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#### SHEVAT ADAR | 5784 \*



JEREMY LIPTON RABBI

## Creating a community of comfort

Of the many questions that are posed to me on a regular basis as a Rabbi, you may be surprised to learn that I receive more inquiries about Jewish approaches to endof-life than in any other domain. That is why when I was recently approached to consider

offering a class on Jewish Death and Bereavement Practices by our Sisterhood President, Andrea Rabinovitz, and the Chair of our Caring Committee, Debbie Saferstein, I enthusiastically agreed.

On two Sunday mornings this month—Sunday, February 11 and Sunday, February 25, both from 9:30-11:00 AM—I invite you to join me for a two-part workshop entitled "Death and Bereavement: Creating a Community of Comfort." The focus of these sessions will be two-fold: (1) supporting mourners by providing practical

## See RABBI, Page 5



**GREGG MANES** CO-PRESIDENT

## his drive to be scholarly.

He did everything at our synagogue. When the Rabbi was on vacation; he filled in. When the Cantor was on vacation; he filled in. He read the Torah on Shabbat before Laurel.

When a baby boy was born he was the only *mohel* in town. When a person was going to have a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah*; he tutored them.

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## **Our Mission Statement**

Beth El Congregation is a Conservative synagogue that meets the spiritual and social needs of our congregants by providing a welcoming, vibrant and engaging community for Jewish life and religious practice in an egalitarian, progressive and caring environment.

# Remembering Reverend Saľzman

As a long term member of Beth El, I was thinking of the past and the good times that have been a part of my life with Beth El Congregation. The first person that comes to mind is Reverend Phillip Salzman whom we lovingly called Rev. He was a role model for many. He escaped a concentration camp during World War II. I am sure that set forth



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# Schedule of services

MORNING MINYAN Wednesday & Friday, 7:30 a.m.

> SHABBAT SERVICES Saturday, 9:15 a.m.

CANDLE LIGHTING		HAVDALAH		
FRIDAY		SATURDAY		
Feb. 2	Yitro	5:26 p.m.	Feb. 3	6:27 p.m.
Feb. 9	Mishpatim	5:34 p.m.	Feb. 10	6:36 p.m.
Feb. 16	Terumah	5:43 p.m.	Feb. 17	6:45 p.m.
Feb. 23	Tetzaveh	5:51 p.m.	Feb. 24	6:53 p.m.

## From the Sisterhood

Our Sisterhood work continues. Sherry Hellman, Ellen Moss and I had a Zoom meeting with Rachel Ferber, our Women's League consultant, to discuss programming and fundraising ideas. We hope to bring these ideas to a Sisterhood meeting. I look forward to any ideas from our membership. Our key means of raising money are dues and Leagrams. Please remit your \$36 dues and support the Leagrams when you receive your letter. Please help us raise the funds to continue our work.

We continue our programs such as Knitzvah, Taste of *Torah*, and *L'chaim* Cooking Club. *Kiddush* Crew has been busy cooking and baking delicious food to enhance our *Shabbat Kiddush* and Friday *Minyan* Breakfast. Contact Kay Lipton if you would like to participate.

I encourage anyone to sponsor a *Kiddush*. Erin Katz can provide you the information.

I encourage our members to attend the two-part sessions Rabbi Lipton is having on how we can create a more caring community. Look for the details in the Bulletin.

#### ANDREA RABINOVITZ SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT



Don't forget Beth El in your will

For information, call **MARSHA FRIEDMAN** Endowment chair (330)603-1890



THE SAFERSTEIN FAMILY

for sponsoring *Bima* flowers on Dec. 23 in memory of **EVELYN LESHIN** 

#### **GLORIA & TOM TREIBER**

for sponsoring *Bima* flowers on Dec. 23 in memory of **MORRIS COHEN** 

ELLEN MOSS for sponsoring breakfast on Jan. 5 in memory of ANNE DRUCKER

> THE SAFERSTEIN FAMILY

for sponsoring *Bima* flowers on Jan. 13 in memory of **DORA WEINER** 

JEFF AND THERESA THOMPSON for

sponsoring *Kiddush* on Jan. 13 in memory of **DEAN FARRA** 

#### **BETH EL SISTERHOOD**

for sponsoring *Kiddush* on Jan. 27 in honor of **SISTERHOOD SHABBAT** 

#### THE SAFERSTEIN FAMILY

for sponsoring *Bima* flowers on Jan. 27 in memory of **RICHARD LESHIN** 

Did you know that you can sponsor *Shabbat* flowers or *Kiddush* in honor of a milestone or in memory of *Yarhtzeit*? For more information, please call 330-864-2105 x 118 or email Erin Katz Ford.



## In Memoriam

Beth El Congregation notes with sorrow the passing of:

## DECEMBER 15, 2023 Patricia Vigder

Patricia Vigder, 89, passed away surrounded by loved ones on December 15, 2023. Patti was born in Wheeling, West Virginia and moved to Akron as a young girl. She graduated from Buchtel High School and attended Flora Stone Mather. Patti was a loving mother to four children.

For most of her life, the Akron Jewish Center was Patti's home away from home. It started when she attended social events on Balch Street as a teenager and continued throughout her adult life, including her 20-year-long career as Director of the Senior Adult Department. Patti was an active member of the Community, a member of Beth El Congregation, and volunteered with many related organizations including *B'nai B'rith* Women, ORT, Beth El Sisterhood and *Hadassah*. She also served as president of Auxiliary and on the Board of Directors at the Akron JCC. Patti had a special place in her heart for Russian Jewish immigrants and worked tirelessly to assist in resettlement efforts in the 1970s, going above and beyond to offer housing assistance, friendship, and a sense of community.

Patti is survived by her children; Steve Vigder, Scott (Pat) Vigder, Sharon Richman, and Shelley (Ira) Gebler, grandchildren; Louis and Miranda Vigder, Lily and Hannah Richman, and Alex and Amanda Gebler.

## DECEMBER 21, 2023 Bernard Kamenir

Bernard "Bernie" Kamenir passed away peacefully on December 21, 2023 at the age of 97, surrounded by his family. He lived his entire life in Akron, Ohio, growing up in the Great Depression, serving our country in World War II, attending the Ohio State University School of Architecture, and creating Kamenir Hamed Architects LLC. While attending Ohio State he played varsity tennis and became president of Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity.

Bernie never met a person he didn't like and treated everyone he met with respect and dignity. Bernie was a brilliant art collector, tennis competitor, bridge player, entrepreneur, investor, and runner. His gentle smile and soft-spoken nature drew people into his world where he touched so many lives.

Bernie's immediate family was always a priority for him, especially his beloved wife, Sedell, to whom he was happily married for 67 years. They raised Jeffrey, Steven (Elana), and Lynn (Roy) in a home that was always filled with unconditional love, security, and purpose. He took great joy as their immediate family expanded to include Danielle, David, and Rachel Buchinsky, Hannah and Maya Kamenir, Rachel and Marissa Kamenir. Bernie was predeceased by Rose and Samuel Kamenir (parents) and Irvin Kamenir (brother).

# February 2024 Shevat \* Adar I 5783

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Wednesday	SERVICES (unless 7:30 a.m. <b>* Friday</b> 7:3	s otherwise noted) 10 a.m. <b>* Saturday</b> 9:1	5 a.m.	<b>1</b> 22 Shevat	<b>2</b> <i>23 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	<b>3</b> <i>24 Shevat</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Yitro</i> Mini Minyan, 10:30 a.m.
<b>4</b> 25 Shevat	5 <i>26 Shevat</i> Executive Board Meeting, 7 p.m.	6 27 Shevat	<b>7</b> <i>28 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	<b>8</b> 29 Shevat	9 <i>30 Shevat</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m. Rosh Chodesh	10 <i>1 Adar I</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Mishpatim</i> Rosh Chodesh
<b>11</b> <i>QAdar I</i> Death and Bereave- ment: Creating a Community of Comfort, 9:30 a.m.	<b>12</b> 3 Adar I	<b>13</b> <i>4 Adar I</i> Lunch & Learn, noon Full Board Meeting, 7 p.m.	<b>14</b> <i>5Adar I</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	<b>15</b> 6Adar I	<b>16</b> <i>7 Adar I</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	<b>17</b> <i>8 Adar I</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Terumah</i>
<b>18</b> 9 Adar I	<b>19</b> <i>10 Adar I</i> Taste of <i>Torah,</i> 7 p.m.	<b>20</b> 11 Adar I	<b>21</b> <i>12 Adar I</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	<b>22</b> 13 Adar I	<b>23</b> <i>14 Adar I</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m. Friday Night With Friends, 6 p.m.	24 <i>15 Adar I</i> Shabbat Service, 9:15 a.m., <i>Tetzaveh</i>
<b>25</b> <i>16 Adar I</i> Death and Bereave- ment: Creating a Community of Comfort, 9:30 a.m.	26 17 Adar I L'Chaim Cooking Club, 6 p.m.	<b>27</b> 18 Adar I	<b>28</b> <i>19 Adar I</i> Minyan, 7:30 a.m.	<b>29</b> 20 Adar I		

#### PAGE 4

# Yahrzeits

## **FEBRUARY** 1

Daniel Goldstein Margaret Levine Hy Weiss

## **FEBRUARY 2**

Rosa Bane Nancy Jo Harris Richard Leshin William Loeb Samuel Polevoi Ella Rein Irwin David Sarlson

## **FEBRUARY** 3

Judith Finkel George H. Haberman Harold M. Post Joseph Rosenfeld Harold Spector Sarah Sterns

## **FEBRUARY** 4

Eva Bloom Nissim Calderon Helen Miller Burton E. Portnoy

## **FEBRUARY** 5

Robert R. Burns Harold Neiman Samuel H. Stone

## **FEBRUARY** 6

Alfred A. Axner Samuel Federman Sadie Saferstein

## FEBRUARY 7

Nathan Borodkin Arlene Cohen Randy Geller Morris Goldberg Evelyn Gross Sadie Levin David Mirman Sonia Rippe

## FEBRUARY 8

Peter Abramson Morris Berzon Jonathan Seth Chesler Herman Miller Larry Rudick Bernard Zetzer

## **FEBRUARY** 9

Elaine Apelbaum Alex Eigenmacht Carrie Epstine Roseline L. Kodish Edward Levine Raphael Leon Sardas

#### **FEBRUARY** 10

Steven Heyman Harold Savage Pauline Schneir Nathan Schwartz Anne Shulan Windsor Smith Donald Wish

### FEBRUARY 11

Israel Borodkin Morris Brown George J. Heller Sam Loeb Paul G. Martin Isidore Monosoff Moses Morris Gussie Sokol Jennie Winer Minnie Wolfe

## **FEBRUARY** 12

Mildred Federhar Sally Lesowitz Rose Leubitz Minnie Manes Albert H. Robbins

## **FEBRUARY** 13

Milton B. Cohen Molly Cohen Jeanette Emmer Milton Kades Abraham Miller Max Minkin

## FEBRUARY 14

Edward Katz Lillian Medoff Frances Weiss

## FEBRUARY 15

William Heisler Gary Nelkin Jack Recht Harry Richman

## FEBRUARY 16

Elnora Glicksteen Abraham Green Rae Gurewitz Joseph Weinstein

## **FEBRUARY** 17

Dolores W. Ekus Les Jacobson Abraham Kalish Evelyn Katz Max Leeper Harry Levy Ruth Toledano Moss Charles Schneir Lilian Weinberger

## **FEBRUARY** 18

Louise Cohen Rebecca Kaufman Richard M. Levin Melvin Levy Hyman Medvin Jack Minc Irene F. Sanders Ronald Schneiderman Ellis Schwartz Fany Weinberger

## **FEBRUARY** 19

Elsie Halpern Molly Heisler Belle Luckey Rose G. Morris Bertha Polevoi Hannah Weinstein

## FEBRUARY 20

Maxine Gertz Rose Schneier Rebecca Weissfeld Yetta Weissfeld Leon Wyant

## **FEBRUARY 21**

Jacob Baruch Sidney David Cheplowitz Philip Korsunsky Fannie Levine Fred Lieberman Anna Rosenthal Jerome Schneier

## **FEBRUARY 22**

Dr. Harry Breman Jack Luck Minnie Mervis Jacob Shapiro Alex Shulan

## **FEBRUARY 23**

Ida Apelbaum Julia Eigenmacht David Lockshin Rachel Miller Eva Neiman Isidor Roth Albert Rubens Rae N. Schwartz

## **FEBRUARY 24**

Beatrice Belsky Ellie Bissenger Phillip Kropko Aaron Lipton Morris Minster Rose Vigder

## **FEBRUARY 25**

Baruch Bricklin Dora Cohen Milton Fine Helen Katz Sandra Moyer Beatrice Steinreich

## **FEBRUARY 26**

Myer Epstein Sadie B. Freedman Abe May John Moyer Nathan Pinsky Dave Ruben

## **FEBRUARY 27**

Elizabeth Grabenstetter Barnet Gurewitz Manny Iczkovitz Yetta Ostrov Rachel Weintraub

## **FEBRUARY 28**

Samuel Jaffe Patricia Zarych Jeffers Ada Marks

## **FEBRUARY 29**

Jean Glauberman Karl Koch Eleanor Lieberman Gerry Morrison Dr. Harold Schleider Edith Schlossberg Charles Sinder Sarah Talis Seena Treiber Julius Wolfand



# Tree of Life

Our magnificent Tree of Life was created to record the happy events in the lives of Beth El members and their families. A birth, a wedding, a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, a confirmation, an anniversary — all are among the milestones that can be remembered on the leaves of the Tree of Life.

The cost of a leaf is \$125. You may use three or four lines with up to 23 letters per line. To order, call **Sherri Leubitz (330)867-0364** 

# **Death and Bereavement:** Creating a Community of Comfort

## **FEBRUARY 11: Supporting mourners**

## **FEBRUARY 25: Supporting those who comfort mourners**

Learn about Beth El's Caring Committee, the Chevra Kaddisha, and more.

## RABBI, from Page 1

information about Jewish traditions and customs; and (2) sharing resources in support of those among us who want to be engaged in the important communal work of comforting mourners.

During our time together, we will have an opportunity to reflect on our personal experiences and explore a number of questions, including (but not limited to):

★ Who is a mourner?

✤ What are the traditional

expectations placed on mourners?
What are the Jewish rituals associated with mourning and

memorializing our loved ones?

★ What expectations should mourners place upon themselves?

★ When and why should mourners say *Kaddish*?

★ What are Jewish practices regarding burial and the days/ months that follow?

\* What are Jewish views relating to cremation?

\* What do mourners and their families need?

\* How does/should the community support those who have suffered a loss?

✤ How can I become active in creating a community of comfort at Beth El? Although these are certainly challenging subjects for us to confront, it is my hope that we will approach our time together productively, transforming our tendency of avoidance and denial (when it comes to preparing for future loss) into positive, proactive steps that can lead to both personal knowledge, as well as creating a framework for Beth El to truly become a community of comfort.

I look forward to learning and exploring together with you!

## *L'shalom*, **RABBI JEREMY LIPTON**

# Lunch E Learn Tues. Feb 13 12pm

Lunch & Learn will take place at the office of Gertz & Rosen 159 South Main Street, Suite 400 Conveniently located downtown, with easy access from Main Street, or from the Skyway at Level 4 of the Summit County Parking Deck at 200 S. High Street, Akron, Ohio 44308.

## Please RSVP to kjames@gertzrosen.com

## CO-PRESIDENT, from Page 1

He was the one who prepared the tapes for us to learn our *Torah* portion. I can still hear him chanting my *Bar Mitzvah* portion. He knew the *Torah* backward and forwards. He taught the classes on *Torah* to young adults at Beth El Academy.

His memory is alive today. When you go into the auditorium and look to the sculpture next to the stage, that Don Drumm sculpture is dedicated to Beth El Congregation in Rev's honor. He is a person whom I am proud to have known.

**GREGG MANES** CO-PRESIDENT





# Back in action with community programs

Winter break is over and we are back in action.

We had a grand time with our friends at Anshe Sfard and Temple Israel at Israel Day. It is always nice to meet with our friends we don't always get to see. We also had a great time with our family day program. I really enjoy seeing the kids with their grownups working together.



TAB SCRIBNER

As always, our work continues on Tuesday afternoons and selected Sunday mornings. If you are interested in assisting with Sunday programs, please connect with me, as I can always use a second set of hands and eyes.

# FRIDAY, Feb 23 at 6pm Beth El's Musical Service "Friday Night with Friends"

Join us for our Family Friendly Musical *Kabbalat Shabbat* Service with communal singing and musical accompaniment, followed by a delicious potluck dinner.



# BETHEL CONGREGATION'S 43rd ANNUAL RAFFLE

## **BRUNCH & DRAWING**

\$7500 IN PRIZES WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TICKETS \$150 - ADMITS 2 FOR BRUNCH

# SUNDAY, APRIL 7

DOORS OPEN AT 11:30AM BRUNCH AT NOON

> To purchase a ticket: call Rob Minster: 330-807-2002 Susan Osherow: 330-813-0988 or visit www.bethelakron.org

# Contributions

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### **IN MEMORY OF**

- Bernie Kamenir from Joe & JoEllen Kodish
- Patti Vigder from Joe & JoEllen Kodish
   Ronald Weinstein from Joe & JoEllen Kodish

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- \* Patti Vigder from Lourie Rapport

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## **IN MEMORY OF**

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- Eileen Shanahan from Kate Waits & Marty Belsky

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## **IN MEMORY OF**

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- \*Patti Vigder from Jim & Susan Osherow

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## **IN MEMORY OF**

- \* Miriam Bloch from Marta Roth
- **\* Otto Bloch** from Marta Roth
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- Bernie Kamenir from Herb & Dianne Newman, Sandra Schneier, and Sid & Shirley Zetzer
- Esther Shapiro from Marv & Judi Shapiro
- **\* Ruth Recht Ungar** from Dr. Larry & Harriet Richman
- **\* Irwin Sarlson** from Mark Sarlson
- Patti Vigder from Herb & Dianne Newman, Judge Ted Schneiderman, Sandra Schneier, and Sid & Shirley Zetzer

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- **Harriet Horn** from Alan Horn
- Bernie Kamenir from Steve & Trish Crane, Debbie Saferstein, and Jacques & Etty Sardas
- ★ Patti Vigder from Steve & Trish Crane, Debbie Saferstein, and Jacques & Etty Sardas

## SISTERHOOD

## FOR THE RECOVERY OF

- Bernice Rabinovitz from Andrea & Myron Rabinovitz
- Isadore Rabinovitz from Andrea & Myron Rabinovitz

### STEPHEN M. GROSS MEMORIAL FUND

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- **Bernie Kamenir** from Scott & Paula Gross
- \* Patti Vigder from Scott & Paula Gross

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- **Ross Seider** from Sherri Leubitz
- **\* Frances Sullivan** from Sherri Leubitz
- **★ John Sullivan Sr.** from John & Cindy Sullivan
- Patti Vigder from Dr. Larry & Harriet Richman, Rochelle Stone, and Alan & Patsy Siff

## Thank you for your contributions.

Contributions received before the 10th of the month will appear in the next month's issue.

## Add to the Mi Sheberach List

Please join us in prayer for those who are not yet well.

Jewish tradition ordains that whenever the *Torah* is read, we are granted a special and uniquely opportune moment to invoke blessing for those in need of divine intervention. The Rabbi will use the list during *Mi Sheberach* prayers at the *Torah*.

Your Name	Phone		Email		
PLEASE ADD TO MI SHEBERAC					
	mother, etc.]				
Hebrew name (Ben - male)(Bat - fem	ale) Mother's name				
If in the hospital, which hospital is h	e/she in?				
Please remember to remove a name when mi si					
Contribute	CONGREGATIONA		SPECIAL GIFT FUNDS		
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