



Scroll

CONGREGATION BETH EL

October 31, 2003

5 Heshvan 5764

Volume 53

No. 4

Inside

- Sisterhood News 2
- Men's Club News 3
- President's Message 5
- Set the Table
with Torah 10
- Youth Department 11

Events

- Blue Yarmulke
Man-of-the-Year 4
- Sisterhood Education
Programs 6
- Mitzvah Day 7
- Roundtable with
the Rabbi 15

Tuning In With Hazzan Lubin



While attending the recently held convention of the Cantors Assembly in Los Angeles, I was privy to the launching of one of the most exciting projects in Jewish music history.

The project known as the Milken Archive of American Jewish Music is underwritten and was established by Lowell Milken, chairman and co-founder of the Milken Family Foundation. The magnitude and scope of this project is reflected in the Foundation's magnanimous contribution, thus far, of 17 million dollars towards this effort. Mr. Milken's love of Cantorial and Jewish music in general translated itself in his family's commitment to education into this vast recording project.

"Over the past decade, the Milken Archive has grown exponentially into an artistic community encompassing composers and performers, Jews and non-Jews alike, the depth and scope of which I did not imagine at the outset," said Mr. Milken. "Through the dissemination of our recordings, oral histories, and a comprehensive curriculum, now under development, we seek to broaden public awareness for the various forms of Jewish musical expression that have contributed significantly to American Jewish cultural identity and to the music world in general."

Continued on Page 3

Shabbat Services

Friday, October 31

- 4:49 pm Candles
- 6:30 pm Friday Evening Service - BR

Saturday, November 1

- Noah: Genesis 6:9-11:32
- 7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services
- 9:15 am Laura Levine Bat Mitzvah
- 9:50 am Worship & Study Minyan - BR
- 10:00 am Jr. Congregation - APR
- 10:30 am Gan Shabbat - MR
- 11:00 am Shitufim - Rm. 209
- 6:00 pm Isabel Rebekah Barr Bat Mitzvah

Friday, November 7

- 4:42 pm Candles
- 6:30 pm Friday Evening Service - APR

Saturday, November 8

- Lekh L'kha: Genesis 12:1-17:27
- 7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services
- 9:15 am Hannah Vivien Abrams
Bat Mitzvah
- 10:00 am Jr. Congregation - APR
- 10:00 am Learners' Minyan - MR
- 10:30 am Nitzanim - BR

Friday, November 14

- 4:37 pm Candles
- 6:30 pm Friday Evening Service - APR

Saturday, November 15

- Vayera: Genesis 18:1-22:24
- 7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services
- 9:15 am Ethan Oser Bar Mitzvah
- 9:30 am Minyan Chaverim - BR
- 10:00 am Jr. Congregation - APR
- 10:30 am Gan Shabbat - MR
- 11:00 am Shitufim - Rm. 209
- 4:30 pm Mincha, Seudah Shlishit, Maariv,
Havdallah - APR

Friday, November 21

- 4:32 pm Candles
- 6:30 pm Friday Evening Service - APR

Saturday, November 22

- Hayyei Sarah: Genesis 23:1-25:18
- 7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services
- 9:15 am Sarah Freishtat Bat Mitzvah
- 10:00 am Jr. Congregation - APR
- 10:30 am Nitzanim - BR

Sisterhood News

Sisterhood Cookbook, Dor Va'Dor, Is Now Available

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of Congregation Beth El, Sisterhood has recently published a wonderful new cookbook. The looseleaf-style book contains nearly 600 recipes, which were contributed by members of the Beth El family, and includes both traditional and non-traditional Kosher cuisine.

In the Spring of 2002, **Barbara Klein** and **Tutti Sokol** exchanged a few of their favorite recipes and thought that others in the congregation might enjoy doing so too. They felt that compiling a cookbook containing congregants' special recipes would be a nice addition to the Beth El 50th Anniversary celebration. From that seed, the Sisterhood cookbook project began to grow, and over the next year and a half, dozens of women (and a few men) became involved in the production of the book. The job was monumental in scope and most of the people named below spent many hours on their assigned tasks.

Sisterhood would like to thank all the Beth El members who contributed their treasured recipes. A special thanks goes to **Tutti Sokol** and **Barbara Klein** for chairing the cookbook project, working with the publisher, and taking care of many details. Thank you also to **Rachelle Solkowitz** and **Sara Greenbaum** for handling the enormous job of collecting and organizing the recipes. We also appreciate the hard work of the members of the recipe committee and those who did the editing and proofing: **Lori Amsellem**, **Pat Danoff**, **Leslie Dellon**, **Phyllis Dickler**, **Judy Goldman**, **Hattie Goodman**, **Sara Greenbaum**, **Yael Greenberg**, **Michele Herman**, **Barbara Klein**, **Marsha Rehns**, **Susan Schwartzbart**, **Tutti Sokol**, **Rachelle Solkowitz**, **Suzanne Strauss**, **Mimi Tygier**, **Laurie Webber**, **Helene Weisz**, and **Ina Young**. Thank you to **Tamar Fishman** for creating beautiful artwork for the cover and dividers, to **Rabbi Sam Fishman** for selecting Hebrew citations for the dividers, and to **Hal Scheinberg** for working on the computer graphics.

Many suggestions were turned in for the name of the cookbook, and Sisterhood would like to thank all those who took the time to submit possible titles. The title which was selected, *Dor Va'Dor Generation to Generation*, was suggested first by **Lillian Kessler**. Thank you to **Sarah Shapiro** for giving the committee information about previous Sisterhood cookbooks, **Evelyn Wittman's** introduction to the 1950s recipe file, and several recipes from earlier books. Finally, Sisterhood would like to acknowledge past president **Pat Danoff** and current president **Leslie Dellon** for their support of the cookbook project, as well as their work on publicity and sales.

The cookbook is selling quickly and supplies are limited, so see the ad in this *Scroll* for information about how to purchase your copies.

Thanks for the Beautiful New Year's Card

Sisterhood hopes that everyone enjoyed receiving the beautiful New Year greeting card from their many friends in the congregation. The card was designed and illustrated by **Anita Lieb**, who also made arrangements with the printer. **Rhonda Zahler** handled the entry of names and distribution details and **Hattie Goodman** proofed the names. Thanks also to the many Beth El members who supported this successful Sisterhood fundraising effort. We are hoping to have even more names on the card next year.

Sisterhood's Tallit Workshop Returns

Sisterhood is pleased to announce that it will offer its ever popular Tallit workshop again this year. This workshop is limited to 12 participants, so if you are interested in designing and making a tallit, sign up quickly. While experience sewing is helpful, non-sewers are always welcome. Machine sewing assistance will be provided at each work session. Participants may make one tallit each. All work sessions will be held on Tuesdays, from 7-9 p.m., in the Social Hall. If there is interest, the last scheduled session will be used to make Hats and Bags. Priority will be given to Sisterhood members if the workshop is over-subscribed.

Tallit workshop dates will be:

November 18	Introductory meeting
December 2	Designing the atarah
December 7	Group trip to G Street Fabrics, Rockville; This is a Sunday trip, time to be set
December 9, 16	Work sessions
January 6, 13, 27	Work sessions
February 3, 10	Work sessions

To reserve a space in the workshop, contact Holly Stein at 301-593-7297 or hhstein@juno.com

Sisterhood Book Group

During the remodeling, the Sisterhood Book Club will not be meeting. We will be offering all Sisterhood members, other Beth El members, and anyone else interested in a Jewish book club two other choices, one on Thursday afternoons and one on Tuesday evenings. Beth El's **Jonina Duker** facilitates both groups. This is a change from what was previously announced in the Beth El announcements and listserv.

Starting in November, the Rockville Barnes & Noble at Montrose Crossing will host a group meeting on the first Thursday of the month at 12:30 p.m. The selection for November 6 is the non-fictional *Constantine's Sword* by James Carroll. The December 4 selection is the fictional *Days of Awe* by Achy Obejas. This group alternates fiction and non-fiction books.

The Tuesday evening group will start with *The Blessing of a Broken Heart* by former Silver Spring resident Sherri Mandell on November 18 at 8:00 p.m. at the JCC. This group will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of every month.

Tuning In With Hazzin Lubin continued

This ongoing project will present on disc a broad spectrum of sacred and secular compositions—from art music for the concert hall to liturgical music for the synagogue to more popular idioms—that expresses not only the rich variety of Jewish life in America through more than three centuries, but the universality of the Jewish experience and its relevance to people of all faiths.

In conjunction with this project, on November 7-11, 2003, The Jewish Theological Seminary and the Milken Archive of American Jewish Music will jointly host an international conference-festival on Jewish music in America, throughout its history to the present time. **Only in America: Jewish Music in a Land of Freedom** heralds the 350th anniversary of American Jewry and offers numerous daily opportunities to learn about, listen to, and participate directly in a wide variety of the music of the American Jewish Experience. It also celebrates the public launching of the much-anticipated CD series of American Jewish music produced by the Milken Archive.

I plan to attend this important conference in November and eagerly look forward to sharing my learning experience with our congregational family. I anticipate and hope to make this historic and educational project as the cornerstone of my own teaching opportunities at Beth El. There will be ample material for several courses at our Saul Bendit Institute as well as other educational venues in our congregation, both formal and informal.

Men's Club News

Men's Club Activities Honored

The Congregation Beth El Men's Club is pleased to announce that we were honored with several "Torch" awards at the most recent biennial Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Convention held this summer in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Second Place (shared with Ohr Kodesh) in the Best Youth Activity category was for the program held during the summer of 2002 (in conjunction with the Beth El Israel Action Committee): "Becoming an Active Advocate for Israel on Campus: Beyond Responding to Allegations of Anti-Israeli Groups."

Honorable Mention in the Best Men's Club Shabbat category was for developing and conducting the monthly Shabbat Mincha/Seudah Shlishit/Maariv/Havdallah Service program.

Recognition in the Best Adult Education Program category was for the 2002 Candidates Debate for the 8th Congressional District, U.S. House of Representatives.

Men's Club Activities

Sunday, November 2 at 10:00 a.m.: Joshua Ford of the District of Columbia Jewish Community Center speaking on "The Washington Jewish Film Festival."

Saturday, November 8 at 4:30 p.m.: monthly Shabbat Mincha/Seudah Shlishit/Maariv/Havdallah Service program.

Sunday, November 9 at 10:00 a.m.: Albert Lerner, Historian of the Jewish War Veterans Library - Program in honor of Jewish War Veterans

Thursday, November 13 at 8:15 p.m.: Hearing Men's Voices - Monthly men's discussion group; all are welcome whether or not they have attended any of the previous sessions.

Sunday, November 16 at 10:00 a.m.: Speaker from the Hindu Sri Siva Vishnu Temple.

Sunday, November 23: Program not determined.

BETH EL 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

Brent A. Berger
bberger@bethelmc.org

Executive Vice President

Gail H. Ross
gross@bethelmc.org

Religious Vice President

Rachelle R. Solkowitz
rsolkowitz@bethelmc.org

Youth Vice President

Judy Futterman
jfutterman@bethelmc.org

Administration Vice

President

Judy Sherman
jsherman@bethelmc.org

Education Vice President

Lcesa Fields
lfields@bethelmc.org

Program Vice President

Phyllis Solomon
psolomon@bethelmc.org

Development and Finance

Vice President

Sheldon I. London
slondon@bethelmc.org

Treasurer

Walter Arnheim
warnheim@bethelmc.org

Secretary

Tamara M. Simon
tsimon@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 Beth El Men's Club

is pleased to honor

Rabbi Samuel Scolnic

as its Year 2004

Blue Yarmulke Man-of-the-Year
at the
Seaboard Region

Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs
Blue Yarmulke Men-of-the-Year Dinner

6:30 p.m., Sunday, January 18, 2004

Congregation Ohr Kodesh

8300 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase, MD

Cocktail Hour & Dinner: \$60.00 per person

Please reserve _____ seats for Cocktails & Dinner.

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

_____ Full-Page (\$175.00)

_____ Half-page (\$125.00)

_____ Quarter-page (\$75.00)

_____ Name Listing (\$36.00)

[Please see this page for information on how to submit &
pay for a congratulatory advertisement]

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 11, 2004.

Reservations can be made by mailing this form
and a check made payable to "Seaboard
Region FJMC" to:
Scott R. Swirling,
622 Aster Boulevard,
Rockville, Maryland 20850

*Instructions for Submitting a
Congratulatory Advertisement
for Inclusion in the
Seaboard Region,
Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs
2004 "Blue Yarmulke
Men of the Year"
Program Book
to Honor
Rabbi Samuel Scolnic*

- Congratulatory advertisements & payments must be received not later than Friday, December 12, 2003.
- No advertisement will be printed without advance receipt of payment. Advertisement costs are: \$175.00 for a full page; \$125.00 for a half page; \$75.00 for a quarter-page; and \$36.00 for a name listing.
- While camera-ready copy is best, the printer will format clearly written copy appropriately, and will include a photograph supplied either by the advertiser or the honoree's Men's Club/Brotherhood.
- Advertising copy can be submitted by U.S. Mail, overnight courier, or e-mail.
- Advertising copy can be submitted as hard copy or as an MSWord e-mail attachment.
- The advertising copy should be submitted along with a copy of this flyer and a check made payable to the "Seaboard Region FJMC." If the advertising copy is submitted separately from the payment, the check should be attached to a copy of this flyer along with a notation as to which advertisement the check is to be applied.

**Please submit all advertising copy
& payments to:**

**Scott R. Swirling
622 Aster Boulevard
Rockville, Maryland 20850
Phone: 240/899-3108
e-mail: scottswirling@timecook.com**

Welcome, Rabbi Tracy Klirs

Rabbi Tracy Klirs, a gifted educator and teacher who was one of the distinguished lecturers at our fourth annual Community Torah Institute, moved into our neighborhood last year. Since then, she and her family have become active members of Beth El. I am pleased to announce that Rabbi Klirs will be teaching in the Religious School and has agreed to be available from time to time to assist Rabbi Harris and myself in some of our rabbinic responsibilities. We are fortunate to have Rabbi Klirs as a congregant, teacher and adjunct member of our clergy.

Rabbi Bill Rudolph

Hertz Chumashim Find New Homes

People have been asking what we did with the old Hertz chumashim now that we use the red Etz Hayim at the synagogue. The answer is that we have been able to help many smaller communities by donating the chumashim to them. Locally, the DC Minyan, a regular minyan of young professionals that meets in Woodley Park area, and the Hillel at American University received special deliveries. We also sent many to Congregation Or Tikvah in Gurnee, IL. It is good to know that the chumashim are being used by Jews near and far.

Social Action News

On a beautiful sunny Sunday, a few days prior to Rosh Hashannah, several Beth El congregants fulfilled the mitzvah of *Hakhnasat Orhim* by delivering holiday food baskets to members of the local Russian Jewish community. Special thanks to **William Aisenberg, Judy and Craig Futterman, Rhonda Kleiner, David and Jacob Glassman, Helen Rib, Nancy Rosenthal, Jonathan Simon, Dora Weinstein and Lois Zuckerman** for giving of themselves and helping to strengthen our Jewish community through Tikkun Olam. There are additional opportunities for anyone who wants to get involved. Older students can get community service credit and do good at the same time! Please call Janice Liebowitz 301-654-7377 if interested.

On Going Event with Hindu Temple

In our continued effort to reach out to other faith communities, Rabbi Harris has been involved with an exchange with the Sri Siva Vishnu Hindu Temple. He recently visited their Temple and spoke about the basic tenets of Judaism. On **November 16 at 10 a.m.**, Dr. Raj Narayan will visit Beth El to explain the rich traditions of Hinduism. This program is sponsored by the Men's Club and the Israel Action Committee. All are welcome to what will be a fascinating discussion.

Message from the President

As we leave behind us the spiritual heights of the Yamim Noraim, and the celebration of Sukkot and Simchat Torah, it is important to remember all of the planning and efforts that were undertaken on our behalf to make the holidays so successful and uplifting. **Rabbis Rudolph and Harris, Hazzan Lubin and Cantor Stolper**, and service leaders **Evan Krame and Sid Getz** contributed hundreds of hours to create a spiritual and participatory experience for all of us. We also thank so many members of the congregation who helped lead parts of the service, read Torah and Haftarah, usher, and make our worship spaces more beautiful. We are also indebted to our Vice President for Worship and Spirituality, **Rachelle Solkowitz**, for overseeing this very important task, and **Sheila Bellack** and her staff, who made sure that all the behind-the-scenes work was done.

Kol ha-kavod to all of you for sharing your special talents with us.

B'shalom,

Brent

New Triennial Torah Reading System

As you know, Beth El has been using a triennial Torah reading system for several decades. Each Shabbat, we read about one-third of the weekly portion. In the year just concluded, we read the last one-third of each of those portions, and would have been doing the first one-third of each in this new year. There is a standard triennial system used in much of the Conservative movement. Its breakdowns are different than ours. Because it was inaugurated in a different year than ours, we were also always one cycle off from most other synagogues. The Ritual Committee studied both systems and determined that a change to the prevailing one was in order.

Beginning the first Shabbat after Simchat Torah, Shabbat Breishit, October 25, we will begin following the new system. Thanks to Hazzan Lubin, B'nai Mitzvah families were alerted to this change, and proper breakdowns given to them, many months ago. Now we will all get to see the new system in action. We are anticipating an easy transition.

Rabbi Bill Rudolph

Baruch Dayan Emet

Congregation Beth El offers its sincere condolences to **Frank Weinstein** on the death of his mother, **Violet Weinstein**.

Can You Spare an Hour a Week?

Are you available for an hour a week at lunchtime or on Friday afternoon? Beth El has a wonderful Social Action project, now in its third year, that takes just that little of your time. Members of the congregation are mentoring students at Woodlin Elementary School in Silver Spring.

Mentoring means simply to eat lunch and talk with one assigned student. The students are in grades 3-5 and are chosen because they need an adult to give some special time and attention to them. Some mentors discuss topics of common interest, some mentors read together, some mentors find projects or games to do together, some mentors discuss concerns of the teacher. The goal is to let a child know they have an adult who cares about them and wants them to be successful in school.

The student gives up lunch and recess one day a week to meet with the mentor. The school can accommodate any day of the week at lunchtime. In addition, fifth grade students who do not participate in chorus may have time on Friday afternoon.

Want more information? Call Howie Stein or e-mail at hhstein@juno.com.

*"Purim's back
and we're having some fun now ..."*



*It looks like Haman's cruisin'
for another bruisin.'*

*Megilla Madness returns to Beth El on
March 6, 2004.*

If you'd like to participate or help out with any aspect of next year's Purim celebration at Beth El, please come to an organizational meeting in the Board Room on Sunday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m.

For further information please contact
Scott Glick (scott.glick@comcast.net) or
Sheila Smallberg Cohen
(Sheila1880@aol.com),

SISTERHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS '03 - '04

What Goes Up Must Come Down—or Must It?

Latest Trends in Sensible Weight Loss

Melanie Polk, Nutritionist and Director of Education

American Institute of Cancer Research

November 23, 2003, 9:30-11:30 AM

The Zen of Mental Health Repair and Maintenance

Reduce Your Stress — Improve Your Health with Yoga

Esther Geiger, Long Time Yoga Instructor at Unity Woods Yoga Center,

The Area's Largest Professional Yoga Studio

Dress for light exercise

January 25, 2004, 9:30-11:30 AM

Put on a Happy Face

Personal Makeovers and Beauty Tips

Faye Mendelsohn Make Up Artist; Faye Mendelsohn and Associates,

April 25, 2004, 9:30-11:30 AM

We have something for women of all ages. Meet your friends, enjoy a light brunch and learn.

The Social Action Committee is pleased to announce Beth El's seventh Mitzvah Day, to be held Sunday, November 9, 2003. The congregation is invited to participate in a variety of volunteer projects designed to help both Beth El and the greater community. Individuals and families can select from projects listed below. Mitzvah Day is a wonderful opportunity for Beth El to come together as a community to make a difference in the lives of our own members and in the community. We're hoping many families will find the time to join with fellow congregants to make Mitzvah Day a success. Please call Janice Liebowitz at 301-654-7377 to volunteer.

**CONGREGATION BETH EL MITZVAH DAY
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2003**

Project	Time	Location	Age	#Vols	Skills/Equipment	Contact
Beth El Clean-up	9 am-?	Beth El	any	24	yard tools	Jeff Annis 301-656-5219
Glen Echo Park Clean-up	11 am - 2:00 pm	Carousel	all ages	15-20	elbow grease	Sam Swersky 301-492-6229
Children's Inn at NIH mailbox treats/scenery	call for time	Children's Inn	all ages	lots	art/craft supplies, stickers, pencils	group leader needed
Interfaith Clothing Center Sorting	8 am-noon	Beth El	3+ w/adult	25	bags, labels	Diana Huffman 301-229-8089
Delivering	12:30 pm	Beth El	drivers		vans	Leslie Dellon 301-530-4645
Cooking for Shelter/Soup Kitchen	9 am-noon	Beth El or someone's house	5+ w/adult	many	kitchen	Barbara Klein 301-951-8835
Preparing and Serving Dinner at Shepherd's Table	5-9 pm	Shepherd's Table	12+ w/adult	6 people		Peter Novick 301-493-8428
Greentree Shelter Photo album/picture frame project	2-3 pm	Greentree Shelter	3-4 families		Polaroid camera film, art supplies, refreshments	group leader needed
Hebrew Home - Variety Show	2:30-4 pm	Hebrew Home	any age		performers-music, magic, etc.	Janet Getz 301-530-2215
Gleaning for Washington Area Gleaning Network	10 am	A farm TBA	all ages	families	glean fruits/veggies for food bank	Ellen Silver 301-468-6136
Making Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Ribbon Pins	11:30 am - 2 pm	Beth El	8+	25	materials will be supplied, easy craft project	Joan Simon 301-469-8911
Books, Bears and Bonnets Project	11:30 am - 2 pm	Beth El	5+	20	materials will be supplied, easy craft project	Janice Liebowitz 301-654-7377
Sophia House preparing dessert and serving dinner	6:30 - 8 pm	Sophia House Rockville	all ages	families	dessert prepared at home	Janice Liebowitz 301-654-7377
Jewish Foundation for Group Homes/visit with your pet	flexible	JFGH Residences in Wheaton, Silver Spring, Rockville or Gaithersburg	all ages		a friendly pet	Jody Benjamin 301-652-0834

Evening Minyan

The following people are asked to help us with our daily Evening Minyan for the next three weeks. On Sunday through Thursday, the Minyan begins at 8 p.m. and concludes at 8:15 p.m. **On Wednesdays, through November 19, 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 they can attend at Beth El.

November 2 – November 6

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
 Jonathan and Judith Levin
 Kenneth Levine and Diana Huffman
 Mark Levitt and Kay Klass
 Randall and Eleanor Levitt
 Robert and Michele Lieban Levine
 Robert and Andrea Levine
 Seth Levita
 Susan Levine
 Jonathan Levy
 Martin and Naomi Levy
 Marshall and Sandra Levy

November 9 – November 13

Stephen Levy and Lois Zuckerman
 Warren Levy
 Steven and Nancy Lewis
 Herman Liebling
 Richard Lieberman and Helene Weisz
 Theodore and Anita Lieb
 Alisa Lipkind
 Harry and Karen Lipkind
 Robert Lipman and Nancy Rose
 Ace and Linda Lipson
 Edward and Estie Lipsit
 Marvin and Julie Liss
 Marsha Liss
 Robert and Marjorie Litman
 Robert Litowitz and Karen Dubin
 Sandy and Daniella Livnat
 Jules and Carolyn Lodish
 Andrew and Linda Loewinger
 Matt and Joanne London
 Sheldon and Margery London

November 16 – November 20

William Lotshaw and Marlinda Menashe
 Peter Lowet and Laura Sloss
 Abraham and Sandy Lubin
 Robert and Carol Luskin
 James and Muriel Lyman
 Sheilah Lynn
 Phyllis Maier
 David and Claire Maklan
 Lillian Maller
 Rhoda Mancher
 Daniel and Elaine Mann
 Harry and Laura Mannheimer
 Arnold and Judith Marcus
 Lawrence and Marlene Marcus
 Ronald and Deborah Marcus
 Mitchell and Sandra Marder
 David Margulies and Donna Vogel
 Philip and Phyllis Margolius
 Robert and Elizabeth Margolis
 Sam and Evelyn Margolis

All in the Family

Mazal Tov to **Dunya Hecht**, on the birth of her granddaughter, **Samantha Brooke Brazinsky**, on October 7. She is the daughter of **Jennifer and Michael Brazinsky**.

Mazal Tov to **Marilyn and Steven Ebbin** on the birth of their grandson, **Jackson Ebbin**, born in Los Angeles on September 12, 2003. Parents are **Michelle Kluck Ebbin and Lucas Ebbin**.

Mazal Tov to **Marilyn Kweller** on the marriage of her grandson, **Benjamin Lev Kweller**, to **Elizabeth Smith**. Benjamin is the son of **Howard and Denise Kweller**, and Elizabeth is the daughter of **Jeffrey Smith**.

Shabbat Morning Family and Youth Services at Congregation Beth El

Service Name	Applicable Ages	Room	Times	Leaders
Nitzanim	birth to kindergarten	BR	10:30-11:30 am 2nd,4th,5th Shabbat	Rachelle Solkowitz, Glenda Koby, Rodger Jacobson - Pres.
Gan Shabbat	kindergarten-2nd grade	Meeting Room	10:30-11:30 am 1st, 3rd Shabbat	Rachelle Solkowitz, Sarah Roark
Shitufim	3rd & 4th grades	Room 209	11:00 am-Noon 1st, 3rd Shabbat	Anita Lieb, Nora Levy
Jr. Congregation	5th grade and up	APR	10:00-11:15 am Every Shabbat	Cheryl Kreiser

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

Beth El Worship and Study Minyan

The Beth El Worship and Study Minyan will meet on Saturday, November 1, in the Board Room from 9:50 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 toward adults. Contact **Dan Hirsch**, 301-654-7289, DOHirsch@aol.com; **Sid Getz**, 301-530-2215, Sidgetz@aol.com; or **Mark Levitt**, 301-365-5365, MLevitt@Nelliscorp.com, for more information.

Learners' Minyan

Rabbi Harris leads this monthly minyan focused on learning the how's and why's of the Shabbat service. Each month focuses on a different part of the service. It is highly participatory and discussion oriented. All are welcome. The next service is Saturday, November 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room. Contact Rabbi Harris if you have questions about the Learners' Minyan.

Minyan Chaverim

Minyan Chaverim meets on the third Shabbat of each month and will meet next on Saturday, November 15, from 9:30 a.m. to Noon in the Board 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 kbitzing. For more information, please contact **Debbie Feinstein** at 301-767-1178 or debbie_feinstein@yahoo.com.

Sisterhood Judaica Shop

Visit our re-decorated shop and see the new merchandise, including many beautiful things from Israel.

Selected items are on sale.

Our new fall hours are
Wednesday and Thursday:

9 a.m. - Noon

Sunday:

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Family-Friendly Friday Night Service December 12, 2003 All Purpose Room

8:00 p.m.

Remember the Friday Night Services of your youth?

Wish you could come to a short Shabbat Service together after work and dinner?

Here's your chance to attend a prayer service full of stories, songs, and fellowship, led by Rabbi Greg Harris and Sarah Roark.

Special honors will be given to anyone with a December birthday.

Services will be followed by a desert oneg.

This is one in a series of services that will occur on

January 9, March 12,

May 14, June 11.

Vatikkim Luncheon

We will show the full-length (117 min.) Oscar-winning documentary film, *Into the Arms of Strangers* at our November 20 luncheon. It tells the story of the remarkable rescue operation conducted by the British to save 10,000 children from the Nazis. This is a moving tribute to the child survivors, the rescuers, and the courageous parents of the Kindertransports.

The program will begin at 12:45 p.m. and end about 2:45 p.m. Whether you can stay for the entire film or only part of it, please do make every effort to join us for this memorable production.

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.

Reservation Form

Vatikkim Luncheon on Thursday, November 20, 2003

Please reserve _____ places for me at the Vatikkim luncheon.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please have your response reach us by Tuesday, November 18, 2003. No reservations will be accepted after this date.

Set the Table with Torah

November 1, 2003: Noah

The tale of Noah and the flood never ceases to fascinate. Interest has increased with the discovery of parallel flood tales among ancient Israel's neighbors. Still, the moral character of Genesis stands out as the most significant aspect of the Jewish flood story. Unlike her neighbors, Israel attributed this flood to moral corruption rather than the whim of the gods.

Why do you think Noah chose to remain silent in response to God's harsh decree against the world? The first time he speaks, it's to curse his son Ham. Why does the Bible portray Noah in this fashion? How does he compare to the reaction of Abraham, to whom God indicated that He was going to completely destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah?. Look at Genesis 18 if you need to.

Chapter 11, known as the Tower of Babel story, is very perplexing. Apparently God's anger at the residents of Shinar and their tower came from their desire to "make themselves a name." What does this expression mean? Why does God become so angry at humanity's desperate attempt to maintain its unity? Do you think that this implies God wants us divided, or that mankind was not ready for such unity? What was the crime of the people of Babel?

November 8, 2003: Lekh L'kha

Abram's flight from his ancestral home in Haran (modern Iraq) and his initial contact with God mark not only the birth of a new religion but also the beginning of a spiritual revolution. Yet the first Hebrew is not remembered as a great theologian or as a profound religious thinker. Abram was a man of action and a human being with deep compassion. In these ways, he became an example to all future generations of Jews. At the same time, he set the example for a people who hasn't engaged in much God-talk over the ages, which we may need to remedy.

After ten years in the land of Canaan without bearing a child with his wife, Abram decides to follow Sarah's advice and take Hagar, her servant, as a concubine. Soon after Hagar becomes pregnant, and Sarah's attitude toward this decision changes (see chapter 16). How would you explain Sarah's change in attitude? Compare Abram's response to Sarah in this chapter with his response later after Isaac's birth (chapter 21, which we read on Rosh Hashanah).

Abram makes several covenants with God in this parashah alone. How do the covenants made in chapter 15 (verses 8-11) and chapter 17 (verses 1-27) differ from one another? The word covenant implied that God and Abram (and all future generations of Jews) are partners. In what ways do we as moderns sense that we are partners with God?

November 15, 2003: Vayera

There are few parashot with more action than this one. Abraham and Lot meet divine messengers on special missions, Abraham argues with God about the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah, Hagar and Ishmael are thrown out of the house because of Sarah's jealousy (Torah portion for first day of Rosh Hashanah) and Abraham is told by God to sacrifice Isaac and almost does (the Torah portion for the second day of Rosh Hashanah).

Compare the treatment of Ishmael (chapter 21) with the treatment of Isaac in the story of his near sacrifice (chapter 22). What parallels and differences can be drawn between these two chapters not only in the treatment of the children, but also in Abraham's response? If Abraham is being tested, what is the nature and the purpose of the test in chapter 22?

Few chapters in the Torah have been subject to as much discussion as the story of the binding of Isaac. While Abraham is often the object of this discussion, we should not ignore Isaac's important role. Was Isaac aware of the ordeal he was about to face? How do you think he felt about his father's strange actions? How did this experience affect the future relationship between father and son (clue: read ahead a little and see how or if they continued to interact). It implies at the end of chapter 22 that Abraham came back down the mountain without Isaac, and Sarah dies at the very beginning of the next chapter. Do you see any validity to the theory that Isaac was actually killed and Sarah died when she heard the news?

**It is possible to
use roses from Israel
for the Bimah flowers
arrangements or
for your Bat/Bar Mitzvah.
Call Andrea at
Nelsons Flower Shoppe
301-869-2400.**

