

# Bolton Street Synagogue 2024/2025 Year in Review

# 24/25

Dear Congregants,



Our world continues to be a place of turmoil and challenge. Over this past year, Bolton Street Synagogue has served as a refuge from all of the stresses, worries, and challenges happening outside our doors. We've gathered this past year to support one another, to better our world, to celebrate holidays, to pray, to study, and to teach our children. Thank you for your support of our congregation and for allowing us to fulfill our mission of "Doors Wide Open."

In gratitude,  
**Rabbi Andy Gordon**

**Membership** | BSS continues to thrive. BSS welcomed:

# 29

New Family Units  
as of 7/1/25



# 265

Total Community  
Families

**Contributions** | Our rich list of programming and spiritual engagement is made possible through Membership Dues, Religious School Tuition, Annual Fund Contributions, Spring Fundraiser Tickets/Auction, and Donations to the Designated Funds.

207

families have participated at levels  
up to \$2,500

64

families have contributed between  
\$2,500-\$5,000

21

families have been able to support our  
programs at \$5,000-\$10,000 level

6

families have been able to  
contribute over \$10,000

BSS also applies for and receives grants to support programming, professional development and security improvements.

**Staffing** | **Rabbi Andy Gordon**  
David Speer, *President*  
Sarah Jacobs, *Executive Director*  
Cory Hermann, *Director of Education*  
Gabby Cohen, *Communications & Administrative Coordinator*  
Johnny McIntyre, *Facilities Associate*  
Jennifer Hopkins, *Facilities Associate*

**Religious School** | We had a great year at BSS!

# 112

Students  
K-12

# 11

Madrichim

# 15

B'nai  
Mitzvahs

**PLUS lots of family events including:  
Purim Play, Good Deeds Day, and more.**

**Young Families**



Baby Brood



Tot-Friendly  
Services



Tot Time

**Adult Education**

- "Taking Hold of Torah" with Rabbi Gordon
- Shofar Blowing Workshop
- Federal Workers Conversations
- Scholar-in-Residence Pam Wax
- Adult Education with Shira Zeliger
- Book Group with Rabbi Gordon
- BALT Midrash

## Etz Chaim Legacy Society

**L’Dor Va’Dor (Generation to Generation)** | Deep gratitude to our founding Etz Chaim Legacy Society families who have committed to including Bolton Street Synagogue in their estate planning.

**Lissa Abrams & Abe Wasserberger**

Karen & Bob Brown | **David & Amanda Conn**

Nancy Dalsheimer Savage | **Marc Hartstein**

Debra Brown Felser & Gary Felser

**Sandra D. Hess** | Kenneth Karpay | **Miriam Lupien**

Scott Samuel Kravetz | **Joy Mandel & Tim Nehl**

Sharon Krevor-Weisbaum & Harold Weisbaum

**Russell & Leslie Seid Margolis** | Marc Wernick

**Randi Reichel & John Benner** | Ethel Zelenske

**Elaine Richman & Ralph Raphael** | Sheila Thaler



**You too can help secure our financial sustainability by planning for Bolton Street Synagogue in your estate plan.**

[www.boltonstreet.org/give/legacysociety](http://www.boltonstreet.org/give/legacysociety)

**Building and Security** | Gary Felser and Ralph Raphael fabricated and installed the cherry-and-maple bookcase at the entry to the sanctuary. The upstairs offices received new carpeting, and the basement walls received a fresh coat of paint. In addition, we added new security cameras to our system, providing additional coverage inside the building. Finally, we welcomed our new security team, Myles Davis Protective Service, in mid-February.

## Community Fun and Festivity

- 1 Jacob “Spike” Kraus Artist-in-Residence
- 2 First Friday Potlucks
- 3 Mahjong
- 4 “Day at the J” BSS Retreat
- 5 Tu B’Shvat Seder
- 6 8 Homes hosted Shabbat Around Town for over 60 participants
- 7 6T+ BOLT Spring Concert
- 8 3 Homes hosted Sukkah Hop with over 45 participants
- 9 Annual 2nd Night Passover Seder
- 10 LGBTQ+ Seder
- 11 Adult Purim Karaoke, Purim Shpiel, and Carnival
- 12 Dueling Pianos Spring Fundraiser
- 13 Summer BBQ
- 14 Over 120 Casseroles provided to Our Daily Bread

## Affinity Groups



**Financials** | The BSS Finance Committee is a conservative steward of BSS financial resources and strives to ensure stability while managing inflation, building repairs, maintenance and security costs. Their efforts compounded with the congregation’s generosity and unwavering commitment to our future, resulted in a modest surplus in FY25.

