

MISHPACHTENU

KISLEV, TEVET, SHEVAT & ADAR 5784

DECEMBER 2023, JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 2





CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

5915 Beacon Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15217

www.bethshalompgh.org

412.421.2288

Clergy

Rabbi Seth Adelson Senior Rabbi
Rabbi Mark Asher Goodman Associate Rabbi

Lead Staff

Robert Gleiberman Executive Director
Dale Caprara Controller
Rabbi Andy Shugerman Development Director
Rabbi Larry Freedman J-JEP Director
Hilary Yeckel Director of the ELC
Marissa Tait Director of Youth Programs
Michael Smrek Cemetery Director
Shari Rapowitz Woldenberg Derekh Coordinator

Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

Paul Teplitz President
Alex Kiderman Executive Vice President
Roger Zimmerman Vice President of Finance
Joseph Jolson Vice President of Operations
Mindy Shreve Vice President of Member Engagement
Chris Hall Vice President of Synagogue Life
Carolyn Slayton Vice President of Youth
Jean Reznick Treasurer
Alan Himmel Secretary
Alan Kopolow Immediate Past President

Trustees & Auxilliary Presidents

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Shoshana Barnett | Evan H. Stein |
| Natasha Berman | Ken Steinberg |
| Mark Frisch | Lisa Steindel |
| Arthur Goldberg | Pat Weiss |
| Andie Hartz | Erica Fox Zabusky |
| Linda Safyan Holber | Judy Kornblith Kobell, Sisterhood President |
| Adam Resnick | Ira Frank, Men's Club President |
| Larry Savitz | Hannah Adelson, USY President |

Past Presidents from 1980-2023

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Harriet N. Kruman | Judy Kornblith Kobell |
| Alan Greenwald (z"l) | Jay L. Fingeret |
| Marianne Silberman (z"l) | Steven H. Schwartz |
| Milton Eisner (z"l) | Ira M. Frank |
| Arnold H. Lazarus (z"l) | Connie Pollack |
| Yale Rosenstein (z"l) | Stefi L. Kirschner |
| Dr. David Rosenbloom (z"l) | Howard Valinsky |
| Harvey Robins | David Horvitz |
| Julian Elbling | Debby Firestone |
| Barry J. Palkovitz | Alan Kopolow |

Emeriti and Scholars

Rabbi Mark N. Staitman Rabbinic Scholar
Stephen E. Steindel, D.D. Rabbi Emeritus
Moshe Taubé (z"l) Cantor Emeritus
Amir Pilch F.S.A. Executive Director Emeritus
Fern S. Moscov. Preschool Director Emeritus

| | |
|--|----|
| Message from Our Senior Rabbi | 3 |
| <i>Hoping for Light</i> | |
| Message from Our President | 4 |
| Message from Our Executive Director | 5 |
| Message from Our Associate Rabbi | 6 |
| Message from Our Development Director | 7 |
| Message from Our ELC Director | 8 |
| <i>Growing with the ELC</i> | |
| Message from Our J-JEP Director | 9 |
| <i>Learning with J-JEP</i> | |
| Message from Our Derekh Coordinator | 10 |
| Beth Shalom Youth Zone | 11 |
| Benei Mitzvah | 12 |
| The Sisterhood Says | 14 |
| The Men's Club | 15 |
| Humans of Beth Shalom | 16 |
| Membership | 18 |
| Our Congregational Family | 21 |
| Staff Directory | 30 |

Help Your Shul...

by wishing our friends a Happy Birthday!

As part of the birthday greetings program, you can now write one larger check and draw down on your deposit as you send greetings during the year.

PLEASE download the birthday form from our weekly emails or get the form from our office. Thank you!

Hoping for Light

Rabbi Seth Adelson

Senior Rabbi

rav@bethshalompgh.org



As I write this column, I am sandwiched into a middle seat on an El Al flight eastbound for a three-day solidarity mission with other rabbis from the international Masorti (Conservative) movement. By the time you are reading this, of course, the mission has long since been completed. But from this vantage point, I have no idea what to expect. They have given us a draft schedule, which includes visiting Israelis in the south, towns and kibbutzim impacted by the atrocities of October 7, visiting internal refugees in the center of the country and the volunteers who are helping to take care of them, and some high-level politicians. I already know that I will (wisely) miss the politicians, instead opting to rent a car and drive alone up north to see my son, and I am hopeful that Hizbullah does not foil our plans.

In the month that has passed since the gruesome attack, my head has been swimming in dizzying muddle of outrage, pain, truly horrible news stories, concern for hostages and soldiers and survivors and those grieving loved ones, anxiety about the future, shock at the spike of anti-Semitic activity, and a continuous searching for words and prayers and songs that will bring some comfort to my community when all such things are inadequate. As my 787 crosses the North Atlantic my heart fills with a suspicion that seeing the faces of those in pain, of grasping the devastation wrought, of hearing the anguished cries of those who lost children, lovers, friends, will be far more painful than reading about them in the New York Times. As our Pittsburgh community knows only too well, the epicenter of grief is far wider and deeper than it seems on our screens.

And yet, I am also yearning for something that I am almost certain I will not see on this trip: light. Hope. Inspiration. I am looking toward Hanukkah, when we kindle our joyous little candles and sing happy

songs and eat tasty fried foods and try to push back at the darkness, try to bring some pleasant illumination to the grievous muddle. I am hoping that I might see something tiny that will catch my eye and bring me back to a place of innocence, a reminder of seeing those flickering lights sitting on the windowsill of my childhood home, reminding us of ancient and modern miracles. I have to hope that “*bayamim hahem uvazman hazeh*,” in those times and in this time, we look to the minuscule miracles that surround us each day and enable us to keep going, to face another day, to build and to celebrate even as we weep.

The uncertainty of the current moment is thick, but maybe that is the essential message of Hanukkah: as Heshvan gives way to Kislev, we look forward to creating just a wee bit of light to help us move forward again, to bring us comfort in darkness and warmth in cold and just maybe the chance of peace. May this season of light provide some respite for all of us, in Israel and throughout the world.

Purim Volunteer Opportunity

Looking for a super fun volunteer opportunity which also raises much needed funds for Beth Shalom?

A wonderful mitzvah for the holiday of Purim is “*Mishloah Manot*,” or the sending of gifts of food to friends. We have begun the planning of our fourth *Mishloah Manot* program where our members send gifts of food to other members, staff, ELC families and staff, etc. Last year with the help of many volunteers, we delivered almost 600 bags!

If you are interested in joining the *Mishloah Manot* Committee, please email Ira Frank (natfabira@juno.com) or Mindy Shreve (mindyshreve@gmail.com).

OUR LEADERSHIP

A Message from Our President

Paul Teplitz
President
pteplitz@me.com



On October 7, 2023, I recalled vividly the first (and only) time I put my hand upon that wall. It was miraculous. I felt an energy. I felt a connection with the millions of people who did what I just did. Millions of Jewish people approached the western wall to pray and connect with millennia of Jewish tradition. Our collective prayers wafted up to the heavens the same way the smoke from animal sacrifices did during the times of the first and second temple. On October 7th, our homeland was under siege. I, like Jews around the world and the entirety of our community, felt profound grief and sadness. Sadness and grief for the lives lost. Sadness and grief for the hostages taken. Sadness and grief for the families who had to bear witness to the barbaric slaughter of their loved ones. Sadness and grief for the families whose loved ones were now held hostage. Sadness and grief for the members of our congregation with friends, family, and loved ones serving in the Israel Defense Forces. The sadness and grief continues to linger like a dense fog.

But our *Kehillah* sprang to action. We gathered at vigils with the larger Pittsburgh Jewish community. We added psalms and other prayers daily. We gathered for a night to pray for Eretz Yisroel and all its inhabitants. We gathered for a night to sing Hebrew melodies. We met with our sister Synagogue in Karmiel via zoom. We supported, and continue to support, those in Israel in any way possible. Rabbi Adelson visited Israel to take thermal underwear, something badly needed by the troops, along with drawings and letters from our congregation.

As of this writing, we are preparing to come together for an evening with the Clergy Boys to support each other and Beth Shalom. We will continue to offer

Derekh programs for the congregation and events to offer prayers and support for Israel. Roofing companies are preparing to submit bids to replace the main sanctuary roof in the spring. The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program task force is moving forward with our million-dollar matching grant so that we can set dates to begin repairs and renovation to our southern façade and terrace. We are taking the first steps to plan for a successful capital campaign. We are moving forward because we must. We need our spiritual home now more than ever. I hope that the light from our Shabbat candles and Hanukkah candles breaks through the darkness and pray for sustained peace in the land of Israel.

B'Shalom,

Paul Teplitz

A graphic with a dark background and a light-colored arch at the top. Inside the arch, a white banner reads "SAVE THE DATE". Below the banner, several white hands are raised in various gestures. The text "VOLUNTEER AWARDS BRUNCH" is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below this, a white box contains the text "SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2023" in bold, black capital letters. At the bottom, the text "WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW" is written in white capital letters, followed by a small white star.

SAVE THE DATE

**VOLUNTEER AWARDS
BRUNCH**

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2023

WATCH FOR MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW ★

A Message from our Executive Director

Robert Gleiberman

Executive Director

ExecDir@bethshalompg.org



We are quickly approaching the holiday of Hanukkah where we kindle the candles on the hanukkiah. These flickering lights illuminate the darkness of our surroundings and bring joy to our families. We play games, eat special foods and exchange gifts. All these activities create new memories and return us to times of days gone by.

This year we are experiencing a different kind of darkness that we will not soon forget. However, from this darkness we must find light. This is what we do. As a Jewish community we are seeing one of the lowest times in our history. Even so, we must bring a little brightness to the dark days by doing what we have always done. "Come Together"! By the time you read this, we will have come together for a small diversion by celebrating - just a little bit – with the "Clergy Boys." This is our annual fun event where we bring our congregational family together. This is also our major fundraising program of the year.



The Clergy Boys performing during Congregation Beth Shalom's Annual Come Together fundraiser on November 19, 2023.

I want to acknowledge everyone who made our "Come Together" event possible.

- Judith Adelson, Lynn Hecht, Lois Kopolow and Nancy Tuckfelt, Come Together Committee
- Terry and Kenny Steinberg, Honorary Chairs
- The Clergy Boys
- Margaret J. Krauss, Narrator
- Our Sponsors
- Graham Sound
- Volunteers including Robbie Zaremborg
- Beth Shalom Staff, especially
 - Rabbi Seth Adelson
 - Tika Bonner
 - Dale Caprara
 - Rabbi Mark Asher Goodman
 - Rabbi Andy Shugerman
 - Marissa Tait
 - Amira Walker
 - John Williams and his Maintenance Staff
 - Shari Woldenberg
 - Kristin Zappone
- Finally, our congregational family who showed up and out!

SAVE THE DATE



OUR LEADERSHIP

A Message from our Associate Rabbi

Rabbi Mark Asher Goodman
Associate Rabbi
mgoodman@bethshalompgh.org



More than a month into the conflict between Israel and Gaza, it becomes hard to find the right words to say. What is there to say that will alleviate the pain of grieving parents that have lost children? What possible words can we say about getting back the hostages? About the latest round in a never-ending cycle of violence between Israelis and Palestinians that reaches back to before the establishment of Israel even? Famously, the Torah tells us that when Aaron was confronted with the most awful tragedy imaginable - the death of his two sons Nadav and Abihu - he was silent. This can possibly read to teach a powerful lesson: that in the face of grief and sadness, words fail us, and that is ok.

There are times when we can fall silent because words fail us. However, we must still find the right words words in certain circumstances.

We must not remain silent at comforting those that are in pain.

We must not be silent regarding the absolute right of our people, in the words of 'Hatikvah', to be *lihyot am hofshi be'artzeinu* - to live as a free people in our homeland, and that this right means to live in peace and security.

We must not remain silent to speak out for what is right, just, and moral - even if that isn't always comfortable or easy.

And when words fail us, our tradition gives us the words to say. We look to the prayerbook, and to the Torah, and to the Psalms, and to rabbinic teachings, to guide us in difficult times. We look to gather in community to give us collectively the words to say. That can't solve everything that troubles us. But the simple act of being together to share the words that express our emotions is, sometimes, enough.

Host Your Event at Beth Shalom

Celebrations include:

Anniversaries
Baby Namings
Benei Mitzvah Parties
Birthday Parties
Bridal Showers
Weddings



Contact Jason Friedman,
Events & Catering Coordinator, at
412.304.4291
jfriedman@eedgecatering.org

Benei Mitzvah Planning

We begin working with families of students in fourth grade, toward their becoming benei mitzvah.

Please remember that all information related to bat/bar mitzvah and so much more about the process can be found online in the Beth Shalom Benei Mitzvah Handbook, which you can download as a PDF at **BethShalomPgh.org/lifelong-learning/benei-mitzvah**.

Please be in contact with Ashley Burse, Rabbi's Assistant, at **RabbiAsst@BethShalomPgh.org**.



A Message from our Development Director

Rabbi Andy Shugerman
Development Director
 RabbiAndy@bethshalompgh.org



This has been an extraordinarily sad and stressful autumn for so many of us. I write this reflection on the *shloshim* (thirtieth day of mourning) for those murdered in the October 7th massacres in Israel. Last week was the *yahrzeit* (Hebrew anniversary) for those murdered at Tree of Life in 2018, and the week before that was the fifth secular anniversary of October 27th, or “10/27” as so many of us call it in Pittsburgh.

In commemorating all three of these dates in such a short period of time, I have re-learned the concept of “secondary trauma” that deals with how so many of us have indirectly been exposed to the violence of those massacres through our bearing witness to those who experienced each first hand. It is crucial that we both allow ourselves to hear the stories of those directly traumatized and also to protect ourselves from the “compassion fatigue” that so often ensues from these events.

In the past two and a half years since I began my role here at Beth Shalom, I have had the blessing and the challenge of being called upon to serve as an additional rabbi for our synagogue, even though it is not explicitly or even implicitly in the job description for the Development Director position. What I long ago learned, however, is that relationships are at the core of “development work” and all the more so at the heart of being a rabbi, which is a hat or “*kippah*” I always wear in some figurative sense. It was not a surprise, therefore, that I began to have some of the most heartfelt pastoral encounters with folks I know through Beth Shalom (both our members and others) soon after the news reached us here and every day since then over the past month.

I share those opening thoughts because I learned in recent weeks about an approach to doing

trauma-informed work that I have incorporated into opportunities I have had for teaching, speaking and (with this piece now) writing during this difficult time. The following four principles have deepened my sense of how spiritually grounded our work together must be in order to maintain our resilience:

- 1) *Humility*: we each only know what we have individually experienced, and even then many of us cannot fully articulate what we felt, saw, or heard until well after an incident or encounter. This awareness can open us internally for greater patience, sensitivity and self-compassion.
- 2) *Empathy*: as humility gives us greater presence of mind and intentionality, we can listen non-critically and more supportively to the feelings and perspectives of others with the expectation that their experiences will differ from our own. (Sympathy is fine but definitionally comes from identifying with the emotional experience of another person or being.)
- 3) *Responsibility*: we learn from the Talmud (BT Shevuot 39a) that *Kol Yisrael Areivim Zeh Bah-Zeh*, “all of Israel is responsible for one another.” Whether or not a human actor or system must be held accountable for a traumatic event, so many of us have seen how we as a community must respond to support those affected and to help them recover physically and mentally.
- 4) *Collaboration*: in responding to an event, “compassion fatigue” can lead to similar symptoms of post-traumatic stress, particularly self-isolation. Teamwork in this context means knowing that we must care for both victims and responders, including ourselves, through a recovery process.

I feel the need to add my own fifth and final pillar here, which I know can only come with time and with healing: to tell one’s story and to re-affirm life among survivors, witnesses and responders. May we all be blessed to support each other in all these ways and to grow stronger together in the years to come.

Am Yisrael Hai – the People of Israel are still Alive!

OUR LEADERSHIP

Growing Through the ELC

Hilary Yeckel

Director of the ELC

hyeckel@bethshalompg.org

Hello congregants!



The 2023-2024 school year has been full of learning and exciting experiences for the children in the ELC. Our fall months were full of the sounds, tastes, and sights of the high holidays. Each morning all our children were given the opportunity to join morning minyan to hear the shofar being blown for Rosh Hashanah. Mr. Ira also visited each classroom in our center giving the children a deeper exploration of the shofar, the different sounds, and an opportunity to touch and hold different kinds! During Sukkot, our older children also visited morning minyan to shake the lulav and etrog with those in attendance. It was a beautiful experience for our students. Each of our classrooms arranged a time to visit the sukkah during school hours to enjoy a snack, share stories, and learn with Rabbi Adelson and Rabbi Goodman. Our Parent Teacher Organization also hosted a snacks in the sukkah event, where our entire school community joined together in the sukkah after school for a wonderful social program.

This fall the ELC also hosted a pajama day, vision screening, picture day, and parent teacher conferences. We were also fortunate to have one of our parents share his occupation with us by bringing a fire truck to our center in October for Fire Safety month. The children were excited to explore the truck inside and out; our older children even got to spray the fire hose! We are fortunate to have such wonderful community helpers in our school community.

As we prepare for the winter months, we look forward to celebrating Hanukkah together as a school community. The PTO is busy preparing a fun carnival, as well as a winter playdate for our families.

I would also like to take a moment and recognize one of our veteran educators, someone many of you know, Morah Michelle. Michelle Mark is a dedicated teacher who has been working in the ELC for 35+ years. This holiday season we honored her commitment to Beth Shalom ELC by having a plaque made in her honor for Noah's Ark located on the wall as

you enter through the parking lot. On behalf of all the families/children Michelle has touched over the years, those she helped grow and learn, as well as her family of educators, I would like to say thank you.

If you ever have a question or would like to inquire about how you can support the ELC, please feel free to contact the office at 412-421-8857. I look forward to hearing from you.



On October 25, the ELC kids learned about fire safety with a visit from a fire truck, courtesy of the Squirrel Hill Fire Department.

ELC Calendar

Dec. 2023 - Feb. 2024

Wednesday, December 13

Hanukkah Celebration

Monday, December 25 - Monday, January 1

Winter Recess - ELC Closed

Tuesday, January 2

Teacher In-Service Day - ELC Closed

Monday, January 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - ELC Closed

Monday, February 19

President's Day - ELC Closed

Learning with J-JEP

Rabbi Larry Freedman

Director of J-JEP

RabbiLF@jjep.org



I write this not a week following the horrible attacks in Israel and no doubt by the time you read this there will have been much more death and destruction. It's a sad time. For our children, we worry about what they will see, how they will feel. We want to protect them from evil and even -if we could- the existence of evil. But we can't. We can't protect our children from the ways of the world. And maybe we shouldn't. With the caveat that we speak to them at their developmental level, we parents and teachers should be the ones who help them understand the world we live in. They will find guidance somewhere. Better it be from us than the playground or the inevitable smartphones they receive at ever younger ages.

What do we tell them? This is the time for resiliency and in particular, spiritual resiliency. Spiritual resiliency is the faith in and connection to something larger than ourselves. It is a belief and mindset that helps us feel not alone when the going gets tough. Spiritual resiliency can be found in tight bonds to school or friends or teammates or family or Jewish community or God or any group that shares things in common. Spiritual resiliency is that place you go when you need to take a deep breath, understand your purpose, be with people who support you so you can be ready to face a new day. Do you have that? Do your children?

As I get older and as my own children get older, I find myself at the stage where I can look back and wonder how I did. Truly I raised nice, polite, upstanding young men. But did I help them foster spiritual resiliency? Did I help them gain tight connections to something larger than themselves? I'm not sure. In terms of Judaism my children are connected to the extent twenty-somethings are connected. My household engaged in all manner of Jewish behaviors. Mandatory Shabbat dinner (which they replicate). Sukkah in the backyard. Decorations for Hanukkah and excited cleaning for Pesah. Shabbat services often enough where they feel confident. All the usual. But I'm not sure if I shared my values directly as opposed to them having experiences that were more passive in nature. In a desire to let them make their own way, I don't think I taught them directly about this or that Jewish value, the meaning of this or that custom. We just did them. And while no child likes a pedantic father, I may have missed the chance for them to push

back, argue, consider in ways that draw one near to the wisdom and support Judaism can offer.

But we did say motzie before (almost) every dinner. And we did have Jewish art in the house and conversations about Jewish topics in the news and Jewish music playing from time to time. They know they are part of a larger people. I hope it helps them be resilient at this time.

I can only say to you all that spiritual resiliency, that feeling connected to something larger than yourself that gives strength, is not a passive experience. It needs to be modeled and shared by parents. For Judaism and Jewish life to fill that role, I would challenge parents to think deeply about how you all are connected to Judaism, how it gives you support and share that feeling explicitly with your children. And then do things, physical things, that connect us to Jewish culture and wisdom writ large. There are so many options of what a family can do, there are so many ways to add more Jewish life to the family's repertoire. Many are rituals. Have Shabbat dinner as a family. Have the children put a mezuzah on their own door. These are just two that offer an action and a physical reminder. Many are intellectual. Talk about something Jewish you read with the children over dinner and ask them their opinion. But mostly, let them know how you are getting through this time. What gives you strength? How is your Judaism helping you (does it?) through this time. Model for your children in an active way, how to get through the tough times. I think they'll be grateful.



J-JEP Calender

Dec. 2023 - Feb. 2024

Sunday, December 10

Latkepalooza

Tuesday, December 12

J-JEP Family Candle Lighting at Beth Shalom

Wednesday, December 13

J-JEP Family Candle Lighting at Rodef Shalom

Monday, December 21 - Monday, January 1

J-JEP Winter Recess - No J-JEP Classes

Sunday, February 11

World Wide Wrap

OUR LEADERSHIP

A Message from our Derekh Coordinator

Shari Rapowitz Woldenberg

Derekh Coordinator

swoldenberg@bethshalompgph.org



The New Year began with celebration and hope. Rabbi Mark Goodman led a Shabbat Shiur Deep Dive into Rosh Hashanah. Rabbi Dr. Rachel Adler taught a group of women how to wrap Tefillin and Tallitot. On Yom Kippur afternoon, Derekh organized a study session with Dr. Jonathan Weinkle teaching how the prayer before the bedtime shema offers daily opportunities for forgiveness, and Rabbi Kara Tav examined how we understand modern day plagues such as Covid. Sukkot featured our first ever Sukkah Stroll, where members of all ages walked together to sukkahs in our neighborhood for a travelling kiddush. We were learning, growing and grateful.

Then on October 7 Israel was brutally attacked. How could we sing and dance on Simhat Torah? We created a display of Israeli flags in the lobby and held a prayer service to express our support for Israel and those who were kidnapped and murdered. But we experienced collective shock and horror.

How to move forward? One of the first events Derekh scheduled was a zoom call with our sister synagogue, Kehillat Hakerem in Karmiel, Israel. We let them know they were not alone, and we had a conversation about experiencing the war both from within Israel and from the diaspora. We wanted to know about their everyday life and safety. They wanted to know about our media and politics.

At Beth Shalom we stood strong and proud; terrorism would not alter our Jewish identity and programs. On October 21, Jessica Hammer taught a Shabbat Shiur about how transformational games can help address issues of concern to the Jewish community. The next day, Rich Feder and Steve Albert led a fall bike ride alongside peak foliage colors of flaming yellow, orange and red. On October 25, author Benjamin Cohen discussed his book *The Einstein Effect: How the World's Favorite Genius Got into Our Cars, Our Bathrooms, and Our Minds*. Benjamin's talk was so inspiring that I bought several of his books and read them whenever I need a break from the news.

In November we honored Veteran's Day with Dr. Elaine Berkowitz and sang in a Niggun Song Circle with Ilanit Helfand. We marched in Washington, DC, in Solidarity with Israel and toured the Violins of Hope exhibit at CMU. We planned a Hod veHadar musical *kabbalat shabbat* with an environmentally friendly potluck dinner, and will celebrate Hanukah with a Community Menorah Lighting along with songs, latkes and sufganiot. After winter break, we will begin holding quarterly blood drives with Men's Club, welcome the University of Maryland's a capella group Kol Sasson, continue Rabbi Adelson's Lunch and Learn series about Israel's History through Pop Music, create educational sessions about Israel, begin an Adult Benei Mitzvah program, and learn how to manage stress with Bruce S. Rabin, M.D., Ph.D. Check our website for the latest as we continue to learn, grow, and proudly celebrate our traditions.

Rabbi Adelson's Lunch & Learn

Usually First Tuesday of Each Month
from 12 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Tuesday, May 7, 2024



Introducing Congregation Beth Shalom's Adult Benei Mitzvah Program

Beginning in January in Collaboration with Temple Sinai, we are offering an Adult Benei Mitzvah program open to learners of all levels. Class will culminate with a Benei Mitzvah celebration in June of 2025.

Contact Shari Woldenberg at
swoldenberg@bethshalompgph.org
for more information.

Beth Shalom Youth Zone

Marissa Tait

Director of Youth Programs

mtait@bethshalompgh.org



Lately, I've been feeling a sense of negativity surrounding me. However, I want to shine a light on something truly amazing - the strength and resilience of our youth. Despite facing challenging circumstances, they remain a beacon of hope, demonstrating that the future is in capable hands. These remarkable young people represent not only the future leaders but also actively shape the present.

Today's youth face many challenges in our complex world, but they face them with unwavering determination. They are not just heirs to our traditions, but also the embodiment of our values. They deeply connect with their Jewish roots and foster ties to Israel and the global Jewish community. Their commitment to justice, meaningful dialogue, and creating a better world is truly inspiring.

In spite of the difficulties that life throws their way, our young community members excel in various domains, including academics, sports, arts, and community engagement. Their dedication to studies and efforts to effect positive change in our community are commendable.

In the midst of a chaotic world, our youth remind us that the future is promising. Their boundless energy, innovative spirit, and resolute determination are a source of inspiration. The way they carry themselves speaks volumes about their preparedness to confront the challenges of the modern world while upholding our shared values. Their resilience and unwavering enthusiasm affirm the strength of our community.

As we move forward, let us continue to support and celebrate these young leaders. They are the architects of tomorrow's world, and their contributions promise a future full of opportunities.



Teen leaders from various Pittsburgh youth groups created cards to send with Rabbi Adelson when he flew to Israel.



On Sunday, October 15, BSUSY spent the day at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.



On November 4, BSUSY gathered for the fifth and final Pittsburgh Teen Memorial Havdalah Service & Program



BENEI MITZVAH

Talia Brooke Block will celebrate becoming a bat mitzvah on December 2, 2023, Parshat Vayishlach, at Congregation Beth Shalom.

Talia will be surrounded by proud parents, Bev and Zack Block, brothers, Jordan and Benny Block, grandparents, Ed and Ellen Betel and Larry and Sharon Block, and her extended family and friends.



Talia is a 7th grader at Community Day School. Talia excels at playing virtually all sports, but she loves flag football and basketball the most. When she's not playing sports, Talia enjoys writing and walking to Forbes with friends.

Bat Mitzvah: 12/2/2023

Lital Friedman will become a bat mitzvah on February 3rd, 2024 at Congregation Beth Shalom. Lital is the daughter of Shiri and Josh Friedman, sister of Niv and Arbel and granddaughter of Rabbi Stephen and Lisa Steindel and Vita and Mike Friedman.

A 7th grader at Community Day School, Lital plays on the CDS soccer and basketball teams, as well as Squirrel Hill baseball and softball, JCC basketball and indoor Dynamo soccer. She spends her summers at Camp Young Judaea Midwest in Wisconsin, loves reading novels and has never met a dog she didn't like.



Bat Mitzvah: 2/3/2024

Camille Rothstein will celebrate her bat mitzvah on January 6, 2024.

Lily Dora Neiman will become a bat mitzvah on the 16th of December, 2023. Lily's parents are Megan & Merle Neiman. She is the grand-daughter of Susan & Nathan Hausler and Reva & Lee Neiman.

Lily is a 7th grader at Community Day School where she excels as a student and as a soccer player for the CDS Lions. She avidly enjoys shopping and being silly with her friends and loves to ski and go horseback riding as well. Lily has participated in several charity, school and community based activities most recently as a student ambassador for the 10/27 Tree of Life Commemoration. For her mitzvah project she is producing and selling earrings made from post-consumer recycled products. All of her proceeds will be donated to "No dog left behind".



Bat Mitzvah: 12/16/2023

Shoshana Ann Graver will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on February 17, 2024 at Congregation Beth Shalom. Shoshie is the daughter of Deborah and Matthew Graver and the sister of Aviva. Her grandparents are Nadene Sales, Arthur & Judy Sales, Paulette & Steve Kolcun and Sharon & Daniel Graver.

Shoshie is a seventh grader at Community Day School and enjoys many sports, especially horseback riding and skiing. Her favorite summertime activity is going to camp at Emma Kaufmann. For her mitzvah project, Shoshie created and sold custom earrings made from recycled aluminum cans and donated the proceeds to a local organization providing Equine Therapy.



Bat Mitzvah: 2/17/2024

PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE NOW



We can help with:

- Pre-need planning
- Plot & Mausoleum Crypt Selections
- Monument Designs
- Markers Inscriptions
- Bench & Bronze Memorials
- Concrete grave-liner selection, with or without holes*

Visit Our Cemetery

Cemetery opens at 8:00 a.m. and closes at sunset. The cemetery is also closed at sundown on Friday through the Sabbath and all Jewish holidays.

For more information, contact Michael Smrek, Cemetery Director,
at 412.421.2288 x293 or cemetery@bethshalompgh.org

*Note: No associated equipment or installation charges on grave-liners if purchased through the cemetery.

Latkepalooza!

Hosted by Join the Joint Jewish Education Program

JJEP

on Sunday Dec. 10

from 10am - 12pm

Open to

at Congregation Beth Shalom

ALL!

for our annual Hanukkah celebration!



**\$5 per person or \$20 per family (cash only) at the door
for latkes, sufganiyot, games, crafts and prizes!**

OUR LEADERSHIP

The Sisterhood Says

Judy Kornblith Kobell
Sisterhood President
jayeko@msn.com



As the days get colder, we are happy to look back on a busy Fall and forward to winter events.

Sisterhood started off with a successful Potluck Supper and opening meeting in September. Everyone enjoyed a very tasty meal while we discussed plans for the coming year. We are appreciative that Robin Halpern volunteered to take over as Sisterhood correspondent, and deeply thank Barbara Rosenstein for her work in that role for the past years. Volunteers are what makes things happen and I want to give a huge thanks to Ronna Askin, Tsiona Blitstein, Cheryl Blumenfeld, Lynn Gleiberman, Dorothy Greenfield, Lois Kopelow and chair, Barbara Kaiserman for their time and effort to keep our Judaica Shop open and well stocked. Please be sure to patronize our shop so we can continue to support events at Congregation Beth Shalom. Sisterhood is grateful, as well, for your support of our Flower Fund. We provided beautiful flower arrangements for all the Fall holidays thanks to your donations in honor/memory of loved ones. We are grateful for this to our wonderful volunteer, Elinor Zarembeg.

We look forward to our annual Hanukkah party on Sunday, December 17. The dynamic chairs are Judith Kline, Lidush Goldschmidt, Tsiona Blitstein and Cheryl Blumenfeld. Be sure to put the date on your calendar for a fun, social, delicious time! Other activities include our Sisterhood Book Club and weekly Latin Cardio class with Connie Pollack.

Sisterhood welcomes ideas, suggestions, volunteers and participation. All good wishes for a happy, healthy, safe 2024!

Judy Kornblith Kobell
Sisterhood President

SISTERHOOD JUDAICA SHOP



**OPEN FRIDAYS
10 A.M. - 12 P.M.**

**FOR APPOINTMENTS, CALL
JUDY KOBELL AT 412-725-5566**

**Buy Giant Eagle Gift Cards
at Beth Shalom!**



Simplify your shopping and buy Giant Eagle Gift Cards from Beth Shalom and take care of all of your **groceries, pharmacy, and gift giving!** With Giant Eagle Gift Cards, buy various gift cards and earn foodperks and fuelperks!

Call Amira Walker at 412.421.2288 x 110 now!

AirBnB
Apple
Best Buy
Dick's Sporting Goods
DSW
Home Depot
Netflix
Nordstrom
Regal Cinemas
Uber
GetGo! Gas Gift Cards
**Over 140 popular
stores and restaurants
to choose from!**
**Purchases benefit Beth
Shalom.**

The Men's Club

Ira Frank

Men's Club President

natfabira@juno.com



We just finished a very successful year!

Our Hanukkah Gelt (sweepstakes) was again our major fundraiser. We will be selling tickets for the 2024 drawings starting soon. Please purchase your ticket early so you have a chance to win twice each Friday from April to November. Tickets remain \$50.00 each.

We supported Beth Shalom and continue to by sponsoring or co-sponsoring with Sisterhood on Shabbat meals, Purim baskets, gift baskets to new members and USY Purim Carnival among many other programs!

We are preparing to have our famous award-winning Sports Lunch on February 18, 2024. Always the best event of the year. Look for both sponsorship opportunities, but also volunteer spots and to JUST COME AND ENJOY!

We will hold the World Wide Wrap on Super Bowl Sunday (February 11) at both Beth Shalom Sunday minyan and at J-JEP. Everyone is invited to come and use tefillin. This your chance to learn or relearn how!!!

We have our Men's Club Shabbat on April 13. Please let us know if you want to participate.

In addition we will again deliver Yellow Candles along with Purim baskets, sponsor pizza before Passover, in May place flags at the graves of our veterans, and co-sponsor Beth Shalom's 2024 quarterly blood drives.

We will continue to work with Sisterhood and sponsor Shabbat meals and many other projects at our shul.

Please get involved. Let me know what you are interested in doing or what you would like us to do.

Stay well and safe!!

Ira Frank



**BETH SHALOM
COMMUNITY
HANUKKAH
CELEBRATION**

Community Hanukkiah lighting, Havdalah, dinner
Open to Adults, Children, and families

December 9 | 5:30 PM
RSVP required by Dec 4
Cost \$20 Adult | \$10 Child

Sponsor a Se'udah Shelishit (Third Meal)

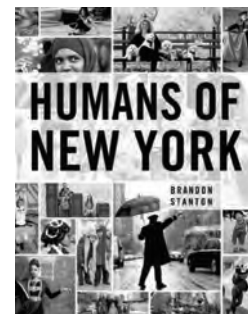
We are seeking sponsors for the meal. The cost to sponsor is \$180. The sponsored third meal covers the cost of the meal.



If you are able to sponsor a third meal, please contact Ira Frank at **412-849-2937** or natfabira@juno.com.

Humans of Beth Shalom (HOBS)

As a means of introducing members of our congregation to each other, we provide this section of *Mishpachtenu*, entitled Humans of Beth Shalom (inspired by the famous Humans of New York, or HONY, series). Here, we highlight one or two member “units” (a family or individual) and we look forward to introducing others in the future. We asked the responders to identify themselves and then to respond to a subset of pre-selected questions.



The Brophy Fauber Family



The Brophy Fauber Family at home, seated in front of the curtains Leora uses to play “open ark.”

Name in English and in Hebrew (phonetic).

Rachel Fauber, she/her - Rahel Fayga

Martin Joseph “Joe” Brophy III, he/him - Yosef

Leora Mae Brophy, she/her until informed otherwise - Leora Mae

now Pittsburgh. We have been here since August 2022.

Joe: Born in Illinois, brought up in Oregon, college in Ohio and Germany, lived in Washington, DC and Israel post-college.

Where were you born and which places have you lived in?

Rachel: Born in Silver Spring, Maryland. I have lived in Maryland, Washington, DC, Jerusalem and

Leora: Born in Jerusalem, moved to Pittsburgh at eight-months old.

Continued on page 17

How long have you been a members of Congregation Beth Shalom?

We actually joined Beth Shalom and enrolled Leora in the ELC [Early Learning Center] while we were still in Israel. And we started joining in-person when we moved to Squirrel Hill in August of 2022. We are newbies!

If you could be a fly on the wall in Jewish history, where would you want to land and why?

Joe: As a teacher of Jewish History, this is an exceptionally hard question to answer. So here's three: in Kaifeng, before the great flood of 1642; in Rabbi Akiva's Beit Midrash sometime in the early second century; and (a tie) learning with Moses Mendelssohn in the 18th century or Rabbi Zacharias Frankel in the 19th.

Rachel: I would like to travel back in time to become a student of the Maharal of Prague and learn how to fashion a Golem out of clay.

When do you feel the most Jewish? And why?

Rachel: I feel most joyful and Jewish when singing zemirot [songs praising G-d and Shabbat] with friends around a Shabbas table.

Joe: [I feel most Jewish on] Shabbat mornings, when the Torah is removed from the ark, and the Shaliach Tzibbur calls out Shema Yisrael. The communal repetition of that line gets me every time. Sometimes I just listen to those around me, feeling their voices and prayers swell up with mine in an incomparable harmony.

What's something that you feel passionate about? A hobby, a belief, your work, family, etc.

Joe: Outside of my work in Jewish Education, I'm very passionate about biking and bike infrastructure. I helped organize massive social bike rides in DC for many years, and then in Jerusalem for a few years after that. I haven't yet gotten into the Pittsburgh bike scene, but I hope to soon!

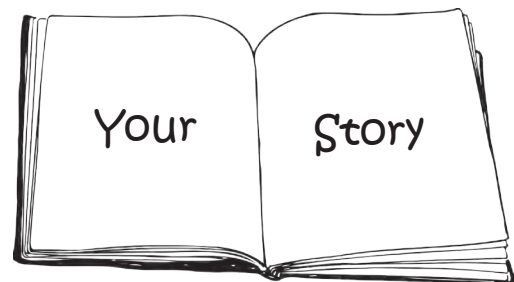
Rachel: I love my job. I spent many many years working to build a career that is aligned with the contributions I want to make in the world. I work on narratives and social impact storytelling at Ashoka, the largest global network of social entrepreneurs. I am so lucky I have been able to travel the world and meet hundreds of these innovators over the years.

For Leora: What's your favorite thing about being Jewish?

Leora's probably too little to fully understand the question, but we can tell you her favorite things. She loves seeing her friends — especially Ira [Frank] — at shul each week. She loves the Torah and plays "open ark" with our curtains at home. She loves the songs she learns from Rabbi Adelson at the ELC's Shabbat each week. And she really really loves grape juice.

Tell Us YOUR Story

Interested in participating
in the next Humans of
Beth Shalom project?
We want to hear from you.



Contact Elinor Nathanson at
esnathanson@verizon.net

The Meaning of Synagogue Membership

By Michael Neft

I had always thought about starting to attend Saturday morning services. My Dad's death in 2002 was the catalyst that actually got me to do so. At the time, I was in the Army living in suburban Maryland and joined a synagogue similar to Beth Shalom, only larger. The conservative liturgy appealed to me. The congregants were nice, but not overly so. The shul had active programs for families and kids which I was glad to see. There usually was a weekly Bar or Bat Mitzvah, and guest speakers in the summer. In contrast, I watched the shul in which I "grew up" dwindle down to where it no longer had any children and there were few educational programs.

I retired from the Army in 2006, moved back to Pittsburgh and continued going to weekly services

with my Mom. As she became more infirm in 2016 our attendance started to fall off, ending shortly thereafter. We went to services on the high holidays. After her death 8 months ago, I decided not only to go to shul on Saturdays to say Kaddish, but also to daily morning minyan. The shul I had attended with my mother could not support a daily minyan. So, I started to attend daily minyan at Beth Shalom. I felt very welcomed, and thoroughly enjoyed experiencing Rabbis Adelson's and Goodman's passionate teaching and davening (something I had never experienced before...clergy usually put me to sleep). So, I decided to become a member of Beth Shalom.

I would have to say that synagogue membership means that I can fulfill personal religious goals and experience Jewish fellowship from other congregants. I look forward to attending services (even getting up for daily minyan) not only to see people and enjoy the beautiful chapel and sanctuary, but to daven. The conservative service is perfect for me. Even though I cannot really read Hebrew myself, I can follow along with the *Sheliaḥ Tzibbur* and read the English translation and transliteration. I joined the Membership Committee and plan to become more active as time allows.



Photos of Michael Neft attending Morning Minyan

Beth Shalom Welcomes Its Newest Members*

Diana & David Chessen
Zoe Cardinal & Matt Goldfarb
Avigail Oren & Kevin Seal
Stephen Mallinger

Judith Shimm
Molly & Robert Zacharias
Ella Ziff & Dan Berkowitz



Ella Ziff & Dan Berkowitz

Ella Zeilinger Ziff and Daniel Berkowitz are excited to join Congregation Beth Shalom. Ella enjoys working with many families and children in the Jewish community in her role at Hillel Academy of Pittsburgh as the Support Services Director. Daniel enjoys teaching and researching as a Professor of Economics at the University of Pittsburgh. Between the two of them, they share four children and two grandchildren. They are lucky to have a daughter, son-in-law and two adorable grandchildren living in Pittsburgh and who are also Beth Shalom members.

In their spare time, they love to travel, bike ride on Rails to Trails pathways, cook, do yoga and take walks with their beloved dog Maggie.

Watch for more new member photos and bios in upcoming issues!



**New Member
Ceremony & Brunch
November 5, 2023**



**As of November 2023*

Come Together 2023

**OH WHAT A
NIGHT!**



For more photos from the event, check out our website: BethShalomPgh.org

Your Contributions

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

Adult Education Donations 2023

In Honor Of:

Rabbi Kara Tav

Tanya Domi

Cemetery Donations 2023

In Memory Of:

Fred Heiman

Todd & Sally Levenson

Sandy Jacobs

Tibey Falk

Bertha Landau

David Volk

Sylvia Reznick

Paul & Karen Shapiro

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Todd & Sally Levenson

Jean Stein

Paul & Karen Shapiro

General Fund

In Appreciation of:

Robert & Lynn Gleiberman

Jill & Aaron Gertsman

Robert Gleiberman

Gideon Lorber

Rabbi Mark Asher Goodman &

Rabbi Andy Shugerman

Maria Wheeler-Dubas

Adriane & Morris Horvitz

Lori Abrams

Paul Teplitz

Daniel Kass & Deborah Gillman

The daily morning minyan who welcomed and fed us.

Debbie & Dan Eisenstein

In Honor of:

Harry Drucker's 100th Birthday

Sally Greenwald

Joseph Jolson & Sabina Robinson

Gail Neft

The marriage of Sarita Eisner's

grandson

Sally Greenwald

Dorothy Greenfield

Mindy Shreve

Irene Kaplow & David Held's

wedding anniversary

Louis Kaplow & Jody Forchheimer

Jane Liebschutz

Margaret & Gary Fischer

Larry & Adrienne Savitz's new

grandson

Mindy Shreve

Marlene Silverman

Margaret & Gary Fischer

Michael & Ellen Siegel

Joel Smalley's special birthday

Barry & Yvonne Stein

Paul Teplitz

Bobbee Kramer

Roger Zimmerman

Margaret & Gary Fischer

Speedy Recovery:

Sondra Glasser

Sally Greenwald

In Memory Of:

Abraham Friedman

Robin Friedman

Frances Rice

Gerald Rosenberg

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Daniel & Neila Bendas

Richard & Helen Feder

Samuel & Dorothy Greenfield

Sally Greenwald

Richard & Rhoda Judd

Carol Lederer

Paul & Jean Reznick

Mindy Shreve

Gail Moses

Alan & Fern Steckel

George Davis

Gail Neft

Fred Heiman

Marlene Behrmann Cohen &

David Plaut

Richard & Helen Feder

Michael Schwartz & Emily Medine

Steven Stoller

Patricia Weiss

Harry & Laurie Zions

Herbert Orlansky

Judith Blumenfeld

Gail Neft

Jean Stein

Diane Samuels & David Sufrin

Jerry & Diane Speer

Joanne Zaslow's Husband

Clarice Katz

Marian Hershman

Steven Berger

Richard & Rhoda Judd

Daniel Kass & Deborah Gillman

Paul & Jean Reznick

Randi Harlow

Harold Blumenfeld & Sheryl Riddle

Samuel P. Granowitz

Mindy Shreve

Susan Weiss

Patricia Weiss

Sylvia Reznick

Judith Blumenfeld

Joseph Jolson & Sabina Robinson

Stanley Kirshenbaum & Diane Silberg

Gail Neft

Michael & Sara Safyan

Mindy Shreve

Harry & Laurie Zions

HHC Donations 2023

In Memory Of:

Marian Hershman

Clarice Katz

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Your Contributions

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

J. Leonard Frank Early Minyan

Endowment Fund

In Memory Of:

Sylvia Reznick

Judith Kline

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Judith Kline

Kiddush Donations

In Memory Of:

Fred Heiman

Sandra Hirsch

Gerrie Littmann

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Goldyne Rubin

Lynda Herer Goldsmith

Camp Ramah Fund

In Memory Of:

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Robin Halpern

Mildred & Isadore Berkowitz

Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Elaine Berkowitz

Philanthropic Fund

In Memory Of:

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Bunny Morris

Prayer Book Donations

In Memory Of:

Elaine Schwartz Kemler

Meryl Gotlieb

Preschool Donations

In Memory Of:

Saul Gordon

Milton & Shirley Estner

Rabbi Adelson Disc Fund

In Memory Of:

Fred Heiman

Mikael & Susan Kimelman

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

David & Judy Ehrenwerth

Barry & Yvonne Stein

Samuel and Mollie Zytneck

Endowment Fund

In Memory Of:

Sylvia Reznick

Howard & Nicole Valinsky

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Howard & Nicole Valinsky

Sisterhood Donations

In Memory Of:

Marian Hershman

Richard & Helen Feder

Sisterhood Flower Fund

In Memory Of:

Freda Seeligsohn

Ria David

Shirley Ruth Schiffman Barasch

Nathan & Debby Firestone

Beatrice Goodman

Nathan & Debby Firestone

Randi Harlow

Nathan & Debby Firestone

Fred Heiman

Nathan & Debby Firestone

Sylvia Reznick

Nathan & Debby Firestone

Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi

Nathan & Debby Firestone

Thomas Mordechai & Simcha

Rosenstein Memorial Fund

In Memory Of:

Randi Harlow

Barbara Rosenstein

Youth Fund

In Memory Of:

Shirley Ruth Schiffman Barasch

Stefi Kirschner & Gilbert Schneider

Alisa "Lisa" Chotiner

Michael & Carol Beth Yoffee

Alan Green

Ruth Weiss

Fred Heiman

Steven & Lynn Hecht

Sylvia Reznick

Alexis Maharam

Ben & Selma Sweet

Earl Sweet

ELEGANT
— EDGE

CATERING
CO.

Check out our website for up to date
info and menus:

eedgecatering.com/menu

Office Phone: 412-385-2332

Email: info@eedgecatering.com

Unforgettable Flavors
for an
Unforgettable Event



Yahrzeit Donations

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

Barbara Abraham
 Cynthia & Richard Abrams
 Jack & Gail Abrams
 Renee Abrams
 Susan Abrams
 Alan Ackerman
 Carl & Honey Adelsheim
 Anna Adler
 Robert & Ann Albert
 Amma Alper
 Howard Alter
 Nathan & Sheila Altshuler
 Cheryl Americus
 Mayer & Joyce Arnowitz
 Lorraine & Marc Aronson
 Barbara Azizo
 Marylyn Baker
 Regina Bardin
 Marilyn Barmak
 Bernard & Eva Bauer
 Raymond & Harriet Baum
 Raymond Bazell
 Natalie Beckerman
 Daniel & Neila Bendas
 Steffi Berg
 Richard & Natalie Berger
 Steven Berger
 Elaine Berkowitz
 Sorel Berman
 Shirley & Stanley Bernstein
 Sheryl Billman
 Gloria Blackburn
 Leonard & Barbara Bloom
 Beth Blumenfeld
 Barbara Braunstein
 Sheila Brody
 Marion Brooks
 Marshall Brown
 Lewis & Jo Anne Cagen
 Sheldon & Elaine Catz
 Neil & Beth Charness
 Isabel Chernoff
 Andrea & Joseph Chester
 Jeremy & Beth Childs
 Rhoda Chosky
 Lev & Marianna Chudnovsky
 Dorene Coffey
 Andrea & Steven Cohen
 Paul Cohen
 Richard Linda Cohen
 Polly Craighill
 Lois Crone
 Alva Daffner
 Hilda & Sy Demsky
 Neil Diamant & Debbey Altman-Diamant
 Bernard Dickter
 Larry & Sharon Dobkin

Adrienne & Dennis Drapkin
 Rochelle Dueser
 Aaron & Ellen Edelstein
 Paula Eger
 Irwin & Linda Ehrenreich
 Cookie Elbling
 Howard Elbling
 Lois Engel
 Arthur & Sybil Epstein
 Joseph Epstein
 Judy & Louis Epstein
 Rose Kay & Bernard Faust
 Evelyn Favish
 Richard & Helen Feder
 Eleanor Feldman
 Harriet Fibus
 Ruth Fineberg
 Stephen & Maxine Fisher
 Carolyn Flamm
 Michael & Ginger Foreman
 Debra & Michael Freiser
 Alex & Rachel Friedman
 Edward & Kathryn Friedman
 Gary & Eva Friedman
 Helene Friedman
 Rochelle Friedman
 Semyon & Svetlana Geshiktor
 Elayne Gilbert
 Robert & Lesley Ginsburg
 Sheila Glasser
 Bruce Goldberg
 Gerald S. Goldberg
 Harold & Debra Goldberg
 Alex & Dasha Goldin
 Lee & Hersha Goldman
 Renee & Richard Goldman
 Stephen & Terry Goldring
 Morton Goldstein
 Murray & Donna Gordon
 Amy Gorin
 Meryl Gotlieb
 Matthew & Deborah Graver
 Richard Greenberg
 Ronna Greenberg
 Andrew & Sherry Greenberger
 Joel Pamela Greenhouse
 Ellen P. Grinberg
 Leonard & Elaine Grobstein
 Murray & Barbara Gross
 Beverly Groudine
 Robert & Judith Grumet
 Barney Guttman
 Ann Haalman
 Harold & Judy Haffner
 Jack & Mimi Halpern
 Robin Halpern
 William Halpern

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Yahrzeit Donations

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

Arlene Mann Handmaker
Steven & Lynn Hecht
Melvin & Reva Heimowitz
Elaine Herer
Sandra Hirsch
Alan & Laurie Hirschman
Joseph & Margery Hoffman
Steven & Joan Hoffman
Marsha & Thomas Holcomb
Larry & Toby Holtzman
Stanley & Reva Horn
Richard Horowitz
John & Jessie Horton
David & Teddi Horvitz
Joan Horvitz
Morris & Adriane Horvitz
Emily Huling
David Izenson
Keith & Marilyn Jacobs
Jean & Alan Jacobson
Jack & Shelley Jaffe
Richard & Rhoda Judd
Earl & Barbara Kaiserman
Charles & Susan Kalson
Michael & Janet Kamon
Falk & Judy Kantor
Daniel Kass & Deborah Gillman
Clarice Katz
Flora Lee Katz
Joan Katz
Maury Ellen Katz
Carole Kaufman
Joy Keafer
Mindy & Marlene Keane
Jack & Ellen Kessler
Alexander & Helen Kiderman
Stefi Kirschner & Gilbert Schneider
Alexander & Natalie Kisler
Steve Klein
Gerald & Judy Kobell
Scott & Debbie Kramer
Carl Krasik
James & Sheri Krell
Dorita Krifcher
Michael & Susan Kweller
Robert Lang
Keith & Sheila Lawrence
Racille Lazar
James Lebovitz
Paul Lebovitz & Mark Caldane
Carol Lederer
Jeffrey & Ilene Lederer
Jocelyn Lehman
Yaier & Lori Lehrer
Adele & Murray Leibowitz
Jay Leipzig
Mitchell & Rhonda Letwin

Ellen Letwin Schulz
Elaine Levenson
Todd & Sally Levenson
William & Stacy Levin
Lawrence Levine
Merle & Myriam Levine
Murray Levith
Charilee Levy
Penina Lieber
Lawrence Liepack
Sanford Lipsitz
Susan Lipsitz
Nathan Lovit
Michael & Julia Lvovich
Alan & Judy Maglin
Richard & Karen Mann
Philip Marcus
Carol & Richard Margolis
Sandra Margolis
Ellen Marks
Thomas & Darlena Marmins
Sherri Mayer
Cynthia Melamed
Nancy Merenstein
Joshua & Linda Metlay
David Meyers
Iris & Lawrence Miller
Ravenna Miller
Marsha Mintz
Harriet Moses
Herbert & Arlene Moses
Raisa Mudrenko
Stanley Nadel
Hope Nathan
Lee & Reva Neiman
Ronald & Toby Neufeld
Fred & Linda Newman
Daniel Nizhner
Judy O'Connor
Harold & Sandy Oker
Janice Ortenberg
Beth Paransky
Deanna & Eric Pasekoff
Jeanne Pearlman
Rose Perer
Steven & Kimberly Pettler
Jeffrey Pittler
Bernard Pollack
Yakov & Luba Prizant
Lisa & Jacky Prucz
William & Nancy Rackoff
Aviva Radbord
Marc Reisman
David & Sharon Reiss
Esther Resnick
Paul & Jean Reznick
Cynthia Rider

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Yahrzeit Donations

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

Arnold Robbins
Sarah Robbins
Ferne Rogow
Elayne Rosen
Rochelle Rosen
Sidney & Wilma Rosen
Margie Rosenberg
Susan Rosenberg
Peter & Sabina Rosenfeld
Don & Florence Rosenthal
Jeffrey & Lynn Rosenthal
Robert & Elizabeth Rosenthal
Alvin & Christine Ross
Myron Roth
Ruth Roth
Adam Rothaus
Betty Rothaus
Joel Rubin
Zarky Rudavsky & Merrienne Leff
Nadene Sales
Steven Santman
Larry & Adrienne Savitz
Nathan & Abby Savitz
Earl & Scott Schaffer
Carl & Roni Schiffman
Teodora Schipper
Robert & Carol Schutte
James & Judith Schwartz
Steven & Sharon Schwartz
Sidney Schwimer
Eric & Sheila Scott
Harold & Janet Segal
Irving Segal
Adam Selker
Daniel & Barbara Shapira
Bud & Ilene Shapiro
Paul & Karen Shapiro
Adam & Shoshanna Shear
Neal & Maria Shenderovich
Patti Shensa
Rosalyn Sherman
Lois Sherry
Raisa Sheykhet
Keith Shiflet
Bernard Shire
Mark & Geraldine Shire
Alexander Shklyar
Mindy Shreve
Michael & Galina Shurin
Joseph & Sandra Siegel
Richard & Mary Silk
Arnold & Susan Silverman
Audrey Silverman
Cynthia & Grant Simon
Joyce & Howard Simons
David & Toby Sirota
Murray Sittsamer

Gennady Skotnevsky
David Slesnick & Gerri Sperling
Sheila Slewett
Donald & Roslyn Small
Elaine Small
Steve & Susan Small
Joel Smalley
Harold & Connie Smolar
Marcia Sokolow Spitz
Shirley Sperling
Jane Stanton
Barry & Yvonne Stein
Eileen Stein
Jeffrey Stein
Karen Stein
Nancy Stein
Steve & Lanoma Stein
David & Carole Steinbach
Louise & Lewis Sternberg
Ann & Steven Stoller
Steven Stoller
Richard & Sharon Sweet
Boris Tatarintsev & Bronislava Miloslavskaya
Helena Taube'
Michael Tenebaum
Richard Tenebaum
David & Susan Topolsky
Tamara Tregubenko
Gary & Nancy Tuckfelt
Shirley Veldenzer
Sandi Verbin
William & Nancy Veshancey
Barbara & Ralph Vogel
Richard & Suzanne Wagner
Fay Wanetick
Robert & Judy Wein
David & Joan Weinbaum
Mark & Bari Weinberger
Helene & Stanley Weiner
Joseph & Phyllis Weinkle
Judith & Brian Weinstein
Gerald & Suzy Weisman
Patricia Weiss
Robin Weiss
Larry & Judy Whitman
Ronnie & Roger Wilk
Elizabeth Witschard
Barry Wolk
Alison Wright
Michael & Carol Yahr
Richard Yahr
Carol & William Yaster
Fred & Judith Young
Susan Young
Boris Yurovsky
Rita Zukerman
Neal & Elaine Zweig

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Kiddush Sponsors

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

August 11, 2023

co-sponsored by **Linda & Martin Supowitz** in memory of Martin's mother, Gertrude Weinberg Supowitz (Gittel) and in honor of their granddaughter Arielle Eva Niles (Gittel Chava). Co-sponsored with love by **Daniel Berkowitz & Ella Ziff** (Saba and Savta) in honor of Orli Eden Pomerantz's naming.

August 25, 2023

sponsored by **Devorah Hartz's family** in honor of Devorah becoming a bat mitzvah.

September 29, 2023

sponsored by the **Zukerman Sukkah Endowment**

October 13, 2023

sponsored by **Noa and Mark Goodman** in honor of Yigal becoming a bar mitzvah.

October 20, 2023

sponsored in part by **Gail Neft** in honor of all the Libra birthdays.

October 27, 2023

sponsored by **Jennifer & Ilia Murtazashvili** in honor of Leo becoming a bar mitzvah.

Nihum Avelim

(Comforting Mourners)

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

Family and friends on the passing of one of our former members, Sandra K. Jacobs, wife of Ron Jacobs.

Howard (Louise Weber) Granowitz, Beth (Jim) Ressler and Brian (Leah Lang) Granowitz, and Myrna Labow on the passing of their father and brother Samuel P. Granowitz, M.D. on Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

Beth (Jeff) Elinoff on the passing of her sister Alisa "Lisa" Chotiner on Friday, August 18, 2023.

Larry (Anne) Barasch, Karen Staif, and Miriam (Matthew) Fleming on the the passing of their mother Shirley Ruth Schiffman Barasch on Saturday, August 26, 2023.

Connie (Harold) Smolar on the passing of her sister Beatrice Goodman on Sunday, August 27, 2023.

Paul (Jean) Reznick, Sara (Jason) Berliner, Barry (Kathy) Reznick, David (Stephanie) Reznick, Rachel (Aaron Greengard) Reznick and Lexi, Leo and Lily Reznick on the passing of their mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Sylvia Reznick, on September 6, 2023.

Glenn Harlow (E.B. Pepper) on the passing of his sister Randi Harlow on Saturday, September 9, 2023.

Vicky (Steve) Hoffman on the passing of her father, Fred Heiman.

Family and friends on the passing of our member Jean Spear Stein on Saturday, September 30, 2023.

Larry (Tiffany) Hershman, Joseph, Mark and William Hershman on the passing of their mother and long-time member Marian Neustadt Hershman on Monday, October 9, 2023.

Lisa (Rabbi Stephen) Steindel on the passing of her sister, Frani Kronenfeld Solymosi, on October 18, 2023.

Milestones – Mazal Tov!

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

Jimmy and Rochelle Wagner on the birth of their grandchild, Aaron Jonah Wagner, on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, weighing 6 lbs., 11 oz., 19.8 inches long. Parents are David and Rebecca Wagner, and big brother Ari Samuel.

Dorothy S. Greenfield on being honored as the Anne Copeland Remembrance Chai Tea Honoree for the Pittsburgh Israel Bonds Women's Division.

Lilly Andorsky & Logan Gants who got engaged.

Hannah & Jacob Pomerantz and big brother Lev, on the birth of their daughter & sister, Orli Eden Pomerantz, who was born on Tuesday, July 25.

Rachel Firestone who was honored as the Chronicle Volunteer of the Year for the JCC.

Anabel Lantzman who was called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah.

Harry Drucker on celebrating his 100th birthday on Thursday, August 31, 2023. He is the father of member Jean Reznick, grandfather of member Sara Berliner and great-grandfather of member Lilly Berliner.

Marlene Silverman who was awarded the Emanuel Spector Memorial Award at the Federation Annual Meeting on September 6 at the JCC.

Carol Lederer on the Bar and Bat Mitzvah of her grandchildren Eytan Chaim and Tali Shira in Seattle, son and daughter of Pamela and Michael Helman.

Sarita Eisner on the marriage of her grandchildren, Joshua and Melanie Eisner, in Los Angeles, CA.

Pam and Andy Parker on the birth of their son born on Friday, September 8. Mazal Tov also to grandparents Adrienne and Larry Savitz.

David and Teddi Horvitz, and Rhonda Horvitz, on the marriage of their daughter, Shana Horvitz, to Joel Hainsfurther.

Bunny Morris on the birth of her great-grandson, Oliver Harry Raskin, on September, 23, 2023 in Long Island, New York. Parents are Melanie & Dean Raskin, and grandparents are Stacey & Mark Raskin.

Mark Frisch and Shari Woldenberg on the marriage of their son Ben Frisch to Derek Weissman in Florida on October 15, 2023.

Virtual/Actual Third Meal Sponsors

August 1, 2023 — October 31, 2023

August 18, 2023

sponsored by **Gil Schneider** in loving memory of his mother, Gloria Meltzer Schneider.

September 1, 2023

sponsored by **Paul Teplitz** in loving memory of his great grandmother, Rachel Cohen Bress, close to her 105th yearzeit.

October 13, 2023

sponsored by **Anne and Jenny Jackson** in memory of beloved grandmothers Barbara Regert, Helen Frace, Elsie Ford and Veronica Rock.

October 20, 2023

sponsored by **Diane Silberg** in celebration of Stanley Kirshenbaum's birthday and their wedding anniversary.

October 27, 2023

sponsored by **Gil Schneider** in loving memory of his father, Maxwell Schneider.

Shabbat Kiddush Sponsorship

We are seeking sponsors for our Shabbat Kiddushes. All monies raised will be used to cover the cost of the food.



If you are able to sponsor a kiddush, please contact Ira Frank at **412-849-2937** or **natfabira@juno.com**.

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

**Check out the full list of Congregation Beth Shalom endowment and funds.
You can donate to any one of these funds.
Donate online at bethshalompgh.org/general-donations**

Operations Endowment

Providing long-term support for synagogue operations

Rabbi Adelson Discretionary Fund

Supporting Rabbi Adelson's Philanthropic Ideals

Mildred & Isadore Berkowitz Memorial Fund

Supporting synagogue operations

Beth Shalom Judaic Museum Fund

Providing funds for Judaic Museum purchases

Bregman Minyan Endowment

Supporting morning minyan social activities

Cemetery Endowment

Providing cemetery maintenance

Etz Chaim Chumashim Fund

Purchasing of Chumashim

Andrew & Minnie Cohen Operations Fund

Supporting synagogue operations

Reuben A. & Selma W. Cohen Youth Endowment

Supporting music activities

Harry & Jean Davis Operations Endowment

Supporting synagogue operations

Max Elinoff Youth Scholarship Fund

Supporting Beth Shalom youth welfare

J. Leonard Frank Early Minyan Endowment

Supporting Shabbat and Yom Tov services

Goldberg Endowment Fund

Financing Shabbat & family programs for Religious
School (J-JEP)

Lynda Herer Goldsmith Camp Ramah Fund

Funding scholarships for youth members in need

Lillian & Leo Gross Sisterhood Keshet Fund

Underwriting Keshet annual cost

Bernard & Ethel Halpern Young Leadership Award

Paying the expenses associated with the Halpern
Young Leadership award.

Lillian Halpern JTS Weekend Lectureship Endowment

Bringing Seminary students to Beth Shalom for
shabbat weekend

Morris Henderson Yahrzeit Fund

Supporting synagogue operations

Hoffman Library Fund

Establishing and maintaining the Hoffman Library

Israel Experience Scholarship Fund

Funding scholarships for dependent children of
Congregants to offset costs for trip to Israel

Allan & Betsy Kanarek Shabbat Alive Endowment

Offering programming for Shabbat Alive events

Joan & Larry Lasday Memorial Education Fund

Assisting deserving youth of Synagogue members

Mark Lasser Memorial Scholarship Fund

Providing an annual scholarship to enable an Israel
experience for a member in need

Darrell H. Lazarus Hear O Israel Fund

Providing hearing devices for those who are hearing
impaired

Arnold H. Lazarus & Belle G. Lazarus Endowment

Supporting synagogue operations

Arnold H. Lazarus & Belle G. Lazarus Annual Remembrance Fund

Providing funding for annual kiddush honoring Belle
and Arnold Lazarus

Bessie & Aaron Maharam Education Endowment

Providing books and other educational materials
for preschool

OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Ma'ot Hitin Donation Fund

Supporting people in need during passover

Mazeroov Scholarship Endowment

Providing scholarship support for children of
Beth Shalom members

Moscov Scholarship Fund

Providing scholarship support for Preschool students

Preschool Enrichment Fund

Supporting preschool programming

Philanthropic Fund

Supporting charitable causes as defined by the
Philanthropic Committee

Prayer Book Fund

Providing funds to purchase New Prayer Books

Preschool Scholarship Fund

Providing scholarship support for Preschool students

Lynne Robins Memorial Scholarship Endowment

Providing First-time Israel travel support for
young female members

Rose K. & Harry Rosen Confirmation Class Endowment

Financing education programs and activities

Thomas Mordechai Rosenstein Memorial Fund

Supporting synagogue operations

Dolores Rubin Prayerbook Fund

Providing funds to purchase New Prayer Books

Schiffman Music Fund

Supporting music programming

Arlene Shapiro Memorial Fund

Supporting synagogue operations

Samuel T. & Jeannette B. Shear Youth Lounge Endowment

Establishing and maintaining youth lounge

Sisterhood Flower Fund

Providing flowers for the Bima & our Rabbis for the
High Holidays

Sisterhood Torah Cover Endowment

Purchasing of Torah Cover in honor of every
Congregation President

Sigel-Mandel-Cohen Scholar in Residence Shulabration Endowment

Supporting Scholar-in-Residence Program

Albert & Anita Smolover Scholarship Fund

Supporting Preschool operations

Pearl & William Stark Humanities Library Fund

Establishing and maintaining the Starks
Humanities Library

Harry Steck Primary Enrichment Endowment Fund

Providing books and other educational materials for
Religious School Enrichment

Taubé Endowment Fund

Supporting synagogue operations

Early Childhood TEACH Fund

Supporting Professional Development of our
Preschool Staff

Wagner-Klein Preschool Playground Fund

Maintaining and replacing Preschool playground
equipment

Alvin and Shirley Weinberg Preschool Scholarship Fund

Providing scholarship support for Preschool students

Youth Fund

Supporting youth programming

Zukerman Sukkot Endowment

Providing Sukkot decorations and kiddushes and
Sukkah construction/repair

Zweig Library Fund

Establishing and maintaining the Zweig Library

Samuel & Mollie Zytnick Endowment

Supports synagogue operations

STAFF DIRECTORY

Please reference this directory for professional leadership contact information.

We look forward to speaking with you!

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm and Friday, 8:00 am - 3:00 pm*
* Staff schedules vary

Clergy & Program Staff



Rabbi Seth Adelson
Senior Rabbi
412.421.2288 x115
rav@bethshalompgh.org



Rabbi Mark Asher Goodman
Associate Rabbi
412.421.2288 x111
mgoodman@bethshalompgh.org



Ashley Burse
Rabbi's Assistant
412.421.2288 x112
rabbiasst@bethshalompgh.org



Rabbi Larry Freedman
Director of J-JEP
412.621.6566 x116
rabbiLF@jjep.org



Stephanie Wolfe
Assistant Director of J-JEP
412.621.6566 x111
jjepad@rodefshalom.org



Hilary Yeckel
Director of the ELC
412.421.2288 x290
Hyeckel@bethshalompgh.org



Norah Cauley
Assistant Director of the ELC
412.421.8857 x390
ncauley@bethshalompgh.org



Marissa Tait
Director of Youth Programming
412.421.2288 x463
mtait@bethshalompgh.org



Shari Rapowitz Woldenberg
Derekh Coordinator
412.421.2288 x321
swoldenberg@bethshalompgh.org

Administrative Staff



Robert Gleiberman
Executive Director
412.421.2288 x226
ExecDir@bethshalompgh.org



Dale Caprara
Controller
412.421.2288 x109
controller@bethshalompgh.org



Rabbi Andy Shugerman
Development Director
412.421.2288 x 317
rabbiandy@bethshalompgh.org



Michael Smrek
Cemetery Director
412.421.2288 x293
cemetery@bethshalompgh.org



Jason Friedman
Events & Catering Coordinator
412.304.4291
catering1@bethshalompgh.org



Kristin Zappone
Marketing & Communications Specialist
412.421.2288 x108
communications@bethshalompgh.org



Tika Bonner
Administrative Assistant
412.421.2288 x114
receptionist@bethshalompgh.org



Amira Walker
Bookkeeper
412.421.2288 x110
accounting@bethshalompgh.org



John Williams
Maintenance Supervisor
412-973-9964
maintenance@bethshalompgh.org



MARCH FOR ISRAEL

.....

Tuesday, November 14, 2023



For more photos from the march, check out our Facebook page,
<https://www.facebook.com/bethshalompgh>

Introducing
**Beth Shalom's
Quarterly Blood Drives
2024**

sponsored by
**Vitalant, Men's Club,
Sisterhood
and Derekh**

First Blood Drive is Sunday, January, 28
with Gift of Life Bone Marrow Drive
Congregation Beth Shalom
5915 Beacon Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

**Save the
Dates for
Future
Blood Drives**

**June 9
September 8
December 8**

**Drives
are
9 am - 2 pm**

For more information, contact Shari Woldenberg at swoldenberg@bethshalompgh.org
To register with Vitalant, go to: BethShalomPgh.org/2024BloodDrive

