



Beth El Synagogue Bar/Bat Mitzvah Catering & Facilities Information

2021-2022/5782

Shabbat Morning Kiddush Information	2
Kashrut & Catering Guidelines	3
Kosher Symbols	6
Shabbat Observance	7
Facilities Information	8
Simcha Planning (schedule & contact list)	9

***Please review all the attached carefully and submit the online Simcha
Reservation Form that you will find at***

<https://besyn.shulcloud.com/form/MitzvahSimchaReservation>

as soon as possible



Beth El Synagogue Shabbat Morning Kiddush Information

Beth El Synagogue observes each simcha as a community and over the last several years it has become customary for families to sponsor the Shabbat Lunch and Kiddush as part of their life cycle celebration (see below for specific information).

Please contact Spirit of Asia to review all details and options available. **In addition to sponsorship, families are also asked to provide:**

- 70 dozen assorted sweets and baked goods

Tax Benefit Information

A portion of your generous sponsorship can be treated as a tax-deductible donation to Beth El. To receive a tax receipt, please contact Beth El's Finance Department at Beth El at 952-873-7304 or finance@bethelsynagogue.org once the invoice has been fulfilled.

The tax-deductible portion for sponsoring a Congregational Shabbat Lunch and Kiddush is:

- **The entire cost of the Kiddush, and,**
- **The cost of congregational guest count for the luncheon.**

Baked goods and assorted sweets must be from approved kosher bakeries and/or from private homes in accordance with the Beth El home baking guidelines (see pages 5 - 6) and appropriate for dairy meals ONLY. All deliveries must be made by 3:00 PM on Friday and/or on the day preceding Jewish or legal holidays.



Beth El Synagogue Kashrut & Catering Guidelines

Beth El views kashrut as a central Jewish mitzvah (commandment), expressing our commitment to Jewish values. As such, we observe the laws of kashrut and all who use the synagogue kitchen are expected to be respectful of the below guidelines.

Kashrut Standards & Supervision

- All foods served in the synagogue must be kosher.
- Kashrut standards are maintained under the supervision of the rabbis (or their designated representatives) and use of the synagogue kitchen is granted contingent upon adherence to these standards.
- Beth El's Kitchen supervisor or a mashgiach (kashrut supervisor) certified by the rabbi must be present whenever baking, cooking, serving, or cleaning occurs in the main Beth El kitchen. The mashgiach will ensure that utensils, ingredients and preparation follow Beth El's kashrut standards; that safety standards are adhered to; and that equipment is used properly.
- **When an outside caterer is present, a fee will be charged for supervision and dishwashing. To make arrangements please call Spirit of Asia Catering. The caterer must be approved by the rabbis. Please contact Rabbi Davis at adavis@bethelsynagogue.org or 952.873.7311.**

Home-baked and Store-bought Goods

Home-baked Goods, General Policy

- It is preferable to serve baked goods from an established kosher caterer/bakery or Spirit of Asia Catering. In addition, Beth El's Snyder Family (dairy) kitchen is available to be used by affiliates and congregants to prepare baked goods.
- It is permissible to serve home baked goods to celebrate or mark a family lifecycle event such as a baby naming, bar/bat mitzvah, wedding, etc. provided the below standards are upheld.
- Home baked goods may only be served with a dairy or pareve meal.
- Home baked goods may be brought into the social halls and plated in the bar area but not brought into the kitchens.
- It is understood that individuals, families and organizations sponsoring events and/or serving food at Beth El will respect policies and procedures and will communicate them to family and friends so that they can be respectful of this highly regarded tradition.
- **Desserts brought from an establishment without approval will not be served. Instead, they will be set aside for the family to pick up.**



Home Baking Guidelines

Beth El permits the bringing of dairy baked goods from homes for dairy meals only subject to the following requirements:

- All mixes and additives must have an approved *hekhsher* (kosher symbol.) If there is a question regarding the acceptance of a given symbol, please consult Rabbi Davis.
- Only vegetable shortening with an appropriate *hekhsher* may be used.
- Items baked at home must be baked in new, disposable baking pans.
- All mixing bowls and utensils used in preparation must be either new or used only for non-meat purposes. Mixing bowls or utensils used at any time in meat preparation may not be used for baked goods being brought into the synagogue.
- Baked goods may be brought to the synagogue only in previously unused, disposable containers.
- Suggested alternatives to home baked goods are scheduling a baking day in the synagogue's kitchen or purchasing baked goods from a certified kosher bakery.
- Baked goods from home may be served only on disposable dishes or trays or on doilies; they may not come into direct contact with Beth El dishes or utensils.
- Challah is allowed only from a certified bakery or baked in the Beth El Kitchen.

Food Service Policy

All items served at Beth El must be:

- Prepared in our kitchens under supervision
- Or be brought in from a kosher establishment (see the approved list of caterers and bakeries)
- Or be commercially prepared items that have an acceptable *hekhsher*
- Commercially baked items that some may consider "ingredient-kosher" (Bruegger's bagels, etc.) may not be brought into the kitchens or social halls or served at Beth El at all.

If you have any questions regarding our kashrut, please contact Rabbi Davis.



List of Approved Kosher Dessert Establishments

Basil Pizza

5101 Minnetonka Boulevard
St Louis Park, MN 55416

Bogart's Doughnut Company

904 West 36th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55408
(Pareve)

Breadsmith

3939 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424
(Pareve)

Breadsmith

1816 Plymouth Road
Minnetonka, MN 55305
(Pareve)

Breadsmith

1579 Grand Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55105
(Pareve)

Byerly's Kosher Bakery

3777 Park Center Blvd
Minneapolis, MN 55416
(Request or purchase directly from kosher counter. Pareve)

Dunkin' Donuts

7280 42nd Avenue North
New Hope, MN 55427

Edible Arrangements – Edina

5824 Lincoln Drive
Edina, MN 55436
(Dairy and Pareve)

House of Halva

928 W. 7th St., #109 E
St. Paul, MN

The Kosher Spot

4217 Minnetonka Blvd
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
(Pareve and Dairy)

Nothing Bundt Cakes

8435 Joiner Way
Eden Prairie, MN 55439
(Dairy)

Nothing Bundt Cakes

8085 Wedgewood Lane N
Maple Grove, MN 55369
(Dairy)

Nothing Bundt Cakes

12987 Ridgedale Drive
Minnetonka, MN 55305
(Dairy)

Nothing Bundt Cakes

1580 Grand Ave
Saint Paul, MN 55105
(Dairy)

Prime Deli & Restaurant

4224 Minnetonka Blvd
Minneapolis, MN 55416
(Pareve)

Sebastian Joe's Ice Cream Cafe

4321 Upton Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55410
(Most ice cream flavors are kosher dairy. Baked goods are not)

Sebastian Joe's Ice Cream Café

1007 W Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55405
(Most ice cream flavors are kosher dairy. Baked goods are not)

Vitali's Bistro

1300 Nicollet Mall #2270
Minneapolis, MN 55403

In addition, *hekhshered* desserts may be found in St. Louis Park at Costco, 5801 W 16th St and Cub Foods, 3620 Texas Ave S and at some Target stores. Be sure to check for kosher symbols

Please note that only the specific locations listed above are approved Kosher. Check mspkosher.org for local availability.



Common Bakeries that are NOT Approved

Wuollet Bakery – all locations

The following is a list of common hekhsherim (kosher symbols) that you might find at local stores:



Please note that a simple “K” is not an acceptable hekhsher.

All deliveries must be made by 3:00 pm on Friday and/or on the day preceding the legal or Jewish holiday.



Beth El Synagogue Shabbat Observance Guidelines

In order to preserve the spirit of Shabbat we ask you to adhere to the following policies:

- Deliveries are not permitted during Shabbat or on legal and Jewish holidays. All deliveries must be made by 3:00 PM on Friday and/or on the day preceding the legal or Jewish holiday.
- Foods leftover from an event must be picked up by noon Monday following the event except when the Monday is a legal or Jewish holiday. If that is the case, the food must be picked up by noon the first permissible day.
- Photography and videotaping are not permitted during Shabbat. To schedule a weekday or Sunday photography and/or video session, please contact Pam Friedman to schedule that time. However, live streaming is available, and an archive of the streaming is usually available after the service. Links can be sent to you the following week upon request.
- Writing is not permitted during *Shabbat*. Sign-in boards and guest books should not be displayed until Shabbat has ended.
- Gifts, gift-checks, and cards should not be brought to Beth El during Shabbat.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices may not be used anywhere in the building on Shabbat.

Please confirm Shabbat beginning and ending times with the Beth El office.



Beth El Synagogue Facilities Information

In order to help ensure you and your guests have a successful and safe experience at Beth El during your simcha celebrations, please note the following:

- All room set-ups and equipment requests must be received at least two weeks prior to the event.
- Beth El Synagogue is not liable for any action resulting from drinking alcoholic beverages by your guests.
- Beth El Synagogue is a smoke-free building. In addition, no smoking is permitted on the grounds during Shabbat.
- Please notify Pam Friedman, Beth El's Events Coordinator, if you will be using helium balloons.
- Beth El Synagogue is not responsible for any lost or stolen items. Please always protect your valuables.
- Children must be always supervised by an adult or responsible teenager. Children are not permitted to loiter in the hallways or restrooms at any time.

Important note about deliveries:

Food, flowers, or other items need to be delivered by 3:00 pm on Friday or on the eve of yom tov, unless a specific exemption to this deadline has been granted by the Rabbi. Any baked goods brought/delivered after that time will not be served at your simcha.



Beth El Synagogue Facilities & Catering Simcha Planning

Space priority is given to bar/bat mitzvah families. Ideally, we would like to know your needs 12 months before your simcha. Additional celebrations and events may also take place on the Shabbat morning or Friday night of your child's bar/bat mitzvah. These additions enhance the service and the celebration. Families will be notified as soon as the schedule for these additional programs are known.

Schedule

1 year to 6 months prior to your Simcha

- Submit Simcha Reservation Form on-line at:
<https://besyn.shulcloud.com/form/MitzvahSimchaReservation>.
- Review this Guide. Call us with questions.

6 months to 4 months prior to your Simcha

- Contact Spirit of Asia to discuss catering options.
- Review this Guide again – as your simcha nears, your questions may change.

4 months to 2 months prior to your Simcha

- Finalize details with Spirit of Asia.
- Finalize room set up and all other facilities details, including AV needs (if applicable), with Pam Friedman, Events Coordinator at pfriedman@bethelsynagogue.org or 952.873.7300.

Important Beth El Contact Information

Events Coordinator	Pam Friedman	952.873.7300
pfriedman@bethelysynagogue.org		

Information/questions related to facilities set up including AV needs (if applicable)

Beth El Caterer (Spirit of Asia)	David Hill	612.724.4056
spiritofasia@comcast.net		

Information/questions/planning for all food needs/kashrut

Associate Director	Liz Rappaport	952.873.7314
lrappaport@bethelsynagogue.org		

Information/questions regarding event planning and scheduling

Finance Department		952.873.7304
finance@bethelsynagogue.org		

Financial questions

Assistant to Cantor Tisser and the B'nai Mitzvah Program	Anna Nett	952.873.7313
anett@bethelsynagogue.org		

B'nai Mitzvah Program questions

Ritual & B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator	Jill Blustin	952.873.7315
jblustin@bethelsynagogue.org		

B'nai Mitzvah Program & Ritual questions