

"Let Justice Well Up Like Water"

Learning and Doing
Environmental Justice to
celebrate Tu Bishvat & Dr.
Martin Luther King Jr.

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JANUARY 16, 2022
BETH EL TEMPLE
1PM



Register at
jewishharrisburg.org/mlk-day

SPECIAL SPEAKER Rafiyqa Mohammad

Member of Harrisburg
Environmental Advisory
Council, Owner of
**Sustainable Human
Environment, LLC**
Certified Permaculture
Designer & Instructor,
Director of Community
Gardens



Calendar Highlights

Fridays, December 24-January 28

Joint services with Temple Ohev Sholom

Monday evenings, January 3, 10, 24, 31, and February 7, 14

Learning Hebrew/Trope with Mandy Cheskis
on Zoom, continued, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 4

Zoom with Authors: Joshua Henkin,
Morningside Heights, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, January 5, 12, 19, 26

Adult Ed – Talmudic Personalities: Get to
Know the Rabbis, continued, 11:00 a.m.

Saturdays, January 8 and February 26

Family Shabbat Mornings (with Mandy
Cheskis) at Beth El

Saturday evenings, January 8 and February 26

Pajama Havdalah with Rabbi Capptauber,
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 9

Soul Spa Sunday with Rabbi Capptauber,
Music for the Soul, 4:00 p.m.

Fridays, January 14 and February 18

Shabbat dinner for pick-up

Sunday, January 16

MLK/Tu Bishvat event, 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 1

Zoom with Authors: Jane Healey, *The Secret
Stealers*, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 4

Gesher Family Shabbat at Beth El (joint with
Chisuk Emuna)

Tuesdays, February 8 – March 22

Women of the Bible (Re)written, with Rabbi
Capptauber, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 12

Beth El Comedy Night, 7:00 p.m.

Candle Lighting Times

Jan 7	4:39 p.m.	Feb 4	5:11 p.m.
Jan 14	4:46 p.m.	Feb 11	5:20 p.m.
Jan 21	4:54 p.m.	Feb 18	5:28 p.m.
Jan 28	5:03 p.m.	Feb 25	5:36 p.m.

Daily Service Times

Weekday evenings	5:30 p.m.
Tuesday & Friday mornings	7:00 a.m.
Friday nights	6:00 p.m.
Sundays	9:00 a.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m.

■ Rabbi's MESSAGE



Dear Beth El,

In January, we will celebrate Tu Bishvat, the day on which Jews honor the “birthday of the trees,” on the same day as we celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the father of the civil rights movement. Like in years when Hanukkah and

Thanksgiving coincide, these two disparate holidays seem to have nothing in common but their date. And yet when we explore their cultural and spiritual significance, we can find many overlapping messages. Dr. King fought for social justice, suggesting that all people are connected, equal, and responsible for one another's rights and wellbeing. Tu Bishvat reminds us to care for the environment, suggesting that all living beings are connected, equally important, and part of an interrelated system of care. Thus, when we celebrate King and Tu Bishvat, we are urged on toward an environmentally just world, in which all people are able to live in a healthy environment.

This year, we are in a year of Shmita, the seventh year in the Jewish agricultural cycle when the land must be allowed to rest. In October and November, I taught a course on Shmita in which we explored what it means to transform an ancient biblical practice into one that holds meaning for us today. We discussed the need to rest at regular intervals: rest from work, from our need to be productive, from our need to consume and take from the earth and others. We discussed the spiritual practices of rest, like keeping Shabbat, meditating, or doing creative activities. We also discussed our need to help the earth rest, by slowing down our consumer behaviors and engaging in sustainable practices around eating, traveling, and otherwise.

This Tu Bishvat and throughout the year, we will continue to discuss sustainability practices that help rejuvenate our planet and ourselves. Join us on January 16 for a special event together with the JCC, in which we'll hear from local environmental activists about the way Dr. King's legacy informs their work, and also do some hands-on activities. Apart from that day, you can also join our Beth El Green Team, a group of people thinking about how we can engage in more sustainable practices at our temple and beginning to implement those ideas. For instance, we have begun recycling more and using compostable containers for our takeout. We have also become part of the Hazon Seal of Sustainability program, in which we'll work with other synagogues who are similarly seeking to become more environmentally sustainable.

In this Shmita year, it is just as important to focus on our own rest and rejuvenation. In the last few months, I have been leading “Soul Spa” programs for us to do things like yoga, art, and singing; practices intended to help us slow down and look internally. In February, I will be teaching a class called “Women of the Bible (Re)written,” which will also make space for creativity in our learning. Wonderful things can happen when we take some time to be creative for its own sake. Like, for instance, the Hanukkah Spiel that Stuart Malina and I shared with our community in December. I hope you'll join us and see what your own creativity can produce.

*Wishing you rest and rejuvenation
in this season and this year,
Rabbi Capptauber*

■ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 19, 2022—6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 16, 2022—6:00 p.m.

■ BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Wednesday, January 19, 2022—7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 16, 2022—7:00 p.m.

Beth El Temple

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Harrisburg, PA 17110-1182
(717) 232-0556 Fax (717) 232-6240
Web Site: www.bethelhb.org
Time-dated material

Hashaliach

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Ruth Pearlstein,
Editorial Coordinator
Leslie B. Ocko, Designer



■ PRESIDENT'S REMARKS



Ecstatic, elated, and delighted best describe my emotions after our recent Hanukkah celebration. More than 150 congregants filled our sanctuary to see the premier of "Let It Glow," Beth El Temple's Hanukkah play starring Rabbi Capptauber and

Stuart Malina. In addition, we lit the menorah, munched on latkes, and enjoyed each other's company. It was an outstanding evening and provided us an opportunity to celebrate light during a time of early sunsets and lengthening evenings. Our Rabbi has many talents, and Stuart is simply incredible. Our kids also participated and did an outstanding job.

Ecstatic, elated, and delighted best describe my emotions during our family Friday night service with Chisuk Emuna Congregation in October. Our young people, under the direction of our Lifelong Learning Director, Mandy Cheskis, led the service beautifully. They were in tune with the melodies, Hebrew, and meaning of the prayers. It is so nice to see parents smiling from ear to ear, proud to see their kid(s) participating in the service.

Ecstatic, elated, and delighted best describe my emotions in seeing our Sisterhood and others lead services alongside Rabbi Capptauber. I enjoyed different voices leading the

davening, reading Torah, and chanting Haftarah. My dream is to see more people sign up to participate. If you're interested, see our Rabbi. She is an excellent teacher and will make sure you know your part.

Ecstatic, elated, and delighted best describe my emotions as we are looking at ways to improve our shul inside and out. We have some exciting news on the horizon, so stay tuned.

Finally, I received a correspondence from a longtime congregant who expressed her gratitude to all of us at Beth El Temple. She stated that despite the constraints the coronavirus has had on each of us, the synagogue has not lost a beat. We have maintained our mission as a vibrant, caring, and inclusive Conservative congregation that inspires meaningful relationships with one another, the larger community, and with God. I hope all of you agree!

"Remember that there is meaning beyond absurdity. Know that every deed counts, that every word is power. Above all, remember that you must build your life as if it were a work of art." *Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel*

Stay safe and see you in shul,

Rick Leiner
President

■ MINYAN MOMENTS

At Beth El Temple, we all count!

What's your day to count and be counted upon?

To become a minyannaire, contact our minyan captains:

Morning minyan captain

Bob Lieberman (717-979-1634)

Evening minyan captain

Ron Lench (717-877-1892)

Shabbat minyan captain

Dale Kaplan (717-979-7787)

Sunday morning minyan captain

Ron Lench (717-877-1892)

We look forward to welcoming you to the Beth El Temple minyan family.

Sunday morning 9:00 a.m. Zoom

Sunday evening - no service

Monday morning - no service

Monday evening 5:30 p.m. Zoom

Tuesday morning 7:00 a.m. Zoom

Tuesday evening 5:30 p.m. IN PERSON

Wednesday morning - no service

Wednesday evening 5:30 p.m. Zoom

Thursday morning - no service

Thursday evening 5:30 p.m. Zoom

Friday morning - 7:00 a.m. IN PERSON

Saturday evening - no service

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



After 14 months of hard work and dedication, Beth El Temple is excited to announce the launch of our newly designed website! We ask that you please visit www.bethelhbg.org to check it out.

We hope you'll agree that it is not only visually appealing but also

user-friendly.

In a digital world, it's vital that we make information easily accessible including our shul location and contact information, service times, and program offerings.

The goal with our new website was twofold—to serve our members and to reach new people.

1. MEMBERS. To provide a place for our members to easily find event information, service times, social action information, holiday information, learning opportunities, donation options, and much more.
2. NEW PEOPLE. To provide visitors and/or online searchers an easy way to learn about Beth El Temple and who we are. For example, we provide information about Jewish life in Harrisburg.

As we progress throughout the year, we will continually be building upon our website. Plans for our next phase will include being able to make online donations to our many endowments.



I would like to offer a **Special Thank You** to David Rothstein, Paula Zankel, Rabbi Capptauber, and the membership committee who donated their time and energy to making this site come to life.

For any questions, suggestions, feedback, or comments, please email us. We'd love to hear what you think. Our new website...one more way Beth El brings people together.

Bill Walter
Executive Director

Beth El Temple Sisterhood

Dear Sisterhood,

I hope this edition of *Hashaliach* finds you well. I hope that those of you who are once again able to travel south for the winter, either for a long or a short time, are able to do so. I have enjoyed seeing the photos of families gathering with children, grandchildren, and friends for various holidays and occasions. I am just home from the Hanukkah show and party at the synagogue, and it was just so wonderful to be together.

A few weeks ago, we held a mini Sisterhood Shabbat. Perhaps I am underselling it with the "mini" because I am exceptionally proud that almost every part of our Saturday Shabbat service was led by a woman. I encourage all of you to practice your Hebrew and sign up for a part, even a tiny one.

While we have been somewhat quiet with our social programming, we continue to be busy behind the scenes. In the time of COVID, it can feel overwhelming to think about solving big problems. Instead, we can work to improve the community around us and help in small ways. After all, the little things do add up! I am especially proud of our bikkur cholim cooking group, which makes food in advance so that the Rabbi can bring some along to congregants in need.

You should have received, or will soon be receiving, your membership renewal letters. We hope we can count on you for your continued support of Beth El Sisterhood and more broadly the Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

As we continue to emerge into our "new normal," I invite you to reach out with programming ideas – it's our Sisterhood!

In Friendship,
Rachel Zilbering

Beth El Temple Men Attend Menschwork's JMR30

By Harvey Freedenberg

Imagine the pleasure of spending an invigorating and yet deeply restful Shabbat at a 400-acre retreat center in southern New England at the height of the fall foliage season, savoring nature's beauty, feasting on outstanding kosher food, and, above all, engaging in meaningful conversation with a diverse group of some 70 committed, energetic, and thoughtful Jewish men.

That was the experience Beth El members Baruch Capptauber, Josh Millman, Assaf Zilbering, Joel Ressler, and Harvey Freedenberg, joined by Chisuk Emuna member Ben Chadwell, shared on the weekend of October 15-17, 2021, as they attended the 30th annual Jewish Men's Retreat (JMR30) sponsored by Menschwork at the Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center in Falls Village, Connecticut.

Last year's JMR was virtual due to COVID-19, and in making the shift to in-person attendance, the volunteer-run organization took extensive precautions to enhance attendees' safety. All participants were required to be fully vaccinated and to submit the results of a COVID lab test taken within 72 hours of arrival. Most of the retreat's activities took place outdoors, and social distancing was emphasized.

In addition to a lively nondenominational Shabbat observance, at which both Josh and Harvey read Torah and Baruch accompanied some of the davening on guitar, JMR30 featured a wide range of workshops and activities, from Friday evening discussions on the joy of Shabbat or Ayurveda and its relevance to Judaism to an introduction to Qi Gong or a hike on Saturday afternoon.

But at the core of the JMR experience are the meaningful encounters known as Mishpacha Groups. Four times during the retreat, groups of ten or so participants gathered by the lakeside or in a corner of the large tent that served as the base for the weekend's activities to speak, quietly but openly, about their experiences as Jewish men in their family, work, and communal lives.

This year's theme was "Reimagining the Power of Havdalah!" – emphasizing the significance of moments of transition and separation in our lives. In the nurturing and nonjudgmental space provided by the groups, men talked candidly about how they've navigated some of their key personal turning points.

For Josh Millman, this was his second JMR and first in person. He noted that "the record is now two-for-two in offering me new perspectives on how best to pursue a purposeful life." In his case, the time provided a "thoughtful



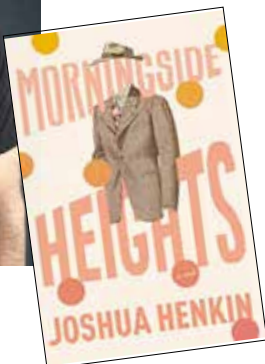
examination of what it means to be a mensch, not just a weekend away with some welcoming guys, many of whom have done amazing things in their lives." It's something he says that will "ground me in my life."

Joel Ressler, who elected to participate in JMR30 online, observed that his group leader "did an excellent job of creating an environment where we were able to share thoughts about our struggles of living up to our ideals."

Attending his first JMR, Assaf Zilbering was grateful for the opportunity it provided to "connect spiritually with other Jewish men and establish new friendships." That emotional uplift continues, as every other Thursday he meets online with a JMR "Mensch" group on Zoom to discuss personal experiences emerging from that week's Torah portion.

Baruch Capptauber, who introduced Menschwork to the Beth El community when he arrived in Harrisburg in 2020, credits JMR30 with giving him "the ability to see how changing my environment starts with bettering myself," while recognizing that he can't do that alone. And as he reflects on his participation, he understands that "rediscovering the power of masculine spirituality and healing through intentional community and ritual is my recipe for empowerment, my antidote to media-induced ambivalence and endless hand-wringing."

Although the date for JMR31 has not yet been set, planning for the event in the fall of 2022 is underway. For more information, visit www.menschwork.org, or contact any of this year's participants. They would love to have more Beth El men join them next year.



Tuesday, January 4 at 7 p.m.

**Joshua Henkin, author of
*Morningside Heights***

Morningside Heights is a sweeping and compassionate novel about a marriage surviving hardship. It's about love between women and men, and children and parents; about the things we give up in the face of adversity; and about how to survive when life turns out differently from what we thought we signed up for.

Tuesday, February 1 at 7 p.m.

**Jane Healey, author of
*The Secret Stealers***

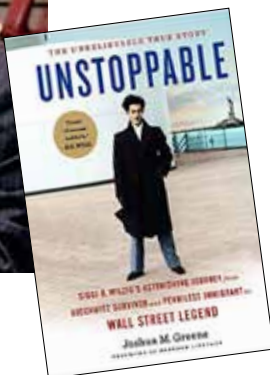
Anna, a young widow teaching French in DC, is recruited by the OSS and dispatched behind enemy lines to help liberate France from occupation and herself from the shadows of her former life. Healy is also the author of *Beantown Girls*.



Tuesday, March 1 at 7 p.m.

**Joshua Greene, author of
*Unstoppable***

**** In Person ****



The ultimate immigrant story of a young boy, Siggi Wilzig, who used his wits to stay alive after being deported to Auschwitz and two death marches. Working for the US Army after liberation, he gained a visa to America. Arriving penniless, he arose to become CEO of a publicly traded oil company and a bank with assets over \$4 billion. A true story of grit, cunning, and determination.

**For further information call 717-232-0556 or patty@bethelhbg.org
Free and Open to the Community. Forward this email to a Friend!**



Talmudic Personalities: Get To Know The Rabbis

A New Wednesday Morning Adult Education Class

When we say "the rabbis" of the Talmud, who are we talking about? What stories do we tell about them and what can we learn from them? How does a religious leader's personality drive or hinder their impact in the world?

Get to know some of the most important of our early rabbis and how they, according to our legends, rebuilt Judaism after the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE. Some of the rabbis we'll learn about include Rabban Yohanan ben Zakkai, who escaped Jerusalem and made a deal with Vespasian to continue Jewish learning; Rabbi Eliezer ben Hyrkanus, whose prolific memory and stubborn personality led to his eventual excommunication; R. Akiva, an innovator of unique and stunning insights, martyred by the Romans; and R. Elazar ben Arakh, the lone genius.

Join us to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of their approaches. How did their personalities affect their project and their relationship with their colleagues? What kind of rabbi would you want to be?

When: Wednesday mornings at 11 a.m. on January 5, 12, 19, 26

Where: On Zoom, link provided upon RSVP to Patty Brown, patty@bethelhbg.org or call 717-232-0556 for more information

Who: Study together with your Beth El and Chisuk Emuna community, led by Rabbi Ron Muroff and Rabbi Ariana Capptauber. This course was designed by Rabbi Tali Adler, a graduate of Yeshivat Maharat and a faculty member at Hadar.



GRATEFUL FOR GESHER

By Mandy Cheskis, Gesher Director of Lifelong Learning



I am so grateful for Gesher.

I am grateful for the support and collective talent of our dedicated faculty and rabbis from both congregations. In collaboration we have guided our children through lessons about our Torah, Israel, Hebrew reading, and prayer. Together we celebrated gratitude with a Gratitude Shabbat service and Hanukkah with a fun dreidel-spinning, latke-flipping day!

I am grateful for our Gesher parents who have been supportive of our teaching and learning at Gesher. Many parents have been assisting their children at home and on the bima during our family services.

I am grateful for our Joint Gesher Covid Committee chaired by Ivy Levine and Rhea Swidler and supported by physicians from both of our congregations who have guided us and helped us have in-person learning this year, safely, while navigating through this pandemic.

I am grateful for the kindness of Private Yael Muroff who visited our Gesher school, in uniform, and spoke about being in the Israeli army. I am also grateful for Marilyn Klein, who came to visit Gesher and helped students make crafts for the Jewish Home residents, and Karen Schneider and the Beth El Sisterhood for opening the gift shop for our Gesher students to buy Hanukkah gifts.

I am grateful for our support from Bill Walter, Susan Sussman, Patty Brown, Liam Wood, Eddie Liwanag, and our Gesher Education Community co-chairs Rachel Smithers and Sharon Flategraff.

I am grateful to my colleagues, Jason Graf and Samara Sofian, and the Jewish Community Foundation of Central

PA for sponsoring and fully funding the Shamor V'Zakhor program through the Sonya and Eli Glick March of the Living Scholarship Fund and The Lipsett Philanthropic Fund. This program is off to a very strong start. Our oldest students are immersed in learning about the Holocaust and Shabbat with other 7th grade students from Ohev Sholom and the Silver Academy. As they are learning together, they are creating lasting bonds with each other and preparing for two culminating experiences in February: a trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and a Shabbaton experience with a Friday night service at Ohev Sholom, a joint Shabbat morning service at Chisuk Emuna Congregation, and Havdalah and a party with BBYO at Beth El.

I am grateful for the 23 enthusiastic learners in my Adult Hebrew Reading and Torah Trope class. I am looking forward to beginning our 2nd trimester of learning together starting January 3. I am grateful to the adult learners who are studying how to chant Haftarah with me, and I cannot wait to hear you chant in services.

I am grateful to my b'nai mitzvah students who work daily to practice and meet weekly with me over Zoom. I am grateful to their parents who are very supportive of consistent practice at home.

I am grateful for all your support for our Gesher program. It is a delight to work with both Beth El Temple and Chisuk Emuna Congregations to strengthen our bonds and inspire and celebrate the richness of our collaborative learning.

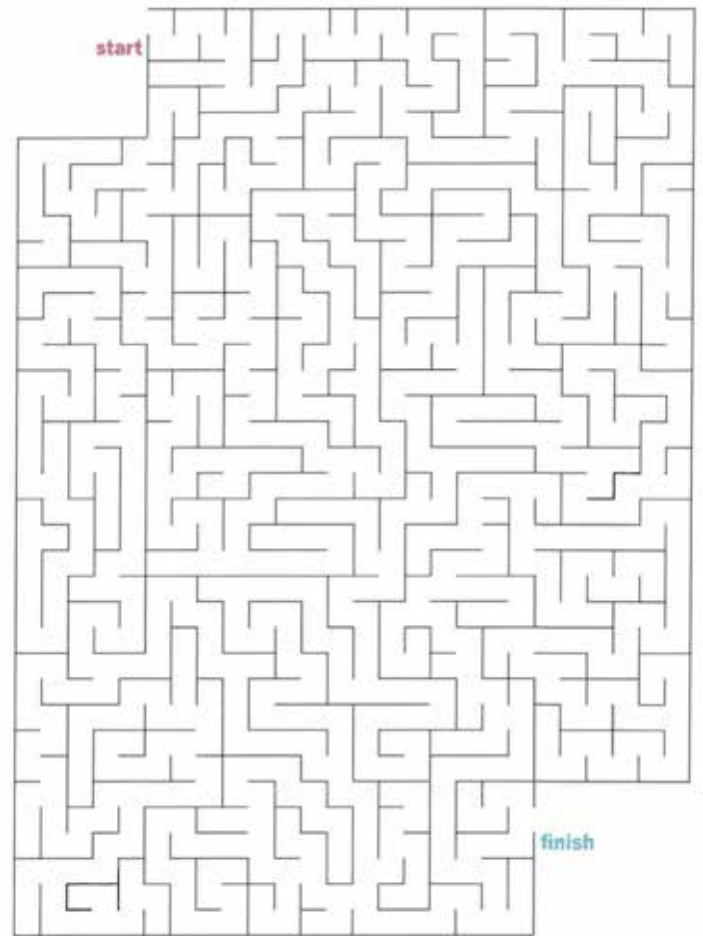
Please contact me at any time at (717) 649-4220 or mandy.gesherdirector@gmail.com.



Match the Jewish value with its description

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Trustworthiness (emunah) | Help the people in your world get along without fighting |
| Respect (kavod) | Try to make the world a bit more fair |
| Care (chesed) | Don't deceive, cheat or steal. Be reliable. |
| Fairness (tzedak) | Do not turn away from people in need |
| Social justice (tikkun olam) | Treat others in a way that makes them feel cared for and important |
| Peace (shalom) | Be kind and compassionate, express gratitude |

SEE ANSWER ON PAGE 10.



HAVE YOU GOTTEN VACCINATED YET?



Gesher student name search

G	E	F	E	N	N	L	Y	A	Z	V	H	A	J
A	A	A	M	A	R	R	L	J	A	Z	J	I	D
J	A	F	L	E	O	J	U	S	T	I	N	M	S
H	F	L	I	G	M	S	R	I	Y	B	A	H	H
S	A	A	E	D	L	E	D	A	E	A	J	L	N
H	N	R	I	A	N	S	N	L	D	U	O	M	E
O	G	I	V	E	L	D	A	A	V	I	E	E	B
S	E	I	O	O	A	C	M	L	S	I	L	I	I
H	S	Z	I	E	I	J	U	L	I	A	J	S	A
I	T	I	A	N	I	L	A	H	Y	B	R	A	I
A	G	E	O	Z	B	N	S	V	U	R	L	A	N
I	L	O	L	A	L	A	N	V	V	A	J	R	A
G	E	L	I	Z	A	S	A	R	A	H	N	O	E
D	A	H	L	I	A	E	I	R	L	S	Y	N	O

LEVI
GREGORY
SARAH
JULIA
ALINA
ADAM
ELIZA
JUSTIN
JOEL
CALEB
SHOSHI
AARON
MENA
GEFEN
DAHLIA
BEN
YUVAL

BAR MITZVAH

Joel Aaron Zilbering will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Shabbat Yitro, January 22, 2022. Joel is the son of Assaf and Rachel Zilbering and the brother of Alina Zilbering. He is the grandson of Marsha and Joel (z'l) Kameron and Nurit and BenZion Zilbering. Joel is a 7th grader at Infinity Charter School. His hobbies include figure skating, roller skating, video games, and anime. He has been a student at Gesher since 3rd grade and will be attending Camp Ramah in the Poconos this summer for the 4th year. For his Bar Mitzvah project, Joel spent time volunteering at a local food bank. The Zilbering family welcomes you all to join in this special simcha.



Match the Jewish value with its description

ANSWER FROM PAGE 9.

Trustworthiness
(emunah)

Help the people in your world get along without fighting

Respect (kavod)

Try to make the world a bit more fair

Care (chesed)

Fairness (tzedak)

Don't deceive, cheat, or steal. Be reliable.

Social justice
(tikkun olam)

Do not turn away from people in need

Peace (shalom)

Treat others in a way that makes them feel cared for and important

Be kind and compassionate, express gratitude

Gesher Family Kabbalat Shabbat Services—Friday evenings, 6:00 p.m.

As a prayer-based school, Gesher strongly encourages participation in synagogue services! We are studying the Friday night service in our Hebrew classes and we are very excited about our planned Joint Family Friday Night Shabbat Services which alternate in location between Beth El Temple and Chisuk Emuna Congregation. These services are designed to actively involve children and families in the service including giving students the opportunity to practice leading prayers.

February 4, 2022

Gesher Family Shabbat at Beth El Temple

March 11, 2022

Gesher Family Shabbat at Chisuk Emuna
(no Friday evening service at Beth El Temple)

April 8, 2022

Gesher Family Shabbat at Chisuk Emuna
(no Friday evening service at Beth El Temple)

May 13, 2022

Gesher Family Shabbat at Beth El Temple

All are welcome, kids and the young at heart!

Pajama Havdalah



Join Rabbi Capptauber and your Beth El friends for havdalah in pajamas! We'll sing songs, read stories, laugh, dance, and of course, make havdalah to bring in a new week. Bring a havdalah candle, grape juice, spices, and a smile, and we'll see you on Zoom! All are welcome, near and far, children and kids-at-heart!

Follow this link to register and get the Zoom link:
<https://bit.ly/2YIGkcb>

Dates:
January 8th ☆ February 26th
7 p.m.

The Financial Future of Beth El – Endowment Funds

By Neil Weber

Beth El is fortunate to have an endowment fund that was created 25 years ago by the wisdom of past and current leaders and has grown significantly with the generosity of Beth El congregants and the steady leadership of a dedicated Endowment Board. This endowment helps ensure the financial stability of Beth El both now and in the future, allowing special events and projects to be planned and implemented and keeping any membership dues increases to a minimum. Assets as of June 30, 2021, stood at \$4.7 million.

Each year a minimum of \$100,000 is provided to Beth El's operating budget, in addition to funds for camp and March of the Living scholarships and the retirement of our debt from the extensive renovation project started in 2009. Funding may also be provided for Boy Scout activities, repair to Torahs, support for the Book Club, security needs, musical programming, among other designated one-time events. In addition, the Endowment Board maintains separately the Life Membership funds, which provided this past year \$35,000 to the Beth El budget ensuring certain repairs and upgrades are made to our facilities or for whatever else the Beth El Board of Directors decides these funds should be used.

Now is a perfect time to create an endowment fund for a specific designated purpose or an unrestricted fund that will be used to underwrite our operating expenses and other incurred costs as designated by the Endowment Board in consultation with Beth El leadership. With the stock market these past several years significantly enhancing the values of stocks, a congregant can turn over directly to Beth El a particular stock, gain a charitable donation on his/her tax return on the current value at transfer to Beth El, and not pay any capital gains. To establish a fund, usually there is a \$5000 minimum, which does not have to be paid at once. Further information and assistance will gladly be provided by Alan Schein, Endowment Board Chair, or Neil Weber, Endowment Treasurer.

BETH EL GREEN TEAM UPDATE

By Josh Millman

Earlier this year, Beth El established a "Green Team" with the purpose of identifying opportunities to transform Beth El's building, site, and operations to be more sustainable. This new effort coincided with recognition and study of the "Shmita Year" in the Jewish calendar and its focus on stewardship of the Earth. Membership is open to all and currently represents a cross section of synagogue interests in worship, education, social action, and ecology. Current initiatives include:

- Beth El Temple is now accepted into the Hazon Seal of Sustainability Program. We will need to identify 3 projects toward earning that certification. To prepare to plan for these projects, some of us attended Hazon's virtual conference to learn what other synagogues are doing to become community leaders in sustainability practices.
- The Team is developing a program related to environmental and social justice for Tu Bishvat which is also MLK weekend this year, coordinating with JCC programs and the interfaith community.
- As part of a related initiative to explore how we could better use the grounds of our synagogue, we are evaluating how to make our site greener, including possibly a vegetable and pollinator (Living Legacy) garden, better stormwater management, and more native landscaping.
- We were able to coordinate with Paul Schmanske to start using compostable containers for food pickup events.
- Through Bill Walter, we will be promoting recycling in BET operations through refuse segregation.
- In order to cover the additional costs of greening our facility and its operations, the Green Team is discussing establishment of a "Green Fund" at Beth El, as well as exploring grant opportunities.

We are considering other projects, and could use your ideas and participation!

Thank you Life and Legacy Donors for ensuring the continued vitality of Beth El Temple for generations to come!

Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Seymour & Roberta
Barget
Isadore Baseman
Karen Baseman
Edward & Esther
Beck
Neil Bernstein
Rose Blecker
Marcy Brenner
Marcia Bryant
Marcia Cohen
Sanford Cohen
Eric and Amy Cytryn

Patricia Dunn
Ed Finkelstein
Harvey & Linda
Freedenberg
Joan Friedlander
Sel Friedlander (z"l)
Diane Garonzik
Warren (z"l) and
Allene Gittlen
Faith & Davy
Goldsmith
David Golin
Arthur Hoffman
Carol Hoffman
Gilbert and Barbara
(z"l) Isaacman
Joan Isaacman (z"l)

Ron Isaacman (z"l)
Stuart and Esther
(z"l) Itzkovitz
Mimi Latchford
Paul Latchford
Richard Leiner
Ronald G. Lench
Sam Levine
Andrea Lieber
Janice & Robert
Lieberman
Mark Maisel
Neysa Maisel
Dr. Bruce Miller
Joan Miller
Josh Millman
Gerald K Morrison

Harold & Ellen (z"l)
Rabin
David Raffel
Joel & Carol Ressler
Hallie & Larry Rosen
Jenn Ross
David Rubinsky
Stuart Sacks
Michael Sand
Diane Sand
Marc Schaefer
Alan Schein
Caren Schein
Stacey Ann Shubitz
Conrad Siegel
Gail Siegel
Renee Singer

Abby Smith
Bobby Snyder
Alyce Spector
Elaine Strokoff
Elliot Strokoff
James Sudhalter
Carol Sudhalter (z"l)
Cynthia Sussman
Rhea & Alan Swidler
Neil Weber
Arlynn Weber
Toby Yoffe
Rachel Zilbering



Women of the Bible (Re)written

Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

February 8th through March 22nd via Zoom

(Except March 1st)

The registration link for Zoom will be sent in Beth El weekly emails.

Join Rabbi Capptauber to learn about lesser known women of biblical stories like Delilah, Deborah, Tamar, and others. We will do close readings of these stories and ponder their original meaning and context. Then we will look at some contemporary art based on these women and finally, spend some time writing our own takes on these stories, our own "Torah with a twist."

All are welcome—those who have read these stories and those who are new to them, experienced writers and novices, and people of all gender identities. This course is inspired by the course "Femme Fatale or Fierce Woman Warrior," taught by Sivan Rotholz of Ritualwell.



Adult Education for Beth El Temple and Chisuk Emuna Congregation

Do you want to

ללמוד
העברית
לשון
קודש

Learn to read Hebrew?

Improve your Hebrew Reading?

Learn to chant from the Torah?

Mandy Cheskis, our Gesher Director of Lifelong Learning will be teaching three trimesters of classes for adults.



Trimester 2

Location: Zoom

Dates: Monday nights

January 3, 10, 24, 31

February 7, 14

7-7:45 p.m. Hebrew

8-8:45 p.m. Torah Trope

Trimester 3

Location: Beth El Temple

Dates: Monday nights

March 7, 14, 21, 28

April 4

7-7:45 p.m. Hebrew

8-8:45 p.m. Torah Trope

To register for a class, please email:

patty@bethelhbg.org

For more information, please contact Mandy Cheskis

mandy.gesherdirector@gmail.com

(717) 649-4220

MAZAL טוֹב

Congratulations to **Bruce and Joan Miller** on the engagement of their daughter Rachael to Neri Ayllon. The wedding is planned for August 2022.

Mazal Tov to **Samuel Levine** on receiving the Albert Hursh Leadership Award.

Mazal Tov to **Linda Schwab**, honored by the Jewish Community Foundation of Central Pennsylvania with the Endowment Achievement Award.

Mazal Tov to **Dr. Brandon Smith** on receiving the JCC Volunteer Award as part of the Medical Advisory Team.

Family Shabbat Morning @Beth El!

January 8
February 26
March 26

Join Rabbi Capptauber, Gesher Director Mandy Cheskis & your Beth El buddies for a family-friendly Shabbat morning service including a Siddur scavenger hunt, a kids-only gathering with Mandy, and a chance to lead prayers on the bima!

Comedy Club comes to Beth El Temple

February 12th, 2022 • 7:00 p.m.
Live In Person

Join us for a hilarious night of comedy featuring
"the Raanan Hershberg"
to celebrate our Beth El Temple Members

Drink and dessert reception to follow for Vaccinated attendees: \$15.00 per person

RSVP by 2/10/2022 to Patty Brown patty@bethelhbg.org or 717 232-0556

Raanan Hershberg recently made his national television debut on *The Late, Late Show with James Corden* where he talked about growing up Jewish in Kentucky and his shrill, loud mom. He has also performed stand-up on Comedy Central's *Live at the Cellar* and FOX. He performs regularly at The Comedy Cellar, New York Comedy Club, and Gotham. He was a finalist in *StandUp NBC* (2017), *The Laughing Skull Festival* (2017), and *The Boston Comedy Festival* (2018). He is the co-host of *Joe & Raanan Talk Movies*, a movie podcast with comedian Joe List. His album *Downhill Ever Since* is available wherever you stream music.

Soul Spa Sundays

Join the Beth El Temple community and Rabbi Captauber to relax, reconnect, and rejuvenate through movement, art, and music. All are welcome, no prior experience required. For COVID safety, we will wear masks and remain socially distant.

Date:
Sunday, January 9
4:00 p.m.

Music for the Soul

Please RSVP to Patty by the Friday before at patty@bethelhbg.org or 717-232-0556

BETH EL TEMPLE AND TEMPLE OHEV SHOLOM IN-PERSON JOINT SERVICES

Friday Evenings 6:00 p.m.
with Rabbi Ariana Captauber and
Rabbi Peter Kessler

Please join us as we celebrate Shabbat with
our neighbors and friends!

Dates:	Location:
Jan. 7	Temple Ohev Sholom
Jan. 14	Beth El Temple: MLK/Tu Bishvat Weekend
Jan. 21	Beth El Temple
Jan. 28	Temple Ohev Sholom

*Note: Masks are required to be worn inside
the Beth El Temple and Temple Ohev
Sholom buildings. Thank you!*

LOVED ONES MEMORIALIZED BY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE YAHRZEIT FUND

Ida Abrams	Samuel Corn	Ethel Grunberg	Fannie Marcus	Jerome Schwartz
Robert Eugene Adamson	Irvin Danowitz	Bernhard Guttmann	Louis Marcus	Morris Seidman
Samuel I. Anservitz	Max Dlugatz	James Andrew Halbert	Abraham Markowitz	Albert Shapiro
Jack E. Arch	Lilly Fernandez	Anna Harris	Richard Markowitz	Frances Shapiro
Sarah Barget	Millie Fernandez	Werner Hess	Max E. Miller	Leon Siegel
Edwin Barmach	Tillie Finfer	Esther Jampel	Fae L. Morrison	Richard A. Siegel
Ruth Zimmerman	Stewart First	Ruth Kaufman	David Morrison	I.O. Silver
Bergel	Beverly Fisher	H. Robert Kleinman	Norman Morrison	Miriam Silver
Sidney Blecker	Ida G. Fisher	Harry Kessler	Nathan Orbach	Ida Silverman
Philip Bloom	Marcus Fisher	Myer Lariff	Sidney Oriel	Philip Silverman
Jerry Blum	Hattie Flesh	Minnie Leavitt	Evelyn Parnes	Diana Slotznick
Rose Blumenfeld	Harris Fromm	Harry Levi	Jack J. Parnes	Michael Y. Stern
Aaron H. Brenner	Sam Gelman	Elliot Liman	Sadie Prince	Edward Strokoff
Michael A. Brenner	Rae Goldberg	Ruth Lipton	Esther Reemer	Marion Barget Swick
Sheryl Brenner	Amy Goldring	Joseph Lowy	Margaret E. Rehkugler	Gertrude Swimmer
Miriam Brown	Rebecca Golumbic	Roselyn Lowy	Janet H. Richman	Charlotte Tessler
Marcia Brownold	Harry Goodman	Laura Luxenberg	Roy Rogoff	Carole G. Weiss
Albert Bryant	Aaron Gordon	Louis Luxenberg	Sidney Rosen	Davis Whitcomb
Sara Budnick	Herman L. Gordon	Ralph Macher	Harry Rosenberg	Jan Whitcomb
Morris Chotiner	Elizabeth B. Green	Herman T. Magdovitz	Ma'ayan Rothenberg	Frieda Yanofsky
Phyllis D. Cohen	Alan S. Greenberg	Ida Magdovitz	Lewis Rubin	
Stuart M. Cohen	Solomon W. Greenberg	Diana Maglin	Sylvia Schein	

■ **Condolences**

The congregation extends condolences to

- the Barget family; children Roberta (Seymour) Barget, Marjorie (Steven) Nelson, and Sandy Ziman; four grandchildren Allison (Adam) Sobel, David (Jenifer) Barget, Jamie Cruz, and Abby Goldstein; and eight great-grandchildren on the passing of Charlotte Chervin.
- the Cohen family; wife Fran Cohen; and daughter Lynn Cohen on the passing of husband and father Charles M. Cohen.

ENGRAVE A LEAF TO CELEBRATE SPECIAL EVENTS

THE DEFINITION OF THE WORD "SIMCHA" IS A JOYFUL OCCASION OR FESTIVITY. AT SOME TIME DURING OUR LIVES WE ALL EXPERIENCE SOME TYPE OF "SIMCHA," WHETHER IT IS THE BIRTH OF A CHILD OR GRANDCHILD, A SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY OR BIRTHDAY, A BAR OR BAT MITZVAH, A WEDDING, A NEW HOME OR JOB. ACKNOWLEDGE THIS SPECIAL "SIMCHA" BY ENGRAVING A LEAF ON THE TREE OF LIFE.

**A leaf has been placed on the
Tree of Life**

In Honor of:
The 50th Wedding Anniversary of
Marcia and Sandy Cohen –
August 21, 2021

HIGH HOLIDAY APPEAL DONORS

(since 10/30/21)

Nadivim

Ron Lench

Tormim (Donors)

Erik and Robyn
Chotiner

Chaverim (Friends)

Sharon Etter
Gerilynn Henshell
Jeffrey Rothenberg &
Daniel Goldstein

Notnim (Givers)

Jane Seidman Kline

■ CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE

Afghanistan Refugee Project

Donation from: Rhea and Alan Swidler; Kendra and Uri Yodfat; Robyn and Erik Chotiner; The Rabbi's Discretionary Fund; Paul and Mimi Latchford

Thank you to all of our members and friends who donated food, clothing, household items, and toiletries to support the new arrivals to our country and community.

Temple Fund

In Memory of: Morris Lift; Barbara C. Isaacman; Eli S. Levy; Beatrice Kessler; Charlotte Chervin; Ellis and Charlotte Freedman

In Honor of: Jeffrey Garonzik's Birthday; the Marriage of Geri Henshell and Andrew Schwab; in honor of the engagement of Rachael Miller and Neri Ayllon; the 30th Anniversary of Brandon Smith's Bar Mitzvah

Speedy Recovery: Arthur Dym

Donation from: David Loring; Sharon Greenberg for the "Green" Kiddush Fund; Betty C. Hungerford; Paula and Brett Zankel for the Kiddush Fund

Temple Fund – Adult Education

In Memory of: Rose Blecker

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of: Lillian Bear; Charlotte Chervin; Sam Gelman

In Honor of: The marriage of Elissa Margolis

Donation from: Norman Rosen; Mick and Roz Borger

Dr. Curt and Alice Bamberger Fund

In Memory of: Bernhard Guttmann

Beth El Book Club Endowment Fund

In Memory of: Dr. Richard Magill; Beatrice Kessler

Roz and Mick Borger Fund

Donation from: Roz and Mick Borger

Marsha Davis Fund

In Honor of: The Marriage of Stuart Davis and Rachel Kurtyka

Linda and Harvey Freedenberg Fund

In Memory of: Marty Figlen; Harry Levi; Charlotte Tessler

Ron and Joan Isaacman Fund

In Memory of: Joan and Ron Isaacman

Lieberman Family Fund

In Memory of: Charlotte Chervin

Eileen Rubin Mercurio Hospice Fund

In Memory of: Kim Ledger

Miller Family Fund

In Honor of: The Engagement of Rachael Miller and Neri Ayllon

Rose Reuben Fund

Donation from: Susan Freedman in memory of Rose Reuben

Schein Family Fund

In Memory of: Sylvia Schein; Janet H. Richman

Conrad and Gail Siegel Fund

In Memory of: Charlotte Chervin

Eddie and Diane Singer Fund

In Memory of: Beatrice Kessler

Speedy Recovery: Arthur Dym; Michelle Lerman

Frank B. and Martha F. Snyder Fund

In Memory of: Frank and Martha Snyder

Robert and Bertha Ullman Fund

In Honor of: The Marriage of Emily Sarah Turbiner Ullman to Greg Leiserson

Beth El Temple Bible Fund

In Memory of: Betsy and Sidney Blecker; Rose Blecker

Beth El Temple Minyan Fund

In Memory of: Rose Blecker

Speedy Recovery: Fran Grafman

Beth El Temple

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