

ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

Chronicle

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HAPPY PURIM!

דוֹבֵר אֱמֶת Dover Emet Speaking the Truth

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

My grandmother had a good death, one that any of us would hope for. She was 99 years old. She had seen her children, her grandchildren, and great grandchildren grow and flourish. She never lost her mental abilities or her wicked sense of humor. She lived her life devoted to her family and her people. One of the greatest lessons of her amazing century of life came at the very end itself.

My Grandma lived her life with great simplicity. She neither had riches nor required them. She never craved extravagance. Whenever a milestone, an accomplishment, or a special event came up through the years, she and my grandfather always marked the occasion in one special way. They would sit down together and have a little vanilla ice cream in a glass of ginger ale. By the time Grandma died, she hadn't had this treat in many years, maybe not since Grandpa died 20 years

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Adas *Oneg* Service with Mark Novak & Renée Brachfeld, March 11



Mark Novak & Renée Brachfeld—a dynamic husband-wife storytelling duo—draw their material from the warmth and richness of the Jewish tradition. Renée, a storyteller and juggler, and Mark, a cantor and musician, have served as artists in

residence at more than 120 synagogues across the U.S. and Canada.

Mark serves as *hazzan* at Congregation Kol Shalom in Bethesda. Since 1993, the eponymous Mark Novak Band has been a popular choice for wedding and *b'nai mitzvah* celebrations. In January 2012, he will receive *smicha* from the ALEPH rabbinic program.

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Sisterhood *Shabbat*, March 25-26

Featuring Author Dara Horn and Rabbi Shira Stutman

Adas Israel Sisterhood is proud to announce

that celebrated novelist Dara Horn will present the d'var Torah at morning services on Sisterhood Shabbat, March 26. Following the kiddush, she will discuss "English as a Jewish Language." Her appearance is made possible through the Mozelle Saltz Fund for Sisterhood Speakers, and the entire congregation is invited to attend.

Author of three prizewinning novels, Dr. Horn received her Ph.D. in comparative literature from Harvard University Dara Horn

Rabbi Stutman

in 2006, focusing on Hebrew and Yiddish. Her first novel, *In the Image*, published when she was 25, received the 2003 National Jewish Book Award for Fiction. She received the award a second time in 2006 for *The World to Come*, which also was selected as an "Editors' Choice" in the *New York Times Book Review*, identified as one of the "Best Books of the

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

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earlier. But that final day of her life, she told the woman caring for her that she was having a craving: could she get a little vanilla ice cream with ginger ale? It was first thing in the morning, but her health aide, ever the angel she was, went and got this treat for her.

Grandma had her vanilla and ginger ale float

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

for breakfast and asked for second and even third helpings. Not long after this, she simply closed her eyes and died.

It is absolutely clear that my grandma knew that this was it. She knew it was her time. She knew that she had lived a beautiful life, and since it was ending, why not celebrate it?

I like to say that we all learn Torah from one another. I believe that "Torah" is not just the Five Books of Moses. "The Torah" is actually a mirror we hold up before ourselves that shows us the infinite uniqueness of our own souls. We can find infinite Divine wisdom by studying the Torah. And we can find infinite Divine wisdom by studying each other, by truly listening to one another, by being students of one another. Grandma gave me Divine wisdom through her good death. She taught me that death is not anything to be afraid of. She taught me that each of us has our time in this life. For some of us, it may be a century; for others, something shorter; for some—too short. But whatever time we have, it is so very precious. In our reflective moments, we all know that it is precious.

Support Our Daily MinyanAs you know, Adas Israel is fortunate to be one of the few Con-

As you know, Adas Israel is fortunate to be one of the few Conservative congregations in the Greater DC area with a *minyan* twice each day, every single day of the week. Personally, I feel very lucky to be a part of this daily *minyan* community, a warm and welcoming micro-community within Adas Israel Congregation. For all the diversity our synagogue has to offer, daily *minyan* is one place where everyone can *daven* together, in an intimate setting, and feel like their participation is truly valued, for whatever reason brings them to the *minyan*.

There are many reasons people come to *minyan*, several of which revolve around *avelut*, the mourning experience. The rabbinic sages created a beautiful system for the mourner, where, when one can feel lost and alone, he or she is brought back into the warmth of the community through the process of saying *Kaddish* for 11 months. This is very therapeutic, and perhaps addicting in a way, as several people stay on to help make a *minyan*, even after they have completed their year of mourning.

We have also been blessed with *s'machot* at our daily *minyanim*, where *b'nai mitzvah* are celebrated almost weekly, as well as *aufruf*s, baby namings, and other wonderful celebrations of life. Daily *minyan* at Adas Israel is a very special place, bringing people together for a wide variety of reasons, marking various kinds of personal milestones, both celebrating life and remembering those who have passed on.

But Grandma went beyond this insight. She understood that sometimes, it's good to have ice cream for breakfast. More than good. Ice cream floats at 8:00 am are sometimes essential; they are what make us truly human. Our humanity is at its best when we mark life's passages through our ceremonies and rituals that direct our minds and hearts to life's sweetness, to life's amazing brilliance—so rich, so incomprehensible, so beautiful because it passes so quickly: it could be a hundred years or vastly fewer. When it's all said and done, length of years cannot compare to quality of years.

We often attempt to fill our lives with entertainments, riches, and extravagant distractions. We're afraid to face life's transience. But Grandma seemed to know better. She knew that life's not an impending loss to be avoided; it's a gift to acknowledge by tasting its sweetness while we have it. I am so proud to be Lucille Klayman's grandson. I am proud to live and represent her beloved Judaism. Like Grandma, Judaism also teaches us to pause in the midst of life each and every day—in gratitude and wonder—to taste life's sweetness through our rituals and ceremonies that remind us of life's gifts.

The Shabbat after her funeral, my family gathered together for Shabbat dinner. And guess what we all had for dessert that night? Batya and I have a new tradition now to mark milestones together with our children: vanilla ice cream with ginger ale. In this way, we are blessed by the memory of Grandma's good death—a sweet treat to remind us that God blesses us, as God blessed Grandma, by keeping us alive, by sustaining us, and by bringing us to the blessing of this moment. May we all be similarly blessed, as my Grandma was. May we all be blessed not only with a century of life, but with a life where we know how each moment truly is a sweet blessing. •

But as you can imagine, or maybe you even know from your own experience, attendance can vary, and sometimes it can be a challenge to make a *minyan*, in both the mornings and the evenings. Which brings me to the following request:

Please join us at the daily *minyan* when you are able to be there. Whether that means once a day, once a week, or even once a month, your presence could make the difference between making a *minyan* or not. If you have any suggestions about to how to increase attendance at our daily *minyanim*, I would love to hear your thoughts.

The experience of *davening* daily is a beautiful ritual practice. It can be educational, where you can put your Hebrew skills to use, as a congregant, a service leader, or Torah reader. It can be transformative, as many rituals in our tradition are, where we take these special moments to grow through the experience of *t'fila*. It can even be a delicious ritual, as our morning *minyanim*, and even an occasional evening *minyan*, are followed by a nosh together!

So please join us when you can. Making a commitment to our daily *minyanim* can be a meaningful experience, not just for you as an individual, but also for every member of the *K'hila K'dosha*, our holy congregation, coming together for this beautiful *mitzvah*.

I look forward to seeing you soon (M–F, 7:30 am; Sunday and holidays, 8:30 am; evening, 6 pm [except *Shabbat* afternoons in the winter; check the *Chronicle* for exact times]).

—Hazzan Jenna Greenberg O

Holidays

Eat Drink and Be Holy: The Holiday of *Purim*

On its surface, the holiday of *Purim* is fairly straightforward, characterized by an atmosphere of joy and celebration. We are required to eat and to drink; we parade around in outlandish costumes; and we make loud noises that can hardly be described as dignified. It is not only children who are expected to wear costumes. Adults as well are very much encouraged to wear costumes and participate in the joyous celebration. Still, beneath its almost too obvious guise of merriment, *Purim* is marked by a seriousness of purpose equal to that of the most solemn holiday. We are required to perform a variety of *mitzvot*—and from each, we learn an important lesson.

One of the most important things we learn from *Purim* is that no person can exist alone. We share with others not only our daily lives, but our hopes and dreams as well. Hillel taught: *Al tifrosh min ha'tziibbur*—Do not separate yourself from the community. In each of the *mitzvot* we perform on Purim, we learn something new about the concept of sharing.

Reading the Megillah

Each year, we are required to listen to the complete reading of *Megillat Esther*. We are instructed to listen to every word and to do this twice—evening and morning. Perhaps, in attending these public readings, we are learning the value of sharing with the entire community recognition of, and appreciation for, our collective triumph over adversity.

Defeating Haman was a shared enterprise. Mordecai and Esther led the way, supported by the prayers of the entire Jewish people. In every generation, there are those like Haman who prey on people's basest fears to maximize their own power. Confronting such evil must be a shared responsibility. While one group may be singled out for harsh treatment, it is the responsibility of all good people to fight against this kind of tyranny.

Mishloach Manot

Each year, increasing numbers of Jews are discovering the wonderful *Purim* custom of sharing food with friends and neighbors, giving at least two types of food to at least two recipients. The *mitzvah* of *mishloach manot* is based on the verse in the *Megillah* instructing us to "send portions one to another" (9:22). Some people bake *hamentashen* and other goodies, while others donate food packages through their synagogue. Use this opportunity to spread *Purim* cheer to those who might not otherwise receive such gifts. Consider bringing some brightly decorated baskets to seniors, the homebound, or newcomers.

Matanot L'evyonim

Based on the injunction in the *Megillah* that we must "send gifts to the poor" (9:22), the holiday affords us a special opportunity to share our good fortune with those in need. Gifts can be given directly, for example, by bringing food and clothing to a homeless shelter, or indirectly, through an organized charity. It is important to keep in mind that whatever additional *tzedakah*

Purim at Adas

Erev Purim, Saturday, March 19

6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha (Mincha only)
7:30 pm Reshet DC Wine Tasting, Funger Hall
8:00 pm Full Megillah Reading (Family Service),

Kogod Chapel

8:30 pm Full Megillah Reading & Purim Spiel,

Smith Sanctuary

10:00 pm Refreshments, Kay Hall

10:00 pm YP Wine & "Cheesentashen," Gewirz Hall

Purim, Sunday, March 20

8:30 am Morning *Minyan* 9:30 am *Megillah* Reading

9:30 am Pre-School and K–4 Families Megillah

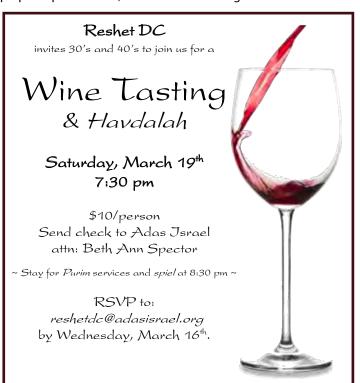
Reading, Spiel, and Parade

10:30 am Pre-School-Only Time at Purim Carnival
 11:00 am Purim Carnival Open to All Ages: Come dressed in your favorite Bible costume.
 Prizes, food, & fun for the entire family!

we give throughout the year, donations must still be given on *Purim*. How important is this *mitzvah*? As Maimonides writes in his *Mishneh Torah* (*Hilkhot Megillah* 2:17): "It is better for a person to increase gifts to the poor than to increase his feast or the *mishloach manot* to his neighbors."

Seudat Purim

Few things are more pleasurable than sharing a celebratory meal with our families. The *Megillah* tells us that *Purim* should be a time for feasting. This year, approach the *Purim seudah* with the commitment we bring to preparing the Passover *seder*. Wear special clothing (off-beat costumes are definitely permitted), prepare special foods, and learn *Purim* songs.



Passover Workshops

Sunday, March 27, 9:30 am-12 noon Coffee & Bagels, 9:30-10 am

Each workshop runs from 10:00 to 10:55 am, and then repeats from 11:05 am to 12 noon.

People will have a chance to take two of the five workshops.

Enhancing the Experience of

Younger **Children at a Family**

Seder

Menuhah Peters

Eyes on the Afikoman: How to Keep

Different Generations Engaged at Your Seder Rabbi Herb Schwartz

The Illustrated Art of the Haggadah

(How different parts of the Haggadah have been illustrated) Rabbi Charles Feinberg

How to Select the Right Haggadah for Your Family Seder Robin Jacobson

Learning New Music for the Haggadah

Cantor Jeffrey Weber/Hazzan Jenna Greenberg O

Purim Carnival 2011

Shushan Comes Alive!

March 20

Pre-School ages only: 10:30 ar All ages: 11:00 am-1:00 pm

Featuring...

- Obstacle Course > Fishing in the Galil
- Dunk-the-Rabbi
- > Moonbounce
- > Spin Art
- > Cotton Candy
- > Ring Toss
- > Hamantaschen
- > Henna > Sand Art
- > Popcorn & More

Prizes, food, and fun for the entire family

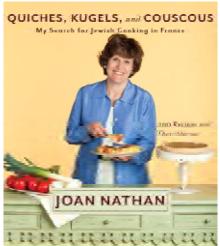
come dressed in your favorite costume!

Awards will be given out!

Admission is \$10 per child Food sold separately

Contact Elie Greenberg at elie.greenberg@adasisrael.org or visit *ad<mark>asi</mark>srae<mark>l.o</mark>rg/carnival* for more information.

Joan Nathan and French Jewish Cooking





A Shabbat of Exploring T'filah Saturday, March 19, 9:30-12 noon **Smith Sanctuary service**

Whether you are total novice or have been a lifelong shul-goer, there's always something to learn about the way we pray as Jews. Join Rabbi Steinlauf for a Shabbat morning service dedicated to learning about t'filah. The service will contain all of the normal components, minus the sermon. During the service, we will explain all about what Jewish prayer is, how it works, and how you can access meaning in the prayers. Come prepared to learn (join us at the start to learn about all aspects of the service!) and experience new understandings of the prayers and—by all means—ask questions! O





Edible *Groggers* will be for "sale" at Purim services.

\$1 per box of dried mac and cheese to be used as groggers and donated back into Ezra Pantry

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Nominating Committee

The nominations process for the 2011–2013 Board of Directors, including general board members and officers, is underway. The Board meets a few times a year and as a group is responsible for stewardship and fiduciary oversight of the organization. General board member duties vary based on assignment and usually include assisting with a one-time or ongoing activity.

The duties of officers and Board members may be found on the Sisterhood website (adasisrael.org/sisterhood) by clicking on the link for Sisterhood Bylaws. If you are interested in serving on the Board or know of an Adas Israel woman whom you believe would be an asset to the Board, please send an e-mail with your and/or her name no later than March 10 to sisterhood@adasisrael. org, and write "Nominations" in the subject line. •

SISTERHOOD SHABBAT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Year" by the San Francisco Chronicle, and has been translated into 11 languages.

Her most recent novel, *All Other Nights* (2009), was selected as an "Editors' Choice" in the *New York Times Book Review*, is on Booklist's "Best Books of the Decade, "and became the 2011 selection of the nationwide reading program, *All America Reads*. The protagonist is a Jewish spy for the Union during the American Civil War. An early scene in the novel is set during a Passover seder in the Deep South.

Sisterhood *Shabbat* begins March 25 with the Friday night 8:00 pm service when **Rabbi Shira Stutman** of the Sixth and I Historic

Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

REGULAR HOURS

Sun-Mon & Wed-Fri, 9:30 am-12:30 pm **Tues,** 9:30 am-3:30 pm & 6:00-8:00 pm



DID YOU KNOW...

that *Pesach* is closer than you think?
Stop in to see our many *seder* plates, *matzah* dishes and covers, and horseradish and saltwater containers.

202-364-2888

Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.

Synagogue will deliver the sermon. "Rabbi Shira," who grew up in Adas Israel and became *bat mitzvah* here, is a graduate of the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School (1991), Columbia University (1995), and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (2007) where she was a Wexner Graduate Fellow. She recently returned to the area, joining her childhood synagogue with her husband and their three children. Her focus includes conducting workshops for those interested in joining the Jewish people and for interfaith couples. •

PLEASE NOTE

There will not be a Learners' *Minyan* in March. The next Learners' *Minyan* is April 16.

ADAS ONEG CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Renée leads a High Holy Day service for young families at B'nai Israel in Rockville and performs solo and with Mark in schools, synagogues, JCCs, and storytelling festivals. In 2008, Mark & Renée were featured artists at LimmudFest in England.

Their recording, *King Solomon's Daughter*, received the Parents' Choice Gold Award. Visit them at *jewishstorytelling.com* and at *novakband.blogspot.com*.

Adas Oneg Service is a celebration of the central role Adas Israel plays in the Jewish intellectual and cultural life of Washington. We welcome extraordinary guest speakers, teachers, and performers who educate and enlighten us and deepen our experience of Jewish culture, knowledge, and heritage. Adas *Oneg* begins with a short evening service (including English readings and musical instrumentation). Guest speakers or musical performers then present to the congregation. After services, we have a chance to speak to our guests informally at the *oneg*. \bigcirc

Kol HaOlam Is Coming!

Jewish A Cappella is nearly here, and we need your help. We now have 10 schools confirmed from Boston to Chicago, from Canada to St. Louis! That means we will have 150–180 Jewish college

kids competing in this



new, national event. We now have several big-name supporters, including International Hillel, J Dub Records, and several others. We need people to help us with the logistics for all of the following areas:

- ✓ home hospitality for the weekend
- ✓ ticket sales
- ✓ promotion
- ✓ stage logistics
- ✓ sponsorships for the evening

E-mail us (*info@kolhaolam.org*) and tell us how many kids you can host, how many tickets you need, and how you can help. •

Education

Gan HaYeled

Miles Greenberger and Samantha Shapiro of the Rectangle class are seen here interviewing each other for a class book about families. This is one of the many ways language development and



social interactions are fostered here at the Gan.

TZINGO Is Coming to the Gan!

Save March 13, 4:00–6:00 pm, for TZINGO, a fun-filled afternoon for our Gan students that not only fulfills the mitzvah of tzedakah but also helps our children understand tzedakah in a tangible way. The afternoon starts off with the kids and grownups participating in a hands-on tzedakah project. Then the kids play a rousing game of TZINGO (a version of picture bingo) in which every participant wins a prize. The whole afternoon is capped off with pizza and homemade hamentashen!

TZINGO is also the primary fundraiser for the worthy organizations supported by the Gan Parents Association—Hope for Henry, providing gifts for hospital-bound children with lifethreatening diseases; Jewish Women International's Library Project, which provides libraries for children in domestic violence shelters in the United States; the Youth Renewal Fund, which supports underprivileged children in Israel with educational resources; and the Brandon Heschel Leach Fund, providing research money to help find a cure for mitochondrial disease.

For more information, call the Gan office, 202-362-4491.

Sweet Summertime Registration

Along with summer comes Sweet Summertime, the Gan's summer camp. This year Sweet Summertime begins June 20 and runs through July 29. Throughout the six weeks of Sweet Summertime you will see smiles and hear laughter from our campers and staff alike. Our many activities range from cooling off in wading pools to creating special art projects to going on field trips to places such as the Puppet Company at Glen Echo and the National Aquarium.

Most important, Sweet Summertime is a time to connect with former classmates, meet new people, and form new friendships. Our very special Gan teachers work in the summer and make Sweet Summertime a wonderful experience. We are very fortunate to have a number of terrific teenagers as well, many of whom are Adas Israel members, join our summer staff and add energy and excitement to the camp. Sweet Summertime registration has begun.

For more information call the Gan office, 202-362-4491...

Religious School Mah Tovu Moments

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

Torah Club Students Read Torah for the First Time at Junior **Congregation!** Congratulations to the Torah Club members who read Torah for the first time at Junior Congregation: Aaron Brooks, Jacob Chanin, Kali Hoechstetter, Becca Ingber, Danny Ingber, Misha Lerner, David Lieberman, Maya Marcus, Liat Shapiro, Isaac Silber, Tosha Skolnik, Meirav Steinlauf, Noah Steinlauf, and Daniel Weiss.

Torah Club, which has been meeting on Wednesday eve-



nings to learn Torah trope with Hazzan Jenna Greenberg, is open to all Adas Israel fifth- and sixth-grade students.

Kalia Hoechstetter practices a Torah portion with Hazzan Jenna Greenberg.

TeenChat: Our Soldiers Speak

TeenChats occur throughout the year and bring together students, staff, and other professionals to discuss critical issues affecting teens today.

On March 8, Sqt. Benjamin Anthony (IDF Reserve) will speak to our Ma'alot students as part of our Teen Chat program. Sqt. Anthony is the founder of oursoldiersspeak.org, which seeks to establish common ground between the soldiers of Israel and people who are interested in knowing about the actual mindset and motivation of an Israeli soldier. Sqt. Anthony will offer our students a rare opportunity to hear an IDF soldier's first-hand account of real events.

Mitzvah Project and Collection Drive Connected to Purim Carnival

Dignity for all human beings—Kavod Habriyot Purim is a time for celebration—and for reaching out. Even as we rejoice, we are instructed to give matanot l'evyonim, gifts to those in need. Join us in a school-wide collection for N Street Village (nstreetvillage.org), a DC nonprofit social services organization that provides a spectrum of services to homeless and extremely low-income women as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency. From night shelter and meals, to counseling and medical care, N Street Village truly gives dignity to the homeless women who come to its door for help and support. N Street provides help to 900 women each year.

All school families* are being asked to collect critical supplies the women of N Street Village need to get back on their feet. We are hoping for 100 percent participation! Students will have the opportunity to decorate reusable grocery bags at the Purim Carnival, and we will fill them with the important supplies (listed below) and donate them to N Street Village.

Kindergarten families: brown rice 1st-grade families: antibacterial wipes

2nd-grade families: healthy snacks (fruit cups in own juice, granola bars, fruit leather, low-fat crackers & cheese, apples,

oranges, trail mix—all individually wrapped)

3rd-grade families: low-sodium canned vegetables 4th-grade families: small planners and schedulers

5th-grade families: bath towels

6th-grade families: composition notebooks

Education Continued

7th-grade families: reusable grocery bags (Whole Foods, Trader Joe's, etc.)

How to Make This *Mitzvah* Project Meaningful for Your Child:

- Read and discuss this quotation from Pirkei Avot (4:3): "Do
 not disdain any person; do not underrate the importance
 of any thing—for there is no person who does not have his
 hour, and there is no thing without its place in the sun."
- In an age-appropriate way, talk to your children about the work N Street Village does (*nstreetvillage.org*). You may want to have older children spend some time on the website learning about all the services N Street provides.
- Go to the store with your child, and have him or her pick out the item. Remind your child that what he or she is doing is Jewish, and that the child is living the value of kavod habriyot, giving dignity to all of God's creations.

*Please note that the whole congregation is invited and welcome to participate in this collection drive. Donations can be dropped off at the education office on the third floor beginning February 15.

AIUSY Madrichim Leadership Program

February Madrich of the Month



An outstanding role model, Talia has excelled as an assistant in her Gan class this year. She is extremely reliable and a pleasure to work with. We were especially impressed when she came to Consecration with her students. We thank her for her commitment to our school and look forward to her continued involvement in our program in the years to come.

Our *madrichim* program is a leadership

program for students in eighth through 12th grade. *Madrichim* hold a number of different leadership roles in our religious school, from assisting teachers in classrooms to helping in our education office and library with various tasks. There are 40 *madrichim* enrolled in our program this year! To learn more about the *madrichim* program, please contact Elie Greenberg, *elie.greenberg@adasisrael.org*.

Shabbat Unplugged Musical Family Service, March 26

Shabbat Unplugged, a musical family service for families with children in kindergarten and above on Saturday mornings, will meet on Saturday, March 26, at 10 am. The service is meant for kindergarten families and above, but older children are welcome and encouraged take on leadership roles.

Shabbat Unplugged is led by Josh Bender, director of education, and Elie Greenberg, director of informal programming. Modeled on Shacharit Live, a Sunday morning musical service for K–2 students in the religious school, the service seeks to build a prayer experience that is fun, interactive, and spirited.

This is also an opportunity for families to explore some of the key concepts and themes in Jewish prayer. Guitars and other instruments enhance the experience and help teach Jewish and Israeli songs. The Torah portion comes alive through the art of Jewish storytelling with Jennifer Rudick Zunikoff. Join us on March 26; future dates are April 30 and May 21.

March Calendar for School, Youth, and Families

- 4: L'Dor VaDor Service & Dinner
- 4-6: Vav (6th-grade) New York Trip
- 6: Heh (5th-grade) Intergenerational Program
- 8: TeenChat #3, "Our Soldiers Speak"
- **13:** Clocks forward for Daylight Saving Time; 5th-grade Nursing Home Trip
- 20: Purim Carnival; 4th-Grade Purim Spiel

Jewish Value for March-April: Hakarat HaTov

Hakarat HaTov is the Jewish value of recognizing good in the world. Other definitions are gratitude or thanksgiving. This value gives our students and our whole school community the opportunity to recognize that which is good in our life. T'filah (prayer) and brachot (blessings) are one way Jews display Hakarat HaTov. Through our weekly t'filah services in the religious school and on Shabbat, we explore the concept of gratitude in Jewish tradition. In addition, students are asked to decide as a class how their weekly tzedakah collection will be used to reach out to people in need. Through giving and action, our students recognize the good in their own lives and their responsibility to share their blessings with others. •

Library Corner

See page 15 for this new feature!



Life Cycle

Milestones

Births

Jackson Davis Booth, great-grandson of Blanche Speisman Phoebe Horowitz, daughter of Alexandra & Michael Horowitz Henry David Levenstein, son of Sue & Mark Levenstein Amalia Nicolson, daughter of Tamar & David Nicolson Bradley Mason Pollak, son of Brandon & Michele Pollak Joshua Rich, son of Lesley & Charles Rich Samuel Thomas Rosenkranz, son of Eric & Taryn Rosenkranz We wish our newborns and their families strength, good health, and joy.

B'nai Mitzvah



Jordana Meyer, March 12

Jordana, daughter of Lauren Strauss and Jonathan Meyer, began her religious studies at Ohr Kodesh pre-school and Gan HaYeled. After seven years at the Jewish Primary Day School, Jordana is a seventh grader at Westland Middle School. She also attends Shoresh Hebrew High School. For her *tzedakah* project, Jordana is raising

money for and awareness of an environmental advocacy organization in Israel. She is the granddaughter of Ruth Forman and Bernard Strauss of New Jersey, and Michael and Margaret Meyer of Cincinnati, Ohio. Also sharing in this *simcha* are Jordana's siblings, Ezra and Naomi, as well as many other family members and friends.



Sam Ringel, March 5

Sam, son of Doug Ringel and Deborah Goldstock Ringel, is a seventh grader at Sidwell Friends School. He receives his Jewish education at the Melvin Gelman Religious School and Capital Camps. He shares this *simcha* with his siblings, Emily and Danny, and many family members and friends. Sam's *tzedekah* project sup-

ports Save the Frogs!, an organization dedicated to amphibian conservation.

Member in the News

Sandra & Stanley Bobb received the State of Israel Bonds Theodor Herzl Medallion at the Prime Ministers Club Campaign Inaugural Dinner in Boca Raton, FL. Israeli Minister of Finance H. E. Yuval Steinitz was the guest speaker, and Henry Winkler was master of ceremonies at the event. *Yasher koach* to Sandy and Stanley for their leadership and support of the State of Israel.

Norma Lee Funger has been appointed by President Obama to the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Rabbi Arnold E. Resnicoff was the keynote speaker at a commemorative event to honor "The Four Chaplains," a

remarkable group of military spiritual leaders from different denominations who sacrificed their own lives to save scores of others during a fatal German U-boat attack. The event, held in February, was co-hosted by the United States Navy Memorial and the Library of Congress Veterans History Project.

Gene Sofer will be honored as a "Partner in Justice" at AVODAH: The Jewish Service Corps's DC Spring 2011 benefit event on April 27.

New Members

Nathaniel & Marni Carroll live in Washington with their daughter, Lucy. Nathaniel is a director of biodiversity markets at Forest Trends, and Marni is a manager of legislative affairs at Ibadrola Renewables.

Douglas & Christine Farber both work for DHS in the DC government and live in Washington.

Matt & Naomi Perl live in Washington, DC where Matt is a TV Producer for MASN and Naomi is a teacher at DC Prep.

Howard & Leslie Kogod Libby live in Potomac, MD. Their children are William, Alexandra and Jason. Howard is a self-employed Attorney. Leslie is the daughter of the late Edith and Samuel Kogod.

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of synagogue members: Edith Kogod

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Lorraine Berenter, aunt of Arline Atlas
Polly Eisenberg, sister of Miriam Rosenthal
Ronni Fein, cousin of Andrea Weber
Henry Hubschman
Leslie Kawin, mother of Naomi Kawin
Lucille Klayman, grandmother of Rabbi Gil Steinlauf
Ruth Kreisman, mother of Barbara Kreisman
Peggy Gross Lerner, mother of Joy Lerner
Michael S. Levine, father of Brant Levine
Alice Betty Miller, mother of Andrea Weber
Andrew Nemeth, father of David Nemeth
Isaac Noll, grandfather of Diana Miran
Marilyn Rollinger, grandmother of Samantha Sultoon

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 Glenn Easton or Henry Silberman. 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.

Cemetery Hours

Visitation at the Adas Israel Cemetery is by appointment only. Contact Henry Silberman at the synagogue office (202-362-4433 ext.144) to schedule a visit.

Life Cycle Continued

Celebrating Simchas and Comforting Our Mourners; **Congregational Notices**

If you would like to receive notices regarding recent simchas or bereavements regarding members of the congregation, please send an e-mail to jane.baldinger@adasisrael.org. E-mails regarding the deaths of congregants and their family members are sent automatically to those who request such notification. By sharing this information, our entire congregation can comfort the mourners in our synagogue family •

Kol HaMayim: Voice of the Waters

Newly married women are increasingly observing the mitzvah of monthly immersions. The last year has seen a 150 percent jump in the number of women who first came to our mikvah as brides and who then continue coming after the wedding. I spoke with some of them recently about this practice. Although they each responded differently, they all shared that this mitzvah brings holiness into their marriages in unexpected ways.

One newlywed emphasized how communication with her husband about how choosing to observe niddah (the time of physical separation between spouses) has helped them as a couple. They are getting better at expressing their needs as individuals and as partners during that time, and she feels that "this process sets the tone for other conversations in our marriage as well. As we negotiate the boundaries of intimacy, we find there is much more to talk about than we ever imagined. We are exploring the hows, whens, and whys of *niddah* and getting to know each other better as a result. It's really a gift that we never knew we were giving ourselves when we made the decision to take this path."

S., who has been married for almost a year, expressed overall satisfaction with the monthly cycle of togetherness/separation/ mikvah/togetherness, but said that sometimes she is bothered by it, too. "It can feel like the burden is on me to go to the mikvah and immerse before we resume relations each month.

Making the appointment, carving out 30 or 40 minutes once a month, remembering to bring a towel...all this is on me. But once I arrive and I start the preparations, I realize it is actually a blessing. The flip side of the resentment is feeling empowered that I'm the one responsible for taking us into the next phase of the cycle. It connects me to our foremothers, to the present moment, and to the future. I always leave feeling renewed."



The Adas Israel Community Mikvah is open to any Jewish person, regardless of age, level of observance, or marital status. If you would like to learn to use the *mikvah*, please call or e-mail to set up a time to talk. -Naomi Malka

Adas Israel Community *Mikvah*

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 s'machot; to find strength during a difficult time; to pray for healing; to reflect on the meaning of becoming a bride, groom, or bar or bat mitzvah; to convert to Judaism; and to prepare physically and spiritually for chagim.

To learn more about our *mikvah* or to schedule an appointment, please contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or mikvah@adasisrael. org. For more information, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah.

\$5 for Adas Israel members, \$10 non-members—pay at the door.

follows the Megillah reading and Spiel at 8:30 pm in the



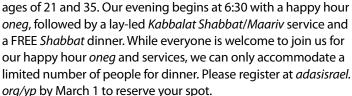
YP@AI

A community for young 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'

March 4, 6:30 pm

Shir Delight is Adas Israel's Kabbalat Shabbat experience for young Jewish professionals between the



Purim Wine and 'Cheesentashen'

Saturday, March 19, 10:00 pm

Join us at our largest YP event of the year! All you can nosh and drink! YP reception



Join other young couples for an afternoon of mingling and

Charles E. Smith Sanctuary.

rock climbing. We meet at 2:00 pm at Earth Treks in Rockville (walking distance from the Rockville Metro). We start the afternoon with a brief introduction to climbing, followed by some

Ketubah Klub Rock Climbing

quality one-on-one climbing and belaying. Climb on! For more information or to RSVP, please visit adasisrael.org/yp. •



March 2011 Adar I–Adar II 5771

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES:

In the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary: Cantor 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 and members of Adas Israel.

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

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

WEEKDAY SE Holidays, 8:30 and Holidays, 8:30 and

Learners' Minyan: A service for those who wish to become better acquainted with the structure and ritual of Shabbat Please turn off cell phones and pagers before entering services. Your cooperation is appreciated.

worship, meets in the Library. Led by Rabbi Feinberg or Rabbi Steinlauf.

Youth Shabbat Services: Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under led by Menuhah Peters. Shorashim, for students in grades K–1 is led by Allison Redisch and/or Linda Yitzchak. Netivot, for students in grades 2–3 is led by Tamar Bardin and/or Aviva Weinstein. Junior Congregation, for grades 4–6 is led by David Smolar, Josh Bender, and/or Elie Greenberg. **Shabbat Unplugged:** A new musical family service for families with young children on Saturday mornings at 10 am. The service is designed for kindergarten families and above, though older children are welcome and encouraged take on leadership roles. Led by Josh Bender and Elie Greenberg.

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

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23 Adar I 8:30 am 9:30 am Beit Midrash 9:30 am R.S. Steering Committee Meeting 9:30 am Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 10:00 am Hebrew Literacy I 12:15 pm Religious School Leadership Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	28 24 Adar I 7:30 am 9:00 am Gan Steering Committee 10:00 am Gan Rabbi-Parent-Child Program—Purim 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:00 am Administrative Staff Meeting 12:00 pm Downtown Study Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Class 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7:30 am 9:00 am Gan Parenting Class 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Exploring Holidays in the Mishnah 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:30 pm Gan Evening Parenting Class	7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:45 am Gan Bagels & Coffee 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	4 ROSH CHODESH ADAR I 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:45 am Gan Bagels & Coffee 9:15 am Gan Melton School 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 6:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Service with Rabbi Steinlauf 6:30 pm YP Shir Delight; Oneg at 6:30 pm; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 7:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Shabbat Dinner	8:00 am 80ker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class Shabbat Service, Smith Sanctuary Bar Mitzvah: Samuel Ringel; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf Service Bar Mitonal Egalitarian Minyan Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Sander Mendelson 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am All Youth Shabbat Services
6 Rosh Chodesh Adar II 8:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am Rosh Chodesh Adar II Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund Beit Midrash 9:30 am 8:5. Steering Committee Meeting 9:30 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 pm Resh Chodesh Adar II Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund Beit Midrash R.S. Steering Committee Meeting Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class Hebrew Literacy I 6:00 pm	7 Rosh Chodesh Adar II 1 Adar II Gan Professional Day (No Classes) 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:30 am Rosh Chodesh Adar II Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	8 2 Adar II 7:30 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Anne Frank House Meeting 7:00 pm Conversion Class 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	9 3 Adar II 7:30 am 9:00 am Gan Parenting Class 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Religious Practices Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm Torah Club 7:00 pm Latke/Hamentashen Debate 7:00 pm Seven Blessings 7:00 pm Exploring Holidays in the Mishnah 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:30 pm Gan Evening Parenting Class	7:30 am 9:00 am 6:00 pm 8:00 pm Scotch & Scriptures Men's Study Group	7:30 am Morning Minyan 5:52 pm	12 PARSHAT VAYIKRA 8:00 am 9:30 am Shabbat Service, Smith Sanctuary; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg 9:30 am Iraditional Egalitarian Minyan; Bat Mitzvah: Jordana Meyer; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am All Youth Shabbat Services 12:30 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by Jonathan Meyer & Lauren Strauss
13 Daylight Saving Time 7 Adar II 8:30 am Morning Minyan 9:30 am Beit Midrash 9:30 am Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class 10:00 am Hebrew Literacy I 10:30 am Joan Nathan Book Signing & Sale 12:30 pm USY Smithsonian Scavenger Hunt 3:00 pm GPA Tzingo Tzedakah Project 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	14 8 Adar II 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:00 am Sisterhood Book Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Taste of Tanach 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Class 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7:30 am 9:00 am Gan Parenting Class 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Forah Club 7:00 pm Adas/People's Dialogue @ Adas 7:00 pm Exploring Holidays in the Mishnah 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:30 pm Gan Evening Parenting Class	17 Ta'anit Esther 11 Adar II 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Movement Class 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:59 pm 6:59 pm 6:59 pm 6:59 pm 6:59 pm 6:545 pm Gan Family Shabbat Dinner 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv Service 6:30 pm Gan Family Shabbat Service w/ Cantor Jeffrey Weber and Robyn Helzner	19 PARSHAT TZAV/SHABBAT ZACHOR 8:00 am 8 oker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Service, Smith Sanctuary, A Shabbat of Exploring T'filah with Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Morris Klein 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am Youth Shabbat Services (No Jr. Cong.) 12:30 pm Congregational Kiddush 12:30 pm Havurah Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha Service 7:59 pm Havdalah Erev Purim 7:30 pm Reshet DC Wine Tasting & Havdalah 8:00 pm Family Service w/ Full Megillah Reading 8:30 pm Full Megillah Reading & Spiel 10:00 pm YP Wine & Cheesentashen
	21 Shushan Purim 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:15 pm Budget and Finance Meeting 7:00 pm Conversion Class 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7:30 am 9:00 am Gan Parenting Class 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Torah Club 7:00 pm Seven Blessings 7:00 pm JSC Classes	7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 7:06 pm 9:15 am Gan Melton School 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing—Staff Recognition 6:00 pm Ruach Minyan Service 7:00 pm Adas Late Service—Sisterhood Shabbat 8:00 pm Ruach Minyan Dinner 9:00 pm Oneg Shabbat sponsored by the Mozelle Saltz (z"l) Fund for Sisterhood Speakers	26 PARSHAT SHEMINI/SHABBAT PARAH 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 8:06 pm Havdalah 9:30 am Shabbat Service, Smith Sanctuary— Sisterhood Shabbat with Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 10:00 am RS Shabbat Unplugged Family Service 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am All Youth Shabbat Services 12:30 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by the Mozelle Saltz (z"I) Fund for Sisterhood Speakers 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Service
8:30 am Morning Minyan	28 7:30 am 6:00 pm Morning Minyan Evening Minyan	7:30 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Class 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Torah Club 7:00 pm Seven Blessings 7:00 pm JSC Classes	31 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am 9:00 am 9:00 am Gan Class Shabbat—Seashell 9:15 am Gan Melton School 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 6:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Service with Rabbi Steinlauf 6:30 pm VP Shir Delight; Oneg at 6:30 pm D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 7:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Shabbat Dinner	2 PARSHAT TAZRIA/SHABBAT HACHODESH 8:00 am 9:30 am Shabbat Service, Smith Sanctuary Bat Mitzvah: Shelby Shapiro; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am 9:45 am 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am Shabbat Spot 11:00 am Shabbat Services (No Jr. Congregation)

10 • CHRONICLE • MARCH 2011



World Wide Wrap: Another Successful Year!

We want to thank all the people who participated in and helped with the 11th Annual wrap on Super Bowl Sunday. Adas was part of a national Federation of Jewish Men's Club program that included 230 *shuls* from across the country and approximately 10,000 participants. It was nice to be a *minyan* of *minyanim* doing the same thing all over America and beyond!

Join Us for These Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 20: Purim Carnival—Please e-mail us at mensclub@adasisrael.org and let us know what time slot you can fill for the food concession this year. We need lots of help, as usual, and will run two shifts of two hours apiece.

Sunday April 10:

Passover Wine Sale— We are trying a new approach this year. We will have cases of wine on site for you to purchase and bring



home from the wine tasting.

We will have samples of at least eight bottles ready, open, and available for tasting. All proceeds go to the Mark Berlin Youth Summer Scholarship Fund, so no matter whether you are a *seder* guest or a host, please come and buy for all your Passover needs at the Men's Club Sale!

Youth @ Al

Here are upcoming events for the incredible month of March: **March 6:** *Kadima* gets "All Fired Up" for *Purim* by painting goofy figurines!

March 13: AIUSY semi-regional Smithsonian Photo Scavenger Hunt! Enough said!

March 27: Machar gets "All Fired Up" and prepares for Passover as we paint seder plates, kiddush cups, and much more! Looking forward to seeing all of you at these awesome events in March!

Kadimaniks
rockin' out in the
totally switched
on Game



◀ Kadimaniks prepare blankets to be donated to wellness centers.

Lifelong Learning

Jewish Study Center Classes

Register at jewishstudycenter.org.

Jews in Spain: Events Leading Up to the Spanish Inquisition Taught by Jeffrey Gorsky, March 2, 16, 23, 30, 7:00–8:30 pm *Cost: JSC and Adas members \$55, non-members \$75*

Savoring the Psalms

Taught by Amy Schwartz, March 2, 16, 23, 30, 8:30–9:40 pm *Cost: JSC and Adas members \$55, non-members \$75*Jewish Confederates (third in a series on Jewish life in Civil War Washington)

Taught by Les Bergen and Ernie Marcus, Board members, Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington, March 2, 7:00–8:15 pm (Co-sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington)

Cost: \$15 for Adas, JHSGW, and JSC members; \$20/nonmembers RSVP to Adas; JHSGW, jewishstudycenter.org; or 202-789-0900 •





- ▲ Machar jumps out of their seats to answer Jewish trivia at Machar Jewpardy!
- ◀ Thirty-two teens came to our USY Israel Lounge Night for Israeli culture and fun. Go AIUSY!

Ma Tovu

HONORING OUR LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

Harriet Isack and her husband of 39 years, Art, have been members of Adas Israel ever since they moved to Washington 19 years ago. Through all of those years, Harriet's presence has brought warmth to our Shabbat services and *hesed*, lovingkindness, to our community at large. Most recently, Harriet helped establish, and now chairs, our Hesed Project. This friendly visiting program has enriched our community and the lives of many Adas Israel members—both those who are homebound and receive visits from fellow congregants and their visitors as well.

Harriet was interviewed by Ed Kopf.

E: What are some of your experiences at Adas Israel that have been most meaningful?

H: My role in establishing and chairing the Hesed Project is certainly among the experiences that have been very rewarding for me. I regularly touch base with our volunteers who visit those who are confined to home by illness or infirmity. I've been so moved by the caring relationships each has described to me. And it has been very gratifying to hear from family members how our volunteers have made a difference in the lives of their loved ones. It's also been important that Rabbi Feinberg, our advisor, has made Jewish values and continuing education a vital part of the *Hesed* Project.

E: Who is serving as *hesed* visitors?

H: That's one of the most exciting parts of the project. We have teenagers, seniors, and everyone

in between involved. It's also been a nice opportunity for parent and child to perform a *mitzvah* together. Many participants are members who have not been particularly active in other synagogue activities, but they have found meaning in this caring service. E: You've been involved in other social action and social service activities at Adas Israel, haven't vou?

H: I have. I served on the board of Anne Frank House, which is based at Adas, for many years. Also, I "pinch hit" for Toni Bickart, who coordinates our taharah program for the Bereavement Committee.

E: I know you have been very busy since you retired five years ago. Your volunteer work goes well beyond Adas Israel—and includes serving as a virtual job coach at AARP, serving on the advisory council for the Capital Breast Care Center, and more. (Not to mention, Bible study, book groups, gardening, etc.!) Yet vou find the time to do so much for Adas Israel. What is it about the synagogue that has inspired your commitment?

H: I really enjoy the energy at Adas. I like the options for prayer, for learning, for involvement with community. And



Harriet Isack

I value my relationships with so many people I admire who have been active members. Among many others, Sophie Silfen (z"l) offered me inspiration as a woman and a volunteer. It's been a privilege to find a niche where I can contribute, too.

When Art and I came to Washington, we weren't too enthusiastic about Adas Israel as we started "shul shopping." It seemed so large. But it made all the difference when one of the leaders of the congregation, Arnie Hammer, reached out to us in a very friendly and personal way. We discovered that, within the large institution, we could find a community that suited us well and that has proven to be the source of many valued friendships.

E: Harriet, thanks for taking the time for this interview. And thanks for all that you bring to our community. O

Adas Simcha Stimulus Package Hold Your Simcha at Adas Israel

To assist our members celebrate their family s'machot such as weddings and





b'nai mitzvah, Adas Israel has inaugurated a

"simcha stimulus package" eliminating room usage fees for catered events. Families will only be required to reimburse the congregation for our outside security personnel and maintenance overtime expense.

Celebrate your family simcha at your home synagogue. For additional information, please contact Glenn Easton in the synagogue office, 202-362-4433. O

Save the Date Garden of the Righteous Ceremony Sunday, May 1

José Arturo Castellanos, a diplomat from El Salvador, is this year's Garden of the Righteous honoree. El Salvador's consul in Geneva during World War II, Castellanos approved about 40,000 passports and birth certificates for Jews from different countries so they would not be caught by the Nazis and sent to death camps. Castellanos, who died in 1977 at age 83, was honored on July 15, 2010, by the Embassy of El Salvador in Israel and Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum as a "Righteous Gentile" for saving thousands of Jews during the war. •

Cantor Search Committee Update



Melanie Nussdorf

Synagogue President Bob Peck has convened a committee of congregants to begin the search for a new senior cantor. Melanie Franco Nussdorf, a synagogue members for more than 30 years, chairs the committee, which includes Patty Andringa, Judy Bartnoff, David Bickart, David Edelstein, Joel Fischman, Rae Grad, Mark Gross, Arlette Jassel, Andrew Lipps, Edna Povich, Gabriela Rubin (USY president and

youth representative), David Schorr, and Shelly Schonberger. Dirk Aardsma, vice president for religious affairs; Jamie Butler, Religious Practices Committee chair, and Bob Peck are ex officio members.

Melanie Nussdorf noted that the committee has already had its first meeting and is looking forward to a search that reflects the interests and goals of the entire Adas community, with input from the congregation and an open and transparent process. "Watch the synagogue's website for information about the search, the candidates, and our progress," she said, adding that she is hopeful that the entire Adas community will respond to a short survey to be circulated in the next few weeks that will help all of us sharpen our thinking and focus on the congregation's goals for the new cantor. All ideas and candidates are welcome; feel free to contact any member of the committee with your thoughts. •

Nominating Committee Selected



Margaret Siegel

In accordance with the Adas Israel By-Laws, synagogue president Bob Peck has appointed Margaret Siegel to chair the Nominating Committee. members of the committee are Susan Kay, David Lynn, Steve Rabinowitz, Nancy Weiss, Russell Smith, April Rubin, Arnold Hammer, and officer liaison Brian

Schwalb. Recommendations for Board members and officers are welcome and should be sent to the synagogue office (adasoffice@adasisrael.org) to the attention of the Nominating Committee.

"The Nominating Committee, shall, not later than the third Monday in April, prepare and present to the Secretary a list of candidates for each of the offices of the Congregation, the Trustees, and the Board of Directors." (By-Laws Article VIII, Sec. 4)

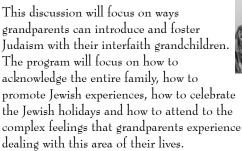
"Additional nominations for any of the offices of the Congregation, the Trustees, and the Board of Directors may be made by petition signed by not less than 25 members of the Congregation in good standing, providing that the petition shall be filed in the office of the Executive Director of the Congregation by May 15th. (By-Laws Article VIII Sec. 5)

Synagogue elections will be held at the Annual Congregational Meeting on June 1. •

Grandparenting Interfaith Grandchildren

Sunday, March 20 10:30 am–12:00 pm in Miller Chapel

Dr. Marion Usher and Rabbi Charles Feinberg



Dr. Marion Usher has been the leader of interfaith couples groups for the past 15 years and has worked with over 450 couples. Rabbi Charles Feinberg has led many discussion groups for parents of adult children who have intermarried.





Library Corner

Inside Israel

by Robin Jacobson

Sometimes when news reports from the Middle East are especially grim, I marvel at Israeli courage and tenacity. How do Israelis nurture families on a small oasis of land, surrounded by hostile countries and peoples, some pledged to destroy the Jewish state? For one insider's perspective on that question, try *To the End of the Land*, by Israeli author David Grossman (available in the Adas Israel library). Published in English in September 2010 to mostly rave reviews, the novel sets complex, richly imagined characters within the flow of Israeli history.

Love and Fear

The Arab-Israeli conflict, euphemistically called ha-matsav (the situation), forms the backdrop to Grossman's moving story about Israelis forging friendships, falling in love, and raising children while living with fear—the fear of death or loss in war and the fear that the Jewish state might someday soon cease to exist.

The dominant character is Ora, a big-hearted, volatile Israeli woman with two sons who has recently separated from her husband. In 2000, the younger son, Ofer, reaches the end of his three-year compulsory military service. Ora is ecstatic. Both her sons are now safely out of the army. She joyfully packs for a celebratory hiking trip with Ofer. Then, to Ora's horror, Ofer impulsively reenlists for an additional 28-day campaign in the West Bank. **Magical Thinking**

Overwhelmed by a terrible premonition that Ofer is doomed, Ora gives way to "magical thinking": she convinces herself that Ofer will remain safe so long as the military "notifiers" who bring bad news to the families of fallen soldiers are unable to find her. Calling herself the first "notification-refusenik," she flees her home in Jerusalem and sets off for Israel's northern border to start the hiking trip planned with Ofer. (In Israel, the book's

title is *Isha Borahat Mibsora* [A Woman Flees the News]). For company, she drags along her former lover, Avram, once an exuberantly creative, brilliant young man, but now a broken recluse. An Israeli POW during the 1973 Yom Kippur War, Avram never recovered from his brutal captivity in Egypt.

As the pair hikes through beautiful terrain, chillingly marked by memorial plaques to young war heroes, Ora insists on telling Avram the life story of her son, whom Avram has never met. She clings to a superstitious hope that narrating every stage of Ofer's

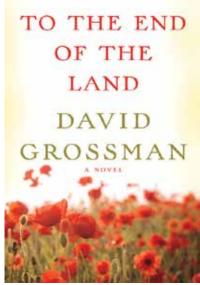
life—from sensitive, vegetarian child to hardened soldier—will somehow protect him from death. While walking, Ora and Avram also reexamine their own tangled relationships since 1967, when they first met each other and Ilan, Ora's husband, as three teenage hospital patients during the Six-Day War.

Choosing Life

In 2006, as David Grossman worked to complete this novel, the story he had imagined became devastatingly real. The military "notifiers" that Ora so dreaded actually arrived at the Grossman home with the tragic news that Grossman's 20-year old son, Uri, had been killed by a Hezbollah missile in the final hours of the Second Lebanon War. As the family

sat *shiva*, celebrated Israeli writers Amos Oz and A.B. Yehoshua came to offer condolences. When Grossman confided that he didn't see a way to save his book, Oz reassured him, "The book will save you." The day after the end of *shiva*, Grossman returned to the novel, struggling, he said, "to choose life."

Adapted from a review for the Beth El Scroll and reprinted with permission. •





SAVE THE DATE

An Event for the Whole Family Honoring SHELLEY REMER

on her retirement after 20 years as our Early Childhood Director

> Sunday afternoon May 15

If you have old photos of Shelley and your children, please email them to AdasOffice@adasisrael.org

If you would like to help plan the party, please e-mail Beth Taubman, btaubman1@yahoo.com.



Latke-Hamantash Symposium

On Wednesday, March 9, at 7:30 pm, Adas will host Washington DC's 20th Annual *Latke-Hamentash* Symposium (\$12 admission for Adas and JSC members, \$18 for others). Our distinguished panel of speakers will include:

- Calvin Goldscheider (professor emeritus of Judaic studies, Brown University)
- Max Ticktin (professor of Judaic studies, George Washington University)
- Susan K. Finston (CEO and managing director, Amrita Therapeutics Ltd.)
- Steve Rabinowitz (future president emeritus and CEO of Rabinowitz-Dorf Communications)
- · a special mystery guest speaker

After our panelists present their findings, the symposium will conclude with a lab session affording ample opportunities for in-depth research at our *latke-hamentash* taste test. •





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and Fallsgrove offices

NoVA: Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, Beth El Hebrew Congregation and JSSA's Fairfax office





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Board of Directors Approves New *Machzor* for High Holy Days



"With the Machzor Lev Shalem, each of us has a tool in his or her hands that can allow entrance into a rich Jewish experience of exploring heritage and meaning and insight—at whatever level is right for each of us."

—Rabbi Steinlauf

We are excited about the selection of a new High Holy Day *machzor* (prayer book), *Lev Shalem*, published by the

Conservative movement. Members and friends are invited to dedicate one or more of these new books in honor or memory of a loved one or a special event in your life. With your contribution of \$36 per *machzor* (or 10 for \$350), you may select the wording for the dedication plate to be placed in each book.

To dedicate a *machzor*, which will be a permanent part of our Adas community and High Holy Day worship, please use the form below; call Jane Baldinger at the synagogue, 202-362-4433; or visit our website at *adasisrael.org*. A listing of all dedications will have an individual bookplate and will appear in a future *Chronicle*.

Please complete & clip this form and return it with payment to

MACHZOR DEDICATION FORM

Adas Israel Congregation 2850 Quebec Street, NW Washington, DC 20008

I	Name	
	Day phone	
I	E-mail	
	Number of Books you are dedicating	
I	\$36 per <i>machzor</i> dedication \$350 for 10 <i>machzorim</i>	
1	Wording as you would like it to appear in the note: Please print neatly; space for wording	
1	In honor of In	memory of

Check enclosed \$_____ (Payable to Adas Israel Congregation)

Tikkun Olam Continued from page 20

SAVE THE DATE!

Sukkot in Spring, Sunday, May 15



Social Action: Darfur 4th Year of Monthly Vigil at the Sudanese Embassy

On Sunday, March 20, 1:30–2:30 pm, the Darfur Interfaith Network will hold its monthly Darfur vigil at the Embassy of Sudan (2210 Massachusetts Ave., NW). Compassionate people of different faiths and Sudanese activists are all welcome. This is the fourth consecutive year Laura Cutler has led the Darfur Interfaith Network vigils, standing witness to raise awareness of the ongoing genocide in Darfur.

This month's vigil acknowledges and celebrates the recent referendum in which the people of Southern Sudan have voted to secede from the North and continues to raise awareness of the deteriorating situation in Darfur. The Darfur Interfaith Network will call on President Obama and the international community to demand that humanitarian aid workers and UN peacekeepers have full access to the innocent men, women, and children in Darfur. There will also be speeches from Sudanese activists.

Laura Cutler noted, "After the Holocaust we said, 'Never Again.' Never again could the world stand by while an entire people were targeted for extermination. We vow not to be silent and to raise our voices as long as the people of Darfur suffer rape, murder, and displacement from their villages. There are children who have grown up in the internal displacement and refugee camps in and around Sudan who know nothing but the horrors of malnutrition, lack of education, rape, and danger, and I am sure they are starting to lose hope—if they haven't already lost it. It is unacceptable to stand by and let this continue to happen, and we should all do more to stand up and be a voice for them."

The Darfur Interfaith Network is calling on activists and all people of faiths to join it as it protests at the Embassy of Sudan

SAVE THE DATE Ahavat Yisrael Weekend May 20-22

The Last of our Three Pillar Weekends

Featuring:

- Special Friday night dinner with entrees from different Middle Eastern cuisines cooked by guests from Bet Shemesh, our Federation Sister City
- Celebration of the Abraham and Minnie Kay Israel Experience for this year's Confirmation Class
- Shabbat guest Rabbi Yoav Ende, a Masorti Rabbi from Kibbutz Hanaton, discussing "The Future of Pluralism in Israel"
- Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Memorial Lecture:
 Peter Beinart speaking on "Israel and the Diaspora"
- Family concert on Sunday featuring the band, "The Josh Nelson Project"

Only 42 Judean Cemetery Sites Remain

Prices to Increase in March 2011

Only 42 plots remain in the current Adas Israel section of Judean Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Olney, MD. The congregation is not scheduled to purchase any additional plots at this time.

The Adas Israel section currently comprises nearly 500 sites, each of which sells for \$1,850, including Perpetual Care. Adas Israel members also receive an additional 5 percent discount on Judean cemetery and monument charges. Site prices are scheduled to increase to \$1,995 in March.

A very limited number of plots are also available at our historic cemetery on Alabama Avenue in Southeast DC. For additional information, please call Henry Silberman or Glenn Easton at the synagogue office, 202-362-4433.

and raises awareness of the **eighth** year of genocide in Darfur and the inhumanity that continues in other marginalized areas of Sudan.

For more information about the third Sunday of each month Embassy of Sudan vigils please contact Laura Cutler, *mbcutler@aol.com*. For information about the Darfur Interfaith Network and its May 15 spring Hope for Darfur/Justice in Sudan Rally, please contact Richard Young, *richardyoung1941@msn.com*, or Martha Boshnick, *mboshnick@gmail.com*.

Contributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Anne Frank House

By: Rennie Sherman, Rose Burka, Harriet & Art Isack, Arthur & Edith Hessel, Joseph Sellers & Laurie Davis, Stephen & Amy Kroll, Robert Peck & Lynn Palmer, David Buck, Eric Bensky & Amber Cottle, Cantor Robyn Helzner, Michael Roseman & Jessica Kasten, Herbert & Jane Beller, Mark & Cathleen Raishner, Sanford & Beth Unger, Ira & Phyllis Lieberman, Fradel & Leo Kramer, David Schwartz & Susan Lieberman, Robert & Jane Loeffler, Elise Feingold, Robert & Sharon Wolozin, Debra Rubin, Rabbi Charles & Krayna Feinberg, Allison Carney Prince, Joan S. Miller Levine, Shelley Block, Lucy Hassell, Frances Goldscheider, Judith Rabinowitz & Joel Fischman, Michael & Janet Goldman, Ruthanne Miller, Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Rosenthal, Blake Biles & Laura Sessums. In Honor Of: Kathy Belmont by Caron & Steve Zaleznick. Adina Mendelson's birthday by Harriet & Art Isack.

In Memory Of: Sophie Silfen by Russell & Judy Smith, Stan Cohen & Suzanne Ducat. Mollie Bress Rose by Hannah Aurbach. Mollie Blatt by Michael & Shelley Kossak. Alex Tempchin by Phyllis Schwartz.

Anne Kampelman Wiederkehr Cultural Arts Program

In Honor Of: Birth of Amalia Nicolson by Stewart & Shelley Remer. In Memory Of: Manuel Plotkin, Morris Satloff by Stewart & Shelley Remer. Arnold Bortman Memorial Fund

In Memory Of: Arnold Bortman by Jack & Barbara Kay, Roger & Renée Fendrich Benjamin James Cecil Special Education Fund In Memory Of: Jamie Cecil by Marcia Shaw, Jean Efron & Anthony Picadio, Judith & Martin Berger, Biomedical Forensics, Jack & Barbara Kay.

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Daryl Reich Rubenstein Staff Development FundIn Memory Of: **Daryl Reich Rubenstein** by Lee Rubenstein.

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In Memory Of: **Giza Stark** by Dr. William & Vivienne Stark.

Esther Saks Abelman Yiddish Cultural Fund In Memory Of: Carlotta Schiffres by Rae Grad. Ethel & Nat Popick Chronicle Fund In Honor Of: Harriet Bubes's special birthday by Diane Sykes, Glenn & Cindy Easton. Joy & Bob Cohen receiving the Shem Tov award by Richard & Dorothy Block.

In Memory Of: Robert Lipton by David & Harriet Bubes. Rose Sackett by Stanley Scherr. Leonard Saxe by Richard & Dorothy Block. Executive Director Discretionary Fund In Memory Of: Pearl Schultz, David Easton, Robert Schultz, all by the Michel Family. Fund for the Future

In Honor Of: **Dr. Penn Lupovich**'s special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton. In Memory Of: **Lucille Klayman** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Garden of the Righteous Fund

In Memory Of: Alice Betty Miller, Anita Betty Hack, Lucille Klayman, Mel Cohen, all by Saul & Judy Strauch.

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Anniversary of Jacob Rubashkin's bar mitzvah & his reading Torah at the Havurah service by David Rubashkin & Pamela Karasik.

In Memory Of: **August Aaron Boorstein** by Edith Couturier

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Annette Wolpe.

Leah Chanin Day School Fund

In Memory Of: **Arnold Weiss** by Michael & Joyce Stern.

Machzor Lev Shalom Fund

By: David & Ilene Chait, Steven & Ruth Kleinrock.

In Honor Of: All who daven with this Machzor by Morris Chalick. **Lisa & Amy Easton** by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Our 65th wedding anniversary by Irv & Estelle Jacobs.

In Memory Of: Abraham I. Tersoff & Karen Tersoff by Janet Tersoff & Susan Tersoff. Anna & Abraham Nathanson by Ruth & Bennett Nathanson. Charles Jay Pilzer by Geraldine Pilzer. Ethel & Nat Popick by David & Harriet Bubes. George & Florence Goldstein by Ken Goldstein. Hebert Ain & Lawrence Luskin by Sandy & Miriam Ain. Samuel & Jessie Gertman & Philip & Mae Ugelow by Richard & Susan Ugelow. Pauline & Jacob Shapiro &

Betty & Allan Kamerow, all by Doug Kamerow & Celia Shapiro. **Sanford G. Levenson** by Bill Levenson. **Sophie Silfen** by Art & Edie Hessel. **Yetta & Sydney Staffin** by Jo Staffin & Charles, Rebecca & Elizabeth Dorfman.

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In Honor Of: B'nai mitzvah of **Jonah Antonelli** & **Max Labaton** by Stewart & Shelley Remer. For The Speedy Recovery Of: **Rita Segerman** by Elinor Tattar.

Refuah Shleyma To: **Shirley Abrams** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: Jack Coopersmith by Esther Coopersmith. Lucille Klayman, Sophie Silfen by Stuart & Elinor Tattar. Ray Firestone by Ross Firestone. Sophie Tepper by Edith Hessel. William "Bill" Finglass by Jack Finglass. Rothstein Family Israel College Scholarship Fund

In Appreciation Of: Rabbi Steinlauf by Bud & Lorain Rothstein.

In Memory Of: Ralph Rothstein by Mel

Jacobson, Geraldine Pilzer, Bud & Lorain Rothstein, Chris & Howard Kra, Jack & Barbara Kay, Roger & Renée Fendrich, Adrian & Annette Morchower.

Ryna & Melvin Cohen Senior Rabbi Program Fund

In Honor Of: **Ryna Cohen**'s special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: **Mel Cohen** by Jack & Barbara Kay, David & Harriet Bubes, Alvin & Gloria Bernstein, Adrian & Annette Morchower. **Sachse Family Endowment Fund**

In Memory Of: Lazarus Simon Yudin by Elinor Sachse.

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Solar Cooker Project By: Ken & Roz Doggett.

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Stanley & Veeda Wiener Memorial Fund

In Honor Of: Joy & Bob Cohen receiving the Shem Tov award by Stanley & Ruth Snyder. In Memory Of: Melvin Cohen by Stanley & Ruth Snyder.

Tot Shabbat Program

For: Torahs for the kids by Joshua Bobeck & Susan Glickman.

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Tzedakah Fund

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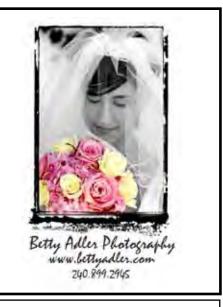
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Buy One More!

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Tikkun Olam

Tikkun Olam Weekend Volunteering



◀ (Left to right) Marco Murillo (director of Jordan House), Ruth Kleinrock, Manny Shiffres, and Kathy Krieger cleared debris, rubble, and leaves and helped to winterize the garden behind Jordan House, an emergency crisis shelter run by SOME (So Others Might Eat).

Director
of Education
Joshua Bender

shares How Mitzvah Giraffe Got His Long, Long Neck by David Sokoloff with a group of Gan HaYeled children who had just completed filling bags for the National Children's Medical Center. The donations (seen in the background) included baby clothes, toys and even car seats!





◀ Adas Israel young professionals Rachel
Miller and Chris Griffith paint the walls at Strive DC's NE
building. Some 25 young professionals came out for this
project in conjunction with Yachad. STRIVE DC assists
unemployed individuals in the DC area in obtaining the skills

needed to get and keep a job.



