



ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

Chronicle

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Clergy Corner

by Rabbi Charles Feinberg

BECOMING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

February is Jewish Disability Awareness Month. Our Inclusion Task Force has been busy planning programs to increase our awareness of the disabled and their needs. On Saturday, February 22, our *Shabbat* morning will be dedicated to including the disabled and those who are not always like us.

The Torah presents several different views about the disabled. On the one hand, the Torah teaches that *Kohanim*, priests, who have some physical blemish or disability cannot serve at the altar and cannot offer up sacrifices. Some of the blemishes that are mentioned include blindness, being lame, having one limb too short or too long, having a broken arm or leg, being hunchback, or having scurvy. *Kohanim*, priests, who are blemished are permitted to eat the food designated for the priests; they just

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Shabbat Dinner for Empty Nesters, Boomers & Beyond! Hosted by the HAZAK Steering Committee Friday, February 21, 7:00 pm



The HAZAK steering committee is very pleased to invite you to a very special Friday night

Shabbat dinner for people ages 55 and older, following *Kabbalat Shabbat* services on February 21. We would like to personally invite you to join us for this warm community event. *Shabbat* is a time to lift our mood and spirit, and that is best achieved with good friends

and family. So join us as we sit down to a delicious *Shabbat* dinner together, reconnect with old friends, and make new ones.

RSVP by Wednesday, February 19, by calling the synagogue office, 202-362-4433, or e-mailing Marcy.Spiro@adasisrael.org.

From Adas members Betty Adler and Mark Rosenberg:

HAZAK is an acronym meaning wisdom (*hokmah*), maturity (*zikhah*), and forward (*kadima*). We are dedicated to serving this growing segment of our community through a variety of

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Kol HaOlam IV The 4th Annual National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Championship Competition!

Saturday, March 1 @ 8:00 pm

Register at www.kolhaolam.org

Join us for this wildly popular annual Adas Israel tradition, as several groups of outstanding young Jewish performers compete in our legendary annual showdown! Jewish a cappella music is sweeping the nation, and colleges and universities, as always, are taking the lead.

Come and witness these collegiate Jewish a cappella groups from around the country, as they sing their hearts out to be named Number 1 world champion in 2014! Tickets (\$20/adults, \$10/students) are available at www.kolhaolam.org. ○



CELEBRATING OUR 143RD YEAR
THE CHRONICLE IS SUPPORTED IN
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ENDOWMENT FUND

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Clergy Corner

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cannot come near the altar in the Temple.

On the other hand, the Torah teaches that often having a disability is a prerequisite for becoming a prophet! Recall that Moses had a speech impairment that is described as “being heavy of mouth” or having “uncircumcised lips.” When Isaiah is commissioned as a prophet, he recoils from the possibility because he says he has “unclean lips” and that he lives among a people of “unclean lips.” His lips needed to be purified before he could speak God’s holy word. Jeremiah was a teenager when God commissioned him to be a prophet, yet Jeremiah complained that he was just a kid and did not have the standing in the community to speak God’s word. But God summarily dismissed all these complaints and excuses not to deliver God’s word. Indeed, God says to Moses, “Who gives man speech? Who makes him dumb or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go, and I will be with you as you speak and I will tell you what to say.”

It is easy to conclude from this passage in chapter four of *Exodus* that Moses’s disability was essential to establishing his authority as God’s prophet and representative. If Moses could confront Pharaoh and his courtiers or speak to hundreds of thousands of his kinsmen, then clearly he was able to do this because of the power of God. People would have to conclude that the power of God enabled Moses to overcome his disability.

One lesson we can learn from the stories about the prophets, including Moses, is that having a disability did not disqualify someone from coming close to God. On the contrary, having a disability often made it possible for a person to become close to God. Having a disability did not mean that a person could not have a spiritual experience, nor did it mean that person was not able to participate in a spiritual experience.

While the Torah is silent on why physically blemished priests cannot serve at the altar, my teacher Prof. Jacob Milgrom has suggested that the reason may be a matter of logic. Since the Torah forbids Israelites from bringing to the altar animals that are physically blemished, so it correspondingly prohibits physically blemished priests from serving at the altar. That is, the Torah is not teaching that physically blemished priests cannot have or participate in a spiritual experience.

Another way to think about this is that the role of the priest was to represent the people to God, and physical impairments or “blemishes” put additional demands and expectations on them. On the other hand, the prophets were, ironically, selected despite their impediments precisely because their impairment or “blemish” would give testimony to the glory and power of God in the world. It may be that the meaning of these passages has more to do with the ability of the individual (the priest) to successfully represent the community to God versus the ability of the individual (the prophet) to represent God to the community.

We know from our own history in the United States that leaders who have a physical blemish or ailment have often hid

Office Closing

Presidents’ Day, Monday, February 17

Schools/Offices Closed

it. They feared that such ailments would undermine their popularity and authority. Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy are good examples. It remains to be seen whether we as a country would accept as a leader a man or woman who was physically blemished. I suspect that there are some who do not believe President Obama is a legitimate leader because they believe the color of his skin is a blemish.

It is time for us within the Jewish community to follow the lessons of the Torah regarding our prophets. Physical blemishes or impairments are no bar to spiritual experience or to leadership. Indeed, I know many of us are inspired by the courage and perseverance of many who are disabled and who become people of accomplishment and achievement. We have seen with our own eyes the power of God in the world as people with serious disabilities have learned to manage them and live lives full of love and accomplishment.

Several years ago during the service when we honored Bob and Joy Cohen with the *Shem Tov* Award for their work in establishing the Washington Jewish Group Homes, Judith Heumann spoke movingly of her spiritual journey from the time she was a child stricken with crippling polio to her many achievements in advocating on behalf of the disabled. Although Judith is physically disabled, her intellect, charm, and spirituality have only deepened and matured over the years.

Our task is to “see” beyond the physical or intellectual impairment so that we see the soul of the other. When we “see” the soul of the other, then we will experience the presence of God. I urge you to join us on Saturday, February 22, when we will welcome Ginny Thornburgh as our guest speaker during services in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary. Mrs. Thornburgh is the director of the Interfaith Initiative of the American Association of People with Disabilities. Following the service and *kiddush* lunch, Mrs. Thornburgh will participate in a panel discussion, along with Judith Heumann and Leah Chanin. ◯



Members of Adas Israel helped to prepare, serve, and clean up Christmas dinner for women at the N Street Village Shelter on December 25. Adas Israel singers made the occasion even more festive. Cantor Brown accompanied on key board and, far right, partially hidden, is Congregation President Arnie Podgorsky singing along!

From the President

Let Our Peoples and Movements Go



Arnie Podgorsky

Three Hebrew leaders meet separately with Pharaoh. Each pleads with Pharaoh to release the people of his particular Hebrew movement. One leader has absolute confidence that God's miracles will leave Pharaoh no option. Another is uncertain about miracles. His understanding of God and miracles is tentative and evolving. The third advances *tikkun olam*. Three Hebrew movements—they don't often celebrate what they have in common.

Pharaoh sees the divisions. He drives wedges through the Hebrews' spiritual and tactical weaknesses. God observes the people's confusion and fear. The leaders' efforts fail to impress Pharaoh. His magicians appear to have the upper hand. Forget the exodus. Forget the Red Sea. No Sinai, no Torah. Even now, in 2014, much of humankind revels in idol worship and associated immoralities.

Turning from this nightmare, are we not thankful to have been one people with one leadership—Moses with Aaron's brotherly assist? The strength of Moses, the warmth of Aaron, the clarity of the plea, the force of the plagues, and courage at the Red Sea, all rested on the unity—the Oneness—of our people. Yes, there were disputes and even a rebellion, but with resolve Moses maintained unity.

Today we have three (at least) movements in Judaism. While each guides its adherents to better lives, the divisions are deeper than interpretive and doctrinal differences. Many of us know little about the logic and intent of other movements. We can be defensive or even tribal about our particular brand of Judaism. We may not like the word *sect*, but that shoe could eventually fit.

Little is black and white, and in these divisions there also are advantages. Some Jews who are not religiously educated will feel more comfortable and welcome in the Reform and Conservative movements. In our assimilated society, for many Jews these options may offer important paths to Torah. Still, the very thought of an allocated Judaism seems starkly at odds with *echod*. And, as Chabad has demonstrated, even Orthodoxy can warmly welcome those with minimal Jewish learning.

Just as seemingly disconnected events in the Torah often are parallel, Adas Israel's communities reflect Judaism's pluralist divisions. The Charles E. Smith Sanctuary clergy-led service is often about *s'machot*. The lay-led Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* is virtually Orthodox except for gender egalitarianism. The *Havurah* Service is by definition distinct from the broader institution.

Adas Israel is big-tent Judaism. Our congregants inhabit the range from Modern Orthodox to Reform. For this broad community, diversity has advantages. Orthodox Jews preferring an egalitarian experience and others well versed in the prayers can enjoy the Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* and even experience the fulfillment of leading the *davening*. The *Havurah* Service offers opportunities for deep Torah study and learning from fellow congregants. The service in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary offers

a rabbinic sermon and spiritual cantorial music. These different approaches to prayer allow all comers to participate and feel welcome, reflecting our big-tent philosophy. In many ways, it works to allow us all to experience a joyful *Shabbat*, and most of us gather in the Kay for a huge community *kiddush*.

Yet, the service communities, although somewhat overlapping, engender significantly separate social communities. The *mechitzas* between our communities diminish our unity as a congregation. As we laud our pluralism, we could consider how it could coexist more productively with greater congregational unity. Here are a few candid thoughts just to jump-start some thinking.

We could enhance a warm and open regard among our communities, thinking about the joys of our similarities and less about our differences. All communities could provide volunteers to greet in the lobby on Saturday mornings—not for their particular service but to welcome everyone. It's *Shabbat!* With two or three greeters each Saturday, imagine the enhanced hugging and schmoozing. We could organize a congregation-wide effort to bring meals to the sick or infirm; some of those needing assistance are not members of a worship community that performs this *mitzvah* for its own. Even though we all benefit from the building and staff, participation in the annual appeal is surprisingly thin; many of us focus on our community and less so on the broader needs of the synagogue—which include financial needs. As a single congregation we could perform more charitable works.

When communities are combined for particular services, could we learn to accommodate others' practices a bit more and defend our own practices a tad less? This would help reduce the awkwardness some feel in these combined services. After all, within our big tent, each practice helps to provide Judaism to members. A practice might not be your *minhag*, but it might add measurably to another's prayerful experience.

Above all, we could reach out more to each other—warmly greeting, introducing, getting to know, hugging, welcoming, loving, and celebrating the gift of Judaism and our own Oneness, right here, on the ground in Adas Israel. Does this occur already? Yes. Enough? Not yet.

The subject is tender. I've touched the third rail. This column was not beta tested, and I submit it with trepidation. We could never all agree how to phrase these thoughts. Undoubtedly some of my expressions will not match your particular experiences. My purpose is not to dispute or upset, but to suggest a different perspective. As we seek to foster warmer, more welcoming membership experiences in the *shul*, we can retain all the advantages of our plural approaches to prayer while enhancing our unity—Jewish unity and congregational unity—strengthening both our people and this wonderful synagogue. ○

Correction: The name of Leah Chanin was inadvertently dropped from the list of Patrons who donated to the Adas Fund 2013 (page 5 of the January 2014 *Chronicle*). We regret the omission.

The Daily Minyan: Kaddish and Beyond

By Susan Kay, Adas Israel Member

"I was struck almost immediately by the poverty of my knowledge about the ritual that I was performing with such unexpected fidelity," recalls Leon Wieseltier at the start of his book, *Kaddish*. He was beginning the ritual period where a child says the *Kaddish* prayer every day for 11 months after the loss of a parent, and he felt the need to better understand what he was doing. His book is a fascinating exploration of the *Kaddish's* history and meaning. He, of course, was not alone in finding himself suddenly reciting a prayer that has so much weight, but that he hadn't been considered deeply until it became necessary to say. Although, the *Kaddish* is recited in all services, and we have heard the prayer numerous times, there is nothing comparable to reciting it yourself for someone whose absence has left a hole in your heart.

And it is not just the *Kaddish* prayer that seems unfamiliar to many investing in the ritual. When I first entered what used to be the Miller Chapel to say *Kaddish* for my mother at the daily *minyan*, I was overwhelmed with grief and felt very much alone in an unfamiliar place. The service leader, Cantor Maurice Singer, nodded hello. I recognized him, but I didn't know him or anyone else in the room. I found that I could only recite some prayers out loud and others were just too painful. However, somehow, I drew strength from reciting the *Kaddish's* strong, distinctive words.

Batyah bat Ya'acov v Hedwig; Aharon ben Yitchak v Chanah; Tovah Sarah bat Avram. These were some of the names declared by the mourners before the *Kaddish* prayer. Every name identified someone's personal loss in the community . . . an all-important community. The people in the Miller Chapel were kind and became familiar over time. And then they became much more than that. We became friends. We took the Metro to work together, we socialized at each other's homes, we learned to chant

Torah together. Cantor Singer was a true *shaliach tsibor* to those of us who came to pray every day. He was our leader, our friend, our trusted spiritual connection to the prayer we came to say. We all became strength for one another.

That was 16 years ago. And for a while after my 11 months, I would go to the daily *minyan* and say "Amen" for others saying *Kaddish*. Time passed, I got married, had two children, and life became busy with work and school and everything else. Everything else, except for the daily *minyan*, until last year when my father-in-law passed away. I watched as my husband became

immersed in the daily ritual of saying *Kaddish* for his father for 11 months. There was a different leader, and there were different people in the room—actually it was a different room.

The daily *minyan* is now held in the Biran *Beit Midrash*. Rabbi Feinberg serves as *shaliach tsibor*, along with other wonderful lay leaders. Rabbi Steinlauf and Cantor Ari have been leading the service on Thursday. Although a different setting and different leaders, the spirit was familiar. People knitted together through

common purpose becoming strength for one another. And now my husband calls those he met at the daily *minyan* his friends. He spends time with them at the daily *minyan* and beyond. He was able to lead the service for his father's first *yahrzeit*. And he was comforted in the *Beit Midrash* by his friends and family who came to support him in this special place.

Not everyone who attends the daily *minyan* is saying *Kaddish*. Jewish tradition includes daily prayer. A few members of the congregation are regulars who attend every day, and a few make it a point to attend the daily *minyan* at least once a week, or once a month. As much as they go to support those saying *Kad-*

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SAVE THE DATE Second Bar/Bat Mitzvah! ~ June 28, 2014

To all of our beloved and honored members over the age of 83, you are invited to your very own **Second Bar/Bat Mitzvah!** Jewish tradition tells us that 70 years is a full life. Therefore, age 83 marks the time for a second *bar/bat mitzvah* (whether or not you celebrated your first).

Please join us in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary on **Shabbat morning, June 28, at 9:30 am**. All those age 83 and older will be called to the Torah for a group *aliyah*, a special blessing, and a *bar/bat mitzvah* certificate signed by our clergy.

We look forward to honoring you, as you are an incredibly important part of our dynamic and vibrant Adas Israel community. Please invite your family and friends to attend.

With love, *The Adas Israel Clergy & Officers*



May God bless you from Zion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper
all the days of your life.
May you live to see your
children's children.
May there be peace upon Israel.

RSVP to participate: Marcy Spiro, 202-362-4433, ext. 113, or marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org.

If possible, please tell Marcy your Hebrew name and your parents' Hebrew names when you RSVP.

The Blessings Guide 2014

As Jews, we are very fortunate in that we are encouraged to practice joy and gratitude for all of the good things we have in our lives. One of the simple, but beautiful ways we do this is by pausing before eating and offering up a moment of reflection, gratitude, and connection in the form of a blessing. Below is a blessings guide for all of your mealtime needs. Saying a blessing before eating is tantamount to acknowledging that the world, and everything in it, is a gift from something greater than ourselves.



Bread

Bread made from the five species of grains identified by our sages (wheat, barley, rye, spelt, or oat) requires the blessing, *Hamotzi*. To be considered bread, the liquid ingredient has to be primarily water, and it has to be baked. Dough that uses more oil or fruit juice than water (like pastries), or dough that is fried or cooked (like pasta) is not considered bread.

Baruch atah A-donay, Elo-heinu Melech Ha'Olam,

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
הַמוֹצִיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ

Hamotzi lechem min haaretz.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Sovereign of the Universe,
Who brings forth bread from the earth.



Mezonot

Food that is made from grain but is not bread gets the blessing, *mezonot*. This includes cakes and pastries, most crackers and cereals, pasta, and other cooked grain products like farfel and couscous.

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
בוֹרֵא מִיְּנֵי מִזוֹנוֹת

*Baruch atah A-donay, Elo-heinu Melech Ha'Olam,
borei minei mezonot.*

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Sovereign of the Universe,
Who creates various kinds of sustenance.



Wine

Wine has special significance and uses in Jewish law, so it has its own blessing. Recite this blessing when drinking wine or grape juice:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
בוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגֶּפֶן

Baruch atah A-donay, Elo-heinu Melech Ha'Olam, borei pri hagafen.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Sovereign of the Universe,
Who creates the fruit of the vine.



Fruits

Fruits get the *ha-aitz* blessing. In Jewish law, a fruit is defined as something growing from a perennial tree that does not renew its stem and does not grow too close to the ground. Thus, apples, grapes, nuts (except peanuts), and figs are fruit, but strawberries, melon, and bananas are not. Here is the blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
בוֹרֵא פְּרִי הָעֵץ

Baruch atah A-donay, Elo-heinu Melech Ha'Olam, borei pri ha-aitz.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Sovereign of the Universe,
Who creates the fruit of the tree.



Vegetables

"Fruits of the ground" include vegetables, legumes, peanuts, and the "fruit" excluded from the *ha-aitz* blessing above—melons, bananas, pineapples, some berries. For all these, recite the *ha-adamah* blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
בוֹרֵא פְּרִי הָאֲדָמָה

*Baruch atah A-donay, Elo-heinu Melech Ha'Olam,
borei pri ha-adamah.*

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Sovereign of the Universe, Who
creates the fruit of the earth.



Shehakol

All foods that do not fall into the preceding specific groups take the blessing, *shehakol*. These include animal products: meat, chicken, fish, and eggs; water; all other drinks (except for wine and grape juice) and soups; and miscellaneous foods like mushrooms, candy, etc. The blessing is:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
שֶׁהַכֹּל נִהְיָה בְּדַבְּרוֹ

*Baruch atah A-donay, Elo-heinu Melech Ha'Olam,
shehakol nihiyah bed'varo.*

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Sovereign of the Universe,
by Whose word all things came to be.

Now that you know the blessings, enjoy your delicious food with a little *kavanah* (spiritual intention). We hope, this beautiful tradition of reciting the age-old blessings before consuming food and drink will be a long-standing and meaningful tradition in your life. May it be a tool for you and your family to lift up your everyday lives with joy, gratitude, and connection to our people. ○

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Shabbat, February 7 & 8



Sisterhood *Shabbat* is almost here! The organizing committee members—Janet Kolodner, Betsy Strauss, and Marcie Goldstein—have been working hard to create a *Shabbat* of friendship, food, *t'filah*, and study.

The weekend begins with *Kabbalat Shabbat* Services on Friday night, February 7 at 6:00 pm, followed by a Potluck Dinner. The Torah portion for the week, *Tetsaveh*,

opens with instructions to bring only “clear oil of beaten olives” to light the *menorah*. At the dinner, we will learn together about the traditions concerning the purity of olive oil while also tasting the best our city has to offer.

Come and enjoy our Saturday speaker with your Sisterhood friends and their families. Everyone is invited. Contact Betsy for the location, to see what you can bring, and to RSVP (*Betsy.Strauss@gmail.com*). **Julie Weisman** and **Lucy Hassell** are also helping to organize this event.

Sisterhood members will lead the service *Shabbat* morning, February 8, in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary. Giving the *d'var Torah* will be JTS professor Dr. Marjorie Lehman. A festive *kid-dush* lunch follows in the Wasserman.

The speaker and luncheon are underwritten by the Mozelle Saltz Fund for Sisterhood Speakers, established by Adas Board member Donald Saltz in memory of his wife Mozelle (z"l), who had served as a spiritual role model for Sisterhood members. After lunch, there will be a text study with Dr. Lehman open to the congregation.

Other Upcoming Events

Book Chats: Sunday, February 2, 10:30 am, we'll discuss *My Father's Paradise* by Ariel Sabar, a memoir relating to Iraqi Jews. Then on Sunday, February 23, at 10:00 am, Dr. Allan Lichtman, author of *FDR and the Jews*, will discuss new research on President Roosevelt's role relating to Jews before and during World War II.

Taste of Tanach: Next in the monthly Sisterhood series of Rabbi Steinlauf's Torah-based discussions will be **Tuesday, February 11, 10:00–11:00 am**, in the Biran Beit Midrash. This year the rabbi will be teaching the *parsha* of the week. Feel free to drop in.

Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

Watch this space for news of our
Grand Reopening
when we will offer fabulous discounts!

Gift Shop Hours:

Sunday–Monday, Wednesday–Friday,
9:30 am–12:30 pm

Extended hours:

Tuesday, 9:30 am–3:00 pm & 6:15–8:00 pm

202-364-2888

adasgiftshop@gmail.com

Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.

Torah Fund Campaign Continues

Torah Fund of Women's League helps train future clergy and scholars of Conservative/Masorti Judaism. Adas Israel Sisterhood is halfway toward its goal of **\$12,000**. A contribution of just **\$18** from each of you reading this message will allow us to reach it.



Send your check for that amount or more to **Mrs. Gerry Lezell, TF Chair, 5800 Magic Mountain Dr., Rockville, MD 20852**. With a donation of **\$180**, you will receive the lovely pin pictured here, depicting *Mishpachah*, “family,” the Women's League 5774 theme.

Membership

Running late? Dues for 5774 are still being accepted. Send a note with your check to **Dava Berkman, 2475 Virginia Avenue, NW, Apt. 803, Washington, DC 20037**. *Basic membership* is \$36. Other categories are *Contributor*: \$54 and *Patron* \$72. Join today and participate in our many programs and volunteer opportunities.

What's Been Happening

Winter's unpredictability often wreaks havoc on the best laid plans. The icy blast on December 8 left us all home, warm, and dry, instead of celebrating together at our post-*Hanukkah* party, drumming, dancing, and dining. While we're disappointed the weather forced us to cancel this event, we hope to reschedule in the future. A special thanks to event chair Arlette Jassel and her committee for their wonderful planning. ○

Holidays

Purim at Adas Israel



Erev Purim, Saturday, March 15

6:00 pm: *Mincha* (Only)

7:45 pm: Full *Megillah* Reading (Traditional Egalitarian
Minyan Family Service)

8:00 pm: Full *Megillah* Reading & Purim *Shpiel*

10:00 pm: Refreshments

Purim, Sunday, March 16

8:30 am: Morning *Minyan* & *Megillah* Reading

10:00 am: *Megillah* Madness for Elementary/Middle
School Families

10:30 am: Gan Pre-School *Megillah* Reading & *Shpiel*

11:00 am: *Purim* Carnival

Love, Faith and Other Dirty Words A reading of a new play on interfaith conversations

By Kent Stephens

Tuesday, February 18, 7:30 pm

The play, *Love, Faith and Other Dirty Words*, developed by the New Center for Arts and Culture in Boston with support from the Jim Joseph Foundation, will be read at Adas Israel on Tuesday February 18, at 7:30 pm in the Biran *Beit Midrash*.

This new play focuses on poignant topics that confront interfaith couples today. Join us for this one-of-a-kind cultural exploration of this important Jewish conversation. The play reading will be presented by Theater J of the Washington DCJCC and directed by Shirley Serotsky.

Free and open to the public, there will be a “talk-back” at the end of the play reading.

The event is sponsored by Adas Israel Congregation, the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia Cultural Arts program, Theater J of the Washington DCJCC, and “Love and Religion, an Interfaith Workshop.”



HAZAK DINNER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

programs that include study, prayer, entertainment, and socializing. Adas Israel has been our “spiritual home” since 1978 . . . and we’ve seen so many wonderful and exciting transformations over the years. Now, we’re at a point in our lives where we’re interested in programming that addresses our needs as “mature adults”!

You also may be part of this community at Adas Israel—members who are single or married, retired or still working, and/or empty nesters. Although not fond of labels, we know that unless we identify with a group within a larger community, one can get lost looking for programs, activities, and a social group whose members have like-minded interests.

HAZAK is about identifying interests at this time of our lives and using our well-developed skills and talents to create programs and activities—social, educational and spiritual—and to come together to support each other and provide friendship and community. Feel free to contact us at bettyadler1@gmail.com if you’d like to learn more or get involved! ○



Life Cycle

B'nai Mitzvah



Aaron and Simon Rosenthal, February 1

Aaron and Simon Rosenthal, sons of Stephanie Robinson and Seth Rosenthal, are seventh graders at Alice Deal Middle School. They began their Jewish education at Gan HaYeled and now attend the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. They share their *simcha* with their grandparents, Jeremy and Sandy Rosenthal, Bill and Pam Robinson, and Suzanne and David Trask, and many other family and friends. For their *tzedakah* project, Aaron and Simon are raising money and preparing food monthly for Friendship Place, an organization in Northwest DC that furnishes housing and social services to homeless individuals in our community.



Oliver Bass, February 8

Oliver Bass, son of Felice Roggen and Peter Bass, is a seventh grader at Sidwell Friends School. Oliver began his Jewish education at Gan HaYeled and attended the Jewish Primary Day School for three years. He also goes to Camp Modin, a Jewish summer camp, in Maine and is continuing his Jewish education at the Estelle & Melvin

Gelman Religious School. Oliver is the grandson of Shirley and Edgar Roggen of Great Neck, NY; Julie Berger of Forest Hills, NY, and Edwin Berger (z"l); and Elizabeth Bass of Scottsdale, AZ, and Richard Bass (z"l). Oliver shares his *simcha* with his sisters Annie and Sophie, other family, and many friends. For his *mitzvah* project, Oliver is working with A Wider Circle, whose mission is to help children and adults lift themselves out of poverty.



Joseph Horwitz, February 15

Joey Horwitz started his education at Adas Israel's Gan HaYeled. He is now a seventh grader at Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. He looks forward to celebrating his *bar mitzvah* with his parents, Denyse Tannenbaum and Jamie Horwitz, and older brothers William and Jared. He is the grandson of Louis and Erika Tannenbaum

of Toronto, Ontario, and Loris Horwitz of Akron, OH, and the Gerald Horwitz (z"l).



Amelia Rich, February 22

Amelia Rich, daughter of Sara Cohen and Norm Rich, is a sixth grader at Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. She began her Jewish education at Gan HaYeled.

Amelia celebrates becoming a *bat mitzvah* with her siblings Sean, Julia, and Lauren; her great-grandparents, Dot and Mo Cohen and Guta Wolke; her grandparents, Cyna and Paul Cohen and Sunny and Alan Rich; and other family and friends. At this special time she thinks with love of her great-grandfather, Joseph Wolke (z"l). For her *mitzvah* project, Amelia is combining her love of nature and the outdoors and her family heritage by fundraising dedicated to planting trees in Israel.



Ariella Cymerman, March 1

Ariella Cymerman, a graduate of Gan HaYeled, is currently a seventh grader at Georgetown Day School and a student at the Washington School of Ballet. She is on the Teen Board for Hope for Henry and is also devoted to the organization, Autism Speaks. Ariella shares her *simcha* with her brother Isaac and her parents Meredith

and Michael. She is the granddaughter of Meri and Jonathan Wallace, Tzvi Cymerman and Deborah Aquila, Linda Weiner, and the late Irwin Robert Weiner (z"l).

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of synagogue member:

Edith Block, wife of Samuel Block (z"l)

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Herschel Blumberg, brother of Marvin Blumberg
Dr. Melvin Clayman, husband of Edith Clayman
Marlene Spiegel Kovacs, sister of Marc Spiegel

Life Cycle Information

When Death Occurs

When death occurs, please call the synagogue office, 202-362-4433, so that we may inform the clergy and be of assistance.

During business hours, ask for Eric Levine or Carole Klein. After business hours, a staff member on call may be reached by calling the synagogue office at the number above and pressing "2" to be connected automatically, or by calling the answering service, 301-421-5271, which will page the staff member on call. On *Yom Tov* and *Shabbat*, even though detailed funeral arrangements should not be made, a staff member on call can still be reached at 301-421-5271.

Adas Israel Community Mikvah

Our *mikvah* is a sacred space where Jews can mark life transitions with powerful physical ritual. Immersing in a *mikvah* connects the body to the water cycle of

our planet and to the sources of life. People visit our *mikvah* to observe the *mitzvah* of monthly immersion; to celebrate *s'machot*; to find strength during a difficult time; to pray for healing; to reflect on the meaning of becoming a bride, groom,



or *bar* or *bat mitzvah*; to convert to Judaism; and to prepare physically and spiritually for *chagim*. To learn more about our *mikvah* or to schedule an appointment, contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or mikvah@adasisrael.org. For more information, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah.

Cemetery Hours

Visitation at the Adas Israel Cemetery is by appointment only. Contact Eric Levine or Carole Klein at the synagogue office (202-362-4433) to schedule a visit. ○

Kol HaMayim: Voice of the Waters An Interview with Sara Tauber, Volunteer Mikvah Guide

by Naomi Malka



Tell me about your upbringing.

I was born in St. Louis, MO, and my family was Midwest Reform. But we spent a lot of time abroad, which gave me a more diverse perspective—that not everything has a straight answer and there's no one way to do something.

I lived in Israel and then served in the IDF. I moved to DC and attended AU and would see Ben in the neighborhood. Eventually I did a free six-week trial of JDate and saw Ben's profile online. We met at Teism and debated immigration policy. We knew it was true love because we were arguing!

How did you find Adas Israel?

After I graduated from AU, I got a great job and started looking for Jewish social events. I came to a Friday night dinner/*Kabbalat Shabbat* here with friends. Stephanie Meyer told me come to TEM on Saturday mornings, so I tried it and began going regularly. I felt a strong connection and I appreciated the diversity of this community. I wanted to learn more about the religion that I was already identified with.

How did you decide to volunteer here?

I wanted to give back to the community in a spiritual way. I'm not that knowledgeable on a religious/academic level, so I was looking for a way to volunteer in a therapeutic way, to really help people who need help, or to celebrate with people who want to celebrate. I was originally a psychology/psychiatry major and I love figuring people out and connecting with people at good times and bad times.

What was your concept of the *mikvah* before you became a *mikvah* guide? I knew it was an old tradition that women participated in. But other than that, I didn't know anything about it. I walked by the *mikvah* one day and became curious, so I started reading about it and thought about doing it before I got married.

But when I became a *mikvah* guide, it blew my mind how many alternative uses there are for the *mikvah*. It's not just a cleansing ritual. It has evolved into this complex balance between physically cleansing yourself and allowing yourself to be deeply spiritually affected. There's such a strong mental connection with your body. Everybody is looking for a way to be more mindful and be more at peace with themselves; the *mikvah* is a very Jewish way to do that. We are taking the best qualities of a traditional ritual and applying them to our lives today. I love contrasts like that.

I also love the personalization of it—you can say the traditional prayers and/or any words you think are appropriate. It's like your own personal prayer service, and whether the occasion is pregnancy, cancer treatment, or gay marriage, this *mikvah* offers that openness.

Were there any personal obstacles to overcome in deciding to use the *mikvah* yourself? Overcoming and embracing yourself as what you are physically and mentally is a major challenge for everyone. Once I am able to come to terms with that and let go of my physicality, then I am just enjoying the water and the buoyancy. There's this whole physical realm of water that most of us don't enter on a daily basis. But when you're in the *mikvah*, you feel connected to the beginning of time.

What are some interesting *mikvah* visits you have witnessed?

A long time ago, there was a middle-age woman who had gotten a divorce and was here with three girlfriends to "celebrate," not as a party but to gain a sense of closure. I saw how supportive her friends were . . . they brought music and were even dancing! I felt like a fly on the wall and I loved it. Here I was enabling her in a very simple way, and there they were, really whooping it up. She and her friends came to the *mikvah* to turn the bitterness of the divorce into a very sweet moment together.

Another time, a group of four or five young women in college and graduate school came at the end of a school year to reflect on everything they had learned. They used the outer room of the *mikvah* to write poetry and songs and paint pictures. Then they went around in a circle and explained their artwork to each other, and afterwards they each immersed in the *mikvah*. Each person's personality shined through. The *mikvah* was a place where they felt free and at peace. It was a safe place where anything would be accepted. ○

Todah Rabah to our Gift Shop Volunteers

Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop— Headquarters for all your Judaica needs

Everyone coming into the Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop—whether shopping for *b'nai mitzvah*, conversion, confirmation, or wedding gifts; a present for a friend; or a special occasion card—is struck by the variety of items the shop carries.



But what is just as impressive is the professionalism, friendliness, and knowledge of the shop's very special volunteer sales associates, many of whom have worked there for years. Without their efforts, the shop would not be the success it is today. Join us in extending a heartfelt thank you and *yasher koach* to all of them, and please pay them a visit next time you're in the synagogue.

February 2014

Adar I 5774

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES: Please turn off cell phones and pagers before entering services.

Charles E. Smith Sanctuary: Join us for our Shabbat morning services in the renewed Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, the synagogue's largest worship space, led by our inspiring Rabbi and Cantor. The service includes a D'var Torah and sermon by the Rabbi and often includes participation by members and B'nai Mitzvah.

Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (TEM): Every Shabbat morning at 9:30 am, with the Torah service around 10:30 am. Led by laypeople with the occasional assistance of Adas clergy, the TEM is a participatory service with a full P'sukei D'Zimrah (introductory Psalms), Shacharit, and Musaf, a complete reading of the weekly Torah portion, and a d'var Torah. For more information, e-mail traditionalminyan@adasisrael.org.

Havurah Service: Lay-led, participatory service at 9:45 am. Rotating volunteers lead services, read Torah, and conduct an in-depth discussion of the weekly Torah portion. A kiddush follows the service. For additional information and to participate, e-mail havurah@adasisrael.org.

Youth Shabbat Services: Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under led by Menuhah Peters. Netivot, for students in grades K-3, is led by Linda Yitzchak, Allison Redisch, Rina Bardin, and/or Naomi Michaelis. Junior Congregation, for grades 4-6, is led by David Smolar and/or the Steinsaltz Ambassadors.

Shabbat Unplugged: A new musical family service for families with young children on Saturday mornings at 10:45 am. The service is designed for elementary school families and above, though older children are welcome and encouraged take on leadership roles.

'Dial-in' for Programs & Services: If you are unable to attend programs, lectures, or services, dial in to hear them. Call 202-686-8405.

Library Open on Shabbat: The Adas Israel Library is open on Saturdays from 12:30-1:30 pm. Our Shabbat volunteers will help you find just the right book to bring home. For assistance during the week, contact our librarian, Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 25 Shevat 10:45 am JMCW Mindful Yoga 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	27 26 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	28 27 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Program 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session	29 28 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:30 am Rabbi Holtzblatt with Gan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Religious Practices Committee Meeting 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:30 pm Making Mishpacha Class	30 29 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Playgroup 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	31 Rosh Chodesh Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan Rosh Chodesh Adar I Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 6:00 pm Traditional Lay-Led Shabbat Service, honoring the 25th Anniversary of JPDS, with participation by Rabbi Steinlauf 5:10 pm	1 PARSHAT TERUMAH/ROSH CHODESH 1 Adar 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:15 am Shabbat Morning Service; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan; B'nai Mitzvah: Aaron & Simon Rosenthal; with Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Ken Heitner 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 11:00 am Junior Congregation 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 5:15 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 6:10 pm Havdalah
2 2 Adar I 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:45 am JMCW Mindful Yoga 12:15 pm Youth@AI: Grades 6-8 Israel Day 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	3 3 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	4 4 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Downtown Study Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Program 7:30 pm An Evening with Jay Michaelson (MakomDC Main Event) 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session	5 5 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:30 pm Making Mishpacha Class 7:30 pm A Season of Mussar	6 6 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Playgroup 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7 7 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 6:30 pm Shir Delight Oneg, Service & Dinner; 8 pm- D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 5:18 pm	8 PARSHAT TETZAVEH 8 Adar I 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service-Sisterhood Shabbat; Charles E. Smith Graduates Aliyah; with Rabbi Feinberg 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan; Bar Mitzvah: Oliver Bass; with Rabbi Steinlauf 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 5:15 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 6:18 pm Havdalah
9 9 Adar I 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Gan Concert 10:45 am JMCW Mindful Yoga 12:15 pm Youth@AI: M'Yad L'Yad: Making Nursing Home Decorations 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	10 10 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am School Pictures-Stone Photography 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Social Action Council Meeting	11 11 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Religious School School Pictures 10:00 am Sisterhood Taste of Tanach with Rabbi Steinlauf 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Program 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session	12 12 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am School Pictures-Stone Photography 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:15 pm Bereavement Support Group 7:30 pm Making Mishpacha Class	13 13 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Playgroup 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:45 pm Scotch & Scriptures Men's Group-Off-Site	14 14 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 6:00 pm Traditional Lay-Led Shabbat Service 6:30 pm Return Again Shabbat Service with Rabbi Holtzblatt & Elie Greenberg 7:45 pm Return Again Shabbat Dinner 5:26 pm	15 PARSHAT KI TISA 15 Adar I 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Bar Mitzvah: Joseph Horowitz; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by David Nemeth 10:00 am Learners' Minyan with Rabbi Feinberg 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 5:30 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 6:26 pm Havdalah
16 16 Adar I 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	17 17 Adar I 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	18 18 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm GPA Meeting 7:00 pm Conversion Program 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session	19 19 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:30 pm A Season of Mussar	20 20 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Playgroup 1:00 pm DC Early Childhood Director's Council Meeting 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	21 21 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Young Family Shabbat Service with Rabbi Feinberg & Robyn Helzner 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 7:00 pm HAZAK Shabbat Dinner (for members age 55+) 5:34 pm	22 PARSHAT VAYAKHEL 22 Adar I 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Bat Mitzvah: Amelia Rich; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 11:00 am Junior Congregation 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 5:30 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 6:34 pm Havdalah 8:00 pm Gan Auction
23 23 Adar I 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Library Event: Professor Allan Lichtman, FDR and the Jews 10:00 am Budget and Finance Committee Meeting 10:45 am JMCW Mindful Yoga 12:15 pm Youth@AI: Grades K-2 Slumber Party 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	24 24 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	25 25 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Program 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session	26 26 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am School Pictures Makeup Date 9:30 am Rabbi Holtzblatt with Gan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Religious Practices Committee Meeting 7:00 pm JSC Classes	27 27 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Playgroup 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	28 28 Adar I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 6:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Shabbat Service with Rabbi Steinlauf 7:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Shabbat Dinner 5:41 pm	1 PARSHAT PEKUDE/SHABBAT SHEKALIM 29 Adar I 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Bat Mitzvah: Ariella Cyerman; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 5:45 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 5:41 pm Havdalah 8:00 pm Kol HaOlam Concert

Education

Gan HaYeled

At the midway point in the school year, the Gan is an exciting place to be. Dr. Jim the beekeeper spent time with the Ovals; Gan parent Dr. Steve Trauben explored the human skeleton with the *Rimonim*; and the *Zayteem* were able to visit an animal shelter to see how their collection of towels would benefit the homeless animals.

As we register for next year, we are reminded of the unrivaled dedication of our staff—attending professional development on their own time, coordinating trips to enhance learning and *tzedakah* opportunities, and fostering love of Jewish tradition by helping students make ritual objects for use in their homes. These are some of the extras from which our students benefit.

The Gan Parents Association is busy, too. It provides the many family activities, social and *tzedakah*, available at the Gan. The parents also partner with staff to examine ways to make positive change at the Gan. As we like to say, “If we’re not moving forward, we’re falling behind.”

Gan HaYeled believes that the Jewish value of *tzedakah*, acts of righteousness and justice, is an obligation that we need to teach even our youngest children. We do this through a number of projects that children and families alike participate in. Here is a glimpse into the ongoing *tzedakah* work of the Gan (*Donations: September–December 2013*):

School Supply Donations to Martha’s Table

This fall, Gan families donated:

282 crayons	24 colored pencils
172 pencils	12 pencil grips
50 sheets of colored paper	10 composition books
50 markers	10 mechanical pencils
46 pens	6 bottles of glue
45 paper clips	4 watercolor sets
36 glue sticks	2 rulers
32 pieces of sidewalk chalk	1 spiral notebook

Shoebox Project: The children at Gan HaYeled decorated and then filled 130 shoeboxes with donated toiletries. The boxes were donated to SOME (So Others Might Eat).

Diaper Donations to DC Diaper Bank: Since beginning diaper collections this fall to aid the DC Diaper Bank, Gan families have donated more than 1,150 diapers.

Cash Donations for victims of Hurricane Haiyan: The Gan



February Religious School & Youth Calendar

- 1: Junior Congregation
- 2: Grade 6/Vav New York Trip Meeting
- 9: Grade 6/Vav Generations Fair
- 16: Presidents’ Day Weekend—No Religious School
- 22: Junior Congregation
- 28–March 2: Grade 6/Vav New York Trip

Youth Services @ Adas

Please view the February schedule of *Shabbat* Youth Services below. All services start at 11:00 am.

Tot Shabbat—For children 5 and under (and parents)

Led by Menuhah Peters, Tot Shabbat has captivated our youngest Adas members and their parents for years.

Netivot—For kindergarten–3rd graders

Netivot is Hebrew for pathways. Our children are ready to begin building their leadership skills in a prayer service. Staffed by Linda Yitzchak, our kindergarten–3rd graders have the opportunity to lead prayers and participate actively in a *Shabbat t’filah* service.

Junior Congregation—For 4th–6th graders

Led by Cantor Rebecca Pohl, this service places our children front and center. Our staff become facilitators as we empower our children to lead their own service!

Feb. 1: Tot Shabbat, Netivot, Jr. Congregation

Feb. 8: Tot Shabbat, Netivot

Feb. 15: No Youth Services

Feb. 22: Tot Shabbat, Netivot, Jr. Congregation

dedicated one week of weekly *tzedakah* collection funds to aid the victims of Hurricane Haiyan. In total, we collected \$238 that week.

Cash donations for other organizations: Each week the Gan collects cash donations from families to benefit a number of charity organizations. So far this fall, the Gan has collected more than \$300.

For more information about the Gan’s *tzedakah* projects and the organizations we support, or about our program in general, please visit the “SCHOOL” page on our website, www.adasisrael.org/gan.

Gan Silent Auction

Saturday, February 22, 8:00 pm

The Gan needs your help! The Gan’s Annual Silent Auction Event will be held this year on the evening of **Saturday, February 22**.

It is the biggest, most important fundraiser for our school, and we hope to make this year great!

We’d like to add a Live Auction component to our auction this year, but we need some amazing donations. Help us think outside the box! Does your family have a vacation home? Would a tour at your workplace be exciting? A service provided by your office that someone would find useful? Season tickets to the Redskins or Capitals? Unique DC experience? We can always use your help!



Education Continued

All proceeds from the auction go directly toward school improvements and the Gan Parents Association's amazing projects. Ultimately it's the children who benefit, so let's make this really special. Please join us in the festivities!

If you have any questions or would like to donate to this event, please contact Silent Auction Chair: Laurel Goldberg or Abigail Sharon, atanne@gmail.com. Thank you for your help! ○



Religious School students enjoy story time in the Library with Robin Jacobson. ▶

◀ *Ma'alot students join the Food Stamp Challenge Program in the Biran Beit Midrash for food justice in our community.*



◀ *Parents and students craft Shabbat candleholders and kiddush cups at a Shabbat workshop.*



Religious School

On Sunday, February 9, *Kitah Vav* students invite the entire Adas Israel community to visit their **Generations Fair**. The fair will run from 9:45 am to 12:00 noon in Kay Hall. This is a brand-new program for Adas Israel and one we hope will continue for many years.

Our sixth-grade *Vav* students have been studying Jewish American history, and since September, their families have been delving into their own personal histories. Using their text, *Generations*, as a guideline, they have been connecting with relatives, finding ritual items, exploring their family history, finding family recipes, and learning about their roots.

In addition to the "booths" set up by every student, there will be a table of pictures of our own Adas family, and the students will be asked to guess who they are. It could be a teacher, one of the rabbis, education team . . . who knows?

You never know, you might find a relative on someone's family tree that is related to YOU. ○

Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School Graduates to Be Honored on *Shabbat*, February 8

On Saturday, February 8, as part of *Sisterhood Shabbat*, we will honor the graduating Adas Israel seniors of the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School.

Mazal Tov to: Rina Bardin, daughter of Donna & Jacob Bardin; Juliana Isaac, daughter of Alzbeta Klein & Howard Isaac; Janie Macklin, daughter of Jodi & Rodd Macklin; Natalie Mark, daughter of Thais & Alexander Mark; and Claire Mendelson, daughter of Jennifer & Daniel Mendelson.

We will honor them with an *aliyah* and a gift from the congregation. We are happy to participate in their celebration in this way and extend our sincere good wishes to them, their parents, and their families.

Talking About High Holy Day Seating in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Wednesday, February 12, 7:00 pm



A few members of our community expressed some displeasure with new seating arrangements in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary on the High Holy Days this past year. We've heard you. On February 12, at 7:00 pm, the clergy and lay leaders will host an open meeting to discuss some history, how the problems arose, and options for solutions.

We'd love to hear your thinking and look forward to seeing you then. If you can't attend, please feel free to call the synagogue office or send an e-mail to Carol.Ansell@adasisrael.org, and she'll send you some information before the meeting so you can comment in writing.

We're sure that together, we can come up with the best possible seating arrangements in our beautiful new sanctuary for High Holy Day worship.

~The Adas Israel Clergy and Officers

Lifelong Learning

Jewish Study Classes in February

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm and 8:15 pm
Co-sponsored by Adas Israel Congregation

Jews in Public: How the Courts Have Ruled on Public Acts of Jewish Expression

Feb. 5, 7:00 pm

Taught by attorney Adam Marker

American jurisprudence on issues such as wearing a *kippah* on the job, conditioning a civil divorce on the provision of a *get*, and zoning for a synagogue.

V'Eleh Sh'mot: These Are the Names

Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26, 7:00 pm

Taught by Norman Shore

The many uses of naming in text and culture

Untangling the Psalms

Feb. 5, 12, 26; March 5, 8:15 pm

Taught by Amy Schwartz

Plunge into the poetry of these powerful works.

Global Jewish Cultures

Feb. 12: Italy and the Holocaust: One Family's Story

Taught by Loretta Vitale Saks.

Feb. 19: Western Jews in India: From the Fifteenth Century to the Present

Taught by Kenneth X. Robbins.

March 5: Book Talk: *Afro-Jewish Encounters: From Timbuktu to the Indian Ocean and Beyond*

Taught by William F. S. Miles

Women of the Wall: Values and Issues

Feb. 19, 8:15 pm

Taught by Jonina Duker

A look at 25 years of clashing perspectives

All single sessions: Adas & JSC members \$15, non-members \$20; series of 3: \$45/\$55; series of 4 \$50/\$75. To register and obtain discounts, visit www.jewishstudycenter.org or pay at the door. ○

Adas Israel Spring Shabbaton, March 21–23

'The Life and Loves of King David'



Adas Israel is sponsoring a Jewish learning and living *shabbaton* for adults during the weekend of March 21–23, Capital Camps in Waynesboro, PA. The theme for the weekend is "*The Life and Loves of King David*," and the event is open to anyone over the

age of 18. All members of Adas Israel are encouraged to attend.

Rabbi Charles Feinberg will lead the retreat and will serve as rabbi-in-residence. In addition, there will be a high level of lay participation in all aspects of the program.

The program will include a study session on Biblical portions of the King David story, bibliodrama on different aspects of David's relationships with his wives and children, and a session on how David became the ancestor of the Messiah in later rabbinic literature. In addition, a Saturday night program will include singing and Israeli dancing.

Capital Camps, which will host the *shabbaton*, recently opened a brand-new conference center and hotel, which along with its dining hall, is a beautiful and comfortable facility.

You and your friends can sign up for the retreat by e-mailing Rabbi Feinberg's assistant, Marcia Miller, Marcia.Miller@adasisrael.org. The cost of the retreat is \$500 per couple and \$250 for singles who share a room with another single.

If you have any questions about the retreat, please call Rabbi Feinberg at the synagogue or contact Carmel Chiswick, Lucy Hassell, Ed Kopf, or Donald and Susan Lubick, who are assisting Rabbi Feinberg in organizing the retreat. ○



Yasher koach to members of the Adas Israel Flash Choir who participated in the "Voices of the Holocaust" Kristallnacht Commemoration concert at Strathmore Music Center, along with over 20 area synagogue choirs, an orchestral ensemble, and cantors from the greater DC area. We look forward to many more wonderful concerts and musical services at Adas Israel with our talented congregants. If you would like to get involved with the Adas Israel Flash Choir, please contact Cantor Ari, cantor.brown@adasisrael.org.

Youth @ AI



Shalom, Chevre,

February is a jam-packed month for Youth@AI, with great events for each age group. Keep busy this winter with the following programs:

USY (grades 9–12): USY Formal @ Temple B’Nai Shalom of Olney

Contact Rich for more information, rich.dinetz@adasisrael.org.

Kadima (grades 6–8): Israel Day

Sunday, Feb. 2, 12:15-3:00 pm

Come hang out with *Kadima* for a *sababa* afternoon! There’ll be ga-ga, army training, Israeli dancing, and, of course Israeli food!

Machar (grades 3–5): M’Yad L’Yad: Nursing Home Decorations

Sunday, Feb. 9, 12:15–3:00 pm

Do a *mitzvah* as you enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of arts and crafts making spring decorations with your friends for a nursing home!

Chaverim (grades K–2): Slumber Party

Sunday, Feb. 23, 12:15–2:30 pm

Get cozy in your pajamas and come hang with your friends for an afternoon of fun games and activities! Drink hot chocolate, play some board games, and arts and crafts!

Got Summer Plans?

It’s 2014 and time to think about . . . summer camp. For information about Jewish summer camps or Israel trips, please contact Rich Dinetz, 202-362-6295 or youth@adasisrael.org.



Adas Israel offers summer subsidies to active

members of our youth groups. Please visit our website, www.adasisrael.org/youth, to download an application and learn how to become eligible to receive subsidies.

With gratitude, we acknowledge the following for their generosity: Bertha & Oliver Atlas Youth Fund, Benjamin Eric Cooper Youth Scholarship Fund, Cecile & Seymour Alpert Israel Youth Scholarship, Morton & Norma Lee Fungler Israel Programs Fund, Janice Wasserman Goldsten Scholarship Fund, Isaac W. & Dina Halbfinger Youth Fund, Rita Rosenthal Heine Youth Scholarship Fund, Dr. Louis Jacobs Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund, Samuel & Sadie Lebowitz Israel Scholarship Fund, Anna & Abe Nathanson Youth Fund, Lillian & Max Offenbergl Youth Fund, Steven M. Reich Memorial Youth Fund, Gertrude & Philip Smith Youth Fund, and Leah M. Smith Memorial Youth Fund

The deadline for summer scholarships is this month, so get your requests in soon! Feel free to contact Rich with any questions. ○

DAILY MINYAN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

dish, they also go for themselves. Starting the day with community prayer frames their day in a spiritual way. But many members of our congregation have never been to a weekday service, most likely, because they are not familiar with it and have never thought to incorporate it into their busy lives.

As a community, we need to become aware of the need to attend the daily *minyan*. Without ongoing support, it is difficult to ensure a *minyan* (10) for every service. All too often, the leader has to find someone on the staff to make the *minyan*. You cannot say *Kaddish* without 10 members of the community present. Ten does not seem like an unreasonable number given the size of our congregation. But sometimes *Kaddish* cannot be recited because there are not enough people to make a *minyan*. In that case, psalms are recited in lieu of *Kaddish*. It is not the same. If you have been to the daily *minyan* to say *Kaddish*, you know firsthand the enormity of this problem.

So attending the daily *minyan*, in one respect, serves a charitable purpose. It allows others to pray. Just as significant, however, is the spiritual component of the service itself. It is different from a *Kabbalat Shabbat* or *Shabbat* morning service. Clearly, it is much smaller (and a much shorter service); but small as it is, it is filled with beautiful melodies, a special *ruach*, Torah readings on Monday and Thursdays, many opportunities to have an *aliyah*, and Torah study. As members of a synagogue community, we owe it to each other and to ourselves to participate regularly in the daily *minyan*. That way we ensure its existence when others need it and

when we may need it. We also become familiar with its “ins and outs” naturally and are not thrust into an unfamiliar setting at a moment in time when we most need the comfort of familiarity.

A synagogue-wide effort is underway to schedule attendance at the daily *minyan*. In the meantime, please consider some of the suggestions below.

Suggestions for committing to attend the daily *minyan* (weekdays at 7:30 am and 6:00 pm, Sundays at 9:00 am and 6:00 pm):

- If your birthday falls on the 22nd of the month you were born, attend the morning or evening service every month on the 22nd of the month. Or just attend on your birthday!
- Attend on Sunday morning (service starts at 9:00 am, not 7:30). Maybe you drop your kids at religious school, have coffee in the *Beit Midrash*, and go to the service.
- Attend on Monday morning or Thursday morning to hear the short Torah service.
- Attend the 6:00 pm evening service on your way home from work. If you have a child in religious school, have him or her meet you in the *Beit Midrash* on Tuesday or Wednesday evening after school.
- Monday and Thursday evening service—the synagogue is dark on these evenings so no staff are available to attend the service. Many times *Kaddish* cannot be said because only five or six people show up for the evening service.

Thank you. This effort will require some juggling of schedules, some patience, and some time, but we need to ensure a strong, vibrant daily *minyan*. ○

Tikkun Olam

Inclusion Task Force

Readers will note in Rabbi Feinberg's column (which begins on page 1) that Adas Israel will be commemorating Jewish Disability Awareness Month this February. It is our hope that the various events planned for the month will give all of us an opportunity to learn about the needs of our fellow congregants with disabilities, to do what we can to make it easier for them to gain access to the richness of our congregational experience. This is the first time Adas Israel is observing Jewish Disability Awareness Month, thanks to the work of our active Inclusion Task Force.

The Inclusion Task Force has its origin in the 2011 MLK/*Tikkun Olam* weekend, which was dedicated to the theme of disability awareness and featured Judith E. Heumann as our keynote speaker. Judy, special advisor to the U.S. Department of State for International Rights of Persons and a proud member of Adas Israel, got our attention that *Shabbat* evening. Before the year was out, Judy and Debby Joseph, chief initiatives officer for the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, founded the Inclusion Task Force "to create a welcoming environment that enables people of all ages with all forms of disability to fully participate in the Adas Israel community and to remove any barriers to their participation."

Since then, the task force has played an active role, ensuring that Vision of Renewal renovations incorporate access for all to every aspect of synagogue life, working with staff and congregation volunteers to be sensitive to the needs of all participants in synagogue programs, and bringing a renewed



Adas Israel and Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ: A Decade of Partnership

Among the several Adas Israel members who joined volunteers from Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ to pack Christmas food for donation to recipients in need on December 19 are (L to R): Nancy Weiss; Shirley Moseley, event coordinator; Dena Bauman; and Jamie Butler, coordinator for Adas. ○

focus on inclusion for children with special educational needs. Worshippers in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary have no doubt noticed how much more accessible the new sanctuary is, but how many of us think about whether people in wheelchairs can reach the *mezzuzot*? Or even whether a person in a wheelchair can open entrance doors without assistance? What about working sound systems for the hearing impaired, or large-print *siddurim* for the visually impaired? Do meditation and yoga programs offer alternatives for participants with limited function? Do children have all the support they need to be able to become *b'nai mitzvah*?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

Save the Month!

February is Adas Israel's **Blood Donation Month**. In lieu of operating our own blood drive, we are providing the congregation with information on how to donate blood in the community and alternatives to blood donation. Our goal is 100% family participation. Take this opportunity to donate blood or to support Magen David Adom.

Information on Blood Donation:

Children's National Medical Center brochure:
http://www.childrensnational.org/files/PDF/DepartmentsAndPrograms/CBD/LaboratoryMedicine/BloodDonorCenter/Blood_Mobile_Brochure.pdf

American Red Cross:

<http://www.redcrossblood.org/learn-about-blood/health-and-wellness/iron-rich-foods>

To donate blood, visit these websites:

Washington Hospital Center:

<http://www.whcenter.org/body.cfm?id=965>

Children's National Medical Center:

<http://www.childrensnational.org/DepartmentsandPrograms/default.aspx?id=309&Type=Program&Name=Blood%20Donor%20>

[Center&utm_source=redirect&utm_medium=blood_donor_center&utm_campaign=donateblood](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

Click on make an appointment, enter your ZIP code, and see all of the times and places for the bloodmobile!

American Red Cross:

<http://www.redcrossblood.org>

There are many sites around the area. Click on "Make an Appointment," plug in your ZIP code and dates, find all of the sites, and register for one. This site also has links to blood donation information.

Magen David Adom financial donations:

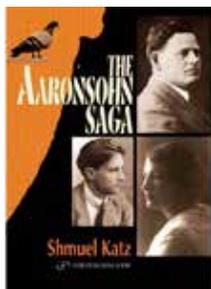
For those unable to donate blood, please make a donation to Magen David Adom. Donations will be accepted through the Social Action Council. Note "MDA" or "Blood Drive" in the memo of your check or use our website and donate to Adas Israel by writing "MDA" or "Blood Drive" in the "Other Fund" slot on the "Donate" page. These monies will be forwarded to MDA, and we will be able to quantify our congregational support to their efforts. See MDA's website for information: <http://www.afmda.org>.

For further information or to report a donation, contact Judith Krones, david.judith@verizon.net, or Marcia Feurstein, mfeuerst@hotmail.com. Thank you all and have a healthy February! ○

Books, Ideas, & More

The Spies of Eretz Yisroel

by Robin Jacobson, Director of Library Services



On our first day in Israel seven years ago, my family spent an all-too-brief hour in Zikhron Ya'akov, a picturesque hilltop village near Haifa. So jet-lagged were we that we remember only dimly stopping before the famous Aaronsohn house, the hub of a Jewish spy ring during World War I. This year being the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I, I imagine returning to that house—and this time, going inside!

In the meantime, my curiosity about the spies, World War I, and the seeds of the Arab-Israeli conflict has been partly satisfied by some interesting books in our library: *The Aaronsohn Saga* (Shmuel Katz); *Lawrence in Arabia* (Scott Anderson); *Lawrence and Aaronsohn* (Ronald Florence); and *A Strange Death* (Hillel Halkin). Here are just a few highlights from the dramatic story of the spies.

From Agriculture to Espionage

Born in Romania, Aaron Aaronsohn (1876–1919) grew up in Zikhron Ya'akov, then an agricultural colony. The name Zikhron Ya'akov (Memory of Jacob) honors James Jacob Rothschild, a choice that pleased Rothschild's son, Edmund, who financed the colony.

Aaronsohn became a preeminent agricultural scientist, famous for discovering the “mother of wheat”—an ancient form of wheat dating from biblical days—on the slopes of Mount Hermon. With support from American philanthropists, Aaronsohn established a Jewish Agricultural Experimental Station dedicated to turning arid Palestine into a fertile land.

At the start of World War I, Palestine was governed by Turkey, which joined the Central Powers against the Allies, England, France, and Russia. With Jews on both sides of the war, the World Zionist Organization adopted an official policy of neutrality. Nonetheless, Aaronsohn, his sister, Sarah, and a small band of Jews decided to work secretly for the British. They were moved to action by the Turkish massacre of Armenians in 1915. Only a British takeover in Palestine, the clandestine group believed, would save the Jews from a comparable disaster. Trading on his

INCLUSION TASK FORCE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

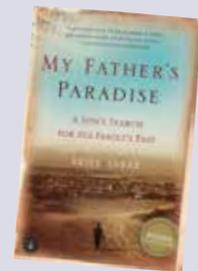
The Inclusion Task Force poses these questions and more. But perhaps its most important function is getting out the word, informing all who are interested in being part of Adas that we are an inclusive community. We want people to be aware of the steps we are taking to make everyone feel welcome, including those, children and adults alike, who remain outside our mainstream. That is what Jewish Disability Awareness Month is all about. Join us and learn more about how we can include everyone, despite a disability, in our midst.

One final postscript: That 2011 MLK/*Tikkun Olam* weekend also honored Joy and Bob Cohen with the *Shem Tov* Award for

Upcoming Events:

Next Book Chat: Sunday, February 2, 10:30 am

Join us to discuss *My Father's Paradise* by Ariel Sabar, a memoir set in Iraq and the United States.



FDR and the Jews, Sunday, February 23, 10:00 am.

Dr. Allan Lichtman, co-author of *FDR and the Jews*, will discuss new research illuminating President Roosevelt's support (and lack of support) for the Jews during World War II.

international prestige, Aaronsohn persuaded suspicious British officers to trust the Palestinian Jews to serve as spies.

Success and Betrayal

The password and name of the secret group was NILI, an acronym formed from the biblical verse, *Netzach Yisrael Lo Yishaker*—“the strength of Israel does not deceive.” NILI members collected strategic information about Turkish troop movements and fortifications—intelligence that proved vital to British victories in Palestine. The agricultural work of Aaronsohn and his staff provided a perfect cover for roaming the country.

In September 1917, the Turks intercepted a carrier pigeon that revealed the existence of a spy ring. As rumors of a Turkish investigation grew, the Zikhron Ya'akov village council angrily ordered Sarah Aaronsohn (Aaron was out of the country) to stop her “*traife* (unclean) work” in espionage. But it was too late.

On October 1, 1917, Turkish soldiers surrounded Zikhron Ya'akov. They arrested and tortured many people, including Sarah Aaronsohn. After days of brutal beatings, Sarah shot herself to avoid divulging the names of her comrades. When the Turks discovered that a NILI leader named Yosef Lishansky had escaped, they gave the village an ultimatum: unless Lishansky returned, the Turks would destroy the village. Frightened and angry at NILI for putting them in peril, community leaders swore on the synagogue's Torah scrolls to find the fugitive (who was later hanged by the Turks). For years, the village remained bitterly divided between those who had supported NILI and those who had not. As for Aaron Aaronsohn, he died in a plane crash en route to the Versailles Peace Conference in 1919. ○

their tremendous work with the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the independence, dignity, choice, and community inclusion of individuals with disabilities. JFGH's programs support more than 200 individuals in over 70 sites throughout the Washington, DC, Metropolitan area. Since then, we have expanded our outreach to JFGH and every year invite JFGH residents to join us for the MLK/*Tikkun Olam Shabbat* dinner. Let's think of these people as we support the Inclusion Task Force and participate in Jewish Disability Awareness Month. ○

Contributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following donations:

Adas Fund

By: Robyn Helzner, Joseph Sellers & Laurie Davis.

In Honor Of: Our grandchildren **Orly & Leah Jossen** by Jan & Carole Klein.

In Memory Of: **Nathlie Rosenthal Levitan** by Miriam Cramer. **Rose Kramer** by Helen Kramer. **Anne Frank House Fund**

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Benjamin James Cecil Special Education Fund

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With Thanks For: **Glenn Easton's** by Harriet & David Schultz.

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In Memory Of: **David Feldman** by Sandy Bobb.

Beverly Bernstein Adult Bat Mitzvah Fund

In Honor Of: **Lilly Shields** becoming a bat mitzvah by Marlene, Lenny & Daryin Hummel.

Bible & Prayer Book Fund

In Memory Of: **Edith Block** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Cantor Brown Discretionary Fund

By: Jonathan Etter & Erin Davis.

In Memory Of: **Jeanne Feuerstein** by Dr. Marcia Feuerstein. **Susan Lee Kuner** by Rae Grad.

Albert Buckberg by Gloria Buckberg.

Congregational Kiddush Fund

In Honor Of: **Anita & Noel Epstein's** 50th anniversary by Noel & Anita Epstein. My adult bat mitzvah by Susanna Groves. **Lilly Shields** becoming a bat mitzvah by Phil Hummel & Lilly Shields. My becoming a bat mitzvah by Yelena Lazdun. **Marisa Goldstein** becoming a bat mitzvah by Steve Swern & Marisa Goldstein.

Harry Kaplan becoming a bar mitzvah by Jon Kaplan & Jill Wilkins.

Daily Minyan Fund

In Honor Of: **Aufruf of Jacob Sokol and Rachel Klein** by Eleanor & Louis Sokol. My aliyah by Judy Tynes

In Memory Of: **Betty Kline** by David Kline.

Norman Frumkin by Samuel Frumkin & Susan Kay. **Samuel Gertman, MD, Jessie Gertman** by Susan Ugelow.

Dan Kaufman Children's Program Fund

By: Deborah Ungerleider.

In Honor Of: **Dale Kaufman & Stephen Klatsky** at Hanukkah by Juliet Mellow & Barry Molar.

Minna Kaufman; Paul, Sarah, Daniel, & Joshua Kaufman; Adam, Laura, Ben &

Nathaniel Kaufman; Lisa, Jon, Danny, Simon, Henry & Joey; Julie, Adam, Ben, Will & Molly; Laurie Singh; the **Mellow Molar** family; **Peter, Susan, Brynn, Debbie Ungerleider & Dottie Ungerleider; Chris Andrews; Bennett & Ellie Shaw; Kathleen McClelland; Jim & Ann-Marie Clark**, all by Stephen Klatsky & Dale Kaufman.

In Memory Of: **David H. Kaufman** by Minna Kaufman.

Daryl Reich Rubenstein Staff Development Fund

In Memory Of: **Joseph Rubenstein, Henry S. Reich** by Lee Rubenstein.

Dr. William & Vivienne Stark Wedding & Anniversary Fund

In Honor Of: Our 65th anniversary by Bill & Vivienne Stark.

Executive Director Discretionary Fund

In Honor Of: **Glenn Easton** receiving the **Shem Tov** award by Nancy, Daniel & Jory Weiss, Sheri Brown, Diana Engel.

Frances & Leonard Burka Social Action Endowment

In Memory Of: **Fay Burka** by Leonard & Frances Burka. **Gerald Gelman Kossow** by Leonard & Frances Burka, John & Renata Kossow.

Fund for the Future

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt** by Matt & Naomi Perl. **Roger Fendrich's** special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: **Ida Cohen** by Shirley Cohen.

Jack A. Sender by Sydell Sandy. **Rae Levy** by Rosalyn Jonas.

Goldstein Rosh Hodesh Minyan Fund

In Memory Of: **Paul Goldstein** by Joseph Goldstein.

Harry & Judie Linowes Youth Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: **Eugene Munves, R. Robert Linowes, Jordan Bierman**, all by Harry & Judie Linowes.

Havurah Kiddush Fund

In Honor Of: Our birthdays by Mike Wenthe & Becca Boggs. Marriage of **Rachel Klein and Jacob Sokol** by Jan & Carole Klein.

Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington

By: Kit Turen, Janice Mostow.

Julius & Anna Wolpe Auditorium Fund

In Memory Of: **Anna Cooper Wolpe** by Donald Wolpe.

Marilyn & Stefan Tucker Program Endowment Fund

By: Stef & Marilyn Tucker

In Memory Of: **Alexander Tucker** by Stef & Marilyn Tucker.

Melvin Gelman Religious School Fund

In Memory Of: **Milton Himmelfarb** by Dan Himmelfarb.

Men's Club Amuday Torah Fund

In Honor Of: **Adina and Sandy Mendelson's** granddaughter Dora becoming a bat mitzvah by Sonya Gichner.

Mildred & Jess Fisher Nursery School Fund

In Honor Of: My Gan colleagues for the holidays by Marsha Pinson.

Marriage of **Rachel Klein & Jacob Sokol**. Birth of **Avital Chosiad** by Sheri Brown. Birth of **Natalie Pearl Waas** by Ian Gershengorn & Gail

Levine.

Refuah Shelimah To: **Marcia Miller, Suzanne Davidson** by Sheri Brown.

Mildred & Israel Hofberg Memorial Fund

In Memory Of: **Mildred Hofberg** by Sandy Bobb.

MLK Concert Fund

By: Leonard & Frances Burka.

Offerings Fund

By: Jed & Sarah Nussdorf, Bernard Sharfman, Ian & Gail Gordon, Stefan Gottschalk & Wilhelmina Roepke.

In Honor Of: **Alex Wellisch** becoming a bar mitzvah by Jimmy & Anna Small. **Leah Resnick** by Andrew Resnick.

In Memory Of: **Louise Burka** by Robert Burka.

Frankye Linde by Judith Barth. **Rosjza Makowski-Wolf** by Armand Makowski.

Leonard Rudolph by Wendy Rudolph. **Dr.**

Melvin R. Clayman by Aunt Andy. **Sylvia Kletzkin** by Morris Kletzkin. **Ilana Sharon** by Elad Sharon.

Abraham Chiswick by Barry Chiswick.

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In Memory Of: **Bertha Atlas** by Rita Atlas Wolfson & children.

Rabbi Avis Miller Lifelong Learning Fund

In Memory Of: **Erika Brodsky** by Ellen Sazzman & Alan Rhinesmith.

Rabbi Feinberg Discretionary Fund

By: Milton Hoenig, Sheldon Kimmel.

In Appreciation Of: All the work **Rabbi Feinberg** does for the Hesed Committee by Arthur Isack.

With Thanks For: Boker Ohr class by Warren Clark Jr.

In Memory Of: **Barbara Friedberg** by Edna, Maurice & Rachel Friedberg.

Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz History Fund

In Honor Of: Marriage of **Elad & Orine** by Lynn Arons.

Rabbi Steinlauf Discretionary Fund

By: Sheldon Kimmel, Ricki Gerger.

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Steinlauf** by Alfred Munzer & Joel Wind. **Marion & Michael Usher's** anniversary by Joel & Alice Burton.

In Memory Of: **Albert Buckberg** by Gloria Buckberg.

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In Memory Of: **Jordan H. Eskin** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Rose R. Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library Fund

In Honor Of: Marriage of **Rachel Klein & Jacob Sokol**, Marriage of **Paul Moskowitz Lara Fox** by Elinor Tattar.

In Memory Of: **Bertha Kiviat** by Lillian K.

Rubin & Susan D. Rubin. **Faye Loeffler** by Robert Loeffler. **Harry Lasky** by Fae Brodie.

Alfred Jacobs by Lester & Karen Goldberg.

Ilse Heumann by Judith Heumann. **Bernard Penny** by Toba Penny. **Frederick Gibson** by Jennifer Gibson.

Bertha R. Popkin by Susan Willens. **Norman A. Freudberg** by Elinor Tattar.

Ludwig Strauss by Betsy Strauss.

Taube Wiedman by Mildred Jacobs. **Alfred Simenauer** by David & Stephanie Lynn. **Milton**

Contributions Continued

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Ruthe Katz Dial-in Program
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For The Speedy Recovery Of: Sandra Alpert by Roger & Renée Fendrich.
In Memory Of: Ann Colman, Helen Alpert Cobin by Dr. Clement Alpert.
Shelley Remer Gan HaYeled Enrichment Fund
Mazel Tov For: Noa Rosinplotz, Nell Leibovich, Ella Goldblum becoming *b'not mitzvah*, all by Stewart & Shelley Remer.
In Memory Of: Adi Rappaport's beloved mother by Cindy, Glenn, Lisa & Amy Easton.
Shem Tov Dinner
In Honor Of: Glenn Easton receiving the *Shem Tov* award by Larry & Melanie Nussdorf, Ryna Cohen, Alan & Nancy Bubes, Marc & Elise Lefkowitz, Michael & Susan Gelman.
Sisterhood Donations
In Honor Of: Stanley Albert on his 80th birthday, **Barbara Sandler** on her 80th birthday by Blanche Speisman.
Social Action Fund
In Honor Of: Helen and Norman Kamerow's 65th anniversary by Allan & Bobbie Fried.
In Memory Of: Sonya Dunie, Hershel Blumberg, Isadore Mostow, Earl Wolf, Harold

Mesirow, all by Allan & Bobbie Fried. **Lazar Sidelsky** by Marshall & Arlene Cohen. **Arnold H. Weiss** by Daniel, Nancy & Jordan Weiss. **Dov Bernard Fischman** by Joel Fischman & Judith Rabinowitz. **Bea & Leonard Toiv** by Helene Toiv.
Solar Cookers
 By: Art & Edie Hessel, Michael & Alexandra Horowitz, Andrew & Sandra Eskin, John Davidson, Rey & Susan Tejada.
In Honor Of: Ruth Chernikoff by David Berman & Leslie Chernikoff Berman. **Gloria Weinstein** by Susan Rubinson. **Rabbi Bob Saks** by Alfred Munzer & Joel Wind. **Schwartz/Howerrd** family, **Schwartz/Wiener** family, **Schwartz/Stanislawski** family, all by David & Gail Schwartz. **Ann Kulp** by Kit Turen. **Dora Mendelson** becoming a *bat mitzvah* by Samuel Itscoitz. **Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt & family** by Margery Thomas. **Judith Rabinowitz & Joel Fischman** by Polly Clark & Joshua Fischman. **Maisie, Josie & Phoebe Fischman; Joshua Fischman & Polly Clark; Samuel Abbay & Abby Cohn; Katie Hill & Patrick Logan**, all by Joel Fischman & Judith Rabinowitz. **Judith Morenoff, Joanna Lewton** by Lisa Morenoff.
 Birth of **Maevie Katherine Claxton** by Mark Rosenberg & Betty Adler.
In Memory Of: Leo Kramer by Ken & Kathy Ingber. **Betty Adler Bubano** by Betty Adler. **Marilyn Horowitz** by Andrea Handel.
Sophie Silfen Shalom Tinok Fund
In Honor Of: Lynn & Morris Kletzkin's 45th anniversary by Richard & Susan Ugelow.
In Memory Of: Sophie Silfen by Jane Baldinger.
Staff Gift Fund
 By: Rabbi Charles Feinberg, Russell & Judith Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Sann, Jean & Larry Bernard, Sheri Brown, Sheldon Kimmel.

Sylvia & Harold Greenberg Endowment Fund
In Honor Of: Sylvia Greenberg's theater debut by Daniel & Diane Keller.
Tzedakah Fund
In Honor Of: Yoni Bloch by Roger & Renée Fendrich. Marriage of **Rachel Klein & Jacob Sokol** by Jane Baldinger.
In Memory Of: Samuel Chafets by Betty Miller. **Samuel H. Cohen** by Marshall Cohen. **Helen Blatt Surosky** by Shelley Kossak. **Mollie & Arthur Rose** by Hannah Aurbach. **Paula Sadun** by Arrigo Sadun. **Isidore Cross** by Dr. Alan Cross. **Dr. Sidney B. Ross** by Judith Ross, Milton, Kate & Samantha Shinberg.
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In Honor Of: Herlene Nagler by Art & Edie Hessel.
Yizkor/Yahrzeit Fund
In Memory Of: Oscar Gildenhorn by Blanche Speisman. **Philip C. Leavy** by Charlotte Teicher. **Carol Zacks** by Cathy Gildenhorn. **Reuben Fram** by Faye Cohen. **Samuel B. Block** by Edith Block. **Dr. Herbert Shapiro** by Madelyn Shapiro. **Bernard Mills** by Joseph Herson. **Mollie & Arthur Rose** by Hannah Aurbach. **Gilbert Ottenberg** by Rhoda Seigel, Regina Levin. **Fanny Goldberg Brown** by Robert Goldberg. **Joel S. Winnik** by Rachel Yavinsky. **Samuel Julius Friedlander** by Bernice Friedlander. **Fay Burka** by Edward Burka. **Bessie Elfin** by Mel Elfin. **George Rosenberg** by Charlotte Teicher. **Mendel Tchulak** by Joseph Zilberbaum. **Trudy Standig & Bennett Hochman** by Norman Hochman.
Youth Activities Fund
In Memory Of: Regina Sclar by Sidney Sclar. **Gerald Burton Merenstein** by Stacy Merenstein. **Rose Dornbush** by Ellen Wilner. **Lee M. Sackett** by Stanley Scherr. **Rudy Maloff** by Pearl Lutzker. **Emanuel Sacks** by Dr. David Sacks.

February Is National Disability Awareness Month Shabbat for Inclusion, February 22

On **February 22**, *Shabbat* services will be dedicated to the issue of Inclusion. Our featured speaker during the service will be **Ginny Thornburgh**, director of the Interfaith Initiative for the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), whose mission is to support people with disabilities and their families as they seek spiritual and religious access. Mrs. Thornburgh has been an advocate for people with disabilities for more than 40 years.

Over the past several decades, the United States has advanced the rights of disabled individuals across the country, resulting in more people expecting to be able to participate in communities. We have more than 50 million people with disabilities in this country. Many of you are aware of the emergence of the disability rights movement in this country that, over the past decades, has begun to transform the infrastructure of our communities. Laws like the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 are creating opportunities never envisioned.

Adas Israel and other religious institutions have committed

themselves to becoming welcoming and inclusive to disabled people and their families. We are looking forward to a month of events that will enable us to expand learning opportunities.

To that end, we are holding a series of activities during the month aimed at enabling people of all ages to learn a little bit more about the experience of people with disabilities in the Jewish community.

Mrs. Thornburgh co-authored and edited the award-winning publication, *That All May Worship*, now in its seventh printing, and *From Barriers to Bridges*, a guide to community action. She also edited *Loving Justice: The ADA and the Religious Community*. As parents of a son with

intellectual and physical disabilities, Ginny and Dick Thornburgh have worked worldwide to maximize opportunities for persons with disabilities in their communities, jobs, schools, and congregations.

This should be a very special service and a very exciting month. ○



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Naomi Malka, *Ritual Coordinator/Mikvah Director*
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Give to the Ezra Pantry @ Adas Israel

The Ezra Pantry is located in the coatroom of the Quebec Street Entrance Foyer, next to the Biran Beit Midrash. When you go to the supermarket, be sure to buy extra for those in need!

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LGBT Justice in Judaism with Dr. Jay Michaelson Tuesday, February 4 @ 7:30 pm

Central to the Jewish belief in the existence of God is the belief that our God is loving and compassionate, and desires righteousness and lovingkindness from us. Dr. Jay Michaelson, vice president of the Arcus Foundation, a leading global foundation for advancing LGBT equality, and founder of *Nehirim*, a national LGBT Jewish community, will cite lessons drawn from his celebrated bestseller, *God vs. Gay? The Religious Case for Equality*. He will explore the concepts of equality, freedom, and the shifting societal views on LGBT social justice.

The program will be followed by light refreshments and an opportunity to chat on-on-one with Dr. Michaelson or our clergy about these sensitive and important issues. This event is free and open to the entire community. Register online at www.adasisrael.org. ○




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Upcoming Chronicle Deadlines—
April: Friday, February 28, at noon; May: Friday, March 28, at noon