



The Reform Congregation of Jersey City

P 201-333-4229

www.betheljc.org

Summer 2019

Sivan-Tammuz- Av 5779

May Their Memory Be For A Blessing The Sanctity of Memory by *Rabbi Moritt*

Human memory is among our most capricious senses: sometimes fleeting while at other times vivid, hazy or downright shifty and unreliable. Whether or not memory is a uniquely human trait, certainly our memories and what we remember make us who we are.

Different times of year bring back different memories. For me, the summer smells of honeysuckle bring me back to memories of camp friends. Winter chills still bring me back to being a little girl in tights and dresses begging to wear pants! Brisket brings me back to holiday dinners in Brooklyn filled with argumentative and loving relatives. Echoes of history — my own and the world's — resonate with every new experience and story. What are we, if not a conglomeration of what we remember and what we forget?

The Jewish tradition abounds with the mitzvah to remember. Remember the Sabbath; remember you were strangers in the land of Egypt; remember the evil of Amalek — the list continues. We might say that the mitzvot themselves are nothing but reminders to remember who we are and what that requires of us. A Jew who cannot remember is lost.

Each of our Jewish memories are unique and personal. Often, they begin with those who gave us life and taught us-- our parents and teachers. (In fact, the Talmud ascribes the honor due to a teacher to that of a parent.) The mitzvah of honoring our parents is also among the few in the Torah with a rationale: "that you may long endure and that you may fare well in the land that Adonai your God is assigning to you."

One might think that fulfilling the mitzvah of honoring one's parents gets easier as we mature, but I'm not at all confident that is true. Truth be told, it is one of the most emotionally complex of responsibilities. All the more so is the task of honoring one's parents after they die, when we are left with little more than memories.

This is what makes the Jewish practice of *Yizkor* so profoundly important. Embedded into the Jewish year are four times during which we honor the memories of our loved ones who have passed. During these services, we carve out a few sacred moments to pause to recall memories — their smiles and lessons; encouragement and even reprimands; sayings and silences; love and loss. We pause in silence and song; prayer and longing. We do this in community, so we feel the presence of supportive friends who have also sustained loss and still come to celebrate life. And then we say the Kaddish prayer, which ultimately celebrates the mystery that is life.

Temple Beth-El holds Yizkor services four times yearly according to our ancient tradition: on Yom Kippur and at the end of the holidays of Passover, Sukkot and Shavuot. During 5780 those dates are **October 9; October 21, April 15 and May 30**. Historically, Yizkor has been so important that people rarely seen in synagogue make sure they come for Yizkor for this mitzvah. I hope you will mark your calendars with these Yizkor dates to remember. Kleenex optional, but not required. The Mourner's Kaddish, however, requires a minyan of 10, so your presence is especially appreciated and important. May their memories be for a blessing, as you bless their memories.





Friday, July 5

First Friday Pot Luck Dinner 6:30 pm
 Kabbalat Shabbat Family Services (lay led) 7:30pm
 followed by oneg

Saturday, July 6

Bagels & Shabbat Morning Services 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study (lay-led)

Friday, July 12

Kabbalat Shabbat services followed by oneg honoring 8:00 pm
 board members & sponsored by Rabbi Moritt & Rabbi Kushner
 in honor of their marriage

Saturday, July 13

Bagels & Shabbat Morning Services 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study

Friday, July 19

Kabbalat Shabbat Services followed by special oneg 8:00 pm
 welcoming Cantor Risa Wallach

Saturday, July 20

Bagels & Shabbat Morning Services 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study

Friday, July 26

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, followed by oneg 7:30 pm

Saturday, July 27

Bagels and Shabbat morning services, 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study (lay-led)

Friday, August 2

First Friday Pot Luck Dinner 6:30 pm
 Kabbalat Shabbat Family Services & oneg 7:30 pm

Saturday, August 3

Bagels & Shabbat Morning Services 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study (lay-led)

Friday, August 9

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, followed by oneg 8:00 pm

Saturday, August 10

Bagels and Shabbat morning services, 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study (lay-led)

Tot Shabbat in Hamilton Park 10:30 am

Friday, August 16

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, followed by oneg 8:00 pm

Saturday, August 17

Bagels & Shabbat Morning Services 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study

Friday, August 23

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, followed by oneg 8:00 pm

Saturday, August 24

Bagels and Shabbat morning services 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study

Friday, August 30 (note earlier holiday time)

Kabbalat Shabbat Services, followed by oneg 7:30 pm

Saturday, August 31

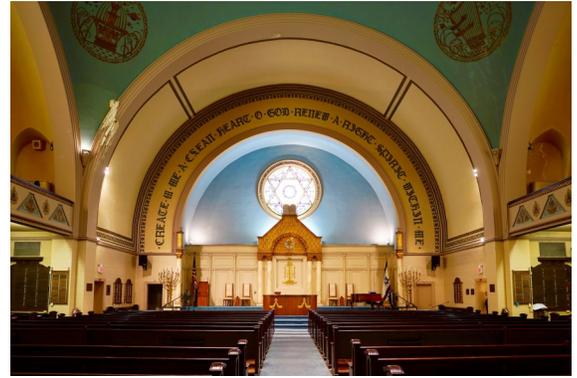
Bagels and Shabbat morning services 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study (lay-led)

Friday, September 6:

First Friday Pot Luck Dinner 6:30 pm
 Kabbalat Shabbat Family Services & oneg 7:30 pm

Saturday, September 7

Bagels and Shabbat morning services 10:30 am
 followed by Torah Study



Temple Beth-El

2419 Kennedy Boulevard at Harrison Avenue
 Jersey City, NJ 07304

Phone: 201-333-4229 Fax: 201-938-0445

Email: office@betheljc.org

Website: www.betheljc.org



UNION for REFORM JUDAISM
 האיחוד ליהדות רפורמית

Office hours:

Mon-Fri 10am – 1pm

Rabbi Leana Moritt rabbimoritt@betheljc.org

Rabbi Emeritus Kenneth Brickman
rabbibrickman@betheljc.org

Cantor Risa Wallach
cantorwallach@betheljc.org

Tom Rosensweet, President tom@betheljc.org

Karen Seemen Pinn, Vice President

Nancy Sambul, Vice President

Dan Tarnopol, Vice President

Michael Shuchman, Treasurer

Suzanne Goldstein-Smith, Financial Secretary

Laraine Schwartz, Recording Secretary

Kay Magilavy, Past President and Religious School Co-Director kay@betheljc.org

Irwin Rosen, Past President

To see the full roster of trustees & committees [click here](http://www.betheljc.org), or visit www.betheljc.org



Shabbat Candle Lighting

Friday, July 5	8:13 pm
Friday, July 12	8:10 pm
Friday, July 19	8:06 pm
Friday, July 26	8:00 pm
Friday, August 2	7:53 pm
Friday, August 4	7:44 pm
Friday, August 16	7:35 pm
Friday, August 23	7:25 pm
Friday, August 30	7:14 pm

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Tom Rosensweet

Temple Beth-El is like the Little Engine that Could. We're a small congregation with limited financial resources, but we have a long history, a strong heart and a mission to serve our local Reform Jewish Community and the community around us here in Jersey City.

How do we get it all done? Small nonprofits like Temple Beth-El are always short on money, so a lot of work that we'd prefer to assign to paid employees must be done by volunteers. When you ask yourself why we do something the way we do it, or why we don't do it at all, it may be because we don't have enough money — or people — or expertise to do it the way you think might be better. There's something you can do about that!

Rabbi Moritt and Past President Kay Magilavy, who both also serve as Co-Directors of our booming Religious School, go far beyond the call of duty in their leadership roles, but also get down in the weeds of actually getting the job(s) done. But if we had to rely solely on these two supremely generous people, with a little help from yours truly, we could never keep the wheels turning. To paraphrase Hillary Clinton, It Takes a Congregation to get this job done.

Just since I became President two years ago, we formed four – four! – **Search Committees** to hire an Interim Rabbi (Rabbi Beal), a Settled Rabbi (Rabbi Moritt), a Student Cantor (Student Cantor Greene) and a Part-Time Ordained Cantor, Cantor Wallach. Cantor Wallach will be starting here on July 19, by the way. *Please come that night and give her a big welcome!!* These hires also required the involvement of the Religious Practices Committee and the **Personnel Committee**, and the RPC continually consulted with Rabbis Beal and Moritt to ensure that our services would be familiar to our congregants while still giving them room to add their own mark.

Meanwhile, the **Architectural Advisory Committee** finalized the design for the Temple Renovation. The **Kadimah Committee**, working via **Friends of Temple Beth-El**, will resume our fundraising activities very soon so that we can get this essential job done.

The **Building Committee** and **Security Subcommittee** developed and has started to implement new security programs for the Temple, including our nascent team of Shomrim, or Guardians, the presence of the Hudson County Sheriff's Office, and applications for Federal and State Homeland Security Grants. We installed a long-awaited fire security system.

We conducted two successful fundraisers, Sips in the fall and Borscht in the spring. These raise money that is badly needed because Terumah free-will dues donations only cover about half of our operating expenses each year.

Our **Membership Committee** recruited and welcomed about 35 new members. In the coming year, membership retention has to be one of our top goals. If we can sign up 35 new members again without losing 25 old ones, we'll reach 200 members, a level at which I think we can be more financially secure.

Our **Lifelong Learning Committee** received a donation that enabled us to conduct several family education events at the Temple. We also installed new equipment so we can show movies in the Social Hall. Lifelong Learning also recommended that we move toward the re-establishment of a Religious School Committee, as Temple Beth-El had in the past.

The **Social Action Committee** maintained our commitment to social justice through Jersey City Together while implementing two new programs at the Temple: our Wednesday night Food Pantry and Family Promise. Please sign up to participate or order from our Amazon Wishlist.

Most of these committees need more help and, if I had my way, we'd form one or two more, such as a **Catering Committee** to supply food for Friday night Oneg Shabbats and other times when we break challah together.

continued on next page

TERUMAH

Terumah for Fiscal Year 2019-20

The Board has recommended no increase in the suggested amount for Terumah Free Will Giving dues program for the coming year. We have kept it at \$2,400 per year.

By now, most of our longtime members understand how Terumah works, but it doesn't hurt to explain it again.

The Temple needs your donations to survive. It's that simple. But we know that some people can afford to give significantly more than can others. We ask you to give as much as you can so that the larger donations can complement the smaller ones, supporting a community in which all members are treated equally.

We have no Gold or Platinum membership cards, only the knowledge that your support will enable our 155-year-old congregation to continue providing Shabbat and holiday services and life-cycle events, and keep helping our less fortunate members and neighbors.

Please go to <https://betheljc.org/pledge> today and make your pledge and your payment arrangements. And please give as generously as you can. We have barely broken even for the past few years, so we really need for each member to donate as much as they can to ensure that Temple Beth-El continues on the exciting path of growth and renewal that we've set for ourselves. We'll get there if we all do what we can.

From the President

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Please, please, please, contact me or a Committee Chair if you would like to participate. You may volunteer for the long term or take on a discrete project. All are welcome.

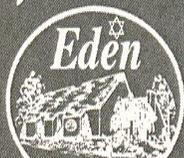
So now I've asked for your time. It's time for me to ask for your money.

For the past two years, we've broken even, but just barely, and it's taken a little help from our friends, including a major bequest, the Spring 2018 Board Challenge, and HBO paying us to film scenes for a forthcoming movie.

We all give our time and money in accordance with the priority we attach to the causes we support. Even if you don't come to Temple every week, you know that we're here every Erev Shabbat, every Shabbat morning, every holiday and for special events, too. We're here for all of our members' life cycle events.

So in addition to your time, we need for each member and member family to step up to the best of their ability to provide the financial support that our temple needs to continue tending to the spiritual and pastoral needs of our congregation and friends, educating our children, and playing a meaningful part in our community through civic engagement and Tikkum Olam, healing the world.

A Traditional Jewish Experience



Barry Wien - NJ Lic. No. 2885
 Frank Patti, Jr. - NJ Lic. No. 4169
 Arthur Musicant - NJ Lic. No. 2544
 Frank Patti, Sr. Director - NJ Lic. No. 2693



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Offered by Hara B.-G., Religious School Teacher
Through: Patricia Scord, 201-452-7699
Exit On The Hudson Realty

Two services of special note this summer:

JULY 12 AT 8 PM

Join us for a special service and Oneg Shabbat when we thank and honor our incoming and outgoing board members.

JULY 19 AT 8 PM

Join us for a special service and Oneg Shabbat to welcome our new cantor, Cantor Risa Wallach!

Cantor Wallach will officially join Temple Beth-El on July 15 and we are delighted to honor and welcome her at this, her first Shabbat with us.

A Warm Beth-El Welcome to Cantor Risa Wallach



Please join us on Friday night July 19 at 8pm when we welcome Cantor Risa Wallach to the Beth-El Bimah and honor her with a special oneg.

Cantor Risa Wallach received cantorial ordination with a Masters in Jewish Education from Hebrew College in Newton, MA in 2015. She joins us at Beth-El after having served as cantor at Congregation B'nai Shalom in Walnut Creek, CA since 2014, and has performed with a number of choirs and vocal ensembles. As an educator, she has taught sixth grade, music and b'nai mitzvah training to students of religious schools at numerous congregations.

Cantor Wallach was awarded the Cantor Rick Boyar Award for excellence in Hazzanut from Hebrew College in 2015. Prior to her work as a cantor, she served as a medical social worker at Sutter Visiting Nurses and Hospice for 8 years, and holds a Masters of Social

Work from Smith College School for Social Work.

Cantor Wallach embodies a wonderful combination of skills and talent that we are fortunate to experience beginning this summer. As an educator she employs creative arts, mindfulness techniques, differentiated instruction and community building as educational tools. She infuses social justice, interfaith dialogue, LGBT inclusion and equality into her cantorate.

We are delighted that Cantor Wallach will bring to us the same vibrant, exuberant Jewish musical and innovative educational experience she has brought to diverse communities of Jews and other faiths. Please come to hear Cantor Wallach's beautiful voice, give her a warm welcome and make her and her spouse Rhett feel at home on July 19.



Congregant Co-Led Torah Study continues Saturday mornings
this summer

Curious? Need more answers or direction? Need a little encouragement?

Email Rabbi Moritt



Saturday, August 10 10.30 — noon
in Hamilton Park

Join us for a special Tot Shabbat
 in Hamilton Park!
 Children ages 0-5 and their grownups
 Music! Movement! Snacks! Crafts!

Join Rabbi Moritt and help us welcome our
 new cantor, Risa Wallach!

Call Mike Noveck at 609.240.3649 for last
 minute weather updates or directions
 RSVPs not necessary

Mark Your Calendar for when
 Tot Shabbat returns in the Fall:
 Saturday, September 14 @ 10.30am



to Roger, Sarah and big brother Chase Keren, who
 celebrated the simchat bat of their daughter and sister,
 Charlotte Juliet, and who bestowed upon her the
 Hebrew name *Sarah bat David*.

VOLUNTEER



The **Personnel Committee** needs a
 volunteer to help complete our Personnel
 Policy Manual. The work will follow a
 template from the Society for Human
 Resource Management. If you have the
 ability to help complete this important
 project, please write to Kay@betheljc.org

The **Security Task Force** has had very
 positive response to our request for
 volunteers to act as Shomrim (guardians)
 for Tot Shabbat, Religious School, services,
 and other events. But more volunteers are
 always needed. We are working on
 developing a training program for many of
 the ways we can help keep the Temple
 and our community safe should the need
 arise, whether from a deliberate threat or
 an accidental occurrence. Our goal remains
 the same: making TBE a safer, more secure
 and friendlier place for all who visit. If you
 are interested in volunteering, please reach
 out to security@betheljc.org with your
 contact information and any other
 pertinent information which may be
 helpful.

We need someone to pick up the printed
 copies of the **Temple Newsletter** every
 month from our printer Al-Quick (in the
 Journal Square area), and deliver them to
 the Temple office. If you live or work in
 Journal Square, this will be a very quick
 but very great help to the
 Congregation. Can you do it? Contact
office@betheljc.org



**Thanking those who sponsored food
 or flowers for our bimah or Oneg
 Shabbats (through June 14)**

Lyle Hysen & Lisa Chernick, in memory
 of Lyle's father, Murray Hysen,
 on his Yarzeit

Laraine Schwartz, in memory of her wife,
 Lynne M. Winograd, on her Yarzeit

Kat Berman & Chris Robison, in honor of the bat mitzvah of
 their daughter, Isabel "Izzy" Robison

Joel Caminer & Ellen Simon, in memory of Joel's mother,
 Joanne Osher Caminer, on her Yarzeit

*Would you like to sponsor an oneg Shabbat?
 This joyful gathering is a great way to
 recognize an accomplishment, celebrate a
 birthday, let the world know you are
 happy, or honor the memory of a loved
 one on a yarzeit. Choose your date! [Click
 here](#) to go to the sponsorship form.*



Meet the Temple Leadership!

Join us on July 12 at 8 pm for a special service and Oneg Shabbat when we thank and honor our incoming and outgoing board members.

Curious about the leadership of Temple Beth-El? During the course of the year, we'll bring you brief bios, so you can learn about the people helping to run our Temple.



Peter Retzlaff has been attending Temple Beth El since returning to New Jersey after many years in Seattle, and has been a member for the past two years. Originally hailing from the Trenton area, Peter's background is in business, with the past fifteen years spent working in nonprofits focused on youth development and mentoring, serving systemically oppressed segments of the population. Peter is honored to join the governance structure of the Temple and is looking forward to helping advance its work into the next era of life in Jersey City.



Chairperson of the Religious Practices Committee, **Merrick Jason Brodsky** (aka Moish) and his wife Judith Tina Brodsky have been members of TBE for over 4 years and residents of Jersey City for over 5 years, having emigrated from Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn.

Moish is a graduate of Yavneh Academy & Talmud Torah, Fair Lawn High School, New York University, and Pace Law School. He has evolved from Orthodoxy to Jewish Humanism, and TBE's emphasis on diversity provides a perfect fit.

Moish had a solo law practice in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn for over 28 years before retiring. Presently he is of counsel to Municipal Employees Legal Services (MELS). He has specialized in a family law practice throughout his professional career.

Moish is also an historian of player and reproducing pianos, an archivist of piano rolls and 78 rpm recordings, and has lectured on 19th and early 20th century performance practice. Before his Counseling Era (B.C.E.), Moish taught classical piano, and can trace his pianistic pedigree — upon request — back to Ludwig van Beethoven.

Judith Tina Brodsky (aka Tina) is a member of the Fundraising Committee. She has been a member of TBE for over 4 years and resides in Jersey City with her husband Merrick.

Tina is a graduate of Queens College and New York Law School. She is currently the director of the claims department at a New York risk management firm, which specializes in workers compensation law and where she oversees complex litigation.

A descendant of Celts, Scottish Highlanders, Vikings, involuntary passengers of the Middle Voyage and *Sephardim* on both sides of her family tree (Séon & Padilla) who escaped the Spanish Inquisition by way of the Azores to the Caribbean, Tina officially rejoined the faith of her ancestors in 1987.

Tina's other interests — besides Moish — include the culinary arts, where she allots her after-hours to prepare experimental dishes for her family, who have grown (in many obvious ways) to appreciate her efforts. She is also an avid reader and especially enjoys travel beyond the Bayonne-Jersey City peninsula.



Welcome to our newest members:

David Polchinski, Jersey City
Harriet & Jerry Miller, Jersey City

Yom Kippur Memorial Book

Temple Beth-El's Yom Kippur Yizkor Memorial Book is distributed at the Yom Kippur Yizkor Service as a way to honor the memories of deceased family members and friends.

Members and non-members are welcome to participate in this mitzvah.

If you would like your loved ones listed, please complete the form below and return it to the Temple **by September 13**, or complete the form online at <http://betheljc.org/mbook>

In keeping with the Jewish tradition of combining memorial observance with acts of Tzedakah (charity), it is customary to include a donation to the Temple with each submission.

If you have submitted names for our Yom Kippur Yizkor Memorial Book in the past and there are no changes from your previous submission, please so indicate on the form.

The closing date for inclusion in the Memorial Book is September 13.

2019/5780 Yizkor Book

Your name(s) as you wish to be listed: (e.g., Abe and Sarah Melech or The Melech Family)

_____ Please use listing from last Yom Kippur **OR** _____ Please use listing below:

Name of loved one

Relationship (father, mother, etc.)

Continue your list on another sheet of paper if needed.

Phone/Email _____ in case we have questions.

*If you would like to make a donation in memory of your loved ones,
we suggest \$18 minimum per name, but any amount is welcome.*

\$ 18 per name listed

_____ names x \$18 \$ _____

Additional voluntary donation \$ _____

Total donation \$ _____

____ Check enclosed ____ Paid online at www.betheljc.org/donate

**Mail this form to: Temple Beth-El, 2419 Kennedy Blvd, Jersey City, NJ 07304.
or complete the online at <http://betheljc.org/mbook>**



Family Promise July 14 and August 11

We Need YOU by *Laraine (Lari) Schwartz*

Are you surprised to learn that Temple Beth-El, four times a year, sets up our Social Hall so that 4 or 5 temporarily working homeless families have a place to eat and sleep and feel “at home”? The first time I walked into the setup of partitions and mattresses and children and their parents in our Social Hall, I felt so blessed and truly moved that we have this space and we share it as a home for others, with the help of people like you.

Family Promise is a national program, and Hudson County is in great need of its services. The program helps working families stay together, boys and girls, fathers and mothers, all while struggling to get back on their feet and move to a new home. Family Promise of Hudson County housed people totaling over 2200 nights in 2018. Temple Beth-El is one of 13 congregations that has committed to 4 weeks of hosting a year.

You might wonder how these families fell into such dire straits. Some families have lost jobs or are working at employment that does not pay sufficient income to meet the bills every month. Others suffer adverse circumstances such as caring for special needs children that demand both time and money that would otherwise be used for working or housing. Family Promise provides social services and day services to help these people find jobs and housing and return to the normalcy of their lives as a family.

Temple Beth-El will once again be hosting Family Promise starting July 14 and again on August 11. To make this happen **WE NEED YOUR HELP. The success of our sharing our space depends on the generosity of your time and energy.**

PLEASE VOLUNTEER:

- To bring **dinner** for 10 to 13 people every night.
- Or to come with your own children or on your own to **entertain** the families and the kids at 6:30 and have dinner with the families. Mostly the kids need to be amused as their parents relax. The adults are mostly working mothers and they come back from work, exhausted from the day’s travels to and from work and the searching for housing and keeping their children safe and under some care by some organization!
- Or to **sleep** in our Social Hall with the families. You usually will get a full night’s sleep, and all the while you will be a supervisory presence and turn the lights back on in the morning. The families sleep from around 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. and get a ride at 6:30 a.m. to the Family Promise Day Center (located at the Fountain of Salvation on Communipaw Avenue in Jersey City).

This summer we have begun a “buddy” system with United Synagogue of Hoboken, which will also provide volunteers to help us as we host the families. We are hopeful that our two synagogues will be able to keep Family Promise adequately staffed and the families fed and housed.

This is a great opportunity for families with children, for the mitzvah, to serve our community at large. Especially in this day, when the world watches as children are being separated from their parents, Family Promise’s aim is to keep families together. Especially during such hard times, Family Promise helps children learn first hand that others are less fortunate, and this is a wonderful time to give to the community around us.

Three ways to let us know you want to volunteer or if you have questions:

- **SIGN UP NOW** at www.betheljc.org, for a time or activity.
- **GO DIRECTLY TO SIGN UP GENIUS AT** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0548A8A92CA4F58-family5>
- **EMAIL** Lari, at lari@betheljc.org, subject line: Family Promise questions.

A major thank you to all who participated in 2018 and February 2019. Without your help and time and energy and delicious food, we would not have been able to provide this much needed service.

Volunteer training is available.

Introduction to Judaism

Introduction to Judaism Beginning Again This Fall!

You're curious about Judaism and what this 3,000-year old tradition has to offer you or your family's life? Welcome.

Rabbi Moritt's Introduction to Judaism class will begin again on Thursday October 24. Running for 18 weeks, the class will be held on Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30 pm.

Open to all, our class is designed for individuals and couples from Jewish and various faith traditions and cultural backgrounds and those who have had no religious upbringing. It is perfect for interfaith couples wanting to broaden their understanding of Judaism or who are raising or plan to raise Jewish children. It is equally appropriate for seekers or Jews who want a meaningful adult Jewish learning experience.

Our class will focus on the "hows" and "whys" of Judaism and cover highlights, core concepts, master stories, key figures and the building blocks of Judaism. We will cover ethics, the Sabbath and holidays, prayer, life cycle events, dietary customs, the Jewish people and Israel. We will delve into Jewish theology, history and the meaning and practice of Jewish living. Each session will be a conversation, encouraging multiple perspectives, inquiries and questions. Inspiring readings for each week will be assigned ahead of time, and additional readings and viewing option will be suggested as the course progresses.

For non-Jewish participants, this class can serve as preparation for conversion to Judaism; however commitment to conversion is not required at any point in the program. Rabbi Moritt is also available to meet privately with students. Synagogue membership is not required.

Please be in touch her at RabbiMoritt@betheljc.org with questions, to register or to set up a meeting. Rabbi Moritt would like to meet with each student before registering.

Cost: Free for members. \$200 for non-members. All are invited. Students will be expected to purchase the assigned books, take turns bringing snacks and contribute to one communal Shabbat dinner.

HBO series based on Roth's 'Plot Against America' has been filming this summer in Jersey City with Winona Ryder and John Turturro, including at TBE!

From director David Simon's tweet:

First day of filming on HBO's "Plot Against America" at Beth-El synagogue in Jersey City, where by notable coincidence, my father, Bernard Simon, was a bar mitzvah in 1933. Pictured: Two Hebrews and a Sicilian and of course, the Sicilian plays the learned rabbi.




 Member
Spotlight

Do you want to meet and get to know other Temple Beth-El members? Are you a journalist or do you like to write? If so, we need you! We would like to have more articles like the one below — Member Spotlight, in which one person or family is interviewed and introduced each month in our newsletter. Our hope is to get 4-6 people so that each person would interview and write 2-3 features per year. Manageable, right? Email membership@betheljc.org if you are interested.

New feature!

Introducing member Sammy Rivo *by Irwin Rosen*



Samuel Rivo (aka Sammy) is an 18 year old senior at High Tech High School, a Hudson County public high school. I first met him at Temple Beth-El when he was five years old and was accompanied by his parents, Phil and Iris.

Sammy was born in Manhattan but grew up in Jersey City's Hamilton Park neighborhood, where he resides with his sister Lily, his parents Phil and Iris, and their two dogs Feldman and Rudi. He attended Learning Community Charter School from K—8th grade.

The cultural diversity of his grammar and high schools, of Temple Beth-El and of Jersey City have clearly been a positive influence impacting Sammy's life. Recently, the Jersey Journal published a guest opinion column written by Sammy, in which he touts with pride the benefits of growing up in Jersey City, a mecca of cultural, religious, racial and sexual orientation diversity. In that guest opinion column, Sammy acknowledges that growing up in Jersey City will help him long into the future as he interacts with people of all walks of life. Sammy wrote that "growing up in Jersey City, the most diverse city in the United States, has broadened my awareness of different cultures and customs at school, in my community and through friendships. Through my friendships with kids from various backgrounds I am very aware of how we are all different and alike. We learn to adapt and befriend each other without judgment or fear. We are very accepting of each other and realize that you judge the individual, not a culture or group." He expresses concern that with the increasing gentrification of our community "Jersey City is losing its edge."

Sammy notes that his experience at Temple Beth-El, where he attended religious school from first grade through his Bar Mitzvah, and then served two additional years as a teacher's assistant, and the many people he met at Temple, of all ages, in religious school, or at services and special events, have forged his connect to Judaism, a connection that will be long-lasting. In particular, he recognizes Rabbi Debra Hachen and Temple past president and religious school teacher and co-director Kay Magilavy for their efforts and guidance.

Summertime opportunities for Sammy have included working as a busboy at a local restaurant, an internship at a New York real estate investment and pension fund company, and coaching and refereeing with Jersey City Recreation Department, all serving to introduce Sammy to different aspects of working life. He also participated in the Union for Reform Judaism's Mitzvah Corp in Washington DC, a program with a long history of exploring Jewish high school students to life in urban America and engaging them in various topical issues.

This September Sammy will be a freshman at Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Communication, where he will pursue a degree in broadcast journalism at a school whose program in that area is well regarded. Although he will be a long way from home, Sammy is excited to begin a new chapter in his life and will remember the support and encouragement given by his parents, and in particular the notion that he should always adhere to his values as he strives to accomplish his goals. Temple Beth-El is proud to consider Sammy Rivo a member of our congregation family, as we wish him all the best at college and of course look forward to seeing him when he returns to Jersey City.



Alain Mentha and Welcome Home were honored on World Refugee Day on June 20.



Naomi Steinberg of HAIS, The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society addressing the World Refugee Day as the keynote speaker.

Alain Mentha, Temple Beth-El member and Co-Chair of our Social Action Committee receiving a proclamation from the Mayor of Jersey City for his work with Welcoming Home. He is Executive Director of Welcome Home Jersey City and a Co-chair of the New Jersey Coalition For Refugees and all-around awesome guy and Purim Shpieler. Also shown in the photo is JC Councilperson James Solomon.

Yarzeits/Memorial Plaques/Simcha Tree Leaves

To update your family's yarzeit listings go to <https://betheljc.org/yarzeit-list/> or call in your information or write to the office.

You may purchase a Memorial Plaque to honor the memory of your loved ones. Please visit <https://betheljc.org/plaque> Order by July 24 if you would like the plaque up for this coming Yom Kippur.

You may also purchase a Simcha Tree Leaf to honor or congratulate friends or family members for special events or accomplishments. Please visit <https://betheljc.org/donate>

Yarzeits

continued on page 15



Week ending July 6

Maurice Auster
Abraham Bamberger
Edward Barison
Morris Bergen
Rebecca Berman
Sarah Bettinger
George Clott
Max Druz
Esther Engel
Lena Gutterman
Joseph Jacobs

Helen Kantoff
Rochelle Kirschner
Rebecca Lerner
Janice Doernberg
McBride
Isaac David Rosen
Bea Schimel
Alvin Schoenbart
Sema Shapiro
Stanley Silver
Israel Striner
Ida Sugarman

Mack Tillman
Minnie Weiss
Rudolph Weiss
Anna Wertheimer

Week ending July 13

Anne Marie Alpert
Sydney Auslander
Gussie Babst
Anna Bouer
Louis J. Bouer
Ned E. Chodash

Pauline Donsky
Richard E. Friedman
Isidore Heilbrunn
Charles F. Heitner
Bessie Hoffman
Anna M. Honiberg
Violet Zall Hordes
Joseph Hunter
Henry Lowenstein
Josephine Matthes
Ida Mills
Dr. Ralph Mostwill

Sophie Ovios
Morris Pesin
Murray Pollner
Jacob Rips
Louis Sattenspiel
Kurt Schwarzschild
Mina Singer
Samuel Solomon
Judith Sommerstein
Donald Taube
Vera Weiss

Tributes

- To celebrate a happy occasion
- To say I'm sorry for your loss
- To remember your loved ones
- To thank someone for a kindness

A card acknowledging your contribution will be sent to the recipient, and the message will be listed in the newsletter. To send a tribute, use the form online at <http://www.betheljc.org/donate/> or write, email or call the Temple office.

Sustaining Fund (General Fund)

In grateful honor of Kay Magilavy's dedicated tireless direction, service, and guidance to Temple Beth-El and the Religious School of Temples Beth-El/Beth-Am for 18 wonderful years

*Glen Pertz & Carol Boeckel
Jorge & Lourdes Narvaez
Irwin Rosen
Tom Rosensweet &
Barbara Hines
Fred & Karen Schnur*

In honor of Jorge & Lourdes Narvaez leading morning services as Shlichei Tzibbur

Rabbi Leana Moritt

In honor Kay Magilavy & Norman Mayersohn daughter, Julia's, wedding

*Rabbi Leana Moritt &
Rabbi Steven Kushner
Tom Rosensweet &
Barbara Hines*

In honor of Rabbi Leana Moritt's first year at Temple Beth-El

*Tom Rosensweet &
Barbara Hines*

In honor of the bat mitzvah of Kat Berman & Chris Robinson's daughter, Isabela "Izzy"

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In memory of Michael Schonberger's sister, Anita Schonberger-Keel

*Zachary Metz &
Patricia Martinez-Metz
Nancy & Nathan Sambul*

In memory of my father, Ronald Gale, on his Yarzeit

Cathy & Jim Gale

In appreciation

Gregory & Asha Yip-Ying

In memory of my father, Luis Dars, on his Yarzeit

Elliott & Stacey Goldstein

In memory of Arthur Levine on his Yarzeit

*Karen Gordon-Levine
Jeffrey C. Mischka*

In memory of my mother, Liliyen Meshell-Chiltern, on her Yarzeit

Jacques Meshell

In memory of my wife, Lynne M. Winograd, on her Yarzeit

Laraine Schwartz

In memory of our mother, Estelle Siegel, on her Yarzeit

*Dr. Susan Siegel
Adrienne Siegel Kaye*

In memory of my mother, Judith Gutmann-Strohl, and grandmother, Hortense Gutmann

Judith Strohl

In memory of Joanna Tartikoff's mother

*Alison Chapin
Lyle Hysen & Lisa Chernick
Robb & Jill Kushner
Michele & Craig Linder
Zachary Metz &
Patricia Martinez-Metz*

*Hilary Pinn
Karen Seemen-Pinn &
Jonathan Pinn*

*Robin Pinkowitz
Lauren Quaile
Tom Rosensweet &*

*Barbara Hines
Harvey & Shirley Roter
Nancy & Nathan Sambul
Fred & Karen Schnur*

Music Fund

In honor of student Cantor Stefanie Greene's year with Temple Beth-El and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

*Irwin Rosen
Tom Rosensweet &
Barbara Hines*

In honor of the graduation of Robin Rosenzweig-Schkrutz & Alex Schkrutz's son Eric from Rutgers University with a Masters in Urban Planning

*Nancy & Nathan Sambul
Fred & Karen Schnur*

In honor of the marriage of Kay Magilavy & Norman Mayersohn's daughter Julia

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In honor of the bat mitzvah of Kat Berman & Chris Robinson's daughter, Isabela "Izzy"

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In honor of the marriage of Rabbis Leana Moritt and Steven Kushner

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In honor of the naming of Ezekiel, son of Ally & Andrew Kimmel

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In honor of Rabbi Brian Beal's assignment as Interim Rabbi at Congregation Beth Chaim in West Windsor

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

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Food Pantry Needs

Weekly Food Pantry Wednesdays 5-7pm

Temple Beth-El's Weekly Temple's Food Pantry has been running for several months now, with great success. Many people have stopped by and we have been able to provide donated foods and clothes and toiletries.

We need volunteers to assist in setting up and distributing the items. Please bring donations to the Temple *before* Wednesday each week, including items truly needed and much appreciated by the homeless and people facing food insecurity in our neighborhood: underwear, small fruit containers, pull-top cans of soup or beans, microwaveable meals, tuna packets, creamy peanut butter, ramen packets.



Haircuts & Grooming

Know how great you feel with a new haircut? Now you can give the gift of clean self-esteem to our neighbors in need.

In partnership with Vincent and Lisa's HairZone on Bergen Avenue, TBE's Food Pantry is now offering coupons for free haircuts (including shaves/beard trims as appropriate). To chip in, please visit betheljc.org/donate or send a check for \$36 to the office — and make someone's day!



Temple Beth-El has cemetery plots in the beautiful locations of Mount Moriah Cemetery in Fairview, NJ and Mount Lebanon Cemetery in Iselin (Woodbridge). Please email TBE Cemetery Committee member Larry Gutterman at LPGutterman@verizon.net. He would be happy to discuss it further.

amazon.com Save Temple Beth-El as your charity on smile.amazon.com. It costs you nothing, and up to 6% of what you spend on most Amazon offerings will come back to Temple Beth-El!



You needn't be a Facebook member to see our temple's Facebook page! Click [here](#). And there's a separate page for Beth-El families [here](#).



Our Twitter feed has over **800** followers! Check it out [here](#).

Tributes *continued from page 13*

In honor of the graduation of Andrea Gaines' daughter, Georgia

Fred & Karen Schnur

Keeping Rabbi Kenneth Brickman in our misheberach prayers

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In memory of my father, Harold Rosen, on his Yarzeit

Irwin Rosen

In memory of my brother, Bryan Hines, on his Yarzeit

Tom Rosensweet & Barbara Hines

In memory of Nathan's grandfather, Harry Vogelmann, on his Yarzeit

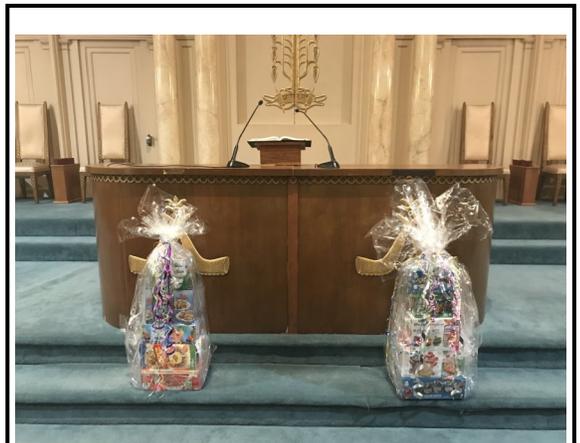
Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In memory of our brother-in-law, Jonathan Elosua, on his Yarzeit

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In honor of Rabbi Leana Moritt
Aaron & Giovanna Dunkel



Isabela "Izzy" Robinson was bat mitvahed on June 1. In lieu of flowers the Berman/Robison family decorated the bimah with beautifully wrapped food for our Food Pantry. A wonderful idea!

Yarzeits

continued from page 12

**Week ending July 20**

Rena Abrams
Fannie Berkowitz
Ruby Chiang
Fannie Dorison
Judith Feinman
Sarah Feld
Samuel Fleischman
Dr. Isaac L. Gordon
Max Gornitsky
Dr. Benjamin Kaplan
Hubert Klaskow
Edward Klein
Herbert Koster
Bessie Laiken
Sol Levine
Ruth Lipschitz
Harold B. Nickelsporn
Helen Rausch
Captain I. Stanley Roth
Samuel Sankier
Sadie W. Schneckendorf
Morris K Schonberg
Joseph Shilling
Henrietta Rifkin Shuchman
Herman Soled
Anna Spingarn
Emanuel Spingarn
Jane S. Weisenfeld
George Wolf
Seymour Zubalsky

Week ending July 27

Leah Bialo
Morris Chesler
Ida Fox Cowan
Emanuel Eagle
Louis Erman
Clara Failk
Manuel Fisher
Dr. Hilda C. Fliegel
Elliot Greenstone
Harry Gross
Paul Horowitz
Judith Kaplan
Morris M. Kaplan
Robert B. Kaplow
Thelma Kaye
Bessie Krivit
Dorothy Lee
Louis Levy
Sophie Barth Levy
David Lewin
Rhoda Magilavy

Rabbinet Sarah S. Plotkin
Benjamin Rausch
Hannah Rebb
Carrie Scheideberg
Philip Schnitzer
Harry Schwartzbard
Fanny Sheffler
Joseph A. Silber
Harry Sommerstein
Minerva Sweet
Arnold Vernick
Arthur Weinberger
Alice Weinrobe

Week ending August 3

Bessie Davis
Samson Freudenberg
William Gatov
Jennie Gornitsky
Nathan Gornitsky
Anna Greenberg
Max Benjamin Harrison
Florence Hersberg
Albert Hordes
Sylvia Kaplan
Samuel Kleinhaus
Sol Mesel
Charlotte Newman
Miriam Nickelsporn
Bernice Pollner
Sandra Rawson
Albert H. Reiser
Max Rosen
Jean Weil
William Wolf
Leo Wolkowsky

Week ending August 10

Cecelia V. Alexander
Eva Auster
Benjamin Berkowitz
Abraham Cohn
Paul Dembow
David Dohrman
Harry M. Fredman
Simon Friedenstien
Yettie Gorlin
David Heilbrunn
Edith Pesin Horowitz
Louis Horowitz
James Kamas
Dr. Bert B. Kun
Jacob Levey
Lottie Lewis

Ruth Lindner
Minnie Jacobs Lippman
Sarah Moskowitz
Bessie Norman
Louise Rice
Janice Seiner Colker
Fanny L. B. Tilton
Samuel Ullman
Kay Wasserman
George A. Weisenfeld
Alfred Wildberg
Morris Bethue Willis

Week ending August 17

William Arbeit
Marshall E. Bloomfield, Esq
Bessie Chodash
Yetta Cligerman
Blanche Dohrman
Sadie Frank
Jacob Morris Genis
Mildred Goldberg
Eleanore Wien Goldinher
Charles Goldstein
Sadie Goodman
William M. Green
Eric Hanstein
Robert Hass
Regina Hibell
Margaret Jerome
Morris Robert Kirschner
Irving Kizner
Gertrude Levy
David Lippman
Louis Lubowsky
Morris Markus
Bernard Ockene
Jessie Rosen Pearlman
Harry Richter
Beatrice Rosensweet
Sadie F. Schoenberg
Bernice Newman Shapiro
Dr. Bernard A. Shapiro
Hessie Silver
Jacob J. Tandler
Lillian Ullman
Joseph Wenton
Libby A. Willis
Morris Yanover

Week ending August 24

Nennie S. Apolant
Jakob Bernstein
Fannie Borshaw

David Canter
Leopold Croner
Rebecca Dashev
Maurice H. Edelman
Bessie Eldot
Henry Eldot
Mary Garstein
Julius Goldman
Harry Herman
Jacob Kantoff
Harry Lester
Joseph Lubowsky
Joseph Ogush
Burton Earl Olshan
Rita Opper
Jacob Padilipsky
Morris Pashelinsky
Daniel Schachner
Harold Schwartz
Henry M. Schwartz
Matilda Schwartzman
Adele Silber
Harry J. Stein
Mollie G. Wahl
Herman Wien
Rebecca Wiener
Harry Zlotnick

Week ending August 31

Helen S. Arnold
Blanche Z. Bamberger
Joan Baum
Samuel Bettinger
Sadie Cohen
Rose Emhoff
William Feller
Isidore Gibbs
Rose Goldman
Jack A. Greenberg
Abraham Gutterman
Samuel Hass
Louis Jacobs
Neal F. Kessman
Morris Koss
Esther Krieger
Rose Lieberman
Israel Mischel
Ernestine F. Oppenheimer
Harry Pesin
Adelaide P. Stern
Harry Vogelmann
George Zubalski

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