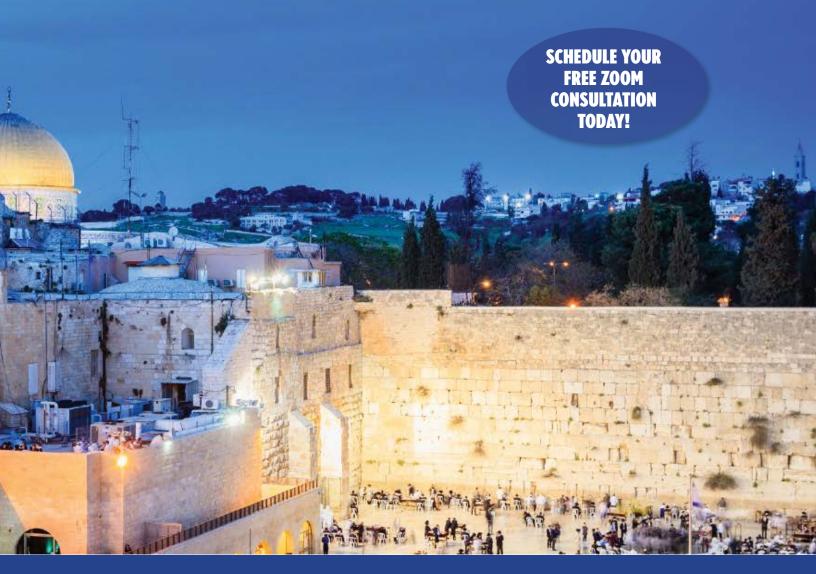




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# Personalized Funeral Services From People You Trust



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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.

# Communal Energy

BY RABBI DAN LEVIN dlevin@tbeboca.org

Part of what I love about living in South Florida is how often new people move into our community. Because Boca Raton is a relatively young city, the vast majority of people in our community used to live somewhere else. And because Temple Beth El is constantly welcoming new people to our congregation, I frequently get to play my favorite game:

Jewish Geography.

"Oh – you're from Washington, DC? Me too! Where did you live? Really? I have good friends who live there. Do you know So-and-So?"

Soon, the web of intersecting connections is revealed and yet again we realize the truth that we Jews often are separated by no more than two or three degrees.

The universe was born with a burst of cosmic energy. And some of that energy pulled matter together and formed our world. And so everything

We miss the joy of "bumping into people", spending time with grandchildren or grandparents, simply gathering with friends for a party or a meal.

in our world radiates some of that energy.

From the moment of our beginnings, that energy is passed into us. It is the spark that brings life into being. It is the catalyst that triggers us to grow, not simply in body, but in mind and in spirit.

Judaism is a system that teaches us to harness that energy, to channel it into holiness and goodness. Like a magnet, we are drawn to connect to others. We draw our vigor and our vitality from the bonds of relationship we form through love.

The human soul is a powerful transmitter. When we open our spirits up to one another in love, we transmit that vital and dynamic energy that animates life. The connections we nurture with family, friends, and loved ones create currents of power that light up the essence of our very being. Jewish law and tradition guide us to foster as much loving energy as we can generate, and to eradicate the forces that interrupt the flow.

The disruption the pandemic has caused to the flow of communal energy has taken its toll on all of us. Many of us have missed being together



for essential occasions – births of children, bar/ bat mitzvah, graduation, weddings, illnesses and deaths. We miss the joy of "bumping into people", spending time with grandchildren or grandparents, simply gathering with friends for a party or a meal - a simple handshake or embrace. And as good as technology is in trying to bridge the chasms between us, it cannot fully replace the energy our relationships naturally inspire.

Temple Beth El has always been a spiritual generator for our community. Our mission has always been to bring people together to congregate in holiness – to celebrate holy days and life cycle events, to learn and to serve, to support and to comfort.

And now, Temple Beth El will create new generators of communal energy in the form of our Beth El Circles. These initiatives will bring members of our congregation together to form intimate circles of community around shared interests, hobbies, and passions. Whether your passion be for art, cooking, film, or community service, Beth El Circles will bring you together in small groups to share your interests, your passion, and your energy. Got an idea for a Circle? Let us know – new Circles will be forming all the time. See pages 4-7 for more information.

In the core of our being is implanted a kernel of God's holy energy. Judaism teaches that God's presence is revealed when we share that energy in community. We truly find God when we truly find each other.

Feeling disconnected from your Temple family during the global pandemic? Or just want to make friends in the Beth El community? Join a Beth El Circle or Chavurah!









TOP Liliana Abramson
RIGHT Marci Kessler
BOTTOM Mike Singer
OPPOSITE Small Group Engagement Leadership Team (left to right)
Gina Shugar, VP Membership and Engagement
Julie Guzy, Engagement and Programming Coordinator
Elinor Josephson, Director of Engagement and Programming
Rachael Rand, Engagement and Programming Senior Associate

# Connections INTERSECTIONS

Where people and interests intersect

We took a moment to speak with Elinor Josephson, Director of Engagement and Programming, and Gina Shugar, Vice President of Membership and Engagement on the Temple's Board of Trustees, to learn about Beth El Circles and the Chavurah program - two major initiatives to build connections and lasting friendships among members of the Temple Beth El community.

O: During the pandemic, the Temple's online programming has been wonderful, but many of us are still feeling alone and out of touch with our Temple community. We'd like to meet people with similar interests or hobbies, even if it means getting together on Zoom. What can we do?

A: Join a Beth El Circle. A Beth El Circle is a group of members who connect by doing an activity that they enjoy together. The activity can be anything – from paddle boarding to cooking to listening to the Grateful Dead. The sky is the limit. We just launched Circles within the last







month and they have already taken off. Active Circles that you can join at this moment include Circle of Life, Art & Artisans, Movie Time, Trivia Games, Tech Grandparents, Kachol Lavan (This circle connects temple members who are from Israel. The name of the circle is translated literally as blue and white to symbolize the colors of the Israeli flag.), Canyon Connection, DIY Decorating, Photography, Cooks' Corner, Runners and Cycling. Nothing look good? Don't worry you can start your own Circle!

Temple Beth El is serious about helping you connect, so we have a dedicated staff member waiting to help you get involved in a Circle. You will have help every step of the way.

To sign up call Julie Guzy at 561-314-2918 or email her at iguzy@tbeboca.org.

continued on page 7

### BETH EL CIRCLE **LEADERS**

#### **Art & Artisans**

Judith Beiner Richard Bluestein

#### **Canyon Connection**

Jessica Benedetto Michelle Bonder-Trembley

#### **Circle of Life**

Liliana Abramson Marci Kessler Mike Singer

#### Cooks' Corner Sonny Thal

#### Cycling

Michael Simon

### **DIY Decorating**Barry Friedman

Kachol Lavan\* Kira Melamed-Vainberg

#### **LGBTQ+**

Laura Geisenheimer Steven Lazarus

#### **Movie Time**

**Nancy Sinrod** 

#### **Photography**

Richard Bluestein Naomi Gersh

#### Runners

Mark Platt Federico Rochwerger

#### **Tech Grandparents**

Sonny Thal

#### **Trivia Games**

Chuck Distler Linda Holtz Gary Shiff

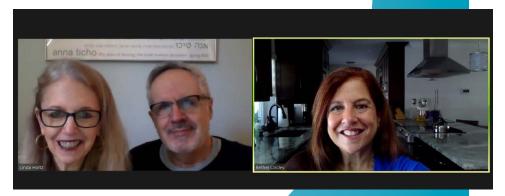
#### **Walking**

Barbara Margolin

\*This circle connects temple members who are from Israel. The name of the circle is translated literally as blue and white to symbolize the colors of the Israeli flag.



Linda Holtz and Chuck Distler's son Gabe is living and working in Boston, and they are all feeling the isolation from the pandemic. When Gabe told his parents that he and his friends play Trivia on Zoom, Linda and Chuck brought the idea to the temple. The timing was perfect to create a Trivia Circle!



Planning the Trivia Games Circle with Julie Guzy



BOTTOM ROW LEFT TO RIGHT Naomi Gersh, Federico Rochwerger, Sonny Thal



























#### continued from page 5

Q: What if I want to connect just with people who are my age of life stage?

A: Join a Chavurah. A Chavurah (Hebrew word for group of friends) is a group of members who gather regularly to hang out and socialize. It can be formed with families, couples or individuals. We offer New Member Chavurot (the plural of chavurah in Hebrew), where Temple staff place people into groups based on age and stage. Or, any member can start their own Chavurah and invite acquaintances to join. Our Temple Beth El community currently has 17 active Chavurot with over 300 members. Chavurot meet now by

Zoom or by doing outdoor activities at the members' discretion. Temple has a dedicated staff person to help with Chavurot: Rachael Rand can help you find your perfect fit. Call her at 561-391-8900 ext. 3178 or email her at rrand@tbeboca.org right now to put your name in for a Chavurah!

Q: Wow - sounds like a big commitment? What if I don't like it? Do I have to attend every meeting or promise to stay in a group for a certain amount of time?

**A:** No pressure, just try it! Join a group of your choice and see how it goes! No pressure to stay — you

can always try another group — or even start one — to get your perfect fit! Temple Beth El is committed to helping members connect — it furthers our mission of enhancing members' life, learning, community and spiritual growth through Judaism.

#### O: Can I join more than one?

A: Absolutely! You can join as many as time permits. You may want to join Trivia Games and the Cooks Corner Circle. Or a DIY Decorating Circle and a Chavurah. Just let us know and we will help make it happen.



# New and Returning Members as of Dec. 9, 2020

For help getting involved, please contact Elinor Josephson, Director of Engagement and Programming, at ejosephson@tbeboca.org or 561-314-2833.

Dr. George & Mrs. Grether Ackerman, and their children, Brooke, Joshua & Eli

Mr. Maxwell and Mrs. Brooke Adelstein, and their child, Emma

Dr. Justin & Mrs. Stephanie Barack, and their children, Colton & Gianna

Dr. Saul Jay & Mrs. Jann Berman

Mr. Melvin & Mrs. Ellen Birnbaum

Mr. Stephen & Mrs. Suzanne Block

Mr. Michael & Mrs. Morgan Bove, and their child, Kyle

Mr. Andrew & Mrs. Jennifer Brown, and their children, Steven & Jacob

Mr. Brandon Bunker & Mrs. Lara Collazo, and their children, Adrian & Nicolas

Mr. Scott & Mrs. Brittney Burdt, and their child, Logan

Mrs. Sandra Busel

Ms. Nancy Chanin

Mrs. Shirley Chassen

Mr. David & Mrs. Rebecca Cohen, and their children, Ezra & Noah

Mr. William & Mrs. Lindsay Cole, and their child, Harper

Mr. Michael & Mrs. Jaclyn Corbiciero, and their child, Olivia

Mr. Jim & Mrs. Diane Duberstein

Drs. Mitchell & Gail Eisenberg

Mr. Scott & Mrs. Holli Feller, and their children, Sawyer & Sutton

Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Jordana Fileni, and their child, Isabella

Mr. Jeff & Mrs. Brooke Fina, and their children, Brandon & Jordana

Mrs. Eve Finley

Mr. Ed & Mrs. Abby Francolin, and their children, Jules & Luke

Mr. Jeff & Mrs. Traci Garfinkel. and their child, Bryson

Mr. Eric & Mrs. Stefanie Ginnis, and their children, Olivia, Jordyn & Brayden

Mr. Carl & Mrs. Lynn Gold

Mr. Joshua & Mrs. Paola Gold, and their child. Ari

Mr. Jason & Mrs. Amandah Goldsmith, and their child, Sean

Mr. Robert & Mrs. Bernice Gordon

Mr. Frank & Mrs. Allison Gozukizil, and their children, Zoey & Luke

Mr. Dustin & Mrs. Carrie Greenberg, and their children, Leo & Jaxon

Mr. Oren & Mrs. Alicia Gross, and their child, Jonah

Dr. Andrew & Dr. Heather Gupta, and their child. Avi

Mr. Martin Gutter & Mrs. Joan Baras

Mrs. Marzena Hamby, and their child, Jared

Mr. Lee & Mrs. Alexandra Hasson, and their children, Remy & Sadie

Mr. Corey Henig & Mrs. Maren Epstein, and their child, Ava

Mr. Charles & Mrs. Marla Hermanowski, and their children, Chaz & Cassidy

Mr. Steven & Mrs. Andee Holzman, and their children, Ellis & Hayes

Mr. Joshua & Mrs. Sara Hyman, and their children, Skylar & Aubrey

Mr. Neal Isanuk & Mrs. Allison Todres-Isanuk

Ms. Sharry Jacobson

Dr. Emery Jaffe, and their child, Rachael

Ms. Lynne Josephson

Mr. David Kaplan & Mrs. Melanie Freedman, and their children, Seth & Benjamin

Mr. Troy & Mrs. Dana Kaplan, and their child, Zachary

Mr. Ross & Mrs. Liza Kirsh, and their child, Max

Mr. Ian & Mrs. Camy Klein, and their children, Madison & Asher

Dr. Martin & Mrs. Joyce Kobak

Mr. Adam Kotkin & Mr. Stephane Mazade

Mr. Gerald & Mrs. Susan Kotkin

Ms. Ara Kourgiantakis

Mr. Mark & Mrs. Irene Kra

Mr. Jerome & Mrs. Sondra Kransdorf

Mr. Alex Kudeviz & Mrs. Brittany Sheldon-Kudeviz

Mr. Hugo & Mrs. Elaine Kuntz

Mr. James & Mrs. Amy Kuntz, and their child, Alexandra

Mr Sheldon & Mrs. Rita Kwiat

Ms. Brooke Berlin & Mr. Jerry Laurino, and their child, Franki

Ms. Audra Lazarus, and her children, Bianca & Grayson

Ms. Joan Leshnick

Mr. Joe & Mrs. Jeanine Levy

Mrs. Robin & Mr. Louis Litvin, and their children, Caleb & Halsey

Mr. Jonathan & Mrs. Alexis Lopez, and their children, Caleb & Halsey

Mr. Edward Lussi & Mrs. Lisa Cohen-Lussi, and their child, Logan

Mr. Adam Lusthaus & Mrs. Amy Lundy, and their children, Daryn, Alexandra & Jude

Dr. Moshe Machley

Ms. Beth Marks

Mr. Shai & Mrs. Ane Mashiach, and their child, Dax

Ms. Taryn Matloff, and their child, Eli

Mr. Dan & Mrs. Maxine Mendelson

Dr. Seth Minsky & Mrs. Pamela Altman-Minsky, and their child, Jordan

Mr. Ryan & Mrs. Jennifer Oistacher, and their children, Jonah & Eliana

Mr. Robert & Mrs. Marlene Peiper, and their children, Kaitlyn & Julia

Mrs. Carolyn Pomeranz

Ms. Gail & Ms. Ronni Rattner

Mr. George & Mrs. Marilyn Rattner

Mr. Philip Revien & Ms. Samantha Klaus, and their children, Everett, Hunter & Lily

Mr. Dennis & Mrs. Jane Rich

Dr. Lawrence & Mrs. Marlene Rocks

Mr. Chris Rogers & Dr. Klarina Portnoy, and their child, Jacob

Mr. Gary & Mrs. Erica Romer, and their children, Brody & Lennox

Mr. Evan & Mrs. Hallie Rosenblatt, and their children, Eric & Zack

Mr. Ira & Ms. Diane Rubtchinsky

Mr. David Sacco & Dr. Tina Fabiano, and their child, Emerson

Mr. Joshua & Mrs. Samantha Saltz, and their child, Haeley

Mr. Gerald & Mrs. Linda Salzman

Mr. Brian & Mrs. Danielle Schachter

Ms. Natalie Semenovski

Mr. Brett Sheldon & Ms. Chelsea Schwartz

Mr. Rod & Mrs. Wendy Sheldon. and their child, Bryan

Dr. Roger & Mrs. Jaimie Shelling

Mr. Adam & Mrs. Joanna Siegel, and their child, Harrison

Mr. Andrew & Mrs. Nancy Siegel

Mr. Brandon & Mrs. Jennifer Silver, and their children, Emma & Dylan

Mr. Chad Silverman & Ms. Jaderlene Oliveira, and their children, Sean & Israel

Mr. Jav & Mrs. Heather Simon, and their child, Danielle

Mr. Ross Simon & Ms. Marissa Wollstein

Ms. Terri Sloane

Mr. Daniel & Mrs. Danielle Soffer, and their children, Skylar & Sammy

Mr. James & Mrs. Stephanie Sokolove

Mr. Michael Solomon & Ms. Mona Joffe

Dr. Robert & Mrs. Mimi Spitz

Mr. Adam & Mrs. Dara Squires, and their children, Blake & Parker

Mr. Norman & Mrs. Hilarie Stein

Ms. Andrea Stein

Mr. Jayson & Mrs. Julie Stern, and their child, Ella

Mr. Neil & Mrs. Jackie Sutton, and their children, Leigha & Logan

Mr. Alan & Mrs. Jill Swimmer, and their child, Noah

Mr. Armin & Mrs. Stefanie Taplinger

Mr. Richard & Mrs. Diane Templer

Mr. Antonino & Mrs. Diana Vento, and their children, Giulios & Romeo

Mr. Corey & Mrs. Shelley Warshaw

Mr. Monty & Mrs. Linda Warshaw

Ms. Sheila Weinstein

Dr. Richard & Mrs. Cheryl Weinstock, and their child, Allison

Mr. Jordan & Mrs. Vanessa Weiss, and their children, Konrad & Grayson

Dr. Elizabeth White

Mr. Scott & Mrs. Ryan Yaccarino, and their child, Kai

Mr. Joseph & Ms. Ileene Yashpeh

Mr. Robert & Mrs. Ellen Yerman

Mr. Mark & Mrs. Lisa Youngelson, and their children, Ryan & Alexa

Mr. Michael Yushuva & Mrs. Elina

Kaziyeva, and their child, Elijah Mr. Reid & Mrs. Camy Zachofsky, and their children, River & Zoe

Ms. Marlene Zinn

Mrs. Reni-zoe Zivin





















# IT'S 5 O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE

AND THAT SOMEWHERE IS TEMPLE BETH EL!

New Member Virtual Happy Hour Saturday, January 30, 5:00pm

Sunday, January 31, 5:00pm Register at

tbeboca.org/virtual

New members are invited to join together virtually for cocktails and a "get to know you" happy hour with clergy, staff and lay leaders! Before the event, **pick up a "goody bag"** at the Schaefer Family Campus\* on Monday, January 25 between 11am – 1pm, complete with an adult beverage you can enjoy during our virtual meet and greet.

This event is a true reflection of our richly diverse and welcoming Beth El community, open to all new and newly returned members. **RSVP by January 19** at **tbeboca.org/virtual** or contact Elinor Josephson, Director of Engagement & Programming at **ejosephson@tbeboca.org** or 561-314-2833. This wonderful experience is hosted by our Membership & Engagement Committee and generously underwritten by Sisterhood and Brotherhood.

\* 333 SW Fourth Avenue

# Lonely or Hungry — It Feels the Same



MARK SUNSHINE
TEMPLE BETH EL
PRESIDENT
msunshine@masunshine.

Did you know that loneliness and hunger share the same part of the brain?

It's true.

According to *Medical News Today*, MIT researchers have learned that the same part of the brain lights up when you are lonely or hungry. The emotional pain felt from loneliness is the same as that felt by adults who suffer from chronic starvation.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, many in our community have been living on a starvation diet of human interaction.

The pain is real, and the need for relationships and connections is authentic.

I meet lonely and vulnerable adults every day because of my work.

It tears my heart out when I see people who are physically alive but not really living life.

I believe that loneliness is a terminal illness

Beth El is doing its part to bring happiness to our congregants through the introduction of Beth El Circles – circles of friends who simply connect because of common interests.

that kills us a little bit every day. Fortunately, this is a reversible disease; it is never too late to cure your own loneliness or that of another.

The good news is when you help someone else, you help yourself as well. Everyone can make a telephone call to someone who is by themselves, get together in a park or other outdoor setting, or invite a friend to a Beth El virtual event.

Beth El is doing its part to bring happiness to our congregants through the introduction of Beth El Circles – circles of friends who simply connect because of common interests.

By participating in Beth El Circles, you will have fun, make meaningful and lasting friendships, and connect with others with similar hobbies.

Some of the Circles will be strictly social, sports-related, or consist of people who just like each other. There is no purpose to Beth El Circles other than for the participants to find and strengthen relationships through participation. What each of us does with this opportunity is up to us individually.

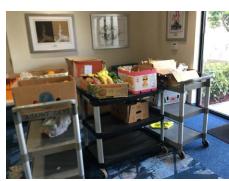
We already have several "Circles" that are active. We have wine clubs, poker groups, and book clubs. Beth El's social action groups make the world around us a little more just. We have groups of runners, walkers, and even crawlers (babies and parents who socialize together).

Most of what we are doing now is virtual. However, once COVID-19 isolation ends, I am confident Beth El Circles will convert to live and in person events and become a centerpiece in our congregation's social life – that is, for everyone who decides to participate.

Over the next few months you will receive additional information about Beth El Circles. You can join more than one Circle, or form a Circle yourself.

So, if you just want to have some fun, drink wine, play sports, compete at card games, or kibbitz with others, Beth El Circles is for you.

Temple members delivering food to fellow congregants in need during the pandemic.









This Financial Report Card is intended to provide a brief overview of the Temple's financial results for the 2019-2020 fiscal year which ended on June 30, 2020. Financial transparency is very important to us. You are not only a member of Temple Beth El, you are an owner. As such, you deserve to know how your money is being spent. We hope this Report Card will give you the information you need to feel comfortable that your Temple is being managed prudently and remains on solid financial ground.

#### A WORD ABOUT THE PANDEMIC

As stated above, this Report Card only covers the prior fiscal year which concluded on June 30, 2020. The Temple shut its doors to in-person programs, worship and education on March 13, 2020. By that point in the fiscal year the majority of our revenues had already been earned, with the only significant exception being Early Learning Center ("ELC") tuition. Consequently, the full impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Temple's financial health was not reflected in last fiscal year's final results.

The Temple did experience material revenue reductions in the final quarter of the fiscal year (April, May and June). But we also drastically cut spending in the same period so we finished the fiscal year in good shape.

The current fiscal year (2020-2021) is far more challenging because of Covid-19. But that is a topic for next year's Financial Report Card, not this one.

In the meantime, you should take comfort in knowing that the Temple is taking all of the steps a well-run organization would take in uncertain times like these. Some examples of how we have responded to the current environment include:

- We cut operating costs dramatically.
- We decreased our staff headcount.
- · We implemented across-the-board salary cuts for all staff at every level.

- · We increased liquidity to ensure we have enough cash on hand to withstand a prolonged downturn.
- · We refinanced our construction loan to take advantage of the historically low interest rate environment.
- · We made investments in technology to improve our online production quality.
- We reassigned certain staff members to new jobs that did not exist before, but are now necessary to provide online experiences for learning, worship and life-cycle events.
- We made investments in commercial grade sanitization equipment and supplies to keep staff members, students and visitors as safe as reasonably possible.
- · Perhaps most important of all, we are doing everything we possibly can to continue to provide access to the Temple through our Virtual Beth El platform via Livestream, Facebook Live, Zoom and YouTube so our members can retain their connection to Beth El, even if they cannot be physically present in the building.

As a result of these measures and the generosity of our benefactors and supporters, the Temple is absolutely going to survive this ordeal.

#### A BALANCED BUDGET

We finished the 2019-2020 fiscal year with a balanced budget for the eighth year in a row. Revenues from operations actually exceeded operating expenses slightly which has been the case for the past several years. The excess funds from last year will be transferred to an operating reserve which we anticipate needing to spend in the current fiscal year to help fill a material budget deficit this year caused by the fallout of the pandemic.

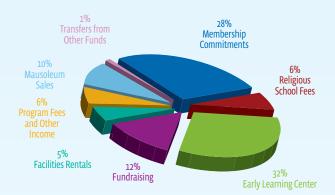
#### 2019-20 REVENUE AND EXPENSES

REVENUE				
Membership Commitments	2,855,087	28%		
Religious School Fees	598,853	6%		
Early Learning Center	3,267,620	32%		
Fundraising	1,210,036	12%		
Facilities Rentals	489,702	5%		
Program Fees & Other Income	591,994	6%		
Mausoleum Sales	1,068,603	10%		
Transfers from Other Funds	202,774	1%		
Total Income	10,284,669	100%		

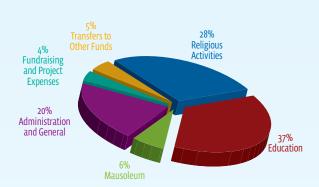
EXPENSES		
Religious Activities	2,926,605	28%
Education	3,787,916	37%
Mausoleum	626,869	6%
Administration and General	2,008,499	20%
Fundraising and Project Expenses	376,692	4%
Transfers to Other Funds	558,088	5%
Total Income	10,284,669	100%

#### 20

#### **REVENUE**



#### **EXPENSES**



#### **REVENUES**

One area where Temple Beth El is different, in a good way, than other large Reform congregations is the percentage of overall operating revenues that come from Congregational Commitment (formerly known as "Membership Dues"). Our Congregational Commitment revenues make up 28% of total revenues, which is roughly half of the national average. In times like these when membership participation drops due to events beyond our control (like a severe economic recession or a global pandemic) it's good to have diversified streams of revenue.

As you can see here, our largest source of revenue is actually the Early Learning Center. Last year (before we were forced to close in March because of Covid-19) we were able to continue to grow our ELC enrollment thanks to the six additional classrooms we added during the recent expansion of the Beck Family Campus.

Another unique source of revenue for the Temple is the Beth El Mausoleum. The only mausoleum in the United States built on temple grounds, the Beth El Mausoleum provides roughly 10% of our total operating revenue. The Mausoleum has proven itself to be not only an incredibly important part of our identity spiritually, but also an important source of financial stability that is more recession resistant than the voluntary contributions that most religious institutions rely on.

It is also worth mentioning here that fundraising donations are also a huge factor in our financial stability. We are blessed to have so many extraordinarily generous donors who answer the call when we need them most. We would certainly not be in the solid position we are without their support.

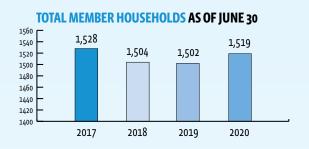
#### **EXPENSES**

As a service organization, our largest expense is our people. Beginning in the month of April 2020, across the board salary cuts were put in place and they remain in place today. However, once we closed the books on the 2019-2020 fiscal year in October and it became clear that we did not finish last year as bad as we had initially predicted, the decision was made to make employees whole for that three-month period. As a result, in December 2020 all of the staff who still work at the Temple who were with us in April, May and June 2020 received a one-time payment to restore their pay to 100% up through June 30, 2020.

In April 2020 the Temple applied for, and was awarded, a \$992,000 Paycheck Protection Program Loan ("PPP Loan") through the U.S. Small Business Administration ("SBA"). These SBA PPP Loans were part of the multi-trillion dollar Covid-19 relief package Congress passed in the Spring of 2020. This loan provided the Temple with sufficient cash on hand to sustain us during these uncertain times. We used all of the loan proceeds for salaries, which is consistent with the intent of the loan program. We recently applied to the SBA for loan forgiveness and are awaiting a determination on our application.

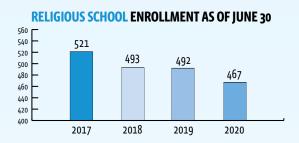
#### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Temple's overall membership in terms of number of households, has remained relatively flat for the past four years. We finished the fiscal year on June 30, 2020 with 1,519 member households, compared to 1,502 in 2019 and 1504 in 2018.



#### **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL ENROLLMENT**

Religious School enrollment at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 academic year stood at 467 students. For the past decade we have seen a consistent decline in year-over-year total student enrollment, most notably in the post bar/bat mitzvah age groups. Temple Beth El is working to reenvision Jewish education for our teenage students, to create a program that is relevant, challenging, and compelling.



#### **EARLY LEARNING CENTER ENROLLMENT**

Early Learning Center ("ELC") enrollment at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 academic year was 255 students, compared to 244 students at the same time in the prior year, representing a 4.5% increase year-over-year. The Beth El ELC has been growing steadily and consistently since it opened in 2009.

In March the ELC was closed due to Covid-19 and it remained closed throughout the summer. We were therefore unable to run our summer camp program this year. We did reopen the ELC in September 2020 but enrollment is down materially as many young families are choosing to keep their babies and toddlers at home this school year.





#### **BETH EL MAUSOLEUM**

The Beth El Mausoleum creates an eternal connection to the Temple for many of our members and for unaffiliated Jews in the broader local community. Gross sales revenue for the 2019-2020 fiscal year was \$1,074,777, compared to \$977,982 the year before. This represents a 10% increase year-over-year. We believe this increase was primarily due to the fact that the prior year's number was lower than the prior three years before it. In other words, the 2019-2020 results were more in line with what we would expect based on recent history whereas as the 2018-2019 results were lower than we would expect.

The good news is that the Beth El Mausoleum continues to perform well, even during a pandemic and an economic recession. The bad news is that it is doing so well that we are running out of inventory – especially inventory in desirable configurations

and locations. Most Mausoleum clients prefer a crypt that can accommodate two caskets (typically for a married couple) and they want to be able to touch the crypt front. If the crypt is too high up on the wall, it is beyond physical reach. We are nearly sold out of crypts that meet these two conditions.

Consequently, we have begun investigating the possibility of expanding the Beth El Mausoleum by building a new phase. Three phases have been built so far. This would be the fourth. It will take approximately one year to finalize the design and architectural plans for this new building, one year to obtain the permits and approvals from the City necessary to begin construction, and another year to actually construct the building. We are therefore at least three years away from completing this project.

#### **FUNDRAISING AND CONSTRUCTION**

In March of 2020 we completed construction activities at the Schaefer Family Campus. This marked the end of a multi-year project that included expansions and renovations at both campuses. Total project costs, not including financing costs, totaled approximately \$22 million. Because many of the large gifts we received for this campaign are paid out over an extended period of time, the Temple has a \$10.3 million loan in place with Wells Fargo Bank.

In the summer of 2020 we refinanced our loan with Wells Fargo with two main goals in mind: (a) take advantage of lower interest rates, and (b) lower our monthly payments to get us through the worst of the pandemic. We accomplished these goals. The loan interest rate was reduced to 3.75%, the maturity date was extended three additional years, and the first 12 months is now interest only, which helps reduce the monthly burden in the near term.

While we are pleased that we were able to restructure our debt to make it more manageable in the short term, the fact remains that we have \$10.3 million outstanding. Given the fixed interest rate of 3.75%, that means we are paying \$386,000 this year in interest alone. Think about what we could do with \$386,000 this year if we were not spending it on loan interest. As soon as we get to the other side of this pandemic, we must remain focused on paying down this debt as quickly as possible.

Although we have funds and future commitments to pay for the two projects that we recently completed, there still remains about \$3.7 million of outstanding debt from the original construction of the Beck Family Campus in 2009. This figure is included in the \$10.3 million outstanding loan balance. We presently do not have the funds or future commitments to retire that portion of the debt.

As a result, we will continue the Fulfilling The Promise (FTP) campaign with a goal of raising approximately \$3.7 million of additional funds between now and the loan maturity date of August 2030. If we can do that, we will be completely debt free, including the original debt from the construction of the Beck Campus in 2009.





#### FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

We hope you find this financial report card informative. This is not intended to be a detailed financial statement, but rather a high level summary of our financial results from the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Financial transparency is very important to us. The Temple hires independent auditors from an outside accounting firm every year to audit our books and our financial controls. The results of the audit are presented to the Finance Committee and the Board

of Trustees. Undergoing a full third-party audit every year is both time consuming and costly. But we feel it is time and money well spent. We always want our members to feel comfortable that we are operating at the highest levels of financial integrity. Should any of our members want more information about the Temple's financial data, they are welcome to contact Cindy Chieffo (Chief Financial Officer) or Steve Kaufman (Executive Director) and we would be happy to answer your questions.

#### CONCLUSION

Thanks to the ongoing support of our members, the generosity of our benefactors, and the hard work of our incredible staff, Temple Beth El remains on solid financial footing despite the current challenges we are facing as a congregation and as a nation. We have pivoted to become a primarily virtual synagogue which has been a remarkable transition to witness. Most of the new technologies and platforms we are now using we were likely to have adopted in the coming years anyway. But the Covid-19 pandemic drastically accelerated their adoption out of necessity which is not always a bad thing. We are actually seeing greater participation now in some of our programs and services then we did pre-pandemic because people are able to participate without leaving the comfort of their homes. It is likely that in the future when we can reopen our doors, many of our events will be offered both in person and online so that people can choose which way they prefer to engage with the Temple.

We have also tried our best to be sensitive to the economic impact Covid-19 has had on our members' personal finances. For example, in the current fiscal year (2020-2021) we did not raise our membership rates for the first time that anyone can remember. We also dramatically lowered the cost of Religious School participation to only \$180, a fraction of what we would normally charge. At the Early Learning Center, we created an enrollment deferment option to allow returning families to have flexibility in deciding when they felt comfortable re-enrolling their children in our program at various points during the year. We have also maintained our long standing policy of never turning away an individual or family who want to be a part of our community but cannot afford to pay the full Congregational Commitment rates. All of these steps have been implemented with the overarching goal of keeping as many members as possible connected in a year where we need everyone's support more than ever.

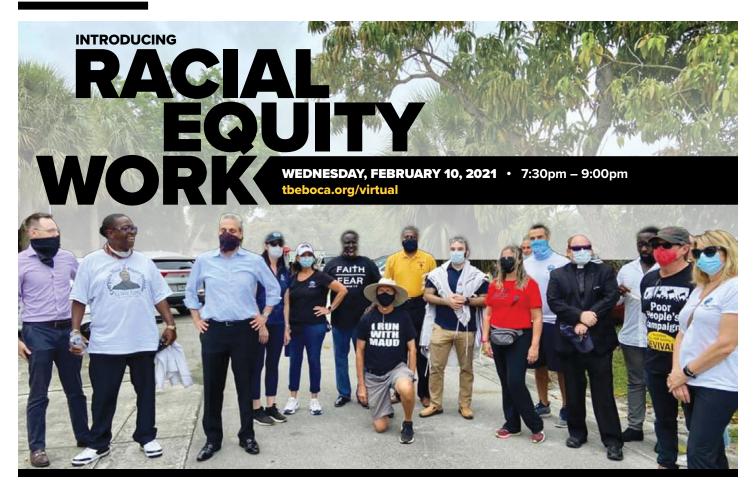
Sadly there will probably be some synagogues that will not make it through to the other side of this pandemic. Temple Beth El will not be one of those organizations. While these are hard times for everyone to be sure, we will be okay. We are not going anywhere. And we cannot wait for the day when we can open the doors to our Welcome Center and wish everyone a Shabbat Shalom.





Mark Sunshine

If you have any questions regarding the 2019-2020 Annual Report, please contact Executive Director Steve Kaufman at skaufman@tbeboca.org or Temple Beth El President Mark Sunshine at msunshine@masunshine.com



Our nation's ongoing struggle for racial equity reached a fever pitch in 2020, and many members of our community have been spurred into action. We walked in the Boca Raton Peace Walk with our neighboring communities of color, have engaged in study in our Social Justice Book Discussions, and have welcomed Black leaders to our congregation to hear their stories. It's time for us to take it to the next level.

To help Temple Beth El and its members better understand our nation's history of racial inequities, their impact on our community, and how we can learn to confront them in solidarity with communities of color, we are pleased to welcome Kristyn Cox and Sara Selznick

of the Thrive Collective to Temple Beth El. Thrive, based in Delray Beach, is a racial justice organization whose mission is to support marginalized communities and communities of color in building wealth and power. This spring we will be partnering with them for educational and community building opportunities, to equip us to better understand the racial issues we face and how we can be partners in positive change, and this event is the kickoff of that partnership.

You can learn more about Thrive at thrivecollective.com. RSVP at tbeboca.org/virtual, or for more information contact Rabbi Greg Weisman at gweisman@tbeboca.org

# Gleaning

Sunday, February 21, 2021 8:30am – 11:30am Delray Beach, Florida Socially Distant! Outdoors! In Person!

RSVP at

tbeboca.org/events

or to Rabbi Greg Weisman at 561-391-8900.



Gleaning is helping to collect unharvested crops to be donated to help our community's hungry and poor. Join the Temple Beth El Social Action committee for this hands-on opportunity to support those in need. We are going to be out in the fields bending and lifting, so those who want to participate need to be able to do so comfortably, lifting as much as 30 pounds. Children ages 5 and up can participate in this mitzvah with their parents!

There are new, special protocols out in the field to maintain social distancing.

More information about the exact location will be shared with those who register.



#### **RABBI DR. JOSHUA GARROWAY**

Professor of Early Christianity and Second Commonwealth Judaism Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles

Famed Swedish theologian Krister Stendahl coined the term "holy envy" to describe the admiration of another religion that often arises in interfaith dialogue. Despite a checkered past, Jews and Christians are now beginning to encounter one

another on more generous terms. Looking at our shared roots and interwoven histories, we will explore what inspiration Jews might find in Catholic tradition, and what inspiration Catholics can take from Judaism.

# "All Israel Will Be Saved" Saint Paul and the Destiny of the Jewish People Thursday, January 21, 2021 - 7:30pm

For centuries, the Catholic church tapped the teachings of Saint Paul when depicting Jews as a people rejected by God. As the church changed course in the 20th century, proclaiming at the Second Vatican Council that Jews "should not be presented as rejected or accursed," again Saint Paul was invoked. Looking closely at the biblical books of Genesis and Romans, we will consider what Paul really said about the history and destiny of the Jewish people, and what it might mean for Jews and Catholics today.

tbeboca.org/live and YouTube.com/c/tbeboca and

Facebook.com/TempleBethElBocaRaton

# What Can Jews Learn from Catholicism?

Friday, January 22, 2021 • 7:30pm during Shabbat services

tbeboca.org/live and YouTube.com/c/tbeboca and Facebook.com/TempleBethElBocaRaton

# What can Catholics learn from Judaism?

Sunday Mass, January 24, 2021 • 12:15pm

Facebook.com/SaintJoanOfArcCatholicChurch



#### About our speaker:

Rabbi Joshua Garroway, Ph.D., serves as the Sol and Arlene Bronstein Professor of Judaeo-Christian Studies and Professor of Early Christianity and Second Commonwealth Judaism at the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles. Rabbi Garroway was ordained at the Cincinnati campus of HUC-JIR in 2003 and earned his doctorate from Yale University in 2008. While his books and scholarly articles focus on the emergence of Christianity against the backdrop of Second Temple and Rabbinic Judaism, he has lectured widely on broader themes in Jewish history. Rabbi Garroway is a native of Rochester, New York, and currently lives in Pasadena with his wife, Professor Kristine Garroway, and their three school-aged boys.

# Lunch &Learn

#### **JANUARY 2021**

Creation, Revelation, and Redemption: Understanding the Message of the Worship Service

with Rabbi Greg Weisman
Tuesday January 12, 19, 26
(no class Jan 5)
12:00 – 1:00pm – Zoom, Livestream,
YouTube

Each day, we are reminded of the story of our ancestors- the Creation of the universe, the Redemption from slavery in Egypt, and the Revelation of Torah at Mount Sinai.

These reminders make up the core of our worship service, the prayers that we say before and after the Shema. Join Rabbi Greg Weisman for this exploration of those themes and how they continue to resonate today.

#### **FEBRUARY 2021**

Inside Israel with Israeli Minds

Tuesdays February 2, 9, 16, 23 12:00 – 1:00pm – Zoom, Livestream, YouTube

- Feb. 2 Professor Eilat Shinar of Magen David Adom
- Feb. 9 Avner Avraham, former Mossad Agent and founder of spylegends.com
- Feb. 16 Gadi Ben-Dov, torah guide on graffiti in Israel
- Feb. 23 Professor Steven Fassberg of the Hebrew Language Academy We will speak with Israeli experts on a range of subjects

from espionage to graffiti to language to medicine. We will learn about their work, and the impact Covid has had on Israeli

society and



# Adult B'nai Mitzvah

If Not Now, When?

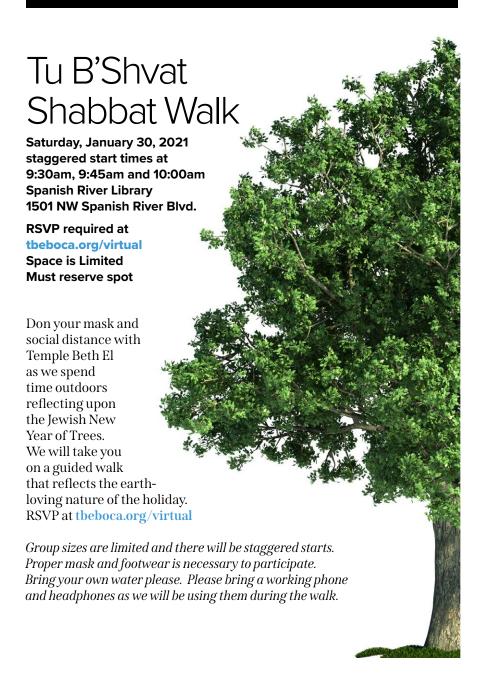
Whether or not you became b'nai mitzvah before, this year of study and learning can be a powerful moment in your Jewish life

Over our year of study, we will examine our Jewish history, prayers, holidays and traditions. Simultaneous with our studies, we will teach Hebrew in order to prepare you to read from the Torah and lead our class-led Adult B'nai Mitzvah service in the spring of 2022.

Hebrew prep will be offered before the class begins, and we will continue Hebrew review throughout the year of study.

Cost is \$375

If interested, contact Rabbi Jessica Spitalnic Mates at **jmates@tbeboca.org** or 561-414-1005.



# Celebrate 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.

#### JANUARY 1 · 7:30PM

#### **Shabbat Evening Service:**

#### **New Year's Resolutions**

Resolution, Re-solution: As we move from Genesis to Exodus we reflect on making meaningful transitions in a time of uncertainty.

#### JANUARY 8 · 7:30PM

#### **Shabbat Evening Service: Shemot**

The Book of Exodus begins by invoking the House of Jacob and the Children of Israel. They represent the two sides of our spiritual selves we need in our own life's journey.

#### JANUARY 15 · 7:30PM MLK Shabbat

As we celebrate the legacy of Dr. King we will hear reflections and see images from our Temple family who went on our civil rights journey.

#### JANUARY 22 · 7:30PM Interfaith Shabbat

Our annual Interfaith Weekend with St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church features scholar in residence Rabbi Dr. Josh Garroway, who studies the intersections of early Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism. See page 18 for details.

#### FEBRUARY 12 • 7:30PM Sisterhood Shabbat Rosh Chodesh

As we celebrate Rosh Chodesh, the new Jewish month of Adar, we look to the dark sky and know that soon the light of the moon will reveal itself and brightness will come again. Temple Beth El Sisterhood will lead us in worship, and reflect on finding joy and meaning in this Shabbat that coincides with the new moon.

#### FEBRUARY 19 · 7:30PM Shabbat Zachor – Why do we need to

#### remember the dark times?

On this Shabbat before Purim, tradition teaches us to remember Amalek and those who rose to destroy the Jewish people in history. At the same time, the Torah tells us to blot out Amalek's memory from our consciousness. When is it important to remember our traumas, and when is it better simply to forget?

#### FEBRUARY 26 · 7:30PM Shabbat Service:

#### **Jewish Disability Month**

February is Jewish Disability Month. On this Shabbat when we celebrate our differences, we welcome Director of JARC (Jewish Association for Residential Care), Jeff Zirulnik to speak about what makes JARC such a vital resource for extraordinary people living ordinary lives. We also welcome the residents of JARC to usher in Shabbat with the lighting of the Shabbat candles in our service.

#### **JANUARY 29 • 7:30PM**

### Shabbat Shira

Honoring the Legacy of the great Jewish folk composer

Debbie Friedman z"I (of blessed memory) on her 10th Yahrzeit

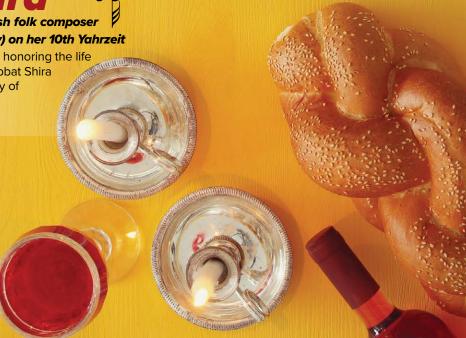
Join us for a musical celebration of Shabbat honoring the life and spirit of Debbie Friedman z'"l. On Shabbat Shira we will chant the Song of the Sea – the story of

our journey from slavery to freedom.

#### FEBRUARY 5 · 7:30PM Shabbat Service:

### Commandments or Suggestions: Mitzvot in our Modern Times

Jews are bound by a covenant that commands the performance of ritual life, ethical practice and moral living. On this Shabbat as we read the Ten Commandments, we ask: in what ways do we feel bound by those commandments or is Jewish life simply a list of meaningful suggestions.







# It's More Than A School



BY RONNI GRAF BETH EL EARLY LEARNING CENTER DIRECTOR rgraf@tbeboca.org

A frequent question I am asked by prospective parents is, "There are so many great Jewish preschools in Boca. What makes yours different?" My answer is always the same, "In addition to our phenomenal teachers, gorgeous facility, and cutting edge philosophy of early childhood education, it is our incredible community." Our commitment to building community with our families is part of our very mission. When parents join our school, we want them to know that this is not only a place where they will drop off their children, but a place that they can make their home.

There are several ways that we strive to make these connections. Perhaps, most obvious is the inclusion of synagogue membership in Early Learning Center tuition. This means that all of our families are members of the congregation and are encouraged to be active participants in



Mom's Night Out, Dad's Night Out OPPOSITE Parenthood on Zoom the community at large. Our educational staff

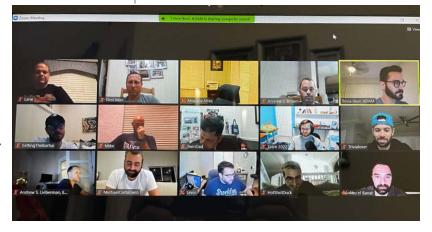
are also gifted Temple Beth El membership as a benefit to connect parents and teachers on another level.

I believe that the most successful way the Early Learning Center is able to build community is through the work of our incredible auxiliary, Parenthood. Parenthood is group of dedicated parent leaders who work to support our school in any way they can, and also to forge connections. Through our room parent program, classroom families are able to communicate with each other both inside and outside of school. Parenthood has a very active social component that plans a variety of events for our parents providing

When parents join our school, we want them to know that this is not only a place where they will drop off their children, but a place that they can make their home.

them numerous opportunities to meet in casual settings. So often, the friends we make through our children, especially when they are young, are the ones we will have for a lifetime. The children grow up together and so do their parents. By providing these social opportunities for parents to connect with each other under the auspices of Temple Beth El, families make these connections to each other and to the community at large. Even now, in these very challenging times, our Parenthood Committee is more active than ever, planning unique ways to bring parents together. Already this school year they have put on very successful programs including Parents Night In, Moms Night In, and Dads Night In. They are continuing to use their creativity to plan other opportunities to bring parents and families together in these times when we must remain physically apart.

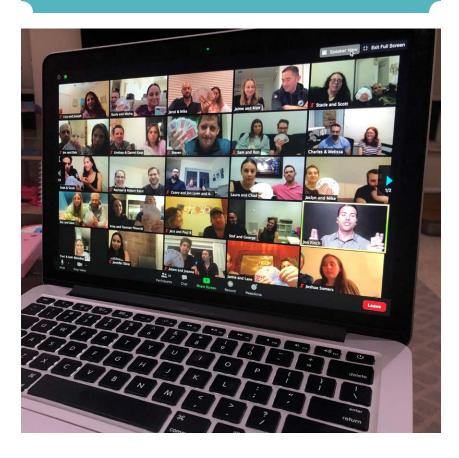
We are so blessed to have our incredible Parenthood volunteers. They transform our Early Learning Center from a school into a community.





Join us for a Drive Through Carnival with games, entertainment, food and more that can all be enjoyed from the comfort of your car. 9:00am-11:00am - Currently Enrolled Families 11:00am-1:00pm - Currently enrolled and New Families RSVP is required. Please sign up for your desired time slot.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Information and registration is available at theboca.org/virtual



# Tot Shabbat

Friday, February 5 Pajama Tot Shabbat - 6:30pm

### important dates

#### Friday, January 1

New Year's Day - No School

#### Monday, January 4

**School Resumes** 

#### Wednesday, January 13

Wear Your Pajamas to School Day

#### Friday, January 15

Virtual Grandparents Shabbat for our 2 and 4 year old classes

#### Monday, January 18

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School

#### Saturday, January 23

Family Fun Day

#### Friday, January 29

Grandparents Shabbat for our 3 year old classes

#### Wednesday, February 10

Steve Brown z"l\* Commemorative Bike Day

#### Friday, February 12

Staff Development Day - No School

#### Monday, February 15

Presidents' Day - No School

#### Wednesday, February 17

**PreK Graduation Portraits** 

#### Friday, February 26

Purim Celebration and Costume Parade

# parenthood dates

#### Wednesday, January 13

Parenthood Meeting via Zoom - 7:30pm

#### Wednesday, February 17

Parenthood Meeting via Zoom - 7:30pm

#### Saturday, February 20

Parents Night Out

\*z"l of blessed memory

# Among Us. Minecraft. Roblox. Fortnite. Draw My Life.



HEATHER EREZ DIRECTOR OF YOUTH EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT herez@tbeboca.org

We have learned so much from our students this year! Always striving to create various points of entry and connections between our students, we have expanded what our traditional youth group gatherings have looked and felt like. However, as unrecognizable as they may seem, the outcomes remain the same, to foster meaningful relationships between our Temple Beth El youth.

Our BOFTY leaders have reinvented the way they reach out to members and provide programming. They kicked off the start of the year by safely delivering goodie bags to all members and have followed up with virtual social gatherings, meditation experiences, creative Shabbat events and

playing. Sometimes we need to utilize online options and are participating in baking classes and games.

Regardless of the form our engagement programming takes, the creativity, flexibility and positivity are limitless. We are so proud of our leaders and students for continuing to reach out to each other, keeping the connections strong between our youth.

However, as unrecognizable as they may seem, the outcomes remain the same, to foster meaningful relationships between our Temple Beth El youth.

informative programs including a Veteran's Day interview with one of our congregants. They continue to expand their offerings to better suit our youth as they overcome obstacles in a meaningful way.

Tribal Gatherings have also been a lot of fun so far. When we could, we were on campus in socially distanced programs such as backyard water fun, cake decorating, tie dye and game



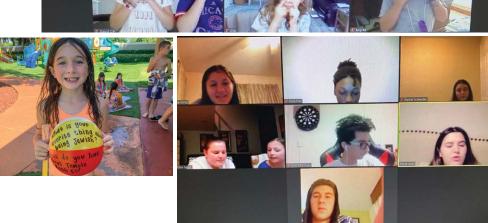
Kids connecting in person and virtually during Youth Group events







Kids connecting in person and virtually during Youth Group events





# B'nai Mitzvah

Molly Bergner Daughter of Michael and Annie Bergner January 2, 2021 @ 11:30 AM

Jolie Bershad Daughter of Adam and Jill Berhsad January 30, 2021 @ 11:30 AM

Sean Goldsmith Son of Jason and Amandah Goldsmith February 6, 2021 @ 11:30 AM

Zachary Andrews Son of Karl and Jennifer Andrews February 13, 2021 @ 11:30 AM

Jakob Lusskin Son of Ben and Lisa Lusskin February 20, 2021 @ 11:30 AM

Aerin Ellsweig Daughter of Erick and Kim Ellsweig February 27, 2021 @ 5:00 PM



Molly Bergner



Zachary Andrews



Jolie Bershad



Jakob Lusskin



Sean Goldsmith



Aerin Ellsweig

#### **SISTERHOOD**



BY KAREN SCHLOSS
AND LISA FRANKLIN
SISTERHOOD CO-PRESIDENTS
sisterhood@theboca.org



#### **BROTHERHOOD**



BY CARLOS ROMERO BROTHERHOOD PRESIDENT info@tbebrotherhood.org

We made it to 2021! There is so many good things to look forward to after an exhausting 2020. Pandemics and elections be damned! As we enter this new year, we want to re-engage with our community. There were so many events that had to be rescheduled, re-planned, and done via zoom the past 12 months. Getting together in person is going to be something we all have to look forward to as we head into the back half of 2021. In the meantime, please reach out to us and get involved with the Brotherhood. We have been supporting families in need within our community, as well as supporting the institutions in our Boca Raton community that serve people in need. We feel so fortunate to be able to give back at a time like this.

We have some fun events lined up for January and February. We have a scheduled date with our friends at the Sisterhood for Jukebox Bingo on January 19th and another special evening with Jewish Baseball legend, Art Shamsky on February 11th. Art was on the 1969 Miracle Mets that won the World Series as heavy underdogs!

Be well, stay healthy and let's all look forward to getting together in 2021!

# upcoming virtual events

Brotherhood/Sisterhood: Jukebox Bingo via Zoom

Tuesday, January 19

Brotherhood Board Meeting via Zoom (First Thursday of every month)\*

Thursday, February 4

Brotherhood Speaker: Former NY Met Art Shamsky

Thursday, February 11, 7:30pm

\*Join in on Brotherhood Board Meetings, (the first Thursday of every month at 7pm - via Zoom). Meet the board members, learn how you can get more involved, or just listen in as we discuss upcoming events. Check the Brotherhood email every Sunday morning for registration and details.

# Dedications October 1-November 30, 2020

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

#### In appreciation of:

Aileen Spilka by Sondra Brucks
Cantor Lori & Kira's Hebrew class by
Irene & Merrill Epstein
High Holy Day services by Raymond
& Patricia Hersh
High Holy Day services by Anonymous
High Holy Day services by Maxine & Bob Lowy
High Holy Day services by Bernard
and Nettie Medvedev
High Holy Day services by Scott Scheinhaus
High Holy Day services by Judy Blitzer
Yom Kippur services by Lee & Vic Blumenthal
Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur services
by Barbara Felder
High Holy Day services by Eleanor Rose

#### In support of:

Well wishes for Eileen Eisenberg by Fran Karp-Eisenberg & Michael Eisenberg On the occasion of:

Nathan's Bar Mitzvah by Elinor & Jay Josephson Blake Slintak's Bar Mitzvah by Jo-Ann Schwartz Asher and Noah's B'nai Mitzvah by Jan & Allen Lev

#### To thank

Temple Beth El for the continuous welcome and to support by Merrill & Laurence Kotok

#### In honor of:

Cantor Lori Brock, the clergy, administration and entire staff of Temple Beth El by Lynn Barr Cantor Lori's Hebrew lessons by Rosalyn & Frederic Belkin Gabrielle Giancaspro by Brenda & Myra Bello The Boys Produce for all they do for the community by Jaime & Eric Bricker the Amazing Staff of Temple Beth El by Sybil Firestone High Holy Day services by Loui Marver Leslie & Rick Steinberg by Susan Nayowith Sonny Thal's graciousness and kindness by Nechama Glasrot TBE Clergy and Staff by Rasheena & David Taub Derek Hurwitch by Lisa Rivero

#### In memory of:

Gloria Appel by Amy & Eliot Appel
All my loved ones by Estelle Kominsky
Allison Feidelman by Carol & Lawrence Feidelman
Arlene Dworkin by Dean Dworkin
Arline Schuster by Barbara & Terry Bachow
Arline Schuster by Beth Tranese
Arline Schuster by June & Jeffrey Wynn
Arline Schuster by June & Jeffrey Wynn
Barry Krin by Cindy, Ethel, Helen and Karen
Beverly Warheit by Sandra & Herbert Khaner
Beverly Warheit by Jeff & Gwenn Grossman
Beverly Warheit by Randi Rosen
Bob Newman by Cheryl Newman

Bruce Kreiger by Rosalind Kreiger Carol Benach by Laurie & Haynes Stevens Cesar Fernandez by Andrea & Mark Platt Daniel Spitalnic by Lawrence Hotz Diana Cohen by Lori Cohen-Vogel Donald Golden by Robert Goldenberg Frances & Harvey Glen by Marsha & Eugene Sanders Frederick Rosenthal by Danielle Marcus Gertrude Finger by Sue & Scott Krieger Golda Miller by Sophia & Bodhi Stone Herb Hutt by Jan & Allen Lev Herbert Hutt by Mary D Young Howard Leshman by Jan & Allen Lev Jay Kanter by Fern Kanter Jeff Langley by Judith Gushner Jeff Langley by Karen Kleiman & Michael Melinek Jeff Langley by Janyce Dean Speier Jeff Langley by Jeff Weiss Jeff Langley by Meryl & Ron Gallatin Jeff Langley by Ronald Korn Jeffrey Langley by Holly Alton & Steven Greenwald Jeffrey Langley by Ellen & Ronald Hoffner Jeffrey Langley by Larry & Shelley Rutherford Jeffrey Langley by Doris Alderfer Jerry Podolsky by Myra & Barry Cohen Jerry Podolsky by Andrea & Mark Platt Jerry Podolsky by Dale & David Pratt Julie Gleeman by Lee Gleeman Manfred Pepper by Martha Pepper Marvin Wallach by Arlene Oppenheim Marvin Wallach by Mollie Oppenheim Marvin Wallach by Jill Oppenheim Marvin Wallach by Dan & Natalia Wallach Marvin Wallach by Jennifer & David Oppenheim Mom, Dad, Sister by Nancy Blacker and Harold Norman Levine by Lisa & Gary Hindin Norman Levine by Eddie Elman Norman Levine by Rebecca Elman, Andrew, Sydney, and Nate Levy

Norman Simon by Amy Simon Norman Simon by Amy Simon Richard Bogdanoff by Debra & Joshua Marcus Richard Goodkin by Aline Fisher Richard Goodkin, our beloved brother by Martha & David Goodkin Rozzie Fischman by Aline Fisher Ruth Berg by Cara & Joshua Gottlieb Ruth Berg by Taryn Hoffman Ruth Berg by Taryn Hoffman Ruth Berg by Elinor & Jay Josephson Ruth Berg by Suzanne & Jeffrey Katz Ruth Berg by Suzanne & Jeffrey Katz Ruth Berg by Marcelle & Sam Kaufman Ruth Berg by Michelle & Tracey Labgold Ruth Berg by Jan & Allen Lev Ruth Berg by Karen & Michael Marshall Ruth Berg by Barbara & Jose Delacruz

Ruth Berg by Elliott Merrill

Ruth Berg by Andrea & Mark Platt

Ruth Berg by Susan & Barry Podolsky,
Brian, Gail, Kim and Riley
Ruth Berg by Rosalie Ratner
Ruth Berg by Susan & Andy Stallone
Ruth Berg by Janet & Allan Sussberg
Ruth Helen Bowes by Andrea & Mark Platt
Ruthie Berg by Herb & Bonnie Hirsch
Sharon Wishner by Ricki & Milton Barbarosh
Sharon Wishner by Gail & Irwin Cohen
Sharon Wishner by Helene & Jay Eichler
Sharon Wishner by Robin Eisenberg

& Andrea Broido
Sharon Wishner by Barbara & R Gerald Lewin
Sharon Wishner by Robert Merson
Sharon Wishner by Andrea & Mark Platt
Sharon Wishner by Dale & David Pratt
Sharon Wishner by Ellie Rassler
Sharon Wishner by Martha Roth
Sharon Wishner by Sue & Jim Schiller
Sharon Wishner by Marcia Beckerman,
Robin Bresky, Karen Dern, Lisa Franklin,

Donna Goldberg, Emily Grabelsky,
Shari Hier, Debbie Rosenblum, Karen
Schloss, Shari Schwamm, Debbie Silver,
Alicia Spero, Jill Weiner, Lisa Zwick
Shelley Halperin by Michael & Lauren Halperin
Stan Gray by Jan & Allen Lev
Stewart Hershey by Jan & Allen Lev
Susan Pall by Barbara & Harvey Morris
Toni Berliner by Amy Doran
Toni Berliner by Judy Kuritz
Toni Berliner by Lottie & Erik Nilsen
Toni Berliner by Brett & Lauren Orvieto
Toni Berliner by Jennifer Cohen
Uncle Victor by Esther Schrieder
William Feinberg by Sheilah Harrow

#### **Dedication Bricks 2020-2021**

#### In memory of:

Barry Krin by the Shining Stars Class of 2020-2021

#### Disaster Relief - Covid-19 Fund - 2020-2021

#### In memory of:

Ruth Berg by Doris Armstrong
Ruth Berg by Liliana Abramson
Ruth Berg by Maxine Arno
Ruth Berg by Robin Eisenberg & Andrea Broido
Ruth Berg by Aline Fisher
Ruth Berg by Marie & Melvin Schwartz
Ruth Berg by Susan & David Schwartzfarb
Ruth Berg by Roberta & Lorrie Shafer
Florence Goldbrum by Aline Fisher
Marvin Klein by Aline Fisher
Sandra Blackman by Aline Fisher
Stanley Gray by Aline Fisher

# Dedications October 1-November 30, 2020

#### **Early Childhood Scholarship** Fund 2019-20

In memory of:

Toni Berliner by Gail & Irwin Cohen

#### **Education & Youth Endowment Fund**

In appreciation of:

High Holy Day services by Robert Zaret

#### **Education & Youth Endowment Fund**

#### In memory of:

Albert Miller by Aviva & Arnold Miller Barry Krin by Jessica & Paul Benedetto Barry Krin by Robin Eisenberg & Andrea Broido Gertrude Finger by Judith Kornitsky Martin Kahn by Carol & Halbert Finkelstein Toni Berliner by Eileen & Steven Berliner Toni Berliner by Gail Cohen Toni Berliner by Heather & Elliot Edelman Toni Berliner by Cara & Joshua Gottlieb Toni Berliner by Nancy Hoffman Toni Berliner by Avna Laraia Toni Berliner by Geri & Mort Schulman Toni Berliner by Jill & Jeff Yesner Toni Berliner by Laurie & Jeffrey Rubnitz Toni Berliner by Avna, Bo & Michelle Laraia Toni Berliner by Sheryl & Dave Saper and Nancy & Barry Sulkin Toni Berliner by Deborah Pivnick Toni Berliner by Nancy & Sheldon Walsh Toni Berliner by Jessica Mularczyk

#### **Early Learning Center Contributions/Grants**

#### In memory of:

Barry Krin by Robin Eisenberg & Andrea Broido Toni S. Berliner by Ina & George Hankin

#### **Gelfand/Arpe Young Childrens Innovative Education Fund**

William Parady by Michael Gelfand Mary Louise Repak by Michael Gelfand Jerry Podolsky by Michael Gelfand

#### **General Fund 2020-2021**

#### In honor of:

Matthew Glachman and Janine Stanislaw's wedding ceremony performed by Cantor Lori Brock by Jamie & Neil Glachman

#### In memory of:

Arlene Schuster by Laurie Hersh

#### The Giving Tree 2020-2021

#### In honor of:

My giving tree girls I love! by Evelyn Boccanfuso-Swid Rabbi Greg by Risa & Joseph Sontz

#### In memory of:

Stan Gordon's brother by Maddi & Wes Finch Beverly Warheit by Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Falvey Beverly Warheit by Annemarie & Joseph Cardamone Ruth Berg By Leslie & Rick Steinberg

#### Israel Youth Travel Fund 2020-21

#### In honor of:

Merle and Myra Singer and our long term friendship by Harriett & Jeffrey Schilit

#### In memory of:

Dr. Alexander Sand Fisher and Betty Unger Fisher by Aline Fisher Lena Fisher by Aline Fisher Dr. Donald Kanter by Aline Fisher Toni Berliner by Aline Fisher

#### Linda Snyder Kindergarten & Nursery School Fund

#### In memory of:

Susan by Meryl Cohen Toni Berliner by Meryl Cohen Toni Berliner by Ferne & William Berger Toni Berliner by Barbara & Robert Eisenberg Toni Berliner by Nancy Jo & Alan Feinberg Toni Berliner by Gerald Labourene Toni Berliner by Charles Moldow Toni Berliner by Russ Rosenzweig Toni Berliner by Hilary & Howard Pasekoff Toni Berliner by Fran Roth Toni Berliner by Susan & David Schwartzfarb Ruth Berg by Hynda Schuman

#### Music & Arts Circle - 2020-2021

#### In celebration of:

The birth of my Great-Great Granddaughter, Maggie Vegh

#### Music Fund 2020-2021

#### In appreciation of:

High Holy Day Services by David Reiss Myra R. Schwartz Cantorial Music Fund

Cantor Lori Brock & Sheryl Martin by Lynn Barr Cantor Lori Brock by Sue & Jim Schiller

#### In memory of:

Myra Schwartz by Lynn Barr

#### Susan and Barry Podolsky **Special Needs Fund**

#### In honor of:

Barry Podolsky's 70th Birthday by Taryn Hoffman Barry Podolsky's 70th Birthday by Betty & Jon Kimmel

#### In memory of:

Ruth Berg - A life well spent by Robert Geller Molly & Samuel Goldsmith by Karen Klebenoff Jerry Podolsky - A life well spent by Robert Geller Jerry Podolsky by Edwin Levy Jerry Podolsky by Carol, Mark, Emily & Hannah Jerry Podolsky by Wendy & Ben Roth Jerry Podolsky by Ellie Rassler, Karen and Scott Rassler

#### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund - 2020-2021

#### In appreciation of:

The music during High Holidays by Judith Chinn Rabbi Jessica Mates by Marlene Faust Temple Clergy by June Gelb Rabbi Dan by Danielle & Lenny Greenblatt Temple Beth El services by Sandra Hendrick Inspiring High Holy Day services by Hanita & Mordecai Schreiber

#### In celebration of:

Noah & Asher Grossman's B'nai Mitzvah by Maddi & Wes Finch Julie Bouden's Birthday by Diane More

Rabbi Greg by Alice & Ron Cohen Rabbi Dan by Alice & Ron Cohen Rabbi Dan by Ronald Greenblatt

#### In honor of:

Harrison's Bar Mitzvah by Marla & Jonathan Swartz Helayne Rosenblum With heartfelt gratitude by Ellen & J Edward Pollock Our wonderful Temple Beth El Clergy and Staff by Joy & Roy Cohen Rabbi Dan & Aimee Levin by Brenda Wishner Rabbi Dan and Aimee Levin and High Holy Day Services by Wendy & Wayne  $\bar{L}$ egum Rabbi Dan and High Holy Day Services by Sue & Iim Schiller Rabbi Greg Weisman and High Holy Day Services by Sue & Jim Schiller Rabbi Jessica Mates and High Holy Day Services by Sue & Jim Schiller The Brit Milah of Theodore Rocky Silverstein by Andrew Krinsky

#### In memory of:

Arline Schuster by Dr. Tony Riso, Nurses & Staff Arline Schuster by Abbe Becker Arline Schuster by Kerri & Stuart Benson Charles Rassler and H. Stanley Rassler by Rachel Matz Hunter & Robert Hunter Daniel Spitalnic by Alyssa & Jeffrey Lerner Dave's Brother by Judith Chason Ed and in honor of my 89th birthday! by Marianne Bobick Eileen Cohen by Alice & Ron Cohen Enid Fleisher by Staci & Kurt Aron Gloria Aizer by Stephanie & Richard Chestnov Helene Stern by Juana Raijer Herbert Hutt by Helene & Jay Eichler Irving Lantz by Lori Bogdanoff Irving Pearlman by Erica & Gary Romer Jeff Langley by Paul & Pamela Fishman Jeff Langley by Martin Greenberg Jeff Langley by David Hanowitz & Eric Gottlieb Jeff Langley by Susan & Alan Jacobs

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Lynn Metzger by Norman Metzger Jeff Langley by Marjorie & Maurice Plough Jeff Langley by Robert & Mindy Rovinsky Jeff Langley by Jamie & Bonnie Schaefer Jeff Langley by Kimberley Siciliano,

Sharpe Project Developments Jeffrey Langley by Morton Finkelstein Jeffrey Langley by David Hanowitz & Eric Gottlieb Jeffrey Langley by Danielle Hartman & Thomas Forlenza

Jeffrey Langley by Rhona & Marvin Kirsner Jeffrey Langley by April & Roger Leavy Jeffrey Langley by Wendy & Wayne E Legum Jeffrey Langley by Barbara & R Gerald Lewin Jeffrey Langley by Lynn & Joseph Ouslander Jeffrey Langley by Jody & Ed Rice Jeffrey Langley by Marla Schaefer & Steven Weishoff Jeffrey Langley by Stephanie & Steven Schuster Jeffrey Langley by Wendy & Steven Walin Jeffrey Langley by Debbie & Rick Weiss Jeffrey Langley by Etta & Raymond Zimmerman Miriam Gitlin by Jon & Rachel Polansky Rabbi Jessica's brother by Dori Barenholtz Rabbi Jessica's brother by Phyllis

& Howard Cordover Robert Gesoff by Susan Gesoff Sperber Roslyn and Louis Kirsch by Libby Kirsch Ruth Berg by Wendy & Steven Walin Ruth Berg by Betsy & David Blechman Ruth Berg by Denise Calderon Ruth Berg by Judy Gordon Ruth Berg by Marjorie & Maurice Plough, Jr. Ruth Berg by Ronna & Marc Taub Ruth Berg by Judith & Michael Blackman Ruth Berg, and thanking the amazing

TBE clergy by Gary Berg Sharon Wishner by Judy Gordon Sharon Wishner by Rachel Matz

Hunter & Robert Hunter Sharon Wishner by Robin Siegal Stan Gray by Nancy Jo & Alan Feinberg Stanley Gray by Sarah & Daniel Carroll Stanley Gray by Denise Calderon

#### Religious School Fund 2020-2021

In memory of:

Toni Berliner by Arlene & Steve Diamond Toni Berliner by Cindy & Paul Homer Toni Berliner by Diane Rosenthal Toni Berliner by Harriett & Jeffrey Schilit Toni Berliner by Jonathan Westin Toni Berliner by Jerry & Helen Wexler

#### Robert P. Halio Endowment Fund

In memory of:

Robert Halio by Anne & Lane Schwartz

#### **Samuel & Mollie Luks Endowment** for Special Needs Fund

Samuel Luks by Frances Weinberg

#### Sisterhood Contribution

In appreciation of:

the Sisterhood Lilith Salon virtual event by Barbara Robin

#### Tree of Life 2020-2021

In honor of:

Our loving wife, mom, and "great" grandma Mimi by Sonny, Sue, Scott, Cindy, Matt, Hannah, Josh, Terry Sarah The happiest of birthdays to Barry Podolsky by Ilyne Mendelson & Steven Terk

#### Yahrzeit Fund 2020-2021

In memory of:

Bernard Aronson by Marian Aronson Alan Pollak by Sarah Pollak Ari Melzer by Marnie & Brian Melzer Arnold Robbins by Robbins Property Associates Bessie Schuster by M Rita & Tully Schuster Bettye Lerner by Sherry & Kenneth Lerner Carol Brown by Murray Brown Daniel Spitalnic by Leslie Schwam Deborah Silver by Nancy Wolf Debra Pfeiffer by Lisa & Ben Lusskin Dorothy & Jerome Haber by Sara & Harold Halman Eleanor Rothstein by Elaine Colker Elliot Tucker by Deborah & Herbert Jackman Eva Slupow by Stephanie & Steven Schuster Fannie Rosengarden by Ardath Rosengarden Ferdinand Paroulek by Alexandra Paroulek-

Bergbauer & Michael Bergbauer Francine Gornitzky by Lee Gleeman Gerald Rosenwater by Meryl & Bruce Rosenwater Gertrude Feil by Marilyn & Stanley Barry Gladys Morris by Barbara & Harvey Morris Gloria Smith by Bonnie & Bradley Kirsch Harold Dolby by Leslie Schwam Harriet Cherry by Linda Cherry Harvey Erenstein by Elaine & Morton Erenstein Herman Hess by Shirley & Warren Deutsch Hyman Taub by Ronna & Marc Taub Jeffery Lough by Marilyn & Jay Weinberg Laura Peck by Peni & Ronald Lewis Leon Fine by Sondra Homer-Warner Leslie Rosengarden by Barbara & Isaias Kaplun Leslie Schmier by Linda & Robert Schmier Lester Mintz & Sally Mackler by Debra

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#### **Facebook Fundraiser**

Zina Simon by Lauren Simon

Thanks to Ivel Paroulek for her Facebook Birthday Fundraiser raising \$200

Our sincerest apologies as the following gifts were inadvertently omitted from our last Chronicle:

#### In memory of:

Arlene Schuster by Simone & Sam Spiegel Nathanial Keusch by Simone & Sam Spiegel Jerry Podolsky by Freyda & Ed Burns

### Sisterhood **Contributions**

Sistehood has new Tribute cards to reflect the tapestries that are hanging in our entrance hall. These cards are available for purchase for \$18.00 per card or 10 for \$180.00 This is a great way to honor a loved one. The money will be used to support various projects in our Temple. For further information and to purchase a card, email Glenda Gordon at glendashopper46@gmail.com or phone Glenda at 561-302-3507. These cards are also available for purchase on the Temple website and the Sisterhood weekly email.

#### **SISTERHOOD FUND:**

In memory of:

Stephen Gordon, brother of Lenny Schloss by: Jan and Allen Lev Susan Goldstein and Family The Sisterhood Board Shari and Craig Schwamm and Family Sharon Wishner, mother of Aimee Levin by:

Marlene and Richard Bluestein Karen Feller Robin Hirsch Judith Kornitsky Margie and Maurice Plough

To Mary McGrath and Family in memory of wonderful Uncle Bud by the Kornitsky Family Richard Goodkin by Judy Kornitsky To Lauren Kornitsky and Family in memory of her mother, Sylvia, by Judy Kornitsky Janet L Barmak Snyder, mother of Carol Niren by: The Sisterhood Board Debi Jackman Jan and Allen Lev

#### In honor of:

The birth of Cameron James Juster, grandson of Susan Goldstein by: Ivel and Frank Paroulek

Lisa and Dr. Andrew Zwick

The Sisterhood Board The Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Sosin, grandson of Susan and Mark Sosin, by Judy Kornitsky and family The birth of Alexander Adam, grandson of Barbara and Marvin Leventhal, by Jan and Allen Lev

The birth of Emma Jordyn Adelstein, granddaughter of Marcy and Barry Schultz, by Shari and Craig Schwamm and family

In great appreciation of Aunt Marcia Zerivitz for her wonderful presentation on the history of the Jews in Florida by the Sisterhood board

The 85th birthday of Rabbi Robert Reiner by Ellie M Roth

#### **VOLUNTEER FUND:**

#### In memory of:

Stephen Gordon by Irene and Dr. Merrill Epstein Richard Goodkin, brother of David and Martha Goodkin, by Irene and Dr. Merrill Epstein Janet L Barmak Snyder by Irene and Dr. Merrill Epstein

#### In honor of:

The Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Lerner, son of Kenneth and Sherry Lerner, by Irene and Dr. Merrill Epstein

### Annual Giving Chai-Line to Healing 2020-2021 October 1-November 30, 2020

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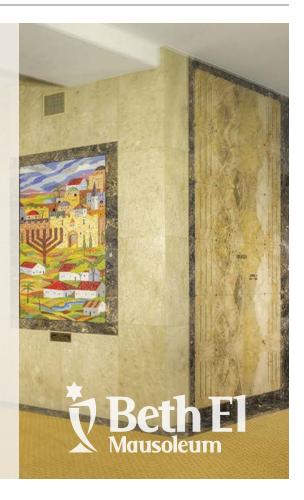
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# Annual Giving October 1-November 30, 2020

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Jerry Afromsky, stepfather of Suzanne and Brian Broad, step grandfather of Helen and Isaac Broad Jetta Gudema DeLove, great aunt of Debra and Joe Gudema Harvey Erenstein, brother of Morton Weinstein Samuel Gitlin, father of Sue and Scott Krieger Allison-Jo Golden, mother of Andra and Scott Glick, grandmother of Ethan and Gabrielle Glick Richard Goodkin, brother of David and Martha Goodkin Stephen Gordon, brother of Lenny and Karen Schloss, uncle of Michael and Carly Schloss Stewart Hershey, brother of Mitch and Michelle Hershey Herbert Hutt, beloved member Martin Kahn\*, husband of Carly Kahn Howard Leshman, uncle of Andrea and Mark Platt Pui Leung, mother of Angel Leung and Michael Sabin, grandmother of Emily Sabin Lynn Metzger\*, wife of Norman Metzger Angelo Ramos, father of Joseph and Brittany Ramos, grandfather of Rachel and Ethan Ramos Annette Simner, grandmother of Danielle and Hayden Trepeck Janet L Barmak Snyder, mother of Carol and Neil Niren, grandmother of Leslie Niren and Lisa Niren Bradley Stone, nephew of Lauren Salzman Marvin Wallach, father of Jennifer and David Oppenheim, grandfather of Mollie and Jill Oppenheim Beverly Warheit\*, mother of Peter and Randy Warheit

Lucille Werner, grandmother of Mark and Luisa Werner,

great-grandmother of Amy and Penelope Werner
\*Laid to rest in the Beth El Mausoleum

# **Mazel Tov To**

son Greg Warren to Roxana Quintana

Cindy and Ira Goldberg on the birth of their grandson
Theodore Rocky Silverstein
Susan and Richard Goldstein on the birth of their
grandson Cameron James Juster
Paul Jacobs on the birth of his granddaughter Scarlett Grant Kaplan
Lauren and Brenden Morris on the birth of their son Zachary Gabriel Morris
Lauren and Hunter Outcalt on the birth of their son
Everett Outcalt, big sister Sloane
Jackie and Louis Robinson on the birth of their granddaughter Pearl Robinson
Marcy and Barry Schultz on the birth of their
granddaughter Emma Jordyn Adelstein
Barbara and Leonard Tamchin on the birth of their
granddaughter Olivia Rachel Tamchin
Danielle and Hayden Trepeck on the birth of their son Levi Asher Trepeck
Robin and Gary Warren on the engagement of their



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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.

Engage in inspiring worship and transformative experiences of Jewish spirituality.

Share a love and responsibility for each other, our community and country, for Israel, and for the future of the Jewish people.

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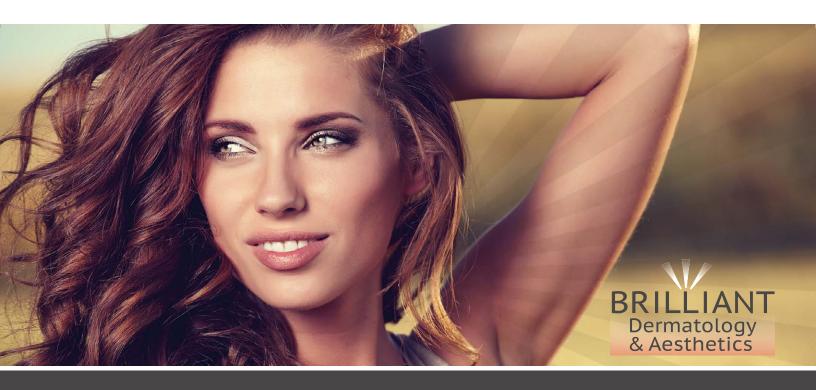


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