Welcome

Rabbi Elyssa Austerklein

Hazzan Matthew Austerklein

We are so delighted to be joining you as your clergy team this summer, and we look forward to getting to know the Beth El community and Akron! To get to know you better, we are anticipating several “salons” in the homes of congregants and at the synagogue between our arrival and the upcoming High Holy Days. The salons will be smaller gatherings of our members so we can learn who you are, what you dream about, and what we can do to continue and further your Jewish experience and journey. We have already been meeting with Harvey, Erin, and other members to work on program and community ideas for the new year: We will teach a three session online learning series leading up to the High Holy Days, so you can log in (or call in) during your lunch hour from work and chew on some Torah. When we arrive in Akron, we will immediately dive into planning the High Holy Days, which will include musical instruments, Hazzanut, and short meditations on spiritual themes. Over the rest of the year, there are many highlights to look forward to: Our November Installation with area clergy; a once a month Friday night instrumental Shabbat service in the round; a musical weekend with Jewish a cappella; a Maple Syrup Farm tour; a “Miriam” drumming workshop; weekday meditation minyan; Babies, Bagels and Blessings; Jewish Shakespeare… and more. If there is a program you have been waiting for, please let us know!

We want you to know that our shared office door is always open to you. As we write this, the office is being remodeled to accommodate two workstations, comfortable seating, a learning table and many, many books. We look forward to sharing the space through all of your life’s moments, in learning and in friendship. And we look forward to sharing the space in our own hearts, as we get to know each one of you in the months and years ahead. Together, we look forward to renewing our community with love and dedication.

Rabbi Elyssa & Hazzan Matt

If you would like to volunteer your home as a gathering spot for a salon, please contact the office.

July

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**Thank You to...**

... **Marsha Friedman** for sponsoring the bima flowers on June 17 in memory of mother, Lena Heyman.

... **Alan** and **Pasty Siff** for sponsoring the bima flowers on June 17 in honor of their 55th anniversary.

... **Sue** and **Marty Spector** for sponsoring the bima flowers on June 24 in honor of their anniversary.

... **Bonnie** and **Randy Cohen** for sponsoring bima flowers on June 24 in honor of their anniversary.

**Milestones**

**BIRTHS — MAZEL TOV TO**

**Meade** and **Marge Perlman** on the birth of their new granddaughter, **Jane Emily Perlman**. Proud parents are Meryl and Dan; big sister is Lea; grandparents are Jeff and Cheri Cohn all of Denver, CO.

**Andrea** and **Sid Steinberger** on the birth of grandson, **Asher William Levitt**, born on May 16, 2017 in Seattle, WA. Proud parents are Julia and Michael Levitt; grandparents are Helen and Ralph Levitt of Fargo, ND; great-grandmother, Lourie Rapport of Estero, FL.

**Anniversaries**

**JULY**

<table>
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<th>YEARS</th>
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<td>18 Gary &amp; Lori Bernstein....................... 35</td>
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**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**JULY 2017**

**TAMMUZ • AV 5777**

- **Sunday** – 8:30 AM
- **Wednesday and Friday** – 7:30 AM
- **Saturday Morning** – 9:15 AM

**Please note:**

- Minyan times – effective now through Labor Day: Wednesdays and Fridays at 7:30 AM, Sundays at 8:30 AM. All other times by request only.
- Friday night services will be held only when there is a special program. Please check the calendar for further details.
- Other evening services will be held by request only. Please call the office one week in advance to make special arrangements.

**Candle Lighting**

- July 7 .... 8:43 PM
- July 14 .... 8:40 PM
- July 21 .... 8:35 PM
- July 28 .... 8:28 PM

**Havdalah**

- July 1 .... 9:53 PM
- July 8 .... 9:50 PM
- July 15 .... 9:46 PM
- July 22 .... 9:40 PM
- July 29 .... 9:32 PM

**Sisterhood**

**Knitzvah**
Will return in September

**Taste of Torah**
July 17, 7:00-8:30 PM

**L’Chaim Cooking Club**
July 24, 6:00-8:00 PM at Beth El
# Bulletin of Beth El Congregation

## Yahrzeits

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### Services
- **Sunday, July 2**: 8:30 AM
- **Weekdays, July 2-7**: 7:30 AM
- **Saturday, July 1**: 9:15 AM

### Let Us Know
- Rabbi Grundfast is eager to visit congregants in the hospital, but can't go if he doesn't know. If you or someone you know is in the hospital or sick at home, and would appreciate a pastoral visit, please let us know.

### Independence Day
- **Wednesday, July 5**: Independence Day
- **Saturday, July 8**: Rosh Chodesh
- **Saturday, July 29**: Shabbat Chazon

### Canada Day
- **Monday, July 1**: 4th July Independence Day

### Taste of Torah
- **Saturday, July 8**: 7:00-8:30 PM

### L'chaim Cooking Club
- **Sunday, July 30**: 6:00-8:00 PM

### Devarim
- **Saturday, July 29**: Erev Tisha B'Av

### Shabbat Chazon
- **Friday, July 28**: Services 8:30 PM

### 4th July Independence Day
- **Sunday, July 2**: Services 8:30 AM
- **Monday, July 3**: Office Closed

### Balak
- **Wednesday, July 5**: Independence Day

### Pinchas
- **Saturday, July 8**: Rosh Chodesh

### Matot-Masei
- **Saturday, July 29**: Shabbat Chazon

### L'chaim Cooking Club
- **Sunday, July 30**: Services 8:30 AM
- **Monday, July 31**: Erev Tisha B'Av

### Tisha B'Av
- **Saturday, July 29**: Services 8:30 PM
- **Sunday, July 30**: Erev Tisha B'Av
- **Monday, July 31**: Tisha B'Av

### Services
- **(unless otherwise noted)**

### Office Closed
- **July 6**: Independence Day
Transitions and Welcoming

Dr. Harvey Sterns, President

A transition is a passage from one position, state, or stage, to another. July will be a month of significant transitions at Beth El. Rabbi Grundfast will be formally retired, and we can continue to thank him and Judy for their years of service to our community. We wish them the best in their new stage of life.

On the 30th of July Rabbi Elyssa and Hazzan Matt Austerklein will begin their shared pulpit, another noteworthy transition for them and for our congregation. We want to give them a hearty welcome to Akron, and look forward to many wonderful experiences together as a community. They will begin on a solemn note as they immediately lead us in the observance of Tish’a B’Av on Monday evening, July 31, and Tuesday, August 1.

As you will soon find out, plans have been made and are being made for the coming year and will offer new opportunities for weekly observance and many special events. Please join all of us in this period of exciting transition, and let us look forward to joining together to create a warm and welcoming experience for Rabbi, Hazzan and Georgie as they create their new home.

My best,

Harvey

Portable Judaism

Rabbi Elyssa Joy Austerklein

When I was fifteen years old, I went on my first trip to Israel with the Nesiya Institute. One of the projects that we did was paint a large mural on the community center building in Beit She’an, Cleveland’s sister city. Years later, while I was living in Israel for a year during rabbinical school, I returned to the building to see the mural. Though I was sure I was at the right location, the mural was no longer there. I was disappointed and a bit sad to see it gone.

For me, the mural I had painted permanently impacted my soul and symbolically formed a bond between me and Israel - alas, the mural was gone, but not the bond.

Hazzan Matt and I were struck by Beth El’s foresight and initiative in selling your large, historic building and creating a beautiful new sanctuary and mercaz annexed onto the Shaw JCC. We recognize the many memories which you must still carry with you of the old building and perhaps with “the way things were.” But what you did was position yourself to have a broader impact than you ever could before and be at the doorstep of the Jewish community. Of course, we are committed to moving forward with this goal.

We begin our tenure as your clergy team with the commemoration of Tisha B’Av, in which we remember with mourning the destruction of the 1st and 2nd Temples in Jerusalem, in addition to other calamitous losses in Jewish history. The destruction teaches us that there is not a single location where Jewish life happens. The great blessing emerging out of the destruction was the new portability of a meaningful Judaism - one in which the service of the heart superseded the physical sacrifice. In Psalms, we are taught that “True sacrifice to God is a breaking open heart.”

A building, or a place, is in essence not what makes Jewish life - it is the relationships we develop and the time we invest – with God and with each other. May we have many years together to cultivate meaningful and sacred life, and may that endure.

I look forward to seeing you soon!
My Music & My Story

Summer is a time where many of us find ourselves reading, relaxing, and reflecting. Music is our close companion at these times, especially during road trips, long bus rides, even time at the beach. Most of you will be filling your phones/cars/other devices with music that you already know. But the summer is about expanding our horizons – not unlike Judaism itself!

Over the July and August bulletins, I will share with you some contemporary Jewish music artists that inspire me, and that relate to my own story. All of these artists have content available online (including on Spotify and YouTube), so you can listen and explore them over the summer:

Tizmoret (www.tizmoret.com). One of my favorite Jewish a cappella groups singing today is Tizmoret, an elite ensemble based at Queens College which has been active for over twenty years. I served as a judge for three years at Kol HaOlam, the national championship for Jewish a cappella, and Tizmoret was always in a class of its own. I have personally been inspired by both choral and a cappella music throughout my life - I sang in my synagogue’s own Jewish a cappella group as a high school student, in chamber choir as a college student, and in a number of a cappella ensembles, including my cantorial man-band, the Wizards of Ashkenaz (www.wizardsofashkenaz.com)

Kirtan Rabbi (www.kirtanrabb.com) – Rabbi Dr. Andrew Hahn (known as “Kirtan Rabbi”) takes Hebrew words from the Torah, kabbalah, and siddur (prayerbook) and develops them into heart opening chants. He has adapted the spiritual technology of kirtan (call-and-response chant) developed in the Hindu tradition, and has toured the USA extensively as a scholar-in-residence and performing artist. “Reb Drew” is a good friend of ours – in fact, Rabbi Elyssa has often appeared in concert as his backup singer!

Jonathan Leshnoff (www.jonathanleshnoff.com) I don’t normally like “modern” classical music, but I love the work of Jonathan Leshnoff. Jonathan is a prolific classical composer with over 25 major commissions by orchestras throughout the country. He is also a spiritual man, and a religious Jew! Jonathan’s most recent composition is “Zohar,” a Jewish oratorio complementing the Brahms Requiem and commissioned by the Atlanta Symphony and Carnegie Hall. Last year, I commissioned a piece from Jonathan entitled “HaMelekh.” I invite you to listen to my performance of this work on my Facebook page (“Hazzan Matthew Austerklein” – and please “Like” the page too!).

Soul Farm (www.soulfarm.net)– This American-based rock band, influenced by Carlebach, does something that very few Jewish rock bands do: Play both rock music and Jewish music WELL! I’ve seen them both in Israel and New York, where they would often appear in an annual Christmas Eve revue of Jewish pop bands, hosted every December 24th at B.B. King’s on 42nd Street. Soul Farm offers good wisdom for life with a little Hebrew thrown in, and can also lay down a phat beat — what’s not to love?

Shmuel Barzilai (shmuel-barzilai.com)– I studied in Vienna, Austria during the spring semester of my junior year of college. It was here that I first got turned on to chazzanut through the work of Shmuel Barzilai, the Chief Cantor of Vienna. His amazing musical expression and riveting interplay with the men’s choir showed me how emotionally rich and exciting synagogue could be. Fun fact: Cantor Barzilai serves at the Vienna Stadttempel, which was also the synagogue of Cantor Salomon Sulzer (1804-1890), who composed “Shema,” “Ein Kamocha” and many other famous melodies that we still sing today.

Stay tuned until next month, when I’ll tell a little more of my story through Jewish music. In the meantime, I hope that you get a chance to expand your mind and listen to new melodies and artists this summer – you never know what you may find within.

Hazzan Matthew Austerklein

Tree of Life

The magnificent Tree of Life was created to record the happy events in the lives of Beth El members and their families.

A birth, a wedding, a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, a confirmation, an anniversary – all are among the milestones that can be remembered on the leaves of the Tree of Life.

The cost of a leaf is $125. You may use 3 or 4 lines with up to 23 letters in each line. To order, call Sherri Leubitz, 330-867-0364.
## Contributions

### Aaron Kranitz Memorial Fund

In Honor of
- The birth of Sid and Andrea Steinberger's grandson, Asher William Levitt, from Joe and JoEllen Kodish

### Alexander and Lillian Medoff Memorial Music Fund

In Memory of
- Aaron Hendler from Mr. and Mrs. Emory Geller
- Sharlyne Sokol Ross from Mr. and Mrs. Emory Geller, Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Sardas, Sid and Shirley Zetzer
- Allan Sandel from Mr. and Mrs. Emory Geller, Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Sardas

### Beth El Foundation for Jewish Education

In Memory of
- Sam Schneiderman from Ted and Rolinda Schneiderman

For the Recovery of
- Judy Grundfast from Ted and Rolinda Schneiderman

### Education Fund

In Memory of
- Albert Fishman from Morgan Domokos
- Sallie Fishman from Morgan Domokos
- Elizabeth Krosner from Burt and Lois Nobil
- Robert Libner from Margaret, James and Michael Sarson Chesler
- Allan Lieberman from Carl Lieberman
- Lucille Rubin from Margaret Sarson Chesler family
- Allan Sandel from Larry and Esther Hexter

In Honor of
- The birth of Sid and Andrea Steinberger's grandson, Asher William Levitt, from Carl Lieberman
- The birth of Michael and Linda Osherow's granddaughter, Cora Osherow, from Carl Lieberman
- The birth of Meade and Marge Perlmans's granddaughter, Jane Emily Perlman, from Laurel Gress

For the Recovery of
- Gary Rosen from Carl Lieberman

### Garden Fund

In Memory of
- Clara Berns from Art and Marcy Aronson family

### Gress Torah Fund

In Memory of
- Aaron Hendler from Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Sardas

### Kiddush Fund

In Memory of
- Bertha Iczkovitz from Kevin Tucker
- Manny Iczkovitz from Kevin Tucker
- Dan Seider from Michael and Kathy Seider

### Knitzvah Fund

In Memory of
- Aaron Hendler from Dr. and Mrs. George Litman
- Allan Sandel from Dr. and Mrs. George Litman
- Sharlyne Sokol Ross from Dr. and Mrs. George Litman

### Louis Lockshin Scholarship Fund

In Memory of
- Aaron Hendler from Jim and Susan Osherow
- Allan Sandel from Jim and Susan Osherow
- Louis Sholiton from Jim and Susan Osherow
- Max Silverstein from Irv and Ann Kauvar
- Sharlyne Sokol Ross from Jim and Susan Osherow

In Honor of
- The birth of Sid and Andrea Steinberger's grandson, Asher William Levitt, from Dr. and Mrs. Susan Osherow

### Max and Regina Schneier Memorial Fund

In Memory of
- Louis Yablon from Warren and Joie Yablon

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of
- Allan Bernstein from Marcia P. Bernstein
- Abe Cohen from Idelle Kodish
- Molly Cohen from Idelle Kodish
- Albert Fishman from Paula Fishman
- Elnora Glickstein from Gary Glickstein
- Melvin Glickstein from Gary Glickstein
- Aaron Hendler from Joe and JoEllen Kodish
- Abe Klausner from David Klausner
- Sol Levinson from Betty Levinson
- Trudy Loeb from Betty Levinson
- Eugene Meyer from Arnold Bleiman
- Saul Rosenblum from Barbara Rosenblum

### Reverend Phillip Salzman Scholarship Fund

In Memory of
- Aaron Hendler from Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Newman
- Julia Liberman from the Nusbaum family
- Sharlyne Sokol Ross from Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Newman
- Allan Sandel from Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Newman
- Betty Weiss from Herb Weiss

For the Recovery of
- Dr. Lawrence Richman from Jerry and Sandy Schneider

### Stephen M. Gross Memorial Fund

In Memory of
- Victor Gross from Marv and Shareen Halpern
- Aaron Hendler from Mr. and Mrs. Scott Gross
- Allan Sandel from Mr. and Mrs. Scott Gross
- Sharlyne Sokol Ross from Mr. and Mrs. Scott Gross

### Synagogue Fund

In Memory of
- Aaron Hendler from the Crane family, Marty and Joyce Oppenheimer, Libby Portnoy, Dr. Lawrence and Harriet Richman, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Saferstein, Edward and Alice Schneider, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Zetzer
- Sylvia Horn from Alan Horn
- Isadore "Irv" Katz from Alan and Sally Katz
- Regina Lerner from Dr. Lawrence and Harriet Richman, Edward and Alice Schneider, Sid and Shirley Zetzer
- Jennifer Moss from Dr. Lawrence and Harriet Richman
- Ruth Nelson from Randy and Bonnie Cohen, Marty and Joyce Oppenheimer
- Eva L. Palazzo from Alan and Sally Katz
- Sharlyne Sokol Ross from the Crane family, Dr. Lawrence and Harriet Richman, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Saferstein, Edward and Alice Schneider, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Zetzer
- Allan Sandel from the Crane family, Laurel Gress, Michael and Judith Krasnoff, Marty and Joyce Oppenheimer, Libby Portnoy, Dr. Lawrence and Harriet Richman, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Saferstein, Edward and Alice Schneider, Neil and Jennifer Stein family, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Zetzer
The special birthday of Libby Portnoy from Michael and Barbara Lewis
The birth of Lorie Rapport’s great-grandson, Asher William Levitt, from the Crane family, Dr. Lawrence and Harriet Richman
The birth of Sid and Andrea Steinberger’s grandson, Asher William Levitt, from the Crane family, Joy Epstein and family, Marty and Sheila Gottlieb, Laurel Gress, Marty and Sherry Hellman, Marty and Joyce Oppenheimer, Dr. Lawrence and Harriet Richman, Richard and Arlene Rossen, Dr. John and Patty Saks, Edward and Alice Schneider, Marty and Sue Spector, Martin Belsky and Kate Waits
Marcia Stone’s dedication to the Akron Jewish Community from the Crane family
Rochelle Stone’s dedication to the Akron Jewish Community from the Crane family

Aaron Hendler
Son of Michael and Melissa; brother of Bari and Zack

Dr. Allan Sandel
Brother of Fred; father of Kevin and Todd; grandfather of Bailey, Colton, Kaya and Jack

Walter Cohen
Father of Eric, Matthew, and Randy; grandfather of Adam and Michael; great-grandfather of Caleb, Max, Miles, and Nava

Beth El Congregation notes with sorrow the passing of

I am enclosing $__________

Contributions to Funds

☐ In Memory of
☐ For the Recovery of
☐ In Honor of
☐ In Appreciation
☐ Other

Date: __________

☐ Minimum ($10)
☐ Chai ($18)
☐ Double Chai ($36)
☐ Triple Chai ($54)

Office Use: Card Sent ______

Donation for (name/occasion)

Send card to

Address

City State Zip

Your name(s) as you wish them to appear in Bulletin

Card is to be signed

Your address

City State Zip

Send your contributions to: Beth El Congregation • 750 White Pond Dr. • Akron, OH 44320
Save the Evening
Installation of New Clergy
Sunday, November 19

Rabbi Austerklein
and
Hazzan Austerklein

Refreshments to Follow

Sunday
August 13
4 to 6 PM

Back to Shul BBQ

Who Entire Congregation
Where JCC Pavillion
What Choose 2: dogs, burgers, or veggie
Cost 10 and under: $5
11+ and adults: $10
$25 maximum per family
RSVP Erin Katz Ford, 330-864-2105, ext. 118

During July, Beth El’s office will only be open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 9 AM to 3 PM.