

Message from Rabbi Greyber:



Mourning and Healing in Jerusalem

I came to Israel again this summer not just to tour – though I loved our interfaith mission with Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church (except the second week when I got Covid – alas). I came not just to study, though once again I enjoyed extraordinary classes and learning at the Shalom Hartman Institute, kicking off my third and final year in the seventh cohort of the Rabbinic Leadership Initiative. I came not just to eat, though the food is so good!

I came to mourn. Not to cry – though I did – or to say kaddish – though I carry those I've lost with me in each kaddish I hear or say – but to find my friend, my teacher, my chavruta, Steve, Rabbi Sager, in the streets of Jerusalem, in Torah, and in a book he gave me long ago.

As our interfaith group left the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in the Christian Quarter of the Old City, it was the end of a long, hot day of touring and everyone indulged me one last detour to a place called Elia Photo service. Steve and I visited the store once together several years ago; I believe he brought a group of Beth El congregants there on a pilgrimage many years ago too. It was one of Steve's "Jerusalem places." The black and white photos taken by Elia Kahvedjian adorn the walls of Steve's studies at home and at the synagogue.

Elia died in 1999. His grandson, George, now runs the store and sells photographs taken by Elia, who was orphaned in Southeast Turkey in 1910 at five years old after watching most of his family murdered before his eyes in the Armenian Genocide. Elia was among one hundred thousand Armenian orphans brought by the American Near East Relief to orphanages in the Middle East. At an orphanage in Nazareth, Elia was chosen to assist his teacher— who was also a photographer— to carry the negatives (which were big glass plates in the 1920s)— a task that gave Elia a peek into the world of photography and began his lifelong passion.

I told Elia's grandson, George, that I'd met him years ago with my friend Steve who used to visit the store – "Ah yes! He would sit and we would drink coffee and talk for hours!" Yes, I smiled, that's him. I told him Steve had died – "Oh, I'm so sorry to hear that." We visited for a while. Rev. Katie Crowe and I bought a photograph of the Al Aqsa Mosque for our friend, Imam Abdullah Antepli, and we hurried to rejoin the tired group on our way out of the Old City.

At Rabbi Sager's funeral, each person was handed a kria ribbon and (one last) card with the teaching: "Just as we tear for our parents, so too for the rabbi who taught us Torah" (Maimonides, Laws of Mourning 9:2). During my time at Hartman, I gave these cards and ribbons to friends and colleagues who loved Rabbi Sager but could not attend the funeral. His dear friend and teacher, Melila Heller-Eshed, dedicated her day's teaching about creating boundaries of power in Steve's memory. Steve and Sabina's daughter, Ariele, and granddaughter, Maya, had driven down from the Golan for the day. Melila concluded her session with hundreds of rabbis from around the world by reading Steve's translation of an Amichai poem, "Moses, Our Teacher," in which Moses saw the face of God but forgot.

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He made himself a police sketch from the face
of God and from the burning bush and from the face
of Pharaoh's daughter who leaned over him when he was an infant in the basket,
and he distributed the picture to all the tribes of Israel
and throughout the wilderness. But no one had seen
and no one recognized. And only at the end of his life,
on Mt. Nebo did he see and die
with a kiss from God's face.

One thing I didn't do – Rabbi Sager savored early mornings. Getting up for early morning swim practice was, for me, always a struggle, and still is, especially when I struggle with depression and sadness. I wanted to find Steve in Jerusalem this summer by “waking the morning” (Rabbi Yosef Caro begins the Shulchan Aruch: “[We] should strengthen [ourselves] like a lion to get up in the morning to serve [our] Creator, so that it is [we] who awakens the dawn.” A few times I managed to run. A few times I woke early to a cup of coffee, tallit and tefillin. But more often, I needed to find Rabbi Sager's companionship at other times of day.

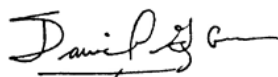
One final part of my summer was reading a book Rabbi Sager gave me long ago, back in 2011 when I began as Beth El's full-time rabbi. It is called *The Personhood of God: Biblical Theology, Human Faith, and the Divine Image* by Dr. Yochanan Muffs. I started it a few times. It's not exactly a “page-turner.” Life got busy. I read other things. But as I packed some books for the summer, I felt regret at never having read it – like I missed a chance to read and discuss it with him. Who knows? Perhaps it sat on my shelf all these years just so my learning and discovery of my friend could continue this summer. In the book, Muffs demonstrates how, stripped of our preconceived notions, God in the Bible has many human qualities – personhood. God gets angry and frustrated, rejoices, fails and tries again, and is needy and desirous of our love. Here is one passage:

The Holy One, blessed be He, took a great chance when, at Sinai, He spoke with Israel for the first time. This act of communication was also an act of love. But God did not know ahead of time, so to speak, if His intended bride would be responsive to His voice: “I only hope their hearts will always be as responsive, as willing to obey Me, as they were just now” (Deuteronomy 5:26). How much anxiety is wrapped up in these awful words. And in fact their ears did prove insensitive. Generation after generation, Israel strayed from God... This dialectical tension in the loving relationship – the painful need to express feeling and the anxiety that the expression might not be properly received – is the inner dialectic of the human personality, as well as of the Divine, and is impossible to avoid...(Muffs, 17)

I read those words and could almost hear Steve's voice: “Oh, how much anxiety is wrapped up in these awful words” – God is insecure, frightened, doesn't know if Her love will be returned! And Steve's question: what would it be like on the High Holidays for you to pray to God who needs your reassurance, your attention and love?

Perhaps strangely, I feel grateful for grief. It stings less than it did years ago when friends were taken from me at a young age. Grief is a memory of love; it is the cost and benefit of a life lived in relationship. I feel grateful to bump into Steve not just on the streets of Jerusalem or the halls of the Hartman Beit Midrash, but in books he recommended and texts he loved. Such is a life lived in eternity. In another book I read this summer, Rabbi Sager's friend, the Israeli poet Rivka Miriam, is quoted as saying, “I am part of the flow of Jewish history... I feel that my selfhood did not begin in 1952 [the year of her birth] but a long time before that.” She and Steve are surely fellow travelers.

Elul approaches. The shofar will begin to sound. Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur, and Sukkot. Another holiday season during which we can remind ourselves to live a life of connection in community with one another and in eternity, in community with all those who came before us, and the generations that will follow. I am honored to share the journey with you.





*A Note from
Executive Director
Jodi Salomon*

Hi! I am so happy to be here and have received the most wonderful welcome from the Beth El community. Many synagogues say that they are “warm and welcoming,” and I have now been fortunate to be a part of two of them in my synagogue Executive Director career. Beth El is everything that I had hoped for when I made the leap of faith to move from Atlanta to Durham ten short weeks ago.

I have come to love the feeling of community at each Shabbat morning service, the camaraderie of the Beth El staff and Board, and of course, the JCC challah! The lay-led model of davening, leyning, service coordination, volunteerism for so many amazing committees and social justice projects, and financial support infrastructure is a testament to the longevity and vitality of Beth El Synagogue.

I look forward to meeting so many more of you, over the High Holidays, and getting to know you and your stories. I hope that you will let me know what is working for you, and what isn't. If you are currently not as engaged as you'd like to be, I strongly encourage you to meet with me, so that, together, we can find the best fit for your future participation and, perhaps, leadership. For those of you that are fully engaged, don't hesitate to make a change from one area of interest to another, so that you continue to feel excited about the value that you are adding to our community.

Please do not hesitate to reach out, say hello, tell me what's on your mind, or even just catch me up on your family. I can't wait to see the growth that we will all make together over the next 5 – 10 years and look back at this time with wonder about how far we've come.

All the best,

Jodi B. Salomon

Staff

Rabbi: Rabbi Daniel Greyber

Executive Director: Jodi Salomon

Education & Youth Director:

Alexandra Bicks

Congregational Services Coordinator:

Sheri Hoffman

Communications & Marketing Associate:

Rachel Greene

Youth and Family Programming Associate :

Amy Granick

Kitchen Manager: Sandy Fangmeier

Head of Building Maintenance: Zachary Marshall

Tot and PreKadima Programming Coordinator:

Laura Oestreicher Ricon

Board of Directors

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2nd VP: Tobin Freid

Treasurer: Rob Granick

Recording Secretary: Richard Hart

Immediate Past President: Leslie Winner

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Jane Gabin, Valerie Glassman, Jessie Lunk,

Evelina Moulder, Adam Singer, Sue Slatkoff,

Manny Spira, Jesse Summers, Tal Lewin Wittle

*From the Desk of Board President
Dan Schnitzer*



Dear Beth El,

Alex, my wife, is a teacher. She would start each school year by asking her students and their parents, “What are your hopes and dreams for Kindergarten?” The brilliance of the question is in its aspirational open endlessness. It is neither task oriented nor achievement based. The choice of words immediately expands the possibilities beyond “learning to read” to “be a kind friend.” So much of how we experience through life is in how we frame the questions that we ask of others and of ourselves.

In the past month, I’ve been asked many times, “What do you want to accomplish as President?” This is an important question that I have given a lot of thought to. However, the foundational question for me is not “What do I want to accomplish?” but rather, “What do we want Beth El to be?” By focusing on our aspirations we will discover the accomplishments needed to pave the way to a destination that we have intentionally chosen.

In an ever conflicted world, I hope that Beth El can be a place to embrace the dichotomies of being a sanctuary where we find both comfort and challenge of our Judaism and our humanity. I dream that Beth El will be a refuge where we lead with respectful curiosity and speak with kindness, recognizing that there is more that binds us together than pulls us apart. I hope that Beth El can be a place where we may not agree on all things, but we assume positive intentions and we don’t let those differences define our relationships. I dream that Beth El is a house where we can assemble in good times and sad times, in agreement and disagreement, in comfort and agitation to sit together as brothers and sisters; a literal *Beit K’nesset* (house of gathering/synagogue).

The path to these hopes and dreams is paved with a membership engaged with learning and acting. Beth El can only be what we aspire for ourselves if we show up, in person when we can, and through other means when we cannot. What this looks like is an increase in committee members willing to do the work, to meet and create opportunities for our community. Our Community of Caring is a foundational committee for who we are and strive to be as they provide meals, home visits and other support during the most challenging lifecycle events. Our Lifelong Learning committee provides ongoing enrichment and engagement opportunities and needs people to help organize and run programming. While the past 2+ years have been overwhelming and tiring for me as well, I can tell you that my engagement with Beth El has been a way for me to stay connected, to get energized and to bridge the growing gap between the real world and the virtual world. In order to become what we hope and dream to be, we need you. If you are able, please reach out to the committee chairs listed on page 8 to offer what you can to help.

These hopes and dreams are big and the path is not an easy one. But under the leadership of our new Executive Director, Jodi Salomon, the guidance of Rabbi Greyber, the dedication of the staff, the passion of the Executive Committee, the wisdom of the Board, and your presence, we can get there. Let’s become who we want to BE.

Dan Schnitzer



Talmud Torah

Shalom, Y'all!

As I write this in the sticky Durham summer heat, we are gearing up for another wonderful year of Talmud Torah and youth programming. For the first time in over two years, Talmud Torah will be in person at Beth El on both Sundays and Wednesdays. We are looking forward to having our students back on campus to practice Hebrew in their workbooks, delve into complicated issues in Jewish tradition, pray together in the sanctuary with Rabbi Greyber, and enjoy our brand-new playground facilities. From our Kindergarteners who are just learning the alef-bet to the B'nei Mitzvah class putting on tefillin at Sunday minyan, our kids take genuine joy and delight in being a part of our community, and it's a been a real privilege for me to watch them grow in the three years that I've served in this role. After a period of transition, we have a wonderful new Executive Director, Jodi Salomon, who is helping to facilitate our kickoff to the school year.

We are thrilled to welcome Amy Granick as our new full-time Youth and Family Programming Associate. Amy will be taking on our teen engagement role and coordinating our Kadima (6th-8th grade) and USY (9th-12th grade) programming. She will also be serving as our B'nei mitzvah tutoring coordinator, facilitating matches between students and their peer tutors and working as a point person for families throughout the B'nei Mitzvah process. A graduate of NC State, Amy spent a year as a Springboard Fellow at The Ohio State University Hillel. She is thrilled to be returning to her old stomping grounds in the Triangle. Please give her a hearty Beth El welcome when you see her! I also want to thank Zosia Dewitt and Aliza Zaleon for their dedicated work in the part-time roles that have now been incorporated into Amy's position.

In the meantime, we have some exciting programming planned for the beginning of the year. Families with children in grades Pre-K through 2 enjoyed a casual get-together on Sunday, August 28 on our new playground. Our returning Artist in Residence, Eliana Light, will be leading programming for both kids and adults on September 11, which is our first official day of school. Check out Eliana's article in the bulletin for more details on our exciting "Days of Awe-some" programming and services for the High Holidays. We are so glad that she will be with us for another year of music and *ruach*.

On a personal note, some of you know that I've been recovering from a concussion for much of this summer. I've been blown away by all of the warmth and kindness that I've received from the entire Beth El community, and I'm truly privileged to have found such a special home here at Beth El.

Looking forward to seeing you around the building soon!

Kol tuv,

Alexandra Bicks
Education & Youth Director

Mazel Tov on your upcoming B'nei Mitzvah!!

Sebastian Hyland
October 14-15, 2022

Ellie Null
November 18-19, 2022



PreKadima

Shalom Chaverim!

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready for another school year to begin!

I think we have some fantastic programs in store for both Tots and PreKadima and I can't wait to get started.

Our monthly Simchat Tot Program will resume in November on various Sundays at 10:30am. Simchat Tot consists of stories, songs, and an activity or craft centered around a holiday or Jewish theme. It has been very well attended in the past and I'm grateful for the opportunity to keep it going this year. We will also host tot programs for Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Simchat Torah that are sure to be engaging and informative.

I am also thrilled to relaunch the Baby and Me Program this fall. This special monthly program for Babies and Tots under 2 and their grownups will take place at Beth El on Sundays at 9:30am before Simchat Tot. It will be a space for caregivers to meet, talk, share, and create relationships with one another while their kiddos socialize and explore. I am also considering adding a weekday option to offer some variety for families who are available during the week. Please reach out if this is something you'd be interested in!

I'm really looking forward to kicking off PreKadima again this fall. I am going to incorporate more off-site programming for the K-5 crowd and I think we'll be in for some fun adventures. These programs take place monthly on Sundays after Talmud Torah at 12:30. I can't wait to meet all the new folks and greet the returning ones!

Thank you so much for allowing me to be part of your Beth El Family! I'm eagerly awaiting the return of youth programming!

Laura Oestreicher Ricon
Tot and PreKadima Programming Coordinator



Artist-in-Residence, Eliana Light

Shalom Beth El!

I'm so grateful and excited to begin another year as the artist-in-residence in this warm and welcoming community. It's been such a joy to sing, learn, and explore together. Whether in the sanctuary with Eat Schmooze Pray, or in the tent with the Talmud Torah, there is nothing better than raising our voices in song. I hope you will join us for the programs listed below, as well as other learning opportunities throughout the year.



Family Programs

Days of AWESome: High Holiday Family Services

Rosh Hashanah Day One, September 26, 10:00 am

Kol Nidre, October 4, 5:30 pm

Yom Kippur, October 5, 10:00 am

Perfect for: Families with kids grades 1-5. Open to all!

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are the perfect opportunity to connect as a community, reflect as a family, and move into the new year with more joy, awe, and love. Together, we'll sing, discuss, and explore as we move through the prayers and stories of the High Holidays. It's sure to be interactive, musical, and AWESome!

Simchat Torah Celebration!

October 16, 5:00 pm

Perfect for: Families with children 5th grade and younger. Open to all!

We're starting the Torah all over again: let's celebrate! Food, crafts, and of course singing, dancing, interactive Torah reading, and some other fun surprises.

Family Shabbat Gatherings

This year, we're excited to try something new: family Shabbat gatherings for all ages of kids and their adults. Spirited and musical t'fillah, learning, and an oneg (festive food) to help us celebrate Shabbat, explore upcoming holidays, and grow as a community.

Save these dates and be on the lookout for more information!

November 12- Giving Thanks Shabbat

January 28- Shira (Song) Shabbat

March 25- Spring Shabbat

April 29- "Shabbat" Shabbat



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Rosh Chodesh

The new moon is a sacred time for reflection, contemplation, and celebration. All women and non-binary folk are invited to join us as we immerse in the spiritual energy of each month, using multiple modalities to open our hearts and minds and explore what is possible.

Save the dates below. Locations will be updated in our emails and on the Beth El website.

Sunday, August 28, 5:00 pm

Thursday, September 22, 6:00 pm

Tuesday, October 25, 6:00 pm

Monday, November 28, 6:00 pm

Monday, January 23, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, February 22, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, March 22, 6:00 pm

Thursday, April 20, 6:00 pm

Sunday, May 21, 5:00 pm

Monday, June 19, 6:00 pm

Tuesday, July 18, 6:00 pm

Eat Schmooze Pray

First we nosh and connect, then we sing and connect. Eat Schmooze Pray is our monthly Friday night gathering designed for anyone seeking a meaningful Shabbat experience. Come for the snack and drink, stay for the accessible and spiritual musical services- no experience necessary. Reach out if you play an instrument or sing and would like to join our sweet Beth El band!

Join us on the following Fridays at 6:00 pm:

September 16

February 10

October 28

March 10

November 11

April 29

December 9

May 12

January 13

Meet Your Committee Leadership

Annual Fund: Valerie Glassman

Art Committee: Sol Levine

Chevre Kaddisha: David Klapper

Community of Caring: Eliana Schonberg

Development: Norma Gindes

First Fridays: Alexina Haefner

House: Michael Null

Interfaith Working Group: Manny Spira

Lifelong Learning: Jane Gabin and Donna Goldstein

Life & Legacy Campaign: Norma Gindes

Library: Libby Vaughn

Membership: Lois Silver

Men of Beth El (MoB): Steve Prince and Eric Lipp

Orthodox Kebillah: Jesse Summers and Phillippe Chemla

Ritual: Jereme Albin and Ari Berenbaum

Sisterhood: TBD

Social Action: Rachel Bearman and Evelina Moulder

Va'ad HaChinuch: Adam Singer

Social Action

Beth El's Social Action Committee is always looking for members willing to join our Steering Committee to help brainstorm and implement educational activities or engagement opportunities for the Beth El community. If you would like to join the committee, contact Rachel Bearman (rsbearman@gmail.com) or Evelina Moulder (eviemoulder@gmail.com).

The Committee has had three main foci over the past two years:

1. Hunger Relief

Beth El Social Action has always had a strong commitment to hunger relief, and members have been active through volunteering at the Inter-Faith Council in Chapel Hill, Urban Ministries in Durham, Meals on Wheels Durham, Meals on Wheels Orange County, Walltown Food Bank, and the JCC Food Pantry, as well as other food-focused non-profits. Moreover, the committee has consistently raised funds for hunger relief through the High Holiday Food Drive and participation in the CROP Walks in both Chapel Hill and Durham.

Get Involved:

- High Holiday Food Drive: We are accepting monetary donations between now and the end of Sukkot (October 16). Monetary donations can be made online or checks can be mailed to the Beth El office. Please list "High Holiday Food Drive" on the memo line so funds can be directed appropriately. If you write a check, please make it payable to Beth El Synagogue. All funds collected help support local food pantries, including Walltown, JCC Food Pantry, Inter-Faith Council and Urban Ministries. Since the pandemic began, the need for food support has only increased and the Beth El community has consistently been generous in supporting our neighbors in need of food support. Thank you!
- Thank you to Aven Schwartz for installing the mini-pantry! Help keep the pantry stocked with healthy, ready-to-eat items (ex. cans with pop tops, single serving meals, individual packages of peanut butter crackers, etc.).
- Check out the Social Action page on the Beth El website for volunteer opportunities across local hunger relief organizations.

2. Immigration

In 2019, Beth El became a HIAS Welcoming Community. We focused our participation on educational opportunities highlighting immigration issues in the US and around the world. In 2021 and 2022, Beth El helped settle two families, one from Burma and one from Afghanistan. In both cases, Beth El partnered with local congregations to support the welcoming and settlement process. In 2022, we have another opportunity to help settle a family from Ukraine. A Welcome Circle is being created, and we hope by the High Holidays we will be on the path toward helping to settle a family in our community.

Get Involved: If you would like to join the Beth El Welcome Circle, please contact Rachel at rsbearman@gmail.com.

3. Voting Rights

In the last election cycle, Beth El partnered with The River Church and You Can Vote to help promote voter access and encourage voter registration and participation. In the next election cycle we hope to continue that work to help ensure voter access and increase participation.

Get Involved: Interested in helping to explore how Beth El can engage? Contact Evelina at eviemoulder@gmail.com.

Social Action also participates in numerous other activities and fundraising efforts throughout the year to support local, national, and international needs as they arise. Since the overturning of Roe v Wade, members of the Social Action Committee have participated in conversations with other Jewish organizations across the state to discuss the development of a state-wide Jewish coalition to support abortion access in NC. If you are interested in learning more, contact Rachel at rsbearman@gmail.com.

Thank you to all community members who have supported the Mitzvah Fund over the past year. The fund is a wonderful way to support Beth El's ongoing social action efforts. Over the past few years, the fund has supported hunger relief projects, school supply drives, housing initiatives, and refugee resettlement, as well as local, national and international disaster and emergency relief funds.

May the coming year bring each of us the time and space to support ourselves and each other, and to come together as a community. We wish you a healthy and sweet new year!

Racial Justice Task Force

Thank you to the Beth El community for your participation in our programs, responses to our initial and second survey, and feedback on the work of the committee. Thank you to the Beth El Board for giving the Racial Justice Task Force the space and structure to raise these conversations within our community. And thank you to the members of the Racial Justice Task Force for your time, energy and commitment.

The Task Force helped initiate and/or facilitated the following activities over the past year:

- High Holiday Reflections - Readings, Videos and Podcasts 2021
- Community Surveys
- “How to Have Difficult Conversations” with Billy Planer
- Groundwater Training
- Youth and Talmud Torah Programming with Talia Samuel Devaney (with the Va’ad HaChinuch)
- Tour of Maplewood Cemetery (with the Chevra Kaddisha)
- “Deep in Our Memories, on Historical Trauma in the Jewish and African-American Communities” with Rabbi Sonya Starr (with Adult Education)
- 4-session book group on *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson
- Elul Reflections - Readings, Videos and Podcasts 2022 (Available at <https://betheldurham.org/racial-justice-task-force/>)

In addition, Rabbi Greyber led a Lunch and Learn on *Caste*, gave d’vars throughout the year connecting to the theme of racial justice, and invited speakers Marc Brettler (“Is The Torah Racist?”) and Bishop Gene Robinson (“Freedom”).

The RJTF wants to hear your experience of this past year of programming and your ideas of where we, as a congregation, should go next. We have two opportunities:

1. If you have not already, please complete our brief survey (5-10 minutes), available on the RJTF page on the Beth El website. All members of your Beth El household are encouraged to participate individually.
2. On Thursday, October 13, 2022 from 7:00-9:00 pm, join in a congregation-wide community conversation and reflection session on the work of the Racial Justice Task Force and our path forward, including what role Beth El could or should play within the larger community in conversations and actions related to racial justice. These are complex conversations that we must approach with humility and grace. Furthermore, they are of great importance to our future as both a congregation and a community. We hope you will join in this conversation either in person or virtually. Look for additional details in Beth El’s weekly emails.

"The sound of the shofar—the ancient alarm—rouses us from indifference, moves us to action, and renews our conviction to keep going despite seemingly insurmountable challenges... The shofar inspires us to rise above despair and embrace the promise of a better world."
—Robert Bank

Rachel Bearman

Va'ad Hachinuch

Shanah Tovah, chaverim! As a new school year begins, I'm excited to share some recent news from the Va'ad Hachinuch, Beth El's education and youth activities committee.

As I write this, it's another sweltering July day, which makes it all the more sweet to be thinking ahead to the High Holidays! The Va'ad Hachinuch will be holding our annual Honey Sale fundraiser to add to the community celebration. We plan to sell throughout the High Holidays from Rosh Hashanah through Sukkot to keep the season sweet! Be on the lookout for more information in weekly announcements. The honey comes from Happy Dirt, a local Durham organization helping build sustainable and organic food production, led by Beth El member Sandi Kronick.

Fundraisers, like the honey sale, help us cover additional needs for Talmud Torah, family engagement, and youth programming. This year, we will be funding some amazing initiatives:

We are excited to again help support our Artist-in-Residence, Eliana Light, who brings music, learning, and joy to Talmud Torah and youth services. We will again be offering our Talmud Torah teachers grants to help supplement classroom activities. For youth groups, we will once again offer scholarships to help ensure that event admissions and fees aren't a barrier to participation.

In addition, we're thrilled to purchase our own set of lawn games (similar to the ones that were such a hit at this past year's Purim carnival) so our families and students can use them year round! And, of course, we'll be providing food for the recurring "Stay and Schmooze" parent gatherings throughout the Talmud Torah year.

If you're interested in helping or would like to learn more, please reach out! We love to hear your thoughts, and always have need for extra hands to help make the events we organize warm, welcoming, and successful!

Adam Singer
Chair of Va'ad Hachinuch





**Andrea and Kevin Ginsberg share their reasons for becoming members
of Beth El's Life & Legacy Society**

Time has an absurd sense of humor; it's so crazy to think that Andrea and I, and so many of our friends, are rounding the final curve on our current life-stage as Parents of *Children* - with one high school sophomore and another fully legal adult. It's about time. Absurd, crazy time.

It has been a blessing to walk through time as members of Beth El. For Andrea and me, our early and middle adulthood was buoyed and made meaningful by our vibrant, fun, stimulating community. Our boys' very concept of community itself was raised out of the supportive, curious, spiritual synagogue that they grew up in.

We recognize that the community we love didn't just happen by happenstance. It was intended, planted, and tended to by all the people who came before us. And so we recognize our responsibility to plant and tend for those who come next.

Legacy giving is one of many important ways to do that.

Admittedly, we delayed for years. It seemed like a lot of logistical paperwork. *Do we even have a will?* We vaguely recall paying a lawyer to draw one up years ago before we got on a plane for the first time after having children, but *do we even know where it is located?* It seemed hard. Another thing on the to-do list. But it could hardly be easier. Thank G-d we eventually finished the paperwork before, well, you know... in time. We know *it* will happen one day. We just don't know when.

So we recently took the 5 minutes it takes to arrange for a legacy gift for Beth El synagogue in our wills. It was about time.

I can't site the book, chapter, or tractate, but I am certain there is much Torah to stand for the Mobius strip-like relationship between receiving and giving. There are many ways to receive through giving at Beth El - your time, money, companionship, talents and leadership are wanted and needed in many ways.

Please join us in giving and receiving today as a Legacy donor. Right now. It's about time.

**To learn more about the Life & Legacy Society, or to set up an in-person or Zoom meeting,
please contact Norma Gindes at normagindes@gmail.com or call 201-951-5140.**

Thank you to our Life and Legacy donors!

Beth El is grateful to its members who have supported the Life & Legacy Society, which benefits the Gladys and Earl Siegel Endowment Fund. A legacy gift is a meaningful way to help guarantee a strong and vibrant synagogue for future generations. We also acknowledge those members who had the foresight to generously support the creation of the Siegel Endowment 20 years ago.

Anonymous (4)	The Kirshner Family
Trudi Abel and Noah Pickus	Sue and David Klapper
Joel Abramowitz	Susan and Harold Kudler
Alice Ammerman and Tom Keyserling	Harriet and Michael Lakin
Leah Austin	Susan and Joel Leeb
Kathy Bartelmay and Roger Perilstein	Sheila and Sol Levine
Rachel and Nathan Bearman	Anita and Arie Lewin
Mary J. Berman*	Elaine and Lee Marcus
Shula and Steve Bernard	Judith and Arthur Marks
Phyllis and Leon Dworsky*	Carol and Eric Meyers
Eli Evans*	Krishna and Sydney Miller
Robert Evans*	Evelina Moulder
Joel Fleishman	Elizabeth and Michael Null
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Jill Kaplan	Abby and Gary Zarkin
Susan and David Kirsch	Sheva Zucker and Sandy Kessler

*נ"ל - Of blessed memory

Names in bold indicate that their Life & Legacy gift has been formalized.

Chavurah Minyan

As Yom Kippur approached in 2020 after six lonely months of isolation, a small group of friends decided to gather in person to daven in Rikki SaNogueira's backyard. The whole thing came together in under a week in a frenzy of Zoom meetings, Google spreadsheets, and carefully measured seating charts. When our scheduled Kol Nidrei leader came down with a cold the morning of Erev Yom Kippur, my partner Alexandra Bicks intrepidly stepped up to lead it for the first time on about eight hours' notice. As the group began to harmonize with her beautiful chanting, I'm pretty sure I wasn't the only one crying! We gathered again in the morning for Shacharit and Musaf, doing the Torah reading out of our machzorim, and in the evening for a beautiful Ne'ilah that left everyone with a bit more hope for the year ahead. In the months that followed, with the synagogue still on Zoom, we davened together in people's yards several more times — often shivering with cold but grateful to be together.

Before moving to Durham, Alexandra and I spent many formative years immersed in independent minyanim in New York and Boston. These purely volunteer-run communities taught us a model of “empowered Judaism” (to use Rabbi Elie Kaunfer's phrase) that combines deep communal engagement, intellectual depth, musical creativity, and commitment to both halacha and feminism. When we arrived at Beth El, we were very impressed with the “multiplex” model that Rabbi Greyber and Rabbi Sager had built, with numerous options for prayer and study taking place simultaneously under the same roof on any given Shabbat morning. In addition to the main service, we naturally gravitated to the Chavurah Minyan, which had been started a few years earlier by Malachi Hacohen, Julie Mell, Susan and Jonathan Breitzer, and others as a crossover between the egalitarianism of the main service and the more unabridged liturgy of the Orthodox Kehillah. Revitalized by the Yom Kippur crew, this minyan roared back to life in 2021 — just in time for Alexandra and me to have an outdoor aufruf during our wedding weekend, surrounded by our families and our new Durham friends.

As the High Holidays came around again, we were eager to recapture the magic of the previous year in a more organized fashion. We are grateful to Rabbi Greyber, Alan Friedman, and Jenna Hyland for supporting the crazy idea of an alternative service in a tent in the parking lot, held on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and on Yom Kippur. And what a success it was! We brought in one “ringer” from Boston — our friend Ariana Weinstock, whose Kol Nidrei and Ne'ilah were truly out of this world — but otherwise we relied entirely on the skills of our own community members. To build engagement, we held several sessions in advance to teach some of the new melodies that we'd be using, as well as a text study led by Prof. Laura Lieber on Seder haAvodah, the extensive narration of the Temple service that lies at the core of the Yom Kippur Musaf liturgy. As I led this part of the service in dramatic fashion, a spontaneous dance party broke out during the moment of pure joy when the High Priest emerges from his dangerous ordeal — appropriate enough, considering our own ordeal these past few years! We also heard inspiring, erudite, and provocative divrei Torah from David Reed, Eliana Schonberg, Rachel Galanter, and Averyl Edwards, representing a broad cross-section of the Beth El community. On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, many of us joined in the main sanctuary service, teaming up with Rabbi Greyber during one part of Musaf to introduce a rocking Hasidic melody that's among my personal favorites.

Since then, we've kept this energy going at our monthly Chavurah Minyan services, often in the tent when the weather has cooperated. We've celebrated two more aufrufs, one Ph.D. defense, and numerous people stepping up to read Torah or lead parts of the service for the first time. On Pesach, we chanted the beautiful poetry of Shir haShirim (Song of Songs) with the birds chirping around us. We remembered Rabbi Sager in May with study and song, and we marked Pride Month with a powerful adaptation of the Al Hanisim prayer. As I write this, our High Holiday planning team (Susan Breitzer, Esther Mack, Diane Markoff, and myself) is hard at work preparing for this year's services; please feel free to reach out to any of us if you'd like to get involved. We hope you'll join us as we usher in a sweet and healthy new year!

Adam Levine

Kulanu: Synagogues in Action Against Antisemitism

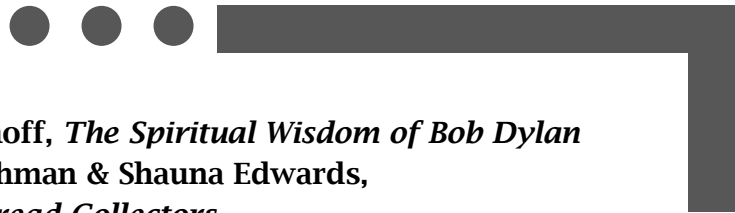
Beth El has been accepted into a new program offered through the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) called Kulanu: Synagogues in Action Against Antisemitism. Per ADL, "Kulanu, Hebrew for 'all of us,' is an eight-month program, running from October 2022 to June 2023, dedicated to empowering congregations to address antisemitism and hate in their communities through education, community engagement, and advocacy. During the program, you will join a network of congregations to build bridges of understanding across communities. ADL will prepare you with resources to develop and implement engaging and impactful programming through our exclusive Kulanu initiative inspiration library, interactive webinars with ADL experts, and guidance from our professionals.

As a Kulanu synagogue, you will learn how to have critical conversations about antisemitism and other forms of bigotry and cultivate the tools to fight them."



Lifelong Learning

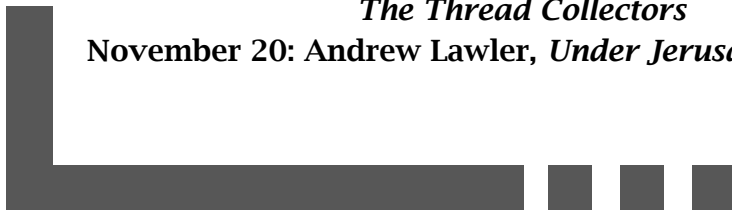
In recognition of **Jewish Book Month**, the Lifelong Learning Committee will present three writers talking about their recent works on **Sundays, November 6, 13, and 20 at 3:00 pm**. Please save the dates!



November 6: Stephen Arnoff, *The Spiritual Wisdom of Bob Dylan*

**November 13: Alyson Richman & Shauna Edwards,
*The Thread Collectors***

November 20: Andrew Lawler, *Under Jerusalem*



Check the Beth El calendar and weekly emails for details, as well as winter and spring author events!

Eli N. Evans (1936-2022): A Beth El Perspective



The August 2, 2022 *New York Times* obituary of Durham native and former Beth El member Eli Nachmanson Evans is effusive in its praise of the “patron saint of Southern Jewish history”. My Kindle version of the *New York Times* reported that the obituary was on the list of the newspaper’s “most emailed” articles. President of The Revson Foundation, Evans “rose to the upper ranks of New York’s philanthropic world” the *Times* reported and authored “The Provincials” about growing up in Durham, a biography of Confederate cabinet member Judah P. Benjamin, and “The Lonely Days Were Sundays: Reflections of a Jewish Southerner.” He helped found the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill (UNC).

The United Dollar Stores Company was started by the Nachmanson family after they moved from Kinston to Durham in 1921. The family had been successful retailers in eastern North Carolina. The United Dollar Store was originally located at 319 -321 West Main Street in Durham. Sara Nachmanson, daughter of the store owners, married Emanuel J. “Mutt” Evans, who had attended UNC. The couple became the owners of the store in 1929, and a new building was built at 322-328 West Main. Eventually the business became known as “Evans United Dollar Store” and expanded to a chain of six stores. The couple had two sons, Eli and his older brother Robert. Robert became a CBS TV reporter. Neither son wanted the business and eventually it was sold to Belk Leggett department stores. Eli once said that “the common tragedy of southern Jews was to spend a lifetime building a business that their children didn’t want.”

Mutt Evans was elected mayor of Durham and served from 1951 to 1963. Among his political allies on the town council was Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans, great-granddaughter of Washington Duke and an effervescent charmer who I came to know while I was on the Duke faculty.

Evans’ store was among the first in Durham to have a restroom for Black customers. When I was working on a history of hospital desegregation in North Carolina, I asked Mutt Evans to tell me his now famous story about how he came to desegregate his store’s lunch counter. A judge had ordered Evans to put up a barrier to separate seated Black and white patrons. Evans’ lawyer had pointed out that segregation ordinances specially forbade the races being seated together to eat. Evans had the stools at the counter ripped out “and that way everyone had to stand” in a racially mixed group; but no laws were violated.

During the Beth El presidency of Shula Bernard, about 25 years ago, we decided to do a major renovation of Beth El. Herbert Shatzman, of blessed memory, handled the construction. My job was to round up the money. Rabbi Sager arranged for me to make a six figure ask of Eli Evans during one of his visits to Durham. Mr. Evans was happy to give the money - as long as I agreed that the new lobby of Beth El would feature a wall-sized mural celebrating the accomplishments of his father and mother. It was to include a large picture of Mutt Evans winning the 100 yard dash for UNC. I tried to talk him out of it. It was a synagogue, I said, not an Evans historical museum. My efforts were to no avail. He “knew museum people in New York City and would make all the arrangements.” After the meeting, Rabbi Sager heroically tried to placate me. I was sure I had sold my and Beth El’s soul for a check.

As time passed Mr. Evans never seemed to get around to arranging for the mural. I certainly did nothing to facilitate its design. The Beth El lobby remained pristine and, after a few years, I threw out my “Evans mural” file.

Upon moving to town I mentioned to long-time Beth El member and stalwart of the Orthodox Kehillah, Leon Dworsky זצ”ל, that I ought to get around to reading “The Provincials.” His book review was classic Leon-as-curmudgeon: “Bunch of fabricated nonsense.” I never did read that book, but I did read Evans’ Judah Benjamin biography.

Eli Evans lived in an apartment building facing Gramercy Park in Manhattan, one of the only two private parks in the city. Since the 19th century the park is accessible only to those who own a key. You have to live in one of the surrounding townhouses and apartment buildings to get a key and get to “hold the park in common”. Sharon and I arranged to meet Eli in the lobby of the nearby Gramercy Park Hotel so she could talk to him about the The Center for Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Education of North Carolina and Holocaust Speakers Bureau. He regaled us with stories sprinkled with name-dropping, an aspect of his personality well-described in the *Times* obituary.

Whether Leon Dworsky was or was not partially right about “The Provincials,” Eli Evans put Durham and UNC on the map for the discipline of Southern Jewish history. May his memory be for a blessing.

Edward C. Halperin MD MA

Dear Friends,

What an amazing community in which we live! I have known this for 44 years since Steve and I first came to Durham. And for the past two years you have proved it over and over again. I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

From the first moment you received notice about Steve's cancer diagnosis, you reached out in every possible way, including a remarkable parade in front of our house the first Shabbat after he returned from the hospital! You cooked, you cleaned, you shopped, you chauffeured, and you brought wonderful baked goods for us to enjoy. You prayed, you reflected, and you learned with Steve during many pop-up teaching sessions. You helped make it possible for our family to all be together in the last months of Steve's life. You were with us, always caring, always nurturing.

In May, you came to say goodbye. You prepared ribbons to tear at the funeral. You came in person, you watched on Zoom, you visited during the shiva, you fed us, and you baked for us. You have continued to call and reach out to me over the last months. Even when I didn't answer, I felt comforted by your blanket of love and support.

During these difficult two years, we continually felt blessed by the outpouring of support and love we so deeply witnessed. As the new year approaches, my family and I continue to be incredibly grateful for this community. May 5783 be filled for all of us with sweet memories, delicious learning, and precious health. Shana Tova U'Metuka!

Grateful for the time
Together in the season
Sweetened with blessings.

Sabina Sager and family



The Pew Tzedakah Project

Peter and Marilyn Ornstein

At the start of the remodeling of the synagogue a few years ago, a group of volunteers dismantled the old mahogany pews in the sanctuary, and long-time Beth El member Steve Henry Herman, a professional woodworker, became the custodian of the historic wood. Working from his shop in Hillsborough, Steve used a portion of the mahogany to construct furnishings for the new sanctuary, among them the new memorial wall, ritual hand washing station, “L’Chayim” cabinet for storing single malt whiskey for Kiddushim, along with the mezuzot that can be found on all doorposts in the building.

Not only are these furnishings very beautiful, but they also serve as meaningful reminders of our old sanctuary. But did you know that it is possible for you, too, to have reminders of the sanctuary in your homes? Well, it’s indeed possible, thanks to the *Pew Tzedakah Project* that Steve launched in 2019. Steve will be happy to use the pew wood to construct unique objects of your choice – small or large, ritual or secular – with the understanding that all proceeds are donated to the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)—an organization providing relief to refugee groups worldwide.

To date, Steve has designed and built shtenders (tabletop and freestanding), coffee and end tables, bookcases, display units, a blanket chest, table lamp, and chess boards that were commissioned by members of the congregation and the local community. We are now the proud owners of two of these beautiful objects, the Craftsman style bookcase (pictured here) and end table. To date, about 35 individuals have taken advantage of the *Pew Tzedakah Project*, generating \$25,803 in donations to HIAS.

If you are interested in having Steve build a unique object for you, please contact him at SteveHenry7@nc.rr.com. He is happy to talk with you and to help in the design process. And if you don’t want to commission something unique, Steve has a number of gift items – e.g., tzedakah boxes, challah boards, mezuzot – that are currently available for purchase (i.e., for a donation to HIAS).





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High Holidays 5783

Schedule of Events

SELICHOT SERVICES

Motzei Shabbat, September 17
Community Selichot Service 7:30 pm
Beth El Synagogue

SHABBAT SHUVA

Saturday, October 1
Main Sanctuary 9:30 am
Orthodox Kehillah 9:00 am

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday, September 25
Orthodox Kehillah 6:45 pm
Main Sanctuary 7:00 pm

KEVER AVOT

Sunday, October 2
Durham Hebrew Cemetery Visitation
10:30 am
Betheldurham.org/cemetery

ROSH HASHANAH DAY 1

Monday, September 26
Main Sanctuary 8:30 am
Chavurah Minyan 9:00 am*
Orthodox Kehillah 9:00 am
Tot Service 9:00 am
Family Service 10:00 am
Orthodox Kehillah 6:30 pm

KOL NIDRE

Tuesday, October 4
Family Service 5:30 pm
Main Sanctuary 6:00 pm
Chavurah Minyan 6:15 pm*
Orthodox Kehillah 6:30 pm
Candle Lighting 6:36 pm

TASHLICH & SHOFAR BLOWING

Monday, September 26
4:30-5:30 pm
Chapel Hill—Eastwood Lake
Durham—Ellerbee Creek at Markham Ave.

YOM KIPPUR

Wednesday, October 5
Main Sanctuary Morning Service 8:30 am
Orthodox Kehillah 9:00 am
Chavurah Minyan 9:00 am
Tot Service 9:00 am
Family Service 10:00 am
Study Session 4:00 – 5:00 pm
Orthodox Kehillah 4:45 pm
Minchah 5:00 pm
Chavurah Minyan 5:00 pm*
Ne'ilah 6:00 pm
Havdallah 7:35 pm

ROSH HASHANAH DAY 2

Tuesday, September 27
Main Sanctuary 8:30 am
Orthodox Kehillah 9:00 am

All main sanctuary services will be offered in person, on Zoom, and on our livestream page: betheldurham.org/livestream.

* Indicates the Chavurah Minyan, which will take place outside in the tent. Read more about these services on page 14.

The High Holiday Guide, links to virtual events, additional programming, and event details can be found at betheldurham.org/high-holidays.



High Holiday Kits

We are looking forward to gathering and reconnecting in person (or via Zoom) during the High Holidays. To help us celebrate in a meaningful way, regardless of where you observe the holidays, Beth El is once again preparing a High Holiday Kit for every member household to enjoy. Each kit will contain some familiar - and new - traditional holiday items to nourish your body and soul. Your High Holiday Kit will be delivered the week beginning September 18, 2022. Please let the office know if you will be out of town during this time.

Chag Sameach!

P.S. - If you are interested in volunteering to deliver these special holiday packages, please contact Lauri Klein at lklein004@gmail.com. Thank you!



New Member Spotlight

Meet Melissa & Amir Keinan, Zimrah (10), and Elie (8)



Melissa, Amir, Zimrah, and Elie moved to Durham from Brooklyn last year in search of more trees and fresh air. They were excited to join a diverse Jewish community that values pluralism and intersectionality. Amir works with his family in the custom bag business. Melissa, a long time Jewish educator, is a Parent Coach specializing in early childhood (helpmemelissa.com). Zimrah (5th grade) loves to go swimming, and Elie (3rd grade) is an avid reader. Both kids love taking classes at Ninja Challenge. The Keinan family lives near the Lemur Center with their two cats and a fish.

Thank you to our Annual Fund donors!

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Interfaith Trip to
Israel, June 2022



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Becker

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stepfather, Martin Yogel

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Hoffman's sister, Nikki Hoffman Schiro

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Ross Kornbluth

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Hoffman's sister, Nikki Hoffman Schiro

Jenny and Eric Solomon, in memory of
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-law of Jenn and Rabbi Daniel Greyber

Steve Soltan, in memory of Rabbi
Steven Sager

Annual Fund with Tributes, cont.

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Leslie Elise Parker; Diane Sasson's
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Sheldon Hayer

Cemetery Fund, cont.

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Karin Shapiro and Ed Balleisen,
in memory of her father, Lionel Shapiro

Norman Veis and Laura Meglin,
in memory of Norman's father, Alfred
Veis

Chevra Kaddisha

Rachelle Bienstock and Scott Snyder,
in memory of Rachelle's father, Julius J.
Bienstock

Naama Crisp, in memory of Rabbi
Steve Sager

Ruth Dzau

Donna Goldstein, in memory of Ethel
Brody

Sheldon Hayer

Risa Isard, in memory of Ben Deeley

Sol and Sheila Levine, in memory of
Sheila's mother, Augusta Korkin and
Sol's mother, Reba Levine

Cheryl and Mort Malkin, in memory of
Cheryl's father, Neil Felmus

Barbara and Martin Poleski,
in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager

Caryn Rossi and Perry Whitted,
in memory of Rabbi Sager

Philip and Annette Skoletsky,
in memory of their son, Jay Alan
Skoletsky

Marlene and Chuck Spritzer,
in memory of Marlene's parents, Janet
and Meyer Alpern

Orit and Gabriel Szulik, in memory of
Orit's father, Samuel Ramler

Thank you to our donors!

Community of Caring

Joel Abramowitz, in memory of Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levy; Sheri Hoffman's sister, Nikki Hoffman Schiro

Risa and Ira Botvinick, in memory of Risa's mother, Doris Dworsky, on the occasion of her 10th yahrzeit

Risa and Ira Botvinick, for the speedy recovery of Ray Botvinick

Sheldon Hayer

Sid and Alice Levinson, in memory of Diane Sasson's mother, Dorothy Roberts Hyde

Arthur and Judy Marks, in memory of Diane Sasson's mother, Dorothy Roberts Hyde

Evelina Moulder, in memory of Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levy; Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; Annette Kronmiller's sister, Marcia Hogan

Mindy Oberhardt, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Martin and Barbara Poleski, in memory of Barbara's mother, Eleanor Winfield

Howard and Claire Rockmand, in memory of Claire's father, Gordon Empey

Jack and Diane Sasson, in memory of Leah Austin's brother, Ralph Meyer

Rabbi Jeffrey and Deborah Schein, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Rhoda Silver, in honor of Randi Smith

Ellen Singer, wishing Steve Brown a speedy recovery

Steve Soltan, in memory of his wife, Simone Soltan

Matt and Susan Springer, in loving memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Bob and Terri Tyson, in memory of Terri's father, Herman B. Kushner

Earl and Gladys Siegel Endowment Fund

Sheldon Hayer

Jimmie and Carol Haynes, in memory of Diane Sasson's mother, Dorothy Roberts Hyde; Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levy; Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; Leah Austin's brother, Ralph Meyer

Jay and Hunter Levinsohn, in honor of Gladys's 95th birthday, and in memory of Earl

David and JoAnn Rubin, in honor of Margie Satinsky and Elliot Lowenthal, our Volunteers of the Year

David and JoAnn Rubin, in celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of Nate Cohen

David and JoAnn Rubin, in memory of Anne Derby's mother, Phyllis Rafterman; Diane Sasson's mother, Dorothy Hyde; Mara Buchbinder's father, Martin Yogel; Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Parker; Susan Morris; Ivy Wingate's mother, Francine Poncher; Michael Kornbluth's father, Ralph Kornbluth; Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levi; Annette Kronmiller's sister, Marcia Hogan

Hal Sandick and Barbra Roberman, in memory of Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levy; Sheri Hoffman's sister, Nikki Hoffman Schiro

Jon and Deborah Wahl, in memory of Anne Derby's mother, Phyllis K. Rafterman

Jon and Deborah Wahl, in honor of Leslie Winner's exceptional leadership

Education & Youth Director's Fund

Lewis and Alice Gold, in memory of Alice's father, Dave Satlof

Sheldon Hayer

Leonard and Louise Kahn, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Education & Youth Director's Fund, cont.

Peter and Marilyn Ornstein, in memory of Peter's mother, Augusta Ornstein

Murray Stollwerk, in memory of his brother, David Stollwerk

Eric Pas Jewish Camp Scholarship Fund

Stephen and Shula Bernard, in memory of Leslie Elise Parker, mother of Jennifer Greyber; Susan Joy Morris, mother of Jonah Morris; and Shari Beth Levy, sister of Randi Smith; Leah Austin's brother, Ralph Meyer; Susi Lief's mother, Mae Lief Hillman Margolis; Erica Brody's mother, Sheila Brody;

Eileen Abramson's son, Neil Howard Abramson; Laura Brody Weaver's mother, Ethel Brody; Shula's father, Martin Landau

Stephen and Shula Bernard, in honor of Peter Ornstein's birthday

Sheldon Hayer

Jean and Barrie Hurwitz, in memory of Leah Austin's brother, Ralph Meyer; Ivy Wingate's mother, Francine Poncher;

Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; Rabbi Greyber's uncle, Michael Cohen; Diane Sasson's mother, Dorothy Roberts Hyde

Arthur and Judy Marks, for a Refuah Sheleymah for Esther Janosky and Gloria Starr

Ada Nikolsky, in memory of her brother, Boris Mikhalevsky

Michele Pas, Barry Poss, and family, in loving memory of Sally Laliberte's mother, Catherine Mary Laliberte

Thank you to our donors!

Eric Pas Jewish Camp Scholarship Fund, cont.

Michele Pas and Barry Poss, wishing Sally Laliberte a speedy recovery

Michele Pas and Barry Poss, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; in memory of Rabbi Greyber's uncle, Michael Cohen

Michele Pas and Barry Poss, Mazel Tov to Lynne and Jeff Kowweek, and Jean and Barrie Hurwitz, on Melanie's Bat Mitzvah and Rebecca's graduation

Martin and Barbara Poleski, in memory of Martin's father, Marion Poleski

Ellen Singer, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Nancy Strauss, in memory of her father-in-law, Dr. Bruno Strauss

Jon and Deborah Wahl, in memory of Diane Sasson's mother, Dorothy Roberts Hyde

General Fund

Cheryl Birkner Mack and Eric Mack, in honor of Esther Mack

Garth Gersten, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Sheldon Hayer

Michael and Harriet Lakin, in memory of Michael's father, Martin Lakin

Musia Lakin, in memory of her husband, Martin Lakin; mother, Miriam Gingold; mother-in-law, Hannah Lakin

Rose and Isaac Levy, in memory of Rose's mother, Eva Gadli

Lew Margolis and Linda Frankel, in memory of Lew's mother, Thelma Margolis

Peter and Sheryl Morrison, in memory of Peter's mother, Pearl Morrison

Margie Satinsky, in memory of her mother, Florence Satinsky

General Fund, cont.

Norman Weiner and Laura Lieber, in memory of Norman's father, Maurice Weiner

Hartman Institute Fund

Jewish For Good

Robin and Dan Shapiro, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Landscaping Fund

Sheldon Hayer

Rhoda Silver, in memory of Mara Buchbinder's stepfather, Martin Yogel; Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levy; and Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Lifelong Learning Fund

Risa and Ira Botvinick, in memory of Steven Sager, beloved rabbi, leader, and teacher

Robert and Rabbi Lynne Goldsmith, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Donna Goldstein, in honor of Nancy Strauss's 80th birthday

Sheldon Hayer

Sid and Alice Levinson, in memory of Leah Austin's brother, Ralph Meyer

Arthur and Judy Marks, in honor of David Winer; Sabina and Rabbi Sager

Amy Ripps, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Theresa Joan Rosenberg, in memory and appreciation of Rabbi Steve Sager

Nancy Strauss, in memory of her mother-in-law, Dr. Bertha Badt-Strauss; Sheila Kendrick

Jon and Deborah Wahl, in appreciation of Elliot Lowenthal's leadership role in religious services

Tim Wollin, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Mitzvah Fund

Donna Goldstein, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager

Lynne Grossman, in memory of her husband, Will Grossman

Hope Hartman and Bob Wechsler, in memory of Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levy and Bob's father, Joseph Wechsler

Sheldon Hayer

Evelina Moulder, in honor of Rhoda Silver's special birthday

Elaine Rosenbacher, in memory of her brother, Jon M. Gitelson

Claudia and Jim Warburg, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Orthodox Kehillah Fund

Lew Bateman, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Warren and Gabriella Bein, in honor of their wedding

Jonathan and Susan Breitzer, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager, who brought the Orthodox Kehillah into being

Philippe Chemla, in honor of David Rubin and Jeff Derby for leading services at the OK

Simon Divilov

George and Sue Fishman, in memory of George's mother, Gertrude Popovsky, and George's sisters, Rhea Fishman and Estelle Heckheimer

Yosef and Shiran Froymovich, in appreciation of the Orthodox Kehillah

Sheldon Hayer

Jesse Summers and Mara Buchbinder

Elhanan Tzipilevich

Prayer Book Fund

Sheldon Hayer

Stephen Jaffe and Mindy Oshrain, wishing Rabbi Greyber a safe and profitable trip to Israel for study

Jon and Deborah Wahl, in appreciation of Jeff Derby's Torah reading leadership and mentorship

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Anonymous

Joel Abramowitz, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Leah Austin, in loving memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Leah Austin, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; with special thanks to Rabbi Greyber for the heartfelt and moving shiva minyan he conducted at the time of her brother's death

Ari Berenbaum, for selling chametz

Natalie Blackburn and

Shawn DosSantos, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Timothy

Marshall Botvinick and Karen Burns, for selling chametz

Jonathan and Susan Breitzer, for selling chametz

Steve and Sally Brown, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Harvey and Sandy Cohen, in memory of Harvey's father, Joseph Cohen, and Sandy's mother, Sadie Levine

Ian Davis and Naomi Ornstein Davis, for selling chametz

Ian Davis and Naomi Ornstein Davis, in honor of Ezra's Bar Mitzvah

Ruth Dzau, in honor of Mary Cooper

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, cont.

Sarah Feldman, for selling chametz

Sarah Feldman, in honor of her conversion to Judaism

Barbara and Peter Fish, in memory of Rabbi Emeritus Steve Sager

Amy and Oren Fix, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Raffi

Joel Fleishman

Mark and Debbie Friedman, for selling chametz

Rabbi Elliot Gertel, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Bob and Norma Gindes, for selling chametz

Kevin and Andrea Ginsberg, in memory of Michael Kornbluth's father, Ralph Kornbluth

Matthew and Valerie Glassman, in loving memory of Rabbi Sager

Adam and Beth Goldstein, in memory of Beth's father and brother, Harold and Michael Goodrich

Donald and Sheila Goldstein, in memory of Donald's mother, Anne Goldstein; Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levy, Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; and Rabbi Steven Sager

Donald and Sheila Goldstein, in honor of the birth of their new grandson, Hugo Joseph Goldstein

Donna Goldstein, in memory of Randi Smith's sister, Shari Beth Levy; Michael Kornbluth's father, Dr. Ralph Ross Kornbluth; her father, Gerard Goldstein, and brother, Howard Goldstein

Donna Goldstein, in honor of Jane Gabin's birthday

Nathalie Goodrich, in memory of her husband, Harold Goodrich, and son, Michael Goodrich; Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker, and Rabbi Steve Sager

Harlan Gradin, and Elise Goldwasser, for selling chametz

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, cont.

Josh Granek and Daphne Friedman, for selling chametz

Larry and Stephanie Greenberg, for selling chametz

Aaron and Daniellah Greenhood, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Jacob

Andrea Greyber, in memory of her father, Samuel Irving Cohen, and Rabbi Steven Sager

Bob and Laura Gutman, in loving memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Edward and Sharon Halperin, for selling chametz

Karen Halpert and Ryan Young, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Daniel

Stacey and Edward Hamburg

Hope Hartman and Bob Wechsler, in memory of Rabbi Sager and Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Stephanie and Matt Hawkins, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Jack

Sheldon Hayer

Jimmie and Carol Haynes, in memory of Rabbi Sager's mother, Beverly Joan Stevens

Sandy and Joel Hirschman, for selling chametz

Valerie Horwitz and Jerry Schreiber, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; Susan Joy Morris; Sheri Hoffman's sister, Nikki Hoffman Schiro

Jewish For Good, for selling chametz

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, cont.

Irwin and Deborah Kahn, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Lynne Kane, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager

Isaac and Lara Kehle, for selling chametz

Larry Kodack and Andree Allen, in memory of Larry's wife, Randi Kodack; Rabbi Steven Sager; Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; and Rabbi Sager's mother, Beverly Joan Stevens

Ira and Nan Kolko, for selling chametz

Cameron and Jeremy Konar, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Jonah

Jeff Krolik and Michelle Shrott, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Jim and Pat Kronick, in memory of Rabbi Sager and Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Jim and Pat Kronick, in honor of their grandson Nate Cohen's Bar Mitzvah and in appreciation of Rabbi Greyber

Annette Kronmiller, for selling chametz

Alexandra Laks, in memory of Rabbi Steven Gary Sager

Kevin and Ann Leibel, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager and Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Diane and Barry Leshin, in memory of Diane's father, Frederick Wiener; Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Alan and Amy Levine, for selling chametz

Sol and Sheila Levine, in memory of Sol's grandmother, Lena Goldberg; Rabbi Steve Sager; and Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, cont.

Sid and Alice Levinson, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager and Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Allie Lieber and Alex Krohn, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Theo

Elaine and Lee Marcus, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Samuel and Patricia Mirlis, for selling chametz

Gabriel Most, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Evelina Moulder, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Elazar Nudell, for selling chametz

Alyne O'Keefe, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Lars Olkkola, for selling chametz

Elen Oneal and Ezra Miller

Drew Parker, in blessed memory of Leslie Parker, and deep appreciation of Rabbi Greyber and Jennifer

Annice Parker, in memory of Leslie Parker

Jennifer Parkhurst, for selling chametz

Rabbi Salem Pearce, for selling chametz

Katie and Matt Perault, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Isaac

Rabbi Philip and Sharon Pohl, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Martin and Barbara Poleski, in memory of Martin's mother, Teresa Allerhand Poleski

Barak and Laura Richman, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, cont.

Dr. and Mrs. Stanley Robboy, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager and Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Steve Rose, in memory of his mother, Estelle Henner Rose

Aaron and Courtney Rosenstein, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Koda

Caryn Rossi and Perry Whitted, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

David and JoAnn Rubin

Jaclyn and Dan Rubinstein, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son

Hal Sandick and Barbra Roberman, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Jack and Diane Sasson, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Margie Satinsky, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; Rabbi Sager; Sheri Hoffman's sister, Nikki Hoffman Schiro

Dan and Alex Schnitzer, for selling chametz

Jacob Schonberg and Sara Yates, for selling chametz

Asher Schranz and Haley Moss, in memory of Asher's father, Rabbi Allan Schranz

Simone and Barbara Shane, in honor of Rebecca Kowek's graduation from college, with love

Rhoda Silver, in memory of Susan Morris

Ellen Singer, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, cont.

Philip and Annette Skoletsky, in memory of their son, Jay Alan Skoletsky and Annette's sister, Rosalyn Hurwitz

Billie and Corey Skolnick, for selling chametz

Ron Skupsky and Abby Gilbert, for selling chametz

Scott and Randi Smith, for selling chametz

Dick and Lois Sobel, for selling chametz

Joanna Solkoff and Amelia Blanco, in memory of their husband and father, Joel Solkoff

Larry and Janice Stolzenberg,
in memory of Larry's father, Edmund Stolzenberg and Janice's mother, Anna Krepchon

Nancy Strauss, in memory of her husband, Albrecht B. Strauss

Bob and Terri Tyson, for selling chametz

Bob and Terri Tyson, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Jon and Deborah Wahl, in memory of Rabbi Greyber's uncle, Michael Cohen; Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker; Rabbi Sager's mother, Beverly Joan Stevens; and Robert Rosenstein

Jenna Weinberg and Jacob Prosnit, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son

Nicole and Michael Whitman, in honor of Dr. Arthur Axelbank performing the Brit Milah for their son, Jackson

Myles and Rina Wolf, for selling chametz

Sager Visiting Scholar Fund

Anonymous

Marshall Botvinick and Karen Burns

Risa and Ira Botvinick, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager

Arna and Saul Brandel, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Jonathan and Susan Breitzer, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager, that his legacy of living Torah continues

Jeff and Anne Derby, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager

Sara Eisenberg, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Raina Elsner and David Andrews, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Sager Visiting Scholar Fund, cont.

Patricia Fischer, in memory of Rabbi Frank Fischer, one of Rabbi Sager's eager students

Mark and Deborah Friedman, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Norma and Bob Gindes, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Louise Goldstein, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager

Larry and Stephanie Greenberg, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager

Sheldon Hayer, in memory of Rabbi Steven Sager

Jimmie and Carol Haynes, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Bob and Susan Hill, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Sam and Marsha Horwitz, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Jean and Barrie Hurwitz, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Harold and Susan Kudler, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Muriel Mandel, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Roslyn and Peter Mannon, on the occasion of Shloshim for Rabbi Sager

Barbara and John Margolis, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Lew Margolis and Linda Frankel, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Arthur and Judy Marks, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Tamara Miller, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Peter and Marilyn Ornstein, on the occasion of Shloshim for Rabbi Sager

Erica Rapport Gringle and Rob Gringle, in memory of our beloved Rabbi Sager

David and JoAnn Rubin, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Hal Sandick and Barbra Roberman, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Jack and Diane Sasson, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Bob and Rhonda Silver, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Sager Visiting Scholar Fund, cont.

David Sontag, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Maxine and Alan Stern, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager

Jon and Deborah Wahl, in memory of Rabbi Steven G. Sager

Daniel Weinreb, in memory of Rabbi Sager

Errol and Mardi Zeiger, in memory of Rabbi Sager for his guidance, teachings, and friendship

Sam and Jeanette Fink Programming Fund

Michele Dubow, in honor of Margie Satinsky

Lois Flaherty

Sandra Lazarus Youth Activity Fund

Alan Friedman and Ian Velasco, in memory of Michael Kornbluth's father, Ralph Ross Kornbluth

Sheldon Hayer

Synagogue Life Fund

Sheldon Hayer

Bob and Susan Hill, in memory of Rabbi Steve Sager, extraordinary teacher, gifted rabbi

Arthur and Judy Marks, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's beloved mother, Leslie Elise Parker

Talmud Torah Fund

Donna Goldstein, in memory of Jennifer Greyber's mother, Leslie Elise Parker and Annette Kronmiller's sister, Marcia Hogan

Sheldon Hayer



Annual Meeting 2022





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Beth El Schedule of Services

Friday evening services:

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 (Join us in-person, on Zoom, or view live on our website)

Weekday minyanim in person and on Zoom

Sunday mornings at 9:30 am

Wednesday mornings at 8:00 am

(**7:45 am on Rosh Chodesh**)



Camp Ramah Darom Campers and Staff from Beth El