

Message from Rabbi Greyber:



What I've Learned from Our Time at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church

It is hard to believe it was 15 months ago that we marched our Torahs down Watts Street from Beth El to our temporary home at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church. It is also hard to believe our time there is coming to a close. Here are a few of many lessons I'll take with me:

Jewish / Christian Relations Can Heal and Change

Just a few weeks before we moved to Trinity, I

invited our friend, Reverend Katie Crowe, to address our community and share some thoughts about TAPC's extraordinary commitment to hospitality (you can watch her address on our website under "Learn With Us - Guest Speakers"). She moved many of the people present to tears by directly addressing the painful history of Jewish - Christian relations and stating a hope to create a new and different future. This time together has affirmed for me that we can remember that painful history, but that it need not define Christian-Jewish relations moving forward. Here in Durham, NC at the beginning of the 21st century, I believe our communities have provided an important example to the world of what is possible and, while I'm excited to be moving back into our home on Watts Street, I will miss the proximity we've shared with the TAPC community, and I pray and hope we can continue to grow this extraordinary relationship into the future.

Flexible, Informal Space is Good

I have loved davening in the TAPC social hall. As I shared a few weeks ago on Shabbat, it has been wonderful to daven in a space without a raised bimah because it communicates that our prayers are not a performance to be observed, but rather something we are each called to participate in and add our voices to. I am excited that our new sanctuary will be all on the same level (except on High Holidays when, in order to help everyone see, we'll have a slightly raised bimah area with ramps for disabled access), and that our chairs will be both comfortable and flexible so that we can experiment with different seating configurations and set the room up differently for different services (see the photo on the next page of the in-the-round seating we used for our Friday night services with the River Church in February).

Also, while it'll be nice to be able to just walk into the social hall again for kiddush right after services end, I'll miss the "do-it-yourself" environment that the need to reset the room created, and I hope we can continue to find ways for people to pitch in with whatever needs doing!

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JOIN US!

Beth El Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 19, 2019

10:30 am

TAPC

All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

- Hear updates on the Capital Campaign and construction
- Review the proposed budget for 2019-2020
- Approve the 2019-2020 Slate of Officers
- Honor the 2018-2019 Volunteer of the Year
- March the Torahs back to Beth El and celebrate our vibrant community with a luncheon after the meeting

Annual Meeting materials will be emailed to you by May 3, and will be available on the Beth El website.

Paper copies will be available at the meeting.

(continued from page 1)

Our Community is More Than Our Building

Being out of our space has reinforced for me a basic truth I always knew: Beth El is far more than a building. It is important for us to have a place to call home, but our building is a tool to things far greater: the bonds of love we share; our commitment to mitzvot and helping the world around us.

We Have an Extraordinary Staff

I don't want to diminish in any way the efforts of our lay leaders who have given of their time and resources to help during this time of dislocation. With that said, I do want to just express how lucky we are to have such a great staff, who've had their work space turned upside-down and sideways, for all they've done this past year and who will, again, help us pick up and move. I'm grateful to come to work each day with (in alphabetical order) Alan and Averyl and Elisabeth and Lamont and Rachel and Sandy and Sheri!

With a New Home Comes Renewed Responsibility

We are lucky to have a new home. So many in Durham do not. The great challenge of investing in our building is to make sure it does not become an end in and of itself, but that it becomes a source of light and goodness especially for our local community. Sheri, especially, can share how many people in our neighborhood come to Beth El in need of food and other basic support. One feature that I suggested and am glad made its way into our final design is a special "pass-through" window that will allow Sheri and others to share food and other supplies without compromising safety when in the building alone. A long time ago, Beth El decided to stay rooted in Trinity Park, and remodeling our building confirms our commitment to being a neighborhood shul, a place that is open to Jews from our whole area but is rooted in the people of Durham. In the years to come, we must renew and deepen our commitment to making Durham a place of justice and fairness for all.

I'll conclude this column by repeating a teaching I shared a year ago from my friend and teacher Rabbi David Wolpe:

The Torah speaks about "strangers and residents" (Leviticus 25:23). How can we be both, a stranger and a resident? According to the maggid of Dubno, God is sending a signal about our proper attitude toward this world. If we feel too much at home, says the maggid, God will be a stranger to us. But if we feel a bit like strangers, God will be resident among us. The key is to understand that the world is a temporary home; we are renters, not owners.

Soon we will move our Torahs back home. We'll feel like owners again, but we are always renters, here to care for one another, to support the Jewish people and bring light into God's world for the precious years we are given, and to pass it along a little better than we found it for the next generation.

David Wolpe



Set up for the Friday night service with the River Church, February 2019

From the Desk of Board President Debbie Goldstein



This year at Beth El has been unique in many ways. This Spring, it was a treat to announce that we had surpassed our Capital Campaign goal and that we will soon be moving back to our new building. But as many predicted,

our congregation has thrived outside of our traditional walls, and the experience of residing at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church has helped us to grow in a variety of ways. We have learned from TAPC's social action efforts, from their extraordinary hospitality, and have also been able to share our traditions and culture with their wonderful members. This Spring, we also welcomed River Church to participate in our Shabbat services and to share dinner, and built another key interfaith relationship here in our community. While I am very excited to see the final results of construction and move back into our home, I really appreciate the new friendships and ideas we will bring back with us from our year in the wilderness.

Beyond services and residence at TAPC, Beth El has been seeking opportunities to build new relationships inside our congregation and in the city as well. This Spring, we created about 10 new Chavurot for 60 members, and drew on the ideas from our Shabbaton attendees to think about how to encourage members to get to know each other, and to make the congregation more welcoming for both newcomers and

long-time members. The Synagogue Life committee started a new "GOT Shabbat?" initiative, and we are trying out several new types of Shabbat services that appeal to different audiences. The Beth El Board also set out to meet with every member of the Durham City Council, and will be sharing our learnings with each other and the congregation in the coming months.

As always, I am amazed at the number of congregants that give their time and enthusiasm to so many different aspects of our congregation. I look forward to seeing everyone in our new space and to celebrating our move back in with all of you!

Debbie



Staff

Rabbi: Rabbi Daniel Greyber

Rabbi Emeritus: Rabbi Steve Sager

Executive Director: Alan Friedman

Education & Youth Director: Elisabeth Gerson

Director of Teen Engagement: Averyl Edwards

Congregational Services Coordinator:

Sheri Hoffman

Communications & Marketing Associate:

Rachel Greene

Kitchen Manager: Sandy Fangmeier

B'nei Mitzvah Coordinator: Jessie Zaleon-Lunk

Board of Directors

President: Debbie Goldstein

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2nd VP: Dan Schnitzer

Treasurer: Syd Miller

Recording Secretary: Richard Hart

Financial Secretary: Valerie Glassman

Immediate Past President: Noah Pickus

Meg Anderson, Karen Burns, Donna Goldstein,

Hope Hartman, David Klapper, Kim Bardy

Langsam, Lois Price, Scott Schwartz, Herman

Sperling, Tal Lewin Wittle



A Note from Executive Director Alan Friedman

Welcome Home to Beth El!

It's hard to believe that Beth El moved out of our building, our home, a little more than fifteen months ago and that within the next few weeks we will begin the return to our new building. Over those months we have watched our home transform, forged new relationships in our temporary home with our gracious hosts at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church (TAPC) and had an unbelievable year with more new members and more incredible programming.

As we return, please keep in mind that it took a village to form our sacred space. So many wonderful people had a hand in creating our new home. It has truly been an honor to work with this group of volunteers and professionals over the past eleven months since joining the Beth El family.

While May 18 will be here before we know it, please understand that we will still be putting the finishing touches on our new space. While we will wear kippot and not hard hats at our soft opening, there are still many things that will be completed over the next month or so. As the construction finishes, we will slowly move back into the building. Our offices and the Orthodox Kehillah will remain in the Freedman Center until mid-June and Talmud Torah (our religious school) will move to the main building during the summer. We will be completely moved in by the end of the summer as we begin the new academic year and in time for the High Holidays. Our official dedication ceremony will be held on Sunday, September 22.

At a Jewish camp in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania they say "Welcome Home to Harlem." I'd like to borrow this statement as we get ready to move back into our home and say, "**Welcome Home to Beth El!**" I look forward to seeing everyone on May 18 as we worship together for our first Shabbat service back in our home, and on May 19 for our Annual Meeting and Torah march with TAPC.





Talmud Torah

Another [school] year is coming to a close. This makes year #6 (!) for me at Beth El. With a newborn at home, it's hard to remember six hours ago, but as I write this, I find myself taking some time to think back over these last six years and all that we've accomplished together.

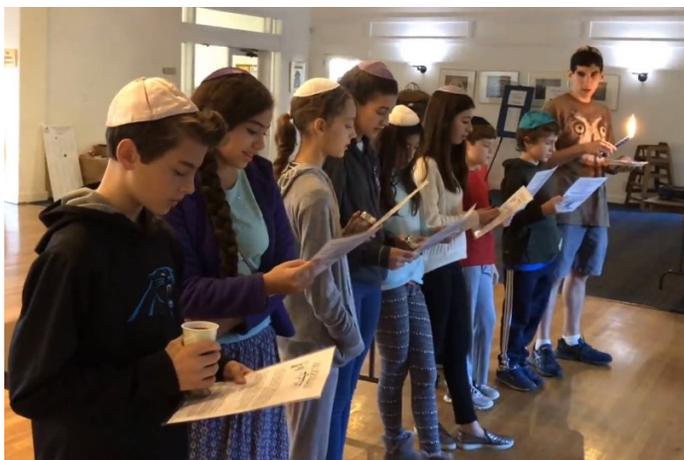
We have revamped our school curriculum and incorporated a three-year prayer component that has vastly helped our students feel more prepared leading up to B'nei Mitzvah. Three years ago, thanks to one dedicated teen (now college student, Liora Wittle), we added a weekly Torah Trop class for our 5th and 6th graders. Each year our teachers participate in a different professional development series where they can work out issues and expand their pedagogy skills together. We continue to execute creative, interactive, engaging lessons each and every day. This year, our school has grown by leaps and bounds! We have consistently added a few students each year over the last few years, but no one expected us to grow our enrollment by 22% in one year!

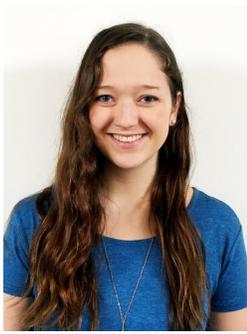
Our post-B'nei Mitzvah student engagement has also seen exponential growth with the addition of our full time Director of Teen Engagement. This has doubled the size of our Madrichim (teachers' assistants) program, created our first USY Executive Board, and increased attendance in both local and regional Kadima and USY events tenfold! Needless to say, we are bursting at the seams with kids and with programming.

I take this moment to reflect back on these last six years because we are about to embark upon an exciting transition. We eagerly await our move into our newly renovated building. With that comes a great deal of opportunity. On the one hand, the essence of our youth programs will remain the same. Yet on the other hand, new (and more!) space provides us with the chance to try out new ideas and expand on our already successful programs in ways we've only been dreaming about for years. I imagine we may be met with some growing pains, but as we wrap up this school year—which has gone by all too quickly—we begin our preparations for the 2019-2020 calendar with open ears, open eyes, and open hearts.

B'Shalom,

Elisabeth Gerson
Education & Youth Director





Teen Engagement



NC Teen Shabbaton: An Exploration of Identity and Pluralism

This February, 60 teens from across North Carolina descended on the Freedman Center for a weekend unlike any youth group convention they had attended before. The NC Teen Shabbaton (NCTS) was born out of the belief that there is something specific about being a Jewish teen growing up in North Carolina that regional friends in the DC area don't quite understand, and that it's something to both engage with meaningfully and to celebrate.

Now in its 4th year of existence, NCTS has grown and developed into an exploration of pluralism, where teens are pushed out of their comfort zones to learn about the traditions and cultures of other Jewish denominations.

When my co-organizer Josh Orol, the Youth and Programming Director at Beth Meyer, and I first started planning NCTS, we had to address our biggest dilemma: how do we give teens the impression that this is a pluralistic event when both organizers are Conservative and the event is being hosted at a Conservative synagogue?

Our solution was one of the greatest successes of the Shabbaton: a teen-led Shabbaton Executive Committee (SEC). We reached out to teen leaders in different youth groups across the Triangle, and assembled a 6-person dream team of dedicated teens from four different synagogues/youth groups. Together, they divided up the different tasks related to planning the Shabbaton, from programming to writing the schedule to coming up with great swag (PJ pants!).

And the SEC did a better job than we could have imagined. They supervised other teen leaders in writing programming, organizing *tefillot*, and leading social justice discussions. They sprinkled in some of the most fun traditions from both USY and NFTY conventions, such as introducing each other with a playful roast, or singing "*ruach*" (upbeat *zmirot*) together. They also planned our Saturday night outing--a trip to the Orange County Sportsplex skating rink--and even put together a playlist of Israeli pop music to play while everyone skated.

To me, one of the most touching effects of the NC Teen Shabbaton was how many new friendships were made. The last minutes of the weekend were a flurry of contact information exchanges and promises to hang out soon--promises that, I'll add, were carried out! It warms my heart to know that we helped facilitate connections of teens who live so close but would not have otherwise met due to being in different denominations. I can't wait to see how NCTS continues to evolve in years to come!

Averyl Edwards
Director of Teen Engagement



How *Dear Evan Hansen* Changed My Life

I've always struggled with anxiety, but these past two years it's turned really bad, to the point I wouldn't go outside. I **really felt alone dealing with my anxiety because no one really knew what it was like.**

Then one day I was working on a project for school, and my mom suggested reading the play script of a musical called *Dear Evan Hansen*. I had heard nothing about that play but was interested in reading it. By the end of reading, I was just in awe, crying my eyes out. The story, the character, hit me in a very real place. I never knew a play could hit me like DEH did. It made me realize that it's ok to feel this way, it's ok to be upset.

I saw *Dear Evan Hansen* at DPAC on Tuesday, March 12, with my family and Sunday, March 17, with my youth group. It was very meaningful to me because I only knew about my family's experiences and impact with the show. I didn't really know how others experienced seeing the show. It somewhat came to my surprise that **some teens struggle with the same exact thing that I deal with**, struggling to connect, feeling anxiety, and being impacted by social media. It was very comforting to talk about it with people like me.

I'm also very open to talking about mental health with people about my experiences. I know it's a very hard subject to talk about, but it connects a lot of people. And if anyone needs someone to talk to about this I'm always here :)

Claudia Wizwer
Age 13

A big thank you to Diane Meglin and her family who initiated the Dear Evan Hansen project in memory of Nick Meglin (z''l), to provide the opportunity for Beth El teens to see this important show, as well as all other generous donors who helped offset the ticket costs for the teens.



Left: Claudia with her *Dear Evan Hansen* program after the show.

Right: The Beth El group had the opportunity to debrief the show with Beth El member and psychologist Beth Spira.





Volunteer and help grow the “Legacy for the Future Society”

The Life & Legacy Committee is seeking new members for our team to help grow Beth El’s endowment to ensure the long-term financial stability of our shul. This is an exciting time of growth for our congregation, and we welcome interested individuals who want to be part of the important effort to increase legacy gifts to the endowment and expand participation in the Life & Legacy initiative.

Since the beginning of our effort to encourage funding of the endowment, and further inspired by the recent Harold Grinspoon initiative, we have received 38 *Letters of Intent* and *Gift Confirmations* from members who have promised to make a legacy gift to Beth El. As a result of the Life & Legacy initiative, the total number of past and present members who have contributed to the endowment is now at 64. Beth El is indebted to Gladys and Earl Siegel’s farsighted effort almost 20 years ago to establish the Endowment with a generous gift.

We are grateful to the Beth El members who have signed a *Letter of Intent* as part of the Life & Legacy program. The next critical phase in this process is to complete a *Legacy Gift Confirmation* form. Committee members will be reaching out to individuals in the coming months to finalize this process. We are encouraged by our members’ enthusiastic participation in the Life & Legacy initiative; however, we have a long road ahead and much work to do to meet our goal of enlisting another 50 members in the next 18 months.

By participating in Beth El’s legacy initiative, you can share your hopes and dreams with your family, make a statement about the importance of our synagogue in your life, and ensure that a strong and vibrant Jewish community exists for future generations.

For more information or to volunteer for the Life & Legacy Committee, please contact Robert Gutman at ragutman@thegutmans.net or Norma Gindes at normagindes@gmail.com.



Knitting Chevra

The Beth El Knitting Chevra will resume meeting in the fall after the High Holidays. At that time, Andree Allen will be the new point person for the group.

While we have been on hiatus, we have continued to knit chemo caps for kids, which we donate to the "Kaps for Kids" program. Please contact Andree or me if you are interested in participating.

Hunter Levinsohn

Meet Your Committee Leadership

Chevra Kaddisha: David Klapper

Community of Caring: Ann Leibel and Beth Goldstein

Finance: Syd Miller

House: Dan Schnitzer

Kol Koloteinu: Krisha Miller

Lifelong Learning: Donna Goldstein and Susan Hill

Life & Legacy: Bob Gutman and Norma Gindes

Membership: Kim Bardy Langsam

Men of Beth El (MoB): Mike Resnick

Orthodox Keballab: Phillippe Chemla

Ritual: Randi Smith

Social Action: Hope Hartman and Rachel Bearman

Sisterhood: Tal Lewin Wittle

Synagogue Life: Tal Lewin Wittle

Va’ad HaChinuch: Scott Schwartz

Social Action Committee

Two important developments in Social Action occurred during winter of 2019: Rachel Bearman became co-chair of Social Action and, at the initiation of Social Action, Beth El voted to join the HIAS Welcome Campaign. The Social Action Committee plans to emphasize education about and services to local refugees.

In January, for the MLK Day of Service, we partnered with Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church on four opportunities to serve our community: prepared workshop materials for the StepUp employment training program, collected items for the Basic Needs Drive for homeless people in Durham through Bull City Fresh Start, participated in Book Harvest, and baked cookies for Urban Ministries of Durham (pictured below).

In March, a group of Social Action folks prepared a meal for StepUp workshop participants in support of this valuable, local program; other groups could easily do this! In March - April we also contributed to the Federation's Passover Food Drive, which we participate in annually.

May 11, 2019 is Social Action Shabbat. The theme is "Safe and Affordable Housing." At 1:00 pm, after the Kiddush lunch, there will be a panel including Spencer Bradford, head of Durham Congregations in Action (DCIA), who will speak about HomeShare Durham; Blake Strayhorn, head of Habitat for Humanity in Durham; Karen Lado, from the Durham's Community Development Department, who will address government housing efforts, and a representative from the Interfaith Council (IFC) of Carrboro/Chapel Hill will address housing needs in Orange County.

On June 30 we are partnering with Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church on another Interfaith Habitat Build. Details will be communicated to the congregation.

Ongoing: collecting food, toiletries, and responding to special requests from Urban Ministries (e.g. men's and women's underwear. Donations can be put in the bin in the foyer of the Freedman Center); and serving meals at Urban Ministries.

We encourage all to join our [Google Group](https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/beth-el-social-action) to stay abreast of a variety of opportunities to serve our local community and beyond. (<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/beth-el-social-action>)

Hope Hartman



Sisterhood

Beth El Sisterhood enhances connections among women in our congregation by fostering a collegial and positive environment. Our mission is to understand and strengthen Conservative Judaism in the home, synagogue, and community. To support our mission, we provide programs that educate, entertain, and inform Jewish women locally.

In February and March, Sisterhood hosted Morning at the Movies and led Friday evening services for Sisterhood Shabbat. Morning at the Movies was a fun blast from the past with the screening of “Crossing Delancy” at the Chelsea Theater accompanied by coffee and pastries.

Over a dozen women helped lead Sisterhood Shabbat this year. Thank you to Lisa Berley, Rachele Bienstock, Sandy Fangmeier, Shari & Gavi Fischer, Carole Fox, Beth Friedland, Rachel Galanter, Susan Gidwitz, Donna Goldstein, Sheri Hoffman, Hinda Lind, Mary Joan Mandel, Caryn Rossi & Qiuhu Louie, Randi Smith, and Terri Tyson. And a very special *Todab Rabab* to past-president Mary Joan Mandel for planning and organizing the service! As it was Shabbat Zachor, Rabbi Laura Leiber spoke about the past and how it impacts our future. To round out the evening, everyone schmoozed while enjoying homemade desserts.

Sisterhood is closing out the year with Elections and Potluck Dinner in April and helping Jewish Family Services with the Chaverim lunch program in May.

Tal Lewin Wittle



Synagogue Life

GOT SHABBAT?

We do!

Thank you to all our hosts who helped get our new Got Shabbat program going this spring!

Jereme and Summer Albin

Evelina Moulder

Beth and Gary Berman

Jack and Diane Sasson

Rachel Galanter

Katie Schwartz

Norma and Bob Gindes

Melissa Segal and Aaron Miller

Valerie and Matthew Glassman

Randi and Scott Smith

Donna Goldstein

Leslie Winner and Gerald Postema

Kim and Drew Langsam

Tal and Eric Wittle

Want to host? Or join a meal at someone’s home? Check your weekly announcement email for links to sign up!

The Synagogue Life Committee hosted a Community Shabbat Dinner on May 3, and Shul at the Pool will return this summer! Be on the lookout for details!

Planning for next year’s programming is in full swing! Game nights, dancing, singing, hiking, and walking groups are all possibilities! Interested in helping out? Contact the office at 919-682-1238 and Sheri will pass the information along to the Synagogue Life Committee.

Tal Lewin Wittle

Interfaith Working Group

Beth El members have engaged in several important interfaith activities in the last few months.

First, we hosted 50 members from the River Church congregation for Friday evening Shabbat services, followed by a pot luck dinner with food supplied by Beth El congregants. Approximately 140 people intermingled for dinner and conversation about the similarities and differences between our congregations. Opportunities for building on this budding relationship will be developed over the course of the coming year.

Next, together with Trinity Ave. Presbyterian Church and Covenant Presbyterian Church, we held a lunch and learn about the history and causes of housing segregation and racial inequities in neighborhoods and housing in Durham, from the founding of the City 150 years ago up to the present. At tables that were interracial, interfaith, and intergenerational, we had the opportunity to discuss what this means for the Durham of today, and what we should or can do to remedy the lack of affordable housing, continued residential segregation, and gentrification that is driving low resource people from their homes. This conversation was just a beginning, and the coordinating group from the three congregations will plan ways for us to follow up. Thanks go to Richard Hart for coordinating this conversation on behalf of Beth El, and to Bob Korstad and his colleagues at Bull City 150 for the informative display and presentation. See the photos below.

Also, we have continued our relationship with the Jamaat Ibad ar Rahman mosque, where a group of Beth El congregants has been engaged in “co-learning” with the members of that community, focusing primarily on the texts and practices of their and our liturgies. We continue to be surprised at the similarities of our languages and our customs, and we continue to develop our appreciation of our differences. The authentic relationship of friendship and respect that is developing between our two communities provides light in our fractious times.

Everyone who is interested is welcome to join us as we sustain our important relationships with our hosts at Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church, as we build meaningful connections with historically black Christian congregations, and as we deepen our relationships with our Muslim neighbors.

For more information, or to be added to the interfaith email listserv, contact Leslie Winner at lesliewinner@gmail.com.

Leslie Winner



Above: The History of Durham's Housing Inequality: Interfaith Lunch and Learn
TAPC, February 24, 2019

Ask the Rabbi

Question

Tragically, Jews died every single day of the year during the Shoah, so would it be appropriate to say Kaddish for the victims every day of the year including every Shabbat and Yom Tov? In many people's extended families, we do not know the names of all relatives, spouses, children and possibly grandchildren who died in the Shoah, nor do we know the dates they died. Should one say Mourners' Kaddish every day to commemorate the yahrzeits of those who died in the Shoah who have no one to say Kaddish for them?

I want to begin by thanking you for your question and honoring your impulse to continue to say Kaddish for those who died in the Shoah. Elie Wiesel taught us, "Never forget." Put positively, we must remember not only the enormity of the genocide, but the particularities of the names, faces, and stories of every life that was snuffed out too soon. Each act of memory is an act of redemption and resistance against the kingdom of darkness (as Elie Wiesel described that era) that covered the world during the Shoah. And yet, mourning forever carries its own dangers of which we must be aware.

Jewish tradition limits how much communities should mourn a communal tragedy, even something as terrible as the destruction of the Temple. The Talmud (Baba Batra 60b) tells the story of a group of sages who, because the Temple was destroyed, want never to do anything that was associated with the Temple. They want never to drink wine or eat meat until the Temple is rebuilt. Rabbi Joshua tells them that in that case, they should never eat fruit or eat bread or even drink water because these things were part of the Temple! When they realize his point, they grow quiet and he patiently explains, "Not to mourn is impossible, but to mourn too much is impossible too."

Individuals too are limited in how much they may mourn the death of a loved one. Maimonides writes:

One should not indulge in excessive grief over one's dead, for it is said, "Weep not for the dead, nor bemoan him" (Jeremiah 22:10), that is to say, weep not too much, for that is the way of the world, and one who frets over the way of the world is a fool (Laws of Mourning 13:11).

I know from personal experience: continuing to mourn is tempting. We who remain in the world feel a duty to those who have died. Ceasing to mourn can feel like forgetting; healing can feel like an offense against the dead. Living can feel like a sin against the memory of those we loved. Survivor's guilt interrogates us: by what right do I deserve to enjoy life when my friends cannot anymore? Yet Jewish tradition cautions us against letting those voices have a veto in our lives; the Torah commands us: "Choose life!" (Deuteronomy 30:19).

Jewish tradition limits our mourning for a few reasons. First, while I might choose different language than Maimonides' ("one who frets over the way of the world is a fool"), his insight is important: death is part of the world, part of life, and, while death and grief must be acknowledged and given their due, to continually mourn risks ignoring the joys and goodness that are also part of God's world and for which our traditions urge us to see and be thankful. Second, Rabbi Harold Schuweis (z"l) once wrote how what was lost in the Shoah was a world that celebrated Jewish learning and life, and how the best way to honor that world is not merely to build museums and memorials to the dead, but rather to re-dedicate ourselves to Jewish learning and observance.

So, with all that as background, here is my answer to your question:

When we have a minyan at Beth El - on Shabbat or weekdays - most of the times there are mourners saying Kaddish, but sometimes there are not. When there are no mourners, my practice is, when I am the prayer leader, to recite the Mourner's Kaddish so that it does not go unsaid and, when I do so, I recite it in memory of people who have no one to say Kaddish for them, including those who died in the Shoah. If you are leading a minyan and there are no mourners, I encourage you as the leader to recite the Kaddish and to do so with that same *kavanah* / intention.

But, I do not think individuals who are not in mourning should say Kaddish for those who've died in the Shoah; such a practice would lead to a person saying Kaddish every day, all the time. From my own experience of reciting Kaddish after the death of my friend Joel and, more recently, after my father's death, reciting Kaddish is a powerful mourning ritual that gives voice to the particular pain we feel in the time immediately following the death of someone very close to us.

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Adopting a tradition to recite Kaddish every day goes against our tradition's cautions against excessive mourning. If one wishes to honor daily the victims of the Shoah in a specifically Jewish way, a more fitting practice is to engage in Jewish learning projects such as learning, in memory of the victims of the Shoah, a chapter of tanakh or mishnah, or a section of a page of Talmud each day with the online programs of the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. These teachings can be delivered straight to your email inbox!

One final note: While my sense is that one should not continually recite the Mourner's Kaddish for those who died in the Shoah, I do not view someone who has this as their practice as "sinning" in any way. Kaddish is a praise of God and, while I do not claim to know the mind of God, I do not believe reciting the Kaddish can ever be a sin nor can I imagine it to be unpleasing to the Divine. Rather, I humbly offer my understanding of how Jewish tradition guides us to think about these questions, nudging us ever again to turn away from death and darkness and towards light and life.

Rabbi Greyber

Look for another "Ask the Rabbi" answer in the next bulletin!



Gabbaim at Beth El

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEAD SERVICES?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN HOW TO LEAD SERVICES?

If so, please contact davening@betheldurham.org,
and Bernie Fischer, Adam Levine, or David Rubin will be in touch.

WOULD YOU LIKE AN ALIYAH?

It is OK if you do not know Hebrew. We can provide you the transliteration ahead of time to practice.

If you do not want to have to say anything, how about trying Gelilah (wrapping the Torah)?

If you are interested, please email aliyot@betheldurham.org, and Bernie Fischer or Sol Levine will be in touch.



Above: The cast of "Esther: A Persian Musical" Purim Shpiel.
Right: Rabbi Greyber with the Langsam children



*Beth El Welcomes the Following
New Members to our Community*

Liat Belinson & Sharon Belenzon

Jessica & Adam Bizan

Lisa Gray

Aaron Post & Annie Mountcastle

Elazar Nudell

Mya & Mark Sendak

Jill Madsen & Ali Serrioz

SAVE THE DATES

*Celebrating our Return to
1004 Watts Street*

MAY 18: FIRST SHABBAT IN OUR NEW SANCTUARY

MAY 19: ANNUAL MEETING AT TAPC

MARCH OUR TORAHS BACK TO BETH EL
BE AND TAPC COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

SEPTEMBER 22: CELEBRATION AND DEDICATION OF
THE SNYDERMAN BUILDING

BE Modernization and Expansion (BEME)

By the time you read this update, the plan is that we will be days away from welcoming you into our newly refurbished home at Beth El. On May 18 we will open the doors for the first service. It will be a “soft opening,” since some areas in the building will still have some work to complete. We are pleased to be able to enjoy our new sanctuary (with new chairs and east facing Ark!), the lobby (with new bathrooms...that you can actually find!), the social hall (with lots of working outlets!) and a new chapel. Work will continue as we finish the upstairs office space and the downstairs space - the Orthodox Kehillah, classrooms and our new Multipurpose Room. Everything will be ready for our kickoff on September 22!

As we write this, there is a lot of work left to be done and there is a hive of activity in the building - finishing the walls, woodwork, bathrooms, flooring, painting, sidewalks, and the final inspections by Durham. There are a million details and ten thousand moving pieces to manage. We are so grateful for the work that so many people have put into this project, and appreciate the trust and confidence you have placed in us. We can't wait to share it with you!

Drew Langsam and Sandy Berman



Left: Reviewing the architectural drawings of the new building



Additional gender-inclusive restrooms will be available!

Right: Gladys Siegel ready for her hard hat tour!





Our Story, Our Time
Capital Campaign Update
May 2019

Wrapping it Up!

We can't thank the Beth El community enough for the tremendous generosity demonstrated during *Our Story, Our Time* Campaign. Your support is turning vision into reality as we witness the final stages of this renovation to make our synagogue more welcoming, accessible, safe, and secure. We have now crossed the \$6.1 million milestone in the Campaign, and are in the process of confirming with all donors their recognition wishes for the various displays that will feature our community's inspiring role in the success of this historic project.

It's not too late to support this Campaign! Although the Campaign has raised the \$6 million needed for critical renovations, there are additional improvements to our communal home we hope to pursue, as funding allows, including: furniture enhancements, landscaping, playground improvements, a charging station for electric cars, and finishing the space set aside for a prayer garden. Every gift or pledge, regardless of size, will make a difference. Pledges can be paid over multiple years to help you make the greatest impact possible.

Please contact one of us if you have questions. Thank you for helping us write the next chapter in the Beth El story!

Nathan Bearman
Campaign Co-Chair
nathan@furniturelab.com
919.618.9011

Gary Zarkin
Campaign Co-Chair
gzarkin@gmail.com
919.699.7282

We are grateful to these donors who have collectively contributed more than \$6.1 million to the *Our Story, Our Time* Campaign!

Campaign Donor Honor Roll
 (Donors as of March 29, 2019)



(\$500,000 & above)
 Ralph & Renee Snyderman



(\$250,000-\$499,999)
 Anonymous (1)
 The Leon Levine Foundation



(\$100,000-\$249,999)

- Anonymous (2)
- Leah Austin
- Eric Mlyn & Judy Byck (z"l)
- Harvey & Sandra Cohen
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- David & JoAnn Rubin
- James Tulskey & Ilana Saraf
- Gladys Siegel



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- Susan & Matt Springer
- Hope Hartman & Bob Wechsler



We are grateful to these donors who have collectively contributed more than \$6.1 million to the *Our Story, Our Time* Campaign!

Campaign Donor Honor Roll
(Donors as of March 29, 2019)



(\$5,000-\$9,999)

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(Gifts Up to \$4,999)

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**If you donated to the Capital Campaign and your name is missing, please email info@betheldurham.org.*

Congregant Stories

The Amazing Jewish Story of a Durham Home by Rebecca Fishman

It's been two years since I bought and moved into my mid-century bungalow on Virginia Avenue. At the time, I knew that Dr. Walter Kempner, the charismatic yet controversial founder of the Rice Diet, was the original owner. I knew there was an enclave of sorts: the lots next to and across from me are undeveloped (one has an overgrown walkway to a circular stone patio I'm told was the spot for community sunbathing), a walkway connects my house to another, the streets are unpaved, and the trees and plants across all the lots were clearly planted at the same time. I knew Kempner collected and stored antiques in the semi-finished attic and that many were donated to the Nasher Museum. Little did I know of my home's extraordinary Jewish story.



Rebecca and her dog, Rex, in front of their home

My neighbor Tom Miller published an article in the Watts-Hillandale Neighborhood Association newsletter a few months ago where I learned about Kempner's fascinating role as a humanitarian who helped many Jews evacuate Nazi and post-World War II Germany. Indeed, there was an active and close-knit community of exiles, largely orbiting around Kempner and what's now my house, that thrived in Durham for 70 years. Much of what follows comes from my neighbor's article, supplemented with my own laywoman's research and speculation.

Kemper was born to a wealthy Jewish family in Berlin in 1903. A gifted young physician and researcher, he surrounded himself with liberal scientists and thinkers with shared interests in arts, politics, and philosophy. He was barred from employment under the Nazi regime and sought a way out. In 1934, he accepted a two-year placement with Duke's School of Medicine, an appointment that eventually became permanent. Kempner began helping others flee Germany almost immediately after he arrived in Durham.

The earliest to come were Dr. Clotilde Schlayer and Edit Glaser. The three lived in the Washington Duke Hotel from roughly 1935-1938 before purchasing homes. In 1938, Glaser purchased a house on Wilson Street, which became a temporary living space and social center for the growing number of refugees. Fides Ruestow joined the group in 1938, worked at Duke, and eventually purchased a home on Stroller Avenue. In 1941, Kempner and Schlayer bought the two new homes on Virginia Avenue between Pershing Street and Sprunt Avenue, still the only two on the block and including the one I now own. The houses were originally built as mirror images of each other.

(continued on page 20)

(continued from page 19)

Kempner used his growing influence at Duke to help his peers and friends overseas, find them jobs (often at Duke), and provide financial support. With the Virginia Avenue home, it seems he also purchased several empty lots nearby, some of which were given to the refugees. Others in the circle purchased homes nearby. *Neu Dablen*, as the refugees called their settlement, centered around the Pershing and Virginia intersection and was named after the affluent Berlin suburb where they met and worked before the war.

In 1946, Dr. and Mrs. Ernst Peschel joined Kempner's lab at Duke and eventually built a home on Pershing Street; Dr. Peschel would go on to establish Duke's first dialysis unit. Mercedes Gaffron came in 1947; a noted psychologist at Duke, she eventually purchased a house on Maryland Avenue. Gynecological surgeon Dr. Christa von Roebel came in 1949, joined Duke's faculty, and moved to Pershing Street. Barbara and Hans Stefan Schultz, who Kempner helped to flee in 1937 and find work elsewhere in the States, moved to Durham in the 1960s and purchased a home on Alabama Avenue.

The Schultz's home was later purchased by or given to Dr. Barbara Newborg, an American and the youngest member of the settlement. She joined Kempner's team in 1952 and worked for him for 40 years, mostly as his chief medical associate, before assuming the role of managing his legacy and records. In 2011, Newborg published *Walter Kempner and the Rice Diet: Challenging Conventional Wisdom*, which was the primary source for Miller's article.

After Kempner's death in 1997, I believe his house and many of the lots were bequeathed to Newborg. Some properties, including my house, must have been carved out and sold separately. I've been told that Newborg wanted to donate the empty lots to the city; it didn't pan out and they were willed to friends after her passing in 2016.

What's happening here today? Some of the homes are owned by people with connections to Kempner's circle; others like me ended up here by chance. I know from public records that I'm the fourth owner of my house since 2006. Two of the streets near the Pershing and Virginia intersection, including my block, remain unpaved. The empty lots also remain undeveloped, though it's unclear how long that will last. In the meantime, I'm grateful for the views and appreciate whomever in the enclave was the gardener; my yard blossoms year-round with camellias, magnolias, and other treats.

Mostly, I find it comforting to be in a home with such a rich history. It was the center of a close-knit community for many decades. My late parents opened our home in Albany in a similar way, and I dream of making my house a gathering point for friends and family for years to come.

Rebecca Fishman moved to North Carolina in 2015 to be closer to family and joined Beth El in 2017. She manages global programs and partnerships for the Duke School of Nursing.



Stained Glass Windows: Reflecting on the Past and Looking Towards the Future

by Lynne Grossman

On the next page, in the group photo on the left, there is nine-year-old me in a white hat standing next to my older brother Mike in his light colored coat, happy to celebrate the ground breaking ceremony for Beth El Synagogue. We were saying goodbye to our downtown synagogue built in 1922, where after Shabbat services I could walk to my father's men's clothing store on Mangum Street (now a parking lot across from pizza and Mexican restaurants). During High Holiday services at the old synagogue, I sat in the balcony with my grandmother, mother, and cousin Fannie while my father and brother prayed downstairs. A few years later, I attended Junior Congregation there, after which we had refreshments in the vestry room (a fancy term for basement) - cookies and orange Tru Ade were the highlights of my week.

Fast forward to 1954 and a vacant lot in Trinity Park, which would become home to a modern synagogue with many changes from the old shul. In 1958, when I was the second girl to have a Bat Mizvah at Beth El, the new sanctuary walls were still concrete blocks, pre-paneling. I was proud to stand beneath the stained glass windows, one of which had a plaque dedicated by my parents, Grace and Melvin Gladstein.

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(continued from page 20)



LEON MOEL, Chairman
Building Committee
1954-1956



MRS. E. J. EVANS, Co-Chairman
Building Committee
1954-1959



ROBERT I. LIPTON, Chairman
Finance Committee
1954-1959



The New Synagogue Site was consecrated December 5, 1954. Above, Mayor E. J. Evans, chairman of the Steering Committee, shaking hands with Max Lieberman, Congregation President. Rabbi Louis Tuchman conducted the services.



Ground Breaking Ceremonies February 17, 1957. Mayor E. J. Evans and Rabbi Louis Tuchman are shown in the center of the picture breaking ground.

Beth El was a wonderful congregation for me, and later for my three children, to attend pre-school and religious school; become Bar and Bat Mitzvahs; and son Alec to stand under the chuppah in our warm, welcoming synagogue.

Now, I'm excited about the continuing evolution of our building, look forward to attending services in our beautiful new sanctuary and celebrating more important functions there. We've come a long way, baby!



Note: The original stained glass windows will be re-purposed and re-used in the new building.

Yahrzeit Reminders

May		Iyar	June		Iyar	June	Sivan
15	Esther Cassell	10	2	Harry R. Bergman	28	13	Esther Silverman 10
15	Helen Rosenzweig	10	2	James Moulder	28	14	Annie Levy 11
16	Rose Bromley	11	2	Harold Rose	28	15	Pasia Schonberg 12
19	Elizabeth Dernier	14	2	Joan Tetel-Hanks	28	15	Molly Zauder 12
19	Dorothy Gross	14	3	Toba Man	29	16	Peggy Elizabeth Silver Huffman 13
19	Jack Winfield	14	3	Mary Rosenstein	29	16	Marilyn Lubar 13
20	Herbert Flicker	15	3	Lorraine Carol Rossi	29	17	Lotte Herzfeld 14
20	Michael Lee Goodrich	15	3	Rose Sawilosky Roemer	29	17	Herman B. Kushner 14
21	Bessie Bergman	16	June		Sivan	18	Gordon Empey 15
21	Roslyn Rose	16	4	Nathan Henry Brandt	1	18	Lily Feiler 15
23	Albrecht Strauss	18				18	Willard Gidwitz 15
25	Shirley Bloom	20	4	Howard Jaffe	1	18	Carrie Hayer 15
25	Miriam Gingold	20	6	Daniel Parker	3	18	Amram Rasiel 15
25	James Guild	20	6	Morton Pizer	3	19	Anne V. Ashendorf 16
25	Sylvia Slachter Levy	20	6	Abraham Telen	3	19	Norman Evenson 16
25	Arnold Lind	20	7	Benjamin Pudolsky	4	19	Stuart Garr 16
25	Rose Nydick	20	7	Sarah Goldberg Sody	4	19	Theodore Ira Gradin 16
26	Alexander Koplowitz	21	7	Luan Walker	4	19	Pearl Penner Morrison 16
27	Ricka Hart	22	8	Eva Rosenstein Dave	5	19	Herbert Felix Sharp 16
27	Charles Kaplan	22	8	Bertram Lubar	5	20	Jonathan E. Shimm 17
27	Alfred Veis	22	8	Bruno Strauss	5	21	Ira Halberstadt 18
28	Marcia Lynn August	23	9	Aron Pas	6	21	Lionel Shapiro 18
28	Wendy Finger	23	9	Earl Weaver	6	22	Gregory Chase Barry 19
28	Morris Snyderman	23	10	Norma Greenberg	7	22	Nick Meglin 19
30	Joseph Behar	25	10	Moses Alter Spira	7	23	Earl Siegel 20
30	Alvin Greenberg	25	11	Gerald Reed	8	24	Edward Rosenbaum 21
30	Frank Greenberg	25	12	Jeremy Bland	9	24	Margot Sandick 21
30	Zelda Schlom Sachs	25	13	Bella Goldstein	10	24	Sidney Shapiro 21
31	Abraham Rosenstein	26	13	Maria Mikhalevsky	10		
31	Milton Siegel	26					

Yahrzeit Reminders, continued.

June	Sivan	July	Tammuz	July	Tammuz
25	Lawrence Fox	22	4	Herman Scherr	1 14 Ann Geller 11
25	Fannie Promisel Freedman	22	4	Akiba Sitron	1 14 Linda Serrioz 11
25	Hyman Kresses	22	5	Mitchell Bergman	2 15 Robert Cyril Laliberte 12
25	Edmund Stolzenberg	22	5	Samuel Cooper	2 15 Dave Satlof 12
26	Milton Goldstein	23	5	Mollie Gabin	2 16 Martin Landau 13
26	Eunice Kresses Loewinsohn	23	5	Rivka Rachel Ginton	2 16 Nathan Ornoff 13
26	Daniel Miller	23	5	Samuel Levine	2 17 Jorge Gadlli 14
27	Leonard Becker	24	5	Dalia Frider Weinisman	17 2 Eva M. Woods 14
27	Hiram Bromley	24	6	Hannah Lakin	3 18 Norman Kirshner 15
27	Mollie Fridovich	24	7	Pearl Fisher Alexander	19 4 Julius J. Bienstock 16
27	Irene Markoff	24	7	William Cassell	4 21 Judy Byck 18
28	Theodore Brody	25	7	Sheila Krolik	4 22 Frances Carel 19
29	Esther Markman Enzer	26	7	Etta Lind	4 23 Raquel Levy 20
29	Elie Wiesel	26	8	Ida Grossman	5 23 Ray Rosenstein Lewin 20
30	Dennis Hart	27	8	Gertrude Popovsky	5 23 Juliet Schwartz 20
30	Herman Wagner	27	9	Donald Benjamin Hackel	6 24 Sidney Stern 21
30	Joseph L. Wechsler	27	9	Mildred Marcus	6 25 Shayna Belenko 22
July	Sivan				
1	Lottie Frohman	28	11	Neil Felmus	8 25 Myer B. Marcus 22
2	Julius Concors	29	11	Elizabeth Gay Thurston	8 25 Pedro Urow 22
2	Isaac Evans	29	12	Rachel Geller	9 26 Bertha Agid 23
2	Reba Levine	29	12	Shlomo Geller	9 26 Willie Massey 23
2	Rose Sugarman	29	12	Sam Gisser	9 27 Irma Fischer 24
3	Richard Shachtman	30	12	Mary Kirshner	9 27 Carolyn Lubovsky 24
July	Tammuz				
4	Zewel Berman	1	12	Eunice Luebke	9 27 Joel Schwartz 24
4	Robin and Joshua Berry	1	13	Janet Alpern	9 28 Sadie Kramer 25
4	Eva Gadlli	1	13	Yetta Greenberg	10 28 Gerri Ann Pomerantz 25
			14	Lester Bogdanoff	11 29 Grant Anderson 26
			14	Albert M. Fleishman	11 30 Joani Gudeman 27
					31 Louis Goldberg 28

Thank you to our donors!

Annual Fund with Tributes

Joel Abramowitz, in memory of Adele Abramowitz

Sandy Berman, in honor of Elisabeth and Eric Gerson's baby girl

Marshall Botvinick and Karen Burns, in honor of Hal Ronan Botvinick's first year as a member of the Beth El community

Risa Botvinick, in memory of Lee A. Dworsky and Doris G. Dworsky

Sally and Steve Brown, in memory of Steve's mother, Doris Brown

Pat Fischer, in memory of Rabbi Frank Fischer

Lauren and Jonathan Gindes, in memory of Mark Elengold

Pilar and Ronald Goldberg, in memory of Ronald's mother, Ruth Goldberg

Florence Goldblatt, in memory of Edward Allan Goldblatt

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

Donald and Sheila Goldstein, in honor of Alan Friedman and Malachi Hacohen for their help

Nathalie Goodrich, in honor of Beth and Adam Goldstein

Sam Grossinger, in memory of his father, Alan Grossinger, and Alice Ammerman's father, Howard Ammerman

Malachi Hacohen and Julie Mell, in appreciation of Alan Friedman's and Rabbi Greyber's help in making Lilach Mell Hacohen's Bat Mitzvah a wonderful success

Hope Hartman and Bob Wechsler, in honor of their mothers, Lillian Hartman and Florence Wechsler

Marilyn Hogle, in memory of her father, Joseph Levine

Lauri Klein, in memory of Rabbi Frank Fischer

Jeff and Lynne Koweek, in honor of Perry Whitted

Annual Fund with Tributes, cont.

Sheila and Sol Levine, in memory of Sheila's father and grandmother, Alfred Korkin and Rae Korkin, and Sol's grandmother, Dora Levine

Eric Lipp, in memory of his mother, Barbara Lipp

Diana Bobrow Madoff, in honor of Kim and Drew Langsam

Judy and Arthur Marks, in memory of Rabbi Frank Fischer

Harriet Moulder, in honor of Jennifer Orel and Maxwell Moline

Alyne O'Keefe, in honor of Sue Brook

Lois and Isaac Price, in honor of Sheri Hoffman

Barbara Renner, in memory of Rabbi Frank Fischer

Jennifer and Jared Resnick, in honor of Ezra and Kol Resnick

Howard and Claire Rockman, in memory of their beautiful niece, Laura Empey

Steven Rose, in memory of Estelle Rose, mother and grandmother

Caryn Rossi, in honor of Chuck Eilber

Margie Satinsky, in memory of her parents, Florence and Alex Satinsky

Julia Schechter, in appreciation of Beth El being an open community to all

April Singer, in honor of Sandra Berman and her efforts on the renovation

Lois and Dick Sobel, in honor of Rachel, Nathan, Noa, Dov, and Lev Bearman

David Sontag, in memory of his mother, Lily Sontag

Bob and Terri Tyson, in memory of Terri's mother, Louise D. Kushner

Sheryl Weiss, in memory of Sam and Susan Weiss

Rina and Myles Wolf, in honor of Jasper Wolf's graduation

Barry Yeoman, in memory of Ruth Sackett

Annual Fund with Tributes, cont.

Gary and Abby Zarkin, in memory of Steve Brown's mother, Doris Brown

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Harold Baranger and Meg Anderson, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank

Karen Burns and Marshall Botvinick, in honor of Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son Hal

Marshall Botvinick and Karen Burns, in memory of Charles Botvinick

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Michaela Davidai, in honor of Gladys Siegel's 90th birthday

Patricia Fischer, in memory of Rabbi Frank Fischer

Richard Cramer and Jane Gabin, in memory of Richard's mother, Tzipporah

Sandy Kessler and Sheva Zucker, in appreciation of all their happy years at Beth El

Jonathan Lovins and Florence Briones, in honor of Rabbi Greyber, for being a great rabbi

Sarah Rutstein and Eric Lefebvre, in honor of of Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Sampson

Tamara and Michael Sidorov, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Joshua

Beth and Edward Sugarman, in honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of their grandchildren, Sydney, Adam and Rachel Kirsch

Amy and Jerry Webberman, in honor and memory of Amy's parents, Pearl and Sam (z"l) Levine

Thank you to our donors!

Cemetery Fund

Joel Abramowitz, in memory of his father, Sam Abramowitz

Jane Gabin, in memory of her father, Alfred L. Gabin

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Judith Snyderman, in honor of her son, Ted Snyderman, becoming a new member of the Chevra Kaddisha

David Sontag, in memory of his brother, Dick Sontag

Gabriel Szulik, in memory of his mother, Mary Zeitune de Szulik

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Nathalie Goodrich, in memory of her husband, Harold Goodrich, her father, Sam. E. Levy, and brother, Bernard Lee

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Arthur and Judy Marks, in gratitude to Michelle Shrott and Rachel Greene for their labor of love on the Memorial Book; and in memory of Arthur's parents, Ann and Alexander Marks

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Judy and Lew Siegel, in memory of Mary Joan Mandel's sister, Margaretta L. Bossard Bush

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David and JoAnn Rubin, in celebration of the B'nei Mitzvah of Rachel Kirsch, Lev Bearman, Claudia Wizwer, and Ranon Greyber; the birth of Abraham David Grossman Aboulafia, Lynne Grossman's grandson; the birth of Ada Lorraine Gerson, daughter of Elisabeth and Eric Gerson; the birth of Wolfe Louis Devine, grandson of Anne and Jeff Derby

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Michele Pas, Barry Poss, and family, in honor of Rachel Kirsch's Bat Mitzvah; Jean and Mark Kirsch's 50th wedding anniversary; Rachel Bearman being honored as one of the "7 Influencers" in Chapel Hill

Michele Pas, Barry Poss, Aaron and Jonathan Pas, in loving memory of Rabbi Frank Fischer

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Chaim Motzen, in honor of the wedding of Ben and Sophia Abram; and Phyllis Dworsky

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A Siddur Lev Shalem has been donated by **Michelle Shrott and Jeff Krolik** in memory of Doris Brown, mother and grandmother of Steve, Sally, Sam Jake and Rose Brown

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