

*There is a place for you at Beth El. We Belong Together.*

**Beth El Newsletter**  
**February (Shevat/Adar) and March (Adar/Nisan) 2020—5780**

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*27 students from our Confirmation class joined Rabbi Green on an incredible trip to Israel in December!*



*Sisterhood's Women's Retreat Weekend with Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro in PA was a meaningful and enriching weekend devoted to Chesed (kindness).*

**PURIM is COMING!**

**Purim Carnival**  
**Sunday, March 8**  
9:30am

ECC and Religious School invite you to a carnival for all ages! Games, inflatables, crafts, prizes and much more!



**Megillah Reading**  
**Monday, March 9**  
5:30pm—Dinner  
6:00pm—Full Megillah

Celebrate with us at our family-friendly, community, full megillah reading. Wear your costumes and bring your groggers!

**Mishloach Manot**

Send Purim Baskets to your Beth El friends, teachers, and family through our annual mishloach manot sale.



[bethelsnj.org/purim](http://bethelsnj.org/purim)

*Tribute Dinner Celebrating 25 Years of Service*  
**Rabbi Aaron & Helene Krupnick**  
*Thursday, April 23*  
*Honorary Chair, Marvin Samson*  
[bethelsnj.org/tribute](http://bethelsnj.org/tribute)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Karen H. Schlessel**  
President

It was a rainy, unseasonably warm Friday in December when we headed to Pendle Hill for the Sisterhood Women's Retreat Weekend. The theme: it's cool to be kind – a weekend devoted to chesed. On our way, we all did something kind, whether it was to treat the person next in

line to a toll or bring flowers for our Shabbat table.

Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro led us in creative, relaxed prayer services as well as fun, thought-provoking sessions. Other experts from our congregation and outside teachers led a variety of activities. Everyone was open to explore different experiences. It was the perfect blend of planned events and free time to take walks, play games and relax by the living room fireplace. More importantly, the time to connect with each other, reflect, and learn was extraordinary. For example, we did a terrific mindfulness activity – I won't eat a Hershey Kiss the same way ever again! Many thanks to Hazzan, Faye Shapiro, and Renee Kessler for planning such a chill, wonderful, meaningful weekend, and to all who participated. Everyone enriched the weekend in her own way.

### *Welcome New Members to Our Beth El Family!*

ברוכים הבאים

Angela & Evan Lazarus, Alex, Serena and Sydney  
Rachel & Jeff Vaupen  
Lauren & Jordan Yaker, Maxwell and Shayna



On December 12, many young families joined us at Barnes & Noble for an early Chanukah celebration filled with crafts, a scavenger hunt, sing-a-long with Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro, story with Rabbi Green, and a performance from the Religious School choir led by Cantor Sher. We

were thrilled to include families and participants from the Special Needs Coalition in this fun celebration!



## JOIN OUR GROWING LIST OF SHOMRIM MEMBERS

### PILLAR

The Brown Families – Sidney & Sandy and Jeff & Tracy  
Donna & Richard Forman – Forman Foundation  
Eva & Marvin Schlanger

### VISIONARY

Marvin Samson Foundation

### SUSTAINER

Jerome M. Katz  
Alison & Andrew Keim

### BUILDER

Susan & David Backal	Rabbi & Helene Krupnick
Cathy & Marc Backal	Judy & Donald Love
Donna & Richard Bell	Ellen & Michael Lowenberger
Beth & Josh Brodtkin	Miriam & Stan Meltzer
Marcia & Arnold Cohen	Sharon & Adam Sackstein
Betsy & Peter Fischer	Anonymous (1)
Elaine & Bart Greenspan	

### BENEFACTOR

Iris & Steven Auerbach	Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro & Stephen Boro
Gloria & Ira Back	M. Zev Rose
Delores Gerstein	Karen & David Schlessel
Jennifer & Michael Gerstein	Lauren & Jon Soll
Deborah & Ed Hochberg	Elaine L. Waxman
Sharla & Morton Kanovsky	Julie & Jason Whitney
Robert & Valerie Linden	
Carol & Donald Meltzer	

### GUARDIAN

Gerry & Howard Abramssohn	Salvatore & Eileen Perice
Sharon & Elliot Atkins	Hilary & Harry Platt
The Bell Baeuerle Family	Ellen Podell
Steven Beilowitz	Julia & Adam Roberts
Jennifer & Andrew Bender	Erica & Jerry Rothkoff
Helene & Alan Blumenfeld	Ilene Rosen & Todd Rowan
Jocelyn Borowsky	Joyce & Mel Ruthen
Sherri & Alan Breslow	Sherry & Stuart Sauer
Jennifer & Ari Brooks	Betsy & Robert Schwartz
Staci & Jeffrey Cedar	Brandi & Gregory Seltzer
Amy & Eric Clayman	Faye & Gary Shapiro
Leslie & Steven Cohen	Shari & Jeffrey Shapiro
Arlene & Harris Colton	Carol & Joel Silbert
Fran & Neal Cupersmith	Judy & Len Simkin
Brenda & Chuck Driben	Juli & Glenn Sloves
Jennifer & Alex Greenwald	Barbara & Norman Some
Ilene & Harry Grossman	Tami Bogutz Steinberg
Myra & David Gutin	Alison & Neil Tarnopol
Barbara & Mark Jacobs	Diane & Stuart Traster
Sandra & Arnold Kaminer	Linda & David Wander
Ziva & Haim Kantor	Lynne & Diego Warszawski
Gladys & Steve Krulik	Cookie & Allan Weinberg
Melissa & Lee Leibowitz	Ilene & Michael Weinberg
Renee & David Lieberman	Jennifer & James Weiss
Merle & Fred Linden	Barb & Allen Wilen
Rachel & Stephen Miller	Judith & Leonard Wizmur
Andrea & Marc Millstein	Anonymous (3)
Jamie & Darin Morgan	

Contact Robin Berger at [rberger@bethelsnj.org](mailto:rberger@bethelsnj.org) for more information on our dues inclusive giving program!

## CLERGY CORNER



**Rabbi Krupnick**

My recent Rabbinical Mission to Uganda reinforced just how vital and important Conservative Judaism is, not just in the U.S. and not just in shul. The 1500 Jews of Uganda are led by a Conservative Rabbi and they practice Conservative Judaism just like we do. Their synagogues are egalitarian; men and women participate fully in all aspects of religious life. This makes the synagogue one of the very few places in Uganda where men and women are indeed treated as equals. In a country where boys receive twice the amount of education as girls, few women work outside the home, and women marry young because they “need” a husband to provide for them, the synagogue is a paradigm of what equality really looks like. Conservative Judaism teaches them that, and they do not take it for granted. Neither should we. I’m proud of our Movement and all we stand for!



Recently, I was meeting with a very creative friend and asked him where he gets his ideas. He told me that he finds inspiration many ways; while reading, praying, taking a walk, or while standing in line at the check-out counter. “The key,” he said, “is not in the moment of inspiration, but in the moment just after.” It is that moment where we ask ourselves, “What does it mean?” “How do I interpret this?” “How would this vision work itself out?” The beauty is in the moment after the dream, when you are inspired to do something with it. When dreams become deeds, art is created.



**Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro**

The beauty of artistry is in the inspiration and interpretation; the danger is when your dreams are your undoing. The biggest pitfall can come when you think that your dreams are yours alone. There is great danger in believing that you are the protagonist in your own story, and that you are the sole creator of your life. Every one of us was born into this world, which means we emerged from other people’s dreams about us. They thought of us before we were born, probably even before we were conceived! Our ancestors, too, emerged out of their ancestors’ dreams. We are part of an ancient and continuous dream cycle, interpreted and created in many different ways throughout history. The Torah says this great cycle goes back to the very beginning. We were created by a Gd who dreamed of us, to be fashioned in Gd’s image. Each of us is a work of art, dreamed of before our birth and created by others so that we may create. Our dreams are not exclusive to us, they are both echoes and prophecies of the world that was and the world to come.

If we believe we are alone in our dreams or if we dream only for ourselves, we may end up alone. When we dream together, we can be inspired to rise up, to make a difference, to dream of a world and make that world a reality – especially knowing that we are in an eternal relationship that has never been broken. What are you doing with your dreams?



On Friday evening, December 20, our Confirmation students made their way to Azarat Yisrael, the egalitarian worship platform of the Kotel in Jerusalem, to bring in our first Shabbat together in Israel. We opened our siddurim, gathered close together, and began singing the psalms of Kabbalat Shabbat. We sang with fervency and joy, we banged our palms on tables, and we danced as a large circle. We jumped and spun ourselves around, smiled and sweated, and then we treasured that moment of silence as one song left our lips and we soon began another. It was beautiful to witness our teens feeling the joy of Jewish life and connecting to prayer in a way some seldom do. While we were dancing, a Birthright group arrived at the Azarat Yisrael platform. Their leader approached us and asked if they could join us for Lecha Dodi. Gathering our teens close, we shared that we know what Shabbat means, but that next to us was a group of people who did not yet know what Shabbat means. Our teens reached out to the Birthright participants, bringing them into our circles of dance and joy, jumping high together with hands waving in the air, and then, as we transitioned to a slower melody, all the students placed their arms on each other shoulders, swaying in perfect rhythm as we welcomed in Shabbat.

At this point, the university students may have been older, but they were looking up to our teens, to the young people nurtured by our Beth El family, awed by the way they lovingly shared the gift of Shabbat.



**Rabbi Green**



As an educator, I always love being able to put what I teach in action. I want my students of all ages to touch, feel, taste, and smell what they learn about our Judaism and our history. Every part of our educational program at Congregation Beth El strives to provide experiences for all of our students of all ages. For example, around Chanukah time, our ECC students learn about how to make oil for the Chanukiah through

Chabad's Olive Press program. In our Religious School, each grade participates in a family program to create religious artifacts with their families that they can use such as a Shabbat box, Havdalah set, and a personalized Siddur cover for the Siddur they receive in 3rd grade. And our 10th grade students don't just learn about Israel, they walk the land when they visit during their trip in December for 2 weeks.

Just how our children and teens learn through action, we provide opportunities for our adult learners as well. On Monday, March 23, at 7pm we will welcome Jewish Educator Michael Schatz to Beth El for an exciting two-part program about Jewish Philadelphia. We will learn about the history of the Philadelphia Jewish community: it's roots in the colonial period and growth through the nineteenth century; the experience of the Russian Jewish immigrants, their neighborhoods, synagogues, schools, and organizations during the period of mass immigration, 1882-1924; and share the rich Jewish life experienced by the immigrants' children, our parents and grandparents, as they established the second and third settlement Jewish neighborhoods like Oxford Circle, South Philadelphia, Strawberry Mansion, & Wynnefield.

On Sunday, March 29, at 2pm we will take part in the second half of the program by taking a trip by trolley to see some of these former Jewish neighborhoods. We'll visit the Jewish Quarter in today's Society Hill and Queen Village, former and current synagogues still flourishing for more than 100 years, the immigrant bank, Talmud Torah, bath house, and shopping destinations that made up this neighborhood, Philadelphia's version of the Lower East Side. We'll see some of the remnants of the once vibrant Jewish neighborhood of South Philadelphia, including a visit inside Philadelphia's oldest row house synagogue still holding Shabbat and holiday services!

There is no charge for the class on Monday, March 23. But if you would like to participate in the Trolley Tour, there is a fee of \$36 to reserve your spot. There are only 24 spots open so it is first come, first serve. I look forward to learning with all of you and walking the steps of our Jewish history as we experience what life was like in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

## UPCOMING BERS EVENTS

- February 2—Pennies and PJs
- February 9—Hey B'yachad Family Tree Program
- February 13—No S.A.I.L. Hebrew High School
- February 16—No Religious School
- February 23—Mitzvah Mall
- March 8—Purim Carnival: No Religious School
- March 19—S.A.I.L. Hebrew High School JFCS Program
- March 21—Gimmel Chag Hasiddur Program
- March 22—Aleph Family B'yachad
- March 29—BERS Model Seder



*In November, the Vav classes visited the Ronald McDonald House of Southern New Jersey,*



*In November, the Gan classes held a special B'yachad family program to learn about Shabbat and create their own family Shabbat box.*



*In December, the Bet classes learned about Havdalah and made family Havdalah sets.*

# AYELET MITTELMAN—EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER PRINCIPAL



Happy New Year to all of our Beth El Families! What an exciting time of year it is! We have had our Chanukah and New Years celebrations, and are looking forward to the year ahead.

One of the things we talk about around New Year's is our resolutions; what are we changing for the better in the coming year? This made me think about our school and what an incredible place it is, and how it has evolved over the few years that I have been involved with the school; first as a parent and then as an employee.

There is something to be said about a school being a home away from home. Many of our students are with us from sun-up to sun-down, making this their second home. Our teachers love and care for these students as if they were their own. That is not something that is easily found.

I am proud to say that we have a staff of teachers who fully invest themselves in this school. This isn't a "job" to them, it is a labor of love. This is their happy place. They come in and are excited to see their kids, and are hugging children who have been in classes from years gone by. That love extends beyond the classroom and follows these children for years and years.

My own daughter still loves to get hugs from her Toddler teachers, even though she is in Kindergarten. Teachers know every single child here. They know siblings that are enrolled and siblings that aren't. Everyone is one big family here. This is what Beth El is. It is all heart.

The other beautiful aspect about our program is that, aside from our open hearts, we have open arms. Our school accepts everyone. It doesn't matter your background, your socioeconomic situation, your child's needs; you are not only welcome here, you are wanted! To be part of a school that teaches love, tolerance, kindness, inclusivity, respect for others, and a deference for every religion and race makes me so incredibly proud.

I want to thank you all for being a part of this incredible family, and for continuing to help with our mission of empowering each child to foster their Jewish and non-Jewish identity through creativity and curiosity, in an environment filled with love.



*We had a deliciously fun Thanksgiving feast! We sang songs with Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro and Cantor Sher and got to show off our special outfits and centerpieces!*



*The 4's and Kindergarten participated in a special Olive Oil Press with Rabbi Kahan from Chabad! We learned about the olives and pressed our own to make oil!*



*Our entire school performed in a beautiful Chanukah celebration on the bima for all of the parents and family members. It was a very special evening!*

## WE MOURN THE PASSING OF:

**Frieda Gildin**

*Sister-in-law of Rabbi Isaac Furman  
Wife of Dov Gildin z"l*

**Robert Kaufman**

*Husband of Janet Kaufman*

**Merrill Sklar**

*Husband of Janet Sklar*

## WE SEND CONDOLENCES TO:

**Zalman Agus**

*on the loss of his brother, Robert Elias Abraham Agus*

**Rena Beyer**

*on the loss of her father, Dr. John Brandeis*

**Sol Cohen**

*on the loss of his wife, Phyllis Cohen*

**Brian Dworkin**

*on the loss of his mother, Harriette Dworkin*

**Nikki & Len Feldman**

*on the loss of their son, Rabbi Adam Feldman*

**Brian Friedman**

*on the loss of his mother, Rita Rose Friedman*

**Cara Greenhall**

*on the loss of her father, Meyer Aaron Bushman*

**Ruth Respler**

*on the loss of her father, Abe Eckhaus*

**Ilene Rosen**

*on the loss of her father, Arnold "Arnie" Rosen*

**Howard Roth**

*on the loss of his father, Michael Roth*

**Shera Shalit**

*on the loss of her father, Meyer Aaron Bushman*

**Shira Sklar**

*on the loss of her father, Marvin Schuck*

**Rachel Vaupen**

*on the loss of her mother, Ann Cohn*

**David Weinberg**

*on the loss of his step-father, Dr. H William Gross*

**Lynne Weinstein**

*on the loss of her brother, Hon. Samuel David Natal*

*\*List as of January 1, 2020*

## BETH EL MEMBERS IN THE COMMUNITY

*If you know someone who deserves special recognition,  
please contact Alicia Drozen at [adrozen@bethelsnj.org](mailto:adrozen@bethelsnj.org)*



Lynn Goldman Paul, Shari Smith and Rande Dubrow set up for the annual Susan K. Asbell Thanksgiving dinner at the Boys and Girls Club in Camden. Stacy Asbell, Sam Asbell, David & Susan Backal, Phyllis Pearl, Steve Paul, Miriam & Stan Meltzer, and Don & Carol Meltzer, along with many other Beth El members helped to serve over 200 kids and their families. This wonderful evening not only provides Thanksgiving dinner, it also remembers and honors our dear Beth El congregant, Susan Asbell z"L.

Lindsay Bagell-DeLucia and Amy Winn-Dworkin joined forces with two other women in SJ businesses to create B.I.G., a women's empowerment organization that offers women the inspiration, community, and tools they need to move their lives forward both personally and professionally. The group held its launch event in November at The Big Event in Cherry Hill and meets the 1st Friday of every month.



### SPOTLIGHT: HANNAH MANDERS

*Sponsored by: David Back College Connection Fund*

To make a donation: 856.675.1166

For information: Gloria Back at 856.428.6368 OR [gback5454@aol.com](mailto:gback5454@aol.com)



Hannah Manders is completing her senior year at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. A 2016 graduate of Cherry Hill High School East, Hannah was an active participant in student government and chaired the school blood drive. She was involved in the DECA program and received awards in their national business competitions. Hannah chose to attend Wisconsin because of the reputation of its business school where she is majoring in marketing with a minor in digital studies, ad creation, and website design. She also enjoys the atmosphere of a "Big 10" school, which has a lot of school spirit. Hannah describes the campus as comfortable and liberal with a huge population of Jewish students. Her sorority has a large Jewish membership. Hannah attends campus Hillel and Chabad programs. She notes that her family have been long-term members of Beth El and that she attended preschool through Hebrew High School at Beth El. Upon graduation, she is moving to New York City having secured a marketing position with Macys. Hannah enjoys receiving the Beth El College Connection packages. "They brighten [her] day."

# MAZEL

*\*List as of January 6, 2020*

## B'NAI MITZVAH FAMILIES

**MARCIA & ARNIE COHEN**  
BAT MITZVAH OF GRANDDAUGHTER, CHLOE COHEN

**JUDY & BERNARD FEINSTEIN**  
BAR MITZVAH OF GRANDSON, ARI FEINSTEIN

**DEBORAH & DAVID FEINSTEIN**  
BAR MITZVAH OF SON, ARI

**YAFFA & JACK FUCHS**  
BAR MITZVAH OF GRANDSON, YAIR AVIAD WECHSELBLATT

**DEBBIE GROSSMAN**  
BAT MITZVAH OF GRANDDAUGHTER, SAMANTHA GROLNICK

**LAURIE & ERIC GROSSMAN**  
BAT MITZVAH OF DAUGHTER, MOLLY

**MERLE & FRED LINDEN**  
BAR MITZVAH OF GRANDSON, ISAAC LINDEN

**VALERIE & ROBERT LINDEN**  
BAR MITZVAH OF SON, ISAAC

**RACHEL & STEPHEN MILLER**  
BAR MITZVAH OF SON, JARED

**DORIS SCHWARTZ**  
BAT MITZVAH OF GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER, CHLOE COHEN

**LYNNE WEINSTEIN**  
BAR MITZVAH OF GRANDSON, EVAN JACOB WEINSTEIN

## ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS

**NANCY & HANK CUTLER**  
ENGAGEMENT OF DAUGHTER, CASEY, TO DAN HOCHBAUM

**ELAINE & BART GREENSPAN**  
ENGAGEMENT OF GRANDSON, SCOTT GROSS,  
TO MORGAN EPSTEIN

**DEBBIE & DANIEL GROSS**  
ENGAGEMENT OF SON, SCOTT, TO MORGAN EPSTEIN

**FRANN PETRELLA**  
ENGAGEMENT OF DAUGHTER, LAUREN, TO JARED DiLELLO

**SHARON & ADAM SACKSTEIN**  
ENGAGEMENT OF SON, JOSH, TO JULIA RUBIN

# TOV



## BIRTHS & BABY NAMINGS

**ABBY ABRAMSON**  
BIRTH OF NIECE, ESTHER RITA ABRAMSON

**KAREN & JEFFREY DANZIGER**  
NAMING OF DAUGHTER, AYL A JANE

**DONNA & RICK FORMAN**  
NAMING OF GRANDDAUGHTER, ADDISON BLAKE CAPECCI  
BRIS OF GRANDSON, PARKER JAMES CAPECCI

**DANA & NEIL HOFFMAN**  
BIRTH OF SON, BEAU BRENNER HOFFMAN

**MARION KATZ**  
BIRTH OF GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTER, AVERY PAIGE LIEBERSON

**JUDY & ARTHUR KRATCHMAN**  
BIRTH OF GRANDSON, BEAU BRENNER HOFFMAN

**ELISE & STEVEN LIEBERSON**  
BIRTH OF GRANDDAUGHTER, AVERY PAIGE LIEBERSON

**BLAIR AND JASON MANUS**  
NAMING OF DAUGHTER, PEPPER CHARLI

**JOY PEREZ**  
BIRTH OF DAUGHTER, SHOSHANAH MICHAIAH

**ROBYN & HOWARD ROTH**  
BIRTH OF SON, MICHAEL DAVID

**CAROLYN SONSTEIN**  
BIRTH OF GRANDSON, JACOB MATTHEW SONSTEIN

**SHIRLEY YAFFA**  
BIRTH OF GREAT-GRANDSON, ELIAHU YAACOV, IN ISRAEL

## SPECIAL HONORS

**BARBARA & MARTIN BRODACK**  
ACCEPTANCE OF GRANDDAUGHTER, JENNA PEARLSTEIN, INTO  
THE SPECIAL BIRTHRIGHT EXCEL PROGRAM IN ISRAEL

**ELLEN PODELL**  
ELECTION OF GRANDDAUGHTER, REBECCA RAUSH, TO THE  
2020 USY INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD AS  
VICE PRESIDENT, ISRAEL AFFAIRS

## CORRECTIONS

We apologize for the misprint!

**MELISSA & ERIC FEINBERG**  
NAMING OF DAUGHTER, SOPHIA EVELYN

**ELLEN & JAY LEVY**  
NAMING OF GRANDDAUGHTER, SOPHIA EVELYN FEINBERG



## EDEN BOYD

*Daughter of Ronit & Chris Boyd*

*February 1, 2020*

**Sister of:** Ayla, Jacob, Adina

**Granddaughter of:** Rae & Yehuda Ehrlich and Jon & Christine Boyd

**Mitzvah Project:** Collected toys for Sinai Hospital and donated money to the JCC Camps at Medford Daffodil Project in honor of children who perished in the Holocaust.



## KAMERON KRATCHMAN

*Daughter of Donna Fletcher and Barry Kratchman*

*February 15, 2020*

**Sister of:** Elyse

**Granddaughter of:** Kathy & Sheldon Kratchman, Judie Kratchman, and Shirley & John Fletcher

**Mitzvah Project:** Volunteered with and presented birthday cakes to the kids in the Cathedral Kitchen program. Kameron also delivered food and water bottles to homeless people.



## ZACHARY MYERS

*Son of Kelly Myers*

*February 29, 2020*

**Brother of:** Jordana, Isabella, John Paul, Nicholas, Philomena

**Mitzvah Project:** Assembled comfort baskets for victims of abuse served by Forever Your Overwatch Foundation which protects, trains, and empowers anyone living in fear of a violent abuser.



## ANNABELLE ROBERTS

*Daughter of Julia & Adam Roberts*

*March 21, 2020*

**Sister of:** Madeleine

**Granddaughter of:** Susan Dashoff-Ellman and Susan & Bernard Grodzinsky

**Mitzvah Project:** Collected backpacks and toiletries for Joseph's House homeless shelter. Annabelle also baked muffins for breakfast for the shelter members.



# Shabbat

## WEEKLY

### Friday Night Live

Kabbalat Shabbat  
6:00pm

### Shabbat Morning

9:00am

### Torah Talk

10:15-11:00am

Join Rabbi Green to discuss fascinating topics from our weekly Torah portion.

### Babysitting

9:30am - 12:00pm

## FIRST FRIDAYS

### Prayers And Pajamas\*

5:30pm

A musical, interactive, and fun Shabbat service with Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro and pizza dinner especially for families with children ages 5 and under.

### Celebration Shabbat

6:00pm

Celebrate your birthday and anniversary month with us!

## SECOND & FORTH SATURDAYS

### Junior Congregation

10:15-11:45am

A fun, participatory service with Chai Respes for K - 6th Graders

## THIRD SATURDAYS

### Bim Bam Shabbat\*

11:00-11:45am

Sing, read stories, and do a craft with Rabbi Marshall at these services geared toward families with kids ages 5 and under.

*\*Caregivers must accompany children*



## STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE



By Jason Whitney, Strategic Planning Steering Committee

Beth El, in partnership with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ), is continuing to move forward with our Strategic

Planning Process, making sure to best position our shul not just for today, but for well into the future. Having completed the information gathering phase of the process (and thank you to all who took the survey and/or participated in community conversations!), we are now starting to determine what actions need to be taken based on that input.

The December meeting focused on the task forces that have been set up to determine the actions to take across the many areas impacting our synagogue. These task forces are:

- Communication and Marketing
- Finance
- Learning
- Membership (In-Reach and Outreach)
- Social Action/Social Justice
- Volunteer Engagement

During this meeting, with the assistance of Bob Leventhal (our USCJ consultant), the chairs for each of these task forces brainstormed both what we should appreciate our strengths are now and what we dream to be in 3 to 5 years. It was a spirited and lively session! It laid the groundwork for the January 14 meeting where the full task force teams will meet for the first time.

This is where you come in – if you would like to work on a specific Task Force, please contact David Backal (dsbackal@yahoo.com) or Hedda Morton (heddamorton@gmail.com).

Thank you in advance – and be on the lookout for future updates!



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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Not combinable with any other offer or discount. Promo code: BE10



By Amy Kaplan  
Congregation Librarian

"I need a good book" is a comment I hear frequently. Fortunately, we have plenty of good books, with new ones arriving all the time. Here are some "good books": historical fiction set in the time of WWII.

If you enjoy a good thriller, you'll want to read Andrew Gross's 'The Fifth Column.' Beginning in 1939 and set in New York City, it's the story of Charles Mossman, a man down on his luck. As his German-speaking neighborhood shows support for Hitler, Charles and his family are befriended by a Swiss couple in their building – but are they who they say they are? And with the attack on Pearl Harbor and America's entry into the war, Charles's fears of a conspiracy and the presence of a "fifth column" are realized.

Meg Waite Clayton's newest is "The Last Train to London." In this outstanding novel she fictionalizes the story of Truus Wijsmuller, a childless Dutchwoman who risked her life to save imperiled children. Known as Tante Truus, she bravely approached Adolf Eichmann and led children from Nazi-occupied countries to safety in Britain. The so-called Kindertransport saved the lives of 10,000 children; this novel brings us the story of one woman who played a vital role in this effort.

"Wunderland" (and that is the correct spelling) by Jennifer Cody Epstein is a critically acclaimed story of two girls in Germany beginning in 1933. Ilse and Renate are schoolgirls who share a seemingly unbreakable friendship. As the Nazis rise to power, Ilse becomes deeply involved in the Hitler Youth movement. What Renate doesn't know about herself, but will find out as a result of Nazi racial laws, is that she is Jewish. The resulting schism is more than just the end of a friendship, and has repercussions across the ensuing decades.

**Visit the library to borrow books!**

Tuesday 9:30am– 12:00pm and 2:30pm – 5:00pm

Wednesday 9:00am– 11:30am

If you can't come in during regular library hours call us at 856.675.1166 x503 and we'll reserve your items for pickup, at your convenience, at the synagogue front desk.

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By Meredith Becker  
Chair of Beth El 100 Kick Off Event

Looking back on our first 100 years, and kicking off our next 100, will give all of us a chance to reflect on the role Beth El plays in our lives.

The shul has been part of my life from the time my family moved to the area when I was in first grade. Each of my three children has been part of the congregation since the day they were born. From the ECC, to religious school and junior congregation, to b'nai mitzvah, Hebrew High, and the confirmation class trip to Israel, we've done it all with, and because of, Beth El. Our congregation and treasured clergy have celebrated our simchas, supported us through tough times, and have become our entire family's friends. I know that each of you has your own version of this story.



On Sunday morning, September 13, 2020, we will commence the year-long celebration of Congregation Beth El turning 100! We are one of only a few synagogues in the US to reach this incredible milestone!

We are planning a year's worth of activities, events, social media campaigns, and mitzvah projects to get everyone involved. Tell your whole family, and bring everyone from babies to seniors for the official kick off! This event will be free and everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend!

We are excited to begin our special anniversary year and need everyone to help make it successful. Whether you are a new congregant, or your family has been at Beth El for generations, you are an important part of our centennial celebration!

To join the committee, please contact:  
Robin Berger at [rberger@bethelsnj.org](mailto:rberger@bethelsnj.org)  
or Meredith Becker at [meredithbgordon@yahoo.com](mailto:meredithbgordon@yahoo.com)

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**Sunday, September 13, 2020**  
**Beth El 100 Kick-Off Event**  
**Everyone is invited!**

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Inclusion  
Month**



**COLEL Speaker Dave Schlossberg**  
**"Facing the Music: How I Regained  
 My Faith after a Life-Changing Injury**  
*Thursday, February 20. 7:00pm*

Enjoy a motivational program on how to reclaim life following deep loss. Dave will share how he strives every day to make the spinal cord injury he suffered at the hands of a drunk driver, not a symbol of victimhood, but instead a source of strength. Dave, Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro's pianist for many years, will end his program with a concert. Welcome and Resource Fair at 6:30pm.

**Inclusion Shabbat**

*Saturday, February 29. 9:00am*

Shabbat morning services honoring our Project Lev program and the South Jersey Special Needs Coalition. Rabbi's sermon will be dedicated to Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month.

**Service From the Heart**

*Sunday, March 1. 10:30am*

A musical family service embracing our special needs community followed by crafts, snacks, and more with Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro. Interpreted in ASL.

**All events are FREE and open to everyone!**

**FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS**

**PHIL PODELL MEMORIAL WORLD WIDE WRAP**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2. 9:00AM**

Breakfast and "how to" service on tallis and t'fillin for all.

**SHABBAT SHIRA—SISTERHOOD SHABBAT**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8. 9:00AM**

Celebrate Sisterhood at this inspirational musical service showcasing the Pittsburgh Torah Cover mitzvah project.

**USY ISRAELI KRAV MAGA (GRADES 8-12)**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8. 6:30PM**

Learn self-defense techniques! [bethelsnj.org/usy](http://bethelsnj.org/usy)

**KADIMA ICE CREAM SEDER (GRADES 4-7)**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9. 12:00PM**

A yummy Tu BiShvat celebration! [bethelsnj.org/kadima](http://bethelsnj.org/kadima)

**PRE-OSCAR PARTY**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9. 5:30PM**

Hor d'oeuvres, cocktails, raffles, pre-show! [bethelsnj.org/oscar](http://bethelsnj.org/oscar)

**SISTERHOOD PARENT & CHILD CHALLAH BAKE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13. 7:00PM**

\$5 per challah station. RSVP to [smrusc92@yahoo.com](mailto:smrusc92@yahoo.com)

**HEALING SERVICE WITH BETH EL CLERGY**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19. 7:00PM**

Find inner peace through prayer and mediation.

**COLEL SPEAKER: DAVE SCHLOSSBERG**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20. 7:00PM**

Details on side bar.

**KADIMA NINJA WARRIOR (GRADES 4-7)**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22. 6:30PM**

Parkour and ninja obstacles! [bethelsnj.org/kadima](http://bethelsnj.org/kadima)

**SISTERHOOD ROSH CHODESH WITH HAZZAN**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24. 7:00PM**

Celebrate the new month with inspiration & friendship.

**TORAH ON TAP WITH MEN'S CLUB**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26. 7:30PM**

Enlightening Torah conversation with Rabbi Green.

**LIBRARY SHORT STORY DISCUSSION GROUP**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27. 1:30PM**

An engaging discussion of a riveting short story!

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27. 2:00—7:00PM**

Help us meet our goal of 30 units!

**HAMANTASCHEN BAKE**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27. 7:00PM**

Special hamantaschen bake with Sisterhood.

**FEBRUARY 23: MITZVAH MALL. DETAILS ON BACK COVER.**

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# MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

## SERVICE FROM THE HEART

**MARCH 1. 10:30AM**

Details on page 12.

## PURIM CARNIVAL

**SUNDAY, MARCH 8. 9:00AM**

Details on front cover.

## PURIM MEGILLAH READINGS

**MONDAY, MARCH 9. 6:00PM**

Details on front cover.

## BOOK OF JOB CLASS WITH RAY KATZ

**WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 11, 18, 25. 3:00PM**

Explore this book of the Tanakh in this 3-part series. \$18 per person. [bethelsnj.org/job](http://bethelsnj.org/job)

## DIY WITH CHARLENE GREEN

**MONDAY, MARCH 16. 7:00PM**

Have fun with Sisterhood at this special DIY night!

## SISTERHOOD CHALLAH BAKE

**THURSDAY, MARCH 19. 7:00PM**

Sisterhood hosts its monthly challah bake here in the BE kitchen! \$5 per person. RSVP to [debezim@yahoo.com](mailto:debezim@yahoo.com).

## HISTORY OF JEWISH PHILADELPHIA SPEAKER

**MONDAY, MARCH 23. 7:00PM**

Dr. Michael Schatz will share the history and rich Jewish life experienced in Philadelphia. Details on page 4.

## TORAH ON TAP WITH MEN'S CLUB

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25. 7:30PM**

Enlightening Torah conversation with Rabbi Green.

## LIBRARY SHORT STORY DISCUSSION GROUP

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26. 1:30PM**

Enjoy a lovely discussion of a short story!

## SISTERHOOD ROSH CHODESH WITH HAZZAN

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26. 7:00PM**

Celebrate the new month with inspiration & friendship.

## LET'S DO SHABBAT: PRE-PESACH DINNER

**FRIDAY, MARCH 27.**

A family-friendly community wide service and dinner with craft and fun! [bethelsnj.org/letsdoshabbat](http://bethelsnj.org/letsdoshabbat)

## PARTY SHOWCASE

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29. 10:30AM—1:30PM**

Interact with a variety of party vendors to help plan your upcoming celebrations! Vendors wanted. Open to all.

## HISTORY OF JEWISH PHILADELPHIA TROLLEY TOUR

**SUNDAY, MARCH 29.**

Take a trip through Jewish Philly with Dr. Michael Schatz. Visit the Jewish Quarter, Talmud Torah, and much more. Details on page 4. Register at [bethelsnj.org/trolley](http://bethelsnj.org/trolley)

LOOKING  
BACK AT...

RECENT BETH EL  
EVENTS



On November 27, the Annual **USY Turkey Trot** gathered 100 teens from the region at Pump It Up in Marlton for a great party! In December, USY held a challenging and fun event at Warrior Gyms in Mount Laurel filled with parkour challenges and ninja obstacles!



On December 19, **Sisterhood** held its first **Latkepalooza Bake!** Everyone made latkes, sampled them with a variety of toppings, and participated in a fun white elephant gift exchange with kitchen themed gifts!



On December 23, **Habonim** had a lovely **Chanukah celebration** dinner. Everyone brought their own chanukiah to light. It was a beautiful shining night!



On December 23, young families made blankets for homebound veterans, snack bags for the homeless, and more at **YFG's Chanukah Mitzvah Night**. lit candles and sang with Rabbi Marshall and Cantor Sher, and also made candles out of wax!



On December 26, **Men's Club** enjoyed their annual **Scotch & Latkes** Torah on Tap event with Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro!

Join Rabbi Krupnick,  
Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro  
and Rabbi Green at

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## How Will You Assure Jewish Tomorrows?

Beth El is an active participant in a charitable Endowment initiative under the auspices of the Jewish Community Foundation and funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. Please remember Beth El when you do your Estate Planning.

Leaving a legacy is simple. Some options include:

- Bequest in a Will
- Gift of Life Insurance
- Gift of IRA or Pension Funds
- Gift of Cash or Assets
- Charitable Remainder Trust

Help Beth El thrive for the next 100 years!

Jocelyn Borowsky  
Endowment Committee Chair  
[jdmborowsky@comcast.net](mailto:jdmborowsky@comcast.net)



Robin Berger  
Events & Development Director  
[rberger@bethelsnj.org](mailto:rberger@bethelsnj.org)

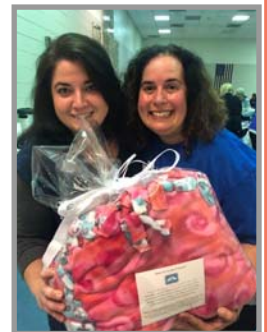
## MITZVAH SPOTLIGHT



Habonim, our group for Empty Nesters, held a fabulous mitzvah event **Cozies4Chemo** in November. Participants created 20 fleece tied

blankets for people undergoing chemotherapy. The 9th grade students from Beth El's Hebrew High School also participated in the event. Habonim made a contribution to the Cozies4Chemo Foundation and are proud gold sponsors of the organization. Cozies4Chemo's ambassador, **Elyse Schwartz**, spoke to the group, shared information about the organization and its mission, and then assisted with the blanket making.

We would like to extend a special thank you to **Iris Auerbach, Mort Kanovsky, Marleen & Brent Schwartz, and Judy Simkin** for all of their hard work putting this event together. Thank you to everyone who participated in this meaningful program!



## SURVIVOR Sisters

Our recently created group (comprised of women with a diagnosis of cancer focusing on empowering and redefining life during and after treatment) has been very well-received and has met to offer support to several women.

To connect, please email [illene33@comcast.net](mailto:illene33@comcast.net), [illenerubin@aol.com](mailto:illenerubin@aol.com), or [silverberg.heidi@gmail.com](mailto:silverberg.heidi@gmail.com).

For clergy, please contact Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro at [hazzanapb@bethelsnj.org](mailto:hazzanapb@bethelsnj.org).

# DAILY MINYAN TIMES











## FEBRUARY (SHEVAT/ADAR) AND MARCH (ADAR/ NISAN) 2020/5780

AM = Shacharit (Morning)

PM = Mincha/Ma'ariv (Afternoon/Evening)

\* = Mincha Only

^ = Friday Night Live (Kabbalat Shabbat)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>JANUARY 26</b> 9:00AM 5:10PM	<b>JANUARY 27</b> <b>ROSH CHODESH</b> 7:15AM 5:10PM	<b>JANUARY 28</b> 7:30AM 5:10PM	<b>JANUARY 29</b> 7:30AM 5:10PM	<b>JANUARY 30</b> 7:15AM 5:10PM	<b>JANUARY 31</b> 7:30AM 4:55PM* 6:00PM^  4:58PM	<b>FEBRUARY 1</b> Bo 9:00AM 5:05PM
<b>2</b> 9:00AM 5:20PM	<b>3</b> 7:15AM 5:20PM	<b>4</b> 7:30AM 5:20PM	<b>5</b> 7:30AM 5:20PM	<b>6</b> 7:15AM 5:20PM	<b>7</b> 7:30AM 5:05PM* 6:00PM^  5:07PM	<b>8</b> BESHALACH SHABBAT SHIRA SISTERHOOD SHABBAT 9:00AM 5:10PM
<b>9</b> 9:00AM 5:30PM	<b>10</b> Tu BiSHVAT 7:15AM 5:30PM	<b>11</b> 7:30AM 5:30PM	<b>12</b> 7:30AM 5:30PM	<b>13</b> 7:15AM 5:30PM	<b>14</b> 7:30AM 5:15PM* 6:00PM^  5:15PM	<b>15</b> YITRO 9:00AM 5:20PM
<b>16</b> 9:00AM 5:40PM	<b>17</b> <b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b> 8:30AM 5:40PM	<b>18</b> 7:30AM 5:40PM	<b>19</b> 7:30AM 5:40PM	<b>20</b> 7:15AM 5:40PM	<b>21</b> 7:30AM 5:15PM* 6:00PM^  5:23PM	<b>22</b> MISHPATIM SHABBAT SHEKALIM 9:00AM 5:25PM
<b>23</b> 9:00AM 5:45PM	<b>24</b> 7:15AM 5:45PM	<b>25</b> <b>ROSH CHODESH</b> 7:15AM 5:45PM	<b>26</b> <b>ROSH CHODESH</b> 7:15AM 5:45PM	<b>27</b> 7:15AM 5:45PM	<b>28</b> 7:30AM 5:15PM* 6:00PM^  5:31PM	<b>29</b> TERUMAH 9:00AM 5:35PM
<b>MARCH 1</b> 9:00AM 5:50PM	<b>MARCH 2</b> 7:15AM 5:50PM	<b>3</b> 7:30AM 5:50PM	<b>4</b> 7:30AM 5:50PM	<b>5</b> 7:15AM 5:50PM	<b>6</b> 7:30AM 5:15PM* 6:00PM^  5:38PM	<b>7</b> TETZAVEH SHABBAT ZACHOR 9:00AM 5:45PM
<b>8</b> DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS 9:00AM 7:00PM	<b>9</b> FAST OF ESTHER <b>PURIM</b> 7:15AM 5:45PM* MINCHA 8:00PM* MA'ARIV	<b>10</b> <b>PURIM</b> 7:00AM MEGILLAH READING 7:00PM	<b>11</b> <b>SHUSHAN PURIM</b> 7:30AM 7:00PM	<b>12</b> 7:15AM 7:00PM	<b>13</b> 7:30AM 5:15PM* 6:00PM^  6:45PM	<b>14</b> Ki TISA SHABBAT PARAH 9:00AM 6:50PM
<b>15</b> 9:00AM 7:05PM	<b>16</b> 7:15AM 7:05PM	<b>17</b> 7:30AM 7:05PM	<b>18</b> 7:30AM 7:05PM	<b>19</b> 7:15AM 7:05PM	<b>20</b> 7:30AM 5:15PM* 6:00PM^  6:53PM	<b>21</b> VAYAKHEL/ PEKUDEI SHABBAT HACHODESH 9:00AM 6:55PM
<b>22</b> 9:00AM 7:10PM	<b>23</b> 7:15AM 7:10PM	<b>24</b> 7:30AM 7:10PM	<b>25</b> 7:30AM 7:10PM	<b>26</b> <b>ROSH CHODESH</b> 7:15AM 7:10PM	<b>27</b> 7:30AM 5:15PM* 6:00PM^  7:00PM	<b>28</b> VAYIKRA 9:00AM 7:05PM
<b>29</b> 9:00AM 7:20PM	<b>30</b> 7:15AM 7:20PM	<b>31</b> 7:30AM 7:20PM	<b>APRIL 1</b> 7:30AM 7:20PM	<b>APRIL 2</b> 7:15AM 7:20PM	<b>APRIL 3</b> 7:30AM 5:15PM* 6:00PM^  7:06PM	<b>APRIL 4</b> TZAV SHABBAT HAGADOL 9:00AM 7:10PM



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Bar Mitzvah of Sharon & Marc  
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Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Linden

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Birth of twin grandchildren to  
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Yahrzeit of Judith Bernard

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## Survivor Sisters

Our recently created group (comprised of women with a diagnosis of cancer focusing on empowering and redefining life during and after treatment) has been very well-received and has met to offer support to several women. To connect, please email illene33@comcast.net, illenerubin@aol.com, or silverberg.heidi@gmail.com. For clergy, please contact Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro at hazzanapb@bethelsnj.org.



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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020  
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