Beth El Preschool Renovations Begin

As you walk around the building, you will notice the construction workers and the empty rooms throughout the Early Childhood area. We are now in our renovation phase for the new Early Childhood Education Center.

The Beth El Early Childhood Education Center Renovation Project, a component of the Generations Campaign, is “intended to revitalize the congregation as a holistic effort that will encourage future growth and vitality of the congregation and bring more families to Beth El.”

The Preschool wing, which was built in 1986 and dedicated in 1987, is comprised of the Pauline Mash School for Early Childhood Education, the Joseph and Corrine Schwartz Education Center, and the Mollie G. Myers Auditorium.

According to Infant-Toddler Director Ilene Vogelstein, “the new space will complete the final component of an exemplary early childhood program which includes an excellent professional staff, a Maryland State Department of Education Accredited program, and a state-of-the-art facility.”

Vogelstein also said that the Infant-Toddler wing will be completely renovated, with the new space allowing babies to have sleeping areas separate from the play areas. This change will allow all children to be on their own schedules.

The new center will incorporate four core values that will “help transmit a new appreciation for Jewish culture to our youngest learners.”

The first, history and heritage, will work to “engage students with projects and experiences that celebrate our Jewish heritage and unique traditions.”

Second, we will respect our children and their creativity by showcasing their artistic talents throughout the classrooms and hallways. Third, classrooms will become environmentally aware, with nature becoming a core focus.

“Beth El’s new Early Childhood and Family Center will have light, neutral tones to mimic the safe feeling that children get from a home environment. There will be soft spots to relax and play, and abundant plant life to create a vibrant, healthy atmosphere.”

Finally, the center will work to build a sense of community among members.

Other benefits include Hebrew instruction, multi-generational family activities, and advanced technology.

Renovations will be completed at the end of the summer before the school year begins.

For more information on the Generations Campaign, please contact Ailene Sher, Director of Development, at ailene@bethelbalto.com or 410-580-5159.
Milestone Anniversaries:

JANUARY 2016
Jessica and Brian Minkove on their 5th
Marissa and Michael Myers on their 10th
Donna and Gregory Eisenstadt on their 15th
Lana and Joel Koman on their 15th
Ellen and Sheldon Pazornick on their 20th
Jeanette and Alan Davis on their 35th
Catherine and Sheldon Kalish on their 35th
Phyllis and Richard Kline on their 40th
Florence and Harold Hackerman on their 45th
Miriam and Stuart Resnick on their 45th
Faye and Kenneth Tilles on their 45th
Susan and Stephen Cohen on their 50th
Iris and Martin Collins on their 55th
Sondra and Herbert Kasoff on their 55th
FEBRUARY 2016
Andrea and Kenneth Burk on their 15th
Susan and Ira Himmel on their 15th
Andrea and Thomas Klein on their 35th
Joyce and Arnold Rotman on their 45th
Lois and Marvin Schuster on their 55th
Frances and Harry Fox on their 65th
Frances and Malcolm Mahr on their 65th
Mindelle and Homer Berlin on their 75th
Edith and Louis Bluefeld on their 75th

In Memoriam

Helen Goldberg
We mourn the passing of our members and extend sincere condolences to their families.

Our Deepest Sympathy to:

Craig Berman on the loss of his beloved father, Melvin Herbert Berman.
Beth Dafner and Susan Talles on the loss of their beloved mother, Helen Goldberg.
Karen Drake on the loss of her beloved father, Sanford Marateck.
Michael Feldman on the loss of his beloved father, Ronnie Erwin Feldman.
Lucille Goldberg on the loss of her beloved brother, Melvin Levy.
Betsy Narrow and Emelie Schwab on the loss of their beloved brother and brother-in-law, Richard Schwab.
Aileen Popek on the loss of her beloved father, Alfred Norman Posner.
Dr. Stanley Sack on the loss of his beloved father, George Sack.
Miriam Wachter Smelkinson on the loss of her beloved sister, Goldie Wachter Beber.

Our Heartiest Mazel Tov to:

Ellen and Myron Asher on the engagement of their son, Michael, to Stephanie Byers; grandmother is Betty Zlotowitz.
Andrew and Kimberly Goetz on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Grant Stuart Goetz; grandparents are Donna and Samuel Collins and Joyce and Gilbert Goetz.
Irina and Jeffry Goldsmith on the Bar Mitzvah of their daughter, Payton Mia Goldsmith; grandmother is Diana Goldsmith.
Debbie and Ned Greenberg on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Lance Spencer Greenberg; grandson of Dr. Murray Greenberg and Howard Rockman.
Melissa and Brett Ingerman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Justin Tyler Ingerman; grandparents are Annette and Bruce Ingerman and Susan and Gary Talles; great-grandmother is Lenora Talles.
Susan and Richard Kolker on the marriage of their son, Jonathan, to Miriam Wu.
Stacey and Avi Mizrachi on the Bar Mitzvah of their sons, Joshua Hayden Mizrachi and Matthew Eliezer Mizrachi; grandparents are Roberta and Robert Kodeck and Miriam and Eliezer Mizrachi.
Marissa and Michael Myers on the birth of their son, Jonathan Levi; grandmother is Glenda Chernoff and great-grandmother is Dorothy Weinstein.

Bar & Bat Mitzvah

Bar Mitzvah
Joshua Hayden Mizrachi, son of Stacey and Avi Mizrachi, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 16, 2016.

Bar Mitzvah
Matthew Eliezer Mizrachi, son of Stacey and Avi Mizrachi, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 16, 2016.

Bar Mitzvah
Justin Tyler Ingerman, son of Brett and Melissa Ingerman, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on January 23, 2016.

The Beth El Family

Bob Hyman   Howard Rovner

A Speedy Recovery to:

Bar & Bat Mitzvah
### Schedule of Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Parsha of the Week</th>
<th>Morning Service</th>
<th>Evening Service</th>
<th>Candle lighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 4</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>4:23 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 1</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>4:34 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 8</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>4:40 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 15</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>4:45 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 22</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>4:55 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 29</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>5:03 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 2</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>4:45 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 9</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>6:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 16</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>4:45 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 23</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 30</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>5:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 6</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>5:11 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 13</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>6:15 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 20</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 27</td>
<td>Morning Service</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that starting Monday, January 4, evening services, Monday through Thursday, will begin at 6:15 p.m.*
I’ve seen it a thousand times, over and over and over again. The ark is opened, and the congregation rises reflexively. The Torahs are resting there, dressed in their finery, the elegant cloaks and silver crowns that beautify them and remind us of royalty. Someone reaches into the ark to lift the scroll, placing it carefully in the arms of the hazzan, the leader of prayer. There is a jingling of metal, silver bells ring softly, the breastplate slides slightly as the Torah moves from one person to the next. Everyone watches, eyes alight with—what? History? Tradition? Yes. And perhaps also a sense of connection and continuity, of momentarily touching something that is eternal, that was, is, and will be. A ritual enacted, the same each time with subtle variations. Same as it ever was.

But this time, for some reason I will never know, my breath caught in my throat. I was moved, struck in some new way by the power of that simple moment. Maybe it was the way the young man so reverentially lifted that Torah, with grace and almost awe reaching forward to grasp it. Then he carefully and gently placed it into the Hazzan’s embrace. Maybe it was how I know the men, the respect I have for our tradition. I suspect the way that shadows cast from some tree’s leaves danced on the wall had something to do with it, and also the soft early morning sunshine slowly rising. And that powerful sense we sometimes have of time’s compression, of the swiftly moving years somehow collapsing, of these particular men with their phylacteries and prayer shawls, enacting this ancient ritual that has been going on uninterrupted, century after century, generation after generation.

There was an imperceptible shift in the air and the moment passed. But as the old scroll was carried through the congregation something sacred hung in the air, just out of sight, just there. Remember the great and enigmatic line at the end of King Lear? “Look there! Look there!” Whatever did he see? I looked, and it was gone. But a soft soul-tingling sense lingers on.
Island Shabbat
Friday, January 15, at 7:30 p.m.
Enjoy a taste of paradise at Beth El’s annual Island Shabbat. Hear the sounds of the Catonsville High School Steel Band under the direction of Director Jim Wharton. An island themed oneg will be held after the service. The event is free and open to the public.

Healing and Spirituality Center

Compassion Fatigue Seminar
Thursday, January 14, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Renowned therapist, author and Compassion Fatigue expert, Mary Jo Barrett, will help participants explore what the sacred gift of giving involves and how the care of others impacts our own emotional and spiritual lives. We will tune into our own energy and needs to experience improved health and happiness— for ourselves and others. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

Am I Hungry? Mindful Eating
Sunday, January 24, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Julie Reisler, owner and CEO of Empowered Living, LLC, will discuss eating with awareness and becoming more aware of why we eat. We’ll also look at nourishment from new lenses—in what thoughts, experiences, and foods we choose to best nourish and care for our whole selves.

Mussar Yoga
Tuesdays, January 26, February 2, 9, and 16, at 7:30 p.m.
Yoga teacher Edith Brotman will teach this four session course in the Kolker Room. Cost: $50 for the series.

Participants need to bring their own mats, workout towel, and water bottle. Max. 25 registrants. RSVP to soulcenter@bethelbalto.com with your name, email, and cell phone number.

Taste of Jewish Mindfulness
Thursday, January 28, at 6:00 p.m.
This 90-minute workshop will provide participants with a brief introduction to Jewish meditation and mindfulness. A light dinner will be served. Max. 20 registrants. Cost: $36/person. RSVP to soulcenter@bethelbalto.com with your name, email, and cell phone number.

Jewish Meditation “Sits”
Wednesdays, February 3, 10, 17, 24, at 9:30 a.m.
Thursdays, February 4, 11, 18, 25, at 5:30 p.m.
Drop in for any or all of these 20 minutes transformational sessions that will enable you to step out of the busy-ness of your life and experience the benefits of being present, in the moment and free of self-judgement. Max. 25 registrants. RSVP to soulcenter@bethelbalto.com with your name, email, and cell phone number. Please bring your own meditation cushions or mats if you wish; otherwise, chairs will be provided.

Evening Book Club for Women AND Men
Thursday, February 25, at 7:30 p.m.
The next book choice for the Evening Book Club for Women and Men is The Submission by Amy Waldman. Our meeting will be held on Thursday February 25, at 7:30 p.m., with the discussion moderated by Rabbi George Wielechowski in the Kolker Room. Snacks and coffee are provided, but feel free to BYOB. The next date is Tuesday, May 3, 2016. Book and moderator TBD.

Please share suggestions with Denise Franz at Denise.franz@gmail.com.
Sisterhood Luncheon Meetings

Monday, January 11, 2016, at 11:30 a.m.
Featuring Rabbi Jessy Gross, Director, Charm City Tribe

Following the religious values we learned as youths can be difficult when entering adulthood. Charm City Tribe, a program of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Baltimore, aspires to reconnect people to Judaic practices they may have lost along the road to independence. This is an initiative to reach non-Orthodox young Jewish adults and generate positive attitudes toward Jewish culture. Director of the program, Rabbi Jessy Gross organizes events to connect to the community and works individually with people to help them identify with their Judaism.

Monday, February 1, 2016
Barbara Blumberg - Antisemitism and the Supreme Court

Antisemitism has been around for centuries. It has even permeated the Supreme Court. It is hard to imagine that in the beginning of the 20th century the Supreme Court was rife with Antisemitism. How could it be that the highest court in the land, allegedly housing nine of the most learned and enlightened men, be a haven for Antisemites?

Learn about this disturbing era and the cast of characters involved as we explore Antisemitism in the Supreme Court.

Coupon for February 1st Luncheon Meeting. RSVP by January 20, 2016.

Name __________________________________________________________________________________________
Home Phone ___________________________ Cell Phone ___________________________
Email __________________________________________________________________________________________

Monday, March 7, 2016
Felicia Graber - Holocaust Survivor

Born in 1940, five months after the Nazis invaded her native Poland, Felicia Graber has never thought of herself as a Holocaust survivor, but now she is a leader within that community. Amazing Journey: Metamorphosis of a Hidden Child is a tale of parallel odysseys: one, from surviving Nazi occupation to living a rich, full life in America; the other a compelling coming-of-age story of a shy Polish child who transforms herself into a successful, well-rounded woman. If there is such a genre as a feminist Holocaust memoir, Amazing Journey, is its finest example.

Coupon for March 7th Luncheon Meeting. RSVP by February 24, 2016.

Name __________________________________________________________________________________________
Home Phone ___________________________ Cell Phone ___________________________
Email __________________________________________________________________________________________

If you are NOT a subscription holder, send a $20 check made out to:
Beth El Sisterhood - Luncheons
Attn: Marcia Boonshaft or Esther Harris
8101 Park Heights Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21208

We regret that we are unable to seat walk-ins for the luncheon; however, all are welcome to attend the program which begins at 1:00 p.m.
Rabbis’ Book Reviews and Petite Luncheons

Rabbi Dana Saroken will review The Bridal Chair by Gloria Goldreich on Wednesday, January 20, 2016. This book is an exquisite, haunting exploration of the complex mind of Marc Chagall through the eyes of his daughter, Ida. As a child growing up in 1920’s Paris, Ida Chagall copes with her father's brilliant artistic mind, overbearing ego, and the tight leash he keeps on her. But as Ida blossoms into a young woman, she begins to glimpse freedom and opportunities for herself. When she marries, her father paints The Bridal Chair as her wedding present as a symbol of his anger. His contempt for her was expressed by the fact that the bride was not in the painting.

There will be a petite luncheon prior to the review. The cost is $12.00 per person. Please make your check out to Beth El Sisterhood, put it in an envelope, marked Sisterhood Book Review, mail it to Beth El Sisterhood, 8101 Park Heights Avenue, 21208, or leave it at the reception desk by Monday, January 11.

Rabbi Steven Schwartz will review Ally by Michael Oren on Wednesday, March 16, 2016.

Michael B. Oren’s memoir of his time as Israel’s ambassador to the United States provides a frank, fascinating look inside the special relationship between America, and Israel, its closest ally in the region.

Oren, an American by birth, served as the Israeli ambassador to the United States from 2009 to 2013. An historian by training, Oren arrived at his diplomatic post just as Benjamin Netanyahu and Barack Obama assumed office. During Oren’s tenure in office, Israel and America grappled with the Palestinian peace process, the Arab Spring, and existential threats to Israel posed by international terrorism and the Iranian nuclear program. Ally is the story of that enduring alliance between President Obama and Prime Minister Netanyahu, high-stakes summits with Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas, and diplomatic crises that intensified the controversy surrounding the world’s most contested strip of land.

This book review will also be preceded by a petite luncheon at the cost of $12.00 per person. You may write one check for both events. Put your check in an envelope marked Sisterhood Book Review, mail it to Beth El Sisterhood, 8101 Park Heights Avenue, 21208, or leave it at the reception desk by Monday, March 7.

Unique Boutique

Sunday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
*Monday, May 16, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Sip and Shop)
Tuesday, May 17, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
*This year we are offering an evening opening for those who can’t shop during the day. Wine and hors d’oeuvres will be available.

Many of your favorite vendors will be returning including the following: Barbara Brodie Designs, DG Designs, Essentials by Iris, Faye Mendelsohn Cosmetics, Flower Farm, Fringe Boutique, Glam Girl, Ibhana Creations, Kids Stop, La Cigale- French provincial tablecloths, Lena Long Jewelry, Sababa-Israeli Jewelry, Shea Marne Accessories, Sock Drawer and More, Sparkle ‘Bloom, Swirl, The Fashnique, and The Jewelry Lady.

We are presently looking for additional new vendors. If you know of anyone who is interested in participating, please tell them to contact either Sonia Obstler at 410-653-5028 (seobstler@gmail.com) or Helen Bronstein at 410-653-5028 (helenbronstein@verizon.net).

Sisterhood Membership

A new member Sisterhood evening event was held on October 15. Sixteen new members attended and were treated to an inspirational conversation with Laurie Badolato. Laurie is a personal trainer and specializes in yoga, Pilates, Reiki and Qigong. She is certified in acupuncture. Our evening was spent learning tips about nutrition and wellness and relaxation techniques.

If you know of someone who would like to be part of our dynamic group, please contact Susan Hackerman, Membership Liaison, at 410-486-2523 (shacker1@hotmail.com).
Affiliates

Federation of Jewish Women’s Organizations of Maryland

Mid-Winter Meeting

Mikvah Mysteries

January 14, 2016, 9:30 a.m.


Save the Date

Thursday, March 10, 2016 – Maryland Day of Advocacy in Annapolis. Visit Maryland legislators and the Jewish Chapel at the Naval Academy.

For information, contact Honey Litman at 410-486-8116.

Afternoon of Games

Tuesday, April 5, 2016, 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Designed to Entertain and Challenge Beth-El Sisterhood Members and Friends

Gather your groups for card games, Mah Jongg, Scrabble or whatever suits you. For $20 per person, you may play your heart out and enjoy a delicious lunch, snacks and a dessert buffet.

Please bring your cards, Mah Jongg sets and board games. A quiet space will be set aside for bridge players. Send your check for $20 per person to Beth El Sisterhood, c/o Suzanne Horowitz or Ruth Hurwitz.

For information please contact Suzanne at 410-764-7944 (Suzanne@HRBgroup.com) or Ruth at 410-486-2875 (RHurwitz01@gmail.com).

Upcoming Sisterhood Trips

All the Way at the Arena Stage

Sunday, April 10, 2016, 10:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Tony-winning Drama

ALL THE WAY

It’s not personal, it’s politics in this 2014 Tony Award-winning drama. President Lyndon Baines Johnson had a way about him. He could massage a victory with one hand and sell you down the river with the other, but brokering a deal is like playing with dynamite. With the country still reeling from President Kennedy’s assassination, and a rising tide of bitterness over civil rights, it will take more than politicking to hold America together — it will take red, white and blue-blooded leadership. Go All the Way with LBJ, Martin Luther King, Jr., J. Edgar Hoover and more in this “beautifully built dramatic piece” (Variety) where the line between compromise and compromising your principles is as sharp as a knife.

Registration opened on December 7. Registration forms can be obtained on the Beth El website, at Sisterhood meetings and at the Beth El front desk. For any questions, please contact Linda Mondell at 410-486-2542 (lhmondell@gmail.com) or Ellen Wiesenbeger at 410-484-6411 (ellentw@comcast.net).

National Geographic Museum and George Washington University Museum and Textile Museum

Thursday, June 9, 2016, 8:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

This trip will take you through many centuries in one day. Our first stop will be the National Geographic Museum where the entire museum has been devoted to a special exhibit tracing 5,000 years of Hellenic history. This is the only east coast venue for this comprehensive exhibit. You will have the opportunity to view rare artifacts that date from Agamemnon to Alexander the Great. The fact that the museum seldom dedicates the entire museum to one presentation is indicative that this exhibit is not to be missed.

Leaving the museum, we will take the bus to Bertucci’s where we will have a private room for a family-style lunch. If you have dietary concerns, please communicate with Robin or Marlene.

After lunch we will proceed to the George Washington University Museum and Textile Museum for a docent-led tour of the exhibit Migration Stories: Contemporary Artists Interpret Diaspora. This is a juried exhibition of noted contemporary textile artists.

Cost of the trip will be $105 per person. Your check should be made out to Beth El Sisterhood and please put “June 9 Trip” on the memo line. Registration will open on Monday, February 1, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. Registration forms can be obtained on the Beth El website, at Sisterhood meetings and at Beth El’s front desk. The registration form and check must be mailed to Mrs. Robin Kleiman, 20 Diamond Crest Court, Baltimore, MD 21209. Put one registration form and one check in each envelope unless you are a couple. If you have any questions, contact Robin Kleiman at 410-653-0113 (Kleiman.Robin@gmail.com) or Marlene Siegel at 410-484-1844 (mbmsiegel@comcast.net).
You have received a beautiful invitation and have already sent back your RSVP card. Now it is time to select the perfect gift for the young man or woman who has invited you to the event.

Choosing the right gift can be difficult. You want to give something that the recipient will enjoy. A tzedakah box is an artistic gift that can be perceived as a work of art but also used to collect money for charity. Our tzedakah boxes are exceptionally beautiful.

Blowing a shofar is a difficult skill, so having one for practice is helpful. There are several from which to choose.

Lighting the menorah is a reminder of Hanukkah, and many young people enjoy lighting their individual menorah. The Judaica Shop has a variety of menorahs for every taste.

The short, thin pointer used to read the Torah, known as the Yad, is not only beautiful but a lifetime reminder of that special day when the Bar/Bat Mitzvah first read from the Torah.

There is a variety of lovely Israeli-created necklaces and bracelets on display. Especially popular is the Shema bracelet and necklace available in silver and gold.

The shelves in the Sisterhood shop are laden with a magnificent selection of gifts from which you can choose. Stop in; you won’t leave empty handed.

News from the Agus Library

Wondering what you are going to do during these cold winter days? The Agus Library has the answer for you—curl up and enjoy reading one of the following new books you can obtain at Beth El’s wonderful library. You may check out a book from the library for three weeks. Please note the library schedule below and on the website. If these hours do not work for you, contact Marlene Siegel at 410-484-4144 or Barbara Berkowitz at 410-296-8424.

Fiction
The Bridal Chair by Gloria Goldreich; Joshua: A Brooklyn Tale by Andrew Kane; The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman; The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah; Orphan #8 by Kim Van Alkemade; The Devil in Jerusalem by Naomi Ragen

Non-Fiction
Ally by Michael Oren; Not in God’s Nature by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Agus Library Hours
Monday, 9:00–11:00 a.m.; 1:30–2:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 9:00–11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, 9:15–11:00 a.m.; 2:00–3:00 p.m.
Thursday, 10:00–11:00 a.m.; 3:15–4:15 p.m.

Save the Dates

New Member Sisterhood Event
Tuesday, March 8, 2016, at 7:30 p.m.
Speaker TBD

Sisterhood Shabbat
Saturday, March 19, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.
A Havdalah service will be led by the women of Beth El Sisterhood followed by a seudat shelishit with wine and desserts. If you would like further information or would like to participate, please contact Frida Fraiman at 419-363-6464 or ffraiman@comcast.net or Merle Intner at 410-484-7913 or mintner@aol.com.

Joint Sisterhood Dinner
Monday, April 11, at 6:00 p.m.
At Beth Israel Congregation. The program is “Savvy Steps:” A Professional Ballroom Dance Performance. Cost $36.00.
January & February Meetings

The Beth El Seniors will be holding their January meeting on **Sunday, January 10, 2016, in the Offit Auditorium, at 1:00 p.m.** The cost for this luncheon is $15 for members and $18 for guests. Entertainment for the afternoon will be Doris Sugar and the Singing Songbirds. **Reservations and payments for the evening are due no later than January 4, 2016.**

The February meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 14, 2016, at 1:30 p.m.** We will watch the movie *Diner.* Members are free and guests are $5/person. There will be delicious snacks.

Our dinner on **Sunday, March 13, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.,** will feature our very own Cantor Thom King. Please advise us if you would like a sugar-free dessert and with whom you wish to be seated. The cost for the dinner is $21/members and $24/guests. The seating committee will do its best to accommodate your seating wishes. Please try to get your reservations in on time. Mark your envelope Ruthye. Come join us and bring some friends along with you. We offer an entertaining, inexpensive evening of dinner, entertainment, and friendly company. Who could ask for anything more? It’s even cheaper than Restaurant Week. Join us and we won’t be strangers anymore.

For further information, call Ruthye Steinberg at 410-655-8242 or Maxine Kontoff at 410-486-1653.

Membership

Beth El Seniors is always welcoming new members 50 years of age or older to join our active organization. Dues are still only $15.00 per person per year, plus monthly dinner and enjoyable entertainment at the ridiculously low cost of $21.00 per member. Where else can you get such a deal?

Call Ruthye Steinberg at 410-655-8242 for a membership application.

Torah Maintenance Cards

A project of the Beth El Seniors is to support the care and repair of our synagogue’s Torahs and Megillot. A kosher, usable Torah must be written by hand with a pen and special ink by a learned scribe. Every letter must be perfectly formed and every word must be correctly spelled. The ink cannot be chipped off even a little bit. The parchment on which the Torah is written must be flawless. The slightest tear or smudge will render the Torah unfit for use. The Beth El Torahs are regularly inspected and repaired. This is a costly process. It is a mitzvah to contribute to a process that keeps our sacred scrolls preserved for future generations. Torah Maintenance Cards may be purchased at the Beth El front office or call Dorothy Fineblum at 410-653-2631. These all-purpose cards are six for $10.00 or $2.00 each.

Interfaith Chavurah

Navigating Life as an Interfaith Family Part Two

**Sunday, January 31, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.**

“I love that Beth El provides a welcoming and warm atmosphere where interfaith couples feel very comfortable sharing personal stories without the feeling of being judged by others.”

Join us for a continuation of our series of group meetings discussing the opportunities and challenges of navigating interfaith life. We’ll continue our lively discussion from last session on navigating important lifecycle moments in family life; specifically, we’ll engage in some FAQs and resource sharing on b’nai mitzvah through weddings. Rabbi George Wielechowski will help guide the conversation in what is always a welcoming, safe, supportive, and most importantly, judgment-free conversation and reflection session. Open to members and non-members.

RSVP to Melissa West at mwest@gsp-cpa.com.
The Social Action Committee prepared and delivered Hanukkah goodie bags to those members who are residing at North Oaks, the Atrium, Brookdale, Spring House and Levindale. These bags were well received and much appreciated.

We are proud to announce that Social Action will be joining forces with The Baltimore Hunger Project to collect non-perishable food for children in the inner city and county to take home for their weekend meals. If you are interested in helping us with this project, please call Ellen Budish at 443-857-7599.

We will also be continuing our tradition of providing Passover food to those less fortunate in our community. Should you wish to participate in this Mitzvah Project, please contact Ellen Budish at ebudish@verizon.net or Jeanette Davis at jeaekdavis@hotmail.com. This project will begin in early April.

For more information on Social Action projects, please contact Ellen Budish at ebudish@verizon.net or Jeanette Davis at jeaekdavis@hotmail.com.

Israel Affairs/Events Committee

SAVE THE DATE
Ambassador Dennis Ross to Speak at Beth El

Sunday April 3, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Ambassador Dennis Ross will discuss and sign his new book, *Doomed to Succeed: The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama*.

Most recently, Ambassador Ross served two years as special assistant to President Obama and National Security Council senior director for the Central Region, and a year as special advisor to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

For more than 12 years, Ambassador Ross played a leading role in shaping U.S. involvement in the Middle East peace process and dealing with the parties in negotiations. A highly skilled diplomat, Ambassador Ross was U.S. point man on the peace process in both the George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations. He was instrumental in assisting Israelis and Palestinians to reach the 1995 Interim Agreement; he also successfully brokered the 1997 Hebron Accord, facilitated the 1994 Israel-Jordan peace treaty, and intensively worked to bring Israel and Syria together.

Ambassador Ross is currently a counselor and William Davidson Distinguished Fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

For more information, contact Jane Zweig at jane.zweig2@gmail.com.

Empty Nesters & Baby Boomers Group

We had a very busy and well-attended fall season! Our group had several tables at the successful Friday night Shabbat dinner at shul in October. In November, we joined together with the membership committee to host a tour of historic synagogue art pieces led by Rabbi Schwartz.

Upcoming Events:

**Friday, February 19** - Dinner at Basta Pasta following Friday Night services

**Saturday, April 9** - Bingo, potluck dinner, Havdalah

**Sunday, May 22** - Rabbi’s discussion and reception

If you have any questions, or would like to join the group, please email Fraeda Lewis at fraedalewis@verizon.net.

The Events Committee is sponsoring a wonderful and delicious tour of everyone’s favorite challah bakery, Rosendorff’s. All participants will have the opportunity to tour the bakery. Each of us will be given a braid of challah dough and instructions on how to create a beautifully braided challah to take home, bake and enjoy.

**LOCATION:** Rosendorff’s Bakery/Baltimore Baked Goods
1111 Greenwood Road, Pikesville, 21208

**COST:** $5 per person

Please contact Lori Downing at lori@bethelbalto.com or 410-484-0411 to RSVP or for more information. The tour is limited to 20 participants so we hope to hear from you soon!
Learn to Knit with Jill Eisen

This fun and easy class will meet on Tuesdays, January 5, 12, 19, and 26, in the Schuster Library from 5:00-6:00 p.m. This class is designed for beginners; Jill will teach you how to cast on, knit, pearl, and bind-off. You will make three potholders using stockinette, garter, and basket-weaving patterns. Each knitter will make a purse as a final project. Materials for the class are included in the fee of $36 for Beth El members, and $45 for non-members. Contact Ellen Marks at 410-580-5166 to register.

Learn to Play Mah Jongg

This class will be facilitated by Jill Eisen on Thursdays, January 7, 14, 21, and 28, from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Gain a basic understanding of Mah Jongg. You will learn the fundamental components including pieces, rules, and playing strategy. Once you know the basics, the best way to learn and get comfortable is to play the game. This class includes a 2015 Mah Jongg card. The fee for this beginner’s class is $36 for Beth El members and $45 for non-members. Contact Ellen Marks at 410-580-5166 to register.

1stWednesdays @BethEl

Join us for a presentation featuring Dr. Daniel Weiser on January 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Offit Auditorium. Dr. Weiser is the founder and Artistic Director of AmiciMusic. For over 20 years, Dr. Weiser has worked to take the stuffiness out of classical music and give it the energy and excitement it needs and deserves. Dr. Weiser recently moved back to Baltimore and has brought his AmiciMusic series with him. His series offers monthly chamber music concerts featuring top musicians from the region and from around the world. There is no fee for this program and it is open to the public.

On Wednesday, February 3, at 7:30 p.m., we look forward to seeing you in the Offit Auditorium for our presentation of Todd Harrison Twining, a musician extraordinaire. Mr. Twining will perform popular Broadway songs, American oldies, and hits from the Jewish stage. He is a member of the music faculty at the Bryn Mawr School. He has performed many roles on stage in musical theater and opera. He is a baritone vocalist who won the National Association of Teachers of Singing Men’s Competition at the James Madison University. A talented performer, arranger, composer, educator, and accompanist, Todd is delighted to share this evening with us! There is no fee for this program and it is open to the public.

SundayMornings @BethEl:

Talk With Your Child/Grandchild About...

Our newest endeavor is a series of five current, controversial, and thought-provoking topics called SundayMornings@BethEl in collaboration with The Berman-Lipavsky Religious School. Our goal is to bring parents and grandparents into our school and to empower them to talk with their children and grandchildren about issues of today’s challenges and receive the Jewish perspective on each topic.

No One Knows Me Better Than I Know Myself: Understanding My Sexuality and Owning My Body

On Sunday, January 24, join us in the Kolker Room for light breakfast at 9:30 a.m. followed by the program at 10:00 a.m. Join Jean Ginsberg and Rabbi Faith Cantor as parents and grandparents learn how to share their family values while encouraging and facilitating open, nonjudgmental communication with their children about sex and sexuality. This program will help to identify and respond to issues and questions that their children and grandchildren may have at different stages of development. There is no fee for this program.

Being a Social Media Mensch

On Sunday, February 21, join us in the Kolker Room with our own Rabbi George Wielechowski. Light breakfast begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by the discussion at 10:00 a.m. Rabbi Wielechowski, a former tech startup executive, discusses the benefits and risks of our children’s ever-growing usage of social media and other technologies. We’ll discover a bit of the brain science behind what makes our screens so addictive and we’ll learn together how our Jewish values might guide the behavior and choices we engage in online. Learn what it takes to be our best digital selves. There is no fee for this program.
Start Your Secular New Year Off with Great Learning

Start the secular New Year Off with Great Learning with Rabbi Dana Saroken! This group will meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, January 11, 13, and 14 from 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. in the Agus Library. Judaism has something to say about every part of our lives. The wisdom of our tradition can bring order and clarity to our oftentimes chaotic daily lives. Join Rabbi Saroken to delve into the Mishna. You’ll think about prayers and blessings in ways you’ve never thought. Everyone is welcome and there is no fee for this program.

Development of The Jewish Mystical Tradition

Rabbi Etan Mintz from Congregation B’nai Israel will present a mini-series entitled, “Development of The Jewish Mystical Tradition” on Tuesdays, February 23, March 1, 8, and 15, from 7:30-8:45 p.m. in the Agus Library. This four-part series will explore the development of the Jewish mystical tradition. This is a text-based course that will trace the origins of Kabbalah, medieval and early modern Jewish piety, Sabbateanism, early Chasidic writings, and neo-Chasidut. Specific thinkers of this period will be discussed. There is no fee for this program.

December 1st Wednesdays
Past Photos
Beneath the Helmet with Dr. Hana Bor

Scholar in Residence Weekend

On Friday, March 4, Saturday, March 5, and Sunday, March 6, The Rabbi Mark G. Loeb Center for Lifelong Learning will be hosting a powerful and inspirational Scholar in Residence Weekend with Rabbi Charles Sherman.

As a young, ambitious rabbi at one of New York’s largest synagogues, Rabbi Sherman had high hopes for what his future would hold—a happy and healthy family and, professional success. Then, early one morning in 1986, everything changed. His son Eyal spiked a fever and was soon in serious respiratory distress. Doctors discovered a lesion on the four-year-old’s brain-stem. Following high-risk surgery, Eyal suffered a catastrophic stroke. Rabbi Sherman and his wife learned that their son would never walk, talk, feed himself, or breathe on his own again—yet his mind was entirely intact. He was still the curious, intelligent boy they had always loved.

Rabbi Sherman author of The Broken and the Whole, a memoir of his personal experience, will ask us to think about these questions during his discussion—what does the refusal to abandon faith truly look like? To what lengths should parents go to protect their children? What does it mean to laugh after periods of long sadness? Is it possible to experience joy after heartbreak? Using humor, honesty and sensitivity, as he shares the Sherman family story, we will all feel a little more prepared to face and respond to our personal life challenges.

The Rabbi Mark G. Loeb Center for Lifelong Learning will be hosting a Friday night dinner, after which Rabbi Sherman will share his keynote address. He will also give a brief d’var torah during Friday evening services. On Shabbat morning, Rabbi Sherman will lead our weekly Parsha class, and on Sunday, he will bring his story to our Religious School students and their families.

Please plan on being a part of this very special weekend!
Tu B’Shevat Books at the Schuster Library

Tu B’Shevat, or the “birthday of trees” occurs on the 15th day of Shevat. In Israel, this holiday signifies the beginning of not only a new year, but spring. This year, we will celebrate Tu B’Shevat on Monday, January 25.

There are many wonderful Tu B’Shevat stories in the Schuster Library that highlight the importance of trees, not only in our lives, but in the world. You can also find stories on the Tu B’Shevat Seder and other customs performed during the holiday.

Tu B’Shevat “classics” like Honi ha-meagel (Honi the circlemaker) & Sammy Spider’s First Tu B’Shevat by Sylvia Rouss grace the shelves, as well as new titles listed below.

Netta and her Plant by Ellie B. Gellman follows the story of Netta, a little Israeli girl who brings home a plant from school on Tu B’Shevat. This charming story follows how both continue to grow up through the years.

Another wonderful book is Happy Birthday, Tree! : A Tu B’Shevat Story by Madelyn Rosenberg. In this book, a little girl named Joni tries to find the perfect birthday present for her favorite tree.

All of our books provide children, and even adults, with a fun and exciting way to learn about the Jewish holidays.

The Eddy Schuster Memorial Library is home to over 3,000 books for children and adults on all topics Jewish. Dr. Bor, Rabbi Cantor, and Morah Jill will be happy to assist you in finding just the right book. Library hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Fridays, and during Religious School.

Preschool Update

The entire Infant-Toddler Wing moved into the Preschool as renovations began. Sketches of the renovation are posted in the preschool entrance for all to see.

Beth El @ Federal Hill is growing. We opened a two-year-old room and are now accepting applications for the summer and the 2016-2017 school year.

Holiday Bags Donated by Religious School Students

In December, the Berman-Lipavsky Religious School students donated toiletries and other various items to children in need for the holidays. Each student filled two bags with their donated items and made a personal card. The bags were donated to Jewish Community Services and Angels of Addiction. About 300 bags were made.

Shabbat Services for Children

M&M Shabbat

Enjoy a spirited, engaging and participatory Shabbat service for kids up to 5 years of age and their families.
5:15 p.m. in the Gorn Chapel
Friday, January 8, February 5

IPPE Shabbat

IPPE Shabbat is led by Rabbi Faith Cantor, Morah Becky and the T’filah Team and Mitzvah Monsters. Join us for songs, stories, and a wonderful family Shabbat experience.
10:15 a.m. in the Schuster Library
Saturday, January 9, February 6

Tot Shabbat

Join Morah Becky for an interactive service filled with song, prayer, puppets and Torah stories. For kids up to 5 years old and their families.
11:15 a.m. in the Kreitzer Memorial Room
Saturday, January 9, January 23, February 6, February 20

Torah Sparks

Learn to lead the Shabbat morning prayers through games, stories and more. Children of all ages are invited to attend.
11:00 a.m. in the Gorn Chapel
Saturdays, January 23, January 30, February 20 (Sensory Shabbat), February 27
Contributions & Endowments

For your donations to be accurately processed and put into the monthly Voice, please include the full name and address to whom the donation is being sent.

THE ADLER-LEV SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF: The special birthday of Dr. Richard Schlossberg by David and Elda Schwartz, Duke and Phyllis Zimmerman

THE ADULT CHOIR FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Mildred Zeml by Randall and Helene Lutz
IN MEMORY OF: Alice Prince by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
IN HONOR OF: Dr. Phil Wisner on being recognized on Simchat Torah by Dr. Joseph and Linda Napora
The marriage of Brooke Shenery to Ethan Ziegel by Hulare Zoleit
The Bar Mitzvah of Henry Geller by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
The Drai Mitzvah of Abby Berkowitz and Superman Hutzler by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
The anniversary of Julian and Doris Kline by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
The special anniversary of Dr. Larry Cohen and Ms. Pat Kreger by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
The anniversary of Dr. Lee and Devra Simon by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
The special birthday of Devra Simon by Dr. Richard and Phyllis Kline
IN APPRECIATION TO: Cantor Thorn King by Robert and Phyllis Schochet

THE RABBI JACOB & MIRIAM AGUS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Bernard and Jewitl Martin by Gary, Nancy and Sharon Martin
THE SUSAN & SPENCER ALLEN TEEN TRAVEL TO ISRAEL FUND
IN HONOR OF: The birth of a great-granddaughter, Juliana Barbara Bums, to Rita Silverman by Burt and Renee King
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Beatrice King by Burt and Renee King
IN MEMORY OF: Herschel Polakoff by John and Natalie Spector

THE STANLEY L. BECKER MISHPACHAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN APPRECIATION TO: Rabbi Dana Sarnoff and Avielle Sher for leading an inspirational women's mission to Israel
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Arthur Natchol by Barbara Gaponow
IN MEMORY OF: Norman Glaser by Carole Becker
Aunt Zel by Carole Becker
Peter Scher by Ron and Susan Maytin
Blanche Reicher by Carole Becker
Melvin Berman by Carole Becker and Family

THE MARILYN & GARY BERMAN FAMILY PRE-SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF: Sandy and Malcolm Berman being chosen as “Philanthropists of the Year” by Gary and Marilyn Berman

THE DANI LL W. CAPLAN & NORMA F. CAPLAN PRE-SCHOOL MEDIA RESOURCE FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Daniel W. Caplan by Ira and Ann Robinson
THE COLLINS SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Blanche Reicher by Martin and Iris Collins
THE ROUS & ESTHER DOPKIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Melvin Levy by Michael Dopkin
THE SYLVAN DORENFELD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO: Manny Steinberg by Irene Snyder
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Florence Bass by Manny and Ruthye Steinberg
THE DR. LARRY D. EPSTEIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF: The father of Robert Milner by Dr. Larry and Leeann Epstein
THE LAURA B. FLEISCHMANN MEMORIAL FUND
IN HONOR OF: The special birthday of Arnold Fleischmann by Sherrie Ehrlich, Michael and Penny Schwarz
THE FRANCUS ENDOWMENT FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Blanche Reicher by Elliot and Susan Drachman
THE FRUMAN FAMILY GARDEN BEAUTIFICATION ENDOWMENT FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Marshall Seidler by Arnold and Joyce Fruman
THE SHELDON & SARALYNN GLASS ENDOWED SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Sanford Maracek by Sheldon and Saralynn Glass
THE SONYA & JEROME GOODMAN ADULT HEBREW READING FUND
IN MEMORY OF: In memory of the father of Bobbi Lankton by Sonya and Jerome Goodman
THE GREEN FAMILY RELIGIOUS SERVICES FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Charles Green by Benji and Charles Green

THE CANTOR SAUL & AILEEN HAMMERMAN MUSIC FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Jeffrey Levine by Sonny and Cookie Bensky
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Cantor Saul Hammerman by Dr. Samuel and Renee Hammerman
THE PAUL HUDDLES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Esther Huddles by Linda Huddles
THE DR. NATHAN HYMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Donna by Dr. Ken and Judy Margolis
THE LEROY F. KAPPelman MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO: Robert Kontoff by Carol Engelmann
THE ROSE P. KATZ SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Herschel Polakoff by Jonas and Renee Cohen
THE ARTHUR E. KLaff MEMORIAL FUND
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO: Sigmund Kassap by Charles and Beverly Freeland
THE ADAM KRONTHAL SPECIAL NEEDS FUND
IN MEMORY OF: Adam Kronthal by Alan and Jennifer Kronthal
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO: Marcia Yumkas by Drs. Beryl Rosenberg and Friona Brown
THE SUSAN FINE LANGSAM MEMORIAL FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHZEIT OF: Eva Snyder by Dr. Joseph and Linda Napora
THE IRVING & ROSE LEBOWITZ MEMORIAL SEFER TORAH FUND
IN APPRECIATION TO: Ben Keeshtool for taking the time to make a recording for me by Dr. Lou Lukas

The Voice of Beth El Congregation 15
Contributions & Endowments

THE HARRY LICHTER CHESED FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Beverly Nachimson by Marshall and Dr. Joanne Rief
Nancy Falk Sherwood by Marshall and Dr. Joanne Rief
The mother of Trish Weiber by Alan and Bev Gersh
The mother of Laurie Minetti by Alan and Bev Gersh

IN APPRECIATION TO:
Bob Dansky by Bobbie Lichter
Robert Kontoff by Bobbie Lichter
Carolyn Rubenstein by Barry and Pearl Gandason

IN HONOR OF:
The special birthdays of Harvey and Helaine Kaosoff by Stuart and Sheryl Title
The special birthday of Ted Lerner by Alan and Bev Gersh
The special birthday of Jackie Ross and in honor of your new position at MICA by Bobbie Lichter
The special birthday of Jerry Ross by Bobbie Lichter

THE JOSEPH LIPAVSKY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Andrey Zhitkino by Sharon R. Krieger and Paul Day, Henry and Julie Caldarazzo

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Julius Sufko by Mark and Marsha Levine

RABBI MARK G. LOEB MEMORIAL FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Blanche Reichert by Jerry and Joan Cohn

IN HONOR OF:
The special anniversary of Dr. Lee and Gail Katz by Richard and Judge Ellen Hollander

THE HERMAN LUBCHER SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Richard Bagnetto by Dr. Kenneth and Judy Margolis

THE NATAN & PAULINE MASH PRE-SCHOOL FUND

IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Caren Nachman by Ruth Block

THE ISRAEL & REBECCA MASSING MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF:
The special birthday of Melvin Thomas by Jerry and Cherie Stewart

THE MAX MENDELSON ENDOWMENT MIKVUK FUND

IN APPRECIATION TO:
Rabbi Dana Saroken by Stephan and Sandra Werba

THE MORNING MIYAN FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Adele Fishkinstein by Gerald and Aryn Cohen

IN HONOR OF:
The birth of a great-granddaughter, Juliana Barbara Burns, to Rita Silverman by Hulane Zolet
The Bat Mitzvah of Eva Harris by Hulane Zolet
The naming of Ullah Samantha Gunstelle by Harold Rottman

A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Robert Kontoff by Michael and Penny Schweiger, Keith and Denise Franz

THE MITZVAH FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
The special birthday of Edward Hankin by Jerry and Joan Cohn

IN HONOR OF:
The Bat Mitzvah of Abby Berkwitz by Steven and Fran Baum

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Bernard Goodman by Steven and Elaine Goodman
Pauline Schnapper by Steven and Elaine Goodman

A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Jerry Herling by Jerry and Joan Cohn

THE BATYA & HADAS NIGRIN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
The mother of Zari Ginsburg by Bob and Rita Fellerman

THE ANNE OFFIT MEMORIAL FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Sy Klamer by Jerry and Bunny Magid

THE PRAYER BOOK FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Beverly Nachimson by Ronald and Rhona Markow, Warren and Lily Massouda, Richard and Susan Grill
Dr. Stuart Handwerger by Susan and Steven Isaacson
Marshall Seidler by Jerry and Louise Sollins
The brother of Franely Zalesky by Ellis Spind

IN HONOR OF:
The special anniversary of Richard and Susan Grill by Dr. Bob and Shelley Shemer
The Bat Mitzvah of Alon Krieger by Michael, Stephanie, and Jon Ray, David and Sandy Gordon
The marriage of Brooke Shemer to Ethan Zweig by Dr. Joseph and Linda Napolia
The special birthday of Al Feinberg by Irv and Marlene Schwartz
The special birthday of Marvin Glass by Marc, Aileen, Melanie, Ashley and Courtney Grebow
The special birthday of Dr. Richard Schlossberg by Gerry and Terry Zilinin
The special birthday of Jeanne Wachter by Howard and Rina Janet, Andrew, Adam and Conme
The Bar Mitzvah of Aidan Harris, grandson of Eddie and Judy Dworkin, by David and Sandy Gordon

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Gordon Allen Schwartz by Judy Schwartz

A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Robert Kontoff by Elia and Irena Merenitzoom

THE RABBI STEVENV SCHWARTZ TRIBUTE FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Beverly Nachimson by Dr. Bob and Sharon Solof
Annette (Babe) Silverman by Dr. Marc and Nancy Gertner
Beloved Zelda by Martha Pritzzler and Family
Nancy Sherwood by Dr. Ed and Ann Mishner
Blanche Reichert by Howard and Rina Janet, Dr. Marc and Nancy Gertner, Richard and Karen Feldman, William and Susan Kolokizer, Steven and Gayle Kemkraut
Judy Krug by Yvonne Perret
Alfred Norman Pooner by Randy and Laura Armdts, Michael Rubenstein and Heddy From
Sarah Epstein by Marjole Massing
Jerry Guditsky by Harriet Pleet
George Sack by Robert Barnhill, Jr. and the employees of Tesco Tech, Ted and Risa Orfit
Dorothy Schneider by Marvin and Sandy Glass

IN HONOR OF:
The marriage of Brooke Shemer to Ethan Zweig by Howard and Rina Janet
The special birthday of Michael Rubenstein by Dr. Ed and Ann Mishner
The marriage of John and Miriam Kolker by Marshall and Dr. Joanne Rief

IN APPRECIATION TO:
Rabbi Steven Schwartz for everything by Al and Pauline Auslander
A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO:
Robert Kontoff by Michael and Penny Schweiger, Keith and Denise Franz

THE SELLZZER PRE-SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Tilly Rubinowitz by Michael and Alene Sher

THE RICKY SIEGEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
The Bar Mitzvah of Eliwood and Thelma Sinsky’s grandson by Stanley and Eileen Ginsburg

The Sisterhood Past Presidents Memorial Scholarship Fund
IN HONOR OF:
The anniversary of Ira and Gloria Luchinsky by Howard and Sheila Sandbank

THE MORTON SPIND CONFIRMATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF:
The Bat Mitzvah of Alison Krieger by Ed and Judith Dworkin
The Bar Mitzvah of M. Ethan Gordon by Terry and Ellen Himelfarb
The Bar Mitzvah of M. Ethan Gordon by Ira and Ann Robinson

THE MELVIN & ANITA STEINBERG COLLEGE OUTREACH PROGRAM FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Sanford Marateck by Mickey and Anita Steinberg, Rene and Yvonne Daniel
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Julie L. Steinberg by Mickey and Anita Steinberg
THE JEAN & JOSEPH SUSSMAN SCHOLARSHIP
IN MEMORY OF:
Jay Cohen by Alan Weinstein
THE ELLIOT & SUSAN WEINSTEIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND
IN HONOR OF:
Malcolm and Sandy Berman being chosen “Philanthropists of the Year” by Elliot and Susan Weinstein

THE YAHREZIT FUND
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHREZIT OF:
Hannah Katzen Rosoff by Robert and Harriet Rosoff
Jacob Himelfarb by Don and Eileen Himelfarb
Isaac Zlotowitz by Dina Volk
Melvin Levit by Sylvia Levit
Melvin Levit by Joel Levit
Harry Seltzer by Sandra Silberman
Harold Round by Esther Rosenhall
Murray Goldstein by Diane Cole and Family
Stanley Ong by Ira and Nancy Ong
Abraham Levin by Ira and Nancy Ong
Bernard Epstein by Shirley Epstein
Jack Boretz by Alan and Jackie Wilder
Lenore Rene Shorofsky by Neil and Linda Kirschner
Carol Sue Kramer by Dr. Morton Kramer
Leah Wiesenberger by Stuart and Eileen Wiesenberger
Jennie Himelfarb by Don and Eileen Himelfarb
Sylvia Fleit by Ronnie and Mindy Fiskind
Max Greenwald by Jill Greenwald
Helen Sommers by Sharon R. Krieger and Paul Day and Julie and Henry Caldarazzo
Mae Jacobson by Sharon R. Krieger and Paul Day and Julie and Henry Caldarazzo
Edith Benesich by Bernice Seidman
Sara From by Michael Rubenstein and Heddy Fro
Milton Wool by Ruth Wool
Jacob Wolof by Bernice Ann Wolof
Irv and Esther Davis by Janet R. Davis
Lena Wohl by Lee and Joyce Barnstein
Samuel Rosenweig by Daniel Sagel
Marvin Sagel by Daniel Sagel
Louis B. Hackerman by Benjamin Hackerman
Esther Sarah Hackerman by Benjamin Hackerman
Susan N. Hackerman by Benjamin Hackerman
Hilda Dina Lewis by Dr. Ken and Sandy Glick
Robert Glick by Dr. Ken and Sandy Glick
Carl Monstein by Jay and Ellen Monstein
Louis Friedman by Donald Friedman
RosePerlman by David Gould
Rose Bass by Richard and RIta Lehr
Mollie Saliganek by Loretta Zimmerman
Sylvia Fleit by Harriet Fleit
Contributions & Endowments

The Bat Mitzvah of Eva Harris by Ronnie Bock and Family
The marriage of Brooke Shemer to Ethan Zweig by Keith and Denise Franz
The special anniversary of Drs. Sheldon and Arlene Bearman by Alfred and Lee Whiteman

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
IN HONOR OF:
Malcolm and Sandy Berman for being chosen “Philanthropists of the Year” by Joe and Annette Cooper
IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHIRZEIT OF:
Joseph Smith by Marcia Gellis

This is gift is tax deductible to the extent provided by law. These contributions were made between October 12, 2015 and November 30, 2015.
Past Event Photos

Light a Candle with Handel

Hanukkah Lights Up the Sky
Weather Policies

Weather conditions in the winter are bound to cause closings and delays all over the city. At Beth El, we have implemented a plan of action to alert all members as quickly as possible of Beth El’s status during harsh weather conditions. We will post emergency closings for the Beth El Schools on the Beth El Congregation website, Facebook, weather hotline, WJZ, and WBAL TV and radio.

**Pauline Mash School For Early Childhood Education:**
- We will post emergency closings due to inclement weather by 5:30 a.m. for the day in question.
- We will send an email to all parents by 5:30 a.m. if we are opening late or closing. NO MESSAGE MEANS WE ARE OPEN.
- If inclement weather comes during the day, parents will be notified of an early closing.

**Weekday: Berman-Lipavsky Religious School and Hebrew School in Your Neighborhood:**
- We will post emergency closings due to inclement weather by noon for the day in question.

**Sunday: Berman-Lipavsky Religious School and Sunday School:**
- We will post emergency closings due to inclement weather by 8:00 a.m. for the day in question.

**General Congregation:**
- If it is felt that the roads are hazardous and there are unsafe conditions, we will post an announcement at a minimum of three hours before a program is scheduled to start.
- We will post emergency closings on the website, our Facebook page and WJZ. WBAL will only show school closings.

**Beth El Website:** www.bethelbalto.com
**Weather Hotline:** 410-580-5082

---

Hearing Loop

Thanks to an anonymous donor, Beth El is now offering a hearing loop in the Agus Library and in the Kolker Room for hearing aid users equipped with T-Coils. A hearing loop provides a magnetic, wireless signal that is picked up by the hearing aid when it is set to the “T” (telecoil) setting.

When a hearing aid user selects the “T” setting, he or she can pick up the sounds spoken into the PA system’s microphone instead of the hearing aid’s internal microphone.

To access the T-Coil setting on your hearing aid, you will need to use a push button on your hearing aid. When you hear beeps or the words “microphone and telecoil,” you will be able to listen to the hearing loop.

For more information on hearing loops, please visit www.americanloops.com.

---

Have You Already Left for Florida?

Please contact Randy Arndts at 410-484-0411 or email randy@bethelbalto.com with the date you will be returning back to Baltimore this year.

---

The Voice of Beth El Congregation
Tu B’Shevat Tea
Monday, January 25, at 5:00 p.m.

Teas and foods from the seven species of biblical times will be served. Cost: $5/advance; $10/door. Please send checks to Lori Downing at Beth El. Your check is your reservation.

For more information, contact Lori Downing at 410-484-0411 or lori@bethelbalto.com.