



SCROLL

Congregation Beth El

September 2011 • Elul 5771–Tishrei 5772

Vol. 61 No. 1

Theme

NEW BEGINNINGS • 1, 10-14

FROM THE CLERGY • 1

LIBRARY CORNER • 5

4U • 6

YOUTH ACTIVITIES • 7

JEWISH FAMILY LIVING • 7

CHEVRA KADISHA • 8

SAUL BENDIT FALL
SEMESTER • 9

Departments

SISTERHOOD • 3

MEN'S CLUB • 4

BULLETIN BOARD • 15, 20

CONTRIBUTIONS • 16

THIS ISSUE OF THE *SCROLL* IS SPONSORED BY MARSHA REHNS AND WALTER ARNHEIM IN HONOR OF THEIR 40TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

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From the Clergy

NEW Beginnings

BY RABBI BILL RUDOLPH, RABBI GREG HARRIS, AND HAZZAN MATT KLEIN

It is always a privilege for the clergy to lead off a Beth El *Scroll* issue. The *Scroll* just won its third Solomon Schechter Gold Award for Excellence in a row, and, even more noteworthy, it is being copied in format and vision by other synagogues. We should be flattered. This issue begins the new year 5772 with a focus on all that is different as Beth El marks its 60th year of making a difference in people's lives and in the community around us.

Last year was one of continued growth and consolidation as well as of putting in place the building blocks of our next 60 years. A game-changing new High

Holiday machzor and an experimental Family Service were the innovations in this comparable time period, and there were a few other new programs during the year. This year, the congregation will see much more significant change: a new cantor as the fulfillment of the cantor search process, the first pilot learning programs of CE21 (Congregational Education for the 21st Century), and more guided community-building initiatives under the leadership of our new Director of Community Engagement. This issue contains interviews with our two new professionals, Hazzan Matt Klein

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Hazzan Matthew Klein Cultivating Beautiful Music

BY DIANA HUFFMAN

Becoming the hazzan at Beth El is almost a homecoming for Matthew Klein. He grew up in Alexandria, Va., where his family belonged to Agudas Achim Congregation. "I'm overjoyed to be returning to the Washington area and am grateful to have my family so close," Hazzan Klein says. "And now that I'm at Beth El, I can finally 'cross the border' and explore the Maryland side of the Beltway." Hazzan Klein earned a BA in music from the College of William and Mary and also spent a semester in Vienna, Austria. After graduating, he immediately enrolled in the



H.L. Miller Cantorial School at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, from which he graduated in May. In an effort to help the congregation get to know him

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

SCROLL

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FROM THE CLERGY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Geryl Baer as well as with new synagogue president, Dale Rosenthal. On October 30, we will officially install Hazzan Klein and Geryl and publicly launch CE21 as well. Fasten your seatbelts as Beth El moves forward to shape our future.

For right now, the three of us are excited to be able to join as your clergy to wish you and your families a good and sweet and peaceful 5772. We look forward to praying with you on Yom Tov and Shabbat (and in the daily minyan), and we look forward to learning with you and helping build our community together. All the best from our families to yours. *L'shanah tovah tikatevu.* ■

There are many new people and happenings at Beth El this year. Join us at the first Congregational Shabbat dinner of the season.

Friday, September 9

6:30 pm

Kol Haneshama Musical Service

Traditional Service

7:15 pm

Shabbat Dinner



DINNER RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 6.

Adult Name(s) _____

Please list children's/teen's names and ages _____

Phone _____

Email Address _____

Number of Member Adults/Teens _____ @ \$22.00/person
Amount \$ _____

Number of Non-Member Adults/Teens _____ @ \$27.00/person
Amount \$ _____

Number of children (6-12) _____ @ \$10.00/person
Amount \$ _____

Number of children (2-6) _____ @ \$6.00/person
Amount \$ _____

(No charge for children under two)

Number of vegetarian entrees required _____

Total Amount \$ _____

Please try to seat us with _____

Sisterhood

Torah Fund—5772

BY CHERYL ROD

The concept of *hiddur mitzvah*—embellishing a mitzvah through aesthetics—is attributed to a midrash (Mekhilta de Rabbi Ishmael) on a verse in the Song of the Sea, “This is my God, and I will glorify Him” (Exodus 15:2). With enhancement and adornment, mitzvot appeal to the senses and the heart, and sacred objects and activities become more precious.

Hiddur Mitzvah, this year’s Torah Fund theme, resonates with many Jewish women, particularly those involved in artistic activities. Whether they embroidered the woven curtains for the Ark or Torah mantles in 17th century Italy or Prague or are crafters in the 21st century, women have always been committed to this ancient Jewish value.

The pomegranate imagery of this year’s Torah Fund pin has many meanings. In addition to being beautiful, pomegranates (*rimmonim*) are one of the fruits of the Land



of Israel. *Rimmonim* is also the term used for the silver adornments (finials) on the *atzei chaim* (rollers) of the Sefer Torah. Pomegranates have adorned our Land, our Torah, our rituals, and our mitzvot for centuries and have added meaning to our daily lives.

Your support of the schools that educate our rabbis, cantors, and lay leaders—the Jewish Theological Seminary, Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, and Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano—ensures a solid future for Conservative/Masorti Judaism.

Donations to Torah Fund in *any* amount are welcome. Gifts of \$180 and above will receive this year’s beautiful Torah Fund pin. Many companies will match funds. Please make your check payable to Torah Fund, and mail it to Sisterhood, Attn: Cheryl Rod/Torah Fund Campaign at the Beth El office. Please contact Cheryl Rod at 301-652-2606 or info@bethelmc.org with any questions. ■



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Fall Hours:

Tuesdays and Wednesdays 4:00-6:15 pm

Most Fridays 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Sundays 9:30 am-12:30 pm

And by appointment

info@bethelmc.org

Coming in September:

Monthly Trunk Shows by Beth El Artisans

Beth El Judaica & Gifts is a project of Beth El Sisterhood.

Celebrating a Simcha or Observing a Yahrzeit?

Consider sponsoring a hospitality kiddush for the congregation.

Three menus are available, at a cost ranging from \$250 to \$425.

Hospitality kiddushim may be sponsored on these dates:

**October 1, October 13 (first day of Sukkot),
October 20 (Shemini Atzeret), October 21
(Simchat Torah), December 31**

Sponsorships are not exclusive.

To sponsor a kiddush or for more information, contact Barbara Friedman, Sisterhood catering chair, at info@bethelmc.org.



Come with your favorite special teapot or tea to the

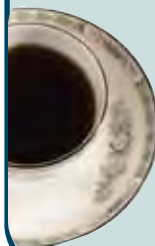
Sisterhood/Zhava Tea

Sunday, September 18, 3:00-5:00 pm

Tea and talk with Gail Fribush

At the home of Mindy Davis
7801 Glenbrook Road, Bethesda
Attendance is limited.

Please RSVP by September 12 to sisterhoodevent@bethelmc.org



SISTERHOOD UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 11:00 AM Book Club

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 3:00 PM Tea with Gail Fribush: Preparing for the High Holidays (off-site)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7:00 PM Gather in the Sukkah with Hazzan Klein

Men's Club Initiates Panel Discussion on UN Palestine Vote

BY JUDY FUTTERMAN

"The good news is that support for Israel is strong on Capitol Hill on both sides of the aisle," Rep. Eliot Engel, (D-NY) told the audience at the "Preventing the Declaration of a Palestinian State at the United Nations" program co-sponsored by the Beth El Men's Club on July 13. "Despite shrinking budgets, Israel continues to get the same level of financial support from the United States," he said.

More than 350 people from throughout the Washington area attended the panel discussion, which also featured Eliav Benjamin, counselor for political affairs at the Embassy of Israel, and Richard Schifter, former deputy U.S. Representative to the UN Security Council and currently chairman of the board of the American Jewish International Relations Institute (AJIRI), which he founded.

Ambassador Benjamin pointed out that the Palestinians may attempt to gain recognition at the United Nations by seeking approval from the UN Security Council. The United States could block such a vote. The Palestinians could also seek to have the General Assembly change their status to Representative of the State of Palestine, although this alteration would not give them voting power.

Ambassador Schifter pointed out that a number of countries including China, Russia, India, and Brazil would vote in favor of the statehood proposal just to undermine the United States. Europe, with growing Muslim populations, can no longer be counted on to side with the U.S., he noted.

Ambassador Schifter said there is a significant amount of work that would need to be done to convince the swing votes in the General Assembly to stand beside Israel. It makes sense to focus on the smaller, more approachable, U.S.-friendly countries first, he added. To that end, AJIRI provides information to a bipartisan group of more than



FROM LEFT, RICHARD SCHIFTER, ELIOT ENGEL, AND ELIAV BENJAMIN

40 members of the U.S. Congress who are reaching out to heads of government of friendly nations, urging them to support UN reforms to shut down destructive anti-Israel activities that are contrary to the principles of the UN charter.

The idea for the July 13 program came as a result of a presentation by Ambassador Schifter at an earlier Men's Club breakfast. After that presentation Beth El, to assist in the work of AJIRI, formed the "Committee to Defend Against the Delegitimization of Israel Within the UN" under the leadership of Harvey Gershman.

As a first step, Larry Sidman, the host of the Men's Club event, asked attendees to join the Beth El committee, supply contacts that can help present the issues to embassies and/or consulates or government officials, and finally submit their email address in order to stay up to date on the situation.

While the committee's focus has been the upcoming UN vote on unilateral Palestinian Statehood, the long-term goal is preventing anti-Israel votes in the UN. ■

UPCOMING MEN'S CLUB EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 Hearing Men's Voices: Herb Tannenbaum will lead a discussion on "The Music in Your Life."

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 6:45 PM Shabbat evening program with Mincha/Havdalah including third Shabbat meal (Seudah Shlishit) and Ma'ariv

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 Rabbi Emeritus Joshua O. Haberman of Washington Hebrew Congregation will speak on "Five Ways to a Happier Life with Help from the Psalms."

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 Beth El congregant Sheila Lieber, deputy director of the Civil Division of the U.S. Dept. of Justice, will talk on "Health Care Reform Law Litigation."

Sunday speakers are preceded by a lox and bagel breakfast after the 9:00 am minyan. Members and nonmembers, including women and children, are invited. Speakers are at 10:00 am, unless otherwise noted.

New Men's Club Officers for 2011-2012:

President: **Bernie Rod**

Vice Presidents: **Jordan Rosner, Michael Mandel**

Treasurer: **David Levine**

Secretary: **Alan Schwartzberg**

Abraham, Isaac, and Art

BY ROBIN JACOBSON

Dear Librarians:

Each Rosh Hashanah, my family hosts a festive meal. Others cook, but my job is to introduce a stimulating, holiday-themed discussion topic! This year, I plan to ask the guests for their reactions to the Akedah, that harrowing Torah story read during Rosh Hashanah, in which Abraham nearly sacrifices Isaac to God. Was Abraham a hero or a dangerous, religious fanatic? If we feel horrified by Abraham's readiness to sacrifice his son, then why do we admire generations of Jews who remained faithful to Judaism, even when that choice endangered their children? Moreover, in the modern United States, don't we sacrifice young people for a "higher good" when we send them to die in wars? I am hoping that our library has some materials to help launch a discussion along these lines.

Sincerely, Holiday Host

Dear Holiday Host:

One idea is to display famous art portraying the Akedah to stimulate discussion, as Rabbi Harris successfully did at a past High Holiday service. You could also invite your guests to read aloud (and react to) the powerful anti-war poem by Wilfred Owen that plays off the Abraham and Isaac story (see adjacent).

You will find printable images of Akedah paintings by Rembrandt, Caravaggio, and other artists on the library Web site, along with a not-to-be missed video of noted British actor Kenneth Branagh reading the Owen poem. Go to <http://bethelmc.mysurpass.net/> and look for "Art for the High Holidays." Here are some highlights.

Painting

The story of Abraham's near sacrifice of Isaac has inspired many artists, perhaps because it invokes primal themes relat-

ing to parents and children, humans and God. Rabbi Harris compares artists depicting biblical scenes to the rabbis who wrote midrash on biblical stories; both fill in details that embellish the terse biblical narrative.

Rembrandt's *Sacrifice of Isaac* captures the dramatic moment when God's angel stops Abraham from slashing Isaac's throat (see illustration). In Rembrandt's portrayal, the angel not only calls out to Abraham, as in the biblical text, but also physically seizes his wrist, forcing Abraham to drop the knife. Isaac's face is hidden; Abraham's hand covers it completely. Perhaps Abraham wanted to ensure that he would not see his son's eyes as he killed him.



Poetry

Wilfred Owen, a World War I soldier and poet, analogized the readiness of European statesmen to sacrifice a generation of young men to Abraham's readiness to sacrifice Isaac. In Owen's poem, Isaac is bound with the belts and straps of a soldier's uniform. Unlike Abraham, the World War I leaders tragically forged ahead with the sacrifice.

Parable of the Old Man and the Young

So Abram rose, and clave the wood, and went,
And took the fire with him, and a knife.
And as they sojourned both of them together,
Isaac the first-born spake and said, My Father,
Behold the preparations, fire and iron,
But where the lamb for this burnt-offering?
Then Abram bound the youth with belts and straps,
and builded parapets and trenches there,
And stretchèd forth the knife to slay his son.
When lo! an angel called him out of heaven,
Saying, Lay not thy hand upon the lad,
Neither do anything to him. Behold,
A ram, caught in a thicket by its horns;
Offer the Ram of Pride instead of him.
But the old man would not so, but slew his son,
And half the seed of Europe, one by one.

We hope these materials help with your discussion!

Your librarians ■

Read along with the Beth El Book Club

Sunday, September 18, from 11 am–noon. Join us to discuss *The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit* by Lucette Lagnado, a memoir of Jewish life in Cairo in the early 1960s. All are welcome. Copies are available at the public library. For more information, contact Marge London or Robin Jacobson, at info@bethelmc.org.



STANDING BY A FRIEND

4U

From Left: Dr. Jeffrey Dome (Children's National Medical Center Division Chief, Oncology), Josh Steighner, Ezra Pine, Daniel Strauss, Jason Grill, Ari Neugeboren, and Jaiwen Hsu.
Photo credit: Todd Steighner.

When four of Beth El's upcoming bnai mitzvah, Jason Grill, Ezra Pine, Josh Steighner, and Daniel Strauss (along with their classmate Ari Neugeboren, a fellow BEPS alum and member of Adat Shalom) were faced with the shocking news that their friend, Jaiwen Hsu, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma (bone cancer), they searched for a way to show their support. The five 12-year-olds, friends since first grade at Bradley Hills Elementary, planned a Bowling Fundraiser Party—"Strike! Out Children's Cancer"—in honor of Jaiwen, at the Bethesda Naval Bowling Center. What began as a fun way to lift their friend's spirits and to raise money for other children with cancer, turned into a huge project that brought in more than 250 people and raised nearly \$26,000 for Children's National Medical Center. In addition to bowling, the participants were asked to come in costume. Jaiwen's family came as "The Incredible Bowling Hsus" (Hsus is pronounced "Shoes"). Winners received prizes courtesy of the overwhelming generosity from the Bethesda retail and restaurant community.

The *Scroll* spoke with the four Beth El students about this incredible project.

SCROLL: Why did you decide to do a bowling fundraiser?

JOSH: We went over the list of all the possible types of activities we could do. We thought bowling would be the best. It would be good to have an indoor event because it wouldn't matter what the temperature conditions were outside. And then Jaiwen would be able to participate.

JASON: I wanted to help the community and help a friend. We wanted the event to be held on the last day of school, which is always fun,

and bowling made a lot of sense.

EZRA: I decided to do this project because I wanted to do everything I could for my friend who is undergoing treatment for cancer.

DANIEL: When I heard my friend had cancer, I felt terrible. My friends and I wanted to help, but we didn't know how. We wanted a fundraiser to show Jaiwen that we support him. The money went for research to stop this type and other types of cancer. It also went for families who don't have enough money to pay for treatment.

SCROLL: Was this a bar mitzvah project?

JOSH: We thought it was a great idea to do something for Jaiwen because he knew we were concerned about him. It just turned out we were all bar mitzvah age so it would also count as our mitzvah project. (Bar mitzvah: June 23, 2012)

JASON: Yes. (Bar mitzvah: March 10, 2012)

EZRA: Yes. (Bar mitzvah: October 22, 2011)

DANIEL: Yes. My friends and I wanted to help but we didn't know how. The fundraiser was to show Jaiwen that we support him. (Bar mitzvah: November 5, 2011)

SCROLL: Did you ever imagine you would raise more than \$25,000?

JOSH: The number really blew us away.

JASON: No, I didn't. We thought \$10,000 or maybe \$15,000. Everyone we talked to was very generous.

EZRA: No, I didn't really ever imagine that we could raise so much money.

DANIEL: No. When we set our goal, we set it at \$15,000—high enough to be a goal, but something we thought

we could reach. It was very exciting to see more and more money coming in every day on the website.

SCROLL: Would you like to make this an annual event? *

JOSH: We didn't really think about that. It was a lot of work. It might be more special to make it a one-time thing. If we did it every single year, it might start to lose some of its pizzazz.

JASON: No, because I'm not sure it would work again and again. In addition, it's a lot of hard work.

EZRA: I don't think it will be every year. It was so much work!

DANIEL: Sure!

*According to Josh's mother, Linda, "Although the boys do not have plans to do this particular fundraiser again, they are all interested in finding new and different ways to continue to give back. For example, Children's Hospital has asked each of the boys to consider doing summer internships with them."

SCROLL: What's the most important lesson you learned from this whole experience?

JOSH: I learned that if I really tried hard, I could succeed at something big and I could make my friend happy. And it was just great to see his expression and know how happy he was.

JASON: One person can make a big difference.

EZRA: I learned that it feels good to help a friend who is having a hard time.

DANIEL: It feels good to help a friend.

Daniel, Ezra, Jason, Josh and Ari hope to walk into their first day of seventh grade at Pyle Middle School alongside their friend Jaiwen. This would be the perfect way to start the new school year.

Youth Activities

Maccabeats to Perform at Beth El

BY ADAM ZEREN

The Youth Department is thrilled to announce that the Maccabeats, perhaps now the hottest Jewish a cappella group around, will perform at 10:30 am on Sunday, September 25 at Beth El.

If you haven't heard of the Maccabeats, head to YouTube and search them out. Their "Candlelight" song, which was patterned after the secular song, "Dynamite," was a 2010 Hanukkah hit that has had more than five million YouTube hits.

The all-male Maccabeats are students at Yeshiva University in New York. The group was formed in the fall of 2007, when several Yeshiva students realized that dozens of other colleges around the country had Jewish a cappella groups, but their university did not.

The Maccabeats say they are strongly committed to the philosophy of Torah u-Madda, or the integration of traditional and secular wisdom. They perform an eclectic mix of Jewish, American, and Israeli songs. In the last year they have performed all around the country, from New York to Los Angeles. This past summer they performed in Israel.

The Maccabeats' Beth El concert is free, but will be open only to congregants. The Religious School and Family Edu-

cation departments are co-sponsoring the show. We know you'll want to join us for this special performance.

Upcoming Programs

We've got some other incredible events to kick off our programming year.

USY (grades 9-12) After Shabbat on Saturday, September 10, USY will head to cabins at Hersheypark for a night under the stars.

They will spend Sunday, September 11, having a "sweet" day at Hershey. On Saturday, September 17, more than 250 teens will dance the night away for the USY kick-off dance.

Kadima (grades 6-8)

On Sunday, September 11, students in grades 6 and 7 head to Adventure Park in New Market, for laser

tag and rides. Grade 8 teens will start their programming year on Saturday night, September 10, with a limo scavenger hunt they will not want to miss.

Signing up for one of our youth groups this year is easy. Forms are available on the Beth El Web site. You should have also received a form in the mail and in your email.

My advisors and I can't wait for the best year ever! ■



Jewish Family Living

Reading New Books for a Fresh Start

BY ELISHA FRUMKIN

September launches another year of juggling homework, Religious School, and extra-curricular activities. While it may often be difficult for families to find ways to spend meaningful time together, one way to augment your Rosh Hashanah apples and honey is to try some of these recently released books with Jewish themes:

For Younger Children

Joseph and the Sabbath Fish by Eric A. Kimmel

When Joseph continues to welcome guests to his Sabbath table even as his fortunes decline, his neighbor Judah scoffs

at Joseph's generosity. But times change, and Judah turns to Joseph for help. A very special fish helps Joseph save the day. (Grades K-3)

Talia and the Rude Vegetables by Linda Elovitz Marshal
"How can a vegetable be 'rude'?" Talia wonders, when her grandmother asks her to gather "root" vegetables for a Rosh Hashanah stew. As Talia digs in the garden, she collects the ornery carrots and parsnips – the "rude" vegetables she thinks her grandmother wants – and finds a good home for the rest. (PreK-2)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

Honoring Death

BY DARRYL SHERMAN

The obligation of the Beth El Chevra Kadisha (Funeral Practices Committee) is to prepare a Jewish person's body for burial in accordance with Jewish law. The body of the *mayt* (deceased) receives *tahara* (ritual bathing) and then is clothed in white *tachrichim* (shrouds) while a set of prescribed prayers are recited. (Men perform for men, and women for women). It is thought that the *neshama* (soul) of the deceased hovers above the *guf* (body) while the ritual is performed. In the past, the customs of Jewish burial were better known and understood than they are now. Today, in fact, many synagogues do not even have a chevra. Beth El's chevra, however, is one of the oldest and most respected in the Washington, D.C., area, and many of its members have been active for more than 30 years.

Kavod ha'mayt (honoring the dead) is considered the loftiest of mitzvot, a deed performed anonymously and, inevitably, on short notice. The mitzvah of *kavod ha mayt* is called *chesed shel emet* (true kindness) because it is unrequited. Still, the members of the chevra are careful to ask *méchila* (forgiveness) for any indignity they may have caused in the performance of the *tahara*. While at one time in Jewish history the chevra kadisha carried out the entire funeral process

from the moment of death, to the building of the casket, to the burial itself, today's chevra undertakes a more modest but still important set of duties. Beth El's chevra, however, requires new, younger members in order to continue. Without them, it will become increasingly difficult to perform this greatest of all mitzvot at Beth El.

A Last Act of Dignity

The profound relationship forged by the members of the chevra reflects the name itself—a brotherhood or sisterhood. Members come together for no ulterior purpose—no one is seeking honor; no one has a hidden agenda. They come together to provide dignity for a Jew who cannot provide it for himself. Just as a baby is swaddled upon entering this world, so must a Jew be comforted upon leaving this world for the next. Our Torah and our Sages teach us how a Jew should live. The duties of the Chevra Kadisha teach us how a Jew should die.

The Beth El Chevra Kadisha Fund provides the shivah meal in a house of mourning through contributions from synagogue members. For more information about membership in the Chevra Kadisha or how it functions, please contact Darryl Sherman at info@bethelmc.org. ■

Club 60 celebrating Beth El's 60 years!

Join us Saturday evening,
November 12

Casino ~ Jazz Combo

Watch the mail in September
for your invitation!

WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

WITH MINYAN/REFRESHMENT BREAK FROM 8:20-8:40 PM

7:30 – 8:20 PM

Do We Need a Revolution in Jewish Education in the 21st Century?
Rabbi William Rudolph

8:40 – 9:30 PM

Innovative Jewish Thinkers:
Mordecai Kaplan
Rabbi Greg Harris

The Spontaneous Jewish Choir: Unlocking the Power of Music in Jewish Prayer
Hazzan Matthew Klein

Great Jewish Scientists and the Worlds They Made
Martin Sieff

The Tragic Figure of Saul
Gideon Amir

Chumash with Rashi
Rabbi H. David Rose

Viking Jews: The Jews of Scandinavia
Jeffrey Kaplan

Hebrew Language and the Evolution of Writing
Dr. Richard Lederman

Dying for God: Maccabees, Masada, and Martyrdom
Rabbi Avis Miller

American Jewish History Through the Lens of Literature: A Tribute to Mollie Berch
Jonina Duker

The Amidah
Rabbi David Abramson

TUESDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

WITH REFRESHMENT BREAK FROM 10:50-11:10 AM

10:00 – 10:50 AM

Viking Jews: The Jews of Scandinavia
Jeffrey Kaplan

American Jewish History Through the Lens of Literature: A Tribute to Mollie Berch
Jonina Duker

Eyes Toward Zion Gazing: Israel and Jerusalem in Liturgy and Literature
Marilyn Zitomer Fine

Dying for God: Maccabees, Masada, and Martyrdom
Rabbi Avis Miller

Saul Bendit
Adult
Institute

The Institute is one of the leading synagogue-based adult education programs in the Washington, D.C., area. Now in its 34th year, the Institute has received national and international recognition. Saul Bendit's fall program, running for six weeks, comprises four classes offered Tuesday mornings beginning October 25, and 11 courses offered Wednesday evenings beginning October 26. No classes will be held the week of Thanksgiving. Course topics include Jewish history and literature, Jewish education, the Jews of Scandinavia, Jewish music and liturgy, Hebrew language, Jewish thought, and Israel. We are quite confident that you will find the courses both interesting and informative. ■

Taste of Bendit

A Kick-Off Event for the Saul Bendit Adult Institute

Wednesday, September 21, 7:30-9:00 pm

Experience free for one night the stimulation and fun that Beth-El's award-winning adult education program has to offer

At 7:30 pm., Special Keynote Lecture
by **Edward N. Luttwak,**

Senior Associate, Center for Strategic and International Studies,
speaking on

UNSURPRISING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST:

The Impact on Israel of the New Political and Military Realities in the Emerging Middle East

Dr. Luttwak has published several books and has served or serves as a consultant to the U.S. National Security Council, the White House Chief of Staff, the Department of Defense, and allied governments. He has taught at Bath University, UK, Johns Hopkins, and Georgetown.

The lecture will be followed by refreshments.

We invite you to register for Saul Bendit classes during the evening.

Registration opens at 7:00 pm

Geryl Baer

New Director of Community Engagement

BY MARSHA REHNS

It's easy to like Geryl Baer. She's friendly and articulate, both qualities that will serve her well in her position as Beth El's first Director of Community Engagement. With everyone wondering what that title means, we asked her in a *Scroll* interview. "The newest focus in the Jewish community is engagement work," she replied. "The Hillel Foundation pioneered the idea, which involves engaging more and more members in planning and participating in its activities on levels with which they are comfortable."

"Why do we need an engagement professional?" we asked. "Why not let congregants decide for themselves what they want to do?" "The best programming," Geryl answered, "wells up from the grassroots, not from the top down. It comes from empowerment. My role will be to help congregants be 'in the conversation.' That means that they will feel empowered to create and implement more programs and activities in other areas besides services. These will be programs that meet their needs, whether they are Jewish ones or personal ones, where Jewish tradition can speak to those needs."

Geryl used the analogy of a book club. "You want to have many points of view, so that everyone takes more away from the conversation. The more people who are engaged in the workings of a congregation, the stronger it will be and the more individual congregants will take away from it."

Adding Value to Shul Membership

"Why are some people not much involved in the shul, so that they need to be 'engaged'?" we wondered. "Because people are so busy and stressed by competing demands, they are not sure how the synagogue can be of value to them beyond educating their children and being there for them in times of crisis," Geryl suggested. "Helping congregants see the value added that Beth El can bring to

their lives, and creating programs that will enhance that, is one of my major functions. Beyond engagement, I will be working on our general programming and helping to implement the CE21 initiatives we are launching this year."

We thought congregants would wonder about Geryl's unusual name. "I love my name," she said. "I'm named after my maternal grandfather George, who passed away just before my mom got married. My name is from a wonderful woman whom my mother knew whose nickname, Geryl, was short for Geraldine. I tell people my name is like Cheryl but with a G."

Family Ties to Judaism

Geryl has a strong Jewish identity. Both my parents "loved Judaism," she recalls, "and that transferred to me." Even though her parents had grown up Conservative, they joined a Reform synagogue in New Brunswick, N. J., because they liked the rabbi and the community. "I was definitely one of the more observant kids" in the synagogue, she noted. After her parents' divorce, she shuttled between New Jersey and New York City. Geryl has an older brother who recently moved to Washington with his wife and three young children.

Geryl attended Brandeis University because she knew she wanted "to be involved Jewishly, careerwise." She considered such avenues as the rabbinate, Jewish museum curating, and Holocaust education. After Brandeis, Geryl became a JCSC (Jewish Campus Service Corps) fellow with Hillel at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia. JCSC was

the beginning engagement effort for the American Jewish community.

From Georgia, Geryl went to Baltimore to study for a master's degree in Jewish Communal Service at Baltimore Hebrew University and an MBA at the University of Baltimore. During her first year in Baltimore, she was an intern



GERYL BAER'S PICKS

Jewish Holiday: Rosh Hashanah and Passover. I have happy memories of my whole extended family coming to my grandmother's house for those holidays. The dinner table would be so large that it extended out of the dining room, into the living room, and sometimes into the family room, too.

Kiddush Food: I have heard great things about Beth El's falafel kiddush.

Hobbies: Two of my passions are travel and cooking. On some of my recent trips, I have gone to cooking classes in different countries, including Mexico and Thailand.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

NEW Beginnings

Dale Rosenthal

New President Brings Financial Background

BY JANET MEYERS

New Beth El president Dale Rosenthal once quit her job to travel the world with a few college friends in a daring, seven-month journey that at one point landed her in Soviet Union detention for entering Tajikistan without a visa. She and her traveling companions explained to Soviet authorities that they had mistakenly boarded the wrong bus, and, fortunately, the Soviets released them.

These days, Dale's life is a little more settled. She has been married for more than 20 years to Michael Cutler. Their three children—Sarah, Jacob, and Abigail—attend Walt Whitman High School. For the past 15 years, she has worked for Clark Construction Group, for much of that time as CFO and, most recently, as division president of CFSG, Clark's financial products affiliate.

A Washington-area native, Dale and her family moved to Bethesda from Hyattsville when she was 10 years old.

They were always members of B'nai Israel. Today, her mother belongs to Beth El as well as to B'nai Israel, and her brother Gary Rosenthal, an artist specializing in Judaica (some of his work is for sale in Beth El's Judaica shop), is a member of Temple Sinai. Dale's father and another brother are deceased.

Business Interest

After college at Cornell, Dale earned a combined MBA/JD degree from Harvard. "I was always interested in business, but my father really wanted me to be a lawyer," explains Dale. Her father and his brothers had started a junk business, which gradually evolved into a commercial real estate company, the same area in which Dale has worked for much of her career.

After Harvard, Dale worked for a large Houston real estate development company. She joined a Reform syna-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



DALE ROSENTHAL'S DATA

Career: President, Clark Construction Financial Services Group. CFO, Clark Construction. Also held positions at Weingarten Realty and McKinsey & Co.

Beth El Positions: Trustee, executive vice president, president

Books Recently Read: *Half of a Yellow Sun*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, about Nigeria's civil war, and *The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey*, by Candice Millard, about Roosevelt's journey down the Amazon with his son.

Favorite Kiddush Food: "Never met a kiddush cookie I didn't like."

Making Rosh Hashanah a Family Experience

BY RABBI GREG HARRIS

For 5772, we are creating a new Rosh Hashanah service aimed at families with children in grades 3-5. The idea for this service arose from my own experiences when I was young.

When I was a child, my family and I always went to High Holiday services together. We would have a meal together with my extended family. Also, my mom made sure that synagogue was a family experience. Looking back on those years, I realize it was not only a time for our family to be together, but also an opportunity for my parents

to subtly reinforce some of our family's core principles. Implicit in attending synagogue together were three values that I believe remain relevant today.

The Jewish People

The first is a sense that being part of the Jewish people is important. Even though I went to school with many other Jewish children, being at synagogue was part of forging a connection to the Jewish people far beyond my neighborhood. I realized that being Jewish cannot be a passive experience. Rather, it requires

affirmative decisions to make Jewish connections and experiences.

The second is that we are part of a tradition that is ancient, yet remains relevant. Judaism roots us in our past and offers us guidance for understanding the modern world. Even as a child, I understood that the Hebrew in the machzor connected me to Jews who lived centuries ago, and that I was now part of that continuity. Some of the English readings allowed me to see that the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

HAZZAN KLEIN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

better, the *Scroll* asked Hazzan Klein to tell us more about his background and how he envisions his role as the new hazzan.

Q. When did you know you wanted to be a hazzan?

A. Many of my colleagues have always known that they wanted to be clergy. My experience has been more of the educational variety, gradually coming to understand that the kind of life that I wanted was what the calling of the hazzan had to offer. I grew up with a lot of experiences as a davenner, as well as a lot of nudges from my community to pursue the cantorate. But it was only after a long personal journey, particularly in college, that I realized for myself that the kind of person I wanted to become was best realized as a hazzan. I took a leap of faith and set out on that path. With each passing day I am more and more grateful for this life — a life of service, of community, and of bearing witness to the power of God and the joy of music.

Q. What about Congregation Beth El made you want to come here?

A. Beth El is a vibrant congregation that organically fosters both intimate community and remarkable creativity. In researching the synagogue, I was impressed by the number of activities and interest groups that we support—deeply based on the empowerment of our members. I also learned that Beth El has a big heart as well. I have so many positive memories of the audition weekend. One that stands out is of singing Shabbat zimrot in five-part, Manhattan-Transfer-style harmony with half a dozen congregants and our wonderful hazzan emeritus. I was surrounded by friends and family and making beautiful music for Shabbat—what a joy! I knew then in my heart that I had found a home.

Q. You are very young to be coming to a congregation the size and stature of Beth El. What do you say to those who wonder if you are ready for this?

A. I have been blessed to study communication/homiletics, hospital chaplaincy, and community development in addition

to my cantorial portfolio. I also spent three years in seminary leadership positions at a time of great change at JTS, which gave me experience in conflict management, working in teams, and in mentorship. Though I have much to learn, I am excited to grow into my new leadership role at Beth El.

Q. How do you envision your role as hazzan at Beth El beyond your role at services?

A. My mission as a hazzan is to pay it forward, sharing the knowledge, melodies, and *kavanah* that I have been given, and helping others to pray, lead, and find inspiration in tefilah. I look forward to cultivating new generations of *shlichei tzibbur*. I also aspire to cultivate the musical culture of the synagogue, including musical collaborations with community members and broad musical outreach through podcasting, recordings, publications, and concerts. Finally, I see my role as a compassionate caregiver to the congregation, offering comfort, prayer, and a listening ear through difficult times.

Q. What do you think will be the biggest challenge in your new job?

A. Beth El is a large and diverse community. I think my greatest challenge will be doing a lot of listening and getting the whole story—who we are, where we've been, and where we're going.

Q. What about you would surprise your new congregants?

A. I was once a backup singer for Big Bird and Bob McGrath at the International Children's Festival at Wolf Trap. ■

HAZZAN KLEIN'S PICKS

Kiddush Food: Herring in wine sauce

Adon Olam Tune: On a Shabbat spent in Norfolk, Va., I learned an Adon Olam which uses the tune of an old Israeli Haganah song, "Ha'amini Yom Yavo." It's a rollicking march and really brings the service to a close with a lot of positive energy and gusto.

Prayer: *Baruch She'Amar*. It reminds me of some of God's best qualities—qualities that I try to emulate in my own life.

Jewish Holiday: Shabbat. For me it's a great time for reflection and for focusing on the most important things in my life—taking care of myself (healthy food and rest), my family, my community, and my God.

Musical Composers: Louis Lewandowski, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Sondheim, Gaelic Storm.

HIGH HOLIDAY REMINDER

Rosh Hashanah begins Wednesday evening, September 28. If you have not yet returned your High Holiday registration form, please do so as soon as possible. Some services are already sold out. Tickets will be mailed around mid-September. Please contact the office if you have any questions: 301-652-2606 ext. 301, or hgoodman@bethelmc.org.

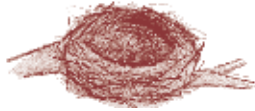
New Beginnings Continued

ROSH HASHANAH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11
values of compassion, forgiveness, and responsibility are part of Judaism.

The third principle reinforced by attending synagogue as a family is that Judaism permits us to struggle with and about God. Hearing my parents talk about the sermons, asking them questions about the service or prayer book, and being challenged by youth service leaders taught me that exploration is fundamental to being Jewish.

Building on this, our new Rosh Hashanah service will allow families to engage in the themes of Rosh Hashanah. It will be held from 10:30 am to noon. On the first day, we will use space at Bethesda United Methodist Church (across the street from Beth El). On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, the service will be in Beth El's Swoff Chapel. ■

The BEENS COLUMN (Beth El Empty Nesters)



Beth El Empty Nesters are people in their late 40s to early 60s who no longer have or never had children at home and wish to connect with others in our community at the same stage of life. For general information, call Paola Bolasny at 301-652-2606.

BEENS SUKKAH OPEN HOUSE

Beth El Empty Nesters invites you to save the date for an open house on the afternoon of **Sunday, October 16**, hosted by Suzanne and Bruce Strauss.

LULAV AND ETROG ORDER FORM

I would like to order the following lulav and etrog set:

Standard \$52 Quality \$65

Name _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Please make your check payable to Congregation Beth El, and send it with this form to the office. Orders must be placed by **Sunday, October 2**. Orders can be picked up on **Tuesday, October 11, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**, or **Wednesday, October 12, 9:00 am to 2:30 pm**. All orders must be prepaid.



Israel Trip

ON THE FAMILY MISSION TO ISRAEL IN JULY, THE EIGHT FAMILIES GATHERED BY THE CLOCK TOWER IN OLD JAFFA. RABBI GREG AND REBEKAH HARRIS LED THE GROUP OF 26 ADULTS AND CHILDREN. THEY PRAYED AT THE WESTERN WALL, TOURED THE GOLAN, AND FLOATED IN THE DEAD SEA.

Volunteer Ushering

Continue to make our community open and welcoming by being an usher at Shabbat and Festival services. Serving as an usher is a rewarding way to fulfill the mitzvah of *hachnasat orchim*, welcoming guests. We all know how good it feels when we walk into the Bender-Dosik sanctuary having been warmly welcomed, especially for new members or visitors. How wonderful to do a mitzvah that gives you an "excuse" to be at Shabbat services! As an usher, you will enhance our community's services by greeting congregants and guests, helping people find a seat, and handing out programs, kippot, and tallitot. You will also help parents find a quiet place for restless children during the service and answer general questions. Volunteer to serve as an usher in the upcoming year. The schedule is prepared well in advance, and it is generally a once-a-year commitment. If you are interested in contributing to our community as part of the usher corps or would like more information, please contact Allen Eisenberg at info@bethelmc.org.

DALE ROSENTHAL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

gogue and a young singles havurah there, but three years later her friends persuaded her to travel. “To see the world,” says Dale, “there is nothing better. I hope my children will get the chance to do that at some point.”

After the trip, she returned to Washington, found work for a real estate development company, moved into an apartment in Cleveland Park, and joined nearby Adas Israel. A college friend arranged for Dale to meet Michael Cutler, who was originally from Newton, Mass. A year later they married and bought their house within walking distance of Beth El, but continued as Adas members.

Pregnant with Twins

However, when they were ready to enroll toddler Sarah at the Adas Israel preschool, Dale discovered she was pregnant with twins. “We thought life was going to be too complicated,” she says, so the family switched to Beth El, where all three children attended Preschool and Religious School.

In May 2007, Dale agreed to be a board trustee. She had become more involved with Beth El activities over the years. Dale has sung with Ahavat Shir, the adult choir. A year after Sarah celebrated her bat mitzvah, Dale and her mother, Ann, celebrated their own bnot mitzvah as part of the two-year adult bnai mitzvah course.

As a board trustee, Dale’s focus has been on finance. She helped refinance Beth El’s mortgage and establish the clergy

GERYL BAER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

at Beth El Congregation, a large Conservative synagogue.

Learning about Nonprofits

Still in graduate school, Geryl decided that if she were going to work for Jewish non-profits, she needed to understand fundraising, and so she spent the next two years interning at the Associated (Federation). First, she helped a teen board allocate \$15,000 of grant money. Next, she worked on general programming, fundraising, and bequests.

After graduating, Geryl moved to St. Louis, where her then-fiancé, Louis Baer, was attending law school. She worked with young professionals at Federation and then with families with young children at Shaare Zedek Congregation. Formerly an aging congregation, Shaare Zedek was undergoing an influx of young Jewish families. Geryl instituted such activities as a Tu b’Shevat interactive program with singing, prayers, and tables with tastings, facts, recipes, and Hebrew words for each of the different species. “We tried to get every sense involved,” she said.

Finding Beth El

Married in early 2010, Geryl and her husband decided to

housing fund.

The task ahead of her is challenging, she admits. “It’s an enormous responsibility, to take an institution that is so solid and try to take it to the next level,” she says.

Updating Synagogue Life

As president, she hopes to examine ways to update synagogue life. “What I want us to do is recognize that the Jewish world is evolving and to discuss how we deal with that,” explains Dale. “How do we deal with unaffiliated young people moving into Bethesda and with the patients and professionals who will be coming from the relocated Walter Reed?” She wants Beth El’s leaders to discuss what kinds of religious and social programming might interest those potential members.

How does she juggle family, career, and synagogue duties? Michael gets some credit, she says, but she is particularly pleased that “the kids have taken on a lot of responsibility over the years. They have gotten really good at cooking dinner and doing laundry.” Is she a CEO at home, delegating tasks. “I like to call it empowering,” she says. “When my kids complain, I tell them, ‘I’m empowering you.’”

Dale is still able to satisfy her wanderlust. This past summer, the family traveled to Panama, and in recent years they have also been to Israel, Vietnam, and the Galápagos. ■

return to the East Coast. When she saw the posting for the position of community engagement director at Beth El, she knew the job was for her because working in the synagogue in St. Louis had been “such an amazing experience.”

Parlor Meetings

Geryl said she intends to focus her efforts initially on meeting congregants. She envisions a series of parlor meetings with members at all levels of involvement in the shul to find out “what is happening in their lives—Jewishly and not, what interests them, and what Beth El can provide for them. Then I want to create small niche opportunities to form communities within the community.”

Geryl said one of her goals is to think strategically and evaluate and integrate existing programs at Beth El. She’s also eager to meet members and invites them to stop into her office and introduce themselves. “I’d really like to get to know individual members,” she emphasized. Geryl’s office is in the clergy suite across from Rabbi Rudolph’s office. ■

JEWISH FAMILY LIVING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Sadie's Sukkah Breakfast by Jamie Korngold

Early one Sukkot morning, Sadie and Ori decide to serve breakfast in the sukkah. But once the table is set and the food is ready, they remember that a Sukkot celebration needs guests. No one is awake, so whom should they invite? (PreK-1)

For Older Children

Green Bible Stories for Children by Tami Lehman-Wilzig
Bible stories about Noah, Abraham, Joshua, and others teach us to use and respect the land, conserve natural resources, and save energy. Activities are included that will help young readers understand how to nurture and protect the environment. (Grades 3-5)

Hereville: How Mirka Got Her Sword by Barry Deutsch
Eleven-year-old Mirka, living in a contemporary Orthodox community, has more on her mind than learning the “womanly arts” from her stepmother. She is on a quest to find a sword and slay a dragon. Computer-generated illustrations in a muted palette create a refreshing graphic novel adventure. (Grades 4-7)

Lily Renee, Escape Artist: From Holocaust Survivor to Comic Book Pioneer by Trina Robbins

In 1938, Lily Renée Wilhelm is a 14-year-old Jewish girl living in Vienna. Her days are filled with art and ballet until the Nazis march into Austria, destroying the life Lily knows. To survive, Lily leaves her parents and travels alone to England. Escaping the Nazis is only her journey's beginning. She also must escape servitude and danger. Follow the story of a brave girl who becomes an artist and a comic book pioneer.

For Teens

The Things a Brother Knows by Dana Reinhardt
When Levi's older brother Boaz makes an uncharacteristic decision to join the Marines, his Israeli-American family is shocked. Upon his return, he barely leaves his room. When Boaz claims he is going on a hiking trip, Levi follows him by foot on a journey from Boston to D.C. He comes to understand the depth of his brother's pain, and his love and loyalty for his family. (Grades 8-12)

For Parents

The Blessing of a B Minus: Using Jewish Teachings to Raise Resilient Teenagers by Wendy Mogel, Ph.D.
In this engaging follow-up to *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee*, Mogel intermingles tenets of Judaism and adolescent psychology, comparing the teen years to the journey from Egypt to the Promised Land. As kids wander in the “desert” of adolescence, she advises parents to offer counsel and guidance, but resist the urge to intervene or rescue.

For more ideas on ways to enrich your celebrations, check out the Family Life Education section of the Beth El Web site, and my blog – <http://jewishfamilyliving.blogspot.com>. ■

Noteworthy

Vatikkim, Thursdays, September 1, 8, and 22, noon.
Brown Bag Lunch. Come and socialize with your friends and enjoy some light refreshments and dessert. One of our clergy members will lead a discussion on September 8.

Roundtable with the Rabbi, Wednesday, September 7, at 2:00 pm. Join us to celebrate September birthdays (yours and those of others) with desserts, coffee, and a lively and challenging discussion led by Rabbi Rudolph. Birthday celebrants receive a special invitation, but all are welcome.

Senior Art Class, Tuesday, September 13, 1:30 to 2:30 pm. Discover your hidden talent and join this creative experience. No art experience required, and all materials will be provided by the instructor, Jerry Ross. This once-a-month activity is free, but seating is limited. Contact Ricardo Munster at rmunster@bethelmc.org or 301-652-8569, ext. 316.

Senior Caucus – Vatikkim Luncheon/Program, Thursday, September 15, noon. Following lunch, we will have a speaker TBA. Lunch costs \$8. To RSVP for lunch, contact Ricardo Munster 301-652-2606, ext. 316 or rmunster@bethelmc.org, by Tuesday, September 13. The program itself is free and begins around 1:00 pm.

Bridge – the greatest game ever! Join us every Monday. Bridge will not meet on Monday, September 5. Drop in and join a game; no partner necessary. Contact Shirley Levine at info@bethelmc.org or 301-469-9191. If you are interested in playing but don't have any transportation, please call Roz Sporn at 301-652-2606, Richard Belferman at 301-652-2606, or Claire Marwick 301-652-2606. ■

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Contributions

Barbara Wolf "Israel Quest" Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Shepard Shaff by Diane Feinberg

Henrietta Greenberg by Leo Kopit

Bendit Adult Institute Fund

IN HONOR OF:

David's special birthday aliyah by Ilene Jacobowitz and family

IN MEMORY OF:

Zenda Brownfain by Margi and Mark Kramer

Ruthe Katz, wife of Nathan Katz, by Jack and Stephanie Ventura

Morris Kohn by Margi and Mark Kramer

Beth El Forest

IN MEMORY OF:

Sarah Silvermintz by Rene Zitter

Rachel Michele Rossignelly, our mother and grandmother, by the Nussenblatt family

David Shapiro, beloved father of Yael Greenberg, by Yael Greenberg

Maria Samakovlija by Paola Samakovlija-Bolasny

Leon Eisenstein by Rhonda and Harry Eisenstein

Manuel Rothberg by Janet and Anna White

Bert Karson by Evelyn Karson

Beth El Israel Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Retirement of Hazzan Abe Lubin, and our special friend, by Hilary and Bill Kapner

David Farber, for his recent honor as president of AJC, by Hilary Smith Kapner

IN MEMORY OF:

Our wonderful neighbor and friend, Margaret Rifkind, by the Dutcher family

Stanley Levin, beloved brother of Sondra Brody and Julian Levin, by Julian Levin and Sondra Brody

My beloved grandmother, Helene Tygier, by Mimi Tygier and Robert Rubin and sons

Building Fund/Capital Campaign

IN HONOR OF:

Dale Rosenthal's election as president by Michael, Sarah, Abigail, and Jacob Cutler

IN MEMORY OF:

Emanuel M. Dickler, father of Elliott Dickler, by Elliott and Phyllis Dickler

Minna Feldman by Cary and Nancy Feldman

Edward Schneider by Libby and Harvey Gordon

Walter Weinstein by Dora Weinstein

Joseph Kershner by Bruce Kershner

Oscar Olchyk by Sam Olchyk

Ruth Pupkin, mother of Barry Pupkin, by Gail Ross and Roy Niedermayer

Luba Goldenberg by Dora Weinstein

Philip Kahn by Melissa Kahn

Irving I. Klein by Katie S. Klein

Hanan Shamah, beloved brother, by Jose and Tutti Sokol

Naomi Haber by Marce Haber

Cantor's Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Hazzan Abe Lubin, on the occasion of his retirement, by Jennifer Oppenheimer and Ellen and Norman Eule

Please remember that contributions can be made easily, quickly, and securely via our Web page – www.bethelmc.org

Hazzan Lubin, thank you for Abraham Kuhn's bar mitzvah, by Adam and Harriet Kuhn

In appreciation of Hazzan Lubin's participation in Leora Korn's bat mitzvah by David Korn and Shara Aranoff

The 50th wedding anniversary of Hazzan Abe and Sandy Lubin by Jack and Stephanie Ventura and Bruce and Suzanne Strauss

Hazzan Lubin, in appreciation for your help and support at Zenda Brownfain's passing, by Debra and Alan Birnkrant

Our new Hazzan, Matthew Klein, by Lewis and Susan Winarsky

Hazzan Lubin's "Kol HaKavod" award and service to Beth El by Dr. Herbert Tanenbaum

IN MEMORY OF:

Sheldon Geller by Suzanne Strauss

Shmuel Winarsky by Lewis and Susan Winarsky

Benjamin Smith by Henry and Laurie Smith

Hyman Cohen by Henrietta Asen

Chevra Kadisha Fund

IN HONOR OF:

In appreciation of the help and support of the Chevra Kadisha at Zenda Brownfain's passing by Debra and Alan Birnkrant

IN MEMORY OF:

My dear father, Max Joffe, by Judy Sherman

Rose Nussenblatt, our mother and grandmother, by the Nussenblatt family

Abe Wasserman by Alan Wasserman and Penny Dash

Benjamin Copperman, my father-in-law, by Julia P. Copperman

Carl Greenberg, father of Brenda Schmand, by Brenda, Jim, Josh, and Carly Schmand

Johanna Loeb by Jonathan and Eileen Kay

Nina Freedman by Marilyn and Jeff Glick

Yaffa Mermelstein, beloved mother of Estee Portnoy, by Estee and Elliott Portnoy

Disabled Access Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Sarah Kalser, with many more birthdays, by Audrey Berger

IN MEMORY OF:

Basil Rifkind by Margaret Rifkind

Dear husband, father, grandfather, Jules Lodish, by Carolyn Lodish and family

Dorothy Beverly Kitchen Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Pat Spiegel Chalphin by Barbara Friedman

Dr. Elaine L. Shalowitz Education Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Shirley Langerman by Sam Langerman

Faina Nagel, wife of Louis Nagel and mother of Margo and Jamie, by the Kapner family

Yahrzeit of Shirley Langerman, the mother of my beloved wife, Dr. Elaine Shalowitz, by Erwin Shalowitz

Jennie Barr by Rita and Solomon Barr

Elaine Silverman Gessow College Activities Fund

BY: Lisa and Marc Michelson

Jonathan Band and Leesa Fields

IN HONOR OF:

Nathaniel Eckland's graduation from high school by Abbie and Bill Eckland

Contributions Continued

Elaine Tanenbaum Religious School Enrichment Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Abby Nathans, chair of the Religious School Committee, by Religious School Committee

Cheryl Kreiser, for tutoring Leora Korn, by David Korn and Shara Aranoff

Brenda Pieprz, thank you for a wonderful year, by the 4th Grade Shalem Class

Harriet Kuhn, thank you for a wonderful school year, by the 4th Grade Shalem Class

Bill Dauster's Kavod award and service to Beth El by Dr. Herbert Tanenbaum

Bucky Jacobson's Kavod award and service to Beth El by Dr. Herbert Tanenbaum

IN MEMORY OF:

Marty Gillman, father and grandfather, by Hallie and Evan Werbel

J. Michael Schwartz, father of Harryette Deckelbaum, by Dr. Robert Deckelbaum

Dorothy Yudkovitz, mother of Marvin Yudkovitz, by Dr. Herbert L. Tanenbaum

Harryette S. Deckelbaum by Dr. Robert Deckelbaum

Louis Deckelbaum by Dr. Robert Deckelbaum

Anna S. Leventhal by Carl M. Leventhal

Fine Arts Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

My mother, Dorothy Horowitz, by Evyan H. Koenig

General Fund

BY: Lisa D. Moore

IN HONOR OF:

Marriage of Ariel Sokol, son of Jose and Tutti Sokol, to Jessica Boldt, by Beth El Opera Havurah and L'Chaim Havurah

The engagement of Gail Ross and Roy Niedermayer's son, Aaron, to Keren Mizrachi, by Beth El Opera Havurah

Marilyn Hammerman, on her milestone birthday, by Beth El Opera Havurah

Hazzan Lubin's retirement by Michael and Suzanne Feinstein 80th birthday of Irv Weiss by James David and Jeanne Delasko

With gratitude for our aliyah for our 45th wedding anniversary by Jack and Stephanie Ventura

Sarah Fink's bat mitzvah by Brenda Gruss and Daniel Hirsch

Hazzan Lubin on his retirement by Martin and Anne Rosensky, Tricia and Howard Sachs, and Kathy Hooley, Alan and Judy Gann

The birth of Philip Joshua Lerner, son of Lisa and Larry Lerner, by Reina Lerner

The 60th wedding anniversary of Sondra and Howard Bender by Anita and Howard Ratain

Bar mitzvah of Max Teplitz by Susan and Howard Feibus

Gabriella Sitrin, on the occasion of her confirmation, by Reina Lerner

Rabbi Rudolph by Hal Scheinberg and Roberta Lasken

Hazzan Abraham and Sandy Lubin by Sally N. Fohrman

IN MEMORY OF:

Jacob Gilbert by Robert Gilbert

Our beloved father and grandfather, Joseph Ilja Weisz, by Helene Weisz, Richard Lieberman, Bernie and Janyse Weiss

Rosella Brenner by Lynne Ganek

Parents, Nathan and Evelyn Solin, by Alan and Judy Gann

Faina Nagel, wife of Louis Nagel, by David Margulies and

Donna Vogel and Laura Bouvier

My father, Joseph S. Leavitt, by Stephanie Ventura

Maurice Derkay by Lee and Gloria Derkay

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

Falk Shaff by Hilda Getz

Zenda Brownfain by Leesa Fields and Jonathan Band and

Donna Vogel and David Margulies

Frieda Schwartz by Laura Bouvier

Beloved mother, Chinka Gendelman, by Boris Gendelman

Dorothy Yudkovitz, mother of Marvin Yudkovitz, by Gale and

Ron Dutcher and Bucky, Mindi, Matt, and Lily Jacobson, and

Donna Vogel and David Margulies

My sister, Renee Dodd, by Dick Belferman

My father, Morris Belferman, by Dick Belferman

Belle Adelstein by Robert S. Adelstein

Ruth Pupkin, mother of Barry Pupkin, by Brenda Gruss and

Daniel Hirsch, David Margulies and Donna Vogel, Alan and

Deborah Pollack, Leesa Fields and Jonathan Band, Ellen

Tillman, and Janet and Sid Getz

Martin Popper and Selma Apfel by Helen and Arthur Popper

Benjamin Smolen by Jason D. Smolen

Sidney Goldin by Lynn Goldin and Henry Birnkrant

My beloved sister, Randi Mandler Gould, by Susan King

Claire "Betsy" Kay by Jonathan and Eileen Kay

Ephraim Goldberg, father of Holly Stein, by Holly and Howie Stein

Beloved brother, Herman Zagoria, by Etta Kline

Faye Levin by Rhea Troffkin

Robert Band by Bernard A. Band

My mother, Harriet Meyer Douglas, by Susan Feibus

Marlene Slotnik by Gregory and Alana Aronin

Liya Dvorkina by Etia Dvorkina

Marty Gillman, father of Todd Gillman, by Bucky, Mindi, Matt, and Lily Jacobson

Allen Jacobson by Bucky, Mindi, Matt, and Lily Jacobson

Our beloved mother, Goldie Bobb, by Anita and Howard Ratain

Max Safrin by Reina Lerner

Nina Freedman, mother of Rhonda Zahler, by Walter and

Deborah Cohn, Ron and Gale Dutcher, and Donna Vogel and David Margulies

Hilde Kahn by Walter K. Kahn

Karen Dubin, wife of Rob Litowitz, and mother of Dana, Drew, and Reid, by Janet and Sid Getz

Betty E. Rosoff by Janice Raffel

Lester Fox, father of Russell Fox, by Tricia and Howard Sachs

Charlotte Kiell, sister of Gloria Derkay, by Gloria and Lee Derkay

Elissa Scheinberg by Hal Scheinberg and Roberta Lasken

Ronald Smith by Libby and Harvey Gordon

Sonia Safrin by Reina Lerner

David Chubin, grandfather of Ellen Chubin Epstein, by Ellen and David Epstein

Josue Lerner by Reina Lerner

Isaac Weinstein by Reina Lerner

Robert Werner by Barbara K. Werner

Milton Berzin by Marilyn Smolen

Mary Press and Thelma Van Velzen by Theodore Press

Contributions Continued

Groner Ramah Scholarship Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Speedy recovery to Richard Hulit by Erwin and Leena Groner

IN MEMORY OF:

Beloved brother, Joseph F. Glaser, by Suzanne Glaser

Margaret Rifkind by Erwin and Leena Groner

Nina Freedman, mother of Rhonda Zahler, by Erwin and

Leena Groner

Hopp Library Endowment Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Sarah Weinstein by Joe and Ina Young

Doris Goldstein by Sherry Askwith

Israel Experience Teen Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Ariel Fishman's beautiful addition to the ceremony of Ariel and Jessica Sokol's marriage by Jose and Tutti Sokol

Milt Nichaman's special birthday and the wedding of the

Nichamans' granddaughter, Shani, to Yair Greenberg, by David and Ilene Jacobowitz

Bar mitzvah of Max Teplitz by Lenore Richter

IN MEMORY OF:

Samuel Rauch by Ruth Ann Heckman

Samuel Shapiro by Melvyn F. Shapiro

Michael Goldberg by Susan Mininberg

Kimball Nursery School Fund

IN HONOR OF:

In appreciation for the mishaberach for my father, Stanley Ellberger, by Risa Elias

IN MEMORY OF:

Lily Sporn by Rosalie Sporn

My mother, Rona Freedland, by Amy Freedland

Faye Doberman by Marian Willinger

Library Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Irv Weiss's birthday aliyah by Rita and Irv Weiss

Irv Weiss's milestone birthday by Linda and Ed Holman

The 80th birthday of Genie Loss by Irvin and Rita Weiss

IN MEMORY OF:

Charles Margulies by David H. Margulies

Beloved brother, Maurice S. Brown, by Rita and Irv Weiss

Albert Povich by Dr. Steven and Sheri Schlafstein

Litman Holocaust Education Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Selma Kahn, mother of Fred A. Kahn, by Fred A. Kahn

Masorti

IN MEMORY OF:

Barbara Borer Pavony by Anat Bar-Cohen

Mazon

IN HONOR OF:

To son-in-law Evan Werbel, on Father's Day, by Marty and Elaine Schefflin

IN MEMORY OF:

My beloved grandmother, Rose Birnbach, by Sarah Birnbach

Mintz Landscaping Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Melvin Mancher by Rhoda Mancher

Isaac Goldman by Max Goldman

Estelle Feigenbaum by Kenneth Feigenbaum

Isaac Holiber by Jerome A. Holiber

Beloved husband, Ben, and loving niece, Carolyn, by Sarah Kalser

Morning Minyan Fund

BY: David L. Stearman

IN HONOR OF:

With wishes for a speedy recovery for Sarah Kalser by Suzanne Stone

With wishes for a speedy recovery for Boris Gendelman by Suzanne Stone

Milton Nichaman's special birthday by Jack and Johanna Minker

Sarah Kalser's birthday on June 11 by Nettie Kitzes

IN MEMORY OF:

Sylvia Strauss by Bruce Strauss

George Levin, beloved father of Julian Levin and Sondra Brody, by Julian Levin and Sondra Brody

Helen and Thelma Levinson, sisters of Herb Levinson, by Herbert Levinson

Rose Forman, beloved grandmother of Julian Levin and Sondra Brody, by Julian Levin and Sondra Brody

Robert Band and Rebecca Marcus by Lawrence and Marlene Marcus

Carol Bellin, beloved mother and grandmother, by Julian Levin and Sondra Brody

Dear sister, Eve LeVine, by Mary Dubrow

Loving grandmother, Esther Hochberg, by Marilyn Hammerman

Dorothy Yudkovitz, mother of Marvin Yudkovitz, by Cary and Nancy Feldman

Perspectives Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Joseph Millenson by Roy H. Millenson

Dorothy Yudkovitz, mother of Marvin Yudkovitz, by Howie and Holly Stein

Rabbi's Fund

IN HONOR OF:

15th wedding anniversary of Rabbi Greg and Rebekah Harris by Jack and Stephanie Ventura

Rabbi Harris, for conducting graveside services for my wife, Freda Segal, by Daniel Segal

Rabbi Harris, for Abraham Kuhn's bar mitzvah, by Adam and Harriet Kuhn

Rabbi Harris, for helping to make Gabi Rifkind's bat mitzvah so meaningful, by Jane and Bob Hillman

Rabbi Harris for officiating at the wedding of Marc Shapiro and Sharon Hyman by Marc Shapiro

Rabbi Greg Harris for his naming of our granddaughter, Emma Madelyn Levit, daughter of Michelle and Roman Levit, by Helen and Arthur Popper

In appreciation of Rabbi Harris and in honor of David Whyman's bar mitzvah by Bill and Paula Whyman

Rabbi Harris with thanks for all your support surrounding Benjamin Katz's bar mitzvah by Jennifer, Rich, and Benjamin Katz

Rabbi Harris for officiating at Leora Korn's bat mitzvah by David Korn and Shara Aranoff

Kayla Mazer's bat mitzvah by Stephen and Suzanner Mazer

In appreciation of Rabbis Rudolph and Harris, Cantor Lubin, Dr. Nagel, Elisha Frumkin, and Sheldon Novek for their

support of the 2011 Confirmation Class by the Bouvier Family

Rabbi Rudolph, in appreciation for his help and support at Zenda Brownfain's passing, by Alan and Debra Birnkrant

Contributions Continued

Our granddaughter, Ilana Ruth Foss, who was ordained as a rabbi at the Jewish Theological Seminary on May 19, by Murray and Anne Foss

In appreciation of Rabbi Rudolph at the baby naming of our twin granddaughters, Jordan and Gabrielle, by Sheila Cohen and Phil Ochs

In appreciation of Rabbi Harris for our July 2 aufruf aliyah by Elijah Alper and Rachel Goldman

Kara and Melanie Landsman on their graduations by Sylvia and Bernard Laps

Sara Fink by Liz Schroyer and Jeff Schwaber

In appreciation of Rabbi Harris at the time of my father's passing by Russell Fox

IN MEMORY OF:

My father, Faivel Landau, by Sarah Friedman

Helen Feldman by Judith Muntner

Ernestine W. Krueger, beloved mother of Annette Goldberg, by Annette and Irving Goldberg

Helen Herman by Linda and Jerry Herman

Rose Herman by Jerry and Linda Herman

Ruth Pupkin by Jerry and Linda Herman, Liz Schroyer and Jeff Schwaber, and Doug and Brenda Bregman

Margaret Rifkind by Tom Dahl and Naomi Greenwood

Rose and Zavel Sandler by George Liss

Becky Amster by Jayson Amster

Lester Fox by Ellen and Norman Eule

My beloved father, Ferenc Orban, by Annamarie Sokoly

Milton Feldman by Judith Muntner

Lee Fefferman by Adeen and Michael Postar

Karen Dubin by Kathy Sklar and Paul Love

Joanne Pernick by Irwin Pernick

Julius Gruber by Michael Cernea

Fannie Rifkin by Lillian and Morton Davis

My mother, Esther Haya Landau, by Sarah Friedman

Robert and Joseph Laps by Sylvia and Bernard Laps

Minnie Nepo by Irwin and Hellaine Nepo

Joseph Kershner by Phyllis and Steve Solomon

Abe Fox by Russell Fox

Norman Weintraub by Mark and Blanche Wine

Belle Diamond by Sharon Margolis Apfel

Samuel Bebchick by Leonard Bebchick

Marvin Segal, father of Debbie Olchik, by Debbie Olchik

Nettete Schumer by Robert Schumer

Robert Harris by Ruthellen Harris

Religious School Tzedakah Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Cheryl Kreiser for being a wonderful tutor to Benjamin for his bar mitzvah by Jennifer, Rich, and Benjamin Katz

Simos Music Endowment Fund

BY: Michael and Amy Pescovitz

Simos Music Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Sydney Staffin, beloved father of Debbie Glick, by Debbie Glick

Sam Nash by Edith Nash

Sisterhood Kiddush Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Richard Arnheim by Walter Arnheim and Marsha Rehns

Anna Weinstein by Margy Nurik

My dear brother, Leo Horowitz, by Rita Liebowitz

Yetta M. Staffin, beloved mother of Debbie Glick, by Debbie Glick

Leo Lieber by Walter Arnheim and Marsha Rehns

Moritz Rindskopf by Walter Arnheim and Marsha Rehns

Sisterhood Shiva Meal Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Nina Freedman, mother of Rhonda Zahler, by Barbara S. Gold and Esther and Elliot Wilner

Leslie Krausz by Mariette Klein

Jude Deitch, beloved aunt of Barbara Friedman, by David and Ilene Jacobowitz

Sisterhood Silver Fund

IN HONOR OF:

In appreciation of Amanda Ford and the Tallit Workshop by David Korn and Shara Aranoff

Sisterhood Torah Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Nina Freedman, beloved mother of Rhonda Zahler, by Jerome and Ina Wernick and sons

Max Wernick, father of Jerome Wernick, by Jerome and Ina Wernick

Social Action Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Karen Dubin, with our deepest sympathy by Joan, Gregg, Arielle, and Daniel Levy

Theodore Yudkovitz by Marvin Yudkovitz

Sandra Woronow by Dr. Steven and Sheri Schlafstein

Suls Youth Activities Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Lillian Needelman, sister of Ann Rosenthal and aunt of Dale Rosenthal, by Rosalie Sporn

Torah Scroll Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Dorothy Neiterman, beloved mother, by Charlotte and Bernard Resnick

Vatikkim

IN MEMORY OF:

Dorothy Yudkovitz by Julia Copperman

Hannah Millenson by Roy H. Millenson

Wonderful mother, Dora Schulman Hindin, by Frances H. Leibowitz

Nina Freedman by Julia P. Copperman

Charles Chernin by Jerry and Fay Chernin

Vince Prada Technology Fund

IN MEMORY OF:

Kalman Seigel by Ann Goodman

Werner Liturgical Music Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Hazzan Abraham Lubin by Robert B. Nussenblatt

IN MEMORY OF:

Mom, Mollie Siegler, by Judy Liberson

World Jewry Fund

IN HONOR OF:

Claire S. Marwick, on the occasion of her 90th birthday by Judy and David Marwick and Audrey Berger

IN MEMORY OF:

Karen Dubin by Marvin Yudkovitz and Fancine Lanar

Dear brothers, Herman and Robert Chinn, by Sarah Kalser

Simon Nussenblatt, our father and grandfather, by the Nussenblatt family

While we know you'll want to read every word in this issue of the *Scroll*, when you're finished, please recycle it.

Bulletin Board

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

Condolences to

Marilda Averbug on the death of her brother, **Alberto Winkler**

Debbie Birnkrant on the death of her mother, **Zenda Brownfain**

Russell Fox on the death of his father, **Lester Fox**
Stefanie Gilbert on the death of her mother, **Adele Schwartz Gilbert**

Todd Gillman on the death of his father, **Marty Gillman**

Deborah Neipris Hendler on the death of her mother and Beth El congregant, **Ruth Neipris**

Dan Miller on the death of his father, **Lawrence Miller**

Varda Nowitz on the death of her father, **Aharon Avnisan**

David Rifkind on the death of his mother and Beth El congregant, **Margaret Rifkind**

Dina Ellis Rochkind and **Audrey Ellis** on the death of their father, **Kenneth Ellis**

Ann Rosenthal and **Dale Rosenthal** on the death of their sister and aunt, **Lillian Needelman**

Nat Rothman on the death of his mother, **Laura Rothman**

Daniel Segal on the death of his wife, **Freda Segal**

Jayson Slotnik on the death of his mother, **Marlene Slotnik**

Martha Strauss on the death of her daughter, **Carol Strauss**

Bart Widom on the death of his mother, **Zelda Widom**

Marvin Yudkovitz on the death of his mother, **Dorothy Yudkovitz**

Rhonda Zahler on the death of her mother, **Nina Freedman**

Mazal Tov to

Elaine and Jerry Auerbach on the birth of their granddaughter, **Samantha Rose Murphy**

Sandy and Norton Elson on the marriage of their daughter, **Franny Debra**, to **Jonathan Steven Levene** on June 12 in Gloucester, Mass., and on the engagement of their son, **David Kliger Elson**, to **Carly Rose Lipkowitz** of Great Neck, N.Y.

David Farber on his election as President of American Jewish Committee – Washington Region.

Cary and Nancy Feldman on the birth of their grandson, **Jordan Max Feldman**.

Bill and Emily Goldman on the marriage of their daughter, **Elizabeth Goldman**, to **Christian Morales Rojas**, formerly of Lima, Peru, on May 26.

Steve Levy and Lois Zuckerman on the engagement of their daughter, **Nora Miriam Levy**, to **Eric Gorenstein**.

Cameron Lynn on her selection to the U.S. National Girls Basketball Team participating in the JCC Maccabi Games and ArtsFest in Israel.

Jack Minker on receiving the 2011 Heinz R. Pagels Human Rights of Scientists Award.

Aryeh Portnoy on the recent marriage of his brother, **Ori Portnoy**, to **Naomi Itzkowitz**.

José and Tutti Sokol on the marriage of their son, **Ariel Sokol**, to **Jessica Boldt**, daughter of Yvette Boldt and the late Elihu Boldt z"l, on May 22.

Weekly Parashiot

SOURCE: SIDUR SIM SHALOM

Beth El Calendar & Weekly Parashiot



Shof'tim

September 3, 4 Elul

Moses addresses the need for judges in the new land. The people, if they wish, may have a king chosen by God. Priests and Levites will serve at a place of God's choosing. God will also raise up a prophet like Moses to instruct the people; diviners and magicians are not to be consulted. Moses reiterates the laws establishing cities of refuge and presents laws of warfare.

Ki Tetzei

September 10, 11 Elul

Moses instructs Israel regarding inheritance, the return of lost objects, usury, and divorce, among other issues. Oppression of hired workers is forbidden; kindness to the stranger, orphan, and widow is mandated. Weights and measures must be accurate. To God, "whoever deals dishonestly" is abhorrent. Abhorrent also were Amalek's actions in attacking Israel's stragglers; Israel must never forget.

Ki Tavo

September 17, 18 Elul

The people are to take the new land's first fruits to God's holy place. There they shall recount to the priest their history—from Abraham to Egypt to that very day. "You have affirmed this day that Adonai is your God," concludes Moses. In turn, Adonai will take Israel as a treasure, a holy people. After crossing the Jordan, Israel is to inscribe the Torah on stone pillars and conduct rites to affirm the Covenant.

Nitzavim-Vayelech

September 24, 25 Elul

Moses asks the people to embrace God's covenant, for themselves as well as for the generations yet unborn. Moses foresees periods of Divine anger and reconciliation, of exile and return. He assures Israel that God's commandments are attainable, neither baffling nor beyond reach, not in heaven nor beyond the sea. "I have set before you life

and death, the blessing and the curse," Moses concludes. "Therefore choose life, so that you may live."

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

Rosh Hashanah, Day 1

September 29, 1 Tishrei; Genesis 21:1-34

Sarah gives birth to Isaac as God has promised. In response to Sarah's demand, Abraham banishes Hagar and Ishmael. God appears before Hagar and tells her that Ishmael will be the father of a great nation. Abimeleh and Abraham make a pact. Abraham plants a tree in Beer-sheba and proclaims his devotion to God.

Rosh Hashanah, Day 2

September 30, 2 Tishrei; Genesis 22:1-24

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

Ha'azinu

October 1, 3 Tishrei

"Let the Earth hear the words of my mouth," sings Moses. He depicts Israel's future betrayal of God and God's ultimate forgiveness. His song completed, Moses again urges the people to observe "all the instructions of this Torah." God now orders Moses to ascend Mount Nebo to behold from afar, before he dies, the land promised to Israel.

Descriptions of Services

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

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

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

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

Daily Services

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

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

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

Youth Shabbat Services

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



Congregation Beth El

Monthly Calendar

September 2011

Elul-Tishrei 5771

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 NOON Vatikkim	2 CANDLES 7:58 PM 6:30 PM Friday Evening Service 7:21 PM Candlelighting	3 7:30 AM Early Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Benjamin Simon Bar Mitzvah 9:30 AM Brian Fisher Bar Mitzvah 9:45 AM Worship & Study Minyan 10:30 AM Gan Shabbat 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group
4 9:00 AM Minyan 9:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast	5 LABOR DAY OFFICES & SCHOOLS CLOSED 9:00 AM Morning Minyan 10:30 AM Benjamin Stillman Bar Mitzvah	6 8:30 AM A Taste of Talmud 6:30 PM Mah Jongg	7 9:00 AM Rabbi's Torah Class 9:30 AM M. Fine Class 9:30 AM Rabbi's Haftarah Class 2:00 PM Roundtable with the Rabbi 7:30 PM BEPS Social Committee Meeting – Z-SH	8 9:00 AM BEPS Welcome to School Breakfast NOON Vatikkim 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting	9 CANDLES 7:10 PM 9:00 AM BEPS Welcome to School Breakfast 10:30 AM BEPS Shabbat Service 6:30 PM Traditional Friday Evening Service 6:30 PM Kol Haneshama Service 7:15 PM Congregational Shabbat Dinner	10 7:30 AM Early Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Dylan Cernea Bat Mitzvah 9:30 AM Ezra Alexander Bar Mitzvah 10:00 AM Jr. Congregation 10:30 AM Shitufim 10:30 AM Nitzanim 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group 6:45 PM Shabbat Mincha, Seudah Shlishit, Ma'ariv, and Havdalah 8:00 PM Israel Media Series
11 FIRST DAY RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 9:00 AM Minyan 9:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast 10:00 AM Men's Club Program 10:00 AM RS New Parent Orientation 10:00 AM Past Presidents Meeting	12 1:00 PM Bridge 7:30 PM RS Committee Meeting	13 8:30 AM A Taste of Talmud 1:30 PM Senior Art Class 6:30 PM Mah Jongg	14 9:00 AM Rabbi's Torah Class 9:30 AM M. Fine Class 9:30 AM Rabbi's Haftarah Class	15 NOON Vatikkim Luncheon 7:00 PM BEPS Back to School Night	16 CANDLES 6:58 PM 10:30 AM BEPS Shabbat Service 6:30 PM Friday Evening Service	17 7:30 AM Early Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Minyan Chaverim 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Emily Nestel Bat Mitzvah 9:30 AM Rachel Wine Bat Mitzvah 10:00 AM Jr. Congregation 10:30 AM Gan Shabbat 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group 6:30 PM Sarah Klein Bat Mitzvah
18 9:00 AM Minyan 9:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast 10:00 AM Men's Club Program 10:00 AM Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 10:00 AM RS Back-to-School Parent Breakfast 11:00 AM Beth El Book Club 7:00 PM Healing Service 8:00 PM Minyan	19 1:00 PM Bridge	20 8:30 AM A Taste of Talmud 6:30 PM Mah Jongg 7:30 PM BEPS Board Meeting 7:30 PM Kesher Nashim	21 9:00 AM Rabbi's Torah Class 9:30 AM M. Fine Class	22 NOON Vatikkim 7:00 PM Sisterhood Board Meeting	23 CANDLES 6:47 PM 10:30 AM BEPS Shabbat Service 6:30 PM Friday Evening Service	24 7:30 AM Early Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Max Strickberger Bar Mitzvah 9:30 AM Samuel Strickberger Bar Mitzvah 10:00 AM Jr. Congregation 10:30 AM Shitufim 10:30 AM Nitzanim 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group 7:00 PM 7th Grade Selichot 9:00 PM Selichot Service
25 9:00 AM Minyan 9:30 AM Men's Club Breakfast 10:00 AM Men's Club Program 10:30 AM Youth Kick Off - Maccabeats	26 1:00 PM Bridge 8:15 PM RS Back-to-School Night	27 8:30 AM A Taste of Talmud 6:30 PM Mah Jongg	28 EREV ROSH HASHANAH OFFICES CLOSE AT 1PM SCHOOLS CLOSED	29 ROSH HASHANAH 1ST DAY OFFICES & SCHOOLS CLOSED	30 CANDLES 6:36 PM ROSH HASHANAH 2ND DAY 6:30 PM Friday Evening Service	1 7:30 AM Early Shabbat Service 9:30 AM Main Shabbat Service 9:45 AM Worship & Study Minyan 10:00 AM Jr. Congregation 10:30 AM Gan Shabbat 12:40 PM Shabbat Study Group