



## “The Best of Times, The Worst of Times” By Jeffrey M. Arnowitz

Whenever I travel and I tell Jewish people that I meet that I am a rabbi they ask me two questions. The first is, “What kind of synagogue?” (Conservative) The second is, “How many members do you have?” (About 500 families) I know that these are the labels we generally use to measure synagogues, but they seem to be the wrong ones to me. I mean if I were shopping for a new synagogue, neither of those would be the first question I’d ask. I would ask how the community celebrates together and more importantly, how does the community respond when there is a tragedy. As a matter of fact, six years ago when I was shopping for a new synagogue, those were the first questions I asked and I was impressed by the answers.

The celebration part is a bit easier. It has always been Beth El’s policy that lifecycle events like a bar mitzvah or bris when it falls on Shabbat should be part of the communal service. We may take it for granted, but there is something special about the fact that we celebrate these lifecycle events as a community. We symbolically say to each family and each child that your celebration is not just a clan celebration, it’s a Jewish community celebration and we are all excited to greet this new adult member of the Jewish community and to learn from him or her. That’s why we should all go out of our way to attend services especially on simchas and even if we are not on the guest list. The service is a community celebration, just as it should be.

But the thing that makes this community really special is how we respond to tragedy. When a member of Beth El passes away, no matter their age or how long he or she has been a member, two amazing groups of people spring into action. The first is called the *Shomrim* Committee. *Shomrim*, which literally translates as guardians, sit at the funeral home not far from where people are kept to await their funeral. These volunteers take it upon themselves to insure that no member of our community is ever alone as we await our final ritual and interment. Traditionally the *shomrim* are there to comfort the soul as it leaves the body, but it also demonstrates a deep sense of responsibility of the members of Beth El for our Beth El family.

The second committee is the *chevre kadisha*. There are actually two of these committees, one for men and one for women. This committee conducts a special purity/cleansing ritual for the body (modesty is always respected) and then shrouds the body in special, traditional white shrouds called *krichim*. They place shards of pottery over the eyes and some earth from the Land of Israel in the casket with the person. In other words, it is these amazing men and women who take care of our people every step of the way on their journey to the *Olam Habah*, the World to Come, right up until the family participates in the burial. It is an amazing gift that these committees give to the Beth El family and we should be grateful to live in a community where members take care of each other at the best of times, but even at the worst of times.

I hope you are as appreciative to live in such a special and caring community as I am. If you might be interested in volunteering on the *Shomrim* Committee, which would mean taking a two-hour shift at the funeral home to sit, we need people. Remember, there are up to 48 hours to cover when someone passes away. The *chevre kadisha* is obviously a harder job psychologically and physically. Doctors often make good members for the *chevre*, but usually retired ones since it requires some flexibility. If you would like to learn more or volunteer, please contact me at [rja@bethelnorfolk.com](mailto:rja@bethelnorfolk.com).



**Rabbi Jeffrey M. Arnowitz**

### LUNCH & LEARN Wednesdays January 4th & 11th

All are welcome as we kick off our Lunch and Learn season. Beth El Lunch and Learn is a vibrant group of fressers (eaters) and learners who come together weekly for good food and stand alone discussions led by Rabbi Arnowitz, Rabbi Ruberg, and Cantor Wendi. We meet every Wednesday from noon to 1:30 pm. So join us on the 19th, 26th and Wednesdays in November except “erev” Thanksgiving.

**Cost: \$5.00 per person**

## A Note From Cantor Wendy

My dear Beth El family,

It is that time of year. We just came out of the holidays which hopefully meant being with our loved ones and of course the time old tradition of making our new year's resolutions. I would like to tell you about one of my New Year's resolutions. This year, I am going to work on my relationships. In life, there are three different relationships that we must recognize and tend to. The three relationships are *bein adam l'atzmo* (relationship to self), *bein adam l'chaveiro* (relationship to your fellow man), and *bein adam l'makom* (relationship to God or a higher power, could also mean to your place in this world). These are all very holy and important relationships to work on and we would like to help provide ways here at Beth El for you to work on all of those relationships.

What prompted this resolution? Well, one of the things I love most about my job here is teaching Lunch and Learn. The past two Wednesdays that I have taught, we have been talking about what Ron Wolfson calls in his book, "Relational Judaism." In our first session, I had everyone in the group present where they were from, what person or program brought them into the shul, and one thing that they thought no one in the group knew about them. If you know this group, you know that they have been meeting for many years and they thought that learning something new about each other wasn't possible. But what I think we all learned from this exercise was that we have very compartmentalized relationships. Many times, when you come to shul, you are known by the seat you sit in at minyan or Shabbat, by your comments in the classes that you attend, by which families you are associated with (as if anyone can keep them straight), generally where you are from, and which class your children are in on Sunday school. However, over the past month, we have had quite a few funerals and I have been thinking that it seems that the time we all seem to learn the most about a person is at their funeral and that is too late and very disturbing to me.

So it is deeper relationships that I am craving. As Ron Wolfson says, Relational Judaism is what it's all about! In the past we were under the impression that if we had the best programming and the most spiritual services, that that's what people would come out for. What we are learning, and what we learned at that session of lunch and learn, is that not a single person in that room joined or stayed because of the programming. No, it was because someone special paid attention to them and made sure they felt that Beth El was their home. In my opinion, the programming we do is important as a vehicle of providing a means for people to deepen all of those relationships mentioned above. At the heart, is the the friendships and close bonds that we form with each other that bring people back time and again. People are not loyal to Beth El for the high holiday programming or the Purim shpiels...even for the school. You are here because this is where you have made connections and formed relationships that will, and have, lasted a lifetime. Whether you are new or whether your family has been members for generations, this community will embrace you with open arms. I certainly felt that coming in and I hope that I have been part of giving that experience to others who have joined or reactivated.

It is my privilege and purpose, and that of the Rabbi's as well, to help facilitate and provide ample opportunity for you to work on ALL those relationships. I feel especially strongly about helping everyone walking through our doors to have a Divine experience. We are not the go-between but the guide to help you get where you need to go. We are a holy community and I feel that we should be working on that personal revelations, the Divine connections, and the communal togetherness across the generations at all times and through everything we do. And so, with the coming of the New Year, we will work to that end through our spirit-filled services, through our classes to bring ourselves closer to the liturgy in our new siddur, through the re-energizing of our sisterhood, etc. all with a mind towards bringing ourselves closer than we have ever been before. As the song by Dan Nichols gives us this charge...we must remember, through it all, we are each holy beings and the relationships we garner should be holy as well.



### Lyrics for Kehillah Kedoshah by Dan Nichols

Verse 1: x2

If you are atem, Then we're n'tzavim  
We stand here today And remember the  
dream

2x: Kehila (If you are atem) Kedoshah  
(Then we're n'tzavim)  
Kehila (We stand here today) Kedoshah  
(And remember the dream)

Each one of us must play a part  
Each one of us must heed the call  
Each one of us must seek the truth  
Each one of us is a part of it all  
Each one of us must remember the pain  
Each one of us must find the joy  
Each one of us  
Each one of us

3x: Kehila Kedoshah

Each one of us must start to hear  
Each one of us must sing the song  
Each one of us must do the work  
Each one of us must right the wrong  
Each one of us must build the home  
Each one of us must hold the hope  
Each one of us! Each one of us!

3x: Kehila Kedoshah

It's how we help  
It's how we give  
It's how we pray  
It's how we heal  
It's how we live  
It's how we help  
It's how we give

It's how we pray

It's how we heal  
It's how we live

2x: If you are atem  
Then we're n'tzavim  
We stand here today

And remember the dream

4x: Kehila (If you are atem)  
Kedoshah (Then we're n'tzavim)  
Kehila (We stand here today)  
Kedoshah (And remember the dream)

## A message from our synagogue president, Betsy Karotkin

Literacy has always been one of our Jewish trademarks. We are the People of the Book. But we are also the people committed to “Tikun Olam,” repairing the world. Champions of Literacy *and* Justice.

Many years ago, while working at the United Jewish Federation, I created a literacy program known as BEAR - “BE A Reader.” Modeled after a national Federation program, its goal was to help children struggling to read. We formed teams of over 200 volunteers - men and women, Jewish and non-Jewish - who went into schools once a week to work with 2nd graders who needed some one-on-one help to learn to read. Each volunteer had his or her own child.

In 2003, “BEAR” won the Virginia State Literacy Award and the following year, the Ray of Hope Award. It proved to be a program that was rewarding for children and volunteers alike. BEAR is still going strong today.

Not only do the children in Tidewater elementary schools benefit from the extra help, but, equally important, a very special relationship develops between the child and volunteer. Often these children do *not* have adults in their lives who are able to spend time helping them learn and listening to their concerns.

Since many people are reluctant to take on a weekly obligation, the volunteers often worked as “BEAR pairs.” By having a partner, you never have to worry about being away or having a scheduling conflict. And you can choose a “BEAR” school close to your home.

**It would be terrific for Beth El to have its own BEAR team.**

As we approach Hanukkah, the celebration of our religious freedom, and a celebration of light, the symbol of the divine, I encourage you to consider being a light for a child. It is an hour that you will look forward to; it is an hour meaningfully spent in the spirit of tikkun olam.

Just this week, Cantor Wendi chanted a Haftarah from the prophet, Hosea. This is what Hosea tells the Jewish people, a message that still resonates in the 21st century, “*Practice kindness and justice.*”

In the spirit of Hanukkah and the light of Torah, I am hoping that many of you will call the Beth El office and respond with a “Count me in.” **Helping a child learn to read is a gift of light in the truest sense.** I hope we can feature our Beth El BEAR team in our next Bulletin!

Wishing you *all* a Happy, meaningful Hanukkah!



### BETH EL GIFT SHOP

#### JANUARY CLEARANCE

**Price reduction on many items.**

**Bargain table: buy one get one free.**

**Jewelry Clearance**

**Thank you for your patronage.**

**All proceeds benefit Beth El**



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US!!!



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reminders, service  
information and  
the latest sermons

## Beth El to House the Homeless (N.E.S.T.) January 18th - 25th

*It is to share your bread with the hungry, and to take the wretched poor into your home; When you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to ignore your own kin. Then shall your light burst through like the dawn and your healing spring up quickly...*

-Isaiah 58:7-11

As we see in Isaiah's famous explanation, when we open our house to those without shelter, not only are we helping them but we are also allowing our own light to shine forth. The NEST program is Beth El's way of opening our home to the poor and sharing our bread with the hungry. It has long been our premier social action project – the program that allows our “light to burst through like the dawn.”

This year, Congregation Beth El will again open its doors to the homeless of our community for a week beginning Wednesday, January 18th. For the twenty-first year, Beth El will join churches and area synagogues in hosting and feeding the homeless throughout the winter months as part of the efforts of NEST (Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team).

In the past, Beth El has depended on the commitment of its members for this important mitzvah. Volunteers are needed again to register guests, prepare and serve meals and to be available during the night and early morning hours to monitor the program. **Contributions are greatly needed to fund this program. Those who can are encouraged to send a check to Beth El with the notation that is for the homeless program.**

If you would like to donate to this program or volunteer, please see the form below.



### HELP THE HOMELESS

Please check the box to the left of the date and time you would like to help out, print your name and phone number below, and mail back to the Beth El office, 422 Shirley Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23517 OR call the office at 625-7821.

#### I want to help fund the program

Enclosed is my donation in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Check payable to Congregation Beth El.*

Evening Shift  
6:30 pm - 10:00 pm

- Wednesday, January 18
- Thursday, January 19
- Saturday, January 21
- Sunday, January 22
- Monday, January 23
- Tuesday, January 24

Late Shift  
10:00 pm - 5:30 am

- Wednesday, January 18
- Thursday, January 19
- Saturday, January 21
- Sunday, January 22
- Monday, January 23
- Tuesday, January 24

Morning Shift  
5:30 am - 7:30 am

- Thursday, January 19
- Friday, January 20
- Sunday, January 22
- Monday, January 23
- Tuesday, January 24
- Wednesday, January 25

We have just celebrated the festival of Chanukah. Each candle a reminder that freedom in all its forms must be cherished and never taken for granted. In the United States we can change our government with the stroke of a pen not the slash of a sword. This year we once again light our menorahs with gratitude for our blessing of freedom.

Our sisters from Temple Israel have invited us to join them for their Tu B'Shevat Seder on Sunday, February 12th. We have enjoyed their company and support for our functions in the past and we look forward to being with them. Look for more information.



Lunch and Learn with our clergy on Wednesdays always provides stimulating discussion and we want to offer Kudos to Linda Samuels and Mario for the delicious lunches.

Our next Sisterhood open meeting will be January 19th.

Many thanks to Marilyn Ashe and Gina Rose for the Gift Shop transformation. Stop by and make a purchase.

And remember Nancy Kanter and Carol Smith are happy to help you cater you special occasions. Call Carol Smith at (757) 357-6120.



### Torah Fund

As we begin our secular New Year 2017, we are halfway through our 5777 Torah Fund Campaign. We are proud to announce that we have two new Benefactors, Joyce Kossman and Sheryl-Lynn Makela, two new Guardians, Beth Hirsch Berman and Carol Stredler Smith, and one new Associate Patron, Evelyn Hirsh. However, we are ALWAYS happy to take a donation in ANY amount. Everything helps us reach our goal and of course helps the JTS.

We have contacted almost all of our past Benefactors and Guardians but feel free to let us know you want to recommit. To become a Benefactor (\$180), Guardian (\$300), Associate Patron (\$600) or Scholarship Patron (\$2500), please call one of us to make your pledge. You may pay in one lump sum, with payments throughout the year or even put it on your VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS (so you can earn points as you contribute to a wonderful cause)! You have until May 15, 2017 to fulfill your pledge.

Congregation Beth El has always been one of the leaders in Women's League, and it is because of all of our generous supporters! Please join us to make this the best year ever.

Barbara Abraham, Ina Mirman Leiderman & Judy Mitnick  
Torah Fund Co-Chairs

## Men's Club News

Members of our club attended a 4-hour meeting with others from the region at **REPRESENT!**, the Annual Tidewater Intra-Regional Gathering II on Thursday, December 15th at Temple Israel. In addition to the usual raucous ruach and meeting stuff, it was planned for the second year in a row to host via Skype the Men's Club from Uganda (yep, that's right) which is our much beloved African chapter. They speak English and are a delightful chapter in, believe it, Seaboard Region FJMC. We are, indeed, one people. If you need a hand-knitted kippa, ask us how to order one from those talented folks.

Coming up on the horizon are some wonderful events:

The 17th Annual **BEN GORDON FAMILY BINGO NIGHT** on February 11th at 7:00 pm – Join the family fun at our fundraiser in Myers Hall. In addition to our usual door prize drawings and bingo game prizes (with final game \$500 cash prize), we'll also feature a '50/50' raffle! You can also purchase extra sets of Bingo cards (extra door-prize ticket included) for \$5. Note: there is a surcharge for credit card use.

Admission includes 1 set of Bingo cards and door prize drawing ticket, snacks, beverages and dinner. The cost is: \$15 for adults / \$10 for children (to age 12) when RSVP is received by February 9th. Admission price is 50% higher with late or no RSVP.

We appreciate all our individual family and corporate sponsors! These sponsorships are ultimately the KEY to our club's financial success and ability to support our worthwhile endeavors such as Jewish camp scholarships and our Religious school.

Sponsorship levels this year are as follows:

- Individual Sponsorship - begins at \$118 and includes: name listing on each table, the Bulletin, Men's Club emails plus three adult admissions (alternate option: two adult & two child admissions).
- Bronze (Corporate) Sponsorship - begins at \$250 and includes: larger listing on each table with additional listings in the Bulletin and Men's Club emails plus six adult admissions.
- Silver Sponsorship - begins at \$500 and includes: larger listing (with address and phone #, if desired) on each table with additional listings in the Bulletin and Men's Club emails plus eight adult admissions.
- Gold Sponsorship - begins at \$1,000 and includes: largest listing (with address and phone #, if desired) on each table with additional listings in the Bulletin and Men's Club emails plus twelve adult admissions.

### WISDOM

On Sunday, March 5th, at 10 am in Myers Hall: a presentation by Dr. Ed Karotkin entitled, "Jewish/Israeli Medicine – A Bridge To Peace". Please RSVP to the office. This should prove very exciting and meaningful for the whole community. Breakfast will be served.



### Annual ODU Basketball Game

Saturday

February 18, 2017

7:00 pm

For the 11th consecutive year, our Men's Club gets "the VIP treatment" at an ODU Men's Basketball game courtesy of Patricia and Avraham Ashkenazi! We will once again have ODU's largest luxury box, and this year's opponent is Charlotte.

Tickets cost \$15 per person (price subsidized by Men's Club). This event sells out each and every year, so don't delay! Tickets are purchased in advance, so reservations are required. Due to overwhelming demand and limited space, we ask that you only bring Beth El members and/or family members.

Contact Seth Fleishman at [sfleishman@gmail.com](mailto:sfleishman@gmail.com)  
or 757-502-8903 to make reservations or get more information.



### Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas – The Next Step

For two years the Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas? committee worked with our congregants to develop and grow our Beth El community connections through Shabbat dinners hosted in people's homes. We are thrilled to see how this has organically grown to people hosting each other without the committee creating specific dates or calling for hosts. Sharing Shabbat together and building the ties among our members is a central part of our Beth El mission and family. With this next evolution of GWCTS, we hope to encourage the continuance of these ideas and build on the hosting that's already happening.

We are asking each family to **commit to hosting 2 Friday night dinners** over the course of the next year. With about 500 member families, that would be 1000 Beth El Shabbas dinners! Hosting Shabbat dinner can be as elaborate or simple as you want – go ahead and have pizza or pot luck, team up with a friend and host together. The key is sharing time together, making it sacred and special by marking it as Shabbat. Also, please consider inviting someone to your dinner who hasn't been at your Shabbat table before.

Let us know each time you're hosting so that we can do two things: 1) potentially connect you with those looking for home hospitality 2) enter you into a drawing for a prize as a thank you for hosting and helping to build and strengthen our community. (You'll be entered for each time you host, no limit!) We'll proudly share the number of Shabbat dinners each month to see if we can get to 1000!

For questions, to let us know you will host, or to let us know you'd like home hospitality, please email [comingtoshabbas@gmail.com](mailto:comingtoshabbas@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you.

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Join Rabbi Arnowitz at AIPAC Policy Conference 2017



AIPAC Policy Conference - Washington DC  
March 26th-28th

It seems like a lot has changed in the political atmosphere in the last several months and that might be so. One thing however has not changed – AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee is still the best organization for insuring close ties between the U. S. and Israel and Policy Conference is still the best place to go to learn about what is really going on in Israel and the Middle East.

Even since the election, AIPAC has been working hard encouraging the passage of several pieces of important legislation before the administration or Congress changes and there have been several successes. But the work doesn't get any easier from here. With 55 new House members, six new Senators, and an entirely new administration, your support will be needed to build strong relationships and advance the U.S.-Israel relationship in the year ahead.

The first step is to get educated and meet your representatives and senators and that's what Policy Conference is all about. As of the writing of this article I have five discounted tickets for Policy Conference remaining. Contact me quickly to reserve your spot. The discounted registrations will be given first come, first served - [rja@bethelnorfolk.com](mailto:rja@bethelnorfolk.com).

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## Summer Scholarships

### Application Deadline: March 15, 2017

Many opportunities exist for Beth El students to participate in Jewish enrichment programs during the summer, and the Scholarship Committee is looking forward to providing funds for Beth El youngsters to attend these wonderful summer activities. Information on trips and programs, such as Camp Ramah, USY on Wheels, and trips to Israel are available through the synagogue and the Federation.

Beth El's Sisterhood and Men's Club provide scholarship subsidies. In addition, the Cherin and Polis Family Trusts, and the Sharon Spitalney Scholarship Fund were established specifically for this purpose. Funds are available from these sources for the children of members in good standing, (i.e., those whose financial obligations to Beth El are current).

Apply for scholarship funds by submitting the following application to:

Beth El Scholarship Committee  
c/o Dorothy Spitalney  
2421 Ocean Shore Crescent #402  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' names: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and sponsor of activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of activity: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of activity \_\_\_\_\_

Other scholarship funds available to the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

*Sisterhood recently received the most heartwarming letter with a generous donation enclosed. The message is for the entire congregation.*

*To the leadership and membership,*

*For the past few years, I have taught a introductory Judaism class at Virginia Wesleyan College called "Judaism Through Food." (It is probably no surprise that this has become a rather popular class!) For as many years, I have required the students enrolled in this class - most of whom are not Jewish - to attend a Shabbat service at Beth El so that they could see Judaism as a lived experience. And for as many years, I have encouraged the students to stay after the service to enjoy Kiddush Lunch. While the number of those who stay beyond the service is considerably lower than the number of those who arrive for its start at 9:30 am, those who do stay have been treated to the friendship of the congregants and the delicious food that you have prepared.*

*Enclosed please find a small but heartfelt contribution to the Congregation Beth El Sisterhood as my personal thanks for what you have provided to my students. I am grateful to the congregation for welcoming them so warmly; but I am particularly grateful to you, the leadership and membership of Beth El Sisterhood, for the hard work you do to make every Kiddush lunch such a warm and pleasant experience for me and my students.*

*B'shalom,*

*Eric Mazur, PhD*

## “What I told the Beth El Board in December” by Sharon Wasserberg, Education Director

Beit Sefer Shalom-UHS 2.0 is the re-envisioned educational program for kindergarten through seventh grade that was previously two separate entities. Judaica for the children of Beth El members was taught through BERS (Beth El Religious School) and Hebrew instruction was accomplished through UHS (United Hebrew School) which served the children of members at the four Tidewater area Conservative congregations. We are now mid-way through our first school year as Beit Sefer Shalom-UHS 2.0.



Students in our school come from three different Tidewater area Conservative synagogues: Congregation Beth El, Temple Israel, and KBH. Our kindergarten through seventh grade enrollment this year approaches 100 students which is a marked increase from the past four years. In fact, we have had to divide both the sixth and seventh grades into separate classes due to enrollment. This required the hiring of one additional teacher for the sixth grade; we had already anticipated needing to divide the seventh grade. Further, our combined kindergarten-first grade has grown to the point where we will need to seriously consider separating the grades in the future. (Rabbi Arnowitz refers to this as a good problem.)

The school curriculum was developed by Shalom Learning, a non-profit organization based in the DC area. The Judaics portion is used in grades three through seven and is based on the exploration of seven Jewish values (*t'shuvah*, *b'tzelem Elohim*, *gevurah*, *achrayut*, *haKarat haTov*, *koach haDibbur*, and *shalom*) presented through different lenses each year (family, self, peers, community, and tikkun olam). Next year, the Shalom Learning group will add a component for the second grade level. [If you want a more detailed view of the curriculum, it is available through its website: [www.shalomlearning.org](http://www.shalomlearning.org).] This is a technology-based curriculum and we installed seven big screen televisions with computer capabilities to effect the new program. While there have been a few tech glitches that required some tweaking, they have since been resolved and we are all quite pleased with the Judaica aspect of what goes on here on any Sunday morning.

Shalom Learning also provides an online Hebrew curriculum that was developed by Torah Aura Productions, a Los Angeles based Jewish textbooks and materials company. Currently, we provide one hour of group, grade level Hebrew instruction in the classrooms on Sunday mornings. This is augmented by one-on-one 30 minute Hebrew tutorials during the week. The students are matched up with one of six Hebrew tutors who meet with students at either the JCC or Beth El. (Two students live in Chesapeake and meet with their tutor at a public library close to their home.) As the Hebrew portion of the curriculum is not as well developed as the Judaica portion, we have had to share some concerns with the Shalom Learning support staff and they are working diligently to fix what can be repaired. They have also shared a new Hebrew curriculum that is planned to be launched next year. Now that we have some experience with a totally different format for Religious School, we will be able to make a much more educated decision about the Hebrew aspect of our program. There are a number of choices available to us and we will select the best option that is certain to meet our needs.

Parents seem to be pleased with the midweek Hebrew one-on-one tutorials. They like the idea of a shorter time commitment, location choices, and some level of option insofar as the assigned teacher is concerned.

Should anyone have questions about this report or any other aspect of Beit Sefer Shalom-UHS 2.0, please do not hesitate to email me: [sharon@bethelnorfolk.com](mailto:sharon@bethelnorfolk.com)

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon B. Wasserberg, MAED, CJE

Director of Education

## Beit Sefer Shalom—UHS 2.0 Sunday Sessions in January

**January 8th @Beth El 9:15 am to 12:15 pm**

Achrayut: doing what you can to make the world a better place Session One

**January 15th @Temple Israel 10:00 am to Noon**

Achrayut Session Two and PACTivity: Tikkun Olam: Effecting Change

**January 22nd @Beth El 9:15 am to 12:15 pm**

Achrayut Session Three

**January 29th @Beth El 9:15 am to 12:15 pm**

Achrayut Session Four

**February 5th @Beth El 9:15 am to 12:15 pm**

Achrayut unit concludes  
World Wide Wrap

### Shabbat Programming for Kids of All Ages

**January 7th  
AND  
January 21st**

Junior Congregation is a student-led service for third grade and older and meets in Barr Chapel from 10:30 to noon

Torah Tweens is for kids in first and second grades and meets in the Library from 11:00 until noon

Mini-Minyan is a parent-led gathering for children from birth through kindergarten and their adult. It meets in Laibstain Lounge from 11:00 until noon.



### Monday Morning Movies

We meet in the Library from 10:30 to 12:30

Coffee and movie snacks provided

Our Up-coming Schedule

**January 16, 2017**

“Thirteen Days” starring Kevin Costner

**March 20, 2017**

“Last Holiday” starring Queen Latifah

**May 15, 2017**

“Lilies of the Field” starring Sidney Poitier

## Beit Sefer Shaom

The Beit Sefer Shalom Wish List

Parents to volunteer their assistance for the Purim Carnival taking place on Purim Sunday, March 12th.

Contact Sharon Wasserberg

## Torah on Tap

**Wednesday, January 18th**  
**7:00 pm**



**Gordon Biersch Brewery**  
**Town Center**  
**Virginia Beach**  
**757-490-2739**

We'll enjoy each other's company, learn some Torah and enjoy a frosty beverage (alcoholic or not, your choice).  
All are welcome!  
Please RSVP to Sandy or Noelle in the office (625-7821) or on Facebook.

## Bar/Bat Mitzvah Corner

Bella Cardon will become a Bat Mitzvah on January 14th. She is the daughter of Elyse and David Cardon and the sister of Sylvie, Avi and Flora and her dogs Skyy and Remy. Her grandparents are Lucy and Larry Cardon, Susan



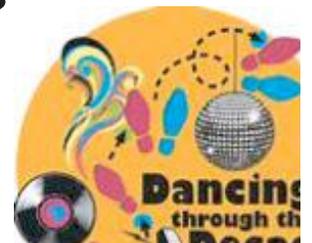
and Nathan Segal, and F. Bruce Tapper, of blessed memory. A Hebrew Academy of Tidewater graduate, Bella is now in the 7th grade at Norfolk Academy where she enjoys playing field hockey and basketball and chorus. She loves animals, art, photography and food!

## MILESTONES IN THE BETH EL FAMILY

Robert Parker Morgan was bar mitzvah at Temple Beth El of Richmond, Virginia on November 12th. Parker is the son of Jennifer and Dennis Morgan of Richmond and the grandson of Miriam and Arnold Hoffman and the older brother of Steven Carter Morgan. Parker is in the seventh grade at Holman Middle School and he enjoys Boy Scouts, and robotics. He is in his school's gifted enrichment program and loves animals, nature, the beach and family.

## Dancing Through The Decades

**Saturday, January 28th**  
**7:30 p.m. at Beth El**



Start 2017 with a look back and enjoy a fun evening of Ballroom Dancing Instruction. Singles and couples welcome.

No experience is necessary.

Poodle skirts, fedoras, and tie dyed t-shirts encouraged!

Join us for Havdalah before and adult beverages and light refreshments afterward.

Please RSVP to the Beth El office by January 21st. Cost is \$18 a person (in advance).

This event is jointly sponsored by Adult Recess, Growing Together, Hazak, and Collaborative.

Questions? Contact Jody Alperin at [jjal23@verizon.net](mailto:jjal23@verizon.net)

We are grateful for the generous contributions of those who support Beth El

*by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones.*

**PEARL K. ALECK LIBRARY**

**ENDOWMENT**

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Harriet Collector**

Warren & Helen Aleck

**Tommy Lindsey**

Warren & Helen Aleck\*\*

**IN HONOR OF**

**Warren Aleck's birthday**

Barry & Reatha Kantor\*

**Warren & Helen Aleck's anniversary**

Barry & Reatha Kantor\*

**Joel Kossman's birthday**

Louis L. Grossman\*\*

**Vickie Kalfus**

Warren & Helen Aleck\*

**Pansy Perlman**

Warren & Helen Aleck\*

**TEMPLE FUND**

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Bill Bangel**

Frances Bangel\*

**Harriet Collector**

Frances Bangel\*\*

Herbert & Carolyn Bangel\*

Clay Barr (G)

Mark Barr\*

Hilde Deutsch\*

Doris Friedman (B)

Betty Hecht

Alan & Norma Jaffe\*

Kathy & Jerry Kantor\*

Ron & Cindy Kramer & Family (G)

Arthur & Emmy Lou Kreger

David & Jody Laibstain

Jean Molofsky

Joseph Segal

Mannie & Judy Smith

Aaron & Sara Trub

Martin & Trudy Waranch\*

Dorothy Zimmerman

**Harold Geringer**

Ben Gross (G)

**Edith Glass**

Steve & Abby Buchberg

Ed & Betsy Karotkin\*

Sharon Leach

Joyce Salzberg\*

Larry & Natalie Saunders

Alan & Jody Wagner

**Harris Griff**

Freida Goldstein

Howard & Susan Horwitz\*

Stanley & Linda Samuels

Bill & Rosanne Simon

**Shirley Harris**

Arthur & Helene Rosenfeld

**Tommy Lindsey**

Mark Barr\*

Rick & Janice Foleck\*

Cilda Meltzer

Alan & Jody Wagner

Martin & Trudy Waranch

Jay & Marsha Woodman\*

**Elsie Rowe**

Nathan & Beth Goldin (B)

Iris Ruden\*

**Rose Schneider**

Larry & Natalie Saunders (B)

**Gertrude Stavin**

Aaron & Sara Trub

**Joyce Strelitz**

Nathan & Beth Goldin (B)

**IN HONOR OF**

**Cantor Wendi Fried's installation**

Aaron & Sara Trub\*

**The marriage of Norma & Farideh**

**Goldin's daughter Yael**

Ed & Betsy Karotkin\*

**Alan Jaffe's birthday**

Mannie & Judy Smith (B)

**Joan Joffe, thank you**

Dorothy Zimmerman\*

**Gail Juren's continued recovery**

Burt & Patsy Barr

**Irma Kopelove's special birthday**

Manuel & Dorothy Wyron & Eddie & Punky Levin\*

**Melvin & Frances Ornoff's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

Ruth Ellen Gans

**Rhoda Sheintoch's milestone birthday**

Burt & Patsy Barr\*

Steve & Abby Buchberg

**Aaron & Sara Trub, thank you & happy New Year**

Iris Ruden\*

**SPEEDY RECOVERY TO**

**Robert Bloch**

Stuart & Mickey Held\*

**Arty Gladstone**

Bernie & Helene Grablowsky (G)

Arthur & Helene Rosenfeld

**Gail Juren**

Stanley & Linda Samuels

**BERNARD MARTIN**

**MEMORIAL FUND**

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Harriet Collector**

Elsie Martin

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND**

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Harriet Collector**

Marilyn Jacobson\*

**BEVERLY RAFAL WERBEL**

**FUND TO HOUSE THE**

**HOMELESS**

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Harriet Collector**

Viviane Simon

**Edith Glass**

David & Jody Laibstain\*

**Harris Griff**

Rob Bernstein & Lisa Ehrich\*\*

**Herman Hirschfeld & Esther**

**Hirschfeld**

Estie Cohen

**IN HONOR OF**

**The bat mitzvah of Steve & Randi**

**Gordon's daughter Marah**

David & Charlene Cohen\*

**Judy Mitnick's honor from Bon**

**Secours**

David & Jody Laibstain\*

**SPEEDY RECOVERY TO**

**Beverly Frieden**

David & Charlene Cohen\*

We are grateful for the generous contributions of those who support Beth El

*by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones.*

**Art Sandler**  
David & Charlene Cohen\*  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL FUND**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Tommy Lindsey**  
Norman Soroko  
**IN HONOR OF**  
**Frieda Goldstein's birthday**  
Norman Soroko  
**Norman Soroko's birthday**  
Larry Buckman (S)  
**RABBI ARNOWITZ**  
**DISCRETIONARY FUND**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Harriet Collector**  
Arnold Leon\*  
**Edith Glass**  
Nathan & Ilana Benson\*  
**Anne Zuckerman**  
Arnold Leon\*  
**IN HONOR OF**  
**Zena Herod's special birthday**  
Aaron & Carol Peck  
**CANTOR DISCRETIONARY**  
**FUND**  
**IN HONOR OF**  
**Cantor Wendi Fried's installation**  
Mickey & Stuart Held\*  
Norman Soroko  
**KIDDUSH FUND**  
**IN HONOR OF**  
**Helene Grablowsky's birthday**  
Verne & Ed Royal & Oscar & Karen  
Grablowsky (G)  
**JAY BARR ART FUND**  
**IN HONOR OF**  
**Harriet Collector**  
Raye Keller  
**Tommy Lindsey**  
Clay Barr\*  
**IN HONOR OF**  
**The engagement of Stephen &**  
**Ronnie-Jane Konikoff's daughter**  
**Ashley**  
Bruce & Lauren Barr\*

**SHARON SPITALNEY**  
**SCHOLARSHIP FUND**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Harriet Collector**  
Ron & Dorothy Spitalney\*  
**ARTHUR & HANNA KONIKOFF**  
**MEMORIAL FUND**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Edith Glass**  
Albert & Wendy Konikoff\*  
**Ben Goldberg**  
Albert & Wendy Konikoff\*  
**FREDA & TAVIA GORDON**  
**MEMORIAL FUND**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Harriet Collector**  
Allen & Barbara Gordon  
**MINYAN FUND**  
**Edith Glass**  
Eddie & JoAnn Macon\*  
Neil & Gina Rose\*  
**Tommy Lindsey**  
Neil & Gina Rose\*  
**IN HONOR OF**  
**Stanley Goodman**  
Nathan & Leora Drory (G)  
**HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYER BOOK**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Edith Glass**  
Neil & Gina Rose\*  
**SIDDUR LEV SHALEM**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Harriet Collector**  
Carol Rosenblatt  
**Manny Michaels**  
Stanley & Linda Samuels  
**Howard Rosenblatt**  
Carol Rosenblatt  
**Fred Rosenblum**  
Stanley & Linda Samuels  
**DAILY MINYAN PRAYER BOOK**  
**IN HONOR OF**  
**Rhoda Sheintoch's 90th birthday**  
Eric & Joan Joffe

**HIGH HOLIDAY PRAYER BOOK**  
**IN MEMORY OF**  
**Harriet Collector**  
Neil & Gina Rose

**Condolences to**

**Joe Collector** on the loss of his wife, **Harriet** of blessed memory.

**Fern Leibowitz** on the loss of her mother, **Edith Glass** of blessed memory.

**David Lindsey** and **Sharon Lindsey** on the loss of their father, **Tommy Lindsey** of blessed memory.

**Elsie Martin** on the loss of her sister, **Harriet Salsbury** of blessed memory.

**REMEMBRANCE DONATIONS**

\* = Chai = \$18

\*\* = Double Chai = \$36

B = Bronze = \$19 - \$49

S = Silver = \$50 - \$99

G = Gold = \$100 or more

## January Yahrzeits

*We record the sacred memory of the following departed members  
of the families of our congregation on the occasion of yahrzeit.  
The names of our beloved departed are read from the pulpit at each evening minyan.*

<u>JANUARY 1</u> Leon Cohen Beatrice Goldman Julius Kurtzwile Isaac Leibowitz Lillie Mand Lena Richter Marta Ruiz Nettie Snyder Lillian Sonnenberg Norma Waranch	<u>JANUARY 7</u> Morris Bass Adam Caplan Max Friedlander Harry Goldstein Mollie Gordon Mack Marcus Edith Mitnick	<u>JANUARY 12</u> Jacob Banks Israel Broudy Lois Ginsburg Benjamin Hurwitz Lena Kreger	<u>JANUARY 18</u> Frances Barr Max Bass Sacharia Finestone Abe Galinsky Samuel Ganderson Irwin Goldstein Lenore Holsveig Bessie Hurwitz Robert Kaplan	<u>JANUARY 24</u> Meyer Cohen Miriam Katz Mary Konikoff Joseph Schonfeld Abraham Wise Nat Cohen Annie Fivel Maris January Frank Hyman Israel Salber Burnley Ruesen	<u>JANUARY 28</u> Rosetta Butler Gerald Chalem Eleanor Friedman Ida Grossberg Benjamin Hershman Richard Hirschfeld Benjamin Hornstein Henrietta Kanter Hyman Katz Anna Kirsch Louis Legum Barnett Lifland Abraham Mogul Goldie Mogul Julius Peck Abraham Peltz Anne Raffel Solomon Shapiro Julius Shipowitz Harry Shuman Haim Soroko
<u>JANUARY 2</u> Samuel Adelston Shmuel Cahana Hyman Cohen Steven Eichelbaum David Frank Asher Friedman Irving Kantor	<u>JANUARY 8</u> Mary Bomell Julian Colby Louis Holzveig Clara Kerpelman June Kramer Gerald Lavenstein Samuel Rosenblum Samuel Streen	<u>JANUARY 13</u> Bernard Batleman Loretta Cohen Lenore Dubroff Frances Epstein Pauline Foote Minnie Goodman Jeanne Spector	<u>JANUARY 19</u> Bertha Brownstein Dora Galumbeck Adele Gilbert Toba Katz Rachel Ossen Fannie Reich Alfred Schulman Isadore Schwartz Arthur Siegel	<u>JANUARY 25</u> Lena Altschul Sarah Barr Fannie Blumenson Sol Chandgie Meyer Friedman Albert Josephson Annie Myers Ida Roesen Frank Salasky Joseph Steingold Benjamin Traub Ezzy Wyron	<u>JANUARY 29</u> David Faust Jeanette Katz Sadie Leibowitz Joseph Levinson Morris Miller Bertha Nathan Minnie Pudolsky Marlene Robbins Emanuel Yavner
<u>JANUARY 3</u> Lena Abraham Frederick Baydush David Dobrinsky Helen Martin Ann Monas Barney Peipert Michael Robins	<u>JANUARY 9</u> Peysen Abraham Rachel Arzoine Ida Brown Minnie Elias Matilda Hainer Sidney Katz Arthur Klavans Max Kurtz William Lannik Augusta Lazarus Rose Levinson George Rowe Edith Shorr Hyman Sonkin Bluma Taplin	<u>JANUARY 14</u> Jeanne Baum Ray Bloom Rosalye Fried Eugene Kamer Abraham Levine Betty Morris Samuel Myers Ida Rafelman Dora Swersky Jesse Swersky Hyman Zfass	<u>JANUARY 20</u> Lewis Barber Hanna Konikoff Hannah Myers Irwin Waranch	<u>JANUARY 26</u> June Davidson Shannandoah DeLeon Brina Drucker Albert Glickman Alex Herman Fannie Russnow Moe Schwartz Sidney Semel Bennett Weinstein	<u>JANUARY 30</u> Tillie Caplan Morris Comess Albert Diamonstein Hyman Frieden Pam Green Moses Higger Jeanette Korel Dena Laderberg Marilyn Minskoff Jeanne Rabinowitz Lillian Rosen Ilse Saupe Esther Sherman Abram Snyder
<u>JANUARY 4</u> Bronia Hendler Morris Janow Lena Krause Phillip Leibowitz Celia Levine Arthur Rose Bessie Streen Max Unger	<u>JANUARY 10</u> Shirley Beder Harry Berling Samuel Brownstein Helen Feldman Israel Galumbeck Harold Groh Al Heller Alan Mand Jennie Novak Eliezer Saunders Ida Silverman Simon Sonnenberg Morton Traub	<u>JANUARY 15</u> Leah Gordon Mary Hirschfeld Isaac Ossen Harry Rosen Sylvia Saunders Sharon Sperling Arlene Stein Helen Weintrob	<u>JANUARY 21</u> Ida Frieden Rachel Higger Esther Horwitz Herman Laibstain Eliot Landau David Mervis Joe Reshefsky Isaac Rosenberg	<u>JANUARY 27</u> Stanley Bangel Jack Engel Harry Kirsch Sarah Land Pauline Mullen Harry Oser Celia Yavner	<u>JANUARY 31</u> Jack Bennett Sonia Chenman Gussie Katz Dvora Panzel Louis Savage Allen Stern Sophie Streen
<u>JANUARY 5</u> Fannie Cohen Louis Frank Barbara Goldstein Beatrice Myers Sol Novak Libby Rossen Leah Slomowitz Sadie Tabakin	<u>JANUARY 11</u> Irving Albert Max Aron Susan Bordon Meyer Cohen Nathan Davis Herman Dorf Moses Fox	<u>JANUARY 16</u> Harry Clark Oscar Coplon Dora Mirman Samuel Weisberg	<u>JANUARY 22</u> Sarah Bernstein Louis Deitch David Diamonstein Abraham Dobrinsky Patrice Feldman William Krell Bernice Mandell Sigmund Myers Ivan Nachman Pearl Schoenhaut Isaac Thomashefsky		
<u>JANUARY 6</u> Victor Altschul Morris Fleishman Bertie Geffen Pauline Hillman Edna Levin Abe Shames Ilene Soroko Tillie Weisman		<u>JANUARY 17</u> Joel Abraham Ida Berman Miriam Gordon Murray Kantor Nathan Katz Bernard Landau Charles Littman Bernard Martin Stanley Martin Milton Morewitz Frances Moskowitz Reva Sprung Samuel Steingold	<u>JANUARY 23</u> Sarah Abraham Samuel Chovitz Walter Evans Merle Fields Leah Geffen Maury Kroll Bette Lombart Baruch Tessler Frances Woodman		



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[bethelnorfolk.com](http://bethelnorfolk.com)

**16th  
Annual  
Ben Gordon Family Bingo Night**

**Saturday  
February 11th  
7:30 pm**

**Mark your calendars and join us for our 16th annual Bingo fundraiser. We'll have the usual selection of outstanding prizes, hot dogs and popcorn for the Men's Club biggest fundraiser that helps to pay for the synagogue's educational needs and camp scholarships.**