

Scroll

CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY



Message from Rabbi Harris



So much of observing holidays is about joyous family celebrations. So often these moments are not in the synagogue but around the family table, living room, and kitchen. Passover *sedarim* (seder in the plural), the big meal before we rush to synagogue before Yom Kippur, and Hanukkah are some of these precious memories I cherish. All these are based at home.

Whether by design or happenstance, Hanukkah is one of the greatest holidays to bring families together to celebrate Jewish tradition and the Jewish People. Hanukkah offers us all the tools to make this a fun and meaningful Jewish moment - games (dreidel), songs (Maoz Tzur / Rock of Ages) and foods (latkes or donuts). To help, I want to offer a few sparks to help you begin discussions with your friends and family. I have included web sites for you to look further.

Dreidel - The letters on the dreidel abbreviate the phrase *נְסִי גָדוֹל הָיָה שָׁמַיְמָה* - *A great miracle happened there*. In Israel, the dreidels read *נְסִי גָדוֹל הָיָה פֹּה* - *A great miracle happened here*. The reason for this difference is due to our proximity to Jerusalem. My question is, what would it take for us to say that miracles happened here? Here are a bunch of resources related to dreidels and Hanukkah. <http://learn.jtsa.edu/topics/kids/together/hanukkah>.

Continued on Page 3

November 22, 2002

17 Kislev 5763

Volume 52

No. 5

INSIDE

Sisterhood News	2
Men's Club News	4
President's Message	5
Set the Table with Torah	12
Youth Department	13
Events	
Blue Yarmulke Dinner ...	4
Construction Open House	7
Thanksgiving Interfaith Service	8
Mitzvah Mall	11

Shabbat Services

Friday, November 22

6:30 pm Friday Evening Services

Saturday, November 23

Vayishlah: Genesis 32:4-36:43

7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services

9:15 am Carly Lauren Schmand Bat Mitzvah

10:00 am Jr. Congregation - Chapel

10:30 am Nitzanim - APR

Friday November 29

Erev Hanukkah

6:30 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, November 30

Hanukkah - 1st Day

Vayeshev: Genesis 37:1-40:23

7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services

9:15 am Benjamin Moskowitz Bar Mitzvah

9:15 am Eli Benjamin Eisenstadt Bar Mitzvah

10:00 am Jr. Congregation - Chapel

10:30 am Nitzamin - APR

Friday, December 6

Hanukkah - 7th Day

6:30 pm Carlebach Friday Evening Service - SH

6:30 pm Friday Evening Trad'l. Service - Chapel

Saturday, December 7

Hanukkah - 8th Day

Miketz: Genesis 41:1-44:17

7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services

9:15 am David Fink Bar Mitzvah

10:00 am Gan Shabbat - MR

10:00 am Jr. Congregation - Chapel

11:00 am Shitufim - Rm. 209

Friday, December 13

6:30 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 14

Vayigash: Genesis 44:18-47:27

7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services

9:15 am Noah Schoenholtz Bar Mitzvah

10:00 am Bogrim - BR

10:00 am Jr. Congregation - Chapel

10:00 am Learners Minyan - MR

10:30 am Nitzamin - APR

To the Parents of Children Born Between January 1, 1992 and December 31, 1992

There will be a year 2005 B'nai Mitzvah parents scheduling meeting on Sunday, December 8, 2002, at 11:15 am in the Sanctuary. If you have not received a letter about your child's upcoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah, please call Carole Wellner at 301-652-8569, ext 316.

Sisterhood News

Support the Torah Fund by Buying Pins and Cards

Torah Fund is a project of Women's League for Conservative Judaism, the international organization of all Conservative Sisterhoods. Over the years, Torah Fund has supported many projects at the Jewish Theological Seminary and the University of Judaism. The theme of this year's Torah Fund is "Hazak, hazak, v' nithazek," taken from II Samuel 10:12—"Be strong, be strong and let us strengthen one another."

Your participation in the Torah Fund is truly needed. With a donation of Benefactor (\$180) you will receive this year's beautiful Torah Fund pin; with a donation of Guardian (\$300), Associate Patron (\$600), or Patron (\$1200), you will receive this year's Torah Fund pin set with pearls or precious stones. Please call Elaine Pines at 301-770-6749 to make a donation or for information. Pledges may be paid off over several months or later in the year.

In addition to pins, Torah Fund also produces a selection of greeting cards for every occasion. The cost of each card is \$3.00, all of which goes to Torah Fund. Cards can be purchased in the Sisterhood Judaica Shop or call Rita Kahn at 301-654-7716 to obtain cards or request that Rita mail one to whomever you wish. Please be generous and support the Jewish Theological Seminary and the University of Judaism in their important mission for the Conservative Movement.

Women's Health Series off to a Great Start

On October 27, the Sisterhood Women's Health Series entitled "Menopause: A Guide to the Perplexed" got underway. Nurse practitioner Mary Kendell, from George Washington University, presented a great deal of information and answered many questions concerning current medical perspectives on managing menopause. Sisterhood would like to thank Ms. Kendell as well as the series planning committee: **Ellen Eule, Phyllis Solomon, Laurie Webber, Brenda Bregman, and Barbara Eisenstein**. Women of all ages are encouraged to attend the next program in the series on December 8 at 9:30 a.m. See this issue of the *Scroll* for more information.

Sisterhood Book Group

Be sure to come to the next meeting of the Sisterhood Book Group on Sunday, December 1 at 9:30 a.m. when we will discuss *Going South: Jewish Women in Civil Rights* by Deborah Schultz. Men and women are welcome. For information contact Andrea Golden at goldnfam@aol.com, 301-294-2375 or Suzanne Stone at sstone@sjogrens.org, 301-365-3253.

Candidates' Forum

Beth El Sisterhood, Men's Club, and the Bethesda United Methodist Church co-sponsored a Candidates' Forum on October 28 for the seat in the 8th Congressional

District. Candidates **Connie Morella** and **Chris Van Hollen** engaged in a lively discussion of the issues and answered questions posed by the audience of more than 350 people. The program was coordinated by **Leslie Dellon** and planning committee members included **Julia Copperman, Pat Danoff, Judy Goldman, Cary Feldman, Roy Millenson, Bernie Rod, David Schultz, Sheila Bellack, Reverend Ron Foster, and Rabbi Bill Rudolph**. Thank you to all those who brought this important community program to Beth El.

Invitation and Stationery Sales

Need invitations, stationery or kippot? Contact Marilyn Hammerman at 301-881-0011, mhammerman@aol.com. She has over 20 years experience in providing Beth El members with Bar/Bat Mitzvah, wedding, and party invitations, as well as stationery and kippot. Marilyn has an extensive collection of sample books to look through and she will match the price of all competitors. Sisterhood receives 100% of the profits. Call Marilyn today for great selection and great prices on invitations, stationery, kippot and other things for your special simcha.

Sisterhood Judaica Shop

Visit the re-stocked and re-decorated Judaica Shop and see the collection of new merchandise, including many beautiful things from Israel. Selected items are on sale. Shop hours are Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Call Marcia Kalman at 301-897-8572, rwmk@aol.com, for information.

Sisterhood Membership Dinner

The Sisterhood Membership Dinner, held on October 17, honored two Sisterhood members with the Torah Fund Award for their contributions to Sisterhood. **Amanda Ford** and **Judy Spector** were honored for their leadership of the annual Tallit Workshop where so many members of the congregation have made beautiful tallitot and found creativity and design skills they never knew they had. **Joan Simon** made a wonderful presentation of the award to Judy and **Pat Danoff** spoke about Amanda. The theme for this year's membership dinner was support of Israel and **Dorothy Beverly, Margaret Smith, and Charlene Block** prepared a delicious dinner of Israeli foods. **Renee Brachfeld** and **Mark Novak** who provided entertainment with humorous stories, juggling and music – "Stories and Songs from the Jewish Tradition."

Sisterhood would like to thank the membership vice presidents, **Adeen Postar** and **Gale Dutcher** for planning the dinner including menu selection. Other members who deserve our appreciation include **Pat Danoff** for guidance and food pickup; **Esther Wilner** and **Tamar Fishman** for selecting the Israeli roses and arranging them on the tables; **Tamar Fishman** also for donating tall vases to Sisterhood for the roses; **Karen Lipkind** and **Debbie Leibowitz** for check in; **Elaine Pines** and **Rita Kahn**, the Torah Fund chairpersons; and **Joan Simon**, chair of the

Awards Committee. Thanks also go to our clergy families for their participation in the dinner.

President Pat Danoff spoke about upcoming Sisterhood programs and the many ways in which Sisterhood supports the congregation through monetary and in-kind contributions. She made the observation that living for a few weeks under the threat of sniper attacks has given all of us a better sense of what life is like in Israel all the time. Being afraid to go about our daily tasks because of the fear of random violence directed against our loved ones or ourselves was a new experience for most of us but is a fact of life in Israel. Pat encouraged all of us to have renewed determination to support the Israeli people and pray that peace will soon return to the land.

Please join Sisterhood and support the many wonderful programs that will take place during the year. Send a check to the office for \$36 made out to Beth El Sisterhood. Contact Gale Dutcher (301-984-0025, gad695@aol.com) or Adeen Postar (301-564-4516, postar1@aol.com) for more information.



Women at the Membership Dinner modeling tallitot made at the Tallit Workshop

Message From Rabbi Harris continued

Song – Whether it is “Maoz Tzur” or “I Had a Little Dreidel!”, singing is a great way to celebrate together and learn of the story of Hanukkah. Here is a web site with a fun play written specifically for families. Print it out, assign roles and enjoy the play! <http://www.ort.org/ort/edu/festivals/hanukkah/index.html>

Food – Latkes and donuts are both fried in oil thus they are perfect Hanukkah foods. What other foods are connected to specific holidays? (matzah, apples and honey, chocolate gelt, challah) How does eating this food connect you with the special day?

Here is a special recipe for making your own latkes: <http://www.jewishmag.com/16mag/latkes/latkes.htm>

Have a great holiday!

Sisterhood Education Program 2002-2003

Menopause A Guide to the Perplexed

Save The Dates
9:30-11:30 AM

December 8, 2002 The NIH Study on Hormone Replacement Therapy
Sherry Sherman, Ph.D.
Dir. Clinical Endocrinology and Osteoporosis Research

February 2, 2003 Rosh Hodesh
Women and Change –
A Spiritual Exploration

April 27, 2003 Exercise and Nutrition
Build Better Bones and Eat for Good Health

Please join us; we have something for women of all ages.
Meet your friends, enjoy a light brunch and learn.

Save the Date

Musical Theater Night
at Beth El

The Rothschilds

Saturday, January 25, 2003

7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Sisterhood

BETHEL SCROLL

Congregation Beth El
of Montgomery
County
8215 Old Georgetown
Road Bethesda,
Maryland 20814-1451

Phone Number:

301-652-2606

FAX Number

301-907-8559

Web Site

www.bethelmc.org

AFFILIATED WITH UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF
CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

Rabbi

William D. Rudolph
wrudolph@bethelmc.org

Assistant Rabbi

Gregory Harris
gharris@bethelmc.org

Rabbi Emeritus

Samuel Scolnic
rabsam8709@aol.com

Hazzan

Abraham Lubin
alubin@bethelmc.org

Executive Director

Sheila H. Bellack
sbellack@bethelmc.org

Education Director

Louis A. Nagel
lnagel@bethelmc.org

Family Education Director/ Assistant Education Director

Sarah L. Roark
sroark@bethelmc.org

Nursery School Director

Johanna M. Sohinki
jsohinki@bethelmc.org

Youth Director

Sheldon Novek
snovek@bethelmc.org

President

Arthur N. Popper
apopper@bethelmc.org

Executive Vice President

Brent A. Berger
bberger@bethelmc.org

Religious Vice President

Gail Ross
gross@bethelmc.org

Youth Vice President

Bert King
bking@bethelmc.org

Administration Vice

President
Judy Sherman
jsherman@bethelmc.org

Education Vice President

Susan Levine
slevine@bethelmc.org

Program Vice President

Marvin Yudkovitz
myudkovitz@bethelmc.org

Development and Finance Vice President

Cary Feldman
cfeldman@bethelmc.org

Treasurer

Judy C. Futterman
jfutterman@bethelmc.org

Secretary

Jerome V. Danoff
jdandoff@bethelmc.org

Publication Chair

Helen A. Popper
hpopper@bethelmc.org

Scroll, USPS Number 009813, is published every three weeks, except July and August, by Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County, 8215 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814. Periodical postage rate paid at Bethesda, Maryland and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Scroll, 8215 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD 20814.

**The Men's Club of
Congregation Beth El, Bethesda**

is pleased to honor

Bernie Rod

as its Year 2003

Blue Yarmulke Man-of-the-Year

at the Seaboard Region

Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs

Blue Yarmulke Men-of-the-Year Dinner

Sunday, January 19, 2003
6:30 pm

Congregation Beth El
8101 Park Heights Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland

Cocktail Hour & Dinner: \$60.00 per person

Please reserve _____ seats for Cocktails and Dinner for me.

Please insert a congratulatory ad to honor Bernie in the following size:

___ Full-Page \$175.00 ___ Half-page \$125.00

___ Quarter-page \$75.00 ___ Name Listing \$36.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Reservations for the dinner are on a "first-come, first served" basis, and must be made not later than January 10, 2003.

Reservations can be made by mailing this form and a check made payable to "Seaboard Region FJMC" to: Dr. Arnold Rosenblatt, 1917 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, VA 22307

Men's Club News

Please join us on Sunday mornings. The Men's Club has a Morning Minyan at 9:00 a.m., followed by a "Bagel and Lox" breakfast at 9:30 a.m. and our speaker at 10:00 a.m. Please read on below; not all Sundays will have a breakfast.

On December 8, **Dr. Sarah Tishkoff** will speak on the topic of "Tracing Historic Migration Events Using Genetic Markers: Implications for the Jewish Diaspora." Dr. Tishkoff is an Assistant Professor of Biology at the University of Maryland at College Park. Her research interests include patterns of genetic diversity and linkage disequilibrium in African populations, human evolutionary history, and the genetic basis of resistance to infectious diseases. She holds a Ph.D. in Human Genetics from Yale University. Prior to joining the University of Maryland faculty, Dr. Tishkoff received a National Science Foundation Sloan fellowship which supported her postdoctoral research in human population genetics at Pennsylvania State University

On Saturday, October 26 and Saturday, November 9, the Men's Club had its first two mincha, seudah shlishit, maariv, and havdallah services. They were a big success and about fifty people showed. Help us to continue this wonderful program by coming to the next one on Saturday, December 14.



SAVE THE DATES

2003 Perspectives in Dialogue

- Jan. 12 **Martin Sieff**,
International Editor, UPI
- Jan. 19 **Tom Neumann**
Executive Director, Jewish Institute
for National Defense Affairs
- Feb 2 **Douglas Feith**,
Undersecretary of
Defense for Policy
- Feb. 9 **Alan Guttmacher**,
National Human Genome
Research Institute

**2003 Third Annual World Wide Wrap
January 26**

Message from the President

I want to bring you up-to-date on a few items that might be of interest. Also, for those of you who have not heard, at the Congregation meeting on October 22 we unanimously agreed to purchase the property next to Beth El for our future new entrance, and we strongly agreed to a one-time assessment (\$75/member unit) for a security guard.

Leadership and Governance

As I mentioned on Yom Kippur, developing leadership and improving the governance at Beth El are areas in which I hope to see us reach some level of fruition before my term as president ends. Both issues arose as part of the Atid process.

The issue of leadership is straight-forward. Beth El is a vibrant and healthy shul and it needs people in leadership positions who are not only caring, thoughtful, and hard working, but who also understand how synagogues work and who can provide leadership with a Jewish perspective. The current leaders (and our predecessors) have been very devoted and hard working members. Most of us rose "through the ranks" in various committees, but we have generally not spent real time studying the principles of leadership or leadership in a Jewish context. While many of us hold leadership positions in our professional lives, such positions do not always readily translate to leadership in a not-for-profit religious organization where the work of the leader is voluntary, and such work often conflicts with the time the leaders need for earning an income.

Though we are still some way from final plans for leadership development, the current thinking is to develop a program that will help identify members who have leadership potential and interest and provide them with an opportunity to learn about the workings of Beth El as well as principles of leadership and leadership in the Jewish context. A number of other shuls have developed somewhat similar programs with great success, and we intend to build on these successes to make our program one that will serve us for years to come and be emulated in the community.

With regard to governance, I am referring to the day-to-day lay involvement in Beth El and particularly in the organization and structure of the leadership group – the Board of Directors. Right now, the Board consists of 10 officers, 12 elected trustees, the heads of five auxiliaries, and the chairs of all standing committees. Though I enjoy working with these people, I find that Board meetings can get long and accomplish very little since many people have views and ideas, and want an opportunity to be heard. As a result, the Board often gets caught up in minutia, and it rarely has time to educate itself on broad synagogue issues or give thoughtful guidance on larger policy issues that are needed in our long-term development.

At the same time, a large Board means broad representation of members and membership constituencies, and a level of shared governance that is, in many ways,

healthy for Beth El. The issue then becomes one of trying to find a way to maintain our level of shared governance and vibrancy, and yet make governance work more effectively and responsively to meet the needs of the synagogue and its members.

If you were expecting me to have an answer to this conundrum, at this moment I am afraid that I must disappoint you. What I do have, however, is a plan to better understand the governance system and its strengths and weaknesses, and then have this lead to a renovation of our governance system to make it more effective. The first step is the examination of our current system with a small committee and an outside expert on synagogue governance issues. This group will spend time identifying the issues (through focus groups with current and past leaders) and then presenting an evaluation of current governance to the Board. The intent is for the Board, along with the working group, to then develop a plan for improving our approach to governance. I can assure you that the working group, which I chair, will keep you informed of its progress.

Nominations and Recruitment Committee

As you noticed in past issues of the *Scroll* and in our Shabbat announcements, it is the time of year when we start to recruit future leaders in anticipation of an election at our May Congregation meeting. I have now appointed the Nominations and Recruitment Committee. The members are **Benson Adams** (convenor), **Seth Levita** (representing Men's Club), **Pat Danoff** (Sisterhood), **Rachelle Solkowitz** (Nitzanim), **Barrie Tabin Berger** (Nursery School), **Judith Newman** (Vatikkim), and trustees **David Schultz**, **George Perlman**, **Barbara Klein**, **Esther Wilner**, **Joel Simon**, and **Aryeh Portnoy**.

The basics of my "charge" to this group is as follows. Select nominees for each of the 10 officer positions, six trustees and two people to serve as congregation-selected members of the Support Foundation. I strongly encourage the committee to: (1) Search through our membership for potential new leaders; (2) Only select nominees who are fully aware of the responsibilities of serving in a leadership role; (3) Only select nominees who are ABLE and WILLING to put in the necessary time to work for our future; (4) Include in your nominations a number of people with experience to maintain the continuity of leadership, and who are able to provide guidance and training for newer members of the leadership; and (5) Be conscious of the distribution of age in selection of leaders. We benefit from the wisdom of age but also the enthusiasm and energy of youth. And, remember that it is the younger members who are the officers of tomorrow, and who will benefit greatly from leadership experience today.

If you would like to be considered as a nominee for a leadership position or think of someone else who you would like to see considered, please respond to the "advertisements" that solicit such nominations.

Special Meetings on Renovation

As the plans for renovation and construction move ahead, it is time that we start to have open meetings for the congregation to inform you of our plans and get your feedback. We will have the first of these informational meetings on Thursday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 15 at 1:00 p.m. The presentations will be the same at both meetings, and the rationale for having two meetings is to accommodate as many members as possible at different times. At these meetings, we will present the very latest information we have on the design, costs, etc. We do NOT expect to have final cost figures until later in the winter, but we will tell you all we can about the project up to the day of the meeting. We anticipate having additional meetings later in the winter, and a final meeting to vote on the project sometime in the spring. Please plan on attending one of these meetings to learn more about the project, and to provide us with your ideas and feedback.

Meet Esther Wilner

I am going to resume my introduction of our Beth El trustees. Today it is a pleasure to introduce, to those of you who don't know her, **Esther Wilner**.

I was born in Petach-Tikvah, Israel, where I lived for the first 25 years of my life. I served in IDF as a sergeant and during the Six Day War I was among the first women soldiers to enter Gaza City.



After marrying Elliot, a native Washingtonian, I arrived here in 1972, together with Hurricane Agnes, which arrived as the plane landed at Dulles Airport.

We have three daughters: Ellona, Abby and Tamar. When the girls were still at home I was a full-time homemaker and a part time college student. I graduated four years ago from American University with a bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies.

When I lived in Israel I was a secular Jew, but Elliot belonged to an Orthodox synagogue, so we met half way, and we joined Beth El 19 years ago. I had no knowledge of the prayers when I came here, although I understood them, of course. But it was really here at Beth El that I learned how to pray, and later, how to lead services.

When my father (may he rest in peace) passed away a few years ago, I attended services every morning for a couple of years and I found it very rewarding. I remember the warmth with which I was accepted and especially I remember Jack Goldberg, Alan Swoff, and Ed Golfer (may they rest in peace), all wonderful people, who had a smile for me and a pleasant word every morning. That was the turning point in my relationship with Beth El. I became active on committees and I started to participate in leading services.

Through my involvement with the Board of Hillel of Greater Washington I initiated the revival of the College Committee at Beth El, and I chaired it for four years.

My active involvement with Sisterhood began when I was co-vice president for membership, followed by a 2 year term as president. I am now the chair of the nominating committee for Sisterhood (and I would like to hear from you if you are interested in a leadership position.)

I continue to attend Shabbat services regularly, and on occasion I lead psukei d'zimra or other parts of the service.

Besides my family, and my Beth El family, I enjoy cooking (and tasting), reading (and keeping up with new Israeli books), and exercising regularly.

Installation of Assistant Rabbi Gregory Harris

On Sunday, October 20, we had the pleasure of installing **Gregory Harris** as our assistant rabbi. Over 200 people shared in this event. **Rabbi William Rudolph** performed the formal installation, pointing out that our three clergy are enjoying working together. Following remarks by Rabbi Rudolph, Rabbi Harris offered a lovely D'var Torah in which he spoke of three aspects of his rabbinate: respecting people's Jewish journey, setting a vision for Jewish living, and the centrality of community. **Rabbi Jeremy Winaker**, assistant rabbi at Adas Israel and a classmate of Rabbi Harris at the Jewish Theological Seminary, gave us his thoughts about Rabbi Harris, and Maryland **Lt. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend** brought greetings for this occasion.



Left to right: Hazzan Lubin, Rabbi Rudolph, Lt. Gov. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Rabbi Harris, and Rebekah Harris

Book Club to Discuss Rabbi Neil Gillman's *The Death of Death*

Can't get enough of Rabbi Gillman? Extend your Shabbaton experience by discussing one of his acclaimed recent works. On Sunday, December 15, at 7:30 p.m., there will be a discussion of Rabbi Neil Gillman's book, *The Death of Death*. The Jewish book club is co-sponsored by the JCC of Greater Washington and Barnes & Noble. It meets at Barnes & Noble, Montrose Crossing shopping center, Rockville Pike & Randolph Road, 301-881-0237. The club is facilitated by Jonina Duker, new Beth El member.

CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY



JOIN US FOR AN

OPEN HOUSE



ON OUR CONSTRUCTION PLANS

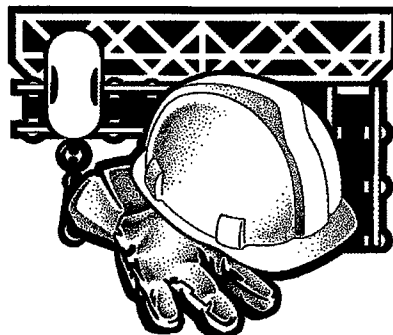
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 at 7:30 P.M.

OR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 at 1:00 P.M.

Here's an opportunity for you to review the plans, ask questions, and learn more about the process of moving our exciting construction and renovation project forward.

Be sure to join us at either of the times listed above.



Evening Minyan

The following people are asked to help us with our daily Evening Minyan for the next five 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 they can attend at Beth El.

November 24 – November 28

Irwin and Rita Kopin
 Gary and Ann Koritzinsky
 David Korn and Shara Aranoff
 Rosa Kotelanski
 Marvin and Barbara Kotz
 Evan and Jodi Krame
 Mark and Marjorie Kramer
 Robert and Loretta Kramer
 Steven Kramer and Sheila Lieber
 Melvin and Andrea Kraus
 Alan Kravitz and Sandra Kresch
 Ira and Jill Krefting
 Max and Edna Krents
 Joseph and Dana Kromash
 Philip and Lisa Kroop
 Elan Krueger
 Allen Kruger
 Stephen Kuperberg and Deborah Feinstein
 Carl and Muriel Kupfer
 Roger Kurlander and Marion Danis

December 1 – December 5

Sari Kurland
 Steven and Sherry Kurtz
 Marilyn Kweller
 David and Sandy Landsman
 Emanuel and Davetta Landau
 Robert and Zelda Landsman
 Allan Lang
 Marvin and Delia Lang
 Bernard and Sylvia Laps
 Michael Lazar and Sharon Fischman
 Arnold and Dorothea Lear
 William and Karen Lebovich
 Vladamir and Jolie Lechtman
 Florence Lederman
 Lester and Ruth Lee
 Charles Lehrhaupt and Frances Eisenstein
 Deborah Leibowitz
 Frances Leibowitz
 Ira Leibowitz and Joann Stern
 Joseph Leiter

December 8 – December 12

Michael and Amy Lenkin
 Myron and Lenore Lenkin
 Warren Leonard
 Dora Leopold
 Allen and Barbara Lerman
 Herbert and Dianne Lerner
 Mitchell and Arlene Lerner
 Frances Lesser
 Gary and Sarah Lesser
 Howard Lesser and Hanna Gutmann
 Sylvia Lesselroth
 Carl Leventhal
 Jeffrey and Judy Levey
 Barry Levine and Tracy Bone
 David and Jacquelyn Levine
 Edgar and Naomi Levin
 Edward Leviton and Sondra Solomon
 Herbert and Anita Levinson
 Howard and Janet Levine
 Julian Levin

New Members

The Beth El community extends its warm welcome to the following members who have recently joined or rejoined the synagogue. If one or more of these families live in your neighborhood, please reach out and personally welcome them. We encourage the new members to take advantage of the wonderful activities Beth El has to offer and hope you will let us know if you have questions or concerns that we can help to address.

Lawrence and Laura Eisen, 5013 Benton Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814

301-564-3780

Joshua Eisen

Shabbat Morning Family and Youth Services at Congregation Beth El

Service Name	Applicable Ages	Room No.	Times	Leaders
Nitzanim	birth to kindergarten	APR	10:30-11:30 am 2nd,4th,5th Shabbat	Rachelle Solkowitz, Glenda Koby, Audrey Winston - Pres.
Gan Shabbat	kindergarten - 2nd grade	Meeting Room	10:00-11:00 am 1st, 3rd Shabbat	Rachelle Solkowitz, Lisa Rosen
Shitufim Minyan	3rd & 4th grades	Room 209	11:00 am-Noon 1st, 3rd Shabbat	Anita Lieb
Junior Congregation	5th grade and up	Chapel	10:00-11:15 am Every Shabbat	Cheryl Kreiser
Bogrim	7th grade and up	Board Room	10:00-11:30 am 2nd Shabbat	Sheldon Novek

Please feel free to speak with the individual leaders or coordinators about any one of the services, or contact Sarah Roark, 301-652-8573, ext 319

JOIN US FOR A CANDLELIT CARLEBACH SERVICE!

Imagine sharing your last night of Hanukkah
among your *chevre!*

Join us for a song-filled Service
as we welcome Shabbat with

R'Shlomo Carlebach's uplifting melodies.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:30 p.m.

SOCIAL HALL

In the spirit of Hanukkah . . . how about the
Gift of Giving?

HANUKKAH TZEDAKAH PROJECT:

Make this last night of Hanukkah a night to
give a gift to less privileged children during
their holiday season.

Please bring a gift ~ new or gently used ~ to the
Candlelit Carlebach Service.

The Fink family will deliver them to our local
Greentree Shelter.

United With Israel Campaign Update

Our congregation's United With Israel Campaign has been a tremendous success! The final amount of money raised at the Rally last April 30, as well as subsequent contributions, totals \$1,090,649. This includes pledges to Federation's Israel Emergency Campaign as well as \$61,074 for the Israel Support Fund of Beth El. It's not too late to contribute or add to an earlier gift. Please contact Hattie Goodman in the office at 301-652-2606 ext. 301. Kol Hakavod to **Warren Greenberg**, chair of the Israel Action Committee, **Debbie Fink**, who chaired the Rally, all their committee members, **Rabbi Rudolph** and all the staff who worked on this important task.

Nitzanim

Todah Rabbah to **Karen and Andrew Auerbach** for sponsoring the Nitzanim Kiddush on October 26 in honor of the babynaming of their daughter **Rachel**.

Todah Rabbah to **Tracy Bone and Barry Levine** for sponsoring the Nitzanim Kiddush on October 26 in honor of the sixth birthday of **Joseph** and in honor of the fourth birthday of **Abigail and Olivia**.

Todah Rabbah to **Sheryl and Lee Miller** for sponsoring the Nitzanim Kiddush on November 9 in honor of the third birthday of their daughter **Lindsey Ariella** and the first birthday of their daughter **Amanda Eliana**.

All In The Family

Mazal tov to **Jose and Tutti Sokol** on the engagement of their son, **Danny Sokol** to **Hannah Brenner**.

Mazal Tov to **Murray and Marilyn Hammerman** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Sydney Blair Fay Hammerman**, on October 28, 2002. Parents are Dr. Steve and Wendy Hammerman.

Mazal Tov to **Bart Widom and Debby Reiser** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Kelsey Widom**, on November 1, 2002. Parents are Ken and Terry Widom.

Minyan Chaverim

Minyan Chaverim is now meeting on the third Shabbat of each month and will meet next on Saturday, December 21, from 9:30 am to Noon in the All-Purpose Room. Minyan Chaverim is a community-led service, featuring complete recitations of Shacharit and Musaf as well as full Torah reading, and emphasizing a spirited and participatory nusach. Following the synagogue kiddush, participants (and for that matter, all comers) are invited to attend a pot-luck (kosher dairy) lunch at a nearby home, which includes a Torah discussion, zmirot, and plenty of good kibitzing. For more information, please contact Debbie Feinstein at debbie_feinstein@yahoo.com or 301-767-1178.

Join Us For Our Annual
**Thanksgiving
Interfaith Service**
with the
Bethesda United
Methodist Church

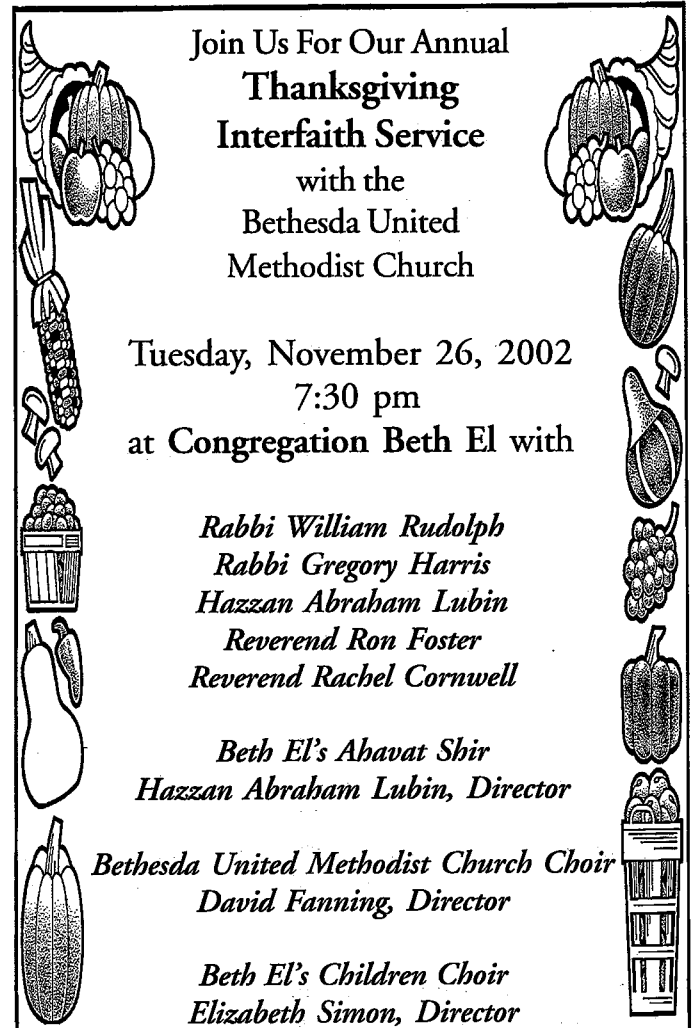
Tuesday, November 26, 2002
7:30 pm
at **Congregation Beth El** with

*Rabbi William Rudolph
Rabbi Gregory Harris
Hazzan Abraham Lubin
Reverend Ron Foster
Reverend Rachel Cornwell*

*Beth El's Ahavat Shir
Hazzan Abraham Lubin, Director*

*Bethesda United Methodist Church Choir
David Fanning, Director*

*Beth El's Children Choir
Elizabeth Simon, Director*



Hertz Humashim

With the recent inauguration of the new Etz Hayim Humash here at Beth El, our copies of the Hertz Humash have been retired. They are, however, available to members for an optional minimal donation and the proceeds will go to Kostroma, our sister FSU community. Members who have dedicated a Hertz Humash may peruse the stock for that volume to take home, without a donation. The Hertz Humashim will be set up in the Social Hall from Sunday morning, December 8 through Wednesday evening, December 11. If you wish to make a contribution, just place it in one of the envelopes available with the humashim and return it to the office.

And You Shall Cast Your Sins

Todah Rabbah to **Seymour Gross** for leading our Tashlich service again this Rosh Hashanah. One of the biggest crowds ever participated in this ancient ritual, whereby we remove our sins in a tangible way by casting bread crumbs into a body of moving water (in this case, Rock Creek). Seymour enriches the life of our congregation in so many ways apart from Tashlich, and has been honored with the Men's Club Kavod Award and with a special Simchat Torah aliyah in appreciation.

Thank You

In early September several members of the Beth El community fulfilled the mitzvah of *gemilut hassadim* by delivering Rosh Hashannah food packages to Russian immigrants in the local Jewish Community. Thank you to **Steven Talkovsky, Dora Weinstein, Lois Zimmerman, Nora Levy** and USYers **Ashley German, Michelle German, Michael Prada, Marc Rudolph** and **David Schoenholtz** for taking time out over Labor Day weekend to do this mitzvah. Thank you to **Andy Schoenholtz** for transporting the food packages from Silver Spring to Bethesda in the pouring rain on that early Sunday morning. If you would like to volunteer for any of our ongoing Social Action Projects, please call Janice Liebowitz at 301-654-7377.

Senior Singles

The Beth El Senior Singles is privileged to have **Dr. John L. Withers, II** as a guest speaker. Dr. Withers has served as a State Department Officer in various countries from 1984 to the present. His talk is entitled, "A Dachau Legacy – A Holocaust Survivor Reunites with his African-American Rescuer after Fifty Years." It is a fascinating account of how the speaker's father John Withers, an army lieutenant, shelters two young holocaust survivors at the end of World War II and meets with them again after fifty years.

Please join us on November 21 at 7:30 pm in Beth El's All Purpose Room for this lecture.

The Family Education Committee presents the long-awaited "Recommended Jewish Books List"



The Family Education Committee has compiled a book list of "Must Have" Jewish theme books recommended by the professional staff and congregants. The list includes many categories of books such as books for children, adult literature, cookbooks, parenting, study books, life cycle books, etc. The list can be found in the library. Please peruse these suggestions and add your favorites (forms for recommendations in back of book) and give us your reviews. We think the list is great! Thanks to **Debbie, Josh, and Lila Rosenbloom** who gave their time this summer to work on the book list. Thanks to **Evelyn Margolis** who cross-referenced the books with the Beth El catalogue and Books in Print.

Vatikkim Luncheon

Our honored luncheon guest and speaker will be our own **Rabbi Harris**. He will speak to us on "Faith and Doubt in Judaism," the seeming dichotomy that distinguishes our religion from other beliefs. Come and join us in a spirited discussion on this important topic.

Everyone is welcome! Lunch is at Noon, and the program starts at 1 pm. Cost for members is \$7. Non-member cost is \$8. Please fill out the reservation form below and mail it to Bea Goldman, 3214 Henderson Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20902; 301-942-9434, or to Phyllis Blum, 1411 Stratton Drive, Rockville, MD 20854; 301-340-3046.

Reservation Form

Vatikkim Luncheon on Thursday, December 19, 2002
Please reserve _____ places for me at the Vatikkim luncheon.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please have your response reach us by Tuesday, December 17, 2002. No reservations will be accepted after this date.

**The Mitzvah Mall
will be open for donations
this year from**

November 10 through December 18

The Mitzvah Mall is your one-stop shopping place for Hanukkah, Bar Mitzvah, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and they make great teacher gifts!!



All you do is choose an organization and decide the amount you would like to donate. The Mitzvah Mall personal shoppers will then let you know what your donation can "buy".

Send a donation of \$5, \$10, \$20, or \$25.
Designate one of the following charities:

- Bethesda Cares
- Capital Area Food Banks
- Interfaith Clothing Center
- Magen David Adom
- Shepherd's Table
- Whitman Walker Clinic

You will receive a lovely gift card telling what your donation purchased for you to present as a gift or let us send it for you. You can visit the mitzvah mall in the rotunda on Sundays between Nov. 10 and Dec. 18 or send in your check payable to Congregation Beth El, to the synagogue office to the attention of Sarah Roark. Your tax-deductible donation will appear as Social Action Fund on your synagogue year-end tax summary. If you have questions, contact Sarah Roark (x319).



Welcome to the Mitzvah Mall

Donor's Name _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

_____ We do not need a gift card sent for this donation, simply acknowledge it on our tax summary.

_____ Address (or Religious School backpack) to which gift cards should be sent:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Check the organization(s) to which you would like your donations sent and designate the amount (\$5, \$10, \$20, \$25):

___ Bethesda Cares \$ _____

(provides for the needs of the homeless in Bethesda)

___ Capital Area Food Bank \$ _____

(distributes millions of pounds of food to the hungry in Washington)

___ Interfaith Clothing Center \$ _____

(provides clothing, school supplies, and infant supplies to needy families in Montgomery County)

___ Magen David Adom \$ _____

(makes blood drives and ambulances possible in Israel)

___ Shepherd's Table \$ _____

(provides food, health care, and information to needy people in our area)

___ Whitman Walker Clinic \$ _____

(educates about AIDS and assists those suffering from the disease)

Please make checks payable to Congregation Beth El. Your tax-deductible donation will appear as *Social Action Fund* on your synagogue tax statement.

Return this form to the school office or mail to:

Sarah Roark

Congregation Beth El

8215 Old Georgetown Road

Bethesda, MD 20814