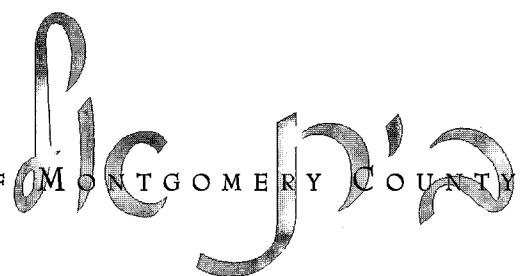


Scroll

Memo from Rabbi Jonathan Maltzman

Rabbi Rudolph, Hazzan Lubin and I will begin having open office hours several hours each week starting Monday, May 3 to make it easier for congregants to meet with us to share any concerns or issues, without having to make a formal appointment. My hours will be Thursdays from 8:30 to 11 a.m.; Rabbi Rudolph's hours will be Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m.; and Hazzan Lubin's hours will be Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Of course, you are welcome to make appointments to meet with any of us at any other time, but we hope that congregants will feel free to drop in for informal discussions during these new open office hours.

CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY



Shavuot Festival Service Schedule

Thursday, May 20, Erev Shavuot
Mincha Service at 6:30 p.m.
Religious School Tikkun Layl Shavuot at
6:30-8 p.m. in the APR
Light supper at 6:45 p.m.
Study Session at 7:15 p.m.
Maariv Service at 8 p.m.
Study Session at 8:15 p.m.

Friday, May 21, First Day Shavuot
Festival Service at 9:15 a.m.
Confirmation
Bikkurim Ceremony
Festival Service at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 22, Second Day Shavuot
Festival Services at 7 and 9:15 a.m.
Yizkor will be recited at both services
Torah Readers will be honored at the
9:15 a.m. service

The Religious Schools will be closed on
Thursday, May 20
and the schools and offices will be closed on
Friday, May 21.

Congregation Beth El Men's Club proudly presents

*The World of Jewish Music:
Its Ubiquity and Diversity
An Illustrated Musical Presentation*

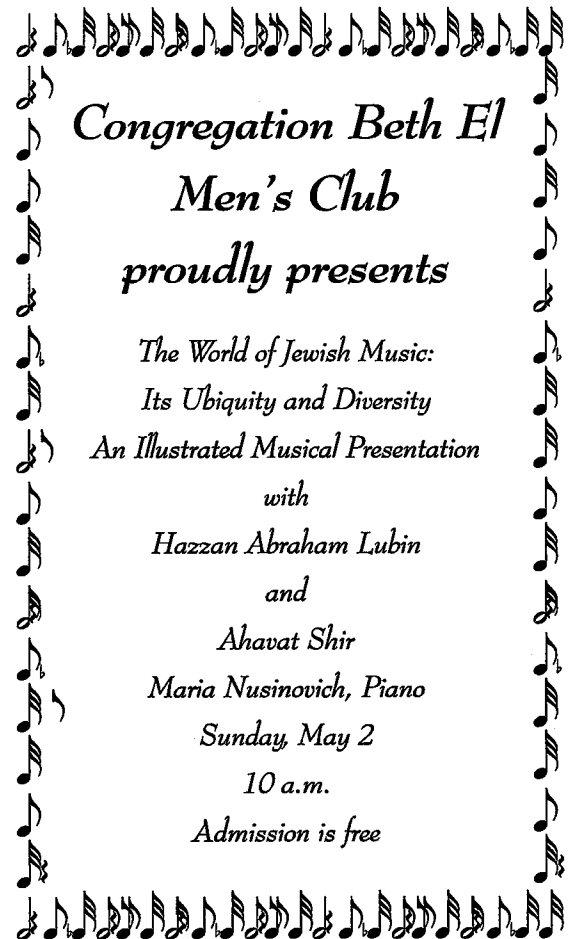
with
Hazzan Abraham Lubin
and

Ahavat Shir
Maria Nusinovich, Piano

Sunday, May 2

10 a.m.

Admission is free



Shabbat Schedule

Friday, April 30

6:30 p.m.
BENS Shabbat Dinner at
7 p.m.

Saturday, May 1

7:30 & 9:15 a.m.
Emor, Leviticus 21:1 -
24:23
Amanda Deutsch Bat
Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.
Family Jr. Congregation
(Gr. 6) at 10 a.m. in the
APR
Worship and Study
Minyan at 10 a.m. in the
Chapel

Friday, May 7

6:30 p.m.
13 Mitzvot Awards and
Dinner at 7 p.m.

Saturday, May 8

7:30 & 9:15 a.m.
Behar-Behukotai,
Leviticus: 25:1 - 27:34
Jason Gutman Bar
Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.
Jr. Congregation at 10
a.m.
Nitzanim at 10:30 a.m. in
the APR

Friday, May 14

6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 15

7:30 & 9:15 a.m.
Bemidbar, Numbers: 1:1 -
4:20
Gabrielle Yudkovitz Bat
Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m.
Jr. Congregation at 10
a.m.
Learners Minyan at 10
a.m. in the APR
Gan Shabbat at 10 a.m.
in the MR
USY Shabbat at 12 p.m.
in the BR

All in the Family

Mazal Tov to Seth and Meredith Beckhardt on the birth of their son, Joshua Benjamin Beckhardt, on March 16, 1999.

Mazal Tov to Marvin and Audrey Griff on the birth of their son, Noah Griff, on March 25, 1999.

Mazal Tov to Shirley Levine Wasserman on the recent appointment of her son-in-law, Dr. Stephen Levinson, as Chairman of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

A woman's tallit in a white bag within a plastic covering was lost on Saturday, March 20. It was placed on the shelf in the coat room. Please contact the synagogue office if you find this tallit, (301) 652-2606, ext. 303.

Evening Minyan

The following people are asked to help us with our daily Evening Minyan for the next two weeks. On Sunday through Thursday, the Minyan begins at 8 p.m. and concludes at 8:15 p.m. On Wednesday, May 5, when the Saul Bendit Adult Institute meets, the Evening Minyan will be at 8:20 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.

May 2 - May 6

Stuart and Marjorie Seides
David and Rochelle Seitzman
Joseph and Judy Semo
Ted and Kay Senator
Mark and Sabina Shalom
Michael Shalom
Erwin and Elaine Shalowitz
Barry and Carolyn Shanoff
Edward and Roslyn Shapiro
Howard and Eve Shapiro
Howard Shapiro and Shirley Brandman
Melvyn and Rosalie Shapiro
Sarah Shapiro
Vadim and Alla Shapiro
Leonard and Sylvia Sheeskin
Sholom Shefferman
Victor and Isobel Sheifer
Andrew and Judy Sherman
Darryl Sherman and Sara Greenbaum

May 9 - May 13

Douglas and Carol Sherman
Esther Sherman

Gerald and Lola Sherman
Leon and Frances Sherman
Harvey and Susan Sherzer
Robyn Shields
Menachem and Deborah Shoham
Charles and Merle Shoneman
Jeff and Ellen Shrago
Edwin and Arlene Shykind
Hugh and Ruth Sickel
Lawrence and Hilda Sidman
David and Susan Siegel
Jay Siegel and Mona Sarfaty
Michael Siegel and Anne Solotar
Robert and Paula Siegel
Jonathan and Jacqueline Silber
Joel and Leslie Silver
Stanley and Harriet Silverberg

Keruv

Keruv welcomes your questions, comments and concerns about intermarriage, conversion and living in an interfaith family. These types of questions often arise during life cycle events. We have all types of families and have experience that may be able to help you deal with your particular situation. Call Joan Claxton or leave a message in the synagogue office.

Keruv ("outreach") addresses the issues of intermarriage and conversion at Beth El. We hold drop-in Shabbat discussions, talk to Havurot, and have family-based holiday parties. For more information about Keruv and its activities, call Joan Claxton at (301) 320-9283 (JSClaxton@aol.com).

Kosovo Relief Efforts

Among the many organizations accepting financial contributions to aid Kosovo refugees are American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, 711 Third Avenue, 10th Floor, NY, NY 10017, (212) 885-0832; American Red Cross International Response Fund, P.O. Box 37243, Washington, DC 20013, 1-800-HELPNOW, www.redcross.org; or Kosovo Refugee Relief Fund, c/o Jewish Federation of Greater Washington, 6101 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852. (Put the code "POP99DRK" on your check.)

Checks may also be sent to the synagogue office, marked attn.: Kosovo Relief.

Beth El Worship and Study Minyan

The Worship and Study Minyan will meet on Saturday, May 1 in the Chapel from 10 a.m. to noon. The service, conducted entirely by members of the congregation, combines evocative Torah study with ample singing and ruach. Children of all ages are welcome although the service is oriented towards adults. Contact Dan Hirsch, (301) 654-7289, Sid Getz, (301) 530-2215, or Mark Levitt, (301) 365-5365, for more information.

Parking Request

Please be respectful of our neighbors!

Use the alternative parking at NIH

when the Beth El lot is full.

*Maps are available in the lucite holder
outside the synagogue office.*

LEARNERS SERVICE BECKONS TO NEWCOMERS

Rabbi Rudolph has returned to leading this user-friendly service the third Shabbat of each month. The final two services of this program year are on May 15 and June 19 in the All Purpose Room. In this Learners Service, we don't try to finish the whole service. Rather, we move slowly, we explain everything we are doing, we take any question. We actually pray too, but we do so much more. We guarantee you will find this service worthwhile.

Membership Information

Brent Berger and Carolyn Chabrow Berger have moved to 10914 Candlelight Lane, Potomac, MD 20854, (301) 983-2918.

**Congregation Beth El
of Montgomery County**
8215 Old Georgetown Rd.,
Bethesda, Maryland
20814-1451

Rabbi:

Jonathan Z. Maltzman

Associate Rabbi:

William D. Rudolph

Rabbi Emeritus:

Samuel Scolnic

Hazzan:

Abraham Lubin

Executive Director:

Steven J. Kravitz

Educational Director:

Louis A. Nagel

Family Education Director:

Sarah L. Roark

Nursery School Director:

Ellen M. Darr

Youth Director:

Rachel D. Sternberg

President:

Norman L. Eule

First Vice President:

Benson D. Adams

Second Vice President:

Arthur N. Popper

Second Vice President:

Gail H. Ross

Treasurer:

Judy C. Futterman

Financial Secretary:

Robert L. Koenig

Secretary:

Linda R. Lipson

Phone: (301) 652-2606

Fax: (301) 907-8559

Web Site: uscj.org/seabd/bethesbe/

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rabbidr@erols.com

Hazzan Lubin:
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Youth Department:
bethelyouth@erols.com

Norman Eule:
neule@clark.net

AFFILIATED WITH
UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF
CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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Congregation Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

(As of April 2, 1999)

Bendit Adult Institute Fund

In Honor Of: Saul Bendit Institute by Helen Kanovsky. In Memory Of: Jose Ventura by Jack S. Ventura; Frieda Troffkin by Howard Troffkin; Louis Weisbach by Leonard and Sylvia Sheeskin.

Beth El Forest

In Honor Of: David Schraub's Bar Mitzvah by Beverly and Stuart Greenfeig. In Memory Of: Sarah Eva Witt Kolkner by Barbara K. Werner; Ethel Werner by Bernice H. Finkelstein; Pauline Heckman by Ruth Ann and Bernard A. Heckman; Marcia Harris, beloved wife, mother and grandmother, by Sondra and Sol Brody and Julian Levin; Irving Greene by Harold and Evelyn Greene; Milton Mapou by Howard and Julia Copperman.

Building Fund

In Memory Of: William Aisenberg by Irwin Aisenberg.

Cantor's Fund

In Memory Of: Edward Abraham Cantor by Marcia Cantor-Grable.

Chevra Kadisha Fund

In Honor Of: Sabina Shalom by Marion F. Wolff. In Memory Of: My revered and beloved father, Joseph Prepsler, by Sabina Shalom; Clara Cohen by Ken and Beth Berman; My dear friend, Clare Lerner, by Sabina Shalom; David Finbloom by Brenda, Jim, Josh and Carly Schmand; Clare Lerner, mother of Suzie and Howard Lerner by Judith J. Newman; Isaac Holiber by Jerome Holiber; Hyman Tunkle by Jonathan S. Silber.

College Fund

In Honor Of: The birth of Adina Sarah Scheinberg by David and Sonja Schultz; Refua Sheleyma for the brother of Tutti Sokol by David and Sonja Schultz. In Memory Of: Amy Levine Krantz, daughter of Boris and Leona Levine, by David and Sonja Schultz.

Conservative Judaism in Israel

In Honor Of: Dr. Irwin Kopin's special birthday by Ilene and David Jacobowitz.

Disabled Access Fund

In Honor Of: A speedy recovery of Vera Fassberg by Bea and Bernie Berger. In Memory Of: Jacob Max Horn by Josephine Horn.

Fine Arts Fund

In Memory Of: Amelia Hurwitz by Harold Hurwitz; In Memory Of: Frederick Sherman, father, by Melva Tofsky.

General Fund

Suzanne and Benjamin Bronheim; Sharon and Jeremy Zissman; Robert and Michele Lieban Levine. In Honor Of: Jack Edlow's 50th birthday by Helen and Charles Wylar; Dr. Jack Epstein, our good neighbor, by Jeffrey and Janet Rathner. In Memory Of: Ethel K. Werner by Doris E. Wright; Clare S. Lerner by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Schweid; Daniel Paskow, brother of Miriam Crowell, by Myra and Harold Brill; Harold Fassberg, father of Linda Fassberg, by Rita and Jonathan Cohen; Clare Lerner by Mrs. Schell H. Wessel; Ethel Werner by Sandy and Rick Thau; Dr.

Harold Fassberg, father of Roseanne Fassberg, by Network Systems Support Team; Ethel Werner by Harold L. Talisman; Our loving aunt, Ethel Werner, by Natalie and Lenny LaBelle; Robert Fields, father of Ivy Fields, by Rita and Jonathan Cohen.

Israel Experience Teen Fund

In Honor Of: The Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Raim by Zweig Family; The Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Schmand by Zweig Family. In Memory Of: Morris Heckman by Ruth Ann and Bernard A. Heckman; Raphael Corson by Dr. Audrey Corson.

Kimball Nursery School Fund

In Honor Of: The birth of the Beckhardt's son, Joshua Benjamin, by Gale and Ron Dutcher. In Memory Of: Deana Cohen Bodner, aunt, by Dr. Adam Goldstein.

Library Fund

In Memory Of: Milton S. Kaufman by Dr. and Mrs. Steven M. Kaufman; Frances and Victor Mendoza by Harold Elwyn; Nathan Mendeloff by Betty L. Blum; Abraham Finley Binder, father and grandfather, by Jon, Cathy; Jessica and Daniel Binder.

Masorti

In Memory Of: Harold Fassberg by Murray and Anne Foss.

Mazon

In Honor Of: Elaine Pines by Neil Levy; Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Larsen, grandson of Carole and Louis Potash, by Ilene and David Jacobowitz; Cary Feldman's 50th birthday by Debby Reiser and Bart Widom; Julia Goldstein's 16th birthday by David and Joan Goldstein. In Memory Of: David Finbloom by Sidney and Janet Getz; Clare Lerner by Hans Hirsch; Harold Fassberg by Hans Hirsch; Clare Lerner, mother of Susan and Howard Lerner, by Marilyn D. and Daniel Kweller; Elaine Press, twin sister of Ann Barcome by Al Fox; Kenneth Tucker, brother of Trudy Weker, by Al and Evelyn Fox; Mrs. Ethel Werner by Dr. Emanuel M. and Harriet Rabin.

Mercaz

In Honor Of: Cheryl Kreiser, for teaching Haftorah to the B'nai Mitzvah Class, by Beverly Goldsmith.

Mintz Landscaping Fund

In Memory Of: Harold Fassberg by Carolyn and Sigmund Shapiro; Ethel Werner by Carolyn and Sigmund Shapiro; Clare Lerner by Carolyn and Sigmund Shapiro.

Morning Minyan Fund

In Memory Of: Ethel Werner by Henry E. Freedman; Ruben Kaplovsky by Lillian Miller; David Finbloom by Henry E. Freedman; Label Forman, uncle of Julian Levin by Julian Levin; Sally Goldberg by Jack Minker; Fanny F. Levin, mother, by Julian Levin; Max Kleine, father, by Herman Kleine.

Perspectives Fund

In Memory Of: Kenneth Tucker, brother of Trudy Weker, by Rosalie M. Sporn.

Prayerbook Fund

In Honor Of: Morris David Lerner by Herbert J. and Dianne J. Lerner. In Memory Of: Nettie Rauch by Ruth Ann and Bernard A. Heckman; Evelyn and William Ginsberg by Vivian and Phillip Gorden; Barmet Lehrhaupt by Charles Lehrhaupt; Dr. David Finbloom by Bert

and Judy Spector; Dora Prag by Herbert J. and Dianne J. Lerner; Lewis David Prag by Herbert J. and Dianne J. Lerner.

Rabbi's Fund

In Honor Of: Rabbi Rudolph by Sheila Birnbach. In Memory Of: Theresa Nagler, mother of Mr. Leslie Nagler, by Dolly and Marvin Band; Theresa Nagler, mother of Mrs. Phyllis Rosenblum by Dolly and Marvin Band; Leonard Davidov by Dolly and Marvin Band; David Finbloom by Paula and Sid Horowitz; Gloria Dreilinger by Craig Dreilinger; Jules and Susan Sternberg by Carl M. Leventhal; My parents by Mitchell J. Cooper; Yahrzeit for Abraham Dosik by Howard and Sondra Bender; Abraham Sherman by Sylvan Sherman; David Finbloom by Andrea, Mike, Nate and Hilary Druckman; Leo Schimmel, dearly loved husband, by Jane Schimmel.

School Enrichment Fund

In Memory Of: Aaron Kaufman by Dr. Ava Kaufman.

Sisterhood Hospitality Fund

In Honor Of: Women of the Sisterhood by Priscilla and George Tievsky. In Memory Of: Ethel Werner by Priscilla and George Tievsky.

Sisterhood Torah Fund

In Memory Of: Elaine Press, sister of Ann Barcome, by Sisterhood of Congregation Beth El.

Social Action Fund

In Honor Of: Tamira's graduation from the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School by Lois and Stan Hartman; Cary Feldman's 50th birthday by Lois and Stan Hartman. In Memory Of: Ethel Werner by Martin and Naomi Levy; Clare Lerner by Daniel and Elaine Mann; David Kaufman by Amy Kaufman Goott; David Finbloom by Miriam Davidson.

Suls Youth Activities Fund

In Honor Of: Jacob Cohn's Bar Mitzvah by Betsy Roth, Howard Moss and Family; Susan Levine, Bob Janney and Family for your hospitality by Betsy Roth, Howard Moss and Family. In Memory Of: Amy Krantz by Karl Freiberg; Robert Fields, father of Ivy Fields, by Leesa Fields and Jonathan Band.

Vatikkim

In Memory Of: William W. Harvey by Herbert and Lila Harvey; Clare Lerner by Jack and Bea Goldman.

Barbara Wolf "Israel Quest" Fund

In Memory Of: Clare Lerner by Seymour D. Wolf; Barbara Wolf by Debby and Menachem Shoham and Grandchildren.

World Jewry

Joseph & Edith Weisz. In Memory Of: Louis Berman by Ken and Beth Berman; Philip Zimmerman by Hyman J. Zimmerman; David Finbloom, beloved husband of Thera, by Sarah C. Kalsner; Clare Lerner by Claire Marwick.

*Baruch Dayan
Emet*

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to Stuart Weisberg on the death of his brother, Barry Weisberg; to David Lorr on the death of his mother, Flori Lorr; to Michael Siegel on the death of his father, Aaron Siegel; to Harold Hurwitz on the death of his sister, Anne Greenberg; to Colin Winston on the death of his mother, Ida Winston; and to David Goldman on the death of his sister, Ruth Smith.

Nitzanim

Nitzanim Shabbat Services are held on 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 hope you will join us! Todah Rabah to Michael and Andrea Druckman for sponsoring the Nitzanim Kiddush on April 10 in honor of the third birthday of their daughter, Hilary Druckman.

Beth El Cemetery Section at Judean Gardens

Cemetery sites are currently being sold at Judean Gardens in Olney, Maryland. Beth El's first section is almost full. Please contact Carole Wellner at (301) 652-2606, ext. 316 to receive our brochure.

Chevra Kadisha

The work of the Chevra Kadisha may not always be fully understood and the Committee would like to explain some of the duties and obligations that are a part of its administrations. Many of these are neither demanding nor unpleasant, but in order to meet the needs of those who may at some time require such services, additional voluntary help is greatly needed. A meeting of the Chevra Kadisha will be held in the Board Room at 11 a.m. on Sunday, May 23, at which time a presentation will be made outlining the many non-stressful ways in which new members can feel encouraged to join this dedicated group of workers. A physician will also be on hand to answer any questions that might touch upon the hygienic aspect of our work. In addition and of general interest, is the need to be informed of the heavy, and sometimes hidden, expenses of funerals and the services and options that are offered. This most important aspect enables one to avoid making hasty decisions at a time when expediency and grief overshadow one's choices. Participation in the work of Chevra Kadisha is, perhaps, one of the most important contributions any congregant can make to ease the burdens of a grieving family in times of bereavement. Your interest is earnestly solicited, and we hope you will make every effort to attend this most worthwhile and enlightening meeting. Brunch will be served, but in order to ensure adequate catering, please call Sabina Shalom, (301) 564-5751, by May 18 if you plan to attend.

Community Based Shelter Week, May 16 - 23

Congregation Beth El is scheduled to volunteer at the Community Based Shelter (CBS) in Rockville during the third week of May. Beth El volunteers can help out beginning with dinner on Sunday, May 16 and ending with breakfast and brown bag lunches on Sunday, May 23. Our responsibilities will include preparation of three precooked meals (breakfast, bag lunches and a hot dinner) for each shelter day, and setting up, serving and cleaning up the evening meal. We also are responsible for providing paper goods. If you are interested in participating, please call Carolyn Wallace at (301) 656-3142.

CBS also has a wish list which includes laundry soap, dishwasher soap, toilet paper, hygiene items (deodorant, razors, shaving cream, toothbrushes and toothpaste), canned goods, towels and washcloths and linens. If you can donate any of these items, please call Patricia Fox-Morrill, CBS Program Director, at (301) 770-2413.

Mark Your Social Action Calendars

The Social Action Committee will meet on Monday, May 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room to begin planning Beth El's third annual synagogue-wide Mitzvah Day. If you missed out on the action last year, this is your chance to get involved early. The list of Mitzvah Day activities includes something for everyone: sorting clothing, books, toiletries and toys for the needy; cooking for a shelter; volunteering at the Capital Area Food Bank; cleaning up Glen Echo Park and our own grounds at Beth El; entertaining our adopted family at the Hebrew Home; bowling with residents of Jewish Foundation for Group Homes...and more. Mitzvah Day is a wonderful opportunity for Beth El to unite as a family and work to enhance our environment and enrich our community. We're hoping many families will find the time to join with fellow congregants to make Mitzvah Day a success. If you would like to participate in this event and cannot attend the meeting, please call Abbie Eckland at (301) 320-9433.

Shavuot

Shavuot will take place this year on May 21 and May 22. Literally, "the holiday of weeks," Shavuot marks the culmination of the 50-day counting period of the agricultural harvest — thus explaining its name Yom Ha-Bikkurim, the holiday of first fruits. Shavuot also has historical significance, since tradition states that the Torah was presented to the Jewish people on the 6th day of Sivan. For this reason, Shavuot is designated as Zman Matan Toratenu — the time of giving our Torah.

Special Torah readings are assigned for these two days of Yom Tov — the highlight of which is the chanting of the Decalogue on the first morning, On the second day, Yizkor memorial prayers are said.

Shavuot is a triple holiday, a three-fold celebration which commemorates:

- The giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai
- The harvesting of wheat in Israel
- The ripening of the first fruit in the Holy Land

The Rabbis declared Shavuot to be the most pleasant of all Jewish holidays. It complements Passover well and brings that great festival to a glorious conclusion. On Passover the Jews were freed from slavery, and on Shavuot the freed slaves were transformed into free human beings by the Ten Commandments.

*The Families of the Confirmation Class Cordially Invite
the Congregation to the Confirmation Exercises
on Friday, the twenty-first of May,
nineteen hundred and ninety-nine
at 9:15 a.m.
Congregation Beth El*

Beth El's 1999 Confirmation Class

*Rachel Benjamin, daughter of Jody and Bobby Benjamin
Anna Stephanie Cohen, daughter of Helen and Charles Cohen
Rebecca Dreilinger, daughter of Amanda Ford and Craig Dreilinger
Emily Tova Eckland, daughter of Abbie and Bill Eckland
Rebecca Eisen, daughter of Claire Shapiro and Eric Eisen
Joseph Willy Friedmann, son of Debra and Peter Friedmann
Jacob Bradley Goldsmith, son of Beverly and Barry Goldsmith
Michael Hoffman, son of Andrea and Abram Hoffman
Ariel Hurwitz, daughter of Barbara and Ely Hurwitz
Jennifer Lebovich, daughter of Karen and William Lebovich
Joshua Rosenbloom, son of Deborah and David Rosenbloom
Rachel Ross, daughter of Deborah and Dennis Ross
Shira R. Savada, daughter of Andrea and Elias Savada
Ari Schoenholtz, son of Janice Liebowitz and Andy Schoenholtz
Justin Shapiro, son of Eve and Howard Shapiro
Elisabeth Theodore, daughter of Judith Fradkin and William Theodore*

Tikkun Lail Shavuot - Thursday, May 20, 1999

It is a time-honored custom to study Torah on the eve of Shavuot, commemorating the anniversary of the giving of the Law. The morning the Jews were supposed to receive the Torah at Sinai, they overslept. Moses had to wake them up! This is one explanation for the custom of staying up all night studying on the eve of Shavuot. Come learn together on Thursday evening, May 20. Congregants of all ages are welcome to attend. Both children's and adults' programs will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will include dinner. The Maariv Service at 8 p.m. concludes the children's evening. The service will be followed by adult study sessions led by Rabbi Rudolph and Hazzan Lubin. If you would like to join us for the light meal and study sessions, please return the coupon on the following page to the synagogue office by Thursday, May 13. Please contact a member of the clergy if you have questions about the adults' program; contact Sarah Roark, (301) 652-2606, ext. 320, with any questions about the children's program.

Shavuot/Bikkurim Ceremony

The festival of Shavuot will be celebrated on Friday, May 21 and Saturday, May 22. Families are invited to celebrate Shavuot and the bringing of "Bikkurim" (first harvest fruits and flowers) to the synagogue during services on Friday, May 21.

It is a tradition at Beth El for children up to third grade age to bring a basket filled with fresh fruit and flowers of your choosing to beautify the synagogue (later to be distributed to the needy). There will be a children's procession during the service. There will be refreshments following the service and babysitting is available during services.

**Thursday May 20th, 1999
Tikkun Leil Shavuot
All Ages**

Adults will attend:

6:30 Mincha

6:45 Dinner

7:15-8:00 Teaching Session with Rabbi Jonathan Maltzman

8:00 Maariv

8:15-9:30 Teaching Sessions with Rabbi William Rudolph and Hazzan Abraham Lubin

Children's programming will be run by Sarah Roark and Louis Nagel from 6:30-8:00 including dinner. Families will be encouraged to reunite for Maariv.

Name(s) _____

Phone Number _____

If children are attending please list their ages:

**There will be a five dollar fee per person to cover the cost of dinner.
R.S.V.P. to the synagogue office by May 13th.**

Lost Jacket

A black down jacket from The Gap was lost at Beth El (or accidentally switched). Please check if your child has a jacket like this; the lost one is a size medium and has the name Eric Harris in it. The Harris family has the other jacket, which is a size small, with no name in it. Please call Robin Harris at (301) 983-2533 to switch jackets.

Religious School News

Shitufim Minyan

The Shitufim (Participant's) Minyan got off to a great start on Saturday, March 20 with eighteen children and nine parents present. This new Junior Congregation service is directed at third and fourth graders (and second graders who are ready to graduate from Gan Shabbat) and their parents. The program was developed by the Religious School and Family Education department and is funded by a United Jewish Appeal Federation grant. The services are led by Ira Haber, who grew up at Beth El, celebrated Bar Mitzvah here and teaches in the Religious School. Services for the remainder of this year will be on May 1, May 22 and June 5 from 11-12 in room 209.

Jewish Values for the Late 50s (5750s) - A Ninth Grade Program

Our ninth grade students recently participated in a Board of Jewish Education (BJE) organized program designed to present the students with a series of Jewish values and contemporary issues to which those values may apply. The program, Jewish Values for the Late 50s (5750s), was a series of in-class sessions culminating in a community program that brought over 120 ninth graders from Maryland and DC synagogue schools together at the JCC in Rockville. The curriculum was developed by the Washington Institute for Jewish Leadership and Values. The concluding exercise involved the Sheinbein case. The questions: "Should the Jewish community support the Hispanic community's protest?" and "What are the Jewish values which support your position?"

Student and teacher feedback on the program was decidedly positive. Among the aspects the students appreciated were the opportunity to get together with Jewish teenagers from other schools, the emphasis on discussions, and the content. The teachers commented favorably on the BJE organized training (which was balanced between the particular course content and general pedagogic skills) and the study materials.

BENS 1999-2000 Calendar

We are soliciting ads for next year's calendar.
If your profession, organization or
business is interested in placing an ad,
call (301) 652-2606, ext. 311 for information.

Our calendar is distributed to the entire congregation, plus walk-in visitors to the main office.