



**MARCH 2023**  
ADAR-NISAN 5783

# HAPPY PURIM



# Calendar Highlights

## Wednesday, March 1

3:30pm Homework Club  
4:00pm Teen Learning Project  
4:00pm Dorshei Tzedec  
7:00pm Board Meeting

## Thursday, March 2

12:30pm Babies & Bumps  
1:00pm Interfaith Bible Study  
3:30pm Homework Club  
7:00pm Hebrew School But Better

## Friday, March 3

5:30pm Family Shabbat Dinner  
Candle Lighting: 6:02pm  
TORAH: Tetzaveh

## Saturday, March 4

9:00am Shabbat Morning Service  
6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service *\*New time\**  
Shabbat Ends: 7:12pm

## Sunday, March 5

9:30am Shul School 2.0  
12:00pm Purim Carnival

## Monday, March 6

6:00pm Erev Purim Celebration

## Tuesday, March 7 - *Purim*

## Wednesday, March 8

3:30pm Homework Club  
4:00pm Teen Hang  
4:00pm Dorshei Tzedec

## Thursday, March 9

1:00pm Interfaith Bible Study  
3:30 Homework Club

## Friday, March 10

Samara Yanofsky's Bat Mitzvah  
Candle Lighting: 6:14pm  
TORAH: Ki Tissa

## Saturday, March 11

9:00am Shabbat Morning Service  
10:30am Spiritual & Sweet: An Interactive Shabbat  
6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service  
Shabbat Ends: 7:24pm

## Sunday, March 12

9:30am Shul School 2.0  
1:00pm Keshet Club

## Monday, March 13

6:30pm Keruv Class

## Tuesday, March 14

3:30pm Homework Club  
4:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Class

## Wednesday, March 15

12:00pm Hazak Lunch & Learn  
3:30pm Homework Club  
4:00pm Teen Learning Club

## Thursday, March 16

12:30pm Babies & Bumps  
1:00pm Interfaith Bible Study  
3:30pm Homework Club  
7:00pm Hebrew School But Better

## Friday, March 17

Candle Lighting: 7:26pm  
TORAH: Vayakhel - Pekudei

## Saturday, March 18

9:00am Shabbat Morning Service  
10:00am Learners Minyan  
10:15am Family Shabbat Morning  
6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service  
Shabbat Ends: 8:36pm

## Sunday, March 19

9:30am Shul School 2.0

## Monday, March 20

6:30pm Keruv Class

## Tuesday, March 21

3:30pm Homework Club  
4:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Class

## Wednesday, March 22

3:30pm Homework Club  
4:00pm Teen Hang

## Thursday, March 23

3:30pm Homework Club

## Friday, March 24

Candle Lighting: 7:38pm  
TORAH: Vayikra

## Saturday, March 25

9:00am Shabbat Morning Service  
6:00pm Shabbat Evening Service  
Shabbat Ends: 8:48pm

## Monday, March 27

6:30pm Keruv Class

## Tuesday, March 28

3:30pm Homework Club  
7:00pm What About Weinberg

## Wednesday, March 29

3:30pm Homework Club  
4:00pm Teen Learning Project  
7:00pm Board Meeting

## Thursday, March 30

3:30pm Homework Club  
7:00pm Hebrew School But Better

## Friday, March 31

Candle Lighting: 7:49pm  
TORAH: Tzav

**Executive Officers***President*

Lorne Pearl

*Vice President/Treasurer*

Joshua Inhaber

*Secretary*

Jeffrey Dworkin

**Board of Directors**

Lorie Abernethy

Lou Bracey

Eddy Lang

Saul Prince

Cheryl Baron Shiel

Heather Khan Lister

Klara Meyers

Gerald Pfeffer

**Synagogue Professionals & Staff***Master of Ceremonies*

Russell G. Jayne

*Tightrope Walker*

Ilana Krygier Lapidés

*Ringleader*

David Inhaber

*Human Cannonball*

Ari Cohen

*Lion Tamer*

Jonah Potasznik

*Illusionist*

Linda Dow

*Magician*

Elliott Steinberg

*Strongman*

Max Lipsman

*Ticket Taker*

Ken Hillaby

*Fire Dancer*

Jennifer Girvitz

*Juggler*

Jennifer Preece

*Trick Rider*

Adi Charikar

*Trapeze Artist*

Bill Barkaie

*Snake Charmer*

Bert Glow

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**Beth Tzedec gratefully acknowledges  
the generous support provided  
by major endowment gifts, including:**

Steven Blitz Endowment Fund

Leo & Goldie Sheftel Rabbinical Chair

Norman & Beulah Martin Cantorial Chair

Cyngiser Family Jewish Film Festival Fund

# A Legacy of Purim Playfulness

*The amateur folk quality of the Purim spiel, and its ability to be ever topical and irreverent, has guaranteed its survival in synagogues and schools to this day.*

**By Rabbi Cantor Russell G. Jayne**

Leo & Goldie Sheftel Rabbinical Chair | Norman & Beulah Martin Cantorial Chair



*"Today is Purim, tomorrow it's gone – Give us a penny, and throw us out!"*

The humble yet beloved *Purim spiel* ("play" in Yiddish) is the only genuine folk theater that has survived thousands of years of European culture, and still continues to flourish even up to the present day. In honour of the frivolity that will ensue later this month, as we commence our annual Purim celebrations, I would like to take you on a brief tour through the amazing history of this still beloved folk tradition.

*Chazal* (the Jewish sages from Mishnaic times through the period of the Talmud) condemned the theater as frivolous at best and vulgar/pagan at worst. This view was crystallized during the Roman Era, when live theater was often cruel and violent and involved slaves, including Jews, as actors who were sometimes killed as part of the drama. Nevertheless, the rabbis faced a dilemma with the holiday of Purim. The story of Esther, which is based on disguise, farce, melodrama, comedy, and victory over existential threat, was a natural for theatrical reenactment. Add to that the rejoicing, masquerade, irreverence, and even drunkenness that was quickly becoming part and

parcel with the *halachic* laws and customs of the holiday, and you have an almost perfect storm, with public reenactments beginning sometime in the early centuries of the Common Era.

In most early Jewish communities the "reenactment" was usually restricted to the hanging and burning of Haman in effigy, but in medieval Europe, surrounded by a larger cultural context of both Christian and secular folk entertainment, drama, carnival and parody, the idea of expanding the experience into a *spiel* began to quickly take root and flourish.

According to historian Chone Shmeruk, the term *Purim spiel* started to appear throughout Ashkenazic Jewry as early as the mid-1500s. The *spiel* could be a poetic monologue, or a story portrayed by several actors. It was usually the story of Esther, but it also could be other biblical stories such as the selling of Joseph, Hannah and Samuel, or David and Goliath. Since most Jewish men were literate and traditionally educated, *midrash* and *aggadah* (stories told by the sages which reflect or add to stories from the Torah) and rabbinic commentary were also incorporated, along with satire

directed at the rabbi, cantor, community leaders, and other authorities. Secular stories were portrayed too, particularly derived from the characters of the Italian *commedia del arte*. Because of this secular influence, suggestive themes and language became increasingly popular elements. This led, at times, to the rabbinic establishment banning *spiels* outright. However, no matter how lude or outrageous they became, the rabbis could never succeed in squelching the public's thirst for them.

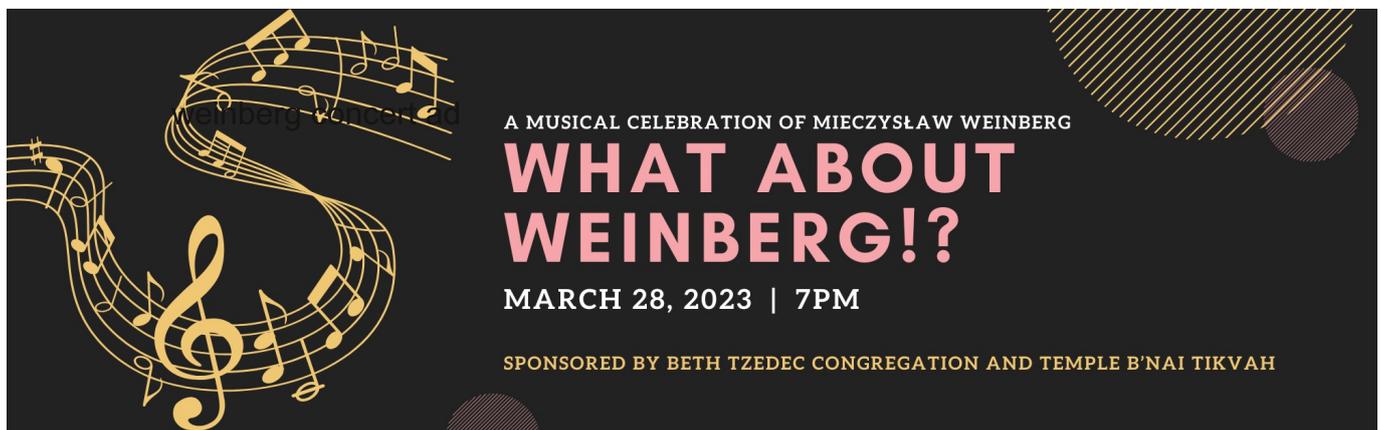
Purim *spiels* were acted primarily by poor people like students, musicians, dancers, acrobats and artisans. They were performed either in large public venues like yeshivas, or for wealthy families, typically in their homes after the festive Purim meal. If the community was small, the actors took great pains to rehearse in secret and disguise themselves thoroughly so they would not be recognized, to their shame. They walked through the streets from house to house, followed by hordes of excited children, who would crowd into or hang from the windows of the homes of the rich, in order to see the performance. In these homes the actors were rewarded in the form of money and/or food.

Afterward, they would eat together and dish their wealthy benefactors. All the roles were played by men and boys, the only day of the year when cross-dressing was allowed, although a few women were known to have been acrobats and dancers in these elaborate productions.

When the *Haskalah* (the Jewish Enlightenment of the 18th and 19th centuries) reached Eastern Europe, a whole new genre of parodies for the *spiel* arose, written by the leaders of the *Haskalah* against the traditionalists and the Hasidim. One notorious example, directed at these new targets for satire, was the lyric, "And all our enemies call us treyf-eaters! But they are heretics, may they catch the plague!" included in many Yiddish *spiels* during this era.

The amateur folk quality of the *Purim spiel*, and its ability to be ever topical and irreverent, has guaranteed its survival in synagogues and schools to this day, and while Purim *spiels* may seem, on their surface, to diminish the spiritual importance of the holiday, they are part of an ongoing celebration of good over evil, and a festival which ultimately celebrates God's presence in Jewish history.

*Chag Purim Sameach!*



A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF MIECZYŚLAW WEINBERG

# WHAT ABOUT WEINBERG!?

MARCH 28, 2023 | 7PM

SPONSORED BY BETH TZEDEC CONGREGATION AND TEMPLE B'NAI TIKVAH

# The Journey Ahead

*We have two projects on the horizon which, with your help, will ensure that we can better serve current congregants and future generations.*

**By David Inhaber**

Chief Executive Officer, Beth Tzedec Congregation



The recent staffing announcement generated a great deal of conversation within our congregation. Most congregants with whom I've had the pleasure of speaking have shared their delight in the direction our shul has been taking. Others have expressed concern about the financial investment we have made in hiring new staff.

Our recent ability to expand our staff is in large part due to excellent stewardship over many years coupled with the fact that we cut staffing levels when Covid-19 struck, pivoting to online formats for synagogue services and educational and cultural programs.

Now that we have vaccines and society at large has opted to return to "business as usual," we are seeing increased activity in our building. In particular, programming for youth and young families is enjoying huge uptake, thanks to the efforts of our clergy and other synagogue professionals who are, in turn, supported by our operations staff.

Building a robust Shul School program featuring arts and sports streams; creating an after-school Homework Club; providing teen social and educational programs; and engaging young adults in compelling programs like Hebrew School but Better require the efforts of a talented and diverse professional staff.

These and other regularly-scheduled activities including synagogue services, adult education classes, Hazak Lunch & Learn, Interfaith Bible Study and other activities mean that the shul doors are often open 13 hours or more daily, requiring maintenance and operations staff.

Increased expense is a good "problem" to have. By better serving all segments of our Beth Tzedec family, our congregation has grown by nearly 25 net family units over the past 18 months. This level of growth is the highest it has been since we started to track membership trends in 2002. It bodes well for the future of our shul.

Expansion of the Beth Tzedec family is always a source of celebration, and we are particularly excited that young individuals and families are joyfully participating in Synagogue activities.

We cannot achieve and maintain these kinds of gains without enormous effort by our clergy, staff, board of directors and volunteers who work hard to make Beth Tzedec all it can be.

While we look forward to a bright future, we are very cognizant of the fact that it must be paid for. As always, we rely on the continuing support of our congregants and supporters.

Thanks to good governance, the synagogue has been balancing its budgets since 2003. Even with all the recent hiring, we are below the staffing level we enjoyed prior to Covid-19.

We have two projects on the horizon which, with your help, will ensure that we can better serve current congregants and future generations. As you are by now no doubt aware, your board of directors has been exploring several options regarding our aging synagogue building. We are exploring the possibilities of relocating to the proposed community campus or sharing in joint development with The Calgary Jewish Academy on our current sites. Our building has served us well, but it is aging beyond the point that band-aid solutions can address, and the needs of our congregation have morphed and changed.

A separate but closely related initiative that I am excited about is a proposed upgrade at the Beth Tzedec Memorial Park that will see the donation of an additional acre of land by the City of Calgary. For many years now, people experiencing homelessness have been camping on city land adjacent to the cemetery and regularly encroaching on our cemetery, a situation that is inappropriate and unacceptable. This gift will allow us to expand, beautify and protect our cemetery in perpetuity.

While it will be challenging to manage two capital projects at the same time, we must act now if we want to benefit from the City of Calgary's generous gift. I believe we would be foolish not to.

Far too often on our travels, my wife Susan and I have seen neglected and/or desecrated Jewish burial sites. Fortunately, our congregation has a beautiful memorial park, but the work there is far from complete. Iron fencing is no longer a luxury; it is a necessity if we are to protect our cemetery. In addition, we are in the midst of working with a landscape architect who has drawn initial plans for a beautiful and comforting reflective garden filled with Jewish symbolism.

Building for the future is not for the faint of heart. It requires vision, commitment and generosity, both when it comes to staffing and our physical plant. This is a turning point for our congregation where failing to act will, without a doubt, prove more costly than digging deep to ensure a continuing presence for Conservative Judaism in Calgary.

We will soon be sharing more detailed insights into the options for the Beth Tzedec building and our memorial park; please watch for a forthcoming announcement of a spring town hall meeting. In the meantime, if you would like to share your vision for the future, or discuss a special gift, please let us know.

We must not be daunted by the seeming enormity of the journey ahead. Our congregation has done this before. Let us be encouraged by the words of Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben Gurion (who was climbing a much bigger hill!): "The difficult we do immediately. The impossible takes a little longer."

# Planning for the High Holidays

*Over 90% of attendees said that they would recommend Beth Tzedec to their friends and family, which shows that we're doing a lot of great things.*

**By Lorne Pearl**

President, Beth Tzedec Congregation



## *Chag Purim Sameach!*

In November, we asked for feedback from our congregants about the 5783 High Holiday services. Thanks to all of you who submitted responses – they are an important part of helping us understand what we're doing well and where we can improve. Over 90% of attendees said that they would recommend Beth Tzedec to their friends and family, which shows that we're doing a lot of great things.

Based on the feedback, we will be incorporating the following changes next Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur:

- We will be adding a mechitza to the sanctuary, not to separate men and women, but to separate UCP and NDP supporters to maintain shalom bayit.
- Our wonderful choir will be accompanied by Slash from Guns N' Roses for Kol Nidre.
- We will have our excellent in-house caterer, Akiba Charikar, provide a wonderful kiddush lunch on Yom Kippur.

- We are planning to improve our livestreaming by replacing it with full Virtual Reality. Virtual Reality headsets will be available in the synagogue gift shop for \$18.

- Instead of carrying in the Torah scrolls on Kol Nidre, the Executive will learn how to juggle fire to make the service more exciting.

- We will be moving away from Hebrew prayer and moving towards Pig Latin. I'm looking forward to Rabbi Russ' rendition of the Ineni-hay.

- Finally, we are planning to remove all the seats from the sanctuary and will be replacing them with beanbag chairs.

In all seriousness, we did receive some great ideas that we are working on and I am excited to share them with you soon. We're very fortunate to have a membership that cares so deeply about the High Holiday experience. ...And the 90% approval rating is real.

I wish everyone a joyous Purim.

# SHARING SHABBAT AT BETH TZEDEC

*For many of us, Shabbat morning services can be a little overwhelming. Whether you're worried about shushing your children or struggling to connect with the weekly Torah reading, it can be difficult to find the breathing room to get the most out of this important service.*

*To help every member of our community feel welcome on Saturday mornings, we're introducing two new Shabbat morning experiences for the Beth Tzedec community.*

## **Spiritual & Sweet: An Interactive Shabbat with Rabbi Ilana**

**Saturday, March 11  
10:30am**

Develop a personal connection to our tradition with Rabbi Ilana at this alternative Shabbat morning service. Enjoy beautiful melodies and a brief Torah study to nurture and feed your soul in this participatory Shabbat service. Knowledge of Hebrew, Torah or standard liturgy is not required—we will grow and learn together.

Registration is not required, but appreciated. **Click here** to register.

## **Family Shabbat Morning**

**Saturday, March 18  
10:15am**

If you've ever felt out of place or overwhelmed by the traditional Shabbat morning service, or worried about a rowdy toddler interrupting the solemnity of the moment, this is the perfect opportunity to get your family comfortable in the synagogue and in prayer. You and your children are welcome to join us in singing, moving, sharing, and reflecting while we celebrate Shabbat together.

Registration is not required, but appreciated. **Click here** to register.

# FAMILY SHABBAT DINNER

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, FROM 5:30PM TO 8:00PM

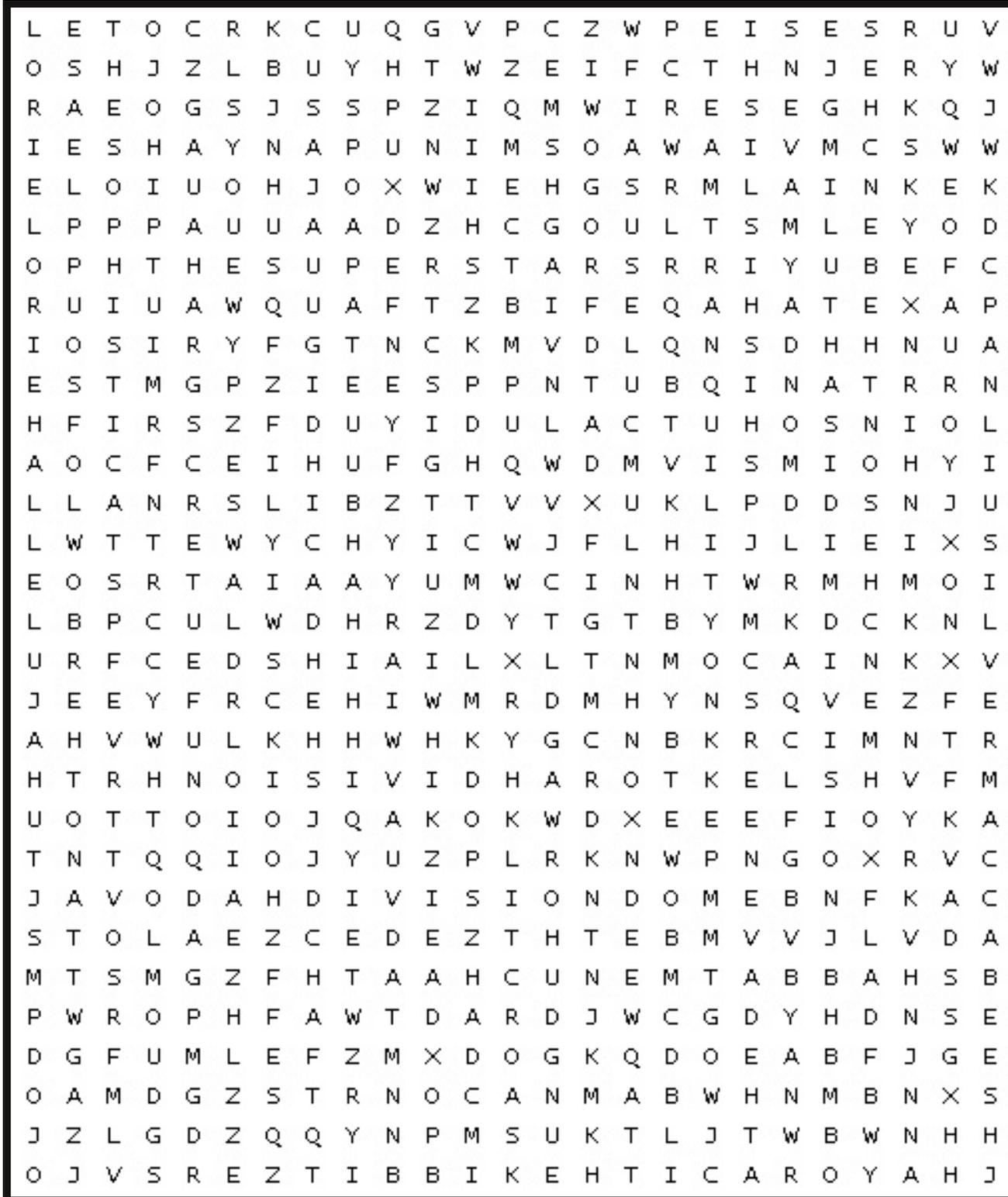
Start your Shabbat off right with a delicious Family Shabbat Dinner at Beth Tzedec, filled with ruach (spirit) and kehilah (community).

**Registration Deadline: Wednesday, March 1**

**Click here to register.**

# National Minyan League Word Find

*In lieu of the usual column from NML  
Commissioner Susan Inhaber, we're celebrating  
Purim with a game! Find the word list on page 11.*



## Word List

Find each of the NML team and division names!

Names can appear in any direction, without punctuation, and may share letters with one another.

### AVODAH DIVISION

Another Bowl of Soup, Please!  
Lorie, Lorie, Hallelujah!  
Menches on the Benches  
Shayna Punims  
Shishi Slishi  
The Super Stars

### G'MILUT HASIDIM DIVISION

Beth Tzedec Zealots  
Monday Mavens  
Monday Miracles  
Silver Maccabees  
Team Tranquility  
The Kibbitzers  
Thursday Thunder

### TORAH DIVISION

President's Choice  
Shabbat Menucha  
TGIF  
The Daveneers  
The Sophisticats  
Yom Rishon

### MARCH BONUS DATES

Sunday, March 12  
Sunday, March 19  
Sunday, March 26  
Wednesday, March 29  
Thursday, March 30  
Friday, March 31

Hazak  
Lunch & Learn

Join our monthly lunch and learn as we socialize, share a meal and learn from Calgary's great thinkers and writers.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15  
AT 12:00PM

### THE HERITAGE OF JEWISH COLONIES, FROM ARGENTINA TO CANADA

with Irena Karshenbaum,  
Author and Founder,  
*The Little Synagogue on the Prairie Project*

Learn where we're going by understanding where we come from, as we trace the history of Jewish colonies.

We'll explore all the highlights, from Baron Maurice de Hirsch and the Jewish Colonization Association, to The Little Synagogue on the Prairie Project, to the Montefiore Institute at Heritage Park.

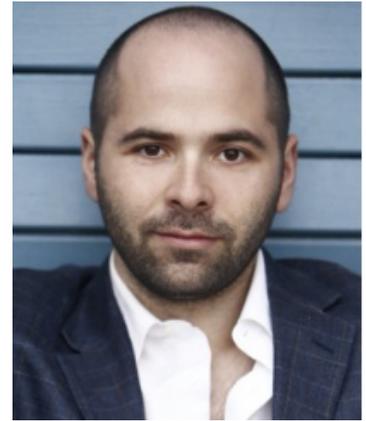
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

# Education Director's Satirical Purim Report: HELP WANTED!

*Education Director Ari Cohen has gotten himself into a spot of trouble and is looking for escape.*

**By Ari Cohen**

Director of Education, Beth Tzedec Congregation



Help Wanted – attention all congregants! We are currently seeking talented and experienced heroes to rescue me. Responsibilities include:

Walking into Sir Baron Rabbi Cantor Doctor Russ, Esquire's office and pulling out the *Book of Esther*. The bookshelf will open, revealing a damp hallway leading you to a computer. (By the way, the hallway is damp because the roof is leaking, so if someone can fix that while you are it, you'll be doing a great mitzvah.) Proceed on down the hallway to the computer and type the following letters: Farshtinkineh\_Roof614.

A trapdoor will release. Take the spiral staircase down to the dungeon. Ignore the scented candles, whips, spikes and chains as you walk down. You will eventually see our rabbis dressed in red robes, chanting mantras. They will invite you to participate. You may join, as I did, but do not eat the brownies or drink "tea" – as I did.

Once you reach the bottom of the staircase, you will come to a dungeon-like door. Guarding the door is a colossus named Wax Lipsman. Be kind and do not get lippy with him, because he will squash you right then and there. Rather, confuse him by

asking him this riddle: "How much wood can a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?" He will sit and think, and that is your chance to go through the door.

Once through the door, follow the staircase down past the scorpions, snakes, and Harrison Ford. If you hear a lady screaming, it's no lady... it's Rabbi Ilana! She will direct you to follow me through the Labyrinth of 1000 Distractions. JUST – STAY – FOCUSED – oh look, a squirrel!

Walk a few paces until you encounter the Bridge of Toil and Trouble, where you will be asked five questions by the bridge troll, Jester Dworkin. You must answer these correctly:

- (1) What is your name?
- (2) What is your quest?
- (3) What is your favourite colour?
- (4) How could a 5-ounce bird possibly carry a 1-pound coconut?
- (5) Can you please lead services this Saturday?

Stray but a little from these answers and you will fall down the endless chasm! I know not how far you will fall before your end, but rest assured the experience is unpleasant – and, more importantly, my rescue will fail.

Assuming you make it past the Bridge of Toil and Trouble, you will see a rhesus monkey named Melech Outhaber curling and braiding its fur. Just say "You look lovely" and MOVE ON!

When you come to a T-shaped intersection, enter the Safeway on the left, go past the kosher section, and a well-dressed butler named Forlorne Pearl will materialize before you. Don't let him speak, not a single word! Lest you be hypnotized by his sweet, soft voice and you replace him as the Butler. Simply put your finger to your lips, say "shhhh, is Harry here?" (He thinks my name, Ari, starts with an H.) He will bring me to you, and you will take my place... I mean, I will be free!

As I think about it, there is something in this mission that reminds me of Purim. If someone had told us that the secret to Jewish

liberation was Queen Vashti leaving her position of power at the palace, an alien civilian getting dressed up for some royal ball, to be married off to a man she had never met, only to learn of a secret plan to murder all her own people, so that she can inform the king of the plotter's plot and reveal her true identity to him, and for the king to pick the untrusted queen over his trusted advisor... we likely would have opted for a different plan. Rather, life reveals to us a simple problem that unravels a little bit at a time, in manageable bites. It's only in retrospection that we realize how crazy the twists and turns of a mission was!

So with that in mind... I'd like to refresh my "Help Wanted" message and simply ask that you walk into Rabbi Russ's office and pull out the *Book of Esther*!



**TEEN WEDNESDAYS**  
4:00 PM TO 5:30 PM  
AT BETH TZEDEC

Free weekly programming for teens in Grades 8-12, dedicated to learning, connecting and living their Jewish values.

**To Connect:**  
*Teen Hang with BBYO*

**To Learn:**  
*Teen Learning Project*

**To Change the World:**  
*Dorshei Tzedec Teen Philanthropy Program*

# Programs and Events

## Family Shabbat Dinner

**Friday, March 3**

**5:30pm to 8:00pm**

Start your Shabbat off right with Family Shabbat dinner at Beth Tzedec, filled with ruach (spirit) and kehilah (community). Join at 5:30pm for an interactive Shabbat-inspired program with singing, games, and stories. Then, enjoy a shul-cooked dinner together with all your friends at 6:00pm. [Click here](#) to register.

## Hazak Lunch & Learn: The Heritage of Jewish Colonies, from Argentina to Canada

**Wednesday, March 15**

**12:00pm to 2:00pm**

Learn where we're going by understanding where we come from, as Irena Karshenbaum, founder of The Little Synagogue on the Prairie Project, leads us in tracing the history of Jewish colonies. [Click here](#) to register and learn more.

## Hebrew School But Better Thursdays, March 2, 16 & 30

**7:00pm to 8:30pm**

*Open to 22-35 year olds, both congregants and guests.*

Did you make it through a primary Jewish education with nothing to show for it except a strange feeling of guilt whenever you walk past a synagogue? This is the series for you. Join Jonah Potasznik in uncovering the insights available to us through ancient and classical Jewish sources. We'll provide the beer and spirits, you provide the curious spirit. [Click here](#) to register and learn more.

## What About Weinberg!?

**Tuesday, March 28**

**7:00pm**

We are thrilled to invite our community to a musical celebration of the work of Mieczysław Weinberg, a once-neglected Jewish composer whose talent and compositions are now being recognized around the world. [Click here](#) to learn more.

## Interfaith Bible Study

**Thursdays, March 2, 9, & 16**

**1:00pm to 2:30pm**

Examine familiar texts with new eyes at our weekly Interfaith Bible Study, supported by the Calgary Interfaith Council. Gain fresh perspectives as we discuss the prophets' "greatest hits". [Click here](#) to learn more.

## Babies & Bumps

**Thursdays, March 2 & 16**

**12:30pm to 1:30pm**

Calling all members of the Jewish Calgary baby boom! Join other young families for an informal schmooze and baby play time every other Thursday afternoon. Feel free to drop in or RSVP at 403-255-8688. [Click here](#) to learn more.

## Homework Club

**Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays,  
3:30pm to 5:00pm**

Homework Club is an engaging space for students in Grades 1-6 to work on schoolwork in a relaxed, supportive space with the help of older students and mentors. Snacks will be provided, as well as fun activities to participate in with friends, once homework is done! [Click here](#) to register.



### Family Purim Carnival

**Sunday, March 5**

**12:00pm to 3:00pm**

It wouldn't be Purim without our annual Family Carnival! Celebrate the season with magic, face painting, games and more as we bring families together for fun and friendship. With activities for kids of all ages and a buffet lunch for all participants, this is the perfect opportunity to share the holiday with your friends at Beth Tzedec. **Click here** to register.

### Help Make Purim Extra Special!

We're still looking for volunteers to help assemble and deliver mishloach manot packages. **Click here** to contact Jonah Potasznik to get involved.

We'll be assembling packages on: Wednesday, March 1 at 5:00pm and Thursday, March 2, following morning minyan. Deliveries will take place on March 5, 6, and 7.

### Erev Purim Celebration

**Monday, March 6**

**6:00pm**

Celebrate the holiday with our first Erev Purim celebration, designed to deliver fun and excitement for participants of all ages!

We'll begin at 6:00pm with Ma'ariv and a traditional Megillah reading, while our younger congregants are entertained with a kids' program. Afterwards, we'll all come together for a playful shpiel (Purim play), followed by a delicious meal. **Click here** to register and learn more.

### Matanot L'evyonim

#### **Supporting Those in Need**

Purim, a celebration of Jewish unity, is made sweeter when we can ensure that everyone can enjoy the festivities, regardless of their means. That's why we're highlighting two important causes this year, as you and your family decide how to perform the mitzvah of matanot l'evyonim.

**Click here** to learn more about Leket Israel and Jewish Family Services Calgary (JFSC).



## Online Programs from Maven

*Beth Tzedec congregants are invited to access exciting online programs and courses from American Jewish University. Simply create an account to access their entire library of learning opportunities.*

### **Frankly Feminist: Short Stories by Jewish Women from Lilith Magazine** **Thursday, March 2 at 12:00pm** **No charge**

Discover feminist short stories collected by Lilith Magazine that represent Jewish women from various cultures, contexts, and points of view! **Click here** to register.

### **AJU Presents: Purim Mixology** **Tuesday, March 7 at 6:00pm** **No charge**

Break out your shakers and get mixing during this special Purim mixology class with award-winning bartender Naomi Levy! **Click here** to register.

### **Pre-State Photographic Archives and the Zionist Movement** **Thursday, March 9 at 2:00pm** **No charge**

Break out your shakers and get mixing during this special Purim mixology class with award-winning bartender Naomi Levy! **Click here** to register.

### **Tour Global Jewish Life: Thessaloniki, Greece** **Tuesday, March 14 at 2:00pm** **\$21**

Explore the “Jerusalem of the Balkans” and learn how Thessaloniki, Greece became a center for Sephardi Jewish culture after their expulsion from Spain. **Click here** to register.

### **Why is it Always the Jews?** **Thursday, March 16 & 23 at 12:00pm** **\$36**

Learn the history of Jew hatred and how to identify and combat the rising tide of antisemitism in this two-part series. **Click here** to register.

### **Jews of Iran: A Photographic Chronicle** **Tuesday, March 21 at 12:00pm** **No charge**

Featuring over one hundred full color photos, take a step into one of the most beautiful and complicated untold stories of our time. **Click here** to register.

### **To Be or Not to Be: The Jewish American Paradox** **Tuesday, March 28 at 12:00pm** **No charge**

Will Judaism cease to exist, or will our diversity lead us to a new Jewish enlightenment of strengthened identity and pride? **Click here** to register.

### **Secret History of Jews and Baseball** **Thursday, March 30 at 12:00pm** **No charge**

Play ball! Kick off the 2023 MLB season with a riveting discussion about the Jewish love affair with baseball from the field to the bleachers. **Click here** to register.



**Tuesday, March 7  
12:00pm to 12:45pm**

After a 42-year wait, the long-promised Mel Brooks sequel History Of The World Part II comes to Hulu! Originally premiering in 1981, History of the World Part I was Mel Brooks' parody of Hollywood's historical movie trends.

History of the World Part II will include an eight-part series with bits such as "Hitler on ice," and "Jews in space." Join cast member Josh Fadem and AJU's Jonathan Dobrer for an inside look at the Jewish satire throughout the series, Brooks' influence on comedy in America, and how Fadem's career in comedy has been inspired by his Jewish upbringing and the works of Mel Brooks himself.

**Click here** to register.

## Looking for even more online learning?

Rabbi Russ curated a complete list of programs from Maven that he thinks will appeal to Beth Tzedec members.

**Click here** for the full list.

## Available on Demand

*A number of Maven programs are available free and on-demand, so that you can enjoy them on your schedule.*

### **President Zelensky: The Evolution of a Jewish Comedian to a Wartime Leader of Ukraine**

The story of the comedian turned Ukrainian president who gained control of something no army can wrest away: the narrative. **Click here** to learn more.

### **AJU Presents Bibi: My Story**

American Jewish University is honored to invite you to a virtual author talk with Benjamin Netanyahu upon the release of his new memoir, Bibi: My Story. **Click here** to learn more.

### **Roe v. Wade: Reproductive Freedom as a Jewish Value**

Join the CEO of the National Council of Jewish Women for a conversation on Jewish values and reproductive freedom. **Click here** to learn more.

### **Chosen By Choice: Nellie Bowles & Bari Weiss on Living Jewishly**

Two journalists in love, Bari Weiss & Nellie Bowles, reveal their story of connection, meaning and choosing to lead a shared life rooted in Judaism. **Click here** to learn more.

### **Book Talk: People Love Dead Jews**

A startling exploration of how Jewish history is exploited to flatter and comfort the living. **Click here** to learn more.

# Highlights from Around the Shul

*With so much excitement at Beth Tzedec, it's easy to lose track of all the experiences we've shared. Here are a few happy memories from the last few months.*



We enjoyed a performance of *Fiddler on the Roof* from Broadway Across Canada.



Our Teen Learning Project helped our younger congregants connect with their Jewish identities.



We talked Torah at Hebrew School But Better, where 20s and 30s learn and connect with one another.



We launched Hazak Lunch & Learn, our daytime learning program for all ages.



# Samara Bailey Yanofsky

March 10, 2023 | Tevet 7, 5783

Samara is the daughter of Lisa Libin and Jeremy Yanofsky and proud big sister to Elliott.

Samara is in grade 7 at the Calgary Jewish Academy where she loves learning and celebrating the Jewish holidays and traditions. She spends her summers in British Columbia at Camp Hatikvah with her special group of friends.



Samara is a competitive rock climber and expert skier, never turning down a tough, sometimes scary, challenge. Samara also has a black belt in Tai Kwon Do that she received at the ripe old age of nine years old. In her “free” time, Samara also plays piano and loves long bike rides and playing basketball in the summer.

She holds a particular fondness for her 16-year-old beagle, Buckley, and is wonderful at taking care of him with daily walks and cuddles.

Always kind, giving and compassionate, Samara will be supporting Calgary Jewish Federation’s Jewish Disability Awareness program as her Mitzvah Project, as she volunteers with their on-site programming and also works to educate her CJA classmates through various in-school activities.

Mazel Tov Samara!

Catering from Beth Tzedec

# Coming Soon!

Our talented in-house caterer, Akiba Charikar, will be expanding his services so that you can enjoy his delicious, kosher cooking at home.

Stay tuned for more information and menus.

There is nothing in the world like sharing a hearty meal with family and friends.

# Tributes and Donations

## CONGREGATION FUND/TZEDAKAH FUND

### MAZEL TOV

**Yolanda Cea**, on her retirement

By Josh and Yanna Inhaber

**Lily Joffe**, on her birthday

By Milt and Maxine Fischbein

**Jack Adler**, on his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday

By Sandra and Haskel Eisner

**Rob, Cheryl, Danielle and Jared**

**Milner**, on the passing of his mother

Catherine

By Jan Simon

**Rob, Beth and the Ordman Family**,

on the loss of his mother Mary

By Alrene, David, Michael and Erin

Holmes

### SYMPATHY

**Faith Dubisky**, on the loss of her

husband Jerry

By Rosa Fishman

Mim Diamond

**Debby and Barry Smolkin**, on the

passing of Bryna Switzer

By Therese Nagler

**Alan Zindler**, on the passing of his

wife Elaine Fritag

By Mim Diamond

Jeff Kusher and Randall McGinns

**Geela Blitt**, on the passing of her

husband Morris

By Aaron Berman and sons

Lila Mydlarski

Reva Faber

Dianne, Robyn, Joel and Kelsey

Lipton

Chana McKereghan

Rick and Bonney Pollick

Gayle Sherman

**Jennifer Preece and Family**, on the

passing of her grandmother

By Lila Mydlarski

## GET WELL

**Ron Switzer**

By Walter Moscovitz

**Leo Zalmanowitz**

By Walter Moscovitz

## THINKING OF YOU

**Bert Glow**

By Nat and Harriette Alexander

## YOUTH PROGRAMMING

### SYMPATHY

**Rob and Cheryl Milner**, on the

passing of his mother Catherine

By Faith Dubisky

## CYNGISER FAMILY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL FUND

### MAZEL TOV

**Lori and Arnie Olyan**, on the birth of

their granddaughter

By Milt and Maxine Fischbein

### SYMPATHY

**Dr. Marty, Kathy Cole and Family**, on

the passing of her father Donald

By Hilda, Lenny Smith and Family

HAVE A MESSAGE  
WORTH SHARING?

Our new  
congregant-designed  
Tribute Cards are now  
available online.

CLICK HERE TO  
CHOOSE YOUR FAVOURITE

**LEV SHALEM  
SHABBAT & FESTIVAL BOOK FUND**

**MAZEL TOV**

**Therese Nagler**, on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday  
By Milt and Maxine Fischbein

**THANK YOU**

**Karen and Jamie Phillips**  
By Milt and Maxine Fischbein

**LEO & GOLDIE SHEFTEL  
RABBINIC CHAIR FUND**

**SYMPATHY**

**Debby and Barry Smolkin**, on the passing of Bryna Switzer  
By Sheila and Ralph Gurevitch  
**Geela Blitt and Family**, on the passing of her husband and their father Morris  
By Evelyn Sheftel Shapiro

**Yahrzeit Fund**

**Ben Sherwood**, beloved father  
By Betty Sherwood  
**Ruth Sherwood**, beloved mother  
By Betty Sherwood  
**Maurice Moshe Cohen**, beloved father  
By Ginette Raphael  
**Yvonne Chava Cohen**, beloved mother  
By Ginette Raphael  
**Frank Glow**, beloved father  
By Edith Pomerance  
**Tillie Alexander**, beloved mother  
By Nat and Harriette Alexander  
**Jack Gold**, beloved cousin  
By Wayne Bobroff  
**Ida Bobroff**, beloved mother  
By Wayne Bobroff  
**Zysman Groner**, beloved father-in-law  
By Terry Groner and family  
**John Kurtos**, beloved brother-in-law  
By Lea Kohn

**Bennie Bercov**, beloved uncle  
By Joan Robins  
**Doreen Lipkin Henstell**, beloved aunt  
By Joan Robins  
**Joseph Lipkin**, beloved grandfather  
By Joan Robins  
**Evelyn Gurevitch**, beloved mother  
By Cyril Gurevitch  
**Jack Ross**, beloved father  
By Therese Nagler  
**Fanny Nagler**, beloved mother-in-law  
By Therese Nagler  
**Risha Steinman**, beloved daughter  
By Lily Joffe  
**Lazar Profis**, beloved brother-in-law  
By Sara Profis  
**Elsie Price Van Haren**, beloved sister  
By Dr. Lorne Price  
**Louis Rudolph**, beloved father  
By Beth S. Price  
**Tryna Rudolph**, beloved mother  
By Beth S. Price  
**Toba Goldstep**, beloved Baba  
By Marc Edelson  
**Shirley Goldstep-Schneidman**  
By Marc Edelson  
**Harry Edelson**, beloved Zaide  
By Marc Edelson  
**Minnie Goldstep**, beloved aunt  
By Marc Edelson  
**Mercia Safran**, beloved mother  
By Laura and Jaclyn Safran  
**Fanny Nagler**, beloved mother  
By George Nagler  
**Jack Wise**, beloved brother  
By Jerry Wise  
**Leo Friedman**, beloved brother  
By Tillie Sklar  
**Anne Aaron**, beloved mother  
By William and Randi Aaron  
**Roza Profis**, beloved mother-in-law  
By Sara Profis  
**Louis Belzberg**, beloved father  
By Karen Belzberg  
**Mary Goorevitch**, beloved grandmother  
By Karen Belzberg

**Benjamin Goorevitch**, beloved grandfather  
By Karen Belzberg

**Toby Miriam Conn**, beloved aunt  
By Karen Belzberg

**Jack Conn**, beloved uncle  
By Karen Belzberg

**Rose Belzberg**, beloved grandmother  
By Karen Belzberg

**Alex Belzberg**, beloved grandfather  
By Karen Belzberg

**Anne Rebecca Belzberg**, beloved mother  
By Karen Belzberg

**Rose Zenith**, beloved mother  
By Leonard Zenith

**Leo Friedman**, beloved uncle  
By Bev Sklar

**Eva Vinet**, beloved sister  
By Beulah Martin

**Rev. Watson James Lazarus**, beloved father  
By Eva Falla

**Minnie Dubisky**, beloved mother-in-law  
By Faith Dubisky

**Jacob Dubisky**, beloved grandfather-in-law  
By Faith Dubisky

**Jack Robinstone**, beloved father  
By Faith Dubisky

**Bertha Viner**, beloved mother-in-law  
By Fran Viner

**Pinchas Glinkewicz**, beloved father-in-law  
By Louise Glin

**Dr. Martha Cohen C.M.**, beloved mother  
By Cheryl Cohen

**Ralph Sugarman**, beloved brother  
By Shelley Sugarman

**Paul Visser**, beloved father  
By Jennifer Preece

**Helen Feher**, beloved mother  
By Susan Inhaber

### SPECIAL YAHRZEIT FUND

**Benny Fishman**, beloved husband  
By Rosa Fishman

**Alyse Schwartz**, beloved mother and grandmother  
By Shelley and Justin Kwinter

**Lucille Hanson**, beloved mother  
By Annette, Candice and Dorothy Hanson and the Shagal Family

**Arnold Grobman**, beloved father and zaida  
By Janis, Brian, Ashley, Daniel, Tali and William Kowall

**Irena Gershkovich**, beloved mother  
By Ilia Bounce

**Lev Gershkovich**, beloved father  
By Ilia Bounce

**Rebecca Mendelman**, beloved mother-in-law  
By Walter Moscovitz

### KIDDUSH YAHRZEIT FUND

**Lou Pomerance**, beloved brother-in-law  
By Bert Glow

### MEMORIAL NOTICES

**Mary Ordman**, mother of Rob (Beth) Ordman, Zef (Sveta) Ordman and Ben Ordman, sister of Jack Rowley. *Mary passed away on February 3, 2023.*

**Morris Blitt**, husband of Geela Blitt, father of Judd (Shira Meyers) Blitt and Jonathan Blitt, brother of Ann (Ted Zinman) Blitt Zinman. *Morris passed away on February 4, 2023.*



Beth Tzedec is proud to take part in the Harold Grinspoon Foundation LIFE & LEGACY program, coordinated locally by Calgary Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Foundation of Calgary. We are working in partnership with organizations throughout the Calgary Jewish community to raise endowment funds through after-lifetime gifts.

**Todah rabah to the following individuals and families who have generously committed to after-lifetime gifts that will support our synagogue in perpetuity:**

Anonymous (7)	Lily and Bill Lister
Judith and Christopher Baron-Bown	Ellen Magidson
Sharon Batshaw	Sahbra Markus
Jenny Belzberg	Elaine and Stuart Myron
Melissa and Daniel Blitt	Beth and Rob Ordman
Marnie and Darren Bondar	Al Osten
Val and Lou Bracey	Lorne Pearl
Maxine and Milt Fischbein	Earl Raber
Sarah and Ben Ginzberg	Kimberly Rothenberg and Leonard Seidman
Benjamin Grintuch	Brenda and Garry Sapoznikow
Cheryl and Jason Gurevitch	Betty Ann Sherwood
Sheila and Ralph Gurevitch	Cheryl and Bob Shiell
Susan and David Inhaber	Deborah Shnay
Josh Inhaber	Sandy Shuler
Russell George Jayne	Deborah and Adam Silver
Barbara Joffe	Becky and Brad Spier
Diana Kalef and Elliott Steinberg	Helen and Mark Swartz
Barb and Ron Krell	Darlene Switzer-Foster
Eddy Lang	Ida and Sam Switzer
Harriet and Phil Libin	Mira and Joey Tappenden

**Did you know?**

The estimated value of LIFE & LEGACY commitments in support of Beth Tzedec's future has topped \$1.52 million and continues to grow. To date, close to \$17.7 million has been raised in support of organizations throughout Jewish Calgary, and more than \$1.26 billion has been raised by participating agencies throughout North America. Regardless of your age, stage and income level, you can give a gift to the future, supporting your Shul, your community and your people.

**Be remembered forever!**

If you have already designated Beth Tzedec as a beneficiary in your will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy or you would like to plan your legacy gift, please contact Beth Tzedec President Lorne Pearl at [president@bethtzedec.ca](mailto:president@bethtzedec.ca) or CEO David Inhaber at [ceo@bethtzedec.ca](mailto:ceo@bethtzedec.ca).



# SKIP THE DEPOT

Collect and save your refundable bottles, cans, used clothing and unwanted electronics and let us do the heavy lifting! Just download the SkipTheDepot app on your smartphone and set up your account for free pick-ups at home.

Select Beth Tzedec as the organization you'd like to receive your donated funds and SkipTheDepot will pick up your bags. Your contribution will help support our Youth Programming Fund, plus, you'll get the tax receipt! If you have any problems or questions, contact Deb Silver at [debsilver75@gmail.com](mailto:debsilver75@gmail.com).

