

Visit our website at
www.beth-torah.org

Join us on *Saturday, June 24* from 6 - 9 PM

Music
Face Painting
Games
Firepit
Smore's
Food



See our Flyer
on the
back page!

Tekiah

The Monthly Newsletter of



CONGREGATION
BETH TORAH

June 2023 • Issue 352 • Sivan/Tamuz

Rabbi Cattapan's Upcoming Beit Midrash!

Our Congregation Beth Torah community will learn about the past and present of two Jewish communities of Germany.



Remarks

Rabbi Javier Cattapan, Senior Rabbi

Lessons from a Sabbatical in Berlin

Earlier this year, I took much needed time off and spent part of my Sabbatical in Berlin, Germany. During my four weeks in Berlin, I studied German half the day and partook in the city's cultural, historical, and Jewish offerings during the other half. The history of Berlin in the twentieth century is as tumultuous as no other city in Europe. Amid political upheavals, the German capital became the site of some of the most creative achievements in Jewish religious thought the world had ever known. In particular, the interwar period witnessed Jewish culture's flourishing in Berlin. During the Weimar Republic, the first liberal democracy in German history, the Jews of Berlin would shine as an example of a successful and integrated Jewish community.

As vibrantly as it may impress the casual visitor, Berlin's current *Jüdische Gemeinde* (the official Jewish community) is but a pale reflection of what it once was. For someone like myself, who for the last thirty years has encountered Jews from Berlin in person—as congregants, teachers, and colleagues—and also in their wonderful writings and cultural artifacts, it is hard to say that I had a “wonderful” time in Berlin. As one walks the streets of Berlin, it is as if a dark cloud hangs over the city (during the month of March, it often literally does!), a cloud that one cannot escape. Despite the tremendous destruction and loss of life that first the Nazis and then the Allied bombing rained upon the city, it is not possible, at least not for me, to take a walk in Berlin and merely enjoy it. In that city, in that land, God's words to Cain resonate like nowhere else on earth, “the voice of your brother's blood cries out to me from the earth” (Gen. 4:10).

This is not to say that one should not visit Berlin or Germany. On the contrary, we have an obligation to learn about what was lost, to visit every site, to read every plaque, to take every picture, and to bear witness that *am yirael chai*, the Jewish people still lives and thrives. Because I take this obligation seriously, I spent a month in Berlin. Everyone concerned with the Jewish past and present must come to terms with Germany and its people. So, I invite you to join me as we come together for two special editions of our *Beit Midrash* centered on the past and present of two Jewish communities of Germany: Rhineland and Berlin. [\[RSVP for dinner and learn more on the Adult Education page on our website.\]](#)

Jewish Communities of the Rhineland June 2, 2023



Rhineland

Walking Memorial Lanes in Berlin July 21, 2023



Berlin

President's Corner

Happy June Everyone,

June marks the official start to summer (yea) with swimming pools, family vacations, and back yard BBQs.

At Beth Torah, June means the annual BBQ Bash is right around the corner. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 24 for an evening in the CBT "back yard" with your family and your Beth Torah family. Prospective members are welcome to come check us out.

Last year over 250 people enjoyed good music, great food with a selection for every palette, games for the kids, our CBT scout troop at the fire pit making smores, and information booths on upcoming Beth Torah programming and events.

This year is on track to be bigger and better. DJ Miles, who had everyone on the dance floor at the Chili Cook off, will be back as our musical guest, so put your dancin' shoes on. Our crack BBQ chefs will be back behind the grill, we'll have games for the kids, the scouts will be cooking smores, and there will be so much more. As it was last year—IT'S ALL FREE. Thank you, Gail and Jeff Ross, for sponsoring this year's event.

Also this month we welcome Morgan Fasbinder to full-time status as Principal and Administrator of the Weiner Religious School. Morgan joined WRS earlier in the year on a part time basis while she finished her public-school teaching assignment. We are all excited at the energy and enthusiasm she has already brought to the kids and families. She has great new ideas and is bringing back some of the old ones. Stay tuned for more exciting news on programming over the summer and the fall school year.

For those that missed the announcement at the annual meeting we welcome Ron and Tricia Fredman as returning CBT members. Ron has graciously agreed to take over all fundraising activities for CBT. His professional career has seen him in charge of charitable giving, capital campaigns, and donor relations at the Kansas City Ballet, Kansas City Symphony, and out-of-town stops with the Ballet and Symphony in Houston, Phoenix, and Sacramento. Ron brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise in nonprofit fundraising to Beth Torah. We are so excited to welcome Ron and Tricia back at Beth Torah.

As you all know, Rabbi Cattapan will be leaving us when his contract expires on June 30, 2024. Our Rabbi search committee has already been formed. It's a large group of 25 from all demographics. The group will be divided into smaller working groups and will begin our most important job of finding our next Rabbi. Stay tuned for regular updates as we progress from search to hire.

We have lots of great summer programs, backyard outdoor services, and so many ways to get involved. Come join us and experience the "New" Beth Torah.

Larry Myer

President, Board of Trustees

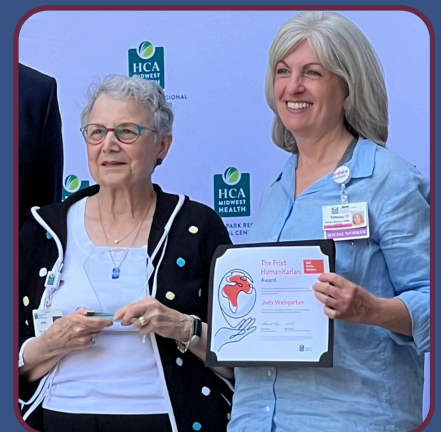


Mazel Tov! מזל טוב

Do you have a simcha you'd like to share with us? Email the office by the 13th of the month!



Betsy Wanger was recognized for 25 years of service at Olathe-Health Center.
Congratulations, Betsy!



Judy Weingarten received The Frist Humanitarian Award for her work in the NICU with the Warm Arms programs and her contribution of over 100 knitted baby blankets.
Congratulations, Judy!

Music & More



While *Hachnasat Orchim* means “welcoming guests,” it is often connotatively translated as “radical hospitality.” It is the religious obligation to offer hospitality to those in need and to welcome guests into our homes and communities. In the Torah we are instructed over 30 times on how we should treat “the stranger” in our midst. We are told over and over again to remember what it was like to *be the stranger*. In our world today, members of the LGBTQ+ community—all across the rainbow—are still othered every day. They are, if you will, stranger-ed. They are victims of violence and bullying; they are shunned by their own family and friends; they are denied basic human dignity on so many levels.

Regardless of how you feel about the LGBTQ+ community and the issues they face on a daily basis, you are called—we are called—not just as decent human beings, but specifically as Jews—to hold them up, help them out, and welcome them in.

Our tradition teaches us that Abraham and Sarah’s tent was always open. They welcomed all who passed by, not asking how they prayed, where they came from, or who they loved. We invite you to join us for Pride Shabbat on June 23 to share songs and prayers of love, support, and radical hospitality.

- ☆ **Beit Midrash: Jews of the Rhineland (June 2)**
- ☆ **Bar Mitzvah of Rex Heberd (June 3)**
- **Building Closed for Summer Break (June 10-11)**
- ☆ **Bar Mitzvah of Harper Kane (June 17)**
- ☆ **Pride Shabbat (June 23)**
- **Building Closed for Summer Break (July 1-2)**

Shalom, Lezlie

Summer Schedule at Congregation Beth Torah:

The CBT Campus will be closed the following Saturdays and Sundays for Summer Break
 June 10-11 | July 1-2 | July 15-16 | July 29-30 | August 12-13 | August 26-27

Summer Havdalah

Join us for our Summer Havdalah!

July 8 - Muzzle Tov Havdalah
 7:00 p.m. at CBT (outdoors)

August 12 - Poolside Havdalah
 5:30 p.m. at the J

Summer Batei Midrash

Rabbi Cattapan invites us to join him for two special editions of our Beit Midrash centered on the past and present of two Jewish communities of Germany: Rhineland and Berlin

June 2: Jewish Communities of the Rhineland
July 21: Walking Memorial Lanes in Berlin



Summer Fun

June 4 - Summer Kickoff at CBT
 11:30 a.m.

June 24 - CBT BBQ Bash
 6:00 p.m.

Summer B'nei Mitzvah

June 3 - Rex Heberd

June 17 - Harper Kane

July 22 - Nathan Weiner

Community Events:

- July 9 - Good Faith Network End-of-Year Celebration
- August 20 - Day of Discovery
- August 27 - Service of Spiritual Renewal for the High Holy Days

SICHAH SHABBAT: SHABBAT CONVERSATIONS

9:00 – 10:15am Saturdays during the summer when services are held.

In the library OR ONLINE: beth-torah.org/virtual-sanctuary/



June 3: Good vs. Evil: A Critical Conversation facilitated by Edna Riley

June 17: Argument for the Sake of Heaven presented by Julie Kaplan

Contact Jill Maidhof jill.maidhof@gmail.com | 913.832.4477

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
28 ● 2pm Book Club: That Book I Meant to Read - 578:	29 Memorial Day	30 ● 6:30pm Jewish Living	31 ● 7pm Pride Shabbat Choir Rehearsal
4 ● 11:30am Summer Kick-off at CBT	5	6	7 ● 7pm Pride Shabbat Choir Rehearsal
11 Building Closed (Summer Schedule)	12	13	14 Flag Day ● 7pm Pride Shabbat Choir Rehearsal
18 Father's Day	19 Juneteenth	20	21 ● 7pm Pride Shabbat Choir Rehearsal
25	26	27	28

PET FOOD DRIVE



Our Pet Food Drive begins June 1

Bring pet food, blankets, toys,
and other animal shelter items.

The drive will close July 8 at
Muzzle Tov Havdalah.

Save the Date!!!

- ☆ Muzzle Tov Havdalah – July 8
- ☆ Beit Midrash: Walking Memorial Lanes in Berlin – July 21
- ☆ Bar Mitzvah of Nathan Weiner – July 22
- ☆ High Holy Day Choir Rehearsals begin in July!
- ☆ Pet Food Drive Begins – June 1

The CBT Campus will be closed the following Saturdays and Sundays for Summer Break:

June 10-11
July 1-2
July 15-16
July 29-30
August 12-13
August 26-27

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Jun 1</p> <p>Pet Food Drive Begins</p> <p>First Day of LGBTQ+ Pride Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 7pm The 10 Commandments: A Deep, Deep Dive 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship followed by Beit M 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Bar Mitzvah of Rex Hebbert
<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Rabbi Lunch N' Learn (in person) 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship 	<p>10</p> <p>Building Closed (Summer Schedule)</p>
<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Exploring and Sharing Good Eats - 5783 Sr ● 7pm Celebrate the New Moon! (@CBT in the Libra 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Bar Mitzvah of Harper Kane
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Pride Shabbat Erev Shabbat Worship 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Shabbat Morning Worship ● 6pm 2nd Annual CBT BBQ Bash
<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship 	<p>Jul 1</p> <p>Building Closed (Summer Schedule)</p>

Weiner Religious School

May was the month of Simchas! We had our 5th-grade family worship service and celebration. Mrs. Ellenberg and I were honored to present students with their very own Siddurim. Our teens celebrated the last Wednesday evening of TAG for the school year. The Women's Council brought an ice cream truck to celebrate the last day of Sunday school, which was a BIG hit! Teachers were given Certificates of Appreciation for their hard work, kindness, love for Judaism, and knowledge.



It was a pleasure to watch *Emma Bowen, Alice Lenz, and Evie Latman* become Confirmands as they enter this new chapter in their Jewish lives.

The Simchas continue! I am officially the full-time Principal of the Weiner Religious School and ready to make amazing changes.

We have 2 very special Bar Mitzvahs to celebrate in June. *Rex Hebbberd* is an incredibly talented young Jewish learner. He has a passion for music and Judaism. He brings his musical spirit to Friday night services and Sunday morning family worship. *Harper Kane* has a kind and gentle soul. He is always thinking of ways he can help others. He always has a smile on his face and enjoys the small moments in life. I look forward to watching both of these amazing Jewish learners on their special days.



We are having a Summer Kickoff at CBT on Sunday, June 4th for anyone and everyone, members and nonmembers. Invite your Jewish friends and family. We will have lunch, water games, outdoor activities, and s'mores! Don't forget about the 2nd Annual CBT BBQ Bash on Saturday, June 24th. Bring your Jewish friends and fam!

June Events!

☆ Saturday, June 3, 2023

Bar Mitzvah of
Rex Hebbberd at CBT
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

☆ Sunday, June 4, 2023

Summer Kickoff at CBT
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Please wear swim attire and bring a towel. Don't forget to wear/bring sunscreen.

☆ Saturday, June 17, 2023,

Bar Mitzvah of
Harper Kane at CBT
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

☆ Saturday, June 24, 2023,

2nd Annual CBT BBQ Bash at
CBT from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Friendly Reminder:

The first day of Sunday School is
September 10, 2023.

The first day of TAG is Wednesday,
September 27, 2023.

Shalom!
Morgan

**LET'S
KICKOFF THE
SUMMER
AT CBT**

SUNDAY JUNE 4TH
11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

COME CHECK US OUT!

**JOIN US FOR LUNCH, WATER
GAMES, OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES,
AND S'MORES**

ALL AGES INCLUDED

**PLEASE WEAR SWIM ATTIRE
AND BRING A TOWEL. DON'T
FORGET TO WEAR/BRING
SUNSCREEN.**



CONGREGATION BETH TORAH

**April 14 thru May 11
2023 Tributes**

Beth Torah General Fund

Claudia Alexander

Carol Ducak

Jeff Lefko B'nai Tzedek Fund of JCF of GKC

Jonny Lefko B'nai Tzedek Fund of JCF of GKC

Yahrzeit of Dorothy Goldstein

Martin & Irene Goldstein

Yahrzeit of Harold Weingarten

Yahrzeit of Esther Malke Klieger

Judy Weingarten

Yahrzeit of Joel Osman

Stan Osman

Yahrzeit of Selma R Krichiver

Joel Krichiver

Rabbi Cattapan's Discretionary Fund

Yahrzeit of Sarah Sherman

Janice Katz

Music & Choir Fund

In Appreciation of Jim Kaplan & Lezlie Zucker

Steve & Margie Cooper

In Honor of leading worship

Jim Kaplan

CBT Fund For Families In Need

In Memory of Tannye Shafran

Stephanie & Adam Elyachar

Yahrzeit of Rose Feldman

Peter Ehrlich

Yahrzeit of Samuel Faiman

Yahrzeit of Beatrice Faiman

Yahrzeit of Sam Freed

Morris & Lynne Faiman

Yahrzeit of Mollie Rosenfeld

Les Rosenfeld

Hunger Fund

In Memory of Edward Ducak

Carol Ducak

Yahrzeit of Leonard Klein

Adam & Stephanie Elyachar

Lesly Ozar

In Memory of Marvin G. Goldberg

Sheila Goldberg & Lisa Levine

Thank You to Our 2022-23 Weiner Religious School Breakfast Sponsors

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Peter Pizor, Doug & Colleen Polsky, Gail & Jeff Ross, Ken & Tiffany Simpson,
Nina Shik, Richard Standridge, Robert Young, Zachary Zwibelman



CONGREGATION BETH TORAH

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