



CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY



Info on Inreach

Note: This is the first in a series of updates provided by Beth El's Inreach Committee. The Committee was created by the Board in 1997 to look at the ways we serve our membership, to identify member needs within our large congregation and develop strategies to meet these needs. The three general focuses are new member services, programs for the general membership, and senior services.

Update from the New Member Welcoming Sub-Committee

From January through November 1999, we welcomed 65 new member families to Congregation Beth El. We delivered to the homes of each new member a gift bag including wine and sweets. The families were very appreciative. We want to thank the following members who went beyond the call of duty to meet and greet these many new members. They are Rosalyn Bass, Beryl and Gloria Frank, Hattie Goodman, Marcia Kalman, Susan Levine, Claire Marwick, Roy Millenson, Faith Schwartz, Judy Sherman, and Dora Weinstein. If you are interested in helping with this project, please call Co-Chair Karen Lipkind at (301) 530-8615. Karen and Debbie Leibowitz chair this important effort.

Rabbi Bill Rudolph

DECEMBER 31, 1999

22 TEVET 5760

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IRS Charitable Contribution Rules

The 1993 tax law requires you to have a "contemporaneous" receipt for all charitable contributions of \$250.00 or more after December 31, 1993. If you make a contribution of \$75.00 or more for which you also receive something of value in return, you are also required to have a receipt showing the nondeductible value of what you received.

To reduce your paperwork, and ours, we take advantage of the provision of the law which allows the use of an annual statement which will satisfy your "contemporaneous" receipt requirement. **In order to insure that all payments made by you during 1999 are reflected on that statement, our statement will include all payments received in the Beth El office through January 7, 2000. Contribution statements will be mailed by January 21, 2000.**

Important Meeting for Parents of 2001 B'nai Mitzvah

Please plan to attend the meeting on Sunday, January 9 at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary for the parents of children who will become B'nai Mitzvah in 2001.

Shabbat Schedule

December 31

6:30 pm Friday Night Service
7 pm Millennium Shabbat Dinner, SH

January 1

7:30 and 9:15 am Shabbat Services
Sh'mot: Exodus 1:1-6:1
10 am Jr. Congregation
Worship and Study Minyan, APR

12:30 pm Perek Yomi, Chapel

Friday, January 7

6:30 pm Friday Night Service

Saturday, January 8

7:30 and 9:15 am Shabbat Services

Vaera: Exodus 6:2-9:35

9:15 am Ian Solomon Bar Mitzvah

10 am Jr. Congregation

10:30 am Nitzanim, APR

11 am Shitufim Minyan, Room 209

12:30 pm Perek Yomi, Chapel

Friday, January 14

6:30 pm Friday Night Service

Saturday, January 15

7:30 and 9:15 am Shabbat Services

Bo: Exodus 10:1-13:16

9:15 am Dena Greenblum Bat Mitzvah

Joshua Rosenthal Bar Mitzvah

10 am Jr. Congregation
Learners' Minyan, APR

Gan Shabbat, MR

12:30 pm Perek Yomi, Chapel



Sisterhood News

Ten Sisterhood members participated in the Seaboard Branch of Women's League for Conservative Judaism (WLCJ) Education Day on November 14 at Nevey Shalom Congregation in Bowie, MD. It was a wonderful opportunity to study with Dr. David Kraemer, Professor of Rabbinics at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Dr. Kraemer is indeed an extraordinary scholar and teacher. Rabbi Ronald Kopelman, of Nevey Shalom, led a very interesting Torah study, followed by a delicious lunch. The feedback from attendees was excellent.

The next Seaboard Branch Education Day, a Tu Bishvat Seder to be held at Har Shalom, will be on Sunday, January 23, 2000. "Can We, Should We, Must We Save the World?" ...Jewish perspectives on the environment. This will be an interactive workshop led by Mike Tabor, cofounder of Shomrei Adumah of the Greater Washington Area. A Tu Bishvat Seder led by Cantor Sharon Wallach of Adat Chaim Congregation will follow. The cost for this special event is \$15. Please call Paula Horowitz at (301) 365-7930 or e-mail: paulasid@aol.com for more information.

Five Sisterhood members attended a special gifts Torah Fund reception for Seaboard Branch WLCJ on November 17 at the home of Robert Lehrman, Chairman of the Board of the Hirschorn Museum. Mr. Lehrman conducted a tour of his very extensive and interesting art collection which adorns his home. It was a delightful evening for those in attendance.

The first session of the Women's Rosh Hodesh Group met on November 16. Rabbi Janet Ozur Bass led the discussion and introduced this year's topic, "Women and the Synagogue." Rabbi Bass traced the historical background from biblical and Temple times. Using the chevrotah method of teaching with sources from Tanach and the Talmud, all attendees were involved in the learning process. We discovered that women brought sacrifices to the altar and that the women's courtyard in the Temple was occupied by both sexes. The gender conflict became more pronounced in medieval times and reflected the attitudes of the society in general. Our next session will be held on January 18 and promises to be educational and stimulating at the same time, thanks to our leader. Attendance at the previous sessions is not a prerequisite to participate in further sessions. Handouts from previous sessions will be available.

Have you been keeping up with the news of Jewish interest in the Washington area? An easy way to do this and help Sisterhood at the same time is to subscribe to the Washington Jewish Week. Sisterhood benefits from your subscription with no additional cost to you. Please call Leslie Dellon at (301) 530-4645 for more information.

Sisterhood wants to thank Danielle Srouer and Barbara Klein for their efforts in ensuring that the November 21 Mitzvah Day was so successful. Sisterhood ran the kitchen, organized the cooking and donated and prepared meals and desserts for Rainbow Shelter.

Don't forget Sisterhood's hotline number is (301) 652-2606, ext. 333. This is an easy way to get updates on Sisterhood activities and to leave a message for Sisterhood. Calls will be answered as quickly as possible.

Sisterhood Dor l'Dor Program

The Sisterhood Dor l'Dor Program will take place in the Spring of 2000. We are looking for volunteers to help us develop this multilevel program. We will break into three different workshops, all of which will help us trace our family history through cooking, family photo albums and genealogy. Please leave your name and phone number on the Sisterhood hotline (301) 652-2606, ext. 333, and someone from Sisterhood will call you. Please join us on this journey.

All in the Family

Mazal Tov to **Ronnie and Evelyn Treinish** on their 50th wedding anniversary. Rabbi Maltzman conducted a ceremony in which they repeated their vows. All of their children and grandchildren participated.

Mazal Tov to **Barry Goldsmith** who completed the New York Marathon on November 7, 1999.

Congregation Beth El wishes a speedy recovery to **Martin Dembo and Bernice Gold**.

The College Fund Needs You!

College can be a stressful time, especially being away from home for the first time. That's why the Beth El College Committee provides support and care packages to our students who are away at college. You can support our outreach efforts by donating to the College Fund. Todah Rabah for your contributions.

Beth El Boy Scout Troop 1800 Representation at Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The following letter was received by Benson D. Adams, President of Beth El:

Dear Mr. Adams:

I very much enjoyed the Thanksgiving service with United Methodist Church - a lovely tradition. I hope you were as proud as I was to see a large contingent of Boy Scouts from Beth El's Troop 1800 at the service, along with their parents. A number of people from both congregations remarked about it to me (I was identifiable wearing my Scout shirt.) This troop is a remarkable collection of dedicated boys who express their Judaism through Boy Scouts both by observing religious occasions and through community service. Week after week, fifteen or so Scouts meet at Beth El, learn and have fun together and, I think, take great strides towards being outstanding young adults and members of their synagogues and communities. The troop does not seek a lot of recognition from the shul, but their visible presence that night as representatives of Beth El is worthy of note. In the spirit of the holiday, we need to say "thank you" to Troop 1800 - and I guess this letter is my way of doing so.

It is a privilege for me to work with the Scouts, their parents, and the adult leaders of the troop, and I hope you and all of the leaders of Beth El will share the pride that the boys' parents and I take in their activities and achievements.

Best wishes,

Howard B. Shapiro

Troop 1800 Parents Committee Chair

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. 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.

January 2 to January 6

Raymond and Lenora Lassen
 Arnold and Dorothea Lear
 William and Karen Lebovich
 Vladimir and Jolie Lechtman
 Lester and Ruth Lee
 Charles Lehrhaupt and Frances Eisenstein
 Deborah Leibowitz
 Frances Leibowitz
 Ira Leibowitz and Joann Stern
 Franklin and Judy Leibsly
 Joseph Leiter
 Myron and Lenore Lenkin
 Martin and Linda Leon
 Warren and Leslie Leonard
 Reuven and Dora Leopold
 Allen and Barbara Lerman
 Herbert and Dianne Lerner
 Sylvia Lesselroth
 Frances Lesser
 Howard Lesser and Hanna Gutmann

January 9 to January 13

Lawrence and Judith Lessin
 Charlotte Levenson
 Carl Leventhal
 Jeffrey Levey and Judy Gilbert Levey
 Edgar and Naomi Levin
 Jonathan and Judith Levin
 Joseph and Ellen Levin
 Julian Levin
 Daniel and Mirella Levinas
 Barry Levine and Tracy Bone
 Boris and Leona Levine
 David and Jacquelyn Levine
 Howard and Janet Levine
 Kenneth Levine and Diana Huffman
 Philip and Barbara Levine
 Robert and Andrea Levine
 Robert Levine and Michele Lieban Levine
 Herbert and Anita Levinson
 Edward Leviton and Sondra Solomon
 Mark Levitt and Kay Klass

Beth El Needs You!

The Nominating Committee will be convening soon and is looking for a few good people to lead our congregation into the 21st century. If you are interested in a position as an officer, trustee or committee chairperson, please advise the Nominating Committee in writing through the synagogue office prior to January 15, 2000. All input will be forwarded to the Nominating Committee for its consideration. If you are interested in joining a committee, please call the committee chairperson.

New Service Booklet

The booklet describing our services has been totally revised and rewritten and can be found in the bookrack at your seat in the Sanctuary. These booklets, entitled The Jewish Worship Service at Beth El, are directed at both guests and synagogue members. The goal of the booklets is to help explain and understand what is seen, heard and done at a Beth El religious service. Thanks to the committee that prepared the booklet: Benson Adams, Gary Bernstecker, Mimi Godfrey, David Goldman, Bernie Rod, David Schultz and Marvin Yudkovitz. Thanks also to the many individuals who read drafts of the booklet and provided invaluable comments and suggestions. Thanks especially to Rabbis Maltzman and Rudolph, Hazzan Lubin, members of the Ritual Committee and Keruv, as well as all of the individual members and their friends for the time they spent. Lastly, thank you to the Beth El Men's Club for underwriting the entire cost of the printing of the booklets. Copies of these booklets are available for sale in the Sisterhood Judaica Shop. We hope that this booklet contributes to making the services more meaningful for everyone!

Marvin Yudkovitz
 Chairman of the Project

Baruch Dayan Emet

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to Marilyn Wind on the death of her aunt, Rose Rosenberg; to Peter Schissler on the death of his father, Isadore Schissler; to Joanne Weinberg on the death of her father, Frank Ochman; to Joseph Levin on the death of his father, Philip Levin; and to Dan Matz on the death of his mother, Chaya Matz.

BETH EL SCROLL

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Beth El: My Place to Connect with Judaism and the Jewish Community

I so enjoyed reading the Scroll article discussing the importance of the Capital Campaign from the perspective of a young couple that I wanted to offer my own, middle-age thoughts on Beth El and the Capital Campaign.

Like so many others, I joined Beth El when my son entered Religious School 12 years ago. I just wanted a place to pray and to begin my children's religious education. Saul Bendit was my first real experience with Beth El. I then felt comfortable enough to talk with Rabbi Rudolph about my intermarriage and synagogue life. Later, Rabbi Maltzman initiated the formation of Keruv, and I began to get "connected."

As my children made their way through Religious School, Louis Nagel suggested that I join the School Committee. Then, when the Hazzan formed his first Torah trope class, 25 of us joined; at the end, only two remained. Now, of course, his classes are full and few drop out. After the class, Hazzan Lubin gently insisted that I prepare to read from the Bimah, as he has done for so many women in this congregation. Each activity seemed to lead me to the next, and each provided a number of good friends.

Many of those who read this have their own "Beth El Biography." Many find a place and stay, while others, like me, use one niche as a base from which to explore many others. A woman shared with me that she was not able to easily find a place for herself until Ahavat Shir was formed; she joined and now feels connected simply by her participation in our wonderful choir.

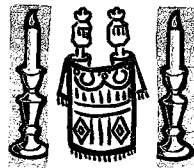
When our children celebrated their B'nai Mitzvah, my non-Jewish husband was permitted to stand with them on the Bimah during my Aliyah. He has always felt welcome at Beth El and has commented frequently on the warmth with which he is received by a wide variety of people. Rabbis Maltzman and Rudolph and Hazzan Lubin set this tone, and Bob and I thank them. My son is now a Bar Mitzvah tutor and an Aide at the Religious School (and my daughter soon will be). My family feels very much a part of this community.

Even though there are several nearby synagogues, people keep joining Beth El and few leave. Some may stay for convenience, but I believe that most people stay because this is a vital community - from our clergy to our highly-rated Religious School and Nursery School to our Adult Education offerings to the incredible Torah projects to Sisterhood and the Men's Club to our social action groups, the senior, youth, and family programming to all the support groups and Havurot to the choir and soon-to-be-formed chamber group. Everyone could have a niche at Beth El.

My husband is a government worker and I am a part-time Speech Therapist. We have a son going to college next year and our daughter is only four years behind him. We live comfortably and giving to the Capital Campaign was both our responsibility and our pleasure. Beth El plays an important role in my family's life and my life personally. I think most Beth El members can say the same. To me, it is so important to have a place where I can connect with both Judaism and the Jewish community; Beth El is just such a place.

Susan J. Levine

Set the Table



with Torah

Set the Table with Torah

Introductory word: a discussion about the week's Torah portion is a good Shabbat dinner custom. Make the discussion as long or short, as simple or complicated, as your dinner crowd can handle.

Parshat Shemot

(for the week ending Shabbat, January 1)

Jacob and his 12 sons and their families have come down to Egypt to live with Joseph and escape the famine. Later on, a new Pharaoh arises who didn't know all that Joseph had done and the Israelites are forced to become slaves, doing difficult slave labor for four hundred years until Moses is called to lead them to freedom.

Moses' call to lead the people came from the midst of a burning bush. If you walked by a bush that was burning, would you stop long enough to notice that it wasn't being burned up? Isn't finding G-d often just about looking at things that everybody sees and stopping long enough to see if they are special? As for the bush itself, the rabbis say G-d appeared in a bush because, just as a bush is a fence to a garden, so Israel is a fence (i.e., a moral protection) to the world. Do you think that is true, and if so, in what way(s) are we fulfilling that mission (how about education or tzedakah)?

Parshat Vaera

(for the week ending Shabbat, January 8)

Pharaoh doesn't want to let the Jewish people go free, because slave labor costs him practically nothing and it would be embarrassing for any ruler to let slaves go on their own way without at least a struggle, so G-d brings plagues upon him and his people.

The plagues are really miracles, interruptions in the natural order of the world. Many people are uncomfortable with miracles and try, for example, to explain each of the plagues as some coincidental natural event. What do you think about miracles? Have you ever seen a miracle? Can you believe in G-d without believing in miracles? Or did Spinoza have it right when he said that the universe itself is a miracle but its laws are inexorable (unchanging)?

Please cut out this article and save it for your Friday Shabbat dinner discussion. For further discussions of Parshat Hashavua geared toward families, get on the web at www.jewishfamily.com "Portion of the Week" and www.uahc.org "Shabbat Table Talk".

Learners' Minyan

The Learners' Minyan meets on the third Shabbat of each month in the All Purpose Room from 10 a.m. to noon. The service, conducted by Rabbi Rudolph, is designed for the novice worshipper. It moves much less quickly. It is very hands-on in orientation, from how to put on the talit, to knowing when to bow, to practicing how to have an aliyah. There is also a focus each time on a different major portion of the service. Questions and discussions are very much encouraged. No registration or advance sign-up required. Contact Rabbi Rudolph, (301) 652-2606, ext. 318, for more information.

BETH EL WEEKEND RETREAT 2000
MARCH 10-12, 2000
WITH GUEST SCHOLAR RABBI MARSHALL MALTZMAN!

Sign up TODAY for Beth El's WEEKEND RETREAT 2000, to be held at the beautiful Tidewater Inn in historic Easton, MD (a 90-minute drive from Bethesda). Share a relaxed Shabbat in a beautiful, family-friendly setting with Rabbi Maltzman, Cantor Lubin and your fellow congregants and friends. The Beth El Retreat will give you and your family a unique opportunity to enjoy a weekend of learning, camaraderie and just plain fun. Beth El Weekend Retreat 2000 will be held from Friday evening, March 10 through Sunday noon March 12.

We are honored to have as our special Scholar-in-Residence Rabbi Marshall J. Maltzman, Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El of Wynnewood, PA. Rabbi Marshall Maltzman will share with us his great knowledge, insights and sense of humor on the topic "**Three Who Thumbed Their Noses at Us: Spinoza, Lindbergh, and Rockefeller**". Many of you have heard Rabbi Maltzman speak at our synagogue in the past, particularly at his son Rabbi Jonathan Maltzman's 10th anniversary celebration at Beth El.

In addition to study/discussion sessions with Rabbi M. Maltzman Friday evening and Sunday morning, our weekend will include Shabbat afternoon free time with informal activities available, including access to the local YMCA for a nominal fee. Saturday night, back by popular demand, will be an evening of ISRAELI FOLK DANCING led by Rocky Corr!

<u>Per Person rates</u>	<u>After Jan. 1</u>
Double occupancy	\$230
Single adult	\$325
Children, ages 2-16	\$ 80
Children (2 in separate room)	\$335
Children under 2	Free

Rooms are configured with king, queen, two double beds and two twin beds. Some adjoining rooms are available. Rollaway beds and cribs available on request. No pets allowed. Space is limited, registrations and room/bedding requests taken on first come, first served basis. Refunds available only if substitutions are made. All forms and payments are due in the synagogue office by FEBRUARY 1, 2000. If you have questions, call Sandy Elson (301) 469-6238 or Linda Liebowitz (301) 770-9597.

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NAMES _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DAY PHONE _____ EVENING PHONE _____

AGES OF CHILDREN _____ TYPE OF ROOM(S) REQUESTED _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ SPECIAL REQUESTS _____

We will need babysitting (fee to be determined) We would like a day pass to the YMCA (about \$5 each)

My _____ year old child can help with babysitting/children's activities We can organize a Havdalah service

We can provide a ride We need a ride We can help with transporting religious supplies

JSSA Seeks Volunteer Jewish Big Brothers

For a young boy whose dad is not in his life, a Jewish Big Brother can make all the difference in the world. At least twice a month, the youngster can count on his Jewish Big Brother to spend time with him, give him special attention, and maybe even take in a ball game.

The Jewish Social Service Agency has a waiting list of youngsters from single-parent homes who need and want a Jewish Big Brother. JSSA is seeking adult volunteers willing to make a commitment to a child. Volunteers can be single or married, working or retired, and of any age. The only requirement is a desire to serve as a friend and mentor to a child who can benefit from extra attention and guidance. Each volunteer Jewish Big Brother is paired with a child based on common interests and location. Volunteers are asked to see their young friends at least twice a month, and to maintain phone contact between visits. Volunteers receive an initial orientation and ongoing support from JSSA staff.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Marilyn Polon, JSSA coordinator of volunteers, at (301) 816-2638.

Men's Club News

You are invited to attend the Beth El Men's Club's regular Sunday breakfast programs and to join the Men's Club. The Men's Club supports programs including the renowned Perspectives in Dialogue series, political forums, awards and other events.

The Men's Club also sponsors youth programs including scouting, the Purim Carnival, the annual Magic Show, Israeli scholarships, school books, Bar Mitzvah kiddush cups, and other important activities. Your participation makes it possible! For membership information, please call Marvin Yudkowitz at (301) 564-4580.

Special Event Jan. 9: The Men's Club again congratulates Roy Millenson on being named this year's Blue Yarmulke Man of the Year from Beth El. The Blue Yarmulke award dinner will be held at Chizuk Amuno Congregation in Baltimore on January 9. The Men's club has chartered a bus from Beth El to Chizuk Amuno for the event. To sign up, please contact David Schultz at (301) 530-1620.

Regular Sunday Morning Breakfast Programs: Lox and bagel breakfasts at 9:30 am (after the 9:00 am minyan), with program from 10 to 11 am. All congregants are welcome. Check the Men's Club poster in the Rotunda for updated details.

Upcoming programs:

Jan. 2: "Searching for God in America", a film narrated by Rabbi Harold Kushner

Jan. 9: Debby Leibowitz, "Gifts Grandparents Bring"

Jan. 16: Julian Spierer, "Sol Blum and the Congressional Response to the Holocaust"

Jan. 23: Dr. Murray Foss, "The Illustrated Guide to the American Economy"

Spiritual Support Group for Healthcare Professionals

The Washington Jewish Healing Network is offering a new Spiritual Support Group for Healthcare Professionals. This is the third time such a group is being offered. It will meet at Beth El for five consecutive Tuesdays starting February 1 at noon. Rabbi David Kaye and Dr. Carol Hausman will be leading the group. Please call Dr. Hausman at (202) 966-7851 for information and registration.

Men's Club to Honor Roy Millenson on January 9

The Men's Club congratulates Roy Millenson, who has been named its Man of the Year for 2000. He will be honored along with Men of the Year from other Baltimore and Washington area Men's Clubs at the Seaboard Region's 10th Annual Blue Yarmulke Dinner on Sunday, January 9, 2000, at 6:30 p.m. This year's dinner will be held at Chizuk Amuno Congregation in Baltimore. See the regular Men's Club announcement for information about a chartered bus to the event.

The cost of the dinner is \$50 per person. The deadline for reservations is January 4. To reserve a spot, send a check to Allan Cahan at the address below.

All are also encouraged to join in congratulating Roy by purchasing congratulatory ads in the program booklet for the Blue Yarmulke dinner. The cost of these ads is \$120 for a full page, \$75 for a half-page, \$40 for a quarter-page, and \$10 to have your name included in a list of Beth El members offering congratulations. To purchase an ad, please send the desired text and a check to Allan Cahan at the address below. Please make checks payable to Seaboard Region FJMC. The address for both reservations and congratulatory ads is: Allan Cahan, 1916 Alabaster Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904-5303

For more information, contact David Schultz (301)530-1620.

Havurat L'Chaim

The West Bethesda Havurah, now starting its Bat Mitzvah year, is proudly celebrating our coming of age by changing our name to Havurat L'Chaim. We feel this more appropriately reflects our nature, and also, our members do not all reside in the West Bethesda area. We meet on Sunday evenings once a month. Our programs are varied, ranging from the social dinner out to lively discussions on various complex and/or controversial issues confronting the Jewish people. Limited now to our current 24 members, we celebrate each other's simchas and also together support our members in times of need. If you are interested in learning more about what we do as a Havurah, please contact Ann Barcome at barcsys@solution4u. She has served as the Havurah coordinator since our establishment in the Fall of 1986.



**BETH EL'S
ISRAEL 2000
FAMILY TOUR**

**ESCORTED BY
RABBI JONATHAN & JULIE
MALTZMAN**

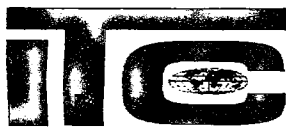
JULY 2 - JULY 16, 2000

VISIT-Jerusalem, Tiberias, Tel Aviv, Eilat, Dead Sea

- *JEEP RIDES* • • *RAFTING* •
- *ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG* •
- AND MUCH MUCH MORE!*

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Beth El Worship and Study Minyan

The Beth El Worship and Study Minyan will meet on Saturday, January 1 in the All Purpose Room from 10:00 am to noon. Jonathan Band will lead the discussion on the weekly Torah portion. 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, DOHirsch@aol.com; Sid Getz, (301) 530-2215, Sidgetz@aol.com; or Mark Levitt, (301) 365-5365, MKEMJ@aol.com, for more information.

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. The charge is \$1,250. Please contact Carole Wellner at (301) 652-2606, ext. 316 to receive our brochure.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

**Sunday, June 4, 2000
7:00 p.m.**

**Hazzan Abraham Lubin's 10th
Anniversary:
A Musical Celebration**

This coming year our congregation will celebrate Hazzan Lubin's 10th anniversary at Beth El. Plans are underway to honor our Hazzan for his decade of service with a special evening of music and tributes. Please save the date of June 4, 2000. It will be a night to remember! Check upcoming issues of the Scroll for more details.

Congregation Beth El Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions (As of December 3, 1999)

Bauer Confirmation Fund

In Honor Of: 85th birthday of Heinz Bauer by Judith and Jonathan Levin, Susan, Bob, Dara, Eryn and Sean Avjian, Roman and Hannah Kent, and Gertrude Fischbach. In Memory Of: Dorothy Waidley by Dr. Heinz Bauer.

Bendit Adult Institute Fund

In Honor Of: Mr. and Mrs. Mervyn Weiner, with gratitude, by Esther L. Isralow; Al Fox, with gratitude, by Esther L. Isralow; Michele Herman, with gratitude, by Esther L. Isralow; Steven Kravitz' service to Beth El by Wassertzug Family; Rabbi William Rudolph, with gratitude, by Esther L. Isralow; Susan Levine, with gratitude, by Esther L. Isralow.

Beth El Forest

In Honor Of: 50th Anniversary of Charlotte and Bernard Resnick by The Haber Family; Amelia Erica's Bat Mitzvah by Murray A. Haber; Craig Goldstein, for Morning Minyans during Shiva, by Brenda, Jim, Josh and Carly Schmand; Walter and Jacob Cohn, for Morning Minyans during Shiva, by Brenda, Jim, Josh and Carly Schmand; Jon and David Schraub, for Morning Minyans during Shiva, by Brenda, Jim, Josh and Carly Schmand. In Memory Of: Ann Sadoff by Charlotte and Bernard Resnick; Beloved mother, Edna F. Feldman, by Sondra and Sol Brody; Sarah Rifka Hertz by Suzanne R. Glaser; Mr. Ted Cohen by Debbie and Ed Bloom; Aaron Bard by Rose and Sam Saady.

Building Fund

In Honor Of: Steve Kravitz, for 8 1/2 years of commitment to the growth of Beth El by Toby and Bernie Moss; Uncle Hy's Special Birthday by Susan and Stan Schwartzbart. In Memory Of: Sophie Liss by George Liss; Father of Dr. Roy Eskow by Dolly and Marvin Band; Bettie Lee Goldberg by Dolly and Marvin Band.

Cantor's Fund

In Honor Of: Otis and Mary Yokum by Craig D. Yokum. In Memory Of: Fannie Lenkin by Myron and Lenore Lenkin; Frieda Schissler by Peter and Stephanie Schissler.

Capital Campaign

Paul and Marcia Merlin.

Chevra Kadisha Fund

In Memory Of: Eve Tishkoff by Iris, Julian, and Anne Tishkoff; Anna Boman by Iris, Julian and Anne Tishkoff; Marilyn Wind's aunt, Rose Rosenberg, by Toby and Bernie Moss; Julius Boman by Iris, Julian, and Anne Tishkoff; Helen Merlin by Paul and Marcia Merlin; Hilda Teitel, beloved mother, by Helene Weisz and Richard Lieberman, Sarah Greenberg, mother of Brenda Schmand, by Sheila Smallberg Cohen and Family; Jacob Shalom, beloved father, by Sabina and Mark Shalom; Dr. Samuel Z. Freedman, my brother, by Henry Freedman; Elsie Strauss-Prepsler, beloved mother, by Sabina and Mark Shalom; Adam Teitelbaum by Warren Teitelbaum; Erika Meyerhoff, mother, by Gabriela Bechick; Peter Sokolower, father of Caryl Holiber, by Jerome A. Holiber; Robert Gang by Florence R. Gang.

Crowell Religious School Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: Isidor Paskow, father, by Miriam Crowell; Annie Crowell, mother-in-law, by Miriam Crowell.

Disabled Access Fund

In Honor Of: My special birthday by Josephine Horn. In Memory Of: Dear mother, Paulina Brown, by Josephine Horn.

Fine Arts Fund

In Memory Of: Beloved nephew, Howard Joel Kohn, by Gertrude Gerber; Beloved friend, Irving Falk, by Gertrude Gerber.

General Fund

50+ Singles. In Honor Of: Bernard and Charlotte Resnick's 50th Anniversary by Bernice and Stanley Resnick; Speedy recovery of Cary Feldman by Richard and Shelley Chasen. In Memory Of: Mildred Schlosberg by Judith Salomon; My mother, Fay Y. Feibus, by Howard Feibus; Herman Weinstein by Dr. Gerald Jay Steinberg; Sara Greenberg by Amy Redlich.

Israel Experience Teen Fund

Marc and Annette Lieber.

Library Fund

In Memory Of: Sarah Greenberg by The Schraub Family.

Masorti

In Honor Of: Engagement of Melanie Darr and David Bachrach by Hal and Elissa Scheinberg and Family.

Mazon

In Honor Of: For a complete recovery of Faye Wolf by Sigmund and Carolyn Shapiro; Jeremy Haskell Band becoming a Bar Mitzvah by Leesa Fields and Jonathan Band; My grandchildren, Eric, Alan and Jesse Spiegel by Eva Baron; Aufruf and marriage of Daniel Goldman and Katie Smeltz by Hal and Elissa Scheinberg and Family. In Memory Of: Louis Janus, father of Philip Janus, by Zelda L. Janus; Rivka Sheeskin, mother, by Sylvia and Leonard Sheeskin; Freda Weisbach, mother, by Sylvia and Leonard Sheeskin; Barry Harris by Sigmund and Carolyn Shapiro.

Mintz Landscaping Fund

In Honor Of: Rabbi Samuel Scolnic receiving the Bernstein Master Teacher Award by Lillian Kessler.

Morning Minyan Fund

In Honor Of: 50th Anniversary, Bernard and Charlotte Resnick by Roy Millenson and Ellie and Sam Frishman; My Aliyah by Julian E. Levin; Rabbi Samuel Scolnic, recipient of the Master Teacher Award by Esther and Elliot Wilner, Gloria and Beryl Frank, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Tanenbaum, and Sarah C. Kalsner; Jonathan Lickstein's Bar Mitzvah by Judy Spector; Exciting trip to, and safe return from Israel of our mother and grandmother, Blanche Cohen by Barbara and Allen Lerman and Family. In Memory Of: Benjamin H. Edenbaum by Bob and Sandy Edenbaum; Max Richter by Melvin Richter; Isadore Routhenstein, our beloved father, by Irene Routhenstein and Shirley Levine Wasserman; Benjamin Levine by Shirley Levine Wasserman.

Music Fund

In Memory Of: Beloved mother, Ericka Kaplan, by Rosalie M. Sporn; Beloved mother, Lillian Cohen, by Barbara S. Spitzer.

Nitzanim Fund

In Memory Of: Philip B. Gravitz by Melvin and Harriet Gravitz.

Perspectives Fund

In Honor Of: Shirley and Seymour Gross, for their outstanding thoughtfulness, by Frances H. Leibowitz; 50th wedding anniversary of Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish by Doris and Albert Povich; Marcia Possick, for her outstanding thoughtfulness, by Frances H. Leibowitz. In Memory Of: Betty Treinish by Evelyn and Ronald Treinish; Aunt of Doris Povich by Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish; Julia Shapiro by Evelyn and Ronnie Treinish.

Prayerbook Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of Daniel Ross Kleine, grandson of Paula and Herman Kleine by Hal and Elissa Scheinberg and Malvina Frankel. In Memory Of: My beloved mother, Carola Shapiro, by Yael Greenberg; May Feldman, mother of Dennis Feldman, by Shirley Feldman; Minnie Bobb by Sharon Bobb; Beloved parents, Margaret and Larry Kahn, by Harriet K. Rabin.

Rabbi's Fund

In Honor Of: Granddaughters Alyssa and Rebecca Cogen by Edward and Ruth Cogen; Rabbi Rudolph, with appreciation for his help with Jeremy's Bar Mitzvah, by Leesa Fields and Jonathan Band; In appreciation of Rabbi Rudolph for his inspiration and spiritual uplifting by Natalie Golos; In appreciation of Hazzan Lubin for his inspiration and spiritual uplifting by Natalie Golos; In appreciation of Rabbi Maltzman for his inspiration and spiritual uplifting by Natalie Golos; The arrival of Jenna Schissler by Carl M. Leventhal. In Memory Of: Jack I. Bender by Howard and Sondra Bender; Anne L. Margulies by David H. Margulies; Michael Kess's father by Anne Solotar and Michael Siegel; Gussie Fox by Russell Fox; Jesse Heilman by Anne Heilman; Harry Baker by William and Pearl Baker; Mr. Steve Greenwald by Paula and Herman Kleine; Isadore Schissler by Carl M. Leventhal; Minnie Samler, mother of Morton Samler, by Dolly and Marvin Band; Frieda Schissler by Peter and Stephanie Schissler; Steven Fefferman by Adeen and Michael Postar; Sara Baker by William and Pearl Baker; Fannie Lenkin by Myron and Lenore Lenkin; Isidore Edlitz by Frances Edlitz; Morris Silver by Joel and Leslie Silver.

School Enrichment Fund

In Honor Of: For the speedy recovery of Faina Nagel by Betsy Roth. In Memory Of: Adam Daniel Ury by Michael Ury.

Sisterhood Hospitality Fund

In Honor Of: Joshua Simon's Bar Mitzvah by Esther and Elliot Wilner; Julia and Howard Copperman's first grandson by Esther and Elliot Wilner. In Memory Of: Greta Weiner by Eleanor and Ronald Feldbaum.

Sisterhood Torah Fund

In Honor Of: The Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Simon by Jim and Leslie Dellon.

Keruv

Mourning Practices for a Non-Jewish Family Member

Dear Keruv: I am a convert to Judaism and my question is this: upon the death of one of my Christian family members, I know that I would derive great comfort from observing the Jewish rituals of mourning. Would a rabbi lead a minyan at my home, and say Kaddish, even if the deceased person was not Jewish? - Congregant.

Dear Congregant: You may receive comfort from observing any Jewish mourning ritual upon the death of a Christian relative. Jewish mourning practices are intended for the comfort of the mourner; the Kaddish itself says nothing of death or the deceased, but instead affirms the mourner's faith in God and belief in the worthiness of life.

Specifically, a rabbi may lead a minyan in your home and you may choose to recite Kaddish.

Keruv ("outreach") 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. We hold drop-in Shabbat discussions, talk to Havurot, and have family-based holiday parties. For more information about Keruv and its activities, call Terri Annis at (301) 656-5219 or leave a message in the synagogue office.

Social Action Fund

Daniel and Elaine Mann. In Honor Of: Steven Kravitz, with much thanks for years of devotion to a thankless job, by Miriam Davidson; Diana Huffman by Deborah and Donald Schenk; Abbie Eckland, for her hard work, by Jon and Carla Schraub; Speedy recovery of Cary Feldman by Susan and Bert King; Jeremy's Bar Mitzvah by Amy and Gene Goott; Speedy and complete recovery for Mervyn Weiner by Gloria and Beryl Frank; Birth of Nicholas Lynch, grandson of Julia and Howard Copperman, by Gloria and Beryl Frank. In Memory Of: Beatrice Pink, mother, by Suzanne Gladstone; Sylvia Abraham by Marjory F. Weiss.

Suls Youth Activities Fund

In Honor Of: Marilyn Wind's new position as Chairman of the Youth Commission of United Synagogue by Toby Moss. In Memory Of: Samuel Parnes by Stanley and Carol Schwartz; Walter Solomon by Phyllis and Steve Solomon; Nathan L. Mintz by Ellen Elow-Mintz; Sarah Greenberg, mother of Brenda Schmand, by Hal and Elissa Scheinberg.

Barbara Wolf "Israel Quest" Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of Mayer Adelberg by Debby and Menachem Shoham. In Memory Of: Sylvia Abraham by Debby and Menachem Shoham.

World Jewry

In Honor Of: Bert Spector's 50th birthday by Naomi, Sam and Judy Spector; Claire Marwick's Recognition by Sarah C. Kalsner. In Memory Of: Ethel Gluckstein by Jay Miller; Norman Diamond by Roy Millenson.

Young Equality Fund

In Memory Of: Rena Young by Ina and Joe Young.

Tu B'Shevat Seder

Who: All interested Keruv members, perspective members and friends

What: An opportunity to learn all about Tu B'Shevat and eat lots of fruits and nuts

When: Saturday, January 22, 2000, 5:30 p.m.

Where: Joan and Rick Claxton's, 7513 Holiday Terrace, Bethesda, MD

Why: Where else can you celebrate spring in the depths of winter?

How: Call Terri Annis, (301) 656-5219, or Joan Claxton, (301) 320-9283, to RSVP

KERUV SHABBAT DISCUSSION

Saturday, January 29, 2000

Death in the Family: Special Concerns for Converts and Interfaith Families

What happens when a non-Jewish parent or spouse dies? Should you recite Kaddish or sit shiva? Does your non-Jewish family member know Jewish customs regarding death and mourning? (Do you?) Where can your family members be buried? What can we do now to prepare for the inevitable?

Join Keruv and Rabbi Bill Rudolph as we discuss this sensitive topic following Shabbat kiddush in the Board Room.