

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

Beth El Newsletter
March (Adar I / Adar II) and April (Adar II / Nisan) 5782

A MUSICAL JOURNEY THROUGH THE DECADES
THE CLERGY BOYS
WITH **HAZZAN ALISA POMERANTZ-BORO** HONORING **BETH EL'S PAST PRESIDENTS**

MONDAY
APRIL
25
7:00 PM



IN PERSON
WITH
LIVESTREAM
OPTION

To purchase tickets or become a sponsor: bethelsnj.org/clergyboys

For information, contact **Melissa Leibowitz** at mleibowitz@bethelsnj.org or 856-675-1166.



MLK DAY OF SERVICE

Our Annual MLK Day of Service was a huge success! Volunteers potted succulents; made dog toys, blankets, sandwiches, and beaded mask holders; and colored greetings for local organizations including Lion's Gate, Animal Welfare Association, and Cathedral Kitchen. Our ECC students made cards for the residents of Lion's Gate.



Thank you to all the volunteers; to **Rachel Miller**, Social Action Chairperson, for spearheading this initiative; and to **Melissa Leibowitz** and **Tracey Weiss**, our engagement team, for all of their hard work to make this happen!




5th Annual
CONGREGATION BETH EL
GOLF Classic
& Game Day

SAVE THE DATE
MONDAY, JUNE 13
LEGACY CLUB AT WOODCREST

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE
Contact Tracey at tweiss@bethelsnj.org

IN THIS ISSUE...

Purim, Passover, Sale of Chametz form, History of Jewish Philadelphia Series, Spotlight on our Torah Readers, Mazal Tovs, Condolences, Contributions, and more!



Rabbi Aaron Krupnick

COURAGEOUS HOPE

As Jews around the globe prepare to celebrate the holiday of our people's freedom from Egyptian slavery we're not quite as free as we had hoped we'd be by now. Strapping on our masks for the millionth time we all

have said, at one time or another, *Dayenu* — enough already! What next?!

Then along comes the seder to remind us that if there's one thing Jews through the ages have known, it's how to find hope in even the most dire of circumstances. Oppressed as they were, how could our ancestors have dared to hope they would ever be fully free? But hope they did, and in the process, passed on to us a skill much in demand today. We can harness this aspect of our spiritual DNA. We can and should look forward to "*Chag He-Aviv*" – the Holiday of Springtime (as Passover is known in the Talmud) with optimism and hope. Gathering together with family and friends, life indeed begins again. Life's not the same. It's not necessarily better or worse, but life itself is still a gift. To cherish what remains of the year gone by, and to foster its renewal, that is our Passover inheritance.

This year is a Jewish leap year. We add on an extra Adar. That's why Passover comes "late" this year. Why is it so important that Passover comes in the spring that our Jewish calendar adds an extra month to keep it there? It is to teach us that each spring we're given the gift of new life - in the natural world around us, as well

as the spiritual world within. We eat a fresh green vegetable — the *karpas* to remind us of that. To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

As we begin to feel the signs of liberation from a long winter, spring's first blossoms reassure us that life goes on, in us, through us, and around us. That was what our ancestors felt long ago, that is what we feel inside, and hopefully, that is what we will pass along to our children this year. They too are weary.

Really, the purpose of the seder is not simply to tell the story of Egypt. We all know that story. It's to 'pass over' the deeper narrative underneath the story to our children. Our children are waiting for us to connect them, to give our people's narrative to them. And ours is a narrative of resilience and perseverance, of courage and hope. It is the essence of an inspirational message. The Passover story reminds us to keep our heads high and be hopeful because we're walking with our Gd. And when you walk with Gd in your heart, miracles can and often do happen. Our whole history is proof of that.

For some, optimism and hope come easy, for others it may be more of a stretch. But we owe it to ourselves, to those around us, and particularly to our younger ones to be hopeful, courageous, and joyful, even when we have to work at it. It is this sensitivity to our own inner lives that makes us even more attentive to the inner lives of those around us. That is what has enabled us to thrive as a People, and that is what makes Passover extra meaningful this year.

Wishing You a Chag Sameach!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Josh Laster Executive Director

Do you enjoy being welcoming to others and have availability Monday through Friday, between 9am and 1pm? Our faithful Chief Welcoming Officer, Shirley Yaffa, is working part-

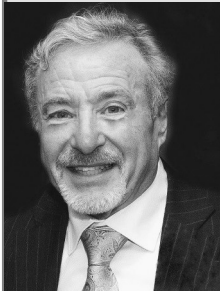
time, and we are looking for volunteers to work at our reception desk in the Beth El office. Responsibilities include answering phone calls, admitting visitors, helping to prepare the occasional mailing, miscellaneous tasks to support member engagement, schmoozing with our staff and enjoying the occasional cup of coffee, tea, or bottle of water. Interested? Please contact me at jlaster@bethelsnj.org.

MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT



- **Selma Feldschneider's** granddaughter, *Jenna Feldschneider German, RN*, earned a fellowship in the Emergency Department at the Long Island Jewish Hospital
- **Aaron Greenberg** received the Special Recognition Award from the American Camp Association of New York and New Jersey
- **Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro** received an honorary Doctor of Music from JTS for her achievement over many years of distinguished service
- **Becca Raush**, daughter of **Helene & David Raush**, granddaughter of **Ellen Podell**, received the Young Adult Israel Advocacy Award at the JCRC Middle East Institute
- **Aaron Aumiller, Jamie Schuster Morgan, Jerry Rothkoff, Scott Schulman, Eric Shore** were recognized as 2021 Awesome Attorneys by South Jersey Magazine
- **Richard Goldstein, Alison Bell Keim, Zev Rose** were honored as inaugural 2021 Love Impact Award winners in memory and to honor the legacy of Donald Love z"l

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Stuart A. Sauer
President

As a teenager growing up at Congregation Beth El, I had the extraordinary opportunity to visit Israel with USY Pilgrimage in 1972, 50 years ago. USY and my Hebrew school education at our Shul helped to shape me into the person I am today. The friendships I made all through high school and my Israel trip are still going strong thanks to Facebook. Being involved in Jewish youth organizations has helped develop my strong Jewish identity.

Congregation Beth El's Youth Commission is responsible for guiding our youth activities. From first grade to twelfth grade, our children find engaging academic, social and athletic activities within our youth department. Over the years, we recognize that USY is not the only Jewish youth organization our children are interested in joining, BBYO is also an option. As times change, Beth El's Youth Commission also needs to change to meet the growing needs for all our children. Therefore, we are expanding our youth department outreach to include both USY and BBYO teens and adult advisors.

I want to be clear that Beth El's commitment to our USY chapter for over the last fifty, or even seventy, years will continue to be strong and steadfast. Our clergy and lay leaders are 100% committed to the ongoing success of our USY chapter. BBYO will continue to have their local chapters in our area that include Congregation Beth El teens, however they will not have a chapter based in our synagogue.

Congregation Beth El is proud that both USY and BBYO members hold leadership roles at the chapter, regional, and international levels. Both organizations have extraordinary and engaging events that prepare our teens for college and to lead a Jewish life. These programs are available to both groups and our Youth Department is there to provide guidance and support to all our children as they grow and explore their Jewish identity.

The majority of our USY and BBYO teens are graduates of our religious school, had their Bar/Bat Mitzvah in our sanctuary, and have gone to Israel on their confirmation trip together. Our children are our future, and our future depends on them having a strong relationship with our clergy and feel comfortable when they walk into our building. It is important for our teens to know that Congregation Beth El is their spiritual home, and GD willing in 50 years, will appreciate how our Shul helped shape their Jewish lives.

Zeir Gezunt, Be Well!



LIFE & LEGACY

Please remember Beth El when you do your Estate Planning. Leaving a legacy is simple: Bequest in a Will, Gift of Life Insurance, Gift of IRA or Pension Funds, Gift of Cash or Assets, Charitable Remainder Trust

Contact *Jocelyn Borowsky* at jdmborowsky@comcast.net or *Melissa Leibowitz* at mleibowitz@bethelsnj.org for details.

**Names in bold have formalized a commitment to Beth El*

Mira & Aaron Aumiller

Susan & David Backal

Cathy & Marc Backal

Marcia Baruch

Donna & Richard Bell

Pam & Bob Benedon

Jodi Berman

Helene & Alan Blumenfeld

Jocelyn Borowsky

Marcia Baruch Bowen

Ronit & Chris Boyd

Beth & Josh Brodtkin

Amy & Eric Clayman

Herbert & Thalia Cohen

Arlene & Harris Colton

Fran & Neal Cupersmith

Leila & Adam Cupersmith

Marsha Dollinger

Alan Dias & Heidi Handler

June & Steven Eisner & Family

Myra & David Gutin

Phyllis Hecsh

Deborah & Edward Hochberg

Beth & Harvey Jacob

Adam Kaminer

Sharla & Mort Kanovsky

Amy & Barnard Kaplan

Jerome Katz

Alison & Andrew Keim

Debra Kelberg

Deborah Shore & Jonathan Korn

Helene & Rabbi Aaron Krupnick

Michael Landsburg

Fran & Leon L. Levy

Suzanne & Victor Levy

Judy & Donald (z"l) Love

Diane & Benjamin Mashioff

Rachel & Stephen Miller

Burt & Diane Nussbaum

Sheri & Jason Pecarsky

Lynn Goldman Paul

Arlene & Ed Plasky

Hilary & Harry Platt

Ilene Rosen & P. Todd Rowan

Sharon & Adam Sackstein

Stuart & Sherry Sauer

Karen & David Schlessel & Family

Harriet Schulman

Robin & Joshua Schwartz

Faye & Gary Shapiro

Jennifer Sholder

Michael Silver

Juli Mandel Sloves & Glenn Sloves

Lauren & Jonathan Soll

Tami Bogutz Steinberg

Judith & Stuart Wasserlauf

Jennifer & Jim Weiss

Leah & Jason Wolf

Jeffrey Zeiger

Anonymous (2)



Rabbi Nogah Marshall Educational Director

FAMILY EDUCATION

Every day when we recite the words of the Shema we say "V'shinantam Levanecha V'dibarta Bam- and you shall teach them to your children". We are taught to pass down our values and tradition, *L'dor V'dor*, from generation to generation. One way that we here at the Beth El Religious School help our parents teach their children is through family education, specifically through our Family *B'yachad* Program. *B'yachad* means together and that is what we do, we learn together as a family. **The Family *B'yachad* Program Series** is designed to enable children and parents to learn together in a fun, interactive, hands-on manner. The *B'yachad* Programs provide opportunities for families to delve deeper into a subject that is studied in the child's grade. What makes these programs unique is that in addition to the educational component, each of the *B'yachad* programs also incorporates an artistic component that enables families to create a meaningful, heirloom type project.

Our *B'yachad* programs include:

Gan (K): "Shabbat in a Box": Families create their very own Shabbat kit to use at home.



Alph (1st Grade): "Who Knows 4 - Passover and the significance of the number 4": Students and parents enjoy learning about the meaning of the number four from the Passover Seder in a fun and interactive way, creating attractive and useful Seder items.

Bet (2nd Grade): "Havdallah; Spice and Spirit": This Havdallah experience includes the creation of each family's own Havdallah set.

Gimmel (3rd Grade): "My Siddur": Students create their own personalized siddur covers that they receive with their Siddurim at the Chag HaSiddur Ceremony.

Daled (4th Grade): "Shema is for Living": We focus on Jewish symbols culminating with the creation of the students' very own mezuzah.



Hey (5th Grade): "Tracing our Roots":

Families discover what their legacy means to them by researching their family history together and designing their individual family trees.

Vav (6th Grade): "Eyal's Flowers": We learn about the remarkable story of Eyal Sherman and the importance of helping others with special needs. Families create their own piece of art depicting Eyal's signature flower painting.



By learning together as a family, our children are able to understand the importance of family and tradition. By creating a family heirloom together, they physically put into practice what they are learning and one day will be able to show their children what they have learned with their parents. *L'dor V'dor*.



Ayelet Mittelman ECC Principal

What a wonderful couple of months it has been! We ended our year with our fantastic in-person Chanukah celebrations, and kicked off the new year with our delicious Tu B'Shevat seder! The ECC children participated in a musical and educational ZOOM seder led by Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro, Rabbi Marshall, and Morah Elana! In preparation for the holiday and our celebration, the children planted parsley seeds, learned about trees and the seven species, and made a variety of tree themed art work!



A great big WELCOME to all of the new families that have just joined us in the new year! The ECC also welcomed Amanda Barrish, MSW, LSW, our new full time Student Support Advocate! Amanda comes to our ECC with many years of experience and brilliant ideas on how to best set our students up for success!

We are so excited for our upcoming ECC Purim Prayers and Pajamas on Friday, March 11 at 5:30pm! We invite all of our ECC families to



come in costume to this extra special musical Kabbalat Shabbat party in the Beth El sanctuary with Rabbi Krupnick, Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro, and BAMBA! This fun celebration will feature a costume parade! The ECC in-school celebration for Purim will be on Thursday, March 17. The children will have the opportunity to dress in costume, make their own hamantaschen and groggers!

All-in-all the first few months of 2022 have been full of new friends, delicious treats, and loads of creativity!! We can't wait to see what the next few months bring!





KAILA RABENOU

Daughter of Richelle & Kameron Rabenou

March 5, 2022

Sister of: Emma
Granddaughter of: Barbara & Mark Birenbaum and Delores & Pariz Rabenou
Mitzvah Project: Collected canned food to donate to a local food pantry and donated money to 4Ocean which helps to support removing plastic waste from our oceans.



MADISON GREENWALD

Daughter of Jenn & Alex Greenwald

April 9, 2022

Sister of: Morgan
Granddaughter of: Claudia & Warren Finkel and Susan & Sidney Greenwald
Mitzvah Project: Collected used, old, and broken crayons for The Crayon Initiative, an organization that melts down old and broken crayons to create new crayons for children in hospitals all over the country.



TYLER WHITNEY

Son of Julie & Jason Whitney

March 12, 2022

Brother of: Justin and Samantha
Grandson of: Irene & Michael Sherman and Cheryl Whitney
Mitzvah Project: Volunteered with the Cherry Hill Environmental Board, helped clean up Cherry Hill trails, donated money to Team Seas which helps to remove trash from the ocean.

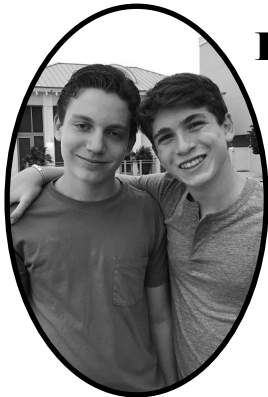


SOPHIA ROSOF

Daughter of Sarah & Craig z"l Rosof

April 9, 2022

Sister of: Benjamin
Granddaughter of: Carol & Ed Rosof
Mitzvah Project: Raised money for Experience Camps, a national, no-cost program for grieving children who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling or primary caregiver.



BEN & MAX BRANDIES

Sons of Robin & Alan Brandies

March 12, 2022

Grandsons of: Faye & Richard Fulginiti, Rosalyn & Warren Brandies, Richard First
Mitzvah Project: Volunteered with JRA and Abramson Senior Care and did a variety of projects for seniors.



TALIA MILLER

Daughter of Rachel & Stephen Miller

April 19, 2022

Sister of: Jared, Benjamin and Ari
Granddaughter of: Sandy & Mark Levy and Suzanne Miller
Mitzvah Project: Delivered food to members of our community with Jewish Relief Agency and made blankets for homebound veterans.

**Bat Mitzvah will be in Jerusalem*



MIKAYLA SHENKER

Daughter of Stacy & Marc Shenker

April 2, 2022

Sister of: Paul
Granddaughter of: Phyllis Rieber z"l and Sally & Ralph z"l Shenker
Mitzvah Project: Raised money for the allergy research department at CHOP to help others with allergies the way CHOP helped with her peanut allergy.



SHANE BROAD

Son of Heather & Joshua Broad

April 30, 2022

Brother of: Riley
Grandson of: Arlene & Abe Rutman and Leila & Norman Broad
Mitzvah Project: Volunteered at BookSmiles to sort books and conducted a book drive. Through BookMates he volunteered to read to a classroom in Camden and worked with his school to organize a book drive.



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B'NAI MITZVAH FAMILIES

Abby & Robert Belafsky
Bat Mitzvah of granddaughter, Mira Berman

Tara & Michael Berman
Bat Mitzvah of daughter, Mira

Shelly & Allan Brenner
Bat Mitzvah of granddaughter, Dylan Kratchman

Alana & Michael Brown
Bar Mitzvah of son, Frankie

Jodi & Michael Kratchman
Bat Mitzvah of daughter, Dylan

Judy & Arthur Kratchman
Bat Mitzvah of granddaughter, Dylan Kratchman

Hae-Youn & Steven Reichenberg
Bar Mitzvah of son, Aaron

Brandi & Greg Seltzer
Bat Mitzvah of daughter, Hara

Lauren & Todd Spector
Bat Mitzvah of daughter, Brenna

ENGAGEMENTS & WEDDINGS

Barbara & Marvin Backal
engagement of grandson, Jacob Backal, to Alexa Hosin

Cathy & Marc Backal
engagement of son, Jacob, to Alexa Hosin

Sherri & Alan Breslow
marriage of son, Brandon, to Rachel Lomita

Selma Feldschneider
marriage of granddaughter, Lauryn, to David Eddy

Robyn Greenberg & Bill Gelernt
on their marriage

Gail & Howard Rotblat
marriage of their son, Cameron, to Jenny

May Their Memories Be A Blessing**WE MOURN THE PASSING OF BELOVED MEMBERS****Yehuda Ehrlich**

Husband of: Rae Ehrlich
Father of: Ronit (Chris) Boyd
Father of: Tami (Eitan) Savir, Amnon Ehrlich, Aviva Ehrlich
Grandfather of: Yaniv, Merav, Oren, Avi, Seth, Ayla, Jacob, Adina, Eden

Charles "Chuck" Pollack

Husband of: Brenda Pollack
Father of: Ilyse Friedman (Boyfriend Jeffrey Ashe),
No. 2 Son - Marc Friedman, Jeff Pollack (Edith Wong)
Grandfather of: Steven, Ari, Aiden, Hannah and Jocelyn

Doris Schwartz

mother of Marcia (Arnie) Cohen
Wife of: Hyman Schwartz, z"l; Mother of: Ed (Emmy) Schwartz;
Grandmother of: David (Cassie Ehrenberg) Cohen, Rachel (Bryan) Goldstein, Seth (Jill) Cohen, Rob (Marisa) Schwartz, Lori Schwartz (Manny Morales); Great Grandmother of: Josh and Leo Cohen, Caleb and Harper Goldstein, Chloe and Cooper Cohen

WE SEND CONDOLENCES TO**Danielle Algazi**

loss of her brother-in-law, Louis Balcher

Jerry (Karen) Bliss

loss of his mother, Anna Mae Bliss
Wife of: Arthur Bliss; Mother of: Rubye (Charles) Ebersson, Ellen (Marc) Jacobs; Grandmother of: Ashley, Zachary (Brittany), Rochele (Gregory), Joshua, Maxwell, Benjamin, Rachel; Great-Grandmother of: Gabriel, Aubrey, Blake, Cole, Lauren, Morgan

Allan (Shelly) Brenner

loss of his sister, Sheila Brenner Kleinman
Wife of: Norman Kleinman, z"l; Mother of: Debra Kleinman, David (Pam) Kleinman, Sharon (Zan) Kleinman, z"l; Aunt of: Heidi (Brian) Chhabria, Jodi (Michael) Kratchman, Emily (Tom) Caracciolo, Perri (Robert) Silverstein; Great Aunt of: Zachary, Darby and Ava Chhabria; Dylan, Grayden and Lincoln Kratchman; Scarlet and Harper Caracciolo; Julianna and Maddox Silverstein; Grandmother of: Alexa Dawson, Carly Kleinman, Alissa Kleinman

Steven (Leslie) Cohen

loss of his father, Leon Cohen
Husband of: Barbara Cohen, z"l; Father of: Bruce (Michelle) Cohen;
Grandfather of: Jamie, Andrea, Lindsay and Josh; Great-Grandfather of: Haylee, Jaxson, Meredith, Angelina, Rose, Harper

Sandra (Arnold) Kaminer

loss of her sister, Norma Greenblatt

Pamela (Scott) Rosenberg

loss of her father, Theodore "Ted" A. Schwartz
Husband of: Linda Hirschhorn, Father of: Scott Schwartz;
Step-Father of: Jennie (Richard) Pisonoy and Paulette (Stuart) Strauss,
Grandfather "Poppy" of: Samuel, Rachel, Benjamin, Max, Simone, Lily

Lynn (Joseph) Rosner

loss of her brother, Michael Rosset
Husband of: Diane Rosset; Father of: Hara Rosset and Erica (Ian) Gallagher; Brother In-Law of: Alan (Cheryl) Prince

Debra (Paul) Simon

loss of her brother Harold Wagner
Son of: Annette, z"l, & Joseph, z"l, Wagner; Brother of: Sara (Larry) Potter

Bernie & Eileen Yaffa and Shirley Yaffa

loss of their sister-in-law Phyllis Yaffa

PASSOVER INFORMATION



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

by Rabbi Aaron Krupnick

Q: When is the Fast of the First Born?

A: The *Siyum* of the Fast of the First Born will be held on **Thursday, April 14 at 7:00am**. We will conclude a *seder* (order) of Mishna at the end of services so as to negate the need to fast.

Q: When do we search for Chametz?

A: Following a thorough cleaning of the house, the search for leaven is held on **Thursday evening, April 14 after night fall**. Bread crumbs are placed conspicuously in rooms where food is normally eaten. Using a candle, a search is made and the crumbs are whisked with a feather onto a wooden spoon and then into a paper bag. The prayer said at this time is found in the Haggadah.

Q: What do we do with the crumbs in the bag? Where is Chametz burned?

A: Chametz should be burned on **Friday, April 15**. After morning Minyan (7:00am), we will have a small bonfire in a steel drum in the parking lot to burn your Chametz. Parents and children can come from 8:30—9:00am that morning to share in this ritual.

Q: How and why do I sell my Chametz?

A: On Pesach it is forbidden to possess Chametz.

B: All Chametz that will not be eaten or burned needs to be sold to a non-Jew through a transaction facilitated by the Rabbis of Beth El. (**Sale of Chametz form below or online at bethelsnj.org/passover**) It should be mailed or returned online no later than **Thursday, April 14 at 5:00pm**.

Foods During Pesach

The following foods are forbidden for use during Pesach: All uncertified products of the 5 specified grains traditionally identified as Chametz: oats, wheat, barley, rye and spelt. This includes such products as bread, cakes, biscuits, crackers, cereal, etc. Ashkenazic custom has us refraining from eating rice, corn, peas and legumes because when ground they can be confused for those grains listed above. However, in a different form, some of the derivative products of these foods are permitted such as peanut oil. With so much *hechshered* food available in our area, it is best just to look for the certification on foods.

Kashering Utensils

Pots and Pans: Silverware and pots must be thoroughly scrubbed, cleaned and then completely immersed in boiling water. Pots should not be used for a period of at least 24 hours between the cleaning and the immersion in boiling water. Metal baking utensils cannot be kashered.

Earthenware: China and pottery etc. may not be kashered.

Ovens & Ranges: Every part that comes in contact with food must be thoroughly scrubbed and cleansed. Oven and range should be on as hot as possible for ½ hour.

Microwaves: After a thorough cleansing, a cup of hot water should be brought to a boil until most of the water disappears.

Dishwasher: The Rabbinical Assembly has ruled that after not using the machine for 24 hours, running a full cycle through empty with detergent will kasher a dishwasher for Pesach.

Tables, Food, Closets & Counters: Should be thoroughly cleaned and covered for Pesach. Then they may be used.

Kitchen Sink: A metal sink can be kashered by thoroughly cleaning and then pouring boiling water over it. A porcelain sink should be cleaned and a sink rack used. If, however, dishes are to be soaked in a porcelain sink, a dish basin must be used.

DELEGATION OF POWER: SALE OF CHAMETZ FORM

I hereby authorize Rabbi Aaron Krupnick to be my agent to sell all kinds of Chametz including, but not limited to, any leavened food, dishes, pots, pans, and utensils used with leavened food, which may be in my possession at the address below. Rabbi Krupnick is also empowered to lease all places wherein Chametz owned by me may be his stead and said substitute shall have full right to sell and to lease as provided herein.

I understand that the sale will be effective at sundown on Friday, April 15.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

*This form is to be returned or faxed (856) 489-3280 to the Shul by **Thursday, April 14 at 5:00pm***

SPOTLIGHT ON BETH EL'S TORAH READERS



"I like to read Torah because..."



Torah Readers in 2019 with the Cantors Assembly Torah

It puts a smile on both of my grandparents' faces and the more I read Torah, the easier it becomes to understand in both Hebrew and English. - *Max Scholl*



When I read Torah I relive the time of my childhood leading to my Bar Mitzvah when so many things were still new and experiencing them was intimacy with Gd. When I read Torah, chanting the melodies and falling into the rhythm of the trope, I enter a dimension where I sense together all Jews from the past, present, and future. And I love to read Torah because I've been told it brings joy to others. - *Jeff Cohn*

It enables me to continue to utilize a skill that I learned for my Bar Mitzvah (62 years ago) for the rest of my life. It preserves a special skill for me that strengthens my connection to Gd. - *Marc Millstein*

It's a continuation of a wonderful tradition. I love the challenge of dealing with the different fonts. - *Dr. Irv Klein*

Of the connection I feel to the actual text. Learning the translation often helps me better understand why the trope is what it is. And I know I'm doing a mitzvah, especially when I fill in at the last minute, which always makes me feel good. - *Faye Shapiro*

Of the sense of continuity. When I read Torah, I'm reading the same thing Jews across the world are reading at the same time. And I'm reading the same thing my parents and grandparents and great grandparents and so forth throughout the entire span of history have read. And it's the same thing my own kids will one day read. There's really something special and cool about that. - *Aaron Inver*

When I was young, women in the Conservative movement did not publicly read Torah. The Conservative movement evolved. I was thrilled to take part in the Hazzan's trope class, as I really wanted to read Torah just once. During the process of learning the trope for the portion the reader gets a glimpse of the past, and what centuries of readers were taught to emphasize. I do not learn easily. I find through the repetition involved for me to be able to discard the *nikudot* (vowels) and the use of a Chumash that has a linear translation, I gain an understanding of the portion that I would not gain by just reading the portion once. This is the reason I requested more portions. - *Gloria Andersen*

It is a holy privilege and joy. It links us to one another and to our heritage. Because it takes me a while to learn a *Parshah*, chanting gives me a meaningful sense of accomplishment. - *Karen H. Schlessel*

It is a skill that my father taught me when I was 9 years old that allows me to connect closer to Gd. When I learned how to read Torah, Egalitarianism was fairly new and few girls/women were learning this skill. It brings me such pride now to see my daughters read from the Torah and have it as part of their Jewish education. - *Rabbi Nogah Marshall*

It is one way I can contribute to our congregation. I also try to say yes when the Rabbi or Hazzan ask me to do something. I would read more often, but someone has to be the first gabbai. - *Yoel Weiss*

To join our amazing team of Torah readers, contact Leora at lwaiche@bethelsnj.org



KaHaL presents
**HISTORY OF
 JEWISH PHILADELPHIA**



**PART ONE:
 GUEST SPEAKER**

Join Dr. Michael Schatz to learn about the history of the Philadelphia Jewish community, its roots in the colonial period and growth through the 19th century, the experience of Russian Jewish immigrants, and much more!



**PART TWO:
 TROLLEY TOUR**

Dr. Schatz will lead us on a trolley trip through former Jewish neighborhoods. We'll visit the Jewish Quarter in today's Society Hill and Queen Village, former and current synagogues, Talmud Torah, the bath house, and much more.



PART ONE: GUEST SPEAKER

Thursdays, March 10 & 17
 7:00pm
 In person and on Zoom

PART TWO: TROLLEY TOUR

Sunday, March 20
 1:30pm
 SPACE IS LIMITED.

\$72 for 3-part series
\$18 for lectures only | \$50 for trolley only

REGISTER: BETHELSNJ.ORG/TROLLEY

Questions? Contact Rabbi Marshall
 at nmarshall@bethelsnj.org

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

HEALING SERVICE

TUESDAY, MARCH 1: 7:15PM
 Hurting? Grieving? Lost? Find inner peace through prayer and meditation.

SISTERHOOD ROSH CHODESH EVENT

THURSDAY, MARCH 3: 7:00PM
 Celebrate the new month of Adar II with Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro and Sisterhood.

NETWORKING NIGHT WITH MEN'S CLUIB

THURSDAY, MARCH 3: 8:00PM
 Want to meet new people who might share your profession and interests? Come to Double Nickel Brewing Company for some informal networking, along with great beer and conversation.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

PACK MISHLOACH MANOT:
 SUNDAY, MARCH 6 – FRIDAY, MARCH 11
DELIVER MISHLOACH MANOT: SUNDAY, MARCH 13
 Sign up: tweiss@bethelsnj.org

HISTORY OF JEWISH PHILADELPHIA SERIES
SPEAKER: THURSDAYS, MARCH 10 & 17: 7:00PM
TROLLEY TOUR: SUNDAY, MARCH 20: 1:30PM
 Details on page 10.

PURIM PRAYERS AND PAJAMAS

FRIDAY, MARCH 11: 5:30PM
 Enjoy a costume parade at this very special Shabbat party for ECC families.

SERVICE FROM THE HEART

FRIDAY, MARCH 11: 6:00PM
 A lively and engaging service embracing our special needs community. Interpreted in ASL.

KADIMA COSTUME BOWLING (4-7 GRADERS)

SATURDAY, MARCH 12: 6:30PM
 Strike up some Purim fun with hamantaschen and bowling. Register: bethelsnj.org/kadima

PURIM CARNIVAL & MITZVAH MALL

SUNDAY, MARCH 13: 10:00AM
 Celebrate Purim at our outdoor Candyland themed carnival and Mitzvah Mall!

BETH EL'S GOT TALENT & MEGILLAH READING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16: 6:00PM
 See back cover.

SINGLES SHABBAT

FRIDAY, MARCH 18: 7:30PM
 A warm and welcoming service for all.

PARTY SHOWCASE

SUNDAY, MARCH 20: 10:00AM
 Back in person! Meet DJs, florists, photographers, invitation vendors, and more!

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

BAT MITZVAH THROWBACK PARTY

SATURDAY, MARCH 26: 7:30PM

Party like it's our b'not mitzvah with dinner, drinks, and dancing presented by Sisterhood!

MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEBINAR

THURSDAY, MARCH 31: 8:00PM

Dr. Tameika Minor shares insight into how to support someone with mental illness and anxiety.

PRAYERS AND PAJAMAS FOR ECC FAMILIES

FRIDAY, APRIL 1: 5:30PM

Experience the fun and joy of our ECC Shabbat parties in Beth El's beautiful sanctuary.

HEALING SERVICE

TUESDAY, APRIL 4: 7:15PM

Hurting? Grieving? Lost? Find inner peace through prayer and meditation.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION KABBALAT SHABBAT

FRIDAY, APRIL 8: 5:00PM

A special service for families with K—6th Graders.

SERVICE FROM THE HEART

FRIDAY, APRIL 8: 6:00PM

A lively and engaging service embracing our special needs community. Interpreted in ASL.

SINGLES SHABBAT

FRIDAY, APRIL 8: 8:00PM

A warm and welcoming service for all.

MEN'S CLUB SHABBAT

SATURDAY, APRIL 16: 9:00AM

A special Shabbat morning service honoring and celebrating our Men's Club.

ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 24: 10:00AM

Celebrate our Beth El Community as we honor volunteers, board members, and staff.

THE CLERGY BOYS CONCERT

WITH HAZZAN POMERANTZ-BORO

HONORING BETH EL'S PAST PRESIDENTS

MONDAY, APRIL 25: 7:00PM

Details on front cover.

YOM HASHOAH COMMUNITY OBSERVANCE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27: 7:00PM

Remember the lives lost during the Holocaust and honor the Survivors in our community.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AWARENESS WEBINAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 28: 8:00PM

Susan Backal, M.Ed, LSW, and Barb Wilen discuss special needs in education.

PASSOVER SCHEDULE

2022 / 5782

Thursday, April 14

Siyum for First Born—7:00am

Search for Chametz

DUE: Sale of Chametz Form (*page 8*)

Friday, April 15: 1st Night of Seder

Burning of Chametz—8:30am

Last time to eat Chametz—11:00am

Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv—6:00pm

Candlelighting—7:18pm

Saturday, April 16: Shabbat Pesach

Yom Tov Services—9:00am

(*Men's Club Shabbat*)

Junior Congregation—10:30am

Ma'ariv—7:30pm

Candlelighting—8:19pm

Sunday, April 17: Yom Tov

Yom Tov Services—9:00am

Junior Congregation—10:30am

Ma'ariv—7:30pm

Monday, April 18: Chol HaMoed

Shacharit—7:30am

Ma'ariv—7:30pm

Tuesday, April 19: Chol HaMoed

Shacharit—7:30am

Ma'ariv—7:30pm

Wednesday, April 20: Chol HaMoed

Shacharit—7:30am

Ma'ariv—7:30pm

Thursday, April 21: Chol HaMoed

Shacharit—7:30am

Ma'ariv—7:30pm

Candlelighting—7:24pm

Friday, April 22: Yom Tov

Shacharit—9:00am

Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv—6:00pm

Candlelighting—7:25pm

Saturday, April 23: Yom Tov

Shacharit & Yizkor—9:00am

Junior Congregation—10:30am

Ma'ariv—8:15pm

PESACH ENDS SATURDAY, APRIL 23: 8:27pm

**Ma'ariv is Zoom only.*

All other services are in person with Zoom option.

RECENT BETH EL HAPPENINGS

CLERGY ENGAGEMENT IN OUR ECC



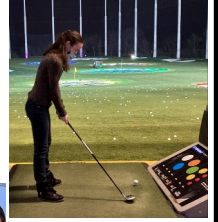
Rabbi Krupnick and Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro are very involved with our Early Childhood Center classes. Every week, our clergy leads the entire school in a lively musical Shabbat party in the sanctuary (or on Zoom if needed for health and safety.) During his

December classroom visits, Rabbi Krupnick showed the kids the Chanukiyah, spun dreidels, and read a story about giving tzedakah.



TEEN OUTING

Our Youth Department hosted a fun and active Teen Night at Top Golf in Mount Laurel in January.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Isaak Ivnitksy has been serving as our primary Shabbat Zoom Master since late October after responding to an ad in the Beth El Buzz. He's been a member of Beth El since 2014 and was excited to try

something different, helping others to connect to services over Zoom. Thank you Isaak for keeping us connected!

Every week the ECC Kindergarten class gets a visit from special guest **Sharon Bronstein**, a Beth El member who volunteers to read books to the children. The kids love this story time! Thank you Sharon for these wonderful visits.



BETH EL MEETS RABBINIC CANDIDATE



Candidate for Senior Rabbi, Rabbi David Englander, visited our congregation in January. Rabbi Englander led a Lunch & Learn with Habonim; participated in the ECC Shabbat party, Religious School, and Keshet Hebrew High; gave the sermon on Shabbat morning; answered questions at two Town Hall forums; and met with various groups of congregants.



PHIL PODELL MEMORIAL WORLD WIDE WRAP



On February 6, Men's Club and Sisterhood joined with nationwide Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs and the Women's League of Conservative Judaism for a "how to" service on tallis and t'fillin. This event is named in memory of Phil Podell z"l who was an active member of the Beth El Men's Club.



COLLEGE CONNECTION CHANUKAH



Our fabulous volunteers assembled Chanukah packages for Beth El college students across the country. The packages included a logo travel mug, hot chocolate, soufganiyot, chocolate gelt, and other delicious treats! This wonderful program is sponsored by the David Back College Connection Fund. Learn more about the program on page 15.



CHESED

On February 2, the Shirley Mangel Minyan and Study participants made challot for the chesed freezer which we keep stocked with meals and challot for those in financial or emotional need.



SAVE THE DATE!
CAFÉ 74: A YOM HA'ATZMAUT CELEBRATION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 4



ISRAEL TURNS 74! JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL ALL AGES EVENT.
LOOK OUT FOR DETAILS.

JOIN OUR GROWING LIST OF SHOMRIM MEMBERS

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Ben, friend of Debbie Alexander
Phyllis Yaffa, beloved sister-in-law



Dear College Students and Parents,

We hope that those who participated enjoyed being part of the David Back College Connection Program for the 2021-22 school year. Our Purim package will be mailed March 7th and we hope it enhances your holiday celebration. We want to thank Rabbi Krupnick for his monthly contacts with students and parents this year and Leora Waiche for her invaluable assistance.

Current undergraduate students and those applying for college admissions for next year, please continue to check the Beth El News for sign up information for the 2022-23 school year.

Parents or congregants who would like to assist in the College Connection Program are encouraged to contact Gloria Back at gback5454@aol.com.

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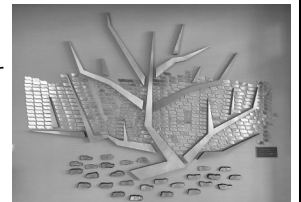
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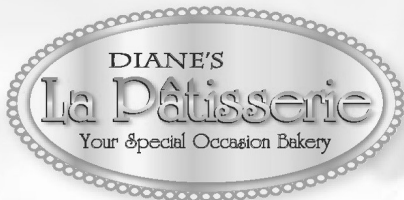
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As many of our congregants are aware, Beth El proudly made the choice to reduce our monthly electric bills and produce Green Energy by converting to Solar. This choice is enabling us to allocate more operating funds towards our congregation.

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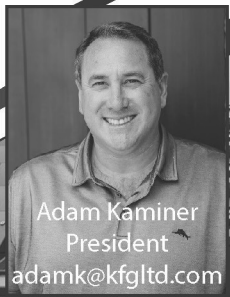
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DIRECTORY

Clergy & Staff

Aaron Krupnick, Rabbi
akrupnick@bethelsnj.org

Alisa Pomerantz-Boro, Hazzan
hazzanapb@bethelsnj.org

Rabbi Isaac Furman, z"l

Josh Laster, Executive Director
jlaster@bethelsnj.org

**Rabbi Nogah Marshall,
Educational Director**
nmarshall@bethelsnj.org

**Melissa Leibowitz,
Engagement Director**
mleibowitz@bethelsnj.org

Ayelet Mittelman, ECC Principal
amittelman@bethelsnj.org

Stacy Manning, Controller
smanning@bethelsnj.org

**Laura Bruzzese-Coscia, Account
Manager**
lbruzzese@bethelsnj.org

**Sarah Donsky, Education Programs
Assistant**
sdonsky@bethelsnj.org

**Alicia Drozen, Youth Director and
Marketing & Communications Manager**
adrozen@bethelsnj.org

**Marsha Flager, Front Office Executive
Assistant**
mflager@bethelsnj.org

**Valerie Gross, Educational
Administrative Assistant**
vgross@bethelsnj.org

Amy Kaplan, Librarian
akaplan@bethelsnj.org

**Carrie Luk, Accounts Payable
Coordinator**
ap@bethelsnj.org

**Leora Waiche, Clergy Executive Assistant
and Program Manager**
lwaiche@bethelsnj.org

Tracey Weiss, Engagement Coordinator
tweiss@bethelsnj.org

Shirley Yaffa, Receptionist
syaffa@bethelsnj.org

Survivor Sisters

Contact ilene33@comcast.net, illenerubin@aol.com,
or silverberg.heidi@gmail.com to connect to our
support network for women with a diagnosis of cancer
focusing on empowering and redefining life during and
after treatment. You may also contact Hazzan at
hazzanapb@bethelsnj.org for support.

Board Officers

President:
Stuart A. Sauer
president@bethelsnj.org

Vice Presidents:
Neal Cupersmith
ncupersmith@cwsscpas.com

Faye Shapiro
fayeshap0407@gmail.com

Yoel Weiss
yoelweiss13@gmail.com

Jason Whitney
jasonwhitney@comcast.net

Treasurer:
Marla Glauser - mglauser@verizon.net

Assistant Treasurer:
Michele Miron - mbmiron121@gmail.com

Financial Secretary:
Cathy Backal - cbackal@comcast.net

Recording Secretary:
David Hulnick - davidari@gmail.com

Arms

Habonim 2.0 (Empty Nesters):
Judy Simkin - lensim@comcast.net

Men's Club:
Marc Shenker - marc@shenker.biz

Singles:
Norma Kamis - normatrack@gmail.com

Sisterhood:
Erica Ritter - sisterhood@bethelsnj.org

Youth Commission:
Aaron Greenberg - agreenberg813@me.com

Volunteer Opportunities

Administrative Operations Committee:
Robin Cohn - chrobn@aol.com

Achim Sheli My Brothers & Sisters:
Tonia Respes and Tameika Minor -
achimshelicbe@gmail.com

Adult Education - KaHaL:
Harriet Schulman - harrietschulman@yahoo.com

Beth El 100 Steering Committee:
Abby Belafsky - ajblady1@gmail.com
Joan Feinberg - joanhf@aol.com
Lynn Goldman Paul - lgpaul@comcast.net

Board Governance & Development:
Karin Elkis - karinelkis@gmail.com

Boker Tov (Good Morning) Committee:
Marsha Goodman - margood1941@gmail.com

Budget & Finance Committee:
Neal Cupersmith - ncupersmith@cwsscpas.com

Catering Committee:
Robin Cohn - chrobn@aol.com

Cemetery Committee:
Harry Platt - plattmemorial@comcast.net

College Connection:
Gloria Back - gback5454@aol.com

Community Partnership Committee:
Neal Cupersmith - ncupersmith@cwsscpas.com

Development
Rob Weinstein - rsw1217@gmail.com

Early Childhood Center Committee:
Perri Silverstein - perribrenner@yahoo.com
Tracey Weiss - tracey.graeff@gmail.com

Endowment Committee:
Jocelyn Borowsky - jdmborowsky@comcast.net

Fundraising Committee:
Barbra Wilen - abwilen@comcast.net

House Committee:
Mort Kanovsky - mortyka9@gmail.com

Israel Committee:
Greg Seltzer - giseltzer@me.com

Kavod LGBTQ Adults & Allies:
Shanin Gross - kavodbe@gmail.com

Marketing Committee:
Valerie Linden - vrlinden@yahoo.com

Membership Committee:
Jeff Cohn - feffynyc@gmail.com

Nichum Avelim (Comforting Mourners):
Marsha Goodman - margood1941@gmail.com

Rabbi Search Committee:
Faye Shapiro and Jason Whitney -
rabbisearch@bethelsnj.org

Religious School Committee:
Ilana Ablon - ilana.ablon.slp@gmail.com
Lauren Passkoff -
lauren.taylor.passkoff@gmail.com

Ritual Advisory Committee:
Jay S. Ruder, Esq - jsruderwork@gmail.com

Scrip Committee:
Marla Glauser - mglauser@verizon.net

Security Committee:
David Breslau - davidbreslau.db@gmail.com

Shomrim Committee:
Faye Shapiro - fayeshap0407@gmail.com

Social Action Committee:
Rachel Miller - rvk504@aol.com

Sulam for Strategic Planning:
David Backal - dsbackal@yahoo.com
Hedda S. Morton - heddamoto@gmail.com

Technology Committee:
David Hulnick - davidari@gmail.com

Tzedek Committee:
Jemma Kline - jforrestkline@gmail.com

DFDAJF

**PURIM
2022**

**PURIM
PRAYERS
AND
PAJAMAS**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 11
5:30PM - 6:00PM**

**WITH
RABBI KRUPNICK
HAZZAN POMERANTZ-BORO**

**ENJOY A COSTUME PARADE AT THIS VERY SPECIAL
PURIM SHABBAT PARTY FOR ECC FAMILIES!**

Congregation Beth El Religious School
invites the community to

**PURIM
CARNIVAL**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13
10:00am-12:00pm
Outside at Beth El**

**Games
Prizes
DJ
Mr. Softee
Mitzvah Mall
and more!**

**BETH EL'S GOT
TALENT**

**Wednesday, March 16
Megillah Reading and Talent Show**

6:00pm | in person and on Zoom

CELEBRATE PURIM TOGETHER

Megillah Reading
Talent Show
Magic
Costume parade
Hamantaschen
Interpreted in ASL
Fun for all ages

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!