



CONGREGATION  
BETH ISRAEL

MAINE’S OLDEST SYNAGOGUE - SINCE 1888

MISSION STATEMENT

Congregation Beth Israel is a vibrant egalitarian and progressive Jewish community. We welcome Jews from all backgrounds, their partners, families, and those seeking to live Jewishly. We encourage active participation in synagogue life by each member according to their individual interests and abilities. We empower our members through prayer, learning, community friendships, and the Jewish imperative of Tikkun Olam—repair of the world.

CONTACT US OR DONATE

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JULY AT CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

We’re back in person! It’s been going well. We will continue to re-fine how we go about this, but it’s nice to be back together.

The big Jewish observance this month is Tisha B’Av, a day of mourning for the collection of calamities that have befallen us as a people, from the Temples’ destruction to the massacres of our people.

Check out calendar in this newsletter, or visit our website ([www.cbisrael.org](http://www.cbisrael.org)) and social media accounts for more information about our summer programming!

IN THIS ISSUE

Rabbi’s Message.....	2	Yahrzeits.....	8
President’s Message.....	3	Donations.....	9
Community News.....	4	Cemetery App Project.....	10
Calendar of Events.....	7	Doris Gass.....	11

## RABBI'S MESSAGE

### BILL SIEMERS, CONGREGATIONAL RABBI

It is with gratitude that we move swiftly into the post-pandemic world. We have been meeting in person for several weeks and it is the expectation that a full “normal” year of synagogue life is before us. Let's remember to enjoy the small things!

The celebration of the 4th of July, though, is an occasion to remember the big things. America has been a singular miracle for Jews. In contrast to the countries from which we emigrated there is no date of emancipation for America's Jews. We have lived here as full citizens from the very birth of the nation. And though America has (until perhaps very recently) been a nation of Christians, the Hebraic strain in the language and thought of the political realm is unmistakable. In the words from the editors of *Proclaim Liberty Throughout the Land*; “The American Republic was born to the music of the Hebrew Bible.” We have reflected often on the



debt of the founders to our scripture for their framing of dilemmas all societies face on the 4th of July we are also conscious that the rhetorical well from which American leaders of diverse perspectives have drawn is the tradition that we study and sing.

Perhaps the most poignant invocations are those that direct us to the work that remains. The settings chosen by Frederick Douglass for his “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?” was the opening of Psalm 137.

*By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat, sat and wept, as we thought of Zion.  
There on the poplars we hung up we hung up our lyres,  
for our captors asked us there for songs, our tormentors, for amusement,  
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion.”  
How can we sing a song of the LORD on alien soil?  
If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither.*

Which Douglass glossed.

*If I do forget, if I do not faithfully remember those bleeding children of sorrow this day, 'may my right hand forget her cunning, and may my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth!'*

It is an admonishment from 1852 that rebukes us sitting by the Penobscot in 2021. Much has changed and for the better over the millennia we have been singing this psalm, but we are never excused from the responsibility of matching our gratitude for redemption with determination to see the suffering of others and to cry out on their behalf. As American Jews we are doubly blessed and doubly challenged by this legacy. May we rise to the occasion on the coming Fourth as we gather once again in person in order to learn the tradition that inspires us as it has inspired our beautiful country, and to dedicate ourselves anew to the program of responsibility.

L'Shalom  
Rabbi Bill Siemers

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### BRIAN KRESGE, PRESIDENT

Let's talk budget!



Your Board of Directors, on June 14th, unanimously passed a great “break-even” budget. This budget is the culmination by the hard work of our Treasurer, Dr. Penny Lamhut, and the Finance Committee. Many committee chairs also put in serious elbow grease figuring out their piece of the budget for FY 2021-2022.

The work of keeping our Congregation in the black takes a team effort and YOUR generosity. I stand in awe of the work that will keep us solvent coming out of a pandemic and a major construction project.

I'd like to explain our revenue and expenses from a 1000 foot view.

The top chart is a rough breakdown of our revenue. The biggest chunk comes from our endowment and the Rosen Trust. The next biggest comes from your member dues and donations.

The next chart is a rough breakdown of where all the funds go. We've streamlined many of our operations over the last year. We are always looking for cost-savings while still meeting the expectations of our high-functioning *kehilla*.

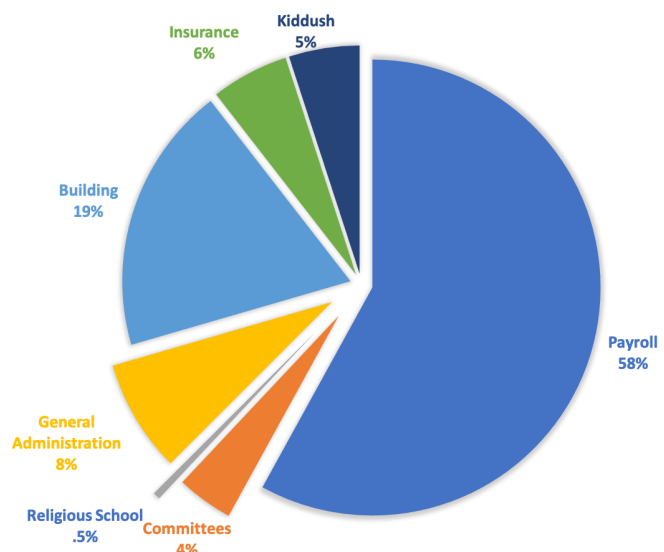
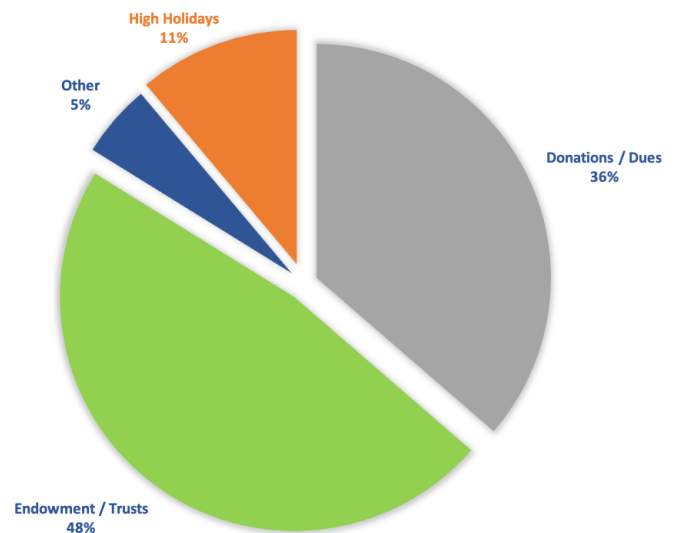
There's not a lot of wiggle room in this budget, and there won't be much wiggle room in years to come. Any cost-bearing activity that you want to undertake, it's imperative that we check funding first. We may have to find donors or grants!

We have bumped our expectations this year for donations and timely receipt of member dues. This congregation has never let us down. In the coming year, the older portions of our building will need some attention and cash.

My goal, as President, is to always find ways to fulfill our mission statement while being responsible with the money you generously invest in our community. This isn't *quite* an ask, but it may evolve into one as our cash flow unfolds throughout the year.

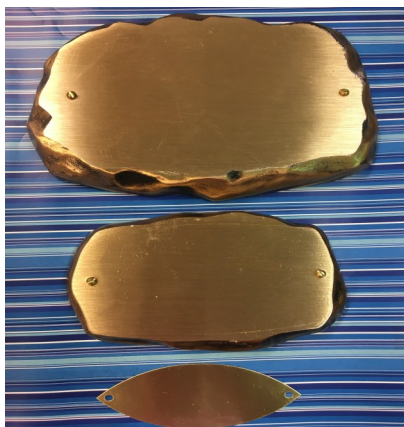
In the meantime, we are entering this new Fiscal Year with optimism and excitement!

Stay chill and do spectacular things,  
Brian Kresge, President



## BETH ISRAEL'S TREES OF LIFE

Have you ever wanted to honor or remember someone in a special way? A large engraved stone is \$2000, small engraved stone is \$1000, and an engraved leaf is \$180. If you are interested in this meaningful donation idea, please contact Angie at 207-945-3433 or by email at: [office@cbisrael.org](mailto:office@cbisrael.org).



## GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

On a regular basis, the Congregation or the Cemetery hear from people who have Bangor are and Congregation Beth Israel roots. Some formerly were members; some were not—but all seem to have an interest in the Congregation. If you know of a non-member who might enjoy receiving the bulletin, please contact Angie at [office@cbisrael.org](mailto:office@cbisrael.org) or 207-945-3433 with names and addresses.

We also have digital copies of this newsletter at [www.cbisrael.org](http://www.cbisrael.org).

## A THANK YOU

Thank you, Rabbi Siemers and Congregation Beth Israel, for being at our mother, Jeanette Maltz's unveiling on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

From Robert & Lisa Maltz

## GLORIA MILLER UNVEILING

Billy Miller and family would like to announce that Gloria's unveiling will be held on Friday, July 16th at 11am.

On Shabbos, the 17<sup>th</sup> of July, the kiddush will be sponsored by her family for all our friends. Please help Bill Miller, friends and family celebrate Gloria's memory and Bill and Jacob's birthday.

May her memory be a blessing.

## SISTERHOOD UPDATE

The Honey from the Heart Fundraiser is in full motion, as you might have read. Remember that July 7 is the last date for free shipping. All other orders must be in by August 21. Contact Vicki Darrah or Angie in the office with any questions. Information on the Yiskor Book will be available soon.

The Sisterhood would like to thank all volunteers who helped empty the old kitchen and settle the beautiful new facility in the Epstein Room. Thanks, of course, to the Epstein Family for making this happen.

Yahrzeit candles are available from the Gift Shop as are apple and honey dishes and many other Shabbat and High Holiday items. The Gift Shop is open during regular office hours. Hanukkah Marketplace (formerly known as Kolbo) will take place Sunday, November 21!

Have a safe and healthy July!

## CHEVRUTA UPDATE

Religious school is over for the summer break, but keep your eyes peeled for family programming events during the break.

The Center for Small Town Jewish Life is hosting its summer Funten-sive program in person at Temple Beth El in Augusta from July 19-23. Get in touch with Rabbi Erica Asch ([rabbiasch@gmail.com](mailto:rabbiasch@gmail.com)) or Mel Weiss ([maweiss@colby.edu](mailto:maweiss@colby.edu)) for more information.

We're taking a survey of prospective students and their parents about the 2021-2022 schedule. Please contact Leah Kresge, Director of Youth Education.



## BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD IS ONCE AGAIN OFFERING HONEY FROM THE HEART

This distinctive 8-ounce jar of Kosher honey arrives in time for Rosh Hashanah, decorated with a festive label, and a personalized card reading "SHANA TOVA -Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year".

Your cost is \$13.00 per jar which includes shipping and handling until **JULY 7th! After July 7th**, each jar is \$18.50(\$5.50 shipping) Delivery in time for Rosh Hashanah is **GUARENTEED** for orders placed through August 6<sup>th</sup>. Please ORDER ONLINE at [www.orthoney.com/BME](http://www.orthoney.com/BME) or contact Angie at 207-945-3433 or [office@israel.org](mailto:office@israel.org)



## THE RESUMPTION OF IN-PERSON SERVICES

**Saturday - 10am - Shabbat Service**

**Sunday - 9am - Weekday Shacharit Minyan**

**Monday, Thursday - 5:30pm - Weekday Mincha/Maariv Service**

**Friday - 5:30pm - Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Shabbat Maariv Service**

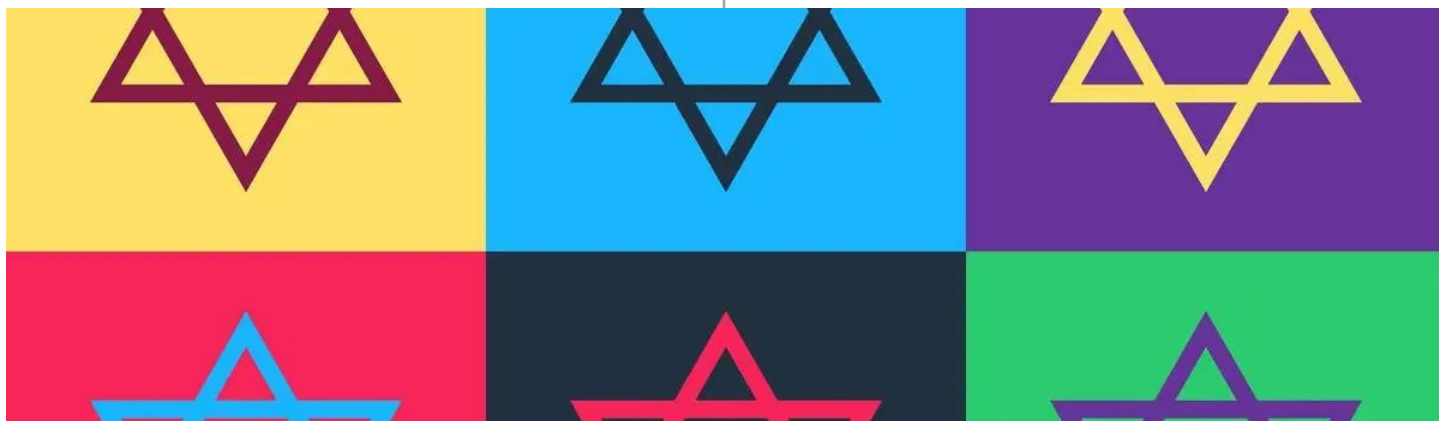
**Please arrive between 9:45am and 10:15am on Saturdays.**

For those unable to attend or uncomfortable with in-person attendance, you may still watch services via Facebook, Twitter, or YouTube Live. Contact the office for details.

We will no longer be streaming services via Zoom. It is difficult to manage and requires too much hands-on from service leaders. We will still use it for educational programming and meetings as needed, but you should use the other streaming services we provide instead.

We still have some rules for attendance:

- We will admit all who wish to attend our services regardless of vaccination status, with the caveat that we will not admit people determined to be a risk to our congregants.
- Masking will be required of everyone other than the service leader.
- Social distancing will be observed.
- Children are welcome to attend provided they can remain with a parent/grandparent.
- Children under the age of 5 are not required to be masked.



## WHY BE DIFFERENT? AN INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

Who are the Jews? It is a common understanding that Judaism is a religion with rich connections to the traditions of Christianity and Islam, but it is also a civilization that reaches back to the beginnings of history and has been expressed in wide varieties and in diverse cultural settings. This introductory course will provide the basic narrative of the Jewish people, our literature and languages, our beliefs and the ways we connect to each other, to the wider world, and to God. It is designed for both Jews who want a fresh encounter with their tradition and for non-Jews who wish to learn our story. It is suitable for those seeking conversion. Those students who wish to explore that path need to be in touch with Rabbi Siemers to learn of the additional requirements.

The course will begin in June 2021 and be conducted in twice-monthly online classes through the spring of 2022, covering all the Jewish holidays and life-cycle events. In addition to the course, there will be an opportunity to attend and participate in worship services and communal events. Each class will be devoted to a topic and will be self-contained. The textbook for the course will be *Living Judaism*, by Rabbi Wayne Dosick.

Rabbi Siemers is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Israel in Bangor, Maine. He has taught introductory courses in Judaism at University of Maine, as well as courses in Medieval and Modern Jewish History. His latest academic and communal focus has been on the history of antisemitism.

For further information and to register, please con-

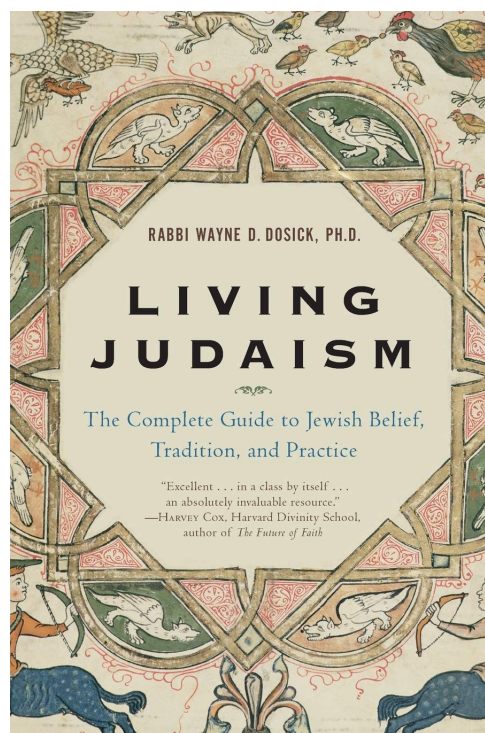
tact the synagogue office or our website to register online.

If you miss a session, videos are available on [www.cbisrael.org](http://www.cbisrael.org).

### COURSE SCHEDULE THROUGH AUGUST

Date	Topic
July 15th	Jewish Literature II Mishnah and Talmud
July 28th	The Jewish Calendar
August 11th	Shabbat
August 25th	The High Holidays

### COURSE MATERIAL



# JULY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Light Candles 8:06 PM	3 Parashat Pinchas  Shabbat ends 9:20 PM
4	5	6	7	8	9 Light Candles 8:04 PM	10 Parashat Matot-Masei  Shabbat ends 9:16 PM
11 Tzom Tammuz	12 Executive Committee 6pm	13	14	15 Intro to Judaism 8pm	16 Light Candles 7:59 PM	17 Parashat Devarim  Erev Tisha B'Av  Shabbat ends
18 Tish'a B'Av	19 Board of Directors 6pm	20	21	22	23 Blood Drive Light candles 7:53 PM	24 Shabbat Nachamu Parashat Vaetchanan Tu B'Av Shabbat ends 9:02 PM
25	26	27	28 Intro to Judaism 8pm	29	30 Light candles 7:45 PM	31 Parashat Eikev  Shabbat ends 8:53 PM

## BLOOD DRIVE JULY 23RD



American Red Cross

Beth Israel is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive on July 23rd in our Epstein Complex. You must sign up in advance to donate, and donations are open to the public!

There are many promotional incentives to give blood during this time of critical shortages. Amazon gift cards, "Gas for a Year" sweepstakes...please sign up to give blood by contacting the office!

## JULY YAHREZEITS

## TAMMUZ 5781

Name	Date	Hebrew Date
Sarah Berman	7/1/2021	21 Tammuz
Richard Braverman	7/1/2021	21 Tammuz
Harry Tabenken	7/1/2021	21 Tammuz
Rose Theeman	7/1/2021	21 Tammuz
Helen Gans	7/2/2021	22 Tammuz
Jacob Rapaport	7/2/2021	22 Tammuz
Irene Chotiner	7/3/2021	23 Tammuz
Grace Shuer	7/3/2021	23 Tammuz
Dorothy Seiderman	7/4/2021	24 Tammuz
Eva Dennis	7/5/2021	25 Tammuz
Dorothy Miller	7/6/2021	26 Tammuz
Charles Hall	7/6/2021	26 Tammuz
Helen Shlensky	7/6/2021	26 Tammuz
Chaya Vener	7/6/2021	26 Tammuz
Naomi Weisman	7/6/2021	26 Tammuz
Harry Goldstein N/A	7/7/2021	27 Tammuz
Marie Horowitz-Golenz	7/7/2021	27 Tammuz
Charles Loeser	7/7/2021	27 Tammuz
Adele Miller	7/7/2021	27 Tammuz
Lena Rosen	7/7/2021	27 Tammuz
Alta Cutler	7/9/2021	29 Tammuz

## AV 5781

Benjamin Kobritz	7/10/2021	1 Av
Doris Israel	7/10/2021	1 Av
Marilyn Goldman Estocovitz	7/11/2021	2 Av
Helen Stone	7/11/2021	2 Av
Abe Striar	7/11/2021	2 Av
Grace Dorsky	7/12/2021	3 Av
John Gass	7/12/2021	3 Av
Jeanette Maltz	7/12/2021	3 Av
Sam Rubin	7/12/2021	3 Av
Meyer Miller	7/13/2021	4 Av
Leah Tabenken	7/13/2021	4 Av

Rosalie Trager	7/13/2021	4 Av
Elizabeth Brownworth	7/14/2021	5 Av
George Finn	7/14/2021	5 Av
Samuel Miller	7/14/2021	5 Av
Yehudit Shiro	7/14/2021	5 Av
Louis Serota	7/14/2021	5 Av
Sylvia Rolsky	7/16/2021	7 Av
Zelda Siegel	7/16/2021	7 Av
Sylvia Berson	7/17/2021	8 Av
Isador Rolnick	7/17/2021	8 Av
Jack Serota	7/17/2021	8 Av
Michelle Dennis	7/18/2021	9 Av
Irene Gerstein	7/18/2021	9 Av
Louis Saffer	7/18/2021	9 Av
Louis Weinstein	7/18/2021	9 Av
Sadie Ornstein	7/19/2021	10 Av
Miriam Rubin	7/19/2021	10 Av
Joseph Siegel	7/19/2021	10 Av
Irwin Lacritz	7/20/2021	11 Av
Jules Mogul	7/20/2021	11 Av
Irene Rudman	7/20/2021	11 Av
Leo Plesset	7/21/2021	12 Av
Alex Silver	7/21/2021	12 Av



## DONATIONS

### GENERAL FUND DONATION

*Nanci Miller*

*Nancy Unobskey*

*In memory of Sophie Berson & Lawrence Berson*

*From David & Marcia Lieberman*

*Wishing Good Health to Dean Stern*

*From Mark Kallick & David Moore*

### YAHREZIT FUND

*In memory of Ruth Snell*

*From Judith Muhlin*

*In memory of Clara Mogul*

*From Rae Gross*

*In memory of Jacob Shur*

*From Rhoda Shur*

*In memory of Max "Mickey" Miller*

*From Anita S. Nathan-Michelson*

*In memory of Max "Mickey" Miller*

*From Stephen & Ellen Miller*

*In memory of Harry Mogul, Roberta Mogul & Gert Gover*

*From Steven & Darlene Mogul*

*In memory of Ari Haber*

*From Kathryn Slott*

*In memory of Les Sinford*

*From Kathryn Slott*

*In memory of Thelma Slott Sayare*

*From Kathryn Slott*

*In memory of Aaron Slott*

*From Kathryn Slott*

### DISCRETIONARY FUND

Mazal Tov to Jennie Goldenberg on your July 16th birthday. We rejoice in your friendship. Kol Hakavod for your years of work on the Social Action committee & the Salvation Army among other things for CBI.

From, Nori & Doug Kazdoy, Michael Alpert & Barbara Goldscheider

*In memory of David Michelson*

*From Leonard & Renee Minsky*

*From Terri Haber*

*From Fred & Martha Goldner*

*In celebration of Bill & Louise Small's Golden Wedding Anniversary*

*From Andrea Brownstein*

### BOOK FUND

*Unveiling of Donald Goodwin*

*From Craig Goodwin*

### SOCIAL ACTION

*Nanci Miller*

*In honor of Theodore Brownwoth*

*From Jennifer Goldenberg*

### ALIYAH FUND

*Nanci Miller*

### YOM KIPPUR

*Nanci Miller*

### TREE OF LIFE

*In honor of our 15th Anniversary*

*Brian & Leah Kresge*

## OBITUARIES / LIFE HISTORIES

### FOR THE CEMETERY APP PROJECT

Another 100+ names are listed below. If a family member or close friend is on the list, please share any obituaries you may have kept, or compose a life history as you know it.

Please send to Miles at [mutheeman@gmail.com](mailto:mutheeman@gmail.com).

Morris, Lena	Morris, Eva
Morris, Herman	Newhouse, Arthur A.
Newhouse, Emma	Nisenbaum, Louis
Nisenbaum, Ida	Paul, Dora
Paul, John	Peppar, Annie
Pilot, Stella	Pilot, Samuel
Plesset, Lewis	Plevin, Sarah
Povich, Esther	Povich, Helen
Price, Sam	Price, Rebecca
Prilutsky, Rachel	Prilutsky, Morris
Pullman, Joseph	Pullman, Doris
Pullman, Hattie	Rachovsky, A
Radgik, Gertrude	Raichlen, Joseph
Raichlen, Sarah	Raichlin, Goldie
Rapaport, Anna	Resnick, Idale
Reuben, Rebecca	Rich, Louis (1922)
Rich, Louis (1951)	Rich, Simon
Rich, Sarah T.	Rich, Bella R.
Richardson, Ethel	Richardson, Katie
Richardson, John	Richardson, Ethel
Richlin, William	Robinson, Charles
Robinson, Sam	Rolnick, Louis
Rolsky, Henry	Rosen, Lazarus
Rosen, Minnie	Rosen, Ida "Chiedine"
Rosenberg, Benjamin	Rosenfeld, Harold
Roth, "Baby"	Rothschild, William
Rubin, Sarah	Rubin, Benjamin
Rubin, Isaac	Rudman, Moses
Rudman, Samuel Ellis	Rudman, S
Rudman, Freda	Rudman, Irene
Rudman, Lewis	Sanger, Richard
Savage, B	Savage, Hinda
Savitt, Samuel	Schiro, Sidney
Schwartzzenberg, Andrea	Sclair, Moses
Sclair, Geicheil	Segal, Dora
Sherman, Harry	Shiro, Nathan
Sibolsky, Celia	Sibolsky, Jacob
Sibolsky, Jacob	Silberg, Gerson
Silverman, Ida	Sklar, Philip

Slon, Mabel  
Solomon, Max  
Spear, Bessie  
Stadler, Barnett

Solomon, Louis  
Solomon, Bella  
Spear, Gertrude

## REMEMBERING DORIS GASS

Doris Fogelman Gass was born June 23, 1918, in Passaic, NJ. She was the daughter of Sarah and Isadore Fogelman, and had one brother, Robert. Doris was married to the late Julius Gass for 56 years living in Bangor, Maine, for most of their lives. They retired to Boca Raton, FL in 1975 until her health necessitated a move to the Eisenberg Assisted Living in Worcester, MA and then to the Jewish Healthcare Center.



Doris was active in the community and worked for many years as a designer for the family office supply business. She loved being involved with local theater, taught ceramics at the JCC, enjoyed all types of craftworks. Her grandchildren and great grandchildren had the privilege of wearing sweaters she knitted and overalls she 'decked out.'

She is survived by daughter and son-in-law, Denise & Steven Sosnoff of Paxton, MA, daughter Sharon and significant other, Jim Fish, of Seattle, WA, son and daughter in law, Jeffrey and Susan Gass of McMinnville, OR, and daughter in law Lynne Gass of Sanford, ME. Grandchildren include Michael Gass and his wife, Kimberly, of Portsmouth, NH, Jodi Sosnoff of Arlington, MA, and Richard Sosnoff and his wife, Marcela, of Panama. Great grandchildren include Zoe, Dorian and Latham Gass of Portsmouth, NH, and Isabella, Angelina, Olivia, and Nicolas Virzi Sosnoff of Panama. Along with the family, she will be missed by numerous nieces, long-time friends, and neighbors.

The family would like to thank the staff at Eisenberg Assisted Living and the Jewish Healthcare Center and Hospice Program for the wonderful care they gave Doris.

Donations in Doris' name can be made to Jewish Healthcare Center 629 Salisbury St, Worcester, MA 01609 or charity of one's choice.

**Congregation Beth Israel**  
**P.O. Box 1509**  
**Bangor, ME 04402**

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### CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

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Bill Siemers	Rabbi
Bernard Miller	Gabbai
Nathaniel Rosenblatt	Gabbai
Kathryn Slott	Gabbai
Nori Kazdoy	Gabbai
Leah Kresge	Director of Youth Education

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### OFFICERS OF THE CONGREGATION

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Brian Kresge	President
Nori Kazdoy	Vice President
Penny Lamhut	Treasurer
Nanci Miller	Secretary

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### SERVICE SCHEDULE

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Monday, Thursday, Friday - 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday - 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday - 8:30 a.m.