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Rabbi Steven Wernick

who will receive an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from
the Jewish Theological Seminary in recognition of his
achievements over many years of distinguished service.

Saturday, December 3

Join us at one of our two Shabbat morning services:

• **Musical Participatory Service** at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary, led by Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and the HarmonEzers and a pulpit presentation from guest Yizhar Hess, Deputy Chair of the World Zionist Organization (WZO)

• **Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service**, led by Daniel Silverman, Penina Hoffnung and Yacov Fruchter, beginning at 10:30 AM in the Kimel Family Gym

Following Services, we will all gather for an opportunity to share a mazal tov and a *l’chaim* with Reb Steve at a special, enhanced Congregational Kiddush in his honour. Dr. Yizhar Hess will be our guest speaker. Be sure to mark your calendars and join us.

(Reb Steve will receive this honour in New York on December 5 as part of the JTS’s convocation ceremonies but we wanted to provide an opportunity for Beth Tzedec to gather and celebrate with him! To register to view the livestream, click here>>)

If you would like to make a contribution in honour of Rabbi Steven Wernick, please consider donating to the Rabbi Steven Wernick Discretionary Fund. To send Reb Steve a personal message and to make a contribution, please click here>> or call the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.
“So, what do you think about the Israeli elections?” It’s November 6 and I’m at the Board meetings of the Jewish Agency in Tel Aviv. In addition to regular business –Aliyah from Ukraine and Russia, Jewish Peoplehood, strengthening Israeli society, combatting anti-Semitism and securing vulnerable communities worldwide—this is the question on minds.

Whether one is excited or depressed about the results of Israel’s most recent elections depends, of course, on one’s point of view. For those concerned about personal safety (rising crime rates and terrorism), a narrow view of Jewish identity and a stable government, this government is the dream team. For those concerned about shared society (Israeli Jews and Israeli Arabs getting along), religious pluralism, civil rights for the LGBTQ+ and other minority communities and maintaining the hope of a two-state solution to the Palestinian conflict, this government is a nightmare.

For the latter group, the election success and inevitable inclusion in the coming government of Itamar Ben Gvir and Bezalel Smotrich keep you up at night. That’s because of their long history of racism, homophobia and distaste for Reform Jews (and Conservative Jews—they don’t understand the distinction between us) and their recent remarks and incitement. In brokering the merger of their parties, Netanyahu mainstreamed their radical views against Arabs, the non-Orthodox religious streams and the LGBTQ+ communities. Any hope of moving toward peace with the Palestinians is even farther away than it was October 31.

Having worked to advance the values of Conservative Judaism in the Jewish State, I am not having nightmares but I am deeply concerned. This emerging government, one that is dependent on the Religious Zionist and the Haredi (ultra-Orthodox) parties, could roll back years of progress vis-a-vis the issues our Movement cares most about and damage the relationship between the Diaspora and Israel. If the work to realize those values in Israel was hard before this election, it is more so now.

Some may wonder why non-citizens would be so concerned about the Israeli government? “If you want a voice in Israel, make Aliyah and vote,” goes the argument. That is true. Only Israelis have the right to determine their government. They have done so. Though the popular vote separating the pro-Netanyahu and anti-Netanyahu blocs was less than one percent—30,000 votes—the electoral math leads to the most right-wing government in Israel’s history. By what right do I have to be so concerned?

My response is similar to what I spoke of on the first day of Rosh Hashanah. Zionism is the way in which the Jewish People move through history. As such, what happens in Israel impacts me as a member of the Jewish People, for Israel is the homeland of the Jews. This is a distinction that every Israeli Prime Minister, even Bibi Netanyahu, has claimed. So important was this idea to Bibi that as Prime Minister in 1999, he created the Ministry of the Diaspora to manage the strategic and personal relationships of the Jewish People to the Jewish Homeland.

A lot has changed since then. Like many countries and societies around the world, we are polarized—in Israel, in the Diaspora and in our relationship with each other. The new Israeli government is the quintessential expression of that polarization. That is what worries me. How will my voice as a member of the Jewish People be heard in Israeli society if the government becomes deaf to it?

Fortunately, Israel was created as an act of will from the Diaspora beginning with...
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To contribute your news, congratulations, member updates or other listings, send an email to thumphries@beth-tzedec.org. call

Beth Tzedec provides a welcoming environment for all. We are accessible and inclusive space, with elevators, ramps, accessible washrooms, hearing assistive devices, etc.). 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

the World Zionist Organization founded by Theodore Herzl in 1897. The institutions that emerged from that first Congress continue to operate today and are known as the National Institutions of the Jewish People. Collectively, they continue to provide a voice and opportunity for the Jewish People—in the Diaspora and in Israel—to impact Israeli society.

The National Institutions are the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish Agency for Israel, the Jewish National Fund and Keren Kayemet L’Israel, the Jewish Federations. The WZO was founded to establish, in Palestine, a national homeland for the Jews. The WZO shortly afterward created KKL to purchase land and support the settlement of that land. Keren Kayemet L’Israel was organized to globally raise the money necessary to support those settlements. The Jewish Agency was created to promote Aliyah and to govern the settlements, creating the institutions that would become the government once the State was declared.

Every five years, the WZO hosts elections for its Congress. Depending on the results, delegates and representatives are appointed to determine policies and budgets of the national institutions. Our presence within the decision-making bodies of these organizations is essential to securing funding, shlihit and other means of support that strengthen Masorti/Conservative institutions and impact the global Jewish People through the values and priorities we represent.

We have, for example, raised the level of priority and funding for climate change-related programming at the Jewish National Fund. We ensure Zionist activities that promote short-term and long-term programs to Israel for youth and adults and enhance Zionist education within our five Rabbinical Schools (Jerusalem, NYC, LA, Buenos Aires and Berlin). We strengthen NOAM (youth), USY and MAROM (young adults) and Ramah Camps in developing young leadership for Jewish living and Zionism. Through our participation in the National Institutions of the Jewish People, we impact Israeli society. We play an active, and sometimes oversized, role on the Jewish Agency Committee for the Unity of the Jewish People with regard to pluralistic prayer and safety at the Kotel, religious pluralism in Israel and the recognition of non-Orthodox conversions performed in Israel and the Diaspora. We support, in all the National Institutions, programs that encourage diversity, shared society and more.

We may not determine the government of Israel, but we can impact society through our Zionist engagements through Mercaz Olami. Mercaz Canada (www.mercaz.ca) is our local chapter through which we do have a voice in Israel. It is our means to contribute to making Israel a pluralistic Jewish state—one that advances a diversity of Jewish religious initiatives including those reflecting the values of Conservative/Masorti Judaism.

So, if this Israeli government has you concerned about Israel’s future and its ability to reflect the values we care about as Masorti/Conservative Jews, join Mercaz Canada and vote in the next Zionist elections. Our strength is a function of our representation, a direct result of our ability to “turn out the vote” for representation in the Zionist Congress every five years (2020, 2025, etc.). Secondly, help us! Help us educate and advocate for our shared vision of Israel and the Jewish People, become a Mercaz Canada Ambassador.

We have much work to do!
It is not unusual to use the word “faith” in a synagogue’s monthly bulletin. My use of the word, however, has nothing to do with religious observance. The “faith” I refer to is more about the patience required for everything to return to normal.

For our Spiritual Leadership Team and our lay leaders, it was inspiring to see our Sanctuary, Orenstein Mezzanine Hall, Hendelers Chapel and tent services brimming with members over the High Holy Days. These sacred spaces where we gather, pray and practice our own observances were filled with positivity, excitement and faith. While wandering through the halls of our impressive building, I witnessed not just a congregation, but a community; a place to catch up with old friends, share a nosh in the Connect Lounge and wrap ourselves in the culture of our people. For too long, we were deprived of the full enrichment our Synagogue has to offer. This year, things were almost back to normal.

The technologies of Zoom and livestream mean connection can take place no matter where you experience our services, and often, our programs. If you joined us virtually, I hope your High Holy Days experience was meaningful.

We are no longer on hold, yet we are still mindful of what lurks around us. Our Reopening Task Force met to discuss the best strategies to keep us safe but are aware that mandates can be updated. The world may have changed, and so have we at Beth Tzedec. We have adapted, we have updated and we have maintained ways in which to be current. Sometimes it’s good to take a breath or a moment and draw upon the values of kindness, patience and open-mindedness.

We have achieved many incredible goals at Beth Tzedec recently, and we have so much to be proud of:

• Our online High Holy Days Campaign exceeded our goal of $450,000 after a little more than three months! Through our members’ generosity and 218 gifts, we now have the funds to pursue exciting initiatives beginning with the Generations Membership. Thank you and kol hakavod to Rabbi Wernick for his hard work and determination in obtaining at least half of our gifts and to our many Ambassadors for getting the word out!

• We have welcomed over 700+ Generations members to our shul! I cannot begin to share how exciting it is to have so many new under-40 singles and families in our sacred spaces.

• We have welcomed back numerous long-standing members who have called Beth Tzedec home for many years. We so appreciate you and all you have done for us. You have and will always sustain us on so many different levels. For that we are truly grateful.

As promised in my High Holy Days address, I am delighted to welcome Penina Hoffnung to our community. Penina has been hired in our newly established position of Family Engagement Specialist. She will work closely with our Generations members, having the responsibility of supporting and reinvigorating our youth, teen and family programming with the goal of creating communities of connection amongst and between families. Please welcome Penina when you see her in the building.

I am pleased to share that a formal search for an Engagement Rabbi or Cantor has begun. Under the direction of co-chairs Leah Mauer and Sherri Storm, a committee has been struck and interviews will take place over the next few months. The Engagement Rabbi or Cantor will join our Spiritual Leadership Team and work collaboratively with our Rabbis, Steven Wernick and Robyn Fryer Bodzin, and our dynamic team of professionals and lay leaders to build the next generation of Beth Tzedec Congregation.
On December 5, I will have the pleasure of attending the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) convocation ceremony in New York. What a delight it will be to witness JTS bestow an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree upon our own Rabbi Steven Wernick for his over 25 years of achievements and distinguished service to the Jewish people and the Conservative Movement. Mazel tov Rabbi Wernick—may you go from strength to strength!

While our High Holy Days services were abundant with participants, our daily minyan is not always as fortunate. Our Spiritual Leadership Team appreciates the dedication of the many individuals who have made the commitment to attend minyan so that others have the opportunity to pray, gather and grieve. Although it takes a little bit of extra effort—and perhaps some time out of the day—those who join in-person feel that the rewards of attending minyan far exceed the small sacrifice.

Our daily minyanim give you the opportunity to reflect and engage in spiritual connection. We invite you to join us, exercise your own spiritual skills and be present for those in our kehillah who require a minyan. Although minyan is available on Zoom many days, unless there are ten in the actual prayer space, Kaddish will not be recited. Please do your best to commit to one day a week. When there is no baby naming, bar/bat mitzvah or auf ruf being celebrated, we ask you to join us in person and perform the ultimate mitzvah for those in mourning or because connection and free breakfast are two of the fabulous perks of simply showing up!

As we each light our chanukkiyah this year, let’s remember to reflect on all the lights surrounding us. On each of the eight days, we are reminded of the faith and perseverance of the Hanukkah story, the uncertainty of the pandemic and more now, amid increased anti-Semitism in the world. As much as Hanukkah commemorates the past, it celebrates the present and the future. For while Hanukkah celebrates the miracle of a single jug of oil burning for eight days, it also invigorates the world with the hope of redemption, when the light will triumph over negativity.

As 2022 comes to an end, consider everything you have to be grateful for. Life is short—enjoy every minute. Take that trip, call that friend, visit that family member and eat those fries. Be spontaneous and live each day with joy and meaning. May you and your family enjoy the blessings of Hanukkah and may you have a safe and Happy (secular) New Year!

Warmest wishes,
Patti
As I write this article, it hit me that it’s been exactly four months since my first day at our wonderful shul. Adam Sandler and his crew were taking over our parking lot to shoot a Netflix movie and though we didn’t hang out as I was secretly hoping, the excitement of a major motion picture being shot at 1700 Bathurst was just the beginning of what has been a whirlwind past few months that bodes well for our future sustainability.

The Gen Mem Phenomenon

At the same time Hollywood came to Cedarvale, Beth Tzedec launched its breakthrough Generations Membership program offering no-fee membership to adults between 18 to 39. Talk about being disruptive in the North American synagogue world! As a pilot program and with no prior benchmarks to compare against, we established a ‘soft’ goal to welcome 50—possibly 75—families (also known as member units comprised of singles, couples and families with younger children).

To say the least, we have been more than impressed by the uptake in the local Jewish community. Did you know that Beth Tzedec has now welcomed more than 350 new Under-40 member units … and climbing! And that is on top of the close to 500 renewals of our incumbent Gen Mem.

With almost 900 total under-40 ‘member units’ amongst our 2,100 in total, our synagogue is well positioned for the future. However, we fully acknowledge that we must work exceedingly hard to continue creating meaningful engagement opportunities and a sense of community, not just amongst this elusive cohort but for our entire membership.

And we are putting our money where our mouth is. We absolutely must. The November hiring of Penina Hoffnung to fill the brand-new position of Family Engagement Specialist is an important step in establishing dedicated resources that will support the emerging U-40 community.

A sub-committee has also been struck to hire a new Engagement Rabbi/Cantor who will be the first point of contact in creating relationships with teens, youth and families—from pastoral care to providing opportunities for this generation to connect with each other. Stay tuned for more details as the search begins … and remember to hello to Penina when you’re at the shul. She sits with Daniel, Yacov and Sylvie on the second floor. We are so happy to welcome her into our family!

High Holy Days: Observing in Real Time

Certainly, a personal highlight in my short tenure at Beth Tzedec was watching the High Holy Days unfold in real time as so many of our members came back INTO the shul to participate in-person for the first time since 2019.

The buzz was incredible. More than 1,000 joined Rabbi Wernick in the Sanctuary where the Lishmoa El Harina Choir dazzled those in attendance and another 1,000 participated online. Rabbi Fryer Bodzin led a wonderful traditional service in the Orenstein Mezzanine Hall. Meanwhile, parents of young children davened while their kids carried plush Torahs and played on gym mats in Daniel Silverman’s boisterous and well-attended Family Service in the Hendeles Chapel. In contrast to the hustle and bustle of these three services, those who were seeking a peaceful retreat found their way to the Hurwich Board Room where our amazing artist-in-residence Aviva Chernick led a peaceful meditative service. And who could miss Aviva and Yacov Fruchter’s inspiring (and very cool) Short & Sweet service in the outdoor tent! We set up for 300 and thoroughly tested our maintenance team which raced to put out another 200 chairs to accommodate a pop-up, multi-generational service.

It’s important to also recognize the more than 200 donors who contributed to our re-established High Holy Day appeal. Thanks to the very generous
matching fund set up by the Larry & Judy Tanenbaum Foundation, we raised $450,000—simply remarkable over such a short period of time. Kol Hakavod to all who gave. Whether your gift was $18 or $18,000, we are genuinely appreciative of your participation.

And now, with a nine- to ten-month runway ahead of us, planning for 5784 has already begun. We appreciate the hundreds of responses we received for our 5783 survey and I encourage members who have additional feedback to reach out and help us deliver an even more meaningful High Holy Days experience next year.

**There’s Lots Happening at Beth Tzedec**

Getting the most out of your shul isn’t simply about attending services, but it’s certainly a great start! Join us on Sundays and weekday morning and evenings for minyan. And when you come in the morning, as a bonus, why not stay for Nash’s delicious free breakfast. It’s a great opportunity to relax, meet fellow congregants, and enjoy a good nosh (by Nash) before your day gets rolling.

In addition to our ritual services, I encourage you to take advantage of the broad myriad of programs offered for all age groups, in person or online. If you haven’t already done so, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter by clicking here. Terri will get you set up so you can keep your finger on the pulse of all that is happening at Beth Tzedec, whether it’s thought-provoking adult education programs, 20s and 30s social gatherings, family Shabbat dinners, and the opportunities go on and on! There’s always lots happening at Beth Tzedec and as part of your membership, we invite you to take advantage of all that is offered, most often at no additional charge to our members.

**Dr. Reb Steve**

A quick shout-out to Rabbi Steve Wernick who is being honored by his alma mater, the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS). Rabbi Wernick is the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from JTS which is being presented on December 5 during their annual convocation. The ceremony celebrates Reb Steve’s achievements, and we invite you to watch the livestream of the Convocation. To register to view the JTS ceremony livestream, click here.

And please be sure to join us for a special Congregational Kiddush honouring Reb Steve on Saturday, December 3 following Shabbat services.

**Have Feedback?**

Let us know how we can make your Beth Tzedec experience more meaningful. We know you have a choice what shul you belong to, and we don’t take our responsibility to serve our members lightly. Please feel free to call the office or send a note so I, or a member of our team, can get back to you to set up a time to chat. Phone (416) 781-3511 or email info@beth-tzedec.org.

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**iEngage:**

**The Palestinian Conflict from a Jewish Values Lens**

**with Rabbi Steven Wernick**

**Thursdays, December 8, January 5, February 2 at 7:30 PM**

Join Rabbi Steven Wernick each month for this monthly series where we will confront the challenges posed by the Palestinian conflict to life in Israel and the Middle East, viewed through a Jewish values lens. We will connect and learn about these critical issues through video, text and discussion, utilizing video lectures from Hartman’s team of internationally renowned scholars to address core questions pertaining to the necessity and significance of the State of Israel. Click here to register.

*Presented in participation with the Shalom Hartman Institute*
Births


Mason Shane, son of Sarah & Jordan Applebaum, brother of Noah and Jack, grandson of the late Niki Bledin, Geoffrey Bledin, Fran Applebaum and Steven Applebaum, born June 15.

Maya Rose, daughter of Rachel & Jordan Silver, granddaughter of Tammy & Sidney Radomski and Elayne & Michael Silver, born July 1.


Evelyn Mildred, daughter of Samantha Bock, granddaughter of Petra & Lionel Newton, born July 29.

Coby James, son of Matthew & Stefanie Spencer, brother of Kyla and Everly, grandson of Fern & John Spencer and Robyn & Saul Greenspan, great-grandson of Herb Loomer, born August 16.

Londyn Sloane, daughter of Jacqueline & Rory Gozlans, sister of Dylan and Mason, granddaughter of Lila & Danny Soberano, Renee & Alan Gozlans and Dr. Shia Wolgelernter, great-granddaughter of Dr. Jerry & Riva Kirsh, born August 24.


Mattanaih, son of Nechama & Moshe Hershkowitz (of Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel), grandson of Tami & Rav Benzion Katz (of Ramat Bet Shemesh, Israel), great-grandson of Dr. Dafna Gladman, born September 29.


Callie Morgan, daughter of Jaclyn Tanz and Luke Bell, grandson of Bernie & Maureen Tanz and Tim & Bernadette Bell, great-granddaughter of Betty Plotnick & the late Bernie Plotnick, Gilda Tanz & the late Martin Kelman, Jacqueline & the late Mark Tanz, born October 9.

Iona Mer, daughter of Rachel Wallach & Carin Ferdowsian, granddaughter of Nina & Larry Wallach and Linda & Fred Ferdowsian; great-granddaughter of Toby Wallach, born October 11.
**Milestones and Celebrations**

**Cole Miles**, son of Gillian Blustein & Josh Cohen, grandson of Myra & Steven Blustein and Farley & Debbie Cohen, great-grandson of Lony and Ruth Gropper and Evelyn Spitzer, **born October 19**.

**Orly Leah**, daughter of Michelle Zimmerman & Justin Ash, granddaughter of Oscar Zimmerman & Dr. Anna Day and Diane Ash & Norman Ash, **born November 4** (in Manhattan).


**Congratulations**

**Martin Friedland**, who celebrated his 90th birthday on September 21.

**Lucille & David Griff**, who will celebrate their 66th anniversary on December 25.

**Rayna Jolley**, who will celebrate her 80th birthday on January 11.

**Irving Matlow**, who celebrated his 95th birthday on September 12.

**Rabbi Steven Wernick**, who will be awarded an honourary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary in recognition of his achievements over many years of distinguished service on December 5.

**Bradley Lastman**, son of Blayne & Adrienne Lastman, grandson of Marvin & Barbara Miller, and **Thea Gaertner**, daughter of Arie & Betty Gaertner, who were married on September 4.

**Jamie Milne**, daughter of Jeffrey & Susan Milne, and **Brandon Kesben**, son of Ray Keshen and Carole Chapkin, who were married on September 4.


**Rachel Carr**, daughter of Jonathan & Terri Carr, granddaughter of Donald Carr & Judy Feld Carr, and **Jonathan Grosman**, son of Jeff & Carol Grosman, who were married on August 21.

**Matthew Sanders**, son of Lissie & Mitch Sanders, grandson of Vera & George Sanders and Joyce & Gordon Strauss, and **Ceilidh Mulder**, daughter of Sian Burrill & Alex Mulder, granddaughter of Susan Laidlaw, Michael Burrill, Jacqueline Mason and Robin Mason, who were married on August 28.

**Joshua Glied-Beliak**, son of Tammy Glied & Robert Beliak, grandson of Marika & the late Bill Glied and the late Sara & Leo Beliak, and **Erin Silver**, daughter of Perry & Faiga Silver, granddaughter of Martin & Barbara Sversky and Anita & the late Sidney Silver, who were married on September 4.

**Michael Glazer**, son of Robin & Lorne Glazer, and **Phoebe Solomon**, daughter of Dr. Joan Tucker & the late Mark Solomon, who were married on September 11.

**Philip Goldbach**, son of Morty & Elaine Goldbach, and **Adina Strom**, daughter of Rosanne Hahn & Brian Strom, granddaughter of Freda Hahn and Denise Strom, who were married on September 11.

**Rachel Fogel**, daughter of Drs. Evan & Janine Fogel, granddaughter of Doreen & the late Dr. Bernard Fogel, and **Kevin Dowling**, who were married on October 8 (in Pittsburgh, PA).
Naomi Max, daughter of Anne & Mitch Max, granddaughter of Judy & Ralph Shiff, and Richard Waters, son of Sheldon Waters and Ellen Waters, grandson of Lillian Rockert, who were married on October 9.

Jordan Abugov, son of Carolyn Pascoe and Eric Abugov, grandson of Brenda & Barney Dales, Morton Pascoe and Carol & Albert Abugov, and Rachel Langer, daughter of Michelle Green and Alan Langer, granddaughter of Sallie & Booky Green, Rosalie Langer and Jerry Langer, who were married on October 27.

Lizy Wilks Mostowski, daughter of Elizabeth Chochlewicz & Andrew Mostowski, granddaughter of Jan & Helena Chochlewicz and Krystyna Mostowska, and Adam Wilks, son of Fay & Jamie Wilks, grandson of Gail & Gerald Wilks and Shirley & Marvin Houser, who were married on October 23.

Andrew Dale, son of Ron & Jennie Dale, and Stewart Lazarus, son of Michael & Rosanne Lazarus, who were married on October 30.

Jordi Levman, daughter of Debbie & Jeff Levman, granddaughter of Honey & the late Irv Milstein and Ethel & the late Arthur Levman, and Zack Enkin, son of Rachel & Brad Enkin, grandson of Mel & Pearl Enkin and Louise & the late Mair Benlezrah, who were married on October 30.

Many Thanks

Leora Branfield Day & Justin Merson, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on September 17 honouring the birth of their daughter Lily Ava.

James Merkur & Christine Viinberg, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on September 24 honouring their daughter Laine Merkur on her bat mitzvah.

Manny Snyder and the late Marilyn Snider, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 1 honouring the birth of their great-grandchild Shay Isabel Friedlich.

Dot Whitehouse, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 1 honouring her late father Louis Whitehouse on his 98th birthday.

Rivi Joel, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 8 honouring Miriam Joel on her 80th birthday.

Katarina Glozic, who sponsored a Seudah Shlisheet on October 15 honouring her first aliyah on Sukkot.

An anonymous sponsor of a Congregational Kiddush on November 12 honouring and celebrating love and friendship.

Bruce & Nancy Elman, who sponsored a Seudah Shlisheet on November 12 commemorating the yahrtzeit of Dave Elman.

Rebecca Starkman & Chaim Cutler, who sponsored a Congregation Kiddush on November 19, commemorating the seventh yahrtzeit of Joel Starkman.

The Ackerman Family, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on December 10 commemorating the yahrtzeit of Dr. John Ackerman.
Dear Friends,

This past year, I suggested a new volunteer position to our friends at UJA-Federation. Thankfully they liked it and today I am the first-ever lay rabbi for the UJA Shinshinim in Toronto.

Shinshin stands for the Hebrew letters shin and shin, and the name is an acronym for Shnat Sherut, or year of service. I meet with these post-high school Israeli emissaries once a month and we learn together. The Shinshinim are placed all over the GTA, in schools, synagogues, youth groups and community centres.

When we met for the first time in September, we studied Jewish texts about pluralism. For most of the Shinshinim, this was the first opportunity they ever had to study Talmud—and they did it here in Toronto. Pluralism was a relevant topic since so many of them left their hometowns and bubbles for their first time and are being exposed to a different type of Judaism. Also, as a group, the Shinshinim represent a broad range of the religious spectrum.

After each of the Shinshinim introduced themselves, we spent time diving into writings about the schools of Hillel and Shamai. We looked at a popular text from Pirkei Avot, where Hillel and Shamai’s disputes are considered to be l’shem Shamayim, for the sake of heaven. From these texts we learned that it is ok to have a difference of opinion as long as differences are shared with respect. We sharpened this idea by looking at a Tosefta text where it is written: Now make for your heart chambers within chambers and bring into it the words of Beit Shammai and the words of Beit Hillel. We can all hold multiple truths. It was a great introductory learning experience.

The second time we met, we spent time looking at texts about self-care. In Devarim (Deuteronomy, chapter 4), twice we are told to take care of ourselves. We explored how the rabbis of the Talmud understood self-care and how Rabbi Moshe Hayyim Luzzatto, one of the masters of Mussar (ethics) understood the concept. Rabbi Luzzatto reminds his readers that the Talmud teaches “everything is in the hands of heaven except colds and heatstrokes”. The Shinshinim got a chuckle from this text, especially since I began our time together by asking if anyone since they moved to Toronto, woke up with a sniffle or a sore throat once the weather started to drop. Of course, nearly all of them raised their hands.

We concluded that session with a text from the Kitzur Shulchan Aruch, where
we learn: Because the maintenance of a complete and healthy body is a Godly path—since it is impossible to understand or apprehend any knowledge of the Creator when one is sick—therefore you must keep away from things that damage the body and develop habits that improve the body and heal it. The Shinshinim understood the moral. As busy as they are, bringing rays of Israeli sunshine to Toronto, they need to take care of themselves, too.

The most impressive moment with the Shinshinim occurred outside of our monthly Monday meetings. The day before Yom Kippur, I got a text from Amit, our Shinshinit, asking if it was ok if one of her friends reached out to me. My reply was of course. As it turns out, there were several Shinshinim who identified as masorti or traditional, and their placements did not meet their spiritual or religious needs for their own worship. Would it be possible, they asked, to attend Beth Tzedec for Yom Kippur? Immediately I shared the request with Phil David, and in a fast turnaround, the High Holy Days security booths had a letter and a list from Phil with their names on it. They joined Cantor Sidney, Lorne and me upstairs in the Orenstein Mezzanine Hall and were honoured by opening the Ark for Avinu Malkeinu. This only happened because we have a connection and a relationship.

So much of what I do as one of your rabbis at Beth Tzedec is with an eye toward our value of Connect. In addition to the Shinshinim, I dedicate considerable time to meeting and connecting with our new Generations Membership cohort. At this early stage of engagement, a clear message from our new members is that they are craving community. They want to meet other people like them. And they appreciate the outreach that is being done to them.

At our Erev Simhat Torah Young Families dinner, I did not recognize more than half of the room. There were so many people, between members returning for the first time in years and new members joining for a first time that I could not possibly meet and connect with everyone. But I will get there.

At Beth Tzedec, we want to connect with you. It is one of our six values, along with care, learn, pray, celebrate and give & get. I hope you are all able to see our values in action.

Many blessings!

–Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin
Music is a powerful tool to accompany us and help us through challenging times. It serves as a fighting force.

Celebrating the Song and the Stuggle

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.”

This opening verse from chapter 3 of the book of Ecclesiastes which inspired the famous song by Pete Seeger in the late 1950s posits there being a time and place for all things.

Over the last three years, the pandemic has forced the postponement or upheaval of many of these events in our lives. As we emerge from COVID restrictions and return to some sense of normalcy, we look for a time to heal, a time to dance and a time to sing.

The Hebrew word for “time” in which it appears in Ecclesiastes is “eit” (Heb. יָעַר). One event postponed because of the pandemic was the Eit Zamir concert curated by Aviva Chernick. Eit Zamir means “a time for song”. By the time you read this article, we will, God willing, finally have the chance to bring this program of healing and song to fruition.

Music is a powerful tool to accompany us and help us through challenging times. It serves as a fighting force. Many of the words that we use for music double as words we use for fighting and struggle. For example, the Hebrew root zayin, mem, reish (זהר) from the word Zamir, cited above, has the meaning of “song” and connotes “pruning”, “cutting” and “fighting”.

In the Song of the Sea which we chant in parashat Beshallah on Shabbat Shirah, there is the famous line which Moses declares: “Ozi V’zimrat Yah”—God is my strength and song/cutting force (Exodus 15:2). With this double meaning of zimrah, the divine song and a strong fighting force become indistinguishable.

Another example is the root shin, yod, reish (שיר). This root evokes “song” but also “wrestling”, “struggling” and “ruling”. The very name of our people “Israel” evokes both singing and struggling, as reflected in the story of Jacob wrestling with the soon-to-be-singing Angel.

This year, it is a time to celebrate a special milestone, the 75th anniversary of the State of Israel. In the Song of the Sea, Moses also proclaims: “Naḥita b’hasd’kha am zu ga’alta”—In Your love, You lead the people You redeemed” (Exodus 15:13). Moses’ song celebrates Israel’s redemption from Egypt.

However, in the years leading up to and after the founding of the State of Israel, there were moments where it was possible for Jewish communities to be saved. On Shabbat Shirah weekend, which is also Refugee Awareness Shabbat, we aim to celebrate the “song” and “struggle” which have been a part of Israel’s existence these past 75 years.

On Friday, February 3 at 6:00 PM, join us for a musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service and a community dinner. In honour of Israel’s 75th birthday, this Friday night program as well as our participatory service on Shabbat morning will feature music from Jewish communities whose waves of immigration over the years defined and shaped the nation that Israel has become. Join us for these services and the Eit Zamir concert on Saturday night featuring Aviva Chernick and guests.

Moses’ songful praise of God continues: “In Your strength You guide them to Your holy abode” (Exodus 15:13), referring to the Temple on Mount Zion. It could also indicate the entire land of Israel. We honour those who comprise Am Yisrael and the struggles for freedom to make it to God’s “Holy Abode”.

This year on Israel’s special diamond anniversary, may it be a time to sew, a time to embrace, a time to laugh, a time to dance, and a time to sing and celebrate.
Friday, February 3 and Saturday, February 4

We begin the weekend with a special musical Kabbalat Shabbat service and community Shabbat dinner. Throughout our Friday evening service and dinner, we will feature music from various world Jewish communities whose waves of immigration over the years helped define and shape the nation that Israel has become.

We will continue with our celebration on Saturday morning at 9:30 AM, our Musical Participatory Service led by Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and the HarmonEzers.
Every time I stand under the huppah with a couple, I see the love in their faces and the joy they and their families share at this moment of celebration and covenantal commitment.

In the March 2021 Bulletin, after extensive learning and consultations with the LGBTQ task force, Rabbi Wernick announced that Beth Tzedec spiritual leaders would begin officiating at LGBTQ weddings:

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

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

On October 30, this willingness to officiate culminated with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin and I standing under the huppah with Andrew Dale and Stewart Lazarus. Consistent with the Beth Tzedec values of care and celebrate, we worked closely with Stewart and Andrew to create the traditional and high-energy experience they were looking for and in doing so fulfilled the principle of kavod habriyot, human dignity. Perhaps most importantly, our inclusion of LGBTQ members has moved from tolerance to active celebration.

I asked Andrew and Stewart to share their experience with us from their perspectives:

Electrifying. That’s how we’d describe our wedding officiated by Yacov Fruchter and the BT community at Planta Queen Toronto on October 30.

As the first gay Jews to be married by Beth Tzedec, and among the first in North America to use the traditional sheva brachot in our ceremony, the lift by Yacov and BT was extremely heavy to fuse our

Beth Tzedec is proud to once again join Ve’ahavta for Coldest Night of The Year—a national winter walk for people of all ages helping local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness.

Register as a team or individually, raise funds in support Ve’ahavta’s programs, and join us on February 25, 2023, at 7:00 pm to nosh, walk, and freeze your tushy off to demonstrate you care -because it’s cold out there.

Get started here: https://cnoy.org/location/torontoforesthill
love of Jewish tradition with innovation under Jewish law to ensure a “kosher” marriage.

And boy did they deliver. From the raucous singing by Yacov and the 150 in attendance as a Pride-coloured chuppah bounced up and down to the music, to beautiful bespoke moments like a “gay bedecken” and stunning, from-the-heart words of blessing under the chuppah, we were incredibly moved by both the process and the outcome of our wedding. And let’s not forget the unforgettable, almost-never-ending Hora with Yacov right in the action.

Being gay observant Jews isn’t always easy. Yacov and BT made our wedding not just pleasant, but among the most moving events our guests have ever been to.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you and Kol Hakavod for orchestrating this incredible event!

—Stewart Lazarus & Andrew Dale

Everything that Reb Steve wrote about being with couples under the huppah was true for this beautiful couple. The energy and ruah was incredible, the joy intoxicating and we knew that we were witnessing something holy—an image of Gan Eden. It was truly an honour for me to be able to contribute to the joy of the chattan and chattan, and to mark the moment for myself, I recited the shehecheyanu blessing before signing their ketubah, knowing that for LGBTQ members of our community this could not have come sooner.

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**SENDING PURIM CHEER TO OUR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS**

The Membership Committee is gearing up to send our annual holiday package filled with Purim treats to our university/college student members. To receive a package, please provide a mailing address to Klara at kromm@beth-tzedec.org or call 416-781-3514, ext. 220. All requests must be received by **Tuesday, February 7** to ensure that they arrive in time for the holiday.

**Tax Receipts**

Tax receipts for contributions made to Beth Tzedec during 2022 have been emailed to all those who have contributed over this trying year. If we do not have an email address on file, the charitable tax receipt has been mailed to your home address.

Thank you to all who helped support our community.

If you have any questions, email **Aida Adel**.
Family Shabbat Dinner

Fridays, December 16, January 20 and February 24 at 5:15 PM

Come together for a lively, abridged Kabbalat Shabbat Service, delicious Shabbat dinner and great programming for kids of all ages.

Cost: $60/family for Beth Tzedec members; $70/family for non-members. Pre-registration is required on the Monday preceding each date. Check our website at www.beth-tzedec.org for registration links for each date.

Short & Sweet

MULTI-GENERATIONAL FAMILY SERVICE

Saturdays, December 3, January 14 and February 4 at 10:30 AM

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

RSVPs to Daniel Silverman at dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org are appreciated.
Beth Tzedec’s Generations Membership initiative has been more successful than anyone imagined. We have welcomed over 350 new households to our Congregation this year! This accomplishment is only the first mile in a marathon of engagement and welcoming. A group of staff from the Spiritual Leadership Team are reaching out to every new member, endeavouring to have one-on-one conversations to learn more about them, why they chose to affiliate with Beth Tzedec and to hear what they might be looking for in their relationship with the synagogue.

In my welcoming calls, I have met people of all sorts of backgrounds—grew up Orthodox, grew up Reform, grew up at Beth Tzedec, born Jewish, came to Judaism later in life, from Toronto, from elsewhere in Canada, from other countries. I have learned about people’s Jewish journeys, their relationships with Jewish practice and Jewish institutions, and how they came to consider and ultimately choose Beth Tzedec as their synagogue community.

One theme that has been consistent, though, in every conversation I have with new members who are parents is that they are looking to give their child or children access to Jewish community, to Jewish programming, to Jewish learning and to Jewish traditions. This is not a new phenomenon in parenting or among Jewish parents. Those of us who are parents know. Once your child is born, so much of your focus and efforts go toward them.

One interesting bi–product of this circumstance is that parents, especially of younger children, don’t have much bandwidth to allocate to their own wants and needs on a deeper level. Part of our challenge is to help parents find the space to consider their own wants and needs for Jewish community, programming, learning and traditions.

So, how do we go about this work of uplifting the next generation of Jews, young people whose parents and families have chosen this time to connect or reconnect with a synagogue?

It starts not with programs, but with people. Jewish living has been, and will always be, most successful, meaningful and authentic in community. Bringing people together, whether in the synagogue, in public spaces or in small groups in peoples’ homes, is crucial to forming community. What follows next, though, is intentionally structuring these gatherings to support the building of connections between participants. It is wonderful to come to an event and have a great time, but if social connections aren’t furthered, then we as synagogue staff are not doing our best work.

This shift towards people—not at the expense of programs but instead in seeing programs as complementary to the endeavour of building community—is part of the bigger directional change Beth Tzedec is undertaking in building the synagogue community of tomorrow. We desire to have people lift each other up, celebrate with each other and support each other in times of need. This only happens when people feel that they are in relationship with one another.

To our new members, welcome! To our returning members, continue to be welcoming!

Whenever and wherever you hear the shofar this year, think about all that we have been through as individuals, as a synagogue community and as a society.

People in Our Neighbourhood
Meet the Liquorniks

From their parents varied origins—shtetlach to lively cities in Eastern Europe—to their own moves from Montreal, Ottawa, Vancouver and Israel, with changes in careers, children and grandkids, even a great-grandchild, with all of that, the three constants in the Leah and Israel Liquornik story are their commitment to one another, their regular connection to synagogue and synagogue life and their devotion to the State of Israel.

Let’s be clear. Although the name Liquornik is tracked to an occupation back in the Old Country when Israel’s ancestors worked diligently in providing beer and alcohol to people, and after adopting the name Liquornik to reflect that line of work, the closest Israel Liquornik gets to the consumption of spirits is a wine at the kiddish after Shabbat services.

Israel was born and raised in Montreal, graduating from McGill in 1956 with a BA. One summer while at McGill, he took a summer job in Ottawa working for what was then known as the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. That ‘summer job’ lasted for four years. Then in 1960, Israel left for the University of British Columbia’s Faculty of Social Work, graduating after two years.

During a summer visit home to Montreal, he met and subsequently married Leah Turowicz, also a Montreal native. They wed in 1962 and moved to Vancouver where Israel completed his Social Work degree. After a final year in B.C., the couple returned and settled in Montreal where Israel obtained work with the Jewish Family Service, remaining for four years. During this time, Israel was also occupied in obtaining an advanced Diploma in Social Work Research at McGill. No slouch, this Liquornik!

Israel and Leah made the State of Israel a priority in their lives and after Israel finished four years at the Maimonides Hospital for the Aged, the Liquorniks headed off to Israel for a year. This affection for Israel was an integral aspect of their life together and remains so to this day as evidenced by their many trips there over their married life.

Following their return to Canada, Israel joined an agency where he spent a significant part of his professional career—the Ville Marie Social Centre. Ville Marie was the place where Israel spent 18 years and where he did both case work and research. After a stint at a local agency, Israel retired at 64. He and Leah would have been content to remain there in the Chaumedey/Laval area but, in a story familiar too many (including me), their three kids caused them to move to Toronto as the three of them had settled here. In 2008, the couple made the move and shortly thereafter became members of Beth Tzedec since their daughter, Shira Liquornik and her husband Robert Garmaise and their family were already members. They have not looked back since, and as sure as night follows day, the Liquorniks are regular attendees at the Shabbat service.

Leah Liquornik had a more difficult path. When she attended University as an evening student, she also worked during the day as a secretary in order to assist her parents. She was working by the time she was 17. After starting a degree in Sociology at Concordia University, she switched to Jewish Studies, her passion that remains so to this day.

After her marriage to Israel in 1962, it was not long before she was a mother with three children born in 1964, 1966 and 1968. It was after the children were older and in the Jewish Day School in Montreal that Leah returned to the work force and then to school later to...
finish her studies at McGill in Jewish Studies. Leah worked for a couple years as a teacher and then was asked to join the Resource Centre for Jewish Teachers in Montreal where she spent a large part of her career. Through all of that, she obtained a Librarian degree at Concordia. In short, Leah Liquornik was a serious student, teacher and administrator.

When Israel and Leah look back of their lives, they see the foundation they built formed the strong bond between them, their attachment to their three children, seven grandchildren and even one great grandchild, their deep connection to synagogue life and, of course, their love of Israel.

In fact, as I wrote this article, Israel and Leah were preparing for yet another trip to Israel to recharge. Just ask them about it the next time you see them at a Shabbat service!
**ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL:**
**Spiritual Grandeur and Human Dignity**
**with Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl**

**Wednesdays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 7:30 PM**

50 years after the death of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, we’ll examine his legacy as a scholar, theologian and activist. We’ll begin with a documentary and discussion (recently screened at the Toronto Jewish Film Festival), then explore some of Heschel’s writing.

1. Heschel documentary/discussion
2. Scholar: medieval, mystical, rabbinic, hasidic
3. Theologian: wonder, world, word.
4. Activist: Interfaith, Social ethics

Click [here](#) for more info.

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**Join the work of the Beth Tzedec REDI Committee**

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.

Our mission is to champion the inclusion of all members of the Jewish community at Beth Tzedec. We work to promote and support actions of equity and anti-racism within our *kehilla*, and to foster a reputation of diversity and inclusion for all Jews.

New members are always welcome. Meetings happen approximately every 6 weeks. We invite anyone who is interested in contributing to this meaningful work to join us. Please get in touch with [REDI@beth-tzedec.org](mailto:REDI@beth-tzedec.org).
Torah and Tree Pose Series

with Marcee Bar-Isaac and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Mondays December 5, January 16, February 13, March 13, April 24, May 8 and June 5 9:00 to 10:00 AM

Join us for a brief Torah text study followed by yoga and moments of mindfulness and meditation. Please bring your own yoga mat and water.

Cost: $10 per session or $36 for four sessions.

Presented by

Grieving Together
SUPPORT GROUP

Led by Rabbi Fryer Bodzin and Yacov Fruchter

Mondays, December 5 & 19, January 9 & 23 and February 6 & 20 at 7:45 PM

Pre-registration required at https://tinyurl.com/grieving-together-group

Presented by
**Family Ḥanukkah Program with Mad Science!**

**Saturday, December 17 at 5:45 PM**

Get ready for Ḥanukkah with a special Mad Science Fire and Ice show! We will add our own Havdalah fire to the party, and dinner will also be served.

No charge, but pre-registration is requested by clicking [here](#).

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**Tu B’Shevat Family Celebration**

**Sunday, February 5 at 4:30 PM**

Celebrate Tu B’Shevat, the Jewish New Year for Trees! We will eat and drink the foods of Israel, learn how to help our local trees and other fun activities.

Watch for registration information coming soon.
Welcoming Penina and Joven

Beth Tzedec is honoured to introduce the two newest members to our team. Welcome Penina Hoffnung as Beth Tzedec’s Family Engagement Specialist, and Joven Pinol in our Accounts Receivable role.

Penina Hoffnung
Relocating to Toronto from Philadelphia, Penina Hoffnung holds a Master’s degree in Jewish Education from Gratz College in the US and has spent over 20 years in community outreach and engagement, as well as education and faith development. Most recently, Penina has led operations planning, programming, and membership for the Kesher Israel Congregation in Pennsylvania. In addition, she was the Senior Manager for Community Engagement for the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia and played an integral role in engaging under-served and untapped groups in Jewish communal life.

Her professional experience within Jewish community organizations, specifically with organizing and facilitating various engagement and outreach events, makes Penina the ideal addition to the role of Family Engagement Specialist.

You can contact Penina by phone at 416-781-3514 ext. 233 or by email at phoffnung@beth-tzedec.org.

Joven Pinol
Joven graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Accountancy in Manila, Philippines. He spent most of his career in Internal audit and credit and collections before immigrating to Canada in 2007. He joined a Jewish not-for-profit organization in 2008 and worked in accounts receivable for ten years.

This year, 2022, marks his return to NPOs and is thrilled to join Beth Tzedec to work once again with the Jewish community.

When not working, Joven loves hanging out with his wife and daughter.

Joven can be reached by phone at 416-781-3514, ext. 266 or by email at jpinol@beth-tzedec.org.

Register at ECRUSY.org/cancon23
Care

Grieving Together Support Group
led by Rabbi Fryer Bodzin and
Yacov Fruchter

Monday evenings, December 5 & 19,
January 9 & 23 and February 6 & 20
7:45 to 9:00 PM

The loss of a loved one at any time is challenging. Judaism has a clear set of mourning rituals that help us relearn to be in the world after our significant loss. For many of us, these rituals have been altered or limited, just as the rest of life has been full of uncertainties.

Loss during the time of COVID-19 brings a host of other issues that may complicate our grief and bereavement. What has not changed is our desire to support you at this time, and our belief in the power of coming together as a community.

Join us here at Beth Tzedec as we gather together for the opportunity to meet, support and share—together.

Pre-registration required via
https://tinyurl.com/grieving-together-group
or call the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.

CONNECT

Coldest Night of the Year

Saturday, February 25 7:00 PM

Beth Tzedec is proud to once again join Ve’ahavta for Coldest Night of The Year—a national winter walk for people of all ages helping local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness.

Register as a team or individually, raise funds in support of Ve’ahavta’s programs, and join us to nosh, walk and freeze your tushy off to demonstrate you care—because it’s cold out there..

Registration is required via
https://cnoy.org/location/torontoforesthill
or call the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.

PRESENTED BY BETH TZEDEC AND VE’AHAVTA

Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun

Winter Term: Fridays, January 20 & 27, February 3, 10, 17 & 24 and March 3, 10, 27 & 24
11:15 AM to 12:00 NOON

Children up to 18 months old with an adult caregiver are invited to join us as we welcome Shabbat with a 45-minute class with Shabbat songs and blessings, ḥallah, grape juice and lots of fun with our partner, L’Dance Classes.

Cost: $120 for members; $180 non members.
Pre-registration required here.

Teddy Bear Havdalah

Saturday, February 11
5:45 to 7:15 PM

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

Cost: TBC. Pre-registration is required by Monday, February 6 via https://TBC.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING

Teddy Bear  Havdalah
20s and 30s Shabbat Dinner
Friday, February 10    6:00 PM
Join Beth Tzedec 20s and 30s and Annex Shul as we gather for a winter Shabbat dinner with guests from Dror Israel, an organization in Israel seeking to effect meaningful, long-term educational and social change to promote solidarity, democracy, peace and equality.
We begin with our Shabbat at the Floor Service followed by a catered Shabbat dinner at 7:00 PM.
Cost for dinner: $18 per person. Watch for registration link coming soon.

Torah and Tree Pose Series
with Marcee Bar-Isaac and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin
Mondays, December 5, January 16, February 13, March 13, April 24, May 8 and June 5
9:00 to 10:00 AM
Join us for a brief Torah text study followed by yoga and moments of mindfulness and meditation. Please bring your own yoga mat and water.
Cost: $10 per session or $36 for four sessions. Pre-registration is required via https://tinyurl.com/torah-and-tree-pose-2022.
PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING AND ROBBINS HEBREW ACADEMY

Hadashot for Teens
(For teens in Grades 9 to 12)
Tuesdays, December 6, January 10, February 14, March 28 and May 2
6:00 to 7:30 PM
Hang out with our shinshinit Amit at Aroma Café in Spadina Village to discuss the latest hadashot (news) from Israel and get a free Israeli Aroma drink!
This is a drop-in program. RSVP to Sylvie Moscovitz at smoscovitz@beth-tzedec.org.

Family Shabbat Dinners
Fridays, December 16, January 20 and February 24
5:15 to 7:00 PM
Join us for a children’s Shabbat experience that builds Jewish knowledge and community. We start at 9:30 AM with loosely structured activities, and at 10:00 AM we divide into older (Jr. Congregation) and younger (Mini Minyans) groups for tefillah (prayers) and an activity connected to the weekly Torah portion. Following a snack and a program with our shinshinit Amit or a guest, we return to our families and help lead the concluding prayers of the service.

Cost: $60/family (Beth Tzedec members); $70/family (non-members). Registration is required the Monday preceding each event.
Family Hanukkah Celebration with A Mad Science Fire and Ice Show  
Friday, December 17  
5:45 to 7:15 PM  
Get ready for Hanukkah with a special Mad Science fire and ice show! We will add our own Havdalah fire to the party, and dinner will also be served.  

Tu B’Shevat Family Celebration  
Sunday, February 5  
4:30 to 6:00 PM  
Celebrate Tu B’Shevat, the Jewish New Year for Trees! We will eat and drink the foods of Israel, learn how to help our local trees and spend some time talking about how we can effect positive change on our environment.  
Watch for registration information and link coming soon.

Body & Soul Winter Walking Group with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin  
Fridays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25 and February 1 & 8  
9:30 to 10:45 AM  
Exercise your body and soul with Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin for a bit of Torah and some indoor walking at Yorkdale Mall. We will meet in front of Roots store and learn a bit of Torah together before we walk.  
No charge. Registration is required via https://tinyurl.com/winter-walking-group.  
PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING

Teddy Bear Havdalah  
Saturday, February 11  
5:45 to 7:15 PM  
Everyone is invited to say goodbye to Shabbat with music, Havdalah, dinner, a special story and a very enjoyable time with friends and family.  
Watch for registration information and link coming soon.

CELEBRATION 75  
Tuesday, November 29 • 8:00 PM  
(at Beth Tzedec, 1700 Bathurst St., Toronto)  
Mercaz-Masorti and Beth Tzedec present an evening celebrating the UN’s vote to establish a Jewish State in Israel, with a video presentation by Ambassador Bob Rae, an exhibit of David Matlow’s Herzl memorabilia, refreshments and music.  
For more information, visit beth-tzedec.org or mercaz.ca.  
Presented in partnership with
Learn

Torah Through the Ages with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin
Every Thursday morning 10:00 AM
Rabbi Fryer Bodzin looks at the weekly Torah portion with traditional and modern commentaries. This series will be presented via Zoom. Having an Etz Chaim Humash will be beneficial; other materials will be provided.

The Institute for Jewish Learning in Memory of Anne and Max Tanenbaum

Talking Torah with Daniel Silverman
Every Shabbat morning 9:30 AM
Take a fresh look at the weekly Haftarah with traditional and modern interpretations of the weekly reading. Intellectually stimulating and challenging.

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.
Sessions added regularly. Check our website at https://tinyurl.com/conversations-over-coffee.

Learn Talmud with Reb Steve
Monday evenings 7:30 PM
One of Judaism’s greatest strengths is its affinity for diverse opinions and the debate, for the “sake of Heaven” to implement God’s will in our lives. The Talmud is the source from which this affinity for debate and the code of Jewish halakhah (law) is derived. Reb Steve will continue leading this series at a slow and deliberate pace, studying a single page of Talmud each week.

The Institute for Jewish Learning in Memory of Anne and Max Tanenbaum

iEngage: The Palestinian Conflict from a Jewish Lens with Reb Steve
Mondays, December 6, January 5 and February 2 7:30 PM
Join Rabbi Steven Wernick each month for this monthly series where we will confront the challenges posed by the Palestinian conflict to life in Israel and the Middle East, viewed through a Jewish values lens. Learn about these critical issues through video, text and discussion, utilizing video lectures from Hartman’s team of internationally renowned scholars to address core questions pertaining to the necessity and significance of the State of Israel.
Presented in Partnership with the Shalom Hartman Institute

Mizmor Monthly with Hazzan Sidney Ezer and Asher Farber
Wednesday, December 21 7:30 PM
Saturday, January 21 at 7:00 PM
Saturday, February 18 at 7:30 PM
Join us as we preview the themes of the upcoming Jewish month through music and song with the opportunity for all to sing along.
This program is offered in person and via livestream at https://bethtzedec.tv.
Learn to Chant a Haftarah!
with Lorne Hanick
Mondays, January 9, 16, 23 & 30, February 6, 13 & 27 and March 13
7:45 to 9:00 PM

Ritual director Lorne Hanick leads this beginner’s course on cantillation trope in general and the application of the cantillation to learning to chant haftarah (the prophetic reading that follows the Torah reading on Shabbat, festivals and other special days with goal that you learn a haftarah chant publicly! Reading knowledge of Hebrew is required. Materials and sample texts will be provided.

No charge. Registration is required via https:/ /bethtzedectoronto.shulcloud.com/form/learn-to-chant-haftarah.html

The Institute for Jewish Learning in Memory of Anne and Max Tanenbaum

Abraham Joshua Heschel: Spiritual Grandeur and Human Dignity with Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl
Wednesdays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25
7:30 PM

On the 50th anniversary of Rabbi Heschel’s death, we examine major moments in his life story, explore the breadth of his theology and consider his pursuit of social justice and interfaith dignity.

No charge. Registration is required via https://TBC

The Institute for Jewish Learning in Memory of Anne and Max Tanenbaum

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 or virtually on Zoom:
Sundays: https://zoom.us/j/894447868
Weekdays: https://zoom.us/j/73314765

You can also join by phone. Visit www.beth-tzedec.org for the phone numbers and meeting IDs.

Weekday Minḥah-Ma’ariv Services
Every Sunday to Thursday evening; check website for times

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

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

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 and livestreamed via https://bethtzedec.tv.

For a taste of our Shabbat at the Floor services click here.

Shabbat at the Floor Services
Friday evenings, December 2 and January 6 at 6:00 PM

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

Prepare to be moved and inspired. The Shabbat at the Floor services are offered in person and livestreamed via https://bethtzedec.tv.

For candle-lighting and service times, refer to our website calendar.
Shabbat Sanctuary Services  
**Every Saturday morning  9:30 AM**  
Our Shabbat Service offers the energy and inspiration of a complete spiritual and liturgical Shabbat experience as you sing along with Hazzan Sidney Ezer. Rabbi Steven Wernick and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin offer insights into our Torah reading, expertly chanted by ritual director Lorne Hanick. Lift your soul in prayer as you sing with us or close your eyes in meditation and be carried away by the magnificent harmonic sounds of the service. Services are offered for in person daveners and livestreamed via https://bethtzedec.tv.

Musical Participatory Services  
**Saturdays, December 3 & 17, January 7 & 21 and February 4 & 18  9:30 AM**  
Join us for a musical participatory service led by Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and our small vocal ensemble, The HarmonEzers. We introduce new melodies and revive older and familiar ones in a way that will be sure to get our toes tapping and our voices singing in harmony. Services are offered for in person daveners and livestreamed via https://bethtzedec.tv.

Little Minyan Service  
**Saturdays, December 3 & 17, January 7 & 21 and February 4 & 25  9:30 AM**  
Looking to be more actively involved in the worship experience? The Little Minyan offers a traditional service in a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere. Participants lead portions of the service, read Torah and Haftarah, and share Torah insights. Torah readers, daveners and those wishing to give a D’var Torah are always welcome. Come participate or simply experience a Shabbat service full of song, spirit and warmth.

Minḥah / Seudah Shlisheet / Ma’ariv Services  
**Every Saturday evening; check website for times**  
Join us for Minḥah followed by Seudah Shlisheet (the third Sabbath meal) and Torah study. We will then return to the Chapel for Ma’ariv and Havdalah following. This Service is offered in-person only.

Short and Sweet Family Service  
**Saturdays, December 3, January 14, February 4 and March 4  10:30 AM**  
Our monthly Short and Sweet Family Service—led by Daniel Silverman and supported by other Beth Tzedec staff and volunteers—offers an engaging, lively prayer service incorporating the participation of the children, teens and families in attendance, followed by a community dairy luncheon. This Service is offered for in-person participation only. 
No charge; RSVPs appreciated to Daniel via email at dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org.

Am Zu Ga’alta: A Musical Shabbat Weekend marking Shabbat Shirah and Refugee Awareness Shabbat  
**Friday, February 3 at 6:00 PM  Saturday, February 4  9:30 AM**  
Join us for a special weekend in honour of Israel’s 75th birthday and Refugee Awareness Shabbat with a musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service and community Shabbat dinner, featuring music from many world Jewish communities whose waves of immigration helped define and shape the nation that Israel has become. The celebrations continue on Saturday morning at our Musical Participatory Service led by Cantor Ezer and the HarmonEzers. Both Services are offered in person and via livestream. Watch for dinner reservations opening soon.
Celebrate

Shabbat honouring Rabbi Steven Wernick

Saturday, December 3 at 9:30 AM

Beth Tzedec is proud to host a celebratory Shabbat and Congregational Kiddush honouring Rabbi Steven Wernick who will receive an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary in recognition of his achievements over many years of distinguished service.

Join us at one of our two Shabbat morning services:

Musical Participatory Service at 9:30 AM in the Sanctuary, led by Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and the HarmonEzers and a pulpit presentation from guest Yizhar Hess, Deputy Chair of the World Zionist Organization (WZO)

Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service, led by Daniel Silverman and Yacov Fruchter, beginning at 10:30 AM in the Orenstein Mezzanine Hall

Following Services, we will all gather for an opportunity to share a mazal tov and a l’chaim with Reb Steve at a special, enhanced Congregational Kiddush in his honour. Dr. Yizhar Hess will be our guest speaker. Be sure to mark your calendars and join us.

To make a Tribute contribution and send a personal message to Rabbi Wernick, visit https://tinyurl.com/honouring-reb-steve.

JTS Rabbinic Convocation and Honours Ceremony

Tuesday, December 5 (via livestream)

At the Convocation Ceremonies in New York this year, our Rabbi Steven Wernick will receive an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. The convocation ceremonies and honours will be livestreamed by JTS to all those who register in advance.

To register to view the livestream, click here>>.

Eit Zamir: A Time for Healing, Renewal and Celebration

Saturday, February 4 at 8:00 PM

It is the time for song. We have travelled and continue to travel quite a journey through the pandemic. On the weekend of Shabbat Shirah, join artist-in-residence Aviva Chernick, Cantor Sidney Ezer and featured guest multi-lingual musician and flamenco dancer Tamar Ilana as we acknowledge the healing that is necessary and celebrate the renewal that is possible.

Ticket sales open January 2, 2023. Check our website for information and links.
Men’s Club Makes a Difference

Men’s Club 2023 Scholarship Applications

The Beth Tzedec Men’s Club is pleased to sponsor our long standing scholarship program to assist young men and women who are pursuing programs of higher Jewish education.

The criteria we use to judge each applicant is based on the following and should be given careful consideration when applying.

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

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

A copy of your most recent school transcripts must be included.

The deadline for applications is April 30 2023. Applications received after that date will not be considered.

All candidates will be notified in May of their status and scholarship winners or their representatives are expected to attend the Awards Breakfast to receive their awards.

The completed application form should be signed, dated and returned by April 30, 2023.

Download the application at tinyurl.com/scholarship-application-2023.

Submit applications to:

Hersh Rosenthal  
Chairman Beth Tzedec Men’s Club Scholarship Fund  
1700 Bathurst Street  
Toronto, ON M5P 3K3  
hershr@rogers.com

Yom Hashoah Candles

The Men’s Club will be distributing Yom Hashoah candles to our members. Volunteers are needed to help with packing candles and will host a pizza candle packing session early in the new year. Teens can get community service hours for volunteering to help with this project. Volunteers will also be needed to help with delivery of the candle packages. For more information, contact Adam Rachlin by email at arachlin@sympatico.ca.

Shirat HaḤodesh

Each month, our shinshinit Amit Mizrachi will share an Israeli song to inspire, engage and entertain us as we get ready to usher in Shabbat. The selections will be added to our website and shared via enewsletter.
Out of the Cold

The 2022–2023 season of Beth Tzedec/Beth Sholom Out of the Cold Program will continue to operate out of St. Luke’s United Church at Sherbourne and Carlton as we have throughout the pandemic. This program has always been an integral part of our ḥesed work, and more than ever, the homeless people in Toronto need our help.

COVID has intensified and has become a humanitarian disaster. Our primary goal has been to bring our guests in from “out of the cold”—if only for a short time—to offer a warm, nutritious meal during the harsh winter months. Our downtown OOTC location will operate from December 7 to April 26 (though the OOTC Program at St. Luke’s operates all year long). We will continue to sponsor the dinner Sunday and Wednesday nights, and will provide 6,150 meals throughout the winter. The communal meal we offer guests is very similar to that which was served at Beth Sholom, although the number of guests that can be served at any one time will be very limited.

The meals will be offered by several faith-based communities, giving us an opportunity to work together in solidarity to help those in need. The program is staffed by both frontline and harm-reduction workers. There are some volunteer positions available for adults, working onsite or delivering food to those in encampments. Due to the change in structure and location, we are unable to provide volunteer opportunities for teens at St. Luke’s. However, there are many wonderful ways for teenagers to get involved and earn community service hours, including initiating clothing drives, preparing sandwiches, and baking cookies or muffins at the synagogue.

Equally important is our winter clothing drive. We have always been able to provide much-needed warm winter clothing, boots, shoes and other items. Last season, we transferred our entire supply of winter clothing, boots and accessories to St. Luke’s, distributing everything to our OOTC guests and to various encampments and shelters in the downtown core.

We desperately need to replenish our supply and welcome donations of new or gently-used men’s and women’s winter clothing: warm winter jackets, sweatpants, sweatshirts, flannel shirts, winter boots, hiking boots, running shoes, hand warmers, flashlights, thermal underwear, waterproof gloves, etc. Underwear is the number one item asked for by our guests, but they must be brand new.

If you are or know someone in the business of manufacturing or selling any of these items and could donate products, please contact me at the email listed above. We would be most grateful for the donation.

Note that we do no accept summer clothing, dress suits, dress pants or dress shirts, wool clothing and coats, leather and suede coats, and baseball caps.

Our OOTC program operates entirely on donations and does not receive any government funding. A wonderful way to contribute is by purchasing tribute cards in honour of or in remembrance of someone special, with the proceeds earmarked for Out of the Cold.

If you would like to sponsor a night’s meal, that would be so very much appreciated.

For more information, contact the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511 or email info@beth-tzedec.org to leave a message for me.
Hesed Volunteer Opportunities

Refugee Sponsorship Electronic and Furniture Drive
We continue to await the arrival of the Eritrean family we are sponsoring and are encouraged that they may be in Canada in the next few months. We are collecting mobile phones, laptops and furniture for them. Please email yfruchter@beth-tzedec.org to arrange donations.

Hallah For Hesed
Since the beginning of the pandemic, volunteers have been delivering hallah on Fridays to isolated members of the Beth Tzedec community who live between Dufferin and Yonge and Bloor and Sheppard. We are looking for more volunteers to help with deliveries and to spend a few minutes checking in with those receiving the hallah. If you are interested in receiving hallah or delivering them, please email Chelsea Wolfe at cewolfe01@gmail.com

Out of the Cold Sunday Hot Lunch at St Michaels & All Angels Church
(Jan 22–Feb 12)
Beth Tzedec will once again support this Out of the Cold lunch program in our neighbourhood for four weeks. Volunteers are needed from 11:00 AM–1:00 PM at 611 St. Clair Ave. W. All must be vaccinated and wear masks. Volunteers of all ages are welcome! Email yfruchter@beth-tzedec.org to volunteer.

Coldest Night of the Year with Ve’ahavta
Beth Tzedec is proud to once again join Ve’ahavta for Coldest Night of The Year—a national winter walk for people of all ages helping local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness. We will be walking in support of Ve’ahavta and will begin with havdalah in the Beth Tzedec parking lot.

Join us on February 25, 2023, at 7:00 PM to nosh, walk, and freeze your tushy off to demonstrate you care—because it’s cold out there.
To donate and/or join the Beth Tzedec team, click here>>

Hesed Calls and Visits
There are many members of our community who are experiencing illness and/or isolation and are interested in receiving phone calls or in-person visits. If you would like to participate in this act of hesed, or know someone who would benefit from this, please email yfruchter@beth-tzedec.org.

EMERGENCY CLOTHING, TENT, SLEEPING BAG & COFFEE SHOP GIFT CARD DRIVE FOR OUR OUT OF THE COLD GUESTS

Sunday, December 4 to Saturday, December 17 from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Sunday, December 18 from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Beth Tzedec Congregation, 1700 Bathurst St., the security booth, entrance to parking lot from Avenal Dr. and Warwick Ave.

We Urgently Need:
Sleeping bags, tents, waterproof tarps, hand/feet warmers, large tins of coffee, tea, granola bars. Gift cards to coffee shops & fast food chains so our guests warm up, have a hot drink & eat. Please place gift cards in an envelope marked out of the cold & hand them to security

Clothing: Down coats, ski jackets, parkas, snow pants, winter hats, scarves, gloves, waterproof gloves, fleece sweaters/sweaters, hoodies, sweatshirts, sweatpants, new thermal underwear, winter boot, running shoes, hiking boots, blue jeans, corduroy pants, new underwear.

Please note: adult sizes only, in excellent condition. No summer clothing, no suits, dress pants or dress shirts. No wool, leather, suede coats or ball caps.
Boxes of granola bars and pre-packages snacks are also welcome.
Make a donation, send a tribute card and include your listing here to honour your friends and loved ones. For more information about tribute opportunities, call the office at 416-781-3511.

**Camp Ramah Fund**
Phyllis Flatt, honouring Irving Matlow on his special birthday.

**Cantor Sidney Ezer Discretionary Fund**
Sam and Melissa Glazer, honouring Jeffrey and Terry Cummings on their 50th anniversary.
Marc Goodman, honouring the memory of Isha Goodman.

**Daily Minyan Breakfast**
An anonymous sponsorship, in memory of Margaret Ann Moore.
Elliott Eisen, commemorating the yahrtzeit of David Eisen.
Nancy and Bruce Elman, honouring Jacob Elman on his tefillin bar mitzvah.
Brian, Kathy and Bobby Feldman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Charles David Feldman.

Jeffrey and Jane Gertner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Samuel Gertner.
Lorne and Robin Glazer and Dr. Joan Tucker and the late Mark Solomon, honouring Phoebe Solomon and Michael Glazer on their marriage.

Morty and Elaine Goldbach, honouring Philip Goldbach and Adina Strom on their marriage.
Dr. Eudice Goldberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Tillie Goldberg.

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

Jeffrey and Debbie Levan and Rachel and Brad Enkin, honouring Jordi Levan and Zack Enkin on their marriage.
The Mandel and Ostroff Families, honouring the birth of their daughter. Elizabeth and Andy Mostowski and Fay and Jamie Wilks, honouring Lizy Mostowski and Adam Wilks on their marriage.
The Nemoy and Leibel Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Helen Nemoy.
The Nemoy and Leibel Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Max B. Nemoy.

Carolyn Pascoe, honouring Jordan Abugov and Rachel Langer on their marriage.

Lissie and Mitch Sanders, honouring Matthew Sanders and Celidh Mulder on their marriage.
Alan and Faye Shiner, honouring the birth of their granddaughter Erin Jamie.
The Sobel Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Ben Sobel.
The Sobel Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Eli Sobel.

Felicia Valo and Arlene Travis, marking the conclusion of kaddish for Erica Travis.
The Walters Family, marking the conclusion of kaddish for Manley Walters.

Thea Weisdorf and Allan Kanee and David Weisdorf and Risa Levine-Weisdorf and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Isa Elman Ots.
Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Meryom Dvorah Wernick.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring the 98th birthday of Louis Whitehouse.
The Winston Family, marking the conclusion of shloshim for Sam Grymek.
The Zimmerman Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Zoltan Zimmerman.

**Daily Minyan Breakfast Fund**
Jeffrey and Jane Gertner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Samuel Gertner.
Ellie Goldenberg, acknowledging Sheila Goldenberg in memory of the 12th yahrtzeit of Gerald Goldenberg.
Karen Mann and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Ruthe Mann.

Leanne and David Matlow and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Jack Singer.
Sara Wunch Glick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Moses Kamelgarn.

**Food Insecurity Fund**
Liddy Beck, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Mary Beck.
Marilyn Debra, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Dora Litwack.

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

**General Fund**
Bernice, Larry and Evan Cappe, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Benjamin Switzman.

Pearl and David Elman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Robert Feldman.

Fran Giddens and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Ray Rozenperl.

Carrie Heller-Altfeld, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Dr. E. Maurice Heller.

Lou and Magda Hoffer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Garry Hoffer.

Norman Kahn, honouring Gerry and Sherna Posner on their 55th anniversary.

Riva and Jerry Kirsh, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Toby Waltman.

David Koff, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Judith Koff.

Mildred Krieman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Morris Krieman.

Norman Mogil and family, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of Harry Mogil and Brenda Mazelow.

Ruth Nichols, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Anne Weisman.

Liane Pilzt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Sonia Hift.

William Prusin, acknowledging Pam Bierstock in memory of Sally Libman.

Morris and Lorraine Rothbard and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Harry Rotbard.

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Morris Greenberg.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, wishing Larry Wallach a refuah sheleimah.
Gella and Paul Rothstein, honouring Dena Libman on being named this year's Kallat Torah.
Paul and Gella Rothstein, honouring Oscar Zimmerman on being named this year's Hattan Bereisheet.

Barbara Simmons, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Lance Barash.

Jonathon Springer, honouring David and Risa Weisdorf and wishing them a Rosh Hashanah.

Cantor Deborah Staiman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Shirley Jane Staiman.
Larry and Nina Wallach, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Rubin Wallach.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring Yaacov Fruchter on his special birthday.

**Kallat Torah**
Eli Sobel.
Ben Sobel.

**Kislev 5783 • December 2022 | Tributes**

**Shirley Promislow**

**Sally Libman**

**Sonia Hift**

**Sara Libman**

**Shirley Promislow**

**Sonia Hift**

**Sophie Gort**

**Shirley Promislow**

**Sonia Hift**

**Sophie Gort**

**Shirley Promislow**

**Sonia Hift**

**Sophie Gort**

**Shirley Promislow**

**Sonia Hift**

**Sophie Gort**

**Shirley Promislow**

**Sonia Hift**

**Sophie Gort**

**Shirley Promislow**

**Sonia Hift**

**Sophie Gort**
Paul and Gella Rothstein, honouring the memory of Marjorie Rothstein.

Raphael Rush, honouring the Beth Tzedec community and Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for children's programming and the warm welcome they received.

Susan Schendel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Edith Milder.

Mildred Schwartz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Max Schwartz.

Sylvia Steinberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Rozica Glanzstein.

Gary and Marcie Mansfield, honouring Dena Libman on being named this year's Kallat Torah.

Gary and Marcie Mansfield, honouring Oscar Zimmerman on being named this year's Hattan Bereisheet.

Sheldon and Patti Rotman, acknowledging David Promislow in memory of Shirley Promislow.

Sheldon and Patti Rotman, acknowledging Ivan Betcherman in memory of Frances Betcherman.

Ralph and Judy Shiff, acknowledging David Promislow in memory of Shirley Promislow.

And Lorraine Sandler, acknowledging Ruth Hyman in memory of Esther Brown.

Alan and Lorraine Sandler, honouring Dena Libman on being named this year's Kallat Torah.

Ralph and Judy Shiff, acknowledging David Promislow in memory of Shirley Promislow.

Rose Sobel and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Benjamin Chelin.

Rose Sobel and Duke Segel, acknowledging Sandra Dunkelman in memory of Fred Dunkelman.

Mel and Ruth Steinhardt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Bessie Steinhardt.

Ruth and Mel Steinhardt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Rose Sigel.

Helene Kerr, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Max Rosenthal.

Esther Westelman, acknowledging Earl Altman in memory of Helen Altman.

Howard (Hy) Cooper Trust Fund

Art and Carole Andrews, acknowledging the Nayman Family in memory of Dr. Candace Nayman.


Sandra and Julius Kirschner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Mildred Sonshine.

Julius and Sandi Kirschner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Tom Kirschner.

Jewish Family Living Fund

Beryl, Stuart and Jordan Ducoffe, honouring Pearl and David Elman on the birth of their great-grandson Micah.

Tzipie Freedman, honouring Pearl and David Elman on the birth of their great-grandson Micah.

Miriam Melamed, wishing Donald Carr and Judy Feld Carr a happy Rosh Hashanah.

Earl and Ely Miller, honouring Jeff and Terry Cummings on their 50th anniversary.

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.
Robert Milne and family, wishing Bunny a happy birthday.
Brenda Orser, honouring Irving Matlow on his 95th birthday.

Jonathan Kahn Memorial Fund
Norman and Jackie Kahn, honouring Dena Libman on being named this year’s Kallat Torah.
Norman and Jackie Kahn, honouring Patti and Sheldon Rotman on the birth of their granddaughter.
Dayna and Jordan Waltman, acknowledging Norman and Jackie Kahn in memory of Jonathan Kahn.

Kaddish Fund
Marilyn Appleton, commemorating the yahrzeit of Michael Appleton.

Kosher Food Bank
Denise Chiрику, wishing Phyllis Flatt a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Shep Gangbar, acknowledging Milton Naiberg in memory of David and Sharon Naiberg.
Zina Glassman and family, wishing Phyllis Flatt a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Nathan Greenberg and family, acknowledging Sandi Dunkelman and family in memory of Fred Dunkelman.
Lorne Grossman, commemorating the yahrzeit of Marvin Irving Grossman.
Irving Matlow, commemorating the yahrzeit of Esther Matlow.
David and Mona Rich, honouring Gerald and Sherna Posner on their 55th anniversary.
Morris and Lorraine Rotbard, commemorating the yahrzeit of Sara Rotbard.
Loren and Mark Roth, in honour of becoming Canadian citizens.
Gella and Paul Rothstein, honouring Irving Matlow on his 95th birthday.
Michel Silberfeld and Susan Frenes, honouring Laura Lesser on her graduation.
Barbara Simmons, commemorating the yahrzeit of Esther Barash.
Helen, John, Sharon, Stella and Esther Singer and families, commemorating the yahrzeit of David Singer.
David and Lisa Weisdorf, commemorating the yahrzeit of Helene Springer.

Little Minyan Fund
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging Earl Altman in memory of Helen Altman.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring Linda Marleny Dow and Joel Pearl on the birth of their son Eitan.

Membership Relief Fund
Marvin and Mary Cooper, commemorating the yahrzeit of Dora Cooper.
The Cummings Family, commemorating the yahrzeit of George Cummings.
Zina Glassman and family, wishing Carole and Harold Wolfe a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Barry Greenberg and Susan Laufer, commemorating the yahrzeit of Solomon Yachnin.
Susan Laufer and Barry Greenberg, commemorating the yahrzeit of William Laufer.

Honey Milstein and family, commemorating the yahrzeit of Irving Milstein.
Annette Oelbaum, commemorating the yahrzeiten of Ronald Oelbaum, Lil Oelbaum and Esther Wald.
Karen Rabinowicz, commemorating the yahrzeit of Harry Siegel.
Charles Radzinski, commemorating the yahrzeit of Thomas Radzinski.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging the Promislow Family in memory of Shirley Promislow.
Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, honouring Leah Mauer and Josh Zelikovitz on the birth of their son Isaac Zev.
Gella and Paul Rothstein, commemorating the yahrzeit of Pauline Goldhar.
The Shanfield Family, honouring Dena Libman on being named this year’s Kallat Torah.
Teresa and Larry Swern, commemorating the yahrzeit of Molly Carman.
Carole and Harold Wolfe, honouring Patti and Sheldon Rotman on the birth of their granddaughter Emmy.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, commemorating the yahrzeit of Sandra Cooperman.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Alex Abrahamowitz and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Brian Antman and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Aaron Bodzin and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Cohen and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.

Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Dr. Edward Cooperman a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Jordan Cooperman and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Farber and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hartman and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Gary Himel and Risa Mintz and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Danny Matlow a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Steven Noyek and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Gary Polan a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Dr. Sheldon and Patti Rotman and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Mr. and Mrs. Jack Urowitz and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Larry and Nina Wallach a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Matthew and Jaime Zimmerman and Otis and Penn Zimmerman a happy Rosh Hashanah.
Arlyn and Danny Zimmerman and family, wishing Sara Zarnett and family a happy Rosh Hashanah.

Music Fund
Nathan Greenberg, honouring the memory of Lola Friedberg.
Cantor Deborah Staiman, acknowledging Miriam Beckerman in memory of Dan Beckerman.

Online Learning Fund
The Ess Gezunheit Small Group, honouring Jerry Grammer on his special birthday.
Judy Libman, commemorating the yahrzeit of Dr. Arnold Cohen.
Out-of-the-Cold Fund
Kathy, Brian and Bobby Feldman, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of Gilbert and Reta Newman.
Nathan Greenberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Rebecca Greenberg.
Patti and Gary Pollock, Linda and Jeff Engle and Elka Budd and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Dolly Aiken.
Patti and Gary Pollock and family, honouring Michael and Marcia Tator on their 50th anniversary.
Gella and Paul Rothstein, acknowledging David Promislow and family in memory of Shirley Promislow.
Gella and Paul Rothstein, acknowledging Nancy Kraft in memory of Milton Shore.
Gella and Paul Rothstein, acknowledging Rose Cooper in memory of Sarah Glass.
Gella and Paul Rothstein, honouring Elaine and Eric Ostfield on their 50th anniversary.
Rose Sobel and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of George Sobel.
Cantor Deborah Staiman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Bernard Emanuel Staiman.
Mel and Ruth Steinhart, wishing Lola Solnik a refuah sheleimah.
Prayer Book Dedications (Humash)
Howard Kirshenbaum, honouring the memory of Avraham Yitzchak “Izzy” Kirshenbaum ben Rav Yehoshua.
Noah Mandel, honouring the memory of Joshua Sidney Mandel.
Corinne Promislow, acknowledging the care due to Torah scrolls.
Prayer Book Dedications (Siddur)
Millard Roth and family, honouring the memories of Juanita and Manny Roth.
Millard Roth and family, honouring the memory of Dolly Roth.
Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin Discretionary Fund
Sam and Melissa Glazer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Helen Glazer.
Sam and Melissa Glazer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Melville Potash.
Robert and Sean Milne, Stephanie and Alex Levitt, honouring Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin.
Dr. Devorah Pullan and family, honouring Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin.
Rabbi Steven Wernick Discretionary Fund
Eric Bornstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Joseph Bornstein.
Eric Bornstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Stephen (Itzhak) Bornstein.
Orah Buck and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Adam Avrom Buck.
Orah Buck, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Rachel Wigser.
Orah Buck and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Dr. Samuel Marcus Wigser.
Sam Damiani and Marni Burke, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Judith Wofford.
Bruce and Nancy Elman, honouring Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick for their thoughtul Shabbat hospitality.
Rayna Jolley, honouring Jody and Rabbi Steve Wernick.
Jerome and Pearl Kazdan, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Anna Kazdan.
Steven G. Kelman, Melissa and Amanda, and Cheryl Kelman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of David Kelman.
Harvey Kirsh, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Alex Kirsh.
Judith Kruger and family, honouring Rabbi Steven Wernick.
Millard Roth and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Faye Toabenstein.
Millard Roth, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Harry Toabenstein.
Millard Roth, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Muriel Gorsky.
Dr. Devorah Pullan and family, honouring Rabbi Steven Wernick.
Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring Rabbi Steven Wernick.
Alan Sless, honouring Rabbi Steven Wernick.
Cantor Deborah Staiman, honouring Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick on their 30th anniversary.
Allan Phillips and Marion Stendon, honouring the memory of Milton Shier.
Condolences

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

Helen Altman
Lawrence Austin
Manning Baker
Ruth Bergman
Bernie Betel
Esther Brown
Leonard Cepler
Sandra (Saundra) Chelin
Elaine-Esther Cohen
Elaine Ruth Cohen
Judit Flakierski
Dorothy Garfinkel
Dr. Barney Giblon
Linda Giddens
Sarah Glass
Henry Glatt
Susan Gurau
William Halman
Clara Halpern
William Hechter
Renee Kaiman
Jonathan Kazdan
Helen Lokash Kamin
H. David Marks, Q.C.
Joseph Merrick
Margaret Ann Moore
Ronald Rich
Robert (Bobby) Roth
Marilyn Seigel
Ronald Sherman
Milton Shier
Milton Shore
Hannah Silverstein
Simy Soberano
Ruth Tauber
Philip Turk
Herbert West

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

Memorial Plaques

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

Everything we do Today is for Tomorrow

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

If you are interested in leaving a legacy for the Congregation to name a special project, youth program or adult education seminar, we would be pleased to help you plan today for tomorrow. Email our Executive Director, Phil David at 416-781-3514 ext. 211 to discuss these opportunities in confidence.
Refugee Program
Fred and Ruth Fishman and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Adam Avrom Buck.
Nathan Greenberg and family, honouring the memory of Rabbi J. Benjamin Friedberg.
Sybil Millstone, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Leahl Milestone.
Ruth Nichols, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Hilda Nichols.
Ruth Nichols, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Maurice Reed.
Bari and Teddy Zittell, acknowledging Hyla Davis and family in memory of Michael Davis.
Bari and Teddy Zittell, acknowledging Todd and Janna Walters in memory of Manley Walters.
Bari and Teddy Zittell, honouring Irving Matlow on his 95th birthday.

The Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund
Catherine Weinberg and Todd Beallor, honouring Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl.
Sidney Brown and Sarah Tanenbaum, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Faiga Brown.
Paul and Joyce Chapnick, acknowledging Sheila Rubinoff and family in memory of Gary Rubinoff.
Janet Cohen and family, honouring Fauna Lidsky on her special birthday.

Bob and Flory Cohen, acknowledging David Promislow and family in memory of Shirley Promislow.
Mark Heller, David Heller and Steven Heller and Lisa Glassman, honouring Rabbi Friedman-Kohl.
Norman and Jackie Kahn, honouring Harold Wolfe on receiving the Charles H. Revson Award from Jewish Theological Seminary.
Murray and Adrienne Levinter, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of Jacob and Sara Levinter.
Murray and Adrienne Levinter, commemorating the yahrtzeit of William and Anne Haberman.
Nathan Lindenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Miriam Lindenberg.
Rochelle and Peter Miller, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Yale Pilz.
Phyllis Nemes, honouring Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl for his kindness and wisdom.
Hart and Marcia Nemoy, acknowledging David Promislow and family in memory of Shirley Promislow.
The Promislow Family, honouring Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl.
Sheila Rubinoff and family, honouring Rabbi Frydman-Kohl.
Janice Segal, honouring Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl on receiving the Order of Canada.
The Tanenbaum Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Max Tanenbaum.

Gerry White, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Noreen White.

The Rabbi J. Benjamin Friedberg Memorial Fund
Nathan Greenberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Carole Greenberg.
Marsha Joseph, acknowledging the Shier Family in memory of Milton Shier.

Torah Through the Ages Fund
Dr. Shoshana Ages and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Professor Arnold Ages.
Esther Westelman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of Max Westelman.

Website Development Fund honouring Lorne Hanick
Mindy Simon, honouring the memory of Zelda Simon.

Youth Initiatives Fund in memory of Adam Kruger
Judy and Stephen Kruger and Lori and Alan Goldhar, acknowledging the Goldberg Family in memory of Gerald Goldberg.
Helen, John, Sharon, Stella and Esther Singer and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of David Singer.

Sharing Perspectives 2023
An Interfaith Study Tour
Jews, Christians and Muslims together in the Holy Land
Hosted by St George’s College, Jerusalem
February 26 – March 6, 2023

Group leaders include Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton and Shayk Ibrahim Mogra. For detailed information or to register, visit
https://tinyurl.com/sharing-perspectives-2023
Eit Zamir
A Time for Healing, Renewal and Celebration

Saturday, February 4 beginning at 8:00 PM

It is the time for song. We have travelled and continue to travel quite a journey through the pandemic. On the weekend of Shabbat Shirah, join artist-in-residence Aviva Chernick, Cantor Sidney Ezer and featured guest multi-lingual musician and flamenco dancer Tamar Ilana as we acknowledge the healing that is necessary and celebrate the renewal that is possible.