

October Bridge

Beth El Congregation

A Message from our Rabbi

Jewish Thanksgiving

If you ask most Jews “what is the most fun, joyous holiday of the year,” they would likely assert, “Hanukkah,” with the lighting of the Hanukkah candles, eating of jelly doughnuts and potato latkes (it’s a mitzvah to ignore the Keto diet on Hanukkah) and, of course, presents. Some would say Purim, which celebrates with a revelry that mimics Purim or Mardi Gras. Some would say Passover, with the unique rituals surrounding the dramatic reenactment of our achievement of freedom around the family table.

When asked, how many people do you think would exclaim, “Sukkoth!”? Sukkoth is the one holiday during the year known in Jewish tradition as the holiday of “rejoicing.” A special prayer in the Amida states that Sukkoth is

“zman simchateinu” – “it is the time we rejoice!”

Why would that be? The answer can be found in the Torah, in Deuteronomy 16:13-14, which states:

You shall observe the Feast of Booths seven days, after you have gathered in your grain and your wine; And you shall rejoice in your feast, you, and your son, and your daughter, your servants and the Levite and the stranger who are inside your gates.

The Torah clearly states that the Holiday of Sukkoth is a holiday of rejoicing, of festivity, of happiness. It should be a time of rejoicing for everyone – reread the passage above from the Torah – it applies to master and servant, the priests and the strangers among us.

In the Torah, Sukkoth was the definitive pilgrimage festival. Occurring right before the winter it represented the most important of the harvests. A successful fall harvest enhanced the chances of one prospering during the cold winter

months. It became a time of celebration – for oneself, one’s servants, for the priests, the strangers, the widows and orphans. It is the time when we pick our own pears and apples from our trees on the synagogue property! It was truly a holiday of thanksgiving, much like our own American holiday in which the pilgrims and indigenous peoples together celebrated a bountiful harvest in advance of the long, cold New England winter.

So the next time someone asks you what is the most fun of the Jewish holidays, and you begin thinking of Hanukkah, and then Passover, and then Purim, you may also think about the Torah and Jewish tradition and remember that for our ancestors, the greatest time of rejoicing was the fall holiday of Sukkoth, celebrating the joy our ancestors felt at recalling the hard times of wandering through the desert while they brought fruits of their successful harvest in their own land to Jerusalem.

A Message from our President

La Shana Tova everyone.

I am filled with optimism for our congregation in our return to normalcy. Our Temple is our “communal” home, and I am so hopeful now that our Temple is once again open “for business.”

I can’t say enough how wonderful it is having Rabbi K-L living in our community along with us. Rabbi K-L has been wonderful in leading services and becoming an integral part of not only our Temple community, but the community at large. I’ll bet you can’t remember the last time we had a Rabbi living in our community just for us. Thank you Rabbi for all you do!

We will continue to live stream ALL Rabbi led services for those unable to attend. I will say that there is something special about attending a live service and being part of our communal gathering. We will continue to have sponsored ONEGs twice a

month, I'm hoping to see many of you for service to support those who are taking the time to sponsor an ONEG. If you would like to sponsor an ONEG, please give Margee a call.

Rosh Hashanah services were wonderful, and the choir was simply magnificent. Come for **Kol Nidre** Tuesday night October 4th at 8:00 PM to hear the choir in person. Morning services for Yom Kippur will start at 10:00 AM. The afternoon service will start at 4:30. Following the concluding service, we will have a communal Break the Fast. This will be our first break the fast in several years. Please let me know if you plan to attend. If you are unable to attend in person, **Just click [HERE](#) to live stream.**

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year

May everyone be blessed with health and contentment during the coming month(s).

October Yahrzeits

1

Carrye Kohen *Florine Ney's Mother*
Annette Biatch Rabbi *Jonathan Biatch's Mother*
Carl Goldstein 2010 *Lisa Giovanetti's Father*

2

David Rubin 1972 *Member*

4

Bernard N. Berger 2010 *Bary Berger's Father*

5

Jack Lichtenstein *Joan Funston's Father*

6

Paige Nash 2003 *Keith Nash's Mother*

8

Leonard Raff *Irma Nemoytin's Brother*

9

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's
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*

Recent Donations

Leo Zindler – Yahrzeit Beverly Zindler

Michael & Nancy Clayman - Yahrzeit

Barbara Clayman Callihan, Roof Fund

Bill & Leslie Ney – Yahrzeit Joseph Ney

Alan & Kate Neckowitz – Donation to
the Rabbi Discretionary Fund, Roof
Fund

Ron & Michelle Ornstein – In Memory
of Carol Shikman

Frances Flannery – Yahrzeit Memorial
Fund

Eric & Jayne Rynar – In Memory of
Jayne's cousin Irving Sontag.

Bill & Leslie Ney – In Memory of Carol
Shikman

Keith Nash - Yahrzeit

Valerie Lovinger - Yahrzeit – Sarah
Lovinger

Mike Shickman – Shana Tova
Donation

Jeannette Ornstein – Shana Tova
Donation

BETH EL CONGREGATION

OCT2022

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

01

Torah Study
10:30 am
Zoom

02

Religious School
9:30 am
~~Genizah Ceremony
11:30 am at
Cemetery
Yizkor, 12:30 pm at
Cemetery~~
Postponed due to
weather

03

Erev Yom
Kippur
Kol Nidrei
8:00 pm
Livestream also

04

Yom Kippur
10:00am-12:00pm
4:30 pm-6:30 pm
Livestream also
Break the fast to
follow

Family Service
2:00 pm
Zoom

05

06

Rabbi-led
Services
7:30 pm
Livestream also

07

Torah Study
10:30 am
Zoom

08

09

Religious School
9:30 am

10

11

Ethics Class
12:00 pm &
7:00 pm
Zoom

12

13

Sukkot
Pizza in the Hut
6:30 pm

Rabbi-led Services
Sponsored Oneg
7:30 pm
Livestream also

14

Torah Study
10:30 am
Zoom

15

16

Religious School
9:30 am
Simchat Torah
Celebration
(Details to follow)

17

Sisterhood
meeting
6:30 pm

18

Ethics Class
12:00 pm &
7:00 pm
Zoom

19

Board Meeting
6:30 pm
Zoom also

20

Lay Services
7:30 pm

21

Torah Study
10:30 am
Zoom

22

23

Religious School
9:30 am

Sisterhood
LuLaRoe
Fashion Show
1:00 pm-5:00 pm

24

Men's Club
hosts Lions'
Club dinner

25

Ethics Class
12:00 pm &
7:00 pm
Zoom

26

27

Quinn Webb
Bat Mitzvah
Oneg sponsored
by Quinn's family
7:30 pm
Livestream also

28

Quinn Webb
Bat Mitzvah
10:00 am
Livestream also

29

30

Religious School
9:30 am

31