



## From the Clergy

# Israel at 70: HOW ABOUT A HUG?

BY HAZZAN ASA FRADKIN

We love to hug each other, don't we?

I was sitting in shul one Shabbat in June listening to an Israeli soldier, Aaron Safraty, give an address to the congregation about his experience in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and how positive an impact the Friends of the IDF (FIDF) had on his army experience.

Well, yeah, I mean, we love Israel so much that we absolutely cannot do enough to support its vitality, its culture, its people, its right to be what it is: one of the greatest experiments in the history of human-kind.

As that soldier stood there full of awe for the American Jews who brought him to this beautiful shul to honor his experience, I couldn't help but think back to Julia Koby Spiegel's speech in the fall about her experience making aliyah.

I felt the same emotion that Shabbat with the Israeli soldier, Aaron Safraty, as I had when Julia finished her speech: to immediately run over and hug them. I think that's because we all feel that Israel is like a very precious child and Aaron and Julia are extensions of her.

And I am quite sure many people there felt the same way.

One reason for this emotion is that, as a people, we spent 2,000 years without this centrality of our Jewish selves. Then

just like our matriarchs Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel (Leah had no issues), we suddenly became the parents of this most precious miracle called Israel.

Much like a parent and child, some of us live close to Israel, within her borders, seeing her struggle and grow every day. Some of us live far away, visiting as often as possible and in no way diminished in our love. And what's the first thing you do when you see your kid, whether they live near or far? Bear hugs, especially if it's been a while.

And all of this continues through the most recent spate of troubles Israel has had on the Gaza border. Some of us are furious with Bibi, some of us support him wholeheartedly. Should live fire have been

used? Was there an alternative?

What I find remarkable is that we all understand that Israel is so much bigger than its current front-page issues, which also include Ugandan Jews and Eritrean Jews, not to mention Bibi's political scandals.

But we aren't going to walk away from our child for anything. I was just at a tribute concert in Florida this week for a colleague completing his 32nd year in the pulpit. As a part of his tribute video, his son appeared in full army gear on video from the Gaza border, another

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THE SCROLL IS A RECIPIENT  
OF THREE SOLOMON SCHECH-  
TER GOLD AWARDS FROM  
THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF  
CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM.



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## FROM THE CLERGY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

American Jew volunteering to fight for Israel.

You know how I felt when I saw him on that video? Yep, I wanted to hug him, too. He is defending what we all love, the holy land of our people.

Last month we had a lunch to celebrate Adam Zeren's and Itsik Sayag's service to our community. Itsik isn't leaving quite yet, but I can assure you when he does, he's going to get one giant hug from me, for taking our love back to Israel and for being the fulfillment of a promise that is thousands of years old.

May we always sustain our loving relationship with Eretz Yisrael and continue to see its powers of redemption. ■

## BACK TO SHUL BBQ

**Sunday, September 2, 3:30-5:30 pm**

*in the Beth El parking lot (indoors if it rains)*

- Burgers, hot dogs, and all the fixin's
- Reconnect with old friends and meet other members
- Information tables for many Beth El groups
- New and prospective members welcome
- Dunk the clergy!
- School supply collection for low-income children.

**\$5 per child (ages 3-10); \$10 per person (ages 11 and older); \$35 max per family**  
**Prospective members free**

Questions? Contact Geryl Baer at [gbaer@bethelmc.org](mailto:gbaer@bethelmc.org), or 301-652-2606, ext. 352.

Register online beginning August 1 at [bethelmc.org](http://bethelmc.org)

### Back to Shul BBQ Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Reservations

\_\_\_ # Member adults/teens @ \$10 each      Total \$ \_\_\_

\_\_\_ # Prospective members (Free)

\_\_\_ # Children 3-10 @ \$5 each      Total \$ \_\_\_

\_\_\_ # Children 2 and under (Free)

\_\_\_ # Family ticket @ \$35. Number of attendees

in my family: \_\_\_

**Total due: \$ \_\_\_ (Household maximum \$35)**

## July Bar Mitzvah

July 28: Manuel Kremer

# Reflections on Two Years at Beth El

BY ITSIK SAYAG

It's hard to believe that just two years ago I arrived in Maryland to become Beth El's first shaliach. What an experience this has been! Before arriving, I had some ideas about how to share my joy and enthusiasm for Israel and I hoped to learn more about the Conservative movement. Before the summer is over and I return to Israel, I want to share my reflections on this experience.

I arrived at Beth El in early September, 2016, and just a few days later I met many congregants at the Back-to-Shul BBQ. I was overwhelmed by the warmth of the community. I started getting to know people through impromptu conversations. Everyone was so welcoming at the event and eager to talk about their experiences and relationship with Israel. We were off to a great start.

When the High Holidays began, I jumped right in to my first teaching opportunity – the teen Rosh Hashanah discussion. Which of my plans would best fit different groups? Soon I was sharing my stories of life in Israel. At a Men's Club breakfast, I spoke about my life, what a *shaliach* is, and the reason I wanted to be a *shaliach*.

I began to connect with many groups at Beth El. In the Religious School, I spoke with students of all ages about Israel. Many knew how special Israel is, and some had visited. I enjoyed teaching and learning from the students as we talked about life in Israel, food, key cities, ethnic and religious groups, and more. I was also able to engage with Sisterhood, the Senior Caucus, the Book Chat, and the Conversational Hebrew Group. The monthly Israel Media Series was always great, and I enjoyed the opportunity to discuss the films.

After my first year of sharing my experiences of Israel, I started to listen to the experiences of others. On the Religious School Confirmation trip, retreats, and Masa (the Israel program for grades K-2), I invited discussion about Israel and heard who has been to Israel. The number of kids who have visited Israel is impressive! It's wonderful to see the love for Israel being carried from generation to generation.

In the fall, we brought the Israeli experience of *Tashlich* to the Billy Goat trail at Great Falls. I loved being able to share everyday aspects of Israel through art, music, and film. The culmination of the year was "Israel @ 70," our two-

week shul-wide celebration led by the Am Yisrael Chai committee. It included an arts-and-crafts day, speakers, dancing, a special celebratory dinner, and more.

My special way to end my Beth El journey involved stories, books, and food, which always bring Jewish people together. On my first day at the shul two years ago, I made the library my office. I noticed the signs that request no eating or drinking in the library.

As with all true Israelis, I do not believe that following rules is the best way to live. And so sparked my idea for a dinner in the library to celebrate Hebrew Book Week.

I look forward to returning home and am excited about what lies ahead. I'll take with me the amazing experiences we have shared, memories of this warm and welcoming

congregation, and all the special people who have become a part of my life here. I have learned so much and embraced Conservative Judaism.

I hope I have left you with my love of Israel, the ability to ask new questions about the Israeli-American relationship, and an understanding of new aspects of the State of Israel. I leave feeling sure that you will welcome a new shaliach with the same warmth and enthusiasm with which you welcomed me.

Think of me as you plan your next trip to Israel, as I want to welcome you as warmly as you have welcomed me.

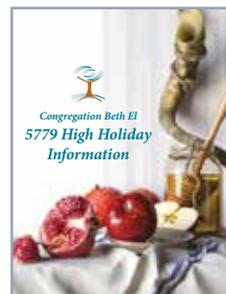
להתראות לביתיים

Itzik ■



BETH EL SAYS "L'HITRAOT" TO ITSIK. PHOTO BY RICHARD KLEIN

## HIGH HOLIDAYS ARE "EARLY" – RETURN YOUR FORM ASAP



High Holiday packets were mailed the last week of June. Be sure to return your registration form by Tuesday, July 31. Some of the services fill up even before this date; the earlier you return your form, the better the chance of your getting seats in the service of your choice. Tickets go on sale to non-members beginning Wednesday, August 1.

Rosh Hashanah begins Sunday evening, September 9. Questions? Call 301-652-2606.

# HIAS President Addresses the Global Refugee Crisis

BY SHERYL ROSENSKY MILLER



“We have more refugees in the world than at any time in recorded history, including World War II,” declared Mark Hetfield, president of HIAS, who spoke about the global refugee crisis in the sanctuary on Shabbat morning, May 19.

When Hetfield last spoke at Beth El in 2013, there were 52.5 million refugees and displaced persons around

the world. In 2018, the number has risen to 65.5 million, Hetfield stated.

When he spoke at Beth El in 2013, Hetfield complained that the United States admitted only about 70,000 refugees that year. Before that time, America was bringing in about 200,000 per year. In stark contrast, in 2018, the Trump administration set the quota for refugees at 45,000, which is the lowest number since the United Nations passed the Refugee Act in 1980. But the reality is even worse. “The U.S. will not even reach half of that number” in 2018, says Hetfield. In the first six months of 2017, the U.S. took in 5,839 Syrians. “In the first six months of 2018, we brought in *only 11*, not 11,000, but 11,” declared Hetfield. “This is why Beth El and other congregations around the country are still waiting to receive a refugee family.”

As Jews, Hetfield explained, we know all too well what happens when America’s borders close. We only need to look back to 1921 when Congress passed the Emergency Quota Act, which shut the doors to most Jewish refugees and immigrants by requiring visas prior to arrival and setting nationality quotas that openly discriminated against Jews and Italians.

Before the Quota Act, America admitted over three million Jewish immigrants from 1881 to 1921. At that time, America was generous to Jews fleeing Eastern Europe due to widespread religious persecution and pogroms. In 1921, when America’s doors closed, HIAS was forced to become an international agency. The Quota Act lasted all the way through the Nuremberg Laws, Kristallnacht, the SS *St. Louis*, and the Holocaust. Imagine how many Jews could have been saved if the Quota Act had not become law.

Hetfield said he is grateful that Beth El is a member of the HIAS Welcome Campaign and is patiently waiting to be assigned a refugee family. He closed with this charge to our congregation: “I ask you to continue to take action. A lot of

you showed outrage in the winter of 2017 when these bans started going into effect. A lot of us occupied airports, took to the streets to protest America closing its doors, and held rallies. But the situation is getting worse. As Jews, we know all too well what happens when the doors are closed. We’ve been there ourselves. We need to raise our voice. I urge you to continue working with HIAS and continue to work with Lutheran Social Services by trying to welcome a refugee family to our community...”

To watch Mark Hetfield’s entire talk, visit <https://bethelmc.org/social-action>. ■

## Mitzvah Day Volunteers Needed

Plans are underway for Mitzvah Day on October 28. If you would like to volunteer to help or captain a new project, please email co-chairs Donna Shimshi and Jon Polon.

## Montgomery County Executive Candidate Forum



On Monday, June 11, Beth El sponsored a political forum featuring the seven candidates for county executive: Democrats Roger Berliner, David Blair, Marc Elrich, William Frick, Rose Krasnow, and George Leventhal, and Republican Robin Ficker. Over 200 people attended the event, which was organized by the Men’s Club. Each candidate spoke for five minutes about his or her background and main issues, answered five minutes of questions, and gave a one minute closing statement. The attendees left the forum with a lot of new information to consider, with early voting beginning a few days after the event and primary elections taking place on June 26. ■ PHOTO BY EMILY KOO

# From Holocaust to Independence

BY LARRY SIDMAN, JANA SINGER, AND TODD ROSENBERG

It was an atypical, sunny and warm mid-April day in Poland. We walked into the Zbylitowska Gora Forest outside Tarnow. Each busload of people gathered around one of the several gravesites where more than 8,000 people, mostly Jews, were executed by the Nazis in the fall of 1942. We took turns reading cards with the names, photos, and birthplaces of Jewish children killed there. We all assembled in front of the mass grave of 800 Jewish children. Clouds suddenly moved in. The wind rustled audibly through the trees. As the Chief Hazzan of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) commenced chanting *El Maleh Rachamim*, it began to rain softly. When the hazzan concluded the prayer, the sun reappeared. We all looked to the heavens. It was beyond moving. It was mystical.

This was only one of the “never to be forgotten” moments of the Friends of Israel Defense Forces (FIDF) mission to Poland and Israel, “From Holocaust to Independence.” We were among the 130 participants from across America and Israel, joined by 45 IDF soldiers, several guides from Yad VaShem, and three Holocaust survivors, who spent four days in Poland and four days in Israel. Our trip spanned the emotion-laden period encompassing Yom HaShoah, in remembrance of the Holocaust, Yom HaZikaron, Israel’s Memorial Day, and Yom HaAtzmaut, Israel’s Independence Day. We plunged into the deepest darkness of humanity and emerged to bask in the brightest light of the exuberance and warmth of the IDF soldiers and our Jewish brothers and sisters in Israel.

## Four Days in Poland

Krakow was the hub for our stay in Poland. Although there are very few Jews remaining there, the “old Jewish Quarter” has become somewhat of a tourist attraction. Sadly, the principal magnet is Krakow’s proximity to Auschwitz-Birkenau, a large complex consisting of a work camp, Auschwitz, and an extermination center, Birkenau, where more than one million Jews were murdered, most in crematoria, reflecting the zenith of Nazi killing efficiency.

At Birkenau, we listened to the remarkably lucid and articulate 92-year-old Leon Shear retell his tale of horror and survival in barrack 14, the same barrack that was his “home” during the Holocaust. We marched along the tracks that

brought the trains bearing Jews from all over Europe marked for extermination. We stood in front of the structure that served as the “selection center,” where Nazis determined who should die. Absent the presence of the Israeli soldiers carrying Israeli flags unfurled and a Torah scroll, the sense of despair might have been intolerable. Being in their company changed the mood. The sense of horror remained, but it was mingled with a sense of resolve, resilience, and, yes, triumph. Am Yisrael not only had survived but was now thriving.

Larry was asked to lead the delegation in reciting Mourners’ Kaddish at the memorial at Birkenau and Todd was asked to lay a wreath in memoriam. The temptation to break down sobbing was real, but surrounded by the IDF soldiers, we were inspired to be strong.

## On to Israel

The transition from darkness to light was marked on our El Al charter flight to Ben Gurion airport. A rumor swirled that there was to be a surprise. The leader of the mission, an ordained rabbi, asked people to move toward the back of the airplane. Several musicians from the IDF took out their instruments. As many passengers as possible encircled Shear and another member of our group who had been about to be called to the Torah in Israel on June 5, 1967. The Torah scroll we had carried along the tracks to Birkenau was unrolled. Denied by the

Holocaust and the Six-Day War the chance to become b’nai mitzvah when they were 13, they became b’nai mitzvah at 40,000 feet!

Upon landing in Israel, we joined in a joyous, hora-filled tarmac celebration. The festive atmosphere was tempered slightly by the realization that the IDF soldiers who had accompanied us had to return to their posts in a time of peril in both the north and the south. The anticipation we felt at spending the next four nights at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, at once a symbol of luxury tourism in modern Israel and a historical reminder of the struggle waged by young Israelis against British oppression during the Mandate preceding Israel’s independence, was palpable.

From darkness to light, a theme ubiquitous in the liturgy and Jewish literature, reasserted itself in Israel.

Yom HaZikaron, Memorial Day in Israel, is very different



LARRY SIDMAN AND JANA SINGER AT PRESIDENT REUVEN RIVLIN’S RESIDENCE

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 8:30 PM David Margulies will lead a discussion of "Religious Truth and Scientific Fact—Are They Compatible? Do They Need to Be?"

## Men Listening

BY JON SHIELDS

Rituals abound at Beth El. Few, perhaps, blend more easily into its fabric than the discussion group called Hearing Men's Voices that has met at the shul for the last 15 years on the first Thursday of every month. And few, perhaps, are more simple: a group of 15-20 men simply sitting down to talk and listen.

The group, of course, has developed its own rituals. Each month a different member chooses a topic, which can be anything from relationships to the spiritual, from the personal to science, from fun to family. There is space for everyone to have a say. People try to speak from the heart rather than the head, from personal experience rather than received wisdom. Arguments are rare. Silence is unknown.

It can be hard to predict which topics will most raise the group's passions or which will be deviated from most in the discussion. Questions of Jewish identity, practices, and beliefs tend to be the most popular starting points, but they may then spawn disconnected revelations about work relationships or vacation choices. Asked, for instance, to talk about their personal communication styles, participants may end up reflecting on speakers they like to avoid. But one thing is certain: time is never enough.

Familiarity and a stable membership have helped. A dozen or so men have scarcely missed a meeting in the last decade. But there has also been a steady influx of new blood, with a new regular attendee every six months or so and many others popping in. As the founders have aged, so of course has the group. Ages now range from the 50s to the 90s, with the average age creeping up to 70.

### An Initiative of the Conservative Movement

What appeals to these men so much? The genesis of the group was an initiative by the Conservative movement's Men's Clubs to bolster men's commitment to community leadership and Jewish identity in the wake of egalitarian advances that had left some men searching for a synagogue role. No such worries bothered the originators at Beth El. But some of the themes developed in the glossy booklets on men's issues produced for the movement's initiative did resonate. The first booklets covered fatherhood, spirituality,

health, intermarriage, and work. They used rabbinic wisdom, secular expertise, and provocative questions to alert men to topics that would otherwise often remain dormant until a personal crisis and then get addressed only in isolation. Relationships with rebellious teenagers, caring for aging parents, dealing with depression, and maintaining ethical values at work all came into the arena. Some material in the booklets covered community issues, but much was individual.

The Beth El group developed its own format for address-

ing these topics. The formal procedures and rabbinical guidance suggested by the booklets were replaced by open and respectful discussion. A number of the group's sessions explored personal dilemmas beneath the broader issues: coping with uncertainty, asking for help, questioning beliefs, confronting mortality. Others

addressed Jewish identity and feelings about Israel. As the group matured, having fun became a popular topic, like celebrating favorite music or movies. Many meetings now touch on family relationships and how they unfold over the generations. A few veer into physics and ethics.

### A Good Mix of Personalities and Styles

Conversation is always respectful, but styles vary enormously. Some leaders provide source documents or circulate questionnaires to focus the group's attention, while one stimulated an evening's lively discussion with just a three-sentence introduction. Many participants limit their interventions to personal experience; others prefer to prod and poke, pushing others to reconcile spiritual assumptions and aspirations with everyday reality. A few men issue only an occasional wise reflection. Some find it difficult to ration the flow from their subconscious. Hobby horses canter regularly. Thankfully, the group is blessed with a good mix of both personalities and professional skills. There are provocateurs and calm mediators. Bureaucrats, research scientists, doctors, lawyers, journalists, and economists blend with psychotherapists, counselors, and social workers. Bristles are softened and venom redirected. Some hard truths are told; offense is rarely taken. Secrets emerge, but their tellers always leave feeling safe and relieved.



PARTICIPANTS IN HEARING MEN'S VOICES CELEBRATE OVER DINNER

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# Sisterhood

## Save the Date: Community Challah Bake

BY MARCI KANSTOROOM

On Sunday, October 21, tables in Bender Social Hall will be set with all of the ingredients and tools needed to make challah. There will be room for 100 men, women, and children accompanying adult participants. Many experienced challah bakers from Beth El have volunteered to help lead the measuring, mixing, kneading, and braiding. While the dough rises, there will be opportunities to learn about special kinds of challah making. Participants will take home challah in a pan. It will only need to rise one more time at home and then be baked and frozen for Shabbat. The name Challah Bake tends to be used to describe events like these,

even though the actual baking takes place at home. We expect the event to fill up, so participants will be asked to register and to pay a small fee in advance. It will all be part of Beth El's participation in the Shabbat Project.

The Shabbat Project began in South Africa four years ago as a grassroots effort aimed at helping Jews around the world experience the magic of Shabbat and Jewish unity. Beth El's Community Challah Bake is being organized by Sisterhood/Zhava. We are considering partnerships with a number of outside groups.

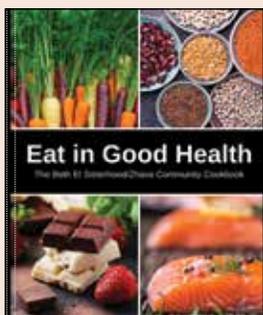
While big challah bakes have become one of the hallmarks of the



Shabbat Project, the focus is on helping Jews around the world come together and feel connected to each other and to our traditions on Shabbat. Last year, over 1,400 cities participated in the project, organizing everything from outdoor Shabbat dinners to Havdalah concerts. In addition to our Communi-

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### Cookbook E-Books Now Available



*Eat in Good Health*, the collaborative Beth El/Zhava Community Cookbook is in cyberspace! An e-book version is now available. To get your copy, or buy a few for your well-connected family and friends, visit [bethelmc.org/ebook](http://bethelmc.org/ebook).

The e-book version is just \$12.99 and is available to anyone, anywhere, who has a computer, tablet, or even a smartphone.

The e-book version of *Eat in Good Health* has the same terrific format, recipes, stories, and classifications as the paper book. In addition, it is totally searchable by word, table of contents and index. In the mood for broccoli? Just search for the word and every recipe with broccoli in it appears before you. The e-book stands on its own, but it is also great to own in addition to the hard copy. No matter where you are in the world, as long as you have your smart device, you'll have a taste of home.

Of course the traditional version of *Eat in Good Health* is still available. Details and an order form are available at [bethelmc.org/cookbook](http://bethelmc.org/cookbook).

Online or on your countertop, *Eat in Good Health* is a scrumptious book that you will enjoy cooking with now and for years to come.

## Sisterhood Annual Meeting

At its Annual Meeting in June, Sisterhood welcomed Beth El congregant Michael Freilich, director of NASA's Earth Science Division, who spoke to a wide audience about "Looking Down on Earth: Satellites, Science and Societal Benefit." Using interactive slides, Michael explained how NASA uses satellites to get information about what is happening on Earth, such as oceanic sea levels and hemispheric carbon dioxide levels. Comparing measurements over time lets us assess conditions on Earth. Among other things, Michael shared that NASA can determine a satellite's location in the vastness of space with an accuracy of one inch. Amazing!

Sisterhood also elected its new officers and board, including President Sue Kanter and officers Linda Fassberg, Ivy Fields, Amy Forseter, Sheryl Karlsberg, Nancy Kay, Susan King, Kristen Rosner, and Sharon Zissman. ■

### Attention B'nai Mitzvah Parents and Engaged Couples



Why not order your b'nai mitzvah and wedding invitations online and give back to Beth El? Sisterhood and Beth El receive 100% of the proceeds. We price match. Please contact Marilyn Hammerman.

## CHALLAH BAKE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

ty Challah Bake, several other activities are being considered by Beth El for the Shabbat that begins on Friday, October 26, at sundown. Some of the events being considered are a learner's service or a Havdalah kumsitz.

Beth El is no newcomer to community building around Shabbat and to teaching the art and skill of challah baking. Our congregation has participated in a similar project, Shabbat Across America, in which synagogues host special Shabbat dinners and activities on a particular Shabbat in the spring. Before that, Beth El had a tradition called Shabbat Shalom at Home, which involved picking one Shabbat and encouraging Beth El families to invite their friends over for a Shabbat meal. Sisterhood has a long tradition of offering challah workshops in February or March.

If you would like to be involved with the Challah Bake or some other Shabbat Project activity this fall, or would like to be contacted when registration is open for the Challah Bake, please email me at [mkanstoroom@gmail.com](mailto:mkanstoroom@gmail.com). ■

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## MEN LISTENING CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Over the years, the group has bonded and strengthened. Participants may not know much of each other's lives beyond what is revealed around the table or at a shul Kiddush. But, as illnesses come and go, children marry, grandkids are cherished, and retirements are phased in, the group is always ready to listen and share. Familiarity, honesty, and respect have bred a rare comfort and fellowship.

Hearing one another's voices is – sadly – not a regular reality for us all. Lucky are those for whom it has become at least a monthly ritual. ■

## Beth El Gift Shop



Noah Berger models one of our beautiful new tallitot while holding a fancy kiddush cup. These and many more items are available in the Sisterhood Judaica Shop. Purchases from the Judaica Shop support Beth El and Sisterhood. Summer hours are by appointment. Please contact Michelle Gips for an appointment.

## Sponsor a Kiddush



Celebrate a special day or remember a loved one by sponsoring a kiddush on a Shabbat or festival when there is no bar/bat mitzvah. Hospitality Kiddush sponsorships run \$361, \$464 or \$541 depend-

ing on menu and include up to 15 of your own guests plus the congregation.

**Available dates are July 14 and 21; August 4, 11, 18, and 25; September 8, 22, and 24 (first day of Sukkot).**

To sponsor a kiddush or to obtain more information and menus, contact Shoshannah Freilich at least two weeks prior to the kiddush you wish to sponsor.



## Grand Slam Sunday Sunday, August 19 Washington Nationals vs. Miami Marlins First pitch at 1:35 pm

Join the Men's Club and other members of Beth El on Sunday, August 19, for a Nationals-Marlins game. We will be participating in Grand Slam Sunday: Jewish Community Day at National Park, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.

**You can purchase tickets to the baseball game by going to [www.shalomdc.org/gss2018bethel](http://www.shalomdc.org/gss2018bethel).**

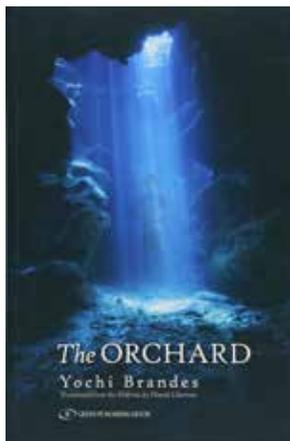
## Kabbalat Shabbat in the Park Friday, August 24, 5:30 pm Greenwich Park

Join Beth El at Greenwich Park, just across the street from Beth El, for a picnic and Kabbalat Shabbat. Bring your own dairy/pareve picnic for dinner at 5:30 pm. At 6:30 pm, we will welcome Shabbat with a musical service led by Hazzan Fradkin. After the service, stay to enjoy a dessert Oneg. RSVPs are encouraged to Sara Greenbaum at [sgreenbaum@bethelmc.org](mailto:sgreenbaum@bethelmc.org) or 301-652-2606, ext. 302.

# Library Corner

## Rabbi Akiva: The Novel

BY ROBIN JACOBSON



Rabbi Akiva (c.50–135 C.E.) is a storied scholar and hero in Jewish tradition. His name appears more than 1,300 times in the Babylonian Talmud alone. Following the Roman destruction of the Temple in 70 C.E. – a tragedy that threatened to end Judaism – he and other luminaries started down a path that led to a new Judaism, replacing Temple sacrifices with prayer, study, and good deeds. Yet

before reinventing Judaism, Akiva had to reinvent himself. According to legend, Akiva was an illiterate shepherd who did not even begin to study until age 40.

Yochi Brandes, an award-winning Israeli author, has stitched together numerous rabbinic texts to bring Rabbi Akiva and his contemporaries to life in *The Orchard*, a novel newly translated into English. A good read and an easy entry point into the legends and lore surrounding Rabbi Akiva, *The Orchard* is mostly faithful to its sources; Brandes limits her literary inventions to imagining the characters' personalities and relationships, filling the blank spaces within traditional stories, and choosing among contradictory accounts. For further reading, however, try these excellent non-fiction works, *Rabbi Akiva: Sage of the Talmud* by Barry Holtz (2017) and *Akiva: Life, Legend, Legacy* by Reuven Hammer (2015).

### The Shepherd and the Rich Man's Daughter

The traditional story of Akiva's marriage reads like a Grimm fairy tale. Akiva's wife, Rachel, is the daughter of a wealthy man who disowns her when she marries an ignorant shepherd. Living in poverty, sleeping on hay, Akiva picks straw out of Rachel's hair, promising to someday buy her a "Jerusalem of Gold," a fabulous tiara molded in the shape of the Jerusalem skyline. Meanwhile, Rachel urges Akiva to study Torah with the sages; she sells her hair to finance his studies and toils alone to support their family.

After many years away, Akiva returns home a scholar, trailed by thousands of disciples who owe all their learning, says Akiva, to Rachel's sacrifice. Rachel's father restores Rachel and Akiva to wealth, and Akiva presents Rachel with a Jerusalem of Gold. But in Brandes' novel, narrated by Rachel, the family never fully reconciles. Rachel can forgive neither her father nor her husband for abandoning her for so many lonely, hard years.

### A Master of Interpretation

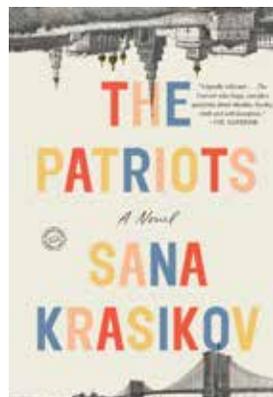
Rabbi Akiva was renowned for reading the Torah closely, finding meaning in every word. *The Orchard* tells the classic story of a dispute between rabbis regarding the date on which the new moon was visible, which determined the timing of Yom Kippur. In a show of authority, the head of the Sanhedrin, Gamaliel II, ordered Rabbi Joshua to publicly violate "his" Yom Kippur by carrying a staff and money. Akiva comforted Joshua by interpreting a Leviticus phrase "you shall proclaim them" to mean that the timing of holidays was based not on a divine calendar but on the proclamations of the humans in authority.

### The Mystical Orchard

In the enigmatic Talmudic tale of the "pardes" (literally "orchard," but connotes "paradise"), Akiva and three other scholars mystically ascend to God's realm. The other scholars are so overcome by what they see that one dies, one goes insane, and one becomes a heretic. Only Akiva emerges unscathed. In Brandes' *The Orchard*, however, Akiva only appeared unaffected; in fact, the transcendent experience influenced him to support the catastrophic Bar Kochba revolt against Rome (132–135 C.E.).

What did Akiva and the others see in the orchard? Brandes offers a clever solution (revealed in her book) to this age-old puzzle. As for Akiva, his resistance to Roman edicts prohibiting the teaching of Judaism led to torture and death. He died reciting the words of the *Shema*. ■

## Summer Reading



don or Robin Jacobson.

Looking for a good book this summer? Try *The Patriots* by Sana Krasikov, the selection for the fall Book Chat on Sunday, October 28, at 11:30 am. This multi-generational novel of idealism, betrayal, and family secrets is primarily set in the former Soviet Union. For more information, contact Margery London or Robin Jacobson.

# New Bimah Cover Beautifies and Memorializes

BY SHELLEY DUCKER

The forest-green, symbol-rich covering now on bimah in the Swoff Chapel was donated by Aryeh Portnoy and his family to honor the memory of his father Rabbi Hershel E. Portnoy. The reading table cover is designed to elevate Jewish rituals, deepen connection to prayer, perpetuate Jewish communal gathering, and warm the spirit.

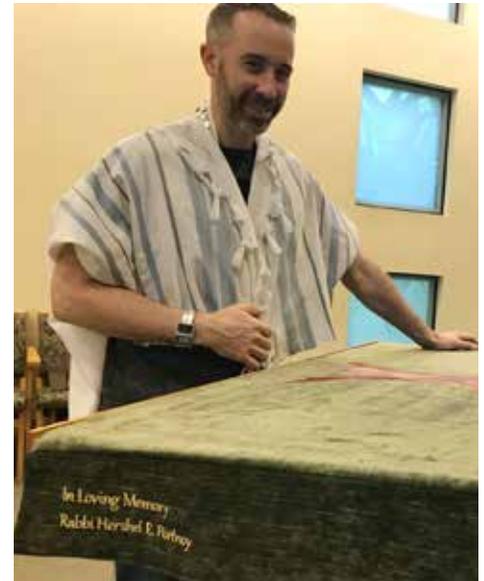
Rabbi Portnoy led a synagogue in Larchmont, N.Y., for more than 25 years and was a decorated Chaplain Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. (Aryeh, himself a fixture on our Beth El bimah, while still in high school was conscripted to lead services at

his father's shul when his father was deployed during Operation Desert Storm.) "When I picture my father, I picture him on the bimah. That was where he stood. That was his place," said Aryeh. "But this cover is not just about me or my father. It is a way to deepen our experience of communal prayer and communal gathering, which perpetuates the Jewish people. This truly memorializes his life and his passions."

## From Generation to Generation

When selecting an inscription for the cover, the family chose *l'dor vador nagid godlecha* from the Amidah Kedusha,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



## FROM HOLOCAUST TO INDEPENDENCE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

from Memorial Day in the United States. No big sales. No parades. In Israel, it is a day of pervasive sadness and remembrance, marked once in the evening and once the following morning by sirens wailing for one minute while everything comes to a silent standstill, including traffic. IDF commanders visit the families of soldiers who fell while under their leadership.

### Remembering the Fallen

Seated in the plaza in front of the Western Wall, we watched Israeli President Reuven Rivlin and IDF Chief of Staff Gadi Eizenkot comfort the families of those struck down in the major and minor wars that have scarred Israel in its 70 years of independence, as well as the families left bereft by terrorism. The following day, at the memorial for the Armored Corps in Latrun, we listened as a 90-year-old woman, flanked by her Armored Corps granddaughters, told the story of her brother who barely survived the Holocaust and was killed during the War of Independence, before the two had an opportunity to be reunited in Israel. On this Yom HaZikaron, the cumulative death toll was 26,347, the most recent occurring only the weekend before.

Not by happenstance, however, in Israel Yom HaZikaron is observed the day before Yom HaAtzmaut. From darkness to light to the nth power. On Erev Yom HaAtzmaut, we went to a venue overlooking the Old City and partied

heartily with Israeli students who had received FIDF scholarships, enabling them to attend university upon completion of their military service. Their remarkable joie de vivre was exceeded only by their gratitude. Fireworks lit up the sky. The streets teemed with Israelis celebrating freedom until

the early morning hours.

### Celebrating Israel

The culminating event was an invitation to the diplomatic reception marking the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the modern State of Israel at the official residence of President Rivlin. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke for 20 minutes without any notes or teleprompter, a tour de force that was part history lesson and part signal that the State of Israel is here to stay, a military, economic, and technological force to be accepted in the world community as a matter of other nations' self-interest. It was heady stuff.

We will never forget multiple moments on this trip. They always will be illuminated by our one-on-one interactions with so many of the IDF soldiers, men and women, commanders and kids, pilots and musicians, military intelligence geeks and snipers. As we look back upon the trip, especially in light of the hostilities on the Syrian and Gaza borders, their faces are etched in our minds. ■



LARRY SIDMAN AND TODD ROSENBERG ARRIVE IN ISRAEL

# Morning Minyan is the Way We Start the Day

BY CAROL KAMINSKY AND DENA FORSTER

Have you ever wanted to

- Have a place to mourn the death of a close relative among supportive friends?
- Explore another spiritual dimension of Judaism?
- Help perpetuate the Morning Minyan at Beth El?

There is a dedicated group of congregants who gather each morning in the Swoff Chapel to begin the day in prayer. Afterwards, they enjoy breakfast together, chat about topics ranging from family events to world events, and enjoy a short lesson from Rabbi Werbin.

What brings the regulars to minyan at 7:30 each morning? Here is a sampling of responses:

- “To pray, to learn with like-minded people.” *Rosine*
- “I come to Morning Minyan for the camaraderie, discussions, and friendship. The breakfasts are great also.” *Art*
- “I came to deal with mourning my mother, saying Kaddish as a duty and experiment. I keep coming for the support and for being able to support others at different stages of mourning. I have stayed for the deeper sense of the spiritual and the gratitude for life.” *Joel*
- “I like to have my daily check-in conversation with the Big Guy, and it’s nice to see my friends as well.” *Bill*
- “My goal is to come closer to HaShem. Every morning I receive comfort and inspiration. Learning is an



“REGULARS” OF THE WEEKDAY MORNING MINYAN

integral part of Judaism. Rabbi Werbin, an inspiring educator, adds this positive dimension to the minyan. As with everything in life, we reap what we sow, and the morning minyan is no exception. It’s a very special way of taking and giving.” *Carol*

- “When my husband stopped driving, I began taking him to morning minyan and stayed. Little did I know that it would become an important part of my day. Morning prayer is, of course, the main event, but for me, more important is the community that gathers. I might not agree with all that our sages have decided, but they had it right when they developed the minyan. Community is a necessity for hu-

mans, and at Beth El we have a large community that can be intimidating for some, but we also have very meaningful small communities and the morning minyan is an important one of them.” *Dena*

- “I came to say Kaddish for my father and stayed so that others could say Kaddish. Now I come to pray, see the good friends I have made at minyan, and study with Rabbi Werbin. It’s a great way to start the day.” *Joanne*
- “I like to start the day with the big picture.” *Gerry*

Morning Minyan begins at 7:30 am. The prayer service ends between 8:00 and 8:15 am. Breakfast, learning, and schmoozing follow. We invite you to join us at this place where everyone knows your name. ■

## Beit Midrash for 11th and 12th Graders

BY RABBI MAX NISSEN



The Beth El Religious School is excited to pilot a new post-confirmation seminar for 11th- and 12th-graders. The seed for the post-confirmation Beit Midrash Seminar sprouted when 11th grade families approached the Religious School asking for an engaging, student-centered program for their

teens who were interested in continuing their Jewish education after Confirmation. Registration is now open!

The goal is to facilitate a space for teens to explore what they identify as the most interesting and pressing issues in our society through engagement with our tradition. Students

will be empowered to shape the experience and develop a learning community where it’s safe to challenge, change one’s mind, and be both a student and a teacher. Students will develop the skills to consider different viewpoints, question, and take part in *makhlakot l’shem shamayim* (deep disagreement from a place of curiosity and respect).

The seminar is tentatively scheduled to meet on Sundays, twice a month, at 12:30 pm. I will be in touch with seminar students and their families once registration is closed to confirm the date and time. If you did not receive an email inviting you to register for Religious School, you can register your 11th- or 12th-grader online at <https://www.bethelmc.org/rsregistration>. ■

## Attention Parents of College Students!

### Looking for a way to keep your college student connected to Beth El?

Send current email and mailing addresses and name of school with expected graduation date to [rmunster@bethelmc.org](mailto:rmunster@bethelmc.org) by **Friday, September 7**, and your college student will receive regular email messages from the rabbi and special holiday packages filled with greetings and goodies.

Or, complete the form below and return to the synagogue office **Attention: College Outreach**

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if the mailing address is:

On campus  Off campus

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE: To keep our database current, this information needs to be updated each year.**



**Friday, July 27**

**4:30-6:30 pm**

**at the Bender JCC**

6125 Montrose Rd, Rockville, MD 20852

The Bender JCC and Beth El invite you to join us for pool activities and a fun, musical, Kabbalat Shabbat experience by the pool! Enhance the evening and bring a picnic, dairy dinner for your family enjoy.

**Free for everyone. Membership to JCC not required.  
Free swim and play at the pool.**

Registration required. Register online at:  
<http://www.benderjccgw.org/event/splash-into-shabbat/>

## PJ Library Sweet Summer Series

**Wednesday, August 1**

**6:00-7:00 pm**

**Haagen-Dazs**

**7237 Woodmont Ave, Bethesda**



Stop by Haagen-Dazs for a sweet treat with Beth El and PJ Library. Have dessert and stay for story time and crafts. What could be sweeter? Oh, a discount on your purchase! No RSVP required.

## Erev Tisha B'Av

**9 Av 5778/Saturday, July 21**

**7:45 pm: Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit**

**9:00 pm: Ma'ariv and the reading of the Book of Eicha (Lamentations)**

Seudah Shlishit is a light dairy dinner on Shabbat between Mincha and Ma'ariv. There is no charge for it, but RSVPs are requested by Wednesday morning, July 18, to Hattie Goodman at [hgoodman@bethelmc.org](mailto:hgoodman@bethelmc.org) or 301-652-2606, ext. 301.



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BETH EL FAMILY CAMP WAS HELD OVER MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND AT CAMP HORIZONS IN HARRISONBURG, VA. TWENTY-THREE FAMILIES GATHERED FOR A FUN-FILLED WEEKEND TO CELEBRATE SHABBAT, PLAY, AND RELAX WITH OTHER FAMILIES FROM OUR BETH EL COMMUNITY, WITH SPECIAL APPEARANCES BY RABBI GREG HARRIS AND HAZZAN ASA FRADKIN AND THEIR FAMILIES. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FAMILY CAMP PLEASE GO TO [HTTPS://WWW.BETHELMC.ORG/ FAMILY-CAMP/](https://www.bethelmc.org/family-camp/).

After a hiatus of several months, the Beth El Library is again accepting donations for the collection. Don't forget that the library is open whenever Beth El is open. It is self-service, on the honor system. You can also see what is new in the library and search the online catalog from home at [bethelmc.mysurpass.net](http://bethelmc.mysurpass.net).

# Rudolph Gallery Display Cases: An Update

BY SHEILA BELLACK

The June *Scroll* included an introduction to Beth El's display cases and thanked those to whom we are indebted for making them possible. We wish to add to that list congregant Patrick Gallagher, president and owner of Gallagher and Associates (G&A), an internationally recognized museum planning and design firm that has completed projects at a wide range of sites, including the National Center for Civil and Human Rights (Atlanta), National Museum of American Jewish History (Philadelphia), Beit Hatfutsot, the Museum of the Jewish People (Tel Aviv), and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (Washington, D.C.). At no cost to Beth El, G&A designers worked closely with our staff from start to finish, learning the background of our Holocaust Torah scroll going on permanent display, learning how the cases would be used, suggesting where to situate the cases for best visibility and



lighting, and so much more. Their attention to detail was key to the professional final product.

With the change of seasons, some of the exhibits in Beth El's display cases also changed. On June 5, 2018, the 51st anniversary of the outbreak of the Six-Day War, Tamar Fish-



man, our volunteer curator, installed an exhibit of news coverage from the war, including *LIFE* magazines from the collection of congregants Susan and Bert King. In 1967, there was no internet, Twitter, cell-phone, or any other means of instant communication.

Radio news on the hour, television news a few times a day, the daily newspaper, and weekly or monthly magazines provided all the available information. *LIFE*, in particular, was notable for the high quality of its photography, and many of its issues became collectors' items celebrating or commemorating special national or world events. ■

## NEW BIMAH COVER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

which translates as "from generation to generation we will tell of your greatness." That passage had particular meaning because, "by being here, by coming to Beth El, we are part of the 'from generation to generation.'" Aryeh also expressed his hope that the cover will serve as a "meaningful and warm comfort for everyone who comes to this sacred space, knowing that their presence honors our history, our traditions, and the memories of loved ones lost, keeping spirits alive and continuing a living legacy."

The design of the bimah cover – initially sketched by Aryeh's sister – also includes a tree of life, an *etz chaim*, with strong roots, branches that extend to the heavens, and colorful leaves that are full of life. Thanks to the craftsmanship of Beth El's own Amanda Ford, who made the cover by hand, the Hebrew letters of Rabbi Portnoy's



PHOTO BY MITCHELL SOLKOWITZ

Hebrew name – Tzvi Chaim – are subtly and artfully incorporated into the design.

The cover made its debut during the Minyan Chaverim Shabbat service on May 19. While it is pristine and new today, Aryeh looks forward to its years of use. When it was completed, Amanda and the clergy were all concerned that it would get dirty from fingerprints, dust, wine from Kiddush, or wax from Havdalah. Amanda even designed a special cover to be used during certain times for added protection. (Please use it!)

Aryeh appreciates the efforts to keep the cover beautiful but emphasizes, "This is an item to be used. I hope everyone has a chance to gather around the reading table and feel the joy of being Jewish and of passing rituals and traditions along from generation to generation." ■

# Contributions

*Donations made from May 1 to May 24*

## Beth El Israel Fund

### IN MEMORY OF:

Joanne Weinberg by Abby and Ira Friedman

## Building Fund

### IN MEMORY OF:

Peter Silverstein by Don Silverstein

## Cantor's Fund

### IN HONOR OF:

Hazzan Asa Fradkin's installation by Samuel Boxerman and Debra Vodenos, Herbert Tanenbaum, Dan Hirsch and Brenda Gruss, and Dale Rosenthal and Michael Cutler

Hazzan Fradkin for meeting with our Havurah on Monday night by Lisa Sorkin

Mira Kahn's engagement to Jason Ethridge by Lewis and Susan Winarsky

The beautiful duet sung by Hazzan Asa and Sarah Fradkin by Norman and Ellen Eule

### IN MEMORY OF:

Bella Kaplovsky by Lillian Miller

Eli Nisenfeld by Stanley and Dena Forster

Samuel Rauch by Bernard and RuthAnn Heckman

## Chevra Kadisha Fund

### IN HONOR OF:

Darryl Sherman for his many years of service to the Chevra Kadisha by Jack Minker

### IN MEMORY OF:

Carl Greenberg, Brenda's father, by Jim and Brenda Greenberg Schmand

Dora Deutsch, mother of Stewart Deutsch, by Stewart and Myra Deutsch

George Perlman by the Bolten family

## Fine Arts Fund

### IN MEMORY OF:

Dorothy Horowitz, my mother, by Bob and Evyan Koenig

## General Fund

**BY:** Karen Wood

Laurie Alban Havens

### IN HONOR OF:

Rabbi Harris for guiding us through Benzi Goldman's bar mitzvah with kindness by Vicki Smeltz and Katie Smeltz

Rabbi Werbin and Patricia Gradel becoming U.S. citizens by James and Leslie Dellon

Birth of Solomon Pollack, grandson of Deborah and Alan Pollack, by Dan Hirsch and Brenda Gruss

Hazzan Fradkin for guiding us through Benzi Goldman's bar mitzvah with kindness by Vicki Smeltz and Katie Smeltz

Howie Stein on receiving the Blue Yarmulke Man-of-the-Year Award by Jack and Stephanie Ventura, Tricia and Howard Sachs, and Anne Rosensky

In appreciation of Beth El's generous support of the Chug Kriah by Bill and Sue Kanter

Jerry Herman's special birthday by Lynn Goldin and Henry Birnkrant

The baby naming of our granddaughter, Emily Skylar Mandell, by Joan and Jerry Cohn

Wishing a Refuah Shleimah to Andrea Glazer by Diane and Howard Slaughter

Please remember that contributions can be made easily, quickly, and securely via our webpage – [www.bethelmc.org](http://www.bethelmc.org)

### IN MEMORY OF:

Arthur Moak by Jeffrey Moak

Benjamin Smolen by Jason Smolen

Charlotte K. Millenson by Janet Millenson and Herb Edelstein

Doris Silverman by Linda Herman

Sidney Teitel by Richard Lieberman and Helene Weisz

Evelyn Schoenholtz, beloved mother of Andy Schoenholtz, by Samuel Boxerman and Debra Vodenos and Don Silverstein

Faye Levin by Rhea Troffkin

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

Herman Chinn, beloved brother, by Sarah Kalser

Herman Zagoria, my brother, by Etta Kline

Isaac Weinstein and Max Safrin by Reina Lerner

Jacob Gilbert by Robert Gilbert

Joanne Weinberg by Jason C. Jones, Helen and Arthur Popper, Rick Martin, Robert and Fran Rubin, Scott and Barbara

Birnbaum, Tal Izraeli, and Stewart and Amy Manela

Joseph Weisz by Bernard and Janyse Weisz and Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman

Louis Tishkoff by Julian and Iris Tishkoff

Marilyn Kershner by Phyllis and Steve Solomon

Maurice Derkay, father of Lee Derkay, by Lee and Gloria Derkay

Max Joffe, an amazing father and Zayde who is so missed, by Judy Sherman

Maynard London by Steve and Karen London

Robert Band by Annebelle Band

Rosella Brenner by Lynne Ganek

Ruth Greenberg by Janet Morrison

Simon Goldseker, father of Deborah Goldseker, by David and Ellen Epstein

Walter Weinstein by Dora Weinstein

Wolf Stein, father of Howie Stein, by Howie and Holly Stein

## Israel Experience Teen Fund

### IN MEMORY OF:

Joanne Weinberg by Randee and Rob Romanoff

Rose Herman by Jerry Herman

## Kimball Nursery School Fund

### IN HONOR OF:

The baby naming of our daughter, Emily Skylar Mandell, by Lauren and Jeremy Mandell

### IN MEMORY OF:

Faye Doberman by Marian Willinger

## Bernardo Kotelanski, M.D., Marriage Education Fund

### IN MEMORY OF:

Celebrating the life and lessons taught by Joanne Weinberg, my beloved colleague, by Barton Bernales

## Library Fund

### IN MEMORY OF:

Daniel Mann by David Mann

Joanne Weinberg by Allison Zacharski

Minne Nepo by Irwin and Hellaine Nepo

## Litman Holocaust (Shoah) Education Fund

### IN MEMORY OF:

Gabriella Zweig by Alan and Michele Greenberg

## Mazon

### IN HONOR OF:

Noah Grill's confirmation by Michael Wolly

## Contributions Continued

### Men's Club Fund

#### IN HONOR OF:

Appreciation of the Beth El community by Howie and Holly Stein

Howard Stein receiving the Blue Yarmulke Man-of-Year Award by Jack Minker and Johanna Weinstein, Bill and Sue Kanter, Lewis and Susan Winarsky, and Rita Kopin

### Morning Minyan Fund

#### IN HONOR OF:

In appreciation of the Beth El weekday minyan by Bethesda Jewish Congregation

The Early Morning Minyan Anniversary by Lewis and Susan Winarsky, Deborah Weinberger, and Jerilyn Margulies

Peter Novick and the Early Morning Saturday Service by Sam Kessler

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Evelyn Schoenholtz by Robert Clayman and Carol Miller

Gary Alter by Carol Alter

George Perlman by Joe and Dorene Rosenthal

Sylvia Strauss by Bruce Strauss

### Prayer Book Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Sybil and Lawrence Shields by Jon Shields

### Rabbi's Fund

#### IN HONOR OF:

Rabbi Harris for his help in the conversion process by Lauren Brownstein

Rabbi Harris for hanging my mezuzah by Nettie Birnbach

Rabbi Werbin for his help in the conversion process by Lauren Brownstein

Rabbi Werbin and Patricia Gradel becoming U.S. citizens by Jose and Tutti Sokol and Lewis and Susan Winarsky

My Aliyah by Joan Simon

Sean Snyder's bar mitzvah by Joel and Joan Simon

The bat mitzvah of Ellie Morrison, daughter of Jennifer and Alan Morrison, by Norman and Ellen Eule

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Alexis Meredith Pernick by Irwin Pernick

Beatrice Baraf by Herbert and Cheryl Baraf

Evelyn Kohn by Parker O'Shea

Frieda Schwartz by Raymond and Laura Bouvier

Hilde B. Kahn by Walter Kahn

Irene Shapiro by Seth and Joan Goldberg

Joanne Weinberg by Stephanie, Ilan, Alexa, Lia, and Noa Sussan

Maurice Kohn by Parker O'Shea

Maynard London by Steve and Karen London

Milton Gussow, longtime member, by Rita Kopin

Fella Eule, my mother, by Norman and Ellen Eule

Nathan and Henrietta Schwartzberg by Karen Goldstein

### Refugee Fund

#### IN HONOR OF:

Bar mitzvah of Jonah Gross by Adam Wenner, Lisa O'Donald and Jonathan, Emily and Logan Rotter, Shelah and Robert Luber, Stephen and Paula Eisenstein Baker, the Kieval family, Phyllis, Jeff, Matt, and Sophie Lavine, Jodi Rodgers and Ivan Block, the Shorr family, Bernice Heilbrunn, the Lerner family, Sarah D. Orlin, and Susan and Bob Price

### Samuel Scolnic Adult Institute Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Rabbi Samuel Scolnic by Judith Scolnic

Sarah Brownstein, my beloved mother, by Rita Kopin

Joseph Leavitt, father of Stephanie Ventura, by Jack and Stephanie Ventura

### Dr. Elaine L. Shalowitz Education Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Elaine Shalowitz by Sam Langerman

Jennie Barr by Solomon and Rita Barr

Shirley Langerman by Sam Langerman

### Sisterhood Kiddush Fund

#### IN HONOR OF:

Aufruf of Shellie Jacobson and Brandon Golden by Alan Golden and Nancy Grunley

Sue Kanter by Rita Kopin

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Natalie Goldberg, mother of Holly Stein, by Howie and Holly Stein

### Sisterhood Shiva Meal Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Anna Weinstein, my beloved mother, by Margy Nurik

Evelyn Schoenholtz, mother of Andrew Schoenholtz, by Sarah Kalser

### Social Action Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Joanne Weinberg by Marsha and Brian Nagorsky

### Sorkin Confirmation Israel Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Evelyn Ochs by Phillip Ochs and Sheila Cohen

### Elaine Tanenbaum Religious School Enrichment Fund

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Anna S. Leventhal by Carl M. Leventhal

### Transportation Fund

#### IN HONOR OF:

Susan Cohen, my wonderful friend who included me in her family Mother's Day lunch, by Rita Kopin

#### IN MEMORY OF:

Ernestine W. Krueger, my beloved mother, by Annette Goldberg

Gertrude Kossman, mother of Mary Dubrow, by Mary Dubrow

Hyman Cohen, my father, by Henrietta Asen

Joseph Frank Glaser, beloved father, by Suzanne R. Glaser

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## Condolences to

**Miriam (Mim) Anders** and **Lisa and Mark Bronfman** on the death of **Theodore (Ted) Anders**, husband of Mim, father of Lisa, and grandfather of **Jodi** and **Daniel Bronfman**

**Hope and Phil Borish** on the death of Hope's brother, **Howard Fain**

**Jackie Raskins-Burns and Adam Burns** on the death of Jackie's mother, **Marsha Raskin**, grandmother of **Halle** and **Lexie Burns**

**Michelle and Paul Cooper** and **David and Janet Perim** and **Stewart and Maria Perim** on the death of Michelle, David and Stewart's father, **Max Perim**, grandfather of **Chloe, Alec, Gillian, Daniel, Alex, Dana, Daniel, Alex, Max** and **Ross Rob and June Falb** on death of Rob's father, **Mel Falb**, grandfather of **Maya** and **Sam Falb**

**Lee and Rachel Janger** on the death of Lee's father, **Richard Janger**, grandfather of **Micah** and **Marisa Janger**

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

## Bulletin Board

Send submissions to the *Scroll* to [scroll@bethelmc.org](mailto:scroll@bethelmc.org)

### Mazal Tov to

**The Class of 2018** on the occasion of their high school graduation  
**Joshua Barron** and **Sunitha Cohen** on their marriage

**Brandon Golden** and **Rachelle Jacobson** on their marriage

**Saul Golubcow** and **Hedy Teglassi** on the birth of their grandsons, **Nathan Harrison** and **Ilan Yonah**. Parents of Nathan are

**Jeremy Golubcow-Teglassi** and **Abigail Hinchcliff**. Parents of Ilan are **Jordan Golubcow-Teglassi** and **Eyal Attal**.

**Kara Landsman** and **Jeremy Whipple** on their marriage

**Michael** and **Jennifer Lilintahl** on the naming of their daughter, **Anabel Pearl Lilintahl**

**David Margulies** and **Donna Vogel** on the marriage of their son, **Ben Margulies**, to **Anne Whitney Gunter**

**Melanie** and **Josh Olds** on the birth of their son, **Jared Ian**. Proud big sister is **Pearl**.

**Carol Reynolds** on her milestone birthday

**David Rubin** and **Susan Gillespie** on the naming of their daughter, **Eliza Sylvia**, granddaughter of **Bob** and **Fran Rubin**.

**Darryl Sherman**, in recognition of his many years of dedicated service as chair of Beth El's Chevrah Kadisha.

**Judy Spector** on her milestone birthday.

### Condolences to (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

**Neil** and **Jolie Markus** on the death of Neil's father, **Howard James Markus**, grandfather of **Elliot**, **Sydney**, and **Chelsea Markus**

**Nancy Rose** and **Bob Lipman** on the death of Nancy's mother, **Shirley Rose**, grandmother of **Elana**, **David**, and **Amy Lipman**

**Mark Weinberg** on the death of his wife, **Joanne Weinberg**, mother of **Laura Friedel** and **Debbie Weinberg**

**Paul Weinberger** on the death of his sister, **Ruth Weinberger**

### Noteworthy

**Senior Caucus Meeting, Wednesday, August 1, 1:00 pm.**

These vibrant, active retirees join to hear about ongoing programs and plan new activities. Be one of them. Followed by:

**Roundtable with the Rabbi, Wednesday, August 1, 2:00 pm.** (Because of Independence Day there will be no Roundtable in July.) Join us to celebrate July and August birthdays (yours and those of others) with desserts, coffee, and a discussion led by Rabbi Harris. Birthday celebrants receive a special invitation, but all are welcome each month. This program is made possible in part through the generosity of Annette Moshman.

**Senior Caucus Brown Bag lunch, Thursdays, July 5, 12, and 26; August 2, 9, 23, and 30; noon.** Come and socialize with your friends and enjoy refreshments and dessert.

**Bridge – the greatest game ever!** Join us every Monday and Thursday (except the third Thursday) from noon to 3:00 pm. Drop in and join a game; no partner necessary. For information or transportation, contact Ricardo Munster at 301-652-2606, ext. 316, or [rmunster@bethelmc.org](mailto:rmunster@bethelmc.org).

**Senior Caucus Luncheon Program, Thursdays, July 19 and August 16.** Lunch starts at noon. Following lunch, stay for the following programs: **July 19:** Our opera film series continues with *I Pagliacci* starring Placido Domingo. This Italian opera with music and libretto by Ruggero Leoncavallo is the only Leoncavallo opera that is still widely performed. **August 16:** Bruce Hutton's program "Old Time American Folk Music" sponsored by the WPAS Women's Committee. Cost of lunch is \$10. To RSVP for lunch, contact Ricardo Munster at 301-652-2606, ext.316, or [rmunster@bethelmc.org](mailto:rmunster@bethelmc.org) by Tuesday, July 17. The programs themselves are free and begin after lunch, at 1:00 pm. This program is made possible in part through the generosity of Annette Moshman.

**Senior Caucus BBQ, Sunday, August 26.** Our clergy will host a BBQ at Beth El for Beth El's more senior members, those approximately 75 and older. It's a great opportunity to socialize, give ideas about senior programming, and have fun! There is no charge, but be sure to RSVP to Ricardo Munster at [rmunster@bethelmc.org](mailto:rmunster@bethelmc.org) or 301-652-8569, ext. 316, by Wednesday morning, August 22. Need a ride? Let Ricardo know when you RSVP.