

July Bridge

Hello everyone,

Beth El is delighted to welcome our newest member, Rees Kaye Kalman joined us on June 14, 2022 weighing 8lb, 11oz. Congratulations to her parents, Michael & Rachel Kalman.

A Message from our Rabbi

The Supreme Court and Beth El Congregation

It is with trepidation that I offer comments on the recent events regarding recent the Supreme Court decision. I recognize the momentous impact of these decisions on the lives of Americans and that the historical ruling last month that has overturned a 50 year precedent.

I believe it is important, as your rabbi, to steer away from political issues because those issues can be divisive among those whose perspectives differ from my own. But I also cannot ignore the very real impact an event such as this can have on the lives of our members.

I have seen many of my colleagues make forceful statements about the decision. You may be aware that the institutions of the Reform movement have taken strong stands of condemnation of the ruling. If any of you would like to see those statements, I would encourage you to contact me and I will be happy to share them with you.

I have made it clear to our members that I don't believe it is my role to advocate on political issues. On the other hand, this was a monumental event that will affect the lives of many.

My role as your rabbi is to be pastoral. To that end I want to affirm to you that our congregation serves to stand as a judgment free zone, and I, as your rabbi, embrace all of you no matter on which path you find yourself. You should know that you are safe with me. If a matter in your life comes up in which I can offer compassion and empathy, please know that I am here for you. One principal of the Reform movement is individual autonomy. As a movement we believe with absolute affirmation that you have the right to make decisions for your lives. We embrace you, welcome you, accept you and counsel you without judgment for any situation in which you find yourself. If you or a family member are struggling with an issue, I welcome a

conversation in which I can give you unqualified support.

The events of last month have far reaching ramifications throughout our society. As an individual, even as a rabbi, my voice can't affect the decisions made at the highest level of government. But my actions can embrace you, support you. I can guarantee—without qualification—that if you ever need me for any reason, your conversation with me will be kept in sanctified confidence. You can feel safe sharing your burdens with me, your joys with me, your challenges or any parts of your lives you wish to share.

That IS something I can do for you, our members, at a time when it may seem like the changes in our country appear to impart a spirit of upheaval. That upheaval stops at the doors of our congregation. In response we offer community, solace, comfort and compassion. Always.

A Message from our President

I have to say that I thought our Picnic this past Sunday was a huge success although the weather didn't exactly cooperate. We ended up having our

picnic in the social hall. That certainly didn't deter those who attended (over 30 people) from having a good time and not only enjoying the company but appreciating the reason for the picnic; to honor those who have given service to the congregation and to officially welcome Rabbi KL. I think it is worth repeating those we honored for their service: Roni Goldberg for stepping up to be part of the board serving as Vice President; Becky Mintzer for 10 plus years of being a SHORTY advisor; Dara Hall for being Religious School Principal and SHORTY advisor for 10 plus years; Elliott Golub for being the Editor of the bridge over the past **16** years; Michelle Ornstein for her long service on the board serving as member at large, secretary, treasurer, past President and of course President; Andy Kohen for his **40 years plus** of service on the board serving as treasurer, trustee, member at large, Past President, and of course President. We then welcomed new board members, Carol Robinson Schepp (Vice President), Leeanne Shepherd (Member at Large), and Ben Nissley (Corresponding Secretary). We also welcomed Liz Webb as our new Religious School Principal. Thank you all for stepping up.

It was with immense joy and excitement that I officially welcomed Rabbi Jeffrey

Kurtz-Lendner to Harrisonburg. To say that having a permanent in-residence Rabbi living in our community will be wonderful is an understatement. I can't remember the last time we had a Rabbi living in the community just for us. I have NO doubt he will be an asset not only to our congregation but to the community at large.

In other news..... we are in the process of replacing the entire AC unit for the sanctuary. The replacement unit will be moved back and away from our beautiful stained-glass windows in the back of the sanctuary. Hopefully, this will be completed in the next 2 weeks. Keep your fingers crossed.

SAVE the date of Friday July 15th. The service will be led by Danielle Hall and Keegan Glago for their confirmation. Congratulations to both of them

HAVE A GREAT MONTH
EVERYONE!!!!

Les

July 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

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

Gail Gorlitz 2017, Sara Trantum's step
mom

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(Ronnie) Kahn 2001, Member

27 Henry Ney 1946, Member

Emanuel Loewner 1980, Member

28 Theresa Sissman

29 Alvin Ney 1945, Member

31 Leon Wise

Louis Isaacs 1909, Member

Maude Snyder, Gladys Ney's Sister

Recent Donations

Edward Ney & Margee Greenfield Ney –
In Honor of Becky Mintzer Birthday

Leo Zindler – Yahrzeit – Leo Zindler Sr.
and Pauline Zindler

Esther Minskoff – Yahrzeit – Jerry
Minskoff

Pam Ungar - Rabbi's discretionary fund
- in appreciation for Bryan's memorial
service

Arnold Kahn & Ellen Swecker – Yahrzeit
– Ronni Kahn

BETH EL CONGREGATION

JULY 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01 Rabbi-led Services 7:30 pm Livestream also	02 Torah Study 10:30 am Zoom
03	04	05 Ethics Class 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm Zoom	06	07	08 Rabbi-led Services 7:30 pm Livestream also	09 Torah Study 10:30 am Zoom
10	11	12 Ethics Class 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm Zoom	13	14	15 Confirmation of Danielle Hall and Keenan Glago Services 7:30 pm Livestream also	16 Torah Study 10:30 am Zoom
17	18	19 Ethics Class 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm Zoom	20 Board Meeting 6:30 pm Zoom also	21 Rabbi-led Services 7:30 pm Livestream also	22 Torah Study 10:30 am Zoom	23
24	25	26 Ethics Class 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm Zoom	27	28	29 Services 7:30 pm Livestream also	30 Torah Study 10:30 am Zoom
31						