



8000 Main Street - Voorhees, NJ 08043 - www.bethelsnj.org - 856-675-1166

Celebrate Purim with Congregation Beth El

Saturday Night, March 15

5:30 PM Mini Megillah - For young children, costumes & ice cream

6:45 PM - Megillah Comes Alive Interactive Retelling of the Purim Story *featuring* our clergy & staff

8:00 PM - Adult / Complete Megillah Reading followed by "L'Chaims at the Main Street Pub

Purim Day, March 16 7:30 AM - Shacharit followed by Megillah Reading – Chapel



PRIZE AWARDED TO THE FAMILY WITH THE BEST COSTUME

\$250 GIFIT CERT courtesy of CLASSIC CAKE

Religious School Purim Program During school hours! 2014 Party Showcase Sunday, March 23

March / April 2014



10:30am to 1:30pm

FREE and Open to the Community





If you are planning a mitzvah party or wedding or are a vendor, you won't want to miss this annual event!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



On Thursday morning January 23, 2014 at 7:15AM, I entered Beth EI to attend morning minyan to honor my father as it has been nine years since he passed away and this was his yahrtzeit. The service was poignant for me (as I had hoped it would be) and I had the opportunity to share thoughts with those who were there to say kaddish as well as those who regularly attend minyan. As it was a Thursday, Torah was read and there was a scrumptious breakfast after services.

As I was leaving services to go to work, I was struck by how much was going on at Beth EI even before I arrived and certainly by the time I was leaving and more broadly about all that goes on during a typical Beth EI week.

Our Early Childhood Center opens its doors before 7AM. Teachers, busy parents and adorable preschoolers are always moving around early to start the day. Rabbi Krupnick designed the building so the

ECC entrance is right next to the Chapel so the parents and their children can see our morning minyan in action; all can observe and choose to participate in this traditional and religious way to start your day.

The ECC is designed to educate our youngest. However, education continues all day and is available to all. Religious school students fill our building in the afternoons as do Hebrew High students in the evening. Bar and Bat Mitzvah lessons seemingly happen each day. Our Project Lev B'nai Mitzvah program has been expanded to provide education into the teen years and our Soups and Sweets program provides vocational education opportunities for those beyond their high school years. Adults choose to participate in our Adult B'nai Mitzvah program which has a 40 week curriculum that is all mapped out, others choose from a large a la carte menu of courses, while others stop by our library for a book review or to peruse our collection. Rabbi's Pirkei Avot courses are now available on-line in streaming video format and each class is being watched and enjoyed by more and more people. And, every one of our minyan services as well as our Shabbat service affords our Rabbi's and our Hazzan with teaching opportunities which are not missed.

Beth El is a home - it is a Beit Midrash and Beit Tefillah - a home for study and a home for prayer, as well as a Beit Knesset - a home for gathering and for socializing. During this season we have young families planning their annual retreat, our Men's Club and Sisterhood working on Shalach Manot for Purim, our Habonim planning menus and creating meals for our First Fridays, our Hazak group meeting and greeting each other at the library and so much more. We have volunteers who make up our choir, volunteers cooking hundreds of meals for the needy each month, volunteers working on the Midtown Men performance, volunteers on our ECC Board, Hebrew School Board and Hebrew High Board; volunteers helping to maintain our beautiful building, our fund raising, are marketing; volunteers on our Board and so much more. All the while our office staff is working diligently to support this spiritual Goliath - doing so much including making sure our Beth El News is distributed by mail and and on-line.

As your president I have been so impressed with all that I have seen. It is a tribute to our wonderful Congregation that we all work on so much to keep our Beth EI so relevant and vibrant.

Eric

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover: Purim & 2014 Party Showcase

President's Message	p.2
Rabbi's Message	p.3
Sharing Our Lives	р.З
In Memoriam	p.4
Soups and Sweets	p.4
Congregants returning from Israel	p.5
Colel News	p.5
Holiday Information	p.6
Beth El Clubs	p.8

FYI	p.10
Beth El Religious School	p.12
The Early Childhood Center	p.13
Library	p.14
Commemorative Opportunities	p.15
March & April Mincha Times	p.16 & 17
Jr. Congregation, Teen Service,	
Minyan Katan & Tot Shabbat	p.16 & 17
Caring Acts of Tzedakah	p.18
Volunteers Needed	p.21
Classified	p.22

RABBI'S MESSAGE



Rabbi Noah Arnow My Most Memorable Seder

It was very small. And, got smaller. Yet whereas I don't know if I can remember the details of any other particular seder I've been to, I'll never forget that night, that seder.

It was Pesach 2008 and we were in Jerusalem. Finally, after decades of saying "L'shanah Haba-ah Birushalayim - Next Year in Jerusalem" - we were there. My parents, Tammy and me and Caleb, who was less than a year old and celebrating his first Pesach. We were living in Israel for the year while I was studying as part of rabbinical school and my parents came to spend Pesach with us. I was content to catch up with my parents and have (for the first time ever) a small, intimate seder.

We kashered pots in our rented apartment's kitchen, unscrewing plastic handles. Tammy made gefilte fish for the first time ever. (For the record, I've never liked gefilte fish.) We had a couple of random haggadot, as well something very exciting for us: the two volumes of *My People's Passover Haggadah*, which my father had co-edited and written for and worked on for the two previous years. It had finally been published just in time for Pesach and contained a plethora of commentaries, explanations and interpretations of the Haggadah. It's really intended as a reference tool, for scholars and rabbis, as well as for anyone preparing a seder who is looking for some more information to share or discuss about a particular part of the Haggadah.

The table was set, the food was ready. We began the seder. But, if memory serves me correctly, after Kiddush, the baby was ready for bed. And, Tammy was feeling nauseous and sick. And, then there were three. My parents and I continued for a little while, but my mom soon bowed out too, also sick. My dad and I, healthy and crazy, continued the seder. It was a quiet seder. We each had copies of the book and for each section of the Haggadah, we'd select particular comments that were especially interesting to us to share. There was a lot of quiet reading, as well as reading aloud. It was not raucous or disordered, or emotional, or familiar. It was kind of dry, actually and we became a little tired of it, but we pressed on, committed to finishing the experience. And, interpret this however you like, but I can't remember the end of the seder.

But overall, it was my single most memorable seder because it was so different from any seder I'd experienced until then or since. It was a one-of-a-kind, from the location, to the participants, to the Haggadah.

I've had many great seders at my parents' house, at my grandparents' house; at our home here in Cherry Hill. And, I remember moments from individual seders, but I cannot really distinguish in my memory one seder from another.

On the one hand, this saddens me, to have every seder, which we work so hard to craft and organize and prepare for, disappear into the sludge of memory. Yet on the other hand, we



BIRTHS:

Barbra & Steve Davidoff on the birth of their granddaughter, Alexis Haley Davidoff

Ann Rosenberg on the birth of a grandson, Eitan Zvi Rosenberg

B'NAI MITZVOT:

Danielle & Zachary Edelman on their son Reid becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Nancy & Ed Jaffee on their grandson Jacob Manders becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Ronda & Steven Manders on their son Jacob becoming a Bar Mitzvah

Todd Rowan & Ilene Rosen on their son Andrew becoming a Bar Mitzvah

ENGAGEMENTS/MARRIAGES:

Amy & Barney Kaplan on the engagement of their daughter Sarah to Jason Springer

Hermie & Morty Mann on the engagement of their grandson Eli to Meg Moore

Jerilyn & Allan Turoff on the engagement of their son David to Sara Landman

Renee Rudolph & David Lieberman on the engagement of their son Seth to Jillian Sorkin

BETH EL MOURNS the passing of:

Martin Abrams, father of Larry Abrams

Herbert Behrmann, grandfather of Jennifer Weiss and Rachel Smith

George Berkowitz, father of Ryna Alexander

Ethyl Blumenfeld, wife of the late Charles A. Blumenfield, mother of Alan, grandmother of Hana and Joey

Lindsey Brooke Britchkow, daughter of Marc & Ina Lichteman

Ronald Feder, father of Shari Leff

Murray Gass, husband of Sibyl Gass

Simon Kaplan, father of Leonard Kaplan

Art Kessler, husband of Miriam Kessler, father of Jason and Bryan

Ruth Levy, mother of Marc Levy

Steven Malamut, brother of Lois Asbell

Claire Moskowitz, mother of Richard Moskowitz

Sidney Schwartz, father of Robert Schwartz

Tillie Sternberg, mother of Linda Rosengard

Shirley Wolf, mother of Larry Wolf



Purim is March 15

Participate in the wonderful Purim custom of Shalach Manot. It is a wonderful way to send an expression of love and friendship to family, neighbors, friends, teachers and clergy. For more information, contact

Renee and Craig Kessler at 856-429-2258





Rabbi Noah Arnow My Most Memorable Seder

know how it feels to maintain and sustain long-held traditions, to use Grandma's Pesach china for the umpteenth year, to sing the same songs that we learned as children, to relive, if not going out of Egypt, at least our own personal, life-long Pesach experiences.

I want to challenge you though to try to do both - to make at least one of your seders this year radically different from any seder you've ever had. Experiment with the food, or with the setup, or with the way you do the Haggadah, or with the melodies, or with the guest list, or with all of these! If you want suggestions, ask me, or do some Googling for ideas. Make a one-of-a-kind seder this year. You won't forget it and you'll appreciate the familiar that much more.

May our seders this year help us leave the narrow places of our own lives and of our own seders!



IN MEMORIAM

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Shirley Wolf Beloved mother of Larry Wolf

IN MEMORIAM

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Murray Gass

Beloved husband of Sibyl Gass

IN MEMORIAM

The Beth EI Family mourns the passing of

Tillie Sternberg

Beloved mother of Linda Rosengard

IN MEMORIAM

The Beth El Family mourns the passing of

Art Kessler Beloved husband of Miriam Kessler Beloved father of Jason and Bryan



Beth El and JFCS join together to create ...

SOUPS AND SWEETS; A food service training program for people with special needs

We are proud that Beth El and the special needs department of JFCS have partnered together to create "Soups and Sweets", a groundbreaking collaboration that benefits people with special needs. Housed in the Beth El kitchen, "Soups and Sweets" is a food service training program designed to provide young adults with special needs an opportunity to gain employable culinary skills. Program participants learn how to work in our commercial kitchen and prepare a variety or soups and dessert, which are sold to members of our community. JFCS chose to partner with Congregation Beth El as we have been a supportive volunteer partner for them in pioneering similar programs for individuals with special needs and their families over the years.

The overall goal of "Soups and Sweets" is to increase employment opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities. The program, supported with funding from the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities (NJCDD), the Wright Cook Foundation and the New Jersey State Office of Faith Based Initiatives began as a six month pilot program and has grown by leaps and bounds since that time. At the completion of the training program last year, a substantial percentage of our participants received employment in such places as Iron Hill Brewery, Lion's Gate, Kellman Brown Academy and as production staff for the

Soups and Sweets program.

Beth El has a long tradition of creating groundbreaking programs for children and young adults with special needs such as the Religious School's "**Project Lev**" and **Teen Lev programs**, which provide children with developmental and physical challenges with meaningful ways to celebrate their Judaism and the "**Schwartz Yachad Initiative**", an inclusion support program for children with special needs. We are grateful to our congregants and the Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey for providing funding and scholarship support for our special needs programming. The Jewish Community Foundation, the Saltzman Foundation, the Naurice and Ingrid Rosen Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Boory Fund are examples of this support.

In keeping with this long tradition, Beth El once again leads the way in our community through its involvement with JFCS and the creation of "Soups and Sweets". Together we can make a difference!

LOOK FOR THE SOUPS AND SWEETS ORDER FORM INSERTED IN THE BETH EL NEWS!



March

The AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington DC

Join Rabbi Krupnick and other members of Beth El as we send a delegation of pro-Israel advocates to Washington to lobby our local & state congressional leaders. Learn the latest insights into the most pressing issues in large lectures and smaller workshops.

Sunday, March 2 - Wednesday, March 4

Beth El Men's Club & Sisterhood Present -Strategic Challenges: Israel and the Changing Politics in the Middle East

Guest Speaker: Kelly Stein, AIPAC Leadership Management Director Enjoy a delicious breakfast and hear an engaging speaker from AIPAC discuss the current situation in Israel. Sunday, March 9 @ 10:00AM Social Hall - FREE

Men's Club Paid Up Membership Dinner: Happy Wife, Happy Live

Guest Speaker: Rabbi Aaron Krupnick Enjoy dinner and conversation along with tips for a Happy Wife, Happy Life Wednesday, March 12 - Social Hall A & B

Services 101: What's It All About

Rabbi Aaron Krupnick leads a layman's course explaining the order of the Shabbat service, the significance and meaning of the different components and rituals, both spiritually and traditionally.

Tuesday, March 18 @ 7:30 - 9:00PM 3 Sessions: 3/18, 3/25, 4/1

Torah on Tap

Join Rabbi Arnow in a freewheeling conversation and schmooze on Jewish topics at a local hangout.

Wednesday, March 19 @ 8:30PM Dubh Linn Square Pub

Library Short Story Discussion Group

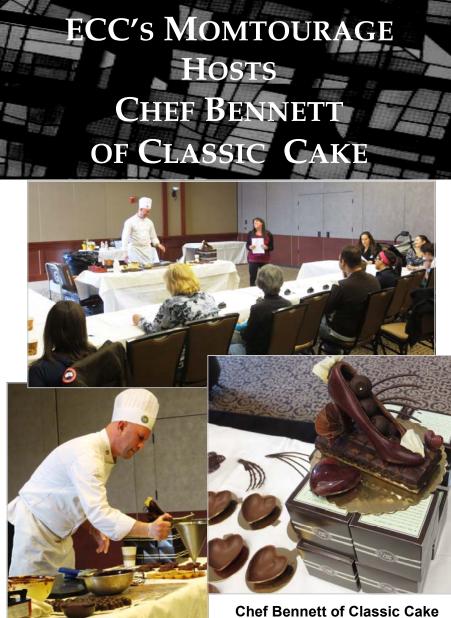
Amy Kaplan hosts an open and engaging discussion of fascinating works, new and old. **Thursday, March 27 @ 1:30PM**

300 Ways to Ask the Four Questions

Guest Speakers: Murray Spiegel and Rickey Stein

Witness first hand how Spiegel and Stein will enhance your Pesach Seder 300 ways. Enjoy a Sisterhood and Men's club sponsored breakfast.

Book signing to follow. (Seen on PBS)



Chef Bennett of Classic Cake leads a demonstration on easy chocolate desserts at

Momtourage – a You & Me program for Parents with infants.

COLEL NEWS continued

April

Sisterhood Dine and Study with Rabbi Aaron Krupnick Enjoy good food and conversation as you study with our Rabbi. Wednesday, April 9 @ 7:30PM FEE TBD

Men's Club Shabbat Join us for services led by Men's Club, followed by a wonderful Passover luncheon sponsored by Men's Club. Saturday, April 19 @ 9:00AM

Library Short Story Discussion Group

Amy Kaplan hosts an open and engaging discussion of fascinating works, new and old.

Thursday, April 24 @ 1:30PM

Torah on Tap

Join Rabbi Arnow in a freewheeling conversation and schmooze on Jewish topics at a local hangout. Wednesday, April 30 @ 8:30PM

Wednesday, April 30 @ 8:30PM Dubh Linn Square Pub

> Please refer to the COLEL Brochure for further information.

Holiday Schedule

PASSOVER SCHEDULE 2014- 5774

EREV PESACH

Search for ChometzSunday EveningSiyum for 1st BornMonday MorningLast time to eat ChometzMonday Morning

Sunday EveningApril 13Monday MorningApril 14 -Monday MorningApril 14 -

April 13 April 14 - 7:00 AM April 14 - before 10:47 AM

SEDER SCHEDULE

First Seder	Monday evening	April 14
Second Seder	Tuesday evening	April 15

EVENING SERVICES

First Night	Monday, April 14	6:00 PM
Second Night	Tuesday, April 15	6:00 PM
End of Second Day	Wednesday, April 16	7:50 PM

MORNING SERVICE

First Day	Tuesday, April 15	9:00 AM
Second Day	Wednesday, April 16	9:00 AM

CHOL HAMOED MINYAN TIMES

Thursday, April 17 - 7:35PM	٠	Friday, April 18 - 6:00 PM
Saturday, April 19 - 7:35 PM	٠	Sunday, April 20 - 7:35 PM

LAST DAYS EVENING SERVICE

Sunday, April 207:35 PMMonday, April 21(Evening Yizkor)7:35 PMTuesday, April 22(Service to End Pesach)8:00 PM

LAST DAYS MORNING SERVICE

Seventh Day Pesach	Monday,	April 21	9:00 AM
Eighth Day Pesach, Shabbat & YIZKOR	Tuesday,	April 22	9:00 AM

PESACH CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

Monday evening, April 14 - 7:19 PM • Tuesday evening, April 15 - 8:20 PM Friday evening, April 18 - 7:22 PM • Sunday evening, April 20 - 7:25 PM Monday, April 21 - 8:27 PM **Holiday Preparation**

PREPARATION FOR PESACH 5774

Questions and Answers by Rabbi Aaron Krupnick

Q: When is the Fast of the First Born?

A: The *Siyum* of the Fast of the First Born will be held on Monday morning, April 14 at 7:00AM. We will conclude a *seder* (order) of Mishna at the end of services so as to negate the need to fast.

Q: When do we Search for Chametz?

A: Following a thorough cleaning of the house, the search for leaven is held on Sunday, April 13. Breadcrumbs are placed conspicuously in rooms where food is normally eaten. Using a candle, a search is made and the crumbs are whisked with a feather on to a wooden spoon and then in to a paper bag. The prayer said at this time is found in the Haggadah.

Q: What do we do with the crumbs in the bag? Where is Chametz burned?

A: They should be burned on Monday morning, April 14. After morning Minyan (7:00AM), we will have a small bonfire in a steel drum in the parking lot to burn your Chametz. Parents and children can come between 8:15AM and 9:00AM that morning to share in this ritual.

Q: How and why do I Sell my Chametz?

- A: On Pesach it is forbidden to possess Chametz.
- B: All Chametz that will not be eaten or burned needs to be sold to a non-Jew through a transaction facilitated by the Rabbis of Beth El. (Sale of Chametz form below.) It should be returned or faxed (856) 489-3280 to the Shul no later than Friday, April 11 no later than 5pm.



Foods During Pesach

The following foods are forbidden for use during Pesach: All uncertified products of the 5 specified grains traditionally identified as Chametz: oats, wheat, barley, rye and spelt. This includes such products as bread, cakes, biscuits, crackers and cereal, etc. Ashkenazic custom has us refraining from eating rice, corn, peas and legumes because when ground they can be confused for those grains listed above. However, in a different form, some of the derivative products of these foods are permitted such as peanut oil. With so much *hechshered* food available in our area, it is best just to look for the certification on foods.

Kashering Utensils

Pots and Pans: Silverware and pots must be thoroughly scrubbed, cleaned and then completely immersed in boiling water. Pots should not be used for a period of at least 24 hours between the cleaning and the immersion in boiling water. Metal baking utensils cannot be kashered.

Earthenware: China & pottery etc. may not be kashered.

Ovens & Ranges: Every part that comes in contact with food must be thoroughly scrubbed and cleansed. Oven & range should be on as hot as possible for ½ hour.

<u>Microwaves</u>: After a thorough cleansing, a cup of hot water should be brought to a boil until most of the water disappears.

Dishwasher: The Rabbinical Assembly has ruled that after not using the machine for 24 hours, running a full cycle through empty with detergent will kasher a dishwasher for Pesach.

Tables, Food, Closets & Counters: Should be thoroughly cleaned and covered for Pesach. Then they may be used.

<u>Kitchen Sink</u>: A metal sink can be kashered by thoroughly cleaning and then pouring boiling water over it. A porcelain sink should be cleaned and a sink rack used. If, however, dishes are to be soaked in a porcelain sink, a dish basin must be used.

DELEGATION OF POWER SALE OF CHAMETZ FORM

I hereby authorize Rabbi Aaron Krupnick to be my agent to sell all kinds of Chametz including but not limited to any leavened food, dishes, pots, pans and utensils used with leavened food, which may be in my possession at the address below. Rabbi Krupnick is also empowered to lease all places wherein Chametz owned by me may be found, particularly at the address listed below. Rabbi Krupnick has full right to appoint any agent or substitute in his stead and said substitute shall have full right to sell and to lease as provided herein. I understand that the sale will be effected at sundown **on Monday, April 14.**

NAME:	ADDRESS:
SIGNATURE:	DATE:
This form is to b	e returned no later than Friday, April 11 by 5PM



MEN'S CLUB



While we may not officially be past winter yet, we are certainly getting closer to spring and the arrival of warmer weather. The past couple of months featured some great programs including an adult tefillin class and the Phil Podell Memorial World Wide Wrap.

March has turned into a very busy month. On Sunday March 9, along with Sisterhood, we will be co-hosting a speaker from AIPAC. Breakfast is included.

On Monday, March 10, Men's Club and Sisterhood will be packing shalach manot packages for Purim. Craig and Renee Kessler will be co-chairing the program this year. We can always use an extra pair of hands if you are available (children are welcome to volunteer and can receive community service credit).

On Wednesday, March 12, we will have our annual Men's Club Paid Up Membership Event. This year, we will have dinner, followed by a talk given by Rabbi Krupnick. The topic is "Happy Wife, Happy Life". You don't want to miss this one. The evening is free of charge, but you must be a paid up member to attend (and yes, you can even join that night if you haven't already).

Torah on Tap will meet at Dubh Linn Square Pub on Wednesday, March 19 @8:30pm.

On Sunday March 30, along with Sisterhood and Colel, we will continue the breakfast and lecture series. The topic on this morning will be "300 Ways to Ask the Four Questions".

April won't have quite the volume of events like March, but it will have our annual Men's Club Shabbat on Saturday, April 19. We will be leading the service and have parts for anyone who would like one. A synagogue wide kosher for Passover lunch follows the service.

Torah on Tap will meet at Dubh Linn Square Pub on Wednesday, April 30 @8:30pm.

Please check the Beth El Buzz for more information on these events (or contact me at yoelweiss@aol.com).

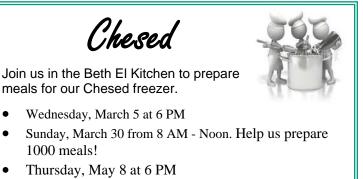
If anyone is interested in becoming more involved in Men's Club or has a good idea for programming, please send me an email or walk up to me in Beth El to tell me. We can always use more volunteers and more ideas. We can grow our Club and support our synagogue but we need your help. Please join us.

I hope to see you soon.

Yoel Weiss - President







• Monday, June 9 at 6 PM

For more info, contact **Renee Kessler** at 429-2258

Renee Kessler, Chesed Chair





Sisterhood had a great start to 2014 and I want to thank everyone who helped make all of our January/February events run so smoothly. First, I want to thank Jocelyn Borowsky and Nancy Lubars for organizing our New Year New You Yoga night and Tu B'Shvat education program as well as coordinating another beautiful Sisterhood Shabbat. I also want to thank all the women who took part in the service for Sisterhood Shabbat. And, lastly I want to thank Lauren Williams and Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz Boro for organizing our WOW (Women of the Wall) Program and Silver Thread Ceremony.

As we begin March, I want to wish everyone a very Happy Purim and hope that you all got your orders in for Shalach Manot. A special Thank-You to Renee and Craig Kessler for chairing this huge Mitzvah project for Sisterhood and Men's Club.

We have a few events in March so please mark your calendars accordingly. First, on Sunday March 9, we will be co-sponsoring a breakfast with Men's Club with a guest speaker from AIPAC. Come hear what's happening in Israel and what you can do to get involved. Then, on Sunday March 23 is our annual Party Showcase, so if you are planning a simcha in the next couple of years, or just want to see what's out there and sample some yummy food, make sure you stop by from 10:30am – 1:30pm.

There is no charge and you will definitely have a good time. Lastly, as we think ahead to Passover, you don't want to miss our Sunday brunch on March 30, with the authors of the book "**300 Ways to Ask the Four Questions**". This is sure to liven up your seders. This event is co-sponsored by Men's Club and CoLel and is free and open to the community. However, we do need to know how many people are coming so please RSVP to Kimberly in the Beth El office at <u>kchandler@bethelsnj.org</u> or call the office at (856) 675-1166.

April will bring our annual Dine and Study with Rabbi Krupnick on Wednesday night April 9. Watch your emails for more information coming out soon.

From my family to yours, best wishes for a Happy Purim and a Zissen Pesach!

Faye Shapiro, President



Sísterhood Torah Fund





It's not too late to become a Torah Fund benefactor.

Your \$180 donation to Torah Fund makes you a benefactor and in recognition of your support, you receive this year's beautiful Torah Fund pin representing Mishpahah. Torah Fund contributions strengthen and perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism by supporting the Jewish Theological Semi-



Well as Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro are JTS graduates. Torah Fund cards are perfect for any occasion, (New Baby, Get Well, Sympathy) and can be purchased for \$4 each at our Gift Shop or by

nary (JTS) - our own Rabbis Krupnick & Arnow as

contacting one of our Torah Fund secretaries: Melody Taylor 795-0767 cht1947@comcast.net

ON YOUR OCCASION

Robin Rutberg 482-0696 jeliro@comcast.net

Debbie Drachman debdrachman@comcast.net

or

Renee Rudolph mailto:reneer@datasoft-assoc.com









Our volunteers from Sisterhood, Men's Club, Habonim, Young Families & USY **cook over 1000 meals** for Jewish Family & Children's Service, our own members who are in need and for the JCC Klein Branch in Philadelphia.



To continue this mitzvah, we need your help! Your donation of \$10.00 will provide 3 kosher meals for someone in need.

Please make your checks payable to Beth El 5isterhood with the memo indicating Cook For a Friend.

Please mail your check to the Beth El Office: 8000 Main Street, Voorhees, N. J. 08043 Please mark the envelop "Cook For A Friend"



YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

STAY TUNED FOR ADDITIONS AND/OR CHANGES:

April 6 Community Yard Sale/Craft Fair

April 17 Pump it Up Passover break party

June 6 - June 8 Family Retreat Weekend at Pearlstone Retreat Center in Reisterstown, MD



BETH EL WELCOMES BACK CONGREGANTS WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM ISRAEL



Max DuBoff Eric Kessler Rebecca Wilen

If you have recently returned from a trip to Israel, please let our office know! Email Bhirn@bethelsnj.org

Sisterhood has meals available for congregants facing difficult times



Our Chesed freezer is fully stocked with individual and family sized meals that can be delivered.

Please contact Renee Kessler, 429-2258. Rbkess@comcast.net



First Friday' s At Beth El

Join congregants & clergy for a monthly congregational Shabbat Experience.

An evening of Shabbat togetherness for all ages

First Friday of <u>EVERY</u> month. Open to All. For more information please contact Shari Smith at ssmith@bethelsnj.org

Nihum Avelim Caring for Mourners

It has always been the practice of Congregation Beth El to reach out to our congregants who are experiencing the loss of a loved one. In an effort to meet the needs of our Beth El family, the Caring for Mourners Committee has come together to reenergize its efforts.

We have developed a comprehensive guide explaining the Jewish approach to mourning. This book will be available to any congregant who sustains a loss.

Beginning with the day of the funeral, the Caring for Mourners Committee will provide a wide range of services to our families including:

Setting up a home for shivah

Delivering the Beth EI "shivah chairs" for mourners Organizing a morning and evening minyan in the mourner's home

As this is a wonderful mitzvah and a way to support your fellow congregants in their time of need, the committee welcomes volunteers. For more information on how to receive the booklet or to volunteer, please send us an email.

> Susan Asbell Co-Chair Caring for Mourners Committee <u>skasb1@verizon.net</u>

> Marsha Goodman Co-Chair Caring for Mourners Committee margood1941@gmail.com



Beth El Kvells for our Community Leaders

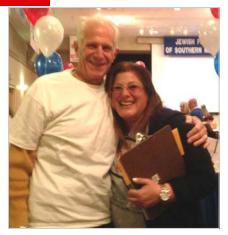
Beth El members have had a long history of being leaders in the South Jersey Community. In this vein we wish to recognize and honor those leaders among us.

Mazel Tov David Breslau on being installed as President of the FJMC Middle Atlantic Region in June.

Beth El Supports Super Sunday











MAZAL TOV

Lindsay Ilyssa Kaplan

Hebrew Name: Daughter of: Sister of: Granddaughter of: **Ariella Aliza** Dr. Len & Robyn Kaplan Danielle Sydney Kaplan Marsha & Sheldon Clark and Simon & Esther Kaplan

Great Granddaughter of: Lakey Leiner

Lindsay read the Torah Portion: Vayetze * November 2, 2013

Lindsay's Mitzvah/Tzedakah Project was: Cooper Hospital Child Life Program. New toys, clothes and necessities were collected for young children involved in an unfortunate accident or illness.

DONATE TO THE KIPPOT BOX

Spring clean your drawers of your unused, "collectable" Kippot. All Kippas are welcome regardless of a memorable name or date. Help Beth El fill the Kippot Box and find more drawer space at the same time. Thank you.

BETH EL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Yaffa Fuchs, Educational Director



Ma Nishtana: Journey through the Four Questions Aleph (1st Grade) Family B'Yachad Program Sunday, March 2

1st graders and their parents will enjoy 'traveling' through the **Four Questions** as they learn about Pesach in a fun and interactive way. They will learn to chant the **Ma Nishtana**, act out the story of Pesach, create attractive, useful art projects and prepare some Passover delicacies. Each station will have something to do with the theme of the program, **"Ma Nishtana."**

Parents are to arrange to have their child "adopted" by another family should they not be able to attend.

<u>Please Note</u>: School begins at 9:00 AM as usual. We hope you'll join us for this exciting program.

Sunday, March 9 Shira Chadasha will Sing with Delaware Valley Youth Zimriyah, at Adath Israel, Lower Merion, PA, 1:00 PM

Mazel Tov Kitta Gimmel (3rd Gr.) Celebrating Chag Hasiddur with Dinner & Kabbalat Shabbat

Service, Friday, March 14

Our third graders will receive their first siddur from Congregation Beth El, thanks to Beth El's Men's Club and Sisterhood. The evening will commence with a beautifully catered **dinner**, at **6:00 PM**, organized by a wonderful committee, chaired by Karen Frieman and Lisa Sztejman.

At approximately **7:00 PM**, the children will be helping Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro lead the *Kabbalat Shabbat Service*, via a special cantata written by Yaffa Fuchs and directed by our teachers, Ilana Yares and Lora Hellman.

In December our families participated in the **Siddur Cover Family B'Yachad Program**. Our children and parents had an opportunity to study the siddur and make a unique siddur cover to protect their new siddur. The results are beautiful and will be on display the two weeks prior to Consecration in the school corridor. A *yasher koach* to all of our children and parents

who have done such a wonderful job with the project.

Mazal Tov Kitta Gimmel 5774 - 2014

Rivka Back Jason Bellezza Matthew Bellezza Noah Bender Adam Blumenthal Rachel Boroda Ilana Chase Andrew Checkoff Natalie Desmond Cara Dias Chase Frieman Remy Genovese Ethan Gerstein Adi Goldfrad Abigail Goldman Alexander "Nino" Grife Juliet Heller Justin Herskowitz

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Purim at Beth El Religious School Saturday Night, March 15

5:30 PM - Mini Megillah for families with young children with costumes and ice cream

6:45 PM - Megillah Comes Alive – An Interactive Retelling of the Purim Story for Religious School families

8:00 PM - Adult / Complete Megillah Reading followed by "L'Chaims at Dubh Linn Square" on Evesham Rd.

.... Then on Purim Day

Sunday, March 16

Religious School Purim Olympiyada with the ever popular Jeopardy Tournament with all multi-grade teams competing in a fun and spirited way. We'll begin the day with a **Kids' Megillah Reading & Shira B'Tzibur.** We'll then have a **Purim Activities Center** for our K- 2 classes while our upper grades practice as teams that will compete in our OlyImpiyada to follow.

Religious School Passover Program Sunday, April 6

(During School Hrs.) Grade Level Pesach Sedarim – Want to help? call Debbie Feinberg at <u>debezim@yahoo.com</u> Yom Hashoah, April 27 (During School Hours)

Mitzvah of the Month for March/April

Feeding the Hungry!!!

The Betsy & Peter Fischer Food Pantries In Camden & Burlington Counties

Urgent Need....

Food items

Canned vegetables Canned fruit Kid friendly snacks....granola bars, cereal bars, cookies Cereal Boxed milk

Non Food Items

Paper goods such as napkins, paper towels & toilet paper Bars of soap Large size shampoo Large size conditioner Large size body wash

> Please bring your donation to Congregation Beth El.

REMINDERS:

- Tuesday, March 11 Hebrew High School Closed
- Thursday, March 13 Hebrew High School Closed
- Sunday, April 13th through Thursday, April 24th Religious School & Hebrew High School CLOSED - Passover Break

Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah of the Month

Jenna Bresalier – March 1st Lindsay Weinberg – March 8th Isabelle Jacobs – March 15th Lia Pecarsky – April 26th

NEWS FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER Megan Nachod, Director

Everyone in the ECC will be especially thankful this year to reach Spring. After a season of cold weather, it will be a pleasure to be outdoors and say goodbye to snow.

March and April are busy times of year because we have so much to learn and to do. Of course, we will be celebrating Purim in high style with costumes, a parade and an ECC-style carnival. We'll practice shaking the groggers so we will be prepared for the ECC Megillah reading on Saturday, March 15 at 5:30 PM. Little fingers are useful when it comes to shaping Hamentaschen to fill our Mishloach Manot and we'll make sure ours are delicious.



April brings Pesach and our school Seder. Watching our young children confidently chant "Mah Nishtanah", even at the age of two, is a moment that thrills every year. We'll learn how to make Matzah, what happens when you add yeast to liquid and why we don't do that during Pesach. Pesach is a big holiday, both at home and at school and we'll explore it in many different ways.

The coming Spring also means that construction will begin on our new play areas. We'll have two great spaces, both indoors and out, for our school. These play areas will include sections where the children can learn about science and math as well as areas for imaginative play, running and climbing. Both the indoor and outdoor spaces will be beautiful and will invite children to come and play in the exciting spaces for our youngest as well as our oldest children. These play areas will be unique to our area. We're hosting an open house on Friday, May 16 at 9:30 AM to show off our new spaces and we would love to welcome you and show you what we have.

Registration continues for our school year and camp programs. You can learn all about our new offerings at our website or by emailing me at <u>mnachod@bethelsnj.org</u> or calling 856-675-1166, ext 420. You can find us on Facebook as Congregation Beth El Early Childhood Center. We have many photos of our programs and some of the cutest children in the South Jersey area busy at school. Check us out!



BELL LIBRARY NEWS

Amy Kaplan - Congregation Librarian



planning. If you're looking to tweak your seder menu, we can help. Here in the Bell Library, we have many new (and classic) cookbooks filled with great Passover recipes.

Leah Schapira's Passover Made Easy; Favorite Triple-



Tested Recipes features simple recipes for the holiday. Spaghetti Squash Kugel and Eggplant-Wrapped Chicken are among the tempting offerings here. Passover Seders Made Simple by Zell Schulman walks you through seder preparation and provides recipes for

everything from soup to nuts (literally), featuring both Ashkenazic and Sephardic dishes.

We have cookbooks for special Passover needs including vegetarian and low-fat diets. Of course, we also have books about Passover (not just cookbooks!) to help you get creative with your seders. Start early and take a look - you're sure to find inspiration here.

Voracious readers, take heart! The cartload of new novels described in last month's column has been joined by even more new selections. You won't want to miss such titles as:



Sinners and the Sea by Rebecca Kanner. There are hundreds of children's books retelling the story of the Great Flood, but this debut novel looks at the story of Noah and his unnamed wife from an adult perspective. A modern midrash. Sinners and the Sea

describes Noah's wife, born with a birthmark on her forehead and therefore shunned as having the mark

of a demon. At age 19, she marries 600-year-old Noah, who takes her to Sorum, a town of exiles, where murderers, prostitutes and other sinners run rampant. Noah and his wife have three sons, and when Noah claims that Gd is sending a flood and they must build an ark, he is ridiculed by the community. We know what comes next - Noah and his family are safe in the ark - but what was life in the ark really like? According to this version, there was plenty of sibling rivalry, and Noah's wife proved to be a strong woman. Told from her perspective, Sinners and the Sea offers a fresh perspective on a familiar subject.

The Wanting, by Michael Lavigne, begins with a suicide bombing in Israel, witnessed by Russianborn architect Roman Guttman. Though he recovers physically, Guttman has trouble resuming normal life, and also has difficulty controlling his 13year-old daughter, who is increasingly being influenced by radical Jewish zealots plotting against Palestinians. Guttman's anguish leads him to



abandon his work and his daughter, and he sets out to find the family of the suicide bomber. For reasons he cannot explain, Guttman wanders in the desert. Dehvdrated, he is found nearly dead by the bomber's father, who takes him in and cares for

Ah, Spring! The birds sweetly sing, the trees sport him, over the objections of his family and neighbors. The story new green buds, and the calendar shows that is told from three viewpoints: Guttman's, his daughter's, and Passover will soon be here. Yes, it's time to start that of the suicide bomber. All three are trying to fill a void in their lives. The morally challenging environments in which these three troubled characters live are skillfully explored, and the author shows sympathy for all of them. There are no easy answers here, just a sensitive portrait of a complex reality. (You may remember the author, whose previous novel was Not Me).

> Jacob's Oath by Martin Fletcher tells the story of Jacob Klein, a Holocaust survivor. After his liberation from Bergen-Belsen, Jacob joins the other refugees traveling across Europe on foot. He is heading for his hometown, Heidelberg, which is also the hometown of Hans Seeler, a sadistic SS guard who tormented and killed Jacob's younger brother in the camp. Jacob promised his dying brother that he



would avenge the death by killing Seeler. Jacob gets to Heidelberg, where he meets Sarah Kaufman,, and the two eventually fall in love. To complete his mission, Jacob will need to separate from Sarah. Which will he choose: Sarah's love, or the promised revenge? Author Martin Fletcher, a noted journalist, also wrote another novel, The List, available here in our library.

Many of our books have new bookplates, showing that they were dedicated during this year's Jewish Book Month. Thanks to our generous donors, our annual Jewish Book Month fundraiser was once again a success. Congregants dedicated books in honor of Hanukkah, birthdays, anniversaries, vahrzeits, and other occasions. Our Jewish Book Month donors this year are:

Gloria and Ira Back Barbara and Marvin Backal Donna and Rich Bell Margie Blum Marsha Dollinger Barbara and Henry Friedman Micki Goldberg

Sharla and Mort Kanovsky Fran Petrella Ann Rosenberg Harriet Schulman Sharon and Steven Usdin Elaine Waxman

Todah rabah to all who contributed - you helped make our library grow. And remember, book dedications are available all year (\$25.00 per book); they're a great way to honor someone special.

The Library's Short Story Discussion Group will meet on Thursday, March 27 and Thursday, April 24, 1:30 - 3:00 PM in the Conference Room. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend; we welcome you to join us. For more information, please call the Library (ext. 503).





THE TREE OF LIFE

LEAF: Purchasing a leaf on



Beth El's Tree of Life, which

is located inside the Shabbat and Holiday entrance to our building, is the perfect way to commemorate a significant life-cycle event.

Remember your wedding, birthday, anniversary, or your children's B'nai Mitzvah or other accomplishment by having a leaf custom engraved for \$216 (12 times Chai).

STONE:For a more significant addition to the Tree of Life, please consider the purchase of a stone to adorn the bottom of the artwork. Each stone is custom engraved onto an all natural surface and promises to be a source of great family pride for years to come. The cost for each stone is \$500.

To order the leaf or stone, please phone the Beth El office.

Beth El is a Member of the "Jewish National Fund Affiliate Program"



There is **NO** easier way to earn money for Beth El & support Israel at the same time. *The procedure is as simple as a CLICK!*

Go to our website: <u>www.bethelsnj.org</u> Click on "support us"/"shop here" and then Jewish National Fund to make your purchase/donation. **Tell your** friends, families & other congregants. Congregation Beth El will reap the rewards.

Plant Trees in Israel, Greeting Cards, Water Certificates, Honor Book Certificates, etc.

Every order placed, Beth El gets 20% commission. For questions, call Debbie Drachman at 856 - 719 - 9485

ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE

Giving Today to Secure Tomorrow

Making a commitment to Beth El's Endowment Fund will help ensure funding will always be available to support & enhance the many important, religious, educational & communal services that Beth El provides to its members & community. There are many ways to participate: Make an immediate contribution of cash, appreciated securities, real

estate, art work or other collectibles; Include a bequest to Beth El in your Will; Designate Beth El as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy; Establish a Donor Advised Fund dedicated to the support of Beth El; Establish a Charitable Gift Annuity or a Charitable Remainder Trust.

For more information as to how you can participate in building Beth El's Endowment for the Future please complete this coupon & return it via 1st class mail or e-mail.

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I have already included Beth EI in my estate plans. Please let me know how my plan can be included as part of Beth EI's **ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE**.

Return to: Congregation Beth El Endowment for the Future 8000 Main Street Voorhees, NJ 08043 E-mail: Endowment@bethelsnj.org

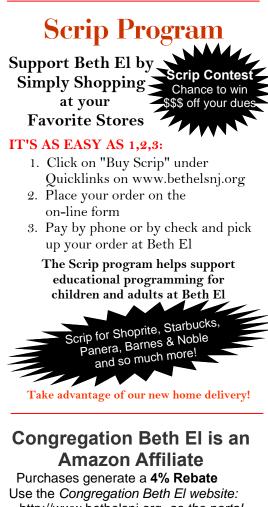
Memorial Room

Honor your loved ones by purchasing a plaque (\$500) in our Memorial Room.

Additionally, the names and yahrzeit dates will appear on the digital screen, scrolling during the yahrzeit week, high holidays and other haggim.



Phone the Beth El office for more information.



http://www.bethelsnj.org as the portal Click on "Support us" and then click on Amazon. Entry to the Amazon site will follow automatically

We have seen more activity in our account with the recent purchases of iPods and TV's, in addition

to books and other items. Beth El reaps more income with MORE

volume in sales.

It is really simple...give it a try

Questions: Please contact Mort at Kanovsky@verizon.net



Congregation Beth El March 2014

MARCH MINCHA TIMES

Adar I—0Adar II 5774 SHACHARIT (morning) SERVICES ***Sunday 9:00 AM*** Monday & Thursday 7:15 AM Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 7:30 AM Saturday 9:00 AM Sunday, March 2nd — Rosh Chodesh Adar II 9:00AM Monday, March 3rd — Rosh Chodesh Adar II 7:15AM Sunday, March 16th — Purim day 7:30 AM

Saturday, March 1	5:40PM
Sunday, Mar. 2 - Thursday, Mar. 6	5:50 PM
Friday, Mar.7	5:40PM
Saturday, Mar. 8	5:45PM
Sunday, Mar. 9 - Thursday, Mar. 13	6:55PM
Friday, Mar. 14	6:00PM
Saturday, Mar. 15 Maariv & Megilla	8:00PM
Sunday, Mar. 16 - Thursday, Mar. 20	7:05PM
Friday, Mar. 21	6:00PM
Saturday, Mar. 22	7:00PM
Sunday, Mar. 23 - Thursday, Mar. 27	7:10PM
Friday, Feb. 28	6:00PM
Saturday, Mar.29	7:05PM
Sunday, Mar.30—Apr. 3	7:20PM

Junior Congregation

with Larry Abrams 3rd - 6th grades 10:15AM - 11:45AM Every Shabbat morning in the Chapel Teen Services 10:30AM - 12:00PM Once a month March 1 Minyan Katan with Ilana Yares Grades K - 2 11:00AM - 11:45AM In Sanctuary Ext. B March 8, 22

Tot Shabbat

with Tammy Arnow Up to age 4 & their parents 11:00AM - 11:45AM In Sanctuary Ext. D March 8, 22



Congregation Beth El April 2014 Nissan 5774

SHACHARIT (morning) SERVICES

APRIL MINCHA TIMES

Sunday 9:00 AM Monday & Thursday 7:15 AM Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 7:30 AM Saturday 9:00 AM

Tuesday, April 1st—Rosh Chodesh Nissan 7:15AM Monday, April 14th—Siyum for 1st Born 7:00AM Tuesday, April 15th—First day of Pesach 9:00AM Wednesday, April 16th—Second day of Pesach 9:00AM Monday, April 21st — Seventh day of Pesach 9:00AM Tuesday, April 22nd– Eighth day of Pesach 9:00AM MINCHA (AFTERNOON) MAARIV (EVENING) SERVICE:

Tuesday, Apr. 1—Thursday, Apr. 3	7:20PM
Friday, Apr. 4	6:00PM
Saturday, Apr. 5	7:15PM
Sunday, Apr. 6 - Thursday, Apr. 10	7:25PM
Friday, Apr. 11	6:00PM
Saturday, Apr. 12	7:25PM
Sunday, Apr.13	7:30PM
Monday, Apr.14—Erev Pesach	6:00PM
Tuesday, Apr.15—First Day	6:00PM
Wednesday, Apr. 16—Second Day	7:50PM
Thursday, Apr. 17— Chol Hamoed	7:35PM
Friday, Apr. 18—Chol Hamoed	6:00PM
Saturday, Apr. 19th— Chol Hamoed	7:30PM
Sunday, Apr.20 - Chol Hamoed	7:35PM
Monday, Apr. 21— Evening Yizkor	7:35PM
Tuesday, April 22— Pesach ends	8:00PM
Wednesday, April 23—Thursday, Apr.24	7:35PM
Friday, Apr.25	6:00PM
Saturday, Apr. 26	7:35PM
Sunday, Apr. 27—Thursday, May 1	7:45PM

Junior Congregation

with Larry Abrams 3rd - 6th grades 10:15AM - 11:45AM Every Shabbat morning in the Chapel Teen Services 10:30AM - 12:00PM Once a month April 5

Minyan Katan

with Ilana Yares Grades K - 2 11:00AM - 11:45AM In Sanctuary Ext. B April 12, 26

Tot Shabbat

with Tammy Arnow Up to age 4 & their parents 11:00AM - 11:45AM In Sanctuary Ext. D April 12, 26

(AS OF JANUARY 30)

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