



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).

JULY 2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Although summer brings a different pace to Temple life, much is going on at Beth El.

The board continues to have significant conversations regarding security and a concrete plan is almost complete. As some of us learned at our safety presentations, awareness of individual actions and a plan is crucial. We will provide additional training, some of which will involve necessary changes to provide additional protection for all. A balance of the needs of a secure environment while being open and welcoming is essential.

Summer Shabbat Potlucks have resumed. Typically, soup (provided by Mary Handley) and challah are provided. Bring something to share and join others at 6:30PM.

Lay services begin at 7:30 PM. Lay leaders will be announced in the Wednesday announcements.

Thanks to those who have volunteered to insure that we have services every Friday. Visitors to the valley continue to join us regularly.

Transitions continue with Rabbi Grumbacher. Here is his email: interimbethelrabbi@gmail.com for those of you who would like to respond to him personally.

Many have expressed their delight in reading his weekly *My Word* thoughts and observations.

Best wishes to Carol Brook-Quintero and her family as they relocate to the Charlottesville area.

We are still working to finalize the annual linear calendar. Please rely on the Wednesday announcements for the time being as well as on announcements from specific groups such as Men's Club, Sisterhood, SHORTY, Religious School, and Choir. If you are interested in joining the choir and have not received the practice schedule, please contact Ron Ornstein.

As always, we welcome your participation at the Temple. We have a number of tasks and committees that are ongoing and benefit from fresh perspectives. If you would like to lend your ideas and expertise, please contact me.

Specific inquiry this month:

Would you be interested in either hosting or participating in a Selichot dinner?

-peace

Michelle Ornstein,
Beth El board president

***“The Shenandoah Kid Rides Again!”
(An Introduction)***

A preface...something you already know:

The Shenandoah Valley lies between two mountain ranges, the Appalachian on the west and the Blue Ridge on the east. Interstate 81 runs from the bottom of the valley to the top. It's a beautiful part of America. In Autumn the gold, red and yellow leaves give a sun-like glow to the Valley; in Spring I was reminded of these words from a Classical Reform Passover song which came to life,

*“Behold it is the springtide of the year,
over and past is winter's gloomy reign,
the happy sound of singing birds is here,
and clad in bud and bloom are hill and plain.”*

In 1970 when my wife Suzy and I were in Jerusalem soon to complete my third year of rabbinical school, I learned that my first student pulpit would be in Harrisonburg, Virginia. I knew hardly a thing about Virginia, let alone a Harrisonburg, Virginia! So as a 23 year-old student anticipating his first rabbinic experience I was both excited and very nervous.

Every other weekend I would fly from Cincinnati to Roanoke and then drive to the congregation. I could deal with the beauty of Spring's budding flowers but Autumn's majesty took my breath away. As a matter of fact, I would ask my passenger, the student rabbi in Staunton who I dropped off on Friday and picked up on Sunday, to get behind the wheel as I could not keep my eyes on the road; the colors were overwhelming.

On the other hand, I don't have to tell you that Winter's snow can be rough. On one January day while we were already in the air the Roanoke airport closed; our flight was detoured to Lynchburg. The storm quickly moved in that direction and we had to drive down the mountain in a veritable blizzard! I could barely see ahead of me. While we were driving my colleague stuck his body out of the window and used a scraper to do what the windshield wipers could barely do. *Baruch haShem*, Thank the Eternal that we made it to both Staunton and then I to Harrisonburg.

I also want to remind you that it was Madison College in those years. Suzy and I would visit with Ann Mintzer just about every summer as we headed to our retreat center in North Carolina. Were we surprised when we saw how the “College” grew. My very first response the first time I saw James Madison

University, "My God, it used to be so small they couldn't even fit in the name 'James'!"

My two years in Beth El Congregation would turn out to be very important in my future rabbinic career. As Ruth Clayman, z"l, your religious school director of yore, told everyone she met from Wilmington's Congregation Beth Emeth, "*I trained him well!*" She was right. I served that congregation for thirty-seven years and I thanked God for Ruth's mentoring in my many connections to our religious school.

In the ten years since my retirement - in addition to teaching, counseling, writing and traveling - I spent two years as interim rabbi in Winchester, Virginia, and this year in Staunton. With all the rest stops of I-81 firmly implanted in my mind, I've referred to myself as *The Shenandoah Kid*.

Recently the words of the adage came to mind... "*What goes around comes around,*" as once again I will be with you, not as your student rabbi but, shall we say, as your "seasoned" rabbi.

So during the Hebrew year of 5780 I will be celebrating **FIFTY** years since I began my congregational rabbinate...and Beth El started it all!

Thank you for those special years of 1970-1972...and I truly look forward to "beginning" with you in September.

The Shenandoah Kid rides again!

Leadership

Rabbi: Peter Grumbacher

President: Michelle Ornstein

Vice President: Joshua Linder

Treasurer: Bill Ney

Secretary: Phil Renick

Corresponding Secretary: Gale Clemons

Trustee: Lester Mintzer

Trustee: Bill Ney

Trustee: Ron Ornstein

Past President: Andy Kohen

At large member: Amanda Friss

Bridge Editor
Elliott Golub
Elgolubret@comcast.net
540-289-5336

At large member: Ron Rubin

At large member: Linda Kohn

Sisterhood Presidents: Sherri Alt + Rebekah Greenfield

Men's Club President: Lester Mintzer

Religious School Principals: Dara Hall + Liz Webb

Yahrzeits

03	Joseph Brooslin	1966		Ruth Clayman's Father
	Ralph Miller		Member	
	Shirley Borodkin			
04	Jerry Minskoff	2017	Member	
05	Jessie Masnikoff			
06	Theresa Loewner	1937		
	Edgar Wise	1882		
09	William Robinson	1949		Josh Robinson's Uncle
	Carol S Ney	2004		Bill Ney's Mother
10	Nellie E Robinson	2009		Saul Robinson's Wife
	Blanche Spitz Slott	2016		Chuck Slott's Mother
11	Regina Ney	1930		Bill Ney's, Eddie Ney's & Leo Zindler's Great Grandmother
12	Florine Ney	1995	Member	
	Max Wolf Landsman	2015		Lenore Stallard's father
13	Max Helbraun			Erwin Helbraun's Father
	William Schechter	2017		Marlene Brumbaugh's Brother & Sherri Alt's Uncle
14	Vincent Elkind	1995	Member	
15	Miriam I Hirsch	1942		
16	Siegfried Meyers	1975	Member	
	Bernard Rubin			Dave Rubin's Father
	Adrian Sonn	1995	Member	Responsible for the building of the new temple
17	Molly Hirsch	1904	Member	
	Mary N Loewner			
19	Jack Neckowitz	1978		Alan Neckowitz' Father
21	Dorothy Fox			Marian Frankel's Mother
22	William Wender	1932		
24	Harry Lewin	1993		
25	George Becker	1986		
26	Samuel Klingstein	1912	Member	

	Ronnetta Kahn	2001	Member	Arnie Kahn's Wife (Ronnie)
27	Henry Ney	1946	Member	
	Emanuel Loewner	1980	Member	
28	Theresa Sissman			
29	Alvin Ney	1945	Member	
31	Leon Wise			
	Louis Issacs	1909	Member	
	Maude Snyder			Gladys Ney's Sister

SISTERHOOD

We reached out to First Step to do something for the women and children for Mothers Day again this year. The request was for pool/beach items. We put together summer bags , each containing a beach towel, sun block, sunglasses, water bottle, ball cap and flip flops . We delivered the bags along with a kit full of shovels and pool toys for the children. This is always a heartfelt mitzvah project that we do enjoy doing. Thank you to the shoppers , and especially Becky Mintzer for making the delivery!

I hope everyone has a happy and safe summer. Looking forward to a get together cookout at the end of the summer.

Sherri Alt and Rebekah Greenfield, Sisterhood Co-Presidents



We filled two carts with gifts for moms and kids. Kids received pool and beach toy kits. Women got a cute beach bag with a towel, a cap, sun screen, sunglasses, flip flops and a water bottle.

DONATIONS

To the General Fund

Penny Williams

Zack & Rhana Dyme in honor of their son's (Rabbi Intern Ben Dyme) tenure with Beth El this past year.

To the Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

Bo & Sandi Rose in memory of Sandi's Father (William Piper)

Bill & Leslie Ney in memory of Bill's Mother (Carol Ney)

Leo Zindler in memory of his parents (Pauline Zindler & Leo Zindler Sr.)

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL/SHORTY

Mazel tov to Jessica Mintzer and her family on her confirmation! We are so proud of her! SHORTY led a lovely service and we all enjoyed sharing this special occasion with Rabbi Intern Ben Dyme as we said farewell to him as well.

Welcome to a new SHORTY advisor – Elana Turczynski. She is a recent graduate of JMU and has been involved in many SHORTY ski trips with her family and NFTY events over the years!

We will be hosting Camp Noar from CBI on Wednesday June 26th for a Shul-in. We are looking forward to the fun!

We hope everyone is having a happy summer!

L'shalom,

Dara & Becky

ANNOUNCEMENTS



First Step Wish List

SHELTER SUPPLIES

eraser sponges (Mr. Clean Magic Erasers)
 clorox or lysol wipes
 wet & dry swiffer refills
 bleach & no chlorine bleach
 bathroom/toilet cleaners
 borax
 hand sanitizer
 dish detergent
 liquid hand soap
 disposable gloves
 trash bags (13 & 30 gallon)
 toilet paper
 paper towels
 laundry detergent (HE & sensitive skin)
 fabric softener
 laundry stain remover
 laundry baskets
 wheeled storage bins with drawers
 under bed plastic storage containers
 towels
 bath rugs
 hotel grade shower curtains
 heavy duty shower liners
 new bed pillows
 twin size bedding & linen sets
 rubber mattress covers
 coffee makers

PERSONAL ITEMS

shampoo, conditioner, & body wash (full size)
 African American hair products
 sunscreen & body lotion (full size)
 vaseline
 shaving cream & razors
 deodorant
 maxi pads & tampons
 baby shampoo, oil, lotion, & bath soap
 diaper rash cream
 baby wipes
 diapers & pull ups (size 3, 4, 5, 6)
 first aid supplies
 antibiotic ointment, alcohol, & peroxide
 tweezers & baby nail clippers
 manicure sets & eye masks
 hair brushes & combs
 pajamas, bras, & underwear
 sneakers, rain boots, & croc style shoes
 flip flops & slippers
 sunglasses
 purple draw string bags
 alarm clocks
 umbrellas
 purse sized flashlights
 journals
 adult coloring books
 infant & toddler toys

Don't have time to go out to the store? Shop and order through smile.amazon.com and choose "First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence" as the designated charity! A portion of your purchase will be donated to First Step at NO EXTRA CHARGE TO YOU! Have items delivered to:

First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence at 129 Franklin St. Harrisonburg, VA 22801

FOOD

crackers & packaged snacks
 saltine crackers
 cereal & oatmeal
 cookies & graham crackers
 granola bars
 flour, baking powder, & baking soda
 instant noodles, pasta, & soup
 spaghetti sauce

cooking oil
 pudding & jell-o cups
 cake & brownie mixes, icing
 raisins & dried fruit
 fresh fruit (oranges/apples)
 water bottles
 sports drinks
 juice (bottles, packets, & boxes)
 drink mixes (kool-aid, crystal light, etc.)
 shelf stable milk (liquid & powdered)

ground coffee
 tea bags
 powdered & individual creamers
 coffee filters (cylinders)
 sugar & artificial sweeteners
 condiments & spices
 peanut butter & jelly
 canned chicken, tuna, & other meat

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

small household items for residents moving into new apartments or homes! #housewarming
 electric pump air mattresses
 sheets & towels
 measuring cups & spoons
 dish sets, cups, mugs, & utensils
 can openers & spatulas
 pots/pans/bowls
 small appliances
 shower curtains & rings
 strollers
 pack-n-plays

Specific items can be found on our wish lists at Wal-Mart and Target. Just add those items to our cart, check out, & ship to our first Step or drop them off! If you have any questions, give us a call at (540) 434-0295.

GIFT CARDS

At times, First Step residents need items that First Step does not have (i.e. perishable food, job specific clothing & shoes, gas for vehicle, etc.). Gift cards are used when there are no other community resources to provide the items.

Dollar General
 Food Lion
 Roses
 Wal-Mart
 Ross
 Gas stations
 Hair salons
 Barber shops
 Clothing & shoe stores

TARGET WISH LIST

tgt.gifts/FirstStep-129

OFFICE SUPPLIES

batteries (AAA, AA, C, & D)
 accordion folders
 lined notepads & journals
 notebooks
 business envelopes
 stamps
 permanent markers
 highlighters
 binders
 dividers
 loose leaf paper
 scissors
 pencil pouches & boxes
 pencil sharpeners

WAL-MART REGISTRY

go to:
<https://www.walmart.com/cp/3774807>
 and search:
"First Step"
 we're the first & only ones!

Social Action (Linda Kohn)

For those of you who check the Social Action website link, I apologize for any redundancy.

<http://bethel-harrisonburg.org/social-action-1>

Having served on this committee off and on for several years, one feels the need to evaluate, stop and question, and think about how we can better serve our congregants as well as our broader community. As a committee member, I believe I can say that one of our goals has been to inform the Beth El community about events and activities which are possible options for individuals to support and become involved in.

Whether addressing the Harrisonburg/Rockingham County area, Virginia, the U.S., or our global community, there is no lack of organizations and issues to learn about, support and/or engage with. ‘Tikkun Olam’: repair of the human and nonhuman components of the world, “human responsibility for fixing what is wrong with the world.” If you have any thoughts or ideas about what we as a congregation could do or become involved with, please let us know.
(Andy Kohn, Arnie Kahn, Sandi Rose, Linda Kohn)

Most recently Andy and I attended the annual NAACP Juneteenth Celebration, commemorating the freeing of the last remaining enslaved people in Texas on June 19, 1865. This took place at Wildwood Park in Bridgewater. Earlier in the month, I attended a local VA ACLU information forum, a monthly Interfaith Association Meeting, and a Faith in Action (FIA) celebration of the criminal justice work accomplished during the past year. You may once again be asked what social justice issues are important to you. FIA will be gathering input for next year’s goals and commitments.

For future consideration, think about a project that extends into and across the various sub-groups of the congregation: Religious School students, Religious School parents, Mens’ Club, Sisterhood, and SHORTY youth group members....

Look for more information coming up about HIAS, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.

“Welcome the stranger. Protect the refugee.” I hope that this organization will soon be listed along with those others that Beth El actively supports.

<https://www.hias.org/mission-and-values> <https://www.hias.org/history>

HIAS stands for a world in which refugees find welcome, safety, and freedom.

Mission

HIAS rescues people whose lives are in danger for being who they are.

*We protect the most vulnerable refugees, helping them build new lives and reuniting them with their families in safety and freedom.

*We advocate for the protection of refugees and assure that displaced people are treated with the dignity they deserve.

Guided by our Jewish values and history, we bring more than 130 years of expertise to our work with refugees.

JULY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
				Independence Day		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
SHORTY Meeting						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	6:30pm Board Meeting					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3