



SUMMER 2015 | 5775



On *Pesah*, our Women's League served up lunch to an inter-generational crowd who enjoyed conversation, entertainment and Passover food. In this final Shofar of our Beth El Serves year, we share stories of how our congregation serves through live streaming and singing, honoring and partnering. These stories exemplify the lesson of Rabbi Leo Baeck who taught, "Service of God consists of what we do to our neighbor."

SERVING WITH OUR SERVER

By Rabbi Alexander Davis



I have to admit that when it comes to technology, I am old school. I hear “cookies,” I immediately think, “chocolate chip.” No wonder why I regularly ask my kids to help me with my computer and my phone, let alone the TV!

Recently, however, I have come to appreciate the blessing of bytes. In this Beth El Serves year, we have increasingly turned to our computer server to help us serve.

For example, earlier this spring we began live-streaming Beth El events.

Over the years, the need for this kind of service has become increasingly clear: a couple wanted to take my conversion class but lived two hours away; congregants living at Roitenberg Family Assisted Living missed coming to events at Beth El where they’ve been life-long members; family members living out of town wanted to share in the joy of a baby’s birth but couldn’t make the bris. The stories go on and on. We needed a way to better serve our community. And we found one solution with a technology upgrade.

When it comes to streaming classes, lectures, and lifecycle events, the decision to begin streaming was simple. But streaming worship services was a more complicated issue. A number of questions come to mind: Will people stay home rather than come to shul thus diminishing our minyan and the vibrancy of our congregation? Will *tefilot* (services) become a “spectator sport” with people *watching* but not participating in the *davening*? Will the very people who need social interaction become further isolated by choosing to remote access?

These are real questions but we are not the first to ask them. Already in 2001, the Conservative Movement’s Committee of Jewish Law and Standards addressed the permissibility and advisability of online minyanim in a *tshuvah* (legal brief)

called, “Wired to the Kadosh Baruch Hu: Minyan via Internet.” The Committee, which included our own Rabbi Abelson, voted overwhelmingly in favor of using remote access.

They arrived at this conclusion after debating who counts in a minyan—one who is physically present or one who has the right intention? On the one hand, the rabbis of the Talmudic era defined a minyan as ten Jews in the same room. (They did not know from “chat rooms!”) On the other hand, they spoke of a person passing by a shul and hearing a shofar. Though not inside shul, if he directed his heart to the sound, he fulfilled the *mitzvah*. The first approach emphasized space; the second approach focused on spirit.

The Law Committee reconciled these two competing passages and concluded that to count in a minyan, ten adult Jews must share one, physical space. “True community demands proximity of place,” wrote the author. For it is only in that setting that we receive the full social and spiritual benefit of community. But once constituted, someone listening in can fulfill their personal obligations (i.e., to say *Kaddish*, hear the shofar, etc.). In other words, a person participating via remote access cannot be the tenth for a minyan but s/he can join an existing minyan. This permission, the Law Committee ruled, applies to the sometimes disconnected cases of shut-

ins, hospital patients, those travelling or residing in distant parts, or those experiencing extreme weather.

We want our members to “connect” to Beth El and to feel part of our events, activities and worship. So while those using remote access are not officially counted for services, they certainly count in our community. And it is our duty to serve them.

Today, our server is helping us do just that. It allows us to reach beyond the walls of Beth El. Live streaming is a wonderful tool for outreach and inclusion. But as exciting as the new technology is, we know that service begins not in hardware or software but in each of us stepping up to say, “You can count on me.”

“It was a dream. I never imagined I’d be able to watch my granddaughter become bat mitzvah. I was so heartbroken when I learned I was going to miss it. But I really felt like I was right there. I watched from the time my family arrived to the very end. It was like getting a gift from God.”

– Maria Onheiber

We are grateful for the generosity of Jeff and Lisa Gottstein for supporting our new live streaming initiative. They have also established the Jeff and Lisa Gottstein Technology Fund. Those using remote access are invited to add to this fund to ensure that Beth El keeps up-to-date with these important tools.

Until we create a link on Beth El’s website, the links to stream are as follows:

Spiegel Sanctuary: www.bethelsynagogue.org/chapel-stream

Fiterman Chapel: www.bethelsynagogue.org/sanctuary-stream



Friday night and Saturday morning Shabbat services are automatically set to stream. To ensure that a particular lifecycle event will stream, please contact Raquel Swanson at rswanson@bethelsynagogue.org or 952.873.7305.



THE TORCH; be yours to hold it high!

By Rabbi Avi S. Olitzky

Summer may be upon us, but Memorial Day was when we opened our pools, we began wearing white and the summer delight officially began. Truly, Memorial Day isn't about summer at all. This day of memory began as Decoration Day following the Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in battle. And today, it is the day we are meant to mark our fallen and recall those who served our great country. Alas, few of us do that anymore.



Parallel to our observance in the United States, in Israel, Memorial Day is referred to

as *Yom HaZikaron*. But unlike here in the United States, everyone in Israel has lost a brother or sister in arms. Everyone has a family member who has died serving the country. Further, *Yom Hazikaron* is actually officially called: *Yom Hazikaron l'Halalei Ma'arakhot Yisrael ul'Nifgaei Peulot Ha'eivah* – Day of Remembrance for the Fallen Soldiers of Israel and Victims of Terrorism. Israel views her victims of terror as also having served—serving the greater purpose of Zionism and of settling the land of Israel even in the face of great hate and greater tragedy.

And therein lies the disconnect: in America, we barbecue instead of remembering our fallen compatriots. And worse, we barely pause to remember our Israeli brothers and sisters.

On April 21, Beth El hosted the Minneapolis Jewish community's *Yom Hazikaron* service (pictured above). Our Fiterman Chapel was overflowing with participants carrying painful memories and hearts scarred. I was moved and I was proud that we hosted such a solemn occasion. But I was also crestfallen. The room was packed, but that still amounted to barely 250 in attendance. Granted, this was twice as many as last year—but where was the rest of our large and committed Jewish community?

I looked around and I saw scores of Israelis I had never met before. I saw few Beth El members and I saw few Americans. And I was heartbroken.

Leviticus 19:32 teaches us: *Lifnei seiva takum, v'hadarta p'nei zaken*—"You shall rise up before the elder, and you shall honor the old person." Some understand this to mean that we should literally stand to respect our elderly. Others interpret this to mean that we should figuratively stand up to honor the memory of those who came before us—especially those who fought and served so we might live the lives we live today, especially those who served in the United States Armed Forces and the Israel Defense Forces.

Next year, join the community on *Yom Hazikaron* and on Memorial Day in remembering. Between now and then there is more we can do to remember and to honor memory. This summer, tell a story of your family and with your family. Visit the cemetery and recite a memorial prayer—perhaps place a stone. Adopt a lone soldier in Israel in the name of a fallen soldier. Because at the end of the day, all we have is time and memory. And we stand squarely on the shoulders of those who came and served before us. The least we can do is honor them as we stand tall today.



Preaching ~~to~~ about the Choir

By Cantor Audrey Abrams

In this year of Beth El Serves, I want to take “note” (no pun intended) of those who serve through song, namely choirs. How do they serve? They serve by elevating. They bring music to heights that can spark joy. They help us to feel deeper, move us in ways we couldn’t imagine, bringing us closer to something bigger than ourselves. They partner with God by creating.

“To sing like this, in the company of other souls, and to make those consonants slip out so easily and in unison, and to make those chords so rich that they bring tears to your eyes- this is transcendence. This is the power that choral singing has that other music can only dream of.”

– Garrison Keillor

In addition to enhancing services during the High Holy Days, Beth El’s choir, under the direction of Bill Torodor, has been elevating spirits each month when they conduct services at Knollwood Place Apartments. The large community room is always full as the residents and their families look forward to those Friday nights. They recognize and are thrilled to hear the Jewish music of the past and are open and inspired by music of Jewish composers of today. We sing, we laugh, we learn. We bring in Shabbat with *ruah* and inspiration. And it happens because of the service of this choir who believe in the power of music.

The idea of *hiddur mitzvah*, making a *mitzvah* beautiful, is exemplified in choral music through the intricacies of rhythm and harmony. And when you put 350 Jewish high

school students who love to sing on a stage, the results are unbelievable. I’m talking, of course, about HaZamir: The International Jewish High School Choir—and specifically the Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter. Through this choir, these students become inspired. In an age when their music is often harsh and vulgar, they learn to love Jewish music and prayers. And who knows...perhaps God. And while they personally are elevated, they also elevate us. Every person in attendance at the HaZamir concert in New York’s Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall this past March was moved by the students’ creations.

“The most direct means for attaching ourselves to God from this material world is through music and song, so even if you can’t sing well, sing. Sing to yourself. Sing in the privacy of your own home. But sing.”

– Rebbe Nachman of Breslov

The future of Jewish choral music is unknown. So often it is not seen as necessary because it is perceived to stifle the congregational singing experience. But I would argue that there is a place for choral music not only for the singers, but also for listeners. In an almost imperceptible way, listeners actually help create the music. Through the energy of attentive listening, a unique, “never-again-to-be-the-same” experience, is created. And perhaps that is a holy partnership we need in this world.

Thank you to those who serve in this way.



Beth El Choir with Knollwood Place residents prior to Friday night services.



Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter of HaZamir: The International Jewish High School Choir performing at Yom HaZikaron.



Serving through Partnering

By Bonnie Bongard Goldish, Beth El President

As President, I find myself participating in the life of Beth El in many new ways. In each area, I am impressed to learn about the active and important role our synagogue plays in developing a stronger Jewish community. The way we partner with other Jewish organizations illustrates our yearlong theme of Beth El Serves coming to life.

Here are a few recent examples of collaboration with local Jewish organizations:

Minneapolis Jewish Federation: We take pride in the fact that Beth El members have played important leadership roles on the Federation board and on committees. Currently, Rabbi Davis sits on the Federation board. In the words of Gil Mann, Federation Interim CEO and past president of Beth El and Federation, "We are thrilled with our partnership with Beth El; it embodies our guiding principle that 'Together We Build Community.'"

HMJDS: Many Beth El families send their children to HMJDS. So it is only natural that both of our rabbis are actively involved in planning around Jewish studies and Jewish life. In addition, Rabbi Olitzky teaches a class on Rashi to the eighth graders. We regularly host HMJDS student retreats and the school's annual benefit. This year we shared our visiting artist in residence, Yehuda Katz, with the school.

Talmud Torah: Together with Adath Jeshurun Congregation, Beth El is directly involved in all aspects of our supplemental Hebrew school including governance, curriculum development, finances, management and of course, teaching. Over the past year, we have refined the school's mission and vision, identified its strengths and challenges, and established strategic goals for the next three years that will improve the quality of the educational experience for our students.

Sabes JCC: Our partnerships reach across age groups. For example, Beth El USYers joined the JCC's BBYO on a group mitzvah project to collect food and raise awareness about homelessness. Bethelers joined the JCC's Active Adults on fieldtrips and participated in a joint mini Seder. "We believe the future of our community is all about partnerships," said Beth El member and JCC CEO Joshua Wert. "When we work together, great things happen!"

JFCS: This fall, 28 individuals from the JFCS's Caring Connections group attended our Women's League Sukkah Square Dance. Beth El and our Aleph Preschool actively participate in JFCS's wonderful Hag Sameach program. Our B'nai Mitzvah staff regularly participates in JFCS's "Healthy Youth-Healthy Communities" training program.

JCRC: Executive Director and Beth El congregant Steve Hunegs said it best: "From *Yom HaShoah* to the our annual Hanukkah party at Beth El, from speakers like Gen. Ami Ayalon to helping develop a partnership with the MN National Guard, the JCRC is proud to work with Beth El to provide meaningful programming to the community."

The list goes on and on. By making these connections and developing these partnerships, we serve and strengthen our Beth El, as well as our broader Jewish community.

"We are thrilled with our partnership with Beth El; it embodies our guiding principle that 'Together We Build Community.'"

– Gil Mann, Federation Interim CEO and past president of Beth El and Federation

JEWS "R" US at Talmud Torah

Fifth graders at our Talmud Torah presented their *Living Museum* exhibit in March at the Tychman Shapiro Gallery at the Sabes JCC.

Students created individual exhibits by bringing in Jewish-related artifacts. Objects included Judaica, jewelry, immigration documents and more. By researching the history of these unique documents, students studied about their families and gained a better understanding of their heritage.

Many visitors, including one family represented by four generations, perused the meaningful and touching exhibit.

The *Living Museum* worked with the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest and the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York to produce this exhibit.

B'nai Mitzvah



July 11, 2015 (Minha) / 24 Tammuz 5775
Mattot-Masei

ADIN MICAH AILLONI

עדין מיכה בן אדם

Son of Adam Ailloni & Angela Carisa Ailloni

Adin has approached his studies seriously and enthusiastically, even asking to learn more about Judaism and what it means to become a bar mitzvah. We look forward to celebrating with this new Beth El family.



August 17, 2015 (Israel) / 2 Elul 5775
Shoftim

RAINA BELLE TENENBAUM

שושנה יעל בת דניאל וזיסל רשא

Daughter of Daniel & Jennifer Tenenbaum

Raina brings joy and enthusiasm to all that she does. Understandably then, her excitement to celebrate her bat mitzvah in Israel is contagious. It will no doubt, yield many cherished memories.



July 25, 2015 / 9 Av 5775 /
Shabbat Hazon

Devarim

SAMUEL HARRY RYAN

שמואל הרצל בן שפרה טבע

Son of John & Susan Ryan

Sam and his family are new to Beth El and therefore, he has had to learn a lot over a short period of time. We know that all he has learned will serve him well as he transitions to the role of a Jewish adult.



August 22, 2015 / 7 Elul 5775

Shoftim

DEANA ALEXANDRA KARCHEVSKY

דינה אסתר בת אברם מיכאל ונעמי ביילא

Daughter of Alexander & Natasha Karchevsky

Deana's bat mitzvah will be particularly special since it will be a first for her family which immigrated to the Twin Cities from Minsk. We have been inspired watching Deana and her family embrace their Jewish education with seriousness and devotion.



August 1, 2015 / 16 Av 5775 /
Shabbat Nahamu

Vaethanan

SHAYNA ANN JOHNSON

שרה חנה בת ברוך ושרה

Daughter of Brian & Shelley (Burnstein) Johnson

With quiet confidence, Shayna has taken her learning seriously and has worked very hard to achieve her goals. She will bring her own talents and blessings to Jewish adulthood.



August 29, 2015 / 14 Elul 5775

Ki Teitzei

TYLER IRV HERMAN

צבי חיים בן לוי רפאל ואביבה בתיה

Son of Cory & Dana Herman

Tyler's extended family has been an integral part of Beth El for many years. Working hard and taking pride in all that he has learned, Tyler joins many cousins, who have in the past and will in the future, celebrate their b'nai mitzvah at Beth El.



August 15, 2015 / 30 Av 5775 /
Rosh Hodesh

R'e

EITAN SHAI WEINSTEIN

איתן שי בן גרשון שמואל ודבורה חנה

Son of Gary & Dori Weinstein

For Eitan and his family, Beth El is a second home. And so it is no surprise that when it comes to his bar mitzvah preparation, Eitan asked to learn more and he made learning look easy.



September 5, 2015 / 21 Elul 5775

Ki Tavo

RAFAEL JULIAN LEVITON

רפאל משה בן אשר וצביה

Son of Joel & Tzivia Leviton

In school and in shul, Rafi has acquired not only learning but good friends. Add to that family, history and tradition and we have a sacred moment worthy of celebration.



ANNUAL MEETING

Please join us

Shabbat Morning | July 11 | 24 Tammuz

Elect incoming Officers and Board Members

Thank outgoing and continuing Board Members

Celebrate staff milestones

Janie Rosenzweig	15 yrs
Cantor Audrey Abrams	20 yrs
Laurie Goldfarb	25 yrs
Marcia Oleisky	30 yrs

FESTIVE KIDDUSH AND CONGREGATIONAL SHABBAT LUNCH

MAZAL TOV TO ALEPH PRESCHOOL GRADS!



On May 28, family and friends gathered together in Beth El Synagogue's Spiegel Sanctuary to watch as 39 Shirley R. Abelson Aleph Preschool students filed down the aisles and up to the bimah for their Pre-K commencement

exercises. The children's radiant faces, blue caps and gowns, and sweet singing voices delighted attendees. The community wishes this graduating class of 2015/5775 – our future leaders – all the best as they embark on their next educational journey. Aleph Preschool openings for fall are still available. For more information contact Karen Burton at kburton@bethelsynagogue.org or 952.873.7320.

Pictured (L-R) back row: **Jack Hoehn, Jake Heidelberg, Brody Schraber, Alex Abramovich, Michael Ostrow, Hila Ben Harush.** Fourth row: **Mirele Fisher, Jacob Moreimi, Andrew Gale, Izzy Herman, Liam Faleschini, Rebecca Romera, Sofia Romera, Noah Lewis.** Third row: **Sidney Gray, Jack Koivula-Schadow, Leo Rees, Miles McColgan, Max Rappaport, Mati Ostfield, Issak Koivula-Schadow.** Second row: **Shoshi Castino, Talia Schein, Aliza Olitzky, Akiva Olitzky, Charlie Tarshish, Frida Mayren, Ian Levitt.** Front row: **Levi Petoskey, Benjy Orkin, Josie Mintz, Annabelle Mintz, Gaby Dashe, Sofia Sneider, Micah Feldman, Jacob Brooks.** Not pictured: **Ava Liston, Eliana Liston, Terrence Price.**

Kabbalat Shabbat "SUMMER STYLE"

Join Us on Five Friday Nights to Welcome Shabbat with Instrumental Accompaniment

5:45 - 7:00 pm

July 31, Aug. 14, 21, 28, Sept. 4

- Energizing
- Casual
- Uplifting
- Joyous

ALL ARE WELCOME!



New Members

PLEASE WELCOME

Julie Swaab and Matt Bloom with Alexander, Samuel, Emmaline, Maia, Joan, Grand and Ethan
Andi & Doug Kaplan with Eric, Maia and Zachary
Helen & J.R. Tapper with Ari, Natan and Talya
Abbey & Seth Baker with Tyler, Drew and Maren



The Baker Family



The Tapper Family

BETH EL EASTERN EUROPE MISSION

In April, 26 Beth El congregants travelled to Eastern Europe to explore Jewish life and Jewish history. The tour took us to Warsaw, Krakow, Budapest and Prague. Among the memorable moments we experienced were a beautiful, nighttime river cruise down the Danube, and l'havdil (in contrast), a tour of the charred remains of Birkenau. In the spirit of Beth El Serves, we hand delivered hundreds of kippot to Krakow's emerging Jewish community. Below are a few additional glimpses of our trip.



Lois Berman and Eva Broude took in the sights on a busy Budapest street and posed with a shopkeeper.



Dana Yugend Pepper posed before Prague's statue honoring Franz Kafka and Larry Pepper dressed in medieval armor in Krakow's main square.



Marlene Bukstein explored an old wooden synagogue in Warsaw's new Jewish museum.



Harry Adler led the Beth El contingent on the March of the Living, under the infamous Auschwitz gate.



We gathered before Shabbat in Budapest with members of Congregation Beit Orim.

JUST ANOTHER DAY AT BETH EL...

To expand Beth El's outreach, we looked for a program that was low barrier, no cost, open to the entire community and on our grounds. And we found it with our first ever **Trucksploration**. On Sunday, May 3, well over a thousand people from all over the state of Minnesota converged on the Beth El Synagogue parking lot to enjoy a free day of exploration and fun—for kids and kids at heart. From military vehicles (including an M4A3 Sherman tank) to Kosher hot dogs from the Taste of Target Field food truck, this was yet another of our resoundingly successful young families engagement initiatives.



MAZAL TOV TO MEMBERS WITH UPCOMING MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

NAME	DATE	YEARS	NAME	DATE	YEARS
Jim & Sherry Rudin	July 2	20	Steve & Sheryl Sue Warren	August 27	20
Rabbi Avi & Sarah Olitzky	July 3	10	David Fondler & Heidi Rose	August 28	10
Tim Bechtel & Rachel Frailich	July 4	5	Ronen & Karen Malka	August 31	20
Chris & Meryll Page	July 8	25	Bruce & Paula Saunders	August 31	30
Harvey & Sylvia Keller	July 11	50	Irwin & Diane Ingber	August 31	35
Byron & Patty Hechter	July 15	25	Leonard & Cynthia Fields	September 1	30
Alex & Natasha Karchevsky	July 21	25	Steve & Michelle Waller	September 1	30
Mark & Ana Sneider	July 23	10	David & Liz Grossman	September 3	15
Steven & Andrea Heifetz	August 3	30	Rabbi Alexander Davis	September 3	20
Irving & Teresa Victor	August 6	65	& Esther Goldberg-Davis		
Jeff & Jessi Heidelberg	August 7	10	Stuart & Debra Shapiro	September 3	20
Milton & Eva Broude	August 7	55	Mindi & Doug McColgan	September 4	10
Leo & Lauren Zabezhinsky	August 8	5	Robert & Rochelle Diamond	September 4	55
Dan & Sharon Savage	August 10	35	Rob & Adrienne Cohen	September 5	5
Bruce & Lisa Peilen	August 13	30	Steven & Carole Lang	September 5	50
Mel & Ronnie Burstein	August 14	55	Jonathan & Ruth Paradise	September 5	55
Michael & Kerry Gershone	August 15	5	Marc & Amy Blehert	September 6	5
Dale & Lois Dobrin	August 15	50	Igor & Elissa Furman	September 6	45
Harvey & Donna Leviton	August 15	50	Paul & Linda Benenson	September 7	35
Marvin & Bonnie Zeff	August 15	50	Michael & Rachel Klein	September 8	30
Samuel & Marcy Pearlman	August 16	45	Stewart & Sheila Derechin	September 9	25
Fred & Caryn Goldberg	August 17	35	Harold & Ruth Kaiser	September 10	55
Rabbi Hayim Herring	August 17	35	Ron & Pam Kaufman	September 13	45
& Terri Krivosha-Herring			Benjamin & Joan Ostfield	September 16	25
Jimmy & Helaine Pesis	August 17	40	Ronald & Linda Mash	September 17	15
Matt & Dina Cohen	August 20	15	Benjamin & Robyn Schein	September 18	10
Brad & Susan Melnick	August 21	10	Morton & Marilyn Percansky	September 18	55
Mark & Gay Herzberg	August 23	45	Stan & Carol Dobrin	September 19	50
Steven & Julie Rose	August 24	35	Alex & Anna Shagalov	September 20	40
Benjamin & Lisa Rubin	August 25	30	Lou Inks & Sandy Scherling	September 21	5
Joey & Sharon Fischman	August 26	25	Michael & Gail Milchman	September 21	50
Noah & Jodi Lipschultz	August 27	15			

If you would like to ensure your (or your loved one's) milestone is acknowledged in future publications, please contact Abbe Payton at 952.873.7303 or apayton@bethelsynagogue.org.

Condolences to...

- **Marlys (Elliott) Badzin** on the loss of her sister, Judy Canter Meyerson
- **Susan Godes** and **Marilyn Lieberman** on the loss of their father and brother, **Harvey Berman**
- **Dianne Silverman** on the loss of her husband, **Stephen Silverman**
- **Barb (Larry) Parks** on the loss of her mother, Betty Smithberg
- **Sharon Milavitz** on the loss of her husband, **Seymour Milavitz**
- **David (Darcy) Gilbert Burke** and **Rachel (Michael) Klein** on the loss of their mother, **Esther Burke**
- **Jeffrey (Geri) Sweet** on the loss of his father, Irving Sweet
- **Nancy (David) Fursetzer** on the loss of her mother, Shirlee Meshbeshier Clein
- Friends and family on the loss of our member, **Rosalind Stoller**
- **Janet (Ron) Plotsker** on the loss of her mother, Joan Wolf
- **Eva Wiesenberg** on the loss of her daughter, Judith Rose Wiesenberg-Neiman
- **Jonathan (Sally) Minsberg** on the loss of his mother, Barbara Minsberg
- **Loni (Allan) Stillerman** and **Marilyn (Ralph) Shapiro** on the loss of their mother, **Shirlee (Friedman) Pilch**
- **Rochelle Schwartz, Jennifer Schwartz** and **Melissa (Dan) Buerger** on the loss of their husband and father **Sam Schwartz**
- **Rabbi Kass Abelson** on the loss of his step-daughter, Miriam Foss
- **Judith (Howard) Kauffman** on the loss of her mother, Gloria Pinck
- Friends and Family on the loss of our member, **June Berg**
- **Melvin (Bonnie) Burstein** on the loss of his brother, Daniel Burstein

With heavy hearts we mourn the loss of these loved ones within our community.

Mazal Tov to...

Beverly & Howard Radin on the birth of their grandson, Tyler Eren. The proud parents are Allison & Joshua Radin.

Jackie & Harold Sadoff on the birth of their grandson, Shalom Mordechai. The proud parents are Malka Shulamit & Yosef Kalish.

Ali & Joshua Berdass on the birth of their daughter, Ruthie Eda. Mazal tov also to the proud grandparents Nancy & Mike Schoenberger and Pearl & Danny Berdass.

Daniel Spiegel & Marilyn Robinson and **Margaret Spiegel** on the birth of their grandson, Samuel David Spiegel. The proud parents are Ben and Jaime Spiegel.

Fred & Jody Rappaport on the birth of their son, Jack Hersch. Mazal tov also to grandparents Shirley Ansel, Elyse Schostak, Arlene & Asher Tilchin and Pearl & Bob Solomon.

Susan & Brad Melnick on the birth of their daughter, Haley Rebecca. Mazal tov also to grandparents Isabel Chernoff, Carol Adelman and Les & Ina Melnick.

Amy & Marc Blehert on the birth of their daughter, Ella Joy. Mazal tov also to grandparents Mike & Sue Blehert and Nancy & Rick Grobovsky; great-grandfather Stan Malmon; and great-grandmother Shirley Grobovsky.

Ari Witkin on being chosen to be part of the prestigious Wexner Graduate Fellowship Program.

Erica & Aaron Karasov on the birth of their son, Asher Harry. Mazal tov also to grandparents Marcia & Brent DeMesquita, Barb & Mark Hampel, Shayne Karasov and Bob Karasov & Hanna Bloomfield.

Beth El Foundation

Donor Spotlight

NEW BETH EL FOUNDATION ENDOWMENT FUND ESTABLISHED



Penny and Steve Sanderson have established the Penny and Steve Sanderson Family Endowment Fund. Penny and Steve not only volunteer their time to ensure the vitality of our shul but also contribute generously. Steve volunteers his time on the Foundation Board, the synagogue executive committee, and multiple fundraising roles including the Chai Appeal and various programs for USY and the Aleph Preschool. Penny is equally committed in her roles assisting with the TaRBuT program, the library and costume designer for the USY dinner theatre. Their children participate in young adult Jewish activities in the Twin Cities.

Foundation President Gary Krupp extended his gratitude to the family, "We are appreciative for this generous gift, especially because it is one of the Foundation's inaugural endowment funds."

TZEDAKAH

Tributes and direct donations to Beth El funds honor friends and family, commemorate significant events, memorialize loved ones and provide essential support to the congregation. For more information on specific funds or to establish a new fund through our Foundation, please contact Susan Lieberman, Foundation Director, at 952.873.7309 or sliberman@bethelsynagogue.org.

TODAH RABBAH (THANK YOU)

Beth El gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Abe Kozlen Aleph School Endowment Fund

In Memory of Helen Rosen
Ruth Goldberg

Ann & Louis Waiss Aleph School Scholarship

In Memory of Ruth Leiderman
Peter & Connie Frank

Artice & Morton Silverman Parent Education Fund

In Memory of Ruth Leiderman
Andrea & Fred Rose

Barbara & Lee Bearmon "Etz Hayim" Fund

In Memory of Helen Rosen
Lee & Barbara Bearmon

In Memory of Joan Wolf
Michael & Susan Blehert

Barney & Gladys Applebaum Fund

In Memory of Harvey Ansel
Lois & Dale Dobrin

Ben & Bernice Fiterman Mitzvah Fund

Happy Birthday Gary Grossman
Peter & Serene Simon

Bernard Badzin Administrative Fund

In Memory of Judy Meyerson
Ann Ginsburgh Hofkin

In Memory of Nancy Garber's Grandson-in-law

In Memory of Arnold Savitt

In Memory of Ruth Lebowitz

In Memory of Harvey Ansel

For Speedy Recovery of Rabbi Avi Olitzky

In Appreciation of Beth El Foundation

Fern Badzin

Bernard Leviton Feed the Hungry Fund

In Memory of Michael Beugen
Lois & Dale Dobrin

In Memory of Stephen Silverman
Leonard & Bonnie Zeff

Feldman-Bernstein Family Fund

In Memory of Harvey Berman
In Memory of Marian Toberman

In Memory of Laurence Bass

In Memory of Arnold Savitt

In Memory of Beatrice Getzkin

In Memory of Roslyn Tarshish

In Memory of Burton & Rona Mae Malinsky

In Memory of Ruth Lebowitz
In Memory of Ruth Leiderman
In Memory of Bess Engler
Mickey Feldman Bernstein & Family

Burton & Diane Weisberg Camp Ramah Fund

In Memory of Sara Press
Harriette & Fred Burstein

Cantor Abrams Discretionary Fund

In Memory of Harvey Ansel
Steven Perlman & Jeri Meshbesh

Congregational Nurse Fund

In Honor of Ellis & Nancy Olkon
Allen & Marcia Oleisky

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UPCOMING AT BETH EL

Below is a sampling of only some of the upcoming events at the synagogue. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Look for more details in future Hakol and Keshet publications, and as always, feel free to call the Welcome Desk at 952.873.7300 for additional information.

The "Other" Fast Day

Coming on the heels of *Rosh Hashana*, *Yom Kippur* is widely observed as an important fast day. But there is another fast that is likewise significant—9 Av. *Tisha B'Av*, as it is known, marks the destruction of the first and second Temples (586 BCE and 70 CE, respectively) as well as other tragedies in the course of Jewish history.

Tisha B'Av follows a similar pattern of observance as *Yom Kippur*. The same five prohibitions apply. They are:

- fasting from food and drink
- bathing
- anointing with oil
- wearing leather shoes
- sexual relations



One of the stained glass windows in our Fiterman Chapel—depicting women praying at the Western Wall, the only remnant of the original Temple mount.

There are a number of additional *Tisha B'Av* customs but none expresses the mournful character of the day better than the chanting of *Eikha* (The Book of Lamentations). Sitting on the floor in a dark chapel lit only by candlelight, the words and melody transport us back to the times and places our ancestors when our ancestors were persecuted and exiled.

Coming in the middle of summer activities—boating on the lake, family vacations, BBQs, etc.—it can be difficult to enter *Tisha B'Av's* spirit of mourning. But that is exactly why we need *Tisha B'Av* and why we turn to ritual. These admittedly difficult practices help us access the spirit and understand the message of this holiday: We must feel the pain of destruction and exile if we have hope of rebuilding, returning and reaching the messianic era.

This year, *Tisha B'Av* begins on Saturday night, July 25. We invite you to pause in your summer adventures and join us on this important day on our Jewish calendar.

JULY	
4	<i>D'var Torah</i> : Mary Baumgarten*
11	Beth El Annual Meeting, Festive Kiddush & Shabbat Lunch
19	Bethelders Trip To Treasure Island Casino, call Jerry at 763.544.4908
18	<i>D'var Torah</i> : Ron Ungerman*
25	<i>D'var Torah</i> : Mike Blehert*
25-26	<i>Tisha B'Av</i> (see left and look for complete schedule mid-summer)
AUGUST	
1	<i>D'var Torah</i> : Allen Bernard*
8	<i>D'var Torah</i> : Deb Deutsch*
15	<i>D'var Torah</i> : Haley Carneol*
22	<i>D'var Torah</i> : Dana Rees*
29	<i>D'var Torah</i> : Ari Weinstein*
31	ANNUAL END OF SUMMER PICNIC
LOOKING AHEAD – HIGH HOLY DAYS	
9.13	<i>Erev Rosh Hashanah</i>
9.14	<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>
9.22	<i>Kol Nidre</i>
9.23	<i>Yom Kippur (yizkor)</i>
9.27	<i>Erev Sukkot</i>
9.28 - 10.4	<i>Sukkot</i>
9.5	<i>Shemini Atzeret (yizkor), Erev Simḥat Torah</i>
9.6	<i>Simḥat Torah</i>
*Guest summer <i>darshan</i> (speaker)	

ONGOING SERVICES

EREV SHABBAT

Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 PM

YOM SHABBAT

Shaharit 9:00 AM*

Minḥa 5:45 PM

SUNDAY

Shaharit 9:00 AM

(Hevra Breakfast)

Minḥa 5:45 PM

DAILY MINYAN

Shaharit 7:00 AM

Minḥa 5:45 PM



MINNETONKA BLVD. BRIDGE OVER HWY 100 AND ALL RAMPS CLOSED UNTIL FALL

To plan ahead for alternate routes to and from the Synagogue, see mndot.gov/metro/projects/hwy100slp or call 511 or 651.296.3000.



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Avi S. Olitzky, Rabbi
Audrey Abrams, Cantor
Kassel Abelson, Rabbi Emeritus
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SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

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Young Families Engagement
Amanda Awend

Education Director
Mary Baumgarten

Director of Early Childhood Education
Karen Burton

Youth Director
Haley Carneol

Finance & Administration Director
Jerry Frick

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Linda Goldberg

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Susan Lieberman

Director of Engagement & Outreach
Shofar Editor
Abbe Payton

LEADERSHIP

Beth El Synagogue President
Bonnie Bongard Goldish, MD

Beth El USY (BERUSY) President
Julia Birnberg

Women's League President
Joyce Prohofsky



IT'S BACK...



Beth El's Famous Annual
END OF SUMMER PICNIC

Monday, August 31 | 5:00 – 8:00 pm

- Tons of fun for the whole family
- Connect with friends—and make some new ones too
- Delicious kosher food available for purchase (meat and vegetarian options)
- Plenty of festive activities rain or shine
- All are welcome

Volunteers needed! Contact Liz Pomish, 612.245.0713
or lpomish@comcast.net

