



BETH EL CONGREGATION BULLETIN

JAN./FEB. 2025


AKRON, OHIO

TEVET



SHEVAT

5785

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JEREMY LIPTON
RABBI

Intentional Jewish living in the New Year

This month marks not only the beginning of a new secular year, but also an opportunity for each of us to renew ourselves by personally re-affirming our commitment to intentional Jewish living. To this end, you might choose to participate in our monthly **Friday Night with Friends Musical Service and Potluck**, where you can join together

in song, prayer, and food with other members of the community. Or, maybe you will choose to attend our weekly **Shabbat Morning Service**, where you can participate in regular discussions of the weekly *Torah* portion before sharing a *Shabbat Kiddush* lunch together. Or, you might be ready to **learn (or re-learn) a new skill** – perhaps learn to *daven*, or chant *Torah*, or explore the seemingly endless well of

See RABBI, Page 7



DAVID STOCK
CO-PRESIDENT

This winter, spread the warmth at Beth El

Greetings all! As we move through the thick of winter, we too often feel the chill of the season. Some days may be filled with blustery rain and others with soft blankets of snow, but the one thing we know for sure is that we will be looking for ways to stay warm in the coming months. The good news is I know the perfect way to do it!

We know that when our congregants gather for *Knitzvah*, our hands are warmed up through the work of providing warmth for others. When we gather for Lunch and Learn or Taste of *Torah*, our minds are warmed with thought and reflection. When Josh Kogan speaks with us in January about Mexican Jews, our thoughts will transport us to the beautiful climate, land and rich Jewish culture of our neighbors to the

See CO-PRESIDENT, Page 8

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Our Mission Statement

Beth El Congregation is a Conservative synagogue that meets the spiritual and social needs of our congregants by providing a welcoming, vibrant and engaging community for Jewish life and religious practice in an egalitarian, progressive and caring environment.



בית אל
Beth El
Congregation

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Affiliated with



The United Synagogue of
Conservative Judaism



The Jewish Theological
Seminary of America

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Rabbi

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Vol. LXXIX No. X

Schedule of services

MORNING MINYAN
Wednesday & Friday, 7:30 a.m.

SHABBAT SERVICES
Saturday, 9:15 a.m.

CANDLE LIGHTING
FRIDAY

Jan. 3 *Vayigash* 4:52 p.m.
Jan. 10 *Vayechi* 4:59 p.m.
Jan. 17 *Shemot* 5:07 p.m.
Jan. 24 *Vaera* 5:15 p.m.
Jan. 31 *Bo* 5:24 p.m.
Feb. 7 *Beshalach* 5:33 p.m.
Feb. 14 *Yitro* 5:41 p.m.
Feb. 21 *Mishpatim* 5:50 p.m.
Feb. 28 *Terumah* 5:58 p.m.

HAVDALAH
SATURDAY

Jan. 4 5:54 p.m.
Jan. 11 6:01 p.m.
Jan. 18 6:08 p.m.
Jan. 25 6:17 p.m.
Feb. 1 6:26 p.m.
Feb. 8 6:34 p.m.
Feb. 15 6:43 p.m.
Feb. 22 6:51 p.m.
March 1 7:00 p.m.



Wishing Everyone a Happy 2025

FROM JACQUES & ETTY SARDAS

Mazal Tov

Beth El Congregation offers congratulations to:

Samantha Crane & Lauren Herr,

who were married on
OCTOBER 25, 2024
in Colorado.

Samantha is the daughter of Trish and Steve Crane.

Thank you

Thank you to:

LAUREL GRESS
for sponsoring the
Bima flowers on
Nov. 16 in memory of
DORIS GRESS

**RONNI & HARVEY
STERNs** for
sponsoring *Kiddush*
on Nov. 23 in honor of
their anniversary

**THE SAFERSTEIN
FAMILY**
for sponsoring flowers
on Dec. 7 in memory of
ROBERT WIEDER

HAL & GRETA FOSTER
for sponsoring *Minyan*
breakfast on Dec. 13
in memory of
LEO WIEDER

**LEORA & NATHAN
COHEN**
for sponsoring flowers
on Dec. 21 in memory
of **DAVID COHEN**

**ANDREA & SID
STEINBERGER** for
sponsoring flowers on
Dec. 28 in memory of
**BERNARD
STEINBERGER** and
JULIUS JAKOB WEISS



January 2025 *Tevet * Shevat 5785*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SERVICES (unless otherwise noted) Wednesday 7:30 a.m. ★ Friday 7:30 a.m. ★ Saturday 9:15 a.m.			1 <i>1 Tevet</i> Minyan, 8:30 a.m. New Year's Day Rosh Chodesh Hanukkah Day 7	2 <i>2 Tevet</i> Hanukkah Day 8	3 <i>3 Tevet</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	4 <i>4 Tevet</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Vayigash</i>
5 <i>5 Tevet</i>	6 <i>6 Tevet</i>	7 <i>7 Tevet</i>	8 <i>8 Tevet</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	9 <i>9 Tevet</i>	10 <i>10 Tevet</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m. Asarah B'Tevet	11 <i>11 Tevet</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Vayechi</i> Guest speaker
12 <i>12 Tevet</i>	13 <i>13 Tevet</i>	14 <i>14 Tevet</i> Lunch & Learn, noon Full Board Meeting, 7 p.m.	15 <i>15 Tevet</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	16 <i>16 Tevet</i>	17 <i>17 Tevet</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	18 <i>18 Tevet</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Shemot</i>
19 <i>19 Tevet</i>	20 <i>20 Tevet</i> Taste of Torah, 7 pm. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21 <i>21 Tevet</i>	22 <i>22 Tevet</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	23 <i>23 Tevet</i>	24 <i>24 Tevet</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m. Friday Night with Friends, 6 p.m.	25 <i>25 Tevet</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Vaera</i>
26 <i>26 Tevet</i> Teen Programming, 1 p.m.	27 <i>27 Tevet</i> L'Chaim Cooking Club, 6 p.m.	28 <i>28 Tevet</i>	29 <i>29 Tevet</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	30 <i>1 Shevat</i> Rosh Chodesh	31 <i>2 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	

February 2025 *Shevat 5785*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
SERVICES (unless otherwise noted) Wednesday 7:30 a.m. ★ Friday 7:30 a.m. ★ Saturday 9:15 a.m.						1 <i>3 Shevat</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Bo</i>
2 <i>4 Shevat</i>	3 <i>5 Shevat</i>	4 <i>6 Shevat</i>	5 <i>7 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	6 <i>8 Shevat</i>	7 <i>9 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	8 <i>10 Shevat</i> Sisterhood Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Beshalach</i>
9 <i>11 Shevat</i>	10 <i>12 Shevat</i>	11 <i>13 Shevat</i> Lunch & Learn, noon Full Board Meeting, 7 p.m.	12 <i>14 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	13 <i>15 Shevat</i> Tu B'Shvat	14 <i>16 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	15 <i>17 Shevat</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Yitro</i>
16 <i>18 Shevat</i>	17 <i>19 Shevat</i> Taste of Torah, 7 pm.	18 <i>20 Shevat</i>	19 <i>21 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	20 <i>22 Shevat</i>	21 <i>23 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m. Friday Night with Friends, 6 p.m.	22 <i>24 Shevat</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Mishpatim</i>
23 <i>25 Shevat</i> Teen Programming, 1 p.m.	24 <i>26 Shevat</i> L'Chaim Cooking Club, 6 p.m.	25 <i>27 Shevat</i>	26 <i>28 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	27 <i>29 Shevat</i>	28 <i>30 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m. Rosh Chodesh	

January Yahrzeits

JANUARY 1

Louis Haberman
Ann Laves
Louis May
John Sullivan
Charles Wolf

JANUARY 2

Celia Kaufman
Miriam Levine

JANUARY 3

Otto Bloch
Abraham Golden
Anna Kallins
Naim Mazala
Jeanne Mirman
Harriet Savage
Eva Stan
Patricia Vidger

JANUARY 4

Freda Beyer
Jennie Caplan
Philip Gertz
Bertha Kodish
Stanley Kodish
Aaron Kranitz
Barbara Lewis
Francine Lieberman

JANUARY 5

Joseph Garfinkel
Sidney Gluck
Harold Spector
Stewart Surloff

JANUARY 6

Frances Feiner
Nancy Larson
Celia Tuchman

JANUARY 7

Maurice Bleiman
Bertha Feingold
Saul M. Goldman
Sarah Goldstein
George Schneier
Jennie Silver
Albert W. Trauben

JANUARY 8

Marcus Cohen
Abraham Demner
Lillian Gross
Max Kallins
Florence Mendelson
Raphael Pessio
David Pollack
Hattie Rosenblum

JANUARY 9

Rebecca Gutterman
Rebecca Kenner
Meyer Rein

JANUARY 10

Herman Benson
Bernard Kamenir
Sadye Mirman
Issac Ostrov
Kayle Silver
Edith Weinstein

JANUARY 11

Nathan Bershon
Theodore Gomberg
Rose Zellinger

JANUARY 12

Anna Epstein
Beili Fabian
William Kauvar
Frank Kropko
Bernard Schwartz

JANUARY 13

Julia Hodnett
Elizabeth Litt
Charles Mermelstein
Samuel Waldman
Sybil Willen
Leona T. Wolf

JANUARY 14

Morris Cohen
Maurice Corman
Anne Drucker
Betty Lowy
Morton Stein
Kate Yablon

JANUARY 15

Julia Glass
Michael Hanigofsky
Rebecca Kagan
Pamela Kanfer
Jeffrey M. Katz
Evelyn Leshin
Goldie Lippman
Lillian Ross

JANUARY 16

Arline Kodish
Matt Palmer
Helen Tucker

JANUARY 17

Helen Davis
Martha Ekus
Belle Foster
Goldie Goldner
Mae Lieberman
David Sabetay
Hyman Sholiton

JANUARY 18

Herbert Haimes
Susan Leeper
Irvin Locker
Dolly Siff
Clara Stone

JANUARY 19

Louis Farber
Dorothy Fuchs
Harry Geller
Helen Heller
Gabriel Miller
Charles Sacks
Hannah Sandler
Florence Shapiro
Anna Waldman
Corrine Woll

JANUARY 20

Phil Friedman
Bernard Goldfarb
Robert Gordon
Paula Neuringer
Bernard Rosen
Arlene Rossen
Richard Rossen
Sol Schneier
Esther Schwartz

JANUARY 21

Issac Friedland
Mae Goldberg
Esther Rudy Kodish
Ossie Ostrov
Janet Rosenberg

JANUARY 22

Larry Golden
Sheridan J. Herzberg
Irwin Schneier
Cynthia Weinberger
Helen Winter

JANUARY 23

Dorothy Schwartz

JANUARY 24

Herbert Berns
Sarah F. Davis
Fannie Freedman
Amelia Gruber
Sam Litwak
Theresa Mendelson
Harold M. Mervis
Samuel Tapper
Jeanette Zalob

JANUARY 25

Olive Mendel
Leah Ostrov
Fanny Rubin
Nicki Whitlow

JANUARY 26

Jack Beyer
Nancy Morris
Jerry Pollack
Max Schneier
Morris Wagan

JANUARY 27

Madalyn Hirsch
Harry Jaffe
Ann Kutnick
Shirley Nelkin
Rose Olson
Ida Portnoy
Joel Potrock
Leon Schneier

JANUARY 28

Aaron Bane
Nathan Isaac Barnett
Carl Berman
Morris Goldstein
Lillian May
Miriam Schultz
Phyllis Teichman

JANUARY 29

Jean Bober
Cheryl Sokol
Alex Stein
Anna Weinberger
Moses Zoob

JANUARY 30

Theodore Allen
Michael Joseph Chesler
Manuel Kaufman
Julius Marcus
Sylvia May Schwartz

JANUARY 31

Albert Abramson
Jesse Epstine
Jeannete Kallick
Burton Marks
Barbara Schleider
Esther Shapiro
Sonia Sweet
Dora Weiss

February Yahrzeits

FEBRUARY 1

Xenia Culiner
Abraham Giller
Edward Kolkey
Dr. Eli P. Leubitz
Paul Wagner

FEBRUARY 2

Julianna Vera Goldman
Ruth Harris
Pauline Kramer
Eleanor Magilavy
Jean Siff
Jay Weiss

FEBRUARY 3

Abraham Goldstein
Fannie Keane
Anna Selcer

FEBRUARY 4

Rose Brown
Dean Farra
Elizabeth Freireich
Michael Kanner
Fae Leah Kaufman
Todd Kay
Rose Klein
Ruth Manes
Martin Newman
Isadore Rubin
Edward Schneir

FEBRUARY 5

Sydney Albert
James Stephen Caplan
Fay Dienoff
Herman Hamburg
Lucille Opas
Isadore Rabinovitz
Paula Salzman
Victoria Willen

FEBRUARY 6

Lauren Bernstein
Edith Katz
Morris Liberman
Bessie Mendel
Sam Sigalow
Maria Wiener
Marc Wolff

FEBRUARY 7

Eva Desur
Harold Fletcher
Rena Gloth
Fannie Heller
Louis Ostrov
Estelle Senser
Eleanor Stein
Tillie Turetzky
Dora Weiner

FEBRUARY 8

Jerome Kaufman
David Krosner
Hannah G. Miller
Flora Weiss
Sadie Leah Woloch

FEBRUARY 9

Yetta Leeper
Rose Minc
Betty Minkin
Saul Ostrov
Irene S. Sarbey

FEBRUARY 10

Joseph Cohen
Nathan Gordon
Morris Mostov
Bernice Rabinovitz
Eva Schneiderman
Pauline Zudnick

FEBRUARY 11

Anna Horn
Norman May
Ruchel Olesker
Milton Opas
Martha Shenin
Nellie Stein
Max Weinberger

FEBRUARY 12

Robert Comshaw
Hyman Desure
Melvin Glicksteen
Harry Gross
Evelyn Lerner
Kerry Migdal

FEBRUARY 13

Sol Auerbach
Abraham Belsky
Donald Fuchs
Nathan Galin
Abe Helper
Ann Kauvar
Taube Lockshin
Bessie Medvin
Gloria Reich
Charles E. Schwartz
Herbert Skall

FEBRUARY 14

Samuel Botnick
Elaine Kofsky
Randy Mermelstein
Anna Raipstein
Thelma Sholiton
Tom Zetzer

FEBRUARY 15

Saul Boksenbom
Deborah Feingold
Bertha Handler
Sophie Lasoff
Carolyn Lockshin
Clara Londa
David Moritz
Minnie Sitzkin

FEBRUARY 16

Max Desure
Marvin Gertz
Edward Glass
Simon Gottlieb
Fradel Haber
Karl Hacker
Leo Kodish
Gerald Millman
Judith Resnick
Rebecca Sarlson
Harry Waldman
Oscar Weinstein

FEBRUARY 17

Ben Kodish
Lily Sokol

FEBRUARY 18

Alfred Brown
Evelyn Cheplowitz
Constance Gomberg
Sophie Kay
Jean Leonard
Celia Levy
Anna May
Cyril Moss
Beatrice Sarlson
Rae Schneier
Jay Shulan
Max Wyant

FEBRUARY 19

Edward Abramson
Clare Greenbaum
Burton Nobil
Helen Savage
Brian Senser
Charles Simpson

FEBRUARY 20

Daniel Goldstein
Margaret Levine
Hy Weiss

FEBRUARY 21

Rosa Bane
Nancy Jo Harris
Dr. Richard Leshin
William Loeb
Samuel Polevoi
Ella Rein
Irwin David Sarlson

FEBRUARY 22

Judith Finkel
George H. Haberman
Harold M. Post
Joseph Rosenfeld
Sarah Sterns

FEBRUARY 23

Eva Bloom
Nissim Calderon
Helen Miller
Burton E. Portnoy
Samuel H. Stone

FEBRUARY 24

Robert R. Burns
Harold Neiman
Sadie Saferstein

FEBRUARY 25

Alfred A. Axner
Samuel Federman
Morris Goldberg

FEBRUARY 26

Nathan Borodkin
Arlene Cohen
Randy Geller
Evelyn Gross
Sadie Levin
David Mirman
Sonia Rippe
Bernard Zetzer

FEBRUARY 27

Peter Abramson
Morris Berzon
Jonathan Seth Chesler
Herman Miller
Larry Rudick
Raphael Leon Sardas

FEBRUARY 28

Elaine Apelbaum
Alex Eigenmacht
Carrie Epstine
Roseline L. Kodish
Edward Levine
Gertrude Moritz
Harold Savage
Nathan Schwartz

Please inform the office of Yahrzeit omissions or corrections.

In Memoriam

Beth El Congregation notes with sorrow the passing of:

Gayle Nelkin

Gayle Nelkin passed from this world peacefully on October 21 in the loving company of her three children. Gayle was born in Columbus Ohio on August 19, 1937 to the late Carl and Miriam Berman. Gayle was a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother and teacher and shared her wisdom and passion with all who were blessed with her company. She joins her husband Gary, with whom she raised three children and joyfully witnessed the growth and development of six precious grandchildren. Gayle grew up in Columbus and attended The Ohio State University. She met Gary, the love of her life, at a singles dance in Columbus and they were happily married for 55 years. Soon they journeyed together from Ohio, through North Carolina, to Pittsburgh and finally settled with their family in Akron. She completed her degree in teaching at the University of Akron while raising 3 young children. She taught in the classroom and tutored children with learning differences for more than 25 years in the Akron Public School system. She served a community that greatly benefited from her skill, dedication and patience. In retirement Gayle and

Gary enjoyed traveling, music, playing bridge, winters in Sarasota and most of all spending time with their children and grandchildren. After Gary's passing Gayle moved to Chicago and had the opportunity to spend more quality time with her children and grandchildren and thrived among a community of new friends. Gayle is preceded in death by her husband Gary, sister Shirley Alzfan, brother-in-law Victor Alzfan and brother Ronald Berman. She is survived by children Jodi (Mark) Savitt, Randi (Stephen) Goldberg, Joe (Jenny) Nelkin, grandchildren Jessica and Derek Goldberg, Kara and Matthew Savitt and Noah and Sydney Nelkin, brother Donald (Janice) Berman, brother-in-law Robert (Ferne) Nelkin and many nieces and nephews.

Marilyn Rose Mirman

Marilyn Rose Mirman passed away on October 31. She was born on March 6, 1940 and was the very devoted daughter of Oscar and Ethel Mirman and was part of a large extended family. As a life long Akron resident, Marilyn loved to travel and was an avid mahjong player. She led a wonderful life filled with love of family and friends, and was very supportive of the Akron Jewish Community.

Herbert Mermelstein

Herbert Mermelstein, 99, of Orange, Conn., passed away. He is survived by his daughters, Sheryl Friedman and Renee Kohn; grandsons, Jaron, Bryan Friedman and Randy Kohn; and his great grandchildren, Ben, Sam, Madison, and Zachary. He was predeceased by his wife, Miriam and his son, Randy.

Cordia "Jean" Long

Cordia "Jean" Long passed away peacefully on Wednesday November 13, 2024 surrounded by her family. She is survived by her husband of 65 years Marvin, her children, Deanna (Gregg) Manes, Martha (John) Long and Tina Long, her loving grandchildren, Laura (Dan) Rowe, Sara (Alex) Robinson, Eric (Erin) Long and Joseph (Sara) Long and five great grandchildren, Abigail, Daniel, Madison, Eliana, and Porter. She was preceded in death by granddaughter, Melissa Jean Long and grandson, Daniel (Danny) Long. Mom was known as the baby whisperer. She loved all her babies. We had many years of home cooked meals and gatherings with family.



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. To order, call **Sherri Leubitz (330)867-0364**

RABBI, from Page 1

traditional Jewish texts.

There is no doubt that here at Beth El Congregation, we offer a wide array of opportunities for each of us to engage in the kind of personal growth that is most meaningful!

With this kind of engagement in mind, this month I will be offering a new nine-week class that will empower adult learners to chant *Haftarah* – an essential synagogue skill that could create another path for you to actively participate in traditional Jewish practice.

As you may know, the *Haftarot* are rabbinically designated selections from the *Nevi'im* (*Prophets*) section of the *TaNaKh* that are recited after the reading of the *Torah* during our weekly *Shabbat* Morning and Holiday Services throughout the year. The word “*Haftarah*” is derived from the Hebrew root *pey-tet-resh*, and can mean “to conclude,” “to separate,” or “to part.” In our

contemporary practice, the *Haftarah* is chanted by the individual who is called to the *Torah* for the *Maftir Aliyah* (the “concluding” honor), connecting that final *Torah* reading to the unique prophetic reading that follows.

Although it is not known precisely when or why the reading of the *Haftarah* was instituted, it is clearly an ancient practice, dating from well before the period of the *Mishna* (3rd century CE). The most frequently cited theory is that during the era of Greek oppression (2nd century BCE, leading up to the *Hanukkah* story), when public reading from the *Torah* was forbidden, our ancestors chose to read alternative biblical selections from the *Prophets*. Later, when the ban on studying *Torah* was reversed, the reading of the *Haftarot* continued.

The *Haftarah* relates thematically to specific texts and/or ideas found in our weekly *Torah* readings, or to the celebration of an upcoming

holiday or season. These connections often provide us with a deeper understanding and historical context of our sacred texts, while also exploring the many facets of their ethical or spiritual teachings.

So, now that you know all of this, come and learn (or re-learn) how to chant *Haftarah*! I invite you to participate in my new weekly class, which will begin on Wednesday evening, January 15th from 7:00 – 8:00 PM in the Mercaz, and will continue through March 12th. During these nine weeks, we will study the traditional chanting of *Haftarah* together, supported by printed and recorded materials that I will provide for you. Don't miss this opportunity to add a new (or re-newed) skill to your Jewish toolbox in this, the new secular year. It will provide one more way for you to embrace living an intentional Jewish life.

L'shalom,
RABBI JEREMY LIPTON



BEST CHOLENT EVER!
 (A LITTLE BIT OF THIS,
 A LITTLE BIT OF THAT...)

Bring your DAIRY/PAREVE CHOLENT to share during the potluck after our **FRIDAY NIGHT WITH FRIENDS Musical Service**

January 24 @ 6:00 PM

SIGN UP & SUBMIT RECIPES by WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22nd, by 5:00 PM

CO-PRESIDENT, from Page 1

south.

There are so many different ways we gather and find warmth at Beth El but there is one nearly universal thread among all of them and that is that we will leave every event with our bellies feeling full and warm. On Saturdays, our *Kiddush* is often sponsored by community members to commemorate special

events or by Sisterhood as they take care of us all. At Friday Night With Friends, we enjoy a monthly potluck where we get to sample a little bit of everything that we all share together. I do not know if I could ever imagine coming to our beautiful sanctuary and leaving hungry... *Yom Kippur*, of course, notwithstanding.

As we find comfort in our programming and the delicious

abundance we often enjoy, the greatest warmth we can find at Beth El is in one another. As a small but mighty synagogue, we never cease to honor, respect, and cherish one another. I am grateful for this wonderful community we have at Beth El and wish you all the health, happiness, and warmth we can imagine.

DAVID STOCK
CO-PRESIDENT

Friday, Jan 24 & Feb 21 at 6pm

Beth El's Musical Service

"Friday Night with Friends"

Join us for our Family Friendly
Musical *Kabbalat Shabbat* Service
with communal singing and musical accompaniment,
followed by a delicious potluck dinner.





Education Program



TAB SCRIBNER
DIRECTOR

From one season to the next, it's been a wonderful experience

Time flies by when you are having fun! It's been a tremendous fall season for us. After a running start we had an amazing High Holiday season capped off with an incredible community *Sukkah* Hop. Our congregational community really stepped up to help the Religious School collaborate with the other religious schools for an amazing experience.

As the weather turned colder, we caught fire with our Hebrew studies and several of our students will be participating in the annual Sisterhood *Shabbat* service on February 8, 2025.

Most recently we gathered with our friends from Anshe Sfard and Temple Israel for the annual Give-not-Get program in December where our kids engaged in *mitzvah* projects to support the greater Akron community with food bags and warm blankets for those in need.

Religious School will resume on Tuesday, January 7 and our first Sunday program will be on January 12.

For more information about the Religious School and children's programming, the easiest way to reach me is by email at tscribner@bethelakron.org.

Lunch & Learn

Jan 14 & Feb 11
at 12pm

Lunch & Learn will take place at the office of
Gertz & Rosen
159 South Main Street, Suite 400
Conveniently located downtown, with
easy access from Main Street, or from the Skyway
at Level 4 of the Summit County Parking Deck
at 200 S. High Street, Akron, Ohio 44308.

Please RSVP to
kjames@gertzrosen.com



From the Sisterhood



★Feb. 8, Sisterhood Shabbat ★Feb. 9, Sisterhood social program

Beth El Sisterhood is continuing our work enhancing our congregation. There are many activities planned for the coming months. On February 8 we will be celebrating Sisterhood *Shabbat*. This year we will be honoring the memory of our longtime member Evelyn Manes. The Manes family will be sponsoring a delicious *Shabbat* lunch following the service. Kay has been busy enlisting our member participation. I hope you will join us for this special *Shabbat*. We will also be having a joint Sisterhood social program on March 9 in the afternoon. Watch for more publicity in the coming weeks.

We continue to have our ongoing programs of Knitzvah, Taste of *Torah*, and *L'chaim* Cooking Club. Watch for these dates in the weekly blasts. The *Kiddush* Crew is always looking for volunteers to help bake or prepare dishes for our weekly enhancements for *Shabbat* lunch. Contact Kay Lipton if you are available to help.

We are always looking for volunteers so please contact me if you have some time. Just a reminder that dues statements have been sent. The dues enable us to do our work. Also a way of helping is by sponsoring a *Kiddush* for any special occasion. If you have any ideas for Sisterhood, please contact me.

Shalom,
ANDREA RABINOVITZ
 SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT

Save the date

AS BETH EL CONGREGATION
 HONORS
 THE LIFE AND DEDICATION OF
SUSAN ALFONSO
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025
 AKRON ART MUSEUM

FORMAL INVITATION TO FOLLOW

Join us on February 8th for Beth El's Shabbat Shirah: the Shabbat of Song!

On Saturday morning, February 8, members of Beth El's Sisterhood, along with other women in the congregation (ranging in ages between 10 and 87), will lead a special *Shabbat* service that coincides with *Shabbat Shirah*—the *Shabbat* of Song—so named because the *Torah* portion that day (*Beshalach*), as well as the *Haftarah*, includes a number of “songs” created by, and/or led by, women. Perhaps the best known of these is the Song of the Sea (*Shirat Hayam*), in which we learn about the Israelites' dramatic escape from the Egyptians as they, miraculously and in disbelief, crossed through the Sea of Reeds, after which Pharaoh and his minions were drowned in the sea behind them. Safely on the other side, Miriam leads the Israelite women in song and dance, as they praise God in a song of thanksgiving. And the *Haftarah* that day also concludes with a song, this one the Song of Deborah, a victory song that is among the

oldest of the ten songs that appear in the *Torah*.

Like Miriam in our *parsha* and Deborah in our *Haftarah*, each of the extraordinary, multi-generational women who will participate in *Shabbat Shirah*, are leaders—they step up, they speak out, and they take action, never resisting a challenge, instead embracing every opportunity for renewal, growth and partnership. Please join us for a remarkable *Shabbat* experience, and for the wonderful *Kiddush* luncheon immediately after services which, this year, is sponsored by The Louis L. Manes Foundation in loving memory of Evelyne Manes.

The entire *Shabbat* morning service, whose components include *P'sukei d'Zimrah*, *Shacharit*, the *Torah* service, as well as all of the *Torah* readings, the *Haftarah*, *Musaf*, and additional prayers and readings/poetry, will be led and/or facilitated by these women.

Join us for an engaging multi-generational
Sisterhood Shabbat Service on
Saturday morning, February 8, 2025

Shabbat Shirah—Shabbat of Song



Everyone is invited to the Kiddush
luncheon after the service, sponsored by
The Louis L. Manes Foundation in loving memory
of Evelyne Manes

* If you would like to participate,
please reach out to Kaylipton@gmail.com



BETH EL CONGREGATION'S 43rd ANNUAL RAFFLE

BRUNCH & DRAWING

\$7500 IN PRIZES

WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT

TICKETS \$150 - ADMITS 2 FOR BRUNCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

DOORS OPEN AT 11:30AM BRUNCH AT NOON

To purchase a ticket: call

Rob Minster: 330-807-2002

Susan Osherow: 330-813-0988

or visit www.bethelakron.org

PROGRAMMING | GUEST SPEAKER

World Jewish community: The Jews of Mexico



Thank you to our host families and congregants who participated in Hanukkah *Ba'Bayit!* You all made it a joyful Hanukkah celebration!

Learn about the vibrant Jewish community in Mexico from Joshua Kogan on *Shabbat* morning, January 11, when Joshua will be our guest speaker. Joshua is both a Rabbinical student and a notable historian of the Jews of Mexico. He has written a book called, "The Story of the Jews of Mexico." He and his family have been part of our Akron Jewish community for 12 years. On *Shabbat* morning he will be speaking after the *Torah* service and again, after a delicious "Mexican-themed" lunch. Please join us for *Shabbat* morning services and lunch as we learn about a significant part of our *Klal Yisrael*, the world Jewish community. RSVPs are appreciated.

Contributions

AARON KRANITZ MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF

- ★ Jean Long from Joe & JoEllen Kodish
- ★ Herbert Mermelstein from Joe & JoEllen Kodish
- ★ Marilyn Mirman from Joe & JoEllen Kodish
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IN APPRECIATION OF

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IN HONOR OF

- ★ the birth of Alvin Walter Rapport from Sid & Shirley Zetzer

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- ★ Marilyn Mirman from Herb & Dianne Newman, and Sid & Shirley Zetzer
- ★ Isaac Morris from Elayne Harris
- ★ Katherine B. Morris from Elayne Harris

See CONTRIBUTIONS, Page 15

Contributions

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

- ★ **Gayle Nelkin** from Lisa Golovan, Herb & Dianne Newman, and Sid & Shirley Zetzer
- ★ **Anna Neiman** from Arlene Penner & family
- ★ **Ronald Penner** from Arlene Penner & family
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- ★ **the special birthday of Lourie Rapport** from Dr. Bob & Janet Cohen
- ★ **the special birthday of Marvin Manes** from Dr. Bob & Janet Cohen
- ★ **the 60th Anniversary of Ronni & Harvey Sterns** from Libby Portnoy

FOR THE RECOVERY OF

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Thank you for your contributions.

Contributions received before the 10th of the month will appear in the next month's issue.

*Don't forget Beth El
in your will*

For information, call Endowment Chair
Marsha Friedman (330)603-1890

Add to the Mi Sheberach List

Please join us in prayer for those who are not yet well.

Jewish tradition ordains that whenever the *Torah* is read, we are granted a special and uniquely opportune moment to invoke blessing for those in need of divine intervention.

The Rabbi will use the list during *Mi Sheberach* prayers at the *Torah*.

Your Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

PLEASE ADD TO MI SHEBERACH LIST:

Patient's English name _____ Relation [i.e. friend, mother, etc.] _____

Hebrew name (Ben - male)(Bat - female) Mother's name _____

If in the hospital, which hospital is he/she in? _____

Please remember to remove a name when mi sheberach prayers are no longer required.

Contribute to Beth El

DATE _____

- Minimum (\$10)
- Chai (\$18)
- Double Chai (\$36)
- Triple Chai (\$54)

I AM ENCLOSING \$ _____

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