



The Reform Congregation of Jersey City

P 201-333-4229

www.betheljc.org

November 2019 Cheshvan—Kislev 5780

Super Sixties Sips

November 16, 2019 7PM

First Drink Free With Advance \$40 Ticket Purchase
go to www.betheljc.org/sips
or click [here](#) for tickets

*Support Temple Beth-El while enjoying music, dance, food and drink
and our fabulous Silent Auction.*

Do you have wine or spirits you can donate to our Ring Toss?
(For \$10, guests can throw 2 rings. If a ring lands on a bottle, it's theirs to keep.)
To contribute a bottle valued at \$10 or more, contact Nancy Sambul at nancy.sambul@yahoo.com
or bring your donation to Religious School or services and we'll store it for the event.

Friday, November 1



First Friday Pot Luck Dinner 6:30 pm
 Kabbalat Shabbat Family Services featuring our 6th and 7th grades 7:30 pm

Saturday, November 2

Shabbat morning services celebrating the bat mitzvah of Hana Minkin 10:30 am

Friday, November 8

Scholar-In-Residence Weekend with Reb Simcha Raphael, PhD: Jewish Views of the Afterlife
 Kabbalat Shabbat services—Presentation During Services 8:00 pm
 Followed by oneg

Saturday, November 9

Scholar-In-Residence Weekend with Reb Simcha Raphael, PhD. Jewish Views of the Afterlife Shabbat morning services followed by Brunch & Learn Program 10:30 am

Friday, November 15

Kabbalat Shabbat Services followed by oneg 8:00 pm

Saturday, November 16

Tot Shabbat 10:30 am

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

Friday, November 22

Kabbalat Shabbat services followed by oneg (holiday time) 7:30 pm

Saturday, November 23

Shabbat morning services followed by Torah Study 10:30 am

Friday, November 29

Kabbalat Shabbat Services followed by oneg 8:00 pm

Saturday, November 30

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

Friday, December 6

First Friday Pot Luck dinner
 Kabbalat Shabbat Family Services featuring our 2nd grade 8:00 pm

Saturday, December 7

Shabbat morning services celebrating the bat mitzvah of Natalie Shadi 10:30 am



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](#). or visit www.betheljc.org

Please make your annual membership pledge! If you haven't yet joined or renewed your membership, please go to the [website](#) ASAP and make your valuable, much appreciated and needed Terumah pledge for this year!



See our temple's Facebook page [here](#). And there's a separate page for Beth-El families [here](#).

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



Shabbat Candle Lighting

Friday, November 1 5:35 pm
 Friday, November 8 4:27 pm
 Friday, November 15 4:20 pm
 Friday, November 22 4:15 pm
 Friday, November 29 4:12 pm

Rabbi's Message *by Rabbi Leana Moritt*



Radical and modern? Or ancient and confining?

Work. Carpool. Commuting. Errands. Texts. Emails. Obligations. Kids' activities. Repairs. Religious School. Parents. Volunteering. Bills. Maybe some exercise here and there.

This is the stuff of life. It feeds us, literally and figuratively. If we are lucky, most of the time these activities are rewarding, or at least not too arduous. But, let's face it: they consume much of our busy and productive lives. It's so true that one or the other activity on this list always seems to be pulling on our time or attention. The question is: how are we fed and nurtured? Renewed? Specifically, how can being Jewish feed and nurture our souls?

Coming every 7 days no matter what—Shabbat is the opportunity that comes with carving out time each week to feel what it's like to be a human being and not just a human doing. Done right, Shabbat is a spiritual practice that can nurture us, inside and out. It can bring us closer to our children and loved ones and restore a sense of sanity to a frenetic life. Like any practice, it takes some discipline and, *practice*. There's no such thing as perfect. Like any practice, the benefits evolve and aren't always evident from the start. But after 3,000 years of staying power, we have to say Shabbat has got something to say for itself. As Ahad HaAm (18th/19th Cent) famously wrote, "more than the Jewish people have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has kept the Jewish people."

In today's world, any practice that suggests we unplug from our 24/7 pace is both cutting edge and truly really speaks to a very modern malaise. At the same time, it is as old as Methuselah!

What does that mean? What does it mean to "keep Shabbat?" How might Shabbat keep the Jewish people? Let's define some terms. We've all heard about the rules and restrictions of Shabbat. And when I say "done right," no, I don't mean that we must follow all the traditional strictures we might associate with people who observe Shabbat stringently. They don't own the definition of what it means to "keep Shabbat."

When I say "Shabbat done right," I mean to seize the gift and the opportunity to carve out time for the people, places and things we love the most. It means to delay the time and attention-sucking details of life that we can find time for later. It means to enjoy good food and pamper all our senses. It means to rest our tightly wound bodies and minds and reflect on the bigger picture of our lives. Find good people in our community with whom to do that. Wonder. Wander.

Creating Shabbat — especially with children home — has its own incredible opportunities for creativity; fun and meaningful family traditions, even with its own distinct challenges. Often, though, it's hard to know how or where to begin.

Last year I offered a 3-session parent education series on *Making Shabbat At Home With Children* which was so popular, we are repeating it. During these sessions, I will go over the traditional Jewish prayers and blessings (with handouts and recordings). Along with these traditions, we will talk about how to use these traditions as a basis from which we can creatively craft experiences that work for our own families and that can nurture us and our children for life. These sessions will be held on **Sunday, November 10, 17 and 24 from 9:30-10:15am** (during Religious School) in my office. Each session will be different and while it is best to attend all 3, it is not crucial. RSVPs are great so I know how many handouts to make. I'll also be in early those days if you want to just stop in and schmooze. I look forward to seeing there!

And while you are marking your calendars, please be sure to remember our **Jewish Views of the Afterlife** Scholar-in-Residence weekend with Dr. Simcha Raphael on **November 8-9**. (See the flyer and article on pages 5 & 6). As both a scholar and pastoral counselor, his book exploring this little-discussed topic of the same title is in its third edition and offers an accessible view of 4,000 years of Jewish thought on the afterlife. He will teach on our sacred texts on the subject produced in each era.

We are very grateful to Larry Gutterman of Gutterman Bros. Funeral Directors for co-sponsoring this event and I look forward to learning with you all. RSVPs to the office for lunch also greatly appreciated so we can feed us all properly!



Mike Noveck and the Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Appeal

On Kol Nidre, Temple Board Member and Social Action Committee Chair Mike Noveck made a special appeal for financial contributions to Temple Beth-El. Recording Secretary Lari Schwartz caught up with Mike afterwards to ask him about his appeal.

Lari: Hi Mike. Thank you for presenting the Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Appeal. I have been a member for 7 years, and this was a first appeal in that time frame, although I understand there were frequent Appeals on Kol Nidre years before me. What was the reason that you thought to bring this old tradition back to the bimah at Temple Beth-El?

Mike: I made the appeal to try to help everyone understand the reality of our financial situation. We've got a lot to feel good about at Temple Beth-El: a growing membership; a vibrant religious school; adult classes, speakers, and other programming; and more. But at the same time, we have a serious fiscal gap to fill in order to sustain that momentum.

Lari: A lot of people outside of the Board of Trustees may not know all of the details about our financial situation. Can you share some of what you've learned as a Board member that shows what our fiscal need is?

Mike: For the 2017-18 fiscal year, without a bequest that we received, we would have had a deficit of over \$12,000. And for the 2018-19 fiscal year, without a payment from a television studio that did filming here, we would have had a deficit of over \$17,000. To borrow an analogy from another holiday: even when Adonai makes the oil last longer than it should, at some point you need to get more oil. The truth is that to keep Temple Beth-El going – and growing – we need to raise more money.

Lari: I thought you did an excellent job in presenting the needs of Temple Beth-El and have heard from several people at the service that you hit the right note in your request. Have you had any responsive feedback to your ask?

Mike: I've heard from several people who appreciated the honesty and transparency of the message, which was obviously one of my main goals. But, as they say, the proof is in the pudding – we'll only know that the message was successful if we actually raise money! I hope that my message inspired people to contribute more to Temple Beth-El.

Lari: Will you be following up on your request? How do we keep the momentum going so that people will be moved to contribute especially during this difficult fiscal period of time?

Mike: Absolutely – you'll definitely keep hearing from us! We're going to follow up with letters and phone calls to keep pushing for contributions that we need to make sure Temple Beth-El is not only sustainable, but also can continue to grow in the years ahead. And of course, now that we've talked openly about our financial struggles, we are optimistic that everyone who benefits from Temple Beth-El (whether it be every week at Shabbat, once a year at High Holy Day services, or a need for clergy during one of many life changes) will feel compelled to contribute a little more to the temple.

Lari: I know I have often heard that this is not the time to bring up money, during this most solemn occasion. That is why your way of explaining the need was so appreciated.

Mike: Thanks, Lari. No one likes to be asked for money, and it wasn't much fun to be the person doing the asking, either! But Yom Kippur is a time of reflection and renewal, and it's in that spirit that we're asking everyone to do the mitzvah of contributing to Temple Beth-El. It's easy to do! Go to <http://www.betheljc.org/donate>, or send a check to the Temple (2419 Kennedy Blvd, Jersey City, NJ 07304).

Welcome to our newest members:

Laura & Andrew Block of Hoboken



Jewish Views of the Afterlife Scholar-In-Residence Weekend

featuring Reb Simcha Raphael, PhD.

Friday, November 8 Speaker During Services Saturday, November 9 Brunch & Learn

Dr. Raphael will be speaking about **Jewish Views of the Afterlife** and offering material from his book of the same name. As both a scholar and pastoral counselor, Raphael will guide us through 4,000 years of Jewish thought on the afterlife by investigating pertinent sacred texts produced in each era.



Dr. Raphael's book, now in its 3rd edition, is a classic study of ideas of the afterlife in the Jewish tradition and mysticism. It presents new material on little-known Jewish mystical teachings on reincarnation, a chapter on "Spirits, Ghosts and Dybbuks in Yiddish Literature", and a foreword by the renowned scholar of Jewish mysticism, Rabbi Arthur Green. Through a compilation of ideas found in the Bible, Apocrypha, rabbinic literature, medieval philosophy, medieval Midrash, Kabbalah, Hasidism and Yiddish literature, the book teaches how Judaism conceived of the fate of the individual after death throughout Jewish history. It also explores the implications of Jewish afterlife beliefs for a renewed understanding of traditional rituals of funeral, burial, shiva, kaddish and more.

Dr. Raphael's brief talk during Shabbat evening services on November 8 is entitled "Jacob's Cave at Machpelah—Guidelines from Genesis for Living and Dying." Using the scene of Jacob's deathbed drama in Genesis, we shall discover the wisdom Torah provides for dealing consciously with end-of-life issues and see how our Biblical ancestors understood the connection between this world and the world beyond.

Immediately following Shabbat morning services on November 9, his main presentation will be part of a brunch & learn program entitled "Afterlife Journey of the Soul in Jewish Mysticism." Today many are unaware of traditional Jewish wisdom on life after death. This presentation explores Judaism's afterlife teachings, particularly in Jewish mysticism, and the practical relevance of these teachings in dealing with the human encounter with death. RSVPs to the office appreciated so we have enough food.



L to R: Craig Linder, Karen Seemen-Pinn, Joel Caminer, and Celeste Moore



L to R: Joel Caminer, Heidi Bramson, Jeff Tartikoff, Adam Baumwoll, and David Barr.

TBE's first Parent Project Day of the year was a great success thanks to the help of parents of our Religious School kids! During school hours on Erev Rosh Hashanah, our parent volunteers polished the Torah silver (what a Mitzvah!) and set up the books for the High Holiday services. Please join us for future Parent Project days on Sundays of October 6th, November 3rd, and December 8th at 930am in the sanctuary or contact Karen Seemen-Pinn at karen@betheljc.org for more information.

Jewish Views Of The Afterlife

Judaism and the Mysteries of Life, Death and the World Beyond

A Scholar-in-Residence Shabbaton with
Reb Simcha Raphael, Ph.D.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2019
EREV SHABBAT SERVICES &
PRESENTATION: 8pm

JACOB'S CAVE AT MACHPELAH -
GUIDELINES FROM GENESIS FOR
LIVING AND DYING

An investigation of the Jacob's deathbed drama in Genesis. We shall discover the wisdom Torah provides for dealing consciously with end-of-life issues and see how our Biblical ancestors understood the connection between this world and the world beyond.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2019
BRUNCH & LEARN
10.30am Services/11:15am Program

AFTERLIFE JOURNEY
OF THE SOUL
IN JEWISH MYSTICISM

Today many are unaware of traditional Jewish wisdom on life after death. This presentation explores Judaism's afterlife teachings, particularly in Jewish mysticism, and the practical relevance of these teachings in dealing with the human encounter with death.

REB SIMCHA RAPHAEL, Ph.D. is Founding Director of DA'AT INSTITUTE for Death Awareness, Advocacy and Training, Adjunct Professor in the Department of Religion and Theology of LaSalle University, and works as a psychotherapist and spiritual director in Philadelphia. Ordained by Reb Zalman Schachter-Shalomi as a Rabbinic Pastor, he is a member of the Rabbis Without Borders Network, and author of numerous publications including the classic study *Jewish Views of the Afterlife*.

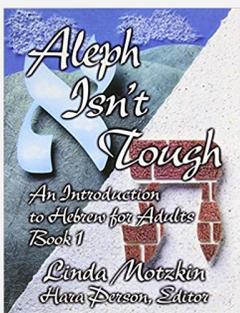


This program is co-sponsored and made possible by:

Lawrence P. Gutterman, Mgr.
 463 Monmouth St. Jersey City

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 BROS.
 Funeral Directors
 866-473-3700
 GuttermanBrothers.com

NJ Lic No 4507
 N. Beverwyck Rd. Lake Hiawatha



Introduction to Hebrew I

Thursdays 7-7:30 pm beginning November 7

If you have always wanted to learn to read Hebrew or brush up on your Hebrew skills, join us. This 13-week course will introduce you to the letters and vowels of the Hebrew language to enable Hebrew decoding. Following this course, you will be able to follow along in the *siddur* (prayer book) in Hebrew. Basic Hebrew prayer vocabulary words will also be introduced. All are welcome.

Free for all, but students will be required to purchase their own textbooks.

What's Happening

November—December Family Happenings!

First Friday Pot Luck Shabbat Dinner & Family Shabbat Service

Fridays, November 1, and December 6 6:30—8:30 pm
Bring a dish that serves 4-6 people and enjoy dinner with your Beth-El friends, followed by a family-friendly Shabbat service. (We ask that you not bring pork, shellfish or anything containing meat and dairy in the same dish.)

Parent Project Days

Sundays, November 3, December 8 9:30 am—12:00pm
Great opportunities to stay connected with the school community and other parents, help the Temple, and have some fun. Email Karen Seemen Pinn at karen@betheljc.org for more information.

Tot Shabbat

Saturdays, November 16, December 21 10:30 am
Co-Sponsored by PJ Library of Hudson County
We've been waiting all summer to celebrate Shabbat mornings with our tots (age 0-5) and their grownups! Join Rabbi Moritt, Cantor Wallach, and Bracha the Beth-El Bear for song, movement, crafts, snack and friendship. All are welcome! Sign up here to bring snacks, especially during the month of your child's birthday: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f4eaba62eabfd0-totshabbat>

Junior Youth Group Event

Sunday, November 3
Kids in grades 5-7 are invited to gather for a fun, informal social event at the home of a Religious School classmate. For more information and to RSVP, contact Michele Linder at michele@betheljc.org.

Religious School Family Education Days

Sunday, December 22 9:30 am—12:00 pm
Parents learn and participate in fun educational learning projects.

Hanukah Fundraiser, Krispy Kreme order form due

Sunday, December 9
Stock up on donuts for the holiday while supporting Temple Beth-El! Delivery on December 15.

Rabbi Remind Me...?

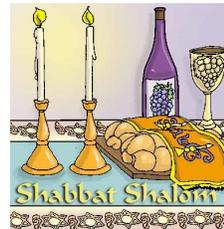
Sunday, December 15 9:30—10:15 am
Parents join Rabbi Moritt for pre-Hanukah boot camp and study.

All are welcome!

Parent Education at Temple Beth-El

Sundays 9:30-10:15 am during Religious School

Enrich your Jewish knowledge and parenting skills at any or all of these sessions with Rabbi Moritt:



Shabbat: You Can Do It! Yes, You Can Try This At Home!
3 Sundays:
November 10, 17, 24

Have you always wanted to create special Shabbat moments with your family at home but are unsure of the steps?

Want to brush up on your Friday night home rituals & blessings?

Have questions about the meanings of the Shabbat rituals or want ideas of how to adapt them for your young children? Join Rabbi Moritt for 3 sessions on the Shabbat home rituals and how to turn Friday night into a meaningful and joyous time for your family. Each session is different and while it is best to attend all three, it is not necessary.



Rabbi, Remind Me....
3 Sundays:
December 15
February 23
March 15

Pre-Holiday Boot Camp and Study Sessions to stay one step ahead of the holidays

Rabbi Remind Me...about Hanukah?
Sunday, December 15

Rabbi Remind Me...about Purim?
Sunday, Feb 23

Rabbi Remind Me...about Passover?
Sunday, March 15

Please RSVP to Rabbi Moritt at rabbimoritt@betheljc.org so she can prepare enough materials and secure the right size location.



Who Knew Collecting Trash Could be such Fun? October's Youth Group Event a Big Success!

by Celeste Moore

It was great meeting up with 5th, 6th and the 7th grade TBE kids today at Maxwell Place Park in Hoboken. We organized everyone to pick up trash and clean up our neighborhood (super cool blue vinyl gloves provided!). It is something that is so important to Madeleine and me. The kids really loved this mitzvah project. Noa Linder even said, "We should have a trash club at school!"

After we filled bags of trash and recycling, we headed for some fro-yo fun at 16 Handles! It is always fun to eat something cold and sweet after a little work. The kids had so much fun playing tag and other active games outside at the park that we all stayed even longer than the original two hours of the event. We (parents) had to tell them that it was time to leave, they could have played another hour!

Thanks again for all who participated in cleaning up our environment and "saving the turtles." Please join us again on Sunday, November 3 at Ava Tartikoff's house in Jersey City, so that the kids can get to know each other better. I know that Madeleine and I both met new people and got to know some better. RSVP to michele@betheljc.org for address info and more details.



Religious School Sukkot Learning Day





Saturday, November 16 10:30 — noon

Calling all children 0-5 and their grownups!

Join Rabbi Moritt, Cantor Wallach and Bracha the Beth-El Bear for a morning of Shabbat song, story, movement, crafts, snack and friendship.

Celebrate your birthday at Tot Shabbat by signing up to bring a special snack in honor of your child's special day or just sign up to help us celebrate Shabbat. We will provide juice. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20fof4eaba62eabfdo-totshabbat>

Mark your calendars for Tot Shabbat mornings all year:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| December 21 | May 16 |
| January 11 (downtown Jersey City) | June 13 |
| February 22 | July 11 |
| March 28 | August 15 |
| April 25 | |

Watch your emails for special Downtown Tot Shabbat dates. If you are not our Tot Shabbat list, please email office@betheljc.org and ask to be added to our email list. Drop-ins always welcome.



Hana Minkin, daughter of Yishai and Kara Minkin, will become a Bat Mitzvah on November 2, 2019. Hana is a 7th- Grader at Explore Middle School and loves dancing, writing, painting, and hanging out with her friends!

Among her good deeds, Hana enjoys volunteering at her dance school Nimbus, which is a nonprofit organization that serves dance education programs in the community. Hana's favorite part of being Jewish is celebrating the holidays with family.

Save the date — Sunday December 15 — for a fabulous FREE concert at TBE of the Heritage Jazz Ensemble!

Eugene Marlow's *Heritage Ensemble* is a quintet devoted to the concert performance of Hebraic melodies in various jazz, Afro-Cuban, and Brazilian styles, with a touch of classicism for good measure.



EUGENE MARLOW'S HERITAGE ENSEMBLE

- EUGENE MARLOW
LEADER/KEYBOARDS
- MICHAEL HASHIM
SAXOPHONES
- MATTHEW GONZALEZ
PERCUSSION
- BOBBY SANABRIA
DRUMS
- FRANK WAGNER
BASS



Hana Minkin, Yishai Minkin and Kara Laub with our soferim at work repairing our sifrei Torah. Hana is very excited that our beautiful lightweight scroll will be repaired and kosher in time for her bat mitzvah!

Meet the Temple Leadership!

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. This month, Joel Caminer.



Joel Caminer, along with his wife Ellen Simon and son Gabriel, have been members of Temple Beth-El for over a decade. They reside in Jersey City now but grew up together in Cleveland, Ohio before heading to different Big Ten schools, opposite coasts, and eventually marrying and settling in Jersey City. Of the many happy memories and experiences at Temple Beth-El, Joel fondly remembers his son's baby naming with Rabbi Brickman where hundreds of out-of-towners invaded the sanctuary and took over the social hall for an epic lunch spread. We can only hope for similar results at Gabriel's bar mitzvah in 2022.

Joel's background is in engineering and IT, and he was recently named the Director of Cyber Security Education for New York University Tandon School of Engineering, based in Brooklyn (the dreaded double river commute). He's also part of the Cyber NYC Applied Learning Initiative, a collaborative endeavor between the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC), and several academic and industry entities charged with the mission of establishing New York City as a global leader in cybersecurity education, training, and talent. Cyber NYC is a \$100 million suite of public-private investments to establish New York City as a global leader in cybersecurity. His interests include hiking, kayaking, travel, exploring, craft beer & spirits, and Cleveland sports (oh the painful memories).

Joel recently joined the Board as a Trustee and is chair of the Membership Committee. Expanding the temple's membership to a more sustainable number, while continuing to engage the current congregation in meaningful and impactful ways, will take everyone's help. If you're interested and have a little (or a lot) of time to assist, please please please reach out to Joel at membership@betheljc.org.



Family Promise Families Thank You!

by Laraine (Lari) Schwartz

To everyone who participated in Temple Beth-El's recent hosting of temporarily homeless families through Family Promise, Thank You. Thank you for your generous donation of time and food, and most of all for helping the families feel welcome during this trying time in their lives. As you have seen, several families have moved on from the last time we hosted in August, and we are hoping that each family that you met will likewise find a new home in the coming months.

For those unfamiliar with Family Promise, we are a group of 13 congregations in Hudson County that house up to 11 people for one week at a time. We host families with children, so they can stay together during their need for shelter and food while they seek new housing options. Many are working single mothers who have fallen on difficult times, have missed a rental payment, been evicted due to sickness, or have special needs children, death in the family, job loss, or divorce. Family Promise enables the families to rebuild for a few months as they sort out their financial and emotional issues and find an affordable home.

For those who could not volunteer in October, we will be hosting again the week starting February 9, 2020. Mark your calendars. This is a great opportunity for each of us to partake in a mitzvah, but especially for our members (and their friends) with children who can reach out to others in need and learn the valuable lessons of sharing and of gratitude.

Contact Lari Schwartz at lari@betheljc.org for any questions and learn how you can become the co-volunteer coordinator of this wonderful program.



Introduction to Judaism Began on October 24!

20 week program
Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm
New students admitted only
until November 7.

If you're curious about Judaism and what this 3,000-year-old tradition has to offer you or your family's life, welcome!

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 exploring conversion. Synagogue membership is not required.

Please be in touch with her at RabbiMoritt@betheljc.org with questions, to register or to set up a meeting. Meeting is necessary before registering.

Cost: Free for members. \$200 for non-members.

Students will also share in the cost of one Shabbat dinner and take turns bringing snacks for the class. All are welcome.



INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM is an engaging 20-session course for anyone who wants to gain a deeper understanding of Jewish life. Discover what could be meaningful to you in liberal Judaism.

This course is designed for individuals and couples from various faith traditions and cultural backgrounds and those who have had no religious upbringing. It is perfect for interfaith couples, those raising Jewish children, spiritual seekers, individuals considering conversion, and Jews who want a meaningful adult Jewish learning experience.

All people, perspectives, and questions are welcome!



**Temple Beth-El,
Jersey City, NJ**
Thursdays at 7:30PM
Beginning Oct. 24th
Instructor:
Rabbi Leana Moritt
For more information,
please contact:
RabbiMoritt@betheljc.org
201.333.4229

Register now at ReformJudaism.org/Intro/NJ or RabbiMoritt@betheljc.org



Created in partnership with the Union for Reform Judaism and local Reform congregations, Introduction to Judaism is a course for anyone interested in exploring Judaism.



LET'S RAISE SOME DOUGH!



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR SECOND KRISPY KREME HANUKAH FUNDRAISER
TEMPLE BETH-EL OF JERSEY CITY
WHO DOESN'T LOVE DONUTS AND COFFEE?????!!!!

WHAT WE ARE SELLING:

- 5 varieties of Krispy Kreme Donuts at \$10 per dozen (only one variety per dozen): Original Glazed, Chocolate Iced (CI), Lemon Filled (LF), Raspberry Filled (RF) or Kreme Filled (KF)
- 12 oz bags of Krispy Kreme Signature Coffee at \$10 each: Rich (R), Smooth (S) or Decaf (D)

Please complete the [online order form](#) and collect cash or checks made out to Temple Beth-El of Jersey City. Please email your total cumulative order (e.g., 6 boxes of original glazed, 10 bags of Rich coffee) by December 9th to office@betheljc.org.

Sellers will be responsible for picking up their entire order and submitting payment on Sunday December 15th between 9:30am and noon at TBE. Sellers will also be responsible for distributing their orders to their purchasers.



On Simchat Torah the entire Torah was unrolled around the sanctuary. The end of Deuteronomy and the beginning of Genesis were chanted, and the Torahs were danced around the room in a joyous celebration.

Photos by Jake Linder



Welcome to our newest member!

Lauren, Scott and Shea Lipsky welcomed their new daughter and sister, Leah Jenna Lipsky on September 8. She will be given the Hebrew name Talia Hadassah.



Thanking those who sponsored food or flowers for our bimah or Oneg Shabbats (through October 11)

Dr. Harvey and Shirley Roter in memory of Shirley's father, Sol Smith, on his Yarzeit

Merrick & Judith Brodsky in memory of Merrick's father, J. Leon Brodsky, on his Yarzeit

Merrick & Judith Brodsky in honor of Cantor Risa Wallach

Irene Hersberg in honor of her birthday

Charlotte Max in memory of her husband, Harold Max, on his Yarzeit

Jerold & Ellen Schwartz and David Rosenthal, in loving memory of their aunt and uncle, Blanche & David Dohrman, for their dedication and devotion to Temple Beth-El



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.](#)



Weekly Food Pantry Wednesdays 5-6:30pm

Help provide food and basic necessities for our neighbors in need. Adding a few items to your regular shopping trips can make a world of difference. If you prefer to shop online, you can make your purchases using our [Amazon wishlist](#). We've even created a QR code that takes you right to it. For details on how it works, or a general list of the most needed items, [click here](#).



Scan with QR Studio

Volunteers are needed every week to distribute donated food and clothing. Sign up [here](#) to let us know you're coming.



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!

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ACTS OF LOVE & KINDNESS

One of our most important missions is to offer help and comfort to our Beth-El family during challenging times. We accomplish this by reaching out with open hands and hearts to our fellow congregants and by performing acts of kindness such as providing meals or transportation, visiting with or calling on congregants, or assisting with other services that may be needed. If you experience a serious health issue, or know of any temple member who is in need, please call the Temple office so that we can be of assistance.

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 appreciation of High Holy Day services

Silvana Amar
 Anonymous
 Joshua Babbitt
 Kiva & Rise Bartik
 Valerie Boccardo
 Peter & Evelyn Bramson
 Gene & Linda Celler
 David Chanan
 Ella Chick
 Maria Cota
 Zachary & Nirupa Cuttler
 Nicky Edelman
 Esta Ehrmann
 Elizabeth Eilender
 Todd Friedman
 Shari Fuller
 Arthur Glatman
 Rabbi Claire Goldstein
 Jason & Lindsay Heller
 Jay Heyman &
 Bonnie Porte-Heyman
 Joel Horowitz
 Herbert & Ginny Jermanok
 Marion Katzive
 Joshua Kerstein
 Abraham Lehman
 Eliot Lesser
 Jamie Liebeskind
 Katie Lindenberg
 David Loewinger
 Helaine Noveck
 Judy & Boriello Pesin
 Susan S. Pinn
 Gail Raymon
 Sandra Richmond &
 Chris Beemer
 Gilbert Ross
 Sandra Ross
 Denise Rotatori
 Leah Sadaoui

Edyth Shapiro &
 Stuart A. Kaufmann
 Jessica Stanton
 Adam & Paula Stein
 Jacob Stoehr
 Klaus Stoffel
 Deelsa Vargas
 Rachel Volovets
 Gregory & Asha Yip-Ying

In appreciation

Ben & Cathy Cain

In appreciation of the Aliyah of opening and closing the Ark during the High Holy days

Irene Hersberg

In honor of Laraine Schwartz

Sari Feldman & Matt O'Dwyer

In memory of my father, Ezra Gross, on his Yarzeit

Nancy Berkoff

In memory of my mother, Priscilla Wagner Fields, on her Yarzeit

Kenneth and Shield Fields

In memory of my father, Murray Harr, on his Yarzeit

Lynn & Michael J. Reichgott

Music Fund

In honor of Jon & Elsa Graff's daughter, Sophie, on the occasion of her bat mitzvah

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In honor of Roger & Sarah Keren on the occasion of their daughter, Charlotte's, baby naming

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In honor of Cantor Risa Wallach and Rhetta Wallach

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

*With
Sympathy*

to Leslie Cooper, Sarah Zercher
and their children,
Rio and Ty,
on the death of Leslie's mother,
Allyn Cooper,
on Erev Yom Kippur, October 8.

In honor of Chloe Lipman and Ben Litchman on the occasion of their marriage

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In honor of Rabbi Leana Moritt as she starts her second year at Temple Beth-El

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In memory of Carol Blum's mother, Claire Blum

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In loving memory of my aunt, Phyllis Newman Green

Jay Heyman &

Bonnie Porte-Heyman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In appreciation

Aaron & Giovanna Dunkel

Sharon Grossman

In appreciation for officiating at our son's wedding

Leslie & Eric Rosenstock

In honor of our daughter, Amelie's, baby naming

Laura & David Lenchus

Bella Pesin Literacy Fund

In appreciation

David Mahler



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.



Yarzeits/Memorial Plaques/Simcha Tree Leaves

The yarzeit, or anniversary of a loved one's passing, is a time to remember the person, in the synagogue by reciting the Kaddish prayer, through the giving of extra charity and through learning. Each week at services we speak aloud the names of those people whose yarzeit has occurred that week. To update your family's yarzeit listings go to <https://betheljc.org/yarzeit-list/> or call in your information or write to the office.

To purchase a Memorial Plaque to honor the memory of your loved ones go to <https://betheljc.org/plaque>

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



Week ending November 2

- Vallie Abramson
- Jesse Balene
- Yetta Bernstein
- Lillian Lee Deegan
- Yetta Goldberg
- Henry J. Goodman
- Alice Temkin Green
- Minnie Werther Gross
- Murray S. Haar
- Gladys Hauptman
- Yetta Jasper
- David C. Markus
- Harold Max
- Dr. Harry Perlberg
- Victor Ruskin
- Dr. William I. Singer
- Rose Tandler
- Marion Wahl
- Bernard Willis

- Fanny Altman
- Annie Feinstein
- Clara Resnitsky
- Charles Smith
- Sylvia Tandler
- Hubert E. Elkins
- Walter Gaines
- Rachel Newman

Week ending November 16

- Dena Fischer Cohen
- Zalman Cook
- Jennie Edelman
- David Moss Feder
- Nathaniel Jones
- Minnie Pashelinsky
- Samuel Rabinowitz
- Ben Schlossberg
- David Schneid
- Eva G. Stein
- Richard Epstein
- Sophia Jacobs
- Esther "Betty" Lerner
- Ignatious N. Schwartz
- William Tandler
- Samuel Tolstoi
- Buddy Frank
- Samuel Harwood
- Harry S. Levita
- Celia Lubowsky
- Solomon Reinheimer
- Sylvia Kaner
- Ethel Kanov Rosen
- Joseph Cooper
- Hortense Frank

- Joseph Mayer
- Norman Hochman
- Rose Kliman
- Isadore Rapkin
- Pauline Rodney
- Edward Schoenbart
- Rebecca Shapiro
- Sophie Altshuler
- Philip A. Brooks
- Rose Levy
- Sylvia F. Shapiro

Week ending November 23

- Dr. Nat Ralph Bergner
- Mali Goldstein Davis
- Edna Press Herman
- Yetta Smith
- Ida Flior
- Lillian Goldowsky
- Dr. Samuel Kraemer
- Ruth Lubow
- Mildred Taylor
- Anna Tillman
- Patti Mayersohn
- Frank Feinberg
- Dr. George A. Rawson
- Seymour Siegel
- Abraham Feldman
- Alan Robert Levine
- A. Benjamin Miller
- Steven Pinkowitz
- Goldye Singer
- Milton Stamberg
- Milton Wiener

- Phyllis Barison
- Henry A. Garfunkel
- Roy Grossman
- Samuel Hofstetter
- Hattie Cohn Pollak

Week ending Nov 30

- Joseph Alexander
- Irving Eisenberg
- Mary Lou Goldstein
- Solomon Kramer
- Berngard Jaffin
- Dr. Abraham Jaffin
- Herman W. Klausner
- Leopold Meinstein
- Dr. Jack Gurwitz
- Milton M. Snowman
- Daniel Isidore Koplowitz
- Fannie Newman
- Clara Werther Schwartz
- Dr. Samuel A. Cohen
- Birdie Harris
- Jonas Max Heinsfurter
- S. Elias Schneitzer
- Sue Zitter
- Sally Karten Abbott
- Joseph Lerner
- Helen Cook Schneid
- Herbert Ziff
- Freda Abramsky
- Harry Goldberg
- Sigmund Arthur Newman
- Elliott Porte
- Lillian Sternberg

Week ending November 9

- Theodore Davidowitz
- Abraham Jacobson
- Mary Kushner
- Sarah Lenkowsky
- Irving Sweet
- Julia Jacobson
- Henry Genser
- Evelyn Shugar Brauer
- Mark Cuttler
- Sophie Jasper
- Samuel Shapiro
- Atwood C. Wolf
- Helen K. Wellen

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