



Beth Tzedec Stands with **ISRAEL** עם ישראל חי

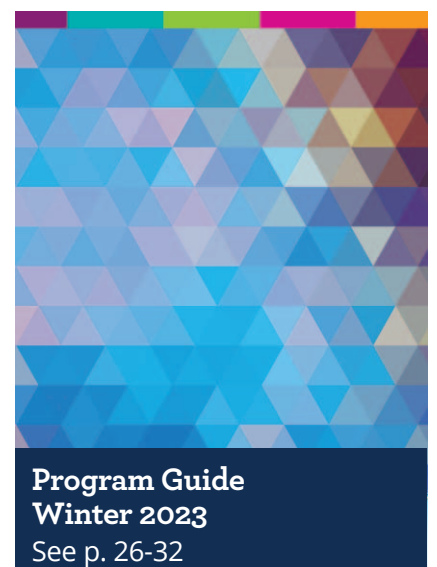
In this Issue

1 Meeting the Moment: Supporting Jewish Teens in the Face of Rising Antisemitism
DECEMBER 19 See p. 9

2 Family Program Highlights
DECEMBER & JANUARY
See p. 18

3 Shabbat Shirah Weekend Celebrations
JANUARY 26 & 27
See p. 46

Special Events





iEngage:

Together and Apart The Future of Jewish Peoplehood

with Rabbi Steven Wernick

**Thursdays, December 14, January 25, February 29,
March 14, April 25, May 23 and June 27 at 7:30 PM**

Our newest *iEngage* video curriculum explores one of the most pressing issues facing the Jewish world today—how we move from being a people with no permanent home to one with two permanent homes.

Through video lectures, interviews and textual sources, this 14-unit course addresses the complex features of Jewish peoplehood and the contemporary challenges to the Jewish people in an era in which we have moved from having no home to having two different, vibrant, homes in Israel and in North America. The curriculum examines the forces dividing the Jewish people today, including nationalism, antisemitism, dual-loyalty, and identity politics; and it imagines new conceptual frameworks that can help sustain and grow the story of our people for a new millennium.

Cost: \$25 for the year-long series. Pre-registration required
via <https://bit.ly/iengage-together-apart-2023>.

Presented in participation with the Shalom Hartman Institute



Rabbi Steven Wernick

There is a lot of talk now about the laws of war and Israel's compliance with them regarding its war with Hamas and the civilian population in Gaza. It's an important discussion and one with which most of us in the Western World are not familiar.

The Laws of War: A Review of Jewish Sources

There is a lot of talk now about the laws of war and Israel's compliance with them regarding its war with Hamas and the civilian population in Gaza. It's an important discussion and one with which most of us in the Western World are not familiar. Quite frankly, the disproportionate debate about Israel's prosecution of war when there are 31 other armed conflicts in the world is worrisome and feeds into the sense of an antisemitic double standard.

To learn more about the international rules of war and the way Israel considers them whenever it engages in combat, read *Is the IDF's Ongoing Gaza Operation Complying with the Laws of War?* by Jeremy Sharon in *The Times of Israel*.

The concept of laws of war are ancient. The Torah teaches, for example, "Before you approach a city to battle with it, you should call to it in peace. ... And if they do not make peace with you, you shall wage war with them and you may besiege them." (Deuteronomy 20:10)

And food supplies must be protected. "When, in your war against a city ... you must not destroy its trees. You may eat of them, but you must not cut them down." (Deuteronomy 20:19)

Jewish tradition lists several rules for humanitarian concerns during war. In a discussion as to the goal of war our ancestors use this text from *Zechariah* 4:6, "Not by might, and not by power, but by My Spirit alone shall all live in peace" to teach that war must never be an end to itself, it must be a means to achieve peace.

Regarding a siege and the duty to protect innocent civilians, Maimonides teaches, "When a city is besieged for the purpose of capture, it may not be

surrounded on all four sides, but only on three, in order to give an opportunity for escape for those who want to flee to save their lives." (Mishnah Torah, *Laws of Kings and Wars*, 6:7) This seems especially relevant today and is at the heart of the discussions of humanitarian corridors and supplies entering Gaza. Let's remember that the Rafah border crossing is with Egypt.

Furthermore, we learn in *Proverbs* 25:21: "If your enemy is hungry, give him bread to eat. And if he is thirsty, give him water to drink." In light of this text, the question about the siege on Gaza comes into view and legitimate discussion of Israel's actions are necessary.

Even the concept of *Pikuah Nefesh*, of saving a life taking precedence over all the other *mitzvot*, comes from a discussion of war. At the times of the Maccabees revolt against Antiochus and the Assyrian Greeks the question was asked can you defend yourself against an attack on Shabbat? The answer was yes because if you did not do so you would die and the right to life takes precedence. (*Talmud Babli*, *Shabbat* 132)

From these teachings and others, the rabbis of the *Talmud* define five categories of war and specify acceptable conditions and behaviours for each.

The first category is obligatory war. For tradition, obligatory wars are those that are fought because God commands it, as the People of Israel is journeying from Egypt to the Land of Israel and are against Amalek.

Authorized wars, or permitted wars, are wars to stop aggressors from overtaking our land, to defend

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ourselves against outside attackers and those by Jewish Kings to increase the size of Israel and to make themselves more powerful. The first two clearly apply to today's circumstance with Hamas. The final is problematic in our modern sensibilities. The *Talmud* establishes limits to the third circumstance noting that the approval of the *Sanhedrin* (70 judges) is necessary when there is a significant element of the nation does not support the war. (*Talmud Bably, Sotah 44b*) In other words, a war to expand territory and power is accountable to the people and the judiciary, a leader or even a king of Israel, cannot simply go to this type of war on a whim.

Tradition also knows of preemptive wars to stop aggressors when it is known that they are preparing to attack us. We learn in the *Talmud* that if someone is coming to attack us, we should get up earlier to destroy the attacker. This is the concept of the *rodef*. (*Talmud Bably, Sanhedrin 73a*)

Finally, protecting innocent people from attackers is permitted and according to some, obligatory but is not governed under the laws of war. Premeditated murder not in the categories above is prohibited.

In summary, our tradition views war as sometimes a necessary political tool. It is not a carte blanche for unrestricted aggression and carries moral obligations in its prosecution. The current war with Hamas is a just war—according to our tradition and international laws of war. When you read this the war itself may be over, but its debate and discussion, and the rise of antisemitism emanating from it are likely continuing. That's why we need to be informed of the legal and moral issues surrounding this war so we can effectively advocate for Israel and Jewish communities in Canada and around the world.

If you would like to discuss this further, please let me know. I look forward to speaking with you. In the meantime, let me also suggest the article "This War is Just Even Though It's Brutal. Jewish Leaders Need to be Ready to Defend It" by Yehudah Kertzer of the Shalom Hartman Institute, available in *The Forward*.



UJA FEDERATION
of Greater Toronto



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CIJA

✦ CANADA'S ✦

RALLY

FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE



JOIN US IN OTTAWA

Monday, December 4 | 1:30 PM

Parliament Hill - Ottawa



Patti Rotman

Beth Tzedec is a leader, a beacon of tzedec, of righteousness, for our Toronto community and Jewish communities around the world.

Bringing the Light

Like so many millions around the world, I awoke on October 7 to the devastating news of war and the unimaginable and barbaric attack on Israel. Innocent civilians—babies, toddlers, teens, elderly, disabled and IDF soldiers had been tortured and massacred by Hamas terrorists. Most of us are still trying to process the shock, while finding difficulty moving beyond the grief.

Furthermore, for most Jews, we have the added despair, shock and fear of our own safety. The spike in antisemitism, especially in educational institutions throughout the world, is unnerving as is the fact that more Jews were killed in Israel on the first Shabbat of October than any other day since the Holocaust.

At this current time, the hostage release situation is fluid. Although many have been freed, the families of the remaining captives are waiting patiently for the return of their loved ones. I'm certain you join me in praying for the release of ALL the hostages.

Beth Tzedec is deeply invested in the well-being of the Jewish community and is grappling with the current challenges affecting Israel. The solidarity and support shown by our entire Jewish community during trying times is indeed a source of comfort and strength. Acts of kindness and compassion, such as those exemplified by the work of Beth Tzedec Spiritual Leadership Team and members, play a vital role in fostering unity and resilience.

While it is easy to feel so helpless these days, it is comforting to know that Beth Tzedec continues to be a place of community. *Tzedakah*, kindness, compassion and love are essential elements of our core, and we incorporate those ideals in all of our programs and services. As a community, we have raised more than \$107,000 through our Victims of Terror Fund. We are proud to be part of a community that cares

for its most vulnerable. The way that our community has come together in support of our extended Jewish family is a comfort, but there is so much sadness in our collective heart right now. It is at times like these when I reflect on the power of community as a source of light in dark and troubling times.

Please know that the safety and security of our staff, members, guests and RHA is paramount. In addition to our hired security, Toronto Police Services (TPS) have put into place robust measures to protect our community. This includes increased patrols, frequent visits to Beth Tzedec and rapid incident response in and around our building. Our security team, led by Phil David and Brian Dias, is in contact with TPS and UJA to monitor any and all situations that may arise and share additional information as needed.

With darkness there is light! We have achieved many incredible goals at Beth Tzedec, and we have so much to be proud of. Our Tzedec Circle and Annual High Holy Appeal exceeded our goal and raised over \$547,000 from 192 gifts! Thank you to the Larry and Judy Tanenbaum Family Foundation and Irving and Toddy Granovsky and Family for their matching funds. A huge thank you to Jonny Ain, our Director of Development, who so capably gave us direction and to Lianne Leboff and David Matlow for their leadership and guidance throughout the campaign. I would be remiss if I didn't express much gratitude to Rabbi Wernick for his hard work and determination in obtaining many of our larger gifts.

We have officially welcomed 1,000 Generations members to your shul! It's truly heartening to hear about the significant increase in under-40 singles and families participating in our sacred spaces. The growing presence of the younger generation signifies a dynamic



and vibrant future for our community, ensuring the continuity and strength of your Congregation for generations to come.

The impressive attendance at the monthly 20s & 30s gatherings and the Family Shabbat Dinners reflects the success of our community outreach efforts and the welcoming atmosphere we have fostered. These events not only serve as platforms for spiritual connection, but also provide opportunities for building relationships and fostering a strong sense of belonging within the community. If you would like to help keep these under-40s engagement programs alive, please contact Jonny Ain at jain@beth-tzedec.org.

At Beth Tzedec, we truly appreciate our long-standing members who have called our *kehillah* home for many years. Their dedication and support have undoubtedly played a significant role in fostering a strong and resilient community that continues to thrive and grow. It is through the collective efforts and dedication of individuals like these members that the spirit of togetherness and support continues to flourish within the community.

Celebrating the hard work and commitment of volunteers is always a special occasion. Our annual Simhat Torah luncheon was a huge success, with over 110 guests enjoying a beautiful lunch and heartfelt speeches from the honourees' family members adding a personal touch to the event. Mazal tov to Gella Rothstein and Jeffrey Gertner on this well-deserved recognition.

Thank you to our Men's Club for sponsoring a delightful evening while enjoying *Scotch & Steak in the Sukkah*. The combination of a delicious dinner, three types of Scotch and the ambiance under the stars created a memorable experience for the 60-plus guests in attendance. It was heart-warming to witness multiple generations coming together to enjoy this special event catered by our own Apex Kosher.

On November 1, UJA hosted a deeply moving and impactful Rally for Israel at Beth Tzedec. Hearing the speeches from family members of hostages added a profound and personal dimension to the event and provided a powerful platform for sharing their experiences and shedding light on the plight of the hostages held captive in Gaza. Over 4,000 attendees who witnessed several meaningful installations reflected a strong community solidarity and a commitment of the Jewish people in Toronto to addressing critical issues facing our community and the war in Israel.

On November 2, we engaged in our very first community *Hallah Bake for Israel Solidarity: What the Community Kneads*. Almost 60 guests of all ages participated in making *hallah*—an experience that binds us together, as we learned about the centrality of *hallah* throughout Jewish history. Thank you to Aviva Chernick and Cantor Audrey Klein for leading us in prayer, meditation and song while we enjoyed the opportunity of allowing ourselves to be perfectly imperfect, just like the best of our *hallahs*.

On November 15, the community was treated to a fabulous concert by the groundbreaking, six-man a cappella vocal band—Six13. Having performed across the world, it was certainly thrilling to have had the opportunity to bring them to Beth Tzedec. Between a daytime concert for 700 Hebrew Day School children and an evening concert for 350 guests, the soulful harmonies of the full band-like sound of these six young men connected by a strong Jewish identity certainly entertained every guest in the room. Thank you to the Harry & Fraida Topper Fund for so generously sponsoring this event in honour of Renee Topper's 90th birthday!

On November 20, a joint interfaith gathering was held at Timothy Eaton Memorial Church. Members of Beth Tzedec, Holy Blossom, Timothy Eaton

Memorial and Grace Church on-the-Hill engaged in an evening of song, prayer, music and friendship. Thank you to all those who helped make this event happen.

Beth Tzedec is proud of our Spiritual Leadership Team and our many members who will join the thousands who will gather in solidarity at the UJA/CJJA Rally for the Jewish People on December 4 in Ottawa, on Parliament Hill.

During the pandemic, many of our members volunteered to call our senior members and check in. Since October 7, the days and weeks have been agonizing for us all. Seniors who don't always have someone to talk to about the situation in Israel and their emotional response to it have found this particularly difficult. Thank you Yacov Fruchter, Fruchter and Klara Romm for arranging another meaningful mitzvah of connection as volunteers checked in with our seniors once again. *THIS* is how we do things at Beth Tzedec!

Trauma is heightened during times of war and anyone can be impacted. If you



Six13, the incredible a cappella group, gave two performances at Beth Tzedec on November 15

are in any way struggling and would like to unpack your grief, please reach out to us. We have several trained professionals who are here to help with mental health support. This is a difficult time and no one should be sitting alone, silent, and facing grief when various resources are available.

The reintroduction of the Thursday

Games Afternoons has been met with great enthusiasm and has become a huge success. Please join us each Thursday from 12:30 to 3:30 PM where we offer a space for community members to come together and enjoy activities like Mahjong, Canasta and various board games. This weekly event helps to foster a sense of community and connection among participants.

Additionally, each Saturday afternoon from 1:15 to 3:30 PM, Shabbat-compliant board games and Mahjong sessions with Jody Wernick are a wonderful opportunity for people of all ages and interests to engage in fun and interactive activities. The inclusive nature of these events, open to everyone without the need for registration, encourages community engagement and participation.

Don't miss our diverse Hanukkah programs for all ages. From IGNITE! Tikkun Leil Chanukah on Thursday, December 7 to our spectacular Hanukkah Happening celebration for families on Saturday, December 9 following Havdalah. Each event is filled with performances, music and traditional food. Visit our IGNITE! page at <https://bit.ly/IGNITE-Tikkun-Leil-Chanukah> for all the exciting details.

On Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27, join us for Ozi V'Zimrat Yah—Gathering Strength Through Song, this year's Shabbat Shirah Weekend.

Enjoy our Musical Participatory Friday evening and Shabbat morning services with Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and the HarmonEzers. Friday night closes with a catered community Shabbat dinner and we'll celebrate after Shabbat morning services at a community kiddush.

Then on Saturday evening, in collaboration with our friends at Holy Blossom, we will host a massive, community Shabbat Shirah Musical Celebration: Song Circle! Join Cantor Sidney Ezer and Aviva Chernick together with Cantor David Rosen and Cantor Lindi Rivers for this special event beginning with Havdalah and ending with a community reception.

Many of you have asked, "What can I do to help?" We can show support in many ways. We can express our solidarity by attending rallies, buying



Over 3,000 members of the Jewish community gathered at Beth Tzedec on November 1 for the UJA's Rally for Israel.

Israeli products, and donating to relief organizations like Beth Tzedec's Victims of Terror Fund, Magen David Adom, UJA or any of the many relief effort options. We can demonstrate our pride as Conservative Jews by attending shul. We can each out to people that we know in Israel to let them know you are thinking of them. We can help to amplify the Israeli messages online, recognizing that, in part, this war will be fought in the realm of social media. Our continued support of Israel is essential. Israel has a right and duty to protect itself, and the citizens need to know they have our full support. The unprecedented unity that has emerged, both here in Israel and among Jews worldwide, serves as a source of overwhelming strength.

When you light your Shabbat candles, please add an extra for those who perished in this war—IDF soldiers and the innocent Israeli civilians. The infants, the children and teens. The elderly and disabled, the concert-goers, and the kibbutzniks who were just awakening in their homes. No number of candles can take away the pain, but they will serve as a reminder that each of us has the potential to illuminate the world with acts of kindness, empathy, and goodwill, making a profound impact on the lives of others.

In solidarity, shoulder to shoulder—
Am Yisrael Hai.

Board of Directors Meetings

Members are welcome to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors. To accommodate the need for sensitive items to be discussed in private, each meeting will include an in camera portion, allowing the Board to deliberate confidentially without any guests. Upcoming dates: **Tuesdays, December 19, January 16 and February 20 at 7:30 PM.**

Please note that these meetings will be held via Zoom only.

To register to attend a Board meeting, contact **Evon Kassabian** at 416-781-3514 ext. 222 or email ekassabian@beth-tzedec.org.



Phil David

Everything we do is designed to create engagement which begets a stronger and more cohesive community within a community.

Stepping Up

When I first began putting pen to paper for this article, it was way back in early October and the theme was going to revolve around the meaningful High Holy Days we had just experienced and the inspiration behind greeting thousands of members who walked through our doors between Rosh Hashanah and Simḥat Torah. What an incredible vibe there was.

And then came October 7.

In the synagogue business, we often mark the day after Simḥat Torah as one where we can take a collective breath following a summer of intensive planning. As I quickly learned after leaving the corporate world, there really is no thumb-twiddling time in non-profit, but those days after the *haggim* often feel like the end of exams and offer a time to refresh. But NOT this year. October 7 changed all that and out of the tragedy and despair, we have witnessed an unparalleled coming-together here at Beth Tzedec and throughout the Jewish community.

It's been a busy time—a different type of busy than our staff are used to. But no one batted an eyelid. Nothing needed to be said because everyone dug in together, not just at Beth Tzedec, but throughout the entire Jewish community.

In my short time here, I have always been proud to say that I work at Beth Tzedec. I've never felt more pride than these last few weeks as I witnessed Beth Tzedec step up following the tragedy in Israel and be the shul the community has called upon to help, whether it is

access to our spiritual and pastoral leadership or to find space for the masses.

Consider the last few weeks alone:

- Beth Tzedec has played host to the UJA's *Bring Them Home* rally on November 1, welcoming more than 3,000 visitors into our space.
- The Neuberger Holocaust Education Week held its final program observing the 85th anniversary of Kristallnacht on November 9, where Rabbi Fryer Bodzin gave a stirring address. To view Rabbi Fryer Bodzin's presentation, click [HERE](#).
- A week later, on November 15, the a cappella group, Six13, played two shows, the first to 750 Jewish Day school kids and then an evening concert for 350 members of our community. Listening to *Hatikvah* being sung after each concert by hundreds is seared into the memory of all those who were present.
- Then on November 20, our shul joined Holy Blossom Temple, Timothy Eaton Memorial Church and Grace Church on-the-Hill for an inspirational interfaith service attended by over 900. To listen to Rabbi Wernick's emotional message, click [HERE](#).
- And on December 4, we'll join dozens of shuls, schools and Jewish organizations in Ottawa for *Canada's Rally for the Jewish People* at Parliament Hill. We have two buses filled with our community members who will represent our shul as we stand up for Israel and against antisemitism..

Woven into all the outward-facing support for Israel is the added security that has become a key focus of our team, especially our long-time property manager Brian Dias. In his 35 years, Brian has never seen this level of activity. We have incremental guards



roaming our property, paid duty police officers watching over us, and multiple ad hoc visits from Toronto Police every day of the week. We have applied for multiple grants through various levels of government and expect to spend tens of thousands of dollars and more on people and equipment over the next year.

This is the sad reality of being Jewish in 2023. In our efforts to help support our added security requirements, our Board has approved a year-end emergency fund campaign in December. Please visit our website for more details and consider a donation in any amount to help us keep you and our community safe.

We've also launched a novel **Pay It Forward** fundraising campaign, specifically targeted to our Under 40's Generations members (Gen Mem) but open to our entire community. While

there is an opportunity to donate money to the shul to support causes like *Out of the Cold* or *Peace of Mind*, we've also introduced the concept of donating your **time** or **talents**. It's a terrific way to get engaged in your shul in a way that is personally relevant, interesting and fun—volunteerism at its best! Check it out at raisedays.com/btpayitforward.

And remember, there's always a lot happening at Beth Tzedec.

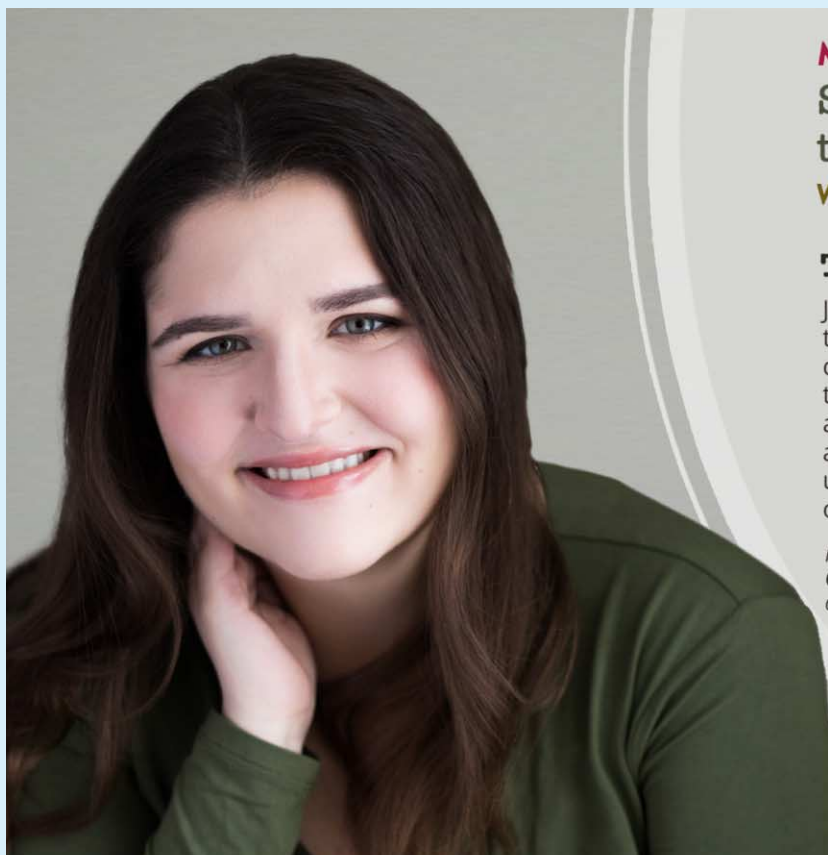
I didn't quite get it until I began working in a synagogue, but as I always write in the space I'm given, getting the most out of your shul isn't simply about attending services, even though it's a great start and a mitzvah to make a minyan (And, as an added bonus, following minyan and Shabbat services, stick around for Nash's delicious free breakfast and relax and meet fellow congregants before your day gets rolling.

Whatever your age, life-stage or interests, our programming team is continuously planning and running a very broad myriad of programs.

Be sure to sign up for our weekly e-newsletter to stay in the loop. to get set up so you can keep your finger on the pulse of all that is happening at Beth Tzedec...from adult education learning sessions to 20s and 30s social gatherings, family Shabbat dinners attended by hundreds...and the list goes on and on! As a member, why not take advantage of all that is being offered?

At a time when we are united behind Israel and standing up against antisemitism in our own backyard, know that Beth Tzedec is here for you if you need us and as you need us.

Am Yisrael Hai



MEETING THE MOMENT:

Supporting Jewish Teens in the Face of Rising Antisemitism

WITH DR. SAMANTHA VINOKOR-MEINRATH

Tuesday, December 19 at 7:30 PM

Join Dr. Samantha Vinokor-Meinrath for a timely and timeless conversation on how we as parents and caregivers can best support our children in the face of the rising antisemitism that the world is experiencing at this moment. Using research, personal stories, and an intimate knowledge of Generation Z, Samantha will unpack what we need to know, and how we can meet our loved ones where they are at this critical moment.

Presented by Beth Tzedec Congregation and Robbins Hebrew Academy. Generously supported by the Meredith and Mircea Cohn Education Fund and the Itta and Eliezer Zeisler Lecture Endowment



Milestones and Celebrations

We can't share your good news unless you tell us about it. Send an email to thumphries@beth-tzedec.org or call 416-781-3514, ext. 212. The deadline for the next *Bulletin* covering March 1 through May 31 is February 1.



Births

Ryan Avital, daughter of Courtenay Stankovic & Adam Obuchowski, granddaughter of Gwen & Mick Stankovic and Aviva & George Obuchowski, **born July 10**.

Hallie Shay, daughter of Diana Wolfson Kutner & Michael Kutner, little sister of Charlotte and Dylan, granddaughter of Andrew & Louise Wolfson and Dinah & the late Howard Kutner, **born July 31**.

Eleanor Ruth, daughter of Rebecca Radzinski & Alex Inayeh, granddaughter of Wendy Koblin & Charles Radzinski and Susan Duffy & Sam Inayeh, great-granddaughter of Jackie & Saul Koblin, **born August 21**.

Meir Ahron, son of Sylvie Moscovitz Librach & Max Librach, grandson of Judy & Cliff Librach and Michele & Steven Moscovitz, **born August 22**.

Sarah Celine, daughter of Marla & Philip Kuperhause, little sister of Ezra William, granddaughter of Shelley Rosenblatt, Harvey Worth & Arlene Grajcer and Jake Kuperhause & the late Celine Dupont^{z1}, **born August 30**.

Noa Rose, daughter of Alison & Matthew Kuchinsky, little sister of Isaac and Benjamin, granddaughter of Terri & Jonathan Carr and Sheldon & Julie Kuchinsky, great-granddaughter of Donald Carr & Judy Feld Carr, **born September 12**.

Aviva Rose, daughter of Dayna & Jordan Waltman, little sister of Ian and Tamar, granddaughter of Barry & Gilda Waltman and Norman & Jackie Kahn, great-granddaughter of Ruth Simon, **born September 22**.

Hannah Rose, daughter of Lana Liss-Perlin & Daniel Perlin, granddaughter of Greta Coopersmith, Howard & Susan Liss and Zina & George Perlin, **born September 22**.

Jad David Pullan-Elfeki, son of Russell Pullan & Shereen Elfeki, grandson of Dr. Devorah & the late David Pullan, great-grandson of the late Rose & Harry Pullan, great-great-grandson of the late Elias & Beulah Pullan, **born September 30**.

Alana Lotte, daughter of Lianne Trachtenberg & Paul Oykhman, granddaughter of Jane & John Trachtenberg and Tanya & Alex Oykhman, **born October 4**.

Skylar Rae, daughter of Lisa & Daniel Salem, little sister of Addison Blake, granddaughter Shelley Rosenblatt, Harvey Worth & Arlene Grajcer and Gail & Rolly Salem (of Montreal), **born October 5**.

Blake Ruth, daughter of Emily Karpel & Cobi Zimmerman, granddaughter of Rod & Criss Karpel and Arlyn & Danny Zimmerman, great-granddaughter of Zoli^{z1} & Sara Zimmerman and Edward & Sandra^{z1} Cooperman, **born October 27**.

Congratulations to

Claude & Esther Abrams, who celebrated their 70th anniversary on October 11.

Jamie Blustein, daughter of Myra & Steven Blustein, granddaughter of Ruth & Lony Gropper and the late Mary & Murray Blustein, and **Jake Rotman**, son of Michele & Jamy Rotman, grandson of the late Sara & Harry Gorman and Anita & the late Alexander Rotman, on their engagement.

Bruce Elman, who will celebrate his 75th birthday on December 2.

Sarah Tanenbaum, who celebrated her 100th birthday on September 11.

Renee Topper, who will celebrate her 90th birthday on December 23.

Weddings

Eli Zeldin, son of Corinne Hart and David Zeldin, and **Pamela Forster**, daughter of Beverly Barmish-Forster & Errol Forster, who were married on **August 27**.

Rebecca Freiman, daughter of Yetta Silverstein & Gabriel Freiman, and **Eitan Rachamim**, son of Leona & Ezra Rachamim, who were married on **September 3**.

Joshua Greisman, son of Dr. Jory & Dr. Helene Greisman, and **Valerie Ho**, daughter of Gerald & Helene Flo, who were married on **September 3**.

Laiken Starreveld, daughter of Ann & Tom Starreveld, and **Jonathan Meyer**, son of Helene & Michael Meyer, who were married on **September 3**.

Maya Dobner, daughter of Sara & Michael Dobner, and **Jules Koifman**, son of Marci & Rod Koifman, who were married on **September 10**.

Chelsie Warshafsky, daughter of Brian Warshafsky & Erika Feuerstein, and **Corey Sermer**, son of Mathew & Lillian Sermer, who were married on **October 8**.

Max Zworth, son of Neil Zworth & Jennifer Wyman, grandson of Miriam Wyman, and **Arielle Brickman**, daughter of Marlene and Michael^{z1} Brickman, granddaughter of Uri Brickman, who were married on **November 2**.

Many Thanks

The Black and Rattner Families, who sponsored a Seudah Shlisheet on August 26 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Aaron Black**.

Michael & Ellen Sitzer and Maury & Cheryl Cepler, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on September 2 honouring the birth of their granddaughter **Scarlett Amelia Cepler**.

The Shinewald Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on September 23 honouring **Orly Shinewald** on her 16th birthday.

Gella and Paul Rothstein, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on September 30 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **J. Barney Goldhar**.

Brian and Erika Warshafsky, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 1 honouring Chelsie Warshafsky & Corey Sermer on their marriage.

Neil Zworth & Jennifer Wyman and Marlene Brickman, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 14 honouring **Max Zworth & Arielle Brickman** on their marriage.

The Matlow Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 7 honouring Irving Matlow on becoming an Israeli citizen.

The Elman Family, who sponsored a Seudah Shlisheet on October 14 marking the conclusion of shloshim for David Elman.

The Radzinski Family, who sponsored a Seudah Shlisheet on October 21 honouring the birth of their daughter and granddaughter **Eleanor Ruth**.

The friends and family of the late Susan Gurau, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 28 commemorating the her first yahrtzeit.

Brenda Singer, Debra and Jeff Wolfe and family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on October 28 honouring Jeroham Singer on the 70th anniversary of his bar mitzvah.

Andrew & Louise Wolfson and Dinah Kutner, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 4 honouring the birth of their granddaughter **Hallie Shay Kutner**.

Paul and Gella Rothstein, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 11 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Isaac Rothstein**.

Bradley Worth & Siobhan Mitchell, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 11 honouring their son **Braeden Worth** on his bar mitzvah.

Adam & Laura Hirsh, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 18 honouring their daughter **Kate Hirsh** on her bat mitzvah.

Limor Markovzki and Segal Adler, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 18 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Amnon Markovetski**.

The Topper Family, who sponsored a Congregational Kiddush on November 25 honouring **Renee Topper** on her 90th birthday.

Bruce and Nancy Elman, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on December 2 honouring **Bruce Elman** on his 75th birthday.

Cari, Russell and Gerald Weiss and families, who will sponsor a Congregational Kiddush on December 16 commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Allan Weiss**.

Mazal Tov to our B'nei Mitzvah

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



December 23
Sheelo Netta Fruchter
daughter of Yacov
Fruchter & Ryla Braemer

שילה נטע בת יעקב משה יוסף
ורחל שושנה



January 27
Ben Hurwitz
son of Corey &
Carly Hurwitz

בנימין עמית בן חיים ומאשה לאה



Torah and Tree Pose

WITH MARCEE BAR-ISAAC AND RABBI FRYER BODZIN

**Wednesday, December 6, January 31,
February 28 and March 27 at 7:45 PM**

Bringing Together Body, Mind and Spirituality

Join us monthly for a brief text study, followed by yoga (all levels), and concluding with moments of mindfulness and meditation. Please bring your own yoga mat.

No charge; Pre-registration is required via

<https://bit.ly/torah-tree-pose>



The Beth Tzedec Centre for
Spiritual Well-Being

the little minyan
a participatory Shabbat service at Beth Tzedec

Shabbat Mornings

Learning 9:00 AM | Services 9:30 AM

December 2 & 16, January 6 & 20,
February 3 & 17 and
March 2, 16 & 30

Join Rabbi Fryer Bodzin before each
Little Minyan Service for some
Shabbat morning learning before we
begin tefillah. Everyone is welcome.

For information, contact Karen Goldstein at
kgoldstein@beth-tzedec.org.



Deuteronomy

Torah Through the Ages with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Thursday mornings at 10:00 AM

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

No charge. Registration is required to
access the Zoom link via

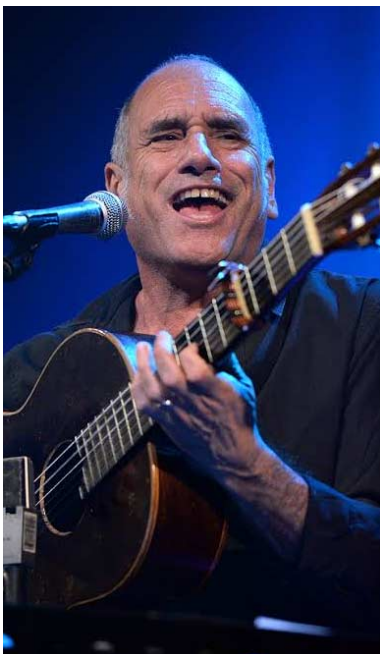
<https://bit.ly/torah-through-ages-2023>.

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



Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin

The translated lyrics of the song Kol Haolam Kulo are: the whole world is a very narrow bridge, but the most important thing is not to be afraid.



Tikvah

He has been gone for 20 years, but Bob Hope was an American comedian, actor, entertainer and producer. What I remember the most about him were video clips of his USO Tours. Bob Hope entertained American troops, both at home and abroad, undeterred by enemy fire or rough seas. According to the USO, Bob Hope went straight to the front lines, delivering laughter, music, and—above all—a reminder of home to men and women in uniform, just when they needed it most. He was one of the first major stars to join the USO in entertaining the troops during World War II, but he soon became the most iconic USO tour veteran.

David Broza has become Israel's Bob Hope. Not only that, but he is giving both Israelis and Jews abroad hope.

It was in 1994 that I was introduced to the music of David when I was a student at the Hebrew University for my year abroad. A tiyul (trip) to the north for the overseas students was organized. On the bus, the song *Mitahat LaShamayim* was played over-and-over again. ([Click HERE](#) to view video of this performance.)

We had most of the lyrics memorized by the time we arrived in the north for our first hike. That year, I saw him play live three times, with the most memorable performance being Sultan's Pool, outside the walls of the Old City.

Over the years, I have experienced more than 30 of David's performances in three countries. On the same night that I got married, he was performing at the old Leah Posluns Theatre. Someone knew someone who knew someone, and a signed CD was waiting for us as a wedding gift! I had hoped he would be a wedding crasher. He didn't crash my wedding, but he literally slept in the same hotel as my wedding party.

I feel like David has become Israel's Bob Hope because he spent nearly every day since the terrorists attacked Israel criss-crossing the country, performing

five or six times a day for troops and displaced southerners and northerners. Broza and his guitar have performed in army bases, hotel lobbies, bomb shelters, kibbutz lawns and even at the bris of a baby from Kibbutz Kvar Aza. For him, this is not new: he has been performing for troops since the mid-'70s.

In the podcast *Israel Stories*, David said he makes himself available for situations. His particular talent is that as a performer who performs well. If he were a chef, he would cook a good meal to offer people an escape and to please the audience. Even though it is hard—he acknowledged that Israel is in emergency mode—he provides a diversion and gets people's endorphins going on the positive instead of the tensions of the negative.

About 15 days into the conflict, David took a quick trip to New York City for a few performances at major synagogues. On his outbound flight, he posted videos to Instagram of him singing for the El Al crew. The videos he posted on his return flight to Israel were a little different.

Again, the crew asked him to play. But this time, someone heard him and joined in. It was someone whom he knew of but had never met. The person was Avraham Fried, a popular musical entertainer in the Orthodox community. He too was on his way to perform for troops. In a video clip that takes place 36,000 feet in the sky, we see secular Broza and Orthodox Fried singing *Kol Haolam Kulo* together for the passengers and crew on the El Al flight. The translated lyrics of the song *Kol Haolam Kulo* are: the whole world is a very narrow bridge, but the most important thing is not to be afraid.

That moment is my anchor. It is where I return when I begin to feel overwhelmed. If Avraham Fried and David Broza can sing together, then I cannot give up hope and belief that we will get through this.

Am Yisrael Hai.



Cantor Sidney Ezer

Music has been a powerful tool to accompany us and help us through challenging times. In fact, many of the words we use for music double as words we use for fighting and struggle.

Song as a Double-Edged Sword

Throughout history, music has accompanied armies as they marched into battle. From bugle calls to patriotic songs arousing fervour in soldiers and citizens alike, the role of music as a psychological fighting force is legendary.

In ancient Israel, music manifested directly in some of the famous biblical battles. Joshua, the first great warrior-leader of the Jewish people, broke down the walls of Jericho with the music of shofars and shouts. (Joshua 6:20) As a warrior and a musician, King David sang at night and fought by day. The Babylonian *Talmud*, tractate *Berakhot* 3b, relates the following story about music and war: A harp was hung above the bed of David, and once midnight arrived, a northern wind would blow on it, making its own melody. David awoke at once and delved into Torah until dawn broke. After the break of dawn, the sages of Israel entered saying that the people needed sustenance. David initially suggested that the people sustain each other, but when it was determined that there was not enough food, he said to the sages: “Go out and take plunder (i.e., go to war).”

Ideally, one would have preferred that a night of music and Torah study would inspire David to lead a more peaceful approach to life during the day. However, he ultimately is compelled to rise to the battle-heavy destiny set out for him.

The current State of Israel endures the battle-heavy destiny of ancient times. Last October 7, after the 50th anniversary

of the Yom Kippur War, it suffered unspeakable atrocities accompanied by death unseen since the Holocaust. Like King David, Israel was compelled to rise to battle, for another unprovoked war which it did not start but for which it nevertheless is always blamed and condemned. In this *Talmudic* story, King David would probably have preferred to stay in his room and continue to sing and study Torah, but he had to use his wisdom to meet the challenges a leader faces.

Similarly, Israel primarily seeks peace even though it must sometimes fight. Pursuing peace is near impossible when dealing with terrorist organizations whose sole purpose is the annihilation of Israel. By contrast, Jewish tradition emphasizes not to rejoice in the downfall of our enemies. God scolds the angels when they want to sing a song of praise as the Egyptians drowned. (Babylonian *Talmud* *Megillah* 10 b)

In another example from *Chronicles* 20:21, when the Moabites perish by an act of God, Jehosaphat was tempted to sing the familiar formulation of “*Hodu Lashem Ki Tov*—Give thanks to God because God is good.” However, out of consideration for the enemy, he refrained from saying “God is Good” and just sang “Give thanks to God.” The famous verse from *Isaiah* 2:4 envisions a time when our swords turn into ploughshares and our spears will once again be used for cutting in the fields rather than for killing.



Games Afternoons

Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:30 PM

Join us for a social afternoon of Mahjong, Bridge and Canasta. For beginners and seasoned veterans alike.

Cost: \$2 donation supporting our *hesed* initiatives.

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

Music has been a powerful tool to accompany us and help us through challenging times. In fact, many of the words we use for music double as words we use for fighting and struggle. For example, the Hebrew root *zayin*, *mem*, *reish* (זמר) from the word *Zamir*, which has the meaning of “song,” also connotes “pruning,” “cutting” and “fighting”. Another example is the root *shin*, *yod*, *reish* (שיר). This root evokes “song” but also “wrestling,” “struggling” and “ruling”. In addition, the root *nun*, *gimel*, *nun* (נגן) means “melody” and evokes “shield” and “defense” as in the word “*Magen*” (מגן) that appears at the end of the first blessing of the *Amidah*—*Magen Avraham*. 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. Yet,

although we are forced to fight, our tradition compels us to sow the seeds of peace. In the above verse from Isaiah, the word for pruning hooks, *mazmeirot* (מזמרות), includes the musical root *zemer* (זמר) linking the longing to go back to working the land to a fervent desire to sing in peace.

In light of this challenging year in Israel’s history, for our Shabbat Shirah weekend, Asher Farber, the HarmonEzers and I will share inspirational songs of Israel, both traditional and modern, that have shaped its identity in times of war. Join us on Friday, January 26 for a musical Kabbalat Shabbat service and dinner as well as on Shabbat morning January 27.

In tractate *Berakhot* 5a of the Babylonian *Talmud*, it is said that one who recites the Sh’ma on one’s

deathbed, it is as if one grasps a double-edged sword in one’s hand. The *Shema* is Israel’s and the Jewish people’s ultimate battle cry, both in life and in death, linking song and struggle. May our songs continue to accompany and carry Israel through all its struggles and challenges. With the praise of God in their throats, and a double-edged sword in their hands. (*Psalm* 149:6)

“*Va’ani Tefilati...* But as for me...”

How will you fill in the blanks? The time to hesitate is through. No time to wallow in the mire.

I hope that this year will light a fire under you as we explore prayer together.

Concerts with Six13: Music has the power to heal

On November 15, we welcomed Six13, the groundbreaking, six-man a cappella vocal band that has performed across the world, from the White House to major sporting arenas—and now also at Beth Tzedec!

Six13 showcased their incredible vocal talents at two concerts—an afternoon concert for over 700 Jewish day school students and an evening performance for another 370 fans. Through musical moments of humour and reflection, Six13 brought out a sense of community and a little healing in the midst of these terrible days.



20s and 30s Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner with OneTable

Friday, December 8
Services 6:00 PM | Dinner 7:15 PM

We are thrilled to partner this Shabbat with OneTable. Inspired by ancient Jewish Wisdom, OneTable is a North American non-profit that empowers folks to find, share, and enjoy Shabbat dinners, making the most of their Friday nights. OneTable is proud to supply Nourishment for this partnership with Beth Tzedec.

Cost for dinner. Pre-registration is required by
Monday, December 4 at 11:00 AM.



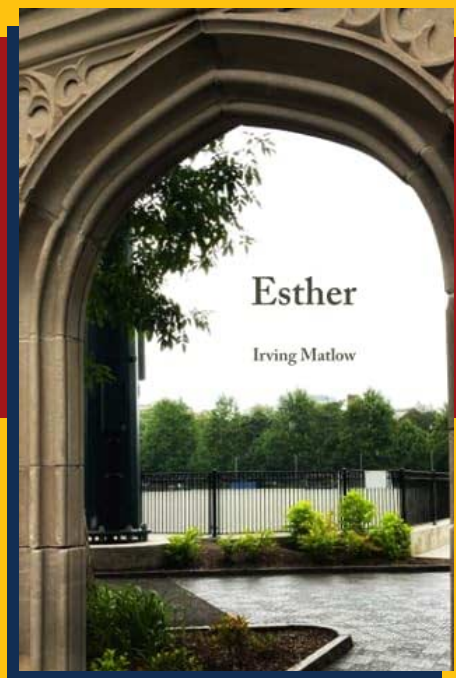
Esther by Irving Matlow

Beth Tzedec wants to share the opportunity for you to purchase the new novel by our talented member Irving Matlow. All funds raised will support our Victims of Terror Fund.

In *Esther*, Matlow's second work of biographical fiction, we catch up with Louis Steele, back in Toronto after fighting for Israel in the 1948 War of Independence. Continuing his studies at the University of Toronto, Louis meets Esther Frank, editor of the Hillel student newspaper, who is keen to publish stories about his experiences in Israel. A period piece on mid-century Jewish student life in Toronto, and a story of two individuals who bring their own experiences to a budding relationship, *Esther* is sure to keep the reader engaged throughout.

It will make a great Hanukkah present for the book-lover on your list!

To purchase your copy of this wonderful book, and support our Victims of Terror Fund, visit <https://bit.ly/esther-book-purchase>.





Yacov Fruchter

Out of a sense of fear, sadness, anger and isolation, we want to do something to connect to others and feel that we, in some way, are helping the people of Israel.

Sweetened By Torah

“What can I do to help?”

I have heard these words countless times over these past few months. I find these words both painful and heartwarming. Out of a sense of fear, sadness, anger and isolation, we want to do something to connect to others and feel that we, in some way, are helping the people of Israel. They are difficult to hear because it demonstrates the helplessness that exists. On the other hand, these words speak to the sense of *areivut*, interconnectedness, and the sense of responsibility we have for one another.

I feel blessed that Ryla, (my wife who serves as Vice President, Mobilization for UJA Toronto) and I feel that we have been able to “do something” by organizing and caring for people, both here and in Israel, and offered others the opportunity to contribute as well. In addition to these acts of *hesed*, in this unimaginable moment for Israel and the Jewish people, I have been finding solace in the words of our liturgy and from learning Torah.

There is a prayer that is part of the daily “morning blessings” called “Sweeten” that reads as follows:

God, please make the words of Your Torah sweet in our mouths and in the mouths of Your people Israel. And may we and our descendants [and the descendants of our descendants] and the descendants of Your people the House of Israel, all know Your Name and be students of Your Torah for its own sake. Blessed

are You, God Who teaches Torah to God's people, Israel.

This prayer speaks to our desire to have Torah make our lives sweeter and better and to be accessible and relevant to us and our loved ones.

My belief that learning Torah enhances my life has led me to the decision to pursue *smikhah* (rabbinic ordination) with the Shalom Hartman Institute's Pilot Ordination Program. Over the next three years, beginning in January, I will be studying virtually with some in-person retreats in the New York area and spending my Julys in Jerusalem.

To be clear, I am continuing in my role at Beth Tzedec. I feel very grateful for this opportunity to learn with this incredible organization and to further deepen my relationship with Israel and our Jewish texts.

Since October 7, I have been turning to the Shalom Hartman Institute for Torah and have been finding emotional support and intellectual clarity by listening to their podcasts via <https://www.hartman.org.il/topic/israel-at-war>.

I look forward to sharing my learning with you in these coming years.

So, if you are still wondering “what can I do?”: For starters, pray for Israel, donate to Beth Tzedec's Victims of Terror Fund at <https://bit.ly/VoT-fund>, join our efforts in checking in with our seniors, and of course, learn Torah!



Family Programs



Hanukkah Happening

**Saturday, December 9
from 7:00 to 8:30 PM**



Join us for a Hanukkah night full of things that light up the night...and float through the air...and glow in the dark! A holiday event like no other. With jugglers, glow games, the return of the Ziz, and a bubble show that's out of this world! Hanukkah snacks and refreshments will be included.

No charge but registration is requested to
<https://bit.ly/hanukkah-happening-2023>.



Family Fun Day and Pancake Breakfast

**Monday, December 25
from 9:30 to 11:30 AM**

Spend a relaxing family morning doing all those things you never get to on your busy days—a leisurely pancake breakfast, crafts, games, chatting (remember chatting?)—made even better by doing it with friends! We'll even help you get that family photography session in that you couldn't quite get scheduled, with Robins Nest photography.

Cost for photography session: \$144 for 10-minute session. To reserve a photography seating session, [click here>>](#)

No charge for the Family Fun Day activities and pancakes, but registration is appreciated. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/family-fun-and-pancakes>



Teddy Bear Tu B'Shevat Seder

**Sunday, January 21, 2024
from 10:00 to 11:15 AM**

Bring your favorite stuffed friend for a interactive, amazing feast celebrating our friends the trees! For children ages 3 to 6 and a grown up who loves them, younger siblings are welcome and teddies too, of course! No tree nuts will be served, but please share all food allergies and other dietary restrictions. Registration required, spaces are limited.



For information on these and all our Family programs, please visit
<https://bit.ly/family-programs-bt>.

Check back often; the Families page is updated frequently.



Daniel Silverman

The dichotomy of light vs darkness, of good vs evil has taken on a new dimension for Hanukkah 2023.

Rays of Light in the Darkness

It is no accident that Hanukkah takes place in the darkness of December. Jews are not the only group with a light-based holiday at the darkest time of the year. The Hindu festival of Diwali takes place in November, as the days are getting shorter. Christmas has had a long association with light—be it candles in the windows, lights on a tree or lights on the outside of houses.

Each of these holidays has an aspect of good triumphing over evil. This is a main theme of Diwali and the central narrative of the Maccabees. It is also taken up by Christians to contextualize Jesus's birth as bringing more light to the world.

The dichotomy of light vs darkness, of good vs evil, has taken on a new dimension for Hanukkah 2023. As I write this on October 25, Israel is in a battle for its future. Jews and Jewish communities around the world are ever more concerned with worries about and acts of antisemitism. The coming weeks and months are surely going to continue to be difficult for all of us. As you read this, things may be a bit better; or perhaps they are worse.

October 7, 2023 brought evil and darkness over Israel and the Jewish people. In our state of numbness and shock, we celebrated Simchat Torah, not yet fully cognizant of the numbers of dead and kidnapped, and the horrors of the atrocities inflicted on Israeli civilians. And then we had a break of 8.5 weeks until Hanukkah, our next holiday.

This Hanukkah, some might invoke the warrior spirit of the Maccabees and draw comparisons to the IDF. Others might draw parallels between the daily disruptions of Israeli life through rockets and red alerts to the anti-Jewish decrees of the Seleucid Greeks and Antiochus IV. Still more might look at the ancient call of Mattityahu to fight on the side of just causes and then examine the international and media landscape of those who do—and sadly, likely, more of those who do not—understand and articulate Israel's just cause in this war.

I, though, will be thinking about light. About how the Jewish people, no matter how difficult their circumstances, continue to bring light into the world... Literal light through Shabbat and Hanukkah candles, and metaphorical light through our actions and countless contributions to so many different aspects of global society.

Be it the association with light, with the brave and victorious Maccabees or the triumph of good over evil, Hanukkah this year offers us much to reflect on. May the light of our candles burning proudly in our windows show our neighbours, our city, our country, the global Jewish people, the international community and, most importantly, ourselves and our loved ones, that Jewish pride and practice can withstand every challenge.

Hag Urim Sameah and Am Yisrael Hai



Sukkot at Beth Tzedec

On September 28, Beth Tzedec families gathered to decorate our Sukkah. While parents hung lighting and decorations, children created beautiful 'lanterns' to provide light and colour for our school and community gatherings during Sukkot.

AGES
19+

8 GAYS OF CHANNUKAH

QUEER JEWISH VARIETY SHOW BENEFITING MACHANE LEV

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

MEET & GREET: 5 PM | DOORS OPEN & SCHMOOZE: 6 PM | SHOW BEGINS: 7 PM

LONGBOAT HALL 103 DOVERCOURT RD. TORONTO, ON M6J 3C2

A showcase of Toronto's queer and Jewish talent to raise funds for North America's first queer and Jewish summer camp, hosted by Drag Queen superstar Gila Münster.

bit.ly/8gaysofchannukah



UJA LGBTQ+

FENTSTER A WINDOW ONTO JEWISH LIFE THROUGH ART

Hillel ONTARIO

It's All Therapy

HOUSE OF DWIR HANDMADE READY-TO-WEAR

JF&CS JEWISH FAMILY AND CHILD SERVICE

CIJA Canadian Jewish Advocacy

בית צדק Beth Tzedec Congregation

Trainwreck Labs

AURORA STRAIGHT GUARD

www.daneshmuel.com

congregation שיר לבנו Shir Libeynu



This year, in collaboration with our friends at Holy Blossom, we are joining together, to host a massive Song Circle. It will be a rich evening of neighbours gathering, at a time in which music can be both healing and a source of uplift.

Join **Cantor Sidney Ezer** and **Aviva Chernick** together with **Cantor David Rosen** and **Cantor Lindi Rivers** for this special event beginning with Havdalah and ending with a reception.

You don't have to know how to sing (or carry a tune) to be a part of the very large chorus; you just have to want to sing with joy.

Cost: \$10 (proceeds support the Victims of Terror Fund). To register, visit <https://bit.ly/shabbat-shirah-song-circle>

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE ק"ק פרחי קדש

בית צדק Beth Tzedec Congregation



Aviva Chernick

Why do we all gather? To find ground in this moment. How do we do that? By being in the same space, albeit a virtual one, and by joining in to experience the connection between a wide range of Jewish sources and our bodies, hearts, minds and spirits.

The Power of a Gentle Kindness

Do not underestimate the power of a gentle kindness—simple, subtle or obvious—offered with a light touch, without expectation of what might be gained in return. It is about saying hello, not assuming anything, and welcoming each person as they are, each of us with our own, unique lived experiences.

Attending online with 90 or so other Jews from around the world, I sit in my teacher's class. My teacher, Reb James Jacobson Maisels, imparts his knowledge and wisdom from his home in Hanaton, in the North of Israel where he lives with his three young children and his wife Debbie.

Why do we all gather? To find ground in this moment. How do we do that? By being in the same space, albeit a virtual one, and by joining in to experience the connection between a wide range of Jewish sources and our bodies, hearts, minds and spirits. Ostensibly, it is a meditation community, but in reality so much more.

This practice is not about becoming a better meditator. For me, it is about becoming a better daughter, sister, aunt, niece, friend, colleague, teacher and leader. We take time to hone these skills so that we can use them “off the cushion”, walking through the world. This commitment to gathering and

slowing down to notice all that is arising and to witnessing it with kindness makes a difference to my life. This is what I endeavour to bring with me to Beth Tzedec; I can feel its importance and relevance now more than ever.

When we meet one-on-one for a walk, when we connect after minyan for a heart-to-heart hug, when we sit together in a song circle or a meditation, when we create and play together in workshops like Bree-AH, all of these occasions are embodiments of this same practice. We slow down and listen to what is happening for us inside, we notice what is going on outside of ourselves, and we meet each other with kindness and care. This is the approach I learn and share, the *kavannah*—the intention—at the heart of my work at Beth Tzedec. It is what I bring, modelled by my teachers, and colleagues, and all of you, my Beth Tzedec family.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to bring these skills, with my tender and creative heart, to our community. And thank you for the care you offer me. I am grateful for it and for you.

Please know that I am here for you—in quiet, in conversation, in prayer and in song—heart-to-heart and with Divine presence as our shared companion.



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 **March 4, 2024** to ensure that they arrive in time for the holiday.



Jonathan Ain

To make a year-end gift to our Security Fund, please Click **HERE** or phone the Synagogue office at 416-781-3511.

Beth Tzedec Launches Emergency Security Fund

The Victims of Terror Fund Highlights Beth Tzedec's Deep Ties with Israel

Simhat Torah 2023 will be remembered as one of the darkest days in modern Jewish history. On October 7, during the tranquility of Yom Tov, Israel was attacked by Hamas which, over the span of hours, murdered, maimed and beheaded over 1,000 Israelis, most of whom were civilians. More than 200 more were taken hostage and transported to Gaza.

As part of an outpouring of the Jewish response from across the globe, Beth Tzedec immediately initiated the Victims of Terror Fund which has so far raised over \$95,000 in support of Israel.

"Many, many of our Congregants are closely tied to Israel," said Senior Rabbi Steven Wernick. "Some have family members who were killed in the attacks. Others have friends and relatives who are either in mourning or deeply anguished about the fate of their loved ones who remain kidnapped by Hamas."

All monies donated to Beth Tzedec's Victims of Terror Fund will be transferred to UJA Federation, which will be allocating the funds as needed across Israeli society.

"It's important to note that many of our Congregants donated directly to UJA's Israel Emergency Campaign," says Wernick, adding that the UJA campaign has raised over \$60 million in a few short weeks. "Whether our Congregants donated through Beth Tzedec or UJA, the monies raised once again highlight the generosity of Toronto Jewry," Wernick says. "Either way, this is truly a phenomenal community."

Celebrating the Success of the 2023 Annual High Holy Day Appeal

This year's Annual High Holy Day Appeal achieved remarkable success,

surpassing expectations and highlighting our *kehillah's* unwavering dedication to Beth Tzedec.

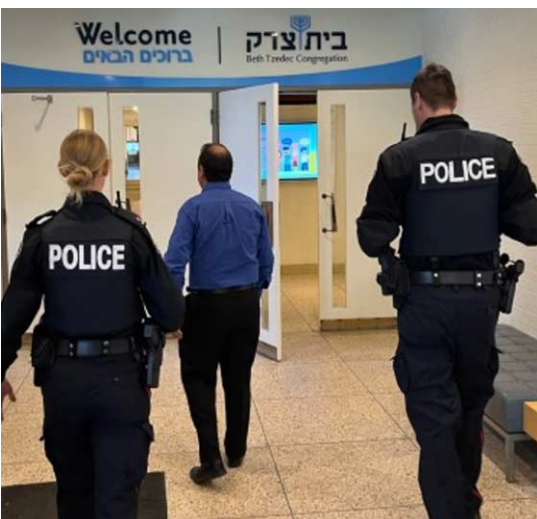
As significant financial investments have been made in the Congregation's future, Beth Tzedec's members demonstrated resolute commitment to our community. In total, the Appeal raised \$547,786, a 22 percent increase compared to the previous year, underscoring the ongoing momentum of our Congregation and engagement of our members.

Led by Honourary Chairs **Larry and Judy Tanenbaum** as well as Campaign Co-Chairs **Lianne Leboff** and **David Matlow**, the Appeal was once again boosted by the significant leadership generosity. This year, we were blessed by the additional matching gift of Irving & Toddy Granovsky and Family who joined the Larry & Judy Tanenbaum Familu Foundation in providing \$250,000 in matching funds.

"The success of this year's appeal was truly inspiring," said Jonathan Ain, the synagogue's Director of Development. "Beth Tzedec has always been a generous community of dedicated philanthropists. With the leadership of the Tanenbaum and Granovsky families and of course our co-chairs, I knew we'd have great results. But a 22 percent year-over-year increase is quite unusual and I'm grateful for the incredible support of our Congregants."

As we set our sights on 2024, Beth Tzedec is emboldened by the accomplishments of this year. Bolstered by valuable lessons and experiences, we are ready to reach greater heights in the year ahead.

On behalf of our Board and congregational leadership, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all our donors and supporters who made the Annual





L-R: Co-Chair Lianne Leboff, Beth Tzedec President Patti Rotman, Senior Rabbi Steven Wernick and Co-Chair David Matlow

Appeal such a success. Together, we are poised for a bright future in which we continue to inspire and empower our members to lead meaningful Jewish lives. *Todah Rabah!*

An Evening in Celebration of Our Tzedec Circle Donors

On October 5, over 50 Beth Tzedec members joined the campaign co-chairs and senior congregational leadership for our first Tzedec Circle Donor Appreciation evening. Held in the Orenstein Mezzanine Hall, the event welcomed participants who gathered in celebration of the success of the 2023 Annual High Holy Day Appeal. Available to members who donate a minimum of \$1,800, the Tzedec Circle is a new donor recognition program, honouring Beth Tzedec's top annual contributors.

For more information about joining the Tzedec Circle, please contact Jonathan Ain, Director of Development, at jain@beth-tzedec.org.

Giving Tuesday: Ways for Generations Members to Pay it Forward

In November, we were pleased to launch our Giving Tuesday Campaign, a special opportunity for our Generations Members to make a difference to Beth Tzedec. Whether our members are passionate about volunteering their time or contributing financially, every effort matters.

For those wishing to pledge volunteer time, opportunities are available in a

diversity of congregational realms, including *Bikkur Holim*, committee engagement and other crucial synagogue areas. Participants are offered skill-building opportunities, such as learning to lead shiva services.

For those wishing to contribute financially, options are provided to make a gift to the Congregation at large or to specific funds such as the Generations Shabbat Dinner Fund and the Out of the Cold Fund, strengthening the culture of giving within our Congregation.

We thank our Generations members who have already engaged with the "Giving Tuesday" initiative and eagerly anticipate the participation of those planning to make a positive impact.

The Beth Tzedec Centre for Spiritual Well-Being: Helping Members Navigate Complex Emotions

With Israel under attack, the Beth Tzedec Centre for Spiritual Well-Being has emerged as a crucial source of support and solace for our Congregation. As many members maintain profound connections to the State of Israel and loved ones residing there, the emotional journey through these times can be exceptionally unsettling.

Aviva Chernick, one of the Centre's spiritual leaders, recently highlighted the importance of providing guidance and comfort within the warm embrace of our Jewish community.

"So many in our community are hurting right now, and there is no break," says Aviva. "Whether we are turning on our televisions or looking at social media, the external cues and messaging are unrelenting."

In the face of the conflict, the Centre's programs have expanded to offer additional support and resources for the community. In a world filled with external stimulus, the Centre offers a space where members can turn inwards and explore the inner self.

"Mindfulness can be a powerful healing tool," says Aviva. "Especially now, people are looking for ways to make sense of their feelings. If we can help members lovingly witness what's happening with their internal selves, they can take that knowledge into their interactions and experiences with others. This in turn makes the world a better place. For us, that's an important part of *tikkun olam*."

Aviva stresses that all members are welcome to seek out the Centre and explore opportunities to find comfort in its programming.

"Our meditations and other programs are for everyone," says Aviva. "No experience is required. Whether you have spent a lot of time practicing mindfulness or whether you are looking for ways to find comfort and connection during these challenging times, members are encouraged to check out our offerings."

Beth Tzedec Launches Emergency Security Fund Costs risen over 50% since October attacks.

As we approach Chanukah, when we celebrate the Jewish people's triumph over the Assyrian Greeks, we watch in alarm as our community once again faces nefarious threats. The State of Israel is under attack from its of a terrorist enemy, sworn to the annihilation of all Jews. At the same time, we are traumatized by the alarming rise of antisemitism world-wide, including the GTA and in cities across Canada.

In the spirit of the resilience of the Maccabees, Beth Tzedec has reassessed and fortified our security measures to ensure the safety of our congregants. Collaborating closely with UJA's Community Security team, the Toronto Police, and private security consultants, Beth Tzedec has implementing crucial changes to safeguard our sacred congregation.

However, these enhancements have resulted a 50% increase in our security costs, including the hiring of additional guards, paid-duty police officers, and essential infrastructure upgrades. While community grants may provide some relief, the primary responsibility rests with us, the congregation.

For these reasons, we are reaching out to congregants to request philanthropic support.

By making a special gift to the *Beth Tzedec Community Security Fund*, you will be contributing to the wellbeing of all who enter our sacred congregation. Your generosity will ensure the safety of our youngest nursery school kids, our B'nei Mitzvah youth, couples getting married, and adults of all ages. Everyone deserves to feel secure within the walls of our cherished congregation.

As we kindle the lights of Hanukkah, let our candles symbolize more than the triumphs of the past; let them embody the hope and strength needed to overcome today's challenges. Your contribution becomes a beacon of light, illuminating hope for Beth Tzedec and our entire community.

Beth Tzedec Congregation is privileged to be one of the few North American congregations to offer the skills and programs of the Centre for Spiritual Well-Being which is supporter by the Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund. To view a listing of the Centre's donors, click [HERE](#).

Bring Them Home Rally

On November 1, Beth Tzedec proudly hosted the UJA's "Bring Them Home for the Hostages". Over 3,000 people gathered in the Sanctuary and Herman Hall to demand the release of the hostages and to show their support of Israel.



What Our Community Kneads: A Hallah Bake

On November 2, families came out for "What Our Community Kneads: A Hallah Bake for Israeli Solidarity"—an opportunity to share and support each other while making hallah.



Jamie Golombek

Year-End Can Be an Ideal Time to Donate to Beth Tzedec

Whether you're considering making a new gift to Beth Tzedec or making your annual membership contribution, it's important to understand the tax benefits of your donation as well as to explore some more tax efficient ways of donating.

Donating cash, either by cheques, credit card or online payment, is straightforward and, as with any type of donation, allows you to receive a tax receipt to claim both federal and provincial non-refundable tax credits.

On the federal side, you get a credit of 15 per cent for the first \$200 of annual charitable donations. The credit rate jumps to 29 per cent for cumulative donations above \$200 (or 33 per cent if you have income subject to the top 33 percent federal rate, which is income of more than \$235,675 in 2023).

Ontario provincial credits work similarly, providing you with a total combined credit (federal and Ontario) of between 40 percent and 50 percent (depending on your income bracket) once you give at least \$200 annually to any charity.

Donate Appreciated Securities In-Kind

In-kind donations of publicly traded shares, mutual funds or segregated funds to a registered charity give you a tax receipt equal to the fair market value (FMV) of the securities or funds being donated and allow you to avoid paying capital gains tax on any accrued gain.

A similar rule applies to the donation of securities obtained through the exercise of employee stock options. You may be able to avoid paying tax on employee stock option benefits by donating the obtained securities in-kind to a charity within 30 days of exercise.

Donate Depreciated Securities

To date, 2023 has not been kind to certain equities, making December the ideal time for tax-loss selling. An alternative may be to consider donating those securities with accrued capital losses to charity. You'll get a receipt for the FMV of the shares being donated,

and you can use the capital loss triggered on the donation to offset any other capital gains realized in 2022.

Keep in mind that, unlike appreciated securities, you don't actually have to donate your loss securities in-kind to use the loss. You can sell them and then donate the cash.

Any unused net capital loss in 2023 can also be carried back up to three years (or carried forward indefinitely) to be applied against taxable capital gains in those years. Perhaps it's worth taking one last look at your 2020 tax return to see if you reported any capital gains that year, since 2023 is your last chance to carry back a loss to that year to recover taxes paid on those gains.

Donate RRSP/RRIF Withdrawals

Finally, any funds withdrawn from your registered retirement savings plan (RRSP) or registered retirement income fund (RRIF) are taxable in the year of withdrawal at your marginal tax rate. Depending on your tax bracket, donating your RRSP/RRIF withdrawal to charity can often result in a donation receipt worth more in tax credits than the tax you will face on that withdrawal, which may reduce tax on other income.

If you want to discuss any of the above methods of making a donation to Beth Tzedec, reach out to me or to Jonathan Ain, our Director of Development.

Jamie Golombek, FCPA, FCA, CFP, CLU, TEP is the Treasurer of Beth Tzedec and is the managing director, Tax & Estate Planning with CIBC Private Wealth in Toronto. You can email him at jamie@jamiegolombek.com.

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

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

Care



Coldest Night of the Year

Saturday, February 24

6:00 to 10:00 PM

The Coldest Night of the Year is a winterrific family-friendly walk to raise money for local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness. Let's bundle up and walk together.

No charge. Registration link coming soon.



Out of the Cold Volunteer Registration is Open

The 23rd season of the Beth Sholom/Beth Tzedec Out of the Cold Shelter will operate on Monday nights from January 15 through April 1. We provide a hot meal, clothing, entertainment, an art program and BINGO for 150 of Toronto's homeless in our community, as well as providing bagged lunch. A limited number of volunteer opportunities are available

For volunteer information and registration, click [here](#)>>

Connect



Shabbat Morning Fun

(For children ages 0 to 3, with a parent;
and for kids ages 4 to 12)

Saturday mornings 9:30 AM

Join us for a children's Shabbat experience that builds Jewish knowledge and community. We start with Shabbat play, followed by age-appropriate *tefillah* (prayers) experiences and conversations with special guests like our *shinshinim* at 10:30 AM, and we conclude with blessings and snacks at 11:30 AM.



Shabbat Games Café

Saturday afternoons

1:15 to 3:30 PM

Join us Saturday afternoons after the Congregational Kiddush for Shabbat-compliant board games for every age and level of interest, and Mah Jong with Jody Wernick. Fun for all ... from pre-school, through serious Euro-game players.



Thursday Games Afternoons

Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:30 PM

Join us for a social afternoon of Mahjong, Bridge and Canasta. For beginners and seasoned veterans alike.

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

Cost: \$2 donation supporting our *hesed* initiatives.



20s and 30s Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner with OneTable

Friday, December 8

Services: 6:00 PM; Dinner 7:15 PM

We are thrilled to partner this Shabbat with OneTable. Inspired by ancient Jewish Wisdom, OneTable is a North American non-profit that empowers folks to find, share, and enjoy Shabbat dinners, making the most of their Friday nights. OneTable is proud to supply Nourishment for this partnership with Beth Tzedec.

Cost for dinner: \$25. Registration is closed. For information, email info@beth-tzedec.org



A Dreamy Family Shabbat Dinner and Experience

Friday, December 15

5:15 to 8:00 PM

Wouldn't it be a dream if we could extend Hanukkah one more night? Well, we can't do that exactly but we can all be together for the first non-Hanukkah night and explore all about dreams as our theme for *Parashat Mikeitz*.

Programming begins at 5:15 p.m., with a lively abridged Kabbalat Shabbat service at 5:45 p.m. followed by a delicious Shabbat dinner and more programming for kids and adults.

Cost for dinner. Pre-registration is required the Monday, December 11 at 11:00 AM.

To reserve, visit <https://bit.ly/dreamy-family-shabbat> or call 416-781-3511.



Teddy Bear Tu B'Shevat Seder

Sunday, January 21

10:00 to 11:15 AM

Bring your favourite stuffed friend for an interactive, amazing feast celebrating our friends, the trees! This special program is especially for children ages 3 to 6 with a grown-up, and younger siblings and teddies are welcome too, of course!

Registration information coming soon.



Family Fun Day and Pancake Breakfast

Monday, December 25

9:30 to 11:30 AM

Spend a relaxing family morning doing all those things you never get to on your busy days—a leisurely pancake breakfast, crafts, games, chatting (remember chatting?)—made even better by doing it with friends! We'll even help you get that family photography session in that you couldn't quite get scheduled, with Robins Nest photography.

And we've got a solution to cleaning up that shelf with all your old board games. Bring the ones missing pieces or the ones your kids have outgrown. We'll have a clinic set up to try to fix up the ones you want to keep and have a swap for those you don't!

Pre-registration and scheduling required for the photography session. Registration appreciated for everything else.

Cost for photography session: \$144 for ten session. To reserve a photography seating session, click [here](#)>>

No charge for the Family Fun Day activities and pancakes, but registration is appreciated. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/family-fun-and-pancakes>



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



Family Shabbat Dinners

Fridays, January 19 and February 23

5:15 to 7:45 PM

Come together for a delicious Shabbat dinner and great programming for kids of all ages. We begin with young children's program and a lively abridged Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a delicious Shabbat dinner and programming for older kids.

Cost for dinner. Pre-registration is required by 11:00 AM on the Monday preceding each program. Registration links coming soon.



Babies, Blessings and Shabbat Fun

Fridays, January 19 & 26, February 2, 9, 16 & 23 and March 8, 15 & 22

12:30 to 1:15 PM

Join us on Fridays at 11:30 AM or at 12:30 PM as we welcome Shabbat with a 45-minute music class featuring Shabbat songs and blessings, *hallel*, grape juice and lots of fun. We have partnered with L'Dance Classes for this special weekly experience for children up to 18 months old, accompanied by an adult caregiver. Please note the 11:30 AM session is full.

Cost: \$120 for Beth Tzedec members; \$180 for the community. Register for the 12:30 PM sessions via <https://bit.ly/babies-blessings-winter-afternoon>; or call 416-781-3511.

The 11:30 AM session is full.



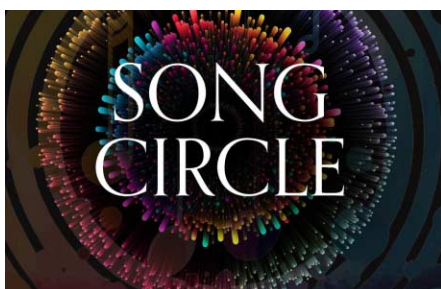
Tu B'Shevat Fruit Liquor Workshop for 20s and 30s

Wednesday, January 24

7:00 to 9:00 PM

Join Steven Kelman and Yacov Fruchter for a night of liquor making and tasting as we celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the birthday of the trees.

Registration information coming soon.



Song Circles with Aviva Chernick

Thursday, January 11 at 5:30 PM
and Sundays, January 14 & 21
at 3:00 PM

The Song Circle returns ... each week in January leading up to our large-scale Song Circle collaboration with Holy Blossom on Saturday night, January 27, Shabbat Shirah—the Sabbath of Song.

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

All Hebrew text will be translated and transliterated.

Learn



Learn Talmud with Reb Steve

Monday evenings 7:30 PM
(via Zoom)

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. In our lessons, we will focus on Masekhet Megillah, Purim and all that concerns Esther HaMalka.

For many, the study of Talmud can seem overwhelming. We will learn at a slow and deliberate pace, sequentially studying a single page of Talmud throughout the week.

No charge. Registration is required via <https://bit.ly/3P6mHCm>.



Talking Torah with Daniel Silverman

Shabbat mornings 9:30 AM

A fresh look at the Haftarah with traditional and modern interpretations of the weekly reading. Intellectually stimulating and challenging.



Torah Through the Ages with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Thursday mornings 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.

No charge. Registration is required to access the Zoom link via <https://bit.ly/torah-through-ages-2023>.

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



Little Minyan Learning with Rabbi Fryer Bodzin

Shabbat mornings, December 2 & 16,
January 6 & 20 and February 3 & 17

9:00 to 9:30 AM

Join Rabbi Fryer Bodzin before the Little Minyan Services for some Shabbat morning learning before we begin tefillah.



iEngage: Together and Apart— The Future of Jewish Peoplehood with Rabbi Steven Wernick

Continues Thursdays, December 14,
January 25, February 29, March 14,
April 25, May 23 and June 20

7:30 to 8:30 PM (via Zoom)

Our newest iEngage video curriculum explores one of the most pressing issues facing the Jewish world today—how we move from being a people with no permanent home to one with two permanent homes.

Through video lectures, interviews and textual sources, this 14-unit course addresses the complex features of Jewish peoplehood and the contemporary challenges to the Jewish people in an era in which we have moved from having no home to having two different, vibrant, homes in Israel and in North America.

The curriculum examines the forces dividing the Jewish people today, including nationalism, antisemitism, dual-loyalty, and identity politics; and it imagines new conceptual frameworks that can help sustain and grow the story of our people for a new millennium.

Cost for series: \$25. Registration is required via <https://bit.ly/iengage-together-apart-2023>.

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SHALOM
HARTMAN INSTITUTE

Pray



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/733141765>

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



Weekday Minhah-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 at 6:00 PM

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>.



Shabbat at the Floor Services

Fridays, December 1, January 12 and
February 2 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 a taste of our Shabbat at the Floor services, please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ux-jyah4Q>.



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



Minḥah-Seudah Shlisheet-Ma'ariv

**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.



Shabbat Sanctuary Services

Every Saturday morning at 9:00 AM

Our Shabbat Service offers the energy and inspiration of a complete spiritual and liturgical Shabbat experience as you sing along with Cantor Sidney Ezer. Rabbi Steven Wernick and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin offer insights into our Torah reading, expertly chanted by ritual director Lorne Hanick. Lift your soul in prayer as you sing with us or close your eyes in meditation and be carried away by the magnificent harmonic sounds of the service.

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



Little Minyan Service

**December 2 & 16, January 6 & 20 and
February 3 & 17 at 9:30 AM**

For those looking to be more actively involved in the worship experience, the Little Minyan offers a traditional service in a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere. Participants lead portions of the service, read Torah and Haftarah and share Torah insights. Torah readers, *daveners* and those wishing to give a *D'var Torah* are always welcome and are offered skills, support and encouragement. Come to participate or simply to experience a Shabbat service full of song, spirit and warmth. Prior to each Little Minyan Service, join Rabbi Fryer Bodzin for "Little Minyan Learning" and engage your mind before we engage our souls with *Tefillah*.



Musical Participatory Services

**Saturdays, December 9, January 6 &
27 and February 10 & 24 at 9:00 AM**

Join us for a musical service led by Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and The HarmonEzers as they 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 in person and livestreamed via <https://bethtzedec.tv>.



Short & Sweet Multi-Generational Family Service

**Saturdays, December 2, January 13 and
February 3 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.

This Service is offered for in-person participation only.

No charge. For information, contact Daniel Silverman at dsilverman@beth-tzedec.org.

Torah Through a Mindfulness Lens with Aviva Chernick

**Continues Fridays, December 1 & 8
12:30 to 1:10 PM (via Zoom)**

Join Aviva Chernick for this meditation series engaging with the weekly Torah as a source of inspiration. We will approach the Torah portions through a mindfulness lens, discovering how Torah can be a teacher for us, towards open hearted and awakened living. This is an introductory meditation course and all levels of experience in both meditation and Torah are welcome.

No charge. Registration is required via <https://bit.ly/mindfulness-lens-zoom>.

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING



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

**Wednesday evenings, December 6,
January 31 and February 28**

7:45 to 8:45 PM

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

Watch for additional dates to be added in the coming weeks.

No charge. Registration is requested via
[xxxxxxxxxx](#).

PRESENTED BY THE BETH TZEDEC CENTRE FOR

Celebrate



Hanukkah Happening

Saturday, December 9

7:00 to 8:30 PM

Join us for a Hanukkah family event full of things that light up the night—and float through the air—and glow in the dark. It will be a holiday event like no other, with jugglers, glow games, the return of the Ziz and a bubble show that's out of this world! Hanukkah snacks and refreshments will be included.

No charge. RSVPs requested via
<https://bit.ly/hanukkah-happening-2023>.



**IGNITE! Tikkun Leil Chanukah:
Festival of Jewish Culture and Learning**

Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 PM

Where light and darkness meet, let's begin Hanukkah together in a community-wide gathering.

IGNITE! opens with an inter-generational, songful candle-lighting, then breaks into a choose-your-own-adventure of arts-based workshops, performances and Jewish study sessions. Throughout the night, enjoy short concerts inspired by the themes of the season, curated by the Ashkenaz Festival. Come early or late, stay a little or stay the whole time! Kosher food for purchase.

Suggestion donation for the Adults/Teen track: \$20. To access the registration link, visit <https://bethtzedecoronto.shulcloud.com/form/ignite-2023>

The Family/Kid's Track admission provides access to the communal candle-lighting at 6:00 PM and to a shorter program for families with kids ages 5 to 12, with a light kosher dinner included.

Cost for Family Track: \$30 per family of four.
To access the registration link, visit
<https://bit.ly/IGNITE-2023>.

PRESENTED BY BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION, THE HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE CENTRE FOR ARTS AND CULTURE, BETH TORAH CONGREGATION, ANNEX SHUL, ASHKENAZ FOUNDATION, CITY SHUL, DANFORTH JEWISH CIRCLE, FIRST NARAYEVER CONGREGATION, MAKOM: CREATIVE DOWNTOWN JUDAISM, MILES NADAL JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE, CONGREGATION SHIR LIBEYNU AND THE UJA COMMITTEE FOR YIDDISH

Making a Minyan

WhatsApp Group

Join Our WhatsApp Group and Help Us Make a Minyan

Do you live in the shul neighbourhood? Please join our new WhatsApp Minyan Group to help us ensure a minyan when we are short. Once a week, once a month—it's really up to you!

It's easy to join. Visit:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BRAp2cnFntc3rapgZYcWoJ>
to join the WhatsApp Minyan distribution list.



8 Gays of Hanukkah

Sunday, December 17

7:00 to 9:00 PM

Beth Tzedec partners with Gila Munster for the fifth annual "8 Gays of Hanukkah" queer Jewish variety brings together some of the top queer Jewish artists in the GTA for an evening of celebration and joy, as well as helping fundraise for Canada's queer Jewish summer camp, Machane Lev.

Cost: \$18 to \$35. To purchase tickets, visit
<https://bit.ly/8gaysofchannukah2023>

PRESENTED BY FENTSTER GALLERY, JEWISH FAMILY & CHILD SERVICE, UJA FEDERATION OF GREATER TORONTO'S LGBTQ+ DIVISION, AURORA STRATEGY GLOBAL, HOUSE OF DWIR, CIJA, HILLEL ONTARIO, BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION, TRAINWRECK LABS, IT'S NOT THERAPY, DERWIN MAK - SCI-FI AUTHOR, SHIR LIBEYNU CONGREGATION, AND MILES NADAL JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE'S LGBTQ+ AT THE J.



A Shabbat Shirah Weekend— Ozi V'Zimrat Yah: Gathering Strength Through Song

**Friday, January 26 at 6:00 PM and
Saturday, January 27 at 9:00 AM**

Throughout the ages, music has served to celebrate victories or as a call to action. On Friday evening, join Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and the HarmonEzers for an uplifting musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service and community Shabbat dinner featuring music of Israeli composers, both traditional and modern. Using music and singing as a vehicle to strengthen and unite us as a people through times of struggle.

Then on Saturday morning, they will lead an uplifting musical Shabbat morning service and sermon-in-song featuring music of Israeli composers, both traditional and modern. Using music and singing as a vehicle to strengthen and unite us as a people through times of struggle.

The Friday evening and Shabbat morning services are offered in person and livestreamed via <https://bethtzedec.tv>.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Services. Friday night dinner is by reservation only. Deadline to register for the dinner is Monday, January 22 at 11:00 AM.

Cost for Friday night dinner: \$48 adults, \$28 children 5-13, No charge for children under 4.
To register, visit <https://bit.ly/shabbat-shirah-dinner>.



Shabbat Shirah Celebration: Song Circle with Beth Tzedec and Holy Blossom

Saturday night, January 27 at 7:30 PM

Imagine all the people...singing together, many voices as one.

This year, in collaboration with our friends at Holy Blossom, we are joining together to host a large-scale Song Circle. It will be a meaningful and musical evening of neighbours gathering, at a time in which music can be both healing and uplifting.

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer and Aviva Chernick, Cantor David Rosen and Cantorial Soloist Lindi Rivers together with many special guests for this song-filled event beginning with Havdalah and ending with a dessert reception.

Every voice is welcome. Join us and be part of this grand chorus.

Cost: \$10 visit: visit
<https://bit.ly/shabbat-shirah-song-circle>

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP BY BETH TZEDEC
AND HOLY BLOSSOM

Tax Receipts

Tax receipts for contributions made to Beth Tzedec during 2023 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 **Joven Pinol**.

Ignite!

Tikkun Leil Chanukah
Festival of Jewish Culture
& Learning

Thursday, December 7, 6:00 PM

Hosted by Beth Tzedec Congregation | 1700 Bathurst Street

Where light and darkness meet, let's begin Chanukah together in a community-wide gathering. IGNITE! opens with an intergenerational, songful candle-lighting for all ages, then breaks into a choose-your-own-adventure of arts-based workshops, performances, and Jewish study sessions. Throughout the night, enjoy short concerts inspired by the themes of the season, curated by the Ashkenaz Festival. Come early or late, stay a little or stay the whole time! Kosher food for purchase. Kids' tickets provide access to the inter-generational communal candlelighting at 6:00 PM and to a shorter program for families with kids ages 5-12, with light kosher dinner included.

Suggested donation: \$20/adult or teen

Family track, 6:00 - 8:00 PM: \$30 per family of 4,
plus \$2/additional child (includes light kosher dinner)



Jointly presented by

 Miles Nadal JCC
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שיר לבנו Shir Libeynu



Same Place; Different Experiences



Bernie Gropper

If you could consider that there is a silver lining to the horrific events of the last few weeks, perhaps it is that as a Jewish

community, we are more certain than we have been in generations that we are broadly dependent on each other, and how fragile our connections are with the broader community. With Israel in an existential crisis, Jews in the Diaspora have found themselves questioning and, importantly, understanding what it means to be a Jew.

The answer for each of us is different. Some of us have turned to our ancient texts and traditions for comfort while others have found solace in knowing that, regardless of our level of religiosity, we are part of something bigger than ourselves. Prayer, study, community, family, charity, counselling—we have each adopted our unique blend of these endeavours to give meaning to our lives in these troubled times.

At Beth Tzedec, the Spiritual Leadership Team and the lay leadership realized the breadth of our membership's attachment to our Judaism long before the current War in Israel. As has been evident in our reaction to the crisis, our members have different needs and there are no one-size-fits-all programs, services or spiritual fixes. So, for the High Holy Days, when attendance at our Synagogue is at its zenith, our leadership developed an array of services and offerings to satisfy as

broad a range of constituents as possible.

For my family, the offerings have allowed us to attend the same institution and have very different High Holy Day experiences.

For my elderly parents, the Sanctuary Service provided them with the tradition and consistency they are familiar with. My father has been a member of Beth Tzedec for 70 years, having joined as a young immigrant from Romania in the early 1950s. He and my mother have sat side-by-side in that same Sanctuary since their marriage in 1958, and no other space or service would offer them a comparable experience.

For my wife and I, the choir and the overwhelming size of the Sanctuary are distractions. We draw our spiritual strength from a more traditional and participatory service; therefore, we attend the Mezzanine Service. It is also where our *hevre* has formed, and we take comfort and strength from *davening* among our community—some of whom are our closest friends and others of whom we only see these three days a year, but with whom we still share a bond.

For my children, all of whom are thoroughly indoctrinated with the *rua'h* of Camp Ramah that is a by-product of spending each and every summer there for the better part of their lives, the thought of *davening* within four walls wearing the finest of "shul clothes" is anathema. So, the Short and Sweet Service brings them to their happy place, where although they are in a parking lot, they can pray in the sunlight and with the late summer breeze.

My daughter and my son-in-law are parents of two young toddler grandchildren. So, for them, the Family Service and the children's programs have provided the opportunity to be in shul and embrace the majesty of the High Holidays without having to arrange daycare or stay home.

And finally, this year Beth Tzedec's Rabbinical Intern, Lara Rodin, offered a spiritual hike on Rosh Hashanah. Lara is an avid hiker and lover of nature, and she blended the High Holy Day texts with the beauty of nature while walking through Cedarvale Ravine. My new daughter-in-law is from North Vancouver, truly one of the most beautiful places on earth, so for her, this was a magical mix.

If our Synagogue will remain relevant in the years to come, we will need to embrace the variety of requirements of our members. I am thrilled that this is our priority, so at least for my family, this strategy has borne fruit. I urge others if they have not already done so, to experiment with our Beth Tzedec offerings and to find what suits them and/or their family members best. And if there are other ways in which the High Holidays at Beth Tzedec can be more meaningful for you, reach out and make the suggestion. The Synagogue is here to enable and inspire you to lead a more meaningful Jewish life. It can and will do that by constantly redefining how it does that.

—Bernie Gropper

Microaggressions



Corinne Promislow

In these very unsettling times, there are incidents of blatant antisemitism facing us every day. We cannot turn on the news, scroll

social media, or walk down the streets of our city without witnessing horrible acts of hate—and there is a lot of associated fear. But there is another form of hate that is present in our lives that is not always obvious or noticeable. These are called microaggressions.

Microaggressions are defined as statements, actions, or incidents regarded as instances of indirect, subtle, or unintentional discrimination against members of a marginalized group, such as a racial or ethnic minority.

There are things people say, often unintentionally, that are not meant to be hurtful but are: such actions can seriously harm individuals. These harms often go unaddressed.

An example of a microaggression that you might have heard before is “you/they don’t look Jewish”... What does “look Jewish?” mean, you think... How can one not feel insulted or at the least challenged hearing that? The level of hurt caused by these sort of

statements can be multiplied significantly for Jews of colour. Ashkenazi Jews can unwittingly make the same insensitive statement: “You don’t look Jewish”, or it could be more subtle: “Where are you from?”, “Are your parents Jewish?”, “Have you recently converted?”, “Are your children Jewish?”, etc.

Statements like these may be intended to be friendly, not said intentionally to be unpleasant or harmful, but they are to the recipient. When something like this becomes a pattern, people withdraw and feel unwelcome. Why make anyone feel like they do not belong?

When we approach a same-sex couple and say, “It is so nice that you are raising children,” it is a microaggression, as if to say it is not normal. You would not say that to a heterosexual couple.

Microaggressions are all around us, so we have grown up with them as part of our lives. They are in everything from the “flesh coloured” band-aids and crayons that do not match the flesh of darker skin, to University campuses that prevent Kosher food being available. These are examples of systemic microaggressions.

Many young people in our community face microaggressions every day. For example, “How can you be Jewish... you are Black” or questions “Will you be making Matzoh-ball soup, or do you

have wonton soup?” that subtly question a person’s “Jewishness” against Ashkenazi standards.

All this makes people feel like they can’t fully belong: that they are “other.”

So, what can we do? Educate ourselves. Listen to each other. Advocate and speak up if you feel you have experienced a microaggression. Be an ally. Interrupt the conversation and identify the microaggression without shaming the person saying it. It is not about shame or guilt; it is about learning.

The world isn’t perfect: in fact, we the Jewish people are tasked with the act of Tikkun Olam, repairing the world. As part of this, we need to also work to repair the rifts within our own community. The Jewish people are stronger together and our reach into the world is more impactful when we unite across the boundaries that divide us.

In this time where Jews and our allies across the globe are uniting in support of Israel, it behooves us to be leaders speaking out against all hatred including microaggressions.

K’lal Y’israel. We are one.

—Corinne Promislow
Board of Directors and
REDI Committee Member

We have identified an error which occurred during the latest *Bulletin* editorial process in which the wrong author was attributed to the article entitled “Microaggressions” on page 35. The article was mistakenly credited to Debbie Rothstein, Immediate Past President. It was actually penned by Corinne Promislow, a Board Director and member of Beth Tzedec’s REDI Committee.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
DONATE TODAY.**

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



Maureen Tanz

Hesed Report

Out of the Cold Program 2024

The Beth Tzedec/Beth Sholom Out of the Cold Program is set to resume the beginning of January, running every Monday evening from January through March. We are now able to register volunteers for this worthwhile program. If you would like to volunteer, please visit Beth Tzedec website (www.beth-tzedec.org), click on the Social Action/Tikkun Olam tab and then click on Community Action which will lead you to the link to register. There are a number of shifts available to volunteer onsite, but you can also initiate a clothing drive which is a great way for teens to earn community service hours.

We have started to receive some incredible corporate donations of essential winter clothing items from Aaron Moscoe of TPS Promotions & Incentives, Jamie Salter of Authentic Brands Group and Daniel Eliesen of NTD Apparel Inc. We thank them for generous contributions.

We still need more product! Our entire inventory was depleted over the past three years of the pandemic and we have a critical need for **adult-sized items**: winter boots, hiking boots, running shoes, underwear, thermal socks, sweatpants and sweatshirts and

ski jackets. Clothing items should be dropped off at Beth Sholom (1445 Eglinton Avenue West) on weekdays between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM.

Games Afternoon

Our Thursday games afternoons have resumed with participants enjoying Mah Jong and Canasta each week. This drop-in program is held each Thursday from 12:30 to 3:30 PM. It is wonderful to see many of our past players alongside several new players chatting and enjoying the afternoon.

Thursday Games Afternoons are open to both members and the community, and players of all skills levels are most welcome. The cost is a \$2 weekly donation which helps support our many *hesed* initiatives.

Mahjong and Canasta lessons are being offered at Beth Tzedec by Judi Rosen. The dates and times of lessons are subject to availability.

If you would like more information about *hesed* opportunities, programs or our Mahjong and Canasta lessons, please leave a message for me with the Synagogue Office at 416-781-3511 or info@beth-tzedec.org.

—Maureen Tanz,
Beth Tzedec *Hesed* Committee



Out of the Cold Volunteer Registration is Open

The 23rd season of the Beth Sholom/Beth Tzedec Out of the Cold Shelter will operate on Monday nights from January 15 through April 1, 2024. We provide a hot meal, clothing, entertainment, an art program and BINGO for 150 of Toronto's homeless and needy people in our community. We also offer a bagged lunch and a one time ttc pass each week.

For volunteer information and registration, visit <https://bit.ly/OOTC-2024>



BETH SHOLOM
SYNAGOGUE



Men's Club Makes a Difference



Men's Club Scholarship Program

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

A copy of your most recent school transcripts must be included. To view the criteria or to access the scholarship application, please visit <https://bit.ly/scholarships-2024>.

The deadline for submissions is **April 15, 2024**.

Community Service Hours

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

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



Murray Levinter^{ztl}

The Beth Tzedec Men's Club acknowledges Adrienne Levinter and the Levinter Family in memory of Murray Levinter. Murray was a long-time member of the Men's Club, volunteering his time to many projects of the Men's Club and the Congregation.



Blue Jay's Night

On August 29, the Beth Tzedec Men's Club hosted a night at the Rogers Centre for a late-season Blue Jays game. A group of 50 fans boarded a school bus and headed downtown to watch the Blue Jays challenge the Washington Nationals. Though the Jays came up just short of a W against the Washington Nationals, we all enjoyed the fun, camaraderie and excitement!





The Importance of Being a Proud Jew in These Times

Thoughts from a first-year student at a Canadian University.

Ilan Aronowitz

I had just started my first year at the University of Guelph this past September and was in the process of finding my place in a new community. I came back home to Toronto to what was supposed to be a quiet Thanksgiving weekend when the horrific attacks occurred in Israel on October 7, but it turned into a nightmare that I couldn't understand.

Returning to my university campus, I quickly noticed an overnight change. I went from feeling a sense of belonging and acceptance on campus and in Canada to feeling criticized, ignored, misunderstood, and most-of-all, alone.

I felt devastated, hurt and worried, and unable to think of anything else.

In response to that feeling, a few friends and I decided to express our voices by painting over a cannon located in the middle of the university campus. This cannon has a tradition of being painted exclusively at night. It is the designated location for students to express their opinions

and share events or news. No matter what is written on it, it is likely to be gone the following day.

My friends and I chose to paint the cannon with the slogan "Bring Them Home" and displayed posters of the children, elderly, women and men who were kidnapped by Hamas on October 7.

Sadly, by 10:00 AM the following morning, the cannon had been vandalized, with all the posters ripped off. Shockingly, nobody said anything. Why did our voice as Jewish students suddenly seem less important at the University?

When the cannon displayed other messages in the days prior, nobody vandalized it then. Why are the hostages not important: is it because they are Israelis?... Because they are Jews?

As the weeks pass, I find it challenging to connect with some of my friends. Whether it is due to their indifference to the current situation and my well-being, their hesitation to speak up, or their tendency to share posts

that appear one-sided. I have even experienced frustration with some Jewish friends who believe it is preferable to stay quiet and ignore what is happening, thereby avoiding discomfort, vulnerability, and any inconvenience.

The question I ask myself is: should we give into our fear and hide that we are proud to be Jewish? Or do we stand up and express our beliefs?

I understand and respect the fear of being vulnerable, yet for me, this is not an option. An example of this was my decision to start wearing a Magen David, something I had never done before. Even my mom asked me if I was sure about showing everyone that I'm Jewish, and my answer was simple. Yes. I know who I am and I am proud of it. I want others to know.

I decided to share my experiences with the intention of encouraging you all to express your own Jewish identity in a way that feels right for you. Speak up in a manner that suits you. Show your support in a way that resonates with you. Show your pride in who you are.

Let's stand united against anti-semitism and share solidarity for the events unfolding in Israel, in Canada, and worldwide.

—Ilan Aronowitz



Ilan Aronowitz is a first year Environmental Engineering student at University of Guelph.

Beth Tzedec Launches Emergency Security Fund

Costs risen over 50% since October attacks.

As we approach Chanukah, when we celebrate the Jewish people's triumph over the Assyrian Greeks, we watch in alarm as our community once again faces nefarious threats. The State of Israel is under attack from its of a terrorist enemy, sworn to the annihilation of all Jews. At the same time, we are traumatized by the alarming rise of antisemitism worldwide, including the GTA and in cities across Canada.

In the spirit of the resilience of the Maccabees, Beth Tzedec has reassessed and fortified our security measures to ensure the safety of our congregants. Collaborating closely with UJA's Community Security team, the Toronto Police, and private security consultants, Beth Tzedec has implementing crucial changes to safeguard our sacred congregation.

However, these enhancements have resulted a 50% increase in our security costs, including the hiring of additional guards, paid-duty police officers, and essential infrastructure upgrades. While community grants may provide some relief, the primary responsibility rests with us, the congregation.

For these reasons, we are reaching out to congregants to request philanthropic support. By making a special gift to the Beth Tzedec Community Security Fund, you will be contributing to the wellbeing of all who enter our sacred congregation. Your generosity will ensure the safety of our youngest nursery school kids, our B'nei Mitzvah youth, couples getting married, and adults of all ages. Everyone deserves to feel secure within the walls of our cherished congregation.

As we kindle the lights of Hanukkah, let our candles symbolize more than the triumphs of the past; let them embody the hope and strength needed to overcome today's challenges. Your contribution becomes a beacon of light, illuminating hope for Beth Tzedec and our entire community.

To make a year-end gift to our Security Fund, please [CLICK HERE](#) or phone the office (416-781-3514, ext. 210).



A SCHOLAR SHABBAT

WITH

DR. ELLIOTT MALAMET

Saturday, December 2 | Services begin at 9:00 AM



Beth Tzedec is pleased to welcome Dr. Elliott Malamet, a renowned contemporary Jewish thinker known for pushing his audiences to think beyond the conventional to create a sense of emotional and spiritual connection. Dr. Malamet will lead discussions in the Sanctuary Service, the Little Minyan and at a community Kiddush following Services.

**Can Wars be Proportional?:
Gaza and the Question of Innocent Civilians**

An Interactive Teach & Learn Session

Sanctuary Service at 10:45 AM | Little Minyan Service at 11:20 AM

**Should Jews Go into Hiding?:
Lighting the Menorah in a Time of anti-Semitism**

An Interactive Lunch & Learn

Community Kiddush co-sponsored by Beth Tzedec

*The Community Kiddush is co-sponsored by Beth Tzedec Congregation and Beth Haminyan.
It is also sponsored by Bruce & Nancy Elman, honouring Bruce on his 75th birthday.*

בית צדק
Beth Tzedec Congregation

Tributes

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

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Prep Club

Bob and Bonnie Otto, honouring **Hart and Marcia Nemoy** and **Joni and Rob Kwinter** on the engagement of their children, **Lori Nemoy** and **Gideon Kwinter**.

Camp Ramah Fund

Marlene and Ian Rattner, honouring their 40th anniversary.

Cantor Sidney Ezer Discretionary Fund

The Katz Family, honouring **Cantor Sidney Ezer**.

Daily Minyan Breakfast Fund

Segal Adler, Limor Markovzki, Sammy Goldstein and families, commemorating the first yahrtzeit of **Tova Markovzki**.

Marcia Beck, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Kenneth Beck**.

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

Rosalee Berlin and Dan Berlin, honouring Corinne Hart and family on the marriage of **Eli Zeldin and Pamela Forster**.

Jon and Terri Carr, honouring the birth of their granddaughter **Noa Rose Kuchinsky**.

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

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

Sandy Waldman, Norman Epstein, Carol and David Green, honouring **Erin Epstein** and **Michael Green** on their marriage.

Vera Finkelstein, marking the conclusion of *shloshim* for **Larry Finkelstein**.

Aaron Bodzin and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gerald Bodzin**.

Shep and Lorraine Gangbar and family, commemorating the yahrtzeiten of **Sarah and Philip Gangbar**.

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

The Glatt Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Henry Glatt**.

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

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

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

The Hechter Family, marking the conclusion of *Kaddish* for **William Hechter**.

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

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

Rael Merson, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lorraine Merson**.

Joe Milner, acknowledging **Israel Milner** in memory of **Esther**.

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

Annette Oelbaum and family, commemorating the 25th yahrtzeit of **Ronald Oelbaum**.

David Promislow, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sam Promislow**.

David Promislow and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Reva Gandler**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Vera Finkelstein** in memory of **Larry Finkelstein**.

Sara Wunch Glick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Moses Kamelgarn**.

Harold Shapiro, honouring his 84th birthday.

The Tanenbaum Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Tanenbaum**.

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

Larry and Nina Wallach, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rubin Wallach**.

Dayna and Jordan Waltman, honouring the birth of their daughter **Aviva Rose**.

Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Herbert Goldstein**.

Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Meryom Dvora Wernick**.

The Westelman Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Westelman**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Corinne Hart and family** on the marriage of **Eli Zeldin and Pamela Forster**.

Family Shabbat Dinner Fund

Dr. Jack and Elaine Barkin, honouring **Jeff Gertner** in recognition of his dedication to the Synagogue and for being named *Hattan Torah*.

Carole Salomon and Angela and Sunny Barkan, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

Food Insecurity Fund

Liddy Beck and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Mary Beck**.

Brian Heller, honouring the memory of **Dr. Leon Heller**.

Ian and Janet Roher, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Max Roher**.

Ian and Janet Roher, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Pearl Klebanoff**.

The children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren honouring **Claude and Esther Abrams** on their 70th anniversary.

Paul and Gella Rothstein, acknowledging **Vera Finkelstien and family** in memory of **Larry Finkelstein**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Don Smith**.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring her "**Shul Sisters and Honourary Shul Sister**", wishing them and their families Shanah Tovah.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring the **Beth Tzedec Spiritual Leadership Team** and wishing them Shanah Tovah.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring the **Beth Tzedec Staff** for their kindness and professionalism and wishing them Shanah Tovah.

Oscar Zimmerman and Anna Day, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Oscar Zimmerman and Anna Day, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

General Fund

Wendy and Elliott Eisen, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Wendy and Elliott Eisen, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

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

Pearl and David Elman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Bina Ostreger-Kent**.

Elaine and Morty Goldbach, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Willer**.

Diane Grafstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Louis Slavin**.

The Herbert and Hochman Families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fanny Hochman**.

Andrew and Sharon Himel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Becky Chapnick**.

Norman and Jackie Kahn, honouring **Mary Ellen Herman** on her special birthday.

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

Karen and Ralph Rabinowicz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Harry Siegel**.

Marjorie Rasky, acknowledging **Freda Rubenstein and family** in memory of **Jack Rubenstein**.

The Gamus-Rayson Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ruth Kenedy**.

Cookie and Stephen Sandler, acknowledging **Fred and Jocelynn Engel** in memory of **Monica Meislin**.

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

Robert and Renee Spiegel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Lenore Susan Spiegel**.

Elizabeth Wolfe and Sidney Nusinowitz, honouring **Mary Ellen Herman**.

Hesed Fund

Frances Bacal, honouring **Esther Westelman** on her 92nd birthday.

Susan, Karen and Debra Friedman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ira Friedman**.

Lonny Cass and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Cass**.

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

Nancy and Bruce Elman, acknowledging **Aaron Wine and family** in memory of **Joel Wine**.

Diane and Ronnie Ennis, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Edythe Blackstien**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, acknowledging **Estelle Kosoy** in memory of **Dr. Martin Kosoy**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, honouring **Wendy Eisen** on receiving the Order of Canada.

Mindy Simon, honouring the memory of **Zelda Simon**.

Shep and Lorraine Gangbar, acknowledging **Gary Elman** in memory of **David Elman**.

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

Nathan Greenberg, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Allan Greene**.

Nathan Greenberg and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Carole Greenberg**.

Nathan Greenberg, acknowledging **Esther Goodman and family** in memory of **Irwin Goodman**.

Bernie Gropper and Elise Stern Gropper acknowledging **Gary Elman** in memory of **David Elman**.

Tuvyah Hart and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Martin Hart**.

Sharon List, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Rina and Elliott Rosenberg, Nadine and Terry Walman and families, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Michael Pupko**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Pauline Dorfman** in memory of **Evelyn Mandel**.

Sheldon and Patti Rotman, honouring the memory of **Larry Finkelstein**.

Sheldon and Patti Rotman and family, acknowledging **Ebie Himmel** in memory of **Chom Himmel**.

Joel Rubinstein, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Irma Jean Rubenstein**.

Barbara Simmons and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Esther Bregman Barash**.

Barbara Simmons and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Lance Barash**.

Rose Sobel, acknowledging **Robert Chelin and family** in memory of **Harry Chelin**.

Rose Sobel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Anne Grimson**.

Rose Sobel, honouring the in memory of **Nathan Chelin**.

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

Helene Kerr, honouring the memories of **Max and Shirley Rosenthal**.

Howard (Hy) Cooper Trust Fund

David and Carol Grossman and family, acknowledging the **Grafstein Family** in memory of **Harold Grafstein**.

David and Carol Grossman and family, acknowledging the **Henry Family** in memory of **Dr. Michael Henry**.

Jewish Family Living Fund

Marjorie Rasky, acknowledging the **Stern Family** in memory of **Norman Stern**.

Kaddish Fund

The family of the late Harold Grafstein, honouring the memory of **Harold Grafstein**.

Ruthann Lubin, honouring the memory of **Ernest H. Cutler**.

The family of Jean Serruya, honouring the memory of **Jean Serruya**.

Kosher Food Bank

M. Sandra Appel and Jerry Shuman, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

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

Zina Glassman, wishing **Phyllis Flatt** a happy Rosh Hashanah.

Zina Glassman, wishing **Carole and Harold Wolfe** a happy Rosh Hashanah.

Suzanne Gold, honouring **Yacov Fruchter** and **Aviva Chernick** for their meaningful Yom Kippur service.

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

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

Paul and Gella Rothstein, honouring **Irving Matlow** on becoming an Israeli citizen.

Susan Fremes and Michel Silberfeld, honouring **Laura Lesser** on the 50th anniversary of her bat mitzvah.

Little Minyan Fund

Nancy and Bruce Elman, acknowledging **Gary Elman and family** in memory of **David Elman**.

Nava Jakubovicz, acknowledging **Gary Elman, Pearl Elman and family** in memory of **David Elman**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging the **Elman Family** in memory of **David Elman**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Aaron Wine** in memory of **Joel Wine**.

Music Fund

Oscar Zimmerman and Anna Day, acknowledging the **Francoz Family** in memory of **Marjorie Francoz**.

Out-of-the-Cold Fund

Sylvia Baron, honouring **Sarah Tannenbaum** on her 100th birthday.

Annette Bot and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **William Bot**.

Denise Chriqui, wishing **Phyllis Flatt** a happy Rosh Hashanah.

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

Kathy, Brian and Bobby Feldman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Gilbert Newman**.

Kathy, Brian and Bobby Feldman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Reta Newman**.

Phyllis Flatt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Shmuel Avraham Albert**.

Lony and Ruth Gropper, acknowledging **Aaron Wine** in memory of **Joel Wine**.

Paul and Sharon Haberman, acknowledging the **Cooper Family** in memory of **Anna Cooper**.

Karen and David Jackson and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Cecile Jackson**.

Karen and David Jackson and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Judy Jackson**.

Karen and David Jackson and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Saul Schwartz**.

The Richmond Family, honouring **Ricky Goldenberg**.

Larry and Suzanne Ross and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Barbara Simon Mercer**.

Larry and Suzanne Ross and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **David Rosenberg**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Aaron Wine** in memory of **Joel Wine**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Gary Elman** in memory of **David Elman**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Rafi Yablonsky**.

Rose Chelin Sobel, acknowledging the **family of the late Anna Spivak** in memory of **Anna Spivak**.

Rose Chelin Sobel, acknowledging the **Cooper Family** in memory of **Anna Cooper**.

Deborah Staiman, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

Deborah Staiman, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Maureen and Bernie Tanz, acknowledging **Gary Elman** in memory of **David Elman**.

Maureen and Bernie Tanz, acknowledging **Aaron Wine** in memory of **Joel Wine**.

Maureen and Bernie Tanz and family, honouring **Ruth and Lony Gropper** on their 6th anniversary.

Terry and Earl Wexler honouring **Sarah Tannenbaum** on her 100th birthday.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Rav Baruch and Josette Frydman-Kohl and family** for their kindness, generosity and compassion, and wishing them a happy Shanah Tovah.

Dot Whitehouse, honouring **Rav Baruch and Josette Frydman-Kohl** on their granddaughter's bat mitzvah.

Prayer Book Fund (Ḣumash)

Allan Goldstein, Michelle Glied-Goldstein and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Herb Goldstein**.

Millard Roth, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dolly Roth**.

Prayer Book Fund (Siddur)

Howard J. Kirshenbaum and family, honouring the memories of **Betty and Izzy Kirshenbaum** ^{z"l}.

Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin Discretionary Fund

Jordan Cohen, honouring **Rabbi Fryer Bodzin**.

Liz and Gary Krebs, honouring **Sylvie and Max Librach** on the birth of their son **Meir**.

Adrienne, Jay and Harry Levinter, honouring **Rabbi Fryer Bodzin**.

Peter and Rochelle Miller and Evan Pilz, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Yale Pilz**.

Rabbi Steven Wernick Discretionary Fund

Marvin and Mary Cooper, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dora Cooper**.

Marnie Burke and family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Solomon Burke**.

Mervyn and Frances Deitel, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Harold Geller, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Beverly Giblon, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Rayna Jolley, honouring **Rabbi Steven and Jody Wernick**.

Pamela Kalsner, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Tess Shoshana Kalsner-Lowe**.

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

Ruth and Harold Margles, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rose Kaplan**.

Robert Milne, honouring **Rabbi Steven Wernick**.

Refugee Program

The Brockman Family, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sophie Brockman**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Rachel Leopold Solomon**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Nate Greenberg, acknowledging **Nancy Adelman and family** in memory of **Dr. Howard Adelman**.

The Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl Endowment Fund

Dennis Brockman, acknowledging **Lillian Pearl**.

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

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

Lisa and Harvey Golombek, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **George Volow**.

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

Noreen Kay, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Troister**.

Adrienne Levinter and family, honouring **Rabbi Baruch and Josette Frydman-Kohl** on the bat mitzvah of their granddaughter **Ilana Adi Kohl**.

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

Gerry and Sherna Posner, honouring **Allan Pyzer** on his 94th birthday.

Louise Starkman, honouring **Rabbi Baruch and Josette Frydman-Kohl** on the bat mitzvah of their granddaughter **Ilana Adi Kohl**.

Torah Through the Ages Fund

Dr. Shoshana Ages, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Dr. Arnold Ages**.

Victims of Terror Fund

Ethel Abramowitz

Art and Carole Andrews, acknowledging the **Charney Family** in memory of Steven Charney.

Art and Carole Andrews, honouring **Mr. and Mrs. Norman Gardner** on the marriage of their grandchildren.

Art and Carole Andrews, honouring **Mr. and Mrs. H. Green** on the marriage of their children.

Art and Carole Andrews, acknowledging **Adrienne Levinter** in memory of **Murray Levinter**.

Frances Bacal, wishing **Esther Westelman** *refuah shelaimah*.

Rosalee Berlin and family

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

Jeffrey and Paula Brockman

Peter and Carol Brown

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

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

Gene and Peter Chodos, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Margaret Chodos**.

Peter and Gene Chodos, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Sara Granat**.

Flory and Bob Cohen, honouring **Bram and Hannah Diamond**.

Jordan Cohen, honouring the memory of **Beverly Cohen**.

Bruce and Nancy Elman, honouring the members of the **Israeli Defense Forces**.

Jan and Gary Elman, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

Jan and Gary Elman, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Fred and Jocelynn Engle

Diane and Ronnie Ennis, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Samuel Blackstein**.

Dahlia Lithwick, honouring **Rabbi Yacov Fruchter, Rabbi Steven Wernick and the Beth Tzedec community** for their support during these difficult times.

Kathy, Brian and Bobby Feldman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Charles Feldman**.

Vera Finkelstein

Phyllis Flatt, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Moses Flatt**.

Aleeza Freedman, honouring our loved ones in Israel, our family and friends, our Jewish brothers and sisters and everyone in Israel who needs our support.

Lauren Hanan, honouring **Jodi Malek**.

Maxine Gallander Wintre, honouring **Paul Rothstein** on his special birthday.

Roslyn and Gerald Goldlist, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Zelda Goldlust**.

Aaron and Sharona Goldstein, honouring the **State of Israel**.

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

Stanley Herschel Gordon

Michael Stewart Grammer, acknowledging those who have suffered from the October 7 attacks and the war, and wishing them *refuah shelaimah*.

Albert and Sabina Green

Barry Greenberg and Susan Laufer

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

Nathan Greenberg, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

Jack and Sandi Grossman

Roslene Halman

Marilyn Herbert and Harry Hoffman, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Ben Hochman**.

Ronnie Hoffer and family

Nava Jakubovicz

Michael and Phyllis Kaplan

Sean Karp and family

Jerome and Pearl Kazdan

Steven G. Kelman

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

Nancy Kraft, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **William Shore**.

Allan and Barbara Leibel

Brad and Corinne Lester and family, acknowledging **Bonnie Rubenstein** in memory of **Jack Rubenstein**.

Adrienne, Jay and Harry Levinter, honouring **Jerry Grammer**.

Alex Levy, acknowledging the victims of recent terror attacks and their families in Israel and around the world.

Marcia Lightman

The Linden Family

Ellis and Vicci Macmull

Anne Malc

Gary and Marcie Mansfield and family, acknowledging **Fred Engle** in memory of **Shaina Monica Meislin**.

Gary and Marcie Mansfield and family, honouring **Bernice Stern** on her special birthday.

Gary and Marcie Mansfield and family, honouring **Gary Goldberg** on being named to the Order of Canada.

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

Anne Margles

Ruth and Harold Margles

Elisha and Stephen Margles, acknowledging the Israel victims of the October 7 attacks.

Claire and Newton Markus, acknowledging **Diane Grafstein** in memory of **Harold Grafstein**.

Claire and Newton Markus, acknowledging the **Levinter Family** in memory of **Murray Levinter**.

Claire and Newton Markus, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Fanny Steinberg**.

Doreen and Michael Mason

Irving Matlow

Leah Mauer and Josh Zelikovitz, honouring **Klal Yisrael**.

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

Jeffrey and Phyllis Miller, honouring **Carole Andrews** on her special birthday.

Elise Orenstein, honouring **Fanny Orenstein**.

Amy Phillips and Paul Sheldon

Dr. Howard and Karen Phillips

Millie Pollock

William Prusin

Michael Pukin, honouring the **Nation of Israel**.

Allan and Rosalynn Pyzer, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jerry Pyzer**.

Stanley Risen

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, acknowledging **Adrienne Levinter** in memory of **Murray Levinter**.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Carole Andrews** on her 80th birthday.

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Inscribe our *Siddurim*!

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



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

Games Afternoons

Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:30 PM

The Games (finally) Begin!

Join us for a social afternoon of Mahjong, Bridge and Canasta. For beginners and seasoned veterans alike.

Mahjong and Canasta lessons are now being scheduled. For fee information and to arrange for lessons, contact the Synagogue Office at 416-783-1411..



Cost: \$2 donation supporting our *Hesed* initiatives.

Condolences

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

Nettie Edith Barad
Gabriel Beck
Barry Chapnick
Penny Etlin
Marjorie Francoz
Harold Grafstein
Martin Hirschberg
Anna Kremer
Evelyn Levinne
Murray Levinter
Shaina Monica Meislin
Esther Miller
Nicola Nardandrea
Gloria Blossom Newman
Harold Pinsky

Hascal Rosen
Allen Rosenberg
Shirley Sacks
Maureen (Chavey) Sandler
Bernard Alexander Schwartz
Shirley Sobel
Anna Spivak
Allen Stern
Joel Wine
Bryna Zaidman
Dr. Edith Zoltan Ginzberg

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

Memorial Plaques

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

Everything we do Today is for Tomorrow

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

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

Patti and Sheldon Rotman, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being name *Hattan Torah*.

Harvey and Toby Rotstein

Rosette Rutman, Stephen and Tamara Abrams

Alan and Lorraine Sandler, honouring **Jeffrey Gertner** on being named *Hattan Torah*.

Alan and Lorraine Sandler, Robert and Nyla Sandler, Ian and Fern Sandler and families, honouring **Gella Rothstein** on being named *Kallat Bereisheet*.

Sonia Schwartz

Simma and Harvey Shaul

Arnold and Barbara Shell, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Hyman Shell**.

Robert and Simmy Shnier, acknowledging **Fred Engle and family** in memory of **Shaina Monica Meislin**.

Robert and Simmy Shnier, acknowledging **Zack Fuerstenberg** in memory of **Joel and Bella Shupac**

Samantha and Zale Skolnik

Shane Slater

Pat and Morley Sniderman

Carole and Bernard Starkman

Daniel Stern, Erin Bobkin and family

Toby Taraday, acknowledging the Israeli victims of October 7.

Lianne Trachtenberg and Paul Oykman, honouring **Fritz and Lotte Rothschild, Frieda and Hyman Trachtenberg, Fira and Alex Oussatinski, Jacob and Bella Oykman**.

Barbra Walters, acknowledging **Lori Grafstein and the Grafstein Family** in memory of **Harold Grafstein**.

Barbra Walters, honouring **Dr. Mark Mandelcorn** on his special birthday.

Robert and Nancy Warren, honouring **Yosel Baruch Rotstein**.

Dr. David Weiss, acknowledging the victims of terror from the October 2023 Hamas terror attacks.

Janet Wortsman, acknowledging those who have lost, those who are lost and in our hearts, those who cannot be forgotten.

Steven Young, honouring **Dr. Joel A. Kirsh**.

Steven Young, honouring **Russell and Hannah**.

Helen Zarnett

Robert and Shayndelynn Zeldin

Website Development Fund

Susan and Abraham Born, honouring **Lorne Hanick**.

Robert Milne, honouring **Lorne Hennick**.

Yom Hashoah Candle Fund in memory of Jules and Pearl Surdin

Ruth and Lony Gropper, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Leon Kimelman**.

Debbie Rothstein and Michael Friedman, acknowledging **Adrienne Levinter** in memory of **Murray Levinter**.

Lawrence and Brooke Schiff and Cathy Surdin, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Victor Schiff**.

Cathy Surdin and Lawrence and Brooke Schiff, acknowledgng **Les Kravitz** in memory of **Faye Kravitz**.

Cathy Surdin and Lawrence Schiff, acknowledging **Enid Orvitz** and family in memory of **Ralph Orvitz**.

Young Professionals Fund

Annette Oelbaum and family, commemorating the 25th yahrtzeit of **Ronald Oelbaum**.

Joanne and Earl Schwebel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Jack M. Fine**.

Joanne and Earl Schwebel, commemorating the yahrtzeit of **Valerie Fine**.

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.

SHABBAT SHIRAH WEEKEND

Ozi V Zimrat Yah

Gathering Strength Through Song

Friday, January 26 and Saturday, January 27, 2024

Throughout the ages, music has served to celebrate victories or as a call to action. Join us at Beth Tzedec as we celebrate with song, prayer and community.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service and Dinner

Services 6:00 PM | Dinner 7:15 PM

Join Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber and the HarmonEzers for an uplifting musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service and community Shabbat dinner featuring the music of Israeli composers, both traditional and modern. Using music and singing as a vehicle to strengthen and unite us as a people through times of struggle. Everyone is welcome.

Pre-registration is required for the dinner by **Monday, January 22.**

To register, visit <https://bit.ly/shabbat-shirah-dinner>

Shabbat Morning Services and Community Kiddush

Services begin at 9:00 AM

Cantor Sidney Ezer, Asher Farber, and the HarmonEzers lead an uplifting musical Shabbat morning service and sermon-in-song featuring music of Israeli composers, both traditional and modern, using the power of music and singing as a vehicle to strengthen and unite us as a people through times of struggle. Rabbi Steven Wernick and Rabbi Robyn Fryer Bodzin will offer insights into our Torah reading, expertly chanted by Lorne Hanick. Following the Services, we'll gather for a community Kiddush. Everyone is welcome.

SHABBAT SHIRAH MUSICAL CELEBRATION

SONG CIRCLE

**Saturday night,
January 27 at 7:30 PM**

This year, in collaboration with our friends at Holy Blossom, we are joining together, to host a massive Song Circle. It will be a rich evening of neighbours gathering, at a time in which music can be both healing and a source of uplift.

Join **Cantor Sidney Ezer** and **Aviva Chernick** together with **Cantor David Rosen** and **Cantor Lindi Rivers** for this special event beginning with Havdalah and ending with a reception.

You don't have to know how to sing (or carry a tune) to be a part of the very large chorus; you just have to want to sing with joy.

Cost: \$10 (proceeds support the Victims of Terror Fund).
To register, visit <https://bit.ly/shabbat-shirah-song-circle>