



SCROLL

Congregation Beth El

October 2008 • Tishrei–Cheshvan 5769

Vol. 58 No. 2

Project 613: Writing the Torah

Theme

THE FALL HOLIDAYS • 10-13

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Siyum HaTorah
Sunday, September 21, 2008

BY LEESA FIELDS

Beth El welcomed its newest Torah on Sunday, September 21, the culmination of the year-long Project 613: Writing a Torah. The full day of celebration, or Siyum HaTorah, included filling in the last letters, Torah processions, and readings from the newly dedicated Torah.



LARRY SIDMAN (LEFT) AND RABBI YOULUS WRITE THE LAST LETTER IN THE NEW TORAH. PHOTO BY DAVID FRIEDLANDER

During the day anyone who had made a dedication, from children under b'nai mitzvah age who dedicated a letter,

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From the President

THE STATE OF BETH EL

BY SID GETZ

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you and your families a happy, healthy, and sweet New Year – *l'shana tova u'metukah*. Beth El has had another successful year, made possible by the tireless efforts of the clergy, Executive Director, Executive Committee, Board of Directors, staff, and the hundreds of volunteers who contributed to the vitality of our community.

In this column, I'll highlight Beth El's accomplishments in the fiscal year ending in May 2008 and tell you about initiatives planned for this year.

Membership

Membership growth remains strong as new members are attracted to our vibrant community, wonderful clergy,

and outstanding Preschool and Religious School. At press time, Beth El had 1,050 membership units, a nearly 11 percent increase since 2006.

Forty-nine percent of our adults are between the ages of 41 and 60; 36 percent are older than 60; and 15 percent are 40 years old or younger. Almost 50 percent of our members have been at Beth El for seven years or less.

Philanthropy

Philanthropy grew by 32 percent compared to the previous year, due largely to the success of the annual gala, chaired by Jerry and Linda Herman, Devon and Sarah Schain, and Kenneth and Diane Feinberg, and to an increase in the number of families contributing to the Pillars program, chaired by

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SCROLL

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Clergy Housing Allowances

BY SID GETZ

In April 2008, the Board of Directors passed two resolutions regarding housing allowances for clergy. The two resolutions were announced at the Annual Meeting in May. The first resolution established a policy for providing a housing allowance to clergy who seek to purchase a home within walking distance of Beth El. In creating this new policy, the Board recognized the importance of the ability of current and future clergy to buy a house in the Beth El neighborhood and establish strong roots within the community they serve.

The second resolution established the Clergy Housing Fund. Donations to this restricted fund will directly support housing allowances paid to qualifying clergy. Special thanks to Brad Wine, who led a successful effort to raise money for the Clergy Housing Fund, and to several congregants who have committed to contributing \$1,000 or more per year to the fund for five years. The first beneficiaries of the housing allowance policy are Rabbi Greg and Rebekah Harris, who recently purchased a home within walking distance of Beth El.

Please consider a contribution to the Clergy Housing Fund and strengthen Beth El's ability to provide this allowance to our clergy. ■

FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ken Levine. Pillars underwrites the cost of financial assistance to families that might otherwise be unable to join Beth El. We also continued to roll out the planned-giving campaign under the direction of Larry Sidman and Mark Bronfman.

Community Building

A committee was formed to encourage new members to take part in the large variety of events and groups that flourish at Beth El. Our USY chapter, under Youth Director Adam Zeren, had record-breaking participation and last spring was named Seaboard Chapter of the Year. Under the leadership of Leesa Fields and Phyllis Solomon, the year-long Project 613 culminated in September with a moving Siyum. Project 613 raised close to \$200,000 and included Torah education programs and more than 300 dedications in the new Torah.

Communications

A redesigned Bethelmc.org website went live in late 2007 and is now a user-friendly source of Beth El information and news. Special thanks to Lori Amsellem, Arthur Popper, Gary Rosenfeld, and their committee for stellar work.

Education and Lifelong Learning

Both the Religious School, under Louis Nagel's leadership, and BEPS, under the direction of Elaine Auerbach, are operating at maximum capacity. Much of our growth in membership is unquestionably attributable to the quality of these schools. Kudos to Rachel Gafni and Carolyn Weinberg, 2007-08 chairs of the

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Sisterhood

Box Tops for Education

BY SANDY COHEN



Did you know that tiny pieces of cardboard and plastic are helping a school in Silver Spring? These are the "Box Tops for Education" coupons that Beth El congregants have been putting in the collection box in Beth El's lobby since last fall, clipping them from the tops, bottoms, or sides of various participating products.

"Box Tops for Education," which is sponsored by General Mills, gives schools 10 cents for each coupon submitted. Beth El's coupons have benefited Woodlin Elementary School in Silver Spring, a 420-student, K - 5 school with an ethnically and economically diverse student body. In our first collection this past March, we gave Woodlin 750 coupons worth \$75. Woodlin hopes to put this money toward purchasing either supplies for the Media Center or furnishings for a recently constructed outdoor classroom.

Since March, thanks to generous Beth El families, we have collected 550 more coupons, which will be submitted by the next deadline in October. We would like to reach 1000. It's never too late to participate in this easy project. Look for the small pink and yellow rectangular coupons on a wide variety of General Mills, Kimberly-Clark, SC Johnson, and other products, including cereal, paper products, snacks and more, and drop them into the collection box. For a complete list of participating products, check www.boxtops4education.com. ■

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL Sisterhood – Zhava Membership Dinner

Torah Fund Award will be
presented to

Barbara Friedman

Sunday, November 2, 6:30 pm

Dinner is free for Sisterhood and Zhava members

Guests may attend for \$21 per person

(Beth El women must be Sisterhood-Zhava members to attend)
Bring toiletries to be donated to the Rainbow Place

Women's Shelter and tzedakah for the Torah Fund

Please RSVP by Friday, October 24

Name of Member _____

Phone _____

Name(s) of Guest(s) _____

Number of Members (free) _____

Number of Guests (\$21/person) _____

Amount of check, if included, for guests
(payable to Beth El Sisterhood) \$ _____

**Please respond via email or U.S. mail by
October 24 to: Susan King, info@bethelmc.org**

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE AND SHABBAT DINNER

Please Join Us

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, at 6:30 pm

For Our uplifting Singing Service with guitars.

A Traditional Service will also take place at 6:30 pm.

Shabbat dinner will follow services.

Advance dinner reservations required by Monday morning, October 20. Please note the office is closed October 21 and 22.

Please return this completed dinner reservation form by October 20 with your check made payable to Beth El.

Name _____ Phone(day) _____

Member Adults @\$22 _____ Total _____

Nonmember Adults @ \$25 _____ Total _____

Children 6 – 12 years @\$10 _____ Total _____

Children 2 – 5 years @\$6 _____ Total _____

Children under 2 are free Total Due:\$ _____

Please provide _____ vegetarian meals. I/We would like to sit with: _____

Mail to or drop off at: **Congregation Beth El, 8215 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814**

Men's Club

Picking a President A Pundit's Point of View

BY DIANA HUFFMAN

"This is going to be one of the most exciting election seasons we have had in a long time," according to Jeffrey Birnbaum, a former *Washington Post* columnist and reporter and now a managing editor at *The Washington Times*. "The next 60 days are going to be very important," he told the Men's Club on September 7.

Jeff, a Beth El member who has also covered politics and the economy for *Time* and *Fortune* magazines and for the *The Wall Street Journal*, said that to understand the importance of this election, you have to know how we got where we are today politically. "In 2000, Bush won a disputed election," he said. "Then in his first year, the world was turned upside down because of 9/11. Three months later, Enron, then the seventh largest corporation in America, went into bankruptcy. In a short period of time, fundamental parts of our culture were attacked, and the politicians, who decide what the priorities are for our government decisionmakers, had to figure what was most important to us."

In the 2002 election and to some extent in 2004, the Democrats ran on the traditional mantra: It's the economy stupid, Jeff said. "George Bush," he noted, "took us in another direction. He said that people cared more about personal security than about money in their pocket. He was proven correct in 2002. Then in 2005, Katrina hit, and Bush lost his hold on the security issue because he could not protect Americans. Then we came to a point where more Americans were killed in Iraq than were killed in the World Trade Center Towers."

It's Still the Economy

The economy has come back as the key issue, Jeff said, in part because it has not been in good shape lately, and the party in control of the White House gets blamed for a bad economy. "The GOP has lost the security and the economy issue.... They are not in very good shape. I would predict the Democrats would win the election if it was held today, all other things being equal." But, Jeff added, all other things are not equal.

"The Democrats had the most spirited primary contest we can remember, and the victor barely eked out a victory," he said. "Both of the conventions were the most disrupted, fragmented, and difficult to follow that I have ever seen, maybe the most disrupted since the 1968 Democratic convention. Until the final day, the Democratic convention

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 9:30 AM

Amy Goott (Jewish Social Services Agency and Beth El congregant) on "Volunteering With JSSA: Helping the Aging and Sick in Our Community"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 9:30 AM

Ben Terner on "Storywriting to Leave for the Next Generations"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 8:30 PM

Hearing Men's Voices. Dennis Askwith will lead a discussion on "Love is _____." Please note the change of date to avoid a conflict with the yom tov. Weather permitting, the HMV discussion will take place in the sukkah, so you should dress warmly.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 5:45 PM

Mincha/Maariv/Havdalah including third Shabbat meal (the Seudah Shlishit)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 10:30 AM

Rabbi Barry Freundel, spiritual leader of Keshet Israel: The Georgetown Synagogue and vice president of the Vaad Harabonim of Washington

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 9:30 AM

Dr. Stephanie Gilbert (psychologist and Beth El congregant) on eating disorders

was mostly about the loser, Hillary. The GOP was even more disrupted by Gustav on the first day and on the second day by Hurricane Sarah. Their last night was the opening game of the NFL season."

Jeff pointed out that coming out of the conventions both presidential candidates have terrible handicaps. Obama "is our first African-American candidate, and he has been successfully labeled as elitist, which is remarkable. McCain is the oldest person ever to run for a first term, and his running mate is someone none of us have ever heard of." Although Jeff originally thought McCain had "disqualified the ticket" by picking Sarah Palin, he said he now thinks it was an inspired choice. "The world we live in changes so quickly that anything new that isn't terrible becomes the 'it' thing, and she is the 'it' thing now."

Will Fundamentals Matter?

Obama should be way ahead, Jeff said, but one reason he is not is that "some people cannot bring themselves to vote for a Black man. The fundamentals still favor the Democrats because the economy is not going to revive by election time, the largest ever government bailout [of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac] is being put in motion, and even though the surge has reduced violence in Iraq, we are still there."

But, Jeff concluded, politics is not about fundamentals, and the presidential race is not predictable based on national polls. "Presidential races are state by state, and there are 18 that will matter, in particular, Florida, Pennsylvania, and

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New Eagle Scouts

Troop 1800 proudly announces that two of its Scouts, Dan Margulies and Brett Morgenstern, have achieved the rank of Eagle. Only a few percent of eligible Scouts complete the demanding requirements for becoming an Eagle. The culminating requirement was to show leadership of a team in carrying out a service project. Brett's project was making welcome packages to assist families of war-injured soldiers receiving care at Bethesda Naval Hospital. Dan's project was constructing three tallit and prayerbook racks for minyanim at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. Congratulations! Men's Club sponsors and provides leadership support for the Boy Scout troop.

PICKING A PRESIDENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Ohio," he said. If you value your sleep and want to go to bed early on election night and still know who the president will be, Jeff suggested a simpler way than by tracking the key states (see below).

Jeff said all the numbers are likely to be in Obama's favor, but because Obama is new to the scene and Americans are cautious about electing a president, either candidate could win. So who does Jeff predict will be the next president? "I have been a political journalist for a long time," he said. "I actually know who is going to win, but as a condition of membership in the fraternity of political journalism, I can't tell you." ■

Be a Pundit Too

There are three numbers that Jeff Birnbaum said you can use to predict the election results:

- If the GDP is growing at one percent or less before Election Day, Obama will win.
- If President Bush's approval rating is less than 30 percent, Obama is more likely to be elected.
- If the number of US soldiers in Iraq is 130,000 or more, the Democratic ticket will be successful.

SISTERHOOD: COMING IN DECEMBER

The Renowned Tallit Workshop.
See the November *Scroll* for details.



FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Religious School and BEPS, respectively.

Worship

Rabbi Bill Rudolph, Rabbi Greg Harris, and Hazzan Abe Lubin continued to inspire us and at the same time sought innovations in our Jewish practices within the bounds of the Conservative Movement. All three are involved in every aspect of the shul, from fundraising to attracting new members.

Administration

Under the able leadership of Executive Director Sheila Bellack, management of the synagogue remained strong. This past year, the board approved two administrative initiatives. Using a Homeland Security grant, Beth El will deploy additional security cameras around the building and install bollards at the front entrance of the building. The grant has already been used to improve lighting in the parking lot. The second initiative established a new background-check policy for all Beth El staff in keeping with standards adopted by similar area institutions.

Budget

Thanks to long-term planning, solid membership growth, increased philanthropy, and sound fiscal management, Beth El's financial position improved significantly over the past year. A new Clergy Housing Fund was established to support current and future Beth El clergy interested in purchasing a home within walking distance of Beth El. For more information on this fund, please see page 2.

New Initiatives for 2008-2009

This year we are embarking on three major initiatives:

• **Congregational Education for the 21st Century** Beth El is undertaking a major strategic initiative with the Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning and several other area synagogues to re-imagine congregational education. This will eventually transform how we educate every age group at Beth El.

• **Tikkun Olam** This year's congregational theme is tikkun olam – the Jewish imperative to repair the world. Rabbi Harris and his team, headed by Jerry Herman and Barbara Cohen, will launch a major effort to raise the profile of tikkun olam at Beth El. You'll hear more about this at High Holiday services and throughout the year.

• **Landscaping** You'll soon notice changes on the Old Georgetown Road side of the building as we begin a new landscaping project designed by Beth El member and landscape architect Debbie Friedman. The project will create a natural barrier between the windows and the traffic on Old Georgetown Road. ■

Jewish Family Living

Sukkot's Journey

BY ELISHA FRUMKIN

Sukkot is the third in the cycle of three pilgrimage holidays (*shalosh regalim*), and it is the quintessential holiday of journey. Passover, the first pilgrimage holiday, is about departures, as it retells the Exodus from Egypt, and Shavuot is about arrivals, as it celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. Sukkot is about the journey, and it can serve as a reminder that wherever we are, we are on our own personal journey. Whether it is the way we travel, what we do and learn along the way, whom we meet, or where we detour and find new paths, the journey is as important as arriving at the destination.

One especially interesting Sukkot tradition is to welcome *ushpizin* (Aramaic for guests) into one's sukkah. First attributed to Abraham when he welcomed dusty wayfarers into the shade of his tent, the custom of *hachnasat orchim*, hospitality to guests, is extended to welcoming seven exalted *ushpizin* into the sukkah: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Aaron, and David. Modern-day interpretations of this tradition have included important and influential women of Jew-

ish history: Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, Leah, Deborah, Ruth, and Esther. All of these guests had embarked on a personal journey, whether physical or spiritual, at some point in their life and ultimately benefitted the world around them.

For Family Discussion

During Sukkot this year, think about the journeys in your life, whether personal or with your family. How do these experiences benefit the world around you? Discuss with your family which *ushpizin* you might invite to your holiday table this year. Perhaps it will be a family member who has died, or maybe it will be an important historical figure.

Beth El has a wonderful Sukkot program in which we join together as a community, welcoming others into our sukkot and homes. Build the Joy, which will take place on Sunday, October 12, is a program for school-age families to come together, either with their children's Religious School class or as a day-school community, to build and decorate sukkot—sometimes for the first time. It is an opportunity for our children to experience these holiday traditions in a warm, communal way. ■

Youth Activities

USY Convention Coming

BY ADAM ZEREN

L'Shana Tova, everyone. I hope your High Holiday season is off to a fulfilling and spiritual start. One way to have a fulfilling fall is to support the USY International Convention, December 21-28, when more than 1,200 teens from around the world will come to Washington. We hope that as many of our Beth El teens as possible will join them.

We don't want the estimated \$750 cost for attending the convention to be a roadblock for any of our students. That's why I hope you'll consider a donation to the Suls Youth Fund so we can subsidize Beth El teens who want to attend.

Why is this convention so important? Because this is our teens' chance to experience how exciting, vibrant, and fun it is to be a Conservative Jew. They will have the opportunity to make Con-

servative Jewish friends from all over the world, as well as to experience different customs and facets of Judaism.

Also, as Seaboard Chapter of the Year, Beth El's USY will be competing with groups from other regions for the title of USY International Chapter of the Year.

Beth El families can also help by hosting some of the out-of-town teens. They will stay at Washington's Wardman Marriott from December 21-25, but from December 25-28, we will need to find home hospitality for about 65 convention goers. If you will be home that week, please consider housing a few teens. Please email me at azeren@bethelmc.org. I am grateful in advance for your home hospitality and your financial assistance.

October Events: Both **Bonim** (grades



BETH EL USYERS WITH LEADER ADAM ZEREN (FAR RIGHT) AT THE AUGUST ENCAMPMENT AT CAPITAL CAMPS IN WAYNESBORO, PA.

K-2) and **Machar** (grades 3-5) will be doing a Sukkot-themed program.

Kadima (grades 6-8) will have an incredible weekend at Camp Letts in Edgewater, MD, October 24-26, with more than 150 other middle-school-aged youth.

USY (grades 9-12) will have both a Shabbat dinner and a Youth Lounge night, as well as an evening to play our own version of "Ninja Warrior."

Don't forget to get tickets to an incredible concert at Beth El, Hadag Nachash, on Sunday, November 9, at 6:30 pm. We hope to see all of you there. ■

Get a Flu shot...Give to BEPS



**Hirsch Pediatrics and Beth
El Preschool
2nd Annual Fundraiser**

**Sunday, October 26
9:00 am -12:30 pm**

For every flu shot given (while supplies last), Hirsch Pediatrics will donate a portion of the proceeds to Beth El Preschool.

Any adult or child over six months may get a flu shot.

The flu shot costs only \$30. We accept cash or check.

Last year, Hirsch Pediatrics donated more than \$1,000 to BEPS from the Flu Shot Clinic. Help make this year's event another great success.

You are cordially invited to

Gala 2008

BETH EL
presents
THE CAPITOL STEPS

Saturday, November 22, 2008
7:30 pm

Followed by
Dancing and a Dessert Reception
and Martini Bar

Politically Correct Attire (Dressy Casual)
Complimentary Valet Parking

8215 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, MD 20814

Please RSVP by Election Day November 4
Final recount by Veterans Day November 11

The Cantors Assembly and Congregation Beth El Led by Hazzan Abe and Sandy Lubin Present:

POLAND
to ISRAEL
A Journey Through Time

June 29 - July 12, 2009
7 days in Poland
7 days in Israel

Join 100 cantors from around the world as part of a historical, emotional, and inspirational mission connecting you to 1,000 years of Jewish history in Poland and to 4,000 years of history in our ancestral homeland.



To All of Our Friends:

We are very excited about this mission to Poland and Israel. We would love to have you join us as we know it will be a most memorable experience for all of us.

Our plan is to have a get together in the future to discuss pertinent information about the mission.

Please let us know if you are interested and we will be in touch.

Hazzan Abe and Sandy 301-652-8569 x317 alubin@bethelmc.org

Getting to Know the Board

Center for Administration

BY LESLIE SHEDLIN

Twenty-two years ago my husband, David Raim, and I moved to Washington in search of both a physical and a spiritual home. We had friends who had grown up at Beth El, and we followed their lead and became members. We then began a series of life-cycle events at the synagogue starting with a baby naming the following May for our first child, Jacob. We enrolled him in the preschool and met many people who are still some of our closest friends.

In 1989, I decided to expand my religious education. With five like-minded souls, I embarked on a year-long adult b'nai mitzvah journey, another synagogue life-cycle marker. That same year, Sam joined our family—life-cycle event number three—and I became co-chair of Nitzanim.

Like so many other Beth El members, I spent years focusing on my family and career-related volunteer activities. Before I had children, I had been a lawyer. After my children were born, I concentrated on child-welfare issues. We celebrated two more life-cycle events at Beth El—our sons' b'nai mitzvah, but my role at Beth El didn't extend beyond them.

Becoming a Committee Chairman

Several years ago, when one of those nursery-school buddies called and asked me to chair a new fund-raising activity, "Pillars of Beth El," I realized that it was time for me to give back to the congregation. In two years, I was fortunate to help raise more than \$60,000, and I found a new source of personal satisfaction and camaraderie. I learned to read Torah and to daven Psukei D'zimrah. I was delighted when my efforts with the Pillars program led to my being elected a trustee and then vice president of the Center for Administration, although I wasn't quite sure what my responsibilities were.

I have learned that the Center for Administration is more

accurately termed the center for committees that really don't fit into any other center. Its emphasis is on human relations and the synagogue's physical plant. Despite its hodgepodge makeup, there is nothing hodgepodge about the folks who make up these committees. Because of that, I have the easiest job at Beth El.

The Human Relations Committee is chaired by David Bachrach. David and his committee handle personnel evaluations, contract issues, and additional employment matters. Each winter they survey a sampling of congregants who have had ongoing relationships with the clergy and professional staff. This systematic approach helps insure that key personnel get beneficial feedback about their performance from a broad spectrum of congregants.



LESLIE SHEDLIN AND DAVID RAIM

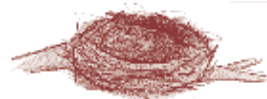
Interior and Exterior Maintenance

Mark Schiffrin chairs House and Properties. Most recently he has been the go-to guy for all synagogue security matters. He is also in charge of long-range planning to make sure that all contingencies are covered with respect to the maintenance of the synagogue. Connie Stromberg handles issues concerning the interior of the synagogue. She heads the Interior Design Committee, which makes decisions regarding updates and upkeep of our beautiful building. Debbie Friedman is responsible for improving the landscaping around the shul. You'll see her work as we continue to make exterior improvements.

All these hard workers enable me to say this is the easiest vice presidency at Beth El. With such amazing congregants in charge, the Center for Administration runs itself, and I get all the credit. But beyond that, I have rediscovered what first brought us to Beth El: it provides a true sense of community and a home away from home. ■

THE BEENS COLUMN (BETH EL EMPTY NESTERS)

Beth El Empty Nesters are people in their late 40s to early 60s who no longer have (or never had) children at home and wish to connect with others in our community at the same stage of life. For general information, call Paola Bolasny at 301-652-2606. To be added to our Google listing, e-mail Gale Dutcher at info@bethelmc.org. Our activities are planned in part by an informal steering committee and also by individuals who have the interest and willingness to organize an event.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Oct. 19—Sukkot open house, 2:00-5:00 pm, at the home of Pat and Jerry Danoff. Please contact Pat Danoff at 301-652-2606 or info@bethelmc.org for further information.

Bible Classes and Tikkun Olam

BY SUZANNE STONE

The Fall 2008 semester of the Saul Bendit Institute starts on Tuesday, October 28, and Wednesday, October 29. Among the courses are four on the Bible:

- ▶ The Prophets and Social Justice, taught by Rabbi Bill Rudolph. This class explores how the cause of justice is an essential message of the Biblical prophets. Participants will look at relevant texts with emphasis on those that relate to David, Solomon, Amos, and Isaiah.
- ▶ Modern Views of Biblical Women, taught by Gideon Amir. The traditional reading of the Bible sees women in a minority, submissive role and “blames” women for the “sin” committed in the Garden of Eden. This class will read the same Biblical texts in ways that suggest a different interpretation of the stories and a different view of the role of Biblical women.
- ▶ Sex, Booze, and Lies ...In the Bible! taught by Marilyn Fine. Our most sacred text is replete with earthy narratives that would make a tabloid reporter blush. Participants will explore selected texts and what the rabbis say about them.

- ▶ The Book of Psalms as Texts for Personal Tikkun, taught by Rabbi Greg Harris. This course will study the structure and history of the psalms and will look at how psalms can act as models for our personal prayers for healing, comfort, and resolution of doubt.

Robert Litman is teaching a follow-up class to one he taught in 2007 on religion and physical health called Your Brain on Religion: Connections Between Religion, Neurobiology, and the Mind. Participants will study the relationships among Jewish religious beliefs, prayers, and rituals and brain biology, human behavior, abnormal psychology, and coping with stress.

A new way of learning about Israeli culture is offered with Israeli Culture at 60: Hands On. This class includes lectures about, demonstrations of, and opportunities to participate in Israeli dancing, singing, embroidery, and paper cutting.

Brochures describing all the courses and instructors and registration materials have been sent out. You can also download the brochure at www.bethelmc.org. ■

Wednesday night schedule	
7:30 – 8:20 pm	8:40 – 9:30 pm
Early Jews of Maryland, Virginia, and DC <i>(Jeffrey Kaplan)</i>	Modern Views of Biblical Women <i>(Gideon Amir)</i>
The St. Petersburg Society for Jewish Folk Music <i>(Hazzan Abraham Lubin)</i>	The Book of Psalms as Texts for Personal Tikkun <i>(Rabbi Greg Harris)</i>
Sex, Booze, and Lies ...In the Bible! <i>(Marilyn Fine)</i>	Modern Israeli Culture <i>(Michlean Amir)</i>
Lost and Found: Jews in Remote Places in the World <i>(Jonina Duker)</i>	Your Brain on Religion: Connections Between Religion, Neurobiology, and the Mind <i>(Robert Litman)</i>
The Prophets and Social Justice <i>(Rabbi Bill Rudolph)</i>	Exploring the “Other” Jews, the Sephardim <i>(Mollie Berch)</i>
Tuesday morning schedule	
10:00 – 10:50 am	11:10 am – noon
The St. Petersburg Society for Jewish Folk Music <i>(Hazzan Abraham Lubin)</i>	Exploring the “Other” Jews, the Sephardim <i>(Mollie Berch)</i>
Sex, Booze, and Lies ...In the Bible! <i>(Marilyn Fine)</i>	The Prophets and Social Justice <i>(Rabbi Bill Rudolph)</i>

Kol Nidre

The Kol Nidre (All Vows) prayer, which is technically a legal formula, ushers in the Yom Kippur services. Its text and melody have been the subject of much scholarly and musicological discussion. This Aramaic declaration, which attempts to nullify all vows and oaths that might have been made under stress and duress, is chanted at the threshold of the holiday. It is not clear when Kol Nidre was composed, but it is generally agreed that it already existed during the eighth and ninth centuries.

Perhaps more than the legalism of the text, it is the prayer's universally known and beloved Ashkenazic melody that has added sanctity and popularity to its recitation. The very opening service on the eve of Yom Kippur takes its name from the text. Rabbi Mordechai Jaffe (1530–1612) was the first to mention a fixed tune for Kol Nidre. In his rabbinical code (the *Levush*), he approved of the quality of its special melody. Over the centuries, hazzanim have referred to this melody as one of the “*misinai*” (from Sinai) group of traditional

synagogal chants, which came from Germany between the 11th and 15th centuries. Among Ashkenazic hazzanim, the Kol Nidre melody was venerated as sacred and as antiquated as if it had come “down from Sinai.”

Spiritual Transformation

The spirituality of the Kol Nidre melody and service is demonstrated by the often-quoted story of the German-Jewish philosopher Franz Rosenzweig (1886–1929). Like many other famous European Jews in the 19th century, Rosenzweig was alienated from Judaism and was about to convert to Christianity.

On Yom Kippur in 1913, Rosenzweig attended the Kol Nidre service at an Orthodox synagogue in Berlin. That service transformed him. After Yom Kippur, he wrote to a friend, “After prolonged, and I believe thorough, self-examination, I have reversed my decision. It no longer seems necessary to me, and therefore being what I am, no longer possible. I will remain a Jew.” ■

Tuning In with Hazzan Lubin

In the Kitchen with Kevin D-I-Y Lox

BY KEVIN TRAINOR

My family likes to do the traditional bagels, lox, and such. In the past I have made the lox; it is fairly simple and always is sure to impress.

Start with a whole salmon fillet. Make sure the salmon is as fresh as can be. Drizzle on a little vodka. Coat it with a mixture of equal parts kosher salt and brown sugar. The vodka will help the sugar and salt mix to stick to the fish. Wrap the salmon tightly in plastic wrap, lay it flat, and weight it down with a couple of unopened cans. Put it in the refrigerator. Then wait for the sugar-salt mixture to cure. After two or three days, the salmon will turn translucent. Then it's ready for eating. You can wipe off any leftover sugar-salt mix with a damp paper towel. To serve, slice it very thin.

Ask the Clergy

Rabbi, I am never sure how to greet people this time of year. Is it “good yom tov” or “chag sameach?” And I hear people using other kinds of greetings, like there is a secret code. What is proper? BY RABBI BILL RUDOLPH

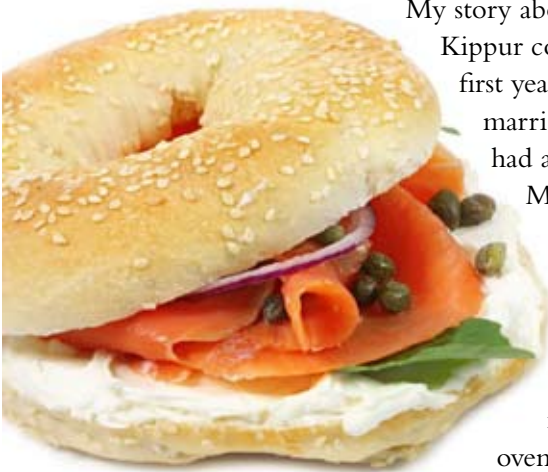
This is a challenging time to greet other Jews. You could try staying home for a month, or better you should try mastering the following. **Pre High Holidays:** *L'shanah tovah tikateivu* (may you be inscribed for a good year in the book of life). Slightly less kosher but less of a mouthful is *l'shanah tovah*. **On Rosh Hashanah:** *Good yom tov* (have a good holiday) and/or *l'shanah tovah (tikateivu)* as above. **Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur:** The aficionados of the art of greeting say *gmar chatimah tovah* (may you be sealed for a good year in the book of life) or *gmar tov* for short. **Just before and on Yom Kippur:** *Tzom kal* (have an easy fast) and/or *good yom tov*. Some still say *gmar chatimah tovah* on Yom Kippur day itself. **Before Sukkot:** *Chag sameach* (have a happy holiday) is the greeting for the three pilgrimage festivals (Sukkot, Pesach, and Shavuot); *good yom tov* is used also but is more appropriate for the High Holidays, which are not *chagim*. **During Sukkot:** *Chag sameach* on the first and last two days. During the intermediate days, which are not quite holy days, *moadim l'simchah* (may your festival be joyous), to which the other person is supposed to respond *chagim u'zemanim l'sasson* (may your holidays be festive). Aren't you glad you asked? I know this sounds like a lot. Take on one piece at a time, which is a good approach to many things Jewish.

Memories of Break Fasts Past

First, the Sukkah

It is an old tradition that one should make a first move toward building one's sukkah before breaking the Yom Kippur fast. I followed that tradition during the years I built my own sukkah, from 1952 to 1992. When I returned from Beth El at the end of Yom Kippur and before I broke the fast, I climbed up to my attic and brought down the tarps that I subsequently used for the walls of my sukkah. —Hans Hirsch

Burned, Shmurned



My story about Yom Kippur concerns the first years of our marriage before we had a microwave. My wife insists on bagels and lox to break the fast. Before there were microwave ovens, she always burned the

bagels. But I ate them anyway.—Alan Levitt (visiting from Brooklyn, NY)

Vodka Lubrication

On Yom Kippur 1945, I was stationed with the US Army at Amirabad Post on a hillside outside Teheran, Iran. We had a Yom Kippur service at the post led by Chaplain Murphy with a choir of Irish GIs. That evening a truck transported Chaplain Murphy, the Jewish congregants, and the GI choir to the Teheran home of a Jewish vodka merchant to break the fast. We sat outside at tables on his estate along with some local guests. There was an ample supply of "adult beverages." On the way back to our base, the Jewish soldiers and the Irish choir joined in raucous song lubricated by the break fast beverage, a fine example of inter-religious harmony providing a night to remember.

—Roy H. Millenson

It Isn't Breakfast

In the home where I was raised, the post-Yom Kippur

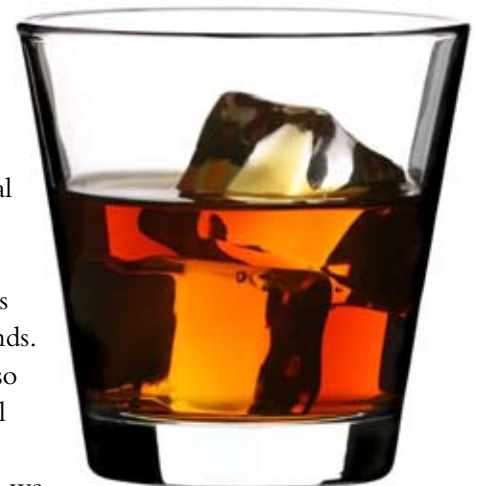
meal was always hot and savory: sweet and sour borscht with flanken, corned beef with cabbage and potatoes, or chicken soup with kreplach and chicken fricassee. The meal was prepared along with the bland pre-Kol Nidre meal, then placed in the icebox and reheated when my father and grandfather came home from shul. When I became a *balaboste*, I followed my family's food tradition.

When I was growing up, while my family often had guests or went elsewhere for other holidays, we were never guests or hosts on Yom Kippur. The same was true of my household. So I was surprised and delighted when, as newcomers to Shaker Heights, we were invited by a neighbor to break the fast. But the real surprise was to see the home crowded with guests, and we were flabbergasted that the break fast meal was breakfast food! *Milchig!* The other guests departed, leaving our hostess with a mountain of dirty dishes. (This was in 1958 before anyone had a dishwasher.) I told her to wait while I rushed home and changed out of shul clothes. She washed and I dried dishes for hours.

We were invited back every year until we returned to Bethesda in 1963, but I could never get used to the idea of breaking the fast with *milchig*. So we joined the annual break fast party after we broke our fast at home with *fleishig*. I always stayed to help with the dishes. And we have been fast friends to this day. —Carolyn Shapiro

Dreaming of Scotch

My family, being of Eastern European descent, always broke fast with honey cake and Scotch. I thought this was perfectly normal until we moved to Maryland and started to make our own traditions and break fast with friends. They all thought I was so strange. Still, I sat in shul thinking about the first taste of Scotch, so when we



CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Four and Seven: The Sukkot Species

By JONINA DUKER

The source for the mitzvah of celebrating Sukkot and incorporating the waving of the Four Species (ארבעת המינים) appears in Leviticus 23:39-40: “Mark on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the yield of your land, you shall observe the festival of the Lord [to last] seven days: a complete rest on the first day, and a complete rest on the eighth day. On the first day you shall take the product of hadar [beautiful] trees, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days.”

When we wave the bound species, we pray for rain in every direction for the growing season. But why were these particular four species chosen? According to the Midrash, binding the species symbolizes our hope to unite four types of Jews. Another explanation is that the species' taste and smell correspond to the Torah and good deeds. (The lulav, for example, has taste but no smell, representing those who study Torah but do not perform good deeds; the etrog has both a good taste and a good smell, representing those who study Torah and perform good deeds.) Another explanation suggests that each of the species represents a part of the human body that we consecrate to God's service.

On Sukkot, there is also a connection to the Seven Species (שבעת המינים) of fruits and grains of the land of Israel. They are enumerated in Deuteronomy 8:8—wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and honey (from dates)—and are customarily eaten on the three pilgrimage festivals, Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot, and on Tu B'shvat. These species are considered more important than others, the blessing prior to eating them precedes those of all other food except bread, and a special blessing is recited after eating them.



In our liturgy, we pray for wind and rain during different times of the year because each needs to come at the proper time in order for all seven species to flourish. Barley, the first of the species, is harvested at Pesach. We gather the first fruits from the seven species on Shavuot. By Sukkot, we know the outcome of the harvest, and we celebrate the harvest before starting the cycle all over again on Shemini Atzereth (the eighth day of Sukkot) by once again praising God for bringing wind and rain, in the second blessing of the Amidah. The second part of the Shema (Deuteronomy 11:13-21), which appears as mezzuzah text, also talks about the early and late rains enabling us to gather in grain (for our challah), wine (for our kiddush), and oil (for ancient candle lighting) during the harvest. We offer such praise until Pesach, when early crops could be damaged by wind and rain. ■

Explanation from Maimonides

According to Maimonides “...the four species...are symbols of rejoicing at leaving the desert (where neither fig, grape, nor pomegranate could grow, and where there is no water to drink) and arriving at a place of fruit-bearing trees and streams of water. To memorialize this, one takes the choicest fruit of the Earth [fruit of a goodly tree – etrog (אתרוג)] and the best of fragrances [bough of a leafy tree – myrtle (הדרם)] and the most beautiful of leaves [date palm fronds (לילב)] and the best among plants, that is to say, willows of the brook (ערבה).”

Hebrew Lesson

Shalom Chaverim שלום חברים,

We are about to enter a cycle (machazor) מחזור of holidays (chagim) חגים that begins with awe (yir-ah) יראה and self-introspection (hitbonenut nafshit) התבוננות and ends in joy (simcha) שמחה and celebration (chagigah) חגיגה. From the Days of Awe (yamim noraim) ימים נוראים, Rosh Hashanah ראש השנה and Yom Kippur יום כפור, we proceed to Sukkot סוכות and Simchat Torah שמחת תורה. Each of these holidays (chagim) חגים (except for Simchat Torah שמחת תורה) is described in the Torah תורה. Can you name the holidays that are derived from the other parts of the Bible (Tan-

ach) תנ"ך, namely, Torah תורה, Nevi'im נביאים (prophets), and Ketuvim כתובים (writings)? Can you name holidays that are not found at all in the Tanach תנ"ך?

During the holidays, our shul (bet kneset) בית כנסת overflows (sho-fe-ah) שופע with worshipers (mitpalelim) מתפללים. It gives us the opportunity (hizdamnut) הזדמנות to wish (le-a-chel) לאהל one another (echad lasheni) on לשנה טובה תכתבו אחד לשני Rosh Hashanah, and gmar chatimah tova גמר חתימה טובה on Yom Kippur.

We hope that the year of 5769 will bring all of us peace (shalom) שלום and good health (b'riut) בריאות. L'hitraot להתראות until next time, Ruthie and Tutti

Sukkah Designs

Jerry Danoff designed the eight foot by eight foot sukkah for his family in 1988. So many friends liked the sukkah that Jerry and his wife, Pat, began producing and selling it in a kit. A few years later, Jerry designed an extension for the basic sukkah and sold it in kit form as well. The profits from the sale went to the Beth El Youth Department. In 2001, when the main sources of labor, sons David and Adam, were no longer available and schlepping lumber became too difficult, the Danoff factory closed down. During their 14 years on the project, however, the Danoffs sold more than 300 sukkah kits and sent copies of the do-it-yourself instructions all over the world. Sukkah kits made out of pipe are widely available now on the internet, but Pat contends that there is something special about buying wood and hardware and constructing the sukkah with family and friends. Instructions for making a Danoff sukkah are on the Beth El web site. ■



BREAK FAST PASTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

broke fast with friends, they learned to have Scotch for me. It is the only time of year that I drink Scotch, but the taste of that first sip is something very special and places me with my family no matter where I am. —Leslie Shedlin

Taste It First

My parents, Bobbie and Jon Duker (z”l, may his memory be for a blessing), were among the founders of my childhood shul, Beth Israel Center in Pleasant Hills, a suburb of Pittsburgh. We had 40 families, and paid clergy was a luxury that the congregation could not afford. My father, a cantor trained by his cantor-father, was always the cantor. As he was also often the acting rabbi and occasionally the officer who spoke from the bimah, the High Holidays, particularly Yom Kippur, took a toll on his voice. He would eat lightly before Kol Nidre and believed that made the fast easier. He always broke his fast with soup and with this lemon mousse that was first served at a Hadassah luncheon. Don't tell people the ingredients until after they taste it; it's so much better than one would think. —Jonina Duker

Lemon Mousse

- 1 6-ounce package lemon Jello
- 3 cups boiling water
- 1 12-ounce can frozen lemonade
- 24 ounces (or less if extra-creamy) Cool Whip or similar whipped topping.

Add boiling water to the Jello, and stir until dissolved. Stir in lemonade. Refrigerate until thick, two to three hours. Whip with electric beater until frothy. Fold in the Cool Whip. Pour into a large mold and refrigerate. The recipe can be halved. Other flavors of Jello can be substituted, but the mousse won't be so tart.

B'ruchim Habaim Cherish Thy (Special Needs) Child

BY JONINA DUKER

The B'ruchim Habaim (disability inclusion) committee started a support group last May for parents, grandparents, and other adult family members rearing a child with disabilities or special needs. Our Jewish Social Services Agency liaison, Juliet Wolff, facilitates the discussion. People attending the meetings have included parents with children from preschool age to adulthood; children with new to well-established diagnoses; children living at home and children in residential programs; and children with a wide range of atypical development.

Parents have come both to ask others for advice and support and to offer help to others from their experience. The plan is to focus on a particular issue of common concern requested by those attending-- balancing the needs of more normally developing siblings, for example.

For more information about the monthly support group, please call Juliet Wolff at JSSA, 301-610-8341, or Jonina Duker, chair of the B'ruchim Habaim committee, 301-652-2606 after 10:00 am only. Meetings will be announced on the listserv, on the totem in the lobby, and in the Shabbat announcements.

Ben Yehuda Who?

BY ROBIN JACOBSON



*Dear Beth El Librarians:
I am emailing you from a charming cafe
on Rehov Ben Yehuda, the famous outdoor
pedestrian mall in Jerusalem. As I sip my
Turkish coffee and watch the passersby, I
wonder, who was this Ben Yehuda for whom
the street was named?*

Sincerely,

Curious in Israel

Dear Curious,

The remarkable Eliezer Ben Yehuda (1858-1922) engineered the rebirth of Hebrew as an everyday language. As expressed by biographer Robert St. John in *Tongue of the Prophets* (available in our library): “[This man from Lithuania] . . . made it possible for several million people to order groceries, drive cattle, make love, and curse out the neighbors in a language which until his day had been [reserved] for Talmudic argument and prayer. [He] . . . had two great love affairs . . . went to prison for his beliefs, was always on the verge of death from tuberculosis, yet fathered 11 children, gathered the material for a 16-volume dictionary unlike any other philological work ever conceived . . . and died while working on the word for ‘soul.’”

In 1878, when Bulgaria won its freedom from the Ottoman Empire

after nearly 500 years of domination, Ben Yehuda became convinced that the Jews could also regain national sovereignty. His Zionism encompassed more than the Jews’ return to an ancient home, however; he believed that Jewish nationhood demanded the revival of Hebrew as the Jewish common language.

Inventing Modern Hebrew

To fulfill this ideal, Ben Yehuda and his new wife, Deborah, immigrated to Palestine in 1881. Deborah had loved Eliezer since he was a young, penniless student living with her family, and she married him despite his newly diagnosed tuberculosis. Eliezer insisted that, as an example to the community, they would speak only Hebrew in their home. When their first son was born, Eliezer excitedly proclaimed that the boy would be the first native Hebrew speaker in 2,000 years.

Over his desk, Ben Yehuda hung a sign that said, “The day is short, the work to be done great.” He devoted all his energy to promoting the Hebrew language. He taught school, published a Hebrew newspaper, and searched ancient texts for “lost” words that could be revived to expand the Hebrew vocabulary. The Hebrew word for “garage,” for example, was the name for part of King Solomon’s palace. If Ben Yehuda could not find a needed word in Hebrew, he might borrow the word from a “sister” language like Arabic.

Bitter Opposition

Some Orthodox groups fiercely opposed Ben Yehuda’s Hebrew campaign. They thought that using Hebrew for everyday speech was sacrilegious. Angry people threw

stones at Ben Yehuda as he walked to work. When Deborah died of tuberculosis, which she had contracted from Eliezer, the local burial society initially refused to bury her within the cemetery. Later, members of the community denounced Ben Yehuda to Turkish authorities on trumped-up charges of inciting revolt in his newspaper. Fortunately, political pressure (and bribe money) from Baron de Rothschild had the guilty verdict overturned on appeal.

Even secular Jews were uninterested in speaking Hebrew. Many Jews from European countries were proud of their native languages and wanted to preserve them. Theodor Herzl, the “father of Zionism,” told Ben Yehuda that the Jews should first establish a state and decide later what language they wished to speak.

Vindication

Ultimately, Ben Yehuda and his disciples prevailed. In 1914, the Haifa Technikum (now the Technion), an important educational institution, made the radical and momentous decision to adopt Hebrew as its language of instruction, overturning an earlier decision to use German, the usual language of academia. In 1919, the British Mandate gave Hebrew the status of an official language, along with Arabic and English. Hebrew has continued to thrive as a living language ever since.

And so, dear reader, as you sip coffee in that Jerusalem café, listen to the Hebrew being spoken all around you. You are living Ben Yehuda’s dream. Sincerely,
Your librarians



PROJECT 613: SIYUM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to congregants who dedicated the entire Torah, had the opportunity to help Rabbi Menachem Youlus complete the last letters of the new Torah. Rabbi Youlus was the liaison to the sofer, or scribe, in Israel

who wrote the new Torah.

About 300 families took part in filling in the last letters. Rabbi Youlus met with each family individually and guided them through the mitzvah of holding the quill and writing a letter of the Torah.

That evening congregants attended a dedication ceremony beginning with the blowing of four shofarot, followed by a processional which included the “old” Torahs being brought up to the bima to welcome the new one. Larry Sidman, who commissioned the writing of the Torah, wrote the final letter of the Torah before the formal dedication. The Torah was then marched around the sanctuary under a chuppah. Rabbi Rudolph and Rabbi Harris both spoke, and Hazzan Lubin and Ahavat Shir, as well as Shir Atid, performed. Susan Levine, Leesa Fields, and Phyllis Solomon read from the new Torah.

The Torah will be housed in the Swoff Chapel and will be used every Monday and Thursday morning, as well as most Shabbatot for alternative minyanim, perhaps making it Beth El’s most used Torah. Its colorful cover was the work of Amanda Ford.

Phyllis Solomon and Leesa Fields chaired the yearlong Project 613, which included educational programming aimed at all ages. Tea and Torah events were held at members’ homes for informal Torah study and education on what goes into writing a Torah. The Family Education Committee held a Torah Fair for families of younger children. A rousing It’s Academic/Chidon Tanach was held in the spring.



PHYLLIS SOLOMON BRINGS IN THE NEW TORAH. PHOTO BY DAVID FRIEDLANDER



THE AMSELLEM FAMILY HELPS RABBI YOULUS WRITE A LETTER. PHOTO BY MITCHELL SOLKOWITZ

Susan Levine worked with each family to help them choose a word or verse to dedicate in the new Torah. Close to 400 dedications were made, and Beth El raised close to \$200,000, which will go towards educational programming. ■

Recent Dedications

By:

- Phyllis and Jeff Lavine
- Sharon Pohoryles and Jim Gelb
- Michael, Carla, and Isabelle Kieval
- Adam, Noah, and Jason Grill
- Matt and Sophie Lavine
- Dr. Bennett Harte
- William, Sue, and David Kanter
- Marvin Yudkovitz and Fancine Lanar
- James, Leslie, Rachel, and Brian Dellon

- Kathryn Sklar
- Ella Maya Longman
- Jacob and Zachary Gross
- Danielle Tamar Wassertzug and Arielle Michal Wassertzug
- Bo, Sadye Jane, and Jessie L. Rider
- Noah and Tali Kuperberg
- David and Carole Metzger
- Lynn Goldin and Henry Birnkrant
- Isaac P. Gelb and Macie P. Gelb
- Leonard and Gabriela Bebchick

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

RECENT DEDICATIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

IN HONOR OF:

- Lillian Seigel, our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, on her 90th birthday, by her children and grandchildren
- Our children, Hannah Shimona and Baruch Gavriel, by Sarah and David Roark
- Pat Danoff by Sarah Roark
- Peter Novick by Sarah and David Roark
- Our 51st wedding anniversary by Kenneth and Carolyn Feigenbaum
- Joshua and Adam Bachrach by David and Ellen Darr
- Our parents, Judith and Gil Nestel and Cookie Schaer, by the Nestel Family
- Our children and grandchildren by Bea and Bernie Berger
- Our son, Joshua Isak Lieberman, by Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman
- Dan, Sara, and Marc Rudolph by Rabbi Bill Rudolph and Gail Fribush
- My children, Jennifer and Emily Dorfman, by Helen Kanovsky
- The bat mitzvah of Minna Jacobson by Robin Jacobson and Jim Armbruster
- The bat mitzvah of Sylvia Jacobson by Robin Jacobson and Jim Armbruster
- Vivien and Lester Marion by Sara, Ehud, and Benjamin Kish
- Our parents, Arthur and Marcia Moak, by Karyl Barron and Jeff Moak
- Gabriella, Aliza, and Chloe Sitrin by Wynne and Ron Sitrin
- Our children, Jackie and Adam Williamowsky, by Phil Ochs and Sheila Cohen
- Grandma Mindelle by David, Scott, Susan, and Steve Goldstein
- Our parents by Rebecca and Jonathan Gross
- Martin Koby by the Spiegel/Koby Family
- Emily and Julia Nestel by the Nestel Family
- Our parents, George and Selma Barron, by Karyl Barron and Jeffrey Moak
- Bob Janney by Lillian Palefsky
- Michelle Shervin-Coetzee by Marilyn Shevin-Coetzee and Frans Coetzee
- Gabriel Shai Schaner by Sharon Hyman
- Harold Schoenholtz, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, by Janice Liebowitz, Andy, Ari, David and Noah Schoenholtz
- Rabbi Rudolph and Cantor Lubin by Steven and Lori Ross
- Rebecca and Edward Salwin, our children, by Nancy and Art Salwin
- B'nai mitzvah of Ken Levine and Laura Levine by Ken Levine, Diana Huffman, and Laura Levine
- Our parents by Ann and Lawrence Kaplan
- Our sons, Geoffrey and Nathaniel, by Lillian and Jay Miller
- Ruth and Ben Cohen by Barbara Cohen and Jon Shields
- Isabella Zissman by Sharon and Jeremy Zissman
- Our daughter, Nora Miriam Levy, by Lois Zuckerman and Steve Levy
- Aaron Freedman by Gale and Ron Dutcher
- Matt and Doug Goldhill by Janet and Steve Goldhill
- Our family by Albert and Doris Povich

- Our children, Ryan and Kaylee, by Jodi and Michael Chernoff
- My clients by Cary and Nancy Feldman
- Our children, David and Stephen Pupkin, by Barbara Klein and Barry Pupkin
- Our children, Bo, Jesse, and Sadye, by Jill and Jeremy Rider
- Joshua and Jacob Gallagher by Patrick and Tracey Gallagher
- The 90th birthday of Blanche Fersh by Robert Fersh and Sharon Markus
- David, Jennifer, and Sara Fink by Michael and Debbie Fink
- Our children and grandchildren by Margery and Sheldon London
- Naomi and Larry Kirsch and Bernard and Cynthia Zissman by Sharon and Jeremy Zissman
- Grandma Mims and Grandpa Bernside by David, Scott, Susan, and Steve Goldstein
- Leora and Shira Gabry by Mona and Jerry Gabry
- Our children, David and Jonathan Ochs, by Phil Ochs and Sheila Cohen
- Our wonderful friends, Rabbi Greg and Rebekah Harris and family, by Jill, Jeremy, Bo, Jesse, and Sadye Rider
- Ella's first birthday by Ilana and Robb Longman

In Memory Of:

- Miriam Jenny Levy by Michael and Debbie Fink
- Norman Yastrov, beloved husband and father, by Hattie Goodman, Dan, Ben, and Seth Yastrov
- Minnie Zuckerman, grandmother of Lois Zuckerman, by Lois Zuckerman and Steve Levy
- Hyman, Clara, and Miriam Altman by Judith and Stanley Baldinger
- Michael and Evelyn Shevin by Marilyn Shevin-Coetzee and Frans Coetzee
- Leonard and Shirlye Ross by Steven and Lori Ross
- Vincent Prada by Jana Singer, Michael and Joshua Prada
- Ann Marion by Vivien and Lester Marion
- Joyce Mandler, mother of Susan King, by Lynn Ferber
- Mildred and Melvin Wine by Mark and Blanche Wine
- Guta, Leon, and Norman Weintraub by Mark and Blanche Wine
- Joseph Weisz by Michael and Debbie Fink
- Our beloved parents, Edith and Ilja Weisz, by Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman
- Max Joffe, a loving and warm father and zayde, by Judy, Andrew, Matt, and Jenn Sherman
- Burton S. Kolko by Linda B. Kolko
- Sarah Novack by Linda and Ace Lipson
- Our beloved father, Joseph Ilja Weisz, by Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman
- Our beloved mother and grandmother, Beverly R. Werbel, by Jill, Jeremy, Bo, Jesse, and Sadye Rider
- Joseph Judson by Robert and Karen Judson
- My parents, Rose and Hershel Kanovsky, by Helen Kanovsky
- Harvey Gershman's beloved Uncle George by Jane and Ken Rosenthal
- Vicky and Herman Tattleman by Ellen Tillman and Kenneth and Bernice Tattleman
- Sidney S. Schaer by the Nestel Family
- Faye and Jack Amster by Jayson Amster ■

Contributions

Bendit Adult Institute Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

My beloved husband, Eugene Sporn, by Rosalie Sporn
Ephraim Goldberg, beloved father of Holly Stein, by Rhoda
and Milton Nichaman

Sarah Brownstein by Shapiro Family
George Gottfried by Judith G. Marcus
Paul Shanoff by Barry Shanoff

Burton S. Kolko by Linda Kolko
Julian Drachman by Richard and Elizabeth Drachman

Beth El Forest

IN MEMORY OF:

Max Joffe, beloved father of Judy Sherman, by Yael Greenberg

Beth El Israel Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Bar mitzvah of David Kessler by Louis Mayberg, Jay and
Donna Eisenberg, Howard and Sherryl Kohr, Fred and
Lisa Schweitzer, and Robyn Rosenfeld-Aburrow and Paul
Aburrow

IN MEMORY OF:

Herman Dewald by Michele Herman
Marvin Segal, father of Debbie Olchyk, by Hilary and Bill
Kapner
Robert Lurensky, father of Harriet Kuhn, by Hilary and Bill
Kapner
Robert Steinberg, father of Michael Steinberg, by Hilary and
Bill Kapner
Basil Rifkind, father of David Rifkind, by Hilary and Bill
Kapner
Isaac Gelfer by Fenya Gelfer
My dear brother, Sidney Kaplan, by Rosalie Sporn
Ephraim Goldberg, beloved father of Holly Stein, by Claire
Marwick
Judith Chaimson, mother of Ellen Kessler, by Hilary and Bill
Kapner

Cantor's Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Hazzan Abe Lubin, for his kindness at the passing of our dear
father, Joseph Ilja Weisz, by Helene Weisz, Bernie Weisz, and
families
Hazzan Lubin's blessing of my daughter by Jonathan Levy
In appreciation of Hazzan Lubin for helping prepare Tamar for
her bat mitzvah by Lisa, Mitch, and Tamar Eisen
In appreciation of Hazzan Lubin for his support on the
occasion of my bar mitzvah anniversary by Harvey Gershman
Hazzan Lubin, in appreciation for your kind support and
attention during my dad's illness and death, by Jayson Amster
In appreciation of Hazzan Lubin for officiating at Gabriella's
bat mitzvah by Wynne and Ron Sitrin

IN MEMORY OF:

Ephraim Goldberg, father of Holly Stein, by Judith and Stanley
Baldinger and Jack and Johanna Minker
Harold S. Lee by Lester A. Lee
Joyce Mandler, mother of Susan King, by Marge and Shelly
London
Jacques Amsellem, father of Morley Amsellem, by Marge and
Shelly London

Thelma Wolbarsht by Lauren, Sharon, Gina, and Jim Wolbarsht
William Tomar by Richard Tomar

Capital Campaign

IN MEMORY OF:

Samuel Datz by Dora Weinstein
Sidney Bloom by Ed and Debbie Bloom
Ann Montag, grandmother of Becky Vogel, by Wynne and Ron
Sitrin

Chevra Kadisha Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Gail Fribush, in appreciation for leading the shiva minyan after
my dear father passed away, by Judy Sherman

IN MEMORY OF:

Rebecca Berman by Ken Berman
Minnie Musso by Marilyn Ripin
Samuel Berger, beloved father-in-law of Audrey Berger, by
Audrey Berger
My father, Leonard Aaron Greenbaum, by Sara Greenbaum and
Darryl Sherman
Beloved mother, Sarah Kahn, by Marcia and Paul Merlin
Joseph Ilja Weisz by Helene Weisz, Bernie Weisz, and families

College Outreach Fund

IN HONOR OF:

My father, Martin Hainer's 80th birthday, by Martha and Will
Schrenk

IN MEMORY OF:

Pauline Werner by Martha and Will Schrenk
Lawrence Berg, grandfather of Jacob, Adrienne, and Olivia
Ackerman, by Cheryl Kreiser
Marvin Segal, grandfather of Abram and Ross Olchyk, by
Cheryl Kreiser

Community Torah Institute Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Grandmother, Hannah Rindskopf, by Marsha Rehns.

Disabled Access Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Leni Hirsch's recovery by The Levitt/Klass Family

IN MEMORY OF:

Jules Lodish by Cary, Nancy, and Steven Feldman

Dorothy Beverly Kitchen Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Ida Friedman by Barry Friedman

Elaine Tanenbaum Religious School Enrichment Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Sheldon Novek, inspiration for the Confirmation Class, by
Robert Clayman and Carol Miller

IN MEMORY OF:

Marc Wagshal by Dr. Herbert Tanenbaum
Tessie Tanenbaum by Dr. Herbert Tanenbaum

Fine Arts Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Philip Glovinsky, beloved father-in-law of Frances Glovinsky,
by Frances Glovinsky
Edith Zober, mother of Norman Zober, by Bob and Evyan
Koenig

Contributions Continued

General Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Peter Novick by Debbie Olchyk and family
Thank you to Rabbi Rudolph for officiating at the wedding of Wendy and Andrew by Sara Greenbaum and Darryl Sherman
The marriage of Sharon Goott and Sam Nissim by Sharon and Andrew Tievsky
Robert Judson by Debbie Olchyk and family
30th anniversary aliyah by Ricardo and Irene Munster
Speedy recovery of Carolyn Shapiro by Rita and Irv Kopin
My aliyah by Alan Levitt
Michael Paretzky's bar mitzvah by Andrea Shandell and Russell Fox
The marriage of Ilana Bebachick, daughter of Gabriela and Leonard Bebachick, by Dava Berkman
Cheryl Kreiser, on the occasion of Remy Greenberg's bar mitzvah, by Greenberg family

IN MEMORY OF:

Meyer Levine by Ken Levine, Diana Huffman, and Laura Levine
Dale Horn by Donna Vogel and David Margulies
Jacob Paul, grandfather of Alison Baraf Portnoy, by Donna Vogel and David Margulies
Jesse Berns by Sanford and Anita Berns
Ephraim Goldberg, father of Holly Stein, by Donna Vogel and David Margulies, David and Melanie Bachrach, and Mindi, Bucky, Matthew, and Lily Jacobson
Ethel Stone, mother of Suzanne Stone, by Donna Vogel and David Margulies and Barbara Klein and Barry Pupkin
Sheldon Geller by Suzanne Hillman Strauss
Beatrice Semanoff, grandmother of Jennifer Odintz, by Donna Vogel and David Margulies
Esther Podolsky by Sanford and Anita Berns
Marvin Segal, father of Debbie Olchyk, by Jack and Stephanie Ventura, Leesa Fields, Mindi, Bucky, Matthew, and Lily Jacobson, Barbara Klein and Barry Pupkin, Sara Greenbaum and Darryl Sherman, and Melanie and Jeff Morris
Robert Lurensky, father of Harriet Kuhn, by David and Melanie Bachrach, Donna Vogel and David Margulies, and Mindi, Bucky, Matthew, and Lily Jacobson
Mania Scharf, grandmother of Tami Simon, by David and Melanie Bachrach and Donna Vogel and David Margulies
Judy Chaimson, mother of Ellen Kessler, by Ann and Larry Kaplan
Doris C. Kanter by William, Sue, and David Kanter
Basil Rifkind, father of David Rifkind, by Ann and Larry Kaplan
Joseph Weisz, father of Helene Weisz, by Barbara Klein and Barry Pupkin, Donna Vogel and David Margulies, and Susan and Bert King
Chil Mayer Sokol by Jose and Tutti Sokol
Ramon Semo by Joseph Semo
Rita Kopin's mother, Sarah Brownstein, by Barbara Klein and Barry Pupkin and Josephine Horn
Dr. Jules Lodish by Sharon and Andrew Tievsky
Leon Eisenstein by Clara Eisenstein
Joyce Mandler, mother of Susan King, by Leesa Fields and Jonathan Band and Phyllis and Steve Solomon
Ben and Frieda Berns by Sanford and Anita Berns
Joseph Chotkin, loving father and grandfather, by Rhea Troffkin
Jacques Amsellem, father of Morley Amsellem, by Leesa Fields and Jonathan Band, Phyllis and Steve Solomon, and Jack and Stephanie Ventura
Evelyn Popper by Arthur and Helen Popper

Rabbi Simon Silberzan by Fran Edlitz
Barney Press and Andrew Press by Theodore Press
Louis Amster by Jason Amster
Dave and Milly Goldford by Sanford and Anita Berns
Joseph Almyk Lieberman, beloved father, by Richard Lieberman and Helene Weisz
Basil Rifkind by Gale and Ron Dutcher
Louis Schimel by Barry and Elinor Schimel

Green Tikkun Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Basil Rifkind, father of David Rifkind, by Sharon Fine and Michael Katz
Robert Lurensky, father of Harriet Kuhn, by Sharon Fine and Michael Katz
My father, Milton Fine, by Sharon Fine and Michael Katz

Groner Ramah Scholarship Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Sarah Brownstein, mother of Rita Kopin, by Cheryl Kreiser
Ralph Hirsch, grandfather of Max, Gabe, and Micah Loewinger, by Cheryl Kreiser
Carrie Selesnick, beloved mother and grandmother, by Erwin and Leena Groner

Israel Experience Teen Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Morris Miller by Jay and Lillian Miller

Kimball Nursery School Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Estie Bomzer becoming a great grandmother by Audrey Berger

IN MEMORY OF:

Marvin Segal by Carol and Bob Luskin, Barbara, Eric, and Connor Schone, Ellen Darr, Sheryl and Ira Fishman, and Couples Plus Havurah
Milton Doberman by Marian Willinger

Library Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Barnett Ben Berman by Kenneth M. Berman
In fond memory of Sarah Brownstein, a wonderful woman whom I knew all too briefly, by Beila Organic
Beatrice Semanoff, mother of Mark Semanoff, grandmother of Jennifer Semanoff Odintz and Mathew Semanoff, by Patricia Odintz

Beloved mother, Rose L. Debois, by George and Elaine Perlman

Litman Holocaust Education Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Rita Litman, mother of Bob Litman, by the Levitt/Klass Family
Dr. Michael Shevin by Marilyn, Frans, and Michelle Shevin-Coetzee

Mintz Landscaping Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

My beloved husband, Isadore Kessler, by Lillian Kessler
Sarah Brownstein, mother of Rita Kopin, by Rosalie M. Sporn

Morning Minyan Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Herb Edelstein's speedy recovery by Roy H. Millenson
The birth of Benjamin Harry Berger, grandson of Allen and Barbara Lerman, by Rosine and Bob Nussenblatt

IN MEMORY OF:

Ephraim Goldberg, beloved father of Holly Stein, by Barbara and Allen Lerman

Contributions Continued

Isaac Fried, M.D. by Robert and Fran Rubin
Sarah Brownstein, Rita Kopin's mother, by Jack and Johanna Minker

Yetta Chasen and Benjamin Chasen, parents of Peggy Levinson, by Peggy Levinson

Norman Rubin by Robert and Fran Rubin
Loving mother, Freida Esther Hochberg, by Marilyn Hammerman

Hannah Millenson by Roy Millenson

Nitzanim Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Rachel Aviva Robin, for her baby naming, by Lauren and Paul Robin

Perspectives Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Edward Gershman by Harvey and Jennifer Gershman
Dale Horn, sister of Paul Horn, by Howie and Holly Stein

Prayerbook Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Sol Brody, husband, father, Pop-Pop, and brother-in-law, by Julian Levin and Sondra Brody

Nathan Ozarin, beloved father, by Lucy Ozarin

Robert Alan Werner by Barbara K. Werner

Emanuel "Manny" Meyer by Ed Meyer

Robert Kaminsky, beloved husband and father, by Carole Kaminsky, Lizanne, Rosalee, Leib, Julie, Alan, Matthew, and Kayla

Jean Silverman, beloved mother, by Elaine Gessow

Rabbi's Fund

BY: Howard M. and Sondra D. Bender

IN HONOR OF:

Tamar and Sam Fishman's 49th anniversary by Judy and Craig Futterman

Rabbi Rudolph and Gail Fribush, with thanks for the lovely senior barbeque, by Sarah Kalser and Dorothea and Arnold Lear

Rabbi Rudolph, Rabbi Harris, and Cantor Lubin for their invaluable support during our recent loss, by Margaret, David, and Andrea Rifkind

Rabbi Rudolph, in appreciation of your kind support and attention during my dad's illness and death, by Jayson Amster

Rabbi Bill Rudolph and Gail Fribush, with our thanks for their hospitality and for their part in giving Beth El such a feeling of "community," by Arnold and Judith Marcus

Shoshana Eve Harris and family by Naomi Greenwood and Thomas Dahl

Rabbi Harris, in appreciation for leading the shiva minyan after my dear father passed away, by Judy Sherman

Rabbi Harris by Debbie Olchyk and family

Rabbi Greg Harris, for his kindness at the passing of our dear father, Joseph Ilja Weisz, by Helene Weisz, Bernie Weisz, and families

Rabbi Bill Rudolph, for his great support and warm friendship at the passing of our dear father, Joseph Ilja Weisz, by Helene Weisz, Bernie Weisz, and families

Rabbi Greg Harris, in appreciation for his support, by Holly and Howie Stein

Rabbi Gregory Harris, for his incredible support to our family over these past two years, by Sharon Patricia Hyman

In appreciation of Rabbi Rudolph for officiating at Tamar's bat mitzvah by Lisa, Mitch, and Tamar Eisen

Bat mitzvah of Tamar Eisen by Lisa and Mitch Eisen

In appreciation of Rabbi Harris for officiating at Gabriella's bat mitzvah by Wynne and Ron Sitrin

Rabbi Rudolph, in appreciation for conducting the funeral of my dear father, Max Joffe, by Judy Sherman

Rabbi Harris, for officiating at our baby naming, by Rachel and Debbie Schmeltz

IN MEMORY OF:

Goldie and Alexander Gordon by Annette and Jack Moshman
Basil Rifkind by Naomi Greenwood and Thomas Dahl

Marvin Segal, father of Debbie Olchyk, by Phyllis and Steve Solomon

Betty Finkle Popkin by Joel Popkin

Joseph Ilja Weisz by Linda and Jerry Herman

Rita Litman, beloved mother of Robert Litman, by Linda and Jerry Herman

Elaine Freeman by Harriet Rabin and Family

Joyce Mandler, mother of Susan King, by Ellen and Norman Eule
Ida Dosik by Sondra and Howard Bender

My beloved father, Marvin E. Birnbach, by Sarah Birnbach

Mildred Pernick Schafer by Irwin Pernick

Murray Kalik by Dorothea and Arnold Lear

Meer Vainstein by Sharona Sapoznikow

Resnik Memorial Lecture Endowment Fund

IN HONOR OF:

To celebrate the birth of Talia Simone Kane, daughter of Rebecca Resnik Kane and Aaron Kane, by Dr. Harvey Resnik

IN MEMORY OF:

Samuel Resnik by Dr. Harvey Resnik

Sisterhood Flower Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Amanda Ford by Susan A. Cohen

IN MEMORY OF:

Ephraim Goldberg, father of Holly Stein, by Cary and Nancy Feldman

Sisterhood Kiddush Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Bessie Burman by Bea and Bernie Berger

Ephraim Goldberg, father of Holly Stein, by Barbara and Barry Friedman

Sisterhood Shiva Meal Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Janice Liebowitz and Sisterhood for their compassion and kindness by Rita and Irv Kopin

Peter Novick, in appreciation for his support, by Holly and Howie Stein

IN MEMORY OF:

Sarah Brownstein, beloved mother of Rita Kopin, by Claire Marwick

Joyce Mandler, mother of Susan King, by Esther and Elliot Wilner

Marvin Segal, father of Debbie Olchyk, by Lori and Steve Ross

Social Action Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Peter Novick, for receiving the Tikkun Olam Award, by Judith and Jonathan Levin

IN MEMORY OF:

Sonia Rozental Varsano by Ricardo Varsano

Beny Hadid by Ricardo Varsano

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20



Congregation Beth El
8215 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD
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While we know you'll want to read every word in this issue of the *Scroll*, when you're finished, please recycle it.

Bulletin Board

Condolences to

Morley Amsellem on the death of his father, **Jacques Amsellem**

Roz Bass on the death of her brother, **Arthur Dolansky**

Melissa Fox on the death of her father, **Irwin Howard Spivak**

Diane Goldman on the death of her father, **Edward Cohen Goldman**

Elizabeth Goldman on the death of her son, **Ben Goldman**

Paul Horn on the death of his sister, **Dale Horn**

Susan King on the death of her mother, **Joyce Mandler**

Claire Maklan on the death of her father, **Eli Weinstein**

Alan Vinitzky on the death of his mother, **Shirley Vinitzky**

The family of **Shirley Weiner** on her death

Blanche Wine on the death of her mother, **Guta Blass Weintraub**

Mazal Tov to

Ryan and Jamie Hotchkiss on the birth of their son, **Oliver Block Hotchkiss**. Proud big brothers are Brandon and Spencer.

Helen and Arthur Popper on the marriage of their daughter, **Michelle Susan**, to **Roman Levit**, son of Vera and Michael Levit of Minneapolis, on August 31

Harvey Resnik on the birth of his granddaughter, **Talia Simone Kane**, daughter of Rebecca Resnik Kane and Aaron Kane

Steve and Elaine Wishnow on the birth of their granddaughter, **Danielle Rose Wishnow**, daughter of Scott and Holly Wishnow

Noteworthy

Bridge – the greatest game ever! Join us on the second, third and fourth Mondays of each month. Drop in and join a game; no partner necessary. Contact Shirley Levine at

Send submissions to the *Scroll* to scroll@bethelmc.org

info@bethelmc.org or 301-652-2606. If you are interested in playing but don't have any transportation, please call Roz Sporn, Richard Belferman, or Claire Marwick at 301-652-2607. They will try to arrange transportation for you.

Senior Caucus/Vatikkim Luncheon and Program.

This wonderful program will meet on October 23 at noon this month. Following lunch, stay for the program "Interfaith Tikkun Olam Mission to New Orleans." Rabbi Greg Harris will describe last spring's experience in New Orleans. Join us for this program as part of Beth El's theme of the year, tikkun olam. Lunch begins at noon and the cost is \$7. To RSVP for lunch, call Ricardo Munster, 301-652-2606 ext.316, or rmunster@bethelmc.org, by Monday, October 20. The program is free and begins after lunch, around 12:45 pm. ■

CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

Suls Youth Activities Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

In loving memory of my father, Dr. H.S. Douglas, by Susan D. Feibus.

Torah Scroll Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Emanuel "Manny" Meyer by Ed Meyer
My dear father, Leon Imas, by Marta Wassertzug

Vatikkim

IN HONOR OF:

Fran (Frances H.) Leibowitz, on the occasion of a grateful celebration of a happy birthday with family and friends, by Carole Weinberg
Seymour Gross, Peter Novick, and Larry Sidman for leading minyanim during shiva for our dear father, Joseph Ilja Weisz, by Helene Weisz and Bernie Weisz

World Jewry Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Claire Marwick receiving the Tikkun Olam Award by Judith and Jonathan Levin

To wish Arthur Rosen a refuah sheleyama by Claire Marwick

IN MEMORY OF:

My dear father-in-law, Samuel Sporn, by Rosalie Sporn
Lois Jassie, beloved wife of Dr. Newton Jassie, by World Jewry Committee

Weekly Parshiot

SOURCE: SIDUR SIM SHALOM

Beth El Calendar & Weekly Parshiot



Genesis 22:1-24

Rosh Hashanah, Second Day;
October 1, Tishrei 2

Abraham is commanded to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice to God. At the last minute, the angel of the Lord forbids Abraham to slay his son. A ram caught in the thicket is substituted as a sacrifice. Abraham is assured that because he has stood the test, a great future is in store for his offspring.

Vayelech

October 4, Tishrei 5

Moses tells Israel that he can go no farther. Joshua shall lead the people over the Jordan, and God will go before them. Moses writes out the law, the Torah, and entrusts it to the priests, with instructions for it to be read every Sabbatical year. Even so, God apprises Moses that the people will indeed break the covenant. God has Moses compose a song that will bear witness to God's actions and intentions.

Leviticus 16:1-34

Yom Kippur; October 9, Tishrei 10

God instructs Aaron to purify the altar, the priests, and the people. To purify the people, two goats are chosen—one as a sacrifice, the other as a scapegoat to be sent off bearing Israel's sins. This ceremony of the Day of Atonement is to be "an eternal statute" on the 10th day of the seventh month. Statutes concerning animal slaughter and prohibited sexual relations follow.

Ha'azinu

October 11, Tishri 12

"Let the Earth hear the words of my mouth," sings Moses. He depicts Israel's future betrayal of God and God's ultimate forgiveness. His song completed, Moses again urges the people to observe "all the instructions

of this Torah." God now orders Moses to ascend Mount Nebo, to behold from afar, before he dies, the land promised to Israel.

Leviticus 22:26-23:44

Sukkot, First Day; October 14, Tishrei 15
Sukkot, Second Day; October 15, Tishrei 16

After an introductory section about sacrifices, the Torah lays out the holiday cycle in its fullest form. It begins with Shabbat, the most important holy day, and continues with the Biblical holidays beginning with Passover. [Note how important the pilgrimage holidays are compared to High Holidays, and of course there is no Purim yet and no Hanukkah.]

Exodus 33:12-34:26

Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot;
October 18, Tishrei 19

Moses asks to see God, but he is told he cannot see God and live. He is allowed to see God's back. Moses returns to Mount Sinai, and God inscribes two new tablets with the Ten Commandments. Moses asks God to pardon the Jewish people. God makes a covenant with the people and forbids the making of covenants with other societies. God ordains the observance of Passover, Shabbat, and Sukkot.

Bereshit

October 25, Tishrei 26

God creates the heaven and the Earth, along with all living beings, enjoining them to "be fruitful and multiply." Beholding Creation, God sees that it is "very good." God's plan, however, is disrupted by sin: disobedience in the Garden of Eden and Cain's slaying of Abel. God regrets the creation of the human race but finds hope in Noah.

Descriptions of Services

MINYAN CHAVERIM offers the ruach of the Shabbat services in USY, BBYO, and Hillel. We have a lay-led, traditional, participatory, spirit-filled service, including full repetition of the Shacharit and Musaf Amidah, as well as the full Torah reading with an interactive Torah discussion. A pot-luck lunch follows the service at a nearby home. For information, contact **Debbie Feinstein** at info@bethelmc.org.

The **WORSHIP AND STUDY MINYAN** is conducted by members of the congregation and combines evocative Torah study with ample singing and ruach. Children are welcome, although the service is oriented toward adults. For information, contact **Dan Hirsch, Sid Getz, or Mark Levitt** at 301-652-2606, info@bethelmc.org.

TEEN SERVICE is a cool service without parents, conducted by and for post-b'nai mitzvah teens, with a great kiddush. To volunteer to read Torah, conduct part of the service, or help with a discussion, contact **Carl Slater** at 301-652-2606, info@bethelmc.org

OTHER YOUTH /FAMILY SERVICES, for information, contact **Elisha Frumkin**, 301-652-8573, ext. 319, efrumkin@bethelmc.org.

Daily Services

M-F	7:30 AM
SUN-TH	8:00 PM
FRI	6:30 PM
SUN	9:00 AM

Shabbat Services (all services are weekly, except as noted)

EARLY MORNING SERVICE	7:30 AM
MAIN SERVICE	9:30 AM
BABYSITTING (2-6 YEARS OLD)	9:15 AM
MINYAN CHAVERIM (3RD SHABBAT)	9:30 AM
WORSHIP AND STUDY MINYAN (1ST SHABBAT)	9:45 AM
SHABBAT STUDY GROUP	12:40 PM
MINCHA, SEUDAH SHLISHIT, MA'ARIV AND HAVDALAH SERVICE (3RD SHABBAT)	5:45 PM

Youth Shabbat Services

TEEN SERVICE (1ST SHABBAT)	10:00 AM
JUNIOR CONGREGATION (5TH GRADE +; LIBRARY)	10:00 AM
SHITUFIM (3RD AND 4TH GRADES; 2ND & 4TH SHABBAT; ZAHLER SOCIAL HALL)	10:30-11:30 AM
GAN SHABBAT (KINDERGARTEN-2ND GRADE; 1ST & 3RD SHABBAT; MP 1&2)	10:30-11:30 AM
NITZANIM (BIRTH - KINDERGARTEN; 2ND, 4TH, 5TH SHABBAT; MP 1&2)	10:30-11:30 AM

EREV SIMCHAT TORAH THE TWO MOST FUN NIGHTS ON THE JEWISH CALENDAR ARE SIMCHAT TORAH AND PURIM. JOIN US AT 7:30 PM ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, FOR DANCING AND SINGING, TORAHS FOR EVERYONE, THE BETH EL BAND, AND HERSHEY BARS IN OUR ANNUAL SIMCHAT TORAH OBSERVANCE.



Congregation Beth El

Monthly Calendar

October 2008

Tishrei-Cheshvan 5769

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 ROSH HASHANAH 2ND DAY SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED	2 FAST OF GEDALIAH	3 CANDLES 6:29 PM 6:30 PM Friday Evening Services	4 7:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:45 AM Worship & Study Minyan 10:00 AM Teen Service 10:00 AM Jr. Cong. 10:30 AM Gan Shabbat 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group
5 9:00 AM Minyan 9:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast 10:00 AM Men's Club Program 10:00 AM RS Adult Institute	6 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Talmud Class 7:30 PM Religious School Committee Meeting	7 6:15 PM Upper School Dinner 7:00 PM Melton Class 7:00 PM Mah Jongg	8 EREV YOM KIPPUR - KOL NIDRE SCHOOLS CLOSED OFFICES CLOSE AT 1:00 PM 9:30 AM M. Fine Torah Class	9 YOM KIPPUR SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED	10 CANDLES 6:19 PM 6:30 PM Friday Evening Services	11 7:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Daniel Cafritz Bar Mitzvah 10:00 AM Jr. Cong. 10:30 AM Shitufim 10:30 AM Nitzanim 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group
12 Build the Joy - OFFSITE 9:00 AM Minyan 9:15 AM Sisterhood Board Meeting 9:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast 10:00 AM Men's Club Program 10:00 AM Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class	13 EREV SUKKOT 1:30 PM Bridge 6:30 PM Festival Evening Service	14 SUKKOT - 1ST DAY SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED 9:30 AM Festival Morning Service 6:30 PM Festival Evening Service	15 SUKKOT - 2ND DAY SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED 9:30 AM Festival Morning Service NOON Sukkot Deli Lunch 7:00 PM Scout Committee Meeting 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	16 NOON Vatikim Luncheon 8:30 PM Hearing Men's Voices	17 CANDLES 6:09 PM 6:30 PM Traditional Service 6:30 PM Kol Haneshama Service	18 7:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Minyan Chaverim 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Jared Duker Lichtman Bar Mitzvah 10:00 AM Jr. Cong. 10:30 AM Gan Shabbat 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group 5:30 PM Bobeck/Glickman B/M Service & Reception 5:45 PM Mincha, Seudah Shlishit, Ma'ariv, Havdalah
19 8:00 AM BEPS Jeans Sale 9:00 AM Minyan 9:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast 10:00 AM Men's Club Program 10:00 AM RS Adult Institute	20 HOSHANAH RABBAH EREV SHEMINI ATZERET 1:30 PM Bridge 6:30 PM Festival Evening Service	21 SHEMINI ATZERET/YIZKOR SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED 7:00 AM Festival Early Morning Service - Yizkor 9:30 AM Festival Morning Service - Yizkor 7:30 PM Simchat Torah Festival Service	22 SIMCHAT TORAH SCHOOLS AND OFFICES CLOSED 9:30 AM Festival Morning Service 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	23 12:00 PM Vatikim 6:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting 7:30 PM BEPS Parent Board Mtg 7:30 PM Board Meeting	24 CANDLES 5:59 PM 6:30 PM Traditional Service 6:30 PM Singing Service 7:15 PM Congregational Shabbat Dinner	25 7:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Aliza Wolfe Bat Mitzvah 9:30 AM Liana Berlin-Fischler Bat Mitzvah 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 10:00 AM Jr. Cong. 10:30 AM Shitufim 10:30 AM Nitzanim 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group
26 9:00 AM Minyan 9:00 AM BEPS Flu Shots 9:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast 10:00 AM Men's Club Program 10:00 AM Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 10:00 AM RS Adult Institute	27 1:30 PM Bridge 7:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:00 PM Talmud Class	28 10:00 AM Bendit Institute 7:00 PM Melton Class 7:00 PM Mah Jongg	29 9:00 AM Rabbi's Torah Class 9:30 AM M. Fine Torah Class 9:30 AM Rabbi's Haftarah Class 7:00 PM Boy Scouts 7:30 PM Bendit Institute	30	31 CANDLES 5:51 PM 6:30 PM Friday Evening Services	1 7:30 AM Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Sylvia Jacobson Bat Mitzvah 9:45 AM Worship & Study Minyan 10:00 AM Teen Service 10:30 AM Gan Shabbat 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group