

ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

## Chronicle

VOL. 73, NO. 1 JULY-AUGUST 2010 TAMMUZ-ELUL 5770

### דוֹבֵר אֱמֶת Dover Emet **Speaking the Truth**

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

Summer is known in the synagogue world as the "slow season." And for good reason: people are away on vacations, kids are at camp, the days are hot and lazier. We all know, of course, that Jewish life revs up again in the fall with the High Holy Days. From a traditional Jewish perspective, however, there is never such a thing as a "slow season." Judaism is an all-year-round way of life. There is never a season, or a time of life, when a full array of Jewish experiences is not possible and available.

Many people these days simply don't associate summer with Jewish activities, but there is, indeed, plenty to do. If we are compiling a list of summer reading to catch up on, it's always a good idea to put a few Jewish books on the list: books about Jewish life, Israel, Judaism, and Jewish practice. So often, many feel they don't have the back-

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#### Robyn Helzner Trio Pre-Selichot Concert, September 4, 9:00 pm

With great anticipation for a moving and

meaningful performance, Adas Israel welcomes the Robyn Helzner Trio for a special community Selichot concert on Saturday, September 4, at 9:00 pm.

Mastering a repertoire of authentic Jewish music from five corners of the Jewish world—in Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino, Russian, and English, the Robyn Helzner Trio delivers performances vibrant with warmth, humor, and a commanding

energy. With Dov Weitman on mandolin and Matt Holsen on bass and keyboard, the Robyn



Robyn Helzner Trio

Helzner Trio contributes a treasure of both new

and traditional songs to the extraordinary Jewish music legacy.

The perfect introduction to Selichot and the High Holy Day season, the concert is free and open to the community. The musical program, sponsored by the Joseph and Mollie Muchnick Selichot Fund and the Susan Linowes Allen Memorial Music Fund, will be followed by a community dessert reception at 10:00 pm and Selichot Services at 11:00 pm, led by Rabbi

Steinlauf and Hazzan Weber.

#### The Fast of Tisha **B'Av**, July 19

For 20 centuries, Tisha B'Av, the ninth of Av, has been the saddest day in the Jewish calendar. Yom Kippur is known as the White Fast; Tisha B'Av is called the Black Fast. It commemorates the destruction of both Temples in Jerusalem, the death of Bar Kochba, and the last rebellion against Rome in 135 CE, as well as the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492. When they could, Jews would come to the area near the Kotel (the Western Wall) to read Eicha (the Book of Lamentations) and to weep. Most Jews, of

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#### Musical Shabbat, **Aug. 13**

Join us for a joyful Kabbalat Shabbat and evening service on Friday, August 13, at 8:00 pm that will be all about Jewish music and finding meaning through song and melody. Hazzan Jeffrey Weber will be our teacher and guide through the musical experiences and will give a special musical teaching and presentation as part of the evening.

It promises to be a great Shabbat evening of Zimrah v'Shira—song and singing—so please plan to join us.

**CELEBRATING OUR 141ST YEAR** THE CHRONICLE IS SUPPORTED IN PART BY THE ETHEL AND NAT POPICK **ENDOWMENT FUND** 

**Clergy Corner Holidays** Sisterhood

Men's Club Life Cycle **Schools Lifelong Learning** 

Youth YP@AI **Contributions** 

## Clergy Corner



Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

#### **DOVER EMET** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ground or tools to enter Jewish life. Summer is a fabulous time to search out great Jewish books—there is an endless list to choose from! This is a great way to figure out your way into a deeper Jewish life. The Adas Israel library and our librarian, Madeleine Oakley, are great resources and a natural place to be-

gin your search. Of course, you can contact me if you don't know where to begin your search for good Jewish books. I'll be happy to help get you started.

Naturally, the synagogue is open all summer long. Attending the daily minyan is a particularly important and meaningful way to engage in Jewish life. With so many folks out of town, it is often more challenging to get a minyan during the summer months. Attending only once or twice this summer would mean a lot to someone who otherwise would not be able to say kaddish for a loved one. We will also have Kabbalat Shabbat services and Shabbat morning services with a fabulous array of guest teachers throughout the summer to make your experience of Jewish community full and meaningful (for a list of summer speakers, see page 9).

Summer is also a wonderful time to be creative and come up with our own kinds of Jewish experiences that we can share with all of the generations of our families and friends. If you plan on spending time at the beach this summer, consider joining with family and friends at the end of Shabbat on the beach for a beautiful "Havdalah on the Beach." If you're just planning to lounge by the pool, that is a perfect place to have Shabbat dinner—yes, with candles and challah and blessings. It might sound strange or even shocking to hear that you can integrate Shabbat into summer fun, but the more parents and grandparents create Jewish experiences alongside fun family activities, the more powerful the message will be that Jewish life can be a part of the fun and meaningful times we share as a family.

Remember as well that summer is not free of important dates on the Jewish calendar. On June 29 is Shiva Asar b'Tamuz, a fast day that commemorates the tragic series of events that led to the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, and another very famous fast day—Tisha B'Av, July 20 (see p. 4 for service times and more information), when we light candles, sit on the ground, and chant the haunting melody of the Book of Lamentations (Aicha). These important events can be very powerful observances that link us with our history and our yearning for peace and restoration in the Land of Israel. Finally, the end of the summer begins the month of Elul and the season of repentance leading up to the High Holy Days. The Jewish tradition regards the High Holy Days as so powerful and important that they require a full month of spiritual preparation beforehand to ready ourselves for the intense experience. As Jews, we can use the summer and the

#### תבראמת Dover Emet Speaking the Truth

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month of Elul as a contemplative time to take stock of ourselves as Jews, to think about how we can get involved and learn and engage more in Jewish life in the months ahead.

Summer is, indeed, a very intense Jewish time of the year—when we put forth the effort and creativity to engage with our yiddishkeit. I hope that we all learn, grow, and flourish Jewishly during these wonderful summer months. Please know that Rabbi Feinberg, the staff of Adas, and I are here to help make your summer a meaningful one, and we look forward to seeing you around!

#### From Hazzan Weber

Since the beginning of time, music has been an integral part of life, whether it is the music of the natural world around us, with its infinite variety of sounds and the manner in which they work together in harmony or discord, or the music of man, which is composed to show expression and emotion. Music is a means



to take us beyond the boundaries of words, and vocal music can lift us to a different level by combining the meaning of the text with the spirit of the music. Combining the liturgy of our services with music can bring us to a higher level of spiritual experience, helping us understand the text, even if we don't understand every word of each prayer.

Please join me in expressing the music that makes up our services and exploring the wealth of non-liturgical Jewish music. The Adas Israel Adult Volunteer Choir will join forces with our new vocal quartet for our Adas Israel Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Creative Musaf service. We are rehearsing regularly and plan to participate in many more exciting musical experiences and services throughout the upcoming year as well. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about vocal production and presentation while building community and just having fun together. We are not a professional group, and we all enjoy spending time together in a comfortable atmosphere as we learn and experience music. I have printed music and recordings for the Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Creative Musaf service available to help you become familiar with the music at home and during our rehearsals. Our members have varying levels of musical experience.

This coming year, as part of our Friday Night Service offerings, we are adding a new "Music Service"; each of these will have a theme and will incorporate a musical learning session as part of the evening. Look for upcoming details regarding these services.

For the High Holy Days in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, we will hear a new group of singers, led by a new music director/conductor and chosen specifically to help raise our experience to an even higher level. I invite you all, even if you

#### 'State of the Synagogue'



Synagogue president Robert Peck delivered the following remarks at the June 9 Annual Congregational Meeting.

Perhaps surprisingly, the state of Adas Israel is very good. Our finances have been affected by the recession to be sure, but the good news at Adas far outweighs the bad and our strengths far outweigh our weaknesses. Moreover, we have identified our

strengths and capitalized on them; we have assessed our weaknesses and begun to address them.

We are living Rabbi Steinlauf's call to be a *Kehilla Kedoshah*, a sacred community. The word on the Jewish Street (to be distinguished from J Street—or not, depending on your persuasion) is that Adas has its *acts* together. I say "acts" because we are a sacred community made up of a number of communities—our several *Shabbat daven*ing communities, our daily *Minyan* community, our Gan HaYeled community, our religious school community, our Sisterhood and Men's Club communities, our social action community, our High Holy Day attendance community, our alumni community. Many of our members belong to several of what are, in fact, overlapping communities.

In the past several years, we have learned to embrace the diversity of these communities, in fact to celebrate that very diversity. We understand that they are separate and essential gateways through which our members variously connect with our congregation and with their Jewish identities.

We have a strong clergy team that embraces and nurtures the communities. Our rabbis participate and deliver *Torah* teaching in all the *daven*ing communities. In fact, our rabbis teach in every setting imaginable. Rabbi Feinberg conducts a *Boker Ohr* (Morning Light) session on the *Torah* portion before *Shabbat* services each week, and Rabbi Steinlauf meets with a group of men for Scotch and Scriptures, which needs no further description. Both rabbis teach constantly in the religious school and Gan.

The rabbis are complementary, mutually reinforcing. Both give thoughtful and learned sermons. Rabbi Steinlauf continually astounds with his note-less sermons precisely quoting myriad sources. He continually peppers us with ideas for reaching out to congregants and the Washington Jewish community, ideas that often propose ingenious ways of using the latest social networking and other technologies to teach *Torah*. Rabbi Feinberg's passion for *tikkun olam*, social justice, touches another vein in our synagogue's and the Jewish people's soul. His leadership of our *Chesed* project to provide companionship to those who are ill or alone shows us what a *Kehilla Kedoshah* should be.

We have a strong daily *minyan* morning and evening, led by lay *daven*ers for the most part, organized by *Hazzan* Jenna Greenberg. On *Shabbat*, we are the quintessential syna-plex: With various Friday night services, sometimes both early and late, and sometimes with a *Ruach minyan* or YP Shir Delight of young people; *Shabbat* morning services, in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, with *Hazzan* Jeffrey Weber's strong voice and professional music training and, in the past two years, with *bar* and *bat mitzvah* kids giving *divrei Torah*, with the Traditional *Minyan* completely lay led, and on alternate *Shabbatot*, the *Havurah* in the library.

We have significantly upgraded the *kiddush* following *Shabbat* morning services. And everyone knows that, in a synagogue, it is food that brings everyone together.

Our religious school has a new emphasis on Hebrew language skills since the arrival of Josh Bender as director. He and Elie Greenberg have begun a *Shacharit* Live program for the younger grades on Sunday mornings that everyone should see. That is one facet of instruction on traditional prayers and *daven*ing that Josh has also introduced. Young Professional programming is booming and our youth groups are attracting more and more kids.

In programming, the past year has seen a number of innovations. Perhaps most noteworthy have been changes in the Friday night service. The *Kabbalat Shabbat* early service has become even more filled with congregational singing. Every other week, the late service has a significant speaker, along with traditional Adas music. We no longer have the choir at that service, both for budgetary reasons and to give more time for the speakers. This coming year, we are working toward some late Friday night services with a creative musical approach as the program. There has been

## Synagogue Closing Independence Day, July 5 (observed)

Independence Day, July 5 (observed) Schools/Offices Closed Minyanim, 8:30 am & 6:00 pm

much deliberation and consultation about the changes in the Friday night service, and Rabbi Steinlauf, *Hazzan* Weber, and the Religious Practices Committee have worked hard to make sure that new formats are introduced while respecting some longtime synagogue practices.

We have tried "Sushi in the Sukkah" to much acclaim, and Friday night Shabbat Under the Stars, which elicited overwhelming enthusiasm and was simply awe-inspiring, sirens from our neighboring firehouse and all. We put on a celebrity, somewhat edgy Purim shpiel, drawing on our members and contacts in the Washington political and diplomatic community. And, oh yes, we began offering coffee on Shabbat morning as a welcoming gesture.

Doubtless our most noticed new program was the community Passover Second *Seder*. First greeted with some degree of skepticism—and I was one of the skeptics—the *seder* was an unqualified hit. It showed we had a latent unmet need in our congregation. Unsure whether there was a demand for this, we announced it and told ourselves that we would cancel if we didn't get at least 100 people. As you know, we got over 300, so many that, unfortunately, we had to turn people away.

I note these innovations, large and small, for a particular reason. I think we have learned an important lesson from them. We have learned that Adas, a large, established and establishment, 141-year-old institution, can change at a pace we might have thought too fast just a few years ago. I think we have dropped some of our inhibitions, some of our thinking that seemed to say, "Oh, Adas doesn't do that kind of thing." We have become more comfortable with change.

Now no institution, and particularly not a Jewish one, should change just for the sake of change. We are the people who put a fence around the *Torah*, who put new meanings into old traditions; we go out of our way to safeguard our laws and traditions, to make sure they are not inadvertently violated or heedlessly tossed aside.

But we need to change. The nature of Jewish affiliation is changing. Jews can express their Jewish identities in myriad ways without joining a synagogue. This is a good thing. There are other institutions, learning centers and community centers, 6th & I in Washington, independent *minyanim*, that provide outlets for Jewish yearning and inlets for discovering Jewish identity. Is that good for the Jews? Yes, it is.

But synagogues still serve indispensable roles. And we should not serve just narrow life-cycle roles; we can and should provide most of the opportunities for spiritual and intellectual and social awakening that these newer institutions provide.

So we need to try on new roles and new programs. I have been very proud of the way our clergy, staff, and Board of Directors have embraced this view. Our Board members and our Religious Practices Committee have deliberated conscientiously and forthrightly, with no rancor, in considering new programs and approaches that not every member favors. They, the clergy, and staff have approached these decisions with one eye on the future—and the other, most appropriately, on the past, open to the new, but mindful of our rich past.

Adas is at a wonderful moment. We have separate communities, but not factions. We have disagreements, but not feuds. We have debates, but not fights.

In my view, the history of our past few years teaches an important lesson. We can step up the pace at which we introduce new programs and at which we "sunset" those that no longer are of great value. Our resources are limited and we have to make choices; we have to spend our precious money and our even more precious staff and lay time on the programs and services that matter today and in the future.

So, speaking of resources, I would be remiss if I did not report that the "State of the Congregation" includes real resource challenges that have accompanied the recession. For the second year in a row, we will run a budget deficit. The last time we ran a deficit was about 20 years ago, before which, I'm told, deficits were routine.

For the third year in a row, we have had staff cutbacks, and for the

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## Holidays

#### Kol Nidre Appeal

Dear Friends,

It is summer with its slower pace and reduced activity, but at Adas Israel we are actively planning future programs and activi-

ties. You have received by mail a request for your support and assistance with our annual synagogue fundraising campaign—our Kol Nidre Appeal. This is our only major fundraising event for the entire synagogue year.

The funds from this appeal make possible our many services, programs, and activities. The appeal also provides needed support and scholarships for our schools and underwrites our lifelong learning classes.

Our goal is to raise \$600,000 from 100 percent of our membership to enable us to weather these difficult financial times and continue to support those with financial need. No child is denied a Jewish education, and no member is turned away due to financial hardship!

> As members of our congregation you are encouraged to join our efforts by making a pledge to achieve our goals. Please return the pledge card you received or contact Glenn Easton at the synagogue office with your pledge. More than at any other time, your support is desperately needed now. Payments can be made as late as December.

We hope we can count on your support in this difficult year. Our best for a relaxing and enjoyable summer,

—Judie & Harry Linowes



Judie & Harry Linowes

#### TISHA B'AV CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

course, could not come to Jerusalem, and during many periods, the *Kotel* area could not be approached.

In modern times, the establishment of the State of Israel caused some to question whether Tisha B'Av was necessary any longer. This debate continues, although those who observe the day recognize its symbolic power and emphasize that we still lament the destruction of the Temples, which ruptured our sense of connectedness to God.

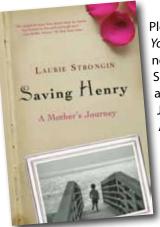
Observance of Tisha B'Av at Adas Israel is exceedingly

touching, a moving experience in which we gather as the sun sets to quietly chant the Book of Lamentations in a subdued atmosphere, by candlelight, using the traditional melody.

The evening service on Monday, July 19, begins at 8:00 pm (Mincha, Maariv, and Eicha). The scroll is chanted again as part of the morning service on Tuesday, July 20, at 7:15 am services (Shacharit and Eicha) and Mincha at 6:00 pm.

Join us in this annual beautiful experience as we connect with tradition and history. •

## **Yom Kippur Afternoon to Feature Laurie Strongin** and Jon Donvan



Please join us on Yom Kippur afternoon, Saturday, September 18, for a special event. Jon Donvan of **ABC News will** interview synagogue member Laurie Strongin, who will discuss her recently published

book, Saving Henry, A Mother's Journey.



Laurie Strongin



Jon Donvan

#### **HAZZAN WEBER** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

are not interested in being part of our choir, to join us in singing throughout the High Holy Days and the rest of the year as a community and allow yourselves to be an active vocal part of our worship experience.

The Adas Israel Adult Volunteer Choir is rehearsing currently and will continue to meet regularly as we prepare to be an active "vocal" part of services and events in our community. For details about the choir, please contact my assistant, Marcia Miller, 301-362-4433, ext. 112, or marcia.miller@adasisrael.org.

Have a wonderful summer.

—Hazzan Jeffrey Weber O

#### HOLD THE DATE

for the 2nd annual

Sushi in the Sukkah

September 26, 6:15 pm

More details coming soon

#### Sisterhood

#### **Sisterhood Annual Report**

Sisterhood President Alisa Abrams has issued an annual report outlining selected organizational, programming, congregational life, and financial support outcomes for the for July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. To read the report in full, visit the Sisterhood website, www.adasisrael.org, click on Communities, click on Sisterhood, and scroll to "Downloads."

To request a hard copy, e-mail sisterhoodpresident@adasisrael. org or call Carol Ansell at the synagogue, 202-362-4433.

#### It's Time to Re-Member!

Sisterhood membership packets for 2010–2011 will arrive in July. Please watch your mail and take the time to read the enclosures regarding about what's in store for Sisterhood in the coming year. Supporting and participating in Sisterhood in whatever way you can is a gift to yourself, your sisters, and the congregation. Please return forms by **August 15**.

#### **Reserve Now – Space Limited**

Join Adas Israel Sisterhood on **Sunday, September 26**, *Chol HaMoed Sukkot*, when Seaboard WLCJ travel to New York City to have lunch in the Jewish Theological Seminary Women's League *sukkah*. See details about this not-to-be-missed experience on Sisterhood's website or contact Gerry Lezell, Torah Fund chair, with any questions and to reserve your spot.

**Congratulations to the 2009–2010 Sister-hood Board of Directors** for its hard work and dedication to the advancement of personal Jewish growth and the future of Conservative Judaism.

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

DON'T DELAY YOUR HIGH HOLY DAY SHOPPING! Erev Rosh Hashanah is September 8, two days after Labor Day!

Visit the
Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop
for all of your holiday needs:



Apple & Honey Dishes

Challah Boards

Beautiful Handmade Tallitot

from Israel

Hostess Gifts

#### **SUMMER HOURS**

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday, 10 am–noon and by appointment **202-364-2888** 

To make an appointment, call Diane Keller, 301-469-0550, Helene Weingarten, 301-320-2909, or Jean Bernard, 301-654-8914

**Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.** 

#### **SAVE THE DATE**

Plan ahead now to attend **WLCJ Biennial Convention this December 12–15** at the Marriott Waterfront in Baltimore.

Delegate options include full-time, part-time, and commuter.

Early bird registration will be available in October, and speakers include Rabbi Avis Miller.

#### Adas Israel Represented at the World Zionist Congress

Of the 33 U.S. Jews attending the World Zionist Congress, two from our congregation—Rabbi Jeffrey A. Wohlberg and Mark Berlin—were delegates on the MERCAZ USA slate to the quadrennial World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem, June 15–17. The Congress brought together Jewish groups from around the world to vote on various policies affecting world Jewry.

The 36th World Zionist Congress took place 113 years after Theodore Herzl, the founder of the modern Zionist movement, gathered about 200 Jewish leaders from around the world in Basel, Switzerland, to discuss the condition of the Jewish people. The delegates at that meeting decided to create the World Zionist Organization, which led the campaign that culminated in the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

Rabbi Wohlberg, our Rabbi Emeritus since 2008, was selected to be a delegate and represented the Rabbinical Assembly as its past president. Mark Berlin was chosen for the MERCAZ USA slate in his role as international president of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. Our executive director, Glenn Easton, was elected as an alternate delegate, but was not able to attend the Congress.

MERCAZ USA is the Zionist organization of the Conservative movement—the voice of Conservative Jewry within the World Zionist Organization, the Jewish Agency for Israel, the American Zionist Movement, and the Jewish National Fund. Founded nearly 30 years ago, MERCAZ supports religious pluralism in Israel and strengthens the connection between Israel and the Diaspora. For more information, visit www.mercazusa.org. •

#### Men's Club

## Join Our Ushers and *Kesher Ishi* Greeters!

33rd Annual Community CPR Program, August 31; High Holy Day Usher Light Supper Precedes CPR Course

Come learn or brush up on your CPR skills. For the 33nd consecutive year, the Men's Club is sponsoring a community CPR program on Tuesday, August 31, in Gewirz Hall.

All High Holy Day and *Shabbat* ushers and *Keshi Ishi* greeters are encouraged to attend this year's training, and we welcome new new participants as well. The Men's Club will provide a free light supper, starting at 6:15 pm, and training begins at 6:45.

During supper we will brief our High Holy Day ushers on important security, emergency, and procedure information.

To register, contact Steven Miller, 703-981-1709 or 703-415-0684, or *smiller173@aol.com*. Registration is limited. There is no charge for synagogue members; for non-members, the charge is \$5. •

#### **Daily Minyan**

Join us at the Adas Israel daily *Minyan* services! You never know whom you might meet: two *Minyanaires* were playing Jewish geography one morning after services. Surprise, they discovered they were actually cousins! This is just one of many reasons to join us at the daily *Minyan* services (Monday–Friday, 7:30 am; Sundays and civil holidays, 8:30 am) and every evening (6 pm).

Contact *Hazzan* Greenberg for more information, and please feel free to share a Daily *Minyan* Moment with her for our monthly *Chronicle*.

\*\*Stayed tuned for a *shofar* blast every morning of *Elul* later this summer (August 11–September 7). If you'd like to blow *shofar*, please sign up with *Hazzan* Greenberg

#### Cecile & Seymour Alpert Bequest Increases Fund for the Future Endowment to \$22 Million+

Thanks to the second distribution from the estates of Dr. Seymour & Cecile Alpert (z"l), the congregation has received nearly \$3 million to support scholarships and the Melvin Gelman Religious School, for summer scholarships for high school



and college students, to endow synagogue programming at the discretion of the senior rabbi, and to reduce the building mortgage.

Cecile and Sy Alpert, of blessed memory, were leaders in our congregation who have demonstrated their dedication to the future of the synagogue and to Judaism in America through their remarkable bequest.

Cecile passed away in 2007, and her husband, Sy, passed away in May 2008. They were married nearly 70 years and were both active in many community organizations. Dr. Alpert was an anesthesiologist, professor, and vice president at George Washington University Medical School. In addition, Cecile and Sy were lifelong members of Adas Israel, where he was a life member of the Board of Directors and a the recipient of the congregation's prestigious Shem Tov Award. We thank Dr. Clement Alpert for his assistance with this extraordinary bequest.

This remarkable bequest brings our Fund for the Future Endowment to \$22.5 million toward our goal of \$40 million. For information about synagogue endowments or bequests, please contact Robert Peck, Eric Fox, or Glenn Easton at the synagogue office.

May the memories of Cecile and Seymour Alpert forever be a blessing and an inspiration.  ${\color{red} \bullet}$ 

## New *Erev Shabbat* Schedule Beginning on Friday Nights in September

New experiences are planned for Friday nights at Adas this coming year! We are "One Community with Many Faces," which means that whoever you are and whatever your background, you can find meaning, tradition, and community in our congregation.

Friday nights will become another vibrant expression of this vision. We no longer have just "early services" and "late services." Here's a summary of what you can expect to find on Friday nights throughout 5771:

#### 1st Friday of the month

**6:00 pm:** *L'Dor VaDor* Service & Dinner for families, children, grandparents, and all members; services led by the Rabbi and Cantor, with the help of our schoolchildren

**7:00 pm:** YP Shir Delight Service for 21- to 35-year-olds beginning with Oneg *Shabbat* refreshments and followed by a *Shabbat* dinner

#### 2nd Friday of the month

6:00 pm: Kabbalat Shabbat Service

**6:30 or 7:00 pm:** Ruach Minyan Service (time varies with season) **8:00 pm:** Adas Oneg Service with a special guest speaker or performer.

#### **3rd Friday of the month**

**6:00 pm:** *Kabbalat Shabbat* Service

**6:30 pm:** Gan Family *Shabbat* Service (preceded by *Shabbat* din-

ner)

#### 4th Friday of the month

**6:00 pm:** Kabbalat Shabbat

6:30 or 7:00 pm: Ruach Minyan Service & Dinner

8: 00 pm: Musical Shabbat Service 5th Friday of the month

6:00 pm: Kabbalat Shabbat

Please watch the *Chronicle* and our website (*www.adasisrael.org*) for occasional changes and special weekends. October 29, for example, is the Musical *Shabbat* even though it is a 5th Friday. •

## Life Cycle

#### Milestones

#### **Births**

Calvin Kenneth Fredriksen, son of Katherine and Mark Fredriksen, grandson of Patty Andringa

Gabriella Clara Kittrie, daughter of Orde & Elizabeth Kittrie Isaac "Zac" Ethan Friedberg, son of Rachel and Curt Friedberg, and grandson of Rabbi Jeffrey and Judy Wohlberg

Isabel Rhodes Wolin, daughter of Benjamin Wolin and Jennifer Rhodes, and granddaughter of Steve and Sybil Wolin

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

#### Marriage

**Leslie Karp & Gavriel Kullman**, daughter of Phyllis and Richard Karp and son of Dr. Alitta and Mr. Uri Kullman

We wish the newlyweds and their families a life of joy, good health, and connection to the Jewish community.

#### B'nai Mitzvah

#### Benjamin Apelbaum, August 14

A fifth-generation member of the congregation, Benjamin will be an eighth grader at Westland Middle School this fall. He is excited to share his *simcha* with his parents, Laura and Perry, and his sister, Sara. He is the grandson of Faye and Sheldon S. Cohen of Chevy Chase and Elaine Apelbaum of Akron, OH, and the late Jacob Apelbaum (*z"l*). As his *mitzvah* project, Benjy, an avid tennis player, is collecting gently used tennis racquets and chess sets to donate to the Washington Tennis and Education Foundation.



Naomi Baumgold, August 21

Naomi, daughter of Linda Golden and Jesse Baumgold, is a rising seventh grader at Pyle Middle School and a student at the Melvin Gelman Religious School. She is the grand-daughter of Tamar Baumgold of New York and the late Theodore Baumgold (z"l), and Lucille and Henry Golden of Fair Lawn, NJ. She is looking forward to sharing her simcha

with her parents; her siblings, Ben, David, and Rachel; her grandparents; and her community, friends, and relatives from near and far.

#### In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:

Mara Bershad Gladys Lewis Bella Spal

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Adele Fasimpaur, widow of Morris Manchester Betty Kamerow, mother of Douglas Kamerow Jerome Kleiman, father of Sharon & Phyllis Kleiman Estelle Mossberg, grandmother of Benjamin Mossberg Sylvia Sinclair, mother of Luann Sinclair Jenny Franco, mother of Melanie Nussdorf

#### **Annual Summer Speaker Series**

Each summer we invite synagogue members to be our guest speakers on *Shabbat* mornings. This year we welcome:

July 3, Parshat Pinchas: Ed Kopf

July 17, Parshat Devarim: Amy Schwartz

July 24, Parshat Va'ethanan: Rabbi Batya Steinlauf

July 31, Parshat Ekev: Bob Peck

August 7, Parshat Re'eh: Norman Shore

August 14, Parshat Shoftim, Rabbi Charles Feinberg

August 21, Parshat Ki Tetze, Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

August 28, Parshat Ki Tavo, Rabbi Herb Schwartz

#### **Members in the News**

**Rabbi Jeffrey Wohlberg** has completed his two-year term as president of the Rabbinical Assembly, the international body of Conservative rabbis.

Adas member and Pulitzer Prize-winning author, **Sari Horwitz**, wrote the recently published *Finding Chandra: A True Washington Murder Mystery*.

**Debra Rubin**, editor of the *Washington Jewish Week*, won an award from the Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association for her editorial, "Symbol of Tolerance, Target of Hate," written in the aftermath of the shooting at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, in which a security guard was gunned down. The *Jewish Week* won four first place awards for excellent articles and editorials.

**Bill Levenson** received the Moskowitz Award for Outstanding Volunteer of the Year by the Washington DC Jewish Community Center at its annual meeting.

**Kenneth Cohen** received an honorary doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Congratulations to **Susie Gelman** (president), **Stuart Kurlander** (vice president), and **Stuart Brown** (board member) who were re-elected at the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington's annual meeting.

**Glenn Easton** has completed his two-year term as president of the Jewish Communal Service Association of North America (JCSA), the umbrella organization of nearly 50,000 Jewish communal professionals throughout North America, including federations, Jewish community centers, social service organizations, schools, synagogues, and Jewish agencies. Glenn is co-founder and past president of JProDC, the local JCSA chapter.

#### **New Members**

**Kent & Pamela Kahler** live in Washington with their sons, Seth and Eli. Kent is an IT engineer in the U.S. House of Representatives.

**Jonathan Lechter & Tamar Schiffman** live in Washington. Jonathan is an attorney with Willkie, Farr, and Gallagher, and Tamar works for the nonprofit, Pact, Inc.

**Ethan Landesman** works in government affairs at Specialty Equipment Market Associaton and lives in Washington. •

# 8 • CHRONICLE • JULY-AUGUST 2010

## July-August 2010 Tammuz-Av-Elul 5770

Friday		Saturday		
30 am Morning Minyan 00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 00 pm Ruach Minyan Service (off-site)	<b>20 Tammuz</b> 8:20 pm	3 PARSHAT PINCHAS 9:30 am Shabbat Service combined with Traditional Egalitarian Minyan with Rabbi Steinlauf Guest Speaker: Ed Kopf 12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service Shabbat ends at 9:20 pm	21 Tammuz	

28 Tammuz

6 Av

20 Av

27 Av

4 Elul

11 Elul

18 Elul

Shabbat ends at 8:40 pm

9

16 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 pm Ruach Minyan Service

7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

7:00 pm YP Shir Delight

5 Av 8:14 pm 9:30 am

27 Tammuz

8:18 pm

**10** PARSHAT MATOT-MASEI

Guest Speaker: Debra Kolodny

12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service Shabbat ends at 9:18 pm

9:30 am Shabbat Service with Rabbi Steinlauf (Kogod Chapel)

Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (Gewirz)

17 PARSHAT DEVARIM/SHABBAT CHAZON 9:30 am Shabbat Service with Rabbi Feinberg (Kogod Chapel)

Guest Speaker: Amy Schwartz Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (Gewirz Hall) 12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush Shabbat Mincha Service Shabbat ends at 9:15 pm

23

7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

#### 12 Av 8:10 pm

#### 24 PARSHAT VA'ETCHANAN/SHABBAT NACHAMU

9:30 am Shabbat Service with Rabbi Steinlauf (Kogod Chapel) Guest Speaker: Rabbi Batva Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (Gewirz Hall)

12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service Shabbat ends at 9:11 pm

30

7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

#### 19 Av 8:03 pm

#### **31** PARSHAT EKEV

9:30 am Shabbat Service with Rabbi Feinberg (Kogod Chapel) Guest Speaker: Bob Peck Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (Gewirz Hall)

12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service Shabbat ends at 9:05 pm

7:30 am Morning Minyan Kabbalat Shabbat Service Ruach Minyan Service

#### 26 Av 7:56 pm

**7**PARSHAT RE'EH

8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class Shabbat Service with Rabbi Feinberg (Kogod Chapel) Guest Speaker: Norman Shore

Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (Gewirz Hall) 12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service

Shabbat ends at 8:57 pm

13

7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:00 pm

7:30 am Morning Minyan

6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Ruach Minyan Service 8:00 pm Adas Musical Shabbat Service 9:00 pm *Oneg Shabbat* 

#### 3 Elul 7:47 pm

**14** PARSHAT SHOFTIM

8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class Shabbat Service (Smith Sanctuary) Bar Mitzvah: Benjamin Apelbaum Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg

Shabbat ends at 8:49 pm

9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (Kogod) 12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service

20

#### 10 Elul 7:38 pm

**21** PARSHAT KI TETZE

8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class Shabbat Service (Smith Sanctuary) Bat Mitzvah: Naomi Baumgold

Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (Kogod) D'var Torah by Mark Lerner

12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by Linda Golden & Jesse Baumgold

6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service

**27** 7:28 pm

#### 17 Elul

7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service

#### **28** PARSHAT KITAVO

8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class Shabbat Service with Rabbi Feinberg (Smith Sanctuary)

Guest Speaker: Rabbi Herb Schwartz Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (Kogod) 12:15 pm Congregational Kiddush

6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service Shabbat ends at 8:30 pm

8:30 pm YP Kickoff Cruise on the Potomac

#### **SHABBAT HIGHLIGHTS & ADDITIONAL SERVICES:**

Please note, no 8:00 pm Friday services in July and **August (except August 13)** 

**Ruach Minyan Service & Dinner:** July 2, 7:00 pm (off-site)

YP'Shir Delight' Shabbat Service: July 9, 7:00 pm

**Rosh Chodesh Services &** Breakfast: July 12, 7:30 am, sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund

Ruach Minyan Service & Dinner: July 16, 7:00 pm

Erev Tisha B'Av: July 19, 8:00 pm, Mincha, Maariv, & Eicha

Tisha B'Av: July 20, 7:15 am, Shacharit & Eicha

**Ruach Minyan Service & Dinner:** August 6, 7:00 pm **Rosh Chodesh Services &** 

Breakfast: August 10, 7:30 am, sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund

In the Kogod: Hazzan Jeffrey Weber will chant the liturgy. Hazzan Jenna Greenberg will read *Torah*. Congregational *kiddushim* co-sponsored by the Paul Goldstein-Lillian Goldstein-Lande Shabbat Kiddush Fund.

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

**WEEKDAY SERVICES** 

Morning *Minyan*, Monday through Friday, 7:30 am; Evening Minyan, Sunday through Thursday, 6:00 pm; Civil Holidays, 8:30 am & 6:00 pm; refer to calendar for Erev Shabbat and Shabbat Mincha times.

Please turn off cell phones and pagers before entering services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

## Augusi

#### Schools

#### **Gan HaYeled**

Gan HaYeled will hold its annual summer picnic on Sunday, July 11, 4:00–6:00 pm at Norwood Park in Chevy Chase, MD. Come for pizza, moon bounce, crafts, and fun on the park playground! The picnic, sponsored by the Gan Parents' Association, will be held rain or shine. RSVP to *ganpicnic@gmail.com*.

#### **Mazal Tov**

Mazal tov to Sue Greenberg, Gan Rectangle teacher, on being honored this year with the Doris Herman Teacher Recognition



Award. Sue began teaching at the Gan in 2002, and over the years she has incorporated a number of new techniques into her classroom while continuing to bring joy and delight to her Rectangles and their families.

The Doris Herman Teacher Recognition Fund was established in 1993 to recognize excellence in teaching and the importance of professional development. Nancy Jardini, a Rectangle parent, is pictured presenting Sue with this award.

## Religious School Mah Tovu Moments

*Mah Tovu* means how wonderful, and this section highlights positive and memorable moments in the Religious School.

#### Family Lag B'Omer Celebration

On Sunday, May 2, families from the Gan, Religious School, and day school community came together to celebrate *Lag B'Omer* at Rock Creek Park.





a Lag B'Omer custom, Emily and Sam Ringel craft their own bows and arrows to practice target shooting.

▲ Kindergarten teacher Morah Henia coordinates craft projects during the celebration.

## Important Dates in the Melvin Gelman Religious School

**September 14–15:** First midweek classes for grades 3–6 **September 14:** First evening classes for grades 7–12; High School BBQ on the patio

September 26: First Sunday classes for K-7



As part of Chagigat HaSiddur, third graders (Gimel students) led a Shacharit service on Sunday, May 9, for their families and students in grades k–2. On this occasion, these students received their own siddurim.

#### Mazal Tov to Our 12th-Grade Graduates!

We interviewed our outgoing 12th-grade graduates, and here is what some of them had to say when we asked them why they stayed in our Hebrew High School program despite their busy schedules and many obstacles:

When I was going through a difficult time in my personal life, my friends at Adas Israel and the teachers were there to support me and were accepting of who I was and where I was in my life.

You are not going to go out on a Saturday night with friends and talk about your view of capital punishment. At Adas Israel we had a safe place to talk about these important issues.

We have been together since the Gan and we will always be friends, wherever our paths take us.

I loved studying Jewish text with the Rabbis and having discussions about what it means to us.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



The 12th graders opened their graduation ceremony with Arik Einstein's "Uf Gozal" (Fly Away).



From left, Dena Goodman, Mikey Fische, and Alex Moreno smile after graduation



Adas Israel graduating class of 5770.

#### **12TH GRADE QUOTES** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

My favorite class was the Gender Issues in Judaism class that we called "Sext in the Text." It was interesting and I learned a lot.

We hope to see all of your children back in the fall so they, too, can benefit from remaining connected to our Adas Israel community and each other.

#### **Mazal Tov** to Our Student Award Winners! **Ben Cooper Community Youth Service Leadership Award:**

#### Lily Moghadam

Awarded in memory of Ben Cooper, an outstanding student leader who was tragically killed in a car accident before his senior year of high school, to a high school student for his or her leadership in the community and among his or her peers.



Lily Moghadam (center), Ben Cooper Community Youth Service Leadership Award recipent, with Ben Coooper's parents, Judith Areen and Richard Cooper.



Jessica Schwalb receives the Herman and Jennie Robbin Award from Judge

Jennie Robbin by their family in Bruce Mencher.

#### **Herman and Jennie Robbin Award: Jake Wohl** (high school) and Jessica Schwalb (middle school)

*In memory of Herman and* recognition of their support of

our youth and given to one outstanding high school student and one outstanding middle school student.

#### **Nathan and Rosa Povich Award: Simon Kamerow**

In memory of Nathan and Rosa Povich by their grandchildren to promote academic excellence and awarded to one high school student who has excelled in their studies or has shown significant interest in Jewish learning.

#### **Derech Eretz Award: Michael Fische**

Awarded at the discretion of the Director of Education, to recognize unique student contributions to the Melvin Gelman Religious School.

#### Registration for the 2010–2011 School Year

Registration for the 2010–2011 School Year has begun. Please visit http://www.adasisrael.org/rsregistration to learn about our new registration process. O

#### Be an Ambassador!

During these difficult financial times, when we are providing more scholarships and membership reductions for our members, we continue to count on recruiting new students and families to our community. This strengthens our community not only financially, but in many other ways as well.

If you know anyone who may benefit from being affiliated with our community, please encourage them to contact us, or invite them to visit our school or to a special program or service. Thank you for being an ambassador for our community. O

#### **Mazal tov to our JPDS Graduates**

Jordana Meyer, Jacobo Ostroff, Carol Silber, Zachary Sosland, Infinity Willner, and Miriam Wittes. O

#### Torah Club

Torah Club, a new program for the 2010–2011 school year, will meet Wednesdays, 6:30–7:30 pm, for fifth and sixth graders. Both religious school and day school students are invited to attend. We will have dinner, followed by a fun and informal learning opportunity with *Hazzan* Greenberg to learn how to chant Torah, a skill that will be useful at both Junior Congregation Shabbat services and at b'nai mitzvah.

Contact Hazzan Greenberg (hazzan.greenberg@adasisrael. org) for more information. O

## Youth Caucus Expands Offerings for Children and Families on High Holidays

Adas Israel's Youth Caucus has been working to enhance our offerings for youth and families during the High Holy Days to provide a meaningful Jewish experience for all those participating in our youth and family programming, and to facilitate parents' being able to attend adult services. This year, our plan is to offer an expanded array of services and activities for children and teenagers, including:

- A new family service for families with kids up to 6th grade, led by Josh Bender, director of education, and Elie Greenberg, director of informal programming, on the first day of Rosh Hashana and on Yom Kippur
- High-energy and engaging services for pre-school (Gan) age children and school-age children with the beloved Robyn Helzner; ever-popular Tot *Shabbat* leader, Menuhah Peters; and other talented leaders
- Engaging activities for teens, including teen discussion groups, and a Tashlich-Hike
- Supervised activity centers for children up to age 12 while congregational services are in session

Please visit the Adas Israel website (www.adasisrael.org) for information about specific activities and for instructions on how to sign up. A High Holy Day children and family newsletter will be designed in the coming weeks describing all of our exciting offerings. In the meantime, if you have any suggestions or would like to get involved, please contact Josh Bender, josh.bender@adasisrael.org.O

#### **Freudberg Sisterhood Library Summer Schedule**

For access to the Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library during the summer (July and August), please see someone in the Education Department Office or email education@ adasisrael.org or call 202-362-4449.

You can access our online library catalog at adasisrael.org/library

second year in a row we have frozen salaries for senior staff and reduced the staff's annual salary adjustment. Membership has not dropped significantly, but the number of members asking for dues forgiveness of some sort is up; similarly, school enrollment is nearly level, but the number of scholarship requests is up significantly.

In a longer-term trend, the demographics of our membership are changing. We have proportionately more young members, which is wonderful; but they pay lower dues.

Fortunately, with the rebound in the stock market, our endowment is back up significantly, but we cannot tap it to make up for our immediate budget shortfalls. In the face of budget challenges and their own reduced numbers, our staff, led by Glenn Easton, have been magnificent in maintaining the day-to-day functioning of Adas Israel in such a way that no one would suspect there's any strain at all.

We do face other challenges that I want to bring to your attention. I hope to begin addressing them in the next year, alongside Johanna Chanin, who I am thrilled to have by my side as president-elect for this second and final year of my presidency. Something tells me that if my presidency is remembered for anything, it will be for making Johanna president.

What are these challenges? What weaknesses do we need to address?

First, while we have a core of members who come to services and who are also in the main those who attend lectures and other events, we have hundreds of members whom we have not yet found a way to engage meaningfully in the congregation. We need to find out how we can make Adas more attractive to them as an expression of their Jewishness.

Second, and specifically related to the first challenge, we need to find out how to replicate the close bonding and participation of the Gan parents community in the parents of our Melvin Gelman Religious School students. Josh Bender has made a start on this over the past year and we need to support that. The Gan community has been an entrée to organized Jewish life for hundreds of families. Many former Gan parents are now leaders at Adas Israel due to their experience in their children's early years.

Third, and also related to engaging more members, I have down-played this year some of our committees. We were finding that some committees met regularly but did not make much happen, and so were squandering the energy and commitment of their members. I hope instead to engage people in projects, and in task-oriented work groups which I hope, will give them the satisfaction of seeing their work through to a result. Projects can often be done in a matter of months, so we can ask work group members to devote a shorter, more concentrated period.

Fourth, concomitantly, we need members working to take some of the burden off the reduced staff. In a way, having as good a staff as we do can work against us; the staff gets so much done that we have become used to relying on its members to a fault and so have missed the opportunity to carry on the community building that comes from members working together to provides the synagogues' programs and services. We have had one joint Executive Committee staff meeting in part to address this question of appropriate staff and lay roles. We need to recruit members for our work groups, and that is a lay responsibility.

Fifth, we need to be more conscientious about canceling programs that no longer function well or attract a following. We just don't have the time, staff, or lay resources to maintain outdated services while we introduce meaningful new ones.

Finally, the most visible manifestation of the Adas community, this community of communities, is our building at Connecticut and Porter. Well, actually, on Quebec Street. And that in itself tells you something. The building's front door is no longer its front door. The building itself is a strength and a weakness.

Above all, its location in the District of Columbia, near a Metro station, is an incredible strength. So are its monumentality, its imposing presence, and the scale of the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary space.

But the building has grown in an unplanned way over time, so that internal circulation is confusing and inefficient. Many of the spaces were designed for a different time, when the Adas community, and synagogues in general, had different needs. There is no central "there, there," no central space where the communities can come together.

Even the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, in many ways the central worship

and gathering space, is a product of a different time. Its volume is grand, but its overall aspect is cold. For Rabbi Steinlauf and for many of us, the sanctuary's current design makes it difficult to experience joyful, communal worship. On *Shabbat*, with most of the seats unfilled, the grandeur becomes overwhelming and stifling. So, too, our other worship spaces are burdened by their design. The Kogod Chapel, for instance, lacks a source of natural light altogether, which is counter to *halacha*, Jewish law and practice.

So it is with great joy that I can announce to the membership the exciting news that, for the past several years, at the instigation of and with a generous pledge from the families of Robert Smith, of blessed memory, and Robert Kogod, we have been working on a design for renewal of the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary. In the past year, we expanded that design work to encompass a master plan and interior plans for the entire synagogue.

This work began under the leadership of Russell Smith when he was president and he has remained an enthusiastic and persistent champion of this effort. Russell and talented architect Steve Kleinrock, a Board member, have put a phenomenal amount of time and energy into this project.

Tonight we are kicking off our 21st Century Renewal and Endowment project. Russell and Steve will fill you in on the designs we have secured from one of the country's pre-eminent architectural firms. Russell will also describe the endowment side of the project, an effort to underwrite essential offices and programs.

We already have commitments nearly sufficient to undertake the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary renovation. But we will have to work diligently over the next several years to fulfill the vision of the master plan for the building and the vision for the endowment.

None of us believes that achieving these goals will be easy, any more than meeting the other challenges I have described will be easy. But none of us who have worked on the renewal campaign planning believe that Adas can afford not to take this momentous step at this time.

As I've said, we've surprised ourselves at how successful our changes have been and have regretted in many cases only that no one undertook them sooner. This will be no different. Or, as Theodor Herzl said of the dream of a Zionist state: "If you will it, it is no dream."

## Beth Ann Spector to Coordinate Programs and Membership; Kate Bailey Promoted to Communications Director Additional Staff Changes

**Beth Ann Spector** has expanded her hours and responsibilities and is our new full-time program and membership coordinator. In addition, she assists with administrative and program projects in the Religious School.





**Kate Bailey**, our new communications director, will work on the *Chronicle*, weekly *Kesher Ishi* e-newsletter, website, school e-news, in-house publicity, and external public relations. She has served for several years in our education office.

Jane Baldinger's expanded responsibilities include adminis-

tering synagogue contributions since the departure of Elaine Schenberg. We thank Elaine, for her good work on our behalf, and Jane, for accepting this important responsibility.





We thank as well **Rita Nicholls**, who has completed her 13th year in our accounting office, for expanding her responsibilities by assisting Jane with our contributions.

Adas Israel is fortunate to have a great team of dedicated staff members. O

## Lifelong Learning

#### Save the Date: Shabbat Weekend Retreat for Adults, Nov. 12–14

Adas Israel is sponsoring a Jewish learning and living retreat for adults on the theme, "Experiencing Shabbat," November 12–14, at the Pearlstone Retreat Center in Reisterstown, MD, just outside of Baltimore. The event is open to anyone over the age of 18, and all members of Adas Israel are encouraged to attend.

The study sessions will discuss the significance of different Shabbat observances and address how we can make our weekly Shabbat observance more engaging and meaningful. In addition, selections from Judith Shulevitz's new book, The Sabbath World: Glimpses of a Different Order of Time, will be discussed.

Rabbi Feinberg will lead the retreat and will be the rabbi

in residence. In addition, there will be a high level of lay participation in all aspects of the program.

You and your friends can sign up for the retreat by e-mailing Rabbi Feinberg's assistant, Marcia Miller, Marcia.Miller@adasisrael. org, or by going onto the synagogue website, www.adasisrael.org.

The cost of the retreat is \$400 per couple and \$250 for singles. If a single person wants to share a room with another single person, the cost is \$200 per person. If you have any questions, call Rabbi Feinberg, 202-362-4433, at the synagogue or contact Ed Kopf, Susan Klein, or Joyce Stern, who are assisting the Rabbi in organizing the retreat. •

#### The Me'ah Program **Adas Israel Congregation**

Ever wish you could go back to college to take Jewish Studies courses? Now you can—without writing papers or taking tests! Explore the opportunity. Come to The Me'ah Program at Adas Israel Congregation.

What is Me'ah (translated as 100)? Me'ah is an innovative adult Jewish learning experience that offers 100 hours of in-depth text study over two years, guided by university-level faculty. Participants in the Me'ah program study four central periods of Jewish history: Biblical, rabbinic, medieval, and modern, to deepen their understanding of and connection to the Jewish people.

Through a collaborative effort of Adas Israel and the Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning, the Me'ah program begins a new two-year cycle in our community in October. On May 3, 30 people participated in a lesson taught by Dr. Erica Brown and expressed interest in signing up for the program.

#### YP@AI

YP@Al is a community for young Jewish adults between the ages of 21 and 35. Singles can meet singles, young couples can meet young couples, newcomers can connect with other newcomers.



#### Shir Delight Friday, July 9, 7 pm

Join other young adults for a chill, traditional lay-led Friday night service. FREE oneg happy hour starts at 7 pm, followed by Kabbalat Shabbat and

Maariv services at 8 pm. No RSVP needed; see you there!

#### White Water Rafting, July 18

Join other young couples for an afternoon of white water rafting at beautiful Harpers Ferry. Event includes transportation, lunch, and rafting. Don't miss out. Tune into www.adasisrael.org/yp for more info and sign up today! •

If you were not able to come on May 3, you can learn about the program by visiting the Me'ah website, www.meahusa.org/. In addition, Rabbi Feinberg has a DVD describing the program and including comments by students who have participated in the program. If you like more information about the program, please contact Rabbi Feinberg, Rabbi.Feinberg@adasisrael.org O.

Our *mikvah* is a sacred space where Jews can mark life transitions with a powerful physical ritual. Immersing in a mikvah connects a body to the water cycle of our planet and to the source of life. People visit our *mikvah* to observe the *mitzvah* of monthly immersion; to celebrate simchas; to find strength during a period of difficulty; to pray for healing; to reflect on the meaning of becoming a bride, groom, bar mitzvah or bat mitzvah; to convert to Judaism; and to prepare physically and spiritually for chagim.

To learn more about our mikvah or to schedule an appointment before Rosh Hashanah or Yom Kippur, please call Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776, or e-mail mikvah@adasisrael.org.

#### Youth @ Al



adas

israel

Seaboard Region USY Encampment (incoming 9th-12th graders) and Kamp Kadima (incoming 7th and 8th graders) is August 23–29 at Capital Camps. Download the flier at www.adasisrael.org/ youth and sign up today! Enjoy the rest of your summer! •

### Youth Summer Schedule 2010 Please note modified structure for the summer season.

TOT SHABBAT + KINDERGARTNERS: weekly in July and August, 11 am (please check Kesher Ishi for specific details) COMBINED 1ST-3RD GRADES: July 10, 24; August 7, 21, 11 am JUNIOR CONG. FOR 4TH-6TH GRADES: July 10, 24; August

SHABBAT SPOT: weekly in July and August, 10–11 am, but staffed by a combination of hired staff and parent/teen volunteers

### **Contributions**

## The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

#### Abraham & Anna Nathanson Youth Endowment Fund

In Memory Of: Bertha Bernstein by Alvin & Gloria Bernstein. Abraham Nathanson by Bennett Nathanson.

**Anna & Joseph Blumenthal Video Fund**In Memory Of: **Clara Hartogensis** by Mrs. Flora Atkin.

#### Anne Frank House Fund

In Memory Of: Harry Berman, my loving father by Ms. Shoshana Riemer. Stanley D. Becker by Thelma Becker. Grace Polsky, Bobby Meehling's mother, Henry Gelboin, all by Lisa Schwat.

#### Anne Kampelman Wiederkehr Cultural Arts Program

*In Honor Of:* **Bernie Meyer**'s *Yad Hakavod* award by Stewart & Shelley Remer.

#### **Bereavement Fund**

In Honor Of: My aliyah by Elaine Kremens. In Memory Of: Jonathan Bloom-Feshbach by Dr. Sally Bloom-Feschbach; Alison & Kimberly Bloom-Feshbach. Edie Dubit by Bruce, Mark & Laura Rabinovitz.

#### Bible & Prayer Book Fund

In Memory Of: Henry Oxenburg by Edward & Lynn Abramson. Betty Kamerow by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Beverly Bildman Bernstein by Francine Linde & Family.

#### Cantor Max Wohlberg Memorial Fund

In Honor Of: Laura & Jeff Blumenfeld's 40th anniversary by Herbert & Carolyn Kolben. Birth of **Rabbi Jeffrey & Judy Wohlberg**'s grandson by Rob & Rachel Rubin.

#### **Congregational Kiddush**

In Honor Of: Laura & Jeffrey Blumenfeld's 40th anniversary by Jeff & Laura Blumenfeld. David Schwartz's 80th birthday by Gail & David Schwartz.

Craig Jeffrey Atlas Hebrew University Fund In Memory Of: Lillie Atlas by Arline & Alvin

#### **Daily Minyan Fund**

In Honor Of: Bernie Meyers by Marvene Horwitz. Soledad Sloan's bar mitzvah, Margie Siegel's special bat mitzvah by Bill Levenson. Bernard Meyer's 2010 Yad Hakavod award by Michael & Joyce Stern.

In Memory Of: Dorothy Grenadier by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Dora Meyer by Bernard Meyer. Bessie Yecies by Mark Yecies.

#### **Doris Herman Gan Teacher Recognition Fund**By: Charles & Laura Curran.

In Honor Of: Sue Greenberg by Eric Bensky & Amber Cottle. Star & 2X Butterfly classes by Stephan Diamond & Unice Lieberman. Sue Greenberg by Lewis Flax & Simone Frank, Eliezer Halbfinger & Alyza Lewin, John & Kimberly Hasenberg, Bea Lazerow, Alan Lefkowitz & Neomi

Rao, Stewart & Shelley Remer, Norm Rich & Sara Cohen. **Elaine Berman** by John & Kimberly Hasenberg. Our children, Henry Isaac & Louisa Kate by Joshua & Molly Wachs.

**Dorothy & David Linowes Program Fund**In Memory Of: **Jack Wolf** by Dorothy Linowes.

**Dr. Stanley Kirstein Gan Hayeled Fund**In Honor Of: **Mila Kirstein Baturin**'s bat
mitzvah by Steven Blacher.

Esther Saks Abelman Yiddish Cultural Fund In Memory Of: Esther Saks Abelman by Edward & Jackie Cohen, Diane Abelman Wattenberg. Jonah Schiffres by Manuel Schiffres.

#### Ethel Dubit Senior Fellowship Fund

In Memory Of: Ethel Dubit by Geraldine Dubit. Samuel Fishman by Robert Fishman. David Surosky by Shelley Kossak. Robert Kossak by Michael Kossak.

**Executive Director Discretionary Fund**By: Zev Lewis.

#### **Ezra Pantry**

By: Erik Ladinsky.

#### Frances & Leonard Burka Social Action Endowment

*In Memory Of:* **Fanny Gelman** by John Kossow. **Elizabeth Gelman Kossow** by John & Renny Kossow.

#### Fund for the Future

In Honor Of: Birth of Patty Andringa's grandson, Calvin Kenneth Fredriksen, Jeff & Laura Blumenfeld's 40th anniversary by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Manny Schiffres's birthday by Debra Rubin.

In Memory Of: Jacob Feuerstein & Ethel Feuerstein by Marcy Feuerstein & Ron Schwarz. Sylvia Shreiar by Carolyn Goldman. My father, Harry Eidelsberg by Gilda Snyder.

#### Garden of the Righteous Fund

In Memory Of: **Betty Kamerow** by Larry & Jean Bernard. **Marieann Gladstone** by Harry & Judie Linowes. Phillipe, son of Drs. Monique Bellefleur & Marc Simond by Saul & Judy Strauch.

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#### Havurah Kiddush Fund

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Hazzan Greenberg Discretionary Fund By: Zev Lewis.

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by. brace Mericine.

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In Memory Of: Estelle Seldowitz by Lillian Cardash

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#### Rabbi Steinlauf Discretionary Fund

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#### **Contributions Continued**

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Siegel-Kalmekoff Family Adult Education Fund In Honor Of: Soledad Sloan's bat mitzvah, Bernie Meyer receiving the Yad Hakavod by Margie Siegel.

For The Speedy Recovery Of: Patricia Malstrom, In Memory Of: Gert Sofer, Sadie Kaminski, Leo Sherman, Lucian Nochomovitz, Sylvia Kalmekoff Siegel, all by Margie Siegel. Sisterhood Israel Scholarship Fund In Memory Of: Mara Bershad by Michael & Joyce Stern.

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In Memory Of: Leah Aks by Hilda Aks. Walter Bell by Marilyn Austern. Bertram Braunstein by Sandra Braunstein. Mary Glick by Ryna Cohen. Jerome Kleiman by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Morris Epstein by Krayna Feinberg. Mayor Obestein by Roger & Renée Fendrich. Lillian Dublin by Lois Fingerhut. Ida L. Hellman by Elinor Gruber. Milton Hoffman by Frances Hoffman. Albert P. Levy by Rosalyn Jonas. David Klein by Morris Klein. Elsie Zarin Goll by Elizabeth Lerner. Rose Lieberman by Irving Lieberman. Israel Stern by Alvin A. Stern. Louis Rosenman by Patricia Rosenman. **Sherwin Rubin** by Lillian Rubin, Julia & Susan Rubin. **Solomon Shapiro** by Stephen Shapiro. Samuel Laby by Miriam Vinicur. Sara Luper Wolfson by Charles Wolfson.

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## Watch for High Holy Day Packets Note NEW Services and Times

Planning for the 2010 High Holy Days is underway, and packets of information will arrive at your home by the end of the month. Please note a few minor service time changes to improve the flow of our services and enhance your holiday season.

- Rosh Hashanah services begin at 8:15 am instead of 8:00 am
- Rosh Hashanah Mincha/Maariv begins at 7:00 pm instead of 6:45 pm
- Yom Kippur Yizkor begins at approximately 11:40 am
- Yom Kippur Musaf & Martyrology begin at approximately 12:40 pm
- Yom Kippur Lecture & Discussion begin at 3:45 pm
- Yom Kippur Mincha begins at 5:00 pm
- Yom Kippur Late Yizkor begins at 5:00 pm
- Yom Kippur Gan Pre-school service begins at 5:45 pm
- Yom Kippur N'eelah begins at 6:30 pm

Similar to last year, our rabbis rotate between the services to allow Rabbi Steinlauf to *daven* with all of our members. He officiates in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary on the first day of

Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre and in the Kay Hall service on Yom Kippur. He also will officiate at our Traditional Musaf service on the second day of Rosh Hashanah and give a d'var torah at the Traditional Mincha service on Yom Kippur.

Rabbi Charles Feinberg officiates in Kay Hall service on the first day of Rosh Hashanah and Kol

ROSH HASHANAH IS JUST 3 DAYS AFTER LABOR DAY!

PLEASE RETURN YOUR HIGH HOLY DAY TICKET REQUESTS SOON!

Nidre. He leads the service in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary on Yom Kippur and the second day of Rosh Hashanah. Rabbi Reuven Hammer returns to Adas Israel from Israel to lead the Gewirz Hall service and officiate in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary service during Shacharit and Late Yizkor on Yom Kippur.

Josh Bender and Elie Greenberg are leading our Family Service on *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. Josh leads our family *Tashlich* in Rock Creek Park on the First Day of *Rosh Hashanah*, and Elie leads our USY Hike and *Tashlich* for 9th 12th graders. We also welcome back our *B'aalei T'fillah*, Michael Leifman and Michael Kay, who are *daven*ing in Kay Hall and Gewirz Hall, respectively.

We also welcome back Robyn Helzner to our two Gan Family Services and look forward to our self-led Traditional *Minyan* Services in Kogod Chapel.

Watch your mail for the High Holy Day packet.

Upcoming Chronicle Deadlines—