GREY ELLIS
rachel
Executive Director
ike many new beginnings, one sister of Sigma Delta Tau Sorority, naturally gravitates to the familiar. After receiving the prestigious national award for president of the year, I began volunteer work. One month prior to the birth of my first child, I earned a Masters in Business Administration from Wayne State University. As an entrepreneur, I launched and ran the operations of two successful family businesses. When not working, you can find me at a sports event, enjoying live theater or music, outdoor activities, cooking, photography, painting, or traveling. My greatest joy is spending time with my three children, Shira (18), Ari (14) and Noam (12). When my grandmother, Lydia Solovich Fram, many of my relatives remained left their orthodox synagogue and walked down Woodward to Temple Beth El. Declaring to their parents that they would continue their Jewish education where men and women were not separated, my grandma was confirmed in 1923. While my great-granduncle married Jenny Gould, goes that she and some of her cousins were not orthodox anymore. My grandparents moved to Temple Beth El and joined its congregation—pretty cool. As a daughter of a genealogist and a homegrown Detroiter, finding connection would surely be easy at a temple that began in 1850. When I shared the news of my new position with my father, Jim Grey, he handed me “The Beth El Story” book along with newspaper clippings and print outs of relatives of relatives of relatives. When I settled in at the temple, I did some genealogical research and connected with some of my extended family members. My greatest joy is spending time with my three children, Shira (18), Ari (14) and Noam (12). When my grandmother, Lydia Solovich Fram, many of my relatives remained left their orthodox synagogue and walked down Woodward to Temple Beth El. Declaring to their parents that they would continue their Jewish education where men and women were not separated, my grandma was confirmed in 1923. While my great-granduncle married Jenny Gould, goes that she and some of her cousins were not orthodox anymore. My grandparents moved to Temple Beth El and joined its congregation—pretty cool.

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CONNECTIONS for GENERATIONS

rachel GREY ELLIS
Executive Director

like many new beginnings, one naturally gravitates to the familiar. For me, it is the people. Whom do I know? How are we connected? “Jewish Geography” is a game I play well. As a daughter of a genealogist, and a homegrown Detroiter, finding connection would surely be easy at a temple that began in 1850.

When I shared the news of my new position with my father, Jim Grey, he handed me “The Beth El Story” book along with newspaper clippings and print outs of relatives connected to TBE. As I read through the information, the puzzle pieces fell together and became clear that I have deep roots here. In fact, my great-grand-uncle married Jenny Gould, who is the granddaughter of TBE’s founders Sarah and Isaac Cozens. Pretty cool.

When my grandmother, Lydia Solovich Grey (a first cousin to Ada Solovich, matriarch of the Carreaser family) was a teen living in Detroit, the story goes that she and some of her cousins left their orthodox synagogue and walked down Woodward to Temple Beth El. Declaring to their parents that they would continue their Jewish education where men and women were not separated, my grandma was confirmed in 1923. While my grandparents left TBE to follow Rabbi Fram, many of my relatives remained members for generations and are still members today.

My story begins growing up in Farmington Hills, and graduating from North Farmington High School. I graduated from Michigan State University, earning a BA in Communication and was an active sister of Sigma Delta Tau Sorority. After receiving the prestigious national award for president of the year, I began working for the sorority followed by twenty-five years of national board volunteer work. One month prior to the birth of my first child, I earned a Masters in Business Administration from Wayne State University. As an entrepreneur, I launched and ran the operations of two successful family businesses.

I had been very involved in the Detroit Jewish Community serving on many boards and committees. Those connections led me to BBYO where I spent the last six plus years as the Senior Regional Director of Michigan Region. I bring to Temple Beth El expertise in leadership, philanthropy, community-building, strategy and business. When not working, you can find me at a sports event, enjoying live theater or music, outdoor activities, cooking, photography, painting, or traveling. My greatest joy is spending time with my three children, Shira (18), Ari (14) and Noam (12).

Even though I did not grow up at TBE, this feels like my homecoming-returning to a place my ancestors belonged. The staff and board have been so welcoming, and are impressive and dedicated to TBE. A sincere thank you to all those who have given me the honor of serving as Temple Beth El’s Executive Director. I also want to thank members who give their time, those who contributed to our annual campaign and will continue to support the temple and me. I look forward to getting to know you and your families, and making Temple Beth El a welcoming home for everyone.

UPCOMING EVENTS
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Fridays, March 18 & 19 & Sunday, March 20
5:30 pm Kid-Ish Club Purim Masquerade (IP)
6:30 pm Adult Purim Party (IP)
7:00 pm Reality Bites the Megillah – A 90’s Purim Spiel (IP/V)
11:30 am Megillah Reading (IP/V)
Noon: Purim Carnival (IP)

Fun for the entire family! Highlights include: inflatable axe throwing, slot car racing, inflatable obstacle course, lots of new games, costume contest with great prizes for all participants, and a community service project fills out an amazing afternoon of celebration! Tickets: $20 bracelet (unlimited tickets) or 50 c per ticket.

For Purim details and links, visit us at tbeonline.org or scan the QR code with your smartphone or tablet.
HOLD on to our 2021 ANNUAL APPEAL DONORS! On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Clergy and the staff of Temple Beth El, we are grateful for our supportive congregation.

**MARCH UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

3 2:00 PM  Season 3: Hyped for Halacha (V)

10 3:00 PM  ECC Shabbat Toddlers and 2's (V)

10 7:00 PM  Shabbat Service (V)

10 10:30 AM  Interactive Torah Study with Rabbi Miller’s Participation in ALENA ALTER’S WEDDING (IP/V)

10 10:30 AM  Interactive Torah Study with Rabbi Millers Participation in COLLETTE ROSNER’S BIRTHDAY (IP)

10 1:00 PM  Interactive Torah Study with Rabbi’s Participation in REALITY BEHIND THE MEATLIGS — A 90’S Purim Spiel (IP)

FOR UPCOMING PROGRAMS and details on how to participate virtually, scan the QR code with your smartphone or tablet. For assistance call 248-851-1100.