

Enjoy Summer at Beth Tzedec

Special Events

1 Beth Tzedec Israel
Experience Info Night
JUNE 26
See p. 2

2 Body & Soul Summer
Walking Groups
JUNE & JULY
See p. 15

3 2024 Yasher
Koach Awards
JUNE 13
See p. 18

In This Issue



**Beth Tzedec Board of
Directors and Executive**
See p. 6



**Program Guide
Summer 2024**
See pages. 26-27

The Beth Tzedec Israel Experience

Trip Dates: November 6 to 13 2024

Rabbi Steven Wernick and Corinne Promislow, Chair of the Ritual Committee, will lead a special Israel Experience mission in November for members who wish to connect with the pulse of the country, witness what happened on October 7 and the ongoing impact ... to give back and to be present.

For more information about registration, contact Nicole Leybman at nleybman@beth-tzedec.org.



March Solidarity and Service Trip to Israel

In March 2024, a group of Beth Tzedec members joined Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for a service and solidarity trip to Israel. This impactful journey allowed the participants to engage with Israelis in many different locations, offering support on volunteer projects, visiting historical sites and learning about the current situation.



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?

The People of the Book

It's that time again, summer! So, it's time for me to share my summer reading list and to ask you what's on yours and what books do you think I should read as well.

We are *Am HaSefer*, the People of the Book. The name comes from our devotion and commitment to The Book, The Torah. And our interpretive tradition forming the basis of an ongoing revelation of Torah. Every generation of Jews strives to understand God's will in their time. We stand on the shoulders of our ancestors in finding the relevance of Torah in our day. And as for Rambam, Maimonides, all knowledge that contributes to our understanding of Torah is Torah.

This summer our minds, understandably, are on Israel and antisemitism. The world at times seems topsy turvy; Israel is delegitimized as Hamas is legitimized. People are on the streets, in our neighborhoods, places of work, places of worship and on university campuses glorifying terror, shouting antisemitic slogans and more. How are we to understand what is going on? Where are we to find inspiration in what to do about it?

Here are the books on my list for understanding and inspiration. I've included books worthy of a reread at this moment, too.

The Zionist Ideas by Gil Troy

It Could Happen Here by Jonathan Greenblatt

The Genius of Israel by Dan Senor and Saul Singer

Israel: A Concise History of a Nation Reborn by Rabbi Daniel Gordis

From Optimism to Hope by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

The Ancient Art of Thinking for Yourself by Robin Reames

The Anxious Generation by Jonathan Haidt

Uncomfortable Conversations with a Jew by Emmanuel Acho & Noa Tishby

None is Too Many by Irving Abella and Harold Tropper

Yom Kippur in a Gym and In Sickness and in Health by Nora Gold

Tikkun Ha'am: Israel and the Crisis of Liberal Judaism by Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin

The Amen Affect by Rabbi Sharon Brouse

Judaism is About Love by Rabbi Shai Held

The Plot Against America by Phillip Roth

Why the Bible Began by Jacob L. Wright

Land of Hope and Fear by Eleanor Kershner

The Death of Truth by Michiko Kakutani

What are you reading that you would recommend to me? Send me your book titles! at rebsteve@beth-tzedec.org And let's grab coffee and discuss.



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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.



High Holy Day Honours

A High Holy Day honour is a special opportunity to participate in the mitzvah of supporting our Congregational community and receiving a unique blessing for you and your family by the Torah. Register now if you will be joining us on Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidrei and Yom Kippur and would like to receive an aliyah.

To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/aliyot-2024>.

Yizkor Memorial Book 2024 / 5785

It's time to send your submissions for Beth Tzedec's annual Yizkor Memorial Book, used at Yizkor Services on Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, Pesach and Shavuot. To submit your memorial names, scan the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/yizkor-book-2024>.





Don Smith

Guiding our Evolution

At its core, Beth Tzedec is an introspective, spiritual and religious synagogue that puts giving and caring to work.

In preparation for writing this short column, I read the last four columns by the two Presidents who preceded me, Debbie Rothstein and Patti Rotman. While making my task a little daunting, the essays show a love of the Congregation and a pride in the strong Jewish community that is Beth Tzedec.

In a few words, Beth Tzedec is one of the most successful religious institutions of our time, strong in faith, in principles and for our financial future. Both of these Presidents and those who preceded them have worked tirelessly and with great vision to make Beth Tzedec a place where our core values are our driving values. Three of them—to **Pray**, **Learn** and **Celebrate**—have been the strength of Beth Tzedec for almost 70 years and continue to guide us. I see **Give & Get** and **Care** every day; our SLT (Spiritual Leadership Team) and our volunteers embody these values and give us their heart and soul. The last value, **Connect**, is a value that joins the generations and will provide continuity for the foreseeable future.

When I thought about being President a couple of years ago, I was focused on making sure the finances were stable and the business model was solid to ensure our future. The answer is yes, we are healthy and strong! I have since seen how much our values give us a ‘one heart and one soul approach’ that drives Beth Tzedec’s clergy, our staff and our members to be there for the generations ahead. During those years, I watched and learned from Patti Rotman, who worked tirelessly to lead and leave Beth Tzedec better and stronger; I am grateful for her legacy.

To accommodate 5,000 souls in dozens of groups, services and learning events is a huge task. We are assembling a Visioning Committee led by Mitch Max and Debbie Rothstein to plan where we will be in the coming decades. The Committee will interface with the SLT, Budget & Finance, Building and

REDI Committees (amongst others) to build and execute this model. Again, we are blessed with some of the most skilled and talented individuals in the city to guide us through this evolution.

Working with the Executive and Board over the last few years, I am proud of how knowledgeable they are and how much they care. Our meetings are conducted with one objective: the betterment of Beth Tzedec. When there are disagreements and passionate discussions, they are on principles; egos are checked at the door. But our lay leadership is just that, leadership. We guide, we envision and we monitor, but we don’t run the place.

One of the assets we can’t recognise enough is our staff. We all know Rabbi Wernick, Rabbi Fryer Bodzin, Hadassah Bernstein, Phil David, Brian Dias and most of the SLT; all highly skilled, caring professionals who would succeed anywhere. We also have a couple of dozen staff who impress with their professionalism and excellence and should get mentioned—each one, if there were space.

Finally, we have dozens of volunteers who give support week in and week out and are also way too numerous to mention. Two examples are Jeffrey and Lawrie who usher weekly and on the *chagim* and who are the welcoming, helpful and hugely experienced ushers (and have been for years). They exemplify what each of our volunteers bring to Beth Tzedec.

At its core, Beth Tzedec is an introspective, spiritual and religious synagogue that puts **giving** and **caring** to work.

I put all this together and realise how blessed we are and how easy it will be to be President. I pray I serve you well.

May we go from strength to strength.

—Don
Am Israel Chai



Beth Tzedec Executive and Board of Directors 2024-2025

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President

Brian Segal
Chair of the Board

Mitch Max
Vice-President

Paul Mandel
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Bruce Elman
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Corinne Promislow
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Patti Rotman
Immediate Past President

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Leah Mauer

Earl Schwebel
Daniel Stern
Arlyn Zimmerman

Jerry Grammer
Men's Club Representative
Ex Officio

Ruthann Lubin
Sisterhood Representative
Ex Officio

Messages for the Board can be directed through Don Smith (president@beth-tzedec.org) or Brian Segal (chair@beth-tzedec.org), or you can contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 to leave a message for them.

Board of Directors Meetings

The Board of Directors meetings will be held on **Tuesday, July 16** and **Wednesday, August 14** at 7:45 PM.

The Rav Roy Tanenbaum Israel Scholarship

Beth Tzedec is pleased to announce a new scholarship fund for students enrolled in degree programs in accredited colleges or university in Israel. Preference will be given to Beth Tzedec members. For more information, please contact **Hadassah Bernstein** at 416-781-3514, ext. 244 or hbernstein@beth-tzedec.org.



Yossi Klein Halevi speaks to the Toronto Jewish Community

On Tuesday, May 14, Yossi Klein Halevi, Senior Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, gave a presentation at Beth Tzedec on “A Turning Point in Jewish History: Unpacking October 7 and Its Aftermath”, examining the tragedies of October 7 and the war in Gaza that require the Jewish communities in North America and in Israel to reflect, rethink and reassess the future of Jewish life and Jewish Peoplehood.

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 wonderful summer.

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.





Phil David

There is so much happening at the synagogue. It's like a small friendly city here at Beth Tzedec and I guarantee, we have something for you.

Building on a Rich Tradition

Every morning when I drive into our parking lot, I see the large billboard we hung on the north facing wall last September. It reads “Inspiring Meaningful Jewish Lives”. It’s not just an advertising slogan. It’s our mission!

As I approach my second anniversary at our wonderful shul, I got to thinking about how fortunate we are in these extremely challenging times that Beth Tzedec is able to deliver so well on its mission and be the central hub for many of the largest rallies since October 7. It isn’t by accident. It’s by design.

With over 2,400 member units, we are considered to be North America’s largest Conservative congregation. I know that may sound intimidating, but the reality is, because of our Spiritual Leadership Team’s (SLT)

commitment to our Mission, led by Reb Steve and an incredible team focused on building relationships, we literally are able to offer something for everyone, regardless of age or lifestage.

In fact, recently when I was approving creative for a weekly email blast, I noted we were running programs that week—and most weeks!—for every single age cohort between 0 and 100+.

From “Babies and Blessings” to Shabbat family dinners and lunches, to the new “YESH” club for kids in Grades 5 and 6, to the incredibly vibrant 20s and 30s Friday night dinners to the “Tzingles” activities for the 55s-74s, all the way up to the “To 120” Club, where specially curated programs are being created for our members aged 75 and above.



BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION

Inspiring Meaningful Jewish Lives

To create and execute these programs and to engage our Congregation, we need staff and resources. Of course, people and programming cost money so the shul has invested purposefully and aggressively as part of its strategic plan to deliver on its mission.

We've been privileged to augment our team over the past couple of years with the additions of Cantor Audrey Klein and Penina Hoffnung who champion our Young Family engagement. They work closely in collaboration with the SLT to make sure each and every member feels their affiliation with the shul does not feel transactional, but rather authentic and relational.

Our mandate is to scale up so that we can connect with more of our members regularly, to make meaningful connections and strengthen those relationships. That is the secret sauce to growth and sustainability. And I'm happy to say that people are coming!

We've grown our under-40 Generations Membership to almost 1,100 member units—larger than most congregations in North America! We have waiting lists for our Friday night dinners. We've tripled our engagement with the 20s and 30s cohort! All this has enabled our members to create new

friendships which we know will only serve to strengthen their personal bond with the synagogue and the likelihood they will remain as members.

I am asked often what annual membership contributions (dues) go towards. It's an appropriate and timely question since the annual statements are being issued on July 3... How best to answer?

Well, we are an 18-hour a day, 365 day a year operation and we have substantial costs to keep the lights on, to maintain our beautiful building and to offer a broad array of initiatives that appeal to the varied interests of our community, whether it's ritual, spiritual, musical, educational or programmatical.

Your contributions are vital to our sustainability. You may be surprised to learn that membership contribution only accounts for 28 percent of our entire revenue. Funds generated through rentals and catering help, but our focus for the future is on **fundraising**. We know that what we charge for membership can only go so high.

Did you know that Beth Tzedec **has not raised its contribution fees in more than ten years** in our effort to

minimize the financial barrier of joining our shul, and we did this during a period of significant increases in salaries, food, building maintenance and security. On that latter note, since October 7, our security costs for additional manpower, including police, have increased \$15,000 per month to keep our community safe.

So that is why your membership fees and participation in our fundraising initiatives are so vital to our future. In fact, the business model in the entire synagogue category works best by shifting the culture to one more reliant on philanthropy.

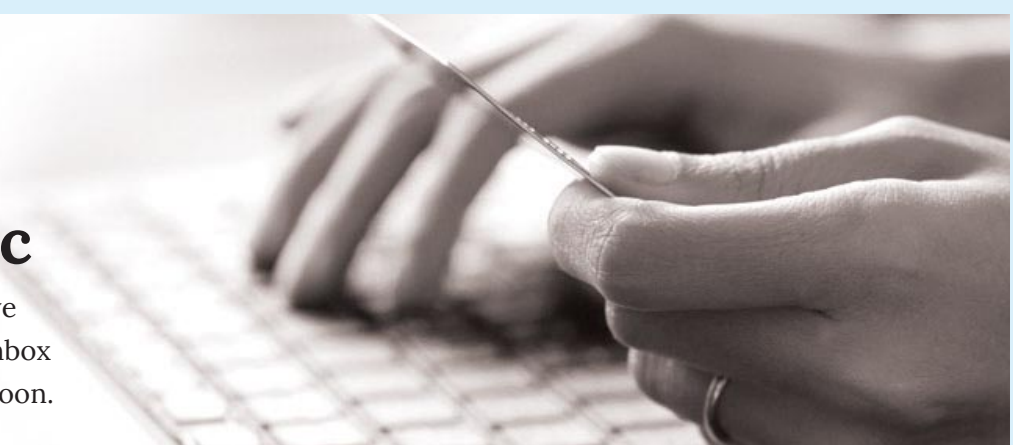
We hope you will be a part of that cultural shift because of the relationships you have been able to create and the bond you have built with our community. If you feel there is a gap and you'd like to be more involved, I encourage you to reach out to our team.

There is so much happening at the synagogue. It's like a small friendly city here at Beth Tzedec and I guarantee, we have something **FOR YOU**.

Renew Your Commitment to Beth Tzedec

Our annual Member renewal drive kicks off on July 3! Watch your inbox and mail box for details coming soon.

To renew or become a Beth Tzedec member, or to learn more about our Generations Membership initiative, contact Klara Romm at 416-781-3514 ext. 220 or kromm@beth-tzedec.org.



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 November 30 is July 17.



Births

Maya Scott, daughter of Laura Kalef & Daniel Kornblum, sister of Adina Kornblum, granddaughter of Randy and the late Karyn Kalef and Joel & Judy Kornblum, great-granddaughter of Margaret & Al Goodman, Shirley & Marvin Latchman, Shirley Sobel^{z1} and Harvey Kalef^{z1} and Sarah & Morris Kornblum^{z1}, **born June 16.**

Sloan Avery, daughter of Brent Winston & Amanda Shechtman, granddaughter of Lisa & Howard Winston and Shelley & Grant Shechtman, great-granddaughter of Betty & Jack^{z1} Winston, Shirley & Sam Krem^{z1} and Annie & Jerry Cohen, **born January 25.**

Cameron Jude, son of Matthew Sanders & Ceilidh Mulder, grandson of Lissie & Mitchell Sanders, Sian Burrill and Alex & Carla Mulder, great-grandson of Joyce & Gordon Strauss, Vera & George Sanders, Susan Laidlaw, Michael & Sharon Burrill and Robin Mason, **born February 12.**

Michal Leona, daughter of Nicole & Daniel Sugar, granddaughter of Zina & Michael Glassman^{z1} and Renee & Russell Sugar, great-granddaughter of Baina Fridlyand and Estelle Shane, **born February 22.**

Chase Myles (Chaim Mendel), son of Dr. Adi & Lindsay Elman, grandson of Dr. Howard & Emily Snow and Shlomo & Shoshana Elman, great-grandson of Bernard (Bob) & Shirley Zarnett^{z1}, Milton (Mickey) Snow^{z1}, and Frimette Snow, Menachem & Chana Elman^{z1} and Avraham & Leah Peltzman^{z1}, **born February 24.**



Ami Yisrael, son of Yuda Slater & Shirel Barkan-Slater, brother of Mia and Benny, grandson of Rivka & Avraham^{z1} Slater and Monica & Alberto Barkan, **born March 3.**

Talia Ora, daughter of Aliza Feld Haber & Rabbi Captain Ari Haber (of Efrat, Israel), granddaughter of Alan Feld & Dr. Leona Fisher Feld (of Caesarea, Israel), great-granddaughter of Judy Feld Carr & Donald Carr and Dr. Benjamin Fisher (of Israel), **born March 5.**

Ryder Sol, son of Zoey & Ralph Dana, grandson of Shelley & Neil Friedman and Jacqueline & Isaac Dana, **born March 6.**

Saul Benny, son of Emma & Dustin Pollack, brother of Gracie Ava, grandson of Alysse & Alan Fogel and Andrea & the late Gary Pollack, great-grandson of Doreen & the late Dr. Bernard Fogel and Dr. Jack & the late Andrea Train, **born May 8.**

Nora Chloe, daughter of Jaclyn Tanz & Luke Bell, sister of Callie, granddaughter of Maureen and Bernie Tanz and Bernadette & Tim Bell, great-granddaughter of Betty Plotnick, Gilda Tanz & Marty Kelman and Jacqueline Tanz, **born May 17.**



Jonas Wolf, son of Dr. Lauren Rotman & AJ Goldberg, grandson of Patti & Dr. Sheldon Rotman and Daphne & Leslie Goldberg, great-grandson of Ruth Litvak, **born May 14.**

Congratulations

Mike Fogelman, on the 20th anniversary of his kidney transplant, received from his altruistic donor **Jenny Oad.**

Harvey Kirsh, who was awarded the Governor General of Canada's Medal for Meritorious Service for achievements in the development of the field of construction law in Canada. The award is for exemplary leadership as a construction arbitrator, mediator, referee, author, counsel and advocate, and as the founding president of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers. The presentation ceremony by the Governor General will take place at Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

Dr. Aviva Levman, daughter of Dr. Jeff & Debbie Levman, granddaughter of Honey & Irv^{z1} Milstein and Ethel & Arthur^{z1} Levman, and **Matt Berger**, son of Dr. Marla Shapiro & Bobby Berger, grandson of Julie & Charlie^{z1} Berger, on their engagement.

Robert Milne, who celebrated his 70th birthday on March 21.

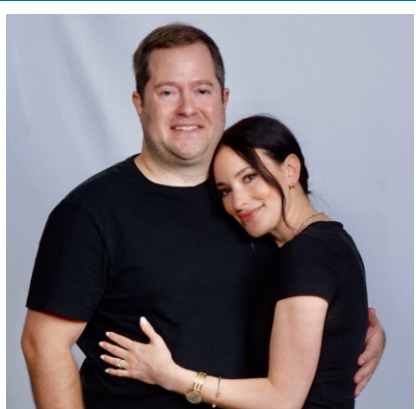
Dr. Sheldon Rotman, who celebrated his 70th birthday on June 2.

Larry Tanenbaum, on being awarded a franchise in the WNBA, bringing Canada its first women's professional basketball team.

Weddings

Zachary Abenheim, son of Michelle Axler & Isaac Abenheim, grandson of Ruth Axler & the late Joseph Axler, and **Shira Bell**, daughter of Elly Freund-Bell & Danny Bell, granddaughter of John & Nora Freund, who were married on June 9.

Myles Resnick, son of Anne & Charles Resnick, and **Rachel Trister**, daughter of Amalia Berg and Benjamin Trister, granddaughter of Beverly Burdeyney, who were married on May 26.



Shaun Rotman, son of Patti & Dr. Sheldon Rotman, grandson of Ruth Litvak, and **Gillian Lavee**, daughter of Aliza & Joseph Lavee, who were married on May 26.

Russel Sanders, son of Lissie & Mitch Sanders, grandson of Joyce & Gordon Strauss and Vera & George Sanders, and **Shari Gasch**, daughter of Risa & Michael Gasch, granddaughter of Samuel H. Cohen and Chava Gasch, who were married on May 30. Sadly missed are grandparents Beverley Cohen^{z"l} and Avi Gasch^{z"l}.

Nicole Seligman, daughter of David & Elana Seligman, granddaughter of Sam & Lori Merson and Eddie & Sylvia Seligman^{z"l}, and **Marc Levin**, son of Ivor & Gaynor Levin, grandson of Bennie & Simon Kaye^{z"l} and Mo & Freda Levin^{z"l}, who were married on March 28.

Lindsay Silverberg, daughter of Jo-Anne & Peter Silverberg, granddaughter of Herschel & the late Grace Taylor and the late Leon & Elizabeth Silverberg, and **Alexander Good**, son of Jennifer Joseph & Bernie Good, grandson of Marsha & the late Harvey Joseph and the late Valerie & Mendel Good, who were married on June 6.

Melanie Simon, daughter of Allan Simon^{z"l} 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, who were married on June 2.

Benjamin Stall, son of Lisa Berger & Richard Stall, grandson of Naomi Berger, and **Rachael Calmas**, daughter of Ellen & Richard Calmas, who were married on June 16.

Madison Wagman, daughter of Bonnie & David Wagman, granddaughter of Frances & the late David Atcovitch and Lydia & the late Sam Wagman, and **Myles Dichter**, son of Karen & Sid Dichter, grandson of Fran & Larry Marshall and the late Clara & the late Sam Dichter, who will be married June 16.

Many Thanks

Daniel Kornblum & Laura Kalef, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on March 2 honouring the birth of their daughter **Maya Sora Kornblum**.

Nicole Salama Tenenbaum & Errol Tenenbaum, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on April 6 honouring their son **Ryan Tenenbaum** on his bar mitzvah.

The Beth Tzedec Men's Club, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on April 13 honouring **Men's Club Shabbat** and their guest speaker **Richard Robertson**.

The Tanenbaum Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on April 20 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harold Tanenbaum**.

Jackie and Norman Kahn, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on April 20 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bernard Waldman**.

Trudy, Debbie and Barry Shecter, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on April 20 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Shecter**.

The Tanenbaum Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on April 23 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Anne Tanenbaum**.

Cyrelle Muskat & Jonathan Freeman, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on May 4 honouring their daughter **Halyn Freeman** on her bat mitzvah.

Aaron Moscoe & Melanie Ruby, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on May 4 honouring their daughter **Quincey Moscoe** on her bat mitzvah.

Reny Friedman and Michael Friedman and family, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on May 4 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Henry Friedman**.

Itai & Maya Arieli, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on May 11 honouring their son **Aviv Arieli** on his bar mitzvah.

Shari Zinman & Ira Levy, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on May 18 honouring their daughter **Adelaide Levy** on her bat mitzvah.

Patti & Sheldon Rotman and family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on May 25 honouring **Shaun Rotman & Gillian Lavee** on their marriage.

Barry Bernstein, Alan Bernstein and family, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on May 25 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jack J. Bernstein**.

Shira Bell & Zachary Abenhaim, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on June 1 honouring their marriage.

Miriam Drukker & Yair Stern, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on June 1 honouring their daughter **Ella Drukker Stern** on her bat mitzvah.

The Milne and Resnick Families, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on June 1 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Milne**.

Carmela & Helon Rzhovsky, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on June 8 honouring their son **Aaron Rzhovsky** on his bar mitzvah.

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ), who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on June 8 honouring their *Shabbaton*.

Harley and Talora Farovitch, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on June 15 honouring their daughter **Hazel Farovitch** on her bat mitzvah.

Daniel Stern & Erin Bobkin and family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on June 15 honouring their tenth anniversary.

Mazal Tov to Our Grads



Dr. Aviva Levman, daughter of Dr. Jeff & Debbie Levman, granddaughter of Honey Milstein and Ethel Levman, and fiancée of Matthew Berger, who graduated from the School of Optometry, University of Waterloo.

Mark Kaplan, BCom. CA. CPA. LLM, son of Phyllis & Michael Kaplan, who received his Master of Laws degree from Osgoode Hall. Mark is a partner with Ernst and Young specializing in the taxation of international transactions.

Mazal Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah

WHO HAVE COMPLETED OUR BAR/BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM



May 20
Adelaide Freya Levy
daughter of Ira Levy & Shari Zinman
אפרת דינה ישראלה בת יחיאל
וחיה מלכה



June 1
Ella Drukker Stern
daughter of Miriam Drukker and Yair Stern
אלה בת משה יאיר ומרים



June 8
Aaron Rzhovsky
son of Helon & Carmela Rzhovsky
אהרון בן אלהון ופרמלה



Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

Until I participated in the Beth Tzedec Solidarity Mission to Israel, when I led this particular prayer, I would think about friends' children who are Lone Soldiers, Beth Tzedec members who told me they had children or grandchildren or nieces or nephews in Gaza.

Unifying Anthems

Dear Friends,

Three quarters of the way through the book *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity*, a collection of essays by Abraham Joshua Heschel, there is an essay that I return to often called "On Prayer". Whenever I read it, different ideas jump out at me. When I reread the essay a few months ago, I found this particular section exceedingly meaningful.

We pray because the disproportion of human misery and human compassion is so enormous. We pray because our grasp of the depth of suffering is comparable to the scope of perception of a butterfly flying over the Grand Canyon. (p. 263)

Once the brutality and kidnapping of October 7 began to become clear, we started to learn that there are people out there who have hatred in their hearts comparable to, or maybe stronger than, the love we have in our hearts. Also, since October 7, our community has expressed deep continuous compassion and empathy for the people we know and those we don't know in Israel.

Soon after the war began, we started reciting the Prayer for the Welfare and Return of Israel's Captured and Missing in Daily Minyan and on Shabbat.

In that prayer we say: We are terrified contemplating their fate and horrified at the thought of what the missing and the captured are suffering right now. That is how we feel. We are terrified and horrified. We don't know what is happening in those terror tunnels. Do they ever see daylight? What do the hostages eat? How many are still alive? What about the Bibas babies?

On Shabbat mornings, the Little Minyan now sings *Acheinu* regularly. *Acheinu* has become a cross-denominational unifying anthem of this time, sung in Jewish communities all over the world. It speaks directly to the dire situation we are in right now.

Acheinu: Our brothers, our sisters, the entire family of Israel, all who have been squeezed by distress or taken into captivity, whether on the sea or on dry land, may God have mercy upon them and bring them out from suffering to relief, from darkness to light, from subjugation to redemption, now, speedily, and soon, and let us say, Amen.

Acheinu is an ancient prayer that has obvious relevance today. May God bring the hostages home and out from suffering, darkness and subjugation now.

After October 7, the prayer for the Israel Defense Forces became a





frequent addition to all Beth Tzedec prayer services. It begins as many blessings begin, “May the God who blesses Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.”

The next line is: “May God bless the fighters of the Israel Defense Force, who stand guard over our land and the cities of our God from the border of the Lebanon to the desert of Egypt, and from the Great Sea unto the approach of the Aravah, on the land, in the air, and on the sea.”

Until I participated in the Beth Tzedec Solidarity Mission to Israel, when I led this particular prayer, I would think about friends’ children who are Lone Soldiers, Beth Tzedec members who told me they had children or grandchildren or nieces or nephews in Gaza. I would think of my own family members in their Reserve Duty. I would think of my Israeli colleagues and friends who had children in Gaza.

But I always recited it in a vague kind of way. I would say the prayer for people far away. Of course, I could easily conjure up an image of someone in khaki, but that was it.

On a deeply impactful day of our mission, when we spent time in Sderot and the Nova Music Festival site, our evening activity was to prepare dinner for soldiers at an outpost near the Gaza Envelope. Before they sat down to dinner, we had the chance to speak with some of the young men outside the dining hall. While they were exhausted, having just come back from Gaza for a brief respite, they appreciated that we came to Israel and our interest in them.

When the soldiers sat down at the tables we had set for them, I was asked to offer a prayer to them. Friends, a life highlight that I never expected, was unlocked.

I was privileged to recite the prayer for the IDF to a room full of Israeli soldiers who were between coming from and going back to Gaza. These are the people who stand on guard. These are the people who are defending the state of Israel from a vile terrorist enemy.

The power of the moment lives inside of me. Whenever I share it with others, tears well up in their eyes (and mine again). Heschel wrote: We pray because the disproportion of human misery and human compassion is so enormous. The compassion in my heart when I looked into the eyes of Israeli soldiers and said these words was overflowing. My cup runneth over.

He Who blessed our forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - may He bless the fighters of the Israel Defense Force, who stand guard over our land and the cities of our God from the border of the Lebanon to the desert of Egypt, and from the Great Sea unto the approach of the Aravah, on the land, in the air, and on the sea.

May Hashem cause the enemies who rise up against us to be struck down before them. May the Holy One, Blessed is He, preserve and rescue our fighting men from every trouble and distress and from every plague and illness, and may He send blessing and success in their every endeavor.

May He lead our enemies under their sway and may He grant them salvation and crown them with victory. And may there be fulfilled for them the verse: For it is Hashem, your God, Who goes with you to battle your enemies for you to save you.

Amen.

Rabbi Steven Wernick and Corinne Promislow, Chair of the Ritual Committee, will lead an “Israel Experience” trip in November. See page 2 for information.



BODY AND SOUL SUMMER WALKING GROUP

Wednesdays, from 9:00 to 10:30 AM
June 26 and July 3, 10, 17 & 24

Exercise your body and soul with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin for a bit of Torah and some brisk walking. We will meet at 77 Chiltern Hill (at the corner of Chiltern Hill and Warwick Ave.) Please remember to bring water, sunscreen and a hat. We will not meet on rainy days. Pre-registration is not required.



GRIEVING TOGETHER SUPPORT GROUPS

Led by Rabbi Fryer Bodzin and Yacov Fruchter

For Those Who Have Lost A Partner:
Wednesdays, September 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 3:00 PM

For Those Who Have Lost Parents:
Thursdays, November 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 7:00 PM

The loss of a loved one, at any time, is challenging. Judaism has a clear set of mourning rituals that help us relearn to be in the world after our significant loss. For many of us, these rituals have been altered or limited, just as the rest of life has been full of uncertainties. What has not changed is our desire to support you at this time, and our belief in the power of coming together as a community. We are here to provide an opportunity for you to meet, support and share—together.

For more information, contact Karen Goldstein at
kgoldstein@beth-tzedec.org





Cantor Sidney Ezer

Akdamut reaffirms that God gave us, and only us, the Torah; our relationship is immutable. There is no match for the Jewish people, either in Heaven or on Earth, despite claims that God abandoned us. The nations may threaten us, but we will prevail.

Legendary Tale, Enduring Poem

One of the core liturgical staples of Shavuot is the *piyyut* known as *Akdamut*. Recited in almost all Ashkenazi congregations on the first day of Shavuot, this 90-verse long *piyyut* (liturgical poem) serves as an introduction to the Torah reading. It is read after the person designated for the Kohen Aliyah has been called, but before he/she recites the blessing. Unlike most *piyyutim* composed in Hebrew, *Akdamut* is written in Aramaic, which is related to its original function. From biblical times well into medieval times, each verse of the Torah reading in Hebrew would be followed by its interpretation into Aramaic since that was the common vernacular at the time. It was therefore customary to read on the first day of Shavuot an Aramaic translation of that day's Torah reading. This digression inspired the creation of *Akdamut*.

Akdamut is of the genre of liturgical poems known as *reshut*, a request for permission where the leader asks for the congregation's consent. A *reshut* was meant to preface a digression in the service. This *reshut* was written for the reader of the Aramaic translation of the Torah; hence it too is in Aramaic. While the ancient synagogue practice of alternating the Hebrew verses of the Torah portion with the Aramaic translation has fallen into disuse, *Akdamut* has persisted on its own, and is still recited by *Ashkenazim* to this day.

What is it about this terse and extraordinarily complex *piyyut*, replete with biblical, midrashic and Talmudic imagery? Why should such a lengthy literary creation in a language foreign to most Jews, introducing a translation of the Torah reading not used for a millennium, continue to stand the test of time in the Jewish liturgical canon? The answer may partly lie in its author.

Akdamut was composed by Rabbi Meir

ben Isaac (also called the Nehorai). Rabbi Meir was active as a *chazzan* in Worms, Germany in the latter half of the 11th century, on the eve of the First Crusade. Several legends were created about him. One in particular stands out. In his article "Akdamut: History, Folklore, and Meaning", Jeffrey Hoffman postulates that a key catalyst in solidifying *Akdamut's* place in Jewish liturgy and in our Jewish collective memory was a medieval Yiddish tale portraying Rabbi Meir as a saviour of his people from a demonic priest who had threatened thousands of Jews, and *Akdamut* itself as a paean to that triumph.

In the story, the Jews of Worms send a delegation to the King asking for protection from the monk-sorcerer who murdered 30,000 Jews through his black magic. The monk would desist from attacking the Jews for one year on the condition that they present a member of their own community for a contest in sorcery. The rescuer to meet such a challenge lay beyond the river Sambatyon where the ten lost tribes of Israel dwelled. Everyone selected Rabbi Meir along with three accompanying Rabbis to journey in search of this person. They took with them a letter from the community explaining their plight. The river Sambatyon was too turbulent to cross during the week and its waters only calmed on Shabbat when it is forbidden to cross. Rabbi Meir left his three companions and crossed the river alone to bear the sin of violating Shabbat. Although initially put in prison, his life was spared after the Jews of the ten lost tribes read the community's letter explaining the dire circumstances. His mission accomplished, Rabbi Meir was told to remain on this side of the river while a lame and pious elder named Dan crossed the Sambatyon alone.

When Rabbi Meir's escorts on the other side of the river saw the lame, elderly Dan, they lost heart. Nevertheless, the four of them traveled back to Worms through a miraculous short cut, arriving on the last day of the year-long reprieve the evil monk had given. It also happened to be two days before Shavuot. In the presence of the king of Worms and the great crowds of Jews and gentiles in the town square, Dan repeatedly thwarts the monk's sorcerous incantations by using recitations of the mystical names of God. After the monk is ground into a powder by two giant millstones, Dan tells the Jewish community that on the previous Shabbat, Rabbi Meir had composed *Akdamut* and requested that the community recite the poem each Shavuot "for the sake of his name," since his name is signed in the acrostic.

Besides the obvious establishment of the etiological connection of *Akdamut* with Shavuot, *Akdamut* is no longer simply a prayer but also an anthem of victory. For Jews familiar with this tale, the recitation of *Akdamut* was inevitably understood through this lens. *Akdamut* employs universal folkloric themes such as the miraculous rescue of a seemingly doomed community by an apparently

old, small, and weak hero. The defeat comes by way of a public disputation forced upon the Jewish community.

When looking at the structure of the *piyyut*, one of the dominant themes is the symbolic confrontation between the gentile nations and Israel. Here the poet alludes, obliquely but unmistakably, to the social and theological pressures facing the Jews of Germany in the 11th century. The scene may also allude to public disputations at which Jewish scholars like Rabbi Meir were required to defend their faith. The final line of the poem summarizes the poet's argument while providing a segue to the Torah reading: "He desired and wanted us, and so gave us the Torah." Each line of the poem has ten syllables and concludes with the syllable תא "ta"—the last and first letters of the Hebrew alphabet—to indicate that a Jew never stops learning Torah. As on Simchat Torah, when we finish reading the Torah, we must start anew from the beginning.

It is no wonder, therefore, that in some communities, primarily Western European Jewish communities, the popular musical mode used for chanting *Akdamut* (and commonly applied to chanting the Festival Kiddush) has also been adapted to the *reshut* when calling up the *Chattan Torah* or *Kallat Torah* to read the

concluding section of the Torah on Simchat Torah morning. The above *Akdamut* melody, whose ancient origins date back to psalmody and whose tonality reflects much of the older recitative music of the synagogue, has become universally known. In generations when Jews faced persecution and forced conversion, they found strength and encouragement in this tune which became associated with the Jewish faith. Perhaps it is for this reason that the melody is used as a seasonal theme at the outset of the Three Festivals when reciting Kiddush.

Akdamut reaffirms that God gave us, and only us, the Torah; our relationship is immutable. There is no match for the Jewish people, either in Heaven or on Earth, despite claims that God abandoned us. The nations may threaten us, but we will prevail.

Some may find this assertion inadequate, even naive, in light of subsequent events—the crusades that befell German Jewry soon after Rabbi Meir's death and especially the unfathomable horrors of the last century and the ones we currently experience post-October 7. But *Akdamut* somehow endures, resonating with worshippers a millennium later, as an incomparably beautiful hymn to God and his faithful people.

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

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.

For more information about volunteering, visit <https://bit.ly/volunteer-at-bt> or contact Klara Romm at kromm@beth-tzedec.org.





—2024—

Yasher Koach Awards

**for building a community of care
in extraordinary times**

Norman Bacal

Hona Feldman

Michael Friedman

Jamie Golombek

Rayna Tolley

Jackie Kahn

Jennifer Lau

Anne Max

Moshe Micha

Larry Rachlin

Orly Shinewald

Abby Storm

Blake Teichman

Hannah Wohl

Danny Zimmerman

Shavuot Service honouring our Yasher Koach Award Recipients

June 13, 2024

The Yasher Koach Award acknowledges and honours Beth Tzedec's volunteers who have gone above and beyond, supporting our kehillah and the larger community with programs and initiatives they have spearheaded, enabling our community to continue to live meaningful Jewish lives during these very challenging times. They are pioneers in meeting new challenges and community builders, creating opportunities for us all to

Connect, Learn, Celebrate, Pray and Care ... with intention.



Yacov Fruchter

Our world and our Jewish community is as fractured as I have ever experienced it, and at the same time, I am witnessing more acts of ahavat chinam, unsolicited acts of love and connection, than I have ever seen before.

Moshiach Energy

I recently saw a member wearing a **Moshiach Energy (ME)** trucker hat that was created and popularized by Jewish, gay, Israeli comedian Modi Rosenberg. Modi suggests in one of his interviews that when he is on stage making people laugh he is channelling Moshiaich Energy, connecting to the concept of a Messiah that will be coming in the future to transform our world; one of the 13 principles of faith according to Maimonides. Modi's approach, however, and similar to my own belief, is that we cannot and should not wait for a miraculous event to bring healing and transformation to our broken world, but rather, we need to partner with God (the ME in Moshiaich Energy) right now.

I am inspired by Ben Zoma's words in *Pirkei Avot* who said: "It is not your duty to finish the work, but neither are you at liberty to neglect it." (2:16)

Our world and our Jewish community is as fractured as I have ever experienced it, and at the same time, I am witnessing more acts of *ahavat chinam*, unsolicited acts of love and connection than I have ever seen before. The nature of the work ahead can be daunting, but it is our obligation as Ben Zoma suggests to find some way to get involved in the work.

The vibrancy and warmth of the Beth Tzedec community has always and will always depend on the strength of our volunteers who partner with our spiritual and professional leadership.

On Shavuot, Thursday June 13 at Kiddush, we celebrated 15 members of our community, recipients of the *Yasher Koach* Awards for their volunteer contributions and for their ongoing Mashiach Moments that they engineer.

We hope their contributions will inspire you to raise your hand and commit to one of 18 diverse opportunities to bring

your skills and energy to volunteer with Beth Tzedec. You will help us expand our ability to care for and build our community, while deepening your connection with other members.

Please visit <https://bit.ly/volunteer-at-bt> to learn about the 18 opportunities and to complete the form today.

Finally, we are now working on our next set of BT Small Groups for next year and are searching for new group leaders. Email yfruchter@beth-tzedec.org if you are interested.

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

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

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

Let's bring more Moshiaich Energy into the world this summer,





Cantor Audrey Klein

Judaism recognizes that the well-being of a community is determined by how we care for our children and their futures.

Children are a Blessing

This article mentions topics related to infertility, birth trauma, and a baby in the NICU. Please take care when reading. If you need someone to talk to about any of these topics, please reach out to me or any member of the SLT. We see you and are here to support you.

By the time you are reading this, my daughter Nora will have turned two. We are officially out of the baby phase and in full-on toddler mode, with all the cuteness, curiosity and wide range of emotions that accompany that stage of development. Aside from the fact that we've been blessed with a great sleeper (she's been sleeping through the night since she was three months old), an adventurous eater (she's recently tried and loved Ethiopian food) and a pretty easy-going kid, Nora's very existence and entry into the world is on account of many prayers and the miracles of modern medicine.

Like roughly one in six couples in Canada, my husband Josh and I experienced infertility. The process of getting pregnant took much longer than we had anticipated, made even longer by a global pandemic that dragged out wait times for appointments, tests and procedures. Month after month, we were disappointed, eager to add a child to our family. When we found out that I was pregnant in the fall of 2021, we were elated. Just six weeks earlier on Rosh Hashanah, we had read the stories of Sarah and Hannah, our biblical foremothers who also struggled with infertility, and I couldn't help but feel a connection with them, knowing the emotional toll the struggle to get pregnant can betake. But, when the fertility clinic called to give us the good news, I felt relief and joy for this amazing blessing I was growing inside me.

I had a fairly unremarkable pregnancy until my 36-week appointment, when my elevated blood pressure was a

concern and my midwives said I needed to go to the hospital ASAP. The next 48 hours turned into quite an ordeal, with a rotating cast of doctors and nurses, a back-and-forth decision about being discharged versus delivering, several poorly-inserted IVs, a difficult induction and epidural, and ultimately, an emergency C-section resulting in having to be put under anesthesia and intubated, therefore missing the birth of my own child. When I emerged from anesthesia hours later, I was told the words I had been waiting to hear for nine months, "It's a girl!" But, in the haze of the anesthetic, all I could think was, "I had a baby?" It wasn't until later that night that I realized, despite all I had been through, how truly blessed I was to be holding my daughter in my arms.

The next afternoon, after sending Josh home to get some much-needed sleep, I called the nurse in to help me change the baby's diaper. When she came into the room, her face changed suddenly. "I don't like this baby's colouring," she said and immediately paged the NICU for a pulmonologist (scary) and a cardiologist (terrifying). They came running and quickly whisked Nora away. I was left alone, unable to get hold of my husband, terrified, thinking the worst. After an hour of worry and uncontrollable sobbing, a nurse brought me down to the NICU. Josh had made it back to the hospital by then and we were in shock that our seemingly healthy baby was now in an isollete, hooked up to lots of machines.

Over the next 24 hours, the medical team that determined, as a "late preterm" baby, Nora's lungs were slightly underdeveloped. As the attending physician, who was like the male Mary Poppins, complete with a British accent, said during rounds, "She just needed a little more time in the pool!"

After ten days and a transfer to a step-down neonatal unit at a different hospital, Nora was able to come home, just in time for Josh's birthday. As he blew out the candles on his cake, we both expressed our gratitude for the NICU teams at Sunnybrook and Michael Garron hospitals and counted our blessings for our now healthy, thriving new baby.

Judaism recognizes that the well-being of a community is determined by how we care for our children and their futures. Of this, Rabbi Yochanan tells the story of a man who planted a carob tree, a species known to bear fruit only after 70 years. When asked if he thought he would live long enough to eat from the tree, the man replied, "Just as my ancestors planted [a carob tree] for me, I too am planting for my descendants." (*Talmud Bavli, Ta'anit 23a*). This lesson could not be more in line with Beth Tzedec's mission to foster meaningful Jewish living for every age and stage, reflected in the programs and initiatives geared towards the youngest in our Congregation and their families, including:

On Sunday mornings, young learners are buzzing with excitement and enthusiasm in the **Beth Tzedec Congregational School**, learning about Shabbat and holidays, Hebrew, Israel (with our UJA *shinshinim* playing a major role in the learning), modern Jewish history, key Bible stories and Jewish values.

On Friday mornings, little ones up to 18 months, accompanied by a loving adult, join us for **Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun**, a 45-minute class filled with Shabbat songs, blessings and, of course, *challah*. **The class has become so popular that a second section had to be added in both the winter and spring terms!** Our immense gratitude to the Flatt Family for their generous support of this program and many

others like it in memory of Ab Flatt^{z"l}.

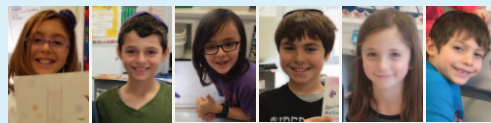
Our monthly **Family Shabbat Dinner**, which includes an abridged Kabbalat Shabbat service, delicious dinner and creative and insightful programming for kids and adults. **Typically drawing close to 300 people** (yes, you read that number right!), these dinners have become the hallmark of family programming at Beth Tzedec. With great thanks to the Gertner Family for their sponsorship of our Family Shabbat Dinners.

On Shavuot, we welcomed **Babies on the Bimah**, celebrating the most precious "first fruits" of the past year—all of the many babies born into our Beth Tzedec congregational family! All babies born between May 2023 and June 2024 and their families were invited to a festive Shavuot brunch, a special holiday Circle Time, and a baby procession, when they received a blessing on the *bimah* and a special gift. (I promise you that it is was so cute!) Grandparents of new babies—

it's ok if you need to remind your kids to sign up—sometimes children, even when fully grown, need a little nudge! We look forward to welcoming next year's **Babies on the Bimah** at Shavuot 2025!

At Beth Tzedec, we are blessed to see our children grow and thrive in a loving and inclusive Jewish community that is rooted solidly in tradition while also thinking towards the future and the ever-changing world. Like the carob tree, may what we plant today flourish for the next generation.

A huge thank you to my colleagues—especially Penina Hoffnung, Daniel Silverman, Yacov Fruchter, Sylvie Moscovitz, Shirel Barkan-Slater, and Hannah Wohl—and the entire Family Engagement Committee, led by co-chairs Sherri Storm and Naomi Kramer, for their incredible work and for showing me the ropes in my first year at Beth Tzedec. I am so blessed to work with such a great team!



Directed by an accomplished educational professional and staffed by well qualified teachers, the Beth Tzedec Congregational 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!



For more information or to register, contact Cantor Audrey Klein at cantoraudrey@beth-tzedec.org.



Introduction to Judaism



A PROJECT OF THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY ONTARIO REGION
POWERED BY BETH TZEDEC

The Rabbinical Assembly Ontario Region's Introduction to Judaism course offers a comprehensive exploration of Judaism, encompassing its rich traditions, rituals and theological underpinnings. Through a combination of readings, discussion-based learning, cohort experiences and Hebrew language workshops, students will delve into the multifaceted aspects of Jewish life and thought in preparation for conversion.

FALL SEMESTER

Tuesdays, September 1 to June 17
from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

(at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda,
100 Elder St., Toronto)

WINTER SEMESTER

Thursdays, January 9 to September 18
from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

(at Beth Tzedec Congregation,
1700 Bathurst St., Toronto)

To register for the sessions
beginning in fall 2024, visit:
<https://bit.ly/intro-to-judaism-fall-2024>.

To register for the sessions
beginning in winter 2025, visit
<https://bit.ly/intro-to-judaism-winter-2025>.

For more information, contact **Rabbi Lara Rodin**, at 416-781-3514 ext 225 or
rabbilara@beth-tzedec.org.

Inspiring and enabling our community to live meaningful Jewish lives.

Join us today!



For information about membership, contact Klara at
416-781-3514, ext. 220 or **kromm@beth-tzedec.org**.



Aviva Chernick

Our Personal Torah

It is the receiving and interpreting of our own Torah, each of us individually, that completes the Torah itself, like a unique song sung by each being completing the same symphony.

At Shavuot, we recited the final *brakhah* for the counting of the *Omer*, arriving at the mountain to receive Torah once again.

Every year at that time, I return to a gorgeous teaching by Rabbi Kolonymous Kalmish Shapira, also known as the *Aish Kodhesh*. In 1940, he was the Rabbi of the Warsaw Ghetto and this is an excerpt of his commentary for *Parashah Ki Teitzei*, with translation by my colleague and teacher Rabbi James Jacobson Maisels from *Or Halev*.

As context, Rabbi Shapira has been unpacking what happens in a *brakhah*—a blessing. In a blessing we say, “*Baruch atah Adonai [...]*”. Blessed are You, God. With this “You”, we are calling God into relationship with us.

He writes:

By saying “you” to God, a person achieves a revelation of God, imminent. God speaks directly to them, teaching them Torah individually, directly and immediately. God says “you” to the individual in return. When this happens, each person can see and comprehend a part of the Torah that is uniquely theirs. This is because the Torah that God teaches someone individually and personally cannot be grasped by anyone else, while another person, in their turn, may comprehend what the first cannot.

I hear in this teaching that even though our ancestors stood together to receive Torah as a community, we each have our own Torah to receive, engage with and bring into the world. In this case, “our very own Torah” refers to the learning that is ours, the activation

of that in the world, the wisdom that is ours to share.

What do you think of this proposition? Can you imagine that you have your very own Torah to hear, to learn about, and to live out? Do you know what it is? It’s ok if you don’t; perhaps you could take some time to slow down, get quiet and listen. You’ll hear it, in time.

Just as we are integrating this awesome news that we each have our own message to hear, our own unique story to live out, the Rebbe goes on to teach that we are the only ones who can receive our Torah: nobody else can interpret it for us. It is up to us to do what is necessary to interpret this learning and bring it out into the world.

What happens if we call God into relationship, *Baruch ATAH Adonai*—Blessed are YOU—and then we don’t hang around to hear God’s response?

It is the receiving and interpreting of our own Torah, each of us individually, that completes the Torah itself, like a unique song sung by each being completing the same symphony.

Each time we take out the Torah, we are once again at Sinai, reflecting our ancestors and projecting forward to our descendants.

Each time we take out the Torah, we are reminded, once again, that it is our birthright, the communal learning and the individual one as well.

May all of us listen and hear what Torah is ours, and may we have the courage and creativity to live it well.



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



Jonathan Ain

As we welcome the warmth of summer, we're reminded of the spirit of unity and generosity that defines our community at Beth Tzedec.

Beth Tzedec 2024 Annual High Holy Day Appeal:

Strengthening Our Community through Challenging Times

Beth Tzedec stands as a beacon of strength and solidarity, empowering each of us to lead meaningful Jewish lives. As Canada's largest synagogue, with over 5,000 congregants, we continue to grow across our diverse membership groups.

This past year has been marked by unique challenges for us all. Since October 7, Jewish communities worldwide have faced unprecedented trials. Many within our Congregation maintain personal ties to those in Israel. At the same time, here at home, we are witnessing a troubling surge in anti-Israel and antisemitic elements.

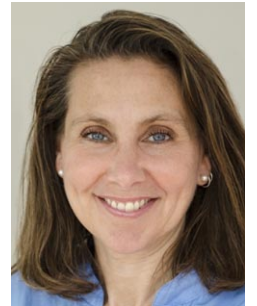
In response, Beth Tzedec remains steadfast in fortifying our community bonds and enhancing programs to support, empower and welcome our members. Even as uncertainty looms, we cultivate a sense of communal joy and resilience.

Now more than ever, your support for Beth Tzedec Congregation is crucial. In this spirit, we proudly launch the **2024 Annual High Holy Day Appeal**. Last year, with the contributions of so many of our congregants, we successfully raised \$550,000 for the Congregation.

This year, our ambitions are even greater, with an Annual Appeal goal of \$600,000. Once again, we ask our members to contribute above and beyond the membership amount to ensure our sustainability. Members who are able are encouraged to consider joining the *Tzedec Circle*, our special recognition program honoring gifts of \$1,800 or more to the Congregation. Yet, if this is not possible for you, please know that

gifts of all sizes are greatly valued and have a tremendous impact on our congregational life.

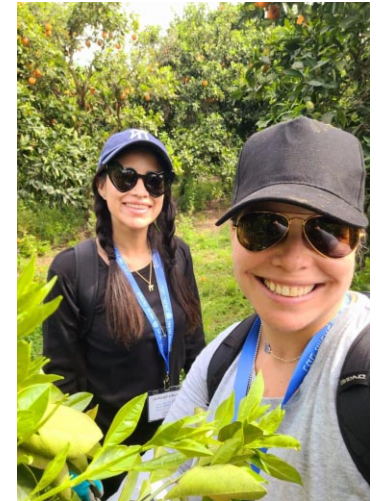
We are profoundly grateful for the generosity of **The Larry & Judy Tanenbaum Family Foundation**, once again matching funds up to \$150,000 for every dollar raised. We are also privileged to have the leadership of



Allan Kanee and Debbie Rothstein, serving as our 2024 Appeal Co-Chairs. With their guidance and your contributions, Beth Tzedec is poised for our most successful Annual Appeal ever.

Our commitment to serving congregants at every stage of life remains unwavering. We offer accessible programs, including virtual options, ensuring inclusivity for all. Our Spiritual Leadership Team provides vital pastoral counseling, supporting 45 individuals monthly through life's challenges, affirming our shared journey in community.

At the same time, Beth Tzedec continues to flourish as a growing congregation. Our Generations Membership program (GenMem), launched in 2022 for those aged 40 and under, thrives with enthusiastic participation. Monthly Shabbat dinners and special events like



“Unplugged with Alex Edelman” draw vibrant crowds, fostering community spirit among diverse age groups.

GenMems actively contribute to our philanthropic endeavors, embodying a commitment to give back. Over 50 percent of our “graduating” cohort of Generations Members chose to continue as paying congregants, underscoring a deepening connection to Beth Tzedec’s values. These promising trends illuminate a bright future for our community.

While our achievements are significant, they require sustained investment. Technology aids us, but genuine engagement thrives on personal interaction. To uphold our ambitious goals, we have bolstered our staff, reflecting our enduring dedication to core values.

Many congregants may not fully appreciate the composition of our synagogue’s finances, including the common misconception that membership contributions cover most of our budgetary needs. **In fact, membership contributions account for only 30% of our annual expenses.** The remainder comes from cemetery revenue, as well as income from rentals, program fees, and member philanthropy. As we look to the future, we understand that an even greater proportion of our revenue must come from the philanthropic. Fortunately, we are blessed with a congregation of generosity, as evidenced by enthusiastic participation in our fundraising initiatives, most notably the Annual High Holy Day Appeal.

With the welcome arrival of summer, we reflect on Beth Tzedec’s spirit of unity and generosity. Your participation in the **2024 Annual High Holy Day Appeal** promises unprecedented success.

As we embark on this journey together, I extend heartfelt gratitude to every member of our sacred congregation. May the season ahead bring joy and peace to all of us. With your strong support, let us continue our mission of inspiring and enabling our community to live meaningful Jewish lives.



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 to get a better idea which services require additional attendance to form a minyan.

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



Challah for Chesed

In mid-2020, Beth Tzedec launched the "Challah for Chesed" program where volunteers distribute *challah* to seniors in our community. If you would like information about this program, please contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.

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

12:30 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, through serious Euro-game players.



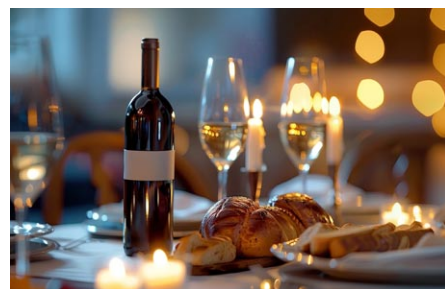
Thursday Games Afternoons

Thursday afternoons 12:30 to 3:30 PM

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

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

Cost: \$2, supporting our *chesed* initiatives.



Tzingles Summer Shabbat Dinners

Fridays, July 19 and August 23

Services 6:00 PM | Dinner 7:15 PM

BT's "Tzingles" are invited to join us for a catered Shabbat dinner where we will connect and share over a delicious dinner. A minimum of 20 registrations is required for these dinners to occur. Register as soon as possible and tell your friends. **Tzingles Connections is our Gen-X and Boomer singles group for those ages 55 to 74.**

Cost for dinner: \$48. Pre-registration is required by 11:00 am on the Monday preceding each dinner. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/tzingles-connections>.

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

Sunday to Thursday evenings,
except on Jewish holidays

7:00 PM

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.

Weekday and Shabbat Services Locations for July

During the month of July, our Sunday and weekday morning and evening Services will be held in the Hurwich Board Room. Friday evening and Shabbat morning services will be held in the Orenstein Mezzanine Hall. Our morning minyan breakfasts will be held in the Reuben & Helene Dennis Museum.



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 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>.



Summer Little Minyan Service

Saturday, July 27 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.



Mincha-Seudah Shlisheet-Ma'ariv

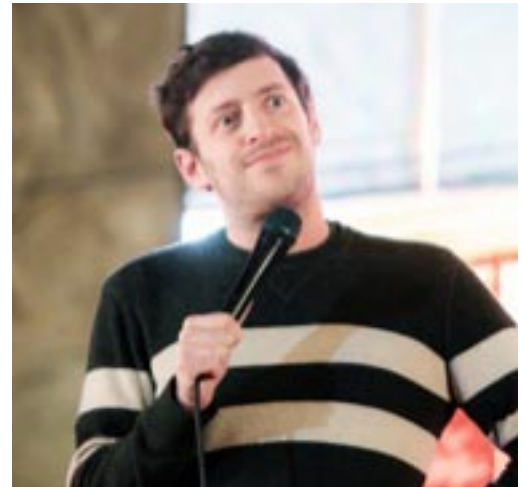
Every Saturday evening;
check website for times

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.



Canadian Women Against Antisemitism" Rally

On March 24, Rabbi Fryer Bodzin one was of the speakers at Toronto's "Canadian Women Against Antisemitism" rally held at Queens Park. This rally focused on the safety and security of women, with the large group gathering in support of women and speaking out against the threats and assaults faced by women.



All In and Unplugged with Alex Edelman

On Sunday, April 14, Beth Tzedec was proud to present “Unplugged with Alex Edelman”, a night of comedy, conversation and connection. Fresh from his sold-out US tour and an appearance at the Eglin Winter Garden Theatre, more than 1,000 guests gathered at Beth Tzedec to watch Edelman perform stand-up and share his experience of being Jewish in the public eye. The evening closed with a pub night especially for 20s and 30s.

Shavuot-Inspired Recipes for Summer



Michael Goodbaum

As someone with a background in professional cooking, baking, and chocolate making, Shavuot holds a special place in my heart. The holiday's modern celebration with cheesecake and ice cream puts it as one of my favourites out of the *chagim*, but it poses a challenge for those who are lactose intolerant, like my wife. We also have numerous vegans in our community, including our own Rabbi Fryer Bodzin! Without eating as many Lactaid pills as you do desserts or breaking vegan, is it still possible to enjoy the culinary side of the holiday? I've attempted to reconcile this dilemma over the years with pareve food that "doesn't taste pareve."

"Since maintaining a healthy and sound body is among the ways of God—for one cannot understand or have any knowledge of the Creator if one is ill—therefore you must avoid that which harms the body and accustom yourself to that which is healthful and helps the body become stronger." (Rambam, *Hilchot Deot* 4:1)

הואיל וְהִיּוֹת הַגּוֹף
בְּרִיא וְשֵׁלֶם מְדַרְכֵי הַשֵּׁם הוּא.
שֶׁהָרִי אֵי אֶפְשֶׁר שִׁיבִין אוּ יָדַע
דְּבַר מִיִּדְעַת הַבּוֹרָא וְהוּא חוֹלָה.
לְפִיכָר צָרִיךְ לְהִרְחִיק אֶדָם
עֲצָמוּ מְדַבְּרִים הַמְאֻבְּדִין אֶת
הַגּוֹף

Considering this, I present a delightful recipe for a non-dairy and gluten-free version of everyone's beloved chocolate treat—the chocolate truffle, along with my favourite

accompaniment, delicious pecan-filled nut-milk. If you've thought that making nut milk is difficult, think again. You'll be amazed at how much money you can save and how much better it tastes when you make it at home (without all the additives!).

Chocolate "Truffles"

What better way to support Israel than to use Israeli dates in this delicious treat. Tip: you can find Israeli dates in big boxes at the local "membership only" big box store.

Makes approximately five dozen truffles

Ingredients:

- 225 ml of *hazelnut paste
- 3 cups dates, pits removed
- 3/4 cup *cacao butter or coconut oil
- 3/4 cup cocoa powder plus 1/2 cup for rolling
- 1 TBSP vanilla extract or bakers extract

Tools: Blender

Prep Time: 4-5 hours

**Hazelnut paste can be purchased at the store, or you can lightly roast and then grind the hazelnuts yourself with your blender or powered grinder. If you cannot get hazelnut paste, substitute with almond butter.*

**Cacao butter, which is available at most large grocery stores and health-food stores, has a great flavour but coconut oil works very well as a substitute.*

Instructions:

Bring to a simmer 3 cups of water. Set aside as you pit the dates. Place the pitted dates in a glass bowl or container. Pour the still warm water over the dates and cover to let them soak for 1 hour. After one hour, strain the dates, reserving the soaking water.

Melt the cacao butter or coconut oil in the microwave or on the stove. Do not overheat, or it will burn. Allow it to cool slightly, then add the melted fat, pre-soaked dates, vanilla extract and cocoa powder to your blender. Begin to blend on the lowest setting and then increase to medium speed. Once the dates have been chopped up into small pieces by the blender, add the hazelnut paste. Blend again on low and then increase to medium speed. The mixture will look loose and won't have come together.

Be patient and keep blending until it becomes a smooth paste. You can add some of the water you soaked the dates in, one Tablespoon at a time to help it blend. Once it has finished blending and is totally smooth, transfer the mixture to a glass bowl and cool in the fridge until it has chilled and firmed up, approximately 3 to 4 hours or overnight. With the firm chocolate mixture you can now make your truffles!

Using a small scoop, a tablespoon, or any small spoon, scoop rough balls of the mixture that you will roll into the truffles. They don't



need to be perfect, actually if they are a bit irregular they look more like real truffles from the ground. Once all of the mixture is scooped and rolled, you can roll them in some cocoa powder to finish them. Keep them in the freezer until right before serving; they are softer than a dairy truffle. You'll want to enjoy them with a cup of coffee or nut milk. (Recipe below).

The Most Delicious Nut-milk

You'll be amazed how simple it is to make. Enjoy the best latté in town!

Makes approximately five dozen truffles

Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup pecans
- 1/4 cup almonds
- 1 tablespoon cashews
- 2 + 1/2 cups water

(That's it: no lecithin, salt, sugar, carrageenan, plant cellulose, guar gum or any of the other additives commonly found in storebought non-dairy milk)

Prep Time:
3 minutes

Instructions:

Add 2 cups of water and all of the nuts to the blender. If your blender has a setting for "smoothies", use it! If not, start your blender off on the lowest speed and then gradually increase until the highest speed. This recipe will work best with a high-powered blender, but because pecans are softer than almonds, you'll find that they blend up much better and you won't need to fiddle around with "nut milk bags". Run it at high speed for approximately one minute. Slowly pour out the nut milk through a fine

mesh strainer and into a jar for storage. Once the blender is empty, add the remaining half a cup of water and swish it around to get all of the delicious nut milk off the sides of the blender and then add this to the rest. If you choose not to strain the milk, a sediment will form on the bottom of the jar but it is still fine to drink.

Note: this recipe is designed so that it will not separate in the fridge. If you omit the cashews, it will be likely to separate but this is normal: just give it a shake before serving.

If you're someone who normally wouldn't prefer to have their coffee or tea with nut milk, you really need to try this one. It is just as creamy and delicious as it sounds!

Inspiring and enabling
our community to
live meaningful
Jewish lives.

Join us today!



For information about membership, contact Klara at
416-781-3514, ext. 220 or kromm@beth-tzedec.org.

The Guardian of our Tradition: Dorion Liebgott, Our Museum Curator

After three decades of dedicated service, Dorion Liebgott, our esteemed Museum Curator of the Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum, is bidding farewell as she transitions into a well-deserved retirement. Her departure marks the end of an era and the start of a new one.



Dorion at a recent Staff BBQ to mark her retirement.

Dorion has overseen not only the Reuben and Helen Dennis Museum, but also put on numerous exhibitions throughout Beth Tzedec as well as curating the various ongoing displays. As a landmark in the Jewish world, we have been happy to host major exhibitions on topics like the role of Jews in comic books, film and the garment industry. In between these large-scale projects, there were always numerous tours which Dorion led. From school field trips to delegations from other faith organizations, the Museum was

always buzzing with activity. At the heart of this interest was the renowned Cecil Roth Collection, preserving and showcasing Jewish artifacts, items and ephemera, captivating visitors and scholars alike.

Beth Tzedec as an Art and Educational Space

Dorion's tenure as Museum Curator has not only enriched Beth Tzedec but has also had a profound impact on the wider community. From the countless field trips who learned about important history, to the members of the art community who have been given a platform, to the tens of thousands of people who enjoyed rich cultural experiences, her efforts have helped cultivate Toronto's Jewish art culture and educate generations of Jews and non-Jews alike.

Transitioning the Cecil Roth Collection to the ROM

As the institution undergoes a significant transition, with the Cecil Roth Collection moving from its in-house museum to becoming part of the Royal Ontario Museum's (ROM) collection, Dorion's expertise has been instrumental in ensuring a seamless transfer. She has also overseen the transfer of numerous relics and documents of significance from Beth Tzedec's own archives to the Ontario Jewish Archives, where they will be expertly maintained in a controlled environment for generations to come. The last year has been a very busy time, ensuring that the history that Beth Tzedec has been the custodian of is shown the respect it deserves.

Impact on the Jewish Community

Dorion's tenure as Museum Curator has not only enriched Beth Tzedec but has also had a profound impact on the wider community. From the countless field trips who learned about important history, to the members of the art community who have been given a platform, to the tens of thousands of people who enjoyed rich cultural experiences, her efforts have helped cultivate Toronto's Jewish art culture and educate generations of Jews and non-Jews alike.

A Fond Farewell

As we bid farewell to Dorion, we are grateful for her excellent work, dedication both personal and professional, and for always "putting the art first".



Gella Rothstein (left) co-chair of the Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum and Dorion Liebgott, curator of the museum, at the Heymish and Hip event. (October 2017; Photo: Bernie Liebgott)



Shirel Barkan-Slater

My Family In Toronto

My name is Shirel Barkan-Slater. I worked at Beth Tzedec as the Director of Youth Engagement from 2017 to 2021. In 2021, my family went back to our Kibbutz, Ein Zurim, in the south of Israel. I went back to university and did my Masters in Brain Science and Communication. I worked with robotics for rehabilitation. I also volunteered as a Jewish youth mentor with JNF (working remotely with Canadians).

Going back to Israel, we were bombed several times in the years leading up to October 7. We already needed to leave our house before that date, because we did not have a safe room there or a nearby bunker.

On October 7, we were woken up by the sound of heavy bombs exploding at 6 in the morning. Before 7:00 AM, we made the decision that we needed to flee with our children, because we could hear explosions happening in nearby towns. The ground was shaking constantly. We could hear the noises from the iron dome intercepting countless missiles, their explosions rocking the whole area. We went to my mother-in-laws house, with the children still half asleep as we ran with them in our arms. One tragedy of living in Israel in this situation is that our children were so used to these sounds of explosions that they could sleep through them. Obviously, the trauma they experienced will affect them for the rest of their lives.

Our kibbutz was infiltrated by terrorists.

That horrible day, everyone who could fight was called up. My husband had to leave, along with everyone else in the IDF who would be responding to this crisis.

A friend (from my robotics lab) warned us that there were terrorists near my mother-in-law's home where we were staying. We didn't wait at all: in just five

minutes, we left. The situation was chaotic and unpredictable. We travelled to a kibbutz next to Mount Gilboa, in the North of Israel. When we arrived there, people were sharing suspicions that terrorists from the West Bank were also attempting to infiltrate. I was alone with our two children aged six and two, and I was pregnant. We were not about to take any risks, but we did not know where we could go that was safe.

A few days later, I received an email from the Government of Canada. It asked me if I would be interested in leaving Israel with my family, because I have a permanent resident status, and also my son Benny has full Canadian citizenship. They would fly us to safety in Europe first before transferring us to a flight to Canada. I thought that it made sense to go to Canada, for what I thought would be maybe a few weeks, less than a month. I had no idea of the scale of exactly what was happening yet: the situation in Israel was not at all clear. I only knew the true scale of the catastrophe when I came to Canada, watching the news about what was happening a half a world away.

Leaving Israel, I ran into Rav Baruch Frydman-Kohl, Beth Tzedec's Rabbi Emeritus, in Greece. Because I was in touch with my friends at Beth Tzedec—Klara Romm, Yacov Fruchter, Daniel Silverman and Rabbis Steve Wernick and Robyn Fryer Bodzin—they reached out to me when I was back in Canada to see if I was okay. A few weeks later, it became clear that my home in Israel was a war zone, and that I would need to stay longer. A job opportunity at Beth Tzedec was open, the Teen Engagement Associate, filling in for Sylvie who is on maternity leave. I happily agreed to take it, based off my previous experience with youth engagement.

I stayed at a friend's house. Her daughter was there with her two

I told the Beth Tzedec Board that working here again has been a healing process. After so much destruction, I was able to build something here. I will forever be grateful to Beth Tzedec for this time.

children from Tel-Aviv, and it was not an ideal situation. I was lucky to find short term accommodation next at the house of a Beth Tzedec member whose children were in Israel and who had decided she would travel to see them. When she was due to return to Canada, the Congregation was generous enough to offer us to stay in the house on Warwick Avenue, next to the shul. We spent three months there.

Robbins Hebrew Academy and First Foundations welcomed all the Israeli children who were displaced by the war to attend school. It was amazing to have this sense of normalcy and stability, in a completely unpredictable situation.

My husband Judah came to join us after several months. I was now nearing the end of my pregnancy and would have to stay put in Toronto to deliver the child. The last thing that I wanted was to give birth during the psychological strain of being under rocket fire in Israel. I am so grateful that Toronto was my home for this last half year, where I could ensure that the pregnancy was not compromised by stress. Thank God, we had a beautiful baby

on March 3. We named him Ami Yisrael, to honour the relationship between the Jews around the world. The positive thing that has come out of this experience is the resiliency of the Jewish people, in Israel and in the Diaspora. *Am Y'israel Chai.*

I told the Beth Tzedec Board that working here again has been a healing process. After so much destruction, I was able to build something here. I will forever be grateful to Beth Tzedec for this time.

We need to stay strong now. There is a lot of antisemitism. The nature of the Jewish people is to be together and to help each other. We have each other at the end of the day. We are strong now: we have an army, we have a country, we are not going to live in fear, and that means that everyone in the Diaspora needs to be strong and help as much as they can. The community were so generous and supportive: beyond housing, people were there for me all the time. Coming here was like returning to an extended family. Although we are not connected by blood, we are a family, a tribe, and it was a relief to feel that.

All the staff at Beth Tzedec, Robbins Hebrew Academy and First Foundations have been wonderful to me and my family.

Seeing the antisemitism in Toronto that has happened since October 7 has been painful. While I am forever grateful to the Canadian government, we cannot allow what is happening in our city to continue. Leaders need to know the pain that Israelis are feeling, witnessing the same kind of hateful symbols and messages that we have fled for our lives from. As long as terrorism is tolerated, there will never be a peaceful conclusion to what has happened. We are all human beings, and must never forget that, never allow dehumanization to occur.

I think it's one of the worst times for Jews in the world since the Holocaust. Hatred needs to stop. It begins with the Jews; it never ends there.

My kids are already back on the Kibbutz. I will join them soon, but I will never forget my family in Toronto.

(Editors note: Shirel flew back with baby Ami to Israel on April 18.)

This year, when you
CELEBRATE • HONOUR • COMMEMORATE
 Choose 'Treasures of Beth Tzedec' Tribute Cards



Our 'Treasures of Beth Tzedec' series, by local photographer Darren Levant, beautifully captures signature architectural details, noteworthy art and precious artifacts—timeless treasures of our Congregation. The Tribute cards featuring general, lifestyle and holiday themes, with space to add your own personal message, are available as a set of 6, or as individual cards sent from the Synagogue office.

- Purchase a package of 6 cards for \$50, or \$10 for an individual card, and personalize and send them out yourself; or
- Call us to order cards at a cost of \$18 each and we'll inscribe and send them out for you.

All 'Tribute card' contributions are fully tax receiptable. For information or to purchase, contact the Synagogue Office at 416-781-3511 or info@beth-tzedec.org.



Maureen Tanz

The Chesed Report

Games Afternoon

“Thursday Games Afternoon” is in full swing and the number of players who are coming to enjoy either Canasta or Mahjong games is steadily increasing. It is so wonderful to see so many of our seasoned players again and to welcome new players who are enjoying a social afternoon. We run Thursday afternoon from 12:30 until 4:00 PM and ask for a contribution of \$2 per week.

Please feel free to join us on any Thursday, whether you come on your own or with a set group of players.

For anyone interested in either Mahjong or Canasta lessons, Judi Rosen has been teaching for several years, and is an expert in both games. Please contact Avital in the Synagogue Office at info@beth-tzedec.org or phone 416-781-3511 to leave your phone number. Judi will contact you directly with all of the details.

If anyone has a spare Mahj set that they would like to donate to the Synagogue, it would be most welcome. We always

like to keep a couple of extra sets on hand just in case they are needed.

Out of the Cold

Although our season is over, it is never too early for us to start accumulating **adult-sized only** winter goods including warm clothing, boots, running shoes, small suitcases or duffle bags for next season. In case anyone has anything to donate to our shelter, please give Avital your contact information and I will call or email you.

Chesed Fund Tribute Cards

Chesed tribute cards are available for purchase through the Synagogue office for all of your family occasions, whether to honour or memorialize someone special. Please consider supporting our program by having the funds directed to the Out of the Cold.

Have a wonderful, warm and safe summer!

—Maureen Tanz,
Beth Tzedec Chesed Committee

Canasta and Mahjong Lessons

Are you interested in learning to play Canasta or Mahj? We are offering a new series of lessons in the coming months. For fee information or to register, please contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or info@beth-tzedec.org.



Men's Club Makes a Difference



Men's Club Scholarship Recipients

The Men's Club is pleased to announce this year's winners of our scholarships for higher Jewish education. We have a large group of young people who we believe are very deserving of this award and will in the future bring much benefit to the Jewish community.

Congratulation to the 2024 recipients.:

Sean Remz is acquiring his Ph.D. in Canadian Jewish studies at McGill University. He plans to teach Jewish studies at the university level upon completion of his program.

Samantha Eisen is studying at Brandeis University in a dual program combining an MBA and MA in Jewish professional leadership. She plans to find a position in a Jewish organization where she can assist young people grow as leaders and shape their identities.

Meira Cohen attends Bnos Sarah seminary. She wishes to become a Jewish teacher to strengthen the education of the next generation of young people so that they stay strong to their Jewish values.

Chana Dahan will be studying in Israel. Her goal is to teach young high school children Judaics.

Gilad Cohen will be studying in Israel at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies. She currently has a master's religion from the University of Oxford and intends to obtain a doctoral degree in Jewish history. Her goal is to become both a rabbi and scholar.

Abby Rosenthal attends Wilfred Laurier University where she is studying psychology and sociology. Her goal is to work with young children at Jewish Family and Child Services.

Lara Rodin is completing her Rabbinical Studies program at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS).

Sarah Levinsohn is studying psychology at Wilfred Laurier University. She has always taken an interest in working with children and is looking for a career at Kayla's Children Centre. She would like to support kids with different development needs in the Jewish community.

Aidon Knafo will be studying Jewish Studies and teach in Israel with the goal of returning to her community as a teacher.

Marl Werner will be attending Yeshiva University's School of Social Work to complete a Masters of Social Work. His career goal is to become a social worker assisting young people in reaching their full potential.

David Cohen will be studying at Yeshivat Lev HaTorah with the goal of becoming a Jewish Studies teacher in the community.

Gil Filar will be studying at Concordia University to achieve an Honours English and Creative Writing degree. His goal is to gain employment in Holocaust research and commemoration and he also plans to write a novel about those murdered in the Shoah. He is the winner of the Orenstein Award for the Arts.

Blue Jays Baseball Night

The Men's Club has organized their annual Blue Jays Baseball Night for our Beth Tzedec community on Tuesday, August 20, when the Jays host the Cincinnati Reds. Tickets sold out in under two weeks!



Tzingles Summer Shabbat Dinners

Fridays, July 19 and August 23
Services 6:00 PM | Dinner 7:15 PM

BT's "Tzingles" are invited to join us for a catered Shabbat dinner where we will connect and share over a delicious dinner. A minimum of 20 registrations is required for these dinners to occur. Register as soon as possible and tell your friends. **Tzingles Connections is our Gen-X and Boomer singles group for those ages 55 to 74.**

Cost for dinner: \$48. Pre-registration is required by 11:00 am on the Monday preceding each dinner. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/tzingles-connections>.



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.

Arts and Culture Fund

Jay Silver and Dia MacBeth, acknowledging **Hersh and Jane Sobel** in memory of **Rose Sobel**.

Deborah Staiman, honouring the memory of **Avinoam Chernick** on the conclusion of *Kaddish*.

Dot Whitehouse honouring **Aviva Chernick** on the conclusion of *Kaddish* for **Avinoam Chernick**.

Camp Ramah Fund

Phyllis Flatt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Wolfe**.

Cantor Sidney Ezer Discretionary Fund

Robert Milne, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Phyllis Nemers, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fay Pearl Samuels Nemers**.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Nancy Golden** for her wisdom and on her special birthday.

Chesed Fund

Rosalee Berlin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Belle Green Wax**.

Albert and Elaine Cheskes, acknowledging **Susan Phillips** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Rochelle Citron, acknowledging **Carla Worb** in memory of **Dina Frankel**.

Perry and Shirley Cooper, acknowledging the **Lesk Family** in memory of **David Lesk**.

Phyllis Flatt, acknowledging the **Phillips Family** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Shep and Lorraine Gangbar, acknowledging **Bonnie Birken** in memory of **Anne Greenspoon**.

Shep and Lorraine Gangbar, acknowledging **Morty Goldhar and family** in memory of **Rosemary Goldhar**.

Judy and Mark Libman, acknowledging the **Phillips Family** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Eric Sobel**.

William Prusin, acknowledging **Susan Phillips** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging the **Phillips Family** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Sara Wunch Glick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Tempo**.

Joseph and Elaine Steiner, honouring **Eric Sobel**.

Miriam Weinstein, Hannah, Teddy and Dani Wohl and Yossi Adler, honouring the memory of **Michael Wohl**.

Daily Minyan Breakfast Fund

The Abrams Family, honouring the memory of **Lyle Cappe**.

The Abrams Family, marking the conclusion of shiva for **Lyle Cappe**.

The Abrams Family, marking the conclusion of shloshim for **Lyle Cappe**.

Bernard and Sasha Abrams, commemorating the first yahrtzeit of **Tona Abrams**.

Rosalee Berlin and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Seymour Solomon Berlin**.

Nancy and Bruce Elman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Eva Elman**.

Edward Elkin, honouring the memory of **Gertrude Elkin**.

David Gale and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Brenda Gale**.

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

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

The Golden Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Sidney Golden**.

The Golden Family, marking the conclusion of *Kaddish* for **Dr. Sidney Golden**.

The Goodman and Heller Families, honouring the birth of **Georgina Moss Goodman**.

Marc Goodman, acknowledging **Kara Mostov Kruger** in memory of **Alec Mostov**.

Nava, Amit and Difat Jakubovicz and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Iran Esther Jakubovicz**.

Norm Jesin and Neuberger family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Isaac Jesin**.

Jackie and Norman Kahn, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Allan Simon**.

Jackie and Norman Kahn, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Vera Waldman**.

David Promislow and family, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Barry Promislow**.

The Resnick, Berg and Trister families, honouring **Myles Resnick and Rachel Trister** on their *auf ruf*.

Caren Ruby and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gerry Ruby**.

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

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

Toby Saltzman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Kenneth Saltzman Q.C.**

Brian Segal and Roslyn Levine, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Muriel Segal**.

David and Elana Seligman and Gaynor and Ivor Levin, honouring **Nicky Seligman and Marc Levin** on their marriage.

Harold Shapiro and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rona Phyllis Shapiro**.

Alan Sless, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Maureen Sless**.

Ricky Goldenberg and Eric Sobel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Phil Hornick**.

Deborah Staiman, acknowledging **David Promislow and Corinne Promislow** in memory of **Barry Promislow**.

Carole and Bernie Starkman and Lawrie and Ruthann Lubin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ettie Lubin**.

The Teichman Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit **Dr. Bernard Teichman**.

David and Bonnie Wagman and Karen and Sid Dichter, honouring **Madison Wagman and Myles Dichter** on their *auf ruf*.

Naomi and Leon Wagschal, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Maurice Wagschal**.

Phyllis Adler and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Eli Adler**.

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

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

Emergency Security Fund

Elaine and Mark Atlin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Myrtle Wise**.

Liddy Beck and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Tom Beck**.

Cheryl and Jeffrey Berliner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Hertz**.

Cheryl and Jeffrey Berliner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sy Berliner**.

Esther Bernstein and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Abraham Bernstein**.

Glenda Bocknek, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harold Bocknek**.

Bella and Leonard Brody, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Betty Brody**.

Bella and Leonard Brody, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Chana Jacobs**.

Orah Buck, acknowledging **David Glicksman** and family in memory of **Ruth Glicksman**.

Orah Buck, acknowledging **Serena Dassen and family** in memory of **Lilly Lerman**.

Richard Cosman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Maida Cosman**.

Jeffrey Cummings and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sylvia Cummings**.

Janet and Edwin Durbin and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Annette Ethel Devon**.

Ron and Dianne Ennis, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Barbara Ennis**.

Kathy, Brian and Bobby Feldman, acknowledging **Ruth Axler** in memory of **Joseph Axler**.

Anne Clavir and Martin Frank and Barry Clavir and Gail Chernin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Etta Clavir**.

Elaine Goldbach and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Molly Willer**.

Diane Grafstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ida Slavin**.

Diane Grafstein and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Murray Grafstein**.

Nate Greenberg, acknowledging **Dr. Marvin Klotz and family** in memory of **Susan Klotz**.

Nate Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Annie Greenberg**.

Nate Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jacob Greenberg**.

Nate Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Greenberg**.

David and Lucille Griff, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Grace Weiss**.

David and Lucille Griff, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Levine**.

The Hurwitz Family, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

The Hurwitz Family, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

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

Rivi Joel, honouring **Meera Ezer** on the 40th anniversary of her bat mitzvah.

Rayna Jolley, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on her birthday.

Helen, John, Sharon, Stella, and Esther Singer and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sylvia Singer**.

David Hager and Marsha Kazman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Hager**.

Joy and David Kohn, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Betty Kohn**.

Joy and David Kohn, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Kohn**.

Jerry and Esther Kravice, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Kravice**.

Jerry and Esther Kravice, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Kravice**.

Steven Levitan and Barbara Cole, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Chonon Levitan**.

Cheryl Herman and Rami Mozes and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Alfred Herman**.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Debbie Shecter** on her special birthday.

Millie Pollock, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Tobenstein**.

Ian and Janet Roher, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dorothy Roher**.

Ian and Janet Roher, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Howard Roher**.

Ellen and Allen Rosenbluth, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Kachuck**.

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

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

Jeanne and Irving Salit, honouring **Judy Shiff** on her 90th birthday.

David and Elana Seligman, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Arnold and Barbara Shell, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Kayla Shell**.

Alan Sless, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Sless**.

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

Linda Soudack and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Cherry**.

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

Jack and Jill, Daniel and Cynthia Spitz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Eric Spitz**.

Jill and Jack, Daniel and Cynthia Spitz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Larry Sprackman**.

Deborah Staiman, honouring **Arnold De Lacruz**.

Louise Starkman, acknowledging **Susan Phillips and family** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Shoshanah Steel, honouring **Klara Romm**.

Blake Teichman and Sharon Yale, honouring **Stephen Kauffman**.

Dorothy Tassis and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Yadja Yetta Wajgensberg**.

The family of the late **Marvin Turk**, commemorating his yahrtzeit.

An anonymous contribution, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rabbi Lerner**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring the **Beth Tzedec staff** who work so diligently to ensure the safety of all.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring her **Shul Sisters** and wishing them all a Pesach of peace, meaning and love.

Daniel Wilchesky and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Evelyn Wilchesky**.

Lisa and Howard Winston and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Cary Krem**.

Family Shabbat Dinner Fund

Rabbi Julia Appel and Aaron Wenner, honouring the **Beth Tzedec community** and the wonderful work the staff does to welcome families.

Caroline Bokar Gordon and Errol Gordon, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bob Bokar**.

Food Insecurity Fund

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Nancy Ezer and family** and wishing them a Pesach of peace, heart and joy.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **the staff and Spiritual Leadership Team** and wishing them a wonderful and peaceful Pesach.

Sharon and Norman Bacal, honouring **Shoshanah Steel** on the 20th anniversary of the bar mitzvah of **Dr. Morrison Steel**.

Betty and Eliot Goldwarg, honouring **Dr. Tali Waksman and Dr. Evan Propst** on their daughter **Emma Propst's** bat mitzvah.

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

Jeremy Paltiel, honouring **Freda Paltiel**.

Amy Phillips and Paul Sheldon, acknowledging the memory of **Murray Phillips**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring her **Shul Sisters, honorary Shul Sisters and the Wonderwomen** and wishing them all a Pesach of peace, meaning and love.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Sara Zimmerman and family** and wishing them a Pesach of peace, meaning and the joy of making new memories.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Yvette Lerner and family** and wishing them a healthy, loving, and meaningful Pesach.

General Fund

An anonymous contribution, honouring the **Beth Tzedec team** for being so welcoming and honouring **Penina, Abby, Orly, Hannah, Laila, Theo and everyone who makes the kids' programs so special**.

Carrie Habert, honouring **Paul Habert** on his birthday.

Jason Simon, honouring the **Israel Solidarity Mission**.

Robert Neil Sterin, honouring **Rachel Finer**.

Jeff Stober, honouring **David Bernard Stober**.

Howard (Hy) Cooper Trust Fund

Gayle and Morty Eisenberg, honouring **Jack Grossman**.

David and Carol Grossman, acknowledging **Todd Phillips** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

David, Carol, Ari, Marissa Grossman, Adam and Yonit Rapkowski, honouring **Hersh Rosenthal** on his birthday.

David, Carol, Ari, Marissa Grossman, Adam and Yonit Rapkowski, honouring **Jack Grossman** on his special birthday.

David and Carol Grossman and family, honouring **Cheryl Rosenthal** on her birthday.

Jack and Sandi Grossman, honouring **Cheryl Rosenthal** on her special birthday.

Jewish Family Living Fund

Brenda Orser, acknowledging the **Sobel Family** in memory of **Rose Sobel**.

Brenda Orser, acknowledging the **Annalee Wagman and family** in memory of **Evelyn Wolfe**.

Brenda Orser, acknowledging **Irving Matlow** in memory of **Esther Matlow**.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Meera Ezer and the Ezer Family** on the 40th anniversary of **Meera's** bat mitzvah.

Brenda Orser, honouring the **Wernick Family**.

Lisa and Howard Winston and family, honouring the the birth of their granddaughter **Sloan Avery**.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Harriet Lilker**.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Susanne Lilker**.

Brenda Orser, honouring **Bill Cass**.

Kaddish Fund

Murray Urowitz, commemorating the 30th yahrtzeit of **Sam Urowitz**.

Kosher Food Bank

Phyllis Fien, honouring **Terri Humphries**.

Robert Milne and family, acknowledging **Marcia, Robin and Adam** in memory of **Leon Donsky**.

Robert and Sean Milne, Alexander and Stephanie Levitt, honouring the memory of **Harold Milne**.

Little Minyan Fund

Bruce and Nancy Elman, acknowledging **Joe Milner and family** in memory of **Israel Milner**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging the **Balsky Family** in memory of **Hy Balsky**.

Out-of-the-Cold Fund

Rosalee Berlin, acknowledging the **Elkind and Siegel Families** in memory of **Marvin Elkind**.

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

Phyllis Flatt, honouring **Patti Rotman** on her birthday.

Shep and Lorraine Gangbar, acknowledging **Susan Phillips** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Cynthia and Morrie Glick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Reuben Moss**.

Martin Halpern and Karen Glass and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Anne Halpern**.

Peter Love, honouring **Allan Cheskes** for his wonderful musical evenings.

Gary and Patti Pollock, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sidney Philip Pollock**.

Gary and Patti Pollock and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ricky Pollock**.

Gary and Patti Pollock and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sidney Pollock**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **David Promislow and family** in memory of **Barry Promislow**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Dr. Jay Wunder** in memory of **Gloria Wunder**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Mindy Gelman and family** in memory of **Rick Gelman**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Susan Phillips and family** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Allan Weinstein and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Margaret Weinstein**.

Prayer Book Dedications: Chumash

Jerry Krieindler and Eve Lerner, honouring **Dot Whitehouse**.

Brenda Orser, honouring honouring **Eugene Bialys** on his 90th birthday.

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin Discretionary Fund

Ellen Babbin, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Allan Goldstein and Michelle Glied-Goldstein, Brandon Glied-Goldstein and Sydney Kerzner, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** for her efforts in making Brandon and Sydney's wedding beautiful and meaningful.

Adrienne Levinter, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on her birthday.

Judy and Mark Libman, honouring **Patti and Sheldon Rotman** for their hospitality.

Jeffrey, Susan, Taylor, Jamie and Brandon, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Rochelle and Peter Miller, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Izenberg**.

Susan, Michael, Todd, and Catherine Phillips, honouring **Rabbi Fryer Bodzin** for her care, compassion and support.

Millie Pollock, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on her birthday.

Paul and Gella Rothstein, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on her 50th birthday.

Sheila Rubinoff, acknowledging **Claire Baum** in memory of **Seymour Baum**.

Lisa Winston, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Harold and Carole Wolfe, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on her birthday.

Oscar Zimmerman and Anna Day, honouring **Rabbi Fryer Bodzin** on her 50th birthday.

Rabbi Steven Wernick Discretionary Fund

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

Jerry Krieindler and Eve Lerner, honouring **Rabbi Steve Wernick**.

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

Ruth Margles, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Maurice Kaplan**.

Robert Milne, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Lisa Ostrom, honouring **Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick**.

Susan, Michael, Todd, and Catherine Phillips, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick** for his care, compassion and support.

Susan and Barry^{z1} Phillips, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Arnold Phillips**.

Susan and Barry^{z1} Phillips, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Hamer**.

Susan and Barry^{z1} Phillips, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ethel Hamer**.

Deborah Staiman, wishing **Rabbi Steve and Jody Wernick** a happy Passover.

Bernice Stern and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Nuchum Shmiel Rotenstein**.

Lianne Trachtenberg and Paul Oykhman, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Arlene Grajcer and Harvey Worth, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Howard C. Nathan**.

Refugee Program

Edna Hussman, Ayal Lesh and Dori Hussmam-Lesh, honouring **Bari and Teddy Zittell** on the birth of their grandson **Declan Fred**.

The Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund

Michelle Collis and Alan Abrams, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Marjorie Collis**.

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

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

Diane and Ronnie Ennis, honouring **Rabbi Baruch and Josette Frydman-Kohl** and wishing them a happy Passover.

Nava, Amit and Difat Jakubovicz and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Abraham Jakubovicz**.

Rayna Jolley, honouring Martin and Judith Friedland.

Sherna and Gerry Posner, honouring **Nancy Golden** on her 80th birthday.

Victims of Terror Fund

Carole and Art Andrews, acknowledging the **Berg Family** in memory of **Max Berg**.

Carole and Art Andrews, honouring | **Mr. and Mrs. David Alper**.

Merilyn Bond, honouring the memory of **Moses Lazaros**.

Donald Carr and Judy Feld Carr, acknowledging **Moshe Rosen and family** in memory of **Hava Rosen**.

Donald Carr and Judy Feld Carr, acknowledging **Susan Phillips and family** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Donald Carr and Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Dr. Danny and Anya Schachter** on their new home.

Donald Carr and Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Paul and Gella Rothstein** for their dedication to Beth Tzedec and the Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum.

Judy Feld Carr, commemorating the 51st yahrtzeit of **Dr. Ronald Feld**.

Donald Carr and Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on her 50th birthday.

Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer** for singing the wonderful Syrian prayers on *Shabbat Zakhor*.

Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Dorion Liebgott** on her accomplishments with the Reuben & Helene Dennis Museum.

Denise Chriqui, honouring **Nancy Ezer and family** and wishing them a happy Passover.

Ron and Diane Ennis, acknowledging **Dr. Henry Shub and family** in memory of **Rhona Shub**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, acknowledging **Morty Goldhar and family** in memory of **Rosemary Goldhar**.

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Annie Greenberg**.

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jacob Greenberg**.

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Greenberg**.

Edna Hussman, Ayal Lesh and Dori Hussmam-Lesh, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Hussman**.

Esther Hussman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Hussman**.

Norman and Jackie Kahn, honouring **Jane Trachtenberg** on her special birthday.

Stephen G. Kelman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Molly Kelman**.

Malki Lazar and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Irving Lazar**.

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

Clifford and Brooke Miller, honouring **Minnie Givens** on her 100th birthday.

Brenda Orser, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bryan Orser**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging the **Chaikof Family** in memory of **Bayla Chaikof**.

Deborah Staiman, acknowledging **Todd Phillips** in memory of **Barry Phillips**.

Deborah Staiman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Edna Itkoff**.

Lynne Taradash, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Abraham Sossin**.

Lynne Taradash, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Faye Sossin**.

The Valo Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Thomas Valo**.

Clarice Warren, acknowledging **Sandi Seligman** in memory of her husband.

Lynda and Jerry White, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Florence Swartz**.

Helen Zarnett, honouring **Marilyn Siegel** on her birthday.

Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman, acknowledging **Saul and Sandra Plener and family** in memory of **Ellen Plener**.

Danny and Arlyn Zimmerman and family, honouring the memory of **Hava Eva Rosen**.

Website Development Fund

Rosalee Berlin, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Shoshanah Steel, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Young Professionals Fund

Deborah Staiman, honouring **Yacov Fruchter and Ryla Braemer** and wishing them a happy Passover.

Games Afternoons

Thursday afternoons

12:30 to 3:30 PM

Join us for a social afternoon of Mahjong, Bridge and Canasta. For beginners and seasoned veterans alike.

Mahjong and Canasta lessons will be available soon. To arrange for lessons, please contact the Synagogue Office at 416-781-3511 or email info@beth-tzedec.org.



Cost: \$2 donation supporting our *Chesed* initiatives.

Mahzor Lev Shalem

Several years ago, Beth Tzedec introduced *Mahzor Lev Shalem*, a completely updated prayer book for the High Holy Days.

You can inscribe a volume of *Mahzor Lev Shalem* in honour or in memory of a loved one, or to mark a special occasion. Each *mahzor* will bear a personalized bookplate in acknowledgement.

To inscribe a *mahzor*, contact the Synagogue Office at 416-781-3511



Condolences

The Congregation extends our heartfelt condolences to the families of the late:

Lea Algar-Moscoe	Peter Green
Helen Arbus	Marta Karlin
Karen Bleiweis	Dr Melvyn Kay
Steven Norman Burke	Alan Ronald Kelman
Morley Cadesky	Harvey Lewin
Lyle Cappe	Israel Milner
Dr. Gilberg Chapnick	Brian Pearl
Murray Collis	Barry Phillips
Malcolm Cosman	Barry Promislow
Barry Cutler	Ian Rattner
Kate Dorfman	Hava Eva Rosen
Martine Frank	Esther Shenassa
Eva Freiman	Ralph Shiff
Samuel Galperin	Alvin Stein
Alvin Golombek	Helen White

“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 *suddur* 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.

Yizkor Memorial Booklet

It is time to send information to include the names of your loved ones in the annual Yizkor Memorial Book used at Yizkor Services on Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, Pesach and Shavuot for the years 5784. The cost is \$18.00 per memorialized name per household. Submission deadline: **Friday, July 19.**

Yizkor Memorial Booklet Donation

Make cheques payable to: Beth Tzedec Congregation
1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M5P 3K3
Phone: 416-781-3514 ext. 212 Fax: 416-781-0150
E-mail Terri Humphries: thumphries@beth-tzedec.org

DEADLINE: PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM ON JULY 19, 2024.

Beth Tzedec — Yizkor Memorial Booklet Donation Form



Listed Donors:

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Tax receipt to:

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Street address:

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City:

Postal code:

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Phone:

Email:

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Total Donation* \$

Credit card: VISA MASTERCARD

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Credit card number:

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Signature:

Expiry date:

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***Note: \$18.00 minimum contribution per memorialized name.**

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In order to acknowledge your donation in memory of your loved ones, please **PRINT** their names very clearly, in **ENGLISH ONLY**.

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In Sacred and Loving Memory of:

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Beth Tzedec Generations Membership

Our no-fee membership for those under-40s.

For young adults, we know that your financial obligations can make synagogue membership challenging.

We've removed that barrier for you!

Join Beth Tzedec today.



For information about membership, contact Klara at 416-781-3514, ext. 220 or kromm@beth-tzedec.org.

