



The Beth Israel Bulletin

A Publication of Beth Israel Synagogue

July/August 2018 ~ Tammuz/Elul 5778



Rabbi Ari Dembitzer, *Rabbi*

This month we commemorate the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temples that were destroyed. The rabbis tell us that those who mourn the destruction will rejoice in its building. The upcoming Hebrew month is called “Av”, or foundation and parent for growth. In order for one to truly grow, one has to realize what they are missing. This is also a prerequisite for the growth that takes place during the High Holidays. In our shul, we learn and daven with humility as we recognize that the more knowledge we attain, the more we realize there is a lot more to know. May we continue to feel the lacking, that causes us to keep learning.

Blessings for a great rest of summer,
Rabbi Ari

Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich, *Visiting Scholar*

At this time of the year in both America and Israel, we are struggling with the heat as the temperatures are rising higher and higher. In Chassidic thought, the heat of the Hebrew months of Tammuz and Av has a significant meaning, representing strong and powerful energy. Sometimes, we do not have the ability to handle these powers, and the result might be harmful. This is how the destruction of the Temple, which we commemorate at this time, is being explained. The thought is the Jewish people could not stand the light and holiness of the Temple. Similar explanation was given to the Sin of the Spies, which the Talmud tells us that happened in Tisha B’Av. According to this view, the spies refused to enter Israel because they were afraid they will not be able to handle the demands of this holy place.

What we can take from it is that our goal at this time of the year is to think about our own sources of energy, and how to handle the power and light given to us by G-d. We can think of our own ‘temple’ which is not built, and about situations in life where we do not use the opportunities given to us by God. Let’s use this time of the year, not only to hide in the air conditioning, but to think of all the heat and energy we got, and use it to uplift our lives.

Rabbi Shlomo



Have you “liked” Beth Israel Synagogue Omaha on Facebook? There are numerous opportunities to watch classes live, keep up-to-date on the latest Beth Israel happenings, get links to many items of interest, and add a smile to your day.

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***The next Board of
Commissioners
meetings will be held
Thursday, July 19, and
Wednesday, August 8
beginning at 6:30 p.m.***



A warm “thank you” to Beth Israel’s wonderful supporters

...to our ongoing kitchen volunteers - Jordana Kurtzman, Dani Shrago, Linda Potash, Anna Priluck, Lisa Lassiter, and Helene Shrago.

...to Laura and Rabbi Ari, along with their families, for sponsoring a kiddush in honor of the birth of Esther “Esti” Bluma.
...to Janet Kohll for refreshing the beautiful flowers at the entrance.
...to the sponsors for the June Simcha Kiddush: *Anniversaries* - Jeff & Sherry Taxman, Alan & Nancy Biniamow, Richard & Laini Reinblatt, Gary & Liat Shyken and Jeff & Paige Shyken by Paul & Susie Shyken, Bonnie Bloch & Howard Gendelman. *Birthdays* - Eli Lopez by Mordechai Lopez, Laini Wolman Reinblatt, Lloyd Roitstein, Cindy Goldberg by Bruce, Michael Denenberg by Steve & Tippi Denenberg, Mark Kazor by Jack Shrago, Susie, Alondra and Aiden Shyken by Paul & Susie Shyken.

...to David & Shirley Goodman for donating a cake in honor of the birth of their great grand-daughter, Na’ama Chana Gluck, daughter of Avi & Oriya Gluck of Jerusalem.

...to Joshua & Isaac Kurtzman for their volunteer work in May.

...to Anna Priluck for hosting June’s Rosh Chodesh group.

...to Andy & Bracha Goldsweig for their donation to purchase two swings for the playground and to Andy for handling the installation.

...to Helene Shrago, Bette Kozlen, and Julee Katzman for their work on kiddush menus and kitchen organization plans.

...to Maneva Edelman for sponsoring a Week of Learning in memory of her brother, Gene Ruppe

...to Helen & Jack Shrago, Michael & Melissa Shrago, Noah Shrago, Bette Kozlen, and Linda Potash for their work in making the Summer BBQ such a great success. Thanks also to Harry Weiner and Max Weiner for handling fire duties for the long postponed bonfire.



...to Julee Katzman on the birth of a granddaughter. Little Miss Katzman’s parents are Alonit and Jacob Katzman and she has a big sister, Aviela.

Rabbi Ari to Camp Simcha July 9th

Rabbi Ari and family depart for Camp Simcha July 9 and will return to Omaha by August 13. ***What is Camp Simcha?*** Each summer, 500 seriously ill children are treated to unforgettable, medically supervised overnight camp experiences at Camp Simcha, for children battling cancer and other hematological illnesses, and Camp Simcha Special, for children with debilitating chronic conditions. At Camp Simcha and Camp Simcha Special, children and teens trade hospital rooms and doctors’ offices for fun, friendship, and hope for the future. Campers enjoy traditional camp activities in fully handicapped-accessible facilities. Talent shows, concerts, and helicopter, hot-air, and motorcycle rides make every day super-special. Campers return home reinvigorated, with deep friendships and happy memories to help them travel the rough road ahead.



Rabbi Ari’s first summer at camp was 1997 and he has served as Head Boys Counselor since 2001. The Camp Simcha website states “*If Camp Simcha is a fairy tale for sick children, then Ari Dembitzer is it’s Pied Piper.*” Beth Israel is proud to support Rabbi Ari’s continued work with this amazing organization. For more information or to make a donation, visit www.campsimcha.org.



Tisha B'Av July 21 & 22

Tisha B'Av is a day of mourning and repentance on which we recall the destruction of the First and Second Temples and other tragic events in Jewish history that took place on this day. A fast day, the following is the schedule of observance at Beth Israel.

Saturday, July 21

7:45pm - Mincha

8:15pm - Seudah Shlishit

8:51pm - Fast Begins followed by *Understanding Eicha* with Rabbi Shlomo

9:30pm - Reading of Eicha

Sunday, July 22

9:00am - Shacharit

10:00am - Kinnot

10:30am - Film (TBA)

8:30pm - Mincha

9:15pm - *The Destruction of the Temple* with Rabbi Shlomo

9:30pm - Maariv

9:40pm - Fast Ends



**Enjoy Kiddush Lunch
Saturday, July 21**

Mark your calendar now and plan to stay for lunch following Shabbat services on **Saturday, July 21**. Beth Israel's wonderful caterer, Nancy Mattly, will prepare a delicious meat lunch for everyone to enjoy. It will be a great opportunity to sit and smooze with your friends and family while enjoying a nice Shabbat meal. Better yet, invite friends to join you for services and lunch!

Watch the weekly emails, check the website, or call the office in early July for the lunch menu. The cost will be \$13 for adults, \$6.50 for children ages 3-12, and free of charge for those under 3 years. Reservations are needed by Monday, July 31. Vegetarian option will also be available by request.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

A warm Beth Israel welcome to the following who have recently joined the Beth Israel family.

Ari & Sara Kohen, Judah, Talia, Micah, and Daniel

David & Rocheli Wheeler and Meir



**Triple your money and
provide your child with an
Israel experience for a
lifetime!**

From the time your child is in kindergarten through the 10th grade, you may deposit up to \$250 per year into a "Passport to Israel Account." You may set aside a maximum of \$2,000 to be used for your child's Israel trip. When the time comes for your child to experience Israel, the Jewish Federation of Omaha and Beth Israel will match – **dollar for dollar** - your dollars for the trip. This may sound too good to be true but there absolutely is no risk for you. You may withdraw any funds you have deposited at any time. Passport funds can be used through age 27. Contact Mark Kirchhoff at (402) 334-6463 or email Mark at mkirchhoff@jewishomaha.org for enrollment forms and additional information. **Don't miss this amazing opportunity!**



SAVE THE DATE!
JYE BI KICK OFF EVENT
Sunday, August 26

BBQ, games, music, and fun.
Watch for full details in
early August!



How do you express your commitment to your community? How do you support the Jewish organizations that are important to you? Omaha's Jewish community is fortunate to have many

who donate their time and/or money to area Jewish organizations. However, what happens after the donors are gone? What can you do for future generations to ensure that they are well-served by the Jewish organizations you support?

Life & Legacy, a partnership of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and the Jewish Federation of Omaha Foundation, promotes after-lifetime giving to benefit the Omaha Jewish community. All commitments, no matter the amount, are key to Jewish Omaha's future.

Thank you to Beth Israel's wonderful supporters through the Life & Legacy program. Beth Israel is fortunate to have 71 individuals who have committed financial support to help insure a Jewish future for Beth Israel and for Omaha's Jewish community.

If you have not yet become a donor, please consider making a gift to Beth Israel. Your generosity will benefit our synagogue for generations to come.

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE
BEIT MIDRASH LEARNING

Sponsoring a week of Beit Midrash learning is a wonderful way to commemorate a special occasion. A sponsorship is just \$100. Contact Rabbi Ari or the synagogue office to schedule.



Several classes are "on vacation" for the summer and will resume in the fall. Below are classes that will be held in June.

Sundays

9:45 a.m. - Bagels & Beit Midrash
 Special classes two Sundays a month

Weekdays

7:45 a.m. - *Creating Spiritual Life* with Rabbi Ari
 July 2-8 and August 13-31

Mondays

12 p.m. - *Rabbinic Tales* with Rabbi Shlomo

Thursdays

9:30 a.m. - *Connecting to Our Faith* with Rabbi Ari
 July 5 and August 16, 23, 30
 12 noon - *Jewish Ethics* with Rabbi Shlomo @ UNMC

Saturdays

Approximately 20 mins before Mincha
Insights into the Weekly Torah Portion

Study according to your schedule with ***Torah in Your Home.***
 Meet one-on-one, or with a few friends for this learning

Friedel Jewish Academy's Family Zoo Day
Sunday, July 29, 9:15 a.m.



Please join in a morning of fun at the zoo with Friedel Jewish Academy! On Sunday, July 29, families in the Jewish community with children younger than 6 and all CDC families are invited to join Friedel families for

Friedel's annual Family Zoo Day at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo.

At 9:15, those who are interested in exploring the zoo with the group will meet by the lion sculpture near the main entrance. At 10:30, Friedel will provide a kosher snack at the indoor dining area near the Tusker Grill. contact Sara Kohen at skohen@fjaomaha.com to RSVP by July 23 or with questions.

The Teen Trip to New York in early June was an amazing experience for eight Beth Israel teens. Thanks to Yaakov & Faige Jeidel for organizing the trip and to the generous financial donors for making the experience possible.

📷 Photo Gallery 📷



The teens with a Hatzolah ambulance

Grill master Michael Shrago cooking up burgers for the Summer BBQ. Thanks, Michael!



Everyone enjoyed a special dessert at the Summer BBQ, celebrating Laura and Rabbi Ari's 2nd anniversary



A great time posing with three New York police officers



The teens enjoyed so much kosher food in New York. It was quite the delicious experience!



JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Beth Israel sends its very best wishes to those who will be celebrating in the coming month. Call the synagogue office for any additions.

OPPORTUNITIES TO CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT BETH ISRAEL

Kiddush Sponsorships

Mark a special occasion by sponsoring a weekly kiddush or Seudah Shlishit.

Week of Learning

Sponsor a Beth Israel Week Day Learning for just \$100, which includes nearly 20 classes. This is a wonderful opportunity to mark a special event.

Simcha Plaques

A birthday, anniversary, birth of a child or grandchild, Bar or Bat Mitzvah in your family? Simcha plaques at just \$100, and are a wonderful way to commemorate your special event.

The Tree of Life

A beautiful and meaningful way to celebrate a milestone or commemorate a loved one is with a lasting presence on the Tree of Life. Prices begin at \$300. Tree of Life donations fund Beth Israel Endowment Fund.

Additional sponsorship opportunities include

Lunch & Learn program, NCSY Shabbatons, youth events, Shabbat Sheet, Scholar-in-Residence programs, college outreach, and many other opportunities.

Beth Israel Tribute Cards

Tribute cards are a wonderful - and easy! - way to commemorate a special occasion, wish someone a speedy recovery, say thank you or express your condolences. Call the synagogue office, email bethisrael@orthodoxomaha.org, submit via the website at www.orthodoxomaha.org or call the synagogue office.

For additional information on supporting Beth Israel, please contact Mary Sue Grossman.

BIRTHDAYS

Rebecca Stein	July 2	Arianna Follick	Aug 2
Max Polack	July 3	Daniel Stein	Aug 2
Ben Shapiro	July 5	Manny Goldberg	Aug 2
Devora Rich	July 5	Jeffrey Zacharia	Aug 5
Shirley Goodman	July 6	Adina Schuller	Aug 7
Sidney Zacharia	July 7	Evelyn Zacharia	Aug 7
Faige Jeidel	July 8	Max Kohll	Aug 7
Kieran Smith	July 8	Ruth Edelman	Aug 8
Leora McNamara	July 9	Isaac Davidson	Aug 9
Ilana McNamara	July 10	Jeffrey Taxman	Aug 9
Jeffrey Stein	July 13	Jenna Potash	Aug 9
Rita Amster	July 14	Hunter Tam	Aug 10
Joel Alperson	July 17	Patrick McNamara	Aug 10
Susan Besser	July 17	Naomi Sarah Goldsweig	Aug 14
Steve Denenberg	July 18	Lynne Saltzman	Aug 15
Stephanie Shapiro-Cohen	July 20	Andrew Goldsweig	Aug 18
Louise Lippett	July 23	Alan Kricsfeld	Aug 21
Aryeh Epstein	July 23	Jack Shrago	Aug 21
Ruben Pitman-Kogan	July 24	Kayla Shnyder	Aug 21
Donald Gerber	July 25	Marsha Feldman	Aug 22
Charles Robinson	July 26	Shelley Smith	Aug 22
Lillian Cohen	July 27	Elaine Feldman	Aug 25
Les Kay	July 28	Fred Amster	Aug 25
Vera Dobin	July 30	Lauren Tam	Aug 26
Natalie Shnyder	July 31	Eliezer Rich	Aug 28
Michael Cherry	July 31	Joseph Stein	Aug 31

ANNIVERSARIES

Ari & Laura Dembitzer	July 04
Toba Cohen-Dunning & Eric Dunning	July 12
Manny & Carol Goldberg	July 14
Douglas & Crystal Smith	July 27
Michael & Marina Sadofsky	July 28
Hersz & Paulette Flatowicz	July 30
Milton & Marsha Kleinberg	Aug 14
Jack & Helene Shrago	Aug 20
Paul & Susan Shyken	Aug 22
Marvin & Sandra Kohll	Aug 24
David & Janet Kohll	Aug 26
Harold & Ruth Edelman	Aug 30
Lloyd & Debra Roitstein	Aug 30

Celebrate your upcoming special events on Saturday, August 11th at the July/August Simcha Kiddush, It's just \$25 to be a sponsor. Call the office at (402) 556-6288 to sign-up.



CONTRIBUTIONS

Beth Israel acknowledges, with sincere thanks, the following contributions received from May 25, 2018 through June 25, 2018

DONATIONS

- ♦ For the birth of Esti Dembitzer - *Helen Rifkin, Donald Gerber, Patricia Newman, Rose Rosenberg, Marcia Lipsman, Lourdes Secola, Barbara Widman, Marty & Iris Ricks, and Millie Campbell*
- ♦ In thanks for hosting their family - *Zisi & Mattisyahu Monheit*
- ♦ For the speedy recovery of Michael Lohman - *Lynne & Errol Saltzman*
- ♦ For the speedy recovery of Dani Shrago - *Phil & Nancy Wolf and Marty & Iris Ricks*
- ♦ Mazel Tov to Jordana Kurtzman as volunteer of the year - *Patricia Newman*
- ♦ In thanks for the use of the apartment - *Shoshana & Jonah Steinmetz*
- ♦ In memory of the mother of Jordana Glazer - *Julee Karzman*
- ♦ In memory of Rabbi Paul Drazen - *Nancy Rampey Biniamow & Alan Biniamow*
- ♦ In honor of Beth Israel's new members - *Lourdes Secola*
- ♦ In honor of the birth of Julee Katzman's granddaughter - *Mary Sue & Alex Grossman*
- ♦ In memory of Rosa Cemaj - *Donald Gerber*

YAHREZITS

- ♦ Estelle Harris - *Sally Wintroub*
- ♦ Bertha Siporin-Cohen - *Harold Siporin*
- ♦ Michael Kogan - *Basia Tsed*
- ♦ Nechama Ruzichanskaya - *Basia Tsed*
- ♦ Bernice Crounse - *Jim & Patty Crounse*
- ♦ Sarah Kaplan - *Jack & Helene Shrago*
- ♦ Lena Kaplan - *Jack & Helene Shrago*
- ♦ Morris Franklin - *Jack & Helene Shrago*
- ♦ Jennifer Kay - *Les Kay*
- ♦ Selwin Suvalsky - *Marti Goodman*
- ♦ Nathan Ostrow - *Stosh Ostrow*
- ♦ Sarah Bloom - *Sheila Moravec*
- ♦ Stephen Lintzman - *Marty & Iris Ricks*
- ♦ Yenta Minda Kirshenbaum - *Joe & Maxine Kirshenbaum*
- ♦ Alexander Lipsman - *Marian Gelfand*
- ♦ Joe Fedman - *Linda & Mark Abrahamson*
- ♦ Milton Marcus - *Joan Marcus*
- ♦ Ben Elkin - *Helen Rifkin*
- ♦ Julius Katzman - *Julee Katzman*
- ♦ Fay Wiseman - *Joan Kaiman*
- ♦ Ben Kutler - *Elinore Kutler*
- ♦ Dvorah Parilman - *Vera Lewis*

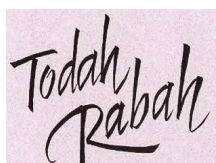
In Memoriam



Julian Katz Mildred Fiedman Rabbi Paul Drazen
Eunice Fox Rosa Cemaj Bernard Altsuler Danny Goodman
 Beth Israel extends condolences and wishes of comfort to members of the community on the recent loss of loved ones.

Ha'makom yenachem etkhem betokh she'ar avelei Tziyon vi'Yerushalayim

A tribute card is a lovely way to express your condolences. Call the office at (402) 556-6288 or email executiveasst@orthodoxomaha.org to send a card for condolences or any other occasion.



A sincere thank you to those who donate, providing critical financial support to Beth Israel Synagogue.

Memorial Plaques

A wonderful way to remember your loved ones is with a memorial plaque installed in the alcoves at the back of the sanctuary. The price of a plaque, including your loved one's name and yahrzeit date in both English and Hebrew, is \$400. Contact the office to order.



Mazel Tov to Rabbi Shlomo Abramovich, Ph.D

While Rabbi Shlomo earned his PhD in Jewish history several months ago, he donned a cap and gown while visiting Israel in June for the formal ceremony.



Beth Israel Synagogue
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SERVICE SCHEDULE JULY/AUGUST 2018

Shacharit Schedule

Regular Weekday - 7:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. - Shabbat, Sunday & Holidays

Weekday Mincha/Maariv held at the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home - Call the office for times

Friday Night Mincha, Maariv, Kabbalat Shabbat - 7:30 p.m.

CANDLE LIGHTING AND HAVDALAH TIMES

Parsha Pinchas - July 6 & 7

8:42 pm Candle Lighting
 8:25 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit
 9:51 pm Havdalah

Parsha Matot-Masei - July 13 & 14

8:39 pm Candle Lighting
 8:20 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit
 9:47 pm Havdalah

Parsha Devarim - July 20 & 21

8:35 pm Candle Lighting
 8:15 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit
 9:41 pm Shabbat Ends

Parsha Vaetchanan - July 27 & 28

8:29 pm Candle Lighting
 8:10 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit
 9:33 pm Havdalah

Parsha Eikev - August 3 & 4

8:21 pm Candle Lighting
 8:00 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit
 9:25 pm Havdalah

Parsha Re'eh - August 10 & 11

8:12 pm Candle Lighting
 7:55 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit
 9:15 pm Havdalah

Parsha Shoftim - August 17 & 18

8:03 pm Candle Lighting
 7:45 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit
 9:04 pm Havdalah

Parsha Ki Teitzei - August 24 & 25

7:52 pm Candle Lighting
 7:35 pm Mincha/Seudah Shlishit
 8:52 pm Havdalah

REMINDER! To assure the scheduling of mincha/maariv minyan times in advance, please contact the office by the Wednesday of the week before the date. This allows the synagogue to include those times in the weekly schedule and also allow minyan attendees to adjust their schedules accordingly.