

ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

Chronicle

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APRIL 2012

NISAN-IYAR 5772

HAPPY PASSOVER!



Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

A SYNAGOGUE TRANSFORMED

In just a matter of months, our congregation will begin an amazing transformation. The sanctuary will be updated with a new look.

Continuing on the journey we began in last month's column, you make your way across the hall to the magnificent new Charles E. Smith Sanctuary—now transformed for a new era. When you enter on Shabbat, you are first struck by the breath-taking new Eastern Wall: a magnificent play on organic form and light (capturing the message of a "Tree of Life" that rises up from the Earth and reaches heavenward). As the wall carries your eyes upward, you see the sanctuary literally open to the heavens as sunlight pours into the space through an oculus in the ceiling. Your eye follows the light to the bimah: elegant, warm, simple, accessible. It is low to the ground, just steps above the seats as the rabbi and cantor stand together

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Ahavat Yisrael Weekend, May 18–20

The Last of Our Three Pillar Weekends

Ahavat Yisrael means love and concern for the land and people of Israel. Adas Israel will devote the weekend of May 18–20 to giving expression to Ahavat Yisrael. All are invited to participate in this, the last of our Three Pillar Weekends—community-wide events that celebrate the values we live by. The Ahavat Yisrael weekend is generously supported by the Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Endowment Fund.

The weekend includes the following programs:

Friday Night (May 18) will be a celebration of the Abe and Minnie Kay Israel Experience for our 22 10th graders who are heading to

Passover at Adas

For a complete schedule and important information regarding the holiday, please turn to page 3.

Israel for two weeks in June. The evening will also be an opportunity say *todah rabah* to Jack and Barbara Kay who are subsidizing this incredible experience for our teens. We will also welcome Hirsh Goodman and Isabel Kershner, who will give short anecdotal talks about their lives in Israel.

6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv 7:30 pm Shabbat Dinner (RSVP required)

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Garden of the Righteous Ceremony, April 22



On Sunday, April 22 at 10:30 am, Adas Israel will honor the memory of the late Dr. Tina Strobos in our Garden of the Righteous. Strobos, who was scheduled to attend the ceremony, passed

away on February 27 at the age of 91.

Dr. Strobos, who saved Jews during the Holocaust, was born in Amsterdam in 1920 and was a medical student there when the Germans invaded Holland in May 1940. From the first days of the Nazi invasion, Dr. Strobos and her family, who were not Jewish, became actively involved in hiding Jews, providing them food, shelter, and forged documents. Strobos, together with her mother and grandmother, sheltered over 100 Jewish refugees—four or five at a time—at their boarding house, which was only a 10-minute walk from Anne Frank's house in Amsterdam.

Strobos also carried news and ration stamps to Jews hiding on farms outside the city as well as radios and firearms for the Dutch resistance. She was seized or

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CELEBRATING OUR 142ND YEAR
THE CHRONICLE IS SUPPORTED IN
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Clergy Corner

דוֹבֵר אֱמֶת Dover Emet Speaking the Truth

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf



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on a unified podium, conducting new kinds of warm, spirited, and uplifting services in the new space.

Behind them is a spectacular *Aron*

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf HaKodesh—a study in simple yet elegant form as the doors open to a jewel box of color and warmth inside, where the Sifrei *Torah* are housed. Above the Ark, a single column of sky-blue light rises heavenward again—a new expression of the Ner Tamid, the eternal light, as a new source of hope and strength to tie our community together. And all around this spiritual space, new kinds of seating—warm and inviting—wrap around the bimah and the whole room. You take a seat and you can look around and literally see your community together with you in this sacred moment of light, of inspiration, of connection to one another and to spirit.

It may be that you also enter the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary on a non-Shabbat evening, and the bimah will transform into a stage for musical concerts and other exciting performing arts series, lectures, plays, movies, community speakers, and other significant events.

Finally, you make your way across

the synagogue, past the Beit Midrash to the new Beit'Am (House of the People) in what is now the Gewirz Hall. You notice, first of all, that the entrance to the room is in a new place—moved over toward the second Quebec Street entrance nearer to the parking lot. When you enter the Beit'Am on Shabbat, you go through the new doors, and you are struck first and foremost by the feeling of community. You see lots of beautiful (and movable!) chairs arranged in a circular format around an 'amud (podium) in the center of the room that faces the Aron HaKodesh on the Eastern wall. The Beit'Am is bathed in gentle light from the northern wall, and the whole space the colors and structure—is about warmth and simplicity: the intentional focus of the Beit'Am is not decor but the community itself. Every Shabbat, the our Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat service, our L'Dor VaDor Service, our Young Professionals Shir Delight, and our Traditional Egalitarian Minyan can call the Beit'Am home. And all through the week, this very flexible place can easily become a lecture hall, a concert space, a place for meals and celebrations, for programs and classes. And then, when it is time for worship, the Beit'Am will truly become a makom t'filah—a spiritual place of prayer

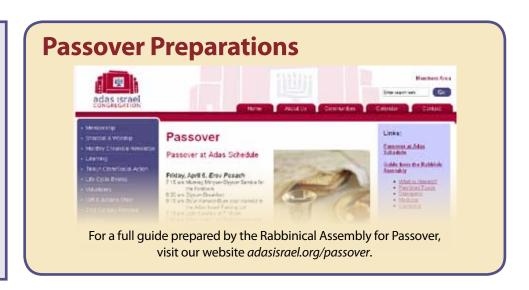
that lifts up the experience of all those gathered there.

I have great excitement and enthusiasm for what the transformed Adas Israel is capable of. I hope you will join me in this enthusiasm. In the famous words of Theodore Herzl, "Im tirtzu, ain zo agadah," "If you will it, it is no dream." This spring, we will all be working together to make this dream a reality. My dream is to create not just a gorgeous synagogue, but a place that will totally transform, in the minds of hearts of our community, what a synagogue means in our time. Adas Israel will be a place where anyone can walk into the synagogue—not only on Shabbat and holidays—but any day of the week, and find new ways to engage personally with his or her Judaism. Adas Israel is poised to become not just a synagogue for programs, services, and religious school as it has been, but a true "Jewish Spiritual Community Center."

For generations, Adas has inspired not just our own community, but the whole nation with our leadership in the Conservative Movement and American Judaism. Let's continue to inspire by giving ourselves and our children the gift of this new kind of Adas Israel, so that the blessing of Jewish life we enjoy here will be a legacy for generations to come. •

Adas-Behrend Senior Fellowship

Please note that the Adas-Behrend Senior Fellowship will be closed for the Passover holiday. The last lunch before the break will be Friday, March 30. The program will resume Monday, April 16. Chag kasher v'sameach!



Holidays

Passover Guide, 2012 /5772

Passover is celebrated this year from **Friday**, **April 6**, through **Saturday**, **April 14**. The *sedarim* are held on **Friday and Saturday nights**, **April 6 and 7**. All cleaning and preparations to make the house *pesachdik* (kosher for Passover) must be completed by **10:00 am on Friday**, **April 6**. If you have any questions, please consult with the rabbis.

The rule against *hametz* on *Pesach* applies not only to eating but to enjoyment (*hanaah*) and also involves removing all the *hametz* from one's home. No *hametz* is even allowed to be in the possession of a Jew during Passover. To facilitate this cleaning, certain rituals are part of Passover preparations (the text for the ceremonies can be found in most *haggadot*):

- bedikat hametz—searching for crumbs of hametz
- bittul hametz—a formula for renouncing any hametz inadvertently missed
- *be'ur hametz*—burning *hametz*
- mehirat hametz—the sale of hametz

Mehirat Hametz

We are not always able to destroy or remove all of our *hametz*. Doing so could be economically disastrous, so the rabbis ordained that a symbolic sale is made of all *hametz* to a non-Jew in the community, who then sells it back to us after *Pesach*. The *hametz* is then no longer "in our possession." This is normally done through the synagogue for the entire congregation. Please use the form in this issue of the *Chronicle* and **send it to Rabbi Feinberg c/o Marcia Miller by Thursday morning, April 5.** It is only necessary to sell or destroy foodstuffs; dishes and utensils are simply locked away in storage for the duration of the festival. *Bedikat Hametz*, Thursday evening, April 5

The Search for Leaven, the lovely home ceremony of searching for the leaven with a candle, feather, and wooden spoon, indicates that all other preparations have been made. It is customarily done at nightfall (immediately after sunset) on the night before Passover when we search for and symbolically eliminate all remaining leavening from the house. This is an especially enjoyable ceremony for your children. The *Kol Hamira* formula for nullifying unseen *hametz*, which can be found at the beginning of many *haggadot*, should be recited at this time and in the morning when the *hametz* is disposed of.

The search is performed in the following manner:

- Place 10 pieces of (visible size) bread in various locations throughout the house.
- Make the following blessing: Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam asher kid-shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivonu al biur hametz, and then proceed (traditionally with a lighted candle, a feather, and a wooden spoon) to look for any leaven that can be found.
- The pieces of bread should be gathered in a container, such as a small cardboard box.

 After the 10 pieces, and whatever other leavened food is gathered, make the following declaration: "All manner of leaven that is in my possession which I have not seen or have not removed, or have no knowledge of, shall be null and disowned as the dust of the earth."

Siyyum Bechorim, Friday morning, April 6

The fast of the firstborn is a time-honored custom that recognizes God's role in history. On the day before Passover, it is customary for the firstborn to fast as an expression of gratitude that they, unlike the Egyptians' firstborn, were saved. However if they attend a *siyyum* (a public completion of the study of a tractate of the Talmud) on the morning before Passover, they are exempted from fasting and may eat. Thus any firstborn who participates in the ceremony may eat; this is known as the *Siyyum Bechorim*. As do many congregations, we hold a *siyyum* (the celebration of concluding a section of the *Mishna*). Our *siyyum* takes place as part of the morning minyan on **Friday morning**, **April 6**, **at 7:15 am**

Seudat Mitzvah

This small meal follows the *Siyyum Bechorim*, and a firstborn who is present may eat and need not fast that day.

Be'ur Hametz, Friday morning, April 6

This day should be treated as an ordinary *Erev Pesach* in regard to *be'ur hametz* (removal of *hametz*). The burning of the *hametz* should be completed **by about 10:00 am**. The stove should be koshered for *Pesach*. All cooking should be done in *Pesach* pots and only *Pesach* utensils should be used. Food required for the first *seder* should be cooked at this time.

Burn your *hametz* at Adas Israel on **Friday, April 6, at 9:15 am** in the parking lot.

First Seder, Friday night, April 6

Tradition encourages that the Seder not begin until after sundown.

Candlelighting Times:

Monday, April 6-light candles at 7:18 pm Saturday, April 7-light candles <u>after</u> 8:18 pm Thursday, April 12-light candles at 7:24 pm Friday, April 13-light candles at 7:25 pm

Memorial Candle—It is customary to light a memorial candle for departed members of the family before lighting the holy day candles.

The blessings recited are:

בָּרוּדְּ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱ-לֹחֵינוּ מֶלֶדְ הָעוּלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשֵנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִנֵּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק וֵר שָׁל שַׁבָּת וֹשֶׁל יוֹם טוֹב.

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam, asher kid-shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzeevanu l'hadleek ner shel Shabbat v' shel Yom Tov. Praised are You, Lord our God, Master of the universe, who has sanctified us with Your commandments and commanded us to light the Shabbat and festival candles.

And on the first night only:

בּרוּדְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱ-לֹהֵינוּ מֱלֶדְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֶחֱיֵנוּ וְהְגִּיעֵנוּ לַזְּמֵן הַזֶּיה. Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu melech ha-olam, she'hecheyanu, v'kee'manu, v'heegee anu lazman hazeh.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Master of the universe, who has kept us in life, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season. •

Passover at Adas Schedule

Erev Pesach, April 6

7:15 am Morning Minyan–Siyyum Service for the Firstborn

8:30 am Siyyum Breakfast

9:15 am Be'ur Hametz-Burn your Hametz in the Adas Israel Parking

Lot

7:18 pm Light Candles

7:00 pm Adas Israel First Night Community Seder

led by Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

7:00 pm YP First Night Seder

Pesach-Day 1, April 7

9:30 am Smith Sanctuary Pesach Service joined by the Havurah;

D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf

9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan Pesach Service

10:00 am Shabbat Spot 12:00 pm Pesach Kiddush

6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services

8:18 pm Light Candles AFTER 8:18 pm

Pesach-Day 2, April 8

9:30 am Combined Smith and Trad. Egal. Minyan Pesach Service

6:00 pm Evening Minyan

Chol HaMoed Pesach, April 9

7:15 am *Morning Minyan* 6:00 pm *Evening Minyan*

Chol HaMoed Pesach, April 10

7:15 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan

Chol HaMoed Pesach, April 11

7:15 am *Morning Minyan* 6:00 pm *Evening Minyan*

6:30 pm Religious Practices Committee Meetings

7:30 pm Exploring the Mishnah's Perspective on Family

Relationships

Chol HaMoed Pesach, April 12

7:15 am Morning Minyan

6:00 pm Evening Minyan

7:24 pm Light Candles

Pesach-Day 7, April 13

9:15 am Combined Smith Sanctuary & Trad. Egalitarian Minyan

Pesach Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg

12:00 pm Pesach Kiddush

6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat

7:25 pm Light Candles

7:00 pm Ruach Minyan Service

Pesach-Day 8, April 14

9:15 am Smith Sanctuary Pesach Service (Yizkor at 11 am/Memorial

Plaque Dedication); D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf

9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan Pesach Service

10:00 am Shabbat Spot

12:00 pm Pesach Kiddush

6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services

8:25 pm Havdalah

9:00 pm YP Hametz Party

Moss Haggadah

The Moss Haggadah is one of the most creative among the more than 3,000 editions of the Haggadah. David Moss, who now lives in Israel, and is known worldwide as a Jewish calligrapher, made every page



a unique artistic rendering. Drawing both on the text and its interpretations, he prepared the beautiful *Haggadah* in such a way as to make it exquisite, evocative, and unique. The quality of his work makes it a source of study as well inspiration.

Adas Israel is fortunate to have acquired one of the *Moss Haggadot* through the generosity of Dr. Clement and Sandra Alpert. It is currently on display in the museum case opposite the Rabbis' offices in a specially designed display case. The open pages are changed periodically to allow viewers to see and appreciate this wonderful creation.

We thank Clem and Sandra for enabling us to celebrate Passover in such a beautiful way. •

Passover Sale of *Hametz*

During Passover, it is technically forbidden to have any *hametz* in our possession. Because we cannot finish it all, and it is improper to destroy usable food, the rabbis provided for a symbolic sale of all the *hametz* to a non-Jew who then "sells" it back to us after *Pesach*. The *hametz* is then no longer "in our possession." This includes food, dishes, and utensils, which are locked away in storage for the duration of the festival. This year the sale can be done through April 5.

Funds collected through donations and through the "sale" of hametz are used for charitable purposes and to help provide Passover food for those who otherwise might have none. This legal procedure technically transfers ownership of hametz that remains in our pantry during the festival. Technical ownership reverts to us when the festival is over.

Please fill out this form and send it to Marcia Miller (Marcia.Miller@adasisrael.org) by Thursday, April 5

Home Address _____

ľ	
•	Dear Rabbi Feinberg:
	Please sell our hametz so that we have fulfilled our obligation of
	religious ownership and accept this contribution so that others
	are assured of a seder.

Business Address		

The Adas Israel Purim Project-Fast Becoming a Tradition

"And so today, we will merry, merry be and nosh some hamantaschen."

On Sunday, February 26, a cross-section of Adas Israel members gathered for a wonderful morning of mitzvah making in what is becoming Adas Israel's annual Purim Project. Spearheaded by a team that included Harriet Isack, Meredith Cymerman, Krayna Feinberg, Lisa Kleine, and Julie Weisman, it brought together volunteers from all sectors of the congregation who prepared and delivered *mishloach manot* baskets to members of our community.

The purpose of the project is to provide some Purim cheer to new members of the synagogue, to the hosts in Adas Israel's Hesed Project, and to those who are ill or recovering from illness, "and while we were at it," added Harriet, "to build a little *chevra* in the process."

The group of diverse volunteers spent the morning chopping, mixing, and stirring; rolling dough; baking; and filling boxes before fanning out into the community to make deliveries. Special thanks to Julie who provided her grandmother Malvena Scott's "secret"



The Hamantaschen Assembly Line (left to right): Denyse Tannenbaum, Susan Bobeck, Maria Lasa-Sloan, Michael Liebman, Arlene Cohen, and Marshall Cohen.



The Finished Product

recipe for the hamentaschen-it was a hit! And to Mark Gross, who generously lent his talents to creating the delivery routes. All told, the Purim Project delivered over 70 mishloach manot boxes filled with homemade hamentaschen, candy, and other goodies.

On behalf of the congregation, the Hesed Project, and Sisterhood, the Purim Project Team wishes to thank all of the other volunteers and the staff who contributed to making the morning a successful and merry event. Congregants who participated were Irwin Ansher, Dena Bauman, Jean Bernard, Jodi Blecker, Susan Bobeck, Alice Burton, Arlene Cohen, Marshall Cohen, Sandra Eskin, Aaron Finston, Rachel Finston, Susan Finston, Bruce Goffin, Art Hessel, Jeff Isaacs, Art Isack, Hazel Keimowitz, Sheldon Kimmel, Susan Klein, Ed Kopf, Maria Lasa-Sloan, Michael Liebman, Lucy Marvin, Maya Meltsner, Ron Schlesinger, Denyse Tannenbaum, Anita Wellen, and Pablo Zvlberglait, and to the staff members who contributed to the success of the day. O

HOLIDAYS CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

GARDEN OF THE RIGHTEOUS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

questioned nine times by the Gestapo. Her grandmother had a radio transmitter hidden in the house that was used to send clandestine messages from the underground to Britain. Strobos said of her grandmother, "She is the only person I know who scared the Gestapo."

After the war, Dr. Strobos and her husband immigrated to the United States, where she practiced psychiatry and told stories of how Jews were rescued from the Nazis. In a 2009 interview, Strobos said, "It's just the right thing to do. I believe in heroism, and when you're young, you want to do dangerous things."

The Garden of the Righteous is a reminder of numerous acts of decency and daring performed by

many non-Jews in the midst of one of the most tragic moments in human history. The entire community is cordially invited.

This program is supported in part by the Men's Club of Adas Israel, the Marilyn & Stefan Tucker Program Fund, and the Ryna & Melvin Cohen Senior Rabbi Program Fund.

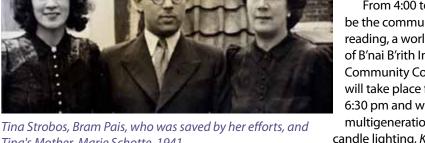
Please join us on Sunday, April 22, as we honor the righteous.

JCRC Yom HaShoah Holocaust Rememberance Day

The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington (JCRC) and local area Holocaust organizations will sponsor the community-wide observance of Yom HaShoah v'Hagvurah, Holocaust Heroes and Martyrs Day. This year's commemoration

> is Sunday, April 22, at Ohr Kodesh Congregation, 8300 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase

From 4:00 to 5:00 pm there will be the community-wide name reading, a worldwide program of B'nai B'rith International. The Community Commemoration will take place from 5:00 to 6:30 pm and will include a multigenerational memorial candle lighting, Kaddish, reflection, music, poetry, and keynote speaker



Tina's Mother, Marie Schotte, 1941.

Michael Berenbaum, renowned scholar, rabbi, writer, and filmmaker.

Also from 4:00 to 5:00 pm, teenagers are invited to Dor L'Dor Youth Program, which provides an opportunity for teenagers to meet in small groups to hear and discuss personal histories from local Holocaust survivors.

For information, contact the JCRC, 301-770-0881.

Sisterhood

Seaboard Region Women's League Spring Conference

On May 6, Seaboard Region of Women's League for Conservative Judaism is holding its annual Spring Conference—"Sisterhood 2012–Out of the Box"—at Shaare Tefilah Congregation in Olney, MD, from 8:45 am to 5:45 pm The cost is \$65 per person, which includes all meals and materials. Please access the Sisterhood page at www.adasisrel.org/sisterhood to register by April 15.

Taste of Tanach—An Interview with Rabbi Steinlauf

by Joyce Stern

(Continued from last month's issue)

JS: What topics have you studied in the past year, that is, since 5772 began?

RS: The topics have ranged all over the map. We have studied everything from Jewish medical ethics to theology to the problem of evil; from philosophy to Jewish ethics to holidays; from alienating texts to current events to the weekly Torah portion. This year, we



Photo Credit: Marshall H. Cohen

are following a single theme: *mitzvot*. Each class, we go through various texts and ideas of what the concept of *mitzvah* means and how it has developed through the texts of our tradition. **JS:** You have initiated many innovative programs since you came to Adas Israel three and a half years ago, but *Taste of Tanach* is one you inherited. You chose to continue it. How do you see it fitting into your overall vision for adult Torah study at Adas as carried out by you and your rabbinical colleagues and other teachers here?

RS: I was thrilled to find that there was a group of dedicated learners from Sisterhood eager to study Torah. I should also point out, by the way, that the group includes not only women; men also participate and are welcome.

Frankly, if *Taste of Tanach* hadn't already existed, I would have urged Sisterhood to create it anyway! My vision for Adas Israel is all about creating a synagogue environment that this rich and always full of opportunities to explore our place in Judaism. I eventually hope to create a fully functional *Beit Midrash* (House of Study) within our congregation where people can come

Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

HOURS

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



MICHAEL ARAM SALE!

All Michael Aram* items are 25% off!
Sunday, April 15–Sunday, April 29

ALL SALES FINAL



*No prior sales or holds & limited to in-stock items only.

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Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.

on any day and find opportunities to learn and grow and find comfort, strength, inspiration, and joy in our tradition. So the Sisterhood group fits in with this vision perfectly.

With that in mind, I want to encourage Sisterhood and Adas members to think about participating in a *Taste of Tanach*. It's a dynamic and fun group, and it's open to all ages. A great blessing of Sisterhood is that it brings together women of several generations to be in community with each other. This class is a wonderful centerpiece to further that experience. Every month, I look forward to seeing everyone in the class, and I look forward to seeing more people join in as well!

Note: The remaining 5772 dates for *Taste of Tanach* are April 24, May 15, and June 12—all Tuesdays. The class takes place in the Sisterhood Library at 10 am. All are welcome. Please contact Beryl Saltman, assistant to Rabbi Steinlauf, to obtain advance copies of the readings by e-mail. •

Sisterhood Well Represented at Torah Fund Reception

Sisterhood has long spearheaded the Torah Fund Campaign of the Women's League for Conservative Judaism at Adas Israel Congregation. To date through contributions large and small, Sisterhood has raised just under \$6,000 to help secure the future of Conservative/Masorti Judaism.

On March 4, Seaboard Region sponsored a dessert reception to thank area donors. Held at Chizuk Amuno Congregation in Baltimore, the event featured Rabbi Marc Wolf, JTS vice chancellor and chief development officer. Representing the Adas Israel Sisterhood were Alisa Abrams, Jean Bernard, Rachel Eitches, Ruth Ernst, Judy Melamed, Myra Promisel, and Joyce Stern.

Though the thank-you event is passed, should you wish to help raise our synagogue's total contribution, your donations are still most welcome! Know that 100% of donations go for student scholarships to attend Movement seminaries. Contributions at any level are appreciated.

Donors of \$180 or more receive this year's beautiful Torah Fund pin. Please send contributions, checks made out to "Torah Fund," to Torah Fund Chair, Gerry Lezell, c/o Sisterhood, Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec St., NW, Washington, DC 20008.

Ongoing Activities

N Street Village Yarn Project

Sisterhood is collecting yarn for the Village's knitting and crocheting classes. If you have any yarn or needles, please deposit them in the coat room bin marked "N-STREET VILLAGE YARN COLLECTION." Thank you.

Shirley Abrams Memorial Fund

Shirley Abrams (z"/l) was one of Sisterhood's most memorable and active leaders, serving as president from 2001 to 2003 and



upgrading the Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop offerings. Sisterhood has established a fund in her memory; donations may be sent to Sisterhood c/o Dava Berkman, Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008-5296.

Sisterhood Shabbat Goes Year-Round

We are calling on the many women in Adas Israel who can *leyn* to commit to reading Torah in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary throughout the year. Become part of this cadre of women by first contacting chair Marcie Goldstein (*Marcie.B.Goldstein@gmail.com*) for available dates. Naomi Malka, interim ritual director, will assign specific portions and provide coaching as needed. •

HOLIDAYS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Yom HaZikaron

On this Memorial Day, the fourth of *Iyar* in the Hebrew calendar, we commemorate the soldiers who have fallen fighting for Israel's independence and defending its security. In Israel, *Yom HaZikaron* is marked with sirens that alert people to stop all activity and honor the fallen. This holiday's placement the day before Israel Independence Day is intentional: the soldiers who gave their lives were directly responsible for the existence of Israel as an independent state. In this way, a day of solemn commemoration can be followed by joyous celebration and song.

This year *Yom HaZikaron* is observed on Wednesday, April 25.

Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel's Independence Day), 5772

The anniversary of the modern State of Israel is a wonderful milestone for the country and for the Jewish people. This modern miracle is unparalleled in history. *Yom Ha'Atzmaut* is celebrated this year on Thursday, April 26.

In celebration of *Yom Ha'Atzmaut*, please attend our morning *minyan* at 7:15 am on Thursday, April 26. Join us as we celebrate modern Israel's past, present, and future.

Board Approves Expansion of Adas Section of Judean Cemetery

The Adas Israel Board of Directors recently approved the purchase of additional cemetery plots in the Adas Israel section of Judean Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Olney, MD. The additional sites expand the Adas Israel section to nearly 700 plots.

Fourteen sites remain from the original purchase and are available on a first-come, first-served basis at \$1,995 per plot, which includes perpetual care. The new additional sites are \$2,100.

In addition to the sites in the Adas Israel section, the Board approved the purchase of a small section of contiguous plots in the Judean Interfaith section of the cemetery. These sites are available for \$2,100.

A limited number of sites are also available in the Adas Israel Historic Cemetery in Southeast DC.

Judean Memorial Gardens Cemetery is located at 16225 Batchellors Forest Road, Olney. To purchase cemetery plots, please contact Laura Bloomberg or Glenn Easton at the synagogue office (202-362-4433). •

Bounced Check Fee

The congregation is charged a \$25 bank fee for deposited checks that are returned for insufficient funds. Unfortunately, this occurs even when your account is inadvertently in arrears, and the \$25 bank fee must be charged to your synagogue account. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for understanding. •

Life Cycle

Milestones

Births

Melanie Tyler Kessler, daughter of Leigh & Sharon Kessler, granddaughter of Ed & Arleen Kessler

Keren Saltzman, daughter of Josh Saltzman & Hagar Sadan, granddaughter of Rabbi Arnold Saltzman & Carol Nissenson Alexis Dorman Stark, daughter of Nicholas Stark & Rachel Dorman Maya Frances Friedberg, daughter of Dr. Rachel Wohlberg & Curt Friedberg, granddaughter of Rabbi Jeffrey & Judy Wohlberg. We wish our newborns and their families strength, good health, and joy.

Marriages

Miriam Rosenthal, daughter of John & Sue Rosenthal, was married to Mileve Phillips, son of Yishayahu & Aliza Phillips, on January 29. Samantha Streicher, daughter of Veneeta Acson & Howard Streicher, was married to Jake Honigman, son of Joanne & Howard Honigman, on February 19 at Adas Israel by Rabbi Jeffrey Wohlberg.

Benjamin Marc Baumgold, son of Linda Golden & Jesse Baumgold, was married to Sophia Carol Aronowitz, daughter of Karen & Judd Aronowitz, on March 4.

Alan Roth, son of Naomi & Benjamin (z"I) Roth, was married to Michael Rodgers, son of the late Cecil & Aura Rodgers. We wish the newlyweds and their families a life of joy, good health, and connection to the Jewish community.

B'nai Mitzvah



Bryan Knapp, April 21

Bryan, son of Jeanie Milbauer and Bill Knapp, is a seventh grader at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. He started his Jewish education at Gan HaYeled. He happily shares this simcha with his sisters, Samantha and Ally, and the rest of his community of family and friends.



Molly Berman, April 28

Molly, daughter of Jeff and Trish Berman, is a seventh grader at Alice Deal Middle School. She shares her *simcha* with her brother, Joe, and sisters, Cassie and Annie. Also celebrating with Molly are her grandparents, Rubin and Audrey Berman, and many other relatives and friends.

Members in the News

Brian Schwalb was named first vice chair of Venable LLP law firm. Neshama Rovinsky received a Global Leadership Award to study and learn in South Africa. She was also named a Top Performer in Model U.N.

Neilah Rovinsky was accepted as a scholar by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council.

Rabbi Feinberg addressed 250 of the staff of SOME, Inc. (So Others Might Eat) at its annual All-Staff Meeting on February 3. He participated in a panel devoted to "An Interfaith Approach to Eliminating Poverty."

Ruth Epstein joined Stradley Ronon Stevens LLP law firm in DC as a partner.

George Vradenburg was selected by Mayor Vincent Gray as a covice chair of the St. Elizabeths East Campus Advisory Council.

New Members

Daniel Ference lives in Washington, where he is a consultant with Deloitte Consulting.

Gilbert Holland lives in Washington and is an attorney/lobbyist for DuPont Co.

Lara Kitain, a political fundraiser for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, lives in Washington.

Rachel Ratafia-Brown is a school counselor in Fairfax County Public Schools and lives in McLean, VA.

Stephen Swern & Marisa Goldstein live in Silver Spring, where Stephen is a mechanical engineer at ATK and Marisa is a team leader at the National Council on Teacher Quality.

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of synagogue member:

Leah Rabinovich

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Elsie Adler Benn, sister of Annette Morchower Leslie Glick, sister of Ryna Cohen Marvin Bromberg, father of Sandy Eskin Marvin Kogod, brother of Bob Kogod H. A. Lezell, father of Mark Lezell Arnold Miller, father of Steve Miller Gerard Rohde, father of Jay Rohde Eric Ross, father of Matthew Ross Gerald Margulies, grandfather of Bonnie Roskes Grace Rosner, mother of Marjorie Rosner Steven Rubenstein, brother of Laurie Rubenstein Mallen Victor A. Sachse III, brother of Harry Sachse Beniamino Sadun, father of Arrigo Sadun

Life Cycle Information

Larissa Celia Satin, niece of Sandra Sugar

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. 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 Glenn Easton or Laura Bloomberg at the synagogue office (202-362-4433) to schedule a visit. •



Kol HaMayim: Voice of the Waters

The Adas Israel Community *Mikvah* would like to acknowledge its amazing volunteers, who in the last six months have given their time and energy

to welcoming our visitors and witnessing their immersions. Our deepest thanks go to Sara Lichtenfeld, Rabbi Tamara Miller, Leah Chanin, Nahanni Rous, Lisa Himmelfarb, and Lauren Markoe. We thank these new *Mikvah* Guides and salute their efforts to be here for daytime, evening, and weekend appointments—whenever they are needed.

The *middah*, or quality, that every good *Mikvah* Guide leads with is her compassion. She puts her own experiences, issues, and views aside and is completely present for the person who is immersing. Her ability to do this creates the conditions for a visitor to feel safe and supported during a vulnerable moment. And a special shout-out goes to our "male *mikvah* lady," Arnie Hammer, who witnesses men's immersions.

If you are interested in becoming a *Mikvah* Guide, please e-mail *mikvah@adasisrael.org* or call Naomi Malka, 202 841 8776.

Adas Israel Community Mikvah

Our mikvah is a sacred space where Jews can mark life

Synagogue Office Closings

Friday, April 6: *Erev* Passover–1st *Seder*

Schools/Offices Close at 1:00 pm

Sun., April 8: Passover, First Days

No School

Thursday, April 12: Passover *Erev Yom Tov*

Schools/Offices Close at 3:30 pm

transitions with powerful physical ritual. Immersing in a *mikvah* connects the body to the water cycle of our planet and to the sources of life. People visit our *mikvah* to observe the *mitzvah* of monthly immersion; to celebrate *s'machot*; to find strength during a difficult time; to pray for healing; to reflect on the meaning of becoming a bride, groom, or *bar* or *bat mitzvah*; to convert to Judaism; and to prepare physically and spiritually for *chagim*.

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

AHAVAT YISRAEL WEEKEND CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Saturday, May 19

9:30 am Shabbat Morning Services followed by a Congregational Kiddush Luncheon

1:00 pm Post-*Kiddush* Roundtable with Hirsh Goodman, Isabel Kershner, and Martin Indyk

9:00 pm Moshav Band Concert Pre-Party co-hosted by YP@ Al and the Washington Jewish Music Festival. Concert begins at 10:00 pm Tickets: \$18, \$15; discounted member/senior/student. Tickets go on sale April 1 at *wimf.org*.

Sunday, May 20

8:30 am Shacharit 10:00 am Breakfast

10:30 am Naomi and Nehemiah Cohen Lecture with Hirsh

Goodman and Isabel Kershner

10:30 am Israel Family Festival, featuring Israeli dancing, Hebrew signing, food tasting, and a Hebrew-Sing-a-Long

Kol HaOlam II a Success!

On February 25, Adas Israel hosted Kol HaOlam II, the second annual national collegiate Jewish a cappella competition. More than 100 Jewish college students performed for an audience of over 1,200 to win the coveted title of national champion. Congratulations to our winners: 1st place: Tizmoret from Queens College, 2nd place: Kol Sasson from the University of Maryland; and 3rd place: Jewop from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.



About Our Guests

Hirsh Goodman founded the *Jerusalem Report* and served as its editor-in-chief for eight years. He is the author of *The Anatomy of Israel's Survival*, winner of the 2012 National Jewish Book Award.



Isabel Kershner is a journalist and author who

began reporting from Jerusalem for the *New York Times* in 2007. Previously she was senior editor, Middle East for the *Jerusalem Report* magazine. Kershner is the author of *Barrier: The Seam of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*.

Martin Indyk is vice president and director for foreign policy at the Brookings Institution in Washington. He served as U.S. ambassador to Israel and assistant secretary of state for Near East Affairs during the Clinton administration and is the author of *Innocent Abroad: An Intimate Account of American Peacemaking Diplomacy in the Middle East*.





Moshav Band: Raised in a musical village in the hills between Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Moshav founders Yehuda and David grew up on the sounds of Dylan, Van Morrison, and Neil Young. Their rich rock/folk/reggae songs are spiced with the fiery flavors of the Middle East and Shlomo Carlebach's unifying call. Join us

for a pre-party before Moshav takes the stage. •

April 2012 Nisan-Iyar 5772

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

In the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary: Interim Ritual Director, Naomi Malka 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*.

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 Naomi Michaelis 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 10:45 am. The service is designed for elementary school 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.

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Yom HaZikaron Observed</i> 8:30 am <i>Morning Minyan</i> 6:00 pm <i>Evening Minyan</i>	7:30 am Morning Minyan 12:15 pm Gan Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm Evening Minyan Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Conversion Class @ Ohr Kodesh	7:30 am 10:30 am 6an Passover Seder 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:15 pm Ayeka, Soulful Jewish Education 7:30 pm Exploring the Mishnah's Perspective on Family Relationships	7:30 am 8:50 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:15 am Morning Minyan—Siyyum Service for the Firstborn 8:30 am Siyyum Breakfast 9:15 am Be'ur Hametz—Burn Your Hametz in the Adas Israel Parking Lot 7:00 pm Adas Israel First Night Community Seder led by Rabbi Gil Steinlauf 7:00 pm YP First Night Seder	7 Pesach—Day 1 9:30 am Smith Sanctuary Pesach Service joined by the Havurah; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan Pesach Service 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 12:00 pm Pesach Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 8:18 pm Havdalah
8 Pesach—Day 2 9:30 am Combined Smith and Trad. Egal. Minyan Pesach Service 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	9 Chol HaMoed Pesach 7:15 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	10 Chol HaMoed Pesach 7:15 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	11 Chol HaMoed Pesach 7:15 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Religious Practices Committee Meeting: 7:30 pm Exploring the Mishnah's Perspective on Family Relationships	6:00 pm Evening Minyan		9:15 am Smith Sanctuary Pesach Service (Yizkor at 11 am/Memorial Plaque Dedication); D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan Pesach Service 10:00 am Shabbat Spot 12:00 pm Pesach Kiddush 6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 8:25 pm Havdalah 9:00 pm YP Hametz Party
15 8:30 am 6:00 pm Morning Minyan Evening Minyan	16 7:30 am Morning Minyan Gan Classes Resume 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	17 7:30 am Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Downtown Study Group (off-site) 1:00 pm JSSA Job Search Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Torah Club 7:00 pm Introduction to Judaism	7:30 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm 7:30 pm 7:30 pm 7:30 pm 7:30 pm 8	19 Yom HaShoah 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 7:32 pm 11:20 am Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg Gan Family Shabbat Dinner 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt & Robyn Helzner	21 PARSHAT SHEMNI 8:00 am
8:30 am 9:00 am Rosh Chodesh Iyar Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund 10:30 am Garden of the Righteous Ceremony Bar Mitzvah of Adam Kupfer (off-site) 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Exploration of Torah Through Food	7:30 am 8:00 am Rosh Chodesh Iyar Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	24 2 Iyar 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Sisterhood "Taste of Tanach" with Rabbi Steinlauf 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Torah Club 6:30 pm Investment Committee Meeting	25 Yom HaZikaron Observed 3 lyar 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:30 pm Seven Blessings—A Workshop for Engaged and Newly Married Jewish Couples	26 Yom Ha'Atzmaut 7:15 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Israel Trip 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 7:39 pm 11:20 am Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat 7:00 pm Ruach Minyan Service 8:00 pm Ruach Minyan Dinner	28 PARSHAT TAZRIA-METZORA 8:00 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 70 am 5 am 70 a
8:30 am 9:30 am Men's Club Health Fair 9:30 am Jewish Meditation with Rabbi Steinlauf, Part 2 12:15 pm 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am 9:00 am Gan Rabbi/Parent/Child Program"Mitzvot" 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 1:00 pm JSSA Job Search Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Torah Club	7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:30 am JSSA Boot Camp 9:00 am Gan Parent/Teacher Conferences —3X and older 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Evecutive Committee Meeting 7:30 pm Seven Blessings—A Workshop for Engaged and Newly Married Jewish Couples	3 11 lyar 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:30 am JSSA Boot Camp 9:00 am 2 X Parent/Teacher Conferences -No P,B,C Classes 9:00 am Gan Kitten Parent/Teacher Conferences—No Class 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	7:30 am Morning Minyan 7:45 pm 11:20 am Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Shabbat Service with Rabbis Steinlauf and Feinberg 6:30 pm YP Shir Delight 7:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Shabbat Dinner	,

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Education

Gan HaYeled



Rabbi Feinberg carries the Torah at Shabbat Sing at the monthly Gan Torah parade.

The Gan Is Going to Israel!

Well, actually, it's only pretend. But to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut, the Gan will take an imaginary trip to Eretz Yisrael. With passports in hand (and "celebrity" border agents, such as Glenn Easton or Ron Schlesinger), the students will eat falafel at a café in Tel Aviv, make orange juice at a kibbutz, and dig at an archaeological site.

When they return home, they will enjoy milk and honey in their classrooms. We hope this will prepare our students well for the Adas Pillar weekend activities in May!

Religious School Tu B'Shevat (New Year for the Trees)

Celebration





On February 5, students in PreK-2nd Grade and their families celebrated Tu B'Shevat at a special Shacharit Live by singing songs, eating fruits

from trees, learning about trees, and watching a skit performed by our madrichim (teen assistants).

The Library Transforms into the Royal **Shushan Library**

On February 12, the library became the Royal Shushan Library for first and second graders. They participated in an interactive journey through



April Calendar for School, Youth, and Families

1-9: No school, Spring Break

6: 1st Seder

7-14: Pesach

10: Classes resume, Ma'alot Makom

15: 7th-Grade Service; Chugim for 3rd-6th Grade; Parents'

Corner; 3rd-grade Siddur Cover Project

17: Ma'alot Yom HaShoah Program

19: Yom HaShoah

22: Garden of the Righteous Ceremony

24: Ma'alot Yom HaZikaron/Ha'Atzmaut Program

25: Yom HaZikaron

26: Yom Ha'Atzmaut

28: Shabbat Unplugged

29: 5th-Grade Intergenerational Program; 1st-Grade *Yom*

Shabbat; Chugim for 3rd-6th Grade; Faculty Meeting



the Purim story and then met one of Queen Esther's ladies-in-waiting (Librarian Robin's daughter Sylvia) who shared a lot of information about Oueen Esther. Then students heard from a number of fancy "dolls," all of whom were pretending to be Queen Esther, but they picked out the real Queen Esther from among the imposters by identifying the correct story. Thank you to our librarian, Robin Jacobson, for transforming the

library and creating this experience.

Ma'alot Students Learn from Judith Heumann, Visit with Guests from the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes During Jewish Disability

Awareness Month Judith Heumann, an internationally recognized leader in the disability community and a lifelong civil rights advocate for disadvantaged people, is currently Special Advisor for International Disability Rights at the U.S. Department of State. On February 21, she came to speak with our Ma'alot (7th- to 12thgrade) students as a part of Jewish Disability Awareness Month. On

February 28, guests from the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes visited Ma'alot students during dinner and

attended a class together.

7th Graders Visit N St. Village

On February 26, the Kitah Zayin (7th grade) class visited N St. Village as a part of the students' ongoing Jewish values curriculum for which they visited with women at the shelter and

Education Continued



worked on a project together. N Street Village empowers homeless and low-income women to claim their highest quality of life by offering a broad spectrum of services and advocacy in an atmosphere of dignity and respect.

Shabbat Unplugged Musical Family Service, April 28

Shabbat Unplugged, a musical family service for families with children in elementary school, meets Saturday, April 28, at 10:45 am. Older children are welcome and are encouraged take on leadership roles. Shabbat Unplugged is led by Josh Bender, director of education, and Elie Greenberg, director of informal programming.

The service seeks to build a fun, interactive, and spirited prayer experience. This is also an opportunity for families to explore some of the key concepts and themes in Jewish prayer.





Guitars and other instruments are used to enhance the experience and to teach Jewish and Israeli songs. In addition, the Torah portion comes alive through the art of Jewish storytelling with Jennifer Rudick Zunikoff. Families are

invited to join the congregational kiddush following the service. **Jewish Value for March–April: Leket**

Leket (agricultural provisions for the poor) were a series of ancient agricultural laws guaranteeing that a portion of food products was left untouched in the fields for the poor to gather. In a modern context, this may mean collecting a portion of the harvest and donating it to the poor or collecting food and donating it to a shelter or soup kitchen. Our students will participate in a mitzvah project with Adas Israel's own Ezra Pantry, which partners with SOME (So Others Might Eat), that will involve a food collection drive. Some of our students will learn about an organization in Israel called Leket that uses volunteers to glean the fields in Israel and donates the produce to poor families throughout Israel. O

REMINDER: Please Use the Correct Doors

To ensure the safety of our children and the security of the synagogue, please remember that all visitors should enter the building through the Ouebec Street entrance. except during school carpool times when a security guard it stationed at the side (east) parking lot door. The south door (near Kay Hall) is an "exit only" door. Please be sure that the door closes behind you. Thank you for your help.

adas israel THIS DOOR IS USED ONLY **DURING SCHOOL** DROP-OFF & PICK UP ONLY. ALL OTHER TIMES USE QUEBEC ST. ENTRANCE

Seven Blessings

A Workshop for Engaged and Newly Married Jewish Couples

Wednesdays, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. April 18, April 25, May 2, May 9, and May 16

Rabbi Charles Feinberg of (Adas Israel) and Natalie Merkur Rose, LCSW-C, of the Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA) lead this five-session workshop.

Meetings are interactive sessions, including discussions, paired communication exercises and text study, allowing Jewish couples to examine issues such as making decisions, setting up a Jewish home, and building communication skills. The class runs once a year and is a wonderful way to meet other couples!

Cost (per couple): Adas Israel members, \$80; Non-members, \$120.



Adas Israel | 202-362-4433 | 2850 Quebec Street, NW, Washington, DC | adasisrael.org





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The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington is the proud funder of JLink

Library Corner Longing for Egypt

by Robin Jacobson

After the Lagnado family emigrated from Egypt in the 1960s, Passover sedarim became sad, melancholy occasions. No matter how loudly everyone sang, recalled author Lucette Lagnado, the "holiday had become not a celebration of the Exodus from Egypt but the inverse—a longing to return to the place we were supposedly glad to have left." Lagnado's two vivid, novel-like memoirs—the prize-winning The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit (focusing on Lagnado's father) and the recently published *The* Arrogant Years (focusing on Lagnado's mother)—describe the family's luxurious, cosmopolitan life in Cairo and the heartbreak and hardships that followed the Lagnados' forced exodus from Egypt. Both books are available in our library; don't miss them. The Golden Years in Egypt



Lagnado's parents, Leon and Edith, grew up in Cairo, during a period of remarkable peace, prosperity, and privilege for Egyptian Jews. In Lagnado's telling, 20th-century Cairo, until the late 1940s, was a true multicultural society, where Jews, Christians, and Muslims lived peaceably together, on the same streets and even in the same apartment buildings. Far removed from the anti-Jewish climate of Europe, Cairo was so respectful of its Jewish population,

says Lagnado, that la bourse, the stock market, shut down for the Jewish Sabbath.

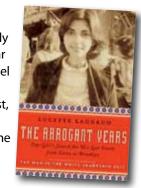
Leon and Edith married in 1943, soon after a romantic meeting in a storied outdoor Cairo café. Divided by differences in temperament, interests, and age, the wealthy 42-yearold businessman and the cultured 20-year-old teacher soon regretted their hasty marriage, but they remained united in their love for their four children and for Cairo, an endlessly exciting, Jewishly rich city with 40 synagogues.

A dashing, debonair man who favored hand-tailored suits of white sharkskin (a fashionable, shiny fabric), Leon relished the glamorous Cairo nightlife. Every evening, he sallied forth

to dine, dance, and gamble, faithfully returning home in time for morning prayers at the synagogue. Edith preferred reading French novels, visiting family, and stopping by the lovely shops and patisseries where Cairo sophisticates conversed in French, Italian, English, and Arabic. The family was together on Shabbat, feasting on Leon's mother's legendary meals, always spiced with fragrant apricots.

The Egyptian Exodus

Life for Jews in Egypt became increasingly dangerous after the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and the later rise to power of Gamal Abdel Nasser. Jews who had lived in Egypt for generations, untouched by the Holocaust, now fled in droves. Clinging to their beloved homeland as long as possible, the Lagnados finally departed in 1963. The government allowed them to take only the equivalent of \$200 for their family



of six and forced them to sign a document promising never to return. Still, as the ship left the pier in Alexandria, Leon cried out with anguished yearning, "Take us back to Cairo!"

In New York, the Lagnados faced poverty, illness, and frayed family ties. Leon eked out a small living peddling neckties and fabrics. The youngest child, Lucette (the author), was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma. The older children left home before marriage, an unthinkable event in Cairo. One of the few bright spots in the Lagnados' American experience was that shy, book-loving Edith, who gave up her career when she married Leon, found work she loved as a cataloguer in the Brooklyn Public Library.

Lagnado's two memoirs are not the usual triumphant, ragsto-riches immigrant story. They salute the glittering, vanished world of Old Cairo and portray immigrants who neither embraced nor achieved the American dream. Like the Jews in the Passover epic, the Lagnados did not instantly arrive in the Promised Land; instead, they wandered for years in the wilderness—lost, sad, and frightened. O

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 2, 6:30 Pesach First-Night

Seder, April 6, 7:00 pma

Don't spend the holiday alone! Join YP for a spirited participatory seder on the first night of Passover. Only \$20 for Adas members, \$25 for non-members. Pay online at adasisrael.org/yp.



online at adasisrael.org/yp. •

Youth @ Al



February brought some new fun to Adas Israel's youth programming. On February 12, the USYers kidnapped 11 Adas eighth graders early in the morning, brought them to the American City Diner, and inducted them into USY. The event was fun for everybody!

On February 25, our USYers helped sell tickets, concessions, and merchandise for *Tikkun Olam* at Kol HaOlam II, the National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Competition. They raised hundreds of dollars, and the night would not have run has smoothly without their help!



Here's what to look for in April:

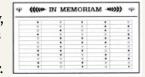
Sunday April 15: *Kadima* event–Stay tuned for details about this event . . . something new, and a blast, of course. Secret to be revealed soon!

Friday, April 17: USY *Shabbat* dinner–Join us as we have a wonderful, delicious, *ruach*-filled meal together! **Sunday, April 29:** Regional *Kadima* and USY Kings Dominion Day! **O**

Memorial Plaques

New Memorial Plaques Dedication, Saturday, April 14

Dedication of new memorial plaques will take place during the Passover *Yizkor* Service, Tuesday, April 26 (the service begins at 9:15 am; *Yizkor* is at 11:00 am). We will formally dedicate all new memorial nameplates installed since last Passover.



In loving remembrance these names have been recently inscribed on the Memorial Boards in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary:

Hilda Aks Norton Ansher Benjamin Eli Becker Lillian N. Becker Herbert Marshall Birtha Benjamin "Jamie" Cecil Jason P. Green
Jeanette L. Hornstein
Ruthe T. Katz
Philip Rosenbloom
Darvis H. Savadow
Dr. Norman Schlesinger

May their memory be a blessing.

Memorial plaques are a traditional and dignified way of honoring your dear departed. Each memorial plaque bears the name and *yahrzeit* date of a loved one. The memorial light adjoining the plaque is illuminated on every *yahrzeit* and for every *Yizkor* service. These plaques are truly perpetual memorials.

The cost is \$750 per nameplate. If you are interested, please call Elinor Tattar at the synagogue office, 202-362-4433.

We have a permanent *yahrzeit* listing at the entrance of the Smith Sanctuary.

Monthly we will display the names, locations, and corresponding English date of *yahrzeit* for all who have plaques on the Memorial Boards in the back of the Sanctuary.

Ruach Minyan

The Ruach Minyan invites the DC-area Jewish community, including those new to the area, visitors, and those looking for a new Shabbat experience, to join us at Adas Israel on the second and fourth Friday of each month for a spirited and engaging Erev Shabbat experience. The lay-led egalitarian Kabbalat Shabbat and Maariv service combines song and soulfulness, and is followed by a tasty catered Shabbat dinner at Adas Israel or a potluck at a nearby home.

We welcome people from all backgrounds and of all ages, and we provide a warm environment for prayer, study, growth, and getting to know each other. If you're looking for an engaging and fun *Shabbat* experience, please join us for *Shabbat* evening services and dinner at the *Ruach Minyan*!

For more information about upcoming events, or to receive our weekly e-mail announcements, visit adasisrael.org/ruachminyan, join our Facebook Group at tinyurl.com/322fej, or e-mail ruachminyan@adasisrael.org.



Passover Wine: Another Successful Sale



This is the third year in a row that the Men's Club has engaged in a kosher for Passover wine sale. Every year more and more people have come to support the sale and our efforts to raise money for the summer scholarship program. The first year we sold approximately 160 bottles; last year, 220; and this year, almost 250. Each year we are able to bring cases of a nice selection of wines directly to the synagogue members and other interested parties. Many people have thanked us for the

opportunity to taste what they are buying; learn a bit about the wines; and conveniently pick, pack, and take their wines home just before *Shabbat*. We thank Potomac Liquors in Georgetown for again making this sale possible and thank all of you who purchased your wines for your *sedarim*.

Health Fair, April 29

The Men's Club, in conjunction with the Adas Israel Sisterhood, is sponsoring a new event this year, Health @ Al: Mind, Body & Soul. Come join us on Sunday, April 29, 9:30 am–12:30 pm in Kay Hall. There will be booths, demonstrations, and activities for all ages–all focused in some fashion on our health. There will be a section on the Mind: Keeping us Safe; the Body: Keeping us fit; and the Soul: Keeping Us Centered–everything from how to help us teach our



children to distinguish candy from medicine to the benefits of red wine and the value of ethical *Kashrut*.

There will be information, giveaways, and a raffle with multiple prizes, including gift certificates and a "critically acclaimed" electronic message kit valued at \$500. Interested in learning more or helping out, please contact us at mensclub@ adasisrael.org.

Yellow Candles Coming, April 14 & 15



Yom HaShoah (April 19)—according to Wikipedia, "Holocaust Remembrance Day, or Holocaust Day is observed as Israel's day of commemoration for the approximately six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust as a result of the actions carried out by Nazi Germany and its accessories, and for the Jewish resistance in that period."

Increasingly, American Jews have been ob-

serving the day in many ways, including the synagogue's Garden of the Righteous Ceremony. Each year, the MC@Al has provided memorial candles to remind members of this event. This year, during the weekend before *Yom HaShoah*, we are distributing candles in yellow bags in the parking lot on *Shabbat* and Sunday morning to all who desire. We encourage the community to join with fellow Jews worldwide to mark this day as a time to teach, a time to reflect, and a time to remember.

Upcoming ActivitiesEnd-of-the-Year Celebration Event Honoring *Kibbutz Hannaton*

Please join us Saturday evening, May 20, at 8:30 pm, for an exceptional black-tie-optional evening of dinner, dancing, and celebration in support of the newly energized Masorti *kibbutz* in Israel, Hannaton.

This is Adas Israel's Ahavat Israel Weekend, and the Men's Club is excited to bring this *kibbutz* to the forefront during the weekend's activities. We will celebrate wines of the region with a tasting of Judean wines, traditional Israeli foods, and special emphasis on what is happening at Hannaton.

Adas Israel has made a five-year commitment to support the *kibbutz*, and this event provides our community with a unique opportunity to learn about its focus on a cutting-edge environmental mission, on the people who live there, and on the difference it is making to the Masorti Movement in Israel. Here's an excerpt from a recent article from the *kibbutz* promoting a new international visitor program on-site:

Our "Judaism and the Environment" seminar provides a unique opportunity for American Jews to focus on critical issues affecting the world we live in, and to experience firsthand how a kibbutz affiliated with the Masorti/Conservative movement, and Israel as a whole, wrestles with these issues from a Jewish perspective. The two-day program, which was created in partnership with the Jewish National Fund and Congregation Adas Israel of Washington, DC, . . . includes both hands-on experiential learning and more traditional text study on issues including water conservation, pollution, climate change, recycling, composting, and nature preservation.

For more information on *Kibbutz* Hannaton and tickets for the evening event, please contact us at *mensclub@adasisrael.org*. In addition to the focus on Israel, there will be a short business meeting to elect the slate of officers for 2012–2013. Please plan to join us for the evening. •

JOIN THE ADAS READERS BOOK GROUP

in reading the award-winning *The Man in the White Sharkskin* Suit by Lucette Lagnado (see review on page 14). All are invited on our "field trip" to hear the author speak about her latest book (a sequel to the *Sharkskin Suit*). Please join us at Politics & Prose on Sunday, April 22, at 1 p.m., for the author's presentation and for coffee afterwards. Copies of this paperback book are available in local libraries, online, and through Politics & Prose (ask for the 20 percent Adas Readers discount). For more information, please contact Robin Jacobson (*librarian@ adasisrael.org*). The Adas Readers group is co-sponsored by the Library Committee and Sisterhood.

Contributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

21st Century Renewal Building Project In Memory Of: Elsie Adler Benn by Yaacov & Herlene Nagler.

Abe, Belle, & Ivan Shefferman Scholar Series Fund

In Memory Of: **Jamie Banker** by Larry Banker & Amy Schmidt.

Anne Frank House Fund

By: U.S. Bancorp Foundation, Orit Frankel & Claude Fontheim, Michael Costello, Ruthanne & Robert Miller, Adas Israel Social Action Fund, Gan Moonbeams class, Judith Rabinowitz & Joel Fischman, United Health Group Employee Giving Fund.

In Honor Of: Aaron & Simon Rosenthal on their 11th birthday by Debra Fried Levi, Christina Sanz, Ayana Machen. Susan Klein becoming a bat mitzvah by Bruce Ray & April Rubin, Bernice & Stan Gedzelman. Sue Ducat & Joe Berman by Amy Fine. Art & Harriet Isack's Simchat Torah honors by Stuart & Jamie Butler. Talya & Ben Schultz by Barbara Baiamonte. In Memory Of: Shirley Abrams by Ken & Roz Doggett. **Marilyn Horowitz** by Andrea Handel. Dorothy D. Berman by Shoshana Riemer. Mary Tempchin by Phyllis Schwartz. Benjamin James Cecil Special Education Fund In Honor Of: Birth of Malena Regina May Friedman by Joe Cecil & Judith Friedman. In Memory Of: Regina K. Friedman by Judith

Bereavement Fund

Friedman.

In Honor Of: Lucy Hassell by Barbara Winnik & family. Birth of Jane and Herb Beller's granddaughter by David & Toni Bickart. In Memory Of: Lucille Klayman by Rabbi Gil Steinlauf. Esreal Danziger by Arnold Danziger. Benjamino Sadun by Joshua Levine. Cantor Saltzman Youth Music Endowment Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of **Keren Saltzman** by Nancy, Daniel & Jory Weiss.

In Memory Of: **Irving Loewenthal, Beatrice Loewenthal, Isaac Goldstein**, all by Michael & Jinny Goldstein.

Charles Pilzer Computer Center

In Memory Of: **Eugene Munves, Carol Sue Zacks, Jean Greenberg Fogel**, all by Geraldine Pilzer.

Congregational Kiddush Fund

By: Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Nussdorf.
In Honor Of: Naming of Dalia Lechter by
Jonathan Lechter & Tamar Schiffman. Adas JDS
graduates, class of 2012 by Johanna Chanin.
In Memory Of: Dr. Norman Bernstein by Nancy
Pearlstein.

Daily Minyan Fund

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Feinberg**'s special birthday by Bill Levenson.

In Memory Of: Irving Gerger by Ricki Gerger. Ida Shwake by Michael & Joyce Stern. Audrey M. Meyer by Bernard Meyer. Elsie Adler Benn by Lorna Grenadier. Hon. David G. Trager by Roberta Weisbrod.

Dan Kaufman Children's Program Fund In Memory Of: Jordan Kaiser by Dale Kaufman. Daryl Reich Rubenstein Staff Development Fund In Memory Of: Daryl Reich Rubenstein by Lee Rubenstein.

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In Memory Of: Rachel Kossow by Betty Sachs. Victor A. Sachse III by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Vivian Obestein by Roger & Renée Fendrich. Garden of the Righteous Fund

In Honor Of: Rabbi Feinberg's birthday, Rabbi Steinlauf's birthday by Saul & Judy Strauch. For The Speedy Recovery Of: Sylvia Fogelman by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: Judie Schapire by Libby & Hans Schapire. Elsie Adler Benn, Dr. Tina Strobos by Saul & Judy Strauch. Elsie Adler Benn by Allan & Bobbie Fried

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In Honor Of: Jon Wilkenfeld's birthday by Jon Wilkenfeld & Suzanne Stutman. Janet Waxman's 70th birthday by Henry & Janet Waxman. Aaron Brooks becoming a bar mitzvah by Bill Levenson.

In Memory Of: **Leah Rabinovich** by Arnie & Mary Hammer.

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Koenig becoming a bar mitzvah by Lisa & Alvin Dunn. Aviva Weinstein's CESJDS high school graduation by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Aaron Brooks becoming a bar mitzvah by Jerry & Kathy Sandler. Jessica Kamen becoming a bat mitzvah by David & Jessica Nemeth.

Men's Club Amuday Torah Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of Jane and Herb Beller's granddaughter, **Tabitha Beller Chew** by Irv & Estelle Jacobs.

For The Speedy Recovery Of: Rabbi Herbert Schwartz by Glenn & Cindy Easton. In Memory Of: Irving Keller, Elsie Adler Benn, Arnold Miller, all by Irv & Estelle Jacobs. Jerome Sorcher by Alan & Dale Sorcher.

Men's Club Fund

In Memory Of: **Mal Rivkin** by Sandy & Adina Mendelson.

Mildred & Israel Hofberg Memorial Fund

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Milton Enael Library Fund

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Rabbi Avis Miller Lifelong Learning Fund In Memory Of: Joel Williams by Karen Lantner. Rabbi Feinberg Discretionary Fund

By: Ricki Gerger, Warren Clark.

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Feinberg** by Jeffrey & Anne Barsky, Barbara Winnik.

Birth of Harriet and Art Isack's granddaughter, **Madeline Mirian Scherr** by Marshall & Arlene Cohen. **Rabbi Feinberg**'s birthday by Larry & Melanie Nussdorf, Jerry & Kathy Sandler.

Contributions Continued

Krayna Feinberg's first Torah reading by Bruce Ray & April Rubin. **Rabbi Charles & Krayna Feinberg** for *Purim* by Carol Aaronson. *In Memory Of*: **Dr. Nathan J. Lipkin** by Chris Sautter & Harriet Lipkin.

Rabbi Jeffrey A. Wohlberg Masorti Fund

In Honor Of: **Tamar Wohlberg**'s *bat mitzvah* by Joel & Rhoda Ganz.

For The Speedy Recovery Of: Glenn Easton, Gail Schwartz by Sydell Sandy. Judy Wohlberg by Sydell Sandy Joel & Rhoda Ganz.

Rabbi Steinlauf Discretionary Fund

By: Benjamin Tauber & Sara Lichtenfeld. In Honor Of: Rabbi Steinlauf by Stanley & Sandy Bobb. Rabbi Steinlauf's birthday by Joshua Bobeck & Susan Glickman. Noah Steinlauf becoming a bar mitzvah by Joel & Rhoda Ganz

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In Honor Of: Birth of Harriet and Art Isack's granddaughter, Madeline Jayne Scherr by Marcia Miller. Aaron Brooks' becoming a bar mitzvah by Mel & Barbara Gelman, Bob & Hazel Keimowitz

In Memory Of: **Irving Keller** by Glenn & Cindy Easton, Stuart & Elinor Tattar. Carol Kaufman by Stuart & Elinor Tattar. Robert C. Harrison, Elsie F. Harrison & Stuart W. Harrison, all by Edward & Arleen Kessler. Elsie Adler Benn by Edward & Arleen Kessler, Gilda Snyder, Sandra Zuckerman, Jane Baldinger, Stuart & Elinor Tattar, Roger & Renée Fendrich, Glenn & Cindy Easton, Don & Gail Roache, Dr. & Mrs. Clement Alpert. **Abraham Tersoff** by David Margolies & Susan Tersoff, Louis L. Rusoff by Don & Gail Roache. Esther Landis Yaverbaum, Joan Yaverbaum Leopold by Jeri Greenberg. Sylvia Weinstein by Judge Paul Weinstein. Mildred Hessel by Arthur Hessel. Sophie Tepper by Edith Hessel. Shirley Joseph, George Cohen by Ellen Cohen. **Dr. Harry Aks** by Vicki Perper. William "Bill" Finglass by Jack Finglass. Ruth Lebow by Irv & Grace Lebow. Samuel I. Block by Judith Block. Max Feldman by Leah Rabinovich (z''). **Ray Firestone** by Ross Firestone.

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In Memory Of: **Herbert Schulman** by Margie, Samantha, & Tabitha Fern.

Siegel-Kalmekoff Family Adult Education Fund In Honor Of: Noah Steinlauf becoming a bar mitzvah, Sandy Koenig becoming bar mitzvah by Margie Siegel.

Shirley Abrams Memorial Fund

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Social Action Fund

In Honor Of: **Glenn Easton**'s birthday by Joshua Bobeck & Susan Glickman.

Social Action Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of Harriet and Art Isack's granddaughter **Madeline Jayne Scherr** by David & Toni Bickart.

In Memory Of: **Dov Bernard Fischman** by Joel Fischman. **Renard Sanders**, **Harriet Bickart** by David & Toni Bickart.

Solar Cookers

By: Joel Fischman & Judith Rabinowitz. In Honor Of: **Russell Munsell**'s special birthday by Lenny & Beth Sloan.

Sophie Silfen Shalom Tinok Fund

In Honor Of: Alexander Schwartz Koenig becoming a bar mitzvah by Nechama Masliansky, David & Jessica Nemeth. Naming of Elise Madeline Gins by Jeffrey & Anne Barsky.

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Tikkun Olam Continued from back page

Solar Cookers for Darfur

Adas Israel raised \$2,690 this year for 90 solar cookers. The conflicts continue in Darfur and in Southern Sudan and the provinces and districts bordering Southern Sudan and Sudan. The need remains great, and we thank Adas members for their continued support of this project.

The congregation has raised almost \$13,000 over the four years that we have linked the *Hanukkah* message of hope



and Jewish survival to our commitment to help the Darfur victims of genocide as they try to survive in refugee and resettlement camps. Rabbi Emeritus Jeffrey Wohlberg first wrote about the solar cooker project in a 2008 *Chronicle*.

Recently, Rachel Andres, coordinator of the Solar Cooker project for Jewish World Watch, spoke to the Adas Hebrew High School students and Jewish Group Homes residents. Jewish World Watch is dedicated to helping worldwide victims of genocide and advocating on their behalf.



UNITED TO END GENOCIDE

DARFUR/SUDAN RALLY at LAFAYETTE PARK SUNDAY April 29, 2012 1:30-3:30 PM

What: Join the Darfur Interfaith Network (DIN), United To End Genocide and concerned citizens for our third annual Hope for Darfur/Justice in Sudan Rally, to call attention to the continuing plight of innocent citizens in Darfur, Abyei, Nuba Mtns, Blue Nile, Beja and Nubia and the need for justice and peace in all Sudan.

Where: The march will start at the Metropolitan AME Church, 1518 M Street, N.W., and proceed to the White House at Lafayette Park. In case of inclement weather, the rally will remain at Metropolitan AME Church.

WHY: To shine a spotlight on the continuing violence in many target regions of Sudan to let them know they are not alone or forgotten. Also, to raise money for a new kitchen for a school in Turalie, South Sudan so they will continue to qualify to receive food from the World Food Program which would provide for a daily nutritious meal for the students, probably their only meal of the day.

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE RALLY!

Visit hope4darfurrally.org for registration, speakers, and updates on musical performances.



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Tikkun Olam

Adas Israel Volunteers for DC Housing Renovation, May 6

Join the Adas Israel–Yachad team to assist with prep, painting, and other badly needed repairs to the home of a 61-year-old DC neighbor who has lived there for 26 years and takes care of her six-year-old granddaughter. Her cousin, 64, recently moved in after surgery and is living in the basement. No special skills are necessary, only the desire to help improve the lives of others in a lasting and tangible way! Volunteers are asked to commit to working at the house from approximately 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, or for at least half a day (a four- or five-hour morning or afternoon shift).

Plan to volunteer on May 6 as we work side-by-side with the family to make the home safer and more habitable for all three members of the family; contact Ed Kopf, *ej@kopf.com* or 301-907-9174, to sign up. Don't have house repair experience? Don't worry! Our very own Ethan Landesman is leading the volunteers and teaching you whatever needs to be done.

We can truly share the experience of *tikkun* olam (repairing the world) and *gemilut hasidim* (acts of lovingkindness). •