



BULLETIN

OF BETH EL CONGREGATION

JANUARY 2021

AKRON, OHIO

TEVET • SHEVAT 5781



Rabbi Elyssa Austerkfein

The Real Jewish Mother

Recently, I attended a lecture on “The Jewish Mother: Caretaker vs. Comedian.” The lecturer argued that while Jewish women comics often use the “Jewish Mother” theme, painting the picture of the overly involved mother for the sake of laughs, the truth of these comedians is that many neglected their own children, or chose to have none, for the sake of their careers.

Over the course of the pandemic, the role of mother has once again been reexamined by parts of society. As much progress as we make, most women still carry the bulk of the homemaking responsibilities, which include childcaring; and many women have been forced to leave their jobs because of the pandemic realities.

As I just finished teaching the six-session course on Jewish values lived by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, I can hear her words, articulated in 1993, “When fathers take equal responsibility for the care of their children, that's when women will truly be liberated.”

I am blessed that in my own household, the care of children is truly shared with my husband. At the same time, just like the traditional “Jewish Mother,” caring for, feeding, reading to, teaching and sharing time with my children is of utmost importance to me.

When the Professor of the lecture I attended likened the comedic audience to one’s children, in that they need constant entertainment, I made my own comparison of my motherly role to my role as rabbi – people wish to feel cared for and seen, heard, and understood, as children often do.

The idea that one cannot devote oneself to both motherhood and career is false. But it does mean that both parties - family and career - must make space for the other, knowing that the dual commitment actually strengthens the work of both.

In the Talmud, the ancient rabbis all had complementary professions - winemakers, blacksmiths, farmers, shepherds, woodchoppers, builders, merchants. That they both worked in the world and studied Torah gave texture to their understanding of the world and enhanced their wisdom. That they had different professions and debated with each other also promoted a diversity of ideas and ways of expounding on the Torah.

Rabbi → page 4

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LUNCH & LEARN

Please Join Us at Noon
Tuesday, Jan. 12

- Virtual Meeting -

Please enjoy your lunch in
your home or office.

Check your e-mail to log in.

BULLETIN of BETH EL CONGREGATION

Inside Pages –

All-Color on the Web

Incredible. Check it out.

bethelakron.com





בית אל

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www.bethelakron.com

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The Jewish Theological
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Education Program



Julie Katz

Director
of Education

I hope you have all had a relaxing break. I know the teachers and students have worked hard since September and have earned their pause.

Since we are all rested, we will begin 2021 with a bang. Friday, January 1st is Jr. Congregation's Kabbalat Shabbat service from 4:15 – 4:45 PM. It will be a celebration of the first Shabbat of 2021 with noisemakers, lights (Shabbat Candles) and a toast to the new Shabbat (also known as Kiddush).

Come in your party clothes with party hats and noisemakers. Those students attending will move closer to being full members of the Junior Congregation Club and closer to earning great prizes.

Religious school will begin again on January 5th. I will send out a new Zoom link to be used for the rest of the year.

On January 24th we will have our final joint congregational family program of the year. This one is about honoring your parents and will be on Zoom. Beth El is the sponsoring congregation. You will receive more details as we get closer to that day. Since you will need to be delivered supplies, please RSVP to Julie at scrapcats@roadrunner.com



Tree of Life

Our magnificent Tree of Life was created to record the happy events in the lives of Beth El members and their families. A birth, a wedding, a bar/bat mitzvah, a confirmation, an anniversary – all are among the milestones that can be remembered on the leaves of the Tree of Life. The cost of a leaf is \$125. You may use three or four lines with up to 23 letters per line.

Do you have High Holiday Prayer Books you want to return to Beth El?

Just email Jen, or call her, to arrange to drop off your prayer books.

bethelservices750@gmail.com

(330) 864-2105 x 118

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

JANUARY 2021
TEVET/SHEVAT
5781

Morning Minyan

Sunday 8:45 AM

Beth El - LIVE

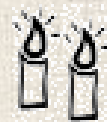
Wednesday &
Friday

7:30 AM

Shabbat Services

Saturday 10 AM

Beth El LIVE



Candle Lighting

Jan. 1 4:51 PM

Jan. 8 4:57 PM

Jan. 15 5:05 PM

Jan. 22 5:13 PM

Jan. 29 5:21 PM



Havdalah

Jan. 2 5:59 PM

Jan. 9 6:06 PM

Jan. 16 6:14 PM

Jan. 23 6:22 PM

Jan. 30 6:31 PM

Yahrzeits

January 1

Belle Foster
Mae Lieberman
Joel Potrock
David Sabetay
Hyman Sholiton

January 2-8

Herbert Berns
Phil Friedman
Dorothy Fuchs
Larry Golden
Robert Gordon
Herbert Haimes
Helen Heller
Sheridan J. Herzberg
Ossie Ostrov
Bernard Rosen
Charles Sacks
Hannah Sandler
Irwin Schneider
Dorothy Schwartz
Dolly Siff
Clara Stone
Cynthia Wein
Corrine Woll

January 9-15

Nathan Isaac Barnett
Carl Berman
Jack Beyer
Morris Goldstein
Jeannete Kallick
Ann Kutnick
Julius Marcus
Burton Marks
Lillian May
Olive Mendel
Jerry Pollack
Leon Schneider
Miriam Schultz
Sylvia May Schwartz
Esther Shapiro
Cheryl Sokol
Alex Stein
Sonia Sweet
Samuel Tapper
Phyllis Teichman
Dora Weiss
Nicki Whitlow

January 16-22

Lauren Bernstein

Rose Brown
Xenia Culiner
Fay Dienoff
Harold Fletcher
Elizabeth Freireich
Rena Gloth
Abraham Goldstein
Ruth Harris
Fannie Heller
Michael Kanner
Edith Katz
Todd Kay
Edward Kolkey
Pauline Kramer
Eleanor Magilav
Ruth Manes
Martin Newman
Isadore Rabinovitz
Paula Salzman
Edward Schneir
Sam Sigalow
Eleanor Stein
Tillie Turetzky
Paul Wagner
Dora Weiner
Jay Weiss

Victoria Willen
Marc Wolff

January 23-29

Abraham Belsky
Samuel Botnick
Joseph Cohen
Donald Fuchs
Melvin Glicksteen
Jerome Kaufman
Elaine Kofsky
David Krosner
Norman May
Randy Mermelstein
Kerry Migdal
Hannah G. Miller
Rose Minc
Betty Minkin
Morris Mostov
Bernice Rabinovitz
Gloria Reich
Eva Schneiderman
Thelma Sholiton
Herbert Skall
Nellie Stein
Pauline Zudnick


January 30-31

Marvin Gertz
Simon Gottlieb
Fradel Haber
Karl Hacker
Bertha Handler
Carolyn Lockshin
Clara Londa
Gerald Millman
David Moritz



Please call the office to inform us of Yahrzeit omissions or corrections.

Tevet 5781 **January 2021** **Shevat 5781**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Services (unless otherwise noted) Sunday 8:45 AM Wednesday 7:30 AM Friday 7:30 AM Saturday 10:00 AM		Let Us Know Our clergy are eager to talk to congregants in the hospital but can't if they don't know. If you or someone you know is in the hospital or sick at home, and would appreciate a pastoral phone call, please let us know.			1 17 Tevet Office Closed Jr. Cong. 4:15 PM New Year's Day	2 18 Tevet <i>Vayechi</i> Mini-Minyan 9:30 AM
3 19 Tevet	4 20 Tevet	5 21 Tevet Hebrew School 4 PM Board Meeting 7:00 PM	6 22 Tevet	7 23 Tevet	8 24 Tevet	9 25 Tevet <i>Shemot</i>
10 26 Tevet	11 27 Tevet	12 28 Tevet Lunch & Learn 12 Noon Hebrew School 4 PM	13 29 Tevet	14 1 Shevat	15 2 Shevat	16 3 Shevat <i>Vaera</i>
17 4 Shevat Eight Paths to God with Rabbi Austerklein 10 AM	18 5 Shevat Office Closed Taste of Torah 7 PM MLK Day	19 6 Shevat Hebrew School 4 PM	20 7 Shevat <i>Rosh Chodesh</i>	21 8 Shevat	22 9 Shevat	23 10 Shevat <i>Bo</i>
24 11 Shevat 8 Paths to God 10 AM Sunday School 10 AM	25 12 Shevat L'Chaim Cooking Club 6 PM	26 13 Shevat Hebrew School 4 PM	27 14 Shevat	28 15 Shevat	29 16 Shevat	30 17 Shevat <i>Beshalach</i>
31 18 Shevat				Tu B'Shvat		

Rabbi from page 1

Both of my children, now five and a half and already 26 months old, had me exclusively by each of their sides for the first four months of their lives because of maternity leave. When I think of Ginsburg's words, I think true liberation is not only about sharing the childcare responsibility, but also about society supporting the role of mother and the importance of that role in the context of women having meaningful work which benefits society.

Comedian Sarah Silverman has said on this topic: "It doesn't even occur to men that, more often than not, they're in a relationship with someone who's the primary caregiver of their kids and they get to be the fun dad," she explained. "I'd love to be a fun dad. I'd be the best fun dad."

Sarah Silverman, who has no children of her own, is not interested in the traditional mother role, which would be complete devotion to children and home life. That old model is pretty atypical today. But when we expect women to play a traditional male role in their work, perhaps as Ginsburg imagined true liberation, we haven't made the kind of societal progress we need to.

We must make space for something else - where the role of mother - and Jewish mother - is not an either or, but an opportunity for all of the mother's love and skills to be shared fairly inside and outside of family life. True liberation is not fitting into someone else's box, but being able to imagine, accept, and appreciate what each new model offers.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Elyssa



I hope everyone is staying well. Please mark these dates on your calendar:

- ✧ Taste of Torah
January 18, 7 PM
- ✧ L'Chaim Cooking Club
January 25, 6 PM

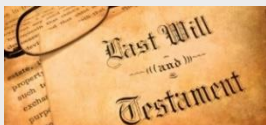
Shalom

Andrea Rabinovitz

**It's not too late
to pay your 2020-2021
\$30 annual Sisterhood dues.**

Send check, payable to Beth El Sisterhood, to 515 Woodbury Dr., Akron, OH 44333

Remember Beth El in Your Will



**Marsha Friedman,
Endowment Chair**

For Information,
Call (330) 603-1890

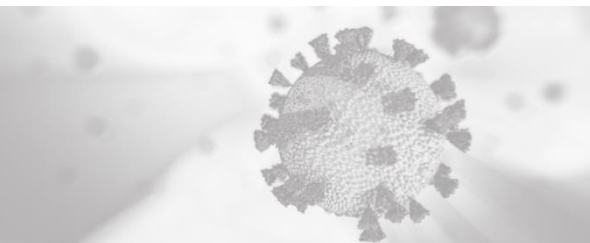
IN MEMORIAM

Beth El Congregation notes with sorrow
the passing of

George Goldman

Father of Agi and Susie; grandfather of Leah,
Gabrielle, Eric, Evan, CJ, and Lauren;
great-grandfather of Elena and Cohen

FROM THE COVID-19 COMMITTEE



In November, the COVID-19 Committee presented their Back-to-Shul plan to the Executive Board for review and feedback. We look forward to sharing the updated proposal for safely reopening Beth El in the coming months.

As we continue into the colder months, we stress the importance of protecting your health and the health of those around you by following the recommendations issued by our local, state, and federal public health officials. While we may feel overwhelmed by the constant bad news we hear every day, there is some positive news as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued an emergency use authorization for the first COVID-19 vaccine. Brighter days are ahead, but until we have a large number of people vaccinated, we will continue to be together in a way that protects everyone, including the most vulnerable in our community.

If you are feeling lonely or isolated, or need to connect for any reason, please know there is always someone here to talk to you. You can reach out to Rabbi Elyssa (Ph: 216-438-1357) or Hazzan Matt (Ph: 330-664-9494); our committee members are also here to listen. We've experienced a tough year, but we will continue to navigate the pandemic as a community.

**Be Well and Stay Safe,
The COVID-19 Committee**

Judah & Joseph: Leadership Matters



**Hazzan
Matthew Austerklein**

What is an ideal leader? In life, we usually gravitate towards a style that we personally prefer: the charismatic, the warm guide, the commanding executive. But personal preference isn't everything; for no leader exists in a vacuum. The real question is not about one leader, but how a group of leaders function. The Torah offers many insights on this point. In the end of the book of Genesis, the Jewish people is presented with two candidates for leadership – Judah and Joseph. Joseph is a "success story" – fame, wealth, power, and with ability to use those to accomplish his ends. But he is blinded by emotion, and often unable to see past his own power. Judah, a flawed individual, is nevertheless the voice of morality and decency. He is the one who helps avert his brothers' plot to murder Joseph at the pit, and later he will be the one whose moving words break through Joseph's Egyptian facade and lead to reconciliation.

Where would the Jewish people be without either of these leaders? Clearly, we needed both. Judah & Joseph each provided strengths that were checks and balances to the others' weakness. From this we learn that, in Torah as in life, leadership is collective. There is no one, heroic style in which a person can be or achieve everything, but it is a group together which fulfills the functions of leadership.

2020 in Review

A Rear View of the Year



Hazzan – Singing on Zoom



Kosher Karnival Community Event
Mary Ford, Max Ford and Grace Richter



Harry Potter Havdalah



Rabbi and Hazzan, Voices of the High Holy Days

! Adonai Yimloch l'olam vaed! Adonai Melech! Adonai Malach! Adonai Yimloch



Hands of Hope Mosaic Project



Jr. Congregation
Harry Potter



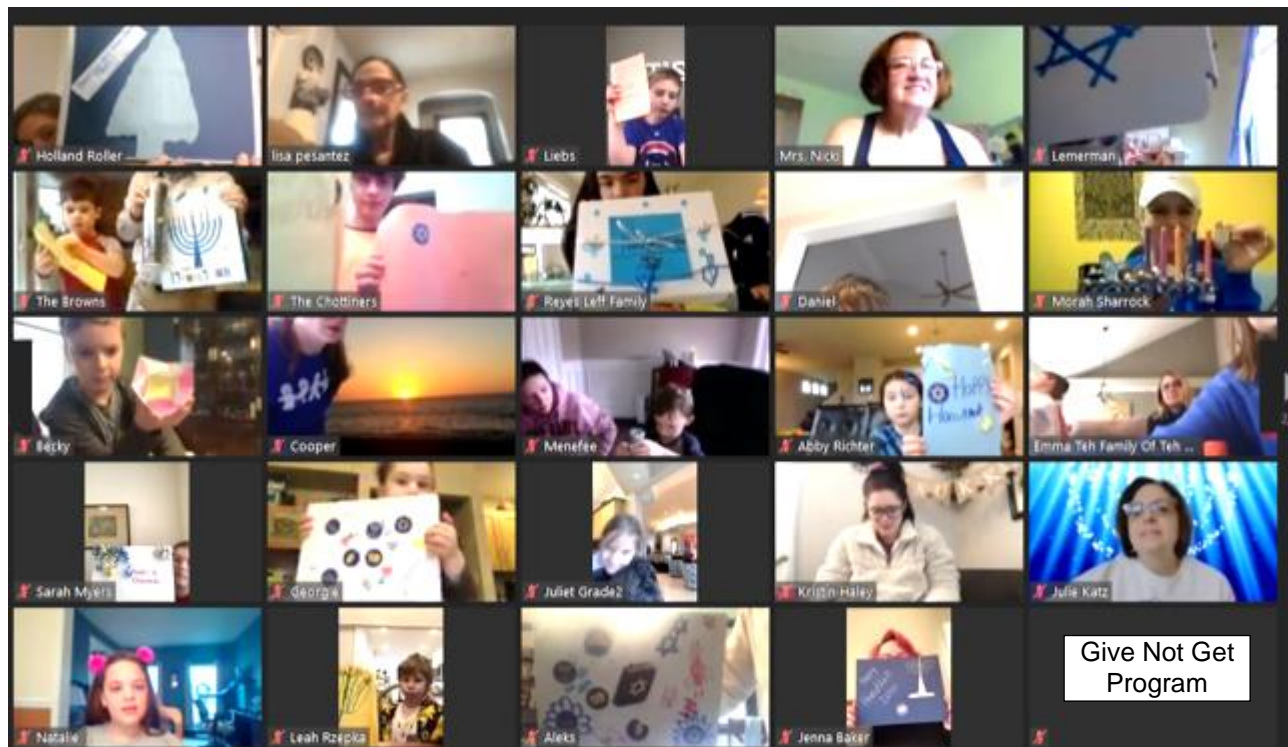
Visiting the Sukkah



Hazzan Matt at Oxford University



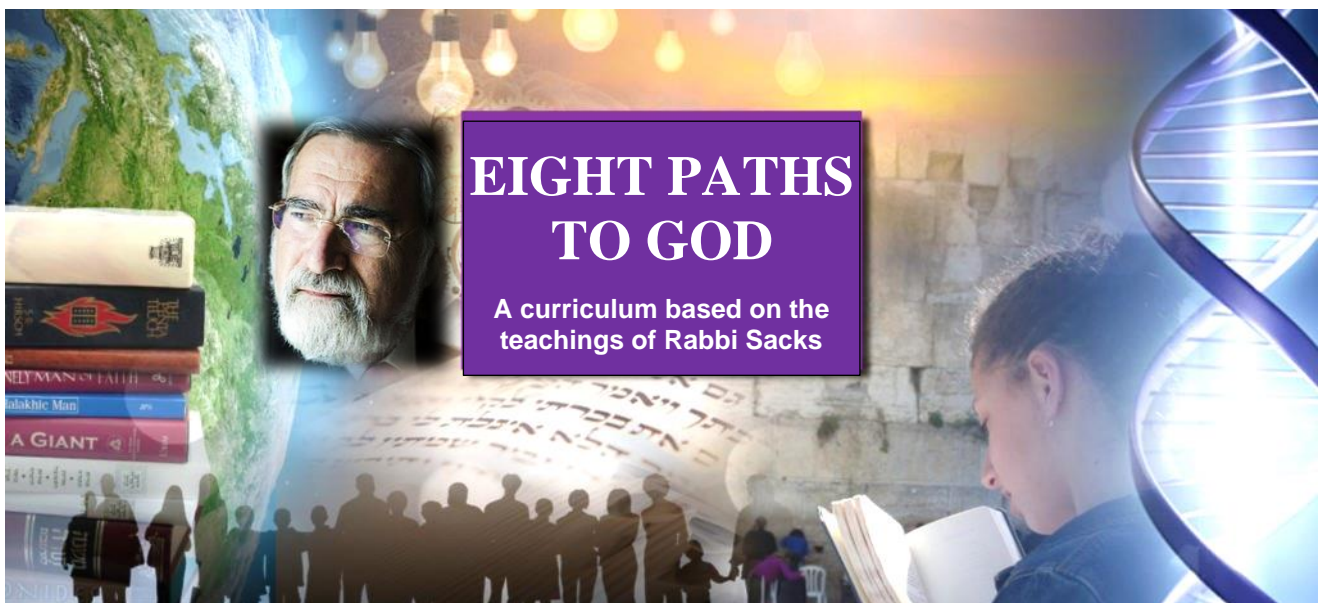
Give Not Get
A Joint Religious School Program



Give Not Get
Program

Rabbi's Adult Education Program

PATHS TO GOD



An 8-session course on Judaism and Jewish identity based on traditional sources and the teachings of Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks will be taught on Sunday mornings by Rabbi Elyssa.

**10 - 11 AM on January 17 & 24,
February 7, 14, 21, & 28, and March 7 & 14.**

Please register on  zoom.

FUNDRAISING EVENT

40th ANNUAL BETH EL FUNDRAISER

Sunday, February 7, 2021

at Beth El Online!



Unfortunately, we cannot gather for a brunch due to COVID, so this year's fundraiser will be VIRTUAL.

A live drawing will be held at 12:30 PM on Zoom



\$7,500
in Prizes

Join our  zoom Event



\$2,500
Grand Prize

ID: 815 4513 2314 • Passcode: **BethElRaff**

Make Check Payable to – Beth El Congregation

Mail to – Rob Minster 1980 E. Woodland Dr. Akron, OH 44313

Your \$150 ticket entitles you to a Brunch Box for two and an entry in a Virtual Live Drawing.

The brunch box will include

- two bagels
- lox
- cream cheese
- rice salad
- fruit
- rugelach
- and more

Brunch boxes must be reserved by email or phone by January 22 and must be picked up curbside at Beth El on February 7 from 10:30 to 11:30 AM.

RSVP: (330) 864-2105, x 118 or
rafflebrunch@gmail.com

To pay online, please visit www.bethelakron.com

Your help is vital to the success of this fundraiser and the support that it provides to Beth El.

Contributions

AARON KRANITZ MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of

- David Kattan from Patsy Davidson
- Milton Zetzer from Sid and Shirley Zetzer

ALEXANDER AND LILLIAN MEDOFF MEMORIAL MUSIC FUND

In Memory of

- Harriet Garson from Donna Geller

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of

- Irving Cohen from Ellie and Jay Minkin
- Harriet Garson from Ted Schneiderman
- Mildred Glick from Ellie and Jay Minkin
- Sarah Goldstein from Elinor Borodkin and Family
- Jack Kent from Ted Schneiderman

EDWARD SCHNEIDER EDUCATION FUND

In Memory of

- Harriet Garson from Alice Schneider
- Annette Geller from Laurel Gress
- Gail Schlossberg from Laurel Gress, Lois Nobil, Alice Schneider

ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of

- Gail Schlossberg from Patsy Davidson

HAKOAH EDUCATION FUND

In Memory of

- Mike Jacobs from Steve and Ellen Winer

KIDDUSH FUND

In Memory of

- Raphael Pessso from Etty and Jacques Sardas
- Michael Schultz from Lea Schuldiner

KNITZVAH FUND

In Memory of

- Harriet Garson from George Litman

LOUIS LOCKSHIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of

- Harriet Garson from Susan and Jim Osherow

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of

- Michael Hanigofsky from Susan Hanna and Libby Ramsuchit

REVEREND PHILLIP SALZMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Memory of

- Harriet Garson from Herb Newman
- Lillian Winer Katz from Ruth Katz
- Bertha Kodish from Roslyn Thingelstad
- Raleigh Marks from Leona Pollock
- Their grandparents from Joe and Myrna Salzman

SAFERSTEIN CARING FUND

In Memory of

- Harriet Garson from Deborah Saferstein
- Gail Schlossberg from Evelyn and Marvin Manes

For the Recovery of

- Larry Hexter from Marty and Sherry Hellman
- Deborah Saferstein from Marty and Sherry Hellman

In Honor of

- The birthday of Deborah Saferstein from the Saferstein family

In Appreciation to

- The Rabbi, Cantor, and my friends at Beth El for their support during my recent illness from Carl Lieberman

STEPHEN M. GROSS MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of

- Harriet Garson from Scott and Paula Gross
- Lillian Gross from Sharen Halpern and Family
- Stephen Gross from Scott and Paula Gross
- David Kattan from Scott and Paula Gross
- Gail Schlossberg from Scott and Paula Gross
- Ruby Zimmerman from Scott and Paula Gross

SYNAGOGUE FUND

In Memory of

- Belle Foster from Harold and Greta Foster
- Harriet Garson from Steve and Trish Crane, Dr. Larry and Harriet Richman, Sid and Shirley Zetzer

- Annette Geller from Joyce and Martin Oppenheimer
 - George Goldman from Joyce and Martin Oppenheimer, Dr. Larry and Harriet Richman
 - Harriet Horn from Stacey, Rachel, and Sarah Simonton
 - Michael Jacobs from Joyce and Martin Oppenheimer, Dr. Larry and Harriet Richman
 - David Kattan from Leonard and Ruth Sweet
 - Jack Kent from Dr. Larry and Harriet Richman
 - Audrey Koch from Leonard and Ruth Sweet
 - Ronna Leubitz from Sandra Levenson, Joyce and Martin Oppenheimer
 - Raphael Pessso from Etty and Jacques Sardas
 - Meyer Rein from Sheila and Marty Gottlieb
 - Gail Schlossberg from Joyce and Martin Oppenheimer, Libby Portnoy, Leonard and Ruth Sweet
 - Frida Stile from Joyce and Martin Oppenheimer
 - Elaine Wieder from Harold and Greta Foster
 - Leo Wieder from Harold and Greta Foster
 - Roslyn Zimmerman from Dr. Larry and Harriet Richman
- For the Recovery of
- Sheri Glauberman from Harold and Greta Foster
 - Larry Hexter from Harold and Greta Foster, Dr. Larry and Harriet Richman
 - Herb Moss from Sandra Levenson
 - Dr. Larry Richman from Sandra Levenson
 - Laurie Zuckerman from Harold and Greta Foster

In Honor of

- The birth of Susan Golden's grandchild from Dr. Larry and Harriet Richman

Thank you for your
contributions.

Contributions received before the first of the month will appear the next month. Contributions may be submitted by mail or via Beth El's website.

Please use this form to mail in your contributions.

I would like to make a **\$400 ANNUAL** contribution to the following fund: (Circle/Choose **ONE** below)

Congregational Funds

- Cantor's Discretionary
- Ed Schneider Education Fund
- Floral (\$36)
- Kiddush
- Knitzvah
- Rabbi's Discretionary
- Synagogue Fund

Education Funds

- Alice and Janice Woll Family Education Fund
- Beth El Foundation for Jewish Education
- Hakoah Education Fund
- Irving Botnick Education Fund
- Kloner Family Fund

Scholarship Funds

- Frieda Weinberger Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Lenore Gordon Scholarship Fund
- Lola Salzman Scholarship Fund
- Louis Lockshin Scholarship Fund
- Marks & Goldfarb Youth Fund
- Max and Regina Schneier Memorial Fund
- Reverend Phillip Salzman Scholarship Fund
- Simon Kopleson Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Stephen M. Gross Memorial Fund

Special Gift Funds

- Aaron Kranitz Memorial Fund
- Alexander & Lillian Medoff Memorial Music Fund
- Beatrice & Morris Sarlson & Family Beautification Fund
- Edward Abramson Memorial Fund
- Eleanor & Jerry Lippman Bar/Bat Mitzvah Book Fund
- Gress Torah Fund
- Jacob Reich Memorial Education Fund
- Lisa Botnick Memorial Fund
- Luck Holocaust Memorial Fund
- Max M. Federhar Memorial Fund
- Saferstein Caring Fund

Please Return by January 31
 Note: only one (1) fund may be listed on each donation card.

PLEASE print your name: _____

Your donation allows you to send as many cards as you like, to whomever you'd like, for 1 YEAR without the minimum donation.

Please return this to the office by mail (with your check) or call to donate by credit card.

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b. (1)	Mailed outside-county Paid Sub. Stated on PS Form 3541	45		48	
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b. (3)	Paid distribution outside the Mails including sales dealers and carriers, street vendors, counter sales, and other paid distribution outside USPS®	0		0	
b. (4)	Paid distribution by other classes of mail through the USPS	0		0	
c.	Total Paid Distribution	355		348	
d. (1)	Free or Nominal rate outside-county copies included on PS Form 3541	0		0	
d. (2)	Free or Nominal rate inside-county copies included on PS Form 3541	0		0	
d. (3)	Free or Nominal rate copies mailed at other classes through the USPS	0		0	
d. (4)	Free or Nominal rate distribution outside the mail	15		15	
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g.	Copies not distributed	15		20	
h.	Total	385		393	
i.	Percent paid and/or requested circulation	95.95%		93.3%	
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership will be printed in the October issue of this publication.					
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership for a Requester Publication is required and will be printed in the October 2019 issue of this publication.					
18. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions and/or civil sanctions.					
<i>Jenifer A. Jeny</i> 12/18/2020					
I certify that all information on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).					

BETH EL CONGREGATION
750 WHITE POND DRIVE
AKRON, OHIO 44320

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
AKRON, OHIO

40th Annual
**FUNDRAISING
EVENT**

Check it out
on page 9

Joint Sunday School Event
Beth El, Temple Israel and Revere Road Synagogue
Religious Schools Present

Honor your Mother and your Father Family Program

Sunday, January 24, 10-11 AM on Zoom

Storyteller
Crafts
Games



RSVP is required by January 18th to receive supplies.
Email Julie - scrapcats@roadrunner.com