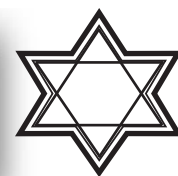




MEGILLAH



bethelsynagogue.com

Tevet/Shevat/Adar 5786

A publication of Beth El Synagogue

January/February 2026

Candle Lighting Times



Jan. 2	4:29 pm
Jan. 9	4:35 pm
Jan. 16	4:43 pm
Jan. 23	4:51 pm
Jan. 30	4:59 pm
Feb. 6	5:07 pm
Feb. 13	5:15 pm
Feb. 20	5:23 pm
Feb. 27	5:31 pm

Service Times

Fridays on Zoom – Jan. 2, 9, 16,
4:00 p.m.; Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13,
4:30 p.m.; Feb. 20, 27, 5 p.m.
All Shabbat morning services are
at 9:30 a.m.



Mike Kleidermacher

GAME DAYS
Winter Games
have begun.
12 Noon to 4 p.m.

See Page 4



Beth El Synagogue
Margate, NJ
Member of The United
Synagogue of
Conservative Judaism

THE PRESS
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Margate man receives 2nd bar mitzvah for 83rd birthday

Press staff reports 2 hrs ago 0



Mike Kleidermacher, 83, of Margate, recites prayers during his bar mitzvah Nov. 22 at Beth El Synagogue in Margate alongside Cantor Ralph Goren. Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center, provided

Press staff reports

MARGATE — Mike Kleidermacher received a special birthday present after he turned 83 last month. The Holocaust survivor and city resident was honored with a bar mitzvah at Beth El Synagogue on Nov. 22.

Jewish tradition states that we might be granted 70 years of life. If one lives another 13 years, they are entitled to another bar or bat mitzvah, just like a 13-year-old.

MISSION STATEMENT

MISSION:

It is the mission of Beth El Synagogue to meet the individual and collective, spiritual, religious, educational and social needs of its members within the framework and principles of Conservative, egalitarian Judaism; to further the causes of the Jewish People and the Jewish community; to support the State of Israel; AND TO DO SO with the purpose of Torah, Prayer, and Acts of Loving Kindness.

GOALS:

- As a House of Prayer: to provide valued, inspiring religious services, in a strongly-guided Conservative and egalitarian atmosphere where every member may pray and meditate to the level he or she chooses.

- As a House of Study: to provide high quality education and educational experiences for every member through a religious Hebrew School for children that values learning and leadership participation in services; through adult study of Talmud, commentary, and values; and to assist members to grow in their Jewishness and to celebrate their Judaism.
- As a House of Assembly: to encourage and provide opportunities for members to be warm, embracing and caring; to facilitate Jewish growth through programs, activities, and shared contribution; and to provide an environment which strives to value and ensure mutual consideration, respect, care and assistance

MOTTO: Beth El, A Place to do God's work

From Rabbi Krauss

The tragic murders in Sydney, Australia on the first night of Chanukah were directed at Jews everywhere. The need for police protection and safety precautions are a vital necessity.

The following was composed before the tragedy at Bondi Beach.

In view of the increase in antisemitism the need to have good relations between various parts of the community, between religions has become acute. Fortunately, unlike other parts of New Jersey and the world, Atlantic County and vicinity has, so far, not experienced any overt expression of antisemitism. This is due, in part, to our history of good interrelations within our neck of the woods.

Beth El Synagogue of Margate has played a unique role in promoting favorable relations. The Bridge of Faith and clergy associates had their start at Beth El.

Now more than ever, we need to create and maintain an atmosphere of good will.



HAZZAN NOTES



There are several significant dates in January and February with Jewish connections. January 19 is Martin Luther King Day, a yearly holiday devoted to King's principles of equality and justice. MLK walked on one of his famous marches arm in arm with Abraham Joshua Heschel, a prominent Jewish philosopher and professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary. The two didn't just collaborate, they were friends, sharing a common goal against racism and antisemitism.

January 31 is *Shabbat Shira*, the Shabbat where we read the Song of the Sea in that week's Torah Parsha – *B'Shalach*. The song rejoices over the finality of the Israelites being freed from slavery after the parting of the Red Sea. We must be careful not to confuse the celebration with the deaths of the Egyptians, rather we recognize the sadness that required a sacrifice in order for our ancestors to move on. Traditionally cantors give a musical talk at Shabbat services, I will be speaking on the evolution of cantors.

February 16 is Presidents Day, marking the birthdays of Washington and Lincoln, both friends of the American Jewish community. Washington wrote his famous document acknowledging the contributions Jews made with his address to the Newport RI shul. Lincoln overturned antisemitic policies, he included his friend Abraham Jonas into public life, and promoted religious pluralism.

While the winter months seem slow and less active, we can join in appreciating these special times and motivate ourselves to be more active in our shul and community

B'Shir (in song)

Cantor Ralph Goren

Beth El is so sad to inform you of the passing of our long time member and Board Secretary **Florence Silverman**. May her life be for a blessing. She will be sorely missed.

Gift Card Contributors

Sandi Shechtman, Denise Borisch, Eileen Kogan,
Murray Bevit, Phyllis Saft

KUDOS FOR SUPPORTING OUR GIFT CARD PROGRAM
Beth El makes a percentage of each card sold.

Like so many in our community, we are heartbroken by the recent shooting in Australia.

There are moments when there truly are no words, only grief, solidarity, and the resolve to stand against Jewish hate.

Following the attack at Bondi Beach, something remarkable happened. We witnessed an outpouring of support from thousands of non-Jewish allies asking how they could stand with the Jewish community. Many told us they were looking for a simple, clear way to show that antisemitism has no place in their families, workplaces, schools, or neighborhoods.

That is exactly why the Blue Square

exists, to give people a way to show up, visibly and proudly, as allies. It is a symbol rooted in unity and shared responsibility, not politics or division. Your support has helped us build and sustain that message, which continues to resonate deeply across communities.

Since you donated, you should have received a Blue Square pin. If you still have it, we invite you to wear it this week as a reminder to yourself and others that allyship matters. If you need another one, or would like to share pins with your friends, family, colleagues, or networks, we are offering free Blue Square pins on our website.

Order Your Free Pin

Please feel welcome to forward this broadly. In times like these, even a small symbol can make a significant impact by signaling safety, belonging, and shared commitment to fighting hate.

Thank you for helping ensure no one stands alone. Together, we can transform grief into action and visibility into change.

With Gratitude,
Blue Square Alliance Against Hate

Stand with us every day. Your generous monthly gift sustains and strengthens the ongoing fight against antisemitism.

Donations

Yahrzeits

Denise Borisch – *In memory of my beloved father Israel (Sol, Scotty) Carton*
 Leo Lieberman – *In memory of my beloved father Victor Lieberman and my*
 Brother Benjamin Lieberman

Roslyn Oberson – *In memory of my beloved husband Arnie Oberson*
 Howard & Shirley Bernstein – *In memory of my beloved sister Barbara Myers*
 Diane Kirsten Dickenson – *In memory of Renee Kirsten*
 Nancy Kahane – *In memory of my beloved father Harold Shapiro*
 Martin & Diane Hamson – *In memory of my beloved father Jules Hamson*
 Marcy & Jules Weinberg – *In memory of my beloved father Albert Hoffman*
 Paul & Joanne Bauer – *In memory of our beloved fathers Norman Bershaw and*
 Maurice Bauer

Lee Feinberg – *In memory of Sam Feinberg*

Susan & Arthur Lampert – *In memory of my beloved mother Rose Lampert and in*
 memory of my beloved stepfather Sheldon Blum

Generous Donations

Denise Borisch – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy on their B'nai Mitzvah and Mike*
 Kleidermacher on his 2nd Bar Mitzvah

Roslyn Oberson – *In memory of Joyce Bank*

Mike Kleidermacher – *In honor of my 2nd Bar Mitzvah*

Judy & James Landau – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy on their B'nai Mitzvah*

Judy & James Landau – *Mazel Tov to Mike Kleidermacher on his 2nd Bar Mitzvah*

Carole Hyman – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy and Mike Kleidermacher*
 Sandi & Karl Shechtman – *In memory of Esther Berman*

Laurene Stopper & Ron Cruz – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy on their B'nai*
 Mitzvah

Judy & Don Cassidy – *Mazel Tov to Mike Kleidermacher on his 2nd Bar Mitzvah*

Kathy & Mike Silver – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy and Mike Kleidermacher*

Susan & Art Lampert – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy and Mike Kleidermacher*

Agnes & Howard Markowitz – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy and Mike*
 Kleidermacher

Judy Spanier – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy and Mike Kleidermacher*

Todd Cohen – *Happy Birthday to Lloyd Cohen, in memory of my parents and for*
 leading services

Debbie & David Goodelman – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy, Mike*

Kleidermacher and Happy Chanukah Henry Goodelman

Mary Anne & Sylvan Kesilman – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy and Mike*
 Kleidermacher

Kim Septynski & Moshe Math – *Mazel Tov to Judy & Don Cassidy on their B'nai*
 Mitzvah

Denise Borisch, Carole Hyman and Marilyn Kessler – *Happy birthday to*
 Karl Shechtman

Tributes

Penny & Jordan Kaleck – *In memory of Ronald Kaleck*

Penny Kaleck & Family – *In memory of Mickey Klein*

MERCAZ USA Statement on the Bondi Beach Terrorist Attack

Our hearts are broken by the horrific act of antisemitic terrorism in Bondi Beach, Australia, which has left at least 11 innocents dead and at least 29 injured – at the very moment we are meant to celebrate the triumph of light against overwhelming darkness by lighting the first Hanukkah candle. Included among the injured is Arlen Ostrovsky, brother-in-law of MERCAZ USA delegate to the 39th World Zionist Congress last month, Rabbi Menachem Creditor. We are grateful to God that Arlen's prognosis is good and he will, God willing, recover. We ask that you keep him, Yechezkel Ben Zoya, and all those who were injured in your prayers. And of course, we keep all those whose lives were so viciously taken from us and their families in our hearts and prayers for comfort as well.

Even in the depths of grief and fear, we find comfort and purpose in our obligation to keep our lights kindled. We will always be firmly dedicated to shining the light of Jewish life and Zionist values in our community and beyond, and to combating antisemitism in all its forms, wherever it appears.

Wherever you are lighting your candles this evening, we stand together with you and with the Jewish Community of Australia. May our world be a place where the light triumphs over darkness and may the memories of the murdered be a blessing.

Rabbi Hillel Skolnik, President, MERCAZ USA
 Sarrae Crane, Executive Director, MERCAZ USA

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Visit our website: bethelmargate.com



January

1/3Karl Shechtman
1/5Debbie Alper
1/12Marcy Weinberg
1/28Rabbi Aaron Krauss

February

2/4Nancy Kahane
2/9Jack Wenik
2/10Richard Lees
2/16Arnold Goldberg



January

1/12Bonnie & Morris Shapiro
1/23Jan & Ken Donner

**Happy 96th Birthday
Rabbi Krauss**

**Happy 95th Birthday
Karl Shechtman**

Winter Games



**12 noon a.m.
to 4 p.m.**

Beth El Synagogue
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Margate, New Jersey



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609-823-2725

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND



Yahrtzeit List

Week of January 3

Ben Bolgia
Esther Colker
Irwin Goldstein
Vivian Cantor
Rachel Kaplan Frankel
Harry Perl

Week of January 10

Sylvia Brown
Harry Brown
Cliff Rosenthal
Leona Kaplan
Reba Labov
Rose Frank
Murray Ross
Benjamin Dembitzer
Maris Stevenson
Leah Rimm

Week of January 17

Robert Cummings
Herman Frank
Alvin Goodman

Week of January 24

Nathaniel Lobel
Betty Buder
Edith Field
Betty Shapiro

Week of January 31

Mayer Zelkowitz
Bertha Dembitzer
Robert David Green
Barry Norman
Mannie Ross
Harry Zelman

Week of February 7

Rose Dinerman
Jerry Greenberg
Shirley Cummings
David Sagransky
Abraham Popok
Stuart Alper
Sidney Jacoby
Solomon Levine
Jill Tolen

Week of February 14

Mary Hymes Cohen
Hilda Martel Steiner
Laura Genek
Annette Keiner
Harold Buri
Joseph Gold
Saul Seymour Markowitz
Joseph Q. Kline

Week of February 21

Jack Carton
Harry Richman
Betty Simon
Louis Greenberg
Mildred Shapinsky Landau
Fannie Lesser
Donald J. Brown
Fay Spanier Schwartz
Bernhart Dinerman

Week of February 28

William Sagan



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Jewish Federation Intelligence Bulletin

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SITUATIONAL REPORT & CHANUKAH SAFETY



LEVEL 1
SECURITY



LEVEL 2
SECURITY/JCC/FEDERATION



LEVEL 3
EXTERNAL

At 6:40 PM local time, two men opened fire on a Chanukah celebration in Bondi Beach, New South Wales, Australia. As of writing, 12 people have been killed, including one of the shooters, and 29 others have been seriously injured. A vehicle linked to one of the shooters was found to contain improvised explosive devices (IEDs) which local authorities have neutralized.

JFED Security is requesting our community to be vigilant in reporting suspicious activity and be situationally aware of your surroundings at all time. We are in constant close coordination with other security alliances, local, state and federal law enforcement partners, and at this time there are no known credible threats to the Jewish communities in New Jersey and Delaware. However, given heightened tensions, we recommend refreshing yourselves and your congregants on the vital role we all play in security. Your awareness and vigilance are essential to our collective safety.

• Situational Awareness

Remain alert to your surroundings. Take note of where you are, who is nearby, and where the exits are located. Most congregants know the regular attendees and typical routines. If something—or someone—seems out of place, trust your instincts.

• See Something, Say Something

If you observe anything unusual or concerning, speak up right away. Focus on behaviors rather than appearances, and don't second-guess your gut feelings. Report concerns to a Greeter, Staff Member, Security, or Law Enforcement. Use the 5 W's to guide your report: Who, What, Where, When, and Why.

• Know Your Exits

Upon arrival, take a moment to identify at least two exit routes from your location. In an emergency, the ability to act quickly and calmly can save lives.

A safe congregation is an empowered congregation. When in doubt, please reach out to our intelligence desk at intel@jfedsnj.org!

Thank you for doing your part to keep our community safe and secure. From all of us at JFed Security, Chag Sameach!

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The Beth El Choir would be honored to participate in all
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celebration or event,

large or small, joyous or solemn.

Of course, advance notice is requested. For more
information or to schedule a date call Cantor Goren

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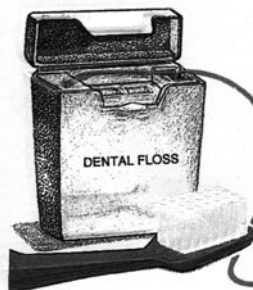
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Friday9 AM - Noon

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