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Tekiah

The Monthly Newsletter of  CONGREGATION
BETH TORAH
March 2023 • Issue 349 • Adar/Nisan

Join us for the CBT Purim Carnival

Monday, March 6, 2023
6-8 p.m.



- ☆ Megillah Reading
- ☆ Food
- ☆ Games
- ☆ Photo Booth
- ☆ Costume Contest



Food and game tickets available for purchase on site!
(50¢ per ticket, Cash ONLY)



President's Message

Larry, Myer, President, Board of Trustees

Happy March everyone!

The new year is well underway, football and the Super Bowl are over (how 'bout those CHIEFS!!) and Pepe has returned to sunny Florida. Spring training has begun along with March Madness right around the corner.

At Beth Torah we turn our attention to the business of setting up our finances for the next fiscal year. The Finance Committee has been hard at work finalizing our next budget so the Board of Trustees can review and present it to the congregation at the annual meeting in May. The budget is a projection and guide for our income and expenses for the following fiscal year. It is a financial road map for us to follow and keeps us out of trouble as it pertains to our income and expenses.

One area that has not been updated for some time is our vision and strategic plan. Our vision is *what do we see?*, or *what would we like to see our congregation look like now and in the future?*. Our strategic plan is the road map to implement our vision and move us forward.

What is our vision? What do we want to be? What are we known for in the community (good or bad)? Do we change that? Are we too big or too small? What type of programming do we want and what resources do we need to make that happen? Is the building and campus well suited for our needs now? If not where do we go?

What do we do well and what do we need help with? Do we have the right leadership structure in place. Is staff receptive to the congregational needs? Are we proactive or do we react? Most important: Is this the spiritual home you can proudly say; "I belong here?"

We need your help. The Board of Trustees would like to ask each and every one of you: WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR BETH TORAH?

The following link <https://forms.gle/YvwpMPf2uGARD85u5> will take you to our online survey question where you can make a quick statement or write a novel. Sign it, stay anonymous or request a private consultation; We only ask that you be brutally honest and share your vision of what you would like Beth Torah to look like. We set a deadline of March 15 so we can compile and complete our planning. This will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting in May. Looking forward to hearing from every one of you.

On a different note, I want to make everyone aware of another program we are resurrecting. It is the *Beth Torah Legacy Giving Program*. Barry Katz is chairman for this initiative. Legacy giving refers to donations that congregants can give to Beth Torah after their passing. It is also referred to as Planned Giving. Donors plan these gifts years before they are distributed. Gifts of life insurance, charitable annuities, charitable remainder trusts, stocks or securities are a few examples. This is an easy way to ensure Beth Torah stays vibrant for your family after you are gone. Barry will be introducing this with more information shortly.

Purim, Passover, Final Four, Opening Day and Spring Break. The days just fly by. Remember... every day is a gift. Cherish every one of them.



Rabbi Cattapan
is currently on a
well-deserved
Sabbatical.

Music & More

I hope you've all recovered from the Chili Cookoff and are ready to hit the ground running, because we have so much going on in the next couple of months! We gently start to ramp up with *Purim* in March, then hit it into high gear in April with *Pesach*, *Yom Hashoah*, *Yom HaZikaron*, and *Yom HaAtzmaut*.

Are you interested in singing with the choir or playing with the band for Israel Shabbat? If so, please email me as soon as you can! Choir rehearsals begin mid-March, and band rehearsals will be set soon after that. And now... Look what we have for you in March!



Lezlie Zucker

- ✧ **Friday Night Torah Service** (March 3)
- ✧ **CBT Purim Carnival — Celebrate Purim With Us!** (March 6)
Join us Monday, March 6 for the CBT Purim Carnival! Megillah Reading, costume contest, food, games, photo booth, and more! Food and game tickets will be available for purchase on site. (50¢/ticket; Cash Only) 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- ✧ **Beit Midrash: A Discussion of Data Cartels with author Sarah Lamdan** (March 10)
Law professor Sarah Lamdan describes the unregulated companies that collect, bundle, and sell information gathered online. That data can be used by federal and local law enforcement agencies, potential employees, and financial institutions to circumvent privacy laws, amplify racism, and target marginalized communities. Daughter of David and Nina Shik, Sarah grew up and was confirmed at Beth Torah. [Please register for dinner by March 8.](#)
- ✧ **Service of Spiritual Renewal for Pesach** (March 19)
Join JFS Community Chaplain Rabbi Jonathan Rudnick, School Rabbi of Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy Rabbi Aaron Philmus, and Beth Torah Music Coordinator Lezlie Zucker on Sunday, March 19 for this expressive and supportive gathering in preparation for Passover. We are reminded of the Exodus, being led out of the confines of Egypt and toward a future filled with hope. We will share in traditional and contemporary prayers, songs, and readings. 3:00 p.m. at Village Shalom. [Please RSVP to chaplancy@jfskc.org.](mailto:chaplancy@jfskc.org)
- ✧ **Song Session** (March 21)
Join Lezlie & Friends for (about) half an hour of Jewish song and prayer. (Then stick around for some Lezlie Revelle Zucker originals!)

Weiner Religious School



Morgan Fasbinder

February was a very busy month with lots of activities and events... including the Chiefs winning Super Bowl LVII! Sunday school students celebrated Tu B'Shevat together as a community, planting trees and painting flower pots. Confirmation students had the incredible opportunity to observe and visit a Mosque. TAG students have been learning about the Holocaust. WRS educators participated in a Community Wide Congregation Religious School Faculty Development. They gained knowledge about Israel from Noa our Shicha, and had some hard discussions about antisemitism with Sarah Markowitz. It was truly beautiful watching Jewish educators from across our community come together to learn and collaborate.

Please join us for the CBT Purim Carnival on Monday, March 6th from 6-8 p.m. There will be a costume contest, megillah reading, games, food, adult beverages, and lots of fun! Tickets will be available for purchase on site. CASH ONLY! Tickets will be used to play games, purchase food/drinks, and to vote for the costume competition. Can't wait to see you there!

Events:

Sunday, March 5, 2023 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL Community Wide Purim Carnival at Barstow from 2-4pm. \$10 per family. Register at: www.purimkc.org

Monday, March 6, 2023 CBT Purim Carnival from 6-8pm

Wednesday, March 8, 2023 Sarah Markowitz is coming back to CBT to meet with TAG/Confirmation students and parents to discuss results from the Anti-semitism survey students took previously.

Sunday, March 12, 2023 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 NO TAG/Confirmation

Sunday, March 19, 2023 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 Confirmation students visit the Hindu Temple
WRS Family Chocolate Passover Seder (updates coming soon!!!)



Photo from the Community Wide Congregation Religious School Faculty Development

Social Justice



Scott Franklin

For many years, CBT's social justice network was highly engaged in hunger projects. Unfortunately, our long-time partnership with re-Start ended several years ago. The State of Missouri established rules that required background checks for volunteers if children were housed in the location. The cost for each security review was prohibitive, so we withdrew from the program.

We are pleased that beginning on March 1, we will be supporting a volunteer organization whose mission is to deal with food issues facing the homeless. **Free Hot Soup** is a Facebook-based organization that provides food at several locations in Kansas City and serves as a liaison between people with housing and food needs and those who can provide donations. The volunteer group also collects used clothing for the unhoused and furniture for individuals who are making the transition between living on the streets and permanent housing. I am so pleased that Mindy Goldstein has agreed to spearhead this project.

Our initial support for **Free Hot Soup** will focus on clothing needs, particularly clothing that is essential for staying warm in the winter months without shelter. Our members can drop-off clothing in the Beth Torah entryway near a well-labeled barrel. The needs of **Free Hot Soup's** clients will dictate the types of donations we request.

For the months of March and April, the emphasis is on articles that help people weather the cold. This includes warm clothing, heavy socks, gloves, flashlights, large men's gloves, AAA batteries, large and XL hoodies. Our progress can be posted on the Tekiah, CBT website, and weekly CBT News. Please contact Mindy Goldstein if you have any questions. mindigoblues1@gmail.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

Would You Or Your Family Like to Volunteer for Shabbat at CBT?

We are always looking for people to volunteer and to accept honors at CBT during Services. We would love for you or your family to be one of our volunteers or accept an honor while you attend services on Friday night or Saturday morning!

One must be Jewish to perform the following:

- **Light Shabbat Candles on the Bimah** - You may chant or recite the blessings on your own or with Lezlie. The congregation will join you.
- **Raise the Kiddush Cup at the Oneg on Friday night or on Saturday morning.** Kiddush is a group prayer, and if you're not comfortable starting the prayer, Lezlie or Rabbi Cattapan are happy to start it with you.
- **Aliyah - (Torah Blessing and/or Haftorah Blessings).** You must know or be willing to learn how to sing or recite the Blessings. You may find recordings of the melodies we use here: <https://beth-torah.org/prayer-blessing-melodies>
- **Hakafah.** You will have the option of carrying the Torah yourself or processing with the worship leader.

Any member may perform the following:

- **Ark Openers/Closers.** Open and close the ark during a Torah Service.
- **Shalom Squad.** Arrive early and greet people as they arrive at the front door. This is one of our most important volunteer opportunities!
- **Ushers.** Arrive early, hand out prayer books, and greet people as they enter the sanctuary. This is especially helpful to those visiting our congregation for the first time.

Paula Fremerman is our current Shabbat Volunteer Coordinator. Please let her know if you are ever interested in filling any of these roles. You may email her at paula.fremerman@gmail.com. Thank you for participating... it is always great to see you at CBT!

MEMORIAL PLAQUE

DEDICATION:

April 14, 2023
after services

Please have
plaque orders to
Sharon Altman by
Tuesday, March 20.

Save the Date!!!

- ✧ Our Congregational Seder is April 5. Seating is limited, reservations required. Registration open March 1-30. (Dinner will be included in the final cost.)
- ✧ Join us on a field trip to the local Genizah April 16. (Lunch included w/RSVP)
- ✧ Our next Memorial Plaque Dedication Ceremony is April 14.
[Email Sharon Altman to order your plaque](#) by March 20.
- ✧ Our April Family Service is April 14.
- ✧ Our next Beit Midrash is April 21. Leaning into Earth Day and Tikkun Olam, learn about Carbon Footprint Eating.
- ✧ Israel Shabbat is April 28!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9:30am Weiner Religious School ● 10am Blood Drive for the Community Blood Cente ● 2pm Book Club: That Book I Meant to Read - 5783 	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mar 1</p> <p style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 2px;">First Day of Women's History Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6:30pm TAG
<p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p style="background-color: #e67e22; color: white; padding: 2px;">Erev Purim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6pm Jewish Living ● 6pm Purim Celebration 	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p style="background-color: #e67e22; color: white; padding: 2px;">Purim</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1pm Melissa's Second Chances Volunteer Squad 	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 12pm Exploring and Sharing Good Eats - 5783 Sr ● 6:30pm TAG
<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p style="background-color: #006400; color: white; padding: 2px;">Daylight Saving Time starts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1pm Movers + Schmoozers - 5783 Small Group 	<p style="text-align: center;">13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 11:30am CBT Arts + Crafts - 5783 Small Group 	<p style="text-align: center;">14</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1pm Deanna Rose Clean-Up Contact Scott Franklin sfranklin8@att.net
<p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10am Soul Stirring - 5783 Small Group ● 3pm Service of Spiritual Renewal for Pesach 	<p style="text-align: center;">20</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 5:30pm Game Night - 5783 Small Group ● 7pm Song Session 	<p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1:30pm Smiles with Tiles - 5783 Mahjong Small G ● 6:30pm TAG ● 7pm Israel Shabbat Choir
<p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 9:30am Weiner Religious School ● 2pm Book Club: That Book I Meant to Read - 5783 	<p style="text-align: center;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6:30pm Jewish Living 	<p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6:30pm TAG ● 7pm Israel Shabbat Choir

SICHAT SHABBAT: SHABBAT CONVERSATIONS

9:00 – 10:15am every Saturday in the library OR ONLINE: beth-torah.org/virtual-sanctuary/

While Rabbi Cattapan is on sabbatical, we're exploring The Act of Being Jewish Today. Our peer-led discussions will be based on an article of the week addressing critical issues confronting our ethics, our identity, and our faith.

March 4	Julie Kaplan: Praying the Bible: A a discussion of one prayer from Rabbi Levis 2016 book
March 11	TBD
March 18	Dr. Ron Zipper: Jewish Ethics and Modern Medicine
March 25	Dr. Jim Appelbaum: God, Politics and the Brain

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 ● 7pm The 10 Commandments: A Deep, Deep Dive	3 ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship w/Torah Service	4 ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Shabbat Morning Worship
9 ● 12pm CBT Lunch N' Learn (in person) ● 7:30pm The Movie Group - 5783 Small Group	10 ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 1pm Beth Torah Bakers - 5783 Small Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship & Beit Midrash	11 ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Shabbat Morning Worship
16 ● 7pm Celebrate the New Moon! (@CBT in the Libra	17 St. Patrick's Day ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship	18 ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Shabbat Morning Worship
23 ● 6:30pm KC BBQ - 5783 Small Group	24 ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship	25 ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 9am Coffee Across KC - 5783 Small Group ● 10:30am Shabbat Morning Worship
30	31 ● 12:30pm Yiddish Group ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship	Apr 1 ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Shabbat Morning Worship ● 7pm A Chocolate Evening: Pick-a-Party!



Congregation Vision Questionnaire

The Board of Trustees are in the process of updating our strategic plan and vision statement. **But we need YOU in order to do that.** We need your feedback and guidance by answering the following question:

WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR BETH TORAH?

What would you like us to be? What do you feel is working, and what is not? What would you like to see us add? What are you ready to see let go? What can we do to make you feel more connected? What changes to the building and campus would you make? It's a blank slate. Paint a picture of your version of a Beth Torah you can be proud to be a member of.

You are free to sign it, stay anonymous, ask for a private meeting, whatever you are comfortable with. *This is for internal use only and will not be seen by anyone beyond the Board of Trustees.*

 <https://forms.gle/YvwpMPf2uGARD85u5>
We need all responses turned in to CBT no later than March 15, 2023.

We need a roadmap to get where we need to be. Without it we're all just wandering in the desert.

Larry Myer
President, Board of Trustees

Passover CONGREGATIONAL SEDER

Wednesday,
April 5, 2023
6:30 pm

Your ticket purchase includes matzah ball soup, dinner, seder items, and a spot at the table. Space is limited, reservations required.

[Click Here to Get Tickets](#)

Purchase Deadline:
March 31



Our next Beit Midrash will be presented by law professor Sarah Lamdan, the daughter of David and Nina Shik. Sarah grew up and was confirmed at Beth Torah. She is now Professor of Law at City University of New York School of Law, serves as a Senior Fellow for the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition and is a Fellow at NYU School of Law's Engelberg Center on Innovation Law and Policy.

A DISCUSSION OF THE BOOK



with **AUTHOR SARAH LAMDAN**
Professor of Law, City University of New York School of Law

Sarah will speak during Shabbat services on March 10 about her recently published book, *Data Cartels, the Companies that Control and Monopolize our Information*. The book, included as "what to read" by the *New York Times*, addresses the unregulated underworld of companies that collect, bundle and sell your personal information gathered from the Internet.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2023
Following Shabbat Services

Complimentary Dinner Included
Register for Dinner Here!



**RESERVATIONS ARE
REQUIRED BY MARCH 8**



CONGREGATION BETH TORAH

January 13 - February 9 2023 Tributes

Beth Torah General Fund

Claudia Alexander
Anonymous
Carol Ducak

Yahrzeit of Boruch-Bensi Kheyfets

Oleg & Emiliya Kheyfets

Yahrzeit of Esther and Jerry Shapiro

Barry & Chris Shapiro

Yahrzeit of Jack Osman

Stan Osman

Yahrzeit of Naum Mintskovsky

Felix Mintskovsky

Yahrzeit of Sherry Kaplan

Alice Kaplan

Memory of Myron Garfinkle and Norman Weiner

Jack & Cindy Garfinkle

Youth Activities Fund

Yahrzeit of Ida R. Jaben

Etta Brenner

Memory of Charlotte Kapel

Memory of Dorothy Chapman

Paul Chapman

Rabbi Cattapan's Discretionary Fund

Ron & Jo Ann Ginson

Yahrzeit of Dorothy Hyken

Mickey and Bonniel Swade

Yahrzeit of Eddie Goldstein and Ronald Hayungs

Mindy & Tonja Hayungs-Goldstein

Yahrzeit of Mark Stanley Wylan

Bob & Cathy Wylan

Yahrzeit of Meyer Kreitman

Joe Levy

Memory of Millie Reisbord

Janice Katz

Music & Choir Fund

Memory of Israel Ralph Kopyta & Elena Kopyta

Lidia Foundas

Memory of Zibbie Willoughby

Elaine Tobias

CBT Fund For Families In Need

Yahrzeit of Edward Goldstein

Yahrzeit of Ethyl Portman

Gail Goldstein

Honor of Margie & Steve Cooper for Milestone birthdays in 2022

Rick Crane

Memory of Dora Freed

Morris & Lynne Faiman

Memory of Gary Goldberg and Walter Prager

Morris & Lynne Faiman

Memory of Howard and Ruthe Tobias

Elaine Tobias

Memory of Sadie Ozar

Adam & Stephanie Elyachar

Lesly Ozar

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Oneg

Lezlie Zucker

Religious School Teachers

in honor of Rabbi Taylor Poslosky

*Thank you to all who have donated
and contributed to
Congregation Beth Torah!*



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CLEANUP AT THE FARM!

**Join CBT friends as we help prepare the
Deanna Rose Farmstead for summer visitors!**



**On Wednesday March 15th, 1-4 PM (during spring break)
CBT will observe our 2nd annual clean-up at this popular facility.**

**All participants must sign a release form and be at least 14
years old. No exceptions. Duties include shoveling mulch and
cleaning up the grounds.**

**Contact Scott Franklin (sfranklin8@att.net) to learn more and
obtain a release form.**

Bonus: volunteers will have the chance to see the new baby goats!