’s kingdom and we individually decide the kind of kingdom that we want to be responsible for creating ourselves.

The High Holidays are our chance to not only tell the story of our past, but to pick which details we want to highlight for the future and which we want to acknowledge and leave in the past.

This year, the story of our High Holiday experience will be different. Whether you are joining us in person, virtually, or doing something entirely different with your family and friends, let us all remember we are all playing important roles within this collective experience. We are all trying our best to stay connected and our next year will be one of deciding how we can each do our best to grow and strengthen ourselves and our community.

I’m always looking to hear stories and to share my own. I aspire to always be building and nurturing meaningful connections and relationships and look forward to connecting with as many of you as possible over the next months and years ahead. Please know that I am here for you, because we are all part of the same Beth Emeth Story, the same Jewish story, the same human story, and the same universal story.

So, all that said, what’s your story?

Shanah Tova! Blessings for a healthy, happy, prosperous, and peaceful year ahead!

Rabbi David Grundland

Ritual Director and NEXT GEN Engagement Director
rabbidavid@beby.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My “Lech Lecha” journey to Beth Emeth

“Do not separate yourself from the community”

אל תפרש מן הצבור

Pirkei Avot ch 2/5

I t literally started on a Shabbat afternoon walk back in 2002. I was briskly walking on a July Saturday afternoon in Thornhill. As I overtook an elderly man, dressed in a dark suit and hat, I felt a hand grab my shoulder.

“What’s the hurry young man?”, I heard him say. I slowed down and answered “I’m out for a walk”. “So am I” he said, “walk with me”. A series of questions followed, “Who are you? Where do you daven? By your accent, you are from South Africa. Johannesburg or Cape Town?”

I answered, “from Johannesburg and I am in-between shuls. I’m looking for the right Shul for me and my family. I have tried Aish, Westmount, Associated, the BAYT – but for my family, they are not right for us”. “Tell me about your family”, he said. I told him about my background and how I love going to Shul, that I have a wife (Bonita) and two young daughters (Simone and Ashley), and about our traditional values. I then asked him, “Who are you?”

“Rabbi Kelman”, he replied, “I have recently retired as Rabbi from Beth Emeth, are you familiar with that Shul?”. I was not at all familiar with it, and asked him to tell me about it.

He proceeded to tell me all about Beth Emeth, about the new, young Rabbi that had been hired, the traditional values, the love of hazzanut, and the people. He said if I closed my eyes, it would be as if I was back in my Shul in South Africa, with one exception – families sit together, there is no Mechitzah. “Give it a try” he said, “come join me for High Holy Day services I will be leading at CHAT, and come to Beth Emeth on a Shabbat and experience it for yourself”.

The rest is history, as they say, and we joined as a family in 2005.

I remember the first Shabbat service I attended as if it was yesterday. I walked in, went down the aisle on the right-hand side, and sat in a seat. A few minutes later, I felt a hand on my shoulder, and heard a voice say “you are sitting in my seat”. “Sorry” I said, and moved a few rows forward. No sooner had I sat down, I heard another voice, “You are sitting in my seat”. I got up and moved again. The first congregant then came up to me and said the seat I have moved to (for the third time) was not going to work out either. “Come sit next to me”, he said. I went on to have a wonderful relationship with both of them, and through them got to know all the “players” on the



right-hand side of the Shul. This is what makes Beth Emeth special.

I started coming to Shul with my family on a regular basis. We attended Rabbi Bauman’s Shabbat services in the Chapel, and slowly started to get to know more people. Bernie Schwartz encouraged me to join his Budget and Finance committee and in 2010 I was elected to the Board and appointed Treasurer.

Through my commitment to attend davening most mornings and to become more involved in Synagogue life, I realized and appreciated how special, unique and wonderful Beth Emeth is. The diversity of our members, the multi-generational families, the Beth Emeth values and richness of tradition sets us apart.

In January 2012, my mother Hilary z”l, who still lived in Johannesburg, was diagnosed with cancer for the second time. From February until her passing in July, I made 6 trips to South Africa to be with her in her final months. The support I received from the Clergy, my fellow Board and Executive members and my Beth Emeth friends was unbelievable. The compassion, caring, understanding and willingness to help is why I do what I do for my Beth Emeth family. For our Shabbat dinner during shiva in Johannesburg, the BEBY Board made arrangements with a local Kosher caterer to provide us with a Shiva meal. How do you ever forget this? In appreciation, I set up the Weinstein Family Scholar in Residence Fund in memory of my parents and we have had a number of wonderful speakers and programs over the years.

After my separation in 2014, there was no question that I would move from Thornhill to Bathurst Manor. I wanted to be near my Shul. Once again, the support and friendship were overwhelming. How do you ever forget this?

Beth Emeth is so much more than Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. I have found that as I have become more involved over the years, I have received so much more in return.

Our Shul is there for you 365 days a year. We need your commitment and support to stay engaged, relevant and vibrant. We have so many multi-generational families as well as first generation families. Honour your parents and grand parents by being part of a Kehilla Kedosha, a holy and sacred community, thus ensuring the continuity and survival of Beth Emeth for generations to come.

I would love to read your own personal “Lech Lecha” journey to Beth Emeth. How did you get here? What is keeping you here? What does Beth Emeth mean to you? Your stories are the glue that keeps Beth Emeth together. Please share these with me, so we can add to the Beth Emeth Story.

My High Holy Day prayer is for an end to the Covid-19 pandemic, a safe return to normalcy, and a desire to see each and every one of you in person, in our Synagogue Sanctuary.

With all my heart, I wish us all “Shanah Tovah U’Metukah”, a good and sweet year.

May we have a year filled with health, peace, joy and contentment.

Malcolm Weinstein
President@beby.org

VICE PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

What can one write when we are in the middle of a pandemic, facing upcoming High Holy Days and the world is turned upside down?

I focus on what I am thankful for.

I and my family are healthy; we have enough food to sustain us; we have a roof over our heads. I have the privilege of belonging to a caring congregation where people are delighted to see each other on Zoom. Our committees have gone above and beyond to present thoughtful, entertaining, and educational programs all while these volunteers navigate unknown waters themselves. Why? Because they care about you.

Unless directly involved, no one knows the hundreds of hours volunteers have devoted to make in person Mincha Maariv, Shacharit and Shabbat services possible to get us to the point of being able to physically welcome you to your synagogue. Anyone not involved does not know the anguish we faced in trying to make a bizarre situation become a beautiful reality for you.

To all our volunteers, your assistance at this most difficult and trying time is so appreciated. Words alone cannot express our true feelings and how you lift us up everyday by stepping up and being you.

I look forward to a beautiful High Holy Day experience even though I will not be attending in person because I know it will be amazing.

From my family to yours, Shanah Tovah Umetukah.

Vice President
Susan Colomby



BOARDROOM BANTER

Dear Congregants and Friends,

For many within our congregation the High Holy Days are an opportunity to reconnect with family, friends and fellow congregants that we have not seen for an extended period of time. This would have been the opportunity to reacquaint ourselves with the sense of community that the Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda, Hebrew Men of England provides to our members. Who could have imagined, that this year the concept of not being able to continue to observe the holidays as we have in the past is now a reality?

What a change we face as a community as the COVID pandemic has affected all aspects of our life. Six months ago we started conducting board meetings on Zoom, having daily services being held on Zoom, Facebook live and now livestreaming. The thought of holding our High Holy Day services virtually would never have entered our imagination.

We have faced many challenges this year, more than ever before. Our synagogue has been the anchor of our community; a place to gather, celebrate, a way to find support from others during our time of need. The synagogue provides us with a means to connect with each other in traditional and non-traditional ways. Now more ever our synagogue looks to the support of our membership, to fulfill the needs of our congregants who feel isolated and disconnected.

When we were forced to transition our synagogue from a physical environment to a virtual-online presence our clergy, staff and lay leadership went into overdrive. Working to figure out ways to ensure the safety of our members while addressing their spiritual needs. Without the dedication of our volunteers and professional staff, we would not have been able to accomplish these tasks and address the challenges we faced.

Committee members worked tirelessly to find ways to provide our membership with meaningful programs, services and the ability to connect with other synagogue members. I would like to thank all Board members for their dedication and altruistic attitude. It is my honour to work with such a dedicated group of individuals.

In addition, I would like to give a special call out and recognition to the members of the three "Safe Return to Services" taskforces, who spent endless hours researching, participating in meetings, working to establish procedures and processes to ensure our members safety. Without their dedication and the commitment of our COVID-coach volunteers, we would not have been able to offer our membership the ability of having the option of coming to services in person.

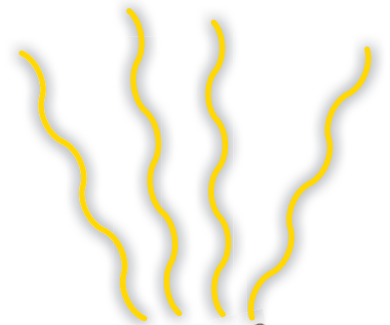
This year, even more than any other Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, is a time of reflection, renewal, repentance but also, how can we as members support our synagogue during these difficult times.

On behalf of my wife Lori, my family and myself, I would like to wish you and your families a Shanah Tovah U'Metkah. A sweet and healthy new year.

Steven Greenwood

Chairman of the Board

Chair of GAASC



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Some of you may have noticed that I post a quote on the door of my office each week. These are thoughts I want to share with the congregation or staff and often they serve as reminders to myself of ideas that are timely, meaningful or both.

Top of mind these days as I think about the approaching High Holy Day seasons is "We can't stop the waves, but we can learn how to surf".

Our traditions- both personal and institutional- are deeply rooted. Though new to the Beth Emeth community, I am keenly aware of how closely the bond between the shul and its members is held. I have had countless conversations with members who are feeling anxious, unsure and worried about not being able to experience the holidays as they always have; with children who are concerned for the health and safety of their parents and vice versa. There are families who won't be together for the first time - ever.

These holidays, like most everything else this year, will not be what we hoped for.

So what do we do? We learn to surf - to pivot - to reframe our expectations.

We adapt, we adjust, we accept.

My personal version of surfing includes being grateful that I can play a role in assuaging some of that anxiety, that I have my health, that this pandemic will pass eventually and there will be other holidays to look forward to.

They may not look like those of the past, either as they really were or as we nostalgically remember them.

We never know what lies ahead: a small wave or a tsunami. All we can really do as a community is hold tight when the waves do come and hope for a smooth ride.

Wishing you and yours a healthy, happy and sweet New Year,

Candace Vogel

Executive Director
candace@beby.org



LULAV & ETROG SETS

order now at
www.beby.org/hhd



High Holy Days Greetings from the Presidents of GTA Conservative Synagogues

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Presidents of the Greater Toronto Area Conservative synagogues noted below have been meeting by Zoom on a weekly basis to discuss concerns, share ideas and brainstorm solutions. We've talked about the challenges of managing our shuls, large and small, through this crisis and the impact on our day-to-day operations. And we've discussed how we've responded with online services and programs, our respective plans for the High Holy Days, and much more.

Most of us did not know one another before we began our weekly calls, which we all look forward to and which we hope will continue in the future. We have all thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have developed a profound respect for one another and for the outstanding work of our Clergy, our Executive Directors and staff, our lay leadership and our volunteers. Most of all, we have developed, through regular communications, a deeper appreciation of the remarkable power of community.

All synagogues, regardless of denomination, offer a vital service, particularly during a crisis, and we are all here to support our Members and our communities in times of joy and in times of sorrow. We thank you, our respective Members, for your commitment, support and contributions in helping to sustain a vibrant and relevant Jewish community through your synagogue affiliation. As we approach a High Holy Day season unlike anything that many of us have ever experienced, we extend our best wishes to you, your families and loved ones for a safe, healthy and happy New Year.

David Urbach	Adath Israel Congregation
Larry Miller	Beit Rayim Synagogue and School
Andy Pascoe	Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am
Malcolm Weinstein	Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue
Mark Vernon	Beth Radom Congregation
Abe Glowinsky	Beth Sholom Synagogue
Doug Millstone	Beth Tikvah Synagogue
David Lewis	Beth Torah Congregation
Debbie Rothstein	Beth Tzedec Congregation
Jeff Shabes	Lodzer Centre Congregation
Steve Bloom	Pride of Israel Synagogue

September 14, 2020

Elul 25, 5780

NEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

Due to the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic, many simchas were cancelled or postponed. Others were held in backyards or living rooms and “zoomed” for family and friends. As such, the shul may not have been advised. Please feel free to let the office know about your lifecycle event and we will share the news in the Chanukah edition of the Keshet

Mazel tov to Janet & Jerry Loterman on the marriage of their daughter Elise Loterman to Aron Savicky in Melbourne Australia on March 20, 2020, granddaughter of Molly & Henry Dykoff z”l and Saul & Sonya Loterman z”l

Mazel tov to Mandy Usprecht, daughter of Trish Usprecht & Barry Usprecht z”l and Zach Silverberg, son of Robin & Steve Silverberg, grandson of Ruth & Willy Silverberg z”l on their recent marriage

Mazel tov to Amanda Snow, daughter of Allan & Susan Snow on her engagement to Jonah Murov, son of Barry Murov and Hedy Ehrlich

Mazel tov on the birth of Sloane Erin, daughter of Melissa & Gary Tabak, granddaughter of Heather & Jerry Saltsman and Elena & Greg Tabak, great-granddaughter of Asya & Josif Tabak

BEREAVEMENTS

We mourn the loss of:

Arthur Rosenberg ל"ט, husband of Gloria Rosenberg

Dorothy Gartenberg ל"ט

Loretta Lundy ל"ט, sister of Sydney Woolfson

Gerald Cooper ל"ט, father of Shari Friedman

Rueben Devlin ל"ט, father of Neil Devlin

Isabella Snow ל"ט

Anne Shapiro ל"ט, mother of Warren Shapiro

Rachel Secter ל"ט

Lejb Pilanski ל"ט, father of Ginette Wainstein

Morris Cutler ל"ט, father of Barry Cutler

Miriam Feldstein ל"ט, sister of David Sumner

Gail Dombrofsky ל"ט, mother of Sheri Dudek, sister of Morris Cooper

Rose Tenenbaum ל"ט, mother of Greta Koreen

Maryline Pearlston ל"ט

Margo Grosbein ל"ט

Wilfred (Willy) Silverberg ל"ט, husband of Ruth Silverberg

Judith Fields ל"ט, mother of Eileen Jadd

Joyce Green ל"ט, sister of Shirley Cohen, Bunny Diamond

Benjamin Becker ל"ט, son Peter & Lisa Becker, brother of Daniel Becker

Bernice "Bunny" Diamond ל"ט, sister of Shirley Cohen

Leslie Dembo ל"ט, brother of Annie Schatz

Sollie Finklestein ל"ט, father of Rona Priemer and Sandy Silver

Morton Sheffer ל"ט, father of Sandra Silverberg

Henry Krausman ל"ט, father of Fern Krausman

Gerald Harris ל"ט, husband of Diane Harris

David Ross ל"ט, father of Jennifer Smuschkowitz

May their memories be a blessing

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Welcome back to everyone for the next edition of promising programs from the Continuing Education Committee. Over the summer months we have gathered together virtually to talk over ideas and plans for new and upcoming programming. We may not be able to see each other at Beth Emeth on a regular basis like before but the notion of watching programs on Zoom definitely appeals to many of you.

With that thought in mind the Committee has been working hard so that you will be able, on a regular basis, to listen to interesting speakers, watch a movie or documentary and thereby have something to think about and discuss with others as you wait for the next presentation. We have seen great excitement for those programs where we have worked along with the Music Committee to develop even more variety in our programs. Coming up in the next few months are several programs with a wide range of interest. Here is what you can look forward to and make sure that you mark your calendar and always pre-register for programs.

We are currently working towards more Reel and Spiel programs which we have been able to carry through the summer months. Through the use of Zoom we have found the ability to vary our selections and offer more each month. Look for our announcements through beby.org to stay in touch regarding our monthly selection.

There are some other programs coming up after the High Holy Days which we hope you will be very interested in participating in virtually. The details such as dates and

times have not been finalized so we hope you will stay tuned for further updates as they become available.

We all hope that everyone has been keeping well and in touch with the numerous services and programs that the clerical staff and committees have been presenting. It is very important for all us to stay strong together by being together in whatever way is possible for you. Our desire is to have you join us as often as you can so we can continue to reach out to all of you and let you know how much we miss you and want to be a part of your Beth Emeth experience. If you have ideas you wish to share for future programs please feel free to contact us through the office and we will be in touch to bring your ideas to life so that everyone gets to share the educational and entertainment value our heritage offers all of us.

On behalf of my co-chair, Marlene White, and the entire Continuing Education Committee and our families, we wish all of you Chag Sameach and may the sweetness of the New Year 5781 bring you health and happiness and the strength to be and do whatever you plan for in the new year to come.

Perry Davis, Co-Chair

Marlene White, Co-Chair

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Hello Fellow Congregants and Music Lovers

During these challenging times, our Committee has planned a number of virtual programs which have been well received. These include presentations by Howard Mednick, The Classical DJ, on the history of the Israel Philharmonic and Jewish Themes in Classical Music by Non-Jewish Composers. On September 9th and 16th, we once again welcomed Howard in a two part series on Leonard Bernstein. The Music Committee has been happy to collaborate on these programs with Continuing Education.

Our Music Under the Stars Concert featured Shoshana Telner, concert pianist, and the Strings Attached Orchestra Quintet, with Jerry Loterman on violin. These talented musicians are both members of Beth Emeth. What was extra special is that part of the Concert took place in our synagogue foyer, in front of the Dubi Ari mural. It was like coming home.

We are pleased to be welcoming Cantor Glantz for the High Holy Days and presented a Meet and Greet on September 10th. Watch for information in our weekly blasts. As well, we can look forward to a Concert with Cantors Glantz and Alex Stein to take place between Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur.

It is our goal to plan musical programs to keep us engaged, virtually, if not socially until we can once again meet safely. As we all prepare to welcome the New Year, we wish you and your families peace, happiness and good health. L'Shana Tovah

Bernice Levine and Ilene Kuchinsky

Co-Chairs, Music Committee



James PASTERNAK

Toronto City Councillor, Ward 6, York Centre

Wishing everyone in the community
Shanah Tovah and may the new year bring
happiness and health. שנה טובה

Your Trusted Voice for the Community at City Hall



Celebrating Rosh Hashana
at City Hall (*pre-pandemic)



Supporting the virtual
Walk with Israel



At Toronto City Council: Condemning
Hate-rallies on University Campuses



Commemorating International
Holocaust Remembrance Day
in City Hall

416-392-1371 councillor_pasternak@toronto.ca
Visit us online at: www.jamespasternak.ca

פארבאנד פון ליטווישע יידן
אין טאראנטא

FARBAND OF LITHUANIAN JEWS IN TORONTO
MASADA CHAPTER

Sunday, September 27, 2020
10:30 A.M

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MEETING
AT BATHURST LAWN CEMETERY
FARBAND OF LITHUANIAN JEWS SECTION

PLEASE BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

This year's Haskara service will be held at the Farband's section of Bathurst Lawn Memorial Park on Sunday September 27, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. Rabbi Morrison of Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda will officiate.

*The service will be held outdoors, **weather permitting**. In keeping with current protocols to protect all from Covid-19, you will be required to wear masks and to social distance.*

We extend the invitation to join us for the Haskara to long standing members, their friends and families and also to Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda members.

THE WIERZBNIKER SOCIETY NEWS

Two Year Anniversary: The Wierzbniker Society Beth Emeth

We are now celebrating our second anniversary as part of the Beth Emeth Family. The Society has found a "good home" and thanks Beth Emeth for its diligent commitment to the Society and its members.

Cemetery Memorial Service & Annual Memorial Meeting Sunday September 13, 2020 11:30 A.M. Sharp

The gathering place for this annual event will be at the Wierzbniker Society memorial monument erected at Bathurst Lawn Cemetery in 1955. The "aroisfur" to the cemetery occurs annually before High Holidays. This year it will be held at Bathurst Lawn Cemetery Wierzbniker Section on September 13, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. sharp. Society members, friends and family will gather to remember those buried in the cemetery, those inscribed on the monument, and those murdered in the Holocaust. Rabbi Howard Morrison will officiate. This event will take place rain or shine. We welcome Beth Emeth members to join us in at this meaningful event.

The event will also be live streamed. The link is smclive.ca The recorded event will be available for 60 days after the event using the same link and the password

Wierzbnik. The recording and streaming is made possible through the generosity of Steeles Memorial Chapel. Steeles Memorial has been a source of support to the members of the Wierzbniker Society for many decades. Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda also acknowledges their generosity.

Our annual memorial meeting (usually held in conjunction with Holocaust Remembrance Week) will not be held as a separate event this year because of Covid-19. The Society is working on a modified and safe remembrance of the 6 million Jews murdered as part of the cemetery memorial service. This will include the annual memorial candle-lighting ceremony.

To ensure the safety of participants our gathering at Bathurst Lawn will require the wearing of face masks (unless medical considerations do not permit), physical distancing, and no recitations in unison. Attendees can bring their own chairs should they wish to sit during the service.

In addition to two mailings a year to Society members, there is also communication through email for both members and others with an interest in the Wierzbniker Society. If you wish to receive emails about Society matters, please provide your email address to helen.lepek@gmail.com

MARTY KESHEN CHESED COMMITTEE

Helping Shul Members and the Community

Six months ago, our world changed dramatically. We are staying in and not gathering with our loved ones and friends. It is essential that we keep in touch with, and look after, each other.

Members of the Chesed Committee are among the volunteers who are contacting Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda seniors to see how they are faring. Volunteers continue to be available for social contact, if needed.

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.

We await healthier times to be able to comfort and offer support to members in person when they have suffered the loss of a loved one.

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 bereavement
- In times of loneliness
- if you need emotional and social assistance

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

Marty Keshen Chesed Committee Co-Chairs:

Sid Silverberg
Helen Katz

chesed@beby.org

Aleph Beit Chadash



The Aleph Beit Chadash School @ Beth Emeth
Jewish Learning for your Child

"Come See What Hebrew School Can Be" is our motto. It connotes the sense of excitement, wonder, enjoyment and engagement in learning that infuse our lessons at Aleph Beit Chadash. Over the past 3 years we have completely rewritten our curriculum. Lessons are tailored to the cognitive levels of our students and designed to build on the work covered in previous years. We encourage our students to ask questions and reflect on their own understanding of traditional Conservative Judaism. We forge strong links to our past through our study of history, traditions and prayers and we help students develop a love of and respect for Israel and everything achieved by our Homeland. Students are grouped according to Hebrew reading levels for our reading sessions to ensure that everyone receives targeted instruction at their level. With the help of our Shinshinim and other teacher aides, everyone receives personalized attention.

When COVID forced schools to shut down last winter, our teachers quickly developed on-line lessons. We also offered a homework assistance period. At the time of writing, we are

planning to open up our classes again at the synagogue but have made contingency plans for on-line learning should the need arise. We will continue to be flexible while keeping the safety of our students and teachers in the forefront.

If you have children in your family in Grades 1 to pre-bar/bat mitzvah who are looking for an innovative, warm and welcoming Hebrew School experience, check us out on the synagogue website. There you will find our full registration package and a video of testimonials from parents and students. Come see what Hebrew School can be!

On behalf of Shauna Small and the teachers of Aleph Beit Chadash, I want to wish everyone a Shana Tova u'mitukah.

Eleanor Minuk

schooldirector@beby.org

CHESED KNITTERS

Despite the fact that we have not been able to gather together to knit, our group still handed over 62 blankets to the Krinkle Project. Barb Weisberg, president of the project, was thrilled with the amount and variety of blankets that she will distribute to emergency shelters across the GTA. We are so pleased that we could continue to support the wonderful work of the Krinkle Project as we know that many families continue to face very difficult situations.

We anxiously await the time that we can once again meet at the shul to knit together. In the meantime, we are still accepting donations to cover the cost of the purchase of our yarn. If you are interested in knitting with us, please contact the shul at (416)633-3838 and someone from our group will get back to you with details about dimensions of blankets and type of yarn to use. We do have some yarn available and we can give you details about how to arrange to pick it up.

I want to personally express my heartfelt congratulations to all those who were able to continue producing beautiful knitted and crocheted blankets over the past few months. Kol ha'kavod to each and every one of you!

On behalf of the Chesed Knitters, I want to wish everyone at BEBY all the best for the coming year, which we hope will be full of health, happiness, prosperity and peace.

Eleanor Minuk



Wishing everyone L'Shana Tovah

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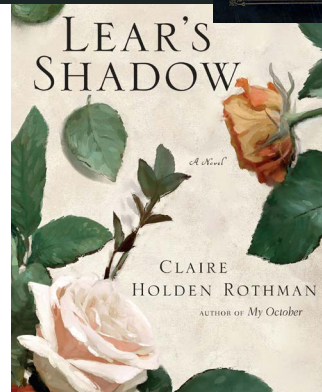
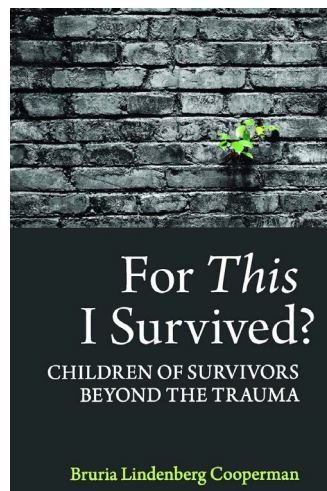
One positive aspect of the ongoing COVID situation is that it has afforded plenty of time for reading!

Bruria Cooperman's **For This I Survived? Children of Survivors Beyond the Trauma** is an insightful collection of interviews that were part of Bruria's research for her PhD. She captures the endearing, bittersweet humour of so many of the interviews in the snippets she presents. Whether you are a child of Survivors or not, and whether you grew up in the Manor or outside of it, there is lots to relate to and think about.

The German Heiress, by Anika Scott, tells the tale of a German woman who ran her father's ironworks factory before and during the Second World War. Set two years after the end of the war, Clara is destitute. She tries to return to her hometown to locate her best friend and outrun a British officer who is trying to catch her and charge her with war crimes. At the same time, she meets Jakob, who is also trying to find her friend. The two learn to work together and develop a level of trust. Events take many twists and turns in this exploration of the relationship between good and evil in a world where nothing is black or white.

Lear's Shadow parallels, in a number of ways, Shakespeare's "King Lear." Claire Holden Rothman tells the tale of two daughters who must now care for their ailing father. At the same time, one of the daughters is working with a summer theatre group that is performing King Lear. Almost every character in the book either has a difficult relationship with his or her father or is a father trying to right past wrongs. The story is set in Montreal and includes many well-known locations. Lear's Shadow is one of the books to be reviewed in our Lunch and Literature series this year.

As part of our ongoing programming, we have been running a virtual book club on Zoom called "So What Are You



Reading?" Anyone who wishes to join our informal group is welcome. Invite your friends as well- you don't have to be a member of the shul and there is no charge. We meet every other Thursday at 1:30 PM to talk about the books we are currently reading; at the conclusion of our session we email a running list of the books that have been discussed. Go to the synagogue website, find our program and click on Zoom at the bottom of the listing.

We are resuming our Lunch and Literature and Books and Bagels programs this fall. However, it seems unlikely that we will be able to host a lunch even if we can return to the building. If we cannot enter the building at all we will conduct our book reviews over Zoom. With the changing situation, it is difficult to plan ahead but we will be as flexible as possible. The cost for each program will be \$10 per session for non-members, while BEBY members will be able to attend for free. However, everyone needs to register in advance through the shul office or website to be admitted to the session. Consult the synagogue website for information as it becomes available.

On October 15, Philippa Sheppard is coming back to our program to review **The Third Daughter**, by Talia Carner. On Dec. 3, Ayelet Tsabari will be talking about her book **The Art of Leaving**. On March 4, Cynthia Good will discuss **Lear's Shadow** by Claire Holden Rothman. We conclude on May

13 with Sheli Meyers presenting **The World that We Knew** by Alice Hoffman. We want to thank our very generous sponsors for their support in enabling us to continue to offer our programs to you: Viva Retirement Communities, Thornhill Woods, Mosaic Home Care Services & Community Resource Centres, 147 Elder Street Inc. and Kensington Place Retirement Residence.

Books and Bagels dates are Oct. 25 (program TBD), Feb. 21 (Mordechai Ben Dat will review **Spies of No Country**) and April 18 TBD.

On behalf of the Library Committee, I want to wish everyone a sweet and good year! Shana tova.

Eleanor Minuk



GREENING COMMITTEE

Hineni: Here I am is one of the most powerful prayers our guest Cantor Lipa Glantz, from Israel, will lead us in reciting during the upcoming High Holidays. Inspired by his beautiful voice, we join in unison, responding personally and humbly, asking Hashem to accept our prayers for a sweet, healthy, prosperous good year for ourselves, our families and our communities. We will also ask forgiveness for our sins including any wrong we have committed against each other.

As a benefit of membership, we are so fortunate to be united in belonging to the progressive Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda family, a visionary synagogue in which our own intrinsic core values and beliefs are in sync with the synagogue's Mission: **"Building for the future on the foundations of our past"**

Inclusive, community outreach is an important component of what we build in the present and future founded on our past. Thus, both Aduth Israel and Beth Emeth are teaming up to provide a unique High Holiday experience for both congregational families.

Building on the foundations of our past, Rabbi Cutler and Rabbi Grundland will collaborate with Rabbi Morrison, Rabbi Seed, Cantor Stein and Cantor Sharpe so that each member of both congregations is enriched with a broader, far-ranging experience.

The solemn High Holidays are followed by the jubilation of Sukkot. What will celebrations look like at this time of Covid? This year, with increased humility, we acknowledge our connection to our earth by building our sukkahs. Sukkahs that also remind us of our ancestors' hardships and a key Jewish principle Tikkun Olam repairing the world compels us to be stewards and protectors of our Earth's well-being. We realize that our environment, unlike our sukkahs, cannot be disassembled and rebuilt each year

The commandment of bal tashchit—do not destroy or waste—has also long been considered central to environmental ethics in Judaism. Jewish tradition widely forbids wasteful acts, how wasting contributes to degradation of the planet, and how not wasting can help us improve our lives physically, mentally and spiritually.

Building on our foundations of community outreach, you are all invited to join in collaboration with members of the Canadian Association of Nurses for the Environment, the Ontario Nurses for the Environment Interest Group of the provincial Registered Nurses Association of Ontario and the York Centre Senior Steering Committee for the Greening Committee's first program in the New Year:
Title: **Fighting the Plastic Pandemic during this time of Covid**

Questions that will be answered: How do we prevent backsliding and reduction of existing recycling services and environmental outcomes and exclusion of significant sources of waste in the province? What is the circular economy? How do we transform single use of plastic in the circular economy?

Please join us for an enlightening presentation 7:00 P.M. Thursday October 22nd on Zoom with guest speaker Ashley Wallis, Program Manager, Water & National Plastics, Environmental Defence

On behalf of Mel and I, we wish that you and your family be inscribed for good health, prosperity, happiness and a safe, peaceful year ahead

Hilda Swirsky

HIGH HOLY DAYS CAMPAIGN 5781 / 2020

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