

[Bethel-Harrisonburg.org](http://Bethel-Harrisonburg.org)

*The purpose of this congregation shall be to worship God in accordance with the faith of Judaism; to cultivate a love and understanding of the Jewish heritage; to strengthen the ties within the Jewish community; to strengthen the bonds of loyalty with the Jewish people everywhere; to bring nearer the Dominion of God on earth through an emphasis on the principles of righteousness and harmony in society at large, and to engage in social action projects in pursuit of social justice and Tikkun Olam (repair of both the human and nonhuman components of the world).*

**AUGUST 2016**

***A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT***

I hope that everybody is having a wonderful summer. Let's remember that August 12 we are having a lay service at East Rockingham pool 7:30-9:30. An Oneg will be provided by Gail Clements, but you are welcome to bring a covered dish to add to the festivities. There are two lifeguards on duty so swimming will be available after services.

I look forward to the B'nai mitzvah's of David Berger and Toby Rafferty.

Let's all start thinking about how we can improve our congregation in our own personal way.

Truly, Eric Kramer, President

## ***FROM THE RABBI'S DESK***

**Tamuz – Av 5776**

Dear Beth El Congregants and Friends,

Though still Summer, our year is under way.

Welcome to the 5776-5777 year! Our cycle of services for this year begins this month, and events pick up from there. Be sure to check out the calendar and mark all the activities, services, and social events that are on the horizon!

### **THINGS OF NOTE AND TO COME**

The Elementary Biblical Hebrew course continues through July 24th. The follow-on course will begin in the Fall of 2016. Eight class sessions are planned for the Fall. These are tentatively scheduled on September 11, 28, 25, October 30, November 13, 20, December 4, and 11. For the moment, we are looking at 4-5:30 pm on Sundays at THOI, but there may be changes in the time. Contact Rabbi Joe to register. More details will be forthcoming when settled. For the Spring, we are considering a close study and translation course of prayers in the siddur, including meaning, as the text we will use for our study.

The Introduction to Hebrew course to learn the Alefbet and Vowels will take place this Fall. There will be a session on Sunday afternoons at THOI, on October 30th, November 13th and 20th, and December 4th and 11th. The same course will be offered on Wednesday evenings at 6 - 9 pm at Beth El in Harrisonburg on November 16th and 30th, and December 7th, 14th and 21st.

Death Cafés this year will be held Wednesday evenings, 7-9 pm on the following rotation: September 7th at Beth El, November 2nd at THOI, January 4th at Beth El, and March 1st at THOI.

Scheduled Rabbi-led Religious services for the current congregation year begin on Friday, August 19th, with the Bar Mitzvah of David Berger. See the official calendar for the full list of services and events.

The Shorty youth group and the Daled Class of the Religious school will be visiting the Richmond Holocaust Museum on August 21st. Please contact Rabbi Joe to reserve your ticket.

Religious school will begin on Sunday, August 28th at 9:30 am. To register your child please contact Dara Hall or Rebekah Greenfield, co-principals.

### **TORAH**

The Torah Parashiot for the coming weeks (through September 3rd) are Balak, Pinchas, Matot-Masei, Devarim (Shabbat Chazon), Va'etchanan (Shabbat Nachamu), Ekev, and Re'eh.

We are in year 3 of the triennial cycle (the third of the three divisions of the cycle of Torah readings).

## **CALENDAR**

Rosh Chodesh for Tammuz was July 6th and 7th. Rosh Chodesh for Av is August 5th. Rosh Chodesh for Elul will be September 3rd and 4th. The evening of August 13<sup>th</sup> and the day of the 14th is Tisha Be'Av, the 9<sup>th</sup> of Av, the saddest day on the Jewish calendar, marking the destruction (twice) of the Temple in Jerusalem.

Rabbi-led services are scheduled: Friday and Saturday, August 19th and 20<sup>th</sup> (Bar Mitzvah of David Berger), and September 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> (Bar Mitzvah of Toby Rafferty).

Friday evening services are scheduled to begin at 7:30 pm, Saturday morning at 10 am, unless otherwise noted.

## **IN THE COMMUNITY**

Baruch dayan haemet. We offer condolences to the Minskoff family on their tragic loss. Robbie Minskoff passed away at the end of May at the age of 46. May his memory be for a blessing, and may his mourners be comforted from heaven.

Baruch dayan haemet. We offer condolences to Chuck Slott whose mother Blanche Spitz Slott passed away July 10<sup>th</sup> in Jacksonville, Florida. She was two months short of 102 years of age. May her memory be for a blessing, and may her mourners be comforted from heaven.

Refuah Shelema to Blaine Brumbaugh. He had an overnight in the hospital recently, but is home again.

## **RABBI'S MESSAGE**

With the beginning of the new school and congregational calendar years, we are each given an opportunity to push the 'reset' button, and start fresh, re-evaluating how we wish to use our resources. Especially at this time when so much seems to be troubling, distressing, and a source of despair in the world, I invite you to think about what truly matters in your life, and to invest your time and energy in those key things. I believe that you will recognize that the congregation and its activities are a source of uplift, comfort, and a sense of community, all of which enhance the rest of your life, and support you in the things that matter most to you. It is in community that we can draw strength and courage to act in ways that lead toward Tikkun Olam (repairing the world), and supporting each other. I look forward to seeing you in the weeks and months ahead.

**Rabbi Joe Blair**

## **CONTACTING THE RABBI**

Please Note: Rabbi Joe may be reached by email at [RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com](mailto:RabbiJoeB@hotmail.com) (Other email addresses may not reach him in a timely fashion, or at all.) He reads email regularly, except on Jewish Holidays or Shabbat, when he does not use the computer.

His cell phone number is 925-272-8563 (925-2-RAVJOE). Please note this number: **any other number you may have is no longer active.**

Telephone messages left at the Congregation number are only checked sporadically.

PLEASE CALL if you have any urgent messages or in case of an emergency, and please let Rabbi Joe know if you or anyone you know is ill or would want a call or visit for any reason.

You are also invited to contact Rabbi Joe to arrange an appointment to meet. Rabbi Joe will be happy to make an appointment to speak with you, so that he can offer you his full, undivided attention.

### *Leadership*

<b>Joe Blair</b>	<b>Rabbi</b>
<b>Eric Kramer</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Kim Gutterman</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
<b>Phil Renick</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Bill Ney</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Les Mintzer</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
<b>Andy Kohen</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
<b>Ron Ornstein</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
<b>Amanda Friss</b>	<b>Member at Large</b>
<b>Gail Clemons</b>	<b>Member at Large</b>
<b>Sherri Alt</b>	<b>Sisterhood Co-President</b>
<b>Rebekah Greenfield</b>	<b>Sisterhood Co-President</b>
<b>Les Mintzer</b>	<b>Men's Club President</b>
<b>Ron Ornstein</b>	<b>Immediate Past President</b>
<b>Dara Hall</b>	<b>Religious School Principal</b>

**Bridge Editor**  
**Elliott Golub**  
[Elgolubret@comcast.net](mailto:Elgolubret@comcast.net)  
**540-289-5336**

## **NOTES FROM THE BOARD MEETING OF JULY 18, 2016**

- Members Attending: Rabbi Blair; Kim Gutterman, Vice President; Phillip Renick, Secretary; Bill Ney, Treasurer; Amanda Friss and Gale Clemons. Not in attendance: Eric Kramer, President; Les Mintzer (men's club president); Sherri Alt (sisterhood president)  
Trustees are not present: Andy Kohen, Judy Freudenthal and Ron Ornstein.
- Kim reported that we have had some steady attendance at the lay services recently.
- The yard sale profited the sisterhood over \$600.
- Men's Club: The picnic will be 8/17 at Hillandale Park at Shelter 12, at 6pm.
- SHORTY: Rabbi Joe reported that they will be having planning meetings in the next two weeks. 8/21 will be their trip to the Holocaust museum.
- Rabbi Joe mentioned that Joyce Helbraun has been moved to a facility in Elkton, so she is now more isolated. She needs visitors, or anyone that could take her out on trips.
- The Bazaar will be moved to April 30, 2017, so it is not at the end of the school year.
- The Congregational picnic will be June 11, 2017. The Temple will provide hamburgers and hotdogs, and all other foods will be potluck.
- Reminder that the lay service at East Rockingham pool is August 12 at 7:30, and Gale will provide the Oneg.

## **YAHREZEITS**

<b>01</b>	<b>Jord Poster</b>	<b>2012</b>	
<b>04</b>	<b>Eugene Berney</b>	<b>1976</b>	
	<b>Robert W Rudd</b>		
<b>09</b>	<b>W.C. Ward</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>Michelle Ornstein's father</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Velerie Ney</b>	<b>1981</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Blanche Goldman</b>		
	<b>Betty O'Callaghan</b>		<b>Maureen Goldberger's Mother</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>David Aaron Kraus</b>		
	<b>Lena Raff</b>	<b>1982</b>	<b>Irma Nemoytin's Mother</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Jessie Frankel</b>		<b>Dave Frankel's Mother</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Moses Rosenbloom</b>		<b>Sarah Loewner's Father</b>
	<b>Alexander Auerbach</b>	<b>1975</b>	<b>Suzi Trubitz' Grandfather</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Robert Hirsch</b>		
	<b>Ali David Good</b>		<b>Estelle Robinson's Father</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Carrie Ney Scheuer</b>	<b>1954</b>	<b>Member</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Albert Ash</b>		<b>Eddie Ney's Grandfather</b>
	<b>Adele Bilsker Moses</b>	<b>1968</b>	
	<b>Louis Slott</b>		<b>Chuck Slott's Father</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Suzanne Glazer</b>		<b>John Stewart's Sister</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Arlette Lewin</b>	<b>1999</b>	
<b>21</b>	<b>Irving Ney</b>	<b>1966</b>	<b>Eddie Ney's Father</b>

23	<b>Rubin Peck</b>		<b>Beverly Zindler's Father</b>
24	<b>David Robinson</b>	<b>1968</b>	<b>Member Josh Robinson's Brother</b>
26	<b>Raymond Hoffman</b>		<b>Rabbi Dan Fink's Grandfather</b>
27	<b>John Stewart</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Member</b>
29	<b>Rose Poster Carr</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>Allan Poster's Mother</b>
30	<b>Joseph Mintzer</b>	<b>1967</b>	<b>Member Erwin Helbraun's &amp; Anne Mintzer's Uncle</b>
	<b>Marvin Poster</b>	<b>1976</b>	<b>Member</b>
	<b>Abraham Goodman</b>	<b>1976</b>	<b>Suzi Trubitz' Father</b>

## ***DONATIONS***

*Beth El Beth El Congregation is grateful for the following generous donations:*

*To the Yahrzeit memorial Fund*

Ron & Michelle Ornstein in memory of Warren C. Ward (Michelle's Father)  
 Arnie Kahn & Ely Swecker in memory of Ronnie Kahn (Arnie's Wife)  
 Lenore Price in memory of Max Wolf Landsman (Lenore's Father)  
 Alan & Kate Neckowitz in memory of Jack Neckowitz (Alan's Father)

In Memory of Chuck Slott's mother (Blanche Slott)  
 Joan Funston  
 Bill & Leslie Ney  
 Andy Kohen  
 Mona Wolf

In Memory of Rob Minskoff  
 The Trubitz Family  
 Marshall & Lynn Kohen  
 Lynne Landsberg & Dennis Ward

In Honor of Valerie Stephens Anniversary  
 Gale & Charles Clemons

## ***RELIGIOUS SCHOOL***

I hope you are having a fabulous summer!

Religious School information will be e-mailed to families in mid-August.

The first day of Religious School will be on Sunday, August 28th.

If you are interested in receiving information or have any questions related to Religious School, please contact me at [mddmhall@verizon.net](mailto:mddmhall@verizon.net).

As it is back to school season and office supply prices are often much lower, we would welcome the following donations for Religious School:

White 8.5 x 11 Multipurpose Paper

Sharpened pencils, markers, colored pencils, chalk (board & sidewalk)

Poster Board, Cardstock, Felt, Glue (sticks and bottles)

Index Cards – large & small

Construction Paper (particularly shades of blue)

2-Pocket Folders

Arts and Crafts Supplies (e.g. Play dough, popsicle sticks, etc.)

L'shalom,

Dara

## ***SHORTY***

SHORTY and Dalet students will be joining together on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup> to go to the Holocaust Museum in Richmond, VA. Please let us know if you are interested in joining us. We recommend that visitors be over the age of 11. For information related to SHORTY, please contact Becky at [rem82398@gmail.com](mailto:rem82398@gmail.com).

Get your Dancing Shoes ready and come Party with us! **Live music!**

**Mark Your Calendars for Saturday evening, September 10!**

You are invited to Beth El for a grown-up night out of dessert and dancing! Child

Care will be available so everyone can come!

More information will be coming soon.

A donation of \$18/person will cover the cost of dessert and coffee and dancing (and child care). Fundraiser sponsored by SHORTY.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please join us as our son

*David Henry*

is called to the torah as a Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, the twentieth of August

Two thousand and sixteen

Ten o'clock in the morning

Refreshments to follow

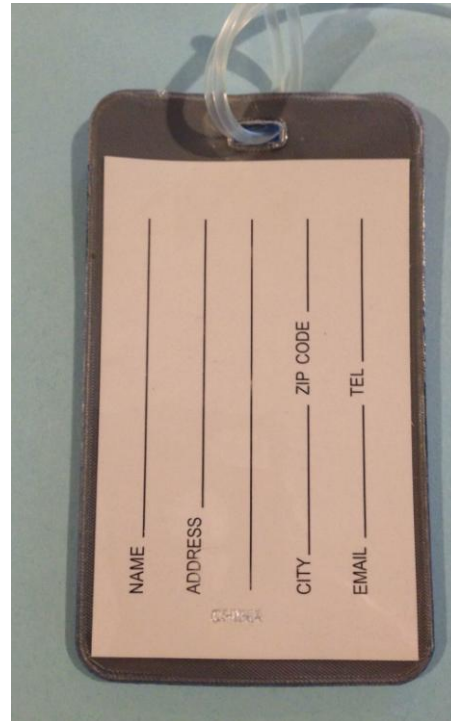
Ruth and Bary Berger



David Berger's Bar Mitzvah Project  
August 20, 2016

For my bar mitzvah project, I created a luggage tag to support the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank's Family Backpack Program. This program allows a needy student to take a backpack home containing food to supplement their family's meals each weekend. Many of these students rely on the breakfast and lunch served at school for the majority of their food intake for the day. The backpack program tries to ensure that the children will not go hungry when school is not in session. I am selling my luggage tags (pictured below) for \$5.00 each. I used the word HOPE because I wanted to bring hope to those in need. One tag will pay for 20 individual meals for these students and their families. All of the money raised will be going directly to this program to help students and families within the Shenandoah Valley. You can use these tags for instrument cases, gym bags, luggage, backpacks, etc. Please help me support this worthy cause. You can reach me by email: [tags4food@gmail.com](mailto:tags4food@gmail.com) or you can call our home: (540)574-0440. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
David Berger



# First Step 2016 Wish List



## Personal and hygiene items for Residents (adult women and children of all ages)

- shampoo/conditioner (full size)
- body wash/lotion (full size)
- diapers/pull ups (size 3,4,5,6)
- diaper rash cream/baby wipes
- shaving cream
- baby shampoo/oil/lotion/bath soap
- night clothes (all sizes)
- first aid supplies kits
- tweezers
- brushes/combs
- rubber mattress covers
- children's coloring books
- winter or rain boots (all sizes)
- handmade blankets/quilts
- winter hats/gloves (adults)
- eye masks
- deodorant
- bras (all sizes)
- manicure sets
- antibiotic ointment, alcohol, peroxide)
- flip flop/slippers (all sizes)
- maxi pads/tampons
- underwear (all sizes)
- sunglasses (children and adults)
- sunscreen
- adult coloring books
- journals
- 2016 calendars
- alarm clocks
- umbrellas

## Shelter Supplies

- 13 Gallon and 30 gallon trash Bags
- bleach/no chlorine bleach
- dish detergent
- liquid hand soap
- towels/bath rugs
- shower curtains/liners
- twin size quilts, comforters and sheet sets
- sponges/Mr. Clean Erasers
- fabric softener
- wheeled storage bins with drawers
- bathroom/toilet cleaners
- disposable gloves
- coffee makers
- Clorox or Lysol wipes
- hand sanitizer
- laundry stain remover
- under bed plastic storage containers
- laundry detergent (HE) sensitive skin
- toilet paper/paper towels
- new bed pillows
- wet and dry swiffers
- laundry baskets/bags

Continued on back

## Food

- shelf stable milk
- cereal
- crackers
- mayonnaise
- jelly
- canned fruit
- sugar/artificial sweetener
- canned chicken/tuna/other meats
- cookies/graham crackers/granola bars
- spaghetti sauce
- juice (bottles, packets, and boxes)
- raisins/dried fruits
- cool aide/crystal light drink packets
- boxed meals (i.e. hamburger helper)
- coffee (ground)
- bottles of water/Gatorade
- flour and spices
- baking powder/baking soda
- powdered creamer
- coffee filters (cylinder)
- hot chocolate mix
- Fresh fruit (oranges/apples)
- cooking oil
- canned soup/canned pasta
- tea bags
- cake/brownie mixes, icing
- pudding and Jello-cups
- packaged snack crackers

### Gift Cards

At times First Step residents need things that First Step does not have (examples: perishable food, specific clothing and shoes for a job, gas to get to work or appointments, etc.). Gift cards are used when there are no other community resources to provide the items.

- Dollar General
- Food Lion
- Roses
- Wal-Mart
- Ross
- Gas Stations
- Hair Salons
- Shoe Stores

### House Warming Items

Small household items for residents moving into new apartments/homes.

- Electric pump air mattresses
- sheets and towels
- measuring cups/spoons
- dishes/cups/mugs/utensils
- can openers/spatulas
- pots/pans/bowls
- small appliances
- shower curtains/rings
- strollers/pack-in-plays

### Office Supplies

- batteries (AAA,AA,C and D)
- lined pads of paper/journals/ notepads/notebooks
- business envelopes/stamps
- permanent markers



**First Step**  
129 Franklin Street, Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
(540) 434-0295

# August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Lay service at East Rockingham pool 7:30-9:30	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Tisha B'Av	7pm Board Meeting		Men's Club Picnic		7:30pm David Berger Bar Mitzvah	10am David Berger Bar Mitzvah
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
SHORTY Trip to Holocaust Museum						
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
First day of Religious School					Toby Rafferty Bar Mitzvah	Toby Rafferty Bar Mitzvah

