



Congregation Beth Mordecai

Your Jewish Home for the Soul

August 2019

Av/Elul 5779



**JOIN US AT BETH MORDECAI
& GET OUT OF THE HOT SUMMER SUN!**

Our traditional Friday night and Saturday morning services are typically followed by a light oneg or Kiddush. We are always looking for sponsors/hosts! If you are interested, please reach out to the office (OfficeBethMordecai@gmail.com or 732.442.1373).



Friday, August 2 - 8 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Services
Saturday, August 3 - 9 AM Breakfast Minyan
9 AM Bagel breakfast, 9:30-10:30 Abbreviated Shabbat Service

Saturday, August 10 - 10 AM Shabbat Services with discussion

**Saturday, August 17 - 10 AM Shabbat Services with Torah reading
& Aufurf of Stella Morrison & Ryan Felder**

Saturday, August 24 - 10 AM Shabbat Services with discussion

Saturday, August 31 - 10 AM Shabbat Services with discussion



**To bring Cantor Dan
Geigerman for a musical
Shabbat service.
See next page for
instructions on how to
donate!**

celebrate

shabbat by the sea

**August 9
6:30 PM**

**Kabbalat Shabbat service in the gazebo at Bayview Park
Chinese Food Shabbat dinner to follow at Beth Mordecai**

\$18 minimum donation per person

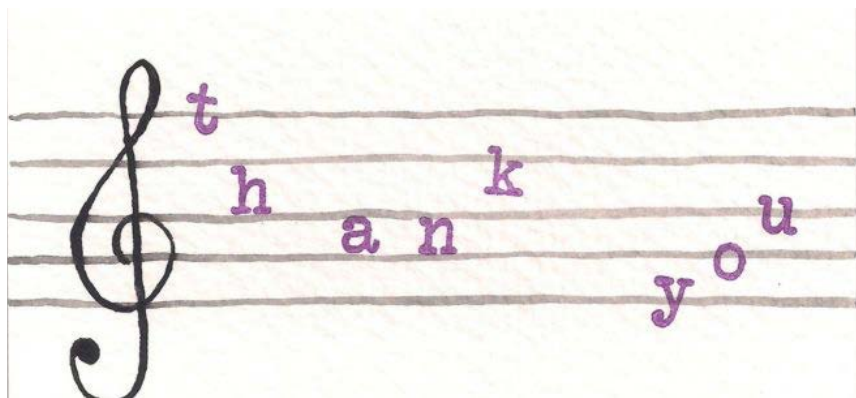
RSVP to Rabbi.SaraMetz@gmail.com

As of August 1, we cannot Bring Cantor Geigerman for our August Shabbat by the Sea date. Please help donate!



Cantor Dan Geigerman's participation this summer at our musical Shabbat by the Sea services has been supported by sponsoring members, but we have not covered all of our costs.

Please consider a contribution to help bring him to our community one last time this summer. We must raise over \$200 to make this possible.



A thank you note to our generous sponsors for past musical Shabbatot by the Sea!

Anonymous ~ Anonymous ~ Anonymous ~ Elyse Lyons ~
Anita & Bob Krentar ~ Avi & Joan Shkedi ~ Alan & Louise Siegel
Sherry Weber



Get ready for the High Holidays and the month of Elul
with relaxation and renewal.

Craft your own home spa with bath bombs YOU make using all
natural ingredients you may find in your pantry.

Bring your friends or spouse for a fun night with Beth Mordecai!
Wine and light refreshments provided

\$18 per person
August 29 6:30 - 8:30 PM

RSVP to Rabbi.SaraMetz@gmail.com

BRING OUT THE POPCORN!

MOVIES WITH MORDIE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

4 PM TO 6 PM

BETH MORDECAI

224 HIGH ST PERTH AMBOY

\$10 per person

Join us for a movie chosen & introduced by one of
our Beth Mordecai members.

Popcorn and light refreshments provided





Wine & Chocolate Painting

Thursday, July 25
2 Chicks with
Chocolate

Thank you to
everyone who
came for this
sweet experience!



THE CANVAS



THE MASTERPIECE



THE PACKAGING





August

Birthdays

Gene Barskiy
 Fred Bernhardt
 Sava Gitelman
 Eric Gordon
 Larry Gruber

August Anniversaries

Marc & Betty Fertik
 Dan & Evonne Goldman
 Dion & Alyson Roy
 Lou & Sandra Sher



Yemenite Jews en route to Israel from Aden, Yemen, 1949.

Operation Magic Carpet, 70 Years On: Israel Rescues 50,000 Yemeni Jews

It was June 1949—just over a year after its Declaration of Independence and barely two months after reaching the final armistice agreement that ended its costly defensive War of Independence—when Israel initiated, with U.S. support, a secret, daring operation to rescue the endangered Jewish community in Yemen, a hostile Arab country that maintained an official state of war with Israel. By September 1950, through Operation Magic Carpet (also known as Operation On Wings of Eagles), 50,000 persecuted Yemeni Jews had been airlifted to Israel despite extreme hurdles, threats and violent efforts to disrupt the operation.

Operation Magic Carpet was only the first of several such Israeli endeavors. Less than a year after its completion, Israel initiated an even larger operation, airlifting more than 120,000 Jews out of Iraq. In 1984-1985, Israel airlifted some 8,000 Ethiopian Jews out of refugee camps in Sudan. And in 1991, 35 Israeli aircraft flying nonstop brought nearly 15,000 threatened Ethiopian Jews to Israel in just 36 hours. Over the years, Israel has received and absorbed nearly a million Jewish refugees from Asian and African countries; they and their descendants constitute a majority of Israel's diverse Jewish population, belying the claim that Israeli Jews are European "implants" in the Middle East.

The United States frequently encouraged and supported Israeli rescue and absorption efforts. In these activities, Israel and America have shared cherished humanitarian values.

Alaska Airlines' Robert F. Maguire Jr., the chief pilot of Operation Magic Carpet, flew between 270 and 300 hours each month; in the United States, the limit under its aviation rules was 90 hours. Maguire once ran out of fuel and was forced to land in Egypt. When airport officials rushed to the plane, Maguire asked them to send ambulances immediately to take passengers to the nearest hospital. "Why?" they asked. "Smallpox," he replied. He got his fuel without further ado and flew on to Tel Aviv. Prime Minister Ben-Gurion called Maguire "The Irish Moses." In 2004, Maguire was awarded a medal of valor by the Simon Wiesenthal Center for his role in rescuing the Jews of Yemen.

Never having seen an airplane before, many of the immigrants were frightened and refused to board. Once reminded that their deliverance to Israel by air was prophesized in the Book of Isaiah (40:31)—"They shall mount up with wings like eagles"—reinforced by the painting of an eagle with outstretched wings over the door of each aircraft, they boarded the planes. Upon landing in Israel they chanted blessings and burst into song.

By the time *Operation Magic Carpet* ended in September 1950, 28 Alaska Airlines pilots had made some 380 flights and airlifted nearly 50,000 refugees to Israel—almost the entire Yemeni Jewish population. Miraculously, not one death or injury occurred. For security reasons and to prevent sabotage, the *operation* was kept secret. It would be many months before the public or the press would become aware of this remarkable operation.

BDS: The Global Campaign to Delegitimize Israel

Written by the ADL

Background

Since the outbreak of the second Palestinian Intifada in 2000 and the Durban Conference of 2001, organized campaigns around the world have promoted the “boycott, divestment and sanctions” (BDS) of Israel. The campaign intensified following the July 2004 joint statement by the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI), and a July 2005 call by Palestinian civil society organizations on the international community “to impose broad boycotts and implement divestment initiatives against Israel similar to those applied to South Africa in the apartheid era.” The campaign was endorsed by pro-Palestinian organizations in Europe and the United States and the call for BDS against Israel has since become a key tactic within the global effort to delegitimize and isolate Israel.

Goals

The BDS movement aims to emulate the 1980s campaigns against South African apartheid. Its supporters claim that Israeli policies towards Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and West Bank is akin to the apartheid regime that existed in South Africa, and that the same tactics used to demand that apartheid be dismantled in South Africa should be employed to pressure, ostracize and marginalize Israel.

Campaigns have been launched demanding the “divestment” of university, municipal, church, union and other investment portfolios from companies that advocates claim “aid Israel’s occupation”, as well as the “boycott” of Israeli products, professionals, professional associations and academic institutions, and artistic performances (in Israel and abroad).

Some supporters of BDS may genuinely believe that these efforts will encourage Israel to change policies with which they disagree.

However, the predominant drive of the BDS campaign and its leadership is not criticism of policies, but the demonization and delegitimization of Israel.

BDS campaigns promote a biased and simplistic approach to the complex Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and present this dispute over territorial and nationalist claims as the fault of only one party – Israel. The BDS campaign does not support Israeli-Palestinian peace efforts, and rejects a two-state solution to the conflict.

Progress

Despite the best efforts of BDS activists, the campaign has largely failed to have more than a public relations impact, particularly in the U.S. For the most part, campaigns have failed to bring major institutions to divest from Israel or to keep companies and institutions from engaging with Israel or Israelis. There have been some gains among church groups and British trade unions. At universities where student governments have passed divestment resolutions, the president, chancellor or board of trustees have refused to implement it. Graduate student unions who voted to support divestment have had the resolution nullified by their international union. Even academic associations who have voted to boycott Israeli academic institutions have not implemented these policies in a discernible way.

BDS campaigns do, however, garner publicity and often have a negative impact on public perceptions of Israel.

BDS: The Global Campaign to Delegitimize Israel (continued)

Written by the ADL

Is BDS Anti-Semitic?

Many of the founding goals of the BDS movement, including denying the Jewish people the universal right of self-determination – along with many of the strategies employed in BDS campaigns are anti-Semitic. Many individuals involved in BDS campaigns are driven by opposition to Israel's very existence as a Jewish state.

Often time, BDS campaigns give rise to tensions in communities – particularly on college campuses – that can result in harassment or intimidation of Jews and Israel supporters, including overt anti-Semitic expression and acts. This dynamic can create an environment in which anti-Semitism can be expressed more freely.

And, all too often, BDS advocates employ anti-Semitic rhetoric and narratives to isolate and demonize Israel.

Key Points to Make Against BDS Campaigns

- Promote reconciliation between Israel and the Palestinians through constructive measures. BDS campaigns represent a hostile delegitimization tactic that rests on a fundamental rejection of Israel's right to exist or defend itself. BDS does nothing to promote peace. A more constructive approach would be to promote initiatives that build bridges, promote interaction, and help prepare both societies for peace.
- Israelis want to make peace with the Palestinians. The harsh rhetoric of proponents ignores the support of the Israeli public for a two-state solution and Israeli government efforts to promote negotiations and improve the situation on the ground for Palestinians, and overlooks Palestinian intransigence and violence.
- The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is complex. Holding Israel alone accountable for the conflict is inaccurate and unhelpful. The conflict over land and security can only be resolved at the negotiating table and through a two-state solution and both sides will be required to make difficult decisions and concessions.
- Israel is a proud democracy. Israel is the leading stable democracy in the Middle East, with all of the institutions – a free press, a multitude of political parties, an independent judiciary and religious freedom — that are at the heart of true liberal democracies. The Middle East, and indeed the world, has many states that do not come close to living up to Israel's standards. Criticism of Israel, like criticism of any other sovereign country in the world, can be reasonable and legitimate. But BDS campaigns, which single out Israel for pariah status, are unfair and disproportionate.



Congregation Beth Mordecai

Established 1897

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Office Hours 10am - 2pm Monday - Thursday

Website <http://BethMordecai.org>

Facebook (Public) Congregation Beth Mordecai

Facebook (Closed) We Are Beth Mordecai

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Acknowledge the Occasion through Beth Mordecai

"Tzedaka is equal in importance to all other commandments combined."
-Talmud

I am pleased to make a contribution of \$ _____ to the following fund...

☐ **Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**
Allows the rabbi to support special programs and individuals in need.

☐ **General Fund**
Applied to the operating budget of the congregation.

☐ **Friday Night Oneg Fund**
Used for cookies and other noshes following Friday night services.
A contribution of \$75 supports one oneg.

☐ **Shabbat Morning Kiddush Fund**
Used for luncheons and noshes following Saturday morning services.
A contribution of \$125 supports one Kiddush.

...in honor, memory, or appreciation of:

My Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Please send this contribution form and check directly to the synagogue office. Checks should be made payable to "Congregation Beth Mordecai".

Contributions to the above listed funds may also be made on the synagogue website through our secure PayPal link.

DONATE NOW

Secure Donations
by **PayPal**



Your generous and thoughtful support of our funds are used to enrich & invigorate our community.

Todah Rabbah Thank you

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

Fred Bernhardt

The Rosen family in memory of Norm Rosen

Project Rebirth:

Cindy Salsbury

A DONATION HAS BEEN MADE TO THE SYNAGOGUE BY:

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- Mike Shevell in memory of Daniel Shevell
- Richard & Ronna Silberberg in memory of Gertrude Schwartz
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NJ Lic. No. 4105 NJ Lic. No. 2158

**Whom do I call?**

In the case of a death, call a medical authority,
the funeral home and then Beth Mordecai.

Rabbi Sara Metz

732.442.2431 or 732.442.1373 or Rabbi.SaraMetz@gmail.com



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