

timely topics

SYNAGOGUE HIGHLIGHTS

SAFETY & SECURITY UPDATES

Take note of the new and updated lighting outside the synagogue. Our goal is to better illuminate your way and keep everyone safe.

- We affixed an AED and First Aid kit in the coat room across from the gift shop.
- A second AED device is in the Temple Beth Torah Chapel.
- Note the RED CROSS signs around the building for first aid supplies and Stop the Bleed items.
- Keep an eye out for upcoming training on Basic First Aid/Stop the Bleed and Situational Awareness and Disarmament.

*IF YOU SEE SOMETHING,
HEAR SOMETHING OR
EVEN READ SOMETHING...
SAY SOMETHING!*

BETH AM YOUNG FRIENDS GROUP

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATE/COLLEGE AGE
YOUNG FRIENDS.

Please Facebook Rabbi Leib to join us for the next dinner out, coffee meet up or social action activity. We would love to hear from YOU!

Stop by the History Hallway (located between the Sanctuary and the Administrative Offices) to view the Confirmation Gallery. If you are interested in viewing our Confirmation Academy prior to 1981, visit the Balcony Hallway.

Congratulations to Arianna Cohen on winning the "DIY" Mensch Lab Chanukkiyah Contest.

BE A BETH AM MENSCH!



OLD YORK ROAD
TEMPLE-BETH AM

Congregational Spotlight

by Lance Kraemer, Vice President, House and Grounds

Leslie and I were introduced to Old York Road Temple-Beth Am about 19 years ago when we were actively looking for a new synagogue. We had been active members of another Reform synagogue when we were raising our two sons. They are both adults and are now on their own. A client of mine suggested that we look at Beth Am, so we attended a Friday night service and found the entire atmosphere to be what we were seeking. The combination of ritual, Hebrew, and music really appealed to us and we joined. We became moderately active, particularly Leslie, who was not only in the choir, but became the Preschool Music Specialist, aka, Miss Leslie. Several years later, Leslie also became an adult Bat Mitzvah here at Beth Am.

I was asked to serve as Vice President of House and Grounds years ago as the plans to replace the Molish Sanctuary roof were gaining traction. I think that the primary reason was our President's decision to have an architect on the Board to help oversee the roof work. I have been in that position now through four presidents, and it's been my honor to do so. I have enjoyed working with a variety of wonderful people helping to move Beth Am forward.

I've also had the pleasure of being involved in the design of the Torah tables for the Temple Beth Torah Chapel, the old Ark doors, and now the kitchen renovations, which will begin construction soon. I am excited to be part of this Board and and look forward to many wonderful times in the future at Beth Am.



Panera
FUNDRAISING

WHERE 1641 The Fairway, Jenkintown, PA 19046

WHEN Tues, Feb 25th

FROM 4:00pm - 8:00pm

TEMPLE SIMCHAS



Abigail Lukov • Bat Mitzvah
Saturday, February 22
Shabbat Mishpatim - Shekalim

Friday Night Services

2/7 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

(H)Our Shabbat led by Grades 4-7 in the Mensch Lab
February Birthday Blessings

2/14 • 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Erev Shabbat Service with T'filah Band

2/21 • 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

2/28 • 7:30-8:45 p.m.

Erev Shabbat Inclusion Service
February Anniversary blessings

Do you have a special birthday, anniversary or simcha in your future?

Why not celebrate with your Beth Am community?

Make plans to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat

Call:
Bonnie Marks
215-886-8000 x134

Holiday Highlights

TU B'SHEVAT

Tu B'Shevav, the 15th of Shevat on the Jewish calendar—celebrated this year on Monday, February 10—is the day that marks the beginning of a “new year” for the trees. This is the season in which the earliest-blooming trees in the Land of Israel emerge from their winter sleep and begin a new fruit-bearing cycle.

The “new year” for trees relates to the various tithes that are separated from produce grown in the Holy Land. These tithes differ from year to year in the seven-year *shemittah* cycle; the point at which a budding fruit is considered to belong to the next year of the cycle is the 15th of Shevat.

We mark the day of Tu B'Shevav by eating fruit, particularly the types that are singled out by the Torah in its praise of the bounty of the Holy Land: grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates.

What better way to celebrate the birthday of the trees than to plant a tree through Jewish National Fund. Planting trees in Israel is a beautiful way to show you care. In fact, we've been planting trees in Israel for over a century. It connects us to the land, it celebrates our joys and it literally plants a stake of hope and optimism in the future of Israel. To donate a tree - Please contact the JNF directly • www.jnf.org



Holiday Happenings

SOEL & Mensch Lab Families:

PAJAMA HAVDALAH

Saturday, 2/1 • 5:30 p.m.

Help us celebrate the end of Shabbat and the beginning of a new week. Join us for a special creative activity, milk and cookies, music and games.

CELEBRATE PASSOVER

Thursday, 3/5 • 5:30 p.m.

Use your 5 senses to learn about the Purim and Passover Holidays.

Mensch Lab Highlights:

SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, 2/7 • 7:00 p.m.

(H)Our Shabbat Service led by grades 4-7. All are welcome.

GRADE 5 FAMILY EDUCATION PROGRAM

Sunday, 2/23 • 10:30 a.m.

Students will design their own *Yad* (Torah pointer) using Gary Rosenthal's artistic models.

K-3 SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, 3/6

5:45 p.m.

K-3 Pizza Dinner

6:30 p.m.

(H)Our Shabbat Service led by grades K-3. All are welcome.

BAFTY (Beth Am Youth Group) Highlights:

WORKSHOP

Sunday, 2/23 • 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Gratz College is hosting its “JCHS Words to Action: Empowering Students to Address Anti-Semitism”. Contact Rabbi Tornberg for more information.



SING HALLELUJAH BROADWAY: A JEWISH LEGACY

Tuesday, March 17 • 8:00 p.m.

Kimmel Center - Philadelphia

IMPORTANT INFO: Special pricing is being offered for everyone in the Old York Road Community. Use the discount code OYR15 to receive an immediate 15% discount.

MITZVAH CORPS

Are you interested in helping our Beth Am families?

DO YOU...

- want to help make a difference in the life of someone who is going through difficult times?
- want to be a part of a new initiative at Beth Am?
- like to help and want to belong to Beth Am's Social Action committee?
- want to help others while helping yourself?

What kind of help could we offer?

WE COULD...

- sit with someone for lunch who is sick and alone during the day.
- drive someone to chemo or radiation while their caretaker is at work.
- prepare dinner for a family who has been a caregiver to someone with a long term illness.
- do whatever is needed even if it is to find someone who can assist a member with daily things!

OR

- drive carpool for a parent who is ill and cannot do the driving for their child.

Need a helping hand?

Contact: Beth Am's Administrative Office 215-886-8000

If you are interested in being part of this new committee please contact: Debbie Gettes Neibauer: call, text or email: 610-909-7395; deborahgettesneibauer@gmail.com



BE A BETH AM MENSCH!

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS:
Fred Goldstein
fgoldste@mc3.edu

Sandie Buller
sandiecb@aol.com

SPECIAL EVENTS & GATHERINGS

Please feel free to contact the office for more information on any program listed below, 215-886-8000.

ADULT EDUCATION



COMING SOON

"Glimpses of Light" project!

Beth Amniks can create inspirational performing and visual arts pieces for presentation. Contact: Harriet Gomon, hjg1956@gmail.com.



Tuesday, 2/18
7:00- 8:30 p.m.

A FREE 5-week Bereavement Support Group series with Doris Ferleger. If you

are seeking comfort and support, please plan to join us. Contact: Doris Ferleger, dorlynn1@gmail.com or 215-802-8003



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, 3/1
10:00-12:00 p.m.

Jewish Genealogy Fred Blum, will teach us some techniques to

locate individuals through genealogy.

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 18 • 10:30 a.m.

Facilitated by Bonnie Surrey

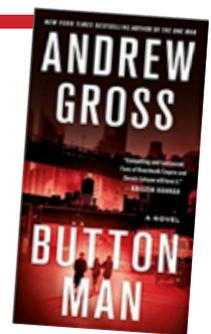
Button Man

by Andrew Gross

Morris, Sol, and Harry Rabinowitz grew up poor, but happy in a tiny flat on the Lower East Side until the death of their father thrust them into having to fend for themselves and support their large family. Morris apprenticed himself at twelve years old to a garment cutter in a clothing factory; Sol headed to college and became an accountant; and Harry, the youngest, fell in with a gang as a teenager and can't escape. Morris steadily climbs through the ranks at the factory until he's running the place and buys out the owner, and Sol comes to work with him. But Harry can't be lured away from the

glamour, the power, and the money that comes from working for mobster Louis Buchalter, an old bully from the neighborhood. And when Louis sets his sights on the unions that staff the garment makers' factories, a fatal showdown is inevitable, and puts brother against brother.

This new novel is equal parts historical thriller, rich with details of a vibrant New York City in the 1920s and 1930s, and family saga, based in part on Andrew Gross's family history, and will cement his reputation as today's most atmospheric and original historical thriller writer.



SISTERHOOD



Wednesday Nights

7:00 p.m.
Mah Jongg



Sunday, 2/9
9:30 a.m.

"And the Oscar Goes To"...
Dr. Moylan Mills will predict the

2019 Oscar winners.



Beth Am
Sisterhood Gift Shop

February Special
Jewelry 15 -25% OFF
Open during Mensch
Lab hours and

Wednesday evening 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Don't give away your shot!
Be responsible and be a
Mensch in your own community!

BROTHERHOOD



Wednesday, 2/5
7:00 p.m.

Monthly meeting in the coffee bar



Wednesday, 2/12
& 2/19

7:00 p.m.
Poker with the Boys in the Coffee Bar



Sunday, 3/29 •
7:30 p.m.

Wells Fargo Center
76ers vs. Portland Trail Blazers

SOCIAL ACTION



Please continue to bring a canned food item each time you visit the synagogue. There are wagons located at the front

and back entrance for your convenience.

ATTENTION:
MENSCH LAB AND
SOEL FAMILIES

Don't forget to send your child to school each week with a canned good which will be donated to local food pantries.





OLD YORK ROAD TEMPLE-BETH AM

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For the most Up-To-Date Information about Services and Synagogue Activities
Visit Our Website <https://oyrtbetham.org/> to sign up to receive our weekly email.



PASSOVER ADULT EDUCATION

JOIN THE CLERGY & THE CHALLAH LADIES

THURSDAY, MARCH 19 • SUNDAY, MARCH 22 • TUESDAY, MARCH 31

A question from Rabbi Leib: Do you think you know all there is to know about Pesach and the Haggadah? Think again! Join him for a fascinating journey into some unknown ritual aspects of the Seder. During Cantor Zarkh's session, she will take a look at the psalms the Levites chanted in the Temple. You will learn melodies which will enrich your Passover experience. During the Challah Ladies session, you will learn about surprising food items for the Passover holiday.



3RD ANNUAL GET THE LEAVENED OUT • 5K RUN/ WALK THE MESHUGUNAH MILE

SUNDAY, APRIL 5 • 10:00 a.m.

ALVERTHORPE PARK, JENKINTOWN

Rabbi Tornberg is planning a special Mensch Lab program at Alverthorpe Park in coordination with the 3rd Annual GET THE LEAVENED OUT • 5K run! The park's Pavillion is reserved for us to enjoy a picnic and activities!

JOIN US FOR FAMILY FUN!

SAVE THE DATES! KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION

Sunday, March 1 • 10:00 a.m.
Jewish Genealogy with Fred Blum

Sunday, March 8
Purim Shpiel

Sunday, March 8
Community Purim Carnival

Monday, March 9 • 7:00 p.m.
Adult Megillah Reading

Friday, March 13 • 7:30-9:00 p.m.
Beth Am Players -
Elton John Shabbat

