

2419 Kennedy Blvd, Jersey City, NJ 07304 www.betheljc.org ph 201.333.4229 office@betheljc.org The Reform Congregation of Jersey City November 2021 Cheshvan—Kisley 5782

Celebrating our 150th year as a congregation & 95 years in our home!



Chanukah begins on November 28 this year! (yes, it's "early")

Join us at the Temple on Friday, December 3 at 6:30 pm as we celebrate Chanukah and the Consecration of our Religious School children (see below).

Bring your hanukkiah and we'll all light candles together.

See page 4 for a sheet of Chanukah blessings and songs to enjoy at home.



Beth-El November 2021 page 2



# We are back LIVE in-person every week from the Temple. Please read our COVID protocols carefully.

Services will continue in our sanctuary and are open to all ages. However, we require that all people 12 years old and older are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and remain fully masked at all times. All our services will be livestreamed. If you are following the service from home and would like to access the siddur, click <u>here</u>.

#### Friday, November 5

First Friday Family Kabbalat Shabbat services 6:30pm 7th Grade Shabbat

Also available livestreamed from our sanctuary here

#### Friday, November 12

Kabbalat Shabbat services 8:00 pm Also available livestreamed from our sanctuary here

#### Friday, November 19

Kabbalat Shabbat services 8:00 pm Also available livestreamed from our sanctuary here

#### Friday, November 26

Kabbalat Shabbat services 8:00 pm Also available livestreamed from our sanctuary <u>here</u>

#### Friday, December 3

First Friday Family Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm Religious School Consecration Community Chanukah Candle Lighting bring your own hanukkiah!

#### Saturday, December 4

Shabbat morning services and bar mitzvah of 10:30 am Benjamin Gordon

Also available livestreamed from our sanctuary here

Also available livestreamed from our sanctuary here

# Click here for our new Temple Beth-El website & Member Section!

To access the member section, click on Member Login on the top right section of the homepage. You'll see a form to establish a unique username and password. Once in the Members Only section you'll find our Membership Directory, b'nai mitzvah materials, Religious School Parent Portal, Expense Reimbursement and In-Kind Donation Forms, and Yizkor online access.



#### Temple Beth-El

2419 Kennedy Boulevard at Harrison Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07304



Phone: 201-333-4229 Fax: 201-938-0445 office@betheljc.org www.betheljc.org

Office hours: Mon-Fri 10am – 1pm Much of our staff is still working from home with limited access to files. Our phones, emails and website are up and running.

Rabbi Leana Moritt <u>rabbimoritt@betheljc.org</u> Rabbi Emeritus Kenneth Brickman

rabbibrickman@betheljc.org

#### Cantorial Soloist/Director of Education Marian Kleinman

morahmarian@betheljc.org

Tom Rosensweet, President tom@betheljc.org
Karen Seemen Pinn, Vice President
Nancy Sambul, Vice President
Mike Noveck, Vice President
Michael Shuchman, Treasurer
Suzanne Goldstein-Smith, Financial Sec.
Deborah Lipp, Recording Secretary

admin@betheljc.org

Kay Magilavy, Past President

Bob Kahan, Office Manager

kay@betheljc.org

Irwin Rosen, Past President

#### **Shabbat Candle Lighting**







# B'nai mitzvah

# Bar/Bat Mitzvah Orientation Meeting — for parents of children in grades 5-7 who have not yet begun b'nai mitzvah tutoring Sunday, November 14 at 9:45 am (over ZOOM)

Please note new date and time.

At this meeting, Rabbi Moritt will explain the Temple Beth-El B'nai Mitzvah Program while offering parents a chance to ask questions and meet one another. We will discuss the process and activities both available and required of our students and ways that parents can meaningfully participate as well. Parents are required to attend this meeting at least once in the 24 months before their children begin their b'nai mitzvah tutoring, which generally begins six months before their ceremony.

#### November – January Religious School Dates for Your Calendar

Family Shabbat Service – Grade 6 & 7	Friday, November 5 at 6:30 pm
Bar Mitzvah Meeting, Grades 5-7, with Rabbi Moritt	Sunday, November 14
Youth Education Committee Zoom Meeting (3rd Thursday)	Thursday, November 18 at 7:30pm
Chanukah Fun – Family Education, All Grades	Sunday, November 21
Mitzvah Day on the Move at TBE! Starts at 12:30pm	Sunday, November 21
No school (Thanksgiving Weekend)	Sunday, November 28
Chanukah Communal Candle-lighting and Consecration (all new students)	Friday, December 3 at 6:30 pm
No school (Winter Break)	December 26 and January 2
No school (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)	January 16

For more dates and the full year Religious School Calendar, visit our website here.



#### Temple Beth El Jersey City Members

is a **Private** Facebook

Group created exclusively for our Temple Beth-El member community to continue being together while promoting health and wellness. For security purposes we are limiting this group to members only. If you are not yet a member, please consider joining.

There is also a separate page for Beth-El families!



Our Twitter feed has over **800** followers!
Check it out <u>here</u> or search for Temple Beth-El Jersey City on Twitter.

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#### A Poem to TBE

Shalom! September was busy with new classes and New Year Rosh Hashanah, Then Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Simchat Torah and we look forward to Hanukah! Thinking of your families and mine on my ride home from TBE Religious School I recall Torah stories, such as Joseph, Rebecca, Jacob, Sarah, and Abraham — so cool!

Ms. Joanna introduces these stories to our children in Kindergarten through Grade 2. Ms. Hadas teaches 3rd (and some 4th) graders to read the many letters of Hebrew Ms. Rosa's returning 4th graders learn Shabbat prayers after a careful alef-bet review; And with Ms. Rosa the 3rd and 4th graders explore Torah stories to gain a deeper view.



Our newest teacher, Ms. Ora takes turns with Ms. Hara, teaching 5th graders
While half of the students study with Ms. Ora to learn Shabbat liturgy
Their Judaica class with Ms. Hara discovers our Jewish history
Ms. Brenda's 6th grade Hebrew class learns the Torah blessings, Friday night Kiddush, Haftarah blessings, and many more;
And Jewish life cycle rituals for birth, bat mitzvah, weddings, and funerals they explore.

At Grade 7, students are perched to each become a *bar mitzvah* or *bat mitzvah* hit
They review the seven years before, with Ms. Mazie and Rabbi Moritt
They go beyond review, to explore their Jewishness
Struggling and striving similar to the Israelites in the wilderness.
Ms. Mazie's 7th grade Hebrew students review and learn *Shabbat* morning prayers;
With Rabbi Moritt, they explore our roots and traditions, Judaica's many fascinating layers.

We hope to continue beyond Grade 7 with a special, welcoming choice:
Pizza, a little socializing, and more adult educational content, our teenagers to continue finding a Jewish voice;
Then, led by Rabbi Moritt, the 10th graders can team up and prepare to emote
Creating and leading the spring holiday service rejoicing the giving of Torah: Shavuot.
And Morah Marian teaches too, without assigning any written reports.

We thank many at this season and throughout the year, singing the *Shehekhianu*Leaders I thank include Karen Seemen, Laura Katzive, Craig and Michele Linder leading the Youth Education Committee crew . . .

Bob Kahan, who runs our office and *Rakefet*, a database for membership and much more Suzanne Goldstein-Smith ever so helpful with bank balance and financial chore, Board President Tom Rosensweet compassionately ready to assist Social Action leaders Mike Noveck and Alain Mentha running the Food Pantry with a loving list Ben Rausch adds flavor to worship with his accompaniment on piano; And we've often appreciated the caring assistance of the ever-present Vadim and Anna.

As I drove closer to home, I noticed I could see the moon Calling me to return, return to Beth-El well before the passing of high noon. Since these rhymes may become a bore and a blur You can expect regular prose again from me once again in December.

Kol tuv (All the best) Marian morahmarian@betheljc.org www.betheljc.org



# MITZVAH DAY + on the move

**Federation's Mitzvah Day on the Move Hudson** is coming to your community to offer a family focused volunteer project. We need your help to assemble hats, gloves, & other cold weather must-haves for vulnerable men, women, & children. No fee to participate.

#### **Cold Weather Bundle**

**NOVEMBER 20 | 5:00 pm** 

**UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF HOBOKEN** 

115 Park Ave. Hoboken.

NOVEMBER 21 | 12:30 pm

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Register

#### WWW.JFNNJ.ORG/MITZVAHHUDSON

Shara Nadler, Volunteer Center Manager, SharaN@jfnnj.org Sari Gross, Volunteer Center Chair



#### Jews of Color in the Reform Movement Affinity Space Gatherings

We are pleased to announce our upcoming Jews of Color & People of Color in the Reform Movement Affinity Space Gatherings! These gatherings are led by and for Jews of Color & People of Color who are Jewish Adjacent (those of us who are People of Color and do not identify as Jewish, but are partnered with a Jewish person or part of a Jewish family. For more information, click <a href="https://example.com/here-new-mo





#### Saturday, November 20 @ 10:30 am

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If the weather permits, we will be outdoors. Please watch your emails for alternative plans.



Calling all children 0-5 and their grownups! Welcome back to the Temple! Join us for singing, dancing, storytime, snack and an age-appropriate activity.

As the weather turns colder, we are evaluating how to host Tot Shabbat when it is too cold or wet to be outside. Please respond to <u>this survey</u> to let us know your preferences. We will follow State mask and social distancing requirements and will require vaccination for all 12 or older when indoors.

Thank you to Guillermo & Meagan Cancio (Pearl's parents) for bringing our edible sukkot ingredients and to Megan & Jon Russek (Adelaide's parents), for bringing the challah, snack and juice boxes this month. Please consider volunteering for next month by signing up <a href="here">here</a> or contacting <a href="Morah Marian">Morah Marian</a>.

Mark your calendars for Tot Shabbat mornings through the end of the calendar year.

Watch for location details.

December 18 January 15 February 5 March 19 April 23 May 28 June 25

If you are not on our Tot Shabbat list, please email office@betheljc.org
and ask to be added to our email list.

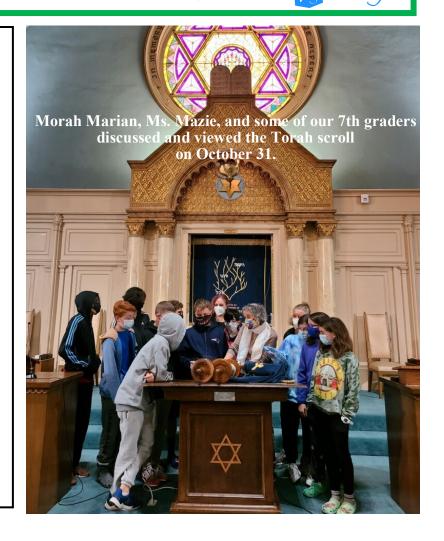
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#### Join your peers for some social fun!

Temple Beth-El's monthly Youth Group activities are fun and encourage our teens and pre-teens to develop a social conscience while they also develop a Jewish social network. The gatherings supplement our Religious School experiences and encourage children and teens to create lasting bonds with each other, their Jewish identity, social activism, and our congregation. Rosa Escandon, our Youth Group Director, leads our 2 groups: Junior Youth Group (grades 5-7) and Senior Youth Group (grades 8—12).

As a Reform synagogue, Temple Beth-El is part of the NFTY (National Federation of Temple Youth) network (<a href="https://nfty.org/">https://nfty.org/</a>). For more information or to get on our Youth Group email list, contact Rosa@betheljc.org.





#### **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 began on **Wednesday October 27.** Running for 20 weeks, the class will be held on Wednesday 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 well as those with 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 <u>RabbiMoritt@betheljc.org</u> with questions, to register or to set up a meeting. Rabbi Moritt meets with each student before registering. If you have already spoken, register <u>here</u>.

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

And, starting in December, an optional Introduction to Hebrew class will be offered 30 minutes before class begins at no cost.

#### Introduction to Hebrew I

Wednesdays 7-7:30 pm beginning December 1

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 text books. To sign up, contact <u>Rabbi Moritt</u>.



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Extraordinary times may compel one to make difficult decisions for which they were not previously prepared. Whether you find yourself faced with the decisions surrounding the death of a family member or you are considering making advance plans, Temple Beth-El has a plot of burial grounds in Mount Moriah Cemetery in Fairview, NJ.

Mount Moriah is a beautiful and well-maintained cemetery that has been serving the Jewish Community for over 100 years. The cemetery is located on the slopes of the Palisades just a few minutes from Hudson County, between Kennedy Blvd and Routes 1&9. The Temple's graves are located on the main road of the cemetery and are adjacent to our original plot where, among many of our founding members, our founding rabbi, the late Maurice Thorner is buried. These graves are available for purchase, either as a family plot or individual graves.

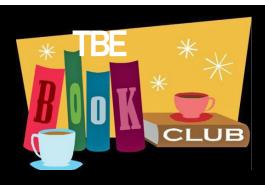
For further information, please contact Larry Gutterman at <a href="mailto:admin@bethelic.org">admin@bethelic.org</a>

#### Yahrzeits/Memorial Plaques/ Simcha Tree Leaves Remember and Honor



The yahrzeit, 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 yahrzeit has occurred that week.

- To update your family's yahrzeit listings go to the <u>TBE yahrzeit list</u> or call or write the office.
- To purchase a Memorial Plaque to honor the memory of your loved ones click <u>here</u>
- To purchase a Simcha Tree Leaf to honor or congratulate friends or family members for special events or accomplishments please click here



Thursday, November 18 @ 8 pm
Next book:
At the End of the World, Turn Left
by Zhanna Slor

The author will be joining us!

Email Joanna Tartikoff at bookclub@betheljc.org for the Zoom link.

# Yahrzeits



Week ending November 6

Howard Bert Baker Evelyn Shugar Brauer Rosalind Dars Gladys Hauptman Mary Kushner Victor Ruskin Irving Sweet Sue Zitter

#### Week ending November 13

Fanny Altman
Cynthia Barrett
Silvia R. Brodsky
Richard Epstein
Maurice J. "Buddy" Frank
Walter Gaines
Laura Moritt Katz
Esther "Betty" Lerner
Louis Mayersohn
Rachel Newman
Helen Schnur
Helen K. Wellen

#### Week ending November 20 Barbara Schwartzbard

Sarah Felberbuam David B. Finkelstein Hortense Frank Edna Press Herman Sylvia F. Shapiro Ronde Joyce Wasserman

#### Week ending November 27

Phyllis Barison
Jorge Falus
Mary Lou Goldstein
Dr. Jack Gurwitz
Daniel Isidore Koplowitz
Jane Tuchscher Koskuba
Alan Robert Levine
Milton Wiener

#### Week ending December 4

Susan Siegler Comstock
Florence Dodelson
Hyman Golin
Aid Kushner
Sigmund Arthur Newman
Elliott Porte
Michelle Raskin
Jon Edward Rottenberg
Barbara Schwartzbard

Abraham L. Wellen

Herbert Ziff



### 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

Acknowledgement of your contribution will be sent to the recipient and the message will be listed in the newsletter. To make a donation and offer a tribute for any reason, click here or contact the office

#### **Sustaining Fund**

Donations were made by Heidi Bramson & Ryan Joseph Ulyana Bravo & Jeremiah Lowe Joel Caminer & Ellen Simon Matthew Lippert Alan Porwich

In honor of Ava Pinn's Bat Mitzvah Project

Beth Chalick-Kaplan

To assist with mold remediation in the Social Hall

Erik & Marla Decker

In memory of Priscilla Wagner Fields Kenneth & Sheila Fields

In memory of Roberta Fishman Philip Fishman

In memory of Steven Pinkowitz Jonathan & Karen Seemen Pinn

In memory of Murray Harr on his yarzeit Lynn & Michael J. Reichgott

#### **Music Fund**

In memory of Ethel Freizer, Rick Freizer's mother

Irwin Rosen & Sharon Hirshberg

In memory of Abby Gott, mother of Alan Gott

Irwin Rosen & Sharon Hirshberg In memory of Toby Rosen on her yarzeit

Irwin Rosen & Sharon Hirshberg

In honor of Jonah Roter's bar mitzvah Robin Rosenzweig Schkrutz & Alexander Schkrutz

Mazel Tov to Chloe Lipman and Ben Litchman on the birth of their daughter, Frankie Rose

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Mazel tov to Shirley and Harvey Roter on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Jonah

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Congratulations to Sam Pesin for the wonderful article in the New York Ties Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Congratulations to Ava Pinn and her family on her Bat Mitzvah Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Condolences to Michael Shuchman on the death of his wife, Lisa Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Mazel tov to Rabbis Moritt and Kushner on the birth of their new grandson

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Condolences to Karen and Fred Schnur on the death of their son, David

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In memory of Nathan's mother, Bernice Pollner

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In memory of Nathan's stepfather, Murray Pollner Nancy & Nathan Sambul

IMO Nathan's grandfather, Harry Vogelman, on his yarzeit Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In celebration of Nathan's 75th birthday

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Mazel toy to Rabbis Moritt & Kushner on their move to Jersey City Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Thank you to Rabbi Moritt, Morah Marian and Ben Rauch for High Holy **Day Services** 

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Thanks Beth Achenbach for the inspirational poem Nancy & Nathan Sambul

#### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Mary Byrnes & Art Silverstein

#### **Food Pantry Donation**

Linda Landaw Nancy & Nathan Sambul Robert & Hillela Ward Steven Wolfe

#### Ying's Gifts & Accessories **GREAT BLOWOUT SALE!**

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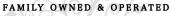


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#### Wednesdays at TBE

Please lend a hand by volunteering here for our Wednesday Food Pantry, by donating

the foods and clothing listed here, or by donating funds here so we can purchase needed items. (See below if you'd like to use a QR code to access the wishlist.)

Donations are tax-deductible. If you donate cash, you'll receive an acknowledgement as usual. If you donate items, email the receipt

to kpd@bethelic.org click here for downloadable copy of the Temple's In-Kind Donation Form. Click on the second form to donate, complete it. a n d send to kpd@betheljc.org.

Thank you so much for your support in keeping our food pantry running during these difficult times.





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