



## ENJOY MUSIC AT BETH TZEDEC

*All Season Long!*

**Shabbat Dinner with  
Aviva Chernick**  
February 7  
See p. 30

**Shabbat Shirah  
Celebration**  
February 8  
See p. 2

**Purim Carnival and Abridged  
Megillah Reading**  
March 9  
See p. 8

# Shabbat Shirah Celebration

**Saturday, February 8**

**Shabbat Shaḥarit Service 8:45 AM**

**Shabbat Shirah Concert 8:00 PM**



## Beth Tzedec celebrates Shabbat Shirah and Black History Month with the Nathaniel Dett Chorale.

Join us for a melodic *Shaḥarit* Service led by Cantor Sidney Ezer and the Beth Tzedec *Shir Hadash* Ensemble, featuring the Nathaniel Dett Chorale's artistic director Brainerd Blyden-Taylor speaking about Old Testament stories in African American Spirituals and the shared experience of slavery/persecution in both traditions and music. Everyone is welcome.

A community kiddush follows.

On Saturday evening, the Nathaniel Dett Chorale joins Cantor Sidney Ezer and the *Shir Hadash* Ensemble for an inspirational interfaith concert on the theme of slavery and freedom featuring Afrocentric music. The liturgy and music of both faiths will be represented.

**Tickets:** \*Advance Purchase: \$15 members; \$20 non-members. At the door: \$25

**For information or concert tickets, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).**

*\*Advance ticket sales end Friday, February 7 at 12:00 noon*



**The Nathaniel Dett Chorale** is a multi-faceted group of singers and Canada's first professional chamber choir dedicated to Afrocentric music of all styles, including classical, spiritual, gospel, jazz, folk and blues. They have shared the stage with internationally recognized artists such as Juno Award-winning jazz pianist Joe Sealy, singers Molly Johnson and Jackie Richardson, opera star Kathleen Battle and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. The ensemble has performed for such luminaries as opera singer Jessye Norman and Dance Theatre of Harlem founder Arthur Mitchell. They have also performed at events honouring world leaders Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, boxing personality Muhammad Ali and pianist Oscar Peterson. They were the only Canadian ensemble invited to perform at celebrations surrounding the historic inauguration of President Barack Obama in 2009.

# Justice, Justice You Shall Pursue



We are Beth Tzedec, a platform for righteousness. We share a passion for extending justice into the world.

## **TZEDAKAH IS NOT CHARITY. THOUGH CHARITY IS TZEDAKAH.**

The word charity comes from the Latin word *caritas* meaning love. One gives charity, then, when one feels love or empathy for another person or a cause. There is no sense of obligation or responsibility, though it is, of course, highly encouraged.

The word *tzedakah*, on the other hand, comes from the Hebrew word *tzedec*, meaning justice or righteousness, and its implication goes way beyond charity. *Tzedec* implies a modality of individual and communal responsibility and behaviour to uphold what is right, moral and fair. This is why the Jewish concept of *tzedec* informs how we view legal systems, economic systems, social systems and the like.

In fact, as Rabbi Sidney Schwarz writes in his book *Judaism and Justice*, the creation and maintenance of justice is one of the essential purposes of Judaism. To fulfill his destiny, Abraham must “extend the boundaries of righteousness and justice in the world.” Schwarz continues, “Why be Jewish?—because it is a heritage that extends the boundaries of righteousness and justice in the world and invests our world with holiness.”

Consider Beth Tzedec. When the generation that founded this sacred community determined its name, they clearly had this notion of *tzedec* in mind. I’m reminded of a story Zoli Zimmerman’s family shared with me as we prepared for his funeral. When he came

to Toronto after the Holocaust, he needed work. Construction was underway here at Bathurst and Eglinton and he was able to work collecting the unneeded and damaged steel and iron. Beth Tzedec worked with JIAS and others and helped provide some of the first jobs for new immigrants. That’s not charity, that’s *tzedakah*.

We are a congregation that continues to live up to our name. We welcome IDF veterans still suffering from PTSD, we rescue refugees, we house the homeless, we collect food for the hungry, we engage the lonely and we give charity to support worthy causes.

As you read through the winter *Bulletin*, look for ways in which you too can make a difference and give of yourself such that we can extend the boundaries of *tzedec* beyond our synagogue walls. Donate winter clothing to Out of the Cold, join the Refugee Sponsorship Group, help us meet the needs of *bikkur holim* (visiting the sick and homebound) or let us know how we can help you and your friends in a project that you care about—we can infuse it with Jewish context and offer a vast network, promotion and more. Contact Yacov Fruchter, Rabbi Fryer Bodzin or myself and we will be happy to support you.

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## **BETH TZEDEC @ OUT OF THE COLD**

Tuesdays, January 21, February 4 & 18 and  
March 3 & 24 from 5:00 to 9:00 PM



Beth Tzedec families are invited to participate in Out of the Cold at Beth Sholom, serving hot meals to the guests of the program. Teens in Grades 6 to 8 must come with an adult; parents are welcome! RSVPs required to Daniel Silverman at 416-781-3514, ext. 231 or [dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org).



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



# VOLUNTEER IN MEXICO

Join UJA Genesis, in partnership with Holy Blossom Temple and Beth Tzedec Congregation, for an 8-day volunteer mission to Huatulco, Mexico. A unique opportunity for young adults who are passionate about educating and engaging with youth abroad.

- // Help support the local population's needs by teaching children life skills
- // Learn about the development issues facing the local community
- // Explore the important question of responsibility toward others through a Jewish lens

Dates: Monday, June 1 – Monday, June 8, 2020  
Application Deadline: Friday, January 17, 2020  
Eligibility: Young professionals (20-30)

**Cost: \$300**  
*This covers ground costs, but does NOT include airfare, travel insurance, visas and immunizations.*

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT  
Yacov Fruchter  
yfruchter@beth-tzedec.org



## Mark Your Calendar **OUT OF THE COLD ART EXHIBIT AND SALE**

Sunday, March 29 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM

# Stepping Forward

Having a diversity of voices at the table only makes us stronger.



**I COME FROM A FAMILY OF STRONG WOMEN, ALL VERY** involved in community activities and leadership.

My grandmothers were both very philanthropic and tireless in their volunteer positions. My mother was involved with the National Council of Jewish Women, Chair of the Women's Division of UJA, among numerous other organizations, and of course, Beth Tzedec.

My mother's passion at the *shul* has always been the Reuben & Helene Dennis Museum. I spent many an afternoon doing my homework in the Museum as she organized and catalogued exhibits. I was always taught that a woman's contribution was just as important as a man's in all facets of life, and I learned from the example of those who came before me.

Personally, I had never thought of joining the Board of Directors at Beth Tzedec. When I was nominated nine years ago, I was taken aback, not really knowing what I could contribute. My husband Michael and I had been asked to join a Bar/Bat Mitzvah Task Force as our daughter Emma, was starting the Bar/Bat Mitzvah program. The task force was asked to look at ways in which the program could be improved. That was the extent of my involvement at Beth Tzedec, other than being a lifelong member and a regular *shul*-goer. But I was asked and really, how could I say no given my family's history at Beth Tzedec—but more importantly, how could I say no to a place that I love?

There are so many opportunities for involvement and leadership in our *kehillah*. My first year on the Board, I co-chaired the Communications Committee, which undertook the redevelopment of the Beth Tzedec website. I moved onto the Executive a year later. As Chair and now as President, I have had the unique perspective of witnessing the inner workings of the many committees that are the heart and soul of our *shul*.

My newest position is serving in an ex-officio role on the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being Advisory Committee.

At our first meeting, under the leadership of Rabbi Fryer Bodzin, I was so privileged to see the others on the committee get so excited about the Centre and sharing their gifts and expertise with our community. There is a lot about leadership that can be exhausting, stressful and draining, but these are the days that keep me energized, excited and focused on our goals.

Last year, under our new by-laws, for the first time, members of the congregation could put their names forward to be nominated to the Board. The hope was that members would be motivated to get involved, no longer hampered by who they knew on the Nominations Committee. What I didn't expect was that all but one of the members who put their names forward would be men. How was this possible when there are so many incredibly capable and impressive women in our *kehillah*?

Leah Mauer, a member of our 20's and 30's Committee, sent me an article from eJewish Philanthropy that gave me an answer. The article, "The Week That All Jewish Women Turned Invisible", details how without women's voices being acknowledged in leadership, they simply do not step forward to fill vacant slots. It was a fascinating read and one that has really changed my way of thinking. We need to be conscious of the make-up of our committees—women need to be better represented as committee members and as leaders. The same holds true for Jews by Choice, Jews of Colour, Jews who identify as LGBTQ+. Having a diversity of voices at the table only makes us stronger.

I urge each and every one of you to get involved in some way at Beth Tzedec. We're not just here for the High Holy Days. There is so much to experience at our *shul* the other 362 days of the year. I am confident that if you do, you will find a strong community waiting for you and many opportunities to make Beth Tzedec and the broader world a better place.

Rabbi Wernick has said that *shlaymoot* will be the foundational principle of the synagogue moving forward. We each share a personal responsibility for community, social and personal well-being. So please get involved in any manner in which you can.

And when the e-mail goes out in early 2020 asking for nominations to the Board of Directors, ladies, please step forward!

If you would like to become more involved in any way at Beth Tzedec, please contact me at [president@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:president@beth-tzedec.org).

—Debbie Rothstein, President



*Lishma Jewish Learning Project launched in November 2018 in Toronto. We are a community of learners in our 20s and 30s, excited to share our desire for greater Jewish engagement. We are willing to ask questions of our tradition and we want to explore how it informs our lives today. We hope you'll be part of it.*

**Semester 3: January 15, 22 & 29 and February 5, 12 & 19 @ Holy Blossom Temple**

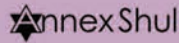
**Hands-On Track:**  
New Jewish Film  
with Aaron Rotenberg

**Judaism + Modernity:**  
Bad@\$\$ Sheroes  
with Rabbi Becca Walker

**Text and Context:**  
Jewish Couplehood  
with Yacov Fruchter

For information or to register, visit [www.lishma.com](http://www.lishma.com)

Presented by:



# Healing Services

*with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin*

**Wednesday evenings, January 8,  
March 4 and May 6 at 7:30 PM**

When you feel broken, turn to our tradition for strength and renewal. With the launch of the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being, we will be offering regular healing services with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin. Join us as we enrich our lives and strive for a sense of *shlaymoot* (well-being). No charge, but RSVPs appreciated.



# What Time is It?

With so much on the go and a finite amount of time, we must stop and ask ourselves what matters most and give ourselves the opportunity to spend time doing it.



**THE ALARM BLASTS AT 6:00, THE** shower heats, the coffee percolates, the flat iron is fired up, the mousse foams, contact lenses are popped into tired eyes and clothes are laid out just as the bus beeps for the kids—oy! Traffic is “light” (who are they kidding) and *Shaharit* starts in 15 minutes.

Work by 9:00, meetings at 11:30, 1:00 and 3:00, pick-up from extended care by 5:30, dinner, homework and kids to bed by 7:00. Finally, by 8:30, a chance to ... fill in the blank.

We run our lives with schedules: sunrise/sunset; *Shaharit / Minhah / Ma'ariv*; candles to start and end Shabbat. Somehow we have to fit it all in. We rely on diaries, devices and mostly on each other to keep us on pace and hit our deadlines.

My friend Louie<sup>z</sup> used to say that there are only two important things in life—timing and moderation. It's gruelling trying to stay on time. And in doing so, we frequently violate the idea of moderation. Our age of information technology demands that we do more, better and faster. It takes so much just to keep up, never mind find the time for quality thought and creativity. From school to work, we are forever cramming, playing catch-up.

In the synagogue, there is so much going on—Professor Ages' classes, luncheons, Canasta, Family Shabbatot, Out of the Cold, Hana Werner lectures, community programs, concerts—all demanding the full effort of volunteers and staff. And as much as we do, demands grow with each success. Technology allows us to reach more people and to get instant feedback. We try to stay on top of literally hundreds of emails every day,

but how to do it all and more—and do it well?

Harry M. Jansen Kraemer, Jr., a brilliant businessman, inspirational speaker and author, talks about the importance of the number 168; the number of hours in the week. As he says, it is all we have, for whatever it is we want/need/wish to accomplish. No more, no less.

Let's see:

- Work (depending on where you work): 50 hours
- Sleep: 42 hours
- Personal time (reading, Netflix, time with friends): 25 hours
- Time in the car (commuting/schlepping): 10 hours
- Meal time: 10 hours
- Getting ready for work, activity, bed: 7 hours
- Exercise: 4 hours

How to spend the remaining 20 hours of your week?

In his book, *From Values to Action*, in addressing leadership, Kraemer says, “Self-reflection is the key to identifying what you stand for, what your values are and what matters most.” With so much on the go and a finite amount of time, we must stop and ask ourselves ‘what matters most’ and give ourselves the opportunity to spend time doing it. His message is a reminder of one way for us to look at life.

What if we just paused and looked at ourselves and each other a little longer, listened a little more carefully and took a few well-earned deep breaths? What if we set limits on what we have to do and gave ourselves the opportunity to focus better and with less stress, and feed our inner selves

with what we want to do? When we can know what really moves us, gives us pleasure and makes life meaningful, we can lead happier and more successful lives. Balance, Kraemer says, is fundamental. And with the numerous competing interests in our lives, “It always comes down to doing the right thing and doing the best you can.”

Perhaps, as we strive for excellence in our daily lives, we must (another Kraemer principle) have the humility to accept who we are and who others are. Try as we do to fit it all in, Shabbat will start when it starts, whether we are ready or not. Ever watch *Iron Chef*? “Spatula down, time's up.” The newspaper, the broadcast, even this *Bulletin*, have to go to press. We must live with deadlines and accept there can be no more “final” edits or tweaks. There will always be another headline to write, another article to post and another loaf of *hallah* to bake.

How to cope? Invest in the time it takes to do our best, accept our limitations and reflect on what and how we do what we do.

We only have 168 hours in each week. Kraemer says that “when you truly know yourself and what you stand for, it is much easier to know what to do in any situation.” Think about how you spend your 168 and how to use them wisely because they are yours. As we spend the time to take the time, we may just find the peace and balance we need to do the things that matter most.

To make a gift that will strengthen our *kehillah*, please contact me at 416-781-3514, ext. 211 or [rspiegel@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:rspiegel@beth-tzedec.org).



# PURIM CARNIVAL

## and Abridged Megillah Reading

**Monday, March 9 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM**

Join the fun at our annual Purim carnival! Kids of all ages will enjoy carnival booths, bouncy castles, a toddlers' play-zone and a dance party. The carnival will pause from 5:15 to 5:45 PM for a child-centric, abridged *Megillah* reading, and then resume with more fun and games. (A full *Megillah* reading begins at approximately 7:15 PM).



No charge for activities; children's food available for purchase. RSVPs appreciated to the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org) by **Wednesday, March 4**.

## Searching for My Voice

A World Premiere by Allan Soberman

May 12, 2020

"Searching for My Voice" is Allan's heartfelt story of growing up in the family of Beth Tzedec's beloved Cantor Morris Soberman (z"l), who was the *Ba'al Koreh*, *Hazzan Sheini* and Bar/Bat Mitzvah teacher of 2,800 of us for over 35 years. The show features melodies Allan learned as a child as the "cantor's son" and traces his personal journey as a performer and music producer to find his own voice.

Watch for ticket information coming soon.





# Mazal Tov

to our B'nei Mitzvah

**WHO HAVE COMPLETED  
OUR BAR/BAT MITZVAH  
PROGRAM**



**January 18**  
**Justin Giddens**  
son of Dr. Jonathan  
& Susan Giddens  
אברהם ראובן בן יוסף אריה  
ושושנה



**February 1 (at Minḥah)**  
**Eden Agulnik**  
daughter of Adam Agulnik  
& Galit Zupnik  
עדן בת אדם וגלית



**February 17**  
**David Pasternak**  
son of Jonathan & Cara Pasternak  
דוד בן יונתן ורבקה



**February 22 (at Minḥah)**  
**Maya Klimitz**  
daughter of Dr. Jordan & Ester Klimitz  
מאיה חיה דבורה בת יוסף משה  
יצחק ואסתר



**March 28**  
**William Wall**  
son of Edmund & Lisa Wall  
נח בן לאה



Are you a Beth Tzedec member with a child attending Camp Ramah in Canada for the first time? BT members have access to one incentive grant per family, thanks to **The Beth Tzedec and Phyllis & Ab Flatt Camp Ramah in Canada Incentive Program Family Fund**

For additional information about summer camping opportunities, please contact Daniel Silverman at [dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org), call 416-781-3514, ext. 231 or call the Jewish camp of your choice.



**20s AND 30s HOLOCAUST  
REMEMBRANCE SHABBAT DINNER**

**Shabbat to Remember  
with Holocaust survivor  
Reny Friedman**

**Friday, January 24  
beginning at 6:00 PM**

Beth Tzedec's 20s and 30s are partnering with the Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre for a Shabbat dinner in honour of International Holocaust Remembrance Day. We will begin with Kabbalat Shabbat Services at 6:00 PM.

Cost: \$25 per person, by advance reservation only by **Monday, January 20.**

Reserve online via **Eventbrite.ca** or call the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.



UJA FEDERATION | SARAH AND CHAIM NEUBERGER  
of Greater Toronto | HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE

**בית צדק**  
Beth Tzedec Congregation

# The Beth Tzedec Book and Film Club

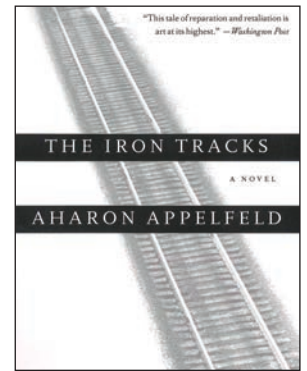
**Wednesday, March 25 at 1:30 PM  
(Lunch at 1:00 PM)**

**\$25 (pre-registration required)**

## The Iron Tracks

**Dr. Harriet Morris  
discusses Aharon Appelfeld's book.**

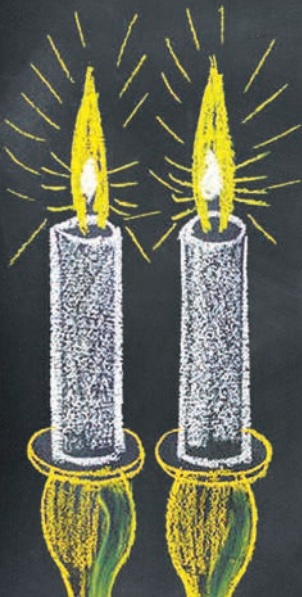
A peddler of Judaica has been riding the trains of postwar Austria for over 40 years, ever since his release from a concentration camp, with a secret mission. Appelfeld takes us on a trek of memory, revenge and forgiveness.



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# SHABBAT 101



**Shabbat mornings, January 18, February 15,  
March 14 and May 16  
from 10:30 to 11:45 AM**

Shabbat 101 is a 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.

*Presented by Beth Tzedec Congregation and Keeping the Faith*

# Milestones and celebrations



We can't share your good news unless you tell us about it. Send an email to [thumphries@bethzedec.org](mailto:thumphries@bethzedec.org), or call us at 416-781-3514 ext. 212. **Deadline for the next Bulletin covering April through June is February 12.**

## Births

**Micah Hallie**, daughter of LESLEY & REUBEN KOCHMAN, granddaughter of LAWRIE & ELLEN MANN and MARK & LOLA KOCHMAN, great-granddaughter of ANN SAMUELS and LUCY KOCHMAN, born July 27.

**Jayden Samuel**, son of RACHEL & JONATHAN BERGER, grandson of STUART & LAURA SHAMIS and SEYMOUR & DIANE BERGER, great-grandson of DR. PERCY & MIRIAM URBACK, SHEILA SHAMIS and MORRIS SHAMIS & LOUISE WENDLING, born August 5.

**Edie Lynne**, daughter of MICHAEL & CARRIE GEIST, granddaughter of THE LATE TERRY GEIST, MARVIN GEIST, BARBARA BREGMAN and MICHAEL BREGMAN, great-granddaughter of YETTA BREGMAN, born August 26 (in Los Angeles).

**Oliver**, son of JUSTIN LINDEN & STEPHANIE ORLEANS, grandson of ROCHELLE LINDEN and ADELE & MARVIN ORLEANS, born September 5.

**Josephine**, daughter of PEARL & GENEVIÈVE COHEN, granddaughter of CATHY & HOWARD COHEN, DENISE ROBINSON & JEFFREY MORTON, and ROBERT FONG-JEAN, great-granddaughter of PENNY & NEIL SIPKES, MARY LEE BRAGG & COLIN MORTON, DAVID & ADELE ROBINSON, PAT & PAUL PARENT and HEATHER FONG-JEAN, born October 22.

**Maya Frances**, daughter of REBECCA & IRA SHINER, granddaughter of BENITA & FRED GOLT and FAYE & ALAN SHINER, born October 31.

**Lior Yitzhak**, son of YAKOV & SARAH KOHL, grandson of RABBI BARUCH & JOSETTE FRYDMAN-KOHL and DANIEL NEMZER, born November 11.

**Henry Lev**, son of BRYAN FLATT & SOPHIE GOTTESMAN, grandson of ILENE & STEPHEN FLATT and LIDDY BECK & STEVE GOTTESMAN, great-grandson of PHYLLIS & AB FLATT and FLORENCE MAGRAM, born November 13.

## Weddings

**Jonathan Rosen**, son of RANDY & HOWARD ROSEN, grandson of GINA & SIDNEY BROWN and PEARL & JOSEPH ROSEN<sup>z"l</sup>, and **Lauren Kleiner**, daughter of FRAN & IRV KLEINER, granddaughter of PAULA & BENNET<sup>z"l</sup> AGRANOVE and YETTA & LEO<sup>z"l</sup> KLEINER, who were married August 17

**Yael Liat Pullan**, daughter of ANNE & ELI PULLAN, granddaughter of DEVORAH PERLMAN & DAVID PULLAN, and **Cory Ditkofsky**, son of NANCY & JACK DITKOFSKY (of Montreal), grandson of GUSTAWA MANSFELD and BEATRICE DITKOFSKY, who were married October 19.

**Justin Rosen**, son of RANDY & HOWARD ROSEN, grandson of GINA & SIDNEY BROWN and PEARL & JOSEPH ROSEN<sup>z"l</sup>, and **Erica Frieberg**, daughter of KATHY & DAVID FRIEBERG, granddaughter of BETTY & HERB FRIEBERG, who were married December 14.

## Congratulations to

**Allan Pyzer**, who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 24.

**Allen & Susan Schacht**, who celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary on November 26.

**Louise Starkman**, who was awarded the Ontario Volunteer Service Award by the Province of Ontario in recognition of her service to Dawes Road Cemeteries.

**Cathy Surdin & Lawrence Shiff**, who celebrated their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on October 30.

**Simon Weisz**, son of ANNE & RANDY WEISZ, and **Katarina Zoricic**, daughter of SILVIA BRUDAR & BEBE ZORICIC, on their engagement.

## Many Thanks to

The Rosen Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on August 10 to honour the marriage of their son **Jonathan Rosen & Lauren Kleiner**.

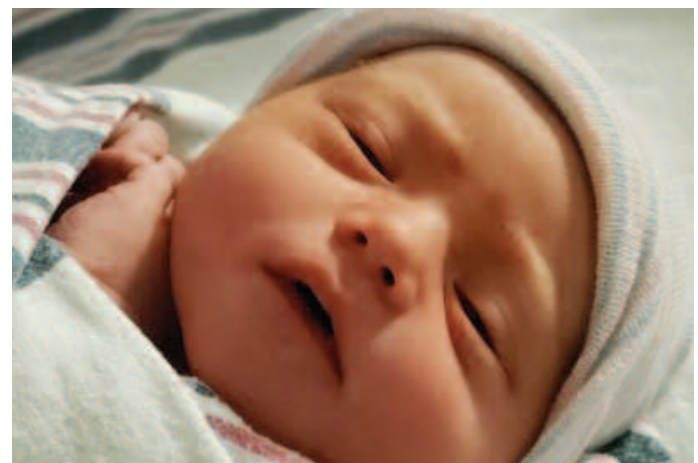
Moshe Micha & Chloe McAlister, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on September 14 to honour the birth of their daughter **Nava**.

Larry & Nina Wallach, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on September 21 to honour **Toby Wallach** on her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Aaron Bodzin & Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on September 28 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Jerry Bodzin**.

Dot Whitehouse, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 5 to honour the birthday of her late father **Louis Whitehouse**.

Caroline Bokar Gordon & Errol Gordon, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on October 12 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Mara Bokar**.



Mazal tov to Geneviève & Pearl Cohen, who welcomed daughter Josephine on October 22.

Ilene Flatt and family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 12 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **P. Theodore Magram**.

Gella & Paul Rothstein, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 14 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **J. Barney Goldhar**.

Debbie & Mark Bank, Corrie & Paul Gancman and Alison & Robert Gladstone, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 26 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Shirley Gladstone**.

Joseph Rosenthal, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 26 to commemorate the *yahrtzeiten* of **Shmuel Rosenthal** and **David White**.

The Black Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 2 to honour the first anniversary of the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Aaron Black**.

Geneviève & Pearl Cohen and families, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 2 to honour the birth of their daughter **Josephine**.

The Ezer Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 9 to honour **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Ab & Phyllis Flatt, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on November 9 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Moses Flatt**.

Gloria & Dr. Ronald Jacobs, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on November 9 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Dorothy Freedman**.

Esterita Rajskey and Rochelle Zabitsky, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 16 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **William Chananie**.

The Ezer and Arbuck Families, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 23 to honour the birthday of **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Paul & Gella Rothstein, who sponsored a *Seudah Shlisheet* on November 23 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Isaac Rothstein**.

Dr. Lawrie Giddens & Candice Kurk, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 30 to honour their 36<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, the anniversary of **Lawrie's Bar Mitzvah** and the engagement of their son **Seth Giddens & Dani Jesin**.

Debbie & Mark Bank, Corrie & Paul Gancman and Robert & Alison Gladstone, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on December 7 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Harold Gladstone**.

Bernice Stern and the Stern and Gropper families, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on December 7 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Gitel Rotenstein**.

Jason & Vered Feldman, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on December 7 to honour the fourth anniversary of their son **Nathaniel's Bar Mitzvah**.

The Ackerman Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on December 14 to commemorate the yahrtzeit of **Dr. John Ackerman**.

Dr. Jonathan & Susan Giddens, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on January 18 to honour the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Justin Giddens**.

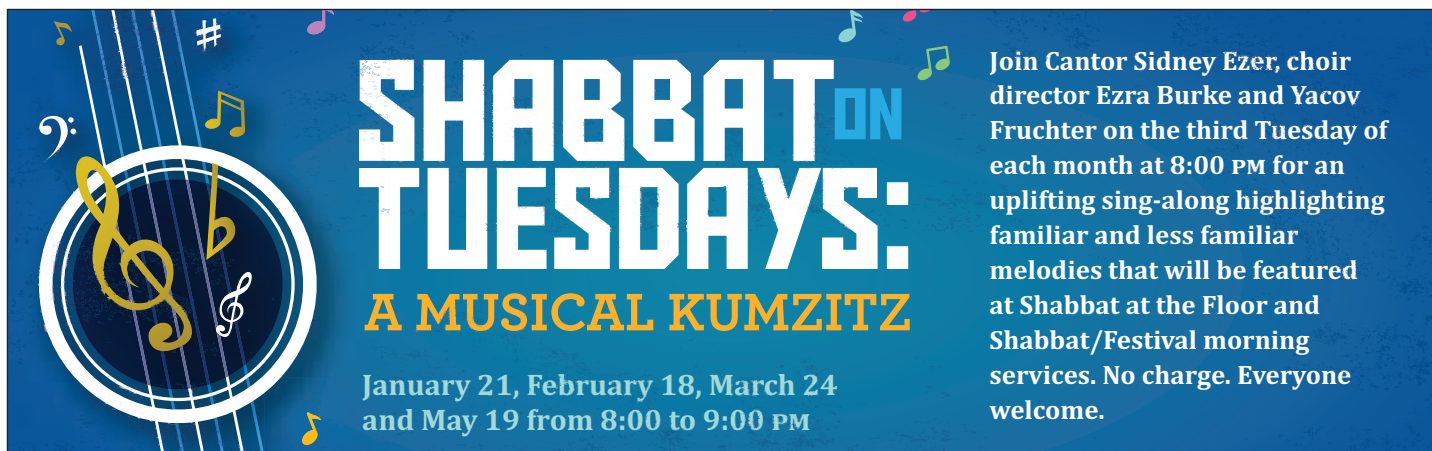
Adam Agulnik & Galit Zupnik, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on February 1 to honour the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter **Eden Agulnik**.

Jonathan & Cara Pasternak, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on February 15 to honour the Bar Mitzvah of their son **David Pasternak**.

Dr. Jordan & Ester Klinitz, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on February 22 to honour the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter **Maya Klinitz**.

Edmund & Lisa Wall, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on March 28 to honour the Bar Mitzvah of their son **William Wall**.

Jeffery & Cherryl Berliner, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on February 22 to honour the upcoming marriage of their son **Michael Berliner** and **Sara Schachter**.



**SHABBAT ON TUESDAYS: A MUSICAL KUMZITZ**

January 21, February 18, March 24 and May 19 from 8:00 to 9:00 PM

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer, choir director Ezra Burke and Yacov Fruchter on the third Tuesday of each month at 8:00 PM for an uplifting sing-along highlighting familiar and less familiar melodies that will be featured at Shabbat at the Floor and Shabbat/Festival morning services. No charge. Everyone welcome.

# Ceiling Tiles

When we are able to let go and focus on the blessings and the opportunities we have, then we can begin to act more godly.



**MOST OF US, AT SOME POINT OR** another, have found ourselves staring upward, counting ceiling tiles. So let's imagine that we are sitting in a room with a tiled ceiling. Now imagine that one tile is missing. Just one. Where do your eyes go? Of course, you're staring at the missing tile.

What if you were looking at our Beit Alpha Floor mosaic and noticed a piece was cracked—would you be able to look away?

Or what if during a rainy summer, your entire family worked on a 1,000 piece jigsaw puzzle together? And somehow, one piece was missing. Which piece would you focus on?

What about when one hair is out of place, or one fingernail is messed up or there is a tiny stain on an otherwise pristine carpet? When these situations arise, what do we fixate on? What don't we let go of?

That's The Missing Tile Syndrome—the preoccupation with imperfections and anomalies. It runs contrary to how we are supposed to live our lives as Jews. We are supposed to engage in *hakarat hatov*, expressions of gratitude, such as thanking God and those around us for our blessings.

People who are afflicted by The Missing Tile Syndrome focus on what is missing from their lives. It robs us of the ability to appreciate the ample

goodness that surrounds us.

When we are able to let go and focus on the blessings and the opportunities we have, then we can begin to act more godly.

When we consider the sisters Leah and Rachel from the Torah, Rachel is usually elevated in comparison to her sister. Rachel is described as shapely and beautiful, while her sister is not. Of the two sisters, Rachel is Jacob's beloved wife. In *Genesis* 30:22, we read that God was directly involved in Rachel's fertility journey as "God remembered Rachel; God heeded her and opened her womb." Rachel is the one who births Joseph, the favourite son. It is Joseph who continues the story of our ancestors, the Israelite people.

Leah is known for mothering most of Jacob's sons. But I think that Leah's legacy goes far beyond her ability to give birth. Leah taught us all how to say thank you. She modeled *hakarat hatov*, the importance of gratitude. After giving birth to Reuven, Shimon and Levi, she bore one more son. We read in *Genesis* 29:35 "she conceived again, and bore a son; and she said: 'This time will I thank the LORD.' Therefore she called his name Judah."

On this verse, Rabbi Yohanan said in the name of Rabbi Shimon ben Yohai: "From the day the Holy

One, Blessed be He, created the world, no one thanked the Holy One, Blessed be He, until Leah came and thanked Him, as it is stated: 'This time I will give thanks to God.'"

Giving thanks to God and our fellow human beings is an essential part of being Jewish. Among the first words in our *siddur*, we find the *Modeh Ani*, where we thank God for life and for enabling us to wake up.

While our days are short and the cold makes many of us want to hibernate through the winter, I encourage all of us to prioritize *hakarat hatov*. Make time to thank people for the good they bestow on us and to thank God for the blessings in our lives.

If you have a positive interaction with a person, send a text, an email or a handwritten note letting them know how they made you feel. *Hakarat hatov* is contagious. If you do it for someone, chances are they will pay it forward.

Nearly every ceiling we stand under will have at least one missing or cracked or nicked tile. Some cracks will be easier to see than others. Instead of focusing on the negative above, look at the blessings around you and within you. And then say thank you, in whatever way works best for you.

## Rabbi Fryer Bodzin at Associated Hebrew Day School

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin has been getting out to the community and enjoyed the opportunity to visit her alma mater—Associated Hebrew Day School—and meet with many of the current crop of students.



# Winter Film Afternoons

Wednesdays, January 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 1:00 PM

Come in out of the cold and enjoy an afternoon of entertaining films and refreshments with friends both old and new.



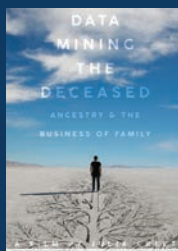
## January 6 Mr. Gaga

Ohad Naharin, an artistic genius who redefined the language of modern dance, is a director of the Batsheva Dance Company. He is regarded as one of the most important choreographers in the world. Filmed over a period of eight years, director Tomer Heymann mixes intimate rehearsal footage with an extensive unseen archive and breathtaking dance sequences for this fascinating documentary. The rhythm of the story is guaranteed to leave you skipping. *[Hebrew with English subtitles]*



## January 13 Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles

Discover the origin story behind one of Broadway's most beloved musicals, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and its creative roots in early 1960s New York, when "tradition" was on the wane as gender roles, sexuality, race relations and religion were evolving.



## January 20 Data Mining the Deceased: Ancestry and the Business of Family

This documentary explores genealogy, ownership and access of your personal data and privacy risks. FamilySearch is the largest not-for-profit genealogical database in the world and ncestry.com is the largest for-profit genealogical database. Both sites extensively share and exchange records. How do we protect our privacy? After the movie, we'll enjoy a talk with producer and director Dr. Julia Creet.



## January 27 Prosecuting Evil: The Extraordinary World of Ben Ferencz

The fascinating story of Ben Ferencz who, at 27 years of age, became the lead prosecutor in the Einsatzgruppen case at Nuremberg, which has been called the biggest murder trial in history. All 22 Nazi officials were convicted. Ferencz became a lifelong advocate of "law not war" and, at 98 years of age, continues his fight for justice for victims of atrocity.

Cost: \$5 per screening (Funds support the Out of the Cold program)

Sponsored by the Sigmund and Gabriella Schmidt Endowment Fund

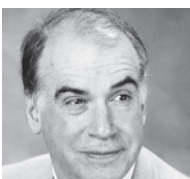
For more information, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or email [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org)



## Mark Your Calendar

# Megillah Reading

Join us on Monday evening, March 9 at 7:15 PM and on Tuesday morning, March 10 at 7:00 AM for a lively *Megillah* reading.



## Save the Date!

Professor Stephen Berk returns to Toronto for his annual scholar-in-residence series April 24 to 26, 2020. Watch for details coming soon.

# Melding Musical Encounters

Jews and African Canadians share a common history of suffering through a struggle for freedom and acceptance.



**FOR THE LAST FEW SUMMERS, DURING MY VACATION TIME,** I have made it a point to travel within Canada to discover as much of our vast country as possible. On each of my trips, I've come across at least one Jewish connection. This past summer, I actually made it to the Yukon, which I had always dreamed of visiting.

While in Dawson City, I took in a vaudeville show at Diamond Tooth Gertie's Gambling Hall. Gertie's, as it is colloquially known, is Canada's oldest casino, reminiscent of the area's Klondike Gold Rush history. Imagine my surprise when I see Gertie Lovejoy and her "Gold Rush Girls" come out for an encore, dancing the can-can and singing made-up English lyrics to "Hava Nagila"! I know it has become a prominent tune in secular society, but it was still an unexpected surprise.

I also visited the Bet Chaim cemetery established by the Baron de Hirsch Congregation in 1902. At that time, Dawson City's Jewish community had nearly 200 members. There are five known burial sites, but the only identified grave belongs to Solomon Packer, a popular merchant who owned a hardware store. Born Aaron Yehudah ben Pekler in the Ukraine, he immigrated to North America in the late 1880s, arriving in Dawson City during the Gold Rush. He was a member of the Yukon Order of Pioneers but chose to be buried in the cemetery of his faith. Several other members of the congregation are buried in the nearby Hillside Cemetery.

The Yukon trek notwithstanding, I have mostly travelled closer to home to see more of Ontario. Two summers ago, I travelled to Tobermory and Manitoulin Island. The crystal clear waters and the Niagara Escarpment were breathtaking. While aboard the Chi-Cheemaun Ferry, passengers often visit the lounge deck for entertainment. The performers that day were a duo of university students, one of whom sang a song she wrote as an assignment for her Concordia professor, who is a member of the First Nations. Everything seemed fine until the lyrics "When the Israeli occupation is over ...". After the performance, I approached them and politely but firmly expressed my disappointment in their choice of repertoire. My sole Jewish encounter was not a pleasant one.

Three summers ago, I travelled through more of southwestern Ontario, visiting Grand Bend, Goderich, Blythe and Petrolia and taking in some local theatre. The plays all involved Canadian subject matter. The one I saw in Petrolia was the adapted musical *Portia*. It weaves

together the interlocking true stories of Portia White, who broke through the colour barrier to become the first Black Canadian concert singer to win international acclaim, her father, a Baptist minister and son of a former slave, and Portia's vocal instructor, Ernesto Vinci.

Ernesto was an Italian opera singer, teacher, adjudicator, doctor and German-speaking Polish Jew. When WWII broke out, he was studying opera in Italy, so he passed himself off as Italian and escaped to Canada. His family died in the Holocaust. The relationship between Portia and Ernesto is explored throughout the musical culminating in Portia's death in 1968, when Ernesto attends her grave, sings from *Proverbs* 31 ("*Eshet Hayil*") and recites Kaddish for her.

At one point in the musical, Ernesto tells Portia "they accept you, they accept me". It puts in perspective a Jew's struggle to vicariously gain acceptance through an African Canadian who herself endures racism, prejudice and discrimination. Jews and African Canadians share a common history of suffering through a struggle for freedom and acceptance. This is reflected in common spirituals like "Wade in the Water" and "Go Down Moses".

Ever since seeing that musical and the complex relationship between Portia and Ernesto, it made me reflect more on our shared experience of slavery and Exodus and inspired a special celebration of Shabbat Shirah and Black History Month. Join us as we welcome the Nathaniel Dett Chorale, under the direction of Brainerd Blyden-Taylor. This multi-faceted group of singers is Canada's first professional chamber choir dedicated to Afrocentric music of all styles, including classical, spiritual, gospel, jazz, folk and blues. Together with myself and the Beth Tzedec *Shir Hadash* Ensemble, they will inspire us with an interfaith concert on the theme of slavery and freedom, bringing Old Testament stories in African American Spirituals to life.

These were my Jewish encounters in the unlikeliest of places. This summer I will likely take a break from domestic travel as I hope to join the Cantors Assembly on a musical journey to Italy, to visit Rome, Florence and Venice to meet with the local Jewish communities and learn about their experiences. I will keep you posted. In the meantime, I wish you only wonderful Jewish encounters wherever you go.

# REFUGEE AWARENESS SHABBAT

Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21



## 20s AND 30s SOCIAL JUSTICE SHABBAT

with Dawit Demosz

**PROGRAM / SERVICE / DINNER**  
Service begins at 6:00 PM

Join us for a unique Shabbat dinner as we get to know activist and refugee Dawit Demosz, who settled in Canada after several years of living in Israel as an asylum-seeker.

Cost: \$18 per person.

## MONTHLY FAMILY SHABBAT

**PROGRAM / SERVICE / DINNER**  
Beginning at 5:15 PM

Come together for a delicious Shabbat dinner and great programming for kids of all ages. A young children's craft program begins at 5:15 PM, with a lively abridged Kabbalat Shabbat service at 5:45 PM followed by a delicious Shabbat dinner, an activity for older kids and a conversation with a recent refugee.

Cost for dinner: \$60 per family (2 adults and max. of 4 children); \$25 each additional family member. Beth Tzedec member discounted price: \$50 per family; \$20 each additional family member.

## LUNCH AND LEARN

with Elise Herzig

**Saturday, March 21**  
Community Kiddush  
following Services

In conjunction with JIAS (Jewish Immigration Aid Services), Beth Tzedec is marking this weekend with a Refugee Awareness Shabbat. Following the congregational kiddush, Elise Herzig, Executive Director of JIAS, will be leading a lunch and learn.

Reserve online at [www.beth-tzedec.org/login](http://www.beth-tzedec.org/login) or call the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 by Monday, March 16.



# Face to Face

A vision for Beth Tzedec's Small Groups.



**AFTER MY MOTHER DIED, I LEARNED** how many people, mostly from her small synagogue (“the *shtiebel*”) turned to her for care and support. She heard their challenges; stories about their children, medical complications and important and trivial complaints with patience and love.

When my mother was sick with cancer, she continued to be a source of inspiration and support for others, but she also had to learn a new skill. Two years into her diagnosis, she found herself near death and living on oxygen full-time. Though she did so reluctantly, she learned to accept care from her friends. My father worked full-time and my siblings and I lived out of town, so she relied on friends to cook meals, chauffeur her to appointments and treatments and visit when it was best for her. On several occasions, they held prayer nights for her recovery.

Among the greatest acts of *hesed* (kindness) was that her walking group, ten women in their 50s and 60s who she spent time with every Shabbat afternoon, continued to include her in their ritual. At first, they would slow down a bit for her. When her breathlessness increased, they would pick her up near the end of the walk and she would join for the last leg as they made their way to the home where they would share post-walk snacks. Eventually she was wheeled to the host's home, and later, when leaving home was too much, the group would conclude their walk in my parents' home so she could participate. On the Shabbat afternoon of her week of shiva, these women and their partners joined us in my parent's home to honour their tradition, though her absence haunted the experience.

My mother and her walking group showed me the power of being part of a caring community. It has been the single most important influence in my work at Beth Tzedec and in the hospitals that I have served.

With all his interactions and direct conversations with God, there was one thing that Moses craved more than anything else: to see God face to face, *panim el panim*. Even with the burning bush, the splitting of the *Yam Suf* and the Revelation at Mount Sinai, Moshe wanted complete intimacy with God.

I believe we all need relationships where we can just be our true selves, judgment-free, and be silly, boring, ridiculous, vulnerable, intense, emotional and whatever else we authentically need to be in that moment to feel seen, loved and cared for unconditionally.

This is where you, the reader, come in. When Moshe reunited with his father-in-law Yitro, following the miraculous Exodus story, Yitro notices that Moshe is working day and night to care for the Jewish People, addressing their questions, concerns and conflicts. He acted as rabbi, judge and emissary, and since he wasn't God, he struggled to keep up with the task.

Yitro said to Moses: “you will surely wear yourself out, and these people as well. For the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone.” He suggests instead that Moshe must trust the people around him, share the burden of the Torah with them and offer leadership and facilitation training so that they can, in turn, support others. In other words, though Moshe was ultimately responsible for offering care to his community, he was implementing a less hierarchical

structure of care.

While the entire Beth Tzedec team will continue to support you during challenges and celebrations, the Beth Tzedec Small Group Initiative (a better name forthcoming) is one way of reorganizing our community in a way that allows members to develop deep relationships with one another, see each other *panim el panim*, face to face, and offer care, learn together, do acts of kindness and affect change together, raise families together, exercise together, play together and share a loving community together.

More will become clear over the next year as we continue to plan and put the infrastructure in place to make this strategy effective for our community, but here are a few things that you should know:

1. The number one goal of this initiative is relationship building.
2. There will be many opportunities to have a leadership role and to make use of the incredible talents, creativity and skills that exist in this community.
3. We will be having a listening campaign over the winter to get a better sense of your interests and priorities.
4. We are not reinventing the wheel. The small group strategy is based on the work of Mega Churches in the United States and Dr. Ron Wolfson, the author of *Relational Judaism*, who adapted it for the Jewish community.
5. We plan to share our learnings with you in the spring and formally launch the initiative in September 2020.

What my mother had in her synagogue community is what I want for each of us at Beth Tzedec. Together, I think we can achieve that vision.

*B'Shalom, Yacov Fruchter*

## PJ Library

Our youngest members kicked off the new year with another series of special programs offered in conjunction with PJ Library, including the “Let’s Talk About Tzekakah” program, where ritual director Lorne Hanick blew the shofar during a story session, and the “Sukkah Fun” program, where kids enjoyed a sukkah craft and activities before settling in for a holiday story.



## Making Friends

Shul is a place where many things happen—services, *simḥahs* and classes—and there is always the opportunity to make new friends!



### Shakshuka with *Shinshinim*

Gal and Alona helped add a little spice to Beth Tzedec with their shakshuka tutorial.



## Save the Date!

**The Delicious Chocolate Seder** for Grades 1 to 12  
Sunday, April 5 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM

# The Righteous Among Us



Our tradition, time and time again, has ways of causing us to stop, to think, to contemplate, to improve ourselves and to see the broader world around us in new ways.

## THE SUMMER I WAS 16, I HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING

Justice Abraham Lief and reading from the Torah scroll that he donated to Beth Tzedec and which spent its summers at Camp Ramah in Canada.

Justice Lief spoke about how justice, fairness and equity in the Jewish tradition had guided his work as a judge, and it left a meaningful impact on me. It brings me great pleasure to continue to see that Torah around our synagogue and to be reminded of Justice Lief, who spent many years involved in my home synagogue in Ottawa before moving to Toronto.

The Hebrew word for justice, which is inscribed on Justice Lief's Torah mantle, is *tzedec*. From this word, we extract two very familiar words in our tradition. One is *tzedakah*, usually translated as charity but encompassing much more than that. The other is *tzadik*, a righteous person, and a moniker that was given to select individuals in our tradition who demonstrated righteousness in their actions. The Biblical Joseph was understood by our later rabbis to have been a *tzadik*. Some rabbis of the *Mishnah* and *Talmud* are also given this title.

Another use of the title is the concept of the *Tzadikim Nistarim* (hidden righteous people), a tradition that speaks of 36 individual righteous people who are alive at any given time and on whose merit God continues to sustain the world around us. These 36 people are anonymous, not even known to themselves, but it is their inherent righteousness and goodness that makes our world go on.

Think about this for a moment and the value that this concept offers us when it comes to how we treat others and, most especially, how we socialize children to treat others. Who knows who these 36 individuals might be; and furthermore, if the continued health of the world is contingent on these people maintaining their behaviour in

a manner befitting of a *tzadik*, then can any of us risk being rude, dismissive or curt to anyone, lest they be one of these 36 and we have provoked them to deviate from their righteous ways?

This framing raises the stakes of any interpersonal interaction—perhaps unfairly so—but it also gives deeper meaning and purpose to things like civil discourse, looking out for others, proper debate and disagreement and so on. These values continue to be diminishing in our society, and whatever we can do to slow their erosion will benefit us as a community and as a people.

Are there really 36 righteous anonymous people walking around right now, holding up our world? I have no idea—I'm not so sure that I really buy it; but in a certain way, that's beside the point. Our tradition, time and time again, has ways of causing us to stop, to think, to contemplate, to improve ourselves and to see the broader world around us in new ways. The *Tzadikim Nistarim* is one of these motifs. It reminds us that how we act and how we might cause others to act can have serious outcomes and consequences.

Justice Lief understood this too. As someone trusted with the responsibility to adjudicate and give sentences and other consequences, he expressed to me two decades ago the sensitivity that one must bring to that action, and how making the wrong decision could have significant negative impacts on not only one person, but on their family, their social circle and so on—potentially even on the entire world. To effectively operate in the world of *tzedec*, of justice, we need to have qualities of a *tzadik*: righteousness, fairness, goodness, openness to new ideas and a healthy appreciation of the consequences of our actions and decisions.

If we can act like *tzadikim* and embody these values, our community and our world will be better for it.

## Board of Directors Meetings

Members are welcome to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors. To accommodate the need for sensitive items to be discussed in private, each meeting will include an *in camera* portion, allowing the Board to deliberate confidentially without any guests.

Upcoming meeting dates: **Tuesdays, January 21, March 3 and April 7** at 7:00 PM\*

\* Meeting dates are subject to change. Please check with the office to confirm dates before attending.

# Winter Well-Being Workshops

with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM

## February 11 Comforting Mourners

When someone you care about is mourning, it can be difficult to navigate the right words—let alone the rituals, practices and traditions of shiva. In this workshop, learn to offer comfort and support to those in mourning with a mix of text study and practical applications.

## February 18 Helping the Ailing

*Bikkur Holim*—visiting the sick—is a sacred and important mitzvah. Learn and develop the skills you need to help those ailing in our community find support and resiliency through a blend of text study and practical applications.

## February 25 Caring for Elderly Parents

Navigate living in the sandwich generation from a Jewish lens as we explore a child's responsibility for an elderly parent. Join Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for a mix of text study and practical applications about what it means when the caregiver role is reversed.

### COST FOR SERIES

No charge for Beth Tzedec members; \$20 for non-members. RSVP to the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).



# Building a Caring Kehillah



There's a new energy at Beth Tzedec.

**IT'S OFFICIAL—THE CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING IS IN FULL SWING** at Beth Tzedec! With programs running through the winter, our Artist-in-Residence formally “in residence” (see article on p. 35) and the first Small Groups coming together to strengthen their sense of well-being (see article on p. 17), it finally feels like it's time to talk less about what's going to happen and more about what's already happening in our *kehillah*.

## Advisory Committee

Our Centre for Spiritual Well-Being Advisory Committee meets regularly to articulate the mission, vision and goals of the Centre. The Advisory Committee is made up of professionals from the fields of social work, psychotherapy, rehabilitation, sociology, spirituality and more. They have been brought together to guide the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being and ensure that its work aligns with the needs of the Beth Tzedec community.

When the visioning process for the Centre is complete, the Advisory Committee will be turning their attention to finding ways to measure and track our individual and community well-being. This will help us identify the challenges and changes shaping the lives of our members.

## Learning and Healing Together

After Beth Tzedec's first Healing Service, David and Ellen Zworth wrote they felt “comforted to be able to sit with others who may have experienced difficulties and setbacks in their lives, to express our own feelings through study... and enable us to have a better understanding of ourselves as individuals.”

And that's exactly what we're going for. Those are the types of experiences that we hope to support with the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being as we bring members of our community together to learn, heal, support, share, grow and transform their lives.

Experiences come through participating in Healing Services and Small Groups. We are improving support for members with special training for our spiritual leaders and with more programs tackling contemporary issues, like caring for elderly parents or comforting people in mourning.

## Silence and Sound

Music has the spirit to connect us, the influence to inspire us and the power to move us to action. We are fortunate to have a community that comes together to share in song, from our musical Shabbat at the Floor Services to the many concerts and performances led by our own Cantor Sidney Ezer.

We are also fortunate to be able to learn from our Artist-in-Residence Aviva Chernick, who blends together singing, silence, meditation and reflection to help us find the spirituality in the regular melodies of our lives.

Over the next few months, we encourage you to explore the power of music to bring us together, whether that's during a regular service or a special program through the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being.

## Supporting the Centre

This *Bulletin* is full of calls to action, from our Senior Rabbi to our President, asking you to get involved in life at Beth Tzedec and help us work toward the communal goal of *shlaymoot*, or well-being.

One way to get involved is by contributing to the Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund, which supports the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being. Gifts from members like you allow us to develop programs and resources to help our entire community grow, heal and improve their sense of social and community well-being.

Today, we are over one-third of the way to our fundraising goal of \$6 million dollars, which will help ensure that the important work of the Centre will continue long into the future, supporting our families for generations to come. As issues and concerns evolve over time, we want to be able to provide evolving levels of support as well.

If you would like to get involved in the Campaign Cabinet or support our efforts to fund the Beth Tzedec Centre for Spiritual Well-Being, contact Klara Romm at [kromm@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:kromm@beth-tzedec.org) or 416-781-3514, ext. 220.





## Shabbat and Yom Tov Mornings

9:30 AM to 12:00 NOON

Looking for an opportunity to spend a fun and educational Shabbat morning with your children?

Drop off your kids in our Mini Minyans program, then come back and join us at 10:45 AM for an interactive service that includes age-appropriate *davening*, singing, storytelling, healthy snacks and guided play.



### BETH TZEDEC

#### Short & Sweet Family Service

(for families with young children)

Shabbat, January 11, February 1 and March 7  
10:30 AM to 12:00 NOON

Our monthly Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service, led by Rabbi David Lerner and supported by other Beth Tzedec staff and volunteers, offers a lively, engaging prayer service incorporating the participation of the children, teens and families in attendance, followed by a community dairy luncheon.

#### Mini Minyans

(children up to age 5 with a parent)

9:30 AM to 12:00 NOON

Looking for an opportunity to spend a fun and educational Shabbat morning with your children? Drop off your kids in our Mini Minyans program, then come back and join us at 10:45 AM for an interactive service that includes age-appropriate *davening*, singing, storytelling, healthy snacks and guided play.

#### Junior Congregation

(kids ages 6 to 12)

10:30 AM to 12:00 NOON

A dynamic drop-off program with activities, games, engaging and creative prayer and quality time with our *shinshinim*, Alona Laufer and Gal Goren. (Does not meet when there is a Family Service.)

#### For Children 0 to 5 and their Families

#### Pre-Shabbat Music Mornings

(babies up to 18 months with an adult)

Friday mornings

11:30 AM to 12:15 PM

Welcome Shabbat with a 45-minute music class featuring Shabbat songs and blessings, *hallah*, grape juice, reading and lots of fun. For more information on fees or to register, call the Synagogue office.

#### Sportball @ Beth Tzedec

Sunday mornings

8:45 to 9:30 AM (16 months to 2 years)

9:30 to 10:15 AM (20 months to 2.5 years)

10:15 to 11:00 AM (2.5 years to 4 years)

Sportball is back at Beth Tzedec! Preschoolers can participate in fun, non-competitive sports activities on Sunday mornings. For information or to register, visit [www.sportball.ca](http://www.sportball.ca).

#### PJ Library presents: A Purim Show

(toddlers ages 1 to 4 with an adult)

Sunday, March 8

10:00 to 11:30 AM

Every moment is a good moment to laugh, rejoice and be happy - especially in the month of Adar! Have a laugh with the clowns and performers at our special Purim show. Snacks will be served. No charge, but RSVP by Tuesday, March 3.

#### PJ Library presents: Moses and the People of Israel

(toddlers ages 1 to 4 with an adult)

Sunday, April 5

10:00 to 11:30 AM

Join Moses on a journey through the desert to the special little mountain: Sinai. Crafts, games, music and a special story will transport us to the times of the "Yetzeat Mitzraim" exodus. No charge, but RSVP by Tuesday, March 31.

#### For Children in Grades 1 to 5

#### Master Chef Yeladim for Kids

Sundays, January 12 and February 9

2:00 to 3:30 PM

The art of Israeli cuisine is coming to Beth Tzedec! Children are invited to learn how to cook Middle Eastern food. The first session is dedicated to learning about ingredients, mixtures and smells. In the second session, they will learn to cook and feed their parents with a blind taste-testing game. They will decorate their own chef's apron and at the end of the program, earn a diploma and their own kid-sized kitchen utensils. Cost for series: \$15 for Beth Tzedec members; \$20 non-members. RSVPs required.

#### For Teens in Grades 6 to 8 (Kadima)

#### Master Chef Yeladim for Kadima

Saturday, January 11 6:00 to 7:30 PM

Saturday, February 15 6:40 to 8:00 PM

The art of Israeli cuisine is coming to Beth Tzedec! *Kadimaniks* are invited to learn how to cook Middle Eastern food. The first session is dedicated to learning about ingredients, mixtures and smells. In the second session, they will learn to cook and feed their parents with a blind taste-testing game. They will decorate their own chef's apron and at the end of the program, earn a diploma and their own kid-sized kitchen utensils. Cost for series: \$15 for Beth Tzedec members; \$20 non-members. RSVPs required.

**For Teens in Grades 9 to 12 (BTUSY)**

**Teen Grogger Making**

Sunday, March 8  
3:00 to 5:00 PM

Decorate boxes of Wacky-Mac to be purchased at the Purim *Megillah* reading to be used as *groggers*. There will be a food donation box available after the reading for non-perishable foods to be donated. Community service/ volunteer hours are available. No charge, but RSVPs are requested.

**For Families and Parents**

**Teddy Bear Havdalah**

Saturday evening, January 18 and February 8  
5:30 to 7:00 PM

Everyone is invited to say goodbye to Shabbat with music, Havdalah, dinner, a special story and a very enjoyable time with friends and family. No charge, but RSVPs requested through [Eventbrite.ca](https://www.eventbrite.ca).

**BT @ Out of the Cold**

Tuesday, January 21, February 4 & 18 and March 3 & 24  
5:30 to 7:00 PM

Beth Tzedec families are invited to help at the Out of the Cold program at Beth Sholom as we serve hot meals to the clients of the program as a community. Teens who are in Grades 6 to 8 must be accompanied by an adult, and community service/volunteer hours are available. Parents are also welcome to participate. No charge; RSVPs required.

**Monthly Family Shabbat Dinner**

Friday evenings, January 17, February 21 and March 20 5:15 PM

Come together for a delicious Shabbat dinner and great programming for kids of all ages. A young children's craft program begins at 5:15 PM, with a lively abridged Kabbalat Shabbat service at 5:45 PM followed by a delicious Shabbat dinner and programming for older kids and adults. Cost for dinner: \$60 per family (two adults and up to four children (under age 18)); \$25 each additional adult / Beth Tzedec member discount price: \$50 per family; \$30 each additional adult. Participants are welcome to join for the craft and service at no cost. RSVPs required by the Monday prior to each program. *Sponsored by the Gertner Family*

**Purim Carnival and Abridged Megillah Reading**

Monday, March 9 4:00 PM

Join the fun at our annual Purim carnival! Kids of all ages will enjoy carnival booths, bouncy castles, a toddlers' play-zone and a dance party. The carnival will pause from 5:15 to 5:45 PM for a child-centric, abridged *Megillah* reading and then resume with more fun and games. (A full *Megillah* reading begins at approximately 7:45 PM). No charge for activities; children's food available for purchase.

**For more information about Youth and Family programs, contact Shirel Barkan-Slater at 416-781-3514, ext. 290 or [sbarkan@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:sbarkan@beth-tzedec.org).**

**ECRUSY Programs**

**ECRUSY Kadima Regional Convention**

February 21 to 23, 2020

For kids in Grades 6 to 8 (Kadima): Spend the weekend with your peers from throughout the Eastern Canadian region and the GTA enjoying great programs, community service opportunities and lots of food and fun. Pre-registration required. For information, fees or to register, contact Sylvie Moscovitz.

**For more information about ECRUSY and teen programs, contact Sylvie Moscovitz at 416-781-3514, ext. 246 or [smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org).**

**High School Student Volunteers—**

Calling all teens in Grades 9 to 12: Teen volunteers are needed for many of our Youth and Family programs. If you are looking to fulfil community service/volunteer requirements or would like to gain valuable experience working on family-oriented programs, contact Sylvie Moscovitz, Teen Engagement Associate, at 416-781-3514, ext. 246 or [smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org).

**Teddy Bear Havdalah for Toddlers and Their Families**

**Saturday, January 18 and February 8**  
beginning at 5:30 PM

Everyone is invited to say goodbye to Shabbat with music, Havdalah, dinner, a special story and a very enjoyable time with friends and family.

No charge, but RSVPs required to Shirel Barkan-Slater at 416-781-3514, ext. 290 or [sbarkan@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:sbarkan@beth-tzedec.org) by the Monday prior to each program.



PROFESSOR DANIEL RYNHOLD

# Is Religion Bad for You?



**Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30 PM**




When Nietzsche wrote that “God is dead,” he was just one of many modern philosophers focusing on the idea that religions are psychologically destructive and prevent healthy human development. Prof. Daniel Rynhold of Yeshiva University explores the merits and limitations of this argument and delves into the ways that Rabbi Dr. Joseph Soloveitchik used it as a launching pad as he created the foundation for a modern and powerful Jewish theology.






No charge, but RSVPs appreciated to the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).

*Professor Daniel Rynhold is originally from London, England, educated at Cambridge and lectured in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at King's College London. He is a professor of modern Jewish philosophy and director of the doctoral program at the Bernard Revel Graduate School, Yeshiva University in New York. He is also the Shoshana Shier Visiting Professor at University of Toronto.*



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>January 2020 / Tevet 5780</b>						
8 TEVET 8:45am Shaharit 4:45pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	9 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm The Humash with Dr. Marty Lockshin 1:00pm Winter Film Series: Mr. Gaga 4:45pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Pilates 7:30pm Learn Talmud at Your Own Pace	10 TEVET <b>FAST OF 10<sup>TH</sup> OF TEVET</b> 7:30am Shaharit 4:45pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 5:45pm Fast concludes	11 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 4:45pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Healing Service with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin	12 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 10:00am Torah Through the Ages with Dr. Ages 1:00pm Games Afternoon 4:35pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	13 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 4:42pm Candle Lighting 4:45pm Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00pm Shabbat at the Floor	14 TEVET 8:45am Sanctuary Service 10:00am Jewish Meditation 10:30am Short & Sweet Service 4:25pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 5:45pm Havdalah 6:00pm Master Chef Yeladim for Grades 6 to 8
15 TEVET 8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 2:00pm Master Chef Yeladim for Grades 1 to 5 4:50pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	16 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm The Humash 1:00pm Winter Film Series: Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles 4:50pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Mahloket Matters w/ Rabbi Frydman-Kohl	17 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 4:50pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	18 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 4:50pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:00pm Lishma Jewish Learning Project	19 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm Games Afternoon 4:50pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	20 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 4:50pm Kabbalat Shabbat 4:50pm Candle Lighting 5:15pm Monthly Family Shabbat Dinner	21 TEVET 8:45am Sanctuary Service 9:30am LM/Talking Torah 12:00pm Choosing Jewish Luncheon 4:35pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 5:30pm Teddy Bear Havdalah 5:55pm Havdalah
22 TEVET 8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 5:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	23 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm Winter Film Series: Ancestry and the Business of Family 1:00pm The Humash 5:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Mahloket Matters w/ Rabbi Frydman-Kohl	24 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 5:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 5:00pm BT @ Out of the Cold 8:00pm Shabbat on Tuesday: A Musical Kuntzitz	25 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 5:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:00pm Lishma Jewish Learning Project	26 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm Games Afternoon 5:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	27 TEVET 7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 4:59pm Candle Lighting 5:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00pm 20s & 30s: Shabbat to Remember with Remy Friedman	28 TEVET 8:45am Sanctuary Service 9:30am LM/Talking Torah 12:00pm Lunch & Learn with Yacov Fruchter 4:45pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 6:05pm Havdalah
29 TEVET 8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 5:10pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	1 SHEVAT <b>ROSH HODESH SHEVAT</b> 7:15am Shaharit 1:00pm Winter Film Series: Prosecuting Evil: The Extraordinary World of Ben Ferencz 5:10pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Mahloket Matters w/ Rabbi Frydman-Kohl	2 SHEVAT 7:30am Shaharit 5:10pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	3 SHEVAT 7:30am Shaharit 5:10pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:00pm Lishma Jewish Learning Project	4 SHEVAT 7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm Games Afternoon 5:10pm Minhah-Ma'ariv	5 SHEVAT 7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 5:09pm Candle Lighting 5:10pm Kabbalat Shabbat	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 5:20pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p> <p>7 SHEVAT 2</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm The Humash with Dr. Marty Lockshin 5:20pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Learn Talmud at Your Own Pace 7:30pm Pilates</p> <p>8 SHEVAT 3</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 5:00pm BT @ Out of the Cold 5:20pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p> <p>9 SHEVAT 4</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 5:30pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:00pm Lishma Jewish Learning Project</p> <p>10 SHEVAT 5</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm Games Afternoon 5:20pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p> <p>11 SHEVAT 6</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 5:18pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Shabbat at the Floor Service and Dinner with Aviva Chernick</p> <p>12 SHEVAT 7</p>	<p>6 SHEVAT  <b>Bo</b></p> <p>8:45am Sanctuary Service 9:30am LM/Talking Torah 9:30am Mini Minyans 10:30am Short &amp; Sweet Multi-Generational Service 5:00pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 6:15pm Havdalah</p> <p>1</p>
<b>February 2020 / Shevat 5780</b>						
<p>8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 2:00pm Master Chef Yeladim for Grades 1 to 5 5:30pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Celebrate Tu B'Shevat with Aviva Chernick</p> <p>14 SHEVAT 9</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm The Humash with Dr. Marty Lockshin 5:30pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Pilates</p> <p>15 SHEVAT <b>TU B'SHEVAT</b> 10</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 5:30pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Comforting Mourners</p> <p>16 SHEVAT 11</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 5:30pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:00pm Lishma Jewish Learning Project</p> <p>17 SHEVAT 12</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm Games Afternoon 5:30pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p> <p>18 SHEVAT 13</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 12:00pm Social Network 5:28pm Candle Lighting 5:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat</p> <p>19 SHEVAT 14</p>	<p>8:45am Sanctuary Service 9:30am LM/Talking Torah 10:30am Shabbat IOI 5:15pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 6:35pm Havdalah 6:40pm Master Chef Yeladim for Grades 6 to 8</p> <p>20 SHEVAT  <b>Ytvo</b></p> <p>15</p>
<p>8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 5:40pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p> <p>21 SHEVAT 16</p>	<p>8:45am Shaharit 5:40pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p> <p>22 SHEVAT <b>FAMILY DAY</b> 17</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 5:00pm BT @ Out of the Cold 5:40pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Helping the Ailing 8:00pm Shabbat on Tuesday: A Musical Kuntzitz</p> <p>23 SHEVAT 18</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 5:40pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:00pm Lishma Jewish Learning Project 7:30pm Healing Service with Aviva Chernick</p> <p>24 SHEVAT 19</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 10:00am Torah Through the Ages with Dr. Ages 1:00pm Games Afternoon 5:40pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p> <p>25 SHEVAT 20</p>	<p>7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 12:00pm Social Network 5:15pm Monthly Family Shabbat Dinner 5:37pm Candle Lighting 5:40pm Kabbalat Shabbat</p> <p>26 SHEVAT <b>ECRUSY KADIMA REGIONAL CONVENTION</b> 21</p>	<p>8:45am Sanctuary Service 5:20pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 5:45pm Choosing Jewish: Havdalah</p> <p>27 SHEVAT <b>SHABBAT SHEKALIM</b> <b>SHABBAT MEVARKHIM</b> <b>Mishpatim</b></p> <p>22</p>
<p>28 SHEVAT 23</p>	<p>29 SHEVAT 24</p>	<p>30 SHEVAT <b>ROSH HODESH ADAR</b> 25</p>	<p>1 ADAR <b>ROSH HODESH ADAR</b> 26</p>	<p>2 ADAR 27</p>	<p>3 ADAR 28</p>	<p>4 ADAR  <b>Terumah</b></p> <p>8:45am Sanctuary Service 9:30am LM/Talking Torah 9:30am Mini Minyans 10:30am Junior Congregation 5:30pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 6:50pm Havdalah</p> <p>29</p>

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>5 ADAR 1</p> <p>8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 5:55pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>6 ADAR 2</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm The Humash with Dr. Marty Lockshin 5:55pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Learn Talmud at Your Own Pace 7:30pm Pilates</p>	<p>7 ADAR 3</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 5:00pm BT @ Out of the Cold 5:55pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>8 ADAR 4</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 5:55pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Healing Service with Rabbi Fyer Bodzin</p>	<p>9 ADAR 5</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 10:00am Torah Through the Ages with Dr. Ages 1:00pm Games Afternoon 5:55pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>10 ADAR 6</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 5:55pm Candle Lighting 6:00pm Shabbat at the Floor</p>	<p>11 ADAR 7</p> <p><b>SHABBAT ZAKHOR</b>  <b>Tetzaveh</b> 8:45am Sanctuary Service 9:30am Mini Minyans 10:00am Jewish Meditation 10:30am Short &amp; Sweet Service 5:40pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 7:00pm Havdalah</p>
<b>March 2020 / Adar 5780</b>						
<p>12 ADAR 8</p> <p><b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME</b></p> <p>8:45am Shaharit 10:00am Al Hanisim: Spiritual Preparation for Purim 10:00am PI Library presents: A Purim Show 3:00pm BTUSY Teen Grogger Making 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>13 ADAR 9</p> <p><b>FAST OF ESTHER</b></p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 4:00pm Purim Carnival and Abridged Megillah Reading 6:30pm Minhah-Ma'ariv/Megillah Reading 8:00pm Fast concludes</p>	<p>14 ADAR 10</p> <p><b>PURIM</b></p> <p>7:00am Shaharit 6:30pm Purim Seudah 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>15 ADAR 11</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>16 ADAR 12</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 10:00am Torah Through the Ages with Dr. Ages 1:00pm Games Afternoon 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>17 ADAR 13</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:04pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>18 ADAR 14</p> <p><b>SHABBAT PARAH</b>  <b>Ki Tissa</b> 8:45am Sanctuary Service 9:30am LM/Talking Torah 9:30am Mini Minyans 10:30am Shabbat IOI 6:50pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 8:10pm Havdalah</p>
<p>19 ADAR 15</p> <p>8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 3:30pm Choosing Jewish: Jewish Toronto 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>20 ADAR 16</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm The Humash with Dr. Marty Lockshin 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Pilates</p>	<p>21 ADAR 17</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>22 ADAR 18</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>23 ADAR 19</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 10:00am Torah Through the Ages with Dr. Ages 1:00pm Games Afternoon 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>24 ADAR 20</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 5:15pm Family Shabbat Dinner 6:30pm 20s &amp; 30s Social Justice Shabbat with Dawit Demosz 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:12pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>25 ADAR 21</p> <p>25 ADAR <b>SHABBAT HAHODESH</b> <b>SHABBAT MEVARKHIM</b>  <b>Vayakhel-Pekudei</b> 8:45am Sanctuary Service 12:00pm Lunch &amp; Learn with Elise Herzig 7:00pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 8:20pm Havdalah</p>
<p>26 ADAR 22</p> <p>8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>27 ADAR 23</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm The Humash with Dr. Marty Lockshin 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Learn Talmud at Your Own Pace 7:30pm Pilates</p>	<p>28 ADAR 24</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 5:00pm BT @ Out of the Cold 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Prof. Daniel Rynhold: Is Religion Bad for You? 8:00pm Shabbat on Tuesday: A Musical Kumzitz</p>	<p>29 ADAR 25</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm Book &amp; Film Club: The Iron Tracks 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>1 NISAN 26</p> <p><b>ROSH HODESH NISAN</b></p> <p>7:15am Shaharit 10:00am Torah Through the Ages with Dr. Ages 1:00pm Games Afternoon 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Choosing Jewish: Model Passover Seder</p>	<p>2 NISAN 27</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 11:30am Pre-Shabbat Music 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:21pm Candle Lighting</p>	<p>3 NISAN 28</p> <p> <b>Vayikra</b> 8:45am Sanctuary Service 9:30am LM/Talking Torah 9:30am Mini Minyans 10:30am Junior Congregation 7:05pm Minhah/SS/Ma'ariv 8:25pm Havdalah</p>
<p>4 NISAN 29</p> <p>8:45am Shaharit 8:45am Sportball 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	<p>5 NISAN 30</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 1:00pm The Humash with Dr. Marty Lockshin 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv 7:30pm Learn Talmud at Your Own Pace 7:30pm Pilates</p>	<p>6 NISAN 31</p> <p>7:30am Shaharit 7:00pm Minhah-Ma'ariv</p>	 <p>Please be considerate of others and refrain from using scented products when coming to Beth Tzedec's prayer services, programs or events.</p>			

## Selihot with Shtisel

In their only Canadian appearance this year, several cast members and the creator of *Shtisel* joined us at Beth Tzedec as part of our Selihot celebrations. Rabbi Steven Wernick hosted a discussion about the series and their experiences on this Israeli television drama.



## The New York Cantors came to Toronto

Beth Tzedec and the Canadian Friends of Tel Aviv University had the honour of welcoming the New York Cantors—Yaakov (Yanky) Lemmer, Chaim David Berson and Netanel Hershtik—in an engaging and harmonious evening of song in late October.



# Our Shabbat Service Experiences

## **Kabbalat Shabbat Services** every Friday night.

Check our weekly e-newsletter, *The Week Ahead*, or our website and monthly calendars for service and candle lighting times.

## **Sanctuary Services** 8:45 AM, every Shabbat.

Our musical Sanctuary Service offers a complete spiritual and liturgical Shabbat experience with Rabbi Steven Wernick, Cantor Sidney Ezer and Lorne Hanick. Lift your soul in prayer as you sing along, or close your eyes in meditation and be carried away by our inspirational Shabbat morning service.

## **Little Minyan Services** 9:30 AM, every Shabbat.

Looking to be more actively involved in the worship experience? The Little Minyan offers a traditional service in a relaxed, family-friendly atmosphere full of song, spirit and warmth. Participants lead portions of the service, and Little Minyan tunes are available on request. Contact

Cantor Sidney Ezer or Lorne Hanick to arrange to learn to lead parts of the service. Torah readers, *daveners* and those wishing to deliver a *D'var Torah* are always welcome.

## **Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service**

10:30 AM, Shabbat, January 11, February 1 and March 7.

Our participatory abridged service is a perfect way for children, parents and grandparents to experience Shabbat morning together, learn the structure of the service and take leadership roles. It features the highlights of a Shabbat morning service and is led by children, teens and Rabbi David Lerner. It also includes programs by our *shinshinim* and youth staff. Celebrate a group aliyah and blessing for everyone whose birthday is that month. A complimentary dairy lunch follows.

For information on **Shabbat Youth programming**, see pages 22 & 23.

## Can't Get Enough Torah? Here's more!



### **Talking Torah with Daniel Silverman**

9:30 to 10:30 AM every Shabbat morning

A new look at the traditional and modern interpretations of the weekly Torah reading with Daniel Silverman.

### **Jewish Meditation with Michelle Katz**

10:00 to 11:15 AM on January 11, February 8 and March 7

Meditation for men and women, centred on texts from our tradition, eliciting response and deep listening—a doorway to enhanced prayer.

### **Shabbat 101**

10:30 to 11:45 AM on January 18, February 15 and March 14

This educational Shabbat morning service is for anyone interested in becoming familiar with the structure, choreography and deep meaning of the traditional Shabbat morning service.



## **Fridays, January 10, February 7 and March 6 at 6:00 PM**

Join our musical Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat service on the Beit Aleph Floor the first Friday of each month. Led by Cantor Sidney Ezer, Yacov Fruchter and friends, the focus is on high energy and spirited, participatory singing. For more information, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.

# Shabbat Dinner

with **Aviva Chernick**

**Friday, February 7**

**SERVICE 6:00 PM | DINNER 7:15 PM**

Following our Shabbat at the Floor service, join us for a delicious catered dinner with our artist-in-residence, Aviva Chernick, leading us in communal singing.

Cost for dinner: \$40 adults; \$18 youth (ages 5-14); \$6 kids (ages 1-4). Register online at [www.beth-tzedec.org/login](http://www.beth-tzedec.org/login) or call 416-781-3511 by **Monday, February 3**



**Come together for a delicious Shabbat dinner and great programming for kids of all ages.**

## **MONTHLY FAMILY SHABBAT DINNER**

**PROGRAM / SERVICE / DINNER**

**Fridays, January 17 and February 21 at 5:15 PM**

Come together for a delicious Shabbat dinner and great programming for kids of all ages. A young children's craft program begins at 5:15 PM, with a lively abridged Kabbalat Shabbat service at 5:45 PM followed by a delicious Shabbat dinner and older kids programming.

### **COST FOR DINNER:**

\$60 per family (2 adults and max. of 4 children); \$25 each additional family member. **Beth Tzedec member discounted price:** \$50 per family; \$20 each additional family member. Dinner by advance reservation only by the Monday prior to each date.



Reserve online at [www.beth-tzedec.org/login](http://www.beth-tzedec.org/login) or call the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511

# We welcome our newest members

Every member is an integral part of the Beth Tzedec community. We encourage you to take part in the many spiritual, educational and social programs we offer, and we look forward to your presence and involvement!

Lorne Albaum  
 Sheila Benoit  
 Lana Bezner and Hooman Tabesh  
 Edward Brown and Susan Friedman  
 Diandra Budd and Noah Fenyes  
 Juan Carvallo  
 Lonny Cass  
 Tanya Cotler and Warren Smulowitz  
 Allie Dennis and Asher Farber  
 Semyon and Elena Dovzhik  
 Shira Fenyes  
 Michael Fogelman  
 Reny Friedman  
 Aaron and Elise Fudim  
 Isaac and Tove Gaon  
 Marcie-Ann Gilsig  
 Arlo Godel  
 Harvey and Lisa Golombek  
 Sarah Golombek  
 Michael and Tamara Gottlieb  
 Annette Gruno  
 Andy and Adina Hauser  
 Marilyn Herbert  
 Sarah Jones and Ory Valin  
 Vered Kamer  
 Howard and Sarah Kazdan  
 Ira Levy and Shari Zinman-Levy  
 Alexander Mansfield  
 Jason and Meredith Mednick  
 Meagan Newman  
 Samuel Newman  
 Ilan Orzy  
 Ellie Pinsker  
 Daniel Prusky  
 Harvey and Shirley Rachman  
 Judith Reiss

S. Alexandra Rogul-Lichty  
 Benjamin Rother  
 Jason Saltzman  
 Stephanie Schecter  
 Rebecca Shalansky  
 Joshua Silvertown and Ilana Valo  
 Barbara Simmons  
 Avram Spatz  
 Joshua and Samantha Spatz  
 Jacob Trossman  
 Madison Wagman  
 Samahra Zatzman  
 Eugene and Irene Zigelman  
 David and Ellen Zworth

## New 18 to 24 Year Old Members

Max Abrahams  
 Tatiana Anhalt  
 Sam Aronoff  
 Kyle Cass  
 Laurel Cass  
 Alexa Charlat  
 Elie Fenyes  
 Ethan Glazman  
 Liora Golden  
 Lauren Goldfarb  
 Gabriel Grammer  
 Alyssa Green  
 Hannah Grosman  
 Rebecca Grossman  
 Tobias Halman  
 Lauren Isenberg  
 Sydney Jacobs  
 Abby Kazdan  
 Julianne Kazdan  
 Noah Kazdan

Eric Kerbel  
 David Kirschner  
 Charles Leranbaum  
 Madeline Leranbaum  
 Jessica Levitt  
 Shelby Litwin  
 Sam Maltz  
 Alanna Mandel  
 Daniel Nepom  
 Jacob Nepom  
 Faith Pasternak  
 Jenna Pasternak  
 Aleksandra Plotkin  
 Daniel Pollock  
 Gabriele Roitman  
 Adam Rotstein  
 Hannah Sandler  
 Jacob Schwartz  
 Lily Sherman  
 Samuel Shiff  
 Hannah Shuster-Hyman  
 Margot Sigel  
 Paige Soberano  
 Oren Solish  
 Alexa Speyer  
 Halle Tator  
 Zoe Trister  
 Jacob Weinstein  
 Joshua Weinstein  
 Matthew White  
 Rachel Wine  
 Shira Wine  
 Adam Wolfond  
 Annie Wolfond  
 Isaiah Zabitsky  
 Annika Zworth

## New Member Welcome Bags

Klara Romm, Membership Engagement & Development, put together the welcome bags for Beth Tzedec's newest members. Special thanks to the volunteers of the Membership Committee who helped hand-deliver each package.







# A Moment for Beth Tzedec

On Wednesday, November 13, Beth Tzedec celebrated the installation of Rabbis Wernick and Fryer Bodzin

**ON A COLD WINTERY NIGHT IN NOVEMBER, BETH TZEDEC** celebrated what was a major moment in its long and hallowed history. The two new rabbis at the synagogue were formally installed, Rabbi Steven Wernick as the new Senior Rabbi and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin as Associate Rabbi. It was a kind of a Rabbinic double-header. In fact, it was one of those rare occasions where many of the rabbis in the Conservative movement all were assembled to see two new members welcomed officially into the fold in Toronto. If you had a religious question, that night, with all that clergy around, was the time to strike.

The evening was an unqualified success. It went so smoothly and in a room with likely close to 400 people in attendance, those present were treated to a warm welcome from the Installation Chair, Carolyn Kolers. Then Cantor Sidney Ezer, accompanied by pianist Charles Heller, led the guests in “O Canada” and “*Hatikvah*” followed by two other Hebrew selections which really gave the evening a great start. Debbie Rothstein, the President of Beth Tzedec, spoke and introduced the keynote speaker Dr. Ron Wolfson, who is what might be called a superstar in the Conservative Judaic world. He sparkled in his delivery with memories of him growing up in Omaha where he claimed to have learned only one Hebrew word in three years of Hebrew School.

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin was introduced by Dena Libman and Ted Zittell, the co-chairs of the Associate Rabbi Search Committee. After, Rabbi Manes Kogan of the Hillcrest Centre in Queens, New York welcomed Rabbi Fryer Bodzin into the club so to speak. He was a long time friend and colleague of RFB. It was easy to see the closeness of that relationship and how important it was to both of them. And then Rabbi Fryer Bodzin spoke, highlighting her return to the city of her birth and the warmth she felt at the synagogue as far back as February, 2019 when she first came to Beth Tzedec for a weekend interview process. Just to see the smile radiating on her face spoke volumes about the joy she felt about taking on the pulpit at Beth Tzedec and all that the position entails.

Next up was Dr. Eudice Goldberg, a Co-chair of the Senior Rabbi Search Committee, who talked about the process of landing Rabbi Steven Wernick to be the leader of the largest synagogue in the Conservative movement in North America. And then in what was surely the most emotional moment of the evening, we all had the privilege to witness a father induct his son into the position of Senior Rabbi. The father was Rabbi Eugene Wernick, the Rabbi of Or Shalom Synagogue in New York City, who had the great *nachas* of inducting his son, Steven, as the head honcho at Beth Tzedec. It brought a tear to my eye and it made me recall that great hockey moment when Gordie Howe lined up along side his sons Mark and Marty Howe. The pride of the father was palpable in each instance. Of course for me, the significance of the moment was further augmented by the fact that Rabbi Eugene Wernick was my rabbi in Winnipeg (from whence I come) at Shaarey Zedek Synagogue where he served from 1979-1986.

Then Rabbi Steven Wernick spoke about his taking over and the feeling he has about the synagogue and the challenges he is ready to face in his new position. Anyone in attendance that night had to feel elevated right then and there as he spoke. When he concluded, Cantor Ezer sang “*Birkat Kohanim*”, “*Sheheheyanu*” and the familiar melody by Graham Nash of “Teach Your Children Well”. It was a fitting finish to a wonderful night. That it went so well was clear but never clearer than was evidenced by the comment of a friend of mine who was with me that night. He is a very infrequent attendee at synagogue services and yet he thanked me for inviting him and said how pleased he was by the whole night.

And lest I forget, everyone present had to be impressed with the reception following the ceremony with a terrific spread of pastry delivered by the new caterer, Apex Kosher Catering. In short, it was a memorable moment in the life of Beth Tzedec.

—Gerry Posner

# Welcome Sylvie!



Beth Tzedec welcomes a new Teen Engagement Associate.

**ORIGINALLY FROM LONG ISLAND, SYLVIE MOSCOVITZ,** Beth Tzedec’s new Teen Engagement Associate, grew up deeply rooted in Judaism. An alumna of Emory University, Camp Ramah, USY and The Schechter School of Long Island, she has spent her life learning, preparing and dedicating herself to becoming a leader in the Jewish community.

Sylvie joins us in Toronto after spending six months living in Israel as a Fellow of The Nachshon Project, an elite group of young Jewish leaders discussing innovative ways to improve the future of North American Judaism. The Project gave her an opportunity to develop strong leadership skills and explore Jewish identity through an inclusive, pluralistic lens.

As a former counselor at Camp Ramah Canada, she was thrilled to join Beth Tzedec and find so many familiar faces among our teenage cohort. “When I visited during Shabbat, I was amazed by how many

people I already knew. Everyone was so friendly and welcoming, but it was a wonderful surprise to realize that so many of the teens I got to know at camp are also involved at Beth Tzedec.”

Sylvie credits her Jewish upbringing—and the teachers, counselors and friends she met along the way—with shaping her identity and the person she’s become. “I owe everything in my life to the relationships I formed in the Jewish community. The people I grew up with helped me navigate tough times and provided opportunities to learn and change in ways that I never would have imagined. My goal at Beth Tzedec is to be that same conduit for opportunity for the teenagers in this community.”

In her free time, Sylvie loves art and experimenting with different mediums and styles. She enjoys woodwork, embroidery, painting and, when the music moves her, tap dancing.

## Al Hanisim: Spiritual Preparation for Purim

Seeing What Cannot Be Seen  
with Aviva Chernick

Sunday, March 8 from 10:00 to 11:00 AM

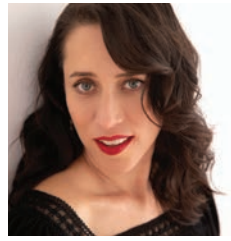
Purim is a practice of bringing awareness to that which is veiled—that which is concealed within each one of us. Join Artist-in-Residence Aviva Chernick as she guides us through song and silence in a reflection on this rich and intricate moment in our Jewish calendar. A perfect preparation for getting into costume and reading *Megillat Esther*.



No charge, but RSVPs appreciated to the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).



# Introducing Aviva Chernick



Beth Tzedec's inaugural Artist-in-Residence offers new ways to think about prayer.

**WHEN THE TIME CAME TO DECIDE HOW SHE WANTED TO** practice her Judaism, Aviva Chernick didn't want to have to choose between being a "singing Torah person" and a "speaking Torah person". She wanted to be both.

That's one of the things that makes her perspective so unique. She uses silence and sound, music and moments of stillness, to help Jews deepen their connections with God, with each other and with themselves.

As Beth Tzedec's new Artist-in-Residence, Aviva Chernick will spend her tenure here, (from November 2019 to May 2020), leading programs related to mindfulness and spirituality for our members and offering mentorship to our spiritual leaders to nurture their own practice.

After growing up in Congregation Or Shalom in London, Ontario, she went on to take leadership roles at Camp Ramah and in USY. She began her cantorial training at Holy Blossom in 2005 and has spent three years leading the sitting and singing community *neySHEV*. She also facilitates workshops in freeing the voice and practices of *Mindfulness in Song and Silence* in Toronto and with diverse communities while on her many travels.

Aviva might be best known for her musical talent and for being the lead singer in Jaffa Road for over a decade. Singing in Hebrew, Ladino (Judeo-Spanish), Yiddish and English, she has had the pleasure of making music with many wonderful musicians including Frank London, Yair Dalal, Jackie Richardson and Flory Jagoda. Her collaborative recordings have garnered several nominations and awards, including Juno nominations.

"For almost 16 years, I've been leading *tefillah* across denominations (although I had a Conservative upbringing)," she says. "I'm here to help invite congregants into a practice of *shlaymoot*—wholeness, well-being, completeness—through different doors.

"There's no one type of *shlaymoot*, or one type of

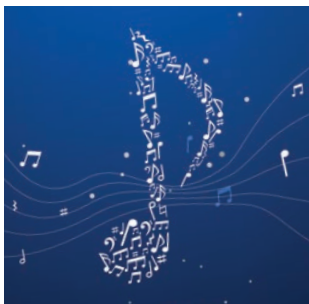
congregant—it isn't my suggestion that everyone should start meditating, because that doesn't work for everyone. I want to help create doorways for the myriad of ways that people want to enter into a relationship with themselves, their community and God.

"While I certainly want to nourish the musical culture at Beth Tzedec, people approach *shlaymoot* in different ways: singing, silence, eating meditation, walking meditation, reflecting, *tefillah*, movement of the body ... there's no wrong way to bring people into a new relationship with the liturgy."

Aviva recently led a program at Beth Tzedec called "*Al Hanisim: Spiritual Preparation for Hanukkah*", which gave community members the opportunity to explore and prepare for the Festival of Lights.

Keep your eyes on your e-mail newsletter for the details on her other upcoming programs, including:

- Saturday, January 25: Aviva will share a *D'var Shira* with our community, as part of the Sanctuary Service.
- Friday, February 7: Aviva will join the Shabbat at the Floor Kabbalat Shabbat Service, followed by dinner.
- Sunday, February 9: In partnership with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin, Aviva will lead an innovative mindful eating meditation for Tu B'Shevat to help our members connect to the holiday and awaken to our sense of aliveness, even in the dead of winter.
- Wednesday, February 19: Aviva will lead a special Healing service, holding space for comfort with song and silence.
- Sunday, March 8: Aviva will be leading "*Al Hanisim: Spiritual Preparation for Purim*", to help our community prepare for Purim.
- Friday, April 3: Aviva will be leading a Spiritual Sounds Lab Pre-Shabbat Concert and Service, followed by dinner.



## Save the Date!

### Spiritual Sounds Lab Pre-Shabbat Concert and Service

Friday, April 3 beginning at 5:45 PM

Following the incredible success of our first two Spiritual Sounds Lab weekends, Aviva Chernick, our artist-in-residence, joins us for a captivating and inspiring program.

# First to Meet and Greet

Barry Phillips shares his passion for community with our *kehillah* every Shabbat.



## SURELY ONE OF MY FAVOURITE

moments of synagogue life is getting the royal welcome when I enter the Sanctuary. You can count on few things in life, but as certain as it snows in December, there is a smiling face and a warm greeting for you when you arrive at shul each Shabbat—or on any Jewish holiday, for that matter. Those who perform this volunteer service really are the unsung heroes of any synagogue. They help the service move along seamlessly. Because the service moves so smoothly, it is easy to miss the little things that ushers do to facilitate an easy and friendly experience.

When I first joined Beth Tzedec seven years ago, I was struck by the sincere and heartfelt greetings I received, especially as I visited the Hendeles Chapel for services. The welcome each person receives is from that friendly group of volunteers known as our ushers. Their welcome is noticeable. The feelings they engender go a long way to creating a proper atmosphere for the morning.

For the last three years, the leader of this ushering team has been Barry Phillips, who has ushered for over 23 years. It is not surprising that Barry is so effective at ushering, given that he

has spent his career catering to the public as a pharmacist. In fact, in 2016, Barry Phillips was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Ontario Pharmacists Association. That made me think that he should be nominated for a Synagogue Usher of the Year Award (if such existed).

Phillips, a 1962 graduate of the University of Toronto, was a community pharmacy owner and Shoppers Drug Mart Associate for many years. He was responsible for the implementation of the “Brown Bag” program, whereby people were encouraged to bring in old medications to be discarded. He was also very much involved in the Employee Assistance Program for Shoppers Drug Mart, which helps employees and their families suffering from drug and/or alcohol dependency issues. He served as the President of the Ontario College of Pharmacists in 1984-85 and again in 1993, and has been active in many areas of his profession over his career. In short, Barry knows what it means to be committed, and that’s the attitude he brings to the table—or more accurately, to the synagogue service.

Barry is quite clear about an usher’s duties. It starts with knowing

the names, or at least the faces, of everyone who comes to synagogue regularly. But the real challenge is to make the stranger feel at home. Moreover, Phillips or another usher occasionally has to assign members to be the *gabbai* or *parnos*. The ushers are charged with the task of handing out aliyot and other honours where there are gaps. That might seem simple, but it can be a weekly challenge. You can easily knock someone’s *tallit* off his shoulders with a perceived slight in the handing out of honours. Happily, Barry says he and the other members of the ushering quartet—Lawrie Lubin, Marvin Miller and Jeff Gertner—have not had to deal with that issue. More serious problems arise when a person arrives late for an aliyah and the honour has been assigned to another person. Barry says that quick thinking, help from Lorne Hanick and diplomacy go a long way in alleviating these potential upsets.

So the next time you join the Sanctuary Service, note the speed, ease and comfort of the aliyah brigade, and thank Barry, Marvin, Lawrie and Jeff. They are sure to help you feel at home.

—Gerry Posner



## SENDING PURIM CHEER TO OUR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

The Membership Committee is gearing up to send our annual holiday package filled with Purim treats to our university/college student members. To receive a package, please provide a mailing address to Klara at [kromm@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:kromm@beth-tzedec.org) or call 416-781-3514, ext. 220. All requests must be received by **Wednesday, February 12** to ensure that they arrive in time for the holiday.

# The Other Roth Collection



I was fortunate to visit the United Kingdom recently to explore what I think of as the other Cecil Roth Collection, at Leeds University.

AS MANY OF YOU MAY KNOW, BETH TZEDEC IS EXCEPTIONALLY proud of the Cecil Roth Collection, which makes up a big part of the Reuben & Helene Dennis Museum. I was fortunate to visit the United Kingdom recently to explore what I think of as the *other* Cecil Roth Collection, at Leeds University.

Cecil Roth (1899-1970) was the foremost historian of Jewish history in Great Britain. Over a period of 50 years, Cecil, with his wife Irene at his side, amassed an exceptional and historically important collection of Judaica that included 1000 ritual objects, a circumcision seat, books, art works, ephemera and manuscripts. These items were acquired by Beth Tzedec members Sam and Israel Shopsowitz and their family for the museum during the period that Rabbi Stuart Rosenberg was Senior Rabbi (1965).

The personal collection of Dr. Roth went to the Brotherton library at the University of Leeds in England. Housed there since 1961 are Roth's medieval and early modern manuscripts, rare printed books, pamphlets and ephemera relating to Jewish life, history, liturgy and culture. Another small collection of Cecil Roth material is located in Northampton University and includes some correspondence, transcripts, documents, photographs and other artifacts of the social history of the Jews in Europe.

Working between 1925 and 1970, Dr. Roth's most lasting achievements are his editorship of the notable *Encyclopaedia Judaica* and his book *Jewish Art*. Roth's literary output was vast, encompassing the history of the Jews in particular of England and Italy, editing of many publications, writing more than 30 academic books and papers, studies of painting and scholarly research, particularly on the Dead Sea scrolls and biographical works. Add to that his brilliant eye for collecting important objects of Judaica and, specifically, the unique collection of *ketubbot* (marriage contracts) from countries around the world that are an outstanding part of our museum collection.

Over the 27 years that I have been curator at the museum, I have occasionally been in touch with Dr. Eva

Frojmovic, Associate Professor, Director of Postgraduate Research Studies and Director of the Centre for Jewish Studies at Leeds University, to discuss the Roth collections—theirs and ours. Recently I was invited to the University of Leeds to give a talk about our collection, and I was able to not only share with them a presentation about our Cecil Roth Collection, but also to see what they had stored in their stacks under special collections in the Brotherton Library.

An example of an unusual item in their collection is a booklet of hymns sung in the service preceding a circumcision over the Chair of Elijah. Vernacular in style, the title page is framed by a colourful arch-shaped border.

Beneath the title, a pair of out-stretched hands make the gesture of the priestly blessing. Dated before 1805, the manuscript was doubtless made especially for the family of Isach di Sabbato Coen, (Cohen), who signed his name on both the front and back fly leaves.

To finally have the opportunity to meet the scholars who curate and care for the “other” Roth Collection and to be taken into the stacks, behind the scenes, to explore the collection at

Leeds University was an inspiring and unique experience.

To be asked to speak about and show images of our Cecil Roth Collection was truly an empowering moment in my career and I look forward to sharing what I have learned with our Beth Tzedec family and beyond.

—Dorion Liebgott,  
Curator



Beth Tzedec's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Mother's Day Chai Tea

FINDING YOUR BLISS

featuring

**Judy Librach**, life coach, author, radio host and TV personality

**Lily Librach**, singer, dancer and actor

**Sunday, May 10, 2020**

Watch for all the exciting details coming soon!

## DAY TRIPS IN JEWISH HISTORY

With educator and lecturer  
**HANA WERNER**

### MONDAYS:

1:30 PM Refreshments / 2:00 PM Lecture

10 sessions: \$60 for Beth Tzedec members / \$70 for non-members;

5 sessions: \$45 for Beth Tzedec members / \$55 for non-members; Per session: \$14

### PART TWO: Bible Is Our School of Life

**April 27**

Evil and Hope in Noah's Ark: A modern approach

**May 4**

The Challenge of Blindness: Samson, Isaac, Jacob and others

**May 11**

Rejuvenation and Resilience: Deborah, Yael and Miriam

**May 25**

Vision, Passion and Hutzpah: The midwives, Puah and Shifra and the five daughters of Zelophehad

**June 1**

Jewish Continuity: Dilemmas in family relationships—Moses, Eli and Samuel

To register, visit [www.beth-tzedec.org/online](http://www.beth-tzedec.org/online) or contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or email [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).

# Together for Tzedakah

Bazaar Tzedakah: Hands-on Social Justice.

**WHEN I LIVED IN ISRAEL, IN MY KIBBUTZ AND MANY OTHERS,** children would go on an annual hunt for donations of new or second-hand items to sell. Knocking door to door in our community, pulling a little cart, they would bring their treasures back to the *Beit Yeladim*. The money raised by selling those goods would not go to the *kibbutz*, but to organizations that help people in need. It is true that these children volunteered in different ways throughout the year, but the “Bazaar Tzedakah” was their special project. It’s a special project that I wanted to bring to Beth Tzedec.

From the first time we mentioned the Bazaar on the synagogue Facebook page, I was getting calls and emails from many members who were excited about the idea and were willing to donate, volunteer and support the project. Just like in my *kibbutz*, the idea was embraced by our community.

I’m still amazed by the amount of support we generated. Leading up to the big day, staff and community members dropped off hundreds of new and gently-used housewares, toys, knick-knacks and lots more—not to mention *over a thousand books!* On September 8, the day of the Bazaar Tzedakah, we had more than 35 hardworking volunteers, including teens and children. Thanks to these amazing people, we raised nearly \$1000 for Chai Lifeline Canada in two hours.

Many of the items donated and sold that afternoon came with stories, but there is one I would like to share with you. I call it *Mamtak L’nefesh* (Sweet for the Soul). A community member, who had been holding on to her late mother’s beautiful china dishware for years, called me. She told me about the dishes and the memories they represented and explained that she wanted to know that they would go somewhere that they would be appreciated—a feeling that I’m sure many of us would share.

When she heard that our “Bazaar Tzedakah” would be supporting Chai Lifeline Canada, an organization

that had helped a close family member battle a terrifying childhood illness, she knew that it was finally the right time to let go of those dishes.

The china was picked up by a young woman who thought they would be perfect for *Pesah*, meaning that once a year, when they were taken out of storage, they would be appreciated and used by another loving family sharing their seder together. What a beautiful way to celebrate our member’s gift and her mother’s legacy.

*Hine ma tov!*

In my two years as part of this community, this was one of the most rewarding projects that I have been a part of. Thank you to the incredible donors and volunteers who helped make this event a reality. Thank you to our co-sponsors, PJ Library Toronto, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, the Miles Nadal JCC and JNF. Thank you to the vendors who joined us and the community members who browsed and purchased items. Thank you to Klara Romm, Membership Engagement and Development, who helped me from the beginning to the end of the project. None of this would have been possible without Brian Dias, our Building Manager, and his amazing team. Special thanks to our superstar volunteer, Alan Bernstein, who worked tirelessly to help make this event a success.

The members and staff of Beth Tzedec have transformed this synagogue into a home away from home for myself, my husband Yuda and our daughter Mia—you might have seen her running around the *shul* on Shabbat. Thank you for transforming this little idea from my *kibbutz* back in Israel into an opportunity to help others, support a great cause and come together as a community to do something incredible.

Yours,  
—Shirel Barkan-Slater



Rachel Zelunka, Peer-to-Peer Manager of Chai Lifeline Canada and Beth Tzedec’s Shirel Barkan-Slater.

# Our Next Refugee Sponsorship

Whoever saves a life, saves the world.

**JUST OVER THREE YEARS AGO, THE BETH TZEDEC COMMUNITY** welcomed our sponsored Syrian family to Toronto. Tarek & Hanaa Alhamwi and their three daughters had escaped from Syria and spent a challenging year in Turkey. It was with much relief and excitement that a group of Beth Tzedec members and rabbis greeted them at the airport in September 2016.

What has life been like for the family since then? Dad Tarek secured a job within four months of arrival—a job he still holds today. After three years of ESL and a job in a day care centre, mom Hanaa is studying medical technology to become a certified medical instrument technician. She will be graduating next June.

The girls are performing well in school. Sanaa, now 19, will graduate from high school this coming year. Her plan is to apply to an engineering program at an Ontario university. She volunteers as a translator for newly arrived Arabic-speaking students at her school and works part-time. Siba, 15, is also a high academic achiever and an active volunteer. Youngest sister Besan, 11, is creative and funny. She is also a terrific student. The girls speak perfect, unaccented English; they sound like the Canadian citizens they will soon become!

Through generous community support, the kids have experienced summer camp, canoeing in Algonquin Park, picking apples and hitting most of the tourist attractions around the GTA. Hanaa is able to converse with great confidence about politics; we chat about parenting and raising kids in today's challenging world. She has explained the intricacies of the conflict in Syria to me from a true insider's perspective. Tarek is not as comfortable speaking English, but he understands everything I say. They even love winter!



As sponsors, Beth Tzedec has changed the course of this family's life. And we have the opportunity to do that again for another family.

The Beth Tzedec Board of Directors has approved our sponsorship of a second refugee family through JIAS (Jewish Immigrant Aid Services, an agency of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto), a Canadian government refugee application licence holder. Our Refugee Sponsorship Group will be actively raising contributions and awareness. Please plan to attend information and fundraising events to help support this initiative.

Teddy and I have just returned from Berlin with renewed clarity about our moral imperative as Jews to help refugees in need. We are proud that our community has helped and continues to help Jewish refugees because they are Jews. And now we help all refugees because *we* are Jews.

—Bari Zittell

*Chair of the Beth Tzedec Refugee Sponsorship Group*



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**The Beth Tzedec Purim Seudah**  
Tuesday, March 10

Watch for details coming soon!



# Bringing Peace to Minds

**FROM NOVEMBER 10 TO 17, 2019, BETH TZEDEC HOSTED 20 ISRAELI** veterans of the Oketz (canine special forces) Unit of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and two specially trained Israeli therapists. The visit was arranged through Peace of Mind Canada, an organization whose mandate is to facilitate emotional and psychological support for veterans who have undergone difficult battle situations. Our group of veterans served as a unit in the IDF from 2007 to 2010, although many of them served longer and most continue to do reserve duty.

The concept of the program is to bring the veterans to a Jewish community of embracing hosts, away from the pressures and distractions of their everyday lives, where they can, as a unit, deal with the emotional and psychological scars of their years of intense army service. For the soldiers, the week is one which taxes their emotions, but ultimately gives them the tools to live their lives in a new way. And for the host community, the week is one in which we develop a deep bond with our guests and the State of Israel and more fully understand the lingering trauma associated with serving in an IDF combat unit. The end result for all involved is one of *shlaymoot*—wholeness, well-being and peace; a result which is in line with our goals as a synagogue community.

This was the fourth time that Beth Tzedec has been a Peace of Mind host and we hope to continue to host on an annual basis. Plans are already in process for 2020; if you're interested in hosting or helping to fund the visit, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).

—Bernie Gropper



In October, Beth Tzedec had the privilege to again host a special unit of discharged Israeli elite combat soldiers through the Peace of Mind program. The soldiers spent their days in group sessions, but evenings and Shabbat were spent interacting with our community, including their host families and at a Kabbalat Shabbat service and dinner and Shabbat morning service and kiddush. (In order to protect the identity of the POM participants, their faces have been blurred.)

## 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 Avital Narvey at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).





Programs for Toddlers with a Parent, Grandparent or Caregiver



## Sunday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 AM

### A Purim Show

**March 8**

Every moment is a good moment to laugh, rejoice and be happy—especially in the month of Adar! Have a laugh with the clowns and performers at our special Purim show.

### Moses and the People of Israel

**April 5**

Join Moses on a journey through the desert to the special little mountain: Sinai. Crafts, games, music and a special story will transport us to the times of the “Yetzeat Mitzraim” exodus.

No charge, but RSVPs requested by the Tuesday prior to each session. For information or to RSVP, contact Shirel Barkan-Slater at 416-781-3514, ext. 239 or sbarkan@beth-tzedec.org.



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UJA FEDERATION  
of Greater Toronto



## The art of Israeli cuisine is coming to Beth Tzedec!



**MasterChef**  
*Yeladim*



### Grades 1 to 5 (*Kokhavim*)

Sundays, January 12 from 2:00 to 3:30 PM  
and February 9 from 2:00 to 3:30 PM

### Grades 6 to 8 (*Kadima*)

Saturdays, January 11 from 6:00 to 7:30 PM  
and February 15 from 6:40 to 8:00 PM

Does your child enjoy cooking? Children in Grades 1 to 5 and Grades 6 to 8 are invited to learn how to cook Middle Eastern food and feed their parents their delicious creations. *Master Chef Yeladim* is a two-session program. Kids will decorate their own chef's apron, and at the end of the program, they will earn a diploma and their own kid-sized kitchen utensils.

**First Session** Learn about ingredients, mixtures and smells.

**Second Session** Learn to cook and feed your parents with a blind taste-testing game.

Cost: \$15 for Beth Tzedec members; \$20 for non-members.  
For information or to RSVP, contact Shirel Barkan-Slater at 416-781-3514, ext. 239 or sbarkan@beth-tzedec.org.

## Out of the Cold Winter 2020

Our shelter, which is run jointly with Beth Sholom out of their premises, operates every Tuesday night from January 7 until March 24. We serve dinner to nearly 200 guests each week and provide sleeping accommodations and breakfast for 60. Our guests have the opportunity to participate in our art program, play BINGO and chat with our volunteers. We have a nurse on hand each week as well as community support workers. We are thrilled that this year, St. Michael's Hospital Eye Clinic is sending a specialist to our site as well.

As you are all aware, homelessness in Toronto has reached crisis levels. Our work at the shelter is vital, as is your involvement. Out of the Cold is completely self-funded, therefore we rely on monetary and product donations from the community and from local companies. It is never too late to donate to this worthwhile cause and there are so many ways to do so.

You can purchase items, such as underwear, long johns, waterproof gloves, boots/running shoes, sweatshirts or sweatpants. (These donations will be eligible for a tax receipt for the value of the goods.) You may choose to sponsor dinner for our guests. Bar/Bat Mitzvah students occasionally decide to fill centerpieces at their *simhah* with items that we use each week: large tins of coffee, cereal, granola bars, soya milk, socks, t-shirts, art supplies and personal care toiletries. Students can take the initiative to organize a drive to collect much-needed items. It is a wonderful opportunity for youth to get involved in *hesed* activities and earn community service hours. You can buy tribute cards from the synagogue and direct the proceeds to OOTC. The possibilities are endless, and if you have any questions or ideas, feel free to reach out to me at the Synagogue office or by e-mail at [ootcsbt@gmail.com](mailto:ootcsbt@gmail.com).

We are always in need of gently used adult-sized winter clothing such as down-type coats and ski jackets, winter boots, running shoes, sweatpants and sweatshirts, t-shirts and blue jeans as well as hotel-size toiletries. Donations should be bagged, labelled and dropped off at Beth Sholom on weekdays between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, March 29 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM for Out of the Cold's *Annual Art Exhibit and Sale*, hosted at Beth Sholom. It showcases the talent and creativity of our guests who work on their paintings each week under the guidance of our talented instructors. For many of our guests, it is the highlight of their year.

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Mother's Day Chai Tea: Save the Date

The annual Mother's Day Chai Tea will be held on Sunday, May 10 and promises to be an inspiring afternoon. The committee is already hard at work and I have no doubt it will be a wonderful experience. As co-chair of Out of the Cold, I am so grateful that we have been the recipients of the proceeds from this special event since its inception, which to date totals over \$80,000. We could not have achieved the success that we have at OOTC without such generosity.

## Thursday Games Afternoon

Games Afternoon is going strong! Every Thursday from 1:00 to 4:00 PM, more than 75 participants gather to play Mahjong and Canasta. For those interested in playing Bridge, please contact me ahead of time to be sure that there are enough Bridge players on any given date. Feel free to join us for any of the games, regardless of your level of expertise. The cost is a toonie, which helps to support Beth Tzedec's various *hesed* programs. Please remember to bring your own cards and supplies and encourage your friends to join us. Non-members are always welcome and you do not have to bring your own foursome to attend..

## Mahjong and Canasta Lessons

Mahjong and Canasta lessons are available from our fabulous instructor. We try to hold lessons every month, depending on the demand. Our 'snowbirds' may want to pre-register and reserve a spot for lessons in the spring.

Call the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 to leave me a message if you would like more information on any of these exciting initiatives.

—Maureen Tanz  
Chair, *Hesed* Committee

## Beth Tzedec / Beth Sholom Out of the Cold Adult Clothing Donations

Out of the Cold always appreciates donations of warm clothing, which can be dropped off at Beth Sholom Synagogue. Please note that they only accept the following adult-sized items: down coats, ski jackets, parkas, snow pants, sweaters, hoodies, sweatshirts, sweat pants, blue jeans, corduroy pants, winter boots, hiking boots and running shoes.

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# MONDAY NIGHT LEARNING



## Mahloket Matters: Constructive Conflict in Jewish Life

with Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl

Monday evenings, January 13, 20 & 27 at 7:30 PM

In the current cultural and political climate, most people agree that civil discourse has deteriorated, a sign of danger to democracy. Following a program developed by the Pardes Institute, we shall study constructive disagreement. Whether in the *Sanhedrin* (High Court) or the *Beit Midrash* (Academy), *mahloket*, conflicting opinion, is found throughout classic Jewish literature. Using video and text study we shall examine a contemporary issue with reference to a biblical conflict narrative, how classical commentators read the “facts,” historical precedents for each position and practical possibilities to understand and engage more constructively with opposing political views, encountered in personal interaction, social or news media.

**COST:** No charge for Beth Tzedec members; \$20 non-members.

For more information or to register, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org)

The Beth Tzedec Sisterhood wishes everyone a Happy Purim.

BETH TZEDEC  
בית צדק SISTERHOOD

# Men's Club Makes a Difference



## Membership Cards

The Beth Tzedec Men's Club has mailed out personalized cards to Men's Club members that have a three-year Jewish calendar. Each card identifies supporters and allows privileges for designated Men's Club events.

Your voluntary, tax deductible contribution of \$36 allows us to continue to serve the needs of our synagogue and community. If you have not received your card, please contact our Membership Chairman Art Andrews at [aandrews@rogers.com](mailto:aandrews@rogers.com).

Cardholders are invited to attend a complimentary Men's Club Board dinner. For information on dates or to RSVP for a dinner, contact Art Andrews.



## World Wide Wrap 2020

There's a big change to our World Wide Wrap program! This year, kids in Grades 6 to 8 are invited to order a 'Build-a-Pair' *tefillin* kit to create their own handmade 'model' *tefillin*. The kit includes Hebrew script, inserted straps and ideas for their own "wRAP" songs to sing during the World Wide Wrap service and breakfast on Sunday, February 2. Cash prizes will be awarded. "Build-a-Pair" is a fun, educational program that introduces kids to the joy and mitzvah of *tefillin* in Jewish life. To get a 'Build-a-Pair' kit, contact Shirel Barkan-Slater at 416-781-3514, ext. 290 or [sbarkan@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:sbarkan@beth-tzedec.org).

## Men's Club Scholarship Program

Applications are now available for scholarships assisting young adults pursuing programs of higher Jewish education. For information or an application, email Hersh Rosenthal at [hershr@rogers.com](mailto:hershr@rogers.com). Deadline for submissions is April 7, 2020.

## Beth Tzedec at the Blue Jays

Thank you to all those who helped make our "Family Blue Jays Baseball Night" on Thursday, September 12 such a wonderful success. In particular, thanks to our the Men's Club leaders—Larry, Adam and Karen—who honoured our amazing teens and new *shinshinim*, Alona and Gal, at the Rogers Centre! Thank you also to Ellie, Dani, Tal, Isaiah, Seth, Abby and Lily who helped cheer on the Jays as they battled the Boston Red Sox in an end-of-season match. Beth Tzedec is really lucky to have you. Reb Steve and Jody were there too, helping make the evening extra fun. Being part of a community is so important for well-being, and we feel so lucky to be part of such a wonderful *kehillah*.



Photo courtesy of Larry Rachlin.

# Anshe-Zafon (Lake Region) News



## FJMC Convention Recap

The Anshe-Zafon region had its annual retreat in Toronto from December 6 to 8. It was held jointly

with Mercaz Canada and Rabbi Jennifer Gorman, executive director of Mercaz, was our special guest. The Federation of Jewish Men's

Clubs (FJMC) and Mercaz held separate streams throughout the retreat, but joined together as a community for *tefillah* and meals.

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## Inscribe our *Siddurim!*

Inscribe one or more of our *siddurim*, to mark a celebration, special occasion or achievement, or to honour the memory of a loved one. Each siddur will bear an elegant, personalized bookplate to acknowledge the *mitzvah* of your gift to Beth Tzedec.



For more information or to arrange for an inscription, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or visit [www.beth-tzedec.org/login](http://www.beth-tzedec.org/login).

# 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, contact Avital at 416-781-3511.

## Bar/Bat Mitzvah Prep Club Fund

The Milne Family, wishing Lorne Hanick *Shanah Tovah*.

## Camp Ramah Fund

Phyllis Flatt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Albert**.

Michael and Rochelle Kerzner and family, honouring **Carole and Harold Wolfe** on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson **Jake Mandel**.

Michael and Rochelle Kerzner and family, honouring **Jodi and Paul Mandel** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Jake Mandel**.

Michael and Rochelle Kerzner and family, acknowledging **Louise Starkman and Bobby Starkman** and family in memory of **Steven Starkman**.

## Daily Minyan Breakfasts

Jeffrey Axler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sara Axler**.

Rosalee Berlin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Myer David Berlin**.

## Daily Minyan Fund

Rosalee Berlin, acknowledging **Brenda Dales** in memory of **Barney Dales**.

Rosalee Berlin, acknowledging **Esther Peters** in memory of **Cantor Morris Goldlust**.

Rosalee Berlin, acknowledging the **Schlanger Family** in memory of **Mary Miriam Aaron Schlanger**.

Rosalee Berlin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Kate Lee Moss**.

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

Rosalee Berlin, wishing **Dot Whitehouse Shanah Tovah**.

Rose Sobel and Duke Segel, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Harry Chelin** and **Anne Grimson**.

Rose Sobel and Duke Segel, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Verne Chelin** and **Lillian Kaplan**.

## Daily Minyan Breakfasts

An anonymous contribution, honouring those who sacrificed so much and those who keep the memory alive.

The Ashley Family, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Evelyn Ashley**.

Beverley Black, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ada Starkman**.

Lorne Blumer, marking the conclusion of kaddish for **Jack Blumer**.

The Bot Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **William Bot**.

Fredelle Brief, commemorating the tenth yahrtzeit of **Millie Stein** and marking the tenth anniversary of *davening* with the morning minyan.

The Cummings Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **George Cummings**.

Brenda Dales and family, marking the conclusion of kaddish for **Bernard S. Dales**.

Brian, Kathryn and Robert Feldman, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Gilbert and Reta Newman**.

The Fox Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Helen Fox**.

Jeffrey and Jane Gertner and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Gertner**.

Helen Glazer and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jennie Potash**.

Helen Glazer and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Melville Potash**.

Sheldon and Judith Godfrey, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bert Godfrey**.

Sheldon and Judith Godfrey, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Godfrey**.

Dr. Eudice Goldberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Tillie Goldberg**.

David and Cindy Goldfarb, honouring the marriage of their son **Robbie Goldfarb to Nikki Rand**.

The Greenberg Family, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Carole Greenberg**.

Ena and Moshe Greengarten and Eric Potechin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Norman Potechin** and honouring the memory of **Evelyn Potechin**.

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

Mark and Jan Lapedus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ann Gross**.

Justin Lapedus and Danielle Lapedus, honouring the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Ryan Lapedus**.

The Leibel and Nemoy Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max B. Nemoy**.

The Leibel and Nemoy Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Helen Nemoy**.

Nathan and Glennie Lindenberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Miriam Lindenberg**.

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

Ruthann and Lawrie Lubin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lillian Cutler** and honouring the memory of **Ernest Cutler**.

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

Helen Marr and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gerald Marr**.

Liz Martin-Landau and Joel Landau, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Sally Shapiro Martin, Melvin Shapiro and Ruth Smith Shapiro Dickstein**, and honouring the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of **Harry and Nicole Martin**.

Mitch and Anne Max, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Paul Max**.

Sam Merson and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lorraine Merson**.

Henia Miller, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Meir Ambruski**.

Harvey Minuk, commemorating the tenth anniversary of the yahrtzeit of **Edith Michnik**.

Annette Oelbaum and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ron Oelbaum**.

Alan and Francine Peters, honouring the marriage of their daughter **Sabrina Peters to Jason Craig**.

Marlene and Ian Rattner and Mitchell and Samantha Rattner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Aaron Black**.

Jacqueline and Mark Rother and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joyce McDonald**.

Lorraine and Allan Sandler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Weinstock**.

Soozi Schlanger, Goldie Schlanger and Chaja Grande, marking the conclusion of kaddish for **Mary Miriam Aaron Schlanger**.

The Scoler Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Renee Scoler**.

Lauren and Dvir Shatach, honouring the birth of their daughter **Eleanor**.

The Sobel Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Sobel**.

The Sobel Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Eli Sobel**.

The Sobel Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Frances Sobel**.

Eric Sobel, honouring his birthday.

Rose Sobel and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **George Sobel**.

Dr. Sylvia Solomon and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Cantor Joseph Horowitz**.

Bernice Stern and the Gropper family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Goldstein**.

Sharon Yale and Blake Teichman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bernard Yale**.

#### **General Fund**

Mariana Grinblat, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fridel Sulim Klepper**.

Bernie and Elise Gropper, acknowledging **Danny and Arlyn Zimmerman** in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

Shane Grosman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Grosman**.

Terri Humphries, acknowledging **Neil Abbott and Mary Johnston Abbott and family** in memory of **Dr. Michael Abbott**.

Norman and Jackie Kahn, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Mildred Kriezman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Kriezman**.

Mildred Kriezman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Bernard Kriezman**.

Mildred Kriezman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Glazier**.

Ellis and Vicci Macmull, honouring **Harry Enchin and Susan Friedrich** on their birthdays.

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

Jerry Schendel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Klara Schendel**.

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

#### **Hesed Fund**

Frances Ackerman, acknowledging **Nathan Greenberg** in memory of **Carole Greenberg**.

Frances Ackerman, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Frances Ackerman and family, acknowledging **Sara Zimmerman and family** in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

Frances Ackerman and family, wishing **Joseph Isaacson** a *refuah sheleimah*.

Shirley and Perry Cooper, acknowledging **Nathan Greenberg** in memory of **Carole Greenberg**.

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

Shirley and Perry Cooper, honouring **Harry Enchin and Susan Friedrich** on their birthdays.

Aubrey and Judith Golden, acknowledging **Louise Starkman** in memory of **Steven Starkman**.

Aubrey and Judith Golden, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Golden**.

Marsha Joseph, acknowledging **Louise Starkman** in memory of **Steven Starkman**.

Helene Kerr, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Shirley Rosenthal**.

Helene Kerr and Adrian Tenser, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Rosenthal**.

Sylvia Singer and family, acknowledging **Nathan Greenberg** in memory of **Carole Greenberg**.

Rose Sobel, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Benjamin Chelin** and **Harry Sobel**.

Melvin and Ruth Steinhart, honouring **Judy and Ralph Shiff** on the marriage of their grandson **Noam**.

Terry and Nadine Walman, acknowledging the **Zimmerman Family** in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

#### **Howard (Hy Cooper) Trust Fund**

David, Carol, Ari, Marissa and Yonit Grossman, acknowledging the family of the late **David Reiss**.

Sandi and Jack Grossman and family, wishing **Gayle and Morty Eisenberg** *Shanah Tovah*.

#### **Israel Sydney & Pearl Wolfe Memorial Fund**

Caryl and Bernard Schwartz, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Pearl Wolfe**, **Myrna Hanet** and **Sean Atkins**.

#### **Jewish Family Living Fund**

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Pearl and Geneviève Cohen** on the birth of their daughter.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Moshe Micha and Chloe McAlister and family** on the birth of their daughter.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Avital Narvey, Florence Bendelac and Klara Romm** and wishing them *Shanah Tovah*.

#### **Jonathan Kahn Memorial Fund**

Brenda Orser, acknowledging **Jackie and Norman Kahn and family** in memory of **Jonathan Kahn**.

Clare, Ken and Noah Shapiro, wishing **Norman and Jackie Kahn** *Shanah Tovah*.

Dayna and Jordan Waltman, acknowledging **Jackie and Norman Kahn and family** in memory of **Jonathan Kahn**.

#### **Jonathan Steiner Memorial Fund**

Harold and Ruth Margles, honouring **Joseph and Elaine Steiner** on their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

#### **Kaddish Fund**

Marilyn Debora and Judy Litwack-Goldman, honouring the memory of **Dora Litwack**.

#### **Kosher Food Bank**

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Rabbi Jennifer Gorman** and wishing her *Shanah Tovah*.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Rabbi Shalom Schachter and Marcia Gilbert** and wishing them *Shanah Tovah*.

An anonymous contribution, honouring the volunteers of the **Kosher Food Bank**.

Denise Chriqui, wishing **Ab and Phyllis Flatt** *Shanah Tovah*.

Irving and Barbara Green, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Marlene Laba, wishing **Allan and Margaret Weinstein** *Shanah Tovah*.

Newton and Claire Markus, acknowledging the **Nachman Family** in memory of **Gabriel Nachman**.

Newton and Claire Markus, honouring **Diane Grafstein** on her special birthday.

Pearl Schwartz, honouring **John and Jane Trachtenberg** on the birth of their grandson **Andrew**.

#### **Little Minyan Fund**

Sephi Band, Jeffrey Mitz and Zoe Mitz, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

#### **Lorne Hanick Website Development Fund**

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

#### **Men's Club Scholarships**

Sylvia Singer and family, acknowledging the family of the late **Ida Wiesenthal**.



Art and Carole Andrews, acknowledging **Daniel Zimmerman** in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring her late father's birthday.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Gary Elman**.

#### Out of the Cold Fund

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Beverly Applebaum, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sydney Applebaum**.

Rosalee Berlin, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Barbara Firestone, acknowledging **Carmella Betel** in memory of **Rauba Barac**.

Ilene and Stephen Flatt, acknowledging **Danny Zimmerman** in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

Corrine Hart, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Eileen Hersey, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gerald Levy**.

Henrietta Kostman and Judith Kostman, acknowledging **Sherman Hans** in memory of **Judith Hans**.

Ellis and Vicci Macmull, wishing **Patti and Sheldon Rotman and family** *Shanah Tovah*.

Harold and Ruth Margles, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Marilyn and Saul Merrick, acknowledging **Jackee Gosewich** in memory of **Arnold Gosewich**.

Marilyn and Saul Merrick, acknowledging **Louise Starkman** in memory of **Steven Starkman**.

Roslyn Oslender, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

The Pollock Family, wishing the **Aronowicz Family** *Shanah Tovah*.

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

Mary and Les Richmond and family, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman and family, acknowledging the family of the late **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

Sheldon and Patti Rotman and family, acknowledging **Randy Kalpin** in memory of **Jean Kalpin**.

Sheldon and Patti Rotman and family, acknowledging the family of the late **Yehuda Golan**.

Sheldon and Patti Rotman and family, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Sheldon and Patti Rotman and family, honouring **Stephanie and Justin Linden** on the birth of their son **Oliver**.

Alan and Lorraine Sandler, acknowledging **Aubrey Golden** and family in memory of **Ron Golden**.

Alan and Lorraine Sandler, acknowledging **Dr. Martin and Estelle Kosoy** in memory of **Mildred Gervase**.

Alan and Lorraine Sandler, honouring **Heather Gotlieb** on being named *Kallat Torah*.

Alan and Lorraine Sandler, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Ralph and Judy Shiff, acknowledging **Louise Starkman** in memory of **Steven Starkman**.

Ralph and Judy Shiff, acknowledging the **Zimmerman Family** in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

Larry and Nina Wallach, honouring **Harry Enchin and Susan Friedrich** on their birthdays.

Lyon Wexler, honouring **Denise Chriqui** on her birthday.

Lyon Wexler, honouring **Janet Bomza and Joel Binder**.

Reesa and Bernie Yunger and family, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

#### The Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund

An anonymous contribution, acknowledging **Sara Zimmerman** and family in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Rabbi Baruch and Josette Frydman-Kohl** and wishing them *Shanah Tovah*.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **the office and caretaking teams and Nash's team** and wishing them *Shanah Tovah*.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **the spiritual care team** and wishing them *Shanah Tovah*.

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Rabbis Steven Wernick and Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on being installed as Beth Tzedec's rabbis.

David Ackerman and Joni Cohen, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl** on his retirement.

Rosalee Berlin, honouring **Rabbis Steven Wernick and Robyn Fryer Bodzin** on being installed as Beth Tzedec's rabbis.

Sandra Brown and family, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Murray Collis, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Collis**.

Marion and Ron Feld, honouring **Mel and Ruth Steinhart** on their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Ab and Phyllis Flatt, acknowledging **Louise Starkman** in memory of **Steven Starkman**.

Ilene and Stephen Flatt, honouring **Brenda Singer** on receiving the Order of Canada.

## BETH TZEDEC SISTERHOOD'S Torah Fund Tribute Cards

Choose these beautifully illustrated cards when you honour, acknowledge or commemorate the memories of those who are most important in your life.



The Torah Fund tribute cards can be purchased individually at a cost of \$5 each or a selection of 5 cards for \$20\*. To purchase, contact Lynne Taradash at 416-781-3714 or [lynnetaradash@icloud.com](mailto:lynnetaradash@icloud.com).

*The Beth Tzedec Sisterhood supports Conservative Judaism through its Torah Fund, the designated philanthropy fund of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism.*

*\*Tax receipts will be issued for orders of \$20 or more.*

BETH TZEDEC  
בית צדק SISTERHOOD

## ROBBINS HEBREW ACADEMY

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Michael Ferman 416-224-8737 ext. 137  
or [mferman@rhacademy.ca](mailto:mferman@rhacademy.ca).



MIRIAM & LARRY  
ROBBINS HEBREW ACADEMY  
מירימ ו' לררי רובינס  
האקדמיה העברית  
ממשיכים ו' פוגשים  
מסורת ו' תורה

WHERE EXTRAORDINARY THINGS HAPPEN.



### Condolences

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

Dr. Michael Abbott  
Sarina Auriel  
Dr. Robert Bendavid  
Cindy Duchon-Pasternak  
David Gavsie  
Yehuda Golan  
Arnold Gosewich  
Marion Gould  
Aurel Gropper  
Sam Hoffer

Arthur Levman  
Harvey Lindzon  
Gene (Eugene) Opler  
Andy Senyi  
Marvin Shore  
Bernard (Bernie) Staiman  
Steven Starkman  
Margaret Ungar  
William (Bill) Wagman  
Ruth Sarah Wagman

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

### 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 sponsoring breakfast on a *yahrtzeit*. For a complete list of Synagogue funds, please call the office at 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. Contact our Executive Director, Randy Spiegel at 416-781-3514, ext. 211 to discuss these opportunities in confidence.

## Jewish Meditation



Shabbat, January 11, February 8 and  
March 7 from 10:00 to 11:15 AM

For men and women, centred on texts from our tradition, eliciting response and deep listening—a doorway to enhanced prayer.

For more information, please contact Marlene Laba at 416-781-3514, ext. 234 or [mlaba@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:mlaba@beth-tzedec.org).

*Michelle Katz is an educator in English and Special Education. She provides workshops, retreats and group classes in Jewish Meditation, Jewish Spiritual Direction and Torah yoga.*

SPONSORED BY THE BETH TZEDEC MEN'S CLUB



## Canasta and Mahjong Lessons

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

Lila Freedman, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Sima Hirsh, Norma Freedman** and **Naomi Freedman**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, honouring **Paul and Gella Rothstein** on their anniversary.

Shep Gangbar, honouring **Allan Phillips**.

Diane Grafstein, acknowledging **Sara Zimmerman and family** in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

Diane Grafstein, honouring **Lyon Wexler** on being named *Hattan Bereisheet*.

Barry Greenberg and Susan Laufer, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Henrietta Kostman and Judith Kostman, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl** on his retirement.

Ruthann and Lawrence Lubin, acknowledging **Jill Cain** in memory of **Ruth Cutler**.

Marilyn and Saul Merrick, acknowledging **Nathan Greenberg** in memory of **Carole Greenberg**.

Rochelle and Peter Miller, commemorating the *yahrtzeit* of **Yale Daniel Piltz**.

John and Molly Pollock, acknowledging **Dr. Bill and Taffy Cass** in memory of **Larry Cass**.

Millie Pollock, acknowledging **Sara Zimmerman** in memory of **Zoltan Zimmerman**.

Millie Pollock, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Muriel Gorsky** and **Harry Tobenstein**.

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

Dr. David and Shirley Promislow, acknowledging **Nathan Greenberg** in memory of **Carole Greenberg**.

Dr. David and Shirley Promislow, honouring **Judy and Ralph Shiff** on the marriage of their grandson **Noam**.

Dr. David and Shirley Promislow, honouring **Ruth and Mel Steinhart** on the marriage of their grandson **Zachary**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Estelle Perlmutter and family** in memory of **Marvin Shore**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring **Jeffrey and Joanne Perlmutter** on the birth of their grandson.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, Emma and Zachary, acknowledging **Drew Berman** in memory of **Alex Berman**.

Bernie and Caryl Schwartz, acknowledging **Louise Starkman** in memory of **Steven Starkman**.

Lesley Shore and family, honouring **Joseph and Elaine Steiner** on their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Jack and Jill Spitz, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Jack and Jill Spitz, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Ruth and Melvin Steinhart, commemorating the *yahrtzeit* of **Rose Siegel**.

Beverly Stern, commemorating the *yahrtzeit* of **Geri Sitzer**.

Jennifer Wyman and Neil Zworth, commemorating the *yahrtzeit* of **Roel Wyman**.

Cecile Zaifman and Malcolm Weinstein, honouring **Patti and Sheldon Rotman**.

#### **Sheila Zeldin Memorial Fund**

Susan Zeldin and Ron, Noah and Daniel Clark, commemorating the *yahrtzeit* of **Sheila Zeldin**.

#### **Victims of Terror Fund**

Bella, Zamir and Alexander Latipow, commemorating the *yahrtzeit* of **Larisa Zhornisky Shpiegelman**.

David and Shayndelynn Zeldin, acknowledging **Ron and Karin Poizner** in memory of **Julius Poizner**.

#### **Yom Hashoah Candle Fund**

Eddie and Bonny Kirschner, honouring **Cathy Surdin and Lawrence Schiff** on their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring her late father's birthday.



# **PILATES**

© Beth Tzedec

**with Christine Biggs**

**Monday evenings at 7:30 PM**

Sculpt your body, improve your strength and flexibility and relax your mind with certified pilates instructor Christine Biggs. Participants must bring their own mat and sign a waiver form. Class size limited.

Pre-registration recommended. Contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).

#### **FIVE SESSIONS:**

\$60 Beth Tzedec members / \$75 non-members

#### **PER SESSION:**

\$15 Beth Tzedec members / \$20 non-members



## Friday, February 7 and Saturday, February 8

### Friday, February 7 at 5:45 PM

Join us for a delicious dinner with guest **Dara Horn** discussing her latest book *The Eternal Life*. Cost for dinner: \$24 USD for Beth Tzedec members; \$32 USD non-members. For information or to reserve for the dinner, contact B'nai Torah at 516-392-8566 or visit [www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org).

### Saturday, February 8 at 8:45 AM

Join us for services, a pulpit address from **Dara Horn** on *I Only Want My Child to be Happy and Other Lies: Happiness versus Holiness in the Modern World* and a special Kiddush panel discussion with **Rabbis David Englander and Steven Wernick and Dara Horn** on *Happiness versus Holiness*.

Encourage your Florida friends and snowbirds to attend!