



May 2017
Iyyar - Sivan 5777



Shavuot Celebration of Torah

Tuesday, May 30, 2017

See details on page 26



Shavuot Service Times

Tuesday, May 30th - 7:00pm

Wednesday, May 31st - 9:00am and 6:00pm

Thursday, June 1st - 9:00am Yizkor

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Monday May 1st

5:00pm Mysticism and Meditation

Tuesday May 2nd

1:00pm Interfaith Bible Study

4:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Classes

7:00pm Keruv (Conversion) Class

7:00pm Sisterhood Special Meeting

Thursday May 4th

7:00pm Scholar-in-Residence Lecture Series

Friday May 5th

Candle Lighting: 8:47pm

Torah Portion: AHAREI MOT and KEDOSHIM

Shabbat May 6th

9:00am Shabbat Service

9:00am Sisterhood Shabbat

10:45am Tot Shabbat

Sunday May 7th

10:00am Shul School

10:00am Jewish Parenting Series

1:00pm Dorshei Tzedec

Monday May 8th

5:00pm Mysticism and Meditation

Tuesday May 9th

1:00pm Interfaith Bible Study

4:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Classes

7:00pm Keruv (Conversion) Class

Thursday May 11th

6:30pm Israel Night

7:00pm Scholar-in-Residence Lecture Series

Friday May 12th

Candle Lighting: 8:58pm

Torah Portion: EMOR

Shabbat May 13th

9:00am Shabbat Service

9:00am B'nai Mitzvah

- Brock and Piper Sidorsky

10:00am Minyan Katan

Sunday May 14th

10:00am Shul School

Monday May 15th

5:00pm Mysticism and Meditation

Tuesday May 16th

1:00pm Interfaith Bible Study

4:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Classes

7:00pm Keruv (Conversion) Class

Wednesday May 17th

7:00pm Medical Lecture Series

Thursday May 18th

12:00pm HAZAK 55+

7:00pm Scholar-in-Residence Lecture Series

7:00pm Sisterhood Board Meeting

7:00pm Torah on Tap

Friday May 19th

Candle Lighting: 9:08pm

Torah Portion:

BEHAR and BEHUKKOTAI

Shabbat May 20th

9:00am Shabbat Service

9:00am Bar Mitzvah

- Jaxson Helper

10:45am Tot Shabbat

Sunday May 21st

1:00pm Dorshei Tzedec

Monday May 22nd

OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday May 23rd

1:00pm Interfaith Bible Study

4:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Classes

7:00pm Keruv (Conversion) Class

Wednesday May 24th

6:30pm Beth Tzedec Board Meeting
(Members Welcome)

Friday May 26th

Candle Lighting: 9:18pm

7:00pm 20-40s Shabbat Dinner

Torah Portion: BEMIDBAR

Shabbat May 27th

9:00am Shabbat Service

9:00am Bar Mitzvah

- Zen Laven

Sunday May 28th

10:00am Shul School

Monday May 29th

5:00pm Mysticism and Meditation

Tuesday May 30th

1:00pm Interfaith Bible Study

5:30pm Shavuot Blintz Dinner, Services and Cheesecake Party

Wednesday May 31st

OFFICE CLOSED

10:00am Shavuot Family Service and Ice Cream Party



Beth Tzedec Congregation

Executive Officers

Maxine Fischbein	President
Elliott Steinberg	Vice President
David Inhaber	Vice President and Treasurer
Joshua Switzer	Secretary
Lorne Pearl	Past President
Lorie Abernethy	Sisterhood President

Board of Directors

Cheryl Baron Shiell	Howard Cohen
Gregory Davis	Jeffrey Dworkin
Eddy Lang	Phil Libin
Heather Lister	Stuart Myron
Therese Nagler	Deborah Silver
Markham Silver	Deborah Shnay

Synagogue Professionals and Staff

Shaul Osadchey	Rabbi
Russell Jayne	Cantor
Joshua Corber	Rabbi, Director of Congregational Learning Youth Program Coordinator
Ina Sandler	Executive Director
Max Lipsman	Accounting
Yolanda Cea	Publications/Administration
Teresa Sofocleous	Administration
Karen Emmons	Reception/Administration
Laura Moser	Shamash
Bert Glow	Operations
Bill Barkaie	

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Steven Blitz Endowment Fund
Leo & Goldie Sheftel Rabbinical Chair
Norman & Beulah Martin Cantorial Chair
Cyngiser Family Jewish Film Festival Fund



Rabbinic Reflections

Counting our Blessings

This year, the month of May on the Jewish calendar is entirely devoted to counting. Each day we symbolically count another measure of barley to mark our journey from Passover to Shavuot. In so doing, we acknowledge several significant Jewish ideas. First, this period of 49 days, known as the *sefirah* (counting in Hebrew), reflects the anxiety of our ancestors about the outcome of their harvest. In

learning from their daily experiences, we recognize the fragility of life and the interdependence between humanity and the natural world. Secondly, we affirm the idea that there is a purpose and meaning to life. The ancient Israelites moved from political liberation following the Egyptian bondage to a state of spiritual revelation upon receiving the Torah at Mt. Sinai. This transformation is meant to model our own striving to build sacred communities that embody the values of Torah and the sanctity of all life.

The act of counting teaches us several important ideas for daily living. We learn that time is valuable and that each day is precious for the blessings to be enjoyed in the present. Counting affirms the notion that real progress is generally achieved incrementally rather than in one major moment. Counting also enhances the qualities of persistence and clarity of vision regarding our long term goals.

Beth Tzedec Congregation personifies the importance of the Jewish view of counting for our accomplishments are the result of slow but steady progress toward our vision statement of “*inspiring innovative learning, spiritual growth, and compassion to nurture Conservative Jewish life in the home, synagogue, and the community.*” Every journey entails a measure of uncertainty as we experience times of joy and achievement as well as moments of disappointment and challenge. But, throughout the journey, there remains the underlying commitment to add each person’s “measure of barley” to create a strong and vibrant community.

So, rather than “re-count” the many successful activities that have characterized the year 5777 that began last September, allow me to encourage you to add your vision and talents to these upcoming programs in the month of May:

- The second Lil Faider Interfaith Scholar-in-Residence Lecture Series will focus on Buddhist lifecycle ceremonies.
- The Jewish Parenting Series will discuss raising children with non-Jewish

relatives.

- Our first Beth Tzedec Medical Series Lecture will feature Dr. Gil Kaplan speaking on the topic of “Being Good to Your Gut: What Science Says about Digestive Health.”
- Torah on Tap for our 20-40’s group will combine brews and Jews for an interesting exploration of Jewish belief and practice.
- Our current Keruv (Conversion) Class will inspire us with their insights and devotion to Judaism in the context of the Shavuot celebration with blintzes and cheesecake.

These are the among the daily blessings that we experience and can continue to anticipate as Beth Tzedec positions itself as the most dynamic and innovative centre of Jewish life in Calgary. In the process of this becoming a reality, we count upon each person to add his or her vision, energy and resources to our worthy pursuit of building a *kehillah kedosha* (a sacred congregation) that will inspire, uplift, support and comfort. As specific leadership and program opportunities become available in the coming months, I encourage you to step forward and be counted, in large or small measure, in shaping Beth Tzedec’s future.

May all the worthy acts that you perform be counted as a blessing and source of joy,

Rabbi Shaul Osadchey

Leo & Goldie Sheftel Rabbinical Chair



Members of Beth Tzedec celebrate the Baptism of Hrag Kalanjoghli and our Syrian Armenian newcomer family in the presence of Bishop Hovakimian, head of the Armenian Apostolic Church in Canada on March 26, 2017.



Cantor's Notes



*“Were the sky of parchment made,
A quill each reed, each twig and blade,
Could we with ink the oceans fill,
Were every man a scribe of skill,*

*The marvelous story
Of God’s great glory
Would still remain untold;
For He, Most High,
The earth and sky
Created alone of old.”*

Thus opens the famous and enigmatic *piyyut* or liturgical poem of the *Shavuot* festival, *Akdamut Milin*. This lengthy Aramaic poem, ninety rhymed lines in all, functions as an extended poetic preface to the first *aliyah* to the Torah on the morning of *Shavuot*. Its forty-five couplets do not offer listeners a linear narrative, but rather, elaborate variously on God’s power and majesty, God’s Torah and its significance, and God’s people Israel, with a recurring focus on Israel’s enduring loyalty to the covenant symbolized by the Torah. Yet where does this rich and extremely complicated tapestry woven in tooth-breaking Aramaic come from, and why has it endured in our liturgy despite its allusiveness and opacity in both language and imagery?

One answer is suggested by Rabbi Jeffrey Hoffman who argues persuasively that some of the communal attachment to this hymn may derive from the folkloristic “backstory” the poem and its author acquired in the 17th century.

This story, preserved in Yiddish, describes how a wicked monk has murdered over thirty thousand Jews in the Rhineland through black magic. Seeking royal protection, the Jewish community of Worms approaches the king, who in turn summons the monk. The monk promises to cease his attacks on the Jews for one year, on the condition that at the end of the year, the Jews produce a champion to compete in a sorcery contest. Should the Jewish champion win, the monk will never again attack the Jews; should the Jews lose, the monk would kill them all. Despite searching for almost the entire year, no Jewish champion can be found. One night, however, a certain scholar learns in a dream that the savior can be found among the Ten Lost Tribes, across the mythical river *Sambatyon*. Rabbi Meir, the leader of the Jewish community of Worms, the son of *Hazzan* Isaac Nehorai and a contemporary of the great biblical commentator, *Rashi*, is asked to head the delegation that will seek to find the

champion. With only eight days to spare, the search party reaches the shores of the river. Since the river can only be crossed on Shabbat, otherwise its waters are too fierce to endure; Rabbi Meir crosses alone, so that only he incurs the guilt of violating the prohibition against initiating a boat journey on Shabbat.

In the end, he locates a champion who does in fact succeed in defeating the evil monk, but Rabbi Meir must remain on the far shore of the river among the Ten Lost Tribes rather than violate Shabbat again. Lost forever to his community, Rabbi Meir composes the *Akdmut* as a gift to the Jews and asks that they recite it every year on *Shavuot* “for the sake of his name”, a name he ensured would endure because he embedded it in the poetic acrostic.

Because of this acquired mythology, *Akdmut Milin* brings to mind the traditions around the most famous Rosh Hashanah *piyyut*, *Unetaneh Toqef*, which is also given a fantastical origin story crediting it to a martyr named Rabbi Amnon of Mainz. Yet maybe an even better parallel is with the *Kol Nidre*. This prayer has persisted more because of its musical qualities than because of its language or content. The same can be said of the *Akdmut*. Its sweeping melody, like *Kol Nidre*, is said to be “from Sinai”, and apart from the Festival *Kiddush*, the melody is never used again in any other service. It is therefore a highly anticipated moment in the liturgical year. As a result, between story and song, *Akdmut Milin* has become too potent to just fade away, no matter how obsolete its language and themes may be, and in the end, this poem is ultimately more than its words and more than its music. It is a delicate and enduring fabric that allows us to look through the eyes and hear through the ears of our predecessors in Torah and, like them, emulate their steadfast commitment to the Jewish way of life.

Chag Shavuot Sameiach!

A Happy and Blessed *Shavuot* to all!

Cantor Russell Jayne

Norman & Beulah Martin Cantorial Chair



Prayer Service Times

Morning Services: Monday-Friday 7:45am

Saturday, Sunday and Stat Holidays 9:00am

Evening Services: Daily at 6:00pm



Joshua's Jam

At the end of May we will celebrate *Shavuot*, a festival associated with *Matan Torah*, the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. Parallel to the *Pesach Seder*, where we relive the Exodus from Egypt, *Shavuot* is an opportunity to relive *Matan Torah*. Just as on *Pesach* each person must view herself as if she personally was redeemed from slavery, so too on *Shavuot* each person must view himself as if he personally received Torah at Mount Sinai.

How can we arrive at a place where we genuinely feel ourselves to be recipients of Torah in the present? Can we really receive that which we already have? How can we re-receive something? We may find a clue in the actual description of the *Matan Torah* event:

On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled. ¹⁷ Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, and the whole mountain^[b] trembled violently. ¹⁹ As the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder... When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance ¹⁹ and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die."

It is clear from these passages that the Israelites were in the midst of an extremely powerful experience. Each one of them were able to 'see thunder', which is hard to imagine and is only theoretically possible in an altered mind state.

To receive Torah is to have a profound experience. This is our approach to education at Beth Tzedec; we strive to create opportunities for experiential learning. A great example of this is *Mysticism and Meditation*, where participants learn first by doing a meditation exercise and then engage in learning about the mystical or cosmic framework behind that meditation technique. Another example is *Minyan Katan* which takes B'nai Mitzvah classes 'out of the classroom' and into the small chapel which becomes a living laboratory; students and families can acclimate to what a Shabbat morning service actually looks and feels like so that when they reach their B'nai Mitzvah, it isn't a foreign experience. Instead, it is a familiar and comfortable experience which greatly increases their likelihood of coming back to services after their B'nai Mitzvah.

Torah is meant to be studied so that it can be lived; it is meant to expand far beyond the literary realm. The key to creating an authentic sense of connection to Torah is experience. It's a philosophy we embody very much here at Beth Tzedec. May we all merit to receive Torah this *Shavuot*

Rabbi Joshua Corber

Our Clergy in the Community

- Rabbi Osadchey and Cantor Russ continued to alternate visits to the Trinity Lodge where they lead a pre-Shabbat service every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month.
- Rabbi Osadchey chaired the April meeting of the Calgary Interfaith Council.
- Rabbi Osadchey co-chaired with Bishop Greg Kerr-Wilson the quarterly meeting of the Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build Project Leadership Team.
- Cantor Russ attended the Building Sacred Bridges committee meeting to continue planning next year's Building Sacred Bridges interfaith musical event on April 4th.
- Cantor Russ led a model Seder for the residents of the Chinook Nursing Home on April 5th.
- Rabbi Corber was a guest lecturer in a religious studies class at Mount Royal University and spoke about Jewish efforts to counter religious violence on April 6th.
- Cantor Russ led a model Seder for the Keshet Klub at Beth Tzedec on April 9th.
- Rabbi Osadchey welcomed Bishop William McGrattan to Beth Tzedec to sign the sale of hametz on April 10th.
- Rabbi Corber welcomed a group from St. Thomas United Church to educate them about the meaning and practice of the Passover Seder on April 13th.
- Rabbi and Bobbie Osadchey conducted a "teaching seder" for St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on April 13th.
- Rabbi Osadchey attended the Board Meeting of the Metropolitan Alliance for the Common Good on April 20th.
- Rabbi Osadchey conducted Shabbat services in Kelowna for the Okanagan Jewish Community on April 21st-22nd.
- Cantor Russ sang the *El Male Rachamim* at the community Yom HaShoah commemoration on April 23rd.
- Rabbi Osadchey and Cantor Russ participated in the Yom HaShoah services on April 23rd.
- Cantor Russ sang the *El Male Rachamim* and the national anthems of Canada and Israel at the community Yom HaZikaron service on April 30th.
- Rabbi and Bobbie Osadchey flew to Amman, Jordan to attend the award ceremony and accept the First Prize from King Abdullah for the UN World Interfaith Harmony Week program held in Calgary this past February.



President's Pen

A Message from Maxine Fischbein

Last month, your Beth Tzedec Board of Directors approved a slate of candidates for the 2017-2019 Board of Directors and Executive at the recommendation of the Nominating Committee chaired by Past President Lorne Pearl. Todah rabah to committee members Stuart Myron, Therese Nagler, Deborah Silver and Phil Libin who participated with Lorne and myself in bringing together a great slate.

The following individuals have said *Hineni* – “Here I am” by expressing the willingness and enthusiasm to serve our Synagogue family in executive capacities:

David Inhaber – President

Lorne Pearl – Vice President

Leonard Seidman – Vice President

Elliot Steinberg – Vice President

Josh Switzer – Vice President

Joshua Inhaber – Treasurer

Jeff Dworkin – Secretary

The Board also approved the following Board members, each of whom already has a track record of leadership at Beth Tzedec:

Howard Cohen

Gregory Davis

Eddy Lang

Heather Lister

Stuart Myron

Cheryl Shiell

Deborah Shnay

Deborah Silver

Markham Silver

While your Board of Directors endorses the previously mentioned candidates, please note that our nominations process remains an open one. Any Beth Tzedec Congregant in good standing may submit a nomination form prior to 4:00pm on Thursday, May 18th. Nomination forms were sent to congregants at the beginning of March and additional copies are available at the office.

Should there be more than one nominee for any of the Executive positions and/or more than nine nominees for the Board of Directors, an election will take place at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, June 22nd.

Our By-Laws provide for an additional Board appointment on behalf of the Beth Tzedec Presidents' Council. I am very pleased to share the news that the Council has approved the appointment to our Board of Directors of former Beth Tzedec President Helmi Switzer.

After two two-year terms, I am looking forward to serving on the Board and Executive in an exciting new capacity. As Past President, I will strive to serve as devotedly as Lorne Pearl has done. Among my other labours of love as Beth Tzedec Past President, I will follow in his footsteps as the Chair of the Nominating Committee for the 2019-2021 Board and Executive.

It is my intention to engage more congregants than ever in the joys of building our sacred community. The Board and Executive are perhaps the most visible places to share our time and talents at Beth Tzedec, but they are not the only ones. We are in need of an army of volunteers from those who want a time-limited task with a clearly defined beginning, middle and end to those who want to help build a vision and legacy over longer-term projects.

As Yom Hashoah approaches, I am reminded of the inspiring words of Anne Frank . . . “How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

Anne Frank was able to embrace this principle despite desperate circumstances. How much more does it behoove those who live in relative comfort and ease to bring our talents to the fore to improve the world.

Our sages tell us that charity and chesed begin at home . . . and I urge all our congregants to share your time and talent at Beth Tzedec – our collective spiritual home.

I wish a warm yasher koach to our slate of nominees for your willingness to serve. *Behatzlacha!*

While much work is done by our volunteers, I thank our Clergy, Executive Director Max Lipsman and our operations staff who work so hard to serve the most important people at Beth Tzedec – you, our loyal congregants.

Early wishes for a *Chag Shavuot Sameach*.

Looking forward to seeing you at Shul!

Maxine Fischbein,

President

Lil Faider Scholar-in-Residence

Sensei Ken Madden

Peace be with you. It is my hope that you had a wonderful Passover, full of expression of your relationship to Adonai. And maybe some great food too!

During March, we enjoyed a talk by the Calgary Buddhist Temple's 'Templekeeper' Sensei, my own lead Sensei and both an inspiration and mentor to me, Reverend James Martin. I also hope that you had a great experience at our little Calgary Buddhist Temple on your visit. I felt that the Dharma talk by our Sensei James Martin was excellent, and gave a real 'taste' of what a good dharma talk might sound like. These are meant to help us think in different ways, about our relationships with and in this world; to teach us about our view that the world is both interdependent, and impermanent, and what this means to us in how we live this life.

Tracey Pickup of the Wild Rose Sangha (community) will also have most recently continued the Buddhist speaking series; she has a particular scholarship and understanding of the role of women in Buddhism, historically, currently, and in the future. Tracey holds Ordination in a different Tradition than my own, The Order of Interbeing of the Vietnamese Monk and fruitful author and teacher, Thich Nhat Hanh. His emphasis is on Engaged Buddhism through Mindfulness. She has also been a teacher of mine on my Buddhist Path; I am highly grateful and respectful of her work.

The plan as the program moves into May is to experience Buddhist practices directly, now that the basic doctrinal teachings and mindset have been discussed in the lecture series. We will demonstrate a Buddhist Wedding, a Buddhist Confirmation or Sarana ceremony, Buddhist baby naming, O-Shoko gratitude, and a full session of chanting. Maybe a little more meditation of various kinds and a discussion of what these practices are for in a Buddhist context.

I hope to see you in May for these practices!

I would like to add to Tracey Pickup's talk about the role of women in Buddhism by relating something about their role within my own Japanese sect of Buddhism: Jodo Shinshu. In short, Jodo Shinshu could not exist without the pivotal role of women at the formation of our sect and are considered equal in the sect in current times.

Our sect was founded by a Teacher in Japan in the 12th century called Shinran Shonin. For a time, his teachings, which were aimed at teaching Buddhism to common people, ran something afoul of the religious authorities of his time

(where have we heard this story before?). He was exiled to a far western fishing village in Japan. There, he met a woman named Eshinni whom he married. The wealth of Eshinni's family, and her loving support allowed Shinran to write his teachings and to further develop them while he was in exile. Later, he was able to disseminate his teachings through the writings that he had developed and to prove the correctness of that which he taught in debate with other Buddhist scholars.

He has several sons and daughters from his marriage. At the time, almost all Buddhist teachers were monks: there would be no sons or daughters to continue a Father's teachings. However in the case of Shinran, as he aged, his daughter Kakushinni was able to care for him. At his passing, she donated land that she had in turn inherited from her own marriage to be a place of remembrance for her Father, and which became a central place for the followers of his teachings to gather. She made arrangement for her son to be the caretaker of this mausoleum and who later became the Head Priest of the Temple which emerged there. He is now the Head of our Sect and is known as the Go-Monshu -same. The current officeholder is the 25th direct descendant of Shinran Shonin.

Without the contribution and foresight of Shinran's partner and daughter, there would be no Jodo Shinshu, a sect of Buddhism that is largest in Japan and for the common people. Today, although Japan can still have elements of patriarchy, the daughters of Jodo Shinshu family Templekeeper priests are completely able to assume that role as they come to the age of majority, taking over from their current family member holding the role for the family. In my own case, of a class of 84 students, 27 were women, or about 1/3.

I look forward to teaching the practices of Buddhism as we continue your exploration of our tradition, a bridge that one can walk in both directions.

In Gassho (in peace),

Sensei Ken

Calgary Buddhist Temple, Jodo Shinshu



Sisterhood Sentiments

As I noted in last month's *Shofar*, our Sisterhood has a long tradition of successful programs.

However, we, like many other organizations have struggled to engage volunteers in the leadership and operations of our organization. Sisterhood members have received notice of a special meeting being held on **Tuesday, May 2nd at 7:00pm** at Beth Tzedec Congregation. This meeting will provide an open forum for discussion. Paid up members will vote on the future programming and operations of Sisterhood. We hope that all Sisterhood members will attend this meeting and have their voice heard on this important matter.

Sisterhood Shabbat – May 6th!

In celebration of Mother's Day, Sisterhood will be leading services on **Saturday, May 6th** and we want to have as many women join us in celebrating this tradition of our all women-lead service, with a special Kiddush to follow. Please contact Linda Gutman at lmgutman@shaw.ca if you would like to take on a part of the service – English or Hebrew – there is room for all.

Celebration of Sisterhood and Mitzvah Donor Luncheon

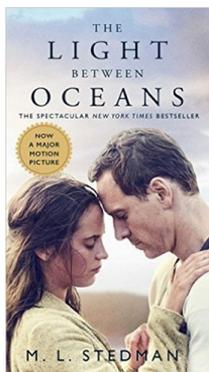
Please join us on Sunday June 11th as we celebrate the long history of Sisterhood of Calgary Beth Tzedec. Our Sisterhood's roots go back to 1951 and the current organization was founded as a non-profit charitable organization in 1991. One of the oldest, continuously operating Sisterhoods in the Pacific Northwest, Sisterhood of Calgary Beth Tzedec has much to celebrate.

Join us for lunch as we celebrate past presidents, volunteers and members and join in a tribute to our latest Mitzvah Donor honouree – Linda Gutman.



Tickets will go on sale in May. Please watch the *Shalom Byte*, the *Lecha Dodi* and your email for further details on ticket prices.

Sisterhood Book Club



Sisterhood's final **Book Club** gathering for the year is on **Tuesday, June 6th at 7:00pm**. The book – *The Light between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman.

The years-long New York Times bestseller and Goodreads Best Historical Novel that is “irresistible...seductive...with a high concept plot that keeps you riveted from the first page” (*O, The Oprah Magazine*) - soon to be a major motion picture from Spielberg's Dreamworks starring Michael Fassbender, Rachel Weisz, and Alicia Vikander, and directed by Derek Cianfrance.

After four harrowing years on the Western Front, Tom Sherbourne returns to Australia and takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, nearly half a day's journey from the coast. To this isolated island, where the supply boat comes once a season, Tom brings a young, bold, and loving wife, Isabel. Years later, after two miscarriages and one stillbirth, the grieving Isabel hears a baby's cries on the wind. A boat has washed up onshore carrying a dead man and a living baby.

Tom, who keeps meticulous records and whose moral principles have withstood a horrific war, wants to report the man and infant immediately. But Isabel insists the baby is a “gift from God,” and against Tom's judgment, they claim her as their own and name her Lucy. When she is two, Tom and Isabel return to the mainland and are reminded that there are other people in the world. Their choice has devastated one of them.

This book is available at Chapters, Indigo, Amazon and in Audio book format.

Mark your Calendars

Sisterhood Shabbat – celebrating Mother's Day and all the women of our congregation on **Saturday, May 6th**.

Celebration of Sisterhood and **Mitzvah Donor Luncheon Sunday, June 11th** – 11:30am doors open; lunch at 12:00pm and program to follow.

Lorie Abernethy

Sisterhood President

“With the milk of human kindness, there should be no such thing as skim.”

– Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson



A MESSAGE FROM Bobbie Osadchey

Moments to Relax (this is not what you think)

No offence but you were probably born a bit clenched. Most everybody was. Anyone who has cared for a distressed newborn has noticed impressive levels of clenched fists, face, tummy and legs. New babies are really good at scrunching.

They were fearing nothing then WOW ~ bright lights, air conditioning, and of course years of diapers. Now here we are, decades later, still clenched. Have you ever been on a horse and able to describe the motion of the horse when it relaxes and trusts its rider so that their joy together feels like a dance? Living fully requires trust that the universe is supporting us and has no interest in hurting us.

1. We need to relax: The problem with trying to relax, of course, is that it is paradoxical. (seems con-contradictory but may be true). Our need to relax can be difficult but a moment in the sun for Canadians and you will notice the level of tension in your body and next you are perfectly calm and peaceful.

2. Also relax your attention: Concentrate: a candle flame, a flower, a spot on the wall. Keep your eye on the target and widen the focus of your attention so that it includes everything in your visual field. Think of the target as important and everything else as unimportant. Then, make everything you see ~ equally important. Top to bottom, left to right, everything is essential. But do try relaxing your focus in a variety of situations (only the safe situations please).

3. Relax into whatever's happening: Nineteenth-Century journalist Margaret Fuller once famously proclaimed, "I accept the universe." Essayist Thomas Carlyle replied: "She'd better!" Struggling against reality is exhausting difficult labour, often with disappointing results. If you like what is happening in our universe this moment don't try to change things. Feel how much energy fills that loosened space.

4. Relax the standards you can never meet: One reason many of us resist our current situation is that it often fails to match our own expectations. "This isn't right!" we think. I'm not supposed to be a divorced, anxious, aging studio

manager with wine stains on her blouse. I'm supposed to be a wealthy paragon of spirituality and be desirable as well. However, for whatever reason ~ media images, standardized testing, our aging parents, are goals that many cannot achieve. Striving for the trappings of happiness is taking all of us further from actual happiness. Observe a roomful of your relatives, a dozen people you pass on the street, and the folks who wander around the mall food court. How many of them do you think match the standards you wish you could achieve? Try now relaxing your standards to understanding where all those people are good enough to exist, feel, and deserve compassion. Now imagine setting your standards so low that every being you meet is good enough. If you did this for yourself, would your life go straight to hell? Maybe. Or maybe your world might start to feel delightful or heavenly.

5. Relax your resistance to uncertainty. If you tried the experiments above, I hope they pleased you. Doing anything unfamiliar forces us to confront life's inherent uncertainty. Especially true for relaxing, with its implied relinquishment of control). When faced with what we don't know, we go the Hamlet route, deciding we would rather bear those ills we have. Then we often fly to others who we do not know. If we clench tightly enough says the birth rattled infant within us, nothing unexpected or unpleasant will happen again.

Of course this only blinds us to life's opportunities and adventures. If we had never left the womb, we would never had experienced the world.

Still, if we try relaxation ideas we will be a bit less tightly clasped than usual. Let's try relaxation ideas when you are a bit less tightly clasped than usual. Take five minutes to sit in a quiet place. With every exhale, mentally repeat: "Now I am dying". With every inhale, think: "Now I am being born." Each moment is an opportunity to be reborn, this time without clenching and tightening. This is a virtue. Once we stop exerting intense effort rather we should soften our attention, accept whatever is happening, loosen our judgemental standards, and allow life to flow along its uncertain path. As life gradually re-loosens, going from frightening and painful to interesting. The powers that shape us turn out not to turn out to be not punishing, condemnatory monsters, but forces that teach us how joyful, grateful, and delightful life can be.

Life Cycle Events

In Memoriam

Harris Dvorkin, husband of Lynette Lucas-Dvorkin, father of Michelle (Missy) McDonald (Kim), David Abraham Dvorkin (Deb), Kai Dvorkin, Korina Dvorkin, Twylla Tyson, Truman Henry McIntyre (Julie), Curt McIntyre and brother of Giselle Mazier. The funeral was held on Thursday, April 20th.

Brit Milah

Mazel tov to great-grandparents Mary and Arthur Fishman, grandparents Allan and Helene Fishman, Nancy Fishman, Gordon Beames and Sal Howel on the Brit Milah of Koby Zane on March 24th.

Proud parents are Mark Fishman and Ashley Beames.

Mazal tov to Matthew and Valerie Polley on the birth (April 11th) and Brit Milah of their son, Isaac Charles on April 18th.

B'nai Mitzvah

Mazel tov to Bobbie and Rabbi Osadchey on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Piper on April 8th.

Mazel tov to father Abraham Shteinberg, sisters Makayla Nagy and Alia Shteinberg, grandparents Donia Shteinberg and Michael Shteinberg on the occasion of Elijah's Bar Mitzvah on April 8th.

Mazel tov to parents Dan and Lisa Balaban, sister Jamie, brother Adam, and grandparents Sam and Evie Zeifman and Malka and the late Jack Balaban on the occasion of Lia's Bat Mitzvah on April 29th.

Conversion

Mazel tov to Caitlyn Molstad on her conversion on March 31, 2017.

If you are marking a life-cycle event and would like it included in SHOFAR, please let us know by contacting the Shul office at 403-255-8688 or info@bethzedec.ca.



Beth Tzedec is on facebook!
Click [HERE](#) for the link or
search for **Beth Tzedec**
Congregation on
facebook.



News and Notes from the NML

The Greatest NML Promotion Ever!!!

We are launching a terrific promotion, **“Points for Players”**, offering all teams some extra bonus points, to help reach the top of the standings. Have a look at the team standings, and you’ll see that 14 of the 20 teams still have the possibility of winning their divisions, so now is the time to take advantage of this special event to earn more points for your team, taking you to the top!

Just recruit a new member to join the NML, and earn 8 points for each new recruit (maximum 4 new members submitted by any team). So, your team can easily add 8, 16, 24, or even 32 points to your teams’ standings, enough to boost most teams into first place! Remember, there are some creative prizes awaiting the division winners, including reserved parking places for the High Holy Days.

Here are the rules for the **“Points for Players”** promotion:

- a) Each captain and his/her players can recruit a new NML member, by submitting the player’s name, telephone number, and email address to Susan Inhaber (inhaber@telusplanet.net) no later than May 14, 2017.
- b) I will assign the new player to your team or to another team, depending on which day of the week is convenient for the candidate. The team nominating the new player will earn 8 bonus points, irrespective of which team the candidate joins.
- c) The new candidate must attend his/her new team’s Minyan date in both May and June for the points to qualify, and must not have been a member previously of any NML team.

Call your friends, neighbours, seat-mates at Shul, and ask them to join. It only takes an hour, once each month, to attend either morning or evening services, and it fulfills an important Mitzvah. So, take a couple of minutes **NOW**, to make a few calls and recruit a few good men and women. Your team will earn points, our Daily Minyan will be stronger, and the new candidates will be participating in an important activity, maintaining a 5000 year-old tradition. That’s the point!

Warmly,

Susan Inhaber

NML Commissioner

Experiencing *Siddur Lev Shalem*

The period of *S'firat HaOmer* commemorates the journey from slavery to meeting God at Mount Sinai. We celebrate freedom on Passover, but recognize that our liberation is not complete until we receive the instructions as to how to live with that freedom on *Shavuot*. Jewish mystics saw this period as a time of self-purification and striving for a deeper understanding of God and God's relationship

Forty-Nine Gates

The Torah mentions the exodus from Egypt fifty times, hinting that there are fifty steps or aspects to coming out of the mindset of slavery. Indeed, the Torah teaches that the Israelites went up out of Egypt *hamushim* (Exodus 13:18), which literally means "armed" but may also suggest "one-fiftieth." Thus, on the first day of Pesah, we may be said to have walked through the first of fifty gates toward genuine freedom. To complete the exodus, we must journey through another forty-nine gates.

—BASED ON THE
NETIVOT SHALOM

Counting Up

The ancient rabbis say that when we count the *omer*, we are counting toward the time that we will receive the Torah. Day by day, week by week, we count, and in a highly regulated fashion: when, how, in what language, with or without a blessing, are all issues addressed by Jewish law.

But what is most noteworthy is that when we count the *omer*, we count up. Our natural tendency is to count down. We count down the seconds in anticipation of the secular New Year. We count down the days to an upcoming vacation. We count down toward a professional deadline or the end of a specific project.

I can think of only one time in my life when it was natural for me to count up: when I was pregnant. Week by week, month by month, I counted. I was excited about my due date, but I also wanted to be pregnant for nine complete months. Like other pregnant women, I knew that the period of gestation was not simply a time I needed to get past in order for the "real" event to take place; each week, each month, was vital for my baby's development. Each day had its own significance, nurturing the growth that would be necessary for my baby to enter the world. So quite naturally, I knew to count up.

So too with receiving Torah. Torah defines us as a people; it shapes our individual identities and our character. But its transformative potential is dependent on our preparation. To truly receive Torah, we need to grow into it, to make ourselves ready for it. We count up to remind ourselves of the significance of this gestational time. We count up because each day, each week is an opportunity to identify and refine the ways we want to grow: as moral people, as people who live a life of care, as people willing to be instructed.

—AMY WALLK KATZ

The Counting of the Omer

From the second night of Pesah until the night before Shavuot, we count the omer. We rise.

I am about to fulfill the mitzvah of counting the *omer*, as it is written in the Torah:

"You shall count from the eve of the second day of Pesah, when an *omer* of grain is to be brought as an offering, seven complete weeks. The day after the seventh week of your counting will make fifty days." Leviticus 23:15–16

Barukh atah ADONAI, our God, sovereign of time and space, who has provided us with a path to holiness through the observance of mitzvot and has instructed us to count the *omer*.

Barukh atah adonai eloheinu melekh ha-olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al s'firat ha-omer.

We recite the line for the appropriate day, from the following pages.

to the world. The meditations and commentaries in *Lev Shalem* for this period are based on this mystical understanding. Below are two examples to get you started on your journey of self-improvement as we travel together toward divine revelation.

Third Week: Splendor — תִּפְאֶרֶת (Tiferet)

Tiferet, which literally means “splendor,” is associated with harmony and balance—specifically, a balance among ideas, values, and qualities that appear to be conflicting. This suggests that we are at our best when the various impulses within us, and the competing demands made upon us, are in balance—for example, when play and seriousness each have their place in our lives, when we practice both self-care and care for others, and when a sense of mission is mediated by a realistic appraisal of the world as it is. The Kabbalists thought that the essential balance needed in our lives was that between the aspects associated with the first two weeks—love and judgment. Love needs to know how to be mediated by proper judgment, and judgment without love is hurtful and dangerous. The Kabbalists also associated *tiferet* with *emet*, truth, reflecting their understanding that deep truths emerge from the harmonizing of seemingly incompatible values and perspectives.

שְׁמַעוֹן הַצְדִּיק הָיָה מְשִׁיבֵי כְּנֶסֶת הַגְּדוּלָּה. הוּא הָיָה אוֹמֵר: עַל
שְׁלֹשָׁה דְבָרִים הָעוֹלָם עוֹמֵד—עַל הַתּוֹרָה וְעַל הָעֲבוּדָה וְעַל
גְּמִילוֹת חֲסִדִּים.

Simon the Righteous was one of the last surviving members of the Great Assembly. He taught: The world stands on three things—on Torah, on worship, and on good deeds.

—Pirkei Avot 1:2

רַבִּי אוֹמֵר: אֵיזוֹ הִיא דֶּרֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל שְׂבוּרָה לּוֹ הָאָדָם? כָּל־שֶׁהִיא
תִּפְאֶרֶת לְעוֹשֶׂהוּ וְתִפְאֶרֶת לּוֹ מִן הָאָדָם.

Rabbi [Judah] taught: What is the right path, that a person should choose? One that brings glory to the Creator and one that everyone acknowledges about you as glorious.

—Pirkei Avot 2:1



Brock Philip-Lou Sidorsky

פנס לייב

May 13, 2017 · 17 Iyyar 5777

Brock is the first born and only son of Ryan and Minelle Sidorsky. He is a big brother to Piper and Lainey.

Brock has a love for sports both playing and watching them. He is a devoted Flames fan. He plays ball hockey and loves electronics and gaming and enjoys listening to music especially classic rock and the 80's.

Brock is an amazing older brother. He is always willing to help his sisters with their homework, play games with them, cheer them up if needed and have a good laugh with them. He's there any time his sisters need him and sometimes even if they don't. His love for his family is endless. Brock is a loyal and compassionate person. Brock adores his pet cat, dog and frogs.

For his Bar Mitzvah, he chose two projects, volunteering at the Calgary Drop-in Centre and Twin. Twinning is a project in which a Jewish child is paired through the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem with a child of the same birthdate who perished in the Holocaust. Brock researched a child to honour their memory and share the honour of being a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. It is a project to educate and remember. Brock is honouring the memory of Tomas Newman, who sadly perished along with his family in 1944 in Auschwitz, he was nine.

Brock attended the Calgary Jewish Academy from Nursery to grade six where he made lifelong friends and learned life impacting lessons. The Calgary Jewish Academy has been an amazing foundation for Brock and instilled a proud love for Judaism and Israel. He currently attends grade seven at West Island College.

Both Brock and Piper are honoured to share their B'nai Mitzvah with everyone who has played a role in who they are and who they will continue to become.

Some of our members and staff are very sensitive to perfume. It is requested that you please refrain from using any scented products when attending Shul. Thank you.

Please support our twice daily weekday prayer services.

Morning Services: Monday-Friday 7:45am

Saturday, Sunday and Stat Holidays: 9:00am

Evening services: Daily at 6:00pm



Piper McKenna Sidorsky

מהירה פורה

May 13, 2017 · 17 Iyyar 5777

Piper is the middle child to Ryan and Minelle Sidorsky. She is 16 months younger than Brock and that is why they decided to have a B'nai Mitzvah together.

Piper is a very unique girl. She is unbelievably ethical, empathetic, honest and loyal. Piper has never been afraid to stand up for what is right and to make sure that everyone is treated equally and fairly. She is a very driven person. Piper was an accomplished competitive swimmer and has now

turned her energies towards competitive Irish dance. For the past four years Piper has successfully competed in Alberta competitions and her dream is to compete in Ireland at the world championships some day.

Piper loves to swim, cross country ski and is very artistic and loves to craft, draw, paint and sing. She adores her friends, endlessly loves her family and her cat Barry and dog Steve. Piper is very giving. She has cut 12 inches off of her hair and donated to Locks of Love, held a garage sale where her profits sent a child in Haiti to school for three years, on Halloween collected food for the veterans food bank, donated money to Earth Rangers for endangered animals, donated her saved allowance to the Heaven Can Wait Animal Shelter, donated saved allowance to MEOW Foundation, volunteered at the Calgary Drop-in Centre and donated her old clothing and books to a family in need who had been hit hard by the current economy. Piper is always looking at ways she can give of herself to better the world around her.

Piper also decided to Twin. Her twin was a young girl named Susanne "Susie" Bauer. Piper was able to connect with Susie's surviving family and they were honoured at Piper's gesture to honour Susanne and share her Bat Mitzvah in her memory. Susie sadly perished April 27, 1942 in Sobibor, she was 14.

Piper attended The Calgary Jewish Academy from nursery to grade one, where she made lifelong friends. Piper is in grade six at Strathcona Tweedsmuir School.

Both Brock and Piper are honoured to share their B'nai Mitzvah with everyone who has played a role in who they are and who they will continue to become.



**If you would like to read Torah, Haftarah
or lead services please contact
Cantor Russ at cantorruss@bethzedec.ca
or 403-255-8688 Ext 4.**



Jaxson Noah Helper
May 20, 2017 - 24 Iyyar 5777

Jaxson Noah Helper, son of Dina and Jeffrey Helper and older brother to Savannah, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 20, 2017.

Jaxson began his school years at The Calgary Jewish Academy where he developed a strong foundation for the Jewish religion and his Jewish identity. Jaxson is currently a grade seven student at Rundle College where he continues to excel in his academics.

Jaxson has a very warm, engaging and outgoing personality. Athletics have always been a very important part of Jaxson's

life whether it be hockey, golf or otherwise. Jaxson has been playing community hockey since Timbits and continues to love the sport. Every summer he picks up the golf clubs whether it is with Dad or his friends. He has a passion for athletics and is the first to tryout for every school team. If he isn't busy with organized sports you will find him outside with his friends. Despite his busy schedule, Jaxson always enjoys spending time with his family. He especially looks forward to his special visits with his grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

In preparing for his Bar Mitzvah, Jaxson has undertaken a Mitzvah Project. His passion for sport fueled his decision to choose KidSport Calgary and Comrie's Sports Equipment Bank as the focus of his project. These worthwhile charities facilitate participation in organized sport for underprivileged kids through financial assistance and access to needed equipment. Jaxson will be volunteering his time and trying to collect equipment for donation.

We are very proud of the young man that Jaxson has become today. We are also impressed with the effort and preparation Jaxson has put into preparing for his special day. We love him very much. Mazel Tov!

Beth Tzedec Sisterhood Gift Shop
Come in and see our new merchandise!

Gift shop will be open
Sunday 1:00pm - 4:00pm and
Tuesday and Thursday 12noon - 2:00pm.
 We invite you to **contact Syd Sniderman at**
403-252-6368 or Lorie Abernethy at
403-261-8883 to visit at your convenience. We
 are very happy to arrange a time that suits you!



Zen Bernard Laven

May 27, 2017 - 2 Sivan 5777

Zen, son of Tamar Zenith and Blair Laven, will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on May 27, 2017.

Zen commenced his education at the Calgary Jewish Academy in nursery, will be finishing grade seven this June, and hopes to continue straight through until grade nine.

Zen's passions include soccer (Calgary Villains - U13 Tier 1), freestyle skiing and everything culinary! He also enthusiastically participates on all CJA's teams (volleyball, basketball, badminton, flag football).

Zen is a good kid and an even better friend.

Zen's Mitzvah Project is to support the Kidney Transplant clinic. As many of you are aware, Zen's Uncle Zac has recently received the gift of life:...a kidney transplant!

For his Mitzvah Project, Zen invites all of his friends and family to a High Fitness class at 4:00pm on Sunday, May 28th at the Alberta Ballet. Zen encourages everyone to join him as he will be instructing one of his favourites songs during the class! The class is 50 minutes long and for all ages and fitness levels. To participate in the class, Zen requests a minimum \$5.00 donation per person. He will match the funds raised with his Bar Mitzvah money and his parents will then match again! Zen hopes his Mitzvah Project will raise awareness of the importance of the Living Donor Program at the Transplant Clinic which was integral in assisting Zac through his transplant process. Zen wants his donation to help all families affected by Kidney Disease!

Yad Club - Torah Reading Initiative

Beth Tzedec Congregation is pleased to initiate the *Yad Club* intended to encourage congregants to become active Torah readers for our congregation. Learning to read Torah requires dedication and discipline to master the melodies and techniques for reading directly from the sacred scroll. For those who are successful in this endeavor and complete 14 (The Hebrew numerical equivalent of *Yad*) Torah readings here at Beth Tzedec, the congregation will be pleased to provide special recognition by awarding a special *Yad*. For more information contact

Cantor Russ at cantorruss@bethtzedec.ca or 403-255-8688 ext. 4.

Shavuot Celebration of Torah

Tuesday, May 30th



This evening combines Jewish gastronomy with Jewish spirituality for an inspiring celebration of the Giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai. Please join us in welcoming the Keruv Class graduates as our newest members of the Jewish community.

Blintz Dinner 5:30 – 7:00pm

\$18 Adults \$10 Children (ages 4-10) RSVP to 403-255-8688

Shavuot Service and Keruv Class Siyum 7:00 – 8:00pm

Our festive Shavuot Service will feature the Keruv (Conversion) Class Siyum (Graduation)

Cheesecake Party 8:00 – 9:00pm

Free of charge. Please join us!





The CARTOON KRONICLES



Programming

Calgary Interfaith Council, Beth Tzedec Congregation and Temple B'nai Tikvah Invite You for Interfaith Bible Study From the Creation through the Flood

Tuesdays: May 2nd, 9th, 23rd, 30th - 1:00-2:30pm

Facilitators: Rabbi Shaul Osadchey (Beth Tzedec), Rabbi Mark Glickman (Temple B'nai Tikvah), Rev. Tara Livingston (Holy Nativity Anglican), Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee (St. Laurence Anglican and the Wisdom Centre)

Please register at isdomcentre@stlaurence.ca. Free and open to all.

Lil Faider Interfaith Scholar-in-Residence Lecture Series #2 with Sensei Ken Madden

Thursdays: May 4th, 11th, 18th - 7:00pm

May 4th - Buddhist Ceremonies

May 11th - Buddhist Meditation Practices

May 18th - Q & A: What We Haven't Learned!

Please contact Beth Tzedec at 403-255-8688 or info@bethtzedec.ca to RSVP.

Tot Shabbat

Shabbat, May 6th and 20th - 10:45am

Parents with young children are invited to a Shabbat service aimed at engaging young minds and turning them on to the magic and majesty of Shabbat. For more information, please contact Rabbi Corber at rabbicorber@bethtzedec.ca or 403-255-8688 ext 8.

Jewish Parenting Series: "How to Raise a Mensch"

Sunday, May 7th - 10:00am

Brunch and Conversation

A series of conversations focusing on the important Jewish values necessary to raise our children as *mensch*es and to make a warm and loving Jewish home. For more information please contact Rabbi Osadchey at rabbi@bethtzedec.ca or 403-255-8688 ext. 2. (Babysitting Provided)

Israel Night

Thursday, May 11th - 6:30pm

Since May is the month of Yom Ha'atzma'ut and Yom Yerushalayim, we invite youth (Grades 2-5) to join us in celebratory Israeli-themed dinner followed by some fun Israeli crafts. Show your Israeli pride and come dressed in blue and white. Dinner is \$10 per child, RSVP to info@bethtzedec.ca.

Minyan Katan**Shabbat, May 13th - 10:00am**

A special minyan for the B'nai Mitzvah Cohort of 2016/17 and their families. All children in Grades 5-7 and their families are welcome. For more information, please contact Rabbi Corber at rabbicorber@bethzedec.ca or 403-255-8688 ext 8.

**The University of Calgary Cumming School of Medicine and
Beth Tzedec Congregation Present**

Tzed Med Talks**Medical Lecture Series****Wednesday, May 17th - 7:00pm****Beth Tzedec Congregation**

Be Good to Your Gut:

What Science Says about Optimizing Your Digestive Health

by Dr. Gil Kaplan

Free and open to the public. Light refreshments following lecture.

HAZAK 55+ Presents:**Jewish Ideas on the Afterlife with Rabbi Corber****Thursday, May 18th - 12:00pm - 2:00pm**

What happens to us when we die? No one knows for sure. Jewish scholars have dodged the question for years, and encouraged us to focus on our actions in this lifetime. That, however, hasn't stopped us from developing a wide array of afterlife scenarios throughout the Biblical, Rabbinical, Medieval, and Modern eras. Join Rabbi Corber as he takes us through all of these perspectives, some of which will surprise you.

Lunch will be served at 12:00pm and costs \$5 per person. RSVP to the Synagogue office at 403-255-8688 by May 16th. For more information, please contact Donna Caplan at 403-271-3066.

Torah on Tap**Thursday, May 18th - 7:00pm - 9:00pm****Limerick's Pub 7304 Macleod Tr SE**

Come socialize, ask, share, and learn Torah in a relaxed, casual atmosphere. Don't forget to bring some Jewish questions for clergy, and, as always, the first round is on us. For more information or to register contact Rabbi Corber at rabbicorber@bethzedec.ca or at 403-255-8688 ext 8.

20-40's Shabbat Dinner**Friday, May 26th - 7:00pm**

Join us for a spirited and musical Kabbalat Shabbat (6pm) service followed by warm dinner, drinks, smiles and friends. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be emailed rabbicorber@bethzedec.ca or by calling 403-255-8688.

Shavuot Celebration of Torah**Tuesday, May 30th**

This evening combines Jewish gastronomy with Jewish spirituality for an inspiring celebration of the Giving of the Torah on Mt. Sinai. Please join us in welcoming the Keruv Class graduates as our newest members of the Jewish community.

Blintz Dinner 5:30 – 7:00pm

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Shavuot Service and Keruv Class Siyum 7:00 – 8:00pm

Our festive Shavuot Service will feature the Keruv Class Siyum

Cheesecake Party 8:00 – 9:00pm

Free of charge. Please join us!

Shavuot Family Service and Ice Cream Party (Grades 1-5)**Wednesday, May 31st - 10:00am**

Join Rabbi Corber for a fun, interactive Family Service centered around the theme of Shavuot and the *Book of Ruth* followed by a special Make Your Own Sundae Bar.

For more information email Rabbi Corber at rabbicorber@bethzedec.ca.

**Lost and Found**

Do you think you lost something
at Beth Tzedec?

Check the lost and found display
in the coat room.

Community News

Inclusive Drum Circle

Sunday, May 7th - 1:30pm | Calgary JCC

JAC and Keshet invite you to join them in experiencing the power of group drumming, facilitated by Circles of Rhythm. Children are welcome. Limited number of spots available - you must register to attend by contacting Jordan at jac@jewishcalgary.org or Karina at karinas@jewishcalgary.org.

The Debaters Live

Sunday, May 7th - 7:00pm | Jack Singer Concert Hall

Hosted by award winning comedian and CBC host, Steve Patterson, this special live event features Steve and two of his favorite comics performing stand-up followed by a comedic debate specially created for Jewish Family Service Calgary. Tickets: General Admission \$48 / VIP \$95 include admission, nosh, meet and greet after the show. To order, email debaters@jfsc.org or call 403-287-3510. Sponsorship opportunities available.

JNF Calgary's Negev Dinner Honouring Mr. Al Osten

Wednesday, May 10th

5:30 pm Cocktails 6:30 pm Dinner | Beth Tzedec Congregation

Featuring an Evening of Music and Laughter with special entertainment by the Honourable Tommy Banks and Comedian Simon Rakoff

Make your reservations today, tickets are selling fast! For more information please visit our website, email or call the office at 403-255-0295.

Israeli Consular Services

An Israeli consular official is coming to Calgary on June 4th and will see people who have consular issues requiring a personal appearance. To get on the list for an appointment, contact Judy Shapiro at jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org.

PJ Library and JAC invite you to our 8th Annual Popsicles in the Park

Sunday June 4th - 11:00am - 2:00pm | Calgary JCC

Join us for our annual free community event! Free Kosher Popsicles, Butterfield Acres petting zoo, face painting, jumpy house, obstacle course, bubbles and lots of fun family activities. Bring your own picnic and enjoy a day in the sun with family and friends. No need to register but contact Kathie at kwainer@jewishcalgary.org or Jordan at jwaldman@jewishcalgary.org for more information.

TRIBUTES & DONATIONS**CONGREGATION FUND****MAZEL TOV**

Bob Shiell, on the occasion of his birthday

By Nat & Harriette Alexander

SYMPATHY

Rabbi Moshe & Meira Saks and Family, on the loss of his brother, Rabbi Joseph Saks

By Milt, Maxine, Alysa & Emma Fischbein

Bob & Cheryl Shiell

Rick & Bonney Pollick, on the loss of his brother-in-law, Martin Stoffman

By Milt & Maxine Fischbein and Family

Mila Brandman & Family, on the loss of Mila's father, **Matvey Shteinberg**

By Polina & Lazar Ersh
Judy Adler

THANK YOU

Evelyn Sheftel Shapiro

By Toto & Mort Levitt

YOUTH FUND**SYMPATHY**

Jenny Belzberg, on the loss of her husband, Hy Belzberg

By Shelly & Louise Maerov

**CYNGISER FAMILY JEWISH
FILM FESTIVAL FUND****SYMPATHY**

Carol Stoffman, on the loss of her husband, Martin Stoffman

By Hilda & Lenny Smith
and Family

GET WELL

Bronia Cyngiser

By Mark & Helen Swartz

TZEDAKAH FUND**SYMPATHY**

Ron Labell, on the loss of his brother
By Harriet & Phil Libin

GET WELL

Toto Levitt

By Harriet & Phil Libin

CHAG SAMEACH

Akiba & Yerusha Charikar and Family

By Harriet & Phil Libin

RABBI'S TZEDAKAH FUND**MAZEL TOV**

Andria Paul Rodin, in honor of her special birthday

By Jeri Churgin

Rabbi Osadchey, on his World Interfaith Harmony Week award

By Beth & Lorne Price
Hilda & Lenny Smith
and Family

NORMAN & BEULAH**MARTIN CANTORIAL****CHAIR FUND****MAZEL TOV**

Rabbi Osadchey, on his recent honour and award

By Beulah Martin

GET WELL

Toto Levitt

By Beulah Martin

We do our best to ensure the accuracy of all the information contained in *Shofar* and other Beth Tzedec publications. Despite our best efforts, sometimes an error can occur. Please accept our sincere apologies for any errors that may appear in our publications. Please contact us at info@bethtzedec.ca or call our office at 403-255-8688 so that we can correct them or update our records as soon as possible. Thank you.

Yahrzeit Fund**Zalman Forman, beloved father**

By Lionel Forman

Albert Viner, beloved father-in-law

By Fran Viner

Marguerite Bleiviss-Rogers, beloved sister-in-law

By Fran Viner

Mariam Nahametz, beloved mother

By Sara & David Profis

Lou Pomerance, beloved husband

By Edith Pomerance

Uldarico Castano, beloved father

By Monica Samchek

Max (Myer) Switzer, beloved father

By Sam (Ousher) Switzer

Joseph Krygier, beloved brother

By Lea Kohn

Esther Safran, beloved grandmother

By Laura & Jaclyn Safran

Sari Switzer, beloved mother

By Jerold Switzer

Adele Rajeskt, beloved sister

By Faith Dubisky

Sarah Hashman, beloved mother

By Edith Sugarman

Gary Rosenbaum, beloved son

By Mona Rosenbaum

Anne Gordon, beloved mother and grandmother

By Carey & Stan Smith and Family

Isobel Viner, beloved sister-in-law

By Fran Viner

Alex Rubin, beloved grandfather

By Sima Veiner

Froim Oussatinski, beloved father

By Alex & Fira Oussatinski

Minnie Gorasht, beloved mother

By Sonny & Gena Gorasht

Jack Brownstone, beloved father

By Rochelle Rabinovitz

Monnie Gorasht, beloved mother

By Blanche & Bob Shindell and Family

Blanche Mozeson, beloved mother

By Zena Drabinsky

Bessie Libin, beloved mother and grandmother

By Cynthia & David Prasow and Family

Sari Switzer, beloved sister-in-law

By Mona Rosenbaum

Marcus Diamond, beloved uncle

By Marni Besser

Morris Cohen, beloved father

By Toto & Mort Levitt

Stanley Verner, beloved father

By Hope Rajesly

Samuel Himelfarb, beloved father

By Leonard Himelfarb

Jenni Bulshin, beloved grandmother

By Gerald Dubisky

Kreyna Gurevitch, beloved brother

By Sheila & Ralph Gurevitch

Sara Gurevitch, beloved mother

By Sheila & Ralph Gurevitch

Sam Fishbein, beloved uncle

By Sheila & Ralph Gurevitch

Leonard Plosker, beloved brother and uncle

By Sherry and Aaron Berman & Family

Solomon Orville Katz, beloved husband

By Shirley Katz

Max Stochinsky, beloved father

By Evelyn Viner

Harry Oshry, beloved father

By Ron Oshry

Bertha Viner, beloved mother-in-law

By Evelyn Viner

**To Make a Donation**

If you would like to make a donation celebrating or honouring a life cycle event, please call the office at 403-255-8688 ext. 0 or visit us in the shul office and we will be happy to help you.

SPECIAL YAHRZEIT FUND

Adele Rajesky, beloved wife
By Irwin Rajesly
Fred & Celia Brovender, beloved father and mother
By Janet Fleischer
Bella Chyfetz, beloved mother
By Sylvia Itzcovitch
William Lobell, beloved father
By Susan Lobell Polsky

KIDDUSH YAHRZEIT FUND

Maurice Cohen, beloved brother
By Emanuel Cohen
Robert Smolkin, beloved father
By Debby & Barry Smolkin
Tilly Levine, beloved mother
By Debby & Barry Smolkin
Matvey Shteinberg, beloved father
By Mila Brandman

**Are you celebrating
a simcha?
Let Beth Tzedec play a part!**



For more information or to book your simcha call the shul office at 403-255-8688. Send email inquiries to info@bethzedec.ca.

Cemetery Entry Code

To gain entry into the Beth Tzedec Memorial Park cemetery, press 1 then 3 for the gate code.

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday	8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday	8:30am - 3:30pm

“Bikkur Cholim: You are a Life-Line!”

When our congregants are ill at home or in the hospital, a caring visit or phone call can lift their spirits and help them heal physically and emotionally. Please call or email Rabbi Osadchey (403-255-8688, rabbi@bethzedec.ca) or the TODAH Committee led by Bobbie Osadchey (bobbieo@shaw.ca) with the names of our members who are hospitalized or are ill at home. We will arrange a visit, a caring note, or even some chicken soup! And please know that we would rather receive 20 calls about the same person than none at all.

May and June Unveilings

The families of the late **Philip Shapiro, Joseph Levy, Edythe Barsky, Morley Kerr** and **Ruth Secter** have requested the announcement of the unveilings of the headstones.

Philip Shapiro

Friday, May 19, 2017 11:00am Beth Tzedec Memorial Park

Joseph Levy

Sunday, May 21, 2017 11:00am Beth Tzedec Memorial Park

Edythe Barsky

Sunday, June 4, 2017 11:00am Beth Tzedec Memorial Park

Morley Kerr

Sunday, June 4, 2017 2:00pm Erlton Cemetery

Ruth Secter

Wednesday, June 28, 2017 2:00pm Erlton Cemetery

2017 AGM

Annual General Meeting

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday June 22, 2017

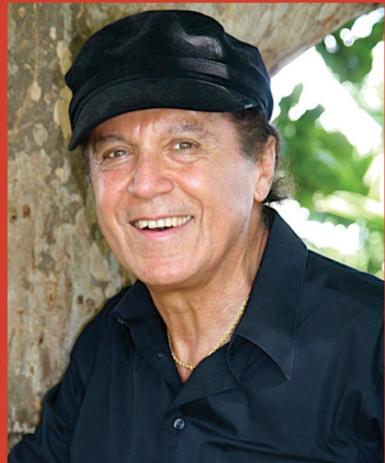
7:30pm at Beth Tzedec

Please join us as we celebrate Beth Tzedec highlights, share financial reports and cheer on our newly elected Board and Executive. Watch your inbox, your mailbox, *Shofar* and *Shalom Byte* for more information.

SAVE THE DATE!

Persian Shabbat

Beth Tzedec Congregation
welcomes
HAZZAN
FARID DARDASHTI
who will talk about his life in
Iran, and enliven our services
with the sounds of Persian Jewry.



Shabbat dinner to follow.



JUNE 30, 2017 - 6:00PM