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Email  
[office@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:office@bethisraelcenter.org)

**BETH ISRAEL CENTER**  
1406 Mound Street  
Madison, WI 53711  
(608) 256-7763  
[www.bethisraelcenter.org](http://www.bethisraelcenter.org)

## Purim is Coming!

### Third Annual Mishloach Manot Fundraiser On Now! Share the Love by February 20

Once again, we are sending Purim gifts to all of our members - one gift per household. Please join in this important fundraiser for our shul. We hope everyone who is able will send their Purim greetings to the entire congregation for \$360. Or send gifts to selected members for \$18 each. Check your email for more info and your personalized log-in/ participation link, or call the office and we'll be glad to assist. Happy Purim!



### Community Purim Carnival Returns to BIC!

#### Sunday, March 5, 10:00am

The Madison community's "Out of This World" Purim Carnival is in person, at Beth Israel Center. Enjoy the spiel starring community Rabbis, educators and the shlichim at 10:00, then play carnival games starting at 10:15. Doors open at 9:45. Hamantaschen and other light refreshments will be available for purchase. Watch your email for more information. Register in advance if you can. Walk-ins welcome.

### More Purim Festivities at Beth Israel Center

**Monday evening, March 6**, we'll read the whole Megillah, starting at 7:00pm.

People of all ages, come in costume! Expect shenanigans!

**After the Megillah reading on Monday**, stick around for drinking games with the Rabbi. Refreshments will include both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

**Tuesday, March 7**, starting at 8:00am, we'll read the whole Megillah again!



## Pesach Is Coming!

- MOUSY Chametz Drive - March 21 - April 4
  - Sell your Chametz by 5:00pm Monday, April 3
  - Fast of the First-Born / Siyyum - Wednesday, April 5
  - First Seder is Wednesday, April 5
  - Yom Tov Services & lunch - April 6, 7, 12, 13
- Turn to page 11 for details

## More Front-Page News:

### Green Kiddush Launch Date: April 22

We are stepping up to care for our planet and plan to begin using new dishes (and stop using disposable plates and cutlery) for Shabbat Kiddush on Earth Day, April 22. We have been planning this transition for a long time and need you to help make the new system work. Interested in volunteering? Contact Cynthia Hirsch or Leslie Fields directly or email [socialjustice@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:socialjustice@bethisraelcenter.org).

### Hold the Date for our New Torah Celebration: Sept. 4

On Monday, September 4 (Labor Day), we will celebrate the arrival of Beth Israel Center's first new Torah in our 75-year history. This historic event is part of our 75th Anniversary celebration. Watch for details!





## Thoughts from the Rabbi...

### מהשבות **Makh'shavot: The hope, honor, and joy of Torah**

#### Beth Israel Center

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#### Office Hours

##### Monday & Wednesday

9am to 3pm

##### Tuesday & Thursday

12pm to 6pm

##### Friday

9am to Noon

**608-256-7763**

office@bethisraelcenter.org

Next Centerite Deadline:

**March 31, 2023**

If you'd like to make a gift of \$360 per issue to enable color printing for future editions of this newsletter, please contact Executive Director Elissa Pollack, [elissa@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:elissa@bethisraelcenter.org) or 608-256-7763.

Thank you to all of our previous color-printing sponsors!

When I show visitors our building, I like to point out the spaces that manifest our communal intentions and shared purpose.



I show them the prep table in the main kitchen, designed for interaction and friendship-building as our members prepare communal meals; our mikvah, with its resources for marking all kinds of life transitions, because we are a

community of meaning seekers, and its mechanical lift for accessibility, because we strive for inclusivity; the long, wooden *mercaz* (central gathering place) table and chairs that always make room for a new friend to join a conversation over a nosh; and the baskets of kitchen and bath laundry which members take home, wash, fold, and return, because we are the "village" it takes to care for our needs. Then, informed by a sense of who we are, we enter the main sanctuary.

I am perpetually humbled and grateful for the sacred space where we gather to daven and share profound moments in our lives. Each design element points toward the hope of personal growth, communal support, and Divine connection. The ceiling curves to evoke fluid movements of heart, soul, and relationship. Soft yet bright lighting soothes and uplifts our spirits. Open, accessible shelves hold our members' regularly-used *tallitot*. And elegant, sound-softening wood-tone ceiling panels balance hard white surfaces, acoustically and visually, forming a resonant chamber to maximize our mingled voices, a sacred holding space where the energy we create together can reverberate and nourish us.

That sloping ceiling draws our attention to what lies at the center, lovingly kept in an *Aron Kodesh* (Holy Ark) that could not be more stunningly perfect for us, behind the shimmering *parochet* (curtain), proudly garbed and adorned: our Torah scrolls. Each

time we parade around the sanctuary holding our sacred Torah scrolls, chant their ancient words and discover ourselves anew therein, we rekindle the shared vision and destiny at the center of who we are.

Torah is the evolving intention that drives our unique and world-changing identity and practices as Jews. Torah is what brings us together in joy and sadness, supporting and guiding us to transform ourselves and bring care, compassion, and uplift to one another and our world. Torah is the beating heart of the Jewish People.

We did not purchase our Torah scrolls, nor did our forebears. Generations ago, our Torah scrolls were bequeathed to us by shuls that no longer needed them. We have cared for them as they aged over many years. At this time, nearly all of our scrolls are unreadable, unfit for use, and beyond repair. Our scrolls also are much heavier than scrolls written today, and they do not align with contemporary materials that we use to prepare to read from the Torah scroll. It is time for us to care for our aged scrolls as befits their condition, and to acquire new scrolls.

How blessed we are to be able to turn our intentions to the mitzvah of "writing" a new Torah scroll!

This is a thrilling opportunity for every member of our kahal. As Maimonides taught, the experience of reading from a new scroll renews our sense of personal relationship to Jewish life. We take hold of a new scroll with a sense of ownership, pride, and anticipation that we cannot gain from scrolls we have inherited (Sefer HaChinukh 613:2).

May our connections to Jewish life and one another be strengthened as every member of our kahal supports the communal endeavor of bringing a new Torah scroll into our midst.

As we write ourselves into Torah, may our intentions bring us hope, honor, and joy.

With love,

*Rabbi Betsy*

Rabbi Betsy / Rav Batya

[rabbi@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:rabbi@bethisraelcenter.org)



# President's Column

## Looking Back, Moving Forward

In 1999, America reflected upon a century defined by the horrors of war and, simultaneously, by remarkable social, scientific, and technological progress. At the cusp of the 21st century, members and friends also paused to reflect on the 50th anniversary of Beth Israel Center in our Mound Street building.

In a brief history published that year, members honored and remembered our founding families, celebrated our community, and imagined our future. In honor of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, Annabelle Argand (z"l) wrote "We are about to enter the 21st century, and all of our young families are the guardians to help us celebrate our 100th Birthday." Billie and Si Hellerstein expressed gratitude "to all who have helped make this synagogue a vital and exceptional Jewish institution," and prayed "May Beth Israel continue to enrich the lives of its members as committed, concerned and educated Jews."

In 2023, Annabelle is now lovingly remembered. Annabelle's grandchildren and great-grandchildren are grown and remain connected to Beth Israel Center. To our great delight, Annabelle's daughter Trudy and son-in-law Harvey Barash, and Billie and Si Hellerstein, remain treasured members of our kahal, still enriching our lives and working to ensure our future. And those then-young families that Annabelle presciently called "guardians?" Alas, we are now older families ready to help celebrate our milestone birthday next year. Our children and today's young congregants are now the guardians of our 125th birthday.

Some of tomorrow's guardians have just recently established roots in Madison, connected for the first time to this kahal, or found a new connection to Judaism at Beth Israel Center, embraced by our longer-established families and forming new

connections here. **Whether our Madison roots are generations deep or more newly formed, each of us is a guardian who contributes skills, tzedakah, warmth, and compassion to ensure that our community meets the needs of those who nourish us and those we nourish.**

I could share memories from dozens of families who told their stories in 1999. I selected just two meaningful quotes, yet this booklet is full of testimonies of the heart and soul and resources that built Beth Israel Center.

With our 75th Anniversary now on our horizon, it is time again to pause to reflect. Today we inhabit — with gratitude — the future created again and again by our founding families and by their children and grandchildren.

**Now is our time to celebrate our proud history, to protect our community and once again, to seed its future.**

I hope everyone will join me in celebrating our 75th Anniversary by contributing generously toward our goals of acquiring Torah scrolls and securing the resources we need to live, learn, and celebrate Jewish life together for many years to come. We will have many opportunities to support this historic campaign. In particular, join us on Monday, September 4 (Labor Day) when we will joyfully and communally celebrate as we write the final letters into the first Torah scroll commissioned by Beth Israel Center in our long history.

What an exciting time for us all! Stay tuned for more information.

Bennett Berson  
president@bethisraelcenter.org



## 2022-23 Board Of Directors

**Bennett Berson**  
*President*

**Jennie Edes-Pierotti**  
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### Board Nominations

As this newsletter goes to press, the BIC Nominating Committee is beginning the process of determining who will be asked to serve on the Board of Directors starting this summer. To provide input, please write to [president@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:president@bethisraelcenter.org).





# From the Executive Director's Desk

## Financial Fun Facts

### Ways to Help

#### Kindness Group

In times of simcha and in times of sorrow, a meal from a friend can be a great help. The kindness group of Beth Israel Center is made up of people who volunteer to make meals for congregants in times of need.

Email [kindness@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:kindness@bethisraelcenter.org) to be put on the list of volunteers or contact the office to find out more about the group.

If you or someone you know could benefit from some home-delivered meals, please do not hesitate to ask. Many people want to help, and needs are typically filled with surprising speed.

#### AmazonSmile

Beth Israel Center is an AmazonSmile beneficiary. That means, if Amazon is one of the ways you shop, your purchases could be benefitting Beth Israel Center. Rather than going directly to [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) the next time you're shopping online, start at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com), where you can designate Beth Israel Center as the recipient of donations from Amazon equal to 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases. Todah!



Our recently adopted strategic plan calls on us to foster joy, belonging, learning and purpose for our kahal. Purpose can also be expressed as



intention, the idea being that we do things thoughtfully, strategically, and with attention paid both to the big picture and the smallest of details. Reading through this newsletter,

you may wonder why we take so many different approaches to enabling and encouraging financial contributions to Beth Israel Center. You will see several references to our 75th Anniversary Torah Campaign, information about our third annual Mishloach Manot fundraiser, 3.5 pages acknowledging tribute and memorial gifts, a reminder that if you shop on Amazon your purchases could be benefitting Beth Israel Center, and gratitude from MOUSY for all who purchased Chanukah Candles. Does this seem like purposeful financial planning to you?

It actually is. Each of these endeavors — along with the request each fall that all members make annual contributions commensurate with their income — is deeply intentional. We ask for support in different ways because we appreciate that everyone who cares about the wellbeing and future of our congregation has a unique relationship with Beth Israel Center. Further, our members and friends have vastly different capacity to make financial contributions. When we ask you to make meaningful contributions, we respectfully and intentionally expect you to define "meaningful" for yourself.

We also want you to understand the importance of each gift you make. Some contributions directly impact our annual programming capacity. Others do not. Here are a few fun facts about our finances:

- ◇ Annual membership contributions (which some of you think of as "dues") make up 72% of our

operating income each year. This is the single biggest slice of our annual income pie, and it doesn't fully fund all of our operations. So we hold other annual fundraisers.

- ◇ The impetus for our first Mishloach Manot fundraiser (in 2021), was that we couldn't have a fun in-person fundraising event at that point in the pandemic, and we needed joyful connection as well as a way to meet our operating budget obligations.
- ◇ The impetus for our first Supper Quiz fundraiser (in 2007) was that our former tradition of rummage sales ended, and with it a source of income our operating budget depended upon.
- ◇ We are intentionally adding to our Building Maintenance Fund so that the building we renovated in 2014 will be well maintained for decades to come. If you have not yet contributed to the L'Dor VaDor building campaign (perhaps because you've joined the congregation in the past 10 years), we could be calling on you to help sustain this effort.
- ◇ We recently established the Yesod L'Atid Legacy Society to encourage legacy giving to Beth Israel Center. All you need to do to join Yesod L'Atid is name Beth Israel Center as a beneficiary of your estate. (Let me know if you have any questions!)
- ◇ And, yes, in addition to all of these ongoing, annual efforts, we are also embarking on a historic endeavor to celebrate our 75th Anniversary and set ourselves up for a bright future, with at least one new Torah scroll and a necessary infusion to our endowment that will enable us to keep pace with the growing programmatic demands of our kahal.

I hope this small sampling of how our financial puzzle fits together helps you. If you'd like more information, just ask me!

Elissa Pollack  
[elissa@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:elissa@bethisraelcenter.org)





## From the Education Director's Desk

### Living Your Life with Intention

My younger daughter turned three at the beginning of January. As we celebrated her special day, I asked her what she wants to be when she grows up. She loves animals, especially the octopus, and one of her favorite Hanukkah gifts was a veterinary medicine set, so I thought she might talk about that or becoming an animal doctor. Instead, her eyes grew bright, and she proudly proclaimed, "I want to be ice cream!"

As parents, we strive to encourage our children and support their dreams. While becoming ice cream is not a reachable dream, intending to become someone who is sweet and delightful is something that she (and all of us) can strive to achieve. Rabbi Yitz Greenberg once said, "A life without a dream is not a life. But a dream without limits is an illusion." In other words, dream, and let your intentions guide and shape your dreams so that they are reachable.

Here at Beth Israel Center, we share a dream of an exciting, cohesive, warm and inviting community driven by a love of Torah and learning. Our collective purpose is to grow and to nurture our amazing community. Our Talmud Torah seeks to create a vibrant and exciting learning environment in which our students—and their parents—feel supported and engaged. As we enter a new semester and I reflect on the decisions we have made recently to help us realize our collective goal, I would like to share with you some of the intentions behind these decisions and how I believe they are helping our school community thrive.

We have moved to data-driven Hebrew instruction. This means that we assessed students' Hebrew skills and provided curricular material that matched each student's needs, with individualized scaffolding so that all learners can be appropriately challenged. We saw significant growth in Hebrew. We monitored achievement and have continued this Vygotskian approach by choosing each student's next Hebrew book based on their connections to the subject matter and their Hebrew literacy goals.

In addition to our data-driven

decisions, we implemented more transparency into the school by creating "Menschenings," the e-newsletter sent to parents on Fridays. It provides parents a look at what we are doing in Talmud Torah along with important information that parents need to know.



Finally, we focused on our goals on continuing to build a kahal. We have new teachers starting off the second semester with us along with some new students, including my older daughter, Alana. And we have made some important changes to Matchilim, our Shabbat morning preschool family program, in response to helpful feedback from parents who have been actively participating.

It is vital that we support, share our knowledge, and continue to attend to the features that make our program amazing and unique. We do this by engaging in activities that transcend grade levels, by hearing and helping each other, and through an exciting havruta unit, new this year, which we will continue this semester.

In the next few weeks, we will be sending out a survey to Talmud Torah parents asking how your experience with Talmud Torah has been and what we can do to make it better. We also intend to open up communication with the whole kahal about the goals we want to achieve. I hope to hear your ideas. American author Ken Blanchard said it well, "none of us is as smart as all of us."

I encourage you to share your hopes and dreams for our students with me. When we align our intentions with our goals, amazing things can happen!

May we go from strength to strength!

*Dr. Stephanie Kirklin / Morah Shoshana*

Dr. Stephanie Kirklin/Morah Shoshana  
education@bethisraelcenter.org

### Special for Preschool Families:

#### B'Yachad B'Kef Together in Fun

**Saturday, Feb. 11  
6:00pm**

Preschoolers! Bring your grown-ups to Beth Israel Center for a pajama undernighter Havdallah party with Rabbi Betsy and Deborah Hoffman.

Decorate *b'samim* (spices) bags, sing songs, share a story, make Havdallah together, and have fun together on a Saturday evening.

Email hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org with any questions.

#### Matchilim:

Every Shabbat morning when Talmud Torah is in session, children age 0-5 come to BIC (with grownups) at 10:40am for an hour of songs, stories, and more.

Stay for the end of services and Kiddush. Celebrate Shabbat together at BIC!

#### N'Tivon

Our Talmud Torah program for post-b'nei mitzvah teens continues this semester.

Teens join Rabbi Betsy on these Shabbat afternoons:

February 25, 5:00-6:45

April 22, 4:00-5:45



## Come and Learn (on Zoom) at BIC:

### ScholarStream Online Lectures

Beth Israel Center is pleased to sponsor the ScholarStream series of online lectures by Conservative Movement leaders, making these courses free for BIC members. Contact the office for our congregation's code.

Here's what's coming up next:

**Series 5: How the Conservative Movement's Law Committee Impacts Our Lives Today**

*Wednesdays, 7 PM*  
*February 8 - March 1*  
Instructors: Rabbis Guy Austrian, Deborah Silver, Joel Rembaum, Susan Grossman, and Jeremy Kalmanofsky

**Series 6: Living our Values: Social Justice and Social Action**

*Wednesdays, 7 PM*  
*March 8-29*  
Instructors: Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson, Dr. Yael Landman, Rabbi Cheryl Peretz, and Dr. Sarah Wolf

**Series 7: Counting the Days & Making Every Day Count**

*Wednesdays, 11 AM*  
*April 19 - May 10*  
Instructors: Rabbis Dikla Druckman Sherzer, Nava Meiersdorf, and Cheryl Peretz; and Dr. Eitan Fishbane

Watch your email or go to <https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/story/scholarstream-5783-series-descriptions> for details and to register.

### WINTER MINI-SERIES - Racism in the American Jewish Story

Wednesdays at 7:30pm - February 1, February 15, March 1 on Zoom

February 1: Jews and Anti-Racism in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
*Prof. Tony Michels*

February 15: Looking Back at Jews and the Civil Rights Movement  
*Dr. Jason Schulman*

March 1: Shared Reflections, Reactions, and Thoughts  
*Facilitated by Rabbi Betsy*

### Rediscovering the Haggadah Sunday Evenings with Rabbi Dr. Josh Cahan

**February 26 & March 19**

**7:30-9:00 on Zoom**

February 26: The Missing Story of the Haggadah  
*Explore why the Haggadah never actually "Tells the Story" and reassess how the crafters of this text actually understood the mitzvah of "You shall tell your children."*

March 19: A Road Map through Maggid  
*Using our new paradigm, we will go through the key sections of this sometimes confusing text and clarify how they fit together into a coherent whole.*

*Yes we DO answer the question(s) - 4 times!*

*Dayeinu is the BEST!*

*The Goat should have had the last laugh!*

Rabbi Joshua Cahan is a writer and educator who compiled and edited the Yedid Nefesh bencher. His new Pesach Haggadah is coming out this Spring.

### SPRING MINI-SERIES - Topics in Jewish Practice

Wednesdays at 7:30pm March 22, April 19, May 3 on Zoom

Why do we do what we do, and does it do us any good? Join Rabbi Betsy for an interactive exploration of three areas of Jewish practice, one per session, from halachic and human thriving perspectives:

March 22: Great Ideas for Planning Your Seder

April 19: Modesty for Contemporary Jews (of All Genders)

May 3: Life Cycle Events for Transgender Jews: What is the Halacha?

New students are welcome any time, no prior experience is necessary, and texts will be provided on the screen.

### Tea & Torah - Wednesday afternoons, 4:00-4:55 on Zoom

Join old and new BIC friends in a verse-by-verse study of our TaNaKH (Hebrew Bible). With the support of classical commentary, contemporary resources, and our own voices, this friendly group seeks to understand Biblical texts on their own terms and draw personal connections to the material.

The class continues its study of the Book of Ruth using primary and secondary sources. New students are welcome any time, no prior experience is necessary, and the text is provided on the screen.

*Please contact Rabbi Betsy with questions about any of our Adult Education offerings.*

# NEW Gathering Opportunities

## Jewish Authors Book Club

**First meeting: Shabbat afternoon, February 25**

**Attention book lovers!** If you are interested in reading books by Jewish authors, with Jewish characters, and that include Jewish themes, come to the newly formed Jewish Authors Book Club. We will share and discuss books that reflect our lives, center our experiences, and treat Jews as complex, multifaceted, and capable of heroism.

Our first book is *When the Angels Left the Old Country* by Sacha Lamb. Come to shul on February 25. Our discussion will begin around 1:15pm, after Shabbat morning services and Kiddush lunch.

Please go to [tinyurl.com/BICBookClub](http://tinyurl.com/BICBookClub) and register so that our organizers can contact you and help you get a copy of the book!

We'll meet again on April 15 to discuss *Rav Hisda's Daughter, Book I: Apprentice: A Novel of Love, the Talmud, and Sorcery* by Maggie Anton.

For more information, contact Elise Hohol at [elisehohol@gmail.com](mailto:elisehohol@gmail.com) or find her in shul on Shabbat.



## The Prayer for Our Country: In Our Voices

We are living through historic challenges in the civic life of our country. Some of you have wondered if the Prayer for Our Country, which we recite during Shabbat morning services, could reflect our earnest hopes more contextually. A process for composing new Prayers for Our Country in our own voices began in the Social Justice Committee, and our Ritual Committee now extends a broad invitation to any BIC member who may wish to submit an original prayer draft to become part of a rotation of liturgies. The Rabbi and Ritual Committee have developed guidelines and parameters for prospective writers. Interested? Please contact Rabbi Betsy for more information.



## Shall We Travel to Israel?

We are exploring possibilities for Beth Israel Center trips to Israel in the near future. Please contact Rabbi Betsy if you might be interested in helping to plan a trip, or to let us know you'd be interested in going.



## Dinner With Friends

**Sign up in February to be part of an initial cohort**

We are excited to introduce a new community building program called Dinner With Friends (DWF)! This is an opportunity to meet other Beth Israel members and build relationships through the time-honored custom of sharing a meal.

When you sign up, you will become a member of a DWF group. Each group will have one host, and the host will take the lead in setting the date, location, and menu for the meal (which doesn't necessarily have to be dinner). We hope the first meal for each group will happen by between March 1 and April 30, but the important thing is to make it happen!

Watch your email for the online registration link or contact the office.

# Let's Talk About Israel

**Our "Let's Talk About Israel" monthly discussion series is going strong into 2023. Sessions are expertly facilitated by shlichim Hanna Bloch and Oz Bin-Nun, and supported by BIC members Bob Factor and Madeline Tyner.**

The dates, times, and formats (in-person vs. Zoom) of these discussions are intentionally varied to allow for the greatest possible participation. Your voice matters. Come to any or all.

Month	Day	Time	Topic
Adar	Tuesday, Feb. 21	4:00 PM	The Conflict
Nisan	Shabbat, March 25	1:00 PM	Racism in Israel and in the United States
Iyar	Shabbat, April 22	7:00 PM	What does a "Jewish country" mean?
Sivan	Sunday, May 21	9:30 AM	Wrap Up

Sessions on Shabbat are in-person only. Other days/times are "hybrid" or Zoom only.





# By Word of Mouse

Deborah Hoffman, Program & Youth Director, [hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org)

## Upcoming Events:

### MOUSY & GESHER JOINT PROGRAM

Sunday, February 19  
Escape Room



### MOUSY PROGRAMS

Sunday, February 5  
MOUSY Meets  
Mellowhood

Saturday, March 11  
Mice on Ice at UW  
Shell

Sunday, April 30  
Tikkun Olam Nature  
Project

Sunday, May 21  
MOUSY Elections

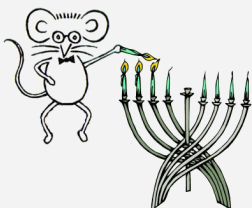


### GESHER PROGRAM

Sun, April 16  
Israeli Cooking Fun



MOUSY appreciates the support of BIC members and others who placed orders in MOUSY's Chanukah Candles fundraiser! Hope you enjoyed your festival candles.



Fall semester featured a few fun get-togethers with MOUSY and Gesher friends.

Fun and funny times at the MOUSY and Gesher Movie Night! After a spirited Havdalah led by Gesher adviser Elissa Hoffman on guitar, teens played Disney Character Charades, watched "The Emperor's New Groove," and enjoyed each other's company. Thanks to Ari Blehert, Caleb Ellenberg, and MOUSY adviser Ethan Weiner for organizing!



MOUSY went thrifting to design and dress up in silly Hanukkah-themed costumes! Shown here: a latke, hanukkiyah, Maccabee, shamash, and dreidel after they graced the runway. The fun celebration also included latkes, apple sauce, blintzes, and chocolate — always chocolate! Kol HaKavod to chair Jane Lowy!





# Who Knew?!

Beth Israel Center members enjoy learning fun and fascinating things about each other, so we asked randomly selected members to **recall a Purim costume and tell us about it.**

Enjoy this little glimpse into the lives of your fellow congregants...

**Manny Schwam**

Some years ago, no matter how many precisely (my apologies Captain Ahab), I took a T-shirt, drew markings on it with a Sharpie and cut fringes on it. I wore it with an elfin hat. Of course everyone wanted to know who it was. Thinking quickly, I came up with Mordechai's Court Jester. So there you have it. I suspect Haman became even more angry at Mordechai. (Who is this twerp to have a Court Jester?)

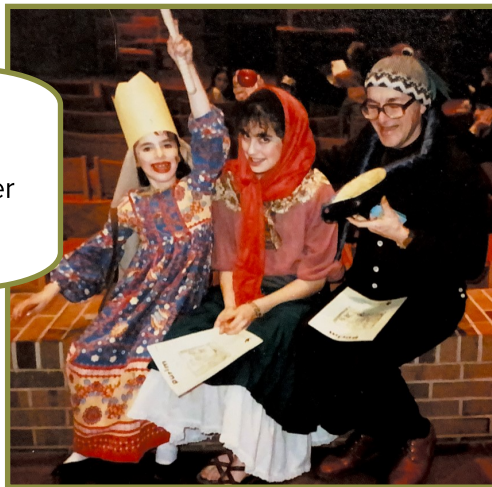


In the early 1950s when we were living in Israel, my mother sewed elaborate costumes every year. In this photo, we are dressed as characters from the American West. (I'm the cowboy on the right.) It's likely that I had no idea what that was, but it is a cool picture, and I can appreciate all the effort my mother put into making these costumes. Perhaps this Purim costume prompted my interest in cowboys, guns and horses, an interest that grew after we emigrated to the United States and I was able to watch the Lone Ranger on TV.

**Livia Asher**

I think we took, and kept, this photo because we all liked my father as the Tree from the Garden of Eden. My sister and I (Queen Esther and Zeresh) aren't particularly memorable...

**Tanya Schlam**



**David Blehert**



In 2016, my family went on a summer camping trip, which gave me the perfect opportunity to grow a beard. Unfortunately, my family did not share my enthusiasm for my facial hair. Come winter, BIC announced a Purim Ball, and I took the opportunity to trim and dye my beard into a pointy, black goatee — the perfect accessory for me to attend the Ball as Haman. The party was great, and the next morning I shaved off my beard, giving my family additional cause for celebration.

## Yahrzeits

### 10 Shevat / February 1

Lois Lashley  
Lois Lewis  
Harold E. Factor  
John H. Morrison  
Ethel Shovers  
Jack Rosenthal

### 11 Shevat / February 2

Minnie Slavney  
Laure Joseph  
David Perlman  
Reva Moss  
Abraham Hershkovitz

### 12 Shevat / February 3

Martin Steinberger  
Louis Coppersmith  
Arthur Moss

### 13 Shevat / February 4

Morris Greenberg  
Yetta Slafer  
Ruth Hill  
David Sweet  
Jacob Sweet

### 14 Shevat / February 5

Ella Hirschfeld  
Natalie Borenstein  
Samuel Swartz  
Joseph P. Holman  
Miriam Weinman  
Esther Feldman

### 15 Shevat / February 6

Max Weiner  
Hilda Mirkin

### 16 Shevat / February 7

Mark Jacobs  
Paul Hoffert  
Grete Baum

### 17 Shevat / February 8

Belle Sweet  
Morris Gould  
Gilbert Schreiber  
Susan Frances de Laix  
Avery Krashen  
Marsha Schwartz

### 18 Shevat / February 9

Benjamin Greenberg  
Bettie Engber  
Chisha Paley  
May Rosenthal  
Everett Howard Karon

*(Continued on page 10)*



## Yahrzeits

### 19 Shevat / February 10

Harvey Johnson  
Rachel Bleiweiss  
Erving Haber

### 20 Shevat / February 11

Benjamin G. Wendroff  
Ben Kopelberg  
Barnet Nathenson  
Jerry Shapiro  
Isaac Cohen

### 21 Shevat / February 12

Iver Karp  
Helen Temkin  
Harold Borenstein  
George Shapiro  
Francis Geller  
Samuel Lande  
Jean Goldman

### 22 Shevat / February 13

Lynnette Jung-  
Springberg  
Jean Kobylarz

### 23 Shevat / February 14

Bernard Harris  
Mollie Cohen Paster  
Thomascene Brown  
Jerome Onheiber

### 24 Shevat / February 15

Sarah Gevirman  
William Swartz  
Alfred Kadushin  
Ester Kooba  
Edith Arfa Brod

### 25 Shevat / February 16

Bella Groynom Swack  
Millicent Dachman  
Bob Lerner  
Kate Kloug  
Edward Ben Elson  
Ci Stein

### 26 Shevat / February 17

Eliezer Wein  
Martin Otto Heisler  
Dollie Schuckit  
Shoshana Goodman  
Howard Yaskal  
Harry Bleiweiss

*(Continued on page 11)*



# Social Justice Updates

Sally Jones & Judy Pierotti, [socialjustice@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:socialjustice@bethisraelcenter.org)

## Connecting with EXPO of Wisconsin

Members of Beth Israel Center have been working with the Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development on our Confronting Racism initiative – a multi-year effort to investigate and implement becoming an anti-racist congregation.

As part of our journey, Nehemiah has encouraged us to identify a Black-led nonprofit organization with a mission that our members are passionate about and find ways to support their leadership and their mission. To this end, we recently connected with EXPO of Wisconsin.

EXPO (EX-incarcerated People Organizing) works to end mass incarceration, eliminate structural discrimination against formerly incarcerated people, and restore formerly incarcerated people to full participation in the life of our communities.

EXPO emerged in 2014 when

formerly incarcerated people from around Wisconsin began to gather to discuss what it would look like to have a statewide organization created and led by people with lived experience. EXPO members provide support to each other and organize to change Wisconsin's unjust penal system. Since its creation, EXPO has amplified the issues of unjust incarceration policies and practices across the state and has partnered with national organizations to bring these issues to the attention of Congress.

BIC members have begun to build a relationship with EXPO's staff and leadership, and we look forward to bringing EXPO's experiences and voices to our congregation. To begin, **EXPO Executive Director Jerome Dillard will join us on Wednesday evening, February 8, for a special presentation about the history and mission of EXPO. All are welcome to join on Zoom starting at 7:00 pm.**

## Re-Learning American History

Expanding our understanding of the depth, breadth, and impact of systemic racism helps us move forward together to build a stronger local community and mobilize our kahal to combat racism together.

This past Fall, two cohorts of Beth Israel Center members took the Justified Anger: Black History for a New Day course, a hallmark Nehemiah program. Each cohort gathered on Zoom one evening per week, starting in September and ending in December, to watch engaging, insightful, and often upsetting lectures by renowned history

professors from UW-Madison and other experts. Meaningful discussions followed each lecture, facilitated by BIC members Andrea Dearlove, Louise Goldstein, Laura Heisler, and Laurie Nagus. Through the lectures and discussions, participants revisited what they knew about American history through a lens of racial justice and injustice.

If you weren't able to participate this Fall, or even if you were, watch for future opportunities to take this important class with fellow congregants.

## Community Voices

Reflecting our commitment to respecting and learning from people in our community whose perspectives shape our drive for Tikkun Olam, we are pleased to continue bringing guest speakers to Beth Israel Center. Earlier this year, we heard from the Honorable Rev. Everett Mitchell, Senior Pastor at Christ the Solid Rock Church, as well as Rev. Dr. Alex Gee, pastor of Fountain of Life Church, founder/CEO of the

nonprofit Nehemiah Center of Urban Leadership, host of the podcast Black Like Me, and founder of The Center for Black Excellence and Culture.

In addition to Jerome Dillard's talk on Wednesday, Feb. 8 (details above), **we will welcome Kai Yael Gardner Mishlove, the new Executive Director of Jewish Social Services, to speak about refugee resettlement during Shabbat morning Services on Feb. 18.**



# Pesach Is Coming!

## Pesach begins Wednesday, April 5

If you are looking for a seder to join or hosting one and able to accommodate more guests, let us know. We love making seder matches!



### Mechirat Chametz - Selling Your Chametz

Before Pesach, we are obligated to remove all chametz from our possession, through rigorous cleaning and by formally selling any chametz of value that we do not wish to destroy. The practice of selling our chametz is traditionally undertaken by a rabbi, and you are invited to formally appoint Rabbi Betsy as your legal agent for this purpose using a document called a *Shtar Mechira*.

It is best to complete this transaction in person. Contact the office to set up a time to meet in Rabbi Betsy's office, or drop in during one of these times:

- Tuesday, March 28, 4:00-5:30pm
- Thursday, March 30, 12:00-1:30pm
- Sunday, April 2, 10:30am-12:00pm

We understand that the ongoing pandemic and other health concerns may preclude some people from meeting up with Rabbi Betsy in person. This transaction may, if necessary, be completed electronically or by mail. A link to the online form will be available via email and on our website, or contact the office and we'll gladly assist.

There is no fee for appointing a Rabbi as agent, but it is customary to make a charitable donation directed to helping those in need celebrate Pesach. This custom is called *Maot Chitin* ("wheat coins"). We collect your donations in fulfillment of this mitzvah and send them to the Jewish Welfare Board, which helps provide a joyful Pesach for Jews serving in the U.S. Armed Forces around the world through their Passover MRE (meals ready to eat) program.

**Sell your chametz before 5:00pm on Monday, April 3, 2023.** And make a Maot Chitin contribution at the same time if you choose. Checks may be made out to Beth Israel Center, with Maot Chitin on the memo line.

### Pre-Pesach Fast / Siyyum - Wednesday, April 5

The Talmud prescribes that all in the category of *b'chor* (first-born) should fast on the eve of Pesach from sunrise until the seder. This fast recalls that the first-born Israelite males were spared the 10th plague visited upon the Egyptians. A Jewish ritual celebration nullifies the fast, and many communities, including ours, nullify the fast by holding a siyyum -- a celebration of completing a unit of study. Lucky you, your Rabbi is studying II Kings in preparation. The siyyum will be held after morning minyan on Wednesday, April 3. All first-born Jewish humans are welcome, on Zoom or in person. Minyan begins at 7:15am; the siyyum (learning and breakfast) follows at 8:00am.

### Pesach Services

Yom Tov (holy day) services begin at 10:00am on Thursday and Friday, April 6 and 7, and at 9:15am on Wednesday and Thursday, April 12 and 13. Yom Tov services are followed by a kosher-for-Passover Kiddush lunch.

Yizkor will be recited on the last day of Pesach, April 13.

Daily minyan and Shabbat morning services will follow the usual schedule during *chol hamo'ed* (the days in between the holy days), April 8-11.

*We will not hold services at BIC on Friday evening, April 7.*

*Join us for a special d'var Torah on Caring for our Earth on Shabbat, April 8.*

### Yahrzeits

#### 27 Shevat / February 18

Hyman Daniels  
Rubin Schwartzstein  
William Hawkins  
Philip Kapell  
Esther Pover  
David S. Mazur  
Jacob Yaskal

#### 28 Shevat / February 19

Hannah Weinstein  
Cohen  
Joseph Sweet  
Anne Layton  
Matthew Fields  
M. A. Bradkofsky

#### 29 Shevat / February 20

Saul Tobin  
Murray Rodman  
Louis Sweet  
Jerry Kaplan  
Howard Temin  
Marilyn Brown  
Helena Siroky

#### 30 Shevat / February 21

Rose Machlis  
Anita Rothblatt Kapell  
Fania Heifetz  
Bess Smith  
Leo Rasmussen  
Sarah Seidner  
Herman Shapiro  
Anne Cooper

#### 1 Adar / February 22

Louis Battalen  
Pauline Quick  
Rose Diamantstein  
Lena Daniels  
Janet Weinschel

#### 2 Adar / February 23

Lena B. Goldberg  
Rachel Deprey  
Zelig Heifetz  
Frank Onikul  
Malcolm Mitz  
Sam Slabodnik  
Leahbelle Bercey  
Roslyn Slovic  
Martin Stein

(Continued on page 12)

## Yahrzeits

### 3 Adar / February 24

Israel Meirovitch  
Moshe ben Baruch  
v'Malka

Sandra Phyllis Evans  
Max Latinsky  
Mikhail Pishchiker  
Sara Frank

### 4 Adar / February 25

Maier Nick Kaim  
Ruth Wolfson  
Sara Schwartz  
Gertrude Recht Stein  
Harold Goldberg  
Henry L. Gutmann  
Miril Heifetz  
Mollie Kaplan

### 5 Adar / February 26

Leonard L. Loeb  
Clarence Lever  
Rivkah bat Fruma  
Shirley Swack  
Max Shapiro  
Blanche Cohn  
Schwartzstein

### 6 Adar / February 27

Frieda Lieberman  
Joseph S. Levy  
Joan Eleanor Chesler  
Sam Shapiro  
Alvin Shovers

### 7 Adar / February 28

Bat Sheva Gueta  
Ruth Hertz  
Leanore Fridstein  
Factor  
Roberta Jacoby  
Norman Schwabacher  
Karen Eve Goldman

### 8 Adar / March 1

Fanny Klitsner  
Louis Mazursky  
David Goldberg  
Dora Schwartz  
Mary Levin  
Al Weschler

*(Continued on page 13)*



# Volunteer Appreciation

Deborah Hoffman, Program Director, [hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org)

## **Rav todot (many thanks) to our recent...**

### **Service leaders, sharers of divrei Torah, and chanters of Torah and Haftarat:**

Harvey Barash, Brandon Bloch, Meredie Cohen, Mark Copelovitch, Esther Criscuola de Laix, Susie Drazen, Yonah Drazen, Rick Ezell, Bob Factor, Rabbi Betsy Forester, Aaron Friedman, Joshua Gabai, Josh Garoon, Jaime Goldberg, Daniel Goldman, Rabbi Judy Greenberg, Leslie Greenspan, Anna Heifetz, Si Hellerstein, Bill Karasov, Erica Kesin Richmond, Danielle LeVine, Daniel Levitin, Ruth Litovsky, Jonah Loeb, Micah Mandell, Don Miner, Marina Orio, Jon Pollack, Zachary Richmond, Michael Rock, Aaron Rock-Singer, Nate Rudin, Fran Schrag, Bill Schwab, Sion Shabtaie, Bob Skloot, Judith Sone, Jerry Sternberg, Dan Stolz, Jeanne Swack, Rayla Temin, and Jim Wear.

**Shabbat Kiddush Crew:** Donna Anderson, Mimi Aron, David Balkansky, David Baum, Marsha Cohen, Meredie Cohen, Cameron Crahen, Michal Engelman & Josh Garoon, Jessica Goerling, Jaime Goldberg, Roz Gusinow, Jen Hadley, Elise Hohol, Becky Holmes, Bobbie & Steve Jellinek, Sally Jones & Aaron Friedman, Corliss & Bill Karasov, Erica Kesin Richmond, Daniel Levitin, Jonah Loeb, Laurie Nagus, Janis Noonan, Tziporah Quick, Michael Rock & Kathi Johnson Rock, Sally & Fran Schrag, Sue & Russ Shafer-Landau, Kelsey Springsguth, Maddie Tyner, Regina Vidaver, Paula Volpiansky, and Ziva & Jim Wear.

**New Member Welcome Event Crew:** Donna Anderson, David Baum & Ruth Litovsky, Hannah Bloch & Oz Bin-Nun, Isaac & Megan Brodkey, Sabra Brodkey, Meredie Cohen, Joel and Hannah Ehrlich, Beth Fisher, Joshua Gabai, Roz Gusinow, Nancy Leff & KC Lerner, Ilana & Yonaton Mintz, Katie Parrish, Jon Pollack, and Ziva & Jim Wear

**Hanukkah Party Helpers:** Cameron Crahen, Joel Ehrlich & Melanie Cohen, Hannah Ehrlich, Nancy Feingold, Beth Fisher, Joshua Gabai, Josh Garoon, Jaime Goldberg, Roz Gusinow, Elise Hohol, Lorna Kniaz, and KC Lerner & Nancy Leff

**Christmas Dinner for Fisher/Taft Housing:** Mimi Aron, Marsha Cohen & Mike Pressman, Ron Czerwien & Helen Hanau, Cher Diamond, Susie Drazen, Doris Dubielzig, Billie Hellerstein, Cynthia Hirsch, Sally Jones, Lorna Kniaz, Jane McGann, Patrice Onheiber, Judy Pierotti, Ilona Rodan Ganetzky, Sally Schrag, Bob Skloot, Merle & Jerry Sternberg, Phyllis Wainger, and Ellen Weismer.

**Shabbat Greeters:** David Balkansky, David Hoffert, and Steve Sheiffer

**Kolot Kehilla:** David Baum, Adrienne Borisy Gross, Roz Gusinow, Barry Rich, and Sally & Fran Schrag

**Little John's Kitchen Helpers:** Janice Bensky, Nancy Feingold & Doug Green, Rabbi Betsy Forester, Ashley Kerst, Paul McGann, Laurie Nagus, Judy Pierotti, Susan Raines, Jean Rothschild, and Bob Skloot

**Lasagna Cooks & Drivers:** Stacy Anderson, Mimi Aron, David Baum & Ruth Litovsky, Larry & Janice Bensky, Hannah Bernard-Donals, Marsha Cohen, Cher Diamond, Susie Drazen, Janet Frenz, Joshua Gabai, Louise Goldstein, Janice Gratch, Billie Hellerstein, Cynthia Hirsch, Linda Kailin, Erica Kesin Richmond, Bettine Lipman, Laurie Nagus, Judy Pierotti, Bob & JoAnn Skloot, Paula Volpiansky, and Beth Weber.

**Healing House Dinner Chefs:** Donna Anderson, Hannah Bernard-Donals, Nancy Feingold, Bobbie Jellinek, Lorna Mazur Kniaz, Sue & Russ Shafer-Landau, Ellen Weismer and family

**Laundry Angels:** Donna Anderson, Hannah Bernard-Donals, Jaime Goldberg, and Regina Vidaver

## Volunteer Spotlight

Ever since their return to Madison in 2017, Merle & Jerry Sternberg have shared their energetic love and caring for community in countless ways. Among their more visible activities is the annual organization of a bountiful Christmas feast, prepared and served by BIC volunteers. This year's beneficiaries were the residents of Fisher/Taft Apartments in Madison, a non-profit, subsidized housing resource for low income seniors and people with disabilities.



"We are pleased to continue the tradition of providing a Christmas dinner for people who would otherwise be alone for the holiday and unable to celebrate Christmas with the company of others," Merle said after the gratifying afternoon of December 22. "We were delighted to see how happy our guests were and how much they appreciated the wonderful turkey dinner, with all the fixings, desserts and beverages. Our guests enjoyed the delicious meal so much that they returned for seconds and brought with them empty containers to fill with food and take to their friends and neighbors in the apartments who were too homebound to come down to the dining area. What a fellowship of good spirit! It was truly gratifying for us to serve and socialize with our gracious guests."

*See the list on the facing page of everyone who contributed to this meal.*

### Social Justice Volunteer Opportunities: Battling Food Insecurity

#### Little John's Kitchen

In the words of founder Chef Dave Heide, Little John's aims to transform food excess into food access. Beth Israel Center members and friends have been helping prepare and pack meals every Monday afternoon since Fall 2021. Come make a difference with your BIC friends! More info about Little John's is online at [littlejohnskitchens.org](http://littlejohnskitchens.org)

#### Healing House

About four times each year, for one week at a time, we deliver dinners to Healing House, where families experiencing homelessness stay following hospitalization for childbirth or a medical procedure.

Each BIC volunteer prepares and delivers dinner, or part of dinner, usually serving four to eight people. Volunteers can work singly, or as a family, or they can partner with other volunteers to cook and deliver one evening's meal. Healing House staff do the serving and cleaning up.

**Our next week starts March 26.**

#### Meals on Wheels

For many years, Beth Israel Center volunteers have driven local routes to deliver Meals On Wheels (now a program of SSM Health at Home) to senior or disabled recipients. New volunteers are needed to join in this adaptable—and vital—weekday task.

**For more information or to volunteer, please write to [socialjustice@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:socialjustice@bethisraelcenter.org).**

#### Yahrzeits

##### 9 Adar / March 2

Ruth Esther Scholick  
Molly Epstein Karp  
Efraim Picus  
Rachel Mazur  
Patricia Donals  
Isadore Miller  
Mollie Goodman  
Bashe Leah Dworetzky  
Dorna Person  
Wilhelm Grzyb

##### 10 Adar / March 3

Sol Weiner  
Haim ben Manachem  
Haimson  
Sol Levin  
Eunis Mann  
Isadore Joseph  
Ellen Shoshany Kaim  
Sam Mead

##### 11 Adar / March 4

Jennie Chortek  
Samuel Sinaiko  
Jeannette Russ

##### 12 Adar / March 5

Walter Novick  
Marvin Eisenberg  
Sonia Andrusier  
Sidney Goldman  
Henri Hanau  
Mary Zuker

##### 13 Adar / March 6

Bessie Schwartz  
Adolph Weinschel  
Harry Klitsner  
Ida Moskowsky  
Rachel Green  
Fanny Kaufman Smith  
Harriet Margolis  
Dorothy Weiman

##### 14 Adar / March 7

Seymour Goodman  
Ruth Zitowsky  
George J. Skloot  
Elizabeth Sweet  
Rose Onikul  
Sam Webne  
Victor Rosenblum  
Mary Ellen Hall  
Abe Mintz

##### 15 Adar / March 8

Dan Pierotti  
Rachel Brodsky

*(Continued on page 14)*



## Yahrzeits

### 16 Adar / March 9

Mary Nathenson  
Eva Deutschkron  
Thea Aschkenase

### 17 Adar / March 10

Evelyn Minkoff  
Maurice Amdur  
Morris Schulman  
Leon Stein  
Ida Gould  
Milton Friedman  
Bessie Lutske  
Rose Frank

### 18 Adar / March 11

Paula Grzyb  
Hyman Paley  
Aaron Scher

### 19 Adar / March 12

Quinta Burattini  
Judith Zukerman Kaufman  
Sarah Silverman  
Jacob Becker  
Ira Katch  
Hyman P. Levin  
Lloyd Borenstein

### 20 Adar / March 13

Jerrold Gross  
Dorah Karp  
Tessie Stein  
Etya Fastovsky  
Arthur Mead  
Hyman Ansell

### 21 Adar / March 14

Marshall G. Fields  
Vera Tyroler  
Benjamin Forester  
Gustave Leon Goldstein  
Nathan A. Cohen

### 22 Adar / March 15

Heather Joseph  
Bernie Goldstein  
Gertrude Rodman  
Rochelle Kianovsky  
Sylvia Binstock Feingold  
Frumeh Rachel Bloom  
William Stein

### 23 Adar / March 16

Robert Sweet  
Estelle Bernstein  
Ben Paley  
Sara Shapiro  
Ann Slavney

(Continued on page 15)

## Mazal Tov to...

- Zachary & Sarah Masa-Myers on the birth of Landon Miles Masa-Myers.
- Neil Herman & Chia Chuan Lee on the birth of Leo S. Herman.

## Condolences to the families of...

- Phyllis Wasserman, mother of Lorrie (Barry) Klemons.
- Dr. Mitchell Rapkin, husband of Sharon Rapkin and father of David (Susan) Rapkin and Melissa Rapkin (Andy Berns).
- Sophie Geneman, daughter of Samantha Katch, granddaughter of Carol Katch, and niece of Al Bowles, Brenna Katch, and Mackenzie Katch.
- Joseph Noel Criscuola, father of Esther Criscuola de Laix (Andrew de Laix) and grandfather of Roger de Laix.
- Harold Blau, husband of Rona Rosenblum Blau, stepfather of Jordan Rosenblum (Valerie Maine), and grandfather of Josiah Rosenblum.
- Stephen Brown, brother of Moe (Harriet) Brown, uncle of Rabbi Betsy (Scott) Forester.

## Memorial & Tribute Gifts

The following pages contain a record of the memorial and tribute gifts made to Beth Israel Center from early October through the end of December. We are so grateful to each donor. Every gift makes it possible for us to create a community that is alive with celebration, learning, prayer and tikkun olam.

### 75th Anniversary Torah Campaign *in honor of*

Leslie Greenspan for her guidance in learning Torah Trope & knowledge for my Bar Mitzvah, from Zach Masa-Myers  
Rabbi Betsy Forester for her wisdom, compassion, and insight, from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen  
The birth of Landon Miles Masa-Myers and the birth of Leo S. Herman from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen  
Jon Pollack's birthday, from Carol & Richard Sard and Norm & Sue Pollack

### *in memory of*

Mitch Rapkin from Yvonne & Jim Gern, the Kammer family, Jeffrey Kushner, Vicki & Jerry Stewart, David & Nancy Resnick, Thomas & Susan Welch, Steven Morrison & Goldie Kadushin, Howard Darwin, Ruth Tash, The Lerner Group and Hightower Advisors, Judith & Robert Rubin, Caryl & Peter Poser, Si & Billie Hellerstein, Janice & Dan Waisman, Allan & Sandra Levin, Harvey Temkin & Barbara Myers Temkin, Virginia & Elizabeth Wirtanen, Bonnie Tompkins, Michael Mohl, and Ellen & Steven Potter.  
Stanley Cohen and Nat Pressman, from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen  
Diane Kliebard Silverberg, Isadore Goldstein, Sol Goldstein, Joseph Noel Criscuola, and Jessie Battalen from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen  
Leah Sweet, Harry Sweet, Fannie Sweet, and Sam Sweet from Mike Sweet

### Abe Barash Fund *in memory of*

Noah Hershkowitz from Rosalyn Hershkowitz  
Marilyn Holman, Coleman Slavney, and Albert Borenstein from Phyllis T. Eisenberg



# Memorial & Tribute Gifts (Con't.)

## **Building Capital Fund**

### ***in memory of***

Joseph Noel Criscuola from Jordy & Jessie Loeb

## **Building Maintenance Fund**

### ***in memory of***

The Goldshtern and Brandt families of Terespol, Poland and Brest Litovsk from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen

## **Shirley Epstein Fund**

### ***in honor of***

Sarah & Zach Masa-Myers for becoming parents, from Kazu Kitano

### ***in memory of***

Joseph Rossman from Sherry Hirschfeld  
 Claire Swartz from Susan & David Fish  
 Helen & Oscar Karp from Ruth Ann Schumeister  
 David Zaichick, from Sol Zaichick

## **Alfred A. & Lois Frank Congregational Life Fund**

### ***in memory of***

Alex Swartz from Samuel Moss  
 Sam Onheiber from Michael & Patrice Onheiber

### ***in honor of***

The birth of Theodore Robin Wear from Sherry Hirschfeld and Megan & Isaac Brodkey  
 Ziva and Jim Wear for becoming grandparents, from Kazu Kitano and Michael & Patrice Onheiber

## **General Fund**

### ***in honor of***

The birth of Lily Elizabeth Temkin from Joel & Debbie Minkoff  
 Joshua Gabai & Hannah Greene, from David & Donna Gabai  
 The birth of Landon Miles Masa-Myers from Karen Shevet Dinah, Steve & Bobbie Jellinek, Si & Billie Hellerstein, and Bennett Berson & Becky Holmes.  
 Ziva & Jim Wear from Elaine Rosenberg  
 Micah Mandell on being called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah, from Karen Shevet Dinah

## **General Fund**

### ***in memory of***

Joseph, Esther, Isadore, and Helen Frank from Leslie Rukin  
 Steve Kessler from Donna Anderson  
 Solomon Volpiansky from Paula Volpiansky  
 Phillip Llochenko, Lena Peters, Celia Borenstein, Frieda Borenstein, Phillip Becker, Rudy Becker, Shirley Abrahamson, and Jane Wolman from Phyllis T. Eisenberg  
 Mitch Rapkin from Richard Bloomenkranz and the Whitcomb Group  
 Jake Heifetz from Lawrence Heifetz  
 Arthur Sweet from Lawrence & Jessica Sweet  
 Harold & Frieda Borenstein and Diane Kliebard Silverberg from Nicki Borenstein Milin  
 Renata Laxova and Tibor Lax from Daniela Lax  
 Clara Rothblatt from Cheryl Lerner  
 Irwin Sokol from Kim Anderson & Marcia Sokol-Anderson  
 Rosalind Levin from Ferne Hecker  
 Isadore Kosowsky from Mark & Carolyn Kosowsky  
 Esther & Sam Lewis from Michael & Patrice Onheiber

## **Yahrzeits**

### **24 Adar / March 17**

Steve Hawkins  
 Isador Borsuk  
 Eli Freedman  
 Paul Goldman  
 Hyman Lessack  
 Jacques Lohn

### **25 Adar / March 18**

Herbert Weiner  
 Ida Figler

### **26 Adar / March 19**

Harry Dworetzky  
 Joseph Brodsky  
 Joseph Switzky  
 Heinz Hoffman  
 Nathan Swartz  
 Ross Kurzer  
 Mayer Jacob

### **27 Adar / March 20**

David Altschuler  
 Celia Rosenberg  
 Ruthie Moody  
 Kenneth Rodan

### **28 Adar / March 21**

Jean Silverstein  
 Lewis Gash  
 Harry Karas  
 Moshe Paley  
 Helen Rosenblum  
 Kitty Schorr

### **29 Adar / March 22**

Sarah Chechik Halperin  
 Paul J. Schrag  
 Osne Zaichick  
 Lillian Weber  
 Anna Halperin  
 Herschel Seder

### **1 Nisan / March 23**

Regina Jacob  
 Shirley Langerman  
 Ben Hirschfeld  
 Helen Sweet  
 David Rosenthal

### **2 Nisan / March 24**

Ervin Blake  
 Jeannette Saltzberg  
 Frank  
 Abe McCants  
 Samuel Goldberg  
 Arthur J. Sweet  
 Ervin Blake  
 Marvin Mazursky

*(Continued on page 16)*

## Yahrzeits

### 3 Nisan / March 25

Noime Epstein  
Chaim Dubrovitz  
Roslyn Kopelberg  
Caroline Sulman  
Anna Shapiro  
Louis Landau  
Anne Marion

### 4 Nisan / March 26

Donald Goren  
Chaim Chaikel Dubrow  
Aaron Seidner

### 5 Nisan / March 27

Morris Stein  
Isaac Stein

### 6 Nisan / March 28

Herbert Nathenson  
Carol Kean  
Karen Barth  
Adele Klein Hirsch  
Leah Segal  
Jack Goldberg  
Emanuel Weinstein

### 7 Nisan / March 29

Roberto Orio  
Leonard Solinger  
Jack Jacobson

### 8 Nisan / March 30

Eva Rosenberg  
Nechama Meister  
Jenny Eva Lebowitz  
George S. Marcus

### 10 Nisan / April 1

Peter Deutsch  
Kathryn Grossman  
Marcia Hoffman  
Jack Dachman

### 11 Nisan / April 2

Sarah Grebler  
Sarah R. Kulakowsky  
Shlomo Dworetzky

### 12 Nisan / April 3

Ida Minkoff  
Eileen Mondry  
Marv Conney  
Beatrice Josephine  
Sweet  
Meyer Kaufman  
Gerald Kleinman  
Leo Margolis  
Ann Matsoff

(Continued on page 17)



## Memorial & Tribute Gifts (Con't.)

### General Fund

#### *in memory of*

Jachial Temkin from Cheryl Temkin  
Leo Sulman from David Sulman & Anne Altshuler  
Sam Lewis, Betty Shovers, Sam Onheiber, Eleanor Onheiber, and Jerome Onheiber from Arnold & Sharon Ruben  
Martha Skloot from Robert & JoAnn Skloot  
Jacob Cooper from Marilyn & Stuart Cooper  
Irving Rudin from Nathan Rudin & Felice Borisy-Rudin

### Jake Heifetz Fund

#### *in memory of*

Jake Heifetz from Lisa Robertson

### Herman Goldstein Fund

#### *in honor of*

Rabbi Betsy for D'var Torah assistance for my Bar Mitzvah, from Zach Masa-Myers

#### *in memory of*

Betty Shovers from Marc Shovers & Jan Loeb

### Holman/Weisbard Fund for Adult Jewish Learning

#### *in memory of*

Jacob Joseph Sinagub from Jonathan Sinagub  
Noah Hershkowitz from Debra Hershkowitz

### Julius Mintz Fund

#### *in memory of*

Ida Mintz Weinstein and Vivian & Albert Daniels from Barbara Beyer

### Martin & Serene Mazor Kiddush Fund

#### *in honor of*

Donna Anderson for becoming a grandmother from Kazu Kitano  
The birth of Landon Miles Masa-Myers from Rayla Temin

#### *in memory of*

Phyllis Wasserman from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen  
Harry Schiff from Bill & Jill Boissonault

### Judith W. Pierotti Social Justice Fund

#### *in honor of*

Bennet Berson & Becky Holmes' anniversary, Micah Mandell's Bat Mitzvah, Sarah & Zach Masa-Myers' new son, and Benny Witkovsky & Corrina Regnier's baby Hugo from Judy Pierotti

#### *in memory of*

Eleanor Onheiber and Marie Mocny from Michael & Patrice Onheiber  
Fannie Ronen Battalen from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen  
Margaret Lindholm from Judy Pierotti  
Naomi Susan Sinagub from Jonathan Sinagub  
Mitch Rapkin from Bonnie Tompkins and Nanci & Earl Stein  
Dov Schwartz from Richard Schwartz  
Bernard Harris from Sue Harris

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

#### *in honor of*

Becky Holmes and Bennett Berson's Double Chai Anniversary, from Cari & Steve DiTullio  
Rabbi Betsy for Landon's Brit Milah, from Zach & Sarah Masa-Myers





# Memorial & Tribute Gifts (Con't.)

## **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

### *in honor of*

The birth of Landon Miles Masa-Myers, from Theodore & Irene Knupp  
The birth of Lily Elizabeth Temkin from Livia Asher

### *in memory of*

Harry Zitowsky from Robert Zitowsky  
Leta Anderson from Donna Anderson  
Ghita Bessman from Ruthanne Bessman  
Sylvia & Gordon Wein from Roslyn Gorchow  
Dorothy Lerner from Sharon Rapkin  
Pnina Karsh from Yehuda & Sari Karsh  
Seymour Parter from Larry & Jean Landweber

## **A.J. & Celia Rosenberg Library Fund**

### *in memory of*

Abraham J. Rosenberg from Lyn Rosenberg

## **A.J. & Celia Rosenberg Education Fund**

### *in memory of*

Earl Gladstein from David & Nancy Resnick

## **Talmud Torah Fund**

### *in honor of*

Sarah & Zach Masa-Myers on the birth of their son and Donna Anderson on the  
birth of her new grandson from David & Nancy Resnick  
The birth of Landon Miles Masa-Myers from Michael & Patrice Onheiber  
The birth of Lily Elizabeth Temkin from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen

### *in memory of*

Mitch Rapkin from Ann Fitzgerald  
Neal Loeb from Marc Shovers & Jan Loeb

## **David Temkin Camp Ramah Fund**

### *in honor of*

The birth of Lily Elizabeth Temkin from Harvey Temkin & Barbara Myers Temkin

### *in memory of*

Sam Nager and Rose Burstein Passon from Fay Nager  
Jacob Hellerstein from Si & Billie Hellerstein

## **Adolph Weinshel Torah Maintenance and Repair Fund**

### *in memory of*

Sandie Ottenstein from Jay Ottenstein  
Diane Kliebard Silverberg from Rayla Temin

## **Youth Fund**

### *in memory of*

Jake Heifetz from Steve Heifetz

### *refuah shlema for*

Deb Hoffman from Moshe & Haya Yuchtman



We are grateful for all Memorial and Tribute gifts to Beth Israel Center. To donate, send us a check (1406 Mound Street, Madison, WI 53711), call the office (608-256-7763) with a credit card number, or visit our website and click DONATE to make a secure online donation. Please contact Executive Director Elissa Pollack at 608-256-7763 or [elissa@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:elissa@bethisraelcenter.org) with any questions. Todah Rabbah!

## **Yahrzeits**

### **13 Nisan / April 4**

Lillian Kaplan  
Josephine Sinaiko  
Mendow  
Leon Mondry  
Aaron Epstein

### **14 Nisan / April 5**

Irving Levy  
Dorothy Berlinger Levy

### **15 Nisan / April 6**

Maggie Eisenberg  
Louis Roth  
Abraham Frank

### **16 Nisan / April 7**

Helen Sweet  
Leontine Friedman  
Leo Geller

### **17 Nisan / April 8**

Max Novick  
Saul Aaron Rosenthal  
Elsa Morgensteren  
Robert Mann  
Mary Kaminsky Cohen  
Robert D. Goodman

### **18 Nisan / April 9**

Albert J. Eisenberg  
Esther Swartz  
Samuel I. Ablove

### **19 Nisan / April 10**

Catherine Odette  
Eva Dizon  
Hermina Kneller  
Mollie Challov Goldstein  
William Sinaiko  
Jacob Popkewitz  
Jacob J. Sinaiko

### **20 Nisan / April 11**

Ellen Wolman  
Jeanne Siegel

### **21 Nisan / April 12**

Joseph Morris Kessler  
Elliott Karasov  
Annabelle Loeb  
Lillian Greenberg

### **22 Nisan / April 13**

Paulina Bloom  
Isaac Pover  
Ezra Frank  
Martin Siroky

*(Continued on page 18)*

## Yahrzeits

### 23 Nisan / April 14

Ida Lessack  
Ben Rubin  
Ruth Solinger  
Mollie Becker

### 24 Nisan / April 15

Aletha Rappaport  
Oscar Brodsky  
Burton Zitkin

### 25 Nisan / April 16

Hannah Malamud

### 26 Nisan / April 17

Esther Sweet

### 27 Nisan / April 18

Gladys Godfried  
Abraham Sweet  
Nashe Sweet  
Sander Gusinow

### 28 Nisan / April 19

Blanche Altshuler  
Rosalyn Schwab  
Ed Deutschkron  
Jane Thomadsen

### 29 Nisan / April 20

Alice Hanau  
Frieda Melnik  
Meyer Proskansky  
Alice Barth  
Leo Barth  
Martin Rosenzweig

### 30 Nisan / April 21

Rebecca Nathenson  
Alice Field  
Gertrude Kastrul  
Melrood

### 1 Iyar / April 22

Joe Wagman  
Dobe Melnik Widrevitz  
Benjamin Fields  
Isadore Libanoff  
Cecile Rogut  
Charles Karp

### 2 Iyar / April 23

Rose Frank  
Libby Mead

(Continued on page 19)



## Regular Service Schedule

### Kabbalat Shabbat

Every Friday, come schmooze starting at 5:00. Services start at 5:45. For those unable to attend in person, services are broadcast online.

### Shabbat Mornings

Lively, song-filled services start every week at 9:15am. For those unable to attend, services are broadcast online. Kiddush lunch follows and all are warmly invited to stay, eat, and socialize. Weather permitting, lunch seating is available outdoors.

Matchilim, our preschool family service, meets at 10:40 on Shabbat mornings during the school year.

### Ha-video-dallah

Join us on Zoom at 6:25pm on February 18 for our last Ha-video-dallah of the winter.

### Daily Connection Minyanim

#### Mornings:

Sunday 8:15, hybrid\*

Monday and Thursday 7:15, hybrid

Tuesday and Wednesday 8:00, Zoom; Wednesday with musical accompaniment

Friday, 7:15 Zoom only

\*Hybrid means come in person if you can, or join us on Zoom.

*If you need instructions for getting into the building for morning minyan, please contact the office.*

**Evenings:** Monday through Thursday at 5:45 on Zoom.



## Calendars

### February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Tea & Torah 4:00pm  Racism in the American Jewish Story (1) 7:30pm	2  TT	3  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	4 9:15 services TT  Repro Shabbat
5  MOUSY Meets Mellowhood	6  Tu B'Shvat	7  TT	8  Tea & Torah 4:00pm  Confronting Racism 7:00pm	9  TT	10  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	11 9:15 services TT  Guest D'var by Marsha Cohen
12	13	14  TT  Board of Directors	15  Racism in the American Jewish Story (2) 7:30pm	16  TT	17  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	18 Shabbat Shekalim 9:15 services TT Refugee Shabbat Guest D'var by Kai Mishlove
19  MOUSY/Gesher Escape Room	20	21 Rosh Chodesh Adar  TT  Let's Talk About Israel #5, 4:00pm	22 Rosh Chodesh Adar  Tea & Torah 4:00pm	23  TT	24  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	25 9:15 services TT Hugo Regnier Baby Naming  N'tivon
26  Pesach Prep with Rabbi Josh Cahan 7:30	27	28  TT				

## March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Tea & Torah 4:00  Racism in the American Jewish Story (3) 7:30	2  TT	3  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	4 Shabbat Zachor 9:15 services TT
5 Community Purim Carnival at BIC 10:00am	6 Erev Purim Ta'anit Esther  Megillah Reading 7:00pm	7 Purim  TT	8 Shushan Purim  Tea & Torah 4:00  Confronting Racism 7:00	9  TT	10  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	11 Shabbat Parah 9:15 services, TT Guest d'var by Daniel Levitan  MOUSY Ice Skating 7:00
12	13	14  TT  Board of Directors	15	16  TT	17  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	18 Shabbat HaChodesh 9:15 services TT
19  Pesach Prep with Rabbi Josh Cahan 7:30	20	21  TT	22  Tea & Torah 4:00  Topics in Jewish Practice w/Rabbi Betsy 7:30	23 Rosh Chodesh Nisan	24  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	25 9:15 services  Let's Talk About Israel #6 After kiddush
26	27	28	29  Tea & Torah 4:00	30	31  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	

## April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Shabbat HaGadol 9:15 services
2	3	4  TT	5 Fast of the First- Born / Siyyum  Erev Pesach Ta'anit Bechorot First Seder	6 Yom Tov Services 10:00  Pesach I Second Seder	7 Yom Tov Services 10:00 Pesach II	8 9:15 services TT  Pesach III
9  Pesach IV	10  Pesach V	11  Pesach VI	12  Yom Tov Services 9:15  Pesach VII	13  Yom Tov Services 9:15  Pesach VIII	14  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	15 9:15 services TT
16  Geshet Israeli Cooking	17  Yom HaShoah Program @ BIC 7:00	18  Yom HaShoah  TT	19  Tea & Torah 4:00  Topics in Jewish Practice w/Rabbi Betsy 7:30	20  TT	21 Rosh Chodesh Iyar  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	22 Rosh Chodesh Iyar 9:15 services, TT  N'tivon  Let's Talk About Israel #7, 7:00
23 30 Mousy Nature Project 2:00	24	25  Yom HaZikaron  TT	26  Yom HaAtzma'ut  Tea & Torah 4:00	27  TT	28  5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	29 9:15 services Asher Berland Bar Mitzvah TT

### Yahrzeits

#### 3 Iyar / April 24

Morris Sweet  
Dora Weinberg  
Rose Melnik  
Louis Sweet  
Helen Sweet

#### 4 Iyar / April 25

Sandra Arfa  
Beatrice Nathenson  
Kosowsky  
Mona Schwab  
Ruth Weiner  
Harry Dachman  
Abraham Sinagub

#### 5 Iyar / April 26

Morris Mead  
Doris Mae Campbell  
Harry Paley  
Bill Karpe  
Bernie Mazursky  
Pauline Sweet  
Moses Sweet  
David Fine  
Norman Balkansky

#### 7 Iyar / April 28

Robert Schwartz  
Harry Moss  
Diane Rosemary  
Schwam  
Harry Sweet  
Samuel Rosenfeld

#### 8 Iyar / April 29

Maarten Scheepens  
Harry Rubnitz

#### 9 Iyar / April 30

Estelle Wolman  
Naomi Esther Morrison  
Cantor Louis Malamud  
Max Schorr



Beth Israel Center maintains a database of Yahrzeit observances for members and some former members.

The people listed on the sides of the previous pages died in years past on the Hebrew calendar dates shown.



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## February/March/April Candle Lighting Times

<b>Shabbat</b>	<b>Parasha</b>	<b>Candle Lighting</b>	<b>Shabbat Ends</b>
February 3/4	Beshalach	4:55pm	5:56pm
February 10/11	Yitro	5:04pm	6:06pm
February 17/18	Mishpatim	5:13pm	6:15pm
February 24/25	Terumah	5:22pm	6:24pm
March 3/4	Tetzaveh	5:31pm	6:33pm
March 10/11	Ki Tisa	5:40pm	6:41pm
March 17/18	Vayakhel-Pekudei	6:48pm	7:49pm
March 24/25	Vayikra	6:56pm	7:58pm
March 31/April 1	Tzav	7:05pm	8:06pm
April 7/8	Pesach	7:13pm	8:14pm
April 14/15	Shmini	7:21pm	8:22pm
April 21/22	Tazria-Metzora	7:29pm	8:30pm
April 28/29	Achrei Mot-Kedoshim	7:37pm	8:38pm
		<b>Candle Lighting</b>	<b>Chag Ends</b>
<b>Pesach</b>			
April 5/6	Pesach I	7:10pm	
April 6/7	Pesach II	8:12pm	7:13pm (Shabbat begins)
April 11/12	Pesach VII	7:17pm	
April 12/13	Pesach VIII	8:19pm	8:20pm