

Beth El Congregation

Harrisonburg, Virginia

Keeping the Jewish Community Connected



The Beth El Bridge



Bethel-Harrisonburg.org

The purpose of this congregation shall be to worship god in accordance with the faith of judaism; to cultivate a love and understanding of the jewish heritage; to strengthen the ties within the jewish community; to strengthen the bonds of loyalty with the jewish people everywhere; to bring nearer the dominion of god on earth through an emphasis on the principles of righteousness and harmony in society at large, and to engage in social action projects in pursuit of social justice and tikkun olam (repair of both the human and nonhuman components of the world).

OCTOBER 2021

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I hope everyone had a meaningful holiday season. I'm so thankful to the tech committee for making it possible for so many of us to watch services from home. Rachelle, Leslie, Leeanne and Mickey, you all have been amazing these past few months! Also many thanks to the choir. I think I speak for a lot of us when I say that your collective voices add a lot of meaning to the holidays.

We had an impressive number of people streaming holiday services and I'm so glad. While it's not ideal not having Rabbi K-L physically here with us, it does provide an opportunity for our services to be more inclusive. If any of you have any feedback related to services (or anything!) please don't hesitate to contact me or the rabbi or any board member. We would love to hear from you.

I also just want to give a quick shout out to Liz, who is doing an amazing job with religious school. Thank you, Liz! And while I'm at it, I'll add that our religious school teachers are incredible and we are so lucky to have them teaching our kids. For such a small congregation, we really have a top notch school and we should all be really proud of that.

Solar panels are going up in our backyard! Very exciting. Good for the electric bill and the planet. And made possible by so many generous donors. Thank you!

Lastly, every time we get a big rain, our roof leaks. It is in desperate need of replacing. Now that the holidays are behind us, we will be planning some fundraisers to help pay for that. Please be on the lookout for information and donate if you can!

RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

Rabbi Jeffrey Kurtz-Lendner, October 2021

The Jewish month in which we are entering is known as either “Heshvan,” or “Marheshvan.” It is usually known as the shorter version, “Heshvan,” but our sages taught that the prefix “Mar” is added because “mar” is Hebrew for “bitter.” The month is bitter because it is the only month on the Jewish calendar which has no special days—no holidays, no holy days, no ceremonies, no fasts—no observances unique to this month. It is the only month of the year without any special observances. Perhaps when our sages finalized the Jewish calendar they did so consciously. We just completed the month of Tishrei which has not only the high holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur but also the festivals of Sukkoth and Simchat Torah. That is a lot of holidays in one single month! Perhaps Heshvan needed to be absent of observances because we have become “observed out” by the end of Tishrei. Be that as it may, while the Jewish calendar may be taking a hiatus from special observances, our congregation will be fully active. Religious school is moving into high gear, more adult education classes have been added and our adult B’not Mitzvah students will begin preparing for their ceremony in the spring. And despite the absence of any observances during Heshvan, it won’t be long before we will be celebrating Hanukkah.

Stay tuned for the events that keep our congregation connected and while we have not yet emerged from the pandemic, and let us remain connected virtually to help keep our congregation active and thriving.

LEADERSHIP

Rabbi: Jeff Kurtz-Lendner

President: Amanda Friss

Vice President: Roni Goldberg

Treasurer: Ron Rubin

Recording Secretary: Phil Renick

Corresponding Secretary: Gale Clemons

At Large Member: Josh Shulruf

At Large Member Andy Kohen

Trustee: Les Mintzer

Trustee: Ron Ornstein

Trustee: Eric Rynar

Men's Club: Les Mintzer

Sisterhood : Sherri Alt

Past President Michelle Ornstein

BRIDGE EDITOR

Elliott Golub

Elgolubret@comcast.net

540-289-5336

YAHRZEITS

- 01 Carrye Kohen Florine Ney's Mother
Annette Biatch Rabbi Jonathan Biatch's Mother
Carl Goldstein 2010 Lisa Giovanetti's Father
- 02 David Rubin 1972 Member
- 04 Bernard N. Berger 2010 Bary Berger's Father
- 05 Jack Lichtenstein Joan Funston's Father
- 06 Paige Nash 2003 Keith Nash's Mother
- 08 Leonard Raff Irma Nemoytin's Brother
- 09 Samuel Metzger 1911 Member
- 11 David Baron Cindy Baron's father
- 12 Betty Nemoytin 1991 Member
- 13 Israel Smith Member
- Harry Katzen 1981 Member
- 15 Hattie Hirsch 1927 Member
- Milton Trubitz 1991 Mark Trubitz' Father
 Sarah Lovinger 1996 Mitch & Valerie Lovinger's Daughter
- 16 Miriam Brooslin Cohen
- 17 Rosa Wise 1931 Member
- 18 Harriet Gould 1991 Alan Gould's Mother
- 19 Rabbi Edward L Israel
- Mabel Rodbell 1994 Herb Rodbell's Wife
- 20 Barbara M Levin
- Ruth Shwayder 1967
- 22 Ida Zindler Leo Zindler's Grandmother
- Dorothy D Kaiser Paula Kaiser's Mother
- 25 Leon Hirsch

Helen Wise 1962 Member
Sarah Lebin Dave Merlin's Mother
Marc Trubitz 2010 Member
Bernice "Bunny" Gerson 2018 Hillary Gerson-Krohn's Mother
26 Rosalie Amberg 1915
27 Oscar Rodbell
Marilyn Goldenthal 2005 Member
29 Edith Bersson 2006 Bob Bersson's Mother
31 Amalia G Wise 1939 Member
Evonne Schecter 2020 Sherri Alt's Aunt

DONATIONS

Dale & R.M. Brothers – Shana Tova

Dennis Ward – Shana Tova

Eddie Ney & Margee Greenfield-Ney – Yahrzeit Beth Ney

Leonard & Marilena Berman – Yahrzeit Julius Berman

Leo Zindler – Yahrzeit Beverly Zindler

Judith Freudenthal – In honor & Memory of Blaine Brumbaugh

Ronn Daniel – General Donation

Joan Funston – In memory of Blaine Brumbaugh

Leo Zindler – Contribution to Beth El

Keith Nash – Yahrzeit Paige Nash

Elliott & Thea Golub – In Honor of Blaine Brumbaugh.

Moshe & Abbie Greenberg – A donation in memory of Adrienne Elkind.

Fran Etner – Donation for Beth El Congregation

Andrew Kohen – in memory of Blaine Brumbaugh

Esther Minskoff – In Honor of Andy Kohen's 80th birthday

Pamela & Phil Ungar – Shana Tova Beth El

Dennis and Jesse Ward, in memory of Rabbi Lynne Landsberg

YIZKOR DONATIONS

Trubitz Family Trust.

Esther Minskoff

Arnold Kahn & Ellen Swecker

Bill Ney

Cindy Baron

Michael & Dara Hall

Andrew Kohen

Ron & Michelle Ornstein

Ron Rubin

Keith Nash

Barbara & Harold Simonetti

Gale & Charles Clemons

Stu & Judy Liss

Bo & Sandi Rose

Edward & Margee Ney

Les & Becky Mintzer

Michael & Nancy Clayman

Leo Zindler

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Religious School is successfully underway. At this time, 12 families (17 students) are enrolled. As part of our safety protocols, snack is now outdoors, with students distanced on their “sit-upons,” which they crafted during the first meeting. We continue to be grateful for the guidance offered by Phil Renick in keeping our program as safe as possible. Though families are not attending religious school holiday celebrations, students had fun this week decorating the sukkah.

We have been enjoying being able to zoom with Rabbi Kurtz-Lendner each week, too. The rabbi joins our big group each week and is also working with our Dalet class.

Our religious school teachers are committed to being Jewish teachers and role models for the students, and they do an amazing job. Danielle Hall and Keenan Glago continue to serve as lead teachers, and Kylie Palmer is now a lead teacher as well. We welcome assistant teachers Cai Johnstone-Yellin and Troy Kramer, and JMU student Hannah Dunie. Dara Hall has returned to the classroom this year as well, and Leeanne Shepherd has been providing additional support on Sundays, too.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beth El High Holiday choir!

Tremendous thanks once again to this year's Beth El High Holiday choir!

Sopranos - Katie Rudnick (also directing us and flute accompanist), Mary Handley, Leah Jenkins, Bekah Greenfield-Jenkins, Rachelle Dorne, Leeanne Sheperd (shofar blower and clarinet accompanist),

Altos - Margee Greenfield-Ney, Cindy Baron, Sherri Alt, Catherine Rogers

Tenors and Basses - Ron Ornstein (also organizer), Wayne Berman (Kol Nidrei Soloist) and Kent Palmer (rehearsed with us, but unable to sing during holidays)

Don Smith (amazing accompanist and guiding foundation)

Special thanks this year also to Mickey Glago who set up our sound system (using his equipment) and the rest of the tech crew - Leslie Harris, plus Leeanne and Rachelle doing double duty, who enabled everyone live streaming to hear us.

The choir was formed in 1986 and have been singing for High Holydays ever since. We've had MANY people participate over the years - some of us are 'old-timers' and some of us are new. All of us put in many hours of rehearsal time over the summer leading up to the holidays, and all of us derive joy and spiritual and personal satisfaction from singing together.

We know from feedback we've received over the years, that the music of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur adds depth and meaning to our services and we invite anyone interested in joining us in the future to let Ron Ornstein (or any of us really) know.

Rabbi Kurtz-Lendner is available to our members.

Please feel free to contact him directly at:

rabbijkl@bethel-harrisonburg.org or 540-908-4488

This is his direct number and if he does not answer please feel free to leave him a detailed message.

Rabbi Kurtz-Lendner will also be readily available to have a conversation with you over Zoom.

		
<p>**<u>New items</u></p>		
<p>only please ***</p>		
New Prepaid 30 Minute Phones Cell Phones	BATHROOM SUPPLIES:	KITCHEN SUPPLIES:
(Wiped/Deleted/With Chargers) Jogging/Sweatpants	Bath Mats	Plastic Forks
(M,L,XL, 2X,3X)	Shower Curtains	Plastic Spoons
Sweatshirts (M,L,XL,2X,3X)	Shower Liners and Hooks	Paper Cups/Bowls
T-Shirts (M,L,XL,2X,3X)	Bath Towels	Cups for Hot Beverages
Women's Underwear (6,7,8,9)	Hand Towels	Plastic Dishes/Cups/Bowls
BABY ITEMS:	Liquid Hand Soap	Pots, Pans, Skillets
Diapers (Sizes 4,5,6)	Wash Cloths	Baking Pan/Cookie Sheet
Baby Wipes	PAPER PRODUCTS:	Garbage Bags
Double/Triple Strollers	Kleenex	Food Storage Containers with
Diaper Rash Ointment	Toilet Paper	Lids
Swim Diapers	Paper Towel	Aluminum Foil
Baby Bottles	Plastic Cups	Plastic Wrap
Sippy Cups	Zip Lock Bags	Dish Towels
Pack & Plays	MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS:	Dish Sponges/Scrub Brushes
Baby Bath Tubs	Laundry Soap	Coffee Filters
	Laundry Baskets	PERSONAL CARE ITEMS:
	Beach Towels	Shampoo & Conditioner
	Sunscreen	Body Wash
	Planners	Hand & Body Lotion

Baby Toys	Headphones	Deodorant
Breast Pumps	Prayer Mats	Feminine Hygiene Products
<u>BEDROOM ITEMS:</u>		
Twin Sheet Sets	USB Flash Drives	Hand Sanitizer
Pillows	Shoes (New)	Wide Tooth Combs
Twin Comforters	Clothing (New All Sizes & Genders)	Hair Brushes Dental Floss
Blankets	<u>FOOD & DRINK:</u>	
	Cold Cereals	Shaving Cream
	Canned Goods (Soup, Vegetables, etc.)	Razors
	Juice	<u>HAIR CARE PRODUCTS FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR:</u>
	Coffee	Hair Grease (Olive Oil, Coconut Butter, Etc.)
	Tea	Hair Lotion
	Dry Coffee Creamer	Satin Scarves/Bonnets Hair Moisteners
	Sugar	Curl Restorer/Definer Detangling Spray
	Individual Packaged Children's	Detangling Conditioners
	Snacks	Rubber Bands
	Hot Chocolate	

OCTOBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Sukkot (Day 6) 9:30am Religious School	Sukkot (Day 7) / Hoshanah Rabah	Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah	12pm Adult Education - Ethics 7pm Adult Education - Ethics		7:30pm Shabbat Service	10:30am Torah Study
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am Religious School			12pm Adult Education - Ethics 7pm Adult Education - Ethics		6:30pm Family Service	10:30am Torah Study
					7:30pm Shabbat Service	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am Religious School	Columbus Indigenous Peoples' Day		Aliyah Day School Observance 12pm Adult Education - Ethics 7pm Adult Education - Ethics		7:30pm Shabbat Service	10:30am Torah Study
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30am Religious School			12pm Adult Education - Ethics 7pm Adult Education - Ethics	6:30pm Board Meeting	7:30pm Shabbat Service	10:30am Torah Study
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am Religious School			12pm Adult Education - Ethics 7pm Adult Education - Ethics		7:30pm Shabbat Service	10:30am Torah Study
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
Halloween	First Day of American Indian Heritage Month	Election Day	12pm Adult Education - Ethics 7pm Adult Education - Ethics		7:30pm Shabbat Service	10:30am Torah Study
9:30am Religious School						