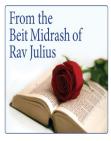
### Beth Jacob Synagogue September 30 2025 Weekly Announcements & October 2025 Voice







#### 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

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

**High Holy Day Services** 

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



Yom Kippur

#### 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, 1st night October 6, 6:00 pm

Sukkot, 1st 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.

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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

Steven Morse
Michael Gordon
Jane Katzoff
Pepi Green
Kathleen McFadden
Arlene Dressler
Evert Gawendo
Clara Kalnitsky
Robert Labb
Kimberly Fischburg
Joel Zuckerbraun
Kenneth Fischburg

#### October Anniversaries

October 14 Gabriel Stern & Kathleen McFadden

#### Mishebeirach

Beth Camassar
Billy Maynard
Bonnie Curkin
Emma Fries
Shirley Christian
Seth Čurkin
Rabbi Gary At-
kins

Jenn Rockwell
Jeremy Federman
Marvin Levine
Michelle Nash
Pamela Magliano
Cannata
Patricia Tilley
Tiffany Gravel

Tim Menard Aaron Ben Gershon Ahoova Hana bat Gila Chaim ben Libba Michal ben Sarah Moshe Ben Rochel Tzvi ben Basha 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, Ray 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

10 Tishri October 2

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

17 Tishri October 9

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

Kav 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 Fave Ringel

29 Tishri October 21

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

7 Heshvan October 29

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

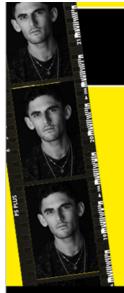
Florence Levine

October 31 9 Heshvan Louis Rosenberg

Dr. Paul Schwartz

Miriam Mandel Cohen Ruby Fox -

Father of Kim Brissette



## **Commemorating Two Years** Since October 7th

## artas 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



# BETH JACOB PER SHABBAT







Sing aloud at Beth Jacob



Hang out with Friends at Beth Jacob



ONE Kiddush uncheon On the Planet

Number

NOSH

Kashruth observed

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

Beth Jacob Synagogue 400 New London Turnpike Norwich, CT congregation Julius Rabinowitz, Rabbi