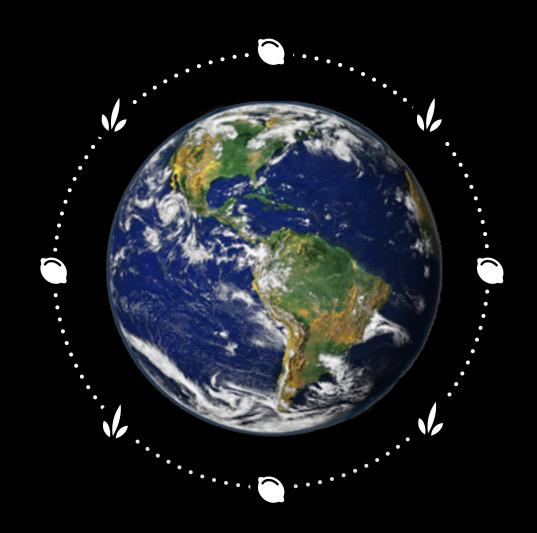
Adas Israel Congregation 🍏 October/Tishri-Cheshvan 5780

CHRONICLE



ALL UNDER ONE ROOF

Chag Sukkot Sameach

RIDE-ALONG ENCLOSED



PATHWAYS WONDER * JOY * PEACE



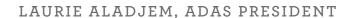
דרכיה דרכי נועם וכל נתיבותיה שלום

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5780

MORE ON PAGE 6



From the President





If you are a parent, the end of summer is that bittersweet time known as "back to school."

Time to take pictures and marvel at how fast they grow (and how we parents all miraculously don't age).

It seems like just yesterday when we walked into Adas carrying a Gan HaYeled tote bag. The very first day of school.

Though I didn't quite appreciate it at the time, how lucky we were to be a part of such a loving, nurturing, Jewish school. The Gan, and Adas, became almost as familiar as home to our girls. They made their first real friends (some are still friends today), learned to share, and sang with joy about *Shabbat* and whichever other holiday was on the horizon. And we all eagerly awaited our turn to come to class when it was our child's *Shabbat*. If you've never seen four-year-olds walk around a classroom table passing out *challah* to their friends, you are missing out.

The Gan isn't just *in* Adas Israel, it *is* Adas Israel. It is at the very core of who we are as a community, and what we value. Every synagogue should be so lucky as to have the sounds of high-pitched voices ringing through its halls. We joined Adas Israel before we were Gan parents, but it was the Gan that cemented our lifelong relationship with Adas. And so it is for countless families, before and after us.

We are grateful to welcome our new Gan director to the Adas community, Noah Hichenberg. Under Noah's leadership, the Gan will continue to be the center of early childhood excellence we know it to be. Whether or not you are a Gan parent, say hi to Noah, and make him and his family feel welcome. Our family journey did not end with the Gan. The religious school has been where our children have continued their Jewish education as students and madrichot. I know that supplemental Jewish education gets a bad rap. We all lead busy lives, and another day and then afternoon of school seem hard sometimes. But I am proud to say that here at Adas, under the leadership of Rabbi Kerrith Solomon, our religious school is a place where friendships are nurtured, and community is built. Rabbi Solomon has worked to revamp the curriculum, hire and train teachers, and engage with all Adas families so that our children learn tefillah and Jewish practice, culture, and history.

I am happy to report that our schools are bursting at the seams. It's a good problem to have. More and more families are choosing Adas as their Jewish home, and the place their children will grow and learn. If you are one of those parents, mazal tov. And I have a challenge for you: get involved if you can. I know we are pulled in many directions, but our schools can be portals to the greater Adas community, and to a deeper relationship with Judaism for your entire family. We have a Gan Parents Association and a Religious School Committee. We have myriad classes and countless opportunities to work with committees such as Hesed or Social Action. Ideas for ways to get involved are found throughout this (and every) issue of the Chronicle, and, of course, on our website. Commit to doing one new thing at Adas this school year. I trust you will get more out of these experiences than you give. Our family has been enriched in ways I never imagined on that first first day of school. I hope yours will be, too.





Clergy Corner

RABBI SARAH KRINSKY

For a holiday that is about openness and vulnerability, and for a structure that is defined at its core by its temporary and even flimsy nature, Sukkot—and its major mitzvah—the sukkah—have a lot of rules. I mean, a LOT of rules.

In chapter 4 of the Mishnah Torah's "Laws of *Shofar, Sukkah* and *Lulav,*" the Rambam outlines a *sukkah's* requisite height, width, and area; the specifications on number and amount of walls, down to the handbreadth; the necessary sturdiness as determined by various wind possibilities; and much, much more (including, for example, how one can or cannot make a *sukkah* on the back of a camel; check out 4:6).

In the course of these logistical and architectural details, there is one stipulation that jumps out at me this year. It is quoted twice in this chapter, in two adjacent *halachot* that discuss a *sukkah* that does not have four full walls. Such a *sukkah* could be kosher; a *sukkah*, in fact, can exist with only three walls, provided they reach some basic height and length requirements. Yet in such a *sukkah*, the Rambam teaches, the builder must pay special attention not just to the *size*, but also to the *orientation*: in such a *sukkah*, one must be sure to consciously and intentionally construct a clear entrance.

What an interesting demand! One might have suspected that a *sukkah* with so much non-wall space is even more open for entry

than a four-walled *sukkah*; why, then, would this requirement for an entrance be explicitly highlighted here?

It seems as though the tradition is reminding us that proclaiming openness can only get us so far. We have to actually *act* on that openness, to actively build doorways, in order to make manifest this value. Being boundlessly inclusive is certainly a worthwhile principle—and is one that we treasure at Adas. But it only works when we also create real points of entry that people can come through.

This year, our theme for the High Holy Days was "pathways"—a look at the many different ways that people move through Adas and how those courses intersect one with another. As we move into the core of the programming year, let's also not forget the openings that lead to these pathways. As we meander through the various Adas moments that come our way in 5780, let us also commit to facilitating those connections for people who remain outside the walls, and to creating points of entry that reflect the openness, inclusivity, and love that we already feel inside.

Learn more about *Sukkot* at Adas: adasisrael.org/sukkot



Join Rabbi Krinsky For:

YOM KIPPUR UNPACKED

A Highlight Experience

Led by Rabbi Sarah Krinsky

Wednesday, October 9 at 11:00 AM-12:30 PM Cohen Hall

We will explore the central ideas of Yom Kippur through song, meditation, prayer, learning and discussion. More abbreviated and informal than a traditional service, this alternative will include all of the main components of the day's themes and liturgy in a deep yet condensed and accessible fashion.

דרכיה דרכי נועם וכל נתיבותיה שלום

Its ways are pleasant ways, And all its paths, peaceful.

Proverbs 3:17

Pathways: Wonder. Joy. Peace.

HIGH HOLY DAYS 5780

Join us for an inspirational High Holy Day experience at Adas Israel this year. We invite you to step out of your daily routines, to join together with the kehilla, to reflect deeply on what matters to you, and to embrace the pinnacle of our Jewish prayer experience. This year our theme for the Yamim Noraim is centered around pathways. The key, always, is to pave our life's paths with peace, beauty, and opportunities for deeper engagement. This past year has left so many of us with countless moments of joy, pain, depth, tragedy, understanding, conflict, and everything between. Together we are invited to face each other and ourselves, and to build space for honesty, loss, longing, and, ultimately, connection.





Monday & Tuesday, Sept. 30 & Oct. 1









Tuesday, October 8

Wednesday, October 9

Full High Holy Day Schedule & Information Available Online at

adasisrael.org/highholydays

Service Schedule

HIGH HOLY DAYS AT ADAS ISRAEL

- With Instruments: Reflective, Soulful Sounds
- With Instruments: Traditional, Cantorial Melodies
- With Sign Language Interpretation

III KOL NIDRE

MINCHA 5:15pm

Led by Hazzan Goldsmith • Biran Beit Midrash

- Led by Rabbi Alexander & Cantor Brown Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian Minyan, Sermon by R. Krinsky • Gewirz Beit Am **RETURN AGAIN KOL NIDRE** 7:30pm
- ✓ Led by Rabbi Holtzblatt & Return Again Band Adas Israel Parking Area

Youth Services Schedule

HIGH HOLY DAYS AT ADAS ISRAEL

We are blessed to have so many families in our community. Children, like adults, can feel drawn toward different modalities of prayer. We have a variety of service options to enable our children and their grown-ups to engage in meaningful, communal experiences over the holidays.

A YOM KIPPUR

SHACHARIT 9am

Led by Hazzan Goldsmith • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am

FAMILY SERVICE 9am

Family Experience w/ Rabbi Solomon • Kay Hall

TORAH SERVICE & YIZKOR 10:30am (Yizkor -11:10am)

Led by Rabbi Holtzblatt & Cantor Brown • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Led by Rabbi Alexander & Michael Leifman • Kay Hall

Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am (begins at 10am)

YOM KIPPUR UNPACKED: A HIGHLIGHT EXPERIENCE 11am-12:30pm Led by Rabbi Krinsky • Cohen Hall

MUSAF & MARTYROLOGY SERVICE 12:45pm (Sermons at 12:45pm)

Led by Rabbi Holtzblatt & Return Again Band • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Led by Rabbi Alexander & Cantor Brown • Kay Hall 69

Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian Minyan • Gewirz Beit Am

AFTERNOON DISCUSSION: JUSTICE ELENA KAGAN 3pm

Justice Kagan in Conversation w/ Seth Waxman • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

Led by Michael Leifman • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

LATE YIZKOR 4:30pm

Led by Rabbi Krinsky & Hazzan Goldsmith • Biran Beit Midrash

N'EELAH 5:45pm (Shofar ~7:35pm)

Led by Adas Clergy • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

TRADITIONAL N'EELAH 6:15pm

Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am



FAMILY SERVICE with Rabbi Kerrith Solomon

Kay Hall @ 9am: For families who want to share the experience with their elementary school age children (grades K & up).

TORAH & TEFILLAH for Tots through K

Youth Lounge @ 10:30am: For families with young children to celebrate together, led by Menuhah Peters.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

3rd Floor @ 10:30am: For students in grades K-6: Yom Kippur and Parsha

3rd Floor @ 11:30am-12:30pm: For students in grades K-6: Holiday activities.

TEEN CHAT

Funger Hall @ 12:30pm: Grade 9-12. Gather for a discussion and reflection on Jewish values in our modern lives.

Connecticut Ave. Patio @ 7:15pm (30 min before Shofar): Students are invited to gather on the Connecticut Avenue Patio for a short program and to join the services in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary.



Sukkot begins on the 15th day of the month of *Tishri* (**Erev Sukkot** is on Sunday evening, October 13) and continues for seven days. It is known by several names, none more descriptive than **Z'man Simchataynu**, Day of Our Rejoicing. **Hag HaSukkot**, the Feast of Tabernacles, reminds us of the huts (*sukkot*) in which our ancestors dwelt in the desert for 40 years on their way to the Promised Land. Another name for *Sukkot*, **Hag He'asif**, the Feast of the Ingathering, stresses that this is a harvest holiday, falling at a time when crops were gathered. It is one of the three harvest festivals in the Jewish year known as the **Shalosh Regalim**, the three pilgrimage festivals (the other two are *Pesach* and *Shavuot*).

The *Iulav*, a palm branch composed of three myrtle twigs and two willow branches, and the *etrog*, a large citron resembling a lemon, both symbols of the harvest season, are used in keeping with the biblical commandment (*Leviticus* 23:40): "You shall take the fruit of the pleasant trees, palm branches, thick leafy boughs, and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice . . ." Because the *brachot* (blessings) for the *Iulav* and the *etrog* are to be recited on six of the nine days (not on *Shabbat*) of this festival period, and because these harvest symbols do so much to enhance the home, many families purchase them for home use.

Attached to *Sukkot* is an eighth day known as *Shemini Atzeret*, which is a separate *yom tov*; it is technically not part of *Sukkot*. It is punctuated by two special prayers. The first is *geshem*, the prayer for rain, in which the Jewish people pray for a sufficient rainfall in *Eretz Yisrael* to make the land fruitful and the crops plentiful. This is especially meaningful since Israel has suffered years of drought. The other prayer is *Yizkor*, the memorial prayer for those we have lost, which is also recited on *Yom Kippur*, the eighth day of *Pesach*, and the second day of *Shavuot*.

The final day of this holiday season, *Simchat Torah* (which in Israel is the same day as *Shemini Atzeret*), celebrates the Festival of Rejoicing in the Torah, at which time we give thanks for the Torah by parading the scrolls around the synagogue in a joyous ceremony known as seven *hakafot*, in which men, women, and children of all ages participate. It is on this day that we complete the annual reading of the Torah and begin again with the first words of *Bereshit* (Genesis).

Simchat Torah begins this year on Monday evening, October 21. Celebration of Simchat Torah at Adas Israel will begin at 6 pm with Mincha, followed by Maariv & Hakafot at 6:30 pm.

The celebration continues on *Tuesday morning, October 22*, at 9:15 am, at which time we will recognize our *Simchat Torah* honorees. Please come to honor them and the Torah.

SCHEDULE:

Erev Sukkot, Sunday Oct. 13

7:30 am - Morning Minyan

6 pm - Mincha | Kabbalat Chag Services

Day 1, Monday, Oct. 14

9:15 am - Combined Morning Service

11 am - Children's Service, 12 pm - Kiddush in the Sukkah

6 pm - Mincha/Kabbalat Chag Services

Day 2, Tuesday, Oct. 15

9:15 am - Combined Morning Service

12 pm - Kiddush in the Sukkah, 1 pm - Mincha

Day 3, Wednesday, Oct. 16

7:15 am - Morning Minyan/Chol HaMoed Sukkot

6 pm - Mincha/Maariv, 6:30 pm - New Member Reception

Day 4, Thursday, Oct. 17

7:15 am - Morning Minyan/Chol HaMoed Sukkot

12 pm - Gan Snack in Shack, 6 pm - Mincha/Maariv

Day 5, Friday, Oct. 18

7:15 am - Morning Minyan/Chol HaMoed Sukkot

11:45 am - Gan Snack in the Shack

6:30 pm - TEM (all invited) Mincha/Maariv

Day 6, Saturday, Oct. 19

9:15 am - Shabbat Service/Tinok (Baby) Shabbat

9:15 am - TEM Service, 9:30 am - Havurah Service

11 am - Tot Shabbat, **11 am** - Youth Services

12 pm - Congregational Kiddush, **1 pm** - Mincha

Day 7, Erev Shemini Atzeret, Sunday, Oct. 20

8:45 am - Morning Minyan/Hoshana Rabba Service

6 pm - Erev Shemini Atzeret - Mincha/Maariv Kabbalat Chaq

Day 8, Erev Simchat Torah, Monday, Oct. 21

9:15 am - Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor Service

9:15 am - TEM Service 12 pm - Kiddush in the Sukkah

6 pm - Mincha, 6:30 pm - Erev Simchat Torah Maariv & HaKafot

7 pm - TEM Erev Simchat Torah Service

8:30 pm - Erev Simchat Torah Reception

Simchat Torah, Tuesday, Oct. 22

9:15 am - Simchat Torah Service joined by TEM

11 am - Simchat Torah Children's Service

12 pm - Congregational Kiddush, **1 pm** - Mincha

SIMCHAT TORAH

Erev Simchat Torah

Clergy-Led Instrumental Service MINCHA: 6PM

MONDAY, OCT. 21, BEGINNING @ 6:30 PM

MONDAY, OCT. 21, @ 7:00 PM

Non-Instrumental Service w/ TEM

Simchat Torah Morning

Community Service w/ S.T. Honorees

TUESDAY, OCT. 22, BEGINNING @ 9:15 AM



Featuring the Mayer brothers, along with our local DC klezmer workshop instructors, to lead us in festive song & dance!

On Simchat Torah, the Torah scrolls wish to dance—so we become their feet! Join the Adas Israel community for an ecstatic, musical community celebration on the most joyous holiday of our holy calendar! There will also be a joyous Erev Simchat Torah service with the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan, without instruments, at 7:00 pm. All are welcome! Also look out for a post-hakafa klezmer jam session — bring your instrument along to keep the music going after we've sung, danced, and read Torah! The Erev Simchat Torah Reception in Wasserman Hall is sponsored by Steve Rabinowitz & Laurie Moskowitz in memory of Steve's mother, Dorothy Rabinowitz, on her yahrzeit, linking her memory with the beauty and importance of Simchat Torah is a lasting and meaningful memorial.

See our 5780 Simchat Torah Honorees on the following page!











Full Holiday Information Available Online at

adasisrael.org/sukkot

8 The Chronicle

October 2019 9

SIMCHAT TORAH HONOREES 5780

Each year, several congregants who have served with unusual dedication are selected to receive special honors on *Simchat Torah*. Please join us on the morning of *Simchat Torah* on Tuesday, October 22, when we honor this year's worthy honorees.



Sarah Brooks — Sarah Brooks joined Adas Israel in 1995 when she and her young family moved to DC. All three of her children attended the Gan and went on to continue at JPDS. Sarah and her children found a place at the Havurah service and all three of them celebrated

their bnai mitzvoth there. Sarah served as the mikvah lady for two years starting in August 1998. (Her youngest, Aaron, was known as the mikvah boy, after he arrived in Feb 1999.) Since becoming semi-retired (please G-d) as a full time stay at home mother when her youngest child went off to college, she has been able to further engage in two of her passions: cooking and text study. She is an active participant in Hesed Baking and has cooked for countless families through Meal Train. She also bakes cupcakes once a month for the Security and Building Maintenance staffs. As for Text Study, Sarah has never missed a Makom DC class; and joined the Friday Parshah and Boker Ohr classes early on, and maintains the source sheet database in the Beit Midrash. She arranges for substitute lay leaders when the rabbis go on vacation so learning can continue year round. And for the last six years, she has served at Dvar Torah coordinator for the Havurah.



Sharon Burka — Sharon has deep roots at Adas Israel. Both her maternal and paternal grandparents were congregants as well as her parents who first met at an Adas confirmation class picnic and were subsequently married in the synagogue in 1955. Sharon grew

up at Adas from consecration to Bat Mitzvah to confirmation while maintaining an active role in the various youth groups along the way. She holds special memories of her eight week confirmation class trip to Israel in the summer of 1975 and her years as a counselor in West Virginia at Adas Israel's Camp Tel Shalom. Among her closest friends today are her childhood pals from Adas. In recent years Sharon has been active with the Social Action Committee and coordinates our volunteer meal

service program at So Others Might Eat, and she particularly enjoys attending events with lots of music like Return Again services. Sharon is a lawyer and has spent the bulk of her career representing the interests of indigent criminal defendants. As a result of this work she has become increasingly interested in issues surrounding poverty and criminal justice reform. Because she believes strongly in the power of community, Sharon is extremely grateful for the ever increasing involvement of the Adas community in a myriad of social justice and human rights issues that plague our city, our country and our world.



Michael Leifman — Michael and his wife Sharon Samber joined Adas Israel when they moved to DC in 1995. Their first apartment in town was in Cleveland Park so that they could be walking distance from Adas and their house in the Van Ness/Tenley area was chosen

in part for the same reasons: it was never a guestion that Adas would be part of their lives. "Adas is where we've celebrated both of our sons' births, it's where we celebrated Ethan's bar mitzvah and where we'll celebrate Gil's upcoming bar mitzvah; and it was the Adas community that provided me comfort and meals while I sat shiva for my parents. Adas - the community, the clergy, the staff and even the building - have been a central part of my family life. Even Shabbat afternoons after shul are spent hanging out with Adas people!" Michael served two terms on the Adas board, was a member of the ritual committee (now religious practices committee) for several years, and sat on two clergy search committees. As part of the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan, Michael has served as the davening coordinator and co-led each of its shabbatonim. Michael is a frequent ba'al tefilah in the TEM, and also has led various High Holiday services in the TEM, Smith and Kay. When he's not at Adas, Michael consults on clean energy and technological innovation, cohosts a podcast on startups and the economy, roots for the Nats and throws around a frisbee. Sharon writes for HIAS, is a torah reader and trope tutor par excellence, and has served in various Adas and TEM committees. Ethan is a senior at Wilson High School and Gil is a 7th grader at Alice Deal.



(continued on pg. 25)

Russell Smith — Russell and his wife Judy joined Adas Israel in 1974 and became active when their son Harris was born in 1977. Russell wrote a letter to the Adas President expressing concern about a dues increase and was immediately appointed to the Adas Board! Once Harris entered

the Gan, Russell and Judy co-odinated Family Services for a year or two. After that came stints as a member and in some cases chair of multiple Adas committees, including Finance, Investment, Personnel, Strategic Planning, and Nominating. Russell served as Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer before becoming Adas President from 2005-07. His term in office ended just in time to serve as a co-chair of the Vision for Renewal Building Committee and capital campaign. Russell also co-chaired the Sulam Leadership initiative that helped to strengthen the Adas Board. In his "spare time," Russell had a legal career in government, worked on Capitol Hill, and from

1989-2018 practiced with the Washington office Willkie Farr & Gallagher law firm. Russell retired at the end of 2018 and has started auditing classes at Georgetown University so as he puts it, "I can re-learn everything I've forgotten since college."

Speaking about his 40-plus years at Adas, Russell says "My feelings are simple--I love Adas Israel. It has nourished Judy and me spiritually, afforded us life-long friendships, given me an education in leadership, and been among the happiest and most satisfying experiences of my life. As the midrash says, the rest is commentary."

ADAS UPDATES



Call for Artists of Adas: Celebrating Creativity within the Congregation

All of us have skills and talents that celebrate the joy of our synagogue. As unique opportunity will be occurring at Adas in December, and I wanted to put it on everyone's radar early on.

My name is Sara Vogler, and as an active member of the congregation, I wanted to take a moment to introduce a new project I'm developing at Adas and explain why it's important to me. I have showcased my art around DC for a while now in small cafés. I even was able to sell one of my art pieces to a collector at a local art show. I believe in art and its magic. One of the many things that I love about Adas is attending Daily *Minyan*; it is a beautiful way to break up the day with mindfulness and meaning. I also love *Hanukkah*; it's one of my favorite holidays! It's a holiday that means a lot to me, and I want to share those meanings with you all through my art and yours.

In preparation for *Hanukkah*, we are calling for all **Artists of Adas** to showcase their art. These are the parameters:

- Send a sketch or picture of your piece.
- Include the name of your piece and a sentence describing it.
- Include the dimensions of your piece and its style (type of art).

In addition, your art should resemble an element of *Hanukkah* that you love most! The plan is for the exhibit to be up in the Adas main lobby for at least a month during *Hanukkah*. The submission deadline for this project is **Monday**, **October 28**. Please e-mail the sketches of your pieces to Sara Vogler (email below) or drop off your pieces directly to Adas, Attn: Courtney Tisch. We hope you can join us in filling our walls with community, art, and the building of our spirit of rejuvenation! Please reach out Sara Vogler, *sara.vogler@gmail.com*, with any questions/comments and submissions.



Honoring Our Veterans

To Our Dear Adas Israel Veterans,

We wish to honor you with an *aliyah* on *Shabbat*, November 9, the weekend of Veterans Day. We hope you can join us!

RSVP to Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith (hazzan.goldsmith@adasisrael.org) and include your Hebrew name.



The Adas Fund JUSTICE

The Adas Fund is the Congregation's only annual campaign and is critical if we are to operate in the way you have come to count on and deserve. We seek 100% participation, at any level of giving. This year, we will honor the sacred work of our Social Action Committee, as its members work tirelessly to make the world everything we know in our hearts it should be.











Now is the time. Please make your contribution today. We seek 100% participation.

This year's campaign is inspired by the work of our Social Action Committee, and supports all of our activities at Adas. The Committee is made up of teams focused on the pressing issues facing us today:

- Poverty / Homelessness / Housing Team
- Climate Action Team
- 🚷 Lev B'Lev ("Heart to Heart")

- Gun Violence Prevention Team
- (§) Kehilah Multiracial Engagement Project
- 🕠 Refugee Response Team

Visit adasisrael.org/socialaction to learn more about this incredible work. Please join them as we demonstrate our gratitude for the many personal and family journeys Adas Israel's members, clergy, and staff inspire. Please do give something today, and make everything possible.



Laurie Aladjer Adas Israel President



Rabbi Aaron Alexander



Holtzblatt
Senior Rabbi

Donate online at AdasIsrael.org/AdasFund



MakomDC 2019-20 Season: "The Way In"

There's always a way in to Jewish learning. This MakomDC year we intend to capture the passion and expertise of our core teachers and offer topics in text learning that will inspire deep learning, generate new knowledge, and open up critical conversation. For the first three Tuesday evenings of each month, a rabbi (Holtzblatt, Alexander, Krinsky, or Yolkut) will offer a three-part mini-series that will tackle essential subjects in Judaism, with close attention to the textual tradition that inspires so much of Jewish life today.



Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook (1865-1935, Jerusalem): Legacy, Ideology, and Vision

NOVEMBER 5, 12, 19 (HOLTZBLATT)

Rav Kook, the first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of British Mandatory Palestine in the Land of Israel, was considered one of the founders of religious Zionism. Together we'll explore his unique take on Zionism, his approach to *Parshanut* (weekly Torah commentary), and his novel observations of religious life in the 20th century.



Because Rashi Said So: An Introduction to the Life and Writings of Rabbi Shlomo Yitzhaki (1040-1105)

DECEMBER 3, 10, 17 (ALEXANDER)

You hear it all the time: "Rashi says . . ." So let's take a few sessions to explore who, why, and how this great intellect became the most influential Jewish author of all time. Through a close reading of a few key texts alongside some biographical essays, each of us will come out with a greater appreciation for the figure whose words have been "absorbed into the bloodstream of Jewish culture."



Virtues and Vices: An Introduction to the World of Mussar JANUARY 7, 14, 21 (KRINSKY)

Mussar is an ancient Jewish spiritual practice aimed at cultivating and honing specific inner virtues and traits. Following the curriculum of Rabbi David Jaffe, we will delve into this practice and relate it to our own spiritual lives, and to a foundation for a Jewish social justice ethic. Each session will focus on one particular trait and will examine traditional Mussar texts as well as practical applications for ourselves and our communities.

continued...

12 The Chronicle



The Double Axis of Jewish Life: Israel and the Diaspora

FEB. 4, 11, 18 (YOLKUT)

Beginning all the way back in the Torah and weaving their way through the rabbis, our people have debated questions of home, land, and Jewish communal life. As the world becomes increasingly connected and global, while at the same time tribal, divided, and particular, how can we understand the Jewish perspective on our home in the Diaspora and in the Homeland? What challenges does Zionism as nationalism present to our American democratic and Jewish values? How might we understand the rabbis as challenging us to create interconnected and interdependent relationships of these two fundamental holy spaces to create sacred spheres of sacredness? We will explore three Talmudic passages to try and unpack these questions and challenges.



Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik (1903-1993): Lonely Man of Faith, Halakhic Man, & Selected Writings

MARCH 3, 17, 24 (HOLTZBLATT)

Known as "The Rav," this towering figure in 20th-century Jewish life left an indelible imprint not only on Modern Orthodoxy, but on all modern-day Jewish theology and practice. We'll learn together some of his key writings and religious concepts—in particular, how to live in the midst of dialectical tension—humility and majesty, alone and together, submissive and autonomous.



Rabbi Nachman of Brazlav (1772-1810): Medzhibozh, Ukraine, and Bratzlav

APRIL 1, 22, 29 (YOLKUT)

Rebbe Nachman was one of the Chassidic world's most creative and unconventional thinkers. Many of his ideas were challenged by leading rebbes, who accused him of arrogance, messianic pretensions, and propagating semi-heretical doctrines. Have we piqued your interest? In these three sessions we will study his perspective on three ideas: Creation as interconnected with Machloket (dispute and disagreement); hitbodidut, his prayer practice as a path to spiritual refinement and enlightenment; and his prescription for achieving a state of simcha or joy as a religious practice!



Intention, Action, and Reaction: "Kavanah Unpacked and Explored"

MAY 5, 12, 19 (ALEXANDER)

It's a question that touches so many aspects of life: Do our intentions influence how our actions ought to be judged? Or, is it just the deed itself that matters, regardless of the reason? As you might imagine, classical and modern Jewish texts have a lot to say about this, and the answers will help all of us navigate our lives today. Together we'll explore the paradigmatic sources on this issue, and discuss their relevance in religious and secular life, individually and communally.



Ever-Evolving Halakhah: Critical Questions, Real-time Responses

JUNE 2, 9, 16 (KRINSKY)

The form of shutim-halakhic questions answered by expert authorities-goes back as far as the Jewish tradition. Yet it is also as modern as 2020. Each of these three sessions will examine a present-day teshuva about a contemporary issue, ranging from bioethics to technology to identity and practice. We will look at the content of the answer, as well as the processes and prooftexts the authors invoke to make their claims.



Inside Out: Text, Translation and Transformation (Yolkut)

FALL/WINTER: 10/23, 10/30, 11/13, 11/27, 12/11, 1/8; \$180 SPRING: 1/29, 2/12, 2/26, 3/11, 3/25, 4/1; \$180

- Have you ever wanted to gain access to some of Judaism's most powerful texts?
- Are you wondering what it means to study ancient sources in their original language with the quidance of a master teacher and a Beit Midrash full of reference materials?
- Can you imagine studying a rabbinic text from the start and seeing it all the way through; imagine starting a riveting novel and not being able to put it down?
- Want to challenge yourself to gain a foundational understanding of how the rabbis operated?
- What did these ancient sages want the learner to gain from the window the text gives us into their endless conversations, debates, and questions around some of our biggest religious and spiritual issues about living in this world? Join a dedicated group for two six-part classes with a deep dive into the Mishnah and Talmud with Rabbi Elianna Yolkut. Sign up for one semester or both!

Mendelson Scholar Series



Dr. Eilyahu Stern

OCT. 26

Eliyahu Stern is associate professor of Modern Jewish Intellectual and Cultural History in the Departments of Religious Studies and History at Yale University.



Prof. Jeffrey Rubenstein

DEC. 14

Jeffrey L. Rubenstein is the Skirball Professor of Talmud and Rabbinic Literature in the Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies of New York University.



Dr. Deborah Barer MARCH 21, 2020

Dr. Deborah Barer's research explores models of rabbinic decision-making, with an emphasis on the intersection of ethical and legal reasoning in Talmudic legal narratives.



Dr. Mara Benjamin

Dr. Vanessa Ochs

Dr. Aaron Amit

NOV. 23

Gan Israel

MAY 16, 2020

FEB. 22, 2020

Mara H. Benjamin is Irene Kaplan Leiwant associate professor and chair of Jewish Studies at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, MA.

Dr. Aaron Amit is the head of the Talmud

Department at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat

Vanessa L. Ochs is a professor in the

Department of Religious Studies and Jewish

Studies Program at the University of Virginia.



End-of-Year Siyyum

MAY 26, 7:30 PM, WITH DR. BURT VISOTZKY

Join us as we celebrate the end of our MakomDC year! Rabbi Dr. Burt Visotzky serves as Appleman Professor of Midrash and Interreligious Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary, where he directs the Milstein Center for Interreligious Dialogue. Visotzky also serves as the Louis Stein Director of the Finkelstein Institute for Religious and Social Studies at JTS, programming on public policy. Rabbi Visotzky has been named to "The Forward 50" and repeatedly to the Newsweek/Daily Beast list of "The 50 Most Influential Jews in America."

adasisrael.org/makomdc 🍪



MUSICAL MOMENTS







[M] [9] 20

Musical Moments at Adas

Brought to you by Cantor Arianne Brown & the Musical Moments Committee

Featured Musical Performance



A Sweet Celebration of Song

Starring Cantor Azi Schwartz

Richard L. Kramer Family Concert Series

Joined by Cantor Arianne Brown, Musical Director Colin Fowler, DC's Thomas Circle Singers, and our own Flash Choir

Sunday, November 10 @ 3 pm



SPECIAL EVENT

A gift to the Jewish community as the second of our incredible Richard L. Kramer Family Concert Series.

Join world-renowned Israeli cantor and recording artist Azi Schwartz, of New York's Park Avenue Synagogue, in a dazzling concert. Azi's vocal craft has been described as emotional, spiritual, and artistically dynamic. Followed by an hors d'oeuvres reception.

RSVP by visiting adasisrael.org/musicalmoments or calling 202-362-4433.

2019-2020 / 5780 Program



Sounds of Faith: Songs of Hanukkah

Concert at the National Museum of American History

Sunday, December 8 @ 2:30 pm

Cantor Arianne Brown will perform a program of music celebrating *Hanukkah* in the eclectic setting of our National Museum of American History.



Giles & Grace Gospel Choir

Saturday, January 18 @ 9:30 am

As we celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. with our community partners, Roderick Giles & Grace gospel choir will join us on *Shabbat* morning for inspirational moments of prayer.



Shabbat Shirah

Featuring Rabbi Josh Warshawsky and His Band

Saturday, February 8 @ 6:30 pm

As a composer and songleader, Josh is known for creating warm communal singing experiences. Join us throughout *Shabbat* and Saturday night for a *Havdalah* musical experience you won't want to miss.



Kol HaOlam 2020

Saturday, February 29 @ 8 pm

Witness the ever popular Annual National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Championship Competition as we celebrate a decade of a cappella at Adas!



Halleluyah! Sing 150

Celebrating 150 Years of Adas Israel

Wednesday, June 10 @ 6:45 pm, followed by the Annual Meeting

Halleluyah! Adas is turning 150. Let's celebrate this milestone with a musical immersion into Psalm 150. This psalm is the inspiration behind compositions across genres, faiths, and languages.

adasisrael.org/musicalmoments

JMCW@ADAS

jewish mindfulness center of washington

In the sukkah, a house that is open to the world...the illusion of protection falls away, and suddenly we are flush with our life, feeling our life, following our life, doing its dance, one step after another. And when we speak of joy here, we are not speaking of fun. Joy is a deep release of the soul . . .

RABBI ALAN LEW, FROM THIS IS REAL AND YOU ARE COMPLETELY UNPREPARED

Hashkiveinu Adonai eloheninu l'shalom. During the ma'ariv service, we ask God to shelter us with a canopy of peace. This canopy is viewed as of a spiritual, rather than a physical nature. Think of it—a canopy of peace! The imagery is external, but the protection from such shelter emanates from within us. No matter how strong an outer shelter we build, there is no guarantee that it will withstand the unknown. Our siddur, Lev Shalem, has a beautiful sidebar commentary on the Hashkiveinu prayer: "Peace comes to us in the recognition that when we allow ourselves to be vulnerable, when we recognize that we cannot control everything, redemption can be achieved. The central image in this prayer is the sukkah of peace. The sukkah is a fragile structure, open to the elements. Peace is pictured not as a temple, solidly built, gilded, perhaps ornate, but rather as created out of the most fragmentary of materials, leaving us vulnerable and at risk." When we find peace, as Rabbi Lew says, in a house that is open to the world, we also open ourselves to joy. As the Haggim continue this month with Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah, we hope you'll join JMCW prayer practices and programs. Throughout this new year, may we find joy as we work to open ourselves to the world and strengthen our inner shelter of peace.

ONGOING OFFERINGS



Weekly Meditation Sit

Led by JMCW Faculty

WEDNESDAYS @ 7:30-8:30 PM Note: Classes will not be held 10/2, 10/9, 11/27, or 12/25

Each week we come together for a community sit. Our time is marked by explorations of meditation techniques, guided teachings, and silent sits. No experience necessary—all are welcome, including drop-ins. Open to beginners and experienced practitioners alike.



Vinyasa Lunar Flow

Led by JMCW Faculty

WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30-7:20 PM

Fall classes held on 10/30, 11/20, and 12/18 Our monthly Jewish Yoga practice offers a home to those who wish to explore embodied spirituality. This class seeks to awaken and stimulate the senses through a full mind/body exploration of asana. Drawing inspiration from Mussar, Kabbalah, and the wisdom of Jewish thinkers, this class reinterprets "Jewish Yoga." Mats and props are provided.



Morning Awakening

with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt

TUESDAYS AT 9:00AM - RESUMING AFTER THE HAGGIM ON 11/5

Come join JMCW for an uplifting 45 minutes of mindful prayer and song as we begin the day together. Morning Awakening is a new take on the traditional Jewish morning service. Start your Tuesday with a dose of mindfulness!

JMCW HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES, PROGRAMS, AND WORKSHOPS



Becoming Present with Meditation and Song Led by Susan Barocas & Michelle Buzgon WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9 @ 4:45-5:45 PM

Use the rhythms of guided meditation and melodic singing to deepen our personal reflections as we approach the final hours of *Yom Kippur*.



Immersing in Holiness: Adas Israel Community Mikvah Organized by Naomi Malka

Bring your observance of the new year into the body by crafting a personalized immersion ritual E-mail mikvah@adasisrael.org or call Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776, to schedule appointments.



Soulful High Holy Day Worship

Immerse in the soulful, reflective sounds of community worship. See full Service Schedule in your High Holy Day Booklet, pp. 10-11, for times or visit www.adasisrael.org/highholydays.

JMCW RECOMMENDS ...



Yom Kippur Readings: Inspiration, Information and Contemplation, by Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins, Dr. Arthur Green In weaving together a variety of readings, from traditional Jewish texts to modern reflections, this collection is a beautiful resource for the spiritual contemplation we seek during the days leading up to Yom Kippur to prepare us to embrace that holy day.



This Is Real and You Are Completely Unprepared: The Days of Awe as a Journey or Transformation, by Rabbi Alan Lew A classic text by one of the leading voices in Jewish Mindfulness practice. Whether reading for the first time or revisiting these wise words, there is always something new to discover in this engaging exploration of high holy days spiritual renewal.



The Days Between: Blessings, Poems and Directions of the Heart For the Jewish High Holiday Season, by Marcia Falk This gorgeous collection of poetry and alternative holiday prayers touches the heart of our high holy days tradition and adds moving insight to traditional liturgy.

These selections are available in the Adas Library, along with other books on Jewish spirituality, meditation, and mindfulness. Some of these can be found under call number 175.01 or speak with Adas Librarian Robin Jacobson (*librarian@adasisrael.org*) for more information.



The Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington @ Adas (JMCW) offers services, programs, and workshops that help deepen contemplative practices as part of our individual and communal religious and spiritual lives. Watch this space each month to follow these JMCW offerings. Visit our Adas web page at adasisrael.org/jmcw, where you can also subscribe to our weekly newsletter. Find us on Facebook, JMCW at Adas Israel!

adasisrael.org/jmcw

One whose soul does not wander in the expanses, one who does not seek the light of truth and goodness with all his heart, does not suffer spiritual ruins — but he will also not have his own self-based constructions. Instead, he takes shelter in the shadow of the natural constructions, like rabbits under boulders. But one who has a human soul cannot take shelter in anything other than constructions that he builds with his own spiritual toil.

— Rav Abraham Isaac Kook

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	29 Elul Morning Minyan Selichot: Community Sunset Service	NOTE: See HHD Book for Full Schedule	1 ROSH HASHANAH DAY 2 2 Tishri NOTE: See HHD Book for Full Schedule	2 7:30 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan Evening Minyan	7:30 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Holtzblatt	5 PARSHAT VAYELECH/SHABBAT SHUVAH 8:30 am 9:30 am 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service 11:00 am 12:30 pm 1:00 pm 7:28 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush
10:30 a 10:30 a	7 Tishri Morning Minyan Wise Aging Kever Avot @ Cemeteries Evening Minyan	7:30 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	8 KOL NIDRE 9 Tishri NOTE: See HHD Book for Full Schedule	9 YOM KIPPUR 10 Tishri NOTE: See HHD Book for Full Schedule	10 11 Tishri 7:30 am 10:00 am Community Sukkah Building 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:17 pm 10:00 am 6:00 pm Parshat Hashavua Class Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Alexander	12 PARSHAT HA'AZINU 8:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Sevice; Sermon by Rabbi Krinsky Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 10:00 am 12:00 pm 1:00 pm Shabbat Mincha
5:30 pn	14 Tishri Morning Minyan Oneg in the Sukkah Mincha/Maariv/Kabbalat Chag with Hazzan Goldsmith	14 SUKKOT DAY 1 9:15 am Combined Charles E. Smith Sanctuary/TEM Sukkot Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Alexander 12:00 pm Kiddush in the Sukkah 5:30 pm Oneg in the Sukkah 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:13 pm	9:15 am Combined Smith/TEM Sukkot Service	16 CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT 17 Tishri 7:15 am 8:00 am Morning Minyan Breakfast Evening Minyan 6:30 pm New Member Oneg in Sukkah 7:30 pm Sisterhood Knits, Sews & Crafts JMCW Meditation	17 CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT 18 Tishri 7:15 am Morning Minyan 1:00 pm Sisterhood: Mah Jongg 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	18 CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT 7:15 am 8:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 5:30 pm 6:00 pm TEM Friday Service; Led by Kanter-Goodell Family	19 CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT 8:30 am 9:15 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 8:30 am 9:15 am 8:30 am 1:00 am 1:00 pm 1:00 p
5:30 pn		21 EREV SIMCHATTORAH 22 Tishri 9:15 am 9:15 am 12:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 8:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 8:00 pm	9:15 am Simchat Torah Service, All invited w/ Rabbis Holtzblatt & Alexander 12:00 pm Simchat Torah Kiddush	7:30 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan Intro to Judiasm Rabbi Elianna Yolkut: The Text 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation	7:30 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm Morning Minyan Sisterhood: Mah Jongg Evening Minyan	7:30 am 10:00 am Parshat Hashavua Class Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Rabbi Krinsky	27 Tishri 8:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 10:00 am 8 boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class Shabbat Morning Service Bar Mitzvah: Max Aaron Sermon by Rabbi Alexander Traditional Egaltarian Minyan Tot Shabbat 12:00 pm 12:45 pm 1:15 pm 6:58 pm Congregational Kiddush Shabbat Mincha Mendelson Scholar: Dr. Eliyahu Stern Havdalah
10:00 at 10:00 at 1:00 pm 2:00 pm	28 Tishri Morning Minyan Adas Book Chat YP Learning w/ Rabbi Krinsky Sisterhood Opening Event DC Klezmer Workshop Evening Minyan	28 29 Tishri 7:30 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:15 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Hesed Committee Cooking 7:30 pm MakomDC: Advance Halakha	30 7:15 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	7:30 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:30 am Use Provided Head of State Provided	7:30 am Morning Minyan 5:49 pm	2 PARSHAT NOAH 8:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:45 am 10:00 am 12:30 pm 1:00 pm 6:49 pm 4 Cheshvan 6 Cheshvan 7 Ches

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 Sarah Attermann or Jeremy Kadden.

'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: Our third-floor library is open on Shabbat following services. You may sign out materials using our "no-writing Shabbat method," explained in signs on the check-out desks. For assistance during the week, contact our Director of Library Services, Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).









Sisterhood Helps Adas Increase Lovingkindness

As Adas Israel's Hesed projects have become an increasingly integral part of our congregation over the past four years, Sisterhood members are happy to be among those who help spread lovingkindness and compassion within our congregation, in the wider local community, and beyond.

We also want you to know that since its inception in 1897, Adas Israel Sisterhood has carried out its own *mitzvah* projects that engage our members in a variety of meaningful activities, while strengthening our ties to Jewish traditions and values.

These *mitzvot* include creation of textile products by members of our Knit, Sew & Craft Group; raising money for Torah Fund, a project of Women's League for Conservative Judaism (WLCJ), the governing body and support organization for Sisterhoods in Conservative congregations; and the gift of a beautiful *kiddush* cup to each Adas *bar* and *bat mitzvah*.

Sisterhood's Knit, Sew & Craft Group has multiple *mitzvah* projects that reach Adas members and people beyond our immediate community. These creative and talented women make baby hats to welcome the newest Adas members; knit hats and scarves for donation to Washington, DC, emergency centers via the DCJCC; and knit or crochet squares for afghans that also are donated.

A few years ago, members created the beautiful Torah mantles (covers) for the Adas *Havurah's Shabbat* services. We proudly display the gorgeous handiwork in the photo at the top of the Sisterhood web page (www.adasisrael.org/sisterhood).

An ongoing textile activity this year is **Bears for Israel**, a project of the American Friends of the Jordan River Village, an overnight camp for children with special needs and for those living with chronic, serious, or life-threatening illnesses and disorders. Sewn by volunteers, the bears are given to campers as a memento.

And last month, members of the group again joined Adas member Shifra Waskow, the Adas Mikvah, and the Rockville, MD, chapter of **Days for Girls** to create menstrual care kits for girls in developing countries. The kits and the accompanying education help girls attend school during their periods, thus enabling them to continue their education.

Torah Fund is a yearly fund drive for scholarships and programs at five Conservative/Masorti institutes of higher education: two in the United States, one in Israel, one in South America, and one in Europe. But Torah Fund is so much more than yet another request for a donation. The heart and soul of Torah Fund is its power to enable young Jews to become the Conservative Movement's future rabbis, cantors, educators, and scholars at one of five seminaries around the globe.

This was brought home in a very direct and compelling way to Sisterhood President Jill Jacob when she attended a recent WLCJ Leadership Institute program in New York. While attending morning services at the **Jewish Theological Seminary** (JTS), a cantorial student told her that if the dormitory that was built with funds raised by Sisterhood's Torah Fund had not existed, the high New York City rents might have prevented him from attending JTS and pursuing his dream to become a cantor.

Sisterhood continues the tradition of giving the gift of a *kiddush cup* to each Adas *bar* and *bat mitzvah*. We believe such gifts help young people find beauty and meaning in our rituals, and we hope the cup will someday enhance their own Jewish homes.

As we embark on a new program year, we invite all the women of Adas to join us in our ongoing programs and at our special events. Look for event notices here in the *Chronicle*, on the Adas website, and on the Sisterhood Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/AdasIsraelSisterhood/).

We look forward to doing mitzvot with you!

Special Events



SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood Opening Event - One Faith, Many Cultures

OCTOBER 27 @ 1:00 PM

Our 2019-20 Opening Event, "One Faith, Many Cultures," promises to be a fascinating exploration of Judaism's diversity. Members of a panel of Adas women will share their own Jewish traditions and customs, followed by Q&A. The program on Sunday, October 27, 1-3 pm, will include a lunch featuring foods from the participants' backgrounds. Watch this space (and the Sisterhood page on the Adas website) for more details, and a registration link, as the date approaches. For more information contact Susan Winberg (susanw1608@comcast.net) or Rona Walters (ronawalters@gmail.com).



Financial Planning for and in Retirement Event

NOVEMBER 12 @ 7:00 PM

Sisterhood will host Ron Schwarz, a local financial advisor and member of Adas, discussing "Financial Planning for and in Retirement." For context, Ron will present some historic patterns in the market, discuss the importance of evaluating risk in one's portfolio, describe some asset types that may reduce risk, and address the impact that a severe drop in the market can have on retirement assets, as happened in 2008. In addition, he will talk about how to blunt some of that impact with advance planning.

Ron's formal presentation will be brief because we believe that many in the audience will have pertinent questions to ask, and Ron will do his best to address them, as he does routinely in his practice. So please come with your questions for what we hope will be a lively interactive program. For more information contact Susan Winberg (susanw1608@comcast.net) or Rona Walters (ronawalters@gmail.com).

ruth & simon albert

sisterhood gift shop

We are proud to present many new religious and gift items this year. From affordable jewelry, to *tallitot*, to hostess gifts, to *mezuzah* cases, to tableware for your home, to children's toys, we're sure you'll find what you're looking for.









And enjoy our regular hours*:
Sunday-Monday, Wednesday-Friday
9:30 am-12:30 pm
Extended hours on Tuesdays:
9:30 am-3:00 pm & 6:00-8:00 pm

*Because of the holidays, please note the dates we are closed: Tuesday, Oct. 1; Sunday, Oct. 6; Wednesday, Oct. 9; Sunday-Tuesday, Oct. 13-15; and Monday-Tuesday, Oct. 21-22.

Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation. 202-364-2888 adasgiftshop@gmail.com



Upcoming Events



Mah Jongg

WEEKLY, THURSDAYS AT 1:00 PM, SISTERHOOD HALL

Soap, Bam, Dot. Whether you're a novice or a Mah Jongg champ, there's a space for you at the table of this game.



Take a Walk! (October: Pierce Mill/Rock Creek Park)

MONTHLY, MONDAYS AT 6 PM, SUNDAYS AT 10 AM (UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED) NEXT UP: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 11 AM; MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 6 PM

Take a Walk! explores different Washington neighborhoods on foot. All are welcome, so bring a friend! For the October walk (please note start time of 11 am), we will meet at Peirce Mill, a historic mill building in Rock Creek Park located at Tilden Street and Beach Drive. After a tour of the mill, we will walk toward the National Zoo and up to Connecticut Avenue.



Weekday Torah with Sisterhood

MONTHLY, 3RD TUESDAY AT 10 AM, FUNGER HALL NEXT UP: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Weekday Torah with Sisterhood is an engaging approach to traditional text study that offers participants the opportunity to study and discuss challenging texts and ideas. Classes are monthly, except in the summer, and meet on the third Tuesday of the month. Students of all levels and backgrounds are welcome. Please contact Marilyn Cooper (MarilynCCooper70@gmail.com) with questions.



Knit, Sew & Craft Group

MONTHLY, 1ST WEDNESDAY AT 7:30 PM, YOUTH LOUNGE NEXT UP: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16; WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Members are welcome to work on annual group projects or continue their ongoing knitting, sewing, crocheting, and crafts. We are excited that for the third year we have a new project, Bears for Israel, which will continue throughout the year.

Bears for Israel is a project of the American Friends of the Jordan River Village, an overnight camp for children living with chronic, serious, or life-threatening illnesses and disorders and for children with special needs. The bears are sewn by volunteers around the country and given to the campers as a memento. We are happy to help anyone who is interested in joining us.

Dates for meetings and other news from the Knitting, Sewing & Craft group can be found on the Sisterhood page of the Adas website: www.AdasIsrael.org/Sisterhood.



Sisterhood in Your Community & Sunday Salons

Brunch, wine and cheese, and tea get-togethers on select Sundays for members of Sisterhood to socialize and get to know one another. In addition, four "Sunday Salons" featuring exceptional Adas/Sisterhood members—women who have built remarkable careers that we can all learn from—will be presented. For more information, contact June Kress at junebkress@gmail.com.

ADAS (in) ISRAEL

An Unforgettable Adas Israel Congregational Journey to Israel

JUNE 18-28, 2020 **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**









Travel Window: June 18-28, 2020

Rabbis Lauren Holtzblatt & Aaron Alexander, Cantor Arianne Brown, and our Israel Engagement Task Force enthusiastically invite you to join us for an unforgettable exploration of Israel, with our own Adas clergy and community members. For first-timers and experienced Israel-travelers alike, this is your opportunity to encounter Israel through the lens of our sacred and diverse Adas Israel community, and through various high-impact, multi-day experiences of your choosing unique to Adas participants.



Strength in Community

We're not just going to Israel, we're bringing Adas to Israel. Build relationships & memories to cherish for all time.



All Are Welcome

First-timers, young families, Israel-experts, spiritual seekers ... we want you all! Custom "track" experiences built for everyone.



A Holistic Israel Encounter

Bask in the rich, energetic culture of modern-day Israel. Dive into unique areas of focus available only to Adas participants.



Expertly Designed Travel Experience

Curated travel arrangements, delightful accommodations, expert tour quides, delicious food, and unforgettable experiences.





Education & Youth

@ ADAS ISRAEL

From the Director of Education

RABBI KERRITH SOLOMON





In Memory of Jayme Rani Schlenker (1997-2019)

This summer our community mourned the loss of Jayme, beloved fourth-grade religious schoolteacher, *Shabbat* regular, daily *minyan* participant, and so much more. In the weeks after his death, many of the stories that were shared about Jayme were about books, reading, learning, and study. I shared these thoughts at his memorial service at the end of August:

From the description of Jayme's bedroom at home—floor to ceiling bookshelves, brimming with titles—to the oft-told tale of Jayme's fourth-grade year, which he spent flying through non-school-related books strategically placed inside an assigned text, Jayme's passion for reading was clear, even from an early age. This was not just a love of books; this was a need, a devouring of information and stories and people and worlds that fed his soul and shifted his perspective on the world. In his college application, interspersed with vignettes of books that had resonated deeply, Jayme wrote these words: "I have always kept time by the books I've read . . . The books I read in any moment shape my conception of my history. Each book has its own kind of clock, each book turning its pieces of me

a different hue . . . Fictions build the framework for my memories, the ways I've changed and grown. They settle my own narrative into something understandable; deciphered by the truths and arcs of stories—a map of recollections."

This year, the religious school is dedicating our learning to Jayme. We began at orientation, just two days after his memorial service, when the teachers and *madrichim*, inspired by Jayme's passion for reading, generated a list of books that had an impact on them. We share this list here, hope some of the titles inspire and motivate you, and are happy to collect your suggestions as well. *Zichrono livrakha*, may his memory be for a blessing.

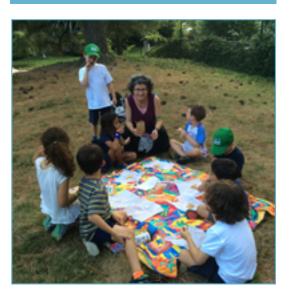
Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI by David Grann, The Book With No Pictures by BJ Novack, The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson, Living My Life by Emma Goldman, The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, The Golden Compass by Phillip Pullman, 100 Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, The Wave by Susan Casey, Falling Leaves by Adeline Yen Mah, Life Plays a Lot with Me by David Grossman, The Slave by Isaac Bashevis Singer, Onward: Cultivating Emotional Resilience in Educators by Elena Aguilar, The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis, The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster, Abundance: A Novel of Marie Antoinette by Sena Jeter Naslund, Think by Peter Diamandis and Steven Kotler, Gods of the Upper Air by Charles King, Modern Loss by Gabrielle Birkner and Rebecca Soffer, The Art of Gathering by Priya Parker, Educated by Tara Westover, Me, My Hair, and I: Twenty-seven Women Untangle an Obsession by Elizabeth Benedict, The Power by Naomi Alderman, This Is Where I Leave You by Jonathan Tropper, Charlotte's Web by E.B. White, The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown, A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith, All-of-a-Kind Family by Sydney Taylor, Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell, The Harry Potter Series by J.K. Rowling, Becoming by Michelle Obama, and The Book Thief by Markus Zusak.



October 1-16:

Religious School closed in observance of High Holy Days
October 20:
Religious School Open
October 22-23:
Religious School Closed, Chagim

October 27: Religious School resumes regular schedule



D'VORAH FLANK'S JOURNEY TO ADAS ISRAEL BY PAMELA GORIN

D'vorah Flank is one of our third-grade teachers, but she is no stranger to Adas, having worked in a variety of teaching roles over the last 10 years. Originally from New York, D'vorah grew up in San Diego. Her Jewish education started in a Reform congregation, but then moved to a Conservative synagogue where the school had a Hebrew immersion program three days a week.

After her bat mitzvah, she was confirmed in ninth grade at the Conservative synagogue and again in tenth grade at the Reform synagogue. She continued with Hebrew high school and learned in the Hebrew track. She graduated from Brandeis University with an elementary credential and then taught at a Jewish day school in Boston, teaching Hebrew reading in first grade and serving as the lead teacher for three- and four-year-olds.

She eventually left teaching and went into information technology, first as a programmer and then into management. After 20 years, she missed the children. As an IT manager, D'vorah says that "no one crawled into my lap and said, 'Read me a story.'"

She came to Adas first as a one-one facilitator for a child with special needs in the Gan, then worked as an assistant for four years, followed by running/teaching the Adas After School program for two years. She spent another year in the Gan working with two-year-olds and taught second grade in the Religious School last year, and led our Israeli dance *chug*. She's so happy to be teaching and working with older children and will bring her love of playing guitar and singing to her students.

We are so happy to have D'vorah on her staff and look forward to seeing how she uses her knowledge, creativity, and love of teaching with her third graders.

USY CHAPTER CO-PRESIDENTS Q&A

As the year begins, we're excited to introduce our USY chapter co-presidents. We sat down with them for a little Q&A to preview the year ahead.

Question: Who are you? Can you tell us a little about yourselves?

Sammy: My name is Sammy Rabinowitz. I'm a sophomore music student at Duke Ellington School of the Arts. I have a passion for music and I also play Frisbee.

Noah: Oh no, we're going to sound like the same person. I'm Noah Knishkowy. I'm a sophomore at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. I play piano and guitar and play Ultimate Frisbee at my school.

S: And we both go to Camp Ramah. We love Jewish education, and we both have older brothers, too.

Question: What is USY?

N: It's a high school youth organization where you get to hang out with your friends, make new ones, and also just be Jewish.

You can meet people at local and regional events, plus there's an international convention.

S: And being on a chapter or regional board is cool. You learn great leadership skills and get to help plan programs.

Question: Why should teens get involved in USY?

N: Honestly, it's fun, it's a good time.

S: And you get to meet a lot of new people.

Question: What exciting things are in store for USY this year?

S: All the classics, ice skating, bowling, zoo trips.

N: Hopefully a baseball or basketball game.

S: We're also just really excited to get the new ninth graders involved in USY, so we can keep growing, go to more regional events, and just have more people involved.

Stay tuned as we announce the year's USY events! If you're looking to get involved, please e-mail *Sarah.Attermann@AdasIsrael.org*.



PROUDLY PRESENTING:

ALL NEW SHABBAT YOUTH SERVICES ADAS ISRAEL 2019-2020

Join us for an array of engaging and meaningful Shabbat experiences

We are blessed to have so many families in our community. Children, like adults, can feel drawn towards different modalities of prayer, learning and Shabbat. To that end, we are excited to share with you our new and expanded pilot programming for Shabbat mornings. It is our hope that this variety of offerings will enable our children and their grown-ups to engage in meaningful, communal experiences over Shabbat.

For Children Five & Under:



Tot Shabbat services in Cohen Hall

For families with young children to join together. This service will have a rotation of leaders including Menuhah Peters and Rabbi Ben Shalva, offering



Babysitting 11am to the end of Smith Services

Children ages 2 through 1st grade are welcome to attend babysitting in room 343.

For Children in Kindergarten-3rd grade:



Services in the Youth Lounge on the 3rd Floor

10am to 11am

This service allows grown-ups to drop their children off for tefillah and will have a rotation of leaders including Rabbi Elianna Yolkut and Sarah



Experiential Tefillah (1st, 3rd and 5th shabbatot)

11am to the end of Smith Services

Students will engage in experiential tefillah, ritual and parshah-based activities with Rabbi Ben Shalva, Sarah Attermann and others. Students in Kindergarten and 1st grade also have the option to join babysitting.



Parsha Class (2nd and 4th shabbatot) 11am to the end of Smith Services

Students will have a parshah class with Rabbi Elianna Yolkut. Students in Kindergarten and 1st grade also have the option to join babysitting.

For Children in 4th-6th Grade:



Parsha and Tefillah 10am to the end of Smith Services

return to the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary for the end of the service. This group will be joined by Tessa Rudnick, Sarah Attermann and others.



WellBodies: A Monthly Course in Embodied Judaism

What does it mean to live in your body? What does it mean to live in a Jewish body? WellBodies is a monthly program that delves into body-related topics such as healthy boundaries, food and eating, growth and aging, disability wisdom, and sexuality—all through the lens of Jewish text and ritual.

This month, we'll learn about the embodied spirituality of food with Jodi Balis (redlentilconsulting.com), food ritualist and founder of Red Lentil Consulting. Future presenters include Yael Flusberg (yaelflusberg.com), Rabbi Lauren Tuchman (rabbituchman.com), Rabbi Sarah Tasman (tasmancenter. org), Toni Bickart, and other wonderful thinkers. If you are a doctor, nurse, therapist, yogi, or massage therapist, you will get a lot out of this and have a lot to contribute. Each session will include lunch, a presentation, and an interactive component. A certificate in Embodied Judaism is available for people seeking professional development credits who attend each month and complete a final project, but you are welcome to come to any session without registering for the full year. For all ages, genders, and backgrounds. Join us—all you need is your body!

The course topics will revolve around these central themes:

- **Body Positivity:** The belief that all bodies—regardless of age, size, shape, color, gender, orientation, religion, ornamentation, partnership status, ability, wealth, health are fully and equally holy. Body positivity places a higher value on accepting one's body as it is than on changing it to conform to social or internalized norms.
- Creative Expression: Bringing art into ritual and developing new rituals through a supportive creative process. Exploring ritual objects as art and the creation of art as a sacred ritual. adas israel
- Safe Boundaries: Ensuring the emotional,

enter our spaces. Without this sacred trust, our work is meaningless, if not dangerous. We continually return to practices of upholding boundaries to remind ourselves of the power and vulnerability of embodied ritual.

The basic structure of each session:

11:30 am-12 Noon: Light lunch, schmoozing, and introduction to the facilitator

12 noon-12:05 pm: Opening ritual

12:05-12:45 pm: Presentation, text study, Q & A 12:45–1:15 pm: Experiential or interactive activity 1:15-1:30 pm: Journaling and closing ritual

Monthly Topics and Facilitators:

October 29: Art and Creative Process

November 19: Children and Body Positivity with Ronit Zelivinski December 17: Co-Creating Ritual with Rabbi Sarah Tasman and

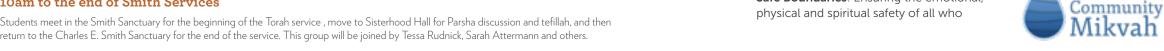
January 29: Safe Boundaries & Sacred Spaces with Tova Zimm and Jordan Babin

February 26: Disability Wisdom with Rabbi Lauren Tuchman March 24: Sexuality and Queer Bodies with Mac Freudenrich April 22: Health, Illness, and Aging with Yael Flusberg May 26: Tahara and Mikvah with Toni Bickart June 23: Community Celebration and Final Presentations

The cost of the course is \$100 for the year. A certificate

in Embodied Jewish Studies will be issued by the Adas Israel Community Mikvah for anyone seeking professional development credits. Please e-mail Mikvah@adasisrael.org to

express your interest in joining this group. There is a brief application process to fill out here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1x6ljHfA8yK0 08Bxv5vNAx37E37bY5JkF61o5ctexbEo/edit.







'REPAIRING THE WORLD'

KEHILAH

The Kehilah Multiracial Engagement Project ("Kehilah") is excited for the upcoming year of activities focusing on our theme for 5780, "Who do you see as a Jew?" Our first event of the year will be a *Shabbat* afternoon discussion on Saturday, December 7.

We are also excited to support our clergy in planning programming for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend in January. In March, Kehilah will host a Torah study session in preparation for *Purim*, and a workshop and discussion for religious school parents.

Stay tuned; more details coming as these dates approach.

—Lauren Queen, Stephen Horblitt, & Susan Bayles, Kehilah Co-Chairs

Hesed Acts of Loving Kindness



The Hesed Committee once again has brought sweet new year's greetings to approximately 200 of Adas's golden age members by delivering delicious honey cakes to their door. This is a labor of love that the Hesed Committee has joyfully organized for several years.

The Hesed Cooking Team (thank you, Susan Barocas, Alexandra Taylor, and Jackie Arrowsmith) organizes a cooking event that this year involved 60 bakers. Shopping, baking, and wrapping about 250 honey cakes requires precision timing and organization, but the team is up to the challenge.

This year as a special addition to the experience, the Hesed Cooking Team also prepared *Havdalah* Spice sachets to include in the *Rosh Hashanah* bags. Smelling the aromas of cinnamon, star anise, and cloves made the job of preparing the sachets fun and refreshing.

Next the Hesed Bags Team (thank you, Michael Fingerhut and Gilbert Holland) created a spreadsheet that would be the envy of any large manufacturing company to determine how to deliver the bags. The Hesed Bags team stuffs the *Rosh Hashanah* bags with honey cake, a *Havdalah* Spice sachet, grape juice, and a new year's greeting card. Each bag is hand-delivered to the door of an Adas member with a smile and new year's wishes.

The list of members who receive the *Rosh Hashanah* bags is carefully and thoughtfully prepared by our L'dor Vador team (thank you, Janice Mostow and Laura Ginns). With the L'dor Vador project fully underway, the goal is that no member of Adas will lose his or her connection to the synagogue as the years go by.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of our incredible Adas staff (thank you, Marcy Spiro, Melissa Adler, Juliana Nieto, Brenah Srour, and Charles Mallory and all the custodians) and everyone else who makes Hesed hum.

Are you wondering how you can get involved? It's so easy. Contact hesed@adasisrael.org!

If you are contemplating joining the activities of the Hesed Committee, you can do a little advance homework to get the process started. Here's what to do:

- Smile at someone you don't know.
- Talk to the person in front of or in behind you in the line to get food at *kiddush*.
- Chat briefly with the person next to you (not during the sermon!) at services.
- Contact the Hesed Committee if you know of someone who needs a little TLC (hesed@adasisrael.org).
- Take food from the Hesed freezer to anyone who needs some nourishment. No permission needed.

Help the Hesed Committee make Adas a special community one interaction at a time. It's up to you!





TIKKUN OLAM





Member Connector
Committee "Ask me about..."
Alissa Platz has been a member at Adas for just over a year and is part of the YP committee. When you see her around Adas, ask her about: Improv! In her own words: "I've been taking improv comedy classes since the beginning of the year and recently had my first showcase. I love the 'yes, and' model of improv where I can support my fellow improvisers in the scene."

The Adas Member Connector Committee will be introducing you to interesting facts about people you may know or have never met. Please introduce yourself to new-to-you members! If you have a suggestion for our next featured member (or have a fun fact about yourself), please contact healey.sutton@gmail.com.

THE ADAS SHLICHA'S CORNER

BY TALIA GARBER

For those of you who haven't met me yet (or didn't read the July-August *Chronicle*); My Name is Talia Garber, I am the new Israeli *Shlicha* (Emissary) at Adas. I got here through the Jewish Agency and in association with the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.

I know this will be published in October, after I have already been here for over a month and have probably met a lot of new people, but as I write this, it is actually my first week here ... so I feel I need to briefly mention what this journey has been like.

I arrived from Israel at the end of August, after many months of training, preparation and lots of packing. I wasn't quite sure what to expect when I got to DC, I had visited here once as a tourist, but living here is a whole new experience. I was welcomed by Marcy at the airport and from then on it has just been such a warm and wonderful welcome to the community and to Adas! So thank you all for greeting me with open arms and hearts!

Thinking about the time you will be reading this, as *Sukkot* is round the corner, it actually feels relevant to my arrival here. As you know, one of the *mitzvot* (מצוות) on *Sukkot* is to welcome people in your *sukkah-ushpizin* (אושפיזין). In this case, I am like the *Ushpizin* welcomed in to the *Sukkah* (and the community in general) and made to feel at home. I'm very grateful for this welcome and I hope that in turn, as I become an integral part of the community, I can then return the favor and welcome new comers in my "*Sukkah*" and make them feel

a part of the community.

As I reflect on the beginning of this journey, I can't help but get excited for what lies ahead, and this year's theme of "Pathways" for the holidays really hits close to home for me. This path I am walking on is my own but it is shared with all of you, it has led me here to this momen,t and it will hopefully lead to many great moments in the year to come. I truly believe that things happen for a reason and we are all where we



are meant to be, so I hope we can make the most of these meaningful days and be open to meeting new people and accepting of others.

I'm looking forward to being involved in all parts of this amazing community, seeing all the things that Adas has to offer is truly inspiring and I hope I can contribute to them in my way.

עד הפעם הבאה (Ad Ha'Paam Hba'a) Until next time, מליה השליחה (Talia Ha'Shlicha)

MA TOVU



Ma Tovu

Micah Ramsey

HONORING OUR LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

Interviewed by Marcy Spiro, Senior Director, Engagement & Programming Operations

You are originally from North Carolina. Where in NC did you grow up, where did you go to college, and how did you find yourself in DC?

I'm a Tar Heel born and a Tar Heel bred. I was born and raised on the outskirts of Fayetteville, NC, near the town of Hope Mills. My town is known for its military base and as the home of Putt-Putt. I'm the child of a southern mother and a German immigrant father. I went to college at UNC Chapel Hill where I majored in chemistry with a focus on organic synthesis of small molecules. I always dreamed of living in a big city, and I used my science degree as a springboard to land a job at a large company in Rockville, MD. I am completely enamored with DC and value the diversity of communities that call this city home. Cleveland Park, where I live now, is the perfect fit, and I don't foresee moving anytime soon.

You work as a biologics training specialist. Can you tell us more about your field, what a typical day is like, and what drew you to this type of work?

I work for a biopharmaceutical company that primarily employs scientists. Their experience levels range from "fresh out of school" to "veteran PhDs with years of experience." My job is to impart knowledge and technical laboratory skills to new and current employees, and to do so in an engaging manner (this is the toughest part of the job). While each day is a bit different, this week I will be facilitating my favorite training, "Best Lab Practice." During this training, I separate employees into pairs, and provide each *havruta* with instructions. These instructions are critical to proper manipulation of the test material, in this case pancake batter. Training participants learn how to interpret instructions and document their actions in a simulated regulated environment. Unlike in the lab, however, they get to eat their test material at the end. As whimsical as my position may seem, most days are hectic,

and I must ensure that my trainees leave the testing lab with the necessary technical skills to succeed in their positions. The opportunity to become a corporate trainer felt serendipitous, as I have always aspired to be a teacher. I am thankful that I've found a career where I can both teach and use my knowledge of chemistry.

You recently got engaged to your fiancé, Bryan! *Mazal tov*! I know the engagement happened in Israel. What more can you tell us?

I first met Bryan at a Nice Jewish Boys' (NJB) happy hour. NJB is a large community of gay Jewish men in DC that has been an important symbol of inclusion for us. I saw Bryan from across the room, looking elegantly handsome, but he won me over with his kindness. Bryan and I decided to attend BirthRight this year with an older age group. On the second day of the trip, we hiked to the top of the Golan Heights. I turned around for one second and, the next thing I knew, Bryan was down on one knee. Knowing how important Israel was to me, Bryan held onto the ring for two months waiting for this particular moment. We have booked a vineyard for the wedding in September 2020, and are so excited for Rabbi Krinsky to officiate our marriage!

I first met you when you were in our Intro to Judaism class as a part of your conversion to Judaism. Can you tell us a bit about your journey to Judaism?

I grew up with stories about my father's family back in Germany. My father was born to a Jewish mother, and she and my great-grandmother are both survivors of the Holocaust. Although it's never been said outright, I believe that it was the Holocaust and the political climate in Germany after the war that weakened my family's ties to their Judaism. While I formally converted to Judaism, I think of the process as more of a return home. I spent

much of my adolescence and college years searching for a connecting thread to the divine, only to rediscover the faith of my ancestors. I think that there is an inherent beauty in a religion handed down from generation to generation, and it brings me joy to know that I have rekindled my family's Judaism. After moving to DC, I found myself gravitating toward Jewish groups and spaces. Having already come out as gay to my parents, I was apprehensive about telling my non-Jewish mother about my Jewish journey, but she received me with open arms. She was quick to adapt and, whenever I visit, she doesn't mix meat and dairy! My great-grandmother, a strong woman and an icon, survived Theresienstadt and passed away from old age. I hope she's smiling knowing that I carry the Jewish torch.

You are the newest co-chair of our Young Professionals Committee, attend every Hesed cooking event we have, regularly attend *Shabbat* services, and now live next door to Adas. What makes Adas so special for you?

I'm also teaching at the religious school this coming school year! I guess I can't get enough! My fiancé likes to joke that Adas is my second home, but there is some truth there. Going to Adas feels like visiting family. While the synagogue space is large, there is comfort and warmth to be found in the small intentional communities. From YP services and activities, to Hesed cooking, to sitting beside a friend at evening minyan, there are so many communities that gather and find meaning in the mundane. As someone who did not have a formal Jewish education, I am especially appreciative of the learning opportunities such as MakomDC and the Young Professionals' Brunch and Learn Program. Additionally, whenever I have an itching question, I visit the Adas library or shoot an e-mail to one of the rabbis (they always have a book to recommend). Turning this question around, how is everyone not spending more time at Adas?

You're answering these questions in late August when it's 100 degrees outside, but we'll be reading your answers in October. What are some of your favorite things to do in the cooler weather during fall in DC?

Bryan and I have a few traditions we've established over the last few years. We always go apple and pumpkin picking. I'm not so keen on carving pumpkins, but I love the taste of roasted pumpkin seeds. We also help build the Adas community *sukkah*. Living in an apartment impedes our ability to build our own *sukkah*, so building one at Adas is a great way to fulfill the *mitzvah*. Last year it rained during the *sukkah* building, but this year our apartment is next door if we need to warm up with spiced wine and blankets

You love to cook and post some great photos of your creations on social media. What are some of your favorite traditional Jewish foods you prepare? And do you have any modern takes on the traditional recipes you're willing to share with us?

I have to confess that Bryan is the better chef and has taught me all I know. When I want to get my hands dirty, my favorite Jewish food to make is *challah* (shoutout to Hesed for teaching me the six braid!). Kneading *challah* is a great form of stress relief, and you really can't beat a warm *challah* on *Shabbat*. I generally season my *challot* with "Everything But the Bagel Seasoning," poppy seeds, or *dukkah*. When Bryan and I make traditional Jewish food, we generally make a batch or two with our own flare. While our sweet potato *latkes* and savory *hamantaschen* are pretty delicious, I am most proud of our last *Pesach* seder where we served four different *chametz*-free

Adas Office Closings

Rosh Hashanah Day 2
Tuesday Oct. 1
Schools/Offices Closed

Kol Nidre
Tuesday, Oct. 8
Schools/Offices Close at NOON

Yom Kippur Wednesday, Oct. 9 Schools/Offices Closed

Erev Sukkot Sunday, Oct. 13 Schools/Offices Close at 3:30 pm

Sukkot 1 & 2
Mon. & Tues., Oct. 14 & 15
Schools/Offices Closed

Erev Shemini Atzeret
Sunday, October 20
Schools/Offices Close at 3:30 pm

Shemini Atzeret/Yizkor Monday, October 21 Schools/Offices Closed

Simchat Torah
Tuesday, October 22
Schools/Offices Closed

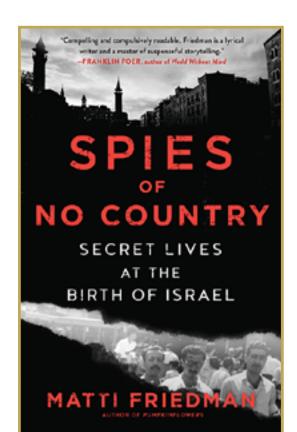


Books & More The Adas Israel Library Corner

Telling the Story of Israel: Including Jews from Arab Lands

BY ROBIN JACOBSON

LIBRARY & LITERARY PROGRAMS DIRECTOR



When we tell the story of Israel, it's often a story about European Jews. Theodor Herzl of Vienna dreamt of a Jewish state; David Ben-Gurion, born in Poland, proclaimed Israel's statehood; and other European Jews escaped the Holocaust to build modern Israel. Yet half of today's Israeli Jews have ancestral roots in the Arab world, from North Africa through the Middle East. To understand Israel's complicated Jewish identity, Israeli author-journalist Matti Friedman contends, we need a fuller narrative of Israel, one that encompasses these *Mizrahi* (literally "eastern") Jews.¹

In Spies of No Country: Secret Lives at the Birth of Israel, Friedman vividly recounts the largely unsung history of the Mizrahi Jews who comprised Israel's first intelligence service, predating the formidable Mossad. The "Arab Section" was a secret spy unit initially under the auspices of the Jewish military underground and later, after Israeli statehood, the Israel Defense Forces. Tellingly, the unit was sometimes referred to as the "Black Section" because of its dark-complexioned agents.

Like Israeli history, Israeli literature has tended to overlook *Mizrahi* Jews. This makes the recent work of Ayelet Tsabari especially welcome. Tsabari's memoir, *The Art of Leaving*, tracks her life as an Israeli of Yemenite heritage, while her prize-winning short story collection, *The Best Place on Earth*, gives voice to the perspectives of *Mizrahi* Jews.

1. *Mizrahi* Jews have a different heritage from *Sephardic* Jews (who descend from Spanish or Portuguese Jews). See *myjewishlearning.com*.



THE ART OF LEAVING AYELET TSABARI



THE ARAB SECTION—ISRAEL'S FIRST INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

Spies of No Country focuses on four Jewish spies in the Arab Section. All four were native Arabic speakers: two were from Syria, one was from Yemen, and one was born in Jerusalem. Preparing to pose as Muslim Arabs, they practiced local Arabic dialects and studied Islam, learning Muslim rituals for washing and prayer. Then they infiltrated Arab communities and collected information. Refusing to call themselves agents or spies, labels that struck them as dishonorable, Arab Section operatives chose instead the term *mista'arvim*, translated as "ones who become like Arabs."

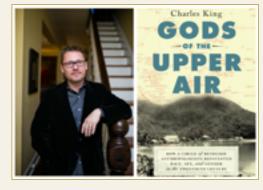
Some of the operatives' missions involved derring-do (e.g., blowing up a fake ambulance concealing a bomb, damaging an armed yacht originally built for Hitler). Yet other assignments entailed patiently gathering information about Arab morale and military preparedness out of a small store and taxi service the men ran in Beirut. The work was dangerous; of the dozen active Arab Section operatives at the beginning of Israel's War of Independence, half were caught and killed.

THE LITERATURE OF AYELET TSABARI

Born in 1973 into a large Israeli Yemenite family, Tsabari moved to Canada as an adult and, unusual for Israeli-born authors, writes her books in English. *The Art of Leaving* begins with the death of Tsabari's father when she was nine years old. After a rebellious adolescence and Israeli army service, she roamed the world for 10 years, spending time in India, New York, Mexico, and Thailand, even titling her bank account "the wandering Jew fund." Part of the attraction of India, she says, was that the dark-skinned Indians looked like her.

"Growing up," Tsabari writes, "I had often felt out of place in my own country." Some of that had to do "with the exclusion of my [Mizrahi] culture from so many facets of Israeli life, with not seeing myself in literature and in the media, with being taught in school a partial history about the inception of Israel that painted us as mere extras."

Tsabari's stories in *The Best Place on Earth* portray Israeli characters of *Mizrahi* background. There are stories about siblings, friendship, army service, and lost love. Collectively, they challenge commonly held perceptions of Israelis, offering a broader understanding of the Israeli story and the Jewish experience.



MEET THE AUTHOR: PROFESSOR CHARLES KING Challenging the Idea of "Us" and "Them" SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 10 AM IN THE LIBRARY

Charles King, professor of international affairs and government at Georgetown University, will discuss his latest book, *Gods of the Upper Air: How a Circle of Renegade Anthropologists Reinvented Race, Sex, and Gender in the Twentieth Century.* In an era when societal fear of immigrants, African Americans, Jews, and people who strayed from gender norms was rampant, Franz Boas, a German Jewish immigrant, and his famous students (Margaret Mead, Zora Neale Hurston) pioneered new scientific methods in anthropology to show that "humanity is one undivided thing." A book-signing and sale will follow the program. Co-sponsored by the Kehilah Multiracial Engagement Project of the Adas Social Action Committee. For more information, please contact Robin Jacobson (*librarian@adasisrael.org*).

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BIRTHS

Karlyn Beatrice Begal, daughter of Kira & Bill Begal, was born July 8

We wish our newborn and her family strength, good health, and joy.

B'NAI MITZVAH



Miriam Kanter-Goodell, October 19 (TEM)

Miriam, daughter of Beth Kanter and Jeffrey Goodell, is a seventh grader at the Edmund Burke School. A graduate of the Milton Gottesman Jewish Day School, Miriam started her formal Jewish educational journey as a Chick at Gan HaYeled. She currently participates in the Ma'alot program at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School and loves spending part of her summers at Camp Ramah in New England. Miriam looks forward to sharing this milestone with her brother, Gabriel, as well as her family, friends, teammates, and Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* community.



Max Aaron, October 26

Max, son of Susie Baer and Steve Aaron, is a seventh grader at Washington Latin. He began his Jewish education in Gan HaYeled's Rainbow class and is a student at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. Max's Torah portion is *Bereshit*. For his *mitzvah* project, Max is volunteering at the TraRon Center in SE DC, reading with and supporting kids who have been affected by gun violence. Max celebrates his *bar mitzvah* with his grandparents, Marilyn and Norman Aaron, Shirley Baer, and the rest of his family and close friends.

WEDDING

Gabriel Willis and Darian Roffe were married September 1, in Pikesville, MD.

We wish the newlyweds and their families a hearty mazal tov.

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of synagogue member: Steven Kay

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Jerry Lee Bohn, father of Kevin Bohn
Dr. Arthur David Kirsch, brother of Martin "Bo" Kirsch
Jack Klevan, father of Michelle Cohn
Phillip Mogilefsky, stepfather of Gayle Neufeld
Judith Scheier, mother of Liz Scheier
Miriam Spector, mother of Jeremy Spector
Donald Wiener, father of Robin Wiener
Melvin H. Worth Jr., father of Nancy Worth

MEMBER IN THE NEWS

Randall Wagner, Adas member and Hospital Director in Bangladesh for Doctors without Borders, was featured for his work on *msf.* org, a news outlet on the refugee crisis

LIFE CYCLE INFORMATION





Adas Israel Community Mikvah

Mikvah immersion is an embodied Jewish ritual. It is an opportunity to reflect on the times that brought you to this moment in your life. Mikvah is also a chance to return again and a turning point.

When Death Occurs

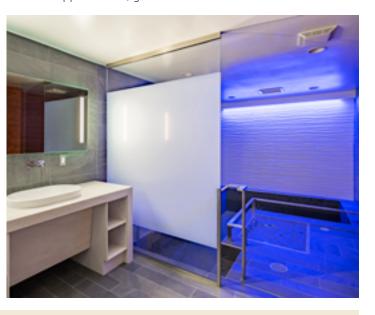
LIFE CYCLE

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 Marcy Spiro. 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.

Bereavement Committee

The Bereavement Committee assists families with all of the arrangements surrounding the funeral and subsequent burial of loved ones. We welcome your interest and encourage your participation and assistance. We need you; please join us. If you have questions, or know of someone who you think might be interested in participating in this important work, please feel free to call Edie Hessel (202-244-7189) or contact Toni Bickart (202-244-2747) regarding the Tahara Committee, or contact Wendy Kates about Shmira (wendy.kates30@gmail.com).

For more information, visit www.adasisrael.org/mikvah, and to make an appointment, go to www.mikvahcalendar.as.me.







PRESENTED BY LEV B'LEV AND BRIYUT: A JMCW & HESED INITIATIVE

Freedom Song

A Musical Production About Addiction & Recovery in the Jewish Community



Freedom Song is an original musical production created and performed by recovering addicts who are current or past residents of Beit T'Shuvah. Freedom Song showcases a family celebrating a Passover Seder while also confronting the impact of addiction on a Jewish family and a celebration of the strength of the family to accept challenges and overcome shame and fear. Interspersed are scenes from a 12-Step meeting, giving the audience an inside look at the process of recovery. Following the performance, audience members are encouraged to ask questions of the cast, who courageously and honestly share their own stories of addiction and recovery.



AND THEN

Finding Recovery & Yourself in Torah

Shabbat November 9 at 1:15pm, After Kiddush in the Biran Beit Midrash Rabbi Mark Borovitz, Founding Rabbi of Beit T'shuvah





The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Anne Frank House Fund By: Barbara & Mel Gelman, Steven Weiner.

Benjamin James Cecil Special Education

In Memory Of: **Benjamin E. Friedman** by Judith Friedman.

Bereavement Fund

In Memory Of: Yetta & Shirley Tersoff by Susan Tersoff & David Margolies. Bedriye Serbes by Robert & Barbara Cline.

Cantor Brown Discretionary Fund In Honor Of: Phyllis Kravetz's 80th birthday by Fradel Kramer. Cantor Brown in grateful appreciation for her help in preparing me for my bat mitzvah by Sydney Anna Lowit. In Gratitude To: Cantor Arianne Brown

In Gratitude To: Cantor Arianne Brown for her support during my term as president of Adas Israel by Ricki Gerger.

Congregational Kiddush Fund

In Honor Of: Jack Spector becoming a bar mitzvah by Jeremy Spector & Robin Halsband. Naming of Tahlia Wren Herman by Hannah & Biran Herman. Brian's 50th bar mitzvah anniversary by Robin & Brian Strongin. Mitchell Harris & Chi Tong's aufruf by Harris, Renee & Evan. Our 51st anniversary by Barbara & Mel Gelman. Naming of Natalie Rose Friedman (Nava Aliza) by Stacey & Joe Friedman, Sheila & Howard Friedman, Jack & Eliott Dresher

Daily Minyan Fund

With Thanks For: Daily minyan so I can say Kaddish while in Washington by Martha Himmelfarb.

In Memory Of: Elaine Fromer by Jacob Fromer & Soohyun Choi. Rita Schiffres by Many Schiffres. Robert Horwitz by Marvene Horwitz. Mae Ugelow by Richard Ugelow. Jayme Schlenker by Roger & Renée Fendrich.

Dr. William & Vivienne Stark Wedding & Anniversary Fund

In Honor Of: **Dr. William Stark**'s 100th birthday by his family.

Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School Fund In Memory Of: Ira Meyer by Laurence Meyer. **Eric Travis** by Ann Lee-Travis.

Ethel & Nat Popick Chronicle Fund
In Memory Of: Jerry Gotts & Steven Kay
by Dorothy Block.

Executive Director Discretionary Fund In Gratitude To: David Polonsky for his support during my term as president of Adas Israel by Ricki Gerger.

Frances & Leonard Burka Social Action Endowment

In Memory Of: **Fannie Gelman** by John Kossow. **Harry Burka** by Sandra Burka.

Fund for the Future

In Memory Of: Sara & Harry Lustine by Norbert & Doris Lustine. Jack Ray by Marcia Feuerstein & Ron Schwarz. Edith Smith by Russell Smith.

Gonzalez Family Fund

On Behalf Of: The **Gonzalez** family by Ruth Kevess-Cohen & David Cohen, Michael Jasnow, Ph.D, Ruth & Steven Kleinrock.

Havurah Kiddush Fund

By: Barbara & Mel Gelman.
In Memory Of: Gail Mattison by Mary & Arnie Hammer.

In Gratitude To: Hazzan Rachel
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term as president of Adas Israel by Ricki

With Thanks To: Hazzan Goldsmith for her help preparing me for my first Torah reading by Rae Grad. Hazzan Goldsmith for her loving guidance preparing for my first Torah reading by Lois Fingerhut.

Hesed & Bikkur Cholim Fund

In Honor Of: Hesed Committee for their kindness when Irv was ill by Irwin & Grace Lebow. Rae Grad receiving the 2019 Yad Hakavod award by Rabbi Jan Kaufman. Herlene's 70th birthday by Herlene & Yaacov Nagler.

In Memory Of: Jonah Schiffres by Manny Schiffres. Karl Becker by Barbara Cline.

Hymen & Sadie Goldman Prayer Book Fund

In Memory Of: **Donald Weiner** by Sandra Zuckerman.

Jennie Litvack Memorial Fund In Loving Memory Of: Jennie Litvack by Liz & Mony Rueven, Sarah & Adam

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Jewish Mindfulness Center In Memory Of: Anne & Nathaniel Mencow by Billy Mencow.

Kullen Family Fund

In Memory Of: **Sol Kullen** by Shirley Kullen

Lillian & Daniel Ezrin Fund for Ritual Objects

In Memory Of: Diane & Adolph Cooper by Doris & Norbert Lustine. Rose Seigle & Naaman Seigel by Paula Goldman.

Mikvah Fund

In Honor Of: Naomi Malka for helping me prepare for my bat mitzvah & for making the mikvah a meaningful part of the experience by Sydney Anna Lowit. Mazel Tov To: Carolin Vorona by Harriet Vorona.

With Thanks To: Naomi Malka for her help preparing me for my first Torah reading by Rae Grad. Naomi Malka for her loving guidance preparing for my first Torah reading by Lois Fingerhut.

Mildred & Jess Fisher Nursery School Fund

In Memory Of: **Dorothy Beck** by Allison Beck.

Morton & Norma Lee Funger Israel Program Fund

In Memory Of: Scott Funger by Morton & Norma Lee Funger.

Offerings Fund

With Thanks To: Ricki Gerger for all she's done for Adas Israel by Gilbert Holland. The congregation for its warm welcome by Ellen Stein.

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Rabbi Alexander Discretionary Fund
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In Gratitude To: Rabbi Aaron Alexander for his support during my term as president of Adas Israel by Ricki Gerger. With Thanks To: Rabbi Alexander for officiating at Anita's funeral by Noel Epstein.

Rabbi Holtzblatt Discretionary Fund

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Rabbi Krinsky Discretionary Fund

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Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz History Fund In Memory Of: Florence Fibus by Carole Lerner.

Refugee Response Project
In Memory Of: Carol Beth Kleinman by
Sonya Gichner.

Rise & Ronald Schlesinger Music Fund In Memory Of: Gail Mattison by Ron & Rise Schlesinger.

Rose R. Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library Fund

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Samuel & Sadie Lebowitz Israel Scholarship Fund

In Honor Of: Maurice Shohet by Nechama & Billy Liss-Levinson. In Memory Of: Dr. Arthur David Kirsch by Cindy & Glenn Easton.

Sandra & Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education

In Memory Of: Dr. Clement Alpert by Brian & Judy Madden.

Sarah & William Pittleman Special Needs
Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of Marsha Pinson's grandson, **Nolan Martin Pinson** by Sheri Brown.

Security Contributions
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Shelley Remer Gan HaYeled Enrichment Fund

In Memory Of: **Joan Grebow** by Sheri Brown.

Social Action Fund

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In Honor Of: Birth of Karlyn Beatrice Begal by Bill Levenson.

In Memory Of: Donald Wiener by Bill Levenson.

Tzedakah Fund

By: Barbara & Mel Gelman .
In Loving Memory Of: Michael Klein by Janet Kolodner.

In Memory Of: Steve Kay by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Muriel Mitchell by Susan Mitchell. Sarah Saphir Kolodner by Janet Kolodner. Sara Hadad by Leah Hadad. Raymond Fersko by Stacey Fersko Grant. Arthur Dreeben by Linda Dreeben. Anna Rosenberg by Linda Rosenkrantz. Daniel Schorr by Lisbeth Schorr. Naomi Cummins by Nancy Silverman. Miriam Gerger by Ricki Gerger. Albert Schachter, Samuel Gerger, & Tillie Gerger, all by Ricki Gerger. Robert Forbes by Rae Brooks. Sadie Altman & Dorothy Slawsky by Zalma Slawsky.

USY/Tikkun Olam Fund

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Yizkor/Yahrzeit Fund

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In Memory Of: Doris Karlin by Arthur Karlin. Carolyn Falk Hellman by Elinor Gruber. Joyce Jacobson Kaufman, Reba Kaufman by Rabbi Jan Kaufman. Jean Slavin by Renata Kossow. Naomi Cummins by Nancy Silverman. Marilyne Lustine Kiawans & Daniel P. Cooper by Norbert & Doris Lustine. James Kline, Frances Gewirz & Morris Gewirz, all by Bill & Norma Kline Tiefel. Leo Bernstein by Richard Bernstein. Joseph Zupnik by Stanley Zupnik. Gerald Joseph Miller by Stuart Miller.

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In Memory Of: **Harry Popovsky** by Alan Popovsky. **Isor Gildenhorn** by Joseph Gildenhorn.

38 The Chronicle



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