



Beth Tzedec
בית צדק
CONGREGATION

Bulletin

VOLUME 74, NO. 3 | ADAR 5785 • MARCH 2025 | WWW.BETH-TZEDEC.ORG



Celebrating 70 Years

Special Events

- 1 An Evening with Idan Amedi
MAY 20
See p. 2
- 2 A Proba Weekend with Cantor Chaim Stern
MARCH 27 to 30
See p. 9
- 3 Community Shabbat Dinner with Peace of Mind
APRIL 4
See p. 17

In This Issue



Passover Guide
See p. 41



Program Guide
Spring 2025
See pages. 26-37

AN EVENING WITH

Idan Amedi

Tuesday, May 20 at 7:30 PM

Beth Tzedec welcomes Idan Amedi, the renowned Israeli singer-songwriter, musician, composer, lyricist and actor. Idan joins us for a special evening where he will share his personal story and insights. Idan will also give a short acoustic performance during the program. Learn how he became a prominent voice of Israel, a hero and role model for so many.

Tickets on sale. Scan the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/evening-with-idan-amed>



Generously sponsored by

THE JACK AND LIBBY ORENSTEIN FUND,
70th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SPONSOR

THE JESIN NEUBERGER FAMILY, EVENT SPONSOR

THE AZRIELI FOUNDATION, GOLD SPONSOR



משרד העלייה והקליטה
Ministry of Aliyah and Integration





Rabbi Steven Wernick

Beth Tzedec has always been more than a synagogue; it is a community.

Beth Tzedec at 70: Honouring Our Past, Embracing Our Future

Seventy years ago, Beth Tzedec was founded on the pillars of faith, community and tradition. As we mark this milestone anniversary, we reflect on our journey and the core values that have shaped us: an unwavering commitment to Jewish life, an embrace of tradition balanced with innovation, and a dedication to inclusivity and lifelong learning. As we celebrate this momentous occasion, we also look ahead asking what the next 70 years will bring and how we can ensure Beth Tzedec continues to flourish for generations to come.

Honouring Our Legacy While Meeting Contemporary Needs

Beth Tzedec has long stood as a beacon of Conservative Judaism in Canada and beyond. Our commitment to *halakhah* (Jewish law), spiritual growth and community engagement has made us a home for thousands of families. As we navigate a changing world, we must continue to adapt—offering meaningful ritual experiences, diverse programming and educational opportunities that speak to the needs of today’s Jewish community.

A Thriving Community for All

Beth Tzedec has always been more than a synagogue; it is a community. Today, we are thriving in extraordinary ways. Our Generations membership has grown significantly, with our community under 40 years old now making up 47 percent of our

Congregation. In recent years, membership among those under 40 has tripled, creating a dynamic and engaged younger community.

This growth has fueled a radical expansion of programming, including family, young adult and children’s initiatives that draw hundreds—and sometimes thousands—of participants each month. The energy and enthusiasm from these programs have also inspired us to invest in more opportunities for our mature members. The “**To 120**” Club, designed for adults aged 75 to 120, and “**Tzingles Connections**”, for adults 55 to 74, are flourishing. We are actively developing new programming for adults in their 40s, 50s and 60s, ensuring that Beth Tzedec remains a home for all life stages.

Our commitment to engagement is evident: adult education is on the rise, prayer attendance is increasing, membership continues to grow and our marquee programs consistently fill the Sanctuary. This momentum underscores the vibrancy and strength of our community, demonstrating that Beth Tzedec is not only honouring its legacy but also evolving to meet the future with passion and purpose.

Deepening Spiritual and Educational Growth

Beth Tzedec is proud to be at the forefront of spiritual innovation with the establishment of our Centre for Spiritual Well-Being. This initiative is dedicated to providing holistic approaches to Jewish spirituality, offering meditation, mindfulness practices and personalized pastoral care alongside traditional prayer and study. Through this Centre, we empower our members to explore their Jewish identity in new and



BETH TZEDEC BULLETIN | Spring
VOL. 74, NO. 3 | ADAR 5785 • MARCH 2025

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

President Don Smith
president@beth-tzedec.org

Chair of the Board Brian Segal
chair@beth-tzedec.org

Rabbi Steven C. Wernick, Anne and Max
Tanenbaum Senior Rabbinic Chair
ext. 218, rebsteve@beth-tzedec.org

Executive Director Phil David
pdavid@beth-tzedec.org

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin
ext. 219, rabbirfb@beth-tzedec.org

Assistant Rabbi Lara Rodin
ext. 225, rabbilara@beth-tzedec.org

Cantor Sidney Ezer
ext. 296, cantorsid@beth-tzedec.org

Ritual Director Lorne Hanick
ext. 240, ghanick@beth-tzedec.org

**Director of Community Building &
Spiritual Engagement** Yacov Fruchter
ext. 279, yfruchter@beth-tzedec.org

Director of Education & Program Development
Daniel Silverman
ext. 231, dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org

Director of Family & Young Adult Engagement
Cantor Audrey Klein
ext. 223, cantoraudrey@beth-tzedec.org

Director, Beth Tzedec Centre for Spiritual Well-Being
Aviva Chernick
ext. 234, achernick@beth-tzedec.org

Director of Development Jonathan Ain
ext. 229, jain@beth-tzedec.org

Senior Marketing Manager Terri Humphries
ext. 212, thumphries@beth-tzedec.org

Marketing & Communications Manager
Michael Goodbaum
ext. 267, mgoodbaum@beth-tzedec.org

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

Family Engagement Specialist Penina Hoffnung
ext. 233, phoffnung@beth-tzedec.org

Executive Assistant to Rabbi Wernick
Nicole Leybman
ext. 227, nleybman@beth-tzedec.org

**Executive Assistant to Rabbi Fryer Bodzin
and Event Bookings** Karen Goldstein
ext. 213, kgoldstein@beth-tzedec.org

Receptionist Avital Narvey
416-781-3511, info@beth-tzedec.org

meaningful ways, ensuring that Beth Tzedec remains a place of deep spiritual connection for all.

Jewish learning is at the heart of Beth Tzedec's mission. From children learning their first Hebrew letters to adults engaging in advanced Torah study, we offer a lifetime of Jewish learning. As we move forward, we seek to expand our offerings—integrating digital resources, inviting world-renowned scholars and making Jewish learning more interactive and engaging for all ages.

Living Our Values Through Social Responsibility

Beth Tzedec has always been a congregation that takes *tikkun olam* seriously. Whether addressing antisemitism, advocating for environmental sustainability or supporting local charities, we recognize our responsibility to repair the world. Our synagogue must continue to be a leader in social justice, working with community partners and empowering members to take action on the issues that matter most.

Our commitment extends beyond the walls of our synagogue, as our members actively serve in leadership roles within UJA Federation, supporting its vital work in strengthening Jewish identity, aiding vulnerable populations and ensuring a thriving Jewish future. Through initiatives like the Annual Campaign, Holocaust education and social services, our community plays an integral role in shaping the broader Jewish landscape in Toronto and beyond.

Supporting Israel: A Covenant of Commitment

Beth Tzedec has always maintained an unbreakable bond with Israel, championing its security, prosperity and cultural vibrancy. Our synagogue stands firmly with Israel through advocacy, education and philanthropic efforts. We partner with organizations that support Israeli communities, provide humanitarian aid and foster connections between our members and the land of our ancestors. Whether through solidarity missions, youth trips or educational programming, we ensure that love for Israel remains central to our community's identity. In times of challenge and celebration alike, Beth Tzedec is unwavering in its commitment to *Medinat Yisrael*, the State of Israel.

As part of our support, we also recognize the importance of shared society initiatives that bring together Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel, fostering coexistence, mutual respect and collaboration. Through partnerships with organizations dedicated to building bridges between diverse communities within Israel, we affirm our belief in a just, democratic and inclusive Jewish state. Through dialogue and cooperation, we hope to contribute to a stronger, more unified Israel that reflects our highest Jewish values.

Kol Hakavod

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin will receive her Doctor of Divinity from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies on May 19.

Aviva Chernick is being promoted to become our first dedicated Director of the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being. For the past 20 years, alongside an active performing and touring career, Aviva has served in and around Toronto and as a guest in communities across North America, leading and teaching about the voice in prayer and about contemplative practice.

She completed her training as a Mindfulness Meditation Teacher with the Institute for Jewish Spirituality.

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin who previously filled this role at the Centre, among many other rabbinic roles, will take on the responsibility of curating a more thoughtful approach to our adult education offerings.

Lara Rodin will be ordained rabbi on May 22.

We will celebrate their accomplishments and Aviva's new role with an installation as part of our morning services on the First Day of Shavuot service, Monday, June 2.

Looking Ahead

What will Beth Tzedec look like in

the next ten, 20 or even 70 years? We envision a synagogue that remains a center for Jewish life—one that blends tradition with modernity, deepens engagement, fosters inclusivity and leads in community service. To achieve this vision, we have struck a committee of futurists to dream about the Beth Tzedec of the next 70 years. We will be inviting every member to be part of the conversation. Each member's voice, ideas and support will help shape our shared future.

As *Midrash Tanchuma, Parashat Noach* teaches: **"When a person builds, they build with mortal hands; but when the Holy One builds, the building stands forever."**

The work we do today to strengthen our synagogue is not just for ourselves, but for the generations that will follow. Beth Tzedec's future is being built with intention and an unwavering commitment to our shared Jewish values.

As we celebrate our 70th anniversary, let us honour the past while building an even brighter future together. Beth Tzedec is not just a synagogue—we are a community, a family and a legacy that we are all privileged to be part of.

Here's to the next 70 years of growth, connection and Jewish life.



70th Anniversary: A Vision of Our History

In the beginning... בראשית...

Beth Tzedec is pleased to announce the launch of our newest exhibit, a retrospective of our Congregation's history at 1700 Bathurst Street. The first installation, "Bereisheet" features images and exhibits from our first two decades.

For more information, contact the Synagogue Office at 416-781-3511.





Don Smith

I have found celebration and joy are the best way to combat difficult times. I invite you to join us for any of the dozens of activities beyond the regular religious services.



This Year Was Different

As I write this, it is still *Shevat* and towards the end of February. The snow is still piled high and the days are short but the seasons are about to change with Purim in *Adar*, and then Pesach.

I had originally planned to write about finances and governance at Beth Tzedec but changed my mind after some recent experiences. The finances are good and the governance is healthy so that can wait for another *Bulletin*.

These remarks are about *Adar* and about hope and joy. We are still in uncertain times, rife with antisemitism. As Jews, this is nothing new and we have developed ways to survive and to cope. Examples of this are increased synagogue attendance throughout North America, and in Toronto, increased enrollment in Hebrew day schools that Federation is currently managing.

When I wrote this, we were almost in *Adar*, a time of joy. It is a time when we can be grateful for what we have, for who we are and that we are able to be hopeful, even during times of difficulty. We have thousands of years, remaining positive during such times.

At Beth Tzedec, I am surprised by the multiple ways we still come together in groups to celebrate. On a recent Friday morning, I was in the building when Rabbi Wernick

invited me in to have a look at “Babies Blessings and Shabbat Fun” group. There were about 20 moms singing and babies “dancing” to welcome Shabbat. It was beautiful and joyous, and I think Reb Steve was having the most fun of all. Demand has grown, so there are now two groups each week!

Another Friday I was leaving the building after *Mincha* to go home to a family dinner. The building was jammed full of parents and children of all ages in the Kerzner Fellowship Hall and the Hendeles Chapel and they were still streaming in for the dinner. It was so heartening to hear and see the noise and hubbub. I looked in at Kabbalat Shabbat and the energy in the room was electric from the children and young adults worshipping and enjoying the evening.

These are only two of the many ways to connect and celebrate these days at Beth Tzedec, and I feel blessed to be part of it. I have found celebration and joy are the best way to combat difficult times. I invite you to join us for any of the dozens of activities beyond the regular religious services.

A final note: We are very blessed in the skill and dedication of the Spiritual Leadership Team and our staff. When you see any of them, please take a moment to thank them.

—Don

Annual Meeting



All members are encouraged to participate in our Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, May 27 at 7:30 PM**. Watch for information to be shared with members via email in the coming days and weeks.

It's All About the Branding



Phil David



Ted Zittell

Like our founders in 1955, and those who followed them through the generations until today, we must continue to find new ways to sustain ourselves and remain rooted, meaningful and relevant to our community, while we embrace bold and innovative change.

As part of Beth Tzedec's year-long 70th anniversary celebrations, our marketing team, including Terri Humphries and Michael Goodbaum, identified the need to update our master brand identity. There was only one person we sought to guide us, a long-time Beth Tzedec member and former Board Director—Teddy Zittell.

Teddy is a well-known branding, marketing and communications resource, leading design and consulting work for respected retailers and product brands in North America and around the world and supporting leading private equity and investment funds on consumer trend and innovation opportunities. Teddy served as a partner in the Watt Design Group, and as the President of Cott Corporation's Retail Brands Inc. More recently, he led California-based alternative drinks innovator Tinley Beverage as CEO, where he is now Chairman of the Board.

Recently, I sat down with Teddy for a Q&A to reflect on our 70 years, the vision supporting innovation and change, and the thought process behind the creation of refreshed brand identity.

Teddy, before we talk about our brand, perhaps you can share your thoughts on the importance and symbolism of Beth Tzedec's 70th anniversary in 2025.

The number 70 is richly significant for Jews; the letter 'ayin'—which also means the 'the eye!—represents 70. There are 70 divine names, 70 names of the Jewish nation, 70 names of Jerusalem, 70 judges in the *Sanhedrin*. Seventy can mark a life full of wisdom, and the promise of an engaging, vital future. It represents honour, achievement and potential; 70 signals achievement, leadership and the promise of new opportunity,

In 1955, Beth Tzedec's visionary founders looked to the future. They made the bold leap from downtown to

midtown, moving the newly combined Congregations Goel Tzedec and Beth Hamidrash Hagadol up Bathurst Street. They designed and built a new, modern home in the then barrens of Cedarvale, with an eye to the future.

Yes, we were pioneers then, and that spirit continues to inspire us now. We must continue the work of strategic innovation and make bold decisions, just as our founders did. The launch of our free under-40 Generations Membership program in 2022 is proof: Now, with over 1,000 member units under the age of 40, we are positioned for growth as we work to inspire and enable meaningful Jewish lives.

You were the engine behind the creation of our new brand identity. Tell us more about your inspiration.

To me, a brand equals a set of expectations to build, design and deliver through products, services and experiences. To be faithful to our brand, we must be selective, strategic and ruthlessly consistent in how we plan and deliver it.

So why did we make the change now? Now is the perfect time. We are celebrating our 70th anniversary with an uptick in programing and marketing reaching an ever-widening audience. We acknowledge our Congregation's milestone achievements, honour our founders and recognize this unique opportunity to refresh how we present what Beth Tzedec means to our community and to the world. No question, it's a challenging time for Jews. We should feel good about ourselves without becoming complacent; we also must accept the obligation to continue to be bold and innovative to remain meaningful and relevant—in new ways—for the future.

Referring to our logo, what do you think needs to change?

Let's take a closer look at the logo that we've used for the past 15 years.



The Hebrew name is dominant here, diminishing the scale and legibility of the English. English is, of course, more accessible—and perhaps relevant—to new generations of Jews and should merit at least equal prominence. Our old Hebrew typeface is heavy, complex and inelegant, and it diminishes the scale of the English. The menorah, as it is graphically represented, sticks up like a pitchfork. The menorah—a timeless symbol of Judaism—is a key equity element for our brand embedded into our DNA. Look at the north- and south-facing walls on Bathurst Street and you'll find menorahs integrated into the original brickwork, and you will find them on the doors and walls within our building.

We weren't looking to revolutionize the brand identity, but we felt it needed a demonstrable and modern evolutionary treatment, with the hierarchy of brand elements managed consistently and designed for the flexible adaptations of contemporary communications. Working with our talented graphic designer and former Beth Tzedec staff member Jason Pivovitsch, we came up with this design refresh—faithful to our past and flexible for our needs today and the future. We are thrilled to introduce it to the Beth Tzedec community.

In this new logo, the English "Beth Tzedec" is first and dominant in contrast. It is so much easier to read! The menorah is now embedded in a circle, creating a memorable and



flexible logo element integrated with the wordmark and no longer awkwardly sticking out.

How did we adapt the new identity to our 70th Anniversary logo?



Now that we have arrived at an updated master brand identity, we must be ruthlessly consistent every time we use it, including applying it in new contexts. Of course, this includes our 70th anniversary logo and all co-branded and special applications that may follow in the future. The graphic treatment for our 70th delivers the best practice continuity we aim for. Our brand is an asset, it is the summary statement of what we are, and we build equity when marking

programs and events and take credit for the things we do. The brand and its integrated adaptations must consistently make sense; they must never make a reader or a viewer or visitor feel like we are abruptly 'changing the channel'!

Where do we go from here?

Like our founders in 1955, and those who followed them through the generations until today, we must continue to find new ways to sustain ourselves and remain rooted, meaningful and relevant to our community, while we embrace bold and innovative change. At 70, we still have a huge amount to do: to talk to our members, to better understand how we can grow to anticipate and meet needs to serve them. Whether it's in the building at 1700 Bathurst, online or perhaps embedded and partnered in the community, we have an eye to a future where Beth Tzedec continues to inspire, to surprise and to amaze.

The Beth Tzedec Sensory Room



Friday evenings, April 25, May 23 and June 20
5:30 to 7:30 PM*

Saturday mornings, April 5, May 3 and June 7
10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON*



For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/bt-sensory-room> or scan the QR code

A Proba Weekend with Cantor Chaim Stern

Thursday, March 27 to Sunday, March 30

Beth Tzedec welcomes Cantor Chaim Stern, currently the Chief Cantor of the Great Synagogue in Munich, for a Proba weekend, auditioning for the Senior Cantor position, featuring an extended weekend of music, prayer and learning.

Join us for a Thursday evening community concert, a Kabbalat Shabbat service, a musical Shabbat morning service and a Saturday night Song Circle starting at Havdalah at 8:30 PM for 20s & 30s and parents of children 17 and younger. Cantor Stern will also be leading *Shacharit* and *Hallel* on *Rosh Chodesh* Sunday.

Pre-registration is requested for the Thursday evening concert and for the Saturday night Generations Members program. For more information and for registration links, visit <https://bit.ly/cantor-stern-weekend-hub>.



BT BOOK & FILM CLUB SPRING SESSIONS

Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 PM

The BT Book and Film Club features recently published works of Jewish interest. The authors, whose ideas are thought-provoking, stimulating and refreshing, will move and enrich you. Our reviewers inspire conversations, provide a cultural connection to Judaism, answer your questions, give unexpected points of view and enhance your understanding of the books and films featured.



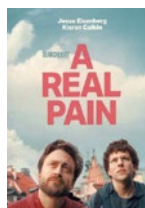
March 26

The Only Daughter
by A.B. Yehoshua

Led by Ruby Newman

(Sponsored by Four Elms Retirement Residence)

Sponsored by



May 7

A Real Pain
by Jess Eisenberg

Led by Gillian Helfield



May 28

Fervor
by Toby Lloyd

Led by Janna Nadler

Sponsored by



Cost: \$30 per session (includes lunch). Pre-registration is requested by the Monday preceding each session. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/book-and-film-club-2024>.

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 March 1 through May 31 is February 20.



Births

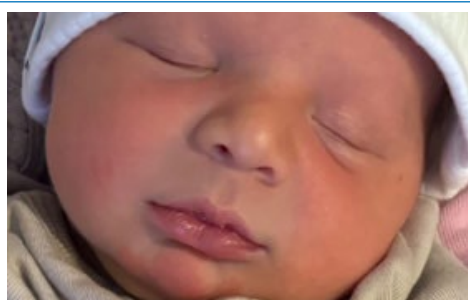
Raya, daughter of Samuel Levy & Vera Li, granddaughter of Robert & Patricia Levy and Jake & June Li, **born August 2.**

Sophie Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan & Rina Garbe, sister of Lauren, granddaughter of Ruth & Alby Garbe and Shirley & David Shainhouse, great-granddaughter of Irving Matlow, **born September 13.**

Sidney Phillip, son of Ilana Walters & Reuben Rothstein, grandson of Debra & Gary Walters and Ellie & Jack Rothstein, great-grandson of Barbra Walters, **born December 13.**

Cooper Brody, son of Brittany & Justin Hennick, baby brother of Spencer Noah, grandson of Reesa & Avrom Sud and Karrie & David Hennick, great-grandson of Yetta Hotz, Martha Sud and Shelia & Paul Roth, **born December 13.**

Violet, daughter of Ariel Mendlowitz & Justin Born, granddaughter of Sandra & Benny Mendlowitz and Teresa & Ken Born, great-granddaughter of Muriel & Arthur^{z"l} Schwartz and Zina^{z"l} & Abram^{z"l} Mendlowitz, **born December 29.**



Jayce Parker, son of Taylor & Noah Osher, grandson of Hilary & Brian Himel and Elaine & Benny Osher, great-grandson of Carole & Arthur Andrews, Pinina & Kopel Osher, Helen & Bernie Ceifets and Dorothy^{z"l} & Percy^{z"l} Himel, **born February 14.**

Rose Goldie, daughter of Sarah & Daniel Mandel, granddaughter of Ruth & Alby Garbe and Joyce and Harvey Mandel, great-granddaughter of Irving Matlow, **born January 27.**

Congratulations

Shirel Barkan Slater, who has returned to Beth Tzedec's staff as our Youth & Teen Engagement Specialist.

Aviva Chernick, who is the first dedicated Director of The Beth Tzedec Centre for Spiritual Well-Being.

David & Lucille Griff, who celebrated their 68th anniversary on December 25. David & Lucille were one of the first couples married at Beth Tzedec.

Asher Farber, who will be Beth Tzedec's High Holy Day choir director of the Lishmoa El Harina Choir.

Hannah Faust, daughter of Jared & Jessica Faust, who will celebrate her bat mitzvah on March 27.

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, who was awarded the King Charles III Coronation Medal.

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin, who will receive her Doctor of Divinity from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies on May 19.

Michael Ogas, who will celebrate his 90th birthday on April 20.

Lara Rodin, who will be ordained as a Rabbi on May 22.

Hannah Wohl, who has accepted the role of Coordinator, Next Gen, at the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. Hannah is currently Beth Tzedec's Interim Teen Engagement Associate.

Weddings

Dustin Ashley, son of Heni & Brad Ashley, grandson of Eve and the late Sidney^{z"l} Bergstein and the late Harold^{z"l} and Evelyn^{z"l} Ashley, and **Brodie Kirsh**, daughter of Faith Roebuck & Kenny Kirsh, granddaughter of Marvin & Natalie Roebuck, the late Mara Roebuck^{z"l} and the late Jack^{z"l} and Esther^{z"l} Kirsh, who will be married on March 16.

Carly Shiff, daughter of Elliott & Risa Shiff, granddaughter of Min Drevnig and Judy Shiff, and **Alex Barrett**, son of Brenda & the late Terry Barrett, grandson of Marina Barrett and Eugene Thebeau, who were married on November 30.

Many Thanks

Steven and Carol Charkow, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on December 14 honouring **Joshua Charkow & Lia Norrie** on their marriage.

Phyllis Flatt, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on **December 21** honouring the 20th anniversary of her bat mitzvah.

Howard Simmons & Joyce Nesker Simmons, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on December 21 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel J. Simmons.**

The Tratner and Bogach Families, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on December 21 honouring the birth of their daughter **Joey Ava.**

Sephi, Jeff, Zoey, Ellen and Ira, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on January 4 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Ephraim Band Q.C.**

Leo & Sheila Wynberg, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on February 1 honouring their 60th anniversary.

Robert & Patricia Levy, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on February 22 honouring the naming of their granddaughter **Raya Li Levy**.

The Teichman Brothers, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on March 1 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Bernard Teichman**.

Wayne Schmidt & Zavi Lerman-Schmidt, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on March 29 honouring their son **Thomas Schmidt** on his bar mitzvah.

Professor Bruce & Nancy Elman, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on March 8 honouring their granddaughter **Maya Elman** on her bat mitzvah.

Dr. Sandra & Benny Mendlowitz, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on March 8 celebrating the naming of their granddaughter **Violet Eleanor Born**.

Joe & Esti Heale, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on March 22 honouring their daughter **Molly Heale** on her bat mitzvah.

Illan & Naomi Kramer, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on March 22 honouring their son **Asher Erez Kramer** on his bar mitzvah.

Jared & Jessica Faust, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on March 29 honouring their daughter **Hannah Faust** on her bat mitzvah.

Benjamin Shinewald & Marice Hart, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on March 29 honouring their daughter **Talia Sharon Shinewald** on her bat mitzvah.

Mia & Adam Rapoport, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on April 5 honouring their son **Joseph Rapoport** on his bar mitzvah.

Rebecca Herman & Zachary Kerbel, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on May 10 honouring their daughter **Eden Kerbel** on her bat mitzvah.

Elisa & Jamie Fox, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on May 10 honouring their son **Myles Fox** on his bar mitzvah.



Reb Steve's Israel

Through the Back Door

Rabbi Steven Wernick will lead a trip to Israel for members who wish to connect with the pulse of the country and with different communities throughout. Learn, connect, share and experience with personal interactions, experiences and opportunities.

October 20 to 26, 2025

Let's Travel and Learn About Fascinating

Women in Israel Trip

Led by Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

August 7 - 14, 2025

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin leads a late-summer trip to Israel where participants will explore historical sites, visit local businesses, shops and restaurants, hear from community leaders and engage in volunteer opportunities. The "Women in Israel" trip is open to everyone.



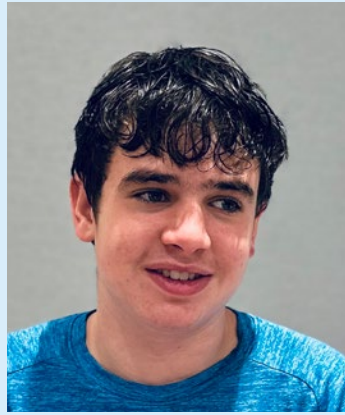
Presented as part of the 70th Anniversary Celebration Sponsor

Mazal Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah

WHO HAVE COMPLETED OUR BAR/BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM



March 8
Maya (Rosalie Ava) Elman
daughter of David
& Laura Elman
מיה ריבה צפורה בת דוד צבי
ושולמית



March 10
Eitan Gilboa Hermel
son of Dror Hermel &
Michal Gilboa-Hermel
איתן גלבוע בן דרור ומיכל



March 20
Asher Erez Kramer
son of Illan &
Naomi Kramer
אשר ארז בן יעקוב משה הלוי
נעמי



March 22
Molly Heale
daughter of Joe
& Esti Heale
רות בת יוסף ואסתר



March 30
Talia Sharon Shinewald
daughter of Benjamin
Shinewald & Marice Hart
טליה שרון בת בנימין ושושנה



April 5
Joseph Rapoport
son of Adam &
Mia Rapoport
יעקב בן ועליל לייב
ומאירה חדוה



May 8
Eden Kerbel
daughter of Zachary
Kerbel & Rebecca Herman
עדן מיכאל בת יודעל אפרים
ושיינדל צפורה



May 10
Myles Samuel Fox
son of Jamie &
Elisa Fox
שמואל בן בנימין מיכאל
חכה ועליזה אורנה

The Kaplan Family Fund

for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program

Beth Tzedec Congregation is pleased to be able to offer two financial assistance awards of \$450 each to qualifying students. These awards are made possible thanks to the Kaplan Family in memory of Charles and Pearl Kaplan and Robert and Estherelke Kaplan. Applications will be confidentially reviewed and decisions will be made based on financial need. Questions regarding confidentiality may be discussed with Phil David, Executive Director, prior to submission.

To access the application form, visit <https://bit.ly/kaplan-bbm-assist-award>.

To read Michael Kaplan's message about the his family's connection to Beth Tzedec and the Kaplan Family Fund, visit <https://bit.ly/kaplan-family-fund>





Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

In this time when so many of us are seeking something, I encourage you to look inward to the wisdom of our people.

Turn It. It's All There.

One of the reasons I love being a part of the Spiritual Leadership Team and a rabbi at Beth Tzedec is that learning and teaching Torah is not relegated to after-hours. I love learning Torah, uncovering and discovering ancient wisdom relevant today. It is a sacred task I am blessed to be able to do.

Every day I schedule preparation time for teaching. Sometimes I put together a source sheet for Little Minyan Learning, which takes place from 9:00 to 9:30 AM before the Little Minyan meets on Shabbat mornings. Other times I continue to design the curriculum for Torah Through the Ages which meets on Thursday mornings. At some point on Wednesdays, I'll review the Italian commentator Sforno, to find an interesting thought to share between *Mincha* and *Ma'ariv*. Sometimes I search through books to find just the right text to share under the *chuppah*, at a *b'nei mitzvah* or for any other special occasions that arise in a community as diverse as ours. And of course, on weeks that I deliver sermons, many hours are devoted to reviewing and finding just the right sources.

One of my favourite Torah learning activities is when I meet with a *b'nei mitzvah* candidate and we work together on their *d'var Torah*. Before we even read their *parashah*, I always introduce a five-part framework that most of them follow.

1. In this week's *parashah* we read...
2. My question is...
3. X (an ancient or modern commentator) suggests...
4. But I think...
5. And so, we learn/my blessing for you is...

When we review the *parashah* together, I usually take on the role of the reader and I encourage the

b'nei mitzvah candidate to stop me whenever they have a question. They then write down their question. Sometimes there are lots of questions and sometimes very few come up. In either scenario, this framework is successful because everyone is keener on finding answers to questions that we ourselves ask.

I often help with Step 3, although sometimes parents with strong text backgrounds help with that as well. Now and then, I get stumped by an awesome question and ask around to colleagues. I ask with pride, saying something like, "This *bat mitzvah* asked the most amazing question. Where would you look?" Even if it takes me a while to find an answer, it is rewarding when a good question is asked.

Step 4 is critical. By sharing their opinion, the 12- or 13-year-old becomes part of the thousands-year-old conversation that our people have been having about a verse or a concept in our Torah. Hopefully, they understand that their opinion or understanding is just as valid as Rashi, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks or any contemporary Torah scholar today.

Anyone can deliver a *d'var Torah*, not just members of the Spiritual Leadership Team or *b'nei mitzvah*. Please reach out if this process sounds exciting to you. I would love to sit together, study our sacred texts and then see where you go with it. I invite you to consider delivering a *d'var Torah* at one of the Seders you attend, or any Shabbat dinner. If you want to teach between *Mincha* and *Ma'ariv* in a week when you have a *yahrtzeit* or a happy occasion, we will slot you in.

In this time when so many of us are seeking something, I encourage you to look inward to the wisdom of our people. As Rabbi Ben Bag-Bag says in *Pirkei Avot*: turn it and turn it, it's all there.



Cantor Sidney Ezer

Our British and South African Cantors are proficient in both Eastern and Western European Nusach, and though they all primarily davened in the Eastern European style during their time at Beth Tzedec, they did incorporate some Western European melodies from their upbringing as well.

Embracing Our Other Ashkenazi Side

When examining our synagogue demographics, we know that most Beth Tzedec members are of an Ashkenazi background. However, the term “Ashkenazi” on its own can be misleading. People often generalize loosely when employing words like “Ashkenazi” and “Sephardi.” One must distinguish between the Ashkenazi Jews of Western Europe and those of Eastern Europe. Most Beth Tzedec members fall into the latter category with backgrounds from Central and Eastern Europe. This is true of most North American congregations due to the large diaspora of Polish and Eastern European Jews who left Europe for the Americas, Israel, and elsewhere.

The two Ashkenazi musical liturgical traditions also vary quite differently. Nusach Ashkenaz may be subdivided into two distinct branches. First is the German or Western branch—*Minhag Ashkenaz*—used in Western and Central Europe. *Minhag Ashkenaz* was common in Germany, Austria, the Czech lands, and elsewhere in Western Europe. The second is the Polish/Lithuanian or Eastern branch—*Minhag Polin*—used in Central and Eastern Europe. *Minhag Polin* has historically been the most common liturgical tradition among Ashkenazim in Poland, eastern Germany, the Czech lands, Slovakia, Austria, Hungary, Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania and Russia. Strictly speaking, in Central Europe, Jews to the west of the Elbe River generally used *Minhag Ashkenaz*: those to the east (including German cities such as Berlin and Hamburg) used *Minhag Polin*. However, the divisions were not always clear-cut. There was an overlap between the two traditions. To complicate the issue, even *Minhag Polin* congregations favoured some

features of *Minhag Ashkenaz* such as Hebrew pronunciation and musical modes, preferring major to minor keys.

The Friday night service for Shabbat is a prime example illustrating such a difference between the two traditions. In Western Europe, the major/*Adonai Malakh* mode was the common musical vehicle on Friday evening whereas the Eastern European tradition used a minor tonality. Most Ashkenazi congregations in North America today use a minor tonality on Friday evening for *Ma'ariv*. This is because most of the cantors occupying clergy positions in North American synagogues during the early 20th century came from Lithuania where minor rather than major was the mode used on Friday evening.

Like most North American congregations, Beth Tzedec has also primarily followed the Eastern European musical tradition. However, because of its eclectic cantorial heritage, our shul has also preserved aspects of the Western European style. The early cantors of the newly amalgamated Beth Tzedec in 1955 were Eastern European.

In our more recent history, though, our cantors have roots in England and South Africa.

Both *Minhag Ashkenaz* (the German rite) and *Minhag Polin* (the Polish rite) have influenced the Jewish musical tradition in England, which became known as *Minhag Anglia*. *Minhag Polin* was brought to Britain by 18th century migrants, especially from Hamburg in north-east Germany. Nevertheless, British nusach, as well as that in South Africa, predominantly follows German or Western European nusach. At the heart of this repertoire is the publication of

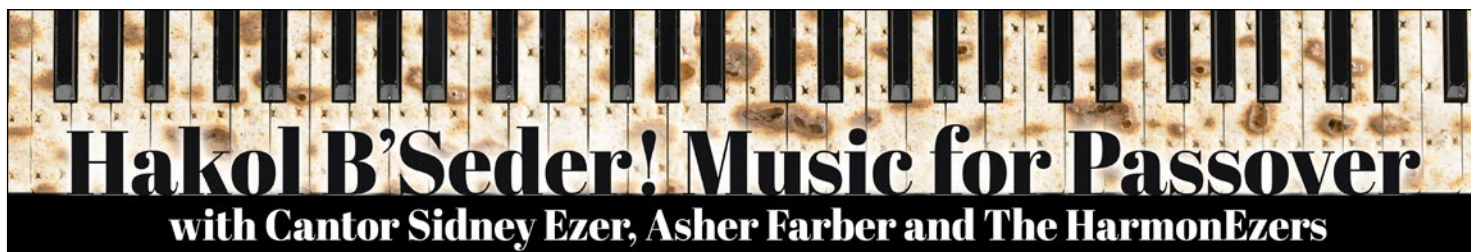
The Voice of Prayer and Praise in 1899. Universally known as the “Blue Book,” it is an anthology of choral and congregational music that was intended not only for choirs but also for the average worshipper whom the editors assumed was able to read music and therefore sing along in four-part harmony. The volume also exemplifies the interrelationship between the *Ashkenazi* and Spanish Portuguese repertoires. Situated on the same block in London’s east end, the Great Synagogue (*Ashkenazi*) adopted many of the melodies from the Bevis Marks Synagogue (Spanish Portuguese). Similarly in Germany, prominent cantors like Avraham Baer incorporated melodies from the Spanish Portuguese Congregation in Hamburg, with that Sephardic community dating back to 1590. A prominent melody from the Spanish Portuguese tradition that we regularly

sing at Beth Tzedec and many other *Ashkenazi* congregations is *Az Yashir Moshe*, or the Song of the Sea.

Our British and South African Cantors are proficient in both Eastern and Western European *nusach*, and though they all primarily *davened* in the Eastern European style during their time at Beth Tzedec, they did incorporate some Western European melodies from their upbringing as well. The ones that particularly stand out for me are the specific melodies for *Yigdal* on the evenings of Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot. For the evenings of these three festivals, the old London tradition has persevered, from at least the early 18th century, three characteristic melodies for *Yigdal*, probably brought from north Germany or Bohemia. I continue to sing these distinct melodies when I

lead Festival evening services. I also chant the *Hatzi Kaddish* for Festivals in the major tonality of the Western European tradition. In this spirit, I invite you to embrace our other *Ashkenazi* side.

Join me, Asher Farber and The HarmonEzers on Sunday evening, June 1 as part of *Tikkun Leyl Shavuot* where we will lead a Festival *Ma’ariv* Service followed by an interactive workshop as we sing and learn those unique choral melodies for *Yigdal* from the “Blue Book”, specifically composed for Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot. We honour and celebrate part of the musical legacy of Beth Tzedec as we revisit these holiday melodies sung by many of our Cantors over the past 70 years.



Tuesday, April 1 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM

Join us at our seder for an interactive musical performance, where “everything is all right!” Although this is what the expression usually means, here we translate it in the more literal sense—everything at the seder—and that is what will be presented musically.

Why is this seder different from all other seders? At most other seders, we would only traditionally sing from the Haggadah. But at this seder, we will have “everything at the seder”, both traditional and non-traditional. This includes many songs new and old, familiar and unfamiliar, from many parts of the world, including many popular favourites. Not a problem! *Hakol B'Seder!*

Suggested donation: \$5. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/hakol-bseder-concert>.

Presented by the Beth Tzedec “To-120” Club, especially for those ages 75 and older.



Yacov Fruchter

Cleared for Publication

I believe this poem captures our collective heartache, our helplessness and our vulnerability. It also reminds us subtly and tenderly, that despite our pain, we must find hints of hope and Jewish continuity.

I am writing this article at the end of February, immediately after the bodies of the young children Ariel and Kfir Bibas and 80-year-old peace activist Oded Lifshitz^z had their bodies returned for burial in Israel as part of a disturbing and sickening ceremony.

The Bibas family asked us not to eulogize their family members until they were confirmed dead, after the Prime Minister’s Office shared, without their consent, that the bodies would be returned last Thursday. Shir Bibas^z was only returned a day later, after the original body was returned with her sons was found to not be hers. Another twist in this plot and another twist of the knife as our hearts feel more pain than we knew could be possible.

The term in Hebrew “*hutar lepirsum*” or “cleared for publication” is a term used by the Israeli media to announce that the names of soldiers who have fallen in battle can now be made public. This only happens after their families and close relatives have been personally informed.

Since October 7, Israeli news frequently began with these words. “Cleared for Publication” is also the name of a poem written by Dael Rodrigues Garcia and translated by Michael Bohnen, Heather Silverman and Rachel Korazim. I have returned to this poem many times since I first learned it with Rachel Korazim this summer in her home in Jaffa.

*Cleared for publication:
That our hearts are broken
And in hidden places
In empty rooms
Thousands of sobs
Are choking silently.*

*Cleared for publication:
That open season was declared on us
We were plundered in the dark
Of the most precious of the precious
It is already cleared for publication:
That the magical shining light
Of our beloved’s face is extinguished.
However, beneath the same soil
A stubborn plant is sprouting
Sending roots without end
Tightly grasped with love*

I believe this poem, *Vehi Sheamda*, captures our collective heartache, our helplessness and our vulnerability. It also reminds us, subtly and tenderly, that despite our pain, we must find hints of hope and Jewish continuity. It harkens of the timeless *Vehi Sheamda* passage from the Passover *Haggadah*. “And this is the promise...in every single generation people rise up to destroy us—but the Holy Blessed One saves us from their hands.”

After October 7, these words have a different resonance for us. For most of us Jews living today, born post-Holocaust, we grew up with those words being symbolic, but a relic of the past. We are not so sure now. As we try desperately to experience joy this Purim and sense a taste of freedom this Pesach, let us remember that in the long history of the Jewish people, we have experienced absolute and unfathomable pain and our ancestors still found the strength to sing “*Shana habba—birushalayim*—next year in Jerusalem”. We must sing those words with pride and hope this year.

Cleared For Publication:

Am Yisrael Chai.



Community Pre-Passover Shabbat Dinner with Peace of Mind

Friday, April 4, Services 6:00 PM | Dinner 7:15 PM



Join us as we celebrate and share as a community at a Shabbat at the Floor Service followed by a delicious, catered dinner for pre-registered guests.

Cost for dinner. RSVPs are required by **Monday, March 31 at 11:00 AM**. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/shabbat-with-POM-2025>.

The 20s & 30s Shabbat dinner will join the Community Dinner this month. To access the 20s and 30s registration form, visit <https://bit.ly/20s-30s-shabbat-POM-2025>.

SAVE THE DATE

Weisfeld Scholar Weekend with Professor Benjamin Sommer

Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17

We welcome Benjamin Sommer, Professor of Bible at The Jewish Theological Seminary and a Senior Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute, as this year's Weisfeld Shabbat Scholar. The weekend features a Lag Ba'Omer concert with Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and The HarmonEzers followed by a musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service and community dinner, and on Shabbat morning, Prof. Sommer will speak from the *bimah*.



The Weisfeld Family Lecture



Cantor Audrey Klein

The Kabbalists saw the period of the omer as a time of preparation for the renewed receiving of the Torah that will take place on Shavuot.

On Footprints and Sefirot

In his memoir *Leave Only Footprints: My Acadia-to-Zion Journey Through Every National Park*, author and CBS Sunday Morning correspondent Conor Knighton takes readers along on his year-long mission to visit every national park in the United States. Motivated by a broken engagement and a broken heart, Knighton's goal of visiting over 50 parks—from Alaska to Florida, Maine to Hawaii—in 12 months offers a unique perspective on nature, travel and the importance of preservation, both of our planet and of ourselves. His adventures span diverse landscapes, from the rugged mountains of Rocky National Park in Colorado to the strange vegetation of Joshua Tree National Park in California to the remoteness of Isle Royale National Park in Michigan. Through his writing, Knighton explores the delicate balance between human interaction with the natural world and the need for stewardship. The title itself reflects a key message from the book: that our presence in nature should be respectful, leaving only memories rather than damage or disruption.

For me, one of the most unique aspects of the book was how the book is organized. Instead of documenting his journey chronologically, following him day by day as he crisscrossed the country, or alphabetically from Acadia National Park in Maine to Zion National Park in Utah, as the subtitle might indicate, each chapter is organized by theme. Some of the themes are things you would expect in a nature adventure book, such as Trees, Canyons, Mountains, Volcanoes and Animals. But some of these themes are unexpected inclusions in a book about the outdoors: God, Sound, Mystery, Forgiveness and Diversity to name a few.

As I read this book, I couldn't help but think of it in relation to the omer, the 49-day period between Passover and Shavuot. For starters, this period between holidays documents the ultimate adventure story—our people's trek through the desert on their journey from

redemption to revelation. But what really made the connection for me were the themes as they related to the journey. The Kabbalists saw the period of the omer as a time of preparation for the renewed receiving of the Torah that will take place on Shavuot. This can be a time of self-reflection and spiritual growth, an opportunity to consider one's *middot* (personal characteristics or "soul traits").

According to the Kabbalists, the 49 days form a multiplication of seven times the seven emotional *sefirot*, which represent aspects of both the divine and human personalities:

- **Chesed**—lovingkindness
- **Gevurah**—judgement
- **Tiferet**—glory
- **Netzach**—triumph
- **Hod**—beauty
- **Yesod**—foundation
- **Malkut**—divine energy

Each of these seven in turn contains all seven within itself, making a total of 49 inner aspects of the divine/human self. For example, on the first day of the omer, one works on *chesed* within *chesed*, on the love the soul can find within itself. On the second day, the focus is on *gevurah* within *chesed*, the judgement within one's love; the third day on *tiferet* within *chesed*, the glory that lies in love; and so on. In the second week, the focus is on *gevurah*, starting with *chesed* in *gevurah*, the love inside the judgement and continuing through the system.

Just as Knighton takes the time to reflect on his travels through America's parks, counting the omer encourages individuals to pause and evaluate their actions, thoughts and relationships. Both practices emphasize the importance of connection—to the natural world in Knighton's case and one's spiritual journey in the case of the omer. They remind us that every moment of our lives, whether spent in nature or in the pursuit of spiritual growth, is an opportunity to tread lightly, leaving behind only footprints of positive impact.

Babies on the Bimah

A Very Special Shavuot Bikkurim

Monday, June 2 — Services begin at 9:00 AM

In ancient Israel on the festival of Shavuot, Jews would gather at the Temple in Jerusalem, bringing the first fruits of their harvests in gratitude and remembrance of the day we received the Torah at Mount Sinai. We still gather at this time every year. We invite you, your family, and little one to a festive Shavuot brunch. Meet and connect with other new parents, participate in a special holiday Circle Time, followed by "Babies on the Bimah"—a Beth Tzedec baby processional, when they'll receive a blessing and special gift.

Everyone is welcome. Pre-registration is required for the babies. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/babies-on-bimah-2025>.



Help us celebrate Beth Tzedec's 70th anniversary by sharing your personal Beth Tzedec Story in a new initiative.

If These Walls Could Talk...

To learn more about participating, contact Penina at phoffnung@beth-tzedec.org



Jonathan Ain

2024: A Record-Breaking Year of Generosity

We extend heartfelt gratitude to every donor, volunteer and supporter who contributed to this record-breaking achievement. Your commitment fuels Beth Tzedec's mission and ensures our vibrant future.

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of our community, 2024 was a landmark fundraising year for Beth Tzedec, with our Annual High Holy Day Appeal and Security Campaign raising a combined total of **\$618,000** from **725** donors. This remarkable achievement highlights the strength of our Congregation when we unite in common purpose.

Annual Appeal Sets New Records

Our 2024 Annual High Holy Day Appeal achieved unprecedented success, raising \$579,309 from 475 donors—more than doubling donor participation compared to the previous year. Under the dedicated leadership of Appeal co-chairs **Allan Kanee** and **Debbie Rothstein**, along with our enthusiastic ten-member **Annual Appeal Cabinet**, the campaign gained incredible momentum from a transformative \$150,000 matching gift provided by the Larry & Judy Tanenbaum Family Foundation. These funds directly support Beth Tzedec's ongoing mission, ensuring it remains vibrant for future generations.

Stronger Together: Securing Our Future

Running from December 2024 through January 2025, the **Security Campaign** raised \$38,317 from 150 donors. Thanks to an inspiring \$18,000 matching gift from **Irving & Toddy Granovsky and Family**, community support surged. These crucial funds will strengthen Beth Tzedec's security infrastructure, safeguarding our Congregation's peace of mind and physical spaces.

Community Giving Makes the Difference

Our fundraising was significantly strengthened by the contributions of the **Tzedec Circle**, whose 91 members donated \$1,800 or more, collectively raising an impressive \$465,825. Their

generosity highlights the incredible impact achieved when community members unite in support of Beth Tzedec.

Generations Members—those under 40 who receive membership as a congregational gift—also demonstrated an incredible spirit of giving back. Participation in the Annual Appeal among these younger members surged by 400 percent, with 115 individuals stepping forward, clearly signaling their commitment to shaping the future of Beth Tzedec.

Volunteer Spirit Drives Success

This year, our Annual Appeal Cabinet expanded volunteer outreach, significantly boosting both new and returning donor involvement. Their dedication, passion and personal connections helped cultivate an even stronger culture of philanthropy within Beth Tzedec, laying the groundwork for sustainable growth in the years ahead.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to every donor, volunteer and supporter who contributed to this record-breaking achievement. Your commitment fuels Beth Tzedec's mission and ensures our vibrant future.

2024 Annual Appeal Cabinet Members

Co-Chairs:

Allan Kanee
Debbie Rothstein

Members:

Lianne Leboff
Glennie Lindenberg
Naomi Oelbaum
Mitchell Rattner
Paul Rothstein
Patti Rotman
Don Smith
Nadine Walman
Rafi Yablonsky



Estate Giving at Beth Tzedec: Legacy of Light

Introducing the Legacy of Light Program

As Beth Tzedec members, we deeply understand the special role our Congregation plays in supporting us during challenging times and enriching us through joyous celebrations. Our support for Beth Tzedec is an expression of our core values and our shared commitment to meaningful Jewish living.

As we mark Beth Tzedec's 70th anniversary, we ask ourselves: **How can our commitment to Beth Tzedec extend beyond our lifetimes?**

About the Legacy of Light Program

The Legacy of Light Program provides a thoughtful way to secure Beth Tzedec's future through planned estate giving. By including Beth Tzedec in your estate plans, you ensure that your personal values, dedication to Jewish continuity, and love for our community will endure for generations.

Making Your Mark

One of the simplest ways to create a lasting legacy is through a bequest. Whether specifying a fixed amount, a percentage of your estate, or the remainder after other obligations, your generosity will sustain Beth Tzedec as a vibrant center of Jewish life.

Legacy giving offers many accessible options, including life insurance gifts, retirement account contributions, or endowed funds tailored to your passions. Every Legacy gift helps strengthen our congregation and ensures your impact continues far into tomorrow.

Legacy Giving is for Everyone

Legacy giving isn't reserved only for wealthy donors or those who make significant gifts during their lifetimes. It's accessible to anyone who wants to express their values and ensure the lasting impact of their connection to Beth Tzedec. Whether your estate is large or modest, every Legacy gift makes a meaningful difference. By participating, you're demonstrating your lasting commitment to sustaining the community that has meant so much to you.

How to Begin

Getting started is easy—visit beth-tzedec.org and click on **Legacy of Light**. There you'll find a Letter of Intent (LOI), a simple form expressing your interest in creating a legacy gift without immediate financial commitments.

By signing the LOI, you join our **Legacy Society**, connecting with others who share your vision for Beth Tzedec's enduring future. Approximately one year later, you'll have the opportunity to formalize your commitment with a Gift Confirmation Form, indicating how your gift will support congregational life.

A Commitment to Our Core Values

The Legacy of Light Program reflects our dedication to safeguarding Beth Tzedec's core values—Care, Connect, Learn, Pray, Celebrate, and Give & Get—for generations to come.

To learn more, visit <https://bit.ly/legacy-of-light> and click on Legacy of Light, or contact Jonathan Ain, Director of Development, at jain@beth-tzedec.org or 416-781-3514 ext. 229.

Together, let's honour our past, embrace our present, and build a meaningful legacy for the future.



Har: Mountain

Thursday, May 29 from 7:00 to 9:30 PM

(at Miles Nadal JCC, 750 Spadina Ave.)

Arriving at the mountain together, we will prepare for Shavuot, the time of the giving of the Torah.

Na'aleh offers a range of opportunities for the Toronto Jewish community to engage in and deepen practice and to be part of building, nurturing and sustaining a thriving Jewish mindfulness community. sustaining a thriving Jewish mindfulness community.

Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, visit <https://bit.ly/naaleh-series-2024> or scan the QR code.



Na'aleh is a partnership between



SPINAGOGUE for 20s and 30s

Spin, Smoothies and Schmoozing

Sundays, March 30, May 4 and June 22 at 11:15 AM (at Rocket Cycle)

Join the Beth Tzedec 20s & 30s community for private spin classes at Rocket Cycle. Ticket price includes a spot on a spin bike, spin shoes, a branded reusable water bottle, and a post-ride snack for schmoozing. The spring series includes three sessions; riders can register for one, two or all three sessions. (Discount available for those registering for three!)

SPRING SESSIONS

March 30 Sweat Out the Chametz: A Pre-Passover Ride

May 4 Celebrating Israel for Yom Ha'atzmaut

June 22 Pride Ride: Celebrating Pride Month

Cost for registration. For information or to register, visit <https://bit.ly/spinagogue-spring-2025>.



Aviva Chernick

We Were Together at Sinai

Not only do we share all of the wisdom embedded in Torah, but we also share in the experience of the giving and receiving of Torah.

When other Jews say to me that I look familiar to them and they ask me where we might have met, I respond, “We were together at Sinai.” This usually elicits a giggle. I don’t tell them that in some way I mean it.

There is a *midrash*—a commentary—that teaches that everyone who was, who is and who will be, was there at Mount Sinai. I like this proposal that we all experienced revelation, each and every one of us.

Exodus 19:17

וַיִּתְצַבּוּ בְּתַהֲתִיתֵי הַהָר

We were there together standing at the foot of the mountain.

Exodus 20:15

וְכָל־הָעָם רֹאִים אֶת־הַקּוֹלֹת וְאֶת־הַלְפִידִם וְאֵת קוֹל הַשֹּׁפָר וְאֶת־הַהָר עֹשֵׂן וַיַּרְא הָעָם וַיִּזְעוּ וַיַּעֲמְדוּ מֵרָחֵק:

All the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the blare of the horn and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they fell back and stood at a distance.

If we were all there, it suggests that we share something that lives deep in our cell memory. Not only do we share all of the wisdom embedded in Torah, but we also share in the experience of the giving and receiving of Torah. These multiple levels of engagement underscore the historic threads of our shared responsibility, commitment and lived experience, even if only in inherited memory.

We can look at revelation in its present-day form. Every time we take the Torah out of the *aron kodesh*—out of the ark—read it and lift it up for all to see, we are receiving Torah once again.

Deuteronomy 4:44 and Numbers 9:23

זֹאת הַתּוֹרָה אֲשֶׁר שָׂם מֹשֶׁה לִפְנֵי בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל עַל פִּי יְהוָה בְּיַד מֹשֶׁה:

This is the Torah which Moses placed before the children of Israel at Adonay’s command by the hand of Moses.

I’m sitting in a coffee shop as I write this article. I look to my left and realize that each of the tables beside me has Jews sitting at them. How do I know this? Two have yellow pins, and the hipster at the far end has a life-size Chai around her neck. I refrain from starting conversations with them about having been at Sinai together. I imagine that we were there though, and I feel connected to them through words, commentaries and laws, and even through polarized political positions. I feel connected to them through shared trauma and, of course, through the ways we share in *simcha*—our superpower of knowing how to celebrate with joy. All of these points of connection bring a feeling of familiarity, but it also goes beyond all of these definable contexts and emotions, in a place that has no words, a place of awe and wonder.

I’m glad to have been at the mountain with each of you, and to have the opportunity to continue to experience revelation each time we take out the Torah.



70 Years in the Making:

A Jewish Cooking Demo

Sunday, May 4
from 2:30 to 4:00 PM

Apex preps some all-time Shabbat classic recipes—braised brisket, sweet noodle kugel, stuffed cabbage rolls and challah bread pudding. Learn how to make each and nosh on tasty samples!

Cost: \$40. Register via <https://bit.ly/70-years-cooking-demo>.



GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY

The Beth Tzedec Sisterhood

The Beth Tzedec Men's Club

With gratitude for the support of

The Jack and Libby Orenstein

Fund – 70th Anniversary Sponsor

Shinshinim Hosts

Don't miss this amazing opportunity to bring Israel into your home, literally!



UJA's *Shinshinim* are young Israeli leaders who come to the GTA for a year of service, with the mission of bringing the real and authentic Israel to our community. UJA *ShinShinim* contribute to Jewish Toronto by working with a wide variety of community partners and engaging thousands of community members through creative and meaningful programs. UJA *ShinShinim* are a major part of our efforts to help strengthen the vibrant and unique connection between Jewish Toronto and Israel. Since 2006, this program has been a success thanks to 500+ generous families who open their homes to host our *Shinshinim*.

Why be a host family? Hosting a UJA *Shinshin* is a chance to be part of bringing Israel to our community! Hosting is also an opportunity to form a meaningful relationship with a *Shinshin*, introducing them to our lives as Jews in Toronto while gaining an insider perspective into life in Israel today. Many *shinshinim* have formed close bonds with their host families—keeping in touch, visiting one another and celebrating important life milestones together.

Want to learn more about the program? Visit <https://bit.ly/shinshinim-host-info-2025> for some frequently asked questions!

Apply to host via <https://bit.ly/shinshinim-host-app>.



Rabbi Lara Rodin

Building sacred space demands openness, teamwork and a willingness to listen.

Holding Multitudes: Softening Our Hearts in a Time of Pain

When I was a student at Pardes in Jerusalem, I learned a tremendous amount of Torah. But more impactful than the Torah I studied was the quality of *anava*, humility, that my teacher, Zvi Hirschfield, embodied.

One day in the Beit Midrash, Zvi openly reflected on why his students—many of whom were egalitarian and non-Orthodox—held such deep admiration for him, an Orthodox man from Gush Etzion. The answer was obvious: his humility.

Zvi carries himself with a soft and generous heart. He knows that he does not hold the singular truth, that his way is not the only way. This humility does not mean a lack of conviction, but rather an openness to multiple truths.

These qualities remind me of what could be described as a soft heart—the very opposite of the hardened heart Pharaoh displays in *Parashat Bo*. Again and again, we read how Pharaoh’s heart stiffened:

וַיִּחְזַק לֵב פַּרְעֹה – Pharaoh’s heart stiffened.

וְלֹא שָׁמַע אֲלֵהֶם – He did not listen to Moses’ plea to let the people go.

קָבַד לֵב פַּרְעֹה Pharaoh’s heart was stubborn.

A hardened heart lacks humility, refuses to see beyond itself, and rejects the perspectives of others.

In contrast, when *B’nai Yisrael* builds the *Mishkan* just a few chapters later, it requires *nedivut halev*, generosity of heart—the very opposite of Pharaoh’s rigidity. Building sacred space demands openness, teamwork and a willingness to listen.

In these past weeks, we as a community have experienced both the softening and hardening of our hearts. As we watch hostages return, tears stream down our faces in joy and relief. And yet, we have also felt our hearts tighten with anger, horror and grief as Hamas continues its cruelty.

Hillel Fuld, whose brother Ari was murdered by a terrorist, described the hostage deal as both “beautiful” and “terrible.” Beautiful, because families were reunited. Terrible, because the perpetrators of violence walk free. Yair Cherki, who lost his own brother to terror, admitted that while the thought of his brother’s murderer being released is unbearable, he also holds space for the fact that Romi is still alive.

In my Grade 7 Rabbinics class at RHA, we imagined how people like Yair Cherki and Hillel Fuld might feel at this moment. We also cried tears of joy, witnessing reunions of loved ones. We refused to harden our hearts. Instead, we allowed ourselves to feel the full weight of both grief and relief.

Rachel Goldberg Polin, mother of murdered hostage Hersh Goldberg Polin, warns against “the seductive allure of the extreme”. It is easy to harden our hearts, to see only from our own vantage points. But our tradition, Rachel reminds us, and Hersh’s legacy, urge us to embrace complexity, to hold multiple truths and to cultivate empathy.

Together, may we continue to choose *nedivut halev*, a generosity of spirit, and work together to rebuild God’s dwelling place here on earth.

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



Grieving Together Bereavement Groups

Wednesdays, April 30 and May 7, 14 & 21 at 3:00 PM

(for those who have lost partners)

Thursdays, May 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 7:00 PM

(for those who have lost parents)

The loss of a loved one is challenging. Judaism has a clear set of mourning rituals that help us relearn to be in the world after our significant loss. We are here to provide an opportunity for you to meet, support and share—together.

Pre-registration is required. To register for the session for those who have lost partners, visit <https://bit.ly/grieving-together-partners-spring25>.

To register for the sessions for those who have lost parents, visit <https://bit.ly/grieving-together-parents-spring25>.

PRESENTED AS PART OF THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING



Beth Tzedec Sensory Room Pop-Up

March 21, April 5, April 25, May 3, May 23, June 7, June 20

Visit [website](https://beth-tzedec.org) for times.

The Beth Tzedec Sensory Room pop-up is a space for those aged 4+ (up to and including adults) with neuro-diverse or sensory processing considerations.

Our Sensory Room offers controlled sensory experiences to create a soothing and engaging (fragrance-free) environment. It will provide a safe space for individuals to engage with various stimuli, helping to manage sensory overload, increase the sense of calmness, and decrease anxiety.

For more details and to see pictures and descriptions of the products in the room, visit <https://bit.ly/bt-sensory-room>.

Pre-registration is appreciated. Drop-ins are welcome where space permits. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/sensory-rm>.



Beth Tzedec's ChazaKits: A Hug from the Beth Tzedec Community

Beth Tzedec is the place where we share our lives' journeys—the ups and the downs. We'll all go through them, no one's immune. We're introducing a way to help our friends and families get through the most intense and challenging times: a collective Beth Tzedec hug in the form of a box with a handle.

ChazaKits have been carefully curated around life events such as the birth of a sibling, divorce and separation, a death of a loved one, when a loved one has a mental health challenge or disease, a newly blended family, a major change in living arrangements.

Recipients can keep the ChazaKits for as long as they find them helpful, and return them when they're ready so other families can use them.

If you know of a family who could benefit from receiving a ChazaKit—just call the office or send an email to any Beth Tzedec staff member, tell them the family and the situation, and we'll get a ChazaKit to them. It's that simple.

For more information or to request a ChazaKit, contact Penina Hoffnung at phoffnungl@beth-tzedec.org.



Making a Minyan

Sunday and Weekday Services

We need your help to make a minyan for morning and evening services. *Daveners* can use our WhatsApp reservation system to see which services require additional attendance to form a minyan.

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

Connect



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. Light refreshments will be available.

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

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



Shabbat Morning Fun

(For children ages 0 to 12)

Saturday mornings 9:30 AM

Join us for a children's Shabbat experience that builds Jewish knowledge and community.

- 9:30 AM — Free Shabbat play
- 10:30 AM — Age appropriate *Tefillah*/prayer experiences, participation permitting. With special guests like our *shinshinim* to tell us about life in Israel, and other guests as well
- 11:30 AM — Blessings and snacks

Children ages 3 and younger require adult accompaniment; those ages 4 and up can be dropped off.



Shabbat Afternoon Games Café and Open Gym

Saturday afternoons 12:30 PM

Join us after the Kiddush for Shabbat-compliant board games for every age and level of interest, open gym time and Mah Jong with Jody Wernick.

Fun for all, from pre-schoolers to serious Euro-game players.



YESH: Youth. Energy. Shabbat. Happiness.

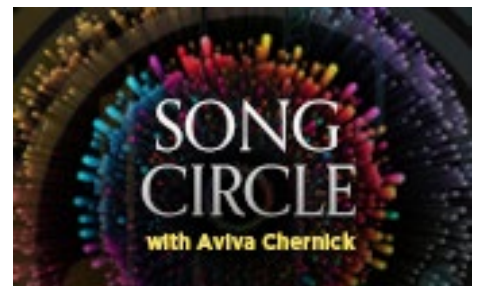
(For Grades 5 to 8)

Saturdays, March 29, April 26 and May 10 at 10:30 AM

Hang out with your friends, get a head start on *b'nei mitzvah* prep (optional opportunity to learn how to read Torah), and have time for snacks and schmoozing!

- 10:30 AM – Trope Club/Hebrew Basics (optional)
- 10:50 AM – Icebreakers and *Tefilacize*
- 11:20 AM – YESH Yum: Adventures with Food
- 11:40 AM to 12:15 PM – Nosh and Schmooze (*new time*)

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT ^{z"l}



Song Circle with Aviva Chernick

Thursday, April 3 at 7:45 PM

Join Aviva Chernick to explore what it is to sing and join in healing and uplifting song in the lead up to the celebration of the Song of the Sea. Come in out of the cold and let the singing and community warm you up. Ages 12 years old and up are welcome. No prior singing experience is necessary to participate. Every voice is welcome!

No charge. Pre-registration is required via <https://bit.ly/song-circle-spring-2025>



20s and 30s Shabbat Dinners

**Fridays, April 4 and May 2
at 6:00 PM**

Join BT 20s and 30s Shabbat for our monthly Shabbat dinner!

We will begin with our Shabbat at the Floor monthly service at 6:00 pm followed by a catered Shabbat dinner by Apex Kosher. The April dinner will be part of the Peace of Mind community dinner.

Cost for dinner: \$25 Beth Tzedec members; \$30 for the community. Pre-registration is required. To access the registration links, visit <https://www.beth-tzedec.org/page/hub/category/event-20s-and-30s-dinners>.



YESH After Dark: Havdalah

(For Grades 5 to 8)

Saturday evening, March 22

7:30 to 8:30 PM

Join your YESH friends as we close out Shabbat with Havdalah*, followed by fun programming (movies, escape room, baking, arcade, etc.). We'll have a different activity each time, voted on by you! Specific event details will be shared here closer to the event date!

*Havdalah (lit. separation) is the short, musical service to conclude Shabbat.

For information or to register, the Synagogue Office at info@beth-tzedec.org.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT^{ZL}



Family Shabbat Experience and Dinner

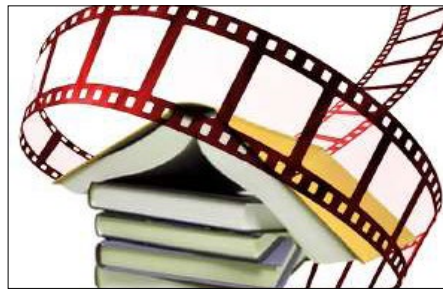
Friday, May 23 5:15 PM

Join us for our fabulous Family Shabbat experience and dinner each month. Pre-registration is required.

Limited spaces available. Pre-registration is required, and it is recommended that families register well in advance.

Cost for dinner, dependent on membership status and number of people in your party. To register for the May program, visit <https://bit.ly/family-shabbat-march-2025>.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE GERTNER FAMILY



Beth Tzedec Book and Film Club

Wednesday afternoons 12:30 PM

The Beth Tzedec Book and Film Club features recently published works of Jewish interest. The authors, whose ideas are thought-provoking, and refreshing will move and enrich you.

March 26: The Only Daughter

by A.B. Yehoshua

Rachele Luzzato is 12 years old when she learns that her father is gravely ill. While her family plans for her upcoming bat mitzvah, Rachele finds herself cast as the Madonna in her school's Christmas play. Caught between spiritual poles, struggling to cope with her father's mortality, Rachele feels as if the threads of her everyday life are unraveling.

SPONSORED BY FOUR ELMS RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

May 7: A Real Pain Film Review

Gillian Helfield reviews the comedy/drama, *A Real Pain*, starring Keiran Culkin and Jesse Eisenberg.

May 28: Fervor by Toby Lloyd

Hannah and Eric Rosenthal are devout Jews living in North London with their three children and Eric's father Yosef, a Holocaust survivor. Both intellectually gifted and deeply unconventional, the Rosenthals believe in the literal truth of the Old Testament and in the presence of God (and evil) in daily life. As Hannah prepares to publish a sensationalist account of Yosef's years in war-torn Europe—unearthing a terrible secret from his time in the camps—Elsie, her perfect daughter, starts to come undone.

SPONSORED BY VIVA THORNHILL WOODS

Cost: \$30 per session. Those who have already registered for the series do not need to register again. Register via <https://bit.ly/book-and-film-club-2024>.

SPINAGOGUE

Spin, Smoothies and Schmoozing for 20s and 30s

Spinagogue for 20s and 30s: Spring Series

Sundays, March 30, May 4 and June 22 at 11:15 AM

Join the 20s & 30s community for private spin classes at Rocket Cycle. Ticket price includes a spot on a spin bike, spin shoes, a branded reusable water bottle, and a post-ride snack for schmoozing.

- March 30—Sweat Out the Chametz: A Pre-Passover Ride
- May 4—Celebrating Israel for Yom Ha'atzmaut
- June 22—Pride Ride: Celebrating Pride Month

Cost for Beth Tzedec members: \$60 for all three sessions; \$25 per session.

Cost for the community: \$75 for all three sessions; \$30 per session.

Pre-registration is required. Register via <https://bit.ly/spinagogue-spring-2025>.

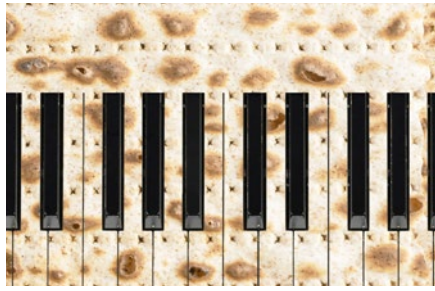


Post-Havdalah Song Circle for Our Generations Members with Cantor Chaim Stern

Saturday night, March 29 7:00 PM

Beth Tzedec's Generations members and parents with kids 17 and younger are invited to join Cantor Chaim Stern, currently the Chief Cantor of the Great Synagogue in Munich.

No charge. Pre-registration is requested via <https://bit.ly/song-circle-cantor-stern>.



Hakol B'Seder! Music for Passover with Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and The HarmonEzers

Tuesday, April 1 at 3:00 PM

Join us at our "seder" for an interactive musical performance where "everything is all right"! Although this is what the expression usually means, we translate it in a more literal sense—everything at the seder—and that is what will be presented musically.

Why is this seder different from all others? At most other seders, we would only traditionally sing from the *haggadah*. But at this seder, we will have "everything at the seder", both traditional and non-traditional. This includes many songs new and old, familiar and unfamiliar, from many parts of the world, including many popular favourites. Not a problem! Hakol B'Seder!

Suggested donation: \$5. Register via <https://bit.ly/hakol-bseder-concert>.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC "TO-120 CLUB", ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE AGES 75 AND OLDER



YESH Pre-Pesach Program

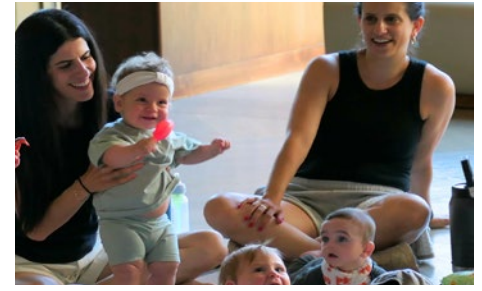
(For Grades 5 to 8)

Wednesday, April 9

5:00 to 7:00 PM

Join us for a pre-Pesach program with your YESH friends!

For information or to register, email the Synagogue Office at info@beth-tzedec.org.



Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun

Fridays, April 11 & 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 and June 6 & 13

12:30 to 1:15 PM

Welcome Shabbat with a class featuring Shabbat songs and blessings, *challah* and lots of fun. We have partnered with L'Dance Classes for for children up to 18 months old, accompanied by an adult.

Cost: \$120 for Beth Tzedec members; \$180 for the community. Note: The 11:00 AM session is full.

To register for the 12:30 PM session, visit <https://bit.ly/babies-blessings-spring-2025>.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT^{ZL}



Yom Tov Morning Fun

Sunday, April 13 and Monday, April 14; Monday, June 2 and Tuesday, June 3

9:30 AM to 12:00 NOON

Join us for a children's Yom Tov experience that builds Jewish knowledge and community. Children ages 3 and younger require adult accompaniment, those ages 4 and up can be dropped off.

The Yom Tov Morning Fun session will be held on the Passover and Shavuot.



YESH After Dark: Mimouna

(For Grades 5 to 8)

Sunday, April 20

8:45 to 10:15 PM

Mimouna, a Moroccan-Jewish tradition, marks the end of Passover by coming together as a community, eating and chatting as you move from house to house. Join your YESH friends as we end Pesach by celebrating Mimouna (aka eating chametz). We'll learn a bit about the meaning behind this celebration, and enjoy some dishes traditionally eaten during the festivities!

For information or to register, email the Synagogue Office at info@beth-tzedec.org.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT^{ZL}



YESH After Dark: Lag Ba'Omer

(For Grades 5 to 8)

Thursday, May 15

7:30 to 9:15 PM

Join us for a special YESH as we celebrate Lag Ba'Omer!

Learn about what this holiday is, the meaning behind it, and why we celebrate it with a bonfire!

For information or to register, the Synagogue Office at info@beth-tzedec.org.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT^{ZL}



Shavuot Sleep Under for Grades 2 to 6

Sunday, June 1

8:00 to 11:30 PM

Celebrate the holiday known for staying up all night and eating dairy as we enjoy a delicious dairy dinner and take part in fun activities.

For information or to register, contact the Synagogue Office at info@beth-tzedec.org.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT^{ZL}



Torah Through the Ages with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin leads an in-depth look at the book of Deuteronomy/ Sefer Devarim with traditional and modern commentaries. Having an Etz Chaim chumash is beneficial; other materials will be provided.

There is no charge but pre-registration is required. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/torah-through-ages-2024>.

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

Learn



Talking Torah: The Five Megillot with Daniel Silverman

Saturday mornings at 9:30 AM

Join Daniel Silverman, Director of Education, for a weekly examination of the five megillot. These short Biblical works, each read on a different holiday, continue to offer tremendous insight for how to live and conduct our lives today.

Megillat Esther (Esther): unitl March 29

Megillat Shir HaShirim (Song of Songs):

April 5 to May 24

Megillat Ruth (Ruth): May 31 to June 21

For information, call the Synagogue Office at 416-781-3511.



Learn Talmud with Rabbi Steven Wernick

Mondays, March 24, April 7, 21 & 28 and May 5 & 12 at 7:30 PM

We will continue our exploration of Tractate Megillah that focuses on the rituals and reading of Megillat Esther and on the public reading of Torah and other sacred texts. No previous experience is required.

This series is offered via Zoom only. There is no charge but pre-registration is required. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/learn-talmud-2025>.



Siyyum Bekorim: Completion of Study for the Firstborn

Thursday, April 10, following Shacharit

Join us at Beth Tzedec for the Shacharit Service at 7:30 AM, followed by a siyyum (completion of a tractate of Talmud study) in lieu of the Fast of the First-Born. A special breakfast follows.

The Shacharit Service will be available via Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/733141765>. (Meeting ID 733-141-765)



Shabbat Scholar Weekend with Professor Benjamin Sommer

Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17

Join us as we welcome Benjamin Sommer, Professor of Bible at The Jewish Theological Seminary of America and a Senior Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute, the Weisfeld Shabbat Scholar at a Friday evening community Shabbat dinner and on Saturday, will speak from the bimah and join us at the Congregational Kiddush following.

Cost for dinner. Watch for information and dinner links coming soon.

THE WEISFELD FAMILY LECTURE



Tikkun Leyl Shavuot

Sunday, June 1

The evening of Shavuot is traditionally spent learning until late into the night. Join us for our Mincha and Festival Ma'ariv Services followed by learning opportunities offered throughout the evening with our Spiritual Leadership, including "Yigdal: Melodies of the Western European Tradition", a breakout session with Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and the HarmonEzers.

Watch for program information and registration links coming soon.



Revisiting Wagner and the Jews: An Inquiry and a Musical Sampling

Sunday, June 8 at 1:30 PM

Everyone knows that Wagner was an anti-Semite, Hitler's favourite, and that he was banned in Israel. Right? Join musicologist Dr. Emilie Hurst and Jewish educator and opera singer Guy Mannheim as they unpack the more complicated story.

Watch for registration links coming soon. For information, email Penina Hoffnung at phoffnung@beth-tzedec.org.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC "TO 120 CLUB"

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

Check website for times

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

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



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



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.

Our Friday evening Services are offered in person in the Hendeles Chapel and livestreamed via <https://www.bethtzedec.tv>.



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



Shabbat at the Floor

Fridays, April 4, May 2 and June 6 at 6:00 PM

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

Prepare to be moved and inspired via <https://www.bethtzedec.tv>.

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



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>.

10% OFF FEES FOR BETH TZEDEC MEMBERS UNTIL MAY 31



We specialize in managing boutique condominium corporations and real estate investments

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, CONDOMINIUM MANAGEMENT

• Accounting Services • Consulting • Management Training

Ryan Stone, OLCM, CPM, ARM, ACoM. In the Property Management Industry Since 1984. Experience and Quality You can count on!

647-341-7990

propman@summapm.com www.summapm.com



Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service

Saturdays, April 5, May 3 and June 7 at 10:30 AM

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



Little Minyan Learning and Service

Saturdays, March 22 & 29, April 12, 19 & 26 and May 10, 24 & 31

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 welcome and are offered skills, support and encouragement. Come to participate or to experience a Shabbat service full of song, spirit and warmth.

Prior to each Little Minyan Service, join Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for our Little Minyan Learning session. Engage your mind before we engage our souls.



Musical Participatory Services

Saturdays, May 3 and June 7 at 9:00 AM

Join us for a Musical Participatory Service led by Cantor Sidney Ezer and the HarmonEzers, our a cappella choir, conducted by Asher Farber. We will explore many classic and familiar melodies, as well as new and modern ones. With inspiring arrangements and innovative harmonies, we welcome you to sing along with us. A Congregational Kiddush follows.

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



Mincha-Seudah Shlisheet-Ma'ariv

Every Saturday evening; [check website for times](#)

Join us for *Mincha* followed by *Seudah Shlisheet* (the third Sabbath meal) and Torah study. We will then return to the Chapel for *Ma'ariv* and *Havdalah* following. This Service is offered in-person only.



Early Mincha Services for Pesach

Saturday, April 12 and Sunday, April 13 2:00 PM

On Erev Pesach and the first day of Pesach, our *Mincha* Service will begin at 2:00 pm, and will include a Torah reading. There will be no *Ma'ariv* Service.



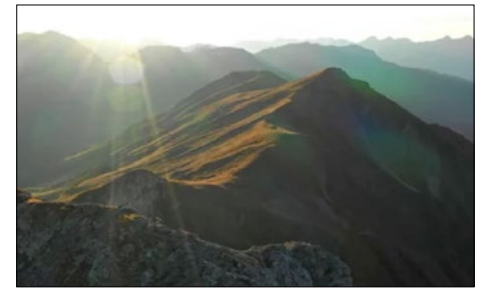
Sanctuary Services for Pesach

Sunday, April 13 and Monday, April 14 9:00 AM

Our Pesach Services offer the energy and inspiration of a complete spiritual and liturgical 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 Lorne Hanick.

Come to be a part of our special musical and spiritual *davening*. 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. Monday will include the *Yizkor* Service.

These Services are also offered via livestreamed at <https://www.bethtzedec.tv>.



Festival Mincha-Ma'ariv Services for Shavuot

Sunday, June 1 8:35 PM

Join Beth Tzedec for our Festival Mincha-Ma'ariv on Erev Shavuot, followed by our *Tikkun Leyl Shavuot* night of learning. The service will also offered via livestreamed at <https://www.bethtzedec.tv>.



Sanctuary Services for Shavuot

Monday, June 2 and Tuesday, June 3

9:00 AM

Our Shavuot Services offer the energy and inspiration of a complete spiritual and liturgical 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 Lorne Hanick.

Come to be a part of our special musical and spiritual *davening*. 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.

Tuesday will include the Yizkor Service.

These Services are also offered via livestreamed at <https://www.bethtzedec.tv>.

Shabbat 101

Saturday, May 10

10:00 to 11:15 AM

Shabbat 101 is a once-monthly 75-minute experiential Shabbat morning service for anyone interested in becoming familiar with the structure, choreography and deep meaning of the traditional Shabbat morning service. Join us for one session or for all 6!

This series has been developed for Jewish conversion candidates, past conversion candidates and those lacking literacy and wanting to gain skill in prayer.

For information, email Rabbi Lara Rodin at rabbilara@beth-tzedec.org.



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

Wednesdays, March 26 and May 7 & 28 at 8:00 PM

Join Marcee Bar-Isaac and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for a brief Torah text study followed by yoga and moments of mindfulness and meditation. Please bring your own yoga mat and water.

No charge. Register via <https://bit.ly/torah-tree-pose-2024>.

PRESENTED AS PART OF THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING

Na-aleh: Har/Mountain

Thursday, May 29 7:00 PM

Arriving at the mountain together, we will prepare for Shavuot, the time of the giving of the Torah.

This final session, *Har/Mountain*, is an evening program that will be held at the Miles Nadal JCC (750 Spadina Ave.). Pre-registration is required.

Na'aleh offers opportunities for the Toronto Jewish community to engage in and deepen practice and to be part of building, nurturing and sustaining a thriving Jewish mindfulness community.

Cost for participation. Pre-registration is requested via <https://bit.ly/naaleh-series-2024>.

PRESENTED BY NAALEH TORONTO JEWISH MINDFULNESS COLLECTIVE— THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING, THE INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH SPIRITUALITY, MILES NADAL JCC, ANNEX SHUL, NEYSHEV AND BETH DAVID SYNAGOGUE



Summer Walking Group

Wednesdays, June 25, July 2, 9, 16 & 23 9:00 to 10:30 AM

Exercise your body and soul with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin for a bit of Torah and some brisk walking. We will meet in the parking lot security entrance at Beth Tzedec. Please remember to bring water, sunscreen and a hat. We will not meet on rainy days. Pre-registration is not required.

Celebrate



ExodUS: A Selfie Seder

Opening April 4, 2025

What if a *simcha* photo booth and a *haggadah* had a baby?!

Take some time to walk through our ExodUS exhibit on the Beth Alpha Floor to explore scenes depicting each part of the seder, and pose with props. You can create a personalized family Passover *haggadah* starring yourself and your family or use the images as decorations for your seder night. Or just take a few selfies as a fun way to get into the holiday spirit!

PRESENTED AS PART OF BETH TZEDEC'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.



A Proba Weekend with Cantor Chaim Stern Thursday, March 27 to Sunday, March 30

Beth Tzedec welcomes Cantor Chaim Stern, currently the Chief Cantor of the Great Synagogue in Munich, for a Proba weekend, auditioning for the Senior Cantor position, featuring an extended weekend of music, prayer and learning.

Join us for a Thursday evening community concert, a Kabbalat Shabbat service, a musical Shabbat morning service and a Saturday night Song Circle at Havdalah at 8:30 PM for 20s & 30s and parents of children 17 and younger. Cantor Stern will also be leading *Shacharit* and *Hallel* on Rosh Chodesh Sunday.

For more information and for registration links, visit <https://bit.ly/cantor-stern-weekend-hub>.



Sheer (Shir) Israel: A Yom Ha'atzmaut Concert

Tuesday, May 6 1:30 PM

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber as we welcome our special guests ShiRonto, the Toronto Israeli choir under the direction of Kobi Hass, for a lively afternoon of Israeli music that will have you singing with sheer (*shir*) delight. Light refreshments will follow.

Suggested donation: \$5. Register via <https://bit.ly/sheer-israel-concert>.

PRESENTED BY BETH TZEDEC'S "TO 120 CLUB"

PIECES OF A MAN

A father. A son. Some baggage.

A comic one-man show by
DAVID LABI

Thursday, May 22
Leah Posluns Theatre

David's father was a Libyan Jew who survived the Nazi concentration camps as a child. Larger than life, he went on through business boom and bust, casinos and shady deals, a bomb attack, and more—hauling his loved ones on his wild rollercoaster of a life.

Now David's having a midlife crisis. He longs to grow up, but his macho dad keeps getting in the way. In *Pieces of a Man*, David brings us on a hilarious and transformational journey to find his dead father, and live on.

For tickets, visit <https://simpli.events/e/PiecesOfAManToronto>.



"A master class in how to draw a whole life against the canvas of history." —*Pzazz magazine*



An Evening with Idan Amedi

Tuesday, May 20 7:30 PM

Beth Tzedec welcomes Idan Amedi, the renowned Israeli singer-songwriter, musician, composer, lyricist and actor. Idan joins us for a special evening where he will share his personal story and insights. Idan will also give a short acoustic performance during the program. Learn how he became a prominent voice of Israel, a hero and role model for so many.

Ticket sales open now.

Limited seats available. To purchase tickets, visit <https://bit.ly/evening-with-idan-amed>.

THE JACK AND LIBBY ORENSTEIN FUND, 70TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SPONSOR

THE JESIN NEUBERGER FAMILY, EVENT SPONSOR

THE AZRIELI FOUNDATION, GOLD SPONSOR



Yigdal—Melodies of the Western European Tradition: A Tikkun Leyl Shavuot Breakout Session with Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and The HarmonEzers

Sunday, June 1 9:35 to 10:34 PM

Following the Festival *Mincha-Ma'ariv* Service, Cantor Ezer, Asher Farber and the HarmonEzers present an interactive workshop as we sing and learn unique melodies for *Yigdal*, specifically composed for Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot. We honour and celebrate the musical legacy of Beth Tzedec as we revisit these holiday melodies, which were often sung by many of our *chazzanim* over the past 70 years.

Watch for program information and registration links coming soon.



Babies on Bimah: A Very Special Shavuot Bikkurim

Monday, June 2 10:30 AM

In ancient Israel on the festival of Shavuot, Jews would gather at the Temple in Jerusalem, bringing the first fruits of their harvests in gratitude and remembrance of the day we received the Torah at Mount Sinai. We still gather at this time every year.

Please join us in marking the occasion by bringing the most precious “first fruits” of this past year—all the babies born this year in our Congregational family!

We invite you, your family and little one to a festive Shavuot brunch. Meet and connect with other new parents, participate in a special holiday Circle Time, followed by “Babies on the Bimah”—a Beth Tzedec baby processional, when they’ll receive a blessing and special gift. Everyone is welcome.

Pre-registration is required for the babies. To register, visit bit.ly/babies-on-bimah-2025.

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 and some brisk walking. We will meet in the parking lot security entrance at Beth Tzedec.) Please remember to bring water, sunscreen and a hat. We will not meet on rainy days. Pre-registration is not required.

Give & Get



Nadav Teen Volunteers

(For teens in Grades 9 to 12)

Continues Sundays, April 27, May 18 and June 15

7:00 to 9:00 PM

Learn about different causes in our community and participate in a hands-on activity. We'll spend the first half hour discussing the organization, their impact, and the work they do, and the remaining time working on the project.

Registration for this year's Nadav series is now closed.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE FLATT FAMILY IN MEMORY OF AB FLATT^{ZL}



A Pre-Passover Community Shabbat Dinner with Peace of Mind Friday, April 4

Service 6:00 PM | Dinner 7:15 PM

The Beth Tzedec community and our 20s and 30s will join together for a special Shabbat dinner with the participants of Peace of Mind.

We will begin with our Shabbat at the Floor monthly service at 6:00 pm followed by a Shabbat dinner catered by Apex Kosher at 7:15 p.m.

Cost for dinner. RSVPs are required by Monday, March 31 at 11:00 am. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/shabbat-with-POM-2025>.

The 20s & 30s Shabbat dinner will join the Community Dinner this month. To access the 20s and 30s registration form, visit <https://bit.ly/20s-30s-shabbat-POM-2025>.



Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Classes

Are you interested in having an adult bar or bat mitzvah? We're planning classes to be taught by the Spiritual Leadership Team (SLT) and will be open for all members of Beth Tzedec. At the conclusion of the course, participants will deliver a d'var Torah, be called for an aliyah and read a short aliyah.

For more information, contact Rabbi Fryer Bodzin at rabbirfb@beth-tzedec.org.



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

Shabbat 101

**SATURDAY MORNING,
MAY 10 AT 10:00 AM**

Shabbat 101 is a once-monthly 75-minute experiential Shabbat morning service for anyone interested in becoming familiar with the structure, choreography and deep meaning of the traditional Shabbat morning service.

This series has been developed for Jewish conversion candidates, past conversion candidates and those lacking literacy and wanting to gain skill in prayer.





Gerry Posner

Rabbi (to be) Lara Rodin

In May, 2025, the Jewish Theological Seminary will welcome a new rabbi into the fold. She is a recent graduate of the Seminary and is a young woman from Western Canada with roots planted in both Winnipeg and Calgary. This woman is none other than the soon to be Rabbi Lara Rodin. She will formally be the Assistant Rabbi at the Beth Tzedec Congregation in Toronto, not the same Beth Tzedec Synagogue in Calgary, Alberta where her family was and is a member to this day.

Her formal induction into the rabbinate occurs in May 2025 in New York. Rabbi Rodin is, I tell you, a fresh, warm and engaging young woman who already has made a difference in the lives of many families. The progression from daughter of Greg and Andria (Paul) Rodin—raised in a secular home—to a woman about to become a rabbi was, on the one hand, a gradual process and on the other hand, a preordained fact.

Lara was born in Winnipeg and at a young age moved to Calgary. She was a student at the Calgary Jewish Academy but her connection to Judaism was tenuous. Still, with her growing involvement in BBYO and Camps B’Nai Brith at Pine Lake, Alberta and Hatikvah in British Columbia, the seeds of Jewish engagement were already starting to grow and sprout. Lara had a strong Jewish influence from her maternal grandparents, Leonard and Elaine Paul ^{z”l}, both of whom were centred in the Jewish world, particularly at the B’nai Abraham Synagogue in Winnipeg.

Lara was fortunate to attend McGill University in Montreal where she obtained an Arts Degree. Although her father Greg, a lawyer, had pushed her to study law, she was more into the ‘ologies’ at university, with courses in philosophy and theology.

She soon concluded that she need not focus so much on other religions, but work on the one she was born into and raised with. That decision was the impetus to improve her Jewish learning. She even taught a class at the Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue in Montreal, an experience that had her considering a teaching degree.

On the path to becoming a teacher and to further her Jewish education, Lara applied to the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. It was there that she completed her Masters in Jewish Education and also came to realize that she wanted to teach within a Jewish framework. That path evolved to Lara Rodin turning her mind to becoming a rabbi. The intense curriculum at the Pardes Institute stimulated her drive to the rabbinate.

This step to become a Rabbi, although on the face to it, remote, nevertheless, was in its own way, destined to be, as Lara’s family history reveals. When Lara was born, she came along with a twin brother, Isaac Rodin. When her father came into the birthing room to see his new born children for the first time, he expressed immediately a feeling of a Rabbinic presence in the room, but this feeling was related to his new born son. Even as the twins grew up, this sense of a Rabbinical calling for his son persisted. When Lara declared her intention to pursue a career in the Rabbinate, Greg was ecstatic, stating he had it right all along, but he just missed the gender. He likely deserves a pass on this one as back at that time, female Rabbis from Western Canada were not known and even to this day, are rare.

Thus, it came to pass the Lara Rodin entered the Jewish Theological Seminary School in New York. She had to cope with the consequences of Covid and so part of her programme had Lara stuck in the basement of



her parents home in Calgary. In 2021, while still a student, Lara was privileged to become a Tanenbaum Fellow and she then became formally associated with the Beth Tzedec Synagogue in Toronto where she has been for the past three years. In 2023-2024, Lara became a Resnick Fellow. Both the Resnick and Tanenbaum Fellowships were valuable to Lara as she proceeded in her Jewish education.

As far back as Camp Ramah, where Lara was also fortunate to attend, she met a boy who recently became her husband Jonah Levitt. They were recently married at Beth Tzedec on August 18, 2024. Another reason to send your children to Jewish camps.

Aside from her responsibilities at Beth Tzedec to date, Lara has been working as a rabbi-in-residence at the Robbins Hebrew Academy in Toronto. She is putting her skills as

a teacher to good use. Plus, she is the go-to person for conversions in the Conservative movement among several synagogues in the Toronto area. In that way, Lara Rodin has made contact with many young couples, all inspired to become Jewish and more Jewish. This is a part of her job that she finds so challenging and satisfying.

Of course, if you really want to check out the newest addition to Beth Tzedec, the place to be is at synagogue where she can be found most of the time. Her smile, her genuine warmth and her depth of thought will be obvious immediately. Or if you like to hike or cycle, she spends her time, when not in the synagogue or classroom, participating in those activities.

As Beth Tzedec Congregation celebrates its 70th anniversary in 2025, so too it now celebrates the addition

to the synagogue of Rabbi Lara Rodin. A blessing for all of us.

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

Join us on Monday, June 2, the first day of Shavuot, for a celebration with an installation service honoring Rabbi Lara. We will also celebrate Aviva Chernick's promotion to Director of the Beth Tzedec Centre for Spiritual Well-Being, and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin's upcoming Doctor of Divinity degree from the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies on May 19.

Best wishes from Sisterhood to all of our Beth Tzedec families for a happy and healthy Passover.

We would like to remind our members that your support to Beth Tzedec Sisterhood includes membership in Women's League, Women's League for Conservative Judaism (www.wlcj.org) and all that it has to offer.

Women's League sponsors Leadership Institute workshops, book clubs, Health & Wellness group studies, provides reading material, programs and so much more. It is all available to you, just log in.

Your names have been entered into the database, so it should be easy. If you need assistance, please send an email to info@wlcj.org, or call them at 405.870.1260.

We encourage you to take advantage of your Women's League membership.

—Ruthann Lubin and Rhoda Salama





LUXURY MOVE MANAGEMENT

YOUR MOVING **LIFELINE**

- ▶ PACKING & UNPACKING
- ▶ DECLUTTERING AND STAGING PREP
- ▶ MOVING & DOWNSIZING
- ▶ ESTATE CLEARING
- ▶ SALE & DISTRIBUTION OF FURNITURE
- ▶ JUNK REMOVAL

www.LuxuryMoveManagement.com

 416-937-0499

**BETH TZEDEC
CONGREGANTS
RECEIVE 15% OFF
PACKING SERVICES**



 LUXURY MOVE
MANAGEMENT
YOUR MOVING LIFELINE

Passover Guide

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

Am Yisrael Chai.



Preparing Our Homes for Passover

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

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

Seder

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

Kosher for Passover

We should strive to clean our homes for Passover as we normally would. You can access the Rabbinical Assembly's "Passover Guide 2025" at <https://bit.ly/ra-passover-guide-2025>.

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

Yizkor

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

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

The Sale of Chametz

Forms to sell your *chametz* to our rabbis—who will sell it on your behalf—may be accessed via bit.ly/sale-of-chametz-2025. Alternately, you can contact our Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or info@beth-tzedec.org to make arrangements to sell your *chametz*.

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

The Fast of the Firstborn

Following morning minyan on Thursday, April 10 at 7:30 *am*, we will provide a *siyyum* (completion of a cycle of study) in person and on Zoom. Join us for coffee and a bagel in the comfort of your own home or with our Spiritual Leadership and *kehillah* at Beth Tzedec as we celebrate this learning together.

Bidikat and Biur Chametz

The search for *chametz* takes place on Thursday, April 10 after nightfall, using the formula found in your *hagaddah*.

Traditionally, we use a candle, a wooden spoon and a feather to

find even the smallest amount of *chametz*. If you don't have these tools handy, you can use any utensil or product in your home that accomplishes the same symbolism.

We will provide an opportunity for people to burn their *chametz* at Beth Tzedec on Friday, April 11 in our parking lot from 10:00 to 10:30 *am*.

If you have any questions, contact Lorne Hanick at 416-781-3514 ext. 240 or lhnick@beth-tzedec.org.

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

Other Resources

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

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



Michael Goodbaum

Cocktails and Mocktails for Your Passover Seders

As we all know, Pesach seders require us to drink not one or two but four glasses of wine! In addition, we always put out a cup of wine and open the door for Elijah.

Still, there are another six nights of Pesach, leaving plenty of time to try any of these Pesach-themed cocktails and mocktails, each of which is delicious and unique. Maybe Elijah would even enjoy one?

The Red Nile

With a mix of salty and sweet, this cocktail is a reminder of the first plague—the Nile turning red with blood. Make sure to pick a tequila which is kosher for Passover.

Recipe:

- 4 oz kosher, sweet red wine
- 1 oz Patron Silver tequila (certified Pesach kosher)
- Optional: crushed ice

Directions:

Salt the rim of a 5 to 9 oz glass, such as a margarita glass, by running a lime wedge around the rim and then dipping the glass into a dish of kosher salt or kosher sea salt. Pour in tequila and wine and stir to mix. Fill glass in with ice. Garnish with a lime wedge.

Non-Acoholic Version:

- 2 oz Kedem grape juice
- 3 oz Sodastream carbonated water (or unflavoured club soda or seltzer)
- Kosher popping candy (preferably grape flavoured)
- Optional: crushed ice

Directions:

Create a candy rim on the glass of your choice by running a lime wedge around the rim and then dipping the glass into a dish of kosher popping candy. Pour in grape juice and carbonated water and stir to mix. Fill glass in with ice.

The Merorim Ale

Merorim are bitter herbs eaten during the Passover Seder, the plural of maror. The bitterness of the maror symbolizes the suffering of the Jewish people while

enslaved in Egypt. While no one knows exactly what actual plants the bitter herbs correspond to, the tradition amongst Ashkenazim is to use the readily available horseradish, while Sephardim have traditionally used the root of the Romaine lettuce. Both are included in this recipe, which enhances ginger root's natural bite with a horseradish-infused vodka (or infused lemon juice in the non-alcoholic version).

Recipe:

- 2 oz Horseradish infused vodka—directions follow*
- 1 can of ginger ale (12 oz)
- 0.5 oz lemon juice
- Romaine lettuce leaf

Directions:

In a 15 oz tall glass, pour in Horseradish infused vodka and lemon juice and stir to mix. Top with one can of ginger ale (or 9 oz from a bottle). Ice is optional. Garnish with a Romaine lettuce leaf.

*To make horseradish-infused vodka: wash, scrub, and pat dry a 3-inch section of raw horseradish (save the rest for the seder plate or use it in your cooking). Thinly slice horseradish and place in an empty 1-liter jar (like a pickle jar). Pour in one 750ml. bottle of kosher-for-Pesach potato vodka. Let steep in the refrigerator for three days (or longer if you really enjoy a lot of wasabi on your sushi!). Keep tasting, and when it is to your liking,



strain out the jar and discard the horseradish. Keep vodka cold until it is ready to use. This recipe can easily be halved, and it can also be used to add a special kick to a Bloody Mary or any other spicy cocktail.

Non-Acoholic Version:

Substitute vodka with horseradish-infused lemon juice:

Wash, scrub, and pat dry a 1-inch section of raw horseradish. Thinly slice and place in a 250ml jar.

Zest and juice four lemons. Pour into jar with horseradish and infuse in fridge for on week, then strain into a fresh jar. Also tastes great when added to salad dressings.

The Korban Egg Cream

The egg is always a part of the Seder plate, symbolizing the korban

chagigah (festival sacrifice). The Egg Cream on the other hand is a traditional drink that was a popular treat at Jewish deli's back in the day, especially in NYC but also with fans in Toronto. Let's bring back this nostalgic drink for another generation to enjoy, either with or without a shot of liqueur.

Recipe:

- 1/3 cup homogenized milk or half-and-half (not skim)
- 3 TBSP Nesquik chocolate syrup (Pesach kosher all year round)
- 1 oz Baileys Irish Cream (original recipe is Pesach kosher) or kosher chocolate, coffee or cream liqueur of your choice.
- Sodastream carbonated water (or unflavoured club soda or seltzer)

Directions:

Pour milk and a shot of Baileys into a tall glass and stir in chocolate syrup until dissolved. While stirring with a fork, pour in carbonated water. The drink will froth up a lot! Add enough water until the froth reaches the top of the cup. Be careful, it really froths up fast!

Non-Acoholic Version:

- Omit the Baileys.

I hope you enjoy these unique cocktail recipes I came up with. Always remember to please enjoy responsibly.

Chag Sameach

May your blessed Passover be filled with happy moments and joy.
From the Apex Team.

APEX
KOSHER CATERING

COR
כשר

Passover menu available at:
www.apexkoshercatering.com



Maureen Tanz

Chesed Report

Out of the Cold Program 2025

I am very excited to let you know this winter, the Out of the Cold Program which is run jointly with Beth Sholom has been operating every Monday evening from mid-January until the end of March.

We can no longer offer overnight accommodations to the homeless, due to COVID-19 and demographic-related changes. We are servicing mostly marginalized individuals, some of whom can't afford to buy nutritious food and warm winter clothing; others might be lonely and crave the opportunity to socialize, are victims of domestic abuse or suffer from mental health issues.

We provide a hot and nutritious three-course dinner that is catered at a very discounted rate by Tzvi Hirschman at Toronto Kosher. Our bread and delicious cake are provided at a discounted rate from Isaac's Bakery.

For the past 15 years, the five-piece band, The Deloraines, have volunteered their time and talent to offer our guests incredible music, playing songs by the Beatles, Neil Diamond, the Bee Gees and Elton John, to name a few. It is so heart-warming to see our guests dancing, singing along with the band, requesting their favourite music and more importantly smiling. BINGO



games with \$5 gift Tim Horton's cards have become a ritual!

Our clothing program, expertly run by Cathy Weinberg-Beallor, Julie Greenspoon and Laurence Lustman, allows us to offer our guests much-needed warm winter clothing, boots and running shoes, as well as toiletries.

The Art Circle, which began in 2010 and is still going strong enables our guests to create beautiful works of art under the guidance of the very talented Mel Samra and her creative crew. Our season culminates with the Annual Art Show and Sale which will be held at Beth Sholom on Sunday, April 6 from 1:00 to 3:30 PM. The artists exhibit and sell their incredible creations and keep a large share of the sale proceeds. The art program has proved to be a very important part of Out of the Cold, because of the boost in confidence and self-esteem it instills in our guests.

A very large contingent of *b'nei mitzvah* students from Beth Tzedec have been volunteering on either the set-up, sandwich making or dinner shift and are thoroughly enjoying the experience, as are our guests who love to converse with the pre-teens.

The OOTC Program is an enormous undertaking, one that takes months to plan and could not be accomplished without our very dedicated team of volunteers in various capacities and whom I would like to thank:

Shari Fremeth-Tepper is now officially my Beth Tzedec Co-Chair of OOTC as of this season. She also coordinates and schedules shifts for our more than 100 volunteers on any given week and deals effortlessly with last-minute changes and cancellations. All this is done with a smile on her face, and I am thrilled to be working alongside her.

Matt Krofchick, my co-chair from Beth Sholom juggles a huge range of volunteer initiatives in addition to his

OOTC role. He spends countless hours updating, editing and perfecting our online volunteer sign-up form.

Don Smith, our veteran volunteer of over 16 years. He is one of the kindest and most compassionate people I know and is a true asset to our program. He never misses a shift and does all this while juggling work plus his endless responsibilities as President of the Board at Beth Tzedec.

Bernie Tanz, who has given his time over the past 11 years by picking up weekly donations of fruit from the Food Terminal, as well as clothing and product donations from various companies all over the city.

Terri Humphries and **Michael Goodbaum**, who always work creatively to promote and support the Out of the Cold program and are never too busy to answer endless questions.

Brian Dias and his facilities staff for always being available and willing to help on short notice.

Stephanie Krasman, Dina Brownstein, Jorge and Carl from Beth Sholom, who work tirelessly to ensure that our program runs smoothly.

To all our loyal volunteers, many of whom have been volunteering for several years, along with our newer volunteers, please know that your commitment and passion to help others who are less fortunate in our community is deeply appreciated.

OOTC is completely self-funded by both Synagogues and we wouldn't be as successful as we are without the generosity of the following community-minded companies, organizations and individuals.

O'Doughs, a kosher, gluten-free and vegan company that, for the past few years, has graciously donated an enormous weekly supply of delicious muffins as a takeaway

treat in our guests' lunch bags. Their product lineup includes a variety of flatbreads, bagels, sandwich thins, buns and desserts, which are all delicious. Check them out at www.odoughs.com.

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

Chiovitti Banana Company who, for the past two years, has graciously donated cases of bananas every week throughout our program.

TAL PRODUCTS, who donated cutlery for our dinners.

Chef Moshe Benyair from **Compliments to the Chef**, who donated a large supply of paper products and ensured that his staff prepared a huge supply of tuna each week with which to make 100 sandwiches.

Mazon Canada, for supporting our program once again with a generous food subsidy.

Aaron Moscoe of **TPS Promotions and Incentives**, who has continued to generously support our program for the past several years. This year, his son **Matthew** served as "Volunteer Project Coordinator" and initiated a very successful campaign by liaising with their suppliers who manufacture ski jackets, sweatshirts and t-shirts, to donate any excess goods in their warehouse. Both father and son's determination resulted in an incredible shipment of twenty cases of essential warm winter clothing.

Libby Gold of **Cosa-Nova Fashions Limited**, who has been a long-time supporter of OOTC, donated a huge assortment of warm winter clothing for adults.

Adam Eliesen of **NTD Apparel**, who graciously provided OOTC with a huge donation of sweatshirts, t-shirts, cozy pants and other winter necessities.

Columbia Sportswear, which sent a

large donation of winter boots and snow pants.

We also received a substantial monetary donation from **Neil and Cindy Feiglesohn**, who earmarked the funds specifically towards the purchase of warm winter essentials.

Games Afternoon

Games Afternoon is in full swing. Judi Rosen and I co-chair the program, and she has been responsible for encouraging many new players to join us. We welcome beginners to seasoned players alike to enjoy an afternoon of Mahjong or Canasta. Some players come with their own group of four, while many others come solo or in pairs and join up with others. We offer coffee, tea and refreshments and ask that everyone contributes a toonie each week to help support our *chesed* initiatives. Please bring your own Mahj card and set (if possible) and/or Canasta supplies.

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

Chesed Tribute Cards

When purchasing tribute cards at the synagogue, please consider marking the donation specifically to support the Out of the Cold Program. It's a wonderful opportunity to make a truly meaningful contribution to this important *chesed* program.

Wishing everyone a *Chag Sameach* as you celebrate the joyous and festive holidays of Purim, Pesach and Shavuot.

Let us all pray for peace in Israel and throughout the world.

The Men's Club in Action

Communications Manager Michael Goodbaum spoke with Adam Rachlin and Larry Rachlin of the Beth Tzedec Men's Club.

When was the Yom Hashoah Candle Program started?

Larry: The program was started in the late 1970s by Jules Surdin^{z1}

The candles started because we needed a way to raise money to assist Beth Tzedec member Judy Feld Carr, who was involved in rescuing the Syrian Jews. Judy not only has the Order of Canada but was also given the Order of Distinction from Israel. She rescued 3228 people from Syria, all of this in secret.

The Men's Club raised money to allow her to bribe individuals in Syria and get people out. This wasn't how the program was advertised, since it was all secret: it was marketed only as a campaign for Yom Hashoah. We are probably the only synagogue that actually delivers the candles, which is a major enterprise, delivering more than 2000 candles directly to homes.

Adam is responsible for organizing this. We want to involve people in doing something like a mitzvah and the shul is able to reach out to individuals and come to you in your home as opposed to you coming here.

How can someone get involved?

Adam: Reach out to arachlin@sympatico.ca and I will let you know

the dates when the candles are being packed. The most important job needed are people to volunteer to deliver the candles. Bags of 10 to 20 candles are delivered on an area-by-area basis, planned so that the locations are all on a close by route. Today as this interview happened, I was working on the routes.

Larry: This program, which we started, has spread all the way across North America through the Federation of Men's Clubs.

How can someone get involved in the Men's Club?

Larry: Contact me at lrachlin@sympatico.ca or 647-613-5987 and I will invite you to a meeting (with a free dinner). At the meeting, the Men's Club discusses various of our upcoming activities and programs, such as the partially subsidized Blue Jays Baseball night. The Men's Club is focused on getting more people in their 30s and 40s to join; anyone of any age is appreciated.

Women are also welcome at the Men's Club. My daughter and wife are both members. (The Men's Club name stuck because the group has been part of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs for multiple decades).

What are some other events and programs coming up?

Adam: The Men's Club really looks forward to being part of the Beth Tzedec 70th anniversary celebrations.

Larry: People should know about our scholarship program, which was started by Howard (Hy) Cooper. We offer scholarships to students for higher Jewish education but not just limited to that. There is also a scholarship for the arts, for cantorial studies, or for people who want to be teachers to help people with disabilities. The deadline for submitting applications is April 14.

Recently, we helped co-sponsor a BBQ in Israel for soldiers who are returning from Gaza.

This past year, we've had speakers come to meetings, such as MP Marco Mendocino and Michael Levitt (a fellow member). We also make donations to the organizations they're part of to help them with their work.

There's more than we can list here. We provide ushering services for the High Holy Days. Some of us assist at the annual Walk for Israel. It's a varied list of activities.

One of the first things you see when you come into the shul are pieces of Men's Club history and we hope you'll take notice and think about being a part of our club. Look out for photos from our history that we'll be displaying throughout this 70th anniversary year.



Men's Club Makes a Difference



Men's Club Scholarship

The Beth Tzedec Men's Club is pleased to sponsor their longstanding scholarship program to assist young adults who are pursuing programs of higher Jewish learning.

The criteria used to judge each application is based on the following and should be given consideration when applying:

- The career goals of the candidate and how the program of study relates to it and the benefit that may be brought to the Jewish community by the candidate.
- The program of study for which the funds will be used.
- The financial needs of the candidate.
- The overall quality of the submitted application. Please print or type as illegible handwriting will negatively impact the application process.
- Special needs or consideration should be explained in full.
- A copy of your most recent school transcripts must be included.

The deadline for applications is **April 11, 2025**.

To view the criteria or to access the scholarship application, please visit <https://bit.ly/scholarships-2025>.

Community Service Hours

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

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



Beth Tzedec Men's Club Card

Beth Tzedec's Generations Members from 20 to 39 can receive their complementary Men's Club card. If you have not received the card, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or info@beth-tzedec.org and we will send one to you.



Men's Club Baseball Night—Mark Your Calendars!

The Blue Jays bus rides again!

The Men's Club is arranging for tickets to attend the Blue Jays game on Tuesday, August 12 when they host the Chicago Cubs.

Watch for more information coming soon.



Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Classes

Are you interested in having an adult bar or bat mitzvah? We're planning classes to be taught by the Spiritual Leadership Team (SLT) and will be open for all members of Beth Tzedec. At the conclusion of the course, participants will deliver a *d'var Torah*, be called for an aliyah and read a short aliyah.

For more information, contact Rabbi Fryer Bodzin at rabbirfb@beth-tzedec.org.

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

Rosalee Berlin and Dan Berlin, wishing **Corinne Hart** a *refuah sheleimah*.

Beryl Chernick, acknowledging **Judy Feld Carr** in memory of **Donald Carr**.

The Lindzon Family, honouring **Aviva Chernick**.

Camp Ramah Fund

Susan and Paul Lindzon and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ab Flatt**.

Cantor Sidney Ezer Discretionary Fund

Deborah Staiman, wishing **Nancy Ezer Shanah Tovah**.

Chesed Fund

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

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

Nathan Greenberg and family, acknowledging **Mr. and Mrs. Matt Ritter and family** in memory of **Dr. Marvin Klotz**.

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Glicksman**.

Judy and Mark Libman, honouring **Alan Sandler** on his special birthday.

Susan B. Muskat and daughters Cyrelle and Arianna, honouring the memory of **Saul M. Muskat**.

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

Shelley and Eddy, honouring **Teddy, Hannah, and Dani Wohl**.

Daily Minyan Breakfast Fund

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

Alan Baker, honouring **Jordan Halberstadt and Brooke Lindzon** on their marriage.

Bruce and Nancy Elman, commemorating the 19th yahrtzeit of **Dave Elman**.

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

Shep and Lorraine Ganbgbar, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Shepsil Gangbar**.

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

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

The Goldbach Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jack Goldbach**.

The Goodman and Fensin Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Gordon Samuel Anker**.

The Goodman Family, marking the conclusion of *Kaddish* for **Cindy Goodman**.

The Hurwitz Family, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Earl Hurwitz**.

Norman Jesin and family, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Basia Jesin**.

The Lindenberg Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Lindenberg**.

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

Lawrie and Ruthann Lubin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Lubin**.

The Mandel Family, honouring **Zachary Mandel** on his *tefillin* bar mitzvah.

Mitch and Anne Max and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Paul Max**.

Robert Milne, honouring the memory of **Harold Milne**.

Joseph Milner, Allison Gerson, Becky, Gaby and Sylvie, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Edith Milner**.

Michael and Dawn Promislow, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Shirley Sacks** and **Israel Gandler**.

Caren Ruby and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mel Isenberg**.

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

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

Shiff and Drevnig Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harvey Drevnig**.

Joel and Bella Shupac, honouring **Jody Shupac and John Cairncross** on the birth of their son **Owen Eliezer**.

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

The Sobel Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lilian Fine**.

Carla Worb and family, commemorating the first yahrtzeit of **Dina Frankel**.

Nelly Zagdanski and Miguel Singer, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Ernest Singer**.

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

Emergency Security Fund

Rosalee Berlin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Berlin**.

Rosalee Berlin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Anne Tennenbaum**.

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

Edward Brown and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sarah Brown**.

Orah Buck, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Abraham Meir Wigser**.

Orah Buck, honouring the memory of **Rachel Wigser**.

Helen Casse, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Herbert Greenstein**.

Maury and Cheryl Cepler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Frances Irene Cepler**.

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

Cheryl and Maury Cepler and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Abramson**.

Leo Chaikof and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Israel Appel**.

Leo Chaikof and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mania Chaikof**.

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

Jeffrey Cummings and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Anne Cummings**.

Susan Dick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sidney Dick**.

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

Judy Feld Carr

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

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

Michael and Dianne Gould, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Marion Gould**.

Doreen and Jerrold Greenspan, acknowledging Corey Hurwitz in memory of **Earl Hurwitz**.

Paul and Sharon Huberman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Haberman**.

Roz Halman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **William (Bill) Halman**.

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

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

Ronna Hoffer and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Hoffer**.

The Hurwitz Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leona Hurwitz**.

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

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

Harry and Dora Kichler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Kichler**.

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

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

Sasha, Erin and Lili Litwin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jeffrey Litwin**.

Sharon and Harold Maltz and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Irving Kreidstein**.

Lawrence and Elana Mandel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fred Mandel**.

Limor Markovzki and Segal Adler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Annon Markovetski**.

Mary Ellen Herman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gilda Caplan**.

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

Pauline Menkes, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jack Weintraub**.

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

David Rakowski, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Genia Rakowski**.

The Reichert Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Toby Reichert**.

Mary and Les Richmond honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Mary and Les Richmond, honouring **Yacov Fruchter**.

Ian and Janet Roher, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Eleanor Siegel**.

Sidney Ross, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ethel Rosenbaum**.

Lorraine and Mossis Rotbard, Jerry and Donna Koffman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ann Koffman**.

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

Muriel, Steven and Sidonie Schwartz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Ellen Schwartz**.

The Silverberg and Appleby Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Edward Silverberg**.

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

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

Robert Spiegel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Nina Mae Spiegel**.

Paul and Mary Spring

The Starkman Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joel Howard Starkman**.

The Sud Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Sud**.



Family Chesed Day at Beth Tzedec Memorial Park

Sunday, May 4 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NOON

Join us for this special experience for families with children of all ages at a cemetery.

It's important for children to experience a cemetery before they are mourners themselves to alleviate their misgivings. It's also a great way to teach kids the Jewish concept of "*chesed shel emet*" the truest form of lovingkindness—because there's no chance of reciprocation.

Families will participate in all kinds of activities to help maintain the cemetery, learn how to read a Jewish tombstone, proper etiquette and Jewish ceremony customs. There will be a chance to visit the graves of family members.

Pre-registration is required. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/family-chesed-day-btmp>.

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

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

Shari and Lyle Teichman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Allan Wolfson**.

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

Norman Tobias and Ava Kanner, commemorating the 13th yahrtzeit of **Pearl (Peril) Tobias**.

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

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

Gerald and Lynda White, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry White**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring the memories of **Louis Whitehouse** and **Magda Berger**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring the **staff of Beth Tzedec** who work so diligently for this community.

David and Ellen Zworth and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mickey Zworth**.

Family Shabbat Dinner Fund

Paul and Mary Spring who celebrated their 80th and 82nd birthdays in 2024.

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

Rosalynd, Irving and Laura, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Elie Lefler**.

Food Insecurity Fund

Mona Lee and Dennis Brockman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jean Lee**.

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

Paul Sheldon, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

General Fund

Professor Jacob and Odette Masliyah, honouring **Dr. Brooke Hofbauer and Kyle Brill** on their marriage.

Pearl Rosen, honouring **Beth Tzedec** for providing the Zoom minyan.

Susan Schendel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ferdinand Milder**.

Joshua Stitt, honouring Yacov Frutcher.

Pearl Weiss, acknowledging **Rochelle Citron** in memory of **Laurence Smith**.

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

Mila Zigelman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leya Goldshteyn**.

Howard (Hy) Cooper Trust Fund

Hersh and Cheryl Rosenthal, acknowledging **Mrs. Barb Katz and family** in memory of **Charles Cooke**.

Jewish Family Living Fund

Harold and Carole Wolfe, honouring **Gary and Marcie Mansfield** on their grandson **Nathan Cooperberg's** bar mitzvah.

Harold and Carole Wolfe, honouring **Joanna Mansfield and Eli Cooperberg** on their son **Nathan Cooperberg's** bar mitzvah.

Kosher Food Bank

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

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

Little Minyan Fund

Ilene and Stephen Flatt and family, honouring **Anne and Mitch Max** on the birth of their granddaughter.

Out-of-the-Cold Fund

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

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

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

Franklin and Milli Richmond, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Edward Richmond**.

Faye and Michael Thorek, honouring the **Cooperberg Family**.

Prayer Book Dedications: Siddur

Jules Sigler, honouring **Judy Feld Carr**.

Sandy Wynia Katz, acknowledging **Valerie Jacobs** in memory of **Mike Fogelman**.

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin Discretionary Fund

Rosette Rutman, Stephen and Tamara Abrams, honouring **Lorne Shillinger** on his special birthday and his very special honour.

The Hurwitz and Zackheim Family, honouring the memories of **Earl Hurwitz** and **Melvin Zackheim**.

Dianne and Michael Yanofsky, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Rabbi Steven Wernick Discretionary Fund

Marcia Schnoor, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Betty Billinkoff**.

Rabbi Seth Goren, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick** for his steadfast support for the Jewish community and his colleagues.

Maurice and Cheryl Grezda, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Miriam Grezda**.

Roz, Liz and Stephen, honouring **Rabbi Steve and Jody Wernick**.

Sharon Singer Karlin and Ivan Karlin, Michelle Goodman, and Hannah and Noah Karlin, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

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

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

Steven G. Kelman, acknowledging **Judy Feld Carr and family** in memory of **Donald Carr**.

Dr. Jacob Langer, honouring **Reuben Rothstein and Ilana Walters** on the *brit milah* of **Sidney Phillip Rothstein**.

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

Jill Reitman, honouring **Rabbi Steve Warnick**.

Refugee Program

Jules Sigler, honouring **Judy Feld Carr**.

Sandy Wynia Katz, acknowledging **Valerie Jacobs** in memory of **Mike Fogelman**.

The Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund

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

Torah Through the Ages Fund

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

Victims of Terror Fund

Ethel Abramowitz, acknowledging **Judy Feld Carr** in memory of **Donald Carr**.

Ellen Babbin, wishing **Corinne Hart** a *refuah sheleimah*, a speedy recovery.

Rosalee Berlin, acknowledging **Judy Feld Carr and family** in memory of **Donald Carr**.

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

Flory and Bob Cohen, acknowledging **Jeanie Glazer** in memory of **Stephen Glazer**.

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

Sandy Cohen, acknowledging **Judy Feld Carr** in memory of **Donald Carr**.

Lorri and Sylvia Eckler, honouring **Dr. Jerry and Riva Kirsh** on their anniversary.

Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**.

Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Judy Feld Carr, honouring **Yacov Fruchter**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre and family, acknowledging the **Bearg Family** in memory of **Kenny Bearg**.

Roslynne and Harry Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Belle Korzen**.

Nathan Greenberg and family, acknowledging **Karen and Melissa Igra** in memory of **Fagie Igra**.

Ronna Hoffer and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Rutman**.

Edna Hussman, Ayal Lesh and Dori Hussman-Lesh, honouring **Dorion Liebgott** on being names *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Noreen Kay and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sari Troister**.

Marsha Kazman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Kazman**.

Nanette Rosen and Michael Feldman, honouring **Brian Segal and Roslyn Levine** on their 50th anniversary.

Jeanne and Irving Salit, acknowledging **Rachel Schneiderman and family** in memory of **Dr. Gerald Schneiderman**.

Jeanne and Irving Salit, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ethel Cooke**.

Felicia Valo and Arlene Travis, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Erica Elmine** and **William Travis**.

Young Professionals Programming Fund

Leslie and Joel Flatt and Baryl and Derek Erdman, honouring **Yacov Fruchter**.

Youth Initiatives Fund in memory of Adam Kruger

Chaim Cutler and Rebecca Starkman, honouring **Penina Hoffnung**.

GRIEVING TOGETHER BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Led by Rabbi Fryer Bodzin and Yacov Fruchter

For Those Who Have Lost Partners

Wednesdays, April 30 and May 7, 14 & 21 at 3:00 PM

For Those Who Have Lost Parents

Thursdays, May 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 7:00 PM

The loss of a loved one is challenging. Judaism has a clear set of mourning rituals that help us relearn to be in the world after our significant loss. We are here 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.

No charge but pre-registration is required. Register via:

<https://bit.ly/grieving-together-partners-spring25>.

<https://bit.ly/grieving-together-parents-spring25>.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
DONATE TODAY.**

By contributing to Beth Tzedec's many funds, scholarships, and initiatives, you heal and build our community. For a list of Beth Tzedec Funds, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.

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.

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.

Condolences

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

Phyllis Adler	Lazar (Lou) Hoffer
Rosanne Ain	Norman Jacobs
Rela (Ruth) Berneman	Ethel Levman
James Bleiweis	Sheldon Maerov
Rochelle Bolter	Dr. Morris Meyer Librach
Jason Brenzel	Elaine Muskat
Paul Bronfman	Frances Kay
Rachel Melissa Burk	Dr. Irwin Keltz
Yuchin Chang-Yang	Mark Newman
Rodica Leah Eugen	Dr. Samuel Newman
Elliot Feld	Brenda Panofsky
Maxine Fish	Carly Prusky
Michael Fogelman	Murray Jerome Roher
Debra L. Feuer	Joseph Bernard Schachter
Dr. Herbert Leonard Goldberg	Marcie Beth Seigel
Dr. Carol Hershorn Parker	Rose Weinstock
	Barbara Dawn Wilson

"May the God of mercy sustain and strengthen them in their sorrow."

Memorial Plaques

If you wish to honour the memory of a dear one, a fitting, traditional and dignified remembrance is through a memorial plaque and lamp. Each plaque, bearing the name and yahrtzeit date, is mounted on a bronze tablet in the Sanctuary. The lamp is lit on the Shabbat of the week of the yahrtzeit, on the day of the yahrtzeit, and on the four festivals during the year when Yizkor is recited. To order a memorial plaque, call 416-781-3511.

Everything We Do Today is for Tomorrow

Beth Tzedec has a number of opportunities for members wishing to support our *tzedakah* initiatives. Honour the memory of a loved one by making a contribution to one of our funds or inscribing a siddur on a yahrtzeit. For a complete list of Synagogue funds, 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 Director of Development, [Jonathan Ain](mailto:Jonathan.Ain@beth-tzedec.org) at 416-781-3514 ext. 229 to discuss these opportunities in confidence.



PASSOVER MENU 2025
MINIMUM SPEND \$400 + HST
NO SPLIT ORDERS
 EXCEPTION FOR FULL CAKES, WHICH CAN BE PURCHASED SEPERATELY
 Email Orders to passover@apexkoshercatering.com
 All Orders Must be Received by **Sunday, April 6th 2025**
 Available for Pick-Up from **11am to 1 pm** on **Friday, April 11th 2025**

Soups & Appetizers

- Quantity
- BUTTERNUT SQUASH AND PEAR SOUP (GF)
 \$18 PER LITRE (SERVES 4)
- CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP (GF)
 WITH BRUNOISE OF
 CARROT, CELERY, ONION, AND DICED CHICKEN
 \$20 PER LITRE (SERVES 4)
- CLEAR CHICKEN SOUP (GF)
 \$14 PER LITRE (SERVES 4)
- MATZAH BALLS
 \$2 PER PIECE (2.5" - 3" DIAMETER)
- SWEET GEFILTE FISH (GF)
 WITH BEET HORSERADISH
 \$5 PER 4 OZ PORTION
- SALT AND PEPPER GEFILTE FISH (GF)
 WITH BEET HORSERADISH
 \$5 PER 4 OZ PORTION

Salads

- MIXED GREEN SALAD (GF)
 WITH ORANGE, GRAPEFRUIT, MANDARIN SEGMENTS, SWEET
 PICKLED HEIRLOOM CARROTS, HONEY BERRY DRESSING
 \$6 PER PORTION
- BABY SPINACH SALAD (GF)
 WITH ROASTED RED AND GOLDEN BEETS, BALSAMIC VINAIGRETTE
 \$6 PER PORTION

Sides/Starches

- HERB CRISP POTATOES (GF)
 WITH GARLIC CHIMICHURRI
 \$6 PER PORTION (6 OZ)
- POTATO KUGEL
 \$15 PER PAN (7" X 4")
- APPLE KUGEL
 \$17 PER PAN (7" X 4")
- HERB SAUTÉED MIXED VEGETABLES (GF)
 \$6 PER PORTION (6 OZ)

Seder Set Menu

\$47 PER PERSON MINIMUM 2 PEOPLE \$42 PER PERSON MINIMUM 10 PEOPLE

SEDER SET MENU INCLUDES:

- CHICKEN NOODLE MATZAH BALL SOUP
- BABY SPINACH SALAD
- PAN SEARED CHICKEN SUPREME
- CITRUS GLAZED SALMON (+\$4)
- HERB CRISP POTATOES
- HERB SAUTÉED MIXED VEGETABLES
- FROZEN LEMON CAKE FLOURLESS CHOCOLATE CAKE

Mains

- Quantity
- PAN SEARED CHICKEN SUPREME (GF)
 WITH MANGO PEACH SALSA WITH AU JUS
 \$21 PER PORTION
- CHICKEN SCHNITZEL
 WITH MUSHROOM CARAMELIZED SPINACH VELOUTÉ
 \$21 PER PORTION
- CITRUS GLAZED SALMON FILET (GF)
 SERVED WITH CITRUS POMEGRANATE SALSA
 \$23 PER PORTION (6 OZ)
- MONTREAL SPICED BRAISED BRISKET (GF)
 WITH AU JUS
 \$30 PER 8 OZ COOKED WEIGHT

Additions

- CHICKEN FINGERS
 WITH KETCHUP AND PLUM SAUCE
 \$30 PER DOZEN
- CHAROSET (GF)
 \$16 PER 500ML
- SEDER PLATE (GF)
 ENOUGH FOR CEREMONIAL PLATE
 \$20 PER PLATE
- RED BEET HORSERADISH (GF)
 \$8.50 PER PAN (7"X4")

Desserts

- FROZEN LEMON CAKE \$70 PER CAKE
 \$8.50 PER INDIVIDUAL PIECE
- FLOURLESS CHOCOLATE CAKE \$60 PER CAKE
 \$8.50 PER INDIVIDUAL PIECE
- DELIVERY
 \$35.00 IN GTA
- BETH TZEDEC
- BETH EMETH

Client Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____ Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Credit Card* #: _____

Expiry: _____ CVC: _____

E-transfer to: m@apexkoshercatering.com

To access the online Passover menu, visit www.apexkoshercatering.com/passover-menu

2% FEE WILL BE ADDED TO CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS. A 5.5% FEE APPLIES FOR AMEX PAYMENTS.

—2025—

Yasher Koach Awards

Join us at Services on the second day of Shavuot,
Tuesday, June 3, as Beth Tzedec honours our
Yasher Koach Award recipients.

Ellen Babbin

Stephen Margles

Ivan Betcherman

Adam Rachlin

Kyle Brill

Lilah Rapoport

Azadeh De Leon

Alan Sandler

Gary Elman

Benji Shinewald

Bonnie Greenberg

Cantor Deborah Staiman

Corinne Hart

Milton Ver skin

Mia Ella Hirschberg

Rosalie White

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.

