

Wishing for a Peaceful Spring!



Special Events

1 Unplugged with
Alex Edelman
See page 2

2 Purim Family Celebrations
MARCH 24
See page 7

3 Shabbat Scholar Weekend
with Rabbi David Golinkin
MAY 24 & 25
See page 23

In This Issue



Passover Guide
See page 36



**Program Guide
Spring 2024**
See page 26-35

UNPLUGGED WITH ALEX EDELMAN

SUNDAY, APRIL 14 AT 7:30 PM

BETH TZEDEC WELCOMES AWARD-WINNING STAND-UP COMEDIAN, ACTOR, PRODUCER AND WRITER ALEX EDELMAN FOR AN EVENING OF COMEDY AND TALK.



EDELMAN IS A MASTER.
—Time Out New York

“AMONG EDELMAN’S MANY STRENGTHS AS A WRITER AND PERFORMER IS AN EXCEPTIONAL EYE FOR THE ABSURD.”

—The New Yorker

“CRITICS’ PICK! A BELLY-LAUGH FUNNY SHOW. A BRISK, SMART PROVOCATION OF A MONOLOGUE.”

—The New York Times

Sponsored by the Harry and Fraida Topper Fund

TICKETS ON SALE NOW. VISIT
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/UNPLUG-ALEX-EDELMAN](https://bit.ly/unplug-alex-edelman)


בית צדק
Beth Tzedec Congregation



Rabbi Steven Wernick

Each year, we have many people—seekers, conversion candidates, people who live alone or people new to our community—who are looking to connect with our Jewish community around the Passover seder. Will you open your home and invite them in?

I Feel Jewish

A few years ago, I attended a global leadership conference in Berlin. I was the only clergyperson and one of only one to two Jews among the 200 participants.

One day at lunch, I was sitting with a guy originally from Red Deer, Alberta (I know, so random), and now living with his family in the Netherlands on the German border. His wife, originally from a small B.C. community, was born Jewish but raised totally secular. He wanted to discuss with me why she, a person with no real Jewish identity or upbringing, felt so uncomfortable living on the German border. It was a fascinating conversation in which we spoke about the sense of belonging and the transfer of historical memory and trauma.

I was reminded of this encounter as I read about the previously disconnected Jews who are feeling an “inheritance of values and trauma” (Rabbi Dr. Tirzah Firestone, *JTA*, January 5, 2024) because of the sharp rise in antisemitism as an outcome of the Israel-Hamas War.

“I barely identify as Jewish,” one business executive confessed to Firestone, “yet I’m unbelievably triggered. Can you help me understand why?” (*Ibid*)

Tirzah responded, “One way to understand this is to see them [the trauma] as having roots in earlier

times. In this sense, the attacks on innocent Jews on October 7 reverberate with a kind of biological memory of traumas that we ourselves may never have experienced, but whose residues nevertheless live within us.”

Clinically, this process is called behavioral epigenetics.

We see behavioral epigenetics in the *Haggadah* with the *Ra’asha*, the Wicked Child. What makes him wicked? He excludes himself from the Passover ritual and by extension from the Jewish people by asking, “What does this ritual mean to you? You and not him. Had he been in Egypt he would not have been redeemed.”

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks explains it this way: “What makes the wicked son wicked...is not that he fails to believe, but that he fails to identify with the people of whom he is a part.” (*Sack’s Haggadah*, page 21)

And yet he is included in the *Haggadah* and is even at the table presenting the possibility of being engaged.

We also see behavioral epigenetics in the climax of the *Haggadah* and its charge: “*B’khol dor l’dor hayav adam lirote et atzmo k’ilu hu yatza miMitzrayim*—In Every generation a person is obligated to see oneself as if they themselves went out from Egypt.” The *Haggadah* is actually quite explicit that we are to transfer our biological and historical memory!

Perhaps we can learn two lessons from all of this. The first is that no matter how disconnected a person may seem to be from Judaism and the Jewish community, there always remains the possibility of connection. Sometimes, it may be a negative trigger such as October 7 and sometimes it might be a positive trigger like the birth of a child.



Beth Tzedec Congregation

1700 Bathurst Street,
Toronto, Ontario Canada M5P 3K3
Tel 416-781-3511 / Fax 416-781-0150
www.beth-tzedec.org

President Patti Rotman

president@beth-tzedec.org

Chair of the Board Don Smith

chair@beth-tzedec.org

Rabbi Steven C. Wernick, Anne and Max

Tanenbaum Senior Rabbinic Chair
ext. 218, rebsteve@beth-tzedec.org

Executive Director Phil David

pdavid@beth-tzedec.org

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

ext. 219, rabbirfb@beth-tzedec.org

Cantor Sidney Ezer

ext. 296, cantorsid@beth-tzedec.org

Ritual Director Lorne Hanick

ext. 240, ghanick@beth-tzedec.org

Director of Community Building & Spiritual Engagement Yacov Fruchter

ext. 279, yfruchter@beth-tzedec.org

Director of Education & Program Development Daniel Silverman

ext. 231, dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org

Director of Family & Young Adult Engagement Cantor Audrey Klein

ext. 223, cantoraudrey@beth-tzedec.org

Spiritual Leader Aviva Chernick ext. 234

achernick@beth-tzedec.org

Director of Development Jonathan Ain

ext. 229, jain@beth-tzedec.org

Senior Marketing Manager Terri Humphries

ext. 212, thumphries@beth-tzedec.org

Marketing & Communications Manager Michael Goodbaum

ext. 267, mgoodbaum@beth-tzedec.org

Family Engagement Specialist Penina Hoffnung

ext. 233, phoffnung@beth-tzedec.org

Receptionist Avital Narvey

416-781-3511, info@beth-tzedec.org

Member Engagement & Development Klara Romm ext. 220, kromm@beth-tzedec.org

To contribute your news, congratulations, member updates or other listings, send an email to thumphries@beth-tzedec.org, call 416-781-3514, ext. 212 or fax 416-781-0150.

The second is that we who are connected should always be open to inviting others in—physically and spiritually. After all, how do we begin our *sedarim*? “Let all who are hungry come and eat.”

Each year, we have many people—seekers, conversion candidates, people who live alone or people new to our community—who are looking to connect with our Jewish community around the Passover seder. Will you open your home and invite them in? If so, please contact my assistant, Nicole Leybman, at nleybman@beth-tzedec.org or 416-781-3514, ext. 227. And if you need home hospitality, let her know that, too. We will do our best to find you a place to connect.

Chag Pesach Sameach.



A PRE-PASSOVER Community Shabbat Dinner

Friday, April 19

Service 6:00 PM | Dinner 7:15 PM

On this Shabbat before Pesach, take a break from the cleaning, cooking and Passover prep to join us for a delicious, catered dinner as and time to connect and celebrate as a community. Cost for dinner.

Pre-registration is required by **Friday, April 19 at 11:00 AM.**

Cost for dinner. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/community-passover-dinner-2024> by **Wednesday, April 10.**



Patti Rotman

I find it intriguing that the ways in which many of us practice and feel Jewish in a world that can often feel scarier and lonelier is, in some surprising way, now more Jewish than ever.

Catalysts for Change

As I approach the end of my term as President, I cannot help but reflect on what it looks like to be a Conservative synagogue post-October 7. Today's world comes with immense challenges for us. I speak of the rise in antisemitism, increased security measures and expenses and, most of all, our Jewishness and our relationship with Israel. I find it intriguing that the ways in which many of us practice and feel Jewish in a world that can often feel scarier and lonelier is, in some surprising way, now more Jewish than ever.

In times of tragedy, we rally when others protest. We find ways to support Israel with comfort, food and supplies. We organize and join missions (including one we are organizing for March 27 to 31). These acts of *chesed* cannot undo the tragic loss of life. They cannot bring home the many hostages. They cannot heal the thousands of wounded civilians and soldiers. By examining our humanity, we remind ourselves of our resilience and courage, where we can often find light in darkness. It's the physical courage of the IDF, our moral courage to speak out against injustice, our emotional courage to be vulnerable in times of tragedy, and our intellectual courage when engaging in critical thinking—even in the face of opposition or uncertainty. It's our social courage that helps us to bridge divides and initiate difficult conversations, our creative courage where we push boundaries and share our unique perspectives, and finally, everyday courage that helps us get up each morning to face the day with quiet resilience, so we may navigate life's ups and downs with grace and determination. Regardless of the challenges facing the Jewish people, every act of courage has power to inspire, uplift and transform lives.

I am astonished that two years have flown by so quickly. To be honest, between the countless meetings, thousands of emails, (yes, I truly mean thousands) navigating through the aftermath of COVID-19 and sadly, a war in Israel, its impact on our shul and the Jewish community in Toronto and worldwide, it's somewhat surreal to acknowledge that this marks my final *Bulletin* article at Beth Tzedec.

I am deeply appreciative of all the members who have taken the time to express their gratitude for our efforts at Beth Tzedec. Additionally, I am thankful to those who have reached out with suggestions for improvements when needed. While receiving criticism can sometimes be challenging, constructive feedback helps me, and ultimately Beth Tzedec, to evolve and improve. It underscores the profound care our community has for our shul. Leading a congregation with individuals dedicated to the betterment of our community has truly been a privilege.

Sheldon and I were married nearly 43 years ago at Beth Tzedec. Since then, our family has joyously marked four *b'nei mitzvah*, held several weddings of our children, and celebrated the baby namings of our grandchildren—all within our synagogue! I have also witnessed many evolutions in our Spiritual Leadership Team. I truly value the time spent with Rabbi Frydman-Kohl, who was there for my family for many years and still does take the time to connect and make certain I am doing well. I wish he and Josette only the best after making aliyah to Israel. I would also like to thank Rabbi Wernick and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for their kindness, compassion, and support, especially in these trying times. Thank you to our entire spiritual leadership team who work tirelessly to provide





uplifting and engaging Jewish spiritual and cultural experiences, as well as care and support in times of celebration and need.

A special thanks to our Executive Director, Phil David, who skillfully oversees an exceptional administrative team and professional staff, including at our cemetery. Since October 7, he has undertaken the extra responsibility of keeping our building, and those who work within it and visit us daily, safe and secure.

I am deeply grateful to my partner in crime and Chair of the Board, Don Smith. You have been the yin to my yang since we boarded this train. I am fortunate to have been blessed with a devoted Executive Committee—Aaron Wine, Bruce Elman, Brian Segal, Debbie Rothstein and Jamie Golombek. Your collaborative efforts have not only achieved our goals but have also fostered a positive and dynamic environment. Your strategic insights, hard work, and passion for our mission are truly commendable. Thank you to our incredible Board of Directors whose leadership and commitment have played a pivotal role in steering our shul toward success. As we continue to navigate the challenges ahead, I am confident that we will achieve even greater heights. Thank you for your tireless efforts and for being an integral part of our shared success while maintaining our six core

values—Care, Connect, Learn, Pray, Celebrate and Give & Get.

We will continue to strive to provide unique, meaningful, and topical programming, carefully consider our building options to refurbish and build more useful and accessible space for our members and provide support and services to best meet our membership needs. Establishing the Generations Membership has afforded us the opportunity to ensure the future is bright.

Reflecting on all the Presidents who have stood before me, I am humbled to have served as the fourth female President of Beth Tzedec. This experience has been both an honour and a pleasure and will continue to be one of the most esteemed privileges in my life. Being a leader means more than just handling tasks and showing up for meetings; that merely scratches the surface. Leadership is setting an example for others in the community. When individuals step into leadership roles (whether dipping a toe in the water or jumping in with both feet), they become catalysts for positive change and growth.

Thank you to the innumerable synagogue volunteers. You are the essential members of our community, embodying *tzedakah*, the spirit of giving and service that lies at the heart of Jewish tradition. Your dedication and commitment contribute significantly to the strength, vitality,

and sense of belonging within the synagogue, enriching the lives of all who participate in its activities. Your efforts, however large or small, are the fabric that is Beth Tzedec.

For the last two years, I attended monthly meetings with fellow Presidents from other Conservative shuls in Toronto and surrounding areas. We are truly a unicorn congregation. While other shul presidents share struggles of membership retention, I am grateful that despite COVID we are a strong and thriving kehillah inspiring and enabling our community to live meaningful Jewish lives.

For almost 70 years, Beth Tzedec has been a place of community and prayer. I am confident that our spiritual leadership team and lay leaders will effectively carry forward this legacy for the next 70 years, ensuring that Beth Tzedec remains an inclusive and welcoming place for existing members and those we warmly invite into our community.

While I will be transitioning to the role of Past President, I am not disappearing entirely. I will still be at shul—whether on Shabbat, *chagim* or at many of our upcoming programs, shabbat dinners, speaker engagements, baking cookies for the Rosh Hashanah Connect Lounge or helping to plan the upcoming 70th anniversary celebration! We have a happening place, and I urge you to join me at an event or on Shabbat. Although our High Holy Days experience is second to none, the remaining 362 days are pretty amazing, too!

While I'm delighted to be able to spend more time with my husband Sheldon, our children and grandchildren, Beth Tzedec will always be my home away from home. I hope you too find comfort, belonging and familiarity at our kehillah and wish you a *Chag Purim Sameach* and a *Chag Kasher v'Sameach*.
B'Shalom.

Family Purim Celebrations at Beth Tzedec



Sunday, March 24

Abridged Megillah Reading

10:30 AM

Join us for an abridged, child-centric Megillah reading experience. Afterwards, have a blast at our annual Purim carnival.

Family Purim Carnival

11:00 AM

Join the fun at our annual Purim carnival! Kids of all ages will enjoy carnival booths, bouncy castles, a toddlers' play-zone and more! An abridged *megillah* reading will take place from 10:30 to 11:00 AM prior to the carnival, and at 12:30 PM join us for our family Purim Seudah lunch. No charge for activities; snacks will be available for purchase.

Family Purim Seudah

12:30 PM

Following our family-friendly, abridged Megillah reading at 10:30 am and our annual Purim Carnival at 11:00 pm, we extend the fun with our Family Purim Seudah. Let's laugh, be silly and celebrate over lunch with our family, friends and neighbours.

Cost: \$25 adults; \$15 youth (ages 4 to 14). Register via <https://bit.ly/family-purim-seudah>

Generously supported by the Flatt Family in memory of Ab Flatt



SENDING PURIM CHEER TO OUR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

The Membership Committee is gearing up to send our annual holiday package filled with Purim treats to our university/college student members. To receive a package, provide a mailing address to Klara at kromm@beth-tzedec.org or call **416-781-3514, ext. 220**. All requests must be received by **March 4, 2024** to ensure that they arrive in time for the holiday.



Phil David

Whichever way you wish to participate as a member, know that we are here for you each and every day of the year.

After October 7

The tragedy of the October 7 attacks on innocent Israelis continues to reverberate globally and right here at home...in Toronto and at Beth Tzedec. Thanks to our shul's resources—and the guidance of Rabbi's Wernick and Fryer Bodzin—we have been proud to host and be part of a number of initiatives, including UJA's *Bring Them Home* rally attended by approximately 4,000, a meaningful interfaith service at Timothy Eaton Church and a Q-&-A information session with the Toronto Police Service.

Most recently, following a discussion between the Rabbis and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Parliament Hill over Chanukah, Beth Tzedec hosted a private, off-the-record session with the P.M. in our Hendeles Chapel where an audience of 40 Jewish community leaders pressed him on several issues, including Canada's position on the International Court of Justice hearings and the UN vote calling for a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. I encourage you to read and listen to the CJN coverage for context and detail. Access it via <https://bit.ly/PM-CJN-podcast>.

From a security standpoint, while there has been no known threat to our Synagogue, we must remain vigilant to protect our members, guests and staff. Beth Tzedec continues to apply for provincial and federal security grants; however, even if we qualify, proceeds

are insufficient to cover the additional cost of labour—security guards and paid duty police officers—which amount to \$13K to \$15K monthly. By June 30, our fiscal year-end, we estimate incremental security expenses will have added up to well beyond \$100K.

To help offset these expenses, we launched our Emergency Security Fund campaign in March. We are pleased to announce that, to date, we have raised more than \$30,000 and we'll keep the campaign open. If you wish to participate in this tax-receiptable initiative, please visit <https://bit.ly/bt-emerg-security-fund>.

Looking for information to better understand the situation in Israel?

Rabbi Wernick has put together a terrific educational document for our staff and members to help better understand the context of what is happening in Israel, the history driving it and how to talk about it. We encourage you to take the time to read this excellent reference document. Please visit <https://bit.ly/israel-war-update>

There is lots happening here.

As you may have read many times since I arrived in mid-2022, "The shul is always hopping!"

So why do I continue to raise this? Well, I'm often asked: "How can I get more involved in my shul so I feel a part of our *kehillah*?" There are so many ways...

1. Volunteer—There are diverse opportunities to volunteer at Beth Tzedec. We are always looking for people who want to create a positive difference by getting involved in many short or long-term projects and committees. It's a win-win. You can help us expand our ability to benefit our community and build on our core values while getting to know each other and deepening your connection with other members.



2. We can always use your help.

We each have a unique skill set built over the years through work or a hobby. For example, this year, our team is working on a number of branding, web/digital and H.R. projects that can benefit from an infusion of professional support.

3. Join us for Services. Besides Shabbat, we run morning *minyanim* from Sunday to Friday (followed by Nash's free culinary creations) and each night leading up to Shabbat.

4. Register for one of our many programs. Many are free or discounted for members. In fact, in preparation for this article, I asked Daniel Silverman, our Director of Education and Program Development, to list all the programs he and the Member Engagement staff will be running over the next few weeks. Wow! Visit <https://www.beth-tzedec.org/page/hub/category/event-happening-at-beth-tzedec> to see all that is going on over the next few weeks at our wonderful shul.

As a point of contact, I encourage you to reach out to Klara Romm in Member Engagement. She will connect you with the right people to get you started.

Email her at kromm@beth-tzedec.org or call 416-781-3514, ext. 220.



The High Holidays are Coming!

Well, we still have a few months. This year, Erev Rosh Hashanah is not until October 2nd. But did you know that the planning for High Holidays begins now?

Not surprisingly, the High Holidays are the time of year when we have the most members in our building attending one or more of the five Services we offer. We'll keep trying to improve your overall experience when you attend Services at Beth Tzedec, either in person or online. If you have any suggestions to share as we update our planning list, please email me at pdavid@beth-tzedec.org. Your feedback is always appreciated.

Stay Current

I always include in the *Bulletin* that it is very simple to stay current with all that is happening in your synagogue. How? Check our website at beth-tzedec.org and sign up for our twice-weekly e-newsletters to stay in the loop.

You should also follow us on Instagram [@bethtzedeccongregation](https://www.instagram.com/bethtzedeccongregation) and Facebook [@Beth Tzedec Congregation](https://www.facebook.com/BethTzedecCongregation)—like a few of our posts to make sure the algorithm gets our posts into your feed!

Whichever way you wish to participate as a member, know that we are here for you each and every day of the year.

In 2025, Beth Tzedec Celebrates its 70th Anniversary!



Volunteers Needed

We look forward to celebrating Beth Tzedec's 70th Anniversary over the next year. As we begin planning for the year-long celebrations, we'll be focusing a range of events offering something for everyone. Volunteers are always appreciated, so we'd like to start a list of those who may be able to assist on a specific task or two. If you are interested in offering your time, please share your name and the best way for us to contact you. Email your interest to BethTzedec70@beth-tzedec.org.

Share Your Memories and Memorabilia

Over the past 70 years, Beth Tzedec has been a beacon of Jewish life in Toronto. We have celebrated, learned, comforted and prayed together. On our 70th anniversary, we'd love to share the memories and memorabilia that help us recall times past. To share your memories or items, please contact Evon Kassabian by email at ekassabian@beth-tzedec.org.



Mazal Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah

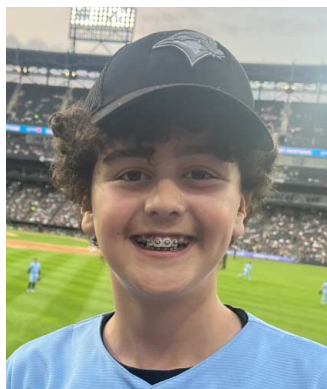
WHO HAVE COMPLETED OUR BAR/BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM



January 27
Ben Hurwitz
son of Corey &
Carly Hurwitz
בנימין עמית בן חיים ומאשה לאה



March 16
Emma Propst
daughter of Evan Propst
& Tali Waksman
עמית מיה בת גדעון וטלי



April 6
Ryan Tenenbaum
son of Errol Tenenbaum
& Nicole Salama
משה אליהו בן אפרים וחינה באשע



April 20
Liam Gabriel Reuven Klimitz
son of Jordan Morris Ian &
Ester Klimitz
ליעם גבריאל ראובן בן יוסי ואסתר



May 2
Halyn Freeman
daughter of Jonathan
Freeman & Cyrelle Muskat
חיה מלכה בת ניסן אברהם
וציריל אסתר



May 4
Callie Dales
daughter of Andrew Dales
and Jennifer Dales
יעל חיה בת יחזקאל ויוכבד



(IN LITTLE MINYAN) May 4
Quincey Moscoe
daughter of Aaron
Moscoe & Melanie Ruby
יפה בת אהרן ומלכה



May 9
Owen Rethazy
son of Daniel Rethazy &
Lauren Greisman
אילן זאב בן גדליה הלוי ולבנה



(IN LITTLE MINYAN) May 11
Jack Stein
son of Jared Stein &
Naomi Zittell
פסח בן לייב ונעמי



May 25
Sienna Linder
daughter of
Cindy Linder
שירי טליה בת אסתר העניה

Milestones and Celebrations

We can't share your good news unless you tell us about it. Send an email to thumphries@beth-tzedec.org or call 416-781-3514, ext. 212. The deadline for the next *Bulletin* covering June 1 through August 31 is May 1.



Births

Sophie Adele, daughter of Melanie & Jeffrey Spiegel, granddaughter of Paula & Jeffrey Brockman and Cheryl & Ira Spiegel, great-granddaughter of Ron Steinberg, born **August 4**.

Logan Samuel, son of Jordana & Graham Rosen, grandson of Judy Litwack-Goldman & David Goldman and Susan Jackson & Larry Rosen, great-grandson of Donna & Ralph Goldman and Evelyn & Harry Rosen, born **November 12**.

Danielle Eden, daughter of Sara & Asaf Hanegby, granddaughter of Norman & Jackie Kahn and Tammy Hanegby, born **November 21**.



Cole Aiden, son of Ryan & Taylor Stern, grandson of Stephen Stern & Erica Greenspoon, Debbie Stern & Alan Lipman and Jonah & Karen Laist, great-grandson of Sharon Stern, Peter Nadler and Otto & Hanny Ladanyi, born **December 5**.

Gabriel Manley, son of Leah Walters & Daniel Feuer, grandson of Gary & Debra Walters and Debra & Marvin Feuer, great-grandson of Barbra Walters and Phyllis Adler, born **January 9**.

Maude Sofia, daughter of Matthew & Jaime Zimmerman, sister of Otis and Penn, granddaughter of Danny & Arlyn Zimmerman and Gary & Alison Polan, great-granddaughter of Zoli^{z1} & Sara Zimmerman and Ed & Sandy^{z1} Cooperman, born **January 18**.

Tzipporah Feygy, daughter of Matthew & Leah Simon, granddaughter of Norman & Jackie Kahn and Cory & Helen Grafstein, born **February 10**.



Hana Chloe, daughter of Howie Katz & Sydney Lashko, sister of Mara Rose, granddaughter of Janet & Neil Katz, Catherine Lashko and Peter Lashko, born **February 11**.

Sloane Margot, daughter of Andrew & Rebecca Segal, granddaughter of Brian Segal & Roslyn Levine and Igor & Lana Vernik, great-granddaughter of Beatrice Levine, born **February 13**.

Congratulations to

Nancy Golden, who celebrated her 80th birthday on January 29.

Max Herscovitch, son of Joel Herscovitch & Allison Boman, who will celebrate his bar mitzvah on May 18.

Melanie Simon, daughter of Allan Simon^{z1} and Jackie & Norman Kahn, granddaughter of Ruth Simon, and **Ari Cuperfain**, son of Susie Cuperfain & Chaim Belisowski and Joel Cuperfain & Tina Grimberg, grandson of David & Reni Cuperfain and Dr. Jerome & Evelyn Stein, on their engagement.

Weddings

Jaclyn Marcus, daughter of Pearl Marcus^{z1} & Paul Marcus, granddaughter of Sarah & Jacob Dykler^{z1} and Hilda & Leo Marcus^{z1}, and **Keenan Engel**, son of Tina Engel & Saul Engel and grandson of the late Vera & Karl Ostermann^{z1} and Mina & Meyer Engel^{z1}, who were married on February 18.

MEGILLAT ESTHER:
The Whole Megillah
Saturday, March 23 at 8:30 PM

Grab the groggers, get in costume and join us either in person or via livestream (<https://bethtzedec.tv>) for our festive, noisy and fun Purim Megillah reading with musical interludes from professional musicians. Stick around afterwards for food, drink and more music. No charge; everyone is welcome.



Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

Our Daily Minyan

Every single time I attend daily minyan, I see connection and growth.

Like all daily *minyanim*, our daily minyan took a hit during COVID. The pivot to online prayer services was a result of the lockdown. At the time, I compared it to an online school. It was all done only out of necessity.

As a parent, I hope we never need to return to online school again!

Just like online school did not replicate the in-person experience, neither did online *minyanim*. Something was missing. The camaraderie and friendships created in real-time from seeing the same people day after day were absent. The ability to offer a hug or shoulder or get a tissue box for a friend was impossible. Some leave their homes at 6:30 AM in order to make it in time for morning minyan. When we see people in the Hendeles Chapel, we know and appreciate that we all made an effort to be there.

With the passage of time, I have seen how small boxes on screens and a bit of the chat function are so very different than what is happening each morning in the Hendeles Chapel. Every single time I attend daily minyan, I see connection and growth.

Some of the current cast of characters who often attend minyan include:
The 20-something woman who recently re-connected to her Judaism.

She wears her *tallit* like a pro, intently spending time focusing on the prayers and her relationship with God. This person is not there to say *Kaddish*. She comes to shul to pray. Over the last few months, this person has gradually moved from a transliterated siddur to the same *Siddur Sim Shalom* that everyone else uses. She often sits by herself but she knows she is not alone.

We have our Sunday minyannaires. These are people who we know will be there on Sundays. Often they lead the *davening* and stick around for lively conversation at breakfast.

We frequently see a woman who continues to attend minyan long after she concluded reciting *Kaddish* for a loved one. This person lives nowhere near Beth Tzedec but makes the trek because she found community at shul. And, to our delight, she often will lead *Mincha* or *Ma'ariv*, a skill she sharpened when she was a mourner.

There is someone who often joins us for minyan. He is a lot older than we might think and loves to lead *davening*, especially *Hallel*. He walks around and dishes out candy and offers innocent yet loving kisses on the *keppe* (head) to many of us.

And then we have those who come to minyan day in and day out to recite



The Beth Tzedec Centre for
Spiritual Well-Being

Spring Well-Being Workshops with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Wednesdays, May 8, 15 & 22 at 7:45 PM

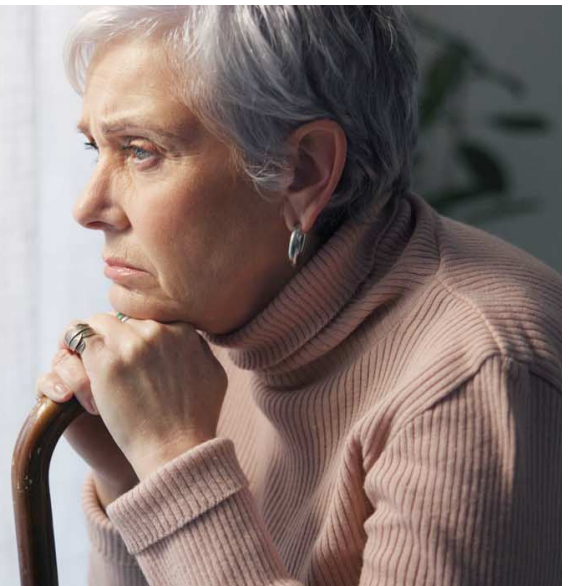
May 8—Comforting Mourners (*Nichum Aveilim*)

May 15—Visiting / Assisting Sick People (*Bikkur Cholim*)

May 22—Caring for Aging Parents (*Kibud Horim*)

Pre-registration is required via

<https://bit.ly/comforting-mourners-2024>



Kaddish for a loved one. They *daven* together and then they eat breakfast together. The current mourners have really bonded as a community. Those with cars will often drive others home on Saturday night and check in when someone is absent. Whether they attend daily or only make it a few days a week, they know they are all walking through the Valley of the Shadow of Death together. People cry and people laugh together. Above all, people see the Divine spark in the other.

Since October 7, we have added more prayers for Israel and the victims of kidnapping. Every single person who attended minyan on January 14 wore a piece of tape with the number 100 written on it in black ink, marking

100 days of hell. Daily minyan breakfast has become a safe, uniquely Jewish space to discuss the war in Gaza and how antisemitism is impacting us here in Toronto.

I want to share one more snapshot. Carol lost her father last year. She would never have described herself as a shul-goer before. Carol is quiet, yet she exudes a kindness not seen in most people. Carol grew this year. Carol, who does not live nearby, committed to saying *Kaddish* twice daily and met her goal. Carol gained so much more than the opportunity to recite prayers. She gained confidence and friends. When Carol spoke at the end of her 11 months, we all had tears in our eyes having

watched her blossom.

While I realize that distance, health and other circumstances keep some people away from our building, I encourage you to come to shul. Come to *daven*. Come to be in community. Come to make a minyan. Come to lead a minyan. Come to connect. Come to grow. Come to talk to God.

As a rabbi at Beth Tzedec, I am blessed to accomplish many things on any given day. Attending daily minyan centers me, grounds me, and enables me to thrive in our community. I look forward to seeing you at daily minyan soon.

Many blessings,

CONTINUED Milestones

Many Thanks

The Liebgott Family, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on March 9 honouring **Noam Liebgott Bujold** on his bar mitzvah.

Sephi Band and family, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on March 16 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Ephraim Band Q.C.**

Yacov Fruchter & Ryla Braemer, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on December 23 honouring their daughter **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

The Golden and Standfield Families, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on January 27 honouring **Nancy Golden** on her 80th birthday.

The Engel and Marcus Families, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on February 3 honouring **Jaclyn Marcus & Keenan Engel** on their marriage.

Howard Simmons & Joyce Nesker Simmons, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on February 10 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Hilda Green Simmons**.

The Ezer Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on February 10 honouring **Meera Ezer** on the 40th anniversary of her bat mitzvah, and honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber** and **the HarmonEzers** for the beautiful Shabbat Shirah Services and in continuing to beautify the Services.

Harriet Lilker and family, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on February 10 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Emmanuel Solomon Lilker**.

Evan Propst & Tali Waksman, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on March 16 honouring their daughter **Emma Propst** on her bat mitzvah.

Aaron Bodzin and Ariella Bodzin, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on April 6 honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on her 50th birthday.

Jordan & Ester Klimitz, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on April 20 honouring their son **Liam Klimitz** on his bar mitzvah.

Jennifer Dales, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on May 4 honouring their daughter **Callie Dales** on her bat mitzvah.

Daniel Rethazy & Lauren Greisman, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on May 11 honouring their son **Owen Rethazy** on his bar mitzvah.

Jared Stein & Naomi Zittel, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on May 11 honouring their son **Jack Stein** on his bar mitzvah.

Allison Boman & Joel Herscovitch, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on May 18 honouring their son **Max Boman** on his bar mitzvah.

Cindy Linder, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on May 25 honouring her daughter **Sienna Linder** on her bat mitzvah.



Cantor Sidney Ezer

Parashat Zakhor and Syrian Jewry

On Shabbat Zakhor, we are commanded to remember the evil that Amalek did unto us. On this particular Shabbat Zakhor, in the face of the current global reality, we nevertheless celebrate the legacy of the Syrian Jewish community that lives on in Israel and the diaspora.

The horrific attacks on October 7 in the wake of the 50th anniversary of the Yom Kippur War will forever be etched in the consciousness of the Jewish people. Another terrible occasion we solemnly commemorate this year is the 50th anniversary of the brutal murder of four Syrian Jewish women: Fara Ziebak, 24, her sisters Lulu, 23, and Mazal 22, and their cousin Eva Saad, 18. Fifty years ago on March 2, 1974, their bodies were discovered in a cave outside Al-Zabadani, about ten kilometres from the Lebanese border. They had been raped before they were murdered. Their bodies were hacked to pieces and burned by acid almost beyond recognition. They had also been robbed. A finger of one of the young women had been cut off in order to remove a ring.

Syrian police returned the women's remains to their families in burlap sacks. They contemptuously and callously deposited the sacks in front of their parents' homes on Purim.

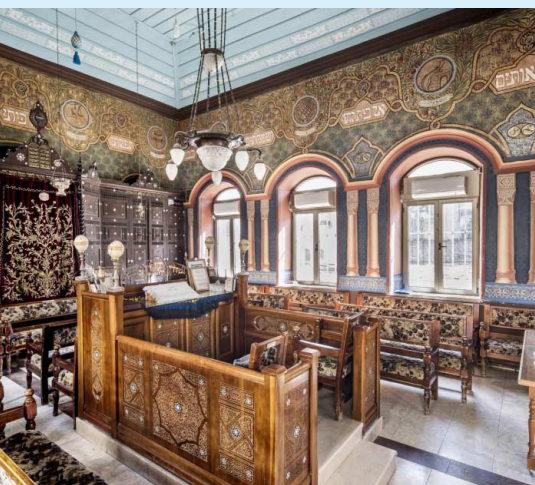
The ancient Syrian Jewish community dates back to biblical times. An early Jewish community in Aleppo likely dates back over 1,500 years to the fifth century when a synagogue was constructed there. The Jews in Syria were once over 30,000 strong. By 1974, only 500 Jews remained to endure the violent retaliation of the Syrian government in the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War. The Mossad, often in cooperation with the Israeli Defense Force and various Jewish charities, established operations to rescue these persecuted Jews. As many of you know, this community is indebted to our member and past president Judy Feld Carr who helped smuggle 3,228 Jews out of Syria. She also covertly smuggled priceless Jewish religious artifacts out of the country.

In this light, it is important to learn about the vast musical heritage of Syrian Jewry and its impact on other Sephardic and Mizrahi communities. One aspect is the wealth of *piyyutim*, Hebrew liturgical poetry. The Kabbalists of Safed ascribed prime importance to the singing of the *piyyutim*. Their repertoire included poets of the Golden Age of Hebrew poetry in Spain, and these formed the basis of and inspiration for the *piyyutim* written by Sephardi poets in the land of Israel and the neighbouring countries from the 16th century onwards.

The most prominent among them was Rabbi Israel Najara. Najara migrated from Safed to Damascus with his father at an early age. His religious songs enjoyed a wide circulation within the Eastern and Western communities and exerted remarkable influence on the development of religious music. His songs continue to serve as a cornerstone of Shabbat *zemirot* (table songs) we sing today as well as *baqqashot* (petitions).

The prestigious singing of *baqqashot* gained particular prominence in Syria and Morocco. Aleppo became the major centre of the Syrian *baqqashot* celebration and toward the end of the 19th century, the tradition was transplanted to two secondary centres—Eretz Israel and Brooklyn—where they faithfully survive. New texts have even been written in Brooklyn in the 20th century. The *baqqashot* texts are usually sung on the very early Shabbat mornings prior to *Shacharit* between Sukkot and Passover.

In my first year of cantorial school in Israel, I and my three classmates had the unique experience of getting up at 3:00 AM on a Shabbat morning to attend *Baqqashot* at the Aleppo



Ades Synagogue, Jerusalem

synagogue Beit Kenneset Ades with our ethnomusicology professor. The Ades Synagogue, established in 1901, has become a centre of religious music for all the Jerusalem Sephardim and members of other Middle Eastern Jewish congregations.

On a Thursday evening, we also attended the Har Tziyon Synagogue located in Mount Zion in the Old City, close to Dormition Abby and the site traditionally known as the Tomb of King David. Since taking over in 1960, Cantor Abraham Caspi initiated the Thursday evening *baqqashot* gatherings at Har Tziyon in order to promote the knowledge of this repertoire. The full repertoire is performed in continuous five or six-week cycles throughout the year.

A significant factor in the development of the Jerusalem–Sephardi tradition was the immigration to Palestine at the turn of the 20th century of several of the spiritual leaders of the Congregation of Aleppo, among them some of the outstanding cantors and liturgical poets of that community. The Aleppo community possessed a distinctive tradition of religious music derived from the heritage of Rabbi Israel Najara and from local Arabic music. An example of the central role of Arabic music in the music of the Jews of Aleppo is the “*maqām* chart” that specifies the principal *maqām* in

the *Shacharit* service on every Shabbat in the annual cycle. The *maqāmāt* are the Arab musical scales and modes.

There is an aesthetic association between *maqām* and the weekly Torah readings. For example, *Maqām Saba* is associated with the theme of circumcision.

Parashat Lekh Lekha contains the circumcision of Abraham, the first circumcision in the Bible. For the week when this Torah portion is read, the Cantor uses *Maqām Saba* for the melodies of the *Shacharit* prayers. *Maqām Hijaz*, comparable to the *Ahavah Rabbah* or *Freygish* mode in Ashkenazi tradition, is traditionally associated with death and sadness. Consequently, the Torah portions which contain the deaths of biblical figures or a tragic event will be associated with this *maqām*.

Maqām Ajam, similar to the major scale in Western music, is associated with happiness. The main example is *Parashat Beshallah* which contains the Exodus from Egypt and the miracle of the crossing of Sea. Whereas an Ashkenazi cantor leading *Shacharit* has more leeway concerning melody choice, the Syrian Jewish cantor must select melodies containing the appropriate *maqām*. The melodies of *pizmonim* (songs of

praise) and *baqqashot* (petitions) serve as the stock set of melodies for the *Shacharit* service from which to choose. A *pizmon*'s *maqām* classification and musical quality determines its specific use during *Shacharit*. The biblical reading associations determine the *maqām* of the day.

Today, not a single Jew lives in Syria. On the 50th anniversary of Fara, Lulu, Mazal and Eva's murders, it is appropriate to remember their bravery, innocence and beauty, as well as the extraordinary work of Judy Feld Carr over 28 years in rescuing so many Syrian Jews from that once vibrant community. In past years, Beth Tzedec would run a Sephardic Shabbat service on the Shabbat before Purim, inviting guest cantors. In keeping with that spirit, I and the HarmonEzers will incorporate a few congregational melodies from the Syrian Jewish tradition into our Shabbat morning service on March 23.

On *Shabbat Zakhor*, we are commanded to remember the evil that Amalek did unto us. On this particular *Shabbat Zakhor*, in the face of the current global reality, we nevertheless celebrate the legacy of the Syrian Jewish community that lives on in Israel and the diaspora.

Board of Directors Meetings

Members are welcome to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors. To accommodate the need for sensitive items to be discussed in private, each meeting will include an in camera portion, allowing the Board to deliberate confidentially without any guests. Upcoming dates: **Tuesdays, March 19 and April 16 and Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30 PM.**

For information or to pre-register for a Board meeting, contact Evon Kassabian at 416-781-3514, ext. 222 or email ekassabian@beth-tzedec.org.

Annual Meeting

All members are encouraged to participate in our Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, May 28 at 7:30 PM.** Watch for information to be shared with members via email in the coming days and weeks.



Yacov Fruchter

Engaging Wholeheartedly in Community

For a *b'nei mitzvah* experience to be successful, it ought to create a foundation of Jewish pride and connection to the Jewish community that the child is part of.



Last December, our family celebrated our eldest child Sheelo's bat mitzvah (BM). It was one of the best experiences and happiest moments of my life, primarily because it was the most joyful moment of Sheelo's life. The theme of Sheelo's BM was "Bat Mitzvah", and it has left her wanting more shul experiences, more connection to community and a deep sense of pride and gratitude.

As Ryla and I considered what made it so successful and inspiring for her and for us as a family, we realized that it was because of three things:

1. We took a child-centered approach to our *simcha*, prioritizing having Sheelo lead parts of the Service that we knew were consistent with her skills and passions and that would leave her with new skills and confidence. I had the honour of teaching her for her BM. I chose not to teach her the Haftarah trop, though that is the norm at Beth Tzedec, as I knew that learning the two tunes for the same cantillations would be difficult for her. Instead, she led as much of the Service as possible, read more Torah than usual, created a beautiful piece of art with artist Sharon Bacal connected to her *parashah*, and gave a beautiful *d'var Torah*, which you can watch [HERE](#).

In the weeks leading up to her BM, Sheelo asked if her BM would be a sad event because of the situation in Israel post-October 7. We chose not to ignore the context of our moment but rather to lean into it. Ryla, my wife, spoke about the fact that we would embrace the joy of the moment, notwithstanding the current *matzav* (situation), and our corresponding fear, anger and sadness.

We celebrated her BM in two parts. On December 16, we held a *Mincha* BM that was for our close friends and family, where Sheelo led the whole service, including havdalah that led into a Saturday night party at the Shul, something we would not have been able to do with the whole community. We then celebrated again the following Shabbat morning, December 23, purposefully inviting the whole community this time. She read the same Torah portion as the week before, plus a bit more, led several parts of the Service, offered her words of Torah and shared her art creation. At both iterations, she was shining and graceful. And in return, she was embraced by hundreds of Beth Tzedec members who were



grateful to be celebrating with her and who so badly needed a *simcha* to be part of.

Hillel said: do not separate yourself from the community.

הלל אומר, אל תפרש מן הצבור

In *Pirkei Avot* 2:4, our great sage Hillel challenged us to be very careful about removing ourselves from our community. I often remind conversion students that Judaism is not a solo sport. Being part of a spiritual, caring community and feeling belonging and responsible for others is central to being Jewish.

I want to take Hillel's words and amplify them as a reminder that we should ensure that others feel included. We need to actively situate ourselves within our community.

For a *b'nei mitzvah* experience to be successful, it ought to create a foundation of Jewish pride and connection to the Jewish community that the child is part of. The only way to do this is for the learning, the skill development and the day of celebration itself to be customized for the child, so that it will energize this child and make them want more. At the same time, and I am aware of the potential tension here, we need to encourage families to choose to mark this milestone with the community, in addition to other celebrations. You should do this because it will be good for your child to feel the warmth of a spiritual community, and it is also really good for the Synagogue regulars who are attending to join in your joy.

In these months of suffering and pain, coming together to celebrate is a balm for our pain.

I want to encourage parents to be clear with our Spiritual Leadership Team about what you need to make your child's *simcha* special and meaningful so that we can partner with you on this.

For the rest of you, I want to encourage you to mark birthdays, anniversaries, retirements, graduations and all your important milestones with us.

Psalms 133:1

A *Ma'alot* Poem of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!

שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת לְדָוִד הַנָּה מֵהַטּוֹב
וּמֵהַנְּעִימִים שְׁבֵת אֶחָיִם גַּם יַחַד:

Save the date!



20s and 30s

**PURIM
PARTY**

Saturday night, March 23

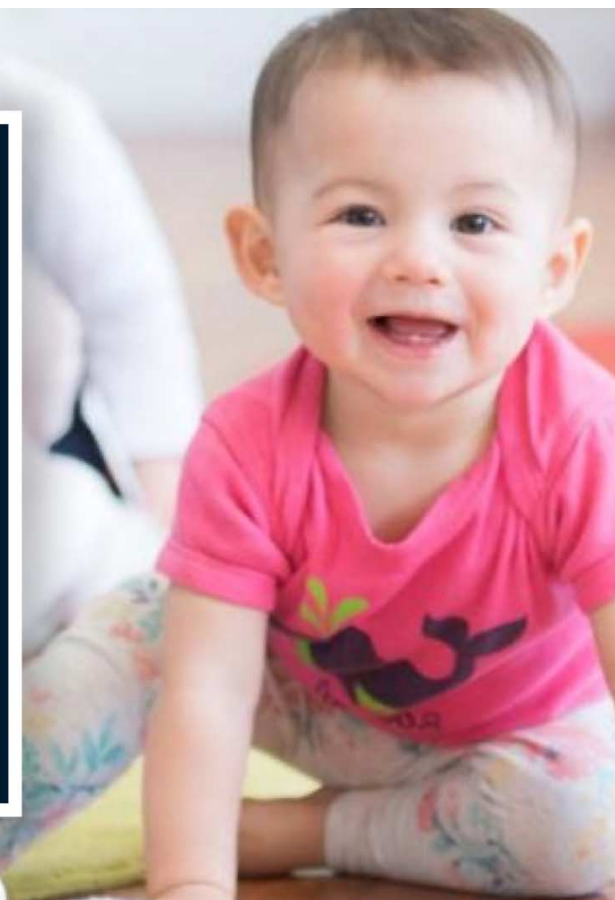
Get in costume, grab your groggers and join Beth Tzedec's 20s and 30s at a fun, fabulous, glittery night of Purim celebrations ... and a festive reading of the Megillah, of course!

Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun

Fridays, April 5 to June 14 12:30 to 1:15 PM

Welcome Shabbat with a 45-minute music class featuring Shabbat songs and blessings, *challah*, grape juice and lots of fun. We are pleased to partner with L'Dance Classes for this special weekly experience for children up to 18 months old, accompanied by an adult caregiver.

Cost: \$120 for Beth Tzedec members; \$180 for the community. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/babies-blessings-1230>



FAMILY SHABBAT DINNER

Fridays, March 15, April 12, May 24 and June 21 at 5:15 PM

Come together for a lively, abridged Kabbalat Shabbat Service, a delicious catered dinner and great programming for kids.



Short & Sweet MULTI-GENERATIONAL FAMILY SERVICE

Saturdays, March 9, April 6, May 4 and June 1 beginning at 10:30 AM





Cantor Audrey Klein

Pesach and the Perpetual Present

Written in memory
of my mother,
Nancy Klein^z^l, whose
lectures on theatre
somehow always
made their way to
the dinner table and
the seder table.

In the preface to his most renowned work, *Our Town*, the celebrated American playwright Thornton Wilder writes the following:

Every action which has ever taken place—every thought, every emotion—has taken place only once, at one moment in time and place. “I love you,” “I rejoice,”

“I suffer,” have been said and felt many billions of times, and never twice the same.

Every person who has ever lived has lived an unbroken succession of unique occasions. Yet the more one is aware of this individuality of experience...the more one becomes attentive to what these disparate moments have in common, to repetitive patterns¹.

This concept of every moment in time comprising a unique experience, different from what has come before and what will come after, is what Wilder referred to as perpetual present time, that “a play visibly represents pure existing.”² To an actor embodying a character on stage—and to the audience viewing that embodiment—this notion is vital to the artform, to what makes theatre different from storytelling. In a story, we are told what takes place. In a play, we witness what takes place, when it takes place.

Pesach (Passover), in many ways, is an observance we experience in

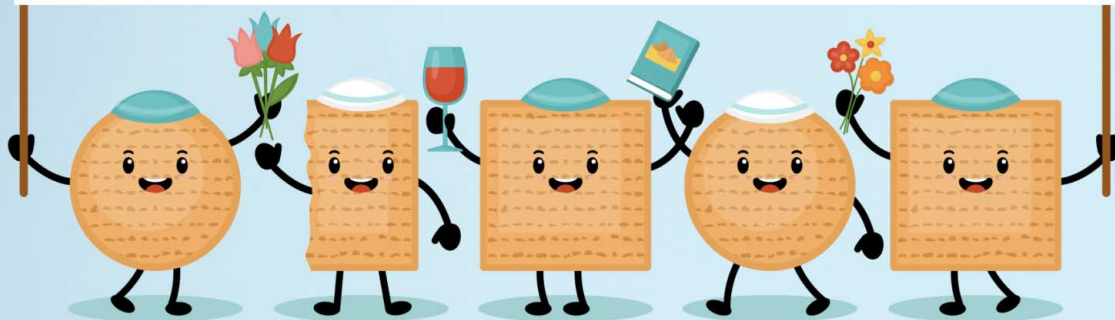
perpetual present time, and the Seder itself being a form of theatre. There is a script—the *Haggadah* (the text we read at the festival meal); there is a stage—the dining table; there are props—the ritual objects and symbolic foods; there are actors—the Seder participants.

Through passages of Torah, *midrashim* (interpretations of biblical texts), songs, discussion, and food, every one of us at the Seder is supposed to feel like they were actually there in Egypt, experiencing the oppressions of slavery, and there on the shore of the Red Sea, experiencing the joys of freedom. We eat matzah because, as the *Haggadah* says, “*ha lachma anya*—this is the bread of affliction.” We recline to the left because now we are free and can dine as free people do. We sing *Dayenu* because there is not a more profound expression of gratitude than to say, “It would have been enough...”

The entire premise of Passover is that each person is called to imagine as if they themselves had been slaves in Egypt. Every year, our people have inserted themselves into a story from our history, retelling it in the now. And, while the foundational structure of the holiday has remained a constant for generations, it is our own “individuality of experience” that makes *Pesach* a living, breathing ritual, drawing from our past, influencing our present, and lighting the way for our future.

¹Wilder, Thornton. Preface. *Three Plays*, by Thornton Wilder. 1957. Harper Perennial, 2020, pp. xxvii-xxix. ²Wilder, Thornton. “Some Thoughts on Playwriting.” *Thornton Wilder: Collected Plays & Writings on Theater*, edited by J.D. McClatchy, The Library of America, 2007, pp.702-703.

Pesach with Pizzazz, Seders with Snazz: Virtual Workshops



April 8, 10 & 11 AT 8:30 PM (via Zoom)

Are you hosting the family seder this year and need to entertain and engage the toddlers, teens *and* the ‘grands’? Penina, our Family Engagement Specialist, has got this covered!

Monday, April 8

For Families with Young Children

Learn some new options for creating a developmentally engaging experience for the youngest minds around our seder tables! This program is perfect for parents and grandparents with younger children and grandchildren.

Wednesday, April 10

For Families with Teens

Teens around the seder table with no smartphones, tablets, YouTube or Snapchat? Gasp! Penina has solutions to keep the smart-set involved.

Thursday, April 11

Stumperama

The dreaded Pesach stumperama ... how to keep *everyone* engaged and entertained through the evening!

Bring us your crazy relatives, dietary dilemmas, *Haggadic* horrors, creative blocks, and let’s see if we can come up with answers—or find someone who can—to make your seder night pure delight for everyone gathered ‘round your table.

Registration required for each session. Visit <https://bit.ly/passover-with-pizzazz> for details.

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT





Daniel Silverman

*Our hope is not
lost and will never
be extinguished.*

Never Extinguished

There is a wonderful and meaningful rabbinic teaching about the flow of the annual Jewish calendar cycle regarding God's role. Beginning with Passover and ending with Purim, we notice an ever-diminishing presence of God in the stories of our holidays.

Passover and Shavuot are full of God's active presence in the world. It is God who, through Moses, defeats Pharaoh and frees the Israelites from slavery. The giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai is full of descriptions of God as an involved player in the proceedings, desiring to communicate with the Israelite people directly.

As the year progresses to the fall, God is still a part of the narrative but less central. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur focus on two main attributes of God—forgiveness and mercy—and Sukkot expresses thanks for God's protection in the wilderness and for helping to guarantee a good harvest. God is involved but plays more of a background role.

The miracle of the Chanukah military victory is attributed to God, but there are no specific acts that God takes in that story. We still praise God with the words of *Hallel* and tell the story of the miracle of the small jug of oil, but the Chanukah story is ultimately one of human beings inspired by their commitment to Jewish practice, not a miraculous deliverance brought by God.

The last holiday in the cycle, Purim, is noted as the holiday where God is least present. God's name doesn't appear in the Book of Esther. We do not recite *Hallel*. Some even understand the Book of Esther as a farce and a polemic against the God-absent assimilated Jews of Persia. Whatever the reasons may be, Purim is most certainly the holiday of human agency. Esther takes action to save the Jews of Persia—not at God's instruction but thanks to her cousin Mordechai. The Jewish people get

saved despite God not playing a role.

Over the last few months since October 7, I have been vacillating between feelings of God in the Purim story and God in the Chanukah story, if not the Passover story. One can legitimately ask—call out, even—where God was on October 7. Perhaps God has abandoned us, leaving fallible humans to fend for our own safety and security. Unlike Esther and Mordechai, we did not meet the moment to prevent the loss of Jewish lives.

At the same time, we know of stories of survival, bravery and resilience that happened on that terrible day and in the months since. God did not intervene to prevent the tragedy unfolding—yet many soldiers and civilians have evaded death or injury due to situations that one can only describe as miraculous. For these people, maybe the Chanukah model of God's inspiration for brave acts is a more appropriate parallel than the Purim narrative.

As we approach Purim and Passover, we need to find the strength to live in-between them. We recognize that God intervening in our world, as in the *Exodus* story, is no longer the reality. However, as we bring Godliness into the world through acts of *chesed* (lovingkindness) and through *mitzvot*, we can ensure that God's presence will not entirely depart.

As much as the Purim story ended well for the Jews of Persia, they were precariously close to destruction. Taking care of one another, binding together and advocating for Israel and the needs of our community, and doubling down on Jewish practices, are the ways we will continue to keep our hope strong, as we have throughout many centuries.

עוד לא אבדה תקוותינו, Our hope is not lost and will never be extinguished.



Aviva Chernick

Blessings of Comfort: A Seat at the Table

As I write this, it is 264 days since my dad died. I have been making a point of sharing this process with you as I go through it, hoping that you might, in some way, resonate and find comfort through my sharing of my experience.

Amidst a truly horrible time since October 7, the personal *aveilut*—the personal mourning—continues. I experience this, and I witness it with my fellow *aveilim*, mourners, when people come to say *Kaddish*. Birthdays are challenging, and particularly the *chagim*—the various festivals—when I really feel his absence. I am imagining that Passover will be one of the hardest times of the year. My dad and I shared the same Hebrew birthday on the second night of Passover, celebrating with our joint chocolate cake. I will really miss him.

This year on April 17, the week before Passover, we will once again be holding a program called “An Empty Seat at the Table”. The program holds space for those who are grieving loved ones this Pesach.

Our tradition has some very wise approaches to mourning. There are practices which we may already be familiar with, like *kriya*, *shiva*, *shloshim* and *yahrtzeit*. There is also a remarkable practice that is lesser known, described in the *Mishnah*.

The text is from *Middot 2:2*. It describes a pilgrimage ritual from the time of the Second Temple. Several times each year, hundreds of thousands of Jews would ascend to Jerusalem, the centre of Jewish religious and political life. They would climb the steps of the Temple Mount and enter its enormous plaza, turning to the right en masse, circling counterclockwise. Meanwhile, the mourners would make this same ritual walk, but they would turn to the left and circle in the opposite direction. Upon meeting someone coming from the other direction, the first group would ask them why they were there. The answer would come: about their mourning, about their suffering, their heartbreak. In response, the listener

There are many kinds of grief and heartache, many kinds of loss. We feel them all, and yet only some are publicly acknowledged.



Bree-AH/the arts and pray/play lab returns led by Aviva Chernick

Sundays, March 31 and April 7 & 14 beginning at 10:00 AM

Spiritual leader and artist Aviva Chernick returns with the fourth series of "Bree-AH/The Arts and Pray/Play Lab"!

Join Aviva Chernick for this morning service that integrates an arts-based, response to prayer. Using simple, repeated melodies, silence, movement and artistic media, we will explore the gratitude and praise of some of the morning prayers. The third session will be a full-day retreat will be co-led with Spoken Word Artist, Educator and Social Entrepreneur Ayla Lefkowitz.

Experienced artists and curious explorers are all welcome. No previous experience with Hebrew, with prayer or with arts practice is required for participation. Curiosity is encouraged and you are welcome to come, as you are, with your full playfulness.

Pre-registration is required via <https://bit.ly/breeah-spring-2024>



would offer them a *brakha*, a blessing, that they might find comfort with the Divine.

On one pilgrimage, a person might be headed to the right as a supporter, a listener, a caregiver—while on the next pilgrimage, the same person might be walking in the opposite direction, a mourner needing comfort. Rabbi Sharon Brous writes, “This timeless wisdom speaks to what it means to be human in a world of pain. This year, you walk the path of the anguished. Perhaps next year, it will be me. I hold your broken heart knowing that one day you will hold mine.”

There is so much wisdom in this beautiful, communal ritual. It allows the mourner to feel themselves not alone, but part of a community. The mourner is asked about their state and invited to speak it aloud. All the

while, they are listened to and blessed in response. There is no shame in how the mourner presents to the world, what they may or may not share, or even how they choose to share. The mourner is met only with acknowledgment and receptivity.

There are many kinds of grief and heartache, many kinds of loss. We feel them all, and yet only some are publicly acknowledged. I like to imagine this 2,000-year-old ritual includes exchanges about many different kinds of loss and heartbreak, and that both the diversity and commonality of experiences and their expression would be welcome.

Rabbi Brous points to the fact that this text teaches, “... do not take your broken heart and go home. Don't isolate. Step toward those whom you know will hold you tenderly.”

We are directed to come together to

say *Kaddish*, to say amen, and to bless each other with presence and comfort, with our silent listening and, also, with our formal blessings.

There are many things that leave us brokenhearted. Let us bring our hearts—however they are faring—into community. No one needs to suffer alone; that community may, in fact, serve as a source of comfort.

This Pesach, let us not be shy to leave a place at the table for those we miss. Speak about them, to share what we may be remembering.

הַמְקוֹם יִנְחֵם אֶתְכֶם בְּתוֹךְ שְׂאֵר אֲבְלֵי צִיּוֹן
וִירוּשָׁלַיִם

Hamakom yinahem ethem b'toh sha'ar avlei Tziyon v'yerushalayim.

May the One comfort you, with all mourners in Tziyon, in Jerusalem and with mourners everywhere.

“I was asleep but my heart was awake...the voice of my Beloved is knocking, let me in.” —(Shir Hashirim 5:2.)

OPEN MY HEART

SONGS OF LOVE FROM SHIR HASHIRIM A Pre-Shabbat Concert

Friday, April 19 at 5:00 PM

On this Shabbat before Pesach, we warm up our prayer space, our homes and our hearts with a pre-service concert highlighting the beautiful poetry of *Shir Hashirim*—Song of Songs. This musical event features Aviva Chernick, Cantor Sidney Ezer and producer, composer and musician Ari Posner and an amazing musical ensemble. This concert will also be livestreamed at <http://bethzedec.tv>.

No charge, but reservations are requested. To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/shir-hashirim-2024>.





Jonathan Ain

At Beth Tzedec, our foundation is rooted in the strength of personal connections. As we collectively envision the future of our community, we recognize that every aspiration is attainable through the spirit of philanthropy.

2024—A Year of Congregational Generosity

With immense gratitude and pride, I reflect on the remarkable year we've had as a community and congregation. Since joining Beth Tzedec as the Director of Development, I have the pleasure of witnessing our incredible members unwavering commitment and kindness.

Beth Tzedec is more than a congregation; it's a family deeply dedicated to the Jewish community locally and in Israel. In these challenging times, especially with the heightened tensions in the Middle East and the alarming rise of global antisemitism, being part of this resilient community, where personal relationships and Jewish engagement are greatly valued, is a true privilege.

Throughout 2024, Beth Tzedec's members have shown themselves to be deeply concerned about the well-being of the shul and their fellow congregants. As we looked to planning the 2024 Annual High Holy Day Appeal, we were blessed to receive matching gifts of \$250,000 from the Larry & Judy Tanenbaum Family Foundation and Irving & Toddy Granovsky and Family. We were also fortunate to benefit from the leadership of congregants Lianne Leboff and David Matlow, who served as the Appeal's co-chairs.

Last year's High Holy Day Appeal was the most successful in Beth Tzedec's history, with nearly \$550,000 raised. We also initiated our new giving club, the Tzedec Circle, which recognizes

gifts to the appeal of \$1,800 or more, and we were humbled and delighted by the response. Over 75 families joined the Tzedec Circle this year, many of whom had not donated to previous campaigns.

Following the success of the High Holy Day Appeal, we were devastated by Hamas's surprise attack on Israel on October 7, the deadliest day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust. Immediately, our Congregation moved into fundraising mode by launching the Beth Tzedec Victims of Terror Fund. Again, our community responded with enormous generosity, contributing a combined total of \$121,000, all of which we transferred to the UJA Federation Israel Emergency Fund.

Even with this outpouring of financial support, our Congregation continued to give. The recent surge in antisemitic and anti-Israel activities globally, spurred by the current war, has necessitated an enhancement of security measures across North America, including here at Beth Tzedec. Since October 7, the Congregation has incurred additional security costs totaling \$40,000, a figure anticipated to reach \$80,000 by June.

In response, we initiated the Beth Tzedec Emergency Security Fund. Once again, we turned to our Congregation, where the response has been remarkable, with our community generously contributing \$36,000 total since March. We know we will

2023 Tax Receipts

Tax receipts for contributions made to Beth Tzedec during 2024 have been emailed to all those who have contributed over this trying year. If we do not have an email address on file, the charitable tax receipt has been mailed to your home address. Thank you to all who helped support our community.

continue to see contributions to this crucial congregational initiative. To make your Emergency Security Fund gift now, visit <https://bit.ly/bt-emerg-security-fund>.

While this significant volume of congregational fundraising was ongoing, November also saw the rollout of our first Generations Members fundraising appeal, the Pay It Forward Campaign. Launched on Giving Tuesday, an international day of charitable activity, ours was a novel approach to fundraising, one in which we asked members to donate money or to volunteer time. We are heartened to see the response of engagement and activity in our young-adult member cohort.

Looking to the remainder of the year, we have a great deal to which to look forward. In the spring, we will launch an expanded Legacy and Estate Giving program to give congregants the opportunity to have everlasting impact on Beth Tzedec for generations to come. There are many significant benefits to remembering Beth Tzedec in your estate planning, and I look forward to discussing these with you. Meanwhile, if you are interested in exploring a bequest gift now, please call me at 416-781-3514, ext. 229 or email jain@beth-tzedec.org.

At Beth Tzedec, our foundation is rooted in the strength of personal connections. As we collectively envision the future of our

community, we recognize that every aspiration is attainable through the spirit of philanthropy. Our dreams are made possible by the generosity of our congregants, from removing financial barriers to membership to fostering inclusivity. Beth Tzedec maintains its crucial role in our community's history and its future shines brightly. I eagerly anticipate collaborating with each of you to channel the Congregation's philanthropic energy, propelling us toward even greater success.

Together, we will cultivate an organization that continues to empower and inspire our members to lead meaningful Jewish lives.

WEISFELD FAMILY LECTURE

Shabbat Scholar Weekend

Rabbi David Golinkin

Friday, May 24 and Saturday, May 25

Beth Tzedec is pleased to welcome Rabbi Professor David Golinkin, President of The Schechter Institutes and President Emeritus of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, for a Shabbat scholar weekend. Rabbi Golinkin will give a presentation titled "Israel at 75: A 50 Year Retrospective" at a Friday night community dinner, the Shabbat morning sermon on the theme "What to Do About the State of Judaism in the Jewish State" and a presentation at the community Kiddush on "How Are These Responsa Different from all Other Responsa? Conservative/Masorti Halakhic Opinions Written in the State of Israel".

Cost for Friday night dinner. Pre-registration is required by Friday, May 17 at 11:00 AM. Everyone is welcome to join the Shabbat morning Service and the community Kiddush presentations.

For information and registration links, visit <https://bit.ly/rabbi-golinkin-weekend>.



Care • Connect • Learn • Pray • Celebrate • Give & Get

These six core values represent the unified mosaic guiding the programs, services and events offered by Beth Tzedec that make our *kehillah* such a special and unique place.

Care



Making a Minyan

Sunday and Weekday Services

We need your help to make a minyan for morning and evening services. We have launched a WhatsApp reservation system *daveners* can use register to receive notices.

To register for the WhatsApp group, visit <https://www.bethtzedec.tv/book>.



An Empty Place at the Seder with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin and Yacov Fruchter

Wednesday, April 17 7:45 PM

For many of us, this year for the first time, there will be people no longer sitting at our seder tables with us. We miss them and we continue to grieve for them. We invite you to get ready for a meaningful and heartfelt Pesach with Jewish wisdom texts and tools and imagery for resilience and coping.

No charge. RSVP via <https://bit.ly/empty-place-at-the-table>.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING



Pesach for Those for Whom There Will Be No Seder

Thursday, April 18 8:00 PM

While it may seem like everyone will have a joyous family seder, estrangement and other difficult family situations mean that many of us will not have that experience. Join us on Zoom for an honest, constructive session on how to cope.

No charge. RSVP via <https://bit.ly/pesach-no-seder>.



Spring Well-Being Workshops with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Wednesdays, May 8, 15 & 22

7:45 to 9:00 PM

- May 8—Comforting Mourners (*Nichum Aveilim*)
- May 8—Visiting/Assisting Sick People (*Bikkur Cholim*)
- May 15—Caring for Aging Parents (*Kibud Horin*)

RSVP via <https://bit.ly/spring-wellbeing-workshops-2024>.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING

Connect



Shabbat Morning Fun

(For children ages 0 to 3, with a parent; and for kids ages 4 to 12)

Saturday mornings 9:30 AM

Join us for a children's Shabbat experience that builds Jewish knowledge and community. We start with Shabbat play, followed by age-appropriate *tefillah* (prayers) experiences and conversations with special guests like our *shinshinim* at 10:30 AM, and we conclude with blessings and snacks at 11:30 AM.



Shabbat Games Café

Saturday afternoons

1:15 to 3:30 PM

Join us Saturday afternoons after the Congregational Kiddush for Shabbat-compliant board games for every age and level of interest, and Mah Jong with Jody Wernick. Fun for all ... from pre-school serious Euro-gamers. This is a drop-in program.



Thursday Games Afternoons Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:30 PM

Join us for an afternoon of Mahjong, Bridge and Canasta. Interested in playing Rummikub and Scrabble? Bring your board and friends and join the fun!

Mahjong and Canasta lessons are now available. To arrange for lessons, call the Office at 416-781-3511 or info@beth-tzedec.org.

Cost: \$2 supporting our *hesed* initiatives.



20s and 30s Shabbat Dinners

Fridays, April 5 and May 3

Services: 6:00 PM; Dinner 7:00 PM

Join Beth Tzedec 20s and 30s for a song-filled Shabbat at the Floor service followed by a Shabbat dinner catered by Apex Kosher.

Please note that the April 5 dinner will be a singles dinner.

Cost for dinner. Pre-registration is required by 11:00 AM on the preceding Friday.



For candle-lighting and Service times, refer to our website calendar.



Beth Tzedec Tzingsles Connections: Wine Tasting with Michael Grammer

Tuesday March 12 7:30 PM

Join us for a social evening of wine tasting and appreciation with our own oenophile Michael Grammer and old and new friends from Beth Tzedec's Tzingsles Connection.

Cost: \$22. Pre-registration is required. Register via <https://bit.ly/tzingsles-wine-tasting> or call 416-781-3511.



Family Shabbat Experience and Dinner

Fridays, March 15, April 12, May 24
and June 21

5:15 to 8:00 PM

Join us for our fabulous monthly Family Shabbat experience and dinner. Programming begins at 5:15 PM with a lively abridged Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 5:45 PM followed by a delicious Shabbat dinner and more programming for kids and adults.

Cost for dinner. Pre-registration is required by 11:00 AM on the preceding Friday and may close early if we reach maximum capacity.) Register for the March dinner via <https://bit.ly/48aklsx> or call 416-781-3511.

SPONSORED BY THE GERTNER FAMILY



Oy to Joy: A Passover Make-and-Take Workshop

Sunday, March 31

10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Join this fun, hands-on, something for all ability levels workshop to create a new heirloom for your seder or an awesome gift to bring to someone else's. Come away new positive attitude about the holiday and a tangible item that says "What I make with my hands, I give with my heart."

Cost: \$12 per project. (Additional fee for larger projects.) Register by March 26 via <https://bit.ly/oy-to-joy> or call 416-781-3511.

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT



Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun

Fridays, April 5, 12 & 19, May 3, 10,
17, 24 & 31 and June 7 & 14

12:30 to 1:15 PM

Join us as we welcome Shabbat with a 45-minute music class featuring Shabbat songs and blessings, *challah*, grape juice and lots of fun. We have partnered with L'Dance Classes for this special weekly experience for children up to 18 months old, accompanied by an adult caregiver.

Cost: \$120 for Beth Tzedec members; \$180 for the community. Register via <https://bit.ly/babies-blessings-1230> or call 416-781-3511.

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT



Pesach with Pizzazz, Seders with Snazz: Virtual Workshops

April 8, 10 & 11 8:30 PM
(via Zoom)

Are you hosting the family seder this year and need to entertain and engage the toddlers, teens *and* the 'grands'? Penina, our Family Engagement Specialist, has got this covered!

**Monday, April 8—
For Families with Young Children**

Learn some new options for creating a developmentally engaging experience for the youngest minds around our seder tables! This program is perfect for parents and grandparents with younger children and grandchildren.

**Wednesday, April 10—
For Families with Teens**

Teens aournd the seder table with no smartphones, tablets, YouTube or Snapchat? Gasp! Penina has solutions to keeping the smart-set involved.

**Thursday, April 11—
Stumperama**

The dreaded Pesach stumperama ... how to keep *everyone* engaged and entertained through the evening!

Bring us your crazy relatives, dietary dilemmas, *haggadic* horrors, creative blocks, and let's see if we can come up with answers—or find someone who can—to make your seder night pure delight for everyone gathered 'round your table.

Registration required for each session. Visit <https://bit.ly/passover-with-pizzazz> for details.

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT



World's Greatest Cantors Concert

Tuesday, April 9 7:00 PM

Experience the best of Cantorial music! Beth Tzedec is pleased to be a partner in presenting Cantors Azi Schwartz, Shai Abramson, Netanel Hershtik, Yanky Lemmer, Gideon Zelemyer and Maestro Raymond Goldstein at this incredible musical evening at the Meridian Arts Centre.

Tickets available for purchase. Visit <https://www.worldsgreatestcantors.com>.



The Second-Ever Great Canadian Doll Seder

(For children in Grades 2 to 6)

Sunday, April 14

1:00 to 2:15 PM

The great Canadian doll seder is back! Craft all the things your doll will need for their seder and take them on a Passover adventure. Bring your own 18-inch doll—such as American Girl, Our Generation, Newberry, My Twinn—or you can 'adopt' for the afternoon. Participation limited to 18 people.

Cost for materials: \$10. Pre-registration is required. Register via <https://bit.ly/great-canadian-doll-seder> or call 416-781-3511.

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT



Beth Tzedec Book and Film Club

Wednesday afternoons 1:30 PM

Join us for the return of our Book and Film Club.

SPRING SESSIONS

April 10: *Signal Fires*
by Dani Shapiro

An ancient majestic oak stands beneath the stars on Division Street. And under the tree sits Ben Wilf, a retired doctor, and ten-year-old Waldo Shenkman, a brilliant, lonely boy who is pointing out his favorite constellations. Waldo doesn't realize it but he and Ben have met before. And they will again, and again. Across time and space, and shared destiny. **Led by Cynthia Good**

May 8: *There Was a Time For Everything*
A Memoir by Judith Friedland

Judith Friedland joins to discuss her recently released memoir. After the death of her mother when she turned ten, Judith Friedland learned to be resilient. She met the expectations for upper-middle-class women in Toronto in the 1940s and 1950s—post-secondary education, marriage and motherhood. While raising a family and supporting her husband's career, she continued her education through part-time study and gradually began a journey tailored to herself. In her 40s, she embarked on her own academic career, rising through the ranks to become a tenured full professor and chair of the department of occupational therapy in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto.

May 29: Film TBC;

Led by Dr. Gillian Helfield

Pre-registration is required. Check our website at <https://bit.ly/book-and-film-club> for information, fees and registration links.



A Pre-Passover Community Shabbat Dinner

Friday, April 19 7:00 PM

On this Shabbat before Pesach, take a break from the cleaning, cooking and Passover prep to join us for a delicious, catered dinner as and time to connect and celebrate as a community.

Following *Open My Heart: Songs of Love for Shir Hashirim*, a concert featuring Aviva Chernick and Cantor Sidney Ezer with guest Ari Posner and an amazing musical ensemble, and the evening service, bring the family for time to connect with the community.

Cost for dinner. Pre-registration required by Tuesday, April 9 at 12:00 NOON. Register via <https://bit.ly/community-dinner-2024>.



Pre-Passover Make-and-Take Program for Young Families

Sunday, April 21 10:00 AM

Preparing for the Passover seders can be a hectic time, especially our little ones are trying to ‘help’ We’ve got a creative solution. Get some time for last-minute seder prep while your little one and a grown-up create something to contribute to the seder. Watch their eyes light up when their creations get used in the celebration!

Cost: \$5 per child. Registration is required via <https://bit.ly/passover-make-and-take> or 416-781-3511.

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT



Silent Tears and Thieves of Dreams: Music of the Shoah

Wednesday, May 29 7:30 PM

“Payadora’s Silent Tears: The Last Yiddish Tango” is an award winning concert program based on testimonies of women in Canada who survived the Holocaust.

Lenka Lichtenberg’s “Thieves of Dreams: Songs of Theresienstadt’s Secret Poetess” is a Juno Award-winning album based on poetry that Lenka’s grandmother had written while imprisoned at Theresienstadt concentration camp during the Holocaust.

After touring the world, these two award winning projects come together for this rare concert event with special guest Aviva Chernick. Join us for an evening of exquisite music, moving from the delights of falling in love to the horrors suffered at the hands of tyrants, all of it an opportunity to celebrate the survival and resilience of the women whose stories and poetry are the basis for these projects.

NOTE: SILENT TEARS CONTAINS GRAPHIC AND VIOLENT CONTENT.

Cost: \$25. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/silent-tears-thieves-dreams> or call 416-781-3511.



Let’s Sit: An LGBTQ+ Pride Mindfulness Event

Sunday, June 2

4:30 to 6:00 PM

There are many ways to mark this month of Pride. Let’s begin the celebrations together, with this second annual community sit. This gathering will celebrate through connection in a warm, loving and playful environment.

Join facilitator, Beth Tzedec Spiritual Leader and artist-in-residence and neySHEV Jewish Meditation Community founder Aviva Chernick, together with fellow community members for this opportunity to rest in loving attention through meditation, reflection and song in a Jewish Queer and Trans positive space.

There will also be an opportunity to view the exhibition in the adjacent FENTSTER window gallery, by Meichen Waxer. Chairs, blankets and bolsters will be provided. No previous experience with meditation required. There will be snacks and schmoozing following the event, of course.

While we honour our allies, this particular event is for those who identify as part of the LBGTQ+ community.

Register via <https://bit.ly/lets-sit-june-2024> or call 416-781-3511.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING, NEYSHEV, MAKOM, ANNEX SHUL, FENTSTER AND THE MILES NADAL JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Learn



Learn Talmud with Rabbi Steven Wernick

Monday evenings 7:30 PM
(via Zoom)

One of Judaism's greatest strengths is its affinity for diverse opinions and the debate, for the "sake of Heaven" to implement God's will in our lives. The *Talmud* is the source from which this affinity for debate and the code of Jewish *halakhah* (law) is derived. In our lessons, we will focus on *Masekhet Megillah*, Purim and all that concerns Esther HaMalka.

For many, the study of *Talmud* can seem overwhelming. We will learn at a slow and deliberate pace, sequentially studying a single page of *Talmud* throughout the week.

No charge. Registration is required via <https://bit.ly/3P6mHCm>.



Talking Torah with Daniel Silverman

Shabbat mornings 9:30 AM

A fresh look at the Haftarah with traditional and modern interpretations of the weekly reading. Intellectually stimulating and challenging.



iEngage: Together and Apart— The Future of Jewish Peoplehood with Rabbi Steven Wernick

Continues Thursdays, March 14,
April 25, May 23 and June 27

7:30 to 8:30 PM (via Zoom)

Explore one of the most pressing issues facing the Jewish world today—how we move from being a people with no permanent home to one with two permanent homes.

Through video lectures, interviews and text, address the complex features of Jewish peoplehood and the contemporary challenges to the Jewish people in an era in which we have moved from having no home to having two different, vibrant homes in Israel and in North America.

Examine the forces dividing the Jewish people today, including nationalism, antisemitism, dual-loyalty and identity and politics, imagining new frameworks to sustain and grow the story of our people for a new millennium.

Registration is required. Contact Nicole Leybman at nleybman@beth-tzedec.org.

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SHALOM HARTMAN INSTITUTE



Torah Through the Ages with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Thursday mornings 10:00 AM

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin looks at the weekly Torah portion with traditional and modern commentaries. This series will be presented via Zoom. Having an *Etz Chaim chumash* will be beneficial; other materials will be provided.

No charge. Registration is required to access the Zoom link via <https://bit.ly/torah-through-ages-2023>.

THE INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH LEARNING IN MEMORY OF ANNE AND MAX TANENBAUM



Little Minyan Learning with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Shabbat mornings, March 16 & 30,
April 13 & 27 and May 11 & 25

9:00 to 9:30 AM

Join Rabbi Fryer Bodzin before the Little Minyan Services for some Shabbat morning learning before we begin *tefillah*.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
DONATE TODAY.**

By contributing to Beth Tzedec's many funds, scholarships,
and initiatives, you heal and build our community.
Click [here](#) for a list of Beth Tzedec Funds.



A Shabbat Scholar Weekend with Rabbi Professor David Golinkin
Friday, May 24 and Saturday, May 25

Beth Tzedec is pleased to welcome Rabbi Professor David Golinkin, president of The Schechter Institutes, for a Shabbat scholar weekend.

Friday Evening—6:00 PM
Kabbalat Shabbat Service, Dinner and Presentation

Join us in the Hendeles Chapel or via livestream for our Kabbalat Shabbat Service followed by a catered dinner where Rabbi Prof. David Golinkin will give a presentation on “**Israel at 75: A 50 Year Retrospective**”.

Saturday Morning—9:00 AM
Shabbat Sermon and Community Kiddush Presentations

Join us in the Hendeles Chapel or via livestream for our Shabbat morning services where Rabbi Prof. Golinkin will give a Shabbat sermon on the theme “**What to Do About the State of Judaism in the Jewish State**”.

Then at the community Kiddush, he will give a presentation on “**How Are These Responsa Different from all Other Responsa? Conservative/Masorti Halakhic Opinions Written in the State of Israel**”. Everyone is welcome to the Saturday services and presentations.

Cost for Friday night dinner. Pre-registration is required by Friday, May 17 at 11:00 AM. Register for dinner via <https://bit.ly/rabbi-golinkin-weekend> or call 416-781-3511.

THE WEISFELD FAMILY LECTURE

Pray



Weekday Shacharit Services

Sunday mornings at 8:45 AM
Weekday mornings at 7:30 AM

Begin your day with Beth Tzedec's morning minyan, either in person or virtually on Zoom:

Sundays: <https://zoom.us/j/894447868>
 Weekdays: <https://zoom.us/j/733141765>

You can also join by phone. Visit www.beth-tzedec.org for the phone numbers and meeting IDs.



Weekday Mincha-Ma'ariv Services

Every Sunday to Thursday evening; check website for times

At the end of the day, join us in person in the Hendeles Chapel or on Zoom for our evening services via <https://zoom.us/j/668598809>.

You can also join by phone only by calling 647-374-4685 and inputting the meeting ID 668-598-809.



Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv
Every Friday evening at 6:00 PM

Prepare your spirit for Shabbat with song, comfort and community at our Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv services, either in person in the Hendeles Chapel and livestreamed via <https://bethtzedec.tv>.



Shabbat at the Floor Services
Fridays, April 5, May 3 and June 7 at 6:00 PM

Shabbat at the Floor is a welcoming, inclusive, musical, connected, caring and relevant monthly Kabbalat Shabbat experience. It's not just another service, we choose music intentionally to represent diverse Jewish voices, identities and life stories—some familiar, others new.

Prepare to be moved and inspired. The Shabbat at the Floor services are offered in person and livestreamed via <https://bethtzedec.tv>.

For a taste of our Shabbat at the Floor services, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ux-jyabh4Q>.



Our program and event opportunities continue to expand each week. Be sure to check our website regularly for updated information.



Shabbat Sanctuary Services

Every Saturday morning at 9:00 AM

Our Shabbat Service offers the energy and inspiration of a complete spiritual and liturgical Shabbat experience as you sing along with Cantor Sidney Ezer. Rabbi Steven Wernick and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin offer insights into our Torah reading, expertly chanted by ritual director Lorne Hanick. Lift your soul in prayer as you sing with us or close your eyes in meditation and be carried away by the magnificent harmonic sounds of the service.

Services are offered for in person *daveners* and are livestreamed via <https://www.bethtzedec.tv>.



Mincha-Seudah Shlisheet-Ma'ariv

Every Saturday evening; check website for times

Join us for *Mincha* followed by *Seudah Shlisheet* (the third Sabbath meal) and Torah study. We will then return to the Chapel for *Ma'ariv* and *Havdalah* following.

This Service is offered in-person only.



Little Minyan Service

March 16 & 30, April 13 & 27 and May 11 & 25 at 9:30 AM

For those looking to be more actively involved in the worship experience, the Little Minyan offers a traditional service in a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere. Participants lead portions of the service, read Torah and Haftarah and share Torah insights. Torah readers, *daveners* and those wishing to give a *d'var Torah* are always welcome and are offered skills, support and encouragement. Come to participate or simply to experience a Shabbat service full of song, spirit and warmth. Prior to each Little Minyan Service, join Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for "Little Minyan Learning" and engage your mind before we engage our souls with *tefillah*.



Musical Participatory Services

Saturdays, March 9 & 23, April 13 and May 4 & 18; Tuesday, April 30

Beginning at 9:00 AM

Join us for a musical service led by Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and The HarmonEzers as they introduce new melodies and revive older and familiar ones in a way that will be sure to get our toes tapping and our voices singing in harmony. Offered in person and livestreamed via <https://bethtzedec.tv>.



Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service

Saturdays, March 9, April 6, May 4 and June 1 at 10:30 AM

Our monthly Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service offers a lively, engaging prayer service incorporating the participation of the children, teens and families in attendance, followed by a community dairy luncheon.

This Service is offered for in-person participation only.

No charge. For information, contact Daniel Silverman at dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org.



Megillat Esther: The Whole Megillah

Saturday, March 23 at 8:30 PM and Sunday, March 24 at 8:30 AM

Join our festive Purim *Mincha-Ma'ariv* and *Shacharit* services, including a fun, full reading of the *Megillah*, for in-person and livestream *daveners*. Get in costume, grab the groggers and join us at BT or via livestream at <https://www.bethtzedec.tv>.



Torah and Tree Pose Series
with *Marcee Bar-Isaac* and
Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Wednesday evening, March 27

7:45 to 8:45 PM

Join Marcee Bar-Isaac and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for a brief Torah text study followed by yoga and moments of mindfulness and meditation.

Please bring your own yoga mat and water

This is warm and welcoming space, and everyone is welcome, regardless of Torah knowledge or yoga and meditation skills.

Watch for additional dates being announced in the coming weeks.

No charge. Registration is requested via
<https://bit.ly/torah-tree-pose>.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING



Bree-AH: The Arts & Pray/Play Lab
with *Aviva Chernick*

**Sundays, March 31 and April 7 & 14,
21 & 28**

Beginning at 10:00 AM

Join spiritual leader and artist Aviva Chernick for this morning service that integrates an arts-based response to prayer. Using simple, repeated melodies, silence, movement and artistic media, we will explore the gratitude and praise of some of the morning prayers. The third session will be a full-day retreat co-led with spoken word artist, educator and social entrepreneur **Ayla Lefkowitz**.

No previous experience with Hebrew, prayer or arts practice is required. Curiosity is encouraged and you are welcome to come, as you are, with your full playfulness.

Cost: \$40. Pre-registration is required via
<https://bit.ly/breeah-spring-2024>
or call 416-781-3511.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING



Torah Through a Mindfulness Lens
with *Aviva Chernick*

Fridays, April 5, 12, 19 & 26
12:30 to 1:00 PM (via Zoom)

Join Aviva Chernick for this meditation series engaging with the weekly Torah portion as a source of inspiration. We will approach the Torah portions through a mindfulness lens, discovering how Torah can be a teacher for us, guiding us towards open hearted and awakened living.

The Zoom room opens at 12:20 PM. Please arrive early to get settled in. We conclude each session with an “after-party” (questions and reflections).

This is an introductory meditation course and all levels of experience in both meditation and Torah are welcome..

No charge. Registration is required via
<https://bit.ly/mindful-lens-spring-2024>.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING



BETH TZEDEC'S TZINGLES CONNECTIONS

Wine Tasting
with **Michael Grammer**

TUESDAY, MARCH 12 AT 7:30 PM

Join us for a social evening of wine tasting and appreciation with our own oenophile Michael Grammer and friends from Tzingles Connections!

Cost \$22. Register at
<https://bit.ly/tzingles-wine-tasting>



TZINGLES CONNECTIONS
Beth Tzedec's Community for
GenX & Boomer Singles

Celebrate



Purim Pottery Painting Party

Saturday night, March 23 9:30 PM

20s and 30s are invited to celebrate Purim with a pottery paint night. Join us for the shul-wide megillah reading—The Whole Megillah—at 8:30 p.m. followed by a Purim party especially for our Gen-Mems. Enjoy late-night eats and a premium open bar ... and don't forget to come in costume.

Cost: \$40 (includes pottery painting). Register via <https://bit.ly/20s-30s-purim-2024>.



Abridged Megillah Reading

Sunday, March 24 10:30 AM

Come together in-person (in your best costume, of course) or an abridged child-centric megillah reading experience. Perfect for little ones and older ones, too. We'll retell the Purim story, listen to parts of *Megillat Esther* and make lots and lots of noise!

Afterwards, have a blast at our annual Purim carnival.

No charge. RSVPs are not required.



Family Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 24

11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Join the fun at our annual Purim carnival! Kids of all ages will enjoy carnival booths, bouncy castles, a toddlers' play-zone and more! An abridged *Megillah* reading will take place from 10:30 to 11:00 AM, prior to the carnival and at 12:30 PM, join us for our family Purim Seudah lunch.

No charge for Carnival activities; snacks will be available for purchase.

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT



Family Purim Seudah

Sunday, March 24

12:30 to 1:30 PM

Following our family-friendly, abridged *Megillah* reading and the Purim carnival, we extend the fun with our Family Purim Seudah.

Let's laugh, be silly and celebrate over lunch with our family, friends and neighbours.

Cost: \$25 adults; \$15 youth ages 4-14. Register via <https://bit.ly/family-purim-seudah>

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY
IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT



Community Purim Seudah

Sunday, March 24 5:00 PM

It's still Purim and we're still celebrating! Keep the costume and groggers handy and join us for this Persian-inspired Community Purim Seudah, complete with Persian food, music and other entertainment.

Cost: \$30 per person. Register via <https://bit.ly/community-purim-seudah>



Unplugged with Alex Edelman

Sunday, April 14 7:30 PM

Join us at Beth Tzedec as we welcome award-winning stand-up comedian, actor, producer and writer Alex Edelman for a side-splitting evening of comedy and talk, delving into Alex's experiences being Jewish on the public stage.

Tickets on sale now. Visit <https://bit.ly/unplug-alex-edelman>.



Keep up to date on all of Beth Tzedec's Purim celebrations! Visit

<https://bit.ly/celebrate-purim-hub>



Open My Heart: Songs of Love on Shir Hashirim

Friday, April 19 5:00 PM

"I was asleep but my heart was awake...the voice of my Beloved is knocking, let me in."

—Shir Hashirim 5:2

On this Shabbat before Pesach, we warm up our prayer space, our homes and our hearts with this pre-service concert highlighting the beautiful poetry of Shir Hashirim—Song of Songs.

This musical event features Aviva Chernick, Beth Tzedec spiritual leader and artist-in-residence, Cantor Sidney Ezer and producer, composer and musician Ari Posner alongside an amazing ensemble.

Though this event is available via livestream, we encourage you to join us in person and can't wait to welcome you.

No charge. Registration is requested via <https://bit.ly/shir-hashirim-2024>.

Give & Get



Noar Hazak: Conquering Life's Challenges for Teens

Sunday, March 17

7:30 to 8:30 PM

Join us for a transformative Jewish empowerment session especially for teens. In the first session, Michal Gilboa-Hermel, a clinical psychologist, will guide us in developing strategies to conquer life's challenges.

In the second session, Sherri Storm, a registered dietitian, shares her take on "Nutrition for Well-Being: Eat Better, Feel Better" and shares insights about how food choices impact our mood and overall well-being:

- **Hands-On Cooking**—Package the ingredients for a wholesome lentil soup you can take home to prepare for your family.

- **Sharing Kindness**—Assemble a lentil soup package and create a personal message for someone special in your life as a gift and an expression of gratitude. After all, food is all about sharing!
- **Mindfulness Activity**—Engage in a mindfulness activity centred around the act of eating, fostering a deeper connection to the food we consume.

We conclude with opportunities to engage in an extraordinary meditation class with **Rabbi Fryer Bodzin** or to shoot hoops in the Kimel Family Gym.

No charge. Registration is requested via <https://bit.ly/noar-hazak>.

GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE FLATT FAMILY

Making a Minyan

WhatsApp Group

Join Our WhatsApp Group and Help Us Make a Minyan

Do you live in the shul neighbourhood? Please join our new WhatsApp Minyan Group to help us ensure a minyan when we are short. Once a week, once a month—it's really up to you!

It's easy to join. Visit: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/BRAp2cnFntc3rapgZYcWoJ> to join the WhatsApp Minyan distribution list.

Selling Your Chametz

There are four ways we fulfil the Biblical mitzvah of ridding ourselves of *chametz* before Pesach: we clean our homes; we burn any remaining crumbs; we verbally declare that any *chametz* in our possession is worthless and no longer owned by us; and to ensure that there is no question about our intent to remove *chametz* from our possession, we sell our *chametz* to non-Jews who may own leavened products on Passover.

If you are unable to personally sell your *chametz*, please complete this [form](#) or call 416-781-3511 no later than 7:30 PM on **Sunday, April 21**

You are welcome to join us in the parking lot on Monday, April 22 from 10:00 to 10:30 AM to burn chametz. For information, contact **Lorne Hanick**.



Passover Guide

As we gather for Passover as a *kehillah*, we reflect, remember and pray for those who are unable to celebrate with their families and communities.

Am Yisrael Chai.



Preparing Our Homes for Passover

In times of joy or significant challenge, we come together this year as we have for millennia, as family, friends and in our relationship to the divine—to remember how God brought us from Egypt with a mighty hand.

For guidance on *kashering* your home or hosting or attending *sedarim* with others, please contact **Nicole Leybman** at 416-781-3514 ext. 227 to request an appointment with a member of our Spiritual Leadership.

Seder

Individuals living alone or those absolutely unable to prepare for Passover are encouraged to **contact us** directly and we will do our best to help you acquire what you need to enjoy a Passover seder.

Kosher for Passover

We should strive to clean our homes for Passover as we normally would. In the coming weeks, we will make available the Rabbinical Assembly's "Passover Guide". In the meantime, you can review this year's recommendations **HERE>>>**.

Vegetarians and vegans are permitted, *l'hathilah*, from the outset, to eat *kitniyot* (legumes).

Yizkor

As is our tradition, we will mark Yizkor in person and with a livestreamed service on the last day of Pesach. Please note that this service will begin at 9:00 AM, with

Yizkor beginning approximately at 11:00 AM via our Beth Tzedec TV livestream hub. We will record Yizkor and make it available on **Beth Tzedec TV** and social media channels following the service.

The Sale of Chametz

Forms to sell your *chametz* to our Rabbis who will sell it on your behalf may be accessed **here** or found on the Beth Tzedec **website**. Alternately, you can contact our Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or **info@beth-tzedec.org** to make arrangements to sell your *chametz*.

Contributions to Rabbi Wernick's Discretionary Fund in honour of this *mitzvah* are especially appreciated at this time, as there are many people continue to face food insecurity that require *tzedakah* and these contributions will be earmarked to purchase food vouchers.

The Fast of the Firstborn

Following morning *minyan* on Monday, April 22 at 7:30 AM, we will provide a *siyyum* (completion of a cycle of study) in person and on Zoom. Join us for coffee and a bagel in the comfort of your own home or with our Spiritual Leadership and *kehillah* at Beth Tzedec as we celebrate this learning together.

Bidikat and Biur Chametz

The search for *chametz* takes place on Sunday, April 21 after nightfall, using the formula found in your *Hagaddah*.

Traditionally, we use a candle, a wooden spoon and a feather to find even the smallest amount of *chametz*. If you don't have these tools handy, you can use any utensil or product in your home that accomplishes the same symbolism.

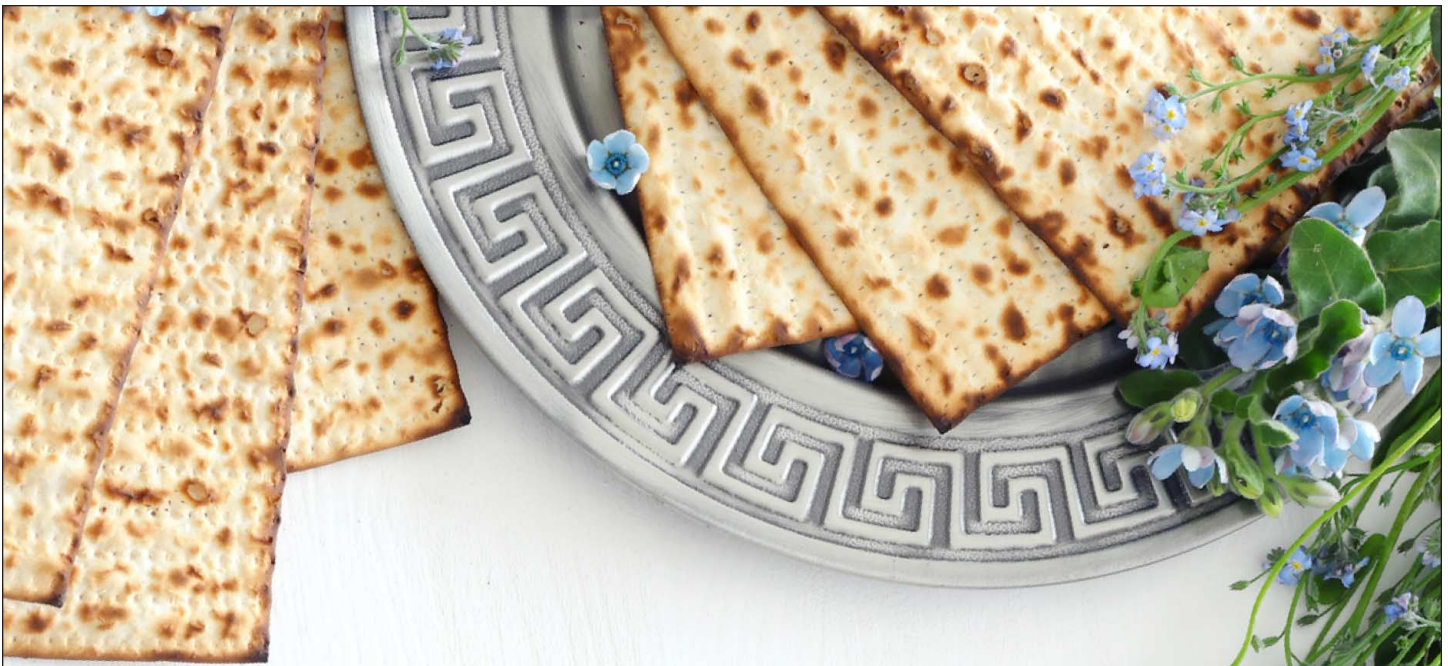
We will provide an opportunity for people to burn their *chametz* at Beth Tzedec on Monday, April 22 in our parking lot from 10:00 to 10:30 AM. If you have any questions, contact Lorne Hanick at 416-781-3514 ext. 240 or **lhanick@beth-tzedec.org**.

We encourage our *kehillah* to do so at home using their barbecue, a metal trashcan or in another safe manner. If that is not possible, then one may crumble the *chametz* and throw it into a flowing body of water or into a natural area where animals are likely to consume it, as in *tashlikh*, the casting away of our sins on Rosh Hashanah.

Other Resources

We will be posting a variety of Passover resources, downloadable *Hagaddot*, supplemental readings and the like for all ages on our website. There are also a variety of programs and learning opportunities we will be offering this year. Check regularly to see what's been added.

We pray that each of us celebrates a meaningful, safe and healthy Passover and that God will bless all humanity with health, happiness and *shlaymoot*.



Celebrate Your Seders with Beth Tzedec

Beth Tzedec is proud to partner with its preferred caterer, Apex Koshers Catering, in two ways this Passover.

Book your family seder at Beth Tzedec.

Reserve your space now, invite your guests to join you, and let Apex do the rest. Contact Karen at kgoldstein@beth-tzedec.org or call 416-781-3514, ext. 213.

Hosting a seder in your home?

Apex offers a delicious catered takeout menu for the whole family.

To view the Passover take-out menu and order form, see page 57 or click [HERE](#) to download.

(Deadline to order from the Passover take-out menu is **Sunday, April 14.**)





Michael Goodbaum

The late Cecil Roth was a professor of history who took a keen interest in Jewish historical objects. His collection, gathered from his travels in Italy, France, Egypt and Israel, was the most extensive of its kind in the world.



Sabbath robe and kippah, 19th century

The Cecil Roth Collection: Pride of Place at ROM



Torah pointer, ca. 1870

March 13, 2024, was the 60th anniversary of Beth Tzedec’s acquisition of the Cecil Roth Collection. Beth Tzedec shared the announcement several months prior that the collection would be moving to the Royal Ontario Museum, preserving it for generations to come to have the chance to interact with these objects.

I sat down with Gella Rothstein (née Goldhar), retired Chair of the Museum Committee, and Dorion Liebgott, Museum Curator, to ask them how the decision process went when Cecil Roth^{z”l}, a famed Jewish scholar, sold his collection to Beth Tzedec.

Starting in the late 1950s, Beth Tzedec began accumulating pieces of Jewish artwork, displayed throughout the building. This growing collection of religious artifacts led to the desire to establish a museum within the synagogue for their ongoing exhibition.

The Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum had modest roots going back to 1956 with the installation by the Beth Tzedec Sisterhood of display cases in the foyer. Soon, they established a committee to acquire more items to house in the Museum. Not long after, in 1962, then Rabbi Stuart Rosenberg^{z”l} learned of the impending retirement of Cecil Roth.

The late Cecil Roth was a professor of history who took a keen interest in

Jewish historical objects. His collection, gathered from his travels in Italy, France, Egypt and Israel, was the most extensive of its kind in the world. With his pending retirement, which also came with a desire to make aliyah, he was keen to sell his collection.

Discussions between the parties began in 1962, driven by Rabbi Rosenberg, but dragged on. In 1963, the late Isaac and Marjorie Rothstein were on vacation with their son Paul, making a tour of Europe when the opportunity presented itself to meet Roth in hopes of finalizing the negotiation. Through assistance from Paul’s in-laws, the Goldhar’s, they traveled to Oxford and visited with Roth to firm up the deal. The meeting went very well. Roth could speak with authority on the wealth of knowledge he had acquired in his studies and share his passion for objets d’art. The agreement to sell the majority of the Roth collection to Beth Tzedec was signed on March 13, 1963, supported by a very generous \$35,000 donation from the Shopsowitz brothers that could cover the cost of the sale.



Chanukah lamp, 19th century

The sale price of \$35,000, about \$340,000 adjusting for inflation, was used to help the Roths make aliyah and retire in Jerusalem.

The Rothsteins and the Goldhars would find in the Roths a common passion that carried over into friendly relations for years after. The Roths stayed in the Goldhar's family home during visits to Toronto. On one visit, Gella Rothstein and her friend helpfully picked up Professor Roth from the airport. She remembers the excitement with which he could discuss the history of Anglo-Jewry, one of the main focuses of his scholarly work. That ability to captivate an audience extended to Gella's daughters, who were guests at Shabbat dinners with the Rothstein/Goldhar families and the Roths.



Scroll of Esther, ca. 1640

Beth Tzedec member Joy Cherry, then the Chair of the Board, and her husband Dr. Fred Weinberg, an art consultant for the shul and the first Jewish chief medical resident of the Hospital for Sick Children, were central in managing the arrival of the collection and the expansion of the Museum. Simcha Simchovitch, a teacher and Yiddish poet, would become the Museum's first curator, a role he held for over two decades.

Beth Tzedec had become a hub for not just Judaica, but a central home for Toronto's art community. In April 1966, Beth Tzedec hosted the first of several successful art shows that were well attended and covered by the press. Throughout these decades of accomplishment, countless groups came on tours to see the Museum and learn about its important artifacts.

Starting in 1992, Dorion Liebgott took on the role of curator, a position she has joyfully held for 33 years—official as of January 20, 2023!

After the passing of Cecil Roth, Dorion negotiated on behalf of the Museum with Professor Roth's widow, Irene Roth, to purchase further items from their collection that had remained in their private possession. While organizing an exhibition on Cecil Roth, Dorion also traveled to New York City to interview Mrs. Roth at her apartment, using recording equipment borrowed from the Beth Tzedec Men's Club, and with homemade sandwiches in tow.

According to Dorion, it did not take too long after she started for it to become clear that the collection might not be in its optimum place at Beth Tzedec; some very antique items—fragile though they are—required more appropriate facilities and extensive work to preserve them for future generations. A moonshot goal was always to involve the ROM in any plans for the collection so that they remain in Toronto, accessible to the largest Jewish community in Canada.

The relationship between the ROM and Beth Tzedec goes back to at least 1960 when the shul invited representatives from the ROM to attend a reception marking the installation of a 28 foot by 23 foot mural, *The Joy Of Torah*, in the foyer. Concluding a deal with the ROM would take decades of work behind the scenes, culminating in a fever pitch of activity in the last years to successfully finalize arrangements. William Gross carried out the first appraisal of the collection in 1997, and he would return from Israel to go through the collection again in 2018.

Around the time of his first appraisal, Beth Tzedec also conducted a study on the housing of the collection, which determined that they should relocate it to a more appropriate facility with



Amulet, 19th century

the proper resources. It established formal contact with the ROM in 2019 and a committee established in 2022 would formalize the arrangements. During the whole process, Dorion has been steadfast in her care for the (often priceless) items of Judaica, as well as acting to preserve the archive of the important history of the synagogue.

As we transition the Museum into a multi-use meeting space, Dorion will retire from her job at Beth Tzedec while planning to stay involved and help. She deserves our ongoing gratitude for her decades of work as Museum Curator. We wish her great satisfaction from seeing the fruits of her involvement with the ROM sale leading to an exceptional museum display.

With the Cecil Roth Collection now transferred to ROM, we look forward to inviting our members to join us for an opportunity to gather at the ROM and view the Collection on display in its new home. Watch for information in our weekly emails in the coming weeks.

Educating Our Next Generations: Beth Tzedec Congregational School

At the heart of Beth Tzedec’s mission is to enable you to live a meaningful Jewish life. Jewish educational choices are a big part of that.

We’re proud to offer a Congregational school which provides an affordable, high-quality Jewish education to complement existing private or public-school learning and any specialized educational needs. We are able to provide educational supports when required and we offer financial assistance on an as-needed basis.

Beth Tzedec’s Congregational School provides a warm, engaging environment that both enables and inspires, enabling youth to learn about their Jewish traditions through rich content, and inspiring through the unique ways we deliver that content. For example, we teach Hebrew language the way we all learned our first language—hearing it, then speaking it, and only later beginning to read and write. This results in a more positive and successful language acquisition experience.

Our commitment to excellence influences curriculum, staffing decisions, learning environments and the ways in which we teach.

By choosing a synagogue-affiliated educational program, our students and their families can easily connect to a vibrant and dynamic hub for Jewish programming. Beth Tzedec Congregation offers approachable spiritual leaders, meaningful volunteer opportunities, community-focussed events, and a variety of prayer services, all within an energetic, egalitarian, and inclusive community.

Who

Our teachers are highly skilled and care deeply about Jewish learning and identity. They excel at designing learning activities for children.

Our students are both Beth Tzedec members and the community at large. Members benefit from discounted pricing.

We welcome interfaith families from many cultural backgrounds, including those in the process of conversion. We work to promote and support equity and anti-racism and to foster a reputation of diversity and inclusion for all Jews.

Subject matters covered include:

- Hebrew with a focus on reading and the vocabulary of Jewish living;
- Israel—with our UJA *shinshinim* (young Israeli leaders) playing a major role in that learning;
- Shabbat and Jewish holidays;
- Modern Jewish history;
- Key Bible stories; and
- Jewish values.

Where

Beth Tzedec Congregation, 1700 Bathurst St, in the heart of midtown Toronto.

	Synagogue Member	Community member
JK & SK	\$600	\$820
Grades 1 & 2	\$675	\$920
Grades 3 through 7	\$1,050	\$1,625

What

The Beth Tzedec Congregational School has been cultivating life-long Jewish learners who have an appreciation for Jewish ritual, text, culture and Hebrew language for over 60 years. Our students will graduate with a curiosity to continue to explore their Jewish identity that will enrich their lives.

When

Starts on Sunday, September 8, running until May 11, 2025.

For Grades 3 to 7

Sundays from 9:30 AM to 12:00 NOON plus one weekday afternoon/early evening 30-minute Zoom learning session

For JK, SK and Grade 1

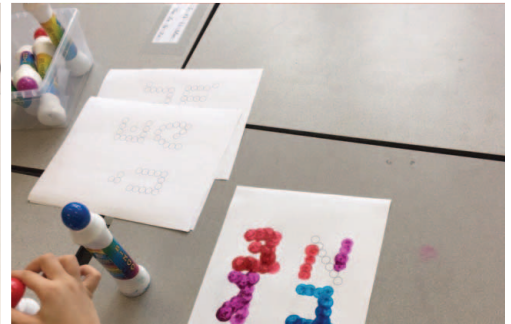
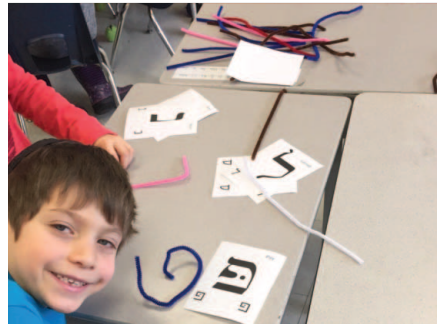
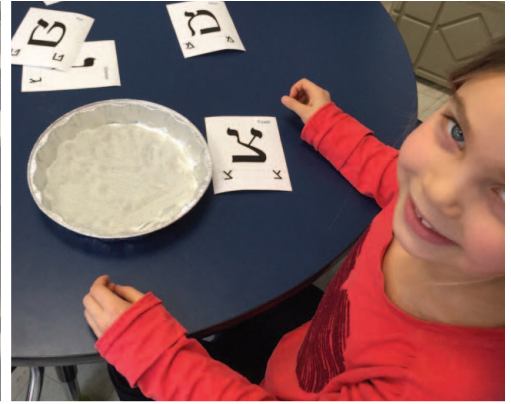
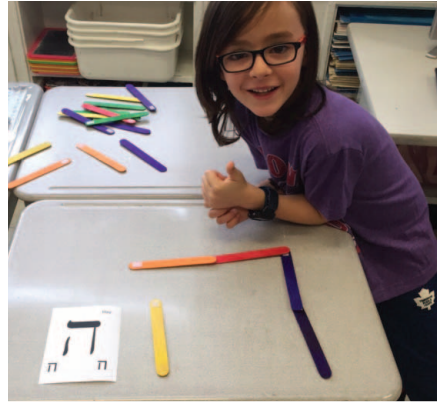
Sundays from 9:30 AM to 12:00 NOON



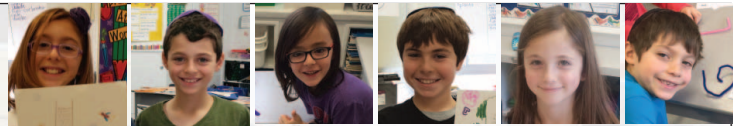
How

We are student-centered. Because we are not as large as some schools, we can give individualized attention and adapt learning activities to each student's needs and skills.

Our kindergarten grades focus on hands-on learning. We use art creations, games and our partnership with Sport-Ball, where Hebrew vocabulary is reinforced through sports activities and physical movement—to make learning more fun and engaging. We take advantage of being in an exceptional synagogue facility: we use all the spaces here to aid in learning, from our gym space to the beautiful Sanctuary for prayer and rituals and the social halls for music and drama productions.



Experience the Beth Tzedec Congregational School



Directed by an accomplished educational professional and staffed by well qualified teachers, our school makes a personal connection with every child.

At the **Beth Tzedec Congregational School**, your child will:

- Develop a sense of Jewish identity and learn about Jewish traditions, holidays and customs
- Gain familiarity with prayer and Jewish ritual
- Learn to read and write Hebrew
- Use technology, art, music and movement to create meaningful and lasting learning experiences
- Have the opportunity to meet other children and make friends
- Establish a vibrant link to Israel
- Begin a path to a more meaningful Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience

Limited spaces available. Register your child today!



Cantor Audrey Klein 416-781-3514 ext. 223
cantoraudrey@beth-tzedec.org





Be a Leader, Be a Team Player, Be a Volunteer at Beth Tzedec!

“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands – one for helping yourself, the other for helping others.”

– Audrey Hepburn

There are diverse opportunities to use your skills and energy to volunteer at Beth Tzedec. We are looking for people who want to create a positive difference by getting involved in many short or long-term projects and committees. You will help us expand our ability to benefit our community and build on our core values while getting to know each other and deepening your connection with other members.

Would you like to help us design a framework for developing mindfulness spiritual programs and support for our members?

We need a Steering Committee for the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being

+ Care +Connect

The Centre will provide activities that provide and promote spiritual support for members experiencing e.g. living with disabilities, bereavement, substance issues, and other challenges. The Steering Committee will help establish the Centre’s mission statement, develop a needs analysis, and advise on programming issues.

- This position will suit members who have experience in a helping profession, or who have worked in a volunteer capacity with social service organizations.
- Four monthly meetings to start; position may continue.

Would you like to mentor individuals or families who are new to the Jewish people?

We need individuals or families to “buddy” with new or prospective Jews By Choice (JBCs)

+Care +Connect +Learn

Volunteers will include new JBCs in some Shabbat and holidays, will answer questions about their own Jewish practices and help acclimate the JBCs into a comfortable familiarity with Jewish daily life.

- Individuals, couples and families who want to form caring mentoring relationships with those who are new to Judaism and Jewish practices.
- Rabbi Fryer Bodzin will match suitable volunteers/JBCs.
- Ongoing

As a Gen-Mem (member under 40) or Young Families member, can you help us make the family Shabbat dinners even bigger and better?

+Connect +Care +Celebrate +Pray

We need people to help make these Shabbat dinners grow and to create a community of committed participants. Jobs include greeting/ushering, including at Shabbat morning Family Services; assisting with program development; preparing crafts materials for activities; reaching out to connect with other Gen-Mems and Young Families by email and phone.

- You should enjoy creative and artistic projects; be willing to sort and organize materials
 - You should love working with children and be comfortable communicating with parents
 - Once per month, Saturday morning during Family Shabbat
 - Thursdays and Fridays leading up to Family Shabbat dinners
 - Other communications as required.
-

Could you speak to our teens, about topics like career planning, inter-personal relationships or other areas of your expertise?

+Connect +Learn +Care

Our teen members have lots of questions: about careers and career paths; about navigating the early adult years; about current issues and concerns.

We're looking for "wise adults" who want to share experience and inspire our teens—with empathy and thoughtfulness. You'll deliver the occasional short talk/discussion to our teens, assist with program development and help arrange a Career Day for Grade 11 students.

Can you help out by leading Shiva Minyanim?

We need people (men and women) who will lead *minyanim* at houses of shiva and who will assist mourners and family members as needed.

+Connect +Care +Pray

- You should be able to lead a *Mincha-Ma'ariv* service, or are interested in learning this skill.

Would you like to meet and greet people when they come to shul?

We need "welcoming faces" at services who will greet *daveners* and provide them with books, handouts and friendly information. If people are new to BT, or if they seem alone or uncertain, the greeters will help them feel comfortable and connected—and possibly introduce them to others.

+Connect +Care +Pray

- This position will suit members who are comfortable greeting and interacting with a wide variety of people, and who attend services (semi-) regularly.

Would you like to lead a Small Group in an activity you enjoy?

Lead a Small Group of 8 to 15 people, once a month, in an activity or interest that you would enjoy sharing and developing.

+Connect +Learn

The Small Groups program has been a huge success for four years. Members learn new skills or share thoughts, participate in discussions, and create and sustain new friendships and deepen old ones. The leader maintains the group's connection and assists when additional support is needed.

- Leaders should have an area of interest or expertise they want to share, be able to facilitate a group with enthusiasm and empathy and be comfortable using technology (i.e., Zoom)
- Groups meet monthly from September through June, either online or in person

Do you love Jewish music? Would you like to discover Beth Tzedec's musical history?

Cantor Ezer has a trove of printed music and choir favourites from years past. He needs a few volunteers to help sort this valuable musical archive and digitize (scan) it.

+Connect +Learn

- You should: be proficient in reading notated sheet music, be familiar with the prayers and liturgy in the *Siddur* and *Machzor*, be able to identify and sort archival materials, and be prepared to operate office equipment such as a printer and scanner.
- Knowledge of Hebrew is helpful.

Have you always wanted to work "backstage" on musical productions or creative projects?

+Connect +Celebrate +Learn

Assist our spiritual leader Aviva Chernick with creative projects including concerts and exhibits. You should be highly organized, creative and a team player who will do what's needed. These projects and concerts will be time-sensitive so it's important that you can commit to an outlined schedule.

- One year, three to four projects

Can you spend some time visiting members who are in hospital, recovering at home, or in a retirement home?

+Care +Connect +Give and Get

Bikkur Cholim (visiting and comforting the sick), is an important mitzvah and also includes caring for members of our community who may be isolated in other ways. We are looking for members who enjoy meeting and chatting with older adults, offering company once or twice a month for a 30- to 60-minute, in-person visit.

Are you a "Culture Vulture" who'd enjoy helping set up a new Book and Film Club?

+Connect +Learn

We are gathering to plan and organize the Book and Film Club for members, and we need a Steering Committee to help shape the year ahead. Are you an avid reader, or a film buff? This job is for people who would like to search for books and films that would interest our members: fiction and non-fiction, including social justice, Zionism, politics and current events.

- Six gatherings in a year. (No meetings March through March)

Could you help deliver *Challah* for *Chesed* to isolated members on Fridays?

+Care +Connect +Give and Get

Each week, before Shabbat, we have drivers who bring a *challah* to members who are isolated or alone. The weekly *challah* delivery is a chance to have a short, pleasant, doorstep conversation with these members, and it's always a bright spot in the week and a lovely way to usher in Shabbat. You'll enjoy having a chat while doing a mitzvah.

As a Gen-Mem member (20s and 30s), would you like to be part of the leadership team?

+Connect +Give and Get

We're looking for young members who will help to develop, organize and evaluate programs for the

Gen-Mem crowd (who do not have children), to be the hands-on people to assist at events and reach out to new members. This is your opportunity to make our younger community grow.

- Meetings will be every six weeks throughout the year. Programs and events will happen as scheduled.

Can you help develop the Congregational Hebrew school as part of its leadership team?

+Connect +Give and Get +Learn

The Beth Tzedec Congregational School engages students from JK/SK to Grade 7. We need energetic and committed people to help develop new directions, to create and evaluate policies and to be ambassadors for a strong school program. You may have young

children or you might be a current or past teacher or education professional. We need your enthusiasm and expertise.

Could you help on our "delivery team" from time to time?

+Care. +Connect. +Give and Get

The Shul occasionally needs to deliver items to members. This is not a regularly scheduled activity, so it might suit you if you have unstructured time to be available as needed. Often the deliveries will involve having a doorstep chat with a member, so you'll be connecting as well as driving.

For details, visit

<https://bit.ly/volunteer-at-bt>

An Empty Place at the Seder

WITH RABBI FRYER BODZIN
AND YACOV FRUCHTER

Wednesday, April 17 7:45 PM

For many of us, this year for the first time, there will be people no longer sitting at our seder tables with us. Get ready for a meaningful and heartfelt Pesach with Jewish wisdom texts and tools and imagery for resilience and coping.

RSVP via <https://bit.ly/empty-place-at-the-table>

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING



Men's Club Makes a Difference



Men's Club Scholarship Program

The Beth Tzedec Men's Club is pleased to sponsor our long standing scholarship program to assist young men and women who are pursuing programs of higher Jewish education.

The criteria we use to judge each applicant is based on the following and should be given careful consideration when applying. The information provided with this application is the sole source upon which the scholarship committee will make a decision.

- The career goals of the candidate, how the program of study relates to it and the benefit that may be brought to the Jewish community by the candidate.
- The program of study for which the funds will be used.
- The financial needs of the candidate.
- The overall quality of the submitted application. Please print or type as illegible handwriting will negatively impact the application.

- Special needs or consideration should be explained in full.

A copy of your most recent school transcripts must be included.

A number of scholarship funds are available:

Howard (Hy) Cooper Fund

For post-secondary studies in higher Jewish education such as Cantorial and Rabbinic studies, Jewish/Hebrew Education or any other field with the ultimate goal of benefiting the Jewish community.

Shelly Gross Fund

Financial assistance is awarded to those who are planning to become teachers of those who have a disability. This would include teachers in special education in both the private and public sectors.

Sherman Fund

Provides assistance to those pursuing Cantorial studies.

Orenstein Fund

This fund is awarded to those who are studying the Arts. A broad

range of applicants are included in this category and past recipients have included those studying; painting, film and graphic arts and Israeli dance instruction.

David Singer Fund

Provides assistance to those seeking higher Jewish education and will bring a clear benefit to the Jewish community.

To view the criteria or to access the scholarship application, please visit <https://bit.ly/scholarships-2024>.

The deadline for submissions is **April 15, 2024**.

Community Service Hours

The Men's Club will require volunteers to assist with the Yom Hashoah candle project. Teens can earn community service/volunteer hours by participating.

For information or to add your name to the volunteers list, please contact Adam Rachlin at 416-428-2274 or arachlin@sympatico.ca.

Sisterhood News

The Women's League for Conservative Judaism

The Beth Tzedec Sisterhood and its members are pleased to be affiliated with "Women's League for Conservative Judaism", the international arm of Conservative women and the world's largest synagogue-based women's organization with over 400 sisterhoods and synagogue women's groups belonging. The Women's League serves as a powerful vehicle for promoting our shared values locally and globally and developing future leaders. For information on programs and all the benefits the Women's League has to offer, please visit <https://www.wlcj.org>.

The Beth Tzedec Sisterhood wishes everyone a fun, festive Purim and a *Chag Pesach Sameach*, a Happy Passover.

For information about the Sisterhood, please contact Ruthann Lubin or Rhoda Salama through the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or info@beth-tzedec.org.





Gerry Posner

Anyone who knows him also knows that retirement for Jerry Grammer was more like a job. The words “slow down” did not and do not exist in his personal vocabulary.

Jerold Grammer: Delivering Food to Delivering Haftorahs

Surely Beth Tzedec is blessed when it has, among its many members, a very youthful, or as he puts it, “86 years young” congregant. This guy is not just an “ordinary member” as he stands erect and participates in the service with enthusiasm, vigour and a loud voice. Any regular synagogue attendee has already identified the very present Jerry Grammer.

Grammer was born and raised in Toronto, living first at 666 Queen Street West, just off Bathurst Street. For anyone who can go back that far, he was a student at what was then Charles G. Fraser School. When Jerry was around ten, the family moved to 1067 St. Clair Avenue West where his parents owned and operated a variety store and the family lived upstairs.

Grammer attended Regal Road High School until he entered Oakwood Collegiate, where he went until Grade 12. At that time, the family sold their business and property and moved near Sheppard and Bathurst, close to where Grammer finished his public-school education at Bathurst Heights Collegiate. Then began the second phase of the Grammer education. He enrolled in a chartered accountancy course and articulated with the Wm. Eisenberg and Company.

Upon graduation, Jerry opened his own firm that he ran for ten years. He then went into partnership with Jack Halberstadt for another 15 years before merging with Grant Thornton International.

In 2001, at the age of 63, Grammer entered what might be described as part three of his life: retirement. Anyone who knows him also knows that retirement for Jerry Grammer was



more like a job. The words “slow down” did not and do not exist in his personal vocabulary.

Jerry has been an active member of Beth Tzedec since 1977. He was an early participant in the Beth Tzedec Men’s Club, and that experience led to his invitation to become the treasurer. He has held that position for close to 20 years. As many readers might know, he also has been the leader of shiva services in homes located north of Steeles Avenue. Jerry has, as he puts it, “had the privilege of arranging and being the cantor for the Sunnybrook Hospital Shabbat Services for the Jewish War Veterans and Jewish permanent residents,” at least until the COVID-19 break. Even more impressive is his ability to read from the Torah and chant Haftarah, which he does often on the second day of Shavuot.

Fifteen years ago, Grammer became the representative for Beth Tzedec in the Neighbourhood Interfaith Group, then composed of two synagogues and two churches. He later went on to become the Chairman of the Board of this group. Over a period of 12 years under his guidance, the group

expanded to include seven synagogues, six churches and two mosques. COVID restrictions shuttered the group, though his influence sure would be valuable in these times.

More recently, Grammer was asked to be the representative for the Men's Club on the Beth Tzedec Board of Directors.

On a personal note, I met Grammer last year in the Out Of The Cold program. He was not afraid to jump right into the action, getting the food packages ready for delivery.

Prior to the pandemic, he was a volunteer for several years with OOTC at Beth Sholom Synagogue, and he has now returned to lend his time to the Beth Tzedec/Beth Sholom Out of the Cold program .

Grammer would be the first to say that much of what he has done on a volunteer basis would not have been possible without the tangible support of his late wife Lillian (née Fishman) to whom he was married for 57 years. And his two adult children, Michael and Caroline, and two grandchildren have been an inspiration to him.

The next time you are at Services, look around and observe a man who derives more from the Service and who gives back more than just about anybody. That man would be Jerry Grammer.

—Gerry Posner

Gerry Posner is a retired lawyer from Winnipeg who moved to Toronto in 2012 with his wife Sherna.



Inbal Sitbon, Our 2024 Tanenbaum Fellow

Introducing Inbal Sitbon, the Anne & Max Tanenbaum Fellow for 5784.

The Fellows receive a significant financial award and a two-week internship at Beth Tzedec, followed by a two-week experience at Camp Ramah Canada. They alternate between rabbinical students with a Canadian connection who study at the Jewish Theological Seminary and Israeli students from the Beit Midrash of the Schechter Institute.

While at Beth Tzedec, the Fellow shadows our rabbis, experiencing daily activities in synagogue and community, participating in lifecycle events, learning about the life of a large congregation, and teaching Torah in various settings.

Inbal Sitbon is a rabbinical student at the Schechter Rabbinical Seminary in

Jerusalem, an M.A. student of Jewish Studies at the Schechter Institute. She holds a B.A. in psychology and education from the Open University of Israel.

She worked for several years as an informal education guide for teenagers and children.

Inbal has held rabbinic internships at Congregation Magen Avraham in Omer and at Congregation Adat Shalom Emanuel in Rehovot.

As a Sephardic Jew (whose father's family is from Tunisia), Inbal believes in the importance of bringing together Jews of all backgrounds and making Masorti Judaism in Israel more accessible and diverse.

She lives in Jerusalem and works at the printing press of Kibbutz Be'eri.



Where will they hang up their skates?

The Demoz Family, our refugee family, will require a new place to live as of May 1. If you have an apartment or house that could accommodate the parents and four young-adult kids, we need your help.

For a reduced rent, they could look after a property—shovelling snow, doing light maintenance, even keeping someone company and providing some assistance.

Please email Yacov Fruchter at yfruchter@beth-tzedec.org if you have any leads.

Torah Through a Mindfulness Lens

with Aviva Chernick

Fridays, April 5, 12, 19 & 26
12:30 to 1:00 PM (via Zoom)



Join Aviva Chernick for this meditation series engaging with the weekly Torah portion as a source of inspiration. We will approach the Torah portions through a mindfulness lens, discovering how Torah can be a teacher for us, guiding us towards open hearted and awakened living. The Zoom room opens at 12:20 PM. Please arrive early to get settled in. We conclude each session with an “after-party” (questions and reflections).

This is an introductory meditation course and all levels of experience in both meditation and Torah are welcome.

No charge. Registration is required via <https://bit.ly/mindful-lens-spring-2024>





Empowering a New Beginning: Beth Tzedec Sponsors Eritrean Refugee Family

While their journey has been remarkable, this resilient family needs our continued support to truly feel at home and establish a sense of belonging.

We are delighted to share heart-warming news about the positive impact your support has made in the lives of a refugee family from Eritrea. In March 2023, Beth Tzedec Congregation proudly sponsored a refugee family of six to Canada and is providing them with the opportunity for a fresh start after nearly four years of waiting in challenging circumstances in Ethiopia.

Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers, the family is happy in their new home. The parents, Birkti and Mahray, are eagerly attending ESL classes, while the two adult children, Fthawit and Habtom, are attending adult high school. The youngest members, Nebyat and Yonas, are now students at Forest Hill Collegiate Institute. Embracing a range of career interests, Yonas (16) is interested in architecture, while Nebyat (17) aspires to pursue a career in healthcare.

Fthawit (22) is determined to become an accountant, and Habtom (19) is currently exploring various possibilities, leaning towards a potential career in skilled trades. Their ambitions reflect the richness of our community, and we are excited to

witness their journey of self exploration and growth.

While their journey has been remarkable, this resilient family needs our continued support to truly feel at

home and establish a sense of belonging. The current housing market challenges in Toronto make affordable housing a pressing concern for them. In the spirit of our community values, we have a unique opportunity to assist them in finding reduced-rent housing within our caring Beth Tzedec community.

This very warm and kind family is willing to lend a helping hand with basic maintenance, snow removal, garbage disposal, and other tasks in exchange for reduced rent. Your generosity can significantly impact their lives and foster a strong sense of community.

Additionally, the younger members of the family are seeking support from retired teachers or individuals with teaching experience. Despite their hard work and dedication, the language barrier poses a challenge. Your assistance with tutorials and schoolwork will play a crucial role in helping them overcome this obstacle and succeed in their studies.

This is a meaningful invitation for our Beth Tzedec community to once again extend our support to make a lasting difference in the lives of those who have found a new home amongst us. If you have any leads on affordable housing or are willing to offer tutorial support, please reach out to Yacov Fruchter at YFruchter@beth-tzedec.org or 416-781-3514 ext. 279.

Let's continue to embody the spirit of compassion and community that defines Beth Tzedec.

With gratitude,

—The Refugee Program Committee





Maureen Tanz

“Start where you are.
Use what you have.
Do what you can.”

—Arthur Ashe

The Chesed Report

Out of the Cold

This winter season, we were able to resume the Out of the Cold program, which is run jointly with Beth Sholom. Our season ran on Monday evenings from January 15 until March 26. We operated in the same manner as we have in the past, except that we were unable to offer sleeping accommodations. We provided a hot and nutritious dinner, purchased at a very-discounted price from Tzvi Hirschman at Toronto Kosher. We also offered warm winter clothing and BINGO games with prizes.

Once again, our guests had the opportunity to partake in the art circle under the guidance of the talented Mel Samra and her creative crew. Our season culminates with the “Annual Art Show and Sale” on Sunday, April 7 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at Beth Sholom. The artists show and sell their incredible creations and keep a large share of the proceeds from the sale. The art program has proved to be a critical part of Out of the Cold because of the boost in confidence and self-esteem it instills in our guests.

The OOTC program is an enormous undertaking that takes months to plan. We wouldn’t accomplish any of this without our very dedicated team of volunteers in various capacities whom I would like to thank:

Matt Krofchick, my new co-chair from Beth Sholom. In addition to organizing every aspect of the program with me, he also spent countless hours updating, editing and perfecting our online volunteer sign-up form.

Rafi Aaron, my long-time co-chair of OOTC, has stepped back as co-chair of the Program but is still an integral and active participant every week and behind the scenes. In fact, it was Rafi who convinced Beth Sholom to reopen its doors for our program post-pandemic. He is the co-coordinator of the OOTC

meal program at Saint Luke’s Church, the largest interfaith volunteer food initiative in the history of Toronto. He is also the spokesperson for the Inter-faith Coalition to Fight Homelessness, a faith-based advocacy and outreach organization.

Shari Fremeth-Tepper, our volunteer coordinator for the past 12 years, has worked tirelessly to coordinate over 100 volunteers on any given week and deals effortlessly with last-minute changes and cancellations. As if this wasn’t enough, Shari has stepped up to oversee every aspect of the program alongside me, for which I am grateful.

Brenda Berger, who co-chaired OOTC with me for several years, and still continues to play an active roll every week, for which I am grateful.

Allan Goodman of Tri-Quality Packaging, who generously donated a huge amount of supplies that we use each week at our shelter.

Don Smith, our veteran volunteer of over 15 years, has never missed his 7:00 to 10:00 PM shift. He is one of the kindest and most obliging people I know, who never says no, regardless of the task. All this while juggling work and his endless responsibilities as chair of the Board at Beth Tzedec!

Bernie Tanz, who has given so much of his time over the past nine years, picking up weekly donations of fruit from the Food Terminal and clothing and product donations from various companies all over the city.

Terri Humphries, who works tirelessly and creatively to promote the Out of the Cold program and is never too busy to answer endless questions.

We are very grateful to the following companies, groups and individuals who have made a substantial difference in the lives of the unhoused and needy in Toronto by supporting our program.

O'Doughs, a kosher and gluten-free company, have graciously donated an enormous weekly supply of delicious muffins for dessert, plus a takeaway treat in our guests' lunch bags. You can find their products at local food stores throughout the city.

Beth Tzedec's Men's Club once again provided a very generous monetary donation to OOTC.

Chiovitti Banana Company, a new supporter, has graciously donated cases of bananas every week throughout our program.



Brian Dias and the maintenance staff, for always being available and able to help on a moment's notice... literally!

Mazon Canada for supporting our program once again with a generous food subsidy as well as additional funding to purchase a much-needed refrigerator and chest freezer.

Aaron Moscoe of TPS Promotions and Incentives, and his son **Jory** have donated to our program for years. Jory served as volunteer project coordinator on their donation initiative. He was responsible for correspondence with their suppliers who manufacture ski jackets, sweatshirts and t-shirts. His perseverance paid off as he persuaded them to donate any excess goods in their warehouses. Both Aaron and Jory are dynamos who managed to secure over 60 huge boxes of much-needed warm winter clothing!



Libby Gold of Cosa-Nova Fashions Limited, a long-time supporter of OOTC, donated four full skids of warm winter clothing for men and women.

Daniel Eliesen of NTD Apparel graciously provided OOTC with a giant donation of sweatshirts, t-shirts and other winter necessities.

Jamie Salter of Authentic Brands Group generously donated winter jackets, knapsacks, rain jackets, fleece shirts and more to help meet the needs of our guests.

Columbia Sportswear sent a generous donation of winter boots and snowpants.

We also received monetary donations from **Neil and Cindy Feiglesohn** and **Debbie and Mark Bank**, who earmarked the funds for purchasing thermal and regular underwear, boots and gloves.

Games Afternoon

After a four-year break, "Games Afternoon" resumed in the fall. I am thrilled that both Nancy Golden and Judi Rosen are now co-chairing the program with me.

Beginners to seasoned players alike come to enjoy an afternoon of Mahjong or Canasta. Some players come with their own group of four, while many others come solo or in pairs and join up with others to play. We offer coffee, tea and refreshments and ask that everyone contribute a toonie each week to help support our *chesed* initiatives. Please bring your

own Mahj cards and sets (if possible) and/or Canasta supplies.

Judi Rosen, our knowledgeable and patient instructor, has been teaching both Mahjong and Canasta at Beth Tzedec for several years. The lessons take place at the shul, provided there are eight students. The cost is \$85 for four, two-hour lessons. Please contact Avital in the Synagogue office at info@beth-tzedec.org or 416-781-3511 for more information and to sign up.

There have been inquiries about expanding the selection of games to include Rummikub and Scrabble on Thursday afternoons—a wonderful idea! If you have your own group and game, by all means, just show up at 12:30 PM to play. If you are interested but don't have enough players, please call Avital to leave a message for Nancy and me, and we will try to match you up, depending on the demand.

Tribute Cards

When purchasing tribute cards at the Synagogue, please consider marking the donation specifically in support of the Out of the Cold program. It is a wonderful opportunity to make a deeply meaningful contribution to this important *chesed* opportunity.

Wishing everyone *Chag Sameach* and let us all pray for peace in Israel and throughout the world.

—**Maureen Tanz**,
Beth Tzedec Chesed Committee

Tributes

Make a donation, send a tribute card and include your listing here to honour your friends and loved ones. For more information about tribute opportunities, call the office at 416-781-3511.

Camp Ramah Fund

Paul and Gella Rothstein, acknowledging **Joshua Charlat** in memory of **Elaine Charlat**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging the **Charlat Family** in memory of **Elaine Charlat**.

Daily Minyan Breakfast Fund

The Ackerman Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. John Ackerman**.

Debbie Ambar and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Louis Zeidner**.

Helen and Joseph Casse, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Greenstein**.

Helen and Joseph Casse, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Herbie Greenstein**.

Jordan Cohen and family, marking the conclusion of Kaddish for **Beverley Cohen**.

Phyllis Flatt and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ab Flatt**.

Eudice Goldberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Richard Goldberg**.

Sydney and Karen Goldenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Goldenberg**.

Corinne Hart, marking the conclusion of Kaddish for **Dovena Hart**.

Corinne Hart and family, commemorating the first yahrtzeit of **Dovena Hart**.

Corey and Carly Hurwitz, honouring their son **Benjamin Hurwitz** on his *tefillin* bar mitzvah.

Ruthann and Lawrie Lubin and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leo Jay Cutler**.

The Matlow Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Matlow**.

The Promislow Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Corinne Gandler Koslovsky**.

The Promislow Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Israel Gandler**.

Mary and Les Richmond, Judi and Jeff Alter and Suzie Mittelman Sokol and families, commemorating the 50th yahrtzeit of **Andrew Mittelman**.

Brian, Lindsay, Joey and Ruby Rittenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Larry Rittenberg**.

Alan Sless and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Brian Sless**.

The Stern and Singer Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morton Stern**.

Reesa and Avrom Sud, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Sud**.

Reesa and Avrom Sud, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Louis Hotz**.

The Sussman and Aaron Families, marking the conclusion of Kaddish for **Irving Aaron**.

Terry and Nadine Walman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bernard S. Walman**.

Barbra Walters and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Manley Walters**.

The Weintrop Family, honouring the memory of **Maurice Weintrop**.

Jack and Judy Weisdorf, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ethel Silver**.

Jack and Judy Weisdorf, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Weisdorf**.

The Zidel Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Julia Rayne Zidel**.

Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman, honouring the birth of their granddaughter **Blake Ruth**.

Emergency Security Fund

Frances Ackerman and Henry Einstoss, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jack Einstoss**.

Jonathan Ain, honouring the **Fruchter Family** on **Sheelo Fruchter's** bat mitzvah.

Marilyn Appleton
Rosalee Berlin

Cherryl Berliner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Reva Hertz**.

Bayla and Leo Chaikof, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Appel**.

Perry and Shirley Cooper, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Hyman Cooper**.

Perry and Shirley Cooper, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mervin Cooper**.

The Cummings Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Anne Cummings**.

Diane and Ronnie Ennis, acknowledging the **Kalef Family** in memory of **Shirley Sobel**.

Phyllis Flatt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Beatrice Irene Wolfe**.

Phyllis Flatt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Chaim Wolfe**.

Phyllis Frieberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Frieberg**.

The Fruitman Family
Samuel and Renata Galperin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ann Zidenberg**.

Morice and Cynthia Glick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Etta Glick**.

Morice and Cynthia Glick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Julia Zidel**.

Nancy Golden, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Isadore Rosen**.

Rita Gortsky, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Henry Gordon**.

Rita Gortsky, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Zita Gordon**.

Liddy Beck and Steve Gottesman, honouring **the teachers at Robbins Hebrew Academy**.

Nathan Greenberg

Bayla Gross, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Gross**.

Michael Gross and Marsha Hurwitz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harold Gross**.

Brian Heller, Beverly Kupfert and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rosalie Heller**.

Gloria Houser and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Pearlstein**.

Shaya and Ziva Izenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Helen Izenberg**.

Martin and Sandra Karp, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Karp**.

Steven G. Kelman, honouring **Goldie Ghamari**.

Martin Kelman and Gilda Tanz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mildred Kelman**.

Dora and Harry Kichler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Smuschkowitz**.

Sandi and Julius Kirschner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Tom Kirschner**.

Sandi and Julius Kirschner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Barry Sonshine**.

Sandi and Julius Kirschner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joe Sonshine**.

Sandi and Julius Kirschner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mildred Sonshine**.

Judith Kostman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Kostman**.

Judith Kostman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Henrietta Kostman**.

Rochelle Linden and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Risen**.

Nathan and Glennie Lindenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Lindenberg**.

Glennie Lindenberg and Morland Brown, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Brown**.

The Lithwick Fein Family, honouring the **Mandell-Libman Families**.

The Lithwick Fein Family, honouring the **Shulman-Abraham Family**.

Deborah Lloyd, Michelle and Joc Speyer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Wells**.

Ellis and Vicci Macmull

Irving Matlow, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jean Matlow**.

Phyllis and Jeffrey Miller, honouring **Art and Carole Andrews** on their 60th anniversary.

Ruth Nichols, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Nichols**.

Rachel Nisker, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Isaac Bernie Prusznowski**.

Francine and Alan Peters, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rita Stein**.

Francine and Alan Peters, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bella Unger**.

Francine and Alan Peters, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bernard Unger**.

Liane Piltz

John and Molly Pollock, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bessie Shprintza Pollock**.

Karen Rabinowicz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gita Siegel**.

Marjory Rasky and family, acknowledging **Dr. Ian Raskin** in memory of **Lee Raskin**.

Rosette Rutman, Stephen and Tamara Abrams, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Abraham Rutman**.

Marcus Scoler, honouring **Shep and Lorraine Gangbar**.

Michael Sosnowicz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Herman Sosnowicz**.

Michael Sosnowicz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Tobi Sosnowicz**.

Lloyd and Deborah Speyer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Speyer**.

Shoshanah Steel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Steel**.

Gail and Stuart Teperman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Marvin Mandell**.

Norman and Ava Tobias, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Pearl Tobias**.

Line and Steven Troster, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Madeleine and Jean Veillant**.

Robert Wald, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fred Wald**.

The Weiss Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Grace Weiss**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring the memories of the **Weiszhaus, Friedman, Spiegel and Fried Families**.

David Zworth, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Elaine Birnbaum**.

Family Shabbat Dinner Fund

Riley Burstyn and family, honouring **Sylvie Moscovitz Librach and Max Librach** on the birth of their son **Meir Ahron**.

Food Insecurity Fund

Irving Matlow, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Matlow**.

Irving Matlow, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jean Matlow**.

Lorraine and Morris Rotbard and Gerry and Donna Koffman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Annie Koffman**.

Lorraine and Morris Rotbard and Gerry and Donna Koffman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Koffman**.

General Fund

Vera Finkelstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Glassman**.

Donnie Friedman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mark Bohnen**.

Naomi Hass and Ian Goodman, honouring **the hard working Shul administration, rabbis and pancake makers!**

William Prusin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Blanche Prusin**.

Richard Seligman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sidney Seligman**.

Rosalyn Train, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Mila Zigelman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leon Zigelman**.

Chesed Fund

Howard and Emily Snow, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mickey Snow**.

Sara Wunch Glick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Cypora Kamel**.

World's Greatest Cantors

Am Yisrael Chai

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Meridian Arts Centre,
Weston Recital Hall, 5040 Yonge Street

Tickets available via worldsgreatestcantors.com



Sara Wunch Glick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jerry Freeman**.

Howard (Hy) Cooper Trust Fund

Sharon and Paul Haberman, acknowledging **Adrienne Levinter** in memory of **Murray Levinter**.

Jonathan Kahn Memorial Fund

Norman Kahn, honouring **Jackie Kahn** on her special birthday.

Kaddish Fund

The Ashley Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Harold Ashley**.

Elisa Fox and Alex Elias, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gabriel Beck**.

Faith Goldberg, honouring the memory of **Joseph Melotek**.

Kosher Food Bank

Miles Cohen and Leslie Rubin, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Rhonda and David Korzenstein, honouring **Perry Cooper** on his birthday.

Irving Matlow, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Anne Climans**.

Little Minyan Fund

Robert Besner, honouring the memory of **Bernard Besner**.

Music Fund

Ralph Brown, honouring **Renee Topper** on her 90th birthday.

Phyllis Flatt, honouring **Renee Topper** on her 90th birthday.

Out-of-the-Cold Fund

Carole and Art Andrews, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Sharon and Norman Bacal, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Rosalee Berlin, acknowledging **Beverley Linden** in memory of **Martin Hirschberg**.

Rosalee Berlin, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Shirley Brazer, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Annette Bot and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Reva Pinkus**.

Phyllis Flatt and family, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Ryan and Gwen Friedman, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Bonnie and Saul Greenberg, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Edna Hussman, Ayal Lesh and Dori Hussmam-Lesh, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Rayna Jolley, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah

Judy Libman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Honi Cohen**.

Karen Mann and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jeffrey Mann**.

Jeffrey and Phyllis Miller, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Lori Nemoy and Gideon Kwinter, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Millie Pollock, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Paul and Gella Rothstein, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Paul and Gella Rothstein, honouring **Renee Topper** on her birthday.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging the **Ganz and Kaufman Families** in memory of **Barry Ganz**.

Bernie and Sheila Rubenstein, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Joanne and Earl Schwebel, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Deborah Staiman, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Elaine and Joey Steiner, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Daniel Stern, Erin Bobkin and family, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter and Yacov Fruchter and Ryla Braemer** on Sheelo's bat mitzvah.

Maureen and Bernie Tanz, acknowledging **Todd Beallor and Catherine Weinberg** in memory of **Dennis Beallor**.

Renee Topper and family, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Barbra Walters, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Harold and Carole Wolfe, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Bari Zittell, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter and family** on her bat mitzvah.

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin Discretionary Fund

The Abramowitz Family, honouring **Rabbi Fryer Bodzin**.

Melissa and Sam Glazer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Dorfman**.

Sam and Melissa Glazer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Anna Glazer**.

Jason Simon, Ashleigh Hodgins and family, honouring **Rabbi Fryer-Bodzin**.

Rabbi Steven Wernick Discretionary Fund

Diane Abbey-Livingston, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Monroe Abbey**.

The Abramowitz Family, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Lyle Cappe and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Cappe**.

Roz Halman and family, commemorating the first yahrtzeit of **William Halman**.

Rayna Jolley, honouring **Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick**.

Jerome and Pearl Kazdan, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Martin Kazdan**.

The Liebgott Family, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Harold and Ruth Margles, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Maurice Margles**.

Lola and Sidney Solnik, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Bloom**.

Refugee Program

Beverly Kupfert, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Kupfert**.

The Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund

Murray Collis and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rick Collis**.

Rayna Jolley, honouring **Marty and Judy Friedland**.

Lorne Sugarman and Susan Lstiburek, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Donald Sugarman**.

Lynda White, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Louis Swartz**.

Victims of Terror Fund

The Ackerman Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. John Ackerman**.

Carole and Art Andrews, acknowledging **Dr. Jeffrey Ashley and family** in memory of **Dr. Harold Ashley**.

Carole and Art Andrews, acknowledging the **Osher and Ceifert Families** in memory of **Hanna Fisher**.

Carole and Art Andrews, honouring **Jeffrey Miller** on his birthday.

Carole and Art Andrews, honouring **Mr. and Mrs. Allen Schacht**.

Lisa Berger and Richard Stall, honouring **Jeanne Salit**.

Beth Tzedec Men's Club, honouring **Don Smith**.

Beverly Black, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Maxwell Starkman**.

Maury and Cheryl Cepler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leonard Cepler**.

Rochelle Citron, acknowledging **Florence Beallor** in memory of **Dennis Beallor**.

Sandy Cohen and family, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Min and Murray Clavir**.

Dr. Perry and Shirley Cooper

Pearl Elman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joan Moysse**.

Fred and Jocelynn Engle, honouring **Diane Ennis** on her birthday.

Diane and Ronnie Ennis, honouring **Fred and Jocelynn Engle** on Fred's birthday and on Fred and Jocelynn's anniversary.

Ronnie and Diane Ennis, honouring **Jason Stein**.

Ronnie and Diane Ennis, honouring **Elaine Frankel and Steven Skolnik**.

Ronnie and Diane Ennis, honouring **Esther and David Goldman**.

Ronnie and Diane Ennis, honouring **Sharon and Gordon Weisbrod**.

Ronnie and Diane Ennis, honouring **Harold and Carole Wolfe**.

Ronnie and Diane Ennis, honouring **Phil and Eileen Wunch**.

Ronnie and Diane Ennis, honouring **Michael and Cindy Wyman**.

Kathy and Brian Feldman, acknowledging **Wilma Freedman** in memory of **Evelynn Levinne**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, acknowledging the **Cole Family** in memory of **Esther Cole**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, acknowledging the **Himelfarb Family** in memory of **David (Cookie) Himelfarb**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, acknowledging **Ruby Newman and family** in memory of **Dr. Alvin Newman**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, acknowledging **Dawn Scott and family** in memory of **Graeme Scott**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, wishing **Karen Goldenberg** a *refuah sheleimah*.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, wishing **Toddy Granvosky** a *refuah sheleimah*.

Ruth and Alby Garbe and family, honouring **David Matlow** on his birthday.

Jerry Grammer, acknowledging **Adrienne Levinter** in memory of **Murray Levinter**.

Nathan Greenberg, acknowledging **Caryl Himelfarb and family** in memory of **David Himelfarb**.

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Glicksman**.

Roslynne and Harry Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Belle Korzen**.

Sharon and Paul Haberman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Haberman**.

Roz Halman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Cynthia Goldkind**.

Lou and Magda Hoffer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Hoffer**.

Ronnie, Elana and Evan Hoffer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sali Hoffer**.

Ronnie, Elana and Evan Hoffer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Hoffer**.

Ronnie, Elana and Evan Hoffer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Rutman**.

Esther Hussman, honouring **Yacov Fruchter** on his daughter **Sheelo Fruchter's** bat mitzvah.

Jackie Kahn, honouring **Madelaine Sarick** for the *challah* program.

Noreen Kay and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sari Troister**.

Bonny Kirschner, honouring the **People of Israel**.

Esther Korn, honouring **Doreen Trenerry**.

Malki Lazar, acknowledging **Sheila Shore** in memory of **Alan Shore**.

Malki Lazar, acknowledging **Judy Tanenbaum** in memory of **Norman Tanenbaum**.

Brad and Corinne Lester and family, acknowledging **Dean Beallor** in memory of **Dennis Beallor**.

Brad and Corinne Lester and family, acknowledging **Linda Title** in memory of **David Title**.

Rhonda Lichtenstein, acknowledging **Aaron and Nina Wine** in memory of **Joel Wine**.

Susan and Paul Lindzon and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ab Flatt**.

Leah and Israel Liguornik, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ida (Yehudit) Turowicz**.

Marcie and Gary Mansfield and family, acknowledging **Todd Beallor and Catherine Weinberg and family** in memory of **Dennis Beallor**.

Irving Matlow, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Matlow**.

Roslyn Mendelson and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fay Frances Bigman**.

Henia Muller, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Meir Amburski**.

Brenda Orser, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Trevor Rae Sword Orser**.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Chattan Torah*.

David and Shanea Rakowski, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Henry Rakowski**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Hadassah Bernstein** in memory of her grandfather.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Jeanne and Irving Salit, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ethel Cooke**.

Renee Sananes, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Sananes**.

Michael and Ellen Sitzer

Deborah Staiman, marking the conclusion of Kaddish for **Irving Aaron**.

The Valo Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sidney Valo**.

Felicia Valo and Arlene Travis, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Erica Travis**.

Felicia Valo and Arlene Travis, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **William Travis**.

Barbra Walters, acknowledging **Linda Levinstein** in memory of **Staff Sgt. Yonadav Levinstein**.

Geoff Weber and Debbie Winer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jacob Weber**.

Dot Whitehouse, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Magda Berger**.

Dot Whitehouse, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Susan Layton**.

Dot Whitehouse, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bela Spiegel**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring her **Shul Sisters and honorary Shul Sisters**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Rosalee Berlin** on her birthday.

Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman, honouring **Sheelo Fruchter** on her bat mitzvah.

Website Development Fund

Susan and Abraham Born and family, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

The Liebgott Family, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Shoshanah Steel, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Young Professionals Fund

Toby Saltzman, honouring **Bonnie Greenberg**.

Inscribe our Siddurim!

Inscribe one or more of our *SIDDURIM*, to mark a celebration, special occasion or achievement, or to honour the memory of a loved one.

Each *SIDDUR* will bear an elegant, personalized bookplate to acknowledge the *MITZVAH* of your gift to Beth Tzedec.



To inscribe a siddur, click [here](#) or call 416-781-3511

Games Afternoons

Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:30 PM

Join us for a social afternoon of Mahjong, Bridge and Canasta. For beginners and seasoned veterans alike.

Interested in adding Rummikub and Scrabble to the afternoon's options? Bring your game and group or we'll try to set one up for you!

Mahjong and Canasta lessons are now being scheduled. For fee information and to arrange for lessons, contact the Synagogue Office at 416-783-1411..



Cost: \$2 donation supporting our *chesed* initiatives.

Condolences

The Congregation extends our heartfelt condolences to the families of the late:

Sharon Abramowitz	Elena Iunni
Louis Abrams	Ziva Izenberg
Jeffrey Alan Alter	Carolyn Blackman Libman
Dr. Harold Ashley	Evelyn Librach
Joseph Axler	Joseph Melotek
Hy Balsky	Jack Miller
Dennis Beallor	Saul Muskat
Shulamit Besser	Eden Orbach
Daniel Charkow	Dvorah Radosh
Elaine Charlat	Larry Rittenberg
Marvin Elkind	Bella Rittenberg
Stanley Elkind	Melanie Sagman
Vivien Fisch	Mayer Schwartz
Dina Frankel	Eleanor Siegel
Barry Ganz	Rose Sobel
Cindy Goodman	Jeannie Tanenbaum
Jacob (Jack) Gwartz	Michael Robert Valow

"May the God of mercy sustain and strengthen them in their sorrow."

Memorial Plaques

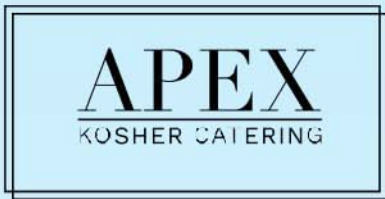
If you wish to honour the memory of a dear one, a fitting, traditional and dignified remembrance is through a memorial plaque and lamp. Each plaque, bearing the name and yahrtzeit date, is mounted on a bronze tablet in the Sanctuary. The lamp is lit on the Shabbat of the week of the yahrtzeit, on the day of the yahrtzeit, and on the four festivals during the year when Yizkor is recited. To order a memorial plaque, call 416-781-3511.

Everything we do Today is for Tomorrow

Beth Tzedec has a number of opportunities for members wishing to support our *tzedakah* initiatives. Honour the memory of a loved one by making a contribution to one of our funds or inscribing a siddur on a *yahrtzeit*. For a complete list of Synagogue funds, [click here](#) or call 416-781-3511.

If you are interested in leaving a legacy for the Congregation to name a special project, youth program or adult education seminar, we would be pleased to help you plan today for tomorrow. Email our Executive Director, [Phil David](#) at 416-781-3514 ext. 211 to discuss these opportunities in confidence.

PASSOVER TAKE-OUT MENU 2024 | 5784



Email Orders to passover@apexkoshercatering.com

All Orders Must be Received by Sunday April 14th, 2024

Available for Pick-Up From 10AM to 1PM on Monday, April 22nd, 2024

SOUPS & APPETIZERS

- QTY
- Butternut Squash and Pear Soup
\$18 per litre (serves 4)
 - Chicken Noodle Soup
with Brunoise of Carrot, Celery, Onion and Diced Chicken
\$20 per litre (serves 4)
 - Clear Chicken Soup
\$14 per litre (serves 4)
 - Matzah Balls
\$2 per piece
 - Sweet Gefilte Fish
With Beet Horseradish
\$5 per 4oz portion
 - Salt and Pepper Gefilte Fish
With Beet Horseradish
\$5 per 4oz portion

SALAD

- Mixed Green Salad
with Orange, Grapefruit, Mandarin Segments, Sweet Pickled
Heirloom Carrots, Honey Berry Dressing
\$6 per portion
- Baby Spinach Salad
With Roasted Red and Golden Beets, Balsamic Vinaigrette
\$6 per portion

SIDES/STARCH

- Herb Crisp Potato
with Garlic Chimichurri
\$6 per portion (6oz. portions)
- Potato Kugel
\$15 per pan (7" x 4")
- Apple Kugel
\$17 per pan (7" x 4")
- Herb Sautéed Mixed Vegetables
\$6 per portion (6oz. portions)

SEDER SET MENU

- \$47 per person
Minimum 2 People
- \$42 per person
for set of 10

Seder Set Menu includes:

- Chicken Noodle Matzah Ball Soup
- Baby Spinach Salad with Roasted Red and Golden Beets, Balsamic Vinaigrette
- Pan Seared Chicken Supreme Served with Mango Peach Salsa with Au Jus
- OR
- Citrus Glazed Salmon
Served with Citrus Pomegranate Salsa (add \$4)
- Herb Crisp Potato with Garlic Chimichurri
- Sautéed Mixed Vegetables
- Choice of Dessert:
- Frozen lemon cake Flourless chocolate cake

MAINS

- QTY
- Pan Seared Chicken Supreme
Served with Mango Peach Salsa and Au Jus
\$19 per portion
 - Chicken Schnitzel
with Mushroom Caramelized Spinach Velouté
\$21 per portion
 - Citrus Glazed Salmon
Served with Citrus Pomegranate Salsa
\$23 per 6 oz portion
 - Montreal Spiced Braised Brisket
Served with Au Jus
\$28 per 8oz portion cooked weight
 - Beef Meatballs
Smokey BBQ Tomato Sauce
\$27 per 12oz portion

ADDITIONAL

- Cajun Spiced Chicken Leg Quarters
\$12 for 2 pieces \$25 for 6 pieces
- Chicken Fingers
with Ketchup and Plum Sauce
\$30 per dozen
- Crispy Chicken Wings
with Smokey BBQ Sauce
\$24 per dozen
- Charoset
\$16 per 500 ml
- Seder Plate
(enough for ceremonial plate)
\$20 per plate
- Red Beet Horseradish
\$8.50 per 250 ml

PLEASE NOTE:
MINIMUM SPEND
\$90 + HST

INDIVIDUAL DESSERTS

- Frozen Lemon Cake
\$8.50 per individual piece \$70 per whole cake
- Flourless Chocolate Cake
\$8.50 per individual piece \$60 per whole cake

CLIENT INFORMATION

Name _____
Address _____
Phone # (____) _____ - _____ Date _____
Email _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION (Minimum spend \$90 + HST)

CREDIT CARD
Credit Card # _____
Expiry Date ____/____/____ CCV _____
 E-TRANSFER: m@apexkoshercatering.com

- PICK UP/DELIVERY Beth Emeth
 Beth Tzedec Delivery (\$25.00+HST)

PAY VIA
E-TRANSFER
AND SAVE
2% SERVICE
CHARGE ON
CREDIT CARD
PAYMENTS

Prefer to host your family's seder at Beth Tzedec? Contact Karen Goldstein at 416-781-3514, ext. 213. Space is filling fast!