

Beth-Elements

The Bulletin of Beth-El Congregation - A Reform Synagogue Serving Tarrant County



October 2021



Brian Zimmerman, Senior Rabbi

Divrei Torah

.....Senior Rabbi Brian Zimmerman

Suzie Koonsman has been with Beth-El Congregation for more than 30 years. I have only been here for five, but it became clear to me very

all! When a security alarm unintentionally has gone off in the building, Suzie automatically jumped in her car and rushed to the Temple to be sure all is OK. Devoted, dependable, and hard working 24/7, her heart is connected to Temple and she is beloved by members. She has been a constant in their lives – the glue holding so much together.”

quickly that Temple Administrator does not begin to do justice to her job.

After more than three decades of tire-
..... *continued on page 2*

Suzie has been at the center of Temple life.

It is true that she oversees the maintenance staff, tracks and oversees all expenditures, books the building for outside groups, oversees cemetery details, contacts vendors and makes sure the building works as it should. But also, she knows where every object is stored, every file is kept, the names of Bar and Bat Mitzvah students from decades ago, when a family joined, if they suffered a job loss or tragic death. And she keeps it all in strictest confidence.

To call Suzie an administrator is to do an injustice to the scope of her work and her work ethic. Suzie will stop what she is doing to take a call from a grieving Temple member, listen as you tell her about your new grandchild or dog, share the history of families that were members decades ago, and explain why a certain wall or window at the Temple looks a certain way.

Past President Laurie Kelfer put it so beautifully:

“Suzie retains invaluable facts, knowledge, and the history of Beth-El congregation down to minutiae – all at her fingertips. Suzie knows and does it

B'nai Mitzvah



Elizabeth and Jennifer Florsheim

Oct. 2

Daughters of Kimberly & Henry Florsheim



Ryan Shulman

Oct. 9

Son of Eve Shulman and Nathan Shulman



Evan Christensen

Oct. 16

Son of Cortney and Kyle Christensen

Worship Services

All services are in person and streamed at youtube.com/BethElCongregation. Services are led by Rabbi Brian Zimmerman and John Sauvey, unless otherwise stated.

Friday, Oct. 1

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 2

B'not Mitzvah of Elizabeth and Jennifer Florsheim 10:30 a.m

Friday, Oct. 8

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 9

Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Shulman 10:30 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 15

Religious School Consecration and Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Zimmerman and our youngest students 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 16

Bar Mitzvah of Evan Christensen 10:30 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 22

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 23

Shabbat Out of the Box (see page 2) 10:30 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 29

Jewish Ghost Story Shabbat 6:15 p.m

Fridays

Candle Lighting via Zoom
Rabbi Zimmerman and friends 5 p.m.

Saturdays

Havdallah via Zoom
Rabbi Zimmerman and Angie Friedman 6 p.m.



Russ Schultz

President's Message

..... Temple President Russ Schultz

Normally, September and October are busy months at the Temple, but this year seemed to set a record.

September began with the High Holy Days (if they seemed early, they were!). Our intention was to conduct services primarily in-person, but the Delta variant surge forced us to switch to a hybrid model. Rabbi Zimmerman, Music Director John Sauvey, our choir, musicians, and shofar blowers helped make these Days of Awe special. As usual, the Sukkot and Simchat Torah holidays followed close behind. And Religious School resumed in-person learning, too.

September truly was a packed month! I want to thank MRJ and WRJ for all they did to make HHD services special. WRJ prepared wonderful foods for our Rosh Hashanah Oneg, wrapping everything individually for added safety. MRJ did an outstanding job ushering, as always, and constructing our Sukkah. You dedicated volunteers all do so much for the Temple; I don't know how we would operate without you.

Near the end of this month or early next month, we will have a congregational meeting to vote on the modernization of our endowment management

process. In September, you received information linking to the documents related to this proposal. An open forum followed, allowing members to ask questions about all aspects of the proposed change. The date of this called meeting will be confirmed in a separate mailing, as required by our bylaws. When you receive the notice, please note the date and make plans to attend. We must have 75 members present to attain a quorum.

By now you have also received my letter announcing Suzie Koonsman's retirement and the reception Nov. 2 at 4:30, honoring her service. As President, I can't tell you how much Suzie's knowledge and wisdom have helped me. We will never be able to replace Suzie, but on Oct. 1, Becky Mauldin joined Beth El as Executive Director (see her bio on this page). Our Personnel Committee identified Becky as a professional with a wealth of experience – as well as the personality to succeed Suzie. Becky understands the complexities of running a nonprofit and has managed to navigate the intricacies of working with a board, constituencies, and an individual leader like a rabbi. I know you will welcome her into her new position.

As I said, September and October are normally busy months, but this year there has been so much more.

Shabbat Out of the Box

Saturday, Oct. 23

This month's Shabbat Out of the Box includes:

10:30 a.m.: Drum circle with Rabbi Zimmerman and John Sauvey

11:30 a.m.: Jewish yoga and meditation with Brooks Alkek, followed by a small COVID-safe Kiddush luncheon. All are welcome.

Future months may include yoga, drum circles, meditation, Torah study, Israeli dancing, or Knitzvah: Knitting for A Cause.

Divrei Torah

(continued from page 1)

less service, Suzie is retiring in December. On this page, Temple President Russ Schultz will tell you more about our new Executive Director, Becky Mauldin, who begins this fall and will be transitioning into this position under Suzie's guidance. But for now, let's celebrate Suzie and the gifts she has given Beth-El. We will toast and honor her Tuesday, Nov. 2, at a special reception beginning at 4:30 p.m. Please save the date and join us at Temple.

Meet Becky Mauldin

.....Beth-El's new Executive Director



Becky Mauldin

Experience:

Becky comes to Beth-El after seven years as Executive Director of United Way of Hood County (UWHC), where she was responsible for all fund development, event fundraising, annual campaign, fiscal responsibilities, annual allocations processes, and all activities involving volunteers, the Board, and Student United Way.

Prior to UWHC, Becky entered the realm of nonprofit administration to run a free medical and dental clinic called "Ruth's Place," which was founded in Granbury. Prior to Ruth's Place, Becky had over 14 years serving in several different jobs related to public health.

Education:

Becky has a bachelor's degree from Cornell University and master's degree from Angelo State University.

Family:

She and husband Bryan have been married for 23 years. Bryan is a registered nurse and is Director of Radiology at Cook Childrens Medical Center near downtown Fort Worth. They are the proud parents of two girls: Brynne, 19, and Kate, 15. Brynne is studying speech pathology at The University of North Texas. Kate is a sophomore at Granbury High School.

Community leadership:

Becky has held a number of positions in Granbury in the last 20 years and has been a very active community member, serving on a number of boards and as a member of several civic organizations.



Shoshana Abrams Kaikov

Religious School is back in session

Education Director Shoshana Abrams-Kaikov

... and we are thrilled to be B'YACHAD (together) again!



Hank Slobodin



Elizabeth Florsheim and Claire Schwartz



Gemma Brinkman



Leah Rose Epstein



Jennifer Florsheim, Madeline Yorkston, Jonas Evans, Henry Henken, Connor Maxon, Erin Beck-Johnson, Emily Florsheim



Penny Brigati and Eloise Brigati



Tamara Kaikov and Ella Kaikov



Eric Rubinson



Bradley Hirsch



Ayden Hirsch



Eila Hollander



Audrey Hollander



Michelle Hartman

Women of Reform Judaism

..... WRJ President Michelle Hartman

As you probably know, your WRJ Board members always have food and drink on

theirs minds. On **Sunday, Oct. 24 at 3 p.m.**, we will show you how to make a "charcuterie" board for fruit lovers. This will be a Zoom delicious demonstration, so watch Rabbi's e-blast for the link.

Save the date: **WRJ's Annual Brunch is Sunday, Nov. 14, 10 a.m.-noon.** If you'd like to be on the Brunch committee, please contact Michelle Hartman.

It's time to **renew your WRJ Membership** or become member for the first time. This is the beginning of the year and you do not want to miss a thing. Become part of Sisterhood and meet a new friend – or 100!

Also, please don't forget to turn in your **Anniversary Uniongram** forms to celebrate the milestone wedding anniversaries of your fellow congregants.

Both the WRJ Membership and Anniversary Uniongram forms are available at bethelfw.org.

New Class

.....with Rabbi Zimmerman

Finding Our Place in the Jewish Puzzle of Life: A Search for Personal Theology

When: Two Tuesdays a month at noon, beginning Oct. 12 and 26.

Have you ever been asked why you are Jewish and found yourself groping for an answer? Has your son or daughter asked why he or she has to have a bar or bat mitzvah, and you knew it mattered but found yourself stumped? As you confront evangelicals who express a sure sense of afterlife theology, do you find yourself unable to articulate your own religious belief system?

A conversation without easy answers, this twice-monthly class will study philosophers, occasionally bring in guest speakers, explore Jewish history and text, all with the goal of articulating a personal theology.

The class is not necessarily for those who think they have all the answers. It is not a Jewish history or philosophy class, although both will be considered. The purpose of our text study will be to build the tools to articulate a sense of Jewish identity and mission that may already exist deep within but is hard to express or understand.

If this conversation appeals to you, please consider joining us. Even if you can't attend twice a month, the classes will build on each weekly session but also stand independently.



Eric Deutsch

Men of Reform Judaism

..... MRJ President Eric Deutsch

Thanks to everyone who participated as a golfer or sponsor in our annual Matzo Ball

Classic. We are able to provide substantial funds for camperships and college scholarships as a result of everyone's efforts. Special thanks to our Golf Committee of Mike Kalpin, Jeff Kaitcer, Jay Martin, and Rob Sandler.

I also want to thank everyone who served as an usher or greeter during the High Holy Days or helped construct the

Sukkah. September was a busy month for MRJ!

We are back in the catering business and will be catering a luncheon after Ryan Shulman's bar mitzvah Oct. 9. MRJ members, please contact me at eric.deutsch@haynesboone.com or 972-800-3578 if you can help. We will be using some new protocols to keep everyone safe.

Finally, **it is membership time!** You can access the membership form via the MRJ link on bethelfw.org.

College Outreach Program

Keep your college student connected to Beth-El. Your son or daughter can be a part of our College Outreach Program featuring gift cards, campus visits, gatherings during winter break and more!

But we can't include them if we don't have their information.

The sooner we get their information, the sooner we can get them connected!

Fill out this form and return it to the Temple office -- even if you supplied the information last year.

Student's Name _____

College Address _____

Email _____

Cell phone _____

Birthday _____



October - 2021 - 5782

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 5 p.m. Candle Lighting 6:15 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Early Service	2 9 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. B'nai Mitzvah of Elizabeth and Jennifer Florsheim 6 p.m. Havdallah
3 9:30 a.m. Religious School	4	5	6	7	8 5 p.m. Candle Lighting 6:15 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Early Service	9 9 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Shulman 6 p.m. Havdallah
10 9:30 a.m. Religious School	11 7 p.m. Board Meeting	12 12:00 p.m. Jewish Puzzle of Life: Personal Theology	13	14	15 5 p.m. Candle Lighting 6:15 p.m. Consecration Class leads Shabbat Service	16 9 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Evan Christensen 6 p.m. Havdallah
17 9:30 a.m. Religious School 12:45 p.m. FWFTY Whirly Ball event	18	19 7:30 p.m. Curious about Conversion class	20	21	22 5 p.m. Candle Lighting 6:15 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Early Service	23 9 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Out of the Box 6 p.m. Havdallah
24 9:30 a.m. Religious School	25	26 10 a.m. People of the Book, <i>A Tale of Love and Darkness</i> , by Amos Oz 12:00 p.m. Jewish Puzzle of Life: Personal Theology	27	28	29 5 p.m. Candle Lighting 6:15 p.m. Jewish Ghost Story Shabbat	30 9 a.m. Torah Study 11:30 a.m. Shabbat Meditation 6 p.m. Havdallah
31 9:30 a.m. Religious School	<p>Sign up for weekly emails from Rabbi and Religious School: rabbiz@bethelfw.org · shoshanaikov@bethelfw.org</p> <p>Go to bethelfw.org for live updates and Zoom links</p>					

For additional information and updates about event listings, please see our website at bethelfw.org

Yahrzeits

October 1

Abe Anisman
Graham Baker
Arthur Beck
Isadore Carb
Chandler Greines
Cohen
Irving J. Cohen
Louis Fels
Rebecca Foreman
Dorothy Friedman
Helen Stern
Gernsbacher
Chester Gestring
Mollie Ginsburg
Celeste Haas
Ida Jacobs
Jerry Lamensdorf
Carmen Lederman
B. Max Mehl
Fannie Potishman
Sam Reznikoff
Betty Rice
Doris Lackritz Roth
Dr. Norman Rubin
Elaine Gressman
Samson
Phyllis Siegel
Sarah Smulian
Lila Letwin Tuchin
Rose Ungar
Seymour Weissner
Hortense Weltman

October 8

Anne Berenzweig
Tessa N. Bermont
Grace Bressert
Abraham Carp
Anna Mae Drescher
David Echt
Leo Freeman
Louise Freeman
Bayard Friedman
Jean Frolkis
Daniel Gachman
Aaron Gernsbacher
Hyman Ginsberg
Elise Schoenberg
Greenman
Richard Hochberger
Sol Hochster
Shirley James
Sam A. Joseph
Henrietta Krumholz
Kathlyn Parker
Landman
Harry Lederman
Alfred Levine

Donald Louis
Selma Weiner Mayer
Hennie Milner
Sam Nurenburg
Ben Rauch
Gary Rosenthal
Paul Schneiweiss
Bertha Blumenthal
Shaw
Richard Slatkin
Harold Sloane
Cipa Rosenberg Taylor
Henry J. Weltman
Joe Zeve

October 15

Pierre Azerad
Abram Bodzy
Rabbi Abraham J.
Brachman
Leo Buttermann
Milton Buttermann
Bessie Brown Carb
Gail Chance
Charles Etcoff
David Field
Ruth M. Friedman
Harold Frolkis
Solomon Griver
Albert D. Gugenheim
Robert C. Gurney
A. Haller
Alexander
Handleman
Matalin Heiden
Rose Honigfeld
Jennifer James
Bessie Korman
Gus S. Landman
Gloria Lederman
Ben Levy
Estelle Masters
Jerome W.
Mecklenburger
Bernice Meyerson
Antoinette Pollack
Dr. Edwin G. Schwarz
Viola Fleetwood
Seltzer
David Stenzler
Max Switzman

October 22

Ben Alpern
Frank Rupert
Benjamin
Margaret Sheila
Benjamin
Rose Wagner Bock
Dr. Gustav Braun

Miriam Voliansky
Braverman
Becky Carter
Liliana Kaplan Dujan
Tobia Ellman
Hortense Fox
Rabbi G. George Fox
Solomon C. Freed
Byron S. Gernsbacher
Herman L. Goldstucker
Meta Hochster
Maurice Hofstein
Faye Kaitcer
Marguerite Weltman
Katz
Betty Kessler
Gertrude Kottler
Tom Krakover
Dorene Bassist
Landman
Mabel Saperston Levy
Ethel Collins Oshman
Rona Rosenblum
Shirley Rubinson
Irving Sachs
Paul Schaefer
Harry Schweitzer
Mike Stein
Jim Zack

October 29

Elizabeth Beck
Barnett Bernstein
Hattie Kahn Carb
Fay B. Cohen
David Adan Dorontes
Ernest Friedson
Louise Gaston
Fannie L. Ginsberg
Max Granek
Esther Frindell
Hoffman
Nathan Imber
Elliot Jacobson
Selma Krauss
W. P. Kruckman
Hugh Lamensdorf
Sam Levy
Morris Lulky
Lilli Bogen Morris
Jack Orlow
Frances Schechter
Sarah Schwartz
Derrell Slater
Audrey Slotter
Jean Strassman

Caring Congregation Committee

Carol Minker, Chair



At any moment in time, members of our Congregation may be in need – not of charity – but in need of *acts of loving kindness!* In order for the committee to do our best, we need to know who is ill, needs a welcome or virtual visit, or a meal. Please contact the Temple office, and a member of our committee will be in touch.

Contributions

Rosenthal-Siegel Education Endowment Fund

In Memory of Sondra Hollander, Dr. Robert Capper, and Randy Koonsman
- Louise Lamensdorf

Library Fund

In Honor of Michael Urbach
- Judie B. and Bob Greenman

Rabbi Mecklenburger's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of Chester Gestring
- Martha Brown

In Memory of Nancy Jo Rosenthal
- John D. Rosenthal

In Honor of Rabbi Ralph and Ann Mecklenburger, on their 50th wedding anniversary
- Rabbi Roberto and Evelyn Graetz

Rabbi Zimmerman's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of Fredric Altman, Elias Friedman, and Miriam Schultz
- Leslie and Alan Magee

In Memory of Eleanor F. Rosenthal
- John D. Rosenthal

In Memory of Patricia Rojas-Ungar
- Tamas and Judka Ungar

Religious School Fund

In Memory of Patricia Rojas-Ungar
- Michael and Beverly Ross

In Memory of Lillian Deutsch
- Felice Anspacher

In Honor of the Beth-El Religious School
- Mark and Seme Cooper

In Honor of the a speedy recovery for Sylvia Hill
- Rina and Gabriel Arnold

In Honor of a speedy recovery for Terri Mann
- Michael and Beverly Ross

Temple Fund

In Memory of Claire Blackman
- Dana and Jacob Rosenstein

In Memory of Clare Zack
- Susan and Bob Lewis

In Memory of Edith Zodin Gachman
- Arnold and Harriette Gachman

In Memory of Elaine Samson
- De De Seltzer and Susan Saxe

In Memory of Elliot Blumberg
- Jim Stanton
- Theodore Mack
- Michael and Beverly Ross

In Memory of Jack Sherman
- Selma Sherman

In Memory of Jacob Ross
- Michael and Beverly Ross

In Memory of Lillian Deutsch
- Laurie and Howard Kelfer
- Jim Stanton
- Karen Kaplan
- Michael and Beverly Ross

In Memory of Linda Clayton
- Richard and Carol Minker

In Memory of Melvin Blumberg
- Louise Blumberg

In Memory of Randy Koonsman
- De De Seltzer and Susan Saxe
- Mike Kalpin

In Memory of Rose Ungar
- Tamas and Judka Ungar

In Honor of Ruth Roper, on her birthday
- Carol and Richard Minker

Wish List

Seasonal flowerbeds in Memory of Lillian Deutsch
- Sharon and Charles Cooper

Music Fund

In Memory of Gail Granek's beloved dog, Indi
- Debbie Goldsmith
- Carole Rogers

In Memory of Patricia Rojas-Ungar
- Laurie and Howard Kelfer
- Jeanne and Steve Ginsberg

In Memory of Elliot Blumberg
- Laurie and Howard Kelfer
- Jane Oderberg

In Memory of Lillian Deutsch and Randy Koonsman
- Jane Oderberg

In Honor of the birth of Essie Faye Keaney
- Laurie and Howard Kelfer

In Honor of Milena Razack, on receiving the Sister Cities' Volunteer of the Year Award
- Carole Rogers

In Honor of the B' not Mitzvah of Elizabeth and Jennifer Florsheim
- Jane Oderberg



Then & Now: Consecration Class of 1953

This month, Beth-El's annual Consecration Class picture will show youngsters wearing face masks. A sign of the times.

In 1953, the Consecration class photo showed 21 first-graders with grins, grimaces, and looks of consternation. Back in those days, children dressed up for Sunday School. The girls wore dresses, never slacks or jeans (called dungarees). Some of the boys wore bow ties.

Two students from the Consecration Class of '53 are still congregants at

Beth-El. **Standing on the far right in the first row with her hand on her hip is Carol Goldman Minker.** For the last decade, Carol has chaired Beth-El's Caring Congregation Committee.

Standing in row two, second from the left, with a wide smile, is another lifelong congregant—Bob Archenhold. Bob is a regular at rabbi's Torah study class.

The Consecration teacher in this photo is the legendary Amelia Rosenstein, who taught under six rabbis. She is standing

next to Rabbi Milton Rosenbaum. He served at Beth-El from 1949 to 1956 and then resigned to accept a pulpit in suburban Detroit. Behind the rabbi's head is an art deco menorah, a decorative light fixture that today is one of a dozen on the walls of our Hall of Remembrance.

This year's Consecration ceremony is set for Sunday, Oct. 3. On Friday, Oct. 15, at 6:15 p.m., Rabbi Zimmerman and our Consecration students will lead the Shabbat Service.

— *Hollace Ava Weiner, Temple Archivist*

Last Chance: Curious About Conversion Class

Do you know someone who is not Jewish but has expressed a serious interest in Judaism? They are welcome to come explore the customs and culture, festivals and philosophy of Judaism in this class,

which is open to all those interested in conversion.

The **10-part class will meet monthly** and look at some of the broad themes and ideas, customs and concepts of

Jewish life as well as offer participants a chance to meet others who have already converted. All in a safe place to ask questions.

A prerequisite for this class is an in-person conversation with Rabbi Zimmerman and a commitment to the readings and assignments that are a part of the initial conversion process.



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 FWFTY: Leah Kreindler, President

Contributions

- Make your contribution online at: **www.bethelfw.org** or fill out the form below and mail it with your check to Beth-El Congregation
- **Undesignated** funds will be placed in the Temple Fund.

\$10-minimum contribution: Temple Fund, Religious School Fund, Youth Fund, Library Fund, Music Fund, Mitch Stenzler Sunday School Scholarship Fund, Rabbi Zimmerman’s Discretionary Fund, Rabbi Mecklenberger’s Discretionary Fund, President’s Discretionary Fund, Religious School Director Discretionary Fund

\$50-minimum contribution: Rosenthal/Siegel Education Endowment, Operating Endowment, Endowment #2

Other funds: **Tree (\$20), Prayer Book (\$30), Floral (\$40), Tree of Life Leaves \$300**

Contribution Form

Enclosed please find the amount of \$ _____

Designated Fund: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Donor Name(s): _____

Please send me

Address: _____

_____ (qty)

additional forms.

Phone: _____

Send acknowledgement to: _____

