

*Beth Jacob Synagogue*  
*September 30 2025 Weekly Announcements*  
*& October 2025 Voice*



From the  
Beit Midrash of  
Rav Julius



**From Scroll to Screen:  
Jewish Learning  
in the Digital Age**

As Fall settles in, our thoughts naturally begin to turn inward -- and indoors. With the colder months ahead, many of us find ourselves reaching for books, whether in print or on screen. In that spirit, and as a gentle counterbalance to the moral and ethical reflections that often accompany this season, I would like to 'lighten up' and offer a column focused on Jewish learning resources you can explore at your own pace. (Don't worry, the ethical columns will return soon enough!)

We are, after all, the People of the Book. For millennia, our culture, traditions, and values have been transmitted through sacred texts. From oral storytelling to handwritten scrolls to the printed page, each evolution in media has expanded access and deepened engagement. Today, in the digital age, our texts are being transformed once again -- this time into formats that can reach more people than ever before, across boundaries of geography, background, and experience.

Technology has dramatically accelerated the way we study and share knowledge. Personally, I can now locate sources in minutes that once took hours to find (but finding that I am sitting in one place for much longer periods). Of course, the internet poses challenges, especially for the vulnerable -- both young and old. But it also offers extraordinary opportunities. There are countless websites and applications that enrich Jewish life and learning. Here are just a few worth exploring:

**MyJewishLearning.com** -- A gateway to discovery for anyone curious about Judaism. This site offers thousands of articles, videos, and resources covering everything from food and holidays to beliefs and practices. My Jewish Learning meets you where you are -- regardless of background or prior knowledge.

**TheTorah.com** -- A serious and scholarly resource, TheTorah.com makes academic biblical studies accessible to a broad audience. Subscribers receive original essays on Torah portions and holidays from experts in fields such as archaeology, Egyptology, Semitic languages, and literary criticism. It is a rich site for those who want to engage deeply in the historical and textual dimensions of our tradition.

**MeltonSchool.org** -- Melton offers adult learners a transformative experience through the study of Jewish texts and

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**High Holy Day Services**

**Yom Kippur**

Erev Yom Kippur: Kol Nidre, Wednesday October 1st -- 6:00 pm

Yom Kippur Morning -- Thursday October 2nd -- 9:30 am

Yom Kippur Afternoon, October 2nd -- 4:00 pm

(Torah Study at 4:00 pm, Mincha at 5:15 pm, Neilah 6:15),

Blow the Shofar/Tekiah Gedolah, Fast Ends -- 7:09 pm



**Sukkot 5786/2025**

This year the Beth Jacob community will be celebrating Sukkot as a community on its own (when no other synagogue is listed below), and with other Jewish communities in Eastern Connecticut at Beth Jacob, as indicated below:

Erev Sukkot, 1<sup>st</sup> night **October 6, 6:00 pm**

Sukkot, 1<sup>st</sup> day **October 7, 10:00 am**; joined by Ahavat Achim (Colchester); Beth-El (New London); Bnei Israel (Willimantic); Emanu-El (Waterford); Kiddush to follow at about Noon in the Beth Jacob Sukkah (weather permitting) or Social Hall

Sukkot, Shabbat **October 10, 6:00 pm**  
**October 11, 10:00 am**

Usual Shabbat schedule, with Kiddush following Shabbat morning service

Erev Simchat Torah **October 13 at Temple Emanu-El, 29 Dayton Road, Waterford**, joined by Ahavath Achim (Colchester); Beth-El (New London); Emanu-El (Waterford). The evening's service begins at 7:00 pm

Simchat Torah/Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor **October 14, 10:00 am**; joined by Ahavat Achim (Colchester) and Beth El (New London). Kiddush to follow at about Noon about Noon in the Beth Jacob Sukkah (weather permitting) or Social Hall.

ideas. With both in-person and online classes, as well as travel seminars, Melton fosters a global community of engaged learners. Its professionally developed curriculum and interactive format have reached over 50,000 participants across fifty communities in the U.S. and abroad, making it the largest pluralistic adult Jewish education network in the world.

**Sefaria.org** – I have saved this one for last, but it is arguably the most transformative resource in the Jewish world digital landscape -- and I emphasize “world” in its global reach. I have mentioned Sefaria before, and it truly deserves a column of its own. This nonprofit organization offers free access to Jewish texts, translations, and commentaries, empowering anyone to participate in the ongoing process of studying, interpreting, and creating Torah. (Like many nonprofit sites, including those listed in this column, it may prompt you for donations -- but a simple click of “cancel” lets you continue uninterrupted.)

Sefaria is a vast online library of Jewish texts, grounded in the belief that these writings -- from Torah to contemporary thought -- are our shared inheritance. Whether you are copying a page to send to your child, downloading a book of the Bible for study on a train, or exploring commentaries late at night, the entire canon is at your fingertips. While some content remains in untranslated Hebrew, most core sources -- Torah, Midrash, Talmud, Liturgy, Jewish Thought, Kabbalah -- are available in English translation as well.

Designed to bring Jewish learning into the digital age, Sefaria supports learners of all levels. Its mobile app puts the Jewish library in the palm of your hand, anytime, anywhere. Many texts are downloadable, allowing you to continue studying even without internet access.

### ***October Birthdays***

<b>October 3</b>	Steven Morse
<b>October 7</b>	Michael Gordon
<b>October 12</b>	Jane Katsoff
<b>October 14</b>	Pepi Green
<b>October 16</b>	Kathleen McFadden
	Arlene Dressler
	Evert Gawendo
<b>October 19</b>	Clara Kalnitsky
<b>October 24</b>	Robert Labb
	Kimberly Fischburg
<b>October 29</b>	Joel Zuckerbraun
<b>October 31</b>	Kenneth Fischburg

### ***October Anniversaries***

<b>October 14</b>	Gabriel Stern & Kathleen McFadden
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### ***Mishebeirach***

Beth Camassar	Jenn Rockwell	Tim Menard
Billy Maynard	Jeremy Federman	Aaron Ben Gershon
Bonnie Curkin	Marvin Levine	Ahoova Hana bat Gila
Emma Fries	Michelle Nash	Chaim ben Libba
Shirley Christian	Pamela Magliano	Michal ben Sarah
Seth Curkin	Cannata	Moshe Ben Rochel
Rabbi Gary Atkins	Patricia Tilley	Tzvi ben Basha
	Tiffany Gravel	

As with all online resources, discernment is key. The internet offers a wealth of material -- but not all of it is reliable. We lack a neutral authority to vet every source, so we must lean on the wisdom of the members of our trusted communities to help us. If you come across a site and wonder about its credibility, I am always happy to offer my thoughts.

No digital tool can match the experience of studying Torah with a partner in the Jewish tradition of *Hevrutah*. Partners read aloud, discuss interpretations, share insights, and encourage creative thinking. This approach builds friendships and, while typically done in pairs, can be adapted for small groups.

Solo study does have its value and most particularly its freedom of scheduling, but it also carries the risk of misunderstanding. Learning with a partner helps us challenge assumptions, refine interpretations, and deepen understanding.

In the end, the best way to experience Judaism is live and in person. Yet we know that is not always possible. Some of you are homebound, unable to drive at night, or managing health concerns that make being in crowds difficult. We want to connect in whatever way we can. These resources are meant to enhance your Jewish life -- not replace your presence in our synagogue or your participation in Beth Jacob's community.

So, as the season turns and we gather indoors, I invite you to explore these tools -- not as a substitute for community, but as a bridge to it. Let them inspire your questions, deepen your insights, and spark conversations. Share what you learn. Reach out. Whether through study, prayer, or service, staying connected is the heart of Jewish life. Let's keep learning together -- online, in person, and always in spirit.

B'Shalom,  
Rav Julius

### ***This Week's Services***

**Thursday morning Minyan** —Postponed for Now

**Friday night**, 6:00 pm —Live + ZOOM

**Shabbat morning** prayer service, 10:00 am—Live + Zoom

**At the conclusion of services, we will have our enhanced, gourmet Kiddush and luncheon.**

### ***Donations***

**We gratefully acknowledge the following contributions to**

**Beth Jacob Synagogue's Special Funds.**

#### ***Kiddush Fund***

Mindy Pedersen

Betty Feldman

Alan Ruditzky

#### ***In Memory of Howard Kalnitsky***

Clara, Shayna, Tara and Chelsea

#### ***In Memory of Irval Labb***

Robert and Andrea Labb

Alan Ruditzky

#### ***Building Fund***

##### ***In Memory of Joseph Goldblatt***

Michael & Rosa Goldblatt

##### ***In Memory of Henry Drobiarz***

Michael & Rosa Goldblatt



## OCTOBER 2025 YAHRZEITS



### **October 1      9 Tishri**

Florence Werman  
Samuel Rutchik

### **October 2      10 Tishri**

Lillian Goodman —  
*Grandmother of Stacy Gould*

Solomon Strauss  
Andrew Neuger

Bluma Pasnik  
Freda Burchman —

*Mother of Brian Burchman*

### **October 4      12 Tishri**

Rose Pogolowitz

### **October 5      13 Tishri**

Helen Kanter

### **October 7      15 Tishri**

Harry Klein  
Shmilek Goldabiter

Annette Kashar —

*Mother of Marc Kashar*

### **October 8      16 Tishri**

Leon Gordon —  
*Father of Glenn Gordon  
and Gail Navick*

Rebecca Goldfine

### **October 9      17 Tishri**

Philip Gould

### **October 10     18 Tishri**

David Kaminski  
Meyer Himmelstein —

*Father of Roslyn Etra*

Samuel Gold

Neal Kaplan —

*Brother of Jane Katzoff*

### **October 11     19 Tishri**

Harold Soloff

Frances Nelkin

### **October 12     20 Tishri**

Mildred Kaplan —

*Mother of Arlene Dressler*

Samuel Mandell

Sylvia Blinderman

Israel Chait

### **October 13     21 Tishri**

Ron Brauman —

*Father of Stacy Gould*

Donald Sakowitz

### **October 15     23 Tishri**

Milton Kalnitsky—*Father-in-  
Law of Clara Kalnitsky*

Florence Kenig Swett

Sander Golub

Salomon Seroussi —

*Father of Michael Seroussi*

### **October 16     24 Tishri**

Rose Cooper —

*Mother of Harriet Burchman*

Abraham Levine

Nachman Swatzburg

### **October 17     25 Tishri**

Jerome Mopsik

Charlotte Rosenthal

Lazar Abraham

Leon Bruckner

Benjamin Simon

Molly Steinman

### **October 18     26 Tishri**

Louis Navick—*Grandfather of  
Jerald and Murray Navick and  
Kay Winakor*

Esther Fern

A. Charles Rosen

Harry Schatz

Bessie Deutsch

### **October 19     27 Tishri**

Beatrice Baker

Kuna Libo

Rebecca Fertman

### **October 20     28 Tishri**

Akiva Weisman—*Uncle of  
Jerald and Murray Navick and  
Kay Winakor*

Anna Israelit

Samuel Pearson

Rose Ringel —

*Grandmother of Faye Ringel*

### **October 21     29 Tishri**

Benjamin Lahn

Arlene Shapiro —

*Sister-in-Law of Marc Kashar*

Isadore Seikowitz

Samuel Tashman

Betty Schwartz

### **October 22     30 Tishri**

Theodore Engel

Harold Welling

### **October 23      1 Heshvan**

Rebecca Sara Snitkin

Barnett Goldblatt

### **October 24      2 Heshvan**

Karol Glick

Rudolph Herschel

Milton Foster

Julie Kenig

Jennie Swartz

### **October 25      3 Heshvan**

Clara Kaplan Markoff

Necha Stein

### **October 26      4 Heshvan**

Leonard Zuckerbraun—

*Father of Dr. Joel Zuckerbraun*

Bessie Tashman —

*Grandmother of Brian Burchman*

Jack Berk

Sandy Block

Chayye Ida Toba Rutchik

### **October 27      5 Heshvan**

Dorothy Goldblatt —

*Mother of Michael Goldblatt and  
Ellen DeLeon*

Freida Kosansky

### **October 29      7 Heshvan**

Helen Krawiec —

*Mother-in-Law of Marc Kashar*

Freda Bruckner

May Friedman —

*Mother of Larry Friedman*

### **October 30      8 Heshvan**

Huga Herman

Chaim Cooper

*Grandfather of Irene Schienberg*

Florence Levine

### **October 31      9 Heshvan**

Louis Rosenberg

Dr. Paul Schwartz

Miriam Mandel Cohen

Ruby Fox —

*Father of Kim Brissette*



# Commemorating Two Years Since October 7th

## ART AS HEALING

Photographer SHYE KLEIN survived the Nova Music Festival massacre and will be visiting our community to share his experiences.

Since the NOVA Festival, Shye has become a voice for remembrance, resilience, and hope – and the inspiration behind the ESEK NOVA Collection, a curated showcase of eight Israeli artists and small-business owners who survived the attack.

He comes to our community to relay his first-person perspective on the events of October 7th and talk about how art has become his path to healing.

CO-SPONSORED BY:



Jewish Federation  
of Eastern CT



Temple Emanu-El

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5  
10:07 AM  
Norwich

Location provided after registration



## ALL are WELCOME BETH JACOB SUPER SHABBAT



Daven at Beth Jacob



Sing aloud at Beth Jacob



Hang out with Friends at Beth Jacob



**Number  
ONE  
Kiddush  
Luncheon  
On the  
Planet**

**It's  
NOSH  
TIME**

Kashruth observed

**Shabbat Services: 10 AM 'til Noon**  
**NOSH Time: Noon until you're stuffed**  
**COME ANY TIME— LEAVE ANY TIME**

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Beth Jacob Synagogue  
400 New London Turnpike  
Norwich, CT

A conservative Jewish  
congregation  
Julius Rabinowitz, Rabbi