



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 2019

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Rabbi Grumbacher has begun his year at Beth El. Please continue to check the weekly (usually Wednesday) announcements or the linear calendar to note when Rabbi Grumbacher will be in Harrisonburg. His first service included the dedication of our new Torah mantles given by the Kohen family. A video of the event will soon be available on our website. Rabbi Grumbacher also met with Religious School families and others during his first official visit. Becky Mintzer & Michelle Ornstein are working on home hospitality possibilities for Rabbi Grumbacher. Please consider extending an invitation to Rabbi Grumbacher and his wife, Suzy, who will occasionally accompany him, as the opportunity arises.

Our annual budget appears to be on track. *Please respond to our treasurer, Bill Ney, clarifying the status of your membership if you have not already done so.* This helps us make monetary decisions as the year unfolds. The board voted to add a young adult (up to age 26) category for membership. As always, the suggested membership fee is open to adjustments as needed.

Les Mintzer has met with one company to determine the cost of updated locks as outlined in our security plan. Eric Rynar will collect pricing from a second source so we can move forward. The board voted not to proceed with the installation of the panic buttons. After gathering more information, it was determined that a simple 911 call will be more effective. Michelle reported that HCPD has been contacted for High Holiday security. Due to a HCPD procedural change, officers will be in uniform. The Ritual Committee (Leslie Harris and Margee Greenfield-Ney) is working on holiday honors. Again, please respond to their requests in a timely manner. The choir has grown to 13 members. Additional music stands have been purchased.

As part of the Social Action committee (Arnie Kahn, Andy Kohen, Linda Kohn & Sandi), Sandi Rose attended the Interfaith Association this month. The Interfaith Association coordinates collecting and loaning out used medical equipment and a clothes closet for those in need.

There has been a discussion about having an in-house information session to share details about our current social action involvement. Agencies and contact numbers will be available at that time. The Social Action committee will consider options for the time of this event.

Men's Club recently served lunch at Blessed Sacrament for the less fortunate. The Men's Club will continue their role as greeters during the High Holy Days.

Sisterhood is organizing the oneg list. This is a Temple wide opportunity whether you are currently a member of Sisterhood or not. Please plan to take a turn hosting an oneg.

The annual LuLaRoe fund raiser was fairly well attended. Proceeds go to community projects.

Religious School has 22 students and 10 teachers, including a student from Bridgewater College. We are working to create a bulletin board/ display area in the social hall to highlight

Religious School student projects. Suggested safety procedures have been implemented.

Elana Turczynski is the new co-advisor to SHORTY. She will be coordinating activities throughout the year. This month Ben Harris and Keenan Glago will be attending a NIFTY event in Maryland. The youth group is also organizing a team for the annual Alzheimer's Walk.

Beth El Congregation welcomes new members Paula Max-Wright and Nathan Wright and their children, Stephen & Charlotte, who both attend our Religious School.

Eric Kramer and Josh Linder are working on a joint Beth El Congregation and Hillel event sponsoring Kulanu speaker Jonatas Chimen who will be visiting Harrisonburg for the week end of Friday, November 15. This is Kulanu's 25th year "supporting isolated, emerging and returning Jewish communities around the globe." More details later.

The board strongly endorses the value of civil engagement. As elections approach, be sure to register and to vote for the candidates and issues of your choice.

Something I need to say:

As a small congregation, I believe that although we can't attend all events at Beth El, we ought to be able to support each other and each other's efforts through awareness, mutual respect, and kindness. Occasionally we will have situations that will require more communication and a bit of flexibility, but we are all members of Beth El, hopefully sharing the same values for a better world.

It starts here with each of us.

—peace,

Michelle Ornstein, Beth El board president

MY (MONTHLY) WORD!

"A Letter to Our Students (and Their Parents)"

Dear Student (and your parents),

It was great meeting you. You seem to be excited about Jewish learning and I'm happy about that. I've been a rabbi for a long time and my favorite job of all was to work with kids like you.

Our special holidays are coming. In fact, they are so special that they are called "holy" days. On Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur Jewish people who don't always come to the synagogue do so on these days.

I hope you will also come to the synagogue. I know you have so much to do for school, and I know how important your education is, but very often you'll take off for this reason or that. You might even have a field day or a class trip and there is no school on those days. There are also days such as Labor Day, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, when you're out of school. And there are even Teacher Professional Days that don't celebrate anything but schools are closed.

Those are important but so are our Jewish holy days. I think you can stay home from school...I think you should take off for them.

I've often heard that Jewish children don't like to admit they are Jewish because they're afraid they might be bullied, and that's a real shame. But you've got to be proud of who and what you are, and there's a lot about being Jewish that should make you proud. One way to show your pride is to be with other Jewish children on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. If someone asks you why you weren't in school, you can say,

"I'm Jewish, and our holy day is important to the Jewish people. I will thank God for everything I have. I will think about what I can do to be a better person. I'll join with my family in the synagogue just like you join with your family on your very special days."

We will be having a Family Service at 5:00 on September 29 just as our new year is beginning. We'll also have a Family Service for Yom Kippur and we'll tell you when that will be. Bring your parents (it's a Family service, not a kids' service)! I hope your parents read this letter just as I hope you read it. See you in Temple.
L'shanah tovah! Have a good New Year!

Rabbi Grumbacher

Leadership

Rabbi: Peter H. Grumbacher

President: Michelle Ornstein

Vice President: Joshua Linder

Treasurer: Bill Ney

Secretary: Phil Renick

Corresponding Secretary: Gale Clemons

Trustee: Lester Mintzer

Trustee: Eric Rynar

Trustee: Ron Ornstein

Past President: Andy Kohen

At large member: Amanda Friss

At large member: Ron Rubin

Sisterhood Presidents: Sherri Alt + Rebekah Greenfield

Men's Club President: Lester Mintzer

Religious School Principals: Dara Hall + Liz Webb

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

YAHREZEITS

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 Amalie G Wise	1939	Member	

DONATIONS

To the Yahrzeit Memorial Fund

Lenny & Marilena Berman In memory of Julius Berman (Lenny's Father).

Leo Zindler In memory of Beverly Zindler (Leo's Wife).

Eddie & Margee Ney In memory of Beth Ney (Eddie's Father).

Bill & Leslie Ney In memory of Dr. Joseph Ney (Bill's Father)

Alan & Kate Neckowitz In memory of Belle Neckowitz (Alan's Mother)

To the General Fund

Penny Williams

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL/SHORTY

L'shanah tovah!

We are glad to be back in the full swing of school! We have 22 students and we are looking forward to two of our student's b'nai mitzvahs at Beth El this spring. Welcome to our new teacher, Morah Gabriella, who is a student at Bridgewater College.

At snack, we are pleased to say that we are trying to use less disposables and plastic and instead use glassware and plates thanks to Troy Kramer's bar mitzvah project -- Tikkun Olam! We have been preparing a special project as a gift to our families for the New Year. Additionally, we have enjoyed having Rabbi Grumbacher meet our students and lead us in service.

We will have no Religious School on Sunday, September 29th. Instead, please join us for a special family service at 5:00pm for Erev Rosh Hashanah. In October, please join us for a Sukkot celebration on October 13th and a Simchat Torah celebration on October 20th – both begin at 11:00am. The year is shaping up to be a great one! We hope yours will be sweet and peaceful.

L'shalom, Dara & Liz

SHORTY:

Welcome to our new SHORTY advisor, Elana. She is working with Becky and Dara to provide a positive, educational, and supportive Jewish community for our youth! We have lots of great plans for the year, so if you have a child aged 13+ who is interested, please contact Becky Mintzer at rem82398@gmail.com. Meetings will be held on the first Sunday of each month beginning at 12:45.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PHOTOS

Beth El Committees

As a point of information, Beth El Congregation has a number of active committees: Adult Education, Building & Grounds, Library & Archives, Membership, Ritual, Social Action, and more, such as the Caring Committee. We have always relied on the participation and energy of our full membership rather than on a select few. It really does take a village ☺. The Caring Committee provides meals as needed (usually through requests.) A visit from Threshold Choir which offers bedside comfort through their voices is also available by request. Thank you to member Judy Cohen for this recent connection. Please contact Eric Kramer, Sisterhood, or Men's Club when you would like either of these services.

I will be sending by email a separate list of all of our current committees and members in mid-October. If you are interested in more information or in serving on a committee, please have a conversation with a committee member who already serves. Thanks!

Michelle Ornstein
Beth El board president



***Shopping at the Sisterhood sponsored LuLaRoe Clothing Show.
September 15, 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 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
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 other
community resources to provide the
items.

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

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!

TARGET WISH LIST

tgt.gifts/FirstStep-129

OCTOBER 2019

Sun 29	Mon 30	Tue 1	Wed 2	Thu 3	Fri 4	Sat 5
Rosh Hashana Eve 5 PM Family Service	Rosh Hashana	Rosh Hashana (Day 2)			7:30pm Lay service	
8pm Erev Rosh Hashanah	10am Rosh Hashana					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
SHORTY Meeting		Yom Kippur Eve	Yom Kippur		7:30pm Lay service	
9:30am Religious school		8pm Kol Nidre	10am Yom Kippur			
1pm Yiskor @ cemetery						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Sukkot Eve	Columbus Day (regional holiday)	Sukkot (Day 2)	Sukkot (Day 3)	Sukkot (Day 4)	Sukkot (Day 5)	Sukkot (Day 6)
9:30am Religious school - Sukkot celebration at 11am	Sukkot (Day 1)				6:30pm Rabbi Grumbacher - Pizza in the Hut @ 6:30pm	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Sukkot (Day 7) / Hoshanah Rabah	Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah				7:30pm Rabbi Grumbacher - Community awareness shabbat	
9:30am Religious school / Congregation Simchat Torah celebration @ 11am	6:30pm Board Meeting					
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
9:30am Religious school				Halloween	7:30pm Lay service	