



2419 Kennedy Blvd, Jersey City, NJ 07304
www.betheljc.org ph 201.333.4229 office@betheljc.org

The Reform Congregation of Jersey City
May 2023
Iyar—Sivan 5783

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



What? Temple Beth-El will be participating again this year in **#HUDSONGIVES**, a unique platform that helps raise funds for nonprofit organizations just like us in Hudson County. Our Goal is to build on last year's success and raise \$25,000 with at least 150 individual donors. We can do it with a team effort!

When? Giving Day is **May 11** – that's when it gets exciting – but you can make your team page today and start accepting donations starting **May 2 through May 18**.

Where? Entirely online. You just post a link and a request on your social media pages. Or send a personal message by email to your family and friends.

How?

- To sign up go here:** [#HudsonGives Temple Beth-El Team Page](#), click “fundraise” and follow prompts. Once you are logged into GiveGab, go to your dashboard to personalize “your story”. You can adjust your goal, add a photo, and a personal message.
- Mark **May 2** and **May 11** on your calendar “Fundraiser for Temple Beth-El.”
- When **May 2** arrives you can start spreading the word! Share your individual link or [Temple Beth-El Team Page link](#) via email and/or social media with your own announcement:
"I am happy to announce that I will be participating in **#HudsonGives** (always use this hashtag) My synagogue, Temple Beth-El in Jersey City, is awesome and I want to help reach their fundraising goal of \$25,000. *I'm a dedicated member/My family loves the religious school/We love the socially and progressive activism/ TBE nurtures my spirit with its warm community, music, diversity, and openness/ We are so excited that the school is being rebuilt and modernized/Tot Shabbat is so much fun and my kids can't wait every month. (Add your own comments and encouragement!)* Please take a minute to read our story, your donation would mean a lot to me/us"
- May 11th is THE DAY!** It's the big team effort to really spread our fundraising stories!
- On **May 11** through **May 18** go to [our page](#) and you will see dynamic updates as our fundraisers generate donations. You too can help spread the word!

Need help to become one of our champion fundraisers?
Contact [Nancy Sambul](#) or [Beth Achenbach](#), and they'll set you up with your own link to share.

See inside this issue for lots more information, including:

- Borscht — page 2
- Take the Chai Challenge — page 3
- Service Schedule — page 4
- Rabbi's Message — page 5
- Shavuot Torah Study — page 6
- Program on Antisemitism & its Impact on Business — page 9

TEMPLE BETH - EL PRESENTS:

12th Annual
**ALL POINTS
BORSCHT**

**\$40
CHEAP**

STARRING

*Ariel
Elias*



FEATURING

*Kerrie
Louise*



HOSTED BY *Phil Rivo*

JUNE 10TH | DOORS AT 7.30 PM | SHOW AT 8 PM
PIEROGIS, BORSCHT AND SHLOMO PUNCH!

[CLICK HERE TO BUY TICKETS, OR TO PLACE AN AD!!](#)

UKRAINIAN COMMUNITY CENTER - 90 FLEET ST
JERSEY CITY NJ

TO BENEFIT TEMPLE BETH-EL →



TAKE THE CHAI CHALLENGE



HELP US GO FROM THIS

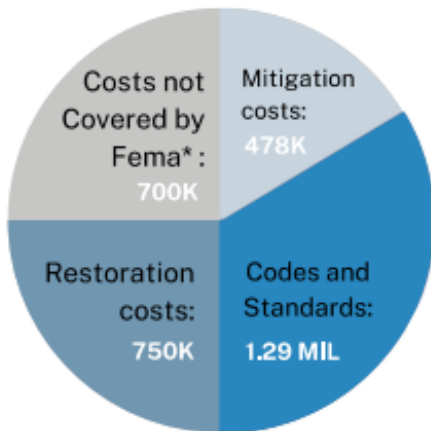
TO THIS!

If every member donates \$180/month (10x chai/18) for 12 months, we will reach our fundraising goal for the Social Hall this year.

Is \$180/month too big of a stretch? What multiple of chai monthly amount will you donate?



\$3.2 MILLION OUR SOCIAL HALL BUDGET



The groundbreaking ceremony will be in February and we anticipate that, in partnership with FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security, we will have a completely and beautifully refurbished School facility and Social Hall by the start of the next school year.

TO MAKE OUR TRANSFORMATION A REALITY... WE ARE LOOKING FOR 100% CONGREGATIONAL PARTICIPATION TO TAKE THIS CHALLENGE!

WHERE IS THE \$3.2 MIL COMING FROM? ???



516k: Goal for this year
 106k: SBA Loan
 310K: Money Raised
 2.27 Million FEMA*

To Accept the Challenge Please Click [HERE](#)

- All new windows streaming in natural light
- A brand-new school facility with audio-quality movable walls
- Ample space for all our celebrations and events
- New bathrooms in our lower level
- New HVAC in our lower level

- A handicapped accessible elevator that goes from our basement to balcony
- New Front Doors on sanctuary level
- New security windows in our Annex Classrooms and Rabbi's office
- New security perimeter fencing and lighting around our building
- And More!

*FEMA IS GIVING US 90% OF THE FUNDS TO COVER A SCOPE OF WORK COVERING THE COST OF RESTORATION; IMPROVEMENTS TO BRING US UP TO ALL CODES & STANDARDS; AND MITIGATION COSTS (LESS 106K SBA LOAN), SOME OF THE NECESSARY WORK IS NOT COVERED IN THE FEMA FULL BUDGETS. FUNDRAISING NEEDS, AND TIMELINE IS EXPECTED VERY SOON, FULL TRANSPARENCY WILL FOLLOW, THESE THERMOMETERS WILL CONTINUE TO UPDATE AS THE WORK PROGRESSES.

- All Shabbat services are live and in person in our sanctuary.
- We are continuing to livestream all our services for all who feel they need to participate from home. **Services that will be livestreamed from our sanctuary can be viewed [here](#).**

Friday, May 5

First Friday Family Kabbalat Shabbat Services & 6:30 pm
 3rd & 4th grade shabbat with Cantor Jeff.
 Aufruff blessing the upcoming marriage of Kiana Kiyohara and Stephen Leicht. Oneg and cake honoring grades 3/4 children and the couple after services.

Friday, May 12

Community Shabbat Dinner 7:00 pm
 All attendees must pre-register [here](#) by Tuesday, May 9.

Saturday, May 13

Tot Shabbat (not livestreamed) 10:30 am

Friday, May 19

Wine & Cheese “pre-neg” 7:15 pm
 Kabbalat Shabbat Services. Oneg following services. 8:00 pm

Thursday, May 25

Erev Shavuot: All-night online Tikkun Leil Shavuot Learning.
 Register [here](#).
 See page 6 for more detail.

Friday, May 26

Kabbalat Shabbat Services 8:00 pm
 Cheesecake oneg following services

Saturday, May 27

Shavuot Shabbat services & Reading of the 10 10:30 am
 Commandments
 Community-wide picnic and Ice Cream Social 12:00 pm
 Shavuot Shabbat Evening services 8:00 pm
Ice Cream Social FroYo sponsored by Deborah and Mark Kahn

Friday, June 2

First Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:30 pm
 with Cantor Jeff

Saturday, June 3

Shabbat morning services and bar mitzvah of 10:30 am
 Samuel Decker



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: Tuesdays 11am – 4pm

Thursdays 11am – 6pm

Remote office hours:

Wednesdays 11am – 4pm

Friday 11am – 2 pm

Rabbi Leana Moritt rabbimoritt@betheljc.org

Rabbi Emeritus Kenneth Brickman

rabbibrickman@betheljc.org

Cantor in Residence Jeff Warshauer

CantorJeff@betheljc.org

Lindsay Holeman, Interim Education Dir.

lindsay@betheljc.org

Tom Rosensweet, President tom@betheljc.org

Philip Gary, Vice President

Karen Seemen Pinn, Vice President

Nancy Sambul, Vice President

Chris Eig, Treasurer

Suzanne Goldstein Smith, Financial Sec.

Deborah Lipp, Recording Secretary

Bob Kahan, Office Mgr admin@betheljc.org

Kay Magilavy, Past President

Irwin Rosen, Past President

Shabbat & Shavuot Candle Lighting

Friday, May 5 7:38 pm

Friday, May 12 7:45 pm

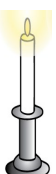
Friday, May 19 7:52 pm

Thursday, May 25 7:58 pm

Friday, May 26 7:58 pm

(from preexisting flame)

Friday, June 2 8:04 pm



Please consider [sponsoring an oneg](#) —
 for a special occasion
 or just to celebrate
 being together!

Gratitude for our Rich and Diverse Community

It's a truism that any synagogue is made up of lots of different micro-communities. As the rabbi of Temple Beth-El I am fortunate to interact and appreciate all the different aspects of the community. While it is wonderful to be part of so much energy in the congregation, I also see how different segments of our community, perhaps naturally, often don't interact with one another.

For example, did you know that just over the course of 6 weeks:

- Our Introduction to Judaism classes has 16 people and celebrated the birth of 3 new babies, 2 conversions and 1 marriage?
- At our Shabbat services, we are celebrating 3 weddings and 1 bat mitzvah.
- Our religious school conducted a Passover Seder exclusively with different kinds of chocolate.
- New teens and adults have come to staff our weekly Food Pantry.
- We have 2 Teen madrichim helping in the school and more coming on next year.
- Our building team is diligently working with our architects, engineers, builders and FEMA toward our Social Hall renovation (and buying a new oven!)
- Our religious school children will be co-leading the prayers at our First Friday service.
- Our 7th graders are co-leading our Religious School Prayer services.
- 5 adults and 5 children are currently preparing for their b'nai mitzvah.
- Our RPC team are interviewing cantorial candidates for next year.
- Our Kadimah! team is busy fundraising to ensure we have the money for our Social Hall plans.
- 5 children are learning how to blow the shofar on Rosh Hashana
- 3 teens have committed to chanting Torah on the High Holy Days.
- Our Borscht team is putting together wonderful evening of comedy and community and a (hopefully) lucrative ad journal for June 10.
- Tot Shabbat families form precious relationships and celebrated Passover together.
- A new team is putting together the "Great Temple Beth-El Bake Off" for the fall to show off all our beloved recipes, collective culinary talents and gastronomic enthusiasm.



I put this all together to celebrate all we are doing, yes, but actually for a more important reason. While we all find our ways to get involved and nurture the health and growth of our congregation, there aren't that many times we have to all be together, meet others outside our circles, just enjoy one another's company and have a little fun.

The holiday of Shavuot is when we re-live the moment when we all stood together at Sinai. To be sure, it was an awesome moment in which we all encountered the presence of the Divine, each of us received the Torah and hear the 10 Commandments. While we recreate this moment liturgically by studying all night at [our all-night Tikkun Leil Shavuot](#) (see page 6) on Thursday 5/25 and by hearing the 10 Commandments chanted from Torah on Saturday morning 5/27, there is more to the experience of Jewish community.

While our ancestors travelled together as a pack for 40 years, today we need special days to gather. And while our praying and learning together are central pillars of our community, so is good old-fashioned fun. This crucial part of Jewish community gives the synagogue its name, the *beit kneset*, or the house of gathering—even if it is just to gather for frozen yogurt and a picnic or for a laugh and a drink.

So maybe you're one of the many people who are part of one of the amazing things going on at the Temple these days. Maybe you're part of a couple. Or maybe you're looking to put your toes a little deeper into congregational life. Wherever you are, you are a part of us and you deserve a little fun with your Jewish community.

continued on next page

Rabbi's Message *(continued from page 5)*

For that, we have two events just for fun where I hope to see you. One is our annual Shavuot Picnic and Ice Cream Social. It's for the whole community, so bring your friends, bring the kids bring your dog, bring a chair and some lunch. We'll supply the frozen yogurt and the 10 (commandment) toppings. (Big thank you to Mark and Debbi Kahn of Downtown Yogurt for sponsoring it again this year!) It's from noon to 2.30pm on Saturday, May 27.

The other event is [Borscht](#), our night of levity and laughter on June 10. It's at The Ukrainian Cultural Center again (till the Social Hall is finished) and will have a cash bar, borscht (really!) and pierogies available (for cash) before the show and raffle tickets and a 50/50 raffle (also for cash). If you haven't already gotten your [tickets](#), it's definitely not too late. And don't forget to bring lots of cash.

And the most meaningful of all is to feel your place among your people and know you are part of the great mosaic that is Temple Beth-El.

L'shalom, in friendship and in peace,

Rabbi Leana Moritt

IT'S TORAH O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE

Join friends from across
North America for a night of online Torah Study
in celebration of Shavuot.

Thursday, May 25 - Friday, May 26

8:00 pm ET - 9:00 am ET

free | registration required [here](#)

TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT

5783

developed as a collaborative project of small URJ congregations



Sunday, May 7* @ 10am

**Religious School-wide
Lag B'Omer picnic and
outdoor game day**

Tot Shabbat and prospective
Religious School families
heartily welcome.

*Rain date May 14.

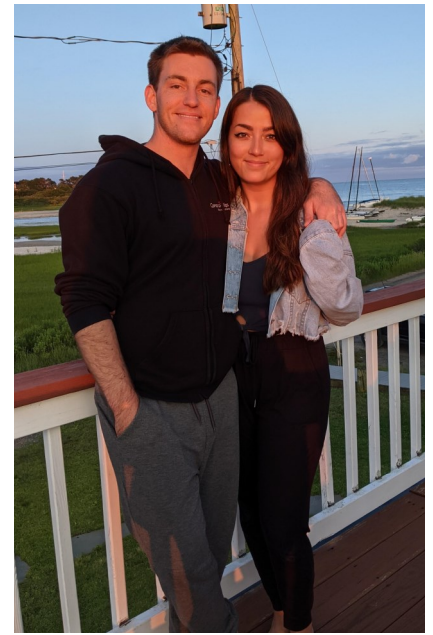


**Shavuot Community Picnic &
Ice Cream Social
for the whole community!**

Saturday, May 27 at noon
(immediately following our
Shavuot morning services)

*It's wedding
season!*

Stephen Leicht and
Kiana Kiyohara
will be blessed and
celebrated at an aufruff
under the chuppah at
services on May 5.
Join us for the joy,
celebration and oneg.



**Religious School
Enrollment**

Pre-Registration for
2023-24 Religious
School begins on May 1.
Register your
child [here](#).



It's not too early to think about camp
for next summer! Learn about Camp
Harlam [here](#).



Assemblywoman Angela McKnight, Nitzan Levy, Tal Shuster,
Rabbi Moritt, Councilman James Solomon, Dana, on the roof
of City Hall after raising the Israeli flag at City Hall
on Yom Haatzmaut.



wine & cheese
"pre-neg"
before services

Friday, May 19
Friday, June 16



- Help bring TBE to those at home by pushing a couple of buttons. Join the tech crew and work our Livestream equipment at a Shabbat service. Contact [Seth Lubin](#)
- Love to shmooze? Want to help our building renovation plans become reality? Help the Temple talk up and grow our Kadimah! Development Team. Contact [Rabbi Moritt](#)
- Are you a Social Media maven and want to help TBE stay visible and current? Contact [Beth Achenbach](#) or [Rabbi Moritt](#) and join the social media team.
- Want to create fun, welcoming and meaningful Temple events? Be part of our Religious Practices/Ushering team or Membership committee. Contact [Rabbi Moritt](#)
- Want to help feed the hungry and change the world? Contact [Laura Katzive](#)



Saturday, May 13
@ 10:30 am
at Temple Beth-El

Calling all children 0-5 and their grownups! Join your TBE friends, Rabbi Moritt and Ben Rauch for singing, dancing, storytime, kiddush, motzi, and an age-appropriate craft. Bracha the Bear is eager to see us again!

Mark your calendars for Tot Shabbat mornings through the end of the calendar year. We will be meeting in various outdoor locations when weather permits. Watch for location details.



June 10 July 15 August 26 September 30 October 21

If you are not on our Tot Shabbat list, please email the [office](#) & ask to be added to our email list.

sponsored by  PJ Library

Our next Community Shabbat Dinner at TBE: Friday, May 12 @ 7 pm



All attendees must pre-register [here](#) by May 9. This dinner will be in place of our usual Shabbat prayer services. Cost: \$18/ per person for a fully catered Shabbat dinner. \$10 for children ages 3-10.

All are welcome to the oneg/dessert at 8:30. Kaddish will be offered then for those who wish to recite it.

Just for You: One-to-one Hebrew Tutoring on Zoom

Develop your skills in reading/chanting prayers/Torah portions



All ages, including Bar/Bat Mitzvah students and adults

Ultimate flexibility! I will customize lessons to meet your needs

Contact: Robb Kushner at robbkushner@gmail.com

Or text me at 201-349-4481

*Mazal
Tov*

*To Samuel Wild
(Rabbi Moritt's son!)
and Rose Escandon
on their wedding on
May 20!*



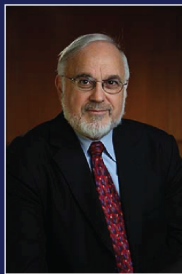
Join us for **Antisemitism and its Impact on Business**, with special guest **Rabbi Abraham Cooper, Associate Dean at the Simon Wiesenthal Center. [RSVP here.](#)**

MAY 31

5:30-7PM

Saint Peter's University
Duncan Skyroom
Jersey City

Antisemitism and its impact



Featured speaker:

Rabbi Abraham Cooper

Associate Dean and
Director of Global Social Action,
Simon Wiesenthal Center



in partnership with:

HARRISON RAND
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Change the World With One Hour of Your Time

Food Pantry Every Thursday at Temple Beth-El

The Temple Beth-El Food Pantry Urgently Needs Volunteers

Our Food Pantry is in its third year and is giving out more and more meals to our food-insecure neighbors every Thursday. Our members and friends have been generous with food donations.

To volunteer, please download the **Charity Quest App** to volunteer and donate. [Android](#) [Apple](#) Signing up through the App will make it easier for us to track. Team leaders (those with keys) should not sign up. Just let [Karen](#) and [Laura](#) know when you can go. Once someone registers, we will provide contact info to the team leader. You can also help by donating the food listed [here](#), or by donating funds.

We thank the Hebrew Club at St. Peter's Prep for organizing a fundraiser for the benefit of the Food Pantry which resulted in a donation to TBE of \$1,256.

Tributes

Acknowledgement of your contribution

is sent to the recipient and the message is listed in the newsletter.

To make a donation for any reason, click [here](#) and go to the appropriate tab or contact the [office](#)

Sustaining Fund

Donations were made by

Jesse Alicea-Roman

Gregory & Asha Yip-Ying

In memory of Arlene Hysen

Lyle Hysen & Lisa Chernic

In memory of Lothar and Elizabeth Daniel

Phyllis Stoolmacher

Music Fund

In honor of Amalie Mentha's Bat Mitzvah

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

To Sarah & Jeremy Farrell

in honor of the birth of Aidan Martin

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

To the Merin/Stein family

in honor of the birth of Isobel

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

To the Gomez/Ratush family

in honor of the birth of Yeba Yael Tziporah

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

To Leah Firestone & Niv Tschaikov

in honor of the birth of Geffen

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In honor of Sebastian Waldman's Bar Mitzvah

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In memory of Nancy's grandfather, David Gurwitz

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

In memory of Nathan's father, Leon Sambul

Nancy & Nathan Sambul

Flower Fund

In memory of Yetta DeNoble

Dr. Alex & Amy DeNoble

facebook

Temple Beth-El
Jersey City
Members

is a **private** Facebook Group created exclusively for our Temple Beth-El member community. 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 [here](#)

Ying's Gifts & Accessories

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Great sale on all items!

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Use code: Temple at checkout and receive 25% off your purchase. An additional 20% goes to the temple.

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Irving R. Gutterman
 (1907-1985)

463 Monmouth St.
 Jersey City, NJ 07302



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 admin@betheljc.org

Yahrzeits



Week ending May 7

James Colker
 Bradley Fields
 Ruth Golin
 David Gurwitz
 Anita Schonberger-Keel
 Tess Steierman

Week ending May 14

Glenn David Bardack
 Murray Hysen
 Clara Karten
 Arthur A. Levine
 Marvin Pinn
 Evelyn Straus
 Gertrude Wegodsky
 Gerson Werner
 Lynn M. Winograd

Week ending May 21

Elizabeth Fulop
 Ronald Gale
 Laurence Goldstein
 Shirley Haar
 Shirley Frank Kamien
 Doris Pliskin
 Ronald Tarlowe

Week ending May 28

Nathan Bayarsky
 Selwyn Gross
 Bella Pesin
 Lawrence Steierman

Week ending June 3

Irving Gromer
 Beatrice Meltzer

Yahrzeits *Remember and Honor*

To update your family's yahrzeit listings go to the [TBE yahrzeit list](#) or call or write the office.

