



In honor of the wedding of Aliza Geretz & Ben Mayer, the Kiddush will be sponsored by Michelle & Jeff Livon, Rafi & Alla Geretz, Jeffery & Jennifer Geretz, Lisa & Larry Estes, Jon & Elise Mayer, and Miriam & Ben Lichstein and the congregational lunch will be sponsored by Aliza Geretz and Ben Mayer.

In honor of their 35th wedding anniversary, Judie & Marvin Liszt are co-sponsoring the Kiddush.

The congregation and friends are invited to attend in the Gruman Social Hall.

Service & Program Times

SHABBAT

Friday

Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 p.m.
Fiterman Chapel

Candlelighting 4:18 p.m.

Saturday

Shaharit 9:00 a.m.
Fiterman Chapel

Instrumental Minyan 10:45 a.m.
Spiegel Sanctuary

Minha 4:30 p.m.
Fiterman Chapel

Havdalah 5:20 p.m.

SUNDAY

Minyan 9:00 a.m.

Minha 5:45 p.m.

DAILY MINYAN

Shaharit 7:00 a.m.

Minha 5:45 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: The Beth El office will be closed on Dec. 31st. Morning minyan services will be at 9:00 a.m.

Welcome to Beth El Synagogue!

If you are new to Beth El, we'd love to meet you! Please introduce yourself to the greeters, clergy or officer sitting on the bimah. We invite you to learn more about Beth El and to discuss joining our congregational family by contacting our Executive Director, Linda Goldberg at 952-920-3512, lgoldberg@bethelsynagogue.org

Shemot שמות

Exodus 1:1-6:1 (pg. 317)

Haftarah

Jeremiah 1:1-2:3 (p. 347)

Erev Shabbat:

- Kabbalat Shabbat 5:45 p.m.

Yom Shabbat:

- Todah to our Sisterhood Shabbat Morning Greeter: **Sheila Goldstein**
- Aliyah—Wedding Anniversary: **Judie & Marvin Liszt** on their 35th on December 28
- Aufruf—Mazal Tov! **Aliza Geretz and Ben Mayer**

Todah to our Shabbat Torah readers:

1:	Janet Shanedling	1:1-17
2:	Emily Estes	1:18-22
	Maura Estes	2:1-5
	Ian Estes	2:6-10
3:	Richard Spiegel	2:11-25
4:	Eli Livon	3:1-3
	Ron Plotsker	3:4-15
5:	Sid Konikoff	3:16-4:17
6:	Mike Tilton	4:18-20
	Leonard Friedman	4:21-31
7:	Aliza Geretz (Aufruf)	5:1-6:1
M:	Aliza Geretz	5:22-6:1
	Haftarah:	Richard Spiegel



The weather outside may be frightful, but the

Instrumental Minyan this Shabbat is so DELIGHTFUL!!

Come join us this Shabbat at 10:45 a.m. in the Spiegel Sanctuary for a Shabbat celebration with singing, dancing, and accompaniment by John Orenstein, Cantor Audrey Abrams and other Beth El musicians. See you there!

DROPS OF TORAH רסיסי תורה

Exodus 2:2 "The woman conceived and bore a son. She saw that he was good (ki-tov), and she kept him hidden for three months."

שמות ב:ב

ותהר האשה ותלד בן ותרא אותו כי טוב הוא ותצפנהו שלשה ירחים:

Isn't it natural for every mother or father to see their newborn child as "good," or even great? That is Ramban's question precisely. Many Torah commentators try to answer this very same question. Rashi develops his answer based on the phrase *ki tov*: "When he was born the entire house was filled with light." This is because the phrase *ki-tov* is used in association with the creation of light in Genesis 1:4. Light would certainly reveal the secret that a boy was born, but a glow around Moses paints quite the messianic picture. Sforno takes a different approach. Sforno reads the *ki-tov* as exceptional beauty. He teaches, "Yokheved thought that this was an omen, a sign from the Creator telling her that a beautiful exterior encloses an equally beautiful personality." Outer and inner beauty, a national savior... whatever it was that moved Yokheved to save Moses, the truth is, any mother would attempt to save her son, even for fear of personal death. All of our children are "tov" and we would and should do anything and everything to provide for them and their wellbeing. -AO

Mazal Tov to our congregants:

- Sara Chaya & Jonathan Sulman on the birth of their daughter.

UPCOMING AT BETH EL

For more information on these programs and events, call the Beth El office at 952-920-3512, or visit www.bethelsynagogue.org.

Do you play or have you always wanted to learn to play Mah Jongg?

PLAY, LEARN or TEACH with us on Sunday January 2 and Sunday January 30, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. at Beth El. Free and open to everyone! RSVP to Freeda Golden at 952-922-6667 or Marcy Pearlman at pearlsam@comcast.net, 763-559-4593. Sponsored by the Beth El Sisterhood.

Nosh and D'rash: Torah for Living

Next study will be Monday, January 3

Eat and learn with Rabbi Olitzky from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at Beth El. For \$5, you get a dose of Torah and a scrumptious lunch. Enjoy the class and conversation regularly, or drop in every now and again. To learn more or RSVP, contact Roger Rubin at bikingdad@msn.com or 612-636-1598. For more adult learning opportunities, visit www.bethelsynagogue.org.

NOODLES! Benefit for Aleph School

Want an easy dinner on January 19? How about a delicious plate of pasta! 25% of proceeds made between 4:00 and 8:00 p.m. will be donated to the Aleph Preschool. Please come to the Noodles in the new West End in St. Louis Park (5326—16th St West). Your support will help provide our children with a richer learning environment.

Aleph Preschool 2011 registration

Aleph Preschool registration packets for the 2011-12 school year are now available from the Preschool office. Please call 952-920-4169 or email Karen Burton at kburton@bethelsynagogue.org to receive a packet or for more information. Children who will be 16 months old by September 1, 2011, are eligible to enroll in our Toddler program. We offer morning Toddler, Preschool and PreK age classes in addition to early morning and extended afternoon care. We are excited to share our newly remodeled school with you and your child!

Beth El Young Adults After Party

Join the Beth El Young Adults group at the Minneapolis Jewish Federation Young Leadership Casino Night on Saturday night, January 29th, followed by the 2nd annual "After Party" hosted by the Beth El Young Adults group. Location to be determined. Stay tuned for more details by following us on Facebook—just search "Beth El Young Adults."

Is someone you love in the hospital or homebound?

Because of privacy restrictions, the synagogue is no longer notified by area hospitals when they have Jewish patients. Please call Barbara at the synagogue office (952-920-3512, ext 7313) if you or someone you know is hospitalized or homebound, and tell us the patient's name and location.

ECJFE (Early Childhood Jewish Family Education)

Still Time To Register For Winter Session!

ECJFE wraps up the fall 2010 session of friendship, fun, and in-depth discussions about parenting. Continuing and new participants and the two parent educators, Michelle Yousha and Amy Paster are gearing up for the next 14-week session beginning January 13th. This program is based on the idea that the family provides a child's first and most important learning environment, and parents are a child's first and most significant teachers. We look forward to sharing this amazing journey with you - your challenges and celebrations, your stories, your ideas and insight. For more information, or to register, contact the Aleph Preschool office at 952-920-4169 or go to www.bethelsynagogue.org/ecjfe.

Feed My Starving Children

Many thanks to Beth El volunteers who packed 10,584 meals for children of Haiti on November 30. The next opportunities to pack food at Feed My Starving Children (ages 8 and up) are Tuesdays, January 18 and March 22 from 6:00-7:30p.m. at the Chanhassen site. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Jane Polansky at rpolansky@yahoo.com.

Loaves & Fishes

The next opportunity to serve with Loaves & Fishes will be Tuesday, January 25. We provide a wonderful meal for people in need in South Minneapolis. Servers volunteer from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Call Diana Rosen at 952-922-7389 to reserve a place on our serving team.

Sacred Chanting

Sacred chanting is a spiritual practice that is meditative, contemplative, and a great way to lower your blood pressure. Chants and melodies using Hebrew phrases from the Bible that help us to understand the text on a deeper level and open our hearts and minds spiritually. Sacred Chanting is on the 1st Tuesday evening of each month from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Contact Cantor Abrams for more information at 952-920-3512.

Help Us Keep the Spirit of Shabbat

In Honor of Shabbat, please refrain from the following activities:

- photography or writing
- using cell phones or other electronic devices
- wearing perfume or cologne (the person sitting next to you may be allergic)

And at the conclusion of services, please pick up papers from the pews and discard appropriately.



~Thank you!

Enhancing the Spirituality of Our Community
and Ourselves through Music and Song!



Beth El Sings Kick-Off Weekend

January 14-15, 2011
Schedule of Events:

Friday Night Services January 14 • 5:45 p.m.

Led by members of SOULFARM,
followed by Shabbat dinner and
frailich Shabbat singing and table
drumming! See registration form on page 10
of the December *Shofar* or go online to
www.bethelsynagogue.org/soulfarm-dinner.

Shabbat Shira Morning Services January 15

Special "sermon in song" featuring members of SOULFARM
as well as our Beth El M'shanim (musical ambassadors), Adult
Choir, Yad B'Yad Kids' Choir, and YOU!

UPCOMING IN THE COMMUNITY

Exciting News from Camp Ramah!

Camp Ramah in Wisconsin is excited to announce a pilot program for entering 4th graders for the upcoming camp season. Beginning in June 2011, a 12-day program for entering 4th graders will introduce them to the fantastic, fun and meaningful Jewish community that is Camp Ramah in Wisconsin. We will run the program twice during the first month of camp. There are limited spaces open for this experience and, based on the number of requests from families for such a program, we expect spaces to fill up quickly. For more information, pick up a flier from the Stern Book Cart in the Ring Lobby or go to www.ramahwisconsin.com.

"Afternoon of Music": A Benefit Concert for STEP!

This is a unique opportunity for us to collaborate with other local congregations in showing support for our neighbors in need and is an inter-faith initiative. We have committed to help make the event a success and would like a GREAT showing from Beth El! So many of you came last year and I think you will agree...it was a BLAST! So join us on Sunday, January 23 at 3:00 p.m. at the SLP High School Auditorium (6425 W 33rd St.) Featured musicians will include: The Nokomis Woodwind Quintet, River Brass, playing New Orleans-Style Jazz, classical vocalists Adam Gedde and Anna Marie Hadland, folk singer Nancy Cox, and more! Be sure to invite your friends and family as they will want to be part of this special community event! All are welcome and the event is open to the public. There is a suggested donation of \$15 per adult. Rides can be arranged by calling 952-929-6725.

Shiva, Shloshim, and Yahrzeits

Friday, December 24 – Friday, December 31, 2010

Shiva

ZIWA ALEXANDER KATZ – TZIVIA BAT YOSEF U- VRINA
ESTHER MALKA – ESTHER BAT DAVID AZULAY V' ZOHARA

Shloshim

Chaim (Henry) Ginsburg
Eda Litton
Carole Gilbert
Baila Rivka (Barbara) Bigelow
Yosef (Joel) Cohn

17 Tevet / Friday, December 24

Robert Andresen
Clifford Brown
Faiga Chaya (Phyllis) Koolick
Miriam (Mary) Kravetz
Genya (Genia) Levi
Joseph Mindelson
Batyah (Beatrice) Yarav Peilen
Rivka (Rebecca) Waller

18 Tevet / Saturday, December 25

Gittel (Gladys) Applebaum
Moshe Bender
Chana (Anne) Chiat
Yahiel (Edward) Eisenstein
Frieda Goyhenberg
Moshe (Morris) Konikoff
Batyah (Bessie) Krelitz
Devorah (Dorothy) Rosenberg
Reuven (William R.) Solon
Miriam (Marion) Spicer

19 Tevet / Sunday, December 26

Ya'akov (Jack) Burnett
Harriet Cooper
Helen Goldenberg
Shea (Sydney) Goldstein
Esther Gordon
Hanokh (Henry) Kaplan
Marilyn Loffhagen Mack
Sora Figa (Fanny) Marrinson
Edith G. Snyder

20 Tevet / Monday, December 27

Tzvi (Harry) Resnick
Soraetta (Seretta) Rudin
Bayla Rifka (Betty Ruth) Ruttenberg

Yahrzeit

21 Tevet / Tuesday, December 28

Maier (Myron) Berman
Yosef (Joseph) Desnick
Shaina Yofel (Jennie) Gary
Tzvi Hersh (Harry) Heiligman
Shana Miriam (Anna Michelle) Isenstein
Yerahmeal (Sam) Koritz
Moshe (Maurice) Levin
Fraida (Frayda) Liberman
Etel (Ethel) Shapiro
David Siegel
Penina (Peggy) Specktor

22 Tevet / Wednesday, December 29

Esther Blehert
Masha Laib (Lou) Fogel
Shimon (Samuel) Kamesar
Avraham (Abraham) Kase
Hannah (Ana) Katz
Yehoshua (Charles) Katzenstein
Aryeh Leib (Leo) Levens
Tova Rissi (Toby) Locker
Shoshana (Rose) Nathenson
Chana (Anne) Newman
Rivkah (Ruth) Perwien
Kayla Rochel (Kathy Rochelle) Silver
Faiga (Fran) Solle

23 Tevet / Thursday, December 30

Esther Brudnoy
Berel (Ben H.) Davis
Moshe (Maurice) Gordon
Brina Rochel (Rose) Katzman
Moshe (Maurice) Lava
Hayim (Hy) Selnick
Tzvi (Howard) Silverman
Boruch (Bernard) Sobol

24 Tevet / Friday, December 31

Ya'akov (Jacob) Bearman
Osher (I.E.) Greenberg
Yitzhok Heller
Avraham (Abe) Odessky
Hana (June) Posnick
Hanna (Anna) Rawitch
Avram Reuven (Roger) Shanedling
Chana (Ann) Straelitz
Yosef Hayim (Gerald) Walder
Faiga Leah (Fanny Leah) Widetzky



**Do you need a hand?
We're here!**

**Call our Yad V'lev hotline
952-920-3512 ext 7350**

Can you lend a hand? We need you!

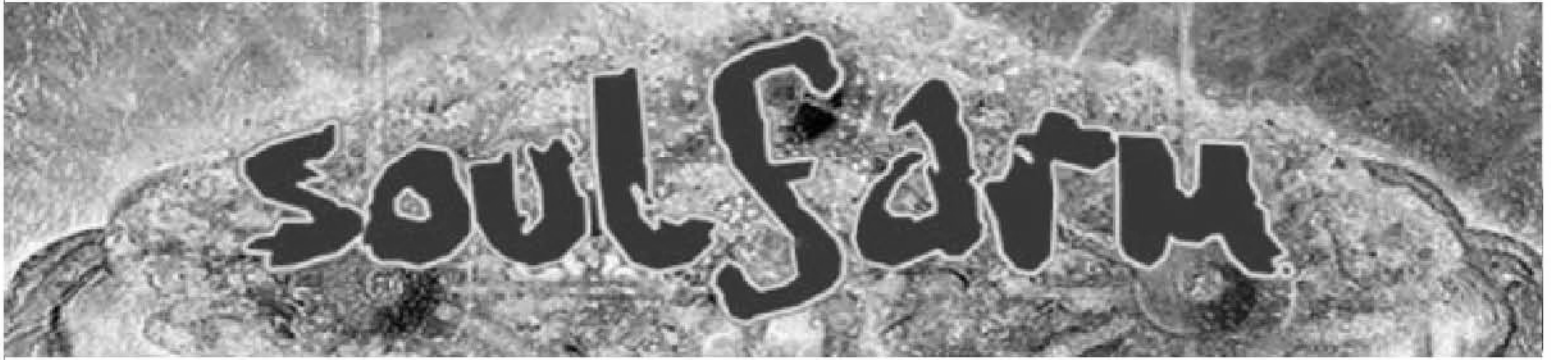
Contact Midge Frailich or Jo Ann Gruesner at 952-920-3512
or midge1@mac.com or jgruesner@gmail.com.

**Have health questions? Call our *Shul* Nurse,
Hadassah Zohara at 952-920-3512, ext 7356.**



Treat yourself to a night out!

Beth El Music and Arts Coffeehouse Series
presents the musical stylings of



January 15, 2011 • 11 Shevat 5771

8:00 p.m. • Beth El Synagogue

Pizza, refreshments and dessert will be served.

Purchase tickets online at

www.bethelsynagogue.org/bema-coffeehouse

OR fill out and detach this order form and send with payment to:
Beth El Synagogue, 5224 W 26th St, St. Louis Park, MN 55416

ENERGIZE YOUR SOUL

with the acoustic world beat of this dynamic New York-based group in an intimate concert! SOULFARM has been wowing crowds around the world for more than 15 years, weaving a musical tapestry of blues, folk, Celtic and Middle Eastern influences.

Get a preview of their music at www.soulfarm.net.

BEMA Coffeehouse featuring SOULFARM
January 15, 2011

_____ @ **'30** for ONE advance-purchased ticket
\$35 at the door. General Seating.

_____ @ **'400** for a Patron front-row table of eight
Limited availability.

Enclosed is a check made payable to Beth El Synagogue, ATTN: BEMA

Please charge my Visa / MC (circle one)

Card # _____ Exp Date _____ Sec# _____

Name (As it appears on your card) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____



This concert is supported by a grant from the Legacy Heritage Innovation Project of Legacy Heritage Programming, an affiliate of the Legacy Heritage Fund.