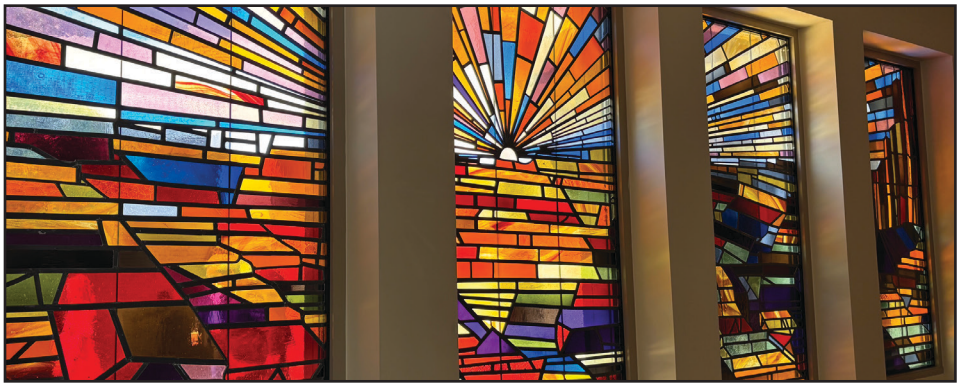
Beth-Elements

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

October 2026







Brian Zimmerman, Rabbi

Divrei Torah

Rabbi Brian Zimmerman

There is a lot of glass at Beth-El. And a lot of windows.

The clear ones throughout the building create bright open spaces in our gathering area and social hall, and they provide beautiful views of the courtyards and the garden just outside our chapel. And, of course, there is beautiful stained glass in our worship areas.

Some of that glass tells a story of our past. The medallion windows in the back of our chapel bring the history of our last Beth-El building into our new home for song and prayer. The magnificent windows of the sanctuary move us into the future in a more modern and abstract way, while each section of the windows tells a story from our collective Jewish past.

And then there are the windows just outside the chapel. At just the right time of day these five panels cast color into the space between the Hall of Remembrance and the entrance to our chapel.

Windows can offer clarity but stained-glass windows do something more. They show us what we've been missing – the magic of color and awe often missed in our frantic everyday lives.

Recently, our weekday Minyan decided to meet just outside the chapel while the carpets were cleaned. The light from the setting sun made the

Divrai Torah continues on page 2

B'nai Mitzvah



Maryjain Danoski
Oct.2
Daughter of Sara and Ryan Danoski



Bennett Collins
Oct. 10
Son of Sareth and Evan Collins

Worship Services

Welcoming Shabbat reception
Join us every Friday night for wine, cheese, and to welcome Shabbat with friends ..... 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 2
Simchat Torah Shabbat Service and Bat Mitzvah of Maryjain Danoski with Rabbi Zimmerman, Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin, and Angie Friedman ..... 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 3
Simchat Torah and Yizkor Service (in the sukkah, weather permitting) ....10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 7
Community Memorial Service
location shared after RSVP ..... 6:30 p.m.
RSVP through the Jewish Federation required.

Friday, Oct. 9
Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin ..... 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 10
Shabbat morning service and Bar Mitzvah of Bennett Collins ..... 10:30 a.m.
(Learn about Bennett's mitzvah project, page 2.)

Friday, Oct. 16
Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin.
Special Service in honor of B'nai B'rith Rabbi Isadore Garsek Lodge at 150 Years ..... 6:15 p.m.

Worship Services continue on page 2

Minyan with the community
Tuesday-Thursday ..... 6 p.m.

All services in person and streamed at youtube.com/BethElCongregation.

Inside: President's Message p.2 • Religious School p.3 • WRJ & MRJ p.4 • Contributions p.5 • Calendar p. 7 • Then & Now p. 10


Michael Appleman

President's Message

Temple President Michael Appleman

I really struggled with this month's Bulletin article. For some reason, deciding on a topic and then writing about it was difficult.

I had been thinking about what I wanted to say from the bimah on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. It should be presidential, I thought, with some insight into congregation goings-on. But not too sermony, and certainly not too long. And this article should not be repetitive.

While pressing myself for production, Renee Woods, our Executive Director, tendered her resignation. We wish her well in her next endeavors, whatever those may be, even if, jealously, they are "just" traveling, or reading books, or gardening, or golfing. Attention to this matter, and finding a worthy successor, delayed further the task at hand.

Thankfully, our Board is fantastic, and we are on our way.

A topic that kept popping into my head was "light." Why? Perhaps because we are back to the beginning of the Torah, and Genesis 1:3 is often translated as "Let there be light," though some suggest the original Hebrew does not read exactly this way. Whatever the proper translation of this verse, light has significant meaning in Judaism.

Microsoft Copilot, my helper this month I will admit, pointed me to Chabad's website, where it states, "Light serves as the symbol of the good and the beautiful, of all that is positive." We all know that lights are prevalent in our Jewish lives: Shabbat candles; the Everlasting light (*Ner Tamid*); and, Chanukah candles. Their symbolism is vast.

President George H.W. Bush, in his inaugural address in 1989, referred to "all the community organizations that are spread like stars throughout the Nation, doing good" as "a thousand points of light." Beth-El is surely one of those points of light to which he referred, whether he was aware of our existence or not.

But Beth-El is an organization. Our organization — our congregation. We assemble for religious worship, yes, but we are also a community. We are a group with shared characteristics, a common set of norms, culture, religion, values, and customs. We share a sense of place.

It takes all of us, from those who may provide significant financial support but not attend or participate in person very often, to those who may not be able to afford much but give of their time and themselves and are at the Temple all the time – to shine our light. To do good.

And all are invited to join us. Your energy will help our light shine brighter.

Divrei Torah

(continued from page 1)

Friday, Oct. 23
Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin..... 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24
Shabbat morning service of study, song and prayer at Rabbi Zimmerman's house with Rabbi and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin.....10:30 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 30
Kabbalat Shabbat and Jewish Ghost Story Shabbat with Rabbi Zimmerman and John Sauvey ..... 6:15 p.m.

Mitzvah Project to Honor Sully



Dear Congregants,

In memory of my brother, Sully Collins, who loved soft pajamas and blankets, I am collecting new blankets and pajamas to donate to a local homeless shelter. A donation drop-off box can be found in the front Beth-El foyer until Dec. 6.

May Sully's memory always be a cozy blessing. We love you, Sully!

Love , Bennett Collins

Divrei Torah

(continued from page 1)

whole space look magical. It became not just an entryway to a sacred space but a destination for prayer.

A week or two later as we met there again, several of us tried to hold our prayerbooks in the air so the color of the windows could reflect on them.

At its best, prayer is a way to see what is hidden and the light of these windows opens for us what is often missed.

Oct. 2 and 3 mark the end of our most intense holiday season. Just four weeks later, the clock changes and our days are surrounded by increased darkness. Cooler weather, but also a different type of seeing.

Our Minyan (Tuesdays-Thursdays at 6 p.m.) made the decision to meet just outside the chapel for the month of October so we could be aware on the changes in light, the shortening of each day, and an awareness of the passing of our own time.

Whether you say Kaddish for a loved one, wish to support others in remembering, or would like a 20-minute break to pause and notice these changes, I hope you will join us just outside our chapel on one or all of these nights.



Shoshana Abrams Kaikov

Religious School: *Where the Stars Come In*

Education Director, Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov

What if, for just seven days, we could trade our ceilings at Beth-El for stars?

For one extraordinary week each fall, Judaism invites us to step outside the walls we know and into a little hut with walls that wobble, a roof that lets the rain in, and just enough openings to remind us that the sky is always there.

And somehow, it becomes home.

We hang fruit from the ceiling. We decorate the walls. We gather around tables with friends and family. We eat, we sing, we tell stories, we laugh. We welcome guests, both the people who arrive at our door and the generations of Jewish ancestors whose presence we carry with us.

And above us, through the branches of the *schach*, the stars are watching.

Sukkot is Judaism at its most whimsical and profound. It asks us to celebrate abundance while sitting in a structure that reminds us how fragile life can be. It teaches us to be grateful for our homes by temporarily leaving them. It reminds us that sometimes the holiest thing we can do is simply look up.

There is something wonderfully childlike about Sukkot. Maybe that is why it feels so at home in our Religious School.

Our students understand the magic of building and decorating. They understand that Jewish learning doesn't always have to happen sitting quietly at a desk. Sometimes it happens with our hands busy, our voices singing, our friends beside us, and our eyes lifted toward the sky.

This is what we hope Jewish education can be: not simply learning *about* Judaism, but discovering how to *live* it.

When our students gather each week and experience the joy of being part of a Jewish community, they are building something of their own: a Jewish home within themselves. A place filled with memory, friendship, tradition, curiosity, and belonging.

And then Sukkot leads us to its magnificent finale: **Simchat Torah**.

After spending days beneath the stars, we gather around the Torah and rejoice. Singing, dancing, and carrying the scrolls. And then, in one of the most beautiful acts of Jewish tradition, we reach the end and immediately begin again.

We finish Deuteronomy and turn right back to Genesis. Because in Judaism, an ending is rarely just an ending. It is a doorway.

Perhaps that is the journey Sukkot offers us, and the journey we hope our children experience through Jewish education: to step outside, notice the stars, make room for others, embrace the fragile and the joyful, and discover that holiness can live in the most unexpected places — with a **roof big enough for every star to shine through.**

B'nai Mitzvah Orientation

Sunday, Oct. 25, noon-1:30 p.m.

Attention fifth-grade families: Please join us for a session reviewing the B'nai Mitzvah process. Lunch will be provided.











The first day of Religious School was Aug. 30, and MRJ provided a light breakfast for parents students, and teachers.

Women of Reform Judaism

WRJ Co-Presidents Ruth Roper and Marilyn Stenzler



Ruth Roper



Marilyn Stenzler

Hello, ladies! Looking back on the beautiful High Holy Day season we just shared, we are reminded of how lucky we are to have this sisterhood. Thank you all for the warmth, support, and community you bring!

Join us for the **WRJ Annual Brunch** on **Sunday, Nov. 15**, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. We'll dab our way through a few lively games of bingo, bid on treats in the silent auction, and enjoy a delicious brunch together — all while raising funds for Religious School and Greene Family Camperships. Grab your lucky dabber and get ready for a wonderful morning! More details and formal invitation to come.

For those who have not signed up or renewed your WRJ membership, please fill out the form online at the Beth-El website, pick up a membership form in the office, or call the office to join. We have many wonderful events planned, and without you, we're one sister short.

Save the Date:
Sunday, Nov. 15,
WRJ Annual Brunch

Men of Reform Judaism

MRJ President Eric Lawrence



Eric Lawrence

It's been a busy time for MRJ, starting with the kickoff for the Religious School year and continuing through the High Holy Days.

On **Thursday, Oct. 1**, we will enjoy **MRJ Night in the Sukkah** with hot dogs and hamburgers from the grill. (We'll take down the sukkah Oct. 4.)

Our largest fundraiser of the year, the **Matzo Ball Classic Golf Tournament** at Hawks Creek Golf Club, is **Sunday, Oct. 18**. A big thank you to Jeff Kaitcer and Jay Martin for once again leading this event. Golfers interested in playing or anyone considering sponsorships, please contact Jay or Jeff. They will get you signed up. See page 9 for more details.

A quick reminder that MRJ continues to provide catering services for bar and bat mitzvahs and Temple events. The money raised from these efforts goes toward camperships, scholarships, and other efforts within our Temple community. Please contact me or Howard Bellett for more information.

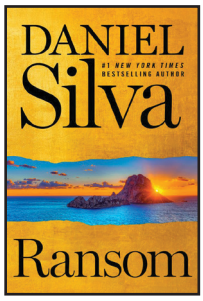


MRJ can cater your event. Contact Eric Lawrence or Howard Bellet to get on the calendar!.

On a final note, we've signed up quite a few new MRJ members recently. Thank you to Membership Chair Russ Schultz for his efforts. Anyone interested in joining, or more information on MRJ, please contact Russ or myself.

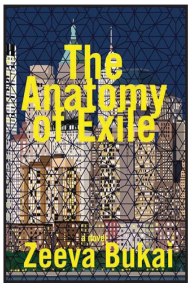
Library Reviews

Margie Zentner



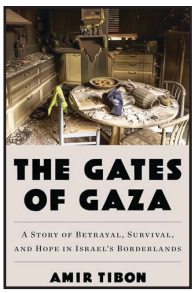
Ransom
by Daniel Silva

is a highly rated page turner that shifts from kidnapping mystery to global thriller. When a British socialite vanishes, her billionaire husband hires art restorer and spy Gabriel Allon to find her. This installment of the long-running series cleverly incorporates contemporary geopolitical tensions to create a fast-paced novel with a heart-pounding climax.



The Anatomy of Exile
by Zeeva Bukai

won the National Jewish Book Award for Debut Fiction. The book is a compelling, multigenerational epic structured around two tragic, forbidden romances between Palestinians and Israeli Jews. The story takes you on a journey of fear and loss through the painful realities of intercultural family relationships that start in Tel Aviv in the wake of the 1967 Six-Day War and move to the Yom Kippur War of 1973.



The Gates of Gaza:
by Amir Tibon

and



When We See You Again
by Rachel Goldberg-Polin

are personal accounts of two Israeli families after the Hamas attacks on Oct. 7, 2023. They are on display in the library in the "new" non-fiction section.

Both are recommended by *Hadassah Magazine*.

Contributions

Aug. 11-Sept. 10

Caring Congregation
For Caring Congregation
· Richard & Carol Minker
In Honor of Carol Minker
· Martha Brown
In Honor of John Sauvey
· Martha Brown

Floral Fund
In Memory of Seymour Lawrence
· Eric & Phyllis Lawrence
In Memory of Gladys Lawrence
· Eric & Phyllis Lawrence

Library Fund
In Memory of
Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman
· Judie B. & Robert Greenman
· Loretta Feinberg
In Memory of R.M. Mothner
· Judie B. & Robert Greenman

Music Fund
In Memory of Suzie Koonsman
· Jane Oderberg
In Memory of Leona Levy
· Jane Oderberg

Rabbi Mecklenburger Discretionary Fund
In Memory of Daniel Neckers and Shirley R. Neckers
· Sandra Polsky, son Joseph and Debbi and son Julian Tyler

Rabbi Zimmerman Discretionary Fund
In Honor of Rabbi Zimmerman's 10th Anniversary
· Cathy & Charles Freid
In Honor of Bob and Dick Greenman, the Mickey Goldman Persons of the Year
· Morton & Barbara Herman
In Honor of Cindy Simon, B'nai Brith Person of the Year Award
· Morton & Barbara Herman
In Memory of
Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman
· Eric & Phyllis Lawrence
· Bob & Susan Archenhold
· Mark & Cara Jones
· Sandra Polsky, son Joseph and Debbi and son Julian Tyler
· Julie & Kevin Diamond
· Cathy & Charles Freid
· Morton & Barbara Herman
· Lawrence Hoffman
· Jane Oderberg
· Greg & Marcy Phillips
· Dallas Jewish Chariot Fund to the Krause-Zahler Family Fund
In Memory of Chester Gestring
· Martha Brown

Religious School Director Discretionary Fund
In Memory of R.M. Mothner
· Morton & Barbara Herman

Religious School Fund
For Religious School
· Adam Kelfer
In Honor of Dr. Michael Ross
· Miranda Nadel
In Memory of Suzie Koonsman
· Steve & Carol Kline
· Holly & Bill Schur
· Martin Rubinson & Denae Chance
In Memory of
Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman
· Cathy & Charles Freid
In Memory of Ralph M. Mothner
· Michael & Elaine Griver
In Honor of a Speedy Recovery for Jerry Pozez
· Steve & Carol Kline

Temple Fund
In Honor of Jon Chamberlin's Bar Mitzvah
· Jane Oderberg
In Honor of Cindy Simon, B'nai Brith Person of the Year
· Jane Oderberg
In Honor of Beth-El Congregation and Community
· Paul C. Dietz
In Memory of Bernard Rabinowitz
· Linda R. Taylor
In Memory of Jacob Ross
· Michael & Beverly J. Ross
In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert
· Jane Oderberg
In Memory of Clara Zack
· Susan & Bob Lewis
In Memory of Dr. Elliot Blumberg
· Loesje Blumberg

Youth Fund
In Memory of Gladys Lawrence
· Eric & Phyllis Lawrence

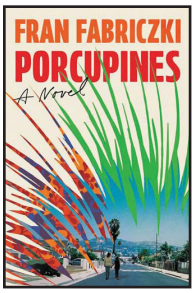
Kitchen Remodel Project
In Honor of a Speedy Recovery for Richard Greenman
· Howard S. & Joan Katz
In Honor of a Speedy Recovery for Bruce Weiner
· Howard S. & Joan Katz
In Honor of Cindy Simon, B'nai Brith Person of the Year
· Howard S. & Joan Katz
In Honor of Dick and Bob Greenman, the Mickey Goldman Persons of the Year
· Howard S. & Joan Katz
In Memory of Suzie Koonsman
· Howard S. & Joan Katz
In Memory of Dr. Morley Allen Herbert
· Howard S. & Joan Katz



The Maccabees (1st-4th grades) had a great time at Tillery Park for a Rosh Hashanah picnic!

People of the Book

Sheryl Levy



Porcupines
by Fran Fabriczki
Oct. 6, 10 a.m.

Porcupines by Fran Fabriczki, which explores a modern immigrants' experience coming from Hungary to LA.



On **Nov. 17,** we will be discussing **The Heart of a Stranger: An Unlikely Rabbi's Story of Faith, Identity and Belonging,** a compelling memoir of Angela Buchdahl, the first Asian American to be ordained as a rabbi.

People of the Book meets on selected Tuesdays, 10 a.m., in the Beth-El library. Please contact **Sheryl Levy** (slevy2608@gmail.com) for more information or if you would like to be added to the contact list.

Cantillation

with Cantorial Soloist Sam
Sunday, Oct. 4, 9:30 a.m.

Have you ever wanted to chant Torah? Come learn the basics of Torah cantillation to start you on your journey!


Sam Chamberlin

This 90-minute program is the first in a series focused on Jewish music, books, and study. Join Rabbi Brian Zimmerman and Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin on any of four different Sundays for this taste of Jewish learning.

Gates of Chai lecture

The Program In Jewish Studies
at Brite Divinity School
"Kabbalah: Then and Now"
Thursday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m.

Brite Divinity School invites you to the 29th Annual Gates of Chai Lectureship in Contemporary Judaism on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m., Brown-Lupton University Union, TCU campus, 2901 Stadium Drive, Fort Worth.

The program, entitled "Kabbalah: Then and Now," features Dr. Elliot R. Wolfson, Distinguished Professor of Religion Emeritus at University of California, Santa Barbara, and Dr. Brian Ogren, Anna Smith Fine Professor of Judaic Studies at Rice University.

The event is free but registration is required. For more information and to register, visit: brite.edu/gates


Dr. Elliot R. Wolfson


Dr. Brian Ogren

Primetimers

Noon, Thursday, Oct. 8

Welcome to fall and (hopefully) cooler weather, Primetimers! This month's program will be Thursday, Oct. 8, at noon in the Great Hall. Tamara Castaldo of Jewish Family Services will be discussing artificial intelligence (AI) and how it is integrating itself into our everyday lives.

Join us to explore this technology and discover practical, innovative ways to utilize AI tools for daily tasks and personal autonomy. We will also examine AI's possible drawbacks and offer crucial tips for steering clear of AI-driven scams.

Lunch will be catered by Jason's Deli, or you can bring your own. For $13 you get chips, a pickle, a cookie, and your choice of sandwich:

- Chicken salad
- Roast beef
- Tuna salad
- Veggie


In September, Primetimers enjoyed a chair yoga event led by Beth-El congregant Valerie Simanek.

We will also have delicious homemade desserts to share. Please RSVP to Michelle Hartman at hartman8729@sbcglobal.net or 817-706-3451 by Sunday, Oct. 4. Get on the Primetimers email list by contacting Michelle. Be sure to join us for this very important subject.

October - 2026 - 5787

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6 pm Evening Minyan 6 pm MRJ in the Sukkah	2 EREV SIMCHAT TORAH 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	3 SIMCHAT TORAH 9 am Zoom Torah Study 10:30 Simchat Torah and Yizkor in the Sukkah
4 9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Cantillation with Cantorial Soloist Sam Chamberlin	5	6 10 am People of the Book 12 noon Jewish Puzzle of Life 1:30 pm Mahjong 6 pm Evening Minyan	7 9:30 am Archives Meeting 11 am Gift Shop Open 6 pm Evening Minyan	8 12 noon Primetimers 6 pm Evening Minyan	9 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	10 9 am Zoom Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service and Bar Mitzvah of Bennett Collins
11 9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Sunday Study with Rabbi Mecklenburger	12 7 pm Board Meeting	13 1:30 pm Mahjong 6 pm Evening Minyan	14 9:30 am Archives Meeting 11 am Gift Shop Open 6 pm Evening Minyan	15 6 pm Evening Minyan	16 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	17 WRJ at Taste Project 9 am Zoom Torah Study 6 pm Beth-El Movie: "Fantasy Life"
18 9:30 am Religious School 1 pm MRJ Matzo Ball Golf Tournament Fundraiser	19	20 12 noon Jewish Puzzle of Life 1:30 pm Mahjong 6 pm Evening Minyan	21 9:30 am Archives Meeting 11 am Gift Shop Open 6 pm Evening Minyan	22 6 pm Evening Minyan	23 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	24 9 am Zoom Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Study, Service, Song and Lunch at Rabbi Zimmerman's House
25 9:30 am Religious School 9:30 am Mahjong for Moms 12 pm Fifth Grade B'nai Mitzvah Orientation	26	27 1:30 pm Mahjong 6 pm Evening Minyan	28 9:30 am Archives Meeting 11 am Gift Shop Open 6 pm Evening Minyan	29 6 pm Evening Minyan	30 5:30 pm Shabbat welcome 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	31 9 am Zoom Torah Study

For additional information and updates about events, please visit our website at www.bethelfw.org or see Rabbi's e-blasts.

B'nai B'rith Celebrates 150

Jim Stanton

Sunday, Nov. 1, 6 p.m.
Mira Vista Country Club
$36 per person, seating is limited
Early reservations encouraged

For 150 years, Fort Worth's B'nai B'rith Lodge has brought people together through friendship, service, and a shared commitment to helping others. Come celebrate that legacy with a festive evening of dinner, caviar, wine, and other beverages, followed by dancing to Goga and his band.

"This celebration will have no fundraising and no speeches," said Lodge President Alex Nason, who noted that Fort Worth's lodge is the largest, fastest growing, and most active chapter in the country. "It will simply be a fun evening honoring 150 years of bringing our community together, helping those in need, and working to make our world better."

Beth-El is an important part of the lodge's story. More than 40 of our congregants are lodge members, including Jeff Kaitcer, who has been secretary for more than 25 years; Jim Stanton, second vice president; Robert Chicotsky, co-chair of the college grant program; and Dr. Jerry Stein, a board member. B'nai B'rith members also provide and serve meals at the Jewish Family Services Senior Seder and the Thanksgiving luncheon every year at Beth-El. That continues the lodge's tradition of caring for others through hands-on service.

The Chicotsky family is the wine and spirits sponsor for the Nov. 1 event. Promotional support is provided by the Texas Jewish Post and the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. For more information, please visit bnaibrithfortworth.org.

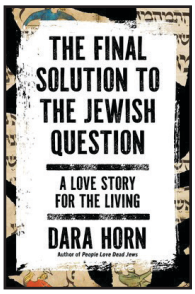
Beth-El will also celebrate B'nai B'rith during the Oct. 16 Shabbat service.

Sunday Study with Rabbi Mecklenburger

An Adult Discussion of
"The Final Solution to the Jewish Question"
Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec. 13
9:30 a.m., Board Room

Once a month, join us to read and discuss a provocative book, *The Final Solution to the Jewish Question: A Love Story for the Living* promises to uncover the myths and lies of anti-Semitism — not only their history, but also how to refute them.

Dara Horn, whose book *People Love Dead Jews* that we found sometimes controversial but consistently provocative two years ago, is the author. This book is described as addressing questions about the resurgence of anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism. In meetings with the White House and Congress, and in conversation with communities of all backgrounds, Horn was surprised to discover "there was far more ignorance than malice and saw an opportunity for change."



Dates for 2027 to be announced soon.

The Bible's Back Pages

The Key to Unlocking Shabbat
Saturdays, 9 a.m., Zoom

Discover the hidden mysteries of the Bible, some uplifting, some shocking. "But I know all those Torah stories!" some will think. Maybe not! We will look at the history books — Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings. Which parts are history and which parts legend? Heroes and heroines, rapes and murders, warriors, prostitutes, and magic-working prophets. The stuff they didn't teach you in Sunday School! Shabbat mornings on Zoom, 9-10 a.m. with Cantor Monica O'Desky and Rabbi Mecklenburger. Study from your own home and make your Shabbat special! Contact the Temple for the Zoom link. All are welcome to join.

Finding Our Place in the Jewish Puzzle of Life:

A Search for Personal Theology with Rabbi Zimmerman
Tuesdays at noon, Oct. 6 and 20

Our Tuesday afternoon conversations, now in the fourth year, are a chance to explore the world in which we live seeking context and answers from past Jewish teachers.

This twice-monthly conversation moves between recent articles, current events, philosophy, and older Jewish prayers and texts all with the goal of articulating a personal theology.

Want to join us? Drop by any time or contact Rabbi Zimmerman for more information.

MRJ's Annual Matzo Ball Classic Golf Tournament

Sunday, Oct. 18, at 1 p.m.
Hawks Creek Golf Club
6520 White Settlement Road
Westworth Village, TX 76114

☐ **$130 Entry Fee**
Each player receives a round of golf with cart and gift bag. Prizes for the longest drive and closest to the pin.

Name: _____

Team Members:_____

_____

Email:_____

Phone:_____

Matzo Ball Classic Sponsorships:

☐ ***$1,000 Gold Sponsor***
Recognition as dinner sponsor and includes 4 golf entry fees

☐ ***$750 Silver Sponsor***
Special recognition and includes 4 golf entry fees

☐ ***$180 Hole Sponsorship***

Enclosed is my check made payable to **Beth-El MRJ** for the amount of (Fees + Sponsorship): $_____

Detach and return this form with payment by Oct. 11 to:

Beth-El MRJ
4900 Briarhaven Road
Fort Worth, TX 76109

The Matzo Ball Classic is a Beth-El MRJ Activity and Fundraiser



Beth-El College Outreach

PLEASE send Rabbi Zimmerman your college student's address even if you did it last year.

Your college student will receive packages during the year, maybe a visit. ALL parents who get Rabbi (rabbiz@bethelfw.org) the address by Oct. 10 guarantee their student will receive a Starbucks card.

Send Rabbi your college student's: name, address, email, phone, and birthday.

Beth-El Movie Night



Fantasy Life
Rated R
1h 31m

Saturday, Oct. 17

6 p.m. Free

Amanda Peet, Judd Hirsch, Bob Balaban, Jessica Harper, and Andrea Martin star in Matthew Shear's bittersweet comedic directorial debut. A law school dropout becomes a babysitter for his psychiatrist's three granddaughters. As he falls for their mother, a past-her-prime actress in a rocky marriage, the extended family gets involved in this very Jewish and humorous portrait of an intergenerational New York family.

No charge, but please RSVP in advance so we can order enough food.



Hollace Weiner

Then & Now: *Minute by Minute*

Temple Archivist, Hollace Ava Weiner

As the Jewish calendar comes to an end, I sometimes take stock of Temple board meeting minutes from the past century. First and foremost are the handwritten paragraphs penned by Isidore Carb, the first Temple secretary. Writing in cursive, he reported on Sept. 21, 1902: "A motion was made & carried to organize a permanent congregation … the name suggested … was Beth-El Congregation."

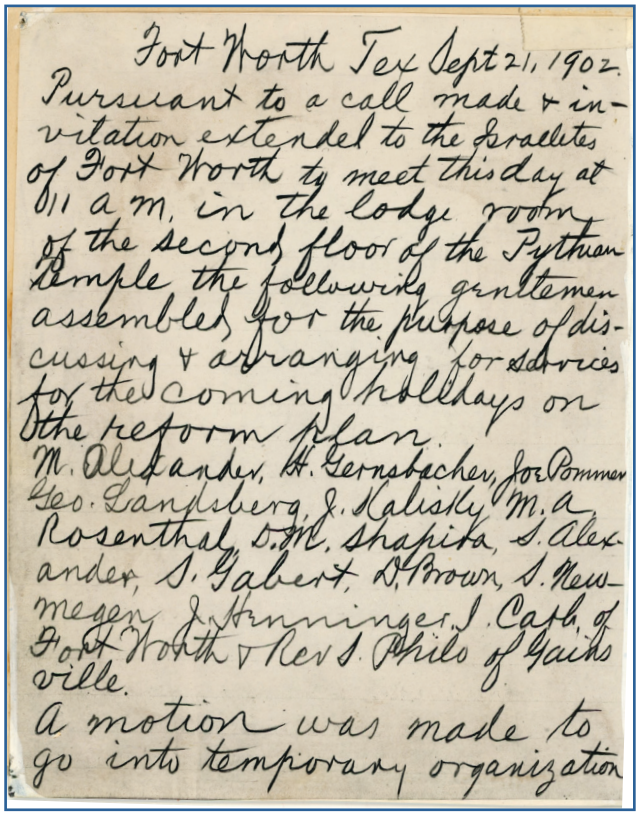
The minutes recorded in a vintage ledger with 98 pages and entries from 1915 to 1922 is another favorite. This book's fragile, lined sheets describe construction of Beth-El's landmark building, still standing at 207 W. Broadway Ave. That minutes book, with its black-and-red cover, was inside a locked closet behind a stairwell at the old Temple for decades. Custodian Randy Koonsman led me there in 1998. Three years later at a Board meeting, I shared that fragile piece of history with the Temple trustees. They appreciated it, both as an artifact and a record book.

During Beth-El's first 20 years, the minutes were handwritten with a fountain pen, a delicate utensil that gracefully tapers to a fine metal point called a nib. Its long stem contains a refillable reservoir or cartridge of ink. Beth-El's recording secretaries wrote with black or teal-colored ink.

The next sets of minutes, from 1922 to mid-1928, were typed on manual typewriters – machines that had no plug, no screen, and no password. Each set of minutes were inserted into a three-ring Scholastic Binder manufactured by S.H. Kress & Co. A more expensive notebook, called a De Luxe Ring Binder, contains Temple minutes from 1928 to 1937.

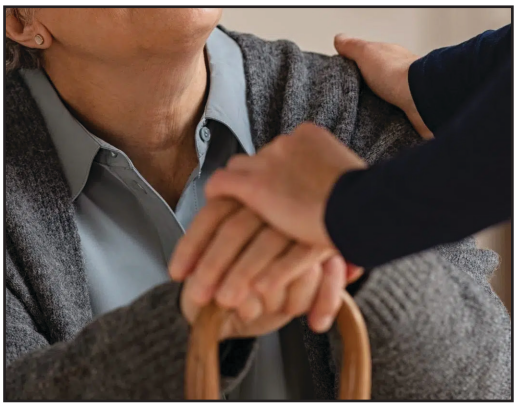
Alas, the minutes from 1938 through World War II went up in flames. A three-alarm fire gutted the Temple on Aug. 29, 1946. The cause was smoldering ash following an evening of nickel poker attended by more than 100 gents. Temple custodian Enoch Jackson, who lived down the street, braved the smoke and rescued two Torahs from the ark. After the Temple was rebuilt and rededicated, minute-keeping resumed on Jan. 5, 1948. Monthly meeting records from 1948 through 1958 were professionally bound like a hardback book with a sturdy spine that's more than an inch thick.

Come take a look at our irreplaceable collection. It's located behind a locked door at the back of the library, where volunteers work every Wednesday morning.



Fort Worth Tex Sept 21, 1902.
Pursuant to a call made & invitation extended to the Israelites of Fort Worth to meet this day at 11 a m, in the lodge room of the second floor of the Pythian Temple the following gentlemen assembled, for the purpose of discussing & arranging for services for the coming holidays on the reform plan.
M. Alexander, H. Gernsbacher, Jos Pommer Geo. Landsberg, J. Kalisky, M. A. Rosenthal, O.M. Shapira, S. Alexander, S. Gabert, D. Brown, S. Newmegen, J. Henninger, I. Carb, of Fort Worth & Rev S. Philo of Gainsville.
A motion was made to go into temporary organization

Temple minutes from September 21, 1902, taken by Isidore Carb included the names of the "gentlemen" present. The meeting was held in the "Pythias Temple," aka Knights of Pythias Building, in downtown Fort Worth.



Healing Prayers & Visits

If you know someone at home or in the hospital who could use a visit from the Rabbi or another Temple member, or if you have the name of an ill family member or friend that you would like to be read at our Shabbat service, please call or email the Temple office at office@bethelfw.org or Rabbi Zimmerman and rabbiz@bethelfw.org, or go to bethelfw.org to share your request. Rabbi Zimmerman or Renee Woods will get the information from this site quickly.



Yahrzeits

Oct. 2
Chandler Greines Cohen
Louise Freeman
Jean Frolkis
Chester Gestring
Mollie Ginsburg
Anita Kboudi
Jerry Lamensdorf
Victor Leventhal
Corrie Nackson
Mark Pell
Sam Reznikoff
Norman Rubin
Elaine Gressman Samson
Sarah Smulian
Rose Ungar
Seymour Weisser
Hortense Weltman

Oct. 9
Tessa N. Bermont
Ted Brown
Gail Chance
Leo Freeman
Daniel Gachman
Hyman Ginsberg
Elise Schoenberg Greenman
Isadore Grossfeld
Richard Hochberger
Sol Hochster
Leonard Hochster
Shirley James
Henrietta Krumholz
Alfred Levine
Donald Louis
Selma Weiner Mayer
Mollie Platt
Harold Sloane
Cipa Rosenberg Taylor
Henry J. Weltman

Oct. 16
Rolfe Becker
Milton Butterman
Leo Butterman
Bessie Brown Carb
Charles Etcoff
David Field
Ruth M. Friedman
Harold Frolkis
Solomon Griver
Robert C. Gurney
Alexander Handleman
Gertrude Kottler
Tom Krakover
Gloria Lederman
Sue Lurie
Rosanne Margolis
Jerome W. Mecklenburger
Ethel Collins Oshman
Frank Pell
Antoinette Pollack
Dr. Edwin G. Schwarz
David Stenzler

Oct. 23
Rose Wagner Bock
Gustav Braun
Miriam Voliansky Braverman
Becky Carter
Liliana Kaplan Dujan
Herman L. Goldstucker
Meta Hochster
Faye Kaitcer
Marion Kaplan
Betty Kessler
Yetta Moidel
Rona Rosenfield
Shirley Rubinson
Irving Sachs
Paul Schaefers
Sarah Schwartz
Derrell Slater
Mike Stein
Max Switzman
Jim Zack

Oct. 30
Beverly Beck
Janey Macks Carter
Fay B. Cohen
David Adan Dorontes
Alan Feinberg
Robert Gerson
Fannie L. Ginsberg
Max Granek
Max Grossfeld
Esther Frindell Hoffman
Selma Krauss
Hugh Lamensdorf
Annie Mann Lehwald
Morris Lulky
Jack Orlow
Frances Schechter
Edwin Schwarz, Jr.
Harry Schweitzer
Suzanne Slatkin
Audrey Sloter
Jean Strassman
Muriel (Mimi) Weisser
Joseph Zentner

Nov. 7
Sheldon Anisman
Harold Baum
Michael Boxer
Holly Clegg
Helen Factor
Judith Lee Feinberg
Yefim Feldman
David Ginsburg
Fabio Mamani
Kathleen Mitchell
Ada Parker
Nathan Resnick
Norman Rosenblum
Belle Schultz
Larry Schultz
Ann Schuster
Roman Shloss
Bill Steinman
Marlene Tilkin
Marion Werner
Ben H. Wile

Weekday Minyan

Tuesday-Thursday, 6 p.m.
Help us make a community of mitzvah and memory as Rabbi Zimmerman and other congregants seek a place to say kaddish surrounded by the support of community.

Beth-El Congregation
4900 Briarhaven Road
Fort Worth, TX 76109

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FORT WORTH, TX
PERMIT 1617

Our mission: To meet the spiritual, educational, social, and religious needs of its members through the teachings and practices of Reform Judaism and to connect members to their Jewish identity and community.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Beth-El Congregation
4900 Briarhaven Road
Fort Worth, Texas 76109
www.bethelfw.org
817-332-7141 phone
fax 817-332-7157

Rabbi, Brian Zimmerman: rabbiz@bethelfw.org
Rabbi Emeritus, Ralph Mecklenburger: rabbi@bethelfw.org
Executive Director, Reneé Woods: director@bethelfw.org
Education Director, Cantor Shoshana Abrams Kaikov: shoshanakaikov@bethelfw.org
Music Director, John Sauvey: jesbaritone@gmail.com
Cantorial Soloist, Sam Chamberlin: schamberlin@bethelfw.org
Building Manager, Jaime Rivera: cust@bethelfw.org

Beth-El Board of Directors:
Michael Appleman, President
Yolanda Becker, President-Elect
Nancy Schwartz, 1st Vice President
Shayna Coyne, 2nd Vice President
Semé Dewees-Cooper, Secretary
Marc Sloter, Treasurer
Directors: Jerry Appel, Steve Brown, Joe Davidson, Kim Factor, Julie Goldstein, Adam Hollander, Benjamin Isgur, Violet Larson, Max Pell, Karl Rosenblum, Ben Rosenthal, Faye Slater,
WRJ: Ruth Roper and Marilyn Stenzler, Co-Presidents
MRJ: Eric Lawrence, President
FWFTY: Eli Simanek, President

Contributions

· Make your contribution online at **bethelfw.org** or fill out the form below and mail it with your check to Beth-El Congregation

· **Undesignated donations** will be placed in the Temple Fund.

$18-minimum contribution: Temple Fund, Religious School Fund, Youth Fund, Library Fund, Music Fund, Mitch Stenzler Scholarship Fund, Rabbi Zimmerman's Discretionary Fund, Rabbi Mecklenburger's Discretionary Fund, President's Discretionary Fund, Religious School Director's Discretionary Fund, Temple Archives, Caring Congregation

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

Other funds: **Tree $20, Prayer Book $30, Floral $50, Tree of Life Leaf $300**

Contribution Form

Enclosed please find the amount of $ _____

Designated Fund: _____

☐ In Honor of: _____

☐ In Memory of: _____

Donor Name(s): _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____

Send acknowledgment to: _____

_____

_____