



**BETH DAVID**  
REFORM CONGREGATION

*Seek. Learn. Do.*



**B'HAR - B'CHUKOTAI**

**TORAH**  
Leviticus 25:1-27:34

**HAFTARAH**  
Jeremiah 16:19-17:14

**May 8-9, 2026 / 22 Iyar 5786**

## Counting the Omer on Shabbat ספירת העומר

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ עַל סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר:

Praised are You, Adonai our God, who makes us holy with mitzvot, commanding us to count the Omer.

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu melech ha'olam asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al s'firat ha'omer.*

**Shabbat, May 8-9 || 37th day of the Omer**

Hayom shiv'ah ush'loshim yom,

הַיּוֹם שִׁבְעָה וְשָׁלְשִׁים יוֹם,

shehem chamishah shavu'ot ush'nei yamim la'omer. : שְׁהֵם חֲמִשָּׁה שָׁבוּעוֹת וּשְׁנֵי יָמִים לְעֹמֶר:

Today is the thirty-seventh days, making five weeks and two days of the Omer.

### Torah Study

Please join us on Saturday morning for Torah Study in the library.

Rabbi Beth Kalisch  
Cantor Lauren Goodlev  
Executive Director: Daniel M. Ricken, PhD  
Director of Education: Rabbi Elisa F. Koppel, RJE  
Director of Early Childhood Programs:  
Sarah Gladwin Camp

Board President: Jane Horwitz  
Rabbi Emeritus: Henry Cohen, z"l  
Cantor Emerita: Lilia Kazansky, z"l  
Educator Emerita: Susan Levey

## SHIVA

David Kendall, Son of Benjamin & Virginia Kendall

## SHELOSHIM

Hazel Kagel, Sister of Lynne Pastor & Aunt of Miriam Buchanan (Adam)

Richard Natow, Son-in-law of Jack & Marcia Schultz, Brother-in-law of Debra Weinstein

Berta Bolotin, Mother of Zoya Zarukin & Mother-in-law of Pavel Zarukin

## Yahrzeits

Martin Adler

Sherrie Brodsky

Pearl Canetti

Sarle H. Cohen

Arthur A. Ebby

Oscar Feinstein

Winifred Guttersen

JD Herrman, II

Leon Hess

Emanuel S. Hirsch

Jacob Hoffman

Lena B. Kurland

Helene Levine

Diane S. Raynes

Anne Bernice Rush

Nathan Rutenberg

Jack Savitz

Lawrence Schoenberg

Abraham R. Taiber

Florence Zager

Irving Zinberg

Lynn Zuckerman

## Shavuot

Thursday, May 21 & Friday, May 22



**Thursday, May 21**

**5:00pm: Community Picnic**

Featuring our annual Torah Table, bouncy house, ice cream truck, and tons of sweet things (including blintzes)! Make your favorite recipe for our inaugural Cheesecake Bake Off!



**7:15pm: Shavuot Torah Study with Rabbi Kalisch**

**Friday, May 22**

**10:00am: Shavuot and Yizkor Service with Cantor Goodlev**

## Shavuot Teen Food Drive

Our teen youth group, BETHDY, is organizing a food drive to support efforts addressing food insecurity in the greater Philadelphia area. Our teens would greatly appreciate your support in helping make this initiative a success!

Teens are invited to come help with sorting and packing during the Shavuot picnic. Please RSVP to Rabbi Kalisch at [bkalisch@bdavid.org](mailto:bkalisch@bdavid.org) for full details.

See Beth David This Week for the list of needed items. Please bring items from this list to bins outside Beth David anytime up until the Shavuot picnic on May 21.



**Go for the Green Award Ceremony  
Saturday, May 9, 12:00pm**



Beth David Reform Congregation has been selected as a 2026 Go for the Green Institutional Award recipient, sponsored by the Lower Merion Environmental Advisory Council and the Lower Merion Shade Tree Commission. The awards ceremony will be held at Ludington Library on Saturday, May 9, at 12:00pm. The event is open to the public and is part of the first annual Sustainability Fair hosted by the Lower Merion EAC.



**Schmooze Before Services  
Friday, May 29**

The Beth David Sisterhood is sponsoring a Pre-Shabbat Schmooze for the Beth David community to come together before services. Please join if you can!

**Pride at Beth David!**



June is Pride Month! Please join us as we celebrate the LGBTQ+ community. Programs will include rainbow challah baking with Cantor Goodlev on June 4 and Pride Shabbat on June 5 (see below). Plus a local Pride Picnic with other Main Line congregations and kids' activities run by our very own Harmony School! Stay tuned for more information!

**Shabbat Under the Stars/Pride Shabbat  
Friday, June 5**

**5:45pm: Tot Shabbat / BBQ Dinner**  
**6:30pm: Shabbat Under the Stars/  
Pride Shabbat Service**



Kick off the summer with the Beth David community under the stars. Bring some blankets or a lawn chair and join for this very special service.



**Annual Meeting  
Sunday, June 7, 7:00pm**



Make your voice heard! Vote for next year's board. The Annual Meeting will be taking place over ZOOM at 7:00pm on June 7. All members are welcome to attend. We hope to see you online! More information and agenda coming soon!



**Beth David Goes to the Shore!**  
**Friday, June 26, 5:30pm**



Together with Shirat Hayam, Cantor Goodlev will be holding services at the beach behind the Ventnor library on Friday, June 26. Devotion by the Ocean includes music, prayer, inspiration and joy on the sand during Kabbalat Shabbat services starting at 5:30pm. Stay late for dinner at the Grinspans!



Please contact Daniel at [dricken@bdavid.org](mailto:dricken@bdavid.org) if you would like to participate in a carshare (either needing a ride or having a seat in your car)

**Harmony Camp at Beth David**  
**Summer Camp: August 17 – September 4**



**Ages 2-7 years**

**New this year: adding an older room for ages 8-9 years, week of August 31 – September 4 only**

Join us for dance, music, art, nature, and imagination, brought to life with a compassionate, enthusiastic staff.

Harmony is a creative, joyful, movement-based arts camp in which kids feel encouraged, supported, and can be their full selves. This year we are offering a full month of Summer Camp (sign up by the week) through early September when other camps have closed. Our experienced team of teachers will lead dance and movement classes, art and sensory experiences, play time in nature, music classes, group games, circle time, and freeplay inspired by our weekly themes. We spend lots of time outside on our beautiful tree-filled grounds, and summer camp includes water play.



**URJ Biennial: In Philadelphia!**  
**December 10-13**

Join the Union for Reform Judaism as the entire community gathers as a Movement for an unforgettable four-day immersive experience. Reform Jews, camp alumni,



clergy, and congregational lay and professional leaders from across North America will come together for a joyful, inspiring gathering filled with bold conversations, transformative learning, spiritual renewal, and powerful insights from today's leading Jewish voices.

