



CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

29 KISLEV 5755

VOLUME 44 ISSUE 7

December 2, 1994

Shabbat Schedule

Friday, December 2nd, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 3rd, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.
Davina Semo Bat Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.
Shabbat Havurah at 12:45 p.m. in the Chapel

Friday, December 9th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 10th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.
Matthew Lipsit Bar Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.
Nitzanim at 10:30 a.m. in the APR

Friday, December 16th, at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 17th, at 7:30 and 9:15 a.m.
Morgan Levine Bat Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.
Jr. Congregation at 10:00 a.m.
Gan Shabbat at 10:45 p.m. in the APR
USY at 11:00 a.m. in the BR
Keruv at 12:00 p.m. in the BR

Off the Bimah

One day recently a long table was set up in the in Sanctuary, directly in front of the Ark, and a scribe spent several hours examining the condition of our nine Torah Scrolls. He studiously examined the parchment (made from the upper half skin of a kosher animal, made pliable by soaking in lime water and chemicals), each and every word, letter, as well as the sheets sewn together from the blank side, using the gut or tendon of a ritually clean animal. In the course of his examination the scribe found numerous sections, words, and areas that must be corrected and repaired (or replaced) in order to maintain the Kashruth of these sacred scrolls. The price tag for these repairs is considerable; it is through your generosity to our Torah Scroll Fund and your concern that these scrolls are lovingly maintained. The Sefrei Torah will "commute" by train to New York City and back to Bethesda in the hands of our sofer (scribe) so that the repairs can be done in the Klein Brothers' laboratory in Brooklyn. When completed, the students in our religious school will be invited to a presentation by the scribe as the final repair is made in their presence. They will be asked to recite the words sung each and every time the Torah is lifted in the synagogue:

This is the Torah that Moses placed before the children of Israel; the Torah, given by God, through Moses.

Rabbi Jonathan Z. Maltzman

Did You Know?

Did you know that:

- the Beth El office handles more than 5,000 fax transmissions a year?
- there are more than 850 Yahrzeit plaques and 2400 Yahrzeit notices sent each year?
- there are 300 donation responses per month?
- there are more than 3200 individuals as members of Beth El?
- Beth El is the third largest Conservative congregation in suburban Maryland and the seventh largest Jewish congregation in the state of Maryland?

Minimum Dues Payment

December 31 is the deadline for the second quarterly dues payment. Some members pay monthly, some pay quarterly. If you have not already done so, please make sure that you have paid at least half of your combined dues, building fund and school tuition assessments. Thank you.

Editor's note: At this time the Torah Scroll Fund needs your help to pay for the Torah repairs. Please consider a donation to help defray the costs.

Join Rabbi Jonathan and Julie Maltzman on a

Beth El Israel Mission
July 30 - August 12, 1995

Two Week Deluxe Trip Including Overnight in Petra, Jordan!

Contact Rabbi Maltzman for further information.

Orientation Meeting:
Sunday, Dec. 4, 1994 at the Maltzman home

Shopping Certificate News

It was your effort and cooperation that made the shopping certificate program a great success last year (over \$800,000 in sales with 5% profit going to Beth El!) Let's continue to work together to make this year's effort equally successful.



Certificates are available for Giant, Magruder's, Safeway, Shoppers Food Warehouse, Snider's, Shalom, Katz's, and Fresh Fields. Join the many "standing order" families or purchase yours by mail, in the synagogue office, at Vatikim meetings or in the Rotunda on Sunday mornings.

Since 5% of all sales goes directly to Beth El, this is an easy way to keep dues' increases to a minimum. For further information, please call Cheryl Rod at (301) 299-8362.

All in the Family

Mazal Tov to Judie and Michael Muntner on the engagement of their daughter, Amy, to Kevin Sneader of Glasgow, Scotland.

Mazal Tov to Mervyn and Shirley Weiner on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Ari B. Selig, son of Risa Weiner Selig and Jonathan Selig. The Bar Mitzvah was celebrated October 22, 1994 in Acton, MA.

Mazal Tov to Amy Kaufman Goott on being the recipient of the UJA Jerome J. Dick Young Leadership Award.

Congregation Beth El wishes a speedy recovery to Clare Lerner, Herb Wisner and Penina Freedenberg.

Membership Information

Esther Grabill has moved to 1801 E. Jefferson Street, Apt. T11, Rockville, MD 20852; David and Miriam Cohen have moved to 6915 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, MD 20817; and Malcolm Wolf has moved to 9201 Aldershot Drive, Bethesda, MD 20817.

Baruch Dayan Emet

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to Carolyn Feigenbaum on the death of her father, Herman Altschul; to Murray Hammerman on the death of his brother, Irving H. Hammerman; to Frances Glovinsky and Gertrude Gerber on the death of their brother, Sigmund Gerber; to Herman Orentlicher on the death of his son, George Orentlicher; to Roy Niedermayer on the death of his father, Harry Niedermayer; to Harriet Weinstein on the death of her mother, Liba Goldberg; and to Helene Papielsky on the death of her mother, Roberta Schutzer.

Keruv

Dear Keruv: I am coming to services more often now and want to participate, but am always lost. What should I do? Congregant

Dear Congregant: Being lost in the services is common among those new to Judaism and people returning after years of absence -- but it's not a chronic condition! As you attend services, you will become more familiar with the service and less lost. There are other things you can do, too:

- Learn Hebrew. This is not as daunting as it sounds. The Hebrew Marathon and its follow-up classes have helped many read Hebrew.

- Attend Junior Congregation. Junior Congregation, held in the Chapel each Shabbat, is an introduction to the services and practical experience for students, but beginning adults benefit from its explanations in English of what to do next, why we do what we do, and the meaning of the prayers.

- Ask an usher where to follow in the prayerbook as you enter.

- Attend services with a knowledgeable friend, or ask someone seated near you for the page number. Most will find satisfaction in sharing their knowledge and in helping you understand the services.

Finally, a request to our knowledgeable congregants: many newcomers are afraid or embarrassed to ask for help from you. Your help -- a whispered page number or other explanation -- is a warm welcome to Beth El and will help deepen the newcomer's Jewish experience.

Keruv's Calendar

Hanukkah: Everyone is invited to the annual Hanukkah Party at the Levine-Janney home on Saturday night, December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. The address is 5835 Conway Road in Bethesda. We promise lots of latkes and dreidel games and Hanukkah fun.

Shabbat Discussions

Keruv welcomes everyone to our next Shabbat discussion group, held after the morning services on January 21st. The topic that day will be "B'nai Mitzvah in Interfaith Families." In our discussions we talk about how we have met our own challenges with children, spouses and grandchildren, our questions about how to integrate our non-Jewish family members in Jewish life, and how we preserve our Jewish heritage.

Keruv wants to answer your questions! Feel free to ask about almost anything, and we will try to answer you in the Beth El Scroll or, if you prefer, privately. Address your questions or comments to "Dear Keruv" in care of the synagogue office.

Keruv ("outreach") was formed to address the issues of intermarriage at Beth El. For information about Keruv and its discussion groups and other activities, call Susan Levine at (301) 530-2919.

Tuning In with Cantor Lubin

Recently a family resigned from our congregation and gave as the reason "taking a sabbatical year from membership." I was struck by the reason and began to think of the meaning of this word "sabbatical" which is, of course, related to the word "Sabbath," meaning "to cease" or "to rest." That is the literal meaning of the Hebrew verb "shavat." The related word "shabbaton" or "sabbatical" refers to a complete or extended rest.

What is sadly misunderstood by this family is that in Judaism the spiritual highlight of the "secular" six days of the work week is the gift of Shabbat. It is the culmination and climax of our religious and spiritual experience.

Membership in a synagogue is an important statement on the part of an individual or family that it affiliates itself with the sacred and lofty ideals and teachings of our faith. To take leave of these teachings and ideals for one year as a "sabbatical" is identical to taking a sabbatical year from being a parent, for example. A parent is in a state of parenthood 365 days of the year throughout life. Membership in a congregation is a commitment and an identification that makes sense if it is constant and continuous throughout one's life. To take a "sabbatical" from such an identification is a contradiction of the initial affiliation.

To be a Jew and/or a Jewish parent is to "diligently teach the sacred words to your children ... to repeat them at home and away, morning and night." That is 365 days a year, every year. There is no room for a sabbatical year from Jewish life.

Shabbat Hospitality

Volunteers are needed to offer Shabbat hospitality to out-of-town visitors to Congregation Beth El (preferably within walking distance). If you are willing to participate in the mitzvah of "Hochnassat Orchim", please call Marilyn Hammerman at (301) 881-0011 or contact Rabbi Maltzman.



Hazzan Abraham Lubin was featured as a soloist at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv, in a concert of the Hazzanut legacy of Vilna.



Seaboard Men's Club Federation Award

On December 4, 1994 the annual "Blue Yarmulke" awards of the Seaboard Men's Clubs Federation will be presented. This year one of our own, Ronnie Treinish, will be one of the recipients of this prestigious award. We all want to convey our Mazal Tov to Ronnie.

Rabbi Maltzman to Speak at Men's Club Program

On Sunday, December 11th at 10:00 a.m. Rabbi Jonathan Maltzman will deliver a lecture to the Men's Club on the subject: "How the Talmud Triumphed." All congregants and guests are welcome to attend.

Hebrew Marathon

On October 30th, eleven highly motivated and enthusiastic students made a breakthrough into Hebrew literacy at the fifth Beth El Hebrew Marathon. Gloria Frank, Yael Greenberg and Elissa Scheinberg were the teachers, and Hal Scheinberg served as registrar. Dorothy Beverly and Elsie Hercules prepared a gourmet lunch for the participants. Most of the students plan to continue in the follow-up classes offered, leading to participation in Shabbat services.

Nitzanim

Nitzanim Shabbat Services are held the second and fourth Saturdays of each month at 10:30 a.m. in the All Purpose Room. A special service for children ages six and under and their parents, Nitzanim Shabbat Services feature a Torah parade, stories, lots of songs and a snack. We look forward to seeing you there!

BETH EL SCROLL

8215 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Rabbi	Jonathan Z. Maltzman
Assistant Rabbi	William D. Rudolph
Rabbi Emeritus	Samuel Scolnic
Hazzan	Abraham Lubin
Executive Director	Steven J. Kravitz
Education Director	Louis A. Nagel
Nursery School Director	Ellen M. Darr
Youth Director	Rachel B. Handloff
President	Leonard N. Bebchick
First Vice President	Suzanne M. Bronheim
Second Vice President	Benson D. Adams
Second Vice President	Norman L. Eule
Treasurer	Susan Brinn Siegel
Financial Secretary	Cary M. Feldman
Secretary	Arthur N. Popper

Synagogue Office	301-652-2606
Nursery School	301-652-1228
Religious School	301-652-2608
FAX Number	301-907-8559

AFFILIATED WITH UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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Congregation Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions (As of November 1, 1994)

Bendit Adult Institute Fund

In Memory Of: Sidney Levy, uncle of Laura Chvotkin, by Rachele and Gary Bernstecker.

Beth El Forest

In Honor Of: The special birthday of Dorothy Millstein by Charlotte Quint and Bea and Bob Newell. In Memory Of: Lazarus Lichtenstein by Mr. and Mrs. Harry P. Zitelman.

Chevra Kadisha Fund

In Honor Of: A speedy recovery of Isor Gildenhorn by Daniel Diener. In Memory Of: Beloved mother, Lillian Cohen, by Barbara S. Spitzer; Sigmund Gerber, brother of Frances Giovinsky, by Mrs. Friedel Resnick; Dorothy Gerwin by Robert Gerwin; Rebecca Hoffman by Lillian H. Maller; Samuel Drucker by Hellaine Nepo.

College Fund

In Honor Of: Our daughter and sister, Eliana Porath - with best wishes for a fabulous experience on Young Judaea's year course in Israel, by Bunny, Zvi, and Ariel Porath; Werner Blumenthal's special birthday by Jose and Tutti Sokol.

Conservative Judaism in Israel

In Memory Of: Irving Fogelman, Alison Levy Caffin and David Pollack by Dr. Alan and Mrs. Linda (Pollack) Orenstein.

Fine Arts Fund

In Memory Of: Meyer Cohen, father of Jack Cohen, by Naomi and Jack Cohen; Jacob Tofsky by Mr. and Mrs. Irving Tofsky.

General Endowment Fund

In Honor Of: A speedy recovery of Clare Lerner by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay. In Memory Of: My dear friend, Trudy Haber, by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay; Gussie Singer by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay; Ben Goldberg by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay; Frieda Kay and Ida Rubinow by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph George Kay.

General Fund

Sheldon and Eleanor Jontiff. In Honor Of: The 70th birthday of Werner Blumenthal by Erna Seligman; My Aliyah by Isadore Rod. In Memory Of: Samuel and Sarah Rod by Isadore and Rose Rod; Gunter A. Chapin by Joel and Joan Simon; Sarah Poloway by Center for Rheumatic Diseases.

Groner Ramah Scholarship Fund

In Memory Of: Beloved, Samuel Swiller, by Erwin and Leena Groner.

Kimball Nursery School Fund

In Memory Of: My loving mother, Estelle Kimball, by Jon D. Kimball.

Library Fund

In Honor Of: Evelyn and Sam Margolis wonderful hospitality by Cheryl and Bernie Rod. In Memory Of: Ruth Becker Holiber by Caryl and Jerome Holiber; Beloved mother, Harlee Senzer Popick, by Barbara P. Rosing; Sidney Leviton by Dr. Edward B. Leviton.

Mazon

Toby and Bernie Moss. In Honor Of: The marriage of Robyn and Michael Goldman by Annette and Jack Moshman; The speedy recovery of Herbert Wisner by Marilyn and Daniel Kweller; The speedy recovery of Clare Lerner by Marilyn and Daniel Kweller; The speedy recovery of Marilyn Kweller by Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish.

Mintz Landscaping Fund

In Memory Of: Peter Sokolower by Caryl and Jerome Holiber.

Morning Minyan Fund

In Honor Of: Werner Blumenthal's 70th birthday by Leonard and Carol Podell and the Simpson Family; Engagement of Amy Muntner and Kevin Sneider by Judie and Michael Munter. In Memory Of: Fannie Solomon by Ruth and Abner Byer; Anne Landau by Emanuel Landau; Jacob J. Lehrman by Alan Swoff.

Prayerbook Fund

In Honor Of: Jay Krupin's 40th birthday by Janet and Steve Goldhill. In Memory Of: May Feldman by Shirley and Dennis Feldman; Harry Perlman by Elaine and George Perlman; Benjamin Perlman by Elaine and George Perlman; Trudy

Haber by Blanche and Isaac Roubein; Jacob Bercovici by Martin and Ellen Bercovici.

Rabbi's Fund

In Honor Of: Rabbi Maltzman by Craig D. Yokum. In Memory Of: Jack I. Bender by Howard and Sondra Bender; Frieda Schissler by Peter M. Schissler; Benjamin Goldberg by Eve and William Massar.

School Enrichment Fund

In Memory Of: Dr. Irving Fersh by Robert Fersh and Sharon Markus.

Sisterhood Kathy Wilkins Memorial Braille Fund

In Memory Of: Ella Polin and Alexander Teitler by Elaine and Roy Becker; Sara Taitz by Eleanor Cohen.

Social Action Fund

In Honor Of: Amy K. Gooft receiving the Jerome J. Dick Young Leadership Award by Toby and Bernie Moss. In Memory Of: Benjamin Levine by Shirley Levine; Irving Hammerman, beloved brother of Murray Hammerman, by Toby and Bernie Moss; Herman Altschul, father of Carolyn Feigenbaum, by Margery Murphy; Harry Scheer by Iris Kivitz.

Wolf "Israel Quest" Fund

In Honor Of: The 75th birthday of Benjamin Munitz by Sy Wolf; Julie Kopit's 75th birthday by Doug and Annette Wolf. In Memory Of: Abraham Sherman by Lola and Gerald Sherman; Father of Dr. Douglas Rosing by Sy Wolf.

The Evening Minyan

The following people are asked to help us with our daily evening minyan for the next two weeks. The Minyan begins at 8:00 p.m. and concludes at 8:15 p.m. During the week of your assignment, we would appreciate your attending as many evenings as possible, so that those who are saying Kaddish will have a minyan that they can attend at Beth El.

December 5 - December 8

Tsvi and Ruth Assal
Marcello and Marilda Averbug
Joachim and Elizabeth Baer
William and Pearl Baker
Stanley and Judith Baldinger
Anne Siegel Ball
Bernard and Annabelle Band
Marvin and Dolly Band
Richard and Florence Bank
Bruce and Ann Barcome
Sylvia Barmash
Jeffrey and Patricia Baron
Solomon and Rita Barr
Abraham and Gertrude Bass
Raymond and Vivian Bass
Rosaly Bass
Heinz Bauer
Jesse Baumgold and Linda Golden
Leonard and Gabriela Bebchick
Arthur and Sandra Becker

December 12 - December 15

Harvey and Arlyn Becker
Roy and Elaine Becker
Alfred and Linda Beer
Richard Belferman
Harris and Julie Belinkie
David and Nanette Bender
Howard and Sondra Bender
Tanya Bendit
Bruce and Tina Benjamin
Robert and Jody Benjamin
Robert and Susan Benke
Martin and Ellen Bercovici
Albert and Audrey Berger
Bernard and Beatrice Berger
Brent Berger
Howard Berger and Linda Goldsmith
Joseph Berman and Marsha Gentner
Kenneth and Beth Berman
Stuart and Ellen Berman

Sisterhood News

SISTERHOOD STATIONERS

Great new gift ideas!

Personalized stamps
 Writing papers
 New Year's cards
 Business cards

Invitations
 Informal notes and pads
 Birth announcements

Call Marilyn Hammerman (301) 881-0011
 All profits directly benefit Beth El & Sisterhood

Parent Education Workshops

The Sisterhood/Religious School Committee sponsored Family Life - Parent Education Workshop Series will have programs on the following dates:

December 4: "The Jewish Community: Medieval Spain to Modern America"

February 5: "Jewish Food: More Than High Cholesterol" presented by Joan Nathan.

March 5: "The Ten Commandments" presented by Rabbi Maltzman.

April 2: "How to Speak to Your Child About the Holocaust" presented by Flora Singer.

These workshops are held between 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and are open to all interested adults. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend these programs.

The first program was held November 6th. Joan Lipnick Abelson discussed the topic "Jewish Children's Books: How to Choose Them, How to Use Them," a theme in keeping with Jewish Book Month. This program was a great beginning for the series!

Torah Fund Pins

Hanukkah is here! You could honor a loved one by contributing \$150.00 to the Jewish Theological Seminary and receiving the exquisite 1994 - 1995 gold-tone Torah Fund pin/pendant with the inscription "Yismah Layv -- A Joyous Heart" from Psalm 105:3. The funds raised by contributions further the programs for our future rabbis, cantors and teachers. To order a pin, please call Doris Povich at (301) 320-5440, or stop by the synagogue office to purchase one.

Washington Jewish Week Subscriptions

If you need to renew your subscription to the Washington Jewish Week or want to order a new subscription, please contact Cheryl Rod at (301) 299-8362. Your order benefits the Beth El Sisterhood.

**A SMART
 RETAILER
 WILL GO TO THE
 ENDS OF THE EARTH
 TO FIND THE MERCHANDISE
 NO ONE ELSE HAS.
 WE HAVE AND WE'RE
 BRINGING IT RIGHT TO YOU
 AT OUR JUDAICA SHOP!**

CALL: Connie Krupin - 229-3464
 Suzanne Bronheim - 320-3220
 Kay Klass Levitt - 365-5365
 Debbie Friedmann - 365-4140

HOURS:
 Sunday - 9:00-1:00
 Monday - 9:00-12:00
 Thursday - 9:00-12:30

Chevra Kadisha

"Bury me among the poor, that my grave may shine on theirs' and their graves shine on mine." (Sholom Aleichem, last will)

Jewish tradition requires that all persons regardless of their status in life be accorded the same honor when they die. The book of Ecclesiastes which we read this time of year is the basis for much of the laws and customs regarding the treatment of all Jewish dead. "What living person shall not see death?" (Ecclesiastes). The Beth El Chevra Kadisha (Holy friends) provides burial preparation for all Beth El members. It has arrangements with several area funeral homes that have agreed to provide inexpensive funeral services. Jewish law requires that all Jewish communities have a Hebrew Burial Society. It is a mitzvah of the highest order as it is an unrequited deed. The Chevra Kadisha needs volunteers to perform Tahara (Purification of the deceased) or to do prayers, or provide a number of other worthy services. Training will be provided. Please contact Darryl Sherman at (301) 656-5263. "A person's deeds are the measure of his days."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

BETH EL RETREAT

**AT THE COOLFONT
 CONFERENCE CENTER**

MARCH 24 - MARCH 26, 1995

Education Notes

Tikkun Olam - Holiday Food Drive

Holiday Helpings, a campaign organized by Bread For The City and Zacchaeus Free Clinic, will provide holiday meals to the District's poor. From December 4th - 11th the Religious School, in conjunction with the Social Action Committee, will be sponsoring a Holiday Food Drive to benefit this project. We would like to send Bread and Zacchaeus a substantial contribution toward feeding the over 800 families they served last winter. We would welcome contributions of turkeys, stuffing mixes, canned cranberry sauce, canned fruit, macaroni and cheese, canned gravy, canned green beans or dessert. A collection box will be placed in the hallway outside the school office.

Siyyum HaSefer

Fourth and Fifth grade parents should mark Friday, December 9th on your calendars as we gather for an Erev Shabbat Service and Dinner. We will honor fourth graders for their progress in Hebrew and present them with their siddurim. The students have begun practicing tefillot in preparation for their roles in the service.

Upper School Open House

The Upper School will hold an Open House on Tuesday, November 29th. Plan to stay the full two hours (7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) as there will be opportunities to meet with the teachers and a parenting workshop led by Rabbi Mark Levine of the BJE. Rabbi Levine is director of the Board of Jewish Education's Jewish Family Life Education Department and edits "Shalom Bayit," a publication directed toward parents of teens. His workshop will be on dealing with parent-adolescent issues.

Snow Emergencies

A reminder of the Religious School's Snow Emergency Plan:

Mid-Week Classes

If Montgomery County Public Schools cancel school or dismiss early, there will be no Religious School. Should Montgomery County Public Schools delay opening, we will operate on our regular schedule.

Weekend Classes

On Saturdays and Sundays, our school will be responsible for checking the road conditions in the area and deciding if the situation warrants closing. We will broadcast announcements on radio stations WMAL 63 AM, WTOP 1500 AM and WASH 97.1 FM.

Usually the School's phone lines get very tangled when there is a sudden late snowfall, as happened a few times last year. Please tune into the radio stations before calling the school. Should you call the school, don't be surprised if there is no answer; the call may have switched over to another line where there was no answering machine. Try again.

Teacher Recognition Shabbat

The honor shown for the Religious School and Nursery School teachers by the tremendous turnout for Teacher Recognition Shabbat on Friday, October 28th was a credit to our congregation. It was a standing room only crowd in the Sanctuary, and the dinner was booked solid by early the preceding week. Teachers from the Religious and Nursery Schools participated in the service. Speeches praising our teachers were delivered by Louis Nagel, Education Director, and the respective school committee chairs, Linda Lipson and Sharon Markus. In honor of the occasion, the Religious School Committee and the Parents' Association contributed books to the library. Among the books contributed were: What Happened To Heather Hopkowitz?, The Circlemaker, All-of-a-Kind Family, and

While Standing on One Foot: Puzzle Stories and Wisdom Tales from the Jewish Tradition. Yeshar Koach!

Help Wanted

Have you considered teaching in the Religious School? Our Congregation is blessed with many knowledgeable members who could contribute a great deal to the school. Rabbi Yochanan said, "Who learns and does not teach is like a myrtle in the desert." We have an exceptional, veteran staff with most teachers on the faculty for three or more years. However, in a growing school and with low, but steady, staff turnover, the need to recruit new teachers is an ongoing process. If you are interested in becoming a Religious School teacher, please contact Louis Nagel in the Religious School Office, (301) 652-2608.

Teacher Professional Development

On Sunday, October 30th the Religious School teachers participated in the BJE's annual teacher professional day. There was a keynote address by Dr. Richard M. Joel, Director of the Hillel Foundation, on "Making The Most of Teachable Moments." The teachers then participated in two workshop sessions on such subjects as solving classroom challenges, using music in the curriculum, games and other creative teaching strategies, Jewish identity, increasing student motivation and self control and Jewish Civics. The influence of the conference on the faculty was apparent from the first lessons following this day of teacher professional development.

Nursery School News

Entertainment '95 Books Are Here!

Save on dining, shopping and other entertainment opportunities! The Beth El Nursery School is offering Entertainment '95 books for \$35.00. To get yours, visit or call the school office at (301) 652-1228.

Giant Receipts Program Benefits BENS

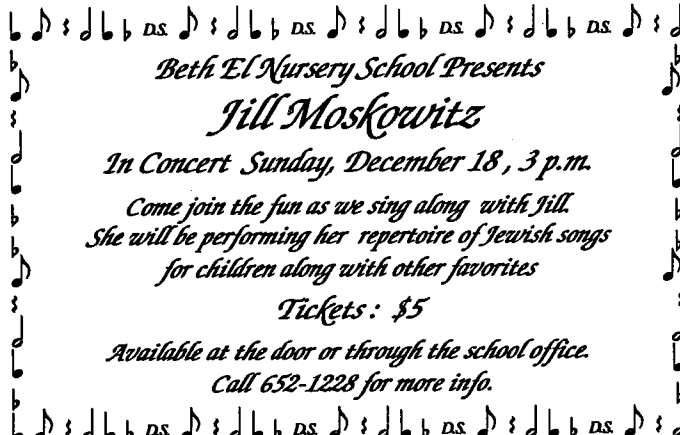
Beth El Nursery School will be collecting Giant receipts again this school year. Please deposit your blue receipts in the envelope on the BENS bulletin board.

Save Your Stuff

We rent you a table space, then you sell your own stuff. Mark your calendar to buy and sell at our do-it-yourself spring cleaning sale on Sunday, March 26, 1995. Until then, don't throw it out -- save it to sell!

Nursery School Applications

Applications for the 1995-1996 school year are now available. Please call the BENS office at (301) 652-1228 to have one mailed to you. Applications are not available for pick up at the school.



Beth El Nursery School Presents

Jill Moskowitz

In Concert Sunday, December 18, 3 p.m.

Come join the fun as we sing along with Jill.

She will be performing her repertoire of Jewish songs

for children along with other favorites

Tickets: \$5

Available at the door or through the school office.

Call 652-1228 for more info.

From the Desk of the Youth Director

The Youth Group Calendar

BONIM (Grades K, 1, 2)

December 18, 1994
(1:30 - 3:30 p.m.)

Advisor: Charni Selch

Winter Wonderland Carnival

USY has invited all of Bonim to this winter carnival with games, prizes, munchies, and more. All proceeds will go to the USY Tikkun Olam Fund, the official USY charity. Bonim will meet as a group in the Board Room and attend the carnival together. For more information, call Charni at (301) 468-2127.

MACHAR (Grades 3, 4, 5)

December 18, 1994
(1:30 - 3:30 p.m.)

Advisor: Ariel Glassman

Winter Wonderland Carnival

USY has invited all of Machar to this winter carnival with games, prizes, munchies, and more. All proceeds will go to the USY Tikkun Olam Fund, the official USY charity. Machar will meet as a group in the Youth Lounge and attend the carnival together. For more information, call Ariel at (301) 652-4015.

KADIMA (Grades 6, 7, 8)

December 9-11

Advisor: Michael Scheinberg

Kadima Kallah

Seaboard Region is sponsoring a Shabbaton for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders at Olam Tikva Congregation. Join your Kadima friends for the weekend of a lifetime. For more information, call Mike at (301) 345-0978.

December 18, 1994

Winter Wonderland Carnival

(1:30 - 3:30 p.m.)

USY has invited all of Kadima to this winter carnival with games, prizes, munchies, and more. All proceeds will go to the USY Tikkun Olam Fund, the official USY charity. Kadima will meet in room 208 and attend the carnival together. For more information, call Mike at (301) 345-0978.

U.S.Y. (Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

Saturday, December 3

Advisor: Rachel B. Handloff

Ice Skating in Virginia

Join Beth El, B'nai Israel, Har Shalom, and Olam Tikva USY for an evening of dinner, ice skating, and fun. RSVP to Alan Spiegel at (301) 897-5438.

Sunday, December 11

USY Social Actions Day

Do you need community service credit to graduate? Do you want to have an amazing time with a great group of people? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, then Social Actions programs are for you. USY will participate in a social actions activity. For more information, please contact Sara Malech, the USY Social Actions, Tikkun Olam Vice President, at (301) 469-0112.

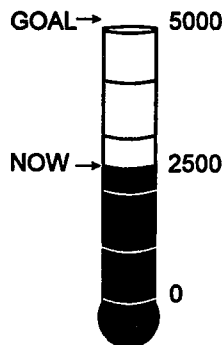
Friday, December 16 & 17

USY Shabbat

Please join us for dinner and services at Beth El on Friday evening and again for services on Saturday morning. Celebrate Shabbat with USY. For more information, please call Tammy Wilner at (301) 320-2478.

Do you want to spend your summer in Israel?

Beth El 9th - 12th graders who are thinking about going to Israel should join us on Tuesday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. for an Israel Program fair. Meet students who have been on programs with USY, NFTY, Young Judea, and more. You can also find out about scholarship money available to help you get there. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend.



The Sybil Suls Youth Activities Fund

The youth department continues its quest to raise money for the Sybil Suls Fund. This fund helps sponsor Beth El 6th - 12th graders who attend regional conventions. The next time you would like to honor or memorialize someone, please consider the Sybil Suls fund. Thank you!

Come One, Come All to the...
The USY Winter Wonderland Carnival
Sunday, December 18, 1994
1:30 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Admission: \$10.00

(All proceeds benefit the USY Tikkun Olam Fund)

Bonim, Machar, and Kadima kids are invited to join USY for this spectacular carnival. Play games, win prizes, have a nosh with us. Admission includes food coupons and all the game tickets you want. Please join us and help support USY.

Vatikkim Luncheon

Please join us for our Vatikkim luncheon on December 15th. Ellen Epstein, Director of the Center for Oral History and co-author of Record and Remember: Tracing Your Roots Through Oral History, will talk to the group about her work.

Lunch is at noon, at a cost of \$5.00 for members and \$6.00 for non-members. The program is at 1:00 p.m. Please fill out the reservation form below, and make your checks payable to Beth El Vatikkim. Please mail the form and check to: Bea Goldman, 3214 Henderson Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20902, (301) 942-9434, or Lillian Kessler, 5450 Whitley Park Terrace, Bethesda, MD 20814 (301) 530-5650.

Please note that we will not accept reservations later than two days before the scheduled event to assure proper planning.

Reservation Form



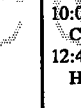
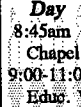
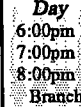
Vatikkim Luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 15, 1994

Please reserve _____ places for me at the Vatikkim luncheon.
 Enclosed is my check for \$ _____.

Name: _____
 Phone Number: _____

Please have your response reach us by December 13, 1994. No reservations will be accepted after this date.

December 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<p>1 HANUKKAH 4th Day 12:00pm Vatikim Study Session - SH 4:15-6:00pm Hanukkah Activities Day - SH 6:30pm Aerobics 7:45pm Youth-Comm. Mtg. - BR</p> 	<p>2 HANUKKAH 5th Day Scroll #9 Deadline 4:26pm Candles 6:30pm Friday Evening Service</p> 	<p>3 HANUKKAH 6th Day 7:30am & 9:15 am Shabbat Services 9:15am Davina Rachel Semo B/M 10:00am Jr. Congregation 12:45pm Shabbat Havurah - Chapel</p> 
<p>4 HANUKKAH 7th Day 8:45am Minyan - Chapel 9:00-11:00am Parent Edag. Workshop - BR 9:30am Men's Club - Meeting Room 10:30am Stephanie Beth Schissler B/M 12:00pm Schissler Party - SH, Gal</p> 	<p>5 HANUKKAH 8th Day 6:00pm Aerobics 7:00pm Cub Scouts 8:00pm Seaboard Branch Women's League Class - BR</p> 	<p>6 6:30pm Aerobics 8:00pm Religious School Comm. Mtg. - BR</p>	<p>7 6:00pm Aerobics 6:45pm Hebrew Class - Room 201 7:00pm Boy Scouts - APR 7:30pm Hebrew Class - Room 209</p>	<p>8 12:00pm Vatikim Study Session - SH 6:30pm Aerobics 7:00pm AMI - APR 7:30pm Kennedy Lodge - BR</p>	<p>9 9:00am Lipsit Picture-Taking - Sanctuary 4:26pm Candles 6:30pm Friday Evening Service 7:00pm 4th - 5th Grade Shabbat Dinner - SH</p>	<p>10 7:30am & 9:15 am Shabbat Services 9:15am Matthew Franklin Lipsit B/M 10:00am Jr. Congregation 10:30am Nitzanim - APR 7:30pm Lipsit Party - Gal, SH</p>
<p>11 9:00am Minyan - Chapel 9:30am Sisterhood Board Mtg. - BR 9:30am Men's Club - SH 12:30pm Youth Groups - APR</p>	<p>12 10:00am Sabra Hadassah Mtg. - BR 6:00pm Aerobics 7:00pm Cub Scouts 8:00pm Seaboard Branch Women's League Class - BR</p>	<p>13 <i>Fast of the 10th of Tevet</i> 6:30pm Aerobics 7:30pm Exec. Comm. Mtg. - BR 7:45pm Nursery Bd - APR</p>	<p>14 6:00pm Aerobics 6:45pm Hebrew Class - Room 201 7:00pm Boy Scouts - APR 7:30pm Hebrew Class - Room 209</p>	<p>15 Nursery Parent-Teacher Conf. - No School 2 Day Cls 12:00pm Vatikim Luncheon-SH 6:30pm Aerobics 7:30pm 50+ Singles Mtg. - APR</p>	<p>16 Nursery Parent-Teacher Conf. - No School Scroll #10 Deadline 4:27pm Candles 6:30pm Friday Evening Service</p>	<p>17 7:30am & 9:15 am Shabbat Services 9:15am Morgan Levine B/M 10:00am Jr. Congregation 10:45am Gan Shabbat - APR 11:00am USY - BR 12:00pm Keruv - BR</p>

Minyans: 7:30 a.m. & 8:00 p.m.

CONGREGATION BETH EL
of Montgomery County
8215 Old Georgetown Road
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Second Class
Postage
Paid at
Bethesda, MD 20814