167TH ANNUAL MEETING OF

CONGREGATION BETHISRAEL

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025



Since our last annual meeting, we've hit high note after high note (appropriate enough in Cantor Cahana's retirement year)!

Our membership has grown by 67 households



Over the course of our High Holidays observances, we welcomed

498 guests,

and connected with each one after, inviting them to continue to participate in our services and programs.



33 Religious School Students became B'nei Mitzvah, as did 6 Adult B'not Mitzvah Celebrants, and our clergy officiated 13 weddings, 14 baby namings, oversaw 9 adult conversions, and 4 conversions of newborns born via surrogacy to gay Israeli dads—something that had previously been illegal in Israel





And speaking of little ones...

The Jennifer Barnum Luria Early Childhood Center turned one in February!







Our Jennie community thrives thanks to

- a parent committee that builds community beyond the classroom,
- enthusiastic interns from Lincoln High School's Future Educators program,
- and our talented teachers and CBI clergy, with whom our Jennie students celebrate Shabbat each Friday, and learn, sing, and make (messy) art projects as part of their Reform Jewish education throughout the year.

We now have

- 37 students (up significantly from the original 7 when we opened),
- 10 teachers,
- And 6 classrooms—twice our initial number!



The littlest members of our CBI community also celebrate—and sing!—**at twice monthly Tot Shabbats**, joyful, silly observances designed with mini mensches in mind.

We'll be taking a "**Tour de Tot**" this summer, holding Tot Shabbat celebrations in area parks and splash pads, so keep an eye out for details!



Our arts-integrated **Religious School** turned 153 this year, and (happy birthday indeed!) has surpassed its pre-pandemic enrollment numbers!

Our 5785 Religious School year:

- **306 enrolled students** enrolled from preschool through 12th grade.
- Parents joined their students for monthly family programs, including a grade school Passover Fair, Wimple Making and Consecration, and behind the scenes tour of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.
- 30 students participated in our youth Oneg!
 Choir and Oneg! Band, performing at our monthly Oneg! Shabbat celebrations (and joying potlucks after), at our annual Purim
 Schpiel, Mitzvah Day, Musical Haggadah and at a Chanukah concert with the Mazel Tones at
 Rose Schnitzer Manor.
- We celebrated Purim circus-style with our first ever off **campus adventure at JaJa PDX**.

- Our Religious School offered an exciting new opportunity for young performers this year: Dig In! A
 Musical Haggadah! Created by
 Artist-in-Residence Kim
 Schneiderman, this retelling of the
 Passover story was a huge hit with
 students and their families.
- A record 113 students will continue their Jewish education (or at least their GaGa training) at Jewish sleepaway camps this summer, and (don't tell them), each one will receive a postcard from their CBI Clergy.
- It's *possible* they got their taste for camp here at CBI, at our joyful Family Camp this spring on the Oregon coast!

- Our High School students got some quality time with the CBI clergy with quarterly dinner and discussions in their homes.
- They also put their values into action with 23 of them honing leadership skills as madrichim (teaching assistants).
 - 42 high schoolers took their sense of community well beyond our dome with social justice trips to
 - San Francisco (with a focus on environmental justice)
 - Washington, DC (with a focus on political advocacy) and
 - Alabama (with a focus on the history of the Civil Rights Movement).

Lifelong learning was a vital part of this year, with classes for adults serving 72 students, weekly online Torah Study, and lectures by, performances from, and conversations with renowned experts and international talents including:



- An informal lunch and conversation with Bishara Haroni, one half of the Israeli-Palestinian piano duo of **DuoAmal**,
- A lecture from **Steven Windmueller**, professor emeritus of Hebrew Union College, entitled "Gaza: What, as American Jews and Israelis, Have we Learned from this Conflict?",
- A presentation about Wadi Attir, a joint Bedouin-JNF project, entitled 'Harmony through Sustainability: Building a Sustainable Future for People and Nature in the Negev,"
- A conversation with discussion with IDF Captain (retired) and Golan Regional Council Deputy Head, Yaakov Selavan,
- A showing of "**The Syrian Bride,"** a film about the Druze community in the Golan.



We kept up with our favorite traditions, welcoming **Congressman Bennie** Thompson for our Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, Shabbat Service, Franklin Foer as our 5785 Oseran Family Lecturer, and observing Shabbat on the Plaza, Sisterhood Shabbat, Pride Shabbat, Reproductive Justice Shabbat, Veterans Shabbat, and more.





Our Purim Schpiel, Little **Schpiel of** Horrors, was very, very, very silly...



Women's Passover Seder offers perspective on shifting leadership



out's bistory, two of its three largest synagogues will string be led by female

Rabbi Ever Present of Co Shalom has been with the congregation

225M for Oregon in limbo after Trump cuts

Southwest Portland for 13 years.

Two prominent Portland synagogues to welcome their first senior female rabbis, marking a significant shift in leadership roles.

hiara Professa

on of women suthers sing laughter and per ctions for a postraditional ien's Sedet, an annual utures lewish synagogue in estand, Beth Israel, reimag or Passover ritual through a

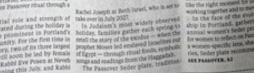
RUMP ADMINISTRATION

rial sole and strength of obrated during the holiday is sity. For the first time in runs of its three largest E Rabbl Eve Posen at Newh sings and seadings from the Haggadah this Job, and Rabbi



and for thy seatth.

on of Emergen



Federal officials effectively halted the to the Oregon Departure

CARD IN LOCAL DIA CO. 10 children on welfare agency's radar have died this year That's up from two in the

GOING NOWHERE

same time period last war

OF CRISE WELSARD, AS

COMING SUNDAY

...and our annual Women's Seder made the front page of the Oregonian!

was supposed to

In this year of **SHIR Joy!**, our celebration of Cantor Ida Rae Cahana's retirement, we gathered for:



 A world-premiere of Davening: a Musical Memoir of Grandfather's Prayer

 A Selichot Service and Kintsugi art workshop



- A commemoration of Kristallnacht with Hevreh, the Jewish World Music Ensemble
- Kabbalat Shabbat in Chanukah, an evening of music and light with musical virtuosi organist Bruce Neswick and trumpeter Aaron Kahn



• A weekend of study and song (and puppets) with Scholar-in-**Residence Cantor** Evan Kent, cosposored by CBI's Adult Education Committee



• The opening reception of Survival and **Intimations of Immortality: The Art of** Alice Lok Cahana, Rabbi Ronnie Cahana, and Kitra Cahana at the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education



- May the Fourth Be With You, a celestial concert in conjunction with Trinity Episcipal Cathedral
- And of course SHIR
 Joy! itself, a concert
 featuring Pink Martini
 (as well as your fellow
 congregants hitting the
 after party dance floor
 until nearly midnight).



Over the course of this year of song and celebration,



- SHIR Joy! raised over \$600,000 for our CBI community
- And if that was not enough (dayenu!), we exceeded Irving Levin and Stephanie Fowler's \$36,000 matching grant challenge to kick off the **Cantor Ida Rae Cahana Arts** and Culture Fund, ensuring that we can continue Cantor Cahana's work in bringing world class music to CBI!

With deep appreciation to our **SHIR Joy Series Sponsors**

Presenting Sponsor

Marcy Tonkin

Gold Sponsors

Platinum Sponsor

Harold and Arlene Schnitzer Family Fund of OJCF and Jordan Schnitzer

Diamond Sponsors

Leslie and Stephen Robinson Rose Rustin

Rabbi Michael Z. Cahana and Cantor Ida Rae Cahana Michelle and Steve Gradow Meryl and Gordon Haber Craig Hartzman and James John Janet Hoffman and John Harland The Holzman Foundation Rabbi Rachel Joseph and Rebbetzin Sara Spettel

Gold Sponsors (continued)

Kenneth and Joyce Lewis Sandra Lewis and James Rosenbaum **Flizabeth Menashe** Debra and Roscoe Nelson Rita and Robert Philip **Diane and David** Rosencrantz Lois Schnitzer (z"l) Martha Soltesz Kathy Davis-Weiner and Michael Weiner

Statement of Financial Position

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Statement of Financial Position					
		March 31, 2025		June 30, 2024	
ASSETS					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	783,907	\$	1,035,803	
Grants receivable		-		-	
Accounts receivables					
Unrestricted, net of allowance		653,028		43,085	
Temporarily restricted, net of allowance		245,000		762,168	
Prepaid expenses		79,756		42,352	
Total current assets		1,761,691		1,883,408	
Noncurrent assets					
Other		26,271		26,876	
Long-term investments		12,867,240		12,574,773	
Beneficial Interest in perpetual trust		538,043		538,043	
Land, property and furnishings, net		6,387,126		6,387,126	
Total noncurrent assets		19,818,680		19,526,818	
Total assets	\$	21,580,371	\$	21,410,226	
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS					
Current Liabilities					
Note Payable	\$	265,000	\$	565,000	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		158,358		213,801	
Total current liabilites		423,358		778,801	
Deferred compensation		107,302		107,302	
Deferred revenue		24,470		306,700	
Total liabilities and deferred income		555,130		1,192,803	
Net assets					
Net assets, Beginning		20,217,423		17,858,060	
Change in net assets		807,818		2,359,363	
Total net assets		21,025,241		20,217,423	

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

Nine months Budget for fiscal Prior fiscal year ending year ending ending March 31, 2025 June 30, 2025 June 30, 2024 Revenues, gains, and other support Annual Membership Dues 1.534.506 1.520.000 1.517.717 310,358 Tuition, fees and sales, net income 295,484 288.758 577,346 Fundraisers, Events, & EFI - net income 307 500 360 402 Other Use fees and special event income 61,911 39,500 56.457 Rental (Elite Apts), net income 54,466 81.050 60.423 76,955 Emerson --CARES Act (ERTC Credits) 35,730 Investment Income 573.643 1,286,749 Other unrestricted income 91,475 76,027 Net change in beneficial interest in perpetual trust 19,500 24,000 32,000 Total unrestricted support 3,208,331 2,282,408 3,791,218 Net assets released from restrictions: 261.826 308.411 Endowment support 0 Tribute and other temporarily restricted fund donations 357,489 204,420 1,655,706 Temp restricted funds support released into operations 555,932 3.350.216 (555.932) (3,350,216) Temp restricted funds support released from restrictions Total restricted support 357,489 466,246 1,964,117 Total revenues, gains and other support 3,565,820 2,748,654 5,755,335 Expenses Salaries, Benefits & Related Expenses 1,585,706 2,124,781 1,965,896 67,500 90,000 90,000 **URJ Dues** Program Related Expenses 211,322 198,670 305,773 Building and Grounds & Maintenance and Major Care 208.890 187.755 2.874.666 General Office & Admin Expenses 75.675 120.871 77,731 91,073 88,709 82,186 Insurance Utiliites 101,507 129,106 152,413 Security 21,440 29,788 35,888 Emerson 51,944 0 106,128 62,975 152.010 Other Depreciation and capitalization (2,513,024) -Cemeterv 225.577 145.000 120,489 The Jennie net operating loss 63 184 Total expenses 2,758,002 3,177,654 3,395,972 Total change in net assets 807,818 (429,000)2,359,363 Net assets at beginning of year 20,217,423 17,858,060 Net assets at end of the period (including The Jennie) 21,025,241 20,217,423

There were SO many ways to connect with CBI in 5785! This year, WRJ/Beth Israel Sisterhood continued their fundraising efforts, social action advocacy, spiritual and religious programming, and community building events!







Annual Report Card 2024-2025

Celebrating over 100 years of Women of Reform Judaism/Beth Israel

Ellen Zellinger, President

The mission of WRJ/Beth Israel Sisterhood is to bring women together and to support and benefit Congregation Beth Israel and the community by providing opportunities for friendship, service, spiritual growth, and learning.

202 WRJ/ Beth Israel Members

HIGHLIGHTS

Philanthropic and Fundraising:

- \$3,500 donated to CBI religious school from Gift Shop profits
- \$1,000 donated to URJ Camp Kalsman and Camp Newman
- \$1,800 donated to sponsor and coordinate the Special Community Seder for 60 members of the greater Portland Jewish community who would otherwise not attend a seder, partnering with JFCS w/ 30 volunteers/drivers.
- Donated \$2,200 to CBI Women's Seder (served as greeters, assisted with setup and preparing sweets and Charoset)
- Honey Fundraiser 56 jars sold
- 2nd annual Naked Lady clothing swap net earnings \$805
- 1st annual Mishloach Manot fundraiser net earnings \$1,200
- WRJ YES Fund honor roll for donating \$945

Social Action:

- Sisterhood-Sponsored Shabbat on the Plaza July 14th
- Organ Donation Education by Lara Guroff
- Collected items for Transition Project at Chanukah program
- 20 bags of clothing donated to Rose Haven from Clothing Swap
- 1 member attended the WRJ Social Action conference in Washington DC
- Packed and Donated 100 hygiene bags to Rose Haven on Mitzvah Day
- Participated in Rose Haven walk on Mother's Day

• Promoted participation in the World Zionist Congress vote.

Spiritual Growth & Religious Programming:

- Havdalah Service November 2nd followed by group dinner at Hostel Café
- Contributed to Women's Jewish Round Table's Havdalah service
- Sisterhood led Havdalah Services at Robison
- Organized a Sisterhood Shabbat w/ extended Oneg

Friendship & Community;

- Organized programs to bring congregants together including Chanukah White Elephant event (30+ participants), Jewish Yoga run by Cantor Cahana and Cantor Green (20+ participants), monthly Mahjong
- Held 4 Schmoozes for new CBI members
- Monthly meetups at Hostel Café for new and existing members
- Membership event with rank choice voting speaker from the League of
 Women Voters
- Winter warming packages and Sukkot packages sent to college students.
- Donated to past member's GoFundMe through our Bikur Cholim Fund
- Distributed Sisterhood e-newsletter to over 600 recipients
- Organized and served breakfast for CBI's Mitzvah Day

Service, Learning & Accolades

- 4 attended Pacific District board meeting in Pasadena, CA
- 3 attended Pacific District area weekend at Camp Kalsman
- Operated and staffed CBI gift shop providing CBI and Community with Judaica, Tallit & more. And pop-up shop in the CBI administration office
- 3 members served on WRJ Pacific District board including 1 past president
- 1 member serves as Pacific District vice-president of area directors

Brotherhood continues to build membership this year with several social action and fun events, including:

- Whiskey and poker nights
- Hike and river boat ride
- Trader Joe's food donation pickups
- Annual Latkes & Vodkas contest
- Mitzvah Day sandwich making
- Shabbat on the Plaza Hot Dog BBQ's
- Upcoming Hops game (July 22)
- CBI Family Picnic at Oaks Park (August 17)
- New Member Sunday School Brunch for Dads
- Offsite Retreats to the Coast & BB Camp



- Mitzvah Day 2025: 268 participants engaged Tikkun Olam activities during this annual event
- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Shabbat Service and Community Celebration with guest speaker Congressman Bennie Thompson
- Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service, our second annual day for volunteering
- Robert Peltz (z"l) High Holiday Funds for Food: donations of over \$32,000 allocated



- Every Voice, Every Vote with the URJ's RAC (Religious Action Center), postcards and more to combat voter suppression
- Community Holiday Dinner (aka Christmas Dinner):over 300 meals shared, hand knit hats and scarves gifted, cosponsored with Lift UP
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- Tikkun Olam Together: a CBI Circle, opportunities to volunteer with a CBI group
- Food Drives for Lift UP: nut butters during winter, canned fish and meat during spring
- NW Towers: donation pick up for Sunday Food Pantry and deliveries of Lift UP food boxes
- Refugee Shabbat Service: participation in HIAS sponsored worldwide observance
- "Know Your Rights" training
- Collection of Period Products, in partnership with WRJ/Beth Israel Sisterhood



- Interfaith Alliance on Poverty: addressing root causes of poverty, CBI is member congregation
- Reigning Roses Walk: CBI sponsored largest team in this year's benefit for Rose Haven Women's and Children's Day Shelter and raised over \$21,000
- Partnerships, building connections and support for community organizations with JFCS, Lift UP, Rose Haven, Blanchet House, Project Lemonade, William Temple House, **Ecumenical Ministries** of Oregon and others



Our IDEA Committee has established a goal to guide their ongoing efforts:

• By 2026, CBI aims to deeply understand and connect with its diverse congregation. Through our inclusive practices and commitment to fostering a genuine sense of belonging, we will ensure that every member feels valued, essential, and embraced as an integral part of our community.

Their work this year has included:

- Collaborating with staff to engage a **new website developer** and to enhance what we communicate with regard to our inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility practices.
- Celebrating Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance and Inclusion month.
- Developing an Event Planning Checklist and Guide to promote inclusive programs and sharing the guide with staff, clergy, Religious School, and other CBI committees.
- Getting CBI listed in **Keshet's Equality Directory**, thanks to the leadership of Rabbi Joseph and Phyllis Oster.

Looking ahead, the Committee will

- Collaborate with clergy and staff to make the slides displayed in the sanctuary more readable from an accessibility perspective.
- Coordinate with other groups within CBI to use post-event surveys to learn more about members' experiences and interests.

We rolled out our **CBI Circles** program in 5785, which invites congregants to connect over shared interests and passions in lay-led groups focused on everything from exploring Oregon wine country to deepening Jewish knowledge to memoir writing to aviation, and more! This program includes:

- **22 active Circles** (with ideas for many more)!
- 124 Circle members
- An average of over **10 meetups a month**

We also introduced a new group for Jews in their 20s and 30s from across the Portland area: **Omek**.

- Omek hosts events and community opportunities for CBI members and nonmembers alike.
- For those who want to dig a little deeper (Omek means depth in Hebrew, after all) our Omek l'Chodesh cohort meets monthly for study, this year exploring the theme of "return."

In Omek's Inaugural Year:



- 15 people signed up for a monthly cohort of learning with clergy and book club combo situation
- 30 came to Chanukah
 Cooking
- 46 came to **Tashlish**
- 63 came to **Break Fast**
- 97 came to Young Adult
 Seder with partners
 Moishe Pod, Congregation
 Neveh Shalom, Federation, and PJC

Congregation Beth Israel's Legacy Circle

Joy Alkalay* Anonymous William* and Sydney Baer Carole Barkley Monte and Frances Bettman* Steven and Patricia Bilow Philip and Fay Blank* Henry and Gerel Blauer* George and Harriet Bodner* Lynn Bonner Howard and Raquel Byer Rabbi Michael and Cantor Ida Rae Cahana Lance and Deborah Caldwell Bernard Carr* Mandi and Stuart Chestler Daniel J. and Elizabeth O. Cohn* Edward* and Margery Cohn Roger and Midge Cone James and Ilene Davidson Sylvia Davidson* Barry and Bonnie Davis Berta M. Delman* Susan Diamond* Nettie Director* Simon and Helen Director* Ned Duhnkrack Barbara Durkheimer

Stuart and Leah Durkheimer* Lester Fisendorf* Judith Ann Epstein* Marie Louise Feldenheimer* Jen and Howard Feldman Martin Fishel* Eric* and Robin Flamm Lynn and Charlie* Gelber Thomas Georges III* and Linda Georges Thomas and May Georges* William and Shirley Gittelsohn* Richard and Beth Glassman Maurice* and Ilene Goldberg Arthur and Martha Goldsmith* David and Tiffany Goldwyn Douglas and Lila* Goodman Michelle and Steve Gradow Nancy Green* Rachel Halupowski Craig Hartzman and James John Margaret Hasson Celia Heims* Irwin* and Renee Holzman and family Benjamin* and Janice Isenberg Rabbi Rachel L. Joseph James and Rhonda Kennedy Steve and Marilyn Kerman Anese* and Bernard* Klein Charles and Lois Koteen Henry Kunowski and Kerstin Schulz Theodore D. Lachman*

Robert and Sally Landauer Gerald* and Evelyn Leshgold Glen and Lisa Levy Joan Lindholm* David and Beverly Lipman* LeeLowenson Rita Lubliner* Arnold Maizels* **Richard and Harriet Maizels** Howard B and Robin L Marcus Lynn L. Marks Barry and Susan Menashe Joanne Van Ness Menashe and Joe Menashe Ruben* and Elizabeth Menashe **Robert and Robin Mesher** Alan and Lana Miller Edith O. Miller* Lloyd and Beverly Miller* Ted Nelson and Curt* Shaffstall Robert Neuberger* Jeanne Newmark John and Hulda Neustadter* Kenneth and Debra Novack Jackie and Burton* Nudelman Victor Nudelman* Henry* and Nancy Oseran

Congregation Beth Israel's Legacy Circle

Raymond and Dorothy Packouz* Mark* and Judy Peterman Randie and Mark Peterson Robert and Rita Philip Harold* and Jane Pollin Gerald and Lois Poplack* Anita Reinhorn* Philip and Dorothy Reiter* Laurie and Bert Rogoway Gayle Romain Millard and Carolyn Rosenblatt* David and Diane Rosencrantz Alan* and Eve Rosenfeld Lloyd B. Rosenfeld* Sally Rosenfeld and Andrew Frank Tiffany and Eric Rosenfeld John and Marti Rosenthal Raymond and Dorothy Packouz* Mark^{*} and Judy Peterman Randie and Mark Peterson Robert and Rita Philip Harold* and Jane Pollin Gerald and Lois Poplack* Anita Reinhorn* Philip and Dorothy Reiter* Laurie and Bert Rogoway Gayle Romain Millard and Carolyn Rosenblatt*

David and Diane Rosencrantz Alan* and Eve Rosenfeld Lloyd B. Rosenfeld* Sally Rosenfeld and Andrew Frank Tiffany and Eric Rosenfeld John and Marti Rosenthal Lawrence Rosenthal* Franklin Rosumny **Richard and Deanne Rubinstein** Arnold* and Rose Rustin Hal Ruthizer* Bunny and Jerry Sadis Ken and Loree Sakai Benjamin Sandler and Laura Jamerson Jeaneatta "Rusty" Sautter* Norman* and Elaine Savinar Ralph and Bernice Schlesinger* Harold and Arlene Schnitzer* Harold and Arlene Schnitzer CARE Foundation Leonard* and Lois* Schnitzer Manuel and Edith Schnitzer* Sandra Schnitzer Herbert and Shirley Semler Ruth and Larry Semler* Joel Seres and Sandra Lamer Seres **Christopher Setzer** Douglas and Dorothy* Sherman Estelle Director Sholkoff* Laura Silverman

Michael Simon and Suzanne Bonamici Milton and Marilyn Singer* Jill Newman Slansky Mortimer and Alice Mary Solomon* **Richard Solomon and Alyce Flitcraft** Ladislao* and Martha Soltesz Ruth Spear* Bruce Spiegel* Arthur Steinhorn Frances Stern* Naomi Strauss Marvin* and Gloria Swire Ron^{*} and Marcy Tonkin **Bianca and Tony Urdes** Robert P. Weil* Joella Werlin and Robert *Autrey Isam and Rose White* Jeff and Lynn Wolfstone Jennifer and Kenneth Zeidman Jerome and Zelda Zeidman* Alan^{*} and Janet Zell

*Of blessed memory

Whether you're a brand new Jennie student, or, like our Religious School, celebrating your 153rd birthday,

THANK YOU

for being a part of this astonishing year.