

WOW! WHAT A YEAR!

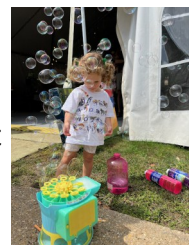
JULY

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Welcome Rabbi Michael, Adira, Lilah, Shemaya and Akiva Knopf, Heart to Heart Support Group, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



AUGUST

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Heart to Heart Support Group, Meet and Greet Rabbi Michael Knopf, SummerFest, Tisha B'Av at CBE, The 7 Haftarat with Rabbi Michael Knopf, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



SEPTEMBER

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, Daniella Raich, Bat Mitzvah, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, BBQ and Barachu, TeeBeEs My Bubble Guy, Inspired Change: Spiritual and Moral Preparation for the High Holidays with Rabbi Michael Knopf, Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Shabbat Singers, High Holiday Bimah Building, Sukkah Building, Dinner, Havdalah and Selichot Service, Annual Memorial Service at Beth El Cemetery, High Holiday Choir Rehearsal, Board of Trustees Security Training, Keshet Beth El and K'tanim School Year Begins, High Holiday Cooking Demonstration with Ronnie Fein, Men's Club Hearing Men's Voices, Mah Jong with Sisterhood, Sisterhood Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



OCTOBER

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Rosh Hashanah Services, Kol Nidrei and Yom Kippur Services, High Holiday Family Services, Break-the-Fast, Tashlich, Sacred Days: Exploring the Holiday of Sukkot with Rabbi Michael Knopf, Sukkot Services, Shemini Atzeret Services, Simchat Torah Services, TeeBeEs Torah March, Lulav and Etrog Sale, High Holiday Choir Rehearsal, Keshet Beth El decorates the sukkah, Steak, Sushi and Scotch in the Sukkah, Dinner in the Sukkah, TeeBeEs Make Edible Sukkahs, Pot Luck Shabbat Supper, High Holiday Food Drive, Reyt Delivers Shabbat Packages to Patients in the Hospital, Mah Jong with Sisterhood, Sisterhood Clothing Drive, Young Families Fall Fest, Israeli Dancing with Sisterhood, Heart to Heart Support Group, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



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WHERE TO FIND IT

Michael Knopf, Senior Rabbi	Page 3
Katie Kaplan, Cantor	Page 3
Joshua Hammerman, Rabbi Emeritus	Page 4
Keshet Beth El	Page 7
Sisterhood	Page 11

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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**

Michael Knopf, Senior Rabbi (rabbiknopf@tbe.org)	ext. 307
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MICHAEL ROSE KNOPF, SENIOR RABBI

A few weeks ago, many of us gathered over brunch to discuss *The Amen Effect* by Rabbi Sharon Brous, which we had been reading as a congregation this spring. By way of introducing our conversation, I asked participants to approach our time together not just as an opportunity to talk about a good book, but to wrestle with how to cultivate the kind of community Rabbi Brous describes — a community that cares together: Not a congregation built around personalities or programs, but one rooted in mutual responsibility. Not a synagogue one attends, but a spiritual home each and every one of us helps create. A place where no one walks alone — especially the wounded, the grieving, the estranged. A community where everyone is seen, held, and lifted up. A community where no one is cast out for having faltered, and where forgiveness is possible. A community where healing happens — and from which healing flows.



As Rabbi Brous points out, that vision of community is deeply rooted in our tradition. In the Mishnah, tucked into the architectural blueprints of the ancient Temple, the rabbis describe how everyone walking through the Temple courtyard would move in one direction — except the person to whom “something has happened.” A mourner. Someone excommunicated. Someone in pain. And when they walk the other way, the community doesn’t ignore them. They recognize the disruption, and instead of turning away or passing by, they pause — gently, generously — to hold space for the one walking upstream. And not only to witness their presence, but to draw them close again: To listen to their story, to bless their wounds, and to begin, together, the slow and sacred work of weaving them back into the fabric of our shared life. They extend a hand. They hold the tension of hurt and hope. They begin the work of repair.

That, to me, is what true spiritual life looks like: Showing up for and supporting one another with curiosity, compassion, and care, and bringing that spirit to our broader purpose of repairing the world.

As I mark my first anniversary as TBE’s Senior Rabbi, I find myself reflecting on the ways we’ve begun to shape Temple Beth El into that kind of community over the past year.

We’ve leaned into three core priorities: Deepening Belonging and Participation, Empowering Jewish Living and Leadership, and Pursuing Inclusion and Justice, Inside and Out. Those priorities have shown up in visible ways — through new Shabbat and holiday experiences, grassroots learning initiatives, justice-focused programming, and intentional community-building events. But more than any individual program, they represent a shift in culture: From religious consumerism to sacred co-creation.

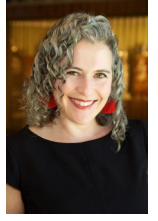
Because the truth is: A community that heals its own is a community better equipped to heal the world. A

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KATIE KAPLAN, CANTOR

Hiking the Wahe’e Ridge Trail: A 20th Anniversary Ascent to Perspective

As we celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary, Eric and I sought an adventure that would be as memorable as the milestone itself. We found it on Maui, high above the Pacific, on the Wahe’e Ridge Trail. What began as an exciting challenge soon became a profound metaphor for life’s journey, offering breathtaking views and unexpected insights.



The initial ascent was invigorating, but as we climbed higher, we realized we had perhaps underestimated the trail’s demands. Yet, with each switchback, the panoramic views unfolded, more magnificent than the last. There were moments of exertion, even doubt, but these were swiftly overshadowed by the sheer awe inspired by the dramatic cliffs, verdant valleys, and the shimmering expanse of the ocean below. We hadn’t truly known what we were getting ourselves into, but the rewards—the feeling of accomplishment, the unparalleled beauty, and the profound sense of connection to something larger than ourselves—far exceeded our wildest hopes for experiencing the awe and majesty of the divine.

Reaching each vantage point, we paused, not just to catch our breath, but to look back. From each vista ascending in height, we could see the winding path we had traversed, the waters of Kahului Bay kissing the shoreline, the point where the Pacific Ocean dissolved into the sky, and the incredible distance we had covered. Once we reached the peak, a powerful wave of perspective washed over us both. This hike wasn’t just about the physical journey; it was about our shared journey of two decades, of a lifetime.

How often in our lives do we get to truly look back and see how far we’ve come? We navigate cycles and seasons, both as individuals and as a community. There are periods of energetic beginnings, challenging climbs, and sometimes, unexpected detours. Like the Wahe’e Ridge Trail, life’s path isn’t always clear from the outset, and we often don’t fully comprehend the journey until we’re well into it.

Yet, it is precisely in these moments of reflection, when we gain altitude and look back at the landscape of our experiences, that we can truly appreciate our growth, our resilience, and the divine hand that has guided us. This perspective, from above where even the helicopters were flying, allowed us to see the interconnectedness of our past, present, and future. It enabled us to recognize the blessings woven into even the most challenging stretches of our lives and inspired us to be grateful for the myriad ways in which we have navigated this journey together.

As we all ascend and descend the metaphorical peaks of our lives, I offer you the blessing of an expansive sense of perspective. May you be inspired to embrace the upcoming seasons of your lives with strength, to cherish shared communal bonds, and to remember that the greatest rewards often lie beyond the horizons we initially perceive, awaiting us with divine majesty.

Cantor Katie Kaplan

congregation that knows how to forgive, how to reconcile, how to stay in relationship even when things get messy — that is a congregation that can speak with moral clarity and spiritual credibility when it comes to the pain beyond its walls. Inclusion, after all, is not a posture we perform — it's a practice we live. And justice isn't just an issue we advocate for — it's a way of being we embody together.

We are learning, slowly and beautifully, that our strength doesn't come from being perfect. It comes from being present. That we're not whole despite our brokenness — we're whole because of it. And that the way we repair our world is not by having all the answers, but by showing up for one another and for all in need with open hearts and open hands.

That spirit — of compassion, curiosity, and collective responsibility — will continue to guide us. In the year ahead, we'll keep investing in learning and lay leadership. We'll deepen our Shabbat culture and strengthen our social justice commitments — not just through charity, but through the hard, necessary work of addressing systemic injustice. We'll nurture a community that not only strives to *hold* people but works to *heal* them — and then sends them out into the world as healers.

And we'll continue to build a community where disagreement is not a threat but a teacher — where we are safe enough to be challenged, and brave enough to stay in relationship. Where love and justice are not separate pursuits, but braided strands of the same sacred calling.

At our best, we are not only a synagogue, but a sacred circle — one where people can enter even, and perhaps especially, if they're walking against the flow. And when they do, may we have the courage to ask: "Why are you walking this way?" And the compassion to say: "May the One who dwells in this house comfort you. May you be brought near again."

Thank you for entering this circle with me — for caring together, healing together, building together, and believing in what this sacred experiment can become. Looking forward to beginning year two together!

Rabbi Michael Knopf

Hope in Motion Team TBE

We raised over \$15,000 this year for the Bennett Cancer Center and proudly sit in third place of all the money collected by a team.

I thank you for your cooperation, Mindy, and the dedication and generosity of Team Temple Beth El.

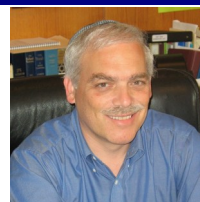
I am grateful to serve as team captain of such enthusiastic congregants.

Melanie Massell



On One Foot

Some of you might recall my stint as the NY Jewish Week's "Jewish Ethicist" a few years back, in a column modeled after the popular New York Times' series. Well, I'm now reprising that role for MyJewishLearning, the best website out there for all things Judaic. You can check the first few ethicist responses at <https://www.myjewishlearning.com/category/study/ask-the-ethicist/>. I'm sharing a particularly timely one below. Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing you at services when I visit on the Shabbat of July 18-19, at the gracious invitation of Rabbi Knopf. And do subscribe to my Substack when you have a chance - <https://rabbijoshuahammerman.substack.com/> Praying for peace and safety for all.



Rabbi Joshua Hammerman



Ask the Ethicist

Can I keep eating at a restaurant if the owner's politics disgust me?

Question: The owner of a kosher restaurant my husband and I frequent has been increasingly vocal about his financial support for political causes that we fiercely oppose. I hate the thought that the money we spend in his establishment could be used for this purpose, but we love the restaurant. Is it ethical for us to eat there anyway?

Answer: Let's first clarify that we're just talking about a guy who is just misguided and not a crook. If the business is shady, a personal boycott is more than warranted. In the Talmud, the rabbis were particularly concerned about price gouging (*hafka'at shearim*), especially for essential staples and Jewish ritual items. But rather than boycotting an unethical business, the rabbis' punishment of choice was "flagellation until they are compelled to sell at the market price." Personally, I'd rather be boycotted.

But it sounds like the issue is simply that you don't approve of how the restaurant owner is using his money. Here too you're on solid ground to refuse to give him your business. The Talmud (*Avoda Zara 51b*) discusses whether a Jew might pay admission to enter a bathhouse owned by a purveyor of idol worship. Interestingly, Jews frequented Roman bathhouses all the time, even if idols were present. However, Rashi explains that Jews could only enter if the admission was free. If they had to pay, and the profits went to support idolatry, it was forbidden for Jews to go there.

Later rabbinic authorities used this precedent to ban Jews from renting or buying property from churches, considered by many of them to be purveyors of idol worship. Personally, I feel it's inappropriate to conflate Christianity, or any contemporary world religion, with biblical idol worship, but the point here is that Jewish law takes seriously how the establishments we patronize use the money we pay them. So, if you decide not to continue going to the restaurant, you are on solid ethical ground,

Continued on page 13...

SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday Night services are held at 7:00 pm

Shabbat Morning services are held at 10:00 am

Our services may be seen on livestream

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

All are welcome!

CELEBRATE SPECIAL OCCASIONS ON SHABBAT MORNING

Celebrate a birthday with our TBE family! We warmly invite you to celebrate your birthday with the congregation on Shabbat morning. During that service, we will invite you for a celebratory Aliyah. We hope you will share in that joyous moment. If possible, please let us know ahead of time which Shabbat you'll be attending, and we will gladly provide you with an Aliyah at that time. Please also note that we are proud to continue marking special milestone birthdays with personal blessings in addition to this new ritual. If you fall into that category, you may contact Eileen H. Rosner at rosnereileen@gmail.com to make the appropriate arrangements.

Celebrate an anniversary! On behalf of the entire congregation, we invite you to celebrate your wedding anniversary with the congregation with an Aliyah on Shabbat. If possible, please let us know ahead of time which Shabbat you'll be attending, and we will gladly provide you with an Aliyah at that time.

While it is most certainly not expected, if you would like to elevate your birthday or anniversary celebration and the congregation's joy by helping to sponsor Kiddush on the Shabbat of your Aliyah, we would be most grateful for your generosity. Please call Mindy Rogoff at 203-322-6901, ext. 301 or office@tbe.org.

Special Occasion?

Sponsor the Shabbat Announcements
(emailed every Thursday afternoon)

or

Rabbi Knopf's Shabbat Reflections
(emailed every Friday morning)

Donation of \$118

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

[Click here](#) to reserve your date.

WE WELCOME YOU TO JOIN US ON SHABBAT MORNINGS

We warmly welcome you to show up for services on Shabbat in whatever way is meaningful to you. A reminder: you don't have to attend services to come for lunch on Shabbat! Services begin at 10 am, and we get to lunch around 12:15 pm. You can also show up for and/or leave services any time:

- From 10 until about 10:30 am, we sing the joyous and soulful melodies of P'sukei D'zimrah, the preliminary service.

- From about 10:30 to 10:45 am is the morning service, Shaharit (including greatest hits like Shema and the Amidah).

- We take the Torah out at about 10:45 am, and chant from the Torah and Haftarah portions until about 11:30 am.

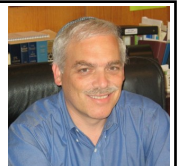
- The D'var Torah (sermon) takes place around 11:30 am.

Between 11:45 am-12:15 pm, we conclude the service with Musaf, Aleinu, and Adon Olam (we always invite children up to help lead some of these final prayers, and any kid who helps lead gets to pick a prize from the Rabbi's "Tchotchke Chest").

And for those who wish to partake, you are welcome to make a "L'chaim!" with us on a beverage of your choosing (whether alcoholic or non-alcoholic) after services. I can personally guarantee good bourbon, an awesome and creative signature cocktail based on the weekly Torah portion, and even better schmoozing!

SHABBAT UNDER THE STARS WE WELCOME RABBI JOSHUA HAMMERMAN

Shabbat, July 18-19, 2025



Rabbi Hammerman will spend Shabbat with us and lead services with Cantor Katie Kaplan and musical guest, Chris Coogan.

The Friday night service will be conducted outside - weather permitting.

SAVE THE DATE!

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 Jon Eisenstein at jon.eisenstein@gmail.com

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

MAZAL TOV TO...

Eileen Springer and Fred Springer on the birth of a granddaughter, Sophie Maya Springer.

Madelyne Kirch on the birth of a granddaughter, Olive Gabriela Shapes.

Maxine and Rick Brody on the birth of a grandson.

Lisa Manheim on receiving the Women of Action Award from the Israel Cancer Research Fund.

Ruthie Price on receiving the Shamash Award from the Israel Cancer Research Fund.



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

BARRY ERNER ★ AMANDA GEFFNER
LISA GROVE-RAIDER ★ KAREN HAINBACH
LESLIE HEYISON ★ DEVRA JAFFE-BERKOWITZ
JOY KATZ ★ RABBI MICHAEL KNOPF ★ BERT MADWED
NAOMI MARKS ★ MELODY PRENNER-BRYANT
SUSAN SCHNEIDERMAN ★ CARL WEINBERG
HARRIET WEINSTEIN

THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING KIDDUSH

LESLIE and JOSEPH HEYISON
AVIVA and GREG LEDERMAN
DANA and CARL WEINBERG

HIGH HOLIDAYS 5786/2025

Rosh Hashanah - September 23-24, 2025

Kol Nidrei - October 1, 2025

Yom Kippur - October 2, 2025

Sukkot - October 7-8, 2025

Shemini Atzeret - October 14, 2025

Simchat Torah - October 15, 2025

CHECK US OUT ON
facebook

facebook.com/tbestamford/

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 shiva meals to the bereaved in the congregation. Contact Debbie Adler-Klein at dakmd75@gmail.com or 203-253-1664.

Serving the homeless: Help prepare and serve food — you can do either or both throughout the year. Contact Julie Rosenberg at [julierenbergsjp@gmail.com](mailto:julierosenbergsjp@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 [julierenbergsjp@gmail.com](mailto:julierosenbergsjp@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 Ron Zussman rmzussman@gmail.com or Steven Lander execdir@tbe.org for information.

**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 MORNINGS GRADES K-7
ZOOM HEBREW TUTORIALS THURSDAY
AFTERNOONS GRADES 3-7**

- **Monthly Sunday Morning Learning Program** for ages 3-4
- **Amazing Holiday Celebrations**
- **Experiential, Interactive Learning**
- **Small Group Hebrew Learning**
- **Weekly Tefilah (worship service)** led by our clergy, teachers, and students
- **TRY US OUT FOR A YEAR!** For grades K-2, registration for the first year is open to non-members; tuition is reduced 50% for the first year for members.

For more information contact Leo Linder:
eddir@tbe.org.

K'TANIM

**A monthly Jewish learning Sunday drop-off
program for 3 and 4 year-olds.
9:00am-11:45am**

**GAMES! MUSIC! TORAH! HOLIDAYS!
STORIES! CRAFTS! BLESSINGS! FUN!**

**You do not need to be a member
of a synagogue to participate.**

**Questions? Contact Dayna Patashnik at
tbeengagement@gmail.com or Leo Linder at
eddir@tbe.org.**



What a wonderful year we had at Keshar!

Students from PreK to 7th grade explored the holidays and calendar, coming together for events like the Havdalah Festival, Hanukkah Carnival, and Pesach Kids' Choice. We built our tefillah and siddur skills with weekly services where each class led a different prayer.

And there were lots of special events that helped us go deeper in our learning! Food was a pretty big feature: From the Challah Prince's visit to matzah making to baking brownies for a local shelter, our students used cooking to learn about Jewish values and culture.

And who can forget the hands-on experience we got with our tefillin and tallit during World Wide Wrap, or with the Torah scrolls on the inaugural Torah Day?

Interested in joining us next year, or want to learn more? Email Leo (eddir@tbe.org) for registration info. Keshar and K'tanim both start on 7 September – we hope to see you there!

Leo Linder
Keshar Director

Keshar celebrated the 7th grade class, which commenced to the next phase of their Jewish learning after the closing day of Keshar this past May.



Left to right: Rabbi Michael Knopf (TBE), Jonathan Cohen, Tali Ben-David, Maddy Kessler, Lilah Knopf, Jenna Napach, Rabbi Ita Paskind (CBE). Not pictured: Sloane Cooper, David Lederman.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE SCREENING OF

TRAGIC AWAKENING

A NEW LOOK AT THE OLDEST HATRED

Thursday, July 10, 2025

Sponsored by the TBE Kulanu and Adult Education Committees

An inspirational post-October 7th film rethinking
antisemitism's roots, turning hatred into strength
for Jewish identity and Western values.

7:00 PM | Temple Beth El

350 Roxbury Road | Stamford, CT | 203-322-6901

\$15 per person RSVP here: www.tinyurl.com/awake6-24

**This powerful documentary should not be missed.
It will be followed by discussion and refreshments.**



**SCAN FOR TRAILER OR VISIT
TRAGICAWAKENING.COM**



Chesed Opportunities at Temple Beth El

Committee	Volunteer Opportunity	Contact Name	Contact Information
Chesed	Project Ezra: Deliver Shiva meals to congregants	Debbie Adler-Klein	dakmd75@gmail.com
Chesed	Reyut: Drive elderly/disabled patients to appointments	Melanie Massell	Text: 203-274-1708
Chesed	Reyut: Drive congregants to Shabbat services	Melanie Massell	Text: 203-274-1708
Chesed	Reyut: Visit the elderly to socialize	Melanie Massell	Text: 203-274-1708
Chesed	Reyut: Deliver flowers from the Mitzvah Garden to ill congregants	Meryl Silverstein	merylandhank@optonline.net
Chesed	Reyut: Deliver Shabbat Bags to patients at Stamford Hospital	Melanie Massell	Text: 203-274-1708
Chesed	High Holiday Food Drive: Help collect and sort food	Sharon Turshen	SJTurshen@aol.com
Chesed	Christmas Eve Shelter Meals: donate, prepare, or serve meals	Julie Rosenberg	julierosenbergsjp@gmail.com
Engagement	Pack & deliver Welcome Bags to our new members	Dayna Patashnik	tbeengagement@gmail.com
Engagement	Be an Ambassador for a new member	Dayna Patashnik	tbeengagement@gmail.com
Engagement	Help with TeeBeEs Young Family Events (Teens welcome!)	Lisa Manheim or Emma Adler	emma.p.adler@gmail.com
Engagement	Be a Shabbat Greeter for a Friday or Saturday service	John Eisenstein	jon.eisenstein@gmail.com
High Holidays	Be a Greeter, Usher or Captain	Sue Shapiro	sbshapiro@hotmail.com
Security	Volunteer to keep congregants safe	Sol Rose	solrose1@gmail.com
Social	Plan or help run a Social Club event	Amy Davidson	adavidson303@gmail.com
Tzedek	Join one of our social justice initiatives around immigration, affordable housing, LGBTQIA+ rights, or healthcare	Elissa Hyman or Debbie Adler-Klein	ehyman57@gmail.com dakmd75@gmail.com
Schoke Jewish Family Services	Help with the Schoke Food Pantry, Mobile Food Pantry, or Anachnu program	Elizabeth Hinds	ehinds@ctjfs.org
Building One Community	Teach English & job skills to local immigrants	Coordinator	volunteers@b1c.org
Pacific House Men's Shelter	Prepare and serve meals or donate household items to help residents transition to a place of their own	Michelle Fanwick	MFanwick@pacifichouse.org
New Covenant Center	Assist in the food pantry or serve lunch	Teazia Vincent	tvincent@ccfc-ct.org
Inspirica	Provide meals or mentor youth at this shelter for women and families	Kelhens Cherine	volunteer@InspiricaCT.org
3 Square	Shop, bag, & deliver food to students in need	Lenore Fogel	Lenore@ujf.org
Stamford Interfaith Refugee Settlement	Help welcome and resettle refugee families with donations of goods and time	Coordinator	sirsct.org
Dignity Grows	Provide donations or pack bags with hygiene products for teens and women in our community	Tara Shapiro	tarasshapiro@gmail.com

WOW WHAT A YEAR! continued from page 1...

NOVEMBER

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, Yizhar Hess, guest speaker, Lev Littman, Guest Speaker, TeeBeEs and Keshet Havdalah, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Temple Rock Committee Meeting, Meditation and Guided Imagery with Cantor Katie Kaplan, Exploring the Prophets: Virtual Lunch 'n Learn with Rabbi Michael Knopf, A Thinking Person's Judaism with Rabbi Neil Rose, Sisterhood Membership Brunch, Sisterhood Mah Jong, Heart to Heart Support Group, Crash Course in Hebrew Reading, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



DECEMBER

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, Jonathan Cohen, Bar Mitzvah, Hanukkah Menorah Lighting at the Government Center, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Sisterhood Mah Jong, Sacred Days: Exploring the Holiday of Hanukkah with Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg, Hanukkah Carnival for Keshet Beth El, K'tanim and TeeBeEs, TBE Mitzvah Makers Wrapping Holiday Gifts, TBE Mitzvah Makers Teen Dignity, TBE Tunes with Thursday Night Social Club, Exploring the Prophets: Virtual Lunch 'n Learn with Rabbi Michael Knopf, Meditation and Guided Imagery with Cantor Katie Kaplan, Crash Course in Hebrew Reading, Sisterhood Meeting, Heart to Heart Support Group, Christmas Eve Shelter Lunch and Dinners, Temple Rock Committee Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



JANUARY

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Roots Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, MLK Shabbat with Michael Hyman guest speaker, Hawaiian Shabbat, New Member Shabbat, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, TeeBeEs HavdalahBimBam, Heart to Heart Support Group, A Thinking Person's Judaism with Rabbi Neil Rose, Exploring the Prophets: Virtual Lunch 'n Learn with Rabbi Michael Knopf, Meditation and Guided Imagery with Cantor Katie Kaplan, Keshet Beth El Mock Brit Milah, TBE Hanukkah Candle Lighting with Cantor Katie Kaplan on Zoom, Choir Rehearsal, Men's Club Outlook for the Financial Markets in 2025, Men's Club Planning Meeting, Reyut delivers Shabbat Bags to Patients in the Hospital, TBE Teens and Mitzvah Makers MLK Day of Service, Sisterhood Meeting, Sisterhood Mah Jong, Tzedek Committee Meeting, Crash Course in Hebrew Reading, Temple Rock Committee Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



FEBRUARY

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, Koleinu Shabbat Service, Repro Shabbat, TeeBeEs ShabazzBaBimBam, House of Blues Havdalah Concert with Saul Kaye, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Tu B'Shevat, Sacred Days: Exploring the Holiday of Tu B'Shevat with Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg, A Thinking Person's Judaism with Rabbi Neil Rose, Exploring the Prophets: Virtual Lunch 'n Learn with Rabbi Michael Knopf, World Wide Wrap by Men's Club, Tzedek Committee Meeting, Rabbi Michael Knopf Installation Committee Meeting, Senior Luncheon with Rabbi Michael Knopf and Lisa Tannebaum on Harp, B'nai Mitzvah Parents Meeting, Heart to Heart Support Group, Mah Jong with Sisterhood, Cantors Concert Committee Meeting, Ritual Committee Meeting, Temple Rock, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



MARCH

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Across America, Koleinu Service, Refugee Shabbat with Ruth Messinger, Mediterranean Shabbat, Shabbat Across America, Roots Shabbat, Shabbat Lab, Praying the Margins, Sacred Days: Exploring the Holiday of Purim with Rabbi Michael Knopf, Purim at Congregation Beth El, Norwalk, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Exploring the Prophets: Virtual Lunch 'n Learn with Rabbi Michael Knopf, Farewell to Steven Lander, Paradigm Shifts: with Rabbi Neil and Carol Rose, Sisterhood Meeting, Sisterhood Mah Jong, Paint and Sip with Sisterhood, Heart to Heart Support Group, Kulanu Committee Virtual Event with Mercaz, Passover Cooking Demonstration with Ronnie Fein, Men's Club Meeting, Game Show Night with the Thursday Night Social Committee, Cantor's Concert Rehearsal, Tzedek Committee Meeting, Temple Rock Committee Meeting, High Holiday Committee Meeting, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



APRIL

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Shabbat Service, Koleinu Service, Roots Shabbat, Shabbat Service with Eve Herold, guest speaker, TeeBeEs Pastapalooza, Passover Services, Poetry Lunch 'n Learn with Carol Rose, Men's Club Shabbat, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan In-Person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Sacred Days: Exploring the Holiday of Passover with Rabbi Michael Knopf, Haftarah Trope with Cantor Katie Kaplan, Annual Cantors Concert honoring Lisa and Jeff Manheim, Biyur Hametz (burning of hametz) at the Firehouse, Sisterhood Clothing Drive, Sisterhood Mah Jong, High Holiday Planning Meeting, Men's Club Hearing Men's Voices, Genizah Ceremony, Sisterhood Passover Food Sale, Tzedek Committee Meeting, Kulanu Committee Meeting, TBE Rebranding Committee Meeting, Strategic Rabbi Michael Knopf's Installation Committee Meeting, Planning and Governance Committee Meeting, Men's Club Yellow Candle Program, Heart to Heart Support Group, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



MAY

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Rabbi Michael Knopf Installation Weekend, Roots Shabbat, TeeBeEs Lag B'Omer Touch a Firetruck, Shabbat Service, Daniel Lederman, Bar Mitzvah, Sisterhood Shabbat, Shabbat Lab, Praying the Margins, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan in-person, Thursday Morning Minyan in-person, Sacred Days: Exploring the Holiday of Shavuot with Rabbi Gerry Ginsburg, Paradigm Shifts: with Rabbi Neil and Carol Rose, Sisterhood Mah Jong, Haftarah Trope with Cantor Katie Kaplan, Tzedek Committee presented ACLU-Know Your Rights, Choir Rehearsal, Calendar Meeting, Kulanu Committee Meeting, TBE Civil Rights Journey Informational Meeting, Sisterhood sees "A Jukebox for the Algonquin" at Curtain Call, TBE Committee Chairpersons Meeting, Jewish Teen Night Escape Room, Beth El Cemetery Association Annual Meeting, Rebranding Committee Meeting, Sisterhood Meeting, Finance Committee Meeting, Heart to Heart Support Group, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting



JUNE

Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Roots Shabbat, Ayelet Shachar-Epstein guest speaker, Shabbat Service, Shavuot Services, Pride Shabbat, Weekday Mincha Minyan on Zoom, Sunday Morning Minyan In-Person, Thursday Morning Minyan In-Person, Sisterhood Mah Jong, Congregational Read and Breakfast, TBE Open House, Incoming Board of Trustees Orientation, TBE Annual Membership Meeting, High Holiday Planning Meeting, Sisterhood Planning Meeting, Heart to Heart Support Group, Board of Trustees Meeting, Executive Committee Meeting





Why Sisterhood?

Why Sisterhood?

In our busy lives filled with commitments and causes, why choose Sisterhood?

Whether you're new to Temple Beth El or have been part of our congregation for years, we are delighted you're here. Your presence strengthens our vibrant and caring community of women.

Sisterhood is more than just another organization — it's a space where **friendships grow, Jewish values thrive, and lasting impact is made** on our temple, our community, and each other.

What Does Sisterhood Do?

Our mission is to support Temple Beth El through **service, education, spiritual growth, and social connection.**

Throughout the year, Sisterhood offers a variety of opportunities to engage:

- **Annual Member Brunch**
- **Book talks & learning sessions**
- **Social gatherings**
- **Sisterhood Shabbat**
- **Volunteer projects**

- **Fundraising efforts** that directly support our temple and broader Jewish community

Whether you're seeking meaningful involvement or just a fun way to connect — there's something for everyone.

Is Sisterhood for You?

Yes! No matter your **age, background, or level of involvement**, there's a place for you in Sisterhood.

We welcome your ideas, your voice, and your unique energy. Whether you want to **join a committee, attend an event, or simply be part of a warm community**, we're here to support and welcome you.

Ready to Learn More?

Have questions or just want to say hello? Please feel free to reach out to either Juli Harris (203-324-1433) or Nancy Kapchan (203-435-0389)

We'd love to hear from you — and we can't wait to get to know you better!

TeeBeEs LAG B'OMER FUN



TeeBeEs had Shabbat dinner on Lag B'Omer and an especially exciting time when a Stamford Fire Department firetruck pulled up for all to experience.



JOSHUA HAMMERMAN, continued from page 4...

especially if you consider them to be supporting causes as abhorrent now as idol worship was for the rabbis.

Still, there might be better ways to use your time than playing mall cop, dividing our mercantile world into the children of darkness and children of light. Your shakshuka probably isn't supporting unsavory causes any more than my taxes are supporting any number of policies I abhor — in other words, not a lot. Some of your money likely does some good too, like feeding the owner's family.

Further, it could become exhausting keeping your enemy list current. If someone who leans socially progressive bases buying choices on a company's political leanings, they would never eat a Domino's pizza, shop at Home Depot or fly Delta. Meanwhile, a conservative would never get to enjoy Cherry Garcia ice cream. Ben and Jerry's has long been a fixture in Israel, but the company's founders have actively protested Israeli policies in the West Bank and Gaza. They've also had major differences with their parent company over some of these issues. So, who is the real voice of Ben and Jerry's? And when it's 100 degrees in the shade and your kid is crying for an ice cream, does it matter?

Life can be pretty complicated when we start boycotting businesses based on politics. That's because like people, companies are rarely perfectly consistent in their views. For example, Disney has presented an impressive array of strong female role models in the years since Ariel got legs and Belle figured out that Gaston was the real beast. But can we ever forgive them for the overt racism of *Song of the South*? And don't get me started on the seven dwarfs.

That restaurant owner might support a political candidate you don't like, but he might also donate heavily to a day school that your kids attend. He has also poured his life into sustaining a kosher restaurant in your community, which is often a precious commodity that needs the support of the populace.

If you really love the place, let me propose engaging in some dialogue about how uncomfortable you are with, say, the news channel that's always on over the bar. If you are a frequent customer, hopefully the owner's customer service switch will be turned on and the political activist muted, and a constructive dialogue might ensue. Unless he is simply rude, there might be an opening for compromise. On the other hand, if he is rude, you are absolutely free to check out the place down the street, or order kosher online from Goldbelly.

Have a great summer!

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

- ☒ Adult Education Fund
- ☒ Paver Walkway Campaign
- ☒ Beth El Cares
- ☒ Rabbi Knopf'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.

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 (very few remaining)	\$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.

CRITICAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR BUILDING ONE COMMUNITY (B1C) IN STAMFORD

B1C has a terrific tutoring program for elementary students but doesn't have enough tutors. 14 volunteers (adults or teenagers) are needed on Monday - Thursday from 4:30pm-5:45pm. The kids speak English so you do not need to speak another language but Spanish or French would be useful. Each volunteer works with up to three children.

Volunteers must commit to a minimum of three consecutive months for one session a week, have basic technology skills and familiar with how math is currently taught at the elementary level. Teenagers must be 16 years of age or older. To volunteer, register on the B1C website at <https://building1community.org/engage/volunteer-form/> and indicate it is for the Homework Club. You can also contact Margarita Zimmerman, B1C's Volunteer Director at mzimmerman@b1c.org

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.

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.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

IN HONOR OF:

RABBI MICHAEL KNOPF ON HIS INSTALLATION AS SENIOR RABBI OF TEMPLE BETH EL

Suzy & Gary Miller

CAROL & ALLEN KRIM FOR THEIR LOVELY SHABBAT HOSPITALITY

Rabbi Abraham Friedman

SHERYL & DAN YOUNG

Roni & Allan Lang

LISA & JEFF MANHEIM ON BEING HONORED AT TBE'S ANNUAL CANTORS CONCERT

Cheryl & David Wolff

MERYL & HANK SILVERSTEIN ON THEIR 62nd ANNIVERSARY

Suzanne Horn & Norman Stone

THE MARRIAGE OF CLAIRE HEYISON AND YONAH MEISELMAN

Beverly & David Stein

TBE FOR A BEAUTIFUL AUFRUF SERVICE AND KIDDUSH LUNCH SPONSORED BY SHIRLEY HALPRIN (Leslie Heyison's mother)

Richard Halprin (brother of Leslie Heyison) & Elise Liebowitz

RABBI DR. MICHAEL KNOPF ON RECEIVING A DOCTOR MINISTRY DEGREE FROM UNION PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY

Judith Kowler & Gary Goldberg

CARL WEINBERG ON THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BAR MITZVAH

Karen Dern

THE BIRTH OF LEAH SUSANNA LAKE

Marcia and Mark Staines

BETH EL CARES

In honor of...

Barbara Rosenberg on her 84th birthday by Debbie & Dorothy Baer

In memory of...

Morris Yomtov, z'l, by Brian, Rowan & Jordana Yomtov

Sari Jaffe, z'l, by June & Jon Gold

Rosalind & Simon Alexander, z'l, by Barbara & Warren Brandt

RABBI MICHAEL KNOPF MITZVAH FUND

In honor of...

In appreciation by Jane Berzner & Guy Sasson

Rabbi Michael Knopf on his installation as senior rabbi of Temple Beth El by Robin Evans & Jeffrey Perry, Gary Lessen, Scott Krowitz, Lisa Manheim, Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz, Adele & David Karp

Carl Weinberg on the 60th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah by Carol & Allen Krim

In memory of...

Anna & Louis Seaver, z'l, by Carol & Allen Krim

Maya Krim Schwartz, z'l, by Carol & Allen Krim

Jack Rice, z'l, by Pamela Tinkham

Lily Perry, z'l, by Robin Evans & Jeffrey Perry

SHABBAT BAG FUND

In memory of...

Harvey Novick, z'l, by Meryl & Hank Silverstein

STEVEN AND LIEBA LANDER LECTURE FUND

In memory of...

Nathan Alientuch, z'l, by Barbara and Stan Friedman

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ADULT EDUCATION

In memory of...

Jack Friedman, z'l, by Barbara & Stan Friedman

MATTHEW KLEIN MEMORIAL GARDEN

In memory of...

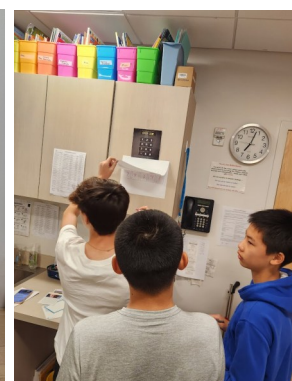
Tillie Lieberman, z'l, by Brian, Rowan & Jordanna Yomtov

EMMET MANHEIM PLAYGROUND FUND

In memory of...

Gloria Gordon, z'l, by Barbara & Warren Brandt

Teens find their way in and out of an escape room.





REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES



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 Alan Jaffe **EDWARD BLONDER**
 Devra Jaffe-Berkowitz & Family **EDWARD BLONDER**
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IN MEMORY OF:

JACK RICE, z'l

Betsy & Peter Kempner, Liz & Scott Krowitz, Lois Stark & Gary Lessen

JIM BENJAMIN, z'l

Sabrina & Dan Benjamin, Risa & Mike Pollack

CRAIG SUCHIN, z'l

Sandy & Michael Kamen

PAULETTE MOSKOWITZ, z'l

Sheryl Rick-Kern & Bill Schwartz

SHIRLEY MADWED, z'l

Pamela Tinkham

WE MOURN THE PASSING OF...

PAULETTE MOSKOWITZ, mother of Alan Moskowitz

URSULA WING, mother of Sandra Gottlin

R. LEONARD WEINBERG, father of Sandy Weinberg

ROBERT GOODMAN, father of Jeff Goodman

SHIRLEY MADWED, mother of Bert Madwed

HOWARD KATZ, father of Neil Katz

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.

PRIDE SHABBAT with the Stamford Jewish Community



Noah's Ark



Have you seen our replica of Noah's Ark in the lobby by the main office? 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 AMBIANCE OF CELEBRATION,
HER CONCEPT IS INSPIRED BY THE SOUL
AND SPIRIT OF HER CELEBRANTS.

The deadline for the
September-October 2025 Bulletin
will be Friday, August 1, 2025.

HOW WILL YOU ASSURE
JEWISH TOMORROWS?



Commit to leaving a legacy and help ensure that Temple Beth El will be part of the fabric of the Stamford Jewish community for many years to come. [Click here](#) for our LIFE & LEGACY Honor Roll.

TEMPLE BETH EL
350 Roxbury Road
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www.tbe.org



LIFE & LEGACY
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To create your legacy contact Erica Newman
execdir@tbe.org | 203-322-6901, ext. 304



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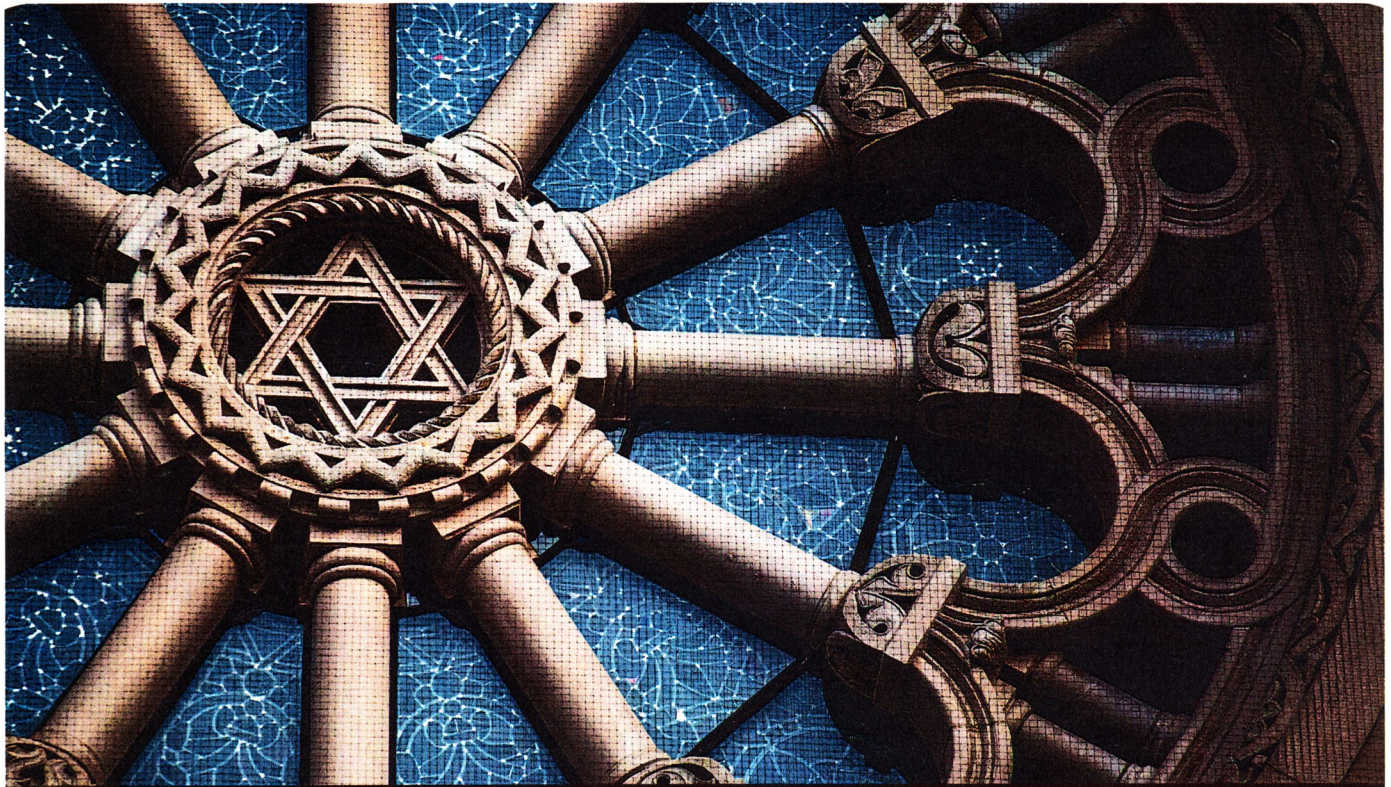
www.thebigeventspace.com

Please let your friends and business
associates know how we can fulfill their
celebratory and meeting needs.

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 Mindy Rogoff at
203-322-6901, ext. 301.





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JULY/AUGUST 2025

SAVE THIS DATE!

BBQ and BARACHU and Open House
Friday, August 15, 2025

BBQ at 5:30pm

Free BBQ for all. Registration will be required so we may plan accordingly.

Kabbalat Shabbat at 7:00pm

Led by Rabbi Michael Knopf and Cantor Katie Kaplan

with guest musicians

Koby Hayon, Yousif Sheronick
Marc Phaneuf and Peter Slavov

