



ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

# Chronicle

VOL. 76, NO. 11 |

JUNE 2014

| SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5774

## דובר אמת Dover Emet Speaking the Truth

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

### LOVE IS A JEWISH WORD

On *Shavuot*, we read the famous words that Ruth, the Moabite woman, speaks to her mother-in-law Naomi: "For wherever you go, I will go; wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God." Ruth loves Naomi, the mother of her deceased husband. Her love runs so deep, she leaves her homeland and goes with Naomi back to the land of Israel. Once there, she meets Boaz, an Israelite. A love develops between them. They marry. It is not the fiery and passionate love voiced by the two young lovers in *The Song of Songs*, which we read on Passover. The love of Ruth for Naomi and for Boaz is a mature kind of love. It is a kind of love that can be expressed only by one who has lived life, who has loved before and suffered pain and loss. It is the kind of love that recognizes life's limitations and denies no truths. It is a love

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## The Adas Fund 2014



*"Adas Israel has been our home for more than 35 years, and we care deeply about the next 35 and beyond."*

—Toni & David Bickart  
(2014 Adas Fund Chairs)

We are honored to chair The Adas Fund (formerly the *Kol Nidre* Appeal) this year. There is indeed so much to celebrate at Adas Israel—from our inspiring and energetic clergy and staff, to our multifaceted education programs, to our vibrant and spiritual worship experiences, to the meaningful friendships and support that bind together so many of our congregants. We joined Adas when our son was ready for the Gan, and we've been learn-



ing ever since.

Adas Israel Congregation plays an important role in our lives and in the life of our community. For more than 145 years, our congregation has provided moving religious services, personal life cycle events handled with care

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## Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum Named Director of Education 2014–15 Religious School Registration Now Open

Our comprehensive search process for a Director of Education has yielded exciting results! Co-chaired by Amy Cooper and Toni Bickart, the search committee has selected **Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum** to lead our community forward into a new chapter of Jewish education for all of our youth and families at Adas Israel.



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## Shavuot @ Adas Israel

Beginning Tuesday Evening, June 3

Please turn to page 5 for a full schedule of learning, programs, & services

The holiday of *Shavuot* is the day on which we celebrate the great revelation of the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai. You stood at the foot of the mountain. Your grandparents and great-grandparents before them. The souls of all Jews, from



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CELEBRATING OUR 143RD YEAR  
THE CHRONICLE IS SUPPORTED IN  
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ENDOWMENT FUND

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# Clergy Corner



Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

## DOVER EMET CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that is quiet, yet profound. Ruth's love is the love that is all about commitment.

Many Jewish people jokingly say that "love" is not a word you hear all that often in synagogues. That joke reveals a poignant misconception about Judaism—that we are a religion only of the intellect; that ours is a religion that soberly moves from the mind to action. Other religions may talk a lot of love, but Judaism, so the conception goes, is beyond nebulous abstractions of the heart.

This unfortunate portrayal of Judaism leaves out perhaps the central dimension of Jewish identity for millennia: *It's all about love.*

The Torah begins with God creating the world. This begs the question: Why? Our ancient rabbis tell us that linking the story of the Jewish people with the origins of it all reveals that God not only loves the Jewish people, that God not only created the world to give us the Torah, but that God did the whole endeavor as an act of love itself. The universe exists, as it were, because God wanted to give something to us, something so precious that it required an extraordinary act of Creation. The *Book of Genesis* continues with the stories of the Israelite patriarchs and their struggles, and the undying loyalty and commitment of God to them and their progeny. By the time we get to the *Book of Exodus*, God reveals the Ineffable Name to Moses. In our prayers today, we simply refer to this name as "Adonai" (Our Lord). Our rabbis teach us that this name was hitherto unknown in the world; it is the name of Ultimate Compassion. The *Exodus* story shows us that God's compassion was so fierce, it was with a mighty hand and outstretched arm that God brought us from Egypt.



*"Yiddish theater was the soul of the Jewish people. Wherever Jews lived, there was theater – entertaining, teaching, reminding us who we are. We embrace its treasures as a part of our past, our present, and our future."*

I am so very excited to bring Zalmen Mlotek

here on Sunday, June 1, for an unforgettable evening celebrating the magic of the Yiddish theater.

As a student in cantorial school, I learned about the Yiddish theater and was intrigued! There was, and still is, only one remaining professional Yiddish theater in the country—the Folksbiene Yiddish Theater. As a lover of musical theater, this seemed to me to be an amazing amalgamation of theater and Jewish culture—and a way for a *shomer Shabbat* cantorial student to make it to an off-Broadway stage!

Zalmen Mlotek was the magical man who held the key to the world of Yiddish theater. Not wanting to risk being turned down for an appointment, I went to see him unannounced. When I



## June Office Closings

**Erev Shavuot, Tuesday, June 3:** Schools/Offices Close at 3:30 pm  
**Shavuot 1 & 2, Wed. & Thurs., June 4 & 5:** Schools/Offices Closed

And this brings us to *Shavuot*. Our midrashic tradition teaches us that the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai was really a wedding. The Israelites, the "damsel in distress" who God rescued from Egypt, was now the "bride" to God's "groom." The thunderous clouds were the *chuppah*, and the *ketubah* was none other than the Torah itself. The whole epic story of the world leads up to this: A wedding! A *simcha*! A celebration of love!

It is very significant that the love of God for Israel at Sinai is not the puppy love of two young lovers. It is not rash or tempestuous. It is entirely thoughtful and balanced. It is wholly committed and undying. It is the love that Ruth has for Naomi and for Boaz. In this, our tradition brings us to a profound understanding of the meaning of love itself: Love is as love does. Love, indeed, is deeply felt, but it is not limited to *just* a feeling. Love is a way of life. Love is all about dedication to something beyond our own desires or wants, transcending our past hurts and travails. God, as a literary character in the Torah reflected through characters like Naomi, models the power of love to transform the world. Or rather, it is love itself—understood as a kind of lifelong spiritual practice of embodied commitment—that enables us to bring ourselves, and the whole world, into harmony with the great mysterious purpose of Creation itself.

In Judaism, the form of that love is our commitment to our people, to our heritage, to our *mitzvot*, to our generations. So we are very much a religion all about love! It is true that we are also a highly intellectual people. But it is incorrect to dismiss the role of love in public Jewish discourse. It is, rather, through our intellect that we seek to discern the mind of God—or, really, the heart of God—so that we will be the most loving human beings we can be. This *Shavuot*, may we proudly commit ourselves to the love that our Judaism stands for! —*Chag Same'ach!* ○

told him I wanted to be in the Yiddish theater, he asked me if I spoke Yiddish. I did not, but I promised him that I would learn quickly if he would only give me a chance.

And a chance he certainly did give me, along with the most valuable coaching and

opportunities of a lifetime. For the next three years, I was immersed in a world of Yiddish plays, shows, classes, and even a traveling troupe of young professionals. I learned that this amazing art form can reach all—young and old alike, and I made it a part of my life's mission as a *hazzan* to help keep this music alive and revitalize it for the future.

To do that, I need you! Come give Yiddish theater a chance as Zalmen speaks, sings, and plays, bringing the magic of Yiddish theater to life.

The event begins at 7:00 pm. RSVP at [www.adasisrael.org/musicalmoments](http://www.adasisrael.org/musicalmoments) for our concert and ice cream reception.

—Cantor Arianne Brown



## From the President



Arnie Podgorsky

### Who Runs This Shul, Anyway?

Did it begin with Job that we have many lay leaders? Moses was the sole judge, but his father-in-law advised him to delegate that work broadly. Why? As sole judge Moses would become exhausted and, no less, the people would become exhausted of him. Too much of a good thing wears thin, particularly

when that good thing is one individual. A community will eventually want to control its destiny. As I see it, from Moses's eventual delegation we learn that the community is to govern itself.

Wait, don't turn the page! Discussion of communal governance is not dry. To understand our governance is to understand important aspects of not just this synagogue, but the roles of clergy and lay leaders in Judaism itself.

Dispersion began with judges and extended into other realms. From Moses the *Kohanim* assumed ritual leadership and then the rabbis. At Adas Israel, Rabbi Gil Steinlauf is not only our teacher and spiritual leader, but also the synagogue's *mara d'atra*—the decisive governing authority over all matters ritual and religious. Rabbi Steinlauf reports to the Board of Directors, but as is customary, the Board has ceded religious governance to our senior rabbi.

But wait, there's more. Beyond ritual, our community has an array of operations and functions. Just as Moses appointed judges and later Jewish communities had their own civil governance,

today's lay leaders guide much of the civil side of the Adas Israel community. Let's take a look at the breadth of governance tasks.

Adas Israel has a host of budget, endowment, fundraising, and other financial matters to oversee; schools to operate; clergy and other personnel resources to recruit and retain; member engagement and services to provide; and spiritual programs to conduct. These include continuing education, visiting the infirm, musical programs, operating and sustaining our physical infrastructure, and planning strategically to help ensure our future. Lay leaders—guided spiritually by our clergy and assisted skillfully by our able staff—oversee this array of functions and operations.

How do we do this? The Trustees hold "bare" title to all of our assets for the benefit of the synagogue. The Board of Directors holds authority to manage every aspect of the synagogue. Board officers, such as the president, various vice presidents, treasurer, and secretary, act in the Board's stead when it is not in session, but are subject to its direction.

Several committees implement programs and advise the officers and Board. These include religious practices, personnel, finance (budget, investment, and audit), membership engagement, social action, building & grounds, inclusion, musical moments, and continuing education. Special ad hoc committees search for senior placements such as rabbis, executive director, and director of education. Every function in the synagogue is subject to this governance, and well over a hundred members

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## Leah Chanin Selected as 2014 *Yad Hakavod* Honoree

The Adas Israel *Yad Hakavod* Committee is pleased to announce the selection of Leah Chanin as this year's worthy *Yad Hakavod* honoree.

The Adas Israel *Yad Hakavod* Award was created in 1997 to honor a member of the congregation who has distinguished himself or herself through service to the congregation and its members.

Leah Chanin is a woman who gets things done. Ask anyone who has ever served on a committee with her, seen her prepare for *Pesach*, or tried to keep up with her in aerobics class. Before coming to Washington, she lived in Macon, GA, in a place and time when only some women went to college and most did not work outside the home. But not Leah. In addition to raising four children, caring for a "demanding" husband, and keeping a kosher home, she was professor of law and dean of Mercer Law School and the author of five books about legal history and legal research. She credits much of her career success to being able to neglect her children with full faith that they would turn out just fine. (Helicopter parents, take heed!)

When Leah moved to Washington in 1992, she was looking for a conservative *shul*. Two of her (successful, responsible, no-worse-for-the-wear adult) children were already members here. She had never belonged to a large congregation before and wasn't sure she was going to like it or fit in. She soon realized it has enormous benefits—wonderful staff, clergy, and con-

gregants—and began to come regularly. Six years later, Sandy Mendelson asked her to serve on the Education Director search committee and Toni Bickart appointed her to several committees—education, bylaws, catering, and others. She was also on the library committee for seven years. Leah recently became

chair of the Mikvah Committee, also serving as a dedicated *mikvah* guide. In addition, she served as assistant secretary and as VP for fundraising under Russell Smith. Leah can be found staffing the Adas gift shop several hours every week, in addition to the time she spends learning with the rabbis. She became an adult *bat mitzvah* with Rabbi Miller in 1996. Three generations of the Chanin family are members of Adas, and she anchors them all. It is a privilege to count Leah as one of our members.

This award recognizes someone who has served beyond the call of duty to make Adas Israel a better place. The first *Yad Hakavod* Award was presented in 1997 to Sophie Silfen. Other recipients are Gail Schwartz, Estelle Jacobs, Jimmy Young (z"l), Rhoda Ganz, Bernard Fischgrund (z"l), Irwin Lebow, Ruthe Katz (z"l), Mildred Jacobs, Sybil Wolin, Samuel Weisbach (z"l), Sue Rosenthal, Michael Stern, Bernard Meyer, David Bickart, Judith Strauch, and Harriet and Art Isack.

Please join us June 11 at 7:30 pm when we honor Leah Chanin as our *Yad Hakavod* honoree at our annual congregational meeting, followed by a dessert reception in her honor. ○





# Holidays



## High Holy Day Packets Arriving Soon

*Rosh Hashanah begins the evening of Wednesday, September 24*

Planning for the 2014 High Holy Days is well underway, and packets of information will arrive at your home by the end of the month.

We look forward to welcoming the new year with our Adas Israel family in our

newly renovated spaces, including the renewed Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, Bernard & Sarah Gewirz Beit Am, and the Dr. Avraham Biran Beit Midrash and Kogod Chapel.

Rabbi Steinlauf, Rabbi Feinberg, Cantor Brown, and Rabbi Holtzblatt will be joined during the holidays by Rabbi/Cantor Mark Novak and Michael Leifman. Rabbi Holtzblatt and Elie Greenberg will lead our new "Return Again" service on *Rosh Hashanah*, *Yom Kippur*, and outdoors on *Kol Nidre*. We also look forward to welcoming Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, our new director of education, who will lead High Holy Day family services.

We also welcome back Robyn Helzner to our two Gan Family Services and look forward to our self-led Traditional *Minyan* Services. Naomi Malka, our ritual coordinator, will organize and read Torah during the holidays.

Remember, to simplify the holiday ticket process, if you only want tickets for the people in your household in the Kay

Hall, Gewirz Beit Am (Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan*), Family Service, or Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, they will be sent to you automatically; no ticket request form is required.

The **ticket request form only needs to be returned** if you have historic dedicated seats in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary or if you want to order extra seats for family and guests. If you are a dedicated seat holder in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, you will need to request the number of your seats that you intend to use for the coming holidays (two seats are included in membership; additional seats will be charged to your account). Members also will be able to reserve nondedicated seats (with limited availability) in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary. These seats can be requested on your seat request forms in the High Holy Day booklet. Please call or e-mail Elinor Tattar, 202-362-4433 or [elinor.tattar@adasisrael.org](mailto:elinor.tattar@adasisrael.org), with any questions.

### New This Year

Please note that this year, after the sermons in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, a seat that has not been occupied will be considered available for seating. This applies to both dedicated and reserved seats.

We thank our committee members and coordinators for sharing their time and their holidays so others can have a meaningful High Holy Day season. Watch your mail for the High Holy Day packet. We look forward to celebrating the most exciting time of the year with our Adas family. ○

## SHAVUOT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

all times, came together to hear the resounding proclamation of the Ten Commandments! With that dramatic backdrop in mind, on the first night of *Shavuot* (this year, Tuesday night, June 3), Jews throughout the world observe the centuries-old custom of conducting an all-night vigil dedicated to Torah learning and preparation for receiving the Torah anew the next morning. Please join us for a multitextured, experiential evening of Jewish learning on *Shavuot*, featuring many different worship and learning options for every flavor of Jewish experience.

The festival of *Shavuot* commemorates the proclamation of the Ten Commandments at Mt. Sinai and is known in the Jewish tradition as *z'man matan torateinu*, "The season of the giving of our Torah."

The Rabbis speak of *Shavuot* as the crowning climax of the Exodus. Until the first *Shavuot*, the liberated slaves in the wilderness were free in a physical sense only. At Sinai, the Jewish people used the freedom obtained on Passover to consecrate themselves as "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

Moreover, to make clear that the teachings of the Torah revealed at Sinai are for all humankind, the Book of Ruth, the story of a woman who voluntarily accepted Judaism in place of

idolatry, is customarily read on the second day of *Shavuot*. In the *Megillah of Ruth* are found the glowing words of faith she spoke to her mother-in-law Naomi: "Entreat me not to leave you for wherever you go I will go, and wherever you lodge, I will lodge; your people will be my people and your God, my God."

*Shavuot* literally means "weeks" as it occurs precisely seven weeks after the second day of Passover. The 49 days between Passover and *Shavuot* are known as *s'firat ha-omer* (the counting of the *omer*), reminiscent of the days when farmers brought a measure (*omer*) of their newly harvested grain to the Temple.

The *Shavuot* holiday is also known as *chag ha-bikurim*, the Festival of the First Fruits, and *chag ha-katzir*, the Feast of the Harvest. At this time, farmers went on a pilgrimage to the



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### SHAVUOT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Temple in Jerusalem, bringing with them offerings of their barley harvest and the first fruits of their orchards. As an echo of this ancient agricultural celebration, it is customary to decorate the synagogue and home with flowers and plants.

During *Shavuot* dairy dishes are traditionally eaten because the Torah is often compared to milk and honey, having the nourishment of the former and the sweetness of the latter.

Below are a few suggestions of ways you can make *Shavuot* a real celebration. Though it is a brief holiday, it is filled with joy and profound meaning.

1. Light *Yom Tov* candles and prepare a festival meal on both evenings of the holiday.
2. Invite guests to join in your celebration of *Shavuot* and eat dairy dishes.
3. Attend the *Tikkun Leyl Shavuot*; it is customary to stay up all night on the eve of *Shavuot* studying the Torah. (See schedule below.)
4. Hear the Ten Commandments read in the synagogue on the first day of *Shavuot*.
5. **First day of *Shavuot*, Wednesday, June 4, service begins at 9:30 am;** combined Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Service and Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* Service  
**Second day of *Shavuot*, Thursday, June 5, service begins at 9:15 am, Yizkor at 11:00 am;** combined Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Service and Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* Service.
6. Read the *Book of Ruth*.
7. Light a *yahrzeit* candle in memory of family members who have died, give *tzedakah* in their name, and attend service on the second day to recite the *Yizkor* Memorial Prayers. ○

## Happy Birthday, Pauline Goldberg

**100 years old this June and a member of Adas Israel since 1953!**



A beloved member of our Adas Israel family since 1953, Pauline was born in New York City on June 14, 1914. She has devoted many years to our congregation and to working with Jewish organizations all over the

country. Pauline was even president of her local B'nai B'rith chapter for several years. She and her late husband, Yale, joined Adas Israel in 1953. Her son, Lester Goldberg, and daughter, Marsha Boymel (a former Sisterhood president), are also members. Please join us wishing a heartfelt *Yom Huledet Sameach* (Happy Birthday) to our dear friend, Pauline. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated member of our community.

## Shavuot 2014 Schedule

### Erev Shavuot, Tuesday, June 3

**5:30 pm** Children's Services and Activities (*Shavuot* scavenger hunt for grade school; art project and songs for the little ones, plus mac & cheese dinner)

**6:00 pm** *Mincha* (Afternoon Service)

**7:30 pm** Wine & Cheese Reception in the Biran *Beit Bidrash*

**8:00 pm** Two Evening Options:

• *Makom DC Presents: "Male and Female Created He Them: Masculinity, Femininity, and Gender Roles in Judaism—A Text study with Rabbi Gil Steinlauf"*

• *Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington Presents: "Receiving Revelation: Opening to Allow the Experience of God—A Jewish meditation session with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt"*

**9:00 pm** *Ma'ariv* (Evening Service)

**10:00 pm** Jewish Bibliodrama with Rabbi Feinberg

### Shavuot Day 1, Wednesday, June 4

**9:30 am** Combined Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Service and Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan* Service

**Light Candles after 9:12 pm**

### Shavuot Day 2, Thursday, June 5

**9:15 am** Combined Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Service and Traditional Egalitarian *minyan* Service

**11:00 am** *Yizkor*

## Accomplishing a Great Deal and Planning More Making a difference in Israel

A recent poll provided the most recent evidence of Israel's yearning for many entryways into Judaism. Today, more than half of Israelis polled support official government and Rabbinic recognition for both Masorti/Conservative and Reform Judaism. That is a significant sign that Israel society desires to be fully inclusive for all. It shows that a state with control over religion only with the ultra-Orthodox is out of sync with its people.

As Masorti and our pluralistic allies continue to advocate for true equality for and recognition of all forms of Judaism—in line with what Israelis desire—MERCAZ plays a key role in ensuring that Israel continues to progress toward a pluralistic and equal society for all.

This change in Israeli public opinion did not happen by accident. It has built through outreach and education supported by MERCAZ, the *kehillot*, and our communities. Please support our efforts so we can continue this vitally important work.

**Now is the time to make it happen. Champion this ongoing effort by joining MERCAZ.**

Sign up to become a MERCAZ member through the Adas Israel check-off MERCAZ membership system. ○

# Sisterhood

## Upcoming Events

**Taste of Tanach, Tuesday June 3,  
10:00–11:00 am:**



This is our last session for 5774. Sisterhood invites everyone to join in studying Torah with Rabbi Steinlauf in the Biran Beit Midrash.

Closing Event, Sunday, June 8, 1:00 pm offers something sweet to conclude the year.

Our speaker is well-known author, lecturer, and food editor, Sheilah Kaufman, who will discuss the "History of Jews and Chocolate." She will describe how those Sephardic Jews who left Spain and Portugal in 1492 and settled in the Caribbean shaped the chocolate industry, and how chocolate shaped the Jews. This free program includes a chocolate-tasting and cooking demonstration.

The business portion of the meeting will honor **Lisa Kleine** for her three-year tenure as Sisterhood president. In addition, our incoming Board and President-Elect, **Marcy Feuerstein**, will be inducted into office.

**Women's League Convention, July 17–20:**



Join in the WLCJ *Shabbaton* and Convention focused on *Kodesh v'Chol: Balancing the Sacred and the Every Day*, to be held at the Hanover Marriott in Whippany, NJ. Complete information can be found at [wlcj.org](http://wlcj.org). Look for outstanding speakers, a totally out-of-the-ordinary *Shabbat* experience, hands-on workshops, first-timer discounts, and more.

## Other News

**Sisterhood Makes a *Minyan*—and Challenges the Rest of the Adas Community to Do the Same!**

We asked for 10. More than DOUBLE that number came (some of whom are pictured here). Responding to an urgent plea from some of our sisters that the Thursday night *minyan* was struggling mightily, Sisterhood arrived in force on Thursday, April 10, alleviating the problem for at least one night. The look on the faces of the Thursday night regulars said it all. Accustomed to anxiously counting as each person straggled through the door, always hoping for 10 (but often topping out at eight), participants were amazed as sisters and their friends streamed in.

But a one-night stand will not solve the problem. The purpose of this event was two-fold: to shine a light on this continuing need in the Adas community and, more important, to

*"Igor is the most creative, most diligent, most hardworking contractor I know. I highly recommend him to all."* –Donald Saltz

## IGOR'S RENOVATION

PHONE: (240) 401-9929 KENSINGTON



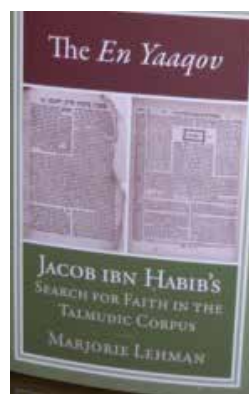
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**CUSTOM WOODWORKING KITCHEN REMODELING  
BATHROOM REMODELING BASEMENT FINISHING**

encourage more people to come, even if it is as little as once a month. Toward that end, Sisterhood is issuing a challenge to all of the other groups at Adas. Bring your own 10 to a morning or evening *minyan*, take a picture, and everyone in the 10 will receive a \$5.00 gift certificate to the Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop.

Is it a bribe? Yes. Is it money well spent? Double yes. Being present so fellow congregants can say *Kaddish* is important to the very fabric and fiber of our community. At some point in our lives, we will all need the *minyan*. Will it be there for you? Only if each of us makes the commitment to make a difference, and just shows up.

## Sisterhood Shabbat Keeps on Giving



When JTS professor of Talmud Dr. Marjorie Lehman arrived at Adas as Sisterhood *Shabbat* scholar last February, she enjoyed a grand tour of the synagogue, including the renovated Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, the Biran Beit Midrash, the *mikvah*, and, of course, the Rose Ruth Freudberg Memorial Sisterhood Library.

Following her visit, which was received with great acclaim, Dr. Lehman presented the library with a copy of her book, *The En Yaaqov: Jacob ibn Habib's Search for Faith in the*

*Talmudic Corpus*. The plate reads: "A gift from author and Adas Israel Sisterhood scholar, Dr. Marjorie Lehman, commemorating Sisterhood Shabbat February 8, 2014." A lovely and meaningful gesture. Thank you!

## Welcoming New Adas Members

In April, the Sisterhood Membership Committee telephoned some 90 new Adas women members to introduce them to the organization. The feedback was positive, with comments such as, "I'm impressed with your outreach and feel most welcome." Sisterhood is extending its complimentary "welcome membership" through June 2015 for all women who joined the congregation since January 2013. As a bonus, these new members will receive a 10% discount on any item from the Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop as well as *The Adas Israel Sis-*



## THE ADAS FUND CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and sensitivity, education for children and adults, innovative new programs and offerings, and caring social action projects.

We are proud of the fact that no one is turned away from our synagogue and no student denied a Jewish education because of cost. To maintain this policy, we need the support of our entire community.

Please join us this year by making a contribution to the Adas Fund. With your help, we'll be able to provide an exciting year of synagogue programming. We can expand our Young Professional offerings, continue the robust full- and part-day options at our early childhood center, Gan HaYeled, give our new director of education the resources she needs to make the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School the best in the area, and expand our adult education offerings.

The gift you make through the Adas Fund will enable more than 800 people to join together as a holy community each *Shabbat*. It will support excellent teachers in our schools; enhance adult education and programming; deliver kosher meals to elderly and sick people; provide a cushion for those who cannot afford full synagogue dues; give our schools vital resources; help support Anne Frank House, a homeless shelter; and maintain the only non-Orthodox *mikvah* in the DC Metro area. None of this is possible without your support.

So we urge each of you to invest in our community at the level you can best afford. Letters with pledge cards and return envelopes will arrive at your home shortly. You can also contribute online at [www.adasisrael.org](http://www.adasisrael.org). We seek 100% participation and trust that we'll be able to include you as a contributor during this significant stage in the growth and renewal of our congregation. It's an exciting time in the life of our community and it's up to us to help it grow.

Please feel free to contact us or Vice President for Development Pamela Reeves at any time.

—Warmly and gratefully,  
Toni & David Bickart (2014 Adas Fund Chairs) ○

## SISTERHOOD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

*terhood Source* e-newsletter. For more information, call Membership VP **June Kress**, 202-316-3439.

## Past Events

**Sisterhood Practices Mindfulness:** Sisterhood co-sponsored the uplifting *Bodies of Water* program on April 27 led by Ritual Director Naomi Malka. Attendees, young and ageless, explored Jewish yoga and meditation, visited the beautiful synagogue *mikvah*, observed an immersion, and were introduced to mindful eating.

**Sisterhood Reads:** Members enjoyed librarian Robin Jacobson's Book Chat May 18 on *The Panther in the Basement* by Israeli author Amos Oz.

## Ongoing

**Last Call for Dues for 5774:** Send a check for \$36 or more to Treasurer **Dava Berkman**, 2475 Virginia Avenue NW, Apt. 803, Washington, DC 20037. The fiscal year ends June 30.

**Donate to Torah Fund:** We are still short of our goal. Please send your check to Torah Fund Chair **Gerry Lezell**, 5800 Magic Mountain Drive, Rockville, MD 20852. ○

## The Legacy of Jack Kay Endures

As we continue to mourn the loss of our beloved synagogue trustee, Jack Kay (z"l), his legacy endures as another group of our *Ma'alot* 10th graders prepare for the fourth annual Abe and Minnie Kay Israel Experience to take place June 15–29. The Abe and Minnie Kay Israel trip is a heavily subsidized two-week *Tikkun Olam*-focused Israel experience for rising 11th graders in the *Ma'alot* DC program at Adas Israel. The students spend their 10th-grade year studying and preparing for their journey and return in the 11th-grade year to share their experiences with the community. Let's all wish a *Nesiah Tovah* to our group of 10th graders. ○



Am Yisrael Chai!



Jack and Barbara Kay met with some 2013 participants of the Abe & Minnie Kay Israel Experience.

## Summer Building Hours

As you may be aware, the building is closed on Monday and Thursday nights during the school year. As we approach the summer months, please keep in mind that we will also be closed on Wednesday nights after the evening *minyan*, to reduce energy use, utility costs, security charges, and staffing expenses. Since Tuesday will be the only available night for meetings, please plan accordingly. Thank you and have an enjoyable summer. ○

## An Evening with Yehuda Kurtzer, Tuesday, June 10, 7:30 pm

Yehuda Kurtzer, who will join us as we open a new dialogue on Israel, will lead a thought-provoking evening based on his curriculum of nine dynamic videos, featuring the voices of numerous scholars from the Shalom Hartman Institute. Kurtzer is president of the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America and oversees the Institute's many educational initiatives for the leadership of the North American Jewish community.



# Life Cycle

## B'nai Mitzvah



### Maia Kotelanski, June 7

Maia, daughter of Marina Feldman and Jorge Kotelanski, is a sixth grader at the Jewish Primary Day School. She began her Jewish education at Gan HaYeled. Maia celebrates her *simcha* with her brother and sister, grandparents Rosa Kotelanski and Berta and Carlos Feldman, and other

family and friends who come from near and far to celebrate with her. At this special time she thinks with love about her grandfather, Bernardo Kotelanski, z"l. For her *mitzvah* project, Maia is volunteering with the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, which works with people with disabilities.



### Samuel Ikenson, June 21

Samuel (Sammy), son of Daniel and Kristin Ikenson, is a seventh grader at Thomas Pyle Middle School and has been a student at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School since the first grade. He celebrates his *bar mitzvah* with his brother and sister and grandparents Joel and Judy Verter and Fred and Donna Ikenson.

Sammy's *mitzvah* project is devoted to a friend of the family who suffered a massive stroke and is now living in a full-service care facility in Florida. Along with visiting this family friend over spring break, Sammy will be working to raise funds and facilitate awareness of the lifelong impact strokes can have.

## In Memoriam

### We mourn the loss of synagogue members:

Sidney Weintraub, husband of Elizabeth Midgley  
Bonnie Lewin, wife of Martin Lewin

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

Dena Fischer, sister of Nora Fischer  
Eleanor "Ellie" Katz, mother of Laura Cutler  
Katherine Kelly, daughter-in-law of Alan Laskin  
Ruth Sender Lampert, sister of Sydel Sandy  
Michael Perper, cousin of Sandra Sugar  
Juliet Schneider, mother of Diane Schneider  
Esther Soled Siegel, stepmother of Margie Siegel  
Marcus "Sonny" Warsaw  
Ruth Young, aunt of Dena Bauman

## 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 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.

### 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.

### Adas Israel Community Mikvah

Our *mikvah* is a sacred space where Jews can mark life 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](mailto:mikvah@adasisrael.org). For more information, visit [adasisrael.org/mikvah](http://adasisrael.org/mikvah).



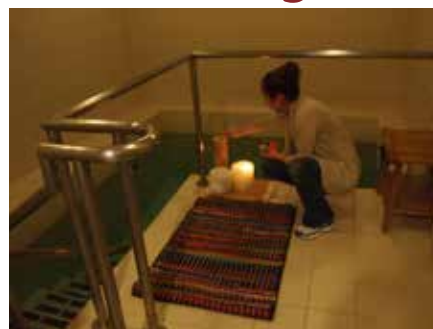
## Making Mikvah Meaningful

by Naomi Malka

I was a Hebrew school geek. I went to our Conservative *shul*'s Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday program. In high school, I volunteered in the Hebrew school office. I went to Hebrew High School and to BBYO, and

had my *bat mitzvah* in Israel on a Beitar teen tour when I was 13. But I never heard the word *mikvah* until after my sophomore year of college. Although I went to a public university on the west coast, I was recruited for a six-week summer experience, called the Ivy League Torah Study Program. The participants, about 50 Jewish college students, were invited to a camp in the Catskills, the women's camp a few miles away from the men's. We learned Chumash, Halacha, and Tanya (Hasidic mysticism); davened fervently; listened to tales of the Rebbe; sang songs about Moshiach; and ferbranged (drank schnapps) and melave malka'ed (drank schnapps late on Saturday nights). Though we wrestled for a while with the possibility of adopting a Torah lifestyle, only a few participants followed the staff back to Crown Heights at the end of the summer instead of going back to school. I think that for most of us, this culture was too different from our own backgrounds to feel like a good fit. In the end, most of us took the learning we'd acquired there and integrated it into a Judaism we were already comfortable with.

We had some wonderful teachers there who brought texts alive and showed us the beauty of Torah study. One of them, an older *rebbetzin*, taught a class, called The Jewish Woman. It involved the usual discussions of the Jewish home, the importance of *Shabbat* and *Kashrut*, and of course, the very Victorian-sounding Laws of Family Purity. Since none of the students was married or engaged, she didn't go into a lot of





And we are equally excited to kick off our Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School registration process. Please visit [adasisrael.org/rsregistration](http://adasisrael.org/rsregistration) to learn more!

Rabbi Kerrith, who has a rich and varied background in education and Jewish learning, was director of teen programming and family life educator at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun in New York City for five years. She oversaw the *b'nai mitzvah* program, produced educational content for the Hebrew School, led children's services, created new teen programming, and led congregational trips to Israel and elsewhere.

She then went to rabbinical school at the Jewish Theological Seminary and was ordained in 2012. During rabbinical school she worked at the Jack Barrack Hebrew Academy in Bryn Mawr, PA, where she developed curricula for retreats and taught seventh-grade Judaic studies. She has been a youth group advisor, worked with homeless youth, staffed Birthright trips, and implemented a *Rosh Hodesh* girls' group. She is currently senior Jewish educator at Tufts University Hillel. To meet Rabbi Kerrith is to hear her passionate vision for youth and

family education at Adas Israel, both inside and outside our religious school.

The selection follows the search committee's impressive and highly collaborative search effort. The committee comprised many parents of school-age children in our community, including students attending the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. We were particularly moved to see so many different parents and congregants participating in the search process. From joining discussion sessions, to hosting lunches and evening events, to observing each candidate teaching and interacting with Adas youth, the wide participation and valuable feedback was crucial to the search. It is a terrific example of the community's devotion to its schools, passion for its children, and excitement for the future. All have the congregation's deepest thanks.

We look forward to welcoming Rabbi Kerrith and her husband, as well as their two young children, to our Adas Israel family in just a few weeks. And we look forward to another year of Jewish growth and learning at Adas Israel. ○

## **LIFE CYCLE** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

detail about *Hilchot Niddah* (the laws of separation between spouses). But she made it clear that *Halacha* had something to say about marital sex. Basically, there was a time to, and a time not to. There was a system for keeping track of when to and when not to. And before it was time to, the wife immersed herself in a special pool of rainwater called the *mikvah*. The message she implied was that by living within this rhythm, a couple had better communication and hotter hoohoo.

It sounded good to me. I wasn't sure about some of the other stuff I learned that summer, but I was definitely going to do the *mikvah* when I got married. It sounded beautiful and special. It sounded simple, like something I'd have in common with my ancestors, both the *shtetl*-dwellers and the desert sojourners.

Fast forward 10 years. I met Haim, my future husband, in Jerusalem. We dated for a few months and each of us was pretty sure that the other was marriage material. In a fairly vague discussion about our ideas of marriage, the topic of *Niddah* and *mikvah* came up. We just agreed that it was something that was an important part of a Jewish marriage and that we would commit to it.

So we each went to the *mikvah* before our wedding, and I continued to go on a monthly cycle. Haim even immersed when we began to conceive before each pregnancy. We've now been married for almost 15 years. Observing the practice of *Niddah* marks a steady, comforting, and important rhythm for our marriage. It definitely does for us what the Ivy League *rebbetzin* said it would! The brief reference we made to it when we first met can now be articulated like this: Just as days of the year are holy (*Shabbat* and *Chagim*), and then there is the rest of the time, and just as there is food that is kosher because of how it was produced and how/when it is eaten and food that is unkosher, so, too, can our sexuality be elevated to a holy level by being together during part of the month and by refraining during the other part. And just like observance of *Shabbat* and *Kashrut* varies greatly from Jewish home to Jewish home, so,

too, can *mikvah* and *Niddah* be practiced differently within each Jewish marriage.

Going to the *mikvah* every month is a discipline, much like yoga or journaling. If you go to one yoga class or write one journal entry, you may really enjoy it, but unless you commit to it as an ongoing practice, the depths of its benefits won't be revealed to you. The meaning of *mikvah* was not apparent the first time I went, or the 10th or the 20th. As an embodied ritual, it has multiple dimensions and every time I immerse, I think, *chadesh yamenu k'kedem* . . . renew our days . . . bring us closer to each other and to You. ○

## **Sandra & Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education Supports Annual B'nai Mitzvah Family Retreat**

This year's pre-Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family Shabbaton Retreat for children celebrating *bar/bat mitzvah* in 5775 (2014–15) was led by Rabbi Gil Steinlauf and Cantor Arianne Brown, with help from Rich Dinetz and Marcy Spiro, at the beautiful Pearlstone Conference & Retreat Center just outside of Baltimore.

The *shabbaton*, underwritten in part by the Sandra and Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education, was a wonderful opportunity to share *Shabbat* with other families celebrating a *bar/bat mitzvah* next year to share ideas about this important event in their lives, and to deepen the Jewish aspect of the celebration. The *shabbaton* included fun activities as well as opportunities for prayer and discussions with Rabbi Steinlauf and Cantor Brown.

We thank the Alpert family for helping to underwrite this annual retreat. ○

# June 2014

## Sivan–Tammuz 5774

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

**Charles E. Smith Sanctuary:** Join us for our Shabbat morning services in the re the synagogue's largest worship space, led by our inspiring Rabbi and Cantor. T and sermon by the Rabbi and often includes participation by members and B'n  
**Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (TEM):** Every Shabbat morning at 9:30 am, wit am. 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 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 and conduct an in-depth discussion of the weekly Torah portion. A kiddush follows information and to participate, e-mail [havurah@adasisrael.org](mailto:havurah@adasisrael.org).

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday   | Thursday  |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| <b>1</b> <b>3 Sivan</b><br>9:00 am Morning Minyan<br>1:30 pm Bodies of Water<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>7:00 pm Yiddish Concert with Zalme Mlotek   | <b>2</b> <b>4 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>9:00 am Gan HaYeled Synagogue<br>Liaison Program with JSSA<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan | <b>3</b> <b>5 Sivan</b> <b>EREV SHAVUOT</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:10 pm<br>9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren<br>10:00 am Sisterhood Taste of Tanach<br>5:30 pm Children's Shavuot Services & Activities<br>6:00 pm Afternoon Minyan<br>7:30 pm Shavuot Wine & Cheese Reception<br>8:00 pm Shavuot Learning and Workshops<br>9:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>10:00 pm Jewish Bibliodrama with R. Feinberg | <b>4</b> <b>6 Sivan</b> <b>Shavuot–Day 1</b><br>9:30 am Combined Service after<br>6:00 pm Afternoon Minyan<br>6:30 pm Talmud Class  | <b>5</b> <b>7 Sivan</b><br>9:15 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan |
| <b>8</b> <b>10 Sivan</b><br>9:00 am Morning Minyan<br>10:30 am Caron Dale Recital<br>10:45 am JMCW Mindful Yoga<br>1:00 pm Sisterhood Closing Event: "History of Jews and Chocolate," Sheilah Kaufman<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan | <b>9</b> <b>11 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan  | <b>10</b> <b>12 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren<br>12:00 pm Downtown Study Group (off-site)<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>6:30 pm Anne Frank House Board Meeting<br>7:30 pm Israel Discussion with Yehuda Kurtzer  | <b>11</b> <b>13 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>6:15 pm Annual Meeting: Open Board Dinner Meeting & Yad Hakavod Award<br>6:30 pm Talmud Class<br>7:30 pm Bereavement Support Group | <b>12</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>8:00 am Evening Minyan<br>6:00 pm    |
| <b>15</b> <b>17 Sivan</b><br>9:00 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan   | <b>16</b> <b>18 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan   | <b>17</b> <b>19 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>7:30 pm A Season of Mussar, Part Two<br>7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session  | <b>18</b> <b>20 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>6:30 pm Talmud Class   | <b>19</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>7:45 pm    |
| <b>22</b> <b>24 Sivan</b><br>9:00 am Morning Minyan<br>12:30 pm Grandparent Group<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan   | <b>23</b> <b>25 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan   | <b>24</b> <b>26 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session  | <b>25</b> <b>27 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>6:30 pm Talmud Class   | <b>26</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan               |
| <b>29</b> <b>1 Tammuz</b> <b>Rosh Chodesh Tammuz</b><br>9:00 am Morning Minyan<br>Rosh Chodesh Tammuz Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan                         | <b>30</b> <b>2 Tammuz</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan   | <b>1</b> <b>3 Tammuz</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>7:30 pm A Season of Mussar Part Two  | <b>2</b> <b>4 Tammuz</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan<br>6:30 pm Talmud Class  | <b>3</b><br>7:30 am Morning Minyan<br>6:00 pm Evening Minyan                |

entering services.  
 renewed Charles E. Smith Sanctuary,  
 The service includes a *D'var Torah*  
*Bat Mitzvah*.  
 with the Torah service around 10:30  
 a participatory service with a full  
 of the weekly Torah portion, and a  
 lead services, read Torah,  
 bows the service. For additional

**Youth Shabbat Services:** Starting with *Tot Shabbat* for children ages 5 and under 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 to take on leadership roles.  
**‘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:** Our third-floor library is open on *Shabbat* following services. You may sign out materials using our “no-writing *Shabbat* method,” explained in signs on the check-out desks. For assistance during the week, contact our Director of Library Services, Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).

| Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>1 Sivan</b><br><b>7 Sivan</b><br><i>Combined Service/Yizkor at 11 am</i><br><i>Evening Minyan</i>                               | <b>6 Sivan</b><br><b>8 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am <i>Morning Minyan</i><br>11:20 am <i>Gan Shabbat Sing</i><br>5:30 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg</i><br>8:12 pm    | <b>7 PARSHAT BEHA'ALOTCHA</b><br><b>9 Sivan</b><br>8:00 am <i>Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</i><br>9:30 am <i>Shabbat Morning Service;</i><br><i>Bat Mitzvah: Maia Kotelanski;</i><br><i>Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf</i><br>9:30 am <i>Traditional Egalitarian Minyan</i><br>9:45 am <i>Havurah Shabbat Service</i><br>11:00 am <i>Tot Shabbat</i><br>11:00 am <i>Netivot</i><br>12:00 pm <i>Congregational Kiddush</i><br>12:30 pm <i>Havurah Shabbat Kiddush</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</i><br>9:12 pm <i>Havdalah</i> |
| <b>14 Sivan</b><br><i>Morning Minyan</i><br><i>Gan Camp Visiting Day</i><br><i>Evening Minyan</i>                                  | <b>13 Sivan</b><br><b>15 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am <i>Morning Minyan</i><br>8:00 am <i>Gan Camp Visiting Day</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</i><br>6:30 pm <i>Return Again Under the Stars Service and Dinner with Rabbi Holtzblatt</i><br>6:30 pm <i>Traditional Lay-Led Shabbat Service</i><br>8:16 pm  | <b>14 PARSHAT SHELACH</b><br><b>16 Sivan</b><br>8:00 am <i>Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</i><br>9:15 am <i>Traditional Egalitarian Minyan with Rabbi Feinberg;</i><br><i>Bat Mitzvah: Rebecca Weiss</i><br>9:30 am <i>Shabbat Morning Service;</i><br><i>Sermon by Rabbi Holtzblatt</i><br>11:00 am <i>Tot Shabbat</i><br>11:00 am <i>Netivot</i><br>12:00 pm <i>Congregational Kiddush</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</i><br>9:16 pm <i>Havdalah</i>  |
| <b>21 Sivan</b><br><i>Morning Minyan</i><br><i>Evening Minyan</i><br><i>Scotch and Scriptures</i><br><i>Men's Group (off-site)</i> | <b>20 Sivan</b><br><b>22 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am <i>Morning Minyan</i><br>5:30 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf</i><br>8:18 pm   | <b>21 PARSHAT KORACH</b><br><b>23 Sivan</b><br>8:00 am <i>Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</i><br>9:30 am <i>Shabbat Morning Service;</i><br><i>Bar Mitzvah: Samuel Ikenson;</i><br><i>Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf</i><br>9:30 am <i>Traditional Egalitarian Minyan</i><br>9:45 am <i>Havurah Shabbat Service</i><br>11:00 am <i>Tot Shabbat</i><br>11:00 am <i>Netivot</i><br>12:00 pm <i>Congregational Kiddush</i><br>12:30 pm <i>Havurah Shabbat Kiddush</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</i><br>9:18 pm <i>Havdalah</i>      |
| <b>28 Sivan</b><br><i>Morning Minyan</i><br><i>Evening Minyan</i>  | <b>27 Sivan</b><br><b>29 Sivan</b><br>7:30 am <i>Morning Minyan</i><br>5:30 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg</i><br>8:19 pm    | <b>28 PARSHAT CHUKAT/ROSH CHODESH TAMMUZ</b><br><b>30 Sivan</b><br>8:00 am <i>Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</i><br>9:15 am <i>Shabbat Morning Service— 2nd B'nai Mitzvah for members over 83; w/ Rabbi Steinlauf &amp; Cantor Brown</i><br>9:30 am <i>Traditional Egalitarian Minyan</i><br>11:00 am <i>Tot Shabbat</i><br>11:00 am <i>Netivot</i><br>12:00 pm <i>Congregational Kiddush</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</i><br>9:19 pm <i>Havdalah</i>   |
| <b>5 Tammuz</b><br><i>Morning Minyan</i><br><i>Evening Minyan</i>  | <b>4 Tammuz</b><br><b>6 Tammuz</b><br>9:00 am <i>Morning Minyan</i><br>5:30 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i><br>8:20 pm   | <b>5 PARSHAT BALAK</b><br><b>7 Tammuz</b><br>9:30 am <i>Combined Shabbat Morning Service with TEM</i><br>11:00 am <i>Tot Shabbat</i><br>12:00 pm <i>Congregational Kiddush</i><br>6:00 pm <i>Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</i>   |



# Education

## Gan HaYeled

As we do each year, the entire Gan took a "trip" to Israel to celebrate *Yom Ha'atzmaut*. Assisted by Ron Schlesinger (Adas volunteer extraordinaire), Rabbis Steinlauf and Feinberg, and David Polonsky (Adas's communications and marketing director/acting assistant executive director), the children's passports were stamped and the flight ("at an altitude of zero feet") was uneventful—no doubt due in part to the preflight *Tefilat HaDerech* recited by Rabbi Steinlauf.

Once acclimated to the time, the children visited many parts of Israel. Classes were seen snacking on falafel, hummus, and pickles in a café; fishing and enjoying the aquarium in Eilat; squeezing their own fresh orange juice; and learning Israeli dances. New this year was a *shuk* experience where children could buy handmade beaded necklaces for shekels, and a *kibbutz* where children cared for babies in a children's nursery, collected eggs from a chicken coop, and squeezed fresh orange juice in the dining hall.

At the end of the trip, all of the children came together to sing and dance Israeli dances. They were exhausted by their long journey, but said they would cherish the memories of their trip for a lifetime!

**Still time to register:** There are limited spaces left in the Gan for Sweet Summertime (our camp) and for the 2014–15 school year. Call or email the Gan, 202-362-4491 or [ganhayeled@adasisrael.org](mailto:ganhayeled@adasisrael.org), for more information. ○

## Religious School 2014–15 Religious School Enrollment

Registration Is Now Open!

We are pleased to welcome our new Director of Education, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, to the Adas Israel community this July! And we are equally excited to kick off our Estelle &



Melvin Gelman Religious School registration process! Please visit [adasisrael.org/rsregistration](http://adasisrael.org/rsregistration) to learn more.

For your convenience, you can now use the online form to pay the 50% deposit with a credit card, or you can still send the 50% deposit made payable to Adas Israel by July 1. All school families must be current in their tuition and synagogue dues to register for the 2014–15 school year.

To discuss your account, please contact Rita Nicholls in the accounting office, 202-362-4433 or [rita.nicholls@adasisrael.org](mailto:rita.nicholls@adasisrael.org). For special financial arrangements, please contact Carole Klein or David Polonsky in the synagogue office.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions!

B'Shalom,

Team Education @ Adas Israel; [education@adasisrael.org](mailto:education@adasisrael.org)

## Message from Jill Epstein

The religious school year has come to an end, and so my term as interim director of education will also be finished at the end of this month. When I was asked to take over this year, my first reaction was that I was thrilled to be offered the opportunity to run a school in such a prestigious

synagogue! I was filled with emotions—excited and a bit nervous because Adas Israel is the amazing DC synagogue with so much history. What an honor to join the team for a year!

The year has flown by, and, as you can imagine, coming into a religious school where I personally knew all the directors who came before me was a daunting task. But together with our wonderful faculty, we initiated some memorable programs that were a great success.

These were the *She-hecheyanu* moments:

*Kitah Gan* (Kindergarten): Parent/Child Shabbat Workshop

*Kitah Bet*: Parent/Child *Havdalah* Workshop

*Kitah Gimel*: *Chagigat Siddur* (Friday Night Service)

*Kitah Vav*: Generations Fair

*Kitah Zayin*: Original Reading at Garden of the Righteous

Parent Visitation: All Grades

*Mincha* becoming *Tefillah*

Healthy Snacks Provided by Parents

*Gishron-Bet Yom Ha'atzmaut* Centers

Student Participation in the *Ambassadors Seder*

I want to thank the entire Adas team, including the rabbis, Carole Klein and David Polonsky, the Board, the teachers, the education team, and the parents and students for welcoming me and supporting me on my Jewish journey. I am so excited that Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum is taking the reins; she will be an amazing addition to Adas Israel. May you go from strength to strength.

Thanks for listening, Jill ○



# Annual Congregational Meeting

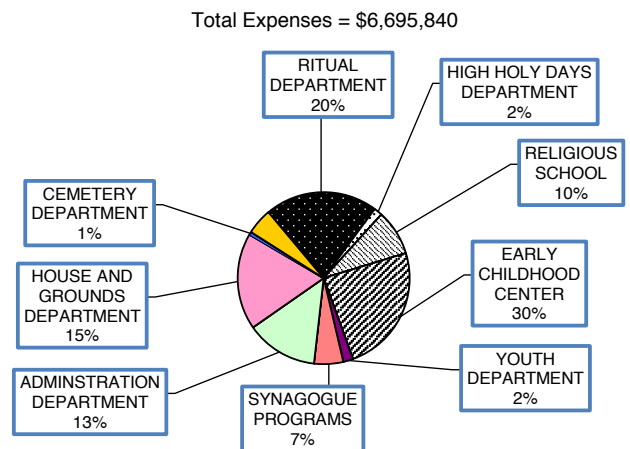
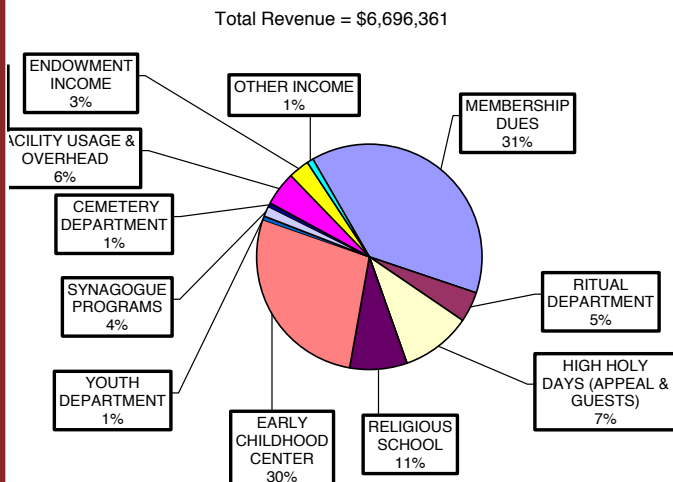
Please join us on  
**Wednesday evening, June 11, at 7:30 pm**  
**for our Annual Congregational Meeting.**

## Meeting Agenda

- Financial and Budget Presentation
- Update on Completion of Vision of Renewal Building Campaign & Next Steps
  - Election of Board Members and President-Elect for FY 2015–2017
  - “State of the Synagogue” Address by President Arnie Podgorsky
  - Yad Hakavod Award Presentation to Leah Chanin
- Dessert Reception follows meeting

Revenue Chart by department for proposed FY 14–15 Budget

Expense Chart by department for proposed FY 14–15 Budget



## PROPOSED 3% MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

| CATEGORY                  | CURRENT | PROPOSED | CATEGORY                  | CURRENT  | PROPOSED |
|---------------------------|---------|----------|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| 2 Adult Household (36+)   | \$2,840 | \$2,925  | 1 Adult Household (36+)   | \$ 1,880 | \$ 1,935 |
| 2 Adult Household (30–35) | \$1,875 | \$1,930  | 1 Adult Household (30–35) | \$ 935   | \$ 965   |
| 2 Adult Household (<30)   | \$ 205  | \$ 220   | 1 Adult Household (<30)   | \$ 99    | \$ 99    |

Please remember that financial hardship is never a barrier for membership.

Call Carole Klein or David Polonsky if there is a financial need.

## PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS, TRUSTEES, & BOARD MEMBERS

### OFFICERS

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| President                                   | Arnold Podgorsky   |
| Vice President for Administration           | Herlene Nagler     |
| Vice President for Membership               | Steve Rabinowitz   |
| Vice President for Rel. Practices/Adult Ed. | Ricki Gerger       |
| Vice President for Development              | Pamela Reeves      |
| Vice President for Education/Youth          | Deborah Joseph     |
| Secretary                                   | Laurie Aladjem     |
| Assistant Secretary                         | Brian Schwalb      |
| Treasurer                                   | Jeffrey Goodell    |
| Assistant Treasurer                         | Alexandra Horowitz |
| Immediate Past President                    | Johanna Chanin     |

### CONTINUING BOARD MEMBERS

Jacob Bardin, Judith Bartnoff, Rosalyn Doggett, Alvin Dunn, Judith Heumann, Kenneth Ingber, Susan Kay, Steve Kleinrock, Stephen Lachter, Andrew Lipps, Jennie Litvack, Jodi Blecker Lowit, Gail Roache, Cynthia Rosenberg, Amy Schwartz, Joyce Stern, Nancy Weiss, Mark Yecies

### TRUSTEES

Judie Linowes  
Lawrence Nussdorf

Continuing Trustees:  
Dr. Clement Alpert  
Martin “Bo” Kirsch  
David Povich  
Sheldon S. Cohen, emeritus

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(term expiring 2016)

Dirk Aardsma  
Jacques Antebi  
Michelle Buzgon  
Meredith Cymerman  
Ross Eisenman  
Molly Levinson  
Nechama Masliansky  
Mark Rosenberg  
April Rubin  
David Strouse

Filling Unexpired Terms

Michael Sloan (2014)  
Sandra Eskin (2015)

# Lifelong Learning

## Talmud in June and July



**With Rabbi Charles Feinberg**  
**Wednesdays in June and**  
**July, 6:30–8:00 pm**

Rabbi Feinberg invites all who want to study Talmud to join him on Wednesday evenings in June and July at 6:30 pm. The class will study the last chapter in *Mesechet Yoma*. Some topics to be covered are

fasting on Yom Kippur, Jewish Education, Saving a life on *Shabbat* or *Yom Kippur*, Repentance, and Forgiveness. The Talmud texts will be translated, and no prior knowledge or experience is required. If you also want to experience studying a Talmud text, here's your opportunity. ○

## Jewish Life and Learning

Your monthly learning resource for Jewish "How-To's" & insights from Adas Israel.

### Havdalah

#### A Multisensory Sign-Off

On Friday evening, we sanctified the *Shabbat* with the *kiddush* ritual, warm candlelight, and a *Shabbat* feast; now, as we take leave of it after a night and day of divine rest, we once again pronounce the holiness of the day over a cup of wine.

The *Havdalah* ("Separation") ceremony is a multisensory ritual involving our faculties of speech and hearing, sight, smell, and taste to define the boundaries that God set in creation "between the sacred and the everyday."

Paradoxically, this act of separation is what connects *Shabbat* with the rest of the week. When the boundaries between the holy and the ordinary are blurred, the holy is no longer holy and the ordinary is left with nothing to uplift it. By defining the separation of *Shabbat* from the workday week, the relationship between the two is also established—a relationship in which *Shabbat* imparts its transcendent vision to the rest of the week, and the six days of daily life feed into, and are sublimated within, the sanctity of *Shabbat*.

*Havdalah* is held after *Shabbat* ends with nightfall on Saturday evening. "Nightfall" is the point at which it grows dark enough for three medium-size stars to become visible. Because making *Havdalah* involves actions that are discouraged on *Shabbat* (for example, lighting and putting out a flame), it should not be done until after *Shabbat* has ended.

To make *Havdalah* you will need:

- wine or grape juice.
- a cup or goblet with a plate or tray underneath
- spices—cloves and/or myrtle twigs are generally used, but any pleasant-smelling spice or plant will do; many households have



a specially designed spice box to hold the *Havdalah* spices

- A braided candle, or two candles you can hold together to create one flame

One person can make *Havdalah* for a group of people, as long as all listen attentively with the intention to fulfill the mitzvah. The person making *Havdalah* should likewise intend to make the blessings for all the other participants as well.

Fill your *Havdalah* cup to the brim—to the point that the wine actually spills over, and lift it into the cupped fingers of your right hand (see photograph). Light the braided *Havdalah* candle.

The introduction to the *Havdalah* consists of nine joyful biblical verses that set the tone for a hopeful and joyous week to come.

Now raise your right hand—the hand holding the cup of wine—a little bit higher, and recite the blessing over the wine:

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך העולם, בורא פרי הגפן:

**Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.**

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melech ha'olam, borei p'ri hagafen*

On *Shabbat* we each possess an "added soul." Now that this extra measure of vitality and spirituality departs from us, we rejuvenate ourselves by smelling spices—smell being the most spiritual of the five senses.

Recite the special blessing thanking God for creating pleasant-smelling plants and pass around the spices for all participants to smell:

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך העולם, בורא מיני בשמים

**Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates various kinds of spices.**

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melech ha'olam, borei minei v'samim*

The midrash tells us that Adam and Eve first discovered, benefited from, and thanked God for fire upon the close of the first *Shabbat*. For us, too, it is the first night of the week and the time to thank God for the gift of fire, without which our nights would be dark, gloomy and cold.

We use a braided candle with multiple wicks to represent the multiple types and uses of fire that we enjoy. (If you don't have a braided candle, light two candles and hold them together so that the two flames merge.)



contribute to its workings.

Participation in governance offers considerable opportunities and hefty challenges. Each person serving on the Board, as an officer, or on a committee has the opportunity to learn how Torah informs his or her substantive work and the collaborative, trusting, and peaceful way that work should be performed. Each faces challenges of evolving with the times, responding flexibly to synagogue needs, letting go of the past to anticipate the future, sacrificing ego or loyalty to a particular group to serve our broader communal needs, and, as much as possible, walking in the way of Torah. Participation contributes significantly to sustaining our Jewish community and Judaism more broadly. Service in governance is a unique experience, a stimulating challenge, and a delightful privilege. My participation in synagogue

governance has deeply enriched my Jewish experience and almost all aspects of my life.

We are doing more today than could fit in this article, but here's a taste. One committee is searching for an executive director. We are forming another committee to search for a rabbi to fill the void Rabbi Feinberg will leave when he departs in mid-2015. The Board is beginning a conversation about the synagogue's mission and how governance can function better to advance it. Above all, in each of our functions, every day we walk hand-in-hand with our clergy, striving to serve our members spiritually, sustain the wonderful gift of Judaism, and bring to reality an exciting Jewish future at Adas Israel.

—Arnie Podgorsky ○

## What Community Means to Me

by Lois Fingerhut, Adas Israel Member

I have belonged to Adas Israel since the mid-1980s, and for many of those years I defined my connection as "a member" meaning we paid our dues, our sons went to Hebrew school, and we attended High Holiday services. In June 1991, my mother died quite unexpectedly at the age of 74, and for reasons I cannot explain, I started going to evening *minyan* to say *Kaddish* for her; I continued for the full year. Attending the evening *minyan* was comforting to me, and I began to feel a part of the Adas community, something I had not felt before.

Just four years ago my dad died; he was nearly 96. Again I went to evening *minyan* but this time was different . . . there was a group of women who all lost a parent within the same year, and most of us did not know each other before . . . and we became what Jenna, our then-wonderful ritual director, called the "Minyanettes." We said *Kaddish* together, we went to dinner several times, and we knew we could count on each other to be there when needed. It was truly a unique and wonderful bonding experience, and I knew then that I was a part of the Adas Israel community. Attending *minyan* is so important. When you are there for a *yahrzeit* for your loved one, and there are fewer than 10 people there, it is upsetting primarily because *Kaddish* cannot be said, and, second, because it is so difficult to comprehend that in a congregation the size of Adas Israel more people do not find the time even once a month to come to *minyan* for the *mitzvah* of helping to make a *minyan*.

More recently I joined the Bereavement Committee and it has erased any doubts I have ever had about why we remain connected to Adas Israel. When I was first asked to consider joining the committee, I didn't really know what the committee did. I didn't know that committee members were referred to as *chaverim* and that that word means "friends." Here's what we do...

*Chaverim* meet with the family generally at their home to help with all of the arrangements. We are there to answer the family's questions and to try to cushion them, as best we can, from the "business" of a funeral. With a partner, we work from a detailed checklist to gather information to be used for the death certificate, death notice, and all the details for the funeral service and burial.

Families choosing a Bereavement Committee funeral need never see a funeral director or go to a funeral home. A traditional Jewish funeral is provided under the Jewish Funeral Practices Committee of Greater Washington contract with Hines-Rinaldi Funeral Home (at a fraction of the cost of a noncontract funeral). Jewish tradition maintains that even in death the body is holy, and it is accorded the greatest of respect from death to burial. The Adas Tahara Committee performs ritual washing, dressing the body in simple white garments, and gently placing the body in a plain wooden casket. If the family wishes, family and friends are called on to "guard" the body as *shomrim*. For more information about traditional Jewish funerals and the JFPCGW contract, visit [www.Jewish-Funerals.org](http://www.Jewish-Funerals.org), and for further information about the Bereavement Committee, call committee chair Edie Hessel, 202-244-7189.

In the past three months, I have had the privilege of working with two very experienced *Chaverim*, one of whom I've known for several years and another whom I've just gotten to know since joining the committee and working with her. In late January a very close friend died very unexpectedly and I was able to serve as a "chaver-in-training." This experience was unique because we were equally helpful to my dear friend whose husband died, and it was rewarding for me to feel useful at such a grievous time. Just a few weeks later the mother of someone I know died and I served again as *chaver-in-training*. Most recently, I had the privilege of partnering with a *chaver* for a family that lost a young daughter. I knew that serving as a *chaver* this time would be even more emotionally difficult than previous times, but it was also rewarding to see how helpful we were in the most difficult of times. Most times *chaverim* meet with families they do not know, and this, too, is a wonderful communal experience.

These opportunities to help each other in times of greatest need are immeasurable. This is why Adas Israel is so important to me, why I want to always be a part of a community that is there for you in the best of times and during the most difficult ones. ○

# Tikkun Olam

## Tikkun Olam at Adas Israel



Adas Israel can be proud of all we do to help our community, and we appreciate the coordinators of all the activities that synagogue members have developed over the years. We also must cite the contributions of the many volunteers who:

- ✓ Generously prepare monthly meals for Luther Place (N Street Village) residents
- ✓ Contribute nonperishable items for Ezra

Pantry, give of their time to prepare food bags for the less fortunate for Thanksgiving and Christmas, or serve and entertain N Street Villages guests on Christmas Day

- ✓ Volunteer to help repair homes and veterans' facilities at joint Adas/Yachad projects, including *Sukkot-in-Spring*, which Adas Israel congregants helped to create
- ✓ Take their place at vigils to protest atrocities in Darfur and the Cuban government's unjustifiable incarceration of Alan Gross
- ✓ Participate in lively discussions about our shared history of civil rights with Masjid Muhammad or about issues of food justice and hunger in our community

The Social Action Council welcomes all who want to contribute their time and talent, no matter how much or how little you can. We encourage you to contact the activity coordinators listed below or Rabbi Feinberg at the synagogue to chat about how you can help.

We are also grateful to the congregants of Adas Israel for



their generous financial support. Please keep the Social Action Fund in mind as you commemorate *yahrzeits* or celebrate *s'machot*.



## Social Action Council Contacts:

**Rabbi Feinberg**, [Rabbi.Feinberg@adasisrael.org](mailto:Rabbi.Feinberg@adasisrael.org)

### N Street Village

Monthly Luther Place Meals: Laura Epstein,  
[Laura\\_Epstein@hotmail.com](mailto:Laura_Epstein@hotmail.com)

Christmas at N Street Village: Ruth Kleinrock,  
[ruthkleinrock@gmail.com](mailto:ruthkleinrock@gmail.com)

**Ezra Pantry:** Judith Krones, [David.judith@verizon.net](mailto:David.judith@verizon.net)

SOME Liaison: Nechama Masliansky, [nmasliansky@some.org](mailto:nmasliansky@some.org)

**Sukkot-in-Spring:** Ed Kopf, [ejkopf@bmcassociates.com](mailto:ejkopf@bmcassociates.com)

**Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Drives:** Jamie Butler,  
[Butler364@aol.com](mailto:Butler364@aol.com)

### Save Darfu:

Monthly Vigils: Laura Cutler [Mbcutler@aol.com](mailto:Mbcutler@aol.com)

Light the Fires for Darfur: Judy Herr, [jorgsh2@gmail.com](mailto:jorgsh2@gmail.com)

**Free Alan Gross:** Ellen Winter [eswinter7@gmail.com](mailto:eswinter7@gmail.com)

### Advocacy

Nechama Masliansky, [nmasliansky@some.org](mailto:nmasliansky@some.org)

Ed Kopf, [ejkopf@bmcassociates.com](mailto:ejkopf@bmcassociates.com)

Adina Mendelson, [inmcareers@themendelsons.net](mailto:inmcareers@themendelsons.net)

Joel Fischman, [fischman@comcast.net](mailto:fischman@comcast.net)

### Social Action Council Chair (and PCUCC liaison):

Joel Fischman, [fischman@comcast.net](mailto:fischman@comcast.net) ○

## HAVDALAH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Recite the blessing. Everyone now looks at the flame and enjoys the light. It is customary to lift one's fingertips so that the flame's glow falls on them:

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך העולם, בורא מאורי האש:

**Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates the lights of fire.**

*Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melech ha'olam, borei m'orei ha'eish*

Drink the wine, but leave some wine in the cup. Put out the *Havdalah* candle by holding it over the plate and pouring from the remains of the wine over it. Dip your fingertips in the wine on the plate and wish everyone, *Shavuah Tov* (Good Week).

*Motzei Shabbat* (as these special hours following *Shabbat* are called) is a bittersweet time; there is sadness over *Shabbat* Queen's departure, but she leaves a trail of joy and tranquility even as she goes. Hold the mood and savor it with your entire family as you slowly re-enter your weekday life. May the *Havdalah* ceremony be a treasured ritual to brighten up your home and senses as you prepare for a week of good works in the world. ○

# Books, Ideas, & More

## Ordering Movies 'To Go'

by Robin Jacobson, Director of Library Services

As the calendar turns to June, advertisements for summer movies come into full bloom. Consider this column an advertisement for Jewish-themed—and free—movies in our library, ready to bring home. You can browse the selections either during a library visit or through the Adas website (click on the library link). Moreover, your friendly librarian is happy to chat with you about the movie inventory ([librarian@adasisrael.org](mailto:librarian@adasisrael.org)) and reserve anything you would like to borrow.

Here are a few out-of-the-ordinary choices:

### For Seekers of Israeli Films



**Fill the Void.** Set in an ultra-Orthodox community in Tel Aviv, this film offers a new twist on the Jane Austen themes of love, family loyalty, and a young woman's decision to marry. Eighteen-year-old Shira is delightedly beginning to entertain offers for an arranged marriage when her beloved older sister Esther dies unexpectedly in childbirth. As Esther's grieving husband, Yochay, considers marrying a woman in Belgium who has

agreed to raise his baby son, Esther's mother seizes on an idea that would keep her grandchild in Tel Aviv. She proposes that Yochay and Shira marry. Shira and Yochay like each other, but the notion that Shira could replace Esther is difficult for them both. This nuanced, deeply human story is directed by Rama Burshtein, described as the first Orthodox Israeli woman to direct a feature film.

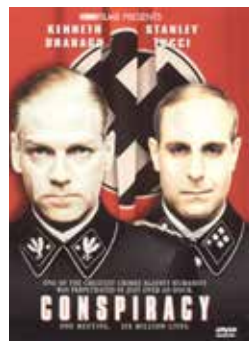
### For Students of History



**Orchestra of Exiles.** This documentary recounts the remarkable, little-told story of the founding of the Palestine Symphony Orchestra, now called the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra. After Hitler came to power in 1933, Polish-Jewish violinist virtuoso Bronislaw Huberman put aside his career to

devote himself to saving Jews and Jewish musical culture. As the Nazis fired Jewish musicians, Huberman began to audition the most talented for positions in what he dreamed would be a new world-class orchestra in Palestine. To finance his orchestra, he played numerous benefit concerts across the United States, including one where his priceless Stradivarius was stolen. At times, he tussled with David Ben Gurion over immigration

certificates needed for the musicians to enter Palestine; Ben Gurion wanted the precious certificates for traditional workers instead. In the end, the heroic Huberman saved from the Holocaust about 1,000 Jews. Celebrated artists, including Itzhak Perlman and Joshua Bell (who now owns and plays Huberman's recovered Stradivarius), provide commentary.



**The Conspiracy.** An all-star cast, including Kenneth Branagh, Colin Firth, and Stanley Tucci, recreates the infamous Wannsee conference of Nazi leaders in 1942 at a lakeside villa on the outskirts of Berlin. The opening scenes showcase the elegant preparations for the meeting—polished glassware, meticulously hand-lettered place cards, and a beautifully displayed buffet lunch. The aura of refinement

stands in sharp contrast to the meeting's sinister purpose—to reach agreement on the systematic extermination of the Jewish people.

### For Lovers of Literature



**Daniel Deronda.** Based on George Eliot's 1876 novel, this lavish BBC production follows Daniel Deronda, an earnest young English gentleman, as he becomes curious about Judaism and Zionism following his rescue of a talented Jewish singer from suicide. At the same time, Deronda is drawn to Gwendolen, a reckless, beautiful young Englishwoman. Hugh Bonneville (*Downton Abbey*) plays a malevolent,

manipulative English lord.



**Merchant of Venice.** This year marks William Shakespeare's 450th birthday, an apt time to revisit the bard's plays, including this most difficult one for Jews. Playing Shylock in a critically praised 2004 film, Al Pacino embodies both the anti-Semitic stereotypes and the humanity ("Hath not a Jew eyes?") that Shakespeare made integral to Shylock's character. ○



# Contributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

*The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:*

## **Adas Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Deborah Cohan** by Janice Mostow.

## **Beit Midrash/Makom DC**

*In Memory Of:* **Laura Both** by Sheri Brown.

## **Bereavement Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Lorraine S. Friedenberg** by William Willis & Rennie Sherman. **Annie Naiman** by Arnold Danziger.

## **Bible & Prayer Book Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Marvin Jacobs** by Lynn Jacobs.

## **Cantor Brown Discretionary Fund**

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Nathaniel Emet Brown** by Mark & Nancy Silverman.

## **Cantor Max Wohlberg Memorial Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Gertrude Schwartz** by Howard & Susan Liberman.

## **Congregational Kiddush Fund**

*By:* Mr. & Mrs. Randall Sherman, M B Lewis Charitable Foundation, Charles & Nancy Wolfson.

*In Honor Of:* Naming of **Noa Lechter** by Jonathan Lechter & Tamar Schiffman. Naming of **Sophie Moore** by Michael & Loren Moore. *In Memory Of:* **Morris Ullman** by Carmel Chiswick.

## **Daily Minyan Fund**

*In Honor Of:* My aliyah by Norman Herman.

*In Memory Of:* **Ann Marks** by Harry Marks. **Jay Yecies, Sidney Yecies** by Mark Yecies.

## **Daryl Reich Rubenstein Staff Development Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Bessie Rubenstein** by Lee Rubenstein.

## **Diane & Norman Bernstein Endowment Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Norman & Diane Bernstein's** special anniversary, **Lisa & Josh Bernstein's** special anniversary by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Dr. Louis & Althea Jacobs Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Ethan Chanin** becoming a bar mitzvah by Morris Chalick.

## **Dr. Stanley Kirstein Gan Hayaed Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Selma Kirstein** by Steven Blacher.

## **Dr. Stanley Kirstein Gan HaYeled Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Selma Kirstein** by Steven Blacher.

## **Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Charles Silverman** by Joseph Silverman.

## **Ethel & Nat Popick Chronicle Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Dorothy Cramer's** birthday by Dorothy Block.

## **Frances & Leonard Burka Social Action Endowment**

*In Honor Of:* **Amy & Richard Cantor's** special anniversary by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Fund for the Future**

*In Memory Of:* **Louis Strasser** by Alan Strasser.

**Harold Greenberg** by Kenneth Greenberg.

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

*In Honor Of:* **Amy Easton's** birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

*In Memory Of:* **Bebe Kirstein** by Harry & Judie Linowes.

## **Havurah Kiddush Fund**

*By:* Jon Wilkenfeld & Suzanne Stutman, Maurice Shohet & Ann Kort.

*In Memory Of:* **Laura Both** by Arnie & Mary Hammer.

## **Ina & Jack Kay Fund for Abraham S. Kay Hall**

*In Memory Of:* **Jack Kay** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington Fund**

*By:* Joel & Cynthia Rosenberg, Stacey Davis.

## **Leah Chanin Day School Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Leah Chanin** receiving the 2014 Yad Hakavod award by Larry & Myra Promisel, Larry & Jean Bernard.

## **Lillian & Daniel Ezrin Fund for Ritual Objects**

*In Memory Of:* **Esther Ganz** by Joel & Rhoda Ganz.

## **Marian Konowitch Fund for New Members**

*In Memory Of:* **Beatrice "Bee" Gibbs** by Bonnie Konowitch.

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

*In Memory Of:* **Marcy Miller** by Marilyn Tucker.

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

*In Memory Of:* **Julian Seidel, Jeanne Lewis** by Maxine Freedman.

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

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Oliver Strait** by Sheri Brown.

*In Memory Of:* **Sidney Krauser** by Florence Meyer.

## **Mildred & Israel Hofberg Memorial Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Israel A. Hofberg** by Sandy & Stanley Bobb, Jodi & Rodd Macklin, Tammy & Cliff Mendelson, Beth & Daryl Bobb

## **Milton Engel Library Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Evelyn Promisel** by Larry & Myra Promisel. **Milton Engel** by Ed & Ruth Cogen.

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

*In Memory Of:* **Jack Kay** by Sylvia Greenberg.

## **Offerings Fund**

*By:* Ron Schwarz & Marcy Feuerstein.

*In Honor Of:* **Christy Larson & Arnie**

**Podgorsky** by Joel & Natalie Gottesman.

**Sidney Silver's** 80th birthday by Alan Wasserman.

*In Memory Of:* **Mona Sinel** by Norman Sinel.

**Sol B. Kletzkin** by Morris Kletzkin. **Esther**

**Waxman** by Rep. Henry Waxman. **Herman Cohen** by Sheldon S. Cohen.

**Arthur Nussdorf** by Lawrence Nussdorf. **Mimi Levinson** by Molly Wachs. **Murray Elias Jarvik**

by Laurence Jarvik. **Gerald Joseph Miller**

by Stuart Miller. **Max Weinstein** by Judge Paul Weinstein. **Robert Leibowitz** by Roslyn

Weinstein. **Benson Zweig** by Phyllis Zweig.

## **Rabbi Feinberg Discretionary Fund**

*By:* Sydney Polakoff & Carolyn Goldman

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Reuben Thomas Berman**

by Fradel Kramer. Hanging the Gift Shop mezuzah by the Gift Shop volunteers.

*With Thanks For:* Boker Ohr class by Warren Clark.

*With Great Appreciation For:* **Rabbi Feinberg** by Ron & Rise Schlesinger.

*In Memory Of:* **Geraldine Miller** by Miller family.

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

*In Honor Of:* **Diane & Daniel Keller's** special anniversary by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

*In Memory Of:* **Lillian Seigel** by Carolyn

Shanoff. **Mary Gross** by Amb. Joseph & Alma Gildenhorn. **Paul Klein** by Barry & Beth Simon.

**Werner Heumann** by Judith Heumann.

**Revella Sidell** by Arlene Sidell Cohen. **Lucy Cohen** by Marshall Cohen.

**Ruth Wineburg** by Harry & Judy Melamed. **Dr. Stuary R. Tattar** by Elinor Tattar.

**Sam Isack** by Arthur Isack. **Joan Eisenkramer** by Arthur Hessel. **Irving Karp** by Sharon Schwartz. **I. Louis Firestone** by Ross Firestone.

**Meyer Mazor** by Julian Mazor.

## **Rothstein Family Israel College Scholarship Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Fan P. & Robert J. Rothstein** by Bud & Lorain Rothstein.

## **Samuel & Sadie Lebowitz Israel Scholarship Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Helen Kirsch** by Martin Kirsch.

**Samuel Lebowitz** by Marlene Kirsch.

## **Sandra & Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education**

*In Honor Of:* **Dr. Clement Alpert's** 102nd birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton, Jane Baldinger.

*In Memory Of:* **Yetta Alpert, Dr. Seymour Alpert** by Dr. Clement Alpert.

## **Siegel-Kalmekoff Family Adult Education Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Esther Soled Siegel** by Glenn & Cindy Easton, Jane Baldinger.

## **Social Action Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Dr. Isadore Horowitz** by Keith & Tamar Levenberg. **David I. Fischman** by Joel Fischman & Judith Rabinowitz.

## **Sybil Wolin Passover Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Sybil & Steve Wolin's** special anniversary by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## **Sylvia & Harold Greenberg Endowment Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Harold Greenberg** by Sylvia Greenberg.

## **Sylvia Feldman Shapiro Memorial Endowment Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Samuel Feldman** by Rose Burka.

## **Traditional Minyan Kiddush Fund**

*By:* Ricki Gerger

*In Memory Of:* **Inga Freyer-Nicholas** by Lisa & Alvin Dunn.

## Contributions Continued

### **Tzedakah Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Karen & Louis Lantner's special anniversary, Charles Mallory's birthday** by Glenn & Cindy Easton. **Joan Bratman** by Dorothy Cohen.

*In Memory Of:* **Sidney Krauser** by Stephanie Meyer. **Rebecca Clayman** by Shirley Steinberg.

**Rose Goldsmith** by Gail Rouchdy. **Freda Bernstein** by Tamara Handelsman.

**Pauline Chafets** by Betty Miller. **Irving**

**Eitchies** by Eddie Eitchies. **Pearl Dubrow & Meyer H. Dubrow** by Marsha Dubrow. **Nathan Rosenberg** by Linda Rosenkrantz.

**Anne Levinson Rosoff** by Gail Rouchdy.

### **Yale Goldberg School Retreats Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Yale Goldberg** by Pauline Goldberg, Lester & Karen Goldberg.

### **Yizkor/Yahrzeit Fund**

*In Memory Of:* **Philip Shore** by Norman Shore.

**Dennis Soiberman** by June Kress. **Morris Bildman** by Lois Levitan. **David L. Herson** by Joseph Herson. **Marvin Jacobs** by Alan Jacobs. **Betty Cohen** by Stuart Cohen. **Anne Fingerhut** by Michael Fingerhut. **Margaret Hais Blacher, Sidney "Sonny" Hais, Ida Flax Hais, Joseph Vigderhouse Hais, Charlotte Gross Hais**, all by Steven Blacher. **Mickey Magarill** by Blanche Speisman. **Rose D. Herman** by Jack M. Herman. **J. Arnold Pines** by Elaine Pines.

**Solomon Merves** by Esther & Sarah Merves. **Claire E. Bacher** by Anita Bobys. **Dorothy Krauss** by Laura Melmed. **Edith Phillips** by Dr. Stuart Phillips. **Beverly Bernstein** by Lois Levitan. **Montefiore Hoffenberg** by Dr. Muriel Hoffenberg.

### **Youth Activities Fund**

*In Honor Of:* **Sidney Silver's special birthday** by Stanley & Ellen Albert.

*In Memory Of:* **Anna Backer** by Eva Rehfeld. **Milton Dornbush** by Ellen Wilner. **Glorya S. Scherr, Libbie Scherr** by Stanley Scherr. **Malcolm Shatz** by Howard Shatz. **Mendel Sender** by Sydell Sandy. **Anna B. Nathanson** by Bennett Nathanson. **Shirley Sykes, David B Sykes** by Ginny Sykes. ○

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## Garden of the Righteous a Great Success



Many thanks go to the Garden of the Righteous Committee, volunteers, clergy, and staff who worked to make this year's Garden of the Righteous ceremony such a moving event. Featuring a poignant presentation from the honoree's son,

Amb. Ryszard Schnepf; musical presentations by Adas youth and Netanel Draiblate; and a wonderful reading of a reflective poem from seventh-grade students (see below), this tribute to Mrs. Alicja Schnepf & Natalia Szczepaniak was an incredible success. Their courage and strength during one of the darkest moments in human history is now immortalized in the Garden of the Righteous on the Connecticut Avenue Plaza.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes especially to **Judith Strauch** who, through her tireless efforts for more than 20 years now, has preserved, enhanced, and directed the effort to honor and cherish this seminal annual synagogue event. This program would not be possible without Judy's diligent and thoughtful work, year after year, and we are deeply grateful for her incredible commitment.

The Garden of the Righteous Program was initiated in 1992 by Rabbi Jeffrey A. Wohlberg to honor non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust. The honor takes the form of dedicating a plaque each year on the Sunday morning closest to Yom HaShoah to a particular "Righteous Gentile."

### **Seventh-Grade Presentation in Honor of Alicja Szczepaniak Schnepf & Natalia Szczepaniak**

#### **Adas Israel Garden of the Righteous Ceremony, April 27**

As I am thirteen, I can hang out with friends.  
When she was thirteen she could not have friends over.  
As I am thirteen I hide stuff from my siblings.  
When she was thirteen she hid people to keep them alive.  
As I am thirteen I enjoy the company of my neighbors.  
When she was thirteen her neighbors could not be trusted.  
As I am thirteen I live with little fear in Washington, DC.  
When she was thirteen she lived in chaotic Warsaw, Poland, during

#### **World War II and the Holocaust.**

As I am thirteen I sleep in the comfort of my own bed.  
When she was thirteen she slept side-by-side next to strangers.  
As I am thirteen I risk my reputation to help someone sitting alone.  
When she was thirteen she risked her life to help a group of people that was alone.  
As I am thirteen I become a bar mitzvah.  
When she was thirteen she became a hero.  
As I am thirteen I am happy when I get a new phone.  
When she was thirteen she was happy when the burden of death was lifted off of her back.  
As I am thirteen I try to stick to the status quo.  
When she was thirteen she stood up for what she believed.  
As I am thirteen I ride home from school in a car.  
When she was thirteen she walked home from school in fear of what she would find when she got there.  
As I am thirteen I eat plentiful food.  
When she was thirteen she hid Jews who were lucky to get one meal a day.  
As I am thirteen I am happy when clothes go on sale.  
When she was thirteen she was happy when the Soviets came to liberate them.  
As I am thirteen I have many friends.  
When she was thirteen she had to choose her friends carefully.  
As I am thirteen I have two parents who love me.  
When she was thirteen she had one mom who was always scared.  
As I am thirteen humiliation is a big fear.  
When she was thirteen having the Nazis catch her was hers.  
When I was thirteen I did my best to fit in.  
When she was thirteen she stood out no matter what the cost.  
When I was thirteen I changed my wardrobe.  
When she was thirteen she changed people's lives.  
When I was thirteen I pushed my family away.  
When she was thirteen her family relied on sticking together.  
As I am thirteen I want to grow up fast.  
When she was thirteen she was forced to.  
As I am thirteen I live in fear of getting bad grades.  
When she was thirteen, she was in fear of being killed.

**Read the rest of the poem at [adasisrael.org/garden-of-righteous](http://adasisrael.org/garden-of-righteous)**



# Chronicle

VOL. 76, NO. 11 | JUNE 2014 | SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5774

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CHRONICLE (USPS 005-280)  
Jean Brodsky Bernard, *Editor*  
Adina Moses, *Graphic Design*



Published monthly by The Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20008-5296. Telephone 202-362-4433; Hearing Impaired Relay Services 711; Fax 202-362-4961; Religious School 202-362-4449; Gan HaYeled Nursery School 202-362-4491; e-mail: AdasOffice@AdasIsrael.org. Affiliated with The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. Supported in part by The Ethel and Nat Popick Endowment Fund. Subscription \$25 per year. Periodicals postage paid at Washington, DC, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to Chronicle, 2850 Quebec Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20008.



## Give to the Ezra Pantry @ Adas Israel

The Ezra Pantry is located in the coatroom of the Quebec Street Entrance Foyer, next to the Biran Beit Midrash. When you go to the supermarket, be sure to buy extra for those in need!

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## You are invited to your very own Second Bar/Bat Mitzvah!

Jewish tradition tells us that 70 years is a full life. Age 83 marks the time for a Second Bar/Bat Mitzvah (whether or not you celebrated your first).

**Please join us in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary on  
Shabbat morning, June 28, at 9:30 am.**

All those age 83 and above will be called to the Torah together for a group *aliyah*, a special blessing, and a Bar/Bat Mitzvah Certificate signed by our clergy. There is no need to prepare anything in advance.

You are an incredibly important part of our dynamic and vibrant Adas Israel community, and we look forward to honoring you. Please invite your family and friends to attend.

With love,

*The Adas Israel Clergy*

To participate, RSVP to Marcy Spiro, (202-362-4433, ext. 113, or [marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org](mailto:marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org)). If possible, please tell Marcy your Hebrew name and your parents' Hebrew names when you respond. In addition, please let us know if you would like us to arrange transportation for you.

*May God bless you from Zion.*

*May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of your life.*

*May you live to see your children's children.*

*May there be peace upon Israel.*

**Upcoming Chronicle Deadlines—**  
September: Friday, July 25, at noon.