

[Bethel-Harrisonburg.org](http://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).*

**MAY 2019**

## ***A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT***

From the Board 4/22/19:

- Beth El has been busy the last few weeks! Events included our safety presentations by Sgt. Grubbs and Leslie Ney, PIZZA BINGO! headed by Amanda & Evan Friss, and our Passover seder lead by Rabbi Dyme and coordinated by the Sisterhood. Thanks to all.
- In addition, Michelle represented Beth El at the vigil at the mosque following the New Zealand shooting and spoke with over 30 grade 7 students from Eastern Mennonite Middle School prior to their trip to the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.
- As a follow-up, Sgt. Grubbs completed a walk-through of Beth El, addressing a couple of things we can do to improve security, but noting that we are doing a good job in general. Building security will be an ongoing process.
- The Beth El library is up to date with all recent donations, and culled books will be donated to the public library. The archives continue to grow.
- There was nothing new to add from adult education, membership, or social action at this time.
- Men's club is coordinating the corned beef fund raiser. They continue to help out periodically with the lunch for the disadvantaged at Blessed Sacrament. Sisterhood members supplemented the catered Passover seder with soup, eggs, gifilte fish, haroset, and more.
- Sisterhood Shabbat will be May 3, starting @7:30.
- No news from Religious School, but SHORTY has several activities lined up including extending our recent volunteer morning by completing the much needed mulching. Becky Mintzer, Keenan Glago & Ben Harris will attend the Spring Kallah in PA. SHORTY has been invited to a shul-in in Richmond during the weekend of May 17-18 and the annual trip to King's Dominion. The Confirmation service for Jessica Mintzer is Friday, May 31.
- The board was delighted to have two JMU students attend our meeting to discuss rebuilding our relationship with Hillel and the Jewish sorority at JMU. A third student was unable to attend. We will continue to reach out and provide whatever support we can to make JMU students aware of Beth El, the Reform Congregation option. As a first step, the students want to organize a car pool to insure transportation to Beth El. Josh Linder, Hillel advisor, will monitor.
- After a rabbi search, the board voted unanimously to extend an offer to Rabbi Peter Grumbacher. While this is an interim position, Rabbi Grumbacher has extensive experience, most recently focused on providing ideas to build on success while developing areas of need in sustaining small congregations. Fun fact: Rabbi Grumbacher was once a student rabbi at Beth El. Please contact any member of the board with any questions you might have. Thank you to the search committee for your diligence.
- Please add to your calendars: June 1, starting @ 7: 00PM and ending with Havdallah, a farewell to Ben. Dessert will be served.
- As a reminder, the annual meeting will begin @ 11:30AM on May 5. We will break for lunch @ 12:30. All committees should prepare a brief report prior to the meeting. Thank you.

Michelle

## ***FROM THE RABBI'S DESK***

Dear Beth El Congregation Members,

I hope that this finds all of you doing well during the rest of Pesakh.

To those who attended the Seder at the synagogue, thank you for coming and braving the weather. It was my honor and pleasure to facilitate the Seder. For those who went elsewhere, I hope you all had meaningful and enjoyable Seders too.

Looking ahead to my last three visits, I'm excited to pray with, study with, and learn from you. Another goal of mine is help people feel more comfortable lifting the Torah. To that end, I'm planning to hold a Torah Lifting Inservice on my next visit, Saturday May 11, at 1:30 PM, followed by Torah Study at 2:30. Hope to see you there.

Best wishes,

Rabbinic Intern Dyme

### ***Leadership***

**Rabbinic Intern: Ben Dyme**

**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**

**At large member: Ron Rubin**

**At large member: Linda Kohn**

**Sisterhood Presidents: Sherri Alt + Rebekah Greenfield**

**Bridge Editor**  
**Elliott Golub**  
[Elgolubret@comcast.net](mailto:Elgolubret@comcast.net)  
**540-289-5336**

**Men's Club President: Lester Mintzer**

**Religious School Principals: Dara Hall + Liz Webb**

### ***YAHREZEITS***

03	Max M Joseph	1924 Member	
04	Bruno Hirsch	1888	
05	Ella P Blatt	1979	
06	Rose Gelman		
07	Julia S Ney	1944	
	Maurice Scheuer	1935	
08	Theresa Hirsch	1903 Member	
09	Henry Myerberg		Dave Myerberg's Father
	Lillian Tassle		
	Greg H. Kahn	2013	Arnie Kahn's Son
10	Bob Nemoytin	1984 Member	
	Joyce Helbraun	2018 Member	
11	Janet Kohen	2008 Member	
12	Lillian Cox		
13	Paula Kaiser	1997 Member	
14	Edna Ash	1979 Member	Eddie Ney's Grandmother
	Violet Handley		Mary Handley's Mother

16	Sophie Blatt	1969 Member	Frank Blatt's Grandmother
	Lynn Miller	2001 Member	
	Louis Scheuer	1927	
	Sylvia Minskoff	2006	Jerry Minskoff's Sister-in-law
19	Minnie Wender	1962	Simon Wender's Mother
20	David Frankel	1988 Member	
	Augusta Loewner	1893	
21	Arnold Abriss	1984	Gale Clemons' Father
23	Rabbi Sheldon ben Zvi Fleming		Grandfather of JMU Hillel's President Frank Fleming
26	Heinz Wallach	1937 Member	
	Mildred Greenfield		Margee Greenfield's Mother
27	Barbara (Bobbie) Bloom	2018	Alan Neckowitz' sister
	Charles A Hammer	1938 Member	
	Abe M Loewner	1932 Member	
28	Ludwig Hirsch	1929 Member	
	David Kohen		Florine Ney's Father
	Richard Kohn		Peter Kohn's Brother
29	Robert Minskoff	2016	Jerry & Esther Minskoff's Son
30	Jay Nusbaum		
	Molly Huffman		
31	Erwin Helbraun	2010 Member	

## ***DONATIONS***

### ***To the Yahrzeit Memorial Fund***

Eric & Jayne Rynar In memory of Jayne's father (Sam Schneider).

Bill & Leslie Ney In memory of Bill's great-grandfather (Joseph Ney)

### ***To the Pizza Bingo Fundraiser***

Phil Renick

Elliott & Thea Golub

### ***To the General Fund***

Penny Williams

## ***SISTERHOOD***

We were honored and thrilled to host the WRJ District board meeting here at BethEl on 3/30/19-3/31/19. Thank you so much to Rabbi Ben for holding Torah study with our ladies, it was amazing! Torah study concluded and we all went to Taste of Thai for a lovely, fun dinner, Havdalah at the Taste of Thai was something we had never done, it was very nice to be together, again, thank you Rabbi Ben for facilitating and joining with us! Our board meeting was the following morning at Temple, we were thanked again and again for hosting and for our lovely hospitality, thank you to the women that helped set everything up and participated. We had approximately 25 women join us for the weekend.

Sisterhood supported the Temple fundraiser at pizza bingo by running a bake sale which was a nice success. Everyone needs a sweet desert after all of that pizza! Thank you to all women who baked.

A huge thank you to our Sisterhood women who helped make our Passover Seder a success filled with a beautiful room, blooming tulips, the best Matzoh ball soup ever, great varieties of charoset and dinner. Thank you to those that also helped set up the room and of course Judy and Gale for the soup, Becky for all of those eggs! Rabbi Ben led a lovely seder, we thank you! Hope everyone is enjoying their matzoh as we speak!!

UPCOMING: Our Sisterhood Shabbat service is coming soon, May 3, 7:30 pm. We will be doing our healing service again this year at the request of many. It is a lovely service that received wonderful comments last year, we all know healing is ongoing. Please join us to share this lovely service together.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday 5/6/19 at 6:00 pm at Vinnie's Restaurant which is located in the shopping center of Bed, Bath and Beyond, Walmart on Burgess Road. It is at the other end of the strip mall from Barnes and Noble. Please call if any questions about location. Please join us to finish up the year, yummy restaurant with a lovely gluten free menu!

Sincerely, Sherri Alt, Rebekah Greenfield

Sisterhood CO-Presidents

## ***RELIGIOUS SCHOOL/SHORTY***

Happy Spring!

The past couple of months have been very busy! There are many joyous holidays to celebrate in the spring in addition to spring break and Passover break! It is hard to believe the end of the year is approaching so quickly.

In March, our amazing students led a beautiful Shabbat service on Saturday, March 2nd. It was a joy to be there! A couple of weeks later, we celebrated Purim with a Jump Purim celebration at Valley Jump Trampoline Park after making Shalach Manot for our friends and neighbors. Thank you to our parent helpers – the Neckowitz, Lipkin and Gutterman families – with a special shout out to Adam Gutterman for baking many, many, many delicious hamentaschen!!

We hope everyone has had a sweet and happy Passover celebration with their family and friends in April. At the end of April on the 28th and beginning of May on the 5th, we will commemorate some important days – Yom Hashoah, Ham Hazikaron and Yom Ha'Atzma'ut. Our Religious school year will conclude on May 19th with a Lag Be'Omer celebration and Potluck.

It has been a sincere pleasure to work with this amazing group of students and teachers this past year! We have also enjoyed having the opportunity to get to know Rabbinic Intern Ben Dyme a little throughout the year. Thank you to parents and congregants for your support of Beth El Religious School!

L'shalom,

Dara & Liz , Co-Principals

SHORTY – see attached pictures from our trip to West Virginia

SHORTY has been keeping busy this spring. We had a huge number of participants attend NFTY-MAR's The Vent in Durham, NC from Friday March 8-10th. Everyone had a great time! We have two SHORTYites attending the Spring Kallah on April 25-28 in URJ Camp Halam in PA. Thanks so much to Becky Mintzer for attending all of these events with our SHORTY members!!

On March 29-30, nine of our SHORTYites went to visit Rabbi Joe in West Virginia. We had a Shul-In at Temple Israel in Charleston, WV, attended services, and visited the capitol and museum. Amid lovely meals and raucous fun we had a wonderful visit! Thanks so much to the Feldmans for driving one of the vehicles!

We have lots of great events on the horizon! Hope to see you there!

Dara & Becky ,Co-Advisors for SHORTY

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS/PHOTOS***



**PASSOVER 2019**



**SAFETY CLASS APRIL 6, 2019**



## Men's Club Book Donation, 2018-19



**Staunton High School librarian Lori Peltonan (l) and Men's Club's Andrew Neckowitz (r), with the books Lori requested to help students become aware of and remember the holocaust, for themselves and for future generations.**

**A Pigeon and a Boy, Meir Shalev**

**An Unspeakable Crime: The Prosecution and Persecution of Leo Frank, Elaine M. Alphin**

**Clara's War: One Girl's Story of Survival, Clara Kramer, 2 copies**

**Man's Search for Meaning, Victor Frankel, 2 copies**

**Maus I and II, Art Speigelman, 2 copies**

**Stories of Deliverance: Speaking with Men and Women Who Rescued Jews from the Holocaust, Marek Halter, 2 copies**

**The Trilogy: Night, Dawn, Day, Elie Wiesel, 2 copies**

**When Bad things happen to Good People, Harold Kushner**

### **Washington Nationals vs. LA Dodgers Sunday July 28, 2019**

**Several members of Beth El are planning on attending a MLB baseball game together. All members, families, and guests are welcome. Please let Bill Ney know if you plan to join us by May 31, 2019 so we can acquire a block of seats together.**

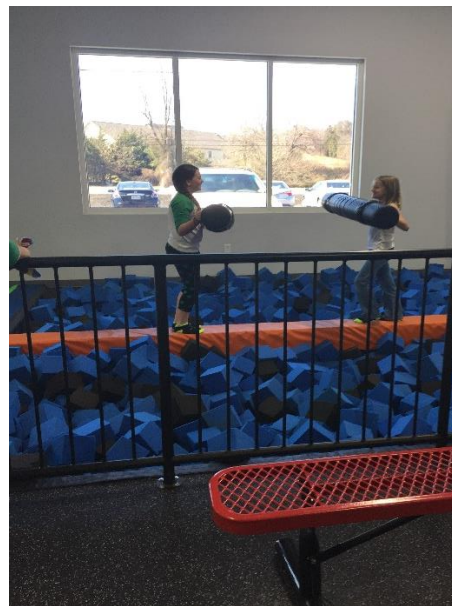
**Bill Ney**

**[ney331@aol.com](mailto:ney331@aol.com)**

**540-434-5163**



**Visit with Rabbi Joe 3/29-3/30**



**PURIM 2019**



# 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](https://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

all 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  
your cart, check out, & ship to  
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 cloth-  
ing & shoes, gas for vehicle, etc.). Gift  
cards are used when there are no oth-  
er 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](https://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!

# MAY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
RS Yom Hashoah Commemoration				Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Memorial Day	7:30am Sisterhood Shabbat	
9:30am Religious school Hashoah						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Cinco de Mayo	6pm Sisterhood Meeting – Vinnie's		Yom HaZikaron (Memorial Day)	Yom HaAtzmaut (Independence Day)	7:30pm Service with Rabbi Dyme	5pm Torah study with Rabbi Dyme
SHORTY Meeting						
11:30am Beth El Annual Meeting						
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Mother's Day					Men's club Corned beef sale	SHORTY Shul-in in Richmond / King's Dominion
No religious school					7:30pm Lay service	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	6:30pm Board Meeting				7:30pm Service with Rabbi Dyme	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	Memorial Day				7:30pm SHORTY Confirmation service for Jessica Mintzer	Havdallah and Farewell to Rabbi Dyme



Beth El  
Congregation  
PO Box 845  
Harrisonburg, VA 22803

TO: