



4905 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2953, TEL 412 621-6566

Dear Families,

Welcome back to school. We appreciate your patience as we prepared registration for the new school year. After a year of transition, we are working hard to integrate all your feedback as we move forward with our new institution. With thanks to Andrea Ruttenberg for the survey she put together and analyzed, we have narrowed in on five areas of concern which will be our special focus for the upcoming year. They are:

- High-quality teachers
- Belonging to the class/school community
- Synagogue connection
- Jewish identity / Pride in being Jewish
- Hebrew learning

We have begun making adjustments to address these priorities. The Religious School Committee met and came up with several good ideas. Rabbi Freedman and Rabbi Stephanie are working together to integrate their suggestions.

This year, as you register, you will see some obvious changes. First, we are shifting to a platform called ShulCloud for registration. While some of you are familiar with this platform, it will be new to many. It will require a small learning curve, but we are here to help. Follow the instructions below and reach out to Rabbi Stephanie if you encounter any issues.

Chugim and Bagels, our two biggest hits, will stay. Please plan to arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled class time so you can socialize and enjoy breakfast on us. We are returning to chugim for 4th and 5th grades during second hour and 6th and 7th grades during first hour. Our 8th grade will be separate from the 7th grade except for Holocaust studies in the spring. (More details to follow.) We have a brand new high school program, allowing students to choose the topics and times that are most convenient and interesting for them. And we have added inclusion specialists to our leadership team to help our teachers integrate all students into the classroom.

Sunday Judaic classes for K-8 will continue to meet from 9:30a – 12:00p. We are revisiting our options for Hebrew this year. We want to acknowledge the possibility that the Hebrew offering Sunday at noon may not be feasible to continue this year. In general, learning outcomes in noon Hebrew were not as good compared to our other offerings and three different Hebrew options is logistically challenging. That said, we understand that some families appreciate having this option. Our tentative plan is to retain this option so long as we can secure a sufficient number of teachers with the understanding that this program will now also be a family Hebrew option, meaning that students will have an adult coach with them. Our other options are:



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- **Morning Family Hebrew:** This is the most popular program. 8:30a – 9:30a before Judaics. A parent (or another adult) sits with the student, and you learn together. It moves quickly with parents acting as coaches or learning as well. Parents – no prior Hebrew knowledge is required for level 1; however basic letter and vowel recognition does help with higher levels.
- **Wednesday Afternoon Hebrew:** This is our best option. This program runs from 4:30p – 6:30p. (Students are welcome to relax in the lobby as early as 3:00p.) We have tefillah for the first half hour which lets us discuss the meaning and use of prayer. This is followed by 90 minutes of class including a snack break. It is more leisurely, allowing for a variety of activities. Wednesday Hebrew classes allow more time for students to question, practice and grow their own spirituality.

As mentioned above, to best serve all our families, we have added an inclusion team to our staff. Parents, sharing with us all known diagnoses, IEPs and 504 plans will allow them to provide the most individualized support to your child(ren). This information will be kept confidential and can be sent via mail or email to Rabbi Stephanie at swolfe@beitkulanu.org (4905 Fifth Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15213).

To Register, please log into your ShulCloud account at www.beitkulanu.org. All returning school families, regardless of their synagogue affiliation, have an account through the Beit Kulanu website. Click LOGIN at the top right corner, click MY ACCOUNT, choose ENROLL TO SCHOOL NOW, and follow the instructions. If you do not have a ShulCloud account with us, you will first need to complete the information form [HERE](#) so that we can create a ShulCloud account for you. We will then send you information to register.

As a reminder for your registration:

- All students **and madrichim** must be registered through the ShulCloud portal. There is no charge for the madrichim team although an additional application, completed by the student, is required (Click [HERE](#) for the form).
- We encourage all high school students (including Madrichim) to register for the High School Program – the fees are minimal and the rewards are great! To learn more, either contact Rabbi Freedman (rabbifreedman@beitkulanu.org) or attend an orientation session on August 25 (Zoom; email us for the link. Individual high school events may require additional fees.
- Some of the information fields on your registration will autofill. Please be sure to review everything carefully to ensure that all information is correct.
- **Please note: There is the option to add an additional parent under each child. This is only for parents who are not part of your synagogue membership (parents living outside of your home.) Additionally, emergency contacts need to be adults who are not part of your synagogue membership.**



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- If you are affiliated with Congregation Beth Shalom, you need to be a member in good standing to register for school. If you are a member of Beit Kulanu, please remember to make your annual membership pledge before registering for Religious School. Click [HERE](#) to make your pledge.

Tuition Fees for the 2026-2027 religious school year

Grade & Program	Times and Days	Tuition before Aug. 25	Tuition after Aug. 25
K – 2 nd grade	Sundays 9:30a – 12:00p	\$ 685	\$ 735
3 rd – 6 th grade Sunday EARLY Family Hebrew and Judaics	Sundays 8:30a – 9:25a AND Sundays 9:30a – 12:00p	\$1155	\$1205
3 rd – 6 th grade Sunday NOON Family Hebrew and Judaics	Sundays 9:30a – 12:00p AND Sundays 12:00p – 1:00p	\$1155	\$1205
3 rd – 6 th grade Sunday Judaics and Wednesday Hebrew	Sundays 9:30a – 12:00p AND Wednesdays 4:30p – 6:30p	\$1155	\$1205
7 th and 8 th grades	Sundays 9:30a – 12:00p	\$575	\$625
Madrichim (9 th – 12 th grades)	Sundays 8:30a – 12:00p or 9:30a – 12:00p	No fee	No fee
High School Program	Times and Dates vary	\$36	\$36
Unaffiliated students are billed an additional \$1500 per student to cover the expenses that Beth Shalom and Beit Kulanu subsidize for their members. Those who are not members of Beit Kulanu or Beth Shalom will be billed a \$200 security fee per family. Families who are attending for the first year and are not affiliated with a Pittsburgh area synagogue are exempt from the \$1500 but will still be billed for the security fee.			

- “Early registration” pricing will continue through August 25th.
- You will have the option of paying in full using your credit card or ACH or splitting up your payment into multiple payments to spread your tuition through April 2027.
- If you are interested in membership at Beit Kulanu, please contact Drew Barkley (412-621-6566 x 117 or dbarkley@beitkulanu.org). If you are interested in membership at Congregation Beth Shalom, please contact Robert Gleiberman (412-421-2288 or rgleiberman@bethshalompgh.org).
- Scholarships are available to members of Beit Kulanu and Beth Shalom. Click [HERE](#) for the scholarship application. Return it to Rabbi Stephanie (swolfe@beitkulanu.org) who will forward it to the appropriate synagogue.