



## HOUSE KEY

**Congregation Beth El  
Program Guide**

**JANUARY - JUNE 2019**

CONGREGATION  
  
**Beth El**



# DEAR FRIENDS,

**Beth El Is Thrilled** by the large numbers of members and friends who are participating in the many services, classes, events, and experiences we share as a synagogue family. We are particularly proud of the response to the inaugural semester of our **Beth El Is Thursday** program, BEIT. During the fall, hundreds of individuals took part in a variety of classes and learning experiences for adults, families, and teens.

Inside this Key to Our House, a program guide to our Winter and Spring Shabbat and holiday celebrations, community events, and opportunities for engaging with each other, with Israel, and in the work of Tikkun Olam, you will find the BEIT schedule for the coming months. This semester, we are excited to explore Jewish religious, cultural, and historical experiences, and to welcome guest scholars into our community.

We've packed a lot of information into this booklet. We promise there will be more publicity and information about each particular program and event. As you read through these pages now, we invite you to keep this guide for reference to plan your participation in celebration, learning, and community.

So many people and a variety of Jewish values comprise Congregation Beth El. That's why we've made a list. **Beth El Is...Together, Torah, Tikkun Olam, Thoughtful, Transformative, Thankful, Tefillah, Tziyonut, Tarbut, Terrific, and Thrilled!** The acronym for all we celebrate about our synagogue is **BEIT**, which means house. We hope you'll use this key to enter your house and engage in Jewish life with your synagogue family.

Seeing everything listed in this guide, we imagine how many more ways there may be to express ourselves as Jews and to provide for our religious, spiritual, and communal needs. Since the fall, we've learned a lot about who we are as a synagogue family and what programs seem to meet our various needs. Excited to present you with this second Key to Our House, we also anticipate what we can add to every next edition. Please share your ideas and interests with us.

We are thankful for the devoted efforts of our synagogue staff and lay leadership which make this guide, and the programs we hope to enjoy, possible.

Welcome home!

***Rabbi Ron Shulman***

***Rabbi Avi Libman***







# WELCOME HOME

Congregation Beth El is our spiritual home.

As a synagogue family, together we...

celebrate and learn

rejoice and gather for many occasions,

care for one another, serve others and society.

In Hebrew, home or house is *Bayit*, **BEIT**, for short. As taught by Jewish tradition, we divide our synagogue home into three areas. We engage in Jewish life in three ways.



## **BEIT Tefillah**

House of Prayer

*Celebration*



## **BEIT Midrash**

House of Study

*Learning*



## **BEIT Knesset**

House of Assembly

*Community*

Ours is a large and beautiful home filled with many things. A warm and welcoming home for every soul. A home in which we celebrate, learn, and create community. A home in which we seek to live meaningful Jewish lives.

In this **House Key** of services, classes, and programs you'll find a variety of ways to participate with our synagogue family here in our home at Congregation Beth El.

**Welcome home!**



Together



Torah



Tikkun Olam



Thoughtful



Transformative

*Beth El is...*



Thankful



Tefillah  
(Prayer)



Tziyonut  
(Israel)



Tarbut  
(Culture)



Tots to Teens,  
and everyone else!



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## Shabbat Prayer and Celebration

We call Shabbat a delight, a day to refresh and renew. At Congregation Beth El, on Shabbat we join together as a synagogue family to rejoice in the gift of our lives, to reflect on the week gone by, and to sense God's presence through our prayer and celebration. You are welcome to join us each week for Shabbat prayer on Friday evenings at 6:15 pm, and on Saturday mornings at 9:30 am in the Stone Family Sanctuary. Our rabbis and synagogue members lead us in warm, participatory, and traditional services.

### Friday Evenings

We welcome Shabbat each Friday at 6:15pm.

Taking leave of the busy routine of our week, we enjoy Kabbalat Shabbat with traditional davening and song. Guitar and/or other instruments often accompany our prayer. Our rabbis share insights of Jewish wisdom as we reflect on the week gone by. Following our service, we gather for friendship and refreshments at an Oneg Shabbat. Each month we offer a variety of additional settings for celebrating Shabbat. We provide different opportunities for all of us, and for particular personal or family interests.

### Young Family Shabbat

📅 Fridays | January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3

🕒 5:45pm | Service  
6:15pm | Dinner

A musical half-hour of song and story for our youngest children and their families. We meet in the Stone Family Sanctuary for family-friendly prayer and activities before a dairy/pareve potluck Shabbat dinner.

### School Family Shabbat

📅 Fridays | January 11, March 15, May 3

🕒 6:15pm

A musical and family-friendly service for elementary grade students, their siblings and parents. Students actively participate in leading School Family Shabbat services. Our rabbis explore Jewish values and ideas during each service.

### Inspiration! A Service of Music & Meaning

👤 Dr. Yochanan Winston, Rabbi Ron Shulman & Friends

📅 Fridays | February 8, May 10

🕒 7:45pm

An innovative prayer service combining traditional and contemporary prayers for celebrating Shabbat with inspiring music, personal reflection, and joyous participation.

### Tot Shabbat w/ Beth Montessori

📅 Friday | March 29

🕒 Service 6:00pm, Dinner 6:30pm

A family friendly Shabbat service, with our friends from Beth Montessori preschool. The celebration continues with dinner following the service.

### Chai Shabbat\*

📅 Fridays | January 25, February 22, March 22, May 24, June 28

🕒 7:00pm

Chai 20s/30s celebrates with an evening service and dinner on the fourth Friday evening of each month.



## Summer Friday Evenings

### Beach Shabbat

📅 Friday evenings | June 14, July 12, August 16

🕒 6:15pm

Our annual Beth El Beach Shabbat returns for another spirited season on Mission Bay for informal and upbeat prayer and the fun of welcoming Shabbat with family and friends relaxing on the shore. A dairy/pareve potluck dinner follows our service. Be sure to bring beach chairs, blankets, and your best summer smiles.

### Plaza Prayer

📅 Friday evenings | May 31, June 28, July 26, August 30

We gather outside on the Turk Family Plaza for informal and upbeat prayer followed by a dairy/pareve potluck picnic. Think of this as Beach Shabbat without the Ocean! We join on our beautiful synagogue campus to enjoy each other's company as we celebrate Shabbat.

## Shabbat Mornings

Our Shabbat Morning service begins each week at 9:30 am. We join together for prayer and reflection, Torah reading and the exploration of Jewish wisdom for our lives. Each week our service embraces individuals and families who come to celebrate personal milestones. A Torah Study session precedes our Shabbat Morning Service at 9:00 am.

As our style of communal prayer evolves, we strive to create innovative settings for personal prayer and meaning while honoring the liturgical rhythms and feel of Jewish tradition.

Each month we offer a variety of additional settings for celebrating Shabbat. We provide different opportunities for all of us, and for particular personal or family interests.

### Hineni!

📅 Dates announced each month

🕒 10:30am

Hineni! Is a concise and accessible one-hour Shabbat Morning service designed to reclaim personal expression in prayer. Participate in an upbeat prayer experience that reflects Jewish tradition and contemporary life. Explore religious ideas and Jewish spirituality. Grow and engage meaningfully in synagogue services, guided by Rabbi Ron Shulman.

### Huggim – Shabbat Activities

📅 Saturdays | January 12, February 9, March 9, April 6

Each month we offer activities to enhance and enjoy Shabbat together with our synagogue family and friends. Options may include a "Nature Walk and Torah Talk," "Soulful Shabbat Meditation," "Religious Views for Secular Jews," "Family Values," "Parasha Perspectives," and "Shabbat in Story and Song." Occasional Guest Speakers and Recreational Activities will also be scheduled. Shabbat Huggim will be announced before each month's date.

### Family Services

📅 Saturdays | January 12, March 9, April 6

🕒 10:30-11:15am

Introduce your children to the joy of Shabbat morning services. This program is a wonderful way for families to experience a friendly service incorporating music and song, storytelling and Torah learning. Afterwards, we will join our synagogue community for Kiddush and light lunch.





## Daily Minyan

Our Daily Minyan gathers every morning for prayer in the Beit Midrash on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 7:30am, on Mondays and Thursdays at 7:20am, and on Sundays at 9:00am. (On Rosh Hodesh, Intermediate Festival Days, Hanukkah, and Purim weekday morning services are held at 7:20 am). A study session and light breakfast follows Minyan on each weekday morning.

## Minyan Study

📅 Weekdays 🕒 8:00-8:30am

## Study of Jewish Law

👤 Rabbi Avi Libman

📅 Mondays

We use the Shulchan Arukh as a beginning point for our conversation.

## Talmud Study Class

👤 Rabbi Ron Shulman

📅 Wednesdays

Come enjoy the steady and slow experience of studying the core text of Rabbinic Judaism, the Talmud. We'll learn what the Talmud is and how it informs Jewish life today. Though we'll study in English, references to Hebrew will be useful as we make our way in discussing and understanding the texts we'll read.

## Study of Weekly Torah Portion, Pirkei Avot, the Prayerbook, or Contemporary Jewish Issues

👤 Various Teachers

Various Days Study of Torah and various topics related to Jewish life.

## Shabbat Morning Torah Study

👤 Rabbi Avi Libman or Rabbi Ron Shulman

📅 9:00am

Gather together before Shabbat morning services to study the weekly Torah reading based on traditional commentary, contemporary issues, and insights that participants bring to the discussion.

## Ritual and Prayer Participation

A combined effort of the Minhag Committee, Men's Club, and Women's Connection. Congregation Beth El is proud to invite members to participate in all parts of our services. Learn or brush up your prayer leading skills, read from the Torah, chant the Haftarah, and serve as Gabbai.

## Reading Prayers and Leading Services

To volunteer to read prayers and lead services, or to learn how to participate in synagogue services or read Torah or Haftarah, please contact the Rabbinic Office at [valentina@cbe.org](mailto:valentina@cbe.org). Private Tutorials are available for you to volunteer, learn, and/or get ready to lead the congregation. Times to be arranged with those listed below for each area of interest.

## Torah Readers

To learn or to volunteer to read Torah during services contact Ran Anbar at: [ran.anbar@centerpointmedicine.com](mailto:ran.anbar@centerpointmedicine.com)

## Synagogue Honors

Celebrating Shabbat each week, and gathering for prayer every day, we enjoy marking special personal and family occasions by sharing them with our Congregation Beth El family. If you would like to receive a synagogue honor during a Shabbat or Daily Minyan service, please contact the Rabbinic Office.



## Festival Celebration

We observe the sacred occasions of the Jewish year each season. Our joyous prayer services and events on Passover and Shavuot feature the unique ritual symbols and commemorations of each festival. Throughout the year, our celebrations include opportunities for all ages to share in the spirit and meaning of every holiday. Details about upcoming holiday plans are announced on our website, by email, and occasionally in your mailbox.

### Tu B'Shevat

📅 January 20

In the midst of winter, the Jewish calendar anticipates spring. Tu B'Shevat is our heritage's arbor day of hope and renewal. On the 15th day of the Hebrew month Shevat, we honor the environment. We remind ourselves to care for the world we are blessed to inhabit. Our Jewish obligation is to care for the world, not to destroy, to waste, or to deplete our natural resources. Our role is to till the soil and reclaim the land. That's why on Tu B'Shevat we plant trees.

### Tu B'Shevat Seder

📅 Sunday | January 20

🕒 5:30pm

Congregation Beth El celebrates the "New Year of Trees" with good food and local wine. We will journey through cooking demos and learn about cultural aspects of the holiday. We will feast on farm-to-table cuisine and focus on sustainable living and environmental practices as they apply to our community.

\$55 per person

**Purim** recounts an ancient tale of humor and challenge remembering Queen Esther, Mordecai and the Jews of Shushan. Purim encourages us to stand proud as Jews and ever vigilant against prejudice and injustice.

### Purim Carnival

📅 March 17

🕒 11:00am–2:00pm

Celebrate Purim with a Community Purim Carnival at the JCC. Games, rides, food trucks, raffle, and more!

### The Whole Megillah | Superhero Purim\*

📅 March 20

This year's Purim theme is Superheroes. In our festivities we'll imitate comic book and fictional characters for fun. We'll also honor Mordecai and Esther, the Jewish Superheroes of the Purim story every year. Come dressed as your favorite Purim character, Superhero, or fun character.

🕒 5:45 pm | Superhero Family Megillah reading and program in the Stone Family Sanctuary

🕒 6:30 pm | Esther's Feast - Dinner buffet for everyone in the Jacobs Family Community Hall followed by a Superhero's Family Fun Festival with games and Purim silliness.

🕒 7:30 pm | Traditional Megillah reading and Purim Shpiel in the Stone Family Sanctuary

🕒 8:30 pm | Esther's Party. In the Jacobs Family Community Hall.





**Passover** is a holiday of hope, renewal, and life. Nature's spring is the backdrop for our people's Exodus story of beginnings and freedom. Passover's message and mood encourage and inspire us. As spring begins, Passover reminds us we are keepers of a vision, advocates for redemption. Celebrating Pesach by gathering with family and friends around our Seder tables and joining in community, we attach our personal lives and concerns to the grand and potent moral principles for which God brought our ancestors out of Egypt.

## **Siyyum B'khorim**

📅 Friday April 19

🕒 7:30 am

A morning minyan and brief study session followed by a light breakfast, the last hametz meal before Passover. The tradition of participating in a Siyyum B'khorim marks the role of the first born of both Israel and Egypt in the Exodus story. Attendance at this minyan is a special mitzvah for all first-born males. First born daughters and everyone else are also welcome.

## **Passover Festival Morning Services**

📅 April 20 and 21, 26 and 27

🕒 9:30am

We invite you to join warm and special times to experience the meaning, spirit and beauty of celebrating Passover with your synagogue family. On our Festival Services in prayer, celebration and reflection, we'll rejoice in the purpose and joy of Passover. During our service on Shabbat April 27, we recite Yizkor Memorial Prayers.

## **Congregation Beth El Community Second Seder Celebration\***

📅 Saturday Evening | April 20, 2018

🕒 6:45 pm

📍 Congregation Beth El

We look forward to welcoming our synagogue's families and friends at a Seder Celebration for the second evening of Passover. We invite you to join with Rabbi Shulman and Rabbi Libman as we enjoy the traditions and the joy of Pesach together. Our Seder will be filled with spirit and song, and the special foods and flavors of the Passover festival as we share Passover's meaning for each of us.

**Shavuot** commemorates the giving of the Torah, the content and meaning of Judaism for each of us and our world. It also marks the brighter and pleasant days of spring turning into summer, of a world turning fresh and green with life and beauty.

## **Tikkun Leil Shavuot "Great Debates"**

📅 June 8

We begin Shavuot with an evening of great debates. Participate with us in rehashing some of the great debates from Jewish history and tradition. Come to argue and learn. Come to discuss and explore. Maybe you'll win an argument, maybe not. At least you'll be immersed in the conversation.

## **Shavuot Festival Services**

📅 June 9 and 10

🕒 9:30 am

During our service on June 10, we recite Yizkor Memorial Prayers. On Shavuot we imagine ourselves at Mt. Sinai and rejoice in the gift of Torah. To honor our holiday's spirit, before we take the Torah scrolls out of the Ark, our Shavuot Festival Morning Services will include a special opportunity to study the Ten Commandments.









## Viterbi Torah School

Rabbis and teachers at VTS strive to develop responsible and knowledgeable individuals with positive Jewish identities who participate actively and joyfully in Jewish life. Our classes and programs impart religious character, ethical awareness, and a love of Judaism. Jewish values, *Tikkun Olam*, and celebration are curriculum cornerstones, promoting connection to community and generosity of spirit.

### VTS for Tots\*

📅 Sunday | January 13, Tu B'Shevat  
Sunday | March 10, Purim  
Sunday | April 7, Pesach

🕒 9:30-11:45am

A morning of fun Jewish learning including art, games, stories, music, snack, and holiday lessons for 3 – 5 year old preschool and pre-K children.

## Bar and Bat Mitzvah Program

Our children become Bar and Bat Mitzvah (Son or Daughter of the Commandments) at a formative time in their lives. As they become Jewish teenagers, this ceremony marks a transition for them from the learning and joys of their childhoods to the moral consciousness, religious privileges, and imperative of their responsibilities as maturing Jews.

Our Bar and Bat Mitzvah preparation program seeks to guide our students toward the development of ethical awareness as they master synagogue skills and Jewish concepts for living and celebrating their lives. Bar and Bat Mitzvah celebrations take place within the context of each child's family, our synagogue community, and Shabbat Services. Bar and Bat Mitzvah is a joyous event for every student's family and our entire synagogue family. All B'nei Mitzvah candidates at Congregation Beth El are enrolled in a formal program of Jewish education, a Jewish Day School, or some other form of Congregation Beth El approved Religious and Hebrew instruction. 7th grade students meet on Shabbat mornings to enhance their prayer skills and attend Shabbat Morning Services. For detailed information about celebrating your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Congregation Beth El please call Rabbi Avi Libman.







## Welcome to BEIT

Welcome to BEIT. All are welcome to join us for our BEIT Midrash on Thursday evenings. On each Beth El is Thursday evening you'll choose from a variety of experiences and courses. Come for dinner at our BEIT Café, create your own schedule, do as much or as little as you like. Sign-up to dine on a weekly themed menu at our BEIT Café, from 6:00 to 7:00 pm; coffee and nosh will be available throughout the night. Don't let the schedule confuse you! Choose from many experiences and classes beginning at either 6:30 or 7:20 pm. Participate in one, two, or three sessions each week according to your interest and availability. Schedules are available online and are emailed. Classroom locations are available in the BEIT Café each week.

You may register on-line for dinner \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. No need to register to attend experiences and courses.

**Directing Our Hearts** is our focus for the Winter-Spring Semester of BEIT. Experience personal meaning in a variety of learning experiences and settings. Our explorations touch on the arts, history, prayer, Torah study, and personal connections to Judaism and the heritage of the Jewish people.

## Jewish Film Festival Preview Night

📅 Thursday | January 10

🕒 7:00pm

BEIT returns for a special evening. Representatives of the San Diego Jewish Film Festival will provide a behind-the-scenes look at this year's film selections. Watch previews and win tickets to the film festival. Enjoy a cinematic evening with popcorn and friends. Light refreshments will be served.

VTS Parents  
with the Rabbi  
5:30-6:00pm

BEIT Café  
6:00-7:00pm

Experience I  
6:30-7:10pm

Learning  
7:20-8:00pm

Experience II  
8:00-8:30pm

*BEIT is sponsored in loving memory of Paula Mandell, a student and teacher dedicated to Jewish scholarship, by her devoted husband Jerry and their family.*



## BEIT Parent Programs

📅 January 17 through March 28

🕒 5:30 pm

Watch for weekly sessions with Rabbis Shulman and Libman in which we'll explore topics of Jewish interest for ourselves and our families. Parents will be able to learn with our rabbis, stay for dinner or other BEIT experiences as desired. Students will be welcome in study hall (6:15-8:30pm) while their parents are learning.

## BEIT Experience I 6:30 to 7:10 pm

### Pray Tell

👤 Rabbi Ron Shulman

📅 January 17, 31, February 14, 28, March 14

Explore the reasons and meanings, problems and promises of communal and personal prayer in Jewish tradition. Understand the prayer book, its history, and its ideas.

### A Moment in History

👤 Rabbi Avi Libman

📅 January 17, February 7, 28, March 28

Discover what happened and why it matters in four historical vignettes from Jewish history.

### Renewing the Covenant

👤 Dr. Ray Fink

📅 January 24, February 7, 21, March 7, 28

A discussion and analysis of the common values underlying the relationship between North American Jews and Israeli Jews. What are our mutual responsibilities? What are our common values? How do we deal with differences? Israeli President Reuven Rivlin has issued a call to action, please join us in this most important task.

## Tweeting Torah in 140 Characters

👤 Dan Baer

📅 February 14

We consume significant pieces of our information today in tweets, texts and tidbits. This experiential session will explore some of the mitzvot of the Torah, which are often short sentences or phrases, and how we extrapolate them into our life today.

## Torah Stitch

👤 Pamela Nathan

📅 January 17, February 7, March 7

Join in an international project to create an entire Torah in needlepoint panels. Receive a verse of your own to contribute and join with others in learning about the verses being made.

## Appreciating Jewish Art: Part I

### Marc Chagall – The Most Important 20th Century Jewish Artist

👤 Guri Stark

📅 January 24

A master of dreams and storytelling: come explore Chagall's unique expressive and poetic paintings.

## Appreciating Jewish Art: Part II

### Gutman, Rubin and the History of Tel Aviv

👤 Guri Stark

📅 February 14

In this session we will discuss two Israeli artists who were the pioneers of a new, distinctive Eretz Israel art style in the days prior to the foundation of Israel.

## Tikkun Talk

📅 January 24, February 21, March 7

Discuss social justice concerns with synagogue friends. Hear from social service and human welfare providers. Understand the needs in the community around us. Learn about personal experiences at *Tikkun* projects. Help imagine how we at Congregation Beth El can continue to do the work helping, repairing, caring, and supporting work of *Tikkun*.

### Jewish Mindfulness

 Dr. Oded Shezifi

 January 31, February 28, March 28

In our busy and over stimulated 21st century lives mindfulness has become a popular practice for raising awareness, decreasing anxiety, and regulating feelings. In this workshop we will discover how mindfulness is embedded in ancient Jewish texts, traditions, and rituals.

### Learning with the Lebowitzs

 Ian Merles

 January 24, February 7, 21, March 7, 28

Study the weekly Torah portion with the commentaries of Yeshayahu and Nehama Lebowitz - a brother and sister pair of polymath geniuses, Torah scholars, and shapers of Israeli society.

### Chai Uncensored\*

 January 10, March 14, April 11, May 9

On the second Thursday of each month Chai members gather with one another, our rabbis, and other teachers to discuss issues of the day from the perspective of Jewish values

### Torah Reading

 Dr. Ran Anbar

 January 17 through March 28

Learn to read Torah or grow your Torah reading skills. If you wish, read Torah on occasional Shabbat mornings as a member of our Torah reading squad. We meet on a regular basis to teach Torah trope to beginners, review trope with more experienced readers, and practice upcoming Torah readings.

### Beginning Hebrew Reading

 Robin Shulman

 January 17 through March 28

Continue to learn basic Hebrew reading for synagogue services. This is a comfortable first step for discovering or rediscovering your ability to read Hebrew.

### Intermediate Hebrew Reading


 Orli Moses

 January 17 through March 28

Strengthen your Hebrew reading and comprehension skills and try your hand at reading modern Hebrew.

### Making Music!

 Cara Freedman

 January 17, 31, February 14, 28

Let's sing and enjoy each other's company as we learn popular Jewish melodies and expand our personal and communal repertoire.



## BEIT Learning 7:20 to 8:00 pm

### Believe It or Not

 Rabbi Ron Shulman

 January 24, February 7, 21, March 7, 28

What does Judaism believe? What do we think about what Judaism teaches? Explore Jewish religious views about the meaning of life and death, ritual practice and personal ethics, beliefs about God, and how technology and personal choice challenge Jewish religious values.


### Four Favorite Texts

 Rabbi Avi Libman

 January 17, 31, February 14, March 14

Rabbi Avi has chosen four of his favorite texts from the Bible, Talmud, and philosophy to share. Each text challenges our sensibilities and deepens our connections to Jewish tradition, ourselves and each other.

### Women Talking with Women

 Renee Ravich and Sandra Block

 January 17, February 14, March 28

Explore what it means to be a Jewish woman today within relationships, community and family- traditional and nontraditional- in a safe and supportive environment. We will provide text from various books and resources as discussion prompts. Women only, please.

### Men Talking to Men


 Bernardo Bicas

 January 17, February 14, March 28

At each session participants select the topic. Men of all ages and backgrounds comprise this diverse and interesting group who come to share and listen in a safe space. New participants are always welcome. Men only, please.

### Intro to Judaism – Part II


 Rabbi Avi Libman

 January 24, February 7, 21, March 7, 28, April 11, May 2, May 9

Join us for an educational journey for Jews and non-Jews interested in gaining knowledge of Jewish history, life, and culture. In this course, we cover topics like Jewish history, theology, and philosophy, as well as holidays and life-cycle events, practices, and rituals. The course is geared to anyone who wants to learn more about Judaism, in addition to those considering conversion.

### Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah

 Rabbi Ron Shulman

 January 17, 31, February 14, March 14, May 2, May 9

If you never celebrated your Bar or Bat Mitzvah, or if you'd like to renew that childhood moment as an adult, we invite you to join our Adult Bar/ Bat Mitzvah group – a communal experience culminating for those who wish in a group Bar/ Bat Mitzvah ceremony. The Adult Bar/ Bat Mitzvah group is a community of individuals who grow together in Jewish knowledge, achieve greater comfort with synagogue services, and the joys of Jewish celebration.



## Guest Scholar Visits



### Rabbi Dr. Judith Hauptman The Moral Obligation to Speak Out in the Face of Wrongdoing

📅 February 28  
🕒 7:00pm

This presentation is based on a Talmudic discussion which takes up the question of what to do when one sees people misbehaving, whether they are government officials or neighbors, whether they are breaking religious or civil law. Via anecdotes and midrash, a very demanding moral principle emerges. Requested Fee: \$20

Rabbi Dr. Judith Hauptman is the Professor Emerita of Talmud and Rabbinic Culture at The Jewish Theological Seminary of NY. Rabbi Dr. Hauptman is both a distinguished and pioneering scholar.

*Rabbi-Professor Hauptman will be speaking on and teaching entry-level Talmud at the JCC on Feb. 28 from 10:30 to noon. This presentation is called "Women's Voices in the Talmud." Fee: \$18 or \$36 for both the morning and evening sessions.*

### Salon Workshop on Leonard Bernstein's Symphony #3 – The Kaddish Symphony

📅 March 14

🕒 5:30 to 7:00pm

👤 **Steven Schick** | Distinguished Professor of Music at UCSD and La Jolla Symphony & Chorus Music Director

👤 **Eva Barnes** | UCSD Theater Department in the role of "narrator"

👤 **Amelia Glaser** | UCSD Professor

A celebration of Leonard Bernstein's centennial. A unique opportunity to learn about Symphony #3 (Kaddish). The Salon gives audiences the context in which to appreciate the piece and gives deeper meaning to the upcoming concert by the La Jolla Symphony & Chorus at UCSD. A discussion will follow.



### Dr. Gil Troy Spring Scholar-in- Residence

📅 April 4  
🕒 7:30pm

We're excited to welcome Dr. Gil Troy to Congregation Beth El this spring. Dr. Troy is an historian, author, and social commentator. His current book, *The Zionist Ideas*, traces the history of Zionist thought. His opinion writing is getting lots of attention as he addresses current concerns in American and Israeli Jewish life. Dr. Troy is a professor at McGill University in Montreal and comes to us from Jerusalem where he lives and writes.

Watch for more information about our Scholar-In-Residence weekend and the topics of Dr. Troy's presentations.

## BEIT Experience II 8:00 pm

### Torah Tonight

👤 Rabbi Ron Shulman

📅 January 17 & 31

Consider current events and social issues through the lens of Judaism's texts and teachings. The topic and texts to be studied and discussed will be announced before each session.

### Jewish Lifecycle: Bereavement

👤 Rabbi Ron Shulman

📅 February 14

Learn about Jewish customs and practices for when a loved one dies. Talk about how to prepare and plan for this sad eventuality in our families and among our friends.

## Healing Service

 March 7

Join Rabbis Shulman and Libman for a brief service focusing on healing and wellbeing. As we reflect, talk, and sing, we'll celebrate the promise of healing for our loved ones and friends, our bodies and souls. Offering our mutual support to those of us who support ailing family members and friends, we'll embrace each other with care and comfort.

## BEIT Talks

Heard of TED Talks? Welcome to Beth El Talks! Meet fascinating members of our synagogue community. Learn about their lives, their careers, and wisdom from their experiences. Each season we'll feature a variety of individuals as we celebrate the diversity and achievements of our synagogue family.

**January 24**

### **Dr. Andrew J. Viterbi**

Dr. Andrew Viterbi, well known to us at Congregation Beth El for his devotion to our synagogue community, was born in 1935 in Bergamo, Italy. At age 4, following the anti-Semitic "Racial Laws," with his parents he immigrated to America. Growing up in Boston he attended public schools, including the earliest High School founded in the U.S. After earning Bachelor's and Master's degrees from MIT, he moved to California for a position at Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory just five months before the Soviet "Sputnik" signaled the launch of the Space Age. Over the next five years, while participating in the first successful U.S. satellite launch and pursuing research on the reception and tracking of extremely weak signals from satellites and planetary probes, he also earned a Ph.D. from USC. The following year he was offered a faculty position at UCLA, where he remained for ten years of teaching and research, which solidified his reputation in the field of wireless communication research.

Moving with his young family to San Diego in 1973, he participated full time in Linkabit Corporation, the first of two startups of which he was a co-founder. Through this and the second one, Qualcomm, with colleagues and a growing number of bright new engineering graduates he helped to turn several of his R&D concepts, originally applied only for Defense and Space communication, into large scale wireless networks for industrial and consumer uses. These included the first mobile satellite network for continent-wide transportation services and the first successful U.S. digital cellular network. During this time he also held a part-time position on the UCSD Engineering School faculty.

Retiring from Qualcomm in 2000, he remained active in support of new technological ventures. To a growing extent he also dedicated time and resources to causes to which he is deeply committed. Education at all levels has been a high priority, followed by the support of health and safety institutions as well as cultural activities in the humanities and arts; all these in the U.S., Israel and throughout the Jewish world.

Well above the recognition he has received from his profession, Andrew treasures the closeness of his family, children and grandchildren, for which he credits in many ways his beloved companion of almost six decades, Erna Finci Viterbi z"l.

**February 21**

### **Stacy Rosenberg**

As the Nazis physically exterminated the Jewish population of Europe, they also carried out a campaign of cultural genocide by confiscating the artwork and personal property of their victims. Despite public recognition of the horrors of the Holocaust, it was not until the late 1990s that the legal and moral questions concerning restitution of that stolen property began to be considered. Stacy Kellner Rosenberg, a retired attorney and a member of the legal team that successfully obtained the restitution of Schiele's Portrait of Wally, discusses this breakthrough case and the continuing problem of resistance to restitution.

**March 28****👤 Dr. Allan Havis***American Political Theatre in the Age of Terrorism*

Allan Havis' plays have been produced at the nation's leading playhouses and overseas. He has 20 full length plays published and is the editor of three American Political Plays anthologies beginning in 2001. He writes opera libretti in collaboration with renowned composer Anthony Davis. His first publication was a novel for young readers – Albert the Astronomer – from Harper/Collins. His book on Cult Films came out ten years ago. His most produced play – Morocco – received HBO Playwrights USA Award, Foundation of the Dramatist Guild/CBS Award, and Kennedy Center production grant. He is the recipient of Guggenheim, Rockefeller, and National Endowment of the Arts fellowships. Half of his plays are sharply political with several on Jewish identity in the world and life in Israel. He received an MFA from Yale Drama School and is the Chair of Theatre and Dance at UC San Diego, where he has taught playwriting and film studies for 30 years.

**Hamantashen Baking****📅** March 14**🕒** 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Join Robin Shulman to bake Hamantashen for your Purim enjoyment. Share baking tips, flavor suggestions, and delicious fun.

**Jewish Humor Night****📅** March 14**🕒** 8:00 pm

It's time for some Purim fun. Come prepared laugh and have fun as we tell our favorite jokes and funny stories. Drink, nosh, and even a game or two included!

**Preparing For Passover****📅** April 11**🕒** 6:30 pm

Rotate between these and other sessions to help your holiday preparations.

- Explore Seder Meanings and Activities
- Discover Passover Customs and Traditions
- Learn About Kosher for Passover Food
- Share Passover Recipes

**Leading A Passover Seder for Everyone to Enjoy**

Rabbi Ron Shulman

**📅** April 11**🕒** 7:30 pm

We're all familiar with the Passover Haggadah. What should those around our Seder Tables get from it? How can we use it most effectively to interest and inspire our Seder guests? Whether you're a new or veteran Seder leader, come learn something new for this Passover.

**Siyyum: Celebrate the Completion of our BEIT Year I****📅** May 16

Our final BEIT experiences and learning for this year will conclude with refreshments, a concert, and celebrating the end of an engaging year of learning and community.

Learning sessions and special opportunities are added on a regular basis. Each week's BEIT announcements and schedule provide updated plans and guest teachers for future weeks.



## Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience, and Spirit

Dr. Sandra Block

Wednesdays | January 9, 23; February 6, 20; March 6, 20; April 3, 17; May 1, 15, 29; June 12, 26

11:00am–12:30pm

How can aging be a good thing? Aging all too often feels like drifting downhill to a place we don't want to go. But each year new doors open with opportunities, even while others close with loss. We have the power to prepare, to become stronger, more resilient, and navigate these challenges. Will we turn toward the opportunities, and find new joy and meaning in life. How can we make the most of this time, and develop into deeper, wiser people? No registration required.

## Short Stories

Sundays | January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, May 19, June 23

10:30am– Noon

A lively and interactive monthly discussion of short stories. We will begin with stories from the book *50 Stories from Israel: An Anthology*, and the group may select other choices as well. The stories will be sent to participants one week in advance. Volunteer presenters from within the group will rotate monthly. For more information, contact Maty Feldman at [matyfeldmanbicas@gmail.com](mailto:matyfeldmanbicas@gmail.com). No registration required.

## Shabbaton Weekends

Community is created when we all join together in celebration of our common bond. At Congregation Beth El, as a large and diverse synagogue family, our strength and vibrancy come from our collective involvements and shared values. When we meet one another in moments of learning, celebration, and kindness we discover that we are each precious parts of a dynamic and whole congregation.

Our Winter and Spring Shabbatonim reaffirm the joy of participating in our synagogue community. Our campus becomes a central hub for our different Shabbat services and activities, and for all of us as communal friends.

Each Shabbaton begins on Thursday evening when we'll prepare for, learn ideas about, and ways to engage in our Shabbat experience on Friday and Saturday. On Friday evening we enjoy a special Shabbat service and a lovely Shabbat dinner. Shabbat Mornings at each Shabbaton include a variety of services, activities, lunch and learning.

## Winter Shabbaton

February 7 – 9

Directing Our Hearts

Experience personal meaning in a variety of prayer and learning settings. Discuss the public prayer life of Congregation Beth El. Explore the problems and promises of communal and personal prayer in Jewish tradition.

## Spring Shabbaton

April 4 – 6

Featuring Scholar-in-Residence Dr. Gil Troy  
We're excited to welcome Dr. Gil Troy to Congregation Beth El this spring. Dr. Troy is an historian, author, and social commentator. His current book, *The Zionist Ideas*, traces the history of Zionist thought. His opinion writing is getting lots of attention as he addresses current concerns in American and Israeli Jewish life. Dr. Troy is a professor at McGill University in Montreal and comes to us from Jerusalem where he lives and writes.







## Tikkun Olam

### Volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House

📅 February 23

Help prepare, cook, serve, and clean up a meal for 150+ guests. Ronald McDonald House provides a place to stay, meals, and necessities of home so families can focus on caring for their critically ill or injured children being treated at Rady Children's Hospital.

- 🕒 **First Shift:** 3:00-6:00pm- prep and cook dinner
- 🕒 **Second Shift:** 5:30-8:00pm- set up, serve, and clean up dinner

To signup, contact Sam Jacobs at:  
Shabatai@gmail.com

### Passover Food Drive

Donate food and holiday items to be included in packages for homebound seniors, in collaboration with the Foodmobile program at JFS. See the Tikkun website for a list of items being collected this year.

### Rachel's Women's Shelter

Volunteers prepare and serve Sunday dinner once a month to the residents of Rachel's Women's Shelter. For more information about this project and other volunteer opportunities at Rachel's Women's Shelter, contact Ruth Covell at [rcovell@ucsd.edu](mailto:rcovell@ucsd.edu).

### StandUp for Kids & Storefront Overnight Shelter

Each month, volunteers deliver dinner from a well-loved restaurant to StandUp for Kids, and to Storefront Overnight Shelter, organizations serving homeless youth in San Diego. For more information, contact [Tikkun@cbe.org](mailto:Tikkun@cbe.org).

### Stand Down for Homeless Veterans

Beth El participates in this county-wide weekend of respite for homeless veterans by assembling comfort and toiletry kits for men and women veterans, and their children. See the Tikkun website for a list of comfort kit items we will be collecting and assembling this year.

### Backpacks and Uniforms Drive

Just before school starts up again, we will provide needy children in San Diego with new backpacks, filled with school supplies, as well as a new school uniform. Participate in this project by bringing new backpacks to the Tikkun bin in the CBE Administration office, or by donating funds to purchase uniforms.

### Shoah Butterfly Project

A Shoah Memorial is being built on the Turk Family Plaza, to be dedicated on this Yom Ha'Shoah, May 2, 2019. Participate in this meaningful project by painting ceramic butterflies which will be incorporated into the memorial as symbols of resilience and hope. This memorial is in connection with The Butterfly Project, an international project with a mission of using lessons of the Holocaust to educate about the dangers of hatred and bigotry, and cultivate social responsibility. Our butterflies will help The Butterfly Project achieve their goal of creating 1.5 million butterflies around the world – one for each child who perished in the Holocaust. For a list of opportunities to participate in this project, see [cbe.org](http://cbe.org)



## Israel

The Israel Committee aims to engage and inspire a connection with Israel through advocacy and education. Connect with each other, and with Israel, through the variety of social, cultural, and educational programming.

### Jewish Film Festival Preview Night

📅 Thursday | January 10

🕒 7:30pm

BEIT returns for a special evening. Representatives of the San Diego Jewish Film Festival will provide a behind-the-scenes look at this year's film selection. Watch previews and win tickets to the film festival. Enjoy a cinematic evening with popcorn and friends. Light refreshments will be served.

### Israel on Campus: Challenges, Successes, and Opportunities\*

Part 2 of a 3-part speaker series.

👤 Sarah Tagger, Campus Strategy Coordinator for StandWithUs

📅 January 12

🕒 Following services

Explore the current state of Israel affairs on campus by examining the impact of the boycott movement and other anti-Israel activity. We will discuss the unique opportunities that students have to change the tide on campuses.

Sarah Tagger educates on coalition and relationship building, campaign strategy, the challenges of the anti-Israel movement, and Israel's story. Sarah graduated from the Honors program at the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2016 with a Bachelor's degree in Cultural Anthropology and in Global Studies.

### On the Brink of War: Israeli-Gaza Tensions, Repeated

Part 3 of a 3-part speaker series

👤 Luba Levin-Banchick

📅 March 9

🕒 Following services

Why are there constant tensions and repeated wars between Israel and Gaza? With a focus on the most recent developments in the Israeli-Gaza conflict, this talk will address the series of recurrent confrontations between Israel and Gaza during the past ten years. Drawing the lessons learned from these past rounds of violence, the presentation will assess the likelihood of a new round of escalation in the Israeli Southern border.

Luba Levin-Banchick is a political scientist and historian, studying the evolution of conflict and peace in contemporary international relations of the Middle East. Her expertise is in the field of global and regional security, international crisis escalation and recurrence, domestic and transnational terrorism, cooperation and violence between rivalries, and nonstate actors

### As part of BEIT Yom Ha'Atzmaut

📅 May 9

A lively celebration of Israel's Independence, featuring Israeli food, music, and entertainment.



## Beth El Babies

Beth El Babies programming is targeted towards families with children ages 0-3. Older siblings are always welcome. Bring your family and friends!

### Bubble Party

📅 February 3

🕒 10:00am-Noon

POP on over to Congregation Beth El for a spectacular bubble show, followed by lots of bubble play. Every child will get a chance to step inside of a Giant Bubble!

### Museum of Music Making

📅 March 24

🕒 11:00am-12:30pm

Little music lovers will enjoy a hands-on drum circle at the Museum of Making Music. A guide will present several instruments and lead us in a jam session. After the drum circle, we will walk through the museum at our own pace and meet outside at the picnic tables for snacks and schmoozing.

### Musical Playdate with Diana Davidson

📅 June 2

🕒 10:00am-Noon

Kids and parents alike will be engaged in this lively musical playdate. Diana Davidson of Songbirds Music will keep your little ones entertained with musical games and songs in English and in Hebrew. We will sing and dance together and enjoy the company of friends.

These Beth El Baby programs are offered at no cost.

## Youth

Congregation Beth El's youth groups meet regularly throughout the year for social, holiday celebrations, and community service style events. Joining our youth groups offers children the ability to develop friendships and connections to the Jewish community and provides a safe space for all children to come socialize, learn, and explore their Jewish Identity.

\*Registration and payments are required for all youth department events.\*

### KaTan Tan & Machar Tu B'shevat Celebration \*\$ (Grades K-3)

📅 January 13

🕒 Noon – 3:00pm

Join us as we celebrate the Birthday of Trees. We're having a planting party and getting our hands in the dirt. Each participant will have their own plant to bring home, nurture and watch grow. Lunch will be provided. We will also celebrate by eating some of the traditional Tu B'shevat fruits.

### Kadima Kinnus @ Camp Ramah \*\$ (Grades 4-6)

📅 January 25 – 27

Join over 150 Kadimanicks at Camp Ramah for a weekend full of Ruach, learning and fun!

### KaTan Tan & Machar Winter Olympics \*\$ (Grades K-3)

📅 February 10


🕒 Noon – 3:00pm

It may not snow in San Diego, but we're still celebrating winter with the Beth El Winter Olympics and some snowy fun. We'll have Winter Olympic themed games and prizes. Lunch and a frozen treat will be included.



### **Kadima Kanvas & Kookies \*\$ (Grades 4-6)**


 February 24

 Noon – 3:00pm

We're having a painting party. Each child will come home with their own work of art. Lunch and of course Kookies will be provided.

### **San Diego Kadima Day with Tifereth Israel and Beth Am \*\$ (Grades 4-6)**

 March 10


 Noon – 4:00 pm

Come celebrate San Diego Kadima Day!

We're looking forward to hosting all of San Diego Kadima, as they join us here at Beth El. We'll have an afternoon of games, activities and more, led by our CBE USY. Lunch will be served.

### **Youth Department Pesach Celebration: The Hunt For The Afikomen \*\$ (Grades K-6)**


 April 7

 Noon – 3:00pm

We'll be celebrating Pesach and Earth Day with some fun, food and activities. We're on the hunt for the Afikomen! We'll also have charoset making and a Build Your Own Matza Pizza lunch.

### **Youth Department Goes To Glowzone \*\$ (Grades K-6)**

 May 5


 Noon – 4:00pm

Join the Beth El Youth Department for an afternoon of fun at Glowzone. We'll be eating lunch there. Socks, shoes, and a signed waiver are required. Drop-off and pick-up will be at CBE.

## **CBE Teens**

Congregation Beth El's Teen Department provides a multitude of opportunities for teens to connect to Judaism. Through USY and Thursday Night Teens (TNT), teens will have exposure to social, educational, religious, and community service experiences. The Teen Department enables connection with peers, and create experiences rooted in Jewish culture and values. CBE Teen Department provides a safe space for our teens to explore the challenges they may face in today's fast paced, ever changing modern culture. For more information about CBE Teens and to register for teen membership please contact Jason Lobenstein at [jason@cbe.org](mailto:jason@cbe.org) or visit [cbe.org](http://cbe.org)

### **Sr. USY Into The Night Grades 9-12 (\*\$)**

 January 12 through 13

 7:00pm-7:00am

Join USY for a night of mystery around San Diego with Congregation Beth Am and Tifereth Israel Synagogue.

### **USY Social Action Tikkun Olam (SATO) Day Grades 7-12 (\*)**

 January 21


Join USY for a day of community service.

### **Jr. USY Kinnus (Grades 7 and 8) and Sr. USY Encampment (Grades 9-12) \*\$**

 January 25-27

### **Teen Shabbat Grades 7-12**

 February 1

 6:30-9:00pm

### **USY Goes to Knotts Berry Farm Grades 7-12**

 February 10

We will be riding in fashion on our very own party bus to Knotts Berry Farm where we will spend the day riding roller coaster, and more.



## **Sr. USY Specialty Kinnus @ Congregation**

**Beth Am Grades 9-12 (\*\$)**

📅 February 12-17

## **Jr. USY Overnight (\*\$)**

📅 March 2 through 3

🕒 7:00pm-8:00am

Join Jr. USY for a night of fun with Congregation Beth Am and Tifereth Israel. Following our fun, we will be sleeping over at Congregation Beth El.

## **Teen Shabbat Grades 7-12**

📅 March 8

🕒 6:30-9:00pm

## **USY Goes to Rockin Jump Grades 7-12 (\*\$)**

📅 March 9

🕒 7:30-10:00pm

Join USY at Rockin Jump for Neon Jump night. Waiver is required for all participants.

## **Sr. USY Kinnus @Temple Beth Sholom, Greater Phoenix Area Grades 9-12**

📅 March 29-31

## **USY Bread Binge & Cake Walk Grades 7-12 (\*\$)**

📅 April 27

Come end Passover with USY. We will feast on pizza, pasta, and more. We will also be raising money for Tikkun Olam with a Cake Walk.

## **Teens and Parents Trip to the Museum of Tolerance Grades 7-12**

📅 May 5

🕒 7:30am-5pm

CBE Teens is happy to sponsor an all-inclusive trip to the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles for all the teens and parents in our community. We will spend 3 hours on a guided tour of the museum and following we will go and enjoy some LA Kosher dining.

## **Teen Shabbat Grades 7-12**

📅 May 18

🕒 9:30-1:00

We will be co-leading services and following we will enjoy a traditional Shabbat lunch.

## **Far West USY Regional Convention @ Camp Alonim Grades 8-12 (\*\$)**

📅 May 24 through 27

## **USY End of the Year Celebration Grades 7-12**

📅 June 15

## **Thursday Night Teens or TNT Grades 8-12 (\*\$)**

🕒 6:00-8:00pm

📅 **January 10** | StandWithUs Program

📅 **January 17** | StandWithUs Program Session 2

📅 **January 31** | Butterfly Project

📅 **February 7** | What is the BDS Movement

📅 **February 14** | Activism

📅 **February 21** | Souplantation and Mini Golf

📅 **February 28** | Hot Topics with the Rabbi

📅 **March 7** | Hot Topics with the Rabbi

📅 **March 14** | Hot Topics with the Rabbi

📅 **March 21** | Hot Topics with the Rabbi

📅 **March 28** | Social Night

📅 **April 4** | Hot Topics with the Rabbi

📅 **April 11** | Hell's Kitchen Pesach Edition

📅 **May 2** | Hot Topics with the Rabbi

📅 **May 23** | Lag B'Omer Bonfire

📅 **June 6** | Senior Farewell and Board Elections

## Chai 20s/30s

Chai @ Beth El provides spiritual, cultural, and educational programming for adults in their 20s and 30s.

### Chai Shabbat\*

📅 Fridays | January 25, February 22, March 22, May 24, June 28

🕒 7:00pm

Chai 20s/30s celebrates with an evening service and dinner on the fourth Friday evening of each month.

### Chai Uncensored\*

📅 Thursdays | January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9

🕒 6:30-7:00pm

On the second Thursday of each month Chai members gather with one another, our rabbis, and other teachers to discuss issues of the day from the perspective of Jewish values. After Chai Uncensored, stay for one of the many other BEIT offerings.

### Paint and Wine Night\*

📅 January 15

An evening of painting and wine in the theme of Tu B' Shevat.

### Chai Brews and Gulls\*

📅 February 6

Pregame at Bay City Brewery from 5:00-6:45pm following we will walk to the Valley View Casino Center for the San Diego Gulls & Ontario Reign hockey game.

### Jews & Brews\*

📅 May 15

🕒 6:00-8:30pm

Join Chai for a social outing at a local brewery. This events is free, but we ask that you register so we can provide tasty appetizers.

### Camping Trip\*

📅 March 1 - 3

Our annual camping trip sleeping under the stars, roasting marshmallows, hiking, playing games and much more. Registration fee is free for Chai Members and \$20 per nonmember.

Registration includes food for the weekend as well as the campsite entrance fee. More information, including an itinerary, will be available shortly. Please contact Jason at [jason@cbe.org](mailto:jason@cbe.org) with questions.

### Purim Party\*

📅 March 20

Following the Megillah reading at Congregation Beth El, Chai will celebrate with a Purim After Party.

### Second Night Passover Seder\*

📅 April 20

A Second Night Passover Seder followed by a delicious meal with the Congregation Beth El Community, at Chai tables.

### Chai Brunch\*

📅 April 28

🕒 10:00am-12:30pm

A bread filled brunch as we celebrate the ending of Passover.

### Summer Kick Off

📅 June 23



## Women's Connection

### Rosh Chodesh Monthly Gathering

- 📅 January 7, February 4, March 6, April 4, May 6, June 4
- 🕒 6:00-8:30pm

Celebrate the new moon, new friends, and new spiritual connections. Starts with dairy/pareve potluck and ends with celebration under the stars! Over the past years more than 150 women of all ages—from high school through their 90s—have joined in sharing in large and small group discussion, education, Torah study, meditation, dance, prayer, presentations about international Jewish communities, and more. Special Guests and topics to be announced. For information contact Karen Bohrer [kbohrer@usa.net](mailto:kbohrer@usa.net).

### Women's Connection Shabbat - Shabbat Shirah

- 📅 Saturday | January 19
- 🕒 9:00am Torah study
- 🕒 9:30am Service followed by Luncheon

Celebrate Beth El's vibrant community of women at our Annual Women's Connection Shabbat. More than 60 women participate each year in leading prayers, reading Torah, chanting Haftarah, and sharing special readings and melodies. We also honor a "Woman of Valor/Eshet Chayil" for her contributions to the Beth El and Jewish communities. This is a special opportunity to learn, participate, and rejoice. This year we are proud to honor Terry Miller for her dedication to Jewish and public education and the many ways she has inspired her students of all ages.

For information and to participate and/or help with this event, visit the Women's Connection page at [cbe.org](http://cbe.org) or contact Karen Bohrer [kbohrer@usa.net](mailto:kbohrer@usa.net).

### Mah Jongg

- 📅 Weekly | Mondays when office is open
- 🕒 Noon-4:00pm

Women of all ages continue Beth El's 60-plus year tradition of playing Mah Jongg. Enhance game skills and friendships.

### Knit 'n' Nosh

- 📅 Monthly | 2nd Thursdays when the office is open
- 🕒 1:00-3:00pm

Learn and perfect creative yarn knitting and crocheting skills while creating Tikkun projects including caps for premature babies, scarves for women facing breast cancer, and hats for Israeli soldiers. For information contact Joy Wasserman Polun [wassermanjoy3@gmail.com](mailto:wassermanjoy3@gmail.com).

### Festival Arts Series

- 📅 Sunday | March 31
- 🕒 10am-2pm

Artist Varda Levram-Ellisman will lead us as we create special jewelry pieces using polymer clay and art canes from Israel to use for clips for our prayer shawls, sweaters, scarves, or broaches. Session includes orientation to the materials and techniques plus all the things you'll need to use your creativity to make a memorable decorative piece. Wine and light food included.

Come celebrate and learn with us—even if you do not want to do the art! All women are welcome. \$38 includes all art materials; \$20 to nosh and watch (\$42/\$22 at the door).

### *As part of BEIT*

#### Women Talking with Women

- 👤 Renee Ravich and Sandra Block
- 📅 January 17, February 14, March 28
- 🕒 7:20pm

Explore what it means to be a Jewish woman today within relationships, community and family — traditional and nontraditional — in a safe and supportive environment. We will provide text from various books and resources as discussion prompts. Women only, please.



## Men's Club

### World Wide Wrap

📅 February 3

🕒 8:30am

Men, women, girls, and boys are invited! Learn how to put on tefillin and discuss the history and mystery of wearing tefillin.

*As part of BEIT*

### Men Talking to Men

👤 Bernardo Bicas

📅 Thursday | January 17, February 14, March 28

🕒 7:20pm

At each session participants select the topic. Men of all ages and backgrounds comprise this diverse and interesting group who come to share and listen in a safe space. New participants are always welcome. Men only, please.





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### February

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## 📅 March

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- 1-3** Chai Camping Trip, 29
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Youth Department Pesach Celebration:  
The Hunt For The Afikomen, 27
- 11** Thursday Night Teens, 28  
Chai Uncensored, 29  
BEIT Midrash, 15
- 19** Siyyum B'khorim, 12
- 20** Passover Festival Morning Services, 12  
Congregation Beth El Community  
Second Seder Celebration, 12  
Chai Second Night Passover Seder, 29
- 21** Passover Festival Morning Services, 12
- 26** Passover Festival Morning Services, 12
- 27** Passover Festival Morning Services, 12  
USY Bread Binge & Cake Walk, 28
- 28** Chai Brunch, 29



## Programs By Date

### May

- 02** BEIT Midrash, 15  
Shoah Butterfly Project, 24  
Thursday Night Teens, 28
- 03** Young Family Shabbat, 8  
School Family Shabbat, 8
- 05** Youth Department Goes To Glowzone, 27  
Teens and Parents Trip to the Museum  
of Tolerance, 28
- 06** Rosh Chodesh Monthly Gathering, 30
- 09** Yom Ha'Atzmaut, 25  
Chai Uncensored, 29
- 10** Inspiration! A Service of Music & Meaning, 8
- 15** Jews & Brews, 29
- 18** Teen Shabbat, 28
- 23** Thursday Night Teens, 28
- 24** Chai Shabbat, 29
- 24-27** Far West USY Regional Convention, 28
- 31** Plaza Prayer, 9

### June

- 02** Musical Playdate with Diana Davidson, 26
- 04** Rosh Chodesh Monthly Gathering, 30
- 06** Thursday Night Teens, 28
- 08** Tikkun Leil Shavuot "Great Debates", 12
- 09** Shavuot Festival Services, 12
- 10** Shavuot Festival Services, 12
- 14** Beach Shabbat, 9
- 15** USY End of the Year Celebration, 28
- 28** Plaza Prayer, 9  
Chai Shabbat, 29





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