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Would you like to be on our email list and receive the weekly announcements?

Email office@bethisraelcenter.org.

BETH ISRAEL CENTER
1406 Mound Street
Madison, WI 53711
(608) 256-7763
www.bethisraelcenter.org

Before the Quarantine, there was Purim!

Shortly before we closed our building in response to COVID-19, we had some fun together at Beth Israel Center -- live and in person. Remember Purim? (It wasn't that long ago....)





Thoughts from the Rabbi...

מחשבות *Makh'shavot: Making Minyan*

Beth Israel Center

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Normal Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9am to 5pm

Talmud Torah days until 6pm

Friday

9am to Noon

(608) 256-7763

office@bethisraelcenter.org

As this newsletter goes to press, Beth Israel Center is closed. Staff are mostly working from home, but coming in when necessary and taking all appropriate safety precautions.

Please do not drop by or expect to come in to the building until further notice.

Please DO continue to call and email us!

Next Centerite Deadline:
July 6, 2020

Thanks to David Balkansky for underwriting the color printing of this issue of the Centerite in memory of his wife, Judy Balkansky.

At the time of this writing, it is a week before Pesach, just over two weeks since we closed our building to ride out the quarantine. The crocuses are out, and the sun is trying to bring us



some warmth from behind a gray expanse outside my window. We do not yet know when the sounds of davening, learning, song, and celebration will resound in our building. For now, our

sanctuary sits alone, bereft of our presence.

Yet we have found that we are not alone, even when we cannot gather. We are meeting to discuss psalms and current literature, to sing, to daven, and to work. We are reaching out by phone and email and planning which virtual seder to attend. Although we yearn to touch one another and hear voices unmitigated by the vagaries of technology, one lesson we have

already learned from this pandemic is that the Beth Israel Center family's connectedness runs deep. Solidarity, hope, shared gratitude, and holding each other through fear and profound sadness mark each day that we count, with a blessing, at the end of each evening minyan.

Some people say that daily minyan is the backbone of a shul. We have found our twice-daily Zoom minyanim to be a rich and ever-flowing "well" that centers us. During these dark days, our minyan has drawn record numbers of people seeking comfort and community in a space where we are known and loved, and where our presence matters. Some of us find ourselves unexpectedly stirred by words of prayer and notes of song. I think it's fair to say that all of us find ourselves embraced by the authentic

question asked of each person, every time: "how are you doing today?"

The "daily grind" of weekday minyan masks its deep and profound importance. Shaken from our typical complacency, over the past few weeks, our minyan-goers have been awed by the power of showing up for each other, whether for Kaddish or simply to share the human experience. People who were not accustomed to observing a yahrzeit by gathering with at least 9 other Jews on the particular day (rather than the Shabbat preceding it) have found meaning in marking the day as Jews have done for centuries — by making the effort to join a minyan and recite Kaddish on the anniversary of the death.

Actually, the fact that a quorum of 10+ allows us to daven more strongly is not the only, nor even the most important benefit of daily minyan. Its essence rests on strengthening our foundation, both communally and individually.

Virtual minyan attendance may taper off in the weeks ahead. It is not easy to sustain a practice of daily davening at a certain time. Before the pandemic, we rarely saw 10 or more people attend a weekday service.

Some days, no one came in the evening, and mornings were a challenge, too. The Ritual Committee and I made a plan for what we hope will be a more sustainable and dependable minyan schedule going forward. The new schedule will be publicized and implemented when the quarantine lifts. I fervently hope that you will commit to attending, because it makes us stronger. You will feel the difference.

We will learn much from this pandemic. I hope and pray that what we have learned about the power of gathering for minyan will inspire us for years to come.

Rabbi Betsy

Rabbi Betsy Forester

rabbi@bethisraelcenter.org

Online Minyan:

Sunday-Friday mornings at 8:00

Sunday-Thursday evenings at 5:30

Check your email or contact the office for the Zoom links.

Wondering when members and friends are observing yahrzeits? Check the Help Make a Minyan page on our website.

Comfort in Community

In chapter 4 of *The Fathers According to Rabbi Nathan*, the following story is told:

Once as Rabban Johanan ben Zakkai was coming forth from Jerusalem, Rabbi Joshua followed after him and beheld the Temple in ruins.

“Woe unto us!” Rabbi Joshua cried, “that this, the place where the iniquities of Israel were atoned for, is laid waste!”

“My son,” Rabban Johanan said to him, “be not grieved; we have another atonement as effective as this. What is it? It is acts of loving-kindness, as it is said, For I desire mercy and not sacrifice” (Hos. 6:6)

This seemingly simple anecdote alludes to a remarkable intellectual response by the leadership of that time to an existential crisis. The destruction of the Second Temple, and with it the sacrificial cult, threatened the very existence of our faith. What emerged, with a gestation beginning long before the destruction of the Temple, was the Rabbinic Judaism we have practiced over the last 2000 years.

As I write this, Pesach is only a few days away, yet it is not the haggadah, but rather this anecdote which occupies much of my thinking. The current pandemic has moved many of us from a place of empathy with Rabbi Joshua to one of sympathy. We don't just imaginatively project ourselves into his feelings; rather we feel, we suffer with him — the root meaning of sym+pathy. How many of us have looked upon our synagogue at the corner of Mound and Randall and said in their heart, “Woe unto us! This place where we gathered and celebrated as a community is now darkened and shuttered!”

The destruction of the Second Temple meant more than just the loss of sacrificial atonement. Concomitant, and posing a greater threat to our survival, was the loss of community. Rabbinic Judaism and the synagogue provided powerful answers to the needs of our People in those times and since.

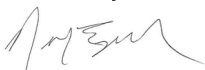
And just as leadership responded creatively and effectively in those days, so too are ours responding today. I would be exaggerating if I said the steps taken by our Rabbi, professional staff, lay leaders and volunteers have fully filled the void we all feel. That would be impossible. However, I can say wholeheartedly that they have gone a long way to provide us with the sense of community and support we so need at this time. Just as important, they have provided us with means of supporting each other, of reaching out to the vulnerable and helping all of us ward off or cope with the despair we all feel from time to time. And for that they have my admiration and great thanks, as I'm sure they do yours.

As you read this, a most unusual Pesach will be behind us, and we will be looking forward to Shavuot. I have no idea whether we will be back in our beautiful sanctuary for the next holiday or when celebrations and programs that can be rescheduled will reappear on our calendar.

However, when I reflect on the story with which I began this column, I am filled with hope and confidence that our leaders and volunteers will continue to find creative and compassionate ways to sustain our community and to offer comfort and solace to all of us.

I hope for the return to our sanctuary, as we sing during the Passover seder, *bim'heirah, bim'heirah, b'yameinu b'karov*, speedily, speedily, in our days, soon.

Sincerely,



Rick Ezell
president@bethisraelcenter.org



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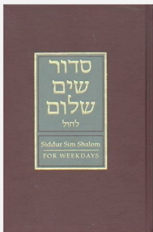
From the Executive Director's Desk

Virtual Shul

Book Dedications

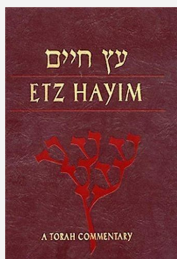
The next time you're looking for a way to honor a special person, couple, family or occasion, or memorialize a loved one, consider dedicating a prayerbook!

For \$36, you can dedicate a weekday Siddur Sim Shalom,



for \$54 a High Holy Day Mahzor Lev Shalem,

and for \$72 an Etz Chayim Chumash.



Call Sarah or Elissa at (608) 256-7763 or email office@bethisraelcenter.org and tell us in whose honor or memory the book(s) should be dedicated, and we'll take it from there.

Did you know that all of our Shabbat siddurim are dedicated? The next time you pick up a *Siddur Lev Shalem* in shul, turn to the inside front cover and see if you know the people whose names you'll find there. Each one tells a story.

In some ways, 2020 is feeling a little bit like 2014 to me. Many readers will recall that for most of 2014 — between Purim and Hanukkah — we were a congregation without a



building. (That was the year we completed our long-awaited renovation.) While construction crews took over our space from March until December, 2014, we found

other ways and places to gather, and we came through the experience with new appreciation for what defines Beth Israel Center. Sure, beautiful sanctuaries, modern classrooms, an accessible library, a stunning mikvah, purposefully designed work spaces for our Rabbi and staff, and a kitchen that impresses even professional caterers are all part of what we appreciated upon our return. But none of that is the heart of the matter.

Even before COVID-19 forced us to stop gathering in our usual spaces, I (and I'm pretty sure I'm not alone in this) appreciated that what convening in new ways and places showed us back in 2014 is that what defines our community is its people and the depth of care we show for each other.

As this issue of our quarterly newsletter goes to press, we are keeping our physical distance and seeking safe ways to connect with each other.

While all in-person gatherings have been relocated online, cancelled, or postponed, much of the work of running our synagogue continues.

Among our important, ongoing work is the strategic planning effort initiated several months ago. The strategic planning committee, chaired by Cynthia Hirsch, began its work by focusing on the core values of Beth Israel Center — what makes us who we are. This work, still in progress, is an important precursor

to identifying strategic goals that align with our values.

While still a work in progress, the values as articulated so far by the strategic planning committee resonate in the decisions our leadership has made in these unusual times about how to stay safe and maintain important connections. The values as articulated so far can be expressed in four words: **joy, gathering, learning, and purpose.** (The fourth value is perhaps the least clearly articulated in a single word; the gist of it is that we value intentional, well organized, and professionally articulated programs and decision-making.)

Upholding our communal values under the Safer-at-Home Order is behind every decision we are making.

One other important note about how things have changed: Just as our primary means of gathering in these strange times are "virtual" — i.e., online — so too are our primary means of communicating, of keeping all of you up to date about when we are gathering, how to find us, and how we can provide and request the support that makes us all feel just a little more connected. That is, we are relying even more on email, our website and Facebook page to keep in touch. And we are responding to new information about the virus plaguing our community, which may mean making announcements on short notice — well before the next issue of the Centerite comes out (in August).

If you are not currently receiving our weekly e-newsletter and other emails from Beth Israel Center, please consider signing up. Click "get the E-news" on our website or call me. I'm happy to help.

I hope that we are back in our building before Hanukkah this year. But even if we're not, I am as confident now as I was then that our community will survive this, too.

Elissa Pollack
elissa@bethisraelcenter.org



From the Education Director's Desk

Kibud Limudim / Honoring Learners

What a semester it's been! Talmud Torah and children's programming last met face to face on Shabbat Parah, March 14. The next day, we made the difficult and necessary decision to close our building to do our part to help ensure the safety and health of our entire community. While we have not met in person since then, our learning continues at home and with joy. Because we are a socially and financially responsible organization, we committed to paying our teachers their expected income. In return, they created content and planned a variety of distance learning opportunities that have been rolled out over the course of our closure. Some are screen-based, and others are not. Some are meant to create connections while others teach content.

We connect as a community on Friday afternoons over Zoom to share our feelings and learn about each week's *parasha*, often with a bent toward our current, physically distanced, situation. Sharing this weekly Shabbat Shalom with our school community over Zoom will continue into the summer.

Along with these lessons, Shira Forester and I created a learning challenge for the entire Talmud Torah. "Ad 120 (*meah v'esrim!*)" is a Jewish wish that you should live to be 120 years old, based on Genesis 6:3 and Deuteronomy 34:7. Our Ad 120 is a points-earning game that can win each Talmud Torah student a gift card to a local business, allowing us to support our community while encouraging our families to continue their Jewish learning in their homes. In a show of support and a nod to how difficult switching an entire education system in less than a week is, Shira and I made this game accessible to our Jewish education colleagues throughout the world, which garnered many comments of praise and thanks and over 100 downloads for other programs to use!

On May 9th we were scheduled to honor our learners at our annual Kibud Limudim service. We will not be able to do that in person this year, so I'd like to recognize and appreciate three groups of Talmud Torah students who are marking significant transitions in

their Jewish education. First, our 7th graders who are moving on from a 3-day-a-week Talmud Torah commitment to Netivon (our new, Shabbat-based 8th-12th-grade program) and Midrasha. Their communal sense of humor and interest in learning through questioning, as well as their invention of the



Beth Israel Center Adar Fairies, has really influenced the atmosphere of our school. I'll miss seeing them so frequently in their classrooms, but look forward to seeing them on the bimah and on Shabbat afternoons at Netivon. **These 7th graders are: Lela Desai, Alex Dolin, Isaiah Loeb, Simon Mednick and Aharon Shelef.**

Our 5th graders have been dedicated to their Jewish learning, to Talmud Torah and to each other for years now. They welcome new students and teachers with grace and openness and are wonderful ambassadors for Judaism and Beth Israel Center. They will step into a new world of B'nai Mitzvah preparation by receiving a *Siddur Lev Shalem* and joining our Shabbat Morning Program. **I am so proud of and excited for: Sarita Desai, Zev Goldman, Zachary Richmond, Nevaeh Weismer and Eliana Zimbauer.**

Our 2nd graders (and their families) are enhancing their Jewish education by beginning their 3-day-a-week course of study at Talmud Torah. **Dylan Cordasco, Paul Cordasco, Simon Heller and Talya Whitmore** are more than ready to engage more. We honor them and their families for making this commitment; we know that it is one.

Thank you for a wonderful, if peculiar, year. I hope we go from strength to strength and from living rooms to classrooms soon.

Beth

Beth Copelovitch
education@bethisraelcenter.org

Online Learning With Rabbi Forester

Tea & Torah

Tuesdays at 4:00

Bring a cuppa whatever you're drinking and study psalms and other liturgical gems with Rabbi Forester for 30 minutes on Tuesday afternoons.

Wednesday Wisdom

Wednesdays at 4:00

For 45 minutes on Wednesdays, learn with Rabbi Forester in this series on Halachic Decision-Making during This Pandemic.

Online classes, services, and other gatherings are being offered on the Zoom platform. Links can be found in regular emails to the congregation.

Need a link? Call or email the office: (608) 256-7763, office@bethisraelcenter.org

Need to sign up for our emails? Click Get the E-News on our home page or contact the office for help.



Volunteer Appreciation

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

Shabbat Morning Torah and Haftarah Readers and Service Leaders: Matt Banks, Harvey Barash, Ari Blehert, David Blehert, Mark Copelovitch, Esther Criscuola de Laix, Susie Drazen, Rick Ezell, Bob Factor, Rabbi Betsy Forester, Joshua Gabai, Joshua Garoon, Rabbi Judy Greenberg, Leslie Greenspan, Anna Heifetz, Si Hellerstein, Bill Karasov, Sara Karon, Steve Kessler, Daniel Levitin, Ruth Litovsky, Elana Matthews, Adam Mednick, Don Miner, Marina Orio, Jon Pollack, Michael Rock, Aaron Rock-Singer, Fran Schrag, Bill Schwab, Sion Shabtaie, Aharon Shelef, Amelia Sidney, Rahamat Simani, Sarah Silverman, Bob Skloot, Jeanne Swack, Rayla Temin, Jim Wear, Elan Weinstock

Shabbat Kiddush Crew: Donna Anderson & Steve Kessler, David Balkansky, David Baum, Hannah Bernard-Donals, Miryam Bernard-Donals, Isaac Brodkey, Judith Burstyn, Susie Drazen, Yonah Drazen, Leslie Fields, Jessica Goerling, Jaime Goldberg, Ashley Gordon, Patricia Green-Sotos, Roz Gusinow, Becky Holmes, Raimund Huber, Michael & Kathi Johnson Rock, Bill & Corliss Karasov, Kazu Kitano, Sue & Russ Shafer-Landau, Laurel Mark, Aphra Mednick, Janis Noonan, Tziporah Quick, Miriam Shelef, Dan Sidney, Sarah Silverman & Elan Weinstock, Merle Sternberg, Paula Volpiansky

Shabbat Greeters and Door Watchers: David Balkansky, Marsha Cohen, Yonah Drazen, Rick Ezell, Bob Factor, Anna Heifetz, Jon Pollack, Mike Pressman, Russ Shafer-Landau, Jerry Sternberg

Shabbat Morning Madrichot: Ari Blehert, Mirra Blehert, Eliza Mednick, Amelia Sidney

Kolot Kehilla Breakfast Makers and Presenter: Adrienne Borisy-Gross, Judith Burstyn, Roz Gusinow, Steve Nadler, Barry Rich, Sally & Fran Schrag

Board Games Cozy Shabbat: Anna Heifetz, Josh Gabai, Josh Garoon & Michal Engelman, Harris Krause & Katie Moorman, Sara & Jeff Mandell, Sarah & Zach Masa-Myers, Elissa Pollack

Knish Cooking Workshop: Mike & Barb Pratzel

Purim Posse (Megilla Readers, Carnival Carnies, Party Planners, Kitchen Crews): Quinn Buczak, Judith Burstyn, Marsha Cohen & Mike Pressman, Mark & Beth Copelovitch, Esther Criscuola deLaix, Russ & Ruth Frank, Jessica Goerling, Ashley Gordon, Roz Gusinow, Sophia Hadley, Si Hellerstein, Kazu Kitano, Harris Krause & Katie Moorman, Mia Kurzer, Leila Loeb, Eliza Mednick, Sion Shabtaie, Amelia Sidney, Sarah Silverman & Elan Weinstock, Judith Sone, Marti Tenzer

Passover Seder Hosts: Rabbi Betsy & Scott Forester, Josh Garoon & Michal Engelman, David & Aleeza Hoffert, Sara Karon, Lorrie & Barry Klemons

Porchlight Shelter Workers: Harvey Barash, David Baum, Elisa Heymann, Steve Kessler, Zach Masa-Myers, Bart Miller, Simone Schweber, Bob Skloot, Jerry & Merle Sternberg

Laundry Angels: Hannah Bernard-Donals, Leslie Fields, Cynthia Hirsch, Corliss Karasov, Kazu Kitano, Tziporah Quick, Karen Shevet Dinah



If you have time or talent to give to Beth Israel Center, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Deborah Hoffman. When we resume gathering in person, we'll need people to set up and clean up Shabbat kiddush, festival celebrations and other events.

We also need help in our library, arranging books in our sanctuary, keeping our grounds looking nice, and more. Call (608) 256-7763 or email hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org for more information. Todah!

Hakarot HaTov

Our ongoing volunteer recognition program, *Hakarot HaTov*, takes its name from the Hebrew phrase that means *recognizing the good*.

Through this program, we regularly honor and thank members who serve in both extraordinary and the most routine of ways. The recognition takes place on Shabbat mornings a few times each year. The honoree's contributions are acknowledged briefly during services and with a modest celebratory addition to the day's Kiddush lunch.

While this is first and foremost about showing gratitude, donations in honor of the individuals being recognized and their contributions to our shul are appreciated.

Watch your email to find out when we will celebrate with our next honoree, Ashley Gordon.



Social Justice Volunteering Updates

Meals on Wheels

For many years, Beth Israel Center volunteers have delivered meals to elderly and disabled Dane County residents as part of the Meals on Wheels program of Home Health United (now SSM Health at Home).



This program has been defined as an Essential Service by the Safer-at-Home Order, so, as of press time, Beth Israel Center volunteers were continuing, with new safety precautions in place, to deliver meals.

Some of our regular volunteers are not able to continue doing this work as they are at-risk themselves, so the need for volunteers who are at lower risk has increased.

Our volunteers provide about 10 lunchtime meals on weekdays (except Jewish holidays) throughout the year. Each route takes about 1½ hours. Meals on Wheels volunteers see first-hand the benefits they provide: helping people maintain independence and remain in their own homes, as well as receiving a nutritious meal.

For more information about Meals on Wheels and how to volunteer, please call Larry Bensky at (608) 238-2569.

Porchlight Men's Shelter

Beth Israel Center members have been serving meals at Porchlight's Emergency Shelter for Men at Grace Episcopal Church in downtown Madison for decades. At press time, volunteering at Porchlight Men's Emergency Center has been temporarily suspended.



The COVID-19 crisis is posing extraordinary challenges to those who provide food, shelter and hygiene for homeless people. Shelters, such as Porchlight's men's emergency shelter, with their side-by-side cots and shared bathrooms could turn into "ground zero" for outbreaks.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Porchlight Men's Emergency Shelter has been temporarily relocated to Warner Park Community Recreation Center for homeless men who are healthy and to other facilities for men who are sick. The County will be catering 3 meals a day for both shelters so Porchlight will not need volunteers to serve meals during the crisis.

Once the crisis is over, the shelter will return to Grace Episcopal Church and Beth Israel Center volunteers will be needed to help serve meals.

Help from Beth Israel Center members is still needed at this time. Porchlight needs donations to help pay its small staff higher salaries to continue working long hours during the crisis. You can also check Porchlight's Facebook page (Facebook.com/Porchlight Madison) for a list of other items needed at the shelter.

In addition, our Social Justice Committee has redirected funds that might have been spent on a spring 2020 trip to Tijuana (see page 10 for information about the winter 2020 delegation's experience) to Porchlight, the Meadowood Food Pantry, and the Goodman Community Center Food Pantry.

Kitah Vav/Zayin Toy & Game Drive

The patients at American Family Children's Hospital need toys and games, so Kitah Vav (our 6th grade Talmud Torah class) planned a supply drive for the kids and teens that was just getting underway when we closed our building to stay Safer at Home in March.

When we are able to reopen the building, the drive will re-launch, and Kitah Zayin (next year's 7th grade class) will enthusiastically collect and distribute your donations.

- All donations must be:
- new and store bought
 - in original packaging
 - not gift-wrapped
 - latex free
 - not of a violent nature (no toy guns, swords, bows/arrows, knives, sabers, etc.)
 - free of labels/tags

Donate to the American Family Children's Hospital!





By Word of Mouse

Deborah Hoffman, Program & Youth Director, hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org

Before our wonderful world of MOUSY went virtual, our high school teens got together for our last live and in person events of the semester.

On the Youth Program Calendar:

Dates and event formats are subject to change, but at press time, we are hoping to have:

MOUSY Elections
Sunday, May 24

Kadima Outdoor Adventure
Sunday, May 31

Stay tuned!



Celebrate Shabbat! Take Standardized Tests on Sunday

Feel great because, by taking the test on a Sunday, you show your Jewish pride and help guarantee that this option remains available for Jewish students.

The May 3 and June 7 tests have been cancelled.

Call 866-756-7346 for information about future test dates.

Dedicated MOUSY volunteers served up a multiple course dinner at the **Supper Quiz** on Saturday night, January 18. Kol HaKavod to wait staff extraordinaire: Leila Loeb, Josephine Sidney, Jessica Fernandez, Mirra Blehert, Debbie Rudin, and Maya Becker.



MOUSY board officers kicked off second semester with the **Top Secret Hush-Hush 8th Grade Welcome Kidnap Breakfast**, where MOUSY board officers “meted and greeted” incoming 8th graders by waking them up early Sunday morning, January 26 in their homes, then cooking up a delicious French toast soufflé and pancakes for them in the BIC kitchen, and hanging out to get to know each other. Kudos to co-chairs Maya Becker and Mirra Blehert!



On Saturday night, February 15, MOUSY worked as a team to unravel the mystery of a Wild West Gold Rush adventure by figuring out the clues, codes, and puzzles of this interactive **Escape Room** at Escape in Time. Todah to point person Mirra Blehert.



Shabbat Schmooze

On Friday night, March 13, our faithful flock of MOUSY teens got together for our favorite Shabbat Schmooze event. After Kabbalat Shabbat davening, we ate aplenty, socialized aplenty, and played “Apples” aplenty. Much appreciation to our gracious host family, Mirra and Ari Blehert, Regina Vidaver, and Dave Blehert, for making tasty veggies and dips, lasagna, salad, and chocolate chip cookies.

In the name of Tikun Olam, 15 mice gathered for **MOUSY Makes a Meal** on Sunday afternoon, March 15, just days before the Safer at Home Order was issued, to make more than 150 bagged lunches of sandwiches and cookies, along with clementines, orange juice and milk, for Grace Episcopal Church men’s shelter. Kol HaKavod to the whole crew: Rotem Arad, Maya and Baila Becker, Ari (pictured) and Mirra Blehert, Micah Copelovitch, Maya Desai (pictured), Leila Loeb, Jane Lowy, Ezra (pictured) and Lily Matthews-Needelman, Eliza Mednick, Yael Rosenblatt, Amelia Sidney, and Rhiannon Wilson.



**7 Iyar / May 1**

Harry Moss
Samuel Rosenfeld
Diane Rosemary
Schwam
Robert Schwartz
Harry Sweet

8 Iyar / May 2

Harry Rubnitz
Maarten Scheepens

9 Iyar / May 3

Cantor Louis Malamud
Naomi Esther Morrison
Max Schorr
Estelle Wolman

10 Iyar / May 4

Joseph Amdur Fine
Minnie Isaac
Nicholas Polgar
Millicent Rose
Ida Schmidman
Anna Sklar

11 Iyar / May 5

Rose Frank
Ethel Jermyn

12 Iyar / May 6

Leonard Bessman
Samuel Black

13 Iyar / May 7

Helen Liner Richey

14 Iyar / May 8

Anna Black
Elmer M. Borsuk
Ben Setlick
Shalom Sweet

15 Iyar / May 9

Ruth Bass
Yisrael Meir ben
Gedaliah
Feige Esther Fettman
Jakab Fettman
Elliot Iver
Fanny Libanoff
Rabbi Philip Silverstein

16 Iyar / May 10

Louis L. Friedman
Allen Zemmol

(Continued on page 11)

Report from the Border: Tijuana February 2020

By Sally Jones and Judy Pierotti, Social Justice Committee Co-Chairs

In February, Rabbi Betsy Forester and Beth Israel Center members Bobbie and Steve Jellinek and Judy Pierotti, with friends Arlene Klavins and Ruthanne Landsness, volunteered in Tijuana for Al Otro Lado (AOL; “To the Other Side”), an NGO (non-governmental organization) seeking to improve migrants’ chances of gaining asylum in the U.S. Al Otro Lado provides asylum seekers with information, legal advice, and coaching. With minimal staff serving thousands of “clients,” AOL needs volunteers. Our delegation went to Tijuana determined to give help and bear witness; here are some highlights from the experience.

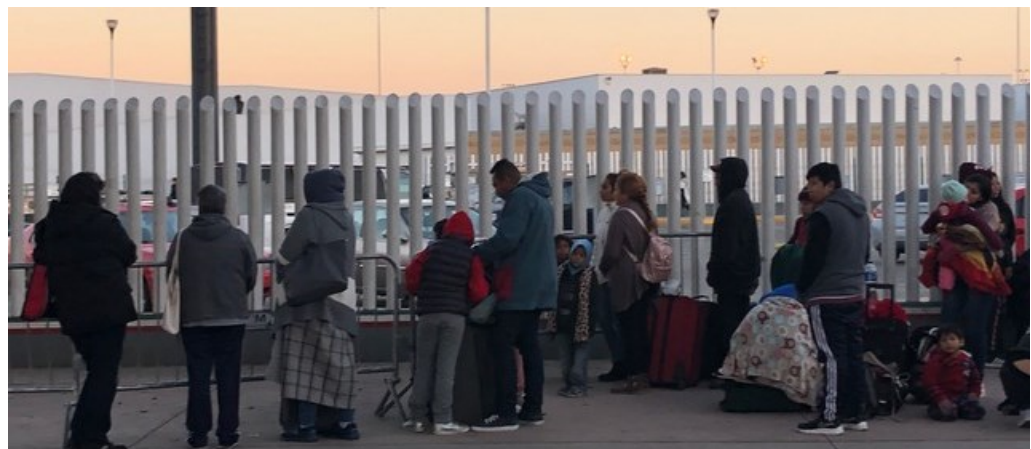
Contrary to previous procedure, as of January 2019, Migrant Protection Protocols (widely known as Remain in Mexico) require asylum applicants arriving at the border to wait in Mexico.

At the Port of Entry (POE), as our delegation saw, migrants line up not for a U.S. border patrol agent, but for signup on a waitlist managed by other migrants as “volunteers” (hoping to speed their own border crossing). Signing up yields a tiny — 1-inch-by-1/2-inch — slip of paper bearing a penciled number; the number is written in a spiral notebook, not recorded into any computer system. Each number covers 10 families.

Once on the list the migrant (or family) waits to hear that number called. Wait times typically range from four to nine months, during which they stay in squalid shelters at the edge of the city. Most days, early, a list manager appears from behind a fence near the POE, calls out — literally, yells — a number, maybe two or three numbers, maybe none. A handwritten paper taped to a fence will show the last number called that day, the only indication ever offered of when a later number will come up. (See photo, facing page.) As their numbers approach, migrants begin returning every day — rousing the family to start the hours-long journey at 3:00 am, bringing whatever possessions they have, lest they miss their call and have to begin again.

Once called, the migrant/family enters the custody of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), piles into a van, and arrives in the U.S. — into detention, which at this stage means the “icebox” — a concrete room kept at only 48 degrees, with lights on 24 hours a day, no windows, no beds, no showers, no diapers for babies, and no medical care, though crowded conditions mean many people are or get sick. Men and women are separated. In the icebox, CBP takes all but the innermost layer of clothing. (AOL advises migrants to wear sweaters under undershirts.) It offers only minimal food, sometimes still frozen. Time spent in these brutal conditions may be days or weeks. Release is likely to come at 3 or 4 am, with an agent shouting out names.

Cold, disoriented, exhausted, and often sick, asylum seekers then sit for a preliminary Credible Fear Interview, where they must convince an asylum officer that they have a credible case for asylum. A miniscule number are



approved (usually those with family in the U.S) of whom some may be released with an ankle bracelet pending their court appearance. Most, however, are sent back to Mexico to await their court hearings. Those who do not pass the Credible Fear Interview are summarily deported.

With few exceptions, asylum seekers must represent themselves in this complicated system, challenging even for experienced attorneys. And even with lawyers, the overwhelming number of claims are denied.

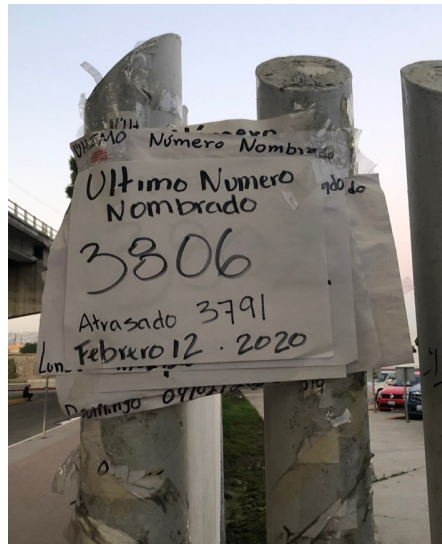
The extremely low success rate belies their tragic plights. Migrants' stories, (powerful and difficult to contemplate, as our delegation found), include robberies, extortion, beatings, rapes, torture and murders. Police, even governments, often act as persecutors rather than protectors.

Steve transcribed some of their stories: Jose, a Mexican car mechanic, was attacked and shot, but escaped and hid. He thinks his attackers belonged to a cartel and took him for a member of a rival cartel. Doctors refused, out of fear, to treat him, until Dr. B both treated him and urged him to seek asylum. Dr. B was soon afterwards killed — by the cartel, Jose is sure. A woman from El Salvador escaped with a surviving child after her two other children were murdered by criminals. The two journeyed through Honduras and Guatemala, then after months at the border finally crossed into Mexico. While they wait there she cannot work, they cannot see a doctor and her child cannot enroll in school; at the same time she is vulnerable to extortion and to sexual predation.

Many never get so far as to tell such stories. At the POE, Judy encountered a tall, gaunt and lost young man, trying to understand what was happening around him. When an AOL worker approached, he reacted in terror. As Judy tried to reassure him, she learned that he had come from Russia and had no idea how to find food or shelter. Even with information in hand, his instinct told him not to trust; he wanted only to speak to Americans who knew Russian. "I have never seen such fear in my life," Judy wrote. "How these traumatized people — with or without children — are going to make it in this dangerous city and mean-spirited world is totally beyond me."

Our volunteers have more to tell; when the kahal can gather, we'll hear more about their experience.

Pictured, left to right, the February 2020 BIC delegation: Steve and Bobbie Jellinek, Arlene Klavins, Ruthanne Landsness (Spanish teacher/ translator), Rabbi Betsy Forester, and Judy Pierotti.



Yahrzeits

17 Iyar / May 11

Rhea Katz
Miriam "Mickey" Pressman
Moshe Stein
Harry Zakhem

18 Iyar / May 12

Levi DeLevie
Ben-Tzion Karsh
Hiram Mendow
Silvan Sam Schweber

19 Iyar / May 13

Oscar Rapkin
Aaron Schuster
Harry Shapiro
Ida Sweet

20 Iyar / May 14

Rose Dachman
Betty Orman-Joseph
Milton Proskansky
Lori Rabb

21 Iyar / May 15

Rose Paley
Mary Richman
Nancy Rieger
William Shovers

22 Iyar / May 16

Art Dodd
Joy Kurzer
Charles Lipstein
Sam Paley
Sam Sinykin
Evelyn Sweet

23 Iyar / May 17

Sheldon Bernstein
Harry Gerson
Fruma Mintz
Bessie Paskin
Dave A. Sweet

25 Iyar / May 19

Roslyn Hoffert
Jacob Schmidman
Joseph Schwartz
Rachel Schwartz
Herman Sweet

26 Iyar / May 20

Fannie Borsuk
Anna Sarah Katz
Michael Lewis
Nellie Miller

(Continued on page 12)

Yahrzeits

26 Iyar / May 20

Rose Schwartz
Henry Slater
Gordon Sweet

27 Iyar / May 21

Mae Azen
Robert Donals

28 Iyar / May 22

Paul Fram
Isidor Frankel
Shirley Kniaz-
Banberger
Alfred Regenstein
Robert Thomadsen
Tena Wasserstrom

29 Iyar / May 23

Frieda Blachman
Rose Druch
Daniel Hill
Frieda Weinstein

1 Sivan / May 24

Sophie Figler
William Schuckit
Emanuel Simon
Solomon Swack

2 Sivan / May 25

Steven Kopelberg
Abraham Peturs
Hilda Pover
Meyer Sweet
Ralph M. Weisbard

3 Sivan / May 26

Laura L. Gladstein
Sol Jacobson
Kurt F. Y. Jasen
Samuel Moskowsky
Hyman Mullin
Meril Stein
Anne Rachel Sweet
Rosa Sweet
Henry Yaskal

4 Sivan / May 27

W. Feldman
Honey Korshak
Sarah Kress

5 Sivan / May 28

Susan Freund
Baileh Paley
Alex Seltzer

(Continued on page 13)



Counting the Quarantine

ספירת ההסגר S'firat Hahegger

Modeled on S'firat Ha'omer, the counting of the seven weeks between Pesach and Shavu'ot, Rabbis Hillel Skolnik and Sharon Barr Skolnik created a ritual called *S'firat Hahegger* for counting the days of social distancing. Rabbi Forester loved the idea and modified the language.

Just as we purposely count up the 49 days of the Omer between Pesach and Shavuot, we have been counting up towards the ultimate in-person, regathering of our BIC community and all of the communities of which we are a part. We do this during our online Zoom connection minyanim. You are welcome to count on your own, as well.

This practice has helped us focus on what makes our days meaningful and share the moments that make our days **count**.

If you wish to try it on your own, these are the blessings we have been using:

הנני מוכן ומזומן לקיים מצות עשה של פיקוח נפש
כמו שכתוב בתורה "ובחרת בחיים."

*Hin'ni muchan umzuman l'kayem mitzvat aseih shel pikuach nefesh,
k'mo shekatuv baTorah: "uvacharta bachayim."*

Here I am, actively ready to fulfill the mitzvah of saving lives,
as the Torah teaches, "and you shall choose life."

ברוך אתה אדני אלהינו מלך העולם
העומד עימנו בעת צרה.

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam, ha-omeid imeinu b'eit tzarah.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of the Universe,
The One who stands with us in our time of crisis.

היום יום ... להסגר.

Hayom yom ... lahesger.

Today is the ... day of the quarantine.

May 1 will be the 47th day of the Hesger, and we will count 48 on Friday evening, May 1 at our online Kabbalat Shabbat service. Please join us!

Mazal Tov to...

- Sion and Jane Shabtaie on the birth of their grandson, Mordechai, in February, and also to the parents Krista and Kaveh Shabtaie.
- Kaylee and Josh Minkoff on the birth of Astella Nicole Minkoff in February, and also to grandparents Joel and Debbie Minkoff, and uncles and aunts Michael and Lainie, Caren and Ari, and Ben and Sarah.
- Noam and Alex Scheepens, and big sister Talia, on the birth Yehonatan Maarten Scheepens in March.
- Rita Hindin, her daughter and son-in-law, Tova and Elias Walsh, and granddaughters Maya and Noa on the birth of the newest addition to their family in March.

Condolences to the families of

- Herman Goldstein -- father of Mark (Stephanie), David (Anne), and Rahel; grandfather of Ellen, Abby, Cara, Vivian, Noah, and Ari -- who died in January.
- Gladys Diamond -- mother of Rabbi Eliezer Diamond (Rabbi Shelly Kniaz) -- who died in January.
- Judith Gail Williams-- mother of Stefanie Rose, grandmother of Hannah, Jake, and Josh Kohn -- who died in January.
- Gilbert "Gil" Palay -- husband of J. Dorothy "Dottie" Palay, father of Tom (Diane Gutmann) Palay and Robert (Linda) Palay; grandfather of Daniel (Kathryn), Jessica (Robert), David (Emily), Adam (Anne) and Joshua (Lizbeth) -- who died in January
- Annabelle Loeb -- mother of Jan (Marc Shovers) Loeb, grandmother of Sam and Ben Shovers -- who died in April.

A Note of Appreciation...



To Beth Israel Center friends of Herman Goldstein -

Thank you to all who showed us so much love and support, in so many incredible ways, in the days after our father's passing.

We were reminded of what we all knew growing up - Beth Israel Center is a very special kehillah.

*Todah Rabah,
The Goldstein Family*

Yahrzeits

6 Sivan / May 29

Israel Sede Barkin
Linda Cohn
Etta Lakritz
Shirley Magness
Jennie Sinaiko
Jeannette Switzky

7 Sivan / May 30

Evelyn Jellinek

8 Sivan / May 31

Shirley Blank
George Deutsch
Lloyd Frank
Abraham Nosofsky
Ronald Rosen
Bess P. Stein

9 Sivan / June 1

Harry Althuler
Mae Boris
Asher Lazimy
Robert Vannette

10 Sivan / June 2

Sam Chudacoff
Max Goldstein
Frances Rossman
Samuel D Wander
Dave Weinstein

11 Sivan / June 3

Abraham Barash
Morris Cohen
Sarah Littky
Claire Navin

12 Sivan / June 4

Emil Barth
Zena Burstyn
Nathan Frank
Paula Gash
Nancy R Gelman
Sylvia Kadushin
Sonia Rita Post
Rosenthal

13 Sivan / June 5

Nessie Goldberg
Helen Kivolowitz

14 Sivan / June 6

Mary Galanter
Harry Kay
Eli Mullin
Arthur Vannette

(Continued on page 14)

Yahrzeits

15 Sivan / June 7

Herman Black
Fannie Mack
Julius Miller
Hiam Orman
Steve Rader
William Rosenblum
Claire F Swartz
Herman Temkin
Sasha Temkin
Ellen Weiss Zitkin

16 Sivan / June 8

Sophie Cohen
Harry Cramer
Samson Mandelbaum
Rudolph Rich
Julius Ruskin

17 Sivan / June 9

Ben Blachman
Bernard Mandell
Jacob Mintz
David Remis
Arthur Yaskal

18 Sivan / June 10

Haskell Friedman
Mr. Herbert Miller
David Ottenstein

19 Sivan / June 11

Israel D Segal

20 Sivan / June 12

Florence S. Alexander
Gail Busha
Helen Machlis
Frank Marion
Harriet "Honey"
Rutchick
William B. Sweet

21 Sivan / June 13

Pesach Bebczuk
Herb Kliebard
Gerald Kurzer
Sam Lakritz
Hyman Lerner

22 Sivan / June 14

Rose Picus
Hyman Pinsky
Sarah Scher
Yehuda Temkin

23 Sivan / June 15

Harry Gevirman
Anna Schwam

(Continued on page 15)



Memorial & Tribute Gifts

We are so grateful to each and every donor. Every gift makes it possible for us to create a community that is alive with celebration, learning, prayer and tikkun olam. *Todah Rabbah!*

Memorial and tribute gifts may be made at any time to Beth Israel Center's general fund or any of the funds listed on the following pages. To donate, send us a check, call the office (608-256-7763) with a credit card number, or go to www.bethisraelcenter.org, where you have two online donation options. Members can click on the purple "Donate" icon at the bottom of the home page and place donations directly "on account" to be paid later or immediately. Both members and others can go to the Financial Contributions page on the Give menu and click the yellow Donate button to make a contribution via PayPal.

Below and on the following pages is a record of the memorial and tribute gifts made to Beth Israel Center between mid-January and early April.



Abe Barash Fund

in memory of

Henry Weiss from Alan Weinberg & Claire Weiss
David Mazur from Howard & Sally Mazur
Phyllis Levinthal from Leslie & Denise Mirkin
Lorraine Pollock from Nancy & Scott Richard
Dora Schwartz Yahrzeit from Richard Schwartz

Building Capital Fund

in honor of

Rabbi Forester and her wonderful knowledge and the ability to express it to us from David Balkansky

in memory of

Rachel Mazur from Howard & Sally Mazur
Anne Cooper from Marilyn & Stuart Cooper

Building Maintenance Reserve

in honor of

the births of Sage Witkovsky and Astella Minkoff from Matthew & Jennie Edes-Pierotti

in memory of

Morris Mirkin from Barry & Irene Mirkin
Fritz Gutmann & Sampson L. Myers from Harvey Temkin & Barbara Myers Temkin

Shirley Epstein Fund

in memory of

Oscar & Helen Karp and Walter Novick from Ruth Ann Schumeister
Ella Hirschfeld from Sherry Hirschfeld
Shoshana Goodman from Yael Lund

Fund for the Future

in appreciation of

Rabbi Forester from Maria Onheiber

in memory of

Louis Mazursky from Howard & Sally Mazur
Sam Onheiber, Frank and Ann Cohen, and Louis and Marsha Terman from Marcus & Sheila Cohen
Ann Slavney from Phillip Slavney



Memorial & Tribute Gifts (Con't.)

Fund for the Future

in memory of

Ben Hirschfeld from Sherry Hirschfeld
Herman Goldstein from Allan Levin, Allen Salomon, Barbara Crabb, Barry & Donna Wolfson, Bonnie Smith, Carl & Liz Silverman, Charles & Sue Center, Bruce Thomadsen & Louise Goldstein, Eric Weiner, Gay Goldstein, Gloria Feibish, Harvey & Barbara Myers Temkin, Hildegard Adler, Jacquelyn Huff, Joan Vieira, Karl Kletzien & Jody McIntyre, Madison Professional Police Officers Association, Police Executive Research Forum, Malcolm Feeley, Marcus & Sheila Cohen, Marcus Felson & Mary Eckert, Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen, Michael and Patrice Onheiber, Alan & Jean Lettofsky, Morton & Leona Oberstein, Noah & Rosalyn Hershkowitz, Rayla Temin, Robert & Alice Gurne, Robert & Linda Graebner, Sam & Kathryn Maglio, Sanford & Marcia Mackman, Si & Billie Hellerstein, Steve & Bobbie Jellinek, Steve & Judy Werlin, Steve Morrison & Goldie Kadushin, Thomas Palay & Diane Gutmann and William & Barbara Spitz.

General Fund

Get Well

Marty Refka from Barbara Herman

in honor of

David Balkansky from Harlan Balkansky
the birth of Livia Asher's granddaughter, Leona Maya Asher and Cynthia Hirsch's granddaughter, Sage Witkovsky from Thomas Palay & Diane Gutmann
the birth of Astella Minkoff from Thomas Popkewitz & Lea Aschkenase

in memory of

Sandra K. Goldstein from Bernie & Lenora Goldstein
Clara Rothblatt, Phil & Anita Kapell from Cheryl Lerner
Sol Levin from Daniel & Kathy Levin
Alex Swartz from David & Susan Fish
Judy Balkansky from David Balkansky
Caroline Sulman from David Sulman & Anne Altshuler
Sarah Gevirman from Edwin Azen
Louis Landau from Ellie Landau
Minnie Frank Lustgarden from Frances Mann
Bernie Mazursky from Howard & Sally Mazur
Helen Sinagub from Jonathan Sinagub
David Perlman from Kato Perlman
Solomon & Shirley Volpiansky from Larry Chapman & Paula Volpiansky
Bernard Kaplan from Michael Kaplan & Beverly Richey
Irene Mirkin's mother, Hilda, from Nancy Feingold
Pearl Springberg from Peter Springberg
Morris Levin from Roz Levin
Judith Gail Williams from Steven Morrison & Goldie Kadushin
Golda Jacoby from Steven Wilensky & Janice Gratch
Hilda Mirkin from Thomas Popkewitz & Lea Aschkenase
Debra Friedman from David Friedman

Jake Heifetz Fund

in memory of

Fania Heifetz from Lawrence Heifetz
Bill Karpe from David Karpe & Julita Jankowska
Fania Heifetz from Pauline Heifetz
Esther Swartz from Samuel Moss
Fania Heifetz from Steve Heifetz

Yahrzeits

24 Sivan / June 16

Howard Eisenberg
Susan Louis
Maurice Pekarsky

25 Sivan / June 17

Alex Cohen
Harry Figler
Lubey Mintz
Pearl Rutel
Ida Schuckit
Louis Schwartz

26 Sivan / June 18

Eva S. Lassen

27 Sivan / June 19

Esther Bloomfield
Yetta Sinagub
Frieda Stein

28 Sivan / June 20

Julius Burstyn
Bessie Perlman
Riva Polyakova
Monroe Segal
John E. Wear

29 Sivan / June 21

Binyamin Fine
Eugene Greenberg
Sol Lieberman
Betty Silverman
Dorothy Saposnik Smith

30 Sivan/ June 22

Barbara Bernstein
Dientia DeLevie
Fannie Perlman
Sol Sweet

1 Tammuz / June 23

Richard D Brauer
Rabbi Paul Drazen
Belle Novick
Paul Rock

3 Tammuz / June 25

Belle Epstein
Selig Iwanter

4 Tammuz / June 26

Neil Grossman
Harry Hallaway
Meyer James Pover
Helen Rittenhouse
Bernard Schwab
Robert L. Smith

(Continued on page 16)

Yahrzeits

5 Tammuz / June 27

Sonyamae Alpert
Beatrice Littman
Dora Tomarkin

6 Tammuz / June 28

Martha Barth
Mrs. Ben Rubin

7 Tammuz / June 29

Isidore Andrusier
Louis Fine
Julia Haber Lakritz
Sidney Menchel
Anne Onikul
Ruth Spar
Clara Sweet

8 Tammuz / June 30

Lil Gerson

9 Tammuz / July 1

Joel Epstein
Ben Jacobs
Melba Katz
Al Mocny
Frances Rackoff Myers
Susan Sinaiko

10 Tammuz / July 2

Louis Barkin
Louis Setlick
Benjamin Weisbrod
Ida Wyman

11 Tammuz / July 3

Sophie Schuster

12 Tammuz / July 4

Sam Cohn
Sedelle Lottie Diamond
Arlyne Eisenberg
Morris Kniaz
Alma Sweet
Bessie Yaskal

13 Tammuz / July 5

Arthur England
Esther Kaplan

14 Tammuz / July 6

Nathan Goldstone
Yetta Temkin

15 Tammuz / July 7

Max Gold
Bruce Kay
Henry Levine William
Schwartz

(Continued on page 17)



Memorial & Tribute Gifts (Con't.)

Morris Heifetz Welfare Fund

in memory of

Rubin Schwartzstein, father of Alan Schwartzstein, grandfather of Dan, Annie and Emily Schwartzstein, from Alan & Laurie Schwartzstein
Esther Frank from Leslie Rukin

Holman/Weisbard Fund for Adult Jewish Learning

in honor of

the birth of Astella Minkoff from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen

in memory of

Hilda Mirkin from Bilha Mirkin
Evelyn Minkoff from Joel & Debbie Minkoff
Rabbi Diamond's mother, Gladys Diamond from Rayla Temin

Martin & Serene Mazor Kiddush Fund

in honor of

the birth of Sage Witkovsky from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen
Scott Forester's birthday from Moe & Harriet Brown
Sharon Kessel's birthday from Paul Wilson & Laurie Nagus

in memory of

Bruce Lundquist, father of Laurie Lundquist Schwartzstein, grandfather of Dan, Annie, and Emily Schwartzstein, from Alan & Laurie Schwartzstein
Akiyasu Kitano from Kazu Kitano
Irene Mirkin's mother from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen
Morris Greenberg and Howard Temin from Rayla Temin
Martin Deutschkron and Eva Deutschkron from Russ & Ruth Frank

Mikvah Fund

in honor of

Cynthia's granddaughter, Sage Witkovsky from Bruce Thomadsen & Louise Goldstein

Mintz Fund

in memory of

Hyman Daniels & Lena Daniels from Barbara Beyer
Larry Mazursky and Marvin Muzursky from Howard & Sally Mazur
Abraham Blumenfeld and Frank Melnik from Sol & Corlie Blumenfeld

Judith & Daniel Pierotti Social Justice Fund

in honor of

Merle & Jerry Sternberg from Judy Pierotti
the birth of Astella Minkoff from Livia Asher

in memory of

Judith Gail Williams, the mother of Stefanie Rose from Bruce Thomadsen & Louise Goldstein
George J. Skloot from Robert & JoAnn Skloot

Prayerbook Fund

in memory of

Sylvia Wein and Gordon Wein from Roslyn Gorchow

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

a belated welcome to our community from Lawrence Kohn & Laurie Buchalter
in appreciation of Rabbi Forester from Maria Onheiber



Memorial & Tribute Gifts (Con't.)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

in honor of

Steve Kessler's Retirement from Bruce Thomadsen & Louise Goldstein

Aaron Frank, for being a mensch, from Ronald & Cher Diamond

in memory of

Harry Schiff and Geneva Boissonnault from Bill & Jill Boissonnault

Estelle Bernstein from Bradley Bernstein

Sara Schwartz from Fred & Sylvia Schwartz

Albert Eisenberg from Leslie Eisenberg

Martin and Helena Siroky from Livia Asher

Clara Cohn, Sam Cohn, Chaim Dubrovitz, Barnet Nathenson, Mary Nathenson, Herbert Nathenson and Rose Nathanson from Linda Freeman

Harry Sweet & Jerome Onheiber from Maria Onheiber

Dorothy Miller and Howard Yaskal from Maureen Yaskal

Jerome Onheiber from Michael & Patrice Onheiber

Ruth Zitowsky from Robert Zitowsky

Susanne and Aaron Gellman from Samuel Gellman & Julie Plotkin

Peter and Marcy Deutsch from Stephan Deutsch & Judith Burstyn

Rosenberg Library Fund

in memory of

Celia Rosenberg from Irwin Rosenberg and Lyn Rosenberg

Talmud Torah Fund

in honor of

the birth of Astella Minkoff from Gerald Greenfield & Lauren Meyers

in memory of

Hilda Mirkin from Bruce Thomadsen & Louise Goldstein

David Temkin Camp Ramah Fund

in memory of

Herman Goldstein from Alan & Jean Lettofsky

Jeanette Frank from Callie Dixon

Mel Gutmann from Harvey Temkin & Barbara Myers Temkin

Eva Moss from Marcia Moss

Herman Goldstein from Rabbi Charles & Mrs. Krayna Feinberg

David Rosenthal from Si & Billie Hellerstein

Weinshel Torah Repair and Maintenance Fund

in memory of

Gladys Diamond from Dr Bruce Thomadsen & Louise Goldstein

Abe & Bella Radbil from Steven Schwartz

Sara Schwartz from Steven Schwartz

Women's League

in memory of

Harold & Frieda Borenstein, Natalie & Albert Borenstein and Celia & Nathan Borenstein from Nicki Milin



Memorial and tribute gifts may be made at any time to Beth Israel Center's General Fund or any of the funds listed on the preceding pages. Undesignated donations of up to \$1,000 go into our General Fund, where they support our programming. Undesignated donations of \$1,000 or more go into our Fund for the Future. **Every gift makes what we do here possible! Todah Rabbah.**

Yahrzeits

16 Tammuz / July 8

Helen Haber
Daniel Mack
Elliot Mager
Phillip Mann
Alex Paskin
Genevieve Ruben
Gary Sweet

17 Tammuz / July 9

Cecile Ehrman
Benny Joss
Fay Maydeck

18 Tammuz / July 10

Seymour Abrahamson
Mary Grossman
Harry Seeman
Sarah Zaichick

19 Tammuz / July 11

Amy Azen
Lawrence Borenstein
Rosa Kammer
Samuel Tomarkin

20 Tammuz / July 12

Ilse Karger Brauer
William Emil Deutsch
Freda Jacobson
Molly Paster
Sam Rosenthal

21 Tammuz / July 13

Max Ruskin
Vera Terry

22 Tammuz / July 14

M. Jack Epstein
Alex Kaplan
Millie Kaplan
Seymour Kaye
Norman Parisek
Eva Perlman
Isaac Perlman
Dinah Silverman

23 Tammuz / July 15

Norton Gahr
Rae Rapkin
Ruth Schwartz

24 Tammuz / July 16

Joshua Hollander
Hyman Harry Minkoff
Isadore Victor
Israel Victor

(Continued on page 18)

Yahrzeits

25 Tammuz / July 17

Ida Bradkofsky
Samuel Springberg

26 Tammuz / July 18

Dora Moser
Frieda Pinsky
Sam Pollack
Grace Rasmussen
Hyman Schuster
Linda Tetzlaff

27 Tammuz / July 19

Frume Frank
Warren Randy
Fannie Stein

28 Tammuz / July 20

Rachel Mullin
Bud Sweet
Louise Wear

29 Tammuz / July 21

Elizabeth Berg
Sidney Bernstein
Celia Labow Holman
Sophie Levine

1 Av / July 22

Dr. Donald Garelick
Lisa Sklarin
Molly Tomash

2 Av / July 23

Tomi Deutsch
Tsivia Morgensteren

3 Av / July 24

Bernice Loewenstein

4 Av / July 25

Sidney Goldstein
Julius Jacobs
Myer Nathenson
Harry Rosen

5 Av / July 26

Anna Blumenfeld
Ed Dubrow
Rose Greenfield
Marc Allan Hanau
Florence Landes
Naomi Rich
Norman Zaichick

(Continued on page 19)



Essential Services

Ways to Connect during the Quarantine

As this issue of our quarterly newsletter goes to press, we are all keeping our physical distance and seeking ways to connect with each other. Find us online for:

Daily Connection Minyan

Every weekday morning at 8:00 and every weekday afternoon/evening at 5:30, join us via Zoom for davening, singing, and checking in on each other.

Kabbalat Shabbat

Every Friday evening, we gather via Zoom at 5:00 to schmooze and begin our Kabbalat Shabbat service at 5:45.

Ha-video-dallah

Every Saturday evening, about 10 minutes after Shabbat goes out, join us for Havdallah. See the times on the back page of this newsletter.

Tea & Torah

On Tuesday afternoons at 4:00, Rabbi Forester leads a 30-minute study of psalms and other interesting texts.

Wednesday Wisdom

On Wednesday afternoons at 4:00, Rabbi Forester leads a 45-minute discussion on Halachic Decision-Making During This Pandemic

Mishmar

On Thursday evenings at 8:30, Rabbi Forester leads 30 minutes of meditative and ruach-filled singing. Get your Shabbat groove on!

May 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Hesger day 47 (see page 12)	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Pesach Sheni	9
10	11	12 Lag B'Omer	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Yom Yerushalayim	23
24 Rosh Chodesh Sivan Tentative: MOUSY Elections	25	26	27	28 Erev Shavuot	29 Shavuot I	30 Shavuot II
31 Tentative: Kadima Outdoor Adventure						



June 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz	22 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz	23	24	25	26 Hoyt Park reserved for Kabbalat Shabbat potluck	27
28	29	30				

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Hoyt Park reserved for Kabbalat Shabbat potluck	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Rosh Chodesh Av	23	24	25
26 Tentative: BIC Family Camp at Ramah Wisconsin with Rabbi Forester	27	28	29	30 Tisha B'Av	31	
			Erev Tisha B'Av			

Yahrzeits

6 Av / July 27

Ethel Goldstein
Fanny Nosofsky
Helen Ryan
Benjamin Weinstein

7 Av / July 28

Marcella Frank
Rachel Hayman Cohen
Ethel Lipstein
Harry Usdansky
Erika Weinfeld

8 Av / July 29

Anna Weiss Bentley
Chaim Figler
Rashe Nathenson

9 Av / July 30

Anna Altman
Samuel Kessel
Susan Knapp Lundquist
Emanuel Rosenberg
Ethel Rosenberg

10 Av / July 31

Abraham Chudacoff
Phyllis Greenberg
Sadie Miller Deutscher
Gerald Schlossberg
Sam Schwartz
Dora Sweet
Louie Wein



Beth Israel Center maintains a database of Yahrzeit observances for its members. The people listed on the sides of these pages died on these dates on the Hebrew calendar in years past.

If you hope to observe the anniversary of a loved one's passing by reciting kaddish with a Beth Israel Center minyan, please contact the office so we can notify the community of your need.

זכרונם לברכה



BETH ISRAEL
CENTER
Celebrating Jewish Life Together

1406 Mound St.
 Madison, Wisconsin 53711

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May / June / July Candle Lighting Times

Shabbat	Parasha	Candle Lighting (Friday)	Ha-video-dallah (Saturday)*
May 1/2	Achrei Mot-Kedoshim	7:41 pm	8:53 pm
May 8/9	Emor	7:49 pm	9:00 pm
May 15/16	Behar-Bechukotai	7:57 pm	9:08 pm
May 22/23	Bamidbar	8:04 pm	9:15 pm
May 28	<i>Erev Shavuot</i>	8:09 pm (Thursday)	
May 29/30	Shavuot	8:10 pm	9:21 pm
June 5/6	Nasso	8:15 pm	9:26 pm
June 12/13	Beha'alotcha	8:19 pm	9:30 pm
June 19/20	Sh'lach	8:22 pm	9:32 pm
June 26/27	Korach	8:23 pm	9:33 pm
July 3/4	Chukat-Balak	8:22 pm	9:31 pm
July 10/11	Pinchas	8:19 pm	9:28 pm
July 17/18	Matot-Masei	8:14 pm	9:23 pm
July 24/25	Devarim	8:08 pm	9:17 pm
July 31/ Aug. 1	Vaetchanan	8:00 pm	9:09 pm

**In response to the COVID-19 Safer-at-Home order, we are gathering online each Saturday night to greet each other and make Havdallah. The Ha-video-dallah times listed above are 10 minutes after Shabbat ends. Please join us. Bring your own spices!*

Stay tuned for schedule updates. Ha-video-dallah and other online services are expressly intended to fill the void left by our inability to gather in person during the quarantine. The date at which we can resume in-person gatherings was unknown when this newsletter went to press.