

HAPPY PASSOVER!
חג כשר ושמח!

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SEARCHING FOR MY VOICE:

WITH ALLAN SOBERMAN:
A WORLD PREMIERE



**Limited time streaming engagement
beginning March 18**

Experience Allan's journey growing up in a religious family in Toronto through the '50s and '60s before finding his own way in the world of secular music. This intimate show blends story with song as Allan shares the synagogue and secular musical influences that shaped his life. The on-demand video will be available for a limited time beginning March 18.

A Musical Tradition:

Remembering and Celebrating Cantor Morris Soberman

Thursday, April 1 at 7:45 PM

We will come together as a community to celebrate the musical legacy and tradition of the Soberman family as we sit down with Allan Soberman to discuss his show, *Searching for My Voice*, and the experience of growing up as the son of Beth Tzedec's beloved Cantor Morris Soberman.

Pre-registration required via [ShulCloud](#).



My journey to this moment has been long, thoughtful and enriched by experience.

“I Am My Beloved’s and My Beloved is Mine”: Officiating at Same-Sex Weddings

There is a tradition to recite *Shir Hashirim*, the Song of Songs, during Passover. Why do we do this? Some have suggested that spring is the link. Passover occurs in the spring, when the green returns, the sun shines and life is renewed. The Song of Songs is about young love—it too has a sense of renewal, of the future.

Even more controversial is how the Song of Songs was codified into the Bible. Like Esther, the book contains no overt mention of God. And unlike the other books of the Bible, it is love poetry, at times sensuous and erotic. The Song contains neither the subject matter nor is it written in the style of the rest of the Bible. So what is it doing here?

Rabbi Akiva famously argued that while all of the books of the Bible are holy, *Shir Hashirim* is the “holy of holies!” The commentaries state that Rabbi Akiva understood the Song as an allegory for the love of God and Israel. Just as the unnamed man and woman pursue each other through fields and valleys, so too do Israel and God pursue each other through history. The love of one for the other—whether human love or divine love—brings a life of bliss.

The beautiful imagery of love in the Song reminds us of our own memories of love’s magic—the twinkle in the eye, the skip in the step and the longing to spend every moment together. No wonder “*Ani l’dodi v’dodo li*, I am my beloved and my beloved is mine” (2:16) is often recited under the *huppah*. It is an expression of our anticipation of a life of loving partnership.

I still remember my own wedding day in vivid detail; feeling elated, excited and very much in love. Twenty-eight and a half years later, each anniversary

is a celebration of Jody and my growing partnership. (I like to kid *Ani L’Jody, v’Jody li*.)

As a rabbi, one of the most fulfilling things I do is working with couples in preparing them for their special day, and more importantly, for their lives together as *rey'im ahuvim*, loving companions. Every time I stand under the *huppah* with a couple, I see the love in their faces and the joy they and their families share at this moment of celebration and covenantal commitment. *Shir Hashirim* is the logical liturgical choice.

In 2006 the Conservative Movement, after years of learning and debate, took a major step toward permitting the normalization of the LGBTQ+ community within Jewish life. This decision was based on the principle of *Kavod Habriut*, the honour/dignity of all of God’s creation, articulated in a *teshuvah* (responsa) accepted by the Rabbinical Assembly’s Committee on Jewish Law and Standards (CJLS) and written by Rabbis Elliot Dorff, Daniel Nevins and Avi Reisner. This acceptance led to the admission of LGBTQ+ community members to the rabbinical schools of the Conservative Movement and more. It did not allow for Jewish marriage for same-sex partners and it maintained the biblical prohibition of sexual intimacy between gay men.

A dissenting opinion authored by Rabbi Gordon Tucker, entitled “Halakhic and Metahalakhic Arguments Concerning Judaism and Homosexuality” was also discussed. When I read the opinions and debate from 2006 today, I am convinced that Rabbi Tucker’s approach is the more authentic and rational approach to normalizing

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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.

LGBTQ+ people in Jewish life. I am not alone in making this determination, as many rabbis in our movement are relying on Rabbi Tucker's opinion to officiate at same-sex weddings and other *halakhic* innovations.¹

At Beth Tzedec, we too value *Kavod Habriut*. For many years we have worked to be more welcoming of LGBTQ+ Jews to our synagogue through sponsorship of, and participation in, Pride Shabbat, Pride Month and other programs. We've also welcomed same sex couples to celebrate *b'nei mitzvah*, baby namings and *brit milah* with us. And we have seen to the pastoral care of everyone in our community without regard to gender, sexual identity, colour, age or ability.

In our research to formulate our Strategic Plan of 2017, you told us that it was important that the synagogue work to be even more inclusive. Toward that end, our Board of Directors formed a task force for LGBTQ+ inclusion that reviewed our policies, forms and culture to make recommendations on how we could do that. We partnered with Keshet to update our documents and to train our staff and Board in strategies for welcoming. That training is ongoing.

Our LGBTQ Task Force also identified that having our rabbis officiate at same-sex weddings is a necessary and imperative step to becoming a fully welcoming community. This is a step that we are proud to announce we are taking today, after consultation and study with our Ritual Committee, Executive Committee and with the unanimous support of our Board of Directors.

We will be offering a number of educational opportunities in the spring for our members to learn why we believe this decision is so important, why we are excited to make it, on what *halakhic* basis it is made and why it matters so much to those who are most directly impacted. We are pleased to have invited Rabbi Tucker to teach his *teshuvah* to us, and we hope that you join us for these sessions in March.

We know that some may find this particular change challenging, and we are happy to sit with you to discuss those feelings—change is always hard. Though Rabbi Fryer Bodzin has previously officiated at same-sex weddings, I have not yet done so. My journey to this moment has been long, thoughtful and enriched by experience. Or if you prefer, please reach out to us privately. We welcome every opportunity to discuss this with you.

As spring approaches, as we celebrate Passover and our redemption from slavery to freedom, as we renew our sacred covenant with God, as we recite *Shir Hashirim*, we look forward to celebrating the many *rey'im ahuvim*, loving partnerships, that will flourish under the *huppah* in the months ahead, including those of the LGBTQ+ community. As is the custom for everyone who attends a wedding, let's say *mazal tov*!

¹ Each rabbi of a community is an independent *mara d'atra*, decisor of Jewish Law. One can use the CJLS for guidance, but one is not bound to hold by its decisions unless they become a Standard of Rabbinic Practice, of which there are only two. As *mara d'atra* of Beth Tzedec, the Senior Rabbi is free to hold by any *teshuvah* they see fit, with consultation, for their community whether accepted by the CJLS or not, written by another rabbi or written by themselves.

BT»ALLACCESS

NOTABLE SPEAKERS

SERIES

News & Views from Prominent
Scholars and Personalities

WEDNESDAYS AT 1:00 PM

Engaging ideas in current Jewish
affairs, politics, arts and sciences—
with note-worthy community figures.

April 7
The 21st Century Museum and the
Future of Jewish Art and Life at
the ROM
with Josh Basseches

April 14
The Architectural Future of our City
with Alex Josephson

May 5
Jewish Toronto, Today and Tomorrow
with Adam Minsky and Rabbi Wernick

No charge; pre-registration required for each session. Call 416-781-3511

Songs that Defined a New Nation

POETRY, PEOPLEHOOD AND POLITICS

WITH RABBI BARUCH FRYDMAN-KOHL

THURSDAYS, APRIL 29 AND MAY 6 & 13 AT 7:45 PM

Hebrew poetry and song shaped the national consciousness of the State of Israel from the 1950s through the end of the century. We will explore poems in Hebrew and English, with an emphasis on the social significance of the texts. No charge; Pre-registration required.



Community in a Crisis

We will continue to inspire and enable each of you to live meaningful Jewish lives, to find your place and be part of a large and embracing community.

I have belonged to Beth Tzedec for my entire life. Beth Tzedec is literally my second home, having grown up in its halls and, until COVID-19, having spent an inordinate amount of time in the building.

While one's shul can represent many different things, ultimately, what Beth Tzedec means to me is community. My first community here was as a kid at Junior Congregation, where we were led by our Pied Piper, Rabbi Hollander^{ztl}. All of my friends attended shul every Shabbat and more than 45 years later, I still have incredible memories from that time.

Michael and I found community early in our marriage at the Little Minyan. We loved the informality of the service and made long-lasting friendships that we both treasure. Michael loved the Little Minyan so much, he's been Chair for what seems like forever, with no signs of giving it up.

When Michael lost his dad almost two years ago, we found community when we needed it most. I was not prepared for the love and support of Daily Minyan regulars like Shep Gangbar and Lyon Wexler.

And since COVID-19 began, the *Kiddush Club L'Chaim* every Friday has been my lifeline, touching me with stories and wisdom from across our kehillah. It allows me to come into Shabbat on a spiritual high, even when that felt impossible.

In the spirit of community, I want to highlight two events that took place in December. On Wednesday, December 16, we held our *Lighting the Way* event. Gary Elman, Patti Rotman, Larry Wallach, Arlyn Zimmerman and I wanted to honour the members of our kehillah who have gone above and beyond since the beginning of the pandemic. We sent out an eblast asking for nominations and received a huge response, but it's easy to fill out a form—we had no idea how many people would actually tune in for our program.

It would be an understatement to say that I was blown away to see 95 individual logins to Zoom, almost all with multiple viewers. It was a beautiful and meaningful evening for all those in attendance and I was truly honoured to be a part of an incredible planning committee. Thank you to Daniel Silverman for helping us pull it

all together and to Cantor Sidney for stealing the show!

The very next night, I was once again thrust into the cast of a Larry Wallach production. *Maccabees—The Musical Including the Story of Judith* brought together members of Beth Tzedec and Park Avenue Synagogue to tell the story of Hanukkah and to teach us about Judith, an actual Hanukkah heroine. We had 75 logins between Toronto and New York, with people literally dancing in the aisles to the amazing soundtrack. Larry's labour of love over four productions brought a sense of community while, as he said, "making the world feel smaller and less lonely for 90 minutes".

The new Beth Tzedec vision infographic that we introduced in January and its six values, **Care**, **Connect**, **Learn**, **Pray**, **Celebrate** and **Give & Get**, has its

foundation in community. From our daily minyan-goers to our *b'nei mitzvah* teens; our Small Group participants, to our Out of the Cold volunteers; our Refugee Sponsorship group to hosting former Israeli soldiers with Peace of Mind; from our 20s and 30s delivering *hallah* to seniors to our young families connecting with each other at our *Family Zoom Havdalah*. With these values at the core of our mission, we will continue to inspire and enable each of our members to live meaningful Jewish lives and to find your place as part of a large and embracing community.

All this to say, as we continue to be separated from our extended family and friends, so many of us are looking for community and we can all stand to celebrate more. For two nights in December, in addition to our weekly *L'Chaim*, Beth Tzedec delivered

community in abundance and I was so honoured to be a part of it. But I know that there are so many more of you that could bring your unique gifts to helping us build our community of communities. If you have any ideas for programming or community building, as always feel free to contact me by email at president@beth-tzedec.org.

Ultimately, I got involved at Beth Tzedec to ensure that my kids, Emma and Zachary, would continue to feel the same sense of connection and community that I do. Not every day as President is an easy one—there have been plenty of overwhelming days, especially over the last ten months. But I have always been proud that I am part of such a caring and wonderful community.

Board of Directors Meetings

In adherence to Toronto Public Health guidelines and Beth Tzedec's safety protocols regarding COVID-19, the Board of Directors meetings will be conducted virtually via Zoom. Members are welcome to participate, but must pre-register for link information. Upcoming dates: **Tuesdays, March 2 at 7:00 PM** and **April 6 and May 4 at 7:30 PM**.

For information or to pre-register for a Board meeting, contact Florence Bendelac at 416-781-3514 ext. 213 or email fbendelac@beth-tzedec.org.

Annual Meeting

All members are encouraged to participate in our Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, May 25 at 7:30 PM**.



Inspiring and Enabling
Our Community to Live
Meaningful Jewish Lives

Click [here](#) to view our values video.



Covidtigue

Some days, it hurts so much because I know what we are all missing, even as we chart a new normal.

This year, January came in like a lamb—fortunate for all who are home, only stepping out for essentials, isolated from friends, family and familiar places where we once gathered.

How we miss the hugs of children and grandchildren, parents and grandparents. And how smart and tech-savvy we of all ages have become!

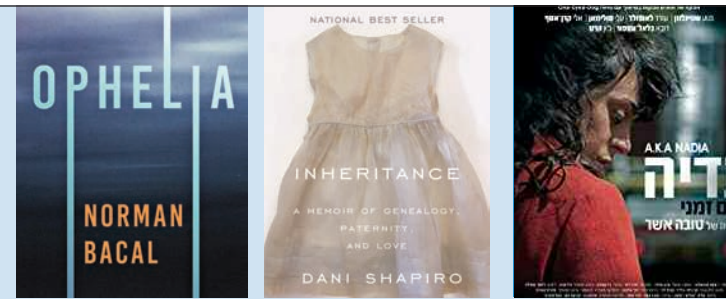
We reach out where we can, venture out for safe walks and distanced discussions with neighbours, but mostly we are alone. I confess, I am suffering from Covidtigue. In the best of times, the life of an Executive Director of a *kehillah* is intense. At one of the most dynamic *kehillot* in North America, the pace is generally hectic. Since March 15, 2020, when I closed the office to officially work from home, that pace intensified. The “marasprint”—running a marathon at the speed of a sprint—has taken a toll on many and I’m feeling it. Some days, there is lethargy and I’m unable to constantly fire on all cylinders as I am used to. Covidtigue is setting in.

I wonder: is this what it was like for the children of Israel, day after day, walking in the desert and wondering when it would end?

I miss the familiarity of the synagogue, the humbling walks through the sacred spaces where we pray and dance. I miss my *sefarim* and professional resources, knick-knacks and music that fills my office—old-school CDs of classical, jazz, Israeli and other rock stars from the past and the present that colour the quiet as the hours pass. I miss the sounds of children in the hallways, symbols of life and future. I miss the kerfuffle of parents and grandparents picking up their kids, the hugs, the kisses, the simple moments of oneness. I miss the familiarity and camaraderie of my fellow teammates, who energize me and share the passion for sustaining a sacred community. It is they who are ever-present to respond to the needs of members as well as to their own families. It is they who embrace us all and help us lead meaningful Jewish lives.

Some days, it hurts so much because I know what we are all missing, even as we chart a new normal.

As winter sets in, Covidtigue deepens its grip and I have become aware of a yearning, an ache that I have not felt



Beth Tzedec Book and Film Club

SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF JUDI KAUFFMAN^{z”l}

Wednesdays at 1:30 PM

MARCH 24

Ophelia

by Norman Bacal

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY
Amica On the Avenue Retirement Residence

APRIL 28

Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love

by Dani Shapiro

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY
Phyllis and Ab^(z”l) Flatt and Carol and Harold Wolfe in memory of Max and Beatrice Wolfe

MAY 12

Film Screening of A.K.A. Nadia

by Tova Ascher

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY
Four Elms Retirement Residence

in years. Fortunate to have attended Camp Ramah, between summers I would wake up with an ache in my gut, counting the days until I could pack my bags, see friends, *daven*, sing, swim and water-ski on a glass-like cold Muskoka lake or sit by a crackling fire under the stars. I would busy myself with school, sports and USY, but always there was that ache.

As I write, the Torah tells the story of our people in Egypt, about to embark on a journey to freedom, self-determination and revelation at Mt. Sinai. Their future is uncertain in a seemingly endless wasteland. For us, far from the physical desert, in the midst of a modern day plague, we too face an uncertain future. Hunkering down in apartments and homes, struggling to be patient in our desert, we wait for the world to change, for the plague to pass.

We have the benefit not of sorcerers but of scientists, whose practice is to use their God-given talents to unlock the mysteries of science and help us

manage this virus. And while government leaders and health professionals provide guidelines and recommendations, individually and collectively we must exercise good judgement and limit the extent of the damage by making responsible decisions to survive our lonely deserts.

What helps ease the pain is the knowledge that our journey never ends. What started with Abraham continued as we went down to Egypt and made our way through some of history’s darkest moments. We have survived and thrived because we hope and believe that there are always better days ahead.

In the desert, or in our homes, we retain the desire to gather, sing, play and pray—together. And that is why it hurts so much.

Each night when we tuck in, we say the *Shema*—reaffirming belief in one God, our Creator, our God who created the world and all that it is. In

our home, as we say goodnight, we wish each other *holomotpaz*—sweet golden dreams that will carry us through the darkness and to the new day when the sun will rise on potential that is only limited by what we choose to do or say.

I know that Covidtigue will abate, replaced with joy and togetherness when our doors are open wide and we will again physically welcome our family back to Beth Tzedec.



To make a gift that will strengthen our *kehillah* or assist those in our community, please contact me directly at 416-781-3514 ext. 211 or rspiegel@beth-tzedec.org.

HAPPY PASSOVER

Enjoy Fabulous Florals from KEN'S ON AV & DAV and
Delicious NUT FREE KOSHER FOR PASSOVER Baked Goods from RANDY AT KOSHER CITY PLUS

Support local businesses and celebrate PASSOVER with something special!

Proceeds to benefit the Food Insecurity Fund assisting
the most vulnerable of our community to access food during this critical time.

Order deadline: Wednesday, March 10

Contactless Curbside Order Pickup: **Thursday, March 25 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM** (check off pick-up location):

- ☐ North of Steeles at 141 Langtry Place (THORNHILL)
- ☐ East of Bathurst, north of Lawrence at 513 Glengarry Avenue (BATHURST & LAWRENCE)
- ☐ West of Bathurst, north of Eglinton at 42 Ridelle Avenue (UPPER VILLAGE)
- ☐ East of Bathurst, north of Eglinton at 508 St. Clements Avenue (UPPER VILLAGE)
- ☐ East of Bathurst, south of Eglinton at 215 Rosemary Road (LOWER VILLAGE)
- ☐ West of Bathurst, south of Eglinton at 149 Strathearn Road (CEDARVALE)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Payment information: (CREDIT CARD PAYMENT ONLY) ☐ VISA or ☐ MASTERCARD

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiry: _____ / _____ CVV: _____

OPTION 1

Fabulous assortment of white roses, white hydrangeas and miniature
green mums in a beautiful glass vase all beautifully wrapped in cello.

Cost \$65.00

(quantity) _____ x @ \$65 each = \$ _____

OPTION 2

Delicious 8" Apple Bundt cake that will be a perfect ending to your
Passover Seder. NUT FREE KOSHER FOR PASSOVER

Cost \$30

(quantity) _____ x @ \$30 each = \$ _____

OPTION 3

Scrumptious box of 12 assorted brownies, donuts, cookies and more.

NUT FREE KOSHER FOR PASSOVER **Cost \$40**

(quantity) _____ x @ \$40 each = \$ _____

OPTION 4

Donation to the Food Insecurity Fund in the amount of \$ _____

Total Amount \$ _____

Milestones and Celebrations

We can't share your good news unless you tell us about it. Send an
email to thumphries@beth-tzedec.org or call 416-781-3514, ext. 212.
Deadline for the summer *Bulletin* edition is July 15.



Births

Holden Barnes, son of Sarah Tanz & Sam Blumberg, grandson of Stuart & Karen Tanz and Edwin & Adrienne Blumberg, great-grandson of Gilda Tanz & Marty Kelman and Mark & Jacqueline Tanz and Catherine & Michael Cadogan, **born October 29**.

Roenan Mac Solomon, son of Jeffrey Cappe & Tiana Roebuck, grandson of Leonard & Cheryl Cappe and Ray Roebuck & David MacCoy, great-grandson of Clara Cappe, **born November 19**.

Adi Deyah, daughter of Rachel Hindel & Daniel Silverman, granddaughter of Esther Salve-Hindel & Josef Hindel and Margo & Judah Silverman, **born November 21**.

Florence Shelli, daughter of Samantha Seaton & Mitchell Rattner, granddaughter of Marlene & Ian Rattner and Shelli ^zl & Meyer Seaton, great-granddaughter of Beverley Black, **born November 30**.



Dylan Levi, son of Adam & Alix Goldberg, grandson of Bernie Gropper & Elise Stern Gropper and Gary & Linda Goldberg, great-grandson of Lony & Ruth Gropper, Bernice Stern & Leo Stern ^zl, Zelda Korenblum and Henry Korenblum ^zl, and David Goldberg ^zl and Karla Goldberg ^zl, **born January 5**.



Levi Arie, son of Natalie Shenkar & Jason Brenzel, grandson of Sherri & Sandy Brenzel and Michelle & Arie ^zl Shenkar, **born January 5**.

Congratulations to

Dr. Sandy Buchman, who was appointed inaugural chair for palliative care at North York General Hospital.



Suzanne Carson, daughter of Louise & Terry Carson, and **Hussein Hirjee**, son of Anar & Abdul Hirjee, on their engagement.

Aviva Chernick, on being nominated for a World Album of the Year award by the Canadian Folk Music Awards for her album *La Serena*.

Dr. Jordan Friedman, son of Maureen & Michael Friedman, and **Leah Sutton**, daughter of Tandy Goldenberg & Dr. Neal Sutton, on their engagement.

Dr. Lauren Friedman, daughter of Maureen & Michael Friedman, and **Leon Hanan**, son of Wendy & Ronnie Hanan, on their engagement.

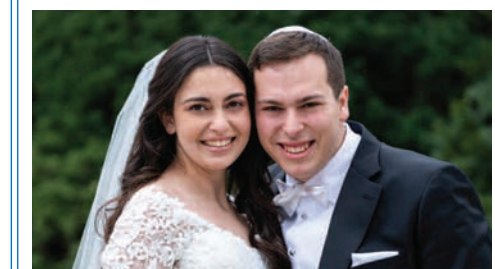
Karen Goldenberg, on being appointed to the Order of Ontario for her efforts championing the underprivileged and disadvantaged.

Sarah Silverberg, daughter of Robin & Steve Silverberg, granddaughter of Honey & Irv ^zl Milstein and Ruth & Willy ^zl Silverberg, and **Omri Arbu**, son of Eli & Este Arbu, on their engagement.

Joan & Marvin Waxman, who celebrated their 50th anniversary on December 22.

Rabbi Steven Wernick, on being appointed Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee and an Executive Committee member of Mercaz Olami, and being appointed Vice-Chair of the Jewish Agency Aliyah Committee.

Weddings



Sylvie Moscovitz, daughter of Michele & Steve Moscovitz, granddaughter of Kay & David Krebs and Phyllis ^zl and Mike ^zl Moscovitz, and **Maxwell Librach**, son of Judy & Clifford Librach, grandson of Dr. Samuel & Evelyn Librach, Herbert Siblin ^zl and Jaqueline Siblin and Barbara & David Saltsman, who were married December 31.

Mazal Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah

WHO HAVE COMPLETED OUR BAR/BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM



March 4
Jack Bleiwas
son of Mark &
Samara Bleiwas

יעקב שמואל אלטר בן אלימלך
מנחם מענדל ושמונה דבורה



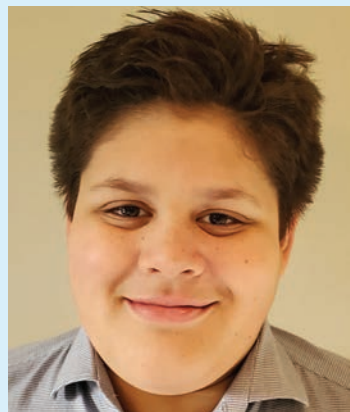
March 13
Levi Smith
son of Dr. Kevin &
Joanne Smith

לב כובי בן קלמן נחום הכהן
ויספה היה



March 20
Reese Sydney Raphael
daughter of Michael
Raphael & Judith Reiss

רחל בת מיכאל ויהודית



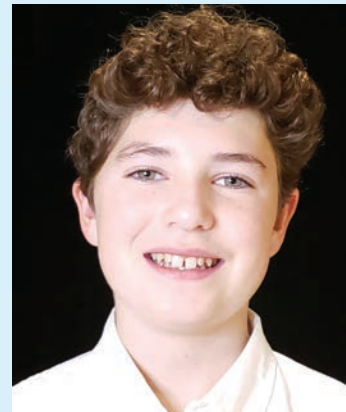
May 1
Eli Mandell
son of Seth Mandell &
Devorah Lithwick

אלי בן שמואל ודבורה



May 6
Ari Judah Cepler
son of Brian &
Amanda Cepler

יוסף ארי בן אברהם וחיה



May 15
Nathan Marcus
son of Michael Marcus &
Lorraine Lawson

אלירון בן גרשון

FAMILY OUTDOOR Kabbalat Shabbat

**Fridays, March 19, April 16
and May 21 at 5:45 PM**

Join us outside in the Beth Tzedec parking lot for our monthly Family Kabbalat Shabbat experience. Offering an engaging, lively prayer service and community experience incorporating the participation of the children, teens and families.

Registration will be limited to ensure adequate distancing is maintained. In the event of increased Public Health restrictions, this service may be cancelled.

Please check our website for updates and changes.

Pesah Katan for Families

Wednesday, March 31 at 5:00 PM

Join BT families for a *Hol Hamoed* interactive dinner as we come together as a community over Zoom to tell the story of the exodus in a fun and unique way.

Registration is required.



Yom Sport Israeli:

A FAMILY SCAVENGER HUNT

SUNDAY, APRIL 18 AT 3:00 PM

After a long winter, let's warm up with some fun Israeli activities while exploring a fun scavenger hunt, Spoiler alert-There will be some yummy chocolate at the event! There will be activities for all ages. Don't forget to dress blue and white to celebrate Israel's birthday!

This program is planned to be held in the Cedarvale Park ravine, observing all physical distancing and COVID safety protocols recommended by Public Health. In the case of inclement weather or Public Health recommendations to suspend in-person gathering, we will reschedule the event. Pre-registration is required.





Hope and optimism
can be found
scattered throughout
our classic texts.



Pesah and Positive Psychology

Do you generally view yourself as an optimist or a pessimist? Do you see your coffee cup as half full or half empty? With all that I hear and am exposed to during any given day, it would be easy for me to fall into the pessimist camp. But I don't. I can't and I won't. When I find myself being pushed in that direction, I use honed skills to gently push myself back to the optimist camp.

Even though it is barely two decades old, I am a later in life student and strong proponent of Positive Psychology, which is the study of what makes life most worth living. Martin Seligman, founder of the Positive Psychology movement, writes "Life inflicts the same setbacks and tragedies on the optimist as on the pessimist, but the optimist weathers them better." Thankfully, our Jewish tradition deeply informs many tenets of the field of Positive Psychology.

The original positive psychologists created a classification system, called Character Strengths and Virtues (CSV). They are based on human qualities believed to be related to the "good life". Those characteristics are wisdom, courage, humanity, justice, temperance and transcendence. Within each of these characteristics are virtues. The characteristic of transcendence involves a connection to something or someone larger than oneself. Virtues included in this characteristic are the appreciation of beauty, gratitude, hope, humour and spirituality. Perhaps already, you can begin to understand how this particular characteristic has Jewish roots.

In the article "Virtues That Transcend: Positive Psychology in Jewish Texts and Tradition", my professor from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work, Eliezer Schnall, along with Mark Schiffman and Aaron Cherniak, wrote: "hope connects one to the future and its potential." They also wrote that "optimism, a key component of hope is associated with both physical and

mental health." I firmly believe that my deep commitment to optimism and hope, in addition to my daily exercise practice, prayer and meditation have enabled me to thrive during this less than ideal global pandemic.

Hope and optimism can be found scattered throughout our classic texts. In the *Talmud*, in tractate *Brachot* on page 32b, we read that Rabbi Hama, son of Rabbi Hanina, said: A person who prayed and saw that he was not answered should pray again, as it is stated: "Hope in the LORD; be strong and of good courage and hope in the LORD!" (*Psalms* 27:14). The way I understand this text is that we should turn to God with hope. If what we wanted did not occur, if necessary we should return to God with hope once again.

At the beginning of our Pesah seder, in *Ha Lachma Anya*, we say "at the present time we are here, next year we will be in the land of Israel. At the present we are servants, next year we will be free." There is little more optimistic than that, except of course when we say "Next year in Jerusalem!" Tears always form in my eyes at that point in the seder, whether I have an upcoming trip planned or not. I don't cry for myself, but rather for my ancestors who said those words for 2,000 years without a Jewish homeland. They had hope. They were grounded in optimism.

Join me in being hopeful participants in making the world a better place once the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Let us draw on the depths of our resilience in one of the most challenging situations of our lifetimes. Let us all do what we can so that children will look back at this time and feel inspired by the hope and courage we have demonstrated. If we are hopeful and optimistic, together we can write a new chapter and contribute to a world that is based on *hesed*, love and light.



On Shavuot, we
celebrate receiving
the Torah.

Carrying Torah, Carrying Song

According to a *halakhic midrash* on the book of *Exodus* by Rabbi Ishmael, music has been intricately connected to Torah ever since Moses first received the Torah on Mount Sinai: "The Holy Blessed One helped Moses by sharing His divine voice—and the melody that Moses heard, he repeated to Israel" (*Mekhilta Yitro* 19:19).

Moses himself heard the divine melodies while receiving the words of the Torah, then transmitted them, together, directly to the children of Israel. This is the basis for our tradition of chanting the Torah with its tropes (cantillations); its recurring musical motifs. The musical notes themselves are indeed essential.

Every cantillation of the holy texts is sacred and must be maintained as scrupulously as the letters of the Torah itself. In one *Talmudic* passage, Rabbi Yohanan emphasizes this point: "Anyone who reads [Torah] without a melody or recites [*Mishnah*] without a tune, it's about them that Scripture says, 'I have also given them laws that are not good' (*Talmud Bavli Megillah* 32a).

It was common to recite oral teachings to a tune because the melody made them more memorable. However, in addition to this utilitarian function, singing serves a deeper importance when studying Torah. Music activates the pleasantness and sweetness of Torah. In his comment to the words of Rabbi Yohanan above, Rabbi Moshe Levertov (d. 1941) states: "This verse indicates someone who does not feel the pleasantness of Torah (*no'am HaTorah*) and its sweetness, for they have not activated their spirit at all, awakening it through song" (*Ma'amar Nigun* p. 19).

The trop melodies ignite the spirit and reveal the sweetness and pleasantness of Torah, which presumably we cannot fully realize without music. Rabbi Levertov interprets the verse in this way in part based on a play on words between *ne'imah* (tune) and *no'am* (pleasantness). Music and Torah are intricately interwoven. There is a mutually supportive

relationship in which song allows us to carry the Torah but carrying the Torah also makes singing possible. The children of Kehat, son of Levi were given the task of carrying the Ark containing the Torah (*Numbers* 3:31). While they may have literally carried the Torah on their shoulders, it was their singing that carried the Torah for them. According to the *Talmud*, the Hebrew word for "raising" can also mean "singing". While singing allowed the children of Kehat to carry the Torah, it was also carrying the Torah that allowed them to sing.

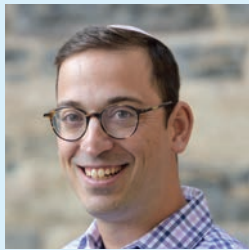
Perhaps this will inspire you when you find yourself carrying a Torah and singing on *Simhat Torah*. Rabbi Nachman of Breslow (1772-1810) takes the *Talmud's* imaginative statement about singing carrying the Torah one step further, explaining that by means of making music, a person can know if they truly have taken on the yoke of Torah. The nature and quality of our singing can reflect the extent to which we have internalized the teachings and values.

Through singing, our spirits are laid bare before us, and we may notice to what extent we are living up to our full potentials as spiritual human beings, i.e., to what extent we take on the yoke of Torah by living with its laws and values.

The music of Torah cantillation is not simply a nice add-on to the Torah reading. The specific melodies of the Torah, Prophets and Writings were established at Sinai. The tropes are the oldest Jewish music that we have. Singing them allows us to internalize and expand upon the musical and spiritual foundations laid by our ancestors.

On Shavuot, we will be reading the Ten Commandments, marking our receiving and accepting the Torah, as well as the book of Ruth, about the first Jew by choice to take on the laws and values of the Torah. Even during these challenging times, it should be that Torah helps us to sing our new-ancient song.





Care and Connection from a Distance

Just as we need to ensure our health and physical safety, it must go hand-in-hand with ensuring our emotional health.

In the winter months of the pandemic, as we tried to keep our bodies healthy and our moods up, my kids and I went sledding or skating every day possible. On Boxing Day, my nine-year-old, Sheelo, and I returned to Christie Pits for our second sledding adventure of the day.

In a typical encounter for me, what began as exchanging smiles with the father of a family that included a mother and two teenage children who looked a bit out of place among the mostly younger families on the small hill, turned into a ten minute socially distanced conversation. I quickly learned, through broken English and some translation help from his son, that they had emmigrated from Bogota three years prior and were so thankful to be living in Toronto, despite the pandemic. When we returned to our car, we noticed a Costco-sized box of chocolate in the trunk and after exchanging a knowing smile with me, Sheelo grabbed it and ran over to the family. Instantly, the mother started waving to me with a beaming smile, and suddenly Sheelo shot up to celebrity status for this family, as they took turns taking pictures with my daughter, “the bringer of gifts”.

Sheelo is kind to the bone. She keeps extra granola bars in her backpack so that as we get off the Allen we can offer them to the folks asking for help on the side of the road. She is the type of kid who was surprised to learn that sometimes people don’t make kind decisions. I am incredibly proud of her *nedivut lev*, her generous heart, but in this particular case, it also stirred up fear in me and then anger. The

members of this family were not wearing masks, and it suddenly dawned on me that this act of *hesed* came with a risk. Sheelo managed to keep distance from them, and ultimately was unharmed, but the anger remained as this was another example of how COVID-19 has interrupted our lives and forces us to second guess even our acts of kindness.

As we now prepare for Passover, our second in this pandemic era, I am reminded of the teaching that the Hebrew word for Egypt, Mitzraim, is connected to the word *tzar*, meaning narrow, distress and boundaries. Our ancestors were restricted by the Egyptians in their ability to build families, to worship God and to be treated as autonomous human beings. Much of the distress that we have felt this year has been due to the physical boundaries that we have imposed in order to protect our physical health.

We have worked incredibly hard to maintain spiritual connection and care for each other despite the physical distance, and at the same time, we must continue to acknowledge how vulnerable and constrained we all feel. We muster on with gratitude for all that we have, but also need to mourn together those things that feel lost, broken, scary and painful. We walk together along this narrow path. “*Kol haolam kulo gesher tzar meod*—the whole world is a very narrow bridge”. The words of Rebbe Nahman of Breslove feel so true in our day.

At the same time, we have to be ever conscious, that in our narrowed physical world that we do not become insular and only self-focused. We cannot forget those outside of our immediate circles. We continue to care about Israel and *kvell* about her vaccine rollout. We must do all we can to care for the homeless and food insecure. We must continue to highlight the strife of refugees in our time, which has only worsened during the pandemic. As the Pesah story reminds us, because we felt the narrowness in Mitzraim when we were “strangers in that land”, we know the importance of finding home.

We must continue to care for all those who are ill, feeling isolated, struggling with employment and losing hope for the future.

Just as we need to ensure our health and physical safety, it must go hand in hand with ensuring our emotional and spiritual health. Sheelo and all kids, and indeed all of us need to know that helping others remains the way that we join with God to continue to build this world with love—*olam hesed yibaneh*.

As we recite in the Hallel section of the *haggadah*, “*min hametzar karati*

Ya- from the narrowness we cry out to God”. My prayer this year is that even from this state of lockdown, that we hear each other’s cry and step up for one another.

Hag heirut sameah—may this holiday of freedom bring a new sense of freedom.

For your seders, check out this new version of *Min Hametzar* by our artist-in-residence Aviva Chernick.

Refugee Awareness Shabbat

March 5 to 7, 2021



Join us as Beth Tzedec participates in JIAS/HIAS Refugee Awareness Shabbat, a moment for our members to turn outward and dedicate a shabbat experience to the millions of refugees around the world fleeing persecution and violence. For many of us, it will also be an opportunity to reflect on the past refugee experiences within our own families.

Over the course of the weekend, Beth Tzedec with the support of its Refugee Sponsorship Committee will provide programming that will include a special Shabbat at the Floor Kabbalat Shabbat, Havdalah ceremony, refugee focused sermon/*D'var Torah* and a keynote hour-long refugee program on Sunday.

Please consider making a donation to the Beth Tzedec Refugee Fund, our partnership with JIAS in supporting refugee families. Click [here](#) or visit our website.

Lighting the Way

The Beth Tzedec community came together to acknowledge and honour our members who have gone above and beyond to ensure that our community is safe, healthy, educated, nourished, engaged, entertained, inspired and spiritually connected during this difficult time. Thank you to everyone who makes our synagogue such a remarkable place. To view program video, click [here>>](#)



Brightening their winter
In partnership with Amica, Beth Tzedec distributed over 50 baskets of items to senior members of the Congregation to help brighten their winter days, especially as we are all more confined this year. Pictured safely in their masks are Beth Tzedec's own Brian Dias and Yacov Fruchter and his children Lev and Sheelo Fruchter, who helped package or distribute the baskets. Kol Hakavod to all who helped in this project.



The Passover story gives us a powerful example of how extraordinary circumstances can eventually become the norm.

A Post-Pandemic Normal

We are now a family with a COVID-19 baby. Rachel and I were blessed when our daughter, Adi Deyah, was born Saturday, November 21, adding to the gifts that are our other children, Mira and Nadav. All but one month of Rachel's pregnancy overlapped with COVID-19. Missing out on the 'normal' experience of having a pregnant partner pales in comparison to the many members of our community who have faced illness, death, funerals and shiva in the abnormal way in which we've been living. And yet, I never got to hear our baby's heartbeat live and in person until three hours before she was born. I had to experience ultrasounds through videos that Rachel took on her phone. Adi didn't get to see my unmasked face until she was 36 hours old. None of this is anything close to 'normal'.

We have all been living our own versions of abnormal for the last year now. We long for in-person experiences, we miss gathering with family and friends and we may even miss attending services and programs. We know what we miss from the time before COVID-19, but what is not yet clear is how it permanently changes the way in which we live, even once we have all been vaccinated and the virus is no longer a serious threat.

Some of the new realities that we will soon experience will be for the better. We all have a much greater awareness of hygiene, of the importance of staying home when feeling ill and of wearing masks. But will our appreciation for doctors, nurses, bus drivers, grocery store clerks, waste disposal workers and other essential professions continue after the virus has abated? Will we continue to push for improvements to long-term care. Will we continue to be sympathetic to the small business owner struggling to earn enough money to support their family? And, perhaps most importantly, will we remember that interpersonal contact is the lifeblood of so many?

The Passover story gives us a powerful example of how extraordinary circumstances can eventually become the norm. When our ancestors were first enslaved by Pharaoh, we can imagine the emotion, the outrage and perhaps even the resistance they expressed in the face of this new reality. By the time of Moses' adolescence, however, we see a people completely broken by slavery and who seem to have accepted this circumstance as the way in which they live their lives.

In the animated movie *The Prince of Egypt*, the scene when Moses kills the Egyptian taskmaster does an incredible job of showing the Israelites' reality. As the taskmaster abuses Israelite slaves, the other slaves mostly go about their work and keep their heads down. It is as if this behaviour has become normalized to the Egyptians and the Israelites. When Moses —albeit an Egyptian prince and not a fellow Israelite, at least in the eyes of everyone else—appears and demands that the taskmaster stop his abuse, you see the Israelite characters wake up from their trance-like existence, as if to say “Yes! Yes! Our reality can be different after all!”

Passover reminds us that we were once X (slaves) and now we are Y (free); that one's circumstance can change e for the better. We must make sure that we do not fall into a COVID-19 trance where, even when the pandemic is over, we continue to keep our distance from others. Of course, we all need to continue to be safe and follow the guidance of public health officials. But we should already be thinking about ways to embrace our post-COVID-19 normal and ensure that we take the best pieces of the pandemic along with us, leave the worst moments behind and create a personal and collective memory that, like Passover and the seder experience, reminds us of where we once were and where we are now.





Julian Back: Brightening Our Local & Spiritual Communities

“My philosophy has always been that when I accomplish something meaningful with merit and it has an impact, I can feel my mother smiling down on me.”

Be who you are.

You’ve likely heard people say those words somewhere in a conversation. For Julian Back, he follows the expression assiduously and links it, in his own special way, to the cherished words of his late mother.

When you get to meet, talk or relate to him, there’s a very good chance that you will quickly have an idea that this man is the kind of happy-go-lucky individual who does a little bit of everything.

He has been on several great adventures.

As a toddler, he came with his family to Canada from his native South Africa. Japan was home for him, for several years, when he was single. His

career journey has involved working in the film industry, human resources with the Government of Canada and in something called talent acquisition with York University and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

Now, he is the Managing Director of “Simply Talent”—a full-service recruitment agency specializing in client satisfaction and exceptional candidate experience.

But there is much more about this dedicated, radiant and bright young member of Beth Tzedec Congregation that has inspired hundreds of people—those in a community that has seen a resurgence of young

Jewish families. He’s a community leader, passionate and thriving on building relationships.

Creative and always looking out for others, Back sees himself as more of a “social butterfly”. He said those two words were often used to describe his mother, a woman he cherishes daily and deeply respects for her guidance that included an appreciation for the arts, culture and the ability to deal with people in a positive and constructive way.

“I enjoy connecting with people, engaging and sharing stories—that’s my life,” he said in a telephone interview during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic. “I’ve always felt that who I am, what I do, comes from my mom. She was like that and inspired me, in many ways, and I feel that she’s with me whenever I am out and about in the community.”

Back likes to talk. Not a gabber, and there is a difference.

His focus has been on making people feel good, assisting and looking for ways to be supportive. He has benefitted from various career moves that boosted his confidence and ability to communicate effectively with others, make wise choices and do what’s best for more than just himself.

He’s one of those individuals who prospers on making people feel good. So much so that he has made a huge impact in the community that he, his wife Rebecca (Spring) and daughter Stella now call home, in the St. Clair West neighbourhood.

“I like to help and engage people,” he said. “Community involvement can go a long way. Living in the St. Clair West



area, I decided to volunteer and become the administrator and moderator of a community Facebook group in the Hillcrest Village, Humewood and Wychwood areas. It’s all about engaging and we have an online meeting place that at one time involved some 300 people sharing, talking, promoting many things from local business to things in the community.”

The seven-day-a-week gig took off and now, Back claims, the numbers have swelled to 7,000 people.

While a huge revitalization was taking place in the neighborhood, Back started calling himself “the Mensch of St. Clair West”. The term “mensch” often refers to a person of honor, goodness, character and integrity.

For him, it fits. Back means well in everything he does.

“I felt good about getting involved, going for walks, meeting store owners, sharing news with people,” he said. “We had a specific project that raised \$5,000 on a GoFundMe page, obtained approvals from neighbours, the city got involved and that led to me co-leading a mural project in a laneway.”

The doom and gloom of a standard passageway became vibrant, colorful and the talk of the neighborhood after street artists were hired to paint 40 garage doors in a laneway between the streets of Atlas and Arlington.

While the “Feel Good Lane Mural Project”, an initiative of Back and his co-partner Kim Lesperance, was not intended to become an international tourist attraction, it has brought a positive outlook in the community.

Back also has the gift of righteousness and social justice. Some would say it’s a form of tzedakah, when he pitches in with the community helping the local food bank through facilitating financial as well as nutritional and grocery donations.

As for his involvement in the synagogue, Back did not grow up in the Beth Tzedec environment. However, his wife did. In 2017, as members of another smaller synagogue, they felt it was time to make a change. They were attracted to Beth Tzedec. As Back puts it, “it was the perfect fit” as he and his wife had been looking for “a more family-oriented shul experience”.

“As a family, we liked the programming and the Hebrew school,” he said, highlighting a Purim Carnival that they had attended which brought much joy. “The family events for children, the family Shabbat dinner and the Friday night experience. It’s all about family and those were things we enjoyed and hope to return to when the pandemic is over.”

When he does find opportunities to ponder in his busy world, there is a bit of heart and soul mixed in with some déjà vu and a touch of Back to the Future.

“My philosophy has always been that when I accomplish something meaningful with merit and it has an impact, I can feel my mother smiling down on me,” he said. “People remind me of things that get done and it makes me feel good.”

—David Grossman

David Grossman is a multi award-winning communicator and storyteller with a distinguished career in Broadcasting, Journalism and Public Relations in Sport and Government Relations. He, and his family, are long-standing members of Beth Tzedec.



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

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

Pray



Minḥah-Only Service

Every Friday afternoon;
Check website for times

During the winter, join our Minḥah-only service offered on Zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89516993850>. You can also join by phone only by calling 647-374-4685 and inputting meeting ID 668-598-809.



Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv

Every Friday evening at 6:00 PM

Prepare your spirit for Shabbat with song, comfort and community at our Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv services livestreamed to the [Daily Services page](#).



Shabbat at the Floor Service

Friday evenings, March 5, April 2 and May 7

Once a month, join us for a musically-infused Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv, livestreamed to our [Daily Services page](#). Prepare your spirit for Shabbat with song, comfort and community.



Sanctuary Service

Saturday mornings at 9:30 AM

Join us for Shabbat morning services livestreamed to the website [Daily Services page](#). It offers the energy and inspiration of a spiritual and liturgical Shabbat experience as you sing along with **Cantor Sidney Ezer**. **Rabbi Steven Wernick** and **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** offer insights into our Torah reading. Be a part of our musical and spiritual davening.



Havdalah, Torah Study and Kaddish

Every Saturday evening;
check website for times

While we cannot be together to mark the conclusion of Shabbat and start the new week, join us on [Facebook](#) or [Zoom](#) for a live Havdalah experience and some Torah to begin a new week followed by Mourner's Kaddish. While we cannot be together to mark the conclusion of Shabbat and start the new week, we hope that this experience together can continue to help create spiritual nearness in the midst of our social distancing..



Weekday Shaḥarit Services

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

Join us on Zoom by clicking these links:

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

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

You can also join by phone only. Check our website for meeting details.



Minḥah-Ma'ariv Services

Every Sunday to Thursday evening;
check website for times

Join us for Shaḥarit on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/668598809>. You can also join by phone only by calling 647-374-4685 and inputting the meeting ID 894-447-868.



Prayer: What, Why, When and How

Tuesdays, March 2, 16 & 30, April 3 & 27 and May 11 & 25 at 8:30 AM

Join Reb Steve following Shaḥarit on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/733141765> to reflect, share and pray together.



Healing Service with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

Wednesday May 5 at 7:30 PM

When you feel broken, turn to our tradition for strength and renewal. Join us on Zoom at this link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84598368806> as we enrich our lives and strive for a sense of shlaymoot together.



Family Zoom Havdalah

Saturdays, March 6 & 13;
check websites for times

Join our rabbinic intern Matt Goldberg and other Beth Tzedec friends for Havdalah and a short family program on Zoom.

Pre-registration required via [ShulCloud](#).



Family Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat

Fridays, March 19, April 16 and May 21 at 5:45 PM

Join us outside in the Beth Tzedec parking lot as we gather together to welcome Shabbat with an engaging, lively prayer service and community experience incorporating the participation of the children, teens and families.

This program is planned to be offered onsite, pending recommendations from Public Health authorities. Registration will be limited to ensure adequate distancing is maintained. Please check our website for updates and changes.

Participants must pre-register and complete a COVID-19 screening. Pre-registration required via [ShulCloud](#).



Shabbat to Remember: A Yom Hashoah Shabbat for 20s and 30s

Friday, April 9 at 6:00 PM

We mark the end of Yom Hashoah by partnering with the Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre and March of the Living for a Kabbalat Shabbat experience and dinner with a Holocaust survivor.

Cost: \$10; Pre-registration required via [ShulCloud](#).



Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service

Saturday, May 1 at 10:30 AM

Join us outside in the parking lot for the return of our monthly Family Service, offering a lively, engaging prayer service with participants from the families in attendance.

This program is planned to be offered onsite, pending recommendations from Public Health authorities. Registration will be limited to ensure adequate distancing is maintained. Please check our website for updates and changes.

Participants must pre-register and complete a COVID-19 screening. Pre-registration required via [ShulCloud](#).



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

Care



Loss in the Time of COVID-19: A Bereavement Support Group with Debbie Berlin and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin
Thursdays, March 4 & 18 and May 6 at 7:45 PM

The loss of a loved one, at any time, is challenging. Loss during the time of COVID-19 brings a host of other issues that may complicate our grief and bereavement. Judaism has a clear set of mourning rituals that have been painfully absent during this pandemic.

No charge. For information or to join this group, email [Rabbi Fryer Bodzin](#).



Caregivers Connect with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin
Thursdays, March 11, April 8 and May 13

7:45 to 9:00 PM

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin leads this virtual opportunity for individuals who have been unable to see loved ones or with relatives in Long Term Care homes to connect with others and share their experiences.

For information or to join this group, email [Rabbi Fryer Bodzin](#).



Jewish Meditation with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin
Sundays, April 25 and May 30

9:45 to 10:45 AM

Find a quiet place, tune out the world around you and take some time for YOU to breathe. Re-center and focus inward. Join us each month on [Facebook](#).



Gratitude Circle with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin
Sundays, April 11, 18 & 25 and May 2 at 7:45 PM

People who exhibit gratitude report fewer aches and pains, and a general feeling of health. Research shows that gratitude can improve your psychological health, enhance empathy and reduces aggression, improve your sleep, enhance your self-esteem and increase mental strength.

Join us virtually on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89796171998> as we come together to express gratitude and acknowledge the blessings in our lives.

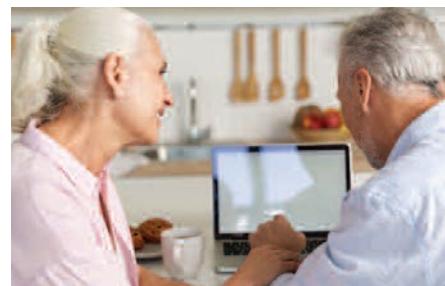
Connect



L'Chaim!

Friday evenings; check website for times

Join us on Zoom Fridays at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82957760474> for an opportunity to share a l'chaim and kick off Shabbat with a few minutes of connection with the Beth Tzedec community.



BT Hazak Pilates
Mondays, March 1, 8, 15 & 22 at 11:15 AM

When many of us are feeling isolated and disconnected from one another, Small Groups are an opportunity to build new relationships and connect monthly with other Beth Tzedec members over a shared goal, project or interest.

Join Pilates instructor and Beth Tzdec member Mia Rappaport ([reformpilates.ca](#)) for a weekly class designed for seniors. We will exercise our bodies while building relationships.

No charge. To join this Small Group, [click here>>](#)



BT Hazak Zentangle
Fridays, March 5, 12 & 19 at 1:00 PM

Join certified Zentangle instructor and BT member Bonnie Greenberg for lessons in the Zentangle Method. Zentangle is a relaxing, easy-to-learn and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns using combinations of dots, lines, simple curves and circles.

There are no mistakes and the result is unexpected and beautiful! You likely will enjoy increased focus, creativity, self-confidence and an increased sense well-being.

If you can hold a pen and write your name you can create a Zentangle piece of art and you will be amazed at what you created!

To join this Small Group, [click here>>](#)



Mother-Daughter Rosh Hodesh for Pre-Teens, Teens and Their Mothers
Sunday, March 14 at 5:00 PM

Join Sylvie Moscovitz and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin for a special mother-daughter Rosh Hodesh experience. Watch for information coming soon.

For information or to register, please email [Sylvie Moscovitz](#).



BTUSY & Kadima Matzah Iron Chef for Grades 5 to 12
Thursday, April 1 at 5:30 PM

Want to make a delicious matzah meal? Join us for a matzah pizza and dessert cook-off competition! We will be making a main course and a dessert, all from our own homes. Guests will judge our items based on decoration, presentation, and how delicious you think your creation is!

No charge; Pre-registration required to [Sylvie Moscovitz](#).



BT Hazak: Tea Time for Seniors
Thursdays, March 4, 11, 18 & 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 and May 6 at 2:30 PM

Gather weekly for informal conversations guided by fellow seniors over Zoom. We'll come together for 15 minutes of inspiration at the beginning of the session, and then participants will be invited to join the conversation the fits your mood that day.

Join us every week as we share and compare our favourite books, movies, theatre and art.

Current Tea Time Conversation Groups

- **Ess Gezunterheit!** Led by Judy Libman
- **News and Schmooze** Led by Harold Margles
- **Books and Culture** Led by Rayna Jolley

No charge; for information [click here](#).



Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun: Workshops for Parents of Babies
Friday mornings, March 1 and April 2 at 11:30 AM

Parents of babies are invited to join us each month for interesting parenting workshops via Zoom. Each session will focus on different topics such as breastfeeding or developing good sleep habits.

No charge; Pre-registration required via [ShulCloud](#).



Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun: Pre-Shabbat Music Class for Toddlers and their Families
Friday mornings, March 19 and May 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 11:30 AM

Welcome Shabbat with music, movement and friends! We'll sing Shabbat songs, recite Shabbat blessings, experience early Hebrew learning and dance together. Embrace the feeling of community as we welcome Shabbat into our hearts.

We'll be practicing safe physical distancing Public Health protocols and guidelines. When weather conditions allow, we will meet in Cedarvale Park ravine.

No charge; Pre-registration required to [Anat Kriger](#).



Israel Quest: Virtual Scavenger Hunt for 20s and 30s

Thursday, April 15 at 7:00 PM

Do you wish you can travel to Israel? As we dream about healthy trips to Israel in the near future, Join as a team or individual for a **ScaVenture** Yom Ha'atzmaut scavenger hunt. **Cost: \$5. Pre-registration required.**



Yom Sport Israeli: A Family Scavenger Hunt

Sunday, April 18 at 3:00 PM

After a long winter, let's warm up with some fun Israeli activities while exploring a fun scavenger hunt, Spoiler alert—There will be some yummy chocolate at the event! There will be activities for all ages. Don't forget to dress blue and white to celebrate Israel's birthday!

This event is planned to be held in the Cedarvale Park ravine, observing all physical distancing and COVID protocols recommended by Public Health. In the case of inclement weather or Public Health directives to suspend in-person gathering, we will reschedule the event.

No charge; Pre-registration required via ShulCloud.

Learn



Conversations Over Coffee with Rabbi Steven Wernick

Monday afternoons 12:30 PM

Reb Steve gathers a cadre of community personalities for conversations on politics, culture, social existence and Jewish life. Grab a coffee and join us.

UPCOMING SESSIONS:

- March 1: Rakefet Ginsberg
- March 8: Annamie Paul
- March 15: Rabbi David Steinhardt
- March 22: Norman Bacal
- April 5: Rosette Rutman
- April 12: Shmuel Rosner
- April 19: Dawit Demoz
- April 26: DJ Schneeweiss
- May 3: Debbie Berlin and Rob Kamen
- May 10: Tammy Glied

Sessions will be streamed to **Facebook** and **YouTube**. Comment with questions on either platform.



Daily Tanakh Study

Weekday afternoons 3:00 PM

We continue our 929-day project studying each chapter from the Tanakh on our Facebook group—<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1442160352615555>.



Judaism & Homosexuality with Rabbi Steven Wernick and Rabbi Gordon Tucker

Tuesday, March 8 at 7:45 PM

Rabbis Wernick and Tucker discuss the evolution of the Conservative Movement's position on homosexuality and Rabbi Wernick's announcement on LGBTQ+ inclusion.

Pre-registration required via ShulCloud.



BT Hazak Wise Aging

Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 1:00 PM

Led by Dr. Elaine Cooper, this group will explore the years beyond midlife as an opportunity for growth and discovery, engaging in discussion based on text study, reflection and Jewish mindfulness on a wide range of relevant topics, including revitalizing relationships, living with loss and change, cultivating spiritual qualities for well-being, conducting a 'life review' and practicing forgiveness.

To join this Small Group, [click here](#)>>



A Panel Conversation with People in the LGBTQ Community and Yacov Fruchter

Monday, March 15 at 7:45 PM

Yacov Fruchter leads a panel discussion on LGBTQ inclusion initiatives at Beth Tzedec.

Pre-registration required via ShulCloud.



The PJ Library Presents Series

Sundays, March 14, April 11 and May 9 from 10:30 to 11:30 AM

Meet some new friends while enjoying Jewish story-time and free play,.

March 14—It's Our Pesah Party

Let's prepare for Passover and the seder with matzah, crafts, story time and songs!

April 11—Israel Sheli

Move and dance to Israeli songs and *lirkod* (dance) until we get warm as Eilat, strong as Jerusalem and like they do in Tel Aviv! Dress in blue and white because it's Israel's 73rd birthday!

May 9—Halav HuDvash (Milk and Honey)

Practice some Yoga while reading about the people of Israel in the desert and stand tall on Mount Sinai as we receive the Torah. Celebrate Shavuot with friends, yoga and ice cream.

Pre-register with Anat Kriger.

PRESENTED BY BETH TZEDEC, PJ LIBRARY AND UJA FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO



Mizmor Monthly with Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber

Tuesdays, March 16, April 13 and May 11 at 7:30 PM

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber as we explore many Jewish musical themes and genres, one for every month of the Jewish calendar.

Pre-registration required via ShulCloud.



Exodus: Clay Pests in the House!?! for Kids in SK to Grade 5

Sunday, March 21 at 3:00 PM

Bring the story of Exodus alive by making your own clay pests from the Exodus story to join us at the seder.

No charge; Pre-registration required to Anat Kriger.



Same Sex Marriage: Under the Huppah with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Monday, March 22 at 7:45 PM

Pre-registration required via ShulCloud.



BT Book & Film Club presents Ophelia by Norman Bacal

Wednesday, March 24 at 1:30 PM

After the daring boat-lift of Jews from Nazi-occupied Denmark in 1943, two 12-year-old friends will never see one another again. Yet when the CEO of a leading generic pharmaceutical company, dies in mysterious circumstances, Ophelia, who has served in Israeli intelligence, reunites the families with shocking consequences. Aside from mysteries set against the modernization of Shakespeare's Hamlet, this addresses how our view of God's role in the universe is shaped by our personal experience. Led by **Norman Bacal**.

No charge; pre-registration required via ShulCloud.

THE BT BOOK & FILM CLUB IS SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF JUDI KAUFFMAN z"l.

SPONSORED BY AMICA ON THE AVENUE RETIREMENT RESIDENCE



Wisdom in Relationships: A Pirkei Avot Series with Yacov Fruchter

Tuesdays, April 6, 13, 20 & 27 and May 4 & 11 at 11:00 AM

Basing discussion on the Rabbinic Assembly's Pirkei Avot Lev Shalem, explore the wisdom and structure of these chapters of the Mishnah.

Pre-registration required via ShulCloud.



Notable Speakers Series

SPRING SESSIONS

**Wednesdays, April 7 & 14 and
May 5 at 1:00 PM**

Engaging ideas in Jewish affairs, politics, arts and sciences—with note-worthy community figures.

In accordance with Public Health recommendations, this program will be offered via Zoom.

April 7—Josh Basseches

“The 21st Century Museum and the Future of Jewish Art and Life at the ROM”—

As the ROM embarks on an ambitious strategic plan to become one of the foremost cultural organizations in the world, Josh Basseches, Director and CEO, goes behind the scenes to explore the past, present and future of Judaica and Jewish art and culture.

April 14—Alex Josephson

“The Architectural Future of Our City”— Great architecture strives to make the world a better place for us all and leaving it better for future generations.

May 5—Adam Minsky and Rabbi Wernick

“Jewish Toronto, Today and Tomorrow”— Adam Minsky, President and CEO of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, joins Reb Steve for a conversation about Jewish Toronto.

No charge; pre-registration required via ShulCloud.

SPONSORED BY THE MANUEL AND ANNE PUSITZ FUND



Our People are Your People: American Jews and the Struggle for Civil Rights with Professor Stephen Berk

Wednesday, April 7 at 7:45 PM

Professor Stephen Berk will describe the relationships and connections between the Civil Rights movement and the Jewish community in the 1950s and 1960s, and discuss the implications of these historical connections to our current moment of racial justice.

Cost: Suggested donation of \$10 for the Beth Tzedec Membership Relief Fund appreciated; pre-registration required via ShulCloud.

THE SAM & SARAH KERZNER AND JOSEPH KERZNER HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL INSTITUTE



Together with a Survivor: A Yom Hashoah Program for Grades 1 to 4

Sunday, April 11 at 3:00 PM

On Yom Hashoah, let's gather to learn from our survivors and embrace their souls. Never forget, never again. This program is designed for children in Grades 4 to 8 and their families. If we are able to gather in person, physical distancing and COVID-19 protocols will be observed. Otherwise, this program will be delivered via Zoom.

No charge; Pre-registration required to Anat Kriger.



Day Trips in Jewish History: Iconic Personalities, Connecting and Reflecting with Hana Werner

SPRING SESSIONS

**Mondays, April 12, 19 & 26 and
May 3 & 10 at 1:30 PM**

In keeping with Public Health pandemic safety protocols, this series will be offered via Zoom.

April 12—The Amazing Dr. Ruth

Ruth Westheimer is an American sex therapist, media personality, author, radio, television talk show host and Holocaust survivor.

April 19—Justice Rosalie Abella

Canada's Supreme Court justice and a staunch fighter of discrimination.

April 26—Elie Wiesel

The messenger and his legacy of human dignity.

May 3—Nelly Sachs and S.Y. Agnon

Nelly Sachs, the German-Swedish poet and playwright, and S.Y. Agnon, the Ukrainian-born writer of modern Hebrew fiction, are both Nobel Prize recipients.

May 10—Naomi Shemer

Singer, poet and author of the iconic "Jerusalem of Gold", the unofficial national anthem of Israel.

No charge; pre-registration required via ShulCloud.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF CANTOR JOSEPH COOPER ^{z"l}



Click [here](#) to access the full Beth Tzedec calendar.



BT Book & Film Club presents *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity and Love* by Dani Shapiro

Wednesday, April 28 at 1:30 PM

What makes us who we are? What combination of memory, history, biology, experience and that ineffable thing called the 'soul' defines us? In this fascinating memoir, author Dani Shapiro, an Orthodox woman, shares how she discovered that she was not 'Jewish' after submitting her DNA to a genealogy site. Led by **Julia Creet**.

No charge; pre-registration required via ShulCloud.

THE BT BOOK & FILM CLUB IS SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF JUDI KAUFFMAN ^{z"l}

SPONSORED BY PHYLLIS & AB ^{z"l} FLATT AND CAROL & HAROLD WOLFE IN MEMORY OF MAX & BEATRICE WOLFE

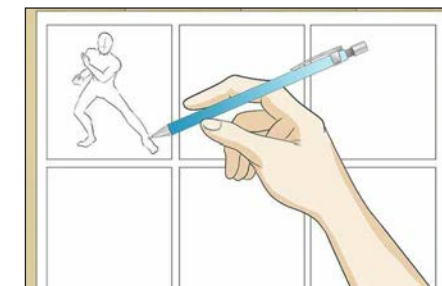


Poetry, Peoplehood and Politics: Songs that Defined a Nation with Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl

**Wednesdays, April 29 and
May 6 & 13 at 7:45 PM**

Hebrew poetry and song shaped the national consciousness of the State of Israel from the 1950s through the end of the century. We will explore poems in Hebrew and English, with an emphasis on the social significance of the texts.

No charge; pre-registration required via ShulCloud.



Matan Torah Comes to Life: A Comics Workshop for Grades 1 to 5

Sunday, May 9 at 2:00 PM

Join us for an amazing comics workshop, where they will learn unique drawing techniques while bringing to life one of the most important moments for Am Israel, the *Matan Torah* (the giving of the Torah).

If we are able to gather in person, physical distancing and COVID-19 appropriate health and safety regulations will be observed. If we cannot gather safely in person, this program will be delivered via Zoom.

No charge; Pre-registration required to Anat Kriger.



BTUSY and Kadima Shavuot Pickle Making with Marty Strub

Thursday, May 13 at 7:00 PM

Get ready for a very special Shavuot program celebrating the harvest—we're making pickles with pickle expert Marty Strub! Registration is required and there will be a small fee for the materials.

Cost: \$25; Pre-registration required via smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org.

Tilekun Leql Shavuot: A Pre-Shavuot Evening of Learning and Connection

Sunday, May 16 beginning at 6:00 PM

The evening of Shavuot is traditionally spent learning until late into the night. In order for us to learn together as a community, we will be holding our group learning in advance of the beginning of the holiday.

No charge; pre-registration required via shulcloud.

Celebrate



In the Spirit of Miriam: An Evening of Freedom, Wisdom and Song with Cantor Magda Fishman and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

Sunday, March 14 at 8:00 PM

Join Cantor Fishman of B'nai Torah (Boca Raton, Florida) and our own Rabbi Fryer Bodzin as they lead us in a virtual evening of song, sharing and reflection.

No charge; pre-registration required via ShulCloud.



Soul Brew: Liberation Sessions

Tuesday, March 30 to Friday, April 2

In celebration of the Passover season, we're brewing the spirit of liberation at Beth Tzedec with Soul Brew: Liberation Sessions. This short series of conversations with artists, scholars and activists, led by Rabbi Rachel "Bluth" Rosenbluth, will explore slavery, climate change, racial justice, spiritual liberation and gender.



Searching for My Voice with Allan Soberman: A World Premiere On-Demand Presentation

March 18, 2021

Experience Allan's journey growing up in a religious family in Toronto through the '50s and '60s before finding his own way in the world of secular music. This intimate show blends story with song as Allan shares the synagogue and secular musical influences that shaped his life.

The on-demand video will be available for streaming beginning Thursday, March 18 at 12:00 NOON.

To access the video, [click here](#)>>



A Musical Tradition: Remembering and Celebrating Cantor Morris Soberman

Thursday, April 1 at 7:45 PM

We will come together as a community to celebrate the musical legacy and tradition of the Soberman family as we sit down with Allan Soberman to discuss his show, *Searching for My Voice*, and the experience of growing up as the son of Beth Tzedec's beloved Cantor Morris Soberman.

Pre-registration required via ShulCloud.



From Bonfires and Bar Yochai to Candles and Kiddush: Lag Ba'Omer Kumzitz and Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, April 30 at 5:30 PM

Join us (virtually) to sing along with Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber as we celebrate Lag Ba'Omer and bring in Shabbat with warm and joyous melodies, stream on our **Daily Services** page.



Celebrating 1967, Honouring Jerusalem

Sunday, May 9 at 7:45 PM

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin as we express thanks for Jerusalem through song, gratitude practice and a virtual kotel.

Pre-registration required via ShulCloud.

Tax Receipts

Tax receipts for contributions made to Beth Tzedec during 2020 have been emailed to all those who have contributed over this trying year. If we do not have an email address on file, the charitable tax receipt has been mailed to your home address.

If you have any questions, email **Aida Adel**. Thank you to all who helped support our community.

Give and Get



Passover Treats and Florals Fundraiser

Orders accepted through March 10; Pick-up date: Thursday, March 25

Brighten your Passover celebration while supporting local businesses and the Food Insecurity Fund by placing an order in our Passover florals and treats fundraiser. Enjoy fabulous florals from Ken's on Av & Dav and delicious nut-free, kosher for Passover baked goods from Randy at Kosher City Plus.

Deadline for orders is Wednesday, March 10; pick-up is Thursday, March 25 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM from one of six pick-up locations.

To place your order online, [click here](#) or call the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.



Finding Home: The Refugee Sponsorship Program

Olam h'esed yibaneh—We must build this world from compassion—is the compelling force behind Beth Tzedec's Refugee Sponsorship Group.

Our goal is to bring an Eritrean family living in a refugee camp in Ethiopia to Toronto, where they can thrive, where their children can go to school, and where they can live in a safe and secure home. Most of us take the safety and security of our homes for granted, but this family was forced to flee theirs, and are now living in dire conditions. Through the Refugee Program fund, we are committing to raise \$45,000 to sponsor this family.

You can help by making a donation; telling friends and family about this program; joining our committee.

To make a donation, [click here](#); For more information or to join our Committee, email Bari Zittell at barizittell@gmail.com.



Love Thy Neighbour

The Food Insecurity Fund, supported by contributions from our Beth Tzedec members, has allowed us to establish the "Love Thy Neighbour" initiative, an exciting collaboration with UJA Genesis. With your help, we have been able to provide warm meals

to supplement the Beth Shalom Synagogue food bank and the St. Michael's All Angels Anglican Church Out of the Cold lunch program.

Our members have been on the frontlines in helping people struggling through a difficult winter without access to filling, nutritious food. As we continue to raise funds—be sure to check out our special Passover Fundraiser!—we look forward to using those contributions to address food insecurity in our community. This Passover season, after a long, cold winter following a long, difficult year, everyone deserves a warm meal and helping hand.

To make a donation, [click here](#).

Yizkor Memorial Book

It is time to send information to include the names of your loved ones in the annual Yizkor Memorial Book used at Yizkor Services on Yom Kippur, Shemini Atzeret, Pesach and Shavuot for the year 5782. The cost is \$18.00 per memorialized name per household. Submission deadline: **Friday, July 15.**

You can submit your Yizkor Memorial Book listing by completing this online form or you can phone or contact Terri Humphries at 416-436-9960 or thumphries@beth-tzedec.org.

Yizkor Memorial Book Donation

Make cheques payable to: Beth Tzedec Congregation
1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M5P 3K3
Phone: 416-781-3514 ext. 213 Fax: 416-781-0150

Deadline: Please complete and return this form with your payment no later than 5:00 PM on July 15, 2021.

Passover Guide

Why This Passover is Different from Other Years

Last year's Passover celebrations were a dramatic shift for many of us, as we celebrated one of our first virtual holidays together. Again this year, we are encouraging members to stay home and conduct seders only with members of your own household. We have all become well-practiced at social distancing; this year, we must put that practice to good use for the health and safety of those closest to us.



These ongoing protocols limit our ability to celebrate as a community or family and to engage in activities that we've long taken as tradition. Though these are big changes to our usual *haggim* customs and traditions, it is the responsible thing to do to protect all those we love.

We thank you for your continued commitment to protecting the well-being of our entire community.

Preparing Our Homes for Passover

Over the past year, we have become deeply familiar with the rabbinic understanding of *sha'atd'khak*, a time of crisis, and *pikuah nefesh*, the preservation of life—the mitzvah that pushes aside all other commandments. We are living these values as we practice social distancing, self-isolation and follow the mandate from governments and public health authorities to stay home and limit excursions to essential matters only.

Seder

Passover plans for most of us have been disrupted, causing personal and familial heartache. Nevertheless, public health measures require that we follow current guidelines, therefore, **we must celebrate the seder in place, with the people in our households**. These are extraordinary times, which is why we believe Jewish tradition understands

and supports those who will choose to use electronic means to bring family and friends together for seder.

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

Kosher for Passover

We should strive to clean our homes for Passover as we normally would.

If you are unable to procure kosher for Passover food and/or cooking or preparation items, we recommend refraining from food items that are specifically prohibited as *hametz* and use new items whenever possible (see the **RA Passover Guide** for more information).

Vegetarians and vegans are permitted, *l'hathilah*, from the outset, to eat *kitniyot* (legumes). In these times, only if other food options are not available, all are permitted to eat *kitniyot*. (At this moment of crisis, if necessary, we are permitting it and will return to it later.)

In other words, for *pikuah nefesh*, we should simply do the best we can to observe the holiday to the fullest and not worry over those details that might not be possible to achieve during this crisis. As we do so, holding the *kavanah*, or mindfulness,

of *sha'atd'khak* influences our understanding of these unusual times.

Yizkor

At the time of printing this Bulletin, Public Health restrictions prevent indoor gatherings for most purposes, including religious services. If there is a change in recommendations, we will update members on our website and via newsletter messages.

As is our tradition, we will mark Yizkor with a livestreamed service on the last day of Pesah. Please note that this service **will begin at 8:30 AM, an hour earlier than our usual Shabbat livestream services**. We will record Yizkor and make it available on Beth Tzedec All Access and social media channels following the service.

The Sale of Hametz

Forms to sell your *hametz* to our rabbis who will sell it on your behalf may be accessed **here** or found on the Beth Tzedec **website**. Alternately, you can contact our Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or **info@beth-tzedec.org** to make arrangements to sell your *hametz*. Contributions to Rabbi Wernick's Discretionary Fund in honour of this *mitzvah* are especially appreciated at this time, as there are many people facing food insecurity that require *zedakah* and these contributions will be earmarked to purchase food vouchers.

The Fast of the Firstborn

Following morning *minyan* on Thursday, March 25 at 7:30 AM, we will provide a *siyyum* (completion of a cycle of study) of *Tractate Berakhot* **on Zoom**. Join us for coffee and a bagel in the comfort of your own home as we celebrate this learning together.

Bidikat and Biur Hametz

The search for *hametz* takes place as usual Thursday, March 25, using the formula found in your *Hagaddah*. If you do not have a *Hagaddah*, see one of the resources we have made available on **our website**.

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

The burning of *hametz* takes place the morning of Friday, March 26, before 12:00 NOON. The last eating of *hametz* is 11:00 AM. Normally, we provide an opportunity for people to burn their *hametz* at Beth Tzedec.

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

Other Resources

We will be posting a variety of Passover resources, downloadable *Hagaddot*, supplemental readings and the like for all ages on **our website**. Check back regularly to see what's been added. As others have noted, it is indeed ironic that a "plague" continues to modify our Passover celebrations. Passover is our master myth. Just as God redeemed our ancestors from slavery in Egypt, so too will God

redeem us from COVID-19. Our ancestors stayed in that night and placed the blood of the pascal sacrifice on their doors. We will stay in the night of our seders, stepping back from our traditional family and social experiences. In so doing, we too will be redeemed. And God willing, when this passes over, and it will, we will have played a role in redeeming the world.

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

Passover Community Resources

During *sha'atd'khak*, a time of crisis, we are tasked with finding new strategies and ideas for celebrating Pesah with our loved ones. We hope that this list of resources helps inspire and educate your family.

- The Rabbinical Assembly Pesah guide is a brief outline of the policies and procedures relevant to the preparation of a kosher for Pesah home. Find it **here>>**.
- Apex Kosher Catering offers an extensive menu for your Passover seder, although the deadline to place your order is Monday, March 30. Find their menu **here>>**

- Celebrate Passover with something special while supporting local businesses as part of Beth Tzedec's "Passover Florals and Treats" initiative. Enjoy fabulous florals from Ken's on Av and Dave and delicious, nut-free, kosher for Passover baked goods from Randy at Kosher City Plus. Four different packages are available to order, with pick-up from one of six locations across the city. Deadline is March 10, so be sure to submit your orders in advance. **Click here for the order form.**

- If you don't already have a favourite *haggadah*, take this opportunity to customize your own family *haggadah* with **Haggadot.com**. They also offer an excellent webinar with tips for feeling connected and inspired at your seder, whatever form it takes. Watch it **here>>**

Stay home; stay safe ... by 'welcoming' guests virtually this Passover, without exception.

Selling Your Hametz

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

If you are unable to personally sell your *hametz*, please complete this **form** no later than 6:00 PM on **Thursday, March 25**.



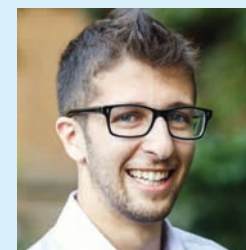


with Rabbi "Bluth" Rosenbluth

Liberation Sessions

Tuesday, March 30 to Friday, April 2

In celebration of the Passover season, we're brewing the spirit of liberation at Beth Tzedec with Soul Brew: Liberation Sessions. This short series of conversations with artists, scholars and activists, led by Rabbi Rachel "Bluth" Rosenbluth, will explore slavery, climate change, racial justice, spiritual liberation and gender.



*In times of trouble,
whether persecution
or pandemic, we all
require something a
little different to feel
whole.*

Pesah Lessons

I have not had the chance to meet many of you yet, but I'm Matt Goldberg, the rabbinic intern at Beth Tzedec. I grew up in Vancouver and now live in Boston, where I am in my third year of Rabbinical and Cantorial school at Hebrew College. I have only worked at Beth Tzedec for a few months but have already learned a lot about what it means to create holy moments together, whether in person or online.

Aside from watching and learning from the incredible Spiritual Leadership Team, the most important work I am doing is "engagement"—connecting with members so we can get to know each other and support each other through challenging times. I enjoy this work not only because I love to talk but because I love to learn. I'm eager to learn about the people in my community: their passions, hopes and struggles. I am grateful for the opportunity to create programs that serve those needs.

"Yitro said to Moshe, 'this thing that you are doing is no good. You will surely wear yourself out, and the people around you. The task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone'" (Shemot 18:17-18).

Not too long from now, we will observe Pesah and recall the story of the redemption of the Israelites from Egypt. We will go through the process of searching for *hametz*, cleaning and kashering our homes and reading how God brought the people out of slavery.

Parashat Va'eira describes God's work using four verbs. Rabbeinu Bachya, a 13th century Spanish Torah commentator, taught that each verb is associated with a different moment or part of the redemption narrative.

Hotzeiti—"I will bring you out," refers to the stopping of persecution, the actual end of slavery;

Hitzalti—"I will save you," refers to physically leaving the land of Egypt;

Ga'alti—"I will redeem you," refers to the Sea splitting as the Israelites were being chased;

Lakachti—"I will take you" refers to Sinai, where God took the Israelites as God's People.

This teaching is especially comforting this year because we learn that there is no "one size fits all" way to find healing. God used (at least) four different ways of saving the Israelites to get them out of Egypt. In times of trouble, whether persecution or pandemic, we all require something a little different to feel whole.

The beautiful thing is that we all have something unique to offer. This is why I have enjoyed my work at Beth Tzedec. In connecting with this community, I discover what we each can contribute, and what we feel like we are lacking.

I am excited to speak to as many members as possible. I am looking forward to learning what I can offer you, what you can offer me and what we can create together. I have been impressed with and proud of how this synagogue has continued to offer a variety of religious and social programming, even though we cannot meet in person.

Just like there was not only one way that God brought the Israelites out of Egypt, there is not only one answer about how to make life bearable in a pandemic. I am excited to learn from each of you about what has kept you going this year and to create opportunities for us to come together (virtually).

I would love to hear from you! If you have specific ideas or just want to chat, call, text or email me at 617-903-7257 or matthew.goldberg@hebrewcollege.edu.

In the meantime, stay warm and healthy. *Hag Sameah*.

In the Spirit of Miriam: AN EVENING OF FREEDOM, WISDOM AND SONG

WITH CANTOR MAGDA FISHMAN AND
RABBI ROBYN FRYER BODZIN
SUNDAY, MARCH 14 8:00 PM

Join Cantor Magda Fishman of B'nai Torah Congregation (in Boca Raton, Florida) and our own Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin as they lead us in a virtual evening of song, sharing and reflection. No charge; pre-registration required to access the Zoom link.

Presented by Beth Tzedec and B'nai Torah Congregations





Karen Goldenberg Appointed to the 2020 Order of Ontario

My theory about service delivery is that...you take services to people and not people to services.

Karen Goldenberg describes herself as an agent of change, moving between a variety of positions and interests. But she has always been singularly focused on helping her community and took her mentality of change to JVS Toronto in 1999. At the time, JVS was a small career and employment services agency operating out of North York.

Leading the company, Karen took the rehabilitation program out of the basement and put it on the road. “My theory about service delivery is that... you take services to people and not people to services”, she says. This theory helped to significantly expand JVS’ reach: they developed relationships with mental health and disability focused agencies in many different areas around Toronto. “We reinvented the agency from a North York based agency...to being a metro wide community that serves people from all backgrounds”. Now, JVS helps individuals across the GTA excel in their job search and employment, with a particular focus on supporting newcomers, youth, individuals with disabilities and other underserved populations. Karen was awarded the Order of Canada in 2014 for her pioneering efforts in Toronto.

Karen’s work with JVS expanded on her previous work as a physical and occupational therapist. To her, occupational therapy and employment services rest on the same foundation: “the underpinnings of occupational therapy are really about...helping people to function at their maximum capacity.” Helping other people achieve their potential became a central pillar to Karen’s life. She credits her father as the role model who ignited her love of helping

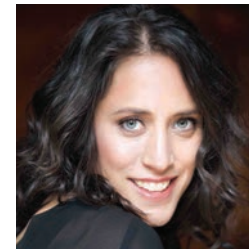
others. He was an active volunteer with Toronto Jewish Free Loan and was constantly donating his time and money to those who needed it. “My father was not a rich man, but he was a generous man”, she recalls. “No one could come to our door that my father wouldn’t give money to.” Karen “lived and breathed” this philanthropic lifestyle and took it forward throughout the rest of her life.

Karen’s efforts to serve the underserved have continued today. She is currently the Chair of Project Abraham, a charitable organization that raises money to help Yazidi refugees in Turkey and Iraq immigrate to Canada and integrate into Canadian society. The Yazidi population, like the Jewish population, have been historically discriminated against and have suffered from genocide. Project Abraham establishes Refugee Sponsorship Committees across the GTA, raises funds and awareness of the plight of Yazidi’s and advocates on behalf of Yazidi families with the Canadian government.

Karen’s dedication to serving the community is inspiring, and her continued work around the world is remarkable. She is proud to have been appointed to the 2020 Order of Ontario, a well-deserved honour for a lifetime of service and a reminder of all the lives she has changed along the way.

Share a Story!

Do you know someone in our community who’s living the Beth Tzedec values? Someone making the world better who can inspire and empower all of us to care, connect, learn, pray, celebrate or give & get? Contact Linda at imdow@beth-tzedec.org and let us know who you would like to see profiled in the next Beth Tzedec Bulletin.



Mazal Tov! Our artist-in-residence, Aviva Chernick’s album has been nominated for a Canadian Folk Music Award for World Album of the Year.



Aviva Chernick Nominated for La Serena

After leaving the band Jaffa Road in 2016, Aviva Chernick thoughtfully considered her next steps. “What is it that I am meant to bring to the world?”

Aviva had spent the last eight years travelling back and forth between Toronto and Alexandria, Virginia to study under the tutelage of Flory Jagoda²¹. Flory has been known as the mother of the Bosnian-Judeo-Spanish musical tradition and Aviva had discovered her music, then asked if they could work together. A relationship quickly blossomed between the two artists: “I fell in love with her music, then I fell in love with her”.

Aviva soon began playing Flory’s music with multi-instrumentalist Joel Schwartz. So, as Aviva pondered her next project, it seemed only fitting that she and Joel record what they had worked on.

“I thought I’d do a very simple project... just to get it out in the world.”

That project turned into the lush, ten-track album *La Serena*, which was recently nominated for a Canadian Folk Music Award for World Album of the Year. She and Joel were joined by bassist and producer Justin Gray.

Because of the group’s time working on the music, they had already created the arrangements before they entered the studio – it was just a matter of hitting the record button. The band spent only three days in the studio together, then spent the next few weeks adding bits and pieces to round out the album’s sound.

Aviva’s respect and admiration for the music is clear on the album, which combines four of Flory’s Ladino arrangements with a few traditional songs and a couple of originals. It is a textured mixture of Aviva’s Ashkenazi roots with the songs’ Sephardic melodies.

Since its release, the album has gone on to have a life of its own in live performances: “you want it to come alive, you don’t want it to be stuck to the recording”. Aviva notes



that the relatively recent formation of the group allows for more experimentation in live settings. The music evolves as the band develops together, and “the album becomes inspiration for what’s created next”.

Of course, Aviva and her band have not been able to perform as they used to. Their last live performance was in August. But Aviva has taken the time to reflect on the album’s success and her appreciation for her role as the Beth Tzedec artist-in-residence. She speaks fondly of her surprise when, at a performance last year, right at the beginning of her tenure at the synagogue, both Rabbis Wernick and Fryer Bodzinwere in the audience. “I was very appreciative that they showed up so early in our relationship, and I’m excited to be welcomed to share my artistic voice with Beth Tzedec”.

—Noah Brown

*Shortly after this article was written, the person to whom *La Serena* is dedicated, Aviva’s beloved mentor Nona Flory, died. She passed peacefully on Friday, January 29, just as Shabbat was beginning.*

There have been many events honouring Flory and there will be many more in the coming months. We hope you will attend and learn about the Mother of the Balkan Ladino tradition, the Keeper of the Flame, a person so filled with light and love that all those she encountered felt transformed. Aviva invites us all to turn to Flory’s many recordings online, to listen, to enjoy and to become a part of carrying on this rich tradition.



Care and Giving from the BT Community

Many things have changed for Out of the Cold due to the pandemic, but our desire to help those we have served for some 22 years remains steadfast.

Out of the Cold

As you know, due to COVID-19 we are unable to operate our Out of the Cold Shelter from Beth Sholom Synagogue this year. This could not have come at a worse time as there are historic numbers of people sleeping on Toronto's streets. In order to continue serving those we have assisted for so many years, we needed to find a temporary location where we could feed our homeless population. Fortunately, my partner Rafi Aaron was able to secure a partnership with Rev. James Keenan of Saint Luke's United Church which has allowed us to operate with him at his church on Sherbourne Street.

We opened the Out of the Cold Meal Program at Saint Luke's on Sunday, December 13. The Program operates on Sunday and Wednesday nights from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. and its last evening will be on Wednesday, April 28. The Wednesday night meal is provided by Holy Blossom Temple Out of the Cold and they have been wonderful to work with. We are currently serving approximately 120 homeless people on those nights.

Social distancing, health protocols and limits on the number of individuals in the building at any one time have changed how we operate. Guests enter the church one at a time and are asked a series of health questions and have their temperature taken. They are then ushered into a seating area where they can warm up, have a hot chocolate, use the washrooms or charge their phones. They then enter the dining area where a hot dinner is then provided to them in prepared, individual containers. Whereas in the past, we would have had ten people eating at

an 8 ft table, this year, two people sit at opposite ends of a 12 ft.

There is minimal contact with the guests, which is very hard on us as we are used to interacting with them. They really need that one-on-one contact, but under the circumstances, we are doing the best that we can. All volunteers wear PPE, and the tables, chairs and washrooms are disinfected after each use.

The City is no longer providing us with staff. We are blessed that we have found wonderful front-line organizations who have partnered with us and provide staff for the Program. These include: Street Health, Ontario Aboriginal AIDS HIV Strategy, and Sanctuary. We have also hired one individual. There is currently a deadly opioid overdose crisis in our city, province and country. From January to September of 2020 there were 353 overdose deaths in Toronto. This is a 65% increase in deaths over the same period from 2019. All of the staff work in harm reduction which means they have experience in reversing overdoses.

On Sunday, January 10, we began bringing meals to six encampments scattered throughout the downtown area. We have wonderful volunteer drivers who pick up the dinners from Saint Luke's and deliver them.

Many things have changed for Out of the Cold due to the pandemic, but our desire to help those we have served for some 22 years remains steadfast. I want to thank the entire Beth Tzedec family for its continued support of this very necessary program.

Maureen Tanz

Chair, Hesed Committee

Men's Club Makes a Difference



Men's Club Scholarship Program

The Men's Club is pleased to sponsor our long-standing scholarship program to assist young people pursuing programs of higher Jewish education. Applicants need not be a member of Beth Tzedec.

The criteria judge applicants is based on the following and should be given careful consideration when applying:

- The financial need of the candidate.
- The program of study for which the funds will be used.
- The career goals of the candidate and how the program of study relates to it.
- The benefit that may be brought to the Jewish community by the candidate.

- The overall quality of the application.
- Special needs or other consideration.

The information provided is the sole source upon which the scholarship committee will make a decision.

Download an [application here](#) or contact Hersh Rosenthal at hershr@rogers.com. Deadline for submissions: April 9, 2021.



COVID may separate us but photos and Pesah greetings can bring us together! Men's Club is producing a video of our community celebrating Pesah. Take a photo holding a Pesah greeting sign and sent it to us. Be sure to include your name(s). Submissions should be sent to btphotos@rogers.com.



Anshe-eh Zafon (Lake Region)

Men's Club Scholarship Program

The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs has adjusted to life during the pandemic. The **Friday Night Kiddush Club** has continued over Zoom, with different cantors from around the world leading Kabbalat Shabbat every week. All are invited to watch and participate.

The FJMC summer convention will be virtual and held over two weekends. The convention will focus on learning and will feature a wide array of world-renowned speakers, all of whom will be listed in the next bulletin.

"Yiddish Alive!" continues to be our most popular online program. Additionally,

United Nations 2021 Holocaust Remembrance presented six different webinars during the last week of January in conjunction with FJMC. We have also held programs on Palestinian refugees since 1948, childhood survivors of the Holocaust, recreational marijuana use and sports affinity presentations. All upcoming events are on the FJMC website, as are links to previously recorded webinars.

The Leadership Development Institute retreat was held virtually in the last weekend of January.

To be added to our mailing list, email us at smith.don49@hotmail.com.

The Rav Roy Tanenbaum Israel Scholarship

Students enrolled in degree programs in accredited colleges or universities in Israel are encouraged to apply for The Rav Roy Tanenbaum Israel Scholarship. For information, contact **Randy E. Spiegel** at rspiegel@beth-tzedec.org.



Membership Relief
Fund and Hanukat
Habayit campaigns
are close to our goals.

An Enormous Thank You!

COVID-19 has had huge financial and social impacts to our community. That's why we want to thank all who are able for stepping forward to help your fellow members, demonstrating our strength as a community.

The culture of philanthropy is alive, well and growing at Beth Tzedec.

Annual High Holy Day Appeal

This year, President Debbie Rothstein appealed to you to support the new Membership Relief Fund (MRF). To date, we have provided 301 members with over \$175,000 in membership relief.

The response to Debbie and her follow-up letters was remarkable. Many continue to mark lifecycle moments with *tzedakah* gifts, bringing our total raised to date to \$167,000, so close to our goal of \$200,000. We thank you so much and encourage those who can to help push us over the top.

Hanukat Habayit Renewal Campaign

COVID-19 has decimated Beth Tzedec's alternative revenue sources; rentals and catering have plummeted. As a result, our professional and lay leadership took immediate steps to significantly reduce expenses while responding to the increasing demands for pastoral care and other programs and services. Since member contributions cover less than 50 percent of our expenses, we needed a new campaign to balance our budget.

Immediately after the High Holy Days, we embarked on a special *Hanukat Habayit* renewal campaign and our members have responded to this call to action. To date, commitments total \$263,000 and we are moving ever closer to reaching our \$300,000 goal.

We thank everyone who has contributed. Your renewal of trust in the synagogue gives everyone the impetus to press onward to keep our *kehillah* strong.

Our Spiritual Leadership Team and support staff are a lifeline, bringing comfort and community within reach. We continue to be accessible, helping you access online programs, attend online *minyanim* to say Kaddish with your physically distanced community and where possible, we have officiated at weddings, funerals and celebrations for bat and bar mitzvah children, while hundreds tune in over Zoom.

Everything we do today is for tomorrow. Each one of us who can has the opportunity to step forward and help secure the future of your Beth Tzedec.

Gifts to the Congregation can be made with cash, bonds and appreciated securities, life insurance and through testamentary gifts that say, "I want to ensure that future generations are connected to the Jewish community".

Establishing an endowment that will annually sponsor a program or guest speaker can provide financial relief for members, sustain special *hesed* programs and launch new initiatives like the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being.

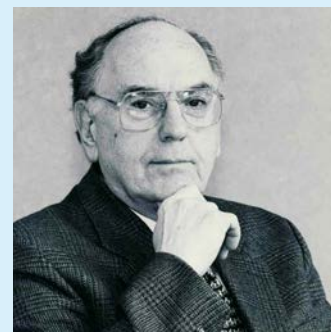
We are here to work with you to realize your philanthropic vision and be a builder of community. We are here to work with your financial planners and advisors to set up a fund or name a part of our building that will remain for generations.

Thank you to all who have given so far and thank you in advance to all who will help secure our future.

To make a gift or discuss how to make your philanthropic investment work for the community, call 416-781-3514, ext. 211 or email rspiegel@beth-tzedec.org.

Stay safe, stay healthy and always wear a mask.

—Randy E. Spiegel



To his last days,
Professor Ages
continued to search
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Torah texts and
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The Torah for him
was truly an "etz
chaim", a tree of life.

Sharing Memories

Because our life has always been much too busy, it was not until my husband's retirement, at the start of COVID, that we finally took time out to reflect upon 50 years that he had been associated with Beth Tzedec.

Our first thought was that a thank you note should be sent to this synagogue for the opportunity it had given him, a professor of French Studies, to experience over five decades the great adventure of Torah study.

What is most important is that he was privileged to pursue this undertaking for almost three generations with a most remarkable group of people.

Pirkei Avot, *Ethics of the Fathers* contains the moral and practical teachings of about 60 sages over a period of nearly five centuries. Two of their teachings describe so well the type of approach Professor Ages²¹ had to Torah study.

1. "Eize who khakham? Ha'lomed mi'kol adam: shene'emar, mikol m'lamdai hiskalti." (Who is wise? He who learns from every person, as it is said: From all my teachers I grew wise.)

To his last days, Professor Ages continued to search for and explore any materials he could find that would enhance his knowledge of the Torah texts and which he could share with his Torah class. The Torah for him was truly an "etz chaim", a tree of life.

2. Another most appropriate teaching in the *Pirkei Avot*, which reflected Professor Ages' approach, is found in the passage "Yehi khvod talmidkha khaviv alekha k'shelkha". (Let the honour of your student be as dear to you, as your own.)

Professor Ages practiced this rule throughout his academic career. Not only did he learn from great scholars

and authors whose books he consulted, but he also learned from his students and from the people who attended his Torah classes. All were treated with the same respect as his teachers.

But Torah study must be accompanied by action, "*maa'sim tovim*" (good deeds), and this was another area that meant a lot to my husband and me. When we heard of or witnessed some act of *hesed* by any of his Torah students, we always hoped that perhaps that good deed was motivated by the donor's Torah study.

In the weekly Torah reading of *Va'yera* we read of God testing Abraham's faith and devotion. Although a most challenging test, his response is conveyed in one word—"hineini"—here I am.

When he witnessed any of his Torah class responding to the needs of our community or Israel, he felt especially proud. He saw this as the "hineini" response in our own generation and a true expression of "*ahavat Yisrael*", a love and caring for the Jewish people.

At this time, my family and I want to thank the Beth Tzedec family, its past and present rabbis and its staff for having honoured Professor Ages by making it possible for him to share the precious teachings of the Torah during the past five decades, and almost three generations of Beth Tzedec members.

We also want to thank all those who reached out to us during these difficult days. Your thoughtfulness and support of numerous charities in memory of Professor Ages have been a source of great comfort to all of us.

We are honoured that your Shabbat Torah classes will continue in memory of my dear husband and best friend, "*zichrono liv'rakha*".

—Shoshana Ages

Tributes

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

Camp Ramah Fund

Art and Carole Andrews, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt and family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Sharon and Norm Bacal, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Florence Bendelac, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt and family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Howard Black and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ada Starkman**.

Howard Black and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Maxwell Starkman**.

Howard Black and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Black**.

Dr. Leo and Bayla Chaikof, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Chaikof**.

Ab ^{z1} and Phyllis Flatt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Moses Flatt**.

Zina Glassman, acknowledging the **Flatt Family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Gloria Houser, honouring the memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Dorion and Bernie Liebgott and family, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt and family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Ruth and Harold Margles, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt and family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Marilyn and Saul Merrick, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt and family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Barry and Susan Phillips, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Marjorie Rasky, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt and family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Debbie Rothstein, Michael, Emma and Zach Friedman, acknowledging the **Flatt Family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Caryl and Bernie Schwartz and family, honouring the memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Brenda and Jeroham Singer, acknowledging **Phyllis Flatt and family and Harold and Carole Wolfe** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Randy and Debbie Spiegel and family, acknowledging the **Flatt Family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Cantor Sidney Ezer Discretionary Fund

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

Donnie Friedman, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

The Glazer Family, honouring **Hazzan Sidney Ezer** for his support after the passing of **Helen Glazer**.

Susan Arbuck, for her friendship.

Food Insecurity Fund

Sharon and Norm Bacal, acknowledging **Phyllis and Jeff Miller** in memory of **Maxine Gourley**.

The Band and Mitz Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Ephraim Band, Q.C.**

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

Cleotilde Ceron, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ernestina Valencia de Ceron**.

Carol Clarfield, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **William Clarfield**.

Leonard and Merle Eisen, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Eisen**.

Fred and Jocelynn Engle, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Sarah Engle** and **Gerald Krivel**.

Diane and Ron Ennis, honouring **Fred Engle** on his birthday and honouring **Fred and Jocelynn Engle** on their anniversary.

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

Sophia Kert, honouring the memory of **Ephraim Newman**.

Susan Laufer and Barry Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ida Laufer**.

Ruthe Mann and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. John Mann**.

Irving Matlow, honouring **David Matlow** on his 60th birthday.

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

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

Marlene Olyan and Arthur Cole, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jack Cherlon**.

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

Mildred Schwartz, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Jack Schwartz** and **Michael Meyerson**.

The Segal Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joshua (Shuki) Segal**.

Rachel Shupak and family, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Leon and Mindel Shupak**.

Adam Spears and Casey Eisenberg, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl** for officiating at their daughter's baby naming.

Elliott Sud, commemorating yahrtzeit of **David Sud**.

Martha, Avrom, Howard, Elliott and Warren Sud, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Sud**.

Norman Tobias and Ava Kanner-Tobias, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Pearl Tobias**

General Fund

Karen and Bert Amato, acknowledging **Sara Wunch** in memory of **Jerry Freeman**.

Florence and Elie Bendelac, honouring **Randy and Debbie Spiegel** on the birth of their grandson **Ayden Julius**.

Lorne Blumer, honouring the memories of **Jack and Rhoda Blumer**.

Mark Burstyn, honouring the **Beth Tzedec Spiritual Leadership Team** for providing the online minyan.

Paula Clayman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sadie Spivack**.

Jordan Gnat, honouring the memory of **Willy Gnat**.

Morley Goldberg, acknowledging **Shoshana Ages** in memory of **Professor Arnold Ages**.

Dr. Eudice Goldberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Richard Goldberg**.

Janis and Robert Goldberg, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman Kohl**.

Gerold and Rosylin Goldlist and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Charlotte (Shaindel) Goldlist**.

Lou and Magda Hoffer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sali Hoffer**.

Lou and Magda Hoffer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Hoffer**.

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

Robert and Janice Jordan, acknowledging **Jerry and Linda Silver** in memory of **Arlene (Etty) Silver**.

The Pervin Family, acknowledging **Robert Garmaise and family** in memory of **Michael Garmaise**.

The Rash Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Rash**.

Allan and Ellen Rosenbluth, acknowledging **Stephen and Ilene Flatt** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.

Loren and Mark Roth, honouring **Sarah and Benjamin Yavelberg** on the birth of their daughter.

Gella Rothstein, acknowledging **Dorion Liebgott** in memory of **Ralph Berrin**.

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

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

The Shinewald Family, honouring **Sylvie Moscovitz and Max Librach** on their marriage.

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

Marlene Zeidenberg, honouring **Hana Werner**.

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

Hesed Fund

Sharon and Norman Bacal, acknowledging **Bernie Good and Jennifer Joseph** in memory of **Mendel Good**.

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

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

The Cooper Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Hyman Perry**.

The Cooper Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mervin Cooper**.

The Cooper Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Nathan Korzenstein**.

Judith and Aubrey Golden, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Pearl Freedhoff**.

Daisy Hort and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **John Hort**.

Honey Milstein, acknowledging **Sam Glazer and family** in memory of **Helen Glazer**.

Barry and Genny Nathanson, acknowledging **Sam and Melissa Glazer and Steven and Karen Glazer and families** in memory of **Helen Glazer**.

Susan and Barry Philips, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Hamer**.

Marjorie Rasky, acknowledging the **Glazer Family** in memory of **Helen Glazer**.

Marlene, Ian, Mitchell and Samantha Rattner, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Phillip Black, Ada Starkman** and **Maxwell Starkman**.

Lorraine and Alan Sandler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sheila Broomberg**.

Arlene Shillinger, acknowledging the **Good Family** in the memory of **Mendel Good**.

Howard and Emily Snow and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **S. Milton (Mickey) Snow**.

Cantor Deborah Staiman, wishing **Florence Bendelac** a *refuah sheleimah*.

Dot Whitehouse, acknowledging **Hilary Moore** on marking the conclusion of Kaddish.

Howard (Hy) Cooper Trust Fund

Carole and Art Andrews, acknowledging **Barbara Lewis Warner and family** in memory of **Joe Warner**.

Carole and Art Andrews, acknowledging **Phyllis Miller** in memory of **Maxine Gourley**.

Arthur and Carole Andrews, honouring **Solly Stern** on his birthday.

Sandra and Jack Grossman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Murray Bisgould**.

Ronnie, Elana and Evan Hoffer, commemorating the first yahrtzeit of **Sam Hoffer**.

Elaine Marcus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Stanley Axmith**.

Jack and Libby Orenstein Adult Education Fund

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

Jewish Family Living Fund

Brenda Orser, acknowledging **Yacov Fruchter** in memory of **Sylvia Fruchter**.

Jonathan Kahn Memorial Fund

Norman and Jackie Kahn and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Kahn**.

Kaddish Fund

Alan and Ellen Levine and family, commemorating the yarhtzeit of **Dr Sidney Steinberg**.

Marcus Scoler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Renee Sandra Scoler**.

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

Kosher Food Bank

Sandra Appel, honouring the memory of **Rebecca Appel**.

Harvey Coopersmith, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Coopersmith**.

Susanne Egier and family, acknowledging **Jerry and Linda Silver** in memory of **Arlene (Etty) Silver**.

Ruth and Alby Garbe and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Matlow**.

Frances and Moishe Goldstein, honouring the memories of **Ann and Wolf Woznica**.

Nathan Greenberg and family, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Esther Hussman, honouring the memory of **Binyamin Mizrachi**.

Murray and Adrienne Levinter

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

Irving Matlow, honouring **Ruth Garbe** on her birthday.

Nadine Smolarski Koff and David Koff, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Henri Smolarski**.

Howard Sud, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Sud**.

Joe and Marilyn Sunshine, acknowledging **Jerry and Linda Silver** in memory of **Etty Silver**.

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

Mila Zigelman and family, honouring the memory of **Leya Goldshteyn**.

Lighting the Way Fund

Howard Cohen, honouring **Daniel Silverman and Rachel Hindel** on the birth of their daughter.
Miriam Melamed, acknowledging **Zelda Melamed** in memory of **Lenn Melamed**.
Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**.

Little Minyan Fund

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging the **Zworth Family** in memory of **Mickey Zworth**.
Ruth Torchinsky, honouring **Shirel Barkin-Slater** for her good work and the joyful goodwill she brings to the community.

Lorne Hanick Website Development Fund

Ronnie, Elana and Evan Hoffer, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.
Barbara and Ricky Kirshenblatt and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gordon Quitt**.
Brenda Orser, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bryan W.R. Orser**.

Membership Relief Fund

Ethel Abramowitz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Siegmund Martin Kamnitzer**.
Earl Altman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sonny Altman**.
Florence and Elie Bendelac, honouring **Dr. Anna Day**.
Esther Bernstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Isaac and Bella Rich**.
Ira Bernstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Abraham Bernstein**.
Melvin and Sandra Brown, honouring the memories of **Saul Brown, Lena Brown** and **Celia Tanzman**.
Lyle Cappe, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Solomon Freedman**.
Lyle Cappe and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Cappe**.
Cheryl and Maury Cepler, commemo-rating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Abramson**.
Larry, Jordan and Jamie Chad and Eunice Tanzer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Lionel Tanzer**.
Joyce and Paul Chapnik, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mollie Peiser**.
Anne Fergus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Roher**.

The daughters of Jack Friedman, commemorating his yahrtzeit.
Shep and Lorraine Gangbar, honouring **Larry Wallach**.
Marvin Geist, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Louie Geist**.
Sandra Gertner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Eva Reich**.
The Gross and Hurwitz Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harold Gross**.
Martin Halpern and Karen Glass, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sidney Halpern**.
Michael Hartt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Gallay Hartt**.
Karen Hersh and Lawrence Davis
Ruth Hyman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gurion Hyman**.
Shaya and Ziva Izenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Isaac Izenberg**.
Ruth Panofsky and Gary Gottlieb and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Marvin Panofsky**.
Jerome and Pearl Kazdan, commemo-rating the yahrtzeit of **Louis Kazdan**.
Dolly and Max Kerzner, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Murray Penwick** and **Tillie Penwick Mandel**.
Anna Leventhal, honouring the memories of **Dr. and Mrs. Abraham Leventhal**.
The Librach and Funt Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Alexander Funt**.
Glennie Lindenbergl and Morley Brown, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Brown**.
Lawrie and Ruthann Lubin and Carole and Bernie Starkman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Lubin**.
Pam and Ted Minden, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. John and Marcia Wiseman**.
Elaine and Marvin Mintz and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sari Troister**.
Norman and Susan Mogil, commemo-rating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Mogil**.
Barbara Nemoy Leibel, honouring the memories of **Helen and Max Nemoy**.
Molly and John Pollock, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bernard Koffman**.
Mary and Leslie Richmond, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Andrew Mittelman**.
Susan and John Rose, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Betty Skolnik** and **Harry Swadron**.
Sandra and Hascal Rosen, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leah Zatz**.

The Rothstein and Rosenberg families, honouring their ancestors, the **Goldhars and Rothsteins**.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Bernie Good and Jennifer Joseph** in memory of **Mendel Good**.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Rosette Rutman** in memory of **Abraham Rutman**.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Claire and Newton Markus and Joey, Linda, Marty and Janice** in memory of **Ruth Bayne**.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring **Adam and Sherri Storm** on the bat mitzvah of their daughter **Abby Storm**.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring **Elise Stern Gropper and Bernie Gropper** on the birth of their grandson.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring **Daniel Silverman and Rachel Hindel** on the birth of their daughter.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring **Marice Hart and Benjamin Shinewald** on the bat mitzvah of their daughter **Orly Shinewald**.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring **Randy and Debbie Spiegel** on the birth of their grandson.
Debbie Rothstein, Michael, Emma and Zach Friedman, acknowledging the **Garmaise Family** in memory of **Michael Garmaise**.
Paul and Gella Rothstein, commemoroting the yahrtzeit of **Isaac Rothstein**.
Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Rosette Rutman** in memory of **Abraham Rutman**.
Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Shari Teichman** in memory of **Allan Wolfson**.
Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Bernard Gropper and Elise Stern Gropper** on the birth of their grandson.
Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Don and Leanne Smith** on their marriage.
Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Marlene and Howard Black** on the bar mitzvah of their son **Adam Black**.
Coleman Rotstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Morris Rotstein**.
Jeanne Salit, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ethel Cooke**.
Dr. Renee Sananes-Spiegel and Robert Spiegel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Sananes**.
Fay Schwartz, in appreciation of the Beth Tzedec Book and Film Club.

Paul Sheldon and Amy Phillips, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Irving Sheldon**.
Eric Sobel and family, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Bert Fine, Eli Sobel, Ben Sobel, Frances Sobel** and **Lilian Fine**.
Eric Sobel and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Meyer Samuel Fine**.
Eric Sobel and family, honouring **Eric's** birthday and the anniversary of his bar mitzvah.
Deborah and Lloyd Speyer and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Wells**.
Debbie and Randy Spiegel and family, honouring **Ian Tweyman**.
Mel and Ruth Steinhart, honouring the memories of **Harry Steinhart** and **Sam Siegel**.
Reesa and Avrom Sud, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **David Sud** and **Louis Hotz**.
Carole and Howard Tanenbaum and family and Jane Josephson, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Granick**.
Felicia Valo, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **William Travis**.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman, acknowledging the **Flatt Family** in memory of **Ab Flatt**.
Oscar Zimmerman and Anna Day, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Asher Zelek Zimmerman** and **Sarah Devorah Zimmerman**.

Out-of-the-Cold Fund

Jack and Diane Abbey-Livingston, com-memorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Pass**.
Cindy Breslin-Carene, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Hannah Stern Breslin**.
Arthur Cole, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Judith and Allen Cole**.
Fred and Ruth Fishman, honouring **Maya Mandell** on her bat mitzvah.

Phyllis Budgie Frieberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Frieberg**.
Sally Gallinger, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Herschel and Edith Rubinstein**.
Morrie and Cynthia Glick, commemorat-ing the yahrtzeit of **Reuben Glick**.
Abe and Janice Glowinsky, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**.
Beverley Kupfert, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Kupfert**.
Jack and Diane Livingston, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Monroe Abbey, Q.C.**
Anne and Mitch Max, honouring the memory of **Edith Atkin Goodis**.
Marvin and Elaine Mintz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Abraham Mintz**.
Petra Newton and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Pearlman**.
Ruth Nichols, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Nichols**.
Ruth Nichols and Dianne Zeifman, acknowledging the **Rosen Family** in memory of **Helen Rosen**.
Frank and Milli Richmond, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Edward I. Richmond**.
Milli and Frank Richmond, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Larry Lorman**.
Lawrence Ross commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Marianne Ross**.
Lorraine and Morris Rotbard and family, acknowledging **Gerry Koffman** in memory of **Annie Koffman**.
Jeanne Salit, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Emmanuel Cooke**.
Judith and Ralph Shiff, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Troster**.
Renata Somers, honouring **Dr. Fred Engle** on his birthday.

Elaine and Joseph Steiner, honouring the **Spiritual Leadership and staff of Beth Tzedec**.
Gilda Tanz and Martin Kelman, commemorating the yahrtzeit **Alex Newman**.
Gilda Tanz and Martin Kelman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bernard Newman**.
Gilda Tanz and Martin Kelman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rebecca Newman**.

Prayer Book Dedications

Sandy Cohen and family, commemorat-ing the yahrtzeit of **Irwin (Bob) Cohen**.
Sandra Cohen, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Murray L. and Minnie Clavir**.
Claire Friedlich Markus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fanny Steinberg**.
Michelle Glied-Goldstein and Allan Goldstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **William (Bill) Glied**.
Michael, Dianne, Ashley and Jonah Gould, honouring the memory of **Allan Gould** and commemorating the first yahrtzeit of **Marion Gould**.
Shirley Promislow, commmemorating the yahrtzeit of **Corinne Gandler Koslovsky**.
Shirley and David Promislow and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Israel Gandler**.
Irving, Rosalynd and Laura, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Elie Lefler**.
David and Elana Seligman, honouring the memory of **Ann Samuels**.
Rosalie White and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lionel White**.



**MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
DONATE TODAY.**

By contributing to Beth Tzedec’s many funds, scholarships, and initiatives, you heal and build our community. Click **here** for a list of Beth Tzedec Funds.

**Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl
Endowment Fund**

Dennis Brockman, honouring the memories of **Louis Brockman, Mr. and Mrs E. Moskoff, Mr. and Mrs. N. Brockman, Dr. and Mrs S. Wax, Max Lefko, Ben Springer, Mr. and Mrs. H. Lee, Roberta Lee, Helene Springer, Robert Springer and Donna Steinberg.**

Jeffrey and Tamara Cummings, commemorating the yahrtzeit **Dr. Anne Cummings.**

Jeffrey and Tamara Cummings, commemorating yahrtzeit of **Michael Cummings.**

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

Fred and Ruth Fishman, honouring **Rabbi Baruch and Josette Frydman-Kohl** on the birth of their granddaughter.

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

Ab²¹ and Phyllis Flatt, honouring **Daniel Silverman and Rachel Hindel** on the birth of their daughter.

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

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

The Glazer Family, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl** for his support after the passing of **Helen Glazer.**

Ydessa Hendeles, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dorothy Hendeles.**

The Houser Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit **Lena Houzer.**

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

The Lindenberg and Weizman Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Philip Lindenberg.**

Elie Malka, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Aliyah Malka.**

Caroline and Danny Mandell and family, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl.**

Elaine Marcus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Marcus.**

Melissa Melnitzer, honouring the memory of **Catherine Adam.**

Roslyn Mendelson and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fay Bigman.**

Honey Milstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sarah Nisker.**

Marjorie Rasky, honouring **Zina Glassman** on her retirement.

Franci Schwartz Sniderman, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl.**

Don Smith, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl** for his participation in the Maagal Group.

Beverley Stern and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morton Stern.**

Harry Stilman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Naemi Stilman.**

Warren Sud and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Sud.**

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

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

**Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin
Discretionary Fund**

Terri Humphries, acknowledging **Rosette Rutman and Stephen Abrams** in memory of **Abraham Rutman.**

Terri Humphries, acknowledging **Tamara Abrams** in memory of **Abraham Rutman.**

Candy Kurk and Lawrie Giddens, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin.**

Lawrie Lubin and Carole Starkman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Baruch Cooper.**

**Rabbi Steven Wernick
Discretionary Fund**

Earl Altman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Altman.**

Dr. Earl Berger and Dr. Joan Moss, honouring the memories of **Louis and Salome Berger.**

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

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

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

Jack Gwartz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mary Raskin.**

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

Harold Margles, commemorating the yahrtzeit **Maurice Margles.**

Marsha Pascoe, honouring **Hana Werner.**

Millie Pollock, acknowledging **Susan Lindzon and family** in memory of **Ab Flatt.**

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

The Rogul Children, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Norman Rogul.**

Marcia Schnoor and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jack Schnoor.**

Mildred Schwartz, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Michael Meyerson and Jack Schwartz.**

Beverley Stern and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morton Stern.**

Refugee Program

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

Linda Brager, honouring the **Beth Tzedec Refugee Sponsorship Group.**

The Caplan Sisters, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leonard Caplan.**

Fred and Ruth Fishman, honouring **Bari Zittell** and wishing her success in the ongoing endeavours with the Beth Tzedec Refugee Sponsorship Group.

Edna Hussman, Ayal Lesh and Dori Hussman-Lesh, honouring **Adam and Sherri Storm** on the bat mitzvah of their daughter **Abby Storm.**

Irving Matlow

Jerry McIntosh, honouring the **Beth Tzedec Sponsorship Group.**

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

Danny Richmond, honouring **Bari Zittell and Lori Nemoy.**

Malka Rosenbaum, honouring **Bayla, Sam, Myles, Aiden, Maddie and Reed.**

Paul and Gella Rothstein

Abby Storm, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick.**

Pearl and Lloyd Weiss, honouring **Irving Matlow.**

Dot Whitehouse, honouring the **Hussman Family.**

Bari Zittell, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Stan Stern.**

Bari Zittell, honouring the **volunteers, Spiritual Leadership, staff and the Board of Directors.**

Bari and Teddy Zittell, acknowledging **Thea Weisdorf and Allan Kanee and family** in memory of **Isa Elman.**

**Reuben and Helene Dennis
Museum Fund**

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging the the **Berrin Family** in memory of **Ralph Berrin.**

Torah Through the Ages Fund

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

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

Albina Backman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mariana Rozencwajg.**

Sidney Brown, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Brown.**

Sam and Melissa Glazer, acknowledging **Irving Matlow** in memory of **Jean Matlow.**

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

Sam and Melissa Glazer, honouring **Jeffrey Cummings.**

Gloria Houser, acknowledging **Shoshana Ages** in memory of **Professor Arnold Ages.**

Marsha Joseph, honouring **Bernice Stern** on the birth of her great-grandson.

Marsha Joseph, honouring **Cliff and Judy Librach** on the marriage of their son **Max Librach and Sylvie Moscovitz.**

Michael Katz and family, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Melvin and Blanche Katz.**

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

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

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

Pearl Seetner, acknowledging **Shoshana Ages** in memory of **Professor Arnold Ages.**

Paul and Mari Spring, acknowledging **Shoshana Ages and family** in memory of **Professor Arnold Ages.**

Cantor Deborah Staiman, acknowledging **Shoshana Ages and family** in memory of **Professor Arnold Ages.**

Lyon Wexler, acknowledging the **Ages Family** in memory of **Professor Arnold Ages.**

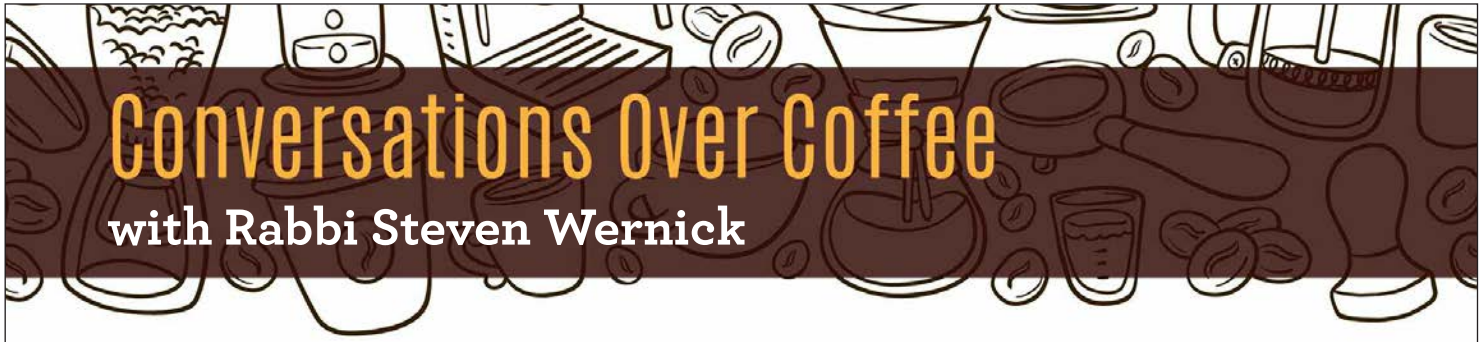
Dot Whitehouse, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Louis Whitehouse.**

Yom Hashoah Candle Fund

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

Brenda Orser, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Trevor R.S. Orser.**

In the event of an error in your Tribute contribution, please contact **Terri Humphries.**



Monday afternoons 12:30 PM

Rabbi Steven Wernick gathers a cadre of community personalities for conversations on politics, culture, social existence and Jewish life. Grab a cup of coffee and log on to join us. Sessions will be streamed to **Facebook** and **YouTube**. Comment with questions for our guests on either platform.

New guests are added to the series regularly. Check our **website** frequently for updates.

March 1: Rakefet Ginsberg

March 8: Annamie Paul

March 15: Rabbi David Steinhardt

March 22: Norman Bacal

April 5: Rosette Rutman

April 12: Shmuel Rosner

April 19: Dawit Demoz

April 26: DJ Schneeweiss

May 3: Debbie Berlin and Rob Kamen

May 10: Tammy Glied



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** or call 416-781-3514, ext. 231.



Loss in the Time of COVID-19:

A Bereavement Support Group with Debbie Berlin and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

Thursdays, March 4 & 18 and May 3 at 7:45 PM

The loss of a loved one, at any time, is challenging. Loss during the time of COVID-19 brings a host of other issues that may complicate our grief and bereavement. Judaism has a clear set of mourning rituals that have been painfully absent during this pandemic.

No charge. For information or to join this group, email [Rabbi Fryer Bodzin](mailto:RabbiFryerBodzin@gmail.com).



Ralph Berrin^{ztl}

Ralph Berrin, a volunteer in the Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum and a frequent tour guide through the shul, passed away on December 15 after a brief illness. Our kehillah will miss his insight about the museum and archives as well as the stories of our synagogue and broader Jewish community.

Condolences

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

Pearl Amsterdam	Joyce Levy-Shier
Rick Baer	Ruth Marks
Ruth Bayne	Jean Matlow
Ralph Berrin	Susan Moneta
Gail Cross	Marcel Mozes
Roslyn Eisen	Fanny Fay Radzinsky
Louis Enchin	Beth Randolph
Abraham (Ab) Flatt	Helen Rosenbaum
Jerry Freeman	Abraham Rutman
Michael Garmaise	Arnold Somers
Bluma Gertner	Fern Sugarman
Mendel Good	Bernie Tishman
Shirley Grossman	Margaret Weinstein
Maxine Gourley	Evelyn Wolfe
Mel Himel	Allan Wolfson
Isaac Jesin	Mickey Zworth

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

Memorial Plaques

If you wish to honour the memory of a dear one, a fitting, traditional and dignified remembrance is through a memorial plaque and lamp. Each plaque, bearing the name and yahrtzeit date, is mounted on a bronze tablet in the Sanctuary. The lamp is lit on the Shabbat of the week of the yahrtzeit, on the day of the yahrtzeit, and on the four festivals during the year when Yizkor is recited. To order a memorial plaque, [click here](#) or contact our Ritual Director Lorne Hanick at 416-781-3514, ext. 240.

Everything we do Today is for Tomorrow

Beth Tzedec has many opportunities for members wishing to support our *tzedakah* initiatives. Honour the memory of a loved one by making a contribution to one of our funds or inscribing a siddur on a yahrtzeit. For a complete list of Synagogue funds, [click here](#) or call 416-781-3511.

If you are interested in leaving a legacy for the Congregation to name a special project, youth program or adult education seminar, I would be pleased to help you plan today for tomorrow. Email [Randy Spiegel](#) at 416-781-3514, ext. 211 to discuss these opportunities in confidence.

APEX

KOSHER CATERING

SOUPS & APPETIZERS

<input type="checkbox"/>	QTY	Butternut Squash and Pear Soup \$16 per litre (serves 4)
<input type="checkbox"/>		Chicken Noodle Soup with Brunoise of Carrot, Celery, Onion and Diced Chicken \$20 per litre (serves 4)
<input type="checkbox"/>		Clear Chicken Soup \$12 per litre (serves 4)
<input type="checkbox"/>		Matzah Balls \$2 per piece
<input type="checkbox"/>		Sweet Gefilte Fish With Red Beet Horseradish \$4 per 4oz portion
<input type="checkbox"/>		Salt and Pepper Gefilte Fish With Red Beet Horseradish \$4 per 4oz portion

SALAD

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed Green Salad with Orange, Grapefruit, Mandarin Segments, Sweet Pickled Heirloom Carrots, Honey Berry Dressing \$6 per portion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Baby Spinach Salad With Roasted Red and Golden Beets, Balsamic Vinaigrette \$6 per portion

SIDES/STARCH

<input type="checkbox"/>	Herb Garlic Crisp Potato with Garlic Chimichurri \$5 per portion (6oz. portions)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Potato Kugel \$14 per pan (7" x 4")
<input type="checkbox"/>	Apple Kugel \$16 per pan (7" x 4")
<input type="checkbox"/>	Herb Sautéed Mixed Vegetables \$5 per portion (6oz. portions)

SEDER SET MENU

☐ **\$40 per person Minimum 2 Servings**

Seder Set Menu includes:

- Chicken Noodle Matzah Ball Soup
- Baby Spinach Salad with Roasted Red and Golden Beets, Balsamic Vinaigrette
- Pan Seared Chicken Supreme Served with Mango Peach Salsa with Au Jus
- Herb Crisp Potato with Garlic Chimichurri
- Sautéed Mixed Vegetables
- Choice of Individual Dessert - frozen lemon cake and flourless chocolate cake

Passover Menu 2021 | 5781

Email Orders to passover@apexkoshercatering.com
All Orders Must be Received by Sunday March 21st, 2021
Available for Pick-Up From 10AM to 1PM on Friday, March 26th, 2021

MAINS

<input type="checkbox"/>	QTY	Pan Seared Chicken Supreme Served with Mango Peach Salsa and Au Jus \$18 per portion
<input type="checkbox"/>		Citrus Glazed Salmon Served with Citrus Pomegranate Salsa \$22 per 8 oz portion
<input type="checkbox"/>		Montreal Spiced Braised Brisket Served with Au Jus \$30 per 8oz portion

ADDITIONAL

<input type="checkbox"/>	Cajun Spiced Chicken Leg Quarters \$12 for 2 pieces	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25 for 6 pieces
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chicken Fingers with Ketchup and Plum Sauce \$30 per dozen		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crispy Chicken Wings with Smokey BBQ Sauce \$24 per dozen		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charoset \$15 per 500 ml		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seder Plate \$20 per plate		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Beet Horseradish \$7.50 per 250 ml		

INDIVIDUAL DESSERTS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Frozen Lemon Cake \$7 per piece
<input type="checkbox"/>	Flourless Chocolate Cake \$6 per piece

CLIENT INFORMATION

Name _____
Address _____
Phone # (____) ____ - ____ Date ____ / ____ / ____
Email _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☐ CREDIT CARD
Credit Card # _____
Expiry Date ____ / ____ CCV _____
☐ E-TRANSFER: m@apexkoshercatering.com
Password: Provided after order confirmation

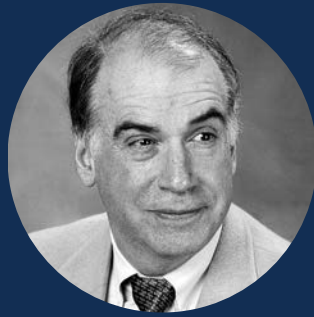
PICK UP/DELIVERY

☐ Beth Tzedec ☐ Beth Emeth
☐ Delivery

THE SAM & SARAH KERZNER AND JOSEPH KERZNER
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL INSTITUTE
GUEST SCHOLAR

Professor Stephen Berk

Our People Are Your People: American Jews and the Struggle for Civil Rights



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7 AT 7:45 PM

Professor Stephen Berk will address the point of intersection between the American Civil Rights movement and the American Jewish community. Pre-registration required.

In keeping with current Public Health and physical distancing recommendations, this program will be offered via Zoom. Pre-registration is required in order to receive the link information. You can do so by clicking [here](#).



בית צדק
Beth Tzedec Congregation

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