



# Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue

Volume 73 Issue 5

~ Tevet 5772 Shevat ~

January 2012



## Rabbi's Message

By Rabbi Tamar Crystal



Life changes. Roles change. And every now and then we all need time to reflect. According to Michael Kress, founding editor in chief of myjewishlearning.com, there is no greater need today than to examine the expectations a community might have of working with its rabbi. Mr. Kress begins by citing the traditional role of the rabbi – an authoritarian scholar whose word was literally law – and then noting how it has changed as society has changed.

“As with so much these days, the life of a rabbi has become a complicated juggling act. He or she--since all but the Orthodox movement ordain women today--must also play the role of politician, marketing expert, administrator, fundraiser, salesperson, and financial-management guru, as well as personal spiritual guide, therapist, and interfaith ambassador.

Even the traditional clerical roles--teaching and preaching--have grown more complex. "Paternalistic," "lone-rangers," and "hierarchical" are some of the words scholars today use to describe the way rabbis worked under the former model of religious leadership.

These days, however, unquestioned authority does not pass muster. A growing number of American Jews no longer see traditions, organizations, institutions, or even highly certified leaders as inherent sources of authority. They refuse to be bound by categories of the past--such as denominational labels--and instead seek their own personal spiritual paths, drawing from whatever and wherever they find inspiration.

And while these trends are especially true in the non-Orthodox denominations--Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist--even some of the most traditionalist, cloistered ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities are affected by them in some, albeit less blatant, ways.”

Mr. Kress goes on to paint a picture of today's Jewish community. “Some have referred to this new reality as the "religious marketplace," where individuals go "shopping" for the faith or denomination that fits them best--or, more likely, the various pieces of different faiths or denominations that they then cobble together into their

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*Rabbi's Message continued*

own individualized religious practice, often with little regard for the traditions or denominations in which they were raised.

In this "consumerist" model, rabbis must be able to lead their congregants along a highly individualized spiritual path, guiding them without being too heavy-handed, leading congregants to their own conclusions about belief and practice while keeping them in the fold.

At the same time, many Jews' reduced sense of obligation, especially among the non-Orthodox, means that rabbis are often competing with kids' extracurricular activities, stressed-out parents' relaxation time, and any number of other pursuits that eat away at Americans' shrinking amount of down time. And rabbis must do this while also handling the day-to-day demands of congregations, which continue to function as spiritual homes, community centers, schools, and safety nets.”

*Rabbi's Message continued on page 10*

# BULLETIN

Published Monthly From  
September to June by

## BETH EL NER TAMID SYNAGOGUE

2909 West Mequon Road, Mequon, WI 53092  
An Independent Progressive Conservative Synagogue

Tamar Crystal..... Rabbi  
Robert Peterman..... President  
Neal Plotkin & Rodney Ugent..... Men's Club Co-Presidents  
Phyllis Wiggins..... Sisterhood President  
Debbie Intravaia..... Religious School Director  
Donna Brown..... Executive Director  
Enid Bootzin-Berkovits..... Music Director  
Maggi Treager..... Librarian  
Judy Taylor..... Administrative Assistant

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Phone: (262) 242-6900 ☎ Fax: (262) 242-3952  
Beth El's Web Site: [www.bethelnertamid.org](http://www.bethelnertamid.org)

#### E-Mail Addresses:

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**Do you need to communicate directly to our Board of Trustees? They can be reached at:**  
[board-of-trustees@bethelnertamid.org](mailto:board-of-trustees@bethelnertamid.org)

### CONTACT RABBI TAMAR CRYSTAL

Rabbi is available 24/7 for sudden illness or emergency events at **(262) 227-7087**. For non-emergency situations please feel free to call her during business hours, e-mail or contact the synagogue office and leave a message.

### CONTACT INFORMATION FOR:

#### Memorial Plaque and Tree of Life Information

Fred Meyer ~ (414) 351-4556

#### To Sponsor a Kiddush

Donna Brown ~ (262) 242-6900

### Beth El Minyan/Service Schedule

Monday Minyan..... 7:30 am  
Thursday Minyan..... 7:30 am  
Friday Minyan..... 7:30 am  
Saturday Shabbat Service & Yom Tov..... 9:30 am  
Secular Holidays..... 9:00 am

If you require a special Minyan, please notify the Beth El office at (262) 242-6900. Please contact your friends and family to help ensure a Minyan and give our office sufficient time to make the arrangements.

## President's Message

By Robert Peterman



Herman Cain quoted the great philosopher "Pokemon" when he withdrew from the presidential race. I chose to use the expression Harvey Kaufman uses when he ends a message to someone-'Carpe Diem'- 'Seize the day.'

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, the congregation overwhelmingly voted to look at the possibilities of selling the synagogue building and the surrounding land. It was an emotional event. All of us have experienced life cycle events throughout the decades and if the walls could talk, they would speak volumes of the Simchas and other spiritual life related activities that have taken place in our synagogue over the years.

But the truth of the matter is, and it was stated by one of the congregants, 'The essence of our congregation is the heart and soul of our members.' Whether we remain in our building or we relocate, as long as we remain an intact spiritual family, we will continue to be involved in each others' life experiences.

In order to execute our vision, we need options. So the board will begin to explore the possibilities of selling the building, in light of a very difficult real estate market. Going forward the board will also begin to implement the Planning Committee's recommendations plus the suggestions of the board members and those who attended the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

There are a lot of important subjects that will be discussed over the ensuing months. I encourage you to call me or other board members to voice your feelings. The board is here to serve the temple, so it's important to know what your thoughts are.

*Carpe Diem-We have seized the new day.*

Thank you for your trust,  
*Bob Peterman*  
President BENT

## NEED A RIDE?

If you are in need of a ride to any of the synagogue functions, including Shabbat Service **OR** if you would like to give a ride...

Please call the Beth El office at (262) 242-6900.



## Voice of the Men's Club

By Neal Plotkin & Rodney Ugent,  
Co-Presidents



*A warm January greeting to all Men's Club and Beth El families from the Plotkin and Ugent families!*

It may be cold outside, but inside Beth El, your Men's Club and synagogue are filled with warmth and friendly, sharing activities. We hope you will be joining us over the winter and spring months in many of these activities, sharing with your synagogue family.

The Men's Club wants to thank everyone who joined and shared with us for our annual Chanukah Party and Latke Dinner, on Sunday, December 18th. Nearly 100 people shared a delicious dinner with the Men's Club, along with great entertainment from the Beth El religious school, to help bring in the Chanukah holiday. A tremendous amount of planning and work goes into this event every year. Our thanks to all volunteers that helped in this, and especially to Eugene Rosenberg, for his unselfish dedication to the Men's Club and Beth El. Another tremendous job. We would all be very hungry without Eugene!

Please join us on Monday, January 9th, at 6:00 pm, for our next 'Beer and Bible' dinner with Rabbi Crystal. For only \$5.00, share in a great dinner and conversation with Rabbi Crystal and fellow Men's Club members. In the coming months, the Men's Club will share and sponsor many great events at Beth El, including the "World Wide Wrap" on Sunday, February 5th, the annual Tom Anthony concert and dance on Saturday, February 11th, and don't miss the Midwest Regional Man-of-the-Year brunch, in the Chicago area, on Sunday, February 19th. Beth El will be honoring Howard Loeb, this year's Man-of-the-Year.

Watch for announcements on new fundraising events for Beth El, from the Men's Club. We will no longer sponsor our Brewers' concession stand volunteer fundraising in 2012. After four years, we will be launching some new and exciting efforts to raise funds for Beth El. We had a lot of fun working the Brewers' games and raised valuable funds for Beth El, allowing us to make important purchases such as the office printers and supplies, our handicap-assist front doors, the new carpet cleaner-shampoo machine and more. Thanks to all Brewers' volunteers over the years. We look forward to announcing some exciting new fundraising events soon.

*Neal Plotkin & Rodney Ugent*

Men's Club Co-Presidents

### MEN'S CLUB JANUARY SCHEDULE

**Monday, January 9th, at 6:00 pm**  
Men's Club "Beer & Bible" with Rabbi Crystal

**Sunday, January 22nd, at 10:00 am**  
Men's Club Monthly Meeting

## BETH EL NER TAMID MEN'S CLUB 2011-2012 Membership Invitation Dues Statement for September 2011-September 2012



Dear Congregant:

This is your official invitation. We want you to join Beth El Ner Tamid Men's Club, an award-winning affiliate of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs!

Our Club represents a multi-generational group of guys in their 30's and up who bring you great programming and camaraderie. Beth El Men's Club functions as a support mechanism to our congregation by providing services and activities for our members. Just look at some of the things we do:

*Monthly dinner and study sessions with the Rabbi*  
*Combined Men's Club/Sisterhood programs*  
*Sunday breakfasts- Minyanaires*  
*Men's Club Kallah weekend & Retreats*  
*Paid-up member dinners*  
*Yom Hashoah programs & candles*  
*Baseball/basketball outings & bike rides*  
*Fundraising ~ World Wide Wrap*  
*Sunday morning guest speakers*  
*Computer/Internet activities*  
*Man of the Year Dinner*  
*Sukkah setup ~ Chanukah party*  
*Purim Carnival ~ Scholarships for high school graduates*  
*Barbeques ~ Shalach Manot gift baskets*

-AND SO MUCH MORE-

**For only \$36.00, you can actively participate in the good times and do a mitzvah.**

Please mail your check with the form below to Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue, Men's Club, 2909 West Mequon Road, Mequon, WI 53092. If you have any questions, you can reach me at (414) 351-4714 or e-mail me at rddugent@aol.com

Sincerely yours,  
Rodney Ugent,  
Co-President/VP Membership

### **Yes! Count me in.**

I want to be a member of this important part of our congregation.

Membership Renewal (\$36.00)  
 New Member (\$36.00)  
 Contact me about further involvement

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**DONNA'S BOOK REVIEW****"THE 188TH CRYBABY BRIGADE—A SKINNY JEWISH KID FROM CHICAGO FIGHTS HEZBOLLAH"  
by Joel Chasnoff**

This is a light read, very funny and an interesting perspective into the IDF (Israeli Defense Force).

Joel Chasnoff is 24 years old, an American, and the graduate of an Ivy League university. But when his career as a stand-up comic fails to get off the ground, Chasnoff decides it's time for a serious change of pace. Leaving behind his amenity-laden Brooklyn apartment for a plane ticket to Israel, Joel trades in the comforts of being a stereotypical American Jewish male for an Uzi, dog tags (with his name misspelled), and serious mental and physical abuse at the hands of the Israeli Army.

"*The 188th Crybaby Brigade*" is a hilarious and poignant account of Chasnoff's year in the Israel Defense Forces - a year that he volunteered for, and that he'll never get back. As a member of the 188th Armored Brigade, a unit trained on the Merkava tanks that make up the backbone of Israeli ground forces, Chasnoff finds himself caught in a twilight zone-like world of mandatory snack breaks, battalion sing-alongs, and 18 year old Israeli mama's boys who feign injuries to get out of guard duty and claim diarrhea to avoid kitchen work. More time is spent arguing over how to roll a sleeve cuff than studying the mechanics of the Merkava tanks. The platoon sergeants are barely older than the soldiers and are younger than Chasnoff himself. By the time he's sent to Lebanon for a tour of duty against Hezbollah, Chasnoff knows everything about why snot dries out in the desert, yet has never been trained in firing the MAG. And all this while his relationship with his tough-as-nails Israeli girlfriend (herself a former drill sergeant) crumbles before his very eyes.

The lone American in a platoon of 18 year old Israelis, Chasnoff takes readers into the barracks; over, under, and through political fences; and face-to-face with the absurd reality of life in the Israeli Army. It is a brash and gritty depiction of combat, rife with ego clashes, breakdowns in morale, training mishaps that almost cost lives, and the barely containable sexual urges of a group of teenagers. What's more, it's the most embattled armies on earth - an occupying force in a hostile land, surrounded by enemy governments and terrorists, reviled by much of the world. With equal parts irreverence and vulnerability, irony and intimacy, Chasnoff narrates a new kind of coming-of-age story - one that teaches us, moves us, and makes us laugh.

I love it and give it 8 out of 10.

*Donna Neubauer, Book Club Chair  
Central Great Lakes Region  
Past President of Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue Sisterhood  
Mequon, Wisconsin*

## Honor Howard Loeb Beth El Ner Tamid's 2012 Man of the Year



### The Midwest Region Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs

are honoring all the region's Man of the Year recipients on  
**Sunday, February 19th, 2012**  
at Beth Hillel Congregation Bnai Emunah,  
in Wilmette, IL

The cost to attend this brunch is \$36.00 per person.  
Send your check to BENT in care of the Men's Club.

Please show your support and honor Howard by  
placing an ad in the Program/Ad Book.

A ½ page ad is \$72.00, ¼ page ad is \$36.00,  
and a name listing is only \$18.00.

For more information, please contact Rodney Ugent  
at rddugent@aol.com or (414) 351-4714

## Sisterhood Book Club

The Beth El Ner Tamid Sisterhood is planning interesting reads. Come join us for lively discussions.

**Wednesday, January 4th**

**"Seven Blessings" by Ruchama King**

Review by Gerrie Boym

All paid Sisterhood Members are welcome,  
even if you haven't read the book!

Please contact Glenda Kaufman at  
(414) 540-9739 if you have any questions.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**  
**See You Around The Circle!**



## SISTERHOOD KITCHEN SHOWER

Sisterhood collected many needed items at the Annual Membership Luncheon 'Kitchen Shower,' on Sunday, November 20th, for Beth El's kitchen. Thank you to all who attended. Photo taken by Sandy Kaner.

## Voice of the Sisterhood

By Dr. Phyllis-Marie Wiggins,  
President



### Everything must change ...

At my eighth grade graduation, we sang the song "Everything must change," by Nina Simone. I have often reminded myself (in song) of those lyrics because I've found them to be true. Our congregation is facing some difficult decisions and I encourage everyone to remember everything must change. We are a vibrant congregation and our goal, above all else, has to be to maintain our identity and tailor to our strengths.

In 1989, after shopping around and after joining another conservative synagogue, I decided to join Beth El Ner Tamid. My decision, as a single person with no children, was based on the sense of family I got when I attended services at the synagogue. I found the congregants (that's all of you) to be caring, friendly, and joyful. I didn't get that feeling at other congregations. I was elated to find a home that was progressive and forward thinking.

I have, throughout the years, maintained my membership at Beth El Ner Tamid because I believe it to be a congregation that stands together. We are a family! Sure, sometimes we bicker and disagree with each other but we never truly lose our sense of standing together on important issues. I've always felt a part of something grand and beautiful as a member of this congregation.

I would like to encourage all of you to remember that, "Everything must change." If we are to continue to grow as a congregation; if we are to continue to build on our strengths; if we are to continue to love and support each other, we have to be willing to change and face challenges together.

Now, for those of you who are cringing, relax! Change doesn't have to be a big bad scary thing. Change can be something we boldly face and come out stronger for having done so. We may have to change our location; we may have to change our demographic; we may have to change our format. But, in all of this, the one thing we can stand on is our love and devotion to Judaism and each other.

My mom used to say when things stop changing they die! I have no interest in seeing our congregation die. I'm willing to do things differently if it means we can stay together and stay viable. I, in some ways, have a lot to lose because Beth El Ner Tamid's congregation is my only Jewish family! You are all I have! When I want a bubbe, I look to one of you! When I want a nanna, I

*Voice of the Sisterhood continued next column*

## BETH EL NER TAMID SYNAGOGUE JUDAICA BOUTIQUE

### Gift Certificates Available

Start Traditions... *Sabbath Candlesticks*  
*Menorahs* ♪ *Seder Plates* ♪ *Bride's Bibles*  
*Mezuzot* ♪ *Shofars* ♪ *Tallitot*

### GIFT SHOP HOURS

**Sunday: 10:00 am to 12:00 noon**

**Or By Appointment**

**Please call:** Ydelle Litwack (414) 510-4677  
Deanna Spanjar (262) 242-4336  
Ilene Wasserman (414) 228-8307

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND CARDS

(In Honor Of, In Memory Of, Speedy Recovery, Mazel Tov, etc.)

Chair: Ilse Eisendrath (414) 352-6406

### BEAUTIFICATION FUND CARDS

(In Honor Of, In Memory Of, Speedy Recovery, Mazel Tov, etc.)

Chair: Ruth Hauser (414) 962-5102

### TORAH FUND CARDS

(In Honor Of, In Memory Of, Speedy Recovery, Mazel Tov, etc.)

Chair: Marlene Loeb (414) 352-5632

*Voice of the Sisterhood continued*

call one of you! When I want a nosh, I look in the kitchen! So, I have lots to lose and I'm willing to fight to preserve what I have.

You are all very important to me but I have to admit, if we are going to survive, we are going to have to admit that at Beth El Ner Tamid, as in life, "everything must change."

**Here's to change and here's to life!**

Respectfully submitted,  
*Dr. Phyllis-Marie Wiggins,*  
Sisterhood President, 2010-2012

## SISTERHOOD JANUARY SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, January 4th, at 10:00 am**—The Sisterhood Book Club will meet in the Beth El library. They will be reading 'Seven Blessings' by Ruchama King with book review by Gerrie Boym.

**Thursday, January 5th, at 7:00 pm**—Come to Mah Jongg Night at BENT. The cost is only \$1.00 per person. All are welcome.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS for the Sisterhood Shabbat

**Friday, February 24th**

Sisterhood Shabbat Dinner

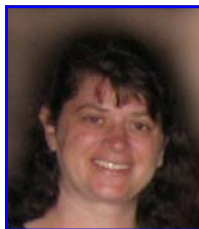
**Saturday, February 25th**

Sisterhood Shabbat Service with Kiddush lunch

More information to follow.

## Family Education Center News

By **Debbie Intravaia**,  
Religious School Director



To the congregation,

If I said it once, I've said it a hundred times- no matter how small are school is, we offer a top-notch education for our students. We use current and up-to-date curricula materials that are relevant for this day and age. We have caring, passionate teachers who have taught religious school for over 19 years each. We are a family that includes wonderful parents who entrust their children to us for 9 months of the year. Even though we aren't able to have USY offered through our synagogue, we find other ways to enjoy each other's company after school is dismissed for the day.

After school on December 4th, we had an awesome time at a new facility in Grafton called Jumping Country. 18 children jumped, hopped, slid, rolled, climbed, and ventured through and on 7 humongous inflatables. There were slides, obstacle courses, and other neat things. There were also a few parents who managed to get in on the fun, including yours truly! It's something the kids definitely want to do again next year. Without the Apple & Honey fundraiser, we are unable to do these kinds of programs.

December 11th, our High School went to their 2nd Interfaith Café. It is located at the First Unitarian Society on Astor St. This month's topic was consumerism, which is appropriate for this time of the year. The mission of the Interfaith Café is to give teens from different religious traditions an opportunity to gather together and share their faith, talk about issues, and develop relationships. By fostering dialogue and mutual understanding, the hope is to reduce conflict, eliminate stereotypes, and promote peaceful relationships among all people.

December 15th, during our Thursday night Hebrew session, we took some time to meet with the new Shlichim to discuss the IDF and teach us some Krav Maga. Many of our students take Tae Kwon Do, so I knew they would surely enjoy this. It was a nice energy release from how hard they've been working on reciting prayers and their Hebrew in general.

December 18th was the Annual Men's Club Latke Dinner. The kids really enjoyed rehearsing and showing their talent for the audience. Every year we do an original play that may or may not make sense, but gets some laughs and the children love their parts, no matter how large or small. But this year was different. This year was a performance in honor of Gilad Shalit. It was interesting that during the planning stages, he had been released from captivity. The play was an enactment of a story he

*Family Education Center News continued next column*

*Family Education Center News continued*

wrote when he was 11 years old called "When the Shark and the Fish First Met". To make sure Gilad would not be forgotten, his parents had it published. The symbolic story told of the meeting between a young fish and shark who decide to be friends despite the tension and natural enmity between the two. The children had a great time and everyone enjoyed it.

*I hope everyone has had a Hanukkah filled with joy and fond memories. May the lights shine bright in your hearts; I wish you all a new year filled with renewal and self-contentment.*

B'Shalom,  
**Debbie Intravaia**,  
Religious School Director

**School Shabbat**  
**Saturday, January 7th, at 9:30 am**

**Join Beth El for a special  
Shabbat service with  
our Religious School Students**

**Come to Beth El's  
Family Shabbat Service  
on Friday, January 20th, at 7:00 pm**  
**A family lead service with Oneg to follow.**

**To Learn About Religious School  
Closings Due To Inclement Weather**



**Listen to:**

Channel 4 news (WTMJ)  
Channel 12 news (WISN)  
Station FM 106 (WMIL)



## A DAY OF DISCOVERY

**Explore the Joys of Jewish Learning  
in Milwaukee.**

~ **B'nai Mitzvah Year—A Celebration**  
~ **Teacher Recognition Event**

~ **New! Interactive Fun Education Programs:**  
For 2-6 years (with parents) and 7-12 years (children only)

**Sunday, January 15th, 2012**  
**8:30 am to 3:15 pm**

at Harry & Rose Samson  
Family Jewish Community Center  
6255 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Whitefish Bay  
FREE, but donations gratefully accepted.



**Rabbi Crystal is leading a session at 11:00 am  
called "Redeeming Captives."**

For more information go to:  
[www.cjlmilwaukee.org](http://www.cjlmilwaukee.org) or call (414) 963-2710

## Social Action Committee News

The Social Action Committee would like to take this opportunity to give a great big

### THANK YOU

to all who helped bake, cook and serve for St. Vincent de Paul in December.

If you can't volunteer your time you can still help by making a contribution to our Social Action Fund.



Looking for women (or men) to join Beth El's knitting group. If you don't know how to knit we will teach you how.

We meet at the synagogue on

**Sundays from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.**

Knitters will always be notified during the week before we meet. If anybody has any yarn they are no longer using we would greatly appreciate you donating it to us. It does not have to be a full skein of yarn. Hope to see more of you join us.

Call Marge Kulakow, at (414) 540-6630, with any questions.

PLEASE WATCH FOR WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS & ENEWSLETTERS AS WELL AS THE BULLETIN

## Classes with Rabbi Crystal



### COMMANDMENTS CLASS

**Wednesday Evenings**  
Minyan at 6:00 pm  
Class at 6:15 pm

January 4th, at Beth El (before choir practice)  
January 18th, at St. Boniface. Class at 6:00 pm

### CONVERSION CLASS



For those interested in exploring the path to formally becoming Jewish and those Jews who wish to refresh their own knowledge of our tradition.

**Sunday Mornings 9:00-10:30 am at Beth El**  
(9:00—9:45 class; 9:46-10:15 reading of assigned material; 10:16 -10:30 discussion on material)

Classes are on the following dates:  
**January 8th & 22nd**  
**February 12th & 26th**



### "JEWISH VALUES"

**A CLASS FOR OUR MEMBERS AT LAUREL OAKS ALL ARE INVITED!**

Rabbi Crystal is teaching a class on "Jewish Values" for our Beth El members at Laurel Oaks.

**Classes will be on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month, at 2:00 pm**

The class is also open to Beth El members who live nearby. No registration is required. Just come and enjoy. Laurel Oaks is at 1700 W. Bender Rd in Glendale.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

for the next

**Friday Night Shabbat Dinner**  
**on January 13th, at 6:15 pm**

Shabbat service will follow at 7:30 pm

## Musical Memories Concert

### "A SWING'N GOOD TIME"

Saturday, February 11th, 2012  
7:30 pm—11:00 pm at  
Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue



### Las Vegas Style Show

*Musical performances by the great*  
**TOM ANTHONY GROUP**

*Elvis—Roy Orbison—The Platters—Buddy Holly*  
*Frank Sinatra—Everly Brothers—Frankie Valli*  
*Righteous Brothers—Ricky Nelson*  
*And many more: 40's— 50's— 60's music*

Tickets only:

\$18.00 in advance—\$20.00 at the door  
Includes dessert & soda.

For tickets send your check, made payable, to:  
**Beth El Ner Tamid Men's Club Concert**  
2909 W. Mequon Road, Mequon, WI 53092

Flyers/forms are in the foyer and on our website,  
[www.bethelnertamid.org](http://www.bethelnertamid.org)



## BIRTHDAYS



Neal Plotkin	January 4th, 2012	
Rodney Ugent	January 4th, 2012	
Daniel Kraus	January 5th, 2012	
Edward Kovnar	January 6th, 2012	
Debbie Intravaia	January 8th, 2012	
Freda Pressman	January 8th, 2012	
Bobbi Fishbein	January 9th, 2012	
Iris Dalin	January 10th, 2012	
Connor Wahrman	January 11th, 2012	17th Birthday
Ruth Berman	January 12th, 2012	
Alan Bern	January 13th, 2012	
Joseph Hirschberg	January 13th, 2012	
Wayne Dalin	January 14th, 2012	
Rachel Rudman	January 15th, 2012	
William Stern	January 17th, 2012	
Bryan Chudnow	January 18th, 2012	
Harriet Stein	January 18th, 2012	
Hannah Kovnar	January 19th, 2012	8th Birthday
Regina Conn	January 20th, 2012	
Melanie Bandos	January 22nd, 2012	
Hyam Eglash	January 24th, 2012	
Phillip Israel	January 25th, 2012	
Barbara Bern	January 26th, 2012	
Eugene Rosenberg	January 26th, 2012	
Ann Esser	January 27th, 2012	
Hillary Stein	January 27th, 2012	
Leo Weinshel	January 27th, 2012	
Karen Stein	January 28th, 2012	
Avis Lebow	January 31st, 2012	
Faye Raffety	January 31st, 2012	
Ava Winter	January 31st, 2012	3rd Birthday



## TREE OF LIFE

A gift of a leaf on the Tree of Life is a gift that lasts forever. Why not remember that bar or bat mitzvah, the special anniversary, birthday or any other family simcha with a dedication to the Tree of Life?

Please contact Fred Meyer at (414) 351-4556 for more information.

## SHOP SENDIK'S! SUPPORT BENT!

Sendik's Scrip is available at BENT!



Cards can be purchased for cash or check in amounts of \$50 or \$100. For more information or to order cards, please call the office at (262) 242-6900.

## ANNIVERSARIES

**Kenneth and Ava Bortin**

January 5th, 2012 ~ 32nd Anniversary

Thank you to all our  
**CHEVRA MISHNA DONORS**

**Ilse Eisendrath  
Sandra Kaner  
Henry & Bess Lerner  
Millie Lerner  
Judith Levin  
Robert & Isabelle Victor**

**TODAH RABAH!**

**Celebrate a birthday, wedding anniversary or special simcha...**

## Sponsor a Kiddush!

Sponsoring a Kiddush is a wonderful way to celebrate a special event in you and your family's lives. Your special event will be featured in the Saturday program and acknowledged from the Bimah.

For further information, please contact Donna Brown at the Synagogue office (262) 242-6900 or [executivedirector@bethelnertamid.org](mailto:executivedirector@bethelnertamid.org)



**Entertainment Books  
Are At Beth El!  
Give the Gift of Entertainment**

They make great presents for birthdays, anniversaries or thank-you gifts. It is the gift that keeps on giving plus you will be supporting our synagogue.

The cost is only \$35. Contact the BENT office at (262) 242-6900 or Kevin Nashban at (414) 352-1242 to reserve your copy.



## Support Our Synagogue

Marcus Theater Certificates are available for purchase in the synagogue office. They make wonderful gifts and are a great way to support our synagogue!



Certificates are available in the amounts of \$5, \$10 and \$25. Call the office at (262) 242-6900 for more information.

# YAHREZITS FOR NOVEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER

"BECAUSE OF CHARITY THE WORLD ABIDES..." RASHI, PIRKEI AVOT

Hilda Bernstein, beloved mother of Barry Bernstein  
 Solomon Bernstein, beloved father of Barry Bernstein  
 Eileen Blumberg, beloved wife of Edward Blumberg  
 Marvin Bocksbaum,  
     beloved brother-in-law of Sidney Kastrul  
 Abraham Bodner, beloved father-in-law of Kiesel Kaufman  
 Kenneth Bunders, beloved father of Gretchen Segal  
 David Dubester, beloved husband of Rose Dubester  
 Richard Dubin, beloved husband of Carol Dubin-Bookstaff  
 Myer Eglash, beloved father of Hyam Eglash  
 Frank Eisendrath, beloved husband of Janet Eisendrath  
 Samuel Granof, beloved father of Betty Anne Waxman  
 Benjamin Hirschberg, beloved father of Joseph Hirschberg  
 Theodore Kahn, beloved father of Randolph Kahn  
 Theodore Kahn, beloved companion of Freda Pressman  
 Theodore Kahn, beloved friend of David Schiewitz  
 Burton Kampner, beloved brother of Carol Dubin-Bookstaff  
 Esther Kampner, beloved mother of Carol Dubin-Bookstaff  
 Irwin Kampner, beloved father of Carol Dubin-Bookstaff  
 Yetta Kaufman, beloved wife of Kiesel Kaufman  
 Jack Langer, beloved husband of Shirley Langer  
 Dorothy Lerner, beloved mother of Sharon Rapkin  
 Minni Lerner, beloved grandmother of Glenn Lerner

Bonnie Lynn Mechanic, beloved sister of Richard Mechanic  
 Morris Mechanic, beloved brother of Phyllis Fink  
 Morris Mechanic, beloved father of Richard Mechanic  
 Morris Mechanic, beloved husband of Selma Mechanic  
 Max Miller, beloved father of Harriet Hirschberg  
 Ida Kaye Perchonok,  
     beloved mother-in-law of Theodore Pittelman  
 Eugene Pressman, beloved father of Sherri Beder  
 Eugene Pressman,  
     beloved brother-in-law of Freda Pressman  
 Samuel Reuben, beloved father of Leatrice Marshak  
 Morris Rubin, beloved father of Barbara Simon  
 Ben Ruff, beloved father-in-law Jerry Ruff  
 Sam Shein, beloved brother of Bess Lerner  
 Dora Stern, beloved mother of William Stern  
 Jack Stern, beloved brother of William Stern  
 Jack Waxman,  
     beloved brother-in-law of Betty Anne Waxman  
 Seema Waxman,  
     beloved sister-in-law of Betty Anne Waxman  
 Anne Weitzman, beloved mother of Cheryl Goldberg  
 Anne Weitzman, beloved mother of Jim Weitzman  
 Nate Zembrosky, beloved husband of Shirley Zembrosky

## FUND CARDS for November through December

### BUILDING & GROUNDS FUND: *GENERAL FUND-Get Well- continued*

### SOCIAL ACTION FUND:

#### Get Well:

**Dorie Sand**  
 Carol Ugent

#### In Memory Of:

**Eve Schneiderman**  
 Carol Ugent

### MURIEL & JACK ABRAMS ENDOWMENT FUND:

#### Get Well:

**Shirley Langer**  
 Janet Eisendrath

### GENERAL FUND:

#### Get Well:

**Ed Blumberg**  
 Freda Pressman & David Schiewitz

**Sophie Hochman**  
 Hy & Sheila Eglash

**Shirley Langer**  
 Hy & Sheila Eglash  
 Betty Rae Litow  
 Freda Pressman & David Schiewitz

**Dorie Sand**  
 Freda Pressman & David Schiewitz

#### **Adele Silberg**

Freda Pressman & David Schiewitz

#### In Memory Of:

**Henry Lerner**  
 Fred & Jane Chester  
 Hy & Sheila Eglash  
 Joe & Harriet Hirschberg  
 Betty Rae Litow  
 Thelma Sogol

#### **Eve Schneiderman**

Fay Colberg

### LIBRARY FUND:

#### In Memory Of:

**Eileen Blumberg**  
 Edward Blumberg

### YETTA & KIESL KAUFMAN MUSIC FUND:

#### In Honor Of:

**Dr. & Mrs. Charles Bomzer**  
**(Anniversary)**  
 Bob & Andrea Mandel & Family  
 Harriet M. Resnick

#### Get Well:

**Elaine Friedman**  
 Koert & Deanna Spanjar

**Sophie Hochman**  
 Phyllis Reider  
 Koert & Deanna Spanjar

**Glenda Kaufman**  
 Koert & Deanna Spanjar

**Dorie Sand**  
 Phyllis Reider  
 Koert & Deanna Spanjar

#### In Memory Of:

**Henry Lerner**  
 Marge Kulakow  
 Phyllis Reider  
 Al & Barbara Simon  
 Koert & Deanna Spanjar

### WANT TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO ONE OF OUR FUNDS?

Contact **Marge Kulakow** by phone  
 at **(414) 540-6630**

Or send a check to Marge:  
**4195 W. Bradley Road, #311**  
**Brown Deer, WI 53209**

## IN MEMORIAM

**The community of Beth El Ner Tamid  
mourns the passing of**

### Henry Lerner

Beloved husband Bess Lerner.  
Cherished father of Meris, Jay (Bobette),  
Kent (Eileen) & Ross (Nancy) Lerner.  
Loving grandfather of Craig (Cathy) Lerner,  
Todd (Stephanie) Lerner, Dionne (Andy) Ryff,  
Garret (Kim) Lerner, Sara Lerner &  
Andrew Lerner. Adoring great-grandfather of  
Kelsey & Taylor Whiting, Ethan & Gavin Lerner,  
Jolie & Drake Ryff, Zeke and Lily Lerner.

### Terri Lynn Schohl

Loving wife of Howard Schohl.  
Devoted mother of Bracha.  
Dear daughter of Norman & Ruth Rosenfeld.

***May all be comforted by the thoughts and  
prayers of friends and family.***

*Rabbi's Message continued from page 1*

For Mr. Kress the successful synagogue is one where congregants are highly engaged in religious learning and serious about their practice. "This reduces the divide that may have existed between rabbi and congregant in the past, when rabbis often felt they were leading a passive congregation not looking for personal transformation."

He does not see this as an easy path. "The challenges, however, remain great. The potential for burn-out is massive, as rabbis work harder to retain congregants' interest and lead them in highly individualized paths, while also, in many cases, running day-to-day operations for the synagogue, playing a role in budgeting and fund-raising, leading and/or teaching in the Hebrew School, and, of course, maintaining traditional roles of counselor and lifecycle-ceremony officiant."

Such is the modern rabbinate which is based on the model of rabbi and congregation working in partnership. Is it easy? Mr. Kress does not see it that way. "It's a tight-rope act, but one that few rabbis today can escape." The future belongs only to those congregations who look seriously at themselves and create the genuine working partnership of rabbi and community that empowers even while having to navigate the unavoidability of change.

*Rabbi Tamar Crystal*

## MEMORIAL PLAQUE INFORMATION

Numerous congregants have found that the most appropriate and dignified manner to honor and perpetuate the cherished memory of their beloved departed is through providing a bronze memorial plaque to be mounted upon the synagogue's memorial tablet. Memorial lights are kindled at each memorial plaque during every yizkor service and on each respective yahrzeit.

The cost per plaque is \$250.00.  
Please contact Rabbi Crystal at (262) 242-6900  
or Fred Meyer at (414) 351-4556 for further information.

*Yoga Classes*  
with instructor  
**Jan Halonen**



**Yoga is a great stress reliever and  
enhances the immune system!**

**Classes are being held at  
Beth El Ner Tamid in the foyer  
on Mondays at 9:30 am.**

**The Cost is only \$11.00 per class**

For more information or to sign up please  
call Jan Halonen at (414) 915-6377  
Flyers are in the foyer.

## Beth El is on Facebook

If you have a Facebook account, why not "like" us. We use Facebook to update our friends on Men's Club, Sisterhood and School activities happening here at Beth El.

Getting to our Facebook page is easy.

Go to our website at  
[www.bethelnertamid.org](http://www.bethelnertamid.org) and click on the





**BETH EL NER TAMID SYNAGOGUE      JANUARY 2012      TEVET – SHEVAT 5772**

12/14/11 DMB    **SI-Sisterhood**    **MC-Men's Club**    **RS-Religious School**    **EOC-Expenditure Oversight Committee**    **BOT-Board of Trustee**    **Rabbi's Classes**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 Tevet NEW YEARS DAY <b>NO RS</b>	7 Tevet OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 AM Minyan 2:00 PM Jewish Values Class	8 Tevet	9 Tevet 10:00 AM SI Book Club 6:00 PM Commandments Class (BENT)	10 Tevet 7:30 AM Minyan 4:30 PM RS 7:00 PM Mah Jongg	11 Tevet 4:13 PM candle lighting Office Closes 1:00 PM 7:30 AM Minyan	12 Tevet 9:30 AM School Shabbat
13 Tevet 9:00 AM RS 9:00 AM Conversion Class RS After School Activity	14 Tevet 7:30 AM Minyan 6:00 PM MC Beer & Bible	15 Tevet	16 Tevet 7:30 PM Choir Practice	17 Tevet 7:30 AM Minyan 4:30 PM RS 7:30 PM BOT Meeting	18 Tevet 4:21 PM candle lighting Office Closes 1:00 PM 7:30 AM Minyan 6:15 PM Shabbat Dinner 7:30 PM Shabbat Svc	19 Tevet 9:30 AM Worship Svc w/Choir Joe Hirschberg 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
20 Tevet Jewish Day of Discovery <b>NO RS</b>	21 Tevet 7:30 AM Minyan 2:00 PM Jewish Values Class MLK Community Svc	22 Tevet	23 Tevet 6:00 PM Commandments Class (St. Boniface)	24 Tevet 7:30 AM Minyan 4:30 PM RS	25 Tevet 4:30 PM candle lighting Office Closes 1:00 PM 7:30 AM Minyan 7:00 PM Family Shabbat Svc	26 Tevet 9:30 AM Worship Svc
27 Tevet 9:00 AM RS 9:00 AM Conversion Class 10:00 AM MC Meeting RS After School Activity	28 Tevet 7:30 AM Minyan	29 Tevet	1 Shevat 7:30 PM Choir Practice	2 Shevat 7:30 AM Minyan 4:30 PM RS	3 Shevat 4:39 PM candle lighting Office Closes 1:00 PM 7:30 AM Minyan	4 Shevat 9:30 AM Worship Svc
5 Shevat 9:00 AM RS RS After School Activity	6 Shevat 7:30 AM Minyan	7 Shevat				

**Phone: (262) 242-6900    E-mail: [info@bethelnertamid.org](mailto:info@bethelnertamid.org)**

To find out about more Beth El events or any last minute updates, visit our website at [www.bethelnertamid.org](http://www.bethelnertamid.org)



**Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue**  
**2909 W. Mequon Road**  
**Mequon, WI 53092**

*Robert Peterman, President*  
*Ava Bortin, Vice President*  
*Ilene Wasserman, Secretary*  
*Jane Chester, Treasurer*  
*Barbara Abrams, BOT*  
*Patricia Chamoy, BOT*  
*David Gutterman, BOT*  
*Harvey Kaufman, BOT*  
*David Kazilsky, BOT*  
*Alan Marcuvitz, BOT*  
*Robert Rudman, BOT*  
*Albert Simon, BOT*  
*Rodney Ugent, BOT*  
*Glenn Yamahiro, BOT*  
*Jaclyn Zigan, BOT*  
*Neal Plotkin, MC President*  
*Phyllis Wiggins, SI President*

# BETH EL PICTURE GALLERY

## SISTERHOOD PERSPECTIVES



## Men's Club Man of the Year

Rodney Ugent (right) and Neal Plotkin (center), co-presidents, present Howard Loeb (left) with the 'Man of the Year' Award at the Annual Installation and Paid-up Membership Dinner on Thursday, November 17th.

**Congratulations Howard!**

← Back by popular demand, Kehri Stowers (top, front row, 3rd from left) from Goldi's was the special guest at Sisterhood's Perspective Program on Monday, December 5th. Kehri had a beautiful collection of items to choose from. Several of the ladies modeled the accessories. Fun time for all! Photos for Sisterhood taken by Sandy Kaner.