

## Rabbi Daniel Cotzin Burg

Daniel Cotzin Burg is a nationally known congregational rabbi based in Baltimore. He is currently the Alexander Grass Rabbinic Chair at Beth Am Synagogue where he has served for nearly 16 years. During that time, he led the congregation to become the thriving, growing, multi-generational community it is today while taking an asset-based approach to Beth Am's racially and economically diverse urban neighborhood. Rav Daniel is a civic leader who actualizes Jewish values in the public sphere. His sermons on a wide range of topics can be found on [YouTube](#) or on his [Substack](#). Ordained by the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, he holds an MA in Rabbinic Studies and another in Jewish Education from The University of Judaism (now AJU). He received his BA in Anthropology and Hebrew Studies from UW-Madison. Before moving to Baltimore, he served as a Rabbi at Anshe Emet Synagogue in Chicago.

Burg's writing has appeared in [The Washington Post](#), [The Baltimore Sun](#), [The Chicago Sun-Times](#), [Maryland Matters](#), [Sources: a Journal of Jewish Ideas](#), [Jewish Philanthropy](#), [The Jewish Review of Books](#), [The Forward](#), and the [Baltimore Jewish Times](#). He initiated the monthly "[Baltimore Justice](#)" column at [Jmore](#), which he has penned since 2016. He was featured in a cover story for Conservative/Masorti Judaism's international publication [CJ](#), which had, at the time, a circulation to over 200,000 Jewish households around the world. Burg has appeared in [The Atlantic](#), [The Post](#), [The Sun](#), [The Times of Israel](#), on MSNBC, [The Big Ponder](#), and Baltimore television and [radio](#) affiliates.

Burg has written extensively as [The Urban Rabbi](#) since 2010. He is contributing author to four books including JPS's *Celebrating the Jewish Year: The Spring and Summer Holidays* (Steinberg) and *We Rise: An Anthology of High Holiday Sermons Delivered the Year after October 7* (Creditor). His essay "[The End of Tikkun Olam](#)" appears in the spring 2025 issue of [Sources: A Journal of Jewish Ideas](#), a publication of the Shalom Hartman Institute, where he is also a Senior Rabbinic Fellow.

Rav Daniel is a member of the Rabbinical Assembly's Va'ad Hakavod (ethics oversight body) and was Program Chair and a plenary presenter at the 2023 Conservative Movement's International Convening. He has mentored rabbis through the Clergy Leadership Incubator (CLI) and is a current participant in the Institute for Jewish Spirituality's Clergy Leadership Program.

He serves as a trustee for the Elijah Cummings Youth Program and the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore. He is a past board member at the Institute for Islamic, Christian and Jewish Studies and Jews United for Justice. He is the founder and a past co-Chair for "In, For, Of, Inc." a 501(c)3 organization affiliated with Beth Am. He was a member of the State of Maryland's Task Force on Reconciliation and Equity.

Rabbi Burg is a fourth generation Chicagoan and fondly remembers riding the Skokie Swift to the Howard "L" with his father as a boy to take in an afternoon Cubs game. He spent (too much) money to watch Caleb Williams' rookie season last year from Baltimore. Daniel learned to play guitar at the Old Town School of Folk Music in the late 1980's and, at 15, wrote the official OSRUI camp song which is still sung each summer in Oconomowoc, WI. His wife Rabbi Miriam Cotzin Burg was ordained at HUC-JIR in Los Angeles in 2002 and is the Founder and CEO of [Hava NaBaby: Jewish Childbirth Education](#). The Burgs live in Baltimore with their 18-year-old son Shamir. Their daughter Eliyah is a sophomore at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA.