



pray • learn • celebrate

# CONGREGATION BETH EL

AN EGALITARIAN CONSERVATIVE JEWISH CONGREGATION

## Beth El E-News

**July 14 - 21, 2017 / 20 - 27 Tammuz 5777**

## SHABBAT PINCHAS

### SERVICE SCHEDULE

#### Friday, July 14

7:30 AM Morning Minyan

**6:30 PM** Kabbalat Shabbat Services at Jennings Beach (weather permitting)  
8:06 PM Candle Lighting

#### Saturday, July 15

9:00 AM Shabbat Services

*Haftorah: Richard Rubin*  
Children's Services at 10:00 AM

#### Sunday, July 16

8:30 AM Morning Minyan

#### Monday, July 17

7:30 AM Morning Minyan

#### Tuesday, July 11

7:30 AM Morning Minyan

#### Wednesday, July 12

7:30 AM Morning Minyan

#### Thursday, July 13

7:30 AM Morning Minyan

#### Friday, July 14

7:30 AM Morning Minyan

**6:30 PM** Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
***(at Jennings Beach)***  
8:06 PM Candle Lighting



CONGREGATION BETH EL

INVITES YOU TO

## FRIDAY NIGHT Beach Services



at Jennings Beach

Every Friday Night  
at 6:30 pm

Join us at Jennings Beach each Friday evening (weather permitting) for musical Kabbalat Shabbat Services.

Come early! Bring friends, dinner, snacks, chairs and blankets. Everyone is welcome!

We will be located at the East end of Jennings Beach, by the marina.  
Please use the Turney Road entrance to the beach.

Parking permits are required and available in the office.  
Call if you need directions to Jennings Beach and the Services location.

*Note: Services will take place rain or shine. In the event of rain, Services will be held at the synagogue.  
If the weather is questionable, call 203-374-5544 or watch for updates via email.*

1200 Fairfield Woods Road, Fairfield, CT 06825 • CongBethEl.net



**This week we are focusing on giving back to the community. We are going to prep food for Operation Hope. It will be fun!**

CONGREGATION BETH EL INVITES YOU TO JOIN US FOR

## Children's Shabbat Services

Children's Services will take place throughout the summer each Saturday morning in the Music Room at Congregation Beth El.

**10:00 – 10:45 AM**

Join us for Kiddush immediately following services.

Join **Peri Cook** as she leads the Children's Services each Shabbat throughout the summer with special activities and stories based on the weekly parsha.

Peri pulls ideas from the torah readings each week and applies them to a craft, group activity or story telling to help the children connect to the parsha and their Judaism.

Peri has designed Saturday morning Services to be all about Shabbat - using books and a Shabbat-friendly craft and circle time, creating a wonderful sense of community. If the weather permits, there is outdoor play time too.

**Come join us!**

**Free of Charge & Open to Everyone!**

Please call the synagogue with any questions: 203-374-5544



CONGREGATION BETH EL.  
1200 Fairfield Woods Road, Fairfield, CT 06825 • 203-374-5544 • www.congbethel.net

## PJ LIBRARY POPSICLES IN THE PARK For kids and their parents or caregivers!

**Thursday, July 27 @ 4 pm**  
**Veterans Park Picnic Area, 909 Reef Road,  
Fairfield**

Join guest storyteller Rabbi Evan Schultz for a pre-Shabbat afternoon of songs, stories and a yummy popsicle to beat the summer heat. Bring your friends for an afternoon of fun with PJ Library. Look for our colorful balloons near the picnic area in the park!

MORE INFO: [skamisar@jewishphilanthropyct.org](mailto:skamisar@jewishphilanthropyct.org)

CONGREGATIONS BETH EL, B'NAI TORAH & RODEPH SHOLOM

## Tisha B'Av



*Tisha B'Av, the Ninth Day of Av, is the day on which the Jewish people recall the catastrophes which it has suffered and which have influenced its life and character.*

**Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 PM**  
**at Congregation B'nai Torah**  
5700 Main Street, Trumbull  
Evening Service & Eicha Reading

**Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 AM**  
**at Congregation Beth El**  
1200 Fairfield Woods Road, Fairfield  
Morning Service & Eicha Reading

**Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**at Congregation Rodeph Sholom**  
2385 Park Avenue, Bridgeport  
Mincha Service 1:00 PM

For more information please call the synagogue office at 203-374-5544.



**Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County  
Visioning Process**

With our legal merger in the rearview mirror, it's time for our diverse group of municipalities to come together to more formally envision the future of our collective Federation community. Over the next two months we are convening a community-wide process to help create this new vision. The Visioning process will include a series of four community meetings to be held in July and August, with each meeting focused on a specific topic of importance. These meetings will be facilitated by our Executive Director, David Weisberg, and are scheduled to run for three hours each. It is our hope that participants will represent the voices and points-of-view of our diverse constituency, including Beth El, in order to craft a vision that fully reflects the interests and aspirations of our entire community.

**Meeting Dates/Locations (all run 6:30PM – 9:30PM)**

Wednesday, July 19, FJP Offices – Offerings/Value Proposition  
Wednesday, August 2, Temple Israel – Outreach/Engagement  
Thursday, August 17, Beth El Norwalk – Communications/Marketing  
Monday, August 28, FJP Offices – Partnerships/Community Leadership Meeting  
 Topics & Sample Questions

**Offerings/Value Proposition - Meeting Co-Chairs: Rabbi Greg Wall & Bonnie Slyn**  
 How does the Federation help advance Jewish journeys? How does the Federation identify and meet the interests of potential constituents? What interests are not being met? What value does Federation affiliation provide? What benefits can be demonstrated to potential partners and funders? How do we measure success? What locations and platforms could be used to provide value and connection?

**Outreach/Engagement - Meeting Co-Chairs: Ariel Warshaw & Joan Kalmans**  
 How does the Federation reach potential constituents? How do new or disengaged community members come to understand what the Federation has to offer? Is the Federation's message open and welcoming? Are there outcomes of the merger that can be capitalized on or unintended negative consequences that need to be repaired?

**Communications/Marketing - Meeting Co-Chairs: Lori Strasberg & Robert Velthuisen**  
 What communications platforms are most effective in reaching both existing and potential constituents? What messaging resonates most strongly for potential participants and for potential donors? What messaging is required to connect with a diverse potential constituent base? What stories does the Federation have to tell and how does it most effectively communicate them?

**Partnerships/Community Leadership – Meeting Co-Chairs: Mindy Siegel & Allison Wachstein**  
 How does the Federation partner with community organizations, both Jewish and non-Jewish to advance the needs of its constituency? In what ways is the Federation seen as and does it serve as: a leader in convening organizations, in community planning, in creating solutions to meet the needs of underserved populations, in representing the Jewish community?

*There will be no solicitations at these meetings. To sign up for one or more meetings, visit [shalomct.org/visioning-process](http://shalomct.org/visioning-process)*

**Click here to view & print  
[Federation Visioning Process Outline](#)**



We all believe that no one in our community should go hungry.

The Operation Hope Community Kitchen serves over 40,000 meals a year.

Congregation Beth El provides 30 meals (the last 2 or 3 days a month) to the community kitchen.

We hope you can help by:

- Providing a meal for 50 people for July 29 or 31. We have two people providing dinner for the 30th.
- If cooking is not your expertise:
  - o you can purchase ready-made meals at BJ's

**TZEDAKAH PROJECT  
 CHARITY OF THE MONTH:**

**JULY/AUGUST 2017**

*Inspiring Children To Eat Well!*  
**MISSION**  
 The mission of the Sylvia Center is to inspire young people and their families to establish independent healthy eating habits — so that they may lead healthy and productive lives. Through our programs, participants learn what fresh food is, how delicious it tastes, and how to prepare nutritious meals on a daily basis.

**WHAT THE SYLVIA CENTER DOES:**  
 Builds character through cooking. Inspires young people to eat well. Fights the epidemic of childhood obesity. Builds lifelong healthy habits. Teaches teamwork and problem solving.

*Locations in New York, NY and Kinderhook, NY*

*Amy Gershberg & Fran Glucoft  
 Chairwomen of the Tzedakah Project*

**"How Often is More Important than How Much"**

CONGREGATION BETH EL FAIRFIELD *Sisterhood*

**Esther Dansky  
 GIFT SHOP**

**Open at your convenience. We are just a call or text away!**

**For All Your Graduation, Wedding & Hostess Gifts – Remember the Beth El Gift Shop!**

Platters  
 Serving Pieces  
 Mezuzah  
 Candles  
 Books  
 and More!

**Questions?**  
 Cell Fran Bongarten  
 203-227-7012  
 Laurie Perlestein  
 203-261-6911  
 Phyllis Selig  
 203-521-9665  
 Sylvia Yasner  
 203-255-2656

[giftshopbe@gmail.com](mailto:giftshopbe@gmail.com)

**1200 Fairfield Woods Road, Fairfield, CT 06825 • CongBethEl.net**

- o or Costco
- o you can order pizza
- o you can make a donation - for \$100 we can purchase the dinner
- o Meals should be brought to 50 Nichols Street in Fairfield by 3:00 PM and labeled with your name from Congregation Beth El

Please respond to Peri Cook at [peri1118@aol.com](mailto:peri1118@aol.com) if you are able to supply dinner for July 29th or 31st.

There are additional dates available by contacting Peri or <http://signup.com/go/mrAcr2>.

Thank you very much.  
Peri Cook and Tara Cook-Littman

#### OUR MISSION

Operation Hope provides the opportunity for individuals and families to experience transformative change. By addressing basic needs for food and shelter, as well as offering long-term solutions to hunger and homelessness, including affordable housing, life skills training and personalized clinical support, we help people reach their potential in an environment where compassion inspires dignity and hope.



## Israeli Young Emissary Program Loving Host Families Needed for the Upcoming Year 2017-2018

The Emissary Program is a program of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County that brings recent high school graduates from Israel for a gap year postponing their army service. The emissaries live with families and work in the community to share their love of Israel. Hosting a Young Emissary is a unique opportunity that benefits both the local Jewish community and your own family. Please consider this wonderful opportunity.

## PLANT TREES IN ISRAEL & SUPPORT BETH EL

As a member of Beth El, which is an affiliate congregation of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, we have an opportunity to earn money for our synagogue when you participate in one of the following:

- Plant Trees in Israel in honor of friends or loved ones.
- Make a donation to any of JNF's many projects in Israel.
- Purchase anything from the JNF store.

It's easy, quick and doesn't cost you anything extra! Buy or donate through the JNF/USCJ button on our synagogue website and 20% will go back to Beth El.

Another 5% will go to United Synagogue to support congregational Israel programs. Help Israel through the work of JNF.

[CLICK HERE TO GO TO THE BETH EL WEBSITE](#)

Spread the word to your friends and family! All orders and donations must originate from the JNF/United Synagogue button on our synagogue's website to be credited to this program. You can also call 1-800-542-TREE (8733) and mention our congregation.

Go to our website, [www.congbethel.net](http://www.congbethel.net) and click on the box (sample below) located on our home page, under the photo of our building. Just follow the instructions to plant your trees or make a donation to JNF. And while you are there, take a look at our website as well!



Please note that all donations will be charged in U.S. dollars by JNF-US. All donors will receive an immediate electronic receipt from JNF-US.

Have an extra coat in your CLOSET?

Schoke Jewish Family Service Kosher Food

\*The emissaries have their own cars, cell phones and spending money.

**For more information, please contact  
Judy Blumenthal, Community  
Coordinator - [ctblumers@optonline.net](mailto:ctblumers@optonline.net)  
or 203-260-0040.**

## AN EASY WAY TO SUPPORT BETH EL!

**FOR ALL YOUR GROCERY NEEDS,  
PLEASE BUY GIFT CARDS AT BETH EL  
FOR STOP & SHOP and SHOPRITE**

For every card purchased, these stores donate

5% or more to Congregation Beth El.

**YOU GET THE FULL VALUE FOR THE CARDS  
SO IT DOES NOT COST YOU ANYTHING!  
And there are no expiration dates!**

Questions? Please call 203-374-5544 or  
email [bethelfairfield@gmail.com](mailto:bethelfairfield@gmail.com).

**IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT TO COMMEMORATE,  
PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING A KIDDUSH.  
THERE ARE MANY OPTIONS AVAILABLE.  
CONTACT THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE AT 203-  
374-5544.**

Pantry is collecting new or gently used winter gear for our food pantry clients.

Coats, hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for adults and children or donation of retail gift cards (e.g. Old Navy, Target, Kohl's, etc.)

Donations can be dropped off  
Monday - Friday between 9 am - 4 pm  
at Schoke JFS, 733 Summer Street, 6th  
Floor, Stamford

For additional information, please contact  
Rebekah Kanefsky  
at 203-921-4161 or [rkanevsky@ctjfs.org](mailto:rkanevsky@ctjfs.org)



Join us this summer at Camp Ramah in New  
England for  
**Prospective Family Day**  
from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm on Sunday, July 16th  
OR Sunday, July 30th.

Come see for yourself where all of the Ramah magic happens! Check out our beautiful lake, refurbished tennis courts and sports fields, newly designed arts and crafts and woodworking studios, our thrilling ropes and adventure course and so much more. Tour our spacious bunks and see where our campers eat, pray and play! Learn about the unique Jewish education program which enables our campers to learn Hebrew and study their Jewish heritage in an informal setting. Meet the Director, Assistant Director and other key staff who will be there to answer questions and tell you about the extraordinary opportunities that await your child at Camp Ramah. Camp Ramah offers two-week sessions for children currently in grades 2-3 and four or eight-week sessions for children in grades 3-10. To learn more or to RSVP, contact Lori Fish Bard at [lorib@campramahne.org](mailto:lorib@campramahne.org).





# Sponsor A Kiddush

## BASIC SPONSORED KIDDUSH

\$250

feeds approximately 75 people

This kiddush will include bagels and cream cheese, egg salad, tuna fish, herring (both wine sauce and cream sauce if available), crudite with hummus or guacamole, sliced cheese, one fruit in season, challah, pastries/cookies, coffee and tea, seltzer and juice, ceremonial wine, paper goods, paid custodial and kitchen help.

## EXPANDED SPONSORED KIDDUSH

\$360

feeds approximately 75 people

This kiddush will include bagels and cream cheese, egg salad, tuna fish, whitefish salad, herring (both wine sauce and cream sauce if available), 4½ lbs. lox, sliced tomatoes and onions, fruit salad or sliced fruit as available, sliced cheese, crudite with hummus and guacamole, pastries/cookies, challah, ceremonial wine, coffee and tea, seltzer and juice, paper goods, paid custodial and kitchen help.

*In order to offer enough food for your additional guests beyond 75, there will be an additional cost of \$3.50 per person for the Basic Kiddush and \$5 per person for the Expanded Kiddush.*

## OPTIONAL ENHANCEMENTS

With enough notice we may be able to add menu items at additional cost such as tuna pasta salad, quiche, poached or roasted salmon, whitefish filet, blintzes, French toast, kugel, salads, cheese spreads, mozzarella, tomato and basil platters, yogurt parfaits, grain dishes, "kid" friendly food such as mac & cheese or pizza bagels, and additional beverages. These items will be prepped at Beth El by volunteers limiting your cost to product only.

*Options to sponsor kiddush for a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, by preparing your own food in our kitchen or by bringing in a caterer must be discussed in advance with Susan Mittag.*

Please help us maintain our commitment to our Kiddush tradition by sponsoring for an anniversary, a birthday, retirement, yahrzeit, baby-naming, another milestone or just because! Ask friends and family to sponsor with you. Partial sponsorships are welcome. Call us with questions.

Susan Mittag: 203-374-5544 [congbethel@aol.com](mailto:congbethel@aol.com) or Fran Glucroft: 203-373-1759 [fjglucroft@gmail.com](mailto:fjglucroft@gmail.com)

Yes, I would like to sponsor a kiddush.

Basic Kiddush    Expanded Kiddush    Enhancements (you will be contacted to discuss menu choices)

I/we want to prepare our own food or bring in a caterer

Occasion for sponsoring \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated # of guests beyond 75 \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to: Congregation Beth El, 1200 Fairfield Woods Road, Fairfield, CT 06825

**CHECK OUT BETH EL'S WEBSITE!**

**[www.congbethel.net](http://www.congbethel.net)**

**For your convenience, sign-up forms  
for current events  
are available on the website.**

**Click here to view and print  
[SPONSOR A KIDDUSH FLYER](#)**

Contact Info:

**Susan Mittag,  
Executive Director**

203-374-5544 /

[congbethel@aol.com](mailto:congbethel@aol.com)

1200 Fairfield Woods Road, Fairfield,  
CT 06825