This too shall pass

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TEMPLE BETH EL PRESIDENT, MARK SUNSHINE, IS A PRINCIPAL OF KRONISH FUNERAL SERVICES. FROM TIME-TO-TIME, BETH EL MAUSOLEUM REFERS PEOPLE TO MULTIPLE FUNERAL HOMES, INCLUDING KRONISH FUNERAL SERVICES, BUT DOES NOT ENDORSE ONE OVER THE OTHER.
This Too Shall Pass

BY RABBI DAN LEVIN
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There is a story that King Solomon decided to give a challenge to his most faithful, and humble servant. He asked him to find a ring – a magic ring. "If a person in misery or mourning beholds it, hope rises in his heart and he is comforted."

The servant spent months traveling throughout the land, searching everywhere for the magic ring, but with no success. One night, sick with disappointment and despair, he passed by a shop he hadn’t seen before, and wandered in. He asked, still with hope in his heart, do you have this magic ring?

"Ah!" said the shopkeeper’s grandfather. "We do!"

He took a gold ring, spent an hour at his station engraving a phrase, and showed it to the servant. With tears of joy and gratitude streaming down his face, he paid all the money he had in his purse.

The next day, he presented the ring to the King. King Solomon examined the inscription and smiled: "Gam Zeh Ya’avor - This too shall pass."

So many cultures tell some version of this story, walls of our homes, and many have gone months without a simple human touch or embrace. But through it all, we have persevered. With faith and hope, our ancestors saw the dark days of Haman’s persecutions and slavery in Egypt give way to the light of redemption and renewal. Echoing throughout our history, you can hear our people calling out to each other: Gam Zeh Ya’avor – this too shall pass.

We too have answered this moment with strong hearts and eyes looking for uplift. We found ways to connect with each other for learning, support, and inspiration. We sewed masks and arranged meal-trains for healthcare workers, we provided groceries and produce for needy families, we embraced the opportunity to observe Shabbat regularly from home, we volunteered to help seniors find appointments for vaccine. We reached out to one another and said: “This too shall pass, but for now, I am right here with you.”

In 1859, speaking to the Wisconsin State Fair, Abraham Lincoln remembered this story. But in closing his remarks, he added: "And this, too, shall pass... And yet let us hope it is not quite true. Let us hope, rather, that by the best cultivation of the physical world, beneath and around us; and the intellectual and moral world within us, we shall secure an individual, social, and political prosperity and happiness, whose course shall be onward and upward, and which, while the earth endures, shall not pass away."

Gam Zeh Ya’avor – this too shall pass. But let us ensure that our ingenuity and creativity, the resiliency of our spirits, our desire for spiritual growth, and the care and love we have shown for each other remain with us now and forever.
One for the Books!

It's been almost one year since we shut down the buildings at Temple Beth El due to the global health pandemic. Friday, March 13, 2020, to be exact. At the time, we had no idea what the future would hold. How would our temple fare? How would our people cope? How long would this craziness last? As it turns out, we have a lot to be grateful for. We have learned a lot. And when this is finally over, we will make sure to remember the bright spots along the way.

We helped people we didn’t know.
It was difficult to secure a Covid vaccine appointment when they first became available to people 65+. Most appointments could only be made online, the instructions were confusing and overwhelming, the limited phone lines were busy and the websites crashed. Congregants Jonathan and Jennifer Greenwald jumped in to help. They were early members of a Facebook Group called “South Florida Covid-19 Vaccination Info”, and within one month they had each made hundreds of vaccine appointments for people they didn’t know, but who needed help. They recruited and trained additional volunteers to make thousands of appointments. As the influence of this group spread throughout the state, they worked even harder - on top of their regular jobs and raising two small children - to help all of us get vaccinated and get our lives back!

We learned how to film services.
Most of our Shabbat services this past year have been Zoomed from the homes of our clergy, and broadcast live on the temple website, Facebook and YouTube pages. But some services needed a little extra pizazz. We filmed the Purim Spiel against a green screen as individual, socially distant pieces. Then we edited it together with lots of visual and music effects to create a wacky, zany Purim experience. Although we couldn’t hear the sound of the groggers from the congregation, we enjoyed playing all the Purim characters just the same!
We learned that children can keep us smiling no matter what.
Despite the buildings being closed for large gatherings, we knew we had to find a way to open our Early Learning Center safely. Our families needed us to take care of their young children so they could work. Our children needed to learn, and be social and feel safe. Ronni Graf shared some funny stories on page 18, but just looking at the childrens’ beautiful faces brings smiles to ours!

We taught and learned new technology.
At the beginning of the pandemic, Mia Farber, a sixth grade student decided to join the new virtual adult Hebrew class to improve her Hebrew for her bat mitzvah. Many of the adults were seniors and had difficulty with the technical aspects of joining the class—they couldn’t get their camera or sound to work properly, problems logging on, etc. Mia, as a tech savvy young person helped many of the older students, and even tutored one of the students who joined the class later to help her catch up. Mia even tried to teach some of them how to use Venmo! The entire class is so excited to join Mia virtually, for her bat mitzvah on March 20, 2021 to celebrate this amazing young woman.

Appreciate what’s right in front of you.
We recently celebrated a beautiful wedding. The bride and groom, both in their early 70’s, had decided that after 18 years together they wanted to finally get married. They called the Temple to inquire, and Rabbi Dan gave them a tour of our magnificent facility. They decided to join the Temple and to get married on our bima. Masked, with only a few guests able to attend, and shared with friends and family on Zoom, they experienced a beautiful, meaningful and spiritual commitment to their lives together.
BETH EL BASH
LIVE FROM BETH EL
IT’S SATURDAY NIGHT

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST
Idina Menzel

SATURDAY
APRIL 24, 2021
7:00 PM
VIRTUAL EVENT

HONORING OUR COVID WARRIORS AND PANDEMIC HEROES

HOSTED BY OUR HONORARY CO-CHAIRS
JAN & ALLEN LEV  ELIZABETH & ADAM SHONSON  GINA & GREG SHUGAR

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE, PLEASE CONTACT SHAYNA MARTINOFF, DEVELOPMENT SENIOR ASSOCIATE, AT MARTINOFF@TBEBOCA.ORG OR CALL 561-314-2815.

For more information and to RSVP, visit tbeboca.org/beth-el-bash-2021
A MESSAGE FROM THE TEMPLE PRESIDENT

A Day in The Life of Temple Beth El – Nothing to Take for Granted

It is easy to take Beth El’s staff and clergy for granted.

As congregants, we have come to expect that we will be taken care of, no matter how difficult the task, with exceptional professionalism, compassion, and grace. Our staff and clergy consistently “make it look easy.”

But make no mistake, what we have come to expect from Beth El does not happen by accident – it requires outstanding dedication and commitment by our team.

Perhaps the best way to illustrate our team’s commitment is to let you know what went into an “average” event that occurred a few weeks ago.

The event was a wedding that took place midmorning during the week.

The bride and groom were new members of the Temple, both in their early 70’s, who decided that after 18 years together, they wanted to get married.

The couple were not members before the wedding.

For the wedding to occur:

• The membership team engaged with the couple and quickly processed their membership application;
• Members of the clergy team had to plan the wedding, reserve the sanctuary and inform the rest of our team about the requirements of the ceremony;
• Our maintenance team prepared the bima and sanctuary. This is a big job that is made more challenging by Covid-19. Among the things that the maintenance team had to do include:
  • Disinfecting the sanctuary, bima, restrooms and hallways;
  • Moving the extraordinarily heavy reading table;
  • Placing a large and cumbersome step module at the bima so there would be steps for the wedding couple;
  • Assembling a free-standing chuppah and placing it on the bima;
  • Dressing two more tables that are not normally on the bima;
  • Setting up Kiddush cups, sanitizer, and microphones; and
• After the wedding, cleaning, disinfecting, and putting everything back into its correct place so that the bima was usable for the next event.
• The Beth El communications team was a wedding participant. They produced a Zoom video that rivals the production quality of network television (a skill we did not have at the beginning of the pandemic). There was a technician in the sound booth operating cameras, lighting, sound, and a producer mixing the audio/video feed. And, the Beth El staff created a slide show for use before the wedding so as people came into the waiting room, they were not looking at a blank screen.
• Of course, the clergy team met with the couple (now newlyweds), prepared the Ketubah, and performed the ceremony.

One of our synagogue’s core values is that every encounter we have with a member of our community is treated as a holy moment.

One of our synagogue’s core values is that every encounter we have with a member of our community is treated as a holy moment. And what I love and appreciate about our team is that everyone is committed to this core value.

It would have been easy for Rabbi Levin to have performed a simple ceremony in the lobby or his office. Because of Covid-19, that is what most synagogues are doing for small weddings. A simple office ceremony would have been both expected and adequate.

However, Beth El’s team does not aspire to be adequate – they want to exceed expectations.

I don’t think our newlyweds have any idea how much work went into facilitating their wedding ceremony. And that’s okay.

The couple knows that their wedding day was even more transcendent and spiritually powerful than they ever imagined.

I am telling you this because I want to make sure that we never take the blessing of Beth El membership for granted. We need to remember to thank our clergy and staff for deciding to spend their lives taking care of us, the congregants of Temple Beth El.
I Got Two Doses of the Vaccine. Can I Come Back to Temple?

As more and more of our Temple members are getting vaccinated against Covid-19, many are wondering when we will reopen the Temple for in-person programs and worship services.

For the time being the answer is “not yet”. Here is why:

First, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is still recommending that you wear a mask and avoid close contact with others even after getting two doses of the vaccine.

According to the CDC website:
“Not enough information is currently available to say if or when the CDC will stop recommending that people wear masks and avoid close contact with others to help prevent the spread of the virus. Experts need to understand more about the protection that Covid-19 vaccines provide in real-world conditions before making that decision. We also don’t know whether getting a Covid-19 vaccine will prevent you from spreading the virus to other people, even if you don’t get sick yourself.”

Also, in order to offer in-person programs and worship services, we need administrative staff, custodial staff, security staff, and A/V technicians, to name a few. Most of those individuals are under age 65 and so it will be a while before they are vaccinated. We don’t want to create a situation where we put our valued staff members at risk if we can avoid it.

In light of the above, we are exploring when and what type of in-person gatherings we can do safely given these constraints. We deeply miss seeing all of you in person and we know you miss seeing your Temple friends too. We are anxious to return to our lovely facilities as soon as possible. But we must do so responsibly, and unfortunately we are not at that point just yet. We appreciate your patience and continued support.

Local clergy were invited to receive the vaccine from Baptist Health / Boca Raton Regional Hospital so they could be protected from Covid-19 while in service to our community, and visiting Temple Beth El members who are hospitalized. As Rabbi Dan mentioned in his Facebook post, “Side effects include overwhelming gratitude and appreciation for the researchers, scientists, technicians and all those whose painstaking labor brought forth this vaccine.”

We look forward to the day when most of our congregation and community are vaccinated, and we can once again begin to gather indoors and in person.

View the recent Covid-19 panel discussion “The Covid 19 Vaccine – What Can We Tell You” on the Temple’s archive page tbeboca.org/archive and click on “Special Events.”
Yom Ha’Atzmaut
Celebrating Israel’s 73rd Birthday!

Israel! A Musical Tour and Celebration
Wednesday, April 14, 2021
7:30pm on Livestream, Facebook, or YouTube
Did you know our very own Rabbi Jessica Mates used to be a tour guide in Israel? We hope you’ll join us for an evening celebrating Israel, as Rabbi Jessica guides us through the beauty and history of the land while Cantorial Soloist Michelle Auslander Cohen serenades us with an Israeli soundtrack of some of the country’s greatest hits. A beautiful way to celebrate Israel’s Independence Day!

Art and Zionism
With Rabbi Matthew Berkowitz
LIVE from Israel
Thursday, April 15, 2021
10:00am on Livestream, Facebook, or YouTube, or pre-register at tbeboca.org/virtual for the Zoom link
How does the art of Israel weave into the Zionist journey? To what extent do we see the theme of slavery to freedom reflected in the art of modern Israel? We will trace the Jewish artistic journey from European persecution to the birth and rise of the State of Israel.

Yom HaShoah
Behind the Scenes of Bubby’s Kitchen
Thursday, April 8, 2021, 7:30pm on Livestream, Facebook, or YouTube
Bubby’s Kitchen is a one-woman show, created and performed by Cantor Shira Ginsburg. It is inspired by the heroic actions of resistance her grandparents took against the Nazis as Partisans. Bubby’s Kitchen is the story of one young woman’s journey to live up to her grandparents’ incredible legacy. Join us as Rabbi Jessica Mates and Cantorial Soloist Michelle Auslander Cohen interview Cantor Ginsburg, as she explains the making of her show, sings and bears witness to the incredible journey of her family.
CANTOR EVAN KENT

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE SERIES

On Livestream, Facebook, or YouTube
Made possible by The Procacci Family Artist-In-Residence Endowment

Cantor Evan Kent is a wonderful storyteller, a gifted musician, and an inspiring performer. At Temple Beth El's first Artist-In-Residence series, we will be entertained and enlightened with Jewish storytelling at its best.

WE ARE A STORYTELLING PEOPLE:

VIRTUAL LUNCH AND LEARN WORKSHOP
Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 2021
12:00pm
Jews are a storytelling people, and in this three-part series we will learn how to develop and tell our own distinctly Jewish stories. We will learn how to find the extraordinary in every day, to speak from our heart and share our own experiences. Through storytelling, we express our own truths, share emotions, and create memories.

SHABBAT WITH CANTOR EVAN KENT FROM ISRAEL:

OUR STORIES THROUGH A JEWISH LENS
Friday, March 19, 2021 • 7:30pm
Enjoy this special celebration of Shabbat through story and song.

BEHIND THE SCENES: THE MAKING OF “SHARDS”
Sunday, March 21, 2021 • 11:00am

Cantor Evan Kent shares with you a “behind the scenes” look at the making, development, and production of his one-man show, “Shards.”

“Shards” is a full-length musical that weaves together stories of Evan’s “aliyah” to Israel, with tales of his family’s migration from Eastern Europe to the United States at the beginning of the 20th century. It is a story of love and loss, the search for home and homeland, and along the way discovering what you didn’t even know you had lost.

In this program, Evan will share some vignettes and songs from the show, as well as share with all his personal creative and artistic process. This will take place on Zoom.
Register to receive the Zoom link at tbeboca.org/virtual
March /April 2021 | THE CHRONICLE 11

### Lunch & Learn

**Retired Rabbis Reflecting**

*With Rabbis Steve Moss and Mordecai Schreiber*

**Tuesdays, April 6, 13, 20 and 27**

**12:00 – 1:00pm**

**On Virtual Beth El, Livestream, and YouTube**

One of the many blessings of being a synagogue in South Florida is that rabbis in retirement make Temple Beth El their spiritual home. We are blessed that these two rabbis will share with us the books they have recently authored at this time in their life. It is truly a blessing to learn with both of them.

### Journey to the Prayerbook:
The Basics of Jewish Prayer

**OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF TEMPLE BETH EL, THIS CLASS IS A REQUIREMENT FOR ADULT B’NAI MITZVAH**

Taught by Rabbi Jessica Spitalnic Mates

**Tuesdays, March 23, 30 • April 6, 13, 20, 27 • May 4, 11, 2021**

7:00 – 8:00pm

Registraion required at tbeboca.org/virtual

Learn about prayers, as you discover the content, history and meaning behind them.

There will be several extended evenings for Adult B’nai Mitzvah students. If you are interested in becoming part of the next Adult B’nai Mitzvah group contact Rabbi Mates jmates@tbeboca.org or 561-414-1005

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### About Cantor Evan Kent

Evan received his ordination as a cantor and his Master’s in Sacred Music from Hebrew Union College in New York and served Temple Isaiah in Los Angeles as its cantor for 25 years. Evan also received his Bachelor’s Degree from the Manhattan School of Music and a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from the City University of New York.

In 2014, Evan Kent earned his doctorate in music education from Boston University. His doctoral research examined how music at Jewish summer camps in North America assists in the development of Jewish identity.

He is currently on the faculty of Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem where he teaches liturgy and sacred music. He has starred in Jerusalem productions of “Guys and Dolls”, the musical drama “Next to Normal,” “Avenue Q,” “Singin’ in the Rain,” Sondheim’s “Assassins,” “Cabaret,” and “She Loves Me.” Evan also portrayed Yitzchak Rabin in a new musical drama (“November”) that dramatized the last week of Rabin’s life.

Evan’s one-man show “Shards-Putting the Pieces Together” has been presented in Jerusalem, Prague, and throughout the United States.
Celebrate Shabbat

MARCH 5 • 6:00PM
VIRTUAL
NIGHT OF 50 SHABBAT DINNERS
(see page 13)
Shabbat Blessings – Candles,
Kiddush and Z’mirot
Join our Rabbis, Cantors and B’nai
Mitzvah for twenty minutes of Shabbat
“Blessings and Banter” as we usher in
Shabbat before we enjoy our Night of 50
Shabbat Dinners.

7:30pm Shabbat Service:
What is Shabbat?
We will draw on selections from Rabbi
Abraham Joshua Heschel’s book “The
Sabbath” to inspire us to build a weekly
“palace in time.”

MARCH 12 • 6:30PM
March Madness Tot Shabbat!
Celebrate Shabbat and the NCAA
Basketball Tournament with your ELC
friends. Wear your favorite college team
jersey for Tot Shabbat with Rabbi Greg
and Cantor Michelle.

7:30pm
Shabbat of Spirituality –
Building our Inner Tabernacle
In order for God’s presence to dwell in
the community, the Torah teaches us that
we need to build a sanctuary –
a mishkan. We will reflect on how Jewish
spiritual practice guides each of us to
build an inner sanctuary where God
dwells within us.

MARCH 19 • 7:30PM
Shabbat Service featuring
Cantor Evan Kent from Israel
Cantor Evan Kent, direct from Israel, will
join our rabbis and cantors to lead us in a
meaningful and musical service exploring
our personal Jewish stories and how we
tell them. This evening is made possible
by the Procacci Family Artist-In-Residence
Endowment.

MARCH 26 • 7:30PM
Shabbat HaGadol – What does it
mean to sacrifice?
On this Shabbat before Passover, we
explore the value of sacrifice through
parshat Tzav.

APRIL 2 • 7:30PM
Shabbat Service: Matzah In the
Cafeteria / Being Jewish in Public
Spaces
We will discuss being Jewish in public
spaces as we welcome our guest
speaker, Mark Pelavin. Mark was a senior
professional for the Reform Jewish
Movement for over 25 years, at the
intersection of strategic communications
and public policy. He is the founder of
Hambleton Cove Non-Profits Consulting.

APRIL 9 • 7:30PM
Shabbat Service commemorating
Yom HaShoah through Art and the
Words of Survivors
We are joined by artist, Dr. Wilma Bulkin
Siegel, who has painted award-winning
portraits of Holocaust survivors, their
children and grandchildren. Her work
as a prominent oncologist in New York
City hospice care led her to honor these
survivors. We will learn her story and
meet some of her subjects this Shabbat.
Join us for Shabbat Evening Services
every Friday at 7:30pm, and Torah Study on Saturdays at 9:30am.
Visit tbeboca.org/virtual for details, and links to view on Livestream, Facebook or YouTube.

APRIL 16 • 7:30PM
Shabbat Service
Celebrating Yom Ha’atzmaut: What Does Israel Mean to You?
Celebrate our Jewish homeland with our clergy, as they reflect on the time they have spent in Israel and their unique experiences.

APRIL 23 • 6:30PM
Earth Day Tot Shabbat
Sh’mirat Ha-teva/Protect Nature and Tikkun Olam/Repairing the World are important Jewish values. Join our Early Learning Center families, Rabbi Greg, and Cantor Michelle for Tot Shabbat honoring our beautiful planet. We will be sending home a packet of seeds with the children that attend our Early Learning Center for families to plant, love and watch grow!

APRIL 23 • 7:30 PM
Shabbat Service Celebrating Earth Day
This week’s Torah portion, Kedoshim, teaches us about the holiness of nature and our responsibilities to protect our land.

APRIL 30 • 7:30
Shabbat Service: Moving Forward from Plagues
On the 33rd day of the counting of the Omer, (known as Lag B’Omer), a plague that had decimated thousands of Rabbi Akiva’s students stopped. Tonight we will explore the meaning and importance behind the cessation of a plague.

VIRTUAL NIGHT OF 50
SHABBAT DINNERS

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2021
6:00pm Blessings and Banter with Clergy
6:30pm Enjoy Shabbat dinner in your homes*
7:30pm Shabbat Evening Service
tbeboca.org/night-of-50

LET’S WELCOME SHABBAT TOGETHER!
First, join your Temple family at 6:00pm for Blessings and Banter and a behind-the-scenes discussion with the Clergy team. Next, enjoy a delicious Shabbat dinner at home.

DON’T WANT TO COOK?
Order a delicious Shabbat dinner catered by Artisan Foods.
Family of 2- $25.00, plus sales tax
Family of 4- $50.00, plus sales tax
Pick up is available at the Schaefer Family Campus on Friday, March 5 from 10:00am – 2:00pm. Delivery is available for an additional $15.

If you are interested in eating dinner with other Temple Beth El members, register for Zoom Shabbat Dinner, and you will receive a link to be welcomed to a Zoom Shabbat Dinner Table. Conclude the evening enjoying Shabbat services online – via Livestream, YouTube or Facebook. Visit tbeboca.org/night-of-50 for more information, to register for Blessings and Banter or for a Dinner Table, and to order dinner.

*Please remember to have a Covid-19 safe dinner and do not gather in groups.
A BLOCKBUSTER VIRTUAL SEDER

HOLLYWOOD BY THE NILE

SATURDAY MARCH 27, 2021 6:00 PM

LIVESTREAM FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE!

Celebrate Passover in a way you’ve never celebrated before! You thought last year’s Broadway Seder was cool? You won’t want to miss this year’s musical, fun Seder featuring your favorite Hollywood hits, led by Rabbi Dan Levin & Cantor Lori Brock.

Bring your chocolate-covered matzah instead of popcorn, and join Moses at the Movies with Temple Beth El!

Order a delicious Passover Seder meal from Artisan Foods at tbeboca.org/passover2021 $40/person. Pick up at Temple Beth El Schaefer Family Campus on Saturday, March 27 from 10 am – 4 pm. Delivery option available for an additional $15.

RSVP by Tuesday, March 23. Register at tbeboca.org/passover2021

HOLLYWOOD BY THE NILE
Beth El
Family Seder
with Rabbi Greg Weisman,
Cantorial Soloist
Michelle Auslander Cohen
and Director of Youth Education
and Engagement Heather Erez

Sunday, March 28, 2021
5:30 - 6:30pm
On Zoom

Rabbi Greg, Cantor Michelle, and Heather Erez will be leading this fun Seder geared toward families with younger children.

At 5:30pm we will gather around our Seder tables to welcome the second night of Passover. Our Seder will include a young family-friendly telling of the story, all of the important rituals like WASHING OUR HANDS, dipping the horseradish in the charoset, and saying the blessings with your friends near and far.

We will play table games and sing Dayeinu and other great Passover songs as we celebrate this festive holiday.

We will be using In Every Generation: A PJ Library Haggadah, which is available at pjlibrary.org or from Amazon.

For more information and to register, go to tbeboca.org/passover2021

The Art of Freedom
A P A S S O V E R S P E C I A L S E R I E S

Thursdays, March 4, 11 and 18
10:00 – 11:00am
With Rabbi Dan Levin and Rabbi Matt Berkowitz
Register at tbeboca.org/passover2021

Rabbi Dan Levin and his dear college friend, Rabbi Matt Berkowitz, will take us on a Passover journey through the artwork of the Haggadah. In this three-part series Rabbi Berkowitz in Israel and our clergy here in Boca will reflect on the Passover texts and how The Moss Haggadah and Rabbi Berkowitz’s stunning artwork in The Lovell Haggadah can inspire creative ideas to enrich your own Seder.

Rabbi Berkowitz is the Director of Israel Programs for The Jewish Theological Seminary of America and co-founder of Kol Ha-Ot, a Jerusalem-based venture devoted to exploring the arts and Jewish learning. His art adorns the walls of the Judson Beit Midrash at Temple Beth El Schaefer Family Campus.

Zoom Women’s & Men’s Seders
For more information, see pages 24-25.
CANTOR STEPHEN DUBOV Z”L

VIRTUAL CANTORIAL CONCERT

FEATURING:
Cantor David Propis
Cantor Mark Childs
Cantor Dan Singer
Cantor David Muchnick
Cantor Lori Brock
Cantorial Soloist Sarah Freudenberger
Cantorial Soloist Michelle Auslander Cohen

Join us to hear all of the hits Cantor Dubov performed from Broadway to the Bima!

SAVE THE DATE APRIL 11, 2021

Of Blessed Memory
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

We have a new Virtual Archive! If you miss any of our programming, including Shabbat Evening Services, holiday services, special events, and more, it will be available in our Virtual Archive for you to watch at any time. Click on Virtual Beth El in the menu bar at the top and choose Virtual Archive from the drop down menu.
This Too Shall Pass
A Mantra, but Also Comic Relief

When I learned that the theme of the March-April Chronicle was “This Too Shall Pass,” I couldn’t help but laugh. Not just a chuckle, but a big, belly laugh that brought tears to my eyes. For me, this has become an all too familiar phrase. Since March 13, 2020 when our school closed, life has taken on a new level of complexity. I know that I am not alone in my feelings. When our school reopened in late August I was overwhelmed with joy, but also filled with anxiety. I established a morning routine to prepare myself for the challenges of the day ahead. After parking my car at school, before getting out I take three giant breaths and with each one I say to myself, “This too shall pass.” Those precious moments are what help sustain me during the rest of my day. If I need a reminder, I just look up since I have hung this phrase on my office wall right above my computer.

“This too shall pass” has reminded me of why I chose to be an early childhood educator in the first place. Watching the children handle all that is being asked of them with resilience only the very young are capable of. Their curiosity and excitement isn’t dampened at all by the circumstances we are all living though. I continue to be inspired by them.

We have also experienced some much needed comic relief as the children deal with the new protocols implemented due to the pandemic. Children admiring each-others’ masks and suggesting they “switch.” Not recognizing a parent who we’ve known for years because they are wearing a mask, sunglasses and a baseball hat at carpool. Our maintenance team dressed as GhostBusters with their electro-static sprayers. Bathing in hand sanitizer, watching the little ones trying to pick their noses through their masks, reminding children not to chew on their masks, or cover their eyes with their masks, or use their mask as slingshots have become very common occurrences!

Not only will these difficult days come to an end, but time is fleeting and even challenging times should be cherished. For myself, the Early Learning Center staff, and our school community, these unique times have brought us closer together, relying on each other more than ever. They have taught us that we can use our creativity and ingenuity to make innovative changes when needed. That things can look different, but still meet our standards of excellence.

While “This too shall pass” will come to fruition (God willing), it is my hope that the lessons we have learned by living through this time will remain with us for many years to come.
important dates

Monday, March 15 – Friday, March 19
Spring Break
No School for Early Childhood
(2s, 3s, and 4s)
Childcare in Session

Wednesday, March 24
Early Childhood Passover Seders in Classrooms

Thursday, April 15
Yom Ya’atzmaut Celebrations
School in Session

parenthood

Wednesday, March 24 at 8:00pm
Parenthood Meeting on Zoom

Wednesday, April 21 at 8:00pm
Parenthood Meeting on Zoom

Tot Shabbat

March Madness Tot Shabbat
Friday, March 12, 2021 at 6:30pm
Celebrate Shabbat and the NCAA Basketball Tournament with your ELC friends. Wear your favorite college team jersey and join us online for this sports themed Shabbat service.

Earth Day Tot Shabbat
Friday, April 23, 2021 at 6:30pm
Sh’mirat Ha-teva/ Protect Nature and Tikkun Olam/Repairing the World are important Jewish values. Join us online to honor our beautiful planet. Beth El Early Learning Center students will receive seed packets to plant at home with their families.
Looking Ahead

What an incredible place we find ourselves in. With most of the school year behind us, we have learned a lot. Our students engaged in various ways that were authentic to them, exploring the opportunities we provided to take part in online group classes, one on one tutoring sessions, family conversations and challenges to do at home, online and in person youth group events, mitzvah projects and many more. Now, where do we go from here?

Together with parents representing all ages, through emails, phone conversations, surveys and attendance statistics, we have a very good sense of what works and how Temple Beth El families want to engage. As usual, our first priority is safety, coupled with community, fun and education, we are excited to highlight some of the programs for the 2021-2022 school year.

- K-5th Grade - Drop off Religious School at the Beck Family Campus
- 6th Graders moving to Tuesday evenings, alternating weeks at the Beck Family Campus and online
- One on One Hebrew tutoring for all Bar/Bat Mitzvah students for a year before the ceremony

• Accommodations will be made for any students that need to remain online for portions of the 2021-2022 school year.

2021-2022 NEW PROGRAMS

Beyachad
3rd – 5th Grade
This year we are going to explore the prayer Eilu Devarim (These are the Things) which reminds us what it means to lead a Jewish life. Obligation can take on many forms in our lives and we will relate to the ideas of mitzvot in a variety of ways throughout the school year. We will have the opportunity to learn through art, music, prayer, guest speakers, hikes, discussions and social action.

Beyachad Teen
9th-12th Grade
An opportunity for teens with their adults to dive deeply into relevant conversations in a relaxed and social atmosphere. Led by experts, educators, and supported by our clergy, families will identify big questions and navigate their personal approaches through the process.
B’Nai Mitzvah

Sydney Butler
Daughter of Danielle and Rob Butler
March 6, 2021 @ 5:00pm

Zachary Stone
Son of Sophia and Bodhi Stone
March 13, 2021 @ 11:30am

Mia Farber
Daughter of Leslie and Scott Farber
March 20, 2021 @ 9:00 am

Preston Gormandy
Son of Hope Gormandy
March 20, 2021 @ 11:30am

Brooke Feinstein
Daughter of Stacey and Brian Feinstein
April 10, 2021 @ 9:00am

Sydney Silverstein
Daughter of Tracey and Ari Silverstein
April 10, 2021 @ 11:30am

Dean Smoke
Son of Jaclyn and Jarred Smoke
April 17, 2021 @ 9:00am

Olivia Sorkin
Daughter of Melissa and Jason Sorkin
April 24, 2021 @ 11:30am

Sophia Sorkin
Daughter of Melissa and Jason Sorkin
April 24, 2021 @ 11:30am
As we prepare our homes for the celebration of Passover, the Temple will be collecting food donations at both the Schaefer and Beck Family Campuses. Collection bins will be outside of both buildings from Monday, March 22 through Friday, March 26, 2021, and the food will be donated to The Jacobson Family Food Pantry.

At the Schaefer Family Campus, 333 SW 4th Avenue, drop off will be between 10:00am to 5:00pm.

At the Beck Family Campus, 9800 Yamato Road, public drop off will be from 10:00am to 11:00am and 5:00pm to 6:00pm. Current families in our Early Learning Center can drop off their donations when they are dropping off or picking up their children.

Food need not be Kosher and please, no open containers, no expired goods, no glass, and no commercial sized packages.

Whether you are cleaning out your chametz or wanting to give a bit of tzedakah, this is a great opportunity!

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**Social Action**

*(chaverim means friends)*

This wonderful group of congregants volunteer by calling their fellow synagogue members before the Jewish holidays. Passover is right around the corner! A friendly call from a fellow congregant a few weeks before the holiday can make such a difference - all you need to do is say hello, how are you and Happy Passover! With your help, we will be able to continue acting as a community, a family and truly, a caring congregation.

We’ll send you the list of households to call, along with a helpful script. If you can assist us with this meaningful mitzvah, please RSVP by Monday, March 8, 2021 to Julie Guzy at jguzy@tbeboca.org.
Volunteer Recognition

Have you volunteered this year?

We Would Like to Honor You on Friday, May 7, 2021!

Hundreds of our members have contributed to our community this past year, sharing time and skills, serving on committees, delivering meals to those in need, volunteering with our Chaverim Team and more.

We will honor and thank all of our volunteers at our Volunteer Recognition Shabbat on Friday, May 7, 2021. If you are one of our many volunteers, we would like to show our thanks. Please send a photo of yourself to Debbie Eisenberg at deisenberg@tbeboca.org so we can include you in our photo montage!

Habitat for Humanity Build

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2021
8:00AM – 12:00PM

Join us for a Covid-safe Habitat for Humanity build, as we help build a house for at-risk families who benefit from the life-changing opportunity of homeownership. Minimum age is 16 years old to participate. Absolutely no experience is required! The build will take place in south Palm Beach County, and more information will be available closer to the build date.

Registration is limited to 8 participants, but we will create a waiting list for those who are interested.

Register at tbeboca.org/habitat

For more information, contact Rabbi Greg Weisman at 561-391-8900 or gweisman@tbeboca.org
THIS TOO SHALL PASS...My mother’s mantra. I read it in her voice. When we all began to understand what was happening last March, we HAD to think, this too shall pass. To be honest, on March 16, 2020 – we, the Co-Presidents of Sisterhood, thought well, I guess that’s it, we are done with the programming for the foreseeable future.

We think of this day often, and say “How wrong were we?” On Rabbi Jessica’s phone call that week she said we will make this amazing and we will continue our year. It looked so different, but we wanted to keep our Sisters and our community engaged. The three of us knew it was important to offer thought-provoking and fun programs to continue to enrich the lives of our Sisters and community.

We have been so fortunate to have had amazing internationally known authors, psychologists, chefs and creative classes via Zoom. We have supported our Sisters through good times and bad times, through engagements, weddings, births and deaths this year. Thank God for our Sisterhood. This too shall pass...

We have many amazing events coming up, our programming Vice Presidents, Susan Goldstein and Debbie Gaines-Askowitz have created events all the way into June!

Let’s do what we can to make the best of this together. We can’t wait to be able to have our programs in person, but for now we look forward to seeing you on Zoom!

Brotherhood has been busy finding ways to remain connected and make an impact on the community. Our temple family is our primary responsibility and we do all we can to support the clergy in their mission to make temple membership meaningful.

This past holiday season we decided to make a contribution to someone else in our community that supports a population in need. Wayne Barton is a regular person doing superhuman work. His Study Center near Pearl City helps kids with their homework, enables them to play in a safe environment when not in school, and provides food to eat when families cannot afford to feed themselves. He is special.

When Paul Weiner and I visited Wayne, we heard stories that would make you cry as to what has happened to the families in that Pearl City/Dixie Manor neighborhood during the past year. Wayne also shared with us that he could not provide bikes as gifts, which is something he had done every year for needy kids at Christmas.

Paul and I spoke about how we could help. We still had unallocated funds from the Bike Event we had held in memory of Steve Brown (z’l – of blessed memory.) Alan Klasfeld, who helped get the Steve Brown bike ride off the ground, thought it was a good idea. Of course, we wanted to be sensitive to the Brown family, and Dana without hesitation, said help out Wayne.

So we did. We gave kids the gift of bikes on Christmas morning, and Wayne sent us a message that we made a lot of Merry Christmases.

If you want to be part of group that is committed to helping and having fun, then look into joining Brotherhood. We have some fun events (and some duds!) but we are always looking for ways to grow and make an impact.

Look for news about upcoming events for Passover and our weekly (online) poker game. We have a lot of fun and we would love you to be part of it.
All sponsorship levels help underwrite Sisterhood programming for the year and support programs that provide scholarships, funding and education to our synagogue and the larger Jewish community. All sponsors will be acknowledged at the online event and in The Chronicle.

All sponsorships include attendance to the event.

- **$500** sponsorship will include meet and greet and Passover Gift Box
- **$360** sponsorship will include meet and greet and Passover Gift Box
- **$180** sponsorship will include meet and greet and Passover Gift Box

This fifth night of Passover will be an evening of reflection, song and a conversation with Marra B. Gad. As we discuss her mixed-race adoption in 1970, and her experiences being Black/White biracial and Jewish, we will hear her story and share in Passover liturgy. Hosted by Temple Beth El of Boca Raton Sisterhood, this program for women is open to members and non-members alike.

Hosted by Temple Beth El Sisterhood

Dedications  December 1, 2020 to January 10, 2021

Thank you to all those who donate to the synagogue in honor or memory of a loved one or on a special occasion. We are grateful for your ongoing support.

Annual Giving 2020-2021
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online services by Barbara & Joel Barlow
online services by Sheryl Wolf

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on the occasion of:
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our 50th Wedding Anniversary by
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in honor of:
Ed Levy by Myrna & Myron Ginsberg
Eliana Cohen’s Bat Mitzvah by Jan & Allen Lev
our great grandchildren, Rebecca & Even
Selzer by Theda & Melvin Feberish
Rabbi Dan and the HHD services by Michael Lipton
TBE Clergy, Staff & Board Members
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Jerome Weinberg by Paula & Henry Harman
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Jan and Allen Lev, Happy Hanukkah!
by Lori & Michael Lev
my great grandchildren Lou Ella Faust, Rae
Everly Faust, Rowe Harrison Faust and
Evie Parker Faust by Marlene Faust
Rafael’s Birth by Robin Eisenberg & Andrea Broido

Ryan’s engagement by Robin Eisenberg
& Andrea Broido
Bryce’s birth by Aline Fisher

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by Marc Richard
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Edward and Chloe Steinberg’s birthdays by Jennifer
Yuli-Steinberg & Michael Steinberg
Emily Warden’s donation by Sarah & Adam Warden
Joshua Sackel’s 9th birthday by Grammy & Papa Sackel
My 45 year friendship with Leslie Steinberg by Kathleen Furgiuele

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Jerry Podolsky by Cheryl Newman

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Cantor Lori and Kira’s Hebrew classes by Andrea Corn and Robert Sugarman
the wedding of Andy Mandel and Michelle Ehrlich
by Paul Mandel and Diane Perkins
my granddaughter Paige Ward’s Bat Mitzvah by Maxine Arno
Rabbi Dan by Caryn & Peter Mintz
Rabbi Dan Levin by Arline Neuren
Rabbi Greg Weisman by Carol & Ron Cowen
TBE clergy by Marilyn & Paul Yentis
The 25th Anniversary of Ruth and Arthur Maron by Elaine & Morton Erenstein

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Florence Schubert by S Roni & I Alan Freedman
Gertrude Finger by Susan & Eric Rahn
Herman, Esther & Margareta Schwartz & Schick by Thomas Schwartz
my mother, Rose Hummel by Linda Jaro
Jeffrey Langley by Marcia Langley
Jerry Tamarkin by Audrey Stern
Jerry Tamarkin by Amy & Dennis Doran
on the occasion of:
Hebrew naming of Hannah Mandel by Sally & Murray Halperin
our 30th wedding anniversary blessing by Rabbi Dan and
our Temple Beth El family by Jill & Paul Weiner
to thank:
Rabbi Dan by Steven Belson
Rabbi Greg by Steven Belson
the incredible clergy for showing their care and concern to our
mother, Judith Kornitsky by Meryl Kornitsky-Girard

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Susen and Herbert M. Grossman Religious School Fund
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Toni Berliner by Susen Grossman

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in honor of:
our daughter, Eliana. In honor of TBE Clergy, Staff
and Board by Michelle & Yaniv Cohen
Gloria Melman’s birthday by Ilyne Mendelson & Steven Teck
the birth of Magnolia Moon Vegh by Robert Geller

in memory of:
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Miriam “Mimi” Geller by Robert Geller
Lucille “Lu” Geller by Robert Geller

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Sophie & Irving Oliver. Sylvia & David Epstein
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Alvin Dern, father of Mark and Karen Dern, grandfather of Samuel and Alyssa Dern

Craig Donoff, husband of Judi Donoff

Wendy Ebro, mother of Steven Kirstein and Rachelle Perl, grandmother of Adam Kirstein and Alena Abouhana and Jacob Kirstein and Joshua Kirstein

Jaime Eisenberg, wife of Bill Eisenberg, daughter-in-law of Robert and Barbara Eisenberg, sister-in-law of Debbie Eisenberg

Stephen Feller, husband of Karen Feller, father of Scott and Holli Feller, grandfather of Sawyer and Sutton Feller, brother of Barbara Bernheim

Jerome Glassman, father of Debi Gaier, grandfather of Allyson Gaier

Devora Goldhair, daughter of Martin Surnamer, sister of Susan and Richard Ross; aunt of Samuel and Zoe Ross

J. Michael Graf, father of Tim Graf and Ronni Namerow-Graf, grandfather of Lian and Samuel Graf

Ed Haymes*, beloved member

Elaine Kuntz*, husband of Hugo Kuntz, mother of Nancy and Andrew Siegel and James and Amy Kuntz

Debbie Malaga, stepdaughter of Barbara Malaga

Charles Riback*, father of Steven and Jody Riback, grandfather of Sabrina and Jesse Riback

Ronald Rohan, father of Jordan Rohan and Jordana Laine Rohan, grandfather of Spencer and Olivia Rohan

Bertha Snyder, mother of Karen and Merik Aaron

Jerry Tamarkin, husband of Alece “Kay” Tamarkin

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Jacob Wexler*, father of Heather and Jay Simon, grandfather of Danielle Simon

Ron Wulkan, brother of Hubert and Marilyn Wulkan, uncle of Jonathan and Jamie Wulkan

James Yaccarino, father of Scott and Ryan Yaccarino, grandfather of Kai Yaccarino

*Laid to rest in the Beth El Mausoleum

Mazel Tov To:

Jaclyn and Michael Corbiciero on the birth of their son Eric Cole Corbiciero, big sister Olivia

Marlene Faust on the birth of her great-granddaughter Evie Parker Faust

Lisa and Adam Glass on the birth of their son Rafael Archer Glass

Ruth and Harry Goldberg on the birth of their granddaughter Adele Rose Spar-Goldberg

Danielle and Lenny Greenblatt on the birth of their daughter Bryce Rivka Greenblatt

Heather and Andrew Gupta on the birth of their son Vai Thomas Gupta, big brother Avi

Brenda and David Kronzek on the birth of their granddaughter Emma Alexandra Kronzek

Elina Kaziyeva and Michael Yushuva on the birth of their son Noah Yushuva, big brother Elijah

Renee and Gary Kay on the engagement of their daughter Marissa Kay to Rodrigo De Paula

Audrey and Larry Levine on the engagement of their daughter Melissa Levine to Andrew Gross

Shari and Craig Schwamm on the engagement of their son Ryan Schwamm to Ashley Fernandez

Leslie and Rick Steinberg on the engagement of their daughter Zoe Steinberg to Tyler Vallier

Diane Perkins and Paul Mandel on the marriage of their son Andrew Mandel to Michelle Ehrlich

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VOLUNTEER FUND:
in honor of:
The birth of Bryce Rivka, daughter of Danielle and Lenny Greenblatt, by Irene, Dr. Merrill, Melissa and Jennifer Epstei

VISION
The mission of Temple Beth El is to inspire a passionate commitment to Jewish life, learning, community and spiritual growth.

MISSION
Temple Beth El of Boca Raton seeks to be a deeply compelling center of Reform Judaism, integrating the wisdom of Torah and tradition with the modern world in which we live.

VISION
Welcome, involve and inspire all who enter, embracing the unique contributions of every individual.

Reach out to the larger community to encourage participation in synagogue life.

Celebrate, grieve, heal and grow together through all seasons of life.

Strive to be a learned community that questions, studies, and honors the gift of Torah and the covenant with God.

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March /April 2021 | THE CHRONICLE 31
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Throughout his career, Dr. Norton has had a strong interest in academic medicine and has been actively involved in teaching and research. He has authored multiple publications on a variety of topics related to spine surgery in numerous peer-reviewed journals and textbooks. He has received several research grants and has presented his research at both national and international conferences.

Compression fractures of the spine occur most often in people with osteoporosis, after a fall, after a forceful cough or sneeze, or simply from bending over to tie shoes. Fortunately, he can treat patients with an easy solution called a Kyphoplasty, performed in my office in about 10-minutes. After numbing the area, he will simply place a small needle into the broken bone under x-ray guidance. He can then inject a small amount of bone "glue" to stabilize the broken bone. This is a permanent fix and serves to get rid of the pain from the broken bone and prevent further collapse of the bone so you don’t become deformed and hunched over. The pain is gone immediately and you can walk out of the office with just a Band-Aid!

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