



Annual Meeting 2023

Nathan Handelsman, President, Congregation Beth David

Welcome



Today's Agenda

- ★ Welcome & Opening Remarks - Nathan
- ★ Prayer for Israel & D'var Torah - Rabbi Kulin
- ★ Election of Officers and Directors - Wendy J.Glasser
- ★ Officer Reports
 - Membership / Programming & Aux Groups - Susan
 - Officer Reports - Dan / Art / Rivka / Bill
 - Endowment - Michael L
- ★ Q&A - Nathan
- ★ Closing Remarks - Nathan

Prayer for Israel



Rabbi Kunin

D'var Torah



Rabbi Kunin

Participation Tutorial

Verifying that we have a quorum

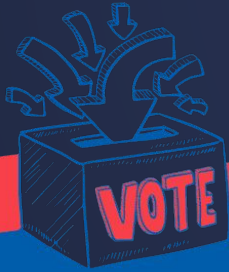
If we obviously have a quorum, we will not need a count of attendees.

But if there are fewer than 68 people in person and on zoom (combined) we request that if you have more than one adult member (>18 yo) congregant watching with you on your Zoom, please put into the Chat all the names of adults in your group attending.

Questions - Etiquette

- Once you have finished your question, our Zoom host will uncheck your raised hand and will mute your microphone.
- Limit your questions to 1-2 minutes.
- Repeat questioners will not be called on until first-time speakers have had turns.
- Those who fail to yield to the next speaker may find themselves muted by the Zoom host.

Election of Officers



**IT'S TIME FOR
BOARD ELECTIONS!**

2023 Nominating Committee

- Committee Chair: Wendy J Glasser
- Wendy Askenas
- Jerry Bloom
- Carol Cassel
- Lori Cinnamon
- Roland King
- Neil Shapiro

Thank you all for your service!

Nominees for new 2-year terms beginning February 1st 2024

Administrative Vice-President

Neil Shapiro

Education Vice-President

Art Singer

Ritual Vice-President

Marty Newman

Treasurer

Eric Lewis

Financial Secretary

Stephen Schleimer

Director at Large (A)

Ginny Baird

Director at Large (H)

Dov Isaacs

Director at Large (I)

Frank Yashar

Director at Large (J)

Kristin Gustavson

Nominees for partial 1-year term beginning February 1st 2024

Executive Vice-President
Director at Large (D)

Irene Spector
Jennifer Blostein

Board Members continuing in the 2nd year of their terms ending January 31st 2025

President

Nathan Handelsman

Financial Vice-President

Bill Beyda

Membership Vice-President

Susan Greenberg-Englander

Secretary

Michael Bierman

Director at Large (B)

Joseph Bendahan

Director at Large (C)

Bonnie Slavitt

Director at Large (E)

Bonnie Hirsch

Director at Large (F)

Leah Newman

Director at Large (G)

Wendy Askenas

Thank you for your service!

How to Vote



- Use the link you received in email from electionbuddy.com.
- Contact the Secretary, Michael Bierman your personal election Access Key. Then go to <https://secure.electionbuddy.com/ballot> and enter your ballot Access Key
- Pick up a paper ballot today in the Mercaz and hand it back before you leave.

Our Members: 2023 Annual Review

Membership



Membership Status

Calendar Year	2022	2023	
Total Family Units	431	414	
New Members	9	13	
Status Change	0	1	
Resignations	(26)	(30)	
Database Correction	0	(1)	
	<i>Personal</i>	<i>(12)</i>	<i>(21)</i>
	<i>Moved</i>	<i>(10)</i>	<i>(5)</i>
	<i>Deceased</i>	<i>(3)</i>	<i>(4)</i>
	<i>Abandoned</i>	<i>(0)</i>	<i>(0)</i>
Total Family Units Dec 31 / Nov 30	431	397	

Membership Programming - 2023 Highlights

- Classical Concert
- Balance & Stretch Classes
- Elkhorn Slough Adventure
- Judaica Roadshow
- 60th kick-off dance party
- Jewish Heritage Baseball Night
- San Jose Earthquakes
- High Holy Day Volunteer Lunch
- New Torah Table - Eagle Project
- Whale Watching
- African Flare Shabbat
- Yom Ha'atzmaut with JCC
- Shabbat & Picnic in the Park
- BBQ & Barchu
- Steaks in the Sukkah
- Break the Fast
- BSA Scout Eagle Ceremony
- Kunins Welcoming Receptions
- Ma'alot Farms
- Rosh Hashanah Honey Grams
- Teen Lounge Makeover
- Dessert in the Sukka
- Patron Receptions
- Give Some Love Tu B'Av
- Purim Carnival
- Teen Spaghetti Dinner
- Ice-Cream Truck Shavuot

Membership Programming - UPCOMING EVENTS

➤ please join us →

- Hazak Channukah Extravaganza (@6pm) (RSVP closed)
- Vodka & Latkes at 6pm then Poker at 7:30 (December 12th)
- Dim Sum with Rabbi Kunin (December 29th)
- Dirty Cello (January 20th)

Auxiliary Organizations

Beth David Women

Mission. Beth David Women brings women together to support and benefit our Congregation and community, and to enrich our members' lives through personal and spiritual growth and friendship.

Programs. Our programs this year have included:

- Monthly lunches (Ladies Who Lunch) and/or dinners (Dames Who Dine), including LWL in the Sukkah and our Hanukkah Lunch
- Presentations on Holocaust survivors, Lilith Salon, a Zoom meeting on Jewish Harlem, an in-person presentation by Judge LaDoris Cordell, Mah Jongg, and Cooking
- Our Annual Women's Shabbat (on January 28, 2023; upcoming on January 27, 2024)
- Our Annual Purim Silent Auction (jointly with the Men's Club)

Subgroups. Beth David Women has two subgroups:

- Not Just One (NJO) – a social group for women who are unattached (single, divorced, or widowed)
- The *Empty Nesters* – a group of women who get together to discuss their family experiences.
- Beth David Women members who are also Women's League members have access to on-line classes and programs from Women's League such as: Matilda's Master class which will be studying women's voices raised in the Torah, Talmud and Modern Midrash. Torah Fund stands with Israel. Quarterly meetings with Israeli representatives. Hebrew speaking and praybook reading class,

See your women's league week for details.

Beth David Women (continued)

Support for our Community.

Beth David Women supports our congregation and our larger community by:

- ❖ Sending Torah Fund greeting cards to congregants for life cycle events; supporting the Torah Fund campaign
- ❖ Providing centerpieces for the Bima on the High Holy Days and Kiddush cups to B'nai Mitzvah Students
- ❖ Donating to the HoneyGram and Mishloach Manot Fundraisers
- ❖ Making Shabbat dinners for Hillel students
- ❖ Preparing and delivering hygiene kits to shelters in conjunction with AAI
- ❖ Collecting gift cards in support of JFS' Hanukkah Project
- ❖ Donating to a number of organizations including Jewish Family Services, American Cancer Society (Relay for Life), Torah Fund; the Innocence Project

To be added to the Beth David Women roster, please send an e-mail to women@beth-david.org

Without you, we are one woman short!

Hazak קרן

- January 2023 - "In Every Generation" - at TheatreWorks
- February 2023 - Fun Game Afternoon
- April 2023 - An afternoon of improvisational comedy with Julia Cinnamon
- May 2023 - A Conversation with Rabbi Jaymee Alpert
- July 2023 - Annual BBQ & Picnic at Blackberry Farm
- October 2023 - "Yiddish of Today and Tomorrow" with Dr. Yankl Levitow
- November 2023 - "Authors Among Us" - Panel Discussion
- December 2023 - Chanukah Social Extravaganza

UPCOMING

- January 2024 - Jews in Unexpected Places with Rabbi Kunin
- February 2024 - The Art and Illustrations of Artist Bonnie Stone

Beth David Men's Club

mensclub@beth-david.org

- ◆ Providing our community with opportunities to socialize, learn, celebrate, and perform service projects.
 - ◆ Supporting and Donating to our shul and the greater Jewish Community.
 - ◆ All Activities open to spouses and to children when appropriate.
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- Social Events: Bocce Ball, Beer with the Boys, Bagels in the Park, Steaks in the Sukkah, Vodka and Latkes with the Yiddish Combo, Hiking, 80's Purim Party with Live Jazz, Pizza Pies with the Guys, Magic Show for our Religious School, Sporting Events, Wine Tastings & Poker Nights.
 - Volunteerism: Maintenance Projects here at Beth David, Provide Staffing for BD charitable and educational events, support our religious school and volunteer with Jewish and other Nonprofits.
 - Charitable Giving: Donations to Beth David' Solar Panel Fund and Religious School, Boy Scouts of America (in support of our Eagle Scouts Projects), American Cancer Society (Relay for Life), USY, Music Programs and More
 - Next Activity: Dec. 12th, Vodka & Latkes 6-7pm Poker 7:30 at CBD



Israel Action Committee



Activities sponsored by Beth David IAC

- Crash Course in History of Israel with Charlotte Korchak (five-part series)
- Story of Ethiopian Community in Israel with Oshra Friedman on Zoom
- Israel at 75: Progress, Challenges and Opportunities, an insider's analysis with Einat Wilf on Zoom
- Israel Action campaign to support Israel during Gaza War – joint effort at Beth David, with letter-writing to govt officials, gratitude video for IDF soldiers, solidarity rallies, social media blitz, etc.

Israel Action Committee (continued)



Community Events promoted by IAC

- Hebrew Chit Chat – biweekly Hebrew-speaking group at JCC
- *Two Worlds* dance performance by Israeli cultural ambassadors at JCC
- Informational webinar on 'ethnic studies' crisis in California schools (on Zoom)
- Emergency call-a-thon to support Israel during Gaza War, community effort at JCC last month
- Solidarity rallies to support Israel during Gaza War – various

Q & A

Administration



Administration

2023 Accomplishments

- Fixed roof and new solar arrays
- Reinstated Facilities/Security/Safety and IT standing committees
- New ad hoc Health committee to guide us through post-COVID

Planned for FY 2024

- Emergency response drills
- Revamp house rules
- Finish Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP)

Education



Curriculum

Specific Grade Themes:

Pre-Gan/Gan: The Journey of the Jewish Year

Aleph-Dalet: The Journey into the Jewish Story, Holidays and Values

Torah
Sacred Texts



Avodah
Prayer



G'millut Hasadim
Acts of
Lovingkindness



Eretz Yisrael
Land of Israel



Online and In-Person Learning

- All Sunday Religious School classes are once again in person (last year half were online)
- Wednesday Hebrew classes remain online as most parents prefer these weekday classes online.
- One on One Hebrew and Trope Tutoring remain online this year.



Enrollment

Gan: 4

Aleph/Bet: 2

Gimmel/Dalet: 4

Total enrollment: 10



Smaller classes allow us to focus on each child's educational needs.

Families are engaged and our students are enthusiastic.

We maintain a quality program with creative curriculum and passionate teachers.

Aleph through Dalet classes teach at two levels of Hebrew.

Judaics are taught in a "One Room School House" model where they all learn together.



Community Education and Outreach

- ❖ Family Learning Days are now open to the wider community and were redesigned to accommodate families with children currently too young for our Religious School.
- ❖ Our Fall Holiday events each had > 20 children in attendance.
- ❖ Iris Bendahan has been hired as a teacher and to promote our religious school and youth programming.
- ❖ Rabbi Roller continues to engage with the wider community by leading tot-shabbats at the JCC, participating in Simchat Torah and the 3rd grade milestone at Yavneh, etc.



Adult Education: Lecture Series

Spring 2023

- Valerie Frankel: Jewish influences in science fiction/fantasy
- Rabbi Nathan Roller: Artwork of the Passover Haggada
- Esther Erman (author event): *Rebecca of Salerno*
- Nadia Ragozhina: *Worlds Apart: A Jewish family's journey* (Zoom)
- Hartman Institute: Israel: Confederation or Two-State Solution? (Zoom)
- Sheila Peltz Weinberg: Mindfulness and meditation (Zoom)

Fall 2023

- Paul Freudenthal: Noah's Ark, an architectural perspective
- Carol Salus: Degas and the Dreyfus Affair (Zoom)
- Rabbi Allan Berkowitz (author event) *Psalms, a Guide for the Heart and Soul*
- Alix Wall, of *J News*: A Career in Jewish Journalism

Adult Education: Classes

Spring 2023

- Modern Musical Midrash (Rabbi Nathan Roller) (Zoom)
- Understanding the Shabbat Service (Rabbi Nathan Roller)
- G-d Loves the Stranger (Rabbi Hugh Seid-Valencia)

Fall 2023 (new)

- Drama Techniques to approach Jewish Prayer (Rabbi Roller) in-person class
- Undiscovered Jewish sects in history (Rabbi Kunin) hybrid class

Ongoing Programs:

- Book discussion group, once per month, Shabbat afternoons in person
- Torah study with Rabbi Kunin, (every Tuesday morning, in person)
- Talmud study with Rabbi Kunin, (every Friday morning, on Zoom)
- Book discussion group, once per month, Shabbat afternoons in person

Adult Education:

Netivot HaTeshuvah – High Holy Days

Shifra Elman, Director Judaic Studies, Kehillah High



Scholar-in-Residence

Professor Louis E. Newman

- Jewish Ethics: What Does G-d Have to do with it?
- Esau: The Torah's Unrecognized Moral Hero
- Blue Scroll, Red Scroll: Is the Torah Liberal or Conservative?
- Food for Thought: The Jewish Ethics of Eating



Q & A

Ritual



2023 Ritual Highlights

- Rabbinical Transition
- Back to the future – leaving the pandemic behind
- Coming together to celebrate Shabbat & Chag
- Ritual everyday
- Programming – something old, something new
- Building up the team
- “What can I do for the Congregation?”

Ritual Going Forward

- Search for a cantor for next High Holy Days
- Enhance our Ritual programs offering
- Continue to recruit and train additional lay leaders

Especially:

- ❖ Daily minyan leaders
- ❖ Torah Readers
- ❖ Pointing Gabbais
- ❖ Floor Gabbais
- ❖ Magbihim

“What Can I Do for the Congregation?”

- Use your existing skills and commit to reading Torah on a regular basis (once a month / two month / quarter..)
- If you are regular attendee in any of the services, we would love to train you to lead the service or portions of it – DO get in touch with us!
- If you would be interested in specific programs or topics, DO get in touch and let us know!
- If you are not already – become a regular – come to services once a ..., join daily minyan once ... (SUNDAY!)
- Use lifecycle occasions to support the Kiddush Fund with donations!

Q & A

Finance



Q & A

Congregation Beth David Endowment Foundation

Presented by Michael Leitner
President, Board of Trustees

Building Endowment

- Initially funded with \$1M in above and beyond donations to the Next 50 Project
 - Additional donations have been made over the years
- Reserve study of the building
 - Identified 90+ items to be covered by the Endowment
 - Projected costs over 30 years
 - The fund is not sufficient to cover these costs from earnings alone and remain whole
 - Annual contributions from synagogue (~\$60K adj for inflation)
 - Similar to old Sinking Fund
 - Periodic (6-8 years) large fundraisers (~\$300K - \$400K)
- Solar was leased at the time and not included in the reserve study

Funding the Solar Project

- The Congregation purchased a new Solar Power System
- The Endowment has offered to loan the Congregation any funds needed for cash flow purposes as fundraising continues.
 - Loan is interest free and repayment is flexible
- Solar power system will be added to the list of items covered by the Endowment Building fund for the future

Legacy Giving Helps the Endowment



The easiest way to give:

Update a Beneficiary Designation on your IRA, your 401k or other retirement plan, or life insurance policy
Designate a monetary amount or a percentage gift to:

- Congregation Beth David Endowment Foundation
- or*
- Congregation Beth David

Contact:

Brett Borah, David Hoffman, or Jeff Warwick for more information on legacy giving

Q & A

Closing Remarks

Thank You!

Election results will be announced by
Tuesday December 12

How to Vote



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