



### In this issue...

Rabbi's Column  
page 2

President's Column  
page 3

Executive Director's Column  
page 4

Education Director's Column  
page 5

Social Justice Updates  
page 6

Spring & Summer Programs  
Page 7

Meet Your Leadership  
page 8

Volunteer Appreciation  
page 10

Youth Program Activities  
page 12

Ways to Give  
page 13

Simchas & Sorrows  
page 14

Book Dedications  
page 14

Memorial & Tribute Gifts  
pages 15-17

Services Schedule & Calendars  
pages 18-19



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

**BETH ISRAEL CENTER**  
1406 Mound Street  
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## Upcoming Programs

### Lag B'Omer Songs & S'Mores

**Tuesday, May 9, 6:00pm**

Have fun over s'mores and singing in the BIC parking lot. Bring a vegetarian/dairy contribution to our **potluck dinner**. (If you're cooking at home, use kosher, vegetarian ingredients. Fish and dairy are OK; no meat. Commercially produced items require a hechsher.) Enjoy live music by Mideast Salsa. All are welcome! Thanks to the Board of Directors for sponsoring s'mores and beverages for all.



### Kolot Kehilla with Bill Karasov

**Sunday, May 14, 9:30am brunch, 10:15am presentation**

Our Sunday morning speaker series featuring the voices of our community continues with Bill Karasov presenting "A View from Molecules to Ecosystems: Physiological Ecology." Join your BIC family to honor our Mother Earth and enjoy a delicious Mothers Day brunch.



### Tikkun Leil Shavuot: Write for Yourself this Song

**Thursday, May 25, 7:30pm**

Join in receiving Torah as a community by studying texts and sharing learning late into the night. Come learn with Rabbis and other scholars from around our community beginning at 7:30pm and continuing into the wee hours. This year's theme is "Write for Yourself this Song: Adding to the Melody of Torah."

### Kabbalat Shabbat Potlucks in Westmorland Park

**June 23, July 21, August 25**

Once a month this summer, we will move our Friday evening services to Westmorland Park, add a guitar, and enjoy a potluck dinner. Wondering what to bring? See our potluck rules above. Services start at 5:45. Dinner follows.



### Pride Shabbat

**June 23/24**

Our annual Pride Shabbat brings us closer to one another in celebration and solidarity. This year, we will honor our commitments with a special l'chayim during Shabbat dinner at the park (info above). On Shabbat morning, we will focus on legislative threats to LGBTQ+ people, raising up the need for allies to act as advocates.

### Annual Membership Meeting

**Sunday, July 9, 4:00pm**

Show up in community to elect new Board members, thank those completing their terms, and learn more about our 75th Anniversary Campaign and the September 4 event at which we will complete and welcome our new Torah scroll.





# Thoughts from the Rabbi...

## מהשבות **Makh'shavot: Seasons of Joy**

### 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:

**July 5, 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!



Shortly after I came to Beth Israel Center, we rebranded and adopted our new logo and tagline “Celebrating Jewish Life Together.” Not long thereafter, we created a new strategic

plan that identifies “Joy - שמחה (Simchah)” as one of our four core values. The perfection of that value lies not in a series of delightful experiences but in “feeling enriched and moved and awake,” as our Strategic Plan notes.

At Beth Israel Center we celebrate Jewish life deeply together precisely because we live through the full array of emotions and experiences with intention, our minds open to new learning and our hearts open to enrich and extend the circles of belonging that make our shul a true spiritual home, a place and a kahal that help us to thrive throughout the seasons—not only the happy ones. Sharing connection at times of sadness or trepidation deepens our capacity to rejoice together at happy times. A kahal that cooks for its sick and offers quiet presence to its bereaved sings and dances more jubilantly at b'nei mitzvah, baby celebrations, and weddings. People who fast together eat together with more profound gratitude. People who labor to build community in the many ways it takes experience our shared blessings as abundance.

Happily, we have four seasons of joy here in Madison: Pesach, Shavuot, Sukkot, and Summer. Notwithstanding the fact that Tisha B'Av, arguably the saddest day in the Jewish calendar, falls in July or August each year (preceded by three weeks in which we take measures to limit our joy), the Madison summer is core to our vitality. How happy we are to bask in it together!

Joy ... lies not in a series of delightful experiences but in 'feeling enriched and moved and awake.'

Summer is also a great time to contemplate Rabbi Alan Lew's *This is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared*, in which he writes that joy does not refer to “fun” alone: “Joy is any feeling fully felt, any experience we give our whole being to. We are conditioned to choose pleasure and to reject pain, but the truth is, any moment of our life fully inhabited, any feeling fully felt, any immersion in the full depth of life, can be the source of deep joy.”

At least three times a day, we daven the Ashrei together, beginning with the words “Happy are they who dwell in Your [God's] house; they will go on to praise You.” Even a shiva minyan opens with those words. We can speak of happiness at a time of sorrow because supporting each other through all of life's ups and

downs is the most joyful gift we can offer each other. Together, we create “God's house,” the place where we are always loved, received with compassion, and never cut off, when we show up genuinely for one another.

As Summer wanes, we will add Psalm 27 to our morning and evening prayers, saying throughout the holiday season: “One thing I ask of Adonai—to dwell in

God's house all the days of my life.” We pray to dwell in that spiritual place knowing it is ours to build with our helping hands, shared skills, welcoming smiles, listening ears, open hearts, and financial resources.

“Tears linger for a night, and joy comes in the morning,” sings the psalmist. A strong Jewish community makes room for tears, laughter, and all the moments in between. That is how we celebrate Jewish life together.

What a joy it is to nurture such a place with you.

*Rabbi Betsy*

Rabbi Betsy / Rav Batya

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



# President's Column

## The Joys of Kiddush

On a typical Shabbat morning, congregants arrive early – or not so early – to Beth Israel Center's main sanctuary. In the preceding week, some have learned to chant a portion of the weekly parashah or haftarah, sharpened their davening skills, prepared a d'var Torah, strategized about getting children to Talmud Torah on time, or spent time organizing the weekly announcements. One by one, participants discharge their responsibilities until our youngest congregants ascend the bima to lead the concluding prayers.

As Shabbat morning services end, attention shifts to the relaxed joy of Kiddush – putting behind us the nervous energy of the morning's responsibilities, visiting with friends and guests, and sharing delicious food prepared and served by our dedicated Kiddush Crew volunteers. In a sense, Kiddush embodies the notion of *Shabbat M'nuchah* (Shabbat of Rest).

As an organization, we understand the role our newly greened Kiddush plays in making BIC a welcoming space, and its importance in sustaining our community, especially as we return, some more cautiously than others, to in-person gathering. It comes as no surprise that food motivates action! Beth Israel Center's operating budget supports our ability to provide a tasty Kiddush buffet, and we count on Kiddush sponsorships (starting at \$400) and contributions (of any size) to the Martin & Serene Mazor Kiddush Fund when building our Kiddush budget.

So heartily has our congregation embraced the renewed joys of Kiddush that this year's Kiddush budget has not kept pace with our needs. Indeed, from time-to-time we hear that our Kiddush offerings are too limited, too spare, or too repetitive. Fortunately, some congregants have stepped forward to enhance our experience by sponsoring a Kiddush to note an important milestone or to recognize a special

person. You might have heard me muse on Shabbat that "a sponsored Kiddush is a win-win-win-win: the sponsor feels good, the honoree feels loved, the congregants are well fed, and some of the sponsorship funds bolster the Kiddush line in our operating budget." I have come to appreciate that Kiddush sponsorship does more than enhance our Kiddush buffet on just one Shabbat. In fact, those contributions that bolster the Kiddush budget line actually increase our Kiddush joy every Shabbat!



### Honor Elissa Pollack—July 8

This summer marks Elissa's tenth year as our Executive Director, and I invite you all to join me in honoring her on Shabbat, July 8. If you'd like to share the cost of sponsoring Kiddush that day with me, just let me know. Elissa would also be honored by your presence.

What does this mean for us? We now enjoy about one dozen sponsored Kiddushim per year, about once a month. If we were to double or quadruple that rate, our congregants would quickly get used to kugel, or

lox, or other special Kiddush treats that come with more sponsorships. The kavod shown toward our sponsors would last for months, and more honorees would feel special. If sponsoring on your own (for \$400, \$580 or \$810) is not in your personal budget, I encourage you to consider joining together with others (your extended family, a group of friends, a Talmud Torah cohort). Think creatively about recognizing people (parents, children, teachers, staff, volunteers) and occasions (birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, promotions, retirements, honors). Visit [www.bethisraelcenter.org/sponsor-kiddush](http://www.bethisraelcenter.org/sponsor-kiddush) for more information, or contact the office to get started. Your congregation thanks you!

*Bennett Berson*

Bennett Berson  
president@bethisraelcenter.org

## 2022-23 Board Of Directors

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## From the Executive Director's Desk

### Finding Joy

### Support Shabbat Kiddush

The Beth Israel Center Shabbat Kiddush is a special time and place to come together to celebrate Shabbat with our *kehilla* (sacred community) and to actively embody the mitzvah of *hachnasat orchim* (welcoming guests). We serve lunch every week after Shabbat morning services.

Many thanks to these recent & upcoming Kiddush sponsors:

February 25 – Cynthia Hirsch and Michael Witkovsky in honor of their grandson Hugo's naming

April 29 – The Berland family in celebration of Asher becoming a Bar Mitzvah

May 6 – The Dolin family in celebration of Shayna becoming a Bat Mitzvah

May 13 – The Goldberg family in celebration of Jaime completing her Ph.D.

May 20 – The de Laix family in celebration of Roger becoming a Bar Mitzvah

June 3 – The Forester family in celebration of Benjy & Emily's wedding aufruf

July 1 – The Baum/Litovsky family in celebration of Micah & Aviva's wedding aufruf

July 8 – All who wish to join Bennett in honor of Elissa's 10 years as our Executive Director (See page 3.)

July 22 – The Onheiber family in celebration of Mimi & Kyle's wedding aufruf AND Sally Jones & Aaron Friedman in celebration of Sally's milestone birthday

Our Strategic Plan likens the core value of “joy” to “creating a sense of fulfillment in all that we offer, whether it is our daily Jewish rituals, holiday liturgy and celebrations, social



activities and/or social justice initiatives.” Further, the plan recognizes that every member will not experience joy at every gathering. Rather, the point of claiming that joy is worth striving for is that each of us can expect to feel

enriched, moved and enlivened by the services, programs, classes, or other gatherings in which we choose to participate.

As a young mother, I didn't come to shul regularly. Perhaps our first attempt as new parents to attend a Friday night service followed by dinner discouraged me. We left before the end of services because our infant (who is now 27) went on an epic screaming jag, and we were new enough to the community, and to parenthood, that we chose leaving over staying with a crying baby.

That infant eventually stopped screaming, and we started coming to shul a little more often. For years before shul became a regular habit for me, I nearly always left thinking “I should do that more often.” Something about the kavanah of the worship experience or the taste of the meal or the intellectual stimulation of the program or the warmth of the people I just spent time with did exactly what our strategic plan calls on us to do now — create a sense of fulfillment.

Little did I know then that I would someday be one of the people responsible for sustaining, developing, and publicizing offerings rich in kavanah, tasty flavors, engagement, and warmth — all in the hope of helping people find fulfillment, find joy, through this special community.

From where I sit now, I see many different ways to engage in congregational life. I also see signs that many readers of this newsletter

aren't aware of everything that we offer, despite our efforts to communicate not only on these pages but also in our weekly e-news, special event announcements, annual report, website, Facebook page, printed bulletins and fliers, live announcements at the end of services, and more.

We use a lot of communication tools — some more effectively than others. And there are tools out there that we don't use. (You won't find BIC on Twitter. Or Instagram.)

I am very interested in learning what works, what doesn't, and what we should try so that more of you can be more aware of the opportunities for fulfillment — for joy! — that you can find at Beth Israel Center.

Are we sending too many emails? Should we start texting about upcoming programs? Do you look for information on our website that isn't where you're clicking? Do you enjoy receiving this newsletter? (Do you know how often it comes?)

No two of you will answer the above questions the same way, but I'm asking anyway, and I am working on a survey the results of which will help us evaluate our communication strategy.

In the meantime, if you'd like to send me an email or find a time to chat about this, I'd love to know in a more informal (but perhaps more informative) way:

- 1) How do you get information about BIC?
- 2) How do you get information about other things that matter to you -- your workplace/school, political/social causes, entertainment, etc.
- 3) What annoys you about how you get (or don't get) information from BIC or other important entities in your life?
- 4) What do you look forward to receiving?

These are just details. The big question is: How can we help you find joy?

Elissa Pollack  
elissa@bethisraelcenter.org





## From the Education Director's Desk

### Celebrating the Joyful Moments

One of my favorite things to do at Talmud Torah is to walk down the hallways and just listen to the classes. I might hear singing and guitar coming from Elissa's Kitah Bet on a Tuesday afternoon, intense debates coming from Aly's Kitot Vav v'Zayin on Thursday, or whoops of joy coming from our Kitot Gimmel, Dalet, and Hey classes where someone won a "Jewpardy" game or an online Kahoot. All of it indicates that our students are not only learning the material but that they are engaging with it in various and often joyful ways.

This is a credit to our amazing teachers and staff who teach our children in Talmud Torah! We are so lucky to have such a wonderful, caring, and dedicated staff who make it their mission to create new and exciting ways for our students to experience learning! We thank them all for making this year so amazing and memorable. I am grateful for all of the work that they do to make this a truly special school.

We strive to follow Rebbe Nachman of Breslov's teaching: "Remember: Joy is not merely incidental to your spiritual quest. It is vital!" Our school year is coming to an end, and what a joyfully rewarding first year it has been for me! I have loved getting to know the Beth Israel Center family and our wonderful children.

One of our established traditions is to celebrate those students who are crossing new learning thresholds at our Kibbud Limudim ceremony during Shabbat morning services in May—this year, on May 13.

Our 7th grade students are transitioning from Talmud Torah into our N'tivon teen program with the Rabbi, and Midrasha. Mazal tov to Asher Berland, Roger de Laix, Shayna Dolin, Micah Mandell, Lexi Schmitz, and Raphael Shelef.

Our 5th grade students have worked hard to strengthen their learning this year. They took the time they needed to review their Hebrew reading and language skills and jump back into prayer practice along with other aspects of our curriculum. These students will now transition into leadership in Kehillat Noar as they begin their B'nai Mitzvah preparation. Each will be receiving their own copy of Siddur Lev Shalem which will help them continue learning and

growing with the kahal. Yasher Koach to Dylan Cordasco, Paul Cordasco, Simon Heller, Hannah Wells, and Talya Whitmore.

Finally, our 2nd grade students are preparing to extend their commitment to Torah learning from two to three days each week in our school. Kol hakavod to Janis Cordasco, Eitan Minkoff, Gavi Stolz-Greenberg, and Jessica Wells.



We will also be celebrating students completing high school and advanced degrees at this year's Kibbud Limudim. If you or someone you know is graduating from high school, college, or reaching a similarly exciting educational milestone, we hope you will join us on Shabbat morning, May 13, so our community can share in your joy.

Over the summer, we have some B'Yachad B'Kef—Together in Fun programs planned for families with preschoolers, which will help us stay in touch with each other and share in the joy and community-building effort of making some enhancements for Matchilim. We are also planning a special "Glidah for Gimmel" program for our rising third graders and their families in late August. Dates and details are in the sidebar to the right.

We are proud to be a kahal that celebrates the joy of Jewish living year-round. For most of our students, that means Jewish summer camp. We wish all of our students happy summer experiences, wherever they may be.

Our families and students show remarkable dedication and commitment to our school and our kahal. Thank you for welcoming me so warmly and helping me learn what makes our Talmud Torah remarkable. It has been such a joy to learn and grow with you this year and I'm already cooking up new spiritual quests for next year. Chazak U'Varuch!

*Dr. Stephanie Kirklin / Morah Shoshana*  
Dr. Stephanie Kirklin/Morah Shoshana  
[education@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:education@bethisraelcenter.org)

### Summer Sunday Fun for Preschool Families

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

Preschoolers! Bring your grown-ups to Beth Israel Center for creative activities with Morah Shoshana that will make our Shabbat morning Matchilim celebrations even better!

**Sundays, 10:00 at BIC:**

#### Build an Aron May 7

#### Make a Matchilim Flipbook June 4

#### Make New Tushie Cushies July 16

Along with these crafts, we'll have stories, snacks, and play time.

### Summer Shabbat Fun For All Kids

#### Matchilim Shabbat Mornings

Join Gavi Springsguth on these select Shabbat mornings at 10:40am:

**June 10**

**July 8**

**August 19**

Preschoolers: Bring a grown-up.  
School-age children may participate while their parents are elsewhere in the building.

#### Parachute, Popsicles, and Play

All Matchilim and Talmud Torah families are welcome to meet up at BIC for a Shabbat afternoon of fun with Morah Shoshana.

**June 17 at 3:30pm  
10:00am**



## Social Justice Updates

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

### Volunteer Opportunities: Battling Food Insecurity

#### Little John's Kitchens

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 helped weekly until many LJK operations went on hiatus. We'll return when they are ready for us again. More info about Little John's is online at [littlejohnskitchens.org](http://littlejohnskitchens.org)

#### 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.



### Dinner With Friends

Thanks to everyone who signed up for the first round of "Dinner With Friends," a new membership engagement program designed to help congregants connect over the time-honored tradition of sharing a meal.

Watch for another round of sign-ups and member matching coming soon.

Questions? Email [membership@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:membership@bethisraelcenter.org) or talk to Ziva Wear.

### Continuing to Connect with EXPO of Wisconsin

Our Confronting Racism initiative, in partnership with the Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development, has reached a new stage in our 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 its leadership and 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.

Beth Israel Center 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.

#### Upcoming opportunities:

**Wednesday, May 31** - Join us on Zoom at 7:00pm to watch two short videos about EXPO and discuss the content with EXPO representatives, in preparation for...

**...Shabbat, June 17** - Lunch & Learn: Correcting the Narrative. EXPO representatives will join us in shul and engage in this conversation with us over Kiddush lunch.

### We're Returning to the U.S. - Mexican Border

In October 2023, soon after the holidays, BIC members and friends will be volunteering at Casa Alitas, the welcome center for asylum seekers from countries all over the world.

Casa Alitas, in Tucson, Ariz., currently welcomes over 500 people every day and relies heavily on volunteer help. On our trip, we will work with asylum seekers, and plans may also include exploring Tucson and the Borderlands.

You don't speak Spanish? No problem. Are you possibly interested in joining us, or might you have questions? Come to Beth Israel Center on **May 21 at 11:30 am** to hear about our October 2023 volunteer trip to Casa Alitas. Rabbi Betsy and Ruthanne Landsness, an experienced Casa Alitas volunteer, will answer your questions about this endeavor.

There is a crisis at the border. We can be part of the solution.



## Next Jewish Authors Book Club Pick

### Next meeting: Shabbat afternoon, June 3

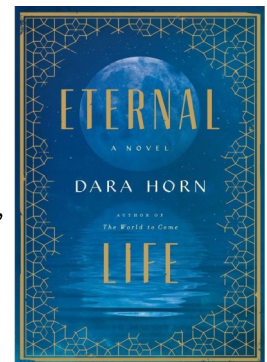
Having gathered twice this spring on Shabbat afternoons, our new book discussion series is going strong! If you're interested in reading and discussing books by Jewish authors, with Jewish characters, and that include Jewish themes, come to the newly formed Jewish Authors Book Club. We will share and discuss books that reflect our lives, center our experiences, and treat Jews as complex, multifaceted, and capable of heroism.

The next book is *Eternal Life* by Dara Horn.

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 about future book choices and help you get a copy of the book.

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





## Boating, Berries, Beverages and You

Warmer temperatures and longer days mean it's time for us to get together to have some fun in the sun. Join us for these outdoor gatherings this spring and summer:

- Lag B'Omer Songs & S'mores - Tuesday, May 9, 6:00pm at BIC
- Shabbat Afternoon Walk in Vilas Park - May 27, starting from BIC after kiddush
- Young Adult Boating - Thursday, June 1, 6:45pm
- Prairie & Poetry Promenade with Kathy Miner - Wednesday, June 14
- Enjoy Mad City Ukes including our own Marsha Cohen as part of Make Music Madison - Wednesday, June 21, 7pm at the Sequoya Library
- Memorial Union Terrace Meetup - Thursday, June 29 at 6:30pm
- BIC Goes Boating - Tuesday, July 11, 10:00am
- Berry Picking - tentative, watch for details - Sunday, July 30
- Twilight Paddle - Thursday, August 3, 6:45pm
- Memorial Union Terrace Meetup - Thursday, August 10 at 6:30pm

### SPECIAL FOR OUR YOUNGER MEMBERS:

- Parachute, Popsicles & Play - Shabbat, June 17, 3:30pm at BIC
- Talmud Torah Family Zoo Outing - Sunday, August 6, 10:00am



## The Prayer for Our Country: An Invitation

### From the BIC Ritual Committee:

The Jewish people have said prayers for the countries we've lived in throughout the history of the Diaspora. An increasing number of congregants have indicated that beyond the published prayers in our siddur, they are interested in a prayer that speaks more to them and to the particular challenges we see today. And reflecting our diverse, ever-changing nation, no single alternative prayer can capture the many priorities in our hearts and minds. We are embarking on a kahal-wide effort to broaden our selection of prayers for our country.

The Ritual Committee, in partnership with the Rabbi, is inviting anyone from Beth Israel Center who wishes to compose a prayer for our country for consideration as part of our rotating selection. Over the upcoming months and years, we hope to compile a number of prayers for our country that the *shaliach tzibur* leads during the Torah Service. Of course, the texts in our siddur will remain available as well.

Are you interested in writing a prayer for our country to suggest for BIC's collection? We have prepared a set of guidelines for composing a prayer for our country with some key considerations. You can find them on our website (look under PRAY/GATHER/ACT) or contact Ritual Committee Chair Yonah Drazen (yonah.drazen@gmail.com) and/or Rabbi Betsy (rabbi@bethisraelcenter.org).



## Let's Talk About Israel: Series Finale May 21

Our "Let's Talk About Israel" monthly discussion series has given us a safe and effective venue for important conversations about Israel. Sessions have been expertly facilitated by shlichim Hanna Bloch and Oz Bin-Nun, and supported by BIC member co-chairs Bob Factor and Madeline Tyner.

This series will conclude on Sunday, May 21, 9:30am on Zoom.

Thanks to all who participated in this year's discussions, to Jewish Federation of Madison for supporting this series, and to Hanna and Oz for their knowledge, care, grace, and thoughtful planning. We are so grateful!



### Help Tell Our Story

As we approach our 75th Anniversary, efforts are underway to present our rich history. To bring our story to life, we are looking for people with interviewing skills (historians, journalists, videographers, etc.), and people who have stories or even just a few key facts to share. Contributing your time, talent, or stories will be a fun and rewarding way to connect with the kahal and our history. If you are interested in our history-telling projects, please contact Elissa Pollack at [elissa@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:elissa@bethisraelcenter.org) or 608-256-7763.



### Shall We Travel to Israel?

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







## Meet Your Leadership

### Previously Published Profiles

If you'd like to read more profiles of current board members and you don't have past issues of the Centerite handy, you can find them in our online archive. Look on our website, under Who We Are.

Here's a guide to which Board members were profiled when:

- Livia Asher  
August 2015
- Jennie Edes-Pierotti  
November 2014
- Michal Engelman  
August 2020
- Sylvia Grunes  
February 2015
- Jen Hadley  
May 2022
- Steve Jellinek  
August 2020
- Sally Jones  
May 2017
- Marci Katz  
February 2019
- Judy Pierotti  
May 2015
- Judith Sone  
May 2022
- Ziva Wear  
May 2018

The Beth Israel Center Board of Directors ensures the financial health and future of our shul, and sets policies that honor our mission and vision. You should know whose hands your synagogue is in, so we are telling some of our Board members' stories on these pages. Many of our current Board have had their stories published in earlier issues. See the list on the facing page if you'd like to get to know more Board members. Enjoy!

### Joshua Gabai Board Member-at-Large

**When did you join the congregation?** I moved to Madison after college to work at Epic in the Summer of 2013, and I had it in my head before I arrived that I would join the local Conservative synagogue. However, even that premeditation didn't prepare me for how warmly and enthusiastically I would be welcomed into the community here, literally from my first steps through the doors of the old building.



**Tell us a little about yourself.** I have done a number of disparate jobs over the years, but in the last couple years I've become a professional Game Master through StartPlaying.Games. I facilitate cooperative storytelling experiences for clients all over the country (and beyond) through Dungeons & Dragons and other roleplaying games. A couple years ago my fiancée, Hannah, and I bought a house at the edge of Verona and Madison. We have a couple of pet aloe plants named Waldorf and Statler. We like to play all sorts of games for fun - card games, board games, video games, storytelling games, etc.

**What has prepared you for service on the BIC Board?** Jewish community has always been important to me. In college, I worked hard as an officer and president of my campus Hillel, building community, planning events, coordinating with outside groups, fundraising, and more. After four years, when I graduated and moved to Wisconsin, I was ready to be responsible for my own Jewish experience and disappear into a congregation for a while. Over time, I've thawed back out, picking up responsibilities here and there such as volunteering, committee work, and leyning. And now board service.

**Tell us about your involvement at BIC.** I volunteer for event planning and setup (and cleanup, of course), read Torah, teach in the Talmud Torah, and, over the past several months, worked with my first b'nei mitzvah student here. I also served on the Youth Committee and helped with fundraiser events like the Supper Quiz and the Purim Masquerade Ball. My favorite BIC activities are any time we come together to eat and talk to each other — whether for Shabbat kiddush, Friday nights in the park, breakfast after morning minyan, dinner events, or anything else. In particular, I appreciate Kolot Kehilla. Not only does it illustrate and celebrate the diverse backgrounds and skillsets of our community, but it is such a wonderful platform for us to come together to share and eat and care and learn.

**What went through your mind when you were asked to join the Board?** I knew I wanted to join the Board eventually, but was I ready now? Did I have the time and bandwidth to give the time and energy the responsibility warranted? Ultimately the answer I came to was "yes," but it wasn't a decision I took lightly.

**What may surprise people about you?** I collect wooden boxes — some are simple, many have inlaid art patterns, several have dovetailed sliding lids and other interesting features. The most recent addition to my collection is an old weathered box with metal filigree and a missing latch. My grandmother used it to hold candles, and I now keep my Shabbat candles in it.

## Mimi Aron Board Member-At-Large

**When did you join the congregation?** In 2021, I had recently moved to the Madison area from Cleveland, where my late husband and I were regular Shabbat attendees and were strongly connected to the Jewish community. Despite the pandemic, I was looking for my new “temple family.”

**Tell us a little about yourself.** I live in Madison, on the west side, and enjoy spending time with my charming partner Jeff Leckwee and my miniature poodle, Gracie Joy. One of my two children, Jennifer, lives in Madison with her husband, Mike, and my 15-year-old grandson, Jonathan. I love following her band — Gin, Chocolate and Bottle Rocks — at various bars and community music venues. Since coming to Madison, I have also taken to kayaking and camping, got my fishing license and caught a big trout, which I returned to the water, learned to drive a UTV and passed the state training class in ATV/UTV use. Also, I appreciate being just a little closer (than Cleveland) to my son who lives in Omaha with his wife, Jennifer, and my granddaughters, Madison, 5, and Hailey, who is almost 2. Since retiring, Jeff and I have been traveling a lot. We have big plans for this coming year, including the Canadian Rockies, St. Simon, Ga., and Yellowstone.

**Tell us about your pre-retirement life.** I graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in physical therapy, then worked in the field for 48 years, retiring in 2022. For 20 of those years, I was a geriatric clinical specialist. My most favorite work experience was working at the Cleveland Clinic in their home care division. I loved working one-on-one with people, in their own personal space. I also learned so much clinically working with heart-lung transplants, kidney transplants, heart patients, and fresh orthopedic patients. Since coming to Madison, I have also become a certified grief educator and have led a support group for those who have suffered a loss by suicide. I hope to offer this group again sometime in the near future.

**What has prepared you for service on the BIC Board?** In 1976 I was Sisterhood president at Congregation Sons of Abraham in LaCrosse. I also served as a board member at Temple El Emeth in Youngstown, Ohio, and Congregation Sharrey Tikvah in Cleveland, Ohio.

**Tell us about your involvement at BIC.** My family's tradition is to be in the kitchen, so it's no surprise that my first volunteer task here was making pies for Christmas Dinner. I have progressed to being a Kiddush Supervisor. I love being in the kitchen and also like being a part of the weekday minyan.

**What went through your mind when you were asked to join the Board?** I did have concerns about the "politics of a shul" and was assured that this is not an issue at Beth Israel Center, so after consulting with my daughter and partner, who gave me encouragement, I accepted the offer.

**What may surprise people about you?** One of my “home” care patients was a Saudi VIP in a hotel suite, where I was escorted everywhere I went and had to contend with quite a cast of characters, including two ladies in waiting who were at her beck and call at all times. Family was also close by, and the suite was full of food and flowers. The patient had shopping to do in Europe and did not stay long enough to complete therapy. Priorities!



## Yahrzeits

### 10 Iyar / May 1

Joseph Amdur Fine  
Leo Fettman  
Millicent Rose  
Ida Schmidman  
Elizabeth Anderson  
Anna Sklar

### 11 Iyar / May 2

Ethel Jermyn  
Rose Frank

### 12 Iyar / May 3

Samuel Black  
Leonard Bessman  
Ernst Landau

### 13 Iyar / May 4

Helen Liner Richey

### 14 Iyar / May 5

Shalom Sweet  
Ben Setlick  
Anna Black  
Elmer M. Borsuk

### 15 Iyar / May 6

Rabbi Philip Silverstein  
Charles I. Greenfield  
Feige Esther Fettman  
Elliot Iver  
Frank Anderson  
Jakab Fettman  
Ruth Bass  
Fanny Libanoff

### 16 Iyar / May 7

Allen Zemmol

### 17 Iyar / May 8

Miriam “Mickey”  
Pressman  
Moshe Stein  
Rhea Katz  
Harry Zakhem

### 18 Iyar / May 9

Hiram Mendow  
Silvan Sam Schweber  
Levi Delevie  
Ben-Tzion Karsh

### 19 Iyar / May 10

Aaron Schuster  
Ida Sweet  
Harry Shapiro

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Yahrzeits

### 20 Iyar / May 11

Rose Dachman  
Betty Orman-Joseph  
Milton Prosansky  
Lori Rabb

### 21 Iyar / May 12

Nancy Rieger  
Mary Richman  
Steven Kopelberg  
Rose Paley  
William Shovers

### 22 Iyar / May 13

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

### 23 Iyar / May 14

Dave A. Sweet  
Harry Gerson  
Sheldon Bernstein  
Fruma Mintz

### 25 Iyar / May 16

Jacob Schmidman  
Rachel Schwartz  
Herman Sweet  
Roslyn Hoffert  
Larry Deitch  
Joseph Schwartz

### 26 Iyar / May 17

Gordon Sweet  
Michael Lewis  
Fannie Borsuk  
Nellie Miller  
Anna Sarah Katz  
Rose Schwartz

### 27 Iyar / May 18

Robert Donals  
Mae Azen

### 28 Iyar / May 19

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

*(Continued on page 11)*



# 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, Haftarat, Megillah, etc.:** Matt Banks, Harvey Barash, Asher Berland, Marsha Cohen, Meredie Cohen, Mark Copelovitch, Esther Criscuola de Laix, Gila Drazen, Susie Drazen, Yonah Drazen, Rick Ezell, Bob Factor, Rabbi Betsy Forester, Joshua Gabai, Josh Garoon, Jaime Goldberg, Rabbi Judy Greenberg, Leslie Greenspan, Anna Heifetz, Si Hellerstein, Elise Hohol, Bill Karasov, Sara Karon, Danielle LeVine, Daniel Levitin, Ruth Litovsky, Jonah Loeb, Micah Mandell, Don Miner, Jon Pollack, Mike Pressman, Michael Rock, Aaron Rock-Singer, Fran Schrag, Sion Shabtaie, Bob Skloot, Judith Sone, Jerry Sternberg, Dan Stolz, Jeanne Swack, Rayla Temin, Maddie Tyner, and Jim Wear

**Shabbat & Pesach Kiddush Crews:** Donna Anderson, Mimi Aron, David Baum, Hannah Bernard-Donals, Isaac Brodkey, Judith Burstyn, Marsha Cohen, Meredie Cohen, Cameron Crahen, Susie Drazen, Joshua Gabai, Iscah Goerling, Jaime Goldberg, Danny & Shira Goldman, Louise Goldstein, Elise Hohol, Bobbie Jellinek, Judy Knupp, Jonah Loeb, Janis Noonan, Michael & Patrice Onheiber, Katie Parrish, Judy Pierotti, Elissa Pollack, Tziporah Quick, Steve Sheiffer, Regina Vidaver, and Jim & Ziva Wear

**Mishloach Manot Bakers, Assemblers, and Deliverers:** Anne Altshuler, Donna Anderson, Kim Anderson & Marcia Sokol-Anderson, David Baum, Bennett Berson & Becky Holmes, Hannah Bernard-Donals, Miryam Bernard-Donals, Marsha Cohen, Melanie Cohen & Joel Ehrlich, Hannah Ehrlich, Beth Copelovitch, Esther Criscuola de Laix, Cher Diamond, Doris Dubielzig, Sonia Dubielzig, Beth Fisher, Shira Goldman, Jerry Greenfield, Fran Greenman & Peter Schmitz, Roz Gusinow, Jen Hadley, Heidi Heller, Elise Hohol, Stephanie Kirkin, Judy Knupp, Renee Lauber, Nancy Leff & KC Lerner, Allan Levin, Sara Mandell, Laurel Mark, Elana Matthews, Don & Kathy Miner, Barry Mirkin, Laurie Nagus, Katie Parrish, Judy Pierotti, Jon Pollack, Barb & Mike Pratzel, Jonathan Rosenblum, Russ & Sue Shafer-Landau, Cara Silverman, Shoshana Swietlik, Regina Vidaver, and Ziva & Jim Wear

**Purim Posse, Carnival Carnies, Purim Party Planners:** Ari Bleher, Al Bowles, Sabra Brodkey, Marsha Cohen & Mike Pressman, Caleb Ellenberg, Jaime Goldberg, Shira Goldman, Roz Gusinow, Lilah Heifetz, Liana Hershey-Nexon, David Hoffert, Elise Hohol, Ipek Kara, Brenna Katch, Lorna Kniaz, Jane Lowy, Katie Parrish, Gavi Springguth & Cam Crahan, and Ziva Wear

**Shabbat & Yom Tov Greeters:** Doris Dubielzig, Jenny Edes-Pierotti, Michal Engelman, Jaime Goldberg, David Hoffert, Ellie Landau, Zach Masa-Myers, Janis Noonan, Mike Pressman, Tziporah Quick, and Steve Sheiffer

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

**Lasagna Cooking and Delivery Crews:** Stacy Anderson, Mimi Aron, 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, Bettine Lipman, Laurie Nagus, Judy Pierotti, and Bob & JoAnn Skloot

**Healing House Dinner Cooks:** David Baum & Ruth Litovsky, Doris Dubielzig, Sally Jones, Lorna Kniaz, Nancy Resnick, Sue & Russ Shafer-Landau, Merle Sternberg, and Paula Volpiansky

**Laundry Angels:** Hannah Bernard-Donals, Adrienne Borisy Gross, Cher Diamond, Joshua Gabai, Becky Holmes, and Regina Vidaver





# Volunteer Spotlight

When you follow the yellow brick road at Purim, you find that there is no place like our BIC home.

Who are our wizards behind the curtain who make the BIC Mishloach Manot project possible by preparing the dough and mixing up the filling for hundreds of handmade hamantaschen?

Revealed: Barb and Mike Pratzel, and Cher Diamond!



## Mike & Barb Pratzel

For 35 years, the Pratzels brought their love of food and Madison to visitors and hometown folks alike, from breakfasts at their B&B, to catered b'nei mitzvah menus, Manna Café specialties, and heavenly hamantaschen happiness for Beth Israel Center's Purim festivities.

After writing a memoir and cookbook teeming with favorite recipes and gems from their Jewish roots, Barb and Mike are settling into a long awaited retirement, traveling with their new Bernese Mountain Dog puppy to all corners of North America.

They hope to squeeze in some kayaking, biking, and a few hands of duplicate bridge before both of their sons are welcome new babies into the world this year.

## Cher Diamond

Along with her love of cooking and baking, Cher Diamond designs her own asymmetrical fabric quilts with vivid color combinations and nontraditional patterns, plays the piano, and enjoys taking walks with her husband, Dr. Ron.

Most of all, Cher delights in playing with her grandchildren and spending time with the families of her and Ron's grownup children.

No smoke and mirrors here — these three hamantaschen-making veterans really do “great and powerful” culinary magic for our kahal.



## Yahrzeits

### 29 Iyar / May 20

Rose Druch  
Frieda Weinstein  
Frieda Blachman

### 1 Sivan / May 21

Emanuel Simon  
Solomon Swack  
Sophie Figler  
William Schuckit

### 2 Sivan / May 22

Hilda Pover  
Ralph M. Weisbard  
Abraham Peturs  
Meyer Sweet

### 3 Sivan / May 23

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

### 4 Sivan / May 24

W. Feldman  
Sarah Kress  
Honey Korshak

### 5 Sivan / May 25

Baileh Paley  
Alex Seltzer  
Susan Freund

### 6 Sivan / May 26

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

### 7 Sivan / May 27

Evelyn Jellinek

### 8 Sivan / May 28

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

(Continued on page 12)

*We need volunteer support to make all of our programs and projects happen. There are many kinds of things that need doing -- some ongoing, others occasional. Some from home, some in groups. We'd love to find you a good fit! If you have time or talent to offer to Beth Israel Center, please contact Deborah Hoffman at 608-256-7763 or via email to hoffman@bethisraelcenter.org.*

## Yahrzeits

### 9 Sivan / May 29

Harry Altshuler  
Mae Borisy  
Robert Vannette  
Asher Lazimy

### 10 Sivan / May 30

Samuel D. Wander  
Frances Rossman  
Max Goldstein  
David Weinstein  
Sam Chudacoff

### 11 Sivan / May 31

Abraham Barash  
Morris Cohen  
Sarah Littky  
Claire Navin

### 12 Sivan / June 1

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

### 13 Sivan / June 2

Helen Kivolowitz  
Nessie Goldberg

### 14 Sivan / June 3

Harry Kay  
Mary Galanter  
Eli Mullin  
Arthur Vannette

### 15 Sivan / June 4

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

### 16 Sivan / June 5

Sidney Winnig  
Sophie Cohen  
Julius Ruskin  
Rudolph Rich  
Harry Cramer

*(Continued on page 13)*

## By Word of Mouse

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

Take a peek at what fun our wonderful world of MOUSY and Gesher teens has been enjoying.

MOUSY kicked off second semester with our first ever 8th Grade Welcome Iron Chef Competition on Sunday, January 22. Kudos to co-chairs Ari Bleher and Caleb Ellenberg!

On Sunday afternoon, February 19, middle and high schoolers got together for our favorite indoor winter activity—figuring our way out of

two Escape Room challenges! (Pictured above and below.) So much more fun to have our shlichim Hanna and Oz join us, with a treat at Steep n Brew!



On Sunday, March 12, MOUSY chilled out for an afternoon of Mice on Ice skating at the UW Shell, then warmed up with hot drinks and nosh in the BIC youth lounge.

Coming up:

- Sunday, April 30 – MOUSY Park Seeding Project
- Sunday, May 7 – Gesher Get-together
- Sunday, May 21 – MOUSY Elections



Donations to Beth Israel Center are a wonderful way to celebrate a special person or occasion; to express gratitude; or to honor the memories of those who have died recently or on the anniversary of their passing. Special-purpose funds to which donations may be made are described below. Donations to our General Fund go to where they are most needed. A record of recent memorial and tribute donations begins on page 15.

## Building Funds

**Building Capital Fund**—Used for building improvement projects, including fixtures, furnishings, equipment.

**Building Maintenance Reserve**—Ensures our ability to upgrade and replace major facility systems and equipment.

## Education Funds

*The Ben Minkoff, Julius Mintz, A J Rosenberg, George Stewart, Alex Temkin and Joe Temkin Education Funds support salaries of our educators and our overall education program.*

*We also have two special-purpose education funds:*

**Holman/Weisbard Fund for Adult Jewish Learning**

**Talmud Torah Fund**

## Other Funds

**75th Anniversary Campaign**—Will help us acquire at least one Torah scroll and set us up for a bright future.

**Art Fund**—Supports the acquisition and care of artwork for Beth Israel Center.

**Abe Barash Fund**—Provides accessibility services for members and guests with disabilities.

**Shirley Epstein Fund**—Pays for kitchen and kiddush supplies.

**Alfred A. and Lois Frank Congregational Life Fund**—Supports enhancement of programs that foster community connections among members.

**Herman Goldstein Fund**—Supports the vision of the BIC Rabbi.

**Jake Heifetz Fund**—Supports the Jake Heifetz Award, which recognizes commitment by teens to participating in the ritual life of the shul.

**Rose & Morris Heifetz Welfare Fund**—Provides need-based scholarships for Talmud Torah and other educational programs.

**Irving & Dorothy Levy Foundation Rabbi's Discretionary Program Fund**—Supports significant special programs and initiatives.

**Martin & Serene Mazor Kiddush Fund**—Supports our weekly Shabbat Kiddush.

**Judith W. Pierotti Social Justice Fund**—Supports social justice projects, as well as other organizations and initiatives.

**Prayerbook & Ritual Objects Fund**—Covers repair and purchase of prayerbooks and ritual objects.

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**—Used by the Rabbi for charitable purposes and other actions consistent with the mission and vision of Beth Israel Center.

**AJ & Celia Rosenberg Library Fund**—Supports the library.

**Charles M. Smith Staff Endowment Fund**—Supports staff salaries.

**David Temkin Camp Ramah Fund**—Provides scholarships to youth attending Camp Ramah.

**Adolph Weinschel Torah Repair Fund**—Covers repair of our Torah scrolls.

**Women's League**—Supports the congregation in several ways, including the purchase of kiddush cups for each bar or bat mitzvah and supplies for the Beth Israel Center mikvah.

**Youth Fund**—Supports MOUSY and Gesher programming.

## Yahrzeits

### 17 Sivan / June 6

Ben Blachman  
Jacob Mintz  
David Remis  
Arthur Yaskal

### 18 Sivan / June 7

David Ottenstein  
Herbert Miller  
Haskell Friedman

### 19 Sivan / June 8

Samson Mandelbaum  
Israel D. Segal

### 20 Sivan / June 9

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

### 21 Sivan / June 10

Herb Kliebard  
Pesach Bebczuk  
Sam Lakritz  
Gerald Kurzer  
Hyman Lerner

### 22 Sivan / June 11

Rose Picus  
Hyman Pinsky  
Yehuda Temkin  
Sarah Scher

### 23 Sivan / June 12

Anna Schwam  
Harry Gevirman

### 24 Sivan / June 13

Susan Louis  
Howard Eisenberg

### 25 Sivan / June 14

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

### 26 Sivan / June 15

Eva S. Lassen

*(Continued on page 14)*



## Yahrzeits

### 27 Sivan / June 16

Esther Bloomfield  
Yetta Sinagub  
Frieda Stein

### 28 Sivan / June 17

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

### 29 Sivan / June 18

Sol Lieberman  
Bette Silverman  
Eugene Greenberg  
Binyamin Fine  
Dorothy Schwartz  
Harry Friedman  
Dorothy Smith

### 30 Sivan / June 19

Dientia DeLevie  
Barbara Bernstein  
Fannie Perlman  
Sol Sweet

### 1 Tammuz / June 20

Frances Silver  
Belle Novick  
Rabbi Paul Drazen  
Paul Rock  
Richard D. Brauer

### 3 Tammuz / June 22

Belle Epstein  
Selig Iwanter

### 4 Tammuz / June 23

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

### 5 Tammuz / June 24

Sonyamae Alpert  
Dora Tomarkin  
Beatrice Littman

### 6 Tammuz / June 25

Martha Barth  
Mrs. Ben Rubin

(Continued on page 15)

## Mazal Tov to...

- Francie & David Dundore on the birth of Zoe Madelyn Dundore.
- Brandon Bloch and Liana Hershey-Nexon on their engagement.
- Scott & Tracy Tobin, and grandfather Eric Tobin, on the birth of Shayna Tobin.
- Daniel & Evie Rosen, and grandparents David & Cheryl Rosen, on the birth of Eliam Lawrence Rosen.
- Shoshana & Chris Swietlik, and grandparents Hannah & Mike Bernard-Donals, on the birth of Gabriel Joseph Swietlik.

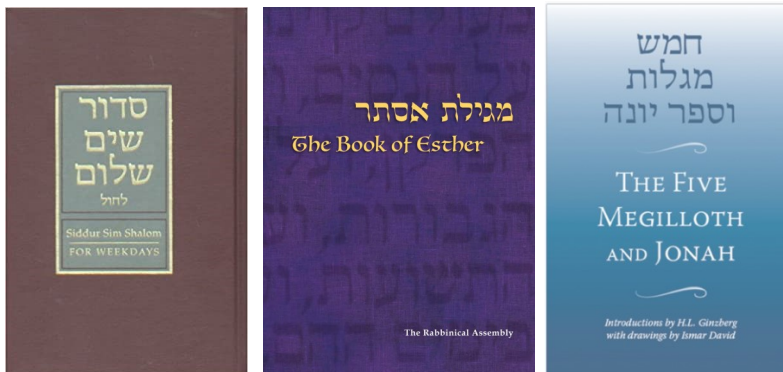
## Condolences to the families of...

- David Balkansky, father of Leslie (Brian) Bauman and Staci (Michael) Daugird.
- Meighan Brodkey, sister of Isaac (Megan), Herschel, Sabra, and Saul Brodkey.
- Robert Abramovitz, uncle of Aleeza (David) Hoffert.

## 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*, one of our new *Megillat Esther*, or one of our new collections of *The Five Megilloth and Jonah*



For \$54 you can dedicate a High Holy Day *Mahzor Lev Shalem*.

And for \$72, you can dedicate an *Etz Hayim chumash*.

Email [office@bethisraelcenter.org](mailto:office@bethisraelcenter.org) or call 608-256-7763 and tell us in whose honor or memory to dedicate the book(s), and we'll take it from there.





# Memorial & Tribute Gifts

The following pages contain a record of the memorial and tribute gifts made to Beth Israel Center from early January through the end of March. 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 Campaign

### *in honor of*

Elissa Pollack's milestone birthday from Norman & Susan Pollack  
Leah & Raymond Kessel on their 60th anniversary from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen, Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen  
The birth of Zoe Dundore and the birth of Gabriel Joseph Swietlik from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen  
Francie & David Dundore on the birth of their new baby, from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen

### *in memory of*

Roz Levin from Judith Knupp  
Mollie Challov Goldstein, Stephen Brown, and Pearl England from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen  
Mitchell Rapkin from Steven Lander  
Jeanette Russ, Abraham Hershkowitz, and Sushie Hershkowitz from Rosalyn Hershkowitz  
David Balkansky from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen and Si & Billie Hellerstein,  
Meighan Brodkey from Michael Pressman & Marsha Cohen  
Morris Greenberg and Dr. Howard Temin from Erica Kesin Richmond & Burke Richmond

## Abe Barash Fund

### *in memory of*

Esther Sweet Frank from Leslie Rukin

## Building Capital Fund

### *in memory of*

Ann Slavney from Phillip Slavney

## Building Maintenance Fund

### *in memory of*

David Balkansky from Karen Shevet Dinah

## Shirley Epstein Fund

### *in memory of*

Molly Karp and Iver Karp from Norma Klagos  
Walter Novick from Ruth Ann Schumeister  
Laure & Isadore Joseph from Helen Hanau & Ron Czerwien

## Alfred A. & Lois Frank Congregational Life Fund

### *in memory of*

David Balkansky from Rick Ezell  
Diane Kliebard Silverberg, Joseph Criscuola, and Sophie Geneman from Ziva & James Wear

### *in honor of*

The birth of Landon Miles Masa-Myers, the birth of Mila Belle Minkoff, the birth of Zoe Madelyn Dundore, the birth of Leo Herman, Donna Anderson for becoming a grandmother, and Cynthia Hirsch on the birth of her grandson, from Ziva & James Wear  
Ziva Wear from Stephen Mann & Genie Grant Mann  
Ziva & Jim Wear on the birth of their grandson, Theodore Robin Wear, from Rick Ezell & Kristen Bernard

## Yahrzeits

### 7 Tammuz / June 26

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

### 8 Tammuz / June 27

Lil Gerson

### 9 Tammuz / June 28

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

### 10 Tammuz / June 29

Louis Barkin  
Ida Wyman  
Dvorah Rabinowitz  
Louis Setlick

### 11 Tammuz / June 30

Sophie Schuster

### 12 Tammuz / July 1

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

### 13 Tammuz / July 2

Arthur England  
Esther Kaplan

### 14 Tammuz / July 3

Yetta Temkin  
Nathan Goldstone  
Annette Tenzer

### 15 Tammuz / July 4

Henry Levine  
Betty Wren  
Bruce Kay  
Max Gold

(Continued on page 16)

## Yahrzeits

### 16 Tammuz / July 5

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

### 17 Tammuz / July 6

Helen Adler  
Cecile Ehrman  
Benny Joss

### 18 Tammuz / July 7

Mary Grossman  
Harry Seeman  
Hary Hart  
Sarah Zaichick

### 19 Tammuz / July 8

Samuel Tomarkin  
Rosa Kammer  
Amy Azen  
Lawrence Borenstein

### 20 Tammuz / July 9

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

### 21 Tammuz / July 10

Max Ruskin  
Vera Terry

### 22 Tammuz / July 11

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

### 23 Tammuz / July 12

Rae Rapkin  
Norton Gahr  
Ruth Schwartz

### 24 Tammuz / July 13

Isadore Victor  
Hyman Harry Minkoff  
Israel Victor  
Joshua Hollander

(Continued on page 17)



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

### Fund for the Future

#### *in memory of*

Dottie Palay from the Myers Temkin family

### General Fund

#### *in honor of*

Beth Israel Center's Mishloach Manot program, its sponsors, staff, and volunteers, from Steven Morrison & Goldie Kadushin  
In thanks for welcoming myself and my brother to Erev Rosh Hashana services, from Rima Turner

#### *in memory of*

Shulamit Elkayam from Mark & Stephanie Goldstein  
Pearl Springberg from Peter Springberg  
Anne Marion from Edward Marion  
Dorothy Miller from Phyllis & Raymond Davis  
Henry Levine from Allen Markson  
Rubin Schwartzstein from Alan & Laurie Schwartzstein  
David Balkansky from Judith Blank, Helen Hanau & Ron Czerwien  
Mitch Rapkin from Rosalyn Hershkowitz  
David Isaac Schwab from Laeh Grant  
Dora Fass from Debra Hershkowitz  
Alice Hanau, Isadore Joseph and Henri Hanau from Helen Hanau & Ron Czerwien  
Joseph Wolman, Dova Wolman, Abraham Paster, Mollie Cohen Paster, Eli Wolman, Estelle Wolman, Ellen Wolman, Molly Paster, and Paul Fram, from Richard Wolman  
Jerome Onheiber from Michael & Patrice Onheiber  
Ella Hirschfeld, Natalie Borenstein, Harold Borenstein, Ann Slavney, Mollie Becker, Alice & Lee Barth, and Sandie Ottenstein, from Phyllis T. Eisenberg  
Joseph Sweet from Judith Shapiro

#### *refuah shlema for*

Deborah Hoffman from Elizabeth Goldenberg Haimson

### Jake Heifetz Fund

#### *in memory of*

Fania Heifetz from Lisa Robertson and Lawrence Heifetz  
Jake & Fania Heifetz from Steve Heifetz

### Herman Goldstein Fund

#### *in memory of*

Sol Levin from James Levin

### Holman/Weisbard Fund for Adult Jewish Learning

#### *in memory of*

David Balkansky from Phyllis Holman Weisbard

### Julius Mintz Fund

#### *in memory of*

Lena & Hyman Daniels from Barbara Beyer

### Martin & Serene Mazor Kiddush Fund

#### *in honor of*

Leah & Raymond Kessel on their 60th Anniversary from Rayla Temin and Laurie Nagus & Paul Wilson

#### *in memory of*

Harriet & Leo Margolis from Mimi Aron





# Memorial & Tribute Gifts (Con't.)

## **Mikvah Fund** *in honor of*

Our loving officiant, Simcha, from Kimberly Rosenthal & Clare van Hoven

## **Judith W. Pierotti Social Justice Fund** *in memory of*

Helen Sinagub from Jonathan Sinagub  
Louis Battalen from Louise Goldstein & Bruce Thomadsen

## **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund** *in honor of*

Rabbi Betsy from Michael Rock & Kathi Johnson Rock  
Lean & Raymond Kessel's 60th anniversary from Harry & Karen Roth  
The bris of our grandson, Eliam Lawrence Rosen, from David & Cheryl Rosen  
Hugo's conversion from Benjamin Witkovsky & Corrina Regnier

## *in memory of*

Stephen Brown from Barry & Lorrie Klemons, Susie Drazen, and Rayla Temin  
Jerry Kaplan from Leonard & Martha Kaplan  
Marty Steinberger, Gertrude Steinberger, Mayer Jacob, and Regina Jacob from  
Henry Steinberger & Gail Jacob  
Dorothy Miller and Howard Yaskal from Maureen Yaskal  
Neil Gorchow from Roslyn Gorchow  
Ruth Zitowsky from Robert Zitowsky  
Sol Levin from Daniel & Kathy Levin  
Robert Abramovitz from Alan & Laurie Schwartzstein  
Helena Siroky and Martin Siroky from Livia Asher  
David Balkansky from Steve & Jennifer Sheiffer and Steve & Bobbie Jellinek  
Ervin Blake from Cheryl Temkin  
Ruth Hill from Ruthanne Bessman  
Louis Roth from Harry & Karen Roth  
Lillian Kaplan from Leonard & Martha Kaplan  
Bess Gellman Smith from Cher & Ronald Diamond

## *refuah shlema for*

Michael Rock from Michael Rock & Kathi Johnson Rock

## **A.J. & Celia Rosenberg Library Fund** *in memory of*

Celia Rosenberg from Lyn Rosenberg

## **David Temkin Camp Ramah Fund** *in honor of*

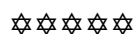
The Temkin children and grandchildren from Harvey & Barbara Myers Temkin

## *in memory of*

David Balkansky from Marcus & Sheila Cohen  
David Rosenthal from Si & Billie Hellerstein

## **Janet & Adolph Weinshel Torah Maintenance and Repair Fund** *in memory of*

Janet & Adolph Weinshel from Leo & Renee Weinshel



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

### **25 Tammuz / July 14**

Genevieve Ruben  
Samuel Springberg  
Ida Bradkofsky  
Susan Weiner

### **26 Tammuz / July 15**

Grace Rasmussen  
T. Ted Aron  
Dora Moser  
Linda Tetzlaff  
Sam Pollack  
Frieda Pinsky  
Hyman Schuster

### **27 Tammuz / July 16**

Warren Randy  
Fannie Stein  
Frumeh Frank

### **28 Tammuz / July 17**

Bud Sweet  
Louise Wear  
John H. Alpert  
Rachel Mullin

### **29 Tammuz / July 18**

Celia Labow Holman  
Elizabeth Berg  
Sidney Bernstein  
Sophie Levine

### **1 Av / July 19**

Donald Garelick  
Lisa Sklarin  
Molly Tomash  
Sara Roth Schottenstein

### **2 Av / July 20**

Tsivia Morgensteren  
Tomi Deutsch

### **3 Av / July 21**

Anna Nathenson  
Bernice Loewenstein

### **4 Av / July 22**

Julius Jacobs  
Myer Nathenson  
Sidney Goldstein  
Harry Rosen

*(Continued on page 18)*

**Yahrzeits**

**5 Av / July 23**

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

**6 Av / July 24**

Fanny Nosofsky  
Helen Ryan  
Ethel Goldstein  
Benjamin Weinstein

**7 Av / July 25**

Rachel Hayman Cohen  
Marcella Frank  
Ethel Lipstein  
Erika Weinfeld  
Harry Usdansky

**8 Av / July 26**

Anna Weiss Bentley  
Rashe Nathenson  
Chaim Figler

**9 Av / July 27**

Emanuel Rosenberg  
Ethel Rosenberg  
Samuel Kessel  
Susan Knapp Lundquist  
Anna Altman

**10 Av / July 28**

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

**11 Av / July 29**

Maurice Parisek  
Pearl Shaffer  
Ben Berman

**12 Av / July 30**

Mary Victor  
Celia Mullin  
Reva Diamond

(Continued on page 19)



# Regular Service Schedule

**Kabbalat Shabbat**

Every Friday (except when we're at Westmorland Park), come to BIC and 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.

**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 5:30 on Zoom.

*During "evening" minyan at this time of year, we recite both Mincha (afternoon prayers) and Ma'ariv (evening prayers).*



# Calendars

## May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 9:15 services Shayna Dolin Bat Mitzvah TT
		TT	Tea & Torah	TT	5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 9:15 services Kibbud Limudim
B'Yachad B'Kef 10:00am		TT Lag B'Omer Songs & S'mores Board of Directors	Tea & Torah	TT	5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 9:15 services Roger de Laix Bar Mitzvah
Kolot Kehilla with Bill Karasov 9:30am					5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Shavuot 9:15 services
Let's Talk About Israel - Series Finale 9:30am			Tea & Torah	Erev Shavuot  Tikkun Leil Shavuot 7:30pm	Shavuot  Yom Tov Services 9:15am	Shabbat Afternoon Vilas Park Walk
28	29	30	31			
			Tea & Torah EXPO Program			

## June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Young Adults Boating 7:00pm	2 5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	3 9:15 services Benjy Forester & Emily Schwartz Wedding Aufruf Jewish Authors Book Discussion
4 B'Yachad B'Kef 10:00am	5	6	7 Tea & Torah	8	9 5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	10 9:15 services
11	12	13 Board of Directors	14 Poetry on the Prairie Tea & Torah	15	16 5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	17 9:15 services EXPO Visit Parachute, Popsicles & Play 3:30pm
18	19 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz	20 Rosh Chodesh Tammuz	21 Tea & Torah	22	23 Kabbalat Shabbat & Potluck Dinner at Westmorland Park, 5:45pm	24 9:15 services
25	26	27	28 Tea & Torah	29 Memorial Union Terrace Meet-Up 6:30pm	30 5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	

## July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:15 services Micah Baum & Aviva Match Wedding Aufruf
2	3	4	5	6 Tzom Tammuz	7	8 9:15 services Elissa Pollack's 10th Anniversary Kiddush
9 BIC Annual Meeting, 4:00pm Refreshments follow	10	11 BIC Goes Boating 10:00am Board of Directors	12 Tea & Torah	13	14 5:00 schmooze 5:45 services	15 9:15 services
16 B'Yachad B'Kef 10:00am	17	18	19 Rosh Chodesh Av Tea & Torah	20	21 Kabbalat Shabbat & Potluck Dinner at Westmorland Park, 5:45pm	22 Shabbat Chazon 9:15 services Mimi Onheiber & Kyle Wiessenger Wedding Aufruf, Sally Jones' B'day
23 30 Tentative: Berry Picking	24 31	25	26 Erev Tisha B'Av Tea & Torah	27 Tisha B'Av	28	29 Shabbat Nachamu 9:15 services

### Yahrzeits

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.

The customary yahrzeit observance begins on the evening prior to the Gregorian dates listed on these pages.

At this time of year (when the sun goes down later), we recite both Mincha (the afternoon service) and Ma'ariv (the evening service) when we gather for weekday "evening" minyan (Monday through Thursday at 5:30pm). So, for example, a yahrzeit that begins on a Monday evening may be observed by reciting kaddish on Monday evening, Tuesday morning, and/or Tuesday afternoon.

If you would like to observe a yahrzeit with the BIC minyan, please contact the office as far in advance as possible so that we can notify the community. Those observing yahrzeits during weekday minyan are warmly invited -- but not required -- to share memories following the short prayer service.

If you have a question, correction, or addition to our yahrzeit records, please contact the office.

זכרוןם לברכה





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## May/June/July Candle Lighting Times

<b>Shabbat</b>	<b>Parasha</b>	<b>Candle Lighting</b>	<b>Shabbat Ends</b>
May 5/6	Emor	7:45pm	8:46pm
May 12/13	Behar-Bechukotai	7:53pm	8:54pm
May 19/20	Bamidbar	8:00pm	9:01pm
May 26/27	Shavuot	8:07pm	9:08pm
June 2/3	Nasso	8:13pm	9:14pm
June 9/10	Beha'alotcha	8:17pm	9:18pm
June 16/17	Sh'lach	8:21pm	9:21pm
June 23/24	Korach	8:22pm	9:23pm
June 30/July 1	Chukat-Balak	8:22pm	9:22pm
July 7/8	Pinchas	8:20pm	9:20pm
July 14/15	Matot-Masei	8:17pm	9:16pm
July 21/22	Devarim	8:12pm	9:11pm
July 28/29	Vaetchanan	8:05pm	9:04pm
<b>Holidays</b>		<b>Candle Lighting</b>	<b>Chag Ends</b>
May 25/26	Shavuot I	8:06pm	
May 26/27	Shavuot II / Shabbat	8:07pm	9:08pm