

Message from Rabbi Greyber:



Is That Music I Hear?

January 2020 / Shevat 5780

Some of you noticed that musical instruments have started to make an appearance on Shabbat at Beth El – on Friday evenings at *Eat, Schmooze, Pray* and on Shabbat mornings at musical Shabbat services, and you’ve wondered to me – how did that happen? So I wanted to take some time to

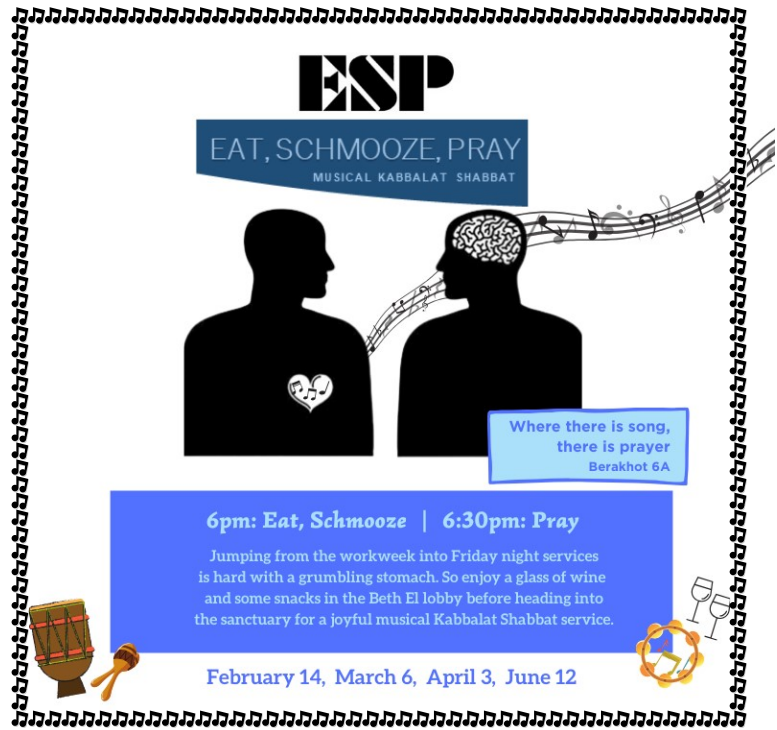
combine my article and “Ask the Rabbi” columns this month to discuss this change and what it means and doesn’t mean. I will not be able to go into all of the halakhic (Jewish legal) considerations in this column – if you’re interested in that detail, I’m happy to share and study with you (the rabbi is always happy to study and teach this sort of stuff :-)) !!!). The decision to permit these services is based a 55-page *tshuva* (legal responsum) written by my friends and teachers, Rabbis Elliot Dorff and Elie Spitz, back in 2011. For now, I’ll just say that their paper permits use of musical instruments on Shabbat with some restrictions:

- Instruments are permitted for the purposes of enhancing our prayer experience, and so are only permitted under my supervision in the context of one of our services (please don’t just bring an instrument to shul and start strumming in the lobby).

- **Tuning** instruments that can be tuned by someone other than a professional (for example a guitar, but not a piano) is permitted, but **repairing** instruments, such as changing strings or reeds, is not permitted. Therefore, replacement instruments must be ready to be used if a string on the original instrument breaks, or the player must play the instrument as best possible while broken. Lest you think this is theoretical, we already had a guitar string break during one of our services; Spencer Garfield skillfully played what he could with 5 strings, after which I explained to everyone why he did not re-string the guitar.

- **Carrying** is forbidden on Shabbat (and Yom Kippur) from one’s home to the synagogue unless there is an *eruv*. We actually have an eruv (www.durhameruv.org), but since most of our musicians do not live within our eruv, all of our instruments are stored at the synagogue over Shabbat.

- **Does this mean we now blow shofar if Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbat?** No. First, shofar can be blown on the other day of Rosh Hashanah. Second, the silent memory of the shofar is itself a fulfillment of a verse (Leviticus 23:24), not just the shofar blasts. Finally, shofar is similar to the lulav which is also not shaken on Shabbat even if there is an eruv.



ESP
EAT, SCHMOOZE, PRAY
MUSICAL KABBALAT SHABBAT

Where there is song,
there is prayer
Berakhot 6A

6pm: Eat, Schmooze | 6:30pm: Pray

Jumping from the workweek into Friday night services is hard with a grumbling stomach. So enjoy a glass of wine and some snacks in the Beth El lobby before heading into the sanctuary for a joyful musical Kabbalat Shabbat service.

February 14, March 6, April 3, June 12

That’s a (very) short summary of the technical aspects of the decision, but there are many other things to think about. One is “how does a musical service ‘fit’ at Beth El?” Some people’s first reaction might be “not well,” either because they are just not used to musical instruments on Shabbat, or because one of the special things about Beth El’s place within the Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish community is that of a place where anyone is welcome to experience and encounter traditional Jewish life – things such as a fully kosher kitchen, at least two services where there is a full Torah reading every Shabbat morning, two days of festival observance, an observant Shabbat environment where technical things such as not writing are respected in our public space. To those who value these things about Beth El, the use of musical instruments in one of our spaces may detract

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A Note from Executive Director Alan Friedman



Kehillah Kadosha – A Holy Community

Nineteen months ago, I joined the Beth El community on June 1, 2018. Throughout the entire interview process (and it was a long and thorough process), I knew Beth El was a special place. When I arrived in Durham for my final interview, I knew this was the community I wanted to be part of. Everyone went out of their way to make me feel welcome, and that has continued to this day. What is special about Beth El is they do this for everyone. No matter who you are, you will always be welcome at Beth El.

In early December, I had the opportunity to travel to Boston to attend the USCJ (United Synagogues of Conservative Judaism) 20/20 biennial conference. Along with Rabbi Greyber, Jenna Hyland, Leslie Winner, Tal Wittle and 1,400 other Conservative Jews, we had the opportunity to be part of a much bigger community. It was pretty amazing spending three days learning, praying, eating and just chatting with other Conservative Jews from all around the world -- assembled in Boston around a shared vision of helping make our communities stronger and more vibrant.

On the eve of the next decade, it is more critical than ever for our community to join the larger Conservative Jewish community to come together to address the ways that our movement approaches Israel, the Jewish family, spirituality, inclusion and other topics that will shape the future of Conservative Judaism. The energy of hundreds of Jewish people assembled in a room with a common purpose is something that was transformative.

The five of us left Boston energized and excited, with many new ideas to bring back home to Beth El – some that we can implement today, and some that will take time over the next few months to put into place. We also have a clearer understanding of what the USCJ can do for us. They can help develop leadership, maximize operations, advance learning, nurture community and help us innovate new and different ideas.

Being a part of this larger Jewish community only helps us be stronger here at Beth El!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Alan Friedman', written in a cursive style.

Meet Your Committee Leadership

Art Committee: Hunter Levinsohn

BE Modernization and Expansion:

Sandy Berman and Drew Langsam

Chevrá Kaddisha: David Klapper

Community of Caring: Karen Burns and Melissa Segal

Development: Norma Gindes

Finance: Syd Miller

House: Dan Schnitzer

Interfaith Working Group: Manny Spira and Lisa Berley

Kol Koloteinu: Krisha Miller

Lifelong Learning: Donna Goldstein and Barton Cobert

Life & Legacy: Bob Gutman and Norma Gindes

Membership: Kim Bardy Langsam

Men of Beth El (MoB): Mike Resnick

Orthodox Kehillah: Phillippe Chemla

Ritual: Randi Smith

Sisterhood: Tal Lewin Wittle

Social Action: Hope Hartman and Rachel Bearman

Synagogue Life: Tal Lewin Wittle

Va'ad HaChinuch: Michael Kornbluth

From the Desk of Board President

Debbie Goldstein



On November 24th, I was delighted to be part of a panel of Women Presidents of Beth El, featuring the five women that have served Beth El in that role. What was striking in the stories of Gladys Siegel, Shula Bernard, Abby Zarkin and Rachel Galanter was to hear the ways they had been

inspired to lead for two reasons: their deep connection to the Beth El community and desire to help contribute to its strength and growth, and because the women around them had led by example –several talked about the way women before them had led services or helped organize a community project or thoughtfully took on the obligation of wearing a tallit in shul. Each of us talked about how rewarding we have found the experience of serving the congregation and how much we enjoy being part of such a creative and committed community. A few weeks later, I found myself at the annual synagogue Shabbaton, where we davened Shabbat together at the beach and learned together about the many meanings of the tallit. We practiced saying the b'racha over the tallit together and collectively paused to put them on at the same time, taking a moment to think about the intentionality and impact of wearing a tallit. I was deeply moved by the experience of learning and experiencing ritual collectively, and by hearing the many diverse stories of congregants and their relationship with a tallit. Both events reminded me of how grateful I am to be part of such a special synagogue, where we welcome people with a diverse range of experiences and interests, and come together to support each other, learn from one another, and just enjoy each other's company. As you head into 2020 and perhaps think about making some New Year's resolutions, I hope you will consider how you might contribute your leadership to helping Beth El stay in strength and grow for the future. I am excited for what 2020 will bring for Beth El and look forward to seeing you in the new year!

Debbie

Staff

Rabbi: Rabbi Daniel Greyber

Rabbi Emeritus: Rabbi Steve Sager

Executive Director: Alan Friedman

Interim Education & Youth Director:
Alexandra Bicks

Director of Youth Engagement: Averyl Edwards

Congregational Services Coordinator:
Sheri Hoffman

Communications & Marketing Associate:
Rachel Greene

Program & Membership Coordinator:
Jenna Hyland

Kitchen Manager: Sandy Fangmeier

Head of Building Maintenance: Zachary Marshall

B'nei Mitzvah Coordinator: Rachel Albert

Board of Directors

President: Debbie Goldstein

1st VP: Leslie Winner

2nd VP: Dan Schnitzer

Treasurer: Syd Miller

Recording Secretary: Richard Hart

Financial Secretary: Marjorie Satinsky

Immediate Past President: Noah Pickus

Meg Anderson, Karen Burns, Valerie Glassman,

Donna Goldstein, Hope Hartman,

David Klapper, Michael Kornbluth, Kim Bardy

Langsam, Lois Price, Herman Sperling,

Jesse Summers, Tal Lewin Wittle



Many thanks to Sheldon Becker of Jewish Sparks
for recording our November 24th Female Presidents Panel.
You may view this here: <http://bit.ly/BEpresPPF>



Jewish Sparks

Jewish Sparks (www.jewishsparks.net) has an extensive video archive of Triangle Jewish Choral Concerts, Yiddish Songfests, and talks by major Jewish Scholars/Experts.

YA WANNA COME FAH SHABBUHS? Professionally Yelling Nice Things at Strangers by Jenna Hyland



If you heard me speak on Yom Kippur, you already know how special Beth El is to me on a personal level. What you might not know is what it means to me professionally. Or more simply put...

WHAT'S MY DAY JOB? As the newly minted **Program and Membership Coordinator**, I am here to help create opportunities for meaningful engagement with Jewish life. Luckily for me, I've come to Beth El at a time when we are known for being radically welcoming and unconventionally conventional. Anyone can walk in the door and get a slice of Conservative Judaism – or Orthodox Judaism, depending on the door – at one of our many incredible programs and services. In those cases, my job is to stay out of the way. If it ain't broke, don't break it.

As our congregation continues to grow, so does the demand for tailored, instantiated spiritual connection. Like you, I have ideas about what my shul should offer. (Jewgrass band, anyone?) But professionally, I come to life after you declare “what Beth El *really* needs is...”

PROGRAMS: The program side of my job includes some very practical functions to support your big ideas. When you come to me with an idea for an activity, I will cheer and applaud. Then we'll get down to business. I will ask the names of two other people who are going to help us with the pilot. We will explore the checklist of logistic considerations: facilities, furniture, food, and the like. We will put dates on a calendar and plan for publicity. It will be a delight. I am smiling now just thinking about it because I like both brainstorming and spreadsheets.

MEMBERSHIP: The membership portion of my role is equally nerdy and fun. On a daily basis, I get to play in our upgraded membership management database, ShulCloud. I make *beep boop* noises out loud while I build registration forms. Pretending to be a robot some days is fun because it is balanced by talking to every living human on Earth other days. As the Coordinator, I help welcome new and prospective Bethelians. I give tours, answer questions and describe our dues model. I spend even more time with our existing and long-term members, trying to track engagement, interests, skills and hearts' desires. Ideally, I connect people to people, which means I can do my job better if I know more about you. Please stop by and say hello!

ACCESSIBILITY: In the way our recent renovation prioritized physical accessibility in our building, I am committed to the financial accessibility of our shul. Many times in my life, I have been the beneficiary of financial aid from well-meaning institutions and individuals. I always felt grateful for the support, but I did not always feel respected by the process of getting it. Sometimes the application was a bigger barrier than the money I didn't have. One example is being asked to contribute volunteer time in exchange for a “gift.” I was poor despite working multiple jobs. I didn't have money; I surely didn't have time! I have been subjected to plenty of tone-deaf approaches to helping. I now bring that experience to the other side of the table. For instance, every registration form asking for money also asks you to let us know if cost is an obstacle. That conversation with Alan, Rabbi Greyber or me – whoever you feel most comfortable talking to – is a private and easy one. Every registration form also includes a space to donate above the cost of admission. If you are currently one of the lucky ones, consider becoming one of the generous ones doing their part to empower our community. Beth El's signature radical welcome extends to everyone, even and especially those who need support.

INTERESTED? If you want to learn more about this work (or just want to hang out with me), consider joining the Membership Committee. If you are afraid of big commitments, then come help out with one program one time. With all the different strokes for different folks, I guarantee there is something you will find interesting.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "jenna". The signature is written in a cursive, lowercase style.

Beth El Welcomes the Following New Members to our Community

- ◆ Julie Hamberg
- ◆ Jessica Astrof (Shyah & Binah Friedenthal)
- ◆ Audrey & Jack Kadis
- ◆ Laurie Koven
- ◆ Peter & Sheila Shaffer
- ◆ Arie & Sara Jashinsky
- ◆ Rebecca Van Wagner
- ◆ Adrian Aryeh & Crystal Epstein (Nina & Josephine)
- ◆ Aaron Kirschenfeld & Deb Boxill
- ◆ Miriam & James Springer (Russell & Daniel)
- ◆ Adi & Michelle Cohen (Elle)
- ◆ Asher Schranz & Hayley Moss (Avital)
- ◆ Sandy & Joel Hirschman
- ◆ Rabbi Elana Friedman & Jamie Rincker
- ◆ Emma Gordon-Blass & Joel Blass (Jenny, Lael, & Jerome)
- ◆ Liel Sapir & Tamar Rozett (Omer)
- ◆ Judith Eisenberg
- ◆ Benjamin Goldstein & Cheng Li (Malcolm & Noah)

A note from a weekday minyan regular on the joys & meaningfulness of this group:

As I sat down with Rabbi Greyber the other day, I had the opportunity to reflect on what being part of the weekly Wednesday morning Minyan service over the past 2 years has meant to me. The first time I attended the Wednesday Minyan services and Torah study group, I was invited by Alan and Mary Joan Mandel as their guest.

I asked myself what could I really contribute to the Wednesday service and the Torah study group. After all, it had been 37 years since I graduated yeshiva at age 14 and was involved in any sort of Torah study group, and over 25 years since I attended synagogue on any sort of regular basis.

I can remember the first time I walked into a Wednesday morning service. I was apprehensive about attending, but that quickly passed. I was immediately welcomed in by a dedicated group of regulars who were particularly happy to see me that Wednesday because it turned out I was the 10th person they needed to form a minyan so those in mourning could say Kaddish. I enjoyed a nice breakfast after the service, and sat down with Rabbi Greyber and the small group of regulars for the Torah study.

As I got up the courage to raise my hand to ask my first question, it was received with great enthusiasm by the rabbi and those sitting at the table. It was at that moment I knew I had found a place I could come to during the week and be accepted for who I am. It has been 2 years since I first attended the Wednesday morning service, and this group of Wednesday minyan regulars has become like family to me.

Soon after I became one of the Wednesday morning regulars, I joined Mary Joan in the kitchen helping her and some of the other regulars prepare breakfast (juice, coffee, bagels, fruit, cheese and crackers, and danishes, etc.). In addition, with the encouragement of the rabbi and the support of Jared Resnick and other Wednesday minyan regulars, I just recently led my sixth Wednesday minyan service. I truly recommend if you have not yet been, or have been thinking about attending a Wednesday morning service, that now is as good as time as any to see why the Wednesday morning minyan services mean so much to so many. No jacket or tie required.

— Elliot Lowenthal (September 2019)





Youth Engagement



“Fun For All Ages” is Harder Than You Think

A lot of events out there advertise themselves as being “fun for all ages,” but more often than not what they really mean is that they are fun for a certain age range of kids and maybe their parents will also get a kick out of it. So when Benjamin Greyber, PreKadima Junior Advisor, and I sat down to plan the K-8 Chanukah Extravaganza on the bus ride up to USY Fall Convention, we knew we had a huge task before us.

After all, the interests and abilities of a kindergartener vary greatly from that of a fourth grader, which in turn vary greatly from that of an eighth grader. We decided that our strategy would be to offer a variety of activities that can be enjoyably completed with a wide range of skill levels. For example, cookie decorating: the Kindergartener whose fine motor skills are still developing could still squeeze icing or shake sprinkles onto her cookie and it will taste just as yummy as that of the 6th grader who painstakingly decorates a detailed chanukiah on his cookie. Similarly, our TinkerTown station offered a variety of materials from the Scrap Exchange with which kids could create dreidels or menorahs as complex as their interest and creativity allowed.

Once we came up with a few ideas of fun stations that could be done at a variety of skill levels, we faced our next challenge: appealing to Kadimaniks, our 6th-8th grade participants. Unlike elementary school kids who are pretty easy to please as long as you have good snacks and continuous activities, what gets middle schoolers in the door is (1) if something seems “cool” and (2) if their friends are going. No one likes feeling like they’re too old for the group around them, so how do you get them excited to come to an event where they could be working alongside someone who is less than half their age? We had two solutions to this. First, we fostered a sense of exclusivity that made the Kadimaniks feel uniquely valued and important. We created an additional station in the Teen Lounge with a sign that read, “V.I.K Lounge (Very Important Kadimanik).” When Kadimaniks came to this station, they had two activities available to just them: a Kahoot (online quiz game that connects to your phone) and a white elephant gift exchange (I provided all of the presents so that there were no hurt feelings). Having these exclusive activities gave them something special as the “big kids” and countered the feeling of being too old for the other stations.

Our second solution for making the Chanukah Extravaganza cool enough for the Kadimaniks was to get USYers (9th-12th graders) to run the stations. This, of course, served a second, more utilitarian purpose of having people to physically run the different stations, but in the eyes of a K-8th grader, high schoolers are *way cooler* than parents or even myself, a 24-year-old. Additionally, we used the positions of the different USY Board members as ways to connect them to their stations, such as having Jason Koweek, our Social Action/Tikun Olam VP, lead the “Souper Mentsches” station where people made just-add-water soup kits to donate to Urban Ministries, or having our Kadima VP Dreizin Ginsberg run the V.I.K Lounge.

Overall, the Chanukah Extravaganza was an incredible experience for kids of all ages to have fun together, and where they were able to see how cool it is to stay involved in youth group long after their b’nai mitzvah. It’s wonderful to have had the opportunity to contribute even a little to building a strong, self-sustaining Jewish community which will bounce squealing laughter off of the walls of this building for generations to come.



Averyl

Averyl Edwards

Director of Youth Engagement



Talmud Torah



Shalom, y'all!

It has been a distinct pleasure and a real honor to step into the role of the Interim Education Director this fall. I had barely arrived in Durham before being completely and utterly welcomed into the Beth El and the Talmud Torah community, and I remain extremely impressed by the strength of the faculty and the Talmud Torah programs.

We are settling into our new home in the Snyderman Building, and, on Wednesdays and Sundays, the halls are abuzz with activity. Our teachers, both stalwart veterans and new additions, are working incredibly hard to help bring the curriculum to life for our 94 (!) enrolled students. They are also getting some excellent support from our teen Madrichim, who have been having their own professional development program on Sundays along with helping in the classrooms. When I walk through the halls on any given class day, I see students doing everything from completing jigsaw puzzles of Israel and practicing Hebrew letters, to working on their mastery of the Friday night prayers and outlining complex Bible family trees. On Wednesday nights, 2nd through 6th grades have been working on their evening prayers with Rabbi Greyber in the main sanctuary, which has provided them with a wonderful opportunity to start feeling comfortable in a space that will hopefully be a home to them for years to come.

Next semester, we are looking forward to lots of favorite programs, including many Family Beit Midrashes, class Shabbat dinners, and our Purim carnival! I am excited to see what the future brings for this vital and exciting community of learning.

B'shalom,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Alexandra Bicks'.

Alexandra Bicks, Interim Education and Youth Director

Mazel Tov to our upcoming B'nei Mitzvah!!

Nathan Ginsberg
March 13 – 14, 2020

Hannah Lipp
April 24 – 25, 2020

Jonas Asher
May 15 – 16, 2020

Liora Lovins
May 22 – 23, 2020

Aven Schwartz
June 19 – 20, 2020

Visit Beth El Preschool!

Visit now! Beth El Preschool is accepting applications for 2020-21 school year. Beth El is a child-centered preschool that encourages wonder, joyful community and personal achievement. We have loving and experienced teachers, low teacher-student ratios and fabulous children. A Jewish school, we welcome families of all faiths. Half-day classes for children 22 mos. through pre-K. Financial aid available. Find out more at bethelpreschooldurham.org, [facebook.com/bethelpreschooldurham](https://www.facebook.com/bethelpreschooldurham) or contact Lorri at bethelonwatts@gmail.com or 919-824-4673.

Eric Pas Jewish Camp Scholarship

Applications are available for partial scholarship funding for a Beth El family who needs financial assistance in sending a child to a Jewish camp. Funding will be made available on a need basis and information will be kept confidential. In the past 16 years, the scholarship fund has distributed over \$40,000 and has been able to sponsor over 60 Beth El children. Our children have participated in our local Federation camp as well as Ramah Darom in Georgia, Young Judea, and two overseas programs. If you would like further information or an application please call Michele Pas at 493-3175, or email to mjbpas@aol.com.

Please consider making a contribution. Beth El members' continued financial support of this fund will allow more of our Beth El children to have a Jewish camp experience.

Renovation: from our imaginations to our dedication

Our Story, Our Time

On **January 19, 2014**, over 100 congregants engaged in the process of thinking, dreaming, questioning and offering opinions, ideas, concerns and hopes for the future of our sacred home.



After years of hard work by many, we saw our dreams become reality. On **September 22, 2019**, we celebrated our renovated space and homecoming at the **Snyderman Building Dedication**.



Chevra Kaddisha

It was with some trepidation that I first walked into Hudson Funeral Home after being with Howerton - Bryant as part of the Chevra Kaddisha for so many years.

It was so far away, so huge, soooo different. We all knew the Howerton “guys” who had helped so many congregants bury their loved ones - in the background, of course, because our Chevra Kaddisha always takes the lead role, those of us who knew them respected them as kind, efficient, caring, even humorous partners. Funeral home employees do their work in the background of life, essential work, often anonymous work. They are the people with whom we come into contact, thankfully, not many times in life and yet those times are seared in memory. Close your eyes and you can see them.

The Chevra Kaddisha at Beth El is an integral part of our congregation and yet separate. There are so many congregants who participate, again in the background. We all know it exists and is there for us in our most vulnerable times.

As with any working group there are many moving parts, many duties, many roles. Each is essential and the work requires all of those.

My personal involvement was when I was literally pulled in...Phyllis Dworsky pulled me by my arm at Shiva for a dear friend back in the 90's. She'd heard that I was a *shomer*, a watcher at my previous shul in Potomac Maryland, having moved to the area a couple of years earlier. As we sat on the bed of one of the children in this home, she placed a notebook in my lap and told me I was now going to “help” her and her husband Leon Dworsky (*z"l*) of blessed memory with Shomrim. It wasn't a request....and I felt gratitude that she would ask me because I was so new in the congregation and still feeling my way. I still wasn't sure how I could contribute to Beth El and Phyllis helped me find my way that evening.

Shomer is actually a legal term in Jewish law, of which I would never claim expertise. However, knowing informs the role we accept as a shomer: one who is a legal guardian, of which there are four distinct types. We are volunteers, unpaid watchers. How this has translated over years of Jewish burial practice is an amazing story of the historical journey of the Jewish people. For our purposes in Chevra Kaddisha, we, as shomrim, are the guardians of the deceased from death until burial. No one should be alone or unattended. We continue to dignify the person by caring for them even in death, when they can no longer speak for themselves. In the time before burial, when families are in the throes of grief and need guidance about Jewish rituals of burial and mourning, we, the watchers can provide the comfort of knowing their loved one is not alone. They are well cared for by fellow congregants who choose this work.

We have, sadly, had several deaths this year of people so loved and cherished and were so hard to let go. In our roles in Chevra Kaddisha we all step up to make the work go forward every time. It is simply not an option and has been one of the most heartwarming roles I have ever been privileged to inhabit because it always works. For most of the last couple of decades we have made phone calls for shomrim and there is a community within our wider Beth El community that always step up. There can be so many hours to fill, always at less convenient times, often overnight, sometimes over two nights and yet people rise up every...single...time.

We now have stepped into the online world for signing up shomrim which has revealed an even wider set of congregants who want to help. We so appreciate both Sheri Hoffman and Alan Friedman in our office for working with us to get out a sign-up list as soon as possible. The outpouring of help is amazing and again we marvel at this community's willingness to fill the role of shomer.

In our recent work, several new shomrim called to ask various questions about the role of a shomer, the how, what and why. One new young woman shared that she wanted to sit because her beloved uncle had recently passed away and she had to travel a distance to be at his funeral and could not participate as a shomer for him. She was moved to do so in her new community out of love and respect for her uncle and I imagine passing a milestone we all walk through, the death of a loved one when we can never be ready for it. I remember so many of us over the years have come into this work for just that reason. Thankfully, new folks are stepping up and taking on this responsibility with thoughtfulness and care. There are so many questions and a need to understand the role. The Chevra Kaddisha Board hears and appreciates a need for some information for the many of you who are interested and have expressed a need to understand and be prepared.

To that end, we will be holding some informational sessions in the near future for just that purpose. There is no formal training, just some information and answering questions and hearing from a few Chevra shomrim. Hopefully these sessions will offer an opportunity for our newer shomrim to come together and meet and gain a broader understanding of this work.

B'shalom,
Sally Laliberte
with the Chevra Kaddisha Board;
David Klapper Shula Bernard David Rubin

Lifelong Learning

Lifelong Learning at Beth El continues to have a very exciting and full year.

The following are ongoing programs (*check the emailed announcements & online calendar for specific dates & other details.*):

Shabbat Shiurim after services
Parshah studies before services
Rabbi's Lunch and Learn
Rabbi's classes
Hebrew 1 and 2

In addition, this spring, we are bringing 19 authors in for our first Book Festival. We are working with the JCC and we have collected authors from the Jewish Book Council (full schedule below). It will be an exciting week!!

Author bios:

<http://bit.ly/JFBFBios>

Tickets:

<http://bit.ly/JBFTix>

Volunteer Registration:

*Volunteers receive free admission on
day(s) of volunteering*
<http://bit.ly/JBFBVols>



**Jewish
Book
Council**

BETH EL SYNAGOGUE JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL AT THE LEVIN JCC

Sunday, March 22, 2020

1:30 pm - Kirsten Fermaglich, "A Rosenberg by Any Other Name: A History of Jewish Name Changing in America"
4:00 pm - Elaine Orr, "Swimming Between Worlds"
7:00 pm - Rabbi Daniel Greyber, "Forgotten Mourners"

Monday, March 23, 2020

1:30 pm - Mark Cohen, "Not Bad for Delancey Street: The Rise of Billy Rose"
4:00 pm - Aimee Ginsburg Bikel, "The City of Light"
7:00 pm - Marra Gad, "The Color of Love: A Story of a Mixed Race Jewish Girl"

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

1:30 pm - Jeremy Benstein, "Hebrew Roots, Jewish Routes: A Tribal Language in a Global World"
4:00 pm - Jane Gabin, "The Paris Photo"
7:00 pm - Jaime Bernstein, "Famous Father Girl: A Memoir of Growing Up Bernstein"

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

1:30 pm - Rabbi Ellen Bernstein & Galia Goodman "The Promise of the Land, A Passover Haggadah"
4:00 pm - Meg Waite Clayton, "The Last Train to London: A Novel"
7:00 pm - Jenna Blum, "The Lost Family"

Thursday, March 26, 2020

1:30 pm - Helen Epstein, "Franci's War"
4:00 pm - Howard Reich, "The Art of Inventing Hope: Intimate Conversations With Elie Wiesel"
7:00 pm - Joy Ladin, "The Soul of A Stranger: Reading God and Torah from A Transgender Perspective"

Friday, March 27, 2020

2:00 pm - Laura Limonic, "Kugel and Frijoles: Latino Jews in the United States"

Sunday, March 29, 2020

1:30 pm - Marcia Berneger, "A Dreidel in Time: A New Spin in an Old Tale"
4:00 pm - Yousef Bashir, "The Words of My Father: Love and Pain in Palestine"





Thinking Ahead, Giving Today

For those of us who keep a “To Do” list, we know it is always a work in progress. The things we don’t get done today simply move along...to the list for tomorrow, next week or “whenever.”

Not so for Sheila and Donald Goldstein, who made a big “check off” on their list some time ago. The Goldsteins named Beth El in their wills, a big step. As we wish them good health and long life, we are also very grateful for their forward-thinking gift. For more information about Beth El’s Life & Legacy initiative or signing a Letter of Intent, please contact Norma Gindes at normagindes@gmail.com or Bob Gutman at ragutman@thegutmans.net.

Sheila and Donald Goldstein

"Participating in the Life & Legacy initiative is a way for us to pass on family values"

Donald and I believe that it is important to build for the future of the Jewish people. We have lasted for generations on the foundations created by our predecessors, and, as Shlomo Carlebach once said, "Who are we to break the chain?" We have given to many Jewish causes over the years, both in the United States and abroad, and have pledged legacy gifts to several important organizations, including Beth El, which is close to our hearts.

We came to Durham ten years ago to live near our daughter and her family and that's when we joined Beth El. Beth El has since served as a central place for our entire family, starting with the baby naming for our granddaughter, and, most recently, as the location of our grandson's Bar Mitzvah. We also made our friends and found community at Beth El, and continue to participate in services and activities. One of the things we love most about Beth El is that we get to interact with people of all ages and help new generations find their love of our heritage.

We invested in the Legacy campaign through our wills to ensure that our wonderful community endures and the chain remains unbroken.

— Sheila



Back row: Steve Prince & Debbie Goldstein

Front row: Don Goldstein, Avery & Hannah Prince, Sheila Goldstein

Community of Caring

Members of the Community of Caring make a big difference with small acts of kindness and support. They send get well cards, call and visit members who are ill, bring meals, and assist patients at Duke who are here from Israel for treatment. COC member Elliot Lowenthal shared a volunteer experience that was particularly meaningful to him:

Over my two years as a member of the Community of Caring group, I have provided food or sometimes just a familiar face and an ear to bend for those in need in the Beth El community and their families. For me one experience stands out.

The call went out to the group (as it had many times before I joined) to provide Steve Cassel with a ride to Saturday Shabbat Service. Steve was an active member of the community. He was a cantor, a musician, and a friend to everyone. Steve was blind from birth, and by the time I got to know him, was in declining health. Over the course of a year and a half, I had the pleasure of driving Steve to Shabbat services. He lived 15 minutes from Beth El.

A funny thing happened during those 15 minutes we spent in the car together. My goal, as with all visits, was to provide comfort, ask questions, and listen. Apparently, that was Steve's goal as well. He would start each ride by asking me how I was doing, and how my wife was doing. It turned out he was a fellow New Yorker and had lived in the same neighborhood I did. We would share stories about our times living in New York City and, at the end of each ride, I would ask myself, "am I helping him or is he helping me?" It was probably the latter.

I miss those 15 minutes I would spend in the car with Steve, but I am grateful to the Community of Caring for allowing me to have those experiences.

Want to get involved? Email Melissa Segal at segalmiller@gmail.com.

Need support? Contact Sheri Hoffman, sheri@betheldurham.org or 682-1238.



DurhamISH

FIRST FRIDAY
KABBALAT SHABBAT



SNYDERMAN BUILDING
MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

6:15PM

Our hipISH haimISH JewISH community of Durham and its outer boroughs (like Raleigh and Chapel Hill!) hosts lay-led Kabbalat Shabbat services followed by a dairy/vegetarian potluck. Pre-Shabs Happy Hour at 6:15, Davvening at 6:45. Stay late for food, friends, and some good old-fashioned singing, table-banging, and l'chaims! Would you like to know more? Join our Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DurhamISH/>) or email durhamISH@gmail.com.

Monthly on each First Friday in the lower-level Multipurpose Room at Beth El

Open to souls of all ages.

Social Action Committee

Beth El's Constitution explicitly states that we are "A Beit Tzedek: A house of righteousness. Beth El is committed to observance of the mitzvot, to the principle of Klal Yisrael reaching out to all Jews, to the principle of tikkun olam which seeks to make the world whole through social and political action, and to the support of Eretz Yisrael, the homeland of the Jewish people."

The Social Action Committee's current focus is an umbrella of emergent and ongoing needs in our community including: hunger relief/nutrition, child poverty, safe and affordable housing, child literacy, economic justice and supporting local refugees.

The Fall 2019 High Holiday Food Drive raised about \$2,100, which was donated to the following: Walltown Food Bank, Iglesia Hispana Emmanuel Food Bank, Families Moving Forward, and Jewish Family Services.

On November 24 we had another Interfaith Habitat for Humanity build in Durham (pictures from morning and afternoon shifts below).

Our next **Social Action Shabbat is on March 21, 2020**. This is also HIAS's National Refugee Shabbat, which will be our theme. There will be a panel discussion/presentation following the kiddush lunch.

Save the Date: April 26, 2020 - Beth El Day of Community Action

Join us on Sunday April 26, starting at 12:30pm for a Beth El day of community action. All ages are welcome and encouraged to participate. Multiple community projects will be available to choose from. This is a wonderful opportunity to join together as a congregation to learn about and engage with local organizations doing great work to strengthen our community. If you are interested in helping plan this day, please contact Rachel Bearman at rbearman@mebtel.net.

Ongoing activities include collecting and distributing toiletries and food for local food banks and homeless shelters and working with other Jews in our community to prepare and serve food at Urban Ministries of Durham. Join our Google Group to make sure you are up-to-date on the many and varied opportunities to engage in social action and pursue social justice: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/beth-el-social-action>

Beth El Social Action committee is actively recruiting new members willing to share great ideas and help develop and implement new and on-going programs. *Interested in learning more about what we do and how you can get engaged?* Contact Hope Hartman hccny@gmail.com or Rachel Bearman at rbearman@mebtel.net.

Many projects are supported through the generous donations given to our Mitzvah Fund. Please consider donating to our many worthy causes!



Fall interfaith Habitat Build



The Dr. Charles van der Horst Water Safety Initiative



I knew Charlie van der Horst for more than 30 years. We started swimming together at the Chapel Hill Community Center and he convinced me to swim in my first Masters meet. Like most people who spent time with Charlie I was taken in by his remarkable energy, brilliant mind, generosity, advocacy for social justice, commitment to healthcare for everyone, and his love.

At the funeral, I was speaking with a young Beth El member and mentioned that the swimming community was thinking of memorializing Charlie by placing a plaque at the Orange County Sportsplex where we spent many hours in the pool. This person's unfiltered reply was, "How appropriate and inadequate."

In my family medicine practice during well child checks I ask parents if their child is water safe. Often the answer is no.

- 10 people drown each day in the United States
- 90% of childhood drownings can be prevented with formal swimming lessons
- 80% of children in households with incomes less than \$50,000 have little-to-no swimming ability

I have always wanted to do something about this problem.



The local swimming community and several of his close friends decided an appropriate and more adequate way to memorialize Charlie was to form the *Dr. Charles van der Horst Water Safety Initiative*, also known as *Swim For Charlie*, a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit charitable organization with a mission to make children safer in and around the water.

Swim for Charlie has brought together Orange County Schools and the Orange County Sportsplex to bus 2nd grade students to the pool during the school day for 8 lessons over 2 weeks to provide water safety/swimming skills instruction. This program will model the successful Guilford County Schools Learn to Swim program which has served nearly 6,000 students since 2012. Our program will cost less than \$40 per student, approximately \$5/ hour. *Swim For Charlie* will provide swim suits, caps and towels for those students needing them; we will pay for swim instructors, pool fees, and we will fund the Program Director to coordinate and implement the

program. The schools have agreed to provide the buses and drivers.

We will launch the program starting February 3, 2020 by providing swim lessons to 230 students in 3 Orange County Schools. Our near term goal is to include all 7 Orange County Schools in 2020-2021. Ultimately, we plan to expand this proven model to other school districts around the state so that it is the norm for all North Carolina 2nd graders to be water safe. We are asking for a generous donation in order to scale-up this program. Please contact Jon Klein or Susi Lieff for more information.

Charlie was a social justice activist, public health crusader, and philanthropist who had a great love of children. He would fully embrace this public health Initiative to bring the gift of water safety and swimming to those who would otherwise not have access to swim lessons.

We *Swim for Charlie* so we that may hold close to us Charlie's memory. We *Swim for Charlie* to act as he would, making the world a better place by improving the health of those who are vulnerable. Tikkun Olam.

The Board of Directors

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Mailing Address:
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Thank you to our donors!

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Donald and Sheila Goldstein, in memory of Michael Frank

Donna Goldstein, in honor of Nathalie Goodrich's 90th birthday

Lauri Klein, in memory of Noah Pickus's mother, Sara Pickus

Holly Glaser, in memory of her mother, Naomi Alpern

Michael Berliner, in memory of his parents, Martha and Newton Berliner

Margie Satinsky, in memory of her mother, Florence Satinaky

Gabriella Tal, in appreciation of the joy of joining in the Rosh Hashanah service

Risa Botvinick, in memory of her father, Milton Dworsky (Moshe ben Baer ben Mayer)

Norma Schafer, in appreciation of Rabbi Greyber

Chellie Grossman, in memory of the many who have passed

Victor Meir, in memory of Ezra and Violet Meir

Margie Satinsky, in memory of Stephen Dunn

Donna Goldstein, in memory of her parents, Sara and Gerard Goldstein

Risa Botvinick, in honor of Marshall Botvinick

Arthur and Judy Marks, in honor of Alan Friedman and Sheri Hoffman

Bertha Bergman Library Fund

Laura and Bob Gutman, in honor of Roger Kaplan, who has led the class in Advanced Biblical Hebrew through the completion of the study of all chapters of biblical history of the Tanakh

Sheldon Hayer

Building Maintenance Fund

Esther Lederman, in memory of her parents, Israel and Rose Gutman, and sister, Halina Gutman

Sheldon Hayer

Capital Campaign Fund with Tributes

Rabbis Eric and Jenny Solomon, in honor of the Snyderman Building dedication

Barbara Gittleman and Mark Hainline, in honor of the Snyderman Building dedication

Sandy Berman, in honor of Debbie Goldstein, for her friendship and leadership

Sandy Berman, in honor of Andrea Ginsberg, for everything

Sandy Berman, in honor of Drew Langsam and their lifelong friendship - we built it!

Adam Levy, in appreciation of Beth El's open doors for Kol Nidre

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Philip Skoletsky, in memory of his sister, Sandra Richmond

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Annette Skoletsky, in memory of her father, Israel Park

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Beth Levine, in memory of her father Samuel Levine's birthday

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Sally Laliberté, in memory of her brother, Robert Laliberté, and Barry Poss's brother, Allan Poss

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Barbara Silver, in memory of her parents, June and Paul Silver

Jonathan and Susan Breitzer, in memory of Steve Cassell

Terri Tyson, in memory of her mother, Louise D. Kushner

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Elliott and Lori Sogol, for High Holidays

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David and JoAnn Rubin, in celebration of Nathalie Goodrich's 90th birthday and her first time leading of the Shabbat Torah service

David and JoAnn Rubin, in memory of Steve Cassell; Michael Frank; Charlie van der Horst; Laura Richman's mother, Linda Taylor; Noah Pickus's mother, Sarah Pickus; Laura Lieber's brother, Kenneth Lieber; Alyne O'Keefe's husband, Kevin O'Keefe

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Robert and Gay Webster, in memory of Irwin Fridovich

(Continued on page 17)

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(Continued from page 16)

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Eliot and Lea Keil Garson, in memory of Irwin Fridovich

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Barrie and Jean Hurwitz, to wish Rabbi Greyber a speedy recovery

Barrie and Jean Hurwitz, in recognition of Michele Pas's many talents

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Michele Pas and Barry Poss, in memory of Ari Medoff's grandmother, Gloria Silber; and in memory of Noah Pickus's mother, Sara Pickus

Michele Pas, in memory of Irwin Freedman

Michele Pas and family in memory of Barry Poss's brother, Allan Poss

Michele Pas and Barry Poss, in honor of Ellen Reckhow's 30 years of service as Durham County Commissioner

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Gladys Siegel, in memory of Margaret Sachs's nephew, Charles Skibell

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Paola and Angelica Sztajn, in appreciation for Beth El hosting them during the High Holidays

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(Continued on page 18)

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Orthodox Kehillah Fund

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Edward and Sharon Halperin

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Joel Abramowitz, in memory of his father-in-law, Abe Rosenzweig

Jeffrey Laks, with thanks to George Fishman and the Orthodox Kehillah for their hospitality

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(Continued on page 19)

Thank you to our donors!

(Continued from page 18)

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Bernie, Shari and Gavi Fischer, in honor of Rachel Greene and her new baby

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Elyssa and Elliot Jankelovitz, in honor of Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son Solomon

Orit Ramler and Gabriel Szulik, in honor of Nathalie Goodrich's 90th Birthday

Sue McMurray, in celebration and gratitude for Harold Kudler, MD

Lowell and Carol Goldsmith, in honor of Nathalie Goodrich's 90th birthday

Qiuhu Louie, in honor of our new building

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Judith Snyderman, in memory of Rabbi Frank Fischer

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Andrea Greyber

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Alan and Ellyn Samsky, in honor of the naming of their granddaughter, Norah Goldstein

Alan Levine, in honor of the Simchat Bat of his granddaughter, Florence Lily Rascoff

Faye Davis Rapp, to wish Rabbi Greyber a Refuah Shleimah

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Sandra Lazarus Youth Education Fund

Alyse Nendza

**This list contains donations made to Beth El from July 31-November 30, 2019.*

If your name is missing, please email info@betheldurham.org.

Is That Music I Hear?

(Continued from cover)

from their Shabbat experience and run against the grain of who we are. On the other hand, Beth El is a place of remarkable diversity. In addition to our main sanctuary and Orthodox Kehillah services, a Shabbat at Beth El over the past nine years has included diverse services such as chanting, meditation, walking/hiking, healing yoga, gender inclusive language, chavurah (egalitarian Orthodox liturgy) and more, each of which has enabled different segments of our community to connect with Shabbat in different ways. Each of these services has been added to our Shabbat morning array, allowing people who prefer a traditional experience to do so while making space for those who are looking for creativity and experimentation. That combination of creativity and tradition was embodied on Friday evening, November 22 as upstairs, more than 100 people enjoyed a joyful musical Shabbat service with instruments and, at the same time just below, the Orthodox Kehillah davened Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv. During our quiet moments above, I heard their voices rising through the floor from below and I'm sure they could hear us from above! I'm sure that some people at the musical service would not feel comfortable in a service with a *mehitza* and separate gendered seating and, at the same time, I'm sure some people at the OK service would not be comfortable at a service with mixed seating or musical instruments. This sort of tolerance and respect for different ways of honoring Shabbat and approaching God is sorely lacking in our Jewish world at the moment. It is an incredible strength, and it is one of the things I treasure most about our Beth El community.

With all this said, there are legitimate concerns to keep in mind regarding the use of musical instruments on Shabbat. Rabbis Dorff and Spitz address some of these in the closing section of their *teshuva*:

Many of us who did not grow up with instrumental music in services, including the authors of this responsum, have powerful experiences of communal singing a cappella. We acknowledge the joy that comes from communal prayer that is informed and skilled, and the empowerment of voice when there is a reliance on participation for song. [We] fully support those rabbis who choose not to use musical instruments on Shabbat. Some may do so out of halakhic concerns that the conditions we have described in this teshuvah for using musical instruments cannot be ensured and that in permitting even limited use of musical instruments there is a progressive relinquishing of the needed protections of the sanctity of the day. Others will do so for aesthetic reasons, maintaining that in modern times we are bombarded daily with instrumental music and often at high decibels, and Shabbat should be a refuge from such aspects of the weekday world. Additionally...instruments may dampen congregational participation (and so may a capella music, whether as sung by one person or a choir). These are all reasonable positions to take.

I admit: I, myself, have felt conflicted. I love a *capella* singing and, in fact, am attending the Kol Tefila conference in Los Angeles at the end of January (<https://uscj.org/connect/kol-tefilla-2020>), a conference focused on building singing communities. Our congregation sings so well and participates so fully – so one could ask, “Why musical instruments?”

I can begin my answer by once again quoting the *teshuva* where the long biblical history of musical instruments is described:

Instrumental accompaniment marked the celebration of pivotal moments in relationship to God, such as Miriam using a timbrel to lead women in song upon reaching the banks of freedom (Ex. 15:20) and King David dancing before the Holy Ark during its transport to Jerusalem as part of a parade that contained lyres, drums, rattles, cymbals and shofars (II Samuel 6:5-15; I Chronicles 13:8). We have accounts of the prophets using music to achieve ecstasy and prophetic inspiration (I Samuel 10:5,10; 19:20; II Kings 3:15). The psalmist recommended musical accompaniment to convey sadness and hope, as evidenced by the invitation to those in the first exile to “take up the melody and sound the timbrel” (Psalms 81:3). There are nineteen different kinds of musical instruments mentioned in the Bible, underscoring the variety and wide-use of musical instruments among our ancestors. Musical instruments are also identified with communal worship and Temple services. Scripture records that King David organized the Levite chorus, which sang with the support of an orchestra (I Chronicles 15:16-24). Musical instruments were later played in the Temple to accompany the bringing of the daily sacrifices...Such instruments were even played in the Temple on Shabbat. Psalm 92 entitled “the psalm of Shabbat” invites praise of God with lute and harp. In the Temple, twenty-one blasts of the shofar were blown each day, including Shabbat: three at the opening of the gates, nine each at the morning and evening daily sacrifices.

Clearly instruments were a powerful part of biblical prayer, but even so, the fact that something was done historically doesn't mean it must be true for us. For me, a more personal and perhaps truer answer involves a story.

When I came to Beth El for my interview weekend in January 2010, Laura Quigley reviewed the schedule of events and kindly asked me if there was anything else I wanted to do while I was there. I asked her if someone could help me find a

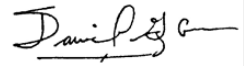
(Continued on page 21)

(Continued from page 20)

pool to go for a swim. One of the ways that I truly know if I can feel at home somewhere is if there is a place where I can feel comfortable doing a swim workout. “I’ve got just the person,” she replied. And so, at 5:35am on a Friday morning in January, Charlie van der Horst picked me up from the Kings Daughters’ Inn and drove me to a master’s swim workout at Hollow Rock. Charlie and I continued this routine during my visits from Israel until I moved here and drove myself where I’d see him at almost every workout I attended (he attended far more often than I). I write this bulletin on Monday after our Shabbaton; over the weekend, I thought of the songs he and the Boychicks wrote and sang to welcome me (“California Rabbi” greeted me on my first Shabbaton in December 2010), and I remembered a couple of Shabbatons where we got up on Friday morning and drove to a pool in Morehead City, stopping for coffee on the way back to the Trinity Center.

When I got to Jerusalem to begin my sabbatical and studies at the Hartman Institute this past July, I was spent. Every life is precious; to officiate at anyone’s funeral is a deep honor, but Charlie van der Horst’s funeral and death were excruciating. When I got to Jerusalem, I was still grieving along with so many of us. That first Friday, I went to the davening at Nava Tehilla in the Baka neighborhood of Jerusalem. I had no rabbinic responsibilities. I just sat in a chair, blended in, and let myself be carried away by the melodies and the guitar and violin and drums and voices that filled the room, and as I did, bit by bit, the tears started to flow. We didn’t sing the whole liturgy. We just repeated one line from each psalm over and over again. I inhaled the music, its healing power entering me like through a nebulizer, filling darkness and pain with light and a reminder that there is joy too, not just sadness.

The holiness and power of that evening was, for me, new and undeniable and, as often happens to rabbis, I told myself this is something I want to share with my community. And so *Eat, Schmooze, Pray* was born – our musical Friday night service preceded by wine & cheese, preceded by schmoozing, with musical prayers accompanied by people in our community playing guitar and violin and drums and a harmonium. It is, of course, not the only way to daven on Friday night. But it’s a beautiful way, and I invite you to join us. Whether you do, or prefer our more traditional prayers, I hope this column has given you a better sense of the “why” and “how” you may hear musical instruments on Shabbat at Beth El.



The Conservative Movement Campaign for the World Zionist Congress Election

January 21—March 11, 2020



Please make sure your voice is heard. Find out more at www.MERCAZ2020.org

We know that elections have consequences, both in Israel, and here in the United States. However, as Americans, we have very few opportunities to affect change in Israel. This is our chance. As American Jews who care deeply about Israel, we are facing a rare opportunity to make a difference - one that comes only every 5 years.

January 21-March 11, 2020, we can **vote to elect MERCAZ representatives to the World Zionist Congress**, where they will champion the need for a vibrant pluralistic movement in Israel and specifically demonstrate American support for the core values of religious pluralism, democracy and equality for all Jews.

This opportunity is fleeting. The Congress meets once only every 5 years. This is our one opportunity to make a strong showing in this election and help us secure leadership positions and influence critical funding decisions for the future of the Conservative/Masorti Movement. Your vote for MERCAZ the official slate of the Conservative Movement, couldn’t be more important. If you would like to get more involved in the campaign, please contact us at votemercaz@mercazusa.org.



ISRAELI ARTIST IN RESIDENT SHIREL HOROVITZ

Art Workshops

Join us for a unique art workshop with Israeli artist in residence Shirel Horovitz.

With Durham's map as our starting point, we'll use various paper techniques to explore the relationship between our daily lives and the city's layout and history. This workshop is an opportunity to both explore and share your relationship with Durham and surrounding communities.

No need for any prior artistic knowledge, but are geared for participants 12 years of age or older.

Please note that the works you create in the workshop will remain with the artist to become part of a larger installation that will open the

Durham Art

Council Gallery on 2/21/20. All participants will be invited to an artist reception on 2/23/20.

Workshop Dates

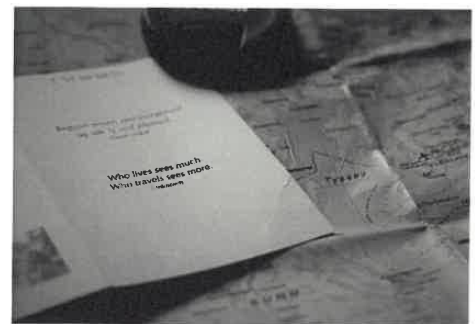
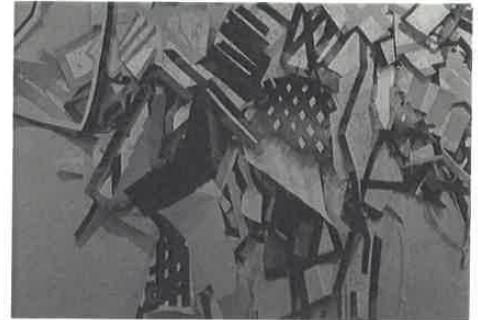
(All workshops will take place at the Levin JCC)

Friday, February 7, 2020, 10:00am-11:30am
(child care available during this session)

Saturday, February 8, 2020, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Sunday, February 9, 2020, 10:00am-11:30am

Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 4:30pm-6:00pm
(child care available during this session)



Art Workshop Series is brought to you by the Federation in and supported by a Israel Engagement Innovation grant from the JCCA, thus these workshops are free of charge.

Register at: LevinJCC.org/artist-in-residence



ISRAELI ARTIST IN RESIDENT SHIREL HOROVITZ

Lecture Series

Israeli Art as a Window to Israeli History

Join us as we spend time buzzing through Israeli art from the early 20th Century to today, touching on key themes and seeing the way they highlight and challenge the Israeli narrative.

Tuesday, February 4, 2020, 7pm

Kehillah Synagogue

Look at Me - Identity Politics Israel

Who is part and who is art of the art scene, what are the new voices that are coming in, and how do curatorial practices shift the way we understand our own society?

Tuesday, February 11, 2020, 7pm

Judea Reform Congregation

Adam Ve'Adama

Exploring the relationship between the people and the land of Israel as reflected through art.

Wednesday, February 26, 2020, 7pm

Beth El Synagogue

The Artist Experience

Join Shirel as she shares about her artist experience and the process she uses to create and exhibit art.

Friday, February 28, 2020, 10:30am

Levin JCC



Lecture Series is brought to you by the Federation in partnership with Beth El Synagogue, Judea Reform Congregation, and Kehillah Synagogue and supported by a Israel Engagement Innovation grant from the JCCA., thus all events are free of charge.

Register at: LevinJCC.org/artist-in-residence



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*Stay up to date with upcoming Beth El events at
<http://www.betheldurham.org/calendar/>*

Beth El Schedule of Services

Friday evening services:

Orthodox Kehillah Services begin around candle lighting time.
Services are held on in the Main Sanctuary on Friday evenings only in conjunction with other programming or special occasions. See monthly calendars for dates and times.

Saturday morning services:

Orthodox Kehillah Services begin at 9:00 am
Main Sanctuary services begin at 9:30 am
Other minyanim meet monthly - see our calendar for specifics on Chavurah, Meditative Chanting, & more.

Both services conclude with a Kiddush luncheon.

Weekday minyanim in the Freedman Center:

Sunday mornings at 9:30 am
Wednesday mornings at 8:00 am (**7:45 am on Rosh Chodesh**)

**Please let the office know if you need to say Kaddish, even if a minyan has already been scheduled.*



Snyderman Building Dedication
on September 22, 2019

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