I HAVE A DREAM

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM
AUGUST 28, 1963
LAURIE ALADJEM, ADAS PRESIDENT

Hard to believe it’s 2020.

The turn of the calendar year is a time to take stock, I think in a much different way than we do on the High Holy Days. We tend to focus on what has changed in our world, we make resolutions, and we toast the year to come. And it has been quite a year. You don’t need me to recount the ups and downs of world events. Instead, I will remind you of where our community has been and where we are headed.

When Adas Israel opened the doors of our first building, then-President Ulysses S. Grant came to the dedication. Men and women sat separately at Adas until 1951, when we relocated uptown to our current permanent home. Our congregation has hosted Presidents, civil rights leaders, elected officials, and diplomats. We’ve seen the fortunes of our city ebb and flow. When Adas was founded, the State of Israel was barely a dream. In 1951, it was a fledgling democracy in a hostile neighborhood.

In 2020, we have women leading every facet of our congregation: rabbis, cantors, teachers, and lay leaders. In 2020, we have women leading every facet of our city. We've seen the fortunes of our city ebb and flow. When Adas was relocated uptown to our current permanent home. Our congregation has hosted Presidents, civil rights leaders, elected officials, and diplomats. We’ve seen the fortunes of our city ebb and flow. When Adas was founded, the State of Israel was barely a dream. In 1951, it was a fledgling democracy in a hostile neighborhood.

In roughly 150 years, we have gone from being a small break-away minyan struggling to build a home to being a center of study and prayer for all ages, a nationally recognized Conservative congregation that blends innovation and tradition. We offer a dizzying array of programs every week, and a daily minyan twice a day. Every day.

And this year will combine the history of Adas Israel with the State of Israel on an amazing congregational journey. This trip offers a unique opportunity to see Israel through the Adas Israel lens. So come if you can, whether it will be your first trip or your tenth.

Nothing that has happened at Adas in the last 150 years happened without the generosity of our members, many of whom had the foresight to create the endowments on which we rely today. The next 150 years of our kehillah will likewise need to rely on the generosity of all of us to grow that endowment, so as our fortunes ebb and flow, our ability to continue the vast array of programs that touches so many lives will continue.

LAURIE ALADJEM, ADAS PRESIDENT

Carley Office

RABBI LAUREN HOLTZBLATT

Clergy Corner

I do not think of political power as an end. Neither do I think of economic power as an end. They are ingredients in the objective that we seek in life. And I think that end or that objective is a truly brotherly society, the creation of the beloved community.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., JULY 13, 1966

As we enter this month of January, when we celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I have been thinking about Dr. King’s concept of the Beloved Community. Dr. King had a vision not only for racial and economic equality between all people, but of a society filled with people that would learn not just to tolerate each other, but love each other, to see each other, and from that love to build a society of profound human connectedness.

In my own experience serving as a rabbi of a large congregation, communities can often spend the majority of their time and efforts taking care of the internal needs of its members. A worthy endeavor for sure. Who is it? Who is in need of extra support? Who is celebrating and needs to be lifted this month? Who has given a lot to the community and should be celebrated? All of these questions are ones that we ask here at Adas. It is part of our vision to create a community that sees the other in the community and reaches out to show and enact care and concern. But if our cultivation of empathic action stopped there I would think that we had stopped short of what a religious community can offer to the world. It is when we take this same framework outside of our own walls that we have the potential to build a kinder, more connected world.

Rabbi Alexander and I have often discussed with the lay leaders of Hesed and the Social Action Committee that we see the overarching work of these communities as interlinked. Hesed is the internal mechanism of continually seeing the other in the community and Social Action is the arm of the synagogue that takes this work out of the doors of Adas and into the world. Both are necessary. Emmanuel Levinas, the 20th century Jewish French philosopher, offers us the teaching: “the approach to the face (of the other) is the most basic mode of responsibility. As such, the face of the other is verticality and uprightness; it spells a relation of rectitude. My ethical relation of love for the other stems from the fact that the self cannot survive by itself alone, cannot find meaning within its own being-in-the-world, within the ontology of sameness.”-Face to Face with Levinas ed. Richard A Cohen

I read Levinas as saying that it is not good for human beings to be alone- without community or only within one community. We grow in our search for meaning through connecting with another. We grow in our search for purpose and love when we connect with another and we take on responsibility to care for the other once we truly see him/her. To build a beloved community internally has the most value when we practice hesed not only within our own walls but when we spread this value out into the world. It’s in the moments of connection – of a community built beyond walls that I am reminded of the truly visionary Dr King.

Adas Israel Congregation.
July 1969
Source: Library of Congress

Learn more about MLK Day @ Adas on page 4 of the Chronicle!
Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend

Join together as a community as we celebrate and explore the wisdom, courage, and legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Special Shabbat meals and programming will be guided by the Racial Justice Working Group and community leaders, and Shabbat services will include music honoring Dr. King.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17
6:00 PM: Musical Shabbat services in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
7:45 PM: Shabbat Dinner with community partners. Dinner will include a study and discussion of Martin Luther King Jr.’s ideas in conversation with Jewish text.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18
9:30 AM: MLK Shabbat morning service will feature the Adas Israel Flash Choir, Roderick Giles & Grace Gospel Choir and full Band. The sermon will be given by featured guest, Dr. Cheryl Greenberg who will lead a 1 pm workshop after kiddush.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19
10:00 AM: Adas Israel and Rabbis Alexander and Krinsky join Peoples Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, at 4704 15th Street, NW

MLK Speaker: Dr. Cheryl Greenberg

Dr. Cheryl Greenberg is the Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of History at Trinity College in Hartford, CT. Her research focuses on 20th-century African American history, Black-Jewish relations, race and ethnicity, and civil rights and social movements. She is the author of numerous publications, including Troubling the Waters: Black-Jewish Relations in the American Century, Princeton University Press.

Saturday, January 18 @ 9:30 am
As we celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with our community partners, Roderick Giles & Grace Gospel Choir will join us on Shabbat morning for some inspirational moments of prayer.

“End of Life Workshops
with Rabbis Holtzblatt and Krinsky
These workshops offer a space to contemplate a thoughtful approach to the end of life. We will incorporate Jewish law and text study as well as practical guidelines and resources.
Jan. 26 (Rabbi Krinsky), Mar. 1 (Rabbi Holtzblatt) @ 10 am-12 pm

Into the Mystics
with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt
Dive into Jewish mystical practices of centering the mind. Explore the teachings of the Piascezno Rebbe, Rabbi Nachman of Breslov, the Zohar, and HaRav Kook.
January 28, February 12, March 10, April 28 @ 7:30 pm

Fostering Anshei Hayyim
The Physical, Spiritual, and Emotional Journey of Men
Over the course of three sessions, we’ll hear from experts about critical issues in men’s health, and talk about fostering the holistically healthy lives we seek.
March 22 & April 5

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March 22 & April 5

“The day you were born is the day God decided that the world could not exist without you.”
-Rebbe Nachman of Breslov

adasisrael.org/briyut

briyut ♥ הריאות

the wellness center of adas israel

The Briyut Center at Adas Israel is a new project and partnership between Hesed and The Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington.

We seek to jointly create a space to celebrate, to study, to be with joy and sadness, and to face openly all that we encounter on the road of life. This new center will offer text classes on mindful practices developed by Jewish mystics, celebrations of our changing bodies, support groups, and mindful support for families with infants/young children.
MakomDC 2019–20 Season: "The Way In"

There’s always a way into Jewish learning. This 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. Each month, for the first three Tuesday evenings, 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.

To learn more visit adasisrael.org/makomdc.

Register for classes or special programs online or by calling Courtney Tisch, 202-362-4433, ext. 125

VIRTUES AND VICES: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE WORLD OF MUSSAR

WITH RABBI SARAH KRINSKY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 14 & 21 @ 7:30 PM

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 also 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.

The Text 2.0: In-Depth Halakhah (Jewish Law)
with Rabbi Aaron Alexander

REMAINING CLASS DATES: TUESDAYS 2/25 AND 4/28 @ 7:30 PM
Rabbi Alexander will lead learners in a textual exploration of a topic in Jewish Law, using original sources without translation. This series is designed primarily for those with previous experience studying classical rabbinic texts in Hebrew/Aramaic.

Inside Out: Text, Translation and Transformation (Yolkut)

7:30 - 9 PM FALL/WINTER SESSION CLASSES REMAINING ($180)
SPRING SESSION DATES ($180): 1/29, 2/12, 2/26, 3/11, 3/25, 3/31

Have you ever wanted to gain access to some of Judaism’s most powerful texts? Wondered what it means to study ancient sources in their original language with the guidance 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 questions about living in this world? Join a dedicated group for these two six-part series that take a deep dive into the Mishnah and Talmud with Rabbi Elianna Yolkut. Register for one semester or both online at adasisrael.org/makomdc.

Boker Or Shabbat Study
SATURDAY MORNINGS @ 8:30 AM

Boker Or meets Saturday mornings in the Biran Beit Midrash with the weekly portion as its focus.

FRIDAY MORNSINGS @ 10 AM

Please join us Friday mornings in the Biran Beit Midrash for an exclusive look at the weekly parsha. On the first and second Friday of the month, Rabbi Holtzblatt will explore the parsha through the lens of Hasidut and mysticism; on the third and fourth Fridays, Rabbi Alexander will use the Talmud as the prism for the weekly reading; and on the fifth Friday, Rabbi Krinsky will lead the exploration.

adasisrael.org/makomdc
Musical Moments at Adas

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

Kol HaOlam 2020 - Save The Date!

The 10th Annual National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Championship Competition!
Saturday, February 29 @ 8 pm

- Powerhouse Jewish acapella groups from colleges and universities around the country
- The stakes are higher — the music is louder!
- Audience participation: YOU CHOOSE THE WINNER!

The History of Kol HaOlam
In 2011, Adas Israel held the inaugural Kol HaOlam National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Competition in Washington, DC. Now celebrating its 10th anniversary, Kol HaOlam has become a beloved institution in the Jewish a cappella world and for the Adas Israel congregation.

More than just a competition, Kol HaOlam weekend is a Shabbaton filled with beautiful harmonies at meals, services, and all over the Adas building. Jewish students from various colleges have the opportunity to sing with and learn from each other, heading back to their campus with new ideas and inspiration. Home hospitality graciously offered by Adas members builds yet additional relationships.

Last year’s winner was Hooshir from Indiana University. Who will win this year? Join us for Kol HaOlam to find out!

Kolot Youth Choir
Do You Like to Sing?
Then come and be part of Kolot, the young voices of Adas Israel with Cantor Arianne Brown!
For 3rd-6th graders!

Kolot meets on Sundays twice a month from 11:30 to 12:15, beginning January 26. Kolot is open to all Adas students, and religious school students will be able to choose Kolot as their elective. To register & receive a complete schedule, please email cantor.brown@adasisrael.org with your name and grade.

DC Klezmer Workshop
Sunday, January 24, 2-4 pm, in the Gewirz Beit Am
DC Klezmer Workshop is an informal but enthusiastic collective of Metro Area musicians. We meet monthly at Adas Israel to learn and play klezmer tunes together by ear and from sheet music. Join us, 2-4 pm in the Gewirz Beit Am. For more information, contact howard_ungar@yahoo.com.

2020 Musical Shabbat Services Calendar

January
- January 4 - Flash Choir participates
- January 18 - Adas Band along with Roderick Giles and Grace Gospel Choir for MLK Shabbat
- January 25 - Shabbat in Harmony w/ Robyn Helzner

February
- February 8 - Shabbat Shirah with Rabbi Josh Warshawsky and his band
- February 15 - Guitar/Oud and Percussion
- February 29 - A cappella groups participate

March
- March 14 - Guest musician Dale Schatz
- March 21 - Piano, Cello, Percussion

April
- April 11 - Hallel for Pesach
- April 18 - Adas Band
- April 25 - Hallel for Rosh Chodesh

May
- May 2 - Piano, Cello, Percussion
- May 9 - Adas Band
- May 16 - Klezmer Shabbat with Zach & Aaron Mayer
- May 30 - Hallel for Shavuot

June
- June 6 - Rabbi Josh Warshawsky & percussion, premiere of Adas Israel’s new Musaf Kedusha in honor of our 150th
- June 13 - Piano, Cello, Percussion
Stillness is our most intense mode of action. It is in our moments of deep quiet that is born every idea, emotion, and drive which we eventually honor with the name of action. We reach highest in meditation, and farthest in prayer. In stillness every human being is great.

LEONARD BERNSTEIN

During these challenging times, there is much discussion about righting wrongs and repairing the world. But with so much at stake, this can feel overwhelming. In his book, The Soul of Jewish Social Justice, Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz speaks to this. "The most important first step to healing our world is to tend to our spiritual lives and to our deepest inner spaces. When we are morally focused and spiritually healthy, we can transcend ourselves for the other in their moment of need." We invite you to join JMCW this month for our weekly offerings and special programs, including the MLK weekend Friday night Soulful Musical Service, as well as an opportunity to study mindfulness from some of the masters in our tradition. See below for details of these events. Now more than ever, the distractions and pressures we face can leave us feeling depleted, although we are moved toward action. Jewish contemplative practices can help us seek a peace within to give us strength and wisdom as together, we seek healing and peace in our world.

ONGOING OFFERINGS

**Weekly Meditation Sit**
Led by JMCW Faculty
WEDNESDAYS @ 7:30-8:30 PM*
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
Class held on Jan. 29*
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 AM*
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!

*Please note: Since the Chronicle schedule is printed in advance, check the JMCW web page at www.adasisrael.org/jmcw or e-mail JMCW@ADAS@ADAS.org for up-to-date schedule information.

STILLNESS IS THE TRULY RIGHTEOUS

The truly righteous do not complain about evil, but rather add justice; they do not complain about heresy, but rather add faith; they do not complain about ignorance, but rather add wisdom.
— Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook

SPECIAL SERVICES & WORKSHOPS

**Jewish Yoga**
Class held on Jan. 29*
Mats and props are provided. For all ages, genders, and backgrounds. Join us—all you need is your body!

**WellBodies: A Course in Embodied Judaism**
MONTHLY, TUESDAYS AT 11:30 AM
Please register online at www.adasisrael.org/jmcw

**Into the Mystics, taught by Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt**
JANUARY 28, FEBRUARY 12, MARCH 10, APRIL 28, 7:30 PM
This class offers a once—a—month dive into Jewish mystical practices of centering the mind. We will explore the teachings of the Piazeano Rebbe, Rabbi Nachman of Breslov, the Zohar, and Rav Kook. We will look into the specific Hasidic theologies of each teacher and delve into their mindfulness practices. Each class will conclude with a “mindfulness lab,” giving us an opportunity to try on the practices that we studied. Please register online at www.adasisrael.org/jmcw.

**Jewish Yoga**
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Bubbe’s Kosher Treyf China

by Rabbi Sarah Krinsky

Seven of my eight great-grandparents, three of my four grandparents, and one of my two parents were born outside of the US. This is not the case with my husband’s family. His family has been in America for several generations—there is a small town called Winchester, Virginia in Shenandoah Valley where relatives of his have lived since his great-grandfather moved there in 1907.

This difference in our family history shows up in myriad ways, large and small, in how we understand our identities as Jews and as Americans. But perhaps most profoundly, it shows up in what sort of stuff we have. Literally, physical stuff. Possessions. Things.

Because of our history, my family is essentially devoid of heirlooms. There is one set of ‚fleishik (meat) silverware‘ from the one small strand whose members have been here for a while, but otherwise, my family’s immigration stories are recent enough that the things they have acquired and collected since coming to America have yet to reach that sacred heirloom status.

My in-laws have heirlooms—items that have been preciously cared for and lovingly passed down from one generation to the next. One such example—the “bubbe china”—was recently bequeathed to us. There was just one problem with this meaningful and valuable gift—bubbe’s china was likely treyf! So what were we to do?

There was a recent episode of the series “Responsa Radio,” put together by Yeshivat Hadar, that addressed just this question. In the episode, the hosts—Rabbi Avi Kilip and Ethan Tucker—outline several potential paths to permit the use of such china. Perhaps, one posek (halakhic decisor) posited, glazed porcelain is a kind of material that does not even have the capacity for “absorption,” thus rendering it permanently incapable of ever having become or potentially becoming treyf at all. Perhaps, another theory goes, because china primarily consists of vessels that serve food rather than cook food, the leniencies applied to such “secondary vessels” are relevant here. Or perhaps one could take advantage of a Talmudic carve-out whereby a vessel that contained non-kosher wine was, after a full year with no use at all, deemed kosher once again.

Those were the technical answers, which, Rabbi Tucker articulately explained, can be used to stack up one upon another in any number of configurations to lead to a permissive ruling (or, alternatively, could be refuted one by one such that there was nothing left to stack). But then there was the extra factor. The factor that says these women from whom I inherited these dishes are the same women from whom I inherited my Judaism. These dishes, Rabbi Kilip movingly claimed, contain the roots of my Judaism just as potently as the technicality of their kashrut status pushes against my current practice.

Just last month, I brought my mother-in-law’s bubbe’s china into our home. It was glazed porcelain. We took only items that function as secondary vessels, and they have sat, unused, for a year (many years, in fact). And that might be what makes them permissible, from a kashrut perspective. But that’s not—or not all—of what makes them holy.

They are holy in the way that they will elevate our future Shabbat and yontif tables. They are holy in the way they connect me to the other women and families who lovingly broke bread and shared meals, stories, experiences and relationships over them. They are holy in the way that they invite me to see myself, our new home, as a part of this family that I may not have been born into but into which I have been lovingly accepted—as part of a chain of tradition that existed beyond me and that will exist after me in which I have been invited to find my place. And at the end of the day, or at the end of a long, delicious, nourishing meal, there is little that feels more Jewish—or less treyf—than that.

Sisterhood Opening Event Illustrates Ethnic, Racial Diversity of Our Jewish Community

With diversity and inclusion increasingly becoming defining values at Adas Israel, Sisterhood’s October 27 Opening Event, “One Faith, Many Cultures,” gave immediacy to those values, illustrating the diversity of Jews in America and in our congregation. At the event at Adas Israel, members also paid tribute to those who lost their lives at Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh on the one-year anniversary of the tragedy.

As attendees lunched on Middle Eastern fare, American University historian Dr. Geraldine Gudefin’s slideshow provided historical context, illustrating the reach of the Jewish diaspora. We then heard the fascinating stories of two Israeli Sabras, one a woman of color; two other women of color who also are Jews by choice; and a Cuban-born Jewish woman.

“Kudos to our Programming & Education Committee for an engaging program highlighting the life experiences of five Sisterhood members from diverse backgrounds,” said Sisterhood President Jill Jacob. “Heartfelt thanks to the distinguished panelists, who generously shared their personal and spiritual journeys.”

Panelists, from left:
- Rachel Etches committed to Judaism in 1982 and married her husband Eddie at Adas Israel in 1983 in a multicultural wedding. She is proud that her family has brought Jews of color to our synagogue community.
- Born in Seoul, Hoonjoo Lee studied Talmud as part of the elementary school curriculum in Korea and joined a Talmud study group in seventh grade, inspiring her eventual conversion to Judaism. She moved to America in 2003.
- Israeli-born Leah Hadad’s parents made aliyah in 1949 via Operation Magic Carpet, which brought 49,000 Yemenite Jews to Israel. Leah came to the United States in 1984.
- The parents of Tali Garber, Adas Israel’s shlichah (emissary), made aliyah from England in 1982. Tali was born in Israel in 1990.
- Miriam Gusevich was born and raised in Havana, Cuba, where she attended a Jewish day school. The daughter of Polish Jewish refugees and the grandchild of Holocaust victims, she emigrated to the United States as a Cuban refugee herself in 1968.

Special Events

The U.S. Census
JANUARY 14, 7 PM
The 2020 Census is coming! Learn all about it! Come to Adas Israel to play 20 [Census] Questions! Event co-sponsored and quiz prizes provided by the National Council of Jewish Women, Maryland Action Team.

Save the Date: Sisterhood Shabbat
FEBRUARY 21 & 22
Sisterhood plans and leads Friday night and Saturday services and brings a speaker who teaches throughout the weekend. Sisterhood Shabbat is made possible through the generosity of Donald Saltz and the Mozelle Saltz (z”l) Fund for Sisterhood Speakers.

The Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop needs volunteers!
If interested, please contact Co-Manager Jean Bernard (jean.b.bernard@comcast.net).

January 2020
THE ADAS SHLICHAS’S CORNER
BY TALIA GARNER

Now that the new calendar year is here, I am looking forward to all the new experiences and events to come in 2020. One of the first events I was lucky to put together at Adas was the Israeli Whiskey Tasting. I hope those of you who like whiskey were able to attend. For those who couldn’t make it, I thought you might like to know why I wanted to have this event and my connection to whiskey.

I can’t say exactly when my love for whiskey started; it may be thanks to my British blood or the fact that my grandfather was Irish, but at some point I understood that there is so much more to this spirit than just an alcoholic beverage. I decided to go to a few courses to learn about the history of whiskey, which, of course, just made me want to learn more, as there are so many makes, distilleries, flavours, regions, countries etc.

While on a family vacation to Ireland, we visited the Jameson Distillery, and naturally I had to stay on for a special “Blending Course” after we finished the regular tour. I got a private course, learning about the process of making whiskey and even got to blend my own bottle of whiskey to take home. After all this, I thought I knew a lot about all different types of whiskey, but then I started working at “the Whiskey Bar and Museum,” which has over 1,000 kinds of whiskey. As a result, I understood I still had a lot to learn. I was fortunate enough to be trained by the bar’s expert about whiskey, and we had many workshops discussing different regions and distilleries and many stories and history behind every barrel and bottle.

A lot of people, even Israelis, don’t know that there is an Israeli whiskey scene. In bars and shops I would even call myself to call your attention several items of special interest:

• From Lynn & Liana we present beautiful smoke-gray enamel havdalah set, as well as several other items from the same vendor.
• We are also pleased to offer a beautiful bio-based ingredients.
• May we call to your attention several items of special interest?

May we call to your attention several items of special interest?

• From Lynn & Liana we present beautiful wood and resin pieces. Shown here are a bamboo and ecologically wound tray that would be at home on your table. Also see the cheeseboard and challah board, each made of Canadian maple. The resin is made of 50% bio-based ingredients.

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

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 Psukim (introduction to Psalms), Shabbat, and Musaf, a complete reading of the weekly Torah portion, and a dvar Torah. For more information, e-mail traditionalminyan@adasisrael.org.

Youth Shabbat Services: Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under led by Menahel Peters. Netivot, for students in grades K-5, is led by Sarah Attenmeyer or Jeremy Radken. Dial-in for Programs & Services: If you are unable to attend programs, lectures, or services, dial in to hear them. Call 202-686-8404, 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).
We are proud to share this month’s special program: a Yom Iyyun in Support of the Anne Frank House. On Sunday, January 12, our students in the religious school will engage in a day of learning around social justice. In developmentally appropriate ways, each grade will tackle the following three questions: 1) What does Jewish tradition say about social justice? 2) What does this look like in the modern world? 3) What does this look like at Adas Israel? In partnership with the Social Action Committee and the Anne Frank House, we look forward to a meaningful day of learning leading to action.

Emmy Cohen grew up in Philadelphia at Beth Shalom, a conservative synagogue; attended Ramah Poconos for several years; and then had the opportunity to participate in an Israel program called Nisyah—a high school program that was half Israelis and half North Americans. The program, which was text- and arts-based, was not associated with a movement so students came from all different denominations, and Emmy had an awesome time. She also learned at a Hebrew high school at Gratz College on Sundays, a non-denominational community program. While there, she received a teaching certificate to help college students find employment in synagogue schools. Emmy spent a summer working at Eden Village as a counselor her first education job. She attended American University and was very involved Jewishly on campus. She taught at schools. Emmy spent a summer working at Eden Village as a counselor, her first education job. She attended American University and was very involved Jewishly on campus. She taught at Temple Micah during college, and then moved to Adas (she met Ben Wacks through a mutual friend, who suggested that she join us here). Emmy is currently working on her master’s in social work at Howard University.

Missy Reif grew up in Virginia and at Congregation Rodef Shalom in Falls Church. She attended URJ Camp Harlam in the Poconos as a camper from 2000 to 2006 and was very active in her synagogue youth group, TRSTY, including serving as Religious and Cultural VP. In her senior year of high school, Missy was elected to the regional board, NIFTY-MAR, as membership vice president. After graduating from high school, she was a counselor at Camp Harlam for two summers and was very active in Hillel at Dickinson College. Missy found that what was really special about camp and youth groups is that from a young age she loved Judaism and being Jewish—which made her feel special. Even after college graduation, when Missy went to Brazil on a Fulbright grant, she sought out the Jewish community. After returning to DC and establishing herself at work, she wanted to reconnect with the Jewish community. She reached out to Marcy Spino, whom she knew from Rodef Shalom, and that’s how Missy’s journey led her to Adas. She particularly enjoys the discussions of complex topics that she has with the sixth graders.

Brittany Schibioula started looking into Judaism when she was about 18. She knew she had relatives on her father’s side who were Jewish and had immigrated pre-Holocaust. Her interest grew over time, and she began to explore different synagogues in Florida until she found a rabbi with whom she connected and started the conversion process in 2012. Once she met that rabbi, she became interested and passionate about learning everything about Judaism. She finalized her conversion in 2014 and then went on Birthright, where she had her bat mitzvah at the Kotel. She had finished college and was working toward a Ph.D. in economics, which brought her to DC. Brittany was always interested in teaching but then gravitated toward research. She ended up dropping out of her Ph.D. program, and then started looking for a Jewish community here in DC. She met Rabbi Elana Zeitman at Gather DC who directed her toward teaching, since she was so passionate about Judaism and learning. Brittany feels that working at Adas is a perfect blending of both and that she was always meant to be a Jewish educator, although she took quite a circuitous route to get there. She believes strongly that children need to learn and appreciate Judaism.
Social Action

Freedom Song

On the evening of November 6, more than 100 Adas congregants welcomed Rabbi Mark Borovitz and his wife, Harriet Rossetto, the founder of Beit T’Shuvah, along with the cast of Freedom Song. The musical presentation interweaves a Passover seder with personal stories of addiction, allowing all of us to see the real-life struggle against the ‘bondage of self’ that we all fight every day. The cast of Freedom Song, all addicts in recovery, answered questions from the audience and shared their experiences on recovering from a lifestyle of addiction.

—Lois Fingerhut

Thanksgiving Service

Adas joins Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ members to pack bags of Thanksgiving food for distribution to low-income DC residents. This has been our tradition for 11 years.

Hesed Volunteer of the Month: RITA SEGEMAN and Her Volunteers Who Knit and Crochet

Combine talent, caring, organizational skills, and a big heart, and you come up with the Adas Hesed volunteer of the month: Rita Segerman. Rita organizes the Adas/Somerset Knitters Club which provides beautiful warm and cozy items for many lucky recipients.

How did it get started? For many years, the Edlavitch JCC had a project called, "Handmade for the Homeless," which gives warm and needed items to homeless men and women at Christmas time. Rita recognized an important and fulfilling activity and joined the project. Knowing that comfortable items were needed year-round, Rita also participates in additional drop-offs during the year for DC emergency shelters. Soon she was recruiting more knitters from Adas and from her neighbors, and Adas/Somerset Knitters were born. Rita and her co-team leader, Dr. Leah Stern, have nurtured the group to become a thriving bustle of knitting activity. Leah is a professional-quality knitter whose replicated items have been featured at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Not all the knitters are members of Adas, but they knit so that Rita can provide hats and scarves to homeless shelters on Christmas Day. They have provided over 200 items, a remarkable accomplishment. You will be able to see a few of their knitting projects in one of the Adas window displays set up by Helene Nagler.

Rita knits with many wonderful people who are extraordinary knitters, including Shirley Cohen, Marcia Miller, Betty Adler, Elinor Tatter, Rhoda Baruch, Barbara Cline, and others.

The knitting club meets once a month at Somerset House. You can drop in and stay as long as you like. Rita provides snacks, though she says that since the knitters are so busy with their hands not many snacks are consumed.

How you can help:
1. Join a knitting group! It’s fun, and you meet new people and create needed items.
2. Provide wool to Rita and her knitters; she’ll tell you what she needs.

If you are interested in joining a knitting group, there are a few ways to become involved:

Rita Segerman’s Adas/Somerset Knitters:

Anyone is welcome. If you would like more information, please contact Rita Segerman (rsegerman@comcast.net) or 301-654-2104.

Sisterhood’s Knit, Sew & Craft Group:

Held the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Youth Lounge. 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.

Lesley Frost Sewing Group:

If you prefer sewing over knitting, Lesley Frost hosts an afternoon of sewing once a month in Bethesda. If interested, please contact her (lesleyfrost0@gmail.com).

Thank you, Rita Segerman, our knitter extraordinaire and Hesed Volunteer of the Month. If you would like to get more involved in Hesed activities, please contact hesed@adasisrael.org.

100 bags of toiletries for men and women, along with envelopes full of writing and art supplies.

Three people shared their stories of the impact of addiction on their families. The conversations were honest and at times heart-breaking, but each person looked toward the future and saw hope. Sharing these stories helps us to break down and eliminate the stigma around addiction. The ADAMS Center is looking forward to hosting a similar get-together. We all look forward to continuing this work and having more conversations.

—Lois Fingerhut

One America Day of Service

On a Sunday afternoon, under the leadership of One America Day of Service—Lois Fingerhut—invitations were extended to the whole congregation to attend events. The Chronicles, along with many others, attended the Paloma Crisis Stabilization and Detox Center. We packed 100 bags of toiletries for men and women, along with envelopes full of writing and art supplies.

Tikkun Olam

‘REPAIRING THE WORLD’

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Thank you, Rita Segerman, our knitter extraordinaire and Hesed Volunteer of the Month. If you would like to get more involved in Hesed activities, please contact hesed@adasisrael.org.
This February will mark the sixth year that the Adas Israel community is celebrating Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month (JDAIM). This is a wonderful continuation of our work in lifting up the value of inclusion and removing barriers to full participation in our congregational life. These programs, presented by the Inclusion Task Force, comprise a unique set of opportunities to look at the progress we have made and to examine areas for improvement. Please visit inclusion@adasisrael.org to get involved.

Inclusion Celebration Month
February 2020

**Inclusion Celebration Shabbat**
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, CHARLES E. SMITH SANCTUARY**

Bobby will also host a post-kiddush talk entitled “Do Justice and Pursue Acts of Love and Kindness — From a Disability Perspective”. This year’s guest speaker is Robert “Bobby” Silverstein, a nationally recognized attorney with more than 45 years of public policy and advocacy experience. For more than a decade, he served as staff director and chief counsel for the Senate Subcommittee on Disability Policy, chaired by Senator Tom Harkin. Bobby was a behind-the-scenes architect of more than 20 disability-related bills enacted into law, including the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act; the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended. Currently, Bobby is a principal in the law firm of Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville, PC, where his areas of practice include federal regulation and legislation in disability and civil rights. Bobby earned a B.S. in economics from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania in 1971. And a J.D. in 1974 from Georgetown University Law Center. He has received more than 15 national awards, including the Distinguished Services Award of the President of the United States for his work on the ADA. Bobby has also been inducted into the Public Interest Hall of Fame.

**Synagogue Inclusion Network**
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, GEWIRZ BET AM, 1-2:30 PM**

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington convenes a monthly meeting of local inclusion committees. Join us when Adas Israel hosts the group and we hear from Lisa Handelman, the Federation’s Community Disability Inclusion Specialist. As a community resource and area specialist, Lisa partners with individuals with disabilities, families, and service providers to develop, implement, and monitor opportunities for inclusion of individuals with disabilities into all aspects of Jewish learning and living. Based on the strong belief that disability inclusion strengthens our community, Lisa and Federation’s Disability Inclusion Network have created disability and inclusion online crowdsourcing guides and tools to connect individuals and families with programs, events, and services, and to raise awareness and advocate for the rights of individuals with disabilities.

**Acharei Lifnei Ivir: Beyond “Before the Blind”**
**WEDNESDAYS, JAN. 29; FEB. 2, 12, 19, 26; MARCH 4 AT 7 PM, FUNGER HALL OR BIRAN BEIT MIDRASH**

Join Rabbi Lauren Tuchman for a six-part class examining what Judaism has to say about the role and agency of people with disabilities in the Torah and Talmud. As Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month begins, many of us will be thinking about the place of Jews with disabilities in our communities. This conversation is not new; it has been a part of our tradition from the very beginning. Many of our most foundational values about disability can be found in some famous and not-so-famous narratives in the Torah and Talmud that involve people we might identify today as having disabilities. In this six-session course, we will do a close reading of a different story each week, first by reading the text and, second, through commentaries on that text, including the texts of our lives. The narratives we will read include, but are not limited to, Jacob’s stealing Esau’s blessing, Leah’s story, and the story of the ugly man in Taanit 20AB in the Babylonian Talmud. We will examine stories in which people with disabilities are not merely subjects but agents in their own lives, often changing the status quo. What lessons might we take from these narratives today?

**Special Inclusion WellBodies**
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, KAY HALL, 11:30 AM**

WellBodies is a monthly program that everyone is welcome to attend. Each month we take a deep dive into a topic connected to the theme of Embodied Judaism. In honor of Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month (JDAIM), we will be joined by Rabbi Lauren Tuchman to learn about disability wisdom through a Jewish perspective. We will do a brief meditation, a text study with Rabbi Tuchman, and an interactive piece as well. Lunch is included. Instead of compiling generic vendor resources, we curated a few select sources that focus on overall well-being.

Jewish Disability Advocacy Day (JDAD) on the Hill
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, CAPITOL HILL, RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, 9 AM-5 PM**

JDAD is an opportunity for professionals and lay leaders from Jewish organizations and communities across the nation to come to Capitol Hill to raise awareness of their work and passion relating to individuals with disabilities and their families. Jewish Disability Advocacy Day includes:

- a symposium on disability and inclusion issues from leading analysts;
- an advocacy briefing on issues to raise with Congress and training on how to be an effective advocate;
- lunch with Congressional leaders; and
- advocacy visits with your elected officials.

The day is sponsored by Adas Israel Congregation, along with Jewish Disability Network—chaired by the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) and the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism—and other supporting organizations. Join Rabbi Sarah Kninsky, clergy liaison to the Inclusion Task Force, and members of the Inclusion Task Force, for this exciting day of political action and advocacy on Capitol Hill.

Kindness – From a Disability Perspective

This year’s guest speaker is Robert “Bobby” Silverstein, a nationally recognized attorney with more than 45 years of public policy and advocacy experience. For more than a decade, he served as staff director and chief counsel for the Senate Subcommittee on Disability Policy, chaired by Senator Tom Harkin. Bobby was a behind-the-scenes architect of more than 20 disability-related bills enacted into law, including the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act; the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, as amended. Currently, Bobby is a principal in the law firm of Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville, PC, where his areas of practice include federal regulation and legislation in disability and civil rights. Bobby earned a B.S. in economics from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania in 1971. And a J.D. in 1974 from Georgetown University Law Center. He has received more than 15 national awards, including the Distinguished Services Award of the President of the United States for his work on the ADA. Bobby has also been inducted into the Public Interest Hall of Fame.

Inclusion Task Force, and members of the Inclusion Task Force, for this exciting day of political action and advocacy on Capitol Hill.
Ma Tovu
Shifra Waskow
HONORING OUR LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS
Interviewed by Marcy Sprio,
Senior Director, Engagement & Programming Operations

Shifra, you have been a member of Adas for all of your 17 years. What is one of your earliest memories here at Adas? Between going to the TEM for every Shabbat and every holiday, attending the Gan and, later, Maalot, and being involved in various other ways, I have been left with countless memories at the place that has become my second home. One of my earliest memories at Adas was one Shabbat winter morning when, at the age of 3, I wore a dress that was buttoned all the way up. Since it buttoned up, I thought it was a coat instead of a dress, and so when I became hot, I took it off and started running around the shul naked, leaving my parents to unhappily chase me. Though this is one of my better memories at Adas, many more happy and crazy memories followed this, with hopefully even happier and crazier moments to come!

You have held a few different events at Adas for an organization called Days for Girls. Can you tell us more about this organization, how you became involved, what upcoming events you may have planned, and what others can do to help?

When I was about 10 years old, my mom dragged me to an event organized by a friend of hers at a nearby school. It was a Days for Girls event, which I knew nothing of and had very little desire to learn more about beyond the bare minimum. A couple of years later, I vaguely remembered the event and started meeting with the Rockville group, assisting in the creation of the organiztation and seeing a few of our closest friends, who happened to coincide with our Minyan friends, and soon spending far more time together. These changes in our relationship happened just before he went off to Israel his sophomore year, doing the incomparable experiences, including spending time at a kibbutz in the north and simply living in Jerusalem, along with the lifelong friendships I was able to form at the hands of love for Judaism and Israel. And I am so excited to make more memories in Israel on the Teen Israel trip this winter!

You and your older brother Elior are extremely close. I remember being on the Teen Israel trip with him, and he missed you the most. (Don’t tell your parents!) Have you always been this close? What are some of your favorite things to do together? He’s studying in Israel this year, so how often do you get to talk to him, and what is your preferred method of communication?

Elior and I definitely did not stray from the typical sibling relationship growing up, sticking to the norm of fighting and bickering a substantial amount. As we grew older, we continued the fighting, but it simmered down, as our friend groups from the Minyan once based solely on age began meshing, forming one cohesive friend group of all ages. We realized that we are each other’s best friends! One of our favorite activities together is doing Ultimate Frisbee drills and throwing discs. He is now on his gap year, spending half of the year studying in Israel, and the other half travelling and studying in Chile and Argentina, which sadly leaves little time to talk, but we manage to call and facetime, in addition to daily texting.

You spent last spring semester studying in Israel. Which program were you on? Why did you decide to participate? What were some of your favorite parts about studying in the Holy Land?

I had the privilege of spending the second half of my sophomore year studying in Israel on a Ramah program, called Tichon Ramah Yerushalayim (TRY). I can hands-down say they were the best four months of my life! The program provides a rich education about Judaism and Israel from the beginning of the Torah up until modern day Israel, using the beautiful country as our classroom. The primary focus of TRY was this incredible education, and was perhaps the most enriching aspect of the program and what drew me in the most. In addition, my brother and close friend had done the same program just two years before, so I was forced to hear about all the unique experiences of TRY, eventually itching to have those experiences myself. I am beyond grateful for the incomparable experiences, including spending time at a kibbutz in the north and simply living in Jerusalem, along with the lifelong friendships I was able to form at the hands of love for Judaism and Israel. And I am so excited to make more memories in Israel on the Teen Israel trip this winter!

You have a very popular post here on Sunday mornings. You work at the Baked By Yael pop-up bakery in the Biran Belt Midrash. You can’t eat gluten, so unfortunately you only have a few treats to choose from. What are some of the most popular items people order? And what do you hope will become the next gluten-free option?

I started working at the Baked by Yael cafe in September of last year. I love being able to sell all the delicious baked goods in a place I am familiar with. I get to chat with a lot of other members, many of whom I know from the Minyan and across Adas, and see kids faces light up when they get their cakepop! A couple of teachers and madrachim working at the Sunday school come in before students arrive, often ordering a bagel with cream cheese. A little later, after dropping off their kids, many parents come in for a bagel with cream cheese, getting in some breakfast after presumably chaotic mornings! These orders continue throughout the morning, with an occasional regular or gluten-free raspberry bar. And later, right before or after the kids get out of their classes, parents treat them with (Baked by Yael’s infamous) cakepops! Although there aren’t gluten-free options for all of the treats sold in the store, the majority of them sold do have delicious gluten-free alternatives!

You and your older brother Elior are extremely close. I remember being on the Teen Israel trip with him, and he missed you the most. (Don’t tell your parents!) Have you always been this close? What are some of your favorite things to do together? He’s studying in Israel this year, so how often do you get to talk to him, and what is your preferred method of communication?

Elior and I definitely did not stray from the typical sibling relationship growing up, sticking to the norm of fighting and bickering a substantial amount. As we grew older, we continued the fighting, but it simmered down, as our friend groups from the Minyan once based solely on age began meshing, forming one cohesive friend group of all ages. We began enjoying all the Shabbat festivities together, sharing some of our closest friends, who happened to coincide with our Minyan friends, and soon spending far more time together. These changes in our relationship happened just before he went off to Israel his sophomore year, doing the
Airplane travel is a miracle of the modern age, but it is not always fun. Flights can be delayed, seating can be claustrophobic, and row mates can be challenging, particularly if you get stuck in a middle seat. Even the CEO of United Airlines has compared airline travel to going to the dentist. How to get through it? If only flight attendants offered not just juice and pretzels, but, like dentists, anesthetics! Thankfully, there are other escape options besides nitrous oxide. One is a suspenseful book that fully captures and holds your attention, ensuring that all you think about are the twists and turns in the storyline. Two new novels that meet that standard are *The New Girl* by Daniel Silva and *A Bend in the Stars* by Rachel Barenbaum. Pick one for your e-reader or pack one of our library copies into your carry-on.

**The New Girl** is Daniel Silva’s latest installment in the continuing death-defying adventures of Gabriel Allon, director-general of Israel’s secret intelligence service. As fans of the series know, Allon is a multifaceted character—both artist and assassin—hoping for a day when the State of Israel no longer needs him and he can restore Old Master paintings fulltime. Each book in the series stands on its own, although there are benefits to reading the series’ first book (*The Killer Artist*) before trying any of the others.

In *The New Girl*, Allon reluctantly agrees to help Crown Prince Khalid bin Mohammed (KBM) recover his kidnapped daughter despite his revulsion at KBM’s murder of a journalist in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. KBM is based on the real-life Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman (MBS). Drawing on his expertise and sources as a former journalist, Silva integrates current global affairs into the novel—the Khashoggi murder, Brexit, the French Yellow Vest protesters, President Putin, and more.

As the plot unfolds, Allon and KBM find themselves allied against anti-Israel, anti-West forces seeking to wrest power from KBM. Allon and the Prince embark on a high-octane mission, racing through Europe and the Middle East and developing an uneasy friendship. Indeed, one of the book’s pleasures is the pair’s ongoing acerbic repartee. Allon mocks KBM’s lavish spending and brutal handling of his critics, while KBM takes jabs at Allon for his ascetic lifestyle and mythic, larger-than-life reputation.

**A Bend in the Stars** is set in Tsarist Russia in 1914, a time and a place where rampant anti-Semitism and the onset of World War I make life perilous for Jews. The novel focuses on gifted Jewish siblings: Vanya, a physicist, and Miri, a surgeon. Vanya is desperately trying to refine Einstein’s theory of relativity; Harvard University has promised him a faculty position and safety in America if he can produce the necessary equations, supported by photos of an upcoming solar eclipse. Toiling obsessively over his equations, Vanya struggles to understand the connection among gravity, acceleration, and relativity. The novel conveys the excitement and significance of Einstein’s work.

Hoping to join forces with an American physicist who is reportedly bringing photographic equipment to Russia to record the eclipse, Vanya and Miri’s fiancé, Yuri, deserts the army for a danger-filled journey across Russia. Before long, Miri, accompanied by a dashing Jewish soldier named Sasha, sets off to find Vanya and Yuri. There are bad guys aplenty, hair-raising escapes, and romance—more than enough to keep you distracted until the plane touches down at your destination.

### **UPCOMING ADAS BOOK EVENTS**

**The Flight Portfolio** by Julie Orringer  
**Book Chat:** Sunday, February 9, 10 am, in the Library  
Join the discussion of this historical novel about real-life hero Varian Fry who rescued 2000 artists and intellectuals during WWII. All welcome! Questions? Please contact Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).

**Meet anthropologist Dr. Maggie Paxson**  
**Author Chat:** Sunday, March 15, 10 am in the Library  
Dr. Paxson will introduce *The Plateau*. This mesmerizing new memoir describes Paxson’s field work in the French highlands where villagers hid hundreds of Jews during WWII. What made this remarkable community so altruistic, and does its history suggest ways to build more moral, engaged communities today?
BIRTHS

Ezra Meyer Tauber, son of Ben & Sara Tauber, was born November 18.
Eden Leventhal, daughter of Laura Robbins & Simcha Leventhal, was born November 20.
Seth Benjamin Chausow, son of Lara Chausow & Lauren Weiss, was born November 24.

We wish our newborns and their families strength, good health, and joy.

WEDDINGS

Rob Bernstein and Bryant Hutson were married September 22 in Tucson, AZ.
Michael Stein and Elizabeth Sloan were married November 23, officiated by Rabbi Alexander.

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

B’NAI MITZVAH

Aaron Genachowski, December 30 (Israel)
Aaron, son of Julius Genachowski and Rachel Goslins, is a seventh grader at Maret. He has been attending the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School since kindergarten, and started rooting for the Nationals even earlier, following in the footsteps of his brother Jake and sister Lilah. For his mitzvah project, in recognition of the growing incidents of violence at schools, synagogues, and other religious institutions and communities, Aaron is focused on a project to address gun violence.

Zachary Henderson, January 4 (TEM)
Zachary, son of Alix Spiegel and Phillip Henderson, is a seventh grader at Georgetown Day School. He began his Jewish education early at Tot Shabbat at Adas, then was a student in Gan HaYeled. He currently attends the religious school. Zachary is delighted to share the joy and warmth of this blessing with the Adas community, and our family is grateful to be part of this nurturing community. We expect to share the b’nai mitzvah with friends and family, including grandparents Adam and Gabrielle Speigel of Baltimore, and Daniel and Polly Henderson of New Orleans, LA.

Benjamin & Maya Roskes, January 25 (TEM)
Maya and Benji, children of Bonnie and Sandy Roskes, started their Jewish education at the Gan, and continued at the Milton Gottesman Jewish Day School where they are currently in seventh grade. They will celebrate their b’nai mitzvah with siblings Aviv, Zevi, and Nava; grandmother Phyllis Smelkinson; grandfather Saul Roskes; and many other family members and friends from near and far. The twins have been regular and active members of the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan from birth, and are grateful to be able to share their simcha with the entire minyan community.

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:
Edward Abramson
Allan Gerson
Sarah Meyers Gewirz
Jonathan Horn
Irving Jacobs

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:
Max Kahn, brother of Hazel Keimowitz
Bernice Kosan, mother of Elyse Linowes
Joyce Sills, sister of Barbara Gelman

LIFE CYCLE INFORMATION

When Death Occurs
When death occurs, please call the synagogue office, 202-362-4433, so that we may inform the clergy and be of assistance. During business hours, ask for Marcy Sprio. 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.kates.30@gmail.com).

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 a chance to return again. Mikvah is a turning point.

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

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UPCOMING CHRONICLE DEADLINE—
March:
Thursday, January 30, at noon