



ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

# Chronicle

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TEVET-SHEVAT 5773

## דובר אמת Dover Emet Speaking the Truth

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

In November, my family and I participated in the Food Stamp Challenge. For one week, we agreed to live on the amount of money allotted to those who must eat through the food stamp program. The total amount per person for the week was \$31.50. I have to admit, I was cavalier about this challenge before I began. After all, I'm a vegetarian! I was confident that I could happily live on rice and beans for a whole week. Of course, the experience proved to be more challenging than I expected. First of all, rice and beans—even for a die-hard herbivore like me, gets old. Second, my health-nut sensibilities were shocked when I discovered that the only food that I could afford to purchase at the supermarket was of lower quality, more processed, and decidedly less healthy than the Whole Foods fare I had become accustomed to.

Very quickly, I gained some

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## Dr. Martin Luther King Weekend, Jan. 18–20 Tikkun Olam Weekend, Featuring Shem Tov Award Honoring the Bubes Family This Year's Theme: 'The Crisis in Homelessness'

Each year, in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Adas Israel highlights an important social justice issue in our society. This year we focus on the "Crisis in Homelessness and the Lack of Affordable Housing" in our community. Over the weekend we will learn how different organizations and individuals are addressing this crisis, and how we as individuals and as part of a community can help to alleviate the conditions that lead to homelessness.

During our January 18 Friday evening service, at 8:00 pm, Adas Israel will honor David and Harriet Bubes and Alan and Nancy Bubes with our prestigious *Shem Tov* Award. Among

their many contributions to our community, the Bubes family has been a generous supporter of YACHAD-DC. Audrey Lyons, executive director of YACHAD-DC, will discuss the crisis in affordable housing during this service.



Audrey Lyons



David Bowers



Jean-Michele Giraud

attorney with extensive experience in housing and community development. Before coming to YACHAD, she was director and senior attorney

**Audrey Lyons,** is executive director of YACHAD-DC, which rebuilds urban neighborhoods by repairing homes, nonprofit facilities, and storefronts in the greater Washington, DC, area. Lyons is an

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## Breaking News: Gan HaYeled Nursery School to Offer FULL-DAY Program!



By popular demand, Gan HaYeled, DC's premiere synagogue nursery school, is expanding its classes to include two full-day program classes for the 2013–2014 school year! Children who are age two by

September 1, 2013, can sign up for classes, which run from 8 am to 6 pm.

For more information, contact Gan Director Sheri Brown, 202-362-4491 or [Sheri.Brown@adasisrael.org](mailto:Sheri.Brown@adasisrael.org).

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THE CHRONICLE IS SUPPORTED IN  
PART BY THE ETHEL AND NAT POPICK  
ENDOWMENT FUND

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# Clergy Corner



Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

## DOVER EMET CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

personal insight on the obesity and type 2 diabetes epidemic in this country, where the vast majority of Americans can only afford fast and highly processed junk food. In many ways, a week on the Food Stamp Challenge reminded me of our dietary changes on Passover. I certainly don't enjoy eating *matzah*, but I do it every year. At the *seder*, I hold up the *matzah* and say, "*Ha Lachma Anya*," "This is the bread of poverty..." On Passover, it's symbolic. On the Food Stamp Challenge, it became literal. There were times that I worried about my participation in this challenge. After all, might some people who have really lived on food stamps find the whole thing to be condescending in a noblesse oblige kind of way? I decided to do it anyway because this challenge was being taken up by rabbis and other Jewish community leaders across the country the week before Thanksgiving. I did this in my capacity as a spiritual leader in a position to derive insights and inspiration for *tikkun olam* for others. I did this because I sought to find the Torah in the Food Stamp Challenge.

In the Book of *Genesis*, we read the story of how Jacob stole his father's blessing of the firstborn from his brother Esau. When you look at the words of that stolen blessing, it's really a blessing all about abundance. Isaac blesses Jacob with a life living off the fat of the land and the dew of heaven. Unfortunately, Jacob was anything but a believer in the abundance of God or of life. Everything about his character was all about scarcity. He struggled for birthrights and blessings with his older brother. When he runs away from home, and even when God blesses Jacob at the top of "Jacob's ladder" with a similar blessing of abundance, Jacob can only express conditional and narrow faith in God. In many ways, the journey of Jacob's entire life is about trusting the blessing of abundance he received from his father. When he makes his way back to Mesopotamia, to Haran, his whole adult life is defined by struggle and scarcity: struggle over marrying two sisters, the duplicity and deception of his uncle, manipulation and stealing from family members, struggle and hatred among his children. The struggle of Jacob's life doesn't begin to resolve itself until he has returned to Israel after 20 years in exile. Alone in the dark night, he struggles with an "*Ish*," a mysterious "man," an angel of God (or was it Esau himself?). He wrestles all night with the man, until the man begs to be released before the break of dawn, and Jacob says, "I won't let you go until you bless me!" The man/angel then blesses him and confers upon him the name Yisrael, meaning "He who has struggled with beings Divine and human, and has prevailed." The next morning, the wounded Jacob/Yisrael finally meets face to face with his dreaded brother Esau for the first time in two decades. Rather than expressing hatred and violence, the two brothers embrace. Jacob/Yisrael offers Esau a gift, and Esau refuses. Jacob/Yisrael presses him and

## Office Closings & Minyan Times

Tuesday, January 1, New Year's Day

Schools/Offices Closed

Monday, January 21, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Schools/Offices Closed

Minyan at 9:00 am & 6:00 pm

says, "*Kach et birchati*," "Take my blessing" (!) for God has been gracious to me, and "*Yesh li Kol*," "I have everything."

Finally, after all those years of stealing, deception, and struggle, Jacob is wounded and limited, but now he understands that he had never needed to steal the blessing from his brother in the first place! He finally came to understand that the blessing of abundance was always his. He came to know that he is the blessing, it was always his birthright and his deepest truth. Jacob, the man who had to steal in his sense of scarcity, now said, "Take my blessing," to his brother—"Take it. I don't need it. I have everything. Enough to go around. Enough even to give away."

The Torah I learned from the Food Stamp Challenge was not a message about scarcity, but about abundance. For that week, I didn't starve. There was always plenty of food, even on my tight budget. In fact, there was abundance! The scarcity in my life that I did discover, however, was the spiritual scarcity of living in the upper economic echelons of society. Living in my comfortable Cleveland Park existence, I have come to see that my very sense of entitlement was a *metzar*, a spiritual narrow-straight that cuts me off from true abundance. I didn't like eating white-flour spaghetti out of a box twice in one week. I was annoyed when I couldn't just grab lunch on my way back to *shul* from a meeting off site. My very expectation of getting what I want has narrowed my capacity for compassion itself.

During my week, I spoke to many people in the congregation about the experience, and they had remarkable stories of their own to share. One woman told me how she drives to work every day through a very poor neighborhood where people walk up to cars and ask for handouts. One day, she had an apple and handed to the individual. Inspired, she decided to buy lots of fruit and vegetables and snacks to hand out every morning. Her husband was proud of her, but also concerned that, as a woman alone in an unsafe neighborhood, it might be dangerous to roll down her window to strangers. She appreciated that concern, but ended the conversation by observing that each morning, it's not those driving Priuses and Mercedes and SUVs who roll down their windows for these people. It's all too often the people driving battered old cars who do it. She wondered whether the drivers of those cars who understand what it's like not to have food because perhaps they are poor or have been there themselves. And I wonder whether those people in the battered old cars truly understand Jacob's words, "*Yesh li Kol*," "I have everything," better than we in our nice cars do.

On another day, I was walking along K Street, heading to a meeting. I was late. I passed a woman walking down the street asking over and over, "Can someone please get me something to eat?" I observed myself at that moment—astonished!—as I kept walking on past that woman, feeling pressed for time;

# Holidays

## Tu B'Shevat, 5773

*Tu B'Shevat*—the New Year for Trees—is a time when trees start drinking the New Year's rainwater and the sun renews itself. As the Jewish Arbor Day, *Tu B'Shevat* embodies the strong dedication to ecology, environmentalism, and conservation the Jewish National Fund (JNF) has championed since its inception in 1901. This year, *Tu B'Shevat* (the 15th of *Shevat*) falls on Saturday, January 26.

On the third day of creation, God created "seed-bearing plants, fruit trees after their kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it" (*Genesis* 1:11). God then put Adam in the garden to "till it and tend it" (2:15), making humans stewards of the earth.

According to the *Mishna*, where it is first mentioned, *Tu B'Shevat* is the date farmers used to calculate the year's crop yield and determine the tithe the Bible requires. It also marks the begin-

ning of the third year and end of four years of a tree's growth, during which we are forbidden to eat its fruit.

Since its founding, JNF has planted more than 240 million trees in Israel to protect the land, prevent soil erosion, green the landscape, and preserve vital ecosystems. The trees maintain forest health, combat desertification, protect watersheds, and manage water flow. Additionally, they create a "green lung" to combat carbon dioxide emissions in the region.

JNF's success at planting trees in Israel has resulted in naturally expanded forests and reclaimed deserts. To help with the tree-planting initiative, visit the Jewish National Fund's website, [www.jnf.org](http://www.jnf.org), for more information or to make a donation.

Celebrating *Tu B'Shevat* with a *seder* has become traditional for families and congregations around the world. During a *Tu B'Shevat seder*, we bless and eat seven species of fruits and grains from Israel—wheat, barley, grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives, and dates (*Deuteronomy* 8:8). It is also customary to dance the *Mayim*, the Jewish dance for water, during a *Tu B'Shevat seder*. ○



*You're invited to Adas Israel's  
Second Night  
Community Seder!*

**Tuesday, March 26, 7:00 pm**

RSVP to Carol Ansell, [carol.ansell@adasisrael.org](mailto:carol.ansell@adasisrael.org)

Supported by the Marilyn & Stefan Tucker  
Program Fund

## Purim Schedule

**SATURDAY, FEB. 23: EREV PURIM**

**5:30 pm** *Mincha*

**6:30 pm** TEM Family *Megillah* Reading

**6:30 pm** YP Wine & Cheesentaschen

**8:00 pm** Congregational Full *Megillah* Reading and *Purim Shpiel*

**SUNDAY FEB. 24: PURIM**

**10:00 am** *Megillah* Madness, Abbreviated *Megillah* Reading with *Shpiel* for elementary and middle school age families.

With Rabbi Holtzblatt, Cantor Brown, Josh Bender

**10:30 am** Abbreviated Preschool *Megillah* Reading with *Shpiel*. With Rabbi Steinlauf and Sheri Brown

**11:00 am** PM *Purim* Carnival, Parade, and Costume Contest

## DOVER EMET CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

feeling that I hardly had any money at all in my wallet. I was in shock with my callousness for two whole blocks before I, with great effort, stopped in my tracks. I turned around. By now the woman was a tiny figure off in the distance. I bolted into a sprint until I caught up with her. I opened my wallet and handed her the one dollar bill I had in it. She said, "Thank you." I said, "You're welcome," but even as I said that, it felt wrong. She doesn't need to thank me! I'm privileged to be able to give her what I had, and sorry that it took me so long to realize that *Yesh li Kol*, that I have everything, that I AM abundance, with enough blessing in my life to give.

With the Food Stamp Challenge, I have been given a gift and blessing, not a lack at all. I have been given the blessing of being a child of Yisrael. I pray that I will live up to the lesson of this experience, which is the deepest lesson of Torah and all of Judaism. ○

## Cantor Brown to Perform at the Jewish Film Festival

**Jan. 7, 5:30 pm, Washington DCJCC**



As part of the Washington Jewish Film Festival, Cantor Arianne Brown will introduce *The Cantor's Son*, directed by Ilya Motyleff and Sidney Goldin (uncredited) (90 min., USA, 1937, Yiddish with English subtitles), on Monday, January 7, at 5:30 pm at the DCJCC. As part of her introduction, Cantor Brown will sing a duet in Yiddish with

Cantor Elisheva Dienstfrey from Agudas Achim. ○



# Education

## Gan HaYeled

**Presenting . . . John Henry, child entertainer, singer and preschool wonder . . .**

Adas Israel Congregation, in conjunction with Gan HaYeled, is welcoming well-loved child entertainer John Henry. He's guaranteed to get your little one(s) jumping and singing and to provide a break from the January blues! Take advantage of this unique opportunity to meet other Adas Israel families and our preschool families.

**Date:** Sunday, January 27

**Doors open:** 9:30 am

**Showtime:** 10:00 am

**Location:** Cohen-Wolpe Hall (Gan Space)

**Cost:** \$5/family

Register (preferred but not required) at [www.adasisrael.org/gan](http://www.adasisrael.org/gan).

### Open House for Prospective Families

Come learn about the wonderful opportunities here at the Gan for you and your children! We will have open houses for prospective families on Wednesday, January 9, and Tuesday, January 22, 9:30–11:00 am. For more information about the Gan, please contact Sheri Brown, [Sheri.Brown@adasisrael.org](mailto:Sheri.Brown@adasisrael.org).

### 2012–2013 Registration

Registration for the 2012–2013 school year begins in January. Take advantage of your Adas Israel membership during priority registration for members, January 7–10. Registration for current families is January 11–16, and open registration begins January 17.

## January Religious School/Youth Calendar

- 1:** Last Day of Winter Break
- 2:** Classes Resume
- 5:** Kadima Saturday Night Live
- 6:** USY & Kadima Basketball Starts
- 11:** L'Dor VaDor Service & Dinner
- 12:** Shabbat Unplugged; USY Formal at Beth El
- 13:** Chugim (Specials) for Grades 3–6; B'nai Mitzvah in 2015–2016 Parent Meeting, 10:00 am
- 19:** Kadima Does Broomball
- 20:** MLK Jr. Weekend—No School; Machar Ice Skating on the Mall
- 21:** MLK Jr. Day of Service
- 26:** Tu B'Shevat; USY Event
- 27:** Tu B'Shevat Celebration; Chugim (Specials) for grades 3–6

## Religious School

### Shabbat Unplugged Musical Family Service, Jan. 12

If you enjoy the High Holy Day family service, you will enjoy Shabbat Unplugged, a musical family service for elementary-school-age families. Shabbat Unplugged meets Saturday, January 12, at 10:45 am and is led by Josh Bender, director of education, and Elie Greenberg, director of informal programming.

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 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. ○

► Cantor Brown shows sixth-grade parents and students the Torah for Limud B'Yachad, as part of the religious school's family education program.



## Introducing Elana Woolf



We welcome Elana Woolf as our new education office administrator. Elana is a recent graduate of the Johns Hopkins University School of Education, where she earned a master's in counseling. Elana previously worked with Montgomery County Public Schools.

Adas Israel welcomed Elana and her family to the United States in 1987 after they emigrated from Russia. Elana attended the Gan and she is thrilled to return to her roots. ○

"From generation to generation. . ."

## Back to Skul

# L'Dor VaDor

## Service & Dinner

and GAGA Tournament!

Join us for a Shabbat experience for all generations with a Friday night service and Shabbat dinner. Services led by the clergy with the help of our children. Feel free to bring your own kosher wine to enjoy!

**Friday, January 11**

6:00pm – Service

7:00pm – Dinner

7:45 – GAGA Tournament

\$19.95 – Adult Dinner (11 and above)

\$14.95 – Child Dinner (Ages 3–10)

Children 2 and under eat FREE!

Financial Assistance Available. Please contact Josh Bender at (202) 362-4449 or [josh.bender@adasisrael.org](mailto:josh.bender@adasisrael.org).

RSVP by Wednesday Nov 7 at 11 am

Register Online at <http://adasisrael.org/ldorvador> (202) 362-4433

[Carol.Ansell@adasisrael.org](mailto:Carol.Ansell@adasisrael.org)

# Sisterhood

## Torah Fund: 5773 Campaign Currently Underway

The Torah Fund Campaign of Women's League for Conservative Judaism provides an opportunity to perpetuate Conservative/Masorti Judaism. Today please make a contribution of any size, payable to "Torah Fund," and mail it to Mrs. Gerry Lezell, c/o Sisterhood, Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec St., NW, Washington, DC 20008- 5296. Those contributing at least \$36 will be honored at a local Women's League reception **April 14**. Those donating \$180 or more will receive this year's Torah Fund pin.



**Membership is growing.** The response to our 5773 membership drive has been very gratifying. We now have nearly 150 members. Please join the ranks of dedicated women who make Sisterhood a part of their lives. Send a check for \$36 or more, payable to Adas Israel Sisterhood, to Mrs. Maria Laszlo Sloan, c/o Sisterhood, Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec St., NW Washington, DC 20008- 5296. ○

## Women's League Convention

By Myra Promisel

More than 400 members of Women's League for Conservative Judaism gathered last month in Las Vegas, NV, for four days (December 2–5) of extended learning, sharing, and fun with Conservative/Masorti women from across North America and Israel.



Focused on the theme of *Uri, Uri*—Awake, Greet the New Dawn, the program included:

- Keynote address, "Being a Conservative Jew: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," by Rabbi Elliot Dorff
- "Gangsters, Glitz & Gilda," a dazzling evening that celebrated the arts, both high and popular
- Unveiling of the new Women's League Strategic Plan to define WLCJ as a vital network for all Conservative Jewish women
- Jewel in the Crown Awards to sisterhoods that demonstrated their commitment, excellence, and creativity in programming
- Celebration of 70 years of Torah Fund with a presentation by JTS Chancellor Arnold Eisen
- Report on the Convention's *Tikkun Olam* project to help veterans, which raised over \$21,000
- Installation of officers and board, including our own **Myra Promisel** as Women's League financial secretary and other local women, Rita Wertlieb (Har Shalom) as president and Gail Goldfarb (B'nai Shalom of Olney) as vice president. ○

## Sisterhood Nights at the Movies: Jan. 6 and 7

In its second annual Night at the Movies, Sisterhood invites members, families, and friends to screenings of not one but two films in the Washington Jewish Film Festival, taking place January 3–13.

## Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

### SHOP HOURS

**Sun.–Mon., Wed.–Fri.:** 9:30 am–12:30 pm

**Tues.:** 9:30 am–3:00 pm and 6:15–8:00 pm

During this anxiety-provoking time, please know that we are doing all we can to support Israel. Come and see the beautiful Israeli products we feature and purchase one or more for yourself, your family, or your friends.



**202-364-2888**

**adasgiftshop@gmail.com**

**Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.**

*From the Black You Make Color*, a documentary, tells the story of eight women on the margins of Israeli society as they make their way through a year of study at Tel Aviv's oldest beauty academy.

**Sunday, Jan. 6, at 2:45 pm, at the Carnegie Institution for Science, 1530 P Street, NW.** Afterward, Sisterhood is hosting a moderated discussion with dessert and coffee at the DCJCC.

*The Cantor's Son* is a Yiddish film with English subtitles, featuring legendary Cantor Moishe Oysher in his film debut. The film portrays the rise to stardom of a wayward young Polish *shtetl* immigrant who washes floors in a nightclub, is discovered, and becomes a well-known singer. Adas Cantor Arianne Brown, who has a special interest in Yiddish music, will introduce the film and sing a duet in Yiddish with Cantor Elisheva Dienstfrey, from Agudas Achim. **Monday, January 7, at 5:30 pm at the DCJCC.**

For more information, contact Elizabeth Sloan, chair, [elizabeth@caringcouples.com](mailto:elizabeth@caringcouples.com). ○

## Sisterhood Upcoming Events—Save the Dates

**Sunday, January 13:** "Book Chat" featuring member Faye Moskowitz (see article elsewhere in this issue), Library, 10:30 am

**Tuesday, January 15:** *Taste of Tanach* with Rabbi Steinlauf, Library, 10 am

**Saturday February 23:** Sisterhood *Shabbat* returns. Contact chairs June Kress ([kress@courtofexcellence.org](mailto:kress@courtofexcellence.org)) to *leyn* or *daven*



# Shem Tov Shabbat Honors Bubes Family, January 18



David & Harriet Bubes



Alan & Nancy Bubes

Adas Israel Congregation is pleased to announce the selection of Harriet and David Bubes and Nancy and Alan Bubes as our 2013 *Shem Tov* honorees.

The highest and most respected award bestowed by the congregation upon a well-deserving member, the *Shem Tov* (Good Name) award has as its inspiration the passage in the *Ethics of Our Fathers* that reads: "There are three crowns within one's reach—that of Torah, that of priesthood, and that of royalty. The crown of a Good Name, however, excels them all."

For 60 years, Adas Israel has awarded this meaningful honor to members who have demonstrated justice, charity, and humility, among them Nat Popick, father and grandfather of this year's honorees.

The *Shem Tov* award will be presented during the 8:00 pm *Shabbat* service on Friday, January 18, followed by a dessert *Oneg Shabbat* reception in honor of the Bubes family. During this special service, we will hear about the impact this multigenerational family has had on our congregation and community.

Before the evening service, a *Shabbat* dinner with the Bubes family, friends, synagogue members, and families of previous *Shem Tov* honorees will be held at the synagogue beginning at 6:30 pm. The dinner is \$28 per adult (\$20 children under 12). Dinner will begin promptly with *kiddush* at 6:30 pm. If you would

like to attend, RSVP to Carol Ansell in the synagogue office, 202-362-4433 or [Carol.Ansell@adasisrael.org](mailto:Carol.Ansell@adasisrael.org), by Monday, January 7. No RSVP is required to join us for the service and dessert reception.

We look forward to your joining us for this special evening. ○

## Adas Weekend End Retreat

**Where:** Capital Camps, Waynesboro, PA

**When:** Friday, March 15 to Sunday, March 17

**Theme:** Complex Biblical Heroes: Joseph, David, and Esther

**Cost:** \$235 per person

Sign up by March 1 at [www.adasisrael.org](http://www.adasisrael.org).

## MLK WEEKEND CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ney with Lawyers Committee for Better Housing, a Chicago housing advocacy organization.

On Saturday, January 19, David Bowers of Enterprise Community Partners and an ordained minister will speak during the Saturday morning service about the Hebrew Bible's concern for the poor and the homeless. Following *kiddush* lunch, Jean-Michel Giraud, executive director of the Community Council for the Homeless, and our own Nechama Masliansky will respond to Bowers's presentation. There will be time for questions and answers as well.

**David Bowers** is vice president and Washington, DC, market leader for Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. Enterprise works to create and preserve affordable housing in Washington, through grants, technical assistance, and a range of financial products. His work includes facilitating affordable housing and community development deals in collaboration with government agencies, lenders, and area for-profit and nonprofit developers. In addition, his office provides capacity building and technical assistance to local nonprofit developers. Enterprise's Washington office also participates with local coalitions advocating for

increased resources for affordable housing and community development.

On Sunday, January 20, at 10 am, we are all invited to be the guests of Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ at its special Sunday Service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Adas Israel clergy will participate in this service.

For more details or up-to-date information, or to sign up for an activity, please visit our website, [www.adasisrael.org](http://www.adasisrael.org), or contact Beth Ann Spector, [beth-ann.spector@adasisrael.org](mailto:beth-ann.spector@adasisrael.org).

For more information on all of the weekend's events, contact Rabbi Feinberg, Joel Fischman, or Nechama Masliansky. ○

## Weekend Schedule

### Friday, January 13

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

**6:30 pm:** Congregational *Shabbat* Dinner with guests of allied organizations: Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ (PCUCC), Anne Frank House, SOME, N Street Village, Community Council for Homeless, Washington Jewish Group Homes (RSVP for dinner to Carol Ansell, 202-362-4433; \$28 adults/\$20 children under 10)

**8:00 pm:** *Tikkun Olam & Shem Tov* Service, featuring *Shem Tov* honorees the Bubes Family and Audrey Lyon, Executive Director of Yachad DC, followed by congregational *oneg*

### Saturday, January 14

**9:30 am:** *Shabbat* morning services, *d'var Torah* by David Bowers, vice president and Washington, DC, market leader for Enterprise Community Partners; followed by *kiddush*

**1:00 pm:** Discussion of the Crisis of Homelessness in the District featuring Jean-Michel Giraud, executive director of the Community Council for the Homeless, and Nechama Masliansky, advocate at SOME

### Sunday, January 15

**10:00 am:** We have all been invited to participate at Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ, 4704 13th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20011 at 10:00 am.

# Life Cycle

## Milestones

### Births

Ethan Laurence Berman, son of Jacqueline & Jon Berman  
Brady Max Laskin, son of Dr. Ben Lewis Laskin & Dr. Marissa Perman, grandson of Alan Laskin  
Ruth Anna, daughter of Lori & Martin Weinstein  
Linus James Schaeffer Levin, son of Daniel Levin & Cassandra Schaeffer

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

### Marriages

Mazal tov to Janet Kolodner on the marriage of her son, Josh Klein, to Rebecca Murrow, in Omaha, NE, on November 11.  
*We wish the newlyweds and their families a life of joy, good health, and connection to the Jewish community.*

## B'nai Mitzvah



### Michael Fensterheim, January 5

Michael, son of Julie Hoffman and David Fensterheim, began his Jewish education at GanHaYeled and is currently a seventh grader at Westland Middle School. He is excited about celebrating this special moment in his life with his sister, Emma; his grandparents, Alvin Fensterheim, Nancy and Richard Hoffman, and Rose and

Norman Levine; and other family members and friends.



### Isaac Meltsner, January 12

Isaac, son of Lisa Kleine and Jim Meltsner, is a seventh grader at Georgetown Day School. He began his Jewish education at Gan HaYeled and was a student at the Melvin Gelman Religious School. He celebrates his *bar mitzvah* with his older sisters, Amanda and Maya; his grandparents, Barbara and Edward

Meltsner and Robert and Suzanne Kleine; and other family and friends.



### Alexander Edward Chill,

January 26

Alex, a seventh grader at Argyle Middle School, is the son of Nancy and Adam Chill and the granddaughter of Elinor and Stuart Tattar and Barbara and the late Donald Chill. Alex attends religious school at B'nai Shalom of Olney. Marking four

generations, Alex's mother, aunt, sister, grandmother, and great-grandfather (Norman Freudberg, z"l, at 6th and I), celebrated their *b'nai mitzvah* at Adas Israel. He joyfully shares his *simcha* with his sister, Stephanie, and many other family members and friends.

## New Members

**Jonathan & Jacqueline Berman** live in Washington. Jon is a attorney with the DC Government, and Jackie is an attorney at Morgan, Lewis and Bockius, LLP.

**Eric & Holly Danko** Live in Washington. Eric is a lobbyist at AIPAC, and Holly works in financial management at Seneca One.

**Ian Halpern & Sarah Wildman** and their daughter, Orli, live in Washington, where Ian is an energy efficiency consultant, and Sarah is a journalist.

**Arielle Ismail** lives in Washington and works at the Phillips Collection.

**Leora Kaplan** is a public relations account executive at Hellerman Baretz and lives in Washington.

**Jesse Mayer**, executive assistant at the Boston Consulting Group, lives in Washington.

**Beth Slavet** lives in Washington, where she is an attorney.

**Sabrina Sojourner** is a life coach, a *Sh'liach Tzibur*, and lives in Washington.

## In Memoriam

### ***We mourn the loss of synagogue member:***

Pearl G. Weissler

### ***We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:***

Edwin Berger, Step-father of Peter Bass  
Roslyn Blatt, Mother of Cynthia Rosenberg  
Herbert Kean, Father of Edward Kean  
Esther Silverman, Mother of Mark Silverman  
Ian Butler, Brother of Stuart Butler  
Joseph Gichner, husband of Sonya, father of Judi Kauffman and Bette Callen

## 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 Carole Klein. After business hours, a staff member on call may be reached by calling the synagogue office at the number above and pressing "2" to be connected automatically, or by calling the answering service, 301-421-5271, which will page the staff member on call. On *Yom Tov* and *Shabbat*, even though detailed funeral arrangements should not be made, a staff member on call can still be reached at 301-421-5271.

### **Bereavement Committee**

The Bereavement Committee assists families with all of the arrangements surrounding the funeral and subsequent burial of loved ones. We welcome your interest and encourage your participation and assistance. We need you; please join us. If you have questions, or know of someone whom you think might be interested in participating in this important work, please feel free to call either Jane Beller (301-518-2275) or Edie Hessel (202-244-7189) or contact Toni Bickart (202-244-2747) regarding the *Tahara* Committee.

### **Cemetery Hours**

Visitation at the Adas Israel Cemetery is by appointment only. Contact Carole Klein at the synagogue office (202-362-4433) to schedule a visit. ○

# January 2013

## Tevet–Shevat 5773

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

**In the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary:** Interim Ritual Director, Naomi Malka will be co-sponsored by the Paul Goldstein–Lillian Goldstein–Lande Shabbat Kiddush Fund.

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

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

**Youth Shabbat Services:** Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>30</b> 17 Tevet 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:45 am Mindful Yoga 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>31</b> 18 Tevet 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>1</b> 19 Tevet 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>2</b> 20 Tevet 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>3</b> 21 Tevet 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
<b>6</b> 24 Tevet 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 10:45 am Hebrew I 10:45 am JMCW Mindful Yoga 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>7</b> 25 Tevet 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>8</b> 26 Tevet 7:30 am Morning Minyan 12:00 pm Downtown Study Group with Rabbi Holtzblatt (offsite) 1:00 pm JSSA Job Search Group 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Course 7:00 pm JMCW Meditation Session	<b>9</b> 27 Tevet 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:30 am Gan Open House 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting	<b>10</b> 28 Tevet 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
<b>13</b> 2 Shevat 9:00 am Morning Minyan 9:30 am 5776 B'nai Mitzvah Parents—Coffee with Rabbi Steinlauf 10:00 am 5776 B'nai Mitzvah Parents Meeting 10:00 am Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class 10:30 am Adas Book Group Discussion 10:45 am Hebrew I 10:45 am Mindful Yoga 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>14</b> 3 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Social Action Committee Meeting (offsite)	<b>15</b> 4 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Sisterhood Taste of Tanach 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Course 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session 7:30 pm Budget and Finance Committee Meeting	<b>16</b> 5 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Religious Practices Committee Meeting 7:00 pm JSC Classes	<b>17</b> 6 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
<b>20</b> 9 Shevat 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:45 am Mindful Yoga 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>21</b> 10 Shevat 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>22</b> 11 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Course 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session	<b>23</b> 12 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm JSC Classes	<b>24</b> 13 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
<b>27</b> 16 Shevat 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Gan Sunday Morning Concert 10:45 am Hebrew I 10:45 am JMCW Mindful Yoga 2:00 pm Concert with Ashira hosted by the Sisterhood 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>28</b> 17 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan	<b>29</b> 18 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm Conversion Course 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session	<b>30</b> 19 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7:00 pm JSC Classes	<b>31</b> 20 Shevat 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan



entering services.  
 read Torah. Congregational *kiddushim*  
 and members of Adas Israel.  
 the Torah service around 10:30  
 participatory service with a full  
 of the weekly Torah portion, and a  
 lead services, read Torah,  
 the service. For additional  
 led by Menuhah Peters. *Netivot*,

for students in grades K–3, is led by Linda Yitzchak, Allison Redisch, Rina Bardin, and/or Naomi Michaelis. Junior  
 Congregation, for grades 4–6, is led by David Smolar and/or the Steinsaltz Ambassadors. **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](mailto:librarian@adasisrael.org)).

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>21 Tevet</b> Morning Minyan Evening Minyan	<b>4</b> 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 6:30 pm Shir Delight Oneg 7:30 pm Shir Delight Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt 8:30 pm Shir Delight Dinner <b>22 Tevet</b> 4:40 pm	<b>5 PARSHAT SHEMOT</b> 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Smith Shabbat Service; Bar Mitzvah: Michael Fensterheim; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Mel Gelman 11:00 am Tot Shabbat <b>23 Tevet</b> 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by the Fensterheim family 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 4:30 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 5:40 pm Havdalah
<b>28 Tevet</b> Morning Minyan Evening Minyan	<b>11</b> 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:30 am Steinlauf & Starbucks 11:20 am Shabbat Sing—Children Only 5:30 pm L'Dor VaDor Oneg 6:00 pm L'Dor Va Dor Shabbat Service with Cantor Brown & Rabbi Steinlauf 7:00 pm L'Dor Va Dor Dinner <b>29 Tevet</b> 4:47 pm	<b>12 PARSHAT VA'ERA/ROSH CHODESH SHEVAT</b> 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:15 am Smith Shabbat Service; Bar Mitzvah: Isaac Meltsner; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 10:45 am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by the Meltsner family <b>1 Shevat</b> 4:45 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 5:47 pm Havdalah
<b>6 Shevat</b> Morning Minyan Evening Minyan	<b>18</b> 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:45 pm Gan Family Shabbat Dinner 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Cantor Brown & Rabbi Steinlauf 6:30 pm Shem Tov/Congregational Shabbat Dinner 6:30 pm Gan Family Shabbat Service with Rabbi Feinberg & Robin Helzner 8:00 pm Maariv & Shem Tov Service honoring the Bubes family; Guest Speaker Audrey Lyon <b>7 Shevat</b> 4:54 pm	<b>19 PARSHAT BO</b> 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Smith Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by David Bowers 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by the congregation 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush <b>8 Shevat</b> 4:45 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 5:54 pm Havdalah
<b>13 Shevat</b> Morning Minyan Evening Minyan	<b>25</b> 7:30 am Morning Minyan 11:20 am Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg Light Candles at 5:02 pm 6:00 pm Musical Shabbat Shira Kabbalat Shabbat with Ashira; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 6:30 pm Ruach Minyan Service 7:30 pm Ruach Minyan Dinner <b>14 Shevat</b> 4:31 pm	<b>26 PARSHAT BESHALLAH/SHABBAT SHIRAH/</b> <b>TU B'SHEVAT</b> 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Musical Smith Shabbat Service with Ashira; Bar Mitzvah: Alexander Chill; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 10:00 am Learners' Minyan with Rabbi Feinberg 11:00 am Tot Shabbat <b>15 Shevat</b> 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by the Chill family 5:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 6:02 pm Havdalah
<b>20 Shevat</b> Morning Minyan Evening Minyan	<b>1</b> 7:30 am Morning Minyan 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Holtzblatt 6:30 pm Shir Delight Oneg 7:30 pm Shir Delight Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 8:30 pm Shir Delight Dinner <b>21 Shevat</b> 5:10 pm	<b>2 PARSHAT YITRO</b> 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Smith Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush sponsored by the congregation <b>22 Shevat</b> 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 5:15 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 6:10 pm Havdalah

## Library Corner

### *The Lady in Gold*

by Robin Jacobson



Her shimmering golden image adorns countless greeting cards, calendars, and posters. Revered as the “Austrian *Mona Lisa*,” the gold leaf portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I by Gustav Klimt is one of the most famous paintings in the world.

*The Lady in Gold* (available in our library) by journalist Anne-Marie O'Connor traces the fascinating,

tangled history of the Adele Bloch-Bauer portrait. Painted in the glory days of turn-of-the-20th-century Vienna, treasured by a grieving widower, stolen by the Nazis, claimed by Austria's National Museum, recovered by the Bloch-Bauer heirs, and ultimately sold for a record-breaking \$135 million, the portrait is now the showpiece of the Neue Galerie in New York City. Yet some ask whether posterity might have been better served by keeping the painting in its homeland, displayed with other Klimt works. On the other hand, some would say Austria forfeited any moral right to claim the paintings as national patrimony when it persecuted their owners and lied to their heirs.

#### **The Artist and the Lady**

In 1904, avant-garde, modernist Austrian painter Gustav Klimt began work on a portrait of an intelligent, elegant young Jewish woman, Adele Bloch-Bauer. Married to a wealthy industrialist, Adele presided over a glittering salon of Viennese artists and intellectuals during an exuberant era when Vienna exploded with creativity in the arts and sciences, and 10 percent of its residents were Jewish.

Adele posed for Klimt for three years before the portrait was complete, giving rise to gossip, for Klimt was notorious for seducing the women he painted. When finally unveiled, the dazzling portrait was an immediate sensation. Sadly, Adele died in 1925 at age 43 of meningitis, but the portrait remained in her home, cherished by Adele's broken-hearted husband.

#### **Theft and Recovery**

Incredibly, the Nazis stole 20 percent of all the art in Europe during World War II. In 1941, a Nazi officer seized Adele's portrait from the Bloch-Bauer home and dispatched it to Austria's National Museum, the Belvedere, with a letter proclaiming, “Heil, Hitler!” The museum renamed the painting, *Dame in Gold* (Lady in Gold), to conceal that the model was Jewish. After the war, the Belvedere informed the surviving Bloch-Bauer heirs that Adele's late husband had donated the portrait and other Klimt works to the museum.

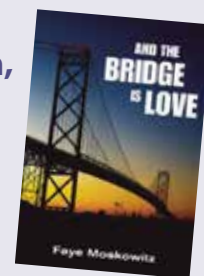
In 1998, after an Austrian investigative journalist uncovered secret documentation of the Nazi theft of Jewish art collections, Adele Bloch-Bauer's niece, Maria Altmann, sued for recovery of the portrait and four other Klimt paintings belonging to the Bloch-Bauers. Born in Vienna, Maria was herself a survivor of Nazi-occupied Austria and bitter about the suffering her family endured during World War II. Following an eight-year legal battle, she won back the family paintings.

## Adas Book Chat with . . .

### **Adas Author Faye Moskowitz** **Sunday, January 13, 10:30 am,** **in the Library**

Join us for a discussion of Faye's essay collection, *And the Bridge Is Love*. Faye teaches creative writing and Jewish American literature at George Washington University. Copies of the book are available through booksellers (at Politics & Prose, ask for the 20% discount for the Adas Book Chat).

For more information, please contact Robin Jacobson, [librarian@adasisrael.org](mailto:librarian@adasisrael.org).



#### **Moral Quandary**

After selling Adele's portrait to the Neue Galerie, Maria and the other Bloch-Bauer heirs sold the remaining Klimt paintings at auction, and they vanished into private hands, no longer accessible by the public. Many art lovers regret that the Klimt paintings ever left Austria. Maria Altmann's own niece told her that taking Adele's portrait out of Vienna was as unthinkable as taking Michelangelo's *David* out of Florence. On the other hand, didn't Austria forfeit any moral right to claim the paintings as national patrimony when it persecuted their owners and lied to their heirs?

Despite everything, the golden portrait remains a beloved Austrian symbol, even if now owned by an American museum and tainted by Austria's wartime crimes. To commemorate Gustav Klimt's 150th birthday in 2012, the Austrian Mint issued a gold coin. On one side of the coin is the face of Klimt, but on the flip side, tellingly, is the face of Adele Bloch-Bauer.

To reserve *The Lady in Gold* or other library books/DVDs, please contact Robin Jacobson ([librarian@adasisrael.org](mailto:librarian@adasisrael.org)). ○

## **Shabbat Shira Weekend with Ashira, Jan. 25–27**

*Ashira*, comprising our own Cantor Arianne Brown, Laura Lenes, and Leah Tehrani, will participate in Friday night and Saturday morning services on January 25 and 26 in celebration of *Shabbat Shirah*, the Sabbath of Song. They will also perform at 2:00 pm on Sunday, January 27, at a special concert hosted by the Adas Israel Sisterhood.

*Ashira*, which brings a unique sound and spirit to Jewish music, draws on the backgrounds of its singers and performs a wide range of music, ranging from cantorial music and opera to pop and musical theater, to create an exciting, new sound in Jewish music. *Ashira* has led *Shabbat* and holiday services and performed in concerts at synagogues, nightclubs, and concert halls throughout the country.

*Ashira's* unique vocal sound is enhanced by the trio's close bonds of friendship, coupled with the three performers' love of Jewish music. ○



Cantor Arianne Brown,  
Laura Lenes, and Leah  
Tehrani of Ashira



# Keeping Up with the Vision

*Keeping Up with the Vision is a monthly column providing up-to-the-minute information about our exciting renovation process. This is where you can find all you need to know to access all of our programs and activities during the construction phases. You can also follow all the noteworthy developments as they unfold over the coming year. Keep up with the progress as we strengthen Adas's ability to meet the social, intellectual, and religious needs of our wonderful congregation.*

## Moving On to Phase Two!

Phase Two of the renovation has begun! We have moved construction into the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary. The sanctuary has been blocked off by a temporary wall to seal off, as much as possible, the construction noise and dust from the rest of the building.

The sanctuary *Shabbat* services have been relocated temporarily to the Kogod Chapel, and the Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* will be housed temporarily in the Youth Lounge on the second floor, then relocated to the new and improved Gewirz Beit Am. Please visit [www.adasisrael.org](http://www.adasisrael.org) for full *Shabbat* listings. ○



*The Gewirz Beit Am as of November 30, finally coming into focus with the installation of drywall.*



*During construction, the Adas-Behrend Senior Fellowship continued its daily gatherings in the Youth Lounge. The seniors look forward to resuming their activities in the Gewirz Beit Am this month. Pictured here is Harriet Sobel enjoying her 90th birthday celebration with Aviva Atkin.*



*Currently under construction—the future Charles E. Smith Sanctuary.*

## A message from Rabbi Steinlauf:

**We Want to Support Our Adas Israel Troops!**

Do you have a loved one who is currently deployed in Afghanistan, or elsewhere in the military? We want to know. We would like to put their names in our *Shabbat* order of service so we can keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they bravely serve our country. Please contact the synagogue, or e-mail Beryl Saltman ([beryl.saltman@adasisrael.org](mailto:beryl.saltman@adasisrael.org)), if you have the name of a relative you would like included in our order of service. ○



*Phil Thomas celebrates 18 years at Adas Israel. It's been a pleasure having him work with our community, and we look forward to another 18 years. Thanks, Phil!*





# Lifelong Learning

## Winter–Spring, 2013

Go to [www.adasisrael.org/LLL](http://www.adasisrael.org/LLL) to learn more and register.

### **Making Torah Personal**

Sunday, Feb. 3, 10, 10:00–11:30 am

*Taught by Rabbi Gil Steinlauf*

Join Rabbi Gil Steinlauf in a new approach to Torah study. In this session, you'll get the tools to use the texts of the Torah as a mirror that we hold up to ourselves to gain personal insight—even from the most challenging texts. No background is necessary. Just a willingness to join others in an intimate and supportive environment.

### **Gan Parents' class**

Wednesday mornings, Jan. 2, 16, 30; Feb. 13, 27; March 13, 20; April 3, 18, 9:30–11 am

*Taught by Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt*

This class will focus on familial relationships in the Torah and rabbinic literature. We look at models in the text and use them as a jumping off point to talk about our own modern day struggles and joys.

*Cost: \$25 for members; \$50 for non-members*

### **Seven Blessings: A Workshop for Engaged and Newly Married Jewish Couples**

Wednesdays, April 10, 17, 24; May 1, 8, 7:30–9:00 pm

*Taught by Rabbi Charles Feinberg (Adas Israel) and Natalie Merkur Rose, LCSW-C, of the Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA)*

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 is held once a year and is a wonderful way to meet other couples!

*Cost (per couple): \$80 for Adas Israel members; \$120 for non-members*

### **Conversion Course (formerly Introduction to Judaism)**

Tuesdays, 7:00–9:00, ongoing

*Instructors: Rabbi Charles Feinberg, Rabbi Jeffrey Wohlberg, Rabbi Avis Miller, Rabbi Herbert Schwartz, Rabbi Gil Steinlauf, Rabbi Lyle Fishman, Alisa Abrams, and Natalie Merkur Rose*

This class is for people interested in converting to Judaism.

*Price for this class is \$450, which includes all books, materials, and special programs.*

For further information, contact Marcia Miller, [marcia.miller@adasisrael.org](mailto:marcia.miller@adasisrael.org), or Rabbi Feinberg, [Rabbi.Feinberg@adasisrael.org](mailto:Rabbi.Feinberg@adasisrael.org).

### **Adult Bar/Bar Mitzvah**

Sundays, 10:00 am–noon, ongoing

*Taught by Rabbi Charles Feinberg*

Adas Israel offers an adult education program taught by Rabbi Charles Feinberg that culminates in a group *bar/bat mitzvah* service.

*All-inclusive cost of the course is \$450, which includes all books and materials*

### **Boker Ohr**

Saturday mornings, 8:00–9:15 am, ongoing, Adas Israel Board Room

*Taught by Rabbi Charles Feinberg*

Rabbi Feinberg leads a class and discussion on the weekly Torah or *Haftarah* portion. Each week, members of the group receive a selection of the reading, a commentary on the reading, and questions about the reading. *Boker Ohr* meets every week except when Rabbi Feinberg is on vacation.

Contact Marcia Miller, [Marcia.Miller@adasisrael.org](mailto:Marcia.Miller@adasisrael.org), for more information.

*Boker Ohr is open to the community at no charge*

### **Hebrew I**

Sundays, 9:30 am, ongoing

Hebrew classes begin January 6. *Taught by Michael Sloan*

### **Hebrew II**

Sundays, 10:45 am, ongoing

Hebrew classes begin January 6. *Taught by Michael Sloan*

### **Learners' Minyan**

3rd Saturday of each month, through March 16

*Led by Rabbi Charles Feinberg*

A service for those who wish to become better acquainted with the structure and ritual of *Shabbat* worship meets in the Library.

### **Downtown Study Group**

Tuesdays, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 5, April 9, May 7, June 4, noon–1:30 pm

*Taught by Rabbis Steinlauf, Feinberg, and Holtzblatt*

For more than 20 years, the downtown study group has been meeting and studying traditional texts and grappling with powerful Jewish issues. This tradition continues this year, as Rabbis Steinlauf, Feinberg, and Holtzblatt lead the group and explore everything from biblical texts to *Talmud* to Kabbalistic teachings. This class is a lunch-and-learn group and meets at Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, 1875 K Street, NW.

### **Jewish Study Center Winter Classes Begin January 23**

Wednesdays at 7:00 and 8:15 pm

To register, visit [www.jewishstudycenter.org](http://www.jewishstudycenter.org)

**Annual Latke-Hamentaschen Debate, February 13** ○

## December *Ma Tovv* Attribution

Last month's *Ma Tovv* Article, Remembering and Honoring the Memory of Captain John Wilner, was brought to you entirely by the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington's ongoing blogspot, DC Jewish History. Go to [dcjewish-history.blogspot.com](http://dcjewish-history.blogspot.com) to read all of its incredible entries.

*Photo by Joel Wind.*



# Youth @ AI

Youth @ AI finished off the year with a bunch of great activities!

**Kadima** had an awesome time playing laser tag and hanging with friends! It was a great late night, and fun was had by all!

**Machar** celebrated *Hanukkah* with a bowling party! We had a great time chilling with friends, playing *driedel*, and, of course, eating *gelt*!

**Chaverim** kicked off *Hanukkah* a week early and spent an afternoon getting "All Fired Up" for the holiday! More than 25 kids painted plates and mugs as gifts for family and friends! If you haven't received yours yet, get in touch with Sasha to pick it up!

## Ring in the New Year with Youth @ AI:

- **USY and Kadima Basketball Leagues** are starting this month, and we look forward to an awesome year from our teams! Games will be every Sunday. Hope to see you in Rockville cheering on our teams!
- **Seaboard USY Winter Formal** is Saturday, January 12! Watch for an e-mail with more details!
- **Seaboard Kadima** will be hosting its annual **Saturday Night Live** on January 5! An e-mail with more details is forthcoming!
- **Machar** is heading down to the National Mall on Sunday, January 20, for an afternoon of ice skating and hot chocolate! Parents of fifth graders are invited to join us for a get-together with Rabbi Steinlauf and meet-and-greet with other parents from the *b'nai mitzvah* class.

For more information about youth group membership or participating in Youth @ AI events, check out our website, [www.adasisrael.org/youth/](http://www.adasisrael.org/youth/), or contact Sasha, [youth@adasisrael.org](mailto:youth@adasisrael.org). ○

## Save the Date

### 5774 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Families Shabbaton Retreat, May 10–12

This year's *pre-Bar/Bat Mitzvah Shabbaton Retreat* takes place the weekend of May 10–12. The *shabbaton* is an opportunity to share *Shabbat* with other families and to deepen the Jewish aspect of the *bar/bat mitzvah* celebration. Families that participated in similar retreats in previous years have commented on how worthwhile—and how much fun—the *shabbaton* is.

As in past years, the retreat, underwritten in part by the Sandra & Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education, will take place at the Pearlstone Conference & Retreat Center outside Baltimore.

In addition to the various discussion sessions with Rabbi Gil Steinlauf, the weekend offers the opportunity for both the parents and children to become better acquainted with the other families celebrating *b'nai mitzvah* the same year, and to share ideas about this important event in their lives.

Several activities are scheduled over the course of the weekend as well as some free time Saturday afternoon for leisure activities, such as nature walks, basketball, jogging, or merely relaxing at the scenic property. We very much look forward to seeing you there.

Participation is limited to room availability. For more information or to register, please contact Beryl Saltman in Rabbi Steinlauf's office, [beryl.saltman@adasisrael.org](mailto:beryl.saltman@adasisrael.org) or 202-362-4433, ext. 121.

THE JEWISH FEDERATION'S

# SUPER SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 3, 2013

DC • MARYLAND • VIRGINIA

REGISTER TO MAKE CALLS

We're counting on you to help us score a touchdown for our community.

[shalomdc.org/supersunday](http://shalomdc.org/supersunday)



The Jewish Federation  
OF GREATER WASHINGTON

# 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

Friday, January 4, 6:30 pm

*Shir Delight* is Adas Israel's *Kabbalat Shabbat* experience for young professionals between the ages of 21 and 35. Our evening begins at 6:30 pm with a happy hour *oneg*, followed by a lay-led *Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv* service and an \$8 *Shabbat* dinner. While everyone is welcome to join us for our happy hour *oneg* and services, we can only accommodate a limited number of people for dinner. Register at [www.adasisrael.org/yp](http://www.adasisrael.org/yp) by January 1 to reserve your spot. ○





# Contributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

## **Anne Frank House Fund**

By: Sandy Kalter, Judith Herr & Robert Samuelson, Steve Speil & Jane McAlister, Denise Couture, Phillip & Lillie Rubin, Mr. & Mrs. E. W. Goldstein, Sheila Meyer, Carl & Michelle Schoenberger, Joel Brenner, Hicks Family Charitable Foundation, Adina & Sandy Mendelson, Natalie Di Capua Marra, Joe Berman, Edward Cohen, Heath E. Wilkinson, CG Electric, Robert & Jane Loeffler, Arnold Danziger, Haim & Naomi Malka, Martin & Lynn Schwat, Tulin Ozdeger & Mark Anderson, Elaine Kremens, John Rogers, Tourover Philanthropic Fund.

*In Honor Of:* **Susan & Morris Klein's** 49th wedding anniversary by Neil & Sally Goldman, Louise & David Kahaner. **Sue Ducat** by Esther Foer. **Hazel Keimowitz** by Susan Schuur, Matthew & Louise Myers. **Joe Berman** by Gerald Levine & Sarah Pokempner. **Joe Berman & Marcia Gentner** by Joy Midman. Wedding of **Tina & Ande Maas** by Susan & Morris Klein. **Jane & Bob Lewit's** 50th anniversary by Roger & Sheila Meyer. **Diana Engel's** birthday by Edna & Laurence Povich.

*In Memory Of:* **Anne Gordon** by Michael Gordon. **Harry Krieger** by Marilyn Silvey. **Adele Kleiman, Estelle Tepper** by Thelma Becker. **Dr. Leo Brodie** by Fae Brodie. **Jack Lish** by Phyllis Schwartz, Barbara & Mel Gelman. **Benjamin James Cecil Special Education Fund** *In Memory Of:* **Martin Berger** by Arnold M. Friedman. **Benjamin "Jamie" Cecil** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Bereavement Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Littman Danziger** by Arnold Danziger. **Roslyn Blatt** by Bruce Ray & April Rubin. **Dr. Jordan S. Bloom** by Sally Bloom-Feshbach & family.

## **Bible & Prayer Book Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Bernard Bobb** by Stanley & Sandy Bobb. **Lisa Schultz's** father by Cindy, Glenn, Lisa, & Amy Easton.

## **Cantor Max Wohlberg Memorial Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Joan Harris** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Cantor Saltzman Youth Music Endowment Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Jeanne Mazur** by Glenn & Cindy Easton. **Joseph Gichner** by Ross Eisenman & Shelley Tomkin.

## **Charles Pilzer Computer Center**

*In Memory Of:* **Jack Lish** by Geraldine Pilzer.

## **Congregational Kiddush Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Marc Kaufman's** 50th birthday by the Kaufman family.

## **Daily Minyan Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Armand Grenadier** by Lorna Grenadier. **Samuel Kline** by David Kline.

## **Dan Kaufman Children's Program Fund**

By: Jeanne S. Mandelblatt.

*In Memory Of:* **Dan Kaufman, Bruce Mellow, David H. Kaufman**, all by Minna Kaufman.

## **Dr. William & Vivienne Stark Wedding & Anniversary Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **William and Vivienne Stark's** anniversary by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Estelle Gelman Endowment Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Bernice S. Fischer** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Esther Saks Abelman Yiddish Cultural Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Carlotta Schiffres** by Manny Schiffres.

## **Fund for the Future**

*In Memory Of:* **Norman Shreiar** by Carolyn Goldman.

## **Garden of the Righteous Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Rhoda Connick** by David Connick. **Pearl Weissler, Jack Lish, Sharon Weiss's mother**, all by Judy Strauch.

## **Harry & Judie Linowes Youth Endowment Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Jules Coler** by Harry & Judie Linowes.

## **Havurah Kiddush Fund**

By: Edith Couturier.

*In Memory Of:* **Jean J. Couturier** by Edith Couturier. **Joseph Gichner** by Arnie & Mary Hammer.

## **High Holy Day Appeal**

*In Memory Of:* **David Gordon Daniel** by David & Lisa Daniel.

## **Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington**

*In Memory Of:* **Julia Mayer Rosenberg** by Joel, Cynthia & Alexander Rosenberg, Kathryn Brown. **Roslyn Blatt** by Renée and Roger Fendrich.

## **Joan Alison White Art Education Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Joan Alison White** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Julius & Anna Wolpe Auditorium Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Jack Lish** by Allen & Annette Wolpe. **Eleanor Wolpe** by Allen Wolpe.

## **Marilyn & Stefan Tucker Program Endowment Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Esther Silverman** by Stef & Marilyn Tucker.

## **Maxine & Gerald Freedman Endowment Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Julie Sanders, Janice Melnick** by Maxine Freedman.

## **Melvin Gelman Religious School Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Glenn Easton** by Marty & Helen Blank.

*In Memory Of:* **Herbert Kean** by Nancy, Daniel, & Jory Weiss.

## **Men's Club Amuday Torah Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Jack Lish** by Carol & Edward Gentile Jr., Bo & Marky Kirsch, Advanced Home Support, Inc., Eleanor & Cary Cohen, Edith Lebowitz, Sheldon & Faye Cohen, Joel & Rhoda Ganz, Karen Feld, Phyllis G. Baylin, Elaine Nobleman, Adrian & Annette Morchower, Irv & Estelle Jacobs, Marissa Kaelter, Jill Schie, Wendy Weiss, Muriel & Joseph Colmen, Renée & Roger Fendrich. **Lawrence Jacobs, Rae Jacobs, Joseph Gichner**, all by Irv & Estelle Jacobs.

## **Mikvah Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Morris Klein** by Suzanne, Sander, Justin, Gabriel, & Paul Davidson.

## **Mildred & Jess Fisher Nursery School Fund**

By: Jeffrey Fistel & Cherrie Daniels.

*In Memory Of:* **Pam Saltz** by Suzanne Schecter.

## **Minnie & Abraham S. Kay Israel Scholarship Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Jack & Barbara Kay's** receiving the AFMDA Humanitarian award by Glenn & Cindy Easton

## **Offerings Fund**

By: Richard Levy

*In Memory Of:* **Morris Stirman** by Joe & Sonia Herson.

## **Rabbi Avis Miller Lifelong Learning Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Mary Ann MacDonald** by Nancy, Daniel, & Jory Weiss. **Roslyn Blatt** by Nancy Weiss.

## **Rabbi Feinberg Discretionary Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Boker Ohr class** by Warren Clark Jr. *With Thanks For:* **Rabbi Feinberg's** kindness by Annette Kornblum

*In Memory Of:* **Sylvia Kaplan Shugrue** by Linda & Louis Kaplan. **Joseph Gichner** by Leo & Fradel Kramer. **Masliansky-Bogopulsky relatives** by Nechama Masliansky. **Barbara Friedberg** by Edna Friedberg.

## **Rabbi Jeffrey A. Wohlberg Masorti Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Rabbi Jeffrey Wohlberg** by Howard & Susan Liberman.

## **Rabbi Steinlauf Discretionary Fund**

By: Eric & Holly Danko.

*In Honor Of:* **Brit milah of George Perlman** by Evan Perlman & Catherine Crow. **Maximillian Aaron Sultoon's** baby blessing by Jonny & Samantha Sultoon.

*In Memory Of:* **Jack Lish** by Mrs. Fae Brodie.

## **Rose R. Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Aaron Samban** by Raquel Frenk. **Faye Loeffler** by Robert Loeffler. **Jacob Meyer Mondschein** by Susan Tejada. **Bertha Kiviat** by Lillian K. Rubin, Victor Kiviat, Julia, & Suzie Rubin.

## **Ruthe Katz Dial-in Program**

*In Honor Of:* **Rosita Kotelansky's** special birthday by Fred & Felisa Siegel.

*In Memory Of:* **Moses Cardash** by Bessie C. Lewis, MB Lewis Foundation.

## **Sachse Family Endowment Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Ellie Sachse** by Marty & Helen Blank.

## **Shelley Remer Gan Hayaed Enrichment Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **David Lieberman and Max Edelstein** becoming b'nai mitzvah by Stewart & Shelley Remer.

*In Memory Of:* **Tom Horowitz, Al Harrison** by Stephanie Deutchman.

## **Social Action Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Jack Lish** by Joe & Candace Chazen.



## Contributions Continued

### Solar Cookers

By: Betsy Strauss.

In Honor Of: **Fiona Butler, Rachel & Bill**

**Kamens** by Stuart & Jamie Butler.

In Memory Of: **Viola Winer & David Lipsitz** by Alan Lipsitz. **Marilyn Horowitz** by Ms. Andrea Handel.

### Sophie Silfen Shalom Tinok Fund

In Honor Of: **Hanukkah Adult Bat Mitzvah**

**class of 1986** by Herlene Nagler.

### Staff Holiday Gift Fund

By: Leah Chanin, Russell & Judith Smith, Arnie Podgorsky & Christy Larsen, Sheri Brown, Roger & Renée Fendrich, Edie & Art Hessel, Gan HaYeled Parents Association, Men's Club, Sisterhood.

### Susan Linowes Allen Memorial Music Fund

In Memory Of: **David Linowes** by Dr. Richard Linowes.

### Traditional Minyan Kiddush Fund

In Honor Of: **Aviv Roskes** becoming a bat mitzvah by Jacob & Donna Bardin.

In Gratitude For: Support of **Margie Siegel & Traditional Egalitarian Minyan** by Michele Janis. **Tzedakah Fund**

In Honor Of: **Arnie Podgorsky & Christy Larsen's** wedding anniversary, **Marion and Michael Usher's** anniversary by Glenn & Cindy Easton. by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

In Memory Of: **S. Robert Baldinger** by Janet Baldinger. **Sidney Sachs** by Betty Sachs.

**Roslyn Blatt** by Glenn & Cindy Easton. **Dr.**

**Sidney B. Ross** by Judith Ross. **Miram Blaker Klein & Joseph P. Klein** by Janet Kolodner.

### Vision of Renewal Project

In Honor Of: Engagement of **Tali Nagler & Shachar Kaufman**, **Barton Rubenstein's** special birthday, **Carole Lerner's** special birthday, **Ruth and Steve Kleinrock's** 30th anniversary, **Michael Gelman's** leadership on the JFNA Executive Committee, **Gloria Bernstein's** special birthday, all by Glenn & Cindy Easton. **Steve Lachter's Simchat Torah** honor by Nancy, Daniel, & Jory Weiss.

In Memory Of: **Milton Kleinrock** by Steven & Ruth Kleinrock. **Dr. Byron Hurwitz** by Glenn & Cindy Easton. **Albert Roggin** by Gail Wilensky.

### Yizkor/Yahrzeit Fund

In Appreciation Of: Kindness experienced during minyan services by Judy Tynes.

In Memory Of: **Regina Sclar** by Sidney Sclar.

**Susan Chonoles** by Carl Schoenberger.

**Frances Passen Levin** by Peter Levin.

**Sherman Kupfer** by Marcia Kupfer. **Louis**

**Philip Hellman** by Elinor Gruber. **Rosja**

**Makowski-Wolf** by Armand Makowski. **Philip**

**C. Leavy** by Charlotte Teicher. **Anne Karp**

by Herb & Sharon Schwartz. **Samuel Rein &**

**Grace R. Cohen** by Susan Kraut. **Mary Ann**

**MacDonald** by Rob & Rachel Rubin. **Simon**

**Albert** by Barbara Sandler.

**M. Jerry Winnick** by Ellen Sinel. **Sam Ash,**

**Sylvia Ash Hoffer, Ruth Ash,** all by Matthew

Ash. **Sidney Sachs** by Susan Sachs Goldman.

**Carol J. Bolotin** by Jeffrey Bolotin. **Alice**

**Goldman** by Stanley & Carol Goldman. **Sam**

**Jacobson** by Martin & Arlene Klepper.

### Youth Activities Fund

In Memory Of: **Cecelia Salus** by Stanley Salus.

**Jack A. Sender** by Sydel Sandy. ○

## Tikkun Olam

### Thanksgiving at N Street Village

Adas members celebrated Thanksgiving Day by preparing a Thanksgiving dinner for the patrons of the Luther Place Night Shelter of N Street Village. Volunteers cooked and delivered turkeys, gravy, potatoes, stuffing, green beans, cranberry sauce, rolls, and pies.

If you would like to contribute food to meals that Adas Israel delivers once a month to Luther Place Night Shelter, a transitional housing facility for homeless women, e-mail [laura\\_epstein@hotmail.com](mailto:laura_epstein@hotmail.com). Volunteers receive a monthly e-mail asking for contributions. You may offer to bring food as often as it suits your schedule: once a month or once a year. ○

### Anne Frank House Walk



Parents, students, and teachers support the Anne Frank House in its effort to combat homelessness in DC. To learn more about AFH, visit [theannefrankhouse.org/](http://theannefrankhouse.org/).

### The Transformation Plunge

by Rabbi Tamara Miller



When someone emerges from the mikvah waters, a visible transformation

occurs. What is this transformation, this life-altering plunge that permeates one's future status and emotional memory?

The *Baal Shem Tov* revealed to his students that it was due to his mikvah immersions that he attained his transcendental levels of holiness. He knew then what we know now. The mikvah attracts the sacred secrets that are sequestered within all of us.

Even before I became a rabbi, I had escorted many women to the mikvah. Before women were ordained as rabbis in the Conservative movement, the rabbi would invite me to accompany and witness the immersions of the women converts. It took two more decades before I would present my own students to the *Beit Din* and then prepare them for the mikvah and its blessings.

Watching a person return to his or her source of being, enveloped in a veil of inti-

macy and faith, makes the transformation plunge a sweet reciprocal reward.

Rabbi Tamara Miller volunteers for the Adas Israel mikvah when she is not teaching, officiating at life-cycle events, or writing her blog on spirituality in everyday life. ○

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# Chronicle

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## Buy One More!

Thanks to everyone who has donated to the Ezra Pantry. In partnership with So Others Might Eat (SOME), the Ezra Pantry collects nonperishable food for distribution in shelters, soup kitchens, day care centers, and elder care facilities. Please buy one more item than you need when you shop for food and bring it to the Ezra Pantry shelves in the synagogue cloakroom. Feeding the hungry is a *mitzvah*. Thank you again for your continued support. ○

## Tikkun Olam

### Hands Across the Park Update

*Continuing an annual tradition, Adas Israel and Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ volunteers came together Wednesday, Nov. 14, to pack food bags for Thanksgiving food distribution to low-income DC residents. The Adas-Peoples crew packed bags for 400 family units. ○*



### Veterans Day Project

An affordable housing co-op in the U Street corridor, home to three veterans, was the site of this year's Veterans Day Project. The co-op wanted to spruce up the common areas so they would fit in with the gentrifying neighborhood. Working through YACHAD, a team of Adas Israel congregants started refurbishing the lobby area of the building. We worked side-by-side with a team of congregants from Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ washing down the lobby walls and priming them for painting. We finished in record time this year because a large contingent of building residents worked with us. All in all it was a successful day; the residents were ecstatic with what we were able to complete in just one day, and we had the satisfaction of a job well done. ○



▲ Rabbi Randy Brown, Cantor Arianne Brown's husband, removes a sign from the lobby to prepare the wall for priming.

Randall Wagner washes down a wall while Laura Epstein primes another one. ►



### Upcoming Chronicle Deadlines—

March issue: Thursday, January 31, noon; April issue: Thursday, March 1, noon

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