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# Tekiyah

The Monthly Newsletter of



CONGREGATION  
BETH TORAH

May 2024 • Issue 363 • Nissan/Iyar 5784

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, May 5th

10:00 a.m.



## Remarks

Rabbi Javier Cattapan, Senior Rabbi

### We All Stood at Sinai

The Torah refers to the group of *b'nei yisrael* (Israelites) who come out of Egypt as a “mixed multitude” of souls. A shared sense of purpose and destiny bound this diverse group. As a mixed multitude, they stood at Sinai, the climactic moment of Revelation and commitment. Our tradition teaches that a covenant was established between God and the Jewish people on that day. We read in the book of Deuteronomy, “I make this covenant, with its sanctions, not with you alone, both with those who are standing here with us this day before Adonai our God and with those who are not with us here this day” (Deut. 29:13-14).

To this day, synagogues continue to be diverse in ethnic backgrounds, life journeys, and opinions. We are both many and one. Just as the whole community—past, present, and future—stood together at Sinai, we attempt to stand together today.

Beth Torah has been one for over thirty years, but we are also many. We are the continuation of previous congregations that nurtured and shaped us and a new, never-before-seen multitude. Just as we all stood at Sinai, we must all stand together as one congregation. As we begin to count the days between Passover and Shavuot, which celebrates our standing together at Sinai, we need to think about those who, for whatever reasons, sometimes find themselves “outside the tent” and may not feel that they stand with us. We should consider asking what we must do to bring them back inside. If our goal is the creation of a strong, sustaining, and inclusive congregation, how can we ensure that no one feels un-welcome?

In *Pirkei Avot* (Ethics of the Sages), we read, “Ben Zoma asked: “Who is wise? The one who learns from every person.” (*Pirkei Avot* 4:1) Our rabbis taught: If one sees a crowd of Israelites, one says, “Blessed is the Wise One who understands secrets, for the mind of each is different from that of the other, just as the face of each is different from that of the other.” (Talmud, B'rachot 58a).

## Plots & Plaques

Email Damien at  
[damien@beth-torah.org](mailto:damien@beth-torah.org)



### Plots

As of July 1,  
Cemetery Plot prices increase

Current Plot Price\*: \$2245  
July 1 Plot Price\*: \$3500



### Plaques

Until July 1,  
Memorial Plaques are On Sale  
Sale Price thru June 30: \$350  
(Price returns to \$500 July 1)



### Leaves

With every plot purchase,  
you receive a FREE  
Leaf on our Tree of Life!

\*All quoted cemetery plot prices are member prices and include the plot only, exclusive of burial-related expenses.\*

Look out for our Plots & Plaques booth in the Ulam at the Annual Meeting on May 5!

# President's Corner

Happy May Everyone,

In a few short days we will have the 2024 Beth Torah annual meeting. I would like to make sure everyone takes advantage of this opportunity to ask questions, discuss next year's budget, voice your opinions and wish Rabbi Cattapan a fond farewell in person.

When I think back over the three years of my presidency I can't help to think about where it all started and the journey I had getting us to today.

The WRS was in serious decline with enrollment spiraling downward. The board took our first difficult step and the necessary changes were made. Thank you Howard Pitler for stepping up and on very short notice getting us ready for what turned out to be a very successful school year. The Talmud / Torah committee was formed and it was filled with educators. They provided a wealth of knowledge, guidance and experience and helped move our religious school back in the right direction. Morgan Fasbinder joined us on a part time basis as principal and spent the balance of the school year imparting her knowledge and expertise as an educator keeping the WRS on a continued path upward. The following school year Morgan joined us on a full time basis as Director of Youth and Young Adult Education. Enrollment increased exponentially over the year as did our profile in the community. Morgan will be leaving us in a few short weeks to work at the Federation where she will continue to shine as she showcases her talents.

Tara Hyder left Beth Torah as office administrator for a position that better fit her financial background and experience. Shortly after Tara left, Jes Lindsay was hired as her replacement. Jes quickly fit in and made a difference until she decided to branch out on her own and start her own business. After Jes left, we decided to take some time to see what we really needed for this position so I stepped in and helped out as the acting Office Administrator. Aviva Symons left Beth Torah for her dream job as the coordinator of a large Jewish summer camp near San Francisco. Again, we took a step back to see what we really needed from her position as Director of Membership Services and left the position open. In March of 2023 Rabbi Cattapan and the board of trustees mutually decided to go our separate ways. Rabbi will be with us until June and then he will be off to begin his next chapter. By now you are probably thinking... "Wow, Larry. Everyone left on your watch!" Some changes were long overdue but for some, another more appealing opportunity came along and they took advantage of it just as anyone else would do. For some, the time was right for new horizons.

When I came in as President, our beautiful building and campus was in desperate need of a good cleaning and multiple repairs. Thanks to generous benefactors we were able to have the entire exterior of the building power washed and cleaned, the numerous bird holes on the exterior walls of the building were filled and the building was given a fresh coat of paint. Tired bushes were removed and new flowers were planted. Dead trees were removed and all of the trees were lifted. The parking lot had much needed repairs, sealed and parking lanes were restriped.

The interior of the building had a long list of deferred maintenance repairs completed. We had a Homeland Security Grant that allowed us to upgrade our camera system, install blast resistant film on the windows, and other enhanced security upgrades. We also had the front entryway doors overhauled.

We brought back the Tekiah. Scott Latman has done a tremendous job as the editor. We also brought back the Chili Cookoff and started a new tradition with our annual BBQ.

Backyard services in the summer are a big hit as are the amazing and creative services and music programs throughout the year. We had Tikkun-KC painting parties and the sweet sounds of the Jewbie Brothers filled the air. Thank you, Jill Maidoff, for the amazing Adult Education programs you continue to bring us.

We brought in our first "real" Executive Director (Damien Timms) since Laura Intfen left years ago and we were "Oh" so close finding our next spiritual leader.

We faced many financial challenges like adding security guards to most events and we all banded together as a community when we all needed a collective hug.

The fact that I could go on for several more paragraphs tells you how much has been accomplished in the last three years. I cannot thank the entire board of trustees enough for all your help through every challenge, speed bump and roadblock. Nobody realizes how much time away from your families and free time you spent getting Beth Torah through the last three years.

The challenges are not over and will not be any easier. I pray the next board will be able to work together and solve the many problems that you will face. Beth Torah is a special place filled with special people. I am so honored that I had the opportunity to be your president.

*Larry Myer*

President, Board of Trustees



# Music & More



Friday Night Torah Service, Torah read by Vic Finkelstein on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah (June 7)

Erev Shavuot service & celebration (June 11)

Aufruf for Richard Bellotti and Nicholas LeVine (June 14)

Pride Shabbat (June 28)

Thank you Rabbi Cattapan for your years of service to Beth Torah!  
Welcome New Jews-by-Choice!

May 31, 2024

As I sit here writing my article for the May Tekiah, we are turning the final corner into Pesach. And you know what that makes me think of, right? The High Holy Days!

Why, you ask? I will tell you; thank you for asking. Recently I really fully took in the fact that Passover and Rosh Hashanah are six months apart. That my Jewish world is cut into two halves. In one half I am preparing for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, and in the other half I am preparing for Purim and Passover. Once Pesach hits, we are half way to the High Holy Days again.

I'm pretty excited about the High Holy Days this year. Jim Kaplan will be leading services with me, we have sermonizers lined up, and I'm getting ready to send out the yearly request for Torah and Haftarah readers. I haven't even cracked open a box of matzah, but I can already smell fall. Beneath the expansiveness of the external freedom narrative of Passover, I feel the stirrings of the internal journey of Yom Kippur.

I hope you'll all join me on this journey. We have so many spaces for you, from singing with the choir or playing with the band, to ushering or leading a reading during a service, to simply sitting with the congregation and being part of the whole. Please reach out and let us know how you would like to participate.

Thank you for being part of my community. I look forward to making High Holy Days with you this year.

Look what we have for you in May!

- ✧ 5/4 - Bar Mitzvah of Elliot Spizman
- ✧ 5/10 - Friday Night Torah & Mensch of the Month Jim Kaplan
- ✧ 5/11 - B'nei Mitzvah of Corbin Lenz & Samuel Tucker
- ✧ 5/17 - Israel Shabbat
- ✧ 5/21 - Song Session, featuring the music of Warren Sichel
- ✧ 5/24 - Graduates Blessing
- ✧ 5/25 - Bar Mitzvah of Samuel K.
- ✧ 5/31 - Welcoming New Jews-by-Choice and Saying Goodbye to Rabbi Cattapan
- ✧ 6/1 - Bat Mitzvah of Sasha Weiner



Congratulations!  
Richard Bellotti and Nicholas LeVine

Shalom,  
Lezlie

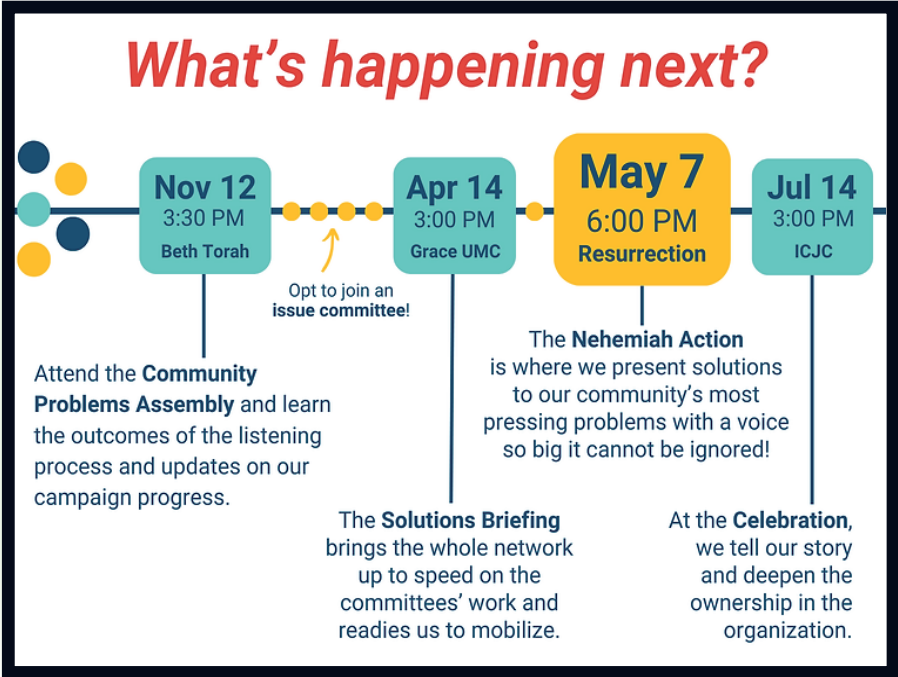


AN INTERFAITH JUSTICE ORGANIZATION

## Event Details:

May 7  
6:00 p.m.  
Located at Church of the Resurrection

Our community's most pressing problems are presented with a voice so big it cannot be ignored! GFN team members go toe-to-toe with local politicians about urgent issues.



# From the Director



G'day and Shalom Beth Torah Family,

When you read this I will have been here for a full three months. Time flies when you're having fun — and I am! What a great place! What a great staff! What a great Beth Torah Family! I love it.

After falling in love with Beth Torah during my recruitment, the love has continued to deepen as I work here as your Executive Director. Every interaction is a joy. Especially the complaints! When you call / email / turn up with an issue, it is an opportunity for something I can solve. It is an opportunity for me get from you the data that I so need to ensure that we are continually improving what we do. That is my promise to you.

Now — I have a request to you from me. We need your investment.

I am meeting with a list of people to request investment in Beth Torah. Financial investment. We have everything else we need to succeed. But the final piece is the investment we need to get where we want to be. It is our goal that in five years we are at the New Beth Torah. What does this mean? It means increased membership. It means financial stability. It means a deeper and broader calendar. It means a bright and continuing future. But I cannot get us there alone. I cannot get us there even with our amazing staff. I need you and your investment.

Yes. I am asking you to reach into your pocketbooks and invest in our future. Beth Torah occupies an important and necessary niche in the Greater KC Jewish community. Which means YOU are the very important part too. I need you and your presence here at Beth Torah. For us to get where we need to go, we need investment — your money and your time. I know. For some of you, it is a message you have heard before. But there is a reason this message continues. Because without your financial partnership — dues, and, over and above donations — we cannot do what we do best. And that is enrich **\*your\*** Jewish Life here at Beth Torah. You are a vital part of the BT Family and its life.

Won't you please consider giving? Be it to the Patrons Circle that is about to be launched. By enhancing your dues. Or, by entering into a five year agreement for a set amount per year. It doesn't have to be a large figure. If most of us stand up and give — including myself, and I will — we will have a profound effect on our future.

If you have any questions or want to discuss this, you can either email me at [Damien@beth-torah.org](mailto:Damien@beth-torah.org) or call me at 913 498 2212.

Please, come home to Beth Torah.

Damien  
Your Executive Director

**J = Jewish**

**U = Unforgettable**

**L = Ladies**

**I = Interest in**

**E = Eating**

**T = Together**

## OUR MAY 19th PROGRAM:

Join us as Battalion Chief Quentin Hammontree gives us the 'inside scoop' on what *really* goes on in a fire department. Each fire station has its own traditions, some dating back 25 to 30 years. Learn about the changes that occurred during that period.

Have you ever wondered about the daily life of a fireman? What is entailed in maintaining their equipment? Find out what they have to do to be prepared for most emergencies. A question & answer period will follow.

Don't forget to bring your lunch! We will provide beverages and paper goods. As always, this event is free and CBT membership is not required. It will take place on Sunday, May 19th at 1 pm sharp at Congregation Beth Torah. Reservations are required by May 15th.

Bring a Jewish female friend (or a non-Jewish woman who is married to someone Jewish).

This is the place to renew old acquaintances and make new friends. **To RSVP for yourself and your friend, please email Susie Klinock at [JULIETs.KC@gmail.com](mailto:JULIETs.KC@gmail.com)**



### **What is J.U.L.I.E.T?**

*Our mission statement: Inspired by Jewish values, we bring women together for friendship and learning. We offer support to Congregation Beth Torah and the wider Jewish community.*

*It is a social and educational group, not a sisterhood.*



# CONGREGATION BETH TORAH

## Adult Education

Questions about or ideas for Adult Ed at Beth Torah?  
Contact [jill.maidhof@gmail.com](mailto:jill.maidhof@gmail.com)

### Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Cattapan

May 9, 2024 | 12:00 in the Beth Torah Library  
Meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month  
Note: Beginning in June, Beth Torah's administrator  
Damien Timms will begin hosting *Lunch & Schmooze!*

Rabbi Cattapan is leading his final discussion on Rabbi Michael J. Cook's text *Modern Jewish Engage the New Testament*. Bring lunch if you like and join this informal group!

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### Examining Antisemitic Conspiracy Theories with Andrew Pessin PhD.

Discussions facilitated by Elaine Tobias  
10:30am in the Beth Torah Library | Meet in person to view and discuss Dr. Pessin's webinar

There is no May meeting. This group will resume in the fall.

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### Sichat Shabbat/Shabbat Conversations

Sat. morning when services are held | 9:00-10:15am  
Located in the Beth Torah Library and streaming online through our Virtual Sanctuary  
<https://beth-torah.org/virtual-sanctuary>

Please join us and contact [jill.maidhof@gmail.com](mailto:jill.maidhof@gmail.com) if you would like to present on a Jewish topic!

#### May 4

Presented by Damien Timms  
Topic: Jewish Life in the Land of Oz

#### May 11

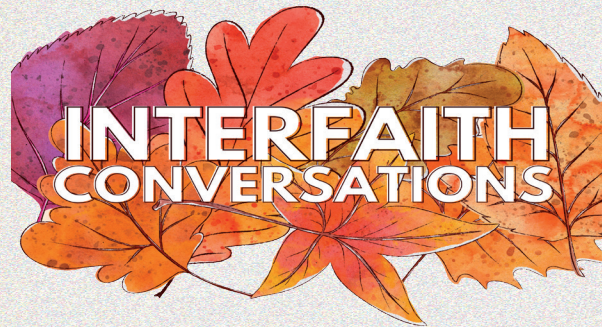
Presented by Jim Appelbaum  
Topic: Have We Seen the End of the Golden Age of Jews in America?

#### May 18

Presented by Rabbi Cattapan  
Topic: To be announced

#### May 25

No Sichat Shabbat due to Memorial Day weekend



### Interfaith Conversations

The May, 2024 session has been cancelled due to a conflict with the Annual Meeting.  
Summer session dates TBA | 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
Open to the community - drop-ins are welcome!  
(Check-in required to enter building.)  
Questions? Contact Emily: [emily.v.albano@gmail.com](mailto:emily.v.albano@gmail.com)

Join our Interfaith Conversations group aimed at interfaith couples, Jews-by-choice and the Jewish-adjacent. Whether you're planning an interfaith wedding, integrating family traditions or negotiating life as a new Jew, you'll find a warm, supportive environment to share your joys and challenges. Our open-ended, peer-led discussion provides a safe space for folks to ask questions, compare experiences and find community.



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### Jewish Journeys

7:00 - 8:00 pm in the B'nai Jehudah Library  
May 8 | The second Wednesday of every month

Women from CBT and B'nai Jehudah's Sisterhood will be taking a **DEEP DIVE** into topics we heard about in Sunday School:

Join us in May for an exploration of Israel and the Jewish Spirit. This group will take a summer break and resume again in the fall.

Open to all women—no knowledge necessary!



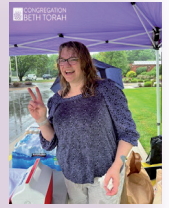
## Community-Wide Yom HaShoah Commemoration Sunday, May 5, 1:30 p.m.

The 2024 Yom Hashoah service will commemorate the 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and the 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the Memorial to the Six Million. Chaired by Henry Kanarek, the program features the wartime experiences of his father, Joseph Kanarek, and includes the traditional lighting of six candles honoring the six million murdered Jewish victims. Click for more info: <https://mchekc.org/programs-and-events/yom-hashoah/>

*We are honored that this year our own Lezlie Zucker will be the featured soloist for the program.*

## Tailgate at the Mikvah!

Sunday, May 19, 1-4pm  
(Rain or Shine)



Located at:

The Parking Lot of Kehilath Israel  
10501 Conser, Overland Park

We'll celebrate our new **Jews-by-Choice** with bagels and cheers! After all, what's a tailgate without **bagels and schmears?**

NO RSVP Required | Lawn Chairs Recommended

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
28 Passover ● 1pm JULIET Event ● 3pm Potluck Productions Play Reading	29 Offices Closed Mondays ● 10:30am Pesach Yom Tom Service with Yitzkor at B'nai Jehud	30 ● 5:30pm FINAL CLASS UNTIL FALL: A Fresh Look at Israel and	May 1 First Day of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month ● 2pm Beth Torah Blood Drive ● 6:30pm TAG ● 7pm Israel Shabbat Choir Rehearsal
5 Annual Meeting Cinco de Mayo ● 9:30am Weiner Religious School ● 10am Weiner Religious School Bake Sale ● 10am Annual Meeting ● 1:30pm Yom HaShoah Community Holocaust Remembrance	6 Offices Closed Mondays Yom HaShoah	7 ● 6pm Good Faith Network Nehemiah Assembly	8 ● 6:30pm TAG ● 7pm Israel Shabbat Choir Rehearsal ● 7pm Jewish Journeys with Jill Maidhof (B'nai Jehudah)
12 Mother's Day ● 12:15pm Talmud Torah Committee	13 Offices Closed Mondays Yom HaZikaron	14 Yom HaAtzmaut	15 ● 7pm Israel Shabbat Choir Rehearsal
19 ● 9:30am Last Day of Weiner Religious School ● 1pm Tailgate at the Mikvah! ● 1pm JULIET Event (Registration Required)	20 Offices Closed Mondays	21 ● 7pm Song Session	22
26 Lag BaOmer	27 Offices Closed Mondays Memorial Day	28	29 ● 7pm Pride Shabbat Choir Rehearsal



## Save the Date for the Beth Torah Shavuot Festivities, 6-10 pm on June 11!

It's tradition to study Torah on Shavuot, and the night will include serious and not so serious learning opportunities:

- Hear the reading of the Ten Commandments
- Drop in on a text-based study session
- "Spiel your guts" by making a short TED Talk-style presentation on any topic you want – from Talmud to Taylor Swift. (Start thinking about what topic you'd like to present!)
- Bring your children in jammies to enjoy a movie while you learn
- And, of course, dairy treats for everyone!

Contact  
 Emily Albano at  
[emily.v.albano@gmail.com](mailto:emily.v.albano@gmail.com)  
 with questions.

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3 ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship	4 ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Bar Mitzvah of Elliot Spizman
9 ● 12pm Rabbi Lunch N' Learn (in person)	10 ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship with Mensch of the Month and	11 ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am B'nei Mitzvah of Corbin Lenz & Samuel Tucker
16	17 ● 6:30pm Israel Shabbat Erev Shabbat Worship	18 ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Shabbat Morning Worship
23	24 ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship and Graduate Blessing	25 ● 10:30am Bar Mitzvah of Samuel K.
30	31 ● 6:30pm Erev Shabbat Worship   Welcome   Farewell (welcome)	Jun 1 <div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 2px;">First Day of LGBTQ+ Pride Month</div> ● 9am Sichat Shabbat ● 10:30am Bat Mitzvah of Sasha Weiner

# Weiner Religious School



As I sit here writing this letter it's hard not to be overwhelmed with emotions. While sad to be leaving, I am excited to share that I'm beginning a new phase at the next level in my Jewish educational career at the Jewish Federation of Greater KC. While I'm looking forward to new opportunities, I want to say thank you for all the love, support, and generosity you have shown me through my time at Beth Torah. As I embark on this new chapter, I carry with me the lessons learned and the wisdom gained. Beth Torah is and always has been my home away from home. My passion and love for our Jewish community, Beth Torah, and the Weiner Religious School will remain eternal (*ner tamid* נר תמיד). Although I'm leaving my role at Beth Torah, my connection to this community will always remain strong. I look forward to staying in touch and witnessing the continued growth and success of our beloved synagogue.

On a happier note...April was full of excitement, happiness, and community. We are so fortunate to belong to such a strong and supportive community. Dan Davidson came to show our Sunday School and TAG kiddos the art of braiding and baking a special family challah recipe. Our Sunday School kiddos won the KC Pet Project donation competition for Hazel Metcalf's Bat Mitzvah project. Huge thanks to Hazel and Adrienne for treating our winners to some delicious Crumbl Cookies. Speaking of Hazel, we had the pleasure of witnessing her become a Bat Mitzvah, chanting her Torah portion beautifully. *We are so proud of her!* Our 4th and 5th graders in Mrs. Ellenberg's class presented their Jewish Hero Reports after researching and preparing for months. They had such creative and informative presentations. We had an amazing turnout of over 70 people at the Chocolate Passover Seder - it was a sweet day indeed! And of course, we kept up the tradition of watching the Rugrats Passover episode. Last but not least, THANK YOU to Damien and Patrick for sponsoring breakfast for the month of April.

As we near the end of another incredible WRS school year, it's time to celebrate our exceptional teachers. They've gone above and beyond for our school, community, and kiddos, planning engaging Jewish curriculum, attending professional development workshops, and participating in community-wide events. Let's show our appreciation by treating them to a nice meal and providing some thoughtful gifts. If you'd like to contribute, simply drop off a check to Barb Kitt in the office labeled "teacher appreciation" or call the office to add it to your account. Thanks for joining us in honoring our amazing teachers!

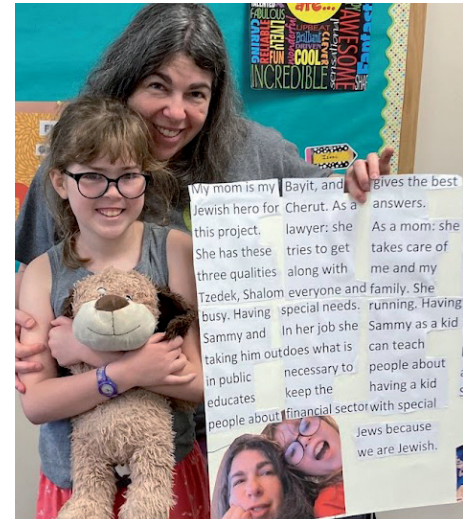
We are always looking for breakfast sponsors. If you would like to participate in this mitzvah contact Morgan Fasbinder @ [mfasbinder@beth-torah.org](mailto:mfasbinder@beth-torah.org).

**Sunday, May 12, 2024, NO SUNDAY SCHOOL for Mother's Day!**

**Last Day of TAG is Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

**Last Day of Sunday School is Sunday, May 19, 2024**

**Register your kiddos** for the 5785 (2024-2025) school year! It's going to be another wonderful year full of Jewish education! *Don't miss out!* <https://forms.gle/BsmYbYxbU2yn5i3z9>



## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, May 4, 2024**

Our very own Elliot Spizman will become a Bar Mitzvah! Service starts at 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

Congregation Annual Meeting at Beth Torah starting at 10 a.m.

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**

WRS Bake SALE from 10 a.m. to noon at Beth Torah. You will be hungry after all that voting, so stop by after the Annual Meeting and buy yourself some treats. Tzedakah will go to support the Weiner Religious School.

**Saturday, May 11, 2024**

Our very own Corbin Lenz and Sam Tucker will become Bar Mitzvahs! Service starts at 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday, May 25, 2024**

Our very own Samuel Kerstein will become Bar Mitzvah! Service starts at 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday, June 1, 2024**

Our very own Sasha Weiner will become Bat Mitzvah! Service starts at 10:30 a.m.

*Shalom!  
Morgan*



WRS CHOCOLATE SEDER



THE ART OF MAKING CHALLAH





**Music**



JOIN US 6-9 PM

FOR OUR



3RD ANNUAL



**face painting**

# BBQ BASH



• LET'S CELEBRATE •  
• HAVDALAH •

SATURDAY



CONGREGATION  
BETH TORAH

JUNE 22



**Games**



**Fire pit**



**S'mores**



**Food**

CONGREGATION BETH TORAH  
6100 W 127TH ST  
OVERLAND PARK



The Monthly Newsletter of



Attn. Businesses! Have you considered advertising in our Tekiah e-newsletter?

Contact Damien to learn more! [damien@beth-torah.org](mailto:damien@beth-torah.org)

This donation drive is organized by Gabriel Decker, a member of Beth Torah and occasional CBT Band bassist. This drive is partially inspired by his work in the Religious Action Committee's Teen Justice Fellowship.

Contact Gabriel Decker  
music4allKC@gmail.com



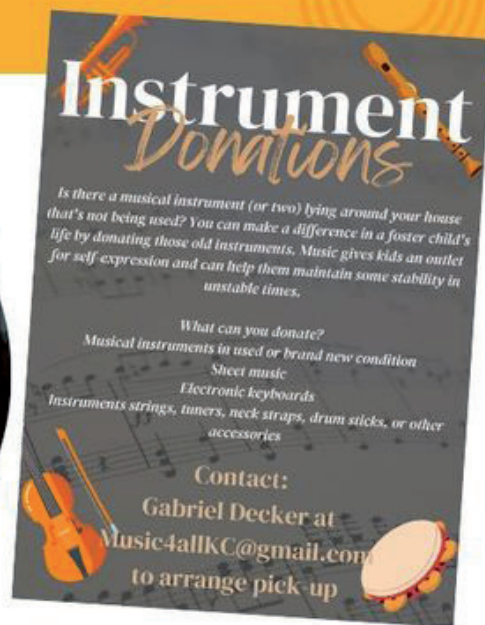
# kindness action scholarship

2024 winner



## Music for All

Gabriel Decker  
Blue Valley North High School



Donate--> <https://gofund.me/40dc8d07>

The 5783 confirmands are thrilled to share their class project with you. They spent the past several months interviewing congregants who have been members of Congregation Beth Torah for 18 years or longer. They can't wait to share with you what they learned!

<https://beth-torah.org/chai-member-interviews>



Keep checking back, new interviews will be uploaded every few weeks!



# CONGREGATION BETH TORAH

## March 15 - April 15 2024 Tributes

### Beth Torah General Fund

Claudia Alexander  
Carol Ducak  
Sheila Goldberg & Lisa Levine  
Jeff Lefko B'nai Tzedek Fund of JCF GKC  
Jonny Lefko B'nai Tzedek Fund of JCF GKC

*Yahrzeit of Regina M. Moe*

Ronald Zipper

*In Appreciation of Beth Torah Teachers*

Larry & Marcia Rittmaster

*In Honor of Elliot Loggia Spizman Becoming a Bar Mitzvah*

Tom and Betty Loggia

*In Memory of Ann Sweeney*

Les & Amy Rosenfeld

*In Memory of Coralyn Nelkin and Sherry Nelkin*

Ken & Teresa Nelkin

*In Memory of Eileen Garry*

Amyra & Ken Henry & Family

Susan Nerman

Steve & Karen Pack

Arlen Rollins

Maurice Saith

Steven Fehr & Cynthia Wendt

*In Memory of Jack Childs*

Diane Balanoff

Judith Weingarten

### Rabbi Cattapan's Discretionary Fund

*In Memory of Earl Unell and Eddie Kershenbaum*

Bruce & Eileen Kershenbaum

*In Memory of Susan Bussman*

Steve & Janice Katz

### Music & Choir Fund

*In Memory of Eileen Garry*

Donna Gould

*In Memory of Jack Childs*

*In Memory of Nancy Solomon's nephew*

James & Kelly Kaplan

### CBT Fund For Families In Need

Edwin & Yessica Alvarez

*In Memory of Phyllis Schmidt*

Elaine Tobias

*In Memory of Eileen Garry*

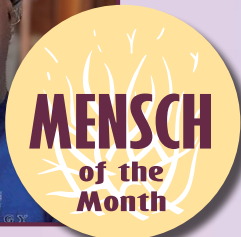
Sara & Jay Leopold

### Hunger Fund

Vides Alvarez Family

*In Memory of Jack Childs*

Sanford & Maureen Salz



Congratulations To **Dr. Jim Kaplan**, Who Will Be Honored As **Mensch Of The Month** During Friday Night Services On May 10.

Jim is a dedicated Beth Torah volunteer as a long-time choir member and for leading Shabbat services. Jim's favorite dessert is anything chocolate, so expect a very chocolate-themed Oneg.



# CONGREGATION BETH TORAH

## May, 2024 Yahrzeits

May 1, 2024

Nisan 23, 5784

**Phyllis R. Dubinsky** (mother of Richard Dubinsky) **Phyllis Lensky** (cousin of Judith Weingarten)

May 2, 2024

Nisan 24, 5784

**Arnold Zell Balanoff** (husband of Diane Balanoff and father of Deborah Chase)  
**Esther Malke Klieger** (grandmother of Judith Weingarten) **Berton "Budd" Willer** (uncle of Alisa Kartch)

May 3, 2024

Nisan 25, 5784

**Adrienne Balagur** (mother of Linda Zappulla-Gensler) **Albert Ferber** (grandfather of Cynthia Shames)  
**Esther Levinson** (mother of Larry Levinson) **Jean Myers** (mother of Barbara Kitt)

May 5, 2024

Nisan 27, 5784

**Sybil Kahn** (mother of Fred Kahn)

May 6, 2024

Nisan 28, 5784

**Bess Crane** (mother of Michael Crane) **Dorothy Feigenbaum** (aunt of Amy Franklin)  
**Norman Kaplan** (step-father of Robert Bloom) **Phil Kessler** (Beth Torah) **Joel Osman** (brother of Stan Osman)  
**Belle Shrago** (grandmother of Nini Rosenstock)

May 7, 2024

Nisan 29, 5784

**John Harley** (father of Leon Butler) **Nancy LeVine** (grandmother of Nicholas LeVine)  
**Sarah Sherman** (aunt of Judith Hellman and Marcia Rittmaster, and grandmother of Janice Katz)  
**Melvin Spitcaufsky** (Beth Torah) **Bill Swearingin** (father of Debbie Bass) **Ann Sweeney** (mother of Amy Rosenfeld)

May 8, 2024

Nisan 30, 5784

**Martie Kramer** (sister and sister-in-law of Larry & Marcia Rittmaster) **Beverly Mann** (mother of Rick Mann)  
**Kalman Moses** (uncle of Julie Altman, Janet Bloom, and Judith Dubrov)

May 9, 2024

Iyar 1, 5784

**Arnold Zell Balanoff** (father of Brian Balanoff) **Sara Kotelov** (aunt of Jerald Klinock) **Fern Reedy** (grandmother of Alicia Poslosky) **Mildred Roth** (grandmother of Chuck Cantor and Lauren Fasbinder) **Harry Ruben** (father of Marion Altman, and grandfather of Jeffrey Altman and Ronald Altman) **Esther E. Schlesinger** (grandmother of Susan Berkowitz)

May 10, 2024

Iyar 2, 5784

**Aviah Cole** (Beth Torah) **Samuel Zeyfmacher** (uncle of Oleg Kheyfets)

May 11, 2024

Iyar 3, 5784

**Alfred Gilgore** (brother-in-law of Stanley Goldman) **Paul Frank Pecora** (father of SueAnn Strom)  
**Irvin Roth** (grandfather of Chuck Cantor and Lauren Fasbinder)

May 12, 2024

Iyar 4, 5784

**Richard Polep** (cousin of Marjorie Cooper) **Mollie Rosenfeld** (loved one of Leslie Rosenfeld)  
**Sara Rothstein** (mother of Ruth Worthington)

May 13, 2024

Iyar 5, 5784

**Tyler Anderson** (husband of Michelle Anderson and son-in-law of Scott & Sara Goldstein) **Janice Block** (mother of Steve Block)  
**Helen Hipsh** (mother of Louise Hipsh) **Marvin Levin** (father of Joseph Levin) **J. Victor Schultz** (grandfather of William Lefko)  
**Sally Zwibelman** (mother of Jay Zwibelman and grandmother of Zachary Zwibelman)

May 14, 2024

Iyar 6, 5784

**Charles Fair** (uncle of Heidi Boehm) **Marvin J. Goldberg** (husband of Sheila Goldberg) **Ruth Sanes** (mother of Howard Pitler)

May 15, 2024

Iyar 7, 5784

**Charlotte Cohen** (mother of Susan Cohen) **Volko Sukher** (father of Sophia Levin)

May 16, 2024

Iyar 8, 5784

**Reva Balanoff** (mother-in-law of Diane Balanoff, and grandmother of Brian Balanoff and Deborah Chase)  
**Norma Schonwetter** (mother of Mark Schonwetter)

**May 17, 2024** **Iyar 9, 5784**  
**Gaye Franklin** (sister of Scott Franklin) **Tony Ross** (brother of Jeffrey Ross)

**May 18, 2024** **Iyar 10, 5784**  
**Robert Barding** (Beth Torah) **Melvin Silverman** (uncle of Bonnie Swade)

**May 19, 2024** **Iyar 11, 5784**  
**Evelyn DeKosky** (mother of Robert DeKosky) **Ida Bigus Hakan** (grandmother of Joseph Levin)  
**Irving Lampert** (father of Eileen Garry) **Norman Reisman** (father of Felice Baumgarten)

**May 20, 2024** **Iyar 12, 5784**  
**Samuel Faiman** (father of Morris Faiman) **Milton Irving Mann** (father of Rick Mann)

**May 21, 2024** **Iyar 13, 5784**  
**Morris Klutznick** (great grandfather of Janet Razafsky) **Selma R. Krichiver** (mother of Joel Krichiver)

**May 22, 2024** **Iyar 14, 5784**  
**Sylvia Brothers** (grandmother of Diana Hurst) **Sol Gould** (father-in-law of Lawrence Myer)  
**Rose Kaufman** (grandmother of Judith Weingarten)

**May 23, 2024** **Iyar 15, 5784**  
**Ethel Firestone** (aunt of Judith Hellman and Marcia Rittmaster) **Corinne Rope** (mother of Clifton Rope)  
**Delvin Rothman** (uncle of Ronald Sandhaus) **Charlotte Simmons** (friend of Edna Riley)  
**Viola Mae Watt Worthington** (mother of Michael Worthington)

**May 24, 2024** **Iyar 16, 5784**  
**Rita Baellow** (Beth Torah) **Dorothy Goldstein** (mother of Martin Goldstein) **Ben Rosenthal** (grandfather of Nina Shik)  
**William Weindling** (brother of Daniel Weindling) **Albert Worthy** (father of Beth Oberman)

**May 26, 2024** **Iyar 18, 5784**  
**Violet Berman Finkelstein** (grandmother of Victor Finkelstein) **Louis H. Goldstein** (father of Martin Goldstein)  
**Helen Koffler** (mother of Richard Baumgarten) **Anna Loggia** (mother of Thomas Loggia)  
**Isadore Shaffer** (father of Norman Shaffer and grandfather of Randi Lefko) **Chava Shik** (mother of David Shik)

**May 27, 2024** **Iyar 19, 5784**  
**Gloria P. Gershun** (Beth Torah) **Eugene Jacobson** (Beth Torah) **Joseph Aaron Kram** (grandfather of Marc Turner)  
**Alvin H. Strauss** (husband of Irene Strauss and father of Amy Tranin) **Eve Turner** (grandmother of Marc Turner)

**May 28, 2024** **Iyar 20, 5784**  
**Clifford Schlezinger** (father of Chuck Cantor and Lauren Fasbinder) **Leon A. Smith** (father of Jenifer Blum)  
**Rose Weingarten** (mother-in-law of Judith Weingarten)

**May 29, 2024** **Iyar 21, 5784**  
**Theodore Willoughby** (uncle of Elaine Tobias)

**May 30, 2024** **Iyar 22, 5784**  
**Z. Louise Willoughby Beck** (aunt of Elaine Tobias) **David Sanes** (grandfather of Howard Pitler)

**May 31, 2024** **Iyar 23, 5784**  
**Marjorie Blond Cohen** (mother of Barton Blond) **Jesse Raymond Dees** (father of Stephen Dees)  
**Shirley Hellman** (sister-in-law of Judy Hellman) **Marcia Hendler** (Beth Torah) **Irving Rosenberg** (father of Joan Fogel)





# CONGREGATION BETH TORAH

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Overland Park, Kansas 66209  
[www.beth-torah.org](http://www.beth-torah.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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Vice President ..... Howard Pitler  
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## 5784 Small Groups — Going Strong!

- ADVENTUROUS EATING
- BOOKS I NEVER READ
- CANOE CBT
- CBT BAKERS
- COFFEE ACROSS KC
- HARVESTERS
- BACKSNACK DELIVERY
- HOLIDAY CHAVERIM
- JEWISH STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE IN MAKING AMERICA HOME
- KC BBQ
- MAH JONGG: SMILES WITH TILES
- MODERN COMPETITIVE BOARD GAMES
- MOVERS & SCHMOOZERS
- TAKE A TIYUL (HIKE)
- VIRTUAL MOVIES

## Beth Torah Members Kayak the Missouri River

DATE: Sunday, June 23, 2024

TIME: 8:45 am - 4 pm

PLACE: Parkville, MO to KC River Front

PRICE: \$60/person for individual 1-person kayaks

MINIMUM AGE: 14 years and up

RENTAL: KC Urban Kayak Co. will provide kayaks, paddles, life jackets, and shuttle.

Participants responsible for their own food, water, beverages, sunscreen

*Environmental Biologist & experienced paddler Neil Bass will accompany our Beth Torah group. Neil will share interesting Missouri River tidbits.*



If interested, must **RSVP** to Debbie Bass, [debbiebass1966@gmail.com](mailto:debbiebass1966@gmail.com), by June 1.