

Shabbat Announcements



Saturday Morning, Feb. 24, 2018

Parashat Tetzaveh/Shabbat Zachor

Exodus 27:20-30:10 pp. 503-518

Second Scroll:

Deuteronomy 25:17-19 pp.1135-1136

Haftarah:

I Samuel 15:2-34 pp. 1282-1285

- 9:00am Shabbat Morning Services
- 9:30am Shabbat SPACE
- 10:15am Pre-Service Oneg Shabbat
- 10:15am Discussion with Jack Gruenberg
- 10:45am Family Kehillah Services
- 10:45am Tot Shabbat
- 12:00pm Shabbat Tween Lounge
- 12:00pm Kiddush
- 12:30pm Daf Shevui
- 5:20pm Mincha/Maariv
- 6:22pm Havdalah

This week's Kiddush is sponsored by:

Beth El Synagogue Center

Mazal Tovs, Condolences, & Refuah Shleimah:

Mazal Tov to Zachary Seiden and Dr. Julia Keltz on the birth of their daughter Zoe Raquel Seiden.

Mazal Tov to Bernard Katz on the birth of his great-grandson Jack Morris Arakanchi, and to parents Michelle and Joey Arakanchi.

Condolences to Sanford Batkin on the loss of his daughter Helen Batkin Younger.

The following people are assisting this Shabbat:

Debbie Young, President's Chair; Robert Morris, VP's Chair; Alan Legatt, Gabbai; Dan Burton and Rob Weber, Greeters; Lauren Freeman-Bosworth and Janis DeMartini, Ushers

[Those marking a simcha, observing the loss of a loved one, or those who are sick or recovering from an illness have delighted/comforted that their lifecycle event has inspired generosity. If you would like to make a donation to Beth El in honor or in memory, please click here.](#)

Minyan Times



- Sunday 8:00am Shacharit;
- 5:30pm Mincha/Maariv
- Monday 6:55am Shacharit;
- 5:30pm Mincha/Maariv
- Tuesday 7:00am Shacharit;
- 5:30pm Mincha/Maariv
- Wednesday *Erev Purim* 7:00am Shacharit;
- 5:30pm Mincha/Maariv
- Thursday *Purim* 6:30am Shacharit (Megillah Reading); 5:30pm Mincha/Maariv
- Friday 7:00am Shacharit;
- 5:30pm Mincha/Maariv



A Word of Torah - From Torah Sparks
Dvar Torah: A Symbol of Inclusion
Rabbi Shoshana Cohen,
Conservative Yeshiva Faculty

In this week's parsha the children of Israel are commanded to make clothing for the priests who will serve in the *Mishkan* (Tabernacle). Several times we are reminded that the priest is a representative of the people of Israel when he does his holy work. To make sure the priest keeps this in mind when he is doing his work, the tribes of Israel are represented on two separate pieces of his clothing: the *hoshen mishpat* (breastplate) whose 12 precious inlaid stones were each inscribed with a tribe's name, and the *ephod*, the apron-like garment the priest wears as an outer layer, which was held together at the shoulders by two precious *shoham* stones, each inscribed with the names of six tribes.

The Torah describes in verses 28:9-10 how the names are written on these two stones, and the language is a bit odd. Rather than stating explicitly which tribes appear on which stone, it says that six go on one, and the six "leftovers" (*hanotarim*) go on the other. One might infer from the word "leftover" a kind of binary hierarchy, with the best six appearing in one group and the worst six appearing in the other. After all, Abraham and Isaac each had one good son and one bad one, and only the good ones truly walked in their father's footsteps, worshiped God, and inherited the blessing and birthright.

In fact, according to the Midrash in Sifrei Devarim on Parshat Ve'etchanan Yaakov spent his whole life anxious about which of his sons would continue his path, and which would not. Based on their behavior, Yaakov had good reason to discriminate between them. His first son, Reuven, slept with Bilha, Yaakov's concubine, and his second and third sons, Shimon and Levi, massacred

the men of Shechem. And, of course, all of his sons apart from Binyamin were guilty of plotting to murder Yosef, and selling him into slavery.

Of the sinning sons, the only one explicitly vindicated within the story is Yehuda, when he puts himself on the line in Egypt. But according to the midrash, it isn't clear at all that the others have been forgiven, even after everything is resolved with Yosef and the family is resettled in Goshen. Some argue that it is only when Yaakov blesses them in Parshat Vayehi that we know they have been welcomed back, and others argue that Reuven's status remained questionable until Moshe, in *Vezot HaBracha* affirmed "Reuven will live and not die" (Dev. 33:6).

The great medieval commentator, Rashi, seems to be bothered by the idea that the Tabernacle, both an agent and symbol of inclusion and unity, would establish a hierarchy among the tribes of Israel. Rejecting the implied hierarchy of "*hanotarim*" (the leftovers) as well as other hierarchies suggested in the Babylonian Talmud, Tractate Sotah 31a-b, Rashi interprets the verse according to the simple meaning of its last word, "*k'toldotam*" (according to their birth). He writes that tribes will be inscribed on the two stones "in the order in which they were born: Reuven, Shimon, Levi, Yehuda, Dan, Naphtali on one, and upon the other Gad, Asher, Yissachar, Zevulun, Yosef and Binyamin." In Rashi's view, the most problematic sons - Reuven, Shimon, Levi - are even represented first!

The message is clear: everyone, no matter who they are or what they have done, will be equally represented in the *Mishkan*. And so the stones, whose explicit function is to remind the priest that he is a representative of the people of Israel, ALSO communicate the imperative for inclusion and equal representation.

BESC Featured and New Announcements

(Please follow us:

[Facebook.com/bethelsynagoguecenter](https://www.facebook.com/bethelsynagoguecenter) and spread the word about news, events, and information by “liking” or “sharing!”)

Follow links to enlarge images or visit respective event pages.

ON YOUR RADAR

The next Contemplative Service will be Saturday, March 17 at 10:45am led by Rabbi Sitkin. For a list of our spiritual practices, visit www.bethelnr.org/spiritualpractices



Communal Singing. Open Hearts. Open Minds.

BETH EL SPIRITUAL PRACTICES
Spring 2018

The RABBI MELVIN & LENORE SIRNER Fund
For Jewish Inspiration

Niggun HaLev (Music of the Heart): An intimate, song-filled Shabbat morning service led by Deborah Sacks Mintz, Jack Klebanow and Rabbi David A. Schuck - **March 10, April 14, and May 5**

Spiritual Singing Shabbat: A Friday evening of communal singing with Rabbi Schuck, Jack Klebanow, and Cantorial Intern Anna Silverman - **February 16, March 9, April 27, May 25, and June 22** (Appetizers and Drinks at 6:00pm Services at 6:30pm)

Singing as Spiritual Practice: Music has deepened our ability to pray from the depths of our souls. All are welcome to join us for the power music can bring. Facilitated by Rabbi Schuck and Jack Klebanow. Classes are from 7:30-9:00pm on **Wednesday March 28, Thursday, April 19, Tuesday, May 29, and Thursday, June 7**

Contemplative Service: Join us at this slower-paced service to learn how we can pay better attention to living our lives with intention. Dress as you like! Held Shabbat morning at 10:45am:
March 17, April 28, May 19, and June 30

1324 North Avenue, New Rochelle
www.bethelnr.org/spiritualpractices

PURIM Join us on Wednesday, Feb. 28 for Purimpalooza at 5:15-6:45pm. Enjoy pizza, snow cones, bouncy castles, and games! Everyone will leave with a prize bag. Register at bethelnr.org/purimcarnival. Our Young Families Service will take place that night from 6:45-7:30pm led by Rabbi Sitkin and a few special guests. Join us for a fun, interactive Megillah reading. A Teen Led Community Reading will start at 7:00pm. Bring a box of pasta to use as your gragger, then donate it to HOPE and BJCC!

Interested in being a part of singing a parody during the Megillah reading? Want to know more? Contact Abby Wise at awise@bethelnr.org (The library will be available as a quiet space for children throughout Purim on Feb. 28.)

OPEN BEIT MIDRASH Our next scheduled “OBM” is Tuesday, Feb. 27 with scholar Dr. Amy Kalmanofsky. We begin at 7:30pm with drinks and a nosh followed by learning promptly at 8:00pm.

OBM is held on alternating Tuesdays and Thursdays with Rabbis Schuck and Sitkin, and Rabbi Ethan Linden of Ramah Berkshires, simultaneously teaching on different areas of Jewish texts. On the last week of the month, a scholar teaches on a specific topic in their field. Free and open to the public. *The OBM is subsidized by the Rabbi Melvin and Lenore Sirner Fund for Jewish Inspiration and the Sylvia and Harry Halpern Lecture Fund. For more information or to sponsor a night of learning, visit bethelnr.org/openbeit or contact Rabbi Sitkin at zsitkin@bethelnr.org.*



Beth El Synagogue Center Invites You to our 64th Annual Gala Honoring....

Donald J. Fleishaker for Distinguished Leadership and Devoted Service



Lori and Steven Schwartz, President's Ne'emanim Service Award Recipients



Robyn and Daniel Yairi, Lapid Award Recipients



Visit www.bethelnr.org/Gala2018 to place your ad, make your reservation, and purchase raffle tickets! You can read about our honorees, view the letters of tribute, and get Gala details. We will once again be holding a top-notch Silent Auction.

With your help, we can truly catapult Beth El Synagogue Center's annual fundraiser to new heights. If you have access to worthy items, and you are able to contribute them to our auction, we will be most appreciative and will recognize you at the Gala. Help us raise funds by donating an auction item! ***If you have something to donate please contact Shery Rosenstein (s.rosenstein@yahoo.com) no later than Monday, Feb. 26.***

JOIN US ON

SUNDAY, MARCH 18 AT 5:00PM,

Be There or, well, Just Be There!

IN HONOR OF JEWISH DISABILITIES
AWARENESS AND INCLUSION MONTH,
KERUV PRESENTS:

Disability:

Pride, Not Prejudice
Reflections on Judaism and Disability



by Chava Willig Levy,
author of
*Life Not With
Standing*

Chava Willig Levy is a New York-based writer, editor, advocate and lecturer, who zips around in a motorized wheelchair and communicates about the quality and meaning of life.

Sunday, February 25, 2018
7:00pm - Open to All

Held at Beth El
1324 North Avenue in New Rochelle
RSVP to bethelnr.org/jda

PEACE GARDEN PROJECT Beth El has been co-sponsoring the Peace Garden Project with the United Methodist Church, in which we have been planting over 50 garden boxes at three different locations in New Rochelle. Before gardening, there have been several joint communal interfaith learning sessions at the United Methodist Church. The final date remaining is Sunday, Feb. 25 12:30pm (community meal with a few Kosher meals available). Date subject to change. This initiative is led by Rabbi Sitkin and Rev. Michelle Lewis. All are welcome.

SISTERHOOD FUNDRAISER: Join us on Friday, March 9 at Lord & Taylor. Buy a \$5 ticket which will serve as your savings pass and receive 25% off most purchases storewide; 15% on cosmetics and fragrances. Contact Linda Resnick at cosa48@yahoo.com or come to the Beth El front office.

SISTERHOOD BAGELS AND BOOKS

The next discussion will be Monday, Feb. 26 at 9:30am regarding *Cathedral of the Sea*, by Ildefonso Falcones. Books are available at the New Rochelle Public Library - mention that you are a member of Beth El

Sisterhood's Bagels & Books Group. Questions? Contact Arlene Salzman at aesalman@aol.com or 914.235.2485.

AIPAC CONFERENCE The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) will hold their Policy Conference at the Washington Convention Center from March 4-6. We are always appreciative to have a strong representation on-hand. Register through the website (www.policyconference.org) and enter the code **PC18BENR**, or call 646.360.1534 and register. Contact zsitkin@bethelnr.org for more details.

A woman in a pink and green traditional Middle Eastern dress with a white headpiece and jewelry. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting.

BETH EL
SISTERHOOD
WELCOMES YOU
TO
VASHTI'S
BANQUET

TUESDAY,
MARCH 6, 2018, 6:30 P.M.

An evening of fun and celebration!

Featuring festive Middle Eastern Cuisine with Entertainment and a Lesson in Belly Dancing by Bina the Belly Dancer

\$25 per person
***\$18 for those 18 and under!**
RSVP a must!
Register at bethelnr.org/vashti

www.bethelnr.org/vashti

EVENING BOOK CLUB, WINE & CHEESE The next free event will be Thursday, March 15 where Family History of Fear: A Memoir, by Agata Tuszynska will be discussed. Questions? Contact Erica Epstein at 914.391.6662 or Cynthia Glickman at 582.6297.

TAX RECEIPTS The 2017 tax receipts were emailed several weeks ago. Please make sure to check your inbox and your SPAM folder. If you need another copy via email, please email accounting@bethelnr.org.

DAY CAMP *Best. Days. Ever.* Our camp doesn't have the best reputation in Southern Westchester for nothing! Camp is now eight weeks and will provide towel service! Visit, www.betheldaycamp.org.

TALMUD DAF SHEVUI STUDY SESSION This study session occurs every Shabbat at 12:30pm in the Library. New participants are welcome. We discuss a page (daf) of the Talmud. Download the weekly portion: www.conservativeyeshiva.org/category/daf-shevui.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT! Join us Monday, March 12th at 7:30pm to discuss the relationships between our children and their partners who are not Jewish. Share your story or learn from others. All are welcome. Facilitated by Shari Baum, L.M.S.W. WJCS Coordinator of Partners in Caring, at the home of Barbara and Bob Cohen (29 Cherry Lawn Blvd. in New Rochelle, NY) RSVP to Elise Schepp at LCmoocow@aol.com
Questions? Contact Nina Luban at nina.luban@gmail.com or Elise K. Richman at elisekrichman@gmail.com. *Generously funded by UJA-Federation of New York Sponsored by the Keruv Committee*

NEW EXHIBIT Israeli Artist Gregory Niemetz's new exhibit will be open from Feb. 24 - March 25. According to his family, he fled Russia around 1920 because he thought he was on a list to be executed for having killed a number of Red Army soldiers. Outside of Israel he exhibited in Germany, Great Britain, Argentina, South Africa, and the United States. He was not only financially successful, but also donated paintings for Israel's war effort and to the Ilan-Isreal Foundation for Handicapped Children. Dr. Will Sandberg, the Art Advisor to the Israel Museum, chose four paintings that Gregory donated to the museum. He died in Israel in 1978.



Everyone is invited to the opening reception on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2:00-4:30 pm, and to meet some of Gregory's family. You can visit the museum at any time the synagogue is open. If the room is locked get the key from the office.

FULFILL THE MITZVAH OF READING TORAH ONLINE We have launched a sheet that allows you to sign up to read from the Torah or chant the Haftarah at Beth El on Shabbat and holidays online. Click the link and you will see a list of availability: www.bethelnr.org/torahsignup. Select the aliyah (or aliyot) you want to read and enter your name and email address. Cantor Aqua will contact you to confirm. If you wish to read in honor of your birthday, anniversary, to fulfill a mitzvah on any Shabbat, or discuss this new system for fulfilling the mitzvah of reading Torah and Haftarah, please contact Cantor Aqua (uaqua@bethelnr.org) or Alan Kellman (alan@twoals.com).

BETH EL ISRAEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
PRESENTS

A Passover Wine Tasting & Wine Sale

Thursday, March 15th
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.



Join us for a short presentation
about wine, sample some of the offerings,
and then place your order!

20% OFF BOTTLES!

FREE... but must RSVP to:
bethelnr.org/passoverwine
or call (914) 235-2700



*Wine pick-up at Beth El

program organized by



WINE The Israel Affairs Committee presents *A Passover Wine Tasting and Wine Sale* on Thursday, March 15 from 7:00pm–9:00pm. 20% off bottles and cases! Visit www.bethelnr.org/passoverwines for more.

www.bethelnr.org/specialneeds seder

It'll be here before you know it!



Our Special Needs Seder is around the corner on Wednesday, March 14 from 5:30-7:30pm.

Special needs residents of local group homes will be guests of our synagogue at a very unique Lower Westchester seder, and we need people to prepare beforehand, during, and after the event.

We are also collecting Passover foods to go to the group homes. When you shop for your Passover foods, please buy something extra and drop off donations in the bridal room off the main lobby. If you are unable to participate physically, financial donations are always needed. Checks should be made payable to the Chesed Community Seder and mailed to Sandy Gruenberg at Beth El.

If you would like to volunteer, click [here](#). You may also contact Seder co-chairs Ellen Gelboim (esgelboim@gmail.com) or Sandy Gruenberg (gamson36@gmail.com).



OUR ANNUAL MINYAN BREAKFAST will be held on Sunday, March 18. Morning minyan will be at 8:00 am followed by breakfast in the Wiener Lounge. We will honor long-time Beth El member and “Minyanaire” Bernard Katz for his constant support of the minyan for more than 30 years. At the breakfast, you can reconnect with old friends, enjoy bagels and spreads, and hear Rabbi Schuck and Cantor Aqua talk about the minyan and give out siddurim to members who finished reciting *Kaddish* for their loved one .

We invite you to volunteer to help with our minyan to ensure its continuity. If you can come once a week or even several times a month, you would be a great support. Let Cantor Aqua know which day and time would work best for you by emailing him at uaqua@bethelnr.org.

CARD ROOM The weekly Sisterhood Canasta group plays at 12:45pm on Mondays while the Mah Jongg group plays on Tuesdays at the same time. Beginners, as well as experienced players, are always welcome. Contact Arlene Salman at aesalman@aol.com or 914.235.2485.

CONGRATULATIONS to our members Ron Burton, Marc Klee, and Mark Silver, who will be honored at this year's Julian Y. Bernstein Distinguished Service Awards by the Westchester Jewish Council. The three will be honored for their outstanding volunteer work. Burton for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), Klee for United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism – METNY, and Silver for Beth El. The awards ceremony will be held Thursday, March 8 at 7:30pm at Temple Israel Center of White Plains on 280 Old Mamaroneck Road. Please show your support. It's free and open to the entire community. RSVP here: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ef1n9jzd17148db9&oseq=&c=&ch=>

GIFT SHOP Visit the Beth El Sisterhood Baum Judaica Gift Shop for ALL your Judaica needs. Open by appointment. Email giftshop@bethelnr.org, or call Erica Epstein (914.633.3161), Carole Graham (914.576.6617), and/or Ellen Hollander (914.632.4658).

Limmud and Other Learning Opportunities

FUTURE TENSE Rabbi Molly Karp's *Future Tense: Jews, Judaism, and Israel in the 21st Century; A Vision for Jews and Judaism in the Global Culture*. Class focuses on the book written by Lord Rabbi Jonathan Sacks. It meets Wednesday mornings from 10:00am-12:15pm. Classes are Feb. 28; March 7, 14, 21. Cost: \$350, which includes audio recordings of all class sessions. To learn more about Rabbi Karp, visit rabbimollykarp.com or contact her at rabbimollykarp@gmail.com.

ISRAELI DANCING Held Sundays 10:00-11:00am with Cantor Aqua. \$10/class. Wear comfy clothes and sneakers. Questions? E-mail uaqua@bethelnr.org.



Sunday mornings at Beth El 9:30-10:30 a.m. with your instructor Maria!

A Fun & Exciting way to exercise!

All net proceeds of the class benefit the Beth El Religious School Parent organization, so you are doing something good for your health AND for your community!

Beth El Synagogue Center
1324 North Ave.
New Rochelle, NY 10804

For more information, please contact Carrie Fox at csfox99@gmail.com.



DON'T FORGET TO ZUMBA! It's back at Beth El Sundays from 9:30-10:30 am. Classes are held every Sunday through March 25. Drop-in rate is \$10 per class. No need to RSVP. For more information, contact Carrie Fox at csfox99@gmail.com.

LEARN HEBREW IN OUR ULPAN CLASSES Classes with Miri Ben Avi are ongoing Mondays and Wednesdays - classes are for learners at all levels. Beginners: 6:30-7:30pm/ Intermediate: 7:30-8:30pm/ Advanced: 8:30-9:30pm Contact miriulpan@gmail.com or 914.602.1503.

All classes are at Beth El unless otherwise indicated.

Additional Beth El and Community Events and Information

SEEKING JOB OPPORTUNITY FOR NEWLY-ARRIVED AFGHAN REFUGEE This family has settled in White Plains under the auspices of HIAS-NY and is sponsored by a consortium of local synagogues and churches. (Fully authorized for permanent work in the US.)

Fluent in English; skilled in use of Microsoft Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, Outlook); some experience with QuickBooks. Extensive managerial, administrative and logistical experience in projects with the American military, United Nations and Afghan government. If you have or know of an available position, please contact Jeff Swarz at jswarz@mmdillon.com or Gene Tozzi at etozzi@gmail.com or 914-672-1088. Thank you.

JEWISH FILM AJC Westchester/Fairfield will hold the 17th annual *Westchester Celebrates Jewish Film Festival* at the Jacob Burns Film Center in Pleasantville from March 13 to March 29.

This two-week festival is the largest annual Jewish event in Westchester. Last year, close to 9,000 tickets were sold. The festival brings not only the best new Jewish films to Westchester every spring, but also an extraordinary array of top-notch speakers and other programming. More than 38 films will be shown. Questions? Contact AJC Westchester Associate Director Jill Friedman by email (friedmanj@AJC.org) or phone (914-948-5585).



Memory Minyan



**Sunday, February 25, 2018
2:00-3:30pm**

**BETH EL SYNAGOGUE CENTER
1324 NORTH AVENUE
NEW ROCHELLE, NY**

Now we're bringing the concept to our Jewish gathering place, creating a navigable, warm prayer and social experience.

Enjoy being with friends and hamatashen!
RSVP at bethelnr.org/memorym
or contact jrockowitz@bethelnr.org (914.235.2700, x256.)
There is no charge for this event.



For Adults 60 and over

UJA/Federation
of New York

Temple Israel of New Rochelle

mainstream

the institute for mature adults at Westchester Community College

Presents at Beth El in New Rochelle

The Beauty, Diversity and Traditions of Africa

FREE EVENT!

VISIT AFRICA WITHOUT LEAVING HOME!

Dates: Tuesdays, February 27, March 6, 13, & 20 2018

Time: 10:30am - 12:30pm

Enjoy Africa-themed snacks



Walk-ins welcome/ RSVPs appreciated
Contact Julie Rockowitz at jrockowitz@bethelnr.org
or 914.235.2700, x256

Beth El Synagogue Center
1324 North Avenue, New Rochelle, NY 10804

More announcements can be found at
www.bethelnr.org/ongoing.