

**CONGREGATION BETH AM
EDUCATION AND B'NEI MITZVAH TIMELINE**

BEGIN EDUCATION

Gan Beth Am- Begin Religious Education - 3 and 4 year olds

3rd Grade - Begin Hebrew School

2-3 Months Before B'nei Mitzvah Dates are Distributed:
Parents are surveyed regarding *B'nei Mitzvah* dates.

2 YEARS PRIOR TO B'NEI MITZVAH SERVICE

January/February- 2 Years prior to the Calendar Year of Bar/Bat Mitzvah
B'nei Mitzvah dates are assigned at a Parents' Meeting with the B'nei Mitzvah Committee, Rabbi and Cantor. This meeting covers the religious meaning of *B'nei Mitzvah* as well as Congregational policies. This meeting is for parents only.

March/April - 2 Years prior to Calendar Year of Bar/Bat Mitzvah (1 month after dates are assigned)
Deposits are due to hold a *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* date.

9 - 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO B'NEI MITZVAH SERVICE

Around 9 - 12 Months prior to Bar/Bat Mitzvah
Families will begin the preparation process with the Rabbi at the Nuts and Bolts Class. This session includes exploring the religious aspects of becoming a *Bar/Bat Mitzvah*, *mitzvah* projects and much more.

Mitzvah Projects
As part of becoming a *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* your child is asked to do 3 different types of mitzvot. The "Breet Sheet" that explains the scope of activity is on our website. We ask that you fill out your "Breet Sheet" and return it by the time tutoring begins.

Prayer Proficiency Class
Students will attend a 6-week Prayer Proficiency class during Religious School. Students must pass a 10-minute test at the end of this class which covers the prayers of the service.

Tutoring
Students begin weekly tutoring sessions with an assigned tutor.

Speech Writing
Approximately 2 months before *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* students will meet with the Rabbi to work on their speeches.

1 - 5 WEEKS PRIOR TO B'NEI MITZVAH SERVICE

Mitzvah projects and final speeches are completed and turned in to the office. Completed forms with number of guests, etc., Leaflet Outline and all remaining payments are turned in to the front office.

Two weeks prior to Bar/Bat Mitzvah
One rehearsal with either tutor or Rabbi. Rehearsals are scheduled jointly with the families who share a service.

Week of Bar/Bat Mitzvah
Final rehearsal on the bimah. Parents and siblings attend this rehearsal. The rehearsal is scheduled jointly with the families who share a service.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH SERVICE AND BEYOND

Bar/Bat Mitzvah - Mazel Tov!

Confirmation /Kabbalat Torah
Religious school continues with a *Confirmation/Kabbalat Torah* service at the end of 10th grade.

B'Yachad
Students continue with weekly Religious classes which culminate with a *B'Yachad* Graduation at the end of 12th Grade.

Continuing Lifelong Learning