

Scroll

CONGREGATION BETH EL

January 2, 2004

8 Tevet 5764

Volume 53

No. 7

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Tuning In With Hazzan Lubin



(The following article is an extract from a commentary on the Torah portion of *Hayyei Sarah* – Genesis, 23:1-25:18 written by Dr. Ismar Schorsch, Chancellor of The Jewish Theological Seminary. Torah readers and others please take note!)

Sacred texts are to be sung; only profane texts are spoken. Rabbi Yochanan, a third century Palestinian Amora, went so far as to assert that anyone who studied Torah or Mishnah without chanting the text conformed to the dark words of Ezekiel: “Moreover, I (God) gave them laws that were not good and rules by which they could not live” (Ezekiel 20:25; BT *Megillah* 32a). Indeed, there are Babylonian manuscripts in which the mishnaic passages are marked by trope as are some of the early printed editions of the Mishnah itself (*Sabbioneta*).

Music does not only remove a text from the numbing effect of ordinariness; it also facilitates memorization, and rabbinic culture was largely oral. Professor Yochanan Muffs of the JTS faculty, one of the top Bible scholars in the world, loves to recount that when he was a youngster trying to learn passages of the Tanakh by heart, he would sit at the piano and put them to music. Prior to the invention of printing, Jews in the synagogue prayed and listened to the Torah

Continued on Page 10

Shabbat Services

Friday, January 2

6:30 pm Kol Haneshama Service-SH

Saturday, January 3

Va-yiggash: Genesis 44:18-47:27

7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services

9:15 am Sarah Krame Bat Mitzvah

10:00 am Jr. Congregation-BR

10:30 am Gan Shabbat-MR

Friday, January 9

6:30 pm Friday Evening Service-APR

Saturday, January 10

Va-y'hi: Genesis 47:28-50:26

7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services

9:15 am Sisterhood Shabbat

10:00 am Jr. Congregation-BR

10:00 am Learners Minyan-MR

10:30 am Nitzanim-APR

4:30 pm Mincha, Seudah Shlishit,

Maariv, Havdalah-APR

Friday, January 16

6:30 pm Friday Evening Service-APR

Saturday, January 17

Sh'mot: Exodus 1:1-6:1

7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services

9:15 am Daniel Forstein Bar Mitzvah

9:50 am Minyan Chaverim -APR

10:00 am Jr. Congregation-BR

10:30 am Gan Shabbat-MR

Friday, January 23

6:30 pm Friday Evening Service-APR

Saturday, January 24

Va-era: Exodus 6:2-9:35

7:30 & 9:15 am Shabbat Services

9:15 am Joshua Schwaber Bar Mitzvah

10:00 am Jr. Congregation-BR

10:30 am Nitzanim-APR

11:00 am USY Service-Rm. 209

Important Meeting for Parents of 2005 B'nai Mitzvah

Parents of children who will become B'nai Mitzvah in 2005 should plan to attend the meeting on Sunday, January 11, 2004 at 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Sisterhood News

Golda Meir Award to Dale Gold

Sisterhood is pleased to announce that **Dale Gold** is this year's recipient of the Golda Meir Award for leadership of Sisterhood and Congregation Beth El. Dale is currently Sisterhood Co-Vice President for Catering, and she has served as a member, Co-Chair, or Chair of the Catering Committee since the early 1980s. She was instrumental in building the Sisterhood Catering Service into a profitable business enterprise, which provides delicious, attractive, and affordable Shabbat Kiddushim to B'nai Mitzvah families, guests, and congregants. On most Shabbat mornings, Dale can be found working in the shul kitchen and overseeing arrangements for the Kiddush.

Dale served as a Trustee for several years on both the Sisterhood and Beth El Boards of Directors, and she was a member of the School Committee and the College Outreach Committee. Dale is a Senior Real Estate Specialist and she has advised the congregation concerning real estate matters, including working with a group who negotiated the purchase of additional properties needed for the current Beth El building expansion.

Please join us when we present the Golda Meir Award to Dale at the annual Sisterhood Shabbat Service on January 10.

Book Group

During 2003-2004, the Beth El Sisterhood invites members of the Beth El community to join either or both of two Jewish book clubs run by Beth El member **Jonina Duker**. The Tuesday evening group (8:00 p.m. at the JCC of Greater Washington library) will be discussing *Peony* by Pearl Buck on January 20.

The group that meets at the Barnes & Noble at Montrose Crossing on Thursdays at 12:00 noon will be discussing *Ruby of Cochin: An Indian Jewish Woman Remembers* by Ruby Daniel et al. on January 8.

Mens Club News

The Men's Club sponsors a number of functions during the month. Most Sundays the Club sponsors services at 9:00 a.m., a lox and bagel breakfast at 9:30 a.m., and a speaker at 10:00 a.m.

On Sunday, January 4, there will be services but no breakfast or speaker as it is the 10th of Tevet-a fast day.

On Thursday, January 8, at 8:15 p.m., the Club will sponsor the monthly session of "Hearing Men's Voices." This group, which is for men only, is a guided (or facilitated) monthly meeting for discussion of men's topics. All men are welcome whether or not they have attended previous sessions. This activity was so strongly received that it was continued over the summer even though it had been expected to go on hiatus. The expected discussion subject will be listed on the monthly Men's Club poster in the Rotunda.

On Saturday, January 10, at 4:30 p.m., the Club will sponsor the monthly Saturday evening services consisting of Shabbat Mincha/Seudah Shlishit/Maariv/and Havdalah. Everyone is welcome.

There will be a service, breakfast, and speaker on Sunday, January 11. We are still working on the program.

On Sunday, January 18, at 10:00 a.m. we will have the 2nd "Perspectives in Dialogues" program featuring **Howard Denis**, member of the Montgomery County Council.

SISTERHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM

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 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE

Miriam's Cup Workshop

February 19, 2004

Beth El Social Hall

7:00 p.m.

(Change from pink card)

Details to follow!!!



Save The Date

Mark your calendars now for Saturday evening, May 8, 2004, when we honor Rabbi Rudolph for his twenty years of dedicated service to Beth El. This will be a night to remember - don't miss it!

Message from the President

Once upon a time at Beth El, back in the '70s, Friday night services were held later in the evening, and the rabbi and hazzan conducted the service wearing long black robes. On one such Friday night during the colder months, **Rabbi Samuel Scolnic** asked me to retrieve a piece of paper from his office desk. A friend and I walked to his office, eager to please the rabbi. We opened the door, found what was needed, but as the door closed behind us, somehow it became locked. (I think my friend did it.)

To Rabbi Scolnic's credit, it was only many months later that I learned that he walked home that night in his liturgical robes, unable to get his coat from his office.

This is one of countless fond memories and anecdotes I recall about Rabbi Scolnic, who has been and continues to be involved in the lives and life cycle events of so many of us. He and his family have given much to Beth El and the larger Jewish community. It is truly fitting that he is being honored this year as Beth El's Blue Yarmulke Man-of-the-Year at the Seaboard Region Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Blue Yarmulke Men-of-the-Year Dinner on January 18.

Kol hakavod to Rabbi Scolnic. May he go from strength to strength.

Election Of Trustees

The Nominations and Recruitment Committee is seeking individuals to recommend to the Congregation to fill six positions as Trustee on the Board of Directors of Congregation Beth El. The two-year terms for these positions start just after the annual meeting of the congregation in May 2004. Trustees play an increasingly important leadership role at Beth El as integral parts of our new governance process. They are expected to provide input to the Board, take active leadership in one of the six Beth El Centers (Community Building; Worship and Spirituality; Education and Lifelong Learning; Strategic Planning; Finance and Development; and Administration), and fulfill other duties as needed. Trustees attend one Board meeting each month and may attend additional meetings of the Center and/or committees that are part of their Center.

Trustees will take a leadership role in a dynamic organization undergoing transformation as Beth El moves

to its future. Although Beth El leadership experience is not a prerequisite, Trustees should have a strong interest in leadership and a willingness to serve the synagogue. Expertise and demonstrated leadership in one or more of the areas covered by the Beth El Centers will be of great value to Beth El.

If you wish to be considered for a Trustee position, please send your name, email address, and a short paragraph about yourself and your experience and interests to the Chair of the Committee, Arthur Popper, at apopper@umd.edu. Or you can send the information to the synagogue marked to the attention of Arthur Popper.

We also invite congregants to recommend others for a Trustee position. If you wish do so, please send the nominee's name and email address (if you have it) along with a statement indicating why you are nominating the individual to Arthur Popper.

All names must be submitted by January 12, 2004. The Committee will meet shortly thereafter. It will then select the final candidates for the Trustee positions to be voted upon by the Congregation.

If you have any questions, please contact Arthur Popper or any member of the Committee. Committee members are **Arthur Popper** (Chair), **Cary Feldman**, **Leslie Dellon**, **Bucky Jacobson**, **Sharon Fischman**, **Debbie Feinstein**, **Tamar Fishman**, **Sid Getz**, **Susan Jerison**, **Jack Minker**, and **Jose Sokol**.

Parking

We recognize that, as a result of construction, parking is more limited than usual in the Beth El parking lot. When parking on the neighboring streets, please be careful not to block residential driveways and leave at least five feet on each side of the driveway. As always, Bethesda United Methodist Church (diagonally across from Beth El) allows us to use their upper parking lot on Saturdays. Also, parking is more plentiful on the side streets on the other side of Old Georgetown Road and we encourage you to take advantage of this. Vehicles parked illegally will be subject to ticketing and/or towing. Please respect our neighbors property so that we may continue a good relationship with them.

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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.

Construction Update

As of the beginning of December, a number of milestones in the construction of our beautiful new synagogue have been met. These include:

- Demolition of the two houses south of Beth El and of the library, clergy offices, and small chapel.
- Very large holes in the ground—the excavation is completed and concrete is being poured for the foundation. Early next year, you will see steel sticking up from the ground!
- A lovely mural at the end of the gallery created by our own youth to decorate the wall covering the old courtyard.
- An observation window, our “narrow window of opportunity” at the end of the coatroom. Come check out the construction in person or check our web site for updated pictures of the construction.
- A final contract has been signed with Uniwest, our general contractor.
- The Construction Committee has created a viable solution to the one issue that had remained unresolved in the plan. We will be able to create a room in the Sanctuary for families to take restless/crying children and still keep the proposed expansion of the kitchen. The room will be at the back, on the Rabbi's side in the space between the back wall and the pillar. The room will have a small bathroom and a space about 8x15 feet with a one-way glass window at the front. This new room provides a new naming opportunity. If you or anyone you know might want to consider this possibility, please contact Sheila Bellack or the Capital Campaign Committee via Bert King. We will still have the larger Bride's Room/Family Room across the hall from the Sanctuary.
- A plan for the new traffic signals that will be needed at our new, safe entrance has been designed and submitted to the State Highway Administration (Old Georgetown Road, MD 187, is a state highway). It will provide for left turn signals into and out of Beth El, among other safety features.
- The Capital Campaign continues. An additional \$400,000 was pledged to the Capital Campaign over the summer and fall. We hope those who have not yet had an opportunity to participate will do so.
- A new time line for completion is being developed. We hope to complete the project by the High Holidays 2005. The new wing will be open to us by the High Holidays 2004.
- In early 2004, drawings of the interior finishes will be available from the architect. These will be posted for congregants to see and begin to imagine ourselves in a new and beautiful space.

Any questions or comments about the construction should be directed to **Don Silverstein**, Chair of the Construction Committee.

Splinters from the Board

The Board of Directors November 18, 2003 meeting began with a D'var Torah by **Rabbi Harris** discussing the life of Sarah. Sarah lived 127 years and this number shows how significant she was in the Torah. Her life also signifies a time of transition in biblical history, which is similar to the transitional period here at Beth El. Just like the leaders in the Torah, we are constantly changing and learning as a community.

President's Report. **Brent Berger** mentioned that the Board will be taking out a full page ad in honor of Rabbi Scolnic's Blue Yarmulke Man-of-the-Year Award. Brent also announced that due to vacation conflicts, the December Board meeting is cancelled (unless pressing business requires a meeting).

Hazzan Lubin's Report. **Hazzan Lubin** attended a conference in New York for a Jewish music project supported by the Milken Foundation, focusing on the lyrical history of American Jews. Hazzan Lubin will incorporate this music and the lessons learned by this experience here at Beth El.

Membership Discount Proposal. **Sheila Bellack** reported that the Membership Committee is striving to increase membership from 920 units to 1000 units. While this may not be achievable in one year, that is the ultimate goal. In particular, the committee is focusing on nursery school families, High Holiday ticket purchasers and Saul Bendit participants who are not Beth El members, and the approximately 50% of the Jewish population in the DC area that is not affiliated with a synagogue. The Membership Committee proposed that anyone who joins by January 31, 2004 will receive a 75% discount on their 2003-04 membership dues. Following thorough discussion, a motion was made to approve the proposal and it passed unanimously, with one abstention.

Financial Report. Sheila Bellack reported that since the beginning of the fiscal year (June 1, 2003), Beth El has had 37 new members and 35 resignations. These numbers are typical for this time of year. The Membership Committee has developed an exit questionnaire that is being sent to all resignees the Committee is aware of. Sheila also noted that we are on target financially.

Bank. Sheila Bellack explained that, as part of our negotiations with United Bank for the construction project, we agreed to move our general operating account from Sun Trust to United Bank. A motion was made to proceed with this and authorize the President, Treasurer, and Executive Director to transact financial business on behalf of Beth El. The motion was approved unanimously.

Center of Finance and Development. **Shelly London** briefly described the very successful Beth El Israel mission. He also discussed the plan of the Finance Committee to offer opportunities for gifts to the shul in ways other than dues (such as endowment funds). The Committee hopes to have a pamphlet explaining these

opportunities by the annual congregational meeting.

Rabbi Rudolph has recently completed 20 years of service to Beth El, and the Fundraising Committee will be organizing a celebration to honor this milestone.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Anyone who attended this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service would agree that it was probably the most inspirational one we've ever had...and that's saying a lot, as all of these services have been warm and meaningful. This year we were at Bethesda United Methodist Church and the sanctuary was filled to capacity. Shir Atid, our children's choir under the direction of Elizabeth Simon, and Ahavat Shir, under Hazzan Lubin's direction, both participated in the service and their voices were spectacular. The church choir touched all our hearts by their flawless performances in Hebrew. The clergy from both Beth El and BUMC presented biblical readings, and Rabbi Harris gave the main address, a powerful and moving sermon on the need to establish an atmosphere of tranquility in our homes, communities and country. Our two congregations have shared this annual service for many years.

Beth El Nursery School Seeking Donations For Annual Gala

Beth El Nursery School is seeking donations for their silent auction as part of their "Dancing through the Decades" gala this year. The event will be held on Saturday evening, February 28, 2004. Items of interest include sports tickets, jewelry (real and costume), beautician and spa services, art, gift certificates, consulting services, attorney and accounting services, giftware (Judaic and traditional) and trips, timeshares and weekend getaways. No item is too large, too small or too obscure!

We also are looking for companies or synagogue members who wish to sponsor a food, beverage or entertainment station the evening of the event. Sponsors will be recognized in the auction catalogue, the *Scroll* and during the event. For more information, call Jo Sohinki at 301-652-8569, x311.

Religious School Structure

The Committee on Religious School Structure has been created to address parental interests about the organization of the Religious School, in particular the six hour, three day a week model currently in use for grades four, five, and six. In response to heightened parental concern, a process has been initiated that will lead to a decision which will shape the Religious School program for the foreseeable future. As part of this process, parents and congregants wishing to share thoughts and opinions with the Committee on School Structure are encouraged to do so by addressing an email note to the Committee at schoolstructure@bethelmc.org.

Family-Friendly Friday Night Service

January 30, 2004

(note date change)

Social Hall

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, Hazzan Abraham Lubin and Sarah Roark.

The January Service will be accompanied by the Beth El Children's Choir, Shir Atid (Elizabeth Simon, director).

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

Services will be followed by a desert oneg.

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

March 12, May 14, June 11.

Congregation Beth El of Montgomery County
8215 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD
(301) 652-2606

Twenty-ninth Annual *Perspectives in Dialogue*

Breakfast noshes start at 9:30 a.m.

Program at 10:00 a.m. No fee.

Sunday, January 18, 2004

Howard Denis, Council Member, Montgomery County Council: "How the Montgomery County Council Affects Everything You Do"

Sunday, February 15, 2004

Dr. Dorree Lynn, Psychologist, syndicated columnist, and media favorite: "Over 50 is Not What it Used to be — New Paradigms."

Sunday, February 29, 2004

June Rogul, National Outreach Director, New Israel Fund: "Israel: Addressing Internal Challenges in a Troubled Time"

Sponsored by the Beth El Men's Club.

Set the Table with Torah

by Rabbi Greg Harris

January 3: Va-yiggash

Nobody had a better reason to be mad at his brothers than Joseph after they sold him into slavery. In this week's reading though, we see just how important it was for Joseph to be reunited with his beloved father Jacob. When his brothers do not recognize him, he chooses not to reveal himself and devises a trick to ensure he will see his father. Not trusting his brothers, this was the only way he could ensure seeing his father. If this is the case, why did Joseph want to see Jacob so badly? What are the special ties that bind us to our parents? Since Joseph became a powerful man in Egypt, why did he wait till his brothers came to him to inquire about his father? Couldn't Joseph have used his position to find out about his father's well-being earlier? This is a chance for parents to reflect on their relationship with their own parents too.

January 10: Va-y'hi

Our tradition has a custom of parents offering a blessing to their sons and daughters every Friday night. I love this moment each Friday night as my family pauses for a moment to see each other as a blessing, not just a chauffeur, an ATM, or a rule enforcer. The blessing offered for a daughter is "May God bless you as He blessed Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, and Leah." The separate blessing offered to a son is "May God bless you as He blessed Ephraim and Menashe." (Gen. 48:20) This verse comes from this week's reading.

Ephraim and Menashe were the grandchildren of Jacob. While most people have not heard of Ephraim and Menashe, they are worthy of blessing our children. Ephraim and Menashe are the first brothers within the Bible that did not fight. Our prayer is that our children should grow up surrounded by peace between people. The second lesson of this beautiful blessing is for the parents. Ephraim and Menashe were the first children to be raised in a stable, tranquil environment. They were not forced to wander from land to land either due to a Divine journey like Abraham or move because of famine like Jacob. This blessing reminds us that parents are responsible for creating an environment suitable for children to grow up in. We must make the time for them to know deeply that they are loved and protected.

January 17: Sh'mot

We are introduced to the great leader Moses in this very special reading. While Moses is the main figure for the rest of the Torah (Exodus through Deuteronomy), it is important to imagine the context of his childhood. He was raised in the environment of Pharaoh's palace. We can imagine that he had the

best schooling, manners, and refinements the Egyptian Empire could offer. So, where did he get his "Yidelishkeit" (Jewishness)? All of a sudden we see him killing an Egyptian who is beating an Israelite and he feels a kinship with the Israelite. The rabbis of our tradition asked the same questions. Midrashim (rabbinic lore) tell how when Moses was pulled from the Nile River, his own mother was selected to be his nursemaid. The assumption is that she cared for Moses as the Princess was doing other things. It was Moses' own mother who quietly but effectively instilled in Moses a sense of identity as an Israelite. Today, we also benefit from tremendous opportunities like Moses and it remains the obligation of parents to guide children to embrace the deep and important values of Judaism.

Shabbat Shalom at Home

On February 6, 2004 (15 Shevat 5764), Congregation Beth El will celebrate our seventh annual *Shabbat Shalom at Home* and no one need celebrate alone. This program has done much to make our community feel warm and hospitable. We hope you will once again invite a fellow congregant to your home or let Sarah Roark know that you would like to be invited somewhere. Every year we call all families who are new to the synagogue to offer them an invitation at the home of a congregant. If you would like to offer your home, please let me know.

We appreciate that many of you have kept the How-to Guide to Your Home Friday Night Service in years past. We have therefore decided this year to mail it only to new families. Multiple copies are also available in the lucite holder if you would like to pick some up.

Few religious practices rival the importance of Shabbat observance in making a difference in how we conduct our lives and how we survive in our hectic world. Choose February 6 to add something new to your lifelong practice of Shabbat. For those who do not observe regularly, we urge you to make a special effort to participate on February 6.

Audio tapes of Sally Heckelman singing the tunes for the Friday night service on one side and the Havdalah service on the other are available from Sarah Roark. We hope this evening will bring special meaning and enjoyment to each of you. Needless to say, we hope that *Shabbat Shalom at Home* will not be just a one-time event, but the beginning of a richer and more consistent Friday night observance for many members.

As always, we would appreciate hearing your reactions to this or any Family Education program. You can contact Sarah Roark, Director of Family Education, at 301-652-8573, ext. 319 or sroark@bethelmc.org.

Sisterhood Shabbat Service

Saturday, January 10
9:15 a.m.

Celia and Audrey Resnik Memorial Lecture

by

Beryl Lieff Benderly

*The History of Jewish Women in America:
Jewish Values, American Opportunities*

Golda Meir Award

to

Dale Gold

Sisterhood members will lead the service

Friday, February 6, 2004

9:15 a.m. - Noon

in the Beth El Kitchen

sponsored by Sisterhood



Challah Baking Workshop



Learn to prepare Challah and design your own challah cover. Take home what you make to enhance your celebration of Shabbat Shalom at Home.

R.S.V.P. to Glenda Koby at
301-718-9464 or
gjkoby@yahoo.com

R.S.V.P. form for Challah Baking Workshop

Please tear off and return to the Sisterhood mailbox in the Office.

Name _____

Phone _____



A Neighborly Mitzvah: Dinner for Children's Inn

Sunday, November 23, 2003 was Beth El's first evening of preparing and serving dinner at NIH's Children's Inn. For this project of *Tikkun Olam*: Repairing the World, our congregation purchases, prepares, transports, and serves dinner to families staying at the Inn on the third Sunday of each month. This effort is another example of the close connection between Family Education and Social Action.

Children's Inn is a caring place to be. It's a place to relax for families of children undergoing treatment at NIH for life threatening illnesses. The Inn has identified Sunday as the busiest night for arriving families. Many Beth Elers made lasagna and brownies, or bought drinks, vegetables, bread, and butter. Thank you to the following families: **Glassman; Griff; Kalman; Odintz; Polis/Barish; Schissler; Schone; Schwartz;** and **Eleanor Frishman** for all the delicious food. The food was transported and served by **Susan Kitt, Rebecca Teitelbaum, Suzanne Strauss, Susan Levine,** and **Naomi Janney.**

Advance menu planning and organization was done by **Barbara Klein, Stephanie Schissler,** and **Debbie Fink.** If you would like to get involved but have not yet sent in a form, please contact Sarah Roark, 301-652-8573 ext. 319 or sroark@bethelmc.org. If you have sent in a form, but have not yet been called on to contribute, know that we appreciate your offer and we will contact people as needed throughout the year.

Come to our January Senior Caucus
Workshop and learn to

Improve Your Spinal Health

**Dr. Charlotte Jensen,
Chiropractor**

will speak and answer questions about:

- Arthritis
- Improving mobility
- Osteoporosis
- Natural pain relief
- Avoiding fractures and more

Tuesday, January 13, 2004

1:00 p.m.

Beth El Board Room

No RSVP necessary.

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. 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.

January 4 – January 8

Bernard and Cheryl Rod
Isadore and Rose Rod
Dean and Toby Rodman
Arthur and Marianne Rosen
Beatrice Rosenberg
Bernice Rosenstock
David and Deborah Rosenbloom
Gary and Dawn Rosenfeld
Gilbert and Minerva Rosenberg
Herbert and Nancy Rosenthal
Joseph and Dorene Rosenthal
Jay and Robin Rosenblum
Marvin and Suzanne Rosenblatt
Steven and Beth Rosenthal
Steven and Alice Rosenberg
Todd Rosenberg and Erika Dickstein
Douglas and Barbara Rosing
Beth Rosner
Benjamin Ross
Steven and Lori Ross

January 11 – January 15

Henry and Sheila Roth
Allan and Gilda Rotman
Irene Routhenstein
Richard and Tricia Rubenstein
David Rubin
Kenneth and Susan Rubin
Robert Rubin and Mimi Tygier
Robert and Fran Rubin
Richard and Beverly Rudman
William Rudolph and Gail Fribush
Samuel and Rose Saady
Howard and Tricia Sachs
David and Stacey Saltzman
Robert Samet and Janice Raffel
Lawrence Sank
Yakov Sanovick and Etia Dvorkina
Jorge and Sharon Sapoznikow
Eleanor Sargent
Harry Saroff
Greg and Sharon Schaner

January 18 – January 22

Stuart and Linda Schatz
Alan Scher and Toby Silverman
Edmund and Charlene Scherr
Gerda Schechter
Harold and Elissa Scheinberg
J. Jacques and Fortunee Schettewi
Deborah Schiffrin
Jane Schimel
Mark and Kimberlee Schiffrin
Peter and Stephanie Schissler
Benjamin and Joyce Schlesinger
James and Brenda Schmand
Andy Schoenholtz and Janice Liebowitz
Barbara Schone
Tom and Sarine Schrank
David and Sonja Schultz
Jeremy Schulman and Celeste Murphy
Mark and Trish Schutz
Richard and Sharon Schulman
David Schwinger

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.

Javier and Ana Goldin, 6909 Millwood Road, Bethesda, MD 20817

Ariel Goldin, Daniel Goldin

301-229-1181

jgoldin@oas.org

Howard Ungar and Rachel Goldsmith, 7904 Lynbrook Drive, Bethesda, MD 20814

Beila Ungar, Max Ungar, Shira Ungar

391-907-9042

Rachel_Goldsmith@yahoo.com; Howard_Ungar@yahoo.com

Shabbat Morning Family and Youth Services at Congregation Beth El

Service Name	Applicable Ages	Room	Times	Leaders
Nitzanim	birth to kindergarten	APR	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	BR	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 lead the 9:15 a.m. Sanctuary service on Saturday, January 3. 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.

Minyan Chaverim

Minyan Chaverim meets on the third Shabbat of each month and will meet next on Saturday, January 17, from 9:30 a.m. 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.

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, January 10, at 10:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room. Contact Rabbi Harris if you have questions about the Learners' Minyan.

Nitzanim News

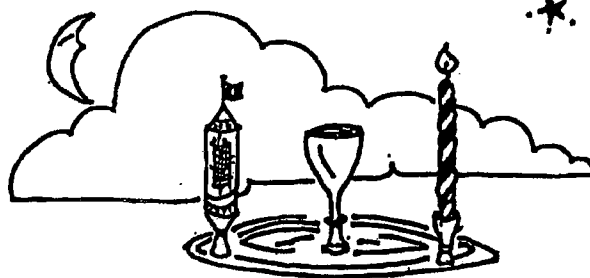
Nitzanim hopes everyone had a very Happy Hanukkah and is enjoying 2004. Our next event is a Tu B'Shvat Seder on February 1 at Beth El. We are looking for one or two families to chair the event. Please contact Bucky Jacobson if you wish to volunteer.

Yasher Koach to **David Goodfriend** for leading our November volunteer service. The children (and parents) really enjoyed David's service.

Remember - honor your children by sponsoring our Nitzanim Kiddush. Please contact Bucky to schedule a date. Contributions are always welcome. This year we are asking you to make contributions to the General Fund to support the ongoing operations of the synagogue.

My contact information is rodgerjacobson@att.net, contact me if you wish to volunteer to help, sponsor a kiddush, or just find out more about Nitzanim or Beth El.

Todah Rabbah to **Mindi and Bucky Jacobson** for sponsoring the Nitzanim Kiddush on December 13 in honor of the seventh birthday of their son, **Matthew**.



Sisterhood invites you to join

Hazzan Lubin, Ahavat Shir and
the Shir Delite Band

for a

MELAVEH MALKA

A farewell to the Shabbat Queen

An exciting evening with
Havdalah, Supper, Singing and
Musical Entertainment

Saturday, February 7, 2004
7:00 p.m.

\$15.00 per person

Reservations must arrive by January 29, 2004

No phone reservations.

No payment will be accepted at the door.

For more information

Contact Judy Baldinger (301) 657-4613

Reservations for MELAVEH MALKA

Name _____

of people at \$15.00 per person _____

Phone _____

Total amount of check enclosed \$ _____

Payable to Beth El Sisterhood

No phone reservations

Reservations must arrive by January 29, 2004

Send reservations to:

Karen Lipkind

6124 Tuckerman Lane

Rockville, MD 20852