



Bayit Va'Lev **בית וּלֵב**
OUR HEART, HOME & FUTURE
CONGREGATION BETH EL

A CASE FOR GIVING

What is Bayit Va'Lev?

Congregation Beth El is our heart, home and future.

Bayit Va'Lev is an opportunity for our congregation to celebrate its past, rejoice in the present, and prepare for its future. Congregation Beth El leaders have embarked on Bayit Va'Lev as an expression of our collective commitment to celebrate Congregation Beth El's rich 100+ year history, rejoice in its vibrant present, and plan for a strong tomorrow.

Congregation Beth El will build and develop a strong future based on the successful achievement of 10 fundamental commitments.



10 COMMITMENTS

- I. Embrace Jewish Journeys and Foster Personal Growth for All
- II. Advance a Culture of Loving-Kindness
- III. Ensure Meaningful Pathways to Jewish Education for All
- IV. Preserve and Secure our Sacred Space
- V. Support and Affirm Israel's Centrality to Jewish Identity
- VI. Secure our Congregation's Fiscal Well-Being and Retire the Mortgage
- VII. Live the Jewish Year with Reinvigorated Commitment
- VIII. Cultivate Visionary Leadership
- IX. Pursue Strategic Partnerships to Effectively Support Those in Need
- X. Affirm Jewish Teaching, Values, and Faith for Our Children and Ourselves

Embrace Jewish Journeys and Foster Personal Growth for All

As a hub of Jewish life throughout Southern New Jersey, Congregation Beth El offers significant life experiences for all who walk through our doors and want to partake in our array of religious services and worship opportunities, educational curricula, cultural events, community service, and social programs.

Our synagogue is committed to being a part of the broader community for generations to come. We share in a commitment to ensure life, respect, dignity, hope and care for our community, our members, and our neighbors.

This campaign will enable us to expand our resources through the creation of new and innovative programming including, but not limited to, enhanced Scholar in Residence weekends, family Shabbat programs, youth engagement, holiday celebrations, inspirational musical offerings, and outreach to current and future members. Together, these resources will allow our shul to appeal to the broadest constituency possible thereby ensuring that we remain a religious, educational, cultural, and spiritual Center of Excellence.

Average of **30**
B'nai Mitzvah
per year

Advance a Culture of Loving Kindness and Inclusivity

Loving-kindness or Gemilut Chesed is a dedication unlike any other. Congregation Beth El is known for its welcoming, inclusive, progressive, and pluralistic nature. We are a warm and loving community that cares deeply about each other. We express that love by engaging in social action, community service and by acting as responsible citizens in our respective communities.

Loving-kindness endures through the actions we take to express it. This includes creating a stronger culture of philanthropy within our community. Synagogue dues provide us with access to all the wonderful people, programs, and resources that our shul provides. Yet, within that framework, there is a direct exchange that gives all of us far more in return than the cost of membership.

Our annual commitments are very important to help meet important needs on an annualized basis that membership dues alone do not cover. However, this campaign is different. It is expansive and it is visionary. It will truly yield the greatest return on our investment. It is sacred work and totally selfless. It is one of the greatest expressions of Gemilut Chesed that we can ever offer to our community – today and tomorrow.

Please join us in this effort.



“51 years of membership – Congregation Beth El is my second home and family. Always there for me during happy times – B’nai mitzvah, weddings and baby namings. Always there to support and help me during sad times – funeral and shiva.”

Alan Kagan

Ensure Meaningful Pathways to Jewish Education for All

We are taught in the Sh'ma "*V'shinantam Levanecha,*" and you shall teach them to your children. Jewish parents have always accepted the responsibility of teaching children about G-d and mitzvot. For over a century Congregation Beth El has been a home of Jewish learning for all ages and backgrounds—from our youngest learners to our most seasoned students in our KAHAL adult education program.

Through our Early Childhood Center (ECC), Religious School, Keshet (Hebrew High School), and Beth El Junior College, students explore and develop a strong, positive Jewish identity grounded in the study of Torah, T'fillah, and Gemilut Hasadim while building connections with other Jewish students. We seek out the best teachers, guest presenters, curricula and technology that engages learners to soar to new heights of knowledge and inspiration. Together with prayer, community building, and adult learning opportunities, education is at the heart of who we are and our ongoing investment in it is an essential ingredient to our vision.

Preserve and Secure our Sacred Space

Congregation Beth El is the foundation of Jewish community. During an average week, more than 1000 people enter our doors and participate in worship, education, cultural, and programmatic activities. Such activity represents the role that our shul has played in our community since its inception in 1920.

With age and use, the building complex endures considerable wear and tear. Maintaining our wonderful facility requires constant attention, repair, and replacement. We are committed to caring for the synagogue's physical complex to protect the investment made by so many of us and to ensure that our building will continue to be a welcoming, eco-friendly, and well-maintained home for many years to come.

Campus safety is one of our most important responsibilities to our community. We must remain vigilant against any and all physical and cyber threats. We must constantly upgrade technology and provide security for our community. This commands a significant outlay of financial resources on an ongoing basis. Having resources to address threats in real time is critical to our future.

The success of past fundraising campaigns, and the aspirations for this campaign, was and will be due to the participation of nearly 100% of the congregational membership. If everyone participates to their fullest potential and capacity, we will undoubtedly reach our goal and be on the most solid financial footing ever in the history of our beloved congregation.



Early Childhood
Education
148 students



Support and Affirm Israel's Centrality to Jewish Identity

For two thousand years our people wandered the world dreaming of, and praying for, the restoration of Zion. In 1948 this dream came true. Since then, Congregation Beth El has significantly invested in time, energy, and resources to keep Israel at the center of our consciousness and chief amongst our concerns. We encourage engagement with Israel's amazing people, appreciation for their incredible accomplishments, and regular pilgrimages to our holy land. Our Confirmation high school trip is a signature element of this core commitment. We want to expand scholarship availability and meaningful opportunities for all our families to travel to Israel. We will advocate, support, and when necessary, participate in respectful and productive conversation toward helping Israel to be a shining light to the Jewish people and all nations on earth.

We work for Israel's security and success. We pray for her to achieve the next great dream: peace.

“We joined Congregation Beth El because of our children, and then Congregation Beth El became our adult home. We started a kosher home, became immersed in Jewish learning, and began to find our Jewish souls. We have made lifelong friends. And best of all, we have clergy who are compassionate, engaging, and wonderful spiritual leaders.”

Marcia and Arnie Cohen

Average of **30**
Congregation Beth
El students travel to
Israel per year



Secure Congregation Beth El's Fiscal Well-Being and Retire the Mortgage

The first step in fiscal well-being is to take stock of what you have. Any financial advisor will tell you to spend wisely in the short-term and to save and invest for the long-term. The second step is to prepare a list of your short-term and long-term goals and then create a financial plan to get there. Short-term goals are for the near-future (1-5 years) and long-term goals look beyond that.

Retiring the mortgage is essential. We need to get this proverbial monkey off our back. When Congregation Beth El originally envisioned relocating the synagogue to Voorhees, \$12 million was raised and a \$7.4 million mortgage was approved. Currently, the mortgage obligation stands at \$3.6 million. We have done a good job paying down the debt over the last 13 years. Yet on an annual basis, the congregation still pays approximately \$200,000 in interest to service this mortgage.

Membership assistance programs and scholarship funds are necessary to make sure that no individual or family is ever turned away from joining our synagogue due to financial constraints.

Endowments are critical for any great organization so that it has available resources to supplement shortfalls in operating budgets.

All of us care about the fiscal well-being of our family, including our children, grandchildren and often members of our extended family. We spend a lot of time thinking about and planning for the financial security of our loved ones once we are no longer here. Likewise, we should view Congregation Beth El as a member of our extended family and do our part to help ensure its financial stability and future. We have come a long way and are on solid footing. Now is the time to go the distance!

Under the leadership of successive presidents, boards of trustees and professional staff, our shul has always sought to steward its financial and human resources wisely. It remains committed to continue to do so.

“Ours is a Congregation Beth El family of five generations. We stay because our fabulous Clergy cultivates a community of inclusivity, compassion and heart, all of which are palpable when you walk through our doors.”

Jamie & Darin Morgan

Living ^{the} Jewish Year with Reinigorated Commitment

Celebrating holidays with our Beth El family helps us feel more deeply engaged with each other, our timeless traditions, and with G-d. At every age and stage of life, we need to be together to create lasting memories.

From the powerful blasts of the shofar to raising our voices together in prayer on the High Holidays, we are connected to the souls of those who paved the way for us to be present. We have the most glorious synagogue with room for all! What would it feel like to be bursting at the seams while dancing with the Torahs on Simchat Torah? Can you imagine our shul overflowing with the sights and sounds of all ages coming together to bring in the lights of Chanukah? What if we could provide Shabbat dinners for all seeking delicious food, time with friends and friendly people, and the warmth of a special community? Wouldn't it be wonderful if our children had more interactive experiences surrounding Jewish customs and traditions throughout the year to help bring them to life?

Every mitzvah heightens the pride and joy of generations past, present and future. The power of these moments brings meaning and purpose to our lives.

Average of
2300
attendees at
High Holiday
services



Cultivate Visionary Leadership

Our leaders are the engine of our community. They create vision. They are financial stewards. They are ambassadors. They are the critical links to membership. A great synagogue recognizes that when it invests in ongoing training and skill building of its leadership it ensures that all of these stewards have the ability to guide the congregation through change, transition and solid management practice.

Rabbi David Englander joined our Beth El family in July 2022 and has already made a significant impact on our community. Under Rabbi Englander's rabbinic leadership, our shul is strong and will continue to be a powerful institution in our community for the next generation. Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro, entering her 19th year of service to our community, is a beloved and reassuring presence for so many of us, and will continue to lead and inspire through voice, music, compassion and spiritual care. Rabbi Aaron Krupnick has served as Beth El's spiritual leader for over 28 years. Rabbi Krupnick contributed mightily to the synagogue and, in his new role as Rabbi Emeritus, will continue

to be an important and loving presence for years to come.

With talented clergy, lay and professional leadership, Congregation Beth El looks to the future with vision, pride, strength, and confidence.



“There is a varying connection to Judaism throughout our family, and yet, each one of us feels at home at Congregation Beth El.”

Mira & Aaron Aumiller

Pursue Strategic Partnerships to Effectively Support Those in Need

Congregation Beth El is focused on what happens in our classrooms, sanctuaries, meeting rooms and gathering spaces. Yet our responsibilities go beyond what happens within our walls. We take the timeless messages of our Torah and tradition and live them out in the world. We seek to repair what is broken, support those in dire conditions, and to be good neighbors and citizens of Southern New Jersey, our country, and the larger world.

For this broader effort we need partners to best leverage our time and resources and make a positive difference in the lives of those we know and even those we will never meet. We can contribute to and participate in initiatives that feed the hungry, house the homeless, and affirm the human dignity and rights of every individual wherever they reside. We participate in the collection and distribution of necessities, support social justice-oriented opportunities and travel, and align with organizations doing important work to alleviate suffering and improve the quality of life of anyone who is struggling.

We will always strive to help our fellow Jews here, in Israel and around the world in any meaningful way we can.



Religious School
281 students

Affirm Jewish Teaching, Values, and Faith for Our Children and Ourselves

Congregation Beth El is committed to providing a safe, nurturing and respectful environment where our youngest members of the Jewish community can begin to grow and develop their physical, social, emotional, and educational abilities within the framework of Jewish values and traditions. We create an atmosphere

that empowers individuals to foster their Jewish identity through creativity and curiosity. Our vision is to provide a quality, developmentally-appropriate program, which actively engages and excites young children – reaching beyond its modern facility to involve the home, the family, the synagogue, and the community. Our learning environment values and promotes kindness, inclusivity, and respect to inspire the next generation and generations to come.

To ensure that we continue to provide the quality care that we are known for, it is imperative that we offer support to our students with special needs and create a healthy work-life balance for our staff. We have seen an increase in the demand for special needs supports as well as a sharp decrease in qualified candidates to do so. While education is the foundation for healthy development, it rarely receives adequate funding. Providing sensory-friendly rooms, professional development training for our staff to help support our differently abled/special needs students, as well as offering competitive salaries will make for an extraordinary program run by incredible people.

“Our Judaism and our children’s connection to their faith have grown in every way imaginable because of Congregation Beth El. It will always feel like family.”

Cheryl and Larry Hanover





“All acts of generosity and kindness that we perform in this world make great peace and strengthen the relationship between people and G-d.”

Bava Batra, 10a



“The blessing of generosity is greater for the person who gives than for the person who receives.”

*Leviticus Rabbah
34:10*



Congregation Beth El has always been a huge part of my family's and my life. I grew up at Beth El on Chapel Avenue and my husband and I returned to Cherry Hill to raise our own family. We watched our children grow up here. We have celebrated births, B'nai Mitzvahs, and many other milestone moments in our lives, and we look forward to many more celebrations in the future.

Being part of the Congregation Beth El community, I have a lot to be grateful for. Our synagogue is full of incredible people, both volunteers and professionals, that give so much of themselves to lead services, teach classes, run programs, sponsor events, and continually provide activities for all ages and stages of life. I have made some of my closest friends here.

We have top-notch clergy at Congregation Beth El. They guide us, teach us and inspire us on a daily basis. We have services 365 days a year, on each and every Shabbat and Yom Tov as well as daily minyan both morning and evening so that everyone can celebrate their simchas and honor their loved ones' yahrzeits. We have an outstanding Religious School and Early Childhood Center, making education for our children a top priority. We have a spectacular campus in Voorhees. Our beautiful Katz Sanctuary and Brown Chapel add to the spirituality of our already uplifting daily services. Hundreds of people use our building on a daily basis. From davening to preschool/religious school to adult education programs and social activities, there is always something happening at Congregation Beth El.

But what I am most grateful for and proud of is how our shul has adapted over time. Balancing tradition and change, our spiritual and lay leaders have kept Beth El at the forefront of Conservative Judaism on all aspects of ritual and community life. Our decision to become an egalitarian congregation over 20 years ago opened up doors to many women, allowing them to take part in many customs and ritualistic activities. Our programs and accommodations for the differently abled population has led to our home being the host and model for many community programs and events. We embrace all people, regardless of race, gender identity or sexual orientation. We welcome interfaith families who are choosing to raise their children Jewish. We work hard to grow and foster a culture of loving kindness and to make sure that no one is ever turned away.

As we think of Bayit Va'Lev, we think of how important it is to make sure Congregation Beth El continues to be here for future generations, just as families of generations past have done for us. Congregation Beth El's leadership team is committed to supporting this campaign. Please join us to make it happen. Together we will preserve our wonderful, sacred home.



Sincerely,

Faye L. Shapiro

Faye Shapiro, President



For 100+ years, Congregation Beth El has served the Jewish community of Southern New Jersey. Much has changed since 1921. Milestones include the service of many beloved rabbis and clergy and the dedication of our current home in 2009. But what hasn't changed is our community's sacred purpose to support all Jews through life cycle events, continue our traditions through worship and practice and educate the next generations.

As presidents of Congregation Beth El, we've all worked for our synagogue's higher purpose. From the study of Torah, the pursuit of learning, to the support of community in both celebration and grief, our congregants support our community through acts of service and loving-kindness. We have been honored to serve our beloved congregation, home today to over 750 families. Our long-time dedication to Congregation Beth El is due, in no small part, to our shul's values, outstanding clergy and leadership and its ongoing commitment to making the world a better place. That is why we are joining in one voice to support this initiative, so that we can ensure Beth El's future for the next generations and leave for them a vibrant synagogue community that was given to all of us and has been so central in our lives.

Our rich history has been made possible by the generous financial support of countless people over the years from our founders to all our sustainers and supporters who have invested in our sacred community.

Each gift has ensured that Congregation Beth El served as a spiritual and cultural home and pillar for our Southern New Jersey Jewish community.

Our congregation has realized so much over the course of our respective tenures as Presidents, and certainly for decades preceding each of us. Together, standing on the shoulders of our ancestors, we have built a most magnificent community on an impressive and breathtaking campus.

The goal of this drive is to seek to retire our debt and to build a substantial investment that will enable a bold vision for growth and engagement and guarantee our financial security well into the future.

Each of us supports this transformative campaign and we ask you to join us to ensure that Congregation Beth El can continue to thrive into the future.

Congregation Beth El Presidents

Shalom Friends,

At Congregation Beth El we have an uncommonly strong dedication to honoring our history. For over one hundred years, we have been blessed with visionaries and volunteers, participants and partners in achieving the dreams of our ancestors. Now we begin a new chapter in the proud and accomplished story of Congregation Beth El. We know it will be fulfilling, uplifting, and true to the values of our tradition and our heritage.

Thanks to the hard work and dedicated service of so many, we are the grateful recipients of many profound blessings. We encourage vibrant Jewish living, quality education is available to all who seek it, celebrations are enhanced and the pain of loss is softened because in our hearts and actions we care for each other. We put our children at the forefront of our priorities without sacrificing the opportunity to engage all generations in finding meaning and joy in this special place.

In my short time here, it has become absolutely clear to me that there is great love for Congregation Beth El that courses through every aspect of our synagogue, rooted in our exceptionally beautiful campus and displayed in so many ways by our multi-generational community. Some trace their lineage back to our founding in Camden. Others connected on the west side of Cherry Hill on Chapel Avenue. And many began their affiliation with Congregation Beth El right here in Voorhees. The capacity to welcome, honor, thank, and value every individual is part of our communal and spiritual DNA. It will always be a part of who we are. May we never fall short in the opportunity and obligation to activate the love we have for our shul.

This campaign represents the latest and one of the most important chances we will have to say with pride and dedication, "We believe in Congregation Beth El." We believe in its power to enhance and transform lives. We believe in its irreplaceable centrality to our Jewish identity. We believe that an amazing future lies ahead. All of that is possible with you. None of it is possible without you. As a newcomer who sees the power and beauty of this special place, I ask you to join me in answering that call to the very best of your capacity and ability.

May we be blessed to enjoy the fruits of our efforts in good health. And may we know with certainty that we have done our part, paving the way for those who come after us. Inspired by your example, they will answer the call to do theirs.



Rabbi David Englander
Rabbi David Englander

As many of you know, I grew up in the Pacific Northwest and worked as a Cantor in San Diego, California. You might think I was crazy to move to New Jersey! Twenty years ago, the more I learned about Congregation Beth El, the more excited I became about the opportunity to be a part of this incredible shul.

I will always treasure the memories of my first five years at elegant, stately Chapel Avenue, with the long aisle leading to the marble bima and the magnificent stained-glass windows casting colorful rays of light into our sanctuary. During an early conversation with the search committee, I was told that we would be building a glorious new building in Voorhees. The anticipation and excitement we felt while carrying the Sifrei Torah on our march from Cherry Hill to our magnificent new building in Voorhees remains a precious memory.

However, nothing would prepare me for the overwhelming feeling of awe as we gathered for the first time in our new sanctuary. I continue to be inspired and appreciative of the dedication and foresight of the countless volunteers that brought this vision to reality!

Stephen and I are grateful to be raising our family here and fortunate to be able to contribute financially to our spiritual home. We are blessed to be part of our supportive and caring Congregation Beth El family. We dream about a bright future for our shul. We dream about continuing to touch lives for the better. We dream about helping to raise tomorrow's mensches. We dream about making sure Congregation Beth El thrives far into the future!

We look forward to being a part of our growing and evolving shul as we plant seeds for the next generation. I hope you will join us as we secure our strength today so we can ensure that the values we hold dear will continue to shape our lives and the life of our community. Let us build for future generations just as families of generations past have done for us.



Warmly,
Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro
Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro

“Beth El is my community, extended family, and where my family goes to learn, feel loved, and become enriched in Jewish life. We turn to Beth El in good and bad times for support, care, and appreciation. This beautiful, diverse community is where I want my children to grow and love as much as we do.”

Sara Baumgarten

**"I found a fruitful world because
my ancestors planted it for me.
Likewise, I am planting for my children."**

Talmud, Taanit 23A

This teaching comes from a Talmudic story about a rabbinic sage and folk hero named Choni (an actual figure who lived in the first century BCE), who once saw a man planting a carob tree. Choni asked the man, "How long will it take until this carob tree bears fruit?"

The man answered, "Seventy years."

Choni said to him, "Do you think you will live seventy more years?" In other words, does it make sense for you to work at a task that cannot possibly benefit you in any way?

And it is to this challenge that the man answers with words that apply to every generation before and since: "My ancestors planted for me. Likewise, I am planting for my children."

Whoever passes through the doors of Congregation Beth El and enters our sacred space must, at some level subtle or profound, feel a debt of gratitude to those who planted the trees under whose shade we find comfort and meaning. We would not be who we are without the vision and drive of those who funded our synagogue decades ago. Personally, I am immensely grateful to that earlier professional and lay leadership, as well as all those they inspired, even though most of them I never met. In fact, we are so grateful that Helene and I have made Congregation Beth El a primary philanthropic focus of our family ever since we arrived 28 years ago.

Each synagogue is unique, with its own distinct character and culture. But all synagogues have one fundamental bond in common: they are all local centers for enhanced Jewish living. A synagogue is a special place because it nurtures three things that Jews have sought for themselves and their families, three things that infuse life with a sense of meaning and fulfillment: community, learning and spirituality. We find all of that here.

In some sense, I feel like I too have planted seeds for the future growth of Congregation Beth El. Indeed we all have. Bound as we are by a sense of sacred purpose, I ask that you support this campaign and plant for others just as those who came before us did for our Beth El.



With Gratitude,

Rabbi A. Krupnick
Rabbi Aaron Krupnick



**"Congregation
Beth El is a
powerhouse
of faith, hope,
and optimism."**

**Rabbi
Aaron Krupnick**



Former president Stuart Sauer, the child of Holocaust survivors, assists Rabbi Krupnick in writing the last word of a Torah scroll that was rescued from the Holocaust and restored to life.

“ I wasn't sure what to expect when I returned to my childhood synagogue, but it's become a second home for my son and me. My son has blossomed and thrived, and he is full of Jewish joy. I feel a sense of renewed observance and continued Jewish learning. The shul has changed since I was a child, and for the better. We adore our clergy, Rabbi Englander, Rabbi Krupnick, Rabbi Marshall and, of course, Hazzan Pomerantz-Boro. I am so glad I came back to Beth El.”

Jaime R. Herndon



“ Congregation Beth El is more than our spiritual home; it is our second home. Since joining this warm and welcoming congregation, our family's lives have been enriched in more ways than we could ever have imagined. In addition to deepening our love of Judaism. We have experienced an outpouring of love and support from Beth El's incredible clergy, staff, and congregants during both the saddest and the most joyous times in our lives. We feel blessed to be part of the Beth El family.”

Melanie, Eric, Ryan, and Ethan Stoopler



Dear Congregation Beth El Family:

My wife, Fran and I have been members of Congregation Beth El since 1972. The warmth and friendship we have experienced over the last 51 years is remarkable.

Our Clergy, Rabbi Englander, Rabbi Emeritus Krupnick and Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz Boro is clearly the finest any community can expect. The affection and love that they have for our community and we for them is unexplainable in words. They go beyond any ordinary commitment to a synagogue.

Fran and I have shared funerals, a bris, b'nai mitzvah and a wedding with Congregation Beth El and these simchas, affection and love has been enjoyed by nearly all congregants.

Our goal in this campaign is to ensure that this spirit and caring community continue for generations to come. Toward that end, we are asking for your support and commitment to help us bring all of this to a reality. The funds raised will support:

1. New and innovative programs for all
2. Honor the memory of generations before us
3. Reduce dues to make Congregation Beth El affordable for all who enter our doors
4. Provide more Israel trips for all who seek them
5. Ensure that Congregation Beth El's is financially secure for generations to come

Please join Fran and me so that together we ensure the future of Congregation Beth El. We want to make sure our children and grandchildren have a spiritual, religious, and communal home.

Every gift counts. Every gift, at every level, is an investment and statement of love and support. We seek 100% participation from everyone, in whatever way, feels most meaningful to each family.

When we complete this journey together, all of us will feel great pride in our success.



Thank you,
Neal Q. Cupersmith
Neal Cupersmith, Bayit Va'Lev
Chair



Our History

1920s

- 1920** Beth El is formed
- 1921** The High Holiday services held in the new school building, built the same year
Beth El Sisterhood formed
- 1924** New synagogue building opens in time for the High Holidays
- 1928** Beth El Men's Club formed

1950s

- 1953** USY youth group is formed
- 1955** Dov Gilden is hired as Sexton
- 1957** Cantor Louis J. Herman joins Beth El
- 1958** The Foundation School full-day kindergarten opens

1980s

- 1983** First women appointed to the Executive Committee, Lois Asbell & Linda P. Weiss
- 1984** Cantor Jeffrey Shapiro joins Beth El
- 1989** First woman President, Linda P. Weiss

2000s

- 2000** Rabbi Krupnick becomes senior rabbi
- 2001** Habonim – empty nesters group is formed
- 2004** Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro becomes cantor. She is the first woman to serve as clergy at Beth El
- 2009** The congregation moves into its beautiful new building in Voorhees - its third home since 1921
Beth El become a totally Egalitarian synagogue

2020s

- 2020** Beth El continues to maintain a strong influence and pivots through Covid
- 2022** Rabbi David Englander joins Beth El as the new senior rabbi
Beth El is fully active after Covid

1940s

- 1941** The "Associated Membership" group is formed. It is a forerunner of the current day Young Associates
- 1946** Harry Berkowitz, an original member of the congregation and a future president, is appointed to the American Prosecutor's staff of the Nuremberg trials
- 1947** Rabbi Harry Kellman is installed as rabbi

1960s

- 1960** Rabbi Isaac Furman becomes Beth El's education director & principal Religious School
Beth El Young Associates is formed
- 1968** Chapel Avenue building opens, the congregation surprises him by renaming the thriving, expanded Beth El Academy the Harry B. Kellman Academy
Beth El form Youth Commission
- 1969** Rabbi Howard Kahn joins Beth El

1990s

- 1993** The start of the modern egalitarian era, women allowed to have aliyot and read Torah
- 1994** Rabbi Aaron Krupnick becomes the congregation's first assistant rabbi
- 1995** Hazak forms 'senior group'
1st Israel Confirmation Class trip to Israel
- 1998** The new school building opens in Voorhees
Beth El opens ECC, Early Childhood Center

2010s

- 2012** 1st tri-annual Torah reading
- 2017** Shirley Mangel morning minyan & study for women



Giving at a Glance

Total	5-Year Annual	Monthly	Daily
\$ 1,000,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 16,666	\$ 456
\$ 500,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 8,333	\$ 228
\$ 250,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 4,167	\$ 137
\$ 180,000	\$ 36,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 82
\$ 100,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 1,667	\$ 55
\$ 72,000	\$ 14,400	\$ 1,200	\$ 39
\$ 54,000	\$ 10,800	\$ 900	\$ 30
\$ 36,000	\$ 7,200	\$ 600	\$ 20
\$ 27,000	\$ 5,400	\$ 450	\$ 15
\$ 18,000	\$ 3,600	\$ 300	\$ 10
\$ 10,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 167	\$ 5
\$ 7,200	\$ 1,440	\$ 120	\$ 4
\$ 3,600	\$ 720	\$ 60	\$ 2
\$ 1,800	\$ 360	\$ 30	\$ 1

Methods Of Giving

Checks/Credit Cards/Stocks/Securities – Campaign offers convenient methods to make monthly or annual gifts for up to a 5-year period.

Future Gifts – Bequest Under A Will/Beneficiary Designation For Life Insurance and Retirement Accounts. In addition to a Today Gift, you can create a legacy gift to benefit the Shul in the future. A few simple ways to create a legacy gift are by naming Congregation Beth El as a beneficiary in your will; or by directly naming Congregation Beth El as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy, as a beneficiary of your individual retirement account (IRA), 401k or 403b retirement plan, or as a beneficiary of any “transfer on death” (TOD) account. These types of bequests can be written as a specific **cash amount** or **as a percentage** of your estate, life insurance, retirement plan or TOD account. For details on how to make a bequest to Congregation Beth El’s endowment fund, or create your own endowment, contact Josh Laster.





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bethelsnj.org