

Temple Beth El Bulletin

Volume 50 Issue 5 (bi-monthly)

September-October 2023

Elul 5783 - Tishrei/Cheshvan 5784

BBQ and Barachu

Featuring Joe Buchanan



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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**Empty Nesters**

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Julie Rosenberg	203-975-8880
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OUR STAFF IS MOST EAGER TO ASSIST YOU

Monday-Thursday, 9am-5:00 pm | Friday, 9am - 2:00pm

Phone: 203-322-6901 Fax: 203-322-0532

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Alberto Eyzaguirre, Facilities Manager (maint@tbe.org)	ext. 314

ON ONE FOOT

Elsewhere in this bulletin, you will find another of the “Greatest Hits” columns from early in my time here, as we look back at some of the ideas developed over these past three and a half decades. It was called “Zayde’s Living Room,” a philosophy that ran counter to the trends of the time. As people worried about a lowering of Jewish literacy, the prevailing goal became to teach families how to “do Jewish” comfortably at home, as comfortably as our grandparents had done. So, the definition of success was to have scores of congregant families doing Shabbat, for instance, around their own tables. Never mind that not every congregant was living with other family members and not all of their grandparents kept Shabbat (or were even Jewish).



I’m all for doing Shabbat at home, but I felt that this idea ran the risk of wasting the greatest benefit of congregational life, which is to build community and offset loneliness and isolation. That can best be done right here, in our social hall, rather than at home. Back then, books like Robert Putnam’s “Bowling Alone” described an America where people spent less time in civic activities and more in isolation, disconnected from family and friends and traditional social networks like houses of worship. Boy, did Putnam get it right, only he had no idea how much more his work would seem prophetic now, despite – and because of – the proliferation of social media, which can engender some sense of community while separating and atomizing us at the same time.

Our idea here at TBE was to create that family feeling, or “Zayde’s living room,” right here, so that even those who live alone might find a sense of extended family. We ate, prayed and traveled together, and for a glorious period of about seven years, while Barb Moskow was our educational director, we went on Shabbatons that, at their peak, drew up to 250 of us to the Catskills.

Barb is another of those heroes whose path crossed with ours during my tenure here. I paid tribute to another, Arthur White, in a prior message. My tribute to Barb after her death can be found at

<https://www.joshuahammerman.com/2018/02/shabbat-ogram-for-feb-9.html>

And you can read Barb’s wonderful Q and A collection of letters to Bubbe and Zayde, her “Guide to the Perplexed Jewishly” at <http://files.constantcontact.com/59fef7db001/5ea5832a-5305-4d65-8552-dbb90ae356c0.pdf?ver=1518641661000>

Our Shabbatons, family programs and later, Synaplex, were all aimed at fulfilling that initial vision of creating

Continued on page 27...

KATIE KAPLAN, CANTOR

Keeping an Open Mind

The landscape of Jewish communal life is shifting in North America and this can be reflected in the service styles, musical repertoire, and creative ways in which Jews are gathering to express their Judaism. The Pluralism Project out of Harvard University states, “While many Jewish institutions define themselves as specifically Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, or Reconstructionist, contemporary American Judaism contains a strain of intra-Jewish pluralism, in which Jewish identity is not solely defined by denominational commitments. This strain of internal Jewish pluralism has led to a flourishing of educational and organizational opportunities for American Jews whose Jewish identity does not revolve around specific Jewish practices.” In short, in embracing pluralism there can be more than one acceptable way of doing things and the different approaches from within Judaism can be seen as co-collaborators creating a contemporary Jewish practice enriched by difference rather than splitting hairs.



Musically, I’ve tried to honor a pluralistic approach, bringing in new sounds, voices, and creative *tefillah* that engages the mind, body, and soul. From the “Jew-grass” music of *Nefesh Mountain*, to the *maqam* of Middle Eastern Havdalah, to the classical and traditional choral settings of *Zamir Chorale* and *Zamir Noded*, to the playful singing of *Ben Pagliaro*, the lovely duets with *Caitlin McLaughlin*, and the crooning country ballads of *Joe Buchanan*, it has been an emphasis of mine to provide the congregation with exposure to the diverse multitudes of ways in which Jewish music is being lived and experienced today. Music stirs our souls in ways that cannot be explained and when we expand the ways in which music can interact with our thousands of years old Jewish traditions, there is no limit to the possibilities for spiritual engagement and meaning making into the future. Keeping an open mind is central to being able to enjoy the experiences of diverse Jewish practice as well as the experiences of new melodies, new styles of music, and new portals of prayer. While some of these things may feel outside of the box, the words of *Kohellet* remind us, “There is nothing new under the sun.” (Ecclesiastes, 1:9) So, while things may feel different, they are all part of a great gift of possibility in a creative sandbox that has existed since the dawn of creation. It has just taken time for things to evolve and for our ability to recognize the beauty in the multitudes that surround us.

I’m excited to continue bringing in talent to enrich and enlighten us on our collective journey as we welcome a very special guest, Rabbi Josh Warshawsky, to Temple Beth El for an upcoming Artist in Residence weekend. Josh will be with us November 2-5, 2023 and he will be singing, teaching, and sharing Torah while introducing us to yet another layer of ourselves. As we move forward as a congregation in

Continued on page 27...

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A GABBAI?



Training available!

Please contact Rabbi Hammerman
at rabbi@tbe.org.



SIDNEY RABINOWITZ, HAZZAN EMERITUS

NOW WHAT?

One morning I noticed that there was water on my kitchen floor. I called an expert for the situation. His response was that there was a leak behind my dishwasher. A lot of work had to be done and I could not live in the house.



There was only one thing to do: I had to go to a place for Jewish people and that was kosher. The only place in the area is Landow House in Rockville, MD, which is part of the Charles E. Smith Hebrew Home facility. It just happens that I had been there many years ago when I went rough surgery on my back. The Landow House is very, very nice!

Many years ago, a wonderful Jewish man named Charles E. Smith funded the building of a huge complex to meet the needs of the Jewish community in the DC area. This included a Jewish Day School, a Jewish rehab center, memory care facility, assisted living and independent apartments. Each building had a specific purpose. The Jewish Day School has both an elementary school campus and a middle and high school campus. Very quickly, both schools were full. My granddaughter, Naomi Gold, was a teacher there in the middle school for a while. For years, it was difficult for parents to get their children into these schools because they were so popular.

Now let's go back to the years I was at Landow House before. I was much younger then, of course. The building was full of people of all ages. Because there were younger people there as well, the situation for me was wonderful. I had many friends both male and female.

In the Landow House, there were three professional musicians: a pianist, a violinist and a cellist. All three were top-notch professionals. They found me and immediately made me part of their group to perform at Landow House. The music was a variety of Hebrew, English and all genres of music. Fortunately, I had a small piano in my apartment there. I worked hard for them and we did wonderful concerts. The theater there was always packed for our performances.

Now the situation at Landow House is different. The people are much older. Many cannot walk without help. Many are in wheelchairs. Many have attendants with them to help them eating, dressing, etc. The number of people here are about half of what there were years ago. But thank God, the food here is good.

There are religious services available every day. Most are conducted by a woman rabbi. Again, they found me and I am the hazzan to sing along with them.

Eventually, I hope to return to my beautiful house in Virginia. At this time, I do not know when that will be. Only the Almighty knows. I am anxious to see my neighborhood friends again. I will keep you, my dear Temple friends, posted on my situation. I would love to hear from you! My cell phone is 703-216-2364 and my landline here is 301-881-0581.

My address here is Sidney Rabinowitz, 1799 E. Jefferson Street, #112, Rockville, MD 20852.

Hazzan Sidney G. Rabinowitz

B'NAI MITZVAH

October 14

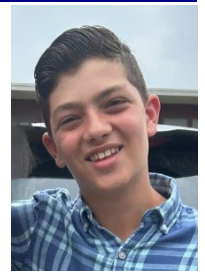
GAVIN COOPER

Son of Kahla and Gordon

Brother of Sloane

Attends Cloonan Middle School

Mitzvah Project: Supporting the students of Roxbury School



October 28

ELIANA NADEL

Daughter of Jill and Mitch

Sister of Kyle, Brandon and Anya

Attends Whitby School

Mitzvah Project: Animal items drive for the Connecticut Humane Society



CAN'T GET ENOUGH BBQ and BARACHU!

BBQ and Barachu was a huge success thanks to so many TBE "menschen" who came early and stayed late. With over 200 in attendance along with lots of tots in the Bounce House, we can say that BBQ and Barachu 2023 was a big hit. The helpers were **Barbara Friedman** on rolls with **Sue Pianin**, **Sue Shapiro**, **Marlyn Agatstein** and **Sherwin Coplin** on tomatoes, **Robert Friedman** on mustard and ketchup, **Sharon and Jeff Turshen** on plates and silverware, the whole **Cohen family - Ken, Sherry, Alex and Jonathan** on bits of everything, **Carl Shapiro** on watermelon, **Noah Agatstein** on potato chips, **Scott Krowitz** with grace and announcements, **Eileen H. Rosner** on pickles and everything, **Irma Ross** on greeting, **Rad and Alberto** on emergencies **Erica Krappohl** on Bounce House suggestion, the Mitzvah Garden for flowers and last, but not least, **Carol and Allen Krim**. Everyone helped with enthusiasm and humor!





SHABBAT AND FESTIVAL SERVICES



All services will be in the sanctuary and on Livestream on Friday night and on Zoom on Shabbat morning unless otherwise noted.

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 1
Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 pm

Shabbat, September 2
Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Friday, September 8
Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 pm

Shabbat, September 9
Shabbat Service 10:00 am
Kiddush Luncheon Celebrating 50 Years in our Building
Selichot Service 8:15 pm

Friday, September 15
Kabbalat Shabbat and Rosh Hashanah 6:00 pm

Shabbat, September 16
Shabbat Rosh Hashanah 8:45 am - Day 1

Sunday, September 17
Rosh Hashanah 8:45 am - Day 2

Friday, September 22
Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 pm

Shabbat, September 23
Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Sunday, September 24
Kol Nidrei 6:30 pm

Monday, September 25
Yom Kippur 8:45 am
Mincha 4:30 pm
Yizkor 6:00 pm
Neilah 6:30 pm
Shofar 7:27 pm

Friday, September 29
Family Sukkot Dinner 5:45 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat Sukkot 7:00 pm

Shabbat, September 30 - Sukkot day 1
Shabbat Sukkot Service 10:00 am

OCTOBER

Friday, October 6
Kabbalat Shabbat Shemini Atzeret Service 7:00 pm

Shabbat, October 7
Shabbat Shemini Atzeret Service 10:00 am
Yizkor

Sunday, October 8
Simchat Torah Service 10:00 am

Friday, October 13
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 pm

Shabbat, October 14
Shabbat Service 10:00 am
GAVIN COOPER, BAR MITZVAH

Friday, October 20
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 pm

Shabbat, October 21
Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Friday, October 27
Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 pm

Shabbat, October 28
Shabbat Service 10:00 am
ELIANA NADEL, BAT MITZVAH

BBQ and Barachu at TBE!



Best wishes for a Happy and
Healthy New Year
from the Board of Trustees
and Staff
at Temple Beth El

MAZAL TOV TO...

Lisa Gittelman Udi and Amnon Udi on the birth of a grandson, Levin Henry Udi, born to Maya and Adam Udi.

Lorelee and Phil Granowitz on the birth of a granddaughter, Maya Scheffler Granowitz born to Eliza Scheffler and Andy Granowitz.

Jamie Morvitz and Matt Miller on the birth of a daughter, Melody Sage.

Lindsay and Corey Shulman on the birth of a son, Max Brandon.



Share your family's simcha (engagement, marriage, birth, Bar or Bat Mitzvah of a child or grandchild) and other joyous event. Just contact the TBE office at office@tbe.org or 203-322-6901, ext. 301.

HONORABLE MENSCHEN TODAH RABAH TO OUR TORAH READERS!

AMANDA GEFFNER ★ RABBI GERRY GINSBURG
RABBI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN ★ JOY KATZ
BERT MADWED ★ SUSAN SCHNEIDERMAN

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING KIDDUSH

TERRY and ASA HAZEN
ELISSA and JAMES HYMAN
SUSAN and CARL SHAPIRO

WE THANK OUR VOLUNTEERS

ELISSA HYMAN ★ GAIL G. TRELL ★ SHARON TURSHEN
JANET SCHNEIDER ★ MARC SCHNEIDER
JUDY SCHNEIDERMAN ★ SUE SHAPIRO ★ DONNA WOLFF

Special Occasion?

Sponsor the Shabbat Announcements
(emailed every Thursday afternoon)

Donation of \$72

All sponsors will be acknowledged at the beginning of each of the announcements and also listed in our bi-monthly Bulletin.

Call Mindy in the office at 322-6901 ext. 301.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE?

www.tbe.org

Find out about the latest news and upcoming activities ... access our online membership directory ... register for events and make donations ... connect to TBE's Twitter and Facebook pages ... and much more.

BETH EL CARES

Beth El Cares focuses on chesed and tzedakah by helping the poor and unfortunate through mitzvot, both in our synagogue and the greater Stamford community. We welcome volunteers! This is the work we are currently engaged in. If you are interested in volunteering in any of these endeavors, please contact the person listed.

Reyut (Friendship): Committed to serving the needs of those in our TBE community, including friendly visits, assistance with errands and transportation, Shabbat bag delivery to hospitalized patients. Contact Melanie Massell at reyut@tbe.org or 203-274-1708.

Project Ezra: Providing pre-shiva meals to the bereaved in the congregation. Contact Joy Katz at joyakatz@yahoo.com or 203-329-3359.

Serving the homeless: Helping prepare and serve food — you can do either or both — to the homeless at New Covenant Center in Stamford on the fifth Thursday of each month. Times are 2:30-4:15 pm and 4:15-5:30 pm. Contact Julie Rosenberg at julierosenbergspl@gmail.com or 203-273-6794.

High Holiday Food Drive: Contact Sharon Turshen at 203-323-3872

Christmas dinners at local homeless shelters: Contact Julie Rosenberg at julierosenbergspl@gmail.com or 203-273-6794.

BETH EL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Information about the Beth El Cemetery Association, Inc. is available from:

Allan Lang at 203-327-6418
or
Eileen H. Rosner at 203-461-0506

Get involved, please...

Help Wanted! In order to maintain our vibrant and dynamic community, the Fund-Raising Committee needs more members to support TBE and volunteer their skills and talents. Many of these opportunities ask for very small-time commitments. Please consider getting involved with the:

Annual Appeal | Temple Rock | Cantor's Concert

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us and we will give you more information.

Thank you!

Contact Steven Lander for information.
execdir@tbe.org



Celebrate 50 Years at 350 Roxbury Road!

(and a special birthday celebration for Eileen Rosner)

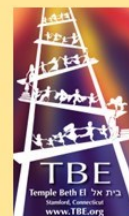
Shabbat, September 9, 2023

**Join us for Shabbat services led by
Rabbi Joshua Hammerman and Cantor Katie Kaplan
starting at 10:00am, and stay for a delicious
Kiddush Luncheon in celebration
of 50 years in the location we call HOME and to celebrate Eileen.**

See the picture...Hear the story...Share your memories!



Entering our new campus.



SELICHOT

Saturday, September 9, 2023

at Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT

*Join Temple Beth El, Congregation Beth El of Norwalk,
and The Conservative Synagogue of Westport, CT*

*8:15pm: Dessert, Drinks, and Music and Havdalah
9:00pm Musical Selichot Service*

We will usher in the High Holidays with a soulful and
musically inspired Selichot service featuring:

Cantor Katie Kaplan, Rabbi Joshua Hammerman, Cantor Jessica Silverberg
Rabbi Ita Paskind, and Rabbi Jeremy Wiederhorn



with musicians Koby Hayon, Rogerio Boccato, and Matt Arnoff



This service features the first round of the penitential
prayers of the season and many of the most beloved High Holiday melodies.
It is sure to help you open up spiritually for the Yamim Nora'im (Days of Awe)



Can't attend in person? Join us online:

<http://www.tbe.org/tbe-live/>

2023 High Holiday Food Drive

As we get ready to celebrate the High Holidays, we also will continue our tradition of collecting food to help our neighbors who are struggling with food insecurity. Our help is needed to ensure there is ample food on the shelves of the Person to Person food pantry. Our previous efforts have made a difference in the lives of so many in our community and we are hoping to exceed past donations this year.

Distribution of Bags

Empty bags, with a list of requested foods, will be available to be picked up at the Temple as of Friday, 9/15 for those participating in the services virtually. The bags will also be handed out to each family at Temple on Rosh Hashana. Congregants can use their own bags, if preferred. Please fill the bags with food and return them to the truck parked at the Temple on Yom Kippur or any day until Wednesday, 9/27.

Items Most Needed - NO EXPIRED FOOD!

Please check dates on food items prior to adding them to your bag. Expired food cannot be used!

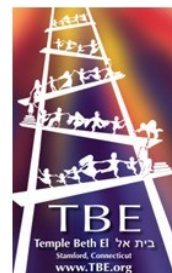
Kid Friendly Cold Cereal
Oatmeal (variety packs)
Nutrition/Breakfast Bars
Rice (1 lb. bag)
Dry/Canned Black or Kidney Beans
Pasta and Sauce
Peanut Butter and Jelly

Snacks/Cookies
Mac and Cheese
Canned Hearty Soup
Healthy Beverages/Juice
Sugar/Salt/Cooking Oil
Toilet Paper

Volunteers - Calling All Families

Many volunteers are needed to help unload the truck and sort the food! Since we can't unload the truck on the Sunday following Yom Kippur as we have typically done (due to Sukkot) we will unload and sort *at TBE on Wednesday 9/27 beginning at 3:00pm*. **If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up using the following link: <https://bit.ly/hfd23>**

If you have questions, please contact Sharon Turshen at: sjturshen@aol.com or call at 203-921-8014.



Rosh Hashanah Cooking Demonstration

by Food Writer and Cookbook Author
of *Hip Kosher* and *The Modern Kosher Kitchen*

Ronnie Fein

Monday, September 11

7:30 - 9:00pm at Temple Beth El

350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT

FREE · Everyone welcome!

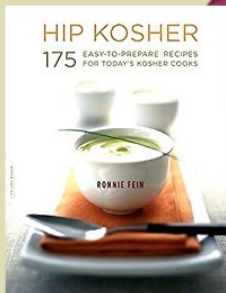
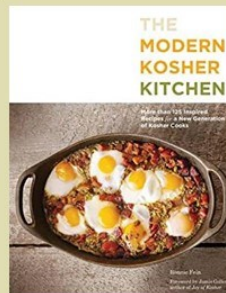
RSVP: office@tbe.org

ABOUT RONNIE FEIN

Ronnie, a TBE member, is a veteran food writer whose articles have appeared in the Stamford Advocate, Connecticut Post, Newsday, Jerusalem Post, LATimes, Connecticut Magazine, Jewish Woman Magazine, Consumer's Digest, The Forward, Jewish Week Food and Wine, and MyJewishLearning/TheNoshers/Kveller.

She posts recipes at RonnieFein.com, has authored four cookbooks and was contributing editor to *The New Cook's Catalogue* and several other cookbooks.

Cookbooks will be available for purchase.



Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Rd., Stamford, CT 06902
203-322-6901 office@tbe.org www.tbe.org



Kesher Beth El

Beth El Connections

K'TANIM

A monthly Jewish learning Sunday drop-off program for 3 and 4 year-olds!

GAMES MUSIC TORAH HOLIDAYS
STORIES CRAFTS BLESSINGS FUN

Register now!

tinyurl.com/kbereg2023-24

K'tanim meets 9:00am-11:45am
on the following Sundays:

Sept 10
Oct 15 (Norwalk)
Nov 5
Dec 10
Jan 21
Feb 11
March 3
April 7
May 5
May 19



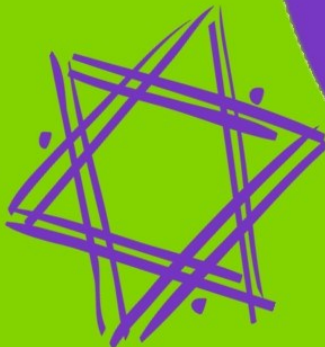
*Most sessions meet at Temple Beth El.
October 15, we will meet at Congregation Beth El.*

Through the generosity of donors, we are able to provide this fabulous program for a nominal fee of \$100. You do NOT need to be a member of a synagogue to participate.

Questions? Contact Lisa Gittelman-Udi
eddir@tbe.org.



Temple Beth El
350 Roxbury Rd., Stamford
203-322-6901
www.tbe.org



Congregation Beth El
109 East Ave. Norwalk
203-838-2710,
www.congbethel.org

Temple Beth El, Stamford and Congregation Beth El, Norwalk
Proudly Present:

KESHER BETH EL

*Beth El Connections:
Two Synagogues, One Learning Community*



IN PERSON SUNDAY MORINGS GRADES K-7

ZOOM HEBREW TUTORIALS THURSDAY AFTERNOONS GRADES 3-7

- Monthly Kids' Choice Electives
- Monthly Sunday Morning Learning Program for ages 3-4 Sunday Mornings
- Amazing Holiday Celebrations
- Experiential, Interactive Learning
- Small Group Hebrew Learning
- Weekly Zoom Tefilah (worship service) led by our clergy
- **TRY US OUT FOR A YEAR!** Register First Year Without Joining (Grades K-2)
- For more information contact Lisa Gittelman-Udi: eddir@tbe.org

Temple Beth El (TBE)
350 Roxbury Rd., Stamford
203-322-6901 www.tbe.org

Congregation Beth El, (CBE)
109 East Ave. Norwalk
203-838-2710 www.congbethel.org



TeeBeEs!
TBE YOUNG FAMILIES
2023-2024



SHABBUZZBIMBAM

A SHABBAT MUSIC AND MOVEMENT PROGRAM
FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGE 0-5
WITH OLDER SIBLINGS WELCOME!

A LIGHT SHABBAT MEAL WILL BE SERVED
FOLLOWING EACH PROGRAM.



2023

Sat. 9/9 11:00am

Fri. 10/13 5:00pm

Sat. 11/18 11:00am

Fri. 12/8 5:00pm Hanukkah!

2024

Fri. 1/12 5:00pm

Sat. 2/24 11:00am

Sat. 3/9 11:00am

Fri. 4/12 5:00pm

Sat. 5/4 11:00am



Led by Natasha Fenster
and Steve Epstein



www.tbe.org



facebook.com/tbestamford



[templebethelstamford](https://www.instagram.com/templebethelstamford)



Join the TeeBeEs Whatsapp group!



youngfamilies@tbe.org



This is a free Program. All are welcome!



Temple Beth El
works in
partnership with



Temple Beth El,
350 Roxbury Rd. Stamford, CT 06902
203-322-6901





TeeBeEs!

TBE YOUNG FAMILIES

2023-2024



SHABBUZZ SHALOM!

ACTIVITIES FOR SHABBAT, HOLIDAYS,
AND SPECIAL TIMES!

CRAFTS, MUSIC, BLESSINGS, DANCING, FUN, AND MORE!

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGE 0-5 WITH OLDER SIBLINGS WELCOME!
A LIGHT MEAL WILL BE SERVED FOLLOWING EACH PROGRAM.

Fri. 9/29 5:00Pm

Sukkot!

Fri. 11/10 5:00Pm

Artist in Residence!

Sat. 2/10 6:15Pm

Havdalah!

Sun. 3/24 time TBD

Purim!

Fri. 5/31 5:00Pm

MUSIC on the Playground!

All are welcome!



www.tbe.org



youngfamilies@tbe.org



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[templebethelstamford](https://www.instagram.com/templebethelstamford)



Join the TeeBeEs Whatsapp group!



Temple Beth El
works in
partnership with



Temple Beth El,

350 Roxbury Rd. Stamford, CT 06902

203-322-6901

youngfamilies@tbe.org





Temple Beth El-Young Families

TeeBeEs works in partnership with:



2023-2024



&



TeeBeEs Calendar

2023

2024

Sat
9/9

ShabbuzzBimBam
11-11:45am

Fri
9/29

Sukkot Shabbuzz
Shalom
5-6:30pm

Fri
10/13

ShabbuzzBimBam
5-6:30pm

Fri
11/10

Shabbuzz Shalom
Artist in Residence
5-6:30pm



Sat
11/18

ShabbuzzBimBam
11-11:45am

Fri
12/8

Chanukah
ShabbuzzBimBam
5-6:30pm

ShabbuzzBimBam
5-6:30pm

Fri
1/12



Shabbuzz Havdalah
5-6:30pm

Sat
2/10

ShabbuzzBimBam
11-11:45am

Sat
2/24

ShabbuzzBimBam
11-11:45am

Sat
3/9

TeeBeEs Purim
celebration
Time: TBD

Sun
3/24

ShabbuzzBimBam
5-6:30pm

Fri
4/12

ShabbuzzBimBam
11-11:45am

Sat
5/4



Shabbuzz Shalom
5-6:30pm

Fri
5/31

Join our TeeBeEs
WhatsApp Chat
group!



ShabbuzzBimBam led
by the FABULOUS
Natasha & Steve!

Shabbuzz Shalom
includes fun crafts,
music, dancing,
blessings, & more!

All programs will be followed by
a light meal

Visit us at:



www.tbe.org



facebook.com/tbestamford



instagram.com/templebethelstamford



tbeengagement@gmail.com



TEMPLE BETH EL
YOUNG FAMILIES
2023-2024

Introducing The TeeBeEs Membership Hive!



JOIN THE HIVE HERE!

tinyurl.com/teebees2023

Questions?

Contact Dayna Patashnik:
tbeengagement@gmail.com

TEEBEES MEMBERSHIP HIVE

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
BABIES THROUGH PRESCHOOL

ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$360.00

INCLUDED IN YOUR TEMPLE BETH EL HIVE MEMBERSHIP:

- High Holy Days tickets to the main service
- Family High Holy Days services in the tent
- K'tanim program for 3-4 year olds
- Thursday night socials
- Shabbuzz Shalom holiday activities and special events
- ShabbuzzBimBam Shabbat music and movement
- Two tickets to TBE annual gala Temple Rock (\$300 value)
- Two tickets to the annual Cantors' concert (\$100 value)

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 Join the TeeBeEs whatsapp group!

 www.tbe.org



Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Rd. Stamford, CT, 06902 203-322-6901

TBE High Holy Days Family Services 2023/5784

**Rosh Hashanah
Saturday, September 16**

**Yom Kippur
Monday, September 25**

Natasha Fenster



**Led by
Jonathan Cahr**



Lisa Gittelman-Udi



**Families services will take place in the tent on the upper lawn.
A light snack will be served in the Clubhouse immediately following each service.**

- 10:00am Young Family Service**
This service is for families with children age 5 and younger
with siblings welcome.
- 11:00am Family Service**
This service is for families with children in kindergarten
through grade six with siblings welcome.

We have limited seating available. You must register to attend:

tbe.org/family-5784

Questions? Contact Lisa Gittelman-Udi: eddir@tbe.org

**Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT
203-322-6901 office@tbe.org www.tbe.org
facebook.com/tbestamford**



SUKKOT @ TBE

CELEBRATE WITH US!

Sukkah Decorating Party

Thursday, September 28 - 4:00-5:30pm

Join Keshet Beth El students and faculty as we make our sukkah beautiful!

Sukkot Shabbat Dinner and Service

Friday, September 29

5:00pm TeeBeEs Shabuzz Sukkot Activities!

5:45pm Shabbat dinner in the Sukkah—Pizza in the Hut!

7:00pm Erev Sukkot and Shabbat Services

No charge for Dinner in the Sukkah, but please RSVP! www.tinyurl.com/tbepizza9-29

Sukkot Festival Services

Shabbat and Sunday September 30 and October 1

10:00am followed by a Kiddush luncheon in the Sukkah

Can't attend in person? Join us for the Festival Services online!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86236336392>

Meeting ID: 862 3633 6392

Passcode: 081606

Steak, Sushi, and Scotch in the Sukkah!

Thursday, October 5, 6:30pm

\$36 Men's Club members before September 27 at 5pm, \$45 non-Men's Club members

\$45 for everyone after September 27 at 5pm

Adults (over 21) invited!

RSVP and pay online: www.tinyurl.com/steak2023

Celebrate Shabbat Shemini Atzeret

Join us for Erev Shemini Atzeret and Shabbat Services Friday, October 6, 7:00pm

Shemini Atzeret and Shabbat morning service, Saturday, October 7, 10:00am

Can't join us in person! Join us online!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86236336392>

Meeting ID: 862 3633 6392

Passcode: 081606



Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT
203-322-6901 www.tbe.org office@tbe.org

**TBE Men's Club and the
TBE Thursday Night Social Club
Invite you to
STEAK, SCOTCH & SUSHI
IN THE SUKKAH!**



**Thursday, October 5
6:30pm**

**\$36 TBE members before September 27 at 5pm
\$45 non-TBE members
\$45 for everyone after September 27 at 5pm**

Adults (over 21) invited!

RSVP and pay online: www.tinyurl.com/steak2023

This event is sponsored by the TBE Men's Club.



**Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT
203-322-6901 www.tbe.org office@tbe.org
www.facebook.com/tbestamford**

TBE HEBREW READING CRASH COURSE!

Learn to Read Hebrew in 8 Sessions!

Thursdays on Zoom: 7:00-8:00pm

Led by Susan Shapiro

October 12, 19

November 2, 9, 16, 30

December 7, 21

**Questions? Want to Sign up to attend?
Contact Susan Shapiro at sbshapiro@hotmail.com**



**Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Rd., Stamford, CT 06902
203-322-6901 www.tbe.org**



Save the Date!
TBE
ARTIST
IN RESIDENCE
WEEKEND
Friday-Sunday
November 3-5, 2023

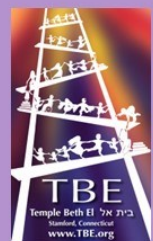
Featuring
Rabbi Josh
Warshawsky!
MUSICIAN, TEACHER,
GATHERER, COMPOSER

Rabbi Josh Warshawsky is a nationally touring Jewish musician, songleader, composer, and teacher of Torah. Josh seeks to build intentional praying communities, and travels to synagogues and Jewish communities across the country sharing his music and teachings on prayer and meaningful living.

Get to know Rabbi Josh!
joshwarshawsky.com



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WHY WE MADE A GRINSPOON LIFE & LEGACY GIFT Malerie Yolen-Cohen and Jeff Cohen

Jeff and I grew up very differently, so we come at Jewish charitable giving from two vastly different directions.

Malerie: I grew up in Greenwich CT, and went to Bi-Cultural Day School. Giving to Jewish causes was instilled in me practically before I could walk. We had a JNF tzedakah box at home for our spare change. My Mom was the local Hadassah president. During the High Holiday Israel Bond appeal, my grandfather was always the first to stand up and make a pledge. Giving is in my DNA.



Jeff: My grandparents on my Dad's side escaped from Poland. I grew up in the small town of Murfreesboro, Tennessee where there were eight Jewish families. We went to a synagogue in Nashville - a 75-minute drive each way. Even though my family was not religious, or spent a lot of time at synagogue, we knew we were Jewish and what that meant. One of the first people I met after moving to Stamford was Ben Zinbarg, z'l. I remember, he put his arm around me and urged me to get involved and educated me about giving back.

Malerie: Even though I grew up in a Jewish community, and Jeff did not, it was important for both of us to be involved in a vibrant Jewish community where we could join the JCC, send our kids to Jewish day school, and be involved in our synagogue. And, of course, help others when we can.

Malerie and Jeff: If we don't make a financial gift to the organizations we care about, they may not survive, and the next generation might not be as involved as ours. We feel it's our responsibility to do our part.

BBQ and Barachu Join us again next year!



SPONSOR A "SHABBAT BAG" FOR JEWISH HOSPITAL PATIENTS



We are happy to announce that TBE's Reyut Committee will resume visits to patients at Stamford Hospital to deliver "Shabbat Bags" on Fridays.

Each bag contains challah rolls, sugar-free candy, grape juice, and a professionally designed and printed booklet with healing prayers and readings, and information about the Jewish community in Stamford. Electric Shabbat candles will be available for patients who request them.

Sponsor a bag for \$36. Go to www.tinyurl.com/tbebags to donate or mail a check to made to: Temple Beth El, 350 Roxbury Road, Stamford, CT 06902.

REYUT VOLUNTEERS HAVE RETURNED TO VISIT PATIENTS IN STAMFORD HOSPITAL BRINGING SHABBAT BAGS





Let's play mah jong!



TBE Sisterhood invites you to a fun night!

Beginners and advanced players welcome.
Bring your friends - members and non-members.

We have instructors and refreshments!!!

Tuesday, October 10 at 7:00pm

In-person only in the TBE social hall.

NO CHARGE.

PLEASE RSVP, so we know how many tables we need,
to Fran Ginsburg at ginsstamf@gmail.com or
203-979-9570.

Temple Beth El Sisterhood, 350 Roxbury Rd, Stamford, CT 06902
www.tbe.org | 203-322-6901



TBE SISTERHOOD ANNUAL CLOTHING DRIVE

Do a mitzvah!

**Sunday, November 5 from 10:00am
through Monday, November 6 at 10:00am**

Volunteers will be there to help you on Sunday from 10am-12pm, but you may drop off until Monday at 10:00am.

Location:

Please drop-off at the loading dock/kitchen doors, by the dumpsters.

Items to Donate: Usable and wearable clothing and shoes for all seasons and all sizes for men, women, kids, pocketbooks, belts, baby accessories, backpacks, hats, scarves, briefcases, gloves, ties, handbags, blankets, tablecloths, bed sheets, drapery, curtains, pillows, towels, quilts, comforters, stuffed animals and bicycles.

Items NOT accepted: car seats, cribs, hair dryers, mattresses, pack & plays, baby walkers, baby bath seats, toys with lead, hard toys, VHS tapes, CDs, books, box TVs/monitors, oversized play sets or outdoor play sets. Workout/exercise equipment, appliances, furniture, lamps, house decor, board games, electronics, glassware, pots, pans, rugs, baby gear.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: PLEASE READ

Put all items into tightly tied plastic bags. Shoes laces must be tied and shoes bagged separate from clothes. Bicycles and scooters may be dropped off without being packaged or wrapped.

Questions? sisterhood@tbe.org

**SISTERHOOD THANKS YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS
AND ENTHUSIASM TO HELP OTHERS IN NEED!**

**We will receive money for every pound we collect.
The money raised will be used for Sisterhood/TBE programming.
Your donations will help deserving families in the USA and abroad.**

You will receive a tax form for all items donated.

DONATE ONLINE
Go to: www.tbe.org/donate/

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

- ☒ Adult Education Fund
- ☒ Paver Walkway Campaign
- ☒ Beth El Cares
- ☒ Rabbi Hammerman's or Cantor Kaplan's Mitzvah Fund
- ☒ Goldberg Scholarship Fund
- ☒ Emmet Manheim Memorial Playground
- ☒ Kiddush Fund
- ☒ Matthew Klein Memorial Sanctuary Garden Fund
- ☒ Music Fund
- ☒ Project Ezra
- ☒ Religious School Fund
- ☒ Frank and Rose Rosner Memorial Fund
- ☒ Security Fund
- ☒ Shabbat Bags
- ☒ Youth Fund

MEMORIAL PLAQUES



Inscribe the names of your loved ones on a plaque in our Chapel foyer along with a light to commemorate their *yahrtzeit* and *yizkor* observances throughout the year.

For details, contact Mindy at office@tbe.org or 203-322-6901, ext. 301.

PAVER CAMPAIGN

In celebration of our first 100 years!

Consider adding a paver to our new walkway. Three sizes are available.

Click here for details: <https://4everbricks.com/donors/TBE/>

Questions? Contact Steven Lander at execdir@tbe.org.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS



Rabbi Hammerman would like to stay in touch with your child while they are away at college. Please send their e-mail address to Mindy in the Temple office at office@tbe.org. Thank you!

TREE OF LIFE



A beautiful way to commemorate a special occasion is to purchase a "leaf" on our beautiful "Tree of Life" sculpture adorning our Temple lobby. There are many more leaves available for your own personal inscriptions.

The following categories are still available:

Triple Chai	\$1,000
Silver Leaves - Gold Border	\$750
Silver Leaves	\$250

CONTRIBUTING SHARES OF STOCK TO TEMPLE BETH EL

One way to boost your charitable contributions to Temple Beth El is to give shares of appreciated stock instead of cash. You do not pay any tax on your capital gain, and your charitable deduction is the shares' entire fair market value.

Beth El members may contribute shares of stock to satisfy their dues pledge, their annual fund pledge, and other contributions to the Temple.

After consulting your tax advisor, please contact the TBE office at 203-322-6901.

DID YOU KNOW?

TBE offers free family membership for the first year to any member's child on the occasion of his or her marriage. For more information, contact Steve Lander at 203-322-6901, ext. 304.



SEEKING SHABBAT GREETERS

Do you like getting a warm "Shabbat Shalom" as you enter shul on Saturday morning?

Our greeting program has been extremely well received. To keep this program going, we need volunteer greeters like you.

For more information Contact Eileen H. Rosner at rosnereileen@gmail.com.

Thanks for helping make Temple Beth El a warm and welcoming place to be.

CELEBRATING A SPECIAL EVENT? COMMEMORATING A YAHRTZEIT?

Please consider sponsoring a VIRTUAL Kiddush, following Shabbat Services, or a Kiddush-to-Go, following our Friday evening services.

Contact Steven Lander for all of the new, reasonably priced Kiddush options at 203-322-6901, ext. 304 or execdir@tbe.org.

PAY YOUR DUES ONLINE

Go to www.tbe.org/donate and click on member payments.

Questions? Contact Linda at 203-322-6901, ext. 302 or lindar@tbe.org.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

IN HONOR OF:

ELLIE MIRNE FOR A SPEEDY AND COMPLETE RECOVERY

Suzanne Horn & Norman Stone

EILEEN H. ROSNER FOR HER KINDNESS

The Kozinn & Cammaker Families

SHARON & JEFF TURSHEN FOR RECEIVING THE FRED

WEISMAN TIKKUN OLAM AWARD

Laura Markowitz, Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz

JOE FIELD ON HIS SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Susan & Richard Blomberg

THE BIRTH OF MAYA SCHEFFLER GRANOWITZ

Marsha Colten & Robert Cohen

THE ENGAGEMENT OF ZACHARY KROWITZ TO SYDNEY COHEN

Marsha Colten & Robert Cohen

STAN FRIEDMAN ON BEING NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz

SPEEDY AND COMPLETE RECOVERY FOR STEVEN LANDER

Barbara & Stan Friedman, Marilyn Galler Sofer & Mitch Sofer

KATHY MANDEL FOR BEING A GREAT FRIEND

Marion Beale

THE ENGAGEMENT OF ZACHARY KROWITZ TO SYDNEY COHN

Barbara & Stan Friedman

EILEEN H. ROSNER ON HER SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Irma Ross, Jackie Tepper

RABBI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN MITZVAH FUND

In honor of...

Matthew and Camellia's aufruf by Sharon & Steve Katz

The birth of Melody Sage Miller by Sharon & Jeff Turshen

In memory of...

John Graubard, z'l, by Sharon & Jeff Turshen

Martha Krakowitch, z'l, by Carol & Allen Krim

George Wolfsohn, z'l, by Daniel & Sheila Wolfson

Leslie Horowitz, z'l, by Carol & Allen Krim

William Berkowitz, z'l, by Sharon & Jeff Turshen

CANTOR KATIE KAPLAN MITZVAH FUND

In honor of...

Cantor Katie Kaplan for raising our spirits through your voice, energy and spirit by Ellie Mirne

TREE OF LIFE

A leaf has been dedicated in honor of...

Joe Field on his special birthday by Charlotte & Manny Birnbaum, Debby & Jack Goldberg, Gail & Bob Loonin, Shelley & Donnie Sherer, Barbara & Harry Webski

K'TANIM

In honor of...

Joe Field on his special birthday by Madeline & Sol Field

BETH EL CARES

In memory of...

Max Lieberman, z'l by Brian, Rowan & Jordanna Yomtov

John Graubard, z'l, by Andrea & David Cohen, Laurie Newman

Manfred Rosenthal, z'l, by Linda & Joe Rothman

Martha Krakowitch, z'l, by Susan Frieden

Hannah Piskin, z'l, by Susan & Art Greenwald

SHABBAT BAGS

In honor of...

In appreciation of my aliyah at Shabbat services by Larry Katz

In memory of...

Milton Rich, z'l, by Meryl & Hank Silverstein

Martha Krakowitch, z'l, by Ellie Mirne

Yetta Fishkow, z'l, by Amy Fishkow Benjamin & Jim Benjamin

PROJECT EZRA FUND

In memory of...

John Graubard, z'l, by Cindy Jennes

INFORMATION FOR YOU...

When making a donation an acknowledgement will be mailed to the designee for donations of \$10 or more. Donations of less than \$10 will be acknowledged only in the Bulletin. All donations will be published in the Bulletin unless you state that you wish to be anonymous.

CHECK US OUT ON

facebook

facebook.com/tbestamford/



REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES



Gail & Jack Abrams **BESS ABRAMS**
 Madeleine Sobel & Robert Goldman **CECILE BERMAN**
 Nancy Greene **WILLIAM BERMAN**
 Susan & Richard Blomberg **HYLDE BLOMBERG**
 Sari & Alan Jaffe **SELMA BLONDER**
 Francine & Robert Plansky **JACK COOPER**
 Deena Engel Kaplan **ELEANOR FINK**
 Nancy & Brad Benjamin **ROBERT FINK**
 Tomskey Family **ROBERT FINK**
 Phyllis & Harvey Walzer **HENRIETTA HIRSCH**
 Fran & Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg **MARION GINSBURG**
 Phyllis Gofstein **RALPH GOFSTEIN**
 Joanne & Marshall Goldberg **FAY GOLDBERG**
 Les Gordon & Family **ADELE GORDON**
 Hazzan Sidney Rabinowitz **PEARL GORDON**
 Lorelee & Phil Granowitz **MARIAN GRANOWITZ**
 Elaine & Robert Erichson **JOSHUA GREENBERG**
 Carol & Willy Sander **SAMUEL GROSSMAN**
 Steven Grushkin & Family **ARLENE GRUSHKIN**
 Harriet & Fred Dulaney **ROSE HELD**
 Sari & Alan Jaffe **ROBERT JAFFE**
 Suzanne & Bob Kahn **CAROL KAHN**
 Evelyn & Bruck Kahn **FLORENCE KAHN**
 Peggy Kalter **IRWIN KALTER**
 Madge & Michael Kellick **RUBIN KELICK**
 Kathy & Howard Kraus **BILLIE KRAUS**
 Lederman & Madison Families **ABRAHAM LEDERMAN**
 Harriet & Seymour Weinstein **JOSEPH LERNER**
 Susan & William Greenfield ... **LILLIAN & IRVIN LIACHOWITZ**
 Melanie Massell **CLAIRE MASSELL**
 Roslyn & Merritt Nesin **PAULINE NESIN**
 Evelyn & Bruce Kahn **ERIC NEU**
 Stanley Novack **MURIEL NOVACK**
 Stanley Novack **SADIE NOVACK**
 Meryl & Hank Silverstein **PHILIP NOVICK**
 Eleanor Mirne **ESTHER NUSSDORF**
 Ann & Julius Lasnick **ROSE ORGEL**
 Joan & Michael Gray **THEODORE OSMAN**
 Francine & Robert Plansky **BEATRICE PLANSKY**
 Hazzan Sidney Rabinowitz **SONDRA RABINOWITZ**
 Fran & Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg **ESTELLE ROSEN**
 Judy Schneiderman **BESSIE ROSENBERG**
 Julie & Remi Rosenberg **ROY ROSENBERG**
 Evelyn & Bruce Kahn **TRUDE ROSENBERG**
 Rosenblum Family **IDA & SAMUEL ROSENBLUM**
 Carol & Willy Sander **NELLY & SIEGFRIED SANDER**
 Marsha Shendell & Family **JEFFREY SHENDELL**
 Meryl & Hank Silverstein **ADELE SILVERSTEIN**
 Susan & Carl Shapiro **MARTIN SKALKA**
 Madeleine Sobel & Robert Goldman **LOUIS SWEDLIN**
 Rhonna & Brian Rogol **CAROL WEBER**
 Sharon & Steve Katz **MARILYN WEINKRANTZ**
 Debora & Paul Weinstein **RUTH WEINSTEIN**
 Fran & Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg **RUTH WERTHEIM**
 Nancy Wolfson & Family **GEORGE WOLFSON**
 Susan & Sandy Swidler **MYRA ZOLOTAR**

IN MEMORY OF:

BEN EVANS, z'l
 Harley & Stephen Osman
LORRAINE SATZ, z'l
 Sharon & Steven Katz, Suzanne & Rob Fruithandler
RHODA PEARLMAN, z'l
 Madelyn Yale, Nancy & Howard Bliss, Alan Halpern
JOEL JAY BELSON, z'l
 Abby Belson, Nicole Goluboff, Gaby Rattner
JOHN GRAUBARD, z'l
 Amy Applebaum, Anthony, Joni & Eleanor Reeves, Harriet & Seymour Weinstein, Barbara Gold, Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Parry Berkowitz, Sandy & Alvin Siegartel & Family, Elizabeth Baier, Lois Stark & Gary Lessen, Rosalea & Dick Fisher
HANNAH PISKIN, z'l
 Marsha Colten & Robert Cohen, Liz & Scott Krowitz, Lois Stark & Gary Lessen, Fran & Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg
MARTHA KRAKOWITZ, z'l
 Bracha & Jerry Silber, Shelley & Donnie Sherer, Betsy & Peter Kempner, Maxine & Jay Freilich, Petter Somma, Jr., Peggy Kalter, Fran & Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg
LESLIE HOROWITZ, z'l
 Ellie Mirne, Eugene & Dianne Foster, Lois Stark & Gary Lessen, Cindy & Mike Schneider, Melanie Massell
WILLIAM BERKOWITZ, z'l
 Liz & Scott Krowitz, Carol & Willy Sanders
LARRY REZAK, z'l
 Betty & Sherwin Baer
JOSEPH GELB, z'l
 Susan & Carl Shapiro
EVELYN KUCKER, z'l
 Liz & Scott Krowitz, Betsy & Peter Kempner

SHIVA NOTICES AVAILABLE ON-LINE

Congregants who are looking for shiva information can now quickly look online instead of searching their inbox for the announcement or calling the synagogue office. Just go to TBE's website (www.tbe.org) and click "Shiva Notices" under the WHAT'S NEW menu.

WE MOURN THE PASSING OF...

HENRY TINDEL, father of Lori Kahn
HANNAH PISKIN, mother of Scott Piskin & Brenda Piskin
JOHN GRAUBARD, husband of Myra Graubard
 and father of Naomi Kinderman
MARTHA KRAKOWITZ, sister of Melanie Massell
LESLIE HOROWITZ, z'l
WILLIAM BERKOWITZ, father of Suzanne Fruithandler
EVELYN KUCKER, mother of Susan Peyser
JOSEPH GELB, father of Marcia Rutstein
EDYTHE LAVINE, mother of Lori Ratner

ON ONE FOOT continued from page 3...

Zayde's Living Room. We even added potluck dinners at one point, establishing complicated policies that would allow people to bring in food cooked at home while still allowing our facility to be reasonably kosher. (As we put it at the time, "(Pot) Luck Be a Zayde Tonight.")

<https://www.joshuahammerman.com/2015/09/shabbat-ogram-sept-25.html>

So, take a look at the original Zayde's Living Room Bulletin article, which was disseminated throughout the Jewish world in my Jewish Week column and proved to be somewhat controversial.

And while you are perusing through this bulletin, you'll also find my explanation of why, with the help of our ritual committee, I changed our policy on standing for the Mourner's Kaddish on pages 29-31.

We'll have more opportunities to look back as we also look forward during this special year.

As we move toward another new year, my warm wishes to you and your loved ones for a sweet, healthy and fulfilling 5784.



Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

CANTOR KATIE KAPLAN continued from page 3...

5784, this is a beautiful opportunity for us to open our minds and hearts to what is possible when we encourage and celebrate diversity and the potential for growth and self-discovery.

L'Shana Tova!

Cantor Katie Kaplan

MORE BBQ and Barachu!



Have you seen our new PAVER WALKWAY?

Pavers are now available for installation this Spring.

Commemorate significant life events.

Pavers are \$250-\$500 & \$1,000 Tax deductible!

Contact Steven Lander, execdir@tbe.org for details.

IN LOVING MEMORY
OF ALAN KALTER
1943 - 2021
PEGGY KALTER

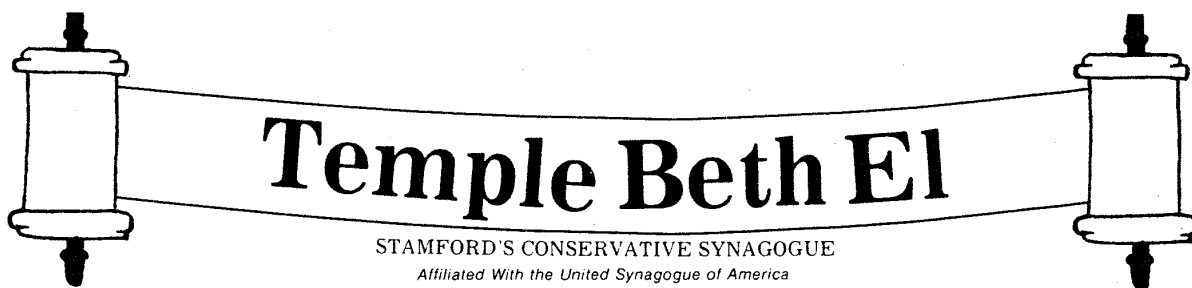
DEBBY AND JIM COLLINGS
IN HONOR OF
THEIR BOTH MOTHERS

SHAR & CHIEVAE
2011

AVIVA MALLER
IN HONOR OF ALL
YOU DO FOR TRE

PEACE * LOVE * TRE
MOVE ME BRIGHTLY
* ROCK MY SOUL

IN HONOR OF
OUR LOVING PARENTS
AND GRANDPARENTS
DEBRA ADLER-KLEIN
AND MATTHEW KLEIN



Volume 21 - Issue 6

June, 1996 - Sivan/Tammuz, 5756

על רגל אחת ON ONE FOOT

ZEYDEH'S LIVING ROOM

Normally at this time of year I present my own version of the State of the Synagogue. Since we've been taking our temperature quite a bit recently and since the incredible things that have gone on this year really speak for themselves (and what else can you say about a year that includes visits from the likes of Colette Avital, Yitz Greenberg and Debbie Friedman, dozens of great programs and wonderful new spirit of can-do), I'm using this year-end space to discuss some of my visions for Beth El. The following is adapted from a recent sermon, entitled "Zeydeh's Living Room," and it explains, I think quite clearly, just what I feel is needed for us to fulfill our responsibility to our membership, our community and our people.

The idea came to me in the midst of a recent Friday night dinner for our young families. Nearly 150 were present, all ages; and with the kids running around, the adults chatting, the grandparents kvelling, I began to understand what it must have been like for my father in Brooklyn when he was growing up, when every Shabbat he would kibitz with dozens of cousins at his Zeydeh's home. Back then, being Jewish meant having the kind of organic, extended family that most of us pine for. But here we had it, if but for a fleeting evening.

And the screwy thing was that, in our educational scheme, this program was seen not as an end in itself, but as a tool for encouraging the families to do the same things at home. It's known as "family education," the heir apparent to "continuity" on our ever-fluctuating priority pedestal. Of the dozens of families present that night, maybe four or five will expand their Shabbat home ritual based on this program; but scores wanted to know when we could do it again, at the synagogue. That's when it hit me: family education is fine, but what we need most of all is not a chicken in every Jewish pot on Friday night and a Kiddush in every cup, but an extended cousin's club in the shul.

The fact is that most of these families won't do it at home every Shabbat, and many can't. Even if they have time to make the chicken, even if there are two parents present, even if both are Jewish, and even if a grandparent miraculously appears from time to time, from where will they import the sense of wholeness that obliterates generational boundaries and allows people to relax and share the love they all so wish to share? Zeydeh's living room can now be realized only on a larger communal scale.

The family as we once knew it hardly exists anymore. Surveys show that actual two-parent families with children, devoid of divorce, widowhood and all the other forces that have detonated this nuclear unit, constitute a minority of Jews in America. How can you expect true bonding with

Judaism to occur in this setting? But while we're still talking in "Leave it to Beaver" language, the people we're addressing are living in a far more fragmented world. By placing the burden of Jewish cultural transmission on the parents, we're actually rendering it inaccessible to their children.

We're talking to single parents who don't have time to breathe and we're telling them to whip up a hearty dinner every Friday night, preferably with company. We're talking to couples who scratch out two incomes and barely see each other during waking hours, and we're telling them that their kids will stay Jewish if only they would build a Sukkah in the

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TEMPLE BETH EL MEN'S CLUB PRESENTS THE CANTOR'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL CONCERT

Featuring

DEBBIE FRIEDMAN

Composer, Performer Extraordinaire

Temple Beth El

Sunday, June 2, 7:00 P.M.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE LAST JUNIOR CHOIR SERVICE OF THIS SEASON SABBATH EVENING, JUNE 14, 8:00 P.M. AT TEMPLE BETH EL

New trainees for this year will be making their debut with the Junior Choir:

Cara Alswanger
Shira Burstein
Aliza Gordon
Ben Hoffman
Natalie Inger

Dana Madwed
Marina Miloslavsky
Courtney Rosenberg
Ilana Shydlo

A special presentation of "The Three Sephardic Songs"

commissioned by Temple Beth El will be performed

The following High School Seniors will be participating in their final Junior Choir Service:

Michelle Pasettiner
Ariel Shindler

Alumni from the Junior Choir will be returning from college to join in the presentation of this evening's service.

Conductor: Hazzan Sidney G. Rabinowitz
Organist: Dwight Oarr

On One Foot *continued from page 1*

backyard. We're saying that we're willing to be partners, but that the fate of Judaism is ultimately in their hands. And we're telling the children the worst message of all: if your parents aren't willing to buy into the program lock, stock and barrel, you, my friends, are lost. If your parents can't hack it, there's not much we can do about it.

On that fateful Friday, I realized (what I sort of knew already) that what these families need is not the training to be Jewish at home, but more chances to do it here, in a non-threatening, multi-family setting. They don't need instructions, they need a support system. The route to greater commitment is not through persuasion and training, but through embrace and communal bonding. Most people avoid commitment like the plague, but no one will turn down a cheap meal that someone else cooks and a chance to relax with friends.

I have nothing against practicing Judaism in the home. But the social phenomenon of disintegrating families is far beyond our capacity to fix by ourselves. We can support efforts that promote home-based "family values," such as the celebrated V-chip; but in an era of dwindling resources, the Jewish establishment has a choice: rebuild the family-unit or renew Judaism. My vote is to pour our energy into building a communal life so vibrant that what the family does at home will hardly matter. We've got to serve Judaism up to them on a platter, so that in the end, parents and children will look forward so much to decorating the synagogue's sukkah with their friends and eating in it, to spending each Friday night and Shabbat morning with their new extended family, that they won't even realize how much time they are pouring in to being Jewish - and being together.

Paradoxically, by building up communal life, we'll bring families together, away from their homes, perhaps, but under our watchful eyes. The more we eat together (and as you know, we now have a communal Shabbat lunch at least once a month) the more we become an extended family, and communities that become extended families love to travel together too. Shabbat retreats and Israel experiences become natural extensions of Zeyde's living room.


By the time the children go away to college, our goal should be that they pine for their extended families almost as much as their real ones. We want to build up a tribal loyalty that goes beyond reason, a closeness that cannot be explained in words; so that when a Jew for Jesus approaches there will be no chasm of loneliness to fill, so that gathering with friends at Hillel on Shabbat will be as natural as the Brady Bunch going home for a snack.

I would love a family educator on our staff, but in the end that won't help us create the feeling of wholeness that can enfold people in a living, breathing Judaism. What I would love more is additional funds for more lunches, dinners, baby sitters, trips and a bigger and more beautiful sukkah for us all to decorate together. For the "Zeyde's living room" strategy to work, much more money would have to be poured into synagogue programming than ever before — by Federations too — not merely for classroom innovations, but for the nuts and bolts activities of synagogue life, and especially for the cheap meals, so that membership can be affordable to all. The synagogue is still the only place where the most significant Jewish sacred moments can be lived out on a communal scale. It is our best hope. Community priorities must be adjusted to reflect this.

Synagogues also have to change: to become a true living

room, formality and pretense must be cast aside, democracy encouraged and responsibility shared. Most of all, each child has to become everybody's child — and each adult too.

Sooner or later, we'll come to realize what Hillary Clinton has been hinting all along, that it takes a village to raise the next generation of Jews. For us to mobilize the villagers to the task, we've got to understand that the home can no longer be seen as our prime battleground. There is only one place that retains some of the magic of Zeyde's living room, with small children running in circles, teens chatting in the hallway and the older generations exchanging Torah wisdom and stock tips, and the sweet smell of kugel in the air. And that place is the synagogue.

Help us to become that place. Be more active. Volunteer. Help us with our endowment drive. Strive at least to understand that what we do here will make a profound difference in the lives of thousands of people (or more) for generations to come. — Rabbi Joshua J. Hammerman 

SISTERHOOD SPEAKS

Another Sisterhood year is drawing to a close and, as in prior months, May was quite busy.

A special thank you to Rosalea Fisher for co-chairing and opening her home for the May 19th Women's celebration of Rosh Hodesh. Included with the prayer, poetry and song was a fascinating discussion focusing on our matriarchs, led by Leah Berkowitz of the Religious School faculty. In all, it was an inspiring experience.

May has also been a month of goodbyes and hellos. Kathy Paseltiner, Evie Shapiro and Mary C. Silberman have completed their terms of office and we gratefully acknowledge and commend them for their dedication and hard work on behalf of our Temple. We welcome Sandy Golove to the Presidium and look forward to her enthusiasm and participation as we plan for next year's programs.

If you are interested in learning more about Sisterhood, wish to join a committee, or have an idea or suggestion, please let us know.

*B'Shalom, Ilene Madwed (968-2570),
Sandy Golove (322-0295), Sandy Siegartel (348-8594)*

MEN'S CLUB MESSAGE

We've saved the best for last! If you still haven't purchased tickets for our once-in-a-lifetime concert, please call the Temple office today (322-6901)! Debbie Friedman is one of the most sought after singers in the world, and she'll be gracing our stage on Sunday, June 2 at 7 p.m.

And, this is the 25th Annual Cantor's Concert, sponsored by Men's Club. From the November weekend at which we honored our Hazzan to the present, this concert is another most fitting way to honor Hazzan Rabinowitz and celebrate Jewish music.

This is also a fitting way to end the Men's Club year. From the Bimah building in the fall until the Cantor's Concert, Men's Club is working (often behind the scenes) to serve the Temple membership.

If you would like to become more involved in our activities, call me (322-1324) or our President-Elect, Tim Wright (322-7099). Regular board meetings will resume in the fall, but we'll be busy over the summer planning the year's activities. My thanks to all the members of the Men's Club board over the past two years for all of their efforts.

Gerry Ginsburg, President

The Kaddish, an Aramaic prayer that is more than two thousand years old, is recited in slightly different variations at every prayer service. Although one form of the *Kaddish* is recited in memory of the dead, the prayer itself says nothing about death; its theme is the greatness of God, reflected in its opening words: “*Yitgadal ve-yitkadash, Shmei rabbah*—May His name be magnified and made holy...” The prayer’s conclusion speaks of a future age in which God will redeem the world.

Reciting the *Kaddish* also forces mourners to go out in public. After the death of a loved one, a person might well wish to stay home alone or with a few family members, and brood. But saying *Kaddish* forces a mourner to join with others. According to Jewish law, the *Kaddish* cannot be recited unless a minimum of ten adult Jews are gathered in a *minyan*.

However, even before the rise of feminism, there were Jewish women who said *Kaddish*. A gem of modern Jewish literature is a letter written by Henrietta Szold, one of eight daughters of a Baltimore rabbi and a great figure in American-Jewish history. When Szold's mother died, a close male friend of the family, Haym Peretz, offered to say *Kaddish* on her behalf. An excerpt from the letter in which Szold refused his offer, insisting that she would say the *Kaddish* herself, is found in the entry on her life in this book.

In the case of the death of a sibling, a child, or a spouse, *Kaddish* is recited for one month; when a parent dies, it is recited for eleven months. The reason the *Kaddish* is said for eleven months, although the full mourning period lasts for twelve, has to do with folklore. According to a statement in the Talmud, when most wicked people die, they are consigned to hell for a maximum of twelve months. Since recitation of the *Kaddish* is believed to help elevate the soul of the dead, reciting it for a full year would imply that one's parent is one of those wicked people sentenced to a full year in hell; hence, the *Kaddish* is recited for only eleven months.

as a congregation, only the mourners and those recalling a *Yahrzeit* be requested to rise. While others may elect to rise to show support, or for some other reason, the standard way for us to support the mourners is to *respond* to the *Kaddish* with the verse, “Y’hay shmay rabbah...” and with the appropriate “Amen,” not by assisting with every word. As difficult as it is for mourners to stand “alone,” it is also most therapeutic to hear an entire congregation *respond* to his prayers. In addition, one gets a feeling of having done something very concrete to honor the memory of a loved one by physically rising to pray on his behalf. When the entire congregation is also standing and saying the entire *Kaddish* too, such a feeling is diluted considerably.

- Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

September's question about latent anti-Semitism in the film, "Batman," elicited overwhelming response. Unfortunately, the evil Penguin intercepted each letter on its way to the office. This month, we ask a question related to the above article:

In a few sentences, here or on a separate sheet of paper, tell us how the recitation of this prayer during your mourning period moved you/changed you/influenced your thoughts. These responses may be signed or unsigned, but please send them in quickly so that they might appear in the January Bulletin.

Noah's Ark

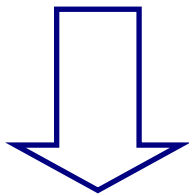


Have you seen our replica of Noah's Ark in the hallway of Kesher Beth El? It is walnut, measures 76" by 72", and has 149 plaques and 18 larger animals that can include engraved messages in honor of a family's children or anyone else, or in honor of a significant family event .

We are asking you to consider honoring your children (or anyone else) by donating \$250 to this project and buying a plaque. We hope that you might be further moved to buy one of the remaining animals for a donation of \$1,000.

Proceeds to benefit Kesher Beth El.

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The deadline for the
November-December 2023 Bulletin
will be Monday, October 2, 2023.

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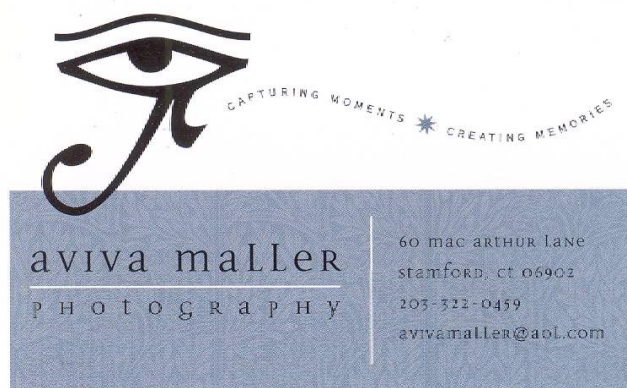
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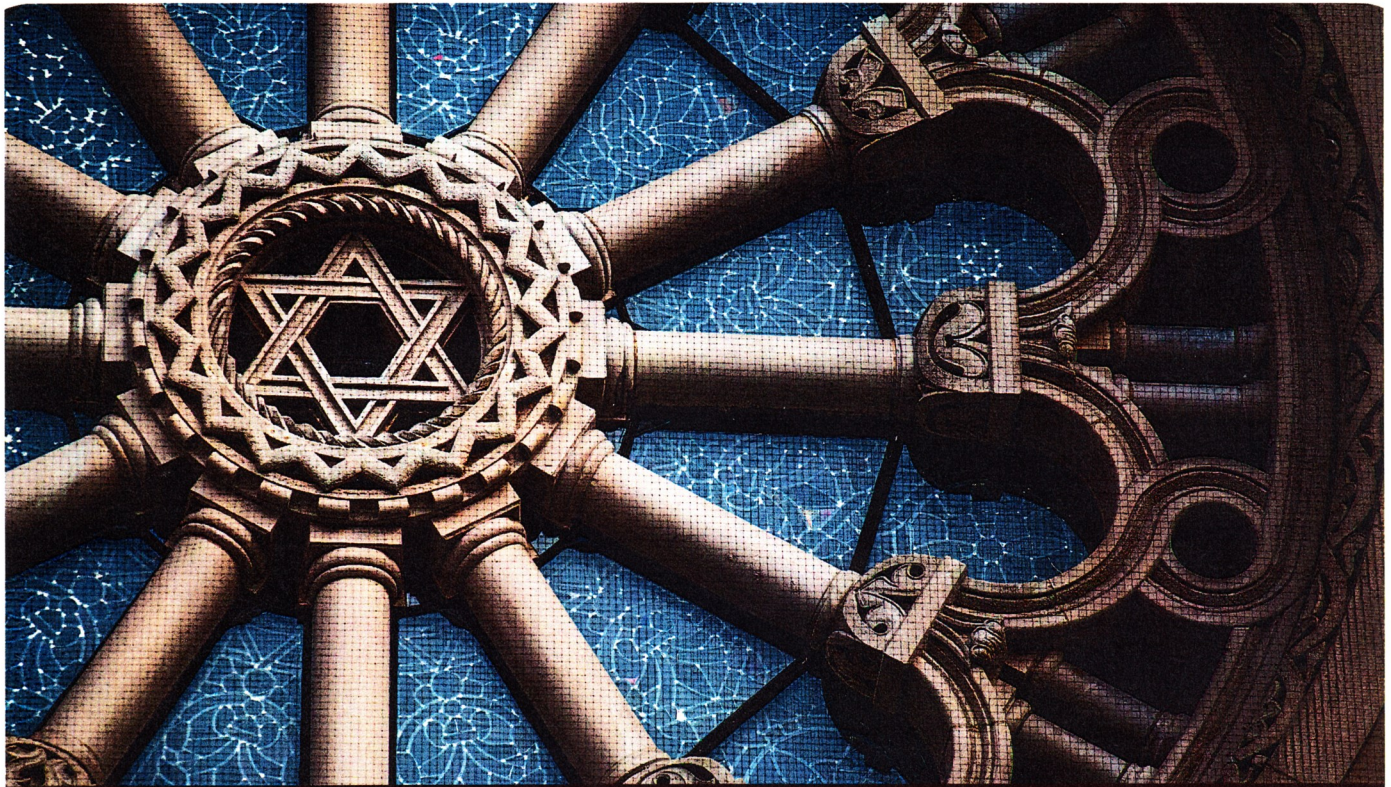
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