

Wishing you a happy and healthy new year!

*Shanah Tovah!*

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# HOT TOPICS!

Our “Hot Topics!” are always a highlight of the High Holy Day experience at Beth Tzedec. Since we continue to be mindful of Public Health recommendations regarding physical distancing and safe gathering practices, we will continue to offer our Hot Topics! sessions via Zoom.

Be sure to mark your calendar and join us for one or all of these engaging and informative learning opportunities.



## Environmentally Aware with Dr. Tareq Abu Hamed Sunday, September 12 10:00 AM

Dr. Tareq Abu Hamed, academic director of the Arava Institute, and Reb Steve Wernick discuss environmental issues and the Arava Institute's work and membership.

As this new year is a *shmita* year cycle, the Torah directs our attention to the environment, the wealth gap and our spiritual well-being. With people coming from all over the world to the Arava Institute to learn about the environment, join Reb Steve and Dr. Hamed to see how the Arava Institute creates opportunities for co-existence between Arabs and Jews, Israelis and Palestinians and others.

A short question & answer period will follow.

To register, click [here](https://www.beth-tzedec.org) or visit [www.beth-tzedec.org](https://www.beth-tzedec.org).



## REDI, Set, Go: Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion with Leah Mauer and Nicole Yuen Monday, September 13 7:45 PM

Join members of the new anti-Racism, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Committee at Beth Tzedec to hear about some of the work we're starting to do in our Congregation.

We'll be highlighting the lived experiences of some Beth Tzedec members and talking about some of the work our group is starting to undertake for our *kehillah*. This panel will be facilitated by Leah Mauer and Nicole Yuen, co-chairs of the REDI Committee.

To register, click [here](https://www.beth-tzedec.org) or visit [www.beth-tzedec.org](https://www.beth-tzedec.org).



## The Neshama Hospice with Debbie Berlin, Robert Kamen and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin Tuesday, September 14 7:45 PM

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin will join Debbie Berlin and Rob Kamen, Founders, Board Secretary and Director of Operations at Neshama Hospice. They will discuss the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on end-of-life care and on planning for Neshama Hospice, and explore how the Face to Face work of hospice care is a critical component of end-of-life care.

To register, click [here](https://www.beth-tzedec.org) or visit [www.beth-tzedec.org](https://www.beth-tzedec.org).

All Hot Topics! sessions will be offered via Zoom. Pre-registration will be required to access the link information.

**BT»ALLACCESS**

The Beth Tzedec Centre for  
Spiritual Well-Being



Rabbi Steven Wernick

*As we have begun to reintegrate into physical community, Rosh Hashanah represents our communal renewal, our opportunity to once again celebrate Judaism panim el panim with our “whole being”—head, heart, hand and feet.*

## With Your Whole Being

The Medizbozer Rebbe said, “During the High Holy Days in the month of Tishrei a Jew serves God with their whole being: on Rosh Hashanah, the Day of Remembrance with their brain, since the memory enwreathes the mind; on Yom Kippur with their heart, since fasting strains the heart; on Sukkot with their hands, as they grasp the etrog and lulav; and on Simhat Torah with their feet, when they parade in the *hakafot* (circuits) and dance with the Torah.”

The celebrations in the month of Tishrei are an embodied experience. We encounter God's presence fully—head, heart, hand and feet. Moreover, during Sukkot we literally enter the Sukkah and are enveloped in the experience of its symbolism.

When we reflect on our COVID-19 experience these last 18 months, we are thankful that as a community we have been able to encounter God with most of our being. We've exercised our minds through learning. We've felt the weight of our hearts' longings and desires through prayer and remained connected virtually and spiritually. We've grasped ritual objects in celebration of the holy days and Shabbat. We've taken walks together. We've cared for each other. We've done our best to inspire and enable each other to live meaningful Jewish lives.

But as Tishrei rolls around again; we know how much we've missed actually being together. As meaningful as all we've accomplished during COVID-19 is, the “whole being” experience of being together, *panim el panim*—face to face—just hasn't been possible. We've spent far too much time alone, separated from the embodied experiences of shaking hands, hugging and kissing.

Though I have been blessed to have Jody and Hannah at home, it was ten months before I was in my daughter Alana's presence (she is studying in Indiana and worked in New York this summer). And it will be almost two years since I have been in my daughter Ziva's (who made *aliyah* shortly after we arrived in 2019) presence. She's been so strong during this. Jody and I couldn't be prouder.

But that one moment in which she cried out over WhatsApp that she really only wanted a hug, and we couldn't give it, still reverberates in my soul. I feel the loss in my body, just as I felt the excitement of holding Alana recently in my body, too. And for Ziva, I am overcome with anticipation to hold her again this October.

All of us, each of us, have similar stories to tell. God willing, we are at the end of it and are emerging more sensitive and





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

Beth Tzedec provides a welcoming environment for all. We are an accessible (with elevators, ramps, accessible washrooms, hearing assistive devices, etc.) and inclusive space for all. We are also a fragrance-free facility and encourage everyone to refrain from wearing scented products (perfumes, detergents, lotions, etc.) when visiting our spaces.

CONTINUED Rabbi Steven Wernick

appreciative of the people who are in our lives and the importance of physical contact and human intimacy.

As we have begun to reintegrate into physical community, Rosh Hashanah represents our communal renewal, our opportunity to once again celebrate Judaism *panim el panim* with our “whole being”—head, heart, hand and feet. We recognize that not everyone will be ready to meet in-person, yet. So we will continue to offer both in-person and online community experiences. We will meet each person literally where they are, to care, connect, learn, pray, celebrate and give & get to make our lives more meaningful through shared Jewish values and lived experiences.

May this New Year be one of sweetness, love, compassion and community. I can't wait to see you!

Shanah Tovah!



Debbie Rothstein

*While Zoom has been a lifesaver for all of us over the last 18 months, it simply does not replace human interaction.*

## Panim El Panim: Connection In Its Truest Form

As I sat down to write this article, I looked back at what I wrote prior to last year's High Holy Days. At that time, we all thought that we were seeing the light at the end of the tunnel of the pandemic. Little did we know that we would be facing a second and third wave, and that life as we had come to know it would be shut down once again.

For me, in a strange way, the second and third waves were even more difficult than the first. Last summer, we had that small taste of freedom, albeit in our social bubbles. When we were forced back into lockdown, I found that I was craving connection more than ever, longing to be face-to-face with other people. While Zoom has been a lifesaver for all of us over the last 18 months, it simply does not replace human interaction.

Our mission at Beth Tzedec is to inspire and enable our community to lead meaningful Jewish lives. We bring our mission to life through our six values—**Care**, **Connect**, **Pray**, **Learn**, **Celebrate** and **Give & Get**. Over the course of the pandemic, we have come to realize that one value literally touches and envelops the other five— **Connect**.

Thousands of phone calls have been made to check in on our members' well-being. The calls were a way to show that we care, but what we found was that for the recipients, the connection was what was most important. Since Daily Minyan moved to Zoom in March 2020, we have seen record attendance. While *daveners* were there to pray, many were also there for a daily dose of interaction and connection. We connected when

we came together to learn, whether it was in a Daily Tanakh class or a Stephen Berk lecture. So many of us have connected as we came together to celebrate Zoom *b'nei mitzvah* or backyard weddings. And when we **'give & get'** through social action initiatives such as Out of the Cold, we connect to those most vulnerable among us, those who need human interaction most of all.

It is in the spirit of connection that our High Holy Day theme this year is *Panim el Panim*—Face to Face. This year, it's likely that more of us will be together at shul on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur than last year but still not at full capacity. Regardless of vaccination rates, it may take time for many to feel comfortable together in large numbers.

I for one look forward to greeting people with a hug at Shabbat services and kiddush, to once again sit and schmooze over a breakfast of Nash's fried eggs and tomatoes after Daily Minyan or even to simply have an Executive or Board meeting *panim el panim*. In the end, it's all about the connection that comes from being face to face.

Tonight, I will have Shabbat dinner with most of my extended family. There will be 14 of us around the table, all double-vaccinated, eagerly anticipating the love and laughter that comes with us being together as a family. *Panim el Panim*—Face to Face. May we all come together as a Beth Tzedec family, in-person, very soon.

*Shanah Tovah U'metukah and G'mar Hatimah Tovah*—wishing you and your families a year filled with good health, happiness, love, laughter and connection.







## Conversations Over Coffee

with Rabbi Steven Wernick

**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.

### UPCOMING SESSIONS:

**August 30:** Hon. Carolyn Bennett

**September 13:** Debbie Rothstein

**September 30:** Steve Skurka

**October 4:** Gil Troy

**November 1:** Dr. Shuly Rubin Schwartz

## Wave Hello to Sukkot!

Participate in the mitzvah of shaking the lulav and etrog!  
Order your families set at Beth Tzedec.

For information or to order a lulav set, please contact the  
Synagogue office at [416-781-3511](tel:416-781-3511) or [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).



Randy Spiegel

*It was a shehehiyanu moment as we entered our kid's house, grandkids leaping into our arms with shrieks and lots of happy tears. A hug never felt so good!*

## Seeing the Other Side

I will admit that I struggled about what to write for this *Bulletin*. I thought much about the journey of B'nei Yisrael in the desert, their future so uncertain. What must it have taken to maintain hope that with every step away from the past, there would be better days ahead? Though very different, we are on our own journey, forward past the time of COVID to better days when we can see each other's smiles, give and get hugs and lift our voices in song and prayer.

Early on as debates raged about which vaccine is the best, my doctor declared, "the best vaccine is the one you can get as soon as possible." When the opportunity came, we ran to get the first jab. When the supply lines opened and we got our second dose, we felt like we had taken a giant leap towards normalcy.

It had been more than a year since I'd been with my mom and we welcomed two new grandsons but had held them only briefly. We desperately missed family who live close and those who live in Silver Spring, Maryland.

With our shots, we began to feel like we could see the other side. And that other side is now within reach. We jumped on a plane the first chance we could and flew to Washington.

Leaving Pearson was like leaving a cocoon. Arriving at Dulles airport, we entered the terminal and a totally different world. Shops were open, every seat in every lounge was taken, there were people dining and laughing and there was no such a thing as physical distancing. There we were, double masked and trying to stay away from everyone, fearful, yet hopeful, for what lay ahead.

We took (as my mother calls it) "the Yuber" to our kids place, the driver, proudly declaring "I'm double vaxed"! We kept the windows open. It was all surreal.

It was a shehehiyanu moment as we entered our kids' house, grandkids leaping into our arms with shrieks and lots of happy tears. A hug never felt so good! My daughter ripped off my mask—"Welcome to Kemp Mill! You are good now".





We spent five days on what felt like the other side of life. In Washington, the infection rate is incredibly low and the double vaccination rate is wonderfully high. In Kemp Mill, the community where our kids live, everyone who is eligible, is double vaxed. Life was (almost) normal.

We went essential shopping (Trader Joe's) but mostly we just talked and squeeze-hugged and spent time, face to face. We saw maskless faces and actual smiles. We tickled toes, read books with kids on our laps and for the first time in so long, I had a restful sleep. I walked to shul holding my grandson's hand the whole way.

Shabbat morning, we *davened* outside (I stood at the outer fringe of the minyan) with no mask. Our kids invited their friends over for kiddush to welcome us back to the world. Everyone agreed that reopening life was anything but easy or normal, but

wonderfully normal it was becoming. Returning home was stressful and complicated with tests and of course a 14-day quarantine. We joked how it felt like re-entering a different atmosphere, back into the cocoon. We have started to venture out more and more and finally, we spent Canada Day in person with mother.

It has been hardest on her and every day she asks me when the shul is reopening, when people are coming back, when she can go to Costco, when she can get "out of jail".

Mother has an inner strength that has carried her through the difficult and lonely times. She reminds me every day of the power of the human spirit and to thank God for the doctors, the scientists and everyone who has been fighting to carry each along this journey, a journey that will take us to the other side.

It is my prayer that we will never forget how important it is to lean on and gain strength from each other, just to get by.

May the New Year be one of health, enlightenment and may we share a wonderful Yom Tov season where we can all celebrate, face to face.



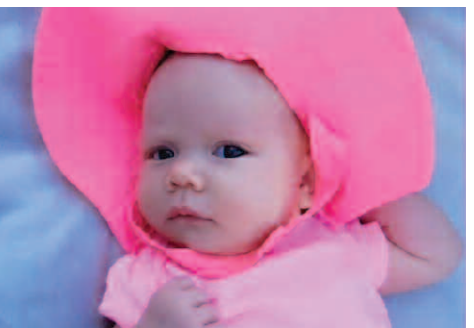
To make a gift that will strengthen our *kehillah* or assist those in our community, please contact me directly at 416-781-3514 ext. 211 or [rspiegel@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:rspiegel@beth-tzedec.org)

# Milestones and Celebrations

We can't share your good news unless you tell us about it. Send an email to [thumphries@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:thumphries@beth-tzedec.org) or call 416-781-3514, ext. 212. Deadline for the next *Bulletin* covering December through February is October 25.



## Births



**Zoey Cassandra**, daughter of Melanie & Kory Ross, granddaughter of Lee Finkelstein and Sheri Finkelstein, great-granddaughter of Irene & Al Nichol and Marilyn and the late Albert Finkelstein, **born March 30.**

**Ezra William**, son of Marla Rosenblatt-Worth Kuperhause & Philip Kuperhause, grandson of Shelley Rosenblatt and Harvey Worth & Arlene Grajcer, **born May 9.**

**Emma (Chaya Emunah)**, daughter of Elkah & Menachem Weiner (of Connecticut), great-granddaughter of Roslyn Verna, **born June 29.**

**Harlowe Bree**, daughter of Julie Klein & Will Miller, granddaughter of Donald & Alissa Klein and Martha & the late Harry Miller, great-granddaughter of Miriam Liberman, **born June 29.**



**Dr. Lauren Rotman**, daughter of Dr. Sheldon & Patti Rotman, who completed her residency in Neurosurgery at the University of Alabama Hospital. She will continue with a one-year fellowship at the Toronto Western Hospital followed by a second fellowship in New York City.

## Congratulations to

**Dr. Marvin & Frances Deitel**, who celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 18.

**Marilyn Gwartzman**, who celebrated her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday on June 14.

**Ben Osten**, son of Lisa Chodirker & Mark Osten, on reaching the age of mitzvah on October 28.

**Patti & Dr. Sheldon Rotman**, who celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on July 5.

**Sarah Silverberg**, daughter of Robin & Steve Silverberg, granddaughter of Honey & the late Irv<sup>z</sup> Milstein and Ruth & the late Willy Silverberg, and **Omri Arbiv**, son of Eli & Esti Arbiv, who were married August 1.

**Samahra Ariele Zatzman**, daughter of Belarie Hyman Zatzman & Marty Zatzman, granddaughter of Ruthie & Gurion<sup>z</sup> Hyman and Miram<sup>z</sup> & Mike<sup>z</sup> Zatzman (of Halifax), and **Ari Stephen Morgenthau**, son of Ruth & David Morgenthau, grandson of Shulamit<sup>z</sup> & Theodore<sup>z</sup> Vaskevitch and Lillian<sup>z</sup> & Murray<sup>z</sup> Morgenthau, on their engagement.



**Jonah Morris**, son of Sarah Troster & Josh Raizman, grandson of Line & Steven Troster and Adrian & Jack Raizman, great-grandson of Ruth Riesenbach, **born May 25.**

## Sharing Your Success!



You've studied and applied yourself for years and now have your hard-earned graduation certificate or diploma in hand. It's time to share your success.

Beth Tzedec will include a special section of high school and post-secondary graduation notices in the next edition of the *Bulletin*. Send your announcement to [thumphries@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:thumphries@beth-tzedec.org) with the graduate's name, parents' names, degree earned and university/college name. We'd also be happy to include a digital photo. Deadline for submissions is October 22.

# Israeli Dinner & Movie Night

## WITH THE SHINSHINIM

FOR KADIMA (GRADES 6 TO 8)

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13 AT 6:30 PM**

Come hang out with your friends and the Beth Tzedec Shinshinim for a fun Israeli falafel dinner and movie night. Cost: \$5 (includes dinner, movie and snacks).

Watch for registration and film information coming soon.



BTUSU and Kadima  
**SUKKOT PICKLE MAKING**  
 WITH PICKLE EXPERT MARTY STRUB  
 FOR GRADES 4 TO 12

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17 AT 4:00 PM**

The cucumbers and containers are finally ready and the time has now for our long-awaited pickle program! Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to make pickles with local pickle celebrity Marty Strub!

Cost: \$18 for Beth Tzedec members; \$25 for non-members (includes materials). Pre-registration required by September 10 to ensure adequate supplies are available for each.

To register, click [here](#) or visit [beth-tzedec.org](#).



# Mazal Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah

## WHO HAVE COMPLETED OUR BAR/BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM



September 2  
**Ryan Stein**  
 son of Richard Stein &  
 Cindy Lithwick  
 דוד בן יצחק הכהן ושרה



September 11  
**Joseph Gamus-Rayson**  
 son of Steven Rayson &  
 Elissa Gamus  
 יוסף בנימין בן דניאל  
 והינדה משא



September 18  
**Tatum Worth**  
 daughter of  
 Bradley Worth  
 & Siobhan Mitchell  
 חנה בת בנימין וסיון



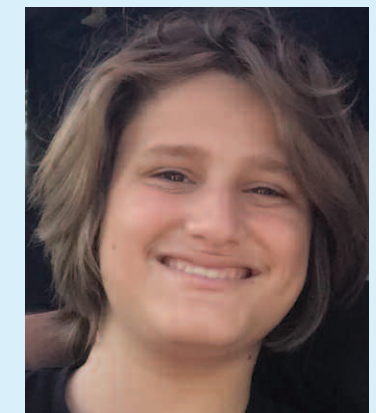
September 23  
**Isla Freeman**  
 daughter of Jonathan  
 Freeman & Cyrelle Muskat  
 חנה גולדה בת ניסן אברהם  
 וציריל אסתר



September 26  
**Ethan Flicht**  
 son of Rob Flicht &  
 Melannie Axler  
 איתן שמואל בן יצחק ומרים



October 7  
**Jesse Greenspoon**  
 son of Jay Greenspoon &  
 Risa Abrams-Greenspoon  
 ישי כובי בן יעקב דוד  
 ורבקה חוה



October 23  
**Jacob Lewis Pancer**  
 son of Lowell Pancer  
 & Dena Pollack  
 אליעזר יעקב בן יוסף יהודה לייב  
 ודינה

## SUSHI IN THE SUKKAH!

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 6:00 PM**

Kick off the year with friends and sushi in the sukkah! We will be making our own sushi, playing games and celebrating Sukkot together.

This program will be offered onsite in the Beth Tzedec sukkah. No charge, but pre-registration is required to ensure adequate physical distancing.

To register, click [here](#) or visit [beth-tzedec.org](#).



## Greetings from Sisterhood

The Beth Tzedec Sisterhood wishes everyone a healthy and happy new year and we look forward to meeting *panim el panim* soon.

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





# THE INSTITUTE OF JEWISH LEARNING

In memory of Anne and Max Tanenbaum



## Day Trips in Jewish History with Hana Werner

PART ONE  
Mondays, October 4, 18 & 25  
and November 1 & 8 at 1:30 PM

Educator Hana Werner delivers snapshots of the Biblical stories, scrolls and characters.

FALL SERIES THEME  
**Courageous Personalities,  
Visionary Leaders**  
October 4—**David and Goliath**  
October 11—**Ruth and Tamar**  
October 25—**Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkai**

November 1—**Ba'al Shem Tov**  
November 8—**Kings and Queens**

In keeping with current Public Health safety recommendations, this series will be offered via Zoom.

No charge; Pre-register via email to Avital Narvey.

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF  
CANTOR JOSEPH COOPER ז"ל



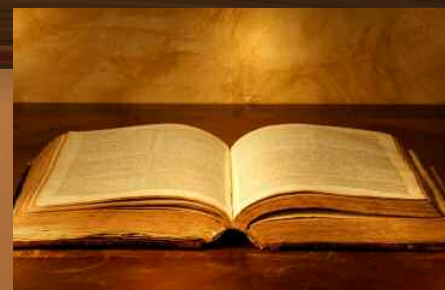
## Learn to Read Hebrew with Lorne Hanick

Monday evenings 7:45 PM

Ritual director Lorne Hanick leads this Zoom course in Hebrew reading for beginners and near-beginners who want to learn to read with fluency. Upon completion, students will be comfortable reading Hebrew at synagogue services and following the Torah reading. The emphasis will be on reading fluency but attention will also be paid to the vocabulary and grammar.

Sessions begin **October 4.**

For information or to pre-register, email Marni Turner-Serbin.



## Learn Talmud at Your Own Pace with Rabbi Steven Wernick

Monday evenings 7:30 PM

The study of *Talmud* can seem overwhelming. In this weekly Zoom series, we will learn at a slow and deliberate pace, studying a single page of *Talmud* each week with Shabbat designated for personal review. This fall we will study *Tractate Berakhot*, the very first tractate of the *Talmud*.

No previous experience is necessary and students are invited to participate and drop in to our *shiur* as they are available.

Sessions begin **November 1.**

For information or to pre-register, email Sheri Federman.



Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

What exactly is a belief or what do we mean when we say that we believe in something or someone?

## A Prayer and a Blessing

The poem *Vechol Ma'aminim*, part of the High Holy Day *Musaf* Service, was written by Yannai in the 7<sup>th</sup> century.

Here is an excerpt:

We believe that God is faithful.

We believe that God is good to all.

We believe that God responds even to our silent prayers.

We believe that God's arms are always open.

We believe that God's ways are perfect.

*Vechol Ma'aminim* incorporates repetition and the Hebrew is not so difficult. Countless melodies have been created for it. While it might be easy to sing, it is one of the more challenging pieces of the High Holy Day liturgy.

One challenge is that we might not all agree on what it means to believe. What exactly is a belief or what do we mean when we say that we believe in something or someone? I definitely believe I have a hand because I can see it. That is not the same kind of belief I have that one day I will return to Israel or that the Messiah will come. One belief is certain because I have proof. The other is a belief based on hope and faith. Therefore, right from the start, this poem is challenging because an ambiguous term is repeated throughout.

A second challenge is that I am not so sure that these "we believe" statements are true for everyone at every moment of every day. Countless people's silent prayers have been left unanswered. Many people would find it easy to admit that God has not always been good to them or the people they love. While my steadfast belief in God never waivers, I sometimes have moments of doubt in who or what God is and can do.

My colleague Rabbi Julia Andelman asks, what does it mean to sing *Vechol Ma'aminim* and similar texts knowing that there are people around you whose faith waivers? Who sometimes doubt God's omnipotence or goodness or very existence?

We all know it has not been an easy time as a Jew or a citizen of this planet. Between natural disasters, human error, racism, hate and the pandemic, it is remarkable that so many of us are still able to thrive and grow and remain standing. With so many stumbling blocks placed in our way to living simple lives, it is challenging to read this poetic prayer as a literal declaration of belief this year. It might even be painful for some to say the words out loud.

*Vechol Ma'aminim* is just one example of High Holy Day liturgy found in the *mahzor* that make firm statements about God. I am concerned that in this era of the prevalence of cancel culture, the *mahzor* will alienate people instead of bringing them closer, *panim el panim*, to God and to the Jewish community.

Over the years my approach to this particular poem has evolved. Currently, I am approaching it as aspirational and hopeful. In this upcoming new year, I hope that God is faithful, good to all, responds even to our silent prayers and has eternal open arms. And I hope that God's ways will be perfect.

As all translations are interpretations, this year when we reach the moment to sing *Vechol Ma'aminim* at *Musaf*, I will translate the words *vechol ma'aminim* as we hope instead of we believe. This is not heresy or even a stretch, as hope is a theme of this season. Every day in Psalm 27 we say place your hope in Adonai. Be strong, take courage and place your hope in Adonai.

That is my prayer and blessing you for this new year. Let us make sense of the messiness and discover light in the darkness. Let us renew our relationship with the Almighty and hope with all our might that God will be there to guide us through whatever comes our way.

*Shanah Tovah!*





SAVE THE DATE !

# STILL BRAVELY SINGING

## A CONCERT OF REMEMBRANCE AND HOPE

**Thursday, November 11 at 7:00 PM**

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber, a small vocal ensemble and special guests for a concert of reflection, remembrance and hope.

Watch for more details coming soon.



# Hanukkah Modul8

with Cantor Sidney Ezer  
and Asher Farber

**November 28 through December 5  
uploaded each evening at 7:00 PM**

Let's modul8 between a variety of musical genres and styles as we celebr8 Hanukkah through song! Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber will captiv8 you as they post and integr8 new videos to the Beth Tzedec Facebook page and YouTube channel every night of the holiday.



Cantor Sidney Ezer

*Individuals unite by singing. Through the process of making music, we expand the openness within us to welcome divine resonance.*

## Musical and Human Harmony

By the time you read this, Beth Tzedec, in collaboration with Koolulam, will have released an inspiring music video, in time for Rosh Hashanah. Members of our *kehillah* were invited to perform the classic song "True Colors". Koolulam specializes in bringing together large groups of people, in person or online, with the idea that musical harmony can inspire harmony in humanity.

Individuals unite by singing. Through the process of making music, we expand the openness within us to welcome divine resonance. In Jewish history, the harp was the instrument which accomplished this. The harp, with its calm, harmonious tones and pleasant timbre, encourages a sense of softness and openness. Its outstanding feature is its capacity for harmony. The harp allows many strings to vibrate together with a beautiful resonance. It did not just make musical harmony, but it also came to symbolize the dream of harmony between people as well.

Over the summer we marked the solemn occasion of Tishah B'Av. We recalled the tragic mourning echoed in Psalm 137. The sentiments in this psalm appear all too familiar in our current reality.

COVID-19 as the new tormentor which has required us to sing songs in a foreign, virtual, live-streamed land of Zoom or of plexiglass. With the destruction of the Temple, we lost our lyres. They were hung up in the willow trees or carefully hidden until Messianic times. Several folktales even recount epic journeys to find the holy harps we left behind. We are still waiting to rediscover our old harps.

This past year, although virtually, we instituted some inspiring musical

programming. "Mizmor Monthly" explored many Jewish musical themes and genres, one for every month of the Jewish calendar. We participated in a virtual Hanukkah concert with other Toronto congregations. For Shabbat Shirah, members of Beth Tzedec and B'nai Torah Congregation in Boca Raton, Florida came together for a meaningful and personal Havdalah service on Zoom, after which I and Cantor Magda Fishman concluded Shabbat with songs of hope and perseverance. For Purim, Asher Farber and I presented the "Purim Variations" where we demonstrated the special musical traditions and practices in reading *Megillat Esther* and sang a few joyous Purim songs.

Other musical events included a Yom Hashoah concert in partnership with the Miles Nadal JCC, the Lag BaOmer Kumzitz and Kabbalat Shabbat service, our Celebrate 1967: Honouring Jerusalem program with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin, where we expressed thanks for Jerusalem through song, gratitude practice and a virtual Kotel. More recently was "Kinot Connect". Each day, we introduced a pre-recorded clip of a different sorrowful liturgical poem on the nine days leading up to Tishah B'Av. Culminating on Tishah B'Av itself, we gathered virtually to learn and sing some of these dirges together.

With the gradual reopening and process of recovery, we are finally beginning to see the light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel where we, the harp of Israel, can come together in person to create divine harmony. As our harp grows to include more and more strings, look for more exciting musical opportunities at Beth Tzedec.





# Outdoor Shofar Blowing and Tashlikh

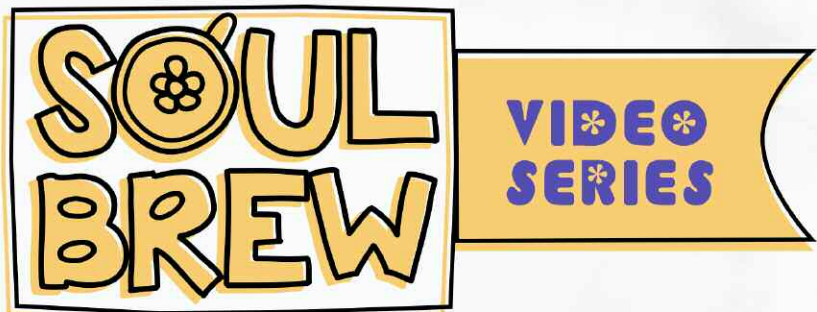
Tuesday, September 7 at 3:00 PM and 4:00 PM

Join Daniel Silverman or Reb Steve for an outdoor shofar blowing after which each group will walk to the Cedarvale Ravine to perform the ritual of Tashlikh, symbolically casting our sins into the river. Bring bread to toss into the river!

For the 4:00 PM session, participants must pre-register and provide proof of COVID vaccination. Full details available on the registration page.



Cedarvale Park with Daniel Silverman at 3:00 PM;  
Beth Tzedec Parking Lot with Reb Steve at 4:00 PM; [Register here>>](#)



with Rabbi Rosenbluth

August 29 to September 3 9:00 AM

Percolate your mind, body and soul in the theme of “Panim el Panim: Face to Face— Reflections on human engagements during and post COVID” as we journey through the month of Elul with voices from around the world. Enjoy introspection and inspiration leading to the High Holy Days with a daily series of 15-minute videos and a series of artists, thinkers and leaders from Beth Tzedec and across the globe.

Find the series on YouTube [here>>](#)  
Find the series on Facebook [here>>](#)

Share the results of your personal soul brew on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, using the hashtag [#btsoulbrew](#).



**BT>>ALL ACCESS**  
Celebration of the High Holy Days



Yacov Fruchter

As you enter the shul,  
I invite you to let  
your eyes wander  
with wonder a bit  
more, to allow the  
exchange of smiles  
to linger longer, and  
to view those who  
share space with  
you with more love,  
compassion and  
curiosity.



# Re-Committing to Community

Said R’ Shmuel bar Nachmani: “In the hour when the Holy One created the first human, God created the first human with a double-face, then God split the first human in two and made them backs.” *Genesis Rabbah* 8:1

Imagine the scene... A rabbi is addressing the soon to be married couple as part of their *bedekin* ceremony.

The two individuals are standing back-to-back, they feel the other’s warmth as they fill with love, hope and anticipation as they are on the cusp of entering their *huppah* and committing to spending the rest of their lives together.

The rabbi reads them the above *midrash*, reminding them that they are like one body and at the same time each has their own face, their own mind, their own desires and their own soul.

The rabbi asks them to close their eyes and picture the faces of their parents, grandparents and as far back as they can go in their family lineage. They are then asked to imagine their family in the future: the kids they hope to have, and their partners in various stages of maturity.

The lovers are invited to open their eyes and to turn around when they are ready, and to look face to face, deep into the eyes of their *besheret*—the one who completes them.

At that moment, they see each other fully, with raw vulnerability and see themselves reflected in the eyes of their beloved. They are back in the Garden of Eden.



Many people shared with me that they can’t wait to get back to normal and to be with other people. I share this desire to trade in a virtual community for an in-person one and also pray that things will be different.

As we enter the High Holy Day season and are met with the opportunity to come together face to face, we know that things will not be the same.

Many of the faces that we are used to seeing in the synagogue or around our tables will be missing. Some departed the world this year and others are sick or not yet comfortable to be in such a public space. We will spend some time mourning together this year, as we pray that those who are able will feel safe to join us again soon. We also know that we will likely still be masked as we gather indoors.

Yet, we must remember that we have a beautiful opportunity to make things different for the better. As you enter the shul, I invite you to let your eyes wander with wonder a bit more, to allow the exchange of smiles to linger longer, and to view those who share space with you with more love, compassion and curiosity.

I also invite you to make the choice this year to increase the number and intensity of the caring relationships that we have in our lives and in the shul community. The Spiritual Leadership, Staff and Lay Leadership have tried our best to keep you feeling connected and cared for.

Many of you chose to find meaningful ways to care for others or engage in experiences like *BT Small Groups*, the *Loss in the Time of COVID* group and the weekly *L’Chaim*. Many of these opportunities will continue and new ones will be offered.

Perhaps not quite like the lovers described above, but I pray that we will emerge from this time with a renewed desire and ability to see one face to face, to be moved by the beauty of humanity that we are witnessing.



# Family Sukkot EXTRAVAGANZA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 AT 11:00 AM

Join us in the Beth Tzedec Sukkah as we celebrate the holiday of Sukkot and see each other Face to Face after a long time apart. This program will be offered in the Beth Tzedec parking lot. Pre-registration and proof of vaccination required. Email Daniel Silverman at [dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org).



## NOTABLE SPEAKERS

Presented with the Jewish Grandparents Network

Wednesdays afternoons at 1:00 PM

We're taking a closer look at the interests, attitudes and aspirations of today's grandparents, with findings from the National Study of Jewish Grandparents. Look through this rich and revealing window into the minds of contemporary grandparents and explore the nature of grandparent/grandchild relationships through this series of informative and inspiring stories about, by and for grandparents.

### FALL SERIES

**October 13**  
Learning from the First National Study of Jewish Grandparents with David Raphael

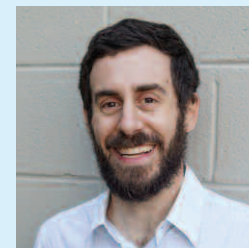
**October 20**  
The Making of a Mensch: The Crucial Role of Grandparents with Jane Isay

**November 3**  
Family Stories and Grandchildren's Emotional Wellbeing with Marshall Duke

**November 11**  
Joy and Complications: Today's New Jewish Families with Shira Concool & Derrick Ashong



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



Daniel Silverman

*The High Holy Days are as close as we get to encountering God. This period is a mix of emotions and actions: penance, fear, optimism, celebration, focus, appreciation, forgiveness, gathering in community and more.*

## The Days of Awe

It was only two years ago—though it seems like a lifetime ago—that Beth Tzedec hosted some of the stars and one of the co-creators of *Shtisel* for a pre-*Selihot* program. Hundreds came to hear about the show's creative process and the thematic connections between *Shtisel* and the High Holy Days. After the program, I was fortunate to have a few minutes to chat with Ayelet Zurer (Mrs. Rotstein) and Neta Riskin (Giti Weiss) while they were waiting for their car to return them to their hotel. Neta asked me what the *Selihot* Service was, and I briefly explained, in Hebrew, that it was the opening service and experience of the High Holy Days.

The Hebrew term I used for the High Holy Days is *Yamim Nora'im*, usually translated as Days of Awe; however, in modern Hebrew the word *Nora* translates to 'terrible'. In an amazing moment of two people speaking past each other, even while speaking the same language, Neta looked at me and said, earnestly and in English, "What is so terrible about Rosh Hashanah?"

What does it mean to be in awe? Awe, or in Hebrew, *Yir'ah*, is a challenging word to define. It carries a blend of emotions and characteristics and is used and translated differently depending on the context. In *Genesis*, Jacob awakens from his dream of angels ascending and descending the ladder to heaven and exclaims *Ma Nora Ha'Makom Ha'Zeh*, "how awesome/amazing is this place". In *Deuteronomy*, Moses instructs his successor Joshua *Lo Tira V'Lo Techat*, "do not fear and do not be dismayed".

Throughout the Bible, the word can mean amazement, fear, excitement and trepidation. One unifying characteristic is that the word is almost exclusively used in the context of an encounter with God. I can imagine that such an experience needs multiple words or meanings of the same word to describe.

The High Holy Days are as close as we get to encountering God. This period is a mix of emotions and actions: penance, fear, optimism, celebration, focus, appreciation, forgiveness, gathering in community and more. We are made to feel a bit mixed up, a bit complicated as we engage in the important work of goal-setting, self-reflection and acknowledging that we are but tiny mortals standing before God. A sense of awe indeed!

This year, we are filled with extra awe. We are in awe of healthcare and frontline workers who have spent 18 gruelling, dangerous months taking care of the sick and helping society continue to run. We are in awe of the science and scientists to create vaccines against COVID-19 in such a short time. We are in awe of the logistics required for us to exit lockdown with vaccines in arms.

We are also in awe of how quickly our world changed, how COVID-19 exposed many fault lines in our society. We are in awe of a virus's ability to mutate, adapt, infect and kill. We are in awe of which jobs could easily pivot to work-from-home and which required people to continue to attend work and risk exposure to COVID-19.

These High Holy Days, the Days of Awe that we are experiencing together now are remarkable in so many ways. We celebrate the triumphs of science; raise up the bravery of medical staff and frontline workers; mourn the deaths and economic pain experienced by many; struggle with the mental health impacts of lockdowns, online schooling and work-from-home.

There have certainly been terrible days in the recent past. Let us challenge ourselves and each other, though, to make this a year not of terribleness, but of awe, balancing our fears and our sense of wonder and possibility.





David Grossman

*Like every job, there are tough times—usually related to deadlines—and those that fall under the title of satisfaction. Even, occasions for a few chuckles.*

## Putting Words into Motion

One of the most important skills in life is the ability to communicate effectively.

Intelligence, understanding and competence, along with ingenuity and experience, have lots to do with delivering a clear and concise message. While some take a transmission and articulation of thoughts for granted, it can be a challenge for others. Often, a range of skills and abilities can be factors in the delivery.

All that is food for thought. And so, when Toronto's Beth Tzedec Congregation needs to inform its members, and often goes one step beyond, Canada's largest conservative synagogue turns to an effective delivery system.

It's called the "Bulletin".

While given a simple name, often referred to as the official voice and dissemination of news from an organization, it's something that doesn't happen with the flick of a few fingers. Putting together a publication requires a capable and competent individual, who is also a committed professional that devotes unlimited hours in a quest to produce a top-notch item.

Easy said, always tough to accomplish.

Some would compare the task to that of an editor with proficiency in artistry, knowledge and the wisdom to handle stress, anxiety and everything else thrown in.

Others might just say it's the work of a magician—especially since the finished product, with submissions from a variety of individuals, ends up with a partnership contribution that includes professional assistance from a graphic designer and a writer/copy editor.

Let's not forget about the late editorial additions requiring a domino effect in design changes.

Beth Tzedec's *Bulletin*, which has ranged in size from the early days of a few pages to a recent 60-page colorful expose of news, highlights, notices, words of wisdom from clergy, and so much more, also contains a variety of photos and graphics.

Clearly capable of winning special awards for a North American synagogue publication, the irony is that no one has ever put this publication forward for such an honor. The award, to many, are the comments from those who read it.

Taking a great deal of pride for the *Bulletin*, is a woman one would describe as a connoisseur of communications. She's a person who knows how to express reality and intelligence in a special way.

There is much more that can be said to accentuate the specialty and ingenuity, brilliance and flair shown by Terri Humphries, who has contributed so

much to the life and prosperity of the synagogue. The *Bulletin* goes beyond, thanks to something called the internet, which catches the attention of many in Jewish communities beyond the synagogue's home on Bathurst Street.

Humphries is the pulse behind the preparation and production of a publication that many, many years back, was a photo-copied piece of paper. Later, it became a glossy and slick couple of pages with black and white photos.

Presented with an opportunity to utilize her experience and skills, Humphries is the tenacious individual known by the Beth Tzedec staff. The majority of synagogue members likely need to learn her important job and what goes in to producing the publication.

The irony is that Humphries inherited the job. Looking for work, she came to Beth Tzedec in 1998. A temporary agency she had gone to for assistance told the then 32-year-old that a synagogue in Toronto was in need of someone to help in its congregational school office, the youth department and with young families.

"I had worked in music management publicity and promotion and was looking for something to do," said Humphries, who had lots of experience editing magazines. "I went to an agency to get some assistance and learned that Beth Tzedec had a four-month job and needed someone with organizational and administrative experience."

She took it.

The experience of working at a synagogue in Toronto was all new for a woman who ended up commuting five days a week, from her home in Guelph. (She still does.)

For her, it was a job and one that was supposed to be temporary. Humphries had even shared that with Dr. Daniel

Goldberg, then the Director of Education and the one who had initially hired her. The job was extended a few months longer. Then came the need for administrative assistance required by former Executive Director Sheldon Maerov.

And so, she made the adjustment. Time passed and Humphries had determined that she was done with office work and wanted to move on. But things kept changing, positions were altered, and people with decision-making authority had witnessed her huge contribution. That's when Randy Spiegel, Beth Tzedec's current Executive Director asked Humphries if she was interested in handling various Communications tasks.

"There was a time when I had enough of the administrative job and quit," said Humphries. "The synagogue came back and said they needed help in communications and with the (*Bulletin*). I had the skills and saw a new challenge and went for it."

Experience, indeed. She had been an editorial assistant with three magazines at Norris Whitney Communications and worked in advertising with Ogilvy and Mather, one of the largest advertising and creative marketing companies in the world.

Twenty-three years later after walking in the Beth Tzedec entrance for the first time, Humphries is Beth Tzedec's Production Manager, a key communications role of keeping people informed. At one time, a normal work week for her at the synagogue was 65 hours. Humphries was overloaded and a re-structuring occurred that worked to her satisfaction.

Like every job, there are tough times—usually related to deadlines—and those that fall under the title of satisfaction. Even, occasions for a few chuckles.

"When you're responsible for a publication, you do get mail from all over and once I received a letter from a publishing company in New York addressed to Rabbi Terri Humphries," said Humphries, who is not Jewish.

While Humphries enjoys photography and nature, periodically bows to favorites of dark chocolate and wine, and loves music (a huge fan of the Tragically Hip), she is not one to brag about personal achievement. In fact, it's quite the opposite as she singles out the efforts of Jason Pivovitsch and Linda Marleny Dow.

Pivovitsch is the master behind the graphics design of the *Bulletin* and Marleny Dow, examining story after story for editing, is the Manager of Marketing and Communications.

"The *Bulletin* came out pre-1960s, much smaller and often very generic in content," said Humphries. "I saw my role to make positive changes and to engage members. I offered up new ideas and more that we could do including a new design. There was no point putting out something that members would not read."

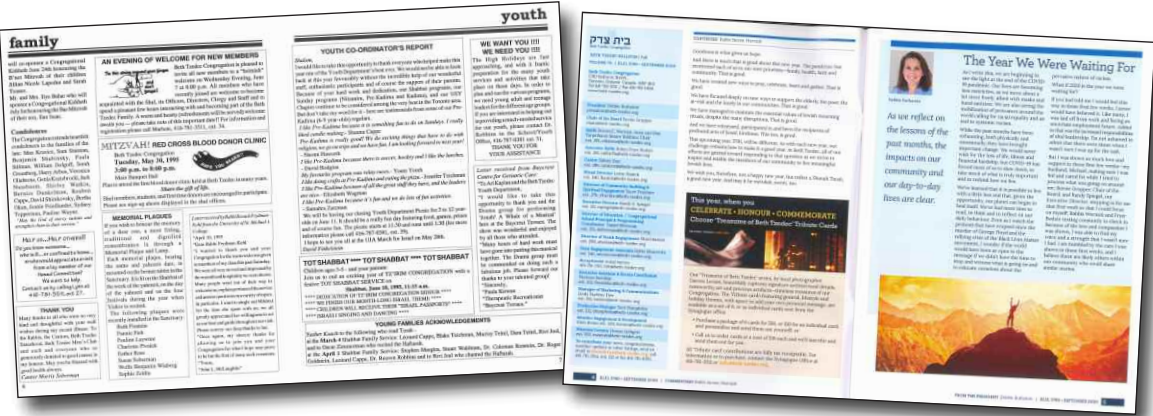
Now, the *Bulletin*—averaging 48 to 52 pages—is in demand. Appearing four times a year, the pandemic has been a factor in it appearing via digital e-mail with a circulation of more than 2,400. The first digital edition was before the 2020 High Holy Days.

Technology and the internet have added to readership. Once it was posted on-line, readership of the *Bulletin* grew with readers around the world. Discussions are occurring about possible advertising that could contribute to offsetting costs.

"We're still printing a few hundred copies because there is always a demand for the printed version and we have to be accommodating,"







she said. “I know (the Bulletin) has come a long way since I started, and I have learned a great deal about Judaism.”

A graduate in Communications Studies from the University of Windsor, Humphries studied at the Harris Institute for the Arts, which is an internationally recognized leader in audio and music industry education. She worked in the advertising, music management, and music/entertainment publishing fields.

“My experience from the past prepared me for what I do now,” said Humphries. “I saw something and wondered, why do we have to go with a photocopy item that resembles a not-for-profit publication, when I know Beth Tzedec has so much to offer and can be the pillar in the national community.”

Debbie Rothstein, President of Beth Tzedec, said she has fond memories of the Bulletin of past and is ecstatic about the current format.

“As a youngster, I would remember older versions and turning to see the pictures of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah kids and also check for service times,” she recalled. “Now, it’s so much more informative with news, programs and really, what’s going on at the shul. People tell me they love it and I can see why.”

Rothstein confirmed the Bulletin just doesn’t suddenly appear.

“(Humphries) is the ship’s captain for the (Bulletin),” said Rotstein. “It’s a huge undertaking and she is so

committed to the shul. Clearly, when you see the final product, Terri knows her work on this publication is the lifeline that connects members.”

Maureen Tanz, a 30-year member of Beth Tzedec says the Bulletin is very appealing and eye-catching.

“It’s like reading a magazine and very informative,” said Tanz, who is also Chair of the synagogue’s Hessed Committee. “To be honest, I prefer the hard copy over the On-line version because I’ll read it a bit, put it aside, and come back to it much easier than a computer. I’m also one who would want to see it six times a year and a bit smaller.”

Even 23-year-old Taylor Milne finds time to check out certain items in the Bulletin.

“When it’s on the coffee table, I’ll pick it up and flip through looking at the Bar/Bat Mitzvahs and the special announcements,” said Milne, whose family have been members of Beth Tzedec for years.

Ron Kaufman admits he’s not able to be at the synagogue as much as he would like to, and feels the Bulletin is a lifeline

to synagogue activities, announcements and important times.

“Work, distance and other things are often reasons and so (the Bulletin) keeps me connected,” said Kauffman, a Superior Court Judge and a lifelong

member of Beth Tzedec. “Having grown up with my family at the shul, there are many memories, including those earlier editions of the Bulletin. It’s an important way of keeping the Jewish community informed.”

Phyllis Flatt has been an avid fan of the Bulletin for many years. She, too, enjoys finding a copy in her mail.

“For me, the shul is important, and I thoroughly enjoy it when the Bulletin shows up,” said Flatt, a member since Beth Tzedec was formed by the amalgamation of two smaller synagogues. “There are times when you need to adapt, but I am one of those who likes to read it, make sticky notes about certain things and go back to read items that are of real interest.”

Humphries, as a production manager, also oversees numerous other projects. They include responsibility for the synagogue website and she has been an enormous technical asset with livestreaming of services and events during the pandemic.

—David Grossman

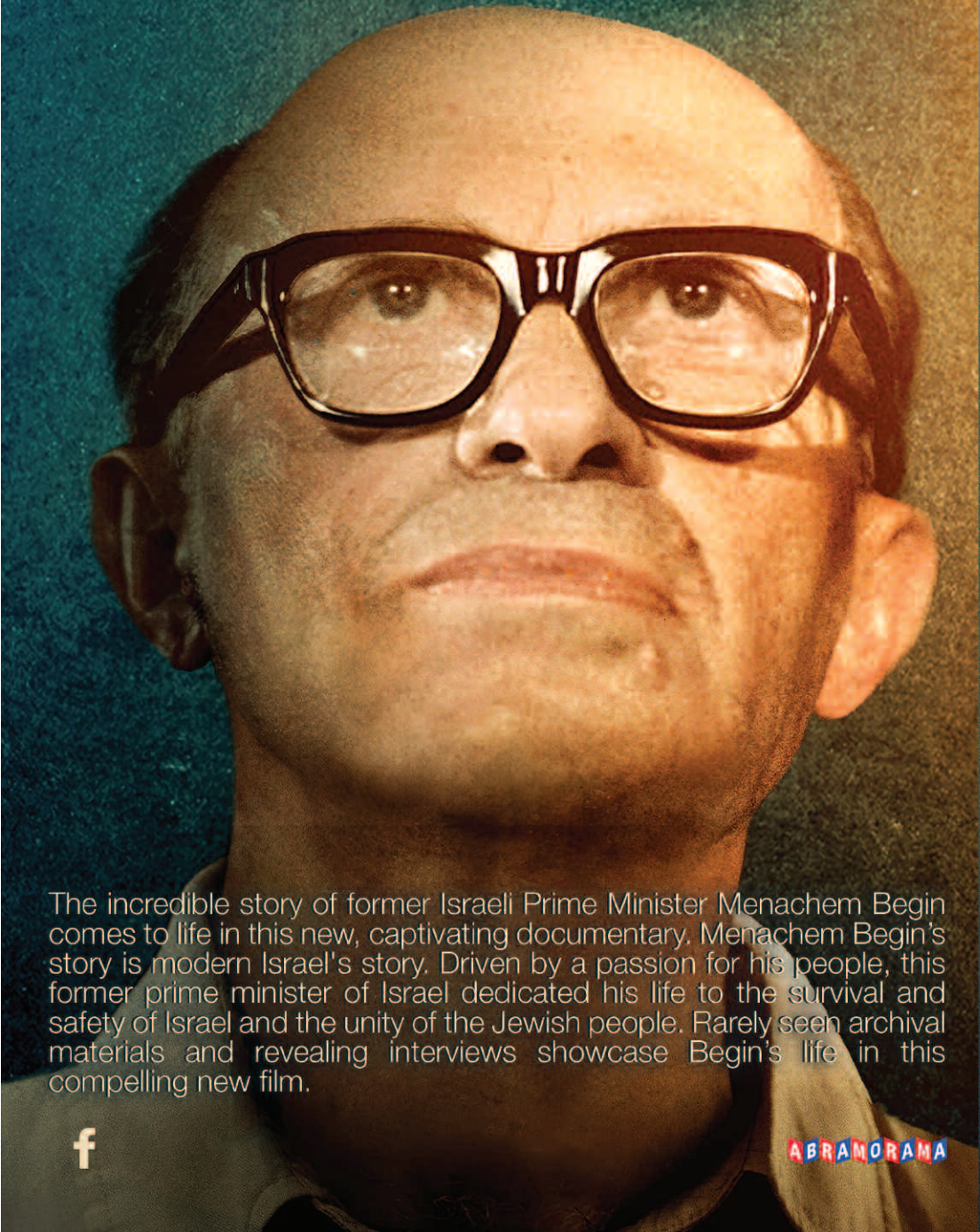
David Grossman is a multi award-winning communicator and story-teller with a distinguished career in Broadcasting, Journalism and Public Relations in Sport and Government Relations. He, and his family, are long-standing members of Beth Tzedec.

# A REBEL DESTINED TO LEAD

# UPHEAVAL

## מהפך

# THE JOURNEY OF MENACHEM BEGIN



The incredible story of former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin comes to life in this new, captivating documentary. Menachem Begin's story is modern Israel's story. Driven by a passion for his people, this former prime minister of Israel dedicated his life to the survival and safety of Israel and the unity of the Jewish people. Rarely seen archival materials and revealing interviews showcase Begin's life in this compelling new film.



ABRAMORAMA



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בית צדק  
Beth Tzedec Congregation

This High Holy Day Season, we invite you to join thousands of people across North America who choose to bond with Israel by purchasing an Israel Bond for as little as \$36.

Join us  
for our virtual High Holy Day appeal featuring a special panel discussion and a screening of

# UPHEAVAL

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# SHANAH שנה TOVAH טובה 5782 • 2021

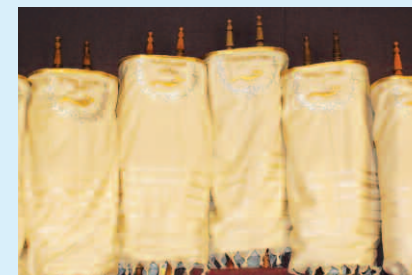
## Panim el Panim / FACE-TO-FACE

Your interactive guide to services and programs for  
Rosh Hashanah | Kol Nidrei | Yom Kippur  
Sukkot | Shemini Atzeret | Simhat Torah  
5782/2021

## Our Services

We're bringing back your favourite High Holy Day services for you and your family to enjoy! Beth Tzedec members will can participate either in-person (pre-registration required to ensure adequate physical distancing) or via our virtual hub to access the experiences that are meaningful to you.

This *High Holy Day Guide* will be updated with direct links to access the services as we move closer to Rosh Hashanah. Check your emails or weekly eblasts for updated information, registration forms and virtual/Zoom links.



### Sanctuary Service

Join **Rabbi Steve Wernick**, cantorial soloist **Jaclyn Cepler-Klimitz**, **Hazzan Moshe Fishel** and **Maestro Meir Briskman** along with members of the **Lishmoa El Harina Ensemble** for our inspiring and soulful High Holy Day services with excellent *hazzanut* and inspiring teaching. Congregational Torah readers will participate in the Torah service.

**Rosh Hashanah**  
September 7 & 8  
9:30 AM to 1:00 PM

**Kol Nidrei**  
September 15  
7:15 to 9:00 PM

**Yom Kippur**  
September 16  
8:45 AM to 2:00 PM



### Mezzanine Service

Join **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**, **Hazzan Sidney Ezer** and **ritual director Lorne Hanick** for this participatory service held in the Hendeles Chapel. The warm atmosphere and emphasis on singing will help every member of our community engage with the liturgy as we celebrate the *haggim*.

**Rosh Hashanah**  
September 7 & 8  
8:30 AM to 1:00 PM

**Kol Nidrei**  
September 15  
7:15 to 9:30 PM

**Yom Kippur**  
September 16  
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM



### Outdoor Short & Sweet Service

For a relaxed and welcoming experience, join this stirring service led by **Yacov Fruchter** and cantorial soloist **Jaclyn Cepler-Klimitz**. With a combination of familiar melodies and *kavanot* (meaningful intentions), it celebrates the momentous spirit of the season in an approachable and informal way. (This service will also be recorded and will be available on demand.)

**Rosh Hashanah**  
September 7 & 8  
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

**Kol Nidrei**  
September 15  
7:15 to 8:45 PM

**Yom Kippur**  
September 16  
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM



## Online Membership Payments

Beth Tzedec has now transitioned our membership information to Shulcloud, our database system that makes it easier and more convenient for members to access, update and renew their membership and profile information. We encourage everyone to review their profile information, accessible at <https://bethtzedecoronto.shulcloud.com>. From Shulcloud, you can also register for programs, classes and events or make tribute or memorial donations. For a guide to using Shulcloud, [click here](#).

All membership renewal packages were emailed to members in June. Check your email inbox or contact Klara Romm at 416-781-3514 ext. 220 or [kromm@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:kromm@beth-tzedec.org) with any questions.





## Family Service

For children ages six and up and their families, this abbreviated service is intimate, lively and lots of fun. Join **Daniel Silverman**, Director of Education and Family Programming, for inspirational stories and songs to delight your entire family.

This service will be pre-recorded and available on-demand to ensure it fits your family's schedule.

**Rosh Hashanah**  
September 7 & 8

**Kol Nidrei**  
September 15

**Yom Kippur**  
September 16



## Indoor Neilah, Ma'ariv and Shofar Blowing

Everyone is invited to join us in the Sanctuary or via our livestream as we conclude the High Holy Days with this beautiful and inspiring service in which we imagine the Gates of Heaven closing and offer our final plea for redemption and life. Neilah will be followed by Ma'ariv, the final shofar blowing and Havdalah.

If joining us via our livestream feed, for Havdalah, maybe turn off the lights and turn on a glow stick. Then grab your shofar and sound the final blast with us.

For those intending to join us onsite, pre-registration is required. Watch for the registration link being shared soon.

**Yom Kippur Evening**  
September 16  
6:35 to 8:10 PM  
(Minhah Services begins at 5:15 PM)



## Outdoor Neilah, Ma'ariv and Shofar Blowing

Join **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** and **Cantor Sidney Ezer** in the Beth Tzedec Parking Lot as we conclude the High Holy Days with this beautiful and inspiring service in which we imagine the Gates of Heaven closing and offer our final plea for redemption and life. Neilah will be followed by Ma'ariv, the final shofar blowing and Havdalah.

This service will be offered onsite only. Pre-registration is required. Watch for the registration link being shared soon.

**Yom Kippur Evening**  
September 16  
7:00 to 8:10 PM

# Our High Holy Day Programs

We're bringing back your favourite High Holy Day services for you and your family to enjoy, either from home or here at Beth Tzedec with our *kehillah*! Plan to join us, either virtually or in person, for our High Holy Day experiences that are most meaningful to you.



## Collaborative Selihot Program and Service

This is the night we gather to prepare, hearts and spirits for the season of return. We hear the majesty of the musical modes once again and we call out the familiar words of Avinu Malkeinu. This is the night of Selihot.

Join us as we bring alive the preparations for this holy season, partnering the voices of our leadership with an exceptional musical ensemble to make one great prayer.

This special program will be presented both in person and via Zoom. Pre-registration is required. For those attending in person, proof of COVID vaccination forms must be included with your registration.

To register for in-person or virtual participation, click [here](#) or visit [www.beth-tzedec.org](http://www.beth-tzedec.org).

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BETH TZEDEC, BEIT RAYIM, BETH DAVID AND BETH TORAH CONGREGATIONS



**Soul Brew Video Series with Rabbi Rachel Rosenbluth**

**August 29 to September 3 9:00 AM**

Percolate your mind, body and soul in the theme of "Panim el Panim: Face to Face— Reflections on human engagements during and post COVID" as we journey through the month of Tishrei with voices from around the world. Enjoy introspection and inspiration leading to the High Holy Days with a daily series of 15-minute videos and a series of artists, thinkers and leaders from Beth Tzedec and across the globe.

Find the series on [YouTube here>>](#)

Find the series on [Facebook here>>](#)



**The Three Tenets: A Musical Series on Teshuvah, Tefillah and Tzedakah**

**Sunday afternoons, August 29 and September 5 & 12 at 12:00 NOON**

Each Sunday between Selihot and Yom Kippur, Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber will discuss and share melodies based on the famous line from the Mahzor outlining the three fundamental principles associated with the High Holy Days. New videos will be posted on the Beth Tzedec [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#).



**Middle School Rosh Hashanah Program for Grades 6 to 8**

**Tuesday, September 7  
from 10:15 to 11:00 AM**

Join Sylvie in Rabbi Wernick's backyard (15 Avenal) for a fun and meaningful Rosh Hashanah experience for middle schoolers.

Pre-registration required to Sylvie Moscovitz at [smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org).



**Family Rosh Hashanah Experience in Cedarvale Park**

**Tuesday, September 7  
from 10:30 to 11:30 AM**

Join us for an outdoor family Rosh Hashanah experience in Cedarvale Park. Rain or shine, this 45-minute guided program will bring themes of the High Holy Days to life in a new setting and is designed for all members of a family to participate in.

Pre-registration required to Daniel Silverman at [dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org).

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



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

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

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





### High School Rosh Hashanah Tuesday, September 7 from 11:15 AM to 12:00 NOON

Teens are invited to join Sylvie in Rabbi Wernick's backyard (15 Avenal) for a meaningful, short and sweet Rosh Hashanah experience.

Pre-registration required to Sylvie Moscovitz at [smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org).



### Shofar Blowing and Tashlikh with Daniel Silverman

Tuesday, September 7  
from 3:00 to 4:00 PM

Join Daniel Silverman in Cedarvale Park for an outdoor shofar blowing after which we will walk to Cedarvale Ravine to perform the ritual of Tashlikh, symbolically casting our sins into the river. Bring bread to toss into the river.

Pre-registration required to Daniel Silverman at [dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org).



### Shofar Blowing and Tashlikh with Reb Steve

Tuesday, September 7  
from 4:00 to 5:00 PM

Join Reb Steve in the Beth Tzedec parking lot for an outdoor shofar blowing after which we will walk to Cedarvale Ravine to perform the ritual of Tashlikh, symbolically casting our sins into the river. Bring bread to toss into the river.

Pre-registration required. Contact the Synagogue Office at [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org) for details.



### Rosh Hashanah Fun for Children ages 1 to 4

Wednesday, September 8  
from 10:00 to 10:30 AM

Anat Kriger leads an engaging Rosh Hashanah program for especially for families with kids ages 1 to 4 accompanied by an adult in Rabbi Fryer Bodzin's backyard (77 Chiltern Hill).

Pre-registration required to Anat Kriger at [akriger@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:akriger@beth-tzedec.org).



### Rosh Hashanah Fun for Children ages 4 to 8

Wednesday, September 8  
from 10:45 to 11:15 AM

Anat Kriger takes kids ages 4 to 8 on a Rosh Hashanah adventure without leaving Rabbi Wernick's backyard (15 Avenal)! Parent or caregiver is required to accompany their child.

Pre-registration required to Anat Kriger at [akriger@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:akriger@beth-tzedec.org).



### PJ Library presents Sweet Beginnings!

Sunday, September 12  
from 10:30 to 11:30 AM

There is no better way to start the year rather than with some sweet treats, fun activities and a PJ library book! Join Anat Kriger in the Beth Tzedec parking lot for this special program celebrating the High Holy Days, created especially for toddlers and their families.

Pre-registration required to Anat Kriger at [akriger@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:akriger@beth-tzedec.org).



### Yom Kippur Middle School Program for Grades 6 to 8

Thursday, September 16  
from 10:15 to 11:00 AM

Join Sylvie in Reb Steve's backyard (15 Avenal) for a meaningful Yom Kippur time of reflection and discussion.

Pre-registration required to Sylvie Moscovitz at [smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org).



### Family Yom Kippur Experience in Cedarvale Park

Thursday, September 16  
from 10:30 to 11:30 AM

Join us, rain or shine, for an outdoor family Yom Kippur program in Cedarvale Park. This 45-minute guided experience will bring to life the themes of the day and give every member of the family a meaningful connection to Yom Kippur's rituals and ideas.

Pre-registration required to Daniel Silverman at [dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org).



### High School Yom Kippur Program for Grades 9 to 12

Thursday, September 16  
from 11:15 am to 12:00 NOON

Teens are invited to join Sylvie in Reb Steve's backyard (15 Avenal) for short, meaningful Yom Kippur experience with time for reflection and discussion with peers.

Pre-registration required to Sylvie Moscovitz at [smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org).

## The PJ Library Presents Series

(For toddlers ages 1 to 5 with a parent or caregiver)

### Sundays from 10:30 to 11:30 AM

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

#### September 12—Sweet Beginnings

There is no better way to start the year than with some sweet treats, fun activities and a PJ library book!

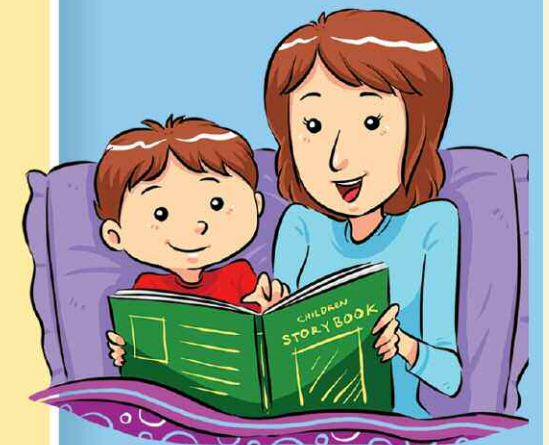
#### October 17—Play & Act

Let's improvise a show based on the characters from Parashat HaShavuah Bereisheet, Noah's Ark and Lekh Lekha!

#### November 14—Let's Decorate Sufaniot

Join to our festive Hanukkah program and enjoy sufganiot decorating, arts & crafts and a Hanukkah story!

Pre-registration required to Anat Kriger at [akriger@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:akriger@beth-tzedec.org).



Quickly access all the information for our High Holy Day services, celebrations and sessions on our website. Click [here](#) or visit <https://tinyurl.com/BT-HHDs-5782> day or night!

Presented by



BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
UJA FEDERATION  
of Greater Toronto





# Sukkot and Simḥat Torah

We are happy to be able to extend our Holy Day celebrations with programs and events highlighting Sukkot and Simḥat Torah. Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for these engaging, educational and welcoming opportunities.



## Sukkot Pickle Making with Marty Strub for Grades 4 to 12

Sunday, October 17 4:00 PM

The cucumbers and containers are finally ready and the time has now for our long-awaited pickle program! Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to make pickles with local pickle celebrity Marty Strub!

Cost: \$18 for Beth Tzedec members; \$25 for non-members (includes materials). Pre-registration required to ensure adequate supplies are available for each.

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



## Megillah Moments: Kohelet

September 23, 24 & 26 9:00 AM

Join members of the Spiritual Leadership Team and a few special guests as we take a new look at the *megillot* and their connection to festivals and holidays. We will look at the highlights of *Kohelet* following morning minyan on *Hol Hamoed* Sukkot.

This program will be offered for both in-person participants and on Zoom. Pre-registration is required for access to Beth Tzedec and to receive the Zoom link information.

Pre-registration required to Marni Turner Serbin at [mturnerserbin@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:mturnerserbin@beth-tzedec.org).



## Sushi in the Sukkah for BTUSY and Kadima

Thursday, September 23 6:00 PM

Kick off the year with friends and sushi in the sukkah! We will be making our own sushi, playing games and celebrating Sukkot together.

This program will be offered onsite in the Beth Tzedec sukkah. No charge, but pre-registration is required to ensure adequate physical distancing.

Pre-registration required via [ShulCloud](#)



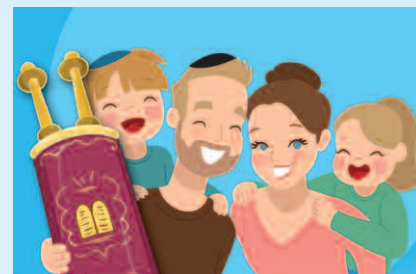
## Family Sukkot Extravaganza

Sunday, September 26  
from 11:00 am to 12:00 NOON

Join us in the Beth Tzedec Sukkah as we celebrate the holiday of Sukkot and see each other face-to-face after a long time apart.

This program will be offered onsite in the Beth Tzedec sukkah. No charge, but pre-registration is required to ensure adequate physical distancing.

Pre-registration required to Daniel Silverman at [dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org).



## A Simḥat Torah Hakafot Family Celebration

Wednesday, September 29  
from 11:30 am to 12:15 PM

Calling all families! Plan to join us for a special *Hakafot* celebration. Watch for details and registration information coming soon.

# High Holy Day Hot Topics!

Our “Hot Topics!” are always a highlight of the High Holy Day experience. Since we continue to be mindful of Public Health recommendations regarding physical distancing and safe gathering practices, we will continue to offer our Hot Topics! sessions via Zoom.



## Environmentally Aware with Dr. Tareq Abu Hamed

Sunday, September 12 10:00 AM

Dr. Tareq Abu Hamed is the Academic Director of the Arava Institute, the first Israeli Arab to hold the position. Dr. Hamed and Reb Steve will speak about environmental issues and the Institute's work as well as shared society and the unique make up of its student body.

As this new year is a *Shmita* year cycle, the Torah directs our attention toward the environment, the wealth gap, and our spiritual well-being. With people coming from all over the world to the Arava Institute to learn about the environment, they will discuss how the Arava Institute creates opportunities for co-existence between Arabs and Jews, Israelis and Palestinians and others.

A short question and answer period will follow.

To register, [click here](#) or visit [www.beth-tzedec.org](http://www.beth-tzedec.org).



## REDI, Set, Go: Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion with Leah Mauer and Nicole Yuen

Monday, September 13 7:45 PM

Join members of the new anti-Racism, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) Committee at Beth Tzedec to hear about some of the work we're starting to do in our Congregation.

We'll be highlighting the lived experiences of some Beth Tzedec members and talking about some of the work our group is starting to undertake for our *kehillah*. This panel will be facilitated by Leah Mauer and Nicole Yuen, co-chairs of the REDI Committee.

To register, [click here](#) or visit [www.beth-tzedec.org](http://www.beth-tzedec.org).



## The Neshama Hospice with Debbie Berlin, Robert Kamen and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

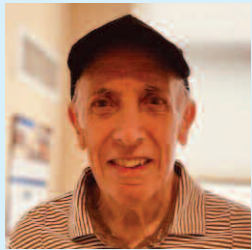
Tuesday, September 14 7:45 PM

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin will join Debbie Berlin and Rob Kamen, Founders, Board Secretary and Director of Operations at Neshama Hospice. They will discuss the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on end-of-life care and on planning for Neshama Hospice, and explore how the Face to Face work of hospice care is a critical component of end-of-life care.

Neshama Hospice is Canada's first hospice residence based on Jewish values. We will be located on Brightwood Street in a quiet, tree-lined residential neighbourhood in North York, Ontario. The purpose-built, home-like hospice will comprise 12 resident rooms and will be guided by a philosophy of providing exceptional, family-centred, end-of-life care in a calming, comfortable environment. It will be a place of community, friendship and compassion, where staff and volunteers will provide round-the-clock medical, emotional and spiritual support for residents.

To register, [click here](#) or visit [www.beth-tzedec.org](http://www.beth-tzedec.org).





Gerry Posner

## With Words and Images

With all of its size, the reality for Beth Tzedec is that many of the services are held in the Hendeles Chapel. And as a result, if you attend services, you get to recognize familiar faces.

A pair of familiar faces P-C (pre-COVID) is a couple very well-known in Beth Tzedec circles—Sharon and Norman Bacal. They are what is called in the religious world “regulars”.

There they are in the middle of the room with a cheery smile and a very welcoming greeting for everyone. I know this to be true because they made me feel right at home when I joined the Synagogue a number of years ago. And they have served their time, so to speak, as members on the Board and various Committees.

Of course, what also makes both Bacals rather unusual is that they both earn their livelihood from the arts, Norman as an author and Sharon as an artist. How many couples at Beth Tzedec can make that claim? Or for that matter, anywhere? Not a common characteristic for people now over 60!

Yes, it is true that both Sharon and Norm did not come to their careers directly. In fact, with Norman, his becoming a writer came in large part owing to the dissolution of his old law firm—Heenan, Blaikie—around 2013.

Norman says, “Prior to 2014, I had been certain I would never write a book. I didn’t have the talent or the know-how. I suppose not a lot different from the day I took on the managing partner role at HB. I had no idea whether I could lead lawyers and I watched my predecessors who seemed to have an ease about it that I did not believe I could master. But I looked back and 16 years later, I had managed to do the job.”

I suppose if you could make a major life decision to leave Montreal and move to Toronto as this couple did in 1989 with four young children in tow—aged 6, 4, 2 and 10 days old—giving up a very successful legal career as Norman did and Sharon also as a Chartered Accountant, was not that big a deal. But Norman really made an abrupt change after he had long left as managing partner and after the collapse of the law firm.



What really put him on the trail to writing was the push from his wife who handed him the pen and notebook. He wrote about what he knew which was the breakup of Heenan Blaikie precipitating his first book, *Breakdown*, published in 2017. His success with that book caused Sharon to push him again into pursuing his talent. And so he completed a novel, *Odell’s Fall*, two years later.

What began as a catharsis was now an obsession with Bacal writing regularly each day. He even followed Sharon’s



advice to follow the Shakespearean model. From all of this, Norm, who studied other authors and trained himself in his word selection, became an author with his third book in 2021—*Ophelia*, yet another reference to Shakespeare. (I have read all of the Bacal books and he does hook you in and keep you riveted!)

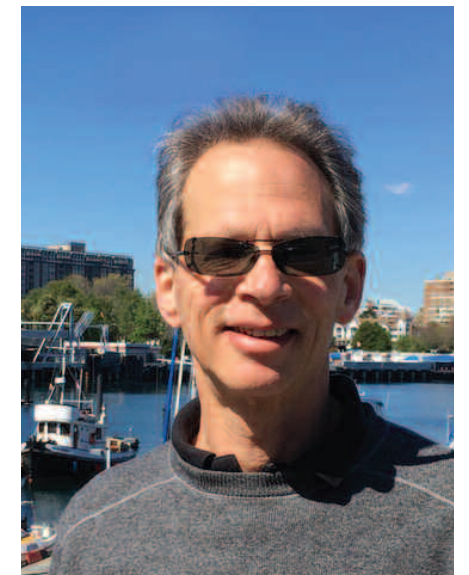
Unlike her husband, Sharon had worked in art for over 25 years but more as a hobby until 1995 when she went at it full time. She had always wanted to study art, often wandering around the Museum of Fine Arts as young girl in Montreal. Art truly consumed her but in her younger years, she had to deal with her present realities.

Her own father who was a weekend painter told her “treat art as a hobby and go get a real job”. Thus, Sharon

became a Chartered Accountant and later a partner in the firm of PriceWaterhouseCoopers. She was well paid and the people there were wonderful but what she lacked was job satisfaction.

In 1995 with the support of her family, she registered at Central Technical Institute’s Art Centre for Foundation Studies followed by the Toronto School of Art where she earned a Diploma in Fine Arts.

Sharon began selling her work in 2000 to include landscapes and abstracts, but the core of her work was in her portraiture. In 2002, even while maintaining a studio and continuing her art career, she started to study with John Michael Angel of Florence, Italy. As Sharon put it,



“honing my drawing and painting skills has been one of the greatest advantages to me in creating my work.”

And that is what she has done in both quality and quantity. The COVID crisis has created a prodigious outflow of work from Sharon and she is quick to share her work on the internet with her fans, including me. I am astonished at her talent, evident even through the computer/digital medium. Take a look at her work and feel uplifted.

Sharon, with the benefit of two diverse careers, sums her feelings like this: “I would rather have a bad day in front of my easel than a good day working through a tax return.”

Norman is a *kohen* and is often given the call to the *bimah*, but it seems to me that the call to the Bacals to head to the arts is one that makes all of us lucky beneficiaries.

—Gerry Posner

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



# Beth Tzedec Program Guide For 2021 and 2022

## Protecting Our Kehillah Against COVID

As we continue the process of reopening our building, the Board of Beth Tzedec has, in consultation with the Reopening Taskforce, implemented a new vaccination policy to help protect our members against COVID-19 while participating in Beth Tzedec programs and services.

As of Sunday, August 15, 2021:

- **No one 18 years or older will be permitted to enter the Beth Tzedec building or grounds without first verifying that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19** at least 14 days prior to entry with a vaccine approved by Health Canada.
- **Children and teens aged 12 to 17** (or an adult on behalf of such a person), must verify that they have received at least one vaccine for COVID-19 approved by Health Canada at least 14 days prior to entry.

- **Children under the age of 12** are not required to verify their vaccine status, although they are expected to stay with their vaccinated parent/guardian at all times.

If an individual cannot provide the requisite verification that they have been fully vaccinated, they must provide evidence that they tested negative for COVID-19 in the 24-hour period before seeking entry to the synagogue grounds. This does not apply to children under the age of 12.

While these procedures will apply only to those who attend in-person experiences (including those on the Beth Tzedec parking lot and the Rabbis' properties), we will continue offering services and programs online throughout the High Holy Days and for the foreseeable future.

The medical and scientific understanding of COVID-19 continues to evolve, requiring revisions to current practices and restrictions. As new information and recommendations come forward, Beth Tzedec will continue to put in place best practices to secure the well-being of our members and community. As such, there are some logistics to be worked out with respect to implementing this new policy and, in the coming weeks, Beth Tzedec will continue to advise members on the particulars of verifying their vaccination status. You can access your vaccination receipts from the Ontario Health portal via <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca>.

**We are committed to protecting the health and well-being of our community**, now and throughout the High Holy Days season, while making the verification process as straightforward as possible for our members.

## Registration for In-Person for High Holy Day Services Now Open

The lights are on and we're getting ready to see you in person! We are delighted to invite you to register for High Holy Days services and experiences now.

Registration for Rosh Hashanah services closes Friday, August 27 at 3:00 PM. Register soon, as spots are limited.

Registration for Yom Kippur services closes Friday, September 3 at 3:00 PM.

Please note that registration is required for all in-person experiences at Beth Tzedec; there will be no walk-ups permitted.

To register for in-person High Holy Day services, click [here](#)>>

## Youth Learning at Beth Tzedec



### CSX: The Beth Tzedec Congregational School Experience

**Classes begin Sunday, September 19 and continue through May 15**

Our Congregational School Experience is an exciting combination of Jewish learning experiences for children from JK to Grade 7.

CSX has been developed and is overseen by Daniel Silverman, a professional, dynamic educational leader. It uses the most current techniques for Jewish supplementary education and has been endorsed by UJA Federation of Greater Toronto.

The CSX program is delivered by hand-picked, well-trained teachers who make a personal connection with every child, accommodating individual learning needs.

We are very excited to share that we are planning for in-person learning for Sunday classes this coming year. As COVID-19 case numbers continue to decline, and as the Ministry of Education and local school boards have made announcements about in-person classes beginning, we believe that the benefits of learning together on site are significant, and that we can take many steps to ensure a safe learning environment for our students and teachers.

These steps for the coming school year will include:

- Required health assessment of students by their parents in advance of Sunday classes, to be submitted to the school
- Required health self-assessment by teachers in advance of classes, to be submitted to the school
- A frequent handwashing schedule during school hours and a sanitization schedule for all classes being used by our program
- Hand sanitizer in all classrooms
- Students being responsible for their own art supplies (a supplies list will be created and shared)
- A PPE policy that parallels and improves upon that of the public school system, with mandatory masks for all teachers and for students in Grade 2 and above, and strongly recommended masks for students in JK through Grade 1
- Pick up and drop off at the entrance to the building to minimize traffic in the building itself
- If needed and advised, spreading the program out among more classrooms, to both increase space between each class cohort and ensure smaller class sizes
- Not holding all-school or multi-class gatherings to minimize contact between each class cohort
- Not holding in-person music classes due to the increased risk of viral spread through singing. We hope to provide a virtual music experience online
- Maintaining the ability to quickly pivot to online learning if necessary, for a segment of the school population or for the whole school

CSX classes will place on Sunday mornings from 9:15 AM to 12:00 NOON. For students in Grades 3 and up, there is an additional component one weekday afternoon per week, provided in an online format.

**For information or a registration package, email [Daniel Silverman](#).**



### BT Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program (BBMP)

Our Bar/Bat Mitzvah program is designed to assist in the transition to adulthood by helping teenagers grapple with becoming Jewish adults. Through experiential activities and trips, participants explore what it means to be a responsible 21<sup>st</sup> century young Jewish adult.

A sense of Jewish identity is strengthened and supported through dialogue among participants as we create a community of peers. Jewish coming-of-age experiences in other cultures and religions, leading to a greater understanding of the wider world and a unique perspective on the Bar/Bat Mitzvah journey.

Sessions will be led by Daniel Silverman, Director of Education, with assistance from staff and guest presenters.

**For information or to register for the BBMP program, email [Daniel Silverman](#).**



# 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-Ma'ariv Services

Every Sunday to Thursday evening;  
check website for times

Join us for *Shaharit* either in person in the Hendeles Chael or 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 668-598-809. Check the website for registration restrictions and information.



### Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv

Every Friday evening;  
check website for times

Prepare your spirit for Shabbat with song, comfort and community at our Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv services either in person in the Hendeles Chapel or streamed to the **BT All-Access** livestream hub.

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



### Shabbat at the Floor Service

Friday evenings, September 10,  
October 1 and November 5 at 6:00 PM

Once a month, join us in the shul or on our **BT All-Access** livestream hub for a musically-infused Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv experience. Led by Yacov Fruchter, Cantor Sidney Ezer, artist-in-residence Aviva Chernick and our Beth Tzedec Rabbis, this intimate service will help prepare your spirit for Shabbat with song, comfort and community.

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



### Family Outdoor Kabbalat Shabbat and Dinner

Friday, October 15 at 5:15 PM

Join us for an abridged Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a boxed Shabbat dinner for you to either take home or enjoy in the parking lot. Watch for registration and dinner order information coming soon.



### Sanctuary Service

Every Saturday morning;  
check website for times

Our Shabbat Service offers the energy and inspiration of a complete spiritual and liturgical Shabbat experience as you sing along with Cantor Sidney Ezer. Rabbi Steven Wernick and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin offer insights into our Torah reading, expertly chanted by Lorne Hanick. Lift your soul in prayer as you sing with us or close your eyes in meditation and be carried away by the magnificent harmonic sounds of the service. Services are offered both in person and via the **BT All-Access** livestreaming hub.

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



Click here to access  
our High Holy Day  
Guide.



### Havdalah, Torah Study and Kaddish

Every Saturday evening;  
check website for times

Join us on **Facebook** or **Zoom** for a Havdalah experience and some Torah to begin a new week followed by Mourner's Kaddish. Together we can create spiritual nearness in the midst of our physical distancing.



### Weekday Shaḥarit Services

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

Begin your day with Beth Tzedec's morning minyan either in person in the Hendeles Chapel or virtually on Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/733141765>.

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



### Outdoor Family Havdalah

Saturday, November 13 at 5:45 PM

End Shabbat together with an outdoor Havdalah in the Parking Lot. After Havdalah we will play some games and enjoy snacks together. Watch for registration and dinner order information coming soon.



### Remembrance Day Shabbat Shaḥarit Service

Saturday, November 6;  
check website for time

As part of our full morning experience with Rabbi Steven Wernick, Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin and Lorne Hanick, Cantor Sidney Ezer and a small vocal ensemble will lead morning services as we reflect and remember through music and prayer. We will explore melodies and themes intrinsically linked to Remembrance Day, reminding us of loss and sacrifice, but inspiring us towards hope, life, love, and peace. The service will be offered both in person and via the **BT All-Access** livestreaming hub.

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



### Prayer: What, Why, When and How

Tuesdays, September 14, October 12 &  
26 and November 9 & 23 at 8:30 AM

Join Reb Steve following *Shaharit* services on alternate Tuesdays for an in-depth exploration of the meaning of our prayers and how we can personalize them, making them even more meaningful to us. Connect via Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/733141765>.

## Care



### Teen Volunteer Project for Grades 9 to 12

Sundays, September 19 and  
November 14 at 2:00 PM

Come volunteer with other Beth Tzedec teens! Our September gathering will be a "Bake for Ve'ahavta" program when we will bake cookies for Ve'ahavta.

Pre-registration required via [Shulcloud](#). Visit the website event listings for each date to access the registration forms.



# 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.



**Ess Gezunterheit! (Eat in Good Health): BT Hazak Tea Time for Seniors with Judy Libman**

Thursday afternoons at 4:00 PM

Get together with other seniors on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81037336015> to meet and chat about Very Important Things with other seniors: What's new? What's cooking? What did your Bubby teach you about chicken soup? How come bialys never made it to Canada? What did you recently read/watch that's worth sharing? What brings you joy right now?

We usually watch a short cooking lesson in Yiddish (with subtitles!) and other videos sometimes pop up too. It's all for fun and companionship. Pre-registration is **not** required.



**Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun: A Pre-Shabbat Music Class**

(For toddlers ages 1 to 5 with a parent or caregiver)

Friday mornings at 11:30 AM

Join our weekly musical pre-Shabbat class for babies up to 18 months old and their families! To help ensure safe physical distancing, we'll be meeting in Cedarvale Park (weather permitting), where 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.

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



**Standing with Israel 2021**

(For teens in Grades 9 to 12)

Sunday, September 12 at 1:00 PM

Join teens in our community in having a nuanced discussion and program about how to understand the perspectives of others, in the context of Israel and Palestine.

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



**The PJ Library Presents Program**

(For toddlers ages 1 to 5 with a parent or caregiver)

Sundays from 10:30 to 11:30 AM

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

**September 12—Sweet Beginnings**

There is no better way to start the year than with some sweet treats, fun activities and a PJ library book!

**October 17—Play & Act**

Let's improvise a show based on the characters from *Parashat HaShavuah Bereisheet*, Noah's Ark and *Lekh Lekha*!

**November 14—Let's Decorate Sufaniot**

Join to our festive Hanukkah program and enjoy *sufganiot* decorating, arts & crafts and a Hanukkah story!

Pre-registration required via email to [Anat Kriger](#).

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



**New Year, New Vision**

(For kids in Grades 1 to 5)

Sunday, September 12 at 2:00 PM

Let's create a vision board for this upcoming year and make our dreams come true! Weather permitting, we will meet in the parking lot.

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



**Minyan Meet Up**

Sundays, September 19, October 17 and November 21 at 9:30 AM

Come together for a social time on Zoom following Minyan. We will start with a hello, then break into small groups for engaging discussions.



**Shabbat Teen Lounge**

(For teens in Grades 8 to 12)

Saturdays, October 2 and November 6 at 10:30 AM

Come hang out with Sylvie and other teens at BT on Saturday morning! Join us for games, snacks, and interesting discussions!

Pre-registration required via email to [Sylvie Moscovitz](#).



**ECRUSY Kick-Off @ Wonderland**

(For kids in Grades 6 to 12)

Sunday, September 5  
12:00 NOON to 4:00 PM

Kick off the new year with ECRUSY at Canada's Wonderland!

For information, email [Sylvie Moscovitz](#).



**Still Bravely Singing: A Concert of Remembrance and Hope**

Sunday, October 3 at 7:00 PM

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber alongside a small vocal ensemble and special guests for a concert of reflection, remembrance and hope.

Watch for details coming soon, or email [info@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:info@beth-tzedec.org).



**Israeli Dinner and Movie Night with the Shinshinim**

(For Kadima—kids in Grades 6 to 8)

Saturday, November 13 at 6:30 PM

Come hang out with friends and the *Shinshinim* for a fun Israeli falafel dinner and movie night. This program will be offered onsite at Beth Tzedec.

Pre-registration is required to ensure proper physical distancing in accordance with Public Health guidelines. Registration and film title information coming soon.



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

# Learn



**Daily Tanakh Study**

Weekday afternoons at 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>.



**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. Sessions will be streamed to [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

UPCOMING SESSIONS:

August 30: Hon. Carolyn Bennett  
September 13: Debbie Rothstein  
November 1: Dr. Shuly Rubin Schwartz  
September 30: Steve Skurka  
October 4: Gil Troy



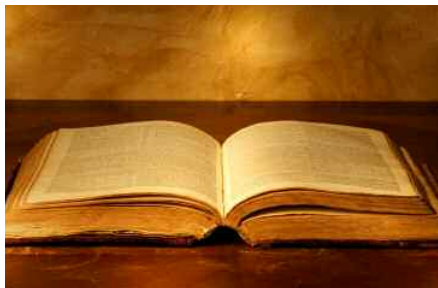


### Learn to Read Hebrew with *Lorne Hanick*

Monday evenings 7:45 PM

Ritual director Lorne Hanick leads this Zoom course in Hebrew reading for beginners and near-beginners who want to learn to read with fluency. Upon completion, students will be comfortable reading Hebrew at synagogue services and following the Torah reading. The emphasis will be on reading fluency but attention will also be paid to the vocabulary and grammar. Sessions begin October 4.

For information or to pre-register, email [Marni Turner-Serbin](mailto:Marni.Turner-Serbin@gmail.com).



### Learn Talmud at Your Own Pace with *Rabbi Steven Wernick*

Monday evenings 7:30 PM

The study of *Talmud* can seem overwhelming. In this weekly Zoom series, we will learn at a slow and deliberate pace, studying a single page of *Talmud* each week with Shabbat designated for personal review. This fall we will study *Tractate Berakhot*, the very first tractate of the *Talmud*.

No previous experience is necessary and students are invited to participate and drop in to our *shiur* as they are available. Sessions begin November 1.

For information or to pre-register, email [Sheri Federman](mailto:Sheri.Federman@gmail.com).



### Torah Through the Ages with *Rabbi Fryer Bodzin*

Thursday mornings 10:00 AM

Rabbi Fryer Bodzin is delighted to carry the mantle from Dr. Arnold Ages <sup>z"l</sup>. In this weekly class, Rabbi Fryer Bodzin will dive deep into the weekly Torah portion using ancient and modern commentaries. There will be monthly guest teachers during the winter and spring months.

In keeping with Public Health recommendations, this weekly series will be offered via Zoom.

For information or to pre-register, email [Marni Turner-Serbin](mailto:Marni.Turner-Serbin@gmail.com).



### "The Three Tenets": A Musical Series on Teshuvah, Tefillah and Tzedakah with *Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber*

Sundays, August 29, September 5 & 12

Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber discuss and share melodies based on the famous line from the *Mahzor* outlining the three fundamental principles associated with the High Holy Days.

Videos will be posted on Beth Tzedec's Facebook page and YouTube channel at 12:00 NOON each day.



### ECRUSY Leadership Training Institute for USY

(For teens in Grades 8 to 12)

Sunday, September 26 11:00 AM

Learn what it means to be a leader with friends from ECRUSY and earn community service hours! Watch for information coming soon.

For information, email [Sylvie Moscovitz](mailto:Sylvie.Moscovitz@gmail.com).



### BT Book & Film Club Series

Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 PM

FALL SESSIONS

October 6—*Dora Bruder* by **Patrick Modiano**

A biography, autobiography and detective novel about a Jewish teenage girl who went missing during the German occupation of Paris. **Led by Julia Creet.**

October 27—*Klara and the Sun* by **Kazuo Ishiguro**


Ishiguro's first novel since being awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature tells the story of Klara, an Artificial Friend with outstanding observational qualities who, from her place in the store, watches the behaviour of those who come in to browse and of those who pass on the street outside. **Led by Elaine Newton.**

November 16—*Florence Adler Swims Forever* by **Rachel Beanland**

Every summer, Esther and Joseph Adler rent their house out to vacationers escaping to "America's Playground" and move into the small apartment above their bakery where they raised their two daughters, Fannie and Florence. When tragedy strikes, Esther makes the shocking decision to hide the truth and pulls the family into an elaborate web of secret-keeping and lies, bringing long-buried tensions to the surface. **Led by Cynthia Good.**

No charge; Pre-register via email to [Avital Narvey](mailto:Avital.Narvey@gmail.com).


SERIES SPONSORED BY AMICA ON THE AVENUE



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### Mizmor Monthly with *Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber*

Tuesdays, October 5, November 2 and December 7 7:30 PM

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber on Zoom as we explore many Jewish musical themes and genres revolving around Rosh Hodesh. The program will take place on the first Tuesday of every month.

No charge; Pre-registration required via [Shulcloud](mailto:Shulcloud@gmail.com).



### Day Trips in Jewish History with *Hana Werner*

PART ONE

Mondays, October 4, 18 & 25 and November 1 & 8 at 1:30 PM

Educator Hana Werner delivers snapshots of the Biblical stories, scrolls and characters.

FALL SERIES THEME **Courageous Personalities, Visionary Leaders**  
October 4—**David and Goliath**

October 11—**Ruth and Tamar**

October 25—**Rabbi Yochanan ben Zakkai**

November 1—**Ba'al Shem Tov**

November 8—**Kings and Queens**

In keeping with current Public Health safety recommendations, this series will be offered via Zoom.

No charge; Pre-register via email to [Avital Narvey](mailto:Avital.Narvey@gmail.com).

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED IN MEMORY OF  
CANTOR JOSEPH COOPER <sup>z"l</sup>





### Notable Speakers Series

Presented with the Jewish Grandparents Network

**Wednesdays at 1:30 PM**

We're taking a closer look at the interests, attitudes and aspirations of today's grandparents, with findings from the National Study of Jewish Grandparents.

October 13—**Learning from the First National Study of Jewish Grandparents with David Raphael.**

October 20—**The Making of a Mensch: The Crucial Role of Grandparents with Jane Isay**

November 3—**Family Stories and Grandchildren's Emotional Wellbeing with Marshall Duke**

November 10—**Joy and Complications: Today's New Jewish Families with Shira Concool and Derrick Ashong**

**No charge; Pre-register via email to [Avital Narvey](#).**



### How Creative Are You?

(For kids in Grades 1 to 5)

**Sunday, October 17 2:00 PM**

Can you bring *Parashat Hashavuah* to life? Let's see how creative you can be as we engage in a fun project.

This program will be offered with blended onsite and Zoom options. Pre-registration is required to ensure adequate physical distancing onsite or to receive the Zoom link information.

**To pre-register, email [Anat Kriger](#).**



### Darkness Go Away!

(For kids in Grades 1 to 5)

**Sunday, November 14 2:00 PM**

Let's bring the light with some cool science experiments and explode darkness away! Join your friends and help us bring the light together!

This program will be offered as with blended onsite and Zoom options. Pre-registration is required to ensure adequate physical distancing onsite or to receive the Zoom link information.

**To pre-register, email [Anat Kriger](#).**

## Celebrate



### Mother-Daughter Rosh Hodesh: A Small Group for Pre-Teens, Teens and their Mothers

**Sunday, November 7 at 5:30 PM**

Join Rabbi Fryer Bodzin and Sylvie Moscovitz for a special celebration for mothers and their pre-teen and teen daughters. We will share dinner, explore the meaning of Rosh Hodesh and our relationships with each other while we do a craft together.

**This program will be hosted at participants' homes. To pre-register email [Sylvie Moscovitz](#).**



### Still Bravely Singing: A Concert of Remembrance and Hope

**Thursday, November 11 7:00 PM**

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber, a small vocal ensemble, and special guests for a concert of reflection, remembrance and hope.

Watch for more details coming soon.

**For information or to be added to the pre-registration list, email [Avital Narvey](#).**



### Hanukkah Modul8 with Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber

**November 29 through December 5 uploaded each evening at 7:00 PM**

Let's modul8 between a variety of musical genres and styles as we celebr8 Hanukkah through song! Cantor Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber will captiv8 you as they post and integr8 new videos to the Beth Tzedec **Facebook** page and **YouTube** channel every night of the holiday.



## REDI, Set, Go.

The REDI Committee was assembled to champion the inclusion of all members of the Jewish community at Beth Tzedec. Our mission is to promote and support actions of equity and anti-racism within our *kehillah* and to foster a reputation of diversity and inclusion for all Jews.

### What does REDI stand for?

REDI stands for anti-Racism, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Our committee consists of members of the Beth Tzedec community who work passionately to promote an inclusive, anti-racist, safe and welcoming environment for all.

### Who are the Co-Chairs?

The co-chairs are **Leah Mauer** and **Nicole Yuen**. Leah (*she/her*) is a member of the Families Committee, an active group leader and participant in the Small Groups initiative and can be found in the Little Minyan and family programming at shul. **Nicole** (*she/her*) has been a member of Beth Tzedec for about a decade and can be found attending family services.

### Where do you see big changes that need to be made in our community?

Beth Tzedec is a large legacy institution in Toronto's Jewish community. While many members feel at home here, we recognize that it can be intimidating to walk through the doors of our shul if you don't already have a connection to the *kehillah*. Some members, even those with a connection, don't feel accepted by the Congregation for who they are. We need to listen to the lived experiences of these members, hear some hard truths about our community and do some learning (and re-learning) together in order for everyone to be safe here. We also recognize the prominent role Beth Tzedec plays in the larger Toronto Jewish community

and within the North American Conservative movement. As such, we see it as our responsibility as a Congregation to lead in this work.

### Why is this work important?

In the news, we hear about anti-Black racism, anti-Asian racism and hate against other groups. In 2021, this is not acceptable. We as a congregation need to be part of the solution. We need to be champions of inclusivity. We need to reflect the diversity that is the Jewish community and to set an example for future generations.

### What do you see as your role in our kehillah as a Co-Chairs?

Our committee is laying the foundation for important cultural changes. We will be engaging in REDI training with our professional staff and lay leadership. The two of us will be working with the Executive, the Board and the Spiritual Leadership Team to bring learning opportunities to different segments of the Congregation. At our committee meetings, we will be engaging in important learning ourselves. If there are any areas of learning that our Congregants would like to see in the Congregation, we'd like to hear about it!

### When does the Committee meet?

The Committee meets online every six weeks. Our next meeting will be on August 31.


### How can people get in touch or get involved?

We invite anyone who is interested in contributing to this meaningful work to join us. If interested, please get in touch with Reb Steve, who will connect you with us.

*Shanah Tovah!*

**—Leah Mauer and Nicole Yuenl**





**PROTECTING  
JEWISH LIFE**  
& JEWISH WAY OF LIFE

# UJA COMMUNITY SECURITY

Toronto is home to one of the largest and most vibrant Jewish communities in the Diaspora. But we are not immune to antisemitism.

Following the Israel-Hamas conflict in May 2021, data revealed alarming growth in reports of antisemitic incidents to UJA Community Security. We recorded over 6x the monthly average of verified incidents during May. This shows that we must remain vigilant when it comes to protecting our community.

It is incredibly important to report any suspicious activity, security threats, or antisemitic incidents you see to the police and then to UJA Community Security. This gives police the best chance of identifying perpetrators, removing offensive graffiti quickly, and capturing critical hate-crime data. Reporting to UJA Community Security opens a two-way dialogue between the Jewish community and our law enforcement partners.

## HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT

### POLICE


- For an emergency, call 911. Always have a way to call them, even on Shabbat and holidays.
- Toronto Police Service's non-emergency line: 416.808.2222
- York Regional Police's non-emergency line: 1.866.876.5423

### UJA COMMUNITY SECURITY

- 24/7 hotline: 416.635.5600
- Email: [communitysecurity@ujafed.org](mailto:communitysecurity@ujafed.org)
- Online reporting form: [www.jewishtoronto.com/community-incident-report](http://www.jewishtoronto.com/community-incident-report)

UJA Community Security wishes you and your families a very sweet and safe Shana Tova!

Learn about UJA Community Security at [jewishtoronto.com/community-security](http://jewishtoronto.com/community-security)  
UJA Community Security 24/7 Hotline: 416.635.5600



**UJA FEDERATION**  
of Greater Toronto

# Men's Club Makes a Difference



## Men's Club Scholarship Program

The Beth Tzedec Men's Club is pleased to sponsor our long-standing scholarships assisting young adults pursuing programs of higher Jewish education.

Before submitting an application, prospects should review the criteria below used to award each scholarship:

- The career goals of the candidate and how the program of study relates to it.

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

- Special needs or consideration should be explained in full.
- Applicants need not be a member of Beth Tzedec.

Download the application from the Beth Tzedec website (click [here](#)) or contact Hersh Rosenthal at [hershr@rogers.com](mailto:hershr@rogers.com). Deadline for submissions: April 8, 2022.

# Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs



The Ansh-eh Zafon Region of the FJMC is planning its annual retreat on December 3 to 5, taking over a rural

retreat east of Toronto as it has for a number of years. As last year, the retreat will be held with Mercaz Canada

and will be all-gender with attendees from across North America. More details will be sent out later in the fall.

## 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, September 14 and October 12 at 7:30 PM**

**Tuesday November 9 at 7:00 PM**

For information or to pre-register for a Board meeting, contact Florence Bendelac at 416-781-3514 ext. 213 or email [kgoldstein@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:kgoldstein@beth-tzedec.org).







## Beth Tzedec Small Groups Initiative

When many of us are itching to reconnect with our friends and form new connections, Small Groups are an opportunity to build new relationships and connect with other Beth Tzedec members.

### SENIORS

#### **Wise Aging: A Year of Contemplative Inspiration**

Led by **Lorraine Sandler**  
Tuesdays at 11:30 AM

**Pilates Group**  
Led by **Mia Rappaport**  
with **Rayna Jolley**  
Tuesdays

**Have You Dreamed of Writing Your Story? Let's Do It!**  
Led by **Norman Bacal**  
Wednesdays at 3:00 PM

**The Magical Memory Box Project**  
Led by **Bernie Rubinstein**  
Thursdays at 1:00 PM

### 20s AND 30s

**Advancing Your Career**  
Led by **Norman Bacal**  
Tuesdays at 7:30 PM

**Creating the Calendar: Expressing the Jewish Calendar Through Arts & Crafts**  
Led by **Shimona Hirschberg**  
Tuesdays at 7:30 PM

**Wisdom and Conversations with Our Elders**  
Led by **Ben Murane**  
Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

**Between the Lines: A Social Justice Book Club**  
Led by **Leah Mauer**  
Thursday evenings  
(first Thursday of each month)

**Schvitz and Schmooze: A GTA Exploration Group**  
Led by **Gaby Heymann**  
Sundays at 11:00 AM  
(third Sunday of each month)

### GENERAL

**Around the Dinner Table**  
Led by **Patti Rotman**  
Mondays at 5:00 PM

**Chapters for Change: A Social Action Book Club**  
Led by **Bari Zittell**  
Mondays at 7:30 PM  
(every sixth week)

**From Deborah to David: Governance, Personalities (and Problematics) in Ancient Israel**  
Led by **Nira Kolers**  
Tuesdays at 2:00 PM

**Paint Party**  
Led by **Brianne Freedman**  
Tuesdays at 7:30 PM

**Shmita and Land on Which We Sit: A Jewish Perspective on Land, Sustainability and Our Responsibilities as Settlers**  
Led by **Corrine Hart**  
Tuesdays at 7:30 PM

**The Good Life Conversations**  
Led by **Pearl Gropper Berman** and **Judy Moncik**  
Wednesdays at 7:00 PM

**Caregivers Connect**  
Led by **Anne Max**  
Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

**Rabbi Sacks Reading Group**  
Led by **Benji Shinewald**  
Thursdays at 7:30 PM

**Zen Tangle**  
Led by **Bonnie Greenberg**  
Fridays at 1:00 PM

**Health and Wellness for Today's Career Women**  
Led by **Lisa Wall**  
Weeknights

**BT Riders**  
Led by **Reb Steve Wernick** and **Alan Sless**  
Sunday mornings

**New-ish Jewish Families/Parents Group**  
Led by **Meredith Mednick**  
Fridays at 12:00 NOON

**Parenting Teens and Tweens**  
Led by **Dana Solnik**  
Mondays at 7:30 PM



*The mission for BTSG in 2019 was to create smaller caring communities, deepen meaningful connections to one another and Beth Tzedec and create a sense of responsibility to one another.*

## Building Community with Small Groups

This past year has been a great social experiment for Beth Tzedec and other organizations. Questions we grappled with before COVID-19 became even more pressing. It started with: How are we going to make the large shul feel like a series of smaller connected groups? It became: How can we support people from a distance? How do we maintain and grow meaningful relationships when we are apart?

I was approached by Yacov Fruchter to be part of the Leadership Team for the Beth Tzedec Small Groups initiative. Coming from a background in volunteer management and community development, I know how important inter-connections can be, and how sharing a common goal can impact lives.

The mission for BTSG in 2019 was to create smaller caring communities, deepen meaningful connections to one another and Beth Tzedec and create a sense of responsibility to one another. I envisioned lively discussions on interesting topics taking place in living rooms over wine and pie. What could be better!

Then COVID-19 changed our course. We questioned whether meaningful conversations and relationships could happen over the computer but decided to forge ahead recruiting amazing group leaders who wanted to share their passions and skills with others to create a more connected community. Maybe this could be even more vital as many connections were severed.

What occurred was quite miraculous. Through surveys and personal outreach, we found we were making a difference—86 percent said the experience decreased feelings of isolation and 84 percent said participation “increased my meaningful connections and friendships with

others at Beth Tzedec”. Some actually preferred the Zoom environment, like people who couldn’t get out during the day or those with small children. Some thought a cooking at home demo was even better than being there in-person to watch.

Beth Tzedec Board Chair Patti Rotman led a “Cooking During Corona” small group. She noted, “Everyone connected almost immediately and enjoyed our once-monthly virtual cooking experience. Each session began with a relational moment which helped the participants ease into thoughtful chatter. Through the commonality of cooking, our Small Group engaged in meaningful conversation while creating delicious food. Two participants from very different generations developed a lovely bond and have since shared many in-person meals together. One was an older member who had been isolated most of the pandemic while the other was a younger, single woman new to Toronto and alone in a big city. Together, our Small Group had a very positive and purposeful experience while navigating through these virtual waters. I am truly looking forward to fostering further togetherness and inclusivity in the next session!”

This August, we’ll be opening the next round of Beth Tzedec Small Groups. While we might all start on Zoom, the hope is that we will be able to provide some combination of different ways to meet, depending on the topic and needs of the participants and community health guidelines. I am personally inspired by the stories of connection and growth, and I hope many of you will sign up for this enriching personal and communal experience.

—Joanne Schwebel,  
Beth Tzedec Small Groups

For more information or to register for a Small Group, visit <https://tinyurl.com/bt-small-groups-2021-2022>.



# 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.

## Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum Fund

Beth Tzedec Reuben and Helene Dennis Museum Committee, honouring the memory of **Pearl Hermant**.

Marjorie Rasky, honouring the memory of **Sandra Ruben Temes**.

Debbie Rothstein, acknowledging the Temes Family in memory of **Sandra Ruben Temes**.

## Camp Ramah Fund

Jeff and Emma Max, honouring **Mitch Max** on his birthday.

## Cantor Sidney Ezer Discretionary Fund

Brian and Amanda Cepler, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer** for his assistance in their son Ari's bar mitzvah.

Andrew and Sharon Himel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Malka Green**.

Steve Rayson and Elissa Gamus-Rayson, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer** for his assistance in their son Joseph's bar mitzvah.

Jeffrey and Shirley Stutz, acknowledging **Jordan and Tammy Hermant and family** in memory of **Pearl Hermant**.

## Food Insecurity Fund

Sharon and Norm Bacal, acknowledging **Ricky Goldenberg and family** in memory of **Malka Goldenberg**.

Earl Berger, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gerald Arthur Berger**.

Rosalee Berlin and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max David Berlin**.

Marnie Burke, Sam Damiani and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Pauline Burke**.

Brian and Amanda Cepler, honouring **Lorne Hanick** for his assistance in their son Ari's bar mitzvah.

Brian and Amanda Cepler, honouring **Yacov Fruchter** for his assistance in their son Ari's bar mitzvah.

The family of **S. Paul Citron**, commemorating his yahrtzeit.

Lesley Comassar and Grant White honouring the memory of **Shirley Krem**.

Sandy and Fred Dunkelman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Faye Koza**.

Gary Elman, honouring **Larry Wallach**.  
Judy and Marty Friedland, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Michael Pless**.

Harvey and Lisa Golombek, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Isie Golombek**.

Rhonda and Stanley Gordon, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Allan Turner**.

Gary and Ruth Gottlieb, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Gottlieb**.

Rayna Jolley, honouring **Jeffrey Citron**.

Rayna Jolley, honouring **Yacov Fruchter**.

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

Beverly Kupfert, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Eva Altenberg Kupfert**.

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

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

Judy and Mark Libman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Arnold Cohen**.

Judy, Cliff, Max, Sylvie and Lily Librach, commeorating the yahrtzeit of **Herbert Elliot Siblin**.

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

Mitch and Anne Max, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Shirley Max**.

Mitch and Anne Max, honouring **Jan Sutin** on her birthday.

Mitch and Anne, honouring **Jeff Max** on his birthday.

Roz Mendelson and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Audrey Ellison**.

Roz Mendelson and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Murray Mendelson**.

Debbie Rothstein, honouring **Larry Wallach** for creating and leading the production of "Megillat Ruth: The Musical".

Gella and Paul Rothstein, honouring **Larry Wallach** for creating and leading the delightful "Megillat" musicals.

Gella and Paul Rothstein, honouring **Sheldon and Patti Rotman** for their on-going efforts leading the weekly Kiddush Club.

Paul and Gella Rothstein, acknowledging **Rabbi J. Benjamin and Lola Friedberg** in memory of **Pearl Hermant**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Norem Litvak**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Shep Gangbar** on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Lorraine Sandler, honouring **Bonnie Greenberg**.

Lorraine Sandler, honouring **Harold Margles**.

Lorraine Sandler, honouring **Judy Libman**.

Lorraine Sandler, honouring **Nira Kolers**.

Lorraine Sandler, honouring **Rayna Jolley**.

Lorraine and Alan Sandler, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sonia Weinstock**.

Susan and Allen Schacht, David and Lindsay, Sarah, and Zach and Roberta, acknowledging **Irene Freedman and Steve Freedman** in memory of **Danny Freedman**.

Alan and Barbara Sless, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick, Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin and Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**.

Larry and Nina Wallach, honouring **Lauren Rotman** on her graduation.

Larry and Nina Wallach, honouring **Patti Rotman** on being elected Chair of the Board of Directors.

Rabbi Steve and Jody Wernick, honouring **Sheldon Rotman** on his birthday.

Sharon Yale and Blake Teichman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jacob Morris Wineberg**.

Cecile Zaifman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Bernie Zaifman** and **Zenia Zaifman**.

Oscar Zimmerman, acknowledging **Dini, Maya and Avi** in memory of **Judy Zimmerman**.

## David Singer Memorial Fund

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

## General Fund

An anonymous contribution, in honour of **Joyful Noise**.

Esther Bernstein and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Annie Bernstein**.

Faygie and Murray Buchman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Abraham Weingarten**.

Maury and Cheryl Cepler and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Joseph Louis Cepler**.

David and Pearl Elman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Saul Joseph Elman**.

Pearl and David Elman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Clara Ostreger Zucker**.

Pearl and David Elman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Moishe Zucker**.

Pearl and David Elman, honouring the memories of their deceased family members.

Eudice Goldberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Arthur Konviser**.

Jack Gwartz and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Judy Gwartz**.

Corinne Hart, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Seymour Glickman**.

Lou Hoffer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Hoffer**.

Sandra and Martin Karp, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Weisfeld**.

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

Karen Leiter, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lora Engelbaum**.

Murray and Susy Miller, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bessie Miller**.

Mary and Leslie Richmond, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Olga Mittelman**.

Marvin and Carole Sherkin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Sherkin**.

The Shuval Family, honouring **Yacov Fruchter** for helping them celebrate Micha's bris.

Randy and Debbie Spiegel, honouring **Murray Levinter** on his birthday.

Sylvia Steinberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Arnold Steinberg**.

Sylvia Steinberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Josef Glanzstein**.

Sylvia Steinberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rozica Glanzstein**.

Martha Sud and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jack Grossman**.

Ken Zuckerman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Arthur Zuckerman**.

## Hesed Fund

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

Marla Allentoff

An anonymous contribution, honouring the *Hallah* for *Hesed* program.

An anonymous contribution, honouring the Zoom Minyan.

Glenna, Linda, Herschel and families, honouring their father's birthday.

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

Phyllis and Ab <sup>z"l</sup> Flatt, acknowledging **Rabbi J. Benjamine Friedberg** in memory of **Pearl Hermant**.

Ruth and Alby Garbe and family, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

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

Irving and Wendy Gold, honouring **Ruth Margles** on her birthday.

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Anne Greenberg** and **Jacob Greenberg**.

Malki Lazar and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lazare Israel ben Itzchak Lazar**.

Joseph Melotek, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Melotek**.

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

Lynda Nadolny and Bruce Cowley, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Herbert Nadolny**.

Barry and Susan Phillips, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Florence Phillips**.

John and Molly Pollock, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Minnie Koffman**.

Cam Rose

Pearl Silver and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Lipton**.

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

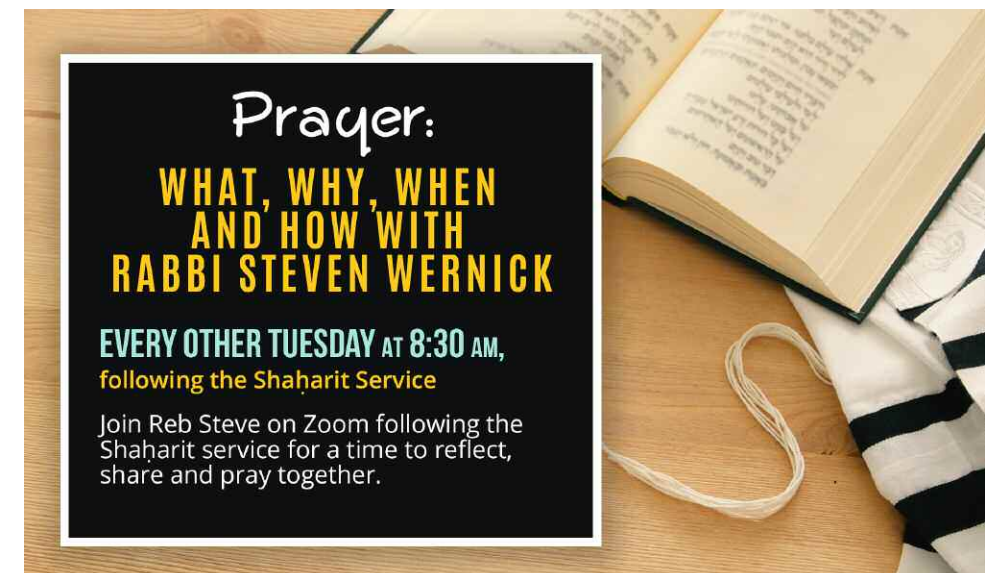
Rose Sobel and Duke Segel, acknowledging **Lisa Winston** in memory of **Shirley Krem**.

Cantor Deborah Staiman, acknowledging **Lisa Winston** in memory of **Shirley Krem**.

Cantor Deborah Staiman, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Herman Itkoff** and **Rebecca Staiman**.

Elaine and Joseph Steiner, acknowledging the **Stern Family** in memory of **Beverley Stern**.

Oscar Zimmerman and Anna Day, honouring **Isaac Beberon** his bar mitzvah.





Howard (Hy) Cooper Trust Fund

Art and Carole Andrews, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Spencer Kalpin**.

Helen and George Brcko, acknowledging **Jerry Grammer and family** in memory of **Lillian Grammer**.

David, Carol, Ari, Marissa and Yonit Grossman, acknowledging the **Gryfe Family** in memory of **Moishe Gryfe**.

David, Carol, Ari, Marissa, Yonit Grossman and Adam Rapkowski, honouring **Jack and Sandi Grossman** on their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Jason Stein and Jeannette Stein, honouring **Jerry Grammer**.

Jewish Family Living Fund

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

Jeffrey and Jane Gertner and family, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Ruth Gertner** and **Sidney Stern**.

Robert Milne and family, acknowledging **Joey Dimerman and family** in memory of **Luibov (Ahuva) Dimerman**.

Ruth Torchinsky, honouring **Shirel Barkan-Slater and Yuda Slater** on the birth of their son.

Jonathan Kahn Memorial Fund

Norman Kahn, honouring **Howie Sniderman** on the birth of his granddaughter.

Norman and Jackie Kahn, honouring **Mark and Leah Zaretsky** on the *Pidyon HaBen* of their son **Noah Brian**.

Norman and Jackie Kahn, honouring **Moshe and Chloe Micha** on the birth of their son.

Kaddish Fund

Tere Horner-Quiroz, acknowledging the **Anthony Family** in memory of **Karen Gail Anthony**.

Kosher Food Bank

Diane Betel, Michele Friedlich and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Aurelia Aranka Friedlich**.

Diane and Ron Ennis, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Wayne Rose**.

Minda Feldman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leslie Feldman**.

Neil Friedman and Shelley Wexler-Friedman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Murray Friedman**.

Nathan Greenberg and family, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Rebecca Greenberg** and **Carole Greenberg**.

Claire and Newton Markus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lyla Markus**.

Claire and Newton Markus, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Jack and Sarah Gutzin**.

Claire and Newton Markus, wishing **Lynn Sigel** a *refuah sheleimah*.

Tammy and Joel Seigel, Jeff and Judi Alter and Mindy and Jay Levine and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Pearl Alter**.

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

Fay and Jamie Wilks, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Shirley Houser**.

Lorne Hanick Website Development Fund

Steven Rayson and Elissa Gamus-Rayson, honouring **Rev. Lorne Hanick** for his assistance in their son **Joseph's** bar mitzvah.

Membership Relief Fund

Ethel Abramowitz and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Nathan Abramowitz**.

Marshall Drukarsh and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Florence Drukarsh**.

Cecil, Dennis and Barbara Graff, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Milton Graff**.

Bonnie and Saul Greenberg, honouring **Shep Gangbar** on his special birthday.

Lorna Kahn, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Asher Kahn**.

Lorna Kahn, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Philip and Marie Casher**.

Marshall and Carla Kideckel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sarah Kideckel**.

Elaine Krivel, honouring **Roslyn Levine** on her special birthday.

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

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

Jill and Jeffrey Levine and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Pearlstein**.

Ruthe Mann and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Longert**.

Joseph Melotek, Faigie Goldberg and Danielle Goldberg

Paul, Saul and Sharon Merrick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Chaim Merrick**.

Sharon and Paul Merrick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jules Zeldin**.

Honey Milstein, acknowledging **Rabbi J. Benjamin Friedberg** in memory of **Pearl Hermant**.

Allan and Rosalynd Pyzer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sarah Pyzer**.

Joel and Jill Reitman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Cyril Reitman**.

Asaph and Liraz Rolnitsky, honouring their son **Yoav** on his bar mitzvah.

Sandra and Hascal Rosen, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Zatz**.

Paul and Gella Rothstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Marjorie Rothstein**.

Paul and Gella Rothstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Pauline Goldhar**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Rabbi J. Benjamin Friedberg** in memory of **Pearl Hermant**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring **Debbie and Randy Spiegel** on the birth of their grandson **Ilan**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring **Shep Gangbar** on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

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

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

Avrum Segel and Rose Sobel

Judi Shostack, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Aron Shostack**.

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

The Spiegel Family, honouring **Shelley Rosenblatt** on the birth of her grandson.

Elaine and Joseph Steiner, honouring **Avital Narvey**.

Elaine and Joseph Steiner, honouring **Beth Tzedec's Spiritual Leadership Team**.

Elaine and Joseph Steiner, wishing **Florence Bendelac** a *refuah sheleimah*.

Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman, honouring **Murray Levinter** on his birthday.

Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman, honouring **Randy and Debbie Spiegel** on the birth of their grandson **Ilan**.

Online Learning Fund

Jerry Friedman, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**.

Cathy Ostroff, honouring Pride Month.

Out-of-the-Cold Fund

Ilene and Stephen Flatt, honouring **Patti and Sheldon Rotman** on their daughter **Lauren's** graduation.

Lorraine Glassman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sybil Glassman**.

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the *yahrtzeiten* of **Morris Greenberg, Joseph Greenberg, Allan Greene, Rose Glicksman and Harry Greenberg**.

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

The Lester Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Mickey Lester**.

Robert, Sean, Alex and Steph Levitt, acknowledging **Fay-Lynn Katz and family** in memory of **Toby Gutwilik**.

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

Evelyn and David Pollock, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Pollock**.

Gary and Patti Pollock, acknowledging the **Bokser Family** in memory of **Paula Bokser**.

Lisa Reynolds-Jones, acknowledging **Evelyn and David Pollock** in memory of **Daniel Pollock**.

Sheila Rubinoff and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Melvyn Paul Rubinoff, Q.C.**

Sheila Rubinoff and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Langer**.

Prayer Book Dedications

Claire Friedlich Markus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Isadore Steinberg**.

Claire Friedlich Markus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Thomas Leslie Friedlich**.

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

David and Shirley Promislow, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dorothy (Devorah) Promislow**.

The Rachman Family, commemorating the yahrzzeit of **Albert Rachman**.

Deenna Sigel and Lynn and Skip Sigel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Morris Kaufman**.

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund

Sephi Band, Jeffrey Mitz, Zoe Mitz, Ellen and Ira Band, honouring **Rabbi Frydman-Kohl**.

Marvin and Mary Cooper, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Israel (Senya) Kacnelson**.

Lawrence and Vera Finkelstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Finkelstein**.

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

Noreen Kay and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gary Kay**.

Joni and Rob Kwinter, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**.

The Lester Family, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**.

Brooky Robins, Brad and Andrea, Debbie and Steve, and Janna and Todd, honouring **Rabbi Baruch Frydman Kohl**.

Joseph Rosenthal, honouring the memories of **Shirley and Dave White, Sam and Gertrude Rosenthal, Cyril Rosenthal, Clayton Rosenthal and Diane Rosenthal**.

Judi Shostack, honouring **Rosalie Abella** on her retirement from the Supreme Court of Canada.

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

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin Discretionary Fund

An anonymous contribution, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Lesley Barsky and family, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Brian and Amanda Cepler, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** for helping to make their son Ari's bar mitzvah so special.

Sam and Melissa Glazer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jennie Potash**.

Trudy Hurvitz and Justin Hurvitz and family, honouring **Diane Sandler** in memory of **Sam Sandler**.

Ruth Hyman and family, acknowledging **Rabbi J. Benjamin and Lola Friedberg and the Hermant Family** in memory of **Pearl Hermant**.

Ruth Hyman and family, acknowledging the **Temes Family** in memory of **Sandra Ruben Temes**.

Paul and Susan Lindzon and Jared and Becca, honouring **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin**.

Howard Sandler and siblings, acknowledging **Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin** in memory of **Samuel Sandler**.

Rabbi Steven Wernick Discretionary Fund

Earl Berger and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Salone Berger**.

Jerome and Pearl Kazdan, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jeanette Schwartz**.

Laura Kalef and Daniel Kornblum, honouring the **Adina Sarah Kornblum's** baby naming.

Paul and Susan Lindzon and Jared and Becca, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Harold Margles, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mary Margles**.

Morton and Carol Rapp, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Abraham Rapp**.

Steve Rayson and Elissa Gamus-Rayson, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick** for his assistance in their son **Joseph's** bar mitzvah.

Torah Through the Ages Fund

Sephi Band, Jeffrey Mitz and Zoe Mitz, acknowledging **Annalee Wagman** in memory of **Evelyn Wolfe**.

Gloria Houser and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Cyril Houser**.

Marsha Joseph, acknowledging **Rabbi J. Benjamin Friedberg** in memory of **Pearl Hermant**.

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

Young Professionals Fund

Joni and Rob Kwinter, honouring **Yacov Fruchter**.

Youth Initiatives Fund in Memory of Adam Kruger

Laura Kalef and Daniel Kornblum, honouring the **Adina Sarah Kornblum's** baby naming.





*The Beth Tzedec Sukkah has been donated in memory of Sam & Minnie Sitzer.*

*Many of the decorations were provided by the Greenspan Family.*

## Inscribe our Siddurim!

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



To inscribe a siddur, click [here](#) or call 416-781-3511

## Condolences

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

Freda Band	Esther Kirshenblatt
Leo Beliak	Ruthe Mann
Mary Binder	Joanne Mintz
Sophie Brockman	Al Pearlstein
Clementina Dias	Bertha Reine
Paulina Vivian Ezer	Lonia Lee Shuman
Al Gelfant	Mildred Sonshine
Steven Goldfarb	Chloe Tanz Bell
Sonia Hift	Eva (Chava) Weisbrod
Rose Humphries	

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

## Memorial Plaques

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

## Everything we do Today is for Tomorrow

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

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

CIJA Canadian.  
Jewish.  
Advocacy.

## SIX FEET APART BUT CLOSER THAN EVER

### This has been a challenging year.

5781 has been a challenging year for the Jewish people. A community that cherishes togetherness was isolated by the pandemic. A people who seeks peace faced terror and war in Israel.

As we write, it appears the havoc of the pandemic is abating. The ways in which we adapted to restricted celebration of *simchas* and grieving of loss seem to be ending. We can once again embrace friends and family in joy and in consolation.

However, the gathering clouds of antisemitism show no signs of parting. Sparked by the conflict between Israel and Hamas last spring, the shocking spike in antisemitism in Canada and around the world has alarmed our community.

Online, our children and grandchildren have witnessed a flood of misleading - and often blatantly antisemitic - content demonizing Jews and our connection to the land and people of Israel. This toxic propaganda has seeped into schools, workplaces, and civil society, causing grave concern about the place of Jews in our city, province, and country, and stoking fears that Canada could, in the not-too-distant future, resemble France, where Jewish life is increasingly hidden.

Those who seek to demonize and, through BDS and other forms of advocacy, ultimately dismantle the Jewish State are becoming bolder and more aggressive, letting the veil slip on the false distinction between anti-Zionism and antisemitism, with some seeking openly to undermine our unqualified right as Jewish Canadians to be accepted as equals in Canadian politics, democracy, and civil society. The fight against the anti-Israel agenda is a fight to preserve the future of the Canadian Jewish community.

The good news is that the Jewish people are resilient. We have survived immeasurable challenges, and we will overcome this one as well. Our strength resides in our ability to come together in moments like these, united in our hope for the future. Over recent months, tens of thousands joined CIJA in

asking the government to take meaningful actions to combat antisemitism, leading to a National Summit on Antisemitism held in July. Through UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, our community raised more than \$1M to support the people of Israel, as more than 4,000 missiles from Gaza rained down on Israeli towns and cities.

As we welcome a new year, we must renew our commitment to take meaningful action together. Combating antisemitism and hate is not only for advocacy groups and the government. From volunteering with UJA Genesis ([ujagenesis.com/contact-us](#)), to writing to your local MP or media outlet, to joining CIJA's campaign at [fightit.ca](#), each of us has a role to play in ensuring the fabric of our society is not torn by those who seek to marginalize, exclude, or harm us.

Toronto is one of the greatest cities in the world in which to be Jewish. In the year ahead we must work to preserve and protect this and ensure antisemitism is addressed head-on. We must come together as a community, united in our resolve and in our pride of who we are, to fight for our rightful place in society.

**May we all be inscribed and sealed for a good year. L'Shana Tova!**



*Barbara Bank*

Barbara Bank  
Chair, CIJA Toronto Council



*Noah Shack*

Noah Shack  
Vice President, GTA, CIJA

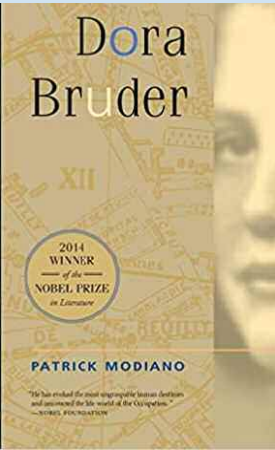


# Beth Tzedec Book and Film Club

Wednesdays afternoons at 1:30 PM

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

## FALL SESSIONS

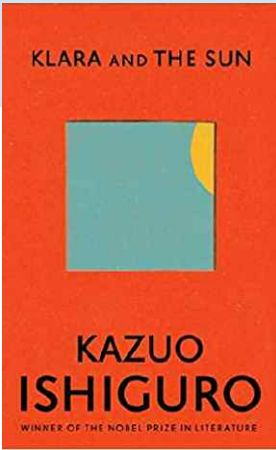


**OCTOBER 6**  
*Dora Bruder*  
by Patrick Modiano

Led by Julia Creet

A biography, autobiography and detective novel about a Jewish teenage girl who went missing during the German occupation of Paris. It was first published in French on April 2, 1997 and published in English in November 2014.

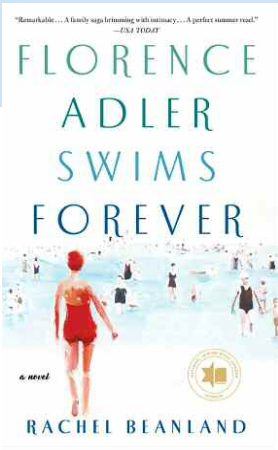
No charge. Pre-registration required to Avital Narvey or call 416-781-3511.



**OCTOBER 27**  
*Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro

Led by Elaine Newton

Ishiguro's first novel after winning the Nobel Prize in Literature tells the story of Klara, an Artificial Friend with outstanding observational qualities who, from her place in the store, watches the behaviour of those who come to browse and of those who pass on the street outside. She remains hopeful that a customer will soon choose her.



**NOVEMBER 16**  
*Florence Adler Swims Forever* by Rachel Beanland

Led by Cynthia Good

Every summer, Esther and Joseph Adler rent their house out to vacationers escaping to “America’s Playground” and move into an apartment above their bakery where they raised their daughters, Fannie and Florence. When tragedy strikes, Esther makes the decision to hide the truth and pulls the family into an elaborate web of secrets and lies, bringing long-buried tensions to the surface.



Sponsored by Amica on the Avenue